

NICARAGUA



The seven indigenous peoples of Nicaragua are distributed, historically and culturally, between the Pacific coast, central and northern Nicaragua inhabited by the Chorotega (221,000), Cacaopera or Matagalpa (97,500), Ocanxiu or Sutiaba (49,000) and Nahoá or Náhuatl (20,000) peoples; and, on the other hand, in Caribbean (or Atlantic) coast, inhabited by the Mískitu (150,000), Sumu-Mayangna (27,000) and Rama (2,000) peoples. Other peoples who have collective rights under the Constitution of Nicaragua (1987) are the Afro-descendants, referred to as “ethnic communities” in the national legislation. They include the Creoles or Kriols (43,000) and the Garífunas (2,500). In 1979, the Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN) came into power in Nicaragua, and later had to face an armed front supported by the United States. The indigenous peoples of the Caribbean coast, principally the Mískitus, participated in the armed opposition to the FSLN. In 1987, in order to put an end to the indigenous resistance, the FSLN created the Northern and Southern Autonomous Regions of the Caribbean (Atlantic) Coast (RACCN/RACCS), based on a New Constitution and an Autonomy Statute (Law 28). As a result of the judgment of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights in the case of the Mayangna (Sumo) Awás Tingni Community vs. Nicaragua in 2001, Law 445 was enacted on the Communal Property Regime of the Indigenous Peoples and Ethnic Communities of the Autonomous Regions of the Atlantic Coast of Nicaragua and of the Bocay, Coco, Indio, and Maíz Rivers. That Law, as of 2003, also clarified the right to self-governance in the communities and created a procedure for the granting title to the territories. As of 2005, the State initiated the title granting process for the 23 indigenous and afro-descendant territories in the Autonomous Regions, culminating with delivery of the ownership titles in the year 2013. In addition, the General Education Act of 2006 recognized a Regional Autonomous Educational System (SEAR). In 2007, Nicaragua voted in favor of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and in 2010 it ratified ILO Convention 169.

The principal events that occurred during the year 2017 were characterized by the State of Nicaragua's failure to protect the human rights of the indigenous and afro-descendant peoples, specifically in terms of protecting the physical integrity of their members and defenders of their traditional territories, their self-determination as peoples, and access to, use and enjoyment of their collective lands or territories. This was evidenced by the government's failure to guarantee collective ownership for the indigenous peoples of the Nicaraguan Pacific, Central, and Northern zones (hereinafter "PCN") or to implement the review stage on third-party land ownership ("saneamiento") for the 23 territories whose title was granted by the State itself as of the year 2005 in the Autonomous Regions of the Caribbean Coast. It was also evidenced by the illegal imposition of "parallel governments", formed by members of the party in office, over the authorities elected under traditional protocols by these peoples, thus weakening their organization and, hence, their resistance to State interference. The government also failed to prevent or wage a fight against the invasions systematically and recurrently perpetrated by armed settlers in indigenous and afro-descendant territories of the Autonomous Regions of the Caribbean Coast, the Special Regime Zone (hereinafter "ZRE"), and in the BOSAWAS and Southeast Nicaragua/San Juan River Biosphere Reserves. All of this is aimed at taking possession of the lands and the natural resources of these peoples.

Indigenous territories of the Pacific, Central and Northern Regions of Nicaragua (PCN)

There have been several cases where indigenous peoples of the Pacific, Central and Northern regions (PCN) have faced severe encroachment upon and pillaging of their lands, within a context of government policies aimed at privatizing the collective lands of the indigenous peoples. Particularly concerning is the implementation of the Territorial Zoning Program (hereinafter "PRODEP") in the territories of the Chorotega indigenous peoples, financed by the World Bank, which has been imposing legalization for third persons of areas that have been taken from indigenous peoples through overlapping titles, refusing to recognize property titles of the indigenous peoples.¹ The State and the World Bank office in Nicaragua itself have not responded to requests and proposals from the Chorotega indigenous peoples for changes to the PRODEP in their terri-

tories.² In fact, the Government Attorney's Office has criminally prosecuted leaders, authorities, and human rights defenders of the indigenous peoples of Jinotega, Sutiaba, Matagalpa, Urbayte and Las Pilas for defending their traditional territories.³

