

Situation of Human Rights in Nicaragua

FEBRUARY 2020

Repression data

Information updated to February 28,
2020



328 deaths | 24
children and adolescents
| 21 police officers



+60 people remain
detained



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



+ 90 journalists and
media workers have
been forced into exile



+ 96,000 Nicaraguans
have fled to neighboring
countries

Precautionary measures granted

On February 5, the IACHR adopted [Resolution 10/2020](#) and [Resolution 11/2020](#), expanding the scope of precautionary measures to include certain workers and journalists at Confidencial and La Costeñísima in Nicaragua.

IACHR warns of the ongoing dire human rights situation in Nicaragua

In February 2020, Commissioner Joel Hernández, the current President of the IACHR, participated in the general debate surrounding the oral update of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights at the 43rd session of the Human Rights Council.

In his remarks, the Commissioner reiterated that the situation in Nicaragua had not changed since the beginning of the crisis in April 2018. The free exercise of human rights such as freedom of expression and association, the right to social protest, and even the defense of human rights remained suspended or severely restricted. The arbitrary detention and criminalization of those considered dissidents continued, as did reports of extrajudicial executions in rural areas, and the general environment throughout the country remained rife with harassment and intimidation. Over the previous few months, violence against indigenous communities on the Caribbean Coast had purportedly worsened.

Since MESENI and the GIEI were expelled from Nicaragua in December 2018, the government has not allowed international human rights organizations to perform on-the-ground monitoring and analysis.

Lastly, Commissioner Hernández stressed that in December 2019, the IACHR insisted on asking the government to allow a MESENI visit, but to date, that request had gone unanswered.

The IACHR called on the international community to keep its attention on the human rights crisis in Nicaragua. It also reaffirmed that it was fully open to cooperating with the State and civil society to overcome the challenges that have persisted for almost two years since protests had begun on April 18, 2018.

MESENI in numbers

Press releases published	74
Testimonies received by the IACHR	1,592
Trainings provided	29
Persons trained	604
Precautionary measures granted to date	83

Main events elevated in social media

FEBRUARY 11

#IACHR Members of the Civic Alliance denounced an armed attack that was allegedly carried out by civilians related to the ruling party. Through the **#MESENI**, the IACHR notes an increase in the repression of leaders and communities in recent weeks

#IACHR reiterates the urgent need for the State to take measures to recover democratic institutions and stop repression of opponents. It also calls on the international community to maintain attention on the **#DDHH** crisis in **#Nicaragua**.

#MESENI confirmed that among the leaders of the Civic Alliance attacked when they left the municipality of La Libertad, were **@MaxJerezM**, **@eliseonunez**, Francisco Sequeira and Lenin Salablanca.

FEBRUARY 12

#IACHR notes a state practice in **#Nicaragua**: arbitrary arrests, criminalization with disproportionate charges, without due process, for example, against the student leader Kevin Solís and leader María Esperanza Sanchez

#IACHR reports that Mayela Cruz, a trans woman detained since December in a men's prison in Somoto, in the context of the **#DDHH** crisis in **#Nicaragua**, reportedly suffered a previous heart attack after being denied medication to treat her chronic hypertension.

In that context, **#IACHR** learned of a new hunger strike in the Penitentiary System, a measure of force in which detainees demand the release of more than 60 political prisoners in Nicaragua

#IACHR calls on the State of **#Nicaragua** to respect personal liberty, due process, and promote the prompt release of prisoners on unfounded charges in the context of the **#DDHH** crisis

FEBRUARY 17

#IACHR condemns the attack by the settlers against the Miskita indigenous community of WangyTwi Tasba Raya, in Waspam, North Caribbean **#Nicaragua**. According to information received by **#MESENI**, a girl from the community received a gunshot wound to the face

Last Friday, **@CorteIDH** notified the extension of the provisional measures in favor of the residents of the Santa Clara community of the Miskitu indigenous peoples of the North Caribbean coast in **#Nicaragua**. Resolution: <http://bit.ly/39FC0KQ>

FEBRUARY 26

#IACHR condemns yesterday's crackdown by the National Police on "píquetes express" and the harassment of journalists covering the protests in **#Nicaragua**. Thread below with facts observed by **#MESENI** and **@RELE_CIDH**

@RELE_CIDH recalls that journalists, in their coverage, disseminate information on the development of the protests and the actions of the security forces. In the exercise of their labor, they should not be detained or harassed by law enforcement **#Nicaragua #MESENI #RELE #MESENI**

#IACHR condemns the disproportionate use of force, arrests and threats made by police and civilians related to the government against protesters and journalists during yesterday's protests in Managua.

FEBRUARY 27



#IACHR and **@OEA_oficial** were in the general debate on the oral update of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Michelle Bachelet **#HRC43**

"I reiterated **#IACHR** best disposition to cooperate with the State of **#Nicaragua** and with civil society to overcome current challenges".

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