NATIONAL IMMIGRATION PROJECT

Lawyers for the Movement

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Honduras DOS Human Rights Report Comparison

2023 Report	2024 Report	Notes
	Executive Summary	
The human rights situation in Honduras was problematic, due to the prolonged estado de excepción (state of emergency) and an increase in gender-based violence.	The government took credible steps to identify and punish officials who committed human rights abuses, but inadequate prosecutorial resources, a weak judicial system, political interference, and corruption were major obstacles to obtaining convictions. Criminal groups, including local and transnational gangs and narcotics traffickers, were significant perpetrators of violent crimes and committed acts of homicide, torture, kidnapping, extortion, human trafficking, intimidation, and other threats and violence directed against human rights defenders, judicial authorities, lawyers, business community members, journalists, bloggers, women, union members, and other vulnerable populations. The government investigated and prosecuted some of these crimes, but impunity was widespread.	The 2024 report starts with, "There were no significant changes in the human rights situation in Honduras during the year."
Significant human rights issues included credible reports of: arbitrary or unlawful killings; torture or cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment by government agents; harsh and life-threatening prison conditions; arbitrary arrest or detention; serious problems with the independence of the judiciary; serious restrictions on freedom of expression and media freedom, including threats against media members by criminal elements; serious government corruption; extensive gender-based violence, including domestic violence, sexual violence, and femicide; and crimes involving violence or threats of violence targeting lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, or intersex persons.	Significant human rights issues included credible reports of: arbitrary or unlawful killings; disappearances; torture or cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment; arbitrary arrest or detention; and serious restrictions on freedom of expression and media freedom, including threats against media members by criminal elements.	The 2024 report has reduced the number of reports documented in 2023 by more than half.
Section 1. Respect for the Integrity of the Person	**Section 1. Life**	
a. Arbitrary Deprivation of Life and Other Unlawful or Politically Motivated Killings	**a. Extrajudicial Killings**	

There were reports that the government or its agents committed one arbitrary or unlawful killing within the National Penal Institute. No further information was publicly available regarding the incident.	There were numerous reports the government or its agents committed arbitrary or unlawful killings during the year. The quasi-governmental, semiautonomous National Human Rights Ombudsman (CONADEH) reported various security forces committed six arbitrary or unlawful killings during the year. The Public Ministry reported three cases, involving at least five members of the Honduran National Police. No further information was publicly available regarding these incidents.	The 2024 report mentions numerous reports of the government committing arbitrary or unlawful killings during the year, while the 2023 report only mentions one unlawful killing.
There is no Similar Language in this report.	**b. Coercion in Population Control**	The 2023 report does not mention Coercion in Population Control. The 2024 report documents no reports of coerced abortion or involuntary sterilization on the part of government authorities.
b. Disappearance	**c. Disappearance and Abduction**	
	Disappearance	
There were no reports of disappearances by or on behalf of government authorities.	There were seven official reports of enforced disappearances by or on behalf of government authorities, according to CONADEH.	The 2023 report states that there were no reports of disappearances, whereas the 2024 report documents 7 official reports of disappearances.
	Section 3. Security of the Person	
c. Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman, or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and Other Related Abuses	**a. Torture and Cruel, Inhuman, or Degrading Treatment or Punishment**	
The National Human Rights Commission (CONADEH) reported 66 cases of alleged torture or cruel and inhuman treatment of detainees and prisoners by security forces through August, while the Public Ministry received five such reports through July. The quasi-governmental National Committee for the Prevention of Torture, Cruel, Inhuman, or Degrading Treatment (CONAPREV) received 41 complaints of the use of torture or cruel and inhuman treatment through September.	Although the law prohibited such practices, there were credible reports of abuses by members of the security forces.	The 2023 and 2024 reports both state abuses by security forces. The 2024 report provides more detailed information about the data provided by CONADEH.
There is no Similar Language in this report.	The Public Ministry reported 26 cases of alleged torture by security forces, while CONADEH reported 37 cases. CONADEH also reported two cases of rape by security forces, as well as four cases of sexual violence. The Public Ministry reported a total of 123 cases of cruel or inhuman treatment by security forces, and CONADEH reported 76 cases via the Ministry of Human Rights.	The 2023 and 2024 reports both state abuses by security forces. The 2024 report provides more detailed information about the data provided by CONADEH.
