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November 14th, 2014

# Mexico demands justice

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#### November 14th, 2014

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LATIN AMERICA

MEXICO CITY (AP)

n off-the-cuff comment by the attorney general to cut off a news conference about the apparent killing of 43 missing college students has been taken up by protesters as a rallying cry against Mexico's corruption and drug trade-fueled violence.

During the session that was televised live Friday, Attorney General Jesus Murillo Karam announced that two suspects had led authorities to trash bags believed to contain the incinerated remains of the slain students, who haven't been seen since being led away by police in the southwestern town of Iguala on Sept. 26.

After an hour of speaking, Murillo Karam abruptly signaled for an end to questions by turning away from reporters and saying, "Ya me canse" — a phrase meaning "Enough, I'm tired."

Within hours, the phrase became a hashtag linking messages on Twitter and other social networks. It continued to trend globally Saturday and began to emerge in graffiti, in political cartoons



A woman places a candle on photos of the missing students during a protest against the disappearance of 43 students from the lsidro Burgos rural teachers college, in Mexico City, Wednesday, Oct. 22, 2014. **ON THE COVER:** Demonstrators march in protest for the disappearance of 43 students from the lsidro Burgos rural teachers college, in Mexico City, on Oct. 22, 2014.

and in video messages posted to YouTube.

Many turned the phrase on the attorney general: "Enough, I'm tired of Murillo Karam," says one. Another asks: "If you're tired, why don't you resign?"

Other people used it to vent their frustrations with messages such as "Enough, I'm tired of living in a narco state" or "Enough, I'm tired of corrupt politicians."

Mexicans have reacted with outrage to the disappearance of the students from



a rural teachers college in Guerrero state and a government response that has failed to fully explain what happened. On Saturday, protesters burned several cars and trucks outside the governor's offices in Chilpancingo, the Guerrero capital where demonstrations over the students' disappearance have escalated into violence several times.

Investigators say Iguala Mayor Jose Luis Abarca and his wife, Maria de los Angeles Pineda Villa, ordered police to confront the students, who had gone to Iguala to raise money and had commandeered passenger buses

for their use. The couple reportedly feared the students would disrupt an event being led by the wife.

Iguala police fired on the students in two incidents, killing six people. Officers then allegedly turned over 43 arrested students to a local drug gang. Murillo Karam said members of the gang confessed to killing the students before burning their bodies and tossing the ashes and bone fragments into a river.

At least 74 people have been arrested, including Abarca and his wife, who were found Tuesday hiding in a dilapidated home in a rough section of Mexico City.

Families of the missing students insisted they will continue to believe their sons are alive until authorities prove the recovered remains are theirs. Murillo Karam said the bone fragments would be sent to a lab in Austria for testing.

Manuel Martinez, a spokesman for the families, said the "YaMeCanse" rallying cry was proof that their demand for answers is gaining strength.

"The people are angered and I hope that they continue support us," he said Saturday.

Filmmaker Natalia Beristain was among hundreds of people posting YouTube videos tagged #YaMeCanse.

"Senor Murillo Karam, I, too, am tired," she said. "I'm tired of vanished Mexicans, of the killing of women, of the dead, of the decapitated, of the bodies hanging from bridges, of broken families, of mothers without children, of children without fathers."

"I am tired of the political class that has kidnapped my country, and of the class that corrupts, that lies, that kills," she added. "I, too, am tired." 19 LATIN AMERICA: 'Enough, I'm tired' comment rallies Mexico protest

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## Washington may become model for gun measures

OLYMPIA, Washington (AP)

ashington voters decisively backed expanded background checks for guns, a victory for advocates of stricter gun laws who say they will use the momentum from this win to pursue similar measures in other states.

With the passage of Initiative 594, Wash- i



Cheryl Stumbo, center, raises her arms as she finishes speaking at an election night party for Initiative 594, a measure seeking universal background checks on gun sales and transfers, Tuesday, Nov. 4, 2014, in Seattle.

ington joins six other states and the District of Columbia with laws that require universal background checks for all sales and transfers of firearms, though it is the first to pass such a law through a citizen-driven initiative on the ballot.

Other states have varying laws on expansion beyond what federal law requires, including Oregon, which requires a background

> check for purchases at gun shows. An anti-expansion measure on Tuesday's ballot failed in Washington state.

