

# PBI UK Annual Review 2010



**Protecting human rights defenders at risk since 1981**

# Peace Brigades International's projects in 2010



## Colombia Project

38 international volunteers accompanied 15 organisations, as well as individuals and communities, protecting more than 200 human rights defenders working on issues from natural resource protection to forced disappearances and prisoners' rights. Volunteers are based in Barrancabermeja, Bogotá, Medellín and Urabá.



## Guatemala Project

Nine international volunteers accompanied 12 organisations, individuals and communities, protecting 58 human rights defenders working on environment and land rights, impunity and the effects of globalisation. Volunteers are based in Guatemala City and travel throughout the country.



## Indonesia Project

Seven international volunteers accompanied 13 human rights defenders in 2010. PBI closed its field operations in Indonesia in December 2010 [SEE PAGE 16].



## Mexico Project

12 international volunteers accompanied 10 organisations and individuals, protecting 65 human rights defenders working on impunity, indigenous rights and environmental protection. Volunteers are based in offices in Guerrero, Oaxaca and Mexico City.



## Nepal Project

10 international volunteers accompanied 10 organisations and individuals, supporting 22 human rights defenders working on women's rights, impunity and promoting the rule of law. Volunteers are based in Kathmandu and Gulariya, in the mid-west of the country, and travel to many remote areas in Nepal.



### COVER PHOTO

Mayan women see themselves in a PBI bulletin, Joyabaj, Guatemala. Photo: PBI

# Vision and Mission

## PBI's vision

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

## What does PBI do?

PBI has been working to support human rights and promote nonviolence for 30 years. We send teams of international observers to areas of conflict and repression to provide protective accompaniment to local human rights defenders whose lives and work are under threat.

Our work is based on principles of non-partisanship and non-interference, in the belief that lasting transformation of violent conflict cannot be imposed from outside but must be based on the capacity of local people to build a genuine peace. We act only at the express request of local people and it is they who determine where our assistance is most needed. PBI UK, one of 16 country groups around Europe, North America and the Pacific, is responsible for the vital support work that allows the field programmes – in Colombia, Mexico, Indonesia<sup>1</sup>, Guatemala and Nepal – to operate smoothly. Its main areas of work are political support building, recruitment and training of volunteers, outreach, publicity and fundraising.

<sup>1</sup> The Indonesia Project closed in December 2010 [SEE PAGE 16]

# Contents

<b>3</b>	Vision and Mission
<b>4</b>	What we do
<b>5</b>	Letter from the Board of Trustees
<b>6</b>	PBI UK: Achievements in 2010
<b>7</b>	Building political networks
<b>8</b>	Fundraising
<b>9</b>	Human rights defenders challenging impunity
<b>10</b>	Lawyers at risk
<b>12</b>	Women human rights defenders under threat
<b>13</b>	Defenders of indigenous rights
<b>14</b>	The Inter-American human rights system
<b>15</b>	Criminalisation of human rights defenders
<b>16</b>	International news
<b>17</b>	Volunteering with PBI in the field
<b>18</b>	Financial summary
<b>19</b>	How PBI UK funds were spent in 2010

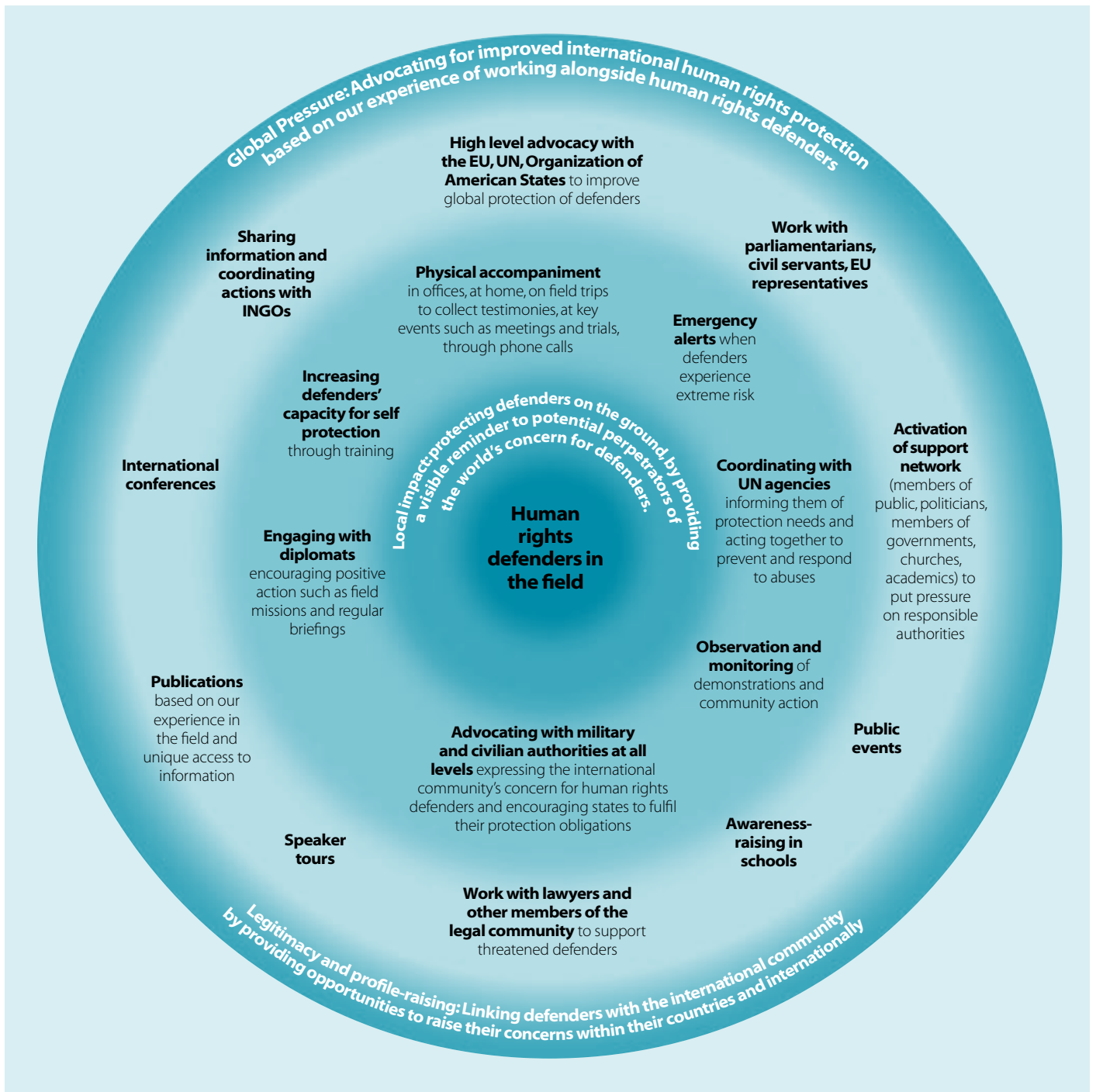
# What we do

**H**uman rights defenders – courageous people who stand up for the rights and dignity of their communities because they believe in peace and justice for all – are at the heart of all we do at PBI.

We provide protection, support and

recognition to local human rights defenders who work in areas of repression and conflict and have requested our support. In addition to this international protective accompaniment, we carry out peace education and security training, and help human rights defenders make links with others.

We advocate at all levels – from the soldier at a local check point to national governments and international bodies such as the UN – for international human rights accountability. Our international volunteers send a powerful message that the world is watching and prepared to act.



# Letter from the Board of Trustees

**W**elcome to the 2010 annual review of the UK Section of Peace Brigades International. PBI UK made great advances in numerous areas of its work in 2010 – from its groundbreaking work connecting lawyers in Britain with their threatened counterparts to contributing to international debate and policy on the protection of human rights defenders, in addition to PBI UK's daily work supporting PBI's field teams on the ground through advocacy, publicity and fundraising.

