



# Human rights education and **training programs**



## XII. Human rights education and training programs

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During 2022, using different methodologies and training resources, the Court organized 21 human rights training activities on diverse issues on which it has developed Case Law with the participation of more than 1,800 people, most of them employed in justice institutions or in state organs for the protection of human rights in the States parties.

The Inter-American Court resumed the in-person training activities that, owing to the pandemic, had been transformed into virtual courses. Accordingly, different in-person training processes were organized under the cooperation projects with Switzerland (COSUDE, Phases II and III) and Sweden (SIDA, Phase II). Since the resumption of in-person activities, the Court has carried out a total of 13 in-person training processes in four States parties.

In addition, different types of virtual training (synchronous, asynchronous and hybrid) were offered. In this regard, training activities resulting from requests received from the Judiciary or from provincial and national high courts should be underlined. In response to such requests, the IACtHR organized four virtual training activities to benefit the Center for Constitutional Studies of the Constitutional Court of Peru, the Superior Courts of Justice of Pasco and Arequipa, both in Peru, and also the Judicial Academy of Costa Rica.

The Court also continued to reinforce its work of preparing virtual self-training courses and developed, in conjunction with the Argentine National Defense Service and FLACSO, a course addressed at the public defenders of States parties on Women's human rights. Also, as part of the SIDA project, three self-training courses, each consisting of ten classes, were prepared and recorded on basic aspects of the Inter-American System of human rights, access to its protection organs and the procedures before them, and the right to equality and the principle of non-discrimination. The courses are free and for everyone; they are available in Spanish and are being recorded in English and dubbed in Portuguese.

Also, although the Court has been making a significant effort to develop training processes that supplement specific dissemination or training activities since 2018, in 2022 it came up with the idea of establishing its own training center and began to seek the necessary resources to get it up and running.

The Training Center has been conceived as a place for providing training to public institutions and to the general public on the Case Law of the IACtHR and, in principle, it consists of three elements: one for the production of audiovisual resources that can even be used as the Court's television channel; a virtual training space, established on the website of the IACtHR, and physical facilities.

Lastly, it is necessary to highlight that, as has been usual since 2018, in 2022 the IACtHR's teaching teams – mostly composed of its Secretariat's lawyers and former lawyers – consisted of 67.86% women and 32.14% men.

## TRAINING ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED 2022



- COSUDE, Phases II and III
- Refresher diploma course on the case law of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights
- Update Program on the Jurisprudence of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights
- Diploma with the support of the Institute of Constitutional Justice (IJC) of the Constitutional Court of Guatemala
- Fourth edition of the Diploma with the support of the Judicial School of Honduras "Francisco Salomón Jiménez Castro"
- Special course on the rights of indigenous and tribal peoples in the case law of the IACtHR
- Courses on the international obligations of States and gross human rights violations
- Workshops on Best Practices in relation to the Rights of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples, the Environment, and Human Rights Defenders
- Special course on Women's Rights in the case law of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights
- Training activities under the project Institutional strengthening of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights to optimize its capacities, of the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA, Phase II)
- Activities carried out with the Dialoga Network of Journalists for Human Rights in Latin America and the Caribbean
- Course: "Legal standards of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights"
- Course: "Refresher course on the case law of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights"
- Course: "The Inter-American Court of Human Rights and its main lines of Case Law"
- Course: "The international protection of human rights in the inter-American System and the role of judges in the twentieth century"

## A. In-person and hybrid training

### 1. Training activities under the projects of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (COSUDE, Phases II and III)

A major part of the project that the IACtHR implemented with the support of COSUDE was aimed at reinforcing the judiciaries, public prosecution services, public defense services, ombudsperson's offices, and other key institutions for the protection of human rights of El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras by different training activities on international human rights law and the Case Law of the Inter-American Court. As part of these activities, during 2022, different types of training processes were executed in the three target countries.

### 2. Refresher Diploma Course on the Case Law of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights

The Inter-American Court continued to implement the fourth consecutive edition of this medium-length training process on human rights that has been organized each year since 2018 in El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras.

