

Reference: C.N.134.2026.TREATIES-IV.4 (Depositary Notification)

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

GUATEMALA: NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLE 4 (3)

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

The above action was effected on 8 April 2026.

(Translation) (Original: Spanish)

J/1/607

New York, 8 April 2026

Sir,

I have the honour to write to you, in your capacity as depositary of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, in order to inform you, in accordance with article 4, paragraph 3, of the aforementioned Covenant, that on 7 April 2026, at a Cabinet meeting, the President of the Republic of Guatemala, Bernardo Arévalo de León, decreed a “state of emergency” in the departments of Guatemala, Sacatepéquez, Petén, Escuintla, Izabal, San Marcos and Huehuetenango of the Republic of Guatemala, issuing for that purpose Government Decree No. 5-2026, which is attached to this letter.¹

The state of emergency was declared in response to the need to ensure the continuity of State measures aimed at preventing and suppressing actions against the State’s security forces and public order, including armed attacks against civilian authorities by “maras” or gangs, as well as other activities that disrupt public order; such acts place at risk the life, liberty, justice, security, peace, and comprehensive community development of the inhabitants of the Republic and their property, as well as the functioning of State institutions within the constitutional framework.

The Government Decree is valid for a period of fifteen (15) days and restricts the full exercise of the rights recognized in articles 9, 12 and 21 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

¹ The text of Government Decree No. 5-2026, attached to the notification, is on file with the Secretary-General and is available for consultation.

I kindly request your good offices to ensure that the other States Parties are informed of the content of this notification and of the attached Government Decree.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed) Ambassador José Alberto Briz Gutiérrez
Permanent Representative

9 April 2026

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'J' followed by 'A', 'B', 'R', 'I', 'Z', 'G', 'U', 'T', 'I', 'E', 'R', 'R', 'E', 'Z' in a cursive script.