

# MEMORY OF THE WORLD REGISTER

## NOMINATION FORM

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### PART A – ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

#### 1. SUMMARY

The aim of the HUMAN RIGHTS ARCHIVE OF CHILE is to ensure that the historical memory of human rights violations and the defence of human rights, which is documented in various archives of national institutions, do not continue to deteriorate.

The archive seeks to safeguard this memory in order for it to be recognized and valued, because it captures a specific historical moment of actions of solidarity with and defence of persecuted and arrested persons during the military dictatorship that governed Chile from 1973 until 1989.

The archives of non-governmental institutions that today constitute the Archive originated as a form of preserving information and supporting the search for those disappeared during the military regime.

The Archive on Human Rights is, consequently, an experiment of civic and democratic education for future users at different levels: local, national and international. It is, therefore, necessary to preserve this documentary heritage considered of universal interest and to facilitate access by a vast number of persons, using appropriate technology. At the same time, it is necessary to create registers that ensure its extensive and free dissemination.

The Archive attempts to examine the processes of collective memory as mechanisms that enable different ways of socialization and the (re)insertion of civil societies in which, in a particular moment, the respect and guarantee of the full exercise of rights and liberties has been coercively interrupted.

The importance of this Archive lies in the fact that each individual document gives an account of a process of intra-societal co-inhabitancy in post-dictatorship spaces. For the same reason, this Archive converts into an interior dialogue of a society that still has to overcome the legacy of human rights violations of the recent past.

All of the documents presented here are unique and authentic, reflecting the work of several institutions in the defence of human rights in Chile during the military regime. All archives originated from methodical recollection and classification of information that aimed at saving human lives, finding disappeared persons and denouncing the serious neglects of human rights in Chile.

In this new millennium, a time has come for Latin America to recover its memory. There is conviction that after so many authoritarian and totalitarian governments, the most important thing for the collective future is to respect fundamental human rights. Conserving the archives is necessary in order to set forth a public debate in these societies to enable them to question the presence or absence of the memory of human rights violations.

The future cannot be built on oblivion, on concealing what has happened. This idea applies to individuals, societies and humanity. To understand the *raison d'être* of democracy and respect for human rights, it is necessary to know and remember how the dictatorships functioned. Countries will be able to choose a future free of terror and the mistakes of the past, only by knowing and reflecting on their past.

Currently, the Human Rights Archives that proposed to be part of the Memory of the World Register are seriously endangered due to lack of resources to maintain all information so far collected. Through this Archive, we hope that the work on human rights documents and archives is recognized, analyzed and disseminated in order to create a culture of citizenship and to help in the conservation of our varied and fragile documentary heritage.

We believe that this initiative brings together the cultural values of the past to support and stimulate the cultural development of the present and the future.

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## 2. DETAILS OF THE NOMINATOR

### 2.1 Archivo Nacional de Chile (Chilean National Archive)

Director: Mrs. María Eugenia Barrientos Harbin  
Archivo Nacional de Chile  
No. 50 Miraflores St.,  
Santiago, Chile  
P.O.Box No. 1,400

-National Commission “Memory of the World”

### 2.2

-Archivo de Agrupación de Familiares de Detenidos Desaparecidos (AFDD), Archive of the Association of the Family members of the Disappeared

-Comisión Chilena de Derechos Humanos (CCHDH), The Chilean Human Rights Commission.

-ONG Corporacion CODEPU, NGO Corporation CODEPU.

-Corporación Justicia y Democracia, Corporation “Justice and Democracy”

-Fundación de Ayuda Social de las Iglesias Cristianas (FASIC), Foundation of Social Aid of Christian Churches.

-Fundación de Protección a la Infancia Dañada por los Estados de Emergencia (PIDEE), Foundation for the Protection of Damaged Childhood by the States in Emergency.

-Fundación de Documentación y Archivos de la Vicaría de la Solidaridad. Foundation of Documentation and Archives of the Vicary of Solidarity.

### 2.3 Contact person

Ms. María Eugenia Barrientos  
Archivo Nacional de Chile  
Miraflores 50  
Santiago, Chile.  
Email: [mebh@oris.renib.cl](mailto:mebh@oris.renib.cl)  
Phone: 56-2-6397424

## 3. IDENTITY AND DESCRIPTION OF THE DOCUMENTARY HERITAGE

### 3.1 (Details of the documents are enclosed in the Enclosures corresponding to each institution)

1. Name and information of identity elements of the documentary heritage proposed for the register
  - a) Press Archive. A register of news from newspapers and magazines related to human rights issues from 1974 to 1990. Specifically, news clips and historical articles related to the subject of the arrested, politically executed, the banished, the tortured and the disappeared. It should be noted that many of these publications have ceased to exist.
  - b) -Audiovisual Archive. Photos of the disappeared, copies of press documentaries and programmes. Over the years, an important photo register of nearly 1,000 disappeared persons has been created. Damaged photos have been digitized and retouched. Subsequently, a register of the activities of the human rights associations, foundations and corporations as organizations has been created. Some copies of press documentaries and programmes related to the subject of human rights are included. Moreover, cassettes and videos that tell the history of the disappeared have been received as donations.  
  
- Audiovisual archive of TELEANÁLIS. News disseminated on videos that register the defence of human rights from 1984 to 1990. (See annexes)
  - c) Historical Heritage. Documents classified by date and year, on the participation of the Human Rights institutions in the social, political and juridical life of the country and in the international community. These documents are the originals and have been conserved since the year 1975 up to the present. On the other hand, the archive has managed to conserve the law proposals drawn up by the Association in order to impede the amnesty laws and to suggest ethical and political solutions to the subject of human rights violations in Chile. Descriptive lists of the disappeared have been computerized and created, according to different criteria (by sex, age, profession, job, political militancy, place and date of disappearance etc.), with the aim of having this material available to persons who request it. Additionally, classification of information leaflets for massive dissemination, as well as posters highlighting important activities of the human rights institutions over the years.
  - d) Digital Heritage. Digitized documents corresponding to the original classified information, gathered by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, 1990-1991.
  - e) Institutional Publications.  
Register and publication of documents (leaflets, flyers, posters etc.) created by persons and teams organized to work on denouncing violations as well as disseminating and sensitizing public opinion to the work of the human rights institutions.
  - f) Juridical Archive. Copies of numerous trials and appeals actions concerning the disappeared. This archive contains declarations of acts, testimonies, court resolutions etc. In some cases, original documents of the state and international organizations are included, referring to consultations of family members of the arrested and disappeared persons. Additionally, the Archive includes personal testimonies, narrations of the survivors or persons who were arrested with the victims, etc.
  - g) Publications of programmes on human rights education.
  - h) Publications of some organizations on mental health.
  - i) Clinical index cards. Constituted by listings of index cards, entered according to order of repressive situation, entry date and by alphabetical order both of the surnames of each repressive situation and name of the holder of the repressive situation.

Archive of the victims of human rights violations from 11, September 1973 to 11, March 1990, investigated by the National Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

### 3.2 Description

35 The CanonFile optical discs system that contain all information related to the 3,877 cases of victims of human rights violations investigated by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. In addition to all information gathered by this institution in the course of its investigations, the testimonies of the survivors are included.

The most organized collections are the videos archives with respect to historical heritage (archives and individual index cards), audiovisual archive and the press archive.

One relevant part of this information is adjusted by the listings of the index cards of the children attended by the PIDEE, for instance. Additionally, there are approximately 500 files that, due to the end of financing, have not been included (in particular, files related to situations of persons returning from exile).

## 4. JUSTIFICATION FOR INCLUSION/ASSESSMENT AGAINST CRITERIA

### 4.1 Is authenticity established?

The documents are originals of the time and are archived under different categories. Until now no measures have been taken to determine their authenticity. However, the material has never been questioned by any human rights NGO, nor by the institutions that the associations have been collaborating with, such as the National Truth and Reconciliation Commission, Amnesty International, United Nations (especially, the help given to Special Mediators for the Chilean case) and judge Garzón, among others. Undoubtedly, all of the material is authentic, because it is the result of denunciations received directly by the institutions and is adequately supported. Moreover, it can be argued that the Chilean Human Rights Commission included in its reports only the denouncements based on information with sufficient credibility, worthy of a trial or police investigation.

