



# INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS RESOLUTION 86/2024

Precautionary Measure No. 978-24
Erika Vanessa Trochez Ortiz and Jazmín Elena Ortiz Urcue regarding Colombia<sup>1</sup>
November 17, 2024
Original: Spanish

### I. INTRODUCTION

- 1. On September 6, 2024, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights ("the Inter-American Commission", "the Commission" or "the IACHR") received a request for precautionary measures filed by *Movimiento Nacional de Madres y Mujeres por la Paz* (National Mothers' and Women's Movement for Peace), *Corporación Justicia y Democracia* (Justice and Democracy Corporation), and *Corporación Justicia y Dignidad* (Justice and Dignity Corporation) ("the applicants" or "the requesting party") urging the Commission to require that the State of Colombia ("the State" or "Colombia") adopt the necessary measures to protect the rights to life and personal integrity of Erika Vanessa Trochez Ortiz and her mother Jazmín Elena Ortiz Urcue ("the proposed beneficiaries"). According to the request, the proposed beneficiary Erika Vanessa was recruited by an armed group on November 11, 2023, when she was a minor,<sup>2</sup> and her whereabouts have since been unknown. It is also reported that her mother is receiving threats from the armed group in retaliation for her efforts to find her daughter.
- 2. Pursuant to the provisions of Article 25 (5) of its Rules of Procedure, the Commission requested additional information from the applicants on September 9 and 23, and October 15, 2024. They submitted responses on September 16 and 27, and October 22 and 23, 2024. The Commission requested information from the State on October 25, 2024, which submitted reports on November 1 and 4, 2024.
- 3. Upon analyzing the submissions of fact and law furnished by the parties, the Commission considers that the proposed beneficiaries are in a serious and urgent situation, given that their rights to life and personal integrity are at risk of irreparable harm. Therefore, based on Article 25 of its Rules of Procedure, it requires that Colombia: a) adopt the necessary measures to determine the situation and whereabouts of Erika Vanessa Trochez Ortiz, in order to protect her rights to life, personal integrity, and health; and protect the life and personal integrity of Jazmín Elena Ortiz Urcue; b) implement the necessary measures so that Jazmín Elena Ortiz Urcue can continue with her actions to search for and report on the situation of her daughter, without being subjected to threats, intimidation, harassment, and acts of violence; c) consult and agree upon the measures with the beneficiary Jazmín Elena Ortiz Urcue and their representatives; and d) report on the actions taken to investigate the alleged events that led to the adoption of this precautionary measure, so as to prevent such events from reoccurring.

## II. SUMMARY OF FACTS AND ARGUMENTS

## A. Information provided by the applicants

4. The request stated that both proposed beneficiaries are indigenous people from the Nasa community and are part of the Kwes Kiwe Nasa Indigenous Reserve in Jamundí. As context, it was noted that the municipality of Jamundí, Valle del Cauca, is one of the areas most affected by the armed conflict in Colombia, with a marked intensification of violence beginning in 2020. The request attributes this to the increased coca

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In accordance with Article 17.2 of the Rules of Procedure of the IACHR, the Commissioner Carlos Bernal Pulido, of Colombian nationality, did not participate in the debate and deliberation of this matter.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Erika Vanessa Trochez Ortiz had her 18th birthday on April 6, 2024.





cultivation and clashes between armed groups such as the Jaime Martinez Front and the Segunda Marquetalia. At that location, it is alleged that several cases of forced recruitment of minors were documented in both urban and rural areas. Specifically, it was reported that in 2023, at least 70 minors were recruited by illegal armed groups.

- 5. Regarding the proposed beneficiary Erika Vanessa Trochez Ortiz, it was reported that she disappeared from her home on November 11, 2023 without notifying her family. In the documentation attached to the request,<sup>3</sup> it was indicated that "Erika made the decision to leave without informing her family of her destination [...] [and] after three months [Ms. Jazmín Elena] learned that Erika had been seen in the area of Villa Colombia, dressed in a uniform and accompanied by an armed group." The group in question is presumed to be the Jaime Martínez column of the Central General Staff of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC). The applicants described the situation as a forced recruitment.
- 6. On March 31, 2024, Erika secretly contacted her mother and asked for help. She stated that she was allegedly deceived and mistreated where she was held. Consequently, Jazmín Elena contacted the members of the Kwes Kiwe indigenous reserve to support her in aiding her daughter. Thus, on April 1 and 2, 2024, the indigenous council and Ms. Jazmín Elena went to the armed group's camp in the village of Villa Colombia in an attempt to rescue Erika Vanessa. However, the commanders of the Jaime Martínez column reportedly opposed her release, arguing that Erika had signed a five-year 'contract' and was 'happy' in the organization. One of the commanders allegedly threatened to kill Ms. Jazmín Elena and pointed a gun at her head to stop her from taking her daughter. Due to this situation, the indigenous council withdrew Ms. Jazmín Elena from the location and decided to discontinue their support in her search, fearing the threats they had received.
- 7. Since that meeting, communication between mother and daughter was temporarily been interrupted. Some time later, Ms. Jazmín Elena's eldest son met with Erika, who reportedly told him that she had not signed any document and that the local authorities did not allow her to communicate freely. In addition, she revealed that she was under strict surveillance and that she had been prohibited from any contact with her family. The last reported contact with the proposed beneficiary Erika took place on September 1, 2024, when she had a brief phone call with her mother Jazmin Elena and reiterated her desire to escape from the group. During that conversation, Erika Vanessa allegedly gave her subtle clues about her location, mentioning that she was possibly between Chocó and Buenaventura. She described hot weather, lack of work in the area, and that she had learned to drive boats. She also mentioned having seen the *Se Busca Nuestra Hija* (We are Searching for Our Daughter) campaign of the National Mothers and Women Movement for Peace, which motivated her to contact her family. Since then, there has been no news of Erika Vanessa and her current situation is unknown.
- 8. From May to August 2024, unknown persons prowled the mother's home in the district of San Antonio. Her family reportedly received anonymous calls urging her to stop looking for Erika. In September 2024, Ms. Jazmín traveled to the district of Buenaventura, from where she distributed flyers and made social media posts to find her daughter. Regarding the administrative and judicial complaints filed about Erika's situation, the following are mentioned:
  - Jazmín Elena went to the Municipal Office of Jamundí. However, it is alleged that she was not provided with any assistance, nor was a new date set to resolve the matter.
  - The right to petition was filed with the Colombian Family Welfare Institute (ICBF, by its Spanish acronym). No progress is reported regarding her request.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Narrative of complaint submitted by email to the Office of the Attorney General, the Presidency of the Republic, and the Colombian Family Welfare Institute dated September 2, 2024.





- With the support of the National Movement of Mothers and Women for Peace, the proposed beneficiary Jazmín filed a complaint with the Office of the Attorney General on September 2, 2024. The applicants complain that the Urgent Search Mechanism has not been activated,<sup>4</sup> nor has there been any news of progress in the investigations.
- The events were reported to the Presidency of the Republic on September 2, 2024, which forwarded the matter to the ICBF and the Office of the Attorney General on September 9, 2024.
- 9. Lastly, the request alleges a lack of immediate and effective action by the competent authorities to rescue the proposed beneficiary Erika Vanessa, and to protect Ms. Jazmín Elena following the threats she allegedly received. They allege that Erika Vanessa could be facing profound emotional and psychological effects. In this regard, it is noted that the adolescent has a history of depressive episodes which included self-harm and suicidal ideation. These reportedly have required psychiatric medication, as evidenced by the medical documentation provided.<sup>5</sup> In addition to the above, she is distanced from her cultural environment as a young indigenous woman, thus depriving her of her roots and traditions. According to the request, this could affect her identity and the social fabric of her community.

# B. Response from the State

- 10. The State requested the dismissal of this request for precautionary measures, arguing that, although there are known risk factors, they have not been brought to the attention of the State through the established internal procedures. This reportedly affects the proper implementation of protection, prevention, and investigation measures in favor of the proposed beneficiary.
- 11. In the report submitted on November 1, 2024, the State indicated that it had requested information regarding the alleged events from the Presidential Advisory for Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law, the Colombian Family Welfare Institute, the Jamundí City Hall, the Jamundí Ombudsperson's Office, the Municipal Ombudsperson's Office, the Office of the Attorney General, the National Protection Unit, the National Institute of Legal Medicine and Forensic Sciences, the National Commission for the Search of Missing Persons, and the Ministry of National Defense.
- 12. In an email dated October 30, 2024, the Presidential Advisory for Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law stated that the Technical Secretariat of the Intersectoral Commission for the Prevention of Recruitment, Use, and Sexual Violence Against Children, Adolescents, and Young People by Non-State Armed Groups and Organized Crime Groups (CIPRUNNA) had not received any information or reports related to the proposed beneficiary, Erika Vanessa Trochez Ortiz.
- 13. On October 31, 2024, the National Institute of Legal Medicine and Forensic Sciences issued an official statement, indicating that, according to the entity's databases, the proposed beneficiary Erika Vanessa Trochez Ortiz had not been reported as a missing person, nor deceased, nor had she been treated at the Institute's forensic clinic service. In this regard, it is emphasized that the proposed beneficiary matter must be reported in the National Missing Persons Registry to expand the search, cross-reference with unidentified bodies in the system, and coordinate information with any of the proposed beneficiary's family members.

 $^4$  Established in domestic legislation regulating the search for missing persons, as provided in Law 971 of 2005, which governs the search for missing persons.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Attached is the medical record issued by COOSALUD, a health promoting entity, in which it is stated that the then child had self-harmed and suicidal ideation in 2020, for which she was diagnosed with an episode of moderate depression in August 2020 and treatment with setralin tab 50MG was prescribed. The file also shows that in May and July 2023 she was referred by her school for psychological evaluation due to poor school performance and lack of motivation.





14. For its part, the Directorate of Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs undertook the decision to submit updated information on the actions taken by the State regarding the alleged facts, as well as the State's considerations.

## III. ANALYSIS OF THE ELEMENTS OF SERIOUSNESS, URGENCY, AND IRREPARABLE HARM

- 15. The mechanism of precautionary measures is part of the Commission's function of overseeing compliance with the human rights obligations set forth in Article 106 of the Charter of the Organization of American States. These general oversight functions are provided for in Article 41(b) of the American Convention on Human Rights, as well as in Article 18(b) of the Statute of the IACHR. The mechanism of precautionary measures is set forth in Article 25 of the Commission's Rules of Procedure. In accordance with that Article, the Commission grants precautionary measures in serious and urgent situations in which these measures are necessary to avoid irreparable harm to persons.
- The Inter-American Commission and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights ("the Inter-American Court" or "I/A Court H.R.") have established repeatedly that precautionary and provisional measures have a dual nature, both protective and precautionary. Regarding the protective nature, these measures seek to avoid irreparable harm and to protect the exercise of human rights. To do this, the IACHR shall assess the problem raised, the effectiveness of state actions to address the situation described, and how vulnerable the persons proposed as beneficiaries would be left in case the measures are not adopted. As for their precautionary nature, these measures have the purpose of preserving legal situations while under the study of the IACHR. Their precautionary nature aims at safeguarding the rights at risk until the petition pending before the inter-American system is resolved. Their objective and purpose are to ensure the integrity and effectiveness of an eventual decision on the merits, and, thus, avoid any further infringement of the rights at issue, a situation that may render moot or disprove the useful effect *effet utile* of the final decision. In this regard, precautionary or provisional measures allow the State concerned to comply with the final decision and, if necessary, implement the ordered reparations. In the process of reaching a decision, according to Article 25(2) of its Rules of Procedure, the Commission considers that:
  - a. "serious situation" refers to a grave impact that an action or omission can have on a protected right or on the eventual effect of a pending decision in a case or petition before the organs of the inter-American system;
  - b. "urgent situation" refers to risk or threat that is imminent and can materialize, thus requiring immediate preventive or protective action; and

