

An interregional alliance for democracy and human rights, founded in 2019.

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CONTEXT



By 2018, the advent of far-right, anti-rights, and religious fundamentalist movements had become evident, and could be observed in Donald Trump voters in the United States; Jair Bolsonaro in Brazil; Vox in Spain; and the defeat of the Plebiscite for Peace in Colombia, among others.

This evidenced a global politics agenda which endangers not just sexual and reproductive rights of women and minorities, but ultimately represent a threat to democracy itself and human rights everywhere.

Conversely though, we saw enormous support for feminist movements that took to the Street in Spain, Argentina, Poland, Chile and Italy, which renewed our strengths and hope, in order to work together on the right track.

Despite the different contexts of our countries, we observed that certain common elements presented themselves, and that working in tandem was the only way to confront these dangerous movements, to defend democracy and build a free and fair life for everyone.



The goal of OTRT is to strengthen feminist, LGBTIQNB+ and human rights movements, in order to preserve the values of

FREEDOM, DEMOCRACY AND DIVERSITY

in the face of religious fundamentalism and the far-right.

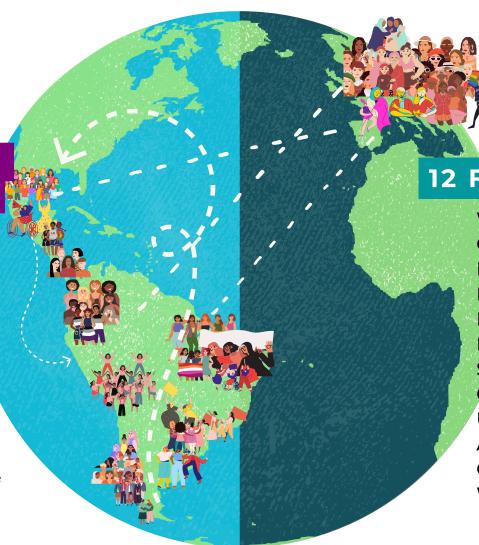
WHO PARTICIPATE?

Women's Funds, Partnered Organizations, and Allies

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8 FUNDS FROM LATIN AMERICA

Fondo Alquimia, of Chile;
Elas+, of Brazil; the
Apthapi Jopueti Women's
Fund, of Bolivia; the
Central American
Women's Fund; the
Southern Women's Fund;
Lunaria, of Colombia;
Seeds of Mexico; and the
Urgent Action Fund of
Latin America and the
Caribbean.



12 FUNDS FROM EUROPE

Women's Fund of Bulgaria; Calala, of Spain; FemFund Poland; Filia, of Germany; Mama Cash, of Holland; the Mediterranean Fund; the Reconstruction Fund of Serbia; Taso Foundation, of Georgia; Women's Fund of Ukraine; Women's Fund of Armenia; Women's Fund of Georgia; and the Ecumenical Women's Fund.



TIMELINE

2018-2021 Stage 1

We provided funding for organizations and research, held meetings, and developed strategic communications.

2022-2024 Stage 2

We provided funding for organizations and research, held regional meetings, developed new narratives, and worked on "LATAM strategies".





CONTEXT

The first stage of our initiative begins and takes place during the global COVID-19 pandemic.

The advent of fundamentalisms we observed - which in turn was the cause for the development of this initiative - was drastically bolstered during the pandemic, due to precarious situation of our communities, the implementation of social control measures such as military deployment in several territories, and a growing sense of fear fueled by the media. This, on top of recent violations of human rights and - at least in Latin America - the difficulty or outright impossibility of accessing basic rights such as healthcare, education, housing, and decent work.

