

# Annual Report April 2009-March 2010

## Supporting the Most Vulnerable in Peru

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*The PSG aims to  
promote the rights  
and interests of the  
people of Peru and in  
particular its poorest  
sectors*

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## Executive Summary

Three key events informed and shaped the work of the Peru Support Group in 2009/10. Firstly, the sentencing of former president Alberto Fujimori for crimes against humanity highlighted the importance of ongoing work on raising awareness on the recommendations of Peru's Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC).

The second event was the violence suffered at Bagua in the Amazonian region of Peru. The protests which ultimately ended in violence highlighted the level of concern in certain sections of Peruvian civil society regarding the government's ongoing policy of economic development based on foreign investment, particularly in the extractives sector, with seemingly little prior consultation with the affected communities.

A third event, which had particular resonance for the PSG, was the case brought in the English courts against the mining company, Monterrico Metals, where protestors claimed they had been held against their will at the company's mine site in Piura (northern Peru) in 2005.

A major area of the PSG's awareness raising activities lies in advocacy, including maintaining links or where possible creating new links with a cross section of stakeholders relevant to our work on human rights and development issues. This includes: the UK's Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO), both in London and in Lima; the Peruvian Embassy in London; and UK politicians in both the House of Commons and House of Lords.

As a small organisation, it is important to draw on the knowledge and support of other British NGOs that work on Peru in particular or in Latin America in general. Last year, the PSG joined the Bond (British Overseas NGOs for Development) Latin America and Caribbean Group (LAC), a forum through which UK based agencies working in Latin America and the Caribbean engage on common issues, share knowledge and engage in policy and practice with other key actors and stakeholders to help raise the profile of the LAC area. In August 2009, the PSG was nominated to sit on the Group's steering committee.

The PSG set up a working group on the EU-Latin America and Caribbean Summit (Madrid, May 2010), with the participation of some five members of the Bond LAC Group, to coordinate our efforts to engage in the UK with the FCO's Americas team and discuss areas of EU policy where the UK could use its influence.

The PSG has continued its inter-agency collaborations and during the course of the year, we have met with Amnesty International, Progressio, Corporate Responsibility (CORE) Coalition, Womankind, Peace Brigades International and ABColombia, and had phone and/or email contact with many others, to discuss primarily areas of common interest and possibility for collaboration..

At the European level, the PSG continues to be a key member of the Peru Europe Platform – *Plataforma Europa Perú* (PEP) – and plays a central role in coordinating the scheduled twice-yearly meetings in Brussels and lobbying Members of the European Parliament and the EC through letters and special meetings. Whilst the PEP continues to monitor human rights (and specifically the implementation of the recommendations of the TRC), there is currently greater emphasis on the issue of extractives industries in Peru and related issues, such as human rights violations, indigenous and environmental rights, trade agreements.

The PSG continued to organise and facilitate meetings and conferences with the aim of raising awareness amongst the British public and decision makers on issues concerning civil, political, social, cultural and economic rights including: a closed meeting for a Peruvian Congressional delegation to the UK, a public seminar by Colombian human rights lawyer Alirio Uribe at the Institute for the Study of the Americas (ISA) on 'The Fujimori trial in Peru and its significance for the Colombian situation'; a public event at Westminster on the Bagua incident; and the PSG Annual Conference at Oxford University where the keynote speaker was Father Marco Arana, a Peruvian priest known for his work with farmers in the northern highlands department of Cajamarca and a possible presidential candidate for the 2011 elections (November 2009).

The PSG's main information tools for communicating with our membership and key contacts continue to be the bi-monthly Peru Update newsletter and the more in-depth Update Extra reports. To commemorate International



Women's Day 2009, the PSG brought out a report on Gender & Women. We also continue to publish a monthly e-bulletin the Peru News which is available to anyone who registers via our website.

We downsized our library on contemporary Peru at the end of 2009 due to a lack of storage following our move to new premises. However there are numerous on-line resources available and libraries provided by various centres of Latin American studies in the UK (e.g. the Universities of Cambridge, Liverpool, London, Oxford, Essex, Warwick, Portsmouth, Swansea, Manchester and Newcastle).

Other information and educational resources include three photographic exhibitions which can be borrowed from the PSG (If I don't come back look for me in Putis; Testimonies of Courage and Pain; and Peru on US\$1 a Day: a Rough Guide to Living).

In February 2009, the Peru Support Group finally launched its new website. This is a vital tool for a small organisation with limited financial and human resources. The website has a new feature, a 'Members' Area', where existing and new members can access the PSG's most recent Peru Update newsletter plus an archive dating back to 2001. The website has a system which enables the PSG to update the site on a more regular basis and we hope that it will continue to help us to increase our membership base and interest in our monthly e-bulletin.

We are grateful for continuing support from our main donors: CAFOD, Christian Aid (Peru Office) and Oxfam (GB). However, we are sad to confirm the closure in 2009 of Oxfam GB's Peru programme and again would like to reiterate our thanks to Oxfam GB, not only for its financial assistance, but also for its non-financial support over the years.

As a result of Oxfam GB's withdrawal from Peru, as of next financial year FY 10/11 the PSG will have an annual shortfall in its income of some £10,000. Based on the reserves we have in our bank account at the end of this year FY 09/10, and assuming no replacement of the shortfall, the PSG would run out of money in about three years. Clearly we need to increase our income from members and/or other donors.

We have budgeted for a loss of about £10k for FY10/11 only slightly mitigated by increased expected income from:

- Workers Beer Company: sending volunteers to summer festivals generated some £1,200 in this year. So we hope to raise at least £1,500 next year.
- A sponsored walk by two long-standing PSG members should raise at least £1,000.

