



# Methodological proposals for technical studies on drug trafficking and related crimes

May 2006



## Complexity of the subject

- ◆ Scarce measurability
- ◆ Scarce scientific approach
- ◆ Interdisciplinary knowledge
- ◆ Methodological adjustment needs



## Current approaches

### ◆ Statistical information

- Reliability
- Compatibility
- Interpretation
- Annual cuts

### ◆ Police and intelligence information

### ◆ Non-systematic knowledge



## Approaches proposed

- ◆ **Interdisciplinary work teams**
- ◆ **Exploratory and descriptive research**
- ◆ **Design of theoretical and methodological tools.**
- ◆ **Explicative-aimed research**
- ◆ **Comparative studies**
- ◆ **Feedback to those who design and implement public policies**



## Research projects

- ◆ **Drug trafficking in Argentina: a study on structural and junctural constraints based on the perception of main agents involved in control activities.**
- ◆ **Analysis of judicial cases related to Drug Law infractions.**



# Constraints and perceptions study

Purpose



To know IDT problem in Argentina from the point of view of the main agents involved in control activities

Research time



Last five years

# Constraints and perceptions study

Place



All the country

Actors



- Security and police agents
- Judicial authorities
- Executive authorities
- Experts

- Grade
- Speciality



Involvement



# Constraints and perceptions study

**Sample**



- ◆ Representativeness
- ◆ Saturation

**Method**



- ◆ Qualitative strategy
- ◆ Information crossing
- ◆ Qualitative and quantitative data analysis



# Constraint and perceptions study

## Techniques



- ◆ Focus-interviews (confidentiality / semi-structured questions)
- ◆ Speech and content analysis
- ◆ Statistical information interpretation



# Constraints and perceptions study

Current state of  
the research

36 interviews to key-agents

Information processing



- ◆ Explanatory patterns of drug trafficking routes and methods
- ◆ Profiles of trafficking groups
- ◆ Structural constraints
- ◆ Junctural constraints
- ◆ Quantitative data interpretation
- ◆ Control task needs



