

Committee of Experts of the MESECVI urges the Peruvian State to act in accordance with the highest standards in response to misogynistic statements and acts of violence against women by senior state officials.

Washington, DC, October 23, 2025. The Committee of Experts of the Follow-up Mechanism to the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women "Belém do Pará Convention" (MESECVI) expresses concern incidents involving high-ranking State officials who have made misogynistic statements or who, despite having been convicted of violence against women, remain in public office. Such conduct by public authorities sends a troubling message of impunity; it undermines public trust; signals tolerance toward gender-based violence, and contravenes the obligations assumed by the Peruvian State under the Belém do Pará Convention. Situations of this nature are particularly serious in the current context of weakened democratic institutions and growing social and political tolerance of violence against women.

On the one hand, The Committee of Experts (CEVI) has received information from civil society organizations in Peru concerning the situation of Gino Ríos Patio, President of the National Board of Justice, the body responsible for overseeing the integrity and suitability of judges and prosecutors in the country. The high-ranking official has remained in office despite having a final conviction for domestic violence, in contravention of the institution's own regulations, which prohibit individuals convicted of violence against women from serving within its structure.

The CEVI also expresses its concern regarding information of public knowledge about statements and behaviors of a misogynistic nature made by the highest authority of the State, which are contrary to the principles of equality and respect for women. The Committee recalls that the public discourse of authorities plays a fundamental role in guaranteeing women's right to live free from violence and in promoting the social transformations necessary to eradicate gender-based violence.

In light of this information, the Committee notes the absence of a clear and categorical statement from the highest authorities of the State rejecting violence against women, which undermines the public commitment required by the Belém do Pará Convention, to which Peru is a State Party. This omission, combined with a context of high levels of social tolerance towards violence against women¹, compromises compliance with the obligations established by the Convention, which stipulates that States must act with due diligence and guarantee full respect for women's human rights in all areas of public life.

The Committee emphasizes that the eradication of violence also requires categorical and sustained social condemnation, as well as the transformation of gender and ethnic-racial stereotypes and unequal power relations that persist in the public, political, and judicial spheres and in society in general.

In this regard, the CEVI recalls that in the <u>Regional Declaration on the Eradication of Gender Stereotypes that Result in Symbolic Violence Gender-based against Women</u>, the States Parties commit to transforming the social and cultural representation of women and girls in all their diversity and to reversing the stereotypes that perpetuate their subordination and reproduce gender-based violence.

In light of the foregoing, the Committee of Experts urges the Peruvian State to ensure that all its authorities exercise their functions in accordance with the highest international standards of respect for and protection of women's human rights. In this context, it urges State agents and officials to reject public expressions of misogyny and the promotion of full respect for women's human rights by State agents and officials. It also recommends strengthening training and awareness-raising processes for authorities and public personnel, in accordance with the highest international standards of due diligence, equality, and respect for women's human rights.

The Follow-up Mechanism to the Belém do Pará Convention, through its Committee of Experts, makes itself available to the State of Peru for any technical support they may require in this matter.

The <u>Committee of Experts</u> is the technical body of the MESECVI, responsible for the analysis and evaluation of the implementation process of the Convention of Belém do Pará. It is made up of independent Experts, appointed by each of the States Parties from among their nationals, who perform their duties in a personal capacity.

¹ National Survey on Social Relations. 2024. See: