

SALUD por DERECHO

Right to health foundation

Annual Report 2012



TO IMAGINE IS TO BELIEVE
THAT A BETTER WORLD
IS POSSIBLE
TO IMAGINE IS
TO MAKE A CHANGE



TO DEFEND IS TO DEMAND
THAT BETTER SOLUTIONS
ARE POSSIBLE
TO DEFEND IS
TO MAKE A CHANGE



TO RESEARCH IS TO DISCOVER
AND CREATE KNOWLEDGE SO THAT
INNOVATION AT THE SERVICE
OF PEOPLE IS POSSIBLE
TO RESEARCH IS
TO MAKE A CHANGE

WE IMAGINE, WE DEFEND, *we make a change*

Ready for change

Letter from the president and director

Manuel Rodríguez Fraile

President

We have concluded another year immersed in a crisis, a crisis whose harmful effects have accumulated over the years, as we have witnessed renewed spending cuts that are disproportionate and unjust, and which have deprived an increasing number of people from social benefits that are theirs by right. The good news is that social mobilization has begun to curb some of the most dramatic problems and continues to advance toward the achievement of greater social justice. Politicians and key policymakers are now admitting, including publicly, that they are not sure how they should act.

Whenever we start a new project, the first step is always to imagine what we want to achieve. Hence, at Salud por Derecho **WE IMAGINE** that it is possible to make a change. We imagine a world in which everyone can enjoy a dignified life and have access to high quality health services. We imagine a world in which biomedical research to fight HIV/AIDS, as well as other diseases, has enough committed resources and in which everyone who suffers from these diseases has access to the necessary treatments. We imagine a world in which everyone feels responsible for the lives and wellbeing of others.

Imagining, however, is not enough; we ought to act, and that is what we are doing. This is why, in accordance with our mission as a human rights organization, at Salud por Derecho **WE DEFEND**. We use political advocacy and social mobilization to defend the universality of the right to healthcare so that this right can be upheld in a comprehensive and sustainable way. We defend the idea that social policies are not merely “dispensable costs”, but a long-term investment in social justice and in people’s dignity. Downsizing social benefit programs always translates into human rights cutbacks: the right to work, to education, to health, to livelihood, and to freedom of expression.

This situation calls for change, profound changes both in the ways in which priorities are established as well as in models of action; changes that demand information and engender an informed citizenry; changes that demand the formulation of real and effective policy proposals based on the greatest possible consensus; changes that will enable us to move towards a more equal distribution of resources that will benefit everyone. Collective changes are needed by also individual ones, and at Salud por

Derecho, we are already making a change.

WE MAKE A CHANGE, because that is what imagining is for. We make a change by promoting the universal right to healthcare, by proposing new projects, by establishing channels of communication between political, economic, and social actors, by promoting the development of effective vaccines and treatments that are within the reach of all those who need them, and by demanding that International Organizations and key policymaking figures fulfill their commitments. We fight to make a change because we believe that we can achieve our objectives.

At Salud por Derecho, we invite you to join our effort. We invite you to imagine a just society, to defend the human rights of all persons, to change your views, and to start contributing actively to the creation of new realities.



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Vanessa López
Directora

Preparing the annual report is always an opportunity to reflect, highlight the results achieved, and make projections into the near future. This year, we would like to start by thanking all the people and institutions that have helped us, not only in 2012, but also in previous years. We are deeply grateful to the people and organizations that have contributed economically, as well as the volunteers and collaborators that have worked with us, shoulder to shoulder. They have all come to share **Salud por Derecho's** objective: to guarantee that all people can exercise their right to health, regardless of their country of residence or their level of income.

Salud por Derecho continues to be committed to obtaining results. The year 2012 has been characterized by achievements that, albeit intangible and difficult to communicate, represent important steps towards our final objective. These achievements have played a crucial role in making **Salud por Derecho** a dynamic organization that is prepared for change. First, we have consolidated our alliances with other organizations. We have collaborated more closely with *Médicos Sin Fronteras*, for instance, which has worked with us to fight HIV/AIDS for many years. Moreover, we have created new alliances with a number of organizations, including *Friends of the Global Fund Europe*, *ONE*, *Health Action International Europe*, and *Transatlantic Consumer Dialogue*. Our alliances with these organizations have enabled us to broaden our scope and work on projects outside our area of expertise. In addition, we have created closer ties with ordinary citizens. The number of people that follow us on social networks has increased substantially, and we have created new venues for face-to-face public dialogue. Furthermore, we initiated a new program for interns and volunteers, which has opened up a new means of participation and strengthened our social base.

Salud por Derecho is aware that the world's political and economic environment evolves on a daily basis; we must continually respond to changing realities and formulate innovative initiatives to address the great challenges of global health. Hence, in 2013, we will continue putting pressure on the

Spanish government so that it fulfills its duties and responsibilities with relation to AIDS and honors its commitments to the Global Fund, but we will shift our focus towards Europe, where we will work to ensure that the Global Fund has an adequate position in the European Commission's agenda and receives proper funding. We will also work with the European Coalition for the Robin Hood Tax to promote the Financial Transactions Tax, which seeks to raise money to fight poverty and inequality. This tax has enormous potential; in Spain, it could generate up to 5 billion Euros, and in the 11 countries that have chosen to implement it, it could generate up to 37 billion Euros.

In 2012, **Salud por Derecho** revamped its **For More Science for Health** program. We started a new line of work that addresses issues related to R&D, innovation, and access to biomedical products. Given that we are the only Spanish organization that works in this field, what we do is very valuable to other European organizations. Therefore, we will continue to press the Spanish and European governments to make greater economic and political commitments to health R&D, all the while ensuring that the manner in which these investments are conducted serves the public good and encourages easy access to medicines. We are confident that increasing public investment in health R&D will yield benefits not only to developing countries, but also to Europe and Spain, as it will stimulate scientific and economic development.

Through our **Catalytic Project**, created in March 2013, we are working to ensure that public funding abides by these principles; our final goal is to create a sustainable, needs-driven biomedical innovation model that promotes real innovation and ensures access to medicines. To this end, we are creating a network among the scientific community, public institutions that finance research, and private foundations so that relevant actors in these fields can discuss the flaws in the current model of innovation and formulate ideas to remedy them. Additionally, we will continue strengthening our Expert Working Group on **Access to Medicines in Spain**, created in December 2012, which provides evidence to demonstrate the unsustainable nature of the high costs associated with biomedical products, a result of the lack of transparency and flaws in

the current health R&D model. This is our primary contribution with regards to the impact that the financial crisis has had on the basic rights of Spanish citizens, particularly the right to health.

The world as a whole, and Spain in particular, is at a critical point. There are too many people suffering and dying from preventable diseases, and the rights to health of too many people are being violated. But this situation is not immutable; it can be changed. At the conclusion of 2012, **Salud por Derecho** is better



Salud por Derecho

Salud por Derecho is a human rights defense organization whose **institutional purpose** is to contribute effectively to the full realization of the right to health of all people in impoverished countries.

Mission

To encourage states to exercise their responsibility with people's health.

To demand fulfillment of commitments undertaken by political representatives.

To generate and promote solutions and influence and participate in the design and implementation of public policies in order to make them effective.

To contribute to citizens' being informed, involved and committed to making the right to health universal.

To develop our mission from an innovative and proactive position with a comprehensive view of health and development. We assume that the HIV/AIDS pandemic, due to its size and capacity of expansion, its characteristics and consequences, should be a fundamental part of our mission.

Objectives

1. Universal Social Health Insurance. Achieving that all people in impoverished countries have access to a package of quality basic healthcare services that meets high standards of universal health coverage and is financed by both domestic resources and international aid.

2. Universal Access to HIV/AIDS. Achieving universal access to HIV/AIDS treatment, prevention and care and contributing to accelerating the development of an effective, safe, and accessible AIDS vaccine.

3. More and Better R&D for global health within an innovation system that ensures the availability and access of biomedical products as global public goods.

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PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

**FOR A WORLD WITHOUT
AIDS FOR MORE
SCIENCE FOR HEALTH FOR
UNIVERSAL SOCIAL HEALTH
INSURANCE MORE AND
BETTER COOPERATION IN
HEALTH AWARENESS-RAISING
AND COMMUNICATION**

2.1 For a world without aids



What is our goal?

Through our For a World without AIDS Program, we seek to promote three main goals:

First, ensure that the Spanish government as well as the European Union maintain the fight against the AIDS pandemic as an important political and economic priority on their agendas. We also work to influence both Spain and the European Commission to make an adequate contribution to the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. Finally, we promote the adoption of a fair-share financing model for the Global Fund based on the economic capacity of each country.

The Context

We are currently at a “tipping point” in the fight against AIDS. For the first time, we are able to say, based on the knowledge and interventions that are available, that an AIDS-free generation is possible. However, in order to achieve this ambitious but reachable goal, the Global Fund, one of the most important instruments in the fight against AIDS and the largest health financier in the world, needs to be fully funded.

An estimated 15 billion dollars is needed in order to reach the Global Fund’s health targets for the next three years, which would allow 7.3 million people to receive necessary HIV/AIDS antiretroviral treatments, 21 million tuberculosis cases to be detected and treated, and 390 million bed nets to be distributed.

However, these objectives will only be achievable if all countries contribute based on the principle of shared responsibility. No single country or entity can achieve this goal on their own.

Spain has been one of the countries present in the Global Fund since its founding in 2000; however, since 2010, due to both the economic crisis and the fact that the fight against these three pandemics has been absent from the political agenda for some time, Spain has not followed through with its funding commitments.

An important result of our political dialogue and awareness-raising work includes the fact that in July 2012, we were

able to achieve that the Spanish government make a public announcement regarding its intention to return as a donor country with a contribution of 10 million Euros. In their press release, Moncloa mentioned that contributions such as this “express the priority that the Spanish Cooperation gives to issues of greatest impact, such as basic social services and help to the most marginalized”; however, this commitment was never realized.

Thanks to our efforts and those of our partners, we now have the evidence to show that citizens support the fight against AIDS, based on a survey carried out by Friends of the Global Fund and CREDOC which we presented to various civil society representatives and members of the government at the end of 2012. Through our policy dialogue, we were also able to achieve that there is a greater consensus in the parliament regarding the fight against AIDS and the fact that this should form an important part of international development policy.

Now more than ever, we believe there is a strong need to place the fight against AIDS on the highest possible political agenda so that there are no mayor setbacks in the important advances already made and to do so, we continue working so that Spain recovers its position among the group of donor countries who support the Global Fund. Defeating AIDS is possible, but only if we work together.

How do we get there?

KEY ACTIONS AND RESULTS IN 2012

Throughout 2012, Salud por Derecho's efforts have focused on demonstrating the results of the Global Fund and mobilizing long term sustainable support on behalf of policymakers, representatives from civil society, parliamentarians, research centers, and foundations. The following are a few key activities that we carried out with this goal in mind.

Open letter to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, José Manuel García Margallo

As the inauguration of the XIX International AIDS Conference took place without Spain declaring its economic contribution to the Global Fund, which the government had committed to resume in February, Salud por Derecho and Médicos sin Fronteras decided to send a letter to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Mr. Jose Manuel Garcia-Margallo, urging him to keep his word. Salud por Derecho also published a whole page open letter, similar to the official letter, in various national newspapers (El Mundo, La Razon and ABC) to extend our concern to the rest of society. One day after the release of the letter, the government concretized its commitment by announcing that it would resume its contribution to the Global Fund with a total of 10 million Euros. Unfortunately, the government never followed through with this commitment and Salud por Derecho will continue working so that Spain fulfills its word.

Public Breakfast Event: "Spain and the Global Fund to fight AIDS, TB and Malaria: a successful alliance in saving lives"

In November 2012, along with other activities organized around World AIDS Day, Salud por Derecho worked alongside the *Friends of the Global Fund Europe*, to organize a breakfast event entitled "Spain and the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria: a successful alliance in saving lives." This event sought to launch the results of a survey which was carried out to better understand the Spanish society's commitment to international cooperation and the fight against AIDS. Key findings of the survey include the following: 47% of the Spanish population believes that the government is not doing enough in the fight against the three pandemics (AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria), and when asked if they would be willing to pay more taxes if this money was allocated to fight these diseases, 75% responded affirmatively.

Speakers at the event included **Ms. Sylvie Chantereau**, the Executive Director of Friends of the Global Fund Europe, **Mr. Francisco Quesada**, Cabinet adviser to the Secretary General for International Development Cooperation, **Ms. María Beatriz Jurado**, Senator and Speaker for the International Development Cooperation Commission- Popular Party, **Ms. Encarnación Llinares**, Senator and Speaker for the Health and Social Services Commission, **Ms. Sandra Hoibian**, CREDOC, **Mr. Jerome Bonnafont**, French ambassador, and **Ms. Vanessa López**, Executive Director of Salud por Derecho.

40 representatives from civil society, research centers, foundations, and think tanks were also present.

Manifesto: "United to End AIDS"

During the weeks leading up to World AIDS Day, which is commemorated on December 1st, Salud por Derecho promoted a manifesto, entitled "United to end AIDS," which received the support of more than 35 organizations from different areas, including civil society and research centers throughout Spain. In this manifesto, these organizations came together in order to collectively call on political authorities, both at the central and regional levels, as well as citizens to definitively stand up to end AIDS.

Toolkit for the fight against AIDS

Salud por Derecho also developed a "Toolkit for the fight against AIDS," which was delivered to parliamentarians, senators, and other key government ministers on World AIDS Day, December 1st, 2012.

The toolkit included an Executive Summary of the above mentioned survey, the 2011 UNGASS report, the Manifesto, "United against AIDS," and a briefing on the current state of the pandemic, why AIDS continues to be exceptional, and recommendations for the current Spanish government. The goal was to provide a complete historic panorama of the state of AIDS that could serve to inform policy makers who may have little understanding of the issue.

2.1 For a world without aids

Communication actions following Spain's decision to not follow through with its 10 million Euro commitment to the Global Fund

Salud por Derecho, together with Médicos sin Fronteras, directly contacted President Rajoy on November 27th, 2012, copying Vice President Saénz de Santamaría, Minister of Foreign Affairs García-Margallo, Secretary of State of International Cooperation Gracia Aldaz, and Secretary General of Cooperation Robles, in order to inquire about the delay in the disbursement of the Spanish commitment to the Global Fund. We received a letter in return from the Chief of the President's Cabinet, Jorge Moragas, communicating that the Spanish government was not able to realize its commitment because the country's first priority is to meet the requirement of reducing the deficit. Salud por Derecho responded by proposing to the government a viable option to follow through with its commitment to the Global Fund by using the reimbursements that Spain receives from external debt, an approach that had been implemented in the past and that could contribute to the credibility and coherence of Spanish development policy. The response from Mr. Moragas was that although this option was constructive, it was still impossible to implement and that the return of the economic growth would enable the government to show its commitment to impoverished countries with concrete contributions.

2.2 For more science for health program



What is our goal?

Through our program, For More Science for Health, we work to promote more and better research and development (R&D) for health within Spain and the European Union when it comes to poverty-related and neglected diseases which disproportionately affect impoverished countries. We also seek to contribute to overcoming the political and structural limitations of the current innovation model so that it gives priority to health needs and guarantees access to biomedical products within a sustainable R&D system.

In short, our objective is to contribute to introducing new principles and best practices to reform the current system in Spain and Europe so that by prioritizing the public interest, the interests of public institutions and the private sector can be reconciled.