In 2010, PBI UK invited and hosted speaking tours by eight threatened human rights defenders, who were able to strengthen their relations with British politicians and supporters, as well as raising awareness of their work and the challenges they face. At the Houses of Parliament, the Law Society and Amnesty International, as well as several barristers' chambers, the University of London and other venues, they spoke to enthusiastic audiences of lawyers, judges, academics, activists and members of the general public. Such visits not only boost defenders' profile and advocacy efforts and enhance their security, they also represent an invaluable opportunity for PBI supporters to meet the real people that their efforts help to protect, and hear them testify in their own words about the impact of that protection.

November 2010 saw the high-profile launch of the Alliance for Lawyers at Risk, attended by many of Britain's leading legal professionals, including the Attorney General, the Right Honourable Dominic Grieve MP. The Alliance is an innovative project, led by PBI UK's Lawyers' Advisory Committee, particularly Sir Henry Brooke and Sir Peter Roth. It builds on the extensive work PBI has

been doing with lawyers in this country in recent years, offering them opportunities to support their threatened counterparts in various ways, including through the application of their professional skills and expertise. The launch also raised over £16,000 to protect threatened lawyers.

**// I take this opportunity to voice my full support to the valuable and legitimate work of PBI. //**

**MARGARET SEKAGGYA**  
**UN Special Rapporteur on human rights defenders, February 2010**

As PBI moves into its 30th anniversary year, it continues to contribute to the understanding of protection issues at the UK, EU and international level. In Britain in 2010, a change of government meant

that PBI UK was called upon to brief officials and ministers newly in post, including Jeremy Browne, the Minister for Latin America, before his trip to the region in May.

To mark PBI's 30th anniversary, PBI UK commissioned a five-minute documentary about the work of the organisation, titled Bearing Witness. This is a useful publicity

resource that has been made available to all PBI groups and projects around the world. As well as appearing in different online and print media, PBI UK successfully applied for a BBC Radio 4 Appeal [SEE NEXT PAGE]. Raising over £6,000, the broadcast helped bring news of PBI's work to a large global audience.

PBI UK continues to recruit and train volunteers for service in our field projects. Two orientation weekends were held in 2010, in which returned volunteers introduced around 30 potential volunteers to the philosophy and methods of international protective presence. Additionally, 30 volunteers gave their time to support our UK operations, including in the areas of administration, advocacy, communications, recruitment and training. None of PBI's work would be possible without the dedication, commitment and passion of its volunteers and staff, both at home and in the field.

We are also deeply indebted to our funders and supporters for enabling us to carry out our work protecting threatened human rights defenders around the world. Unfortunately, the need for such protection continues to be as urgent as ever. We hope you will continue to support PBI into 2011 and beyond. Thank you.

**Members of PBI interview Padre Uvi, Bartolomé Carrasco Briseño Regional Human Rights Centre (Barca-DH) (Mexico)**



Photo: PBI



# PBI UK: Achievements in 2010

**P**BI UK continues to make a significant contribution to PBI's protection of threatened human rights defenders around the world. Whether finding, training and supporting field volunteers, fundraising, developing links with elected officials, civil servants, lawyers, judges, academics, organisations and individuals, or raising awareness of human rights issues, our activities encourage action by the international community and contribute to the broader conversation about human rights and their protection worldwide.

## Raising PBI's profile

An important aspect of PBI's accompaniment of local human rights defenders in the field is to raise awareness of their situation at the local and international level. Increasing their visibility in this way lends credibility to their work, and the glare of publicity helps to deter potential attacks. Increasing PBI's own profile among politicians, the diplomatic corps, academics, journalists, lawyers and the general public amplifies the impact of this work.

In 2010, PBI UK's successful application for a BBC Radio 4 Appeal slot introduced our work to an audience of millions, both in Britain and abroad. Oscar-winning actress Julie Christie read the Appeal, which was broadcast in early 2011 and raised more than £6,000.<sup>1</sup>

With the help of filmmaker Alan Ereira, PBI UK produced a five-minute video, *Bearing Witness*, which introduces PBI's international work in the field. It includes interviews with PBI staff, volunteers and legal patrons, as well as accompanied human rights defenders and allies such as United Nations officials, who testify to the effectiveness of PBI's methods.<sup>2</sup>

Publications included a 12-page booklet and programme for the launch of the new Alliance for Lawyers at Risk [SEE PAGE 10]. We issued two email bulletins to more than 600 subscribers, and engaged regularly with more than 200 followers on social networks, while our website attracted an average of 300 visitors per week.

PBI UK and the organisations we accompany have also appeared in national, local and online media outlets, including the online edition of the *Guardian*, the *Law Society Gazette*



and the *Pink Paper*.

Returned volunteers continued to share first-hand experiences of issues facing human rights defenders in the field. Volunteers spoke at events at universities, community groups and human rights organisations.

## Recruitment and volunteer support

PBI UK continued to be active in the recruitment and training of field volunteers, attending university careers fairs and events aimed at those with an interest in international human rights and peace issues.

We held two orientation weekends during the year, attended by almost 30 potential volunteers. In 2010, there were 12 volunteers in the field who had been through PBI UK's orientation process, with another eight preparing to depart in 2011.

PBI UK also supported seven returned volunteers during the sometimes challenging

resettlement process and helped to ensure that their experiences and knowledge could contribute to the impact of PBI UK's advocacy and publicity work in Britain.

## Advocacy

PBI's presence on the ground is effective because it is backed by an international support network, developed and maintained by the 16 country groups, of which PBI UK is one. As part of this work, we meet regularly with Foreign and Commonwealth Office, EU and UN officials. In the event of threats or attacks, these contacts can be mobilised to influence local governments to take immediate action to deter further violence.

During 2010, PBI UK organised advocacy tours by eight human rights defenders, who were able to meet with and put their concerns directly to many members of this support network. [SEE NEXT PAGE]

<sup>1</sup> As at August 2011 it is still possible to listen to the appeal at [www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b00y4zwn](http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b00y4zwn)

<sup>2</sup> *Bearing Witness* is available to watch at [www.peacebrigades.org.uk](http://www.peacebrigades.org.uk)

<sup>3</sup> Available at <http://bit.ly/nX3Lmb>

# Building political networks

**E**stablishing ongoing dialogue and relationships with political decision-makers is a key element of PBI UK's support for human rights defenders (HRDs). Through our support network, PBI can call upon influential individuals and groups in times of emergency or high risk to the people we accompany, bolstering the efforts of field volunteers to deter attacks on defenders.

PBI UK's support network consists of more than 80 MPs, ministers and peers of the realm, as well as members of the legal community. The support network was activated at least six times during 2010 in response to heightened levels of threat to human rights defenders in Colombia, Guatemala, Indonesia and Mexico. Support network members can use their influence to protect threatened HRDs in various ways, including through diplomatic channels and raising awareness at home by raising issues in Parliament.

However, it is not only in moments of high alert that PBI engages with the members of our support network. All of the HRDs accompanied by PBI are living with constant threat to their security. PBI's advocacy work is therefore an ongoing prevention activity, as we keep the members of our network informed of the situation faced by human rights defenders

in particular regions or thematic areas, and share our expertise on the ways in which the international community can help protect them.

## Bringing together defenders and decision-makers

PBI UK invites representatives of accompanied organisations to the UK, facilitating meetings with politicians, diplomats, academics, lawyers and activists with whom they can highlight their concerns. In 2010, we welcomed the following human rights defenders: **Santiago Aguirre**, Tlachinollan Human Rights Centre (Mexico); **Lorena Cabnal**, Association of Indigenous Women of Santa María Xalapán (AMISMAXAJ) (Guatemala); **Berenice Celeyta**, Association for Research and Social Action (NOMADESC) (Colombia), **Alba Cruz**, 25 November Committee (Mexico), **Kashiram Dhungana**, Advocacy Forum (Nepal); **Judith Maldonado** and **Julia Figueroa**, Luís Carlos Pérez Lawyers' Collective (CCALCP) (Colombia); and **Alirio Uribe**, José Alvear Restrepo Lawyers' Collective (CCAJAR) (Colombia).

