



Communique Committee of Experts

Committee of Experts of the MESECVI Expresses Deep Concern over the Protection of Girls' Rights and their Access to Justice in Cases of Sexual Violence in Peru

Washington, DC, March 2, 2026. The Committee of Experts of the Follow-up Mechanism to the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women "Belém do Pará Convention" (MESECVI) expresses its deep concern regarding the protection of the human rights of girls in Peru, particularly their right to access justice in cases of sexual violence. This concern arises in light of recent decisions and actions by State authorities and institutions involving the closure of specialized prosecutor's offices in the Amazonas region, as well as the public exposure of girls who are survivors of sexual violence and forced pregnancies.

The Committee of Experts (CEVI) has learned, through information disseminated by the media and civil society organizations, of the closure of specialized prosecutor's offices in the province of Condorcanqui, which were handling more than 800 cases of child sexual abuse¹, particularly affecting girls from the Awajún Indigenous community. Although the reactivation of these offices was subsequently announced, the Committee expresses its deep concern about the impact of the initial decision, which sends a message of lack of protection for the rights of girls and women, deepens barriers to access to justice, and perpetuates impunity in matters of gender-based violence.

Furthermore, the Committee of Experts expresses its rejection of the activity carried out at a shelter and its subsequent public dissemination, in which girls who were survivors of sexual violence and forced to continue pregnancies resulting from such violence were exposed. The Committee also rejects the exploitation of girls to convey a message aimed at justifying these forced pregnancies and notes with concern the involvement of state authorities linked to the shelter.

In this regard, the CEVI acknowledges the information submitted by the Peruvian State authorities, which outlines the creation of specialized mechanisms and services to address violence against women and girls, as well as the activation of the corresponding protocols.

¹ See: <https://larepublica.pe/politica/2026/02/09/800-casos-de-abusos-sexual-infantil-en-condorcanqui-en-manos-de-una-fiscalia-reportan-casi-6-denuncias-al-mes-hnews-769149>

Nevertheless, the Committee notes the need to strengthen the implementation of these measures in order to ensure the effective protection of the rights of girls and adolescents against violations.

The aforementioned facts underscore the particular vulnerability of survivors of sexual violence. In this regard, CEVI reaffirms that every woman and girl has the right to be valued and educated free from stereotyped patterns of behavior and social and cultural practices based on concepts of inferiority or subordination, as established in Article 6.b of the Convention of Belém do Pará.

The Committee recalls the obligations assumed by the Peruvian State under that Convention, particularly in Article 7, whereby it undertakes to act with due diligence to prevent, investigate, and punish violence against women and girls, as well as to refrain from any action or practice of violence and to ensure that its authorities, agents, and institutions act in accordance with this obligation.

Furthermore, Article 9 of the Convention specifically stipulates that States must take into account the particular vulnerability of girls to violence, which imposes a reinforced obligation to protect them.

With respect to access to justice, the CEVI recalled in its [Fourth Hemispheric Report](#) that access to justice constitutes a fundamental right enshrined in the Convention and expressed particular concern regarding the challenges faced by girls who are victims of sexual violence. In that report, the Committee noted that the lack of territorial coverage of justice system institutions represents a significant barrier and recommended that States strengthen specialized structures, allocate adequate resources, and incorporate an intersectional and intercultural approach in all actions related to access to justice, recognizing the diverse backgrounds and specific vulnerabilities of the affected girls.

The Committee has also emphasized the obligation to eradicate stereotypes that associate the value of girls with early motherhood, especially when such harmful narratives are reproduced in public discourse by State authorities. In its [Hemispheric Report on Sexual Violence and Child Pregnancy](#), the CEVI underscored that forcing a girl to continue a pregnancy resulting from rape constitutes a form of institutional violence and may amount to torture, seriously violating Article 4 of the Convention.

In light of the foregoing, the Committee of Experts emphatically calls upon the authorities of the Peruvian State to act with reinforced due diligence to protect the human rights of girls, particularly through the prevention, investigation, and punishment of sexual violence, as well as the eradication of related harmful practices such as early unions, forced pregnancies, and forced motherhood, from an intersectional and intercultural perspective. In this regard, the Committee urges that sufficient, adequate, and sustained resources be allocated to enable the functioning of prosecutors' offices and specialized services in violence against women and girls.

The Committee also urges decisive action to address public statements by State authorities that legitimize harmful conduct contrary to the fundamental rights of girls and calls for

strengthened training of authorities and public officials to eliminate discriminatory practices and ensure effective access to justice.

This Committee values the commitment expressed by the Peruvian authorities to the protection of the rights of girls, as reflected in the information submitted and in accordance with the principles of the Belém do Pará Convention. It further reaffirms its commitment and disposal, as the technical body of the MESECVI, to provide the technical assistance that the State may deem appropriate in order to strengthen the effective implementation of its obligations in this regard.

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