



# DNA Bank for the future identification of missing relatives during the Spanish Civil War

We are doing a required step ahead to set the most relevant DNA samples of every family and we are opening a door to hope<sup>[1]</sup> by comparing them with all the unidentified human remains from the exhumed mass graves.

This is an individual action between each family and the University of Barcelona, that guarantees the legality and the ethics of a key factor on the missing identification process.

The emblems of the «Universitat de Barcelona» Forensic Genetics Laboratory, Faculty of Medicine, are:

• **Confidentiality**<sup>[2]</sup>

• **Rigour**<sup>[3]</sup>

• **Quality**<sup>[4]</sup>

In addition, all projects we undertake are framed within the Biomedical Research Act 14/2007 and the Royal Decree 1716/2011, which establish the operation requirements and authorizations of the biobanks with the aim of biomedical research and treatment of human biological samples. Also they regulate the operation and organization of the National Register of Biobanks for Biomedical Research.

We cannot waste more time, because every time we have less and less living witnesses. Moreover, this initiative will only have sense if a maximum of the affected families is carrying it out. It is simple and affordable and only have four steps to follow:

## #1

**You have to do a pedigree**, relating the disappeared with the closest living relatives, such as: brothers, sisters, cousins, sons, daughters, nieces and nephews.

Here is an example of the pedigree of the Malagarriga-Picas / Sort-Sala-Ribalta family <http://dom.cat/5a4> and the pedigree of the Guinau-Heredia-Jornet family <http://dom.cat/5a5> where four and three significant relatives have been selected as a genetic witnesses of the missing Guillem Malagarriga and Jaume Guinau.

[1]

*It is difficult to generalize the reliability of a DNA test in this cases, because it will be determined by the level of kinship between the participants and the preservation conditions of the genome samples of the relative disappeared.*

[2]

*All kind of information provided and reports derived from studies are treated according to the confidentiality and storage regulations required by law.*

*(Penal Code - Article 199.2 and articles 413 to 428, Basic Regulatory Law 41/2002, of 14th November, of patient autonomy and rights and obligations of clinical information and documentation)*

[3]

*The extensive professional scientific, research and teaching experience of our team ensures the reliability of the studies.*

[4]

*The periodic quality checks conducted by our laboratory ensure the highest quality standards of the results.*



## #2

Call or write an email to the University of Barcelona's Legal Medicine Unit or contact some of the families that have followed this process in order to arrange the schedule and decide which family member should be the genetic testimony.

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## #3

Blood extraction samples session, for all the selected family members. The samples will be recorded on the University of Barcelona's Legal Medicine Unit DNA bank, for the future identification of your relative.

The medical team requires that the blood extraction session should be completed in a single session for all the selected family members. Sampling is a quick registration task, it will take only five minutes and will only represent a small prick for the donor.

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## #4

Samples tubes collection, of the dry blood extracts (where the purified DNA remains) and payment to the Bosch i Gimpera Foundation. Family will keep a sample with all the accredited documentation.

You can find on the link <http://dom.cat/5a6> an image, DNA samples documentation and the Report of the Preliminary Genetic Identification Study corresponding to the Malagarriga-Picas / Sort-Sala-Ribalta family. This protocol has an estimated cost of € 150 per sample and the Bosch i Gimpera Foundation is in charge of the invoices <http://dom.cat/5a7>

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«Guía Rápida del #BANCdADN i la Desaparició Forçada» <http://dom.cat/i88>



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