

AUSTRALIAN COURT RULES THAT PINOCHET'S EX AGENT ADRIANA RIVAS IS EXTRADITABLE TO CHILE - 29 October 2020

The relatives of the victims of the Lautaro Brigade will never forget the bloody 1973 coup, orchestrated by Nixon, Kissinger, the CIA and their man in Chile, General Augusto Pinochet. Thousands of men, women and even children were arrested, brutally tortured and killed. Many were thrown into the sea from helicopters, some still alive. These are terrifying truths.

But today, Chilean Australians are celebrating as Magistrate Stewart, of Central Local Court, Sydney, has determined that Adriana Rivas, a former Pinochet agent living in Australia, is extraditable to Chile. This is the first extradition judgment between Chile and Australia, and a landmark in the prosecution of historical human rights violations.

Rivas, a 67-year-old DINA agent, has been in custody in a women's correctional centre in Sydney since February 2019. She is wanted in Chile for her involvement in 7 aggravated kidnapping offences and the disappearance of 6 men and a pregnant woman in the late 70's. The 7 victims are Victor Díaz, Fernando Navarro, Lincoyan Berrios, Horacio Cepeda, Fernando Ortiz, Hector Veliz and Reinalda Pereira.

Following a staggered hearing of several days between June and August 2020, Magistrate Stewart has today found that Rivas is extraditable, and should be sent to Chile to continue her prosecution there. Rivas will remain in remand in a correctional facility pending confirmation by Australia's Attorney General of her extradition.

Rivas has boasted about her time in DINA, Pinochet's secret police, saying they were *the happiest years* of her life. She is linked to an extermination crew, the Lautaro Brigade.

The families of the victims have applauded this judgement, saying that this *opens the door to truth and justice* (Berrios family), that they are *infinitely grateful to ... many Chilean and Australian citizens who have relentlessly made this step possible* (Cepeda family), that Rivas must *be sentenced according to the damage caused... taking into account her silence of years* (Diaz family), that the families have endured *crimes which injure and shame our entire society* (Navarro family).

The families have remarked that *justice has no borders and* (this judgement) *dignifies Australia and our humanity* (Ortiz family). They have dedicated this *transcendental court ruling* to those family members who fought for years to find their missing loved ones, but have sadly died without success (Pereira family), and to the children of missing persons who *grew up within the warmth embrace* of human rights organisations, searching for their loved ones (Veliz family).

We are reassured by this judgement as human rights must be upheld at all costs. This confirms that Australia will not tolerate human right violators amongst our community.

We are grateful to the lawyers who have made possible this further step in Rivas' extradition, and to countless men and women living in Australia, for whom human rights matter.

For comments in Australia, contact Adriana Navarro, Lawyer representing the families of the victims
(Statements by the families of the victims and their lawyers follow, both in Spanish and English)

SYDNEY MAGISTRATE RULES THAT PINOCHET'S EX AGENT ADRIANA RIVAS IS EXTRADITABLE

STATEMENTS FROM THE VICTIMS' FAMILIES AND THEIR LAWYERS

(Original in Spanish with non-official English translations)