The Context

In 2012, the World Health Organization released a report carried out by the Consultative Expert Working Group on Research and Development (CEWG) which clearly defined the challenges of the current health innovation model and the need for action: “current incentive systems fail to generate enough research and development, in either the public or private sectors, to address the needs of developing countries.”

This report highlights that finding solutions to these challenges is a shared responsibility of both developed and developing countries alike. It also puts forth a moral argument: “While we have the technical capacity to provide access to lifesaving medicines, vaccines or other interventions, which are indeed widely available in the developed world, millions of people, including children, suffer and die in developing countries because such means are not available and accessible there.”

Given not only the lack of investment in R&D, but also the fact that there are failures in the way the biomedical innovation system functions, and that the current system is unable to address the health needs of millions of people, there is a consensus that a reforms and new solutions need to be catalyzed in order to guarantee that biomedicine responds to health needs at a global level.

At Salud por Derecho, we believe that it is necessary to have a system of health innovation that is guided by the principle of guaranteeing the right to universal healthcare, that responds to people’s health needs, and that encourages innovation within a sustainable research system.

How do we get there?

KEY ACTIONS AND RESULTS IN 2012

Salud por Derecho joins Health Action International

In April 2012, Salud por Derecho joined Health Action International (HAI), an important network of organizations and experts working to promote access to medicines, pharmaceutical policies, and innovation. Our participation as members in this dynamic global network gives us the opportunity to offer our perspective and recommendations regarding the global health issues in which we work at both the European and international levels. In October, we participated for the first time in HAI's Annual General Meeting and Open Seminar in Amsterdam which sought to discuss the importance of introducing research practices based on the principle of "open data" for the public, and especially experts, and the need to access information originating from clinical trials.

More than 35 organizations demand that the new European Union Research Framework Program prioritizes R&D for poverty-related diseases

At Salud por Derecho, during 2012, we worked to elaborate and disseminate a brief position paper along with more than 35 other European colleagues, to ensure that the new European research framework program, Horizon 2020, which will be in effect from 2014 to 2020, contains more European investment dedicated to poverty-related diseases, including HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria or Chagas, which are usually neglected in the research programs of the private sector. This document includes the principal arguments regarding why the EU should support this type of investment, while also offering a series of concrete petitions to promote that this type of research becomes a political priority for policymakers.

In addition, during the first week of September, 23 NGOs working in the field of global health came together to sign a document which calls the European Union to take leadership on global health R&D. Salud por Derecho was among these organizations. The document reminds the EU that the current incentive systems fails to generate sufficient R&D, as well as the commitment countries made to spend at least 0.01% of GDP on government – funded R&D to address the needs of developing countries. We also affirmed that Horizon 2020 poses an important opportunity to include reforms in the way in which research is developed with European funds.

A key result of these actions is that the EU's Competitiveness Council talked about poverty-related diseases in their hearing and a report released by the European Parliament included all of the amendments we recommended.

Catalytic Project Design

In 2012, Salud por Derecho designed a new project that will be carried out throughout 2013. The goal of the Catalytic Project is to involve new actors regarding the importance of moving toward a biomedical R&D model oriented toward health needs, in order to create a large social movement with the capacity to influence in the design of public policies, both at the national and international levels. Through Catalytic, we will work with the scientific community, public and private institutions that support research, as well as policymakers in Spain and in Europe to examine the principal systemic failures in the health innovation model. Throughout 2013, we seek to stimulate reflection in order to identify the principles, proposals, and best practices needed, facilitating a shared vision from the scientific community that could serve as a guide in the development of biomedical research.

Launch of the Access to Medicines Experts Group in Spain

Salud por Derecho, together with Trans Atlantic Consumer Dialogue, organized the first Access to Medicines Expert Working Group in Spain in December 2012. The objective of the meeting was to analyze the impact of the economic crisis and policy decisions on access to medicines in Spain as well as the latest effects of the implementation of the Real Decreto Ley 16/2012, a new law which restructures the public health system and excludes certain vulnerable groups from receiving care. Given that these policies will continue to have an increasing impact over time, it seemed necessary to gather together a small group of experts from different fields, including innovation, pharmaceutical policy, patients, and associations to examine the negative consequences of these latest changes in policy, to determine their causes, as well as to propose public policy solutions based on a collective effort. This first experts meeting served as a pilot for other countries in the region in order to build a constructive outlook on the situation of access to medicines and benchmark strategies at the country and European level.

2.2 For more science for health program



Catalyzing a health innovation
system that works for all

2.3 For universal social health insurance program



What is our goal?

Through our program, For Universal Social Health Insurance, Salud por Derecho works to promote that all people in impoverished countries are guaranteed access to quality basic healthcare services that meet high standards of universal health coverage and are financed by both domestic resources and international aid.

Together with other members of civil society, we seek to promote a shared vision of universal health coverage, a Framework Convention for Global Health, that established the responsibilities of each actor as well as the international political processes needed to guarantee that this coverage works for everyone, especially low and middle income countries. Within Spain, we support and raise awareness about the civil society efforts that are currently responding to the effects of the public policy decisions that impact the right to health.

