

Press Release 87 /2024 English

CHILE COMPLIED WITH THE JUDGMENT IN THE CASE ÓRDENES GUERRA AND OTHERS

San José, Costa Rica, December 13, 2024. – In the Judgment notified today in the case of Ubaté and Bogotá v. Colombia, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights declared the international responsibility of the State of Colombia for the violation of the rights to recognition of legal personality, life, personal integrity, personal liberty, the defense of human rights, judicial guarantees, judicial protection, and the protection of family and children due to the forced disappearance of Jhon Ricardo Ubaté Monroy and Gloria Mireya Bogotá Barbosa on May 19, 1995. It also held the State accountable for additional violations against their relatives resulting from harassment, threats, and intimidation they suffered while seeking the truth about the events. In this case, the State made a partial acknowledgment of responsibility, and the parties reached a reparations agreement.

San José, Costa Rica, December 18, 2024. – In accordance with the Compliance Monitoring Resolution issued by the Court on November 26, 2024, Chile has fulfilled all the reparations ordered in the Judgment of November 29, 2018. Therefore, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights has decided to conclude and archive the case. For more information, you can consult the November 29, 2018 Judgment here and the November 26, 2024 Resolution declaring the case archived here.

On November 29, 2018, the Inter-American Court issued a Judgment in which it accepted the partial acknowledgment of international responsibility made by the State and declared a violation of the right of access to justice, specifically the rights to judicial guarantees and judicial protection recognized in Articles 8.1 and 25.1 of the American Convention, in relation to Articles 1.1 and 2 of the same treaty, to the detriment of the 27 victims in the case. This violation was declared because judicial authorities rejected several civil claims for moral damages filed by seven groups of individuals between 1997 and 2001, related to the kidnapping, detention, forced disappearance, or execution of their relatives by State agents between 1973 and 1974 during the military dictatorship. These judicial claims were dismissed between 1999 and 2003 based on the application of civil statutes of limitations, despite the claims originating from acts classified as crimes against humanity.

As a result of these violations, the Court ordered the following three reparations in its Judgment: i) To pay the victims the amounts specified in paragraph 124 of the Judgment "as compensatory damages"; ii) To publish the Judgment and its official summary, as indicated in paragraph 125; an iii) To pay the victims' representative the amount specified in paragraph 140 of the Judgment as reimbursement for costs and expenses.

Compliance Monitoring

During the compliance monitoring stage, the Court issued two resolutions, on July 21, 2020, and November 26, 2024, verifying that Chile fully complied with the three reparations ordered in the Judgment and declaring the case closed. These resolutions are available here.

The composition of the Court for the November 26, 2024 Resolution was 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); and Judge Verónica Gómez (Argentina). Judge Patricia Pérez Goldberg, of Chilean nationality, did not participate in the deliberation of this Resolution in accordance with Article 19.1 of the Court's Rules of Procedure.

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 Danniel Pinilla, Director of Communications and Press, at prensa@corteidh.or.cr.

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