

# Lima Manifesto

## Regarding the Valley of the Fallen and Franco's Tomb

LOS MUERTOS DE Euzkadi RECLAMAN:



The **Brotherhood of Our Lady of Arantzazu in Lima**, founded in 1612 by members of the Basque Nation in that city, alongside the **Arantzazu Euzko Etxea of Lima**, would like to publicly state their position on the existence, in 2018, of a monument paying homage to the insurgents who imposed an illegal and criminal régime in Spain and who, even today, pay undeserved honor to the remains of the dictator who headed and led that régime that brought so much misery and pain to the Basques and the Spanish.

**NO to a monument to the participants in the coup.** The Valley of the Fallen was conceived by that totalitarian régime in order to pay homage to and to be a final resting place for those who fell fighting for what they called “a glorious crusade”. Accepting the continued existence of this place is in and of itself an offense to democracy, to the defenders of the Republic who faced the insurgents, to the slaves who were forced to build it, and to all the Basques and Spaniards who suffered the beatings of an illegal government that imposed an almost 40-year reign of terror.

**NO to a “Tomb of State” for a participant in the coup.** In 2018, tens of thousands of victims murdered by the participants in the coup are still buried in anonymous common graves; hundreds of thousands of citizens have still not recovered the goods that were illegally seized from them by illegal courts applying unjust laws; in the end, none of the injustices of Francoism have been rectified, thanks to the protection provided by an unconstitutional and disgraceful Amnesty Law that allowed Francoist criminals to never have to face up to their legal and political responsibilities.

Meanwhile, the mortal remains of the absolute leader of all of that, ex-General Francisco Franco, are still buried on property that belongs to the Kingdom of Spain, under the title of “Head of State”, with fascist followers still paying honor and homage to him.

**NO to the kidnapping of our *Gudaris*.** Even more derisive and shameful for the governments of Spain who call themselves “democratic”, the mortal remains of thousands of Republican soldiers, among them *gudaris*, are buried in that disgraceful place, kidnapped by the Francoist régime.

### For all of that, we ask for:

- The exhumation of the remains of the ex-general from that place of honor he does not deserve to occupy. His remains should be given to his family.
- The exhumation of the remains of those illegally buried in the Francoist monument. They should be given to their families, and should that not be possible, they should be buried in a monument that tells of how there was a war in which some insurgents confronted the defenders of a democratic state.
- The destruction of that monument, or at least its transformation into a center that explains that there was a coup d'état that started a war and a dictatorship; those responsible for the insurrection should be identified, and the terrible consequences of their actions and their illegal government should be explained.

We support all actions that are taken toward this goal by Basque institutions, and we request that Basque Centers around the world join us in asking for these things.

All the Euskal Etxeak took in exiled families that had to flee Francoism, and many Basque families around the world have loved ones who died because of that reign of terror. Franco and Francoism only deserve to be judged, so that their victims may thereby receive the truth, justice, and reparations they deserve.

In Lima, October 12, 2018