

Situation of Human Rights in Nicaragua

AUGUST 2019

Latest press releases about Nicaragua

[R212/19 - Nicaragua: Must stop reprisals against journalists, say human rights experts.](#)
Washington, DC, August 26, 2019

[208/19 - REDESCA of the IACHR expresses profound concern about discrimination for political reasons in the exercise of the rights to work and health in Nicaragua.](#) Washington, DC, August 20, 2019

[194/19 - IACHR Expresses Concern over Nicaragua's Announcement That It Will Not Continue Dialogue and Calls on the State to Comply with Its Obligations to Guarantee and Respect Human Rights.](#) Washington, DC, August 6, 2019

▪ **Harrassment against human rights defenders**

In August, the IACHR received information on the increase in harassment and surveillance against human rights defenders and other groups of lawyers and lawyers in Nicaragua dedicated to the defense of victims of human rights violations and persons deprived of their liberty in Nicaragua. These acts would be perpetrated directly by State agents, or with their tolerance. The IACHR stressed that the adverse context in which human rights defenders carry out their work is symptomatic of the continuation of the crisis and the police state in the country.

▪ **Situation of released individuals**

The Commission warned of a pattern of arbitrary detentions, of short duration, against released individuals. Some of these arrests would have occurred at border posts or at the airport, for example, after their participation in international events. According to the information received, the arrests would occur with the aim of intimidating these people for the leadership assumed in the context of the protests initiated on April 18, 2018.

In addition, the released persons would be victims of harassment, surveillance, threats and stigmatization campaigns in social networks when they were designated as "coup plotters". As a consequence, some of them would have moved to safe houses or decided to leave the country.

▪ **Persistence of repression in Nicaragua**

Among other events, in August the IACHR learned about the exile of the mayor of Mulukukú, Apolonio Fargas, to Costa Rica for the alleged taking of the mayor's office and his home by police officers. Previously, Mr. Apolonio Fargas had been arrested for his participation in social protests and subsequently released under the amnesty law.

In addition, on August 23, the IACHR ordered the adoption of precautionary measures for the protection of Violeta Mercedes Granera, a member of the Blue and White Unit, as well as her family members, for being in a situation of risk within the current context that the state of Nicaragua is going through.

Main events

AUGUST 10

Although it is the power of the @IACourt the #IACHR observes that the provisional measures granted to 17 Nicaraguan prisoners should not be revoked. "There is a very important risk for their rights and for their integrity," said the rapporteur for #Nicaragua [Commissioner Antonia Urrejola](#).

AUGUST 17

#MESENI learned that Esperanza Salgado denounced to @CPDHNicaragua that her son Ervin Gallo Salgado went missing in León in July 2018. The #IACHR urges the state of #Nicaragua to investigate the case and adopt all the necessary measures to determine Gallo's whereabouts.

AUGUST 19

#MESENI of the #IACHR came to know about a complaint made by the detention of six women in #Nicaragua who displayed slogans alluding to citizen rights. The state must cease as soon as possible the persistent repression of social protest in the #CrisisofHumanRightsInNicaragua

AUGUST 21

The Special Rapporteur on Economic, Social, Cultural, and Environmental Rights (@DESCA_CIDH) of the #IACHR expresses its deep concern about the discrimination on political grounds in the exercise of rights to work and health in #Nicaragua.

AUGUST 22

Margine Blandón, mother of Jaime Navarrete, affirmed to #MESENI that her son, detained in cells of maximum security in #LaModelo, was beaten and dealing with respiratory issues. The #IACHR calls on the State of #Nicaragua to provide information regarding the health and conditions of detention of Navarrete.

AUGUST 23

The #IACHR is closely following the start of the trial against María Oviedo, lawyer at @CPDHNicaragua, in a context of increased harassment to defenders of #HumanRights in #Nicaragua. The Commission calls the State to avoid the criminalization of defenders with disproportionate charges.

AUGUST 26

The Special Rapporteur at the @IACHR @EdisonLanza, along with the Special Rapporteur for freedom of opinion and expression at @UNHumanRights @davidkaye urge the government to end reprisals against employees at @RadioDariNi

AUGUST 28

Dulce Briceño, mother of María Ruiz Briceño, denounced to #MESENI that her daughter, detained on 7/13 close to the Cathedral of #Managua, was ill and being harassed by other detainees close to the Government at the jail of Tipitapa. The #IACHR calls on the State of #Nicaragua to provide information regarding the conditions of detention.

MESENI in numbers

Press releases published	61
Testimonies received by the IACHR	1524
Trainings provided	20
Persons trained	435
Precautionary measures granted to date	74

Repression data

Information updated to August 31, 2019



328 deaths; 24 children and adolescents | 21 police officers



+130 political prisoners remain detained



+ 400 health professionals have been dismissed;
144 students have been expelled



+ 90 journalists and media workers have been forced into exile



+ 83, 000 Nicaraguans have fled to neighboring countries

You can follow the MESENI activities in our web section and in our social media:

[Web page](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [TV CIDH/MESENI](#)