

Press Release

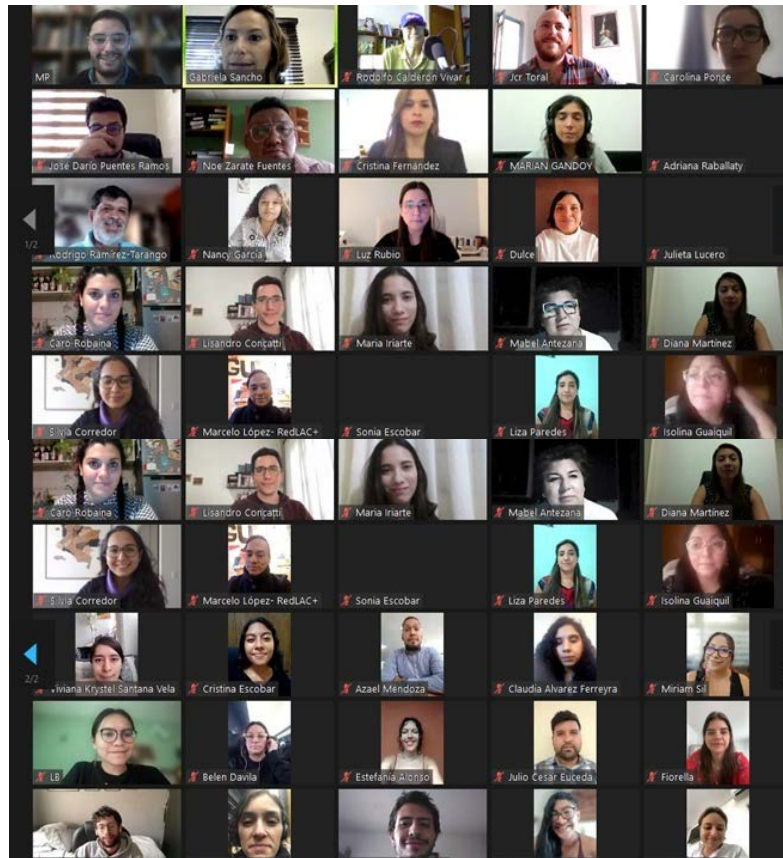
Inter-American Court of Human Rights
I/A Court H.R._PR-49/2023 English

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I/A Court H.R. Protecting Rights

KNOWLEDGE OF HUMAN RIGHTS AS A TOOL FOR THE SAFETY OF JOURNALISTS IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN: A NEW EDITION OF THE DIPLOMA COURSE IN HUMAN RIGHTS FOR JOURNALISTS HAS BEEN COMPLETED



San José, Costa Rica, July 31, 2023. – The VI Diploma Course in Human Rights for Journalists ended on Tuesday, July 11, 2023. It is organized by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights and UNESCO's Regional Office for Science and Technology for Latin America and the Caribbean.

Over 80 journalists from various parts of Latin America, the Caribbean and Europe participated in the diploma course. From March to July 2023, the participants had the opportunity to learn more about the work of the Inter-American Court, the operation of the inter-American System for the Protection of Human Rights, the Court's Jurisprudence on several topics, and UNESCO's work on the protection and safety of journalists in the region.

Through several workshops, participants had discussions with the Judges of the Inter-American Court and specialists from UNESCO's Communication and Information Program for Latin America and the Caribbean.

Participating journalists were also able to interact directly with the Inter-American Court's attorneys specialized in various human rights topics, the Regional Adviser in Communication and Information for Latin America and the Caribbean, Rosa María González, and fellow journalists who attended the Diploma Course in previous years and who are members of the RED DIALOGA network.

The President of the Court, Judge Ricardo C. Pérez Manrique, emphasized "how important it is for an open-door Court such as ours to have contact with journalists, and for them to have a clear understanding of how the Inter-American Human Rights System works. This is an essential tool for protecting the right to freedom of expression."

The Director of the UNESCO Regional Office in Montevideo, Ernesto Fernández Polcuch, pointed out that "UNESCO has been actively working on the UN Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and that collaborating with strategic partners such as the Inter-American Court is very effective so as to provide journalists with the legal framework of the inter-American System to defend the free exercise of their profession."

"More than 500 journalists have participated in the six editions of this Diploma course. Apart from being an educational space, journalists create collaboration networks that have resulted in extracurricular activities such as conversation sessions with specialists and joint productions on human rights topics," noted Matías Ponce, the Diploma Course's Academic Advisor and Coordinator of RED DIALOGA, a network of journalists for Human Rights in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The Diploma course covered a variety of topics, including:

- The ABC of the inter-American System: how to read the Judgments of the I/A Court H.R.; cases currently on the docket
- The impact of the work of the Inter-American Court in Latin America and the Caribbean
- Challenges for protecting the human rights of journalists and freedom of expression in this region
- Serious human rights violations in the region: a look at past and present
- Violence against women: The view from the Inter-American Court of Human Rights
- The human rights of migrants and indigenous communities: Current and future Challenges
- Structural discrimination and hate speech in the Americas: Challenges for the region
- Poverty, the environment and human rights: unresolved Challenges and future Challenges for Economic, Social, Cultural and Environmental Rights
- Democracy and human rights: Current challenges for Latin America and the Caribbean
- The health of democracy today in light of human rights in Latin America
- Rule of Law, Journalism and Human Rights

The participating journalists are part of the network known as RED DIALOGA, composed of over 6,000 journalists in Latin America and the Caribbean interested in issues related to the work of the Inter-American Court.

More information on RED DIALOGA's activities can be found at: <http://www.corteidh.or.cr/tablas/dialoga/index.html>.

Registration for the VII Diploma Course, to be held jointly by the I/A Court H.R. and UNESCO, will open in August.

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

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