

Annual report 2023 | PBI Guatemala



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Who we are



Peace Brigades International (PBI) is a non-governmental organization with 40 years of experience in international accompaniment. PBI has been present in Guatemala since 1983 (with a break between 1993 and 2003) protecting space for people, organizations and collectives that promote human rights in a nonviolent manner and suffer repression for their work. PBI works only at the request of local organizations.

Our mandate

We seek to contribute to create the necessary conditions for defenders, organizations and communities to continue their work aimed at increasing respect, observance and protection of human rights and strengthening the rule of law in Guatemala.

Our principles

We work under the principles of:

nonviolence · non-partisanship · non-intervention

With a horizontal organizational structure and by consensus.

What we do

Our vision of international accompaniment is global and flexible in nature, responding to the actions and needs of social organizations who request our accompaniment. Our areas of work in global accompaniment aim to weave an effective protection network which is responsive to the evolving context.



Physical accompaniment



Political accompaniment & advocacy



Publications



Strengthening capacities

Presence of international observers

PBI has a team of volunteers in Guatemala who accompany threatened or at-risk human rights defenders, provide presence at offices of threatened organizations, visit rural communities, and carry out international observation.

Interlocution with authorities, advocacy and lobbying

PBI volunteers maintain continuously contact with Guatemalan civil authorities and with international entities like the United Nations and embassies, to make them actors in our accompaniment and protection work, as well as make them aware of concerns about areas where we work and ask for their support. Through the Advocacy Coordinator in

Europe and PBI's Country Groups we keep up-to-date multilateral institutions, the governments of 13 European countries, North American and Oceania on the situation of Guatemalan defenders.

Publications

We produce and distribute information on the human rights situation in Guatemala, based on public information sources and our direct observation.

Strengthening capacities

We continuously train the PBI international observer team and facilitate spaces for interchange and training on security and protections for Guatemalan defenders, with the support of existing local resources.



Context

2023, the year in which Indigenous Peoples saved democracy

2023 has been one of the most critical years for Guatemalan democracy since the signing of the Peace Accords. International organizations and agencies such as [Human Right Watch](#) (HRW), the [Washington Office on Latin America](#) (WOLA) and the United Nations

High Commissioner for Human Rights highlighted the increased corruption and the weakened judicial system which occurred during the government of Alejandro Giammattei (2020-2023). There was also greater persecution and legal prosecution of those who fought for the clarification of serious human rights violations and corruption during his mandate. The siege on freedom of expression through the malicious use of the judicial system against journalists also increased.

The presidential electoral process, as well as the Congressional elections and elections to the Central American Parliament and the municipal government all took place within this political context. There were deep criticisms and controversies about the elections from the beginning of the process, due to the number of lists and candidates who were excluded. According to [Transparencia Electoral](#), this was part of a strategic attempt to influence the results by limiting citizens' electoral options. The situation prompted the arrival of two electoral observation missions, one from the European Union, the Electoral Observation Mission [EOM-EU](#) (which had been requested by PBI, among other organizations) and the other from the Organization of American States ([OAS](#)). Both missions confirmed that, "despite the context of the deterioration of the rule of law in which the elections were held, [...] voters demonstrated their firm commitment to democracy and civic values by going to the polling stations to express their will."

In the end, Bernardo Arévalo and Karin Herrera of Movimiento Semilla, won the elections on an anti-corruption and social democratic platform. This unexpected result led to multiple attempts at [judicializing the electoral process](#), with the aim of disqualifying the winning party. These actions have been characterised as an attempted *coup d'état*, not only by Arévalo himself, but also by the international community and by broad sectors of Guatemalan civil society. Regarding the civil society mobilization, indigenous authorities from across different territories of the country began a National Strike at the beginning of October in defence of democracy. This was fundamental for allowing the inauguration of the new government on January 14, 2024.

This peaceful struggle experienced attacks of various kinds, as documented by the Unit for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders (UDEFEQUA) in its report "[Analysis of figures and reflections on attacks on human](#)



rights defenders and the right to peaceful protest during the #ParoNacional." This report revealed that between October 2 and November 30 there were at least 85 attacks against human rights defenders, including 10 murders and attempted murders, as well as acts of intimidation and surveillance, judicial persecution and arbitrary detentions, defamation and stigmatization, among others.

The above has also been observed by PBI, especially in relation to the right to land and territory. Peasant and indigenous communities suffered several threats of eviction during the year, particularly in the departments of Alta and Baja Verapaz. These actions are contrary to what is established in international standards on evictions, in [Annex I of the Report of the UN Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as part of the right to an adequate standard of living](#), point 49 of which prohibits evictions within an electoral context.

In response to this issue, an [independent fact-finding mission of international human rights lawyers](#) travelled to Alta Verapaz in March 2023, to meet with indigenous communities, civil society organizations and government representatives. The objective of this mission was to understand the structural causes of rural violence. The members of the mission observed widespread criminalization of communities, originating from denunciations made by private landowners and the lack of legal, institutional and practical recognition of the collective rights of indigenous communities, including the right to decide on the use of their lands and resources. They also noted the State's inability to prevent the use of force and illegitimate violence against indigenous families and rural communities, especially during evictions.

In relation to access to justice, PBI has observed a strategy of delaying judicial processes that results in numerous suspensions and rescheduling of hearings, in cases involving crimes against humanity and genocide during





the Internal Armed Conflict (IAC), as well as in cases of criminalization of human rights defenders. There were no significant advances in several transitional justice cases, rather there were many setbacks such as the case of the massacre of the Dos Erres village (El Petén). In this fourth trial against members of the Kaibil patrol that perpetrated the massacre, the three defendants were released on the basis of the disqualification of several expert opinions, technicalities and formalities. In the case of the massacre of Rancho Bejuco (Baja Verapaz), a retired military commander was sentenced to 20 years of non-commutable imprisonment for crimes against humanity, nevertheless, two military commissioners were released and six civilian ex-patrol members were acquitted.

Notwithstanding the above, the year closed with an imminent change of direction in the government and with the unprecedented broad support and recognition of the role played by ancestral authorities and Indigenous Peoples in the defense of Guatemala's weakened democracy. This gives hope for the future, but also poses new and important challenges in the construction of a pluricultural, inclusive, just and peaceful society.

Who we accompany

PBI accompanies organizations and social processes in Guatemala who struggle peacefully against impunity, for fair access to land and in defense of the territory.

In 2023 we provided accompaniment to a total of 13 organizations and social processes, one legal firm and one community journalist (220 people, 116 men, 102 women, one trans woman and one person of plural corporality.¹)

We received 16 new requests for accompaniment, nine of these cases were for global accompaniment, while the rest corresponded to observation of specific activities

where participants were at risk. We accepted five of these requests, and began to provide global accompaniment to three: the family of Luz Leticia Hernández, who disappeared during the Internal Armed Conflict (IAC); the Association of Relatives of the Detained and Disappeared of Guatemala (FAMDEGUA); the Indigenous Community of San Francisco Quezaltepeque. We provided specific accompaniment in two instances: the Human Rights Office of the Archdiocese of Guatemala (ODHAG) and the community journalist Norma Sancir.

The rest of the requests were rejected on the basis that team of volunteers did not have sufficient human resources or the accompaniment did not fit in with PBI Guatemala's thematic focus.

 Union of Campesino Organisations for the Verapaces UVOC

 Residents Association Chicoyogüito (AVECHAV)

 Peaceful Resistance of the communities in Cahabón, Alta Verapaz

 Campesino Committee of the Highlands (CCDA) of the Verapaces

 TZ'KAT Network of Ancestral Healers of Territorial Community Feminism from Iximulew

 Human Rights Law Firm (BDH)

 Office of Human Rights of the Archdioceses of Guatemala (ODHAG) one-off accompaniment

 Communities in Peaceful Resistance, La Puya

 Multisector Chinautla

 Association of Relatives of the Detained and Disappeared of Guatemala (FAMDEGUA)

 Maya Ch'orti' Indigenous Council of Olopa

 Indigenous Community of San Francisco Quezaltepeque

 Norma Sancir (community journalist) one-off accompaniment

 Retalhuleu Community Council (CCR)

 Family of Luz Leticia Hernández

¹ According to Chahim Vásquez, Q'eqchi' defender of life, people with plural corporealities are those who are born with bodily expressions different from the most common, for example in their hormones and genitalia.



★ We provided continuous support for other human rights defense processes through observations, telephone follow-up and information dissemination, with a particular focus on women human rights defenders in high-risk situations.



40 years accompanying hope²

The family of Luz Leticia Hernández Agustín first visited the Peace Brigades International (PBI) house, then located in Zone 11 of Guatemala City, in 1984. The family were members of the Mutual Support Group (GAM), an organization that had begun meeting weekly at PBI's house. GAM was founded by relatives of missing persons who have carried out a ceaseless search for their relatives. They began by visiting every conceivable place where their loved ones might be: universities, hospitals, health centers, police stations, morgues, prisons... They approached state officials in order to find out the

whereabouts of the disappeared, despite the risks that these actions implied under the military dictatorship and generalized terror. However, they encountered only rejection, mockery and lies. The disappeared people were students, teachers, trade unionists and nuns, among others, who had fought against the continuous dictatorships and for social improvements for the Guatemalan people. GAM became the families' way of organizing joint search actions, sharing their painful stories, consoling and



PBI accompanies a GAM march in 1989

² The facts recounted in this article were extracted from PBI bulletins, magazines and other publications from 1989 to 1999. These are kept in the archives of the Centro de Investigaciones Regionales de Mesoamérica (CIRMA), located in Antigua Guatemala..



GAM meeting at PBI's house, GAM archive of the CIRMA photo library

supporting each other. This is how Luz Leticia's family, her mother Valentina Agustín, her father Jorge Hernández and her sisters Flori, Marta and Mirtala, came into contact with PBI and received accompaniment in their arduous search.

The Beginnings of Peace Brigades International (PBI)

In September 1981, a group of international activists came together to create a movement for peace, solidarity and nonviolent action. Inspired by movements such as those led by Gandhi in India and the civil rights movement in the United States, PBI set out to support the peaceful transformation of societies in conflict, through dialogue and the progressive realization of human rights. Considering the armed conflicts that were taking place at that time in several Central American countries, the founding members decided to install a first team of *brigadistas* in the region.

At that time, many of the massacres that were being perpetrated in rural Guatemala constituted acts of genocide that would be prosecuted decades later. In March 1982, a group of military officers staged a coup d'état and

Efraín Ríos Montt became president. He announced a “democratic opening”, with the idea of counteracting the country's bad reputation due to the multiple human rights violations that were being denounced internationally. Ríos Montt, however, only exacerbated the “scorched earth” policy initiated by the previous military government. Nevertheless, PBI took advantage of the dictator's initial opening speech to send *brigadistas* to the country to carry out international observation work.

The first *brigadistas* were Hazel, Aurelio, Pablo and Edith. Their work consisted of surveying the needs of Guatemalan activists and collectives, as well as the possible impacts of the international presence. To do this, they began by establishing contacts that would provide them with information for carrying out this work. In March 1984, Nineth Montenegro, one of the founders of GAM who was searching for her disappeared husband, approached PBI. PBI reflected on how they could best support GAM with due regard for all the limitations, particularly their position as foreigners. One of these strategies they decided on was to offer their home as a safe space for the families of the disappeared persons to have weekly meetings on Saturdays. Since almost nothing was known in the outside world about what was happening in Guatemala, PBI became a channel



PBI accompanies Rigoberta Menchú as a member of the Unitary Representation of the Guatemalan Opposition (RUOG) on her visit to Guatemala, 1989.

of information, alerting the international community to threats and other violations against the civilian population, especially organized civilians.

Our Accompaniment Model is Born

Physical accompaniment, i.e., being physically present at the side of people under threat, was sparked by tragic circumstances. Around Easter Week 1985, the bodies of two key members of GAM, Héctor Gómez Calito and María del Rosario Godoy de Cuevas, were found lifeless and exhibiting signs of torture. Along with María del Rosario, they also found the tortured bodies of her brother Maynor René, 21 years old, and her son Augusto Rafael, two years old. This tragedy sparked the idea that having a foreigner physically close to the people experiencing threats could lower the risk of experiencing aggressions, due to the political cost that these could entail. The international pressure increased following these terrible assassinations and this strategy of accompaniment was seen to work. Thus, the GAM leaders were the first to be physically accompanied by PBI. In this way, our model of international accompaniment was created as an effective instrument for the protection of human rights.

Nevertheless, physical accompaniment was not enough. This work needed to be accompanied by complementary

actions such as meetings with Guatemalan authorities. The objective was to let them know first-hand about PBI's work and to make sure that the Guatemala authorities were aware of the presence of internationals who were observing the security situation of the people and organizations they were accompanying. This was yet another strategy to dissuade possible attacks, both against the people we accompanied and the *brigadistas* themselves. In addition, we began to establish and maintain contacts with actors such as embassies, churches and other social organizations who could provide support in situations of need. Finally, we began to work on disseminating information about the human rights situation outside of Guatemala.

One area of work that was pursued during the first years was capacity building through the facilitation of workshops requested by the organizations that came into contact with PBI. The topics were varied and included: mediation and conflict resolution; group dynamics; peace education; non-violent action; negotiation techniques; methodologies for situational analysis; constitutional rights; etc. Mental health workshops were also given to returnee communities by the physician, psychologist and health promoter Carlos Beristain, who now has extensive experience in psychosocial support for victims and survivors and as an advisor to several truth commissions in different countries.

Organizations and collectives accompanied by the first PBI project in Guatemala

Throughout the 16 years of the first PBI project in Guatemala (1983-1999), in addition to accompanying GAM, other organizations were accompanied, including:³

- ✓ The Ethnic Council “Runujel Junam” (CERJ) in Quiché, who resisted the forced recruitment of the Civil Self-Defense Patrols (PACs).
- ✓ The Committee for Peasant Unity (CUC).
- ✓ The National Coordinator of Widows of Guatemala (CONAVIGUA), formed by widows and relatives of disappeared persons in different departments of the Altiplano.
- ✓ The Association of Relatives of the Detained and Disappeared of Guatemala (FAMDEGUA), created after a split from GAM.
- ✓ Students of the San Carlos University of Guatemala (USAC).
- ✓ Unions such as the Union of Guatemalan Workers (UNISITRAGUA), the Union of Union and Popular Action (UASP), the Federation of Food and Related Workers (FESTRAS), the Union of Administrative and Education Service Workers of Guatemala (STAYSEG), etc.
- ✓ Delegations of the Communities of Population in Resistance (CPR) of the Sierra, Ixcán and El Petén, during their activities, their public pronouncements following their coming out to the public and in their new settlements.
- ✓ The National Council of Displaced Persons of Guatemala (CONDEG) and the returnees from Mexico.

In addition, during the peace negotiations, we accompanied representatives in exile, such as Nobel Peace Prize winner Rigoberta Menchú and members of the Guatemalan Human Rights Commission (CDHG). We also accompanied the American Jennifer Harbury, widow of the detained-disappeared commander Efraín Bámaca Velásquez, during her visits to Guatemala. And we cannot fail to mention the close relationship that PBI maintained during those years with the Pastoral Social and ODHAG.

Events that remain in our memories

In the course of PBI's 40 years in Guatemala, we have accompanied the country's historical events as well as those that have marked the memory of the communities directly affected and our own memories. Below we recall some of these events.

At the beginning of December 1990 we accompanied members of CERJ and GAM on their verification and support trips to the community of Santiago Atitlán, which in the early morning of December 2 experienced a massacre perpetrated by the army that left 13 people dead and 24 wounded. The social pressure from the community itself and from the popular movement and unions throughout the country, was so great that in the days following this crime the military personnel responsible were assigned to the military courts and the military detachment was withdrawn from the community. According to the human rights ombudsman of the time, Ramiro de León Carpio, it was the first time that the civilian power was able to influence the actions of the military.

