



PROMOTING NON-VIOLENCE AND DEFENDING HUMAN RIGHTS SINCE 1981



# Peace Brigades International

PBI UK Annual Review 2004

Registered Charity Number: 1101016  
Company registration Number: 03912587

## Vision Statement

**PBI** envisions a world in which people address conflicts non-violently, where human rights are universally upheld and social justice and intercultural respect have become a reality.

## What does Peace Brigades International do?

**P**BI has been working to support human rights and promote non-violence for almost 25 years. We send teams of international observers to areas of conflict and repression, to provide protective accompaniment to local human rights defenders whose lives and work are under threat. Our work is based on principles of non-partisanship and non-interference, in the belief that lasting transformation of violent conflict cannot be imposed from outside but must be based on the capacity of local people to build a genuine peace. We act only at the express request of local people and it is they who determine where our assistance is most needed.

PBI UK, one of 20 country groups around Europe, North America and the Pacific, is responsible for the vital support work which allows the field programmes - in Colombia, Mexico, Indonesia and Guatemala - to operate smoothly. Its main areas of work are political support building, recruitment and training of volunteers, outreach and publicity, and fundraising.

<b>PBI Country Groups</b>	<b>Associate Groups</b>	<b>Past PBI Projects</b>
Aotearoa/ New Zealand	Austria	Balkans
Australia	Portugal	(Coalition Partner in
Belgium	<b>Current PBI Projects</b>	Balkans Peace
Canada		Teams from
France		1994-2001)
Germany	Colombia	El Salvador
Italy	(founded in	(1987-1992)
Luxemburg	1994)	Guatemala
Netherlands	Indonesia	(1983 -1999)
Norway	(founded in	Haiti
Spanish State	1999)	(1995-2000)
Sweden	Mexico (founded	North America
Switzerland	in 1999)	(1992-1998)
United Kingdom	Guatemala (re-	Sri Lanka
United States	founded in 2002)	(1989-1998)

Cover photo: A PBI Colombia volunteer in 2004, on the way to the cemetery with relatives of the victims of the Bellavista tragedy in which 119 people died, during combats between the FARC and the AUC in May 2002, Bojayá, Chocó.

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## Letter from the Board of Trustees

Dear Friends,

**2004** was a year in which the work of the human rights defenders globally and those that we accompany became increasingly difficult. Again and again we saw the lives of the brave people that our volunteers accompany under threat because of the human rights work they do. In the year we focused on further strengthening our work and resources in order to offer the maximum support we could to them.

PBI UK contributes to a well-developed and effective protective accompaniment programme by building a network of political supporters, members, donors, other organisations and media contacts in the UK. In 2004 we increased participation in country specific advocacy networks and umbrella organisations such as the Indonesia Forum. We call on this network of contacts to support our human rights defenders in the field and to highlight the plight of defenders who are under particular threat. Our political support networks were activated 5 times in 2004 - twice for Colombia, twice for Indonesia and once for Guatemala.

In 2004 we held two training weekends and sent 13 volunteers to join field projects and so directly accompany human rights defenders where they work. We are very fortunate in that we attract excellent volunteers who bring into PBI a high level of energy and expertise. Their voluntary commitment to furthering PBI's work is truly inspiring.

We also raise funds. In 2004



A PBI Volunteer accompanies the National Coordination of Guatemalan Widows, (CONAVIGUA) in Guatemala

Sigrid Rausing Trust continued their very valuable support with a £100,000 grant. Overall we raised £167,034 of which £117,068 was passed on directly to support our field projects. We spent £50,014 on our work programme in the UK. At the year end we were holding £41,366 in unrestricted reserves. This represents approximately 25% of expenditure in the year and is in line with our internal reserves policy. We continue to strengthen our funding base into 2005. However, 2005 is also the year in which one of our truest supporters passed away. Professor John Ziman was known to many as a distinguished scientist but we, in PBI UK, knew him as a strong supporter of human rights and of PBI's work in particular. His contribution to our work leaves a space. We will strive to honour his memory by building on the PBI work which he supported so well.

In 2004 PBI UK contributed to the development of PBI's global work. We co-ordinated a meeting of European Sections in Lisbon to build capacity within Sections. We supported the wider organisation in commissioning an external evaluation of our fieldwork

projects and the International Secretariat and to co-ordinate a global external financial audit. At the end of 2004 PBI UK was working closely with other PBI sections to host our three-yearly General Assembly in London. This meeting sets key directions for the global organisation over the next three years.

None of this work could be carried out without the help of Susi Bascon, PBI UK's Co-ordinator. Susi's commitment, professionalism and energy for PBI's work are outstanding. We are also extremely lucky to have Keith Smith on board as our Accountant and equally fortunate to have Jane Walker working with us as our Fundraiser.

We realise that much more can be done in the UK and we will be striving in 2005 to find resources to expand and strengthen PBI's work. Our determination takes on a real urgency when we realise that many of the people we accompany are standing up for human rights in the shadow of real fears of physical attack or even death.