The authenticity of some documents of the Corporations is demonstrated by a document in which the Curator of the National Archive of Chile certifies that he was present and saw the original documents that were scanned and transferred to CanonFile optical discs.

All of the material recollected during these years is of authentic character and includes testimonies of the victims as well as witnesses of the human right violations during the military dictatorship.

### 4.2 Is world significance, uniqueness and irreplaceability established?

The Archives of the organizations are significant, unique and irreplaceable, as in no public library nor in any state institution exist specific information of this kind on the repression and human rights violations that took place in Chile during the military government. All this information on the arrested, politically executed, banished, tortured and disappeared persons is, therefore, unique and irreplaceable.

Consequently, the destruction or loss of this heritage would mean losing evidence about the repressions of the dictatorship and on the testimonies on the crimes committed against humanity during the military regime. The Archive has tremendous testimonial significance, providing empiric evidence of the systematic policy of repression and forced disappearances. Moreover,

the documents have served as a setting for the open trial against General Pinochet in Spain and other European countries.

4.3 Is one or more of the criteria of a) time, b) place, c) people d), subject and theme, e) form and style satisfied?

- a. Time: Military Dictatorship, 1973-1990. The time that is referred to as the most difficult period in the recent history of the country: the military government (11.09.1973 – 1990).
- b. Place: Chile.
- c. Persons: The victims of human rights violations during the military dictatorship, understood as the disappeared and the families and relatives of the victims.
- d. Subject and theme: The inhumane and cruel behaviour that transgresses the fundamental values outlined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It cannot be forgotten that these are historical, political and ideological acts, testimonies of a time that still contains unsolved elements, like the cases of the disappeared and the executed. It also relates to State terror, forced disappearance of persons, crimes against humanity, dictatorship, human rights violations, solidarity, among others.
- e. Form and style: The Documentation Centre and the Archives of the organizations contain information from the victims of human rights violations that were investigated by the National Truth and Reconciliation Commission. As part of the inventory, an important quantity of books, documents, cassettes, videos, monthly reports, newspapers and magazines, among others, can be mentioned. Given the time when the testimonies were reported, many of these documents are handwritten or typed.

All documentation is in its original form and has not been digitized for conservation. The photo archive mainly includes black and white photos that register the faces of each disappeared person, as well as the different forms of active participation of the Association in human rights issues.

4.4 Are there issues of rarity, integrity, threat and management that relate to this nomination?

Rarity: Some archives (Vicary of Solidarity) have served as a study model for other countries, like El Salvador, Guatemala and Paraguay that have seen the necessity to institute search mechanisms to recover peace and stability in its public life. They have served as a database for NGOs that have traveled to Chile to investigate the activities of these organizations under the military regime. Large parts of the original and unique information is contained in the investigations realized by the lawyer and president of the Commission, Jaime Castillo Velasco, with respect to the Leterier case. It should be mentioned, too, that thanks to the information sent abroad and to the efforts realized by Jaime Castillo, the visit of United Nation's special mediator, Jaime Volio Jiménez, was made possible on two occasions in 1987 and 1988.

Integrity: All documentation remains untouched. It has not been altered, and it maintains its integrity and authenticity. The material is conserved in good condition, but given the uniqueness of each document, they are not available for all the public that request to use them. They are documents of restricted character. It is important to note that external or internal factors such as the changes of government, or natural disasters might affect the preservation of this material.

Threat: Given that these are original documents, the possibility to conserve them in some way, through copies or adequate digitization, might assure their permanence in time and their legacy to future generations.

Management Plan: A lot of work has been carried out in order to classify this heritage. In the near future, projects for the research and publication of the material available are being elaborated, as well as promoting its use for researches and graduate students of national and foreign universities. Additionally, an effort has been made to manage resources for the restoration and conservation of this valuable information mechanically and/or electronically, in order to make these documents available on the web for extensive use.

Integrity: Generally, the documentation of the Human Rights Corporation, for instance, has been kept intact. Nevertheless, due to time that has passed, in many cases, the documents have been deteriorating due to lack of adequate means of preservation and physical safeguard.