# Judicial cases analysis

Purpose

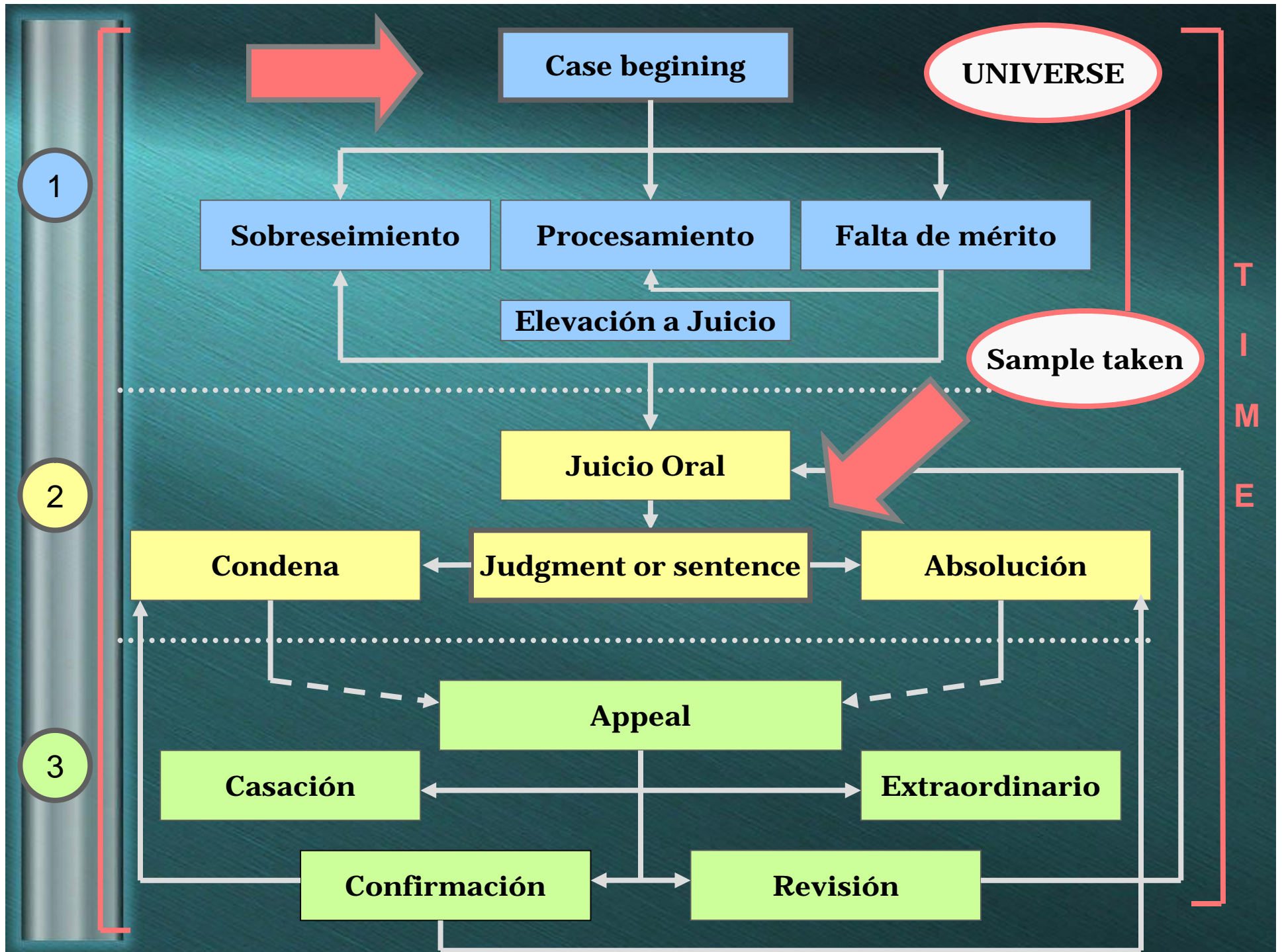


To elaborate a diagnosis on Drug Law enforcement in Argentina in the legal and factual aspects.

Illicit possession of drugs

Trafficking







# Judicial cases analysis

Place



Capital Federal

Gran Buenos Aires

Northern border

Method



- ◆ Quantitative strategy
- ◆ Qualitative strategy
- ◆ Quantitative treatment of qualitative data



# Judicial cases analysis

Techniques



- ◆ Quantitative data collection
- ◆ Legal analysis
- ◆ Factual analysis
- ◆ Focused-interviews



# Judicial cases analysis

Current state of  
the reserach

Pilot Program 2000 (1<sup>o</sup> phase)

Process of the information



- ◆ 2000 census
- ◆ Title of the cases
- ◆ Actual status of the cases
- ◆ Information needs for cases identification
- ◆ Contacts in each one of the overviewed courts



# Judicial cases analysis

Pilot Program 2000 (2<sup>o</sup> phase)



Records analysis

- ◆ Dismissals, prosecutions, charges, discharges and convictions
- ◆ Criminalization (illicit possession of drugs, illicit drug trafficking)
- ◆ Nullities
- ◆ Time of convictions
- ◆ Time of criminal processes
- ◆ Law enforcement



# Judicial cases analysis

Pilot Program year 2000 (2<sup>o</sup> phase)



Records analysis

- ◆ *Modus Operandi*
- ◆ Profiles of offenders
- ◆ Origin and type of drugs seized
- ◆ Traffic and distribution routes



## General outcomes

- ◆ **Accomplishment of the research purposes**
- ◆ **Tools for public policies design and implementation**
- ◆ **Bases for legal reform**
- ◆ **Key agents training**
- ◆ **New research needs detection**
- ◆ **Analytical crossing with demand reduction studies**



## Contact information



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