29 October 2020

<i>Rebeca, Marisol, Lincoyan y Pamela, Berrios, hijos de Lincoyan Berrios:</i>	Rebeca, Marisol, Lincoyan and Pamela Berrios, children of Lincoyan Berrios:
<p><i>Que hoy se abra la posibilidad cierta que esta agente culpada de crímenes de lesa humanidad sea extraditada a Chile, produce diversos sentimientos; los más intensos y profundos son de alegría y esperanza de que por fin se asomen en nuestras vidas la verdad y justicia, que en nuestro país han sido tan esquivas.</i></p>	<p>Today, this certain possibility which has opened up that this agent, charged with human rights violations, be extradited to Chile, stirs many feelings; the most intense and profound are of joy and hope that truth and justice will finally appear in our lives, which in our country have been so evasive.</p>
<p><i>Nuestro Lincoyan, al igual que todas las víctimas de la nefasta, cruel y asesina dictadura militar chilena, fueron mujeres y hombres que vivieron su vida y su muerte pensando y luchando un país mejor, justo, digno, democrático, con mirada de comunidad y futuro.</i></p>	<p>Our Lincoyan, like all the victims of the nefarious, cruel and murderous Chilean military dictatorship, were women and men who lived their life and death thinking and fighting for a better, just, dignified, democratic country, who were focused on the community and a better future.</p>
<p><i>No podemos dejar de compartir con todos y todas esta experiencia de vida que es marcadora; sobrevivir la pérdida, levantarse a la vida, terminar de crecer sin tu ser amado, es de un espanto difícil de imaginar. Pensar todo lo que sufrió Lincoyan y no haber estado allí para acogerlo y arrullarlo, es una tristeza que te acompaña en el alma. Pero también con esos sentires, cada uno de nosotros nos hemos forjados como luchadores de la vida y la memoria, hombres y mujeres que desde donde nos encontramos, levantamos el "Nunca más en Chile!"</i></p>	<p>We cannot stop sharing with each and every one this life experience which has marked us deeply; surviving the loss, facing up to life, growing up without your loved one, is a horror difficult to imagine.</p> <p>To think about all that Lincoyan suffered and not having been there to comfort and lull him, is a sadness deep in your soul. But also, with those feelings, each one of us has forged ourselves as fighters of life and memory, men and women who, from wherever we find ourselves, raise up and shout "Never Again in Chile".</p>
<p><i>Hoy con Lincoyan disfrutamos la vida, vemos crecer a sus nietos y hasta ahora sus 4 bisnietas, viene otro en camino; asiste a las marchas en nuestros corazones, con su foto y su bella sonrisa y de seguro él con sus compañeros constituirán los cimientos de este nuevo Chile que estamos forjando en comunidad desde el 18 de octubre.</i></p>	<p>Today with Lincoyan we enjoy life, we see his grandchildren grow up, his 4 great-granddaughters, another is on the way; he attends marches in our hearts, we carry his photo with his beautiful smile, and surely, he with his companions are the foundations of this new Chile that we are forging as a community since October 18.</p>
<p><i>Si en la audiencia se logra la posibilidad de extradición de Adriana Rivas, Australia estará aportando a la historia de nuestros seres queridos y de todos los chilenos al contribuir a que se abran las puertas de verdad y justicia:</i></p>	<p>If the possibility of extradition of Adriana Rivas is achieved at the hearing, Australia will be contributing to the history of our loved ones and all Chileans by opening the doors to truth and justice</p>
<p><i>Queremos seguir tus pasos, porque son los de la vida, de la libertad, la justicia y el amor.</i></p>	<p>We want to follow your steps because they are those of life, freedom, justice and love.</p>
<p><i>Te amamos Lincoyan</i></p>	<p>We love you Lincoyan</p>

Alonso, Barbara, Irene y Antonia Cepeda, hijos de Horacio Cepeda:

Hemos recibido la noticia que la justicia australiana ha decidido extraditar a Adriana Rivas, Chilena, agente del comando involucrada en el secuestro de nuestro padre el 15 de Diciembre de 1976, al igual que en el de otros de sus compañeros y compañeras que sufrieron el mismo destino: hechos desaparecer luego de horribos tormentos.

Es raro, difícil e injusto que, a 44 años, nosotros su descendencia sigamos dando testimonio de los hechos para que se haga justicia. Otros de sus victimarios, que actuaron junto a Adriana Rivas están libres, algunos gozando privilegios en una cárcel especialmente diseñada para ellos, con el confort que ningún presidiario chileno tiene.

Agradecemos infinitamente a esa lejana Australia por otorgarnos este trozo de justicia que nuestro propio país nos ha negado. Nuestra madre, que ya no existe, dejó en nuestras manos hacerle justicia a nuestro padre, Somos 4 hermanos todos mayores de 60 años y no queremos pasar esta posta a nuestra descendencia, quisiéramos librarlos de tan ingrata tarea,

Agradecemos la solidaridad, la nobleza, el gesto amoroso de los ciudadanos chilenos y australianos que, sin tregua, hicieron posible este nuevo paso en el camino de hacerle justicia a nuestro padre, a sus compañeras y compañeros. Gracias. Muchas gracias.

Victoria y Viviana Díaz, hijas de Víctor Díaz López:

Como hijas de Víctor Díaz López, estamos muy contentas y agradecidas de todos los que han contribuido allá en Australia a lograr esta extradición.

Queremos creer que esta vez sí será posible que Adriana Rivas, después de 44 años de eludir a la Justicia en Chile, comience por fin a asumir su responsabilidad por los crímenes cometidos en contra de nuestros familiares, todas personas tan valiosas.

Que se le apliquen las penas acordes al daño causado también por su silencio de años.