The Context

More than 2,000 million people throughout the world do not have access to basic health services and each year 100 million people fall into poverty because they lack social protection in order to cover the costs for health care (WHO, 2010). The result is that millions of people in impoverished countries do not have the opportunity to develop a full and productive life because their limited resources do not allow them to confront illnesses and health problems which in many cases are preventable and treatable.

This unjust reality continues to exist despite the fact that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights establishes that all people have the right to an adequate standard of living that ensures health and well-being, and that the right to health should be promoted and ensured by all States and citizens. However, one of the main problems resides in the lack of political will and economic capacity of developing countries to allocate resources to health. At the same time, many of these countries depend on international cooperation which is usually insufficient in volume and unpredictable in the long term. Also, due to the economic crisis, high income countries are abandoning their international responsibilities and reducing drastically their budgets allocated to international aid.

As we get closer to 2015, the deadline established to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, the debates are increasing regarding what the new post-2015 development framework should look like. Therefore, we are facing a critical moment, which many say should be an inflection point in the principles and the approaches of a new development cooperation agenda. This moment offers an exceptional opportunity to ensure that the new agenda which will guide the international community for the next years truly works to guarantee the right to health for all people.

We believe the Universal Social Health Insurance together with other important objectives related to health could form part of the next agenda within this new strategic framework, commonly called the “post-MDG.” However, there are still many questions that remain open for debate, including what political process, responsibilities, and accountability and monitoring mechanisms are needed to guarantee high standards of universal health coverage.

This is the principal goal that the global component of this program seeks to address, and in order to do so, we join forces with other active processes promoted by members of the international community such as JALI, the Joint Action and Learning Initiative, which will contribute to defining the political processes and national and international responsibilities that are required in order to ensure the Universal Health Coverage concept becomes a reality.

How do we get there?

KEY ACTIONS AND RESULTS IN 2012

Participation in the European Union consultations on social protection policies

Salud por Derecho actively participated in the consultations of the European Commission to define the guiding principles for community development policies throughout the period 2014-2020. This consultation included important issues such as the role that social protection should play in advancing toward integral and sustainable development and the tasks that the EU's development cooperation should take on in support of strengthening social protection systems and policies. As an organization committed to health as a human right, Salud por Derecho participated in this consultation period contributing our vision to the document which the Concord HIV/AIDS Working Group presented and also sending individually our proposal which can be read here.

"Thinking about You" Campaign

In April 2012, Salud por Derecho launched its "Thinking about you" campaign (www.thinkingaboutyou.org). Its primary objective, both within civil society as well as with policy makers, was to begin to promote the idea that it is necessary to develop a health social protection framework for low and middle income countries that enables all people, irrespective of their place of residence or level of income, the access to a minimum and basic package of quality health services. When we began this campaign, we could not have imagined that, almost in that very moment, the right to health in our own country was beginning to be jeopardized in such a clear and unjust manner. On April 15th, 2012, the Council of Ministers approved a package of "cost-saving" measures in the public health system, the dimensions and social significance of which are becoming known little by little. One of these measures was the withdrawal, beginning in August 2012, of the health insurance card of all undocumented immigrants.

Salud por Derecho participates in an international seminar on Global Social Protection

From May 14-16th, Salud por Derecho's Director, Vanessa López, participated as a keynote speaker in an important international seminar entitled, "Global Social Protection Scheme: Moving from Charity to Solidarity," held in Berlin, Germany. This seminar, jointly organized by Medico

International and the Hélène de Beir Foundation, was a wonderful opportunity to debate and share with experts, academics and members of civil society that work in the field of social protection. This was an especially relevant event as it enabled us to strengthen coordination with other organizations to jointly work towards a global protection paradigm in health, as this forms part of achieving universal health coverage.

Vanessa López contributed an article entitled "Responsibilities and resources: How to finance social protection?" to the workshop reader which was compiled and distributed following the conference. This article included key references related to the principles and responsibilities that should be taken into account in the movement toward a global health social protection framework.

2.3 For universal social health insurance program

pensamosenti.es

El Real Decreto Ley 16/2012 supone un cambio drástico en la universalización del derecho a la salud en España con la retirada de la tarjeta sanitaria, no sólo a inmigrantes sin papeles, sino también a personas mayores de 26 años que nunca han cotizado a la Seguridad Social, entre otros colectivos.



Nunca pensamos que este derecho pudiera llegar a ser vulnerado en España.

2.4 More and better cooperation in health program



What is our goal?

The goal of the For More and Better Cooperation in Health program is to achieve that public policies in development cooperation receive greater political and public support, while at the same time working to increase the quality of health and development policies and promoting more efficient and effective global health initiatives. This is done through advocacy and awareness-raising activities with experts, politicians, parliamentarians and other key stakeholders.

The Context

At the end of March 2012, the Spanish government announced that it would implement **the most significant and discriminatory budget cuts to development cooperation that have been carried out in the history of this public policy**. During the past year, Official Development Aid in Spain suffered an approximately 1580 million euro cut, a decline of more than 70%. This means that the percent of the gross national income (GNI) allocated to official development assistance has reached 0,2% in 2012, very far from the 0,7% objective that was set through the Millennium Development Goals (Intermón Oxfam, 2012).

