

November 6-10, 2023



VII INTERNATIONAL COURSE
ON HUMAN RIGHTS
2023

Democracy,
transitions and
gender in Africa,
Latin America
and the
Caribbean



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Centro Internacional para la Promoción
de los Derechos Humanos
Bajo los auspicios de UNESCO

PROGRAM

SYNCHRONOUS ACTIVITIES

(Argentina timetable GMT-3)

Day 1:
November 6

9:00 am to 9:45 am

Institutional Presentation

Fernanda Gil Lozano, Enrique Fernández Polcuch, Martín Soria

Course Presentation

Andrea Andújar, Marisa Pineau – Moderator: Cinthia M. Belbussi

9:45 am to 10:45 am

Opening Keynote Lecture: "Transition and democracy in a gender perspective: contributions for a debate"

Alejandra Ciriza

This conference aims to provide a set of theoretical and historical reflections on transitional processes, the controversies about their meanings in political and academic terms, as well as the challenges and constraints that have crossed its development. It focuses, then, on the dilemmas, expectations and horizons that guided the transitions to democracies, indexing gender as a key perspective for this approach in conceptual and political terms.

11:15 am to 13:00 pm

Transitions, politics and culture

Marisa Pineau, Luciano Alonso, Rolando Alvarez – Moderator: Rodrigo Gómez Tortosa

This panel aims to think about some of the main political and cultural issues that framed the processes of transition to democracies. It focuses on those related to the conditioning of the research and trials for the commission of crimes against humanity; the perseverance of Human Rights organizations in demanding the trial and punishment of those responsible, the initiatives to end the forms of racial and xenophobic discrimination, as well as the cultural productions that marked these processes in certain regions, such as those that comprised the so-called "revealing culture".

Day 2:**November 7****Women and feminisms in the construction of democracy****9:00 am to 10:45 am****Expanding rights: the role of the women's movement and feminist and sexual diversity organizations****Luciana Seminara, Graciela Sapriza, Fatma Boufenik, Cynthia Astrid, Fabiana Benzi3n – Moderator: Julieta Chinchilla**

This panel seeks to analyze the demands for rights led by women's, feminist and sexual diversity movements between the 1980s and the present. It is mainly interested in those actions that various groups developed to demand rights related to political participation, the world of work and gender (shared parenthood, divorce, identity, abortion, among others). It also examines how these demands were translated into legislative penalties at both national and supranational levels.

11:15 am to 1:00 pm**Organized women: political practices and group action methods****Mabel Belluci, Camilo Santibañez Rebolledo and Natalia Maesías, M3nica Cejas, Ana Veiga – Moderator: Andrea And3jar**

This panel seeks to analyze the forms of organization and struggle assumed by women's, feminist and sexual diversity groups during the democratic transitions. It aims to investigate their initiatives, demands and practices of collective action, also examining those national and international political fields and forums that stimulated their creation during this process and the policies that they promoted from them (such as the National Women's Meetings, for example).

Day 3:**November 8****Economy, Inequality and Transition: Democracy's Debts****9:00 am to 10:45 am****Neoliberalism and democracy: reasons for inequality.****Telma Luzzani, Ana Riveiro, Natalia Cabanillas – Moderator: Elena Hanono**

The new democracies of the 1980s and 1990s in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean were built at a period of change in the world capitalist system. At that time, it was intended that political liberalization would go hand in hand with economic deregulation, rather than the search for a more egalitarian society. This panel will address the characteristics of the globalization and worldwide processes, the transformations in the world of labor and the growth of social and economic inequality.

11:15 am to 1:00 pm

Struggles, resistances and popular organizations in democracy

Flavia Pereira Machado, María Eugenia de la O Martínez, Pablo Ghiglini –

Moderator: Marisa Pineau

The transcendental changes derived from the application of neoliberal recipes by the democratic governments at the end of the 20th century generated resistance movements by diverse social collectives, ranging from the occupation of public space with marches, strikes and boycotts, to the creation of powerful social and political movements. This panel will address specific cases of resistance organizations to the implementation of neoliberal projects.

Day 4:

November 9

Security and armed forces: practices, discourses and controversies in democracy.

9:00 am to 10:45 am

Right wing, violence and democracy

Daniel Lvovich, Consuelo Ahumada, Magdalena Broquetas San Martín –

Moderator: Ernesto Bohoslavsky

This panel reflects on the persistence, among right-wing parties, of discourses supporting state violence as a means for the resolution of social and political conflicts under democratic regimes. Focusing on the political parties belonging to this ideological arc, it seeks to analyze their statements according to the reasons to which right-wing organizations appeal, the subjects and actors to which they address in their discourses, as well as the historical, class, race and gender references to which they refer in their proposals.

