



**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

Resolution on Puerto Rico

IAJ was informed that a cut in the vested pension rights of judges is foreseen in Puerto Rico. IAJ stresses that like the remuneration of judges also their income after retirement is an essential element of their independence. The judge must receive sufficient remuneration to secure true economic independence, and, through this, his/her dignity, impartiality and independence. (Universal Charter of Judges Article 8-1) The judge has a right to retirement with an annuity or pension in accordance with his or her professional category. (Universal Charter of Judges Article 8-3). It reiterates Article 9.1 of the Declaration on minimum principles about Judiciaries and Judges (Campeche Declaration), which states: "Judges have a right of retirement receiving remuneration that corresponds with their level of responsibility, maintaining a reasonable relation with the salary corresponding to their position before retirement." IAJ therefore urges the Puerto Rican authorities to take these important requirements into account, when amending the pension system.