Indigenous and afro-descendant ownership rights

The State of Nicaragua, between the years 2005 and 2017, granted title to 23 indigenous territories, whose land areas represent 32% of the national territory and 56% of the Nicaraguan Caribbean Coast.⁴ Nonetheless, the State has not fully honored these collective ownership titles, by failing to commence the review stage on third-party land ownership ("saneamiento"),⁵ established by Law No. 445, which consists of determining the ownership rights of third parties who claim such rights within indigenous territories. On account of that, the indigenous and afro-descendant peoples have petitioned the State to implement that review process in the territories for which their peoples have received title, thereby seeking an institutional form of protection of their territorial rights. The State is not responding, however, and has failed to evict the invaders of indigenous lands.⁶ This means that the title-granting process is an incomplete one, undermined by the violence of armed settlers who are invading indigenous territories and the Bosawas and Indio-Maíz Reserves. These invaders are evicting entire communities, principally in the Autonomous Region of the Northern Caribbean Coast (hereinafter "RACCN"). Indeed, even "third persons" who, due to internal migration generated by promises of jobs for the Grand Transoceanic Canal of Nicaragua megaproject (hereinafter the "Nicaragua Canal"), have remained in the territories for which title was granted in the Autonomous Region of the Southern Caribbean Coast (hereinafter "RACCS"), are being pushed to find alternative lands.

Violations of the right to self-determination

The State of Nicaragua, by its acts and omissions, has committed violations of the right to self-determination and autonomy of these peoples, principally through the creation of "parallel governments" that are submissive to the interests of the party currently in office, as well as

through the Municipalities for the indigenous peoples of the PCN and through the Regional Councils in the Autonomous Regions.⁷ Once the traditional internal structure is weakened, it becomes easier to take and encroach upon the lands and other natural resources of the indigenous and afro-descendant peoples of Nicaragua. The most emblematic of such cases are those of the community of Muy Muy⁸ and of the Black Creole Indigenous Community of Bluefields.⁹ Both of these cases are currently before the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR).¹⁰

Deforestation and forced displacement

Likewise, the Bosawas Biosphere Reserve (hereinafter "RBB") superimposed on the Mayangna and Miskitu indigenous territories in the RACCN, as well as the Special Regime Zone (ZRE), principally in the Department of Jinotega, have been severely deforested in the past 10 years by forestry¹¹ and mining companies. This, added to the invasion by settlers equipped with weapons of war, are the greatest problem for the indigenous communities, who are being forcibly displaced from their traditional territories.¹² The authorities and leaders of the indigenous territories of Mayangna Sauni As, Mayangna Sauni Bas, Mayangna Sauni Arungka, and Mayangna Sauni Bu in the RBB have filed hundreds of administrative and judicial legal actions with the corresponding authorities, but have not obtained a response from the State. Once the settlers have taken possession, they proceed to engage in slash and burn activities, to then turn these indigenous territories into pastures for large-scale livestock raising, gold mining encouraged by the recent formation of the government owned Empresa Nicaragüense de Minas (ENIMINAS),¹³ and the planting of African palm ("*Elaeis guineensis* Jacq.").¹⁴ Privileging these activities, the State refuses to ensure the physical and territorial integrity of the indigenous peoples.

Deforestation and Nicaragua Canal

Even though the works have not commenced on the ground, governmental sources are reporting that the studies for the Nicaragua Canal are still continuing.¹⁵ 52% of the Nicaragua Canal's route transverses the territory of the indigenous Rama peoples and of the Kriol afro-de-

