



UCBMUN XXI



Trial of the Juntas: Defining Justice after the Dirty War

Update Paper

León Arslanián (Chief Justice):

León Arslanián serves as the Chief Justice of the National Criminal Court of Appeals panel of judges overseeing the Junta trial. Throughout his life, Arslanián has always been a strong proponent of gun control and stricter definitions of corruption within law enforcement. His liberal leanings have earned him enemies in the past but Arslanián forges onward in reforming portions of the nation's penal code to make the prosecution of criminals more efficient and effective.

Jorge Torlasco:

Jorge Edwin Torlasco was known for condemning the the amnesty law passed by the last meeting of the Junta commanders during the reign of the military dictatorship. This act earns him tremendous respect amongst his peers and is in line with his other progressive leanings in being outspoken against torture. Torlasco is a close friend of the Chief Justice, León Arslanián.

Ricardo Gil Lavedra:

Ricardo Gil Lavedra was a resilient cross-examiner, and is known for persistently interrogating his witnesses to arrive at the most cogent testimony. Lavedra is known to have political ambitions

but can be very brusque in his manners. He is passionate about human rights and strongly supports the case brought by the Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo.

Andrés D'Alessio:

Andrés D'Alessio was a judge in the National Criminal Court of Appeals panel that oversaw the Trial of the Juntas. He was a good friend of Walter Gago, but was always critical of Gago's behavior in court. He was known to pay more critical attention to the arguments of fellow judges than the implications of cases at hand. D'Alessio had moderately liberal views, but sought to compromise when necessary.

Jorge Valerga Aráoz:

Jorge Valerga, a very militaristic man, has quietly supported candidates who have been strong on national defense and homeland security. He never steered away from upholding traditional norms, and would often refer to historical precedent when ruling.

Guillermo Ledesma

Guillermo Ledesma's strong liberal views made him deeply resentful towards the entire military dictatorship, regardless of whether or not a military junta member was directly involved in the cases brought before

the court. He was always in favor of maximum punishment, sometimes outside the ability of the court, and was determined to assign blame to as many junta as possible.

Sotero Aranguren

Sotero Aranguren believed that in a state of war, traditional laws and norms should be flexible considering the circumstances. For that reason, he would only assign blame where the evidence shows the person to be directly responsible beyond a reasonable doubt. At the same time, he was much more forgiving of the defendants than his fellow judges.

Roque Olsen

Roque Olsen saw this case as much superior to historical precedent, and believed that previous precedents should not be taken into consideration. He did not see any relevance in citing previous case law or international norms, but remained fairly liberal in court opinions.

Juan Carlos Touriño

Juan Carlos Touriño was appointed under the Videla regime in 1976, and secretly remained loyal to the values of Videla until the day he died. Because his goal was to exonerate the junta, he did

everything in his ability to discredit witnesses and find holes in evidence presented. His colleagues saw him as ideologically moderate, and he was good at keeping his true loyalties secret at risk of losing allies.

Jorge Valdano

Jorge Valdano's best friend's fifteen year old son was one of many who disappeared in ESMA. Valdano strongly believed that he was alive and working within the government before the trials, and this led him to think that many right-wing affiliates were scared into submission and are really liberals. Valdano was overly skeptical of everything coming from all sides of arguments, and never seemed to stick to the same position.

Fernando Redondo

Fernando Redondo strongly believed that responsibility within a military hierarchy lies with top commanders in charge of giving orders to subordinates regardless of whether or not they had knowledge of the actions of the people they were responsible for.

Santiago Cambiasso

Santiago Cambiasso has always been sympathetic towards victims of sexual assault. Additionally, he believed that individuals who executed crimes were solely responsible, regardless of whether or not they were ordered to do so by a commander of higher ranking. Judge Esteban Solari is a strong ally and friend.

Esteban Solari

Esteban Solari was a firm advocate of strict liability. He did not believe that any individual is responsible unless evidence directly links them to the crimes. In his opinion, negligence is not sufficient on its own to blame someone for a crime, even if it was their responsibility to know. Judge Santiago Cambiasso is a strong ally and friend.

Walter Gago

Walter Gago had very liberal views, and was extremely critical of those with conservative voices. He hardly ever proposed alternative possibilities, but he was a resilient cross-examiner and was often unprofessional with his infamously savage remarks.

Fernando Samuel

Fernando Samuel served as a judge until he died in 1989 at age 79. He was known to be comfortable in his conservative legal theories, and was hated among colleagues because he was unwilling to listen to or work with judges who had competing opinions.