**In peace, Susan Cosgrove  
PBI UK Trustee**

## Celebrating Human Rights Defenders

The sheer scope of the repression in the countries where PBI works, and the range of responses it demands, is reflected in the wide spectrum of groups and individuals that we accompany - the overwhelming majority of whom are women. We accompany families of the disappeared, indigenous groups, lawyers' collectives, campaigners for the environment, trainers and capacity-builders, and peace communities, among others. Below are just two examples of the brave individuals PBI accompanied in 2004.

### Indonesia: Syarifah Murlina



"Kak Ifah" or "big sister Ifah". People called her this with their respect. Syarifah Murlina was working for LBH (Lembaga Bantuan Hukum Legal Aid Foundation) as a lawyer and died in the Tsunami on 26th December, 2005. She had a husband and 3 children but only her husband survived. She worked for LBH from 1998 to 2004. Syarifah was a patient and careful person but when it came to Human Rights violations, she became a very brave and powerful woman. She used to say that she was scared but she never refused to go into the field. This is because she believed that her risk was lower than that of the people who were actually suffering from the Human Rights violations. When she went into the field, PBI provided several personal

*"We are working with people who put their hearts on the table. Their job involves their families, their lives, absolutely everything"*

*(PBI Volunteer, Guatemala)*

accompaniers for her. There are many people who benefited from her courageous work.

She never worked to become famous or to make LBH well known, but only for the victims. Her priority was always the victims. This may be the most important principle that all people who work in Human Rights Protection should keep in mind and it is the reason why she was respected and loved by her co-workers.

With respect to Kak Ifah.

### Colombia: Berenice Celeyta Alayón

Recipient of the 1998 Robert F Kennedy Human Rights Award, Berenice Celeyta Alayón is president of NOMADESC, an association for research and social action. In August 2004, a possible attempt on her life was uncovered as part of a wider plan - Operation Dragon - to exterminate political opponents and leaders of social movements. Despite the seriousness of the threat, Berenice has continued her work with communities hard-hit by violence and oppression in the southwest of the country, raising social awareness and promoting empowerment. PBI has increased the accompaniment provided to her and voiced concerns regarding her security to the international community as well as to the Colombian government and other relevant state authorities.

Berenice Celeyta with PBI volunteer James Savage



## Indonesia: PBI Returns to Aceh

*"I am glad that PBI can be part of this initiative (INGOs returning to Aceh). I have always been a supporter of PBI".*

*(Michael Elmquist, Chief, UN OCHA Indonesia, December 2004)*

In October 2004 Indonesians elected a new President - Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono - a former army general and senior minister under his two predecessors. He scored especially well in conflict areas like Aceh and Papua, which may indicate that his presidency offered the best hope for conflict resolution and human rights protection.

In Papua, attacks by security forces continued with real and/or alleged independence supporters being detained, abducted, injured and killed. The first international organisation to be able to establish a permanent field presence in Papua, PBI set up a team of four in Jayapura in March 2004. They focused for the rest of the year on building relationships with the local community and the security forces to lay the groundwork for accompaniment, and are now assessing requests from local groups, as well as undertaking peace education work.

In Aceh, although martial law was downgraded to a state of civil emergency in May 2004, restrictions remained on internationals being allowed to enter the region. Nevertheless, PBI succeeded in providing human rights defenders with important moral support, and accompanied various local groups from its base in Medan, just over the border from Aceh. Our Medan base also provided a safe space for discussion and interchange of information between local groups.

### Tsunami Response

We are saddened by the loss of some Indonesian colleagues in the Asian tsunami disaster in December. Following this, PBI

dispatched a team to Aceh to assess the needs of civil society organisations, the impact on the security situation, and the viability of PBI re-establishing a presence in Aceh. Our skilled team also looked at the trauma support needs of partner organisations. The team met with members of partner organisations, other activists and civil society organisations and security forces.

The assessment team has concluded that there is indeed a need for PBI in post-tsunami Aceh, with many client and other organisations and activists expressing their desire to have PBI stay in the province. The needs range from protective services to coordinating and facilitating stress management and peace building workshops, among others. PBI is absorbing the cost of the assessment mission but we have started an appeal to raise £50,000 to re-launch PBI's presence in Aceh.

The Papua sub team meets the regional military commander



## Colombia 10 years on: Realities and hopes



From left: Louise Winstanley (PBI Volunteer), Hina Jilan (UN Special Representative on Human Rights Defenders), Sir Thomas Duggin (the UK Ambassador to Colombia), Laura Clarke (Colombia Project Coordinator)

In 2004, while the Colombian government claimed that the situation in the country had improved, human rights organisations continued to question the basis of the statistics and the indicators the government used to demonstrate this. The UN expressed concern at the increasing numbers of complaints it had received about arbitrary or illegal detentions, forced disappearances, extrajudicial executions, and violations of the right to due process, and at the Government's failure to implement the 27 recommendations in its 2003 report.

