

Annual Review 2002-2003

Peace Brigades International



Promoting
nonviolence and
protecting
human rights since 1981

'I can say with certainty that the fact that we are alive
today is mainly because of PBI's work.'

Luis Pérez Casas, Lawyers Collective José Alvear Restrepo, Colombia.

Vision & Mission

'PBI has accompanied us ...for more than five years, visiting prisons, military and police installations, trade unions, courts, tribunals and university lectures. They have accompanied us to the regions travelling by bus, or by boat, by helicopter, on horseback or on foot. They accompany us to the airport when we arrive or leave the country, they are with us for periods that sometimes last for more than 18 hours a day, seven days a week. And when they are not accompanying us they are busy with diplomatic work complemented by lobbying work in the European Union and in the US...I can safely say that we will continue to speak up for the work of PBI as long as we live.'

Luis Pérez Casas, Lawyers Collective José Alvear Restrepo, Colombia, an organisation subjected to constant harassment and threats.

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.

Mission

PBI works to open a space for peace in which conflicts can be addressed in a nonviolent way. PBI applies a strategy of international presence and concern that supports local initiatives and contributes to developing a culture of peace and justice. We act on request of local organisations and groups working for human rights, social change and development of civil society, which use nonviolent means in regions where there is oppression and conflict.

Aims and Objectives

The aim of PBI's international presence is to accompany both political and social processes through a strategy of deterring violence and promoting active nonviolence. PBI's international teams of volunteers use methods such as protective accompaniment, peace education, independent observation and analysis of the conflict situation. In addition, PBI learns about, develops and models forms of nonviolent intervention. PBI, where possible, initiates contacts with all the parties to a conflict in order to establish and inform of our presence. PBI supports this work through a broad international network of organisations and individuals. PBI's identity is built upon non-hierarchical structures and consensual processes.

Contents List

PBI around the world	4
Project overview	6
Guatemala	7
Colombia	8
Indonesia	10
Mexico	12
Publications	13
Finance Report	14
Donors	15
Contact list	16

Members of the PBI International Council

Michael Beer (Indonesia Project)
Selwyn Burrows (Treasurer from May 2002)
Giandomenico de Vita (Treasurer until May 2002)
Joke Edenburg (PBI Germany/Netherlands)
Rachel Heckscher (PBI USA)
Eleanor Openshaw (PBI UK/Sweden/Norway)
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Hans Sinn (PBI Canada)



Cover photo: PBI volunteer accompanies Alirio Uribe Muñoz, Lawyers Collective José Alvear Restrepo, winner of the Martin Ennals Award for Human Rights Defenders, 2003

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Letter from PBI International Council

We draw inspiration from our belief in nonviolence and the courage of the human rights defenders we accompany whose commitment enables them to achieve the seemingly impossible.

Dear Friends,

Over the past year, the global political context, has brought contradictory trends that have had a profound impact on human rights defenders and those promoting nonviolent transformation of conflicts. On one hand, the 'war on terrorism' has resulted in a closing of political space and even criminalisation of those working in defence of human rights. On the other, the 1998 UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders and the appointment of Hina Jilani, the Special Representative of the UN Secretary General for human rights defenders, has established international standards recognising and legitimising their work.

In this polarised context the human rights defenders and Internally Displaced People (IDPs) that we accompany in Colombia, Indonesia and Mexico are being subjected to ever more intense intimidation. This

presents an enormous challenge for our work of reducing levels of fear and dissuading the potential perpetrators of abuses.

Since 2001 we have built on the significant level of international recognition we achieved through being awarded the Martin Ennals Prize for human rights defenders and nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize.

We have done this by strengthening our international structures through the employment of International Secretariat staff to undertake co-ordination, development work and fundraising;

by raising our profile through participation in international events such as the Latin American Consultation on Human Rights Defenders; by expanding the number and diversity of volunteers working in the field; and by strengthening international Support Networks that can be activated to prevent or react to human rights abuses.

We continue to draw inspiration from our belief in nonviolence and the courage of those we accompany whose commitment enables them to do the seemingly impossible every day.

In Peace,



Joke Edenburg
PBI International Council

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In Mexico PBI provides accompaniment for Enedina Cervantes because of her high profile ordeal searching for her 'disappeared' husband.

PBI at work around the world

'I have taken every opportunity to sing the praises of PBI at meetings of the donor community... I strongly believe that PBI performs essential functions in a very difficult and dangerous environment and does so in a thoroughly professional manner with an open, humanitarian spirit.'

Michael Elmquist, UN office for the Co-ordination of Humanitarian Affairs in Indonesia

PBI uses a multi-layered approach at local, national and international levels to open and maintain political space for human rights defenders and displaced communities. Our aim is to persuade potential violators of human rights that the cost of their actions will be unacceptably high. The following examples reflect the diversity of activities that contribute to effective international protection.

Projects

In **Aceh, Indonesia** the team provided 1,276 hours of protective accompaniment for six Acehese peace and human rights organisations varying from one-off accompaniment of a peace march to round the clock accompaniment.

In **Colombia** the teams had 230 meetings with government and military authorities at local and national levels, and an additional 170 meetings with the diplomatic corps and agencies of the UN.

In **Mexico City** the European Office and Mexico Project held a workshop on safety and protection in partnership with the Mexican National Network of Human Rights organisations, the beginning of a three year programme of providing protection tools for human rights defenders in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

In **Bogotá, Colombia** the Project training team worked with Colombian trainers to organise 47 psychosocial support workshops involving over 800 people. One workshop lasting five days involved 30 people from indigenous and African-Caribbean organisations. The workshop looked at methodology to be used in interviews to document human rights abuses.

Country groups

In **Toronto** forty people took part in a practical non-violence training aimed at those with a general interest in nonviolence and those interested in becoming involved in PBI Canada or joining a project.

In **Luxembourg** over 300 people attended a conference organised by PBI Luxembourg and Amnesty International on human rights defenders in Guatemala.

In **Lisbon** the newly formed PBI Portugal associate group organised an information seminar with PBI Spanish State to promote PBI and to attract more active members.

In the **UK** the PBI country group has established a Support Network of over 50 members of British and European parliaments, the House of Lords and prominent legal institutions. The Network was activated four times in 2002.

In the **USA** former Colombia Project volunteers undertook speaker tours and gave public presentations in ten cities.

In **Switzerland** the country group raised 428,834 CHF (\$305,220) from private donors and institutions, church organisations, and public bodies including the Swiss government. This represented a 6% increase over the previous year.

In **Hamburg**, PBI Germany organised a book launch for the German version of 'Unarmed Bodyguards, International Accompaniment for the Protection of Human Rights' by Liam Mahony and Luis Enrique Eguren.

Strengthening capacity

In **Berlin** the International Office based project desk worker organised the second of a series of workshops for projects and country groups to develop safety, protection and evaluation procedures for projects.

PBI Organisational Structure



In **New York State** the International Council, made up of representatives of projects and country groups, held their annual week-long meeting to take decisions on finances, strategic planning and organisational policy.

In **Berlin** fundraisers and finance workers from different PBI bodies met to discuss ways to strengthen financial management and to build a fundraising strategy for PBI as a whole.

Broadening our impact

In **Brussels** the European Office continued advocacy and fundraising work with the institutions of the European Union, and raised our profile through a series of seminars in EU countries on international human rights observation.

In **Paris** the European office hosted a seminar on international field protection for internally displaced persons (IDPs) attended by representatives of the EU, agencies of the UN, and national and international NGOs. The event defined strategies for the protection of displaced communities and an open letter was distributed to member states and EU institutions signed by dozens of personalities such as Francis Deng, Special Representative of the UN Secretary General for IDPs. The objective was to mobilise political will and resources to improve the protection

of IDPs. You can sign this letter on line at: www.peacebrigades.org/beo/idopenletter.html

In **Austria** PBI participated in a symposium to analyse and evaluate the mandate of the Special Representative of the UN Secretary General for Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) ten years after it was set up.

In **Guatemala** we joined 42 human rights defenders from Latin America and the Caribbean at the Second Latin America Human Rights Consultation. The final action plan reflected our input by emphasising training for human rights defenders in protection and a high level of the interest in international presence as a means of deterrence.

In **Geneva** the Colombia Project European representative attended a ceremony where the Martin Ennals Award for Human Rights Defenders 2003 was presented to Alirio Uribe Muñoz, Lawyers Collective José Alvear Restrepo, Colombia. PBI has provided accompaniment to members of the Collective for the past five years. PBI received the same award in 2001.

PBI Projects

Colombia, Guatemala, Indonesia and Mexico

'The appreciation of the human quality of the volunteers is unanimous, in particular their work capacity, their availability, their discretion and ability to adapt to difficult work and living conditions and their respectful attitude towards the organisations and communities they accompany.'

External evaluation of the Colombia Project based on interviews with Colombian authorities, embassies, national and international NGOs and the office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights

In 22 years of working in areas of conflict, PBI has learned that the most effective role that international observers can play is not to impose peace from above but to help to create political space so that local actors are strengthened in their efforts to overcome violence.

Goals

- to provide support for initiatives that promote respect for human rights and international humanitarian law
- to promote the defence of human rights and the search for peace and justice
- to provide support for initiatives for nonviolent transformation of conflicts

Implemented through:

- physical presence in the form of protective accompaniment, public relations with the military, local and national governments, networking, observing, reporting and building international support networks
- other methods of peacebuilding such as peace education (Indonesia), mental health recovery (Colombia), and protection and security workshops (Mexico)

During 2002 PBI provided an international protective presence to 32 non governmental organisations (NGOs) and four displaced communities. An average of 65 volunteers worked in the

field from 25 countries: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Ireland, Israel, Luxembourg, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Peru, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Uruguay, UK and the USA. Volunteers spend a minimum of one year in the field.