Alonso, Barbara, Irene y Antonia Cepeda, children of Horacio Cepeda

We have received the news that the Australian justice system has decided to extradite Adriana Rivas, Chilean citizen, an agent of the Brigade involved in the kidnapping of our father on 15 December 1976, as well as the kidnapping of other comrades of our father who suffered the same destiny: They were made to disappear after horrific torments.

It is bizarre, difficult, and unfair that 44 years later, we, his descendants continue to bear witness to these facts so that justice be done. Other perpetrators, who acted alongside Adriana Rivas, are free; some enjoying privileges in a prison specially designed for them, with the comfort that no other Chilean prisoner has.

We are infinitely grateful to that distant Australia for granting us this piece of justice that our own country has denied us. Our mother, who has died, left it in our hands to get justice for our father. We are 4 siblings, all over 60 years old and we do not want to pass this burden to our descendants, we would like to free them from such a thankless task.

We are grateful for the solidarity, the nobility, the loving gesture of so many Chilean and Australian citizens, who have relentlessly made this new step possible on the path of securing justice for our father and for his comrades. Thank you. Thank you very much

Victoria and Viviana Diaz, daughters of Víctor Díaz López:

As daughters of Víctor Díaz López, we are very happy and grateful to all who have contributed in Australia to achieve this extradition.

We want to believe that this time it will be possible for Adriana Rivas, after 44 years of eluding justice in Chile, to finally begin to assume responsibility for the crimes committed against our relatives, all of whom were such indispensable people.

She should be sentenced according to the damage caused and taking into account Rivas' silence of years.

Mónica y Patricia Navarro Díaz, hijas de Fernando Navarro:

Saludamos a todos los que por esas tierras lejanas están dando una batalla silenciosa pero poderosa, cargada de humanidad, por lograr el imperio de la justicia.

Somos hijas de Fernando Navarro, ejecutado junto a otros compañeros, según consta en investigación y condena realizada por tribunales chilenos.

En las horas que se viven para esta batalla de justicia se va a determinar si Adriana Rivas podrá por fin cumplir condena en nuestro país por los cargos presentados, como son los más brutales crímenes en contra de nuestros hermanos y compañeros y de nuestro pueblo.

En una incasable lucha que se inicia con la búsqueda, con la denuncia y la exigencia de juicio y castigo a los responsables de estos crímenes contra nuestros padres, hermanos, hijos, compañeros; crímenes que nos condenan también a nosotros como familiares a un dolor irreparable; crímenes que lesionan y avergüenzan a toda la sociedad y que es imperativo no queden impunes como enseñanza de respeto a la vida y a la dignidad humana.

Rivas no actuó sola, fue parte de un aparataje estatal destinado al exterminio de sus opositores políticos, que pensaban nunca serían juzgados, que han entorpecido y burlado la investigación y ley hasta hoy. Es el caso concreto de Rivas quien se fuga de Chile con el claro propósito de evadir sus criminales responsabilidades, llegando a vuestras tierras, pensando que la justicia no la tocaría.

En esta lucha hemos estado acompañados por dignos abogados en Chile y también en el extranjero como es el caso hoy en Australia. En Chile muchas veces los tribunales y jueces han hecho oídos sordos, sellando pactos de impunidad. Consideramos que el Estado chileno es responsable de la fuga de Rivas, por no tomar las medidas a tiempo para evitarla.

Como hijas de Fernando, secuestrado y torturado por agentes del Estado, solicitamos que esta agente de la DINA sea devuelta a Chile y enfrente a los tribunales. Estos crímenes sobrepasan las fronteras geográficas. Como familiares cargamos nuestro dolor íntimamente, pero tenemos la responsabilidad de realizar todo lo necesario para que nunca más en Chile se repita estos trágicos hechos.

Monica and Patricia Navarro Diaz, daughters of Fernando Navarro:

Greetings to all those who in those distant lands are giving a silent but powerful battle, full of humanity, to enforce the rule of law.

We are daughters of Fernando Navarro, executed along with other comrades, as evidenced by investigation and sentences carried out by Chilean courts.

We are faced today with a battle for justice which will determine if Rivas will finally be sentenced in our country for the charges laid against her, such being brutal crimes against our brothers and colleagues and our people.