PBI, alongside other individuals and national and international organizations, began accompanying the Permanent Commissions of Representatives for Guatemalan Refugees (CCPP) from 1993 onwards, during the process of return of the population who, during the most difficult years of the IAC, were forced to take refuge in Mexico. We also accompanied the CPRs to their assigned settlement sites after they declared their existence. This was a very intense emotional process,

3 We made a selection of the most named organizations in the publications reviewed for the elaboration of this article.

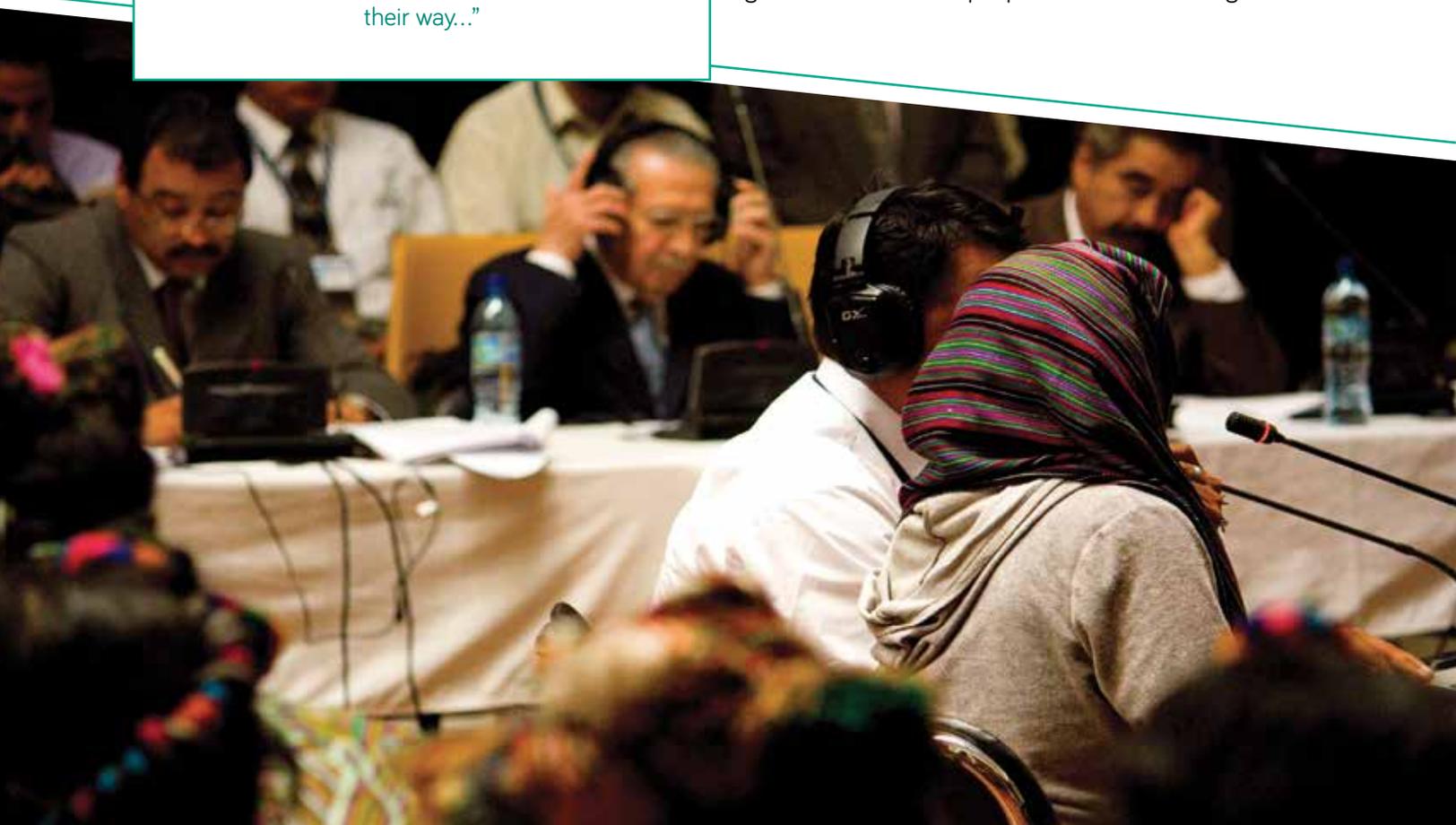
One volunteer recalls

“I had many reflections on the current work of Peace Brigades International and accompanying people in the hospital [visiting people injured in the Xamán massacre] gave me the opportunity to think about what ‘accompaniment’ really means during that time. Before coming to Guatemala, I didn’t know how to explain to my friends in Canada what we were doing here. It’s quite simple to define “accompaniment” if it only relates to avoiding violence towards the people we are with. Now, however, I relate it to being present with the people, listening to their stories and, as much as possible, sharing a bit of their pain. I think we are very lucky to be able to listen and sometimes give emotional support to people who have felt that no one, in this big world, listens to them outside of their communities. At the same time, I have seen how people do speak up, cry out and demand that someone listen to them, even without our accompaniment. Therefore, I am grateful for the reminder that we are not indispensable, that the struggle for peace and the end of repression and massacres like the one in Xamán, depends on the Guatemalan people. And we are here to accompany them on their way...”

during which the returnees returned to their villages, or to new places where they settled, where they received the care and welcome of their compatriots.

The massacre of the returnee community La Aurora 8 de Octubre, in the Xamán estate, Alta Verapaz, on October 5, 1995, was another act of violence which had a significant impact, because it occurred under the eyes of the international community. While the community was preparing to celebrate its first anniversary of return, a military patrol appeared without warning and killed 11 people, leaving more than 30 wounded by bullets. “The victims of the repression of the 1980s, of the scorched earth strategy, survivors of the Ixcán massacres, relive the horror that made them flee their country. They continue to fight for the hope that made them return to their Guatemalan land a year ago,” says a PBI Bulletin from November of that year. PBI accompanied the survivors of the massacre during their recovery in the hospital and throughout their search for justice and reparations. One of the volunteers who was part of the team at the time, and who accompanied the victims in the hospital, later made a documentary about the massacre.

As for PBI Guatemala’s second project, which began in 2003, the most notable event was undoubtedly the trial and sentencing of José Efraín Ríos Montt, for the genocide of the Ixil people committed during the de



facto government. At that time (2013) PBI accompanied the BDH and its director Edgar Pérez Archila, who was a lawyer for the Association for Justice and Reconciliation (AJR), a plaintiff in the case. This trial is a universal historical landmark, as it was the first time that a national court tried a genocide in its own country. It demonstrated the possibility that powers previously considered untouchable could be tried for their crimes, all thanks to the perseverance and conviction of the IAC victims' and survivors' organizations. The sentence was forceful in affirming that genocide had been committed in Guatemala and on May 10, 2013, the First Court A of Highest Risk sentenced retired General J. E. Ríos Montt to 80 years in prison for genocide and crimes against humanity. After 10 days, however, and following significant pressure from the country's powerful economic sector, the Constitutional Court (CC) ordered a retrial, basing its decision on procedural errors. The retrial also concluded that genocide had occurred in Guatemala, but the dictator Ríos Montt died a few months before this second sentence was handed down.

Temporary closure of PBI's project in Guatemala

During PBI's first term in Guatemala (1983-1999), the organizations and individuals who most frequently approached us to request our accompaniment were those whose struggles and risks related to the major crimes committed during the IAC: forced disappearances, assassinations, massacres and displacements due to the violence of the military State. This is unsurprising, considering that the country had been mired by a bloody armed conflict for more than three decades. The signing of the Peace Accords in December 1996 made room for hope. The massive violations of human rights committed by state forces were significantly reduced and tools were created so that social, indigenous and peasant organizations could demand the fulfillment of their rights. In this new situation, the number of requests for accompaniment dropped considerably.

On the other hand, the workshops offered by PBI, especially on Education for Peace, began to be given by local organizations who had knowledge of these issues.

And regarding international awareness of the situation in Guatemala, new channels of communication had been opened by national and international organizations, so that there was a considerable increase in the information available outside the country.

These factors, and an evaluation shared with Guatemalan organizations, led PBI to close the project in 1999.

This closure proved temporary, however, as the human rights situation in the country experienced significant deterioration over a short period of time. With the signing of the Peace Accords the internal context had improved in principle, but this peace agreement occurred within an international context of the capitalist globalization that emerged after the end of the Cold War. The prevailing neoliberal agenda exacerbated the privatization of services, the liberalization of markets, the signing of free trade agreements and the exploitation of natural resources. All this caused a sharp deterioration of the already difficult living conditions of the Guatemalan population. Within this new context, the organizations, collectives and communities came up against a State with little will to comply with the commitments undertaken during the signing of the Peace Accords nor with international human rights treaties. There was little significant change in the structure of Guatemala's economic and political actors whose grip on power continued to mark the country's evolution. Social conflicts flared up again, especially those related to land tenure and land rights, which were ignored in breach of the Agreement on Socio-economic Aspects and the Agrarian Situation. There was also a lack of recognition of indigenous peoples' territories - as stated in the Agreement on Identity and Rights of Indigenous Peoples - which were handed over with impunity to the benefit of the extractive industries.

Faced with this new deterioration of the human rights situation, which became more evident with the Guatemalan Republican Front's (FRG) arrival to power in 2000, PBI received requests from various organizations to return to the country. An exploratory visit to Guatemala was organized in 2001 and, based on the subsequent report, a new PBI project was opened in the country in April 2003.



PBI observes the community consultation in Sacapulas, Quiché, in 2011

From the failure to implement the Peace Accords mentioned above, two new thematic focuses of accompaniment were derived. On the one hand, the struggle for access to land and labour rights for work carried out for centuries on land appropriated by powerful landowners during the Spanish crown and after the liberal reform of 1871. These lands included the semi-slave labour of the so-called ‘mozos colonos’, who in exchange for living on these lands worked for the ‘patrón’ without any rights or recognition. As a result, PBI received requests for accompaniment from peasant organisations, some of which we continue to accompany today, as the problem of land tenure remains unresolved. On the other hand, the opening of the Guatemalan economy to extractive industries brought new challenges. These activities have particularly affected the indigenous population, who have been forced to defend their territories against the enormous economic and political powers that promote these activities, as the impacts of these extractive projects have disastrous consequences for the entire environment of the affected communities: forests, rivers, water sources, mountains, sacred places, the environment, the health of the population, the social fabric of the communities, etc. Defense of the territory is therefore the other thematic focus on which we are

beginning to receive requests for support. In fact, the majority of the requests fall within this axis.

And in the approach to the fight against impunity, the situation also demanded our accompaniment once again. Since this reopening, the situation in Guatemala has continued to decline. The reform of the judicial system was very slow and largely dependent on the presence and technical support from the International Commission against Impunity in Guatemala (CICIG), active from 2007 to 2019. However, when the investigations of the Public Prosecutor’s Office (MP), strengthened by CICIG, began to implicate powerful economic and political actors, the reaction resulted in the expulsion of CICIG and a swift and progressive anti-democratic regression. This translated into a culture of persecution, where the co-opted justice system was used to criminalize people who opposed the corrupt circles of power, with the intention of silencing the legitimate demands of the democratic, indigenous and peasant sectors.

PBI’s return to Guatemala

After its reopening in 2003, PBI’s work has focused on three thematic areas, which correspond to the types

“Throughout the 30 years of FAMDEGUA’s existence, PBI has accompanied the founders of the organization in the denunciation process. These women are seekers who taught us, the new generations, to search for and, above all, to demand justice.

PBI currently accompanies FAMDEGUA in several of the processes they are involved in, such as the Diario Militar (DM) and Luz Leticia cases. The organization also promotes and supports exhumation, investigation and search actions. The aforementioned cases involve very powerful actors, clandestine and illegal structures of the intelligence system that carried out the state strategy of forced disappearance in Guatemala during the IAC.

PBI’s accompaniment has been key in sustaining these processes and in preventing the public attacks carried out by the military and people who support them. It should be noted that the hearings in the DM case have been very tense and harsh at various times, and PBI’s presence has been key. We have always asked PBI to accompany the victims directly, because the transitional justice cases are sustained by the victims, who play the main role and are the voice of these processes.

We are the victims who are present, representing our relatives who were also victims of crimes against humanity and state terrorism. PBI’s accompaniment means that we can continue to do our work, because although the environment is always hostile, at least everyone knows that we are accompanied by people who can denounce the illegal actions of these illegal groups, as they have been doing for 40 years.

Paulo Estrada, president and legal representative of FAMDEGUA

of accompaniment that PBI provides: the fight against impunity for crimes committed during the IAC and against contemporary manifestations of impunity (i.e.. The criminalization of human rights defenders); access to land and labor rights with particular attention to the structural problem of the concentration of land in few hands; and the defense of the territory against extractive projects.⁴

The aggressions that motivated the human rights defenders’ requests for accompaniment in the 80s and 90s were assassinations, death threats, kidnappings and extortions. The aggressors at that time were the state or paramilitary armed forces. Following the signing of the Peace Accords, the aggressors are no longer so well defined, since the problem has more to do with the negligence of certain public entities in fulfilling their duty to protect the population, which favors aggressions against human rights defenders. Although there are still physical aggressions, the prevailing pattern is to use the judicial system to criminalize the defense of human rights and, more recently, to use social networks to defame and cause the “civil death” of human rights defenders.

After decades of struggle, the search for justice is beginning to bear some fruit

As mentioned above, one of the thematic focuses of PBI’s accompaniment is the fight against impunity for the crimes committed during the IAC, which is why several of the processes that have developed in this area have been observed by PBI Guatemala.

At the end of 1998, PBI accompanied witnesses in the first trial against the perpetrators of the massacres at Río Negro and Agua Fría (Baja Verapaz), committed during the period known for the “scorched earth” strategy. As a result of this first trial, three former civilian self-defense patrol members (PAC) were convicted for the deaths of the three people identified out of the total of 270 victims of these massacres. These atrocious acts were perpetrated in 1982 because the Achí population in the region had

4 A detailed list of the organisations supported in 2023 can be found in chapter 4.1 of this report. From the reopening of the project in 2003 to the present day, many other organisations have been accompanied in addition to these organisations.

“It’s difficult to summarize the struggle across of all these years. But something that is decisive and has been important, is that we have never let our guard down and this struggle could not have gone on for so long, more than 40 years, if it had not been for the support of PBI. It has been 42 years of constant struggle to vindicate the rights, not only for us, but for many relatives of disappeared people, in all fields, in all strata, across society. And I believe that if we had not been accompanied by PBI and their communication of this reality, we would no longer be telling the story.

There are so many things we have experienced and unpleasant memories... but the most important part has been that in May 2022, our case began. The accompaniment has been very significant because the vulnerability that we have experienced and felt before the authorities and the organs of justice is a reality. The justice institutions have been rude, shameless and disrespectful in their treatment of us and this has always been the case. But we do not feel alone because of the accompaniment, and this is what is valuable. The situation is still difficult, but it is becoming a little more balanced, both for us and for other people and communities who are experiencing violations of their rights and dignity. For us, the family, the mere fact of having initiated the judicial process in my sister’s case, of having heard the evidence, of having listened to the judges’ decisions, has been very gratifying.

PBI’s support is inclusive, because PBI does not take any action, it only accompanies and thus allows us to exercise our rights; that is what is important. We are infinitely grateful to PBI, knowing that you are here and that we’re not alone.”

**Mirtala Hernández Agustín,
Luz Leticia’s sister**

opposed the construction of the Chixoy hydroelectric dam, which ultimately resulted in massacres and the displacement and flooding of their communities.

As mentioned at the beginning of this article, PBI also observed the trial for the Ixil Genocide case, which began in 2013, within the framework of the accompaniment we provided to the BDH.

We observed the 2018 trial of the Molina Theissen case, in which a sentence was handed down for crimes against humanity, kidnapping, torture and forced disappearance committed in 1981 against Emma Molina Theissen and her younger brother Marco Antonio. Marco Antonio’s whereabouts are still unknown. Among the convicted military officers are several who held high-ranking positions at the time the crimes were committed, such as Manuel Benedicto Lucas García, Chief of Staff between 1981 and 1982, and Manuel Antonio Callejas y Callejas, former head of military intelligence.

Five years later – and within an adverse political context – judicial proceedings were initiated against several military (including the two mentioned above⁵) and police officers, responsible for at least 183 forced disappearances, torture, rape and other crimes against humanity of people who feature in the so-called *Diario Militar* (Military Diary). FAMDEGUA, founded by several of the people who created the GAM, is acting as a plaintiff in this case. PBI is observing this process within the framework of our accompaniment of FAMDEGUA and the BDH, which legally represents part of the victims.

The family of the student Luz Leticia has maintained contact with PBI over the years since the first time they visited our house in 1984. The main suspect in this case is an ex-police officer, Juan Francisco Cifuentes Cano, who was arrested within the context of the DM case. As soon as the judicial process in Luz Leticia’s case began, the search that the family started 40 years ago began to produce visible results and opened a window of hope. Unfortunately, this happened after Luz Leticia’s father, Jorge Hernandez, had already passed away (January 2021). A year after his death, the MP finally filed the indictment against Cifuentes Cano for the forced disappearance of Luz Leticia and her companion Ana

5 In July 2023 the CC granted house arrest to the four convicted military officers. España, D, Caso Molina Theissen: dan arresto domiciliario a militares en giro de eventos, La Hora, 09.06.2023.



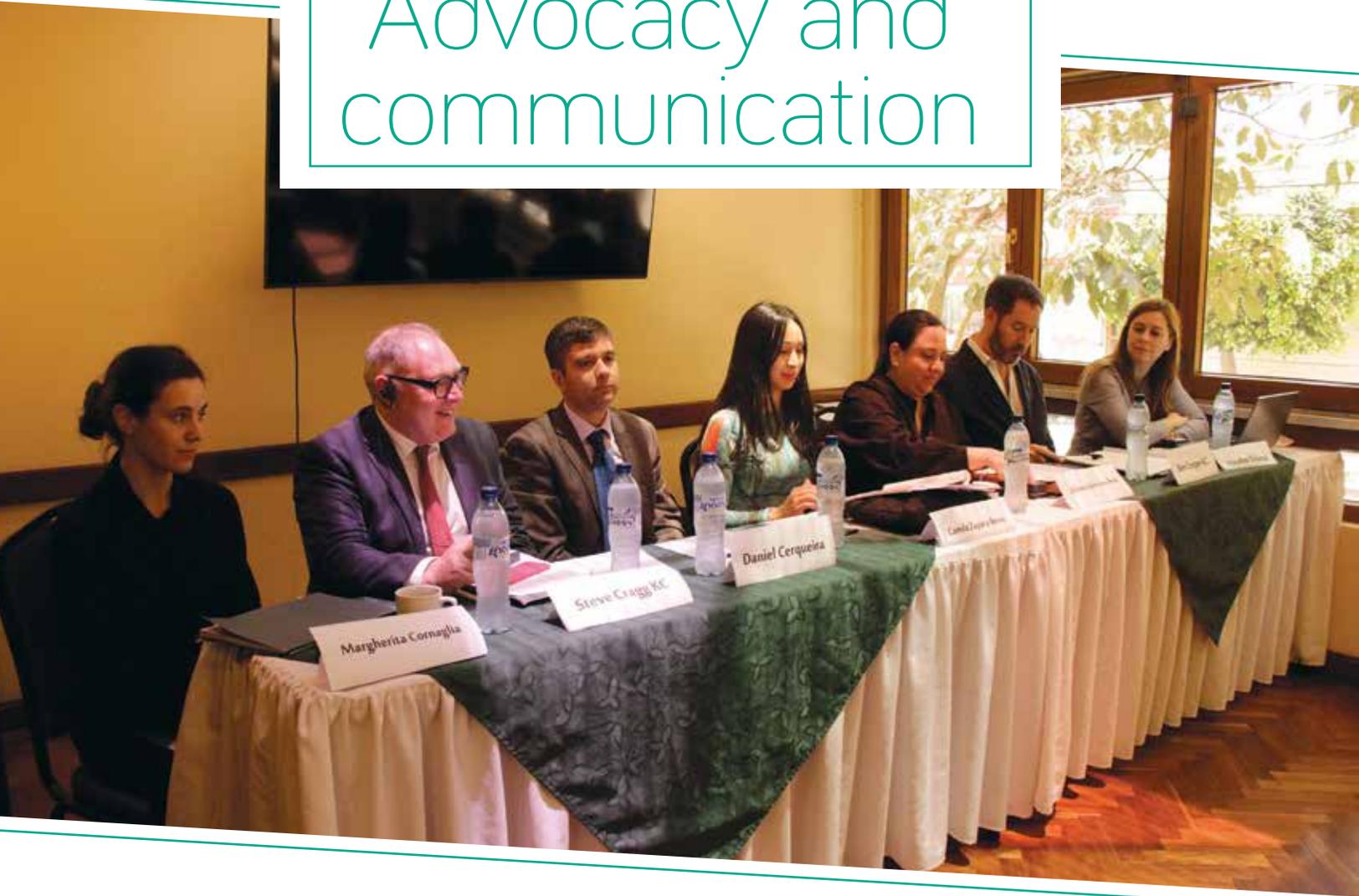
PBI accompanies the march against the cement plant in San Juan Sacatepequez, 2011

María López Rodríguez. After several failed attempts, the first plea hearing took place in January 2023 and Cifuentes Cano was indicted for the crimes of forced disappearance of Ana María and Luz Leticia and for crimes against humanity. The family expects the oral and public debate to take place in 2024.

Due to the co-optation of the justice system in recent years, these two judicial processes now seem to have become stuck, as several hearings have already been suspended and several of the accused in the DM case have had their coercive measures reduced to house arrest. Despite these obstacles, the family members are not giving up their struggle for justice, as they believe that one of the main steps has already been taken: the opening of the proceedings and the indictment of the military and police identified as being implicated in the events.

PBI will continue to accompany the defenders in their peaceful struggles against impunity, for the defense of human rights and for their right to land and territory. We will be at their side, listening to their stories with the deep admiration we feel for their courage and perseverance, and we will walk alongside them in the construction of a peaceful country where social justice prevails.

Advocacy and communication



In 2023, **our advocacy work** focused on two issues: the electoral process and the transition of power; and evictions and criminalization of human rights defenders, especially in the Verapaces.

Electoral process and democratic transition

In the last months of 2022 we began to include the request for an Electoral Observation Mission (EOM) in our meetings with EU bodies, which was in line with the demands of Guatemalan human rights organizations. This request was principally motivated by the threat to the electoral process posed by the growing co-optation of the justice system. In addition, the experience of past elections has shown that violence increases considerably during these periods, which profoundly affects the defense of human rights.

Once the Guatemalan State and the EU agreed on the deployment of the EOM in April 2023, we began to provide information on the human rights situation, the justice system and the risks to the rule of law to the institutions and individuals involved in the preparation of the EOM: the European External Action Service (EEAS) and the parliamentarians who were part of the mission.

After the second round of elections, and in view of the ceaseless attempts to sabotage the results and impede the transition to the newly elected government, our advocacy focused on requesting the institutions to publicly display strong support for the democratic transition and the need to respect the will of the people. We also asked for the application of protection mechanisms for all people, particularly Indigenous Peoples, since they were the ones who were on the front lines and in the streets, defending democracy and the guarantees for human rights, which made them the target of multiple attacks and aggressions.

We deeply appreciate the attention and support for the democratic transition expressed by the EOM⁶ the European Parliament (which issued two resolutions, in September and December 2023)⁷ the EEAS and the EU High Representative.⁸

In this same framework, we held meetings with permanent representations to the EU and participated in informal meetings with the Working Group on Latin America COLAC of the EU Council, to raise awareness about the need for concerted actions in the face of the co-optation of the judicial system. The MP and private actors linked to cases of corruption and war crimes, initiated criminalization processes that have led to the exile of dozens of justice operators, journalists and human rights defenders. These events, promoted by the aforementioned actors, have played and continue to

play a central role in the authoritarian drift of the country, putting the rule of law at serious risk.

The advocacy work carried out during this period was done in coordination with other International Non-Governmental Organizations (INGOs) and we believe that it contributed to the EU Council's declaration of a framework of sanctions aimed at preserving the rule of law and democracy in the country.⁹

Violent evictions and criminalization of human rights defenders

We focused our advocacy activities on reporting on the violent judicial and extrajudicial evictions, as well as the multiple threats of evictions of communities linked to organizations accompanied by PBI in Guatemala. Throughout the year, violent evictions were a constant threat, with some attempted and successful evictions. These were carried out by state and non-state actors, with a disproportionate use of force and without respect for international standards. Likewise, we sought to promote protection mechanisms and to call attention to the multiple criminalization processes against members of communities at risk of eviction, as well as by those who promote solutions through dialogue and work to ensure that the rights of the population are guaranteed.

Within this framework, our actions following the visit of a delegation of international lawyers (IDIL) to Alta Verapaz in March were particularly intense. Their report¹⁰ was presented during a tour of two organizations, UVOC and CCDA - Las Verapaces Region, who are accompanied by PBI to the United Kingdom and Germany in November 2023. During this tour many meetings were held with politicians, Ministries of Foreign Affairs (MAEs), and lawyers. Public activities were also carried out. It is

6 EEAS, [La MOE UE Guatemala 2023 presentó hoy su informe final con 26 recomendaciones](#), 23.11.2023.

7 Parlamento Europeo, [Resolución del Parlamento Europeo, de 14 de septiembre de 2023, sobre Guatemala: la situación tras las elecciones](#),

8 EEAS, [Guatemala: Statement by the High Representative Josep Borrell on developments after the Presidential elections](#), 29.08.2023; [Guatemala: Statement by High Representative Josep Borrell on the latest developments in Guatemala](#), 08.12.2023. [el Estado de Derecho y la independencia judicial](#), 14.09.2023; [Resolución del Parlamento Europeo sobre el intento de golpe de Estado en Guatemala](#), 12.12.2023.

9 External Action, [EU adopts a framework of sanctions to preserve democracy and Rule of law in the country](#), Europe Daily Bulletin No. 13327, 13.01.2024.

