
**INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
RESOLUTION 74/2025**

Precautionary Measures No. 1326-25 and 1372-25

**Álvaro Antonio Baltodano Cantarero and nine other persons
regarding Nicaragua**
October 27, 2025
Original: Spanish

I. INTRODUCTION

1. On September 11 and 18, 2025, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (“the Inter-American Commission”, “the Commission” or “the IACHR”) received two requests for precautionary measures presented by *Asociación Unidad de Defensa Jurídica, Registro y Memoria para Nicaragua - AUDJUDRNIC* (“the requesting party” or “the applicants”), urging the Commission to require that the State of Nicaragua (the “State” or “Nicaragua”) adopt the necessary measures to protect the rights to life, personal integrity, and health of ten identified persons (“the proposed beneficiaries”). According to the request, all of the proposed beneficiaries are recognized or perceived as political opponents of the current Nicaraguan government; they were detained by state authorities between May and August 2025; and their whereabouts, fate, or detention conditions are currently unknown.

2. The Commission requested additional information from the applicants on September 16, 2025 and received a response on September 17, 2025. Pursuant to Article 25 (5) of the Rules of Procedure, the Commission requested information from the State on September 19 and 23, 2025. To date, the State has not responded to the Commission and the granted deadline has expired.

3. Upon analyzing the submissions of fact and law furnished by the applicants, the Commission considers that the information provided showed *prima facie* that the proposed beneficiaries were in a serious and urgent situation, given that their rights to life, personal integrity, and health were at serious risk of irreparable harm. Therefore, the IACHR requests that Nicaragua: a) adopt the necessary measures to determine the situation and whereabouts of the beneficiaries, in order to protect their rights to life, personal integrity, and health; b) formally indicate if the beneficiaries have been charged with any crime and/or whether they have been brought before the appropriate judicial authority. If not, clarify the reason for their detention without charges and without judicial supervision; c) clarify the circumstances and conditions of their detention, including the place of their detention. In particular, guarantee regular contact with their families, trusted legal representatives, and consular authorities of the country of which they are nationals; d) immediately carry out a comprehensive medical assessment to determine the wellbeing of those with health conditions, and guarantee adequate care through the precise definition of medical treatment, and allow timely access to the required medications, while consulting and agreeing upon the measures to be adopted with the beneficiaries and their representatives; and e) report on the actions taken to investigate the alleged facts that led to the adoption of this resolution, so as to prevent such events from reoccurring.

II. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

4. Following the beginning of the crisis of the human rights situation in Nicaragua and the working visit carried out in May 2018, the Commission formed the Special Follow-up Mechanism for Nicaragua (MESENI) in order to follow up on the recommendations made to the State, as well as to maintain the respective monitoring for the purposes relevant to the mandates of the IACHR.¹ Similarly, the IACHR installed the

¹ IACHR, Press Release No. 134/18, [IACHR Issues Report on Nicaragua’s Serious Human Rights Situation](#), June 22, 2018; Press Release No. 135/18, [IACHR Launches Special Monitoring Mechanism for Nicaragua \(MESENI\)](#), June 25, 2018; Press Release No. 274/18,

Interdisciplinary Group of Independent Experts (GIEI) of Nicaragua, which issued a report that analyzed the events that took place in April and May 2018.² For its part, the IACHR decided to include Nicaragua in its Annual Report in Chapter IV.b as of 2018, in accordance with the grounds established in its Rules of Procedure.³ In parallel, the Commission, under its monitoring mandate, has issued reports on the human rights situation in Nicaragua. These reports include a series of recommendations to the State aimed at ensuring the respect and protection of individuals' rights in accordance with its international obligations.⁴

5. In addition to the above, the Commission has consistently issued statements and included concerns in its annual report, highlighting the escalating crisis and serious human rights violations in the country from multiple perspectives. In addition, the Commission has addressed the persistence of acts of persecution;⁵ the intensification of surveillance, harassment, and selective repression against individuals seen as opponents of the government, human rights defenders, and independent journalists;⁶ the widespread impunity and the prolonged breakdown of the rule of law;⁷ the criminalization of opposition leaders;⁸ the deportation of people deprived of liberty due to political reasons and the loss of nationality;⁹ the death of opponents which are deprived of their liberty¹⁰ the confiscation of property, bank accounts, pensions, and other economic reprisals as a form of punishment and violence against those perceived as opponents of the regime;¹¹ the escalation of repression against members of the Catholic Church, which has spread to other religious denominations;¹² the absence of conditions for free and fair elections in the country;¹³ the arbitrary

Press Release about Nicaragua, December 19, 2018; Press Release No. 113/20, [Two Years After Visit to Nicaragua, IACHR Condemns Lack of Compliance with its Recommendations and Calls on the State to Urgently Implement Them](#), May 16, 2020.

² IACHR, Press Release No. 145/18, [IACHR Announces Establishment of Interdisciplinary Group of Independent Experts for Nicaragua](#), July 2, 2018; GIEI, [Report on the events of violence that occurred between April 18 and May 30, 2018](#) December 21, 2018.

³ IACHR, 2018 Annual Report, [Chapter IV.B Nicaragua](#); 2019 Annual Report, [Chapter IV.B Nicaragua](#), February 24, 2020; 2020 Annual Report, [Chapter IV.B Nicaragua](#), February 2, 2021; 2021 Annual Report, [Chapter IV.B Nicaragua](#), May 2022; 2023 Annual Report, [Chapter IV.B Nicaragua](#), December 31, 2023; Annual Report 2024, Chapter IV.B Nicaragua, March 26, 2025.

⁴ IACHR [Report: Closure of Civic Space in Nicaragua](#), OEA/Ser.L/VIII.Doc.212/23, September 23, 2023; [Persons deprived of liberty in Nicaragua in connection with the human rights crisis that began on April 18, 2018](#), OEA/Ser.L/V/II. Doc.285, October 5, 2020; [Report on Forced Migration of Nicaraguans to Costa Rica](#), OEA/Ser.L/V/II. Doc.150, September 7, 2019; [Report on Gross Human Rights Violations in the Context of Social Protests in Nicaragua](#), OEA/Ser.L/V/II. Doc.86, June 21, 2018.

⁵ IACHR, [IACHR denounces the weakening of the rule of law in the face of serious human rights violations and crimes against humanity in Nicaragua](#), January 10, 2019; [IACHR condemns the persistence of acts of repression in Nicaragua in the context of the Negotiating Table](#), April 5, 2019.

⁶ IACHR, Press Release No. 80/20, [Two Years into Nicaragua's Human Rights Crisis, the IACHR Stresses its Permanent Commitment to Victims and Confirms the Consolidation of a Fifth Phase of Repression](#), April 18, 2020. Press Release 152/21, [IACHR Condemns the Serious Escalation of Repression in Nicaragua](#), June 18, 2021.

⁷ IACHR, Press Release No. 93/21, [Three Years After the Start of the Human Rights Crisis in Nicaragua, IACHR Condemns Ongoing Impunity](#), April 19, 2021.