This is an unremitting struggle beginning with the search for our loved ones, denouncing and demanding the prosecution and punishment of those responsible for the crimes against our parents, brothers, children and comrades; crimes which also condemn us as family members to irreparable pain; crimes which injure and shame our entire society and which must not go unpunished as a sign of respect for life and human dignity.

Rivas did not act alone, she was part of a state apparatus aimed at the extermination of her political opponents, who thought they would never be tried, who have hindered and circumvented investigation and courts until today. Rivas fled Chile with the clear purpose of evading her criminal responsibility, arriving in Australia, thinking that justice would not touch her.

In this struggle as family members we have been supported by worthy lawyers in Chile and abroad, as is the case today in Australia. In Chile, many times courts and judges have turned a deaf ear, sealing impunity pacts. We believe that Rivas' flight is the responsibility of the Chilean State, for not taking timely measures to prevent it.

As daughters of Fernando, kidnapped and tortured by State agents, we request that Rivas be returned to Chile to face court. These crimes go beyond geographical borders. As family members, we bear our pain in and therefore their conviction and justice action is in the hands of all of us, as family members we carry our pain deeply, but we have the responsibility to do everything necessary so that these tragic events are never repeated in Chile.

<p><i>María Estela y María Luisa Ortiz, hijas de Fernando Ortiz:</i></p> <p><i>Con una profunda emoción, con nuestros padres, con Reinalda, con todos nuestros familiares que han fallecido en estos casi 44 años de búsqueda de verdad y exigencia de justicia, con todos ellos en nuestra memoria y nuestro corazón, es que recibimos la noticia de la decisión de la Corte Australiana de extraditar a Adriana Rivas para que enfrente a la justicia en Chile, desde donde se escapó para evadirla cuando era procesada por la detención y desaparición de nuestros padres en el centro de exterminio Simón Bolívar.</i></p> <p><i>Ha sido un largo camino y sabemos que este es un paso más en él, pero un paso muy significativo. Australia ha enviado una señal al mundo: los derechos humanos deben ser respetados y los crímenes contra la humanidad juzgados, los criminales deben enfrentar a la justicia y dar cuenta por sus actos. Esta decisión es un acto de justicia para nuestros padres.</i></p> <p><i>Agradecemos a todas y todos los que nos han acompañado tan solidariamente y cada día en este proceso, que han estado presentes con las fotografías de nuestros padres allá en Sídney, que no han descansado ni un solo minuto, que nos han mantenido informados, para que ninguna distancia nos impida estar presentes, como hemos estado hace 44 años, exigiendo justicia.</i></p> <p><i>Agradecemos a nuestra abogada en Australia, a nuestros abogados en Chile, a la Corte Australiana por su compromiso con los Derechos Humanos como principio ineludible de la justicia, que no tiene fronteras, eso dignifica a Australia y a la humanidad.</i></p> <p><i>Esperamos que en corto plazo Adriana Rivas sea trasladada a Chile y enfrente los tribunales en nuestro país.</i></p> <p><i>Aquí estaremos, como siempre en estos casi 44 años, exigiendo justicia. Esperamos que los tribunales chilenos actúen con la misma convicción de justicia para los crímenes contra la humanidad que hoy hemos conocido de la Corte Australiana.</i></p>	<p>Maria Estela and Maria Luisa Ortiz, daughters of Fernando Ortiz:</p> <p>It is with deep emotion, with our parents, with Reinalda, with all our relatives who have died in these almost 44 years of searching for truth and demanding justice, with all of them in our memory and our hearts, that we have received the news of the decision of the Australian Court to extradite Adriana Rivas to face justice in Chile, from where she escaped to evade her prosecution for the kidnapping and disappearance of our parents in the Simon Bolivar extermination centre.</p> <p>It has been a long road and we know that is one more step in it, but an incredibly significant step. Australia has sent a signal to the world: Human rights must be respected and crimes against humanity must be prosecuted; criminals must face justice and account for their actions. This decision is an act of justice for our parents.</p> <p>We are grateful to all those who have accompanied us in solidarity and every day in this process, those who have been present bearing photographs of our parents in Sydney, who have not rested for a single minute, who have kept us informed, so that geographical distance does not prevent us from being present there, as we have been for 44 years, demanding justice.</p> <p>We thank our lawyer in Australia, our lawyers in Chile, the Australian Court for their commitment to Human Rights as an unwavering principle of justice, which has no borders and which dignifies Australia and humanity.</p> <p>We hope that in the short-term Adriana Rivas is transferred to Chile to face the Courts in our country.</p> <p>Here we will be, as always in these almost 44 years, demanding justice. We hope that Chilean courts act with the same conviction of justice in dealing with crimes against humanity as we have heard today from the Australian Court.</p>
<p><i>María Oyanedel Piña, sobrina de Reinalda del Carmen Pereira Plaza:</i></p> <p><i>Deseo referirme al fallo obtenido de la Corte Australiana a favor de la extradición de la ex agente de la DINA ciudadana chilena ADRIANA ELCIRA RIVAS GONZALEZ, prófuga de la justicia chilena desde 2010 cuando estaba siendo procesada por 7 delitos de secuestro agravado cometidos el año 1976, de ciudadanos chilenos</i></p>	<p>Maria Oyanedel Piña, niece of Reinalda del Carmen Pereira Plaza:</p> <p>I wish to refer to the ruling of the Australian Court in favour of the extradition of the former DINA agent, Chilean citizen, ADRIANA ELCIRA RIVAS GONZALEZ, a fugitive from the Chilean justice since 2010, when she was being prosecuted for 7 crimes of aggravated kidnapping committed in 1976, against Chilean citizens who were tortured,</p>