Threat: Since some organizations, like the Human Rights Corporation, began its activities, they had to face various submissions and threats from security bodies of the military dictatorship that in that time constituted a real threat to the information gathered. There were robberies, fires and destruction of much documentation that, nevertheless, was reconstructed and maintained until now (this happened with the cases of the War Council of 1981 and the trials against the political prisoners of the first years of the dictatorship). Given that these are original documents, the possibility to conserve them in some way (through copies or adequate digitization) might assure their permanence in time and their legacy to future generations.

Management Plan: Unfortunately, a very small part of all the material generated and elaborated by CODEPU has been able to be arranged and classified. The scarcity of economic, technical and human resources has been an obstacle to advances in the subject. The documentation has only been able to be stored with minimum order and in precarious conditions of physical safeguard.

## 5. LEGAL INFORMATION

### 5.1. Owner of the documentary heritage (name and contact details)

Agrupación de Familiares de Detenidos Desaparecidos –Chile (AFDD)  
(Association of the Family members of the Disappeared – Chile)

Address: Avenida Ricardo Cumming 1161, Santiago- Chile  
Phone: (56-2) 6960678; (56-2) 6950635; (56-2) 6970041  
Fax : (56-2) 6060678  
E-Mail : [vivianadiazc@hotmail.com](mailto:vivianadiazc@hotmail.com)

Legal representative and President of the Association:  
Responsible: Ms. Viviana Diaz Caro

### 5.2 Custodian of the documentary heritage (name and contact details, if different to owner)

Agrupacion de Familiares de Detenidos Desaparecidos

### 5.3 Legal status:

- a) Category of ownership. A non-profit seeking corporation according to the Supreme Act 1326 of the Ministry of Justice, of September 30, 1992.
- b) Accessibility. Access is momentarily restricted. The Archive can be found in the Sola Sierra H. House of the Agrupación de Familiares de Detenidos Desaparecidos. Avenida Ricardo Cumming 1161, Santiago, Chile.
- d) Copyright status. All material is property of the Agrupación de Familiares de Detenidos Desaparecidos.

e) Responsible administration. The Board of Directors of the Agrupación.

5.1. Owner of the documentary heritage (name and contact details)

Comisión Chilena de Derechos Humanos (CCDH), (the Chilean Human Rights Commission)

Address: Santa Lucía 162, Santiago, Chile.

Phone : (56-2) 6333995

Fax : (56-2) 6335562

Email: [b.saavedra@entelchile.net](mailto:b.saavedra@entelchile.net)

Legal representative and president :

Responsible: Sr. Jaime Castillo Velasco

5.2 Custodian of the documentary heritage (name and contact details if different to the owner)

Comisión Chilena de Derechos Humanos (CCDH)

5.3 Legal status:

- a) Category of ownership: Autonomous, non-profit seeking corporation.
- b) Accessibility: Access is restricted (momentarily) due to current conditions of remodeling of the Documentation Centre and the Archive of the CCDH.
- c) Copyright status: All material belongs to the Chilean Human Rights Commission.
- d) Responsible administration: The Board of CCDH.

5.1 Owner of the documentary heritage (name and contact details)

Corporación Justicia y Democracia, (Corporation Justice and Democracy)

Address: Teresa Salas 786, Providencia, Santiago- Chile

Phone: (56-2) 3411574

Fax: (56-2) 2042135

E-Mail : [justidem@terra.cl](mailto:justidem@terra.cl), [cbascunan@tutopia.cl](mailto:cbasuncan@tutopia.cl)

Legal representative and the president of the association:

Responsible: Sr. Carlos Bascuñan Edwards

5.2 Custodian of the documentary heritage (name and contact details if different to owner)

Corporación Justicia y Democracia

5.3 Legal status:

- a) Category of ownership: Private, non-profit seeking institution
- b) Accessibility: Restricted access in accordance with the Law 19.123 that establishes the confidentiality of documentation and its limited access to investigation and court orders.
- c) Copyright status: All material is property of the Corporación Justicia y Democracia.
- d) Responsible administration: Boards of the Corporation.

