# Transitional Justice and Human Rights

Francisco Villamil

War, peace, and political violence UC3M, Fall 2023



## The Boston Daily Globe



message received at 6:17 p. m., EWT, yesterday,

Truman Accepts Jap Unconditional Surrender Ending Bloody Pacific War-Gen MacArthur to Receive Nippon's Capitulation for Allies: Joyous Hysteria Sweeps the United Nations

By FRNEST BARCELLA

WASHINGTON, Aug. 14 (UP)-Peace came to the world tonight when President Truman announced that Japan has accepted unconditional surrender and Allied forces have been ordered to cease firing.

Gen Douglas MacArthur, "the man who came back," was named Supreme Allied Commander to receive the formal Japanese surrender.

World War II-bloodiest conflict in all of human history-was at an

end, except for the formality of signing surrender documents.

#### Transitional Justice

• Transitional Justice is a set of policies employed in the aftermath of war or regime change (democratization)

Criminal trials



• First international war crimes tribunal in history

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- New ideas: crimes against humanity, crimes against peace
  - → Different from old *jus in bello*

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- Importance of the Holocaust

- First international war crimes tribunal in history
- New ideas: crimes against humanity, crimes against peace
  - → Different from old *jus in bello*
- Importance of the Holocaust
- Context: interstate war, military defeat

### Tokyo Trials



Hideki Tojo, 1948

#### Tokyo Trials

- Same as Nüremberg?
- The case of Kōki Hirota (only civilian sentenced to death)
- 'What the Tokyo Trial Reveals About Empire, Memory, and Judgment'



Hideki Tojo, 1948



Former Serb President, Slobodan Milosevic facing the ICTY judges the 2nd day of his trial

#### **ICTY**

#### Slobodan Praljak suicide: War criminal 'took cyanide' in Hague court

① 1 December 2017



Slobodan Praljak drank a small vial of liquid after his prison sentence was upheld

Bosnian Croat war criminal Slobodan Praljak died after taking potassium cyanide in The Hague's courtroom, Dutch prosecutors say, citing the results of a preliminary post mortem examination.



Ante Gotovina trial





- Trial of the Juntas
- Early example of domestic human rights prosecution
  - → Not the first though (Greek junta trials, Portugal (limited) trials)



- Trial of the Juntas
- Early example of domestic human rights prosecution
  - → Not the first though (Greek junta trials, Portugal (limited) trials)
- A third option are foreign trials



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DOMINGO 18 DE C

Euskadi en tregua

EL PAIS SEMANAL



Otro Goya para Paco Rabal

EL ESPECTADOR



Alucinación en Córdoba

**EL VIAJERO** 

## Pinochet, detenido en Londres a petición del juez Garzón

Conmoción en Chile, donde el Gobierno protesta ante el Reino Unido

La detención fue a medianoche. A esa hora del viernes, varios agentes de Scotland Yard irrumpieron en la habitación de la London Clínic, la clinica londienese donde está ingresado el general chileno Augusto Pinochet, de 82 años, convaleciente de una operación de henria discal. Dormía, le despertaron y le informaron de que quedaba bajo arresto. Le mantuvieron incomunicado durante dos horas, hasta que el embajador chileno en el Reino Unido consiguió que se levantase la medino Unido consiguió que se levantase la medino.

da. Éste es el relato del arresto del ex dictador chileno proporcionado por uno de sus amigos, Luis Cortés Villa, presidente de la Fundación Pinochet.

Horas antes, en Madrid, el juez Baltasar Garzón habia firmado una orden de detención de Pinochet cursada a través de Interpol. Garzón y otro magistrado, Manuel García Castellón, esperan desplazarse en los próximos días a Londres para interrogar a Pinochet sobre algunas de las 1.101 desaparichet sobre algunas de las 1.101 desapariciones de adversarios políticos sucedidas durante sus 17 años de gobierno. Es probable que acaben pidiendo su extradición. "Los dictadores nunca acaban bien", declaró hace unos días Pinochet a la revista New Yorker, anticipando sus problemas.

La detención del ex jefe de Estado chileno causó una auténtica conmoción en Chile, donde hubo júbilo callejero. El Gobierno chileno protestó ante el Reino Unido.