10 IDIL, ["No somos usurpadores: esta es nuestra tierra" Conflicto agrario y derechos de los pueblos indígenas en Alta Verapaz](#). Septiembre 2023

important to note that after their visit to Guatemala, IDIL intervened at a time when there was a high risk of eviction in one of the communities they visited during their mission, by issuing a statement recommending that the eviction be suspended. In the end, the eviction was not carried out.

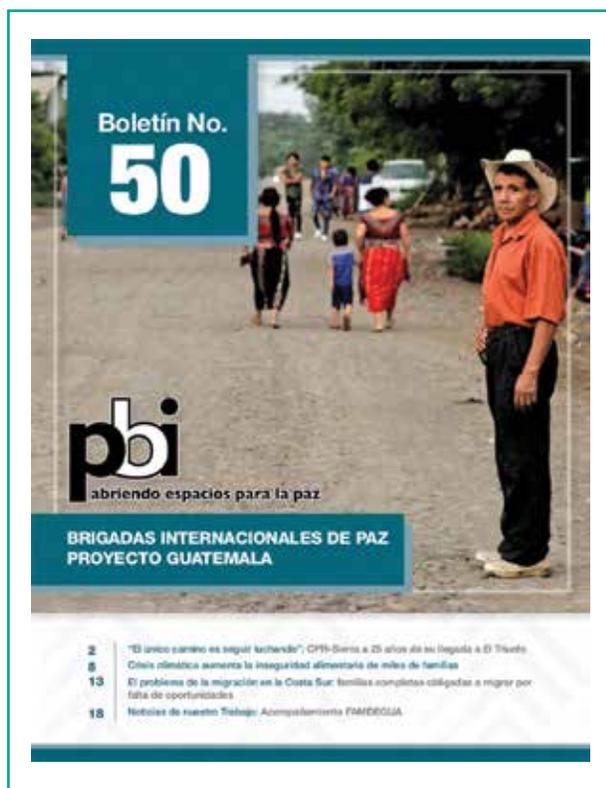
PBI Guatemala, PBI Switzerland, the International Secretariat for Human Rights, the Citizen Observatory of Chile and other organizations held a side event at the United Nations Forum on Business and Human Rights. The theme was “Business in indigenous territories in Latin America: impacts and protection strategies” one of IDIL’s lawyers and a human rights defender from Guatemala participated, presenting the human rights violations that are being experienced in Guatemala and the protection strategies developed by the communities to confront them.

We hope that the meetings held during the tour mentioned above, the meetings held directly by the project and the information on the legal inconsistencies provided by IDIL will help to address this problem in a structured way. We also hope that spaces for dialogue and negotiated solutions to this problem, which is generating a humanitarian emergency in the affected communities, will be created.

In our **communication axis**, we took the new step of opening an account on Instagram which, together with our Facebook page and website, we post regular updates. In addition, we prepared and published two new biannual newsletters, No. 49 and No. 50.

Bulletin 49 contains the articles: *40 years searching for Luz Leticia: "The truth must come out so that history does not repeat itself"*, which discusses the disappearance of the student Luz Leticia and the tireless search that her family has carried out for 40 years; *From the La Mocca farm to the 12 Tz'ikin community: a story of unfinished struggle*, which summarizes the story of almost 20 years of a community's struggle to obtain their land after a life in the region and the challenges they continue to face; *Comunidad 15 de Febrero: the fight for land is the fight for life!!* , another example of a community's long struggle for life. In *News of our work* we call attention to *sexual violence against women defenders of land and territory*, one of the multiple risks that these brave women have to face.





Bulletin 50 brings together the following topics: *"The only way is to keep fighting": CPR-Sierra 25 years after its arrival in El Triunfo; Climate crisis increases food insecurity for thousands of families; The problem of migration in the South Coast: entire families forced to migrate due to lack of opportunities and in News from our Work: We resume our accompaniment of FAMDEGUA.*

We collaborated in the production of two episodes of the **Voices of the Earth** section of the podcast **Carne Cruda** with the PBI group in Spain: [Hydroelectric plants leave you without electricity and water](#) was broadcast on January 23, 2023 and addressed inequality in access to land, a structural problem in Guatemala. Bernardo Caal, human rights defender from the Peaceful Resistance, Cahabón, who was unjustly imprisoned for more than four years participated on this episode. Another episode was broadcast on December 20, 2023, [Guatemala and the Las Vacas River, one of the most polluted rivers in the world](#), which dealt with the struggle of the Poqomam people of Chinautla for the right to water. Efraín Martínez, defender of the Multisectorial Chinautla, participated in the episode, accompanied by PBI.



We continue with our own video-podcast series **ACÉRCATE**, which aims to create a space to address different problems relevant to the current situation and the struggles of peoples, communities and organizations. We made five episodes on the following topics: the water situation in Guatemala (with Julio González of the environmentalist collective Madreselva); the criminalization process of the Board of Directors of the Community Council of Retalhuleu -CCR- (with Abelino Mejía Cancino, member of the CCR); the situation of food insecurity and its consequences in Guatemala (with David Paredes, coordinator of the National Network for the Defense of Food Sovereignty in Guatemala -REDSAG-); the community feminism of the TZK'AT, Network of Ancestral Healers (with Lorena Kab'nal, member of the Network); the history of the struggle of the CPR-Sierra in the multicultural community El Triunfo, Champerico, Retalhuleu, for its 25th Anniversary (with Virgilio García Carrillo and Sebastián Itzep Chivalán, members of the community).

You can access all these programs and publications on our web page:
<https://pbi-guatemala.org/es/multimedia/>



Capacity building

PBI Guatemala is committed to supporting protection training for human rights defenders.

This is another way in which we contribute to one of our main objectives: to maintain and open spaces for civil society action and the work of human rights defenders. In 2023 we convened four training spaces aimed at people, organizations and social expressions we accompany.

We offered a **security workshop focused on the analysis of the criminalization of the Q'eqchi' communities** who are members of UVOC. Twenty-three leaders participated

(19 men and four women). The workshop was divided into two parts: a legal clinic on criminalization, facilitated by the Q'eqchi' lawyer Santiago Choc Cú, where the human rights enjoyed by indigenous peoples were discussed, such as the right to assembly and to peaceful protest. We also presented the different human rights treaties and conventions ratified by the State of Guatemala. In addition, we facilitated a group reflection on the reactions of the State to the exercise of these rights. The facilitator provided participants with legal tools to deal with situations such as detentions, arrest warrants, search warrants, etc. In the second part, Arturo Chub, a Q'eqchi' human rights defender and security expert, facilitated

security strategies for the defense of rights with a gender perspective. Participants reflected on the situations and conditions that facilitate or hinder the defense of human rights in Alta Verapaz, addressing the types of aggressions and the protective actions that can be taken against them. We also added communication as a tool for the defense of human rights to this workshop. In the final evaluation, the participants expressed their interest in continuing to deepen their knowledge on the topic of protection. The fact that the workshop was facilitated in Q'eqchi' was highly valued, as this encouraged participation and understanding of everything that was covered.

Since 2011 PBI has been organizing **healing meetings as a protection tool for women defenders of land and territory**, creating a space where the specific risks they face are addressed in a safe environment. These are intimate spaces for women only, in which different healing practices are shared and experiences are exchanged. Women human rights defenders are exposed to specific risks because they are women and because of their work to protect the lives and rights of their communities.

In 2023, we organized two healing meetings, facilitated by members of TZ'KAT Network of Ancestral Healers of Community Feminism from Iximulew. A total of 43 women participated, members of AVECHAV and the indigenous peasant organizations CCDA - Las Verapaces Region and UVOC.

In July, a **Latin American regional healing meeting** took place, with the participation of women human rights defenders accompanied by PBI projects in Honduras, Colombia and Guatemala. A total of 35 women attended, 27 from Guatemala and members of the Committee for Peasant Unity (CUC), the Maya Ch'orti' Indigenous Council of Olopa, the Indigenous Community of San Francisco Quezaltepeque and the New Day Ch'orti' Campesino Central Coordinator. The meeting was also facilitated by five women from TZK'AT and served to weave networks among women defenders of different struggles and resistances who receive attacks for their work in defense of land and territory.

“The security workshops provided by PBI are useful and complementary to our own workshops. As a result of what we have learned, we maintain constant communications among community leaders, reporting our movements. We have a document with a security plan that we transmit orally among the community leaders. We also keep a record of security incidents. For us, PBI is an additional security measure”.

