



Standing up for Colombian trade unionists



Affiliate today!

About Colombia

Colombia is the most dangerous place in the world to be a trade unionist. 3,000 activists have been killed in the past 30 years. Many receive death threats and are unjustly imprisoned. Workers in public and private sectors are hit by brutal anti-union policies making it almost impossible to join a union.



UNISON in Colombia

UNISON's commitment to solidarity with Colombian workers has been unwavering. Together with Justice for Colombia, UNISON has helped secure the release of several high-profile political prisoners, has forced the British government to stop ignoring Colombia's human rights crisis, and has solidified solidarity links at a national, regional and branch level with public sector unions in Colombia. A number of Colombian trade unionists have travelled to UNISON events and numerous UNISON members have themselves travelled to Colombia to witness the reality first-hand. Many UNISON members have also shown their solidarity by sending toiletries to the trade union political prisoners locked up in Colombian

jails and at both a National and Regional level UNISON has funded projects to provide direct support to Colombian organisations.

Colombia is the scene of the world's longest running civil war but a trade union backed peace process was initiated in late 2012. UNISON has been supporting the Justice for Colombia Peace Campaign which has been leading the international effort to build support for the process. UNISON representatives have travelled to meet with the negotiating teams from both sides of the conflict and members from our Northern Ireland region have shared useful experiences – a campaign which has had a huge impact.



Supporting workers in Colombia is one of UNISON's international priorities. We are extremely proud to work alongside Justice for Colombia to support our Colombian brothers and sisters in their struggle for trade union rights, for peace, and for social justice. I would urge all our branches to affiliate to the campaign.

Dave Prentis (General Secretary, UNISON)

About Justice for Colombia (JFC)

JFC was set up by the British trade union movement to show solidarity with Colombian trade unionists. JFC campaigns in Britain, Ireland, and Europe to bring an end to the anti-union violence and facilitates various financial projects sponsored by British and Irish trade unions.

Campaigns

JFC works on numerous campaigns depending on the needs of our Colombian partners. We lobby the British Government to speak out against the abuses and support trade unionists and other activists in Colombia.



Human Rights and Trade Union Rights – to end the abuses committed against trade unionists, social activists, members of the political opposition and human rights defenders.



Political Prisoners – seeking the release of political prisoners – more than 20 leading activists have been freed as a result. We also provide humanitarian assistance to prisoners.



Peace – lobbying for a politically negotiated solution to the armed conflict that delivers peace with social justice.



My family has been exterminated simply for being trade unionists and for defending human rights. I have had four brothers brutally assassinated. My sister and I were imprisoned for over 2 years. No one has been arrested for any of these crimes and we continue to receive death threats. Despite this we will continue the struggle for workers' rights.

Carmen Mayusa (Health worker trade unionist and former political prisoner)

Facts and Figures



3,000 trade unionists killed since 1986. 95% of cases not brought to justice.
STILL at least 20 killed every year.



5 million people violently forced to flee their homes.
STILL at least 200,000 displaced annually.



STILL at least 4,000 political prisoners including trade unionists, community activists and students locked up.

Make a Difference: Join Today!



The support I received from UNISON members when I was at your conference in 2014 and the subsequent support as we announced the creation of a regional public sector trade union has been incredible. This international solidarity gives us strength to continue in our struggle for justice.

**Martha Diaz (General Secretary of ASTDEMP,
Regional Public Sector Union)**

Please fill out the form below and post along with your selected payment option to:

Justice for Colombia, 4th Floor, 75-77 St. John Street, London, EC1M 4NN

I would like to join Justice for Colombia and enclose the annual fee of:

£90 Branch (over 500 members)

£18 Individual (waged)

£60 Branch (under 500 members)

£6 Individual (unwaged)

Payment Options:

- HELP US SAVE on costs! Sign up to Direct Debit.

Tick here to confirm and you will be contacted soon:

- or... Make cheques payable to 'Justice for Colombia':

- or... Pay by BACS. Tick here to confirm and you will be contacted soon:

Your Information:

Name:

Phone:

Email:

Address:

Union:

Region:

Branch:

Position:

Preferred method of contact: Email Post Both

I would also like to make a donation of: