Resolution No. 86/18

PM 1357-18 - Judge Rotenberg Educational Center, United States

On December 3, 2018, the IACHR moved to request the adoption of precautionary measures in favor of all persons with disabilities at the Judge Rotenberg Educational Center in the United States of America. The request alleged that the proposed beneficiaries were at risk due to the use of the treatments they are allegedly being subjected to at the institution, which include the use of electric shocks and restraint techniques, despite the beneficiaries' medical conditions. After analyzing the allegations of fact and law, the IACHR believes that the information that has been put forward proves, in principle, that the beneficiaries are at grave risk. Consequently, in accordance with Article 25 of the IACHR's Rules of Procedure, the Commission requested that the United States of America take the necessary steps toward protecting the rights to life and personal integrity of the beneficiaries, particularly by guaranteeing the immediate termination of the use of any harmful measures, including that of electroconvulsive therapies in the circumstances described in this resolution; that it determine the measures to be adopted in consultation with the beneficiaries and their representatives; and that it take the necessary steps to investigate the events that gave rise to the adoption of this resolution and thus prevent them from being repeated.