scendants communities, as well as the traditional territory of the Indigenous Black Creole Community of Bluefields.¹⁶ The route of the Nicaragua Canal, according to the auxiliary works schedule presented during the project's launching by HKND on December 22, 2014 contemplates the measurement, design, and acquisition of properties. It also contemplates construction of an access road on the Eastern span of the Nicaragua Canal, of which 72 kilometers have advanced, 26 with financing from the World Bank and from the IDB, all without the required consultation.¹⁷ Nonetheless, the theory that the Nicaragua Canal is more likely a scheme of land encroachment and speculation is gaining acceptance.¹⁸ Through the Nicaragua Canal project, the government has attempted to take 93% of the territory claimed by the Indigenous Black Creole Community of Bluefields (hereinafter "CNCIB")¹⁹ and the heart of the Rama and Kriol Territory. Yet no official report has been provided to these peoples, much less has any alternative plan whatsoever been drawn up.²⁰ The lack of judicial protection in this case has been evident, given that 16 actions have been filed, including *amparo* proceedings against acts of administrative officials, actions on the grounds of unconstitutionality, and actions for *habeas corpus* before the Supreme Court of Justice of Nicaragua, but no positive results have been obtained.²¹ In June 2014, these peoples took their case to the IACHR, initially due to a lack of Free, Prior, and Informed Consent. Then, due to the subsequent government intent to encroach upon their traditional collective lands coupled with the lack of judicial protection,²² they also petitioned for precautionary measures. Both petitions were sent to the State of Nicaragua in the years 2016 and 2017, but the Nicaraguan government has not responded to the IACHR.

Similarly, the Rama and Kriol peoples are working to protect the Indio-Maíz Biological Reserve, superimposed upon their traditional territory and forming a part of the Biosphere Reserve of Southeast Nicaragua. Seeking to curtail the invasion of armed settlers, the Rama and Kriol peoples have engaged in joint actions that bring together their leaders, nongovernmental organizations such as Fundación del Río ["River Foundation"],²³ Universidad Centroamericana (UCA), and other interested parties in search of a peaceful and legal resolution of conflicts. Yet the State has responded by denying Fundación del Río its operating permit.²⁴ Just as occurs in other indigenous territories, governmental institutions have not responded to the denunciations; instead they have favored the invasion by settlers and the permanence of third

persons. In this way, the government is encouraging the deforestation of the Indio-Maíz Biological Reserve, and, as in the Bosawas Biosphere Reserve, the sale of timber, large-scale livestock raising,²⁵ gold mining,²⁶ and the planting of industrial monocrops such as African palm.

In addition, the webpage of the Caribbean Catastrophe Insurance Facility and Segregated Portfolio Company (CCRIF SPC) announced that the Government of Nicaragua collected 1,110,193 US\$ on a catastrophic insurance policy in response to the direct impact occasioned by Hurricane Otto in the country, which severely impacted the Reserve. The compensation was granted on December 9, 2016, that is, 14 days after the hurricane came through. Nonetheless, the Rama and Kriol Territorial Government (hereinafter "GTR-K") issued a press release, stating that they had no information on whether the funds acquired would be used in the communities of the Rama and Kriol Territory, which were the ones that suffered the worst damage from Otto. The GTR-K stated that the emergency situation in the affected communities would require immediate support, with food, supplies of seeds for the production of crops, and the rebuilding of homes.²⁷

The State of Nicaragua in contempt

Invasions and attacks by armed settlers against the indigenous peoples, principally the Mayangna and Mískitu peoples, have sown terror among hundreds of indigenous families, who have had to move to other communities or take refuge in the Republic of Honduras, where it is reported that there are more than 1,300 indigenous Nicaraguan persons. That situation is intimately related to the extractivist policies of the State over natural resources in their ancestral territories, for which, paradoxically, the State itself has granted them title in the past decade. In the case of RACCN the situation with the settlers has been exacerbated since the year 2015 to such an extent that both the Inter-American Commission of Human Rights and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights (hereinafter "IACHR Court") as of years 2016 and 2017, granted precautionary and interim measures, respectively, to protect the lives and integrity of the members and the communities of the affected — and in some cases forcibly— displaced indigenous peoples.²⁸ Nonetheless, the State of Nicaragua is in contempt, due to ignoring the measures required by these international bodies.²⁹

Vulnerability of defenders of indigenous peoples' rights

The vulnerability of the defenders of the human rights of indigenous and afro-descendants peoples, particularly those who exercise the defense of their identity, lands, natural resources, and environment, is accompanied by a high degree of impunity in Nicaragua,³⁰ as is reflected in the Case of Acosta et al. Vs. Nicaragua.³¹ In the judgment issued on that case in April 2017 the IACHR Court ordered the State, among other things, "to take the necessary measures so that the homicidal act [whose victim was Mr. Francisco José García Valle in the year 2002] does not remain in impunity...³² and to develop protection mechanisms and investigation protocols for cases with situations of risk, threats, and aggressions against human rights defenders."³³ The State has yet to take such actions. Throughout year 2017 the Ministry of the Interior denied the nongovernmental organization Fundación del Río its administrative permit to operate, even though that Foundation met all the legal requirements.³⁴ Harassment continued against Rama and Kriol leaders and authorities and those of the creoles of Bluefields, as did the lack of protection for the physical integrity of the president and other members of the Center for Justice and Human Rights of the Atlantic Coast of Nicaragua (hereinafter CEJUDHCAN), a nongovernmental organization that has accompanied the Miskitu peoples in their search for governmental protection state against attacks by armed settlers in the RCCN.³⁵ Criminalization and the lack of investigation persist in response to the murders of indigenous leaders and authorities, as occurred with the Representative to the National Assembly and indigenous leader of the regional YATAMA party, Brooklyn Rivera.³⁶ The former human rights ombudsman for indigenous peoples of the PCN has repeatedly denounced deaths of indigenous persons that have not been investigated by the corresponding authorities and thus have not been solved.³⁷ During the year 2017 the IACHR has reiterated its concern for defenders of rights to land and to natural resources, and for indigenous persons and afro-descendants engaged in such defense work, who continue to face great risks of violence in Nicaragua.³⁸

Notes and references

1. Authorities of the Indigenous People of Totogalpa and Telpaneca on November 13 and 14, 2017 respectively, reported to Attorney Rigoberto Mairena Ruiz that

these guidelines have been applied in a manner manipulated by the PRODEP implementation authorities, where authorities have been brought together for consultation; however, without any consent whatsoever being issued, the Topographical Survey has been carried out and titles have even been granted to the occupants of indigenous lands. See also: The final report of the "Social Analysis" of the Territorial Zoning Program II, conducted for the month of December 2012, which recognized the existence of conflicts and categorized them as a problem among stakeholders: "The principal conflicts found are those existing between the indigenous peoples of the Pacific, Central, and North regions and the other social players" (Page 10).

2. Communication sent to the Office of the Attorney General and the World Bank Office by the Territorial Governments of the Chorotega Peoples of the North, received by both institutions on December 17, 2015.
3. Unpublished investigation by Attorney Rigoberto Mairena Ruiz.
4. "Comandante-Presidente Daniel entrega títulos comunitarios a pueblos originarios de la Costa Caribe de Nicaragua". 19 Digital. October 29, 2016. Available at: <https://www.el19digital.com/articulos/ver/titulo:48337-comandante-presidente-daniel-entrega-titulos-comunitarios-a-pueblos-originarios-de-la-costa-caribe-de-nicaragua>.
5. Law No. 445, the Law on the Communal Property Regime of Indigenous Peoples and Ethnic Communities of the Autonomous Regions of the Atlantic Coast of Nicaragua and of the Bocay, Coco, Indio, and Maíz Rivers.
6. President Daniel Ortega, this past May First, defended the right of peasants and squatters to conserve their lands, lots, and homes, even if not legally theirs, and he expressly asked the National Police not to evict them even if a court order has been issued for doing so, because "it is a crime" to take them out of their homes. "Presidente ordena a la Policía no desalojar a nadie cuya propiedad esté en disputa". Radio La Primerísima, May 1, 2007. Available at: <http://www.radiolaprimerisima.com/noticias/13168/presidente-ordena-a-la-policia-no-desalojar-a-nadie-cuya-propiedad-este-en-disputa>
7. The citizen power model is organized at all territorial levels, from the community up to the national level, as well as based on productive or social sectors. The citizen power structure is considered to play a triple role at a territorial level: community organization in order to give a voice to group of inhabitants; para-governmental organization in order to support the government in fulfilling the government's function of providing social services; and para-party organization that works to strengthen and broaden the electoral base of the FSLN. *Consejos del Poder Ciudadano y gestión pública en Nicaragua*. Stuart Almendárez, Roberto. Centro de Estudios y Análisis Político, for the Department for International Development of the United Kingdom (DFID) Available at: http://www.oas.org/juridico/spanish/mesicic3_nic_consejos.pdf
8. "Indígenas de Muy Muy, los más conflictivos". La Prensa. Luis Eduardo Martínez M. May 10, 2003. Available at: <https://www.laprensa.com.ni/2003/05/10/departamentales/883373-indgenas-de-muy-muy-los-ms-conflictivos>