Páginas 2 a 4 / Editorial en la página 14

#### Dopaje libre en farmaci español

La EPO, el fármaco ci sión llevó en Francia a médicos y ciclistas, mente en las farmac según ha comprobad más famoso estimula sin control puede ca sólo se debe administ pitales, y está prohi incluso con receta.

Criminal trials

- Criminal trials
  - $\rightarrow$  vs. Amnesties: we might not see it as a 'TJ mechanism', but state leaders usually do

- Criminal trials
  - ightarrow vs. Amnesties: we might not see it as a 'TJ mechanism', but state leaders usually do
- Reparations



## Universal Declaration of Human Rights

#### **Article 8**

Everyone has the right to an effective remedy by the competent national tribunals for acts violating the fundamental rights granted him by the constitution or by law.



- Criminal trials
  - ightarrow vs. Amnesties: we might not see it as a 'TJ mechanism', but state leaders usually do
- Reparations
- Lustration

Mite

## Poland: Tough Lustration Law Divides Society





Warsaw Archbishop Stanislaw Wielgus was the first major figure to fall victim to the law (file photo) (epa) March 23, 2007 (RFE/RL) -- A controversial law went into effect in Poland this month that goes further than anything similar in the region, requiring hundreds of thousands of citizens in positions of authority, including academics, journalists, teachers, and state company executives, to declare in writing whether they cooperated with the communist secret services -or risk losing their jobs.

#### Related



Polish Archbishop Resigns Amid Spying Allegations



Romanian President Says

Communist Bogima

#### Lustrations



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Med dol

#### Comisión Provincial Depuradora del Magisterio

Como Presidente de esta Comisión, creada por el Decreto número 66 y Orden de 10 de Noviembre último, ambas disposiciones insertas en el Boletín Oficial del Estado, del 11 del mismo mes, requiero a V. S. para que en el preciso término de ocho días, se sirva informar a esta Comisión acerca de los siguientes extremos, relativos a maestro D. In termino de comisión de la escuela de suma fina en ese municipal que en 18 de Julio último estaba al frente de su cargo. Que

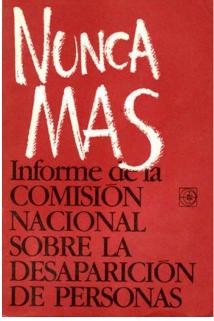
1.º Conducta profesional, es decir: si asiste puntualmente a la Escuela. Si desarrolla en ella la actividad exigible a un buen Maestro. Si sus alumnos adelantan en instrucción y educación. Si las enseñanzas que da se inspiran en los dictados de un fervoroso amor a España. Si inculcaba o inculca a sus alumnos el respeto a las Instituciones básicas de nuestra civilización, tales como la Patria, la familia, la propiedad, la jerarquía de las clases sociales, etc. Si se mostraba y se muestra hostil a ellas

o indiferente. Si hacía labor antirreligiosa, etc.

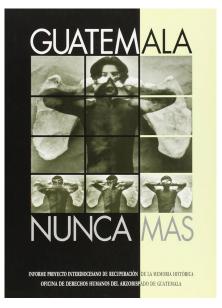
2.º Conducta social, esto es, fuera de la Escuela, en su vida de relación. Si daba buen ejemplo público o malo. Si asistía a Centros o reuniones, cuya frecuentación podía desprestigiarle. Si se relacionaba o relaciona con elementos socialmente sanos,



- Criminal trials
  - ightarrow vs. Amnesties: we might not see it as a 'TJ mechanism', but state leaders usually do
- Reparations
- Lustration
- Truth



Argentina (1984)



Guatemala (1998)



#### Víctimas mortales de la guerra civil en Euskadi



TODAS

MUJERES HOMBRES

#### A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Abad Ángulo, Florentino
Abad de la Cruz, Casimiro
Abad Escolar [Escobar], Félix
Abad Fernández, Jesús
Abad Huerta, Victor
Abad Romero, Ricardo
Abad Ruiz de Olano, Luis
Abad Torre, Francisco

Aceval Amilibia [Acebal Alcubilla], Domingo Acevedo Aloyo [Alonso], José Acevedo Alvarez, Manuel Acevedo Caballero, Santos Aceves Asumendi, Jesús Acha, Domingo Acha Aguirre, Antonio Aguinaco Sáenz de Cortázar, Segundo Aguinaga Arrizabalaga, José Aguinaga Barinaga, Marcelino Aguinaga Beguiristain, Casimiro Aguinaga Bilbao, Antonio Aguinaga Ingunza, Valentina Aguinaga Lecuona, Florencio Aguinaga Otegui, Juan Bautista

