

Where does this story begin?



Nicaraguan context until April '18

- Longest-lasting peace in national history (2007-2018)
- Highest level of gender equity in Latin America
- Safest country in Central America
- Public education, health care deprivatized
- Public pension system in process of consolidation
- Consensus model built through massive participation by neighborhoods, rural communities, women, youth, labor unions, social movements AND concessions to the Church and private industry
- Only country in Central America with a positive trade balance with US— zero purchases of arms or food
- 90% of food produced nationally
- All this despite being the second-poorest country in the Western Hemisphere



Events leading up to the 2018 regime change attempt

- Medical insurance and pensions beginning to cover a growing part of the population, including workers of the informal sector or popular economy
- INSS payments begin to exceed income, and the government begins to negotiate with labor unions and the private sector
- The International Monetary Fund (IMF) visits Nicaragua and recommends raising the retirement age, doubling the eligibility requirements
- The National Unity Government rejects the IMF proposal and proposes a plan that provides health care to more people
- The private sector walks out on negotiations, and the government quickly comes to an agreement with labor unions and passes a law
- The private sector calls for street protests (April 16th, 2018)

Surprise attack: virtual reality

- Approximately 100 million anti-government messages reach Nicaraguans over the next 72 hours (Trucchi, 2018), mostly through Facebook
- The themes of these messages change dramatically every few hours, and are directed to different segments of the population based on Facebook user data
- The first round of messages uses the Occupy INSS hashtag, claiming that the government is pushing people out of their health coverage, using images of a war widow who will supposedly lose her health insurance
- After fake news of attacks by Sandinista youth and police against protestors (using recycled images of prisoners from Honduras, and cadavers from Paraguay) fake news of a student protestor's death at the UCA, and old images of military vehicles in the streets, Nicaraguan celebrities, including beauty queens, journalists and the US Ambassador call for "free speech"
- The Sandinista Front mobilizes tens of thousands of people to march on April 19th in favor of the INSS reforms (although many are not sure what the reforms consist in) and the NGO-sector mobilizes protests for free speech, creating Street provocations, video-taping, and publishing hyper-edited videos on social media
- The night of April 19th, opposition political parties pay and arm small groups of vulnerable youth to carry out armed attacks against government buildings and local Sandinista Front headquarters across the country, leading to the deaths of three people, including a police officer, a Sandinista party member, and a young man whose makeshift gun fired in his hands

Color revolution: blue-and-white, red-and-black

 **Marcha UPOLI**
Publicidad • 

La lucha estratégica esta en la UPOLI. No se confundan. Toda Nicaragua unida hacia la UPOLI!!!

Toda Nicaragua unida hacia la UPOLI!



OCUPAUPOLI

   5.150 163 comentarios • 315 veces compartido

 Me gusta

 Comentar



contra nosotros evita una tragedia más grande queremos avanzar por un futuro mejor vos podes...

  17

 Me gusta

 Comentar

A Flor De María Duarte Baez le gusta esto

 **Desaparecidos Del 19 Y 20 De Abril**
Publicidad

Connect with Desaparecidos Del 19 Y 20 De Abril



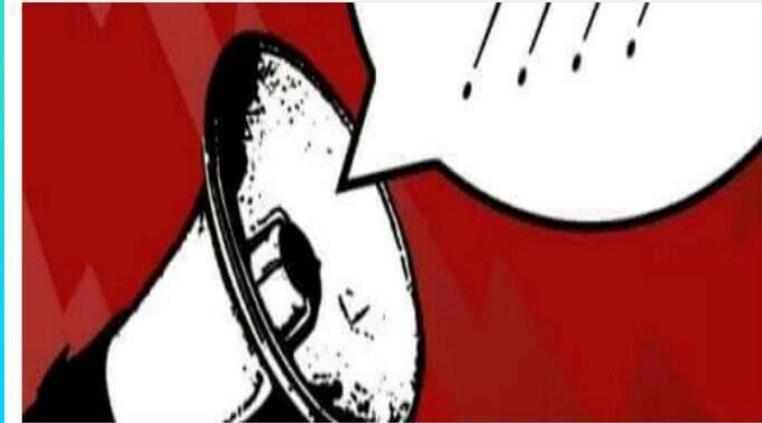
Desaparecidos Del 19 Y 20 De Abril
Persona je público
5.049 Me gusta

 **Danar Narvaez**

A 1201 personas les gusta esto

 **Sin censura**
Publicidad

No más abuso a la libre expresión #SomosNicaragua
#SomosJovenes #QueSeRindaTuMadre



Sin censura
Bloguero(a)
1.201 Me gusta



**The war of symbols:
"April 19th
has replaced
July 19th"**

A screenshot of a Facebook post. At the top, the status bar shows various icons and the time 1:01 PM with 46% battery. The Facebook interface includes a navigation bar with icons for home, friends (1 notification), notifications (4), and a menu. The post content is as follows:

A Cespaz Paz, Frank Silva y Martinez Guevara les gusta **Fuera Daniel Ortega Nicaragua**.

Fuera Daniel Ortega Nicaragua Publicidad ·

El régimen de Daniel Ortega lleva más de 85 muertes, 800 heridos y un cantidad desconocida de desaparecidos. Por ellos exigimos su renuncia.

The post features two images: a color photograph of a 2018 protest with people holding flags and a black and white photograph of a 1979 protest in front of a building. A vertical banner on the right side of the post shows a stylized blue and red graphic of a face with a mustache. At the bottom, there are buttons for 'Fuera Daniel Ortega' and 'MÁS INFORMACIÓN'.



Sera este el mismo fin de Daniel Y Rosario???

45 5 comentarios

Me gusta

Compartir



Aqui pueden ver al amigo y Pofi de Daniel Ortega-Muammar al Gaddafi de Libia. Asi terminan los Dicatoros...sera este el mismo fin de Daniel Y Rosario???

Custom messages are aimed at specific social sectors



Nicaragua Libre

Publicidad ·

La vision de el futuro.
Que vivan los estudiantes

FACEBOOK: NICARAGUA LIBRE



Political causes and movements are invented to create an internationalist feel, solidarity

A 274 personas les gusta esto



Comitato "Sandino" Italia

Publicidad

Esta pagina sostiene le lotte del popolo del Nicaragua contro la dittatura del...



Comitato "Sandino" Italia

Comunidad

274 Me gusta



contra nosotros evita una tragedia más grande queremos avanzar por un futuro mejor vos podés...

17

Me gusta

Comentar

A Flor De María Duarte Baez le gusta esto



Desaparecidos Del 19 Y 20 De Abril

Publicidad

Connect with Desaparecidos Del 19 Y 20 De Abril



Desaparecidos Del 19 Y 20 De Abril

Persona je público

5.049 Me gusta



Danar Narvaez

“Cuban soldiers”

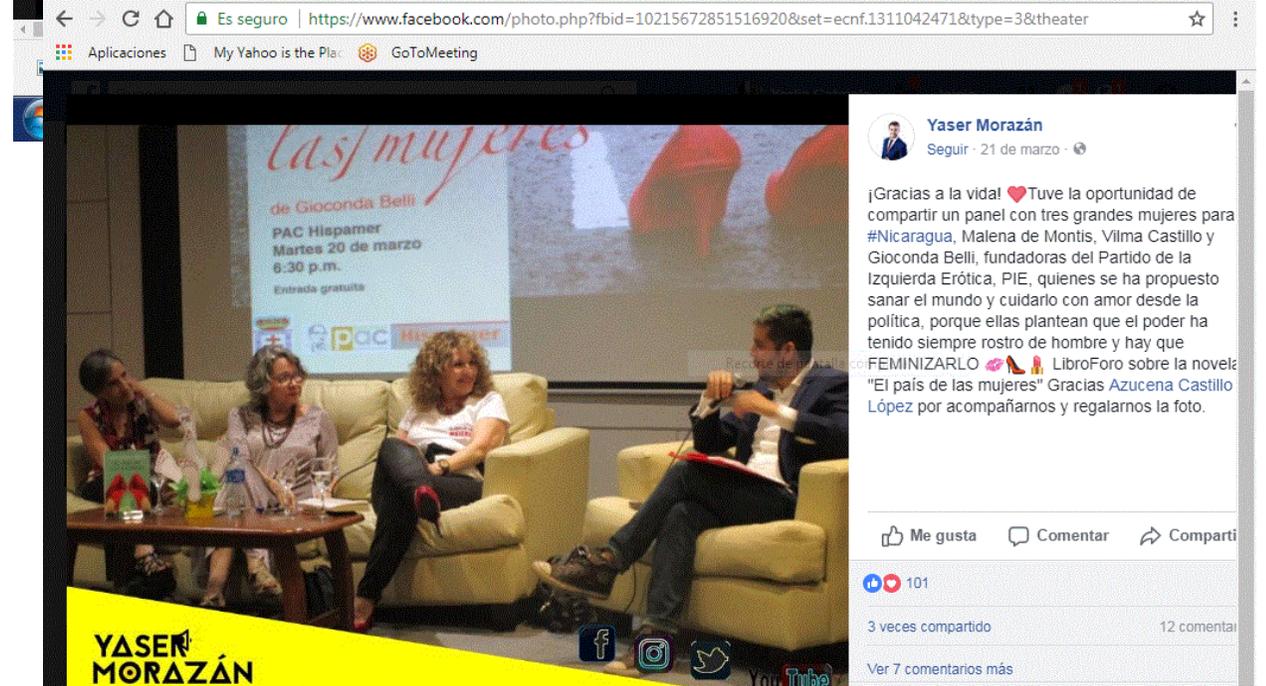


“The army in the streets”



Who were the Nicaraguans behind this sudden offensive?

- Social media “Influencers”
- NGO’s linked to the Sandinista Renovation Movement– a tiny, former leftist political party with very close ties to the US Embassy
- The vast majority of upper-middle class youth went hard for regime change, for several reasons



What preparation went into the attempted color revolution?

- 4-5 years of courses on topics such as Political Leadership and Management, financed by USAID, NED and the Catholic Church
- WhatsApp groups in every city that had been for classified ads, party scene became 100% insurreccional overnight



Who operated the 700 armed roadblocks and armed attacks against Sandinismo that shut down Nicaragua for three months?

- Weeks 1-2: many NGO staff, human rights organizations associated with the MRS/US Embassy
- Weeks 3-5: opposition political parties, paid pickets
- Weeks 6-10: people hired by organized crime, interests associated with drug trafficking



Sanctions, Nica Act and the War on Peace

- “Justification for international sanctions”
- Nica Act pushed Ros-Lehtinen, Ted Cruz, Marco Rubio
- Campaign of hostility everywhere
- Continuous financial support for destabilization efforts
- War of attrition (exhaustion and economic stranglehold)
- Permanent campaign against Cuba, Venezuela and Nicaragua
- 2018 Coup attempt, 2019 Nica Act and 2020 pandemic and two hurricanes