There is no Similar Language in this report.	The Ministry of Human Rights reported 21 prisoners died while in custody, five of whom died because of violence. The causes of six other deaths were under investigation. CONADEH reported 14 cases of alleged torture and 21 cases of cruel and inhuman treatment of detainees and prisoners by security forces within penitentiary institutions, and another case of rape or sexual abuse of a person while in detention.	The 2023 and 2024 reports both state abuses by security forces. The 2024 report provides more detailed information about the data provided by CONADEH.
There is no Similar Language in this report.	Corruption, a lack of investigative resources, and judicial delays led to widespread impunity, including for members of security forces, although justice institutions prosecuted and sentenced security forces for human rights violations.	The 2023 and 2024 reports both state abuses by security forces. The 2024 report provides more detailed information about the data provided by CONADEH.
There is no Similar Language in this report.	**Physical Attacks, Imprisonment, and Pressure**	The 2023 report does not mention Physical Attacks, Imprisonment, and Pressure.
There is no Similar Language in this report.	Journalists and other members of civil society reported they self-censored due to fear of criticism, harassment, and retribution by the government and its supporters. Others reported direct acts of intimidation or threats of violence from government officials or supporters for being critical of the government. Civil society organizations criticized the government's failure to investigate threats and incidents of violence adequately. CONADEH reported two cases of violent attacks and two cases of violence and slander on journalists and social communicators.	The 2023 report does not mention Physical Attacks, Imprisonment, and Pressure.
Prison and Detention Center Conditions	There is no Similar Language in this report.	The 2024 report does not mention Prison and Center Conditions
CONAPREV reported that as of March 31, the prison population was more than 19,500, in a system designed for approximately 13,000 inmates.	There is no Similar Language in this report.	- 2023 report: under subsection "abusive physical conditions" The 2024 report does not mention Prison and Center Conditions

CONADEH and CONAPREV reported more than 100 cases of alleged torture or cruel and inhuman treatment of detainees and prisoners by security forces.	There is no Similar Language in this report.	The 2024 report does not mention Prison and Center Conditions
d. Arbitrary Arrest or Detention	**Prolonged Detention without Charges**	
While no official statistics were provided, there were allegations of arbitrary detention and unlawful arrest as a result of the imposed estado de excepcion.	The law prohibited arbitrary arrest and detention and provided for the right of any person to challenge the lawfulness of their arrest or detention in court. The government generally observed these requirements, but there were reports of arbitrary arrest and detention due to the state of exception.	The 2023 report does not include statistical data on arbitrary detention and unlawful arrest, whereas the 2024 report presents statistical data and analyses, collaborating with the Ministry of Human Rights and CONADEH.
There is no Similar Language in this report.	Lengthy pretrial detention was a serious problem due to judicial inefficiency, insufficient resources, and other problems that delayed proceedings in the criminal justice system. The Ministry of Human Rights reported 8,945 individuals were in the prison population awaiting processing. For crimes with minimum sentences of six years' imprisonment, the law authorized pretrial detention of up to two years. The prosecution could request an additional six-month extension, but many detainees remained in pretrial detention much longer, including for more time than the maximum period of incarceration prescribed for their alleged crime. The law did not authorize pretrial detention for crimes with a maximum sentence of five years or less.	The 2023 report does not include statistical data on arbitrary detention and unlawful arrest, whereas the 2024 report presents statistical data and analyses, collaborating with the Ministry of Human Rights and CONADEH.
There is no Similar Language in this report.	The law mandated that authorities release detainees whose cases had not yet come to trial and whose time in pretrial detention already had exceeded the maximum prison sentence for their alleged crime. Nonetheless, many prisoners remained in custody after completing their full sentences, and sometimes even after an acquittal, because officials failed to process their releases expeditiously. CONADEH reported 236 cases regarding access to justice and due process of law by security forces, and nine cases of violations of due process.	The 2023 report does not include statistical data on arbitrary detention and unlawful arrest, whereas the 2024 report presents statistical data and analyses, collaborating with the Ministry of Human Rights and CONADEH.
Arrest Procedures and Treatment of Detainees		
e. Denial of Fair Public Trial	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report eliminated this section and does not include similar language in the report**.**
Trial Procedures	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report eliminated this section and does not include similar language in the report**.**
Credible observers noted problems in trial procedures, such as a lack of admissible evidence, judicial corruption, witness intimidation, and an ineffective witness protection program.	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report eliminated this section and does not include similar language in the report**.**
Political Prisoners and Detainees	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report eliminated this section and does not include similar language in the report**.**
f. Transnational Repression	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	2023 report not applicable. The 2024 report eliminated this section and does not include similar language in the report.
g. Property Seizure and Restitution	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	2023 report not applicable. The 2024 report eliminated this section and does not include similar language in the report.
h. Arbitrary or Unlawful Interference with Privacy, Family, Home, or Correspondence	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	2023 report not applicable. The 2024 report eliminated this section and does not include similar language in the report.
On December 6, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights expressed concerns regarding illegal detentions, excessive use of force, and abuses committed during warrantless home searches committed in the context of the estado de excepción.	Section eliminated in 2024 report.	The 2024 report eliminated this section and does not include similar language in the report**.**
Section 2. Respect for Civil Liberties	**Section 2. Liberty**	
a. Freedom of Association and the Right to Collective Bargaining	**a. Freedom of the Press**	

Freedom of Expression: Senior government representatives criticized civil society and members of the international community for comments perceived as critical of the government. Civil society groups reported these statements had a chilling effect on freedom of expression.	The law provided for freedom of expression, including for members of the press and other media, with some restrictions, and the government generally respected this right. Although many press outlets were politically aligned, the press and prevailing democratic norms combined to promote freedom of expression, including for media members. Some media owners noted they were excluded from official events and blocked from receiving government advertising revenue as retribution for perceived anti-government reporting.	The 2024 report states that there is positive freedom of expression under the law, while the 2023 report states that there are adverse effects from the Senior Government.
For example, National Police agents intimidated journalist Orlin Martinez, claiming he was an informant for criminal groups.	Senior government representatives criticized civil society and members of the international community for comments perceived as critical of the government. Civil society groups reported these statements had a chilling effect on freedom of expression. CONADEH reported two cases of restrictions on the right of expression by security forces and another case related to threats or harassment against journalists and social communicators by government officials. The Special Prosecutor's Office for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders, Journalists, Social Communicators, and Justice Officials reported two cases of threats against journalists.	- 2023 report: under subsection "violence and harassment", The 2024 report does mention the same data about the Senior government as the 2023 report, adding examples of the "chilling effect on freedom of expression".
Censorship or Content Restrictions for Members of the Press and Other Media, Including Online Media: Media members and NGOs stated the press self-censored due to fear of retaliation from criminal groups, drug trafficking organizations, or criticism by government officials. Media also engaged in self-censorship to avoid losing lucrative advertising contracts with the government.	Media members and nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) stated the press self-censored due to fear of retaliation from criminal groups or drug trafficking organizations, or criticism by government officials. Media also engaged in self-censorship to avoid losing lucrative advertising contracts with the government.	The 2023 and 2024 reports document the same data. The only change is that the 2024 edition adds nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) and provides examples.
There is no Similar Language in this report.	On March 13, the minister of security criticized a prominent NGO for its continued reporting on the state of the country and the impact of the government's policy decisions, and announced the government had opened an investigation into the NGO and the validity of its status as an NGO.	The 2024 report provides examples of how NGOs influence the media.
There is no Similar Language in this report.	Some journalists and other members of civil society reported threats from members of criminal groups. It was unclear how many of these threats were related to the victims' professions or activism. Several anonymous social media sites criticized journalists (as well as activists and civil society organizations) who were critical of the government or of opposition party policies.	The 2024 report provides examples of threats to journalists.
b. Freedoms of Peaceful Assembly and Association	Section eliminated in 2024 report**.**	The 2024 report eliminated this section and does not include similar language in the report.
