

Forum: Security Council

Issue: The social outbreaks in Chile

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INTRODUCTION

The South American country of Chile has been shaken by multiple waves of social unrest in its recent history. Education-oriented student-led protests, such as the ones in 2006 (Penguin Revolution, led mainly by high school students) and multiple other protests in 2011 to 2013, which were led mainly by university and college level students, flooded the country. In 2019 the biggest protests in the history of Chile, concerning social, political and economic inequalities led millions of people to the streets of the capital Santiago and the rest of the country, took place.

As understood, the main causes for all aforementioned social uprisings concern public services. Education, both secondary and tertiary was of major concern to the public, due to the quality, cost and profit-oriented nature of public education, which resulted in the protests of 2006 and 2011. The 2019 protests first erupted due to a rise in Santiago public transport fares but quickly evolved into a major uprising against the current government, social inequalities, the increasing cost of living, and public services, such as healthcare.

Consequently, the Chilean police, also known as the Carabineros de Chile and national army, were deployed. Amnesty International reports many human rights abuses, such as abuse of force, wrongful arrests and even killings of protesters. This study guide will analyze both the aspects of the protests, their nature and the governmental reaction to them, as well as the possible human rights breaches by police and law enforcement.

It is important to mention that both past and current governments, as well as NGO's, have made efforts to address and ameliorate the public services, as well as the human rights abuses by law enforcement. Namely, there have been two attempts for a new constitution (one failed and one pending), police reforms, new ministries and government officials and attempts, both successful and not, as an attempt to satisfy the public after all periods of unrest.

With that being said, this topic is also connected to this year's DSAMUN conference theme on "Ethics". The principles of human rights, such as the right to free speech (and by extension the right to protest), as well as the evaluation of practices made by law enforcement are tied with ethics and the principles of a democratic nation.

DEFINITION OF KEY-TERMS

Social Outbreak

The term social outbreak, in this context, will be used to refer to the massive mobilization of the Chilean people, against inequality and a low quality of public services.

Reformation

The term reformation generally refers to the alteration of an institution or practice, with the aim of the amelioration of such institution.¹

Estallido Social

Spanish for social outburst. This term is most commonly used in Chile for the 2019 protests.

Privatization

"The act of selling an industry, company or service that was owned and controlled by the government, so it becomes privately owned and controlled."²

The Carabineros

Carabineros de Chile are the Chilean national law enforcement gendarmerie, who have jurisdiction over the entire national territory of the Republic of Chile.³

National Emergency

"A state of emergency resulting from a danger or threat of danger to a nation from foreign or domestic sources and usually declared to be in existence by governmental authority."⁴

Military Junta

"A government, especially a military one, that has taken power in a country by force and not by election"⁵

¹ "Reformation." Cambridge Dictionary, dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/reformation.

² "Privatization." Cambridge Dictionary, dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/privatization.

³ "Carabineros de Chile." Wikipedia, Wikimedia Foundation, 30 Mar. 2023, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carabineros_de_Chile.

⁴ "National Emergency Definition & Meaning." Merriam-Webster, www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/national%20emergency.

⁵ "Military Junta Definition and Meaning: Collins English Dictionary." Military Junta Definition and Meaning | Collins English Dictionary, HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/english/military-junta.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Historical Background

Pinochet Dictatorship

Augusto Pinochet was the leader of the Chilean military junta that lasted from 1974 to 1990. After an overnight coup, the previously democratically elected socialist government was overthrown by Augusto Pinochet. One of the most important aspects to know regarding the 17-year dictatorship in Chile is the human rights violations carried out by law enforcement.