<sup>6</sup> I/A Court H.R., <u>Matter of the Yare I and Yare II Capital Region Penitentiary Center</u>, Provisional Measures regarding the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Order of March 30, 2006, considerandum 5; Case of Carpio Nicolle et al. v. Guatemala, Provisional Measures, Order of July 6, 2009, considerandum 16 (Available only in Spanish).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> I/A Court H.R., <u>Matter of Capital El Rodeo I and El Rodeo II Judicial Confinement Center</u>, Provisional Measures regarding Venezuela, Order of February 8, 2008, considerandum 8; <u>Case of Bámaca Velásquez</u>, Provisional measures regarding Guatemala, Order of January 27, 2009, considerandum 45; <u>Matter of Fernández Ortega et al.</u>, Provisional measures regarding Mexico, Order of April 30, 2009, considerandum 5; <u>Matter of Milagro Sala</u>, Provisional measures regarding Argentina, Order of November 23, 2017, considerandum 5. (Available only in Spanish)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> I/A Court H.R., <u>Matter of Milagro Sala</u>, Provisional Measures regarding Argentina, Order of November 23, 2017, considerandum 5 (Available only in Spanish); <u>Matter of Capital El Rodeo I and El Rodeo II Judicial Confinement Center</u>, Provisional Measures regarding Venezuela, Order of February 8, 2008, considerandum 9; <u>Matter of the Criminal Institute of Plácido de Sá Carvalho</u>, Provisional Measures regarding Brazil, Order of February 13, 2017, considerandum 6 (Available only in Spanish).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> I/A Court H.R., <u>Matter of Capital El Rodeo I and El Rodeo II Judicial Confinement Center</u>, Provisional Measures regarding Venezuela, Order of February 8, 2008, considerandum 7; <u>Matter of "El Nacional" and "Así es la Noticia" newspapers</u>, Provisional Measures regarding Venezuela, Order of November 25, 2008, considerandum 23; <u>Matter of Luis Uzcátegui</u>, Provisional Measures regarding Venezuela, Order of January 27, 2009, considerandum 19 (Available only in Spanish).





