

# Methodological Annex

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**SIMORE**  
INTER-AMERICAN



INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM  
FOR MONITORING  
RECOMMENDATIONS

**Inter-American System for Monitoring  
Recommendations**

## Presentation

The Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR), as part of its commitment to promoting transparency in its activities, as well as to disseminating and ensuring access to information related to the enforcement and guarantee of human rights in the region, makes the Inter-American System for Monitoring Recommendations (Inter-American SIMORE) available to the general public. The Inter-American SIMORE represents an important step towards generating conditions for open dialogue that promote the exchange of information and experiences regarding the follow-up and implementation of the various measures ordered by the IACHR to the Member States of the Organization of American States (OAS) through its distinct mechanisms.

When it comes to the analysis and systematization of information, the coding process is a central element in the organization, methodological processing and presentation of that information. For this reason, the IACHR accompanies the Inter-American SIMORE with this Methodological Annex, which aims to publicly disclose the way in which the information contained in the Inter-American SIMORE was classified and, thus, facilitate users' handling and analysis of the data contained therein.

Defining the classification criteria and categories proved to be a complex but highly rewarding task. In this process, the IACHR held consultations with the different areas of its Executive Secretariat and with civil society. It also carried out regular exchanges with the States of the region and analyzed in detail the operation of other systems for classifying human rights recommendations, with the aim of presenting the information contained in the Inter-American SIMORE as clearly as possible. On that basis, and after an extensive consultation period, the Executive Secretariat combined and systematized the contributions received and concluded the coding process in a joint effort with the OAS Department of Information and Technology Services, which developed the software that houses the code provided by Paraguay by way of the Memorandum of Understanding signed between the State and the IACHR in 2017.

The IACHR firmly believes that the Inter-American SIMORE reflects a democratic effort to promote access to information and critical analysis of the achievements of the actors of the Inter-American Human Rights System (IAHRS) in terms of compliance with recommendations, as well as of the challenges that remain. Furthermore, it provides an insight into the changes and impacts on the promotion and protection of the human rights of individuals and collectives resulting from States' implementation of the recommendations. In this sense, the IACHR makes this tool available to public servants, academics, activists, human rights defenders, journalists, governments, victims and petitioners before the IAHRS, as well as to non-governmental organizations, international organizations and other social actors, with the aim of promoting proposals, studies and reflections that contribute to the functioning of the IAHRS and its organs, and thereby encouraging effective implementation processes that strengthen compliance with recommendations.

Finally, the IACHR considers it necessary to mention that the information contained in the Inter-American SIMORE, and in the accompanying Methodological Annex, is for informational purposes only and in no way represents considerations that could impact in any way the processing of cases or other processes within the framework of the IACHR's main functions and activities.

## Background

In recent years, the IACHR has taken important steps in developing and perfecting methodologies for following up on its recommendations, as well as in verifying the degree of compliance and internalization of the human rights commitments assumed by States. As part of the actions adopted, the IACHR has developed innovative methodological tools that have made it possible to generate and implement new criteria for assessing the level of compliance of the various recommendations it issues to States.

Thus, in 2018, the IACHR reorganized the structure of the report that it submits annually to the OAS General Assembly and included follow-up factsheets that make it easier to identify the achievements and challenges related to compliance with recommendations. This reformulation led to an increase in the number of communications and meetings with States, victims, petitioners and civil society, which have focused on building consensus-based routes to facilitating and promoting compliance with the IACHR's recommendations. With this, the IACHR also redesigned the methodology for conducting a comprehensive analysis of compliance with the recommendations issued in its country reports.<sup>1</sup>

This led to the approval and publication by the IACHR in 2019 of the *General Guidelines on the Follow-up of Recommendations and Decisions of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights*,<sup>2</sup> a document that aims to ensure transparency and to share the mandates, methodologies, criteria and procedures applied in the follow up of the recommendations issued by the Commission through its various mechanisms. The IACHR also created the *Observatory on the Impact of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights*,<sup>3</sup> a collaborative platform whose main objectives are to reflect upon, systematize and increase awareness of the impact of the actions of the Commission in the defense and protection of human rights in the hemisphere.

Under this approach, the IACHR has promoted the creation of tools that make the follow-up and compliance with recommendations a central activity of the different actors of the IAHRs, with a view towards the effectiveness of the system and the full enjoyment of human rights in the hemisphere. In this sense, in 2017, the IACHR signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the State of Paraguay to promote the exchange of experiences and foster reciprocal technical cooperation for the development of joint projects and activities in the field of human rights.<sup>4</sup>

As part of said Memorandum, the State of Paraguay shared with the IACHR the technological structure of the System for Monitoring International Recommendations on Human Rights and Sustainable Development of Paraguay (SIMORE Plus) –a digital tool developed in cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights that facilitates the systematization of international human rights recommendations and provides public access to updated information on the actions taken by State institutions–, with the aim of replicating this tool, but with a regional scope that incorporates the recommendations that the IACHR has issued to OAS Member States.