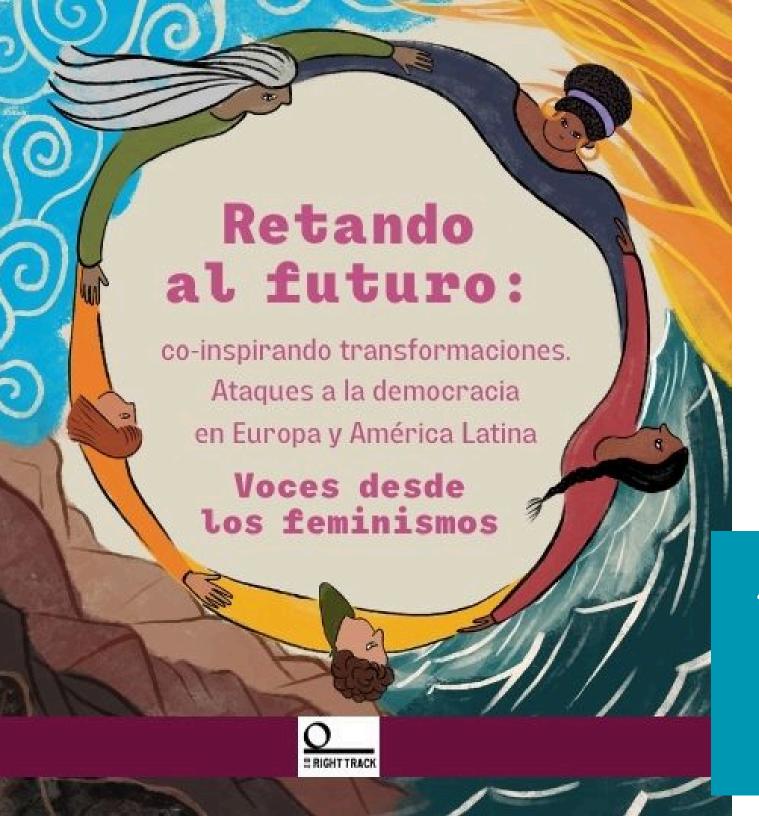
In this context, we had to learn to carry out our work online, and focused on gathering knowledge and strengthening organizations.



FUNDING TO ORGANIZATIONS

156 organizations and networks throughout 27 countries in Europe and Latin America were granted funding (103 in 13 European countries, and 53 in 14 LATAM countries).

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RESEARCH

We mapped out the impact of fundamentalisms on activist's lives and explored challenges to take them on, drafting 10 reports in Europe, 8 research papers in Latin America, and carrying out a joint research project in which 151 activists from 28 different countries partook.

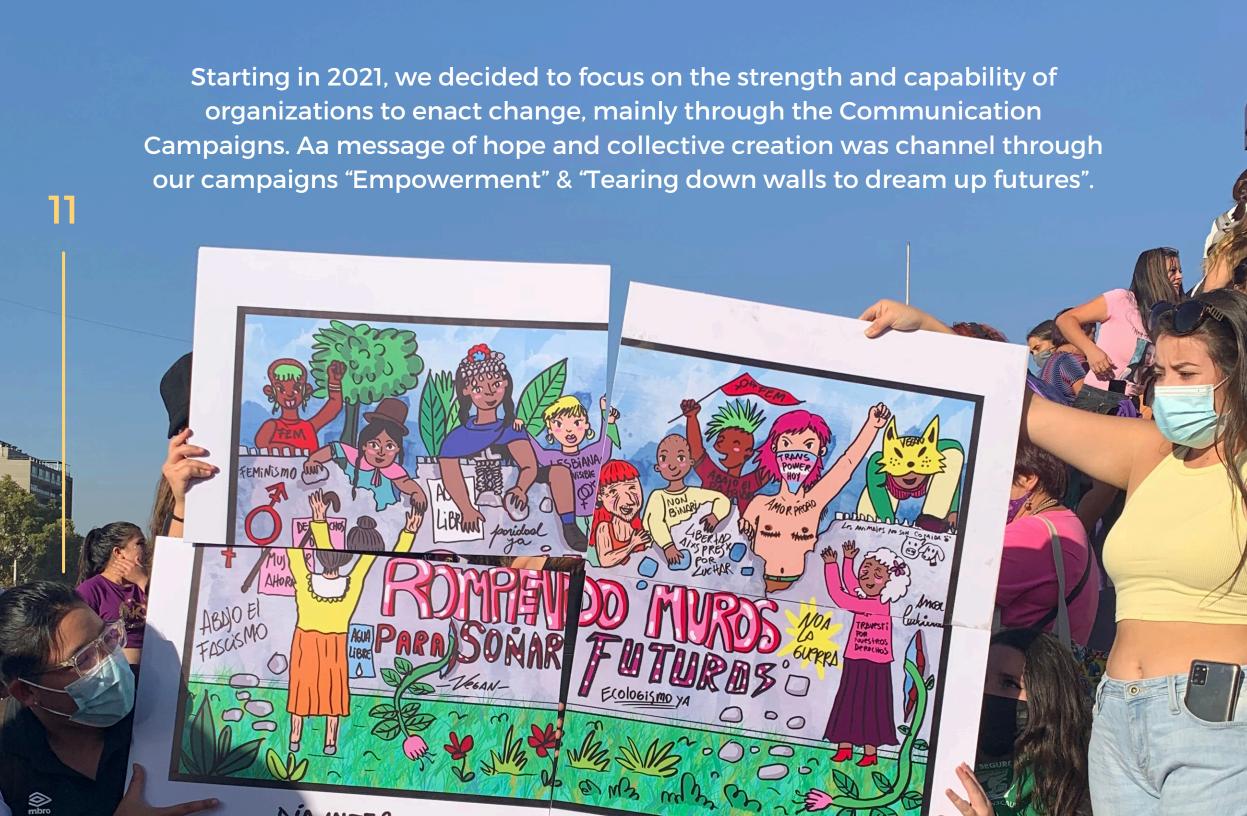
"A threat to the democracy we have fought to build, the democracy we love, where there's space for everyone, and there are no first or second-class citizens".

