



PERU:

TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION COMMISSION (TRC) (COMISIÓN DE LA VERDAD Y RECONCILIACIÓN (CVR))



WHAT IS THE TRC?

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission / Comisión De La Verdad Y Reconciliación of Peru is a *Truth and Reconciliation* commission established by the Democratic Government of Peru, under President Valentin Paniagua. It aimed to firstly address the human rights violations committed by the Communist Party of Peru (Shining Path), Movimiento Revolucionario Túpac Amaru (MRTA), and the Peruvian State during an internal armed conflict. The commission also sought to determine the location, identity and status of many victims and displaced/missing persons resulting from forced disappearances and other abuses committed by the perpetrators.

The CVR was first established on July 13th, 2001, with the final version being completed on August 28th, 2003.

WHY WAS IT CREATED?

The CVR largely focuses on the gross human rights violations committed by both the Peruvian State, and opposition militant groups during a two-decade long internal armed conflict. Most notably, these militant groups were the Communist Party of Peru (known as Shining Path), as well as MRTA.

During such conflict, it was found that physical, emotional, and sexual violence was inflicted upon the most defenceless of Peruvian communities and citizens, namely Indigenous individuals and ‘peasant communities’. The perpetrator of these crimes are listed as predominately the Shining Path, with cases of MRTA members as well as State Officials also being recorded. The CVR found that such violence included torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, sexual violence against women, violations of due process, kidnapping and hostage-taking, violations of the human rights of children and violations of the fundamental rights of indigenous peoples.

MANDATES OF THE TRC

The main goals of the TRC were:

- To establish the circumstances surrounding the human rights abuses and violations committed between May 1980 and November 2000 by Shining Path and the MRTA as well as the Peruvian State
- Determine the whereabouts and wellbeing of victims and displaced persons
- Identify perpetrators as well as analyze underlying political, social, and cultural conditions which contributed to said violence
- Develop proposals regarding reparations for victims, as well as policies and reforms to prevent further human rights violations and political unrest

OUTCOMES & LEGACIES

- National Plan for Forensic Anthropological Interventions
- Reparations (including symbolic, financial, educational, and health related)
- Institutional Reform in the State, security, administrative and educational spheres
- Following up on the work of the CVR
- The establishment of the Comisión Multisectorial de Alto Nivel, in order to take charge of State action and policy on matters relating to peace, reparations and reconciliation and to follow up on the CVR recommendations
- The establishment of the Office of the Specialist Prosecutor for Human Rights, Forced Disappearances, Extrajudicial Executions and the Exhumation of Secret Graves in Lima, along with other specialized offices tailored to ensuring peace and justice
- Ceremonies held by Peruvian authorities in recognition of victims who experienced human rights violations
- Further measures tailored to Indigenous communities who were specifically targeted and victimized in the conflict, such as the Asháninka people



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An Important Dates Timeline

1980

The Communist Party of Peru (Shining Path) upris against the Peruvian State.

1982

The Túpac Amaru Revolutionary Movement (MRTA) also begins engaging in an internal armed conflict, with both the Peruvian State and Shining Path.

1992

Shining Path leader Abimael Guzmán and other key members are captured, internal conflict begins to reside.

2001

The CVR is first established by new President Valentin Paniagua, who replaces former President Alberto Fujimori after he is forced from office.

2003

The final report of the CVR is completed, after hearing from hundreds of thousands of survivors.

STATISTICS

Number of Commissioners: **12**

Number of Women Commissioners: **2**

Total Number of Participants: **17 000**

Number of Cases Heard: **Hundreds of Thousands**

Total Years of Conflict: **approx. 20**

