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UNIVERSIDAD  
CATÓLICA DE  
VALPARAÍSO

# PATRICIO AYLWIN AND THE RECOVERY OF DEMOCRACY

(MATERIAL FOR SEGUNDO MEDIO)



## LEARNING OBJECTIVE:

Analyze Patricio Aylwin's role within the factors that influenced the process of recovering democracy during the 1980s.

## EXPECTED RESULTS:

- Describe the political transition strategy of the Chilean political opposition in the 1980s.
- Explain the role of Patricio Aylwin as a key actor in the recovery of democracy.

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR TEACHERS:

- Previous knowledge to be handled: Democratic Alliance, Group of 24, Christian Democracy, characteristics of the political center in Chile, concept of *Constitutional Assembly*.
- The activity is designed to take place before, during and after the museum visit. It is suggested to work with the material in pairs or groups, so that they may compare opinions when analyzing sources.
- Learning objective (Objetivo de aprendizaje – OA in Spanish): OA 19, as stated in the curriculum for 2° medio History, Geography, and Social Sciences.
- Historical thinking skill: historical evidence.

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Translation: Sofía Latoja, translator/ Rosa Basaure, editor. Universidad de Santiago de Chile

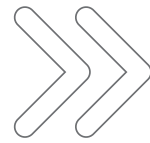
Sponsored by: Patricio Aylwin Azócar Personal Office Museum / Pontificia Universidad Católica de Valparaíso.

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## BEFORE THE VISIT: THE ROLE OF PATRICIO AYLWIN DURING THE TRANSITION

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**GRADE:** \_\_\_\_\_

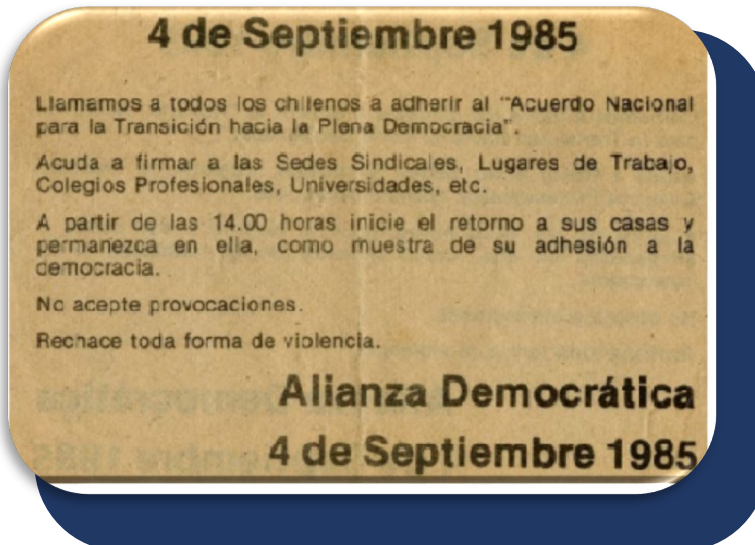
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### INSTRUCTIONS:

Before visiting the museum, we will identify Patricio Aylwin's strategy to defeat the military dictatorship.

Considering the two sources provided below, answer the questions.

1



2

*"(...) I believe an important decision was to try to defeat the military regime using its own game rules.*

*In general, in Latin American countries the opposition forces would try to overthrow totalitarian governments with another coup. One dictatorship was overthrown by another dictatorship. We, fortunately, defeated Pinochet using the very institutions he himself created, without altering too much or compromising what we might call the peaceful coexistence among Chileans (...)." Pages 1 and 2*



*“When the 1980 Constitution was voted in a plebiscite without any guarantees, we denounced the illegitimacy of that Constitution. However, by 1984, some of us began to suggest putting aside the discussion of the legitimacy of the Constitution and accepting it as a reality. The idea was to register political parties under Pinochet’s law of political parties, which we didn’t like, go to the plebiscite, which we also didn’t like, and defeat the regime using its own rules (...).” Page 4*

(Interview with President Patricio Aylwin, January 23, 2012). Retrieved from:  
<https://fundacionaylwin.cl/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/2.-Entrevista-con-Patricio-Aylwin.pdf>)

Based on the interview with Patricio Aylwin, how would you explain the phrase “defeat the military regime using its own game rules”?

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Considering the information in source 1, what type of characteristics or mechanisms will the strategy to defeat the military dictatorship have?

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Considering the historical context, why do you think it was so important to summon the (politically diverse) society to participate in the process?

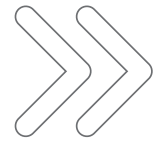
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## DURING THE VISIT: FROM DICTATORSHIP TO DEMOCRACY



**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**GRADE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

### INSTRUCTIONS:

As you walk through exhibition room 1, look for the section where reference is made regarding the work of Patricio Aylwin and the opposition to end the dictatorship and, ultimately, restore democracy to Chile. Complete the activity below.



1. Review each of the displayed sources and select at least three concepts that are related to the “NO” strategy (for example: *agreement*)

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2. Listen carefully to the jingle of the “NO” campaign. What ideas are behind the concept “La alegría ya viene” (The joy is coming)?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IFAMpW0hPNY>

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3. Why can we affirm that the concepts you selected are important to defend in a transition process from a dictatorship to a democracy?

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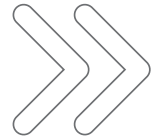
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## AFTER THE VISIT: THE MEANING OF “NO”



**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**GRADE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

### INSTRUCTIONSS:

Read the following source and answer below.

*“The parties united for the ‘NO’ have agreed to participate in this process because we understand that the plebiscite gives the people an opportunity to express their will regarding the future of Chile (...)*

*With this in mind, the democratic parties have said that by voting ‘NO,’ Chileans will be voting against Pinochet, his regime, and his constitutional path, and we will be advocating for a return to democracy through the holding of free elections as soon as possible (...).”*

Excerpt from the article by Patricio Aylwin titled “El significado del No”, June 16, 1988, page 2.

Retrieved from:

<https://fundacionaylwin.cl/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/APA-1388.pdf>



Considering the information from the source, what was the intention of the opposition in deciding to support the 'NO' option during the plebiscite?

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Reflect: What role did Chilean society and democracy play in the end of the military dictatorship?

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Do you think that analyzing these historical moments is useful for addressing current issues? Justify your answer.

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## EVALUATION GUIDELINE

The following are the evaluation criteria that will guide your responses. Remember to review them each time you answer a question.

Criteria	Description
Transition to democracy and Patricio Aylwin's role	Describe, relate, and reflect coherently with the historical context on the campaign for the "NO" option, defended by the opposition with the goal of ending the military dictatorship in Chile.
Use of historical evidence	Identify, compare, relate, and reflect coherently with the content of the historical sources studied, regarding the campaign for the "NO" option in the process of transition to democracy in Chile.