⁸ IACHR, Press Release No. 145/21, [IACHR and OHCHR Categorically Condemn Criminal Prosecution of Presidential Precandidates and Urge State of Nicaragua to Release Them Immediately](#), June 9, 2021; Press Release No. 172/21, [Nicaragua: IACHR and OHCHR Demand an End to Arbitrary Arrests and the Release of All Individuals Detained Since the Start of the Crisis in Nicaragua](#), July 9, 2021. Press Release 238/21, [IACHR and OHCHR Condemn Criminalization, Failure to Enforce Due Process, and Serious Conditions of Detention for Individuals Who are Perceived to Be Government Critics in Nicaragua, September 10, 2021](#); Press Release [RD026/22, REDESCA Condemns the Cancellation of the Membership of 26 Universities and Associations for Academic and Social Purposes by the National Assembly of Nicaragua, February 10, 2022](#).

⁹ IACHR, Press Release No. 021/23, [IACHR Welcomes Release of Political Prisoners in Nicaragua and Rejects Arbitrary Deprivation of Nationality](#), February 13, 2023; Press Release No. 137/25, [IACHR Expresses Concern over New Violations of the Right to Nationality in Nicaragua](#), July 10, 2025

¹⁰ IACHR, Press Release No. 198/25, [Nicaragua: IACHR Condemns the Death of Two Opponents Deprived of Liberty](#), September 26, 2025.

¹¹ IACHR, Closure of Civic Space in Nicaragua, OEA/Ser.L/V/II., Doc. 212/23, September 23, 2023, para. 9.

¹² IACHR, Press Release No. 184/22, [IACHR Condemns Repression and Arrests of Members of the Catholic Church in Nicaragua](#), August 19, 2022; Annual Report 2024, Chapter IV.B Nicaragua, March 26, 2025, para. 74

¹³ IACHR, Press Release No. 248/22, [IACHR Warns of the Lack of Appropriate Conditions for Holding Free, Fair Municipal Elections in Nicaragua](#), November 4, 2022.

detention of human rights defenders, journalists, and religious figures;¹⁴ and the government's repressive strategy to silence critical voices to the government ahead of the 2024 regional elections.¹⁵

6. Considering the above, the Commission has urged the State of Nicaragua, among other aspects, to fulfill its obligations in the field of human rights;¹⁶ implement the recommendations issued by the IACHR;¹⁷ cease acts of persecution against individuals identified as opponents of the government and restoration of democratic guarantees;¹⁸ release individuals who remain arbitrarily detained under inadequate detention conditions;¹⁹ restore and ensure the full enjoyment of civil and political rights;²⁰ and put an end to the repression and persecution of those seeking the return of democracy in Nicaragua or exercising their public freedoms.²¹ On June 11, 2024, the Commission and its Office of the Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Expression (SRFoE, or RELE for its acronym in Spanish) expressed their concern about the serious situation of persons arbitrarily deprived of liberty in Nicaragua and urged that their lives and integrity be guaranteed and that they be released immediately.²²

7. The Commission observed that on September 5, 2024, 135 individuals considered opponents of the regime who were arbitrarily detained in Nicaragua under deplorable conditions and allegations of torture and ill-treatment were released and transferred to Guatemala. However, it condemned the arbitrary deprivation of their Nicaraguan nationality and the seizure of their assets. On this matter, the IACHR urged Nicaragua to guarantee the right to nationality, to cease repression in the country and to release all people who continue to be arbitrarily detained.²³ Seven years having elapsed since the crisis in Nicaragua began, the IACHR condemned the consolidation of the authoritarian regime; expressed its solidarity with the victims and families of the serious human rights violations perpetrated since April 18, 2018; recalled the more than 300 people who lost their lives in the context of state repression; and reaffirmed its commitment to promote and protect human rights in Nicaragua.²⁴

¹⁴ IACHR, Press Release No. 123/23, [IACHR Rejects Continued Repression and Human Rights Violations in Nicaragua](#), June 16, 2023; Press Release No. 184/23, [Nicaragua: IACHR and OHCHR Urge the State to Release Monsignor Rolando Álvarez and Guarantee his Human Rights](#), August 18, 2023; Press Release No. 218/23, [IACHR Urges the State of Nicaragua to Cease Persecution against the Catholic Church](#), September 15, 2023.

¹⁵ IACHR, Press Release No. 243/23, [IACHR and RELE: Nicaragua must cease repression against indigenous communities of the Caribbean Coast](#), October 10, 2023.

¹⁶ IACHR, Press Release No. 6/19, [IACHR Denounces the Weakening of the Rule of Law in the Face of Grave Human Rights Violations and Crimes against Humanity in Nicaragua](#), January 10, 2019; Press Release No. 26/19, [IACHR Denounces Escalation of Attacks on the Press and Persistence of Human Rights Violations in Nicaragua](#), February 6, 2019; Press Release No. 90/19, [IACHR Condemns Persistence of Acts of Repression in Nicaragua in the Context of the Negotiating Table](#), April 5, 2019.

¹⁷ IACHR, Press Release No. 113/20, [Two years after its visit to Nicaragua, the IACHR warns and condemns the non-compliance with its recommendations and urgently calls on the State to implement them](#), May 16, 2020.

¹⁸ IACHR, Press Release [No. 249/20. IACHR Calls for the Immediate Cessation of Acts of Persecution against Persons Identified as Opponents of the Government and the Reestablishment of Democratic Guarantees in Nicaragua](#), October 10, 2020.

¹⁹ IACHR, Press Release No. 145/21, [IACHR and OHCHR Categorically Condemn the Criminal Prosecution of Presidential Pre-candidates and Urge the State of Nicaragua to Immediately Release Them](#), June 9, 2021; Press Release No. 171/21, [IACHR and OHCHR Demand an End to Arbitrary Arrests and the Release of All Individuals Detained Since the Start of the Crisis in Nicaragua](#), June 9, 2021; Press Release No. 197/2022, [IACHR and REDESCA: Urge immediate release of political prisoners in deplorable conditions in Nicaragua](#), September 5, 2022.

²⁰ IACHR, Press Release R218/22, [In light of serious allegations regarding the closure of civic spaces in Nicaragua, UN and IACHR Special Rapporteurs urge authorities to comply with their international obligations to respect and guarantee fundamental freedoms](#), September 28, 2022.

²¹ IACHR, Press Release [No. 24/2023. IACHR and OHCHR Condemn Escalation of Human Rights Violations in Nicaragua](#), February 17, 2023.

²² IACHR, Press Release No. 132/2024, [Nicaragua: IACHR Urges to Guarantee the Life and Integrity of Persons Arbitrarily Detained and to Immediately Release Them](#), June 11, 2024.

²³ IACHR, Press Release No. 217/24, [IACHR condemns arbitrary revocation of nationality of 135 recently released prisoners in Nicaragua](#), September 13, 2024.

²⁴ IACHR, Press Release No. 73/25, [Seven Years After the Start of the Crisis in Nicaragua, IACHR Condemns Consolidation of Authoritarian Regime](#), April 14, 2025.