The annual accounts and an independent financial audit are included as part of this report. In FY 09/10 the PSG made a loss of £1,736.81. This was mostly because we received less from one of our donors than we had estimated in our budget for FY 09/10.



# Contents

Executive Summary	i-ii
Contents	iii
A Summary of the Year	1-2
Advocacy	3-5
Conferences, Meetings, Events & Outreach	6-7
Publications and Resources	8-10
Other Activities	11-13
End of Year Accounts	14-15
Annex 1: Independent Examiner's Report [Financial Audit]	16



## A Summary of the Year

The year (April 2009) began with a landmark ruling against former president Alberto Fujimori who was on trial for human rights violations during his time in office (1990-2000). Fujimori was found guilty of bearing individual responsibility as the indirect author of crimes against humanity and sentenced to jail for 25 years. A series of three other trials were also concluded on a variety of charges including embezzlement. Although the trials against the former president were exemplary, this disguises somewhat the backlog of human rights cases related to the country's internal armed conflict (1980-2000).

President Alan García continued with his ongoing policy to regenerate the Peruvian economy by promoting private, particularly foreign investment. This 'development plan' was mapped out in García's opinion piece from 2007, entitled the 'Dog in the Manger Syndrome' (El Síndrome del Perro del Hortelano), and referred to the reform of laws which would enable investors to buy up large-scale property titles in the Amazon and reduce the property rights of peasant communities in the Andes to encourage mining and other extractives activities.

In response in 2008 and subsequently in 2009, indigenous groups protested against a series of legislative decrees, collectively known as the 'Law of the Jungle'. This was approved in 2008 by President Alan García to make Peruvian law conform to the Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with the United States. Protestors believed that the legislation would facilitate the access of multinational companies into the region, specifically those related to oil, mining, logging and agriculture, and further eliminate indigenous peoples' right to prior consultation and consent. The protests of 5 June 2009 ended in the Bagua massacre, when 23 policemen and 10 civilians were killed. One policeman is still unaccounted for.

President García reacted with a follow-up opinion piece to the one of 2007, directed 'To the Faith of the Vast Majority' (A la Fe de la Inmensa Mayoría), where many different actors apart from the government were blamed for the violent events. Despite the numerous commissions and 'negotiating tables' that were established, however the result seems to have been two quite distinct reports, neither of which have conclusive findings on those responsible for the violence.

Despite the events in Bagua and an emerging message that indigenous groups and rural communities were unhappy with the way the country's economic development was and will be carried out, Peru alongside Colombia remained the only members of the Andean Community (CAN) that continued to negotiate what is in essence a free trade agreement with the European Union (EU). Originally the EU-Peru FTA was supposed to be bloc-to-bloc between the EU and the CAN, but it proved impossible to achieve unity between the Andean countries. First, the Bolivians were reluctant to sign up to what was a purely trade liberalisation agreement. Then Ecuador withdrew from the negotiations, primarily because of disagreements with the EU over bananas, one of its key agricultural exports. All remaining parties hoped that the agreement would be finalised and signed during the VI EU-Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) Summit of Heads of State and Government that was due to take place in Madrid (Spain) on 18 May 2010. In fact, the treaty wasn't officially signed, but negotiations were concluded.

The Peru Support Group continued to raise awareness on a series of human rights and development concerns throughout the year, with a main focus on mining and the implementation of the recommendations of Peru's Truth & Reconciliation Commission's (TRC) report.

The year kicked off with the unanimous ruling and sentencing by Peru's Supreme Court's Special Criminal Court of former Peruvian president, Alberto Fujimori, to 25 years in jail for crimes against humanity committed during his time in office (1990-2000). An appeals court subsequently upheld the sentence later on in the year. The trial of Fujimori demonstrated the independence and impartiality of the Peruvian judiciary, a key pillar in upholding the Rule of Law and Democracy, which was particularly significant as the Judiciary was identified in the final report of Peru's TRC as one of the State institutions



that did not take firm enough action to protect the lives of Peruvians during the country's 20-year internal armed conflict (1980-2000).

Despite this landmark ruling, many Peruvian and international human rights organisations have urged the Supreme Court to extend the exemplary model of the Fujimori trial to the significant backlog of cases on human rights violations dating back to the period of internal armed conflict currently pending in the Public Prosecutor's Office. This was an issue identified during the UN Universal Periodic Review of Peru's human rights practices in May 2008.

A certain level of interest by the British government in South America in general, and in Peru in particular, was highlighted by the lightening visits to the region by the Minister for Latin America and the Chief Executive of UK Trade & Investment. The latter is the government organisation responsible for marketing the UK overseas, promoting British exports and attracting inward investment.

Depending on which statistics you read, the UK was either the second or the fifth largest investor in Peru. In the case of the former, UK businesses did not necessarily channel their investments from their head offices, but through subsidiaries abroad; or in the case of the latter, the investments were made directly through UK head offices, according to the Peruvian government's private investment promotion agency ProInversión ([www.proinversion.gob.pe](http://www.proinversion.gob.pe)).

Some of the key British investments in Peru are in the extractives sector and with this in mind the Peru Support Group continues to monitor the mining sector, with a particular interest in the Río Blanco project which was the case study in our 2007 report on 'Mining and Development in Peru – with Special Reference to the Río Blanco Project, Piura'. The ownership of the project is now almost entirely in Chinese hands and the impact of Chinese investment in Peru in the natural resources sector particularly is likely to become more relevant over the coming years.

Over the last year, Monterrico Metals continued to receive coverage in the British press and appeared on the front page of The Guardian (19 October 2009) when the English High Court upheld an injunction to freeze some of its assets. The judge ruled that the claimants had a 'good arguable case' against Monterrico and that company assets of £5 million should remain frozen.

The case brought against Monterrico centres on allegations dating to August 2005 on the detention for three days at the Río Blanco mine site of 27 men and two women. Attempts to seek justice through the Peruvian courts have been slow and difficult. In March 2009, Peruvian prosecutors accused the police of torture but cleared the mining company and private security firm Forza of wrongdoing. The claimants, including all of the alleged victims held at the mine site, are now pursuing their case in the English courts, arguing that the company must have known of the conditions in which they were being detained but failed to take steps to prevent or end their ordeal. The company disputes this.

The ruling was not a final judgement on whether or not the company was liable but it could have significant practical implications for the Peruvians seeking compensation in the UK. Now that the injunction has been upheld this means that, if the final outcome of the UK compensation case is a victory for the Peruvian claimants, the company will have at least £5 million UK assets to cover any payment awarded. However, it remains to be seen if the case will come to full trial through the English justice system.

Over the coming year we would expect to see the Peruvian government continue to court foreign investment and satisfy its voracious appetite for free trade agreements – one with China was signed in March 2010 (EU-Andean Community; South Korea, Japan, etc...). Elections will be high on the political agenda with the regional and municipal elections in October 2010 (including the election for Lima's new mayor) serving as a prelude to the presidential elections of the following year. The continued increase in social conflict in Peru and the possible trial of Monterrico Metals are issues that the PSG will continue to monitor and report on in the coming year.



# Advocacy

## **Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO)**

The PSG met with the UK Ambassador to Peru, Catherine Nettleton, and her Political Secretary in July 2009 to talk about human rights and other issues, including the Bagua violence.

The PSG also maintains regular communication with the FCO desk officer for Peru, the Head of the Andean Department and the researcher for Latin America in London in order to exchange information on our work and main concerns.

## **Department for International Development (DfID)**

The PSG met with Latin America Policy Adviser at DFID. This gave us the opportunity to re-introduce ourselves and our work. DFID's support of Latin America is mainly through its Latin America Partnership Programme Arrangements (LAPPA) with 12 of the UK's larger NGOs with programmes in the region.

## **MPs & Peers in Westminster Update**

As always, we have kept our contacts in Parliament informed of the current situation in Peru both through the Peru Update, the Peru News, and special briefings and supplementary publications.

We continue to provide information to all members of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Peru (APPG-Peru) and the APPG-Latin America. The PSG has maintained its contact with the APPG-Chair Michael Connarty MP. He helped the PSG to organise a public meeting in Westminster following the Bagua incident in June 2009.

The PSG also organised and attended meetings with a cross party selection of MPs and Peers when Peruvian NGO CooperAcción and the local mayor of a community affected by the Rio Blanco mine project visited London in November 2009 as part of a European advocacy trip on issues related to extractives activities and the environment.

The PSG coordinator formed part of a group of NGOs that attended a briefing meeting with Chris Bryant MP (at the time the UK's Latin America minister) before his trip to Peru, Colombia and Venezuela in October 2009.

Lord Avebury, the PSG's President, remains a staunch supporter of our work and following the Bagua incident in June 2009, he was able to table an oral question on 'Peru: Indigenous People: To ask Her Majesty's Government whether, following the statement by the European Heads of Mission on the recent violence and loss of life in the Peruvian Amazon, the United Nations' Special Rapporteur on the Rights and Freedoms of Indigenous Peoples will investigate the background to those events'.

PSG lobbied hard on this before hand to get other Peers to ask supplementary questions related to the question, the objective was to generate a 'mini-debate'

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld200809/ldhansrd/text/90706-0002.htm#0907064000065>)

## **Embassy of Peru in the UK (London)**

The PSG has always sought to engage with the Peruvian embassy in the UK. Members of the embassy usually attend the public meetings that the PSG organises, including our Annual Conference, and we welcome their participation and the contribution they make to these events.



## **BOND Latin America and Caribbean Group (LAC)**

In August 2009, the PSG coordinator was nominated to sit on the Bond (British Overseas NGOs for Development) Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) Group steering committee. This is a forum through which UK based agencies working in Latin America and the Caribbean engage on common issues, share knowledge and engage in policy and practice with other key actors and stakeholders to help raise the profile of the LAC area. For example, John Rankin, Director Americas with the FCO, came to speak to the group at one of our meetings.

The PSG set up a working group on the EU-Latin America and Caribbean Summit (Madrid, May 2010), with the participation of some five members of the Bond LAC Group, to coordinate our efforts to engage in the UK with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office's (FCO) Americas team and discuss areas of EU policy where the UK could use its influence, for example the EU multiparty trade agreement with the Community of Andean Nations (specifically Peru and Colombia) and the EU association agreement with Central America. The WG also wanted to push for discussion on topics such as democracy and human rights and their inclusion in the final summit declaration and for the UK government to champion and protect the active participation of civil society in the region.

As part of the WG's engagement on the Summit, the PSG's coordinator participated in an EU-Latin America civil society forum in Madrid in March 2010. This was a European and Latin American civil society initiative organised by CONCORD (Bond's equivalent at EU level) and the Mesa de Articulación (Latin American platforms, networks and coalitions), to produce a civil society declaration to present during the EU-LAC Summit calling for improvement to the space for civil society within EU-Latin America relations. The Bond LAC working group sent comments on the CONCORD/Mesa de Articulación Declaration to the social forum organisers.