'No one day is like the next. Tomorrow I'll be accompanying a human rights lawyer to the prison in Medellín. In the afternoon we've got a team meeting ...always a marathon weekly session to discuss our concerns and plan the week ahead. At 5pm we have a meeting with the metropolitan police chief to present our work and raise concerns about threatening phone calls one of the organisations we accompany has been receiving. In the evening we'll be attending an event organised by one of the foreign embassies, a good networking opportunity.'

PBI volunteer in Medellín, Colombia

Key achievements

- increased the average number of volunteers in the field from 50 in 2001 to 65 in 2002
- improved the quality of training and support provided to volunteers
- expanded the number of organisations and displaced communities we accompany
- adapted our strategies for protection in the light of the increasing levels of threat and intimidation
- increased our protection capacity through collaboration with other international organisations such as the UNHCR in Colombia, and invested greater resources in strengthening the project support networks particularly in North America and Europe
- strengthened cross project coordination including security, risk management and evaluation procedures through establishing a Project Desk Worker in the International Office
- established the infrastructure for a new PBI project in Guatemala in response to a rapidly deteriorating human rights situation

Guatemala Project

'Returning to Guatemala after a three year absence, I was shocked to find how much the situation had deteriorated and how much anxiety had once again become part of the daily lives of people working for human rights and social justice.'

Eva Scarfe, PBI Guatemala Project

Political context

The United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala (MINUGUA) reported that 2002 was one of the most violent years since the signing of the 1996 peace accords. There was a significant increase in murders, threats, acts of intimidation, assaults, and kidnappings against human rights defenders. In the first half of the year alone, Guatemalan human rights organisations reported 125 cases of threats and assaults.

Hina Jilani, special representative of the UN Secretary General for human rights defenders observed that *'the main targets of these attacks are human rights defenders who participate in efforts to uncover the truth regarding past violations, and those working for the promotion of economic, social and cultural rights and the rights of indigenous people.'*

Re-establishing a PBI presence

From 1983 until 1999 PBI pioneered protective accompaniment as an innovative method of protecting human rights in Guatemala. An evaluation in 1999 concluded that political space had opened sufficiently for Guatemala NGOs to carry out their work without the need for the kind of protection that PBI provides. However, as the human rights situation deteriorated, PBI again received requests from communities pursuing legal cases against the alleged perpetrators of massacres, civil society organisations undertaking election monitoring, trade unionists and displaced communities facing threats after returning home.

Key achievements

The Project secured the political, financial and human resources vital to the effectiveness of a team in the field, through;

- monitoring and analysis of the political situation through in-depth interviews with human rights organisations, other international NGOs, the diplomatic corps, the UN and members of the government
- disseminating information to build awareness and support
- fundraising with support from PBI country groups
- adapting training materials and recruiting and training volunteers
- building international political support networks through embassies, the UN, and the Human Rights Departments of the European Union and Parliament

'International accompaniment is very important because powerful interests will think twice before trying to attack us. There are always people on street corners spying on us to watch our movements. So when they see that internationals are physically entering our offices, this helps us tremendously.'

Aura Elena Farfán, Guatemalan Families of the Disappeared (FAMDEGUA), pictured second from left with other FAMDEGUA members



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Colombia Project

... 'the presence of PBI in the city of Barrancabermeja is extremely important. The local paramilitaries have made it clear that the international support provided to human rights defenders is the only reason why they have not assassinated more of them.'

Hina Jilani, Special Representative of the UN Secretary General for Human Rights Defenders

Political context

2002 saw a marked escalation in the armed conflict. Our teams witnessed the grave level of threats directed at human rights defenders and displaced communities and the fact that the measures adopted by the Colombian state have restricted their ability to carry out their work and militarised society.

Mary Robinson, former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, expressed deep concern about the increase in harassment and violence against human rights defenders, especially the repeated death threats against members of the Lawyers Collective 'José Alvear Restrepo', and serious threats against the Popular Women's Organisation (OFP); both are organisations that PBI accompanies. This precarious situation has meant a growing demand for PBI's services.

'Accompaniment extends the boundaries of the international community beyond governments and the UN. Volunteers are a bridge between the threatened activists and the outside world... They embody international concern for the protection of human rights...'

Unarmed Bodyguards, Liam Mahony & Luis Enrique Eguren

Key achievements

- increased collaboration with other national and international organisations especially the UNHCR with whom the Project signed a Letter of Intent. In a speech the UNHCR representative stated: *'the UNHCR considers it an honour to sign this Letter of Intent with PBI, one of the institutions most committed to the protection of the rights of victims.'*
- strengthened our capacity to pressurise the Colombian authorities to prevent human rights abuses by holding 230 meetings with government and military authorities
- increased the level of awareness raising with the diplomatic corps by holding 102 meetings with embassies, who are a key element in exerting pressure on Colombian authorities to prevent or react to crisis situations
- strengthened regional representation in Europe and North America to improve responses in emergency situations. A new staff person in Washington D.C. plays a key role in developing relations with Congress, the Organisation of American States (OAS) and the Interamerican Commission on Human Rights
- activated the Support Network twenty times and in each case the response was swift and forceful

Colombian organisations that PBI accompanies

Association of Families of the Detained and Disappeared (ASFADDES): Promotion and protection of human rights focusing on families of the disappeared.

