



Solar panel fields in Calpulalpan, Tlaxcala.

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Message from the Executive Director

Dear followers, supporters, and advocates of our work, welcome to another year of our Annual Activity Report.

We conclude 2024 with great challenges, but also with achievements that motivate and drive us to continue strengthening our work and our commitment to the individuals, collectives, and communities we support in the defense and enforcement of their Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights.

Throughout this year, we have continued to strengthen our alliances in the Latin American region, fostering closer ties between movements that defend land and territory, as well as labor and human rights.

Over the years, we have worked to build a team of skilled collaborators who can provide legal, organizational, communication, and advocacy support to groups, communities, and human rights defenders whose rights have been violated.

We are very pleased to share that in 2025, ProDESC will celebrate 20 years of defending human rights. Reaffirming our commitment to those who trust and support our work, we present in the following pages the progress of our efforts. Once again, we invite you to continue joining forces to create spaces of hope.

Alejandra Ancheita



Message from Our Allies

The year 2024 was both challenging and a time of intense work. As allies of ProDESC, we, at the Colectiva de Mujeres Rosa Luxemburgo, remain determined in our commitment to protecting human rights, particularly the labor rights of women. We recognize the importance of our joint efforts in providing accessible and clear information on human rights so that all workers can demand dignified working conditions.

We believe that creating spaces for dialogue and decision making is essential to ensuring that women's voices are heard and considered. This helps drive changes that guarantee just environments, as seen in the Coordinadora Nacional de Defensoras de Derechos Humanos Laborales. Let us continue working together to advance recognition of our struggle and our rights.

Betty Ávalos

Coordinator of the Colectiva de Mujeres Rosa Luxemburgo (Chihuahua)

About us

The Economic, Social and Cultural Rights Project, A.C. (Proyecto de Derechos Económicos, Sociales y Culturales, A.C., ProDESC) is a feminist organization with a transnational scope and an intersectional vision of human rights; founded in 2005 by the lawyer and human rights defender, Alejandra Ancheita. ProDESC's main objective is to defend and promote economic, social, and cultural rights, to contribute to their validity, justiciability, and enforceability, and thus build a more just and equitable society.

Mission

To defend and promote, from a holistic perspective, the economic, social, and cultural rights of groups that are disadvantaged with respect to the full enjoyment of their rights.

Vision

For communities and workers to enjoy a dignified life based on collective organization and the understanding and exercise of their human rights, specifically economic, social and cultural rights.

Methodology

The comprehensive defense method is the model applied by ProDESC for the promotion and defense of the economic, social, and cultural rights of communities and collectives. This proposal, unique in Mexico, is refined and complemented over time through a collaborative process involving communities and collectives as the central element.

The comprehensive defense method is based on a series of strategic guidelines that, when applied harmoniously, increase the probability of access to justice and the enjoyment of ESC rights for communities and collectives not only in Mexico, but in the Global South. These guidelines are:



Strategic national and international litigation in human rights.



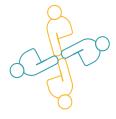
Strategic communications with narratives that contest hegemonic discourse.



Analysis of key information for the defense of human rights.



Organizing strategies to strengthen collective subjects.



Advocacy with public and private actors interfering in human rights.



Workshops and training for human rights defenders.

Theory of change

ProDESC has a 2017–2027 strategic plan with three objectives of change:

Objective 1

In 2027, women and men of the communities and collectives supported by ProDESC equally decide about their rights to land, territory and natural resources, and their collective labour human rights; building political agency.

Objective 3

In 2027, collectives of workers supported by ProDESC make effective the enforceability of justice regarding their collective labor human rights, including freedom of union association and collective bargaining.

Objective 2

In 2027, agrarian and indigenous communities supported by ProDESC make effective the enforceability of justice regarding their rights to land, territory and natural resources.

Our team

Our Executive Director

Alejandra Ancheita is the Founder and Executive Director of ProDESC. Since 2005, she has led processes aimed at protecting economic, social, and cultural rights with unprecedented results, such as accountability mechanisms for major multinational corporations. Due to the impact of her work, Alejandra was awarded the 2014 Martin Ennals Award by the International Human Rights Community, and in 2015 she received recognition from the Senate of the Mexican Republic for her continuous work as a human rights defender. Alejandra studied Law at the Metropolitan Autonomous University (Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana) in Mexico City and holds a master's degree in International Law and Global Justice from the Fordham University School of Law in New York. In 2019, she received an honorary doctorate from Paris Nanterre University.



Alejandra Ancheita

Founder and Executive Director

Guillermo Torres

Transnational Justice Coordinator

Marlene Rodríguez

Senior Lawyer

Edmundo Estefan

Senior Lawyer

Juan Manuel Zeferino Beltrán Cruz

Junior Lawyer

Perla de Jesús Herrera Pacheco

Junior Lawyer

Francisco Méndez Gutiérrez

Junior Lawyer

Vanessa Ancheita

Junior Lawyer

Gabriel Rocha

Organizing Processes Coordinator

Sofía Parra

Head of the Human Rights and ESCR Defenders Program

David Bravo

Land and Territory Organizer

Daniel Pacheco

Land and Territory Organizer

Indira Solís

Labor Human Rights Organizer

Efrén Lugo

Labor Human Rights Organizer in Topolobampo

Eduardo Villarreal

Analysis and Advocacy Coordinator

Jesús Guarneros

Analysis and Advocacy Member

Valeria Berumen

Strategic Communications Oficial

Estefania Díaz

Strategic Communications Member

Abigail Mejía

Strategic Communications Member

Our team 10



Lautaro Costantini

Institutional Development Coordinator

Fernando Barajas

Fundraising Manager

Betzaida López

Institutional Development Member

Isaura Pagaza

Administration and Finance Coordinator

Kelly Rodriguez

Head of Accounting and Human Resources

Elizabeth Zamora

Head of Accounting

Edgar Álvarez

Administrative and Accounting Assistant

Ofelia Ojeda

Maintenance Manager

Verónica Valencia

Maintenance Manager

Board of Directors

Alejandra Ancheita

Founder and Executive Director of ProDESC

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Director of International Affairs at United Steelworkers