Each course had a duration of approximately 50 hours of training divided into three modules: (a) an initial in-person module; (b) a virtual self-training module, which included 16 presentations recorded by the Court's lawyers that can be found in the Virtual Classroom together with other resources, and (c) an in-person closing module. Participants had to complete a short multiple-choice questionnaire to verify that they had watched the presentations and consulted the reading material. These diploma courses provide basic training on international human rights law, the Inter-American System of human rights, the IACtHR, control of conventionality, the Court's main Case Law standards, emphasizing the topics of administration of justice and human rights based on the Case Law of the IACtHR on Articles 8 and 25 of the American Convention. At the end of each course, the Court's Secretariat and the national counterparts award a certificate of participation to those who attended the course and passed with a note of 80% or more based on the course material and the respective evaluations.

In order to organize these training sessions, each participating institution distributed the announcement of the course prepared by the IACtHR and selected the participants. The Judicial Training Academy of El Salvador, the Institute of Constitutional Justice of the Constitutional Court of Guatemala, and the Judicial Academy of Honduras were the principal national institutions responsible for distributing information to, and receiving information from, all the other domestic institutions.

A summary of each of these refresher Diploma Courses on the Case Law of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights held in 2022 appears below.

#### El Salvador

From May 19 to June 28, 2022, the Inter-American Court held the fourth edition of the Refresher program on the Case Law of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, with the support of the "Dr. Arturo Zeledón Castrillo" Judicial Training Academy of El Salvador and with the active participation of 27 officials, including Judges, prosecutors from the Public Prosecution Service, agents of Attorney General's Office and of the Ombudsman's Office, among other key officials for the protection of human rights in that country.



The introductory module was imparted in person on May 19 and 20, 2022. The activity was inaugurated by the former judge and former president of the Inter-American Court, Sergio García Ramírez, as well as by the President of the National Judicial Council, Miguel Ángel Calero Ángel. Other members of the Council also took part in the inauguration. From May 25 to June 25 the virtual intermediate self-training module was imparted. Finally, on June 27 and 28, the closing module was offered in person on the Case Law of the IACtHR in relation to Articles 8 and 25 of the American Convention.

## Guatemala

From May 25 to July 7, 2022, the Inter-American Court held the fourth edition of the Refresher program on the Case Law of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, with the support of the Institute of Constitutional Justice (ICJ) of the Constitutional Court of Guatemala. Eighty persons participated in the Court, including Judges, prosecutors, public defenders, and other relevant actors in the protection of human rights from throughout the country. The introductory module was imparted in person on May 25 and 26, and was inaugurated virtually by the President of the Inter-American Court, Judge Ricardo C. Pérez Manrique and by the President of the Constitutional Court and the Director General of the Institute of Constitutional Justice, Judge Dina Josefina Ochoa Escribá. Subsequently, from May 30 to June 24, the intermediate module was held and, finally, on July 6 and 7, the closing module on the administration of justice and human rights took place.



## Honduras

Lastly, from June 20 to August 9, 2022, the Inter-American Court the Inter-American Court held the second edition of the Refresher program on the Case Law of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights in Honduras with the support of the "Francisco Salomón Jiménez Castro" Judicial Academy of Honduras, and with the participation of more than 50 officials involved in the administration of justice, including Judges, prosecutors, public defenders, agents of the Attorney General's Office, and other important actors for the protection of human rights in the country.

The introductory module was imparted on June 20 and 21, in person, and it was inaugurated by the assistant director of the "Francisco Salomón Jiménez Castro" Judicial Academy of Honduras, Ingrid Ramos Madrid. Carlos David Calix Vallecillo, director of the Training Academy of the Public Prosecution Service, also took part in the inauguration, together with, Tomás Andrade Rodas, assistant Attorney General. The intermediate self-training module was held from June 22 to August 7 and, finally on



August 8 and 9, the closing model was held on the Case Law of the IACtHR on the rights to due process and judicial protection.

