

Press Release

Inter-American Court of Human Rights

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INTER-AMERICAN COURT WILL HOLD ITS 127TH PERIOD OF REGULAR SESSIONS

San José, Costa Rica, September 20 2018- The Inter-American Court will hold its 127th Period of Regular Sessions from September 24-28 in San José, Costa Rica.

I. Public Hearings

The Court will hold the following public hearings:

- a) Matter of the Inhabitants of the Miskitu Indigenous Peoples Communities of the North Caribbean Coastal Region with regard to Nicaragua (27 September, from 09:00 to 10:30)

During this hearing, the State must inform the Court, in a complete and detailed manner, about the implementation of each of the measures required by the Court, through its orders, which must accompany the diagnosis on the current risk situation of the beneficiaries of the present provisional measures. In addition, the Inter-American Court will listen to the observations of the representatives of the beneficiaries of said provisional measures and the opinion of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. You can have access to the decision on the hearing [here](#) (in Spanish).

- b) Case of Colindres Schonenberg v. El Salvador (27 September, from 15:00 to 18:00)

This case relates to the removal of Eduardo Benjamín Colindres Schonenberg from his post as a justice of the Supreme Electoral Tribunal by the Legislative Assembly on March 17, 1998, which presumably violated numerous guarantees of due process, including the right to a competent judge, the guarantee of impartiality, and the principle of legality. You can have access to the decision on the hearing [here](#) (in Spanish).

II. Decisions and Judgments

The Court will deliberate the following contentious cases:

- a) *Case of Terrones Silva et al. v. Peru*

This case relates to the presumed enforced disappearances of Wilfreda Terrones Silva (since 26 August 1992), Teresa Díaz Aparicio (since 19 August 1992), Santiago Antezana Cueto (since 7 May 1984), Néstor Rojas Medina (since 26 January 1991) and Cory Clodolia Tenicela Tello (since 2 October 1992). It is alleged that the facts took place in the context of a presumed systematic and generalized practice of enforced disappearance during the Peruvian State's fight against terrorism. To date, there is no information on the whereabouts or fate of any of the victims. You can learn more about the case [here](#) (in Spanish).

b) *Case of Escaleras Mejía et al. v. Honduras*

This case relates to the presumed international responsibility of the State of Honduras for the death of the environmentalist Carlos Escaleras Mejía on 18 October 1997, and the alleged situation of partial impunity concerning this fact. The Commission concluded that the State had not provided an effective judicial response to the death of Mr. Escaleras Mejía because the police, prosecutors and judicial authorities had not implemented the minimum basic procedures in keeping with the Inter-American standards concerning this type of cases. The Commission also concluded that the State had failed to obtain evidence in order to implement, seriously and exhaustively, basic lines of investigation that would respond to the indications linking at least three state authorities to the act which were evident from the start. In addition, the Commission noted that all the possible intellectual perpetrators had not been investigated and that, during the investigation, egregious acts of possible reprisal and pressure had occurred involving individuals who took part in the investigations and, despite this, no investigation into such facts was carried out. The Commission concluded that the current elapsed time since Mr. Escaleras Mejía's death (17 years) , constituted a violation of the guarantee of the reasonable time and indicated that all the above factors formed part of a more general situation related to the high rates of impunity of criminal acts perpetrated against environmentalists. You can learn more about the case [here \(in Spanish\)](#).

c) *Case of López Soto et al. v. Venezuela*

This case concerns the alleged international responsibility of the State of Venezuela for the presumed serious violations of the rights to personal integrity, personal liberty, privacy, dignity and autonomy, and to live without violence or discrimination suffered by Linda Loaiza López Soto, who was 19 years of age at the time, between 27 March and 19 July 2001. It is alleged that she was deprived of liberty against her will and that she was the victim of gross acts of violence for almost four months, supposedly including mutilations, severe physical injuries, and psychological violence committed with great cruelty, as well as repeated forms of sexual abuse and rape, all of which had had a deep and irreversible impact on her life. The Commission argued that this violence was presumably based on the victim's condition as a woman and, therefore, it constituted gender-based violence. It is argued that the Venezuelan State was or should have been aware of the situation of real and imminent danger in which this young woman found herself, in view of the repeated attempts of her sister to file the report of her disappearance and that, despite this, it had failed to take any measure to protect her from this danger and to avoid its materialization. In addition, it is alleged that the State had failed to comply with its obligation to investigate within a reasonable time and that the presumed victim did not have access to justice in equal conditions. You can learn more about the case [here \(in Spanish\)](#).

III. Supervision of compliance with the judgment, provisional measures, and administrative matters


In a similar manner, the Court will supervise the compliance of several judgments and the implementation of provisional measures as per its competence to do the same, as well as address administrative matters.

The composition of the Court for this period of regular sessions will include the following: Judge Eduardo Ferrer Mac-Gregor Poisot, President (Mexico); Judge Eduardo Vio Grossi, Vice-President (Chile); Judge Humberto Antonio Sierra Porto (Colombia); Judge Elizabeth Odio Benito (Costa Rica); Judge Eugenio Raúl Zaffaroni (Argentina); and Judge Patricio Pazmiño Freire (Ecuador).

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 the latest information please visit the website of the Inter-American Court, <http://corteidh.or.cr/en>, or send an email to Pablo Saavedra Alessandri, Secretary, at corteidh@corteidh.or.cr. For press inquiries please contact Marta Cabrera Martín at prensa@corteidh.or.cr.

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