The extreme cuts made to official development aid are having a significant impact on the lives of millions of people and are morally unjustifiable. There is also an international cost for Spain in terms of its image abroad, as these cuts undermine Spain's position in the international arena and transmit an image of Spain as a country that is unreliable and fails to follow through with its international commitments.

These measures are another example of how far the government is from its citizens, as the majority of Spanish surveyed, 74%, continues to support government investment in development cooperation even in the context of an economic crisis, high levels of unemployment, and serious government cutbacks in many sectors (UNICEF & Gates Foundation, 2012). Similarly, a number of Spanish politicians have publicly expressed support for increased investment in development programs abroad. President Rajoy, for instance, claimed that development aid is "not simply an act of generosity", but is also an "investment in the future", and emphasized that "what is at play is global wellbeing". Unfortunately, public statements of this sort have not

translated into concrete policies, in fact, quite the contrary.

At Salud por Derecho, we believe that a State that claims to respect human rights cannot appeal to economic arguments to justify risking the health and livelihood of people. Over the past year, Salud por Derecho has carried out several activities, described in detail below, in order to accomplish three objectives: first, to call attention to the results and social transformation that Spanish development policies have achieved; second, to emphasize that health is a global public good and that it should be protected both in Spain and in impoverished countries; and third, to show why development cooperation is necessary and explain how investments in development abroad benefit Spain.

How do we get there?

KEY ACTIONS AND RESULTS IN 2012

Toolkit for Cooperation

During the first few months of 2012, Salud por Derecho created a “Toolkit for Cooperation”, which included a document that surveyed the current state of affairs in developing countries, summarized development initiatives undertaken by the Spanish government in the past, and proposed a “Roadmap for Spanish development policy in health for the Legislature 2011-2015”. The “Toolkit for Cooperation” was sent to over 165 parliamentarians, senators, members of the government, think-tanks, and media, in order to promote more Spanish cooperation in developing countries and help to guarantee that the Spanish initiatives are more effective, modern, and results-oriented.

Salud por Derecho initiates dialogue with new members of the Congress and Senate

Since the beginning of 2012, Salud por Derecho has been meeting with members of both the Congress and the Senate, and with distinct groups within the Development Cooperation Commission in order to introduce the organization, understand the priorities of each political group, and express our concerns and recommendations regarding how best to promote coherent and sustainable development policies given the current socio-economic context.

Consultative meetings on the Development Cooperation Action Plan

In August 2012, we analyzed a draft version of the Spanish Development Cooperation Action Plan, sharing our observations and providing specific additional proposals. We celebrated the fact that the plan used the right to health as a conceptual framework to formulate health-related policies, and we applauded the plan’s inclusion of the Universal Health Coverage as an important strategic goal. However, we also highlighted the areas that we found lacking, such as the need to maintain universal access to prevention, treatment, and care for AIDS, TB, and Malaria as a political priority. In October 2012, we participated in the consultative meetings on the Development Cooperation Action Plan along with other members of civil society to debate the draft proposal and offer our recommendations for improvement.

Joint letter to President Rajoy with ONE regarding development cooperation in the EU budget

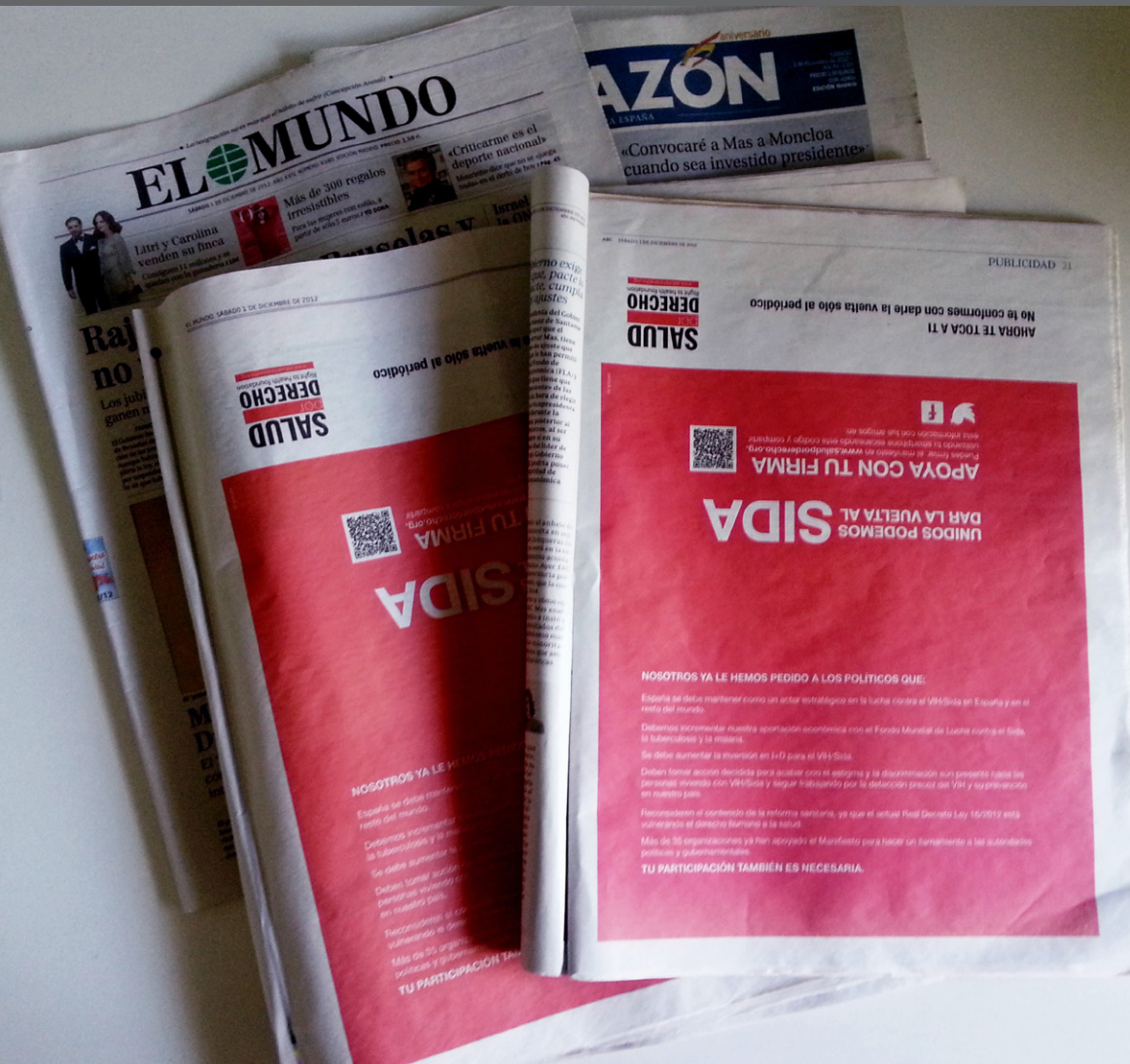
In November, in the context of the Special Summit of European leaders, we sent a joint letter with ONE-Brussels to President Rajoy expressing our concern about Spain’s position in relation to development cooperation.