8. Added to this context is the intensification of repression by the Nicaraguan regime beyond its borders, which affects people in situations of human mobility and opponents of the government.²⁵ In this context, on July 14, 2025, the Commission publicly condemned the murder of retired Major Roberto Samcam,²⁶ which occurred on June 19, 2025, at his residence in San José, Costa Rica, after he was attacked by an individual who, posing as a courier, shot him multiple times. The MESENI has also received information about acts of persecution and harassment against Nicaraguan civil society organizations operating in various states, which continue to carry out their work of reporting abuses and accompanying victims from exile.²⁷

9. Lastly, the Commission reaffirmed its jurisdiction over Nicaragua and continues to fulfill its monitoring mandates through MESENI, as well as through the analysis and processing of cases, petitions, and precautionary measures.²⁸ In this regard, the Commission emphasized that the State of Nicaragua has obligations based on all the international instruments it is a party to, such as the American Convention on Human Rights.²⁹

III. SUMMARY OF FACTS AND ARGUMENTS

A. Information provided by the requesting party

- **Precautionary Measure No. 1326-25 (*Álvaro Antonio Baltodano Cantarero and Álvaro Baltodano Monroy*).**

10. According to the request, the proposed beneficiaries are a father and son: Álvaro Baltodano Cantarero (73 years old) and Álvaro Baltodano Monroy (46 years old). It was stated that they are members of a family persecuted for being perceived as opponents of the government. In 2021, another family member was the target of an attempted detention during a National Police raid on their residence, conducted as part of an investigation into “receiving financial resources from foreign sources” involving the then leadership of the Nicaraguan Foundation for Economic and Social Development (FUNIDES).

11. *Álvaro Antonio Baltodano Cantarero* is a retired brigadier general and has been a member of the Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN) since the 1970s. He held various government positions representing the FSLN, including: military attaché at the Nicaraguan Embassy in Mexico (1995-2000) and supervisor of free trade zones (2006). He served as Minister Delegate for the Promotion of Investments and Facilitation of Foreign Trade, a position from which he was dismissed on October 31, 2022. The applicants alleged that he was dismissed as political retaliation against former officials and long-time activists who had expressed dissent against the regime.

12. *Álvaro Baltodano Monroy* is a businessman of Mexican and Nicaraguan nationality, linked to a geothermal company that was reportedly taken over by the state representative of the Nicaraguan Electricity Company (ENEL) after he was detained

13. On May 14, 2025, Baltodano Cantarero was detained in the afternoon by members of the Judicial Assistance Directorate (DAJ) during a raid on his ranch. The applicants alleged that he was transferred to the Jorge Navarro Prison Complex, known as “La Modelo,” in Tipitapa, Managua, without any official

²⁵ IACHR, Press Release No. 140/25, [Nicaragua: IACHR condemns transnational repression](#), July 14, 2025.

²⁶ IACHR, Press Release No. 140/25, previously cited. Mr. Samcam, who had been living in exile since 2018, was a renowned political analyst and critic of the regime.

²⁷ IACHR, Press Release No. 140/2025, previously cited.

²⁸ IACHR, Press Release No. 312/2021, [IACHR Stresses Its Competent Jurisdiction Concerning Nicaragua and laments Nicaragua's Decision to Denounce the Charter of the OAS in a Context of Serious Human Rights Violations](#), November 20, 2021.

²⁹ IACHR, Press Release No. 312/2021, previously cited.

explanation or notification of formal charges. They stated that during the operation, the agents seized his computer and phone despite not presenting a search warrant.

14. During the following 30 days, the authorities denied knowing his whereabouts and did not allow any visits. On June 13, 2025, he received his first visit at “La Modelo,” and then a second visit on June 27, 2025. His son Baltodano Monroy was present at these visits. The applicants claimed that “on both occasions he appeared tired, breathless, visibly exhausted, and had lost around 20 pounds.” It was reported that he did not have access to medical treatment, as the physician who visited him “did not carry out thorough assessments or medical examinations.” He reported that his “physical appearance reflected pallor and deterioration due to the lack of health care”. The proposed beneficiary last received visitors on June 27, 2025. Since then, the State has allegedly prohibited further visits and initiated persecution against his family. Since then, his whereabouts and detention conditions have been unknown.

15. On the night of July 21, 2025, civilian police officers and members of the Police Special Operations Directorate (DOEP) detained Baltodano Monroy at a checkpoint on the Ochomogo Bridge on the Pan-American Highway as he was traveling toward Managua. It was alleged that the proposed beneficiary was detained during a police operation directed exclusively at him, after several patrol units were deployed to his residence in the capital to locate him and conduct a search of his residence. During the police checkpoint, he was detained for 40 minutes without any physical aggression. Following this procedure, he was taken into custody. Since then, there has been no information on his whereabouts, grounds for his detention, or health. The situation was described as an “enforced disappearance” within the broader context of the persecution of his family.

16. On June 10, 2025, the media outlet *Confidencial* revealed that, according to a source, Baltodano Cantarero had been sentenced to 20 years in prison for treason and that all his assets had been confiscated.³⁰ On August 14, 2025, the Office of the Attorney General issued a press release accusing the proposed beneficiaries of corruption, tax evasion, and money laundering through geothermal companies.³¹ It was highlighted that Baltodano Monroy’s company was intervened.

17. The applicants state that, despite these reports, no court records have been made available to corroborate the accusations against the proposed beneficiaries or the grounds for a possible conviction. The Nicarao System (which systematizes all court cases nationwide) allegedly contains no reference to criminal proceedings against them. It was alleged that the case file has been withheld, that private lawyers have not been allowed to participate, and that the identities of the judges and prosecutors handling the cases remain unknown.

18. The applicants warned that private attorneys are unable to represent those identified as “political prisoners” or reported victims of enforced disappearance, due to procedural obstacles (such as lack of access to files) and fear of reprisals for bringing the case before the courts. There is alleged persecution of human rights defenders in Nicaragua, which forces them to carry out their activities underground. Despite these limitations, friends and relatives reportedly turned to Mexican diplomats to request their intervention to protect the rights and freedom of Baltodano Monroy, a Mexican-Nicaraguan national, and his father. It was stated that the Nicaraguan authorities have not provided any response regarding his whereabouts or legal situation to Mexican consular representatives.

19. Baltodano Monroy’s detention had a deterrent effect on those close to him, who subsequently refrained from pursuing complaints, arranging visits, or seeking information about his detention and health.

³⁰ *El Confidencial*, [Retired General Álvaro Baltodano sentenced to 20 years in prison and his assets have been confiscated](#), June 10, 2025 [Available only in Spanish].

³¹ *Divergentes*, [Regime accuses Álvaro Baltodano and his son of money laundering and tax evasion to justify confiscation](#), August 14, 2025 [Available only in Spanish].

Some of the individuals who were searching for him left the country to protect their safety and those abroad were denied entry by the government.

20. A lack of medicines and medical treatments was alleged. Regarding their health conditions prior to being detained, it was noted that Baltodano Cantarero is a senior citizen who has high cholesterol, essential tremor disorder (a neurological condition), and cardiac electrical discordance. Up until he was detained, he was known to be taking prescribed medication.

21. It is also noted that Baltodano Monroy has had a coronary stent implanted since late 2024, following the diagnosis of atherosclerotic coronary artery disease (ischemic heart disease), which make strict medical monitoring and specialized care essential. In this regard, the proposed beneficiary is receiving prescription medication for this health issue, which is essential to prevent serious medical complications, and discontinuing this treatment thereby poses a high risk. In addition to this heart condition, he has a generalized anxiety disorder (GAD) with a specific phobia (cardiophobia) and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) triggered by the cardiac event.

