

# HIV Criminalization in Latin America and the Caribbean: Advances and Challenges

*Report of the Action Network for Justice for People Affected by HIV in Latin America and the Caribbean*

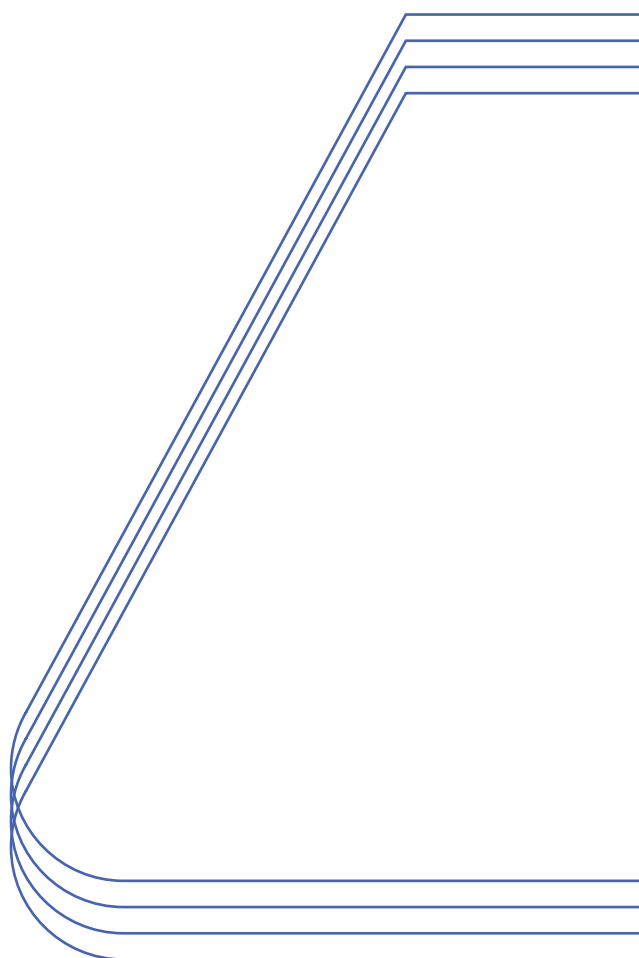
**2024**

# HIV Criminalization in Latin America and the Caribbean: Advances and Challenges

**Report of the Action Network for Justice for People Affected by HIV in Latin America and the Caribbean**

**2024**

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In memory of the activist  
**Jairo E. Pedraza**

September 15, 1958, Bogotá, Colombia  
June 18, 2025, New York City, U.S.A.

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The *Action Network* is a collaborative group of organizations and activists fighting against the criminalization of HIV non-disclosure, exposure, and/or transmission in Latin America and the Caribbean.

We envision a future in which communities most affected by HIV enjoy all their human rights, in which the intersection between law enforcement and public health tactics is based on the most current scientific knowledge, and in which the justice system treats people living with the virus in the same way as other citizens. As a regional organization, we are dedicated to educating and coordinating responses to the criminalization of HIV, inspired by the fervor and activist commitment of the early years of the HIV pandemic.

Since 2017, the organizations and activists that comprise it have worked together and separately to eliminate

HIV criminalization in our region. Since then, the *Action Network* has collaborated with the *GLBT+TS Coalition of Advocacy in the Americas* and organizations and activists in the region, as well as with pioneering institutions such as the Sero Project and the HIV Justice Network.

The *Action Network* views the HIV/AIDS pandemic as a set of health issues closely linked to socioeconomic and cultural factors that increase the vulnerability of key populations, understanding that the health and rights of all people are conditioned by their race, gender, social class, and sexual or gender identity. The *Network* is deeply concerned about the human rights of women and girls, LGBTQI+ communities, sex workers, people who use drugs, and migrants. The *Action Network* is committed to fighting to eradicate all forms of criminalization targeting communities affected by HIV.

The *Action Network* condemns the application of HIV criminalization laws that are overly broad in their wording, interpretation, and/or application and that violate the human rights of people living with the virus. It also condemns cases in which HIV is intentionally or maliciously transmitted with the aim of causing harm to others. In such cases, governments must enforce existing criminal laws and effectively prosecute all cases of sexual violence and pedophilia, recognizing them as criminal offenses. This document also includes such cases to provide a broad overview of the use of HIV status in legal proceedings but does not condone the underlying crimes.

## Dear friends,

In these times when the end of the HIV pandemic is presented as a process of progress and setbacks, the *Action Network for Justice for People Affected by HIV in Latin America and the Caribbean* (Action Network) remains committed to the fight to contribute to the solution. In the last year, we have observed both progress and setbacks in our region.

For example, in Brazil, a bill seeking to increase penalties for those who transmit incurable diseases was suspended. In Ecuador, the Constitutional Court dismissed a law that sought to criminalize the transmission of HIV and other sexually transmitted infections because it was not submitted to a popular vote. In several Mexican states, laws referring to "risk of contagion" have been repealed or amended. At the federal level, similar initiatives are being discussed in the Senate and House of Representatives. Courts in Aruba and Curaçao have issued decisions

allowing same-sex marriage. Dominica declared that colonial laws criminalizing sodomy were unconstitutional.

In Argentina and Panama, men who transmitted HIV without disclosing their status have been prosecuted. In some Brazilian states, such as Amazonas and Paraná, people with HIV have been prosecuted for sexual abuse, despite being on treatment. In Rio de Janeiro, cases of HIV-infected organ transplants were reported due to testing errors and improper sample storage. In Brasília and Jamaica, the private information of HIV-positive individuals was disclosed and they were extorted. In Peru, abuse by teachers against more than 500 students in residential schools was reported, some of whom tested HIV-positive. In Punta del Este, Uruguay, a woman allegedly a sex worker and HIV-positive was arrested for spitting on a police officer who tried to intervene in the arrest of a man. Finally, Saint

Vincent and the Grenadines dismissed challenges to colonial sodomy laws.

We are pleased to share this summary of publications on HIV criminalization in the region and on those facing stigma related to this pandemic.

In solidarity and struggle,

**M. ALFREDO GONZÁLEZ**

# Judicial Proceedings

## ARGENTINA (mag)

A musician from the City of Santa Fe, was sentenced to six years in prison for having transmitted the human immunodeficiency virus to two women with full knowledge of having the virus. His last partner discovered he had HIV at a medical checkup and told him to get checked. Tests showed that he had HIV and at her insistence, he informed an ex-partner months later. In both cases, the musician did not inform them that he had HIV nor did he use condoms. The prosecutor in the case, Omar De Pedro, determined that the accused knew he had HIV since 2010, and that the man "endangered their lives for lack of medical treatment." At the moment, the women are healthy thanks to medical treatment.

Judge Nicolás Falkenberg issued the sentence in an abbreviated trial. The defendant accepted his responsibility for "serious injuries due to permanent weakening of health and endangering the victim's life aggravated by the couple's relationship, and contagion of sexually transmitted venereal disease." At the remand hearing, in mid 2024, the musician apologized to the victims.

Despite the fact that Law 27.675 on Comprehensive Response to HIV, Viral Hepatitis, other Sexually Transmitted Infections and Tuberculosis of 2022 prohibits the criminalization of people living with HIV and establishes the confidentiality of HIV diagnosis, the man was charged and his name, address, profession, since when he has had HIV, relationship with his partners and even a photo were published.

In the *City of Villa María, Córdoba Province*, a 55-year-old woman accused her ex-husband of

transmitting HIV to her in August 2023. Three months later, prosecutor René Bosio ordered the defendant's arrest. The 60-year-old man knew he was HIV-positive since 2000 and took medication until 2008. Without telling her, he had unprotected sex with her, until she found out in late 2019. For a long time, the woman suffered psychological abuse and verbal abuse until the relationship ended. On October 1 and November 12, the man violated a restraining order ordered by the Domestic Violence Court, committing "disobedience of authority." He has been detained since November 13, 2023. He will face trial as the alleged perpetrator of "very serious injuries, doubly qualified by the relationship and by gender-based violence." He will be the second person to be tried under Law 12,331 on the Prophylaxis of Venereal Diseases. In the *City of Buenos Aires*, a 56-year-old man was arrested and tried for transmitting HIV to his ex-wife. The defendant knew of his condition since 2013 but did not begin treatment until 2016. The marriage lasted from 2011 to 2016. A three-year suspended sentence and \$40,000 in compensation were agreed upon. This is the second person accused of violating Law 12,331 on the Prophylaxis of Venereal Diseases of 1937.

## BRAZIL (cp)

In mid-2024, the press in the *State of Amazonas* highlighted that a pair of two (2) young people had allegedly tried to infect children and young people. Both were undergoing HIV treatment that prevents transmission by achieving undetectability and no infection was confirmed. What was confirmed was the crime of pedophilia.

On the other hand, crimes in non-consensual relationships, such as those that occurred in the *City of Curitiba, State of Paraná*, in which a nursing technician took advantage of the vulnerability of people undergoing health treatment to commit abuse, including children, are subject to the punishments that are already included in the Penal Code for this type of crime. An important point to highlight in the incident is that the criminal was undergoing adequate treatment to control HIV, which prevents infection due to undetectability.

In 2009, the Coordination of the STD/AIDS Program of *São Paulo* explicitly stated in a Technical Note the criminalization of HIV transmission in non-consensual relationships, as occurred in Paraná.

### What is HIV criminalization?

HIV criminalization is the unfair application of criminal law to people living with HIV based solely on their HIV status. Often, HIV criminalization laws are overly broad, either in their explicit wording or in the way they have been interpreted and applied, leaving people living with HIV (and those deemed by authorities to be at risk of HIV) extremely vulnerable to a wide range of human rights violations.



*In non-consensual interpersonal relationships such as rape, domestic violence, sexual exploitation, pedophilia and other forms of coercion, the crime is already characterized and defined within the scope of law. The damages involved in these situations (injuries, transmission of diseases, unwanted pregnancy or mental suffering) will be an aggravating factor to this crime and the penalties are already established in current legislation.*

In 2024, a very serious situation occurred in the *City of Rio de Janeiro*. Six (6) people who underwent transplants received organs infected with HIV. The situation came to light when a heart recipient presented health problems and tested positive for HIV. Subsequently, other recipients were also diagnosed with the virus.

This incident, unprecedented in Brazil, occurred due to flaws in the tests carried out by the private laboratory PCS Lab Saleme, hired by the Rio de Janeiro State Department of Health to analyze the organs before transplants. Among the irregularities, the lack of necessary kits for HIV tests and

inadequate storage of samples were discovered. Partners and technicians of the laboratory involved in issuing the false reports were provisionally arrested, while the proceedings are ongoing.

It is worth noting that Brazil has an organ transplant system that is one of the largest and most organized in the world, coordinated by the National Transplant System, linked to the Ministry of Health.

This body regulates, supervises and standardizes the processes of donation, distribution and transplantation of organs, tissues and cells. This incident has shaken confidence in the Brazilian public health system, recognized worldwide for its high number of transplants.

#### **PANAMA** (mag)

On September 27, in the *District of Panama*, the 14-year prison sentence and 50,000 Balboas were upheld for a man accused of intentionally transmitting HIV to his partner between 2010 and 2017. The defendant was diagnosed with HIV in 2004 and found guilty of a

crime against public health for failing to inform his partner. According to prosecutors, this constitutes an act of deliberate negligence, while the defense argued that it was not intentional. He was also banned from holding public office for five years after serving his sentence.

#### **PERU** (mag)

The president of the Awajún Women's Council, Rosemary Pioc Tena, reported 524 cases of rape in the Peruvian jungle to the Local Education Management Unit of the Condorcanqui province (Amazonas). Most of the sexual assaults occurred in schools with student dormitories. As a result, some students contracted HIV. One hundred and eleven teachers were fired, and 72 were acquitted.

#### **URUGUAY** (mag)

In October of this year, in the city of *Punta del Este*, a woman "presumably HIV-positive" and a sex worker, was sentenced to four months in prison for spitting on a police officer while apparently interfering with the arrest of a man. The man received a four-month suspended sentence for contempt of court.

# Extortion and Unauthorized Disclosure of Serostatus

## **BRAZIL** (cp)

In 2024, people living with HIV/AIDS were highlighted in the Brazilian press, whether due to underestimation of their condition, prejudice and discrimination, or even isolated cases, which further stigmatize people living with HIV/AIDS.

People treated at the W3 Sul Care and Counseling Center in *Brasília, Federal Capital*, were extorted for having tested positive for HIV. Personal data was leaked and the criminals blackmailed patients to receive money in exchange for not disclosing confidential information. The tool used in the extortion were messages sent via WhatsApp, causing a great psychological impact on the victims.

## **JAMAICA** (mag)

Following a wave of unauthorized disclosures of HIV status in October of this year, the human rights organization *Jamaicans for Justice (JFJ)* revealed that the majority of cases were disclosed by family members and partners. Patrick Lalor, policy and advocacy officer for *Jamaica AIDS Support for Life (JASL)*, said that due to discrimination, Jamaicans living with HIV are very private and only share their status with close friends. "We found that these are the people who are disclosing the information, and this is another legislative loophole: unauthorized disclosure," Lalor said. JFJ Executive Director Mickel Jackson indicated that 70% of disclosures occurred within the community by

family members, and 30% in healthcare and work settings. Women are the most affected, and some are exposed to violent men, Jackson said. JASL highlighted the need for legislation to address unauthorized disclosure of the HIV status of HIV-positive people.

Laws criminalizing HIV are based on myths and outdated information about HIV transmission. It fosters fear and stigma, spreads misinformation about how HIV is transmitted, and negatively affects the relationship between patients and the health care system. International health organizations recommend national authorities not to apply punitive measures for HIV transmission.

We now have the means to end AIDS as a public health threat, but scientific advances alone cannot guarantee it. Criminalization of exposure to or transmission of HIV, non-disclosure of HIV status, or of spitting or biting - which cannot transmit the virus - discourage people from getting tested for HIV, and without testing, treatment cannot be initiated.

The application of laws that criminalize HIV non-disclosure, exposure or transmission can cause miscarriages of justice, such as:

- Selective application of the law.
- Difficulty with evidence and testimony.
- Breach of confidentiality and privacy.
- Misassessment of the risk and harm of HIV infection.



# Marriage Equality

## **ARUBA AND CURAÇAO** (mag)

Marriage is now open to same-sex couples in Aruba and Curaçao. The Supreme Court upheld the ruling of the Joint Court of Justice, which ruled that the exclusion of same-sex couples from marriage on the grounds of sexual orientation discriminates by hindering the freedom to organize one's personal life enshrined in the Constitutions of Aruba and Curaçao. The court noted that objections to same-sex marriage are usually based on religion and that freedom of religion does not extend so far as to

impose personal religious norms and values on others. Aruba's Court of First Instance had ruled that, if there are no alternatives to the ban on same-sex couples marrying, it violates Articles 8 (law on private rights and family life) and 14 (prohibition of discrimination) of the European Convention on Human Rights and that Aruba is acting unlawfully. The Curaçao Court of First Instance had ruled that excluding same-sex couples from marriage without an alternative violates Article 3 of the Constitution and that Curaçao is also acting illegally.

# Sodomy Laws

## **DOMINICA** (mag)

On April 22, 2024, the High Court of Dominica decriminalized same-sex relations, ruling that Sections 14 and 16 of the Sexual Offenses Act violated the "constitutional right to liberty, freedom of expression, and protection of personal privacy." This landmark ruling upheld the rights to freedom of assembly and association and was achieved through the efforts of the Dominica Equality and Sexual Expression Association and the Eastern Caribbean Alliance for Diversity and Equality, who based their arguments on international decriminalization jurisprudence.

