

# Press Release

Inter-American Court of Human Rights

I/A Court H.R.\_PR-24/2021 English

Should you have any trouble viewing this message, please click [HERE](#)



## I/A Court H.R. Protecting Rights

---

### INTER-AMERICAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS WILL HOLD ITS 141<sup>st</sup> REGULAR SESSION

Inter-American Court of Human Rights

---

# 141 RS

## Regular Session

---

From April 19 to May 13, 2021

---

*San José, Costa Rica, April 14, 2021.* The Inter-American Court will hold its 141st Regular Session from April 19 to May 13, 2021.

The Court will meet virtually and, during the session, will hold three public hearings on Contentious Cases, one public hearing on an Advisory Opinion, and hearings on Monitoring Compliance with Judgments and on Provisional Measures, as well as conducting a procedure on a matter it is examining. In addition, it will deliberate on a Judgment and on an Advisory Opinion, undertake procedures in cases being processed, examine different issues related to Monitoring Compliance with Judgment and Provisional Measures, and deal with different administrative matters.

Regular information will be provided on the implementation of the activities of this 141st Regular Session.

#### **I. Judgments**

The Court will deliberate Judgments in the following Contentious Case:

##### **a) Case of Grijalva Bueno v. Ecuador<sup>1</sup>**

This case relates to the alleged arbitrary dismissal of Vicente Aníbal Grijalva Bueno as Port Captain of the Ecuadorian Navy in 1993, as well as the presumed absence of judicial guarantees in the proceedings to dismiss him and in the military criminal proceedings for “offenses against the military ethos.” It is alleged that the State of Ecuador violated Mr. Grijalva’s right to an impartial authority during the dismissal procedure, and to be able to know about, and participate and defend himself in the disciplinary proceedings that culminated in his dismissal. It is also argued that various members of the Ecuadorian Navy testified that they had been subjected to acts of torture in order to testify against Mr. Grijalva, and this was corroborated by the Truth Commission. It is argued that this situation constituted a violation of the right to due guarantees, as well as the right to defend oneself and to a fair trial.

Further information on the case is available [here](#).

## **II. Deliberation of a Request for an Advisory Opinion**

The Court will deliberate on the request for an Advisory Opinion on the scope of State obligations, under the Inter-American System with regard to the guarantee of trade union freedom, its relationship to other rights, and its application from a gender perspective presented by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights.

Further information on the request for an advisory opinion is available [here](#).

## **III. Public hearing on the Request for an Advisory Opinion on Differentiated Approaches to Persons Deprived of Liberty**

The purpose of the Request for an Advisory Opinion on Differentiated Approaches to Persons Deprived of Liberty presented by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights is for the Court to make a joint interpretation of several inter-American norms on the obligations with regard to diverse groups of persons deprived of liberty in order to address the situation of real inequality of at-risk groups; in particular, pregnant women, postpartum and breastfeeding women, LGBT people, indigenous peoples, older persons, and children who live with their mothers in prison.

Further information on the Request for an Advisory Opinion is available [here](#).

The public hearing will be held from April 19 to 22, 2021, starting at 8 a.m. (Costa Rican time). It will be transmitted by the Inter-American Court’s social networks.

## **IV. Public hearings in Contentious Cases**

The Court will hold virtual public hearings in the following Contentious Cases and they will be transmitted by the Inter-American Court’s social networks:

### **a) Case of Relatives of Digna Ochoa y Plácido’s v. Mexico<sup>2</sup>**

The case relates to the presumed death of Digna Ochoa in an alleged context of threats against, and attacks on, human rights defenders at the time of the facts. It is alleged that, on the day that the human rights defender, Digna Ochoa, died, the State opened an investigation in the criminal jurisdiction, which lasted around 10 years. In the legal analysis, it is argued that a series of irregularities were committed in the investigation involving the impartiality of the investigating body during the initial stage of the investigation, which determined that Ms. Ochoa’s death was due to suicide. In addition, the presumed obstruction of the participation in the investigation of Ms. Ochoa’s family is alleged. Consequently, it is alleged that the State violated Articles 8(1) and 25(1), in relation to Articles 1(1) and 5(1) of the American Convention.

Further information on the case is available [here](#).

The public hearing will be held on April 26 and 27, 2021, starting at 8 a.m. (Costa Rican time).

### **b) Case of Julien Grisonas et al. v. Argentina<sup>3</sup>**

The case relates to the presumed international responsibility of the Argentine State for the forced disappearance of Mario Roger Julien Cáceres and Victoria Lucía Grisonas Andrijauskaite during a police and military operation conducted during the Argentine dictatorship. It is also alleged that there has been no satisfactory investigation, punishment and reparation for these facts. Lastly, the presumed torture, forced disappearance and other violations are alleged to the detriment of Anatole and Victoria, son and daughter of the Julien-Grisonas couple, as a result of the same operation.

