

## Situation of Human Rights in Nicaragua

JUNE 2020

### Repression data

Information updated to May 31, 2020



**328** deaths | 24 children  
and adolescents | 21  
police officers



**+80** political prisoners  
remain detained



**+ 405** health  
professionals have been  
dismissed and **150**  
students have been  
expelled



**+ 90** journalists and  
media workers have  
been forced into exile



**+ 103, 600**  
Nicaraguans have fled  
to neighboring  
countries

### Precautionary measures granted

On June 17, 2020, the IACHR granted precautionary measures in favor of the NOTIMATV journalistic team in Nicaragua. The request alleges that the journalistic team has been subjected to threats, intimidation, follow-up and acts of violence in the context of its journalistic work in Nicaragua. [Read the resolution in Spanish](#)

### IACHR Recalls Nicaragua's Pending Human Rights Obligations

Two years after the creation of the Special Monitoring Mechanism for Nicaragua (MESENI), the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) reminded the state of Nicaragua of its obligations to end the ongoing human rights crisis in the country.

In recent months, the IACHR has reported that state repression in the country has entered the fifth stage ([PR 80/2020](#)), which has entailed an intensification of acts of surveillance, harassment, and selective repression against people who are thought to be dissidents, as well as acts of violence in rural areas and against communities of indigenous peoples. In connection with this, the IACHR also warned that the principle of the separation of powers continues to be violated and that democratic institutions in Nicaragua are being weakened due to the concentration of power in the executive branch and the lack of independence of the judiciary and the Public Prosecutor's Office, among other things.

The IACHR reiterated its concern over the impunity that surrounds the serious human rights violations that have been committed since April 18, 2018, particularly in connection with the lack of judicial independence and the adoption of a set of laws that run counter to international law, including the [Amnesty Act](#). This is compounded by the official narrative denying the fact that there is an ongoing human rights crisis in the country, which highlights the state's unwillingness to guarantee access to justice, truth, and adequate reparation.

In the context of the pandemic, the IACHR has expressed its concern over the situation of people who are deprived of their freedom in Nicaragua due to the risk of infection that they are facing and the lack of information on measures and protocols to contain and prevent the spread of the virus on the part of the state within detention centers.

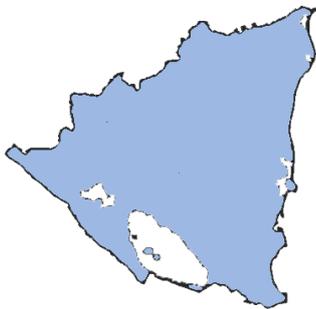
In response, the IACHR called once more on the states to guarantee the prompt release of people who are being arbitrarily detained in retaliation for involvement in social protests or because they have been identified as dissidents. It also urged the state to comply with the recommendations made in IACHR [Resolution 01/2020](#), Pandemics and Human Rights in the Americas, in order to protect this group's human rights.

## MONITORING THE SITUATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

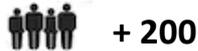
- **81** press releases published
- **1625** testimonies received by the IACHR
- Working visits to Costa Rica (3), Panamá (1), Honduras and (Miami) United States
- **13** thematic hearings
- **31** trainings provided and **640** persons trained



## PRECAUTIONARY AND PROVISIONAL MEASURES



**85** precautionary measures granted



**+ 200**

Beneficiaries and their families



**3** requests for provisional measures  
**2** measures remain in force



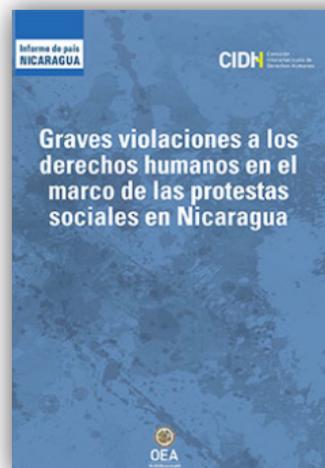
## PETITIONS AND CASES

**152** analyzed petitions

**33** of them in admissibility stage

## FOLLOW-UP RECOMMENDATIONS

In the framework of its work, the MESENI permanently monitors the recommendations made by the IACHR in the Preliminary Observations of its visit and in the Report "Serious violations of human rights in the framework of social protests in Nicaragua," as well such as those carried out by the Interdisciplinary Group of Independent Experts (GIEI).