Indígenas de Muy Muy más divididos. Tres grupos se disputan los bienes de la Comunidad. La Prensa. Luis Eduardo Martínez M., June 23, 2010. Available at: <https://www.laprensa.com.ni/2010/06/23/departamentales/28819-indigenas-de-muy-muy-mas-divididos> “Indígenas denuncian que mafia de empleados públicos invaden sus tierras. Identifican “una mafia” tras invasión a tierras ancestrales”. La Prensa, Elizabeth Romero, April 7, 2016. Available at: <https://www.laprensa.com.ni/2016/04/07/nacionales/2014320-les-invaden-tierras-indigenas> “Denuncian despojo de tierras indígenas en Matagalpa. Pobladores denuncian a nuevos representantes de la comunidad indígena de Muy Muy”. La Prensa. Elizabeth Romero, August 29, 2017. Available at: <https://www.laprensa.com.ni/2017/08/29/nacionales/2287833-denuncian-despojo-tierras-indigenas-matagalpa>

9. IACHR Video. 156th Ordinary Session. Thematic Hearing: “Vulneración a la autodeterminación y territorios de los Pueblos Indígenas y Afrodescendientes de la Costa Caribe de Nicaragua,” [“Violation of self-determination and territories of the Indigenous and Afro-descendant Peoples of the Caribbean Coast of Nicaragua”] October 20, 2015. Available at: <http://www.oas.org/es/cidh/multimedia/sesiones/156/default.asp>
10. Once the appeal was denied that was filed through the Administrative Law system before the Supreme Court of Justice of Nicaragua against the Municipal Council of Muy Muy in the year 2013, the MC-390-13 Precautionary measures were sought before the IACHR, but they were not granted. For that reason, on October 23, 2015 a Petition was filed against the State of Nicaragua, P-1771-15, regarding the same acts as before the IACHR. On August 3, 2017 the State of Nicaragua was granted a term of three months to respond to the Petition. The State has not responded.
11. “Gobierno protege a Alba Forestal.” Confidencia, Octavio Enríquez, June 5, 2013. Available at: <http://confidencial.com.ni/archivos/articulo/12124/quot-gobierno-protege-a-alba-forestal-quot>
12. VIDEO: “Noticiero Contacto Bonanceño: Pobladores de la Comunidad de Wilu del Territorio Sauni As (Nación Mayangna) hace 10 días dejaron sus hogares y están Refugiados...” [Inhabitants of the Community of Wilu from the Sauni As Territory (Mayangna Nation) abandoned their homes 10 days ago and are Refugees]. “Indígenas abandonan comunidad por enfrentamiento contra colonos”. La Prensa, José Garth Medina, December 9, 2017. Available at: <https://www.laprensa.com.ni/2017/12/09/departamentales/2344103-indigenas-abandonan-comunidad-por-enfrentamiento-contra-colonos>. In early December some seventy families from the Wilu community were displaced from the territory to the buffer zone of Bosawas and are living at a school in Musawas. Many of their needs are not being met, stated the member of a commission of community leaders, Norman Davis. “Peligrosa situación en Bosawas tras invasión de colonos a territorios indígenas”. La Prensa, Elizabeth Romero, December 18, 2017. Available at: <https://www.laprensa.com.ni/2017/12/18/nacionales/2348490-peligrosa-situacion-en-bosawas-tras>

- [invasion-de-colonos-a-territorios-indigenas](#) "Situación de la propiedad comunal indígena en Nicaragua".
13. The National Assembly, in full session, approved the creation of Empresa Nicaragüense de Minas, ENIMINAS, which will allow the State of Nicaragua to have representation in all concessions granted for mining exploitation. "Crean por Ley Empresa Nicaragüense de Minas, ENIMINAS". National Assembly Press, June 21, 2017. Available at: <http://www.asamblea.gob.ni/360792/aprueban-por-ley-empresa-nicaraguense-de-minas-eniminas/>
 14. "La Palma Africana, el Oro Verde del Caribe Nicaragüense". La nueva Radio Ya. February 25, 2017 <https://nuevaya.com.ni/la-palma-africana-oro-verde-del-caribe-nicaraguense/> "Empresa de palma violó normativas ambientales". Confidencial, Michelle Carrere, September 14, 2017. Available at: <https://confidencial.com.ni/empresa-palma-violo-normativas-a>
 15. "Obras del Gran Canal de Nicaragua comenzarán a partir de la segunda mitad de 2017". La Voz del Sandinismo. Central Editorial Board, January 27, 2017. Available at: <http://www.lavozdelsandinismo.com/economia/2017-01-27/obras-del-gran-canal-de-nicaragua-comenzaran-a-partir-de-la-segunda-mitad-de-2017/>
 16. For more information see: Acosta. María L. "El Impacto de la Ley del Gran Canal Interoceánico de Nicaragua sobre los Pueblos Indígenas y Afrodescendientes de Nicaragua". Available at: <http://portalderevistas.upoli.edu.ni/index.php/cuaderno-juridico-y-politico/article/view/317>
 17. Of the more than 72 kilometers of the highway that will link Bluefields with Naciones Unidas, Nueva Guinea, and thus with the Nicaraguan Pacific, the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MTI) already concluded the first 26.5 kilometers with hydraulic concrete and is making progress with the rest of the road. There are already 26.5 kilometers of hydraulic concrete going to Bluefields. La Prensa. Roy Moncada. November 1, 2017. Available at: <https://www.laprensa.com.ni/2017/11/01/nacionales/2323572-ya-hay-26-5-kilometros-de-concreto-hidraulico-para-ir-a-bluefields>
 18. "Canal interoceánico en Nicaragua se desvanece tras acuerdos de Panamá con China". La Prensa, Octavio Enríquez, November 30, 2017. <https://www.laprensa.com.ni/2017/11/30/politica/2339467-canal-interoceanico-en-nicaragua-se-desvanece-tras-acuerdos-de-panama-con-china>
 19. VIDEO: "The Golden Swampo" displays the intent by the State of Nicaragua to encroach upon the traditional lands of the Black Creole Indigenous Community of Bluefields. Available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RBzw4f-iVlo>
 20. VIDEO: "We Do Not Consent" presents the testimonies of indigenous authorities and leaders denouncing the lack of free, prior, informed consent from the indigenous and afro-descendants peoples. Available at: <https://vimeo.com/184864298>
 21. See: Acosta. María L. El título del territorio de los creoles de Bluefields y el gran canal interoceánico por Nicaragua. Available at: <https://www.calpi-nicaragua.org/el-titulo-del-territorio-de-los-creoles-de-bluefields-y-el-gran-canal-interoceanico-por-nicaragua/>

22. See: Acosta. María L. "Reflexiones sobre el Gran Canal Interoceánico por Nicaragua y el Déjà vu de la Comunidad de Monkey Point ISTMO", Revista de Estudios Literarios y Culturales Centroamericanos. Instituto de Historia de Nicaragua y Centroamérica (IHNCA), Universidad [Available at: http://istmo.denison.edu/n33/articulos/03_acosta_maria_luisa_form.pdf]
23. "Advierten del peligro de construir escuela en núcleo de la Reserva Indio Maíz. Para iniciar la construcción de la escuela en el núcleo de la Reserva Indio Maíz también fue abierta una trocha". La Prensa Elizabeth Romero, August 14, 2017. Available at: <http://www.laprensa.com.ni/2017/08/14/nacionales/2279281-advierten-del-peligro-de-construir-escuela-en-nucleo-de-la-reserva-indio-maiz>
24. See Note 33 below.
25. "Ganadería extensiva e ilegal destruye Reserva Indio Maíz en Nicaragua". Mongabay/Onda Local. Dyerling Ríos and Christopher Mendoza, July 14, 2017. Available at: <https://es.mongabay.com/2017/07/ganaderia-extensiva-e-ilegal-destruye-reserva-indio-maiz-nicaragua/> SOS por Indio Maíz. Confidencial. Dyerling Ríos and Christopher Mendoza. August 19, 2017 <https://confidencial.com.ni/sos-indio-maiz/>
26. "Minería artesanal entra a la reserva Indio Maíz". La Prensa. Cinthya Tórrez García, November 30, 2017. Available at: <https://www.laprensa.com.ni/2017/11/30/nacionales/2339318-mineria-artesanal-entra-a-la-reserva-indio-m>
27. "Gobierno cobró millonario seguro tras azote de "Otto."" Confidencial. Maynor Salazar. January 16, 2017. Available at: <https://confidencial.com.ni/gobierno-cobro-millonario-seguro-tras-azote-de-otto/>
28. IACHR. Resolution 2/2016, Precautionary Measure No. 505-15, "*Pueblo Indígena Miskitu de Wangki Twi-Tasba Raya respecto de Nicaragua*", [Miskitu Indigenous People of Wangki Twi-Tasba Raya with respect to Nicaragua] January 16, 2016. Available at: <http://www.refworld.org/pdfid/5747f9b94.pdf>. IACHR. Resolution 44/2016, Precautionary Measure No. 505-15, "*Pueblo Indígena Miskitu de Wangki Twi-Tasba Raya respecto de Nicaragua*", [Miskitu Indigenous People of Wangki Twi-Tasba Raya with respect to Nicaragua] August 8, 2016. Available at: <https://www.oas.org/es/cidh/decisiones/pdf/2016/MC505-15-ES-2.pdf>. Resolution of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights of September 1, 2016 "Asuntos Pobladores de las Comunidades del Pueblo Indígena Miskitu de la Región Costa Caribe Norte". [Matter of Inhabitants of the Communities of the Miskitu Indigenous People of the Northern Caribbean Coast Region] Available at: http://www.corteidh.or.cr/docs/medidas/miskitu_se_01.pdf. IACHR Court. "Asunto Pobladores de las Comunidades del Pueblo Indígena Miskitu de la Región Costa Caribe Norte". [Matter of Inhabitants of the Communities of the Miskitu Indigenous People of the Northern Caribbean Coast Region] Resolution of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights of November 23, 2016. Available at: http://www.corteidh.or.cr/docs/medidas/miskitu_se_02.pdf The Inter-American Commission of Human Rights expands protection for Miskita communities. "CENIDH condena amenazas de muerte contra defensoras/es de