According to the Colombian Commission of Jurists, 33 human rights defenders were murdered or disappeared between 7 August 2002 and 7 August 2004, the highest number in the last seven years, while Hina Jilani, UN Special Representative for human rights defenders, in her annual report highlighted the campaign of stigmatisation against them. This found one of its strongest expressions in May 2004, with President Uribe's unfounded accusations against the San José de Apartadó Peace Community and

its international companions. Although the international community's response achieved positive results at the time, the Peace Community has since received a severe blow with the massacre, in February 2005, of eight of its members, including one of its historical leaders, Luis Eduardo Guerra.

In October 2004 we marked our 10th anniversary in Colombia with the presence of special guest Hina Jilani at an event in Bogotá to heighten the Colombian human rights cause internationally and garner greater political and financial support. The Project has four teams, in Bogotá, Barrancabermeja, Uraba and Medellín, and an average of 40 international volunteers in the field. During 2004, we expanded our work in 4 displaced communities and accompanied members of 12 NGOs.

***"Many people in Magdalena Medio owe their lives to the work of Peace Brigades International, who have stood by human rights defenders and the rights of women in this land of ours. If PBI had not been here ... these organisations would not exist and their members would have been displaced, disappeared and murdered"***

(Francisco de Roux - Program for Development and Peace, June 2004)

Two of the organisations accompanied by PBI in Colombia:

### Popular Women's Organisation (OFP)

OFP is a grassroots organisation based in Barrancabermeja that works with women, youth groups, and displaced communities. It provides invaluable services such as advice sessions for women, workshops, community development projects, soup kitchens and a broad range of social, cultural, and health education programmes. Thanks to the accompaniment of PBI in 2004, the OFP succeeded in extending its work to eight new municipalities in the Magdalena Medio region, despite the increase in threats and harassment aimed specifically at the organisation during the year.

### The José Alvear Restrepo Lawyers' Collective (CAJAR)

For over 20 years, CAJAR has undertaken vital work for the protection and defence of human rights and for the fight against impunity in Colombia. One of the key cases pursued in 2004 by CAJAR was the Mapiripán massacre of July 1997, in which approximately 49 people were detained, tortured, disappeared and murdered, and in which the Colombian army is accused of being implicated. With accompaniment by PBI, CAJAR were able to expand their work throughout the whole of the national territory last year.

## Mexico: Shining a spotlight on local justice work

For the first time in its history, Mexico appeared before the Interamerican Court of Human Rights because of its failure to free and compensate Alfonso Martín del Campo Dodd, arbitrarily detained 12 years ago and tortured. According to international human rights bodies such as Human Rights Watch, torture is widespread in Mexico. Mexico's rural poverty, particularly in Indigenous areas, has recently been highlighted by the World Bank. Amnesty International has consistently asked for urgent reforms to deal with the deep-seated problems in the criminal justice system which encourage human rights abuses and impunity. At the same time, the future of the National Human Rights Programme published by the government in 2004, and intended to implement recommendations by the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, seems uncertain. Meanwhile, human rights violations - disappearances, torture, arbitrary detentions, killings - continue with almost total impunity, with those committed by soldiers stationed in the indigenous communities giving particular cause for concern.

### The PBI Mexico Project

In a complex political situation, the civil population of Mexico has been subjected to low intensity levels of long-term, historically-rooted repression, which has had an inhibiting and paralysing effect on social movements. Within this context, PBI's impact has not been limited to the protection of human rights defenders but importantly, has helped through encouragement and confidence building, to strengthen civil society movements.

***"We are convinced that PBI's accompaniment helps us to be more visible and with this comes protection from attacks transmitted by the media discrediting the legitimacy of our Committee. We believe that with PBI's accompaniment, we run less of a risk."***

*(Francisco Cerezo Contreras - Committee for the Liberty of the Cerezo Brothers)*

### Two of the human rights organisations accompanied by PBI in Mexico:

#### Cerezo Committee (CC)

Emiliana and Francisco Cerezo founded the Cerezo Committee (CC) in 2001 in response to the sentencing of their three younger brothers - Alejandro, Hector and Antonio - for allegedly setting off explosives in banks in Mexico City. The CC



A PBI Volunteer accompanies Tita Radilla Martínez of AFADEM

campaigns for the release of all political prisoners and prisoners of conscience. In January 2005, Alejandro was released. This is a huge achievement and a positive outcome. After three and a half years in prison he talks of the harsh conditions that have led to his deteriorating health and the mental anguish at being held captive. "My freedom came from public pressure, which came from the solidarity movement generated by the work of the Cerezo Committee", he says. The physical presence of PBI in the accompaniment of Emiliana and Francisco allowed them to continue their campaign without the fear of reprisals, however, they still have a long way to go.

#### AFADEM

AFADEM, or "The Association of Relatives of the Detained, Disappeared and Victims of Human Rights Violations in Mexico" belongs to the Latin-American Federation of Associations of the Detained and Disappeared Persons (FEDEFAM). The organisation's main activity is to bring charges against those suspected of being responsible for disappearances during the so-called dirty war period of the 70s. The members of AFADEM run extreme risks in attempting to bring such cases to the district attorney's office, as high ranking officers have been accused. PBI accompanies Tita Radilla Martínez, the organisation's vice-president, as well as other relatives of missing people.

## Guatemala: The work continues



PBI Volunteers with members of SITRA-NB

In 2004, the general human rights situation in Guatemala, according to the International Observatory for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders, "continued to be one of the most disturbing of Latin America". Land evictions with associated human rights violations such as murders and destruction of homes quadrupled in 2004 as compared to the previous two years. The United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala (MINUGUA), closed in November leading to fears of a further deterioration in the situation. Human rights defenders have suffered particularly, with an alarming increase in threats, office break-ins and assassinations in rural areas. PBI is receiving more requests for accompaniment than ever before.

***"For us, accompaniment has been very effective ... when they realized that we were accompanied by foreigners they stopped the violence."***

(SITRA-NB Union member)

### Two of the organisations accompanied by PBI in Guatemala:

#### **NB Employees Union NB (SITRA-NB)**

This is one of the few unions existing in Guatemala in the "maquila" or factory sector. It is a union formed by women who work in the factory of a company called NB and is part of the Syndicated Federation of Food Employees and Related Workers (FESTRAS). Several members of the union and its management board have received threats of various types, including intimidation in their homes. They have also been followed and harassed. Since 27 July, PBI has been maintaining a presence outside the factory and accompanying union members on errands.

#### **PBI Volunteers with members of SITRA-NB**

##### **EI Maguey Plantation Community**

This plantation was the property of a company for which the forbearers of the current community cultivated the land under particularly harsh working conditions. With the signing of the Peace Accords, the land is being reclaimed because of historic rights to it. At the end of 2002, the government granted the land to the community. Nevertheless, in April 2003, the occupants were evicted by the army and their houses burned. The community was left on the road with the few possessions they were able to salvage. After the eviction, the Human Rights Ombudsman's Office condemned the government's actions. A short time afterwards, the government issued a decree withdrawing the concession of the land to the community. The community was able to achieve an effective reversal of the government decision and has returned to the plantation. From January 2004, PBI began visiting the plantation three times a week and, since official protection against eviction was issued, it has been visiting every two weeks.



## Mona's story

Not an easy assignment, to write about my first year as a volunteer with the PBI Mexico Project. Such a lot happened during that year, it seems as if half a lifetime has passed instead of a meagre 12 months.

It is quite difficult to get across how potentially dangerous the situation in Mexico is for many social and human rights activists. The main image of Mexico most people have is one of sand, sun, fun and tequila. And you can definitely find a lot of that all over the country. For many people therefore, to be told that in Mexico people are being intimidated, tortured, raped, disappeared and killed for political reasons on a regular basis comes as something of a shock. But it is there for everybody to see, if they know where to look: Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International and the US State Department all write about grave human rights deficiencies in Mexico in their 2004 reports, as do various Mexican Human Rights groups and organisations.

One of the questions I was asked most was: "But if the situation is as bad as you describe it, how can you stand just being there without doing anything. How can you stand not to get involved?" I began with these same reservations, but when I began realizing how intricate the social network can be here, the PBI principle of non-intervention began to make a lot of sense to me. I am convinced that it is much better to open or retain spaces for activists by our mere presence and by accompanying them, than it would be to intervene politically, without really knowing what that might lead to. The people we accompany know very well what they are fighting for, they don't really need people from elsewhere to tell them what to do. All they need is the space to do it in, without fearing for their lives or the lives of their families.

And the question I most frequently ask myself is: "How come I don't lose heart, when I see all the terrible things that keep on happening in Mexico? How can I stand always looking at the dark side of politics, at all the torture, murder, people who will never know what has happened to their loved ones, because they have vanished without a trace?" And I answer myself: Because I have the privilege of being able to work with incredibly



Monica with Francisco Cerezo, member of the Cerezo Committee

courageous and committed people in this country, people who are trying to make a difference, even if it is dangerous, even if the changes that can be seen are so tiny, as to be hardly distinguishable. Without PBI's presence, these people might not have the political and humanitarian space to be able to work in the way that they do. It may sound paradoxical, but my world view has not turned blacker since I started working with PBI, but rather the opposite. I am more deeply convinced than ever that we can change the world from below, if we see it as a whole. And because I see the world as a whole, I am happy to be able to support what people are doing on the other side of the world from my home country, which happens to be in Europe.

With PBI I have the unique opportunity to be able to try to live what I am trying to create. Nobody said that would be easy (and it certainly isn't), but it is deeply rewarding. After one year on the Mexico team and looking at another nine months here, I can say: What I have learned and am still learning here is shaping and changing my life in ways I wouldn't have thought possible, but which are helping me to become a more balanced and complete human being.

**Monica Bricke PBI Mexico volunteer**

## PBI UK

**P**BI UK, along with 20 country groups around Europe, North America and the Pacific, is responsible for the vital support work which allows the field programmes - in Colombia, Mexico, Indonesia and Guatemala - to operate smoothly. Its main areas of work are political support building, recruitment and training of volunteers, outreach and publicity, and fundraising.