The follow-up and implementation agenda advanced by the IACHR in recent years has gained the support and backing of the American States. In this regard, during its last two ordinary periods of sessions, the OAS General Assembly acknowledged the Commission's efforts to implement the Inter-American System for Monitoring Recommendations and urged States to collaborate in the implementation of this tool and, in doing so, strengthen their institutional capacities to follow up on and implement decisions adopted within the framework of the IAHRs.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> IACHR, Annual Report 2018, [Chapter V. Follow-up on Recommendations Issued by the IACHR in Its Country and Thematic Reports](#).

<sup>2</sup> IACHR, [General Guidelines on the Follow-up of Recommendations and Decisions of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights](#).

<sup>3</sup> IACHR, [Resolution 2/19 on the Creation of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights Impact Observatory](#).

<sup>4</sup> IACHR, [IACHR and Paraguay Sign Memorandum of Understanding to Implement Inter-American System for Monitoring Recommendations](#), Press Release 201/17, December 5, 2017.

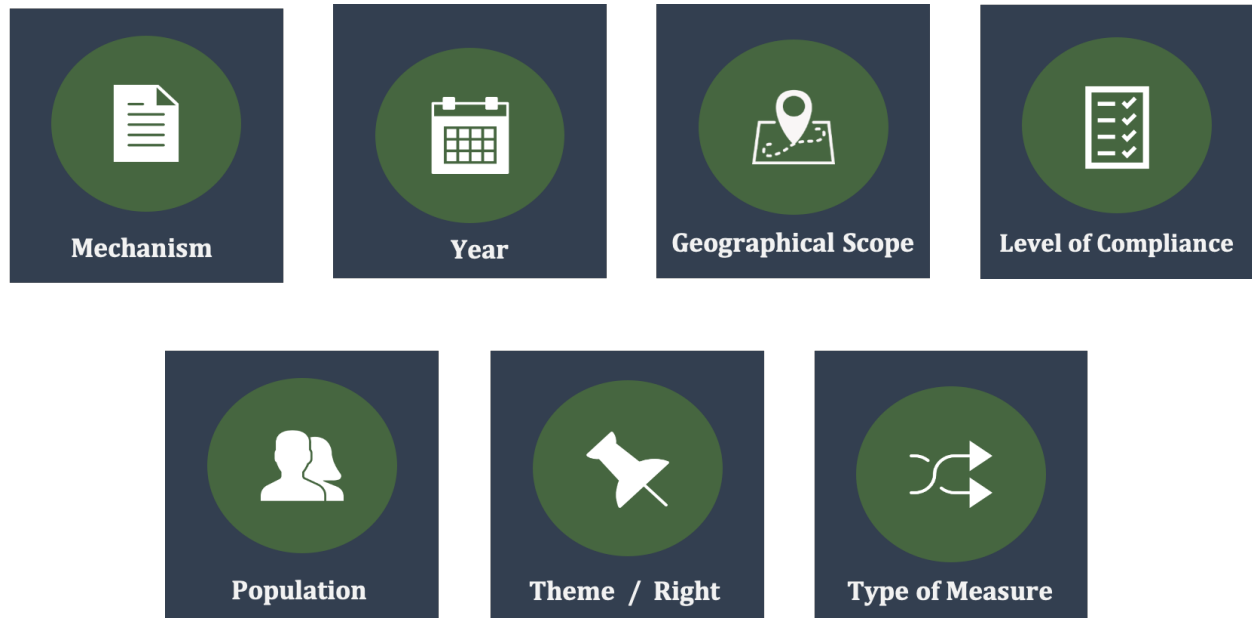
<sup>5</sup> OAS General Assembly, *Promotion and Protection of Human Rights*, Resolution AG/RES. 2941 (XLIX-O/19), adopted at the 49<sup>th</sup> regular session, Medellín, Colombia, June 26-28, 2019, p. 152; OAS General Assembly, *Promotion and Protection of Human Rights*, Resolution AG/RES. 2928 (XLVIII-O/18) adopted at the 48<sup>th</sup> regular session, Washington D.C., United States of America, June 4-5, 2018, p. 170.

## Introduction

The Inter-American SIMORE is an online tool that systematizes the recommendations issued by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights through its various mechanisms. It also constitutes the preferential channel for exchanging and receiving information on the follow-up of recommendations derived from the IACHR's regional Monitoring System. The Inter-American SIMORE is a mechanism for accountability, transparency, participation and access to information that facilitates the follow-up of recommendations, strengthens capacities for monitoring measures and promoting compliance with international obligations, and reports on progress and challenges to human rights protection in the region's countries.

