

**2017 INTER-AMERICAN HUMAN RIGHTS  
MOOT COURT COMPETITION**

***Case of Ricardo Madeira et al.  
v. Republic of Zircondia***

**I. Background on the Republic of Zircondia**

1. Zircondia is a republic with a population of approximately 22 million, and its territory covers some 900,000 square kilometers. It is a federal State whose capital is Antara. It is divided into five provinces that have gone through economic expansion and varying economic development opportunities since gaining independence in 1847. On its southern border is the Republic of Rosetta; to the north, a small kingdom called Minepolis; to the west lies Perselandia; and finally, to the east, Zircondia has access to the sea.

2. The first decades following its independence passed in relative peace. Zircondia enjoyed a certain degree of prosperity, and developed advantageous trade relations with neighboring countries.

3. In the 1960s, the tranquility of the country began to be affected by the fluctuations in world trends concerning certain raw materials, and the emergence of a dominant economic class that also began to assert itself on the political scene.

4. Against this backdrop, Prof. Luis Román, who belonged to that favored class and obtained his university education abroad, founded the “Alternative for Zircondia” Party in 1986. Tw 07 Td[(3)]TJ-0.fJ-

region. It possesses vast reserves of rare earth, which is sold abroad particularly to companies operating in fields that use state-of-the-art technology, such as aeronautics, information technology, and military defense. By contrast, the Province of Serena is quite underdeveloped and is plagued by criminal gangs.

8. Zircondia is monist State. Article 18 of its Constitution provides that duly ratified treaties are directly applicable by the courts and superior to the national laws, having the force of constitutional law.

9. In spite of everything, from its founding Zircondia has been a good member of the international community. A member of the UN and the OAS, it has ratified several human rights and international humanites(of)Tjd t1 j-0.011( d)4s-4( g)-2(ood e4Tp2 Tw24o Td( )TjEM.001 Tc 0.ud)1(s)8autal f1 T

retirement. Some Zircondians in the villages on the border have told NGOs working in the area that army tanks from Rosetta have in fact made incursions into Zircondia's national territory. Some newspapers speculate that, in the medium-term, Monteverde could seek to annex Filipolandia to Rosetta.

the Provincial Museum of Hipólito, located in central Filipolandia, where the Army had knowledge (through intelligence reports) that the FNC was storing military materiel. With the backing of senior legal advisors from the Army, the soldiers present in the area had announced, throughout the day, throughout the town, using megaphones, that the attack was imminent. The attack destroyed much of the museum, killing two people who were in the building, including the museum's curator, Reynaldo Restrepo. Spent ammunition, unexploded antipersonnel mines, and components of long weapons were found in the rubble.

18. The facts surrounding the capture and detention of Ricardo Madeira were reported by his brother Gerardo in a letter sent to the Minister of Justice, and a formal complaint was filed with the Office of the Special Human Rights Prosecutor, on October 11, 2006.

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highest rates of economic inequality in Latin America, which presents a complicated scenario for



cells. Soon, six inmates went on a hunger strike, and after 27 days, two of them were in critical condition (due to preexisting medical conditions), which caused even more restlessness inside the detention center. The Warden sent a document to the Office of the Special Human Rights Prosecutor, requesting the intervention of the National Police in order to guarantee the safety of a medical team that was going to force-feed the hunger strikers.

38. At the end of the force-feeding procedure, which took place on February 7, one of the doctors was taken hostage by an inmate who had managed to secretly make a bladed weapon. After more than five hours of negotiating without being able to reach a concrete solution, the Warden authorized an operation by a tactical team that resulted in the d

Procedure for the submission of its reply. In a communication dated July 14, Zirconia