## Strengthening ties and contributing to international debate

PBI UK meets regularly with officials of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO),

including desk officers and section heads for specific regions and members of the Human Rights and Democracy Group. The FCO has included the recommendations of PBI's Conference on Security and Protection for Human Rights Defenders<sup>1</sup> in its action plan for embassy staff around the world, which was circulated in 2010.

Following the change of government, PBI UK met with new ministers, including briefing Jeremy Browne, Minister of State for Latin America and Asia, on the situation for HRDs in Mexico, Colombia and Guatemala, before his visit to Latin America in May 2010.

PBI UK also shares our knowledge and expertise through participation in coalitions such as ABColombia, of which we are an observer member, and the Women Human Rights Defenders' International Coalition.

## PBI's support network in action – Association for the Protection of Las Granadillas Mountain (APMG)

Local communities living on Las Granadillas Mountain, in the rural municipality of Zacapa, Guatemala, formed APMG to protect their mountain from logging, monoculture and large-scale cattle farming. In 2010, eight APMG members faced trumped-up criminal charges designed to hamper the organisation's work.

The charges were dismissed by a judge, but threats and attempts to intimidate and silence members continued unabated. Concern about increasing risks facing APMG and four other accompanied organisations led PBI to activate our support network. We provided detailed information to key audiences, including diplomatic staff, parliamentarians, activists and authorities, and suggested actions they could take to try to defuse the situation. As a result, members of PBI UK's support network communicated their concerns about the security situation and criminalisation of APMG's members to the FCO and to the Minister for Latin America Jeremy Browne. In Guatemala, representatives of various embassies attended an APMG press conference and visited the region to show their support for members of APMG. The Human Rights Ombudsman in Guatemala also expressed concern in a formal letter to the police commissioner following pressure from European parliamentarians.



**Santiago Aguirre (Tlachinollan Human Rights Centre), Lord Avebury, Susi Bascon and Ben Leather (PBI) outside the House of Lords in June 2010**

<sup>1</sup> Organised with the London Metropolitan University's Human Rights and Social Justice Centre in April 2009. <http://bit.ly/protectionconference>

# Fundraising

**W**e are very grateful to the individual supporters and charitable trusts and foundations that have made generous financial contributions to our work over the past year. PBI has engaged in various approaches to fundraising, including grant writing and organising high-profile events, together with publicity and media work, all of which has helped us to raise a total income of £278,023. Our 2010 income was lower than our income in 2009 due to a large individual donation that was made in that year.

Most of PBI UK's income in 2010 came from grants made by trusts and foundations that have supported us over many years, including the Sigrid Rausing Trust, the Tinsley Foundation, the Bromley Trust and the Polden-Puckham Charitable Foundation. The funding we have received from the Sigrid Rausing Trust has helped PBI to offer vital protection to threatened human rights defenders (HRDs) in five countries, while strengthening our global advocacy work and building PBI's capacity as an organisation. The Tinsley Foundation has contributed towards our core activities in the UK, including funding the production of a DVD that has helped PBI to raise its profile with influential lawyers and which will help PBI to promote its work over many years to come. The Bromley Trust and Polden-Puckham Charitable Foundation have also provided vital support for our core activities, including volunteer recruitment and training, fundraising activities, advocacy to increase support for threatened defenders, and awareness-raising and outreach activities, such as events and speaking tours around HRD visits.

## Some of our achievements in 2010

- ▶ The launch of the Alliance for Lawyers at Risk raised over £16,000 to increase the capacity and safety of lawyers and other HRDs working on legal cases. We received support for this initiative from a number of firms and charitable trusts, including the Law Society Charity, the Jomati Foundation, the Joffe Charitable Trust, Clifford Chance, Reed Smith LLP, the Allen & Overy Foundation and Garden Court Chambers Limited. We also received generous donations from individual private donors.
- ▶ PBI UK received over £8,000 for the Human Rights Defenders at Risk Fund from individual supporters and charitable trusts. We are very grateful to the A B Charitable Trust and the Mosse Charitable Settlement, which have contributed annually toward the Fund since it



**Julie Christie reads PBI's BBC Radio 4 Appeal in January 2011**

Photo: Emma Marshall, PBI

was established in 2008.

- ▶ We made a successful application for a BBC Radio 4 Appeal (aired in early 2011).
- ▶ We made a successful application to the University of London School of Advanced Study

Human Rights Consortium for a conference on Mexico and cases before the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, which took place in June 2011.

- ▶ Volunteers served drinks at music festivals around the UK to raise funds for PBI and to raise awareness of our work with music lovers.

## 2010 donors

- The AB Charitable Trust
- Allen & Overy Foundation
- Amnesty International
- The Bromley Trust
- Bryan Lancaster's Trust
- Christian Aid
- Clifford Chance
- Eleanor Rathbone Charitable Trust
- Garden Court Chambers Limited
- Joffe Charitable Trust
- The Jomati Foundation
- The Law Society Charity
- Matrix Chambers
- The Mosse Charitable Settlement
- Philamonic Trust
- Polden-Puckham Charitable Foundation
- Reed Smith LLP
- SC and ME Morland's Charitable Trust
- The Sigrid Rausing Trust
- The Tinsley Foundation
- The Tory Family Foundation

## Fundraising with support from the UK legal sector

PBI continued to raise its profile within the legal sector with the support of our patrons and members of the Lawyers Advisory Committee (LAC). The Committee helped PBI to organise events with prominent members of the legal sector and threatened human rights lawyers as keynote speakers, and continued to publicise our work within the profession, helping to generate over £16,000 for activities related to the Alliance for Lawyers at Risk [SEE PAGE 10]. The LAC also helped to establish the Human Rights Defenders at Risk Fund, which has helped PBI to take responsive and strategic action to protect HRDs facing serious threats. The Fund continues to receive donations from trusts and individual supporters, some of whom give on a regular basis.



# Human rights defenders challenging impunity

**P**BI works in countries where communities are subject to violent conflict, intimidation or repression. We accompany human rights defenders (HRDs) in these countries because we believe their work has the potential to bring about the long-term development of democratic civil society and, ultimately, peace. This potential to inspire change often places HRDs at risk, making them targets for threats, abductions, forced disappearance or assassination, and other, more insidious, kinds of attack, including public stigmatisation, defamation or criminal proceedings on trumped-up charges.

A key feature of all the countries where PBI works is that the justice system does not work. Crimes are not investigated and human rights violations go unpunished, allowing perpetrators to act with impunity, safe in the knowledge that they will not be called to account for their crimes. Many of the HRDs PBI supports are working to change this situation by challenging impunity and upholding the rule of law.

## Devi Sunuwar, Nepal

In February 2004, Devi Sunuwar's rural village life changed dramatically when her 18-year-old niece was shot on suspicion of being a Maoist guerrilla. Devi witnessed this crime and contacted the media afterwards, naming the officers she believed were to blame. Less than a week later, soldiers came to Devi's house looking for her. In her absence, they arrested her 14-year-old daughter Maina. Maina was tortured to death in army custody.

None of those responsible for Maina's death have yet been brought to justice, despite the issue of arrest warrants for four of the accused

**// When I sometimes get tired and think about giving up my seemingly fruitless pursuit of justice, I remember my sisters clad in white, wizened mothers waiting for their sons with their feeble eyes, the innocent smiles of the orphans and tears of hope brimming out of [the eyes of] victims of human rights violations and feel much energized to soldier on. //**

### DEVI SUNUWAR

**in a letter to the Chief of Army Staff of the Nepal Army, February 2011**

## Ordinary people doing extraordinary things

A human rights defender is anyone who works nonviolently to promote and protect the human rights of others. HRDs may address any political, civil, economic, social or cultural human right. They may be groups or individuals organising to protect their natural environment, or working to discover the truth about enforced disappearances. They may be women's groups supporting survivors of domestic and sexual abuse, or indigenous communities struggling for recognition of their land rights. They may be lawyers offering legal advice to marginalised communities, or representing victims of state violence.

