

The Transnational Advisory Group in Support of the Peace Process in El Salvador

In January 2012 El Salvador celebrated the 20th year anniversary of its Peace Accords, which formally ended a devastating civil war that lasted more than a decade. Negotiated and signed between the El Salvador government and Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (FMLN), the country looked forward to peace, rebuilding and prospering.

The transnational nature of gang-related activities and violence requires a transnational body of supporters comprised of faith-based communities, civilian populations, governments and the private sector committed to transnational strategies for economic justice and peace.

The Transnational Advisory Group for the Peace Process in El Salvador (TAPPES) has formed to serve as an international observer to this process and to bring together resources to help in the short and long term goals of the peace process. Made up of groups in cities across the United States, the Advisory Group invites all individuals and groups to stand in solidarity with our brothers and sisters who have begun this Peace process critical for the wellbeing and prosperity for all in El Salvador.

In addition, the collective will support the priorities set by the individuals that have led this process in El Salvador by:

1. Ensuring the safety of all of the local stakeholders in El Salvador involved in this process (specifically Raul Mijango, Monsignor Colindres, and the leadership of both gangs that have stepped forward public ally in support of the peace process);
2. Examining the gang members and their families' public health and economic needs, resources for which are critical to support this process;
3. Evaluating how to best to assist in establishing "formal" agreements to better strengthen and sustain this process (civil society, government, gangs, etc.);
4. Examining how to support efforts to disseminate, nurture and promote this community-led process to bring peace to El Salvador, especially for the country's most marginalized communities

**The Transnational Advisory Group in Support of the Peace Process in El Salvador
(TAGISPPES)**

Current membership includes:

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Aquil Basheer (Maximum Force Enterprise) Los Angeles, CA

Sylvia Beltran, Los Angeles, California

Father Greg Boyle, Homeboy Industries, Los Angeles, California

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Luis Cardona, The Gathering for Justice & Barrios Unidos, Washington, DC

Father Richard Estrada, La Placita Catholic Church, Los Angeles, CA

Penny Griffith, Columbia Heights Family Strengthening Collaborative, Washington DC

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Rebecca Shaeffer, International Human Rights Attorney, London England

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Director, UCLA North American Integration and Development (NAID) Center

Jerry Tello, National Latino Fatherhood and Family Institute, Los Angeles, California

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Marian Urquilla, Living Cities, Washington, DC

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Manuel La Fontaine Organizer, All of Us or None, A Project of Legal Services for Prisoners with Children