22. To adequately manage these latest diagnoses, Mr. Baltodano Monroy requires additional medication treatment. The documents presented included the results of cardiological examinations conducted on September 30, 2024; treatment recommendations for heart conditions based on a study from October 10, 2024; and a medical summary, including required psychiatric treatments, dated August 6, 2025.

- **Precautionary Measure No. 1372-25** (*Octavio Enrique Caldera, Marvin Antonio Campos Chavarría, Chester Jeramil Cortez Narváez, Yerri Gustavo Estrada Ruiz, Larry Javier Martínez Romero, Antonio Mercado López, Luis Francisco Ortiz Calero, and María José Rojas Arbuola*)

23. The proposed beneficiaries have a history of social activism or ties with families identified as opponents of the current Nicaraguan government. The applicants reported that, since participating in the 2018 protests, they have been subjected to death threats, police surveillance, raids, stigmatization, and harassment. It was alleged that the reported events are part of a systematic political persecution against those who were considered leaders or participants in the protests and roadblocks in Jinotepe, Masaya, and other locations in 2018.

24. During a coordinated police operation from August 13 to 15, 2025, in the departments of León, Masaya, Granada, and Carazo, particularly in the cities of Jinotepe and Masaya, all the proposed beneficiaries were detained, and their whereabouts and fate have since been unknown. The applicants pointed out that, in all cases, the agents entered without presenting warrants, using both official patrol cars and unmarked vehicles. The actions were carried out by civilian police officers from the DAJ, in coordination with members of the DOEP, many of whom wore hoods, heightening both the intimidation and the difficulty of identifying those directly responsible.

25. It is alleged that, after they were detained, their relatives undertook a relentless search of various government offices. These include the police stations of the city where they were detained, the delegations of Districts I, II and III of Managua, the offices of the DAJ (known as “El Chipote”), the Plaza El Sol police station in Managua, the Jorge Navarro National Penitentiary System (“La Modelo”) and the Integral Penitentiary Establishment for Women (*Establecimiento Penitenciario Integral de Mujeres*, EPIM) in Tipitapa. In all these institutions, the authorities refused to provide answers about the proposed beneficiaries, and they allegedly transfer family members from one location to another without providing clear explanations. It is claimed that searches were conducted weekly, causing significant emotional and financial strain on the family unit.

26. It was reiterated that they do not have access to any court records that would allow for verification of the charges against them or the grounds for possible convictions. The Nicarao System shows no record of ongoing criminal proceedings, and the government has withheld the case files, thereby denying access to information and obstructing their defense. Furthermore, private lawyers have not been allowed to attend, and the identities of the judges and prosecutors in charge are unknown. It was also emphasized that, in Nicaragua, private attorneys are effectively unable to represent individuals considered “political prisoners” or victims of enforced disappearance, due to procedural obstacles and fear of reprisals. In a context of widespread persecution of human rights defenders, this situation prevents the use of domestic remedies.

27. The Commission will provide an individual account, based on the allegations in the request, of the circumstances of detention, health status, and specific conditions pertaining to each of the proposed beneficiaries.

a. Erick Antonio Mercado López

28. The proposed beneficiary is 37 years old. He is Nicaraguan, an artisan, and a Catholic. The applicants alleged that, since October 2024, the National Police began to visit him at his residence. These visits were scheduled for the 15th of each month. On each occasion, the agents photographed him, required him to sign a visitation control sheet, and, in an irregular practice, asked him to make handmade masks for his relatives. They also asked him for reports on any opposition-related activity occurring in his neighborhood. According to the applicants, these visits took place in the context of the stigmatization he underwent for having participated in the 2018 anti-government protests in Masaya.

29. On August 13, 2025, at around 11:30 a.m., he was detained after receiving a misleading call from an individual who requested assistance, under the pretext that his motorcycle had broken down. As he left his home, located in the Monimbó neighborhood of the city of Masaya, he was intercepted and detained. During the procedure, he was not physically harmed, nor was a search conducted at his residence. Subsequently, individuals linked to the FSLN informed a friend that he was detained due to the alleged holding of “closed-door coup meetings.” However, the applicants state that these meetings consisted of dance classes organized for his upcoming birthday celebration.

30. Regarding his health prior to being detained, it is stated that the proposed beneficiary did not present any health issues, but the request mentions that he has vision problems.

b. Yerri Gustavo Estrada Ruiz

31. The proposed beneficiary is 30 years old. He has Costa Rican and Nicaraguan nationality, and is an internal physician. He is Catholic. It is stated that, since 2018, the government has persecuted him for his involvement in anti-government protests in León, where he took on leadership roles in student and social movements, including the April 19 Movement and the University Coordinator for Democracy and Justice (CUDJ).

32. The applicants note that, since August 2018, the proposed beneficiary has been subjected to threats, persecution, and surveillance by Sandinista sympathizers and police officers. After being charged with serious crimes, he managed to flee and the criminal case was dismissed in 2019 by the Amnesty Law. Although he distanced himself from social movements to resume his medical career, upon returning to León in 2022, he was subjected to constant police visits, interrogations, and restrictions on his movement. In December 2024, his grandmother died of a heart attack during one of these visits. In January 2023, he was detained and beaten by the police for 29 hours, although the case against him did not proceed. Lastly, in March 2025, he completed his medical studies and was assigned to Hospital Amistad Japón de Granada.

33. Between 1:00 and 2:00 p.m. on August 13, 2025, he was detained at this hospital. It is alleged that the hospital director requested his presence in her office while he was away from the facility, taking part in a medical brigade. Upon returning to the hospital for the meeting, he was taken by surprise by officers waiting for him in the office, who then proceeded to detain him.

34. It is reported that he was able to receive a special visit on September 3, 2025. They attribute this visit to pressure from the US government demanding proof of life and, among other factors, to consular efforts by Costa Rica, his country of nationality. The visit occurred at La Modelo prison under strict police oversight, as agents were present and recorded the meeting, thereby obstructing any possibility of a secure and private space. Since then, there has been no information on his health, the detention conditions he faces, and whether he is detained in this penitentiary.

35. On September 12, 2025, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Nicaragua sent a letter to the United States Embassy, attached to the request, expressing its objection to the request and asserting that the proposed beneficiary was “[...] not only in perfect health, but also fully enjoying all his rights as a person in detention [...].” Images of the visit that took place on September 3 were also disseminated in various media outlets, which were provided by the applicants. In this context, among other evidence, a recording was submitted of a *Canal 4* report broadcast on September 12, in which the proposed beneficiary is described by the media outlet as a “coup leader.” The applicants state that he appears pale, his head is shaved and is visibly angry and frightened. He is also allegedly forced to declare to journalists that the prison authorities treat him well and that he is in good condition. However, they also add that when the proposed beneficiary was asked when the visit had taken place, he replied, “It was last week, if I’m not mistaken,” which reportedly indicate a clear lack of awareness of time and is consistent with practices of ill-treatment and torture.

