

Press Release

Inter-American Court of Human Rights

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THE PRESIDENT OF THE INTER-AMERICAN COURT REQUESTS NICARAGUA TO ADOPT URGENT MEASURES TO PROTECT THE HEALTH, LIFE AND PERSONAL INTEGRITY OF 17 INDIVIDUALS

San Jose, Costa Rica, 21 May, 2019.- In the resolution served today on the *Matter of seventeen individuals deprived from liberty regarding Nicaragua*, the President of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights (“Court” or “Tribunal”), Eduardo Ferrer Mac-Gregor Poisot, decided to adopt several urgent measures in order to prevent irreparable damage to 17 people, all in accordance with Article 63.2 of the American Convention, Article 25.2 of the Statute of the Court and Articles 4, 27 and 31.2 of the Rules of the Court.

On May 15, 2019, the Inter-American Commission of Human Rights (“the Inter-American Commission” or “the Commission”) referred to the Court a request for provisional measures asking the Tribunal to request the State of Nicaragua to adopt without further delay the necessary measures to protect the health, life and personal integrity of 17 people who, originally, were deprived from liberty at prisons “La Modelo” and “La Esperanza”.

After having analyzed the request, the State observations as well as the pieces of evidence brought in the framework of the current procedure, the President of the Court considered that there is enough evidence to determine the existence of a situation of extreme gravity and, therefore, the urgent need to adopt the necessary measures to avoid any irreparable damage to the petitioners’ health, life and personal integrity, so that the security of the petitioners can be fully guaranteed, wherever they are.

In view of the above, the President ordered the adoption of the following measures, among others:

1. Request the State to immediately adopt the necessary measures to effectively protect the health, life and personal integrity of 1) Kevin Rodrigo Espinoza Gutiérrez, 2) Cristhian Rodrigo Fajardo Caballero, 3) Yubrank Miguel Suazo Herrera, 4) Edwin José Carcache Dávila, 5) Medardo Mairena Sequeira, 6) Mario Lener Fonseca Díaz, 7) Ricardo Baltodano, 8) Jaime Ramon Ampí Toledo, 9) Julio José Ampí Machado, 10) Reynaldo Lira Luquez, 11) Miguel Mora Barberena, 12) Lucía Pineda Ubau, 13) Amaya Eva Coppens Zamora, 14) Olesia Auxiliadora Muñoz Pavón, 15) Tania Verónica Muñoz Pavón, 16) María Adilia Peralta Serrato, and 17) Irlanda Undina Jeréz Barrera.

2. As regards María Adilia Peralta Cerratos, Jaime Ramón Ampí Toledo, Julio José Ampí Machado, Reynaldo Lira Luquez, and Tania Verónica Muñoz Pavón, and taking into account the State’s contention that these petitioners “were granted the legal benefit of living with their families as of May 20, 2019”, request the petitioners’ representatives or the Inter-American Commission of Human Rights to confirm the information that this benefit has effectively been granted and that they have been released.

3. Request the State, as regards the remaining 12 petitioners (Kevin Rodrigo Espinoza Gutiérrez, Cristhian Rodrigo Fajardo Caballero, Yubrank Miguel Suazo Herrera, Edwin José Carcache Dávila, Medardo Mairena Sequeira, Mario Lener Fonseca Díaz, Ricardo Baltodano, Miguel Mora Barberena, Lucía Pineda Ubau, Amaya Eva Coppens Zamora, Olesia Auxiliadora Muñoz Pavón, and Irlanda Undina Jeréz Barrera) to immediately assess whether alternative measures to deprivation of liberty should be granted, in accordance with domestic law and the Inter-American standards.

4. Provide that, in accordance with Article 27.8 of the Rules of the Court, and with the State's permission, a delegation of the Inter-American Court, composed of its President, Vice-president or other Judge, as well as the Secretary and the Secretariat staff carry out as soon as possible a visit to the prisons "La Esperanza" and "La Modelo", in Nicaragua, or wherever the beneficiaries of the measures are, in order to interview every one of them, as well as different state authorities.

The Presiden's Resolution can be found [here](#) (only in Spanish).

This press release was produced by the Secretariat of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, which has the sole responsibility to do so.

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Avenida 10, Calles 45 y 47 Los Yoses, San Pedro, San José, Costa Rica.



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Corre



(506) 2527 - 1600



(506) 2280 - 5074



Apdo. 6906 - 1000
San José, Costa Rica



corteidh@corteidh.or.cr



www.corteidh.or.cr

