

## **Resolution on the current situation in Nicaragua**

Nicaragua without light and hope, continuing as a failed nation under the terror of dictatorship

Once again, we face an unsustainable extension of the Ortega regime's tyranny in Nicaragua, marked by disregard and erosion of Human Rights. The United Nations, in its latest report, confirms a severe deterioration in 2024, with an increase in cases of arbitrary detentions, intimidation of opposition members, mistreatment in custody, and attacks against Indigenous Peoples. The persecution of government opponents or perceived dissenters has progressively intensified. This includes human rights defenders, independent media, non-governmental organizations, and any other entity advocating for social or political change without government oversight.

**IDC – CDI regrets** that the situation in Nicaragua, without light and hope, continues down a path of democratic institutional decay, and calls for the immediate release of the 45 opposition members and critics of the Daniel Ortega regime, considered political prisoners by humanitarian organizations.

**IDC – CDI supports** the continuation of sanctions against 21 top Nicaraguan officials, including President Daniel Ortega, Rosario Murillo, and their three children, especially travel bans within EU countries and the freezing of assets held in European banks. We also support extending these sanctions to include institutions controlled by the government's tyranny, such as the National Police, the Supreme Electoral Council, and the Nicaraguan Institute of Telecommunications and Mail, meaning that EU citizens and companies are prohibited from financing them.

**IDC – CDI recognizes** the urgent and critical need of the people of Nicaragua, both within and outside the country, for information, as they suffer from unjust and prolonged censorship and coercion of media professionals and outlets, with a near-total restriction on any expression rights, especially of the press. We support civil society in its efforts to “seek alternative ways to inform and connect,” and highlight the work of “Nicaragua Actual,” a digital media outlet that, from exile in Costa Rica, has gained over 90,000 followers on social media.

**IDC – CDI expresses** concern about the new bill that would allow prosecution of individuals abroad for alleged crimes, including money laundering, terrorism and its financing, as well as cybercrimes, as this raises new concerns. We condemn the “conditional, arbitrary, and discretionary use of such broad laws” as a means to further pressure and intimidate exiled and foreign Nicaraguans exercising their legitimate rights to freedom of expression and other rights.



**IDC – CDI once again demands** that the Ortega government cease its ongoing Human Rights violations and warns of the severe international repercussions awaiting Ortega and his collaborators that will extend beyond any current or future “immunity.” It must restore the independence of all branches of government, democratic stability, and the rule of law, and allow, without restrictions, the legitimate expression of the country's citizens, who are the sole rightful holders of national sovereignty.

Executive Comitee Siem Reap 18.11.24