



AT A GLANCE 2023

For more than 20 years, Cristosal has served the most vulnerable communities by defending human rights and contributing to long-lasting positive social change in northern Central America.

Cristosal is recognized as the leading organization working to protect human rights and change public policies to fight corruption and strengthen democracy in the region. We work to promote justice and democratic societies in northern Central America through human rights strategic litigation, research, education, and victim protection.

Our Approach and Scope of Impact

Our work is deeply rooted in the priorities and experiences of the people we serve, who are the most vulnerable in Central America. We directly engage with thousands of people each year to raise awareness about patterns of human rights violations, how people are being affected, and to support people in their advocacy for structural and sustainable solutions.

Our comprehensive strategy has positively impacted victims, families and communities throughout Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador. This past year we have applied our comprehensive strategy to:

- **Directly assist victims** of human rights violations (legal services, social and mental health support, organizing, training, and community development). We have assisted more than **1,200 people affected by the state of exception** in El Salvador and **3,000+ victims of violence and climate related disasters** who were forced to relocate.
- **Educate and mobilize** the public to engage in civic action in favor of human rights. For example, we have brought together over **700 people in dialogue for democracy and human rights** as well as trained **300 regional leaders** in the fight for human rights.
- Engaging with media and **creating communications strategies** that build public awareness about important issues and human impacts of human rights violations.
- **Monitoring and documenting human rights violations** and, whenever possible, working with governments at different levels to bring human rights focus to policy and service to the public, including over **3,400 reports of violations under the Salvadoran state of exception**.
- **Strategic Litigation** to bring about lasting change in the systems and structures created to protect victims and guarantee rights. This includes litigating **four emblematic cases of war crimes against humanity**.

www.cristosal.org

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Outcomes of Our Work

- More people **accessing the justice system** and exercising their rights.
- **Better laws and policies** to uphold human rights standards.
- Greater will of government officials to **comply with human rights standards**.
- Increased **public support for human rights** and democratic principles.

Our Team and Partners

Today, Cristosal is at the center of every major policy debate regarding human rights in El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras. Our staff and partners include the region's most respected lawyers, forensic investigators, human rights educators, researchers, and victim protection teams. **The Cristosal team is a diverse community of staff and interns who work hard every day to stand with the victims of human rights violations.** It is made up of different generations, backgrounds, genders, and beliefs who hold in common a vision of a world where every person can live to their full potential. Our interdisciplinary approach is effective because of the technical and personal qualities of our dedicated team. We are from countries with long histories of violence and injustice where human rights defenders often face serious risks. But **our countries have rich histories of resilience, resistance, and defiant hope which inspire new generations to carry on the work.**

Where We Work

Our home base and main offices are in **San Salvador, El Salvador** where our work first began. We have offices in **Guatemala City, Guatemala** and **Tegucigalpa, Honduras**.

We have a legal home address in Burlington, VT, USA and an office for resource development and outreach in Minneapolis, MN, USA.

Be sure to visit our website www.cristosal.org and to follow us on social media for more opportunities to engage with Cristosal and support human rights.

You can use this QR Code to donate to Cristosal today!