Lawyers Collective 'José Alvear Restrepo': Legal defence of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights

Association for the Promotion of Social Alternatives (MINGA): Promotion and protection of human rights, including legal advice and education, particularly with displaced communities

Intereclesiastical Commission for Justice and Peace (CIJP): Promotion and protection of human rights, including education and work with displaced communities

Solidarity Committee with Political Prisoners (CSPP): Advice and legal defence of human rights of prisoners from social organisations and political prisoners

Research and Popular Education Centre (CINEP): Workshops on popular education and human rights, research on social conflict, violence and internal displacement

Regional Committee for the Defence of Human Rights (CREDHOS): Protection and promotion of human rights in the Magdalena Medio region

Popular Women's Organisation (OFP): Promotion of human rights for women and young people, focusing on the internally displaced.

Corporación Jurídica Libertad (CJL): Defence of people persecuted for their political activities and participation in popular organisations in Antioquia

Popular Training Institute (IPC): Research, training and documentation on human rights, development, peace and conflict in Antioquia

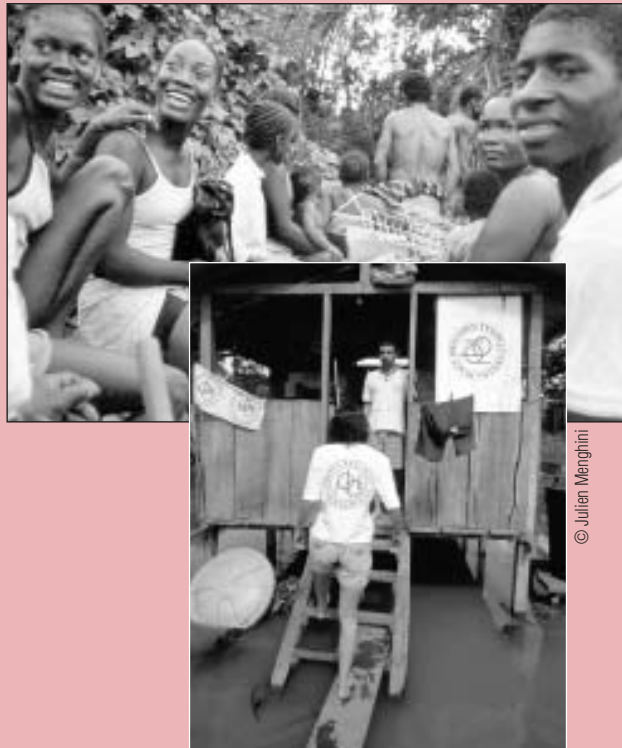
Peace Community of San José de Apartadó and returned communities of the Cacarcica River Valley: Declaration of neutrality and nonviolence in a conflict zone

Case Study – International Protective Accompaniment

In the Cacarica Valley in north-west Colombia there are settlements of internally displaced communities who have returned to the area and declared their communities neutral zones. In February 2002, paramilitary forces killed, detained and tortured members of the communities in an attempt to force them to leave the area. Threats were also made against the communities' Colombian advisors, the Interecclesiastical Commission of Justice and Peace as well as international organisations.

In collaboration with other international organisations, we immediately activated our Support Network. Politicians, governments, church leaders and other influential figures around the world contacted the Colombian government and army to protest against the threats against the communities and those working with them and to urge the government to take measures to guarantee their safety.

This international response helped to bring about the release of those detained, prevented a paramilitary incursion into the community and enabled the Interecclesiastical Commission of Justice and Peace to continue working.



Work of the teams

Forty volunteers are based in Bogotá, Medellín, Magdalena Medio and Urabá. They provide accompaniment to 13 NGOs with a total of 90 human rights workers and four communities of internally displaced people (approximately 7,000 people). The Project responded to the increased demand for our services by a significant increase in both the coverage of accompaniments and number of accompaniments.

'The fact that Colombian organisations come to PBI with greater frequency is proof that PBI is doing needed work in Colombia.'

External evaluation of the Project.

Bogotá

The deteriorating human rights situation has meant that defenders from the regions have fled to Bogotá where they are subjected to threats, harassment, malicious rumours and surveillance. In response, the Project increased the number of volunteers in the team who carried out 1,639 accompaniments, an increase of 66% over the previous year.

Magdalena Medio (Barrancabermeja)

The team carried out 1,314 accompaniments of members of the Popular Women's Organisation (OFP) and the Regional Committee for the Defence of Human Rights (CREDHOS). This included overnight accompaniment on 120 occasions.

Urabá

The communities of Self-Determination, Life and Dignity of the Cacarica river basin (CAVIDA) have paid a high price for taking a stand against war. Over the past five years they have endured 83 deaths and disappearances, burned crops, economic blockades and constant threats. PBI continued collaborating with other national and international organisations maintaining a permanent presence in CAVIDA and also accompanying the San José de Apartadó Peace Community to

complement the innovative methods of protection of the communities themselves.

