

III Voluntary National Review of Honduras 2024

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for JCoR

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EN MI PAÍS

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Scheme

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1. General data on Honduras

- **Honduras**, located in Central America, has an area of 112,490 km² .
- **Population of** 10,294,000 people, it is ranked 91st in the population table, composed of 196 countries and has a moderate population density of 92 inhabitants per km² .
- Its capital is **Tegucigalpa** and its currency is Lempiras.
- Honduras is the **101st economy** by [GDP](#) volume. Its public debt in 2022 was 14,684 million euros, with a debt of 49.09% of GDP. Its per capita debt is €1,426 per capita.
- The latest annual variation rate of the [CPI](#) (consumer price index) published in Honduras was 9.8% in December 2022.

Map of Honduras



- **GDP** per capita is a very good indicator of the standard of living and in the case of Honduras, in 2023, it was 3,091 euros 3.36 \$ so with this figure it is at the bottom of the table, in 132nd place. Its **inhabitants have a very low standard of living in relation to** the 196 countries in the ranking of GDP per capita.
- The [Human Development Index or HDI](#), which is prepared by the United Nations to measure the progress of a country and which ultimately shows the standard of living of its inhabitants, indicates that Hondurans have a **poor quality of life**.

- The **Corruption Perception Index for the public sector in Honduras** was 23 points, so the **perception of corruption among Hondurans in their country is very high.**

2. General situation of Honduras: According to the UN Human Development Index 2022

Honduras faces a **persistent and profound multi-crisis**, which we must overcome with a multidimensional approach and a vision for the future. Without a full, efficient and transparent rule of law, the country's major structural problems cannot be overcome, generating a constant cycle of crises of ungovernability in a very complex, uncertain and volatile scenario. Thus, the rule of law becomes a foundation for the country's major transformations.

3. The VNR is intended to be like a political transition

It is worth highlighting the relevance of this third report presented by Honduras, because it takes place in the midst of a **political, social and economic transition**, where the intention is to abandon the practices that deepened the levels of inequality and poverty, coupled with the effects of strong shocks such as the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, hurricanes ETA and Iota, in addition to external factors such as geopolitical tensions.

Alignment of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with the National Development Planning System of Honduras (SNPDH)

An evaluation of the progress of the 2030 National Agenda for the achievement of the SDGs was carried out. This evaluation reveals a notable delay in its implementation, reflecting in the **multi-crisis derived from the weakening of the rule of law**. This has deteriorated the quality of public institutions, specifically in the area of security; according to the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) it generated a negative impact to the detriment of citizen security conditions.

Dimensions and transition areas

- . The VNR is part of the re-foundation of Honduran society towards a democratic socialist model.
- . The importance of an inclusive approach to the National Agenda 2030 (AN-2030), reflecting economic, social and environmental commitments, is recognized.
- . The six transition areas are key to making progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

