

Press Release

Inter-American Court of Human Rights

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INTER-AMERICAN COURT TO HOLD SESSIONS IN URUGUAY FROM 6 TO 10 MAY

San José, Costa Rica, April 30, 2019.- Between May 6 and 10, 2019, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights will hold its 60th Special Session in Montevideo thanks to an invitation from the Government of Uruguay. The Inter-American Court, in turn, thanks the German Cooperation Agency, GIZ, for the provided technical support.

Information about the cases, programming and registration forms for the activities mentioned below can be found at the following link: www.corteidh.or.cr/60PES/

All activities are public and free (except for those intended for the deliberation of sentences) and will take place in the Plenary Hall, Mercosur Building, between May 6 and 8, 2019 and in the Auditorium of the University of the Republic of Uruguay on May 10, 2019. The Inter-American Court will issue assistance vouchers.

I. Public Hearings on contentious cases

The Court will hold the following public hearings:

a) Case of **Hernández v. Argentina**¹

May 6, from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

The case is related to the alleged lack of access to health of José Luis Hernández, who allegedly contracted meningitis while he was deprived of his liberty. The Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, stated that the State had violated the rights to personal integrity and to not be subjected to cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment. In this regard, the Commission also argued that Mr. Hernández did not have an effective remedy to protect his right to health. It also alleged that the State violated the right to personal liberty and presumption of innocence of the alleged victim, since it imposed a mandatory preventive detention in violation of the Inter-American standards and because the victim had been deprived of his liberty for one year and six months in a police station. Finally, the Commission alleged a violation of the right to personal integrity to the detriment of Mr. Hernández's mother.

You can learn more about the case [here](#) and access the hearing notice resolution [here](#) (Spanish only).

b) Case of the **National Association of Discharged and Retired Employees of the National Tax Administration Superintendence (ANCEJUB-SUNAT) v. Peru**

May 7, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

¹ Judge Raúl Zaffaroni will not participate in the knowledge or deliberation of the case because of his Argentine nationality, in accordance with the provisions of Article 19.1 of the Rules of the Court.

The case refers to the alleged violation of the right to judicial protection for the alleged failure to comply with a judicial ruling of the Supreme Court of Justice of Peru, of October 1993, which recognized pension rights for members of the National Association of the Unemployed and Retirees of the National Superintendency of Tax Administration (ANCEJUB-SUNAT). The Inter-American Commission considered that the Peruvian judiciary did not allegedly apply the necessary measures to resolve fundamental aspects of the implementation of a judicial ruling favorable to a group of pensioners, such as the authority in charge of compliance, the beneficiaries of the judgment and the patrimonial implications of the same in the amount of the pensions, as well as in the amounts not received in all these years. It also added that, more than 23 years after the first judicial ruling in favor of the members of the ANCEJUB-SUNAT, the State allegedly continues to violate its right to effective judicial protection in the absence of execution of the final judgment issued in its favor, as well as the ineffectiveness of the judicial mechanisms activated later to achieve such compliance.

You can learn more about the case [here](#) and access the hearing notice resolution [here](#) (Spanish only).

c) Case of Gorigoitia v. Argentina²

May 8, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

The case is related to the alleged inexistence of an ordinary appeal that would allow the integral review of a conviction against Mr. Oscar Raúl Gorigoitia in the context of a criminal proceeding in the Province of Mendoza, Argentina, in 1997. The Inter-American Commission of Human Rights alleged that Mr. Gorigoitia did not have the necessary recourse before a hierarchical authority to conduct a comprehensive review of said judgment, including the issues of fact and evidentiary value alleged by the defense through the appeal. In this regard, the Commission concluded that the Argentine State allegedly violated Mr. Gorigoitia's right to appeal the judgment. The Commission also stated that as a consequence of the alleged limited nature of the cassation appeal and the extraordinary appeal, the alleged victim did not have simple and effective judicial remedies in the criminal proceeding that culminated in his conviction.

