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Decision on Precautionary Measures

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60. On February 7, 2001, the Commission asked the State of Venezuela to adopt precautionary measures on behalf of journalist Pablo López Ulacio, the publisher and owner of a weekly called La Razón. According to information submitted in November 1999, López Ulacio was sued by Tobías Carrero Nacar, the president of the country's largest insurance company, Multinacional de Seguros, after the news magazine identified him as having funded Hugo Chávez Frías's presidential campaign and accused him of benefiting from state insurance contracts. As a result, Caracas trial judge N° 25 placed a ban on references to the business-owner and ordered the arrest of the journalist. On July 3, 2001, Caracas trial judge N° 14 ordered a warrant for the arrest of López Ulacio, ignoring the Commission's request for precautionary measures.