### 3. Special course on the rights of indigenous and tribal peoples in the Case Law of the IACtHR

#### Guatemala

This third edition of the course, whose first and second editions were imparted virtually in 2020 and 2021 in the three countries involved in the project, seeks to reinforce the capabilities of the institutions for the administration of justice by providing training on the Inter-American Court's Case Law standards on the rights of indigenous and tribal peoples.

On August 31 and September 1, 2022, the Inter-American Court held the third edition of the course at the seat of the Constitutional Court of Guatemala. More than 100 officials took part in this training process. They included officials involved in the administration of justice, and from the Constitutional Court, and also Judges, lawyers from the Public Criminal Defense Service, and prosecutors from the Public Prosecution Service, among other key officials for the protection of human rights in that country. Participants were able to converse with the speakers on the theoretical and legal grounds for the control of conventionality and the interpretation of the American Convention in light of the rights of indigenous and tribal peoples, the right to communal property, the right to consultation and prior free and informed consent, access to justice and legal pluralism.

### 4. Courses on the international obligations of States and gross human rights violations

#### Guatemala

On August 1 and 2, 2022, two courses on the Case Law of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights and the international obligations of States in relation to gross human rights violations were held in Guatemala City, Guatemala.

One of the activities was held for 90 officials of the Guatemalan Office of the Ombudsman, who participated in person as well as virtually from the most distant regions of the country. Jordán Rodas Andrade, Guatemala's Ombudsman at the time was one of the participants in the inauguration of the course.

Additionally, on August 2, 2022, the IACtHR organized a course open to the general public on the same topic, with 30 participants, including law students, lawyers, prosecutors and Judges.



## 5. Workshops on Best Practices in relation to the Rights of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples, the Environment, and Human Rights Defenders

In order to expand its outreach and involve other relevant actors for the promotion and protection of human rights in the three countries covered by the project, the IACtHR organized three Workshops on



Best Practices in relation to the Rights of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples, the Right to a Healthy Environment, and Human Rights Defenders in El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala. These were two-day events that included discussion panels with the participation of national and international experts, officials from the Judiciary and Executive branches of each country, and from the offices of the ombudspersons, and other key national institutions.

Contrary to traditional training courses, the central idea of the Workshops was to inform participants of the best national and international practices in relation to the

environment, and the rights of indigenous and tribal peoples and human rights defenders, and discuss these with them, so that such practices may be disseminated and eventually replicated in the different States of the region.

### El Salvador

The first of these activities was held in San Salvador, El Salvador, on July 20 and 21, 2022, on the premises of the “Dr. Arturo Zeledón Castrillo” Judicial Training Academy. The Workshop was inaugurated by senior authorities of the National Judicial Council (CNJ) and was imparted to 30 officials from the Indigenous Peoples and Afro-descendants Development Unit of the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources, the Ministry of Health, and the Ombudsman’s Office, and also Salvadoran Judges.

### Honduras

On August 11 and 12, 2022, the Workshop was held at the “Francisco Salomón Jiménez Castro” Judicial Academy of Honduras. More than 30 officials participated from diverse public entities, including, the Office of the Assistant Attorney General; the Special Prosecutor’s Office for Ethnic Affairs and Cultural Heritage of the Public Prosecution Service; the Ministry of Energy, National Resources, the Environment, and Mines; the University Institute on Democracy, Peace and Security of the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Honduras (IUDPAS-UNAH) and the National Human Rights Commission.



## Guatemala

Lastly, on August 29 and 30, 2022, the Workshop was held in Guatemala City, Guatemala. More than 50 officials from different public entities took part in the event, including the Constitutional Court, the Judiciary, the Public Prosecution Service, the Office of the Ombudsman, the Public Criminal Defense Institute, the President's Peace and Human Rights Commission, and the Office of the Attorney General.



### 6. Special course on Women's Rights in the Case Law of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights

The purpose of the Special course on Women's Rights in the Case Law of the IACtHR is to enhance institutional capabilities for the administration of justice in the countries involved, by training their officials

on the standards established in the Case Law of the IACtHR in relation to women's rights. This is a two-day course which presents the most relevant lines of the IACtHR's Case Law related to the principle of equality and non-discrimination, and State obligations with regard to the protection of women's rights, the rights to life and person integrity, women's sexual and reproductive rights, access to justice and other relevant issues.



