

## OF THE BAY ISLANDS TERRITORY

## NO to the ZEDES in THE BAY ISLANDS!

The Sovereignty of our Country is for sale to Foreigners, behind the backs of the Honduran people, starting with the small community of Crawfish Rock, Roatan in The Bay Islands, our government is selling us out.

Flagrantly disrespecting the islanders and violating our human, constitutional, and hereditary rights; International treaties and agreements; among them, the Treaty between Great Britain and Honduras, surrendering the Bay Islands and the Mosquitia as part of the Republic of Honduras, and The ILO 169 Convention on indigenous and tribal people, 1989.

Shame on our authorities for selling out our homeland. We islanders opened the doors of tourism to the rest of the country through many years of sacrifice. Men and women sailed in high seas, venturing to all corners of the world, including oil fields, to support our families.

The country's political class has never been concerned with the socio-economic well-being or sustainable development of the mainland, and much less so of the bay islanders, even though Honduras has sufficient natural resources to be the best country of the Americas.

Since 1849, more than 171 years ago, our leaders began concession deals with transnationals and foreign companies, only benefiting a small privileged group. While continually enslaving the population in extreme poverty by denying the fundamental rights to a good education, health, and decent housing.

Corruption hindered the central government from fulfilling its obligations to the rest of the country, much less so in the Bay Islands.

It was evident in our history on April 12, 1861. The foreign minister sent a letter to the British consulate, asking them to have a little patience because Honduras was not prepared to take possession of the Bay Islands. For 159 years, they have done little or nothing more than looting.

They still cannot maintain us, so they intend to sell us to the highest bidder, disguised as ZEDE-(MODEL CITY) Employment and Economic Development Zone. Just another scam.

They suggest that it is to alleviate poverty; on the contrary, we will just plunge into misery as they confiscate our ancestral lands to hand them over to foreigners.

Roatan 28 de September, 2020

