

“They fear us because we are fearless”

**Berta Cáceres Flores**  
Maya Lenca Leader



Assassinated in  
Honduras on  
March 3rd, 2016

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Berta and the organization she co-founded, COPINH (Civic Council of Popular and Indigenous Organizations of Honduras), have protested against DESA, a private Honduran company, currently building the Agua Zarca hydroelectric dam in Rio Blanco on indigenous Lenca territory. DESA has begun construction without free, prior and informed consent of impacted indigenous communities violating their rights under the International Labor Organization's Convention 169. COPINH has protested on-site for over two years against the project. The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) has funded the MERCADO program partnering with DESA's Social Investment Programming. The US government also funds Honduran National Police and the US trained and vetted special police unit Los Tigres; both forces harassed and repressed COPINH's last peaceful protest against DESA on February 20. The US is directly responsible for the murder of hundreds of indigenous activists, including Berta and more recently Nelson Garcia.

**COPINH demands:**

1. The immediate establishment of an independent research group led by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights to clarify this vile crime and ensure the prosecution of all those responsible.
2. The immediate and definitive cancellation of the concession granted to DESA company, constructor of the Hydroelectric Project "Agua Zarca" in Rio Blanco.

For more information on actions that you can take, please contact  
(un)Occupy Albuquerque at [unoccupyabq@gmail.com](mailto:unoccupyabq@gmail.com)

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