

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL - SPAIN

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MEDIA INVITATION

Press Conference and Vigil Outside the Argentina Embassy

Amnesty International is presenting a report supporting the Spanish courts' jurisdiction on human rights violations committed in Chile and Argentina. The report is being released as a decision is about to be taken on the closure or continuation of the legal initiatives by the *Audiencia Nacional* (Spanish National Court) -- which could be determined by mid-June.

Press Conference: Friday 29 May 1998, 11.30am

Place: Asociación de la Prensa en Madrid

Address: C/Claudio Coello 98, esquina a Juan Bravo 6

Vigil Outside the Argentina Embassy: Saturday 30 May 1998, 12.00 midday
address: C/ Pedro de Valdivia, 21

The report will be presented by:

- **Horacio Mendez Carreras**, Argentine lawyer who represented the families in the case where a French court convicted in absentia former navy officer Alfredo Astiz in March 1990.
- **Federico Andreu**, legal adviser at Amnesty International
- **Virginia Shoppee**, Researcher at Amnesty International on Argentina and Chile

The legal proceedings initiated in March and June 1996, by Courts 5 and 6 of the *Audiencia Nacional* on human rights violations in Argentina and Chile, are at a critical stage. Amnesty International is presenting its report supporting the continuation of the legal initiative that has generated great hopes amongst victims of human rights violations. This initiative has also opened new possibilities for the consolidation of the principle of justice without boundaries in cases of crimes against humanity.

On the panel, backing the presentation, will be the lawyer who represented the families of victims of "disappearances" in Argentina whose cases brought before the French court resulted in the conviction of the navy officer involved.

Dissemination and publication of this information at this precise moment is essential. We are therefore requesting confirmation of your attendance. Please contact the Amnesty International Section in Madrid to arrange interviews on + 341 531 2509.