Freedom of Peaceful Assembly	Section eliminated in 2024 report**.**	The 2024 report eliminated this section and does not include similar language in the report.
In another instance, in July supporters of the ruling party chased peaceful protesters while throwing objects at them to disrupt their demonstration. The government also reportedly used its control of the Honduran Transportation Institute to arbitrarily enforce intercity bus travel rules in August to reduce numbers of protesters at another opposition-led protest in Tegucigalpa.	Section eliminated in 2024 report**.**	The 2024 report eliminated this section and does not include similar language in the report.
c. Freedom of Religion	**d. Violations in Religious Freedom**	See the Department of State's annual International Religious Freedom Report at https://www.state.gov/religiousfreedomreport/.
d. Freedom of Movement and the Right to Leave the Country		The 2024 report does not have a section on Freedom of Movement and the Right to Leave the Country.
e. Protection of Refugees	**c. Protection to Refugees**	

Abuse of Refugees and Asylum Seekers: Transiting migrants, forcibly displaced populations, and asylum seekers with pending cases were vulnerable to abuse and sexual exploitation by criminal organizations. Women, children, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, or intersex (LGBTQI+) individuals were especially vulnerable to abuse. Transiting migrants, refugees, and other vulnerable populations faced acute security risks in border zones.	The government cooperated with the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and other humanitarian organizations in providing protection and assistance to refugees, returning refugees, or asylum seekers, and other persons of concern.	The 2024 report does not mention asylum seekers of migrants, or LGBTQIA+ individuals, while the 2023 report does. The 2024 report only provides the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR),
There is no Similar Language in this report.	**Provision of First Asylum**	
There is no Similar Language in this report.	The law provided for the granting of asylum or refugee status, and the government had a system for providing protection to refugees. Its operations to receive and process asylum applications relied on support from UNHCR. UNHCR's support focused on providing training to officers of the National Institute for Migration, supporting decisions and application of international refugee determination standards on submitted claims, and improving reception conditions for asylum seekers.	The 2023 report highlights the challenges of seeking asylum, whereas the 2024 report refers to the law specifically designed to grant asylum or refugee status.
f. Status and Treatment of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)	Section eliminated in 2024 report	The 2024 report eliminated this section and does not include similar language in the report.
NGOs reported IDPs were at increased risk of victimization and exploitation by criminal groups.	Section eliminated in 2024 report	The 2024 report eliminated this section and does not include similar language in the report.
Section 3. Freedom to Participate in the Political Process	Section eliminated in 2024 report	The 2024 report eliminated this section and does not include similar language in the report.
Elections and Political Participation	Section eliminated in 2024 report	The 2024 report eliminated this section and does not include similar language in the report.
Section 4. Corruption in Government	Section eliminated in 2024 report	The 2024 report eliminated this section and does not include similar language in the report.
Section 5. Governmental Posture Towards International and Nongovernmental Monitoring and Investigation of Alleged Abuses of Human Rights	Section eliminated in 2024 report	The 2024 report eliminated this section and does not include similar language in the report.
Section 6. Discrimination and Societal Abuses		
Women		
Civil society groups reported women often did not report domestic violence or withdrew charges because they feared, or were economically dependent on, the aggressor. In addition, women experienced delays in accessing justice due to police who failed to process complaints in a timely manner or judicial system officials who deferred scheduling hearings.	There is no Similar Language in this Report.	- 2023 report: under subsection "rape and domestic violence", The 2024 report does not have a section on Women.
The Human Rights Observatory of the Center for Women's Rights registered 341 violent deaths of women as of October 31.	There is no Similar Language in this Report.	- 2023 report: under subsection "other forms of gender-based violence or harassment". The 2024 does not have a section on Women.
Discrimination**:** Although the law accorded women and men the same legal rights and status, including property rights in divorce cases, many women did not fully enjoy such rights due to barriers in access to justice and lack of information regarding legal protections. Most women in the workforce engaged in lower-status and lower-paying informal occupations, such as domestic service, without the benefit of legal protections. The law did not mandate equal pay for equal work. The law prohibited employers from requiring pregnancy tests as a prerequisite for employment. The law stated a woman's employment should be appropriate to her physical state and capacity. Many employers discriminated against women. For example, it was common in job announcements that only male applicants should apply.	Section eliminated in 2024 report	The 2024 report eliminated this section and does not include similar language in the report.

Reproductive Rights: There were no reports of coerced abortion or involuntary sterilization on the part of government authorities. The government did not provide government-sponsored access to sexual and reproductive health services for survivors of sexual violence, and emergency contraception and postexposure prophylaxis were not available as part of clinical management of rape. President Castro signed an executive order in March allowing the sale, distribution, and use of emergency contraception, but it was not widely available. The government's ability to provide health-care services to survivors of sexual violence was limited. Survivors relied on assistance from NGOs such as Doctors Without Borders.	There is no Similar Language in this Report.	The 2024 report does not mention Reproductive Rights.
In 2019 (most recent data available), 94 percent of births were attended by skilled health-care personnel; however, NGOs reported significant gaps in obstetric care, especially in rural areas. The United Nations reported the adolescent birth rate was 89 births per 1,000 girls ages 15 to 19. UN human rights experts stated the difficulty of access to contraception, particularly in rural areas, contributed to a high rate of adolescent pregnancy. The Ministry of Health estimated that there were 86 maternal deaths per year and that the vast majority of the leading causes were preventable.	There is no Similar Language in this Report.	The 2024 report does not mention Reproductive Rights.
Systemic Racial or Ethnic Violence and Discrimination		In the 2024 report there is so section on Systematic Racial or Ethnic Violence and Discrimination
NGOs reported the government did not effectively combat discrimination or promote equal access to government services and employment opportunities.	There is no Similar Language in this Report.	The 2024 report does not mention anything on Systematic Racial or Ethnic Violence and Discrimination.
NGOs reported the government did not make sufficient efforts to comply with Inter-American Court of Human Rights rulings, specifically cases related to territorial rights for Garífuna communities.	There is no Similar Language in this Report.	The 2024 report does not mention anything on Systematic Racial or Ethnic Violence and Discrimination.
Indigenous Peoples	There is no Similar Language in this report.	The 2024 report does not mention Indigenous Peoples.
Ethnic minority rights leaders, international NGOs, and farmworker organizations claimed the government failed to redress actions taken by security forces, government agencies, private individuals, and businesses to dislodge Indigenous persons from lands over which they claimed ownership based on land reform law or ancestral land titles	There is no Similar Language in this report.	The 2024 report does not mention Indigenous Peoples.
Children	**b. Protection of Children**	
c. Prohibition of Child Labor and Minimum Age for Employment	**Child Labor**	See the Department of Labor's Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor at https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ilab/resources/reports/child-labor/findings/ .
Birth Registration: Failure to register births resulted in denial of public services, including access to health services or school enrollment.	No Similar Language in this Report.	In the 2024 report there was no section on Birth Registration.
	Child Marriage	
Child, Early, and Forced Marriage: The minimum legal age of marriage was 18. The government did not enforce the law effectively. International NGOs reported 34 percent of girls and 12 percent of boys were married before age 18, with the practice more prevalent in rural areas. Most unions were informal rather than a formal marriage	The minimum legal age of marriage was 18. The government did not enforce the law effectively. International NGOs reported 34 percent of girls and 12 percent of boys were married before age 18, with the practice more prevalent in rural areas. Most unions were informal rather than a formal marriage.	The 2023 and 2024 reports document the same data.
Antisemitism	**d. Acts of Antisemitism and Antisemitic Incitement**	
The Jewish community numbered approximately 150 members. There were no known reports of antisemitic incidents.	The Jewish community numbered approximately 150 members. There were no reports of antisemitic incidents.	The 2023 and 2024 reports document the same data.
Trafficking in Persons	**e. Trafficking in Persons**	See the Department of State's annual Trafficking in Persons Report at https://www.state.gov/trafficking-in-persons-report/.
Acts of Violence, Criminalization, and Other Abuses Based on Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity or Expression, or Sex Characteristics	Section eliminated in 2024 report	The 2024 report eliminated this section and does not include similar language in the report.

Criminalization: No laws existed to criminalize consensual same-sex conduct between adults, cross-dressing, or other sexual or gender characteristic-related behavior. NGOs reported concern that the Public Ministry and government bodies lacked investigative processes to deal with cases of violence and hate crimes against LGBTQI+ persons, because investigative units did not receive training on gender and sexual diversity issues. There was also a general lack of investigative personnel, contributing to a large number of unresolved cases.	Section eliminated in 2024 report	The 2024 report eliminated this section and does not include similar language in the report.
Violence and Harassment: NGOs reported police or other government agents incited, perpetrated, condoned, or tolerated violence against LGBTQI+ individuals. Impunity for such crimes was high. LGBTQI+ organizations reported they were the target of hate speech from media, public officials, and religious organizations. The Public Ministry reported seven killings of LGBTQI+ persons as of September, while NGOs reported 47 violent deaths and 83 hate crimes against LGBTQI+ persons as of November.	Section eliminated in 2024 report	The 2024 report eliminated this section and does not include similar language in the report.
On January 29, the Special Prosecutor's Office for Crimes Against Life coordinated a raid in Roatán to capture Erick Gerardo del Arca, for the alleged rape and killing of Manuel Enrique Cruz, a member of the LGBTQI+ community.	Section eliminated in 2024 report	The 2024 report eliminated this section and does not include similar language in the report.
In June police detained Miguel Ángel Cabrera Oviedo and Antonio Josué Medina Vargas for the February 19 killing of Maryuri Lizeth Pineda, a member of the LGTBQI+ community.	Section eliminated in 2024 report	The 2024 report eliminated this section and does not include similar language in the report.
On May 18, a member of the National Police assigned to Intibucá Departmental Police Unit 13 of the municipality of Gracias, department of Lempira, reported Deputy Commissioner Jessica Aguilar for harassment regarding his sexual orientation.	Section eliminated in 2024 report	The 2024 report eliminated this section and does not include similar language in the report.
Discrimination: The law prohibited discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity characteristics and included crimes committed against individuals because of their sexual orientation or gender identity as aggravating circumstances to increase penalties for criminal offenses. Nevertheless, discrimination against LGBTQI+ persons persisted. As of August, CONADEH received 25 reports of discrimination based on sexual orientation. Same-sex couples and households headed by same-sex couples were not eligible for the same legal protections available to opposite-sex married couples.	Section eliminated in 2024 report	The 2024 report eliminated this section and does not include similar language in the report.
LGBTQI+ rights groups asserted government agencies and private employers engaged in discriminatory hiring practices. Transgender women were particularly vulnerable to employment and education discrimination; many could find employment only as sex workers, increasing their vulnerability to violence and extortion.	Section eliminated in 2024 report	The 2024 report eliminated this section and does not include similar language in the report.
Availability of Legal Gender Recognition: The law prohibited transgender persons from changing their name and legal gender status. Other forms of legal gender recognition, such as nonbinary or intersex, were not available.	Section eliminated in 2024 report	The 2024 report eliminated this section and does not include similar language in the report.
Involuntary or Coercive Medical or Psychological Practices: There were no documented cases of 'conversion therapy,' but NGOs reported there were known cases of conversion therapies. There were no reports medically unnecessary and irreversible 'normalization' surgeries were performed on children or on nonconsenting adult intersex persons.	Section eliminated in 2024 report	The 2024 report eliminated this section and does not include similar language in the report.
Restrictions of Freedom of Expression, Association, or Peaceful Assembly: There were no restrictions of freedom of expression, association, or peaceful assembly regarding LGBTQI+ matters or events.	Section eliminated in 2024 report	The 2024 report eliminated this section and does not include similar language in the report.
Persons with Disabilities	Section eliminated in 2024 report	The 2024 report eliminated this section and does not include similar language in the report.

According to government estimates, children with disabilities attended school at a lower rate than the general population. The Institute for National Statistics put net enrollment for primary school at 77 percent in 2021, but the National Center for Social Sector Information stated that in 2020, 43 percent of persons with disabilities received no formal education.	Section eliminated in 2024 report	The 2024 report eliminated this section and does not include similar language in the report.
