Over 80 Argentinian Cities Mobilize Against Femicide

Byenos Aires, June 4 (teleSUR-RHC)-- Thousands of people marched in over 80 Argentinian cities on Wednesday, in a significant mobilization against femicide -- the murder of women.

The mobilization followed the killing on May 12th of a pregnant teenager from the town of Rufino, in Santa Fe region. The body of Chiara Paez was found buried in the house of her boyfriend. On the same day, the lawyer Gabriela Parra was also killed in a candy shop of the capital.

Among various demands, protesters asked for the implementation of the 2009 law on "comprehensive protection" of women as well as the creation of a national record of femicides, and more protective measures for the victims of gender violence.

Many famous figures from the national movie scene participated in the march, including Erica Rivas, who read a text before the Congress' building, and Luciano Castro, who told Telam this day was "historical."

In Buenos Aires, victims' relatives and women organizations from various regions marched to raise awareness around the necessity of addressing more globally gender violence issues.

In 2014 alone, 277 women were murdered according to the Observatory Adriana Marisel Zambrano. One woman dies every 30 hours, claimed the women's rights association.

Gender violence is a particularly sensitive issue in the continent, as 14 Latin American countries are among the top 25 countries worldwide in femicides – El Salvador, Jamaica and Guatemala having the highest rates in the world.

In contrast, several Latin American countries, including Colombia, Ecuador, Bolivia and Brazil have explicitly incorporated femicide as a specific crime in their penal codes, as opposed to classifying it as a crime of passion, the latter treated as a lesser crime.

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