36. Due to this visit, on September 15, 2025, relatives were notified that parcel deliveries were suspended. In the days that followed, state authorities reportedly called one of the proposed beneficiary’s relatives and ordered them to leave the country by midnight on September 17 at the latest. Due to these threats, the proposed beneficiary’s relatives had to go into exile between the night of September 17 and the early morning of September 18, 2025. In addition, other individuals advocating for the proposed beneficiary had already left the country in the days prior.

37. Regarding his health prior to being detained, it is stated that the proposed beneficiary did not present any health issues.

c. Octavio Enrique Caldera

38. The proposed beneficiary is 25 years old. He is a Nicaraguan national, an accounting student, and works as an accountant for a company. He is Catholic. It is reported that he has been subjected to ongoing persecution by the government and its supporters in retaliation for his participation in the 2018 anti-government protests in Masaya and Managua, as well as for his activism with the Nicaraguan University Alliance (AUN).

39. The applicants allege that, since October 2021, he has been subjected to systematic harassment by police authorities and officials linked to the Sandinista regime. A month before the presidential elections, he was warned by the head of investigations of the Masaya Police not to participate in political activities, and he was identified as a member of the AUN. In 2022, he was prevented from travelling through areas under police surveillance and was followed by civilians for weeks. In November 2023, city officials accused him of being a “coup plotter” and threatened to detain him if he spoke out publicly. In April 2025, agents made periodic visits, during which they photographed him, limited his activities, required frequent updates via WhatsApp, and requested information regarding opposition groups in exile. Lastly, in June 2025, a municipal official circulated his photograph in groups linked to Sandinismo, exposing him publicly and creating a climate of fear for his safety and integrity.

40. He was detained in Managua on August 13, 2025, between 2:00 and 3:00 p.m. That same day at noon, the director of the Citizen Power Council (CPC) in his neighborhood, along with two men, one of which was wearing a hood, arrived at his residence in the Reparto Trasatlántico neighborhood of Masaya. Upon not finding him there, they went to his workplace in Managua. Once at the company, the officers asked the staff to request his presence. When he exited the building to head to the parking lot, he was intercepted and detained, without being informed of the grounds for his detention.

41. It is noted that the authorities at La Modelo prison allowed parcels containing basic food and hygiene supplies to be delivered on September 8, 12, 15, and 16, 2025. However, they did not confirm that he was being held there. Regarding his health prior to being detained, it is clarified that the proposed beneficiary does not have any health issues, but it is noted that he is allergic to antibiotics.

d. Luis Francisco Ortiz Calero

42. The proposed beneficiary is 29 years old. Regarding his health before being detained, it is stated that the proposed beneficiary does not have any health issues, but it is noted that he is allergic to antibiotics. He works as an operator for an automotive company and is Catholic.

43. It is alleged that, since April 2018, he and his family have been subjected to constant persecution by the Nicaraguan government and its supporters, in retaliation for his participation in anti-government protests in Masaya. On August 4, 2019, the proposed beneficiary and his father were detained and beaten, and later left in isolation for eight days. He was released after 15 days, but his father faced criminal proceedings and was convicted, although he was released in November 2019 along with other political prisoners. Since then, his family was subject to harassment by police patrols and direct threats, prompting the proposed beneficiary's father to flee the country in May 2022.

44. At around 2:50 p.m. on August 13, 2025, the proposed beneficiary was detained at his residence in the city of Masaya. Police officers arrived at the house asking for him and, when the door was opened, they entered the property. He was ordered to get dressed for an alleged "interview." The other people present in the residence were informed that there was a search warrant, although it was never shown. The operation involved at least ten police officers, who seized his mobile phone and a tablet. He was not physically assaulted.

45. On August 20, 2025, relatives filed a writ of habeas corpus with the Court of Appeals of the Eastern Jurisdiction. The motion was deemed inadmissible on the same day on account of purported formal defects. On August 25, another writ habeas corpus was filed with the First Criminal Chamber of the Managua Court of Appeals, which was dismissed on August 26, 2025, on the grounds that the proposed beneficiary "is before a competent authority, guaranteeing respect for his fundamental rights."

46. It is noted that the authorities at La Modelo prison allowed parcels containing basic food and hygiene supplies to be delivered on September 8, 12, 15, and 16, 2025. However, they did not confirm that he was being held there. Regarding his health prior to being detained, it is stated that the proposed beneficiary did not present any health issues.

e. Larry Javier Martínez Romero

47. The proposed beneficiary is 31 years old. He is a Nicaraguan national and a construction worker. He is Catholic. He actively participated in the 2018 anti-government civic protests in Masaya. During these events, he was injured by shrapnel from attacks carried out by police and vigilante groups, and was treated at a clandestine medical post.

48. On July 12, 2018, he was detained and subjected to torture while in detention without trial. It is alleged that he was beaten, which resulted in a fractured nose, had his toes burned with cigarettes, was denied access to food brought by his family, and was prohibited from contacting his relatives. Although he was released after 15 to 20 days, he continued to be harassed by pro-government supporters. In 2023, he was detained again and a judicial authority demanded that he report daily to a police station, where he was photographed and interrogated about his daily activities. He was allegedly kept under constant surveillance until the day he was detained.

49. At around 3:00 p.m. on August 13, 2025, he was detained at his residence in the city of Masaya, through an operation which included ten police officers. During detention he was not beaten or handcuffed, and the officers did not present any court order. He was only informed that he was reportedly being transferred for a “police interview.”

50. It is noted that the authorities at La Modelo prison allowed parcels containing basic food and hygiene supplies to be delivered on September 8, 12, 15, and 16, 2025. However, they did not confirm that he was being held there. Regarding his health prior to being detained, it is stated that the proposed beneficiary did not present any health issues.

f. María José Rojas Arburola

51. The proposed beneficiary is 44 years old. She is a Nicaraguan national, housewife and a Catholic. It is noted that, since April 2018, the proposed beneficiary’s family has been subjected to systematic persecution by the Nicaraguan government and its supporters, in retaliation for their participation in anti-government protests in Jinotepe. Her residence was “attacked” by armed groups, and both her father and brother were accused of serious crimes, although the cases were dismissed under the Amnesty Law.

52. According to the applicants, several leaders from Jinotepe were detained or driven into exile, and some of them, such as her father, Rodolfo Rojas Cordero, and Major Roberto Samcam, were subsequently killed abroad in circumstances indicative of political motives.³² Faced with these threats, she fled with her children and settled temporarily in Costa Rica, although she had to return to Nicaragua in 2019. Following the murder of her father in 2022, the proposed beneficiary was reportedly subjected to surveillance and monthly interrogations by the Jinotepe National Police, who were also seeking information about her exiled brother. In 2023, the government arbitrarily stripped 94 opponents of their nationality, including her brother Rodolfo, whose assets were also confiscated.³³ In 2024, her sister was prevented from returning to the country with her son.

53. At around 6:00 a.m. on August 15, 2025, she was detained at her residence in the city of Jinotepe. The operation was carried out with multiple National Police vehicles and involved at least five hooded DOEP officers, six uniformed officers in blue police attire, and three plainclothes officers tasked with coordinating the detention. The officers entered the residence without presenting a warrant and proceeded to detain her without communicating the grounds for the detention.

