

Press Release

Inter-American Court of Human Rights

I/A Court H.R._PR-92/2022 English

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I/A Court H.R.

Protecting Rights

ARGENTINA COMPLIED WITH THE JUDGMENT IN THE CASE OF ROMERO FERIS

San Jose, Costa Rica, December 2nd, 2022.- According to the Order on Monitoring Compliance with Judgment issued by the Court on October 4, 2022, Argentina complied with the measures of reparation ordered in the judgment of October 15, 2019. Therefore, the Inter-American Court considered this case closed. Consult the full text of the Judgment of October 15, 2019, [here](#) and the Order of October 4, 2022, declaring the case closed [here](#).

On October 15, 2019, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights delivered a Judgment by which it declared the international responsibility of the Republic of Argentina for the violation of the right to personal liberty and the right to the presumption of innocence due to the illegal and arbitrary detention of Raul Rolando Romero Feris.

Said violations were committed within the course of the proceedings instituted against Mr. Romero Feris, who held different public offices between 1985 and 1999, in the province of Corrientes, among which are the Mayor of the capital city of the province and Governor of the said province. In 1999, the Union of Judicial Employees of Corrientes filed a complaint against Mr. Romero Feris and other public officials. As a result of the complaint, several proceedings were instituted against him. His arrest was also ordered. He was detained on August 4, 1999, and then the Examining Magistrate court ordered to extend the pre-trial detention for eight months, as from August 4, 2001, according to the terms of Law 24,390. The Court determined that the State infringed the right to personal liberty to the detriment of Mr. Raul Rolando Romero Feris since the deprivation of his liberty exceeded by five months and eight days that which was ordered by the Examining Magistrate, and one month and eight days the period of the extension of one year, as established in Law N° 24,390. Moreover, the Court considered that the extension of the deprivation of liberty was arbitrary, since the criteria on which the legitimate purpose of the "risk of flight" was founded were abstract and, therefore, contrary to the American Convention. It also considered that the remedies presented by Mr. Romero Feris were not effective.

In view of the above-mentioned violations, the Court ordered, in its Judgment, the three following measures of reparation: (i) issue the publications of the Judgment and its official summary; (ii) pay the victim Raul Rolando Romero Feris the amounts fixed in the Judgment as reparations for pecuniary and non-pecuniary damages, and (iii) pay the victim's representative the amount fixed in the Judgment as reparation for costs and expenses.

Monitoring Compliance

At the stage of Monitoring Compliance, the Court observed, in the Order of October 4, 2022, that Argentina complied with all three measures of reparations ordered in the Judgment and declared the case closed.

The composition of the Court for the Order of October 4, 2022, was as follows: Judge Ricardo C. Pérez Manrique, President (Uruguay); Judge Eduardo Ferrer Mac-Gregor Poisot (Mexico); Judge Nancy Hernández López (Costa Rica); Judge Patricia Pérez Goldberg (Chile) and Judge Rodrigo Mudrovitsch (Brazil).

Judge Verónica Gomez did not participate in the deliberation of this Order due to her Argentine nationality, in accordance with article 19.1 of the Court's Rules of Procedure. Judge Humberto Antonio Sierra Porto did not participate in the deliberation and signing of the Order, due to *force majeure* reasons.

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