

Press Release

Inter-American Court of Human Rights

I/A Court H.R._PR-78/2020 English

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I/A Court H.R. Protecting Rights

THE INTER-AMERICAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS WILL HOLD ITS 136TH REGULAR SESSION



San José, Costa Rica, July 14, 2020. The Inter-American Court will hold its 136th regular session from August 24 to September 3, 2020.

Owing to the current COVID-29 pandemic, the Court will meet virtually during this session in order to deliberate judgments, issue orders on monitoring compliance with judgment, examine different issues relating to provisional measures, and deal with various administrative matters.

Information on the activities of this 136th regular session will be updated regularly.

I. Judgments

The Court will deliberate the following contentious cases:

a) Case of Urrutia Laubreaux v. Chile¹

This case relates to the alleged human rights violations committed during a disciplinary procedure that culminated with a sanction of a reprimand, later reduced to a private admonition, against Judge Daniel Urrutia Laubreaux presumably because he sent an academic paper to the Supreme Court of Justice, criticizing its actions during the Chilean military regime. It was alleged that the State had presumably violated his rights to be informed previously and in detail of the charges against him, and to have adequate time and means for preparing his defense because it was indicated that the presumed victim had not been notified that a disciplinary procedure had been opened against him, the reasons for this, and the rules he could have infringed with his conduct.

Further information on this case is available [here](#).

b) Case of Acosta Martínez et al. v. Argentina²

This case relates to the alleged international responsibility of the State of Argentina for the presumed detention and subsequent death of Jose Delfín Acosta on April 5, 1996. Mr. Acosta was an Afro-descendant and a Uruguayan national. It is alleged that his detention was unlawful, arbitrary and discriminatory. It is also alleged that, since Mr. Acosta's injuries and death occurred while he was in the State's custody, it should be presumed that the State was internationally responsible. In addition, it is argued that the state authorities did not provide the immediate assistance that the presumed victim required at the time of his detention, and took no action to safeguard his physical integrity and his life, despite its special position of guarantor of those who are detained. Based on the foregoing, it is alleged that the State violated José Delfín Acosta's rights to life, personal integrity, personal liberty, and equality and non-discrimination.

Further information on this case is available [here](#).

c) Caso Fernández Prieto et al. v. Argentina³

This case relates to the alleged unlawful and arbitrary detention of Carlos Alberto Fernández Prieto and Carlos Alejandro Tumbeiro in May 1992 and January 1998, respectively, by agents of the Police Force of the province of Buenos Aires and the Argentine Federal Police. It is alleged that the two detentions were carried out without an arrest warrant and without these individuals being found in flagrante. In addition, in both cases, the respective police documentation did not provide details of the objective factors that might have resulted in a reasonable suspicion that they were involved in the perpetration of an offense.

It is argued that, in the case of Mr. Fernández Prieto, there is absolutely no explanation, while in the case of Mr. Tumbeiro, the explanation was related to a supposed "nervousness" and "inconsistency" between his clothing and the items he was carrying, and the area in which he was detained, arguments that would not be sufficient to justify the suspicion that he had committed an offense.

Further information on this case is available [here](#).

II. Request for an advisory opinion on the scope of State obligations with regard to the guarantee of trade union freedom, its relationship to other rights, and its application from a gender perspective, presented by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights

The Inter-American Court will hear the observations of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM), which it was unable to receive during the hearing held in the previous session for reasons beyond the control of the CIM.

Further information on this request for an advisory opinion is available [here](#).

III. Procedures on cases being processed

Procedures ordered by the Inter-American Court will be conducted in the following cases that are being processed: **Mota Abarullo et al. v. Venezuela** and **Olivares Muñoz et al. v. Venezuela**.

IV. Monitoring compliance with judgment, provisional measures, and administrative matters

The Court will monitor compliance with several of its judgments and the implementation of provisional measures it has ordered, and will also process diverse cases, provisional measures and advisory opinions. In addition, it will deal with various administrative matters.

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

¹ Judge Eduardo Vio Grossi will not take part in the examination or deliberation of any case against Chile, pursuant to Article 19(1) of the Court's Rules of Procedure.

² Judge Eugenio Raúl Zaffaroni will not take part in the examination or deliberation of any case against Argentina, pursuant to Article 19(1) of the Court's Rules of Procedure.

³ Judge Eugenio Raúl Zaffaroni will not take part in the examination or deliberation of any case against Argentina, pursuant to Article 19(1) of the Court's Rules of Procedure

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


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