que fueron torturados, asesinados y hecho desaparecer por agentes de la dictadura chilena.

Qué duda cabe, es un gran logro este fallo que reconocemos y valoramos como una gestión acaecida en estos últimos 2 años. Adriana Rivas siempre se ha protegido en un manto de impunidad haciendo creer a la justicia australiana que es inocente, pero sus propias palabras la condenan cuando concede una entrevista a la periodista australiana Florencia Melgar... "me salieron 5 millones de pesos chilenos salir del país, a Mendoza Argentina y viajar a Australia... hablando de tortura todos torturan es la única forma de quebrar a las personas los comunistas son muy cerrados, hay que quebrarlos..."

Desde 1976, cuando se cometen los 7 delitos de secuestro agravado, han pasado 44 años, son verdaderamente muchos años, muchas vidas truncadas, muchos sueños inconclusos, mucho, muchísimo dolor, inconmensurables pérdidas de los familiares de nuestros héroes que dieron su vida por un país más igualitario, más digno, más solidario. Hoy los nombramos nuevamente, ellos son: Víctor Díaz, Alfredo Navarro, Reinalda del Carmen Pereira Plaza, Héctor Veliz, Lincoyan Berrios, Fernando Ortiz, Horacio Cepeda.

Muchos de nuestro familiares sobrevivientes de la dictadura (abuelo/as, padres, esposo/as, hermano/as) ya han fallecido sin saber de su ser querido, sin justicia para su ser amado. A ellos, a los que han partido sin nunca dejar de buscar a sus seres detenidos desaparecidos, a ellos como un homenaje dedico esté fallo tan trascendente.

La memoria es tarea permanente y las nuevas generaciones siguen buscando JUSTICIA. A nuestros abogados en Chile y en Australia, a los amigos, grupo de apoyo y AFDD, Por todos los que nos faltan, NI PERDON NI OLVIDO, POR LA JUSTICIA SIEMPRE, NADA MÁS, PERO NADA MENOS.

Luisa Veliz, hija de Héctor Veliz, por la familia Veliz:

Desde hace 44 años una de nuestras razones de vivir ha sido el buscar la verdad y la justicia de nuestro padre Héctor y todos los familiares. Desde aquellos oscuros días de la dictadura surgió sin lugar a dudas el compromiso decisivo por encontrar a nuestros familiares, saber que sucedió con cada uno de ellos, y en este peregrinar los niños/as nos fuimos formando al calor de las compañeras de la AFDD, en hombre y mujeres, tantas compañeras hoy ausentes, partieron con la incertidumbre de no saber de sus familiares, luchadoras incansable, que día a día

murdered and made to disappear by agents of the Chilean dictatorship.

There is no doubt that this ruling is a great achievement which we recognize and value. Adriana Rivas has always protected herself in a cloak of impunity trying to convince Australian courts that she is innocent, but her own words condemn her in an interview to the Australian journalist Florencia Melgar... "I got 5 million Chilean pesos to leave the country, via Mendoza Argentina and to travel to Australia... speaking of torture everyone tortures it is the only way to break people, communists are very tight-lipped, they have to be broken..."

