

## **The National Audience can halt the bloodletting in Africa**

The Spanish justice studies a complaint to clarify the genocide in the African Great Lakes.

Margarita Sáenz-Diez Trias

[Juan Carrero](#)

[Arjona \(Jaén\), 1951](#)

[President of the Forum for Truth and Justice in the African Great Lakes Region](#)

From the range mountains of Tramuntana, in Mallorca, the course of history can be altered. Juan Carrero demonstrates it. President of “Foundation S’Olivar”, he has convinced the National Audience to take a complaint attempting to end the impunity over atrocities committed in the African Great Lakes. When the machetes were at work, Carrero denounced the genocide by staging a 42 days fast in front of the EU Council in Brussels. Now, with his dedicated team, he confidently expects the Spanish justice to take action.

**Q: *The murder in Rwanda of nine Spaniards, among them two Catalans, is it that the reason of the complaint?***

R: They were exceptional persons, we feel proud of them. First, they murdered the priest Joaquim Vallmajó (a white father) for his personal views. Afterwards, four Marist brothers and three volunteers of Doctors of the World: a physician, a nurse, Flors Sirera, and a photographer. The last one was Isidro Uzcudun, a Basque priest. Concerning the responsibility of these crimes, we have evidences and witnesses.

**Q: *What happened?***

R: About Vallmajó, it was a commando of the Rwandan Patriotic Front, the RPF, which killed him. He had been a critic with the Hutus, the Tutsis and even with Church itself. The case of the Marists was a bit unclear, but our research concluded that they were murdered by RPF as well. The complaint picks up a sentence of one of them: "If we're murdered, it will be the responsibility of RPF leaders, not of the peasants".

**Q: *Was there any similarity?***

R: In all there was something symbolic. Concerning Isidro they shot him in the mouth, to mark the fact that he had spoken. They put the four Marists in a latrine pit. They told to Quim Vallmajó: "You have spoken; we will now come and get you". And it wasn't a coincidence that they avoided to slay a North American volunteer of Doctors of the World. The US was and still is the staunch godfather to the RPF.

**Q: *What does the complaint intend to achieve?***

R: The FPR is an organisation responsible for the death of some millions of Rwandese and Congolese, and somebody has to halt this killing. In the tiny Rwanda, the Tutsis form 15% of the population; it is only with powerful protectors that they can hold on absolute power. And from our stand of non-violence, which believes in the strength of the truth and in compassion as the engine of history, we arrived at the conclusion that if we can demonstrate that the RPF is a genocide force under the president of Rwanda, Paul Kagame, and the current leadership would ultimately become burdensome for Washington.

**Q: *Against whom is the complaint directed?***

R: Against some 69 high ranking RPF officials. Of course, Kagame remains immune before the international law because he is exerting the supreme power. But this is impunity...

**Q: *Does this commend the universal justice?***

R: The presentation of the complaint has coincided with Cándido Conde-Pumpido becoming the general public prosecutor. If his predecessor, Jesús Cardenal, was still in charge, he may have attempted to boycott it. The magistrate Fernando Andreu of the National Audience, has made an intelligent and understanding interpretation of the conflict in order to investigate the crimes of genocide and against the humanity carried out in Rwanda and in the Democratic Republic of Congo, even though he's put emphasis on the case of the Spanish victims. The National Audience can help to halt the bloodshed in Africa.

**Q: *Was there any concerted plan?***

R: In the plan plotted many years before [*the war*] it was indispensable for RPF to erase some aspects in the complex history of Rwanda and the missionaries are amongst those who have a comprehensive knowledge of it.

**R: *A witness was between the founders of the FPR?***

Q: Yes. The colonel Hakizabera has an official document showing that the disappearance of the missionaries was a fundamental aspect in the plan for ensuring the control of the country. Thus, they silenced them and forced the rest to leave the country.

**Q: *Are you attempting any historical review about the Hutus?***

R: From the non-violence movement point of view, truth, dialogue, justice all fully interrelated concepts. How to normalise life in the communities if the Hutus are still indiscriminately branded as a group of people keen to perpetrate genocide?

**Q: *Tell me about the other witnesses?***

R: Abdul Ruzibiza is Tutsi, a member of the commando that carried out the orders issued by Kagame to shoot down the airplane in which the Hutu Presidents of Rwanda and Burundi were travelling, an event that precipitated the conflict. Now safe in a Scandinavian country, he's explained to us he's decision to act as a witness "because the RPF claimed the mission to free the suffering people of Rwanda, but instead it's carried out every sort of injustices: arbitrary imprisonment, exiling those it can not silence, selective murders, intolerable acts."

**-Q: *There is an Afro-American member of Congress who is saying that Spain could be "the salvation of the African Great Lakes?"***

R: She thinks that the complaint could have the same impact as the Pinochet case, but the criminals in Rwanda are continuing the killings and are still in power.

Source:

[http://www.elperiodico.com/default.asp?idpublicacio\\_PK=5&idioma=CAT&idnoticia\\_PK=208274&idseccio\\_PK=5&h=050506&c=juan%20carrero](http://www.elperiodico.com/default.asp?idpublicacio_PK=5&idioma=CAT&idnoticia_PK=208274&idseccio_PK=5&h=050506&c=juan%20carrero) 06 May 2005