Medellín

Armed conflict previously confined to rural areas, has spread to the city bringing increased pressure on the accompanied NGOs and also on the work of the team. In Medellín 346 accompaniments were carried out, including accompaniment of Corporación Jurídica Libertad (CJL) in their work with rural communities at risk of displacement.

Psychosocial support

The Project training team worked alongside a network of Colombian organisations specialising in psychosocial support for communities torn apart by conflict. Over 800 people participated in workshops, a 58% increase over 2001. The team also provided a higher level of support for PBI volunteers, part of a wider strategy of mental health support that includes provision for holidays and retreats, and ongoing support post service.

Indonesia Project

‘PBI makes us brave, which is very important for our job. Sometimes we have to go to dangerous places and the existence of PBI makes us more secure. PBI really helps us to make a space so that ...we can do our job in defending people without fear.’

Afridal, Director, Legal Aid Foundation (LBH) Banda Aceh

Political context

In December 2002 a ceasefire agreement signed between the Free Aceh Movement (GAM) and the Government of Indonesia brought some initial optimism in Aceh. However, talks broke down in May 2003, the Indonesian government declared martial law and the military assumed complete control of security. The last time this happened from 1989-1998 when the Suharto government declared Aceh a military operations zone, between 5,000 and 10,000 people died and thousands more disappeared or were tortured.

PBI is gravely concerned about the deterioration of the situation and its impact on the ability of both Acehese human rights defenders and international organisations to carry out their work.

‘Whenever PBI provides accompaniment outside Banda Aceh (the capital of Aceh), we fax the provincial and district authorities with a description of the PBI team members and the people we are accompanying, and the schedule for the trip. This information is sent to the heads of the provincial and district military and police in the areas where we will be travelling. The policy of openness and transparency with the Indonesia authorities is part of a strategy for ensuring the safety of the organisations we accompany.’

PBI volunteer

Key achievements

- increased the number of volunteers from 10 to 18; opened a new team in north Aceh; increased the level of dialogue with the Indonesian authorities at all levels; and strengthened the Project infrastructure by recruiting additional staff
- broadened the diversity of the teams with the first volunteers from Japan and Malaysia
- carried out an external evaluation of the peace education programme that confirmed the programme’s success

Work of the teams

The team provided 1,276 hours of protective accompaniment for six organisations in Aceh.

Examples of accompaniment:

- around the clock presence in the offices of Flower Aceh, an organisation that works with women, for a period of five days when the level of threat was particularly high
- accompaniment of threatened activists from Flower Aceh and Association of Victims of Human Rights abuses (SPKP HAM) to and from the airport to attend meetings in Jakarta.
- accompaniment of Legal Aid Foundation (LBH) personnel to deter intimidation when they had meetings with the police as part of research into disappearances

Dialogue with authorities Aceh

- regular meetings with the civilian and military authorities at provincial, district and local levels to inform them of PBI’s work, to raise the concerns of the organisations the Project accompanies and to seek their co-operation

Jakarta

- relationship-building with the National Human Rights

Case Study – International Protective Accompaniment

‘One of my best moments in Aceh was a field trip to a village with Women’s Volunteer Team For Humanity (RpuK), to the closing ceremony of one of their trauma counselling programmes. PBI had accompanied RpuK to this village 18 months previously, when many of the houses had been burnt down following a clash between the military and the Free Aceh Movement (GAM)... RpuK did not feel safe enough to go to the

village alone and PBI accompanied them when they began the trauma counselling programme for local children. Over the next 11 months RpuK gained in confidence and visited the village independently. Going back for the closing ceremony gave us a great opportunity to see how conditions in the village had improved and how the initial presence of PBI had really opened up space allowing RpuK to work there.’ PBI volunteer.



© PBI

Commission (Komnas-HAM) and regular meetings with Indonesia NGOs, the Ministries of Justice and Human Rights, Foreign Affairs, and Political and Security Affairs

- strengthening relations with embassies and UN institutions, in particular the UN Co-ordination for Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in both Jakarta and Aceh.

Peace education workshops

Since April 2000, the Project has worked with local facilitators to run 13 peace education work-

shops in Indonesian provinces of West Timor and Flores and in East Timor on conflict resolution, conflict and gender and conflict management. An external evaluation concluded that:

- the West Timor workshops provided an impetus for people not previously involved in conflict resolution to use new skills in their work with refugees in the border region with East Timor
- in Flores many of the participants had attended previous conflict resolution workshops but what PBI provided gave them new methods of working.

'In Flores eight of the 15 people interviewed were working on conflicts, and making significant use of the material from the PBI workshop. One person had become very active and skilled in resolving major conflicts as a result of the workshop. He successfully resolved a dispute between two villages that had resulted in two people being killed and one of the villages fleeing into the forest.'

Extract from the peace education programme evaluation.

When necessary volunteers provide accompaniment around the clock: night watch at the offices of Koalisi HAM 'Coalition for Human Rights' in Aceh, Indonesia.

