

COLONIA DIGNIDAD
PHOTOGRAPHS

Grzegorz Ziółkowski



2025

COLONIA DIGNIDAD: PHOTOGRAPHS

Grzegorz Ziółkowski¹

Last updated: 1 September 2025

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DOI: [10.60629/pr25-y290](https://doi.org/10.60629/pr25-y290)

This document is one of the results of the author's research project titled "The Performative Realm of 'Colonia Dignidad,' a German Enclave in Chile, in Historical and Political Contexts" (*Performatywna strefa „Kolonii Godności”, niemieckiej enklawy w Chile, w kontekście historycznym i politycznym*), financed by grant no. 2021/43/B/HS2/00360 from the National Science Centre (*Narodowe Centrum Nauki*, NCN) under its OPUS 22 Programme.

See also other files containing research data resulting from the project:

- *Colonia Dignidad*: Annotated Catalogue of Archival Audiovisual Recordings from the Colonia Dignidad Progress Film Collection
- *Colonia Dignidad*: Collaborators, Supporters and Sympathizers
- *Colonia Dignidad*: Sources
- *Colonia Dignidad*: State Authorities in Chile and (West) Germany (1950s–2025)
- *Colonia Dignidad*: Timeline

In Spanish / *En español (castellano)*:

- *Colonia Dignidad*: Catálogo comentado de las grabaciones audiovisuales de archivo de la colección Colonia Dignidad Progress Film
- *Colonia Dignidad*: Cronología

All files are available at: http://grzeg.home.amu.edu.pl/?page_id=4310.

Contents

- **14 embroideries, including *Colonia Dignidad*** (pp. **3–4**)
- ***Colonia Dignidad* (CD)**
 - Germany: Heide, Hennef-Heisterschloss, Siegburg, Troisdorf (p. **5**)
 - Parral in the Maule Region, Chile (pp. **6–7**)
 - *Villa Baviera* and its surroundings in the Parral Commune, Chile (pp. **8–14**)
 - The *Casino Familiar* restaurant located between Bulnes and Quillón, Chile (pp. **15–17**)
 - Santiago de Chile:
 - The house in 512 Calle Román Díaz (p. **18**)
 - The CD house in 817 Campos de Deportes (p. **18**)
 - Cárcel de Alta Seguridad* (p. **19**)
 - Paul Schäfer's gravestone in the *Parque de Recuerdo Cordillera* (p. **19**)
- **Sites of memory and places of interest**
 - Cologne, Germany: The National Socialism Documentation Centre (*EL-DE Haus*) (p. **20**)
 - Santiago de Chile:
 - Casa Memoria José Domingo Cañas 1367* (p. **21**)
 - Cementerio Católico de Maipú*: the grave of Eduardo Miño Perez (p. **22**)

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² If you would like to share any comments or make corrections to this document, please contact the author (e-mail: grzegorz.ziolkowski@amu.edu.pl). All improvements are most welcome and would be greatly appreciated.

