

**PUBLIC STATEMENT**

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# **Argentina: Amnesty International urges Argentina to implement UN recommendations on the rights of women, Indigenous Peoples and migrants**

## **Human Rights Council adopts Universal Periodic Review outcome on Argentina**

Amnesty International welcomes Argentina's cooperation in this review.

The organization regrets, however, that 13 important recommendations were not accepted, among them recommendations to ensure Indigenous Peoples' right to consultation and obtaining their free, prior and informed consent before proceeding with legal and administrative measures that may affect their rights.<sup>1</sup> There has been a notable increase in forestry and extractive projects, such as mega-mining, agribusiness, and oil extraction located in Indigenous ancestral territories.

Despite the passing of Act 26.160, the majority of Indigenous communities do not have their lands demarcated nor titled.<sup>2</sup> Amnesty International therefore welcomes Argentina's acceptance of a recommendation to regulate and implement the demarcation of Indigenous lands.<sup>3</sup>

Amnesty International values the government's announcement at this session that it will allow Congress to discuss the decriminalization of abortion; however, the organization is concerned at Argentina's rejection of all recommendations to decriminalize abortion.<sup>4</sup> International

<sup>1</sup> A/HRC/37/5, recommendations 107.173 (Canada), 107.175 (Estonia), and 107.178 (Norway).

<sup>2</sup> As noted by the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples. UN, Assembly General, Report of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples, James Anaya, A/HRC/21/47/Add.2, 2012, p. 18.

<sup>3</sup> A/HRC/37/5, recommendations 107.172 (Brazil).

<sup>4</sup> A/HRC/37/5, recommendations 107.110 (Iceland), 107.111 (Norway, Switzerland), and 107.112 (Germany).



human rights laws and standards are clear: women should not face criminal penalties for undergoing an abortion.

Amnesty International welcomes Argentina's acceptance of recommendations to guarantee the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and association and the proportionate use of force by police during demonstrations.<sup>5</sup> The use of force must only be resorted to with the utmost respect for the law and with due consideration for the serious impact it can have on people's lives and physical integrity.

While Argentina accepted recommendations to protect migrants from discrimination and ensure their equal access to human rights, regardless of their immigration status,<sup>6</sup> regrettably, it also rejected a recommendation to ensure that current legislation does not restrict the human rights of migrant populations.<sup>7</sup>

Amnesty International also welcomes the adoption of a National Human Rights Plan as announced during the review. In this plan Argentina must take into consideration all its international commitments in order to reflect the interdependence and indivisibility of human rights.

## Background

The UN Human Rights Council adopted the outcome of the Universal Periodic Review of Argentina on 15 March 2018 during its 37<sup>th</sup> session. Prior to the adoption of the report of the review Amnesty International delivered this oral statement. Amnesty International also contributed to the information basis of the review through its submission on country:

<https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/amr13/6772/2017/en/>

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<sup>5</sup> A/HRC/37/5, recommendation 107.74 (Germany).

<sup>6</sup> A/HRC/37/5, recommendations 107.183 (Bolivia), 107.185 (Indonesia), 107.186 (Bangladesh).

<sup>7</sup> A/HRC/37/5, recommendation 107.184 (Mexico).