To this extent, it is important to specify that the recommendations issued by the IACHR are the primary category of analysis of the Inter-American SIMORE. Thus, a recommendation should be understood as any provision derived from the exercise of the functions and mandates of the IACHR, through which it orders, requests or suggests the adoption of specific or general measures to remedy, modify, terminate or reinstate a given set of circumstances in the area of human rights.

As an information systematization tool, the Inter-American SIMORE uses various classification criteria in order to present information and improve the user experience. In this sense, this document is a valuable guide to the systematization criteria used to classify and group the information presented.



## Mechanism

Pursuant to its conventional and regulatory powers, the IACHR issues recommendations to OAS Member States through various tools and processes that fall within its competency of promoting and protecting human rights. Thus, in addition to processing and following up on petitions, cases and precautionary measures, the IACHR carries out actions to advance and monitor human rights in the region, with the aim of promoting the effective enjoyment and exercise of human rights.

<b>Published Merits Reports</b>	In accordance with Article 51 of the ACHR, if a case has not been settled or submitted to the Court, the IACHR may issue its final observations and decide to publish the merits report. In the case of States that are not Parties to the ACHR, the IACHR issues recommendations pursuant to Article 106 of the OAS Charter and Article 18 of the Statute of the IACHR.	Since 2000
<b>Chapter IV.B – IACHR Annual Report</b>	In accordance with Article 59.6 of its Rules of Procedure, the IACHR has the power to include in Chapter IV.B of its Annual Report an examination of the human rights situation in countries of the region in which it considers that particular conditions exist that pose a risk to human rights. Pursuant to Article 59.9, these reports are subject to follow-up by the IACHR.	Most recent by country since 2000
<b>Country Reports</b>	In accordance with Article 60 of its Rules of Procedure, the IACHR has the power to prepare general or specific reports on the human rights situation in a State. Within the framework of these reports, the IACHR issues recommendations to guide the efforts of States.	Most recent by country since 2000
<b>Thematic Reports</b>	Article 58 of the IACHR's Rules of Procedure authorizes it to prepare studies and reports that it considers relevant to the exercise of its functions. Some of these reports examine particular issues relevant to the region, offering recommendations and guidelines that promote greater compliance by States with their international obligations.	Since 2000
<b>Friendly Settlement Reports</b>	In accordance with Article 40 of its Rules of Procedure, when in the course of processing a petition the parties decide to submit themselves to a friendly settlement procedure and reach an agreement on the matter, the IACHR will issue and publish a report with the agreements and commitments reached, which are subject to follow-up by the IACHR.	Since 2000
<b>Resolutions on Precautionary Measures</b>	In particularly serious and urgent cases, Article 25 of the IACHR's Rules of Procedure empowers it to issue precautionary measures with the aim of preventing irreparable harm. This norm also permits the IACHR to take the follow-up actions it deems appropriate in order to determine whether to modify, lift or maintain the measures.	Since 2013*
<b>Resolutions</b>	In accordance with Article 106 of the OAS Charter and in application of Article 41.b of the ACHR and Article 18.b of the Statute of the IACHR, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights is competent to issue recommendations to the governments of States regarding the adoption of progressive human rights measures.	Since 2000

The Inter-American SIMORE includes the recommendations issued by the IACHR from 2000 onwards. This reflects criteria derived from regulatory changes, as well as practices and policies implemented by the IACHR. With regard to the mechanisms of Published Merits Reports, Friendly Settlement Agreements, Thematic Reports and Resolutions, the Inter-American SIMORE includes recommendations from 2000 onwards, given that in December of that year the IACHR approved several amendments to its Rules of Procedure that expressly recognized its competence to carry out follow-up actions. With regard to recommendations issued in Chapter IV.B of the IACHR's Annual Report and in Country Reports, the Inter-American SIMORE includes those recommendations contained in the most recent report published for each country since 2000.

## Year

The reports issued by the IACHR often go through different procedural stages that extend over time. Every report and procedure is different, and their processing requires different tools and considerations. Accordingly, the recommendations contained in the Inter-American SIMORE were classified according to the **year of publication of the report or decision in which they appear**.

For instance, regarding the recommendations contained in Published Merits Reports, the Inter-American SIMORE considers the year in which the IACHR published the report in its Annual Report to the OAS General Assembly. In the specific case of Published Merits Reports, the information contained in the [Follow-Up of Cases](#) component of the Follow-up of Recommendations section of the IACHR's website may be a useful guide. In the case of [Resolutions on Precautionary Measures](#), the same information can be found in the relevant section of the IACHR's website.

## Geographical Scope

The IACHR issues general observations and recommendations to all of the countries of the region through Thematic Reports, and recommendations to specific States through Merits Reports, Country Reports, Friendly Settlement Agreements and Resolutions on Precautionary Measures.

