



Press Release 51/2024 English

**INTER-AMERICAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS WILL
CELEBRATE ITS 45th ANNIVERSARY AND HOLD ITS
169th REGULAR SESSION**

169 REGULAR
SESSION
AUGUST 21 - SEPTEMBER 6

San José, Costa Rica, August 19, 2024. – The Inter-American Court of Human Rights will hold its 169th Regular Session from August 21 to September 6, 2024. It will celebrate 45 years since its installation and deliberate the judgments in six contentious cases.

The session will be hybrid, including both virtual and in-person activities.

I. Celebration of the 45th Anniversary of the I/A Court HR

On Tuesday, September 3, at 3:00 p.m. (Costa Rican time), the Inter-American Court of Human Rights will celebrate its 45th anniversary. The celebration will begin with the opening remarks of the President of the Court, Judge Nancy Hernández López. The President of the Supreme Court of Costa Rica, Judge Orlando Aguirre Gómez, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Worship, Arnaldo André Tinoco, will also give their celebratory remarks.

In addition, there will be three speakers: Elizabeth Odio Benito, former president of the I/A Court HR, who will share her experience regarding “The installation of the Court, its transcendence and the challenges during its first years”; Luis López Guerra, former judge of the European Court of Human Rights, who will speak of “The current challenges faced by regional human rights courts”; and Catalina Botero Marino, Director of the UNESCO Chair on Freedom of Expression at Universidad de los Andes, who will address “The challenges of digital environments for human rights and democracy.”

You can follow the livestream of this event on the Court’s social networks.

This activity is held thanks to the support of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).



II. Judgments

The Court will begin deliberating the judgment in the following contentious cases:

a) **Case of González Méndez et al. v. Mexico**

The Commission indicated that this case concerns the international responsibility of Mexico for “the failure to investigate, prosecute and punish those responsible for the disappearance of Antonio González Méndez, in a context of violence in the northern part of the state of Chiapas, where paramilitary groups, including the ‘Peace and Justice’ group, acted under the auspices of the State and with its consent, committing acts of violence such as executions and disappearances.”

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

b) **Case of Reyes Mantilla et al. v. Ecuador**

The case relates to the alleged international responsibility of the State of Ecuador for the alleged illegal and arbitrary detention of Walter Ernesto Reyes Mantilla, Vicente Hipólito Arce Ronquillo and José Frank Serano Barrera between 1995 and 1996, for the lack of judicial guarantees in the criminal proceedings against them, unreasonable duration of the preventive detention, and alleged acts of aggression and threats during the detention. Regarding Mr. Serrano, it is considered that the State is responsible for the lack of information regarding the right to communicate with the Consulate of his country. Moreover, during the detention of Mr. Reyes the police authorities seized the car he was in, which belonged to his son, and the car was not returned once he was acquitted of the charges.

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

c) **Case of Hidalgo et al. v. Ecuador**

This case relates to the alleged international responsibility of the State for the torture and extrajudicial execution of Gustavo Washington Hidalgo, and the lack of due diligence in the investigation of the facts.

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

d) **Case of the Tagaeri and Taromenane Indigenous Peoples v. Ecuador**

This case concerns the alleged international responsibility of the State of Ecuador for a series of violations to the rights of the Tagaeri and Taromenane indigenous peoples and their members, in the context of projects that affect their territory, natural resources and way of life. It also refers to three incidents of violent deaths of members of these peoples that took place in 2003, 2006 and 2013, as well as the lack of adequate protection measures in relation to two girls, following the events of 2013.

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

e) **Case of Capriles v. Venezuela**

This case refers to the alleged responsibility of the State for the violation of the right to participate in government, freedom of expression, principle of freedom from ex post facto laws, judicial protection and judicial guarantees (right to a fair trial) to the detriment of Henrique Capriles Radonski, in the context of his political participation as presidential candidate in the elections of April 14, 2013.



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

f) Case of Pérez Lucas et al. v. Guatemala

This case refers to the alleged responsibility of the State for the violations that took place as a result of the detention in April 1989 of Agapito Pérez Lucas, Nicolás Mateo, Macario Pú Chivalán and Luis Ruiz Luis, their subsequent forced disappearance and the alleged impunity status of the investigations.

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

IV. Monitoring compliance with judgments, provisional measures and administrative matters

The Court will also monitor compliance with various judgments and the implementation of provisional measures that it has ordered, as well as procedural issues in various contentious cases. It will also address several administrative matters.

¹ Judge Eduardo Ferrer Mac-Gregor Poisot, of Mexican nationality, will not participate in the deliberation of this order, in conformity with Article 19 of the Rules of Procedure of the Court.

The Court's composition for this Regular Session will be as follows: Judge Nancy Hernández López, President (Costa Rica); Judge Rodrigo Mudrovitsch, Vice-President (Brazil); Judge Humberto Antonio Sierra Porto (Colombia); Judge Eduardo Ferrer Mac-Gregor Poisot (Mexico); Judge Ricardo C. Pérez Manrique (Uruguay); Judge Verónica Gómez (Argentina) and Judge Patricia Pérez Goldberg (Chile).

This press release was drafted by the Registrar's Office of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights; it is solely responsible for this document.

For more information on the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, please visit www.corteidh.or.cr or write to the Registrar, Pablo Saavedra Alessandri, at corteidh@corteidh.or.cr. To contact the press office please write to Dannel Pinilla, Director of Communications and Press, at prensa@corteidh.or.cr.

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