

INSTITUTE FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF JUSTICE & HUMAN RIGHTS

United States Universal Periodic Review — Fourth Cycle, 53rd Session

2 October 2026

Permanent Mission of Paraguay to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva

Attention: H.E. Mr. Mario Raúl CANO RICCIARDI, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary,
Permanent Representative

9-11, Rue de Varembe

1202 Geneva

info@misionparaguay.ch

Excellency:

Re: Renewal and operationalization of Paraguay's implementation and follow-up recommendation

In recommendation 26.90, Paraguay proposed a national implementation, reporting and follow-up mechanism. The Institute respectfully asks the Mission to renew that proposal with explicit coverage of judicial and court-connected conduct and a clear relationship to an independent Paris Principles institution.

The Institute for the Advancement of Justice & Human Rights is an independent truth-finding organization. It requests critical examination, not endorsement. Its enclosed Civil-Society Advocacy Brief was not filed as a stakeholder submission and is not part of the official UPR record; it is advocacy material circulated directly to Missions.

The brief asks which institution independent of the federal and State judiciaries can investigate allegations of torture or other ill-treatment arising through judicial or court-connected conduct, determine institutional responsibility, secure accountability and facilitate effective remedy and reparation. It does not ask the Mission to adjudicate an individual complaint.

Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment are distinct classifications. Disability-accommodation denial, procedural unfairness, harmful judicial action, family separation, the treatment of migrants and human experimentation without consent are not automatically either classification. The applicable elements must be established through prompt, impartial and independent investigation.

Respectfully,

Cyrus Hazari

Director

Institute for the Advancement of Justice & Human Rights

info@iaj.institute · iaj.institute

Mission briefing note — Paraguay

1. Prior recommendation and United States response

Recommendation 26.90	Establish a permanent national mechanism for the implementation, reporting and follow-up of recommendations in the field of human rights and consider the possibility of engaging in cooperation for this purpose within the framework of Sustainable Development Goals 16 and 17 (Paraguay).
United States position	The United States did not support recommendation 26.90 (Addendum, paragraph 22), by reference to its explanation for recommendation 26.95 (paragraph 21).
Attribution limit	This recommendation is cited only as the basis for renewal. It does not attribute the Institute's findings or legal analysis to Paraguay.

2. Mission-specific basis

Paraguay's recommendation directly addresses the implementation and data failure identified by the Institute. The United States did not support it (Addendum, paragraph 22), by reference to its explanation for recommendation 26.95 (paragraph 21). A renewed recommendation can require named federal and State responsibilities, deadlines, public data and follow-up while preserving the distinct need for an independent investigative institution.

3. Institutional question and legal boundary

The Institute does not claim that no United States law can reach any judicially connected wrong. Individual provisions may reach particular predicate acts. Its narrower structural finding is that no identified institution has a comprehensive, treaty-specific and sufficiently independent mandate across federal and State systems to receive these allegations, coordinate potentially applicable law, investigate institutional responsibility and secure the accountability and redress required by the Convention against Torture.

Under presently administered domestic doctrine, judicial-conduct systems, immunities, jurisdictional rules and procedural barriers have distinct functions. Under the Institute's separate international-law analysis, their combined operation cannot be permitted to eliminate every effective avenue of investigation, accountability, proportionate sanction, State responsibility and reparation. That conclusion is an IAJ determination, not settled United States doctrine.

4. Proposed mission-specific recommendations

1. Establish a permanent national mechanism for implementation, reporting and follow-up that assigns federal, State and local responsibilities, deadlines and public indicators for every accepted or pending human-rights recommendation, including those concerning judicial and court-connected conduct.
2. Create interoperable national data on allegations, investigations, findings, referrals, remedies and reparations concerning torture, other ill-treatment, disability discrimination and denial of access to justice, disaggregated by relevant status and institutional setting.

3. Establish separately, but coordinate with that mechanism, an independent national human rights institution meeting the Paris Principles and possessing accessible complaint, investigation, referral, public-reporting and redress functions across every branch and level of government.

5. Interpretive safeguard

An implementation and reporting mechanism coordinates government action; a Paris Principles institution independently scrutinizes government. The first must not be presented as a substitute for the second.

6. Requested next step

Please consider using, adapting or challenging the proposed language after independent review. The Institute would welcome a short discussion with the responsible UPR officer and will provide pinpoint sources for any proposition questioned.

Primary-source record and enclosure

1. [Working Group report — United States, A/HRC/46/15 \(15 December 2020\)](#)
2. [United States addendum and responses, A/HRC/46/15/Add.1 \(4 March 2021\)](#)
3. [OHCHR United States UPR page — fourth-cycle review information](#)
4. [UN Geneva Blue Book — current Paraguay mission entry](#)
5. [Convention against Torture — official OHCHR text](#)

Enclosure: Institute for the Advancement of Justice & Human Rights, Universal Periodic Review—United States of America, Fourth Cycle—Fifty-third Session of the Working Group: Civil-Society Advocacy Brief (7 August 2026; enclosed PDF SHA-256: 1a1b9f1d6871ea4a8a7966e577e7b24eeeb49ecc3c1ce53f11fccd4f3d141b2).

Attribution control: the Working Group report records State recommendations, not Human Rights Council findings; the addendum records United States positions; the remaining analysis and proposals are IAJ determinations for independent testing. Receipt, silence, discussion or partial use must never be represented as endorsement.