In 2019, a gay man challenged the criminalization of "buggery" and "gross indecency" with up to 10

and 12 years in prison, respectively. The court could order the convicted person to undergo treatment. Both provisions were relics of British colonial law, and while rarely applied in the Caribbean, they are broad, vague, and legitimize prejudice and hostility toward lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people. In recent years, five other Caribbean countries have decriminalized sexual violence through landmark rulings: Belize (2016), Trinidad and Tobago (2018), Antigua and Barbuda (2022), St. Kitts and Nevis (2022), and Barbados (2023).

## **SAN VICENTE AND THE GRENADINES** (mag)

A judge on St. Vincent and the Grenadines' highest court has dismissed two cases challenging the

country's sodomy laws. In 2019, two gay men challenged laws criminalizing consensual same-sex sexual relations between adults. In a press release, Jeshua Bardoo of Equal Rights, Access and Opportunities SVG said it is a "sad day for LGBTQ+ rights in St. Vincent and the Grenadines ... These archaic and draconian colonial laws, even if not strictly enforced, symbolically denigrate LGBTQ+ people as secondclass citizens in their own country and perpetuate prejudice and stigma against them." In 2021, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights ruled that Jamaica must repeal its sodomy law. Last year, the country's Supreme Court ruled against a gay man who challenged it.

# Legislation Regarding HIV

## **BRAZIL** (cp)

In Brazil, there is no specific law that punishes the transmission of HIV. The Penal Code provides for a sentence of up to one year in prison for anyone who exposes someone to a venereal disease knowingly infected; if the exposure is intentional, the sentence can be up to four years in prison. In cases of effective transmission of HIV, case law has classified the conduct as very serious bodily harm, with penalties of up to eight years in prison.

In the *State of Mato Grosso do Sul*, a congressman presented a new Bill (652/2024), which has once again brought up the issue of increasing the sentence for spouses or partners who knowingly transmit incurable diseases to their partners. The bill aims to increase the sentence for crimes of serious bodily harm and danger of contagion of a serious illness, already classified in the Penal Code.

Five bills have already been presented to the National Congress with the aim of creating criminal offenses for HIV transmission, but they did not reach the plenary, being blocked in the committees that analyzed them. The previous bill regarding the criminalization of transmission, which was shelved, was based on the “Clube do Carimbo” (Stamp Club). This club would be the union of a group of people who intend to intentionally transmit the AIDS virus.

## **ECUADOR** (es)

In 2024, President Noboa called a referendum to make regulatory changes to the Comprehensive Organic Criminal Code (COIP). In February, Ecuador’s National Assembly began debating the criminalization of the intentional transmission of

HIV, hepatitis B and C, tuberculosis, malaria, and all sexually transmitted diseases, with penalties of 1–3 years in prison for anyone who “has sexual relations with another person without informing them of their infection status.” Once these reforms are approved, the Assembly will have to include the criminal offenses in the COIP.

The penalty would apply in three cases:

- a) When the infected person donates blood, semen, breast milk, tissues, or organs.
- b) When the person has sexual relations without informing the other person of their infection status.
- c) When the person shares or uses an invasive or sharp object used to infect others.

*On September 23, 2024, the Constitutional Court tacitly stated that reforms to the COIP should only address the topics and areas relevant to the referendum, shelving the proposal and recalling the unconstitutionality of the claim under ruling 362-16-SEP-CC.*

On April 14, 2002, the Law for the Prevention and Comprehensive Assistance for HIV/AIDS was published in the Official Registry. Article 11 states, *Any person who, knowing they are HIV/AIDS positive, because they have been notified and informed, consciously and voluntarily transmits HIV to another person, with full knowledge of the facts, shall be legally liable for the harm caused.* This article has been implemented based on speculation, isolated and anecdotal cases, and even for partisan and electoral political purposes. With

this issue, certain groups and the political class are trying to profit from it and gain notoriety by proclaiming themselves saviors and protectors of life and good morals. At the same time, regulations have been created to prevent discrimination based on living with the virus.

