

The elections in  
several member  
states (lee



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The article, written by Dr.

Francesca Lessa, is a very important yet incredibly disturbing, because it addresses the prevalence and eventual decline of dictatorships in Latin America. I find it quite insightful that American influence was the leading ideological drive of those regimes. Even Lessa (2017) mentioned that, The dictatorships installed in Chile and Uruguay in 1973 (in September and July of that year, respectively) and in Argentina in 1976 shared a common ideological foundation in the National Security Doctrine and the global backdrop of the Cold war (Lessa p. 35) This shows the ideological influence that allowed these regimes to gain power in their respective countries while being acknowledged as major partners in the fight against communism. However, I noticed that foreign events can bring down a dictatorship internally and restore democracy in an indirect manner. According to Lessa (2017) Argentina's transition towards a democratic government in 1983 was indirectly motivated by the mass public outrage over the previous regime's defeat in the Falklands War with the United Kingdom in 1982. The aftermath of the war not only exposed the military incompetency of the regime, but also amplified intense domestic and international scrutiny over the numerous human rights violations and for a change in governance (Lessa p. 36).

I noted that this scrutiny connects to the mission of the Organization of American States in promoting the democratic process while investigating human rights investigations. Indeed, in an article published by Brianna Lee and Danielle Renwick (2017), they mentioned that the OAS has retained a significant degree of success in confronting state-sponsored human rights

violations through the IAHCR (Inter American Human Rights Council). In addition, they have also sent observing missions for ensuring the integrity of elections in several member states (Lee & Renwick, 2017, section " What does the OAS do?", paras. 2-3). However, I found a sense of closure that non-governmental organizations in the countries of former dictatorships have placed public pressure on governmental officials in placing accountability, regarding any human rights violations. The picture below taken by Eitan Amramovich (2017), shows the Argentinean-based Mothers of Plaza Del Mayo protesting against military commanders, who were complicit in orchestrating mass murder is impactful (Amramovich, 2017). It illustrates the increasing demand for more accountability in addressing the victims of human conducted by former dictatorships. It does make me consider if there is a negative impact regarding U.

S foreign relationships between the countries of former dictatorships that were ideologically compatible with the United States at best, but were morally incomprehensible at worst. Amramovich, E. (2017, April 28). Mothers of Plaza Del Mayo. Digital image. Retrieved from <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/apr/28/mothers-plaza-de-mayo-argentina-anniversary#img-1>.

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