OUR 2022 ACCOMPLISHMENTS:
TERRITORIES IN RESISTANCE

During the height of the pandemic, social movements found strength in the rallying cry that we will not return to “normal!” We give gratitude to the BIPOC leaders, many of whom are our esteemed Guatemalan partners, who have made it clear that “normal” is an unsustainable concentration of power and resources for the very few.

We are honored to accompany our partners as they build this world through their resistances and community practices! Here at NISGUA, we are proud to renew our practice of liberation hand-in-hand with our partners and comrades around the world supported by our amazing program staff which, in-line with our long-time commitment to racial justice, is made up of experienced organizers from Abya Yala. Our trans-territorial solidarity work has reached new scales through a congressional delegation, the Mesa Trans-Territorial, and online events.

As you read about these accomplishments, we hope that you’ll join us in practicing liberation, together.

2022: YEAR AT A GLANCE

OUR LONG-AWAITED RETURN TO GUATEMALA WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE WITHOUT YOUR SUPPORT!

In January, our Guatemala team worked to reopen our Guatemala City office and began accompanying person-activities again. For the first half of the year we worked in a hybrid model: remote accompaniment from Guatemala city and physical presence by our partners’ request when COVID exposure risk was low for our team and our partners.

We are so grateful to you for walking this path with us.

ADVOCACY
- 3 in person meetings between our partners & Congressional representatives from the U.S.
- 2 meetings with the U.S. Embassy to highlight our partners concerns & petitions.
- 1 meeting with Rep. Barbara Lee’s office to advocate for cutting or restriction of U.S. “security” and “development” aid to C.A
- 20 virtual meetings with allied international organizations to share information and coordination of activities.
- 9 sign-ons of press releases and statements of like-minded organizations in the struggle for justice and liberation.

MUTUAL AID
- Redistribution of more than 50k during “Rethinking Thanksgiving, a virtual event organized by the Catalyst Project. Funds went to 6 Indigenous-led, front line organizations: IEN, Gidim Ten checkpoint, UANIE, Line 3 Legal defense, NDN, and Ubuntu works
- 4K in small grants from a U.S. donor to our Guatemalan counterparts
- More than $5,500 granted to bolster projects coordinated by members of the Mesa Transterritorial

ACCOMpaniment
- 7 partner organizations that we directly accompany & 3 visits to their territories.
- 25 physical accompaniments of our partners in their activities in the capital.
- 20 partner meetings to exchange information, analysis, and coordinate accompaniment.
- 506 phone calls, text messages, and video calls with our DLT and J&A partners.

DIGITAL ORGANIZING
- 47 social organizations, collectives, institutions, religious communities & more than 240 individuals signed the letter in support Military Diary Case’s families.
- 345 members of our base took action by signing different organizational letters, petitions, and actions campaigns
- 32 publications: translated statements, Solidarity Updates, original reports, info graphics and other materials that provide timely information and analysis directly from our Guatemalan partners.
- 7 virtual events to highlight the petitions of our partners public webinars & private events with allied organizations.

The delegation also strengthened the Central American internationalist solidarity movement, which continually grows under the leadership of BIPOC and Latin America diaspora comrades. We organized the delegation with our sister organizations: Witness for Peace (WFP), Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador (CISPES), and School of the Americas Watch (SOA Watch). We are grateful for crucial support from Iximché Media, Institute for Policy Studies - Global Economy Program (IPS), Chicago Religious Leadership Network on Latin America (CRLN), and Interfaith Committee on Latin America - St. Louis (IFC)

NISGUA was honored to speak at Rep. Omar’s Town Hall reportback on the delegation, which was watched by nearly 1500 people. Left to right: Claire (NISGUA), Lulu Matute (SOAW), Elise Roberts (WFP), and Rep. Omar. The recording is available at bit.ly/repomarevent

"The solidarity support initiative linking organizations in the Trans-Territorial Table is highly important to promote learning, cooperation, communication and organization in the strengthening of cross-border political and social strengths. In solidarity". Magda, Guatemaya L.A Mujeres Resistiendo
NISGUA's Justice & Accountability program provides ongoing coverage, information, and analysis to our grassroots network of the struggles to end impunity for crimes against humanity, the political context in Guatemala, and the role of the U.S. government.

This year, we developed materials and educational opportunities regarding the Military Diary case, including the webinar “Women in the Military Diary Case,” which featured the lawyer Jovita Tzul and Carmen, a survivor of Military Diary Case. We heard updates directly from the families and lawyers of this case and discussed some of the gender-differentiated impacts for women.

NISGUA also organized a photo campaign and signed a solidarity letter to the families, along with 47 other social organizations, collectives, institutions, religious communities, and more than 240 individuals. Both the letter and the photos were personally delivered to and virtually shared with more than 20 families that are involved in the struggle for justice in the Military Diary Case.

As the co-optation of the state and the judicial branch advances, we will continue to amplify the messages of survivors and stand in solidarity with them.

"ALL THE OBJECTIVES OF TORTURING WOMEN, KEEPING THEM IN A CLANDESTINE PRISON, SPECIFIC GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE, SOUGHT TO ANNUL WOMEN AS POLITICAL SUBJECTS, BUT THIS SAME SEARCH HAS TURNED THEM INTO POLITICAL SUBJECTS" CARMEN, MILITARY DIARY CASE SURVIVOR.
GUATEMALA ACCOMPANIMENT PROJECT (GAP) INTERNACIONALISTA

Our GAP Internacionalista program seeks to dissuade violence against our Guatemalan partners by attending trials, visiting communities, and sharing stories and action opportunities. Our Internacionalistas also play the key role of connecting our Guatemalan partners to movements in the U.S. for Indigenous sovereignty and immigration justice and supporting NISGUA’s political education and advocacy initiatives.

We are deeply thankful that two former accommodors from our 2019 cohort returned to Guatemala for four months to support us in the return to in-person activities!

We are also thrilled to have welcomed one amazing Internacionalista, who will volunteer with us for a year!

"In the brief seven weeks in which I’ve gotten to know NISGUA’s Guatemalan partners, my understanding of what it can mean to be dedicated to a cause has been shaken down to its most humble roots. The assuredness with which these land defenders state “we are the People” as a testimony of their strength is as firm as the earth beneath our feet. Their daily lives serve as astonishing, ever-evolving proof of what it is to be made with, of, and from a dedication to dignity."

Words from our 2022-2023 Internacionalista.

"Being an accompanier with NISGUA was an extremely important piece in my political formation and radicalization. Learning from and collaborating with our Guatemalan partners, forming mutual relationships, and incorporating lessons from their luchas has been such a beautiful honor. The work is deeply valued by our partners and must continue until it is no longer necessary."

Words from Nicole Estrada, former Internacionalista

INTERNACIONALISTAS APPLICATIONS ARE OPEN
APPLY HERE: NISGUA.ORG/GAP

INISGUA CELEBRATION OF PEOPLE’S STRUGGLES ACROSS BORDERS 2022

December 15, 2022
5:00PM – 7:00PM Pacific Time
(US & Canada)

Purchase your tickets at:
https://nisgua.org/2022-eoy-fundraiser/

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