## Main events elevated in social media

JUNE 19

[#IACHR](#) became aware, through [MESENI](#), of some 500 Nicaraguan cruise ship workers stranded in precarious economic conditions, in the territories of the Caribbean and Central America, who would be prevented from entering [Nicaragua \(1/3\)](#)

[#Nicaragua](#) Although the State has allowed 93 compatriots to enter, the State has not yet explained why these stranded people cannot return to their country, which keeps them in an uncertainty that takes three months [#IACHR](#) [#MESENI](#)

[#IACHR](#) Welcomes the resolution of the UN Council [#DDHH](#) in [#HRC43](#) and joins the call to the State to resume its collaboration with [#OACNUDH](#) and [#CIDH](#), to stop the repression, restore democratic guarantees and [#DDHH](#) in the country [#MESENI](#) [#Nicaragua](#)

[#IACHR](#) [#REDESCA](#) reiterated their concern about the climate of harassment and the government's harassment of health workers who denounce the situation in the country in relation to [#COVID-19](#), particularly the dismissal of at least 11 doctors [#MESENI](#)

[#IACHR](#) [#REDESCA](#) accessed information on the death by [#COVID-19](#) of at least 5 health professionals, without the State having taken special protection and prevention measures for workers in this sector. [#MESENI](#) [#DDHH](#)

JUNE 24

The [#IACHR](#) grants precautionary measures in favor of journalists from the NOTIMATV media in [#Nicaragua](#)

JUNE 26

In the face of the [#COVID-19](#) pandemic, the [IACHR](#) expressed concern for persons deprived of liberty in [#Nicaragua](#) at the risk of contagion; lack of information on protocols, containment and prevention measures adopted by the State in detention centers [#MESENI2years](#)

JUNE 27

[#Nicaragua](#) The [#IACHR](#) from his [#MESENI](#) learned of 94 Nicaraguan people who are not allowed to return. They come overland from [#Panama](#) and are located at the Peñas Blancas border crossing. There would also be children and pregnant women [#Migrants](#) [#DDHH](#)

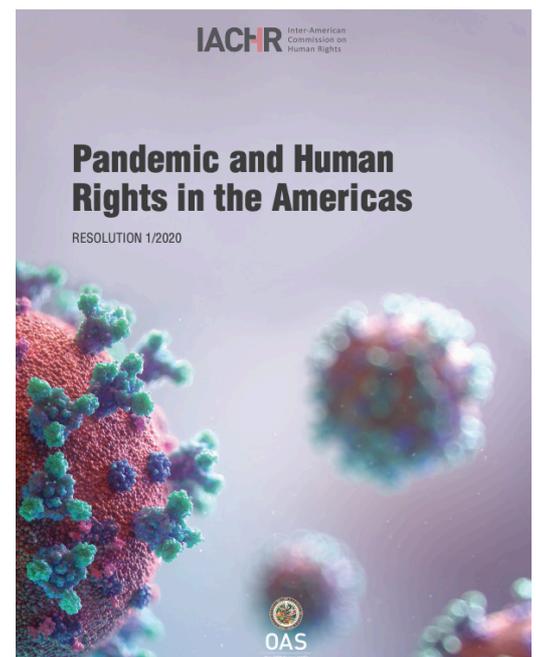
The [#IACHR](#) recalls that the request for information sent to Nicaragua on other cases of impediment of entry to nationals, since last April, is pending response. It calls the authorities to fulfill their international obligations in the matter [#MESENI](#)

## Last press releases

[146/20 - Two Years After the Creation of MESENI, IACHR Recalls Nicaragua's Pending Human Rights Obligations.](#) Washington, D.C., June 23, 2020

145/20 - [IACHR grants precautionary measures in favor of journalists from the NOTIMATV media in Nicaragua \(Spanish version\)](#) June 23, 2020

123/20 - [The IACHR welcomes the memory of the victims of the March of the April Mothers and their families in Nicaragua \(Spanish version\)](#) June 1, 2020



## Resolution 01/2020

[#IACHR](#) reiterated its call to release detainees who participated in protests or who are opponents. Furthermore, it urged the State to comply with the recommendations of its Resolution 01/2020 "Pandemic and Human Rights in the Americas."

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

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