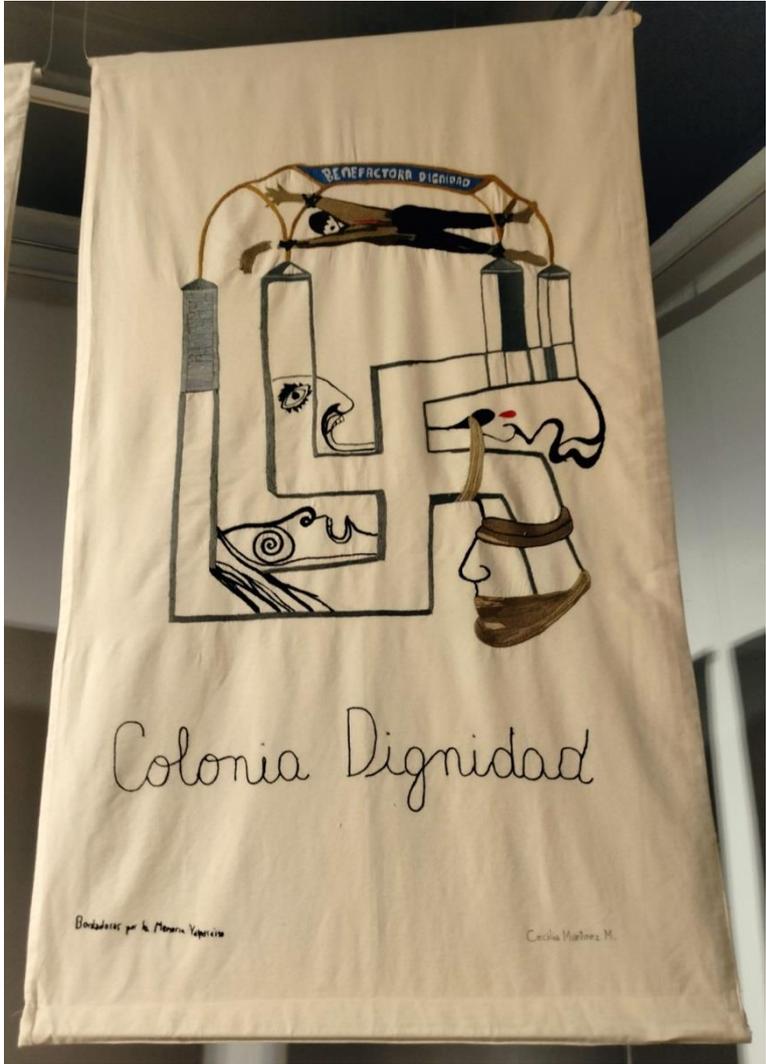
- Cementerio General & Patio 29 (pp. **23–26 & 27**)
- Corporación Parque por la Paz Villa Grimaldi (pp. **28–29**)
- Corte Suprema (p. **30**)
- Cuartel Borgoño de la Central Nacional de Informaciones (p. **31**)
- Edificio Diego Portales (p. **32**)
- Estadio Nacional, Memoria Nacional (p. **33**)
- Ex Centro de Detención Clínica Santa Lucía (p. **34**)
- Londres 38 Espacio de Memorias (p. **35**)
- Monument of Salvador Allende Gossens & Palacio La Moneda (p. **36**)
- Mural depicting Salvador Allende in the Barrio Yungay (p. **37**)
- Museo de la Memoria y los Derechos Humanos (pp. **38–40**)
- Talca: Lugar de Memoria Adriana Bórquez Adriazola (p. **41**)
- Valparaíso
 - Cementerio no. 3 (p. **42**)
 - Monumento a los Detenidos Desaparecidos y Ejecutados Políticos por la Dictadura Militar (p. **43**)
- La Serena: Memorial de los Detenidos Desaparecidos y Ejecutados Políticos IV Región (p. **43**)

• 14 embroideries, including Colonia Dignidad





The embroideries were dedicated to the period of civic-military dictatorship in Chile (1973–90). They were created by members of the *Bordadoras por la Memoria Valparaíso* collective in 2023 and exhibited at the *Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes* in Santiago de Chile as part of the exhibition titled ‘*Acontecer 50 años. Colección MNBA y organizaciones de memoria*’ (7 Dec 2023 – 31 Mar 2024), organised to mark the 50th anniversary of the 1973 coup d’état; 31 Jan 2024



Colonia Dignidad by Cecilia Martínez M. (embroiderer) and Alfonso Ruíz Pajarito (design) (2023); 31 Jan 2024

• *Colonia Dignidad (CD)*

◦ Germany: Heide, Hennef-Heisterschloss, Siegburg, Troisdorf



From top left: Heide near Lohmar, the former house of the *Private Sociale Mission (PSM)* in Heide; the house of the PSM in Hennef-Heisterschloss, 32 Südweg; 54 Mühlenstrasse in Siegburg where PSM ran one of its grocery stores; 83 Wolsdorferstrasse and 2 Michaelstrasse in Siegburg where PSM had its offices; 5 Wilhelmstrasse in Troisdorf where Paul Schäfer's mother lived; 10 Jun 2025