## Accompanied organisations and defenders challenging impunity in 2010

**Colombia:** Association for Alternative Social Advancement (MINGA); Association of the Families of the Detained-Disappeared (ASFADDES); Freedom Legal Corporation (CJL); Inter-Church Justice and Peace Commission (CJJP); José Alvear Restrepo Lawyers' Collective (CCAJAR); Luis Carlos Pérez Lawyers' Collective (CALCP); Manuel Cepeda Foundation; National Movement of Victims of State Crimes (MOVICE)

**Guatemala:** Centre for Human Rights Legal Action (CALDH); Edgar Pérez; Human Rights Defenders Protection Unit (UDEFEUGUA); National Coordination of Widows of Guatemala (CONAVIGUA); Organisation to Support an Integrated Sexuality to Confront AIDS (OASIS)

**Indonesia:** Commission for the Disappeared and Victims of Violence (KontraS Papua); Indonesian Legal Aid and Human Rights Association (PBHI); Institute of Research, Analysis and Development for Legal Aid (LP3BH); Legal Awareness and Human Rights Advocacy



Photo: PBI

in 2008. Devi's struggle has become symbolic of those of many thousands of families across Nepal who have been denied justice.

Devi has been threatened and intimidated because of her work challenging impunity. PBI has accompanied her since 2009, carrying out risk assessments, physical accompaniment and phone calls to check on her well-being, as well as raising our concerns about impunity with the Nepali authorities and other governments.

Organisation (Japh & Ham)

**Mexico:** 25 November Committee; Centre for Human Rights and Legal Advice for Indigenous Peoples (Cedhapi); Mexican Association of Detained-Disappeared and Victims of Human Rights Abuses (ADAFEM); Tlachinollan Human Rights Centre

**Nepal:** Advocacy Forum; Conflict Victims' Committee; Conflict Victims Society for Justice (CVSJ); family of Jai Kishor Labh

# Lawyers at risk

In Britain, a lawyer can represent an individual or group challenging public institutions or powerful interests without feeling personally at risk. Sadly, this is not the case in Colombia, Guatemala, Indonesia, Mexico or Nepal. In these countries, lawyers are paying an extremely high price to challenge those responsible for human rights violations, becoming targets of intimidation and repression because of the nature of the cases they take on. They may have their work obstructed, be followed, watched, harassed, subjected to spurious prosecutions, or even killed or 'disappeared'. Many are forced into exile

**// These years – over 15 – that we have been accompanied by PBI have allowed us to maintain our level of work and to be more respected in the judicial sphere and in the sphere of our work, and this visibility really becomes a very effective prevention mechanism. //**

**REINALDO VILLALBA VARGAS**

**José Alvear Restrepo Lawyers' Collective**

in fear of their lives.

Around one in three of the human rights defenders PBI worked with in 2010 were lawyers, and many more provided legal advice and support alongside other work.

## Alliance for Lawyers at Risk

Peace Brigades works to connect lawyers in Britain with human rights lawyers working amid insecurity and threats. As well as providing protection and support to lawyers in-country, we help raise awareness of the issues lawyers face through publications, speaker tours and extensive work with the legal community in various countries.

PBI UK's Alliance for Lawyers at Risk was launched in November 2010 at Simmons and Simmons' City of London premises. Attendees included judges, barristers, solicitors, academics, politicians and civil servants, and the Attorney-General, the Rt Hon Dominic Grieve.

More than 60 leading members of the legal profession and 11 organisations became founding members, endorsing the aims of the Alliance.

Since the launch of the Alliance for Lawyers at Risk, individual and organisational members

**// The network is a valuable resource to the global legal community. //**

**GABRIELA KNAUL**

**UN Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers**

have taken a number of actions to assist lawyers and other human rights defenders accompanied by PBI who are working on legal cases. These actions include the following:

- ▶ The Bar Human Rights Committee (BHRC) wrote to the Prime Minister of Nepal about the case of Maina Sunuwar, Nepal [SEE PAGE 9].
- ▶ The Law Society wrote a report on the independence of lawyers in Mexico, sending its findings on the regions of Guerrero, Chiapas and Oaxaca to the UN Special Rapporteur on the independence of lawyers and judges, Gabriela Knaul, who was unable to visit those areas during her 2010 visit to the country.
- ▶ Alliance members met with Colombian lawyer Reinaldo Villalba Vargas to share advice and expertise on the adversarial system and the International Criminal Court.



**Sir Henry Brooke, Alirio Uribe and interpreter James Lupton at the launch of the Alliance for Lawyers at Risk.**

Photo: Emma Marshall, PBI



**Santiago Aguirre and Lord Brennan  
at the House of Lords.**

### Encouraging the rule of law in Mexico

PBI facilitated the visit of a delegation of lawyers from the UK, USA and Canada to Mexico in December 2009. The BHRC's resulting report, *Recalling the Rule of Law: Report on the lawyers' delegation to Mexico*<sup>1</sup>, was launched in July 2010 at the House of Lords. The report contains recommendations to the Mexican government, federal officials and state officials of Oaxaca and Guerrero, related to the rule of law and access to justice in general, as well as in reference to specific cases. Santiago Aguirre, a lawyer with the Tlachinollan Human Rights Centre in Guerrero, described the risks that he, his colleagues and the people they represent face on a day-to-day basis.

Throughout 2010, the BHRC was active on this issue, sending letters to Mexican authorities, sending reports and amicus briefs to the Inter-American Court of Human Rights.

### Jorge Molano, Colombia

An independent human rights lawyer, Jorge Molano has more than 20 years' experience of representing victims in emblematic cases involving high-ranking military officials and public servants. One of several high-profile cases Jorge represented in 2010 was the 2005 massacre of members of the San Jose de Apartadó Peace Community in Urabá. Three

### 2011 UPDATE UK lawyers delegation to Colombia

A second delegation to Colombia took place in August 2010. The international group, which included 17 British lawyers, followed up on the cases raised during the previous delegation in 2008, and tracked progress made on recommendations from the 2008 report. The resulting report, *Colombia: The legal profession still under attack*, was launched on 25 May 2011.<sup>2</sup>

young children and Luis Eduardo Guerra, an internationally recognised peace activist and co-founder of the community, were among eight people brutally murdered. Witnesses identified the killers as members of the Colombian army.

PBI provided international protective accompaniment to Jorge throughout the case, as threats and harassment towards him and those close to him increased dramatically in the lead-up to and during the trial. PBI accompanied Jorge to court on many occasions and raised our concerns about his security with Colombian and international authorities. We

**// During many years of high-risk work, we have chosen the unarmed, international presence of Peace Brigades over armed bodyguards to protect us, because we believe they are more effective. And this has proved to be true. //**

**RAFAEL BARRIO**

**José Alvear Restrepo Lawyer's Collective (CCAJAR), Colombia**

ensured that representatives from diplomatic missions, including the European Union delegation, were present at two key hearings in February and March. Despite the successful outcome of that first trial, the massacre remains largely unpunished, as a second court ruling exonerated the 10 accused.

At the request of Jorge Molano, Alliance members have agreed to prepare an amicus curiae brief on the court ruling, to contribute their understanding of international law as it applies to the case.

In 2011, we continue to provide international accompaniment at Jorge's request, ensuring he can provide legal support to victims in cases which implicate prominent and powerful officials.

### Accompanied lawyers and legal organisations in 2010<sup>3</sup>

**Colombia:** Freedom Legal Corporation (CJL); José Alvear Restrepo Lawyers' Collective (CCAJAR); Luis Carlos Pérez Lawyers' Collective (CCALCP);

**Guatemala:** Centre for Human Rights Legal Action (CALDH); Edgar Pérez

**Indonesia:** Legal Aid and Human Rights Association (PBHI); Institute of Research, Analysis and Development for Legal Aid (LP3BH); Legal Awareness and Human Rights Advocacy Organisation (Japh & Ham)

**Mexico:** Centre for Human Rights and Legal Advice for Indigenous Peoples (Cedhapi); Tlachinollan Human Rights Centre

**Nepal:** Advocacy Forum; Lawyers' Forum for Human Rights (LAFHUR)

<sup>1</sup> Available at <http://bit.ly/AllianceResources>

<sup>2</sup> Also available at <http://bit.ly/AllianceResources>

<sup>3</sup> See also organisations and defenders promoting rule of law and challenging impunity (page 9)

# Women human rights defenders under threat

**T**he UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders, Margaret Sekaggya, focussed her December 2010 report on women human rights defenders. In it, she acknowledges that women defenders have a greater risk than their male counterparts of suffering certain forms of violence, prejudice and exclusion. Women defenders can challenge accepted socio-cultural norms, traditions, perceptions and stereotypes about femininity, sexual orientation and the role and status of women in society.

In Colombia, Guatemala, Indonesia, Mexico and Nepal women defenders face additional pressure and discrimination because of their identity as women or because of their sexual preference and because they challenge entrenched discrimination and accepted norms of behaviour. Indigenous women and women from rural areas are among those most at risk. Almost half the human rights defenders PBI accompanies are women.

## Indigenous women in Guatemala

Lorena Cabnal is one of the leaders of the Association of Indigenous Women of Santa María Xalapán (AMISMAXAJ), a ground-breaking group of Xinka women from the mountain communities of eastern Guatemala. AMISMAXAJ seeks to promote women's rights, revitalise the Xinka ethnic identity and defend the Xinka's ancestral land. AMISMAXAJ is also working to defend natural resources, monitoring and raising awareness about plans for mining and oil extraction in the region. Through these activities, it is often challenging powerful

## Women human rights defenders: definition

PBI uses the definition of women human rights defenders developed by the Women Human Rights Defenders International Coalition (WHRDIC). Women human rights defenders include human rights defenders who are women as well as those who defend women's and lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) rights. PBI is a member of WHRDIC.

Lorena Cabnal outside Senate House, University of London, November 2010



Photo: PBI

economic interests, as well as traditional values about the status of women, especially indigenous women.

Since 2003, AMISMAXAJ has grown from a small group of rural women who met in secret and asked themselves "Do we have rights?" into a respected public organisation participating in debate on women's and indigenous rights at a national level.

In October 2010, during a demonstration commemorating the Day of Indigenous Peoples' Resistance in Jalapa, Lorena received death threats and other AMISMAXAJ members were intimidated, adding to a growing number of security incidents the women had

to face in 2010.

In response to these threats, PBI increased our level of accompaniment and issued an emergency alert about the increased level of threats to AMISMAXAJ and other organisations. We organised a European tour by Lorena Cabnal in November 2010, through which she was able to raise awareness and participate in a PBI conference in Spain, where women defenders were able to share their experiences and concerns with members of the Spanish and European Parliaments. PBI has accompanied AMISMAXAJ since 2009.

## Accompanied women's organisations and women defenders in 2010:

**Colombia:** Berenice Celeyta, NOMADESC, Grassroots Women's Organisation (OFF); Luis Carlos Pérez Lawyers' Collective (CCALCP)

**Guatemala:** Association of Indigenous Women of Santa María Xalapán (AMISMAXAJ); National Coordinating Body of Guatemalan Widows

(CONAVIGUA); Women's Sector

**Indonesia:** Suciwati Munir; Humi Inane (Women's Voice)

**Mexico:** Alba Cruz, lawyer for the 25 November Committee; Organisation of Women Ecologists of the Sierra de Petatlán (OMESP); Tita Radilla, of the Mexican Association of Relatives of the Detained-Disappeared (AFADEM)

**Nepal:** Dalit Feminist Uplift Organisation (DAFUO); Kokila Dhakal

**“ PBI's accompaniment has been fundamental for us, especially in our political work. It is not just the accompaniment itself, but the potential in creating a strategic alliance that enables us to confront our challenges with greater strength and clarity. ”**

**LORENA CABNAL  
AMISMAXAJ**



# Defenders of indigenous rights

**I**ndigenous communities are one of the groups worst affected by conflict. Often marginalised by society and denied access to basic infrastructure, such as justice, healthcare and education, they also lose out when it comes to large-scale development projects. Indigenous communities often live in rural areas rich in natural resources, which are attractive to multinationals who want to exploit the land. The effects of development and exploitation, along with the violence created by the competition for these economic 'spoils', range from natural resource depletion and loss of biodiversity to contamination of water and soil, causing health problems or displacing whole communities. Such impacts are especially devastating to indigenous populations, as their cultures tend to have special relationships with the land. Not only are they the original inhabitants of their territories, but land also has deep significance within many indigenous histories and traditions. International declarations and instruments protecting indigenous rights recognise the importance of land within indigenous cultures, but these are

often challenged by powerful groups seeking to impose their own interests. Indigenous communities and the human rights defenders promoting their rights commonly face threats and harassment in attempts to stop their campaigns.

## The Motilón Barí community, Catatumbo, Colombia

The colonisation of the Motilón Barí indigenous people's traditional territories began in the early 1900s, and by 1983, oil companies and settlers had appropriated 90% of their lands.<sup>1</sup> They now number approximately 3,200 and live in 23 communities in Catatumbo, an area with vast deposits of untouched natural resources, including coal and oil.

The Motilón Barí Community Association (ASOCBARI) is struggling for Barí rights with the aid of the Luis Carlos Pérez Lawyers Collective (CCALCP). Members of ASOCBARI and CCALCP have been subjected to intimidation and assaults as a result of this work, and CCALCP director Judith Maldonado has suffered death threats, surveillance and an attack in which she was

robbed of sensitive information relating to her work. Due to these serious threats, PBI has been providing protective accompaniment to Judith and other members of CCALCP since 2006.

In 2005, the Colombian oil company ECOPEPETROL was granted a licence to explore for oil at the *Poplar Well I* in the Barí community's territory. Having not been consulted, as required under the International Labour Organization Convention No. 169 and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Motilón Barí people filed a lawsuit, demanding recognition of their rights. In 2006, the Constitutional Court ordered ECOPEPETROL to suspend its activities. Despite this ruling recognising the Barí people's rights, other oil wells in the area continue to affect the community, and ECOPEPETROL has announced further projects within the territory.<sup>2</sup> An open-cast coal mine is also proposed.

The development of proper consultation processes that conform to international standards is one of the major challenges facing Colombia today, according to James Anaya, the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous people,<sup>3</sup> particularly in view of the dramatic expansion in mining activity there.

## Accompanied organisations and defenders working on indigenous rights in 2010

**Colombia:** Inter-Church Justice and Peace Commission (CIJP); José Alvear Restrepo Lawyers' Collective (CCAJAR); Luis Carlos Pérez Lawyers' Collective (CCALCP); Social Corporation for Community Advisory and Training Services (COS-PACC)

**Guatemala:** Association of Women of Santa María Xalapán (AMISMAXAJ)

**Indonesia:** Advocacy Network for Upholding Law and Human Rights (JAPH&HAM); Institute of Research, Analysis and Development for Legal Aid (LP3BH); Papua's NGO Forum (FOKER); United for Truth (BUK)

**Mexico:** Organisation of the Indigenous Me'Phaa People (OPIM), Tlachinollan Human Rights Centre

<sup>1</sup> 'We are speaking out for our lands', ColomPBla No.11 May 2009, p.12: <http://bit.ly/qHykYg>

<sup>2</sup> 'Armed conflict, petroleum and coal in the Catatumbo', ColomPBla, No.16 September 2010, p.14-15. <http://bit.ly/ov3GyH>

<sup>3</sup> Report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous people, Addendum: The situation of indigenous peoples in Colombia, May 2010. A/HRC/15/37/Add.3. <http://bit.ly/n3URln>

Photo: Charlotte Keel



Lawyer Judith Maldonado of CCALCP.