## **Inter-agency Collaboration**

The PSG has met with its donors throughout the year, both in Peru (Oxfam GB, Christian Aid) and in the UK (CAFOD, Christian Aid).

Asides from our participation in the Bond LAC Group and meetings with our donors, the PSG also met with other UK NGOs that work on or have an interest in Peru. For example, during the course of the year, we have met with Amnesty International, Progressio, Corporate Responsibility (CORE) Coalition, Womankind, Peace Brigades International and ABColombia, and had phone and/or email contact with many others, to discuss primarily areas of common interest and possibility for collaboration.

## **Peru Europe Platform - Plataforma Europa-Perú (PEP)**

PEP is a network of solidarity and advocacy groups, as well as NGOs from across Europe who are already working, or who wish to work, on lobbying efforts in their home countries and at EU level to support the implementation of the recommendations of the final report of TRC. The initiative, which was spearheaded by Solidaridad of Denmark, 11.11.11 of Belgium and the Peru Support Group, was launched in 2005.

PEP has members from across Europe, including NGOs from Holland, Belgium, UK, Germany, Sweden, France and Spain and continues to strengthen its standing as a network to spearhead Europe-wide initiatives to support and uphold human rights in Peru.

The PSG continues to be a key member of this group and plays a central role in coordinating the scheduled twice-yearly meetings in Brussels. The PEP continues to lobby Members of the European Parliament and the EC through letters and special meetings.





The PSG continues to strengthen its role in the PEP in the belief that this initiative will reinforce the work of the PSG in the UK in terms of putting pressure on the Peruvian government to implement the recommendations of the TRC. As we explained in last year's Annual report, whilst the Platform continues to monitor human rights (and specifically the implementation of the recommendations of the TRC), there is currently greater emphasis on the issue of extractives industries in Peru and related issues, such as human rights violations, indigenous and environmental rights, trade agreements, etc...).

To reflect this new focus, in November 2009, the PSG played a key role in organising a week of meetings for a delegation from Peru comprising three members of Peruvian civil society organisations which work with local communities in areas of Peru affected by extractives industries: José de Echave, Director of the Mines and Communities Programme (CooperAcción); Carlos Martínez, mayor of San Ignacio (Cajamarca) and president of the Front for the Sustainable Development of the Northern Border, a civil society organisation which is made up of authorities and representatives of the communities affected by the Río Blanco copper mine project; and Marco Arana, a Peruvian priest and co-founder of Grufides, a human-rights and environmental organisation that works with villagers and farmers impacted by mining in the Cajamarca region.

The PSG has actively collaborated in joint initiatives carried out over the course of the year in the name of PEP:

- Statement on Fujimori Trial for human rights violations (09/04/2009)
- PEP Statement to the Council of Europe and a letter to President Alan García on the Bagua Massacre (10/06/2009)
- Letter to Alan Garcia on human rights situation in Peru & lack of implementation of the recommendations of the TRC (24/11/2009)
- Statement on renewed violence in communities close to the Rio Blanco copper mine project (10/12/2009)
- PEP issued letters to the President of the High Court in Ayacucho and Board of Supreme Prosecutors in Lima regarding charges brought against Dr. Cristina Olázabal, a government prosecutor who has taken a leading role in the investigation of human rights atrocities there (19/01/2010).

# Conferences, Meetings, Events & Outreach

## Conferences, Meetings, Events:

The PSG continued to organise and facilitate meetings and conferences with the aim of raising awareness amongst the British public and decision makers on issues concerning civil, political, social, cultural and economic rights including the following:

### Closed Meeting: Peruvian Congressional delegation to the UK. 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2009

The Peru Support Group supported the British Group of Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) with the organisation of a last minute meeting for this delegation with a selection of British NGOs and parliamentarians [Attendance: 15 people].

### Event: 'The Fujimori trial in Peru and its significance for the Colombian situation.' 7th May 2009

The PSG led the organisation, in conjunction with Peace Brigades International (UK Section), of a seminar by Alirio Uribe Muñoz at the Institute for the Study of the Americas (ISA) in London. Alirio, a Colombian human rights lawyer, was an International Observer at the trial of Fujimori trial and was in Lima when the final ruling was given and sentence passed on 7 April 2009 [Attendance: Approx 20 people].

### Event: 'The Recent Violence in the Peruvian Amazon' 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2009

The Peru Support Group led on the organisation of a jointly (CAFOD & All-Party Parliamentary Group for Peru) convened public event on the Bagua incident, held at Westminster. Participants included: Amnesty International, Survival International, University of Newcastle; CAFOD; PSG; Belgian volunteers [Attendance: Over 100 people].

### PSG Annual Conference 2009

#### 13th November 2009 at St Antony's College, University of Oxford

This year the conference considered the work of the PSG over the last 25 years and the organisation's relevance for the future [Attendance: Between 45 and 50 people].

Hugh O'Shaughnessy, long standing journalist on Latin America and Sponsor of the PSG, gave the opening address.

The keynote speaker was Father Marco Arana, a Peruvian priest known for his work with farmers in the northern highlands department of Cajamarca. He is part of the civil society movement Tierra y Libertad (Land and Freedom) and is also co-founder of Grufides, a human-rights and environmental organisation that works with villagers and farmers impacted by mining in the Cajamarca region of northern Peru. He is likely to stand as a presidential candidate for the 2011 elections

There were also a number of workshops:

- Women affected by mining in Latin America. Case study: Peru, Glevys Rondon (Latin American Mining Monitoring Programme - LAMMP)
- The Putis massacre: access to justice for victims of Peru's internal armed conflict, Graham Gordon (formerly of human rights organisation Peace and Hope (Paz y Esperanza) in Peru)
- The risk of conflict and the 'politics of grievance' surrounding industry development (extractives) in southern Peru, James Haselip (University of Reading)
- Reparations and justice for women affected by violence during Peru's internal armed conflict (1980-2000), María Ysabel Cedano (DEMUS (Institute for the Defence of Women's Rights, Peruvian partner organisation of Womankind)



**The PSG also supported and advised on content and speakers for the following meetings:**

Event: LAMMP's (Latin American Mining Monitoring Programme) European Speakers' tour by indigenous women from Ecuador, Guatemala and Peru at Amnesty International (UK) Human Rights Action Centre.

13th October 2009

The PSG provided contacts to LAMMP during the preparatory stages of this tour.

**Outreach**

Event: Latin America 2009 conference

5th December 2009

The PSG introduced, on behalf of Peruvian production company Guarango, 'The Devil's Operation', a documentary film on Human Rights defenders in Cajamarca. 'The Devil Operation'.

Event: Movimientos Peru Special

18th February 2010

The PSG coordinator took part in a discussion following the screening of two documentary films (Tamborgrande and Laguna Negra) on mining and the impact on local communities in Peru.

# Publications and Resources



## UPDATE EXTRA

BULLETIN OF THE PERU SUPPORT GROUP

### Gender & Women

April 2009


The aims of the PSG are to promote the rights and interests of the people of Peru and in particular the poorest sectors.

#### Gender Relations and Women in Peru

**Inside this Issue:**

Introduction	1-2
Searching for Justice: Sexual Violence During the Armed Conflict	3-4
Femicide: Fatal Expression of Control Over Women	5-6
Femicide: A Tolerated Crime?	7-8
After the Gender Quota: The Challenges of Female Political Participation	9-10
References & Bibliography	11

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**Founding Sponsor:**  
 Graham Greene  
**President:** Lord Avebury



## UPDATE

Bulletin Of the Peru Support Group  
No. 138 February - March 2010

The aims of the PSG are to promote the rights and interests of the people of Peru and in particular the poorest sectors

#### Towards Elections: Neoliberalism or Neoliberalism?

**Inside this Issue:**

Editorial	1-2
García Replaces Justice Minister Ariel Scarcell	2
News	3
PEP Profile: Inosente Peru	4-5
International Women's Day 2010: WOMANKIND's Work in Peru	6
Peruvian Amazon: Access to Health Along the Conzapa River	7
Events & Notices	8

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 Rosamary Thorp CBE  
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**President:** Lord Avebury

## The Peru Update

The PSG newsletter, *The Peru Update*, is produced and sent out on a bi-monthly basis. We use the Update as a way of keeping members and contacts of the organisation informed on issues of concern in Peru. The editorial reflects our standing on issues of key importance and the articles and news items are chosen to reflect our priorities. As of March 2009, the PSG's management committee decided to make the newsletter exclusively digital, so we continued to send it to members (if we have their email address) and key contacts. Since February 2010, members have also been sent details of how to access the newsletter in the members' area on our new website.

The *Peru Update* has continued to report on mining and development, citizen security and social movements (including the increase in social protest), poverty, democracy, human rights and justice, education, the environment and climate change, monitoring of the current government's policies (especially economic and social), free trade agreements, as well as up-to-the-minute news coverage. The Update provides an important forum for raising topics of interest and concern from a variety of contributors, and also allows members of the PSG and the general public to participate in the work of the PSG by taking part in campaigns, workshops or cultural events. The editorial, together with selected articles from the current Update and from back copies are available from the public area on the PSG website.

## Update Extra

The PSG continues to produce timely and useful publications in its series of Update Extra reports. To commemorate International Women's Day 2009, the PSG brought out a report on Gender & Women. These in-depth reports are also available for download from the public area on the PSG website.

## Peru News

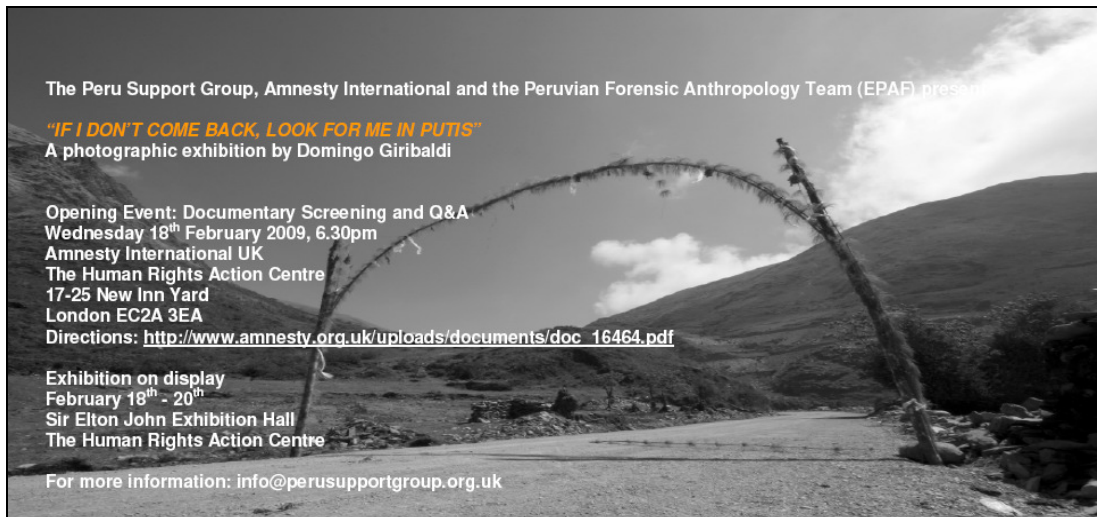
The e-bulletin, *Peru News*, has been going out every month since 2005. It was established as a means to capture and inform a new audience of people who rely on the Internet to receive information and news. To date, 548 people receive our free e-bulletin, and it has been a very popular way to reach out to an increasingly varied and more international demographic of PSG supporters. As it is sent out on a monthly basis, we can use the *Peru News* not only as a way of informing people about current events in Peru, but also as a means to be more reactive.