In this sense, the Inter-American SIMORE allows users to perform two types of searches based on the category of "geographical scope". On the one hand, specific recommendations can be filtered out for each of the 35 OAS Member States. On the other hand, search results can be obtained on the basis of a regional criterion that includes the general recommendations issued by the IACHR, especially in its Thematic Reports.

The geographical distribution of recommendations is a dynamic element that depends on a number of factors outside the purview of the IACHR. Not all States in the region have the same number of cases or the same number of recommendations. States may have cases that are actively being monitored, but no active precautionary measures or recently issued Country Reports. It is also possible that, when applying this search criterion, the system may not return any results for some States, because they have no active cases in follow-up. In other words, there are no Published Merits Reports for these States from 2000 to the present.

## Population

The Inter-American SIMORE classifies the recommendations issued by the IACHR based on the population involved. This category includes those recommendations in which:

- The IACHR conducted a specific analysis of the effects on a group or individual involved;
- At least one person in that population is a direct victim in the case, and/or;
- A population has been identified that may potentially be directly or indirectly affected by a human rights violation, or by the implementation of the recommendation under study.

Regarding this classification, for example, it is possible for a recommendation to be classified under the category “women”, even though the case in question does not necessarily examine a gender-based human rights violation, but because in its analysis a woman was identified as a victim for different reasons. This is because international human rights law is a dynamic discipline that is constantly evolving and it is common for legal standards to be developed over time that were not in force when the recommendations were adopted. Thus, in order to provide the most up-to-date and updatable systematization possible, the IACHR classified the recommendations according to the legal standards developed to date, but also left open the possibility of analyzing elements that were not well developed or apparent at the time the recommendations were adopted. To that extent, it is likely that there are cases in which the classification of certain topics is not expressly discernible in the development of the Merits Reports issued. On this point, it is important to note that most of the categories included in this classification criterion are in line with the work and developments advanced by the various Rapporteurships of the IACHR, which over time have helped shape inclusive standards in this area.

It is also important to consider that the categories contained in this criterion are defined based on the need to understand them as open concepts that can be expanded. The IACHR considers that, rather than strictly limiting these categories, they should remain flexible so as to provide greater protection for actors and populations who, because of their inherent conditions and characteristics, are often invisible or excluded from national and international protection. For this reason, and in conjunction with the activities and developments promoted by the various thematic rapporteurships of the IACHR, the Inter-American SIMORE includes different population groups in broader categories. This can be seen, for instance, in the cases of human rights defenders and journalists.

The IACHR is aware that the determination of the population groups used to classify the recommendations included in the Inter-American SIMORE does not constitute an end point. On the contrary, it assumes that this categorization should be understood as an inclusive but not limitative criterion, which should remain open to analysis and updating in accordance with the development and demands that the evolution of international human rights law may require over time. The classification of the recommendations contained in the Inter-American SIMORE is based strictly on methodological criteria and does not reflect a position on the recognition of individuals, groups or rights.



Persons of African Descent	Human Rights Defenders*	Migrants**	Indigenous and Tribal Peoples	Persons Deprived of Liberty***
Women	Children and Adolescents	Older Persons	Journalists****	Persons with Disabilities
Persons with HIV/AIDS	People Living in Poverty or Extreme Poverty	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, and Intersex Persons	Peasants*****	Public Servants
Justice Operators*****				N/A*****

*	<b>Human Rights Defenders</b>	This category includes other actors involved in human rights defense, such as rural workers engaged in land defense and protection activities, as well as justice operators who, as part of their daily activities and responsibilities, carry out activities to protect and defend human rights from an institutional point of view. <sup>6</sup>
**	<b>Migrants</b>	This category includes international and domestic migrants, whether their migration is forced or voluntary. In particular, it recognizes migrants and their families, asylum-seekers, refugees, stateless persons, victims of human trafficking and internally displaced persons, as well as other vulnerable groups in the context of human mobility. <sup>7</sup>
***	<b>Persons Deprived of Liberty</b>	This category includes all cases involving persons subjected to any form of deprivation of liberty, whose human rights have been violated at the time of arrest or during lawful or unlawful deprivation of liberty. All cases related to the death penalty were classified under this criterion. <sup>8</sup>
****	<b>Journalists</b>	The term journalist covers media workers and support staff, as well as those working in community media, "citizen journalists" and others who may be using new forms of media as a tool to reach the public. <sup>9</sup>
*****	<b>Peasants</b>	This category includes peasants and rural communities engaged in activities associated with the land, water and nature to which they are connected and on which their livelihoods depend. <sup>10</sup>
*****	<b>Justice Operators</b>	This category includes government employees who work in the justice system and perform functions essential to the respect and guarantee of protection and due process rights. It includes judges, prosecutors and public defenders who, in their respective roles, perform duties intended to guarantee access to justice. <sup>11</sup>
**** **	<b>N/A</b>	This category applies to those cases in which it is not possible to identify the victims as part of a particular group or population. Despite their non-identification with a particular group, users of the Inter-American SIMORE can find these recommendations through other types of criteria such as Theme/Right.