With an iron grasp on authority, Pinochet imposed an authoritarian regime. He efficiently concentrated power in his hands and repressed political opposition by dissolving the National Congress, suspending the Constitution, and establishing a dictatorship by decree. Human rights abuses occurred often and systematically under Pinochet's rule. Censorship, torture, unjust murder, and imprisonment are only some of the crimes Augusto Pinochet was charged with, despite his attempt for the creation of an impunity framework. Many of these crimes were committed by the National Intelligence Directorate (DINA), Pinochet's secret police. The dictatorship severely restricted press freedom and enforced stringent censorship on the media, which in turn regulated information flow. Media critics of the dictatorship were frequently repressed or subjected to persecution.

A murder squad traveled around Chile as part of the military operation known as "The Caravan of Death" to execute political prisoners and other suspected regime opponents. There were multiple extrajudicial killings as a result of this operation. Many Chileans left the country to avoid persecution and repression, including political figures, thinkers, and activists. Both domestically and internationally, the regime actively persecuted its detractors. He also formed the previous Chilean constitution that is still in place today. In many ways, this constitution and the years of dictatorship in Chile's recent history impacted the social outbursts and their consequences.

Fall of Pinochet Government

A combination of external pressure, internal resistance, and a well-orchestrated political transition led to the overthrow of Augusto Pinochet's regime and the end of his dictatorship in Chile.

Due to its authoritarian rule and breaches of human rights, Pinochet's regime came under growing international scrutiny and isolation. Many nations, human rights organizations, and international organizations denounced Pinochet's government and demanded that democracy return to Chile.

Chile was also experiencing economic problems in the late 1980s, with skyrocketing inflation and increasing debt. Some sections of the populace have grown more and more disenchanted with Pinochet's administration as a result of the economic difficulties.

Pinochet was compelled to organize a plebiscite in 1988 to decide whether he would hang onto power for a further eight years due to mounting international pressure and internal opposition. A large coalition of opposition forces, including political parties, labor unions, student organizations, and human rights organizations, were successfully mobilized by the "No" campaign. It used innovative and persuasive media operations to mobilize the populace against Pinochet's rule. When the results of the plebiscite were made public on October 5, 1988, the "No" campaign had garnered 55.99% of the vote, while Pinochet had received 43.01%. The regime suffered a huge setback as a result. Pinochet respected the results of the Plebiscite after it was lost and declared his intention to leave office. In order to prepare for democratic elections, a process of democratic transition was started, and talks between the administration and opposition leaders got under way.

Since the coup in 1973, Chile's democratic presidential and parliamentary elections were first held in 1990. The Concertación coalition's nominee, Patricio Aylwin, who included a number of opposition parties, won the presidency. With this, Chile's military dictatorship under Pinochet, which had lasted 17 years, came to an end and democracy was restored. After the fall of Pinochet's regime in 1990, the Chilean people were able to express their disapproval of the major human rights abuse and their public healthcare system, public transportation, and education system, in the form of massive outbreaks of protests.

Chilean Governments 1990-2006

Patricio Aylwin (1990-1994)

From March 11, 1990, to March 11, 1994, Patricio Aylwin presided as president of Chile, acting as the nation's first democratically elected leader following the fall of Augusto Pinochet's dictatorship. As a senior member of the Christian Democratic Party (Partido Demócrata Cristiano), Aylwin had a significant role in Chilean politics.

Patricio Aylwin concentrated on a number of important goals during his president, including the shift to democracy. Supervising the change from a military dictatorship to a secure and functional democracy was Aylwin's main challenge. After years of repression under the Pinochet government, he aimed to encourage national healing and a climate of political tolerance.

Aylwin fought to strengthen democratic institutions that had been undermined or destroyed during the dictatorship. He also concentrated on reconstructing democratic

institutions. He underlined the significance of respect for human rights, a free press, and an independent and powerful judiciary.

Regarding economic reforms, Aylwin's administration pursued some social programs to combat inequality and poverty while upholding the free-market economic principles put in place during the Pinochet era. The reduction of poverty rates and social investment were the main topics.

Last but not least, Aylwin created the National Commission for Truth and Reconciliation (Rettig Commission) to look into and compile evidence of human rights abuses during the military administration. This initiative attempted to educate people about the crimes that took place and offer some closure to the families of the victims.