- c. "irreparable harm" refers to injury to rights which, due to their nature, would not be susceptible to reparation, restoration or adequate compensation.
- 17. In analyzing those requirements, the Commission reiterates that the facts supporting a request for precautionary measures need not be proven beyond doubt; rather, the information provided should be assessed from a *prima facie* standard. Similarly, the Commission recalls that, by its own mandate, it is not called upon to determine any individual liabilities for the facts alleged. Moreover, in this proceeding, it is not called upon to determine any violation of the rights enshrined in the American Convention or other applicable instruments. This is better suited to be addressed by the Petition and Case system. The following analysis refers exclusively to the requirements of Article 25 of its Rules of Procedure, which can be resolved without making any determination on the merits. 12
- 18. In this sense, pursuant to Article 25, paragraph 6, the Commission highlights that it has been closely monitoring the escalation of structural violence in Colombia in general, and the situation in the Department of Valle del Cauca in particular. Considering that the proposed beneficiary Erika Vanessa was a child when she was recruited by the armed group, following its on-site visit to Colombia in April 2024, the Commission assessed the information received by the State regarding the recruitment of children and adolescents in Colombia by non-state armed groups and criminal organizations. The development of risk indicators for forced recruitment was emphasized to identify municipalities that should be prioritized in public policy. Thus, it was identified that some of the 93 municipalities with a higher risk of recruitment events are located in the department of Valle del Cauca. 13
- During the aforementioned visit, the IACHR received information about the scourge of the forced recruitment of indigenous, Afro-descendant, and rural children and adolescents by non-state armed groups and criminal organizations, which are believed to have developed various methods of recruitment. These include kidnapping, monitoring of children and adolescents in educational centers, and coercive persuasion. In this latter case, within the context of limited opportunities and widespread poverty, displays of power and material resources are used as a strategy to attract and provide family support for the recruitment of children and adolescents. Furthermore, according to the information received by the IACHR, armed groups often relocate victims of forced recruitment to areas far from their communities and familiar territories, making it more difficult for their families to search for them and for efforts to secure their disengagement. In addition, other armed groups keep recruitment victims in their territories to ensure greater control of community spaces, including schools. In this context, victims of recruitment were allegedly found after being brutally murdered. The Commission also highlighted the gender-based violence faced by Colombian women, girls, and adolescents. In territories controlled by non-state armed groups, women and girls who are indigenous, Afrodescendant, from farming communities, migrant, disabled, and live in rural areas are the main victims of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> I/A Court H.R., <u>Matter of Members of the Miskitu Indigenous Peoples of the North Caribbean Coast regarding Nicaragua</u>, Extension of Provisional Measures, Order of August 23, 2018, considerandum 13 (Available only in Spanish); <u>Matter of children and adolescents deprived of liberty in the "Complexo do Tatuapé" of the Fundação CASA</u>, Provisional Measures regarding Brazil, Order of July 4, 2006, considerandum 23.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> IACHR, <u>Resolution 2/2015</u>, Precautionary Measure No. 455-13, Matter of Nestora Salgado regarding Mexico, January 28, 2015, para. 14; <u>Resolution 37/2021</u>, Precautionary Measure No. 96-21, Gustavo Adolfo Mendoza Beteta and family regarding Nicaragua, April 30, 2021, para. 33.

<sup>12</sup> In this regard, the Court has stated that "[it] cannot, in a provisional measure, consider the merits of any arguments pertaining to issues other than those which relate strictly to the extreme gravity and urgency and the necessity to avoid irreparable damage to persons." I/A Court H.R., Matter of James et al. regarding Trinidad and Tobago, Provisional Measures, Order of August 29, 1998, considerandum 6 (Available only in Spanish); Case of the Barrios Family v. Venezuela, Provisional Measures, Order of April 22, 2021, considerandum 2 (Available only in Spanish).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> IACHR, Preliminary Observations, On-site Visit to Colombia, April 15-19, 2024, page 11 (Available only in Spanish).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> IACHR, Preliminary Observations, previously cited, p. 11.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> IACHR, Preliminary Observations, previously cited, p. 10.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> IACHR, Preliminary Observations, previously cited, p. 10.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> IACHR, Preliminary Observations, previously cited, p. 10.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> IACHR, Preliminary Observations, previously cited, p. 10.





multiple forms of violence.<sup>19</sup> In the same vein, the IACHR has expressed concern about the situation of sexual violence in the Pacific region, which includes Valle del Cauca, as it has been informed about the increase in this type of violence against girls, adolescents, and women, particularly indigenous and Afro-descendant women.<sup>20</sup> In this regard, in its 2023 Annual Report, the Commission identified the ongoing acts of violence derived from armed conflicts in Colombia, with a special impact on certain groups, such as indigenous peoples, women, and girls.<sup>21</sup> This situation was mainly concentrated in some departments of Colombia, among which the Valle del Cauca stands out.<sup>22</sup>

