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**Special meeting of National Conference of Effective Participation of Victims of the Armed Conflict**

**Bogotá, Colombia.** The National Conference of Effective Participation of Victims of the Armed Conflict held a special meeting June 18-20, in collaboration with the IIHR, to debate its position with respect to the conversations being held in Havana, Cuba in the framework of the peace process. The agreements reached are contained in a document of 10 points.

In addition to the IIHR, also taking part were the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights in Colombia, the UN Development Program, the International Office of Migration and the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, as well as experts in armed conflicts, peace processes, justice, truth and reconciliation.

Read the full note [here](#) and visit the [Gallery of photographs](#)

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## **CAPEL mission in Ecuador**

**Quito, Ecuador.** In response to an invitation of the National Electoral Council (CNE) and the Electoral Disputes Tribunal (TCE), during the period June 16-18 Ricardo Valverde, representing the Director of CAPEL, José Thompson, visited Ecuador. During his stay in Quito, Mr. Valverde met with the advisors of the CNE and the Presidents of the CNE and TCE, Domingo Paredes and Patricio Baca, respectively. The agenda of the mission included working meetings with representatives of various agencies of international cooperation in the country with the idea of preparing proposals for projects of technical assistance.

See the photographs of the visit, [here](#)

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## **Tribute to Giulia Tamayo at commemoration of 20th anniversary of Convention of Belém do Pará**

**Montevideo, Uruguay.** On June 18, the IIHR Regional Office for South America and the Thematic Network on Gender (RTG) of the University of Uruguay organized the event entitled “*The Human Rights of Women with respect to the 20 years of the Convention of Belém do Pará. Homage in Memory of the Dear and Unforgettable Giulia Tamayo León.*” Participating were Chema García Ríos, a colleague of the recently-deceased Ms. Tamayo, Aída García Naranjo, Ambassador of Peru, Flor de María Meza, Coordinator of the RTG, and Soledad García Muñoz, IIHR representative.

There followed a discussion on the Convention with the participation of Andrea Tuana, expert and Uruguayan representative to the CEVI-MESECVI; María Lilián Bendahan, Judge of the Appellate Court for Family Matters, and Marina Morelli, representative of the Uruguayan Network to Fight Domestic and Sexual Violence. Closing remarks were offered by the Coordinators of the IIHR and the RTG.

Photographs:

<https://www.facebook.com/iidhsuramerica/posts/583956245054381>

<https://www.facebook.com/iidhsuramerica/posts/583960785053927>

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## **Presentation of plan on gender equality**

**Montevideo, Uruguay.** On June 18, Alba Vesperinas, an intern of the IIHR Regional Office for South America, attended the presentation of the “Third Plan on Gender Equality – Montevideo Advances in Non-Discriminatory Laws.”

The activity, which was inaugurated by the Executive Coordinator of the Secretariat of Women, Elena Ponte, informed on the progress that had been made on the Plan, the developments at the departmental and municipal levels and the system of indicators. In the exchange with civil society it was agreed to create opportunities for debate on the indicators of participation and the presentation of a draft to the Committee on Equality.

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## **Technical support for developing a national plan on education in human rights**

**San José, Costa Rica.** On June 19, a video-conference was held at which the IIHR provided technical assistance to the development of a national plan on education in human rights to the Inter-Ministerial Commission of Peru, comprised of staff and technicians from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, and Education and the National

Center of Strategic Planning. Representatives of the Ministry of Education, the Presidential Program of Human Rights and the Ombudsman, all from Colombia, shared their experiences in this field. Also participating in the virtual conference, held in the framework of the Agreement of Cooperation with the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights, were the Vice Minister, Henry José Ávila, and the Director of Human Rights, Roger Rodríguez.

Responsible for the technical assistance were Jorge Padilla, of the IIHR Coordination of Education, from San José and Soledad García Muñoz, Coordinator of the Regional Office for South America, from Montevideo, together with consultants Ana Laura Piñeyro y Natalia Alvarado.