Eduardo Frei Ruiz-Tagle (1994-2000)

As a member of the Christian Democratic Party, Eduardo Frei Ruiz-Tagle presided over Chile from March 11, 1994, to March 11, 2000. Eduardo Frei Ruiz-Tagle concentrated on several programs and policies throughout his term as president in an effort to maintain Chile's economic expansion while addressing social issues. The previous administration's initiatives to combat socioeconomic inequality and enhance the living conditions of vulnerable groups were carried on by Frei's government. To lower poverty rates, the government expanded social spending on housing, healthcare, and education.

Chile's educational reform was one of the major priorities of Frei's presidency. His administration took action to raise public school standards and increase access to high-quality education. The pension system was altered by Frei's administration to improve its viability and effectiveness. Making ensuring retirees could get sufficient pensions to support their way of life was the main objective. The government of Frei worked to increase workers' rights and enhance working conditions in Chile. Frei persisted in supporting economic policies that were based on the free market since they had been effective in fostering economic growth under the previous governments. His administration sought to promote social advancement while preserving economic stability. Environmental preservation and sustainable development were other priorities under Frei's presidency. To address environmental issues and encourage the preservation of natural resources, steps were taken.

Ricardo Lagos (2000-2006)

Chile's President Ricardo Lagos Escobar presided over the country from March 11, 2000, to March 11, 2006. Prior to and during his president, he had a tremendous impact on Chilean politics as a Socialist Party member. While pursuing a number of measures to address numerous societal challenges, the government of Ricardo Lagos continued the previous administrations'

course of economic stability and social progress. Here are some salient features of his administration:

The government of Lagos concentrated on social programs and reforms to fight inequality and poverty. Targeted social assistance programs, like Chile Solidario, were put in place by the government with the goal of assisting marginalized groups and helping them escape poverty. To increase all Chileans' access to high-quality medical care and to make the healthcare system more accessible, Lagos' government made important adjustments. With the introduction of the "AUGE" plan (Acceso Universal with Garantias Explcitas), all residents now have access to a fundamental set of healthcare services. The Lagos government kept up its attempts to enhance the educational system. It pushed programs to improve the standard of education in schools and colleges, increased money for public education, and opened up more opportunities for scholarships. Building on previous administrations' efforts, the Lagos government made substantial adjustments to the pension system in order to broaden pension coverage and guarantee improved benefits for retirees.

Political Background

Key Social Outbreaks

For the purpose of this study guide, the following sections have been divided in order to provide the clearest understanding of all three big periods of mobilization of the Chilean People. It is evident that there is a common theme between all three movements. All of them have been started by students, and generally concern public services and their cost and quality, and human rights, such as education, healthcare, public transport, and social inequalities.

2006 protests

Causes

The 2006 student protests, commonly referred to as the Penguin Revolution, alluding to the students' black and white school uniforms, were the first of three major protesting periods after the fall of Pinochet's dictatorship in Chile. High school students protested for reforms in the Chilean educational system, through occupying schools and barricading school entrances, as well as marching on the streets. They ultimately demanded an upgrade in the educational system, free public transport for school students, lower fees for university entrance exams, and the support for public education to ameliorate the result of said entrance exams. Also, extra financing and a voice in educational policy were also among the students' demands. About 5,000 students

were reported marching, just the first days in Santiago, with the Chilean people showing their overwhelming support for the movement.⁶

Government Reaction

During that period, Chile was led by Michelle Bachelet, head of left-wing party, and was the first female President in South America. Her cabinet was about 50% women, a major advancement in Chilean and Latin American Presidents. She served Chile for two terms, 2006-2010, during the first major student protests, and from 2014 to 2018. Bachelet in order to meet the students long term demands announced a presidential advisory committee, with six seats reserved for students.⁷

2011 Protests

Causes

In contrast to the 2006 protests, the 2011 demonstrations were mainly staged by university students, demanding reforms in higher education. In Chile, higher education is not free, and the university entrance exams are not cost-free, with about 50% of public school students failing to get into college.⁸ Additionally, most Chilean university students end up in substantial debt, further delaying their professional integration and economic stability.

Government Reaction

These protests did achieve some success in governmental reform in education. In 2016, a law was passed that abolished university tuition for students from households with a per capita income of less than 14,000 United States Dollars (USD) a year.⁹ To add to that, a new Ministry of Education was established, opening new doors for more reforms in public education.

2019 Protests

Causes

⁶ Jonathan Franklin, "Protests Paralyse Chile's Education System." *The Guardian*, 5 June 2006, www.theguardian.com/world/2006/jun/07/chile.schoolsworldwide.

⁷ "Protests Paralyse Chile's Education System." *The Guardian*, Guardian News and Media, 7 June 2006, www.theguardian.com/world/2006/jun/07/chile.schoolsworldwide.

⁸ Frippery. "Is College Free in Chile?" *College Aftermath*, Mar. 2023, collegeaftermath.com/college/is-college-free-in-chile/?utm_content=cmp-true.

⁹ Frippery. "Is College Free in Chile?" *College Aftermath*, Mar. 2023, collegeaftermath.com/college/is-college-free-in-chile/?utm_content=cmp-true.

The protests' initial cause was a 3% rise in Santiago subway fares¹⁰. As a reaction to the rising prices and the overall high cost of living, the younger Chilean population started avoiding paying for public transport tickets, by jumping over ticket barriers in subway stations. Consequently, the police reacted by confronting students. This resulted in violent clashes between police and the public. However, the rising public transport fares were not the only cause of the protests. As aforementioned, the cost of living in Chile, and especially Santiago, heightened frustration among Chileans. Additionally, the low wages and increased inequality between social classes resulted in many forms of protesting, such as workers' strikes and trade unions, which further fueled the demand for social reformation.

Simultaneously, the public healthcare system was unable to handle its responsibilities, and generally weak as an institution, and with low wages, comfortable politicians were able to exploit Chileans' hardships. Consequently, the main demands of the people were as follows: Pinera's resignation, change to the pension system, amelioration of the secondary and tertiary educational system and the increase of the minimum wage.

Government Reaction

During that period, Chile was led by Sebastian Pinera. He played a key role in these demonstrations, as his resignation was one of the protesters' demands. It is important to mention that he had the lowest approval rating of any Chilean President since 1990¹¹. The Chilean government had to react to the massive uprising in multiple parts of the country. A massive police force of thousands of police officers was deployed, followed by the national army, which had not been involved in matters of public unrest since the fall of the 17-year dictatorship led by Augusto Pinochet, as an attempt to ease tensions. In addition, over the first few weeks of the demonstrations, a curfew was imposed, as well as a declaration of national emergency. As of October 30, 2019, the Guardian reported 18 deaths and 7,000 arrests.¹²

The initial response of the Chilean President wasn't well received, calling the protesters criminals and stating that "the country is at war with an implacable enemy."¹³ But following the public reaction, his stance changed, saying "our government has listened to the clear and strong

¹⁰ "Chile Protesters: 'We Are Subjugated by the Rich. It's Time for That to End.'" *The Guardian*, Guardian News and Media, 30 Oct. 2019, www.theguardian.com/world/2019/oct/30/chile-protests-portraits-protesters-sebastian-pinera.

¹¹ "Sebastián Piñera." *Encyclopædia Britannica*, Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc., www.britannica.com/biography/Sebastian-Pinera.