Other Societal Violence or Discrimination	Section eliminated in 2024 report	The 2024 report eliminated this section and does not include similar language in the report.
Persons with HIV and AIDS continued to be targets of discrimination, including in employment and occupation, and they suffered disproportionately from gender-based violence.	Section eliminated in 2024 report	The 2024 report eliminated this section and does not include similar language in the report.
Section 7. Worker Rights	**b. Worker Rights**	
a. Freedom of Association and the Right to Collective Bargaining	**Freedom of Association and Collective Bargaining**	
Workers had difficulty exercising the right to form and join unions and to engage in collective bargaining. Public-sector trade unionists raised concerns regarding government interference in trade union activities, including its ignoring or suspending collective agreements and its dismissals of union members and leaders.	The law guaranteed workers the right to form and join unions of their choice, bargain collectively, and strike. It prohibited employer retribution against employees for engaging in trade union activities. The law placed restrictions on these rights, such as requiring that a recognized trade union represent at least 30 workers, prohibiting foreign nationals from holding union offices, and requiring that union officials work in the same substantive area of the business as the workers they represented. The law prohibited members of the armed forces and police, as well as certain other public employees, from forming labor unions. The Ministry of Labor and Social Security also required that union leaders be employed under permanent contracts, limiting the ability of seasonal agricultural workers to exercise their right to freedom of association.	The 2024 reports provide a detailed explanation of worker rights, including the freedom of Association and Collective Bargaining. The 2024 provides long explanations on strikes and labor rights.
The government investigated violence and threats of violence against union leaders. Impunity for such crimes was high.	The law required an employer to begin collective bargaining once workers established a union, and it specified that if more than one union existed at a company, the employer had to negotiate with the largest.	The 2023 report describes violence against unions, while the 2024 report outlines the accommodations that employers must make regarding unions.
b. Prohibition of Forced or Compulsory Labor	**Forced or Compulsory Labor**	See the Department of State's annual Trafficking in Persons Report at https://www.state.gov/trafficking-in-persons-report/.
d. Discrimination (see section 6)		
e. Acceptable Conditions of Work	**Acceptable Work Conditions**	- 2023 report: under subsection "wage and hour laws"
	Wage and Hour Laws	The 2024 report provides additional information on the minimum wage and the number of hours worked per day.
In some industries, including agriculture, domestic service, and security, employers did not respect maternity rights or pay minimum wage, overtime, or vacation. In these sectors, employers frequently paid workers for the standard 44-hour workweek irrespective of any additional hours they worked. In the security and domestic service sectors, workers were frequently forced to work more than 60 hours per week but were paid only for 44 hours. Employers frequently penalized agricultural workers for taking legally authorized days off. Employers paid the minimum wage inconsistently in other sectors. Civil society continued to raise problems with minimum wage violations, highlighting agricultural companies in the south as frequent violators.	In some industries, including agriculture, domestic service, and security, employers did not respect maternity rights or pay minimum wage, overtime, or vacation. In these sectors, employers frequently paid workers for the standard 44-hour workweek irrespective of any additional hours they worked. In the security and domestic service sectors, workers were frequently forced to work more than 60 hours per week but were paid only for 44 hours. Employers frequently penalized agricultural workers for taking legally authorized days off. Employers paid the minimum wage inconsistently in other sectors. Civil society continued to raise problems with minimum wage violations, highlighting agricultural companies in the south as frequent violators.	The 2023 and 2024 reports document the same data.
There is no Similar Language in this report.	**Occupational Safety and Health**	The 2024 report goes into an extensive explanation of how the Ministry of Labor was responsible for enforcing wage, hour, and OSH laws, and how it did so inconsistently and ineffectively. (approx eight paragraphs). The 2023 report does not have a dedicated section on Occupational Safety and Health.
There is no Similar Language in this report.	**Wage, Hour, and OSH Enforcement**	The 2024 report goes into an extensive explanation of how the Ministry of Labor was responsible for enforcing wage, hour, and OSH laws, and how it did so inconsistently and ineffectively. (approx eight paragraphs). The 2023 report does not have a specific section on Wage, Hour, and OSH Enforcement.