The origins of competing claims to land in East Central Europe In-kind restitution as a problem of fair division

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Hungary's "layering of claims"

• 1) the Jewish owner expropriated by the Nazis;

1945

1960s

1989

- 2) the Arian benefactor, awarded the Jewish land by the Nazis and then expropriated by the Socialist coalition
 - 3) the landless peasant first endowed by the Communists to be later expropriated by collectivization, and
 - 4) the farm worker who used the land during the communist period and is in possession of it at the time of transition

Restitution as a claims problem

- How to divide a homogenous, perfectly divisible good, t, among n agents with competing claims
 claims vector x=(x₁, x₂,..., x_n)
- Competing claims: total sum of claims exceeds the amount of the good that is available: ∑_ix_i≥t
- Allocation rules associate an awards vector with each amount of good to be allocate and claims vector

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F:R<sup>n</sup>×R\squareR F(x,t): y, where y=(y_1, y_2, ..., y_n) is the allotment
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Fig 3: Hungary before and after WWII







Poland before September 1, 1939



Fig1: The effects of the Ribbentrop-Molotov Pact



Fig 2: Poland before and after WWII



Source: Wikipedia: http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/7/75/Map_of_Poland_(194)

Fig 4: Czechoslovakia before WWII



Fig. 5a Dynamics behind historical layering of claims



Fig 5b: Dynamics behind historical layering of claims con'd

Post- Stalinist Period



Czechoslovakia



Czechoslovakia continued

Post- Stalinist Period



Hungary



Hungary cn'd

Post- Stalinist Period



Poland



Poland cn'd

Post- Stalinist Period



Fig. 6: % of Collectively owned land in Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic



Fig 7: Hungarian I Compensation Law



Lessons for Colombia

- Every time a bad land reform is implemented, it potentially creates another potential layer of historical claims
- Bad reforms are worse than no reforms
- Every act of expropriation and redistribution claims to rely on some principles of justice

Categories of claimants based on citizenship

- 1. citizens of the country where expropriations took place both at the time they were carried out and at the time when claims were made;
- 2. citizens of the country where the expropriations took place at the time they occurred, but fled the country following the expropriation and are no longer its citizens at the time they are making claims;
- 3. not citizens at the time of the expropriation, but citizens at the time they are making claims;
- 4. not citizens in either period.

Desirable properties of allocation rules

- Equity (standard of comparison, just transfers)
- Proportionality
- Efficiency
- Continuity
- Monotonicity (population and land)
- Truncation property
- Concession property