

Berta Valle is a well-known Nicaraguan activist, social communicator, and human rights defender. With fifteen years of experience as a senior television anchor and station manager working with the top morning shows in Nicaragua, Ms. Valle is one of the most-recognized broadcasters in Nicaragua and its diaspora. In 2016, Ms. Valle was nominated as an independent to represent Managua in the National Assembly by the Independent Liberal Party as part of its National Coalition for Democracy. However, Nicaragua's Supreme Court, controlled by Ortega-loyalists, disqualified the party's electoral coalition and Ms. Valle was blocked from running. Since 2018, Ms. Valle, her daughter, and mother-in-law have been living in exile abroad due to the political persecution faced by Félix Maradiaga and his family. As a result of the enforced disappearance and detention of her husband, she coordinates defense teams that support Félix Maradiaga inside and outside of Nicaragua. On July 27, 2021, the Nicaraguan Public Ministry and Nicaraguan National Police published press releases reporting that the Ortega regime had found Ms. Valle summarily guilty, in absentia and without charge or trial, of being a "traitor to the homeland," based on so-called "investigations" into her international advocacy in defense of her disappeared husband.