***APPLICATION DEADLINE: 9 JUNE 2022 AT 12 NOON GENEVA TIME***

* *The application process consists of two compulsory parts:****(1) online survey[[1]](#footnote-1)*** *(*[*https://ohchr-survey.unog.ch/index.php/338142*](https://ohchr-survey.unog.ch/index.php/338142)*)   
  and****(2) application form in Word format[[2]](#footnote-2)*** *(to be downloaded from* [*https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/sp/hrc51*](https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/sp/hrc51)*)*
* *Once fully completed, in English or French only, the Word application form should be submitted by email to* [*ohchr-hrcspecialprocedures@un.org*](mailto:ohchr-hrcspecialprocedures@un.org)
* *A maximum of up to three optional reference letters may be attached to the email (in Word or PDF format).*
* *No additional documents (e.g. CVs, resumes or additional reference letters) will be accepted.*
* *Applicants will receive an acknowledgment email when both parts of the application process, i.e. the data submitted through the online survey and the Word application form, have been received by the Secretariat.*
* *Applications will only be considered if both parts and all sections of the Word application form have been completed and received by the Secretariat before the expiration of the deadline.* ***No incomplete or late applications will be accepted****.*
* *Eligible for Working Group mandates are only nationals of the States belonging to the* [*regional groups*](https://www.un.org/dgacm/content/regional-groups) *for which specific vacancies have been advertised.*
* *General description of the selection process and answers to frequently asked questions are available at* [*https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/sp/nominations*](https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/sp/nominations) *and* [*https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/sp/basic-information-selection-independent-experts*](https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/sp/basic-information-selection-independent-experts)*.*
* *In case of technical difficulties or problems with accessing or completing the forms, you may contact the Secretariat by email (*[*ohchr-hrcspecialprocedures@un.org*](mailto:ohchr-hrcspecialprocedures@un.org)*) or fax (+41 22 917 9008).*

**I. PERSONAL DATA**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **1. Family (last) name:** Herrera Cáceres | **5. Year of birth:** 1943 |
| **2. First (given) name:** Héctor Roberto | **6. Place of birth:** Honduras |
| **3. Other name, if any:** Héctor Roberto Herrera Caceres | **7. Nationality (please indicate the nationality that will appear on the public list of candidates):** Honduran |
| **4. Gender:** Male | **8. Any other nationality:** - |

**II. MANDATE-SPECIFIC COMPETENCE / QUALIFICATIONS / KNOWLEDGE**

**NOTE: Please describe why the candidate’s competence / qualifications / knowledge is relevant in relation to the specific mandate:**

1. **QUALIFICATIONS** (200 words limit)

**Relevant educational qualifications or equivalent professional experience in the field of human rights; good communication skills (i.e. orally and in writing) in one of the six official languages of the United Nations (i.e. Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, Spanish.)**

PhD in Public International Law, University of Law, Economy and Social Sciences, University of Paris, France, 1970 - 1973;Bachelor´s Degree of Juridical and Social Sciences, National Autonomous University of Honduras, 1962 -1967; Judicial degree as Lawyer and Notary, Supreme Court of Justice, Honduras, 1969;University Professor 1976 – 2008;Ombudsman (2014 – 2020).

First General Secretary of the Central American Integration System; Former Vice- Chairman of the Commission of Legal Affairs (Sixth Commission) of the United Nations Organization, Chairman of the United Nations Commission on Good Neighborliness Relations between States; Former Member and technical coordinator of the Commission of Jurists of the Central American Integration.

Former Ambassador-Permanent Representative in the United Nations;the European Union; Belgium, Netherlands and Luxemburg and in special missions in matters of the Law of the Sea, technology transfer, international cooperation, refugees, peace and regional democracy, within others special missions.

National Science Award. For exalting, through all his different works, the development of Honduras in the field of science, contributing to culture, peace, democracy and the social well-being of the Honduran people, Government of Honduras, November 2010.

Very good communications skills in Spanish;Good communications skills in French.Basic communications skills in English.