**Carlos Morales,
UVOC coordinator**



PBI Guatemala volunteers

18
volunteers

10
nationalities

At PBI Guatemala there are several volunteer work spaces:

- ✓ The field team
- ✓ The project committee
- ✓ The training team

In 2023, a total of 18 volunteers, 14 women, 3 men and 1 non-binary person, of 10 different nationalities, passed through the field team.



The Beginning of PBI's second project in Guatemala

Testimony of Eva Scarfe, former
team and committee volunteer
and current project advisor

During the 1980s and early 1990s, PBI had a project in Central America, with one team in Guatemala and another in El Salvador. These were closed once the respective peace processes had advanced, and the United Nations (UN) had sent its own teams to protect human rights.

I was present at the closing ceremony held in March 1999 in a large public hall in Guatemala City. The atmosphere was one of triumphalism, of "Mission Accomplished", but with the promise that "If you need us again, call us and we will come." And it didn't take long, because during the following government of Alfonso Portillo, former President Ríos Montt, known for the brutality of repression during his previous term, assumed the presidency of congress, which prompted several human rights NGOs to request PBI's return.

In mid-2001, I was finishing a volunteer assignment with PBI Colombia, when a teammate told me that they were looking for people "with a knowledge of Guatemala and PBI", and I thought "this is for me." I met with Luisa Palmer and we did a first reconnaissance mission. Heike Kammer and others also visited the country. Montserrat Garcia, who later became the first coordinator of PBI's second project in Guatemala, was in charge of consolidating the final report.

In Guatemala, Luisa and I were received kindly by well-known organizations - GAM, CONAVIGUA and others - but not with surprise, because after all, hadn't we promised to return if we were needed? They assured us that PBI's presence was very necessary in this political situation, which was likely to get worse.

After these exploratory visits to Guatemala, we presented the report of these visits to the entire PBI, a discussion was held and finally it was decided to approve the opening of a new project in Guatemala, the GP (Guatemala Project).

In PBI teams, knowledge and experience is passed on from "old" to "new" volunteers, and I, as a member of the committee and living in Guatemala, had to temporarily assume the role of "super old."

We encountered a very different situation from the previous one. PBI had always been like the "big brother", the first to establish itself in several countries, serving as a model of international accompaniment for newcomer organizations. Now it was the opposite. With the return of refugees from Mexico, many organizations had arrived to accompany them on their journeys or in their new communities. These were integrated into an "umbrella organization", ACOGUATE, created in 2000 following the request of the Association for Justice and Reconciliation (AJR) to accompany the witnesses of the recent genocide complaints filed against the de facto governments of Romeo Lucas García and Efraín Ríos Montt. Now we were the "little brother", the newcomers.

We soon took on the accompaniment of some of the organizations we already knew. I remember an accompaniment we provided to CONAVIGUA, where there was a misunderstanding with the driver of the vehicle hired by the organization to pick up the group on a rural road. We arrived at the meeting place shortly before dusk, but the vehicle was not there. Several women from CONAVIGUA and PBI had to spend the night outdoors, sleeping on the ground under a truck they found parked on the side of the road. In the morning we managed to contact the driver to come and pick them up, and they all arrived home safe and sound.

An important moment in the life of the GP was the first external evaluation. The evaluator proposed a method for deciding on the themes of our accompaniments, and to prioritize the new requests we received. Little by little the GP grew, consolidated and stabilized, until it became the solid international accompaniment project we know today.



PBI in numbers



Physical Presence

- 223** • Accompaniment to organizations and social entities (including physical and virtual accompaniment)
- 74** • Meeting with accompanied organization and social entities (including physical and virtual meetings)
- 46** • Meeting with other Guatemalan organizations
- 3** • Observation of events organized by Guatemalan civil society



Advocacy

- 34** • Meetings with Guatemalan authorities at the state, department, and local levels
- 46** • Meetings with diplomatic corps, embassies and OHCHR in Guatemala
- 46** • Meetings with Foreign Ministries and International Entities in Europa
- 4** • Human rights defenders advocacy tours to Europe and USA



Strengthening Local Capacity

We facilitated **4 workshops for 101 participants from 9 organizations** and social movements from Guatemala and 5 organizations from Colombia and Honduras (82 women and 19 men).

4 espacios formativos

- 1** • Workshop on security and protection in the context of criminalization
- 2** • Meetings on healing for women defenders
- 1** • Meetings on healing for women defenders from Colombia, Honduras and Guatemala

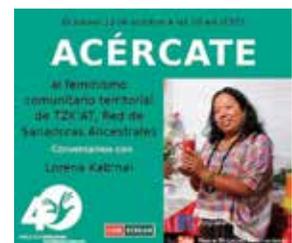
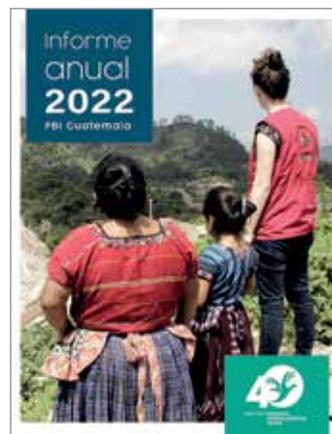


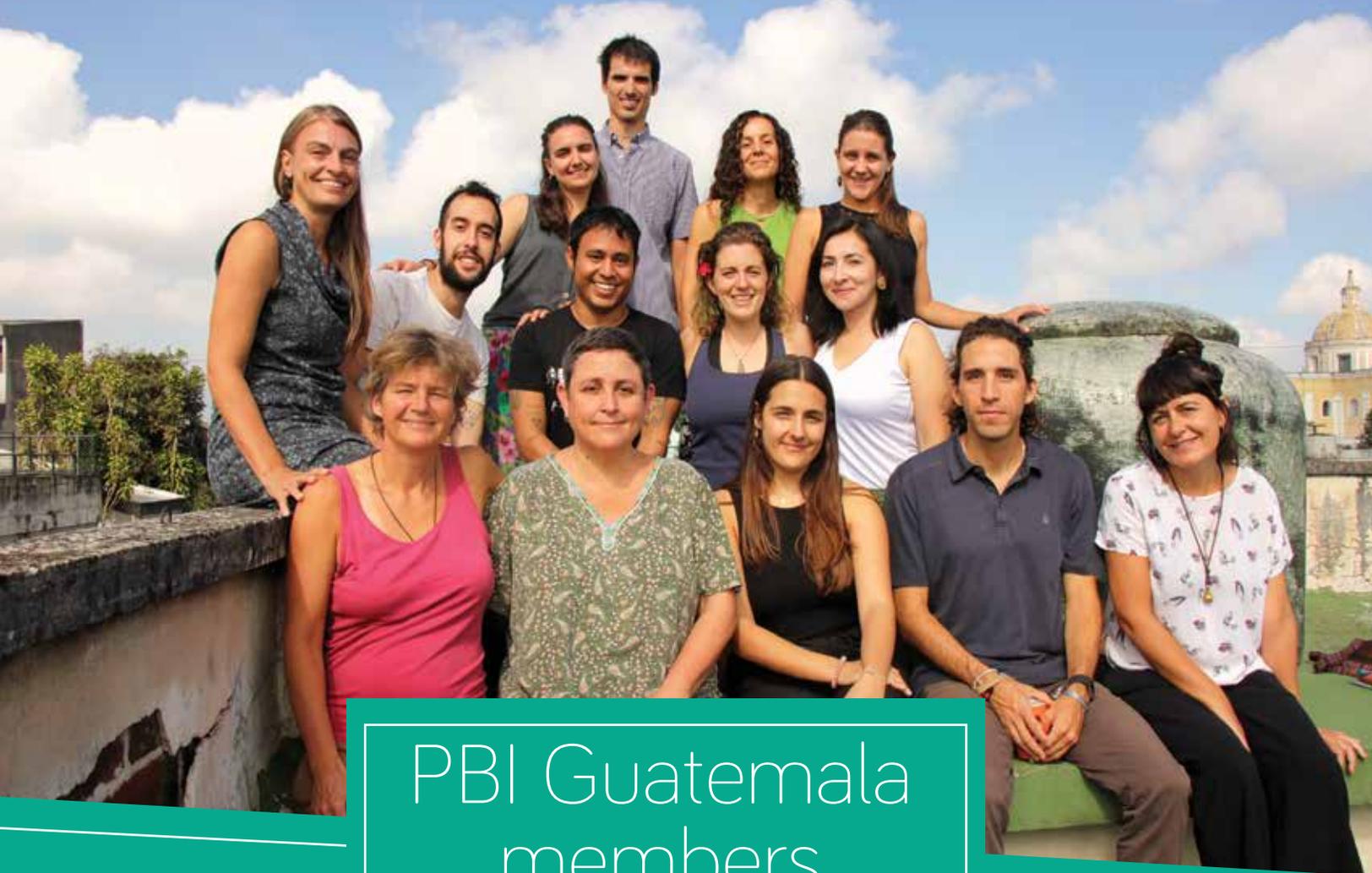
101 participants
from **9** organizations and social movements