You can learn more about the case [here](#) and access the hearing notice resolution [here](#) (Spanish only).

d) Case of Romero Feris v. Argentina³

May 8, from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

The case is related to the alleged illegal and arbitrary detention against Mr. Raúl Rolando Romero Feris, in Argentina, in 1999, as well as the alleged violations of due process in the criminal cases brought against him. The Inter-American Commission considered that Mr. Romero Feris was deprived of his liberty for five additional months at the time of the extension of his preventive detention. Consequently, it argued that the duration of such preventive detention did not respect the terms established in the applicable legislation and were arbitrary and in violation of the principle of presumption of innocence. In addition, the Commission argued that the decision by which Mr. Romero Feris's request for release was resolved did not constitute an effective remedy to challenge the deprivation of liberty. On the other hand, the Commission concluded that throughout the criminal cases brought against Mr. Romero Feris, his defense had submitted, through different resources, a series of questions related to the right to be judged by a competent, independent and impartial authority. These remedies were allegedly rejected through motivations in which either generic invocations of the law were effected or it might have been suggested that the matter was not subject to analysis through the respective channel.

You can learn more about the case [here](#) and access the hearing notice resolution [here](#) (Spanish only).

² *Idem.*

³ *Idem.*

II. Sentences

The Court will deliberate the following contentious cases:

a) Case of Martínez Coronado v. Guatemala

The case is related to a supposed series of violations of due process committed in the framework of the criminal proceeding against the alleged victim, which culminated in the imposition of the death penalty by lethal injection. It is alleged that the principle of legality was breached. Furthermore, it is alleged that the common defense of the victim and his co-prosecution violated the right to have adequate means for the preparation of the defense and the right to be assisted by a defender provided by the State. Finally, it is alleged that the right to life was violated because the death penalty was applied. You can learn more about the case [here](#) (Spanish only).

b) Case of Perrone and Preckel v. Argentina⁴

The case is related to the alleged violation of the rights to judicial guarantees and judicial protection in the administrative and judicial proceedings initiated by Elba Clotilde Perrone and Juan José Preckel for the purpose of requesting the payment of salaries and social benefits not received by the state entity for which they worked, as a consequence of their alleged arbitrary deprivation of freedom during the military dictatorship in 1976 by state agents. The Inter-American Commission on Human Rights considered that the lapse of more than twelve years of administrative and judicial proceedings exceeded a period that would be considered reasonable. It also concluded that the judicial and administrative authorities allegedly violated the right to have sufficient and adequate motivation. Additionally, the Inter-American Commission considered that having violated said guarantees of due process, the administrative and judicial proceedings would also imply a violation of the right to judicial protection. You can learn more about the case [here](#) (Spanish only).

III. International Seminar "Inter-American Court: 40 years protecting rights"

May 10, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

The Inter-American Court will hold in the Auditorium of the University of the Republic of Uruguay an international seminar called "Inter-American Court: 40 years protecting rights".

The seminar will be inaugurated by Judge Eduardo Ferrer Mac-Gregor Poisot, President of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, Mr. Eduardo Turell Araquistain, President of the Supreme Court of Justice of Uruguay, Mr. Rodrigo Arim, Rector of the University of the Republic and by Mrs. Cristina Mangarelli, Dean of the Faculty of Law of the University of the Republic. The seminar will have as panelists the Judge Vice President Eduardo Vio Grossi, Judge Elizabeth Odio Benito and Judge Ricardo Pérez Manrique and other experts in the field of human rights. The seminar aims to allow panelists to debate on human rights issues, with students, academics, lawyers, state officials and human rights defenders.

To attend the seminar you can register under [this](#) link.

IV. Protocolary meetings, pending matters, collaboration agreements, and administrative matters

The Court will meet with high Uruguayan authorities throughout the session. Likewise, the Court will adopt different resolutions concerning some of the cases currently pending. Several collaboration agreements will also be signed with public entities and universities.

⁴ *Idem.*

The composition of the Court for this session will be as follows: Judge Eduardo Ferrer Mac-Gregor Poisot, President (Mexico); Juez Eduardo Vio Grossi, Vice-President (Chile); Judge Humberto Antonio Sierra Porto (Colombia); Judge Elizabeth Odio Benito (Costa Rica); Judge Eugenio Raúl Zaffaroni (Argentina); Judge Patricio Pazmiño Freire (Ecuador) and Judge Ricardo Pérez Manrique (Uruguay).

This press release was produced by the Secretariat of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, which has the sole responsibility to do so. For more information please go to the page of the Inter-American Court <http://corteidh.or.cr/> or send an email to Pablo Saavedra Alessandri, Secretary to corteidh@corteidh.or.cr. For the press office, contact Marta Cabrera Martín at prensa@corteidh.or.cr. You can subscribe to the information services of the Court [here](#).

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