# The Inter-American human rights system

The Inter-American system for the protection of human rights is made up of two bodies: the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) and the Inter-American Court on Human Rights (IACtHR). These monitor American countries to ensure they comply with their international obligations to protect human rights. They can issue measures to protect individuals at risk, and it then falls to the government to ensure the measures are carried out.

These protective measures granted by the Inter-American system can be an effective instrument for safeguarding threatened human rights defenders (HRDs), and many of the HRDs PBI accompanies are in receipt of such measures. The largest numbers of 'precautionary measures' authorised by the Commission in response to threats against HRDs have been issued for Colombia, Guatemala and Mexico.

In the case of a state violating the human rights of one of its citizens, the Court can hear the case if the victim has been unable to find redress in the national courts. When it finds against a state, the Court issues rulings with binding obligations to investigate the violations, make reparations to the victims and their families, and to make

improvements to the situation that led to the violations. In just over a year, there have been five such important rulings against Mexico. Despite their binding nature, human rights organisations and the international community have

expressed concern about Mexico's lack of compliance with these rulings.<sup>1</sup>

## Valentina Rosendo Cantú, Mexico

Seventeen-year-old Valentina, an indigenous Me'phaa woman, lived in an isolated village in the impoverished state of Guerrero in Southern Mexico. In 2002, soldiers approached her as she washed clothes in a stream, then questioned, beat and raped her.

Valentina reported the crime, but the case was referred to the military courts and soon shelved.<sup>2</sup> For the next eight years, Valentina fought to have her case heard in the civilian justice system. She and her lawyers were



Valentina Rosendo Cantú with Michael Tamblin (PBI) outside the IACtHR

threatened and harassed throughout this time, and in February 2010, the IACHR issued precautionary measures.<sup>3</sup> PBI accompanied Valentina throughout 2010. We documented systematic threats, surveillance and harassment and, at the request of her lawyers, carried out a detailed risk assessment aimed at guiding the

Mexican authorities in implementing the IACHR's protection measures.

Deeming that Valentina could not access justice within Mexico, the IACHR referred her case to the Inter-American Court. In October 2010, the IACtHR ruled that Mexico was

responsible for grave human rights violations against Valentina, and ordered improvements in investigation procedures for rape cases and an end to the use of military justice in cases of human rights abuses committed by soldiers against civilians.

The ruling reiterated the Court's November 2009 order that Mexico should end military jurisdiction in such cases, when it found Mexico responsible for the forced disappearance of Rosendo Radilla Pacheco in 1974, another case which is supported by PBI accompaniment.<sup>4</sup>

According to the International Bar Association, a lack of implementation not only undermines the guarantee of fundamental human rights in

## 2011 update

In a historic ruling on 12 July 2011 Mexico's Supreme Court declared that soldiers accused of human rights violations must be tried within the civilian justice system, in compliance with the ruling of the IACtHR. On August 12, Valentina's case was formally transferred to the civilian courts.

Mexico, but also risks undermining the Inter-American system as a whole and its effectiveness in protecting human rights.<sup>5</sup>

## Accompanied organisations and defenders with cases before the Inter-American system in 2010

**Mexico:** Association of Relatives of the Detained-Disappeared (AFADEM), Tlachinollan Human Rights Centre, Valentina Rosendo Cantú, Organisation of Indigenous Me'phaa Peoples (OPIM)

<sup>1</sup> See for example: The Law Society of England and Wales, Report on the Independence of Lawyers in Mexico and Compliance with the Inter-American System, May 2011. <https://bit.ly/nFgD66>

<sup>2</sup> The military jurisdiction system, which is applied in Mexico to any offence committed by military personnel while on duty, has been criticised for perpetuating impunity for crimes committed against civilians. See, for example: Human Rights Watch, Uniform Impunity, April 2009: <http://bit.ly/eOX7B>

<sup>3</sup> In early 2009, the IACtHR ordered protection measures for more than 100 HRDs in Guerrero. See <http://bit.ly/q8oNiv>

<sup>4</sup> See <http://bit.ly/oPzTpr>

<sup>5</sup> IBAHRI open letter to the Mexican president: <http://bit.ly/pRU9g>

# Criminalisation of human rights defenders

**C**riminalisation is the use of a state's legal systems to silence and prevent human rights defenders (HRDs) from carrying out their work. The UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders explains: "States increasingly resort to legal actions to violate the human rights of defenders denouncing human rights violations. Defenders are arrested and prosecuted on false charges... detained without charge, often without access to a lawyer, medical care or judicial process, and without being informed of the reason for their arrest."<sup>1</sup> These strategies can go hand-in-hand with other forms of repression, such as threats and attacks.

Criminalisation campaigns can have severe psychological effects, affecting defenders' relationships with their community, stigmatising them and their organisations, undermining their

## **Raúl Hernández Abundio, Organisation of the Indigenous Me'Phaa People (OPIM), Mexico**

The Organisation of the Indigenous Me'Phaa People (OPIM) defends the indigenous communities of Mexico's Guerrero State. Because of the sensitive nature of their work, OPIM's members have been subjected to repeated threats and attacks. After the assassination of two leaders of its sister organisation, the Organisation for the Future of the Mixteco People (OFPM), the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights ordered protection measures for OPIM's members in April 2009.<sup>2</sup>

In April 2008, Raúl Hernández Abundio and four other OPIM members were arrested and falsely imprisoned for murder, on the basis of only one alleged witness account, and not

them to be due to their human rights work.<sup>4</sup> After 11 months all the charges against four of them were dropped, and they were released in March 2009. But Raúl was detained for a further year.

Raúl was finally declared innocent and released on 27 August 2010. However, his ordeal was far from over; the next day, two men threatened another member of OPIM, specifically mentioning Raúl.

**Despite this level of pressure, OPIM continues its human rights defence work, and was awarded the 2010 Human Rights Prize by the General Council of Spanish Lawyers.**

The UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Mexico has identified Raúl's case as emblematic of the way that arbitrary misuse of the criminal law system can be used to put a stop to activities that promote human rights. It says that in Mexico this is the second most common strategy used to prevent the work of HRDs.<sup>5</sup>

## **Accompanied defenders affected by criminalisation in 2010**

**Colombia:** Carolina Rubio, member of the Solidarity Committee for Political Prisoners (FCSP) and facilitator of the National Movement of Victims of State Crimes (MOVICE); David Ravelo Crespo, Regional Corporation for the Defence of Human Rights (CREDHOS)

**Guatemala:** Association for the Protection of Las Granadillas Mountain (APMG); Carlos Hernández and Santos Vásquez, 'New Day' Chortí Campesino Central Coordination Group

**Mexico:** Alba Cruz, 25 November Committee (defending Juan Manuel Martínez Moreno); Father Alejandro Solalinde, Hermanos en el Camino Migrant Shelter; Father Martin Octavio, Bartolomé Carrasco Briseño Regional Human Rights Centre (Barca-DH); Raúl Hernández, OPIM



Photo: PBI

**Orlando Manzares (OPIM), Frank La Rue, UN Special Rapporteur on the right to freedom of opinion and expression, Raúl Hernández, Obtilia Eugenio (OPIM)**

reputation and hindering the organisation's work as a whole. Proving their innocence takes away precious time and resources from their core human rights work. PBI is concerned that the more often criminalisation is used successfully against HRDs, the more widespread it may become, as formal and informal precedents are set that increase the power of corruption and impunity and diminish the capacity of civil society organisations. Criminalisation has affected defenders accompanied by PBI in Colombia, Guatemala and Mexico.

taking into account contradictory witness statements.<sup>3</sup>

Amnesty International adopted all the detained OPIM members as 'prisoners of conscience', believing the proceedings against

**// If we speak up they can go to jail or kill us. //**

**RAÚL HERNÁNDEZ, OPIM**

<sup>1</sup> A/HRC/13/22, UN General Assembly Human Rights Council, Report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders, December 2009, para 31.