## Honduras

On November, 29 and 30, 2022, the Course on Women's Rights in the Case Law of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights was held on the premises of the Judicial Academy of Honduras, with the participation of 30 Judges, prosecutors and other officials related to the administration of justice in general from different institutions such as the Public Prosecution Service, the Judiciary, the Office of the Attorney General and the Public Defense Service.

## El Salvador

On December 5 and 6, 2022, the Inter-American Court held the first Course on Women's Rights in the Case Law of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights in El Salvador at the "Doctor Arturo Zeledón Castrillo" Judicial Training Academy. The event was inaugurated by the Head of the National Judicial Council, Luis Alonso Ramírez Menéndez, and was attended by 30 officials employed in the administration of justice from the Judiciary, the Office of the Prosecutor General, the Office of the Attorney General and the Office of the Ombudsman, among other institutions.



## 7. Training activities under the project Institutional strengthening of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights to optimize its capacities, of the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA, Phase II)

### Paraguay

On November 28 and 29, 2022, in Asunción, Paraguay, the IACtHR held the course on “Control of conventionality, Inter-American System, and principal Case Law lines of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights.” The event was organized by the IACtHR in conjunction with the Human Rights Directorate of the Supreme Court of Justice of Paraguay, and was inaugurated by Alberto Martínez Simón, first Vice President of the Supreme Court of Justice of Paraguay, in exercise of the presidency; Julio César Arriola, Minister for Foreign Affairs, and the President of the IACtHR, Judge Ricardo C. Pérez Manrique.

This training event, which took place as part of the official visit of the President of the IACtHR to Paraguay, was attended by 150 participants, while another 400 took part virtually. Participants included, Judges, and officials from institutions involved in the administration of justice in Paraguay, and from other state institutions involved in the protection of human rights.



### Honduras

On December 1, 2022, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights held the course on “Women’s human rights and access to justice” on the premises of the Judicial Academy of Honduras. This training event was attended by 35 personas from the Judiciary, the Public Prosecution Service, the Public Defense Service, the Office of the Attorney General, the National Human Rights Commission, the Human Rights Secretariat, the National Commission for the Prevention of Torture, the Network of Human Rights Defense Lawyers, the Center for Women’s Studies, and the Women for Peace Movement, among other key institutions and organizations for the protection and promotion of women’s rights in Honduras.

## 8. Activities carried out with the Dialoga Network of Journalists for Human Rights in Latin America and the Caribbean

On February 22, 2022, a discussion was held between journalists of the Dialoga Network and the President of the IACtHR, Judge Ricardo C. Pérez Manrique. On April 5, 2022, the IACtHR's President, Judge Ricardo C. Pérez Manrique, gave a talk on "Challenges in relation to freedom of expression and the Case Law of the IACtHR" in the context of the human rights diploma course for journalists of the Dialoga Network.

On September 30, 2022, the President of the IACtHR, Judge Ricardo C. Pérez Manrique took part in a meeting of the Dialoga Journalists Network in Chile, and on October 7, 2022, Judge Ricardo C. Pérez Manrique held a meeting with journalists in Peru, members of the Dialoga Network of Journalists for Human Rights.

Lastly, on December 2, 2022, the President of the IACtHR conversed with the Dialoga Network of Journalists for Human Rights in Latin America and the Caribbean, Guatemalan Chapter. On that occasion, the President and the journalists discussed the Court's Case Law on freedom of expression.