<sup>6</sup> IACHR, [Human Rights Defenders and Social Leaders in Colombia](#), OEA/Ser.L/V/II, December 6, 2019. IACHR, [Report on the Situation of Human Rights Defenders in the Americas](#), OEA/Ser.L/V/II.124, March 7, 2006.

<sup>7</sup> IACHR, [Human Rights of Migrants, Refugees, Stateless Persons, Victims of Human Trafficking and Internally Displaced Persons: Norms and Standards of the Inter-American Human Rights System](#), OEA/Ser.L/V/II, December 31, 2015.

<sup>8</sup> IACHR, [Principles and Best Practices on the Protection of Persons Deprived of Liberty in the Americas](#), approved by the Commission during its 131<sup>st</sup> regular period of sessions, held from March 3-14, 2008.

<sup>9</sup> IACHR, [Violence against Journalists and Media Workers: Inter-American Standards and National Practices on Prevention, Protection, and Prosecution of Perpetrators](#), OEA/Ser.L/V/II, December 31, 2013.

<sup>10</sup> IACHR, [Violence against Journalists and Media Workers: Inter-American Standards and National Practices on Prevention, Protection, and Prosecution of Perpetrators](#), OEA/Ser.L/V/II, December 31, 2013.

<sup>11</sup> IACHR, [Empresas y Derechos Humanos: Estándares Interamericanos](#) [Business and Human Rights: Inter-American Standards], OEA/Ser.L/V/II, CIDH/REDESCA/INF.1/19, November 1, 2019.

## Theme/Right

The Inter-American SIMORE includes the recommendations issued by the IACHR through its various mechanisms and classifies them based on a thematic criterion related to human rights. The key elements of this coding criterion were determined based on: (a) the conventional recognition of human rights in the principal treaties of the Inter-American Human Rights System; (b) the main categories and themes with which the IACHR works within the framework of its various mandates and mechanisms; (c) the jurisprudential development of the IAHRs driven by the decisions of the Commission and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights; (d) the most recurrent human rights violations in the region; and, (e) the development of international human rights law itself.

As with the “Population” classification criterion, the categories that make up this criterion should be understood as non-exhaustive. In order to facilitate the systematization and presentation of the recommendations contained in the Inter-American SIMORE, the IACHR grouped similar phenomena and situations under broader criteria that would simplify the search process. In that process, the IACHR was very careful to ensure, to the greatest extent possible, that the grouping of the various phenomena in this category does not render any relevant aspect invisible or invalid. However, the Commission is aware that any classification work runs the risks of not adequately reflecting the issues addressed. Despite this, it is important to note that the determination of the categories selected for this classification criterion does not imply a positioning by the IACHR regarding the relevance or importance of human rights issues in the region, or that it prioritizes one issue or another within the framework of the various processes and mechanisms that it implements pursuant to its legal obligations and powers.

It is also important to note that, while some of the categories that make up this classification criterion may appear to coincide with categories in the “Population” criterion, this does not mean that they are identical or interchangeable. The inclusion of similar themes/rights, such as “rights of children and adolescents” within this category may be due to a legal standard linked to the express recognition of this category in a key international instrument of the IAHRs or, alternatively, to a methodological criterion associated with the possibility that an issue in the “Theme/Right” category is applicable to a population, but not limited to it. Thus, for example, while the category of “sexual orientation, gender identity and bodily diversity” may be closely related to the population “lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and intersex people”, the first category is not necessarily limited to that population, but may also extend to other types of communities that make use of the bodily diversity category.

This criterion is used to classify cases or reports containing decisions and recommendations issued to States. Although a case or report may involve the analysis or possible violation of multiple human rights, for the purposes of systematization in the Inter-American SIMORE, the IACHR started by prioritizing certain criteria, such as: (a) the principle violation alleged; (b) the prevalence of substantive considerations over procedural issues; (c) the seriousness of the declared violations of each right; and, (d) the IACHR’s particular analysis of a given issue in the report.

