

Glossary

Military Junta: Committee, consisting of three General Officers of the Armed Forces (Army, Navy and Air Force), that overthrew the constitutional government of Isabel Martínez, on March 24th, 1976 and took power establishing the dictatorship. Lieutenant General Jorge Rafael Videla was appointed President.

Plaza de Mayo: Historic square, located at the center of the City of Buenos Aires, in front of the federal government headquarters.

Mothers of Plaza de Mayo: Name given to the mothers of those who were detained-disappeared at the hands of the armed forces. On April 30th, 1977 they began to gather at Plaza de Mayo, every Thursday, to demand information about their sons and daughters and became one of the most important bastions of resistance against state terrorism. In 1986 they split into two different organizations: Mothers of Plaza de Mayo Association and Mothers of Plaza de Mayo Founding Line.

Grandmothers of Plaza de Mayo: Human rights organization formed on October 22nd, 1977 within the Mothers of Plaza de Mayo, amongst those who were looking for their pregnant daughters or their grandchildren. It is estimated that over 500 babies were abducted by the military. By October 2014, they were able to find and restore the identity of 115 of them.

March of Resistance: March that lasts 24 hours at Plaza de Mayo -called every December since 1981- to pay tribute to the three founding Mothers who were kidnapped in 1977.

"CGT Brazil": One of the two organizations in which the General Confederation of Labour (CGT, as abbreviated in Spanish) a historic trade union center in Argentina, split during dictatorship. It is famous for its strong opposition to military rule and its defense of the minimum labor rights. It organized major labor mobilizations against the dictatorship in 1981 and 1982 under the slogan "Peace, Bread and Work."

Multipartidaria: Political alliance formed in 1981 by several parties (Justicialista, Intransigente, Unión Cívica Radical, Demócrata Cristiano and Movimiento de Integración y Desarrollo) to pressure the military government to begin the transition towards democracy, calling for marches and social mobilizations. It was dissolved in December, 1983.

"Never Again" Report: The National Commission on the Disappearance of Persons (NCDP) was established by President Raúl Alfonsín on December 15th 1983, to investigate human rights violations committed under the military rule. Their investigation produced 50,000 pages of documentation outlined in the "Never Again" Report, which sustained human rights were violated in a systematic and organized way through a methodology of terror planned by the armed forces.

Military Juntas Trial: Civil trial against the first three military juntas that ruled the country since the coup of 1976, ordered by President Raul Alfonsín due to the serious and massive human rights violations committed in that period.

"Carapintadas"(painted faces): Military uprisings that occurred between 1987 and 1990 under the constitutional governments of Raúl Alfonsín and Carlos Menem intended to force the ending of the trials against military officers. They covered their faces with masking cream, thus the name "carapintadas". Their main leaders were Aldo Rico and Mohammed Ali Seineldín.

"Full Stop" Law: It dictated the end of prosecution against any person who had committed crimes related to the establishment of violent forms of political action during the military rule.

"Due Obedience" Law: It dictated that it must be assumed, without admitting proof to the contrary, that all officers and their subordinates including common personnel of the Armed Forces, the Police, the Penitentiary Service and other security agencies cannot be legally punished by crimes committed during the military rule as they were acting out of due obedience, that is, obeying orders from their superiors.

"Escrachar": In 1995 the sons and daughters of the disappeared and murdered, formed a human rights group to fight impunity. They established a practice known as "escrache", a public demonstration at the repressors' homes and work places that aimed to make their identities public, so they could not hide their past from those around them.

Trials for the Truth: Judicial investigation with no criminal purposes, initiated by Emilio Mignone, chairman of the Centre for Legal and Social Studies, which sustained that the laws preventing the repressors' prosecution did not repeal the right of the relatives to know the truth.

Poblete - Hlaczik Case: Legal case against the appropriators of Claudia Victoria Poblete, the missing daughter of José Poblete and Gertrudis Hlaczik, which led the Supreme Court, in 2005, to declare the laws of impunity invalid and unconstitutional.

Battalion 601: It was the most important intelligence unit of the Argentine Army, with over 5,000 civilian and military agents. During the military rule it was one of the most active units, gathering information and executing covert operations throughout the country as well as in the rest of Latin America.

Slaughter of Fátima: On the morning of August 20th, 1976 thirty people (20 men and 10 women) were brutally murdered. Their bodies were found at the Buenos Aires district of Pilar, in the suburban area of Fátima, riddled with bullets and dynamited. Before the slaughter these men and women were illegally detained and were held secretly in the Federal Police headquarters in Buenos Aires.

"The little school" of Neuquén Case: Legal case about the crimes against humanity committed in the clandestine detention centre of the Construction Engineers' Battalion 181 of the Argentine Army, in the southern city of Neuquén.

"Campo de Mayo" Case: It is the biggest legal case related to crimes against humanity in Argentina. It investigates crimes committed on a very large and important military suburban area, 30 kilometers north of the City of Buenos Aires. During the military rule, four clandestine detention centers and a clandestine maternity unit operated there. Over five thousand people were illegally taken to Campo de Mayo, the vast majority is still missing and there are very few survivors.

"ABO" Case: Judicial process involving the crimes committed in three clandestine detention centers ("Club Atlético", "El Banco" and "Olimpo"), of the City of Buenos Aires, which includes 181 accusations of illegal deprivation of liberty and torture between 1976 and 1979, in the repressive circuit under control of the First Army Corps, following orders from General Carlos Suarez Mason and Jorge Olivera Róvere.

Haroldo Conti: Writer, member of the Revolutionary Workers Party (PRT) kidnapped and disappeared by the military on May 5th, 1976.

Martin Gras: Political prisoner from 1971 until 1973, he was granted amnesty, that year, by the democratic government of Héctor J. Cámpora. He was, then, detained at the ESMA from January 1977 until August 1978. He was a member of the FAR/Montoneros organizations. Today he is a witness in the ESMA trials.

Rodolfo Walsh: Journalist, writer and member of the Montoneros organization, killed on March 25th, 1977, in downtown Buenos Aires, by an ESMA task force while resisting his kidnapping attempt.