## B. Synchronous and asynchronous virtual training

### 1. Course: "Legal standards of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights," Center for Constitutional Studies of the Constitutional Court, Peru

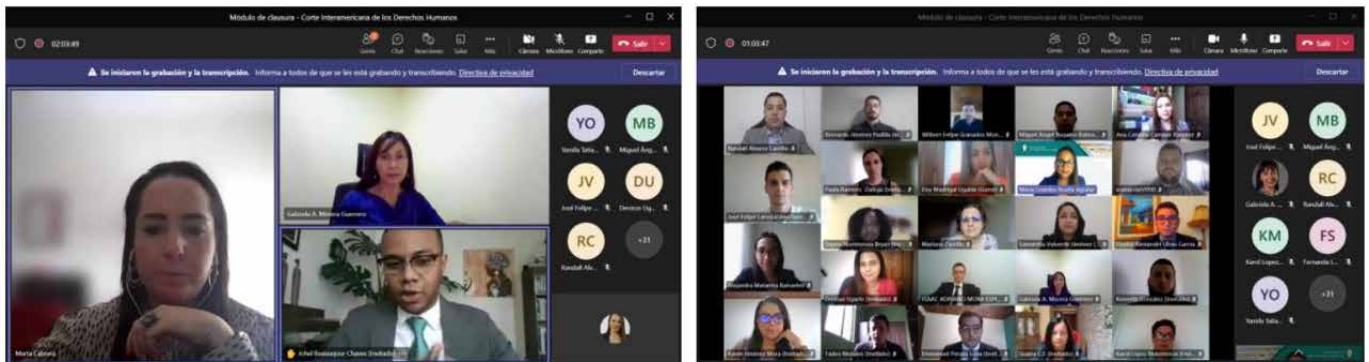
From March 1 to 28, 2022, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights imparted the virtual course entitled "Legal standards of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights," organized at the request of the Center for Constitutional Studies of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Peru. The course consisted of four synchronous presentations and a self-training module in which the participants, including Judges, prosecutors, public defenders, and lawyers, could enhance their knowledge of the Inter-American human rights system, its norms, and the competences of its organs of protection, as well as the principal Case Law standards concerning the control of conventionality and women's rights. The self-training module was composed of seven presentations recorded by the IACtHR's lawyers on issues such as the rights of persons with disabilities, the rights of migrants and refugees, the rights of persons deprived of liberty, and the principles of equality and non-discrimination.

The inaugural presentations were made by the President of the Inter-American Court, Judge Ricardo C. Pérez Manrique, and the Director General of the Center for Constitutional Studies of the Constitutional Court of Peru, Judge Marianella Leonor Ledesma Narváez. 300 people took part in this activity.



## 2. Course: "Refresher course on the Case Law of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights," Judicial School, Costa Rica

From June 30 to August 11, 2022, in the context of the course on "Initial Training Program for aspiring members of the Judiciary" of the Judicial Academy of Costa Rica, the Inter-American Court imparted the module on "Protection of human rights" with its "Refresher course on the Case Law of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights." Around 30 aspiring members of the Costa Rican Judiciary participated in this activity. The training process was composed of three virtual training modules, two synchronous and one asynchronous, in which participants could update and enhance their knowledge of the Court's Case Law on different matters. This human rights training activity was provided under the collaboration agreement signed between the Inter-American Court and the Lic. Édgar Cervantes Villalta Judicial Academy of the Judiciary of Costa Rica.



## 3. Course: "The Inter-American Court of Human Rights and its main lines of Case Law," Superior Court of Justice, Pasco, Peru

On June 6, 2022, the Inter-American Court, together with the Superior Court of Justice of Pasco held a virtual event in which two lawyers from the Court's Secretariat addressed the main characteristics of the functioning of the Court and some essential lines of its Case Law. There were 261 participants in this training activity.



#### 4. Course: "The international protection of human rights in the Inter-American System and the role of Judges in the twentieth century," Superior Court of Justice of Arequipa, Peru

On October 27 and November 2, 2022, the Inter-American Court, together with the Superior Court of Justice of Arequipa, Peru, gave four virtual presentations on the functions of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, its main lines of Case Law, control of conventionality, and the role of Judges in the protection of human rights. Lecturers in the course included the President of the IACtHR, Judge Ricardo C. Pérez Manrique, and the President of the Superior Court of Justice of Arequipa, Javier Fernández Dávila Mercado. 78 Judges, officials of the Judiciary, lawyers and law student took part in the activity.

