

Press Release

Inter-American Court of Human Rights

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I/A Court H.R. Protecting Rights

INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON HUMAN RIGHTS: DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE THREE REGIONAL COURTS OF HUMAN RIGHTS



San José, Costa Rica, March 29, 2021. On March 24, 2021, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, the European Court of Human Rights and the African Court of Human and Peoples' Rights held the Second International Forum on Human Rights: Dialogue between the Three Regional Human Rights Courts, organized by the European Court. The International Forum is available [here](#).

The forum was presided by the President of the European Court of Human Rights, Judge Robert Spano, and the President of the African Court of Human and Peoples' Rights, Judge Sylvan Oré, the President of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, Judge Elizabeth Odio Benito, together with judges of the three Regional Courts took part in the activity.

The judges of the three Courts reflected on various significant matters that each of the regional courts is processing, and exchanged opinions on the case law dialogue.

The virtual Forum was held as part of the Permanent Dialogue between the Three Regional Human Rights Courts, as a continuation to the forums held in San José, Costa Rica (2018), and Kampala, Uganda (2019).

The President of the Inter-American Court, Judge Elizabeth Odio Benito, underlined that a new stage in the dialogue between the world's three regional human rights courts had been initiated in 2018, and this had been reinforced over time.

Regarding the global situation owing to COVID-19, the President indicated that "the appearance of the pandemic and its terrible consequences, in addition to the disproportionate impact it has had on the most vulnerable: women, girls, people living in poverty, etc., signifies specific challenges for the administration of justice in all our continents. Adapting to this situation was not easy. However, I can say that this Court's path to virtuality was rapid and did not have a major impact on our jurisdictional work."

The International Human Rights Forum forms part of the constant dialogue that the world's three regional human rights courts are promoting and implementing. Recently, the first joint report on the 2019 case law of the three courts was published (see [here](#)), which includes a selection of their main case law developments during that year. Additionally, a website has been set up on the work of the three regional human rights courts (see [here](#)).

This press release was produced by the Secretariat of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, which is the only responsible for its content.


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