**RAPPORTEURSHIP ON THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS DEPRIVED OF LIBERTY**

**CONSULTATION QUESTIONNAIRE ON SOCIAL REINTEGRATION IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

During 2025 and 2026, the Rapporteurship on the Rights of Persons Deprived of Liberty will prepare a study on the social reintegration of persons deprived of liberty and released from prison in Latin America and the Caribbean. Its purpose is to make a diagnosis of the challenges in the adoption of policies aimed at the social reintegration of this population, and to deepen the development of state obligations in this area. In this way, the study it will provide tools to States for the adoption and implementation of effective social reintegration programs, focused on respect for human rights.

The social reintegration of persons deprived of liberty and released from prison presents multiple challenges in the region. The lack of implementation of effective public policies in this area aimed at incarcerated and recently released people results in them being prevented from developing or improving their social, professional, intellectual, creative and sports skills, among others. This hinders, obstructs and prevents their true reintegration into society once they regain their liberty, either by serving their sentence or by applying an alternative measure or a benefit of early release[[1]](#footnote-2).

In its “[Report on the Human Rights of Persons Deprived of Liberty in the Americas](https://www.oas.org/en/iachr/pdl/docs/pdf/ppl2011eng.pdf)” (2011), the IACHR highlighted that the lack of public policies aimed at promoting the rehabilitation and social rehabilitation of persons sentenced to custodial sentences constitutes one of the most serious and widespread problems in the region[[2]](#footnote-3). Similarly, in its most recent report on "[Women Deprived of Liberty in the Americas](https://www.oas.org/en/iachr/reports/pdfs/2023/Informe-Mujeres-privadas-libertad_ENG.pdf)" (2023), the Commission analyzed the obstacles faced by women in reintegrating into society, starting with the general obstacles to the establishment of programs focused on social reintegration, and then examining the specific challenges that affect women[[3]](#footnote-4).

These thematic studies have opened an important space for the Commission to provide a series of specific recommendations for States to have public policies that meet the needs of this population. In this context, the Commission will deepen its approach to social reintegration from an approach that respects the human rights of persons deprived of liberty and released from prison.

Within the framework of this initiative, the IACHR and the United Nations Latin American Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (ILANUD) have joined forces to strengthen the collection of inputs and the analysis of findings, from a dialogic perspective, with respect to the standards relating to persons deprived of liberty. developed in the Inter-American and Universal Systems for the Protection of Human Rights.

The relevance of the preparation of this study is mainly based on the need to: i) draw up a map of the public policies and social reintegration programs implemented by the States; ii) identify community initiatives that offer proposals for social reintegration during and after confinement; iii) to make visible the good practices identified; iv) to address the obstacles in the establishment of such public policies and programs, with respect to both incarcerated and released persons; v) to highlight the difficulties that these populations face in participating in these programs and to develop or improve their skills, and vi) to carry out an analysis of the state obligations in this context.

In particular, the **objective of this questionnaire** is to collect information from States, civil society organizations, academia and specialists, so that it can be considered in the preparation of the study in question. The Commission, within the framework of its powers established in Articles 41 and 18 of the American Convention on Human Rights and its Statute, respectively, invites and encourages you to answer the questions in this questionnaire, either in whole or in part, and, where appropriate, to attach copies of the respective normative frameworks, policies, and practices.

The deadline for submitting the requested information expires on October 29, 2025, and must be sent electronically to: [cidhdenuncias@oas.org](mailto:cidhdenuncias@oas.org). The subject of the email must be: **Questionnaire – Social Reintegration.**

For any questions or clarifications, please contact at the following address: [CIDHMonitoreo@oas.org](mailto:ROtero@oas.org).

