

## **PRESS RELEASE ON THE ATTACK AGAINST HONDURAN BROADCASTER**

The International Association of Broadcasting - IAB - expresses its strongest condemnation and rejects the attack against broadcaster Elias Chahín, President of the Association of Independent Radio and Television of Honduras, in San Pedro Sula on Saturday May 4.

The broadcaster reported that on the evening of Saturday 4, he was intercepted by three unknown who beat him and threatened to kill him if he continues with his questioning of the draft amendment of the Telecommunications Law, known as "Gag Law" in Honduras

Besides this deplorable attack, Elías Chahín has suffered other attacks and threats in the last two months.

Principle nine of the Declaration of Principles on Freedom of Expression of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights states:

*"The murder, kidnapping, intimidation of and/or threats to social communicators, as well as the material destruction of communications media violate the fundamental rights of individuals and strongly restrict freedom of expression. It is the duty of the state to prevent and investigate such occurrences, to punish their perpetrators and to ensure that victims receive due compensation. "*

In addition, the "Declaration of San Jose" approved on Friday May 3 in Costa Rica, by the Conference of UNESCO on the occasion of World Press Freedom Day highlighted the deep concern over "the attacks on freedom of expression especially on those who practice journalism ", asking Member States of UNESCO to " create a safe legal and institutional environment for journalists to report "and ensure" that crimes against journalists or media outlets are subject to independent, speedy and effective investigations and prosecutions. "

May 5, 2013