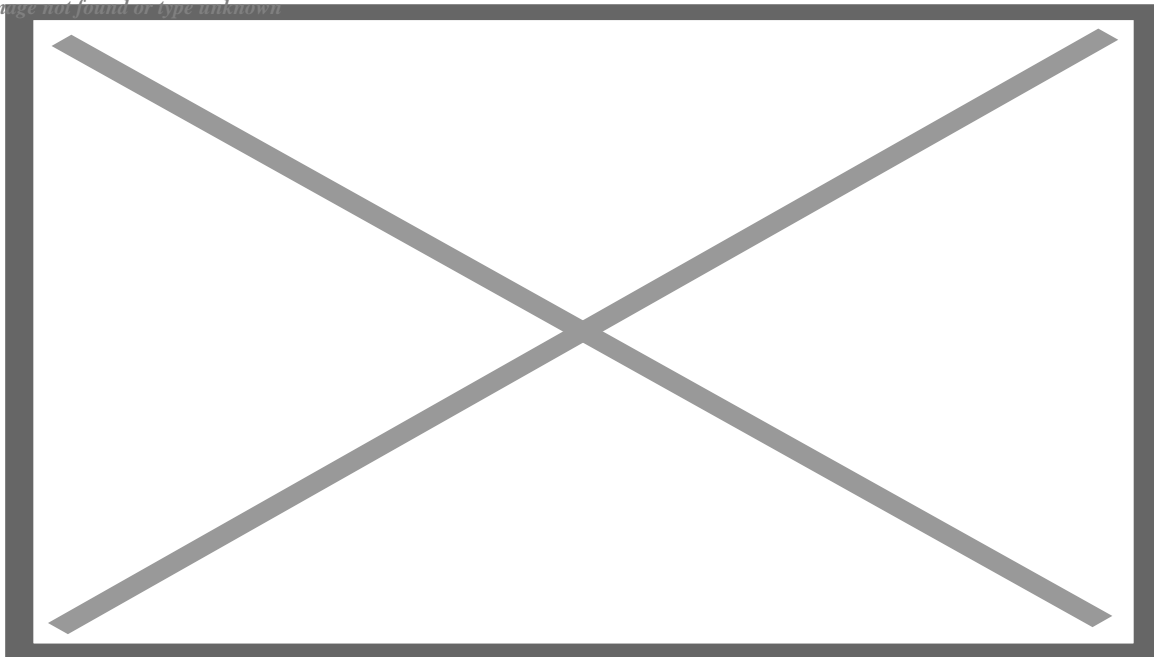


Police forces repress demonstrations in Argentina

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Buenos Aires, March 19 (RHC)-- Police forces in the Argentinian capital city of Buenos Aires repressed protesters on Monday who mobilized against Javier Milei's cuts and policies, amid protest slogans such as 'Hunger is the limit.'

Several popular movements and social and political organizations in Argentina were repressed after a peaceful mobilization demanding food assistance for community kitchens and picnic areas.

The violence of the police forces deepened at the Pueyrredón Bridge, in the city of Avellaneda, Buenos Aires. According to local media platforms such as *Página 12*, the first repressive episode took place in Puente Saavedra, where the Buenos Aires police advanced with Infantry and a hydrant car against the demonstrators who were peacefully standing on the border between the province of Buenos Aires and the City of Buenos Aires. Shortly after, the Prefectura Naval repressed demonstrators at the Pueyrredón Bridge. After both repressions, decompensated people had to be withdrawn.

"We are here because we need food, people are eating less and less," they referred in the demonstration, whose protest was aimed at denouncing the government's cuts in social programs such as *Potenciar Trabajo*, whose elimination was announced in March by the Ministry of Human Capital.

The National Piquetazo includes 500 cuts and demonstrations scheduled throughout Argentina, 100 days after the inauguration of the Government, which paralyzed the provision of food to more than 45,000 soup kitchens throughout the country, which are attended by families who cannot make ends meet.

For his part, the general secretary of the UTEP, Alejandro Gramajo, in making the call for the mobilization specified that "there are millions of families who cannot eat once a day. We are going through a humanitarian crisis in terms of food and the government has to review the decision to defund the canteens and soup kitchens. It has also decided to defund the productive units of the popular economy and to destroy the income of the workers of the popular economy."

Among the organizations participating in the mobilizations, the media Tiempo Argentino highlighted in addition to the Unión de Trabajadores y Trabajadoras de la Economía Popular (UTEP), the Unidad Piquetera (UP), the Frente de Lucha Piquetero, the Frente de Organizaciones en Lucha (FOL), the Bloque Piquetero Nacional, the Bloque de Organizaciones en Lucha, and the neighborhood organization La Poderosa, among others.

For these social organizations, "the cut in food allocations for canteens is implemented in the name of an attack on intermediaries" and "a fiscal saving to guarantee the payment of foreign debt and capitalist business."

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