

I

Foreword



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On behalf of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights Judges, as well as the Court's Secretariat, I have the honor of presenting the Annual Report for the year 2023. This report highlights the most significant tasks carried out by the Court during the year, along with the most relevant developments in its case law on human rights.

This is the last annual report that I present as President of the Court and it reflects the hard work undertaken by its judges and the Secretariat. It also reflects the policy that I have promoted of making this an "open-door" Court for everyone.

I hand over my duties to Judge Nancy Hernández López, who, together with the Vice President, Judge Rodrigo Mudrovitsch, will begin their term on January 1, 2024. I am confident that both will exercise strong leadership at such a crucial time for human rights as experienced in the region.

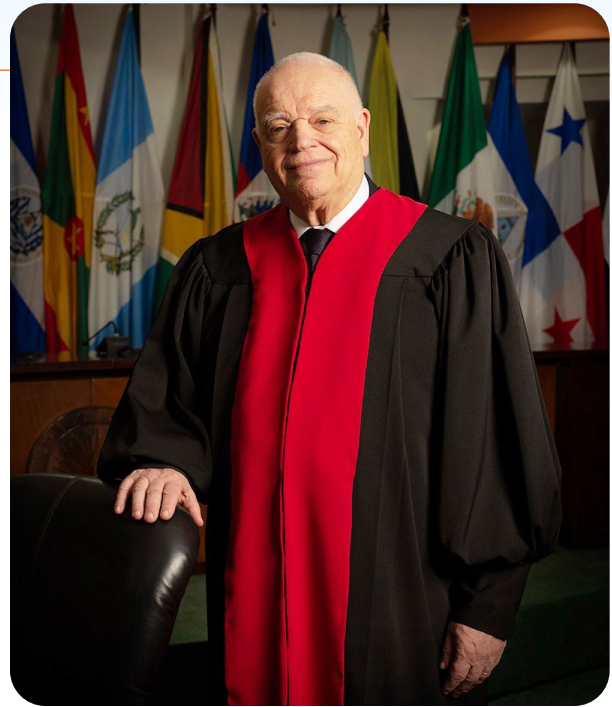
With regard to the Court's activities, nine regular sessions took place in 2023, using a hybrid approach that combined virtual and in-person sessions held over 22 weeks of the year. In addition, one special session took place. The Court held two sessions away from its headquarters, in Chile and Colombia. The fact that countries allow the Court to hold sessions in their territories demonstrates their commitment to the Inter-American system and the defense of human rights.

During 2023, the Court delivered a total of 33 judgments, including 26 judgments on preliminary objections, merits, reparations, and costs, and seven interpretation judgments, this being the year in which the largest number of judgments on merits was issued. It also issued 28 resolutions on provisional measures and 68 resolutions on monitoring compliance with judgment. In addition, the Court held 24 public hearings on contentious cases, one evidentiary procedure on a contentious case, and one hearing on an advisory opinion. The Court made three on-site visits (Honduras, Chile, and Brazil) which enabled it to gain direct insight into the status of various cases or provisional measures under the jurisdiction of the Court.

In 2023, 3 cases and two advisory opinions were submitted. I would like to highlight the advisory opinions, given their scope and importance in the hemispheric discussions on climate change and the right to care.

Through its judgments on the merits, the Court addressed a wide range of issues such as the role of business in the protection of human rights, the right to a healthy environment and intergenerational equity, the right to health, freedom of expression, gender-based violence, due process guarantees, the scope and application of pretrial detention, and the notion of reasonable time in cases of adoption, guardianship, and custody of children and adolescents. In addition, the Court considered matters such as limits to intelligence activities based on the scope of human rights, the right to informational self-determination, the rights of assembly and movement in contexts of social protest, the obligation to delimit, demarcate, and grant collective property titles to the territories of indigenous and tribal communities, as well as various measures of comprehensive reparation.

In 2023, the Court organized a dialogue with the European Court of Human Rights and the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights at its headquarters in San José. This meeting addressed issues such as the



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right to a healthy environment, climate change, judicial independence, and the rule of law. The Court also hosted a meeting of the region's Constitutional Courts and Chambers.

In 2023, the Court promoted the creation of the Training Center of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights. During this year, the Court implemented 23 face-to-face, hybrid, and virtual trainings on a wide range of topics related to the jurisdiction of the Court, along with eight trainings in five States Parties and fourteen virtual training sessions. In addition, 28 self-taught courses were developed. These projects facilitated the training mainly of civil society and government authorities in the region.

In addition, the Court established its own television channel, called Corte IDH TV. This space provides a platform for audiovisual dissemination that allows the Court to share information on its work, its case law, and public hearings. It also serves as a vehicle for human rights education through audiovisual language. This channel is permanently available online, both in streaming and on-demand mode and shares its programming with the television channels of the region's judicial authorities.

During this period, the Court adopted a special Protocol for the Attention of Victims. Thanks to this protocol, when deemed necessary, an alleged victim can be provided with adequate psychological care and accompaniment during his or her appearance before the Court.

As I conclude my term as President of the Inter-American Court, I am grateful for the trust placed in me to lead the Court during the 2022-2023 period, especially, to the Judges Humberto Antonio Sierra Porto and Eduardo Ferrer Mac-Gregor Poisot, who were Vice Presidents for the years 2022 and 2023, respectively. I will remain committed to the promotion and protection of human rights as a member and judge of this Court.

Ricardo C. Pérez Manrique
President of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights
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