1. **RELEVANT EXPERTISE** (200 words limit)

**Knowledge of international human rights instruments, norms and principles. (Please state how this was acquired.)**

**Knowledge of institutional mandates related to the United Nations or other international or regional organizations’ work in the area of human rights and particularly in the area of the mandate. (Please state how this was acquired.)**

**Proven work experience in the field of human rights and particularly in the area of the mandate. (Please state years of experience.)**

My knowledge of human rights treaties comes specially from my studies as Doctor in Public International Law, as well as Head officer (Ombudsman) of the National Commission for Human Rights of Honduras (CONADEH, 2014-2020); High Commissioner for Honduras Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI-Honduras 2012 - 2014); Professor of the National Autonomous University of Honduras in International Law, Constitutional Law, Human Rights (UNAH, 1976 – 2008);

I have over thirty years of relevant experience in the field of human rights. In the special area of the Judiciary. I have participated, as a special guest, in meetings of the Central American Judicial Council (1993 - 1997)

I have been member of the Tribunal for the Selection of Sentencing Judges and Execution Judges of the Judiciary (Honduras, 2002 - 2003), appointed as Judge of Execution on behalf of the Constitutional Chamber of the Supreme Court of Justice (Honduras, 2004) I have been a member of the Court of Honor of the Honduran Bar Association (1992 – 1993).

Writer of legal, political and social sciences in national and international realities). Author of twenty-three (23) books and numerous studies, essays, articles on Public International Law, Human Rights, Integration Law and constitutional law

1. **ESTABLISHED** **COMPETENCE** (200 words limit)

**Nationally, regionally or internationally recognized competence related to human rights. (Please explain how such competence was acquired.)**

As Ombudsman of the National Commissioner for Human Rights (CONADEH 2014-2020): a) CONADEH achieved “A” Status s Internationally certified by GANHRI, in 2019. The chairman of GANHRI, stated their awareness of my judgment, competence, skills and judicious and disciplined work; b) Certificate of recognition was delivered by CONADEH national work team, testifying my exemplary performance as Ombudsman ( 2020); c) Statement of civil society and local authorities as the Coordinators of the Multisectoral Networks of 36 "Solidarity Welfare Municipalities", acknowledging excellent work, in favor of the most vulnerable groups and respect for defense and promotion of the human rights. (March 2020); d) on October 29, 2021, CONADEH institution awarded me "for outstanding contributions to the institutional strengthening of the Democratic State of Law and unwavering defense of human rights, in the performance as Head of the National Human Rights Commissioner, in the period 2014 - 2020".

As university professor I was the organizer and Founder-coordinator of the Human Rights and Development Master (UNAH, 2006 – 2008);

National Science Award, for contributing to culture, peace, democracy and the social well-being, 2010; "Order of the Five Volcanoes" for contribution to the Central American democracy, peace, freedom and development. 2016.

1. **PUBLICATIONS OR PUBLIC STATEMENTS**

**Please list significant and relevant published books, articles, journals and reports that the candidate has written or public statements, or pronouncements that the candidate has made or events participated in relation to the mandate.**

* 1. **Enter three publications in relation to the mandate applied for, in the order of relevance:**

**1. Title of publication:**  The Supreme Purpose of the Democratic State and the Real Validity of the Legal Order: a disgregation that must be overcome. the case of Honduras

**Journal/Publisher:** Revista de la Facultad de Derecho de México

**Date of publication:** 2020

**Web link, if available:** http://www.revistas.unam.mx/index.php/rfdm/article/view/75087

**2. Title of publication:**  Rule of Law and Development of People

**Journal/Publisher:**  Corte Suprema de Justicia, Spanish, version, Corte Suprema de Justicia – Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Honduras, UNAH

**Date of publication:** 2003

**Web link, if available:** https://books.google.com/books/about/Imperio\_del\_derecho\_y\_desarrollo\_de\_los.html?id=oicPAAAAYAAJ