- 20. These contextual elements are relevant to the extent that they show seriousness and consistency in the allegations presented regarding the proposed beneficiaries.
- 21. In this regard, when assessing the *seriousness* requirement, the Commission considers, in addition to the context outlined, the situation faced by the proposed beneficiary, Erika Vanessa, an adolescent who was possibly recruited by illegal armed groups in November 2023, just a few months before turning 18 years old. During the contact made after her recruitment, the Commission understands that she was able to call her relatives secretly to request to be rescued on more than one occasion. In this communications, she also expressed that she had been mistreated. Although the request reports that the adolescent may be in the district of Buenaventura, her exact whereabouts, living conditions, and health have been unknown since September 1, 2024. Given the above, the Commission considers the current situation faced by the proposed beneficiary, Erika Vanessa, to be serious, as nearly two months have passed since her current whereabouts became unknown and eleven months since she was reportedly unable to return to her family, having been held by members of an armed group.
- 22. In addition to the foregoing, the Commission takes note of the information provided by the applicants regarding Erika Vanessa's medical history, as she has previously received psychological and psychiatric treatment for her mental health. Therefore, the Commission considers it to be an extremely serious fact that she is isolated from her family and social circle, in a violent environment, where she is believed to be mistreated and held against her will.
- 23. Regarding Erika Vanessa's mother, the Commission observes that the request indicated that she has been receiving death threats since she began the search for her daughter. It was reported that she had gone to the camp where the armed group operated, and a members had allegedly pointed a gun at her. Given that, according to the request, Ms. Jazmín Elena continues her efforts to rescue her daughter from the armed group holding her, the Commission considers that the proposed beneficiary is in a situation of serious risk, as the armed group has identified her and threatened to take her life if she continues searching for her daughter.
- 24. Upon requesting information from the State, the Commission takes note of its request to dismiss the request for precautionary measures on the grounds that the facts regarding the proposed beneficiary Erika Vanessa were not brought to its attention through the established procedures. Similarly, the State did not refer to the situation of Ms. Jazmín Elena, her mother.
- 25. In response to the State's argument, the Commission reminds that the applicants submitted documentation of the complaint filed with the Office of the Attorney General on September 2, 2024, as well as the petitions made to the Presidency of the Republic and the Colombian Family Welfare Institute, along with the acknowledgment of receipt from these bodies. In this sense, the Commission considers it important to recall

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> IACHR, Preliminary Observations, previously cited, p. 12.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> IACHR, Press Release 208/23, <u>IACHR Concerned About Violence in Colombia's Pacific Region and About the Impact It Has on Indigenous Peoples and on Afro-Descendant and Peasant Communities, September 1, 2023.</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> IACHR, 2023 Annual Report, Ch. IV.a, Colombia. OEA/Ser.L/V/II. Doc. 386 rev. 1, approved on December 31, 2023, para. 252.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> IACHR, 2023 Annual Report, previously cited, para. 252.





that, as it has done in other matters,<sup>23</sup> when an authority becomes aware of a situation that threatens a person's life, that authority has "a responsibility to be aware of a situation of special risk, to identify or determine whether the person being threatened or harassed requires protection measures or to refer the matter to the competent authority for that purpose", and who must "offer the person at risk pertinent information on the measures available." The Commission has stressed the importance of national mechanisms or programmes for the protection of human rights defenders, given that they can encourage timely and specialized intervention, taking into account all the contextual and specific aspects when analysing the risk situation of a human rights defender.<sup>25</sup>