Indonesian organisations that PBI accompanies

- RATA (Rehabilitation Action for Torture Victims in Aceh):** humanitarian aid, rehabilitation for torture victims
- Flower Aceh:** prenatal care and legal aid for local women
- SPKP HAM (Association of Victims of Human Rights Abuse):** support network for survivors of torture offering medical, legal and financial support
- Koalisi NGO HAM (Coalition of Human Rights Organisations), PB-HAM Aceh:** networks of human rights NGOs, advocacy through data collection, campaigning and legal assistance
- RPuK (Women's Volunteer Team for Humanity):** support for women and children in camps for the internally displaced including education and rehabilitation
- LBH (Legal Aid Foundation) Banda Aceh:** civil rights and legal advocacy

Mexico Project

'It is really exciting to see how the PBI grassroots approach works and to feel how as a citizen you can play a very special role to support local initiatives without interfering in their work.'

PBI Volunteer, Mexico

Political context

Since 2002, the Mexican government has signed 13 international treaties and conventions, and for the first time the UN has opened a human rights office. The government has also publicly recognised PBI protection as a viable option to protect human rights defenders. However, according to reports of national and international human rights organisations, repression continues in the form of impunity in the judicial system, corruption of public institutions and denial of the rights of indigenous people. The former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Mary Robinson, expressed concern about cases of forced disappearances and torture.

Key achievements

- being the first and only permanent international organisation working in the state of Guerrero
- doubled the number of accompaniments over 2001
- greater international and national recognition of our work and that of Mexican human rights defenders
- established regular contact with the security forces
- widespread dissemination of information particularly on less well-known areas of Mexico

PBI teams

- two teams of six volunteers in Mexico City and Chilpancingo (Guerrero) provided 769 days of accompaniment and held

186 meetings with government officials, members of parliament, security forces and diplomatic and UN bodies

- due to funding difficulties we have been unable to respond to the numerous requests for accompaniment from the state of Oaxaca but we are looking for assistance to meet this demand in 2003

Mexico City

- maintained an international presence in the offices of two NGOs where 30 human rights defenders work, including the Centre Prodh, a lawyers collective defending high profile human rights cases. Since the suspicious death of prominent human rights lawyer Digna Ochoa, threats against well established human rights organisations have become commonplace

Guerrero

- expanded our accompaniment in the offices of two NGOs in a State where national and international human rights organisations report the prevalence of extreme poverty violence, drug trafficking, militarisation, impunity and corruption

With two small teams covering a vast country, our strategy has been to protect organisations working on indigenous rights and individuals or organisations linked to landmark cases such as:

- accompaniment of Enedina Cervantes, searching for her



PBI accompanies a family from the Colonia Alcaine, Acapulco who have been subjected to harassment because of their struggle for land rights.

husband who ‘disappeared’ in 2001. Her struggle for justice provides encouragement to other families of the disappeared too frightened to speak out

- accompaniment of Emiliana and Francisco Cerezo, fighting for a fair trial for their three brothers who they believe are political prisoners. They have also established an organisation calling for the freedom of all prisoners of conscience

Mexican organisations that PBI accompanies

National Network of Civil Society Human Rights Organisations (All Rights for All):

Network of 53 organisations, domestic and international emergency response networks, advocacy, campaigns against human rights violations, education and national and international lobbying

Human Rights Centre ‘Miguel Agustín Pro Juárez’:

Legal defence of cases of human rights violations, campaigns against human rights violations, education, national and international lobbying

Regional Centre for the Defence of Human Rights ‘Jose Maria Morelos y Pavon’:

Education and legal defence of human rights of indigenous people

‘Auténticos colonos de la Unidad Obrera’ through Human Rights Commission ‘The Voice of the Voiceless’:

Defence of families subjected to harassment and death threats for their struggle for land rights, return of the expelled families to the neighbourhood of ‘Leonardo Rodríguez Alcaine,’ Acapulco, Guerrero

Committee for the Liberty of Prisoners of Conscience ‘Hermanos Cerezos’:

Rights of political prisoners, in particular the Cerezo Contreras brothers.

Enedina Cervantes through the Regional Centre for the Defence of Human Rights ‘Jose Maria Morelos y Pavon’ and the Human Rights Centre ‘Miguel Agustín Pro Juárez’:

Faces threats due to search for her ‘disappeared’ husband

Publications

Our direct contact with those promoting nonviolence and respect for human rights gives us unique access to information at grass roots level.

Books

Unarmed Bodyguards:

International Accompaniment for the Protection of Human Rights by Liam Mahony and Luis Enrique Eguren. Theoretical analysis of the dissuasive effect of international protective accompaniment and its practical application by PBI in Guatemala and Sri Lanka. English version Kumarian Press, USA, 1997. German version updated ‘Gewaltfrei Stören Gewalt Verhindern’ Rotpunktverlag, Germany, 2002

Information: English version info@pbiusa.org, German version info@pbi-deutschland.de

Expérience non violentes en Haïti, edited by Marc Allenbach, Gilles Danroc and Jürgen Störk. Published in French by Karthala-PBI 2001. An account of the PBI Haiti Project (1993-2000) in supporting Haitian organisations to develop nonviolent ways of addressing conflict. Information: pbich@bluewin.ch

Project Publications

Colombia Project

- *Paquete de Información Quincenal (PIQ)* fortnightly summary of human rights news and PBI’s work. Available in Spanish.
- *Focos de Interés* published monthly on specific areas of concern. Available in Spanish.
- *Informes narrativos* published every six months. Available in Spanish and English.