¹² Franklin, Jonathan. "Chile Protesters: 'We Are Subjugated by the Rich. It's Time for That to End.'" *The Guardian*, 13 Nov. 2019, www.theguardian.com/world/2019/oct/30/chile-protests-portraits-protesters-sebastian-pinera

¹³ BBC News. "Chile's Piñera Moves Eight Ministers After Protests." *BBC News*, 29 Oct. 2019, www.bbc.com/news/world-latin-america-50207883

message sent by Chileans, who demand and deserve a more just and supportive country with more opportunities and less privilege.”¹⁴

As an immediate response, and as an attempt to immediately eradicate the issue, the then President replaced about a third of his cabinet, most specifically 8 ministers, in the ministries of finance, economy, interior, labor, and sports. Also, immediately after, a legislation imposing higher taxes on higher income strata, mainly most wealthy Chileans, passed, as well as a framework increasing the national minimum wage and yearly pension. One of the most important aspects of this certain uprising, however, was the new Chilean Constitution that was proposed. It is important to note that even though the majority of the Chilean people wanted a new constitution, after it was drafted, it did not receive a majority vote in the referendum held.

Recent Developments

Current Chilean Government

In March of 2022, the current Chilean President, Gabriel Boric, was sworn in with an ambitious agenda aiming to effectively bring social and political reforms. Though, it is important to mention that despite the younger generation’s cries for social change, and thus the election of a younger left wing candidate, Boric’s party holds a small fraction of the Parliament’s seats, which may prove as an obstacle to pass massive reforms.¹⁵ The introduction of a referendum for a new constitution, as well as the actual proposal of a new constitutional document was also overseen by his administration.

Second Approach to a new constitution

In January of 2023, a bill is passed in order to start the progress of drafting a new constitution, since the referendum produced negative results to the previous attempt. Though, it is important to mention that the far-right republican party won 22 out of the 51 seats of those tasked to draft the new constitutional document.¹⁶ Taking into consideration the demands of

¹⁴ BBC News. “Chile’s Piñera Moves Eight Ministers After Protests.” *BBC News*, 29 Oct. 2019, www.bbc.com/news/world-latin-america-50207883

¹⁵ Cuffe, Sandra. “Chile’s next President to Govern Historic Transition.” *Elections News | Al Jazeera*, Al Jazeera, 23 Dec. 2021, www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/12/23/chile-next-president-to-govern-historic-transition.

¹⁶ Buschschlüter, Vanessa. “Chile Constitution: Far-Right Party Biggest in New Assembly.” *BBC News*, BBC, 8 May 2023, www.bbc.com/news/world-latin-america-65524068.

reformation of the Chilean people, it is intriguing to see if this new constitution will please the public, after the previous one had failed to, on accounts of being “too radical.”¹⁷

MAJOR COUNTRIES AND ORGANIZATIONS INVOLVED

China

The economy of Chile may be impacted by China's need for raw commodities and its status as a trading partner with Chile. Changes in Chinese demand, especially for copper, a major commodity for Chile, can have serious economic repercussions and even fuel civil unrest there. China has become one of Chile's main trading partners as a result of its economic cooperation, particularly in trade and investment. However, rather than having a direct impact on domestic social and political issues, international trade interactions are typically motivated by shared economic interests. It is crucial to concentrate on internal dynamics and structural difficulties within Chile while examining the causes of social eruptions. In order to comprehend the intricate nature of social unrest in Chile, it is critical to rely on reliable research, professional analysis, and verifiable facts.

United States of America (USA)

The USA has openly supported the current Chilean government and has supported its attempts to restore security at the country. It has also called for the respect of human rights from all parties involved.¹⁸ Being one of Chile's biggest trading partners but also a P-5 member and global superpower support from the USA is of crucial importance to Chile. The United States indirectly affects global economic conditions as a significant economic power. Changes in international commodity prices, trade regulations, and financial markets may have an effect on the Chilean economy and fuel social discontent.