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### **CAPEL representative visits Lima**

**Lima, Peru.** Ricardo Valverde, representing the IIHR Executive Director and Director of CAPEL, José Thompson, visited Lima from June 19 to 21. During his stay, Mr. Valverde met with the President of the National Jury of Elections (JNE), Francisco Távara, and the persons responsible for international cooperation and education for a complete review of the themes and projects that are a priority for the work of the JNE in the immediate future. He also met with representatives of different embassies and agencies of cooperation to evaluate their interest in these matters.

In addition, Mr. Valverde spoke on “Elections and Full Disclosure: Transparency in the Regional Experience,” at an event organized by the local office of the National Democratic Institute at which participated the Secretary Generals of the political parties registered in Peru.

See the photographs of the NDI: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/ndiperu/sets/72157645275994256/>

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### **Regional Office receives students of UNESCO Human Rights Chair, meets with Supreme Court Justice and attends swearing in of President of INDDH**

**Montevideo, Uruguay.** On June 20, the IIHR Regional Office for South America received the visit of students of the UNESCO Human Rights Chair. The students were nationals of several countries of the region. The Coordinator, Soledad García Muñoz, informed them of the work of the IIHR. Also participating was John Biehl, OAS Representative in the country, who welcomed the group.

On the same day, the Coordinator was received by Ricardo Pérez Manrique, Judge of the Supreme Court of Uruguay, to exchange information on current activities and explore possible ways of cooperation in matters of common interest. On June 23, Ms. García Muñoz and her team represented the IIHR at the swearing in of the new President of the National Institute of Human Rights and Ombudswomen, Mirtha Guianze. The Regional Office and the INDDH have several joint projects, among which that of "Arte y Convivencia Ciudadana".

*Photographs:*

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=584959394954066&set=a.446373492145991.1073741828.446366135480060&type=1>, <https://www.facebook.com/iidhsuramerica/posts/584946901621982>  
<https://www.facebook.com/iidhsuramerica/posts/586513394798666>

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## **International Seminar on political rights, electoral institutions, governance and democracy**

**Mexico City.** On June 26, the IIHR Executive Director and Director of CAPEL, José Thompson, participated, together with distinguished international specialists, in the VII Roundtable, entitled “Challenges of the Electoral Architecture in Iberoamerica.” The roundtable was part of the International Seminar on Political Rights, Electoral Institutions, Systems of Government and Democracy, which was held June 24-27 in the Héctor Fix-Zamudio Auditorium of the Institute of Juridical Research of the National Autonomous University of Mexico.

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## **IIHR Regional Office for South America visits Argentina**

**Buenos Aires and Quilmes, Argentina.** On June 26, a delegation of the IIHR Regional Office visited Argentina. The mission, led by its Coordinator, Soledad García Muñoz, spoke with Marcela González Ibarra and the staff of International Relations and Cooperation of the Office of the Ombudsman of the City of Buenos Aires regarding the “First International Course on Forming a Responsible Citizenry and Managing Citizen Participation in Public Policies and Human Rights.” The Course, directed to organized civil society, will be held in October and will focus on territorial decentralization. The program will include, among other topics, the role of the Ombudsman, general information on human rights, non-discrimination, access to economic, social and cultural rights, gender equality and citizen participation, as well as a case-study led by Matías Penhos, representative of the National University of Quilmes and a former participant in the IIHR Interdisciplinary Course.

The Regional Representative, invited by the Center for Human Rights “Emilio Mignone” of the University, lectured on “Education in Human Rights from the point of view of Diversity and Gender Equality” at the eleventh edition of “Women Talking about Women.” Attending were students of the institution and the general public, who were encouraged to apply to the Interdisciplinary Seminar on Human Rights for the Mercosur Region, which is described in another item. The IIHR team then met with that of the Center.

Finally, Major Óscar Enrique Gómez, Director of the Superior School of the Gendarmería of Argentina, and Prof. Penhos conferred on several projects regarding security and human rights that the IIHR is carrying out in the Southern Cone.

*Photographs:*

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=588422794607726&set=a.479381298845210.1073741832.446366135480060&type=1>

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=589948474455158&set=a.446373492145991.1073741828.446366135480060&type=1>

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## **Costa Rican women leaders train at the IIHR**

**San José, Costa Rica.** On June 26, 35 women between the ages of 18 and 60 from throughout the country met in the IIHR Inter-American Classroom as part of the course “Women Leaders for Change.” The program, sponsored by the National Institute of Women, included a conference on “The National and International Systems of Protection of the Rights of Women,” which the IIHR has been in charge of for the past four years.

On this occasion, the head of the IIHR Program on the Rights of Women, Rose Mary Madden Arias, used the judgment of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights in the

case of *Artavia Murillo et al. vs. Costa Rica* to illustrate her lecture. Her talk was aimed at encouraging the leaders to focus on human rights in their different fields, one of the commitments of the IIHR to aid in overcoming the subordination of women under the androcentric social contract.

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### **IIHR and University of Guanajuato sign agreement of cooperation**

**Guanajuato, México.** On June 27, José Thompson, IIHR Executive Director, and José Manuel Cabrera Sixto, Rector of the University of Guanajuato, signed an agreement for the exchange of professors and students, the joint publication of academic works and courses on continuing education in human rights, among other academic activities. Also present at the signing was the IIHR Coordinator of Education, Jorge Padilla.

Later, Mr. Thompson spoke on the “Challenges of Democracy in the Regional Context” at the close of the “Diploma in Human Rights,” jointly conducted by the IIHR and the University from March 15 to May 24. Mr. Thompson also visited the seat of the Legislative Branch of Guanajuato.

[Gallery of photographs](#)

Read the full note [here](#)

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### **New Master’s degree on human rights and control of conventionality**

**Asunción, Paraguay.** IIHR announces that applications are being received for the International Master’s Degree Program in Human Rights with emphasis on Control of Conventionality, the classes of which will begin in August of this year. The program is open to those who work in the area of justice, institutionally as well as for civil society, political parties and international bodies with a degree in law, international relations, political science or other degrees related to international law.

This new Master’s program was developed by the IIHR Regional Office, coordinated by Soledad García Muñoz, together with representatives of the Universidad de Columbia and the Supreme Court of Justice, both of Paraguay.

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### **Applications now being accepted for the Interdisciplinary Seminar on Human Rights for the Mercosur Region**

**Rosario, Santa Fe, Argentina.** Applications are now being accepted for the Interdisciplinary Seminar on Human Rights for the Mercosur Region that will be held August 5-9 in Rosario. The event is being organized by the IIHR, the Law School of the National University of Rosario and the Institute of Public Policies in Human Rights of Mercosur. The Interdisciplinary Seminar hopes to provide a space for reflection, training and dialogue on the most pertinent areas of human rights and contribute to the construction of a regional identity with respect to rights.

The seminar is open to persons from different sectors and disciplines of the Mercosur region, especially those involved in the promotion of the inter-American system of human rights in universities, State dependencies (foreign and other ministries, the judiciary, prosecutors and offices of human rights) and civil society organizations.

The period of inscription will close on July 20.

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### **XXXII Interdisciplinary Course still receiving applications**

**San José, Costa Rica.** The deadline to apply to the XXXII Interdisciplinary Course on

Human Rights is midnight of July 25. The theme of the Course is “Forging a Path towards the Recognition and Appreciation of Diversities.” It will be held in San José, Costa Rica from October 13 to 24.

Among the topics proposed for the academic program are the following: From the rule of non-discrimination to an appreciation of diversity; migrant peoples and the enjoyment of human rights; the progressive advancement of the rights of women; the rights of the disabled: from international norms to domestic practice; challenges for effective human rights in the area of diversity and the role of justice in recognizing diversity. More information at [c.interdisciplinario@iidh.ed.cr](mailto:c.interdisciplinario@iidh.ed.cr)

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