

Argentinean Human Rights Activist Bonafini Not Deterred by Warrant



Buenos Aires, August 6 (RHC)-- Argentinean human rights activist and president of the Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo, Hebe de Bonafini, said she attended a rally Friday in the coastal city of Mar del Plata, despite being summoned by a court to make a statement, following an arrest warrant filed against her.

This is the second time that the 90-year-old iconic activist has failed to appear in court to testify in a case that accuses the Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo — an organization that searches for missing children from the dictatorship era — of siphoning off public funds from a social housing program known as “Shared Dreams.”

Bonafini is asked to give evidence over the alleged embezzlement of millions of dollars, but she is not personally accused in the case. "She says she will continue her normal life, she also says that if they want to her to testify they will have to arrest her," said Eduardo Fachal, attorney for the Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo, in an radio interview.

Police were dispatched to arrest Bonafini on Thursday, but they failed to detain her due to a human chain of supporters who blocked off the area in which she is currently residing in the capital of Buenos Aires.

Civil society groups and politicians around the world have condemned what they say is the politicized prosecution of those who oppose the conservative government of President Mauricio Macri.

Hebe de Bonafini is recognized worldwide for leading the fight for justice for victims of the 1976-83 dictatorship in Argentina; she has two sons who were "disappeared" by the military government.

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