Mapuche Political Prisoners in Angol End Hunger Strike After 105 Days Amid Ongoing Demands

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After more than three months of fasting and two days on a dry hunger strike, the communal leaders from Module E in Angol ended their protest on October 16 after reaching "agreements with Gendarmería," reinforcing demands for intercultural medical care, agreement compliance, and process guarantees.



Original article: Presos políticos mapuche de Angol bajan huelga de hambre tras 105 días

On **October 16**, representatives from Module E of the Angol prison confirmed to *El Ciudadano* that the Mapuche political prisoners **have ended their hunger strike** after **105 days** following «agreements with Gendarmería.» This decision comes after, on the **103rd day**, part of the group announced they would shift to a **dry hunger strike** due to «breach of previous commitments» and the «indifference of the authorities.»

Hunger Strike in Angol: Context of the Dry Hunger Strike and Health Deterioration

Earlier this week, a public statement from Module E revealed that **Antonio Lebu Neculpan**, who has been on liquid fasting since September 17, "has decided to change his hunger strike to a dry hunger strike," and that **Estefani Pérez Ancalaf**, "who has been on liquid hunger strike for over 100 days, has also decided to shift to a dry strike." The same document reported the physical condition of several communal leaders and severe weight losses (for instance: **Antonio Lebu Neculpan: 80 kg** \rightarrow **70.5 kg; Kevin Rubilar Quiñimil: 72 kg** \rightarrow **62.3 kg; Juan Queipul Quidel: 83 kg** \rightarrow **72.1 kg**).

Demands: Intercultural Healthcare, Agreement Compliance, and Due Process

The repeated demands put forth by the communal leaders include: **immediate transfer** of the hunger strikers to the **Intercultural Hospital of Nueva Imperial** with the support of a **machi** and intercultural health teams; **effective compliance** with agreements made by Gendarmería and the State in prior hunger strikes; **unwavering respect** for **ILO Convention 169** and **Decree 518** (Internal Regulations of Gendarmería) regarding culture, traditions, and health practices; and **guarantees of fair trial** for **José Arzola Millalén** and **Dagoberto Queipul**.

Why It Escalated: "Over 10 Previous Strikes" and International Standards

The early week statement accused the **recurrence of fasts**—"over 10 hunger strikes"—as a means to demand rights already recognized by law and treaties. The **ILO Convention 169** (cultural identity, traditional medicine, and customs) and **Decree 518** (respect for culture and lifestyle within penitentiary facilities) were invoked, denouncing that **Gendarmería** "refuses to comply with both mandates" by "systematically denying the right to intercultural medical care."

With the **end of the hunger strike** on October 16, focus now shifts to the **clinical monitoring** of the prisoners, the **effective implementation** of the requested intercultural care, and the **compliance with agreements** made in prior discussions. Representatives from Module E emphasize that this case tests the **penitentiary interculturality** and the **practical validity** of the international standards ratified by the State of Chile.

Fuente: El Ciudadano