

# Summonses

Inter-American Court of Human Rights

CorteIDH\_CP-39/18 Inglés

Si tiene problemas para visualizar este mensaje haga clic [aquí](#)



## INTER-AMERICAN COURT HELD ITS 59TH PERIOD OF SPECIAL SESSIONS IN SAN SALVADOR

*San José, Costa Rica, 7 September 2018-* The Inter-American Court of Human Rights held its 59<sup>th</sup> Period of Special Sessions, from 27-31 August in San Salvador, El Salvador. This was made possible due to the kind invitation made by the Government of El Salvador, as well as the financial support provided by the Kingdom of Norway and the Heinrich Böll Stiftung Foundation.

### I. Inauguration of the 59<sup>th</sup> Special Session

The opening ceremony of the 59th Special Session was held at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of El Salvador, in the "Salón de Honor". The President of the Inter-American Court, Judge Eduardo Ferrer Mac-Gregor, the President of the Republic of El Salvador, Salvador Sánchez Cerén, and the President's Commissioner for Human Rights, María Silvia Guillén, addressed those present, including Ministers and members of the diplomatic corps accredited to El Salvador, representatives of international organizations and civil society, academics and students.

### II. Public Hearings

The Court held the following public hearings:

#### a) *Case Gómez Virula et al. v. Guatemala*

This case concerns the alleged disappearance and subsequent murder of Alejandro Yovany Gómez Virula in March 1995. Allegedly, the Guatemalan State is responsible for violating the rights to life, personal integrity, and personal liberty of Mr. Gómez, as it is alleged that no measures were employed to look for him after becoming aware of the disappearance of the victim. It is further alleged that up until the time of the discovery of Mr. Gómez's body, the State had the obligation to adopt immediate and diligent measures to search for and protect the victim, something that did not take place. Likewise, it is alleged that the State violated Mr. Gómez's right to liberty of association because, despite the existence of significant evidence showing that the disappearance and assassination of Mr. Gómez could have been linked to his activities as a union leader, Guatemala did not carry out any kind of investigation on the subject. Learn more about the case [here](#) (in Spanish).

#### b) *Case Rico v. Argentina*<sup>1</sup>

This case concerns the alleged dismissal of Eduardo Rico as a Judge of the Labor Court No. 6 of the Judicial Department of San Isidro in Argentina, as well as the decision to ban him from obtaining another post in the Judiciary for supposedly having committed disciplinary offenses, as determined by a trial jury. The Commission found that the State had violated the right to appeal a verdict in relation to their obligation to respect the right and duty to adopt rulings of internal law, bearing in mind that Law no. 8085 established that decisions of the Trial Jury were

<sup>1</sup> Judge Eugenio Raúl Zaffaroni did not participate in neither the hearing nor the deliberations of the case as he is of Argentine nationality, pursuant to Article 19(1) of the Rules of the Court.

non-appealable, which is why the victim allegedly could not have the established findings reviewed, the evidence used, or the disciplinary grounds applied. Read more about the case [here](#) (in Spanish).

### **III. International Seminar**

On 29 August, as part of the aim of bringing the public closer to the Inter-American System for the Protection of Human Rights, a public and free international seminar was held, called "40 years of jurisprudence of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights regarding vulnerable groups and its impact." The inaugural table included the President of the Court, Eduardo Ferrer Mac-Gregor; the President of the Nacional Council of the Judiciary, Mrs. María Antonieta Josa de Parada, and the Dean of the Specialized Institute of Higher Education for Diplomatic Training (IEESFORD), Mrs. Claudia María Samayoa Herrera. The seminar counted with the participation of more than one thousand people. It was divided into two panels, called "40 years of evolution and impact of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights" and "the Inter-American jurisprudence regarding groups in vulnerable situations. Women, children, migrants, asylum seekers and persons deprived of liberty.

### **IV. Due Diligence of Supervising Compliance with the Judgment**

On the 29 and 30 August, a delegation of the Court visited the Morazán Department, with the purpose of supervising compliance with the judgment issued in the case *Masacres de El Mozote y lugares aledaños Vs. El Salvador*.