> "If legislative bodies won't act, the people will," said Zach Silk, the campaign manager for Washington's expansion measure. "We proved that. I think that should give a lot of inspiration to these other states where they've tried legislative efforts and have run into reluctant officials."

> The Washington state measure received significant support from Everytown for Gun Safety, a group funded by former New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg

that is already looking to replicate the initiative's success.

John Feinblatt, the president of Everytown, said Wednesday that Washington state "is going to be a model for other states."

Nevada, Arizona and Maine are among the states the group is eyeing for similar campaigns.

"We'll continue to take these issues straight to the people where we can because we know they will side on public safety," Feinblatt said. Andrew Arulanandam, a spokesman for the National Rifle Association, said that his organization will fight these efforts.

The NRA and other opponents took the most issue with Washington state's expansion language that requires checks for many gifts and loans that they say goes too far. The measure has exceptions for emergency gun transfers concerning personal safety, gifts between family members, antiques and loans for hunting.

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hieves are getting more and more creative with the methods they use to steal money from people. It's more important than ever to use common sense and think twice before providing personal information or payment to people you do not know. Remember, "It it sounds is."

#### Think you've won the Lottery? Don't become a victim!

With all the different types of fraud that affect people and companies, there is one specific method that leads a person to believe they've won the lottery or sweepstakes when in fact, it is all part of a scam.

It happens like this...you receive an offer by mail to enter to win a prize. You could win a computer, a car, a vacation -

too good to be true, it probably or lots of money. What do you need to do? Pay a processing or insurance fee. Or increase your chances of winning by making a small purchase. Don't do it!

> In a real contest for a prize. you never have to pay a fee or purchase an item to enter or win; this includes being asked to "prepay" taxes or fees.

> Of course, some companies do offer real prize drawing promotions. Here are some things to look for to help determine if it's legitimate:

> Rules, including odds of winning; quantity, value, and

nature of prize or payment schedule;

- Name of sponsor or mailer, including the main place of business or contact address;

 All terms and conditions, including entry procedures;

- Payment is not required. You never have to pay to play or to collect your prize when the sweepstakes is legitimate.

For more information about prize scams, check out the Federal Trade Commission's or the United States Postal Service's websites.

### **Spanish speaking consumers** conned out of \$2 million

By Alvaro Puig Consumer Education Specialist, Federal Trade Commision

The FTC has seen some truly abusive phone scams. But, in a case announced today, Centro Natural scored a hat trick. According to the FTC's complaint, Centro Natural violated the Telemarketing Sales Rule, including the rules of the Do Not Call Registry, the FTC Act, and the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act.

Here's how Centro Natural conned Spanish-speaking consumers out of \$2 million. The FTC's complaint says that Centro Natural used Spanish-speaking telemarketers to call Latino consumers. Callers claimed to be court officials, government officials, or their lawyers, and told consumers they had to pay their debt of up to \$9,000. But the callers offered a way to "settle" the debt: the consumer could buy a box of products costing \$350-\$500.

If the consumers said no, the callers often threatened them with arrest and immigration investigations. If the consumer hung up, the caller might call back and use profane language. When consumers told the callers to stop calling, the calls kept coming. And when consumers got the boxes of unspecified stuff anyway, some consumers paid out of fear. Pushing products people didn't want, and collecting debts they didn't owe: that's how Centro Natural took an estimated \$2 million from Latino consumers.

Today, the FTC announced that it temporarily shut down this scheme, and is asking a federal court to shut down the company and their abusive practices permanently.

Meanwhile, what can you do? Know your rights. Debt collectors have rules they must follow - by law. Learn more about your debt collection rights: read this article or watch this short video.

And if you spot a telemarketer or debt collector breaking the rules, or you suspect someone is trying to collect on bogus debt, report it to the Federal Trade Commission. Go to www.ftc.gov/complaint or call 1-877-382-4357.



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## Obama vows immigration action this year

#### WASHINGTON (AP)

President Barack Obama's determination to act alone to change the immigration system promptly drove a wedge Wednesday into the postelection commitment from the president and Republican leaders to find common ground under the new political alignment.