**3. Title of publication:** The Supreme Court of Justice of the XXI Century, Study and Memory

**Journal/Publisher:** Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Honduras

**Date of publication:** 2001

**Web link, if available:** -

**If more than three publications, kindly summarize** (200 words limit):Writer of legal, political and social sciences. (Prize "Juris Maxima" in the Superior grade of Golden Feather, Honduran Bar Association). Author of twenty-three (23) books and numerous studies, essays, articles on Public International Law, Human Rights, Integration Law and constitutional law, among them: a) Honduras before relevant issues of International Law , Spanish version, book, Honduras, 1989 https://biblioteca.ugb.edu.sv/cgi-bin/koha/opac-detail.pl?biblionumber=449&shelfbrowse\_itemnumber=641 ; b) The eradication of corruption and impunity: an urgent task for the State and society, Spanish version, publication in Proceso Digital, Honduras,7 febrero 2020, https://proceso.hn/la-erradicacion-de-la-corrupcion-e-impunidad-tarea-impostergable-del-estado-y-la-sociedad/ ; c) Claiming the rule of law with human dignity as its supreme goal, through comprehensive democracy and sustainable development, Spanish version, in Rescatemos Honduras, February 27, 2021 https://www.rescatemoshonduras.com/2021/02/27/estado-de-derecho-con-la-dignidad-humana/

* 1. **Enter three public statements or pronouncements made or events that the candidate may have participated in relation to the mandate applied for, in the order of relevance:**

**1. Platform/occasion/event on which public statement/pronouncement made:** Week for Peace, Geneva, Switzerland

**Event organizer:** ONU, IDLO

**Date on which public statement/pronouncement made:** November 7, 2019.

**Web link, if available:**

**2. Platform/occasion/event on which public statement/pronouncement made:** Suitability of Judges, independence of the Judiciary and Rule of Law/Honduras

**Event organizer:** Press Conference-CONADEH

**Date on which public statement/pronouncement made:** 30 may 2022

**Web link, if available:** https://tiempo.hn/idoneidad-de-magistrados-independencia-del-poder-judicial-y-estado-de-derecho/

**3. Platform/occasion/event on which public statement/pronouncement made:** Aspiring judges must guarantee capacity and honorability before being nominated, Honduras

**Event organizer:** Press conference

**Date on which public statement/pronouncement made:**  September 9, 2015

**Web link, if available:** https://revistazo.com/aspirantes-a-magistrados-deben-garantizar-capacidad-y-honorabilidad-antes-de-ser-nominados/

https://isbn.cloud/hn/autor/roberto-herrera-caceres/

**If more than three, kindly summarize** (200 words limit):My statements or pronouncements are made based on the local, national, regional and global social and legal context, as exemplified, as follows:

The Interdependence of Democracy and Integration Processes, independence of the judicial system, the rule of law and peace, 2010.

https://www.camjol.info/index.php/LRD/article/download/1240/1067/4396

A New Model: Democratic Security in Central America, in Regional Integration Observer, Center for European Integration Studies, publications, march 2010 https://www.zei.uni-bonn.de/de/publikationen/medien/regional-integration-observer/zei-

A Central American contribution to the Reflection on the role of National Institutions and Sub-Regional Associations of Ombudsman in the Promotion, Implementation and Effective Execution of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Spanish version, to XII International Conference of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, Mérida, Yucatán, October 6-10, 2015.

1. **flexibility/readiness and AVAILABILITY of time** (200 words limit)

**to perform effectively the functions of the mandate and to respond to its requirements, including participating in Human Rights Council (HRC) sessions in Geneva and General Assembly sessions in New York, travelling on two country visits per year, drafting reports according to established deadlines, organizing and participating in consultations and meetings, addressing allegations of human rights violations with all concerned, providing advice to States and other stakeholders on issues related to their mandate and engaging with a variety of stakeholders. Kindly indicate whether the candidate can dedicate an estimated time of four to six months per year to the work of a mandate depending on its workload.**

**Please note that the work of mandate holders is unpaid. Those appointed as mandate holders serve in their personal capacities. They are not United Nations staff members, they are not based in United Nations offices in Geneva or at another United Nations location, and they do not receive salary or other financial compensation, except for travel expenses and daily subsistence allowance of “experts on mission”.**

At this juncture of global crisis of a positive nature for the transformations long awaited by humanity, for the sake of human dignity, social justice, sustainable development and common welfare: the strengthening and progress of the Democratic Constitutional State of Law and its guarantee and defense by independent judicial powers and the free and responsible exercise of the legal profession, have a particular relevance to ensure that citizens recover the lost trust in their societies, States and international organizations.