Since 1976, when these 7 crimes of aggravated kidnapping took place, 44 years have passed; with many truncated lives, many unfinished dreams, much, much pain, immeasurable losses by the families our heroes who gave their lives for a fairer country, more dignified, more egalitarian. Today we call out their names again, they are: Víctor Díaz, Alfredo Navarro, Reinalda del Carmen Pereira Plaza, Hector Veliz, Lincoyan Berrios, Fernando Ortiz, Horacio Cepeda.

Many of our relatives who survived the dictatorship (grandparents, parents, spouses, siblings) have now died without establishing the whereabouts of their loved ones, without justice for their loved ones. To them, to those who have departed without ever stopping their search for their detained and disappeared relatives, to them I dedicate this transcendental court ruling as a tribute.

Memory is an ongoing task and the new generations will continue their search for JUSTICE. To our lawyers in Chile and Australia, our friends, support group and AFDD Group, for all those who are still disappeared, we say WE NEITHER FORGIVE NOR FORGET, FOR JUSTICE ALWAYS, NOTHING ELSE, NOTHING LESS.

Luisa Veliz, daughter of Hector Veliz, for the Veliz family:

For 44 years, one of our reasons for living has been to seek truth and justice for our father Hector, and for all the relatives who suffered those dark days of the dictatorship. Without a doubt, our decisive commitment to find our relatives, to know what had happened to each one of them, commenced immediately. And in this pilgrimage the victims' children grew within the warmth embrace of the comrades from the Association of Families of Detained and Disappeared Persons (AFDD). So many of those men and women are no longer with us, they have

en las calle pancarta en mano, clamando por que nos digan DONDE ESTAN!

Me viene a la memoria todos aquellos intentos por acallar el clamor de dónde están, cuántas huelgas de hambre, encadenamientos de nuestras compañeras/os, y tantas otras manifestaciones que nos permitieran saber del paradero de cada uno de ellos, transcurriendo 17 años de dictadura, y otros tanto de una democracia pactada, cárceles especiales para los pocos criminales que se ha logrado condenar, a penas irrisorias o de baja sentencia, al pacto de silencio de las fuerzas armadas.

La extradición de Adriana Rivas significa un avance importante en este largo camino de verdad y justicia, justicia tan esquiva en nuestro país, y saber que en Australia es posible que uno de estos criminales de lesa humanidad sea extraditable a Chile, que importante la solidaridad y el trabajo incansable de tantos compañeros en el extranjero que desde su trinchera aportan por lograr la verdad y justicia de nuestro seres queridos.

A todos Uds. compañeros nuestro mayor agradecimiento por el compromiso de saber la verdad y hacer justicia, a ti Adriana Navarro gracias a tu extraordinario aporte porque se haga justicia y al gobierno australiano que a través de sus tribunales vemos tan cerca esta posible extradición.

departed without having been able to find their relatives; tireless fighters who every day would be on the streets, with placards in their hands, crying out WHERE ARE THEY!

I am reminded of all those attempts to silence our demand to know the final destiny of our loved ones; of the many hunger strikes, our comrades chaining themselves to parliament, and so many other actions demanding to know the whereabouts of each one of the victims after 17 years of dictatorship and additional years under an agreed democracy which built special prisons for the few criminals who have been sentenced, to ridiculous penalties or low sentences and agreed to a pact of silence of the armed forces.

The extradition of Rivas is an important step in this long path of truth and justice, justice so elusive in Chile.

And to hear that Australia might make it possible for one of these criminals against humanity to be extradited to Chile brings to mind the solidarity, and the tireless work of so many people abroad who, from their trenches, have secured one further step in obtaining truth and justice for our loved ones.

To all of you supporters, our greatest gratitude for your commitment to find the truth and secure justice; to you Adriana Navarro thanks for your extraordinary contribution to ensure that justice is done, and thanks to the Australian government, which through its court system, is bringing us closer to this extradition.