- CEJUDHCAN". CENIDH. March 8, 2017. Available at: <http://www.cenidh.org/noticias/979/>.
29. "Estado dice "no" a demandas de la Corte Interamericana de Derechos Humanos. Gobierno desestima medidas provisionales y en informes no detalla acciones de protección a indígenas en zonas de conflicto territorial". La Prensa. Tammy Zoad Mendoza M., October 7, 2017. Available at: <https://www.laprensa.com.ni/2017/07/10/nacionales/2260490-estado-dice-no-a-demandas-de-la-corte-interamericana-de-derechos-humanos>
 30. "Nicaragua, el país per cápita más peligroso para los defensores de la tierra y el medio ambiente. Nicaragua aparece en el sexto lugar a nivel mundial donde han asesinado a defensores de la tierra del informe mundial Defender la Tierra». La Prensa, Elizabeth Romero July 13, 2017. Available at: <https://www.laprensa.com.ni/2017/07/13/nacionales/2262509-nicaragua-mas-peligroso-percapita> Felipe Pérez Gamboa, Celedonia Salazar Point, Tito José González Bendes, Camilo Frank López are the four Nicaraguans who died in defense of their territory last year, according to statistics from Global Witness. In 2016, according to that same organization, 11 murders took place in the country of defenders of the land and the environment. "197 personas murieron en defensa de sus tierras en 2017, según Global Witness". La Prensa, Cinthya Tórrez García, February 12, 2018. Available at: <https://www.laprensa.com.ni/2018/02/12/nacionales/2375484-197-personas-murieron-en-defensa-de-sus-tierras-en-2017-segun-global-witness>
 31. Inter-American Court of Human Rights. Case of Acosta *et al.* vs. Nicaragua. Preliminary Defenses, Merits, Restitution, and Costs. Judgment of March 25, 2017. Series C No. 334. Paragraph 154. Available at: <http://www.corteidh.or.cr/casos.cfm>
 32. "Every soldier wants to be a general" was the explanation given by Judge Julio Acuña Cambronero regarding his aspirations to be an Appellate Judge. "Juez que motivó sentencia contra Estado de Nicaragua busca ser magistrado". La Prensa. Elizabeth Romero, February 7, 2018. Available at: <https://www.laprensa.com.ni/2018/02/07/nacionales/2372813-juez-que-motivo-sentencia-contra-estado-de-nicaragua-busca-ser-magistrado>
 33. VIDEO: Thematic hearing, IACHR, Situation of women human rights defenders in Nicaragua, 164th Special Period of Sessions in Mexico. September 6, 2017. Available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c4Pr6A3Yiq8>
 34. VIDEO: «Fundación del Río denuncia "presiones" de Gobernación". [Del Río Foundation denounces "pressure" from the Department of the Interior] Available at: https://www.youtube.com/embed/fGn3_vM3NVM
 35. "CIDH pide protección para activista de derechos humanos del Caribe. La CIDH encontró méritos a la solicitud realizada para que otorgara medidas cautelares a favor de la presidenta de Cejudhcan, Lottie Cunningham." La Prensa. Elizabeth Romero, June 15, 2017. Available at: <https://www.laprensa.com.ni/2017/06/15/nacionales/2247303-IACHR-pide-proteccion-activista-derechos-humanos-del-caribe> IACHR. Precautionary Measure No. 505-15,

Lottie Cunningham with respect to Nicaragua (Extended), June 11, 2017. <https://www.oas.org/es/cidh/decisiones/pdf/2017/16-17MC505-15-NI.pdf> "La CIDH concede medidas de protección a defensora de derechos humanos nicaragüense". CEJIL. June 22, 2017 <https://www.cejil.org/es/cidh-concede-medidas-proteccion-defensora-derechos-humanos-nicaraguense>

36. Rivera: "Gobierno se lava las manos en violencia contra indígenas." Confidencial, Arlen Cerda, January 4, 2017. Available at: <https://confidencial.com.ni/rivera-gobierno-se-lava-las-manos-en-violencia-contra-indigenas/> VIDEO: "Brooklyn Rivera habla sobre la violencia que azota a las comunidades indígenas". Confidencial TV, January 20, 2017. Available at: <https://confidencial.com.ni/brooklyn-rivera-habla-la-la-violencia-azota-las-comunidades-indigenas-del-caribe/>
37. In a press release, the Indigenous Movement of Nicaragua reported on the indigenous leaders of the Nicaraguan Pacific, Central, and Northern regions murdered for defending indigenous property. Among the most recent cases are those of Bayardo Alvarado Gómez, of the Muy Muy people, murdered by machete blows in March 2013; Rafael Baquedano, a leader from El Viejo; she was murdered by gunshot and stoning in November 2012. The press release also indicates the case of Eusebio González, ex-president of the indigenous people of Matagalpa, murdered by gunshot in November 2010. In the case of Gerardo Mena, he was murdered by three gunshot wounds in the early morning on Wednesday in his house, 2015. "Indígenas no creen en robo sobre el móvil del crimen del líder indígena de Nahualapa, Rivas". La Prensa, Elizabeth Romero, February 14, 2015. Available at: <http://www.laprensa.com.ni/2015/02/14/nacionales/1782241-indigenas-no-creen-en-robo>
38. "La CIDH se pronuncia por familia indígena asesinada en el Caribe. Nunca capturaron a los que mataron a Bernicia Dixon Peralta, su esposo Feliciano Benlis Flores y su hijo de 11 años". Feliciano Benlis Dixon. La Prensa, Elizabeth Romero, February 8, 2017, <https://www.laprensa.com.ni/2017/02/08/nacionales/2179266-la-IACHR-se-pronuncia-familia-indigena-asesinada-caribe>

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