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COMMUNICATIONS

We held an online conference cycle, with specialists from the fields of strategic communications and crisis management, to strengthen the work of the communicators of our 20 Funds.

















Between the 8 funds and 13 feminist organizations of Latin America, we produced "Tearing down walls to dream up futures", a communication campaign launched on March 8th, 2022 in 9 countries throughout the region, in the context International Women's Day.

IN EUROPE

Jornaleras de Huelva en Lucha and Calala Women's Fund made audiovisual capsules to defend the path to recognition of all people, in all of our diversity, mutual respect, care for our planet, and the protection of rights that enable a dignified life. They used the concept of "Empowerment", due to its connection to the day-today resistance and alliances that our mothers and grandmother raised to defend their rights and make their voices be heard.





La Paquera de Jerez





The second stage of our initiative began in 2022, and was marked by the end of the pandemic, and the subsequent lifting of health restriction measures and return to in-person activities.

Europe was affected by war contexts that exacerbated tensions between countries which fostered a dynamic ever more complex for the work of feminist and social organizations in those territories.

However, we continued working collectively and were able to increase our funding to grassroot organizations, develop joint strategies, and finally see each other in person again.



Between 2022 and 2023, the Alliance provided funding for 205 organizations throughout 30 countries. Of these, 114 contributions were delivered in Europe and 91 in Latin America, in the following countries:

Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Republic Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Uruguay, Spain, Armenia, Georgia, Poland, Serbia, Ukraine, Bulgaria, Germany, Belarus, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, France, Italy and Cyprus.

1st Latin American Meeting

In November, 2022, Chile hosted the OTRT Latin America meeting "Contributions from social movements for the deepening of democracies".

At the LATAM Meeting we worked with 10 Women's Funds and 20 partnered organization. We worked on a blueprint how to continue working and advancing on 4 core strategies:

ANTI-RACISM,
COLLECTIVE SUPPORT,
COMMUNICATIONS,
AND RESEARCH.





STRATEGIES FROM LATIN AMERICA

During 2023, the funds, in alliance with more than 80 organizations, focused on four topics considered strategic for the defense of democracy in the region: Collective Support, Research, Anti-Racism, and Communications.

Each strategy had its own focus group, which met online over five sessions to conceive ways to deal with the continually adverse contexts. On April, 2024, the groups will finalize their work by delivering their conclusions and several training and communication materials.







STRATEGIES FROM EUROPE

During 2023 the Funds, in alliance with organizations, focused on four topics deemed strategically important for the defense of democracy in the region: Research; Communications; Advocacy & Protest; and Networks & Alliances.

Regarding these strategies, participants have partaken in discussion regarding actions they are already carrying out against fundamentalist attacks, as well as the ideas they have for the development of future strategies. The topics addressed include political advocacy, creating positive messages, building broader networks, and caring for oneself and the community.



MEETINGS

The European Funds meeting was held in Sofia (Bulgaria), between May 31st and June 2nd, 2023.

Members of the European Funds, partnered organizations, donors, and Latam Coordination delegates attended, with the participation of people from 20 countries.