- 26. Consequently, the Commission observes that the State was reportedly made aware of the alleged situation of risk through internal complaints, as well as through these proceedings. However, the Commission does not have specific information to indicate that the alleged situation that places the proposed beneficiaries at risk was assessed comprehensively by the competent authorities. There was also no information on whether the reasons why this protection is not considered applicable were established. In this regard, when assessing the alleged risk situation, as it has in other cases, the Commission considers the absence of protection measures for the proposed beneficiaries, as well as any justification provided by the competent authorities for considering such measures unnecessary.<sup>26</sup>
- 27. In these circumstances, based on the *prima facie* standard applicable to the precautionary measures mechanism, the Commission concludes that it is established that there is a serious risk to the rights to life, personal integrity, and health of Erika Vanessa Trochez Ortiz, whose whereabouts are unknown to date as she is allegedly being held against her will by an armed group; as well as for the rights to life and personal integrity of her mother, Jazmín Elena Ortiz Urcue, in Colombia.
- Regarding the *urgency* requirement, the Commission considers that it has been met, inasmuch while the circumstances that the proposed beneficiary Erika Vanessa faces, the passage of time in itself is likely to lead to the materialization of further violations of her rights to health, personal integrity, and life. In addition, there has reportedly been no updates on current whereabouts, her living conditions, or her physical or mental health since September 1, 2024. The applicants claim that, due to her history of mental health, she requires medical attention. Regarding the proposed beneficiary Jazmín Elena, the Commission considers that the persistence over time of her search actions, despite the threats received from the armed group, increase the probability of the imminent materialization of the threats. In these circumstances, the Commission considers it urgent to immediately adopt measures to safeguard the rights of the proposed beneficiaries, especially given that the State has not reported any actions taken to mitigate the risk to which they are exposed.
- 29. As it pertains to the requirement of *irreparable harm*, the Commission considers that it is met, to the extent that the possible impact to the rights to life, personal integrity, and health, by its very nature, constitutes a maximum situation of irreparability.

## IV. BENEFICIARIES

30. The Commission declares as the beneficiaries of the precautionary measures Erika Vanessa Trochez Ortiz and Jazmín Elena Ortiz Urcue, who are duly identified in this proceeding.

 $^{23}$  IACHR Resolution 67/2018, Precautionary Measure No. 807-18, Matter of Yaku Pérez Guartambel regarding Ecuador, January 28, 2018, para. 29-31.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> I/A Court H.R., <u>Case of Luna López v. Honduras</u>, Merits, Reparations, and Costs, Judgment of October 10, 2013, para. 127.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> IACHR, Second Report on the Situation of Human Rights Defenders in the Americas. OEA/Ser.L/V/II.Doc. 66, December 31, 2011 para 484

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> IACHR, <u>Resolution 57/2018</u>, Precautionary Measure No. 767-18, Mônica Tereza Azeredo regarding Brazil, August 1, 2018 (Available in Portuguese and Spanish); IACHR, <u>Resolution 4/2018</u>, Precautionary Measure No. 1018-17, Matter of Joaquín Mejía Rivera and his family regarding Honduras, January 28, 2018 (Available only in Spanish).





### V. DECISION

- 31. In view of the aforementioned background, the IACHR considers that this matter meets *prima facie* the requirements of seriousness, urgency and irreparable harm set forth in Article 25 of its Rules of Procedure. Consequently, the Commission requests that Colombia:
  - a) adopt the necessary measures to determine the situation and whereabouts of Erika Vanessa Trochez Ortiz, in order to protect her rights to life, personal integrity, and health; and protect the life and personal integrity of Jazmín Elena Ortiz Urcue;
  - b) implement the necessary measures so that Jazmín Elena Ortiz Urcue can continue with her actions to search for and report on the situation of her daughter, without being subjected to threats, intimidation, harassment, and acts of violence;
  - c) consult and agree upon the measures with the beneficiary Jazmín Elena Ortiz Urcue and their representatives; and
  - d) report on the actions taken to investigate the alleged events that led to the adoption of this precautionary measure, so as to prevent such events from reoccurring.
- 32. The Commission requests that Colombia report, within 15 days from the date of notification of this resolution, on the adoption of the requested precautionary measures and update that information periodically.
- 33. The Commission emphasizes that, pursuant to Article 25(8) of the Commission's Rules of Procedure, the granting of precautionary measures and their adoption by the State do not constitute a prejudgment regarding the possible violation of the rights protected in the American Convention and other applicable instruments.
- 34. The Commission instructs its Executive Secretariat to notify this resolution to the State of Colombia and the applicants.
- 35. Approved on November 17, 2024 by Roberta Clarke, President; José Luis Caballero Ochoa, Second Vice-President; Edgar Stuardo Ralón Orellana; Arif Bulkan; Andrea Pochak; and Gloria Monique de Mees, members of the IACHR.

Tania Reneaum Panszi Executive Secretary