Dolores González

Director of the organization Eutopía y Estrategia

Wolfgang Kaleck

Founder and Executive Director of European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights

Manuel Fuentes

Labor lawyer and Academic

Jorge Fernández

Retired Judge of the Administrative Litigation Court of Mexico City

Tamaryn Nelson

Legal Advisor at Amnesty International

Mylai Burgos

Academic at the Autonomous University of Mexico City

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Our work and projects

Coalition of Temporary Migrant Workers of Sinaloa

(Sinaloa and Sonora)

A collective formed by temporary migrant workers who, since 2013, have positioned themselves as defenders of the labor and human rights of people who seasonally migrate to the United States under the H-2 visa program. In 2018, the Coalition established the Center for Assistance, Counseling, and Attention to Migrant Workers (Centro de Asistencia, Asesoría y Atención al Trabajador Migrante, CAAATM) in Topolobampo, Sinaloa.



Sex Workers Labour Coalition (CLaP!)

(México City and Yucatán)

A collective of cis and trans sex workers dedicated to advocacy, organizing, and influencing policies for the defense, recognition, and effective guarantee of human rights—particularly labor rights and social security—to ensure dignified working conditions.

Accompaniment and Organization Center for Workers

(Chihuahua)

ProDESC, in collaboration with the Rosa Luxemburgo Women Workers Collective A.C., a group of women workers from the maquiladora industry in Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua, established this space in April 2022. The center supports workers by providing legal advice on labor rights, particularly in the maquiladora sector. This Center is part of the Transnational Labor Justice Corridor, a project that connects support centers in Mexico with workers in vulnerable situations.

National Coordinator of Women Labor Rights Defenders

(Baja California, Chiapas, Chihuahua, Morelos, Jalisco, Sinaloa, Puebla, Oaxaca, Veracruz, Tlaxcala)

Acollective created in 2013 to organize women workers and labor rights defenders. It serves as a space for training, capacity–building, and information–sharing, aimed at analyzing and developing advocacy strategies for women's labor rights in Mexico.



Members of the Sex Workers Labour Coalition (CLaP!)

Defense of the land, territory and natural resources of the Unión Hidalgo Community

(Oaxaca)

Support for community defenders from Unión Hidalgo, Oaxaca, in filing a lawsuit against the "Gunaa Sicarú" project before the French courts under the Duty of Vigilance Law. The case also seeks recognition of land rights for defenders under Mexican Agrarian Law.

Defense of the land, territory, and natural resources of the Mayan communities of the Chichankanab Lagoon System

(Quintana Roo)

Following the legal defense of the Ejido of Dziuché for the recognition of its communal lands, ProDESC supports five neighbor-

ing Mayan ejidos around the Chichankanab Lagoon System in strengthening their organizing processes. This work aims to help them confront threats to their land, territory, and natural resources posed by public and private interests.

Defense of the land, territory, and natural resources of the Mayan ejidos around the Chichén Itzá Archaeological Zone (Yucatán)

Support for three Mayan ejidos near the Chichén Itzá Archaeological Zone to strengthen their agrarian structures and defend their land, territory, and natural resources. This effort seeks to counter the expansion of megaprojects, land dispossession, and violations of their right to development in one of Mexico's most important cultural sites and a symbol of the country's Indigenous heritage.

Citizens' Assembly of the Town of Xoco

(Mexico City)

Support for the defense of the land and territory of the native people (pueblo originario) of San Sebastián Xoco, located in the Benito Juárez district of Mexico City. For decades, real estate interests have negatively impacted the community's quality of life, a problem exacerbated by the partial construction of the Mítikah project. This construction has led to human rights violations, including restricted access to water, the denial of the right to prior, free, and informed consultation, and threats to the

right to development. Additionally, the rising costs of urban services and taxes pose a significant risk of displacement for the community's residents.

16th of October Collective of Calpulalpan

(Tlaxcala and Hidalgo)

Legal and organizational support for the 16th of October Collective of Calpulalpan,



Our work and projects

composed of human rights defenders protecting the land and natural resources of the Calpulalpan community. They oppose the construction of the "Nueva Xcala" solar energy park, which violates agrarian regulations and has caused environmental damage due to deforestation.

Drivers from Juárez (CXJ)

(Chihuahua)

CxJ is an alliance of platform drivers in Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua, formed in 2020 in response to the violence affecting their community. In addition to having a local impact, CxJ has national influence, with similar groups in other cities across the country. ProDESC supports CxJ in developing organizing and community security strategies, aiming to strengthen democratic leadership, particularly among women drivers.

School of Transnational Justice (EJT) (*Latin American scope*)

A learning space promoted by ProDESC since 2017, where Mexican and Latin American human rights defenders gain access to tools, methodologies, and defense experiences that enhance their advocacy for economic, social, and cultural rights. The School facilitates exchanges between defenders from different regions.

School of Transnational Justice Network (REJT)

(Latin American scope)

REJT is a network established in May 2022 by graduates of the EJT. Its goal is to foster

solidarity among defenders, their collectives, and their communities, encouraging collaboration and strengthening collective power in the defense of economic, social, and cultural rights, as well as environmental protection in Mexico and Latin America.

"Protecting People, Protecting Nature" Initiative (P3N)

(National scope)

An initiative led by philanthropic foundations and civil society organizations to strengthen security capabilities for environmental defenders in Mexico. It has three main components: 1) documentation of cases of aggression; 2) a rapid response fund to ensure security and 3) trengthening holistic security measures for defenders ProDESC is responsible for the third component.



Graduates of the 7th cohort of the Transnational Justice School.



Community-based Security Measures

(Regional scope)

ProDESC, in collaboration with a group of Latin American organizations, has developed a community security methodology. The organization supports groups, agrarian communities, and Indigenous peoples in their defense of land, territory, and natural resources from a communal perspective. ProDESC advises on security plans and protocols to strengthen the holistic security of communities and collectives facing risks in defending their human rights across Mexico and Latin America.

Latin American Network of Community-based Security Measures(*Regional scope*)

A regional network established in 2021, originating from annual meetings focused on exchanging experiences related to community and collective security in the Global South. It primarily supports land and territory defense processes against risks posed by states, corporations, and transnational capital. More than 20 organizations, communities, and collectives in the region currently collaborate to strengthen strategic alliances based on transnational solidarity.

RADAR Program

(Transnational scope)

A tool launched by ProDESC in 2015 to combat abuses occurring during the recruitment of temporary migrant workers under the H-2 visa system. The program seeks to hold employers accountable in the countries where these abuses take place, as well as across various points of the supply chain.

Agricultural Workers' Union (UJA) (Sinaloa)

The Agricultural Workers' Union (Unión de Jornaleros Agrícolas, UJA) emerged from the need to defend and promote the labor rights of agricultural workers in Sinaloa. The

UJA aspires to serve as an organizational reference point for agricultural workers to understand and enforce their labor rights.

Unión Nacional de la Industria Cinematográfica y Audiovisual (ÚNICA)

(National reach)

A union composed of professionals from the film and audiovisual industry advocating for labor rights in a sector where violations are frequent. Additionally, they seek to address the imbalance caused by new content production and distribution models, which often disproportionately favor platforms.



Hybrid meeting of UNICA.

Map of accompaniment and processes

Labour Human Rights

Coalition of Temporary Migrant Workers of Sinaloa (Sinaloa y Sonora)

Sex Workers Labour Coalition (CLaP!) (Ciudad de México y Yucatán)

Accompaniment and Organization Center for Workers (Chihuahua)

National Coordinator of Women Labor Rights Defenders

(Baja California, Chiapas, Chihuahua, Morelos, Jalisco, Sinaloa, Puebla, Oaxaca, Veracruz, Tlaxcala)

Drivers from Juárez (CXJ) (Chihuahua)

RADAR Program (Transnational scope)

Agricultural Workers' Union (UJA)
(Sinaloa)

National Union of the Cinematographic and Audiovisual Industry (UNICA)
(National scope)

Rights to the Land, Territory, and Natural Resources

Defense of the land, territory and natural resources of the Unión Hidalgo Community (Oaxaca)

Defense of the land, territory, and natural resources of the Mayan communities of the Chichankanab Lagoon System

(Quintana Roo)

Defense of the land, territory, and natural resources of the Mayan ejidos around the Chichén Itzá Archaeological Zone (Yucatán)

> Citizens' Assembly of the Town of Xoco

(Ciudad de México)

16th of October Collective

of Calpulalpan (Tlaxcala e Hidalgo)

Right to Defend Human Rights

School of Transnational Justice I (EJT)
(Latin American scope)

School of Transnational Justice Network (REJT) (Latin American scope)

"Protecting People, Protecting Nature" Initiative (P3N) (National scope)

Community-based Security Measures (National scope)

Latin American Network of Community-based Security Measures (National scope)



Sex Workers Labour Coalition (CLaP!)

The Sex Workers Labour Coalition is a group of sex workers in various modalities who joined forces to promote the defense, demand, and effective enforcement of their human rights, with an emphasis on labor and social security rights. Originally, this Coalition was created to improve the working conditions of sex workers in Mexico City, the State of Mexico, and Mérida, but its projected scope is nationwide.

The Sex Workers Labour Coalition (CLaP!) was formed by a group of sex workers to advocate for the defense, demand, and effective enforcement of their human rights, particularly labor and social security rights. Since 2023, ProDESC has supported CLaP! by providing legal and political advice, as well as guidance for the consolidation of its organizational process. As a result, it was decided to establish a



Members of CLaP! and part of the Advisory Committee at the CLaP! launch event.
From left to right: Eli, Midori, Jorge Fernández Mendiburu (Advisory Committee), Yazz, Kasandra Guaso,
Natalia Lane, Santy, Marta Lamas (Advisory Committee), Muñeca, Alejandra Ancheita (Advisory Committee),
and Chris Gruenberg (Advisory Committee).

Coalition, as this is a recognized legal entity under Mexico's Federal Labor Law regarding collective labor organization.

On May 7, 2024, the official presentation of the Coalition took place at the Tlatelolco University Cultural Center in Mexico City, with the participation of founding members, ProDESC, and various media outlets. Sex workers emphasized several key points, highlighting four main demands:

- Recognition of their right to choose sex work as legitimate work, in line with the International Labour Organization (ILO) standards for decent work.
- 2. Access to social security.

- **3.** Contribution to the eradication of violence against those engaged in this work.
- **4.** Effective participation in decision-making (regulation, implementation, and monitoring of public policies) related to sex work.

Around 25 media outlets attended the presentation, and in the following days, approximately 70 articles were published, along with 19 interviews conducted between May and June.

During one of her speeches, Natalia Lane emphasized:

"No one can speak better about our work than we can. No one knows our environ-



CLaP! Launch Event. From left to right: Jazz, Midori, Natalia Lane, Muñeca, and Santi; Members of CLaP!

ment or the reasons that lead us to engage in sex work better than we do. To develop and implement policies based on labor human rights, it is essential to listen to our voices and what we have to say about our work."

Throughout 2024, defenders carried out various outreach efforts, visiting different areas of Mexico City to expand membership. Following the public presentation, the Coalition gained significant media attention both nationally and internationally, with the story covered by more than 40 media outlets.

Additionally, with ProDESC's guidance and support in fundraising, CLaP! has secured independent funding from two foun-

dations, allowing them to continue their activities and raise awareness of their cause.

We invite you to visit the microsite



Follow the Sex Workers Labour Coalition, CLaP!, on its social media channels:







@somosclapmx

as well as via email somosclapmx@gmail.com



CLaP! Launch | Muñeca, CLaP! member, in interview.

Rights to Land, Territory and Natural Resources

Chichankanab Lagoon System

In 2024, activities were carried out to strengthen the capacities of people from communities surrounding the lagoon, with the aim of promoting a more informed and effective management of their territories. Among these actions, workshops were conducted on the roles of the "ejidal" commissioner and "ejidal" bodies, providing key tools for decision–making in the agrarian sector.

Recognizing the importance of women's participation in land and territory defense, specific training spaces were facilitated on "ejidal" land tenure for rural women. These activities took place at the "Casa de la Mujer



Workshop at the Casa de la Mujer Indígena y Afromexicana.



Chichankanab Lagoon

Indígena y Afromexicana" (CAMIA), promoting access to information and agrarian rights with a gender perspective.

Regarding the Unión de Ejidos formed by Dziuché, Bulukax, Kantemó, La Presumida, and Santa Gertrudis, the ProDESC team held meetings with some of these communities to gather preliminary information and lay the groundwork for the development of the Union's Internal Regulations.

To strengthen the agrarian structures of the ejidos in the Sistema Lagunar, support was provided to individuals interested in designating successors for their agrarian rights and registering them with the National Agrarian Registry. Currently, 43% of those who have completed this process are women, marking a significant step toward their inclusion in land ownership.

In 2023, the Transnational Justice team at ProDESC promoted a legal action in response to environmental damage caused by deficiencies in the environmental impact assessment process, which led to the authorization of the Akutzá poultry farm. That same year, an amparo lawsuit was filed due to violations of the right to free, prior, and informed consent of Indigenous peoples and communities, resulting in the temporary suspension of the farm's operations. Both legal actions are currently under review in a second instance.

As a result of the Declaratoria de la Zona Rural Comunitaria con Potencial Turístico "Maya Ka'an", published in the Official Gazette of the State of Quintana Roo in 2022, the organizational and justice teams worked in 2024 on the design and implementation of strategies aimed at protecting cultural heritage. These actions seek to counteract the misappropriation of cultural assets by various organizations and authorities.

The team provided guidance to different local actors within the ejidos regarding potential projects that could impact their land, territory, and natural resources. Information was provided about the risks these projects could pose to community life, enabling them to make informed decisions.

Communities adjoining the Chichén Itzá Archaeological Zone

During 2024, ProDESC continued its support for the ejidos in the Chichén Itzá region of Yucatán in the defense of their land and territory. Specifically, the ejido of San Felipe requested legal advice regarding a potential displacement situation, as they lack legal certainty over the land their town occupies. ProDESC asked the community for more information about how the settle-



Meeting with residents of San Felipe Nuevo.

ment was established in order to determine the appropriate legal avenues to pursue.

According to information from the National Institute of Anthropology and History (INAH), on January 23, 2024, Chichén Itzá broke its record for the highest number of visitors on a non-spring equinox day. Despite this, the surrounding communities do not have access to the economic benefits generated by the archaeological site's revenue. In response, the team filed two amparo lawsuits related to the State's failure to guarantee the rights of the Indigenous peoples of Xcalacoop and Pisté, with the aim of ensuring their access to participation, management, use, and enjoyment of Chichén Itzá's economic benefits.

Town of San Sebastián Xoco

Since 2023, ProDESC has supported members of the Citizen Assembly of the town of Xoco in defending their rights against the challenges brought by the construction of the Mítikah real estate project in Mexico City. The community has faced a lack of access to potable water, the privatization of public spaces, and excessive increases in property taxes, all of which threaten to displace the original population. The Assembly consists of residents who identify as indigenous to the town, descendants of the original inhabitants, and individuals who recognize and participate in its cultural traditions.

Throughout the year, various capacity-building activities were carried out for Assembly members, focusing primarily on providing tools to effectively communicate their struggle, both verbally and visually.



Public action by the Citizens' Assembly of the People of Xoco.

Additionally, as part of their organizational strengthening, periodic meetings were held with the Assembly to collaboratively develop strategies for collective action. On the legal front, ProDESC designed a strategy centered on the human right to water.

One of the key milestones was the presentation of the Social Anthropological and Human Rights Expert Report on the Indigenous Town of San Sebastián Xoco. This document provided evidence of the violations against the community's rights, including the right to consultation, territory, and cultural diversity.

In August 2024, during the anniversary celebration of the Indigenous Neighborhoods of Coyoacán, the Citizen Assembly was recognized for its efforts in defending Mexico City's indigenous communities.

The acknowledgment was granted by the Comparsa Pueblos y Barrios Unidos por Coyoacán.

Additionally, the Assembly worked on a Mobility Diagnosis for the Indigenous Town of San Sebastián Xoco, with two main objectives: 1) to identify, in a participatory manner, the mobility issues affecting the residents and 2) to propose solutions to these challenges. This diagnosis was publicly presented on November 16, 2024, in front of the Mítikah complex, highlighting the rights that have been violated, such as the right to safe, accessible, and inclusive mobility, as well as the right to public spaces for cultural and traditional expressions, which were once held on Real de Mayorazgo Street before the shopping center's construction.

The Assembly called on local authorities to consider the proposed solutions outlined in the diagnosis, emphasizing the need to improve pedestrian safety and regulate commercial activities in the area. They also demanded inclusion in decision–making processes related to enhancing the community's quality of life and requested the establishment of working sessions to prioritize pedestrian mobility.

We invite you to visit the Citizen Assembly of Xoco's microsite to learn more about their struggle and ongoing efforts.

We invite you to visit the Citizen Assembly of Xoco's microsite.



16th of October Collective of Calpulalpan

Throughout the year, the 16th of October Collective and ProDESC held several organizing meetings to work on various defense strategies for their territory and natural resources in response to threats posed by the installation of new extractive projects, primarily photovoltaic parks that monopolize both the land and water of the local population.

Various spaces were created to strengthen the Collective's capacities, emphasizing the importance of Collective Power, the organizational tools available for defending their rights, and the concept of public utility as a general or collective benefit, specifically regarding access to electricity.

Unfortunately, human rights defenders constantly face violence due to their work, making it crucial to take measures to ensure their safety. Together, they initiated a work plan on community security, identifying risks and proposing various actions to mitigate them. These efforts will continue until a Security Protocol is finalized. In this context, during the year, a journalist closely associated with the Collective was attacked while carrying out her work. As a result, ProDESC provided support to help her access an emergency action fund from the Protecting People, Protecting Nature (P3N) Initiative, which ProDESC also accompanies.



Capacity building for the 16th of October Collective.



Members of the 16th of October Collective.

The Collective was also encouraged to participate in a meeting with the United Nations Rapporteur Michel Forst regarding the situation of environmental defenders within the framework of the Aarhus Convention. This space allowed them to share and discuss the main threats and challenges they face in their work, as well as their key concerns regarding protection measures.

Since 2023, an agrarian lawsuit has been filed against the authorization granted for the construction of the "Nueva Xcala" photovoltaic park. In 2024, the team filed

several injunctions to seek the project's definitive suspension. As a response, the Unitary Agrarian Tribunal of District 33, based in Tlaxcala, Tlaxcala, imposed a financial guarantee on the "ejidatarios". Due to material impossibilities, this requirement places the "ejidatarios" at a disadvantage, violating their fundamental right to access justice, as it prevents them from protecting agrarian property when they are unable to afford the payment required for the protective measures to take effect.

Labor Human Rights

RADAR

In the field of labor human rights, ProDESC has promoted actions to provide tools to workers seeking to expose violations both in the companies they work for and in those that supply them with products and services.

As part of the RADAR Program, and within the framework of ProDESC's engagement with a collective of temporary migrant workers reporting multiple human rights violations by a seafood company in Louisiana, a notification letter was sent in October 2024 to a major retailer. This action was taken under the principle of joint

liability among recruiters, employers, and supply chains, a key feature of the RADAR Program.

The employer in question is part of this retailers' supplier network, which has internal policies aimed at preventing forced labor in its supply chains to promote the protection of human and labor rights. Therefore, it was considered crucial to communicate the identified violations, which include: lack of access to healthcare, an unsafe work environment, inadequate and insecure housing, a workplace free from violence, lack of accessibility to information in workers' native languages, eco-



nomic harm, and blacklisting practices that prevent workers from being rehired by the company in the future.

National Coordinator of Women Labor Rights Defenders

Thanks to the "Join the Coordinadora" campaign, 14 organizations from 9 states across Mexico expressed their interest in joining the space. After reviewing the applications, three new organizations were welcomed in the first quarter of the year: Jtatic, Fuerza Mujer, and Lady Drivers.

Colleagues met virtually each month to shareandstrengthentheircapacities on top-

ics such as labor benefits, the labor tribunal system, temporary work visas, labor rights for temporary migrant workers, NOM 035, and forced labor.

Additionally, two in-person meetings were held in Mexico City. The first, on May 23 and 24, focused on self-care tools, presented the Anti-Discrimination in Hiring Processes Campaign, offered a fundraising workshop, and introduced the book Workers, Unions, and Activists on Mexico's Northern Border: An Updated Labor Mapping.

As part of the European Union project Women and Collectives as Agents of Change for Decent Work in Mexico, a collaboration



took place with Avina, Oxfam México, and Ethos to share collected information on the garment industry, digital platforms, agricultural work, and domestic work. The goal was to discuss the needs for educational materials and gather feedback from CND-DHL and invited human rights defenders.

The second in-person session took place on October 17 and 18, where colleagues participated in a workshop on collective advocacy actions related to building a shared political agenda. They also worked on a collective statement addressing the issues they defend and support following the inauguration of Mexico's President.

In October 2024, the annual call for applications was opened, inviting collectives,

grassroots organizations, coalitions, and independent unions working in labor rights defense to join the CNDDHL.

Coalition of Temporary Migrant Workers of Sinaloa

In 2024, the Center for Assistance, Counseling and Attention to Migrant Workers (Centro de Asistencia, Asesoría y Atención al Trabajador Migrante, CAAATM) received, attended to, advised, and assisted 227 temporary migrant workers, including 108 women and 119 men. The most frequently requested information concerned federal benefits, both in terms of applying for them and their unexplained cancellations.

On February 25, the Coalition's Women's Commission held its first meeting, where the experiences of three labor rights defenders in the Mexico—United States context were analyzed. Throughout the year, discussions focused on fundamental labor rights for migrant workers and caregiving roles during migration processes.

The Coalition also participated in a Social Media Workshop, where members learned strategies for creating content to position key issues related to labor rights advocacy.

Additionally, members took part in the "Beware of Job Scams" campaign in collaboration with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and ProDESC, where they shared their experiences with fraudulent recruitment and the importance of having reliable information to identify such scams.

In August, a Coalition member had the opportunity to exchange experiences and knowledge with civil society organizations



in Guatemala, emphasizing the importance of ethical recruitment and collaborative efforts to support migrant workers.

OnNovember 26 and 28, and December 3, Coalition members participated in the regional workshop "Temporary Labor Migration Mexico-Canada: Theoretical and Practical Tools for the Defense of Migrant Workers' Human Rights through Collective Action", organized by the IOM and ProDESC as an implementing partner. The workshop facilitated the exchange of theoretical and practical experiences in defending migrant workers' human rights in both countries, highlighting the importance of collective action and incorporating a gender perspective. Coalition members also shared their insights in a panel discussion on "The Power of Collective Action: From the Community to the International Level."



Members of the Coalition of Temporary Migrant Workers from Sinaloa, Mexico, and Civil Society Organizations from Guatemala working for ethical recruitment, as well as the Guild of Overseas Recruitment Agencies (#GAREX).

Photograph taken from the Facebook page of OIM Guatemala.

The Transnational Justice team worked on various strategies to promote comprehensive reparation for migrant workers who were victims of recruitment fraud when seeking employment in the United States. The collective and legal representatives are currently awaiting the authorities' response to their request.

Accompaniment and Organization Center for Workers (CAOPT)

In 2024, the Accompaniment and Organization Center for Workers (CAOPT) provided advice and assistance to 170 workers on issues related to their labor rights. The most frequently requested topics for follow-up included matters concerning the Mexican Social Security Institute (IMSS), vacation entitlements, pensions, retirement savings accounts (AFORE), and workplace harassment. Additionally, the center continued its outreach efforts, distributing informational materials to raise awareness about labor rights.