### 5.1 Owner of the documentary heritage (name and contact details)

Fundación de Ayuda Social de las Iglesias Cristianas (FASIC), (Foundation of Social Aid of Christian Churches)

Address: Manuel Rodríguez 33, Santiago-Chile  
Phone: (56-2) 6957534 / (56-2) 6955931  
Fax: (56-2) 6988609  
E-mail: fundacion@fasic.cl

Legal representative and president of FASIC:

Responsible: Sr. Claudio González

### 5.2 Custodian of the documentary heritage (name and contact details, if different to owner)

Fundación de Ayuda Social de las Iglesias Cristianas (FASIC)

### 5.3 Legal status:

- a) Category of ownership: Private, non-profit seeking foundation.
- b) Accessibility: With some exceptions, access is momentarily restricted due to lack of adequate protection of information. Moreover, it can be argued that the heritage is well preserved due to the institution's safeguard of not having the documentation available for all public.
- c) Copyright status: All material is property of the Fundación de Ayuda Social de las Iglesias Cristianas (FASIC).
- d) Responsible administration: Boards of FASIC.

### 5.1 Owner of the documentary heritage (name and contact details)

Fundación de Protección a la Infancia Dañada por los Estados de Emergencia (PIDEE),  
(Foundation for the Protection of Damaged Childhood by the States in Emergency)

Address: Holanda 3587 Ñuñoa, Santiago, Chile  
Phone: (56-2) 2258752; (56-2) 2748347  
Fax: (56-2) 6060678

Legal representative of PIDEE:

Responsible: Ms. María Eugenia Rojas

### 5.2 Custodian of the documentary heritage (name and contact details, if different to owner)

Fundación de Protección a la Infancia Dañada por los Estados de Emergencia (PIDEE)

Legal status:

- a) Category of ownership:
- b) Accessibility: Access is restricted. The archives can be used only by authorized persons, who have to sign a certificate in order to obtain the requested material and to accept no to mention the name of a child for ethical reasons, in specific cases, for instance, in the cases related to mental health.



- c) Copyright status: The documentary heritage belongs to the PIDEE Foundation, although in the case of documents of this nature, the persons and the testimonies enjoy their rights. Thus, the use and/or publication of this material will have to be authorized by the victims.
- d) Responsible administration: The legal responsible of the safeguarding of the documentary heritage is the Executive Secretary of the Foundation, Ms. María Eugenia Rojas.

#### 5.1 Owner of the documentary heritage (name and contact details)

Fundación de Documentación y Archivos de la Vicaría de la Solidaridad del Arzobispado de Santiago. (Foundation of Documentation and Archives of the Vicary of Solidarity.)

Address: Erasmo Escala 1872, 3° piso, Santiago- Chile

Phone: (56-2) 6960470; (56-2) 6963504

Fax: (56-2) 6981212

E-mail: funvisol@iglesia.cl

Legal representative and the Executive Secretary of the Foundation:

Responsible: Sra. María Paz Vergara Low

#### 5.2 Custodian of the documentary heritage (name and contact details, if different to owner)

Archbishopric of Santiago.

#### 5.3 Legal status

- a) Category of ownership: Religious, non-profit seeking organization.
- b) Accessibility: The Foundation agreed to place in public use the information gathered by the institution over the years, facilitating academic research, especially that of Chilean and foreign human right organizations. At the moment, only the Center of Public Documentation remains is completely open to public. Large part of the rest of the documents are confidential, and their access is, therefore, restricted. The documentation was handed in confidentially to the Church.
- b) Copyright status: All material is property of the Foundation of Documentation and Archives of the Vicary of Solidarity.
- c) Responsible administration: The Board of the Foundation.

### 6. MANAGEMENT PLAN

- 1. Is there a management plan in existence for this documentary heritage? If yes, please attach a summary of the plan..

The National Archive of Chile, through its National Archive System, is the institution responsible for the Human Rights Archive Management Plan. The National Archive System establishes public policy in compliance with the law that created the National Archive. A bill is currently under consideration by Congress to formalize operative changes already in place. (See Document Appendix).

