

Monday, 03.04.2023; 4:15 - 6:00 pm CEST

Victoria Basualdo, National Council for Scientific and Technological Research in Argentina (CONICET):

**Repression against the labor movement in Cold War dictatorships in Latin America: military and business responsibility in human rights violations in the case of Argentina (1976-1983)**

Abstract:

This talk will refer to the importance of trade-union mobilization and struggle in Latin America in the mid-twentieth century, and the importance of analyzing Cold War dictatorships, particularly during the 1960s and 1970s, not only as a result of political and military confrontation, but also as deeply connected with the economic, social and labor struggle, which implies taking into account the role of both the labor movement and the business leadership. The lecture will particularly analyze the case of Argentina and the repression carried out by military forces in conjunction with business sectors against labor in the last dictatorship, from 1976 to 1983. It will present the results of collective interdisciplinary research projects about this issue, paying special attention to the sources and methodology, as well as to matters of conceptualization. It will also discuss the connections built between the academic research and the process of memory, truth and justice in Argentina, focusing particularly on academic and scientific contributions to the judicial processes concerning the responsibility of military leaders and business top officials in the repression against workers and labor leaders during the dictatorship.

Bio:

Victoria Basualdo holds an MA, MPhil and PhD in History from Columbia University (New York). She is currently a researcher at the National Council for Scientific and Technological Research in Argentina and coordinates the program "Labor Studies, Trade-Union Movement and Industrial Organization" at the area of Economics and Technology of FLACSO Argentina. She is the author of many academic publications about Latin American and Argentine labor history. Her last book, coordinated with Hartmut Berghoff and Marcelo Bucheli, is "Big Business and Dictatorships in Latin America. A Transnational History of Profits and Repression", published by Palgrave Macmillan in 2021.