**UPR36**

**Recommendations by Canada for Honduras’ UPR**

**5 November 2020**

Thank you Madame President

Canada thanks Honduras for its presentation and welcomes the creation of the Ministry of Human Rights represented today by Minister Cuevas. While this is an important step, we remain concerned about the overall human rights situation in Honduras.

 Canada recommends that Honduras:

1. Strengthen measures for the prevention, investigation, and punishment of all sexual and gender-based violence, including most specifically domestic violence and violence against LGBTI persons.
2. Protect freedom of expression by promptly investigating and prosecuting acts of intimidation, harassment and attacks against journalists, human rights defenders and Indigenous, afro descendant and community activists.
3. Increase efforts to ensure the independence of the judicial system, strengthening the investigation and prosecution of acts of corruption and human rights violations, and prevent the criminalization of human rights defenders, community and Indigenous activists to ensure they are able to operate in a safe environment.
4. Investigate and bring to justice cases of human rights violations implicating military forces, and create a well-defined plan to complete the reform of the police and remove the military from civilian security duties.