○ Parral in the Maule Region, Chile



From the top left: the *Colonia* house in 262 Ignacio Carrera Pinto (earlier *La Unión*); the *Juzgado de Letras* (Court of Letters); the prison; *Sala de Toma de Muestra* (Sample Collection Room), Villa Baviera; inscriptions on the monument for the Forcibly Disappeared (*Detenidos Desaparecidos*), located in the Parish Cemetery Jan José; 15 Jan & 13 Dec 2024



The monument in memory of the *Detenidos Desaparecidos*, inaugurated on 12 Dec 1998; 13 Dec 2024

o *Villa Baviera* and its surroundings in the Parral Commune, Chile





On two previous pages: the road leading from Catillo to *Villa Baviera* (VB); the school founded by the colony in 1985; the obelisk next to the school; the chapel belonging to the Diocese of Linares; bridge over the Lavadero stream; fence erected in late 1980s; entrance to an underground bunker located near the access road to VB; interior of the bunker; the so-called: 'Rock of the Vigil' (*Roca de la Vigilia*), 'Stone Theatre' (*Teatro de Piedra*), 'Galpón' (gatehouse), and 'Zippelhaus' (now a restaurant), Hotel Baviera; 16 Jan & 12 Dec 2024



Above: interior of the *Zippelhaus*, including stage with lights on the ceiling; below: the *Freihaus*; on the next page: door leading from Schäfer's flat to his bathroom (demolished), bullet marks visible on the bulletproof glass; door to Schäfer's flat; gong brought from West Germany; the *Museo Colonial* (Colonial Museum) opened by VB in 2016; artefacts in the museum: part of the poster with a timeline; the logo of the colony (nurse taking care of children); faces of the first settlers; Schäfer's armchair; 16 Jan & 12 Dec 2024

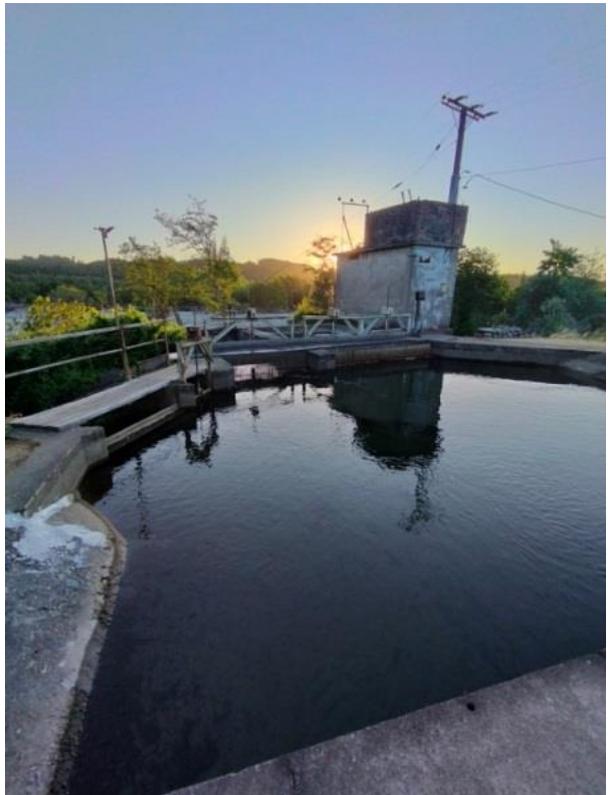






Above: the colony's former hospital, presently a medical post; below: entrance to a former torture site, known as 'Potato Cellar' (*Kartoffelkeller*, *Bodega de Papas*); inside the cellar; 16 Jan 2024





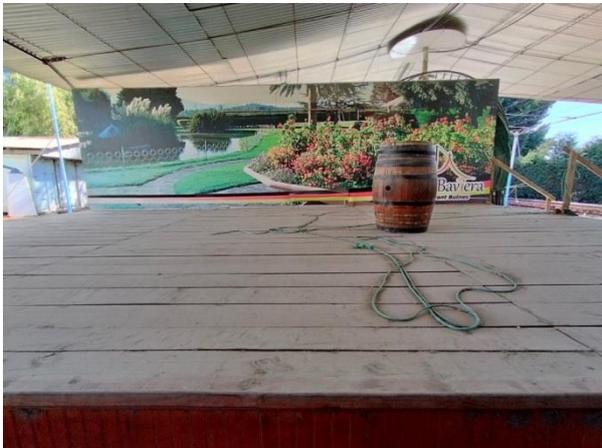
Above: *Galpón de Paja* (in its underground another torture chamber was located); *Neukra* (New Hospital, presently a residential building); turbine canal and turbines; 6 Feb 2024



A monument dedicated to *Detenidos Desaparecidos* (2014), located next to the Trabuncura bridge, on the southern bank of the Perquillauquén river; 5 Feb 2024

o The *Casino Familiar* restaurant located between Bulnes and Quillón
2 Feb 2024







○ Santiago de Chile:

The house in 512 Calle Román Díaz where CD had its office; 21 Jan 2024



The CD house in 817 Avenida Campos de Deportes; 13 Jan 2024



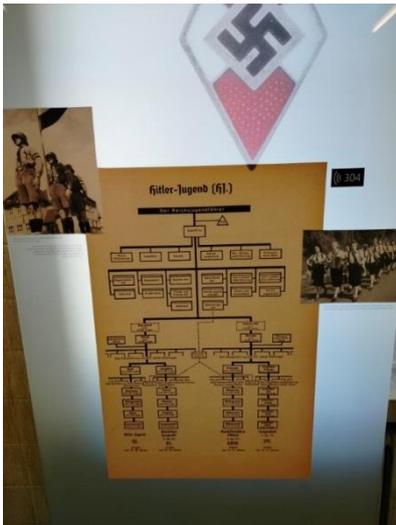
On the next page: *Cárcel de Alta Seguridad* (High Security Prison) and Paul Schäfer's gravestone in the *Parque de Recuerdo Cordillera*; 21 Jan 2024



• Sites of memory and places of interest

○ Cologne, Germany

The National Socialism Documentation Centre (*EL-DE Haus*); 12 Jun 2025



○ Santiago de Chile:

Casa Memoria José Domingo Cañas 1367; 1 Feb 2024

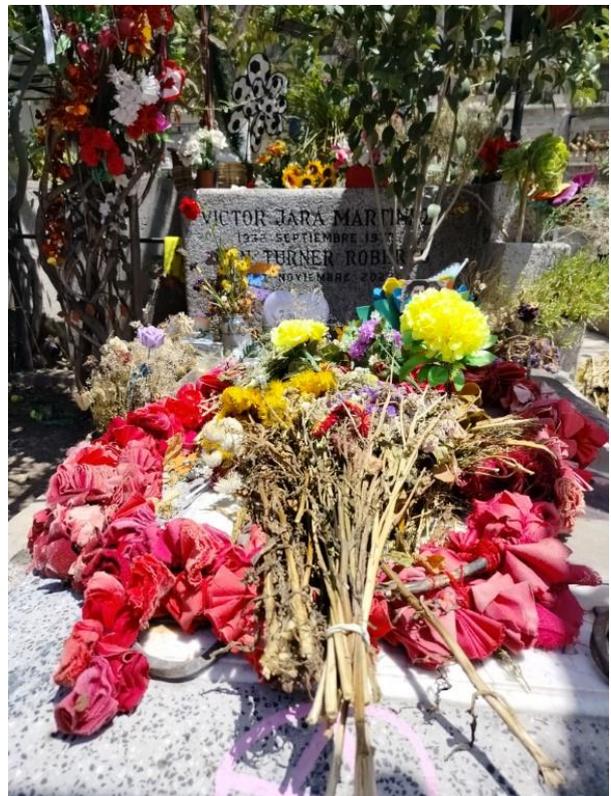


Cementerio Católico de Maipú: the grave of Eduardo Miño Pérez; 27 Jan 2024



“30 November 2001 – **Eduardo Miño Pérez** (aged 50) of Santiago, a member of the Communist Party of Chile and father of three, set himself on fire and stabbed himself in the stomach outside the La Moneda presidential palace. In a pamphlet he distributed to passersby before the incident, he stressed that he was of sound mind and identified himself as a member of the Chilean Association of Asbestos Victims. In the pamphlet, he brought up the plight of people suffering from black lung, unemployed and destitute, and protested against imperialist wars and pervasive globalisation. He later died from the injuries sustained in the incident.”

Ziółkowski, Grzegorz. *A Cruel Theatre of Self-Immolations: Contemporary Suicide Protests by Fire and Their Resonances in Culture*. Routledge, 2020, p. 69.









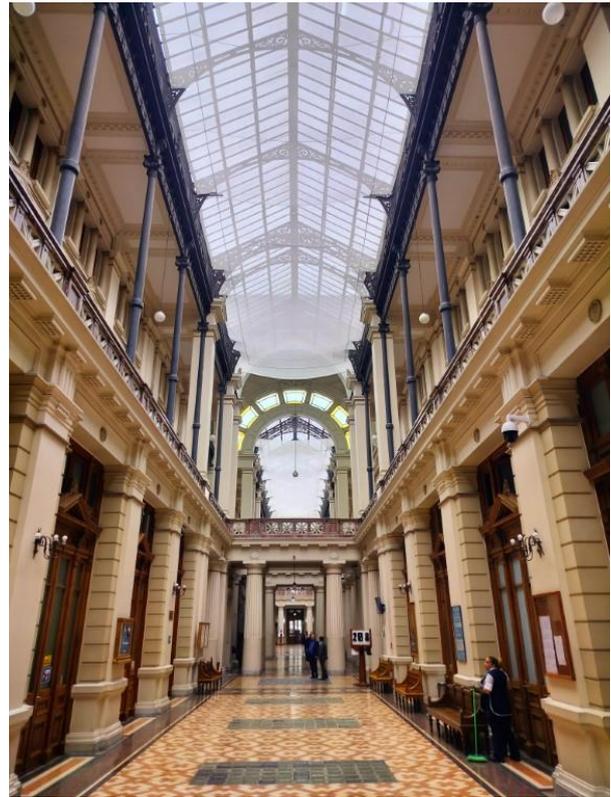
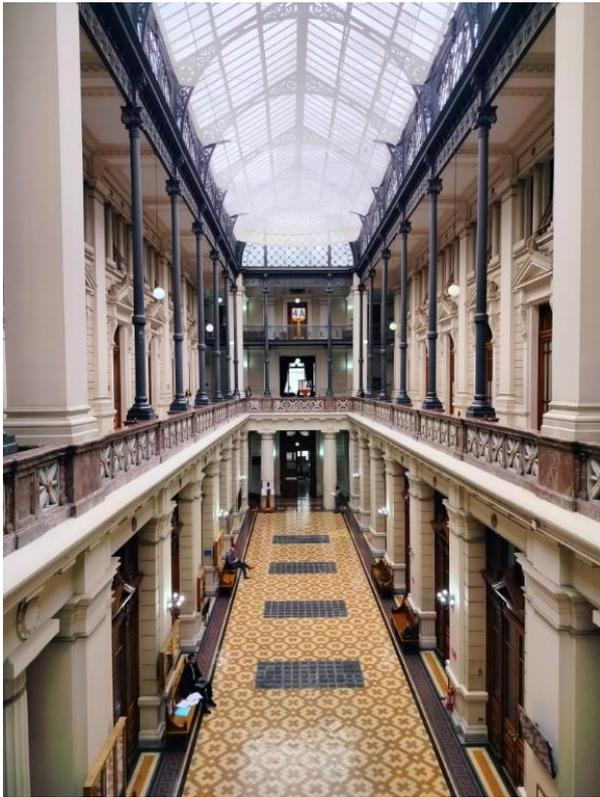
Patio 29, Cementerio General; 1 Feb 2024



Corporación Parque por la Paz Villa Grimaldi; 14 Jan 2024







A graffiti in front of the Supreme Court. UDI (*Unión Demócrata Independiente*, Independent Democratic Union) is a far right-wing Chilean political party.



