



¡El Coqui Libre!

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PUERTO RICAN POLITICAL PRISONER NINA DROZ FRANCO IS FREE!

By Raquel Reichard |
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On Tuesday, Puerto Rican political prisoner Nina Droz was released from a federal prison in Tallahassee, Florida, where she served 37 months for participating in a May 2017 paro nacional demonstration on the archipelago protesting austerity measures, Telemundo PR reports.

Droz was one of 20 protesters who were arrested during the May 1, 2017 demonstration against the Puerto Rico Oversight, Management and Economic Stability Act (PROMESA), the unelected fiscal control board the act created, education budget cuts and workers' rights, which brought 60,000 people out to the streets.

Droz, a former art teacher and model, was accused of attempting to burn a Banco Popular facility in Hato Rey. The young woman was the only demonstrator prosecuted by federal authorities.

Her arrest caused outrage across Puerto Rico and social media when her defense said she was being treated unfairly at the Metropolitan Detention Center in Guaynabo. According to her legal team, Droz, who wasn't offered bail, was kept alone at the police station, where officers barred family visits and limited baths to three times a week.

"There is no valid reason for her prosecution and much less deprived of her freedom. Nina was chosen as a scapegoat for the purpose of silencing the voice of the people in their just demands," the Comité de Amigxs y Familiares de Nina, a support group, said in a statement, according to Metro Puerto Rico. "The committee recognizes in Nina the integration of young people in the social struggles of the country as we saw it in the demonstrations of last summer and in the struggles of students claiming that the state's public university is the center teacher where education is guaranteed to the poor sectors of our society."

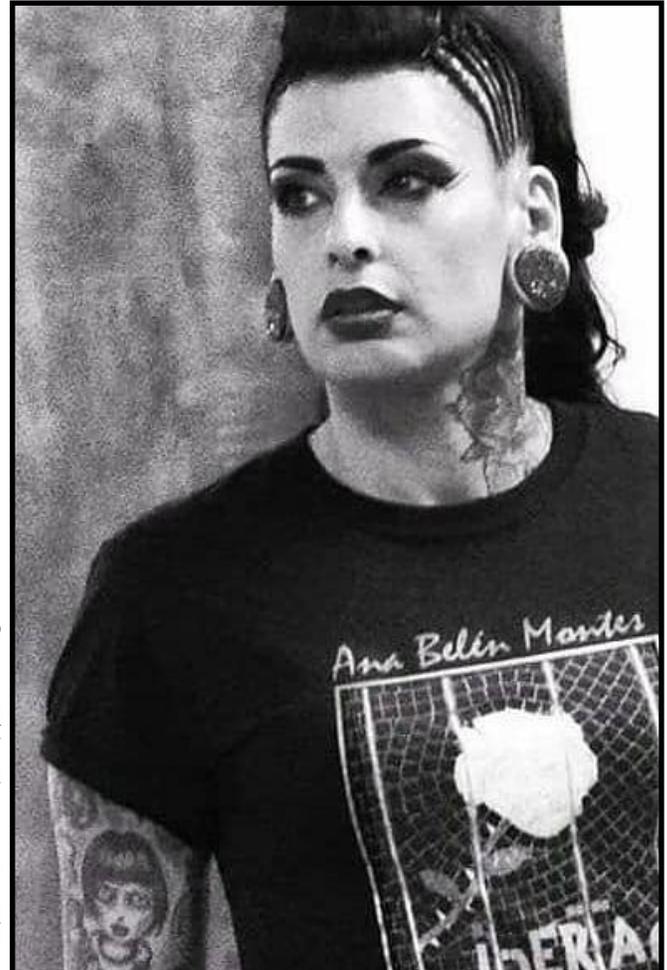
While Droz pled guilty, the woman's mother, Aurea Franco, told reporters in July 2017 she did it after consultation with attorneys who told her she would likely be found guilty, regardless of her alleged innocence.

Nearly a year later, on June 12, 2018, and after 13 months in jail, Judge Aida Delgado declared Droz guilty of conspiracy, one of seven charges against her. She was sentenced to 37 months in prison at the Federal Correctional Institution, a women's prison in Florida.

Droz arrived in Puerto Rico on Tuesday, where supporters embraced her return.

"Today, we welcome Nina with open arms. We value her high sense of dignity, courage and sacrifice," the Comité de Amigxs y Familiares de Nina said.

Droz is required to serve three years of probation and pay a \$100 fine.



Nina Droz Franco after her release!



SUPPORT THE NINA DROZ FRANCO GOFUNDME ACCOUNT!



The ProLibertad Freedom Campaign is calling on our allies and supporters to join us this holiday season and Support the Nina Droz Franco GoFundMe Account!

This GoFundMe Account was created by Nina's support committee in Puerto Rico, which is comprised of her family and friends. This is the account they are circulating throughout social media

Transitioning into civilian life isn't easy! Nina has to deal with transportation issues, medical expenses, and other costs. Nina's mother is elderly and cannot afford to support them both! We recognize that the holiday season is expensive, but we ask you to dig deep and help out. Even a simple donation of \$5 helps Nina become more stable and self-sufficient!

Any and all donations are greatly appreciated!

Go to the ProLibertad website: www.ProLibertad.org and on the front page you will find a link to her GoFundMe Account, click it and you'll be able to donate.

Happy Holidays and Thank you for your support!



PROLIBERTAD RESOURCE PAGE:



SEND PROLIBERTAD A DONATION!

If you're interested in sending ProLibertad a

donation, please visit our website, www.ProLibertad.org, and click the banner at the bottom of every page and go to our Alliance for Global Justice Fundraising page and send us a donation! Every dollar helps us!

FOLLOW PROLIBERTAD ON ALL OUR SOCIAL MEDIA/YouTube:

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[Facebook.com/ProLibertadFC](https://www.facebook.com/ProLibertadFC)

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Subscribe to our YouTube Channel:
ProLibertadTV on YouTube

JOIN THE PROLIBERTAD FREEDOM CAMPAIGN:

You have the power to free Nina and Ana.
Join ProLibertad and help us:

- Organize a community workshop;
- Put together a letter writing night;
- Facilitate a community discussion on Puerto Rico;
- Get your union or school to pass a resolution calling for the prisoner's freedom;
 - Dedicate a mass to the prisoners.

Come to one of our meetings!

Contact us at 718-601-4751!

Email us at

[ProLibertad@hotmail.com!](mailto:ProLibertad@hotmail.com)



ProLibertad Freedom Campaign

For over 25 years, the ProLibertad Freedom Campaign has been working for the release of the Puerto Rican Political Prisoners. With the release of 11 of the Political Prisoners in September 1999, we re-dedicated our efforts to securing the freedom of the remaining Puerto Rican political prisoners. Through educational events, lobbying and public pressure work and activities it is our goal to secure the freedom of these patriots whose only "crime" has been the love of their home land, Puerto Rico. We support the release of All U.S.

held Political Prisoners, oppose the U.S. colonial control of Puerto Rico, oppose U.S. imperialism throughout the world, and the U.S. military presence in Vieques. For more information contact us at: ProLibertad@Hotmail.com, at 718-601-4751, or visit our website www.ProLibertad.org