



**INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF JUDGES
UNION INTERNATIONALE DES MAGISTRATS
UNIÓN INTERNACIONAL DE MAGISTRADOS
INTERNATIONALE VEREINIGUNG DER RICHTER
UNIONE INTERNAZIONALE DEI MAGISTRATI**

PALAZZO DI GIUSTIZIA - PIAZZA CAVOUR - 00193 ROMA - ITALY

STATEMENT
on the preliminary investigation against
Judge Oswaldo Alberto Ordóñez Alcántara

The IAJ-UIM is an international professional and apolitical organization, founded in 1953, which brings together national associations of judges from 93 countries and whose main objective is to safeguard the independence of the judiciary, which is an essential requirement of the judicial function and a guarantee of respect for human rights and freedom.

The Central Council expresses its deep concern at the initiation of a preliminary investigation by the National Board of Justice of Peru (JNJ) against Judge Oswaldo Alberto Ordóñez Alcántara, president of the First Constitutional Chamber of the Superior Court of Justice of Lima and president of the National Association of Magistrates of Peru. The preliminary investigation on its own initiative is based on alleged statements made by the judge before the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights in Washington, D.C., where, in his role as president of the National Association of Judges of Peru and member of the Advisory Council of the Latin American Federation of Judges (FLAM), he stated that a group of congressmen “have been destabilizing the justice system and, in turn, weakening the Judiciary and the Public Prosecutor's Office of Peru.” The JNJ initiated a preliminary investigation on its own initiative, arguing that these statements compromise the “appearance of impartiality” required of all magistrates when hearing cases involving the Legislative Branch.

The Central Council rejects this interpretation and emphasizes that the statements made by Judge Ordóñez Alcántara were not made in his capacity as an individual judge, but as a representative of a professional association of judges and a federation of national associations of judges. Specifying that such statements, within the framework of his professional responsibilities, should not be subject to preliminary investigations or disciplinary proceedings, since:

- a) the right of association of judges is recognized in international charters. The Universal Charter of the Judge approved by the International Association of Judges (IAJ) establishes in Article 3-5 that “The right of a judge to belong to a professional association must be recognized in order to allow judges to consult, especially with regard to the application of their ethical and other statutes and the means of justice, and to enable them to defend their legitimate interests and independence.” Similarly, the Bangalore Principles of Judicial Conduct establish in Principle 4.6 that “A judge, like any other citizen, has the right to freedom of expression and belief, the right of association and assembly.” Likewise, the rights of expression and association are recognized in points 4 and 13 of Article 2 of the Political Constitution of Peru and the Law on the Judicial Career of Peru;
- b) if it were accepted that the statements of the representatives of judges’ associations compromise their impartiality as judges, this would be a direct attack on the right of association of that professional class.

The Central Council also emphasizes that this preliminary investigation appears to be a maneuver to intimidate the representative of the association of judges and magistrates in Peru, which is unacceptable.

The Central Council urges the National Board of Justice of Peru to respect the right of association and freedom of expression of judges, refraining from using preliminary investigations and disciplinary proceedings to restrict the legitimate exercise of their professional functions.

Baku, Azerbaijan, October 15, 2025