Capacity-building actions were carried out, covering topics such as labor reforms, collective struggle through public narrative tools, unionism in Mexico, profit-sharing, NOM 035 (psychosocial risk factors at work), social security benefits and services, and a specialized advisory session from Infonavit.

In May, CAOPT celebrated its second anniversary of supporting workers who have experienced abuse or aggression in the workplace or who seek to learn more about their labor rights. ProDESC joined the celebration, recognizing both the significant challenges faced and the achievements



made in the pursuit of fair working conditions and dignified workplaces.

On July 13, the Rosa Luxemburg Women's Collective hosted the event "Moving Forward Together: Women's Labor Rights Fair." The event aimed to foster dialogue on labor issues among authorities, academics, ac-

tivists, and workers while providing women workers in Ciudad Juárez with essential information and resources to understand and defend their rights. That same month, CAOPT participated in a regional meeting on labor rights in the garment industry, focusing on collaborative efforts to promote and enforce labor rights in this sector, with special attention to the needs of women and vulnerable groups.

In October, members attended the Iniciativa Arropa gathering, which reflected on the challenges, lessons learned, and future actions in the Mexican garment industry four years after the project's launch.

During the last two months of the year, and in observance of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, the collective published four investigative reports highlighting the challenges faced by women working in the maquiladora industry. The reports focused on balancing private and professional life, as well as the inequalities and discrimination they may experience in the workplace.

Agricultural Workers' Union (UJA)

In January, members of the UJA met with ProDESC and the Coalition of Temporary Migrant Workers from Sinaloa to develop their annual work plan. The key focus areas identified for their activities included internal strengthening, advocacy, communication, alliance-building with other collectives and organizations, improving organizational processes, and disseminating information and training among sector colleagues and interested individuals.

During the first quarter of the year, a Union member had the opportunity to participate in an agricultural workers' forum as part of the Periplo project, led by Fundación Avina. Participants shared experiences, knowledge, and tools to promote decent work in the sector, and the UJA proposed alternatives to address child labor in agricultural fields.

As part of capacity-building efforts, the strategic communication team provided the Union with a social media workshop. The training focused on identifying the best communication platforms for engaging through messages, images, and videos, as well as reviewing the fundamentals of posting content and managing their social media presence.

National Union of the Motion Picture and Audiovisual Industry (UNICA)

During the first quarter of the year, meetings were held with Union representatives from the film and audiovisual industry to adapt their Union Statutes and Internal Regulations. These documents are guided by key principles, including improving working conditions, ensuring access to social security and benefits, and promoting labor recognition through an honest and transparent organization. After multiple revisions and modifications, an Extraordinary Assembly was held in August, where the Statutes and Regulations were officially approved.

Additionally, members worked on a brochure containing essential information for workers interested in learning more about UNICA. The brochure outlined three main objectives: labor rights defense, professional training, and securing employment benefits. Work was also done on developing the membership application format and outlining the necessary requirements for joining the organization.

At ProDESC, we look forward to continuing this collaborative effort to strengthen the organizational work within the industry.

Participation of ProDESC in the Human Rights Complaints Mechanism for the automotive industry in Mexico.

On May 7, the Human Rights Claims Mechanism (MRDH) for Mexico's automotive industry was introduced, aiming to improve human rights conditions in the supply chains of German automobile manufacturers in Mexico. After several years of dialogue between businesses, unions, governments, national human rights institutions, and civil society organizations in Germany and Mexico, the mechanism is now open to receive complaints.

Throughout the year, meetings were held to select a panel of experts including our Executive Director, Alejandra Ancheita, who will oversee the complaints process. Additionally, work was done on procedural rules, communication strategies, and stakeholder engagement. The MRDH is a pilot program set to operate until the end of 2025.

At ProDESC, we believe it is crucial to incorporate lessons learned during this pilot phase and ensure the mechanism evolves into a permanent system that prevents,

addresses, and remedies real human rights impacts. To achieve this, all involved parties must commit to its long-term sustainability beyond the trial period.

Coalition Against Forced Labor in Trade

Since 2023, ProDESC, along with Freedom Fund, the Human Trafficking Legal Center, and approximately 15 organizations worldwide, launched the Coalition Against Forced Labor in Trade (CAFLT). The coalition aims to ensure that no country serves as a safe harbor for goods produced through forced labor.

In November 2024, we convened the first in-person meeting of the coalition, bringing together 18 organizations from around the world to strengthen the fight against forced labor in supply chains.

On the final day of the gathering, participating organizations issued a joint call for a review of forced labor provisions within the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA). CAFLT presented five key recommendations for the upcoming USMCA review regarding forced labor:

- 1. Effective Implementation of USMCA, ensuring that relevant agencies have the capacity to impose sanctions and coordinate efforts effectively, applying the ban on importing products made with forced labor while guaranteeing due diligence and transparency.
- 2. Regional Coordination with Stakeholders, strengthening communication with Canadian and U.S. agencies to share information and ensuring active partic-



Participants of the meeting of the Human Rights Grievance Mechanism for the Automotive Industry in Mexico.

Photo sourced from the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) website.

ipation from civil society organizations, worker collectives, and human rights defenders in all stages of the mechanism's design and implementation.

- **3. Commitment to Human Rights**, prioritizing labor and human rights commitments in the 2026 USMCA review.
- 4. Sufficient Resources and Tools, ensuring that agencies have the necessary resources to effectively implement policies.
- **5. Compliance Monitoring**, establishing mechanisms, with participation from all

stakeholders, to periodically review progress and publicly report results.

This collective effort marks a significant step toward fair and human rights-respecting supply chains.

Defend Human Rights

On December 1, 2023, we celebrated the arrival of the Seventh Generation of the School of Transnational Justice (EJT). This cohort included 33 human rights defenders from Mexico, Bolivia, Peru, Colombia, and Honduras.

The Mid-Term In-Person Meeting was held in Mexico City on March 1–2, 2024, featuring thematic sessions on labor issues, intersectional analysis, and feminist integral protection. A total of 28 people participated, including 23 from Mexico and 5 international participants who joined virtually. The Final In-Person Meeting took place in June, where participants shared experiences regarding their final projects, de-





Graduates of the 7th generation of the School of Transnational Justice.

veloped based on the knowledge acquired during the EJT sessions. A graduation ceremony was held for 33 participants, 22 of whom were women, representing 66.6% of the cohort, and 11 men.