Duty to Adopt Measures and Provisions of Domestic Law	Right to Recognition of Legal Personality	Right to Life	Right to Humane Treatment
Prohibition of Slavery and Servitude	Right to Personal Liberty	Right to a Fair Trial	Freedom from Ex Post Facto Laws
Right to Compensation	Protection of Honor and Dignity	Freedom of Conscience and Religion	Freedom of Thought and Expression
Right of Reply and Correction	Right of Assembly and Freedom of Association	Rights of the Family	Right to a Name
Rights of Children and Adolescents	Right to Nationality	Right to Property	Freedom of Movement and Residence
Political Rights and Participation	Equality and Non-discrimination	Judicial Protection	Right to Work
Trade Union Rights	Right to Social Security	Right to Health	Right to a Healthy Environment
Right to Food	Right to Education	Right to the Benefits of Culture	Right to Housing
Hate Speech	Extrajudicial, Summary or Arbitrary Executions	Death Penalty	Excessive Use of Force
Sexual Violence	Gender-Based Violence	Racial Discrimination	Sexual and Reproductive Rights
Torture and Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment	Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Bodily Diversity	Memory, Truth and Justice*	Prior Censorship
Protest and Public Demonstrations	Indirect Restrictions on Freedom of Expression	States of Emergency and Restrictions on Rights	Investigation and Due Diligence
Extradition	Conditions of Detention	Pretrial Detention	Contempt Laws
Military Justice System	Militarization of Public Safety	Presumption of Innocence	Judicial and Prosecutorial Independence
Internal Displacement	Unprotected Speech	Forced Disappearance	Consular Notification or Information on Consular Assistance
Collective Ownership of Lands, Territories and Natural Resources	Free, Prior, Informed and Culturally Appropriate Consultation	Access to Medicines	Water and Sanitation
Security and Violence	Detention of Children and Adolescents	Best Interests of Children and Adolescents	Juvenile Justice
Family Separation and/or Reunification	Emergencies and Natural Disasters	Access to Information	Asylum and Refugee Status
Corruption and Human Rights	Deportation and Removal	Development and Human Rights	Unlawful or Arbitrary Detention
Drugs and Human Rights	Business and Human Rights	Democratic Institutions	Human Rights Institutions
Poverty and Human Rights	Abduction and/or Return of Abducted Children and Adolescents	Terrorism and Human Rights	Human Trafficking
<b>Indigenous Peoples in Voluntary Isolation and Initial Contact</b>	*Under this category, the IACHR included themes related to serious human rights violations committed during dictatorships and transitional justice processes, such as amnesty laws and the right to truth, among others.		

## Type of Measure

In 2019, the IACHR approved and published the [General Guidelines on the Follow-up of Recommendations and Decisions of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights](#), a technical instrument that sets out guidelines for the follow-up of all decisions issued by the Commission through its various mechanisms. Among other aspects, the Guidelines detail the types of measures that the IACHR recommends in its decisions.

As the Guidelines indicate, not all of the recommendations issued by the IACHR are similar in nature. Therefore, in the framework of the Inter-American SIMORE, the recommendations derived from Published Merits Reports and Friendly Settlement Agreements are grouped into six categories. Those recommendations derived from Country Reports, Thematic Reports and Chapter IV.B are classified into six specific categories. Recommendations made in Resolutions on Precautionary Measures are grouped into three specific categories. The classification categories for the mechanisms included in the Inter-American SIMORE are detailed in the following tables.

### Recommendations derived from Published Merits Reports • Friendly Settlement Agreements

Measures to Restore the Infringed Right	The aim of this type of measure is to restore, as much as possible, the situation in which the victims found themselves prior to the alleged violation.
Compensation Measures	The purpose of compensation measures is to repair, through the provision of economic or material means, the pecuniary or non-pecuniary damages suffered by the victims of human rights violations.
Satisfaction Measures	These types of measures seek to repair non-pecuniary damages by restoring the dignity, honor and memory of the victims. They also tend to strengthen the State's commitment to the non-repetition of the violations committed.
Rehabilitation Measures	Rehabilitation measures include those actions aimed at achieving the physical, psychological and social rehabilitation of the victims. They usually involve the provision of specialized health services or psychosocial care.
Truth and Justice Measures	These kinds of measures include investigative and punitive actions, as well as the search for disappeared persons.
Non-repetition or Structural Measures	Compliance with non-repetition measures usually goes beyond the specific reparation of the direct victim. Their purpose is to prevent the commission of future human rights violations and to modify the structural conditions that served as the context for the commission of specific violations.

## Recommendations derived from Country Reports • Thematic Reports • Chapter IV.B • Resolutions\*

Public Policies	A set of decisions and actions that the State designs, implements, monitors and evaluates – based on a permanent process of effective social inclusion, deliberation and participation–, with the aim of protecting, promoting, respecting and guaranteeing the human rights of all the individuals, groups and collectives that comprise a society, under the principles of equality and non-discrimination, universality, access to justice, accountability, transparency, and cross-cutting and intersectional perspectives. <sup>12</sup>
Legislation and Other Regulations	Actions and measures related to the enactment or amendment of national regulatory frameworks, as well as the ratification or accession to international treaties and the withdrawal of reservations or interpretative declarations that affect their proper implementation at the domestic level.
Institutional Strengthening	Such measures are aimed at strengthening the State’s operational capacity to comply with its human rights obligations. They entail the proper organization of all structures through which public power is exercised, so that States are able to ensure–both legally and in practice–, the free and full exercise of human rights.
Impact on Society’s Culture	These types of measures are intended to influence the social and cultural factors, among others, that are at the root of human rights violations. They include implementing actions to promote a culture of human rights and raising the awareness of the general population.
Access to Justice	These measures include investigative and punitive actions, as well as the search for disappeared persons.
Information Systems, Databases and Indicators	Information systems, databases and indicators are essential in the implementation of human rights standards and recommendations because they support the development of public policies and programs in this area, and facilitate the analysis of the impacts and outcomes of such policies, as well as the promotion of transparency and accountability.

