

# FUNDED GLOBAL SOUTH FELLOWSHIPS

2023

Dejusticia

## ABOUT US

The Center for Law, Justice and Society (Dejusticia) is a Colombia-based non-profit organization working to strengthen the rule of law and promote human rights in Colombia and across the Global South.

We are a think-do tank that combines rigorous research and strategic activism, an innovative approach that makes our work both challenging and exciting. Our research is informed by our activism, and our direct advocacy (through campaigns, litigation, education, and capacity building) is based on the evidence we gather and analysis we conduct through our research.

We work collaboratively building networks at national, regional and global levels, with a view to strengthening especially the voice of the Global South in the areas in which we work. This overarching methodology of “action-research” guides our work as an organization. Learn more about us at: [dejusticia.org/en](https://dejusticia.org/en).

Since our founding in 2005, our work has evolved into ten thematic areas: gender justice; racial and ethnic justice; economic justice (including business and human rights; economic, social, and cultural rights; right to health; fiscal justice; and the justiciability of socioeconomic rights); rule of law (anti-corruption and the workings of state institutions); technology, transparency, and human rights; environmental justice (participation, integral land use management, and climate change); judicial systems; drug policy; transitional justice; and land and the peasantry.

Cutting across our thematic work are five cross-cutting areas: strategic litigation, communications, education, regionalization, and internationalization. In addition to supporting our thematic work, our international team works on the closing of spaces for civic participation, migration, and climate change.

## ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Dejusticia fellowship program offers fellows a collaborative and creative space to reflect on diverse issues relevant to strengthening their work in the struggle for social and environmental justice in the world and to inspire new strategies, approaches and transformative actions.

This is also a quiet and safe space to work and weave bonds of solidarity and fellowship. To that extent, it is an opportunity for mutual exchange both so that they can learn about the action-research tools and strategies we develop at Dejusticia in order to be more effective in the work they do in their home countries, and so that Dejusticia can learn from their experience and that of their organizations.

This program may be relevant for human rights defenders from the Global South who: i) because of their work and advocacy, communication and research activities, have been subjected to high risk from repressive actions by governments and other actors; and ii) belong to human rights organizations from the Global South that wish to do joint research or advocacy work with Dejusticia or even make exchanges.

We seek to build lasting relationships with the fellows and their organizations so that collaborations can continue after they have returned to their home countries. This ensures that the fellowships do not become ends in themselves, but rather function as accelerating nodes of connections that will make the movement more integrated, closer and impactful on the issues most important to the Global South.

## PROFILE

### **The Global South Fellow has the following general characteristics:**

Is a human rights advocate from the Global South with the capacity to exchange knowledge and experiences with Dejusticia researchers.

Is willing to continue working with Dejusticia after the fellowship to create a joint work product.

*Can work in English or Spanish.*

### **The program is looking for people with three different profiles:**

1. The grantee may come from an emergency or high-risk context. An emergency or high-risk context can be any of the following:

- The country/city where the grantee is working is in armed conflict, civil unrest or under authoritarian rule, or with authoritarian tendencies;
- The grantee or his/her organization has been subjected to threats, intimidation, or populist propaganda that poses a threat to his/her human rights advocacy work or the safety of his/her family; or
- The grantee or his/her organization has been excluded from funding due to government or private sector influence or has been lobbied in any way intended to obstruct the work of the individual/organization.

2. The grantee may also be at risk of burnout and looking for a quiet place to continue working on human rights issues, but in a different context.

3. The Fellow may also be linked to a human rights organization in the global south that is interested in doing joint work with Dejusticia, exploring new collaborations or deepening previous collaborations.

## **The fellow's commitment:**

The fellow will allocate his/her time at Dejusticia according to the following:

- 35% to support Dejusticia's host team's work.
- 40% to develop and implement his/her own project at Dejusticia.
- 25% to continue supporting his/her home organization's work remotely.
- Output of the project to be completed during the fellowship, which will be submitted to the host area.
- At least one blog reflecting on his/her experience or work, to be published in Dejusticia's Global Blog.

## APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

The call for applications will be open until **May 18, 2023**. Fellowships are generally for a period of three to six months, depending on the availability of the fellow and the host team.