### Recruitment and Training

In 2004 PBI UK organised two orientation weekends, attended by 28 potential volunteers for the field projects, and run by ex-PBI volunteers with the support of PBI UK's co-ordinator. Both participants and external observers have commented on the excellent standard of the weekends, which have become a very effective tool for recruitment, training and raising awareness. The aim of the weekends is to look constructively at how volunteers react in a range of conflict situations and, through self-evaluation, to establish the suitability of field candidates. We recruit more PBI field volunteers than any other PBI country group and our methodology is being replicated in other country groups. PBI UK's excellent training manual is now used by other PBI country groups, and we hope to be able to steadily diversify the ethnic, religious, and cultural base of participants as we continue recruiting in 2005 by investing more proactively in targeting potential volunteers.

### Outreach and Publicity

Raising awareness directly protects individuals at risk. 2004 produced a range of opportunities for PBI to present its work at public events.



The PBI stall at the "Respect" Festival

15 PBI returned field volunteers gave talks and workshops and screened the documentary "In The Company of Fear" about PBI's field work at different events around the country including this year's European Social Forum at Alexandra Palace, London. Photography exhibitions were mounted and we ran information and recruitment stalls at a dozen university employment fairs and Latin American cultural festivals, distributing publicity materials such as information packs, membership leaflets, newsletters and the Annual Report. A direct result of these activities has been a 30% increase in the number of enquiries at the UK office from people wanting to become volunteers in London and overseas. In 2002 a total of 150 enquiries was received at the UK

office from people interested in becoming human rights observers. We are pleased to be able to report that we matched that number of enquiries in three months in 2004.

In 2004 returned volunteers played a valuable role in ensuring that PBI's work gets media exposure. In 2004, as well as preliminary discussions with BBC4 on a possible documentary on PBI's work, 11 articles appeared in local newspapers, peace and human rights publications, student magazines and Latin American newspapers, and there were two radio interviews on BBC Radio Ulster and Impacto Latino Sound radio. All of these helped to publicise more widely the work of PBI and to increase our profile in the UK.

## Making it possible - fundraising at PBI UK



PBI UK  
volunteer  
Katherine  
Ronderos at  
the  
Discovering  
Latin America  
music and  
dance festival

In 2004 we raised £167,034 from charitable trusts (our financial bedrock), our membership (who give grassroots support to human rights defenders) and a number of events thanks to energetic individuals volunteering their time and talents. Among these were a flamenco evening at London restaurant Darbuka, a festival organised by Discovering Latin America and a concert series brought to us by Musiqua Antiqua of Dursley. We also received support from Ben & Jerry's whose new ice-cream "Peace of Cake", matched their progressive social mission to promote peace and justice with PBI's aims. We would like to extend our full appreciation to The Network for Social Change, Polden-Puckham Charitable Foundation and Sigrid Rausing Trust, who continue to be our main sources of income. A further £110,000 has been committed by the Sigrid Rausing Trust since the year end. We hope that more major donors are encouraged to join them in support of PBI in 2005.

Ad hoc donations from individuals and regular income from members, although still modest, continue to be an important and valuable source of funds. After receiving charity status last year we are encouraging Gift Aided and online donations ([www.givenow.org](http://www.givenow.org)).

In the second half of 2004 we welcomed on board the extra help of PBI's International Fundraiser to build on previous efforts and realize PBI UK's potential. Raising sufficient funds to meet the increasing requests from conflict zones continues to be our biggest challenge due to our low profile in the UK. Outreach and publicity is therefore key to future fundraising plans.

As well as all our individual donors and the volunteers who gave time, energy and resources to PBI UK's work in 2004, contributing financially were:

**Amnesty International  
Human Rights  
Defenders Programme**

**Appletree Foundation**

**Ashworth Charitable  
Trust**

**A.W.60 Charitable  
Trust**

**Ben & Jerry's**

**Bryan Lancaster's  
Trust**

**H T & L B Cadbury  
Trust**

**Calpe Trust**

**Discovering Latin  
America**

**Philanthropic Trust**

**Polden-Puckham  
Charitable Foundation**

**Prisoners of  
Conscience Appeal  
Fund**

**Radley Trust**

**C A Rodewald  
Charitable Settlement**

**Sigrid Rausing Trust**

**Soliman Travel**

**W. F. Southall Trust**

## Political Support Network

**P**BI's international support network is made up of parliamentarians, lawyers' associations, churches, NGOs and individuals. It is mobilised at times of crisis and provides back-up to our field workers and those they are accompanying by exerting immediate international pressure on governments to stop human rights violations.

We have built up our high profile supporter base, with the result that our network now has over 80 members, including parliamentarians (MPs, MEPs and Lords) and legal professionals. An increasing number of parliamentarians have expressed their interest in the work of PBI and taken action to support the projects. In addition, PBI can count on the continued support of the Law Society of England and Wales, the Bar Human Rights Committee of England and Wales and the International Bar Association which has proved effective in connection with advocacy efforts. In 2004, support network members were mobilised on a number of occasions in response to situations of emergency in Colombia and Indonesia. As our field projects grow and expand to new countries the need for this support increases.

