

For Immediate Release**Contact:** Daniella Burgi-Palomino, dburgipalomino@lawg.org, (202) 546-7010**LAWG Strongly Opposes DHS' Decision on TPS, Urges Extensions for Honduras, El Salvador & Haiti
November 7, 2017**

The Latin America Working Group (LAWG) strongly opposes yesterday's decision by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to end Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for 2,500 Nicaraguans and to leave Hondurans in a cruel uncertainty for another six months. The decision to end TPS for Nicaraguans who have lived lawfully in this country for many years only hurts our economy and communities and presents them with an inhumane choice—to continue to reside in the U.S. without legal status or to be forcibly returned to a country they likely no longer know. This decision also fails to acknowledge the situation of insecurity, corruption and impunity in Honduras which has been extensively documented and which justifies an extension of TPS for Hondurans. It also ignores several bipartisan statements of support from members of Congress calling for the extension of TPS.

"Today's decision to terminate TPS for Nicaraguans, and to put Hondurans' lives on hold yet again is only the latest in this Administration's string of senseless, xenophobic attacks on members of our communities here and our Latin American neighbors. This will only drive families and individuals further into shadows in fear. We urge DHS to reconsider its decision on Nicaragua and to request 18 month extensions for upcoming TPS renewals on Honduras, El Salvador and Haiti. Congress should pass legislation to protect TPS beneficiaries immediately so that these members of our communities don't have to live their lives in a constant limbo," states Daniella Burgi-Palomino, LAWG's Senior Associate for Mexico, Migrant Rights and Border Issues.

LAWG also deplores the State Department's letter, reported in the [Washington Post](#), that conditions in Central America and Haiti no longer justify a need for protections. Such an assessment runs contrary to the humanitarian situation on the ground and is an abdication of the State Department's responsibility to promote sensible foreign policy. LAWG and partners have highlighted how ending TPS would have deeply [negative consequences](#) on the stated U.S. foreign policy and national security goals in the region and have documented [extensively](#) the situation of insecurity, corruption, and impunity on the ground in the Northern Triangle countries of Central America that leaves families, individuals, and children with no other option than to flee.

LAWG urges Congress to act quickly and pass legislation that would grant legal permanent residence status to the over 300,000 TPS beneficiaries from Nicaragua, Honduras, El Salvador and Haiti. We stand by TPSians and will continue to fight for their protection.

*LAWG will participate on an informational webinar hosted by Alianza Americas, **TODAY, November 7**. Register here for [2pm EST](#) (English) or [6pm EST](#) (Spanish).*