\*For the purpose of presenting the information derived from these mechanisms in the Inter-American SIMORE, the IACHR grouped all those recommendations that establish the exercise or development of a given action or measure that do not specify the channel or route for its implementation under the categories of “Public Policy”, “Legislation and Other Regulations” and “Institutional Strengthening”. Therefore, the classification made in the Inter-American SIMORE is strictly for methodological purposes and does not constitute a limiting definition by the IACHR that would require such recommendations to be complied with through specific processes, plans or schemes. On the contrary, the IACHR is aware that, given the breadth of some recommendations, States have a certain degree of flexibility to decide, based on their domestic structures and resources, the mechanisms, processes and avenues for the effective implementation of these recommendations.

## Recommendations derived from Precautionary Measures

Protection Measure – Direct	These measures are aimed at safeguarding the rights of the beneficiaries and preventing an imminent risk of irreparable harm. In this type of recommendation, the IACHR requests, for instance, the adoption of measures to protect life and integrity, or access to adequate medical treatment, among other measures.
Protection Measure – Agreement	The definition and adoption of these kinds of measures must be agreed to with the petitioners so that they are appropriate and effective in protecting the rights at risk. The aim is, first, to prevent the risk and, second, to produce the expected outcome.
Protection Measure – Investigation	The Commission can request these measures with the aim of preventing the occurrence of risk events by mitigating the potential sources of risk that would cause them to occur, for example, through a diligent investigation to identify and punish those responsible for threats.

<sup>12</sup> IACHR, [Public Policy with a Human Rights Approach](#), OEA/Ser.L/V/II. doc. 191, September 15, 2018, para. 147

## Level of Compliance

One of the main objectives of the Inter-American SIMORE is to promote the follow-up of the recommendations issued by the IACHR through its various mechanisms. Accordingly, the system systematizes and classifies the progress made in complying with these recommendations based on a set of criteria defined in the [General Guidelines on the Follow-up of Recommendations and Decisions of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights](#).

<b>Total Compliance</b>	A recommendation in which the State has satisfactorily begun and completed the measures to comply with it.
<b>Substantial Partial Compliance</b>	A recommendation in which the State has adopted relevant measures for compliance and has provided evidence of these measures, but the Commission considers that the measures for compliance have not yet been completed.
<b>Partial Compliance</b>	A recommendation in which the State has adopted some measures for compliance, but further action is still needed.
<b>Pending Compliance</b>	A recommendation in which the State has not adopted any measures to comply with the recommendation; the adopted measure(s) are in their initial stages or have not yet produced concrete results; or, the adopted measure(s) are not relevant to the situation being examined.
<b>Non-compliance</b>	A recommendation in which the State's conduct has made compliance impossible or in which the State has explicitly stated that it will not comply with the recommendation.

In addition to these categories, and strictly for classification purposes, the Inter-American SIMORE uses some additional categories in order to present the information contained in the system. These categories are applicable to specific mechanisms and do not represent a determination on the assessment of the measures taken to ensure compliance, either because they are declarative in nature or because the IACHR is in the process of conducting such an assessment.

<b>Declarative Clause</b>	Clauses that establish statements to be made by the parties that do not contain specific actions to be taken. Applies only to Friendly Settlement Agreements.
<b>Under Monitoring</b>	Recommendations that currently lack a determination on their level of compliance because the IACHR is in the analysis and assessment process. Applies only to Country Reports, Thematic Reports and Chapters IV.B.

# Follow-up Factsheet

One of the central objectives of the Inter-American SIMORE is to contribute to the follow-up processes of the recommendations formulated by the IACHR. This translates into the strengthening of the capacities of public service, civil society, national human rights institutions and academia to generate and exchange information related to the actions adopted by States in compliance with those recommendations, as well as to develop proposals that encourage their implementation.

The information derived from this exchange generates an important scenario of possibilities for the fulfilment of the recommendations. Among other aspects, it provides an opportunity to design public policies to address specific structural causes that encourage human rights violations; it provides tools that strengthen the capacity of various actors to contribute to the implementation of recommendations; it provides greater incentives for the elaboration of academic research on the implementation and impact of recommendations; and, it provides the general public with knowledge of these recommendations.