During the closing session, the Network of the School of Transnational Justice was introduced, composed of alumni from the past six generations. Throughout the year, the Network held meetings to adjust the work plan and identify needs within the space.

The call for applications to join the Eighth Generation of the EJT was launched in September and October. This time, an informative virtual session was held to address frequently asked questions from interested individuals. A total of 211 applications were received.

Community-based Security Measures

ProDESC participated in the 5th National Meeting of Women Human Rights Defenders in Mexico, held in Morelia, Michoacán, in February. Women journalists and human rights defenders attended the event. ProDESC reaffirmed its commitment to strengthening alliances with colleagues to address violence and inequalities.

During the first half of the year, the team worked on the final adjustments to the Practical Guide to Community-based Security for Women Defenders of Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights, which was launched on July 20 as part of the Closing Meeting of the "Protecting People, Protecting Nature" Initiative. The Guide was also presented at the Assembly of the Coordination of the National Network of Rural



Presentation of the Practical Guide to Community Security for Women Defenders of Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights.

Promoters and Advisors (REDPAR) and at New York's Climate Week on September 25. You can review it in its Spanish and English versions.

Several workshops and community security support activities were carried out at the national and Latin American levels. In the months of February, March, and May, a consultancy on Comprehensive Security Management was developed, with the participation of several organizations in the state of Chiapas. In April, May, and August, meetings were held with environmental protection organizations from Baja California to provide advice on security and protection matters and to work on field outing protocols.

In March, April, and May, in collaboration with an allied organization, a security anal-

ysis and strategy were carried out focusing on community rights, climate justice, and economic justice from the leadership of women defenders. Additionally, with land defense organizations from the states of Tabasco, Mexico City, Morelos, and Puebla, an in-person workshop on security was held in Mexico City.

Between August and September, two defenders from Zacatecas were advised on accessing funds for their temporary relocation due to an imminent risk resulting from their work.

Regarding the Latin American Community Security Network, meetings were held throughout the year to assess the progress of its work plan and follow up on the support for the Consejo Comunitario Parte Baja del Río Saija in Timbiquí, Colombia. In August, letters were sent to 18 counterpart organizations, including embassies and Colombian government entities, requesting support for the collective rights defense work of the community leaders.

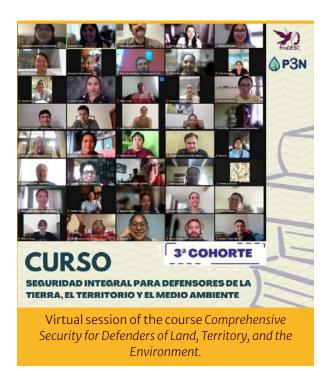


Additionally, work was done on a side event for COP16, which took place virtually on October 28. The discussion panel highlighted the importance of supporting leaders fighting for environmental justice and territorial defense across Latin America. In this context, the Transnational Justice team participated in a presentation on redefining public utility in the mining and energy sectors.

We invite you to visit the Community Security Network <u>micrositie.</u>

"Protecting People, Protecting Nature" Initiative (P3N)

On February 23, the Fourth Regional Meeting of the Protecting People, Protecting Nature (P3N) Initiative took place in Mexico City. During the meeting, a context analysis



was conducted, along with the presentation of the P3N Initiative and the Defenders Fund, as well as an introductory workshop on Digital Security, facilitated by Mayelín Sánchez.

The call for applications to join the third cohort of the course "Comprehensive Security for Defenders of Land, Territory, and the Environment" under the P3N Initiative was open from February to March. A total of 63 applications were received, and 42 people were selected from Chihuahua, Nayarit, Baja California Sur, Oaxaca, Mexico City, Jalisco, Quintana Roo, Sinaloa, Sonora, Michoacán, Chiapas, Yucatán, and Baja California. The welcome session took place on March 15, and 34 participants successfully graduated.

At the end of July, a Foundation met with the P3N Initiative team to express its interest in strengthening security management tools for its beneficiary organizations due to the deteriorating security conditions. As a result, a security situation assessment of the grantee organizations was carried out, and a program consisting of five thematic sessions was designed. These sessions were held in September and October and focused on incident reporting, how to apply for the Rapid Response Fund of the P3N Initiative, and how to conduct context analysis. The participants carry out their work in the states of Baja California, Baja California Sur, Chiapas, Nayarit, Oaxaca, Sonora, Veracruz, Sinaloa, Yucatán, Jalisco, Quintana Roo, Querétaro, Michoacán, Mexico City, Tabasco, State of Mexico, Guerrero, and Campeche.

Funding search for allied organizations

Since 2024, we have collaborated with the organization Environmental Defenders Collaborative in the "Action Partnership" Program. The main objective of this project is to provide small grants to defenders, communities, collectives, or organizations working to protect land, territory, and environmental defenders.

In a context where fundraising has become more complex and competitive, especially for grassroots organizations, at ProDESC, we believe these alliances based on solidarity and trust are essential. That is why, throughout the year, we advised and shared proposals from three organizations with EDC.

The first grant was awarded to an organization in Argentina for the defense of Indigenous communities' territories against the entry of transnational companies. The second was granted to our allies Utsil Kuxtal to strengthen the defense of land and territory, the right to self-determination, and the ecosystems of the Maya Peoples of Yucatán, Campeche, and Quintana Roo. The last grant was awarded to a group of lawyers in the Cajamarca region of Peru to raise awareness of their struggle in defending water resources against mining projects.

Exploring the Link Between Activism and Law: Presenting The Revolution Will Not Be Litigated in Mexico City

On January 20, 2024, The Revolution Will Not Be Litigated was presented at the M68 Forum of the Tlatelolco University Cultural Center. This book brings together insights from 25 activists and human rights lawyers who share innovative strategies to challenge and reinterpret the law in favor of social justice, even in adverse contexts.