54. Concerning her health prior to being detained, it is reported that the proposed beneficiary has circulation issues related to venous insufficiency, resulting in recurring leg discomfort. As part of her health regimen, she routinely consumes Omega-3 and magnesium to promote general wellness and assist in managing her health issues.

³² Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), Press Release, [Nicaragua: UN Group of Experts condemns the murder of a prominent political opponent in exile in Costa Rica](#), June 24, 2025; Confidential Digital, [Opponent and Political Exile appears murdered in Honduras](#), June 28, 2022.

³³ [Digital Confidential, 94 Nicaraguans stripped of nationality and ordered confiscated](#), February 15, 2023.

g. Chester Jeramil Cortez Narváez

55. The proposed beneficiary is 38 years old and of Nicaraguan nationality. He is a student of International Trade and works in commerce. Prior to 2018, the proposed beneficiary led the youth group “Metamorfosis” in Jinotepe, an inclusive organization that provided support to sexually diverse young people and promoted issues such as masculinity, youth participation, and social assistance. His intervention in the 2018 anti-government protests represented a turning point in his public life, resulting in his identification by Sandinista supporters and the National Police as a political adversary.

56. The applicants allege that, between 2020 and 2021, the National Police detained him on three occasions during operations led by the Carazo police chief. During these events, he was transferred to the Jinotepe police station, interrogated and then released, all without a warrant. During one of the times he was detained, he was deprived of his liberty for three days. The interrogations focused on symbols considered subversive and alleged links to coup groups, although the proposed beneficiary always denied these accusations. According to reports, although he was subjected to ongoing harassment, a formal criminal case was never opened, yet he continued to be monitored by the police at all times.

57. At 6:30 p.m. on August 15, 2025, he was detained at his residence in the El Cementerio neighborhood in the city of Jinotepe. National Police officers entered the residence without presenting a warrant for his arrest or a warrant to conduct a search of his residence. While being detained he was handcuffed and beaten in the stomach and ribs with service weapons. Officers allegedly violently pushed his mother, a 72-year-old woman with health issues. The officers also allegedly stole a computer that belonged to a relative, as well as the proposed beneficiary’s passport. The operation was executed by a total of twelve agents. During his detention, he was allegedly told that he was being held on the grounds of being an “opponent and conspiring against the government.”

58. Regarding his health condition prior to the detention, it is mentioned that he has sinusitis and allergic rhinitis, which cause nasal congestion and frequent respiratory discomfort. In addition, he reportedly wears glasses due to his myopia and astigmatism, which requires him to take care of his visual health. He has occasionally experienced episodes of anxiety, which tend to worsen in situations of stress or physical discomfort.

h. Marvin Antonio Campos Chavarría

59. The proposed beneficiary is 69 years old. He is a Nicaraguan national and a visual artist, holding a degree in fine arts. In addition, he is a Jehovah’s Witness.

60. It is alleged that, since April 2018, the Nicaraguan government and its supporters have persecuted the proposed beneficiary and his children in retaliation for the latter’s participation in anti-government protests in the city of Jinotepe that year. During June and July 2018, Sandinista supporters, including radio journalists, claimed that a member of Campos’ household had murdered a Sandinista party activist, posing a real threat to the safety, life, and freedom of the entire family. In this context, one of his children received a death threat that year.

61. At around 6:30 p.m. on August 15, 2025, he was detained at his residence in the city of Jinotepe. A plainclothes officer arrived at the residence, and upon opening the door, two officers carrying AK-47 rifles entered by force, accompanied by a man and a woman in plainclothes and two additional female officers similarly armed. The man in plain clothes immediately identified the proposed beneficiary as the person who was being sought, based on a photograph. They asked where his son was and proceeded to detain both of them. It should be noted that the CPC neighborhood representative was present during the operation, suggesting institutional involvement in the detention. A laptop owned by the proposed beneficiary and two other laptops that belonged to relatives were seized. No physical violence was used, but no arrest warrant or search warrant

was presented either. His son was released on August 17, 2025, after being detained at the Jinotepe police station, without having been interrogated or informed of the grounds for his detention.

62. It is noted that the authorities at La Modelo prison allowed parcels containing basic food and hygiene supplies to be delivered on September 8, 12, 15, and 16, 2025. However, they did not confirm that he was being held there. Regarding his health condition prior to being detained, it is stated that, given that he is a 69 year old man, he has multiple health issues that require continuous medical attention. The applicants provided clinical documents and medical prescriptions.

63. He has high blood pressure and heart failure, which requires regular medical checkups and careful monitoring of his treatment regimen. He also has vertigo, migraines and insomnia, which affect his stability and rest. In addition, he has venous insufficiency, resulting in heaviness and discomfort in the legs. He also uses corrective lenses due to astigmatism.

64. Concerning his pharmacological treatment, he is prescribed 100 mg tablets for hypertension, 0.5 mg alprazolam for insomnia, 24 mg bolario for vertigo, Migra Dorixina for migraine management, 150 mg propafenone and 75 mg nabratin for cardiac issues, and beclometasone cream for inflammatory conditions. In this regard, his medical history and various prescriptions were presented, including the most recent ones dated August 19, 2025.

B. Response from the State

65. The Commission requested information on both matters from the State on September 19 and 23, 2025. To date, no response has been received from them, and the granted timeline has expired.

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

66. The precautionary measures mechanism 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.

67. 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.³⁴ Regarding the protective nature, these measures seek to avoid irreparable harm and to protect the exercise of human rights.³⁵ To do this, the IACHR shall assess the problem raised, the effectiveness of State actions to address the situation, and how vulnerable the proposed beneficiaries would be left in case the measures are not adopted.³⁶ As for their precautionary nature, these

³⁴ Inter-American Court of Human Rights (I/A Court H.R.), [Matter of the Yare I and Yare II Capital Region Penitentiary Center](#), 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.

³⁵ I/A Court H.R., [Matter of Capital El Rodeo I and El Rodeo II Judicial Confinement Center](#), Provisional Measures regarding Venezuela, Order of February 8, 2008, considerandum 8; [Case of Bámaca Velásquez](#), Provisional measures regarding Guatemala, Order of January 27, 2009, considerandum 45; [Matter of Fernández Ortega et al.](#), Provisional measures regarding Mexico, Order of April 30, 2009, considerandum 5; [Matter of Milagro Sala](#), Provisional measures regarding Argentina, Order of November 23, 2017, considerandum 5 (Available only in Spanish).

³⁶ I/A Court H.R., [Matter of Milagro Sala](#), Provisional Measures regarding Argentina, Order of November 23, 2017, considerandum 5 (Available only in Spanish); [Matter of Capital El Rodeo I and El Rodeo II Judicial Confinement Center](#), Provisional

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 object 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 adversely affect the useful effect (*effet utile*) of the final decision. In this regard, precautionary or provisional measures enable the State concerned to comply with the final decision and, if necessary, to implement the ordered reparations.³⁷ 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
- c. “irreparable harm” refers to injury to rights which, due to their nature, would not be susceptible to reparation, restoration or adequate compensation.