The maintenance of effective links with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) along with the Diplomatic Corps in the field has been invaluable to the work of PBI. In addition, PBI's increased participation in country specific advocacy networks and umbrella organisations such as the ABC Group (a group of British and Irish agencies working on Colombia) and the Indonesia Forum has proved effective in aiding advocacy work. The activities of the ABC Group, for example, have included meetings with the parliamentary All-Party Group on Colombia and with FCO Under-Secretary of State Bill Rammell, as well as the coordination of lobbying at European level.

### How does it work in practice?

The support networks provide a vital role in ensuring that PBI can continue with its work, by reacting in situations of crisis. An example which demonstrates their effectiveness was their impressive response to the public statement by the Colombian President Uribe Velez in May 2004. In this he encouraged the army to

deport any internationals attempting to "obstruct justice" in the Peace Community of San Jose de Apartado, referring to PBI and other international organisations. He also branded the Community as providing a corridor for FARC guerrillas. This statement had the most serious impact on the work of PBI in its 10 years in Colombia, as well as posing a grave risk to the San José de Apartadó Peace Community itself. In parallel with other international agencies, **PBI immediately responded by activating our global networks of political support at the highest levels, resulting in the following:**

- Letters of concern sent from MEPs and the European Union to the Colombian authorities.
- Concerns about PBI's safety raised at European Parliamentarian debates and ministerial meetings.
- British Minister Bill Rammell met the Vice President of Colombia and expressed his concerns.
- A public statement from the European Union expressed support for human rights work in Colombia.
- Hina Jilani, the Special Representative of the United Nations for Human Rights Defenders, agreed to express concerns in a UN Human Rights report to Colombian government.
- A letter addressed to the Colombian government and signed by 44 high profile human rights groups, trade unions and church groups and 66 US Congress Representatives in the USA.
- Public concerns were expressed by the Interamerican Commission of Human Rights (CIDH).
- Colombian embassies in Europe invited parliamentarians, international organisations and agencies to discuss actions taken by the Colombian government.
- **A retraction and letter of support for our work was issued by the Colombian Vice President and the Colombian Ambassador in the UK.**

## New Fieldwork Developments



PBI met with human rights organisations in Rwanda, DRC and Burundi

### Nepal

Following requests made by Amnesty International and Nepalese human rights groups, a PBI assessment team visited the country between August and October 2004, and in January 2005. The people of Nepal are trapped in a situation of grave human rights violations committed by both the security forces and the Maoist rebels. When King Gyanendra's seized power on 1 February 2005, the UN, Amnesty International, and Human Rights Watch, among others, expressed fears that Nepal would become a "failed state".

In early February 2005, we began work in collaboration with the International Commission of Jurists' (ICJ) "Project on Protection of Human Rights Defenders and Coordination of Human Rights Monitoring in Nepal". Security training courses were held for Nepalese Human Rights Defenders in late April, with two of the team staying on to do initial follow-up work until early August. Protective accompaniment by international PBI observers in Nepal would be a groundbreaking initiative.

### Africa - Great Lakes

From mid April to mid May 2004 PBI visited Rwanda, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Burundi. Some estimates suggest that, since 1998, nearly 4 million people have been killed by conflict in the DRC, while the civil war in Burundi has claimed hundreds of thousands over the same period. Currently, both countries are struggling to end hostilities, with very limited success. Meanwhile, the post-genocide regime in Rwanda is perceived by many to be authoritarian and closed to criticism.

During the mission, the PBI team:

- held meetings with 40 Rwandan, Congolese and Burundian NGOs to assess locally-based human rights organisations' security concerns and needs
- interviewed representatives of international groups and governments, and
- gave two security and protection workshops for individuals at risk in the DRC

Upon returning to Europe, the team met government representatives to share with them some preliminary observations about the difficulties facing human rights defenders in the Great Lakes region, and the role of the international community in helping promote human rights.

The team concluded that there were strong possibilities for developing PBI work in the Great Lakes region, and further visits are planned to determine exactly what kind of collaboration with African groups may be viable. During these visits, the team plans to develop a dialogue with Rwandan, Congolese and Burundian authorities.