Publications

- 12** • Monthly Information Package
- 2** • Bi-annual Bulletins
- 1** • Annual Report
- 5** • Virtual programs ACÉRCATE





PBI Guatemala members

Team of volunteers in the field:

Lina Alejandra Manriquez (Colombia), Marisol Robles Ruelas (Mexico), Madison Taggart (United States), Claudia Vecchia (Italy), Cristina Ortega (Spanish State), Janeth Alejandra Martínez (Colombia), Svenja Petersen (Germany), María Fernanda Bustamante Ceballos (Chile), Inés Gesa Beascoa (Spain), Fransk Martínez (Nicaragua), Antonio de Vivo (Italy), Lorna Ni Shuilleabhain (Ireland), Gerard Paituvi Sanchez (Spain), Amparo Terrón Salvador (Spain), Carlos Fernández Arrúe (Spain), Marina García Alacreu (Spain), Leonie Malin Höher (Germany), Gisela Farell Reviejo (Spain), Elisa de Oliveira Ribeiro (Brazil).

Project Committee:

Maike Holderer (Germany), Erika Martínez (Spain), Adam Lunn (United Kingdom), Mélisande Séguin (Canada), Diana Cabra Delgado (Colombia), Amaya de Miguel (Spain).

Training team:

Katharina Ochsendorf (Germany), Maike Holderer (Germany), Antonia Ignacia Pérez (Chile), Ricardo Henao Galvis (Colombia), Daniel Jiménez Hita (Spain), Diana Cabra Delgado (Colombia), Karen Vinasco (Colombia), Claudia Vecchia (Italy).

Coordination office:

Amaya de Miguel (coordinator), Kerstin Reemtsma (representative in Europe), Mayte Quesada (administrator), Ana Fernández Rodríguez (finance supervision), Paola Sarti (fundraiser), Laura Gomáriz Cebrián & Martín Gómez Gallego (responsible for training volunteers), Silvia Weber (communications), Leticia Encinas Rosa (field support).

External advisor:

Evangelina Scarfe (Australia), Montserrat García (Spain) and Fermín Rodrigo (Catalonia).

Financial report

During 2023 PBI Guatemala has maintained a situation of financial stability that has allowed most of the planned activities to be carried out, although for various reasons some have had to be postponed until the beginning of 2024. This postponement, together with a lower number of volunteers than initially planned, has meant that the expenses for the year 2023 have been reduced by slightly more than 6% compared to the budget and by slightly more than 5% compared to the year 2022. The final result is a positive balance of 8,410 euros.

The number and variety of donors supporting PBI's work in Guatemala has remained practically unchanged over the last three years, and their unconditional commitment to the defence of human rights is demonstrated by the increase in contributions. We thank all donors for their financial support, which allows us to continue providing accompaniment and international protection to those who risk their lives to defend human rights in Guatemala.

WHAT WE SPENT IN?



GASTOS PBI GUATEMALA 2023

EUR

Volunteer training and orientation	14.573	3%
Physical presence, interlocution and advocacy in Guatemala	112.558	26%
Communication and advocacy outside of Guatemala	86.993	20%
Training for defenders in Guatemala	11.990	3%
Coordination and strategic planning	48.320	11%
Fundraising, administration and finances	78.006	18%
Audit and evaluation	7.275	2%
Coordination and strategic planning at PBI global level	50.225	12%
Non operational expenses	17.568	4%
TOTAL EXPENSES	427.507	
DIFFERENCE BETWEEN INCOME AND EXPENSES	8.410	

* All expenses and income presented in this report are in euros and are in the process of being externally audited by the Belgian firm L & S Registered Auditors (BE 0681.575.448).

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION 2023

EUR

CURRENT ASSETS

Cash and Cash Equivalents 309.992

Commercial Debtors and Other Accounts Receivable

Donations and y outstanding agreements 76.075

Accounts receivable PBI International Secretariat 56.021

Health insurance reimbursements receivable 40

Down payments and advances 2.553

Deposits 1.482

Total Commercial Debtors and Other Accounts Receivable 136.171**TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS 446.163****NONCURRENT ASSETS****Property, Plant and Equipment**

Computer and communication equipment 0

Furnishings and fixtures 0

Accumulated depreciation 0

Total Property, Plant and Equipment 0**TOTAL ASSETS 446.163****CURRENT LIABILITIES****Commercial creditors and other accounts payable**

Accounts payable to third party 19.201

Accounts payable to staff and volunteers 0

Accounts payable to PBI International Secretariat 0

Accounts payable to other PBI entities 8.379

Total Commercial creditors and other accounts payable 27.580**Provisions**

Staff and volunteer benefits 3.361

Other Provisions 4.120

Total Provisions 7.481**Current tax liability 7.437****Other non-financial liabilities (Restricted funds to be executed) 150.117****TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES 192.614****NONCURRENT LIABILITIES**

Provision for Contingencies 115.984

TOTAL NONCURRENT LIABILITIES 115.984**EQUITY**

Funds free to execute, starting balance 129.155

Difference between Income and Expenses 8.410

TOTAL EQUITY 137.565**TOTAL LIABILITY AND EQUITY 446.163**

Funds received in PBI bank accounts from Donors		432.788
European Union	European Instrument for Human Rights (EIDHR)	28.800
Germany	Brot für die Welt / Bread for the World	13.040
Germany	Misereor	33.500
Germany	Ziviler Friedensdienst / Civil Peace Service	51.972
Germany	Guatemala Hilfe	1.768
Germany	SUM Foundation	4.938
Norway	Embassy of Norway in Mexico	85.260
Spain	Agència Catalana de Cooperació al Desenvolupament (ACCD)	47.500
Spain	Generalitat valenciana	40.554
Spain	Fondo Cantabria Cooperera	41.535
Spain	Agencia Vasca de Cooperación para el Desarrollo	18.300
United Kingdom	A4 ID	1.596
United Kingdom	Ford Foundation	8.336
Netherlands	Embassy of the Netherlands in Costa Rica	55.690
Revenues already counted in 2021 / Donations receivable at year-end 2022		-500
Alemania	Brot für die Welt / Pan para el Mundo	-500
Revenues already counted in 2022 / Donations receivable at year-end 2022		-51.750
Germany	Ziviler Friedensdienst / Civil Peace Service	-1.000
Germany	Misereor	-5.000
Germany	Brot für die Welt / Bread for the World	-3.645
Netherlands	Embassy of the Netherlands in Costa Rica	-35.805
Spain	Agencia Vasca de Cooperación para el Desarrollo	-6.300
Funds received during 2022 pending implementation in 2024		-55
Spain	Diputación de Córdoba	-55
Funds received during 2023 pending implementation in 2024		-150.061
Spain	Agència Catalana de Cooperació al Desenvolupament (ACCD)	-38.478
Spain	Generalitat valenciana	-6.685
Spain	Fondo Cantabria Cooperera	-41.535
Norway	Embassy of Norway in Mexico	-55.027
United Kingdom	Ford Foundation	-8.336
Funds received during 2022 pending implementation in 2023		145.131
Spain	Agència Catalana de Cooperació al Desenvolupament (ACCD)	65.313
Spain	Diputación de Córdoba	18.598
Norway	Diputación de Córdoba	61.221
Funds for activities implemented during 2023 that still awaiting end of year payment		59.122
Germany	Ziviler Friedensdienst / Civil Peace Service	1.685
Germany	Misereor	3.340
Germany	Brot für die Welt / Bread for the World	38
European Union	European Instrument for Human Rights (EIDHR)	1.373
Switzerland	PBI Switzerland	50.781
Spain	Agència Catalana de Cooperació al Desenvolupament (ACCD)	1.523
Spain	Agencia Vasca de Cooperación para el Desarrollo	383
Other income		1.242
Private Donors		500
Income from own activitiesPropias		650
Interests		92
TOTAL GENERAL INCOME		435,916



PBI accompanies CONAVIGUA at a inhumation in Comalapa, 2008.

Contact us

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