Museum and Memory:
Latin America and the Caribbean

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ICOM

Museo Memorial de la Resistencia Dominicana

Latin America and the Caribbean

- 33 Countries and 17 territories
- 5 official colonialist languages and 560 creoles and living indigenous languages
- 680 millions
- 20,000,000 KM2



CENTRAL AMERICA



Guatemala:
49 years of dictatorship
36 years of military dictatorship and civil war
350,000 victims
45,000 missing
1.5 millions refugees

El Salvador:
13 years of dictatorship
30,000 victims
25,000 indians murdered
35 year of military dictatorship
12 years of civil war
75,000 Victims and disappears
500,000 Refugees

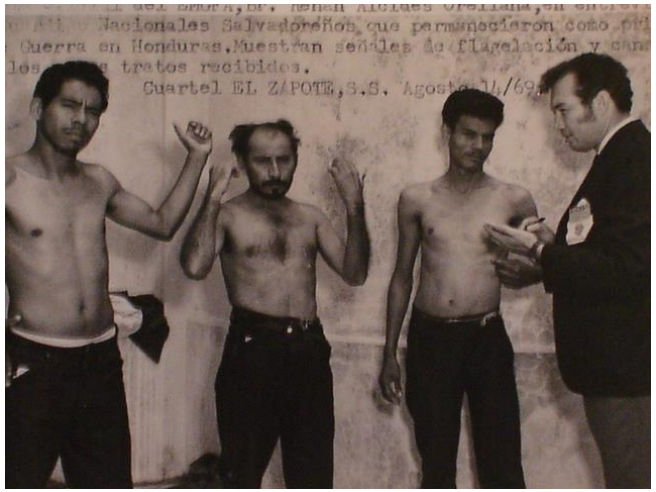




Nicaragua:
45 years of dynastic dictatorship
90,000 victims
Civil war 50,000 victims
900,000 refugees

CENTRAL AMERICA

Honduras:
16 years of dictatorship
25 years of military dictatorship
70,000 victims





Costa Rica:
8 years of dictatorship
Number of victims unkown

Panamá:
21 years of military dictatorship
Number of victims unknown



THE CARIBBEAN

Cuba:
7 years of military dictatorship
Number of victims unknow
6 years of dictatorship
20,000 victims
67 years of revolucionary government (victims unknow)



Haiti:
11 years of military dictatorship
29 years of dynastic dictatorship
60,000 victims
500,000 sold as slaves to Trujillo



Dominican Republic:
31 years of dictatorship
50,000 victims
12 years of constitutional dictatorship 11,000 victims



SOUTH AMERICA

Venezuela:
27 years of dictatorship6 years of dictatorship






EL ESPECTADOR
...unistas y Laureanistas Buscaban la Caida del Gobierno", Dice Duarte Blum
...Civiles y Dos Militares Muertos en los Graves Sucesos de Hoy en Bogotá
...ecto Fue Abaleado ...un Balcón en la 13"
Lista de Muertos y de Heridos Esta Mañana

Colombia:
30 years inestability and dictatorships
68 year of civil war
Over 10 millions victims

SOUTH AMERICA

Brasil:
20 years of dictatorship
6 military dictatorship
Estimated 40,000 victims





Bolivia:
7 years of dictatorship
10,000 victims

Paraguay:
35 years of dictatorship 50,000 victims, 30,000 disappears, 400,000 torture or incarcerated, 1.5 million refugees



SOUTH AMERICA

Argentina:
9 years of popular dictatorship
5 years of military dictatorship
30,000 victims





Chile:
17 years of dictatorship
3,373 victims
28,459 tortured

Uruguay:
12 years of military dictatorship
60,000 victims, disappears or torture



MEMORIES MUSEUMS IN LATIN AMERICA



Memory Museum, Santiago, Chile

Memoria Abierta, Buenos Aires, Argentina



MEMORIES MUSEUMS IN LATIN AMERICA



National Memory Museum, Bogotá, Colombia

Imagen and Word Memory Museum, El Salvador



DOMINICAN RESISTANCE MEMORIAL MUSEUM
1995-2011-2026







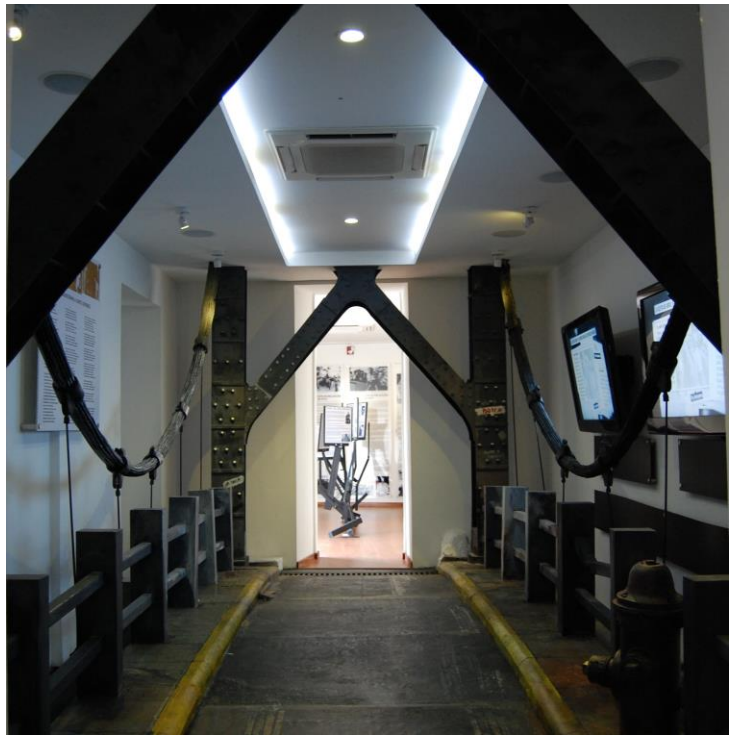
MUSEUM ARE NOT NEUTRAL

"Memorial museums adopt a critical stance regarding the ideologies, practices, and conceptions of those state bodies that motivated the persecution of people; they remember the crimes committed by their own rulers and must be born after an arduous learning process to know how to confront those crimes, as a matter that forms part of the public conscience."

ICMEMOHRI



ETHICS AND COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION



The scientific program, the educational program, and the collection management form the basis that defines the museum plan. It is interwoven with community participation through their testimonies, memories, and experiences, building cultural memory.



TANGIBLE AND INTANGIBLE HERITAGE

The process of musealizing memory collections is not simply about taking an object and placing it within a museum space. The ethical treatment of objects requires that they not be presented in isolation, but rather that they invite the visitor to understand and interpret their meaning, context, and value.



SOCIAL RESPONSABILITY



“Museums are vital public spaces that should be aimed at the whole of society and, consequently, can play an important role in creating links and cohesion in society, building citizenship, and reflecting on collective identities.”

UNESCO

PUBLIC RESPONSABILITY



1. Restitution to victims,
2. Building citizenship,
3. Social awareness and responsibility,
4. Diversity and inclusion.



SOCIAL JUSTICE



“Today, museums not only exhibit, they also provoke us and encourage us to reflect on our rights from the perspective of their specific themes. Museums must engage in dialogue with their communities and amplify the diversity of their voices; they must become spaces of plurality. All museums are potential human rights museums.”

FIHRM

2026



2030