## Financial summary

(Charity registration number 1101016, Company registration number 3912587)

### Summary statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 December 2004

	2004	2003
	£	£
<b>Incoming resources</b>		
Grants receivable from trusts and companies	142,120	66,280
Donations and other income	24,914	10,998
	<u>167,034</u>	<u>77,278</u>
<b>Resources expended</b>		
Charitable expenditure	(148,667)	(55,877)
Cost of generating funds	(18,415)	(10,422)
	<u>(167,082)</u>	<u>(66,299)</u>
<b>Net incoming resources for year</b>	(48)	10,979
Funds brought forward	42,914	31,935
	<u>42,866</u>	<u>42,914</u>

### Summary balance sheet as at 31st December 2004

	2004	2003
	£	£
Fixed assets	<u>323</u>	<u>647</u>
Current assets	49,488	42,537
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	<u>(6,945)</u>	<u>(270)</u>
Net current assets	<u>42,543</u>	<u>42,267</u>
Total assets less current liabilities	<u>42,866</u>	<u>42,914</u>
Restricted funds	1,500	8,930
Unrestricted funds	<u>41,366</u>	<u>33,984</u>
Total funds	<u>42,866</u>	<u>42,914</u>

**Management Committee statement** These summary accounts are not the statutory accounts but a summary of the information, which appears in the full financial statements, which have been subjected to an independent audit and given an unqualified report. The Management Committee approved the full financial statements on 7 June 2005 and a copy is to be submitted to the Charity Commission. The summarised financial statements may not contain sufficient information to allow for a full understanding of the financial affairs of the charity. For further information, the full financial statements including the auditor's report may be obtained from the charity's registered office.

**Respective responsibilities of the trustees and the auditors**

The summary accounts are the responsibility of the Trustees. It is our responsibility to report to you on their consistency with the full accounts. Our report on the full accounts of Peace Brigades International United Kingdom Section includes information on the responsibilities of the Trustees and the auditors relating to the preparation and audit of the accounts and on the basis of our opinion on the full accounts.

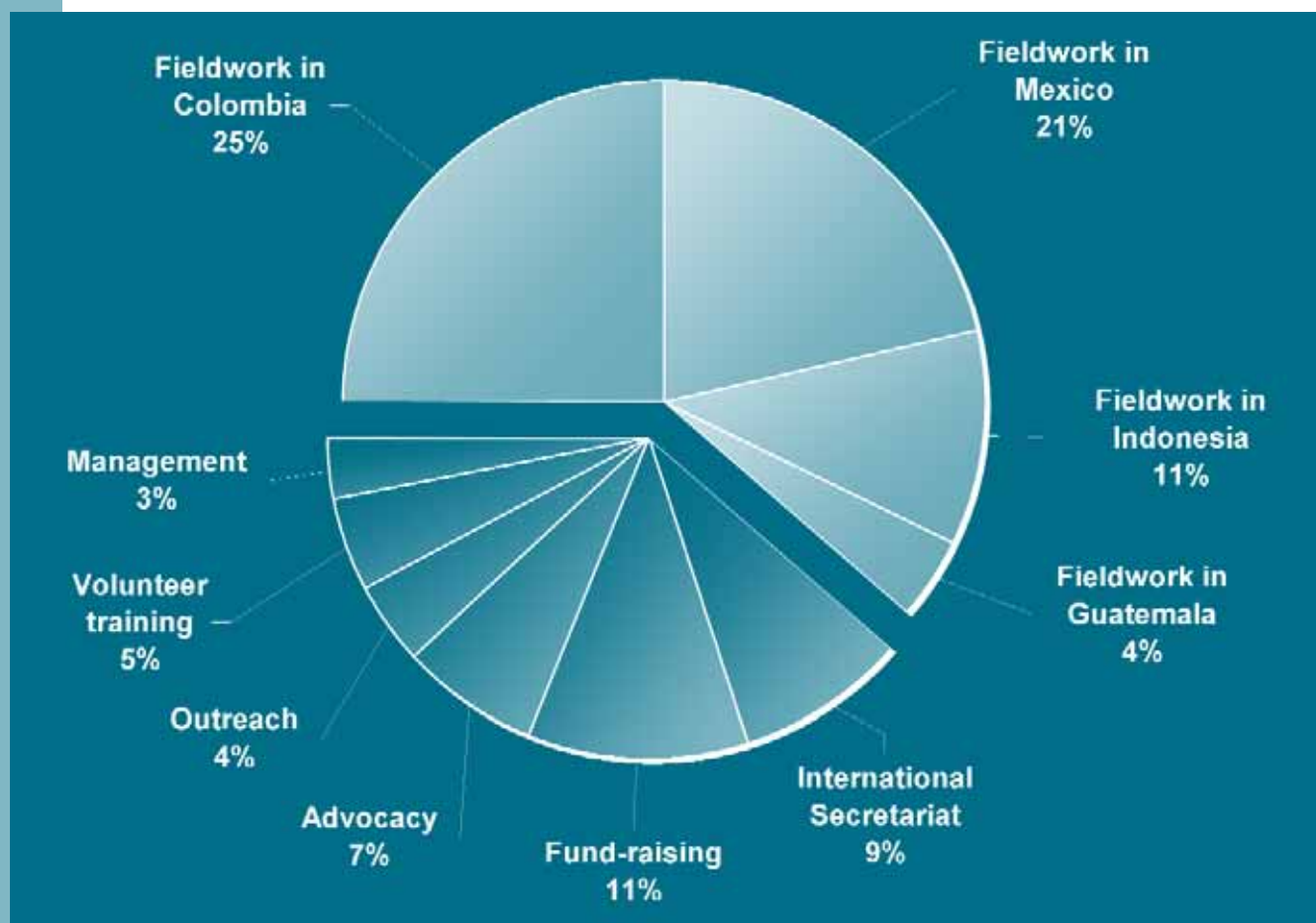
**Opinion**

In our opinion the summary accounts are consistent with the full accounts of Peace Brigades International United Kingdom Section for the year ended 31 December 2004.

