

## 63. Motion to Free Manuel Duran and Support Central American Refugees

Proposed by the [National Writers Union, USA \(NWU\)](#)

The World Congress of the [International Federation of Journalists](#), meeting in Tunis from 11th to 14th June 2019,

Recognising that the International Federation of Journalists is dedicated to improving the quality of life and supporting writers and freedom of expression;

Concerned that there are now more than 60 million refugees world-wide, the highest number since the Second World War;

Bearing in mind that IFJ affiliate unions represent citizen and immigrant journalists, who should enjoy the same rights and legal protections;

1) **Calls on** the US Government to release and drop deportation proceedings against Manuel Durán Ortega, a Salvadoran immigrant reporter arrested in Tennessee last 3rd April and held in an Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detention center in Jena, Louisiana since his arrest;

2) **Supports** the efforts of the National Writers Union and many immigrant rights groups to aid the thousands of refugees at the US-Mexico border in seeking asylum and peacefully entering the U.S.;

3) **Joins** the growing chorus in the U.S. demanding an end to the Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency (ICE).