SDG 16



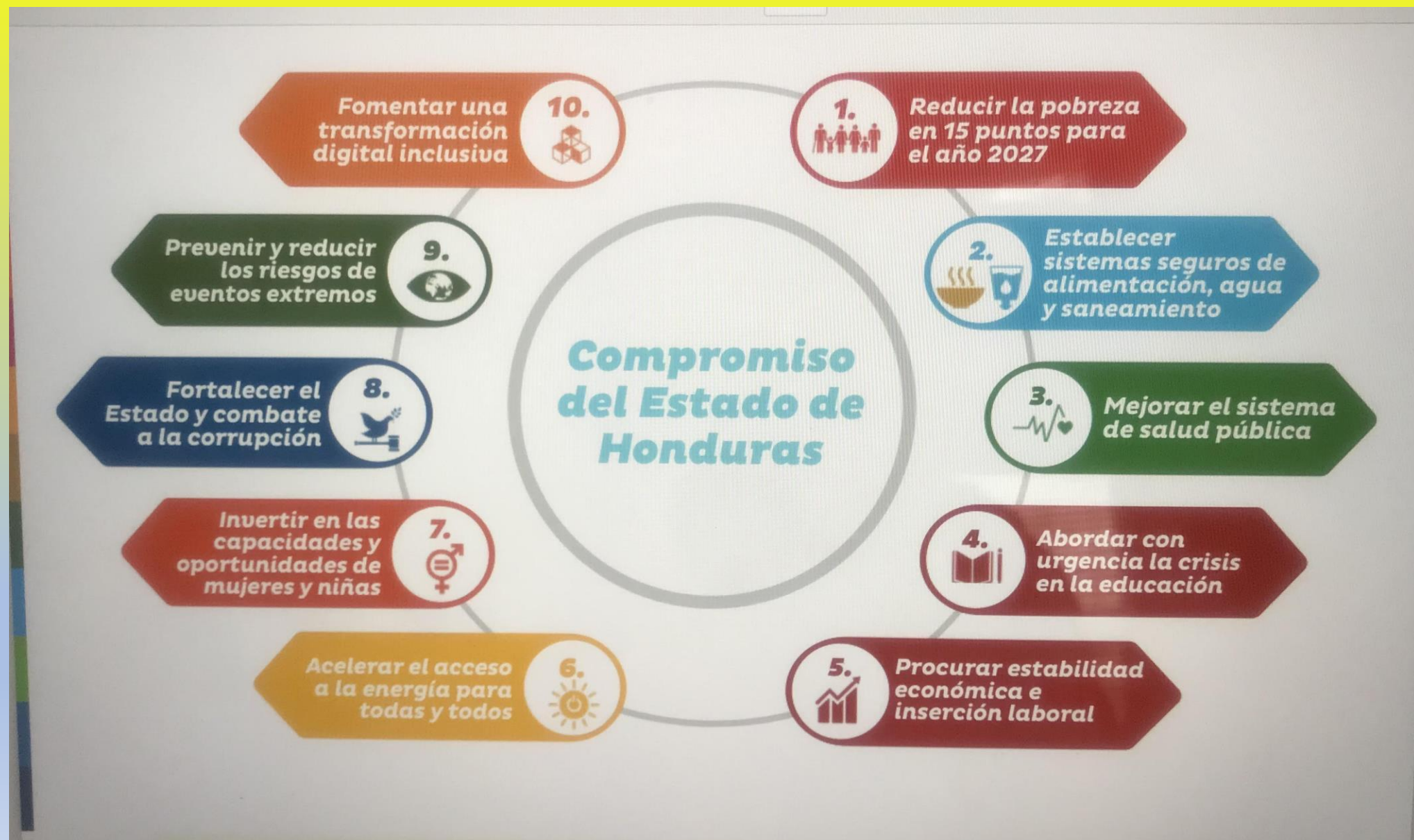
Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions

Promote just, peaceful, and inclusive societies

To achieve Goal 16, governments have agreed to:

- Significantly reduce violence and related deaths everywhere
- End the abuse, exploitation, trafficking, and all forms of violence and torture against children
- Promote the rule of law at national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all
- Reduce illicit financial and arms flows
- Combat crime and corruption in any form
- Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory, and representative decision-making at all levels
- Strengthen the participation of developing countries in the institutions of global governance
- Provide legal identity for all, including birth registration

4. "10 State Commitments that are the heart of the entire VNR"



"Honduras will only have a future if it takes firm steps to dismantle the neoliberal economic dictatorship...In Honduras my government has begun a process of re-foundation and profound change based on 4 fundamental pillars: 1. President of the Republic of Honduras.

5. Socioeconomic characterization of Honduras

9 million eight hundred thousand inhabitants, of which 51.2% are women, where the majority of the population is young and urban, given that 67.3% is under 30 years of age and 53.4% lives in the urban area. Only 42.9% of the homes have heads of households under 40 years of age and in this sense the first gender gap is felt, since 71.1% of the homes have a male head of household and where the general life expectancy is 69 years (70.5 women and 67.4 men).

Economy

- Honduras is a small, open economy whose economic cycle depends almost entirely on the international economic cycle.
- (UNDP). By 2022, there will be a worrying increase in extreme and relative poverty, as well as a notable increase in social inequalities and the deterioration of public institutions.
- Poverty in Honduras rose to 73.6% and 57.3% lived in conditions of extreme poverty, therefore, it was a strong trigger of displacement and popular discontent.

