

International Protective Accompaniment

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The physical accompaniment by international personnel of activists, organizations or communities threatened with politically motivated attacks.

Accompaniment has three primary impacts:

- Protection
- Encouragement
- Building a global movement

- How does accompaniment work?
- Are we achieving these three goals?
- What organizations are currently doing accompaniment and where?
- I can't go overseas, can I get involved here in the U.S.?

Wherever Alirio travels, be it from home to work, to court, or to meetings around the city, he moves in a bullet-proof car, wears a bullet-proof jacket and has a constant PBI presence at his side...

One day we parked in the underground parking lot of the 30-story building in which his office is located. "Do you mind if we walk up rather than take the elevator?" he asked. "It's just that I never get any exercise these days – it's simply too risky for me to go to the gym or the park."

Some further resources on accompaniment:

Organizations:

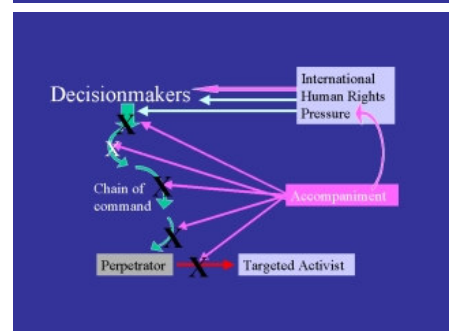
Christian Peacemaker Teams: www.cpt.org
 Fellowship of Reconciliation: www.forusa.org
 Nonviolent Peaceforce: www.nonviolentpeaceforce.org
 Peace Brigades International: www.peacebrigades.org
 Presbyterian Peace Fellowship:
<http://www.presbypeacefellowship.org/colombia/concerned.php>

Books:

Taking a Stand: A Guide to Peace Teams and Accompaniment Projects, Elizabeth Boardman
Unarmed Bodyguards, Liam Mahony & Luis Enrique Eguren
Getting in the Way: Stories from Christian Peacemaker Teams, Tricia Gates Brown

Tactical Notebook:

Side by Side, Liam Mahony (available free on-line at:
<http://www.newtactics.org/main.php/SidebySide>)



** Session facilitated by: Michael Joseph, Co-Director,
 Peace Brigades International/USA