Critchleys, Chartered Accountants, Registered Auditors

10 June 2005

## How the funds were spent



## How you can help

We are grateful to our regular donors who provide the means for us to protect lives and to the many hundreds of PBI volunteers contributing to long-term peace and justice.

### Give As You Earn

Give to PBI directly from your pay and we get more from your donation: [www.allaboutgiving.org](http://www.allaboutgiving.org)

### Join our festivals team

PBI volunteers at Glastonbury and Reading have fun whilst raising funds. Call our office on 020 7281 5370 to join them.

### Make a donation

See back page for more details

### Parachute for protection

Have the experience of a lifetime and create funds for PBI on a sponsored skydive. See our website for details: [www.peacebrigades.org/britain.html](http://www.peacebrigades.org/britain.html)

**These are just a few ideas. If you would like to organise your own event please call us.**



**Peace Brigades International (PBI)  
UK Section**

1b Waterlow Road  
N19 5NJ London

**Tel/Fax:** 020 7 281 5370

**email:** pbiuk@gn.apc.org

**web:** www.peacebrigades.org

**Registered Charity Number: 1101016**

**Company Registration Number: 03912587**

**Yes, I would like to help**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to become a **PBI UK member** by paying a minimum contribution of  £30 (standard)  £20 (student/low waged)  £10 (retired/unemployed)

I would like to make a one-off **donation to PBI UK** of  £250  £100,  £50,  £25,  other £ \_\_\_\_\_  
Cheques or Charity Aid Foundation Vouchers should be made payable to "Peace Brigades International UK Section".

Please tick here if you would like Peace Brigades International UK Section to reclaim the tax you have paid on all your donations to us since 6 April 2000 and any future donations you may make (remember to notify us if you no longer pay an amount of income tax and/or capital gains tax equal to the tax we reclaim on your donations).

I would like to support **PBI UK** by making a **regular gift** of £ \_\_\_\_\_ to be paid every \_\_\_\_\_ by standing order, starting on \_\_\_\_\_

To: The Manager \_\_\_\_\_ Bank/Building Society

Bank Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) of Account Holder(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Bank/Building Society Account Number \_\_\_\_\_

Branch Sort Code \_\_\_\_\_

Instructions to your Bank or Building Society. Please pay Peace Brigades International UK Section (Account Number 50070611, Sort Code 08 90 61, The Cooperative Bank Plc, 62-64 Southampton Row, London, WC1) the amounts indicated above.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

I would like **more information about volunteering with PBI UK**.  
I prefer communication by  post /  email.

I would like to join PBI's **Emergency Response Network**.

**Thank you!**

**Please return this form to us at the address above, NOT your bank.**

**PBI UK Management Committee in 2004**

Christopher Chapman  
Susan Cosgrove  
Joanne Holden  
Andrew Kendle  
Rachel McFadzean-Ferguson  
Brian Wolfe

**Staff**

Susi Bascon (Full time coordinator)  
Keith Smith (Part time finance worker)  
Jane Walker (Part time fundraiser)

**PBI Field volunteers in 2004**

Colombia project

Chizom Ekeh  
Giorgio Ferlisi  
Hugo Tighe  
June Holmes  
Louise Winstanley  
Paul Mukerji  
Ricardo Vitale  
Talyne Haytayan  
David Troup

Indonesia project

Andrew Hickman  
Helen Payne  
Julie French  
Naomi Baird

**PBI UK volunteers**

Abbie Fielding-Smith	Eleanor Openshaw
Angel Varela	Ann Wright
Amarantha Wright	Peter Hollings
Peter Hollings	Helen Woodcock
Victoria Forster-Jones	Matt Fawcett
Anna Osborne	Kathryn Tomlinson
Tamsin Mitchel	Edward Wright
Luís Ventura	Richard Bennet
Mia Moilanen	Jill Powill
Miguel Boo	Nicola Evans
Giorgio Ferlisi	Anna Jones
Emily Oppen	Kieran Carr
Taline Haytayan	Anthony Fletcher
Yolanda Bascon	Emily White
Katherine Ronderos	Deryn Collins
Satbir Bhatia	Laura Burnes
John Baird	Mireia Cano
Harman Sandher	Lydia Greatex
Isabel Carton	Tania Gessi
Lucy Carber	Rosie Doyle
James Savage	Ruth Cherrington
Adam Baird	Carlos Flores
Glen Arrandon	Sophie Reynolds
Stuart Bowman	Tigger Jaye MacGregor

*Peace Brigades International United Kingdom Section expresses its thanks to all volunteers who contribute their time to its many activities. It is not practicable at present to quantify the value of the many hundreds of unpaid hours they contribute each year but this time is crucial to the effectiveness of the organisation's work.*