A New Year message from the head of PyE UK

Happy New Year to all our supporters!

Thank you for partnering with Paz y Esperanza in 2019. We raised nearly £16,000, which we have sent to the different offices in Latin America to support their ongoing work.

We also ended the year with the good news that Paz y Esperanza has now been formally registered by the Charity Commission as a UK charity – number 1186962.

We are keen for more people to hear about the work that Paz y Esperanza does and are looking for people to help us in different ways and for new trustees. Now we are a registered charity we will need help with filing accounts and our annual report, as well as support in website and social media. If you have any of those skills, please get in touch!

We would love the chance to speak in your church or small group. So please contact us on gdavies@pazyesperanza.org

And again we ask if you’d consider supporting the work of Paz y Esperanza financially. Regular givers – both individuals and churches – are the lifeblood of any organisation. Follow this link to our ‘Just Giving’ webpage: https://www.justgiving.com/pazyesperanza

Winds of change in Latin America

“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the greatness of his government and peace.
there will be no end. He will reign on David’s throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever.” (Isaiah 9:6-7)

2019 was a year characterised by waves of unrest across Latin America.

In Bolivia, the resignation of the president and future elections planned has brought hope of change. In Brazil, there is fear of a different kind of politics, one that doesn’t respect human rights or Indigenous Peoples’ lands. In Chile and Colombia, there have been weeks of protests against the situation of inequality.

One characteristic in common has been the shrinking space for citizens and civil society groups to engage in democratic processes, as well as the increasing use of force.

This underscores the crucial work of Paz y Esperanza: speaking out for justice; mobilising communities and churches to know and defend the rights of the most vulnerable populations and to hold governments to account for serving their citizens.

As we remember the coming of Jesus 2,000 years ago, the words of Isaiah are both a reminder of the reality that justice and righteousness will characterise God’s Kingdom – now and forever, as well as a motivation to keep on working towards it.

In 2020 we will continue to raise awareness of the issues that many communities are facing, and the role that Paz y Esperanza is playing to tackle these issues.

Throughout the year we will have a special focus on Colombia, where Yohan Alvarez, the current Director (in his spare time) is taking a sabbatical from his paid work to consolidate Paz y Esperanza Colombia and establish it as a key player, supporting the evangelical churches in the current national reconciliation process.

Thank you for your valued support.

Graham Gordon
Director, Paz y Esperanza UK

By channelling your support via: [https://www.justgiving.com/pazyesperanza](https://www.justgiving.com/pazyesperanza) you enable us to recover Gift Aid on your donation. Thank you very much

Paz y Esperanza UK
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