



# Socialist International Women

## DECLARATION

Socialist International Women, SIW, would like to show its support to Sandra Torres, leader of the Unidad Nacional de la Esperanza (UNE) of Guatemala and one of the SI Vice-Presidents. She has spent most of her life promoting politics, programs and laws concerning social development, specially of women, children and people of special needs and was the founder of the National Coordinator of the Women, through which thousands of women have channelled their specific demands.

She was a candidate to the Presidency of the Republic of Guatemala in the elections of June (first round) and August (second round) 2019. Following the elections, she was arrested and subjected to preventive detention from 2 September 2019 to 8 January 2020, and since that date she has remained under house arrest.

We believe she is facing a case of political persecution to try to exclude her and disqualify her as an electoral candidate. After senior international jurists in this field studied her case, has become clear that the processes undertaken against her are a case fabricated with the desire to discredit her with no fact or proof to support the criminal complaint.

SIW hopes that justice is made and calls for the closure of her case and her immediate release.

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