To apply, please fill out the [following form](#) and include:

- A Letter of motivation (max. 2 pages): a brief description of the profile, his/her background, indicating the period of availability, the Dejusticia research area in which he/she is interested in working, and the commitment to explore joint research/incidence/training collaborations after the fellowship is completed.
- CV that includes your proficiency in English and/or Spanish
- A Letter of institutional support (for individuals, this letter can come from an organization/community that can attest to your contribution to the movement)
- A one-page proposal for a project to be carried out during the fellowship. These can include videos, blogs, articles, book chapters, or other outputs that communicate the context of your work to the Global South human rights movement.

Dejusticia will cover travel expenses (visa, tickets) and provide a monthly stipend based on the person's profile and experience.

Although Dejusticia will provide support at the beginning of the process, where during the first two weeks of work a training space will be provided on amphibious research and on their work, it is important to highlight that the chosen persons will be responsible for managing their stipend to meet their housing, transportation and food needs.

## TEAMS TO WHICH YOU CAN APPLY

### RACIAL ETHNIC JUSTICE LINE

#### DESCRIPTION

The Ethnic and Racial Justice Line is dedicated to seeking equality for indigenous and Afro-descendant people. We participate in the design, accompaniment and strengthening of participation and prior consultation mechanisms related to natural resources and extractive industries. We also monitor decisions that affect these communities and promote affirmative actions, especially in the areas of employment and education. Furthermore, we strive to increase representation and participation and its impact on the effective enjoyment of the rights of indigenous and Afro-descendant peoples.

#### APPLICANT PROFILE

Be a professional in law, political science, anthropology or social sciences interested and preferably with previous experience in ethnography, prior consultation, historical reparations, production of legal documents and research-action-participation. Knowledge of a second language (preferably an indigenous language and/or English) and experience in accompanying ethnic, social, and human rights organizations would be an asset. Applications from professionals belonging to ethnic groups are appreciated. Applicants with experience in intersectional approaches, prior consultation and/or historical reparations are valued.

#### FUNCIONES

1. Support the design and carrying out of interviews, systemwide interviews and use other methodological tools to collect information for research.
2. Support the writing and presentation of interventions, litigations and amicus briefs before the Constitutional Court and the Inter-American Human Rights System.
3. Support the exploration and review of sources and literature on intersectionality, prior consultation and historical reparations.
4. Write and co-write chronicles, life stories and academic articles on the Line's areas

of research.

5. Support with the organization and planning of events, training and other initiatives related to the work of the team.

6. Attend academic discussions promoted by Dejusticia as well as internal meetings of the Line.

## **FARMING AND LAND LINE**

### **DESCRIPTION**

In the Farming and Land Line, we work for the right to land, the recognition of the rights of peasants, peasant territoriality, and the defense and fulfillment of these rights. To this end, we work hand in hand with regional and national peasant organizations, assisting in their organizational strengthening through legal training and political advocacy. Internally and externally, we also have an impact through research, communication strategies and pedagogical events with decision makers.

### **APPLICANT PROFILE**

Being aware that the struggle of peasants is a global struggle, we are looking for a new member to join us in the Global South fellows program who has experience working with collective groups, peasants or agrarian producers and/or land and territory issues.

### **FUNCIONES**

Currently, the line is advancing in three strategic actions: strengthening peasant organizations in their commitment to the recognition of peasant territoriality; proposals for the harmonization of peasant territorial rights and environmental protection and conservation regulations; dissemination of the general land observation. The fellow will have to:

1. Support the design and carrying out of interviews, systemize interviews and use other methodological tools to collect information for research.
2. Support the analysis of comparative experiences on land rights harmonization,

peasants and environmental conservation.

3. Write and co-write research documents, columns and communication pieces.
4. Support with the organization and planning of events, training and other initiatives related to the work of the team.
5. Attend academic discussions promoted by Dejusticia as well as internal meetings of the Line.

## **TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE LINE**

### **DESCRIPTION**

The purpose of the transitional justice line is to carry out research and advocacy activities in order to promote the rights of victims to truth, justice, reparation and non-repetition, as well as to promote public discussions on negotiated solutions to violence.

### **APPLICANT PROFILE**

Professional in law, social sciences or international relations with interest in political transition processes. Experience in processes of promoting the rights of victims of massive human rights violations in domestic or international contexts will be a plus. Knowledge of a second language, preferably English, is ideal but not required.