Consequently, the mission of the Human Rights Council is a high priority to strengthen human rights, at a universal level, for which the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the independence of Judges and Lawyers, like other mandates, should always respond to requirements of flexibility, availability and willingness from those aspiring to provide these important services to the Council and, through him, to humanity. Therefore, as a self-nominated candidate, I express commitment to the eventual prioritization of that mandate, dedicating to it, if nominated and elected, an estimated time of 4 to 6 months per year, according to the workload of such an honorable mandate.

1. **NOMINATION FOR THE MANDATE**

**Indicate whether the candidate has been nominated by (check all that apply):**

**Individual nominations (indicate this if the candidate is self-nominating)**

**Governments**

**Regional groups operating within the United Nations human rights systems**

**International organizations or their offices**

**Non-governmental organizations**

**National human rights institutions**

**Other human rights bodies**

**Name of the nominating entity and additional information about the nomination (use if applicable, for third-party nominations only)** (200 words limit)**:**

**III. Motivation Letter, INCLUDING YOUR VISION OF THE MANDATE**(600 word limit. Must be typed in the space below; cannot be sent in a separate email or as an attachment. To be written by the candidates themselves even if nominated by another entity.)

Hon. Consultative Group of the Human Rights Council:

I allow myself to address you as the self-nominated candidate for Special Rapporteur on the Independence of Judges and Lawyers, expressing my respectful greetings and my appreciation for the sustained efforts of the Human Rights Council, in promoting and protecting the dignity of all humanity.

I fully share this humanist vision and it has encouraged my social and professional life, having always promoted it based on the Constitutional State of Law and democracy, as Doctor in Public International Law, lawyer and Graduate in Legal and Social Sciences; author of 23 books and innumerable essays, studies and articles; and full professor and scientific researcher at the National Autonomous University of Honduras, having promoted and put into operation, in 2007, the university postgraduate degree in "Human Rights and Right to Development.

I have been the first Secretary General of the Central American Integration System (SICA 1993 - 1997). A new integration process that would make peace prevail over the armed crisis and its causes in Central America by placing human dignity and social justice as the center and supreme goal; incorporating access to the Central American Court of Justice as permanent organ.

From 2014 to 2020, as Ombudsman of Honduras I achieved, inter alia, the following: 1. CONADEH “Class A” international accreditation by the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI) in November 2019. The accompanying Note of the President of GANHRI expresses my knowledge, judgment, competence and skills to direct that achievement; 2. Start of progress towards the effectiveness of the constitutional rule of law and enjoyment of human rights, from the local level. From CONADEH, I designed and promoted, in the 2016-2020 period, the "Human Security Strategy for Sustainable Local Development: Solidarity Welfare Municipalities", with "Multisectoral Civil Society Groups";" Local systems for the protection of human rights” (local authorities), “Local systems for the promotion of. human rights” (municipal mayor, NGO and private sector) and permanent education in democratic culture and human rights. The testimonies of the people and their authorities are the best evidence of the success achieved until 2020. The strategy and the social movement initiated were recognized; until 2018, by the Central Government (Open State Action Plan 2018-2020). In 2020, by the University of Alcalá, Spain and the PRADPI. They characterized it as a "unique experience, in the world, of democracy from below"; and it was also recognized, as a good practice, by the Interamerican Commission on Human Rights and the Danish Institute for Human Rights.

I was elected and served as President of the Central American Council of Human Rights Ombudsman and Vice President of the Ibero-American Federation of the Ombudsman.