The email list compiled from these subscribers complements that of our members and is important when publicising PSG events and initiatives.

## Photographic Exhibitions

### "If I don't come back look for me in Putis"

This exhibition on the "largest mass grave in Peru", produced in 2008 by the Peruvian Forensic Anthropology Team (EPAF), was inaugurated at Amnesty International UK's Human Rights Action Centre in London on 18<sup>th</sup> February 2009. Director of EPAF, José Pablo Baraybar also presented a documentary on EPAF's work to search for, recover, and identify 123 individuals missing for over 24 years from the remote indigenous region of Ayacucho, Peru.




The Peru Support Group, Amnesty International and the Peruvian Forensic Anthropology Team (EPAF) present

**"IF I DON'T COME BACK, LOOK FOR ME IN PUTIS"**  
A photographic exhibition by Domingo Giribaldi


Opening Event: Documentary Screening and Q&A  
Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2009, 6.30pm  
Amnesty International UK  
The Human Rights Action Centre  
17-25 New Inn Yard  
London EC2A 3EA  
Directions: [http://www.amnesty.org.uk/uploads/documents/doc\\_16464.pdf](http://www.amnesty.org.uk/uploads/documents/doc_16464.pdf)

Exhibition on display  
February 18<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup>  
Sir Elton John Exhibition Hall  
The Human Rights Action Centre

For more information: [info@perusupportgroup.org.uk](mailto:info@perusupportgroup.org.uk)



peruvian forensic  
anthropology team  
**epaf**  
equipo peruano de  
antropología forense



### "Testimonies of Courage and Pain"

This exhibition, produced in 2004, is an English version of a photographic exhibition that was originally commissioned by the Project Counselling Service (an international NGO consortium with its headquarters in Lima, working on conflict and human rights issues and with displaced people) called "Testimonies of Courage and Pain". The exhibition includes photographs and testimonies of women affected by political violence in Peru. It highlights the need for truth and reconciliation and the role that women can play in this.



### “Peru on US\$1 a Day: a Rough Guide to Living”

This 2001 PSG photographic exhibition addresses themes such as poverty, education, women’s rights, health, environmental pollution and debt repayment. It illustrates the social, economic, environmental and political hardships faced by the majority of Peruvians.

All three photographic exhibitions can be borrowed from the PSG.

### **Information**

We regularly receive bulletins from a variety of Peruvian organisations, which provide an invaluable source of up-to-date and reliable information, particularly on the subject of political, social and economic rights. We are able to use this information in all our activities, particularly when dealing with a large number of enquiries and requests for information. We also respond to a significant volume of enquires from various sectors of society, either by providing information or building links between individuals and groups in Peru and the UK.

We have provided written and oral briefings for MPs, Members of the House of Lords and MEPs in advance of parliamentary delegations to Peru and/or debates on Peru and Latin America.

### **Library and resources**

At the end of 2009, the PSG had to move offices and as a resulting lack in storage we had to downsize our library on contemporary Peru. Nevertheless we maintain a small selection of publications.

We do not believe that the reduction in size of our library and hardcopy resources will affect our ability to advise human rights organisations, development organisations, the media and students as we will direct them to on-line resources provided by various centres of Latin American studies in the UK (e.g. the Universities of Cambridge, Liverpool, London, Oxford, Essex, Warwick, Portsmouth, Swansea, Manchester and Newcastle).

### **Website**

In February 2010, the Peru Support Group finally launched its new website [www.perusupportgroup.org.uk](http://www.perusupportgroup.org.uk). Many thanks to our long-standing website volunteer manager, Irene Soler, for the re-design and the coordination of the web developer.

Existing members with email addresses should have received log-in details and a password to access the members' only area of the website. In this restricted area members can access the PSG's most recent Peru Update newsletter plus an archive dating back to 2001.

The new website enables to PSG to update the site on a more regular basis and we hope that it will continue to help us to increase our membership base and interest in our monthly e-bulletin. We hope to continue to develop it so that more people will visit it regularly, and use it as a first point of contact for information about Peru.

## Other activities

### Peru trip, July 2009

PSG Coordinator attended meetings in Lima, Cusco and Piura in order to gain input into the work of the PSG and cement links and contacts with Peruvian civil society organisations, NGOs and human rights groups. The trip also provided the PSG with an opportunity to meet with Oxfam International, in view of the closure of Oxfam GB's office in Peru, with the objective of presenting the PSG and potential for future collaboration. The coordinator also met with the PSG's decentralised donors and main partners (Oxfam GB and Christian Aid, but also Progressio) and attended meetings in Lima, Cusco and Piura in order to gain input in our work and primarily to maintain contact with long-standing partners in Peru (civil society organisations, NGOs and human rights groups). The coordinator also used the visit to make new contacts, especially related to environmental management & legislation. And to explore potential joint work with partners in the region on human rights, the environment (particularly water issues) and extractives industries.