Between October 5th and 7th, 2023, the 2nd Latin American Meeting "On the Right Path" was held in Santiago, Chile. This event brought together over 60 activists from 14 Latin American countries to coordinate, strengthen strategies, and defend democracies and human rights throughout the continent.









During the second semester in 2023 we created "TRACK", a virtual community for activists from Latin America and Europe who work to defend democracy and the human rights of everyone.



It contains training courses, books, infographics, audioposts, research papers, witness accounts, educational guides, and much more.



All its content is available in Spanish, Portuguese and English.



The platform is scheduled for launch on March, 2024.

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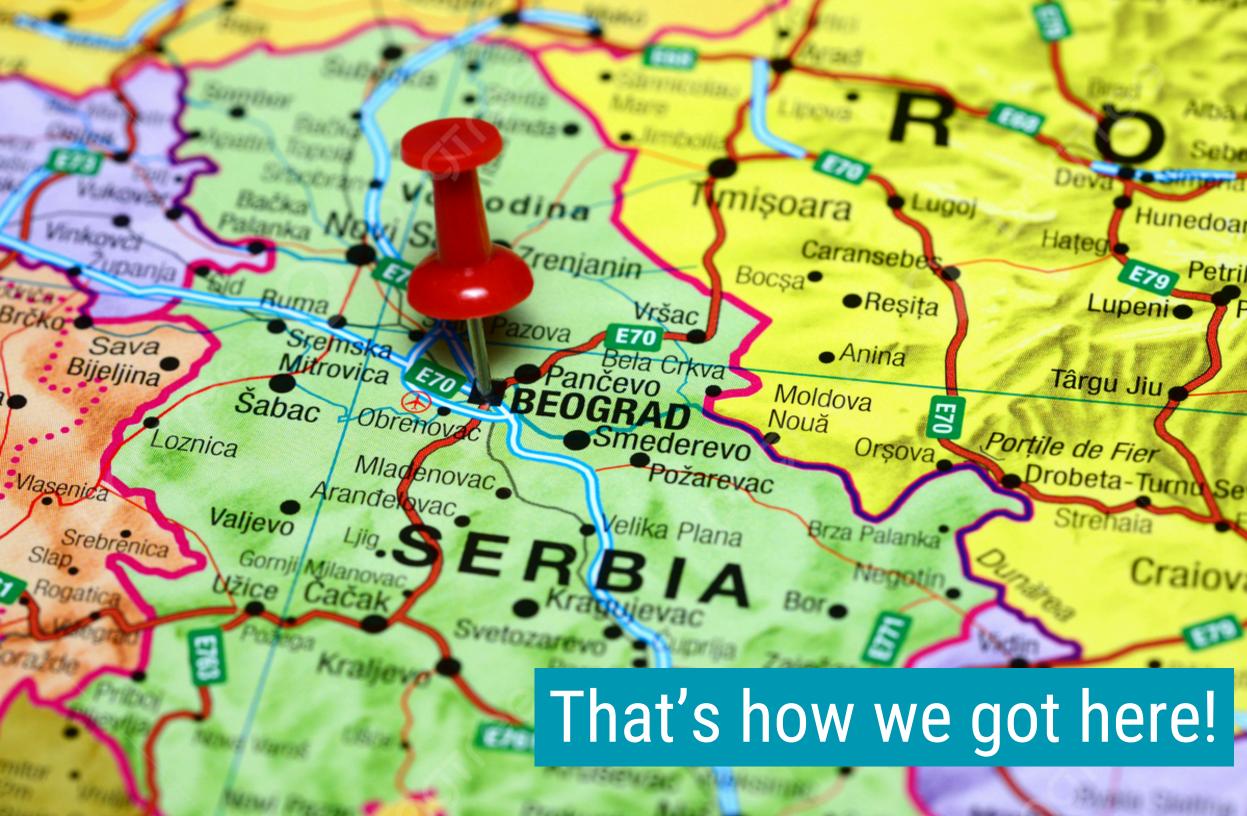
ONLINE INTERREGIONAL MEETINGS

In January and February 2024, everyone who is a part of this project was invited to two online interregional meetings, in which Funds and organizations from Latin America and Europe gathered.

In the first meeting we met and shared contextual experiences from both regions.

In the second meeting we talked about our shared strategies to ace anti-rights movements.







EN CAMINO CORRECTO