Information:

pbicolombia@pbicolombia.org or www.peacebrigades.org/colombia

Indonesia Project

- *Pa Khabar (What’s the News)* published bi-monthly. Available in English.
- Bi-weekly update on the Project’s perspective on the political situation and PBI’s work. Available in English.

Information:

pbiio@mb.sympatico.ca or www.peacebrigades.org/indonesia

Mexico Project

- *Mexico Project Bulletin* published quarterly. Available in English and Spanish.
- *Paquete de Información Quincenal.*

Information: pbimep@skynet.be or www.peacebrigades.org/mexico

Country group publications

Country groups publish regular news bulletins about PBI project countries, the work of the teams, and their own activities. See back page for contact details.

‘Members of the diplomatic corps and UN organisations consider information provided by PBI to be very reliable...As the diplomatic corps is one of the main pillars of PBI’s early warning system to prevent human rights abuses we would describe the strategy PBI has adopted in this area as a success.’

External evaluation of the Colombia Project

Peace Brigades International

Financial Report 2002

Where the money came from

Grants and donations through PBI Country Groups/European office (BEO)	
	US\$
Australia	526
Belgium	5,463
Canada	13,372
France	891
Germany	309,431
Italy	19,760
Netherlands	13,521
Spain	117,762
Switzerland	116,263
UK	9,670
USA	31,347
Brussels-European Office (BEO):	
• Belgian Foreign Ministry (DGCI)	99,893
• Region of Wallonie	18,200
Other income (direct to projects)	
11-11-11 (NCOS)	19,114
AI Sweden	3,630
British Embassy	225,000
Canadian International Development Agency	81,109
Catholic Fund for Overseas Development	15,000
Christian Aid	78,498
CMC	13,500
Conrad N Hilton Foundation (through PBI USA)	50,000
DFAIT	3,419
Diakonia	54,299
Diakonisches Werk	60,667
Fons Mallorqui	12,752
German Government/BMZ	60,748
Intermon	5,215
Interpares	2,564
MAE Norway	11,012
Misereor	148,500
Mugarik Gabe	51,000
Netherlands Embassy	160,000
OCHA/United Nations	75,000
Oxfam	15,817
PCS/HEKS/DIA	43,762
Solidaridad/CMC	17,555
Trocaire	22,104
Individual donations	15,345
Other income: training & workshops	22,511
Bank Interest	3,859
Total Income	*2,028,079

*These income figures exclude income retained by Country Groups/BEO to cover their own costs.

Where the money was spent

	US\$	US\$
Projects	2002	2001
• Colombia	1,274,688	1,067,188
• Guatemala	1,340	0
• Haiti	575	19,116
• Indonesia	350,270	261,658
• Mexico	192,525	173,790
International Secretariat	160,464	151,231
Other	10,205	67,586
Loss on exchange	2,317	32,124
Transfer to PBI reserves	35,695	28,467
	2,028,079	1,801,160

Balance sheet at 31 December

	US\$	US\$
	2002	2001
Fixed Assets	43,584	27,550
Current Assets	1,010,638	569,144
Current Liabilities	(497,300)	(75,467)
Net Assets	556,922	521,227
Represented by:		
Fund balance 1 Jan	521,227	492,760
Surplus/(deficit) in year	35,695	28,467
Fund balance 31 December	556,922	521,227

This Financial Report does not reflect the value of the time invested, nor the unique qualities and professional skills of volunteers at all levels of PBI.

The full global and project accounts are available from the PBI International Office, Unit 5, 89-93 Fonthill Road, London N4 3HT or from the PBI website: www.peacebrigades.org

The financial information of the PBI Country Groups is not reported in the above accounts. Please contact the Country Groups separately for this information (see back cover).

Thanks to...

PBI would like to thank all those who have contributed their time, energy and financial resources: donors, staff, and volunteers including team members who spend a whole year in the field, the International Council, technical committees, project committees and the hundreds of volunteers involved in PBI Country Groups.