Edificio Diego Portales; 28 Jan 2024







Bottom right: inside the clinic during a performance titled 'DINA 1974 – La Clínica', staged by the Compañía Agrupación Teatro en Casa, dir. Nicolas Fernandois and Marcelo Salinas.



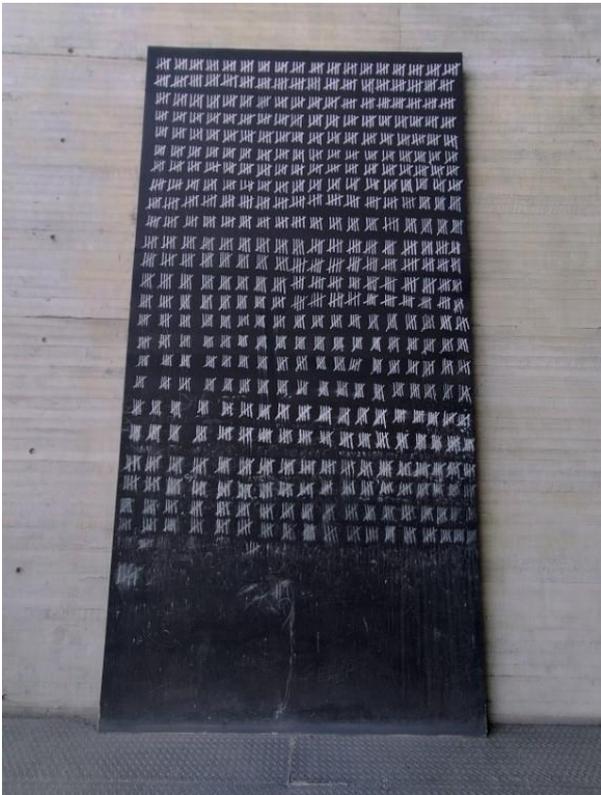
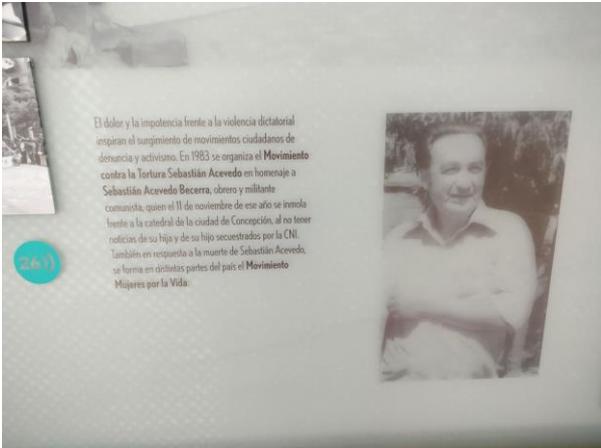
Monument of Salvador Allende & *Palacio La Moneda*; 11 & 24 Jan 2024

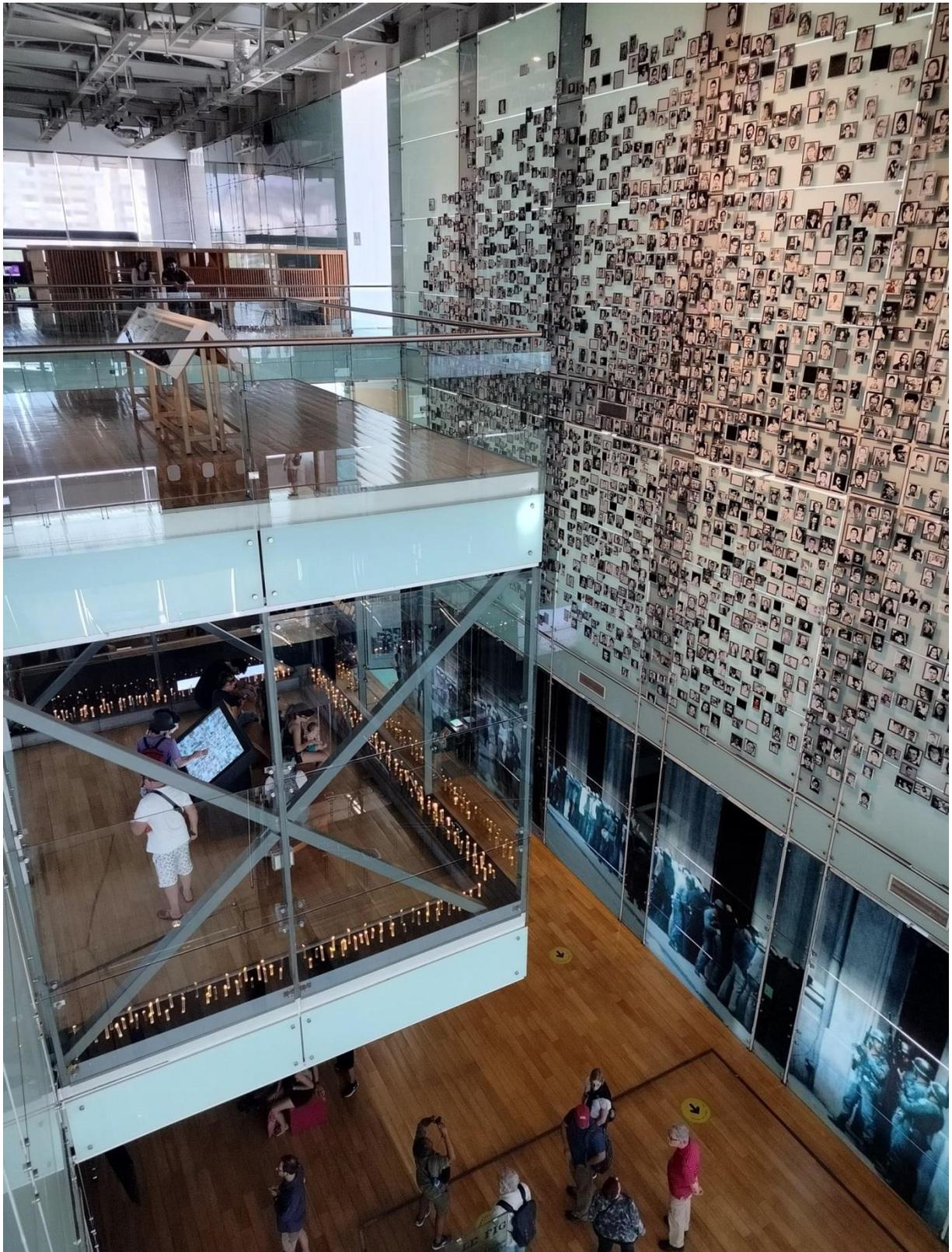


Mural depicting Salvador Allende in the *Barrio Yungay*; 10 Jan 2024



Museo de la Memoria y los Derechos Humanos; 9-10 Jan & 26 Nov 2024





Poster exhibition in the museum patio commemorating the 50th anniversary of the coup d'état in Chile; 10 Jan 2024



o Talca: *Lugar de Memoria Adriana Bórquez Adriazola (1936–2019)*
17 Jan 2024



o Valparaíso

Playa Ancha, Cementerio no. 3: Mural dedicated to *Forcibly Disappeared and Politically Executed Persons*; 4 & 7Jan 2024



Monumento a los Detenidos Desaparecidos y Ejecutados Políticos por la Dictadura Militar, 5 Jan 2024



◦ *La Serena: Memorial de los Detenidos Desaparecidos y Ejecutados Políticos IV Región; 6 Dec 2024*