- 6.1. The management plan is strategically important due to the nature of the documentary and bibliographic collections preserved by the human rights institutions. A precarious support

system, the diverse nature of the documents, and the fact that the persons in charge of the archives are not archival professionals make the management plan all the more important. In light of these special characteristics of the Human Rights Archives, the National Archive has coordinated organizational programs and provides technical assistance for classification, indexing, describing, and conserving the documents housed in the various documentation centers.

*Among the activities the management plan contemplates for the next five years are the following:*

- Courses of preventive documentary preservation and restoration, conducted by professional staff of the National Archive and the Conservation and Restoration Center, both under the General Administration of Libraries, Archives and Museums.
- Courses and consultations on informational systems and programs, that focus on documentary heritage.
- Courses for designing standards applicable to classification, indexing, and description of documents.
- International Seminars to develop networks of human rights archives in the MERCOSUR region.
- Consultations from the National Archive for development of tools such as manuals, inventories and catalogues to aid recovery of information contained in the various human rights collections and documentation centers.

These activities will be conducted each year. Monitoring and follow-up of procedures the documentation centers have incorporated will be carried out through an evaluation program by means of a survey to be conducted twice a year.

The National Archive of Chile conducted the Basic Level Course May 26 - 27, 2003 for the Human Rights Archives. The Advanced Level Course will be scheduled later this year. UNESCO and Memory of the World National Committee will conduct the WINISIS Introductory Course in August 4 - 8, 2003.

6.2. Access policy during the next five years shall respect the legal status of each of the NGOs that place their respective documentary heritage for nomination for inclusion in the Memory of the World. These documents of a special nature, as they provide testimony and irrefutable proof for judicial investigation and trial currently in progress in the courts. Therefore, they are available, first of all, to the courts, and secondly, for lawyers and the victims themselves of violations, abuse, and persecution, as is the case of the family members. In recent years the Chilean government has been particularly concerned about avoiding any kind of obstruction in these cases.

Access to the digital archive, created in the course of the mandate of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (1990-1991), and deposited with the National Archive on June 11, 2003 by the Justice and Democracy Corporation, is regulated by the Justice Ministry, which demonstrates the special nature of these documents. That this set of valuable documents has been entrusted to the National Archive is an exceptional decision in regards to an eventual accessibility by all.

### 6.3. Budget

Courses, consultations, and evaluations provided by the National Archive:

US\$ 4300 annually

Administration and materials: US\$ 500 annually

Consultation for application to international and national grants:

US\$ 1500 annually

Funding sources:

National Heritage Funds: US\$ 15,000 annually  
Competitive Ibero-American Funds (ADAI) US\$ 30,000 annually

Total funding committed annually to date: US\$ 51,30

6.4. Prevention of Risks:

This will be the responsibility of the National Chilean Blue Shield Committee created in 2003. The Committee will be responsible for monitoring temperature, humidity and security of the facilities of the respective NGO archives.

6.5.: Publicity

The documentation centers are coordinating efforts to publicize the existence of their archives in order to encourage greater use and access, and to inform Chilean society of the history of events related to the systematic violation of human rights under military dictatorship. A publicity campaign is planned that will include posters, public service announcements, and visits to schools and universities to make known the existence of the archives and encourage their use. The respective organizational web sites will add special announcements highlighting their documentation centers. One activity, scheduled to open in August 19, is an exhibit in commemoration of 30 years since the military coup, organized by the institutions that comprise the Chile Human Rights Archive.

7 CONSULTATION

- 7.1 Provide details of consultation about this nomination with (a) the owner of the heritage (b) the custodian (c) your national or regional *Memory of the World* committee

PART B – SUBSIDIARY INFORMATION

The following information will not be taken into account in deciding whether or not to inscribe documentary heritage on the *Register* but will be included in the database as additional information. Some of this information may be drawn from the management plan (item 6 above).

8 ASSESSMENT OF RISK

- 8.1 Detail the nature and scope of threats to this documentary heritage (see 5.5)  
The Human Rights Archives in Chile do not have a security system against losses such as fire

9 ASSESSMENT OF PRESERVATION

- 9.1 Detail the preservation context of the documentary heritage (see 3.3)

PART C - LODGEMENT

This nomination is lodged by:

(Please print name).....

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30 December/ 2003.....