

Press Release

Inter-American Court of Human Rights

I/A Court H.R._PR-18/2020 English

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I/A Court H.R.

Protecting Rights

INTER-AMERICAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS AGREES TO SUSPEND TIME LIMITS DUE TO THE HEALTH EMERGENCY CAUSED BY COVID-19

San José, Costa Rica, 17 March 2020. - The Inter-American Court of Human Rights has decided to suspend the calculation of all the time limits that are currently pending before this Court from 17 March to 21 April inclusive. This includes substantive cases, supervision of the enforcement of sentences and advisory opinions. Time limits relating to provisional measures are excluded.

In this communication, all parties and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights are notified of this agreement in each case that is pending, whether in the substantive stage or in the supervision of compliance with sentences, the suspension of the calculation of time limits. This also applies to requests for advisory opinions.

INTER-AMERICAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS

AGREEMENT OF COURT 1/20

MARCH 17 OF 2020

Suspension of time limits due to the health emergency caused by COVID-19

THE INTER-AMERICAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS:

WHEREAS:

It is common knowledge that many countries in the region have been affected in recent days by the disease COVID-19, classified by the World Health Organization as a health emergency with a global impact.

Due to the declaration of pandemic by the World Health Organization of the spread of COVID-19 and in response to the "National Health Guidelines for the Surveillance of Coronavirus Infection" issued by the Ministry of Public Health of the Republic of Costa Rica, the Inter-American Court decided to suspend the 135 Regular Session scheduled for 14-24 April 2020.

The countries of the region are taking a variety of measures against the COVID-19 pandemic, which may affect the procedural activity before the Tribunal and with the aim of collaborating with the various efforts being made in this area.

AGREES:

1. To suspend the computation of all the terms that are currently in progress before this Court from March 17 to April 21 inclusive. This includes cases in the merits stage, supervision of compliance with judgment and advisory opinions. The periods related to provisional measures are excepted.
2. At the end of the last date indicated (April 21), the pertinent decisions on the continuity of this measure will be issued.
3. Make this agreement publicly known.
4. To give notice, through the press release that will be disseminated today, of this agreement to all the parties and to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights in each case in process, whether in the merits or supervision of compliance of sentence, the suspension of the calculation of the terms.
5. The aforementioned is also extended for advisory opinions currently pending.

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://www.corteidh.or.cr/index-en.cfm>, or send an email to Pablo Saavedra Alessandri, Secretary, at corteidh@corteidh.or.cr. For press inquiries please contact Matías Ponce at prensa@corteidh.or.cr.

You can subscribe to the information services of the Court [here](#). You can sign up for updates from the court here or unsubscribe sending an email to comunicaciones@corteidh.or.cr. You can also follow the activities of the Court on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) (@CorteIDH for the Spanish account and @IACourtHR for the English account), [Instagram](#), [Flickr](#), [Vimeo](#) and [Soundcloud](#).

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