<sup>2</sup> Urgent Action, Amnesty International, 2 September 2010. <http://bit.ly/rbx7yM>

<sup>3</sup> Amnesty International, AMR 41/059/2008, 14 November 2008. <http://bit.ly/oQ7Zj0>

<sup>4</sup> Amnesty International Press Release, PRE01/281/2008, 11 November 2008. <http://bit.ly/qhWjKF>

<sup>5</sup> United Nations Office of the High Commissioner of Human Rights in Mexico, Press Release, 30 August 2010. <http://bit.ly/rs0zPX> (in Spanish only)



# International news



Photo: PBI

Members of PBI's Honduras Working Group with the August 24th Farmers' Committee

## Honduras: short-term mission

The situation for human rights defenders in Honduras has deteriorated dramatically since the 2009 coup. The Honduran Human Rights Platform asked PBI to assess the situation and make recommendations regarding the protection needs of human rights defenders. Field research took place in spring of 2011,

**// The PBI mission was able to bear witness to and verify the multiple reports of human rights violations publicised since the coup d'état, that bring attention to the deteriorating security situation for persons participating in social movements, and those people who demand their collective and individual fundamental rights. Social participation and the right to defend human rights are essential parts of any democratic state. //**

**PBI Honduras mission report**

and a report was published expressing concerns about the situation and making recommendations for the international community.<sup>1</sup>

## Kenya: needs assessment

In 2009/10, we assessed the protection needs of human rights defenders across Africa in order to identify countries where PBI's methodology of international protective accompaniment may be appropriate. The research pointed to a clear demand from defenders in Kenya. In 2011 we are undertaking an in-depth assessment of the situation in Kenya to determine whether we should establish a field project there. To ensure that human rights organisations and individual defenders benefit from whatever decision is ultimately reached, the findings will be published to contribute to promoting greater protection networks for Kenyan defenders.

## Indonesia: closure of the project

PBI closed our Indonesia Project in December 2010, due to a series of challenges and constraints that severely limited our ability to

effectively protect human rights defenders at risk. PBI was the last international human rights organisation working in Papua after others had their operations disrupted.

During more than 10 years in Indonesia, PBI carried out protection and peace education work with human rights defenders and local organisations in various parts of the country, including Aceh and Papua. Although we appreciate the cooperation we received from the Indonesian authorities over the years, sadly it was not possible to sustain this, with the result that we were no longer able to carry out our programme of protection work.

PBI remains committed to the well-being of Indonesian human rights defenders and steadfastly supports the continuing efforts of all those in the international community and our colleagues in the human rights movement who work to ensure their safety and protection. We are currently assessing ways of re-establishing effective operations in Indonesia, should circumstances allow.

<sup>1</sup> The report is available at: <http://bit.ly/olxyEH>



# Volunteering with PBI in the field

**I**sabel Negreira, a British volunteer with the Colombia project in 2009-10, talks about her experience with PBI:

"From the moment I heard about PBI, I knew that I wanted to get involved. I was motivated by the desire to do something that could really make a difference to other people's lives, and by the practical and direct experience that PBI offers in the field of human rights. I was attracted by PBI's sensitivity to the needs of the countries and regions in which it works; accompaniment is always a response to specific requests and never a (well-intended) imposition.

"In Urabá, I accompanied civilian populations who had organised themselves into humanitarian zones and peace communities as a way of protecting their right not to be drawn

into the internal armed conflict. On a basic level, accompaniment helped to protect these communities from incursion by the various legal and illegal armed actors present in the area, and it created the conditions for them to carry out work essential to their sustainability. Accompaniment also represents an important display of solidarity from the international community.

"It was extremely difficult to adapt to a situation where human rights violations are ubiquitous and where violence reaches a certain level of normalisation within society. Absorbing and adapting to this context on a daily basis was the biggest challenge,

combined with my fear (so far unfounded) that I might end up becoming desensitised to the situation or overly pessimistic and cynical.

"As a result of my work with PBI, I was able to develop close relationships with some of the most courageous, dedicated and inspiring people that I have ever met. Not only does such close accompaniment provide first-hand experience of the difficulties faced by the civilian population in the context of an internal armed conflict, it reinforces just how precious the people are who risk their lives every day to protect the basic rights of their communities and, most importantly, the right to live with dignity in a democratic society."

## What are the qualities of a PBI volunteer?

PBI volunteers come from a wide range of backgrounds. The following qualities, experience and skills are examples of the criteria used for selecting potential volunteers. Specific requirements vary between the projects.

- ▶ **Nonviolence** a clear understanding of and commitment to nonviolence
- ▶ **Language skills** fluent Spanish is essential for working in Mexico, Guatemala and Colombia. The Nepal teams use English, but volunteers are required to learn Nepali before joining the team
- ▶ **Discretion and diplomacy**
- ▶ **Maturity** the recommended minimum age for volunteers is 25
- ▶ **Resilience** the ability to work effectively under pressure and stress
- ▶ **Knowledge and understanding of the history, politics and culture of the country where you are working**
- ▶ **Cultural sensitivity** experience of working with people of different cultures
- ▶ **Flexibility** the ability to change tactics, work and opinions
- ▶ **Experience of working in groups** familiarity with consensus decision-making and teamwork
- ▶ **Experience of working within human rights or peace organisations**
- ▶ **Practical skills** IT, bookkeeping, writing, photography, cooking and many other skills are useful



Isabel Negreira (left) with a member of the Caño Manso Humanitarian Zone, in Urabá, Colombia

## What does the PBI field experience offer volunteers?

- ▶ A profound experience of working with an international peace and human rights organisation committed to transforming ideals into practical action
- ▶ Specialist training based on 30 years' experience working in the field
- ▶ The experience of living and working in a close-knit team of international volunteers
- ▶ A unique insight into the intense pressures faced by human rights defenders and their resilience and courage

## Attending the orientation weekend

PBI UK organises orientation weekends several times a year to introduce potential volunteers to the principles, philosophy and

work of PBI, and guide them through a process of self-evaluation. On the basis of the trainers' recommendations and the self-evaluation of the potential volunteers, PBI UK advises on the suitability of candidates to attend a regional training.

## Attending project-specific regional training

Each field project runs periodic regional training courses lasting 7-10 days. The training covers the history and current political situation of the project country, the causes of the conflict, the role of PBI and the kinds of situations team members may have to address. At the end of the training, candidates will be informed of their suitability to join the project.

Photo: PBI

# Financial summary

PEACE BRIGADES INTERNATIONAL UNITED KINGDOM SECTION  
(Charity registration number 1101016, Company registration number 3912587)  
Summary statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 December 2009

	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Incoming resources</b>		
Grants receivable from trusts and companies	242,020	250,482
Donations to the Human Rights Defenders' Fund	8,225	12,435
Donations to Alliance for Lawyers at Risk (established 2010)	16,377	0
Donations and other income	11,401	67,466
	<b>278,023</b>	<b>330,383</b>
<b>Resources expended</b>		
Charitable activities	(247,068)	(302,353)
Cost of generating funds	(34,868)	(36,926)
Governance costs	(11,072)	(11,527)
	<b>(293,007)</b>	<b>(350,806)</b>
<b>Net incoming resources for year</b>		
	(14,984)	(20,423)
Funds brought forward	83,011	103,433
Funds carried forward	68,027	83,011
<b>Summary balance sheet as at 31st December 2010</b>		
	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Fixed assets	0	0
Current assets	78,670	98,329
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(10,643)	(15,319)
Net current assets	68,027	83,011
Total assets less liabilities	68,027	83,011
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	0	0
Total net assets	68,027	83,011
Unrestricted funds	50,027	83,011
Restricted funds (Sigrid Rausing Trust)	18,000	0
Total funds	68,027	83,011

## Management Committee statement

These summary accounts are not the statutory accounts but a summary of the information which appears in the full financial statements which have been subjected to an independent audit and given an unqualified report. The Management Committee approved the full financial statements on 9 May 2011 and a copy has been submitted to the Charity Commission. The summarised financial statements may not contain sufficient information to allow for a full understanding of the financial affairs of the charity. For further information, the full financial statements including the auditor's report may be obtained from the charity's registered office.