#### 5. Semillero Lationamericano [Latin American youth incubator course]

In order to interest the young people of the region in the work of the Inter-American Court, in 2022, the Court held a second edition of the program entitled "Latin American youth incubator course: making the Inter-American Court of Human Rights accessible to young people" (Semillero LATAM). This program is organized by the Human Rights Center of the Law Faculty at the Universidad de Buenos Aires, the Rule of Law Program for Latin American of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights.

The goal of the Semillero LATAM it to open up opportunities for interaction and work in order to develop a network for collaboration among young university students that contributes to advancing the defense of human rights in the region through knowledge of the functioning of the IACtHR and promotion of the standards established by the Court. In addition, the network will allow students from different parts of the region to remain in contact once they begin their professional activities linked to the promotion and defense of human rights.

More than 400 applications to take part in the program were received from students wishing to learn about the Inter-American human rights system. Following a competitive selection process, 40 students were chosen from different universities of Latin America. The process took into account a balanced distribution from the universities of the region, based on criteria such as nationality, gender, and thematic interests. During the course, various training workshops and meetings were held. Also, the students were supported by tutors who organized different activities and assisted them in the preparation of a final project.

On October 1, 2022, the Court's Deputy Registrar, Romina I. Sijniensky, participated as a speaker in the "Latin American youth incubator course: making the Inter-American Court of Human Rights accessible to young people" organized by the by the Human Rights Center of the Law Faculty at the Universidad de Buenos Aires, the Rule of Law Program for Latin American of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights. She gave a presentation on "Advisory Opinions: their strategic and conceptual relevance." On December 15, 2022, the Registrar of the IACtHR, Pablo Saavedra Alessandri, participated in the closure of the Semillero LATAM.



## C. Asynchronous virtual training

### 1. Course: “Public defense with equity: gender perspectives and intersectionality for an efficient action,” Argentine National Public Defense Service and FLACSO

From September 26 to November 7, 2022, an asynchronous virtual course was held on “Public defense with equity: gender perspectives and intersectionality for an efficient action, A virtual learning and experimentation experience,” organized by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, the Argentine National Public Defense Service and FLACSO, with the support of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation. There were 21 participants in the course including official public defenders from Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay. The course was imparted by personnel from the IACtHR Secretariat and the Argentine Public Defense Service.



This was a 30-hour course, distributed over 6 weeks, with 8 online activities relating to hypothetical human rights cases involving women presented in a multimedia format and based on the participants' workplace. The objective of each activity was to encourage participants to examine cases, explore alternatives, take decisions, and reflect on what their own actions would be if intervening in a case for the Public Defense Service.

The course also provided a wide range of international instruments and Judgments of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights concerning women's rights from a practical perspective, allowing participants to apply the Inter-American standards as a defense tool.

### 2. Online self-training courses under the Project: Institutional strengthening of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights to optimize its capacities (SIDA, Phase II)

During 2022, the Inter-American Court prepared three self-training human rights courses that will be uploaded to its webpage for general distribution. As can be seen in the following section, the Court expects to place great emphasis on this method of working in the medium- to long-term. The three virtual self-training courses referred to the following topics:

- Introduction to the Inter-American System of Human Rights and to the Inter-American Court of Human Rights
- Access to and procedure before the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights
- The right to equality and the principle of non-discrimination.

The courses each consist of 10 modules and are designed to provide participants with information on introductory aspects of the Inter-American System of human rights and, in particular, of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights; the characteristics of access to and the procedures before the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, and the scope and evolution of the Case Law of the Inter-American Court on equality and non-discrimination.

These self-training courses have been designed to become a valuable teaching and dissemination resource for all those who have a basic knowledge in this area and work in the defense and guarantee of human rights. The videos provide a clear and precise explanation of each topic of the course, and include links to supplementary training materials for participants. The Inter-American Court is also preparing a version of each course in English for the English-speaking States of the Caribbean and is working on their translation into Portuguese.

