

Reference: C.N.73.2023.TREATIES-IV.4 (Depositary Notification)

INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS  
NEW YORK, 16 DECEMBER 1966

ECUADOR: NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLE 4 (3) <sup>1</sup>

The Secretary-General of the United Nations, acting in his capacity as depositary, communicates the following:

The above action was effected on 9 March 2023.

(Translation) (Original: Spanish)

Note No. 4-2-27/2023

The Permanent Mission of Ecuador to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Office of Legal Affairs, United Nations Secretariat, and has the honour to report that on 3 March 2023, Executive Decree No. 681, a copy of which is attached hereto, was issued, by which the Constitutional President of the Republic, Guillermo Lasso Mendoza, declared a state of emergency owing to serious internal unrest in the province of Esmeraldas.

The declaration of the state of emergency was issued because of the activities of organized crime groups whose criminal actions, threats and practices have escalated in recent months, putting at risk the safety of citizens and law enforcement officials, their integrity and their lives. It is limited to the province of Esmeraldas because that is where the conflict between criminal groups and law enforcement officials is leading to violent acts that undermine the rights of the rest of the population. It is also the territorial area where criminal groups have reacted violently and disproportionately to the State's strategic intervention. This situation requires urgent intervention by State institutions to safeguard security and protect the rights of citizens, public order and social peace.

Pursuant to Executive Decree No. 681, the rights that are temporarily suspended are:

- Under article 6, the right to freedom of association and assembly, strictly in relation to the reasons for the state of emergency, provided that the principles of proportionality, necessity and appropriateness, and the other rights protected under the Constitution, are fully respected.
- Under article 7, the right to inviolability of the home.
- Under article 8, the right to the inviolability of correspondence sent or received.
- Under article 10, freedom of transit, subject to daily hours of restriction from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m., with exceptions.

<sup>1</sup> The text of Executive Decree No. 681 of 3 March 2023 of the Republic of Ecuador attached to the notification is on file with the Secretary-General and is available for consultation.

The rights enshrined in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights that have been temporarily suspended by Executive Decree No. 681 are those contained in article 12, article 17, article 21 and article 22.

Finally, article 2 of Executive Decree No. 681 establishes that the state of emergency will be in effect for 60 days.

In view of the above and in accordance with article 4, paragraph 3, of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Permanent Mission of Ecuador to the United Nations respectfully requests that the Office of Legal Affairs, United Nations Secretariat, inform all the States parties to the Covenant accordingly.

The Permanent Mission of Ecuador to the United Nations takes this opportunity to convey to the Office of Legal Affairs, United Nations Secretariat, the renewed assurances of its highest consideration.

New York, 8 March 2023

\*\*\*

15 March 2023

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of stylized letters 'DN' with a horizontal line underneath.