AMENSTY FREEDOM
amnestyfreedom.org

PUBLIC STATEMENT

LATEST DEVELOPMENT
June 15, 2021

Mexico must pursue full accountability for the murder of Miroslava Breach

The murder of journalist Miroslava Breach Velducea demands an investigation that follows the evidence wherever it leads, including evidence of possible official involvement.

What we know

Miroslava Breach was killed in Chihuahua City in March 2017. She reported on the connections between organized crime and local politics. Courts convicted a participant in the murder and, on June 15, 2021, a former mayor for his role. Independent reporting and press freedom groups have identified lines of inquiry they believe warrant further investigation. [1–5]

Our position

A conviction of those who carried out a killing does not close a case if questions about who ordered it remain. Journalists who report on corruption and crime need to know that attacks on them will be fully investigated. Mexico is a state party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. [6–7]

Our calls

Amnesty Freedom calls on the authorities to:

1. Pursue unresolved lines of inquiry, including any evidence of official involvement, and preserve evidence.
2. Give Breach's family meaningful access to case updates.
3. Provide protection designed with local journalists and witnesses, including those working outside major cities.

Supporting information

1. Mexican journalist shot dead in Chihuahua - Committee to Protect Journalists
2. ‘Project Miroslava’ finds flaws in Mexico’s investigation of journalist murder - Committee to Protect Journalists
3. CPJ welcomes sentence in Miroslava Breach murder case, urges further investigation - Committee to Protect Journalists
4. Former Mexican mayor convicted for role in murder of reporter Miroslava Breach - Committee to Protect Journalists
5. México- A cuatro años del asesinato de Miroslava Breach Velducea: avances y cuestiones pendientes en la investigación. | RSF
6. UNESCO, UN Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity
7. OHCHR, Minnesota Protocol on the Investigation of Potentially Unlawful Death

Media contact: Ignatius Gomes, Director, Amnesty Freedom — ignatiusGomes@amnestyfreedom.org

Note to editors: *This statement is based on the public sources listed above. The date shown is that of the most recent development recorded in those sources; later developments may not be reflected.*