

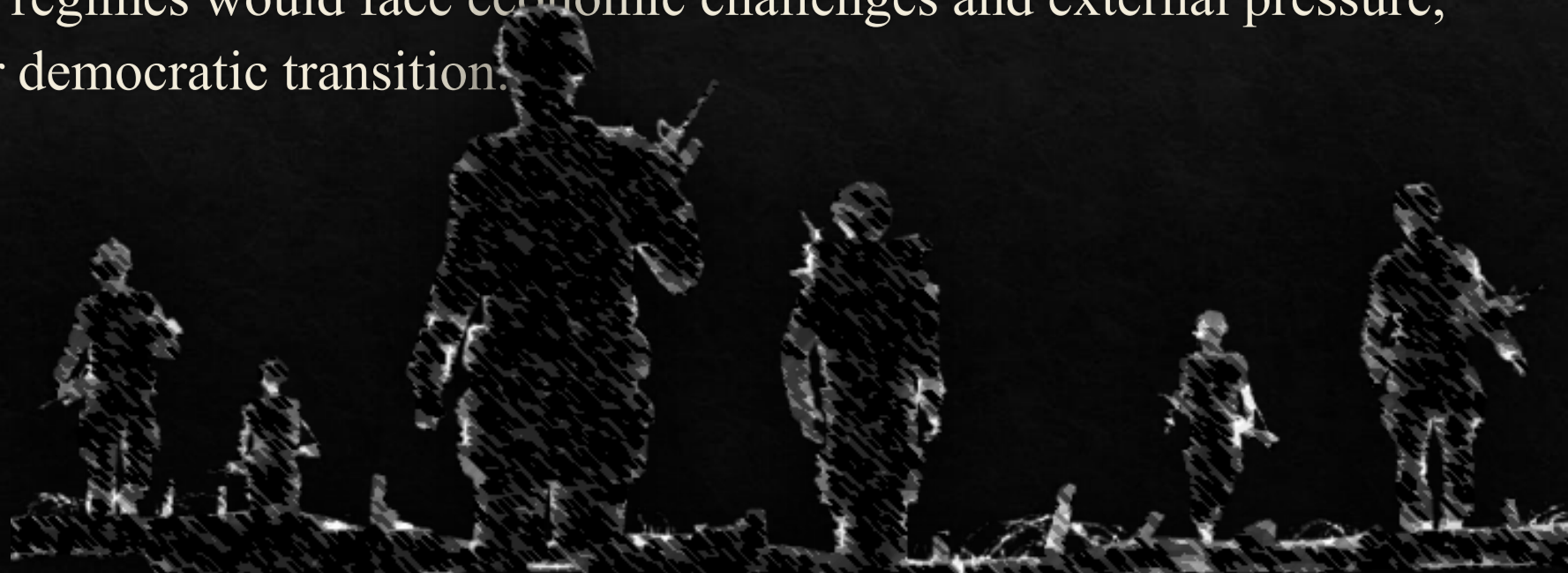


“THE DICTATORSHIPS IN GREECE, SPAIN AND PORTUGAL”

13.11.2024

Introduction.

During much of the 20th century, southern Europe was dominated by authoritarian Regimes which held power and strict control over civil liberties. It is interesting how these dictatorships shared common means and traits, including their way of seizing their power (coups), their strong anti-communist stance, censorship and systematic repression. However, each one of them had their own identity, leaving different imprints in their country. The 1970's was the decade these regimes would face economic challenges and external pressure, leading to their fall and their democratic transition.