11:15 am to 1:00 pm

National (in)security doctrines and democracy

María Catalina Gonzalez Moreno, Liliana Zayas Guggiari, María del Carmen Verdú –

Moderator: Bárbara Espínola

This panel proposes to analyze the coercive practices of the State, the discourses in which the use of force is legitimized and the conflicts in which this resource is used in democracy. In this sense, it explores the way in which gender, race, generation and social class are involved in the use of institutional violence and the formal or implicit updating of national security doctrines for the repression of internal conflicts, either in those led by social actors and collectives with different demands or in those arising from the processes of violation of economic, social, cultural, gender and political rights, among others.

Day 5

November 10th

9:00 am to 10:45 am

Democracies and Peacekeeping.

Carla Morasso, Jorge Taiana - Moderator: Cinthia Belbussi

Based on the history of neutrality in the context of international conflicts, assumed by many countries in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean and the policy of proscription of nuclear weapons in these regions (by the Tlatelolco and Pelindaba treaties), this panel aims to reflect on the democratic policies of defense of peace maintained by the countries of these regions.

11:00 am

Closing lecture

Fernanda Gil Lozano

ASYNCHRONOUS ACTIVITIES



Films and Documentaries

"Argentina, 1985", by Santiago Mitre (2022; 2 hours 20 minutes).

Platform: Amazon Prime Video.

This film is inspired by the true story of Julio Strassera, Luis Moreno Ocampo and their young legal team who dared to prosecute, against all odds, racing against time and under permanent threat, Argentina's bloodiest military dictatorship. A David versus Goliath battle, with the least expected heroes.

"Courting justice" de Jane Thandi Lipman.

<https://www.courtingjustice.com/>

The context of the film is South Africa's transformation from apartheid to a human rights-based constitutional democracy. Courting Justice features seven of South Africa's women judges who, as judges, are charged with advancing that transformation.

They tell "their stories," speaking to us in their court rooms, chambers, homes and the communities in which they lived during apartheid.

In telling their stories they convey their deep commitment to creating a human rights jurisprudence and bring attention to the importance of the judiciary's engagement in realizing the constitution's promises. They also provide insight into the judiciary's own transformation — a necessary condition for the judiciary's legitimacy and effectiveness.

Documentary "Piqueteras", by Malena Bystrowicz, Verónica Mastrosimone (2002, 45 minutes)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s4OA1r-i22w>

This documentary revisits the struggle of the unemployed in three key points in the interior of the country: Cutral-Có (Neuquén), Ledesma (Jujuy) and General Mosconi (Salta). Produced, directed and financed by Malena Bystrowicz and Verónica Mastrosimone, with the collaboration of Miguel Magud, the photo-documentary reflects the feeling and the *raison d'être* of the protests, through the testimonies of the women who live in those locations, where the first settlements were raised against the neoliberal policies implemented by the menemismo.

Documentary "La guerra contra las mujeres" by Hernán Zin. It is on Netflix.

This documentary filmed over three years in ten different countries gives voice to women who became both victims of sexual violence and weapons of war.

Movie "Amandla" by Nerina de Jager on Netflix

Amandla is an anti-apartheid resistance slogan and means power. Apartheid in South Africa is still in full force when, in 1987, the two brothers Impi and Nkosana grew up on a farm as the sons of servants. The white owners are liberal people who aren't too particular about racial segregation. Black Africans have it relatively good there. When three racist upstart Boers arrive on the farm one day, tragic incidents occur with terrible consequences.

Film "1976" by Manuela Martelli on Netflix

This film does not tell and is not based on a specific true story, but on millions. Millions of stories of women who suffered during the Chilean military dictatorship the same as Martelli's film intends to portray. The military regime of General Augusto Pinochet was established in Chile in 1973 after the coup d'état to the government of Salvador Allende until 1990. Its consequences ranged from an extreme right-wing authoritarian model, the limitation of freedom of expression, the lack of democracy and the constant violation of human rights with the torture and disappearance of political prisoners. A historical moment is narrated from the point of view of a woman.

Film "Ubu and the Truth Commission" by William Kentridge

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IVgT_x53z14

This film combines puppets and puppetry by the Handspring Puppet Company with live performance and music and multimedia. Drawing on the legend of Ubu, it sets the story in late 20th century South Africa, when apartheid was being discussed by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. Are there limits to the construction of a collective memory?

Movie "When women speak" by Aseye Tamakloe

<https://whenwomenspeakfilm.com/>

This documentary challenges perceptions that Ghanaian women's activism around existential and political issues is of more recent or 'western' origin. While the contributions of African women to anti-colonial and nationalist struggles have been recognized, the position of women in post-independence states and societies has been very uncertain. The film traces 16 women who came of age in the 1960s and 1970s. It follows their experiences, told in their own words, as Ghana passed through periods of military, single-party, and multi-party rule.