

via fax: 011 504 2239 3298 <b>Sr. Juan Orlando Hernández</b> President of Honduras	via fax: 011 504 2221 5667 <b>Sr. Oscar Chinchilla Banegas</b> Attorney General of Honduras
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May 25, 2016

Dear Sirs:

We are outraged at two assassination attempts on journalist **Felix Molina** in Tegucigalpa.

Felix Molina had two violent encounters on May 2. In the morning, while he was en route in a taxi to host his community radio program, *Resistencia*, two armed youth on a motorcycle attempted to steal his phone. One of the attackers shouted at the other to shoot, but the driver sped away before they pulled the trigger. In the evening he was on his way home after his radio program. Two men on a motorcycle again intercepted the taxi in which he was riding. One of the men said, "you won't get away this time," pointed a gun and shot Molina four times in the legs.

Honduras has become one of the most dangerous places in the world for journalists, especially independent journalists. Molina has been the subject of numerous death threats because of his critical reporting since the *coup d'état* of 2009. On the morning of the shooting, Molina had published a piece denouncing collusion between military officers, business executives, and political leaders around the controversial Agua Zarca Dam project on the Gualcarque River. (There has been strong organized opposition to Agua Zarca project led by the local Lenca indigenous community and leader Berta Cáceres, who was assassinated March 2.)

We **stongly urge** authorities to immediately investigate and prosecute both the material and intellectual authors of the recent attacks on Felix Molina.

Sincerely,

Brian J. Stefan Szittai     and     Christine Stonebraker-Martinez  
 Co-Coordinator

copies:     Jorge Alberto Milla Reyes, Honduran Amabassador to the US ~ via fax 202 966 9751  
               James Nealon, US Ambassador to Honduras ~ via fax 011 504 2236 9037  
               Olivia Franken, Honduras Desk, US State Dept ~ via email  
               Francisco José Eguiguren Praeli, Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, Rapporteur for Honduras ~ via email  
               Edison Lanza, Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Expression, Inter-American Commission on Human Rights ~ via fax (202)458-3650  
               US Senators Brown & Portman and US Representatives Fudge, Gibbs, Johnson, Jordan, Joyce, Kaptur, Latta, Renacci, Ryan ~ via email

NACLA 5/7/16\_Honduras

**The following people hereby urge you to take action on this matter as indicated in this letter:**