Further information on the case is available [here](#).

The public hearing will be held on May 10 and 11, 2021, starting at 8 a.m. (Costa Rican time).

### **c) Case of Pavez Pavez v. Chile<sup>4</sup>**

The case relates to the presumed international responsibility of the State for the disqualification, based on sexual orientation, of Sandra Cecilia Pavez Pavez from teaching religious studies in a public education establishment, a position she had held for more than 22 years. It is alleged that, on July 25, 2007, the Education Vicariate of the diocese of San Bernardo revoked her certificate of suitability – which is required to teach religious studies pursuant to Decree 924 (1983) of the Ministry of Education – based on her sexual orientation, and she was therefore disqualified from exercising this teaching position. It is also argued that Ms. Pavez Pavez filed an application for protection which was rejected by the San Miguel Appellate Court considering that the decision appealed was neither unlawful nor arbitrary; a decision that was confirmed by the Supreme Court of Justice.

Further information on the case is available [here](#).

The public hearing will be held on May 12 and 13, 2021, starting at 8 a.m. (Costa Rican time).

## **IV. Hearings on Monitoring Compliance with Judgment**

The following public hearing on Monitoring Compliance with Judgment will be held on April 23 and will be transmitted by the Inter-American Court's social networks:

**a) Case of Ximenes Lopes v. Brazil**, starting at 8 a.m. (Costa Rican time).

In addition, two private hearings will be held on monitoring compliance with judgment:

**a) Case of the Members of the Village of Chichupac and neighboring communities of the Municipality of Rabinal v. Guatemala**

**b) Case of Norín Catrimán et al. (Leaders, Members and Activist of the Indigenous Mapuche People) v. Chile**

## **V. Public hearing on the Matter of the Nicaraguan Center for Human Rights and the Permanent Commission of Human Rights (CENIDH-CPDH) regarding Nicaragua**

On May 6, starting at 8 a.m. (Costa Rican time), a public hearing will be held on the Matter of the Nicaraguan Center for Human Rights and the Permanent Commission of Human Rights (CENIDH-CPDH) regarding to Nicaragua.

## **VI. Monitoring Compliance with Judgments, Provisional Measures, and administrative matters**

The Court will also monitor compliance with various Judgments and implementation of provisional

Provisional Measures it has ordered, and will also process several cases, Provisional Measures and Advisory Opinions. In addition, it will deal with diverse administrative matters.

\*\*\*

<sup>1</sup> Judge Patricio Pazmiño Freire, an Ecuadorian national, will not take part in the deliberation of the judgment in this case in accordance with Art. 19 of the Court's Rules of Procedure.

<sup>2</sup> Judge Eduardo Ferrer Mac-Gregor, a Mexican national, will not take part in the public hearing or deliberation of the judgment in this case in accordance with Art. 19 of the Court's Rules of Procedure.

<sup>3</sup> Judge Raul Zaffaroni, an Argentine national, will not take part in the public hearing or deliberation of the judgment in this case in accordance with Art. 19 of the Court's Rules of Procedure.

<sup>4</sup> Judge Eduardo Vio Grossi, a Chilean national, will not take part in the public hearing or deliberation of the judgment in this case in accordance with Art. 19 of the Court's Rules of Procedure.

\*\*\*

The composition of the Court for this Regular Session will be as follows: Judge Elizabeth Odio Benito, President (Costa Rica); Judge Patricio Pazmiño Freire, Vice President (Ecuador); Judge Eduardo Vio Grossi, (Chile); Judge Humberto Antonio Sierra Porto (Colombia); Judge Eduardo Ferrer Mac-Gregor Poisot, (Mexico); Judge Eugenio Raúl Zaffaroni (Argentina) and Judge Ricardo Pérez Manrique (Uruguay).

\*\*\*

This press release was produced by the Secretariat of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, which is the only responsible for its content.

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

You can subscribe to the information services of the Court [here](#). You can sign up for updates from the Court here or unsubscribe sending an email to [comunicaciones@corteidh.or.cr](mailto:comunicaciones@corteidh.or.cr). You can also follow the activities of the Court on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) (@CorteIDH for the Spanish account and @IACourtHR for the English account), [Instagram](#), [Flickr](#), [Vimeo](#) and [Soundcloud](#).

Inter-American Court of Human Rights. 2021.  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.