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HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
CANADA

Elizabeth May

Member of Parliament / Députée
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The Honourable Chrystia Freeland
Minister of Foreign Affairs
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Re: Humanitarian Crisis in Honduras

March 27, 2018

Dear Minister Freeland,

I am writing today to call on the Government of Canada to take direct action on the humanitarian crisis occurring in Honduras.

Since late 2017, agencies like Amnesty International have been reporting on the psychological terror and human rights abuses that have stemmed from the compromised national election in November. The dubiously elected President Zelaya has been exploiting the powers of the state to target those who dare to speak out. This includes detaining twenty-six political prisoners in a maximum security facility. Representatives of Rights Action, the Honduras Solidarity Network, and Mining Watch Canada conveyed to me earlier this month the gruesome details of these individuals' imprisonment and the impact it has had on their families.

The Canadian government must condemn the corruption and human rights violations currently happening in Honduras. A statement by the Organization of American States (OAS) General Secretariat casts serious doubts about the Honduran Supreme Electoral Tribunal (TSE) impartiality; consequently, the Canadian government should not recognize the results or any victor the TSE might dictate to the Honduran people. An independent investigation ought to examine the irregularities and manipulation of the constitution that occurred prior to, during, and after the electoral process. As the OAS Secretary General Luis Almagro stated, "The people of Honduras deserve an electoral process that confers them democratic quality and guarantees."

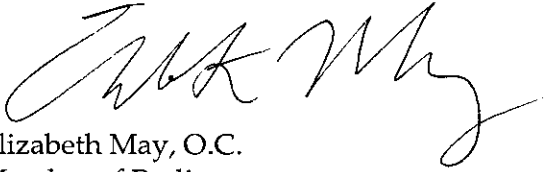
There has been no action taken by the government since your statement on December 2, 2017. The human rights crisis in Honduras cannot be allowed to continue. Until truly free and fair results are declared and the government of Honduras can demonstrate that the constitutional

and human rights of its people are being respected, the Canadian government should seriously consider suspending all political and economic support to the Honduran government.

I implore you to consider these urgent recommendations. Please let me know if I can be of assistance in any way.

Thank you in advance for looking into this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Elizabeth May', written in a cursive style.

Elizabeth May, O.C.
Member of Parliament
Saanich-Gulf Islands
Leader of the Green Party of Canada

Cc: Ambassador to Honduras, James K. Hill