September 15, 2026

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

Subject: Statement of Support and Request for Protection for Luis Manuel Chavarría Galeano

To Whom It May Concern:

We, the undersigned organizations of Nicaragua's democratic opposition, express our unequivocal support for Nicaraguan journalist Luis Manuel Chavarría Galeano, publicly known as Luis Galeano, who is currently in the custody of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

We attest that Mr. Galeano is a person of integrity, honor, and exemplary moral character. His life and professional record have been guided by strong ethical principles, democratic convictions, and a profound commitment to truth, freedom of expression, and the defense of the rights of the Nicaraguan people.

His status as an independent journalist warrants special consideration. As director of the program Café con Voz, he has reported responsibly on conditions in Nicaragua, exposed abuses, and fostered spaces for informed public dialogue and democratic debate. It was precisely because he practiced journalism independently, defended his beliefs, and remained steadfast in his moral principles that he was politically persecuted, forced into exile, arbitrarily stripped of his Nicaraguan nationality, and dispossessed of his property by the Sandinista regime.

Deporting Mr. Galeano to Nicaragua would place his liberty, physical integrity, and life in immediate and exceptionally grave danger. Because of his journalistic record, public profile, and outspoken criticism of the regime, he would face a heightened risk of arbitrary detention, imprisonment, mistreatment, and politically motivated retaliation.

Nor would the danger necessarily be eliminated by transferring him to a third country. Multiple reports have documented the intensification of transnational repression targeting Nicaraguan journalists, activists, and opposition figures in exile. Given Mr. Galeano's public profile and his continued journalistic work, he could face serious and imminent risks in other countries as a result of the documented transnational persecution of independent journalists committed to Nicaragua's freedom and opposition leaders advocating democratic change. A third country therefore cannot be presumed to offer a safe alternative in light of the Sandinista regime's cross-border networks of surveillance, intimidation, and persecution.

We respectfully urge U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement to give particular consideration to Mr. Galeano's status as a journalist, an exile, and a victim of political persecution; to ensure that he is not removed, directly or indirectly, to Nicaragua; to refrain from transferring him to a third country where his safety cannot be assured; and to give favorable consideration to granting him protection and allowing him to remain in the United States, where he can be safe from the reach of the dictatorship's networks.

We trust that his case will receive the careful humanitarian consideration it warrants, taking into account his exemplary moral character, his journalistic record, and the grave danger he faces for defending the truth, the principles of freedom, and the democratic aspirations of the Nicaraguan people.

Respectfully,

Signatures of Supporting Organizations



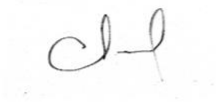
Daisy George West
Alianza Civica Por La
Justicia Y La Democracia



Lesther Alemán Alfaro
Alianza Universitaria
Nicaraguense (AÚN)



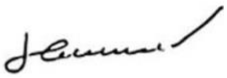
Yunova Acosta
Asamblea Nicaragüense
Por La Democracia (AND)



Alex Aguirre.
Avanza Nicaragua



Eliseo F. Núñez M.
Concertación Democrática
Nicaraguense (Monteverde).



Haydee Castillo
Espacio De Dialogo Entre
Actores Nicaraguenses



José Rayo (GCON)
Gran Confederación
Opositora Nicaraguense



Rosalía Miller
Plataforma de Unidad
Por La Democracia (PUDE)



Félix Maradiaga
Ruta Del Cambio



Luis Blandón
UNAMOS



Ana Quirós Viquez.
Unidad Nacional Azul
Y Blanco (UNAB)