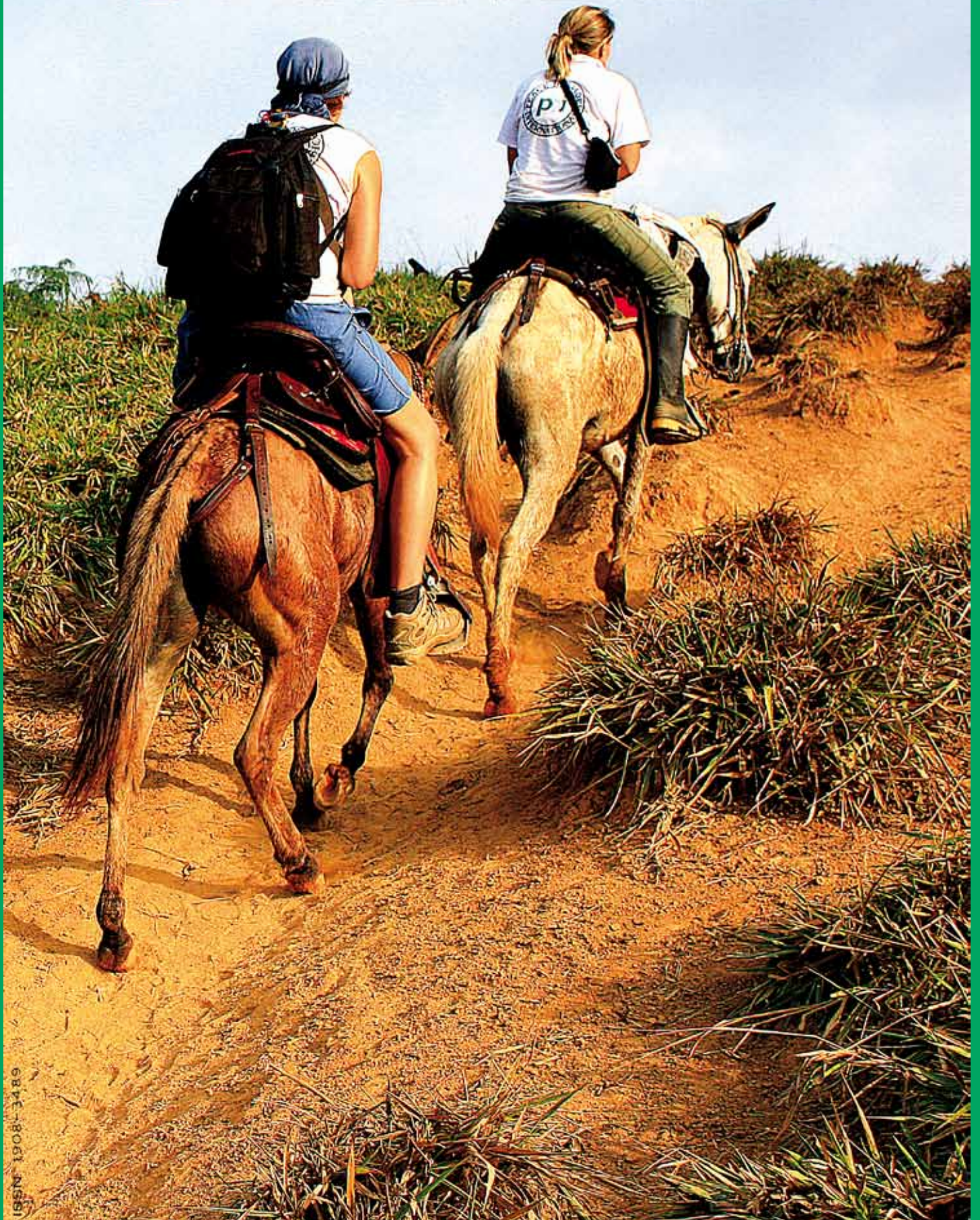


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PBI COLOMBIA FUNDING AGENCIES

- Broederlijk Delen
- Canton Vaud /PBI Switzerland
- Catalan Agency for Development
- Christian Aid (with Irish Aid)
- Civil Peace Service/PBI Germany
 - Diakonia Sweden
 - Diakonisches Werk
- Government of Cantabria
- Government of Navarra
 - ICCO/Kerk in Actie
- Individual donations
- Intermón-Oxfam (EU)
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- Overbrook Foundation/PBI USA
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On the cover Carly Dawson and Sandrine Detroz during an accompaniment

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Protection during an election year

IN 2010, PBI CONTINUED TO FOCUS ON VISIBILISING THE FIGHT AGAINST IMPUNITY, HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS DUE TO ECONOMIC INTERESTS, AND WORK WITH SOCIAL ORGANISATIONS WITHIN THE COLOMBIAN CONTEXT. DURING THE FIRST HALF OF THE YEAR, THE ELECTIONS MARKED THE CONTEXT AGAINST WHICH THIS WORK WAS CARRIED OUT, LEADING TO A CHANGE OF GOVERNMENT FOLLOWING THE ELECTION OF JUAN MANUEL SANTOS AS PRESIDENT OF COLOMBIA.



On 27 September 2010, President Santos presented the Victims' Legislative Bill, which included the issues of reparations for the conflict's victims and the restitution of land.

The election campaign period was marked by intense repression against the social movement and organisations accompanied by PBI. There was a notable increase in the number of threats and even selective murders committed against human rights organisations and social leaders¹, requiring immediate and coordinated responses by PBI in order to increase the protection of accompanied individuals and organisations.

The new government of Juan Manuel Santos has brought elements of both continuity and change from the policies of the Álvaro Uribe Vélez administration. One of the most significant changes has been the new government's official position with regard to the role to be played by human rights defenders in a democracy. The administration's new found openness differs significantly from the stigmatizations expressed by members of the previous government, including former president

Uribe himself.² As a result, national and international civil society organisations have noted greater openness by State institutions to direct dialogue with civil society. The previous administration often dismissed this sector as political opposition or criminalised as guerrilla or terrorist sympathizers.³

PBI Colombia values this new openness to dialogue. However, the ongoing and—in some cases—increased harassment and aggression against sectors of civil society should also be highlighted. A report by the Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law Observatory (Colombia-Europe-United States Coordination) compared the first six months of 2010 with the first 75 days of the Juan Manuel Santos administration. The findings demonstrated that human rights defenders continued to face multiple forms of aggression.⁴ Selective murders increased, especially against community

leaders involved in land restitution issues.⁵ Threats also continue to be everyday occurrences that terrify civil society organisations, and finally human rights defenders are increasingly investigated, prosecuted or detained.⁶

PBI believes it is of utmost importance that the international community continues to closely monitor the human rights situation under the new government, insisting on adequate responses to ensure that commitments made may benefit human rights defenders, organisations and the population at-large. PBI Colombia will monitor to see if the current government's messages of openness and concern for the defence of human rights transform into concrete actions and improved safety for accompanied individuals and organisations fighting for fundamental rights in Colombia.

In 2010, PBI Colombia focused on the following issues:



On 6 November 1985, members of the April 19 guerrilla movement (M-19) stormed the Colombian Palace of Justice in Bogotá and took almost 350 people hostage. The Colombian Armed Forces' operation to regain control lasted 28 hours. When the armed confrontation was over, 94 people had died, 11 were forcibly disappeared, and the Palace was engulfed in flames. In June 2010, Colonel Alfonso Plazas Vega was sentenced to 30 years of prison for the forced disappearance of eleven individuals during the operation.

PBI BELIEVES IT IS OF UTMOST IMPORTANCE THAT THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY CONTINUES TO CLOSELY MONITOR THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION UNDER THE NEW GOVERNMENT

LAND CLAIMS AS A RISK FACTOR

On 27 September 2010, President Santos presented the Victims' Legislative Bill, which included the issues of reparations for victims of the conflict and the restitution of land. Although this bill was not passed in 2010, it will continue to be a central issue in 2011. Meanwhile, the issue of land has been the cause of grave incidents in different regions in 2010.⁷

In May 2010, PBI expressed its concern nationally and internationally following the murder of Rogelio Martínez, the small scale farming leader in the department of Sucre, and a member of the National Movement of Victims of State Crimes (MOVICE) – Sucre chapter. His murder is believed to be based on his involvement in land restitution issues in this area. PBI's objective of PBI was to draw international attention to this case and seek guarantees for the life of the other MOVICE members in Sucre, as well as Rogelio Martínez' family members.⁸

Additionally, due to ongoing presence in the Curbaradó and Jiguamiandó River Basins in Urabá, accompanying the

Inter-Church Justice and Peace Commission (CIJP), PBI has been able to closely follow up on the security situation of CIJP members and the communities belonging to the Humanitarian and Biodiversity Zones. CIJP members, as well as the inhabitants of the Humanitarian and Biodiversity Zones, have faced ongoing stigmatization in the mass media, alleged murder plots, and a high risk of criminal prosecutions. Community leaders accompanied by CIJP have received direct threats.⁹

Due to insecurity and the lack of clarity with regard to the legitimate representation of the communities involved in land restitution processes in these zones, in May 2010 the Constitutional Court ordered a freeze on turning over land. In order to ensure the necessary conditions for restoring land to their legitimate owners, the Court also established criteria for a census of the population and the election of a legitimate legal representative for the communities from the Curbaradó and Jiguamiandó River Basins.¹⁰ As requested, PBI has kept the international community informed on this internationally renowned and emblematic return process

and has participated in several activities carried out jointly with the Inter-Agency Dialogue in Colombia (DIAL), of which PBI is an observing member.

BASELESS CRIMINAL PROSECUTIONS

Different civil society organisations have repeatedly expressed the risk of baseless criminal prosecutions against their members and against the community members with whom they work. Although it is not a new concern, this strategy employed against human rights defenders has worsened in 2010.¹¹

On 14 September 2010, human rights defender and social leader David Ravelo Crespo, who PBI accompanies as a member of the Regional Corporation for the Defence of Human Rights (CREDHOS) in Magdalena Medio, was detained under charges of aggravated homicide and conspiracy to commit a crime for his alleged participation in events taking place close to 20 years ago. Given that these charges and the legal proceedings began within the context of serious death threats and alleged plans to murder him, PBI has requested that State institutions and the international community closely monitor due process in the case and prevent political motives from influencing the prosecution.¹²

In addition to carrying out intense advocacy work, PBI maintains direct contact with Mr. Ravelo and accompanies him during his detention through regular prison visits. As the case against him develops, PBI will continue to raise awareness through dialogue with the authorities and publishing information in regards to his situation.

FIGHT AGAINST IMPUNITY AND EMBLEMATIC CASES

In 2010, several legal proceedings took place in which PBI-accompanied lawyers and organisations represented the victims of crimes committed by the State. These cases include the military invasion of the Palace of Justice after an armed take-over by the M-19 insurgent group in 1985; homicide charges against retired General Rito Alejo del Río for murdering small-scale farmer Marino López from the Cacarica River Basin during the military operation known as "Operation Genesis" in 1997; illegal wiretapping (of social organizations and political opposition) charges against several former executive branch officials from the Administrative Department of Security (DAS); and the participation of State security



The February 2010 walk to commemorate five years since the massacre of the San José de Apartadó Peace Community in 2005.

forces in the massacre of San José de Apartadó in 2005. These cases are part of the search for truth and justice regarding State crimes and serious human rights violations. Accordingly, the victims' legal representatives, most of whom are accompanied by PBI, have been under intense pressure.¹³

In order to ensure respect for the physical safety of these human rights defenders, PBI has met with authorities in Colombia and abroad, published information on these cases, and carried out physical accompaniments. These actions have helped draw international attention to these cases and the vulnerable situation of the lawyers

PBI COLOMBIA TAKES STEPS TO BROADEN ITS WORK IN CAUCA AND VALLE DEL CAUCA

Since June 2010, PBI began to travel to the regions of Cauca and Valle del Cauca, departments in southwest Colombia, in order to meet with social organisations and civilian and military authorities. Although PBI had previously maintained an intermittent presence in these departments, the unstable situation in this region demanded greater attention and analysis in the second half of 2010.

In November 2010, PBI's assembly decided to begin an exploratory phase in Cauca and Valle del Cauca to analyse the possibility of establishing a more permanent presence in the region. In 2011,

PBI will keep an exploratory team in Cali made up of team members from Medellín and supported by members of the Strategy and Security team, the Supporting the Reconstruction of the Social Fabric (ARTS) team, and the Inter-Team Committee in Bogotá. The exploration will seek to deepen PBI's understanding of the conflict in the region, become familiar with the organisations, identify social dynamics, and analyse opportunities for PBI to contribute to improving the work and protection of human rights defenders in this region of the country.

INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND STRENGTHENING

In 2010, PBI Colombia implemented a new structure for its coordinating team in order to increase communication and collaboration with other PBI bodies (such as the International Council), projects in other countries, and country groups in several parts of Europe and North America. PBI country groups have played a key role in emergencies and in the success of speaker's tours undertaken by human rights defenders, which were coordinated by PBI Colombia.

PBI Colombia has taken steps to better incorporate the international policies of all PBI organisations (including other projects and country groups), as agreed to during the International Council. PBI Colombia has also taken steps to increase collaboration within the PBI network in

order to advance with common goals relating to political advocacy, fundraising, human resource policy and communications, among other issues.

For example, in March, the projects in Colombia, Guatemala, Mexico and Nepal coordinated a series of joint meetings with European parliamentarians and members of the European Union Commission and Council. In November, the PBI projects also held meetings with country groups during the International Advocacy Committee in order to coordinate strategies. Additionally, the PBI projects in Colombia, Mexico and Guatemala jointly requested funds from the Catalan Aid Agency in order to share resources and protection strategies.

In Colombia, PBI recognised the need to review the tools used in order to increase the overall effectiveness of international accompaniment. As a result, in August 2010 PBI Colombia conducted a survey with accompanied individuals and organisations to gather their opinion on the protection mechanisms employed and the impact achieved. Additionally, PBI surveyed their perspectives and visions of the challenges for the future, their suggestions for improvement, and their opinion with regard to regions where PBI could increase its presence. The information gathered during this process was shared during a PBI work session with the presence of former volunteers who provided valuable insight with an historical perspective. PBI continues to analyse the results in order to better adapt to the current situation for protection.

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2. "Human rights work discredited in Colombia", PBI Colombia, September 2010

3. *Ibid.* 2. For instance, the DIAL coalition did not meet with the Ministry of Interior and Justice during the first six months of 2010. In the second half of the year, DIAL had eight meetings with the Ministry of Interior and Justice. This increased openness was also noted during the annual assemblies of the Alliance and the Colombia-Europe-United States Coordination.

4. "Las palabras y los hechos: los primeros 75 días del Gobierno de Juan Manuel Santos y la situación de la defensa de los derechos humanos." Observando, Newsletter No. 12, Colombia-Europe-United States Coordination (CCEEU), October 2010.

5. "Asesinatos de líderes sociales en el gobierno Santos." CCEEU, October 2010.

6. "130 defensores (as) de derechos humanos fueron judicializados en 2010 en Colombia", National and International Campaign for the Right to Defend Human Rights, 9 December 2010

7. *Ibid.* 4

8. *Focos de interés*, PBI Colombia, May 2010.

9. *Focos de interés*, PBI Colombia, December 2010.

10. Judgment 448 of 18 May 2010. Reference: Adoption of immediate precautionary protection measures to safeguard the fundamental rights of the Afro-Colombian communities of Curbaradó and Jiguamiandó, which have suffered forced displacement, within the framework of the state of unconstitutionality declared in Ruling T-025 of 2004 and follow-up judgments, especially Judgment 005 of 2009.

11. *Ibid.* 5

12. *Focos de interés*, PBI Colombia, September 2009.

13. *Focos de interés*, PBI Colombia, September 2010.

PBI WILL KEEP AN EXPLORATORY TEAM IN CALI MADE UP OF TEAM MEMBERS FROM MEDELLÍN

Santos: A new era in Colombia?

Photo: Paul Smith, FDM/UNHCHR



Colombia Images and realities: The Villa España squatter neighborhood shelters internally displaced population, 2003, Quibdó (Chocó)

FORCED DISPLACEMENT

Colombia continues to face an internal armed conflict as an expression of historical, political and socio-economic conflicts, principally affecting the civilian population.¹

Forced displacement continues to be the country's most serious problem. Approximately 10% of the 45.8 million inhabitants of Colombia have been displaced through force.² According to figures from the Consultancy for Human Rights and Displacement (CODHES), an average of 300,000 people were displaced each year from 1985 to 2010, resulting in a total of 4.9 million persons, while the government only recognises 3.7 million.³ The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in Colombia indicates that "2.4 million people were displaced from 2002 to 2009, which is equivalent to nearly half of the 4.9 million forcibly displaced persons [...]."⁴ Of these 4.9 million people, "49% were forced to abandon their land [since] the beginning of the Álvaro Uribe Vélez administration"⁵ in 2002. These figures are reflected in official statistics compiled by Social Action.⁶

Small-scale farmers, Afro-descendants and indigenous populations and communities continue to be the most affected groups due to high interest in their land within the armed conflict, violence, forced displacement, and social development policies.⁷ From 1999 to 2007, 5.5 million

hectares of land was violently seized from at least 380,000 small-scale farming families in Colombia.⁸ Furthermore, of the 77 mass displacements registered by CODHES in 2009, 83% affected ethnic groups.⁹ According to the Centre for Research and Popular Education (CINEP), these groups are the most vulnerable to displacement and human rights violations in general.¹⁰

POLITICAL OVERVIEW

While the first six months of 2010 were marked by Parliamentary and Presidential elections, the second half of the year saw a change of government led by Juan Manuel Santos, former Defence Minister during the Álvaro Uribe Vélez administration from 2006 to 2009. Pro-government parties won the majority of seats to the House of Representatives and the Senate.¹¹ In February 2010, after the Constitutional Court declared the unconstitutionality of the referendum law for a second presidential re-election for Álvaro Uribe,¹² Santos was seen as the only option to continue the former President's so-called "Democratic Security Policy."

Despite reports by the Electoral Observation Mission (MOE) on serious inconsistencies in the election results,¹³ Santos was elected with support from 70% of the Senators, 60% of the municipal council members, 65% of the Congress members, and important segments of the business community.¹⁴ Additionally, Santos holds sway over two of the

three print media outlets (El Tiempo and Portafolio newspapers), *Semana* magazine, and W Radio.¹⁵

THE FIRST THREE MONTHS OF THE SANTOS ADMINISTRATION

Although it was thought the new president would continue his predecessor's "Democratic Security Policy," Juan Manuel Santos has demonstrated important differences thus far.¹⁶ The appointment of a new Prosecutor General, former congress member Viviane Morales, was the first outcome of his government. For the last 16 months prior to Santos' election, this position was in transition due to differences between the Supreme Court and former President Uribe.¹⁷

Another significant event during this time period was the passage of the Land Recovery Legislative Bill in December 2010. This bill has been very controversial since the social movement was not consulted and it only considers compensating victims since 1991.¹⁸

PARA-POLITICS

Several of the candidates elected to Congress are direct political heirs¹⁹ or family members of individuals who are under investigation or have committed crimes related to so-called "para-politics." According to information from the New Rainbow Corporation (CNAI), three governors, five mayors and six council members elected for the 2007-2011 period - in addition to 16 former governors, 38 former mayors, 12 former departmental assembly members and 21 former council members elected in previous periods - are under investigation for their ties with paramilitary groups.²⁰

In July 2010, the Supreme Court presented a list of 109 cases against former and current Congress members of which 37 are under investigation for their alleged ties with paramilitary groups. While 60% of the cases continue to be under investigation, new cases have been opened "due to the Supreme Court's decision to prosecute para-politicians for crimes against humanity."²¹ For instance, the Court opened an investigation and summoned Mario Uribe Escobar, cousin to former President Uribe, and retired army general and current ambassador to the Dominican Republic, Mario Montoya.²²



Other remnants of war – War silhouettes, Eastern Antioquia.

THE SCANDAL CONTINUES WITH THE ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT OF SECURITY (DAS)

“The government’s intelligence agency not only spied upon major players in Colombia’s democracy [...] - Supreme Court and Constitutional Court judges, [...] Presidential candidates, [...] journalists, publishers, [...] human rights defenders, [...] international organisations [...] from United States and Europe - but also carried out dirty tricks and even death threats [...]”²³ Although “18 former [DAS] officials are in prison and [...] another six are under investigation, including three former directors [...]”²⁴ former DAS director María del Pilar Hurtado received political asylum in Panama in November 2010.²⁵ The DAS reports directly to the President of Colombia and

therefore investigations into who gave the orders for these illegal activities point to the Presidential House of Nariño. According to convicted former DAS director Jorge Noguera Cotes (presently under trial before the Supreme Court for murders allegedly carried out by paramilitary groups and the DAS), former president Uribe ordered the illegal espionage carried out against trade unionists and members of the political opposition.²⁶

In October 2010, several organisations in Spain filed a suit against DAS senior level officials, which was processed by a Madrid court in December 2010. Consequently, former president Uribe, former DAS director Jorge Noguera, and executive branch official Germán Villalba Chávez, are under investigation. “The suit alleges criminal acts took place, including the seizure of documents and personal belongings and the interception of electron-

ic mail and telephone calls of Colombian [human rights] defenders under asylum in Spain as well as of Spanish professionals and activists [...]”²⁷

COLOMBIAN ARMED FORCES

Colombia has the largest State security force in all of Latin America with approximately 285,000 troops in the military forces and another 140,000 in the national police.²⁸

In 2010, the Colombian army carried out different military operations that received broad media coverage. The most noteworthy was “Operation Sodom,” which was carried out against the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) in September 2010. During this operation, alias ‘Mono Jojoy’, a member of the insurgent group’s high command, was killed.²⁹ According to the Ideas for Peace Foundation (FIP), the strategic implications of this operation provided a “much more important result than the attack against [senior FARC leader] ‘Raul Reyes’ in April 2008.”³⁰ Additionally, the organization Colombians for Peace (CCP) obtained the release of Sergeant Pablo Emilio Moncayo and soldier Josué Calvo in March 2010.³¹

Nonetheless, the internal conflict continues,³² and according to the CNAI report, the conflict intensified in 2010.³³ “While 1,735 members of State security forces were wounded or killed during the first nine months of 2009, the figure reached 1,855 members over the same period in [2010].”³⁴ The civilian population continues to be the most affected. “Over the last two years, more civilians have been affected by anti-personnel land mines; from 2002 to August 2010, on average 267 civilians were victims every year.”³⁵

The Colombian Army is also reportedly implicated in the death of more than 3,000 people in cases of extrajudicial executions - so called “false positives.”³⁶ “A Wikileaks cable has revealed that the murder of civilians, children and youth at the hands of the army is the real State policy.”³⁷ It should be remembered that president Juan Manuel Santos was Defence Minister when most extrajudicial executions were registered.³⁸

TRUTH AND REPARATION

According to official statistics from the High Advisory for Reintegration, 51,992 people have demobilised from August 2002 to October 2009. In 2005, 31,700 individuals demobilised as part of the collective demobilisations of the United Self-Defence Forces of Colom-



Julia Torres, wife of murdered human rights defender Rogelio Martínez.

bia (AUC). Additionally, approximately 20,200 individuals demobilised individually from guerrilla ranks.³⁹

Of all of the demobilised individuals, only 4,600 have sought to benefit from Law 975 of 2005 - known as the “Justice and Peace Law”- and a third of those have begun to provide “free” testimony. “Even so, they have confessed to more than 8,000 crimes, of which the Prosecutor’s Office has pressed charges in more than 4,000. Of these, only 55 are being tried before judges, three have already reached the reparations stage, and only one is ready for a ruling. Meanwhile, 80,000 accredited victims are waiting for trials to begin.”⁴⁰ Those who did not avail themselves of Law 975 have officially demobilised under Law 782 and Decree 128 of 2003, which do not demand confessions.⁴¹ It should be mentioned that approximately one third of the members of the Congress that passed Law 975 have been investigated or convicted for their ties to paramilitary groups.⁴²

In July, the UN Human Rights Committee denounced “the impunity enjoyed by paramilitaries who have committed grave human rights violations in Colombia.”⁴³

ILLEGAL ARMED STRUCTURES REMAIN IN PLACE

According to the last report by CNAI, the most pressing issue in 2010 is “the expansion of ‘small-scale drug trafficking’ in the major cities and the proliferation of new mafia business; the increased murder rate in urban areas; stronger criminal groups and neo-paramilitaries; and indications that they are creating new alliances and bigger structures between criminal groups in Eastern Colombia and along the Pacific coast.”⁴⁴

The phenomenon of paramilitarism continues to be one of the greatest threats to social and political movements in Colombia. According to the CNAI annual report, “Since the beginning of 2008, the unilateral actions [...] of the so-called neo-paramilitary groups have been greater than those carried out by the FARC [...]. [T]hese increased actions [...] are carried out in rural and urban areas, with a tendency that their urban influence increases and strengthens.”⁴⁵ According to this study, since the official end of the demobilisation of structures belonging to the United Self-Defence Forces of Colombia (AUC) in 2006, most of the actions of the neo-paramilitary groups consist in threats and intimidation, especially against social and victims’ organisations. Over the last two years, according to CNAI estimates, “Two leaders from these organisations have been murdered every month [...], a tragic figure that reveals the lack of protection and unstable conditions for the safety of these groups.”⁴⁶

During the collective demobilisation from 2003 to 2006, more than 31,000 AUC members demobilised, in addition to 24,000 “from extreme rightwing armed groups, FARC and ELN.”⁴⁷ Since then, in December 2010 the government recognised that “some 6,000 of the 55,000 that demobilised from armed groups have returned to committing crimes.”⁴⁸

THE SITUATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANISATIONS

According to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNHCHR) in Colombia, there is “an increase in the amount of intimidation and death threats by way of pam-

phlets and emails against [human rights] defenders, social and community [...] leaders and members of other marginalised groups, the majority [of which] [...] remain unpunished.”⁴⁹ From June to November 2010, more than 30 human rights defenders were murdered.⁵⁰ Moreover, in the first 90 days of the Santos government, 50 social and political leaders were murdered.⁵¹ Many of them were indigenous, Afro-descendent and peasant leaders, and most of the cases have been attributed to “paramilitary groups” and “unidentified” perpetrators.⁵² Likewise, opposition leaders “continue to be victims of threats by paramilitary groups who frequently declare them ‘military objectives’ through text messages and emails.”⁵³

Another area of concern is baseless prosecutions. According to the National and International Campaign for the Right to Defend Human Rights in Colombia, “from 10 December 2009 to 10 December 2010 at least 130 [human rights] defenders were victims [...] of detentions, investigations and/or prosecutions.”⁵⁴

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

“Sexual violence against women in Colombia is increasing. Threats and violations recur within the framework of the military conflict in the country and women are used as a weapon of war.”⁵⁵ Over the last year, women leaders and their families have been increasingly threatened and murdered. Women in situation of displacement are especially vulnerable to being victims of attacks and sexual violence.⁵⁶ According to the report “Sexual violence against women in the context of the Colombian armed conflict,”⁵⁷ “from 2001-2009, in the 407 municipalities with the presence of State security forces, armed insurgency and paramilitaries, 17.58% of the women - a total of 489,687 women - were direct victims of sexual violence. This figure means that on average every year, 54,410 women were direct victims of some type of sexual violence.”⁵⁸

This is similar to the tenth report by the National Women and Armed Conflict Working Group which confirms that “every hour at any given time, almost 9 women suffer sexual aggression, and in most cases (84%), the victims are underage girls.”⁵⁹ Furthermore, it has been reported that no significant progress has been made in the investigations of the cases described in Judgment 09/08⁶⁰; the State has yet to offer effective responses for the threats affecting women victims of sexual violence, and there have not been guarantees for suitable and comprehensive assistance to the victims of sexual violence.⁶¹



"Women's bodies are not spoils of war." 25 November, the International Day Against Violence Against Women, march in Bogotá.

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Accompaniment agreement with journalist and human rights defender, Claudia Julieta Duque

THE PBI TEAM IN BOGOTÁ HAS ACTIVE ACCOMPANIMENT AGREEMENTS WITH NINE HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS, NETWORKS AND ORGANISATIONS. MOST RECENTLY, PBI SIGNED AN AGREEMENT WITH THE JOURNALIST AND HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDER, CLAUDIA JULIETA DUQUE. PBI PREVIOUSLY ACCOMPANIED MS. DUQUE UNTIL 2004 WHEN SHE WAS FORCED TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY.



PBI members with Claudia Julieta Duque when the accompaniment agreement was signed with the journalist.

Due to her work in human rights, Ms. Duque has been the target of ongoing threats and surveillance since she returned to Colombia. As a result, PBI and the journalist signed an accompaniment agreement in September 2010. Likewise, the harassment, surveillance and threats against the José Alvear Restrepo Lawyers' Collective (CCAJAR)¹ and the Inter-Church Justice and Peace Commission (CIJP)² resulted in PBI activating the international support network on four different occasions throughout the year. Part of the activation includes meeting with national and international authorities. PBI also increased the physical accompaniment of the members of these organisations.

In 2009, the Bogotá team maintained the level of accompaniment with the other organisations, with the exception of the Manuel Cepeda Foundation after Iván Cepeda won a seat to the House of Representatives. PBI also continued to follow-up on the Protection Working Group through its relationship with the National

Movement of Victims of State Crimes (MOVICE).

CLAUDIA JULIETA DUQUE

On 3 September 2010, PBI signed an accompaniment agreement with the journalist and human rights defender, Claudia Julieta Duque. This formalised an already close relationship with this human rights defender. At a press conference in February 2010 in which PBI was present, Ms. Duque publicly spoke out against³ ongoing surveillance, harassment and threats she faced from the Administrative Department of Security (DAS). She held then president Álvaro Uribe Vélez directly responsible for these acts. At this same press conference, she thanked PBI for accompanying her and asserted that she is still alive due to the protection provided by PBI.

However, Claudia Julieta Duque and her family—who are also included in precautionary security measures that cover Ms. Duque by the Inter-American Commission on Human rights—⁴ contin-

ued to suffer surveillance and harassment. PBI accompanied Claudia Julieta Duque to Pereira (Department of Caldas) to an event at the Caldas Journalists' Circle during which she presented a speech on the "Challenges for investigative journalism and human rights in Colombia." During this event, she spoke out against the complicity of Colombian journalism with the State in regards to violations against the rights of trade unionists and other human rights-related issues. PBI took advantage of this trip to speak with authorities in Manizales and to express concern for the physical safety of Ms. Duque and her family.

Claudia Julieta Duque received the 2010 Press Liberty Award from the Swedish chapter of Reporters without Borders. Additionally, the Colombian investigative journalist received the Courage in Journalism Award, which is granted to women journalists by the International Women's Media Foundation.

ASSOCIATION OF FAMILY MEMBERS OF THE DETAINED AND DISAPPEARED (ASFADDES)

The Association reported several security incidents during the year, including the theft of a video camera with sensitive material and 5,000,000 COP (USD 2,700) in Bogotá in July.⁵ In response, PBI increased the number of weekly visits to their offices and accompanied ASFADDES in Bogotá.

Within the framework of its work with the National Commission to Search for Disappeared Persons, PBI accompanied ASFADDES during regional seminars and in handing-over of the remains of disappeared persons to their family members. An important accompaniment was to Recetor, a municipality in the department of Casanare that has been strongly affected by paramilitary violence since 2000, in order to hand over the remains of a young person disappeared in 2003.⁶



Gloria Gómez (ASFADDES) and José Antonio Pérez Serrano (PBI).

For the family members and ASFADDES, PBI's accompaniment has been essential during these activities due to the risk of threats and stigmatisation for demanding the truth and the emotional impact of the handing-over of remains of disappeared persons.

ASFADDES and other social organisations saw their protection measures reduced due to Decree 1740 of May 2010.⁷ The decree decreased financial support for these organisations and establishes government guidelines on protection policy for individuals under threat due to political, social or humanitarian activities.

Lastly, on 19 October 2010, ASFADDES was rewarded for its work against forced disappearance when the Colombian Congress ratified the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.

SOCIAL CORPORATION FOR COMMUNITY ADVISORY AND TRAINING SERVICES (COS-PACC)

In 2010, COS-PACC focused on speaking out against human rights violations due to economic interests in the department of Casanare. This involved an array of advocacy work and accompaniment and training in communities through human rights workshops. In August the campaign culminated with the release of volumes I and II of the book *Por dentro e'soga*.⁸ The work describes the "oil boom and transnationals in Casanare," included an analysis of the British Petroleum's impact in Casanare.

The campaign has also involved exchanges between the different sectors affected by the oil exploitation, including oil company workers and peasant communities, among others. COS-PACC has facilitated the exchange of experiences between the communities affected by the oil extraction - from the initial stages of

exploration to those who have suffered the total exploitation of their land.

During the first half of 2010, the municipality of Tauramena became an important new area of work for the organisation. Within the framework of the Movement for Dignity campaign, COS-PACC accompanied local communities and oil company workers in the municipality. Several labour strikes took place under tense conditions and PBI accompanied COS-PACC during various critical moments, including to the Chaparral Barro Negro indigenous reservation and Tauramena in February, where a union protest had been taking place for a month.⁹ The arrival of the national police's Mobile Anti-Riot Squad (ESMAD) over the previous days had left 12 people wounded.¹⁰ COS-PACC played a key role during this situation through accompanying and advising the affected communities and workers.

JOSÉ ALVEAR RESTREPO LAWYERS' COLLECTIVE (CCAJAR)

In 2010, the José Alvear Restrepo Lawyers' Collective (CCAJAR) continued to face harassment, surveillance and threats.¹¹ As a result, PBI activated its international support network and met with Colombian and international authorities in various occasions. In September, through an open letter to president Santos, CCAJAR revealed knowledge of a possible plan to murder one of its members, allegedly involving military intelligence.¹² As a result, PBI increased its visits to CCAJAR's offices in Bogotá. Additionally, in April CCAJAR was named in a threatening pamphlet sent by the paramilitary group "Los Rastrojos."¹³ Furthermore, a self identified group "Nationalist Movement and Active Reserve of Colombia" slandered and denigrated the work carried out by the Lawyer's Collective, organising two demonstrations in front of CCA-

Summary of visits to offices, meetings and accompaniments in 2010

	ASFADDES	Manuel Cepeda Foundation	MINGA	FCSP	CCAJAR	COS-PACC	Claudia Julieta Duque	Jorge Molano	CIJP	Others	Total
Visits	78			87	127		2		9		303
Accompaniments	36	12	13	116	197	64	49	35	25	84	631
Meetings	14	7	8	10	17	36	12	14	58	40	216

Note: The Bogotá team does not carry out visibility visits with the offices of the Manuel Cepeda Foundation, MINGA, Jorge Molano or COS-PACC. Contact and coordination is planned through meetings. The "Others" column includes the occasional accompaniments of MOVICE members, Berenice Celeyta (whose office is in Cali), José Daniel Álvarez (Familiares Colombia), and the participation in human rights coordination groups and coalitions. Accompaniments are measured in half-day (12 hours) units.



Members of the José Alvear Restrepo Lawyers' Collective (CCAJAR). From left to right: Soraya Gutiérrez, Reinaldo Villalba, Pilar Silva, Alirio Uribe Muñoz, Dora Lucy Arias, Rafael Barrios Mendivil, Jomary Ortegón, Luis Guillermo Pérez and Eduardo Carreño. On the far left- and right-hand sides: Isabella Flisi and Ana Vicente Moreno (PBI).

JAR's offices in the presence of PBI.¹⁴

These threats occurred based on the following high profile cases: the conviction of Colonel Plazas Vega to 40 years of prison for his responsibility in the forced disappearances of persons at the Palace of Justice in 1985 (CCAJAR lawyer Rafael Barrios represented the civil party in the case); the prosecution against former DAS director Jorge Noguera (CCAJAR lawyers Alirio Uribe and Sandra Gamboa represented the civil party in the case); the case against several former DAS officials for the illegal wiretapping carried out against human rights defenders—including CCAJAR members, among others—and members of the political opposition; and the criminal complaint against former president Álvaro Uribe Vélez filed by CCAJAR before the Colombian justice system.¹⁵ Throughout all of these cases, CCAJAR lawyers have been the targets of many acts of intimidation, harassment and threats.¹⁶ PBI accompanied CCAJAR members during different legal procedures and hearings, providing protection and ensuring their rights within the framework of the free exercise of the legal profession.

Lastly, PBI Colombia has collaborated with the PBI UK to support CCAJAR's participation in launching the Alliance for Lawyers at Risk in London. After the launch, the Guardian newspaper published an article on Alirio Uribe and CCAJAR's work.

INTER-CHURCH JUSTICE AND PEACE COMMISSION (CIJP)

PBI has maintained a close relationship with the office of the Inter-Church Justice and Peace Commission (CIJP) in Bogotá. The weekly visits visibilise PBI's support and serve to maintain constant communication. The CIJP teams in the field remain under high risks due to slander, threats and alleged criminal prosecutions. In September, two men on motorcycles threatened Danilo Rueda in Bogotá.¹⁷ Meanwhile, the CIJP field team in Valle del Cauca—which accompanies the JUBCA youth organisation as part of the human rights school—was declared a military objective by alleged paramilitaries. As a result, they were forced to temporarily vacate the area.¹⁸ In Cauca, following multiple alleged abuses by

State security forces with the complicity of paramilitaries self-identified as the "Black Eagles," CIJP members were the targets of several acts of surveillance.¹⁹ Likewise, in the Lower Atrato region, human rights defender Fabio Aritza was forced to vacate the area following an alleged arsenisation plot against him.²⁰ Additionally, PBI continues to be concerned about the development of possible baseless criminal prosecutions against members of CIJP.²¹

Due to the aforementioned security risks, PBI activated its international support network on three separate occasions in order to ensure the Colombian government implemented effective protective measures. This year, PBI has increased the accompaniment of CIJP in Bogotá and in the regions where the organisation works.

In 2010, PBI's accompaniment of CIJP within the framework of its legal work was especially important. CIJP, CCAJAR and Jorge Molano were involved in the conviction of Colonel Plazas Vega in the emblematic case of the Palace of Justice. Additionally, CIJP rep-



Berónica Garrosa Martín (PBI) and Flor Munera (FCSPP).

resented the victims in the case against retired General Rito Alejo del Río, former commander of the 17th Brigade in Urbabá, for the homicide of Marino López in the Cacarica River Basin in 1997. PBI accompanied CIJP during the legal proceedings, depositions and hearings, which visibilised the international community's support.

Lastly, the PBI team in Bogotá also accompanied CIJP members in their activities in the department of Sucre, where the organisation supports the family of Rogelio Martínez, a member of the National Movement of Victims of State Crimes who was murdered in June.

COMMITTEE OF SOLIDARITY WITH POLITICAL PRISONERS (FCSPP)

The Committee of Solidarity with Political Prisoners (FCSPP) seeks to promote respect for and guarantee the rights of political prisoners. The organisation's principal area of work is legal aid—their team of lawyers principally focuses on extrajudicial execution cases—and prison-related, which includes the conditions and treatment of prisoners. In 2010, the Committee continued with its emblematic campaign for the freedom of political prisoners.

In addition to accompanying FCSPP in its visits to prisons and court hearings, on several occasions PBI accompanied FCSPP members to Sucre—as MOVICE members—due to serious security incidents affecting the members this area.

From September to December 2010, PBI accompanied Leonardo Jaimes, a lawyer with the FCSPP Santander chapter, to several hearings in Bucaramanga.

One case was for a homicide that allegedly involved the illegal armed group “Black Eagles” and another in which Mr. Jaimes represents the family members of the victims of an alleged extrajudicial execution for which ten GAULA soldiers²² from the 5th Brigade are presently under investigation. PBI's accompaniment was even more essential due to death threats made against Mr Jaimes in October regarding this case. During the hearings, PBI learned that Carolina Rubio, FCSPP member and MOVICE facilitator in Santander, had been detained by the Regional Criminal Investigation Police (SIJIN) under charges of rebellion based on testimony by two demobilised guerrilla members.

After accompanying Leonardo Jaimes during these cases, PBI carried

out two days of meetings with authorities in Santander. Even though the Prosecutor's Office suspended the investigation and preventive detention measures - since Carolina Rubio was pregnant she was released for six months -, the case has yet to be closed. The need for PBI to accompany the organisation on an ongoing basis is highlighted by Ms. Rubio's detention, the ongoing threats reported by FCSPP²³ and MOVICE in Santander,²⁴ and the difficulties they have encountered to ensure their precautionary protection measures.

Manuel Cepeda Vargas Foundation for Peace, Social Justice and Culture

In 2010, PBI's accompaniment of the Manuel Cepeda Foundation Vargas was affected by the election of Iván Cepeda to the House of Representatives. PBI ceased accompaniment for him based on its non-partisan principals. Accordingly, PBI's accompaniment of the Cepeda Foundation was limited to Claudia Girón, resulting in a decrease in the number of accompaniments provided.

Accompaniments with Claudia Girón's mainly focused on visibilising work to reconstruct the historic memory and position the issue of victims of State crimes within the psychologist's academic discussions at universities in Bogotá and other regions. She also was involved in organising events as conferences and commemorations. According to the Foundation, these events are frequently stigmatised and PBI's presence helps to create a safer work climate for Ms. Girón and the Cepeda Foundation.

Just as in previous years, PBI accompanied the Cepeda Foundation on the 9 August commemoration of Senator Manuel Cepeda Vargas' assassination. In



Fabián Laverde (COS-PACC) and Yvonne Berner (PBI).



PBI volunteer team in Bogotá.

2010, the commemoration was especially symbolic since the Inter-American Court of Human rights convicted the Colombian State on 26 May 2010 for its responsibility in the acts. The Court also ordered reparations for the victim's family members, a thorough investigation of the acts, and punishment of the responsible parties.

JORGE MOLANO

After increasing accompaniments for human rights lawyer Jorge Molano when his security situation worsened in December 2009, PBI continued to accompany him in hearings in Bogotá and Medellín. For Jorge Molano, 2010 was marked by the ruling against Colonel Plazas Vega, convicted for his responsibility in the forced disappearance of twelve individuals during the military take-over of the Palace of Justice following an armed action by the M-19 insurgent group in 1985. PBI accompanied Jorge Molano throughout the trial during which he reported being the target of ongoing threats and surveillance.²⁵

PBI's accompaniment became even more necessary during the hearings on the massacre of San José de Apartadó of February 2005. In February and March, PBI successfully convened the presence of several embassies—including Spain, Sweden and the European Union delegation—to two of these hearings in support of Jorge Molano's work. Despite this sup-

port, those responsible for the massacre essentially remained in impunity since the ruling by the Second Specialised Criminal Court of Medellín acquitted the ten military members facing charges.

Additionally, PBI spoke on many occasions with the diplomatic community and State security forces to explain Mr. Molano's situation and clarify concern about his safety in order for the Colombian state to guarantee effective protection measures and the right to exercise his profession as a lawyer, providing support for the fight against impunity.

ASSOCIATION FOR ALTERNATIVE SOCIAL PROMOTION (MINGA)

Although MINGA only requested occasional PBI accompaniments, the organisation has always highlighted its importance, as well as PBI's political advocacy work through its dialogue with national and international authorities.

One of the most important accompaniments occurred in June in the Sucre department in the days following the murder of Rogelio Martínez, a member of the Sucre chapter of the National Movement of Victims of State Crimes (MOVICE). This department has been subject to a strong paramilitary presence and the security situation for MOVICE is critical.²⁶ MINGA accompanied the family members of Rogelio Martínez during the funeral cer-

emonies held at the La Alemania farm. Later, they visited Carmelo Agámez, another member of the MOVICE Sucre chapter, who has been imprisoned in the city of Corozal since November 2008. Through the accompaniment, PBI demonstrated the international support for MINGA's work, as well as for the MOVICE chapter in Sucre.

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2. "Increased threats and baseless prosecutions against the Inter-Church Justice and Peace Commission and the Humanitarian Zones of Curbaradó and Jiguamiandó." *Focos de Interés*, PBI Colombia, December 2010; "Threats and a Possible Baseless Prosecutions against the Inter-Church Justice and Peace Commission." *Focos de Interés*, 17 September 2010.
3. "Periodistas amenazados denuncian 'Estado de Terror' en Colombia." *Noticias 24*, 9 February 2010; "Periodistas 'chuzados' responsabilizan a Uribe de seguimientos." *www.Terra.com*, 10 February 2010.
4. Claudia Julieta Duque Press kit, PBI Colombia, October 2010.
5. "Association of Relatives of the Detained and Disappeared, victim of intimidation and theft of sensitive material." *Focos de Interés*, PBI Colombia, 28 July 2010.
6. "Casasane: exhumando el genocidio." Centre for Investigation and Popular Education (CINEP), *Noche y Niebla* and COS-PACC, 31 October 2009.
7. Decree 1740 of 2010. See: <http://www.dmsjuridica.com/CODIGOS/LEGISLACION/decretos/2010/1740.htm>
8. "Por dentro e'soga. Una mirada social al Boom petrolero y al fenómeno transnacional en Casanare." FECODE, 4 August 2010.
9. Video: "David y Goliath en Tauramena, Casanare." COS-PACC, 12 April 2010.
10. "La red colombiana frente a la gran minería transnacional apoya las demandas de los trabajadores y la población de Tauramena contra la British Petroleum en el Casanare." ENS/Colombian Network against Large-Scale Mining, 26 February 2010.
11. *Ibid.* 1
12. "Possible Attack against Members of the José Alvear Restrepo Lawyers' Collective." CCAJAR, 10 September 2010.
13. "Amenaza contra 60 organizaciones de derechos humanos por parte del grupo paramilitar 'Los Rastrojos-Comando Urbanos.'" International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH), 22 April 2010.
14. "Agredido CAJAR por movimientos nacionalistas y reserva activa de Colombia." CCAJAR, 1 September 2010.
15. "ONG denuncia a Uribe por el acuerdo militar con EE.UU." *Noticias 24*, 2 September 2010.
16. "False accusations continue against CCAJAR." PBI Colombia, September 2010.
17. "Hostigamientos y amenazas de muerte contra integrantes de la Comisión de Justicia y Paz." CIJP, 8 September 2010. See: <http://www.justiciaypazcolombia.com/Hostigamientos-y-amenazas-de-3598>
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21. *Focos de Interés*. PBI Colombia, 2 November 2010.
22. Unified Army Action Groups for Personal Liberty (GAULA) for its initials in Spanish).
23. "Santander-based FCSPP Lawyer receives threats relating to his representation of the victim's family in an alleged extrajudicial killing." *Focos de Interés*, PBI Colombia, 2 November 2010.
24. "Amenaza por correo electrónico en Magdalena Medio." MOVICE, 27 May 2010.
25. "Jorge Molano, abogado colombiano amenazado: apoyado por el Observatorio Internacional de los Abogados." Protection Online, 13 October 2010.
26. Video: "Colombia: Spokeswoman for Sucre chapter of National Victims' Movement Ingrid Vergara under threat." PBI Colombia, 1 December 2010.

The Peasant Farmer Organisation of the Cimitarra River Valley receives peace award

THE PBI TEAM IN BARRANCABERMEJA DIRECTLY ACCOMPANIES FOUR HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANISATIONS IN THE REGIONS OF MAGDALENA MEDIO AND NORTE DE SANTANDER. IN 2010, PBI BEGAN AN INITIAL PROCESS WITH LILIA PEÑA, HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDER AND MEMBER OF THE REGIONAL ASSOCIATION OF VICTIMS OF STATE CRIMES OF THE MAGDALENA MEDIO (ASORVIMM), WHILE ALSO MAINTAINING THE ACCOMPANIMENT ALREADY ESTABLISHED WITH OTHER ORGANISATIONS IN PREVIOUS YEARS.



Wiebke Paula Diederichs (PBI) in the Peasant Farmer Reserve Zone in the Cimitarra River Valley.

PEASANT FARMERS' ASSOCIATION OF THE CIMITARRA RIVER VALLEY (ACVC)

The Peasant Farmers' Association of the Cimitarra River Valley (ACVC) has increased its activity in representing more than 32,000 small-scale farmers in the region. In 2007 various board members were accused of rebellion, some of which were detained and others forced into exile. In 2009 the District Attorney canceled arrest warrants against the ACVC leaders. Andrés Gil was the last detained member to be freed under provisional liberty, however, the penal process has yet to be concluded. The Association has resumed activities after Mr. Gil's and Miguel Huepa's - another board member - release. This is also due to the return from exile of other members after the cancelation of arrest warrants. In 2010 PBI increased accompaniments in

order to guarantee their safety and ability to represent the small-scale farmers of the area.

In May, the Association was one of 18 social organisations in Barrancabermeja that received a threatening email signed by the "Cleansing Joint Command."¹ The ACVC also reported being under surveillance in the city of Barrancabermeja.² Nonetheless, a number of important events in 2010 have strengthened the organisation and demonstrated the ACVC's substantial regional, national and international support.

On July 19, 20 and 21, the ACVC organised the event, Bicentenary for Colombian Peoples, which was attended by nearly 7,000 people from throughout the region.³ The event was a significant achievement that strengthened the organisation and reinforced the unity of the social movement in Barrancabermeja. Additionally, the first encounter of the Peasant Farmer Reserve Zone of the Cimitarra

River Valley took place at the end of August. This event, which was also accompanied by PBI, was a milestone due to its social, economic and political importance for Peasant Farmer Reserve Zones.

In September, the ACVC received the National Peace Award⁴ from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the largest media outlets in Colombia (El Tiempo newspaper, Semana Magazine, and Caracol Television and Radio), and Friedrich Ebert Stiftung in Colombia (FESCOL, a German think tank). PBI accompanied the ACVC during both events. In addition to legitimising the work of the ACVC, this year's achievements have been a very useful tool in the present negotiations to lift the suspension of the Peasant Farmer Reserve Zone in the Cimitarra River Valley with the hope of finally being able to implement its sustainable development plan for the area.

The ACVC continues to face an extremely delicate situation. Its board of directors, many members of Community Action Boards, and grassroots members, not only continue to face threats, stigmatisation and criminal prosecutions, rather these acts are increasing due to the ACVC's work to protect the environment, defend territory and small-scale mining, and train the traditional farmer population on their civil rights.⁵

LUIS CARLOS PÉREZ LAWYER'S COLLECTIVE (CCALCP)

In 2010, the Luis Carlos Pérez Lawyers' Collective (CCALCP) substantially increased its work to include the defence of small-scale farmers from Catatumbo (Norte de Santander) who faced arrest warrants under charges of rebellion, terrorism and aggravated conspiracy to commit a crime.⁶ CCALCP also continued to carry out its existing projects, including



Judith Maldonado (CCALCP), Olga Quintero (ASCAMCAT) and Ana Vicente (PBI).

the accompaniment of the Motilón Bari indigenous persons, training workshops, the fight against impunity, and the defence of bio-diversity. The organisation also broadened its follow-up and monitoring processes such as the exploitation of natural resources in Catatumbo, the area of Toledo, and the Santurbán Paramo.⁷

During the year the Lawyers' Collective suffered 17 security incidents, including selective thefts, threats, physical assaults and stigmatization.⁸ The person most targeted was CCALCP President Judith Maldonado.⁹

Due to the increased risk to their safety, PBI conducted advocacy work through its international support network, increasing the work carried out for CCALCP compared to the previous year.

In February, within the context of the mass arrest warrants against small-scale farmers from Catatumbo,¹⁰ CCALCP — along with other organisations, including the ACVC, ASORVIMM, MINGA and MOVICE— participated in a Verification Commission that was accompanied by PBI.

For five days, the Commission travelled to several places in Catatumbo where arrests had taken place in order to gather statements from family members on the manner in which these arrests were carried out and raise national and international awareness on this situation.

REGIONAL CORPORATION FOR THE DEFENCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS (CREDHOS)

Since 2010, the Regional Corporation for the Defence of Human Rights (CREDHOS) has suffered a new wave of threats and stigmatisation. The principal targets

of these acts have been CREDHOS member David Ravelo and his family members.¹¹ On 14 September 2010, David Ravelo's situation worsened considerably when Technical Investigation Unit agents arrested him under charges of conspiracy to commit a crime and aggravated homicide,¹² using testimony provided by two demobilised paramilitaries within the confession proceedings of Law 975.¹³ Due to these accusations, David Ravelo was detained, remains in jail and the investigation is ongoing.

In Bogotá, PBI has coordinated political advocacy on his behalf, meeting with the Vice-President's Office, the Ministry of Interior and different embassies. Furthermore, PBI organised visits by international delegations to La Picota Prison in

Bogotá where he is being held. PBI also accompanied his lawyer during the proceedings and provided psychosocial support for Mr. Ravelo.

PBI also continued to accompany CREDHOS in Barrancabermeja. In November, PBI accompanied a CREDHOS member to the Grassroots, Worker, Indigenous, Peasant and Miner Encounter for the Defence of Life and Natural Resources in Northeast Antioquia and to the 22-year commemoration of the massacre of Segovia, an event held jointly with several organisations from Magdalena Medio in which thousands of people participated.¹⁴

GRASSROOTS WOMEN'S ORGANISATION (OFP)

Despite the fact that the OFP strategically maintains a low profile, the organisation continues to carry out important efforts in the working-class neighbourhoods of Barrancabermeja, Girón, Yondó, Cantagallo, San Pablo and Puerto Wilches. Among the different projects carried out, OFP provides organisational training for women, workshops on food security and legal assistance for the victims of armed conflict and intra-family violence.

The organisation was forced to close its community kitchens due to a lack of resources and increased threats¹⁵ (the last kitchen closed in January 2010). The OFP opened a restaurant in Barrancabermeja in October with the hopes of increasing the organization's resources to repair part of the building that will serve as its office and workshop site to train women. The OFP continues to actively participate



CREDHOS member Wilfran Cárdenas.

Summary of visits to offices, meetings and accompaniments in 2010

	ACVC	CCALCP	CREDHOS	OFPP	ASORVIMM*	Others	Total
Visits	131	41	156	131	69	47	575
Accompaniments	325	195	127	56	40	113	856
Meetings	17	8	40	9	10	81	165

*PBI formalized an official exploratory process with ASORVIMM in July 2010.

in its activities relating to the Women's Social Movement against War and for Peace. Lastly, the organisation continued to speak out against concerning issues in the region through its publication Women's Voices.

OFPP director Yolanda Becerra was forced to leave Barrancabermeja in 2007. Although she returned to her activities in Barrancabermeja in 2010, her work was principally limited to the Women's Centre in Girón. PBI visits the organisation's office in Barrancabermeja on a weekly basis and provides weekly accompaniment to Ms. Becerra when she carries out workshops with women from the area.

In August 2010, PBI accompanied the OFPP during the International Encounter of Women and Peoples from the Americas against Militarisation, a historical event organised by the Women's Social Movement against War and for Peace. As part of a significant demonstration of solidarity, women from 18 countries came to Colombia to learn about the reality of the Colombian conflict, share their experiences and knowledge, and develop common resistance strategies. The encounter ended with a vigil in front of the Palanquero military base in the municipality of

Puerto Salgar.

While preparing for and carrying out these events, PBI provided the organisation with physical and political accompaniment. For instance, in order to spread the news of the international encounter, PBI accompanied Yolanda Becerra and OFPP lawyer Claudia Castellanos to the Nasa indigenous community in Alto Tama, department of Cauca, an area seriously affected by the presence of armed actors.¹⁶ At the same time, PBI conducted several meetings with government authorities in order to demonstrate international support for this international initiative.

REGIONAL ASSOCIATION OF VICTIMS OF STATE CRIMES OF THE MAGDALENA MEDIO (ASORVIMM)

In July 2010, PBI began an initial process with ASORVIMM President Lilia Peña, formalising an already close relationship since she was a member of the CREDHOS board of directors in Barrancabermeja.

ASORVIMM is a victims' organisation that works for victims of State crimes and their organisations. The association also works with labour, traditional farm-

er, student and grassroots organisations. ASORVIMM provides legal assistance and gives workshops on victims' rights and psychosocial matters.

Due to several security incidents (threats, thefts and surveillance) faced by Lilia Peña over the last six months,¹⁷ the organisation highly values PBI's accompaniment. PBI continues to visibilise asorvimm by visiting its office and accompanying MEMBERS to the regions where they work. In December ASORVIMM, ACVC and the Humanitarian Action Corporation for Co-Existence and Peace in North-Eastern Antioquia (CAHUCOPANA) organised an event for historical memory in Puerto Nuevo Ité (La Cooperativa) in the municipality of Remedios (Antioquia). Hundreds of people from the region participated in the unveiling of the monument in honour of the victims of extrajudicial executions from the region. Despite the solemnity, the event highlighted the will to resist violence and fight for peace.

Photo: Charlotte Kesl



PBI members in front of the OFPP office in Barrancabermeja.

1. "Más amenazas contra la ACVC y las organizaciones sociales del Magdalena Medio." ACVC, 28 May 2010. See: <http://prensarural.org/spip/spip.php?article4082>
2. "Hostigamientos contra la ACVC e infracciones al DIH en la Zona de Reserva Campesina del Valle del Río Cimitarra." ACVC, 1 June 2010. See: <http://www.prensarural.org/spip/spip.php?article4109>
3. "Siete mil personas conmemoraron el Bicentenario de los pueblos del nororiente colombiano." ACVC, 21 July 2010. See: <http://www.prensarural.org/spip/spip.php?article4357>
4. "La ACVC recibió el Premio Nacional de Paz 2010." *Vanguardia Liberal*, 26 November 2010. See: <http://www.prensarural.org/spip/spip.php?article4917>
5. "Detenido el presidente de la Junta de Acción Comunal de la vereda Patio Bonito, en la Zona de Reserva Campesina del Valle del Río Cimitarra." ACVC, 9 October 2010. See: <http://www.prensarural.org/spip/spip.php?article4704>
6. "Atropellos y arbitrariedades del ejército colombiano contra el campesinado del Catatumbo." *Prensa Rural*, 16 February 2010. See: <http://www.prensarural.org/spip/spip.php?article3635>
7. "El agua o el oro." *Razón Pública*, 19 December 2010.
8. Denuncia pública, Colombia-Europe-United States Coordination, 12 March 2010.
9. *Focos de Interés*, PBI Colombia, 13 August 2010.
10. *Ibid.* 6
11. "CREDHOS member David Ravelo under threat." *Focos de Interés*, PBI Colombia, 6 May 2010. "Death threats against human rights defenders in Barrancabermeja and Magdalena Medio, particularly David Ravelo Crespo." *Focos de Interés*, PBI Colombia, 7 June 2010.
12. *Focos de Interés*, PBI Colombia, 17 September 2010.
13. "Solidaridad con David Ravelo Crespo y CREDHOS." CCALCP, 21 September 2010. See: <http://justiciaypazcolombia.com/Solidaridad-con-David-Ravelo>
14. "Segovia, una masacre difícil de olvidar." CAHUCOPANA, 16 November 2010.
15. "Amenazas por correo electrónico en Magdalena Medio." *MOVICE*, 3 June 2010.
16. "Indígenas del Cauca piden que actores armados se vayan de su territorio." *El Tiempo* newspaper, 10 May 2010.
17. "Hostigamientos a la Asociación Regional de Víctimas del Magdalena Medio (ASORVIMM)." *MOVICE*, 25 October 2010.

Serious threats against member of the Corporation for Judicial Freedom

IN 2010, IT WAS NECESSARY FOR THE PBI TEAM IN MEDELLÍN TO INCREASE ITS ACCOMPANIMENT OF THE CORPORATION FOR JUDICIAL FREEDOM (CJL) IN RESPONSE TO A DEFAMATION CAMPAIGN CONDUCTED AGAINST THEM IN OCTOBER, AND THE THREATS RECEIVED BY BAYRON GÓNGORA FROM FEBRUARY TO APRIL.



IPC member Martha Peña.

Throughout the year, the Medellín team conducted meetings with a wide range of authorities and members of the civil society in southwest Colombia. Building on this work, a decision was reached in the November PBI assembly to increase the number of volunteers in the Medellín team from six to seven individuals, enabling the team to branch out and establish an exploratory team in the region, with an office in Cali. This team will carry out strategic work in the Cauca and Valle del Cauca departments, enabling PBI to learn more about the zone as well as accompany the Association for Research and Social Action (NOMADESC), with whom an initial accompaniment agreement was signed.

GRASSROOTS TRAINING INSTITUTE (IPC)

In 2010, PBI decreased the number of its visits to the Grassroots Training Institute (IPC), which were eventually replaced with monthly meetings. On the

one hand, this change owed to the fact that IPC made few requests for physical accompaniment. On the other hand, regular communication between the organisations needed to be ensured to share analysis on the current political situation and remain updated on the security situation of IPC members.

In November 2010, after a year-long analysis on how to better adapt PBI protection tools and resources to the needs of the accompanied organisations, PBI and IPC jointly decided to amend the formal terms of the agreement with the organisation. In practice, this will mean visibilising IPC's work through PBI's communications strategy and sharing analysis on the current political situation. As an organisation historically accompanied by PBI, that has strengthened its own protection capacities over the years, PBI will continue to monitor their security situation in order to react immediately in the event of an emergency.

COMMITTEE IN SOLIDARITY WITH POLITICAL PRISONERS (FCSP) ANTIOQUIA CHAPTER

In 2010, PBI continued to visit FC-SPP's office in Medellín and accompany its members in their work providing legal assistance to individuals detained for political motives in Antioquia. PBI also accompanied the Committee in the prison assistance it provides to political prisoners at four prisons in the Aburrá Valley, including the Bellavista Prison and Maximum Security Prison, Itagüí Maximum Security Prison, and the Pedregar Mixed Prison in San Cristobal. FCSP member Fernando Vélez provides legal assistance and defence in approximately 40 cases, including cases that implicate State security forces.

In 2010, the Committee increased its work with the Minga for Social and Community Resistance, actively participating in the Peoples' Congress¹ in October and working jointly with the Antioquia Minga in Medellín. The PBI team in Medellín was present during these events to visibilise an encounter in June, while the Bogotá team provided accompaniment during the Peoples' Congress.

As in 2009, PBI continued to accompany the FCSP frequently, although the organisation faced a number of obstacles with regard to its work, including being denied access to the prisons on a number of occasions due to complications with authorisations, and the cancelling or delaying of hearings taking place outside of Medellín. Due to the widespread climate of persecution and hostility against human rights defenders in Medellín,² PBI believes that FCSP members are in a vulnerable situation, requiring ongoing accompaniment for their protection and making visible their international support.

Additionally, PBI has met with the prison directors at the Bellavista, Itagüí and San Cristóbal Prisons in order to present PBI's accompaniment of FCSP



Bayron Góngora (CJL) and Daniel James Slee (PBI).

and facilitate their access to prisons. Outside of Medellín, PBI prioritised accompaniments to hearings in Cauca due to the tensions in this region³ and the nature of the cases represented by FCSPP.

CORPORATION FOR JUDICIAL FREEDOM (CJL)

Between 2009 and 2010, PBI increased the number of accompaniments of the Corporation for Judicial Freedom (CJL) by 50% (from 62 to 93 accompaniments), principally due to accompaniments of human rights lawyer Bayron Góngora in response to the threat he received in February 2010. According to a CJL press release, “it was learned that an illegal armed group received money to murder Bayron Ricardo Góngora Arango.”⁴ In response between February and April, the lawyer was accompanied on a daily basis in Medellín and during his visits to other municipalities in Antioquia. Additionally, PBI carried out advocacy work with its support network, extensively visibilised the accompaniment of CJL, and demonstrated concern for Mr. Góngora’s situation in meetings with Colombian authorities.

As an organisation, CJL continues to focus its work on defending human rights and the fight against impunity. PBI believes that, in particular, the organization’s work speaking out against extrajudicial executions is a source of risk for them. Mr. Bayron Góngora himself represents the family members of victims in many cases of extrajudicial executions perpetrated by State security forces.⁵

Furthermore, PBI accompanied CJL members in their work with community organizational processes and peasant communities that included training workshops, psychosocial and legal assistance in relation to cases of human rights violations. In July, PBI accompanied CJL to the municipality of Cocorná (Eastern Antioquia) to the Festival of Water, which was attended by 400 people from different municipalities in Eastern Antioquia.

From January to August, there were several important accompaniments to Segovia where a CJL lawyer represented the family members of a victim of an extrajudicial execution. The judge sentenced

two members of the military to 30 years of prison for this crime, representing the first case won by CJL under the new accusatory criminal system.

ASSOCIATION OF FAMILY MEMBERS OF THE DETAINED AND DISAPPEARED (ASFADDES) – ANTIOQUIA CHAPTER

PBI and the ASFADDES chapter in Medellín maintained a close relationship in 2010. For ASFADDES, although the physical accompaniment of its members offers important visibilisation and protection, the emotional support is equally important. In 2010, PBI continued to visit the organisation’s office on a weekly basis and accompanied its members on an occasional basis in Medellín and other regions of Colombia.

In January, PBI accompanied ASFADDES to a public hearing on the illegal wiretapping of ASFADDES’s office by the Colombian State. The investigation is especially important due to the alleged connection between these activities and the forced disappearance of Ángel Quintero and Claudia Monsalve, two ASFADDES members, ten years ago.

In May, PBI accompanied ASFADDES members to Bucaramanga for an exhumation process carried out by the National Commission to Search for Disappeared Persons. This process involved turning over the remains of the son of the ASFADDES coordinator for the Bucaramanga chapter, who was disappeared in Oiba (Santander) in 1994.

In June, PBI accompanied the na-



ASFADDES members.



Berenice Celeyta (NOMADESC) and Andreas Riemann (PBI).

tional director of ASFADDES, Gloria Gómez, to a seminar organised by the National Commission to Search for Disappeared Persons, an agency established through Law 589 of 2000. The Commission was the result of ASFADDES' fight to promote the application of the law that recognises the crime of forced disappearance under international standards.

BERENICE CELEYTA AND THE ASSOCIATION FOR RESEARCH AND SOCIAL ACTION (NOMADESC)

In 2010, PBI decided to increase the accompaniment of Berenice Celeyta, President of the Association for Research and Social Action (NOMADESC) and also enter into an initial accompaniment phase with the organisation itself.

NOMADESC works with small-scale farmer, indigenous, labour and Afro-descendent organisations in four principal areas: education, research, advocacy and

communications. Its principal interests include research on the impact of transnational companies and energy mining, access to public services, human rights violations and crimes against humanity. The organisation has an office in Cali (Valle del Cauca), which PBI visits on a monthly basis. NOMADESC works mainly in Valle del Cauca, Cauca, and Huila, and occasionally in Nariño and Putumayo.

In 2010, the organisation reportedly received 12 death threats.⁶ PBI believes the organisation's members face a greater risk when they travel outside of Cali to the different areas of south-western Colombia. Additionally, NOMADESC has ongoing work with trade unionists in the city of Cali for which its members also request PBI's accompaniment.

PBI also accompanied Berenice Celeyta to the Honduras indigenous reservation in Northern Cauca. In addition to her accompaniment, the motive was to visualise the work carried out during the events in memory of the murder of indigenous

leader Robert de Jesús Guacheta on 18 May 2009. A graduation ceremony also took place for the human rights course NOMADESC carried out in all of the regions where it works.

INITIAL ACCOMPANIMENT PHASES AND OTHER ORGANISATIONS

In November 2010, due to the ongoing threats reported by the organisation⁷, PBI began an initial accompaniment phase with NOMADESC, whose president has been accompanied by PBI for over ten years.

The team in Medellín continues to accompany the Seeds of Liberty Human Rights Collective (CODHESEL) in its diverse activities. PBI has also continued to provide international presence and observation in the Human Rights and Humanitarian Protection Working Group in Eastern Antioquia and the Municipal Human Rights Committee, with the effect of visibilizing the work of the participating organisations.

1. More than 300 organisations participated in this event to formalise legislative proposals in Colombia. See: www.congresodelospueblos.org
 2. "130 defensores (as) de derechos humanos fueron judicializados en 2010 en Colombia." National and International Campaign for the Right to Defend Human Rights in Colombia, 9 December 2010.
 3. "Caucasia, Bajo Cauca antioqueño: un pueblo paralizado por la violencia." IPC Press Agency, 5 November 2010.
 4. "Comunicado público." Corporation for Judicial Freedom, 12 February 2010.
 5. "Urgent action: Colombia must protect lawyer at risk." Amnesty International, 5 March 2010.
 6. "Nuevas amenazas a los defensores de derechos humanos en el Sur occidente." NOMADESC, 12 December 2010; "Nuevo mensaje amenazante contra organizaciones defensoras de los derechos humanos y líderes indígenas en el Valle del Cauca y Cauca." NOMADESC, 30 December 2010. See: <http://nomadesc.blogspot.com/2011/01/reiteradas-amenazas-contra-nuestra.html>; "Nuevas amenazas llegaron los días 11 y 14 de diciembre de 2010." Colombia Solidarity, 20 December 2010. See: <http://www.labourmet.net/world/1012/colomb1.html>
 7. "Reiteradas amenazas contra nuestra organización y contra defensores

Summary of visits to offices, meetings and accompaniments in 2010							
	FCSP	ASFADDES	CJL	IPC	NOMADESC *	Others **	Total
Visits	81	77	88	44	1	42	333
Accompaniments	33	14	94	2	27	93	263
Meetings	15	9	22	12	6	65	129

Accompaniments are recorded in half-day (12 hour) units. *Since June 2010. **"Others" includes the accompaniment of the Seeds of Liberty Human Rights Collective (CODHESEL) and the Small Farmers' Association of Antioquia (ACA) (up to June), participation in the Human Rights and Humanitarian Protection Working Group in Eastern Antioquia, the Campaign against Silence and the Municipal Human Rights Committee, among other human rights-related organisations from the area.

Resistance processes confront baseless accusations

THE PBI TEAM IN URABÁ ACCOMPANIES MEMBERS OF THE INTER-CHURCH JUSTICE AND PEACE COMMISSION (CIJP), AN ORGANISATION THAT CONTINUES TO FACE INTENSE STIGMATISATION DUE TO ITS DEFENCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS. ADDITIONALLY, PBI CONTINUED TO ACCOMPANY THE SAN JOSÉ DE APARTADÓ PEACE COMMUNITY, WHOSE INHABITANTS CONTINUE TO FACE THREATS AND BASELESS ACCUSATIONS DUE TO THEIR PEACEFUL RESISTANCE AND THEIR NEUTRALITY IN REGARDS TO THE CONFLICT. PBI ALSO CONTINUED TO ACCOMPANY THE COMMUNITY FOR SELF-DETERMINATION, LIFE AND DIGNITY (CAVIDA) ON THE CACARICA RIVER BASIN, INCLUDING DURING SUCH EMBLEMATIC EVENTS AS THE TRIATHLON FOR LIFE ON THE DARIÉN, AN EVENT THAT INVOLVED DOZENS OF PEOPLE FROM DIFFERENT COUNTRIES.

Photo: Charlotte Kesi



Don Enrique Petro is one of the small scale farmers from the Chocó, who despite receiving threats, continues to fight to regain his land.

Additionally, in January (in Apartadó) and May (in Apartadó and Córdoba), the PBI Urabá team participated in Humanitarian and Human Rights Working Groups in order to facilitate information sharing, regional socio-political analysis, humanitarian affairs coordination, and contact with other national and international organisations, including the Human Rights Ombudsman's Office in Apartadó, the Citizenship Up organisation, Centre for Research and Popular Education (CINEP), Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR), OXFAM, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the International Organisation for Migration (IOM), and the Mission to Support the Peace Process in Colombia of the Organisation of American States (MAPP-OAS), among others. PBI has also maintained constant

contact with other national and international organisations, in addition to its regular meetings with Colombian security forces and protection agencies, including the Human Rights Ombudsman's Office.

INTER-CHURCH JUSTICE AND PEACE COMMISSION (CIJP) IN CURBARADÓ AND JIGUAMIANDÓ

For almost a year, the Inter-Church Justice and Peace Commission (CIJP) has provided ongoing accompaniment in the Curbaradó and Jiguamiandó River Basins, including periods of permanent presence when CIJP members and the communities face greater risk.

The river basin's present context is characterised by delays in land restitution for the Afro-descendent communities that were forcibly displaced in 1997 and presently are in the process to return. In 2004, the Colombian Constitutional Court de-

clared the State's actions in regard to internally displaced populations as unconstitutional, and determined that the State had failed in creating and implementing effective public policies designed to assist displaced populations taking into consideration their increased vulnerability. The court ordered an action programme be adopted to resolve this situation. However, in a judgment issued on 18 May 2010, the Court highlighted that the inhabitants of the river basin continued to face an unstable security situation and the problems with the legality of representation in the river basin.¹ In this judgment, the Court also noted that the land restitution process had yet to be implemented. Lastly, the Court ordered again that the Ministry of the Interior take the necessary measures to comply with the previous rulings and improve the security conditions for the inhabitants of the river basin, making it possible for them to have effective representation and a transparent land restitution process.²

The year began with the assassination of community leader Argéntino Díaz Tapias³ in January, and ended with members of the Caño Manso, Caracolí, Camelias and Llano Rico Humanitarian Zones receiving death threats⁴ in December. Additionally, CIJP has spoken out against plans to murder community leader Enrique Petro,⁵ an inhabitant of the Andalucía Humanitarian Zone, and Fabio Ariza, a CIJP member⁶ that PBI accompanied after he left the area. Furthermore, CIJP has spoken out against the attempts to criminally prosecute the inhabitants of the Curbaradó Humanitarian Zones, the Jiguamiandó High Council, and CIJP members based in Bogotá.⁷

Due to the serious risk faced by CIJP members and the inhabitants of these communities,⁸ PBI continued to perma-



Members of the Internal Council for the San José de Apartadó Peace Community with Andrés Alejandro Gutiérrez and Martina Rita Lack (PBI Colombia).

nently accompany CIJP members while travelling in the river basin, allowing them to continue their work in supporting the displaced communities in the process of returning to their land.

Moreover, PBI has participated in several commissions, including a verification commission organised by the Indigenous Organisation of Antioquia (OIA) following the bombardment in Alto Guayabal in February 2010. This bombardment — carried out by the Colombian Air Force in coordination with the 17th Army Brigade— wounded twelve indigenous persons and killed an infant. PBI participated as an observer during the Commission that also included UN agencies, national and international NGO’s, indigenous organisations, the Human Rights Ombudsman’s Office, and many journalists.

As in 2009, PBI accompanied CIJP in its work advising and accompanying the communities organised in the Biodiversity Zones. In June, PBI accompanied CIJP during the establishment and mapping of

a new Biodiversity Zone near the Caracolí Humanitarian Zone in the Curbaradó River Basin. During the accompaniment, CIJP members reported that illegitimate settlers made several threats against members of the communities and CIJP.⁹

SAN JOSÉ DE APARTADÓ PEACE COMMUNITY – LUIS EDUARDO GUERRA HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE (CDHLEG)

During the first months of 2010, PBI carried out intense political advocacy to counteract the defamation campaign against the San José de Apartadó Peace Community and Jesuit priest Javier Giraldo. Danis Daniel Sierra, alias Samir, who demobilised from the FARC’s 5th Front, made negative false statements, which were spread by several national and international media outlets at the end of 2009 and the beginning of 2010.

In March, PBI’s international accompaniment and observation became even more important for the Peace Community

after the community ombudsperson was transferred, leaving the Peace Community without a direct State representative. This situation goes against Constitutional Court Ruling T-1025 of 2007.¹⁰

Prior to and following the Presidential elections, PBI increased the number of accompaniments to the small rural communities of Antioquia and Córdoba due to the rise in threats against Peace Community members¹¹ by armed groups. These groups emerged after the demobilisation of the paramilitary structures of the United Self-Defence Forces of Colombia (AUC), as also reported by different international organisations.¹²

Abuses by State security forces also continued to threaten the safety and lives of Peace Community members. The community has suffered ongoing stigmatisation for being peasant farmers participating in a civil resistance process.¹³ At the same time, Peace Community members became more vulnerable due to the increased pressure from the Revolutionary

Summary of accompaniments in 2010*

CIJP along the Curbaradó and Jiguamiando River Basins	San José de Apartadó Peace Community	CIJP at CAVIDA (Cacarica)	Meetings / accompaniments with other organisations	TOTAL Accompaniments
417	343	276	32 & 36	1.072

* Accompaniments measured in half-day units (12 hours) and include meetings with the organisations.



Inhabitants of Cacarica.

Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), as demonstrated over the last months in the rural district of San José de Apartadó and in the department of Córdoba.¹⁴

As a result, over the last months of the year, PBI's work has focused on facilitating opportunities for dialogue and international advocacy. In August 2010, a Peace Community member went on a speaker's tour to the United States. During this trip, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights issued a new judgment that reaffirmed the provisional protection measures for the community members.¹⁵

Lastly, PBI accompanied Peace Community members on their pilgrimage in Bogotá with the Tamera Peace Community (Portugal) at the end of October. They walked together through the streets of the Colombian capital and visited such institutions as the Vice-President's Office and the Prosecutor General's Office. This pilgrimage was a way for the Peace Community to visibilise its struggle and the human rights violations committed since its creation in 1997, and demonstrate the community's solidarity with social organisations and working class neighbourhoods.

PBI also accompanied Peace Community members on a trip to hold their assembly in the Mulatos rural community. Since community members face indiscriminate threats from illegal armed actors,¹⁶ PBI believes that the members of the Internal Council and the Luis Eduardo Guerra Human Rights Committee face greater vulnerability when travelling to rural areas, making international accompaniment indispensable. After a few days in the Mulatos community during the assembly, PBI accompanied the delegation on a trip to the communities of La

Esperanza, La Resbalosa, Alto Joaquín, Las Claras, Puerto Nuevo, Frasquillo and Montería.

COMMUNITY FOR SELF-DETERMINATION, LIFE AND DIGNITY (CAVIDA) AND THE INTER-CHURCH JUSTICE AND PEACE COMMISSION (CIJP)

In 2010, PBI continued to accompany the Community for Self-Determination, Life and Dignity (CAVIDA) and the Missionary Team of the Inter-Church Justice and Peace Commission (CIJP). The security situation remained difficult in the area due to distinct economic interests¹⁷ and the presence of different legal and illegal armed actors, representing grave concern for the civilian population of the Humanitarian Zones. In 2010, CIJP members were falsely accused of being allied with the FARC¹⁸, which endangered their personal safety and workspace.

In September, PBI learned that 20 - 30 members of the 17th Brigade entered the Nueva Esperanza en Dios Humanitarian Zone, despite signs marking it as a humanitarian zone. The military claimed to have entered the area in order to find a shorter path. On September 30, military personnel camped out a few metres from housing in the Humanitarian Zone, which forced some of the inhabitants to find alternative shelter.¹⁹ In meetings with security forces, PBI has stressed the need to respect the principles of the Humanitarian Zones and avoid involving the civilian population in the armed conflict.

In June, PBI provided important accompaniment during the Triathlon for Life on the Darién and the People's Consultation. These events evolved from

CAVIDA's and CIJP's concern for the adverse effects of large-scale development projects on the region's civilian population and the environment, especially the Transversal of the Americas, a continuation of the Pan-American Highway, announced by then President Uribe on a visit to Urabá in October 2009. CIJP and CAVIDA organised the triathlon for communities in resistance from around the country, many Colombian human rights NGO's, and individuals from Latin America, Europe and the United States in order to visibilise the environmental and cultural effects of the large-scale development project on the region.²⁰ PBI accompanied the two organisations from the beginning of the route in Medellín, through the Curbaradó River Basin, Turbo, the Atrato River and the Cacarica River Basin, until reaching Palo de Letras on the Panama border.