For these and other aspects indicated in this procedure, I believe that I meet the requirements for the good performance of the mission of the Special Rapporteur on the Independence of Judges and Lawyers, of contributing, in a complementary way, with the Human Rights Council, in the task of promoting the effectiveness of the Constitutional Rule of Law that ensures the true enjoyment and the promotion of human rights; strengthening, in that direction, an independent and impartial judiciary and a humanistic professional exercise of the legal profession.

I am kind enough to send and submit, for your high consideration, three letters of recommendation, as attachments, to this application form.

I hope to have the opportunity to be included in the shortlisted candidates and be interviewed by the Consultative Group, in order to appear in the recommendations to the President of the Human Rights Council.

With my highest consideration.

**IV. LANGUAGES (READ / WRITTEN / SPOKEN)**

**Please indicate all language skills below.**

**1. Mother tongue:** **Spanish**

**2. Knowledge of the official languages of the United Nations:**

**Arabic:** Yes or no: **no** If yes,

**Read:** Easily orNot easily:   
**Write:** Easily or Not easily: **Speak:** Easily or Not easily:

**Chinese:** Yes or no: **no** If yes,

**Read:** Easily or not easily: **Write:** Easily or not easily: **Speak:** Easily or not easily:

**English:** Yes or no: **yes** If yes,

**Read:** Easily or not easily: **easily  
Write:** Easily or not easily: **not easily  
Speak:** Easily or not easily: **not easily**

**French:** Yes or no: **yes** If yes,

**Read:** Easily or not easily: **easily  
Write:** Easily or not easily: **easily  
Speak:** Easily or not easily: **easily**

**Russian:** Yes or no: **no** If yes,

**Read:** Easily or not easily: **Write:** Easily or not easily: **Speak:** Easily or not easily:

**Spanish:** Yes or no: **yes** If yes,

**Read:** Easily or not easily: **easily  
Write:** Easily or not easily: **easily  
Speak:** Easily or not easily: **easily**

**V. EDUCATIONAL RECORD**

**NOTE: Please list the candidate’s academic qualifications (university level and higher, indicating the type of degree and field of study, and whether full- or part-time; for example, *Masters in Law, University of XXX, part-time, 1975-1977, city and country)*. If space in the table is insufficient, more than one degree may be listed in a single cell below, separating them by a blank line.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Name of degree, field of study and name of academic institution, full or part-time:** | **Years of attendance**  (provide a range from-to, for example 1999-2003;  for ongoing education, please put e.g. 2018-present): | **Place and country:** |
| PhD in Public International Law, University of Law, Economy and Social Sciences, University of Paris, France | 1970-1973 | Paris, France |
| Bachelor´s Degree of Juridical and Social Sciences, National Autonomous University of Honduras | 1962 -1967 | Tegucigalpa, Honduras |
| Judicial degree as Lawyer and Notary, Supreme Court of Justice, Honduras | 1969 | Tegucigalpa, Honduras |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

**VI. EMPLOYMENT RECORD**

**NOTE: Please briefly list ALL RELEVANT professional positions held in the area of human rights, beginning with the candidate’s current (most recent) occupation.** **Also, indicate whether positions held were full-time or part-time. If space in the table is insufficient, more than one position may be listed in a single cell below, separating them by a blank line.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Name of employer,**  **functional title,**  **main functions of position, full- or part-time:** | **Years of work** (provide a range from-to, for example 1999-2005;  for ongoing activities, please put e.g. 2018-present): | **Place  and country:** |
| Honduran State, Head officer (Ombudsman) of the National Commission for Human Rights of Honduras CONADEH-Full time-Protection and promotion of the Human Rights of Honduran people | 2014-2020 | Tegucigalpa, Honduras |
| High Commissioner for Honduras Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI-Honduras)-Full time-strengthening transparency and accountability of extractive sector | 2012-2014 | Tegucigalpa,  Honduras |
| Independent juridical consultant Anticorruption National Council (CNA) and others. Part time- anticorruption, transparence, ethics, international cooperation, international treaties, | 2006-2011 | Tegucigalpa,  Honduras |
| Professor of the National Autonomous University of Honduras in International Law, Constitutional Law, Human Rights (UNAH).Part time | 1986 – 2008 | Tegucigalpa, Honduras |
| First General Secretary of the Central American Integration System (SICA). | 1993-1997 | San Salvador, El Salvador |
| Former Ambassador-Permanent Representative in the United Nations; the European Union; Belgium, Netherlands and Luxemburg and in special missions in matters of the Law of the Sea, technology transfer, international cooperation, refugees, peace and regional democracy, within others special missions.Full time. | 1976-1986 |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