In 2006, for example, the Ministry of Labor published Ministerial Agreement 398, which prevents public and private companies from requiring HIV testing to obtain or retain employment. *In 2008, Article 11, paragraph 2, of Ecuador’s new Constitution prohibits discrimination based on HIV status, gender identity, or sexual orientation.*

Thanks to scientific advances and the country’s financial investment, people living with HIV in Ecuador can enjoy healthy lives. Yet, there has not been a single educational campaign on the topic aimed at the general community. The Ministry of Public Health has assumed all responsibility, leaving institutions like the Ministry of Education to evade their commitment to training and education in comprehensive sexual health. In the social imagination of citizens who have not received information and education on the subject, the specter of the criminalization of HIV transmission is and will continue to be present.

## **GUYANA** (mag)

On Tuesday, July 23, a National Judges’ Forum on Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), Human Rights, and the Law to Improve the Justice System for People Living with HIV took place in Kingston, Georgetown. “We need a more progressive environment if we are to

reduce stigma and discrimination,” stated Health Minister Dr. Frank Anthony. Chancellor of the Judiciary Justice Yonette Cummings-Edwards noted that the constitutions of Guyana and the Caribbean protect and create safe spaces for people with various illnesses, viruses, and disabilities. Officials stated that the forum would advance the necessary equity for people living with underlying conditions.

## **MEXICO** (lb)

Until March 2023, only two states in Mexico, *Aguascalientes* and *San Luis Potosí*, did not include the concept of “risk of contagion” in their Penal Codes. However, this year, the *Nayarit State* Congress eliminated the crime of “risk of contagion” from the local Penal Code in order to prevent discrimination against people with sexually transmitted infections and to benefit those living with HIV. The initiative was presented by Representative Alba Cristal Espinoza Peña of Morena, president of the Government Commission of said legislative body, and allowed for the repeal of Articles 36 Section VIII, 46 Section I, 219, 220, 221, and 222 of the State Penal Code. Therefore, the penalties were eliminated, including the one targeting women who are breastfeeding while ill.

As part of a citizen initiative, the *Baja California Sur* Congress eliminated from Article 168 of the local Penal Code the section related to the transmission of a sexually transmitted disease (STD) referring to the crime of “danger of contagion” because it could be considered discriminatory against people living with HIV. The original initiative proposed the repeal of the entire article, but it was not supported by the parliamentary majority.

In an extraordinary session at the beginning of 2024, the *Mexico City* Congress approved a resolution to repeal the crime of “danger of contagion” provided for in Article 159 of the local Penal Code and to amend Articles 76 and 130, with the purpose of eliminating the criminalization of people living with a STD. The crime of “injuries due to contagion” was repealed from the catalog of negligent offenses considered in Article 76 of the Penal Code, which refers to Article 159, which imposes a prison sentence of three months to three years. These reforms do not affect the situation of women infected with HIV due to sexual violence, since the amendment to Article 130 establishes that if a person intentionally and maliciously transmits the virus to another person, criminal law will be used.

In February 2024, with 15 votes in favor and despite opposition, the *Colima State* Congress repealed the crime of “risk of contagion” from its Penal Code. The Commission on Legislative Studies and Constitutional Matters drafted the opinion, highlighting that the measure was adopted with a guarantor vision and in response to the demand to end discrimination based on social groups. It noted that “risk of contagion” violated the human rights of people with communicable diseases, stigmatizing them and unfairly turning them into victims and perpetrators.

## *Federal Level*

The president of the *Chamber of Senators’* Human Rights Commission, Celeste Ascencio Ortega, and civil society organizations presented an initiative to repeal Article 199 Bis of the Federal Penal Code and add a new “type of injury” to punish anyone who, based on scientific evidence, intentionally transmits an incurable disease by any means.

In the *Chamber of Representatives*, Jaime López Vela and Laura Hernández García presented a proposal to eliminate Article 199 Bis of the Federal Penal Code, in order to promote HIV prevention measures that do not involve punishment or policies of fear. The initiative received 23 votes in favor and five abstentions in the Chamber of Deputies’ Justice Committee, where it still needs to be discussed in the plenary session for approval. Its approval would establish a federal regulatory framework that could influence state legislation when their penal codes are harmonized with the Federal Penal Code.