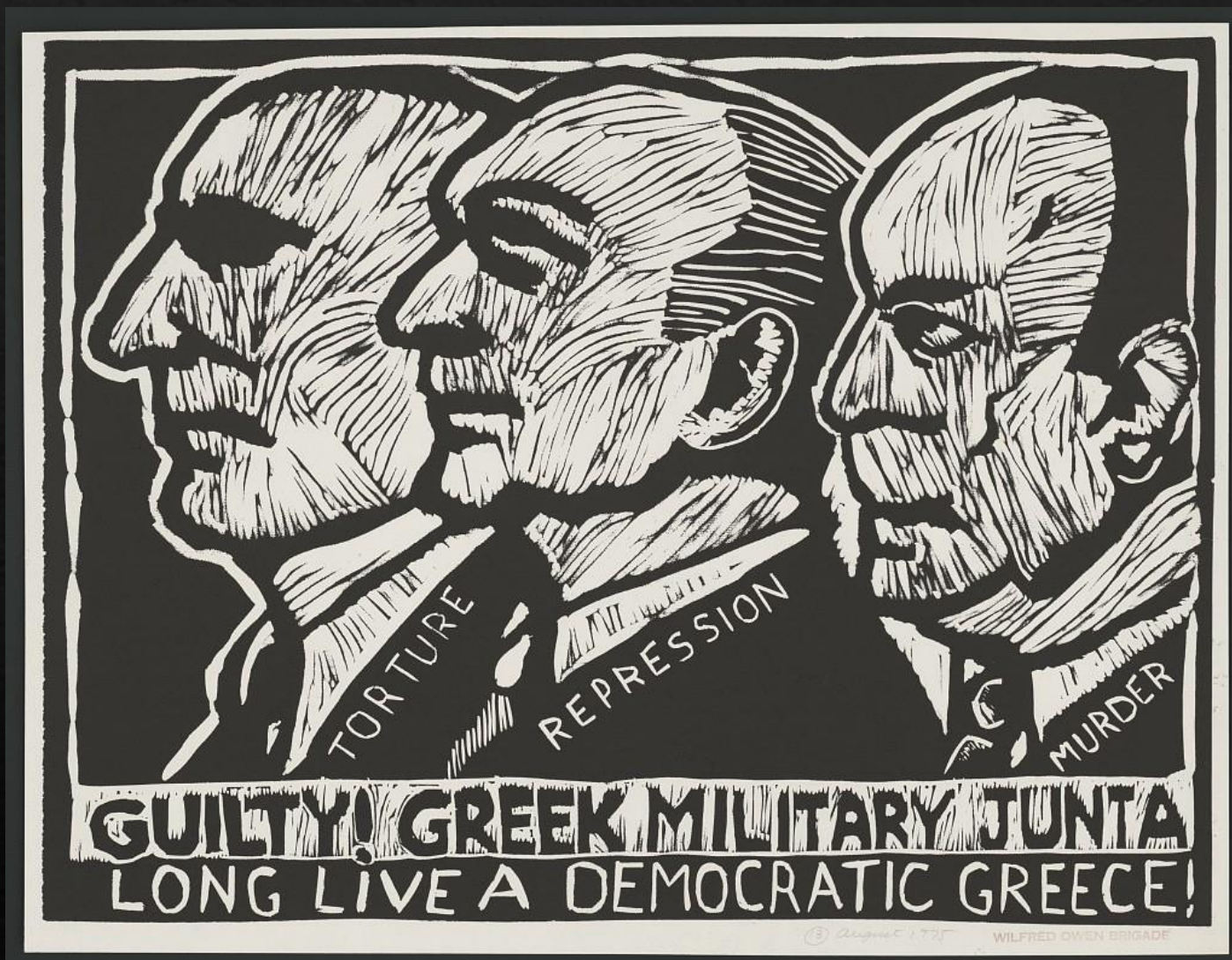


Brief introduction of the dictatorships.

The Greek Case (1967-1974) : “Regime of the Colonels”

- Right-wing authoritarian government led by a group of colonels who seized power on April 21, 1967.
- Anti-communism, nationalism and opposition to parliamentary democracy.
- New constitution introduced in 1968.
- Suspension of freedom of thought and the press, strict censorship and widespread propaganda.





- Dissolvment of political parties, military courts, extensive arrests, exiles, torture, and surveillance, especially targeting Leftist opponents.
- Lack of a coherent ideology, long-term political goals, and economic strategy, which weakened its position over time.
- Athens Polytechnic Rising, 1973
- The Junta collapsed with the Turkish invasion in Cyprus in July 1974.

"BREAD, EDUCATION, FREEDOM"



(Athens Polytechnic Rising, 17th November 1973.)

The Spanish Case (1939-1975): “Francisco Franco”

- Military dictatorship after winning the Spanish Civil War (1936-1939), **"El Caudillo"** (The Leader).
- One-party state, merging conservative and nationalist factions into the Falange Española, a fascist-oriented party.
- 190 concentration camps, executions, forced labor, poor conditions.



what kind of regime?

- Censorship on all media, severe restriction of women's rights, suppression of democratic ideas, criminalization of homosexuality.
- International isolation, exclusion from Marshall Plan, economic autarky.

- Easement of the repression in 1960's, international engagement.
- 1975: Death of Francisco Franco
- New possible leader: Prince Juan Carlos (failed)
- Road to Democracy



The Portuguese Case (1933-1974): “Estado Novo”



Antonio de Oliveira Salazar

Agreed with:

- Fascist ideology and autocracy.
- Nationalism.
- Traditional Catholicism.
- Idea of Portugal as a transcontinental nation.
- Colonialism.

Opposed to:

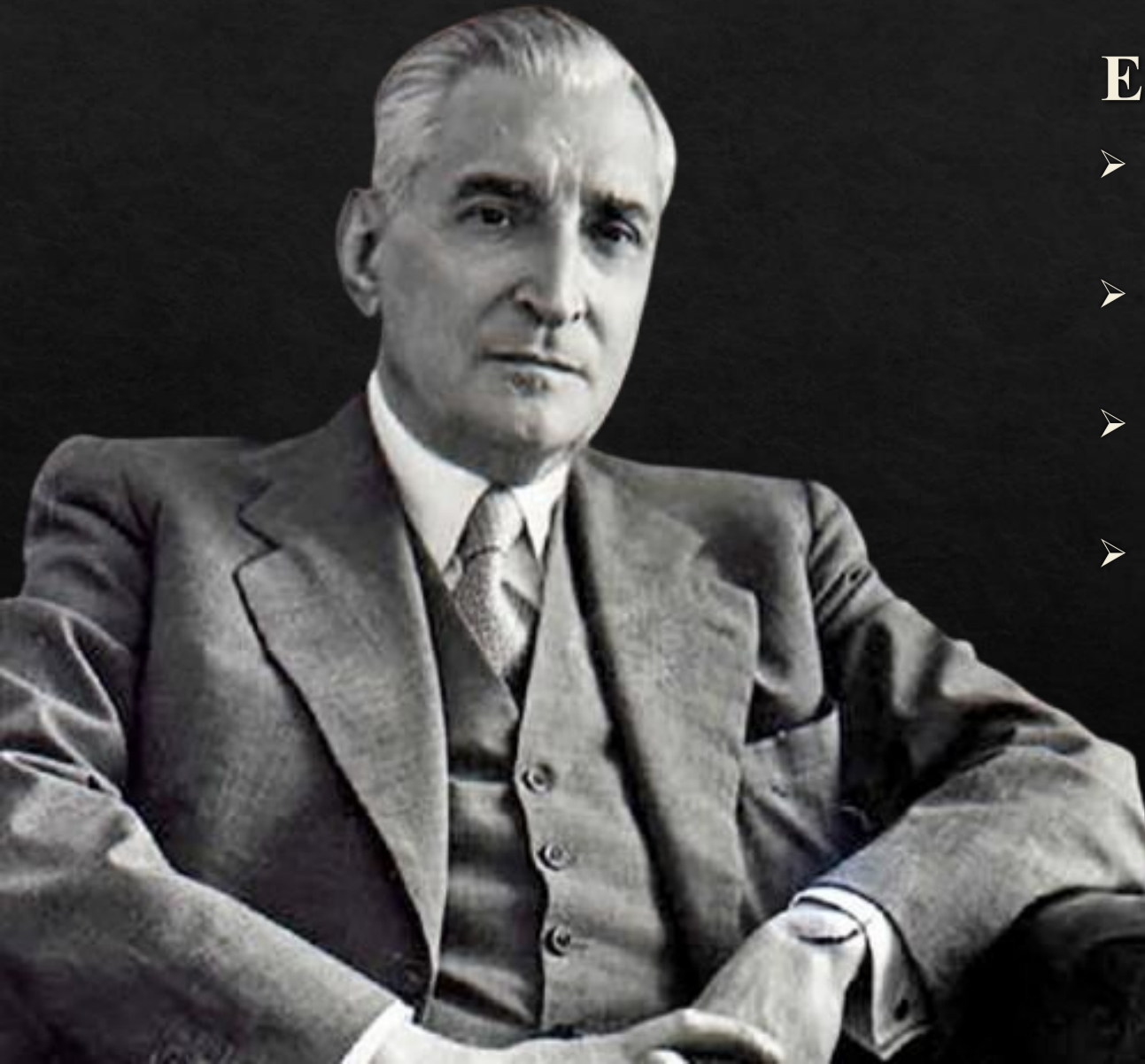
- Communism, socialism, syndicalism, and anarchism.
- Women’s rights.
- Freedom of speech .
- Political and civil rights.
- Political parties.

The Portuguese **Empire** (1415-1999)

During the Estado Novo, Portugal had control over the colonies of:

- **(Africa):** Angola, Mozambique, Cape Verde, Guinea Bissau, Sao Tome and Principe.
- **(Asia):** Goa, Daman, Diu, East Timor, Macau.
- **Colonial War in Africa (1961-1974):** 13 year old conflict that ended with the Carnation Revolution.
- **Last Colony:** 1999, **Macao.**





Establishment of **power**

- National Union (single party)
- Youth Organization
- Paramilitary Groups
- Secret Police force (PIDE)





How the EC responded to the dictatorship in Greece during the period 1967-74.





- Association Agreement, July 1961.
- Limitation in 1967 due to the Regime's incompatibility with the democratic values.
- Members of the European Parliament: accountability of the Colonels.
- Criticism.
- Limited economic relations.
- Support for exiled Greek politicians.
- Democracy: Key to the EC

The attitude of the EC to relations with the Spanish and Portuguese dictatorships in the 1960s and up to their fall in 1974/75.



- Trade agreement, 1970
- Isolation but Not Full Exclusion
- Opposition to Franco's non-democratic values.



- International Environment Against Portuguese colonialism.
- Non membership due to incompatibility of values.
- EFTA, 1960



- Criticisms of human rights violations
- Encouragement for Democratic change.

Road to Democracy.



(1981)



(1986)

Why **entrance**?

The end of the dictatorship era in each case, marked a turning point towards the EC. The reasons were:

1. **Alignment with EC's principles:** promotion of human rights, stability, freedom of speech, democratic governance etc.
2. **Mutual benefits:** economic aid, trade opportunities and protection while the EC would expand its influence and power.
3. The EC could not deny their entry due to their economic state because its true belief that their integration would help with their **stability**



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Thank you for your attention!