### **FUNCTIONS**

The person who is part of the transitional justice team as a fellow will perform the following functions:

1. Produce documentary inputs for research on three topics, mainly, (i) restorative justice; (ii) standards and practices for investigating gender-based violence in transitional contexts; and (iii) reparations for human rights violations resulting from the climate crisis.
2. Support the design and implementation of interviews, focus groups and other methodological tools to collect information for the research.

3. Support with the organization and planning of events, training and other initiatives related to the work of the team.
4. Participate in external events (such as training or conferences) organized by Dejusticia's national and international networks and write internal summaries on the content of these events.
5. Participate in internal meetings of both the transitional justice team and the organization's academic seminars.

## **INTERNATIONAL AREA**

### **DESCRIPTION**

We would love to have the support of a fellow to work on migration and refugee issues and their relationship to climate change, the closing of civil society spaces and the rise of authoritarian governments, as well as the strengthening of the human rights movement in the Global South. Our team works on the aforementioned issues through research, training, advocacy and litigation projects. We also develop joint activities with human rights organizations in the Global South to strengthen their work and the different networks of which Dejusticia is a member.

### **APPLICANT PROFILE**

Those interested in becoming a Fellow in the International Area must demonstrate a commitment to the defense of human rights, especially in the Global South, and a sensitivity to working in the service of historically excluded populations. They should have excellent interpersonal skills, a willingness to collaborate with multiple actors and the flexibility to contribute to projects with different thematic and methodological approaches. Preferably, we would welcome a professional in law, social sciences or international relations.

### **FUNCTIONS**

1. Review and analyze specialized literature on issues related to migrants' rights, climate change and the closing of civil society spaces.

2. Support the design and carrying out of interviews, focus groups and other methodological tools to collect information for research.
3. Support in the organization and planning of events, training and other initiatives related to the team's work.
4. Participate in external events (such as training or conferences) organized by Dejusticia's national and international networks, and write internal summaries on the content of these events.

## **TAX JUSTICE LINE**

### **DESCRIPTION**

The Tax Justice Line focuses on analyzing the relationship between the fiscal policies of States and their capacity to protect, respect and guarantee the human rights of their citizens. It also studies the impact of taxation and public spending systems on income and wealth inequality. Thus, research and advocacy actions are sought to ensure that the tax systems of the world, as well as the international taxation system, design a progressive and fair taxation that allows States to have the maximum resources available to finance the needs of its inhabitants.

### **APPLICANT PROFILE**

The profile sought for the Fellowship is that of an economist, sociologist, political scientist, internationalist or related career, with prior knowledge and research interests in national, regional and global debates on tax justice with a human rights approach.

### **FUNCTIONS**

Currently, the line is advancing in four strategic actions: supporting the strengthening of global taxation to mitigate tax avoidance and evasion, the dissemination and implementation of human rights principles in tax policy, the training of social actors in tax policy and human rights, and tax justice in climate change. The Fellow will be expected to:

1. Support the collection of information for research being developed in the line.

2. Support in the systematization of comparative experiences (country of origin of the fellow) according to the research topic to be developed.
3. Write and co-write research papers, columns, and communication pieces.
4. Support in the organization and planning of events, training and other initiatives related to the team's work.
5. Attend academic discussions promoted in Dejusticia as well as internal meetings of the Line.

## **DEPUTY DIRECTION**

### **DESCRIPTION**

The sub-directorate oversees the Enlaza Sur project, which aims to strengthen civil society and community-based organizations that fight for social and environmental justice in Colombia, Peru, and Venezuela.

### **APPLICANT PROFILE**

We are looking for a professional in political science, anthropology, philosophy, sociology and related careers with an interest in strengthening Venezuelan civil society. We value positively: i) previous knowledge of Venezuelan civil society; ii) Excel skills for the creation of tables, graphs, and reports; iii) research and writing skills for the writing of columns, reports, and documents; iv) capacity for honest, sensitive and mediating relationships with civil society and community-based organizations and; v) ability to work in a team.

### **FUNCTIONS**

1. Conduct geopolitical diagnostic research on Venezuelan social organizations, their needs and possible types of strengthening.
2. Mapping of civil society organizations and allies in Venezuela.
3. Organize meetings with Venezuelan civil society leaders in order to create alliances and a diagnosis to design a work model tailored to the context.

4. Work with the team on an initial proposal for a call for proposals and selection criteria for participating organizations and Venezuelan partners.
5. Carry out logistical tasks such as calls, mailings, meeting minutes, etc.