Over the course of the trip, the Coordinator met with:

#### Lima

Susanne Freiss (Misereor)  
Martín Beaumont & Fernando Romero (Oxfam GB)  
Edith Montero (Christian Aid)  
Miguel Jugo (Director APRODEH)  
José de Echave, Julia Cuadros and Emma Gómez (CooperAcción)  
Rosa Villarán (PQNSR)  
Daisy Zapata ('Interim' President AIDSESEP)  
Rosa Cadena, Javier Janhcke, David Velazco (Fedepaz)  
Mar Pérez (CNDDHH)  
Red Muqui  
Oscar Espinosa (Anthropology, PUCP).  
Javier Diez Canseco  
Jimpson Dávila & Hugo Che Piu Deza (DAR - Derecho, Ambiente y Recursos Naturales)  
Ivan Lanegra (Defensoría) – environmental rights (EI), indigenous rights.  
Alejandra Alayza, Red Peruana por una Globalización con Equidad (RedGE), on EU- CAN negotiations.  
British Ambassador Catherine Nettleton & Political Secretary Jane Sidebottom  
Oxfam International  
Luis Cisneros & José Capella (SPDA - Sociedad Peruana de Derecho Ambiental)  
Marianela Gibaja (Progressio's country representative)  
Carlos Reyna (PUCP & Peru 21 columnist)

#### Cusco

Suzanne Kruyt (Casa Bartolomé de las Casas - development worker for Dutch NGO CMC)  
Wilfredo Ardito (APRODEH – workshop on on Discrimination and Racism)  
Erbert Cardenas (Ayuda en Acción)  
Stephanie Boyd (Guarango)

#### Piura

Bruno Revesz (CIPCA)  
César Ruíz Coronado (IAAP, Christian Aid partner organisation)  
Margarita Vegas (local journalist, El Tiempo).  
Luz Ma Helguero (Editor and owner of El Tiempo newspaper)  
Two of the alleged victims of torture in the Monterrico Metals/Río Blanco case



## Contacts

Part of PSG's role is to maintain and establish new contacts with experts on Peru's main issues. We are grateful to, and would like to thank, people who have come to help us further understand Peru and its complexities and whose expert knowledge we have sought on an informal basis and drawn upon throughout the year. These include: PSG members, committee members, academics and others.

## Visitors

### European Advocacy Trip: CooperAcción

The PSG arranged a week of meetings for José de Echave (CooperAcción – a partner organisation of Oxfam GB and Christian Aid) and Carlos Martínez (mayor of San Ignacio, Cajamarca) to raise awareness on issues surrounding extractives industries and community and indigenous peoples' rights, specifically: land rights; and prior consultation and free prior and informed consent.

### PSG Annual Conference 2009

#### 13th November 2009 at the St. Antony's College, University of Oxford

The PSG welcomed Father Marco Arana from civil society movement *Tierra y Libertad* (Land and Freedom) as key note speaker at the PSG Annual Conference to talk about mining and conflict in Peru.

At the same conference, María Ysabel Cedano from Peruvian NGO DEMUS (Institute for the Defence of Women's Rights) hosted a workshop on reparations and justice for women affected by violence during Peru's internal armed conflict (1980-2000), achievements, challenges and impacts on Peruvian society.

## Membership

The PSG has a committed and enthusiastic membership, many of whom attend PSG events and campaign on PSG initiatives.

A number of members help out with events, attend public meetings, and volunteer with translation and interpreting work. Members and contacts have used our resources to organise their own events, which we report on in the Peru Update.

Our AGM provides our members with an opportunity to have an input into the proposed work of the PSG over the coming year. Consequently, our membership strengthens our mandate and maintains our credibility by ensuring that we are both answerable to and supported by a wide constituency in the UK.

We continue to receive a number of donations from members.

## Relationship with other UK NGOs

The PSG has maintained its relationship with our main funders, and many other small and large organisations within the UK. Because of these links, and due to our participation in forums such as the BOND Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) Group, we have also built on relationships with other UK NGOs working in or on Peru, as well as those working on issues linked to our work. We have encouraged groups to work together and have been able to put groups working on similar issues in contact with each other. We have continued to work with Christian Aid, Oxfam, CAFOD, Progressio, Outreach Peru, Womankind, Amnesty International and many others.





## **The Executive Committee**

The PSG's dedicated committee members are integral to our work. All committee members have continued to contribute their time, advice and expertise generously. They regularly contribute articles to the *Peru Update* newsletter, help with the editorial process of the newsletter and e-bulletin and at times give workshops on Peru and participate in expert panels during debates and discussions. Many members of the committee travel to Peru on a regular basis, facilitating communication with the various organisations with which we work. We would also like to recognise the time, work and advice provided by the Treasurer throughout the year on financial and general matters.

Committee meetings take place regularly throughout the year; with additional strategy meetings taking place every six months. The committee has comprises members from a broad range of backgrounds and interests.

## **Staff**

The PSG Coordinator works full time at the PSG offices in London to coordinate, manage and carry out all PSG activities.

## **Volunteers**

Volunteers have continued to donate invaluable time and effort. They are mostly involved in website management, research activities, drafting articles, researching funding opportunities, and volunteering as part of the Workers Beer Company funding scheme at summer music festivals throughout the UK.

Over the year we had four key volunteers who support us in the following activities:

- Web design and maintenance
- Peru News e-bulletin research and writing
- Peru Update research on UK investment in Peru
- Research on alternative funding

## End of Year Accounts 2009/2010

The PSG financial year is from 1 April to 31 March.

