

**FOUNDERS:**

Betty Williams, Ireland - 1976
Máiread Maguire, Ireland - 1976
Rigoberta Menchú Tum, Guatemala - 1992
Prof. Jody Williams, USA - 1997
Dr. Shirin Ebadi, Iran - 2003
Prof. Wangari Maathai, Kenya - 2004

united for peace with justice and equality

Statement of Solidarity with Honduran Women in Resistance

As sister Nobel Peace Laureates, we express our solidarity with the people of Honduras who are fighting for the restoration of democracy and the rule of law following the military coup on June 28, 2009 against democratically elected President Manuel Zelaya. In particular, we wish to express our support for the Feminists in Resistance who are safeguarding the rights of women during this conflict.

The escalation and protraction of the conflict and the suspension of democratic institutions in Honduras increase the risk of violence and human rights violations. Women are often the ones most at risk in situations of conflict. Under the de facto regime, members of the police and the military attack women and new cases of femicide take place in a climate of total impunity. Women's organizations are under surveillance and members' lives continue to be threatened as they seek to implement strategies of non-violent resistance to repression and demand a return to the rule of law, an end to violence and respect for human rights.

In this context, from August 17 to 21, a delegation of feminist and human rights organizations from the United States, Canada, Mexico and countries of Central America will participate in a fact-finding mission in Honduras to document and report violations of women's rights being committed in the context of the coup. The delegation is convened by Honduran Feminists in Resistance, Feminist Radio International Endeavor (FIRE), JASS (Just Associates), Petateras, Consortium for Parliamentary Dialogue and Equality and the Nobel Women's Initiative.

We firmly believe that democracy is a precondition for peace. The restoration of democracy and advancing a reconciliation process for the Honduran people is necessary for ensuring respect for and preventing violation of the human rights of all Hondurans, particularly Honduran women.