1. Constitutional Court Order. 18 May 2010.
2. *Ibid.* 1, page 28.
3. "Asesinan otro líder negro en Curbaradó (Chocó); es el tercero en los últimos dos meses." *El Tiempo* newspaper, 14 January 2010.
4. "En Curbaradó continúa la presencia paramilitar y las acciones de repoblamiento." CIJP, 16 December 2010; "Persisten operaciones de tipo paramilitar abiertas para proteger los intereses empresariales ganaderos y de ocupación de mala fe en Curbaradó." CIJP, 16 July 2010.
5. "Nuevo plan paramilitar para asesinar al campesino de la Zona Humanitaria de Andalucía." Curbaradó, Enrique Manuel Petro Hernández, CIJP, 10 May 2010.
6. "Plan contra defensor de derechos humanos, amenazas de muerte y falsos testigos contra CIJP." CIJP, 10 December 2010.
7. "Órdenes de captura contra integrantes de Zona Humanitaria y Zona de Biodiversidad." CIJP, 27 October 2010.
8. "Recrudescimiento de amenazas y judicializaciones contra la Comisión Intereclesial de Justicia y Paz y las Zonas Humanitarias del Curbaradó y Jiguamiandó." *Focos de Interés*, PBI Colombia, December 2010.
9. "Continúa invasión y amenazas en Curbaradó." CIJP, 28 December 2010.
10. The Constitutional Court ordered the Ministry of Defence to present reports to the Human Rights Ombudsman's Office on the actions carried out to guarantee the rights to life and personal safety of the Peace Community members and the individuals who provide them with services. The Court also urged that the Human Rights Ombudsman's Office provide the measures and personnel required to build the minimum trust needed between State institutions and the San José de Apartadó Peace Community. "Corte Constitucional pone fin al ocultamiento de la identidad de los miembros de la fuerza pública en contextos de violaciones de los derechos humanos." DH Colombia, 23 January 2008. See: <http://www.dhcolombia.info/spip.php?article469>
11. "Denuncian que "paras" podrían desaparecer San José de Apartadó." *RCN Radio*, 18 June 2010.
12. "Paramilitarías' Heirs." Human Rights Watch, 3 February 2010. See: <http://www.hrw.org/en/reports/2010/02/03/paramilitar-ies-heirs-0>
13. "Uribe Vélez defensa emotivamente a los miembros de la fuerza pública involucrados en crímenes graves ligados a la represión contra movimientos y organizaciones sociales." Javier Giraldo, Javier Giraldo Moreno, 25 January 2011. See: <http://www.prensarural.org/spip/spip.php?article5226>; "Siete líderes asesinados y 110 organizaciones de derechos humanos amenazadas." Programa Somos Defensores (PNGPDDH), 11 June 2010.
14. In 2010, several leaders of Community Action Boards were murdered; a bomb exploded in Apartadó in June; a rancher was kidnapped in Tíerralta in September; and a bus driver was kidnapped in Currulao.
15. "Resolución de la Corte Interamericana de Derechos Humanos de 15 de marzo de 2005 - Medidas Provisionales respecto de la República de Colombia, Caso de la Comunidad de Paz de San José de Apartadó." See: http://www.corteidh.or.cr/docs/medidas/apartado_se_051.doc
16. In July 2010, the Peace Community spoke out against pressure from an illegal armed group emerging since the paramilitary demobilisation. At least 200 members of the illegal armed group reportedly came to the rural communities of Alto Murmullo and Alto Joaquín (rural area of the municipality of Apartadó) and threatened the population. "Boletín humanitario 28." OCHA, 5-11 July 2010. Additionally, according to the Peace Community, alleged FARC members murdered a woman in the Mulatos-Cabecera rural community (rural area of the municipality of Apartadó) in August. "No cesa la destrucción de vidas en nuestro territorio." San José de Apartadó Peace Community, 17 August 2010. See: <http://odpsanjose.org/?q=node/169>
17. "Triatlón por la vida del Darién." PBI Colombia, September 2010.
18. Compilation of news articles on defamation campaigns: "Orquestan campaña de difamaciones contra la Comisión Intereclesial de Justicia y Paz." CIJP, 5 January 2010.
19. "Desconocimiento del Derecho Humanitario por efectivos de la brigada 17 Cacarica." CIJP, 6 October 2010.
20. "Triatlón del Darién Protesta contra Carretera Panamericana." *El Tiempo* newspaper, 18 June 2010.

Intense advocacy work in Colombia



Angelino Garzón, vice-president of Colombia, during the presidential campaign in 2010.

THE NEW GOVERNMENT

In keeping with its protection mandate and focus areas, one of the principal aspects of PBI's work in Colombia has been and continues to be its dialogue with Colombian civilian and military authorities. Following the Presidential elections and the start of the new government in August, it was essential for PBI to establish contact with government officials in order to maintain communication channels open.

The PBI Coordination team and the Inter-Team Committee in Bogotá met with key government actors: Vice-President Angelino Garzón, the new director of the Presidential Programme for the Protection and Observation of Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law; Hernán Jaime Ulloa Venegas, and; the Vice-Minister of Defence, Rafael Guarín. Additionally, on several occasions PBI participated in meetings with the Ministry of Interior and the Inter-Agency Dialogue in Colombia (DIAL coalition). In these meetings, PBI was able to present its work in Colombia and express its concern about attacks against accompanied individuals and organisations. Additionally, PBI was able to renew the support from the Vice-President's Office for PBI Colombia volunteers and obtain the support of government institutions for PBI's work in Colombia.

SITUATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS AND WORK WITH THE DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITY AND INTERNATIONAL BODIES

THREATS

In 2010, there was a notable increase in threats made against human rights defenders and human rights organisations.¹ In terms of where PBI works, organisations in the Magdalena Medio and Cauca and Valle del Cauca regions have been especially affected.

Additional strategies to stop or prevent the defence of human rights include information theft, stigmatization, baseless criminal prosecutions, physical assault and planned attacks against human rights defenders. Many of the individuals and organisations accompanied by PBI are targets of these strategies:

With respect to the international community with presence in Colombia, PBI's role includes reporting on the poor security situation of the threatened individuals, requesting support to guarantee their lives and the freedom to carry out their work, and encouraging direct dialogue between the international community and the individuals and organisations accompanied by PBI.

INSTABILITY IN THE MAGDALENA MEDIO REGION

During the first six months of 2010,

all of the organisations accompanied by PBI in the Magdalena Medio region were victims of mass threats.² Individually, CCALCP was victim of different physical attacks and street thefts, and David Ravelo received several personal threats.³ Due to the tense situation, PBI decided to focus its dialogue and information sharing with the international community on the organisations active in this region and facilitated a visit with six embassies to the area.⁴ These diplomatic commissions are essential for demonstrating international support and awareness of the social movement and enabling a deeper understanding of the organisations' situation and the pressure received. Additionally, PBI insisted that investigations be carried out to punish the responsible parties. PBI also decided to increase the number of volunteers for the team in Barranbermeja in order to meet the increased accompaniment requests.

IMPUNITY

The international community consulted with PBI to facilitate contact with accompanied lawyers in order to have more information on the situation of several cases of human rights violations. Human rights lawyer Jorge Molano spoke with the Canadian, United States, French, Norwegian and Swedish embassies, as well as and the European Union Delegation, about the acquittal of ten members of the military on trial for having participated in the massacre of San José de Apartadó in February 2005 and the current appeal to this ruling. Given the high degree of impunity, PBI highly values being able to share information on possible irregularities in the Colombian judicial system, beyond just emblematic and internationally known cases. The fact that the diplomatic community met with Jorge Molano, the lawyer representing the civil party in the case of massacre, demonstrates the international community's interest in closely following the development of Colombian justice in case of human rights violations.

BASELESS CRIMINAL PROSECUTIONS

Since the detention of human rights defender and social leader David Ravelo Crespo, a member of the Regional Corporation for the Defence of Human Rights (CREDHOS), on 14 September 2010, PBI has carried out extensive work to vis-

ibilise Mr. Ravelo’s specific situation and the challenges created by criminal prosecutions against human rights defenders in Colombia.

Within the framework of the European Union guidelines on human rights defenders, PBI, along with the National and International Campaign for the Right to Defend Human Rights, invited the international community to visit David Ravelo in the La Picota Prison in Bogotá on 10 December 2010. On this occasion, representatives from the German and Nether-

lands embassies, and two members from the Inter-Agency Dialogue in Colombia (DIAL)⁵ were able to listen to David Ravelo’s concerns about the investigation and prosecution being carried out against him and the context of his detention. After the meeting, the Canadian, French, British and United States embassies attended a forum, organized by PBI, to learn about David Ravelo’s situation from his defence lawyer from the José Alvear Restrepo Lawyers’ Collective.

As an accompaniment organisation

and in collaboration with the Inter-Agency Dialogue in Colombia and the International Working Group for the Magdalena Medio Region (MICMM), PBI has carried out an intense awareness-raising campaign on the case and has spoken with authorities from the Colombian State on a number of occasions to express concern for the situation of the well-known human rights defender and the development of the investigation.

Summary of dialogue with authorities and institutions in Colombia in 2010

	Government and Control Agencies	State Security Forces	Diplomatic Community, UN Agencies, MAPP-OAS	Coordination Groups, Civil Society, Faith-based Groups, etc.
National	15 Vice-President’s Office Prosecutor’s Office DAS Human Rights Ombudsman’s Office Constitutional Court Ministry of Foreign Affairs Ministry of Interior Ministry of Agriculture	2 Ministry of Defence Inspector General of the Armed Forces	48 Embassies: Canada, United States, France, Great Britain, the Netherlands, Sweden, Spain, Switzerland, Germany, Norway, EU Delegation UN Agencies Aid Agencies (Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation, and Catalan Agency for Development Cooperation)	40 DIAL Alliance Colombia-Europe-United States Coordination International Working Group for the Magdalena Medio Region (MICMM)
Barrancabermeja Regions of Magdalena Medio and Norte de Santander	17 Local government Human Rights Ombudsman’s Office Human Rights Liaison’s Office Governor’s Office Presidential Human Rights Programme	32 Army (16) Police (16)	10 UN Agencies MAPP-OAS International Committee of the Red Cross	58 Coordination Groups (43) Civil Society (15)
Bogotá Several Departments	7 Human Rights Ombudsman’s Office Regional INPEC Office Regional DAS Office	32 Army (17) Police (15)		Approx. 36 Coordination Groups Several with Civil Society
Medellín Regions of Eastern Antioquia, North-Eastern Antioquia, Cauca and Valle del Cauca	9 City government Human Rights Ombudsman’s Office Human rights Liaison’s Office Bellavista INPEC Office	26 Army (14) Police (12)	9 UN Agencies MAPP-OAS	Several with Civil Society
Urabá	17 Human Rights Ombudsman’s Office	24 Army (15) Police (9)	10 UN Agencies	33 Coordination Groups (10) Civil Society (23)
Total	65	116	77	Aprox. 167

COALITION ADVOCACY WORK

In 2010, an important part of PBI’s work entailed participating as an observing organisation in different coordination groups such as DIAL. Within these coalitions, PBI contributed in presenting proposals and specific requests to the international community and Colombian government on the human rights situation in Colombia.

Following Constitutional Court Order 448,⁶ which requests that the international community monitor the process established for the future land restitution to forcibly displaced populations returning to the Curbaradó and Jiguamiandó River Basins, the DIAL coalition had several meetings with different State institutions to follow up on the development of this process and express concern for

possible obstacles. During meetings with the Ministry of the Interior and the Prosecutor General’s Office, PBI, as a DIAL observing member, accompanied the Inter-Church Justice and Peace Commission (CIJP), which maintains a presence in the Curbaradó and Jiguamiandó River Basins.

1. "Threats are a cause for special concern." PBI Colombia, April 2010.
 2. "Acción Urgente." CREDHOS, 26 April 2010.
 3. *Focos de Interés*. PBI Colombia, August 2010.
 4. Germany, France, Netherlands, United Kingdom, Sweden and European Union Delegation.
 5. Inter-Agency Dialogue (DIAL) is a coordination space for nine aid agencies in Colombia, which have partners that work on the issues of human rights, democracy and sustainable development.
 6. Judgment 448, 18 May 2010. Reference: Adoption of immediate precautionary protection measures to safeguard the fundamental rights of the Afro-Colombian communities of Curbaradó and Jiguamiandó, which have suffered forced displacement, within the framework of the state of unconstitutionality declared in Ruling T-025 of 2004 and follow-up judgments, in particular Judgment 005 of 2009.

Incidence in Europe

Due to a variety of factors, the 2010 European context was less favourable than the previous year for advocacy on human rights defenders and organisations in Colombia. One of the principal differences was the entry into force of the Treaty of Lisbon, which determines a new institutional structure and created uncertainty for European advocacy channels. Other challenges for PBI included new governments taking office in several European Union (EU) member states and the European Union elections in December 2009. In order to offset these difficulties, PBI invested in improving coordination with PBI country groups so they may carry out their own advocacy work with information and collaboration from the PBI Colombia project.

Also affecting the European context was Juan Manuel Santos government taking office in Colombia. European governments have a tendency to refrain from addressing human rights violations until a new government is able to establish itself. Lastly, due to progress in the negotiations to ratify the Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between the European Union and Colombia, economic factors have taken on greater importance and visibility, which presents challenges for human rights advocacy work.

COUNTRY GROUPS

The PBI Brussels office increased and supported more PBI country group and coalition initiatives in 2010. This is mainly due to the aforementioned factors and the amount of emergencies that took place (grave threats, possible attacks, and baseless criminal prosecutions) against accompanied human rights defenders and organisations —especially during the second half of the year.

Specifically, PBI coordinated advocacy work during these emergencies with country groups in cases involving eight accompanied organisations or communities.¹ Country groups —with all the information at their disposal— were able to hold meetings with the governments of Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Germany, United Kingdom, France, Spain, Italy, and Belgium, in addition to sharing issues of concern with various coalitions within each country.

Photo: Patxi Belzaiz



Father Javier Giraldo



Leonardo Jaimes Marín, FCSPP

Type of harassment	Affected accompanied individuals organisations and communities
Street aggression (alleged politically motivated)	ASFADDES, CCALCP, CIJP
Death threats	ASFADDES, MINGA Association, Berenice Celeyta (NOMADESC), San José de Apartadó Peace Community, CIJP, CCAJAR, CCALCP, CREDHOS, FCSPP, Ingrid Vergara (MOVICE), OFP, EETTTDDHH, CJL
Current prosecutions: detentions, prosecutions with formal charges, alleged investigations and/or arrest warrants	Detentions: David Ravelo (CREDHOS), Carmelo Agamez (MOVICE). Prosecutions: Members of the Curbaradó and Jiguamiandó Humanitarian Zones, Carolina Rubio (FCSPP Bucaramanga), Andrés Gil (ACVC). Alleged investigations and/or arrest warrants: ACVC, CIJP, members of the Curbaradó and Jiguamiandó Humanitarian Zones, Leonardo Jaimes Marín (FCSPP Bucaramanga).
Stigmatization in mass media	CJL, CCAJAR, CIJP, Peace Community of San José de Apartadó, EETTTDDHH, Javier Giraldo (Jesuit priest).
Information theft	ASFADDES, CCALCP
Alleged plan to attack members of the organisation	FCSPP Bucaramanga, CIJP, CCAJAR, CJL



Sir Henry Brooke, Alirio Uribe (CCAJAR), and James Lupton (translator), during the launch of the campaign Alliance for Lawyers at Risk in London, November 2010.

PBI's actions included having several national Parliamentarians send letters of concern to the Vice-President's Office on the grave situation of risk for individuals and organisations accompanied by PBI, including David Ravelo Crespo (CREDHOS), the José Alvear Restrepo Lawyers' Collective (CCAJAR), the Luis Carlos Pérez Lawyers' Collective (CCALCP), and Berenice Celeyta (NOMADESC).

The office in Brussels visited seven country groups on nine different occasions,² indicating the importance of the contributions by the country groups for PBI Colombia. In addition to improving shared knowledge and the coordination of advocacy strategies, an evaluation on the effectiveness of PBI Colombia's protection tools was also carried out during these visits.

The office also supported and participated in significant events such as the Seminar for Women Human Rights Defenders - organised by the PBI Spain country group and to which Berenice Celeyta of NOMADESC was invited - and the launch of the Alliance for Lawyers at Risk - organised by PBI UK and in which CCAJAR lawyer Alirio Uribe participated. The latter initiative focused on raising awareness on risks faced by lawyers in Colombia, and sharing experience and support with senior lawyers from British law firms.

PBI also helped coordinate a six-week European speaking tour by the Luis Carlos Perez Lawyers' Collective (CCA-

LCP) from November to December 2010. In May of this year, PBI also coordinated visits to Germany, Belgium, Switzerland and the Netherlands by Irene Ramírez, a representative of the Peasant Farmers' Association of the Cimitarra River Valley (ACVC). In collaboration with the country groups, the PBI office in Brussels ensured that the participants of these speaking tours had meetings with representatives from national governments and the European Union.

COALITIONS, CIVIL SOCIETY AND EVENTS

In Brussels, PBI continued to participate as an observing member in three coalitions: the International Office for Human Rights - Action on Colombia (OIDHACO), the Belgian Coordination for Colombia (CBC) and the Human Rights and Democracy Network (HRDN). In conjunction with PBI UK, the Colombia project also participated in the ABColombia coalition. Through this participation, the office has been able to contribute PBI's vision and mission on the protection of human rights defenders. For instance, ABColombia sent a letter of concern on the situation of David Ravelo Crespo, a human rights defender accompanied by PBI, to the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the United Kingdom and Ireland.

Since June 2010, PBI has also been an observing member on the OIDHACO Administrative Council, participating in

the corresponding activities and meetings. Additionally, these coalitions and PBI have had joint meetings with representatives from the European Union. Relevant information and material was provided as needed and requested during these meetings.

On International Human Rights Day, the office in Brussels represented PBI during an event at the European Parliament, which included the presence of several human rights organisations, civil society representatives, and European Union representatives. Additionally, through these bilateral and multilateral meetings, PBI has strengthened its relationship with related organisations in Brussels in order to increase international pressure for the current human rights situation in Colombia.

EUROPEAN UNION

Throughout 2010, the Office in Brussels met on several occasions with representatives from the European Commission, and its Colombia desk officer, in order to support and complement dialogue carried out by the PBI project in Bogotá.

The PBI office in Brussels also had a meeting with the representative from the Human Rights Office of the Council of Ministers and several joint meetings with representatives from the Council's Working Group on Latin America (COLAT) - 16 representatives from member States attended the last meeting. PBI also participated in two round tables with members of the Council's Working Group on Human Rights (COHOM) on the structural changes anticipated for the European External Action Service (EEAS) over the next months.

Additionally, PBI had several meetings with the Colombia desk officer of the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Madrid during the Spanish Presidency of the European Union, in as well as meetings with their counterparts in Brussels during the Belgian Presidency. These meetings have served to strengthen relationships during these presidencies and raise awareness on the most pertinent cases of human rights defenders to be addressed by these States with Colombian authorities.

Furthermore, the PBI office in Brussels had twelve meetings with members of the European Parliament in order to present PBI's work in Colombia and reinforce existing relationships. In this respect, in addition to individual meetings, PBI frequently exchanged information with a network of European Parliamentarians on the situation of individuals and

organisations accompanied by PBI in Colombia and on the situation of human rights violations in the country in general.

PBI closely monitors the issue of illegal wiretapping by the Administrative Department of Security (DAS). As a result, civil society organisations from several European countries, in addition to several members of PBI's support network, openly expressed their repudiation of these illegal actions and other serious human rights violations committed in Colombia.

UNITED NATIONS

The PBI office in Brussels visited Geneva during the March session of the Human Rights Council and the presentation of Margaret Sekaggya's, Special Rapporteur, report on the situation of human rights defenders. While there, PBI met with the Rapporteur to discuss her recommendations and the possibility of their follow-up. Also, the Office in Brussels has maintained frequent communication with the Office of Special Procedures on cases of human rights defenders accompanied by PBI in Colombia. Taking advantage of this visit to Geneva, the PBI office also participated in a parallel event to speak about the situation of women human rights defenders in Colombia.

North America



At the beginning of October 2010, PBI Colombia, PBI USA, LAWG, USOC and WOLA organised a visit to Washington D.C. by one of the founders of the San José de Apartadó Peace Community, Jesús Emilio Tuberquía. Photo: Emily Crystal Nelson (PBI), Jesús Emilio Tuberquía (Peace Community) and Katherine Hughes-Fraitekh (PBI USA) after a meeting in Congress.

The PBI office in North America, located in Washington D.C., maintains ongoing and open dialogue with members of the U.S. Congress and Canadian Parliament, government officials from both countries, the Organization of American States, and the United Nations. In 2010, PBI's support network broadened its contact with university groups and organisations in the U.S. and the offices of the Black Caucus and Republican Congress members. Furthermore, PBI significantly strengthened communication with the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights.

INITIATIVES WITH NGO'S

PBI continues to coordinate its dialogue with authorities in the United States and Canada through the Colombia Steering Committee, the Colombia Policy Group, and the Afro Colombian Solidarity Network, during emergency actions and regular meetings.

The information PBI provides to members of Congress, government officials, and human rights organisations located in Washington D.C, is an important source of knowledge on the Colombian

situation regarding human rights. PBI also maintains close contact with the Washington Office on Latin America (WOLA), the Latin American Working Group (LAWG), the U.S. Office on Colombia (USOC), Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR), Witness for Peace, Human Rights First, and the Afro Colombian Solidarity Network. This year, PBI achieved the support of several of these organisations to address emblematic cases of human rights violations, including the forced disappearance of ASFADDES members Ángel Quintero and Claudia Monsalve over ten years ago; "Operation Dragon,"¹ and; the massacre of eight members of the San José de Apartadó Peace Community in February 2005.

Within the framework of strengthening relations with different organisations, the PBI office helped visibilise and promote the national event "Days of Prayer and Action for Colombia." In 2010, more than 43,000 people participated in the event which included talks and activities in 70 cities throughout the United States. PBI is already participating in the planning of the next event in April 2011.

Photo: PBI Estado Español



Berenice Celeyta with human rights defenders Mary Jane Real (Philippines) and Lorena Cabnal (Guatemala) in front of the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation

1. Advocacy work was carried out to offset the defamation campaign against PBI and the San Jose de Apartadó Peace Community in 2010; threats against members of the MOVICE, CREDHOS and NOMADESC in June 2010; threats against CCAJAR, CCALCP and CIJP; and the detention of David Ravelo Crespo in September 2010.
2. France, Great Britain (2), Spain (2), Italy, Germany, Netherlands and Switzerland, in addition to meetings and communication with representatives from Belgium, Sweden and Norway.



In October 2010, PBI supported human rights lawyer Jorge Molano's first visit Washington.

DIALOGUE WITH THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS

This year, PBI representatives in Washington achieved support from the offices of several Congress members. These offices had a multiplying effect through inviting other Congressional offices to support and consult human rights defenders directly or indirectly accompanied by PBI. Following a visit to Colombia by the office of Senator John Kerry—during which its members were able to also learn about PBI's work—a report on the human rights situation in Colombia was drafted by the advisors of the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee. The PBI office was consulted during this process.

In 2010, PBI, USOC and FOR jointly carried out dialogue with members of Congress and the Senate, achieving support in demanding greater transparency in the military aid provided by the Justice and Defence Departments to the Colombian government and armed forces. PBI provided USOC with information based on field observations in order to establish indicators to measure levels of impunity in Colombia. These indicators were shared with several Congressional offices, which in turn will request that the Government Accountability Office (GAO) follow up on these issues. Additionally, this initiative was addressed in a letter signed by 15 U.S. non-governmental organisations sent to Secretary of State Hillary Clinton to promote the consultation process between the State Department and NGO's in order to ensure compliance with the Leahy Law.²

The PBI office, WOLA and LAWG met with the Chairperson of the House Intelligence Committee in order to address the illegal offensive operations carried out by the Administrative Department of Security (DAS), especially against human rights defenders. Although it is not known exactly what measures the Committee will take due to confidentiality, the detailed information provided by PBI was taken into account by Committee members and the Congress continued to prohibit U.S. financing and assistance for the DAS.

DIALOGUE WITH THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH IN THE UNITED STATES

This year, PBI was able to strengthen its relationship with senior officials in the Department of State (DOS). Before and after trips to Colombia, the officials met with PBI to gather insight and recommendations, a practice that has become more frequent over the last year.

PBI continued to be one of nine organisations consulted by the DOS during the biannual certification process on human rights compliance for Foreign Operations assistance (Plan Colombia). PBI ensured that the cases of accompanied human rights defenders directly reach the bureaus of Western Hemisphere Affairs and Democracy, Rights and Labour Affairs. The importance of this work was demonstrated when the State Department decided to initiate bilateral dialogue with the Colombian government on the issue of human rights, including such issues as

human rights defenders, impunity, victims, and protection programmes.

State Department officials responsible for Colombia continue to react to PBI's concerns about accompanied human rights defenders. They have provided follow-up with their counterparts in the Colombian government and informing PBI on progress in these cases. Due to PBI's advocacy work in Washington and Bogotá, in 2010, State Department and Embassy officials visited the offices of five organisations and two communities accompanied by PBI. This contact with the State Department has strengthened the legal proceedings in certain emblematic cases.

The PBI office increased its communication with the Department of Homeland Security and the Human Rights Violators and War Crimes Unit (HRVWCU), and exchanged information on emblematic human rights violation cases, including the massacre of the San José de Apartadó Peace Community and the illegal intelligence activities carried out by the DAS.

INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS (IACHR)

The PBI office in North America maintained close contact with the Human Rights Defenders Unit and the Protection Group of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. This included regular meetings to express concern for the safety of PBI accompanied individuals and organisations.

In March and October, PBI representatives attended the IACHR's 138th and 139th sessions in Washington D.C. Several organisations accompanied by PBI participated in these sessions.

Additionally, PBI followed up on the initiative begun in 2009 to register PBI International as a civil society organisation before the Organisation of American States (OAS) within the framework of the objectives of the PBI's International Advocacy Working Group. The PBI representative in Washington was also selected by the IACHR to participate in the Commission's annual course in which the participants meet with IACHR Commissioners and faculty members at the American University College of Law.

VISITS BY ACCOMPANIED ORGANISATIONS

In October 2010, PBI supported Jorge Molano's first visit Washington. During his visit, Mr. Molano, a human rights lawyer and member of Sembrar Corporation, was able to meet with U.S. government



In December 2010, the PBI team and WOLA supported a visit to Washington D.C. by two members of the Curbaradó and Jiguamiandó Humanitarian Zones. During their visit, the community members spoke about the immediate risks faced by the inhabitants of the Curbaradó and Jiguamiandó Humanitarian Zones and the continued presence of alleged paramilitaries in the area. Photo: A humanitarian zone in Curbaradó.

officials and civil society organisations. In December 2010, the PBI team and WOLA supported a visit to Washington D.C. by two members of the Curbaradó and Jiguamiandó Humanitarian Zones. The members of the Humanitarian Zones met with several Congressional offices, the Congressional Black Caucus, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, and the State Department.

COUNTRY GROUPS

The PBI office continued to keep in close contact with the country groups from United States, Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

In March, the PBI Colombia office in Washington, PBI Mexico and PBI USA jointly participated in meetings with members of Congress.

In May, in conjunction with the PBI country group in Canada, the PBI communications and outreach officer travelled to Toronto and Ottawa to carry out political advocacy work and strengthen the support network. During this visit, PBI members participated in the Americas Policy Group's annual meeting, sharing information with several Canadian non-governmental organisations that belong

to the PBI support network, including the Canadian Council for International Cooperation, Amnesty International - Canada, Lawyers without Borders, and Inter Pares. Additionally, PBI members met with representatives from the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade.

At the beginning of October 2010, PBI Colombia, PBI USA, LAWG, USOC and WOLA organised a visit to Washington D.C. by one of the founders of the San José de Apartadó Peace Community, Jesús Emilio Tuberquía. The objective was to follow up on the acquittal of the Colombian soldiers prosecuted for the massacre in the Peace Community in February 2005, visibilising the case and strengthening political support for the Peace Community in United States. During the visit, Mr. Tuberquía met with 12 Congressional offices, the State Department, the Department of Homeland Security, and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. The Peace Community was able to re-establish contact with the offices that had provided political support after the massacre of February 2005. Several members of Congress supported the creation of a Justice Evaluation Commission, which had been proposed by the Peace Community, and are following up on this proposal.

EMERGENCIES

In January 2010, PBI carried out emergency actions to counteract the intense stigmatisation and defamations made against accompanied organisations in the Colombian and international press. Since then, PBI carried out international advocacy work for five security situations affecting members of CIJP, CCAJAR, NOMADESC, MOVICE Sucre and CREDHOS.

In response to these threats, PBI expressed its concern with U.S. Congress members, Canadian Parliamentarians, government officials, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, and all of the NGO's in North America that belong to the support network.

1. An illegal information-gathering operation carried out by the national army. The operation, which was revealed in 2004, targeted human rights defenders, trade unionists, and members of opposition parties in Cali. The Prosecutor's Office presented evidence that the 3rd Army Brigade, the National Police in Cali, and the DAS, supported and participated in illegal information gathering on these people with the alleged objective of murdering them. Those responsible for "Operation Dragon" remain unpunished to date.
2. The Leahy Law prohibits the U.S. government from providing assistance to governments that violate human rights.

Security and Strategies

THE PBI COLOMBIA PROJECT IMPLEMENTS SEVERAL SECURITY TOOLS TO PROTECT PBI VOLUNTEERS AND MEMBERS OF ACCOMPANIED ORGANISATIONS AND COMMUNITIES.



An updated analysis of the international, national and regional political situation allows PBI to better understand the general political and security situations. This analysis includes specific regions and actors in order to ensure proper decision-making and strategic foresight regarding the Colombian armed conflict.

Other tools, such as risk analysis, are used in trip preparation to make decisions on the feasibility of travel in conflict areas. This analysis is complemented by ongoing dialogue with civilian and military authorities, international organisations and aid agencies. Multiple sources sharpen the analysis required for making appropriate decisions and guaranteeing the safety of volunteers and accompanied individuals. On an operative level, every two months PBI analyses, evaluates and updates the security situation of all of the roads where PBI members travel.

When a PBI team decides to travel, letters are sent to inform the competent regional¹ and national² authorities. These letters guarantee the transparency with which PBI has worked for over 16 years in Colombia.

During the trips, PBI volunteers are clearly identified with the PBI logo on shirts, flags, stickers, and vehicles—a car and a riverboat. This identification

ensures that the authorities and illegal armed actors are aware of PBI's non-partisan observation and accompaniment work. Additionally, PBI maintains sophisticated communications equipment in the field—mobile telephones, computers, satellite telephones, and GPS—in order to guarantee efficient communication in case of emergency and to send important information to the teams providing support from the office.

PBI also records all security incidents relating to their work and that of the accompanied individuals, communities and organisations. The information gathered enables PBI to evaluate the level of risk and the protection that is needed.

Internally, PBI has information security tools, such as encryption software for hard drives and email communications. This year, PBI provided seven information security workshops to six accompanied organisation at their request. These workshops contributed to improving the communications security of these organisations, protecting them from illegal interception.

2010 was marked by an increase in common crime, contributing to insecurity within the country. Common crime has also continued in other cities where PBI works. PBI volunteers have been the victims of theft or attempted theft in Bogotá

and Medellín, and the PBI house in Urabá was robbed on several occasions. In response to increased vulnerability, PBI implemented a security protocol, adapting it for each city.

The experiences of the human rights organisations throughout the year demonstrate that they still face many risks. Many members of human rights organisations received threats, were robbed and even physically assaulted on the streets of different cities. The intimidation tactics and assaults used by victimisers towards human rights defenders leave little doubt that aggressions were beyond common crime, proving a planned strategy to attempt to paralyse the organisations.

It is also concerning that prosecutions based on testimony provided by individuals demobilised from illegal armed groups have led to the arrest of such well-known human rights defenders as David Ravelo. The murder of several individuals, who demanded the return of their land, continues to be a constant threat to any land restitution that does not guarantee the protection of these victims.

1. Army battalions and brigades, local and highway police, United Nations offices, etc.

2. The Vice-President's Office, the Ministries of Interior and Defence, and the embassies of the persons travelling.

PBI visibilises threats and stigmatisation

IN 2010, PBI'S COMMUNICATIONS AREA FOCUSED ON ACTIVELY VISIBILISING THE MECHANISMS AND CONSEQUENCES OF IMPUNITY, SELF-PROTECTION INITIATIVES CARRIED OUT BY ORGANISING PROCESSES, AND THE CONSEQUENCES OF AND RESISTANCE TO HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS DUE TO ECONOMIC INTERESTS.¹ ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL ISSUES ADDRESSED IN ALL OF THE PUBLICATIONS WAS THE THREATS AND STIGMATISATION AGAINST HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS AND ORGANISATIONS.



Publication of short video "David Ravelo: human rights defender under threat".

PBI PUBLICATIONS

NEWSLETTERS

In 2010, PBI's Communications Area published newsletters January, April and September.

The first newsletter dealt exclusively with the issue of forced displacement in Colombia, one of the issues PBI addresses within the framework of impunity.² In addition to being sent to the PBI mailing list of approximately 1,000 email addresses, the newsletter was also published on the Relief Web website.

The second newsletter, "Defending human rights in Colombia: a high risk activity," emphasises the fact that several reports by Colombian and international organisations and coalitions have indicated that human rights defenders carry out dangerous work in their country. The newsletter highlights the illegal wiretapping carried out by the Administrative Department of Security (DAS), baseless prosecutions, death threats and murders.

The third newsletter, "Human rights work discredited in Colombia," highlights the negative impacts of stigmatisation and threats against human rights defenders and organisations. Additionally,

it includes articles addressing economic issues in Catatumbo and land restitution issues in Urabá.

FOCOS DE INTERÉS

PBI published twelve "Focos de Interés" from January to December 2010. These publications were distributed at advocacy meetings with the diplomatic community, international organisations, the United Nations system and among policymakers in Europe, the United States and Canada. Additionally, they were distributed electronically to PBI Colombia's support network. This is one of the most important tools for PBI Colombia's advocacy work.

PRESS KITS

In 2010, PBI published 14 press kits on accompanied individuals and organisations. The press kits were published in English and Spanish, and are available in the "Press Room" section of PBI Colombia's webpage.

PHOTOGRAPHS AND VIDEO

In 2010, PBI Colombia produced eight short video documentaries. The videos were sent to PBI's contact list and

published on the PBI Colombia webpage,³ Facebook page,⁴ blog⁵ and Youtube.⁶ The videos had approximately 8,500 hits by the end of December 2010.