68. 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 of review to determine whether a serious and urgent situation exists.³⁸ Similarly, the Commission recalls that, by its own mandate, it is not within its purview to determine any individual liabilities for the facts alleged. Moreover, in this proceeding, it is not appropriate to rule on violations of rights enshrined in the American Convention or other applicable instruments.³⁹ 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 carried out without making any determination on the merits.⁴⁰

69. The Commission observes that the alleged situation of risk that the proposed beneficiaries face is not an isolated event but, on the contrary, and takes place within the current context that Nicaragua is experiencing, which is particularly hostile towards persons considered, perceived, or identified as opponents

Measures regarding Venezuela, Order of February 8, 2008, considerandum 9; [Matter of the Criminal Institute of Plácido de Sá Carvalho](#), Provisional Measures regarding Brazil, Order of February 13, 2017, considerandum 6 (Available only in Spanish).

³⁷ I/A Court H.R., [Matter of Capital El Rodeo I and El Rodeo II Judicial Confinement Center](#), Provisional Measures regarding Venezuela, Order of February 8, 2008, considerandum 7; [Matter of “El Nacional” and “Así es la Noticia” newspapers](#), Provisional Measures regarding Venezuela, Order of November 25, 2008, considerandum 23; [Matter of Luis Uzcátegui](#), Provisional Measures regarding Venezuela, Order of January 27, 2009, considerandum 19 (Available only in Spanish).

³⁸ I/A Court H.R., [Matter of Members of the Miskitu Indigenous Peoples of the North Caribbean Coast regarding Nicaragua](#), Extension of Provisional Measures, Order of August 23, 2018, considerandum 13 (Available only in Spanish); [Matter of children and adolescents deprived of liberty in the “Complexo do Tatuapé” of the Fundação CASA](#), Provisional Measures regarding Brazil, Order of July 4, 2006, considerandum 23.

³⁹ IACHR, [Resolution 2/2015](#), Precautionary Measure No. 455-13, Matter of Nestora Salgado regarding Mexico, January 28, 2015, para. 14; [Resolution 37/2021](#), Precautionary Measure No. 96-21, Gustavo Adolfo Mendoza Beteta and family regarding Nicaragua, April 30, 2021, para. 33.

⁴⁰ 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).

of the government and, in general, towards any person critical of the current national government.⁴¹ This context has intensified over time.⁴²

70. Within the framework of the precautionary measures mechanism and in the course of this year, the Commission has identified that the State of Nicaragua has previously detained individuals in factual circumstances similar to those alleged in this matter within the current context taking place in the country. For example: Armando José Bermúdez Mojica and others;⁴³ Aníbal Martín Rivas Reed;⁴⁴ Douglas Gamaliel Pérez Centeno;⁴⁵ José Alejandro Hurtado Díaz;⁴⁶ and Julio Antonio Quintana Carvajal.⁴⁷

71. In view of the above, the Commission will proceed to analyze the procedural requirements regarding the proposed beneficiaries' situation in Nicaragua.

72. Regarding the requirement of *seriousness*, the Commission considers that it has been met, insofar that, as stated by the applicants, the whereabouts or state of the proposed beneficiaries has been unknown since they were detained by public authorities. In the case of Baltodano Monroy, there has been no information since he was detained on July 21, 2025, over three months ago; for Mercado, Caldera, Ortiz, and Martínez, since they were detained on August 13, 2025, two months ago; and for Rojas, Cortez, and Campos, since they were detained on August 15, 2025, also more than two months ago. Furthermore, in the cases of Baltodano Cantarero and Estrada, their whereabouts or fate are unknown since the State prevented their relatives, friends, and legal representatives from visiting them to confirm their situation. The most recent contacts with the last two proposed beneficiaries took place on June 27 and September 3, 2025, respectively. Since then, their friends and family have been unable to determine their whereabouts or the conditions they face, despite the efforts and search operations undertaken.

73. The IACHR observes that the proposed beneficiaries' detentions were preceded or accompanied by a series of actions against them, reportedly stemming from their critical stance toward the government or their participation in the 2018 protests. In this regard, there have been incidents of surveillance, threats, raids, prior detentions, and even criminal charges. This is the case of Caldera and Mercado, who reportedly received periodic visits during which they were photographed and compelled to sign control forms or submit reports, since 2021 and 2024, respectively; as well as Estrada and Ortiz, who were previously detained but later released, and, along with Martínez and Cortez, were subjected to assaults and detentions under allegations of lack of judicial oversight, with incidents reported from 2018 onward.

74. In light of the foregoing, the Commission considers that the current detention of these individuals, with no information available regarding their whereabouts or fate, is part of a context it has been

⁴¹ IACHR, Report: Closure of Civic Space in Nicaragua, OEA/Ser.L/VIII, Doc. 212/23, September 23, 2023, paras. 6, 20, and 62; 2022 Annual Report, Chapter IV.B Nicaragua, paras. 35-65 and 177; Press Release No. 123/23, [IACHR Rejects Ongoing Repression and Human Rights Violations in Nicaragua](#), June 16, 2023; Press Release No. 184/23, [Nicaragua: IACHR and OHCHR urge the State to release Monsignor Rolando Álvarez and guarantee his human rights](#), August 18, 2023; Press Release No. 218/23, [IACHR Urges the State of Nicaragua to Cease Persecution of the Catholic Church](#), September 15, 2023; Press Release No. 152/21, [The IACHR condemns the serious escalation of repression in Nicaragua](#), June 18, 2021; Press Release No. 2/21, [The IACHR condemns the intensification of harassment in Nicaragua](#), January 6, 2021; Annual Report 2023, Chapter IV.B Nicaragua, December 31, 2023, paras. 5, 36, and 138.

⁴² IACHR, Press Release No. 113/20, [Two Years After Visit to Nicaragua, IACHR Condemns Lack of Compliance with its Recommendations and Calls on the State to Urgently Implement Them](#), May 16, 2020; Annual Report 2020, Chapter IV.B Nicaragua, paras. 46-52; 2023 Annual Report, Chapter IV.B Nicaragua, December 31, 2023, para. 19.

⁴³ IACHR, [Resolution No. 65/25](#), Precautionary Measures No. 1230-25, Armando José Bermúdez Mojica et al. regarding Nicaragua, September 16, 2025.

⁴⁴ IACHR, [Resolution No. 46/25](#), Precautionary Measures No. 755-25, Aníbal Martín Rivas Reed, regarding Nicaragua, June 24, 2025.

⁴⁵ IACHR, [Resolution No. 33/25](#), Precautionary Measures No. 252-25, Douglas Gamaliel Pérez Centeno regarding Nicaragua, April 6, 2025.

⁴⁶ IACHR, [Resolution No. 26/25](#), Precautionary Measures No. 222-25, José Alejandro Hurtado Díaz regarding Nicaragua, March 14, 2025.

⁴⁷ IACHR, [Resolution No. 16/25](#), Precautionary Measures No. 117-25, Julio Antonio Quintana Carvajal regarding Nicaragua, February 18, 2025.

monitoring since at least 2018, when the protests began, and reflects a broader pattern of repression targeting persons regarded as opponents or critics of the Nicaraguan government.

75. The Commission has no evidence to show that the proposed beneficiaries were brought before the competent courts of Nicaragua, nor does it have any details regarding the charges brought against them or the initiation of legal proceedings against them. The only available references come from media sources, as it has not been possible to obtain an official response. In this sense, the Commission understands that their friends and family are unable to activate the corresponding resources for their protection, as the competent court for their criminal trial, if it exists, has not been identified. In addition, there is no record in the judicial system that allows for the identification of any open proceedings regarding the proposed beneficiaries.