## Auditor's statement on the summary accounts

We have examined the summary accounts set out alongside.

## Respective responsibilities of the trustees and the auditors

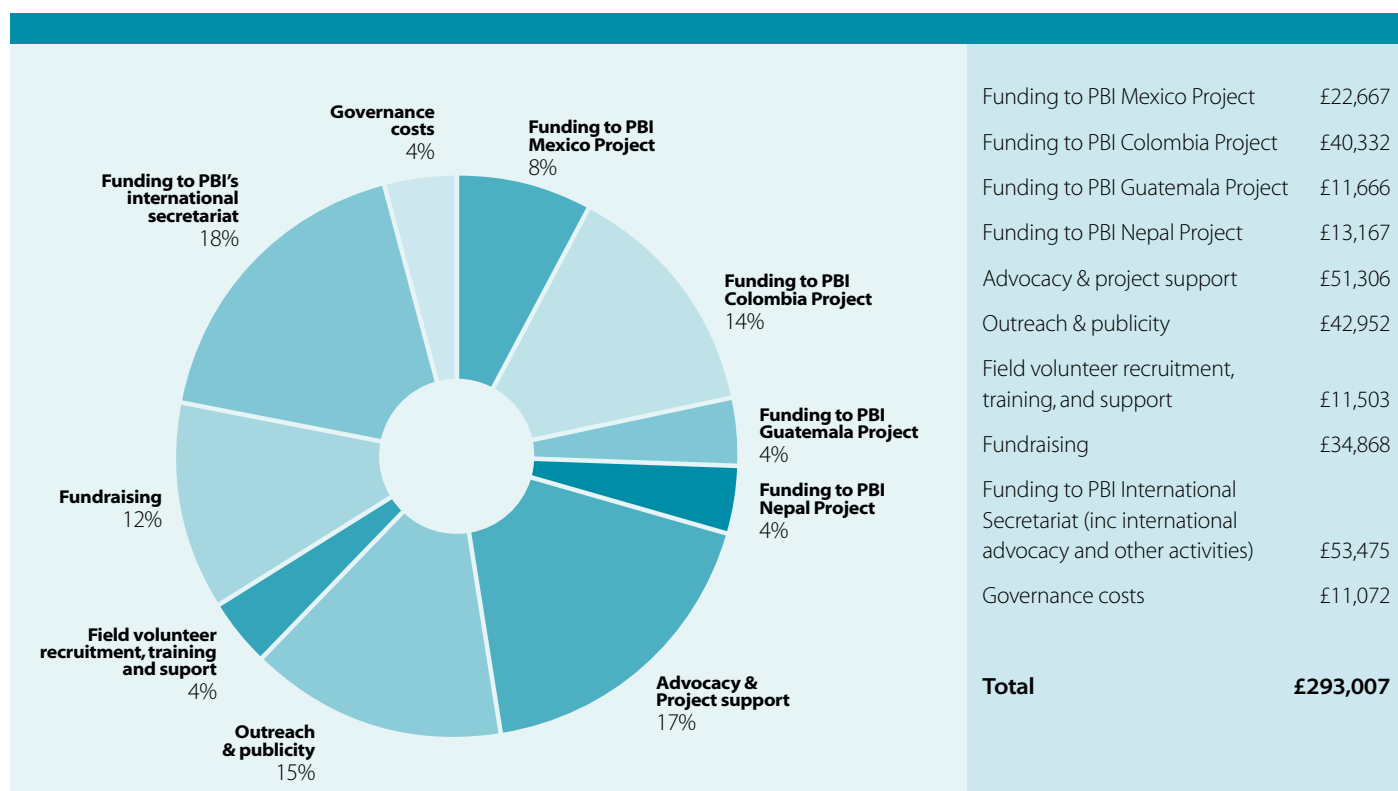
The summary accounts are the responsibility of the Trustees. It is our responsibility to report to you on their consistency with the full accounts. Our report on the full accounts of Peace Brigades International United Kingdom Section includes information on the responsibilities of the Trustees and the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

## Opinion

In our opinion, the summary accounts are consistent with the full accounts of Peace Brigades International United Kingdom Section for the year ended 31 December 2010.

**Critchleys LLP,  
Chartered Accountants,  
Statutory Auditor,  
20 May 2011**

# How PBI UK funds were spent in 2010





**Making space for peace**

### **PBI UK office**

Peace Brigades International (PBI) UK Section  
1b Waterlow Road, London N19 5NJ  
Tel / Fax 020 7281 5370  
email [susibascon@peacebrigades.org.uk](mailto:susibascon@peacebrigades.org.uk)  
web [www.peacebrigades.org.uk](http://www.peacebrigades.org.uk)

**Peace Brigades International UK Section expresses its thanks to all volunteers who contribute their time to its many activities. The hundreds of unpaid hours they contribute each year are crucial to the effectiveness of the organisation's work.**

### **PBI Country Groups**

Australia  
Belgium  
Canada  
France  
Germany  
Italy  
Luxembourg  
Netherlands  
Norway  
Spain  
Switzerland  
United Kingdom  
United States

### **Associate Groups**

Argentina  
Portugal  
Sweden

### **Current PBI Projects**

Colombia  
(founded 1994)  
Guatemala  
(re-established 2002)  
Indonesia  
(founded 1999, closed Dec 2010)  
Mexico  
(founded 1999)  
Nepal  
(founded 2005)

### **Management Committee**

Kathleen Armstrong  
Emma Douglas  
Tiffany Garside  
Jill Powis  
Rebekah Wilson

### **Patrons**

Sir Henry Brooke  
Sir Robert Carnwath  
Julie Christie  
Lord Joffe  
Sir Nigel Rodley KBE  
Sir Peter Roth  
Baroness Frances D'Souza

### **Lawyers Advisory Committee**

Sir Henry Brooke  
(hon president)  
Courtney Barklem  
Michael Brindle QC  
Saimo Chahal  
Sara Chandler  
Mark Cunningham QC  
Ole Hansen  
Henrietta Hill  
David Hughes  
Peter Kyte, QC  
Maya Lester  
Sir Peter Roth  
Michael Smyth  
Peter Weiss  
Dr Ralph Wilde

### **Staff**

Susi Bascon  
(full time director)  
Pam Feldman  
(part time fundraiser)  
Emma Marshall  
(part time communications worker)  
Roy Taylor  
(part time finance worker)  
Rob Hawke  
(part time advocacy worker)

### **Returned volunteer programme (short-term paid contracts)**

Marina Comandulli  
Ben Leather  
Chris Moye

### **PBI UK field volunteers 2010**

#### **Colombia Project**

Rob Hawke  
Isabel Negreira  
Daniel James Slee  
Kyla Sankey

#### **Guatemala Project**

Samuel Jones

#### **Indonesia Project**

Michael Aaron  
Belinda Goodman  
Nico Prins

#### **Mexico Project**

Caroline Hay  
Ben Leather

#### **Nepal Project**

Iona Liddell  
Aaron Robinson

### **Office volunteers**

Cristian Anton  
Ulrike Beck  
Yuba Bessaoud  
Stuart Bowman  
Gwen Burnyeat  
Viola Cassetti  
Ruth Cherrington  
Diana Currie  
Nikki Evans  
Louisa Gibbs  
Anna Hall  
Terezi Holmerova  
Stefan Hyman  
Shaun Kervin  
Nancy Kiousi  
Hamish Low  
Valeria Luna  
Liam Mahony  
María Mato  
Eleanor Openshaw  
Lisa Pattison  
Emma Politt  
Gabriela Pollard  
Gina Rico  
Elena Rosini  
James Savage  
Sasha Scott  
Rebecca Tuck  
Mark Williams  
Ann Wright

Charity number 1101016