6. Analysis of vulnerable populations: leaving no one behind

- Garifuna peoples.
- Elderly people
- The Honduran Mosquitia
- Women and girls
- Another indicator that gender-based violence is of great concern in Honduras are femicides, of which about a fifth are committed against girls and adolescents under 20 years of age. In fact, in 2021 and 2022, Honduras had the highest rate of femicides in the region according to ECLAC.

6. Analysis of vulnerable populations: leaving no one behind

- Indigenous and Afro-Honduran Peoples face structural barriers translated into violations of their rights, which contribute to their exclusion, including in decisions that directly impact them (OHCHR, 2022). Likewise, they continue to be affected in their access to justice, resulting in impunity in cases of human rights violations.
- The complaints received by the Office of the Prosecutor for Ethnic Groups and Cultural Heritage are linked to violations of the land and territories of indigenous and Garifuna peoples (35%), followed by violations of their life and integrity (25%) (OHCHR, 2022). In addition, adequate measures are needed to protect their rights in the administrative sphere.

OHCHR (Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights)

Garifuna Peoples of Honduras



State efforts have been aimed at recognizing the traditional property and possession rights of Indigenous and Afro-Honduran Peoples over their ancestral lands and territories.

However, the inadequate regulation of private business activities has affected the exercise and enjoyment of their human rights, including the loss of their culture, ancestral knowledge and livelihoods.

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- *ECLAC* (Economic Commission for Latin America)

Human Mobility

More than **half a million people** in a situation of mobility transited through Honduras, with 2023 being the year with the highest number of entries of migrants. The National Institute of Migration recorded in 2023 the highest number of irregular entries with respect to previous years, with a total of 545,043 people in mixed migratory movements of 135 nationalities.

- In 2023, there was a decrease in the number of Honduran returnees compared to 2022, which reached 56,172 people, most of them coming from the United States (39,347) and Mexico (15,115). Of this group, 70.4% were men (9,168 boys) and 29.6% women (6,351 girls).
- In the **context of migration**, Honduras is a country with multiple facets: it is a country of origin, entry and transit for migrants and refugees, and, to a lesser extent, a country of destination.

7. General remarks

To reduce poverty and extreme poverty, a combination of measures to increase economic growth and reduce inequality in income distribution is key.

Leading role of local actors:

The report highlights the crucial role of local development actors in promoting progress and accelerating the SDGs.

Honduras is preparing Local Voluntary Reports in the municipalities of San Nicolás and Intibucá, with innovative elements linked to the six transitions.

Transition to full democracy:

Honduras is in a transition towards full democracy, seeking to promote equality, social justice and welfare for all Hondurans.

The Report states, "We commit to strengthening resilience to extreme events and climate change impacts by systematically integrating risk considerations into Agenda 2030 planning."

8. Conclusions

- In order to achieve the 2030 Agenda Honduras will have to continue betting on a **strategic plan** that implies a political will of the State, not of a government in office.
- A pending debt is Migration. Why do most young people have to leave the country to look for a future and opportunities that are denied to them in their own country? There is talk of "brain drain".
- Instead, there is an atmosphere of violence and instability, a power struggle.
- The struggle for the rights of the indigenous, Afro-descendant and working class populations continues.

Conclusions

- To achieve Goal 16 of the 2030 Agenda, the State will have to continue to be strengthened. It is necessary to be accountable, ensure transparency in public management, care for the most vulnerable and disadvantaged populations, invest more in education. The annual budget is so unequal that more than 50% is allocated to the military institution.
- Implement the National Transparency and Anticorruption Strategy of Honduras (ENTAH) at all levels.
- Reversing the current reality with alliances with all the living forces, social organizations, private sector, Honduras needs a SOCIAL PACT. There is talk of refounding the State? It is still pending

Thank you very much for your attention!

We should all be committed to promoting and implementing development objectives that are supported by our deepest religious and ethical values.

- Pope Francis