To this extent, the Inter-American SIMORE incorporates in its operation an instrument that allows for periodic reporting on the actions taken by States to comply with their international obligations. This mechanism makes it possible to identify the specific actions adopted, as well as the main challenges and results obtained, in order to make the progress made visible and also to identify the main areas of opportunity in which it is necessary to make greater efforts in order to move forward with compliance.

The essence of this instrument lies in the possibility it offers the various actors of the IAHRs to understand the scope and consequences of the measures implemented from a perspective based on an articulated dialogue between States and civil society. In this way, State authorities, civil society organizations and other relevant stakeholders such as the national human rights institutions and academia can contribute to the follow up of the recommendations issued by the IACHR.

The follow-up instrument incorporated into the Inter-American SIMORE is articulated through a Follow-up Factsheet in which registered representatives of States, as well as civil society organizations, contribute to the follow-up process by uploading specialized information regarding each of the recommendations issued by the IACHR. The data provided by these users is made public in the Inter-American SIMORE.

→ Information to be completed by the State	
<b>Responsible institution</b>	Name of the responsible institution(s) involved in the process of compliance with the recommendation. If there are several, it is requested that the following fields specify which actions correspond to each authority indicated.
<b>Public Policy / Program / Plan / Project / Law</b>	In this field, the registered representatives of States can report on the existence of public policies, programs, plans, projects and/or laws that exist to comply with the recommendations issued by the IACHR.
<b>Indicators</b>	Where States use specific indicators to assess the scope or impact of the measures taken, registered representatives can highlight such indicators in this area.
<b>Main Results Obtained</b>	This field records the results achieved from the implementation of specific measures to comply with the recommendations made by the IACHR. Likewise, State representatives may report on the progress of the goals set forth in the indicators. This is a field in which synthetic but detailed information is indispensable.
<b>Major Challenges Associated with Compliance</b>	The normative, institutional, social, political and/or economic elements that, according to the State, limit the possibilities of the materialization of the recommendations are registered in this field.
<b>Submitted by</b>	Name of the registered user sending the information
<b>Date submitted</b>	Date
<b>Links</b>	Attach Relevant Links
→ Information to be completed by Civil Society	
Name of the organization or institution involved in the process of complying with the recommendation.	<b>Organization</b>
In this field, interested organizations or institutions may add information they consider relevant to the measures adopted by the State to comply with the specific recommendation. Objective, detailed and synthetic information is very useful in order to accompany and understand the follow-up processes.	<b>Comments on measures and actions adopted</b>
From the perspective of civil society, the challenges and obstacles associated with the implementation of measures to comply with recommendations are often different from those faced by States. Therefore, it is important to know the perspective of civil society and to identify additional challenges in order to design articulated actions and strategies.	<b>Major Challenges</b>
In this field, organizations may identify the main effects, results or impacts derived from the measures adopted by States to comply with the specific recommendation or in the event of non-compliance.	<b>Main impacts of compliance or non-compliance</b>
Name of the registered user sending the information	<b>Submitted by</b>
Date	<b>Date submitted</b>
Attach Relevant Links	<b>Links</b>

**Note:** In the case of mechanisms with regional recommendations (Thematic Reports and Resolutions), users of civil society accounts must first choose the State or States that they would like to present information on. In the case of users with State accounts, the system automatically detects the country regarding which the information is being presented.



# Available Mechanisms for Follow-up

One of the Inter-American SIMORE's purposes is to become a main channel for following up on the recommendations issued by the Commission in reports associated with its function of monitoring human rights throughout the region. Although the IACHR follows up on all of the recommendations it issues through its various mechanisms, only four of them are available for uploading and sending information within the framework of the Inter-American SIMORE.

The follow-up of the recommendations issued by the Commission through its petition and case system is carried out through a specific procedure that can be found in the IACHR's Annual Report which is sent every year to the Organization of American States and which is published on the IACHR's website. Through the Inter-American SIMORE, users can access this information through links to the sites where such data is registered.

The Inter-American SIMORE allows users to transmit information related to the follow-up of recommendations issued in Country Reports, Thematic Reports, Chapter IV.B of the IACHR's Annual Reports, and Resolutions issued by the IACHR.

Mechanisms available for Follow-up through the SIMORE	Mechanisms not available for Follow-up through the SIMORE
Country Reports Thematic Reports Chapters IVB included in the Annual Reports Resolutions	Published Merits Reports Approved Friendly Settlement Agreements

The Inter-American Commission on Human Rights invites participation in a broad-based dialogue to strengthen, improve and expand the operation and scope of the Inter-American SIMORE.

Any suggestions or comments related to the operation of the Inter-American SIMORE can be sent to:

[CIDHSeguimiento@oas.org](mailto:CIDHSeguimiento@oas.org)