You can find more detailed information [here](#).

### **V. Dialogue with national authorities**

#### *a) President of the Republic of El Salvador*

On 27 August the President of the Court, Judge Eduardo Ferrer Mac-Gregor and the Judges Humberto Antonio Sierra Porto, Elizabeth Odio Benito, Eugenio Raúl Zaffaroni and Patricio Pazmiño Freire met with the President of the Republic of El Salvador, Salvador Sánchez Cerén. During the meeting the President of the Court thanked President Sánchez Serén for the Government's invitation to celebrate a special session in the country. They also discussed about the main challenges in El Salvador and the region as regards the protection of human rights. In this occasion, Judge Ferrer gave President Sánchez Cerén the representative gavel of the Inter-American Court as a gift.



*b) Supreme Court of Justice of El Salvador*

On 27 August the President of the Court, Judge Eduardo Ferrer Mac-Gregor and Judges Humberto Antonio Sierra Porto, Elizabeth Odio Benito, Eugenio Raúl Zaffaroni and Patricio Pazmiño Freire, as well as Pablo Saavedra Alessandri, Secretary of the Court and Emilia Segares, Deputy Secretary, met with the justices of the Supreme Court of Justice of El Salvador, with the purpose of improving cooperation and dialogue between these two institutions.



*c) Minister of Foreign Affairs of El Salvador*

On 29 August the President of the Court, Judge Eduardo Ferrer Mac-Gregor met with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of El Salvador, Carlos Alfredo Castaneda Magaña.



**VI. Cooperation agreements**

The President of the Inter-American Court, Judge Eduardo Ferrer Mac-Gregor Poisot, signed different cooperation agreements with the following Salvadorians institutions:

- Supreme Court of Justice of El Salvador
- Human Rights Ombudsman's Office of El Salvador
- National Council of the Judiciary of El Salvador
- Simeón Cañas Central American University (UCA)

- Catholic University of El Salvador (UNICAES)
- Universidad de Oriente (UNIVO)
- Andrés Bello University (UNAB)

\*\*\*\*

The composition of the Court for this period of Special Sessions included the following: Judge Eduardo Ferrer Mac-Gregor Poisot, President (Mexico); Judge Humberto Antonio Sierra Porto (Colombia); Judge Elizabeth Odio Benito (Costa Rica); Judge Eugenio Raúl Zaffaroni (Argentina); and Judge Patricio Pazmiño Freire (Ecuador). For *force majeure* reasons, Judge Eduardo Vio Grossi, Vice-President (Chile), did not participate in this period of sessions.

\*\*\*\*

This press release was produced by the Secretariat of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, which has the sole responsibility to do so.

For the latest information please visit the website of the Inter-American Court, <http://corteidh.or.cr/en>, or send an email to Pablo Saavedra Alessandri, Secretary, at [corteidh@corteidh.or.cr](mailto:corteidh@corteidh.or.cr). For press inquiries please contact Marta Cabrera Martín at [prensa@corteidh.or.cr](mailto:prensa@corteidh.or.cr).

You can sign up for updates from the court at <http://www.corteidh.or.cr/index.php/en/court-today/servicios-de-informacion> or unsubscribe sending an email to [biblioteca@corteidh.or.cr](mailto:biblioteca@corteidh.or.cr) You can also follow the activities of the Court on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

[Corte Interamericana de Derechos Humanos](#). 2018.  BY-NC-ND

Esta obra está bajo una [Licencia Creative Commons Atribución-NoComercial-SinDerivadas 3.0 Unported](#)  
Avenida 10, Calles 45 y 47 Los Yoses, San Pedro, San José, Costa Rica.



Facebook



Twitter



Correo



(506) 2527 - 1600



(506) 2280 - 5074



Apdo. 6906 - 1000  
San José, Costa Rica



[corteidh@corteidh.or.cr](mailto:corteidh@corteidh.or.cr)



[www.corteidh.or.cr](http://www.corteidh.or.cr)