Obama defiantly stood by his pledge to act on his own to reduce deportations, grant work permits and improve border security by the end of the year despite resounding election victories by Republicans strongly opposed to his plans. The Senate's likely majority leader next year Republican Mitch McConnell declared that such a move would amount to "waving a red flag in front of a bull."

On a day when both sides tried to herald a new era of potential compromise, immigration stood out not only as a single obstacle to bipartisanship but as a sign that the hard-fought election and the heavy Democratic losses had not pushed partisan sparring aside.

"I have no doubt that there will be some

Republicans who are angered or frustrated by any executive action that I may take," Obama said in a post-election news conference. "Those are folks, I just have to say, who are also deeply opposed to immigration reform, in any form, and blocked the House from being able to pass a bipartisan bill."

He cast his executive actions as an inducement for Republicans to pass their own immigration bill.

"The best way, if folks are serious about getting immigration reform done, is going ahead and passing a bill and getting it to my desk. And then the executive actions that I take go away," he said.

Republicans led by McConnell pledged to use their newfound majorities to stop him.

"I hope he won't do that, because I do think it poisons the well for the opportunity to address a very important domestic issue," McConnell said in Louisville, Kentucky, as he celebrated a victory in his own Senate race and the Republicans' capture of the Senate.

Some on the right said executive action on immigration could even be grounds for impeachment. Several House Republicans said Obama would make it very difficult to cooperate on other issues if he acts on immigration.

"Him moving ahead like that, I think he's completely tone deaf to what happened last night," said Republican Rep. Phil Roe.

And a half-dozen Republican senators, including Ted Cruz of Texas, wrote to Democratic Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid on Wednesday urging him to quickly pass legislation to block Obama from taking executive action. Otherwise, the senators warned,



they'll use "all procedural means necessary" to resolve what they called a constitutional crisis of Obama's making.

But Obama appeared in no mood for waiting. He had already angered Latinos and immigration advocacy groups this fall when he delayed executive action until after the election.

"What I'm not going to do is just wait," he said. "I think it's fair to say I've shown a lot of patience."

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## El Salvador detective won't let the dead lie silent

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador (AP)

hundred yards below a private cemetery where generals have gathered for a military funeral, ghostly figures in white protective suits are digging up a clandestine grave next to a fetid river.

It is painstaking labor in a land littered with secret graves. This is the 30th excavation this year for criminologist Israel Ticas, who leads the teams that search for bodies still missing from a decades-old civil war, and for those killed more recently by street gangs who hold most of El Salvador in their clutches.

The remains often are unidentified, but this time Ticas knows he is looking for members of the Mara Salvatrucha gang who were snatched from a bus station days before. In an unusual break, police captured three of the rival 18th Street gangsters and chased others into the arroyo with the fresh graves.

Ticas is working against the clock. By law, the government has 72 hours to collect the corpses and produce evidence of murder, or else the suspects will be released. But it

is slow going, as the bodies have been beheaded and dismembered, and though they are not long dead, worms have begun to feed on them.

The air is thick with the smell of human decomposition, and perhaps with fear. Police stand guard against gangsters who would stop the search if they could. When shots ring out suddenly, panic grips the crew before they realize that the gunfire comes from an honor guard at the military funeral overhead.

Ticas is up to his armpits in dirt, as he sometimes is several days a week. Hour after hour, he moves bits of earth with an archeologist's precision, his face streaked with sweat and soil. Late in the day, with October skies threatening rain, he urges two assistants to make haste, but not to repeat the errors of the previous evening. In darkness, he says, a crew from the morgue took away a torso but forgot the head.

"This is not just an exhumation. It is a crime scene," he reminds them. They are working for the attorney general, who must have bodies to make a case for murder.

Some would argue that digging up graves



In this Oct. 6, 2014, photo, criminologist Israel Ticas talks on the phone as he stacks his field notebooks, at his office in San Salvador. El Salvador.

is a fool's errand in El Salvador, a country with the world's second highest per capita homicide rate after neighboring Honduras. But this is a vocation for Ticas, who calls himself the "lawyer for the dead." In fact, he is a systems engineer turned police detective who taught himself forensic science. Most address him by his academic title, "Engineer."

He was a young police intelligence agent during the US-backed government's war against Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front guerrillas in the 1980s. Today, those former guerrillas hold the presidency, and Ticas works for an independently named attorney general as the department's only criminologist.