CONTACT WITH INTERNATIONAL PRESS

During 2010, PBI Colombia received 20 requests from European and North American journalists. PBI provided information used to produce reports, and photographs and video documentaries on PBI's work in Colombia, human rights defenders and organisations, and the situation of the armed conflict.

WEBPAGE

PBI Colombia's webpage is an important tool for spreading information on the human rights situation in the country. The home page has information that is updated on a weekly basis with newspaper articles and press releases from the accompanied organisations. Additionally, the "Press Room" section includes press kits on the human rights defenders, organisations and communities accompanied by PBI.

1. For more information on strategies, see "Communications Strategies." PBI Communications Area, 25 June 2010.

2. PBI Colombia focuses on three thematic issues: 1) impunity, 2) human rights violations due to economic interests and 3) grassroots and resistance organising processes.

3. <http://www.pbi-colombia.org>

4. <http://www.facebook.com/pbicolombia>

5. <http://pbicolombia.wordpress.com>

6. <http://www.youtube.com/user/colombiapbi>

Supporting reconstruction of the social fabric



Luisa Vidal (PBI) and María Brígida González, an inhabitant of the San José de Apartadó Peace Community.

PBI's work in supporting the Reconstruction of Social Fabric (ARTS) significantly contributes to PBI's general objective of protecting and/or broadening the work of communities and human rights defenders.

This area provides psycho-social and comprehensive protection tools to the accompanied organisations. The organisations acquire tools through workshops, meetings and individual consultations held from PBI's psycho-social support network.

In 2010, PBI's ARTS area carried out a total of 24 workshops with human rights organisations, which represents a 40% increase compared to the previous year.

The workshops are provided at the request of organisations in order to meet their needs regarding comprehensive self-protection measures and emotional care. The issues discussed include risk analysis, analysis of the current political situation, phases of danger, stress and fear management, self-evaluation of the organisation's security management, emotional care, and tools to strengthen the organisation and its social fabric.

The workshops employ a participatory methodology, which seeks to develop proposals out of the participant's experiences. The facilitators—respecting PBI's principle of non-intervention—do not impose ideas or solutions, rather they play a role to encourage the group's reflection.

Workshops have been carried out with community organising processes at the request of human rights organisations accompanied by PBI, who also take part in these organising processes. In the case of an organisation participating in a self-protection workshop, the organisation then shares the information to its partners in the field.

THE WORKSHOPS ARE PROVIDED AT THE REQUEST OF ORGANISATIONS IN ORDER TO MEET THEIR NEEDS REGARDING COMPREHENSIVE SELF-PROTECTION MEASURES AND EMOTIONAL CARE.

Summary of workshops in 2010

	Human Rights Organisations	N° of Workshops per Region	N° of Days	Participants		TOTAL
				Women	Men	
Bogotá	3	7	32	96	26	122
Medellín	5	9		62	47	109
Barrancabermeja	2	3		8	22	30
Bucaramanga	1	2		18	1	19
Caribbean Coast	1	1		8	5	13
Valle del Cauca	1	1		20	0	20
Bolívar	1	1		23	0	23
TOTAL	14	24	32	235	101	336

Training international observers

Photo: Charlotte Kesl



Carly Bishop (PBI) during an accompaniment in Catatumbo (Norte de Santander).

The selection process for PBI volunteers is long and demands significant effort from the applicants. This includes filling out an application and providing the corresponding references, followed by a personal interview with a member of the PBI formation team. The individuals who fulfil the basic selection requirements are invited to begin a self-training process that includes reading, reflection and writing in ten training packets on issues relating to Colombian history, current affairs and PBI's work. This process takes approximately six months.

The selection process concludes with a weeklong training seminar that takes place three times a year in Spain. Since it is such an exhaustive process, only about 30% of the original applicants are accepted as international accompaniers for PBI Colombia.

Upon arriving in Colombia, all of new team members receive two weeks of intense training in Bogota before joining their respective teams. They also receive a month long training after having joined the team, focusing on the region context and providing them with the chance to put into practice all of the theoretical lessons they have learned since joining PBI.

Selection process	2010	2009
Applications filled out during the year	100	96
Persons accepted to the training seminar following an interview and the self-training packets	46 *	79
% of women	70%	70%

* The difference in the figures between 2009 and 2010 is due to the fact that the individuals who began the training process in 2010 are only taken into account, while those who began in 2009 are not recorded here.

Training seminar (February, June, October)	2010	2009
Total participants	46	42
% of candidates accepted	34%	33%
% of women	74%	71%

FURTHER TRAINING

Throughout the year, PBI volunteers receive workshops on different issues ranging from emergency procedures to conflict resolution and forums about legal systems, among other issues of interest. In 2010, the formation team coordinated more than 60 workshops to complement the initial training phase. These workshops were carried out by PBI Colombia members and external experts.

Since 50% of volunteers in the teams extend their contracts, PBI is able to better understand the situation of human rights and of the human rights defenders accompanied by PBI Colombia.

New volunteers in the field	2010
Total number of volunteers *	27
% of men	33%
Extended contracts (from January to December 2010)**	21
% of men	23%

* The volunteers who arrived in January began the training process in 2009.

** Some individuals who began in 2009 are returning as volunteers in 2010.

MOST OF THE PBI VOLUNTEERS CONTINUE TO COME FROM EUROPE.

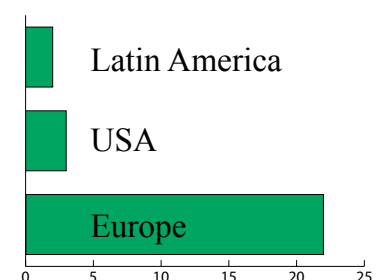
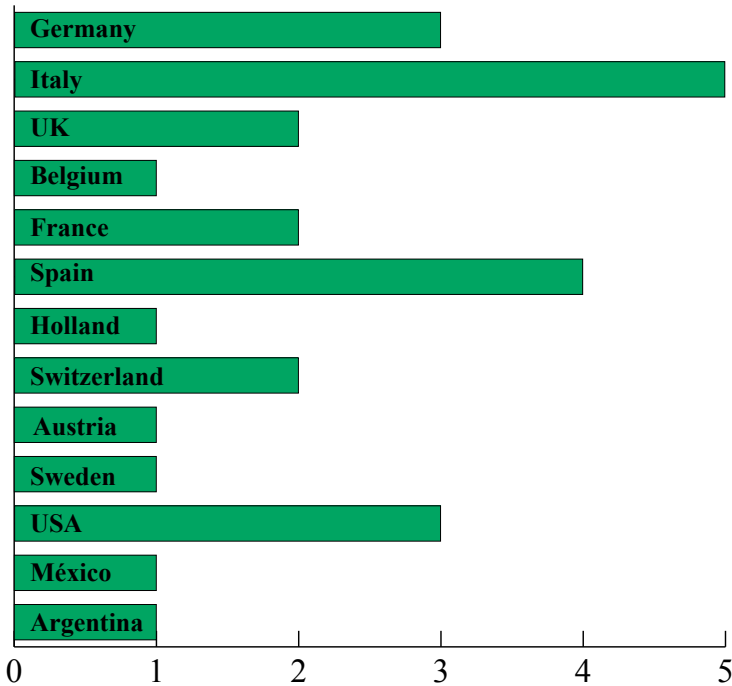


Photo: Charlotte Kesi



Daira Quiñones (FUNDARTECP) and Evan Storey (PBI).



Country and region of origin of accompaniment team members in 2010



Photo: Adrien Johanson

Financial report

1 January – 31 December 2010

THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PRESENTED IN THIS REPORT ARE PRELIMINARY AND WILL BE REVISED BEFORE THE ANNUAL AUDIT IN MARCH 2010. THEREFORE, THERE MAY BE A SLIGHT VARIATION IN CERTAIN FIGURES.

Photo: Charlotte Kesl



Martina Rita Lack and Andrés Alejandro Gutiérrez García with a member of the San José de Apartadó Peace Community.

PBI financial operations are registered in Colombian pesos and converted to US dollars to meet international standards for financial statements and certain donor requirements. For the income and expenditures statement PBI applies the current United States dollar (USD) – Colombian Peso (COP) exchange rate for when the funds are received in foreign accounts. When income is received in Colombia, it is registered in COP effectively received and is registered in USD in the financial statements as reported in documents issued by the bank.

Project expenses are presented in dollars by applying the average exchange rate within the first five days of the month in which they are implemented (taken from www.oanda.com).

The figures in the general balance are calculated by applying the current exchange rate on 31 December 2010 (taken from www.oanda.com - 1 USD = COP 1.950.47).

2010 BUDGET IMPLEMENTATION

2010 expenses represent 102.75% of the final budget. During the year, the budget was increased by 0.53% (from

USD 1,913,409 to USD 1,923,614) after the project assembly in the middle of the year. The slight increase takes into account financing received in the first half of the year. In conclusion, expenses were implemented in accordance with the initial budget proposal for 2010.

In drafting the 2010 budget, PBI calculated a projected average exchange rate for the year at USD 1 = COP 1,950. However, throughout the year the USD fluctuated more than expected, resulting in an average rate for December of USD 1 = COP 1,939.64 (taken from www.oanda.com).

On 31 December 2010, the project had losses for the period of USD 220,722, affecting PBI's reserve.

2010 INCOME AND EXPENSE ACCOUNT

As of 31 December 2010, PBI received income equalling USD 1,822,123, with expenses equalling USD 1,976,526.

DEPRECIATION COSTS

The main areas in which PBI estimates depreciation costs in regard to assets include the riverboat, vehicle, and

communications and computer equipment.

EXCHANGE RATE COSTS

Due to the USD fluctuation during the year, the costs related to the exchange rate differences totalled USD 7,649, representing an increase compared to previous years. All other expenses were implemented in accordance with the 2010 budget and any variations were mentioned previously.

GENERAL BALANCE IN 2010

The comparative general balance reflects the projects' short-term financial stability. Compared to 2009, the projects' balance grew by 1.13%.

Contributing to PBI Colombia's short-term stability are reserves of USD 997,869. Of this, USD 453,069 are resources to be received resulting in a 27.9% account reserve.

In terms of the project's solvency, the reserves - in regards to the projected 2011 budget (USD 1,954,616) - cover project expenses for 3.24 months. However, PBI Colombia has already ensured an important percentage of funds needed for all of 2011.

Peace Brigades International – Colombia Project
 NIT 830.006.411 - 2
 Income and expenditures statement
 1 January to 31 December 2010
 In dollars (Rate 1 US\$ = 1950.47)

Income			
Operational		\$ 1.814.508.91	
Donations from abroad	\$ 1.822.123.47		
Other income	\$ 35.29		
Losses due to difference in exchange rate	\$ (7.649.85)		
Costs for provision of services		\$ 2.035.280.93	
Operational costs	\$1.518.635.68		
Recruitment, preparation and training	\$ 46.065.60		
Advocacy, awareness raising and public relations	\$ 250.442.34		
Project committee coordination	\$ 129.690.07		
Project support office costs	\$ 31.692.17		
Depreciation	\$ 58.755.07		
EXCESS			\$ (220.772.02)

General balance

Activos			
Current assets			\$ 1.174.510.96
Available		\$ 615.575.30	
Cash	\$ 30.350.09		
Accounts in Colombia	\$ 344.124.34		
Accounts in Europe and USA	\$ 241.100.87		
Debtors		\$ 558.935.66	
Advance payments to volunteers	\$ 59.372.17		
Grants receivable	\$ 453.069.01		
Other accounts receivable - ISEC	\$ 6.006.58		
Various debtors – Insurance, etc.	\$ 40.487.89		
Set Assets			\$ 132.966.35
Property and equipment		\$ 343.481.18	
Transportation equipment and vehicles	\$ 97.437.82		
Furniture, utensils and computer equipment	\$ 246.043.37		
Accumulated depreciation		\$ (210.514.84)	
Depreciation of furniture, utensils and computer equipment	\$ (148.243.31)		
Accumulated depreciation transportation equipment and vehicles	\$ (62.271.52)		
TOTAL ASSETS			\$ 1.307.477.31

Legal representative: Sian Rhiannon Stephen

Accountant : Oswaldo Arturo Romero Medina, Professional ID No. 22.793-T , Accountants General Board

General balance

Liabilities			
Current			\$ 529.144.70
Income received in advance		\$ 454.730.99	
Donations from abroad	\$ 454.730.99		
Accounts payable		\$ 72.491.40	
Social benefits	\$ 7.907.52		
Various creditors	\$ 64.583.88		
Taxes		\$ 1.922.31	
Taxes paid	\$ 1.922.31		
Other liabilities			\$ 1.235.49
Other liabilities		\$ 1.235.49	
Training seminars	\$ (2.306.57)		
ISEC loan	\$ 3.542.06		
TOTAL LIABILITIES			\$ 530.380.18
Excess			
Reserves		\$ 997.869.14	
Project Reserves	\$ 997.869.14		
Excess income over expenditure		\$ (220.772.02)	
Excess income over expenditure	\$ (220.772.02)		
TOTAL FUND BALANCE			\$ 777.097.12
TOTAL LIABILITIES OVER EXCESS			\$ 1.307.477.31

Legal representative: Sian Rhiannon Stephen

Accountant : Oswaldo Arturo Romero Medina, Professional ID No. 22.793-T , Accountants General Board



Peace Brigades International - Colombia Project
Income in 2010*

Donante	Ingreso
SODEPAZ - PALENCIA CITY GOVERNMENT	USD 16.587,95
ACED / PBI SPAIN	USD 331.620,25
CATALAN AGENCY (ACCD) / PBI CATALONIA	USD 75.240,00
PAMPLONA CITY GOVERNMENT	USD 2.284,05
VITORIA CITY GOVERNMENT	USD 58.272,47
BROEDERLIJK DELEN	USD 20.344,24
CHRISTIAN AID (WITH IRISH AID)	USD 59.334,11
DIAKONIA GERMANY	USD 29.700,00
DIAKONIA SWEDEN	USD 115.651,71
GOVERNMENT OF CANTABRIA / PBI SPAIN	USD 26.400,00
GOVERNMENT OF NAVARRA / MUGARIK GABE	USD 12.717,90
ICCO/ KERK IN ACTIE	USD 33.500,00
INTERMON / OXFAM	USD 48.604,42
PBI NORWAY / NORWEGIAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS	USD 193.760,27
MENSEN MET EEN MISSIE	USD 100.500,00
MISERIOR	USD 62.731,03
OVERBROOK FOUNDATION / PBI USA	USD 5.000,00
PBI CANADA (OPSEU, et al)	USD 2.194,61
PBI ITALY	USD 3.780,00
PBI SWITZERLAND / SWISS MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS	USD 92.222,97
PBI UK	USD 40.135,03
PEACE CIVIL SERVICE/PBI GERMANY	USD 195.115,26
SIGRID RAUSING TRUST / PBI UK	USD 25.986,30
THE LAW SOCIETY / PBI UK	USD 11.088,00
ZIVIK / PBI GERMANY	USD 209.584,70
ZIVIK / PBI GERMANY (Income in 2009)**	USD 51.815,01
TOTAL A DICIEMBRE 31 DE 2010	USD 1.824.170,28

* Including income received in previous years to be applied in 2010. It does not include income received to be applied in 2011.

** Income not registered in 2009



First photo: Adrian Johanson, accompaniment in Urabá;
second photo: Charlotte Kesl, Ana Vicente Moreno during an accompaniment in Catatumbo (Northern Santander);
third photo: Charlotte Kesl, San José de Apartadó.



Photo: Charlotte Kesl

PROTECTING HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS IN COLOMBIA SINCE 1994

Peace Brigades International (PBI) is a non-governmental organisation recognised by the United Nations, which has maintained a team of international observers/accompaniers in Colombia on an ongoing basis since 1994. PBI's mission is to protect the working environment of human rights defenders, who face repression due to their non-violent human rights activities.

PBI Colombia teams remain in the field, at the request of local organisations, accompanying persons and organisations under threat. This fieldwork is complemented by significant dialogue and advocacy with civilian and military authorities, as well as with NGOs, the Church, multilateral bodies, and the diplomatic corp, in order to promote human rights and disseminate information on the human rights situation in Colombia.

If you believe PBI's presence helps protect persons who carry out human rights work, you may do the following:

Support us economically on a personal or institutional basis.

Join the nearest PBI country group and support the international network from your place of residence.

Apply to become a volunteer with one of the PBI projects.

www.pbi-colombia.org

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