**Don Nelson Guillermo Cauco Pereira
Don Francisco Javier Ugás Tapia
Abogados
Estudio Jurídico Nelson Cauco Pereira y Abogados**

Como representantes letrados de los familiares de las víctimas don Lincoyán Yalú Berríos Cataldo, don Horacio Cepeda Marinkovic, don Fernando Alfredo Navarro Allendes, don Juan Fernando Ortiz Letelier, doña Reinalda del Carmen Pereira Plaza y don Héctor Véliz Ramírez, expresamos nuestra satisfacción y conformidad ante la decisión de primera instancia adoptada por la Justicia de Australia, acogiendo la solicitud de extradición de Adriana Elcira Rivas González, ex agente de la Dirección de Inteligencia Nacional (DINA) y secretaria de su Director General, quien ha sido requerida por la Justicia de Chile para su juzgamiento y sanción, a propósito de los cargos que se le imputan como coautor de los crímenes de secuestro calificado, como crímenes de lesa humanidad, de las víctimas antes individualizadas,

**Mr Nelson Guillermo Cauco Pereira
Mr Francisco Javier Ugás Tapia
Lawyers
Legal Firm Nelson Cauco Pereira Lawyers**

As legal representatives of the next of kin of the victims, Mr. Lincoyán Yalú Berríos Cataldo, Mr. Horacio Cepeda Marinkovic, Mr. Fernando Alfredo Navarro Allendes, Mr. Juan Fernando Ortiz Letelier, Ms. Reinalda del Carmen Pereira Plaza and Mr. Héctor Véliz Ramírez, we express our satisfaction and agreement before the first instance decision adopted by the Australian Courts, accepting the extradition request over Adriana Elcira Rivas González, former agent of the Directorate of National Intelligence (DINA) and secretary of its Director General, who has been requested by the Chilean Courts for her trial and sentence, regarding the charges against her as co-perpetrator of the crimes of qualified kidnapping, as crimes against humanity, of the previously individualized victims and, also, of Mr. Víctor Manuel Díaz López

y además, de don Víctor Manuel Díaz López.

Debemos recordar que, encontrándose ella procesada por los delitos que se le imputan, en libertad provisional bajo fianza y con la prohibición de salir del país, se dio a la fuga de Chile, escapándose hasta Australia, país en el cual se encontraba viviendo. Luego que el Tribunal que la había procesado advirtiera su fuga, este tribunal solicitó la extradición de Adriana Elcira Rivas González, la cual, primero, fue acogida por la Corte Suprema de Justicia, y luego, formalizada por el Estado de Chile al Estado de Australia.

Tras una larga tramitación, tanto en el foro doméstico de Chile como en el foro nacional de Australia, esta decisión de primera instancia concediendo la extradición de la requerida nos permite dar un paso enorme en pos de obtener una decisión definitiva que extradite a esta a Chile, y aquí sea sancionada efectivamente. Con prudencia y atención, estaremos siguiendo el devenir de este proceso de extradición en el mencionado país, hasta que se resuelva definitivamente y, esperamos, de manera favorable, concediéndose aquélla.

Agradecemos especialmente a los familiares de las víctimas por quienes actuamos, por permitirnos caminar juntos este complejo y pedregoso camino en la búsqueda de verdad y Justicia; al grupo de apoyo en Australia que promueve la extradición de Adriana Elcira Rivas González, por todo el esfuerzo desplegado y la ayuda que nos han brindado; al Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores de Chile, y particularmente, al Equipo de la Dirección de Asuntos Jurídicos de esta, por el trabajo desempeñado; y, a la Fiscalía de Australia, también por el trabajo llevado a cabo, específicamente ante el foro judicial doméstico de dicho país, representando los intereses del Estado de Chile.

We must remember that while being prosecuted for the crimes charged and being remanded on bail and with the prohibition of leaving the country, she fled Chile, escaping to Australia, the country in which she was residing. After the prosecuting Court became aware of her escape, it requested the extradition of Adriana Elcira Rivas González, which was accepted by Chile's Supreme Court and subsequently formalised by the State of Chile to the State of Australia.

After a long procedure, both in the domestic forum of Chile and in the national forum of Australia, this first instance decision granting the extradition of the requested person allows us to take an enormous step towards obtaining a definitive decision extraditing Rivas to Chile, where she can be effectively sanctioned. We will be following the evolution of this extradition process in Australia with prudence and attentiveness, until this matter is resolved once and for all and, we hope, favorably, granting her extradition.

We especially thank the families of the victims for whom we act, for allowing us to walk together along this complex and stony path in search of truth and Justice; to the support group in Australia which has promoted the extradition of Adriana Elcira Rivas González, for all the effort made and the help they have given us; to the Ministry of Foreign Relations of Chile, and particularly, to the Team of the Directorate of Legal Affairs of such Ministry, for the work they have completed. We also thank the Office of the Attorney General of Australia and its Legal Department for the work carried out specifically before the domestic judicial forum of that country, representing the interests of the State of Chile.

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