2.4 More and better cooperation in health program

We demanded that Spain reverse its support of spending cuts to the budget line items in the Multiannual Financial Framework (2014-2015) allocated to international cooperation and that the government actively defend Europe’s commitment to impoverished countries- both through financial framework of the EU as well as through the European Development Fund.



2.5 Awareness-raising and communication program



What is our goal?

Salud por Derecho's Awareness-Raising and Communication Program has two main objectives:

- **Raise awareness and mobilize action** among targeted groups, including politicians, parliamentarians, experts and citizens, about the challenges of health access around the world and the positive impact of official development aid.
- **Increase** the number of people who understand the global health issues Salud por Derecho focuses on and encourage them to become active participants in generating solutions and creating change toward universalizing the right to health.

The Context

In the midst of a political and economic context ripe with uncertainty, it is clear that there is a great need for awareness-raising and communication initiatives that uphold the right to health and the right for all people to live a dignified life.

Awareness-raising and communication are transversal aspects of all of our work at Salud por Derecho. Through this program, we seek to encourage greater public and political support for Spanish development aid, global health investment, and coherent public health policies by providing citizens and targeted interest groups with the information and tools they need to become active participants in creating change. We also seek to contribute to generating greater political will so that the steps taken by the government decision makers lead to more effective, more efficient, and more transparent public health policies.

How do we get there?

KEY ACTIONS AND RESULTS IN 2012

In 2012, one of our achievements includes a strengthened communications plan which resulted in a 69% increase of followers on social networks, as well as a significant increase in the quality of our dialogue and participation on both Twitter and on Facebook. Throughout the year, we also sought to develop closer relationships with citizens and the specialized target groups with which we work. Our media presence has also been important in all of the topics which we sought to disseminate. Now, the challenge for 2013 is to continue to increase the number of people who follow and support us as well as to establish closer relationships with members of our key audiences, such as health professionals, researchers, and opinion leaders. Some examples of our awareness-raising and communication tools and activities in 2012 include the following:

ENEWS & Our Blog

During the past year, Salud por Derecho distributed a quarterly ENEWS bulletin and updated our blog regularly in order to provide our readers with key articles and interviews related to the main areas where we work. We provided special editions on Spain's position regarding the Global Fund as well as coverage of the 2012 International AIDS Conference in Washington D.C, which we attended. We also carried out relevant interviews on the new European Research Framework Program Horizon 2020 and the importance of the EU's investment in R&D for poverty-related diseases. Finally, we analyzed the Spanish government's decision to reform the public healthcare system, emphasizing the impact and consequences of this and commenting on the civil society's response. Our ENEWS was made available in both Spanish and English and each issue was distributed to more than 4500 people.

Punto de Partida Events in Salamanca and Madrid: Science at the service of global health and the fight against poverty

In 2012, we launched a new awareness-raising initiative, called "Punto de Partida," in order to promote greater social participation and involve members of civil society and the general public in our work. We held two events throughout the year, one at the HUB Madrid and the other at the University of

Salamanca. During these events, both our Board President, Manuel Rodríguez, and our Executive Director, Vanessa López, introduced the organization to those in attendance, presenting our vision, goals, and main action lines. One of our active collaborators, Rafael Correa, researcher in molecular immunology at the Gregorio Marañón Hospital in Madrid, talked about the importance of R&D in health, and Elena Villanueva, then our Advocacy Officer, described our organization's work in promoting greater investment on behalf of the EU for R&D for poverty related diseases. These events marked some of our first initiatives to gain greater exposure to different target groups, such as researchers, university students, and health professionals in order to generate a broader constituency of people who understand and support our work.



Our Media Impact

Press Releases

- 26/12/2012 [Comunicado de Salud por Derecho ante la aprobación de los presupuestos generales 2013](#)
- 29/11/2012 [A pesar de la crisis, la sociedad española siente un fuerte compromiso con la lucha contra el VIH/Sida](#)
- 24/07/2012 [Médicos Sin Fronteras y Salud por Derecho consideran que la aportación española al Fondo Mundial no está a la altura de las necesidades urgentes de la pandemia del sida y es poco consecuente con los compromisos asumidos en la ONU.](#)
- 24/02/2012 [Médicos Sin Fronteras y Salud por Derecho piden que la contribución se adecue a las necesidades, tras el anuncio del Gobierno español de reanudar su apoyo al Fondo Mundial](#)

Examples of published articles and media appearances

- 12/2012 [Responsibilities and Resources: How to finance social protection?](#) Vanessa López en Global Social Protection Scheme: Moving from Charity to Solidarity, Editado por Jens Holst de parte de Medico International y Hélène-de-Beir Foundation
- 11/2012 [La crisis económica y la lucha contra el Sida: hacer de la necesidad virtud](#), Vanessa López en el Informe del Observatorio de la Acción Humanitaria, La acción humanitaria en 2011-2012: tocando fondo, Instituto de Estudios sobre Conflictos y Acción Humanitaria (IECAH) y Médicos sin Fronteras
- 30/11/2012 [¿Pagaría usted más impuestos por apoyar a los enfermos pobres?](#) Gonzalo Fanjul, 3500 millones blog, El Pais.com
- 29/11/2012 [El 47% de los españoles, dispuestos a pagar más impuestos para luchar contra el sida, la tuberculosis y la malaria](#) El Economista.es
- 28/07/2012 [El privilegio de tener Salud por Derecho – Medicina Solidaria](#) El Periódico – Salud y Medicina
- 25/02/12 [La contribución española al Fondo Mundial debe adecuarse a las urgentes necesidades de los pacientes](#) Periodistas.es
- 23/02/12 [MSF agradece al Gobierno que aporte de nuevo al Fondo Mundial del SIDA y le emplaza a hacer inversión acorde a España](#) Europapress.es
- 23/02/12 En 2011 [España no aportó recursos para el Fondo Mundial de lucha contra el Sida, la Tuberculosis y la Malaria](#) ABC.es
- 23/02/12 [España volverá a aportar dinero al fondo Mundial del Sida](#) El País.com
- 23/02/12 [ONG piden al gobierno que “esté a la altura” en su ayuda al fondo con tras Sida](#) lainformacion.com

3. We are present, we dialogue with...



NUEVA YORK
Special Edition Lancet Launch
on Universal Health Coverage,
Rockefeller Foundation –
September

WASHINGTON D.C.
International AIDS Conference,
“Turning the Tide Together”
– July

BARCELONA
International seminar on health and
globalization, IsGlobal – September

MADRID
IsGlobal report presentation, Caixaforum – January
Act of presentation of Gonzalo Robles as Secretary
General of Cooperation – January
Event with Bill Gates, “The Role of Spain in Global
Development” – January
España Innova Forum
Conference on “Biomedical Excellence as a Motor
for Innovation”, Fundación Ramón Areces – February
Dialogues on development, Platform 2015 and
beyond – February
Meeting with Gonzalo Robles on the Spanish
Contribution to the Global Fund – March
Meetings with PP, UPyD, CIU, Amaiur, and PSOE on
the impact of development cooperation – April
Farmamundi Seminar on the lack of access to
medicines and public health – May
Conference on Development and Human Rights,
post-2015 consultation – September

BRIGHTON, UK
Delegation of North NGOs to
the Global Fund – March

ÁMSTERDAM
Global Fund Advocacy
Network Meeting – February
Health Action International
Annual Open Seminar &
General Assembly – October

BRUSSELS
European Parliament hearing on social
protection organized by Wemos – June
European Development Days – October

BERLÍN
Workshop on social protection organized by
Medico International and the Hélène de Beir
Foundation – May
Expert Meeting on Access to Medicines
organized by MSF – December

PARÍS
Conference, “Role of European
Foundations in Global Health,”
organized by Friends of the Global
Fund Europe – December

4. Economic information: 2012 budget

Income 2012

A. Grants and donations from private entities	223.081,74
B. Donations and membership fees from individuals	6.768,00
TOTAL	229.849,74

Expenses 2012

A. Operation costs (1)	53.075,91
B. Activities related to the organization's objective (2)	175.442,10
TOTAL	228.518,01

Surplus for the year

1.331,73

(1) office rent, utilities, supplies, cleaning, accounting consultant, IT maintenance

(2) staff, professional services, communication, travel, awareness-raising and advocacy activities

Salud por Derecho is grateful for the trust and economic support received by all of our members and individual donors, as well as institutions and private foundations such as the Open Society Foundations and Obra Social La Caixa, among others, who support our projects.

SALUD por DERECHO

Right to health foundation

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Globally defending the right to health

WE IMAGINE, WE DEFEND

we make a change