At the same time, Representative Laura Hernández García, of the Citizens’ Movement, presented an initiative to reform and repeal several articles of the Federal Civil Code that reinforce and perpetuate stigmas against people living with HIV and AIDS, fostering discrimination against them when entering into marriage, adopting children, or as grounds for divorce. The initiative, which proposes invalidating the mandatory medical examination for marriage by repealing Section IV of Article 98, was published in the Parliamentary Gazette of the Chamber of Deputies on March 13.

The repeal of Section VIII of Article 156, which establishes “incurable impotence for copulation; and chronic and incurable diseases that

Instead of helping women, the application of criminal laws to exposure to and/or transmission of HIV puts them at greater risk. Because,

- Women are more likely to know their HIV status before their male partners.
- Some women may be prosecuted for mother-to-child transmission.
- Women are more likely to be blamed for HIV infection.

are also contagious or hereditary,” as impediments to marriage, was also proposed. Section VI of Article 267, which includes “suffering from syphilis, tuberculosis, or any other chronic or incurable disease that is also contagious or hereditary, and incurable impotence that occurs after the marriage” as grounds for divorce; and Section XII of Article 503, which prohibits “anyone suffering from a chronic contagious disease” from being a guardian.

#### *Pending Cases*

In 2023, in the plenary session of the *Morelos State* Congress, Representative Alejandro Martínez Bermúdez of Morena, proposed the repeal of Article 136 of the state’s Penal Code, which refers to the crime of “risk of contagion.” After its presentation, the initiative was sent to the Congressional Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation for analysis.

In *Tlaxcala*, at the beginning of 2024, Representative Diana Torrejón Rodríguez of the PRI, presented an

initiative to repeal Article 302 and amend Article 434, Section V, of the state’s Penal Code, which considers “risk of contagion” and “a serious crime or one that warrants official preventive detention.” The initiative was revived at the end of the year by Representative Aurora Villeda.

In response to requests from civil society, Representative Luisa Esmeralda Navarro Hernández proposed in the State of Mexico Congress the repeal of Section V of Article 238 of the Penal Code, the aggravating circumstance of “when the injuries produce an incurable disease”; the second paragraph of Article 241, which establishes the knowing transmission of HIV as homicide; and Article 252, referring to the “risk of contagion,” for discriminating against and violating the human rights of people living with HIV.

In *Baja California*, Michel Sánchez Allende and Jaime Cantón Rocha presented an initiative to eliminate the crime of “health risk of contagion”

from the local Penal Code, based on the ambiguity and imprecision of its definition without requiring transmission or damage or injury. The legislators explained that depriving people of their liberty due to their health condition violates their rights to legal equality, non-discrimination, sexual and reproductive rights, health protection, and quality, timely, safe, and effective medical care.

In *Chihuahua*, Representative Jael Argüelles Díaz presented an initiative in the local Congress to create the Law on Protection and Care for HIV/AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Infections for the state. The objective is to establish comprehensive prevention and care strategies, foster the social integration of affected individuals, and promote the participation of the public, social, and private sectors in HIV prevention. It would also prohibit any form of discrimination against people with HIV. The proposal includes the creation of the State Council for the Prevention and Control of AIDS, a decentralized body that will work

“People will not seek HIV counseling, testing, treatment, and support if it could mean discrimination, lack of confidentiality, and other negative consequences.... Coercive public health measures drive away the people who need these services most and fail to achieve their public health goals of prevention through behavior change, care and health support”  
UNAIDS.

With the support of:



We could not carry out this work without the support and diversity of our partners in the region. Together with them, we reaffirm our commitment to the fight against inequality and the criminalization of those living with HIV/AIDS in Latin

America and the Caribbean. Driven by our commitment to social and racial justice, we work to bring about legal and cultural changes in our countries and communities.

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