

Press Release

EVANGELICAL LEADERS DEMAND THAT INTER-AMERICAN COURT RULE JUSTLY ON FUJIMORI PARDON

Representatives of Evangelical denominations and organisations from around the world have expressed their concern over the pardon granted to former Peruvian President Alberto Fujimori, and ask that the Inter-American Court of Human Rights rule justly in the case brought before them by victims seeking to reverse this measure implemented by current President Pedro Pablo Kuczynski.

The declaration sustains that the pardon granted to Mr. Fujimori, who was sentenced to 25 years in prison for crimes against humanity committed during Peru's internal armed conflict, "does not contribute to the process of national reconciliation because it turns its back on the victims and because it is the product of an apparent pact of impunity".

"We believe that without sincere repentance of the perpetrators and without meeting the expectation of justice and reparations for those whose rights were trampled an authentic reconciliation cannot exist and cannot be achieved," states the declaration.

Concerning the public hearing to review compliance with the Court's prior sentences in the cases of Barrios Altos and La Cantuta, scheduled for February 2 in San José, Costa Rica, the signers pray that the Court have the necessary wisdom to review the recent pardon of Fujimori, also on the docket, helping to correct the damage caused.

Finally, the Evangelical representatives signing the declaration express their commitment to continue their support for those citizens that "demand a true process of reconciliation based on justice, truth and respect for the dignity of all Peruvians, in particular the people and families who suffered the insanity of terror and violence".

Leaders who signed include noted international evangelical leaders including: Milton Mejía, General Secretary of the Latin American Council of Churches (CLAI); Valdir França, Coordinator for Latin America and the Caribbean of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.); Harold Segura, Director of Church Relations for World Vision in Latin America; Eva Morales, President of the Latin American Theological Fraternity (FTL); Sheryl Haw, International Director of Micah Global; and others.

Lima, February 1, 2018