



## PROFILES

### ELY CASTRO ROSALES

Ely Castro Rosales is a commentator and field correspondent working with the independent Honduran Jesuit radio station Radio Progreso and ERIC (Equipo de Reflexión, Información y Comunicación; *English: Reflection, Investigation and Communication Team*).

He is a member of a delegation of human rights activists and journalists touring the U.S. May 11-18 to raise awareness of the ongoing violence, political unrest and rights abuses in his country.

Castro Rosales is a member of Radio Progreso's news team of certified professional journalists and trained citizen journalist correspondents. Radio Progreso's journalists have been targets of death threats and escalating government repression since the Honduran presidential election in November 2017, widely condemned internationally as fraudulent.

In the struggles for constitutional integrity leading up to the 2017 elections in Honduras, Castro Rosales became coordinator for the Convergence Against Continuation in the country's most populous regional department of Cortés. The Convergence Against Continuation coalition of Honduran human rights organizations opposes the unconstitutional extension of the presidential term of current Honduran President Juan Orlando Hernandez.

During Honduras' bloody coup of 2009, Castro Rosales was involved with the National Front for Popular Resistance.

He began his human rights activism as a teenager in the 1980s, when he joined the Movement of High School Students in defending human rights, particularly the rights of students. He continued his activism through his university years and into his professional life. Castro Rosales served for 16 years as Regional Director with Grupo Santillana, the largest educational publisher in the Spanish-speaking world.

### FATHER ISMAEL MORENO, S.J.

**High profile human rights leader and Honduran Jesuit priest Ismael Moreno is leading a group of human rights defenders and Radio Progreso journalists in a multi-city U.S. delegation tour May 11-18, to raise awareness of the growing human rights crisis in Honduras.**

**Father Moreno** is an Afro-descendant Jesuit priest residing in northern Honduras, known widely for his warm and charismatic personality as Padre Melo.

For the past 20 years, he has been the leader of two social action projects of the Society of Jesus in Honduras: Radio Progreso and ERIC. The two entities work integrally to deliver accurate, real-time news reporting and to train human rights observers and mediators who also serve as citizen journalists and commentators as part of Radio Progreso's news team.

In 2015 Father Moreno received the [2015 Rafto Foundation's Rafto Prize](#), created in honor of Norwegian human rights activist Professor Thorolf Rafto. In 2016, Moreno was asked by students at the National University of Honduras to negotiate on their behalf for grievances against the administration.

Father Moreno worked closely with Berta Caceres, the Honduran [environmental heroine who was assassinated in 2016](#). Moreno and his colleagues have received numerous death threats and he is number two on a recently published assassination list of 13 social justice leaders.

## **PROFILES FOR ALL HONDURAN DELEGATES IN THE U.S. TOUR:**

For profiles of other Honduran human rights defenders and journalists who are members of the U.S. delegation tour, see [SHARE El Salvador](#)'s posting on the complete delegation tour.

### **RADIO PROGRESO/ERIC**

The staunchly independent [Radio Progreso and ERIC](#) were founded in 1980 by Jesuit Father Ismael Moreno, SJ.

Radio Progreso broadcasts from El Progreso, with transmission in San Pedro Sula and in Honduras' capital Tegucigalpa.

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