

A YEAR AT A GLANCE

2017



THE
KARIBU
FOUNDATION



**A PRESENTATION OF THE KARIBU
FOUNDATION AND OUR PARTNERS IN 2017**

A WORD FROM THE SECRETARIAT

Dear friends,

In December 2017, Karibu participated in the 11th WTO Ministerial Conference in Buenos Aires together with many other organisations and social movements. First and foremost it was a great learning experience to be involved in the excellent advocacy efforts and mobilisation by the Karibu partners OWINFS (Our World Is Not For Sale) and Jubilee South Americas / Dialogue 2000. We found that the 'inside advocacy' of directly approaching national delegations and decision makers, and the 'outside advocacy' of organising side events and demonstrations to raise awareness in the public – seemed to complement each other well, being both great examples of civil society involvement in policy-making within a democratic framework.

Unfortunately, through the actions and 'bullying approach' on social movement activists by the Argentinian government, we also experienced a very different view on civil society involvement. With an ungrounded assumption that some people would be a risk for violence and upheaval, 64 people from various civil society movements and organisations from all over the world were denied entry to Argentina despite all having received accreditation as NGO-representatives by the WTO.

The designated NGO area at the WTO MC11 was like a fortress, with heavy armed soldiers all around the building and security people on all floors. After a peaceful demonstration with thousands participating, around 20 activists continued and provoked with crushing car windows and sit-down in the street. The Argentinian government was ready for 'some action' and got a chance to prove that they were right in their idea of social movements being equal to violence and terror, and let the army bulldoze in with several hundred soldiers, armed vehicles and a pushy and provocative approach.



You can hear similar or comparable stories from many other parts of the world. Social movements and human rights activists are increasingly being labelled as dangerous, causing violence, representing security threats, or even some times as being terrorists.

From a partner representative in Israel we have received the following reflection: "More and more donors, mostly USA based, but also some from the UN-net-

work and even others that claim to be progressive – become the implementers of government policies when they include anti-terror language in their grant agreements. Affiliation with certain political parties or organisations is also seen as ‘terrorism’ and these ‘watchdog lists’ are defined as such by the global North.” This becomes a threat to democracy, and it is ideologically justified in “an official discourse that privileges individualism and disparages solidarity and social justice. Today we see a renewed expression with overtones of neo-fascism that is exacerbating this vision, stirring up racism, xenophobia, fear of terrorists, as well as normalising invasive security. In sum, it presents alternative thinking as a threat to society.”

All this has come to our mind at the turn of this year. As we move into a new beginning and commit to be part of shaping the future, the reality of the drastic shrinking of space for civil society and the threats against democracy seems to us to be one of the big challenges ahead. Ultimately, through all the issue focused involvements of Karibu and through our great partner network, we are aiming to contribute in the building of democracy, people’s power and increased grass-roots involvement. Decision-making needs to be by all people, and not only by elites, people with economic and military power, transnational corporations or the financial institutions. Leaning on the wise advice of our partner representative in Israel, our joint effort to build peoples power requires “clear analysis of the adversaries; a clear understanding of how these power-mechanisms work as well as the ability to confront these adversaries. Not only in the specific areas of each social struggle such as labour, environment and agriculture, but also on the terrain of ideas, culture and communication”.

This, not less, would be our dream and wish for a new year: that we all, Karibu and partners, could join together in building true democracy and struggle for people’s power ■

**THE KARIBU
FOUNDATION
supports voices
from the Global
South who provide
alternatives to
the dominant
paradigms
of power,
distribution, and
development.**

Eilert Rostrup



Tyler Dale Hauger



Andreas Saaghus



PHOTO: MAJORIE PAMINTUAN (LEFT) OF APRN AND LORELEI COVERO (IBON INTERNATIONAL) HOLDS UP A SIGN DECLARING: "WE ARE NOT FOR SALE - JUNK WTO", AND A "PEOPLE OVER PROFIT"-FLAG AT A MARCH PROTESTING THE WTO IN BUENOS AIRES IN DECEMBER. THOUSANDS OF ACTIVISTS ATTENDED THE MARCH SENDING A CLEAR SIGNAL TO THE WTO THAT THE SOCIAL- AND GRASSROOTS MOVEMENTS WILL NOT ACCEPT ECONOMIC AND TRADE POLICIES THAT DISREGARD THE BEST INTEREST OF THE PEOPLE.



GRANTS SHARED IN 2017

THE KARIBU FOUNDATION HAS CONTRIBUTED TO THE FOLLOWING PARTNERS AND PROJECTS IN 2017:

All Africa Theological Education by Extension Association (AATEEA)
<https://www.facebook.com/teeafrica/>
Lusaka, Zambia

Support towards building a pan-African theological network and the network-building with counterparts in Asia.

Asia Pacific Research Network (APRN)
<http://www.aprnet.org/>
Manila, The Philippines

Support towards a civil society conference on resisting militarism and building power and democracy.

BDS South Africa
<http://www.bdssouthafrica.com/>
Johannesburg, South Africa

Support toward the planning and mobilization around the South African Israeli Apartheid Week

Bilaterals.org
<http://www.bilateras.org/>

Support to the broadening and enlargement of Bilaterals.org's information work toward social movements and civil society networks resisting and fighting free trade and investments agreements

Chimurenga
<http://www.chimurenga.co.za/>
Cape Town, South Africa

Support towards the Invention of Zimbabwe-project, aiming to examine and challenge the colonial construction of "Southern Africa" with an emphasis on Zimbabwe.

Churches Witnessing with Migrants (CWWM)
<http://www.nccphilippines.org/cwwm/>
Berlin, Germany

Support to Global South participation at the 8th international consultation on questions of migrations and development in Berlin.

De-Colonizer
<https://www.de-colonizer.org/>
Tel Aviv, Israel
Support towards publication and distribution of the book "Nakba in Hebrew – A political Diary".

CommonsPolis
<http://www.fearlesscities.com>
Barcelona, Spain

Support to Global South participation to the "Fearless Cities" conference, held in Barcelona.

Folkehøyskolen Nord-Norge
<https://www.fhsnordnorge.no/>
Evenskjer, Norge

Support for indigenous Global South participants in a school class with the goal of creating a sacred ground and learning space for indigenous youth from all around the world.



BILATERALS.ORG INTERVIEWING DALIT WOMEN IN INDIA WHO MOBILISED AGAINST THE PROPOSED FREE TRADE AGREEMENT RCEP.

Imbala

<http://www.goo.gl/tWsNFS>
Jerusalem, Israel

Support towards creating a safe physical space that can help educate people in Jerusalem about the occupation, racial & gender issues through workshops, lectures and meetings.

