**Appendix – International Courts and Their Sources of Resilience: The Inter-American Case**

**Dataset of national citation trends**

To create the dataset, we counted the number of references to the jurisprudence of the IACtHR in the entire universe of rulings handed down by thirteen national high courts between 1994 and 2012. The dataset covers the jurisprudence of the Constitutional Courts of Colombia, Costa Rica (Sala IV), Guatemala, Ecuador, and Peru, as well as the Supreme Courts of Argentina, Brazil, Chile, El Salvador, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, and Uruguay.[[1]](#footnote-1) In most cases, we used the search engines available on the websites of each court to identify rulings that reference Inter-American jurisprudence. When in doubt about the reliability of the search engines (i.e. whether they are programmed to search for key words in the main text of rulings, and in the entire universe of rulings), we took advice from country experts. This exercise led us to exclude some countries from the study. For two of the cases with problematic search engines, Colombia and Ecuador, we managed to obtain CDs containing every single ruling handed down during the time period of interest, and used those files to look for citations.

The keywords we used to identify citations were variations of the Spanish and Portuguese words for “Inter-American” (e.g. “interamericana”, “inter-americana,” etc.). Coders were instructed to read in full all rulings that contain any of the keywords. This was important for a number of reasons. First, it allowed us to discard false positives (e.g. references to the Inter-American Commission of Human Rights, or to companies with names such as “Compañía Interamericana de Químicos”), as well as irrelevant references (i.e. those that appear in summaries of the briefs filed by litigants, Attorney Generals, or friends of the court). Second, we are able to code multiple references to the jurisprudence of the Inter-American Court in each ruling, including generic references and references to specific Inter-American precedents. Third, we coded other variables of interest, including whether references appear in majority, minority or concurrent opinions; the name(s) of the judge(s) responsible for the citation; the date of the citation; and whether the citing court’s country is a party to the Inter-American case being cited (generic references to Inter-American jurisprudence were coded as not involving the citing court’s country).

1. We also collected data on Chile’s Constitutional Court. Unfortunately, we only have access to rulings issued after 2005, so we decided to exclude it from the analysis. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)