The accounts for 2009/10 given below are prepared on a cash basis: that is receipts and expenditure are recognised when they occur\*. Note that monies that we owe or are owed would not appear in the Payments/Receipts accounts or on the Balance Sheet

The accounts also show the budget agreed at the beginning of the year and the actual outcome at the end of the year. Notes are given explaining relevant issues.

The PSG is funded by grants from donor NGOs and from subscriptions and gifts. The major donors are CAFOD, Oxfam GB and Christian Aid. These donors support us through a programme agreed on a three-yearly strategy with yearly detailed definitions of activities. This programme covers ongoing activities such as advocacy, publication of Peru update bulletin etc.

Subscriptions and gifts make a contribution to this programme and to projects that are part funded by donors.

We are grateful for continuing support from our main donors, however, we are sad to confirm the closure in 2009 of Oxfam GB's Peru programme and again would like to reiterate our thanks to Oxfam GB, not only for its financial assistance, but also for its non-financial support over the years.

The deficit on the year of £1,736.81 is primarily because we received less from one of our donors than we had estimated for the previous year in our budget for FY 09/10.

As a result of Oxfam GB's withdrawal from Peru, as of next financial year (FY10/11) the PSG will have an annual shortfall in its income of some £10k.

Based on the reserves we have in our bank account at the end of this year FY 09/10, and assuming no replacement of the shortfall, the PSG would run out of money in about three years. We have budgeted for a loss of order £10k in FY10/11. If we cannot find new sources of funds from our members or new donors, then we will need to make substantial cuts subsequently. We do expect modest increases in income for FY10/11:

- Workers Beer Company: sending volunteers to summer festivals generated some £1,200 in this year. So we hope to raise at least £1,500 next year.
- A sponsored walk by two long-standing PSG members should raise at least £1,000.

An independent examiner's report on the accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010 is given in Annex 1.

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\* Thus for example a cheque from a donor might be received in January for work to be done January to July; this receipt would be recognised in January. Expenses would each be recognised as they occur between January and July

<b>Payments</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Actual</b>
Rent & Insurance	2,950.00	2,972.33
Salary & National Insurance	25,600.00	25,967.58
Volunteers	270.00	202.02
Equipment & Stationary	250.00	69.59
Travel	1,500.00	2,582.45 <sup>1</sup>
Phone & Fax, Email & Website	1,700.00	1,984.06 <sup>2</sup>
Postage	200.00	29.16 <sup>3</sup>
Printing & Copying	250.00	49.26 <sup>4</sup>
Resources	200.00	527.17
Events	300.00	392.05
Production of Materials	100.00	00.00
Visitor expenses	300.00	00.00 <sup>5</sup>
Other		73.00
<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>	<b>33,620.00</b>	<b>34,848.67</b>
<b>Receipts</b>		
<hr/>		
Grants	31,320.00	29,437.98 <sup>6</sup>
Subscriptions	1,600.00	1,538.00
Donations	500.00	240.00
Special Grants		1,261.00 <sup>7</sup>
Other	0.00	238.80 <sup>8</sup>
Interest	200.00	396.08
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>33,620.00</b>	<b>33,111.86</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b><u>0.00</u></b>	<b><u>-1,736.81</u></b>

### Balance Sheet

	<b>Petty Cash</b>	<b>Current account</b>	<b>Deposit account</b>	<b>Assets<sup>9</sup></b>	<b>Liabilities<sup>10</sup></b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>01-Apr-09</b>	49.18	2,281.63	30,670.59	714.84	-2,182.80	31,533.44
<b>31-Mar-10</b>	106.10	2,654.52	28,765.65	66.79	-1,796.43	29,796.63
<b>Difference</b>	56.92	372.89	-1,904.94	-648.05	386.37	-1,736.81

<sup>1</sup> The expense for travel is higher than expected partly because of more PEP work and partly because the coordinator's visit to Peru was made at high season air rates (chosen to be able to meet with Oxfam GB and Oxfam affiliates in Lima prior to the closure of Oxfam GB's Peru programme).

<sup>2</sup> The budget and actual costs reflect the development of the new website. This cost will be significantly reduced in FY 10/11.

<sup>3</sup> Postage costs for FY 09/10 have been greatly reduced due to the PSG's decision to make the Update and Update Extra newsletters purely digital.

<sup>4</sup> Printing costs have similarly been reduced.

<sup>5</sup> Some visitor expenses included in Events

<sup>6</sup> Mis-estimated income from donors.

<sup>7</sup> Funds received from the Workers Beer Company volunteer fundraising scheme (FY 09/10 was the PSG's first year as WBC affiliate).

<sup>8</sup> Includes HMRC internet incentive payment

<sup>9</sup> Cheques received but not yet cashed by PSG.

<sup>10</sup> Cheques issued by PSG but not cashed by recipient.

### **Independent examiner's report to the members of The Peru Support Group**

I report on the accounts of the Group for the year ended 31st March 2010, which are set out on pages 18 to 20 of the Annual Report.

#### **Respective responsibilities of the committee and examiner**

The Group's committee are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Group's committee consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the 1993 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 43 of the 1993 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 43(7)(b) of the 1993 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. This year I was unable to review all accounting records but was given free access to do so should I have wished. I have seen sufficient detail to enable to form the conclusions needed to prepare this report.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

#### **Independent examiner's statement**

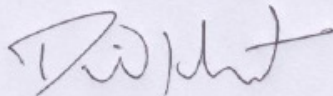
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the 1993 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Act

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Name: Dr Daniel Herbert

Relevant professional qualification or body: Chartered Public Finance Accountant

Address: Hillside, Blackheath Way, West Malvern, Worcestershire, WR14 4DR

Date: 11/10/10