Venezuela

In addition to a complicated humanitarian catastrophe and political turmoil, Venezuela has suffered its own set of political and economic difficulties. Even while some Venezuelan refugees have sought asylum in Chile, it would be oversimplifying to link all of Chile's social upheaval to what is actually a complex situation. When assessing social unrest, it is essential to take into

¹⁷ Buschschlüter, Vanessa. “Chile Constitution: Far-Right Party Biggest in New Assembly.” BBC News, BBC, 8 May 2023, www.bbc.com/news/world-latin-america-65524068.

¹⁸ Hadzi-Vaskov, Metodij, and Luca A Ricci. “Understanding Chile's Social Unrest in an International Perspective.” IMF, 25 June 2021, www.imf.org/en/Publications/WP/Issues/2021/06/25/Understanding-Chiles-Social-Unrest-in-an-International-Perspective-461279.

account the distinctive background and dynamics of each nation because Chile and Venezuela are separate countries with their own unique domestic challenges. Without concrete evidence, attributing the social upheavals in Chile to Venezuela's influence may be deceptive and focus attention away from resolving the root reasons within Chile.

However, it is important to note, that a sizable number of refugees from Venezuela have sought sanctuary in Chile as a result of the political and economic crises there. Pressure from the surge of migrants has been placed on the infrastructure and public services, which could lead to societal unrest.

Chilean National Human Rights Institute_(Instituto Nacional de Derechos Humanos, or INDH)

The Chilean National Human Rights Institute has played a substantial role in the discovery of possible human rights breaches, by the Chilean police and/or army. It has assisted major organizations, such as Amnesty International, the UNHRC and Human Rights watch with their investigations, and consequently with their actions toward eliminating misuse of power by law enforcement.

The INDH compiled evidence of human rights abuses, interviewed witnesses and victims, and then issued thorough reports on the instances. These reports were essential in illuminating the situation and supplying proof of probable violations. In order to enable victims of human rights breaches pursue redress and accountability for their mistreatment, the INDH provided legal representation. During the social upheavals, the INDH took part in lobbying campaigns to increase public awareness of human rights problems. They demanded that human rights be respected, that any abuses be looked into, and that steps be taken to stop future transgressions. The INDH served as an impartial observer, confirming actual events and confirming data from multiple sources. The INDH advised the appropriate authorities to address the human rights concerns brought up during the social unrest in light of their findings. In order to exchange information and updates on the human rights situation in Chile, the INDH worked with international human rights organizations.

Human Rights Watch (HRW)

HRW annually publishes human rights reports on multiple countries. In the 2019 report, as well as another documentation of human rights violations, it is reported that the Carabineros had indeed used excessive amounts of force against protesters, and had proposed to multiple police reforms to President Pinera that abide by international law and would help with the proper and legal handling of massive protests.¹⁹

¹⁹ "Chile: Police Reforms Needed in the Wake of Protests." Human Rights Watch, 28 Oct. 2020, www.hrw.org/news/2019/11/26/chile-police-reforms-needed-wake-protests.

HRW conducted in-depth investigations and compiled evidence of human rights abuses, including as excessive use of force by security personnel, instances of torture, and allegations of abuse and arbitrary arrest of protestors. Their reports provide reliable, unbiased proof of probable abuses. Throughout the social unrest, HRW released in-depth reports and remarks on the human rights situation in Chile. These reports were widely circulated to the public, the media, and decision-makers, increasing awareness of the seriousness of the human rights crimes occurring. HRW urged the Chilean government to conduct impartial and open investigations in order to prosecute those accountable for violating human rights. The group promoted accountability mechanisms to guarantee that individuals in charge of atrocities would be brought to justice.

Amnesty International

Amnesty International is a massive human rights organization that has investigated and reported the actions of the Chilean Police and army during periods of social unrest. As aforementioned, being able to recognize the problem and holding accountable law enforcement, and their misuse of force against protestors is key to reforming the police and army, and therefore reducing civilian harm.

They also implemented a handful of actions, including a crisis task force to document any human rights breaches, provision of legal and psychological support for those affected by the law enforcement's actions and calling upon the Chilean government to end the repression.

TIMELINE OF EVENTS

DATE	DESCRIPTION OF EVENT
March 11 1990	Fall of the 17-year Pinochet dictatorship.
June- August 2006	Penguin Revolution
June 2011	Chilean University Students begin protesting against the higher education system.
August 2011	This period of the 2011 protest is usually referred to as the "Chilean Winter."
May 2014	Michelle Bachelet is reelected as the President of Chile.

18 October 2019	The first massive protests broke out in Santiago
19 October 2019	A National Emergency is declared, and a curfew is imposed in Santiago.
25 October 2019	More than a million people march in Santiago. The biggest protests in the country's recent history are noted.
October 2020	80% ²⁰ of Chilean voter's agreed on drafting a new constitution.
5 September 2022	Drafted constitution gets rejected by Chilean voters.
11 January 2023	Chile's Congress passes a bill to draft another constitution.

RELEVANT UN RESOLUTIONS, TREATIES AND EVENTS

United Nations High Commissioner For Human Rights (OHCHR) Report

In December of 2019, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, who is also the former Chilean president Michelle Bachelet, released a 30-page report on any violations from police and military personnel that had been deployed by the Chilean government, as a reaction to the 2019 protests. The results and report were created after an official OHCHR team was deployed in Chile.

As of the first three weeks of November 2019, 113 cases of torture and ill treatment, 24 cases of sexual violence, and 26 deaths were noted, as well as 4903 injuries, about half of which were inflicted on police officers.²¹ This investigation, and report were crucial in understanding the

²⁰ Buschschlüter, By Vanessa. "Chile Constitution: Voters Overwhelmingly Reject Radical Change." *BBC News*, 5 Sept. 2022, www.bbc.com/news/world-latin-america-62792025

²¹ OHCHR. "UN Human Rights Office Report on Chile Crisis Describes Multiple Police Violations and Calls for Reforms." *OHCHR*, www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2019/12/un-human-rights-office-report-chile-crisis-describes-multiple-police?LangID=E&NewsID=25423

importance of the role of law enforcement in massive social outbreaks, and acting accordingly to propose solutions that benefit both the protesters and the government.

This report was also crucial for the Chilean government, since it also recommended multiple solutions and mechanisms for the amelioration of the situation at hand. These included the guidelines for tear gas usage, and other measures to monitor police activity, as well as a three month monitoring mechanism.

PREVIOUS ATTEMPTS TO SOLVE THE ISSUE

Amnesty International Human Rights Report

As an international human rights organization, Amnesty International has published multiple reports on the abuse of power by law enforcement during the 2019 protests in Chile, seeing as this is connected to basic entitlements protected by human rights frameworks. They reported that the police have shown increased violence against protesters, that could have been avoided. As of November 19, 2019, they reported 1011 people injured overall, 481 of the by shotguns.²²

In cases of mass civilian mobilization and protests, it is imperative that the reaction from law enforcement is closely monitored. In the case of Chile, this was achieved, by multiple organizations, including Amnesty International, which consequently creates pressure for internal police reforms and international; law enforcement guidelines.

New Chilean Constitution

The proposed new Chilean Constitution was drafted and proposed in 2022. It is important to note that about 80% of the Chilean population, eligible to vote, agreed upon the drafting of a new constitution, in order to replace the Pinochet era document. However, the first draft of said constitution was ultimately shut down by a referendum, with 62% refusing it,²³ after it had supposedly taken a “right-wing turn.” With that being said, the old constitution is still in place, and it is evident that the Chilean people demand feasible solutions that adhere and solve the problems they have been facing for decades.

Police reform suggestions by HRW

²² Amnesty International. “Eyes on Chile.” *Amnesty International*, Sept. 2021, www.amnesty.org/en/latest/research/2020/10/eyes-on-chile-police-violence-at-protests

²³ Buschschlüter, Vanessa. “Chile Constitution: Voters Overwhelmingly Reject Radical Change.” BBC News, BBC, 5 Sept. 2022, www.bbc.com/news/world-latin-america-62792025.