1. **General statistical information**
2. **Context data**
3. Current incarceration rate.
4. Incarceration rate in the years 2000, 2010 and 2020 for the same country/region.
5. **Data on people deprived of liberty**
6. Current number of persons deprived of liberty, indicating how many are women and how many are men.
7. Likewise, of the above total, indicate:
   1. How many women and men are held in pretrial detention.
   2. How many women and men are serving a custodial sentence.
   3. How many convicted women and men have obtained some penitentiary benefit that limits or reduces detention. For example, semi-freedom or open regimes, day or night prisons, or any other with the same purpose. Especially, detail how many women and men comply with each regime, as appropriate.
   4. How many women and men held in pretrial detention participate in a social reintegration program. Detail the type of program.
   5. How many convicted women and men participate in a Social Reintegration Program. Detail the type of program, and if any of these people belong to a group at risk.
8. **Data on released persons**
9. Current number of convicted persons who have been released from prison from 2020 to date. Of these, indicate how many were discharged by serving their sentences, and how many were released because they had been benefited from an alternative measure to imprisonment.
10. Likewise, from the above total, indicate how many released women and men participate or have participated in a Social Reintegration Program in the community. Detail the type of program and its duration.
11. **Recidivism data**
12. Current recidivism rate to date.
13. Recidivism rate in the years 2000, 2010 and 2020 for the same country/region.
14. Factors that have impacted on the increase or decrease in recidivism rates, as appropriate.
15. Of the total number of people who have reoffended from 2020 to date, indicate how many had participated in Social Reintegration Programs during incarceration and/or after being released. Segregate data by program modality (in prison or in the community), and according to whether they are women or men.
16. **Criminal policies**
17. Criminal policies or state measures of any kind that increased penalties for certain crimes. Indicate their date of adoption, if they are still in force at present, characteristics, and crimes covered by the measure.
18. Criminal policies or state measures of any kind that prevent the application of alternative measures to pretrial detention and/or imprisonment for certain crimes. Indicate their date of adoption, if they are still in force at present, characteristics, and crimes excluded from the alternatives.
19. Criminal policies or state measures of any kind that provide differentiated prison treatment to persons held in pretrial detention or sentenced according to their membership of a risk group and the type of crime for which they have been accused or convicted, respectively, including limiting access to reintegration activities or the progressive regime for the execution of the sentence. Indicate the date of adoption, whether they are still in force at present, characteristics, what the differentiated treatment consists of, and crimes covered by the measure.
20. Criminal policies or state measures of any kind that limit access to social reintegration activities for persons held in pretrial detention. In addition, indicate their date of adoption, if they are still in force at present, and characteristics.
21. **Public policies focused on social reintegration**
22. **Public policies in general**
23. Existence of National Social Reintegration Plans, and/or Public Policies. Indicate:
    * + - 1. Where they are regulated;
          2. Geographical and temporal scope of validity;
          3. Competent authorities involved in design, implementation, and monitoring;
          4. Budget allocated to it, in particular, what is the percentage of the gross domestic product (GDP) allocated;
          5. Requirements, and
          6. General characteristics.
24. **Detention Center Reintegration Programs**
25. Policies, plans, programs or activities focused on the social reintegration of persons deprived of liberty implemented. Indicate:
26. Focus of the policy, programme or activity;
27. If it is aimed at a group at risk;
28. Geographical and temporal scope of validity;
29. Authorities or institutions involved;
30. Requirements for the participation of detainees;
31. If applicable, indicate whether financial compensation is granted for participation, especially when it comes to work activities;
32. Whether its design and implementation included the participation of persons deprived of liberty, released from prison, and/or their families; and
33. General characteristics.
34. Judicial, administrative or other processes that must be carried out by incarcerated persons for the competent authorities to assign them a place for a social reintegration programme or activity.
35. Pre-release or release benefits available to convicted persons who participate in social reintegration programmes or activities. Indicate:
    * + - 1. Legislation that regulates them;
          2. What the benefits consist of;
          3. What are the requirements;
          4. What is the procedure to access them.
36. Impediments to incarcerated persons participating in social reintegration programs or activities. Indicate:
    * + - 1. Restrictions by type of crime;
          2. Obstacles due to legal status, especially for persons held in pretrial detention, or with a non-final conviction;
          3. Material obstacles due to insufficient human resources, budget, infrastructure; reduced supply; formal requirements that are difficult to comply with; corruption, or other factors;
          4. Any other impediment that affects the prison population or any group of detainees at risk.
37. **Reintegration programs for released persons**
38. Policies, plans, programs or activities focused on the social reintegration of people released from prison implemented. Indicate:
39. Type of accompaniment or support provided;
40. If it is aimed at a group at risk;
41. If the crime committed is taken into account;
42. Temporal and geographical scopes of validity;
43. Authorities or institutions involved;
44. Duration of the accompaniment or support;
45. Whether its design and implementation included the participation of persons deprived of liberty, released from prison, and/or their families; and
46. If applicable, indicate whether financial compensation is granted for participation, especially when it comes to work activities; and
47. General characteristics.
48. Existence of mechanisms to monitor the effective reintegration of the person into society. Indicate competent authority, duration of the monitoring, and general characteristics.
49. Impediments to the participation of released persons in social reintegration programmes or activities. Indicate:
50. Restrictions by type of crime;
51. Material obstacles due to insufficient human resources, budget, infrastructure; reduced supply; formal requirements that are difficult to comply with; corruption, or other factors;
52. Any other impediment that affects the released persons in general, or any group of persons at risk.
53. **Transition from life in detention to life in liberty**
54. Economic, social, cultural or other factors that hinder the effective reintegration of liberated persons into society.
55. Family impact on the transition process.
56. Types of support or accompaniment provided by the community, civil society organizations, educational establishments, and/or the business sector.
57. Advantages derived from effective social reintegration for released persons, as well as for States, in particular, their impacts in economic terms and on citizen security.
58. **Any other information you consider relevant.**

1. On this subject, see: IACHR, [Report on Women Deprived of Liberty in the Americas](https://www.oas.org/es/cidh/informes/pdfs/2023/Informe-Mujeres-privadas-libertad.pdf), OEA/Ser.L/V/II., Doc. 91/23, March 8, 2023, Chapter V. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. IACHR, [Report on the Human Rights of Persons Deprived of Liberty in the Americas](https://www.oas.org/es/cidh/ppl/docs/pdf/ppl2011esp.pdf), OEA/Ser.L/V/II., Doc. 64, December 31, 2011, paras. 610, 614. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. IACHR, [Report on Women Deprived of Liberty in the Americas](https://www.oas.org/es/cidh/informes/pdfs/2023/Informe-Mujeres-privadas-libertad.pdf), OEA/Ser.L/V/II., Doc. 91/23, March 8, 2023, paras. 224, 226. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)