



**Clooney Foundation for Justice Statement on the Trial of Maricela Emperatriz Albizuri Rodríguez in El Salvador**

*The following statement can be attributed to the Clooney Foundation for Justice.*

July 1, 2019 – “The Clooney Foundation for Justice's TrialWatch initiative has concluded its monitoring of the case of Maricela Emperatriz Albizuri Rodríguez in El Salvador. Maricela was charged with aggravated homicide after seeking urgent medical care in the wake of a home delivery and still birth. After the court was made aware that a TrialWatch monitor attended a hearing on June 19, 2019, the court dismissed the charges against Maricela for lack of evidence. While the charges against Maricela have been dismissed, we remain concerned about the decision to prosecute Maricela and about the investigative practices associated with her prosecution and pre-trial detention.

The Clooney Foundation for Justice's TrialWatch initiative monitors criminal prosecutions of vulnerable groups around the world, including women and girls. This proceeding was monitored by a TrialWatch monitor from the American Bar Association Center for Human Rights ([see their preliminary report here](#)). A full TrialWatch fairness report assessing and grading the trial according to international human rights standards is forthcoming.”

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*About the Clooney Foundation for Justice's TrialWatch Project*

TrialWatch is a project of the Clooney Foundation for Justice focused on monitoring and responding to trials around the world that pose a high risk of human rights violations. For more information, visit <https://cfj.org/project/trialwatch/>.