## D. Training Center of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights

During 2022, the Court began the conception and creation of a human rights training center. The main objective is to implement an IACtHR training policy using different pedagogical resources, technologies and tools to optimize the training of agents of justice and officials of other institutions, as well as key organizations for the protection of human rights in the States parties. In principle, it will be composed of three elements: one for the production of audiovisual resources that can even be used as the Court's television channel; a virtual training space on the IACtHR website, and physical facilities.

After determining the training center's needs, and the resources required, the first achievement was to obtain international cooperation funding to establish a recording, audio and television set to livestream training events and to record classes and other training resources in high definition. The Court therefore entered into discussions with Swiss cooperation and requested authorization to redirect US\$55,000 from Phase II of the project to the acquisition of professional technological equipment for the production and post-protection of audiovisual material, professional cameras, lights, microphones, audio and computer systems, software licenses for the video editing, and improvements to the current virtual platform. Prior to this, the Court had visited the audiovisual studios of two organizations and held informative meetings on the matter. At the present time, a place is being prepared for the future TV/recording set of the Training Center, which will start operating at the beginning of 2023.

At present, work is also being done on the Center's virtual space, which envisages offering a catalogue of online courses on the different Case Law lines of the IACtHR. In this way, the website of the Training Center will help respond to the growing demands on the Court, and to the massification of the human rights training activities. It is anticipated that, by the end of 2023, this virtual classroom will have 20 online self-training courses. As already mentioned, the recording of the first online self-training courses has started with the assistance of Swedish cooperation, with a view to making them available to the public at the beginning of 2023, and another 18 virtual courses will be recorded thanks to Swiss cooperation between 2023 and the start of 2024.

In future, these two components (the TV/recording set and the virtual classroom on the Court's website) will be supplemented by the physical facilities for which specific funding will be sought. Discussions are underway between the Court and Swiss cooperation which has shown interest in supporting this part of the project. Lastly, and in parallel, the Court will continue to formulate its medium- and long-term training policy.

## E. Program of internships and professional visits

The training of the human capital and the facilitation of exchanges of experience is essential for strengthening the Inter-American System of Human Rights. This includes the training of future human rights defenders, public servants, members of the legislature, agents of justice, academics, and members of civil society, among others. It is to this end that the Court has implemented a successful program of internships and professional visits in order to disseminate the work of the Court and the Inter-American Human Rights System.

The program offers students and professionals from the areas of law, international relations, political science, journalism, social communication and similar disciplines, the opportunity to gain experience at the seat of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, as part of a working group in the legal area of the Secretariat. Also, during the program a series of conferences, seminars and discussions are held with the Court's Judges and lawyers of the IACtHR in order to broaden the knowledge of the participants.

Among other activities, the work consists in researching human rights issues, writing legal reports, analyzing international human rights Case Law, collaborating in the processing of Contentious Cases, Advisory Opinions and Provisional Measures, and the monitoring of compliance with the Court's judgments, and providing logistic assistance during public hearings. Owing to the large number of applicants, selection is very competitive. At the end of the program, the intern or visitor receives a diploma certifying that he or she has successfully completed the internship or visit. The Court is aware of the importance of its program of internships and professional visits in this day and age.

Over the last 17 years, the Court has received a total of 1,040 interns of 43 nationalities at its seat, in particular, academics, public servants, law students, and human rights defenders.

During 2022, the Court was able to resume the program of internships and professional visits for those who had been accepted in 2020, and whose participation was suspended owing to the pandemic. The period from May to August 2022 was held virtually with 16 participants from 10 countries. In-person visits were resumed for the period September to December 2022, and 14 people from 9 countries participated.

In addition, from October 1 to 31, 2022, applications were invited for the periods May to August and September to December 2023. It is worth noting that the number of applicants who responded to this invitation was unprecedented in the history of the program. The form was provided on the Court's website and published on its social networks.

Further information on the program of internships and professional visits offered by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights can be found [here](#).

PROGRAM OF INTERSHIPS AND PROFESSIONAL VISITS

Period 2005-2022

1040 Interns and professional visitors

43 Countries on 4 continents different