In November of 2019, Human Rights Watch official met with President Pinera and recommended multiple ways that the national police, the Carabineros, and the army could be reformed in order to prevent form the mishandling of power, after evidence of wrongful arrests and use of violence on protesters. The recommended reforms include the improvement of the disciplinary system for police, ensuring accountability for police officers' abuse and misuse of equipment, the installation of cameras, and the use of alternative less-lethal equipment and more.²⁴

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

International guidelines for law enforcement during social unrest

Despite each country's constitutional law and national legal framework, it is important to structure universal legal frameworks, under the jurisdiction of the UN that outline law enforcement use (rights and violations) in times of crisis, such as the one in Chile. This will effectively outline and prevent national and international law enforcement tools such as the national police force and army from being misused against the public in massive protests. In this context, national or international training programs for law enforcement in cases of massive protests.

Social Reforms

Taking into consideration that the main aim of the protests was social reformation and the amelioration of public services, it is imperative for the security Council to actually find ways to implement that. Community-targeted practices, such as forums for students and teachers to propose solutions for the educational systems problems, and the collaboration of national and international organizations to implement them is a feasible solution. Though, considering the Security Councils' authority it is important to figure out legally binding solutions that protect the public and please the protester's demands.

Long Term United Nations Supervision

Considering that Chile has been shaken by massive social outbreaks three times in less than two decades finding was to prevent further escalations is crucial. For that reason, the current UN operated programs in Chile could be strengthened by more permanent representatives, as well as a dedicated body to overview and advise the current government on issues of social reformation, public services, privatization and consequently mitigate social unrest and by extent human rights abuses by law enforcement.

²⁴ “---.” *Human Rights Watch*, 28 Oct. 2020, www.hrw.org/news/2019/11/26/chile-police-reforms-needed-wake

Addressing Socioeconomic Inequalities

One of the most important steps in combating Chile's social breakouts is addressing socioeconomic inequality. Social unrest frequently results from long-standing complaints about economic inequality, lack of access to opportunities, and unequal resource allocation. Putting in place progressive tax laws that compel richer people and businesses to pay a bigger percentage of their income toward social programs and public services, may contribute to the creation of funds for carefully chosen social spending on things like healthcare, education, and poverty eradication. Increased government spending on social services will improve access to affordable housing, high-quality healthcare, and education. Increasing social safety nets and welfare services can help disadvantaged groups escape poverty and lessen economic inequality. Encourage economic expansion and employment creation, especially in industries with large prospective employee bases. Enhancing social mobility and reducing inequality can be accomplished through providing for decent working conditions, reasonable pay, and opportunities for skill development. Spending money on educational changes that offer all citizens, regardless of socioeconomic status, equal possibilities, which leads to resolving regional gaps in access to education, enhancing the standard of public education, and offering financial help and scholarships. To guarantee that everyone has access to high-quality medical treatment, the healthcare system should be strengthened. Communities can become healthier and more productive by investing in primary care and preventative healthcare.

Media Freedom

In order to combat social breakouts in Chile and promote an informed, open, and inclusive society, media freedom is crucial.

The timely and correct distribution of information to the public is ensured by a free and independent media. Citizens who have access to dependable news and a range of perspectives are better able to keep informed about social, political, and economic changes, which in turn helps them make informed decisions and participate in productive discussion. As a check on governmental acts and policies, media independence is important. Investigative reporting can highlight power abuses, inefficiencies, and corruption in the public sector, increasing accountability for government officials' acts and fostering openness. Media outlets give underprivileged and underrepresented communities a forum to air their issues and complaints. This can help highlight societal injustices and draw attention to problems that might otherwise go unnoticed. Unbiased reporting in the media can help different social groups understand and empathize with one another. Media can aid in bridging societal differences and fostering communication between various demographic groups by offering a variety of viewpoints.

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