**VII. COMPLIANCE WITH ETHICS AND INTEGRITY PROVISIONS   
(of Human Rights Council resolution 5/1)  
*To be completed by the candidate or by the nominating entity on the candidate’s behalf.***

**1. To your knowledge, does the candidate have any official, professional, personal, or financial relationships that might cause the candidate to limit the extent of inquiries, to limit disclosure, or to weaken or slant findings in any way? If yes, please explain.**

no

**2. Are there any factors that could either directly or indirectly influence, pressure, threaten, or otherwise affect the candidate’s ability to act independently in discharging the mandate? If yes, please explain:**

no

**3. Is there any reason, currently or in the past, that could call into question the candidate’s moral authority and credibility or does the candidate hold any views or opinions that could prejudice the manner in which the candidate discharges the mandate? If yes, please explain:**

no

**4. Does the candidate comply with the provisions in paragraph 44 and 46 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1? (Please answer YES if the candidate complies, NO if the candidate does not comply, together with an explanation.)**

***Para. 44: The principle of non-accumulation of human rights functions at a time shall be respected.***

***Para. 46: Individuals holding decision-making positions in Government or in any other organization or entity which may give rise to a conflict of interest with the responsibilities inherent to the mandate shall be excluded. Mandate holders will act in their personal capacity.***

YES

**5. Should the candidate be appointed as a mandate holder, the candidate will have to take measures to comply with paragraphs 44 and 46 of the annex to Council resolution 5/1. In the event that the current occupation or activity, even if unpaid, of the candidate may give rise to a conflict of interest (e.g. if a candidate holds a decision-making position in Government) and/or there is an accumulation of human rights functions (e.g. as a member of another human rights mechanism at the international, regional or national level), necessary measures could include relinquishing positions, occupations or activities. If applicable, please indicate the measures the candidate will take.**

No

**VIII. CERTIFY AND SUBMIT APPLICATION  
*To be completed by the candidate. The candidate’s name below should match how it is entered on the first page of the form and in the online survey.***

**I hereby certify that all of the statements made in this application are true, complete and are made in good faith. I understand that falsifying or intentionally withholding information will be grounds for not being selected or appointed or the withdrawal of any proposed appointment or, if an appointment has been made and accepted, for its immediate cancellation or termination.  
  
Kindly note that whilst no changes can be made after this application form has been submitted and the deadline for applications has expired, any relevant change of current occupation, employment, or position, or any other relevant fact or circumstance should be brought to the attention of the secretariat by   
email (**[**ohchr-hrcspecialprocedures@un.org**](mailto:ohchr-hrcspecialprocedures@un.org)**).**

**Please review the application before you insert your name and date to indicate your agreement.**

**Name:** Héctor Roberto Herrera Cáceres

**Date:** 05/06/2022

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1. The short **online survey** is used to collect information for statistical purposes such as personal data (i.e. name, gender, nationality), contact details, mandate applying for and, if appropriate, nominating entity. The same name, gender and nationality must be used both in the online survey and in the Word application form. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. The **application form in Word format** includes a motivation letter of maximum 600 words (section III of the form). The application form should be completed in English or French only, the two working languages of the United Nations Secretariat. The application form will be used as received to prepare the public list of eligible candidates who applied for the vacancy. The application forms of eligible candidates will also be posted as received on the OHCHR public web page for the selection process. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)