Ticas knows the risks of his work better than anyone. He sees the evidence of gang rape and sadistic methods of murder such as crushed skulls or "the pinata," in which a victim is hung upside down from a tree and hacked to death with machetes, like children batting a candy-filled pinata.

Body counts also serve as political ammunition. In 2012 and 2013, El Salvador's previous leftist government helped negotiate a truce between the gangs, during which time it claimed that homicides fell by 60 percent. But detractors, including Ticas's boss, Attorney General Luis Martinez, saw the truce as government collusion with criminals. They argue that the dead simply were dumped in clandestine graves by the country's tens of thousands of gang members.

Ticas insists he does not want to play this political tug of war. Rather, he is a technician serving the rule of law from a small office that looks like a museum of horrors, with models of skulls and limbs, and walls papered in photographs of severed heads and salvaged bodies.



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## SPORTS

#### Seahawks beat the Giants with four Lynch touchdowns

SEATTLE, Washington (AP)

arshawn Lynch rushed for a total of 140 yards and four touchdowns, and the Seattle Seahawks made it through a surprisingly tough outing against the New York Giants on Sunday with a 38-17 win.

Lynch's rushing total is the most that he has had in any game this season, while the amount of touchdowns is a personal best for his career.

The Seahawks lost the ball on di three turnovers, including two N Russell Wilson interceptions, and Eli Manning punished the Seattle secondary during the first half where New York (3-6) went into the halftime break with the lead.

But in the end, none of that mattered. Not once Lynch imposed his will on the game. The 350 total rushing yards accumulated by Seattle (6-3) is a franchise record, and the most by any NFL team this year. The last team to have more



Seattle Seahawks running back Marshawn Lynch (24) dives into the endzone during an NFL game on Sunday, November 9th, 2014, in Seattle, Washington. **Photo by** Braulio Herrera

rushing yards in a game were the Cleveland Browns, when they racked up 351 against Kansas City in 2009.

Lynch rushed the ball 21 times, but many of his teammates also added to the grand total. Wilson rushed for 107 yards on 14 rushes, and added another touchdown with 5:19 left to play.

The Seahawks now travel to Kansas City this Sunday to take on the Chiefs.

#### Seattle advances behind 0-0 draw with Dallas

SEATTLE, Washington (AP)

The Seattle Sounders advanced to the MLS Cup Western Conference finals for the second time in franchise history despite playing to a 0-0 draw with FC Dallas in the second leg of the conference semifinals on Monday night.

The two-leg series finished tied 1-1 on aggregate but Seattle moved on thanks to its road goal in the first game in Dallas. Road goals were implemented as a tiebreaker this year.

The Sounders were able to avoid the perils of the last two Supporters' Shield winners by advancing from the conference semifinals. San Jose in 2012 and New York last season both finished as regular season champions but were bounced in the conference semifinals.

Seattle will face rival Los Angeles in the Western Conference finals.

Seattle had plenty of chances from Clint Dempsey and Obafemi Martins to give itself a cushion but the match remained



Seattle Sounders forward Clint Dempsey (center) is taken down by two FC Dallas defenders during an MLS playoff match, Monday in Seattle, Washington. Photo by Braulio Herrera

tense into stoppage time. Mauro Diaz's free kick from 30 yards in the second minute of stoppage time was bounced around the penalty area and deflected wide for a corner kick that was cleared from danger.

Seattle will travel to California to take on the Los Angeles Galaxy in the first leg of the series on Sunday, November 23rd.



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#### You Decide – A Bilingual Newspaper

## With their mark on Earth, humans may name era, too

WASHINGTON (AP)

eople are changing Earth so much, warming and polluting it, that many scientists are turning to a new way to describe the time we live in. They're calling it the Anthropocene — the age of humans.

Though most non-experts don't realize it, science calls the past 12,000 years the Holocene, Greek for "entirely recent." But the way humans and their industries are altering the planet, especially its climate, has caused an increasing number of scientists to use the word "Anthropocene" to better describe when and where we are.

