

# Johannes Kaiser Raises Controversy Over Potential Humanitarian Pardon for 80-Year-Old Convicted of Child Sexual Abuse

El Ciudadano · 11 de noviembre de 2025

---

*In the ANATEL presidential debate, Johannes Kaiser opened the door to a humanitarian pardon for an 80-year-old convicted of child sexual abuse if terminally ill, connecting this stance with his advocacy for benefits for prisoners at Punta Peuco.*

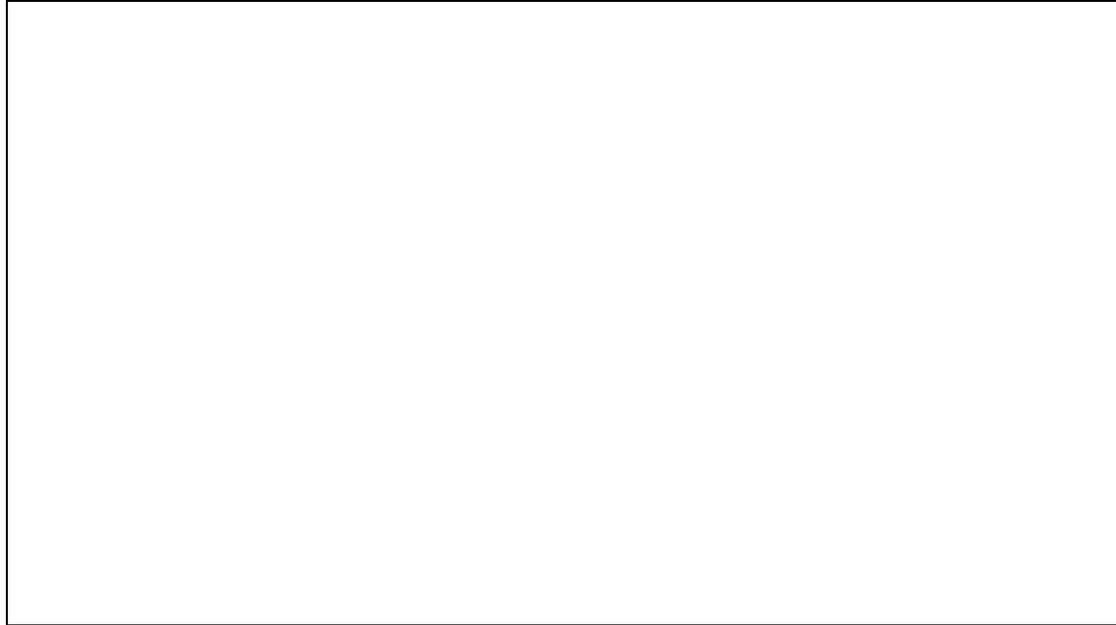


---

Original article: [¿Impunidad? Kaiser no descarta indultar a hombre de 80 años condenado por violación de menores](#)

---

**Impunity?** In the presidential debate hosted by ANATEL on November 10th, [Johannes Kaiser](#) acknowledged that he would consider granting a humanitarian pardon to an 80-year-old man convicted of child sexual abuse if he is terminally ill or bedridden. This response came during a hypothetical question posed by journalist Juan Manuel Astorga and extends the criteria he advocates for prisoners at Punta Peuco, igniting a discussion on the limits of pardon policies, victims' rights, and the risk of impunity.



## The Exchange That Raised Concerns

During the segment led by **Juan Manuel Astorga**, the journalist asked:

— Would you grant a pardon to an 80-year-old child abuser?

Kaiser responded:

— Obviously, if he poses a danger to society, no. But if he is terminally ill and confined to a bed, what sense does it make to keep him in a correctional facility?

That makes no sense.

Earlier, when asked if he would extend his age criteria to other prisoners, he mentioned there was a **project approved by the Senate's Human Rights Committee** (with a threshold of **70 years**) and added:

— We must take responsibility for our obligations [...] at the international level [...] regarding the treatment of elderly individuals in prison.

## Connections to Punta Peuco

Kaiser's stance aligns with his pledge to **review/grant benefits** to convicted prisoners at **Punta Peuco** for **crimes against humanity**, based on the arguments of **advanced age** and **humanitarian criteria**. Following the government's announcement to **convert Punta Peuco into a common prison**, he has insisted on "closing chapter 73–90" and exploring options for elderly inmates.

The critical point is that the **standard** invoked (age, terminal illness, "no danger") **extends** beyond the scope of dictatorship crimes and **reaches serious sexual offenses**—such as child sexual abuse—when these conditions are met.

## Why This Matters

- **Precedent:** applying the same criteria to **crimes against humanity** and **sexual offenses** prompts a discussion on the **boundaries** and **consistency** of pardon policies.
- **Victims' Rights:** organizations warn that humanitarian decisions must consider **truth, reparation, and guarantees of non-repetition**, especially in cases of **crimes against humanity** and **child sexual violence**.
- **Criminal Policy Signal:** in a country debating **effective sentences**, **recidivism**, and a focus on victims, Kaiser's position marks a **shift** towards granting benefits based on **age or health status**, rather than by **type of offense**.