

*June, 2023*

*Dear friends,*

*First of all, special thanks for being aware of what is happening in our country and for all the solidarity received in these years, with the presence of your delegations, the advocacy, and your financial support.*

*Despite some respite we are experiencing with the transition to a new government, Honduras continues to suffer from an absence of the State; sometimes, it seems that the State delegates its power to certain power groups, as is the case of Aguán--a territory where its population and especially the defenders of the environment and human rights are extremely vulnerable.*

*So far in 2023, more than 8 people have been killed defending land and water. They are threatened by Inversiones Los Pinares, promoter of the mining project that endangers the water and life of the communities of the San Pedro and Guapinol sector. The population of the community of Guapinol is located in this defenseless condition, where a ferocious campaign has been carried out to weaken the community organization, killing the family of the main leader of the community, Reinaldo Domínguez. On January 7, they killed his brother, Ali Domínguez, and on June 15, his brother, Oqueli Domínguez, and they attempted to take the life of his mother.*

*The situation has not stopped, on the contrary, a campaign of threats against the lives of his entire family has been unleashed. This has forced them to leave the community this week, and to consider leaving the country as the only way to save their lives. From ERIC we are accompanying them in their displacement, searching for safe shelter and asylum, a process that can take three to four months.*

*Hoping we are not asking too much, but relying on your trust and solidarity, we request financial support to accompany 42 people, including 28 adults and 14 children, who are Reinaldo's closest family members and all in maximum danger. The support would be for the payment of their lodging, food, and medical care expenses for four months while the asylum process is underway. Please make a check to SHARE [2425 College Ave—Berkeley CA 94704](https://www.share-elsalvador.org) or online at [share-elsalvador.org](https://www.share-elsalvador.org) designation Water Defenders.*

*We appreciate that you continue efforts to denounce this violation of human rights and ask that the Inversiones Los Pinares mining company be closed. We look forward to seeing you in September with your delegation to accompany the struggle for water and life.*

*We can gladly send you any additional information you need. We reiterate our gratitude for your solidarity and the shared feeling that we are companions on the journey.*

*In solidarity,  
Padre Melo y Equipo de ERIC y Radio Progreso*