"We're changing the Earth. There is no question about that, I've seen it from space," said eight-time spacewalking astronaut John Grunsfeld, now associate administrator for science at NASA. He said looking down from orbit, there was no place he could see on the planet that didn't have the mark of man. So he uses the term Anthropocene, he said, "because we're intelligent enough to recognize it."

Grunsfeld was in the audience of a "Living in the Anthropocene" symposium put on last week by the Smithsonian. At the same time, the American Association for the Advancement of Science is displaying an art exhibit, "Fossils of the Anthropocene." More than 500 scientific studies have been published this year referring to the current time period as the Anthropocene.

"Never in its 4.6 billion year old history has the Earth been so affected by one species as it is being affected now by humans," said W. John Kress, acting undersecretary of science for the Smithsonian.

Steffen, one of the main leaders of the Anthropocene movement, said in an email that the age of humans is more than just climate change. It includes ozone loss, disruption of nitrogen and phosphorous cycles that are causing dead zones, changes in water, acidification of the ocean, endocrine disruptors and deforestation.

Steffen said there's no scientific consensus for the term Anthropocene yet, but he sees support growing. To become official it has to be approved by the International Union of Geological Sciences' Commission on Stratigraphy.



#### From my balcony Mexico weeps and demands justice

Dr. Lorena Barboza lorena.barboza@gmail.com

For Human Rights Watch, the crime in Iguala, Guerrero, is one of the worst in recent memory in all of Latin America. The massacre of 43 students has left the entire world in tears and shame, while also bringing into the limelight the ease in which organized crime can influence officials...the same officials who had them murdered and then turned over to

turned over to the Guerreros Unidos drug cartel, according to the news. Meanwhile, the country's president, Enrique Peña Nieto, is off on a tour to China and Aus-

tralia, without so

much as addressing why this massacre occurred, and how he was able to afford his recently discovered \$7 million mansion.

Mexico and the entire world weeps for them...they were young, and some even children. Human beings that were burned in the jungle, turned into ashes and wrapped in black bags like they were simply garbage. Now, as the days pass, we find out that the searches for them were in vain, since they were murdered the very same night that they disappeared.

How is so much terror possible? Mexico, a grand nation, what is happening in your heart? When was it all lost? Why so much evil and so much pain?

May peace be with those lost souls and with their families. Let us hope that their deaths were not in vain and that justice soon makes its appearance in Mexico. Amen.

Have a happy week, and God Bless.

Dr. Barboza invites you to visit her blog: hablandonosentendemos.podbeam.com, and to listen to "Creciendo con CBC" every Wednesday at 5:00 p.m. on "Mi Favorita" 92.5 FM

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## Missing category at the Latin Grammys

By Monica Ochoa

A Grammy, the most prestigious award in music, an award I believe is what every artist dreams of attaining. As a music fanatic I have spent years watching the show and enjoying the performances. For the past year I have written several emails to the academy about honoring and creating a Latino/ Chicano Rap category to honor artist such as Mr. Criminal, Mr. Capone-E, Lil Rob, and Snow Tha Product. Mr. Uziel Colon, from the Latin Grammy Academy took the time to reply. He states "The urban category includes the rap genre and many rap artist have been honored." He also invited me to become a member of the academy so I could be part of the process and see for myself how it works. Mr. Colon stated that in order to start a new category, there had to be a substantial amount of artists so it could be a healthy category with enough competition. Also the artist has to release the album during the eligibility year to compete and someone has to enter the album.

I have researched the Urban Category database and have not found any Latin/Chicano Rap artists as Grammy winners. I, unlike Mr. Colon, do believe there are plenty of artists to commence a Latin/ Chicano Rap Category. I have also decided that record label executives do no fully support their artists and are not members of the academy. The artist is never entered in the competition and never going to win a Grammy. I am also unsure of what exactly the eligibility year is.

My goal is to break down barriers that Latino/ Chicano rap artists face and increase appreciation and awareness for the art of music. I am honored by Mr. Colon's invitation. I plan on becoming a Latin Grammy Academy Member and I will take this opportunity to nominate Latin/Chicano Rap artists. These artists resemble our children who dream of living the big super star life. These artists have been discriminated, stereotyped, and censored by the media...and most importantly by our own culture. As Latinos, Mexicanos, Hispanos, or Latin/Chicano Hip Hop Fans, we need to unite and support these artists.

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## - SPORTS

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