Institutional donors

ACAT Switzerland, **ADVENIAT**, Aktionsgemeinschaft Dienste für den Frieden (AGDF), **Allan & Besta Ferguson Charitable Trust**, Amnesty International Human Rights Defenders Programme, **Amnesty International Sweden**, Anna H. & Elizabeth M. Chace Fund, **Apple Tree Fund**, Ausschuß für Entwicklungsbezogene Bildung und Publizistik/EED, **Ayuntamiento de Camargo**, Ayuntamiento de Iruña-Pamplona, **Ayuntamiento de Medina del Campo**, Ayuntamiento de Reinosa, **Ayuntamiento de Santander**, Ayuntamiento de Torrelavega, **Ayuntamiento de Valladolid**, Ayuntamiento de Vitoria-Gasteiz, **Basel State Commission for Development Aid**, Basilian Fathers of Toronto, **Basilian Human Development**, Bernisches HEKS-Komitee (OeME), **British Embassy (Indonesia)**, Broederlijk Delen VZW (Belgium), **Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung (BMZ)**, Calpe Trust, **Canadian Auto Workers**, Canadian Catholic Organisation for Development and Peace, **Canadian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT)**, Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), **Catholic Fund for Overseas Development (CAFOD)**, Catholic Church (City of Bern), **Catholic Parishes (City of Basel)**, Christian Aid, **Church of St John Neumann**, City of Lausanne, **City of Renens**, **CMC**, **Community of Zumikon**, Compton Foundation Inc, **Conrad N. Hilton Foundation**, Co-operative Bank, **Cultural Association 'Carcafuocio'**, Deutsche Stiftung Friedensforschung, **Diakonia Sweden**, Diakonisches Werk Referat Menschenrechte, **Direction Générale pour la Coopération au Développement (DGCD)**,

Dominican Sisters of Springfield, **ECHO**, Eine-Welt-Laden Rissen, **Eleanor Rathbone Charitable Trust**, **EuropeAid**, European Commission, **European Initiative for Democracy & Human Rights (EIDHR)**, Evangelical Church in the Rheinland, **Evangelical Church of Bern-Jura**, Evangelical Church of Hinwil, **Evangelical Church of Kurhessen-Waldeck**, Evangelical Church of Muri-Gümligen, **Evangelical Church of Nidau**, Evangelical Church of Oberrieden, **Evangelical Church of St Gallen (OeME)**, Evangelical Church of Schaffhausen, **Evangelical Church of Wallisellen**, Evangelical Church of Zug, **Evangelical Church of Zurich**, **FINNIDA**, **Fons Mallorquí**, France Libertes Foundation, **Frontline (Ireland)**, German Government Ministry of Foreign Affairs (BMZ), **Gobierno de Navarra**, Gobierno Regional de Cantabria, **Government of District of Frauenfeld**, Government of District of St Gallen, **Human Resources Development Canada**, Intermón, **Interpares**, John Merck Fund, **Katholischer Fonds Eine-Welt-Kooperation**, Loewen Family Foundation, **Loterie Romande**, MAE Norway, **Ministere de la Région Wallonie (Belgium)**, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Belgium), **Misereor**, Mugarik MIVA, **Mugarik Gabe**, Netherlands Embassy (Indonesia), **Network Foundation/Network for Social Change**, Norddeutsche Stiftung für Umwelt und Entwicklung, **OeME St Gallen**, Ökumenischer Initiativkreis Eine Welt, **Ökumenischer Rat der Kirchen**, Oxfam, **PCS/HEKS/DIA**, Peacefund Canada, **Polden Puckham Charitable Foundation**, Primate's World Relief & Development Fund, **Quäker-Hilfe**, Sigrid Rausing Foundation, **Religious Sacre Couer Jesuit (RSCJ)**, Robert-Bosch-Stiftung, **Rowan**

Charitable Trust, Samuel Rogers Memorial Trust Fund, **SCIAF**, Shoemaker Fund, **Simon's Foundation**, Sisters of St Joseph, **Solidaridad/CMC**, W F Southall Trust, **Stiftung UMVERTEILEN!**, Stitching International (Netherlands), **Swiss Government Department of Foreign Affairs**, Tides Foundation, **Trocaire**, Unbeschulte Karmeliten, **UNC Global Ministries**, UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) Indonesia, **Veillon Foundation**, Waldensian Church, **Walla Walla Friends Meeting**, Westcroft Trust, 11-11-11 (NCOS)

Individuals

Marc Allenbach, **Patricia Beetle**, Sylvie Bridel, **Mary Ann & John Brock**, Joseph De Rivera, **Delight Dodyk**, Susan Devokaitis, **Hans Eugster-Reinhardt**, Claude Fischer, **Heike Kammer**, Joseph Levinger, **Helen Lindsay**, Roy Loucks, **Salome Luz**, Ruth Helen Mandel, **Bill & Rosemarie McMechan**, Erika Meier, **Thomas Daniel Meier**, Webb & Nan Miller, **Peg Morton**, Suzanne Polen, **Andreas Riekeberg**, Olivier & Christine Rumpf-Croset, **Esther Dora Rutz**, Hans-Dieter Schneider, **Folke Schürmann**, Hans & Marian Sinn, **Christina Sisson-Dieterle**, Carolyn Sperry, **Diane Steingart**, Gertrude Steingart, **Jürgen Störk**, Nicolas Sturge, **Edward Vinson**, Françoise Vittoz, **Barbara Weedon**, Auguste Weidemann, **Christine Weisser**, Heinke Wendt, **Jonathan Woodbridge**, Barbara Zeller, **John Ziman**

In 2002 an average of 65 volunteers worked in the field. They spent 18,750 days providing a protective presence.

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