# ARUSHA DECLARATION

**Fourth International Human Rights Forum between the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights, the European Court of Human Rights and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights**

**3 and 4 March 2026**

**Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania**

The African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights, the European Court of Human Rights and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights meeting in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, on 3rd and 4th March 2026, on the occasion of the Fourth International Human Rights Forum of the three regional courts,

***Reaffirming*** their commitment to their mandate of protection of rights enshrined in the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms and the American Convention on Human Rights, as well as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other relevant international human rights instruments, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and International Covenant on Economic and Social and Cultural Rights;

***Recalling*** the Kampala Declaration of 29 October 2019, adopted jointly by the three Regional Courts at the First International Human Rights Forum, by which they

established the International Human Rights Forum and formalised institutional and jurisprudential cooperation among them;

***Recalling*** the Declaration adopted at the Second International Human Rights Forum, held on 25 March 2021 in Strasbourg, France;

***Recalling*** the Declaration adopted at the end of the Third International Human Rights Forum of the three Regional Courts held in San José, Republic of Costa Rica, on 25 and 26 May 2023;

***Noting with satisfaction*** the institutional and jurisprudential cooperation established between the three Courts, based on regular dialogue, information sharing and the exchange of good practices, in the common interest;

***Recognising*** that contemporary human rights challenges, including democratic regression, threats to peace and security, environmental crises and challenges related to digital innovations call for enhanced interregional judicial cooperation;

***Noting*** that the discussions at the Fourth Forum focused, in particular, on strengthening the effective protection of human rights, supporting States' efforts to consolidate democratic institutions and fundamental rights protection mechanisms, and seeking common responses to contemporary challenges affecting human rights;

***Recognising*** the growing importance of information and communication technologies, including emerging technologies, in the exercise and protection of human rights, as well as the opportunities and risks they pose to fundamental freedoms, the rule of law and democratic institutions;

***Emphasising*** that contemporary political, economic, social, health, environmental and security crises pose major challenges to democratic systems and call for increased awareness on the part of regional human rights systems;

***Reaffirming*** the need to ensure enhanced protection of the rights of women, persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups, as well as effective and equitable access to justice at the national, regional and international levels, including through the

adaptation of procedural rules and the development of gender - and diversity - sensitive jurisprudence;

**AGREE AS FOLLOWS:**

1. **To continue and consolidate** the International Human Rights Forum of the three regional courts as a permanent and structuring institutional framework for interregional judicial dialogue.
2. **To encourage** the member states to their respective conventions , and their partners, to contribute to the sustainability of the Forum and its programmes and activities.
3. **To strengthen** institutional and jurisprudential dialogue, in particular through the systematic sharing of judicial decisions, relevant information and good practices between the three courts.
4. **To develop** technical cooperation, including through staff exchanges, joint training activities and coordinated capacity-building programmes.
5. **To promote** knowledge sharing, including through common digital platforms, on contemporary human rights issues such as migration, gender-based violence, protection of vulnerable groups, environmental and climate risks, bioethics, terrorism, digital technologies and surveillance.
6. **To encourage** the development of online training and courses on various aspects of human rights protection within the respective jurisdictions of the three courts and beyond.
7. **To strengthen** dialogue with national courts and the sharing of jurisprudence as an essential mechanism for promoting the consideration of regional court decisions and contributing to their effective implementation in the long term.

**Decide** that the Fifth International Human Rights Forum will be organised by the European Court of Human Rights.

**Congratulate** the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights on the successful organisation of the Fourth edition of the International Human Rights Forum.

**Express their gratitude** to the Government and people of the United Republic of Tanzania for the excellent facilities provided to host the meeting.

Done at Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, on 4 March 2026.

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**For the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights**

**Blaise TCHIKAYA**
President

*(Signature)*

**For the European Court of Human Rights**

**Mattias GUYOMAR**

President

*(Signature)*

**For the Inter-American Court of Human Rights**

**Rodrigo MUDROVITSCH**

President

RODRIGO MUDROVITSCH (FIRMA)
Assinado de forma digital por RODRIGO MUDROVITSCH (FIRMA)
Dados: 2026.04.13 16:20:40 -03'00'

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