

## Ideological Warfare. Arguments against some (Spanish) sectarian messages (II)

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[The sectarian messages form a part of the ideological warfare in which we live.](#) In my case they arrive especially via WhatsApp.

The most serious question is not the deformed interpretation of the reality, that can always be unraveled. The worst is the exalted tone, the accompanying imposed indignation.

Here are my arguments against some of the most recent spurious messages. A proper refutation would require data and sources which is greater than the objective of these comments.

**No, Sánchez is not the *okupa* of La Moncloa (the seat of the Spanish Government).** No, in a parliamentary system, the party that has obtained most votes (the largest minority) is not the one that forms the government, but it is the party that obtains the support of more parliamentarians. The Spanish Constitution incorporates the **constructive no-confidence motion** (a carbon copy of the Bonn Fundamental Law): it is not possible to bring down the government except when the opposition or the different groups of the opposition come to an agreement on a candidate who can ensure an absolute majority.

**Yes, Sánchez abuses the Decree-Law system.** He does so to a lesser degree than the remaining governments that have preceded him, but in many cases, this system is employed due to the urgent and extraordinary requirement to comply with his electoral objectives. [This is not the case of the RDL \(Royal Decree-Law\) about RTVE \(Spanish State Radio and Television\) about which I have already reasoned about the existence of an urgent and extraordinary requirement and its extralimitation in some aspects.](#)

**No, there is no purge of professional employees in RTVE,** as assured by [a platform of anonymous professionals](#). The directors dismissed have been continuously and documentarily been denounced by the organs of institutional participation, the news councils. The general management

of the Corporation is a calamity. Even, some of those persons who appear on the screen are completely devoid of a minimum degree of telegenia. But their dismissal was urgent. But, take note, the director of TVE has been maintained; one of whose merits was having been communications manager of Alicia Sánchez Camacho, a parliamentarian of the previous government party. The new profesionales named, all from within the Corporation, have sufficient merits. The directors of the newscasters have received the support of more than 75% of RNE (the Spanish State Radio) and no less than 95% of the TVE the news journalists, when the previous directors did not reach an approval rate of 10%.

**No there is no purge in RTVE, but you get the impression that the provisional management is taking advantage of the situation to leave everything “well and truly tied up” (*atado y bien atado*),** was a catch phrase used to describe the how the Franco regime expected to maintain power after the dictator’s death) for the new board that results from a public tender. What is urgent is to regulate the **professional career qualifications** so that the appointments are indisputable.

**No, in a democratic country the remains of a dictator must not be honoured in a public mausoleum. But, no, it is not a good idea to create a Truth Committee,** when the historiography has perfectly clarified the crimes of the Franco regime (systematically carried out during decades after the end of the war) and the crimes of the republican side (in a context of disappearance of the State).

**Yes, the wounds of the Civil War must be closed.** The essential is to properly bury the victims that are still buried at the roadsides (where they were shot) and to respect the wishes of their descendents to maintain them or remove them from the Valley of the Fallen. It is evidently very difficult to give a new meaning to the monument, but it is possible, at least, to make it a centre of interpretation that explains the historiographic criteria for its genesis?

**No, two former combattants of the Ebro (Battle) cannot be compared with a Nazi or a Jew.** In that terrible battle (of the Civil War) some fought for their convictions, and others, [like my father](#), because they had been conscripted. But all of them fought with courage and dignity.

**No, the yellow loops cannot preside public institutions.** The (Catalan) independence loops are an exercise of liberty of expression but they should not identify institutions that represent everyone. [I subscribe the opinion of Joan Coscubiela](#). Neither can a manifestation of liberty of expression monopolize *sine die* a public space. But for the anti-independence supporters to take down the loops is not liberty of expression, but provocation. “Liberty of expression does not justify the shout of ‘fire’ in an overcrowded theatre”- as Judge Holmes told us. The constitutionalist supporters have the challenge to construct symbols as powerful as the yellow loop. For example, surrounding the yellow loop with with similar red loops, to build a Spanish flag, as I see in a video, that has reached me by WhatsApp, of course.

**Yes, all political actions can be criticized and it is legitimate to ridicule them.** Yes, the villa of Iglesias and Montero can be criticized and the couple can be mocked. **But it is not legitimate to call Pablo Echenique** (a politician in a wheelchair) **“a head with wheels”**. We are only a step away (or two, if you like) from depersonalization, of the nazi *untermensch*, of the cockroaches that for Radio Thousand Hills were the Tutsis of Ruanda.

**No, the problems of Venezuela and Nicaragua cannot be explained as a conspiracy of the Empire.** In the case of Venezuela there has been an accumulation of political errors lasting over nearly two decades. In Nicaragua, Ortega responded by shooting pacific demonstrators. All of this without denying interference from Washington, that has probably occurred [as the New York Times has revealed](#). But no, the protests of Nicaragua are not moved by a black hand, that wants to introduce the Maras in the country.

**We must be critical, we must defend our positions, but we must not be sectarian, nor add wood to the fire.**

#### **OTHER INPUTS IN THIS SERIES**

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