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Inicio > Memoria Democrática > Localización de personas desaparecidas

#### Buscador de víctimas

Q Buscador de fosas Q Buscador georreferenciado

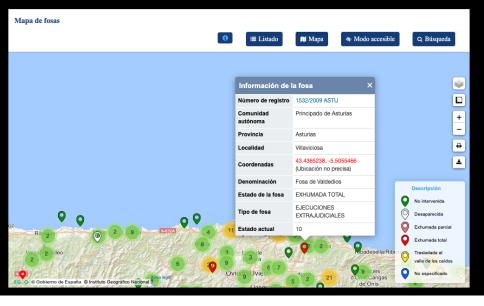
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Nombre		Primer a	pellido		Segundo apellido
Fosa de inhumación —					
Comunidad autónoma		Provincia		Localidad	
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#### Buscador de mapa de fosas georreferenciado



- Criminal trials
  - $\rightarrow\,$  vs. Amnesties: we might not see it as a 'TJ mechanism', but state leaders usually do
- Reparations
- Lustration
- Truth
- Memory & symbols





# Spain exhumes Franco's body, ending long legal battle

Transfer of ex-dictator's remains hailed 'victory for democracy' but rightwing critics slam decision



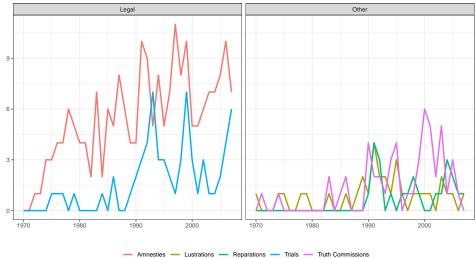
Franco's grandsons and other family members carry the coffin of the former Spanish dictator after his exhumation at the Valley of the Fallen basilica near Madrid on Thursday © EPA/Shutterstock

#### Mechanisms of TJ

- Criminal trials
  - ightarrow vs. Amnesties: we might not see it as a 'TJ mechanism', but state leaders usually do
- Reparations
- Lustration
- Truth
- Memory & symbols
- Others:
  - → Institutional reform, gender-specific TJ, ...

#### Number of countries using each TJ mechanism





• What do you think are the goals of TJ?

• The causes of TJ policies

# TJ and human rights

- Why do we observe Transitional Justice policies?
  - → especially, why do we observe *domestic* prosecutions?
- This is a debate related to the emergence of human rights

• We live in a world where human rights are the norm

- We live in a world where human rights are the norm
- But it was not always like that

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- But it was not always like that
  - → School of Salamanca and natural law

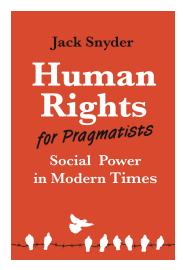
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  - $\rightarrow \ \mathsf{Post\text{-}WWII}$

- We live in a world where human rights are the norm
- But it was not always like that
  - → School of Salamanca and natural law
  - → Enlightment and Reformation
  - → Post-WWII
- How and why did we get here?
  - → What is the process that explains the expansion of human rights norms and institutions to enforce them, both at the domestic and international level?
  - → Why this is important: can we actually *promote* human rights?

### Power leads, rights follow

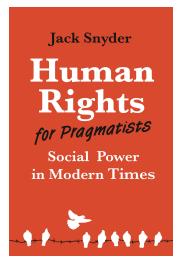
 Human rights are all about liberal modernity



Jack Snyder (2022)

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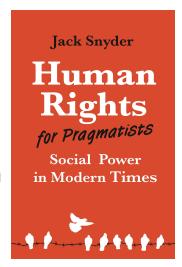
- Human rights are all about liberal modernity
- Only when middle classes emerge and become strong, forming winning coalitions
  - → Historical role of the emergence of a trading class in Northern Europe and Protestant Reformation
  - → Setbacks during the 20th Century



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- Human rights are all about liberal modernity
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- Liberal and realist theories of HR?



Jack Snyder (2022)

- 1. HR are beneficial for modern economic production and governance
  - ightarrow vs. tradition based on favoritism and patronage

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  - ightarrow vs. persuasion ightarrow institutionalization

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- 4. Promotion as part of an ideology and culture
  - $\rightarrow$  vs. persuasion  $\rightarrow$  institutionalization
- 5. This is all a gradual process
  - → there are no short-cuts

# Snyder (2022)

- Ideas about this argument?
- According to it, how can we promote human rights internationally?
   And what are the odds that we'll be successful?

# Snyder (2022)

- Ideas about this argument?
- According to it, how can we promote human rights internationally?
   And what are the odds that we'll be successful?
- What does this mean for TJ policies?

# International norms and political change (Finnemore & Sikkink 1998)

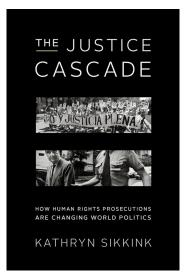
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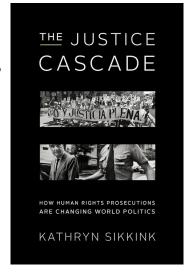
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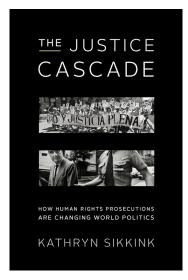
- Importance of *norms* and the way they **change** 
  - → Norms are not the opposite of strategic rationality
- Examples of international norms:
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- How do wars emerge and evolve? Three phases
  - 1. Norm emergence (role of *norm entrepreneurs*)
  - 2. Norm cascade (imitation dynamics)
  - 3. Internalization



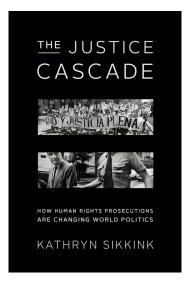
- Development of HR accountability norm at the international level
  - ightarrow individuals should be accountable to their actions in legal criminal courts



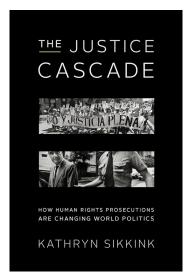
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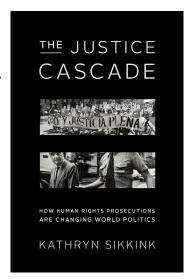
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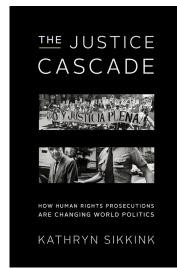
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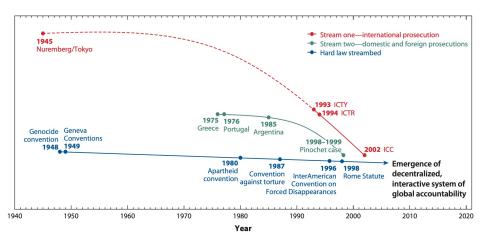


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- Spread of domestic, foreign, and international courts - and the legal backbone



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- Spread of domestic, foreign, and international courts - and the legal backbone
- Role of individual actors: activists, lawyers, NGOs, etc





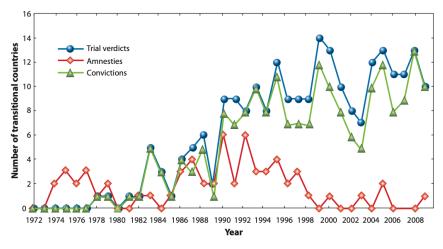


Figure 1

Trends in domestic prosecutions of human rights violations and amnesty laws, 1979–2009. The lines represent the number of countries in any given year adopting new amnesty laws (red) or reaching a verdict (blue) or a conviction (green) in a prosecution for human rights violations.



Figure 2

Regional distribution of prosecutions of human rights violations, 1979–2009: (a) domestic transitional prosecutions, (b) international human rights prosecutions, and (c) number (and%) of truth commissions by region. Abbreviation: MENA, Middle East and North Africa. (Trials are included as long as they began within the stated time period.)

- The causes of TJ policies
  - → emergence of human rights *norms*: how and why?
  - $\rightarrow\,$  determinants of domestic policies: what explains that some countries apply them?
  - → role of international factors in explaining TJ difussion?

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- The consequences
  - → what are the consequences at the elite-level?
  - → do they have an effect beyond one particular country?
  - → effects at the *micro*-level? (reconciliation, etc)