The event gathered prominent figures from the legal and activist fields, including Alejandra Ancheita (ProDESC), co-author of the book; Katie Redford (Equation Campaign), co-editor; and Gastón Chiller (Argentine Association of Environmental Lawyers). Throughout the presentation, discussions focused on how creativity and resistance can transform the law into a tool for social change, fostering a space for reflection on the limits and possibilities of legal struggles in times of crisis.



From left to right: Katie Redford, Gastón Chillier, and Alejandra Ancheita at the presentation of the book

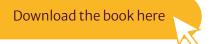
The Revolution Will Not Be Litigated.

Publications by ProDESC



Practical Guide to Community Security for Women Defenders of Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights

This guide provides a practical framework for women defenders to develop effective community security plans tailored to their realities.



Contributions to other publications



Diagnosis of Mobility of the Indigenous People of San Sebastián Xoco (Spanish)

This diagnosis is a citizen-led effort conducted by the Citizen Assembly of the People of Xoco and ProDESC. It is the result of a participatory methodology that identifies various challenges in pedestrian and vehicle mobility.





Lithium Fever: Indigenous Peoples' Rights Under Threat in Jujuy, Argentina

This report highlights the lack of protection for Indigenous territorial rights and the expansion of extractivism in the province of Jujuy. It also presents recommendations for authorities, companies, and international human rights organizations to ensure the protection of these rights.

Download the report here

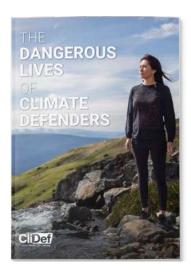


Corporate Due Diligence and the Defense of Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights in Mexico in the Institutional Journal of Public Defense of the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires (Spanish)

This article highlights the importance of regulating due diligence from a corporate accountability perspective and in respect of human rights.



Publications about the Executive Director





Our Executive Director shared her testimony of the struggle for the defense of human rights, especially in the most marginalized sectors, and the challenges they face daily in an environment of insecurity, in the Global Climate Legal Defense report "The Dangerous Life of Climate Defenders."

Alejandra Ancheita participated in an interview with EFE Verde, a Spanish platform focused on environmental journalism, ecological transition, and sustainable development. In this interview, she raised her voice to highlight the constant criminalization and threats faced by human rights defenders in Mexico.



Read the interview here

ProDESC in the media

In 2024, the ProDESC website recorded a total of **194,884 visits** and **108,839 active users.** These figures represent a **36.5% increase** in visits compared to the 123,638 visits registered in 2023. Additionally, **the number of active users grew by 43.3%** compared to the 62,736 users from the previous year.

Most visitors to the ProDESC website come from Spanish-speaking countries. Mexico accounts for 84.2% of the total users, followed by the United States with 4.1%, Spain with 2.0%, Colombia with 1.4%, and Argentina with 0.9%.



The most visited articles and sections in 2024 were:

- 1. 5 Facts You Should Know About Your Right to Decent Vacation Time
- 2. How to Request a Labor Inspection and End Workplace Abuses
- 3. About Us ProDESC
- Guide to Calculating Your Compensation in Case of Dismissal – ProDESC
- 5. Transnational Justice School ProDESC

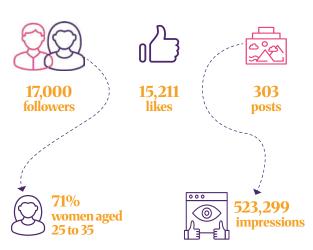
Facebook

During 2024, ProDESC's Facebook FanPage experienced significant growth in followers and post reach. By the end of the year, it had a total of **17,000 followers** and **15,211 likes**. A total of **303 posts** generated **523,299 impressions**, addressing accompaniment processes, topics related to Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (ESCR), and shared content from other civil society organizations. **Women aged 25 to 35 makeup 71% of the FanPage's followers**.

Regarding geographical distribution, most of the audience comes from Mexico (79%), followed by the United States (3%), and Colombia and Peru (2% each).

The content that resonated most with our audience included reading recommendations, particularly the Community Security Guide for Defenders of Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights. Additionally, calls to participate in the Transnational Justice School and the Join the Coordinator initiative also generated strong engagement from the digital community.





Twitter



By the end of the year, the official Twitter account had **9,549 followers.** In 2024, a total of **277 posts** were made, generating **104,283 impressions.**



LinkedIn



Throughout 2024, **167 pieces of content were published** on LinkedIn, **reaching a total audience of 134,697 people.** The platform had a total of **3,026 followers**, 55% of whom are from Mexico, followed by Colombia and the United States (2% each), and France (1%).



Instagram



Instagram has **2,000 followers**, and during the year, **89 posts** were made, **reaching 46,158 people.** The platform has been used to connect with a younger activist audience.



Media

In 2024, ProDESC gained media recognition with a total of **210 appearances**, highlighting both the organization's initiatives and its support for other human rights causes. Coverage was featured in media outlets from Mexico, France, Italy, Brazil, and Chile.

Regarding labor issues, 99 articles were published, emphasizing the call

for the governments of the United States, Mexico, and Canada to strengthen measures against forced labor, as well as the launch of the Puteril Labor Coalition.

On land and territory issues, 56 articles were published, with special focus on the public action carried out by the Citizen Assembly of the Town of Xoco to improve mobility in its territory.



National Media

- · La Jornada
- El Economista
- · Pie de Página
- DesInformémonos
- Aristegui Noticias



International Media

- EFE
- RFI
- Mongabay

Our donors





























































You too can defend economic, social, and cultural rights with ProDESC!

ProDESC has been authorized to receive tax-deductible donations by the Mexican Tax Administration System (SAT) since January 2020. This allows the organization to receive donations in-kind or by transfer through its <u>website</u> via PayPal or at its offices located in the Condesa neighborhood, Mexico City.

It is important to mention that all donations are tax deductible.

Your contributions are used to defend the economic, social, and cultural rights of vulnerable groups in Mexico. Each contribution brings us closer to a fair world where human rights are respected.

Don't hesitate, join our community of donors!

If you require more information, please write at recaudaciondefondos@prodesc.org.mx







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