76. The IACHR observes with particular concern that, in addition to the reported difficulties in obtaining official information from the State, the submission of *writ of habeas corpus* judicial appeals by one of the proposed beneficiaries' friends or family is substantiated in this matter. However, these actions have not received any response, thereby preventing knowledge of the whereabouts and conditions of the detained individuals. This also reflects the ineffectiveness of internal remedies that might be available and contributes to a situation of helplessness in the face of potential serious violations of the rights to life and personal integrity. It should also be noted that, in particular, no response has been received to the requests made by the State of Mexico in an effort to ensure the protection of the rights of the proposed beneficiary Baltodano Monroy, who also holds Mexican nationality. In cases where sustained international pressure has allowed some verification of a proposed beneficiary's situation, family members and friends have faced reprisals, which in some cases have resulted in displacement or forced departure from the country.

77. This pattern of persecution has fostered a pervasive climate of fear, compelling some individuals involved in search activities to leave the country to safeguard their well-being, while others were barred from reentering by the authorities upon attempting to return from abroad. As a result, friends and family have refrained from reporting the detentions for fear of reprisals. Added to this is the allegation that individuals considered to be "political prisoners" or missing persons do not have legal representation due to the fear of experiencing reprisals if they go to court or any government institution to request their release. This is concerning in light of the current repression in Nicaragua against any questioning or criticism of the government, which would make it materially impossible to activate internal resources for their protection.

78. In this context, it has not been possible to determine whether the proposed beneficiaries have access to the medical care and medications required for their health issues, given that the judicial authority tasked with supervising their legal status remains unidentified. In this regard, the Commission observes that some of these individuals may be in a vulnerable situation due to their health issues and the potential consequences of not receiving adequate medical treatment. The lack of access to immediate and regular medical care or medication exacerbates the vulnerability of persons deprived of their liberty. In evaluating the seriousness of their current health, the Commission notes that some of the proposed beneficiaries had medical diagnoses prior to being detained. In particular, Baltodano Cantarero, a senior citizen, reportedly has high cholesterol and a neurological condition that requires pharmacological treatment, while Baltodano Monroy reportedly has more serious health issues, including ischemic heart disease and psychological disorders, and documented needs for medical follow-up and medication as evidenced by the reports submitted with the request. For his part, the proposed beneficiary Campos, also a senior citizen, has high blood pressure and heart failure, which require regular monitoring and strict adherence to his prescribed treatment, as supported by medical documentation.

79. The IACHR recalls that the State has a duty to guarantee persons deprived of liberty adequate access to medication, both for the treatment of pre-existing issues and those developed during their imprisonment. However, based on testimonies from relatives who were able to visit prior to subsequent restrictions, as well as the absence of official information regarding the whereabouts and fate of the proposed beneficiaries, this Commission is unable to confirm if they are receiving health care.

80. Having requested information from the State under Article 25 of its Rules of Procedure, the Commission regrets the lack of response to the request. Although the foregoing is not sufficient *per se* to justify granting a precautionary measure, the lack of response from the State prevents the Commission from determining about the measures that are purportedly being implemented to address the situation that places the proposed beneficiary at risk and to dispute the facts alleged by the applicants. Therefore, the Commission does not have a response that would allow it to assess whether the situation of risk has been mitigated, nor regarding the actions taken to determine their whereabouts or fate. The Commission also notes that the proposed beneficiaries may be in state custody, in which case the state should have precise information on their current locations and situations.

81. As stated above, the Commission emphasizes that their friends and family have been unable to contact the proposed beneficiaries since the aforementioned dates, and have not received any information their legal situation, such as, for example: the existence of an investigation file against them; the procedural status of the investigation; the grounds for their detention; whether the court case was subject to judicial review; the place of detention; the detention conditions; or the possibilities of being able to contact legal representation they trust; among others. Given that it has not been possible to contact the proposed beneficiaries, the situations that place them at risk are allegedly exacerbated by the impossibility of knowing where they are being held and verifying their current status.

82. In view of the foregoing considerations and in light of the *prima facie* standard, the Commission considers that the rights to life, personal integrity, and health of the proposed beneficiaries are at serious risk to the extent that, to date, there has been no official information about their fate or whereabouts, as well as about their current situations of detention and overall health.

83. With regard to the requirement of *urgency*, the Commission considers that this is also met, insofar as the passage of time without establishing their whereabouts is likely to cause further harm to the rights to life, personal integrity, and health of the proposed beneficiaries. Additionally, the Commission does not have a response from the State regarding the actions that may be taken to address or mitigate the risk faced by the proposed beneficiaries, nor about any measures to locate their whereabouts.

84. Regarding the requirement of *irreparable harm*, the Commission maintains that it has been met, since the potential impact on the rights to life, personal integrity, and health constitutes the maximum situation of irreparability.

IV. BENEFICIARIES

85. The Commission declares (1) Álvaro Antonio Baltodano Cantarero, (2) Álvaro Baltodano Monroy, (3) Octavio Enrique Caldera, (4) Marvin Antonio Campos Chavarría, (5) Chester Jeramil Cortez Narváez, (6) Yerri Gustavo Estrada Ruiz, (7) Larry Javier Martínez Romero, (8) Antonio Mercado López, (9) Luis Francisco Ortiz Calero and (10) María José Rojas Arburola as the beneficiaries. All of these individuals are duly identified in this procedure.

V. DECISION

86. The Commission understands 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, it requests that Nicaragua:

- a) adopt the necessary measures to determine the situation and whereabouts of the beneficiaries, in order to protect their rights to life, personal integrity, and health;

- b) formally indicate if the beneficiaries have been charged with any crime and/or whether they have been brought before the appropriate judicial authority. If not, clarify the reason for their detention without charges and without judicial supervision;
- c) clarify the circumstances and conditions of their detention, including the place of their detention. In particular, guarantee regular contact with their families, trusted legal representatives, and consular authorities of the country of which they are nationals;
- d) immediately carry out a comprehensive medical assessment to determine the wellbeing of those with health conditions, and guarantee adequate care through the precise definition of medical treatment, and allow timely access to the required medications, while consulting and agreeing upon the measures to be adopted with the beneficiaries and their representatives; and
- e) report on the actions taken to investigate the alleged facts that led to the adoption of this resolution, so as to prevent such events from reoccurring.

87. The Commission requests that the State of Nicaragua report, within 15 days from the date of notification of this resolution, on the adoption of the precautionary measures requested and to update that information periodically.

88. The Commission emphasizes that, pursuant to Article 25(8) of its 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.

89. The Commission instructs its Executive Secretariat to notify this resolution to the State of Nicaragua and the applicant.

90. Approved on October 27, 2025, by José Luis Caballero Ochoa, President; Andrea Pochak, First Vice-President; Arif Bulkan, Second Vice-President; Edgar Stuardo Ralón Orellana; Roberta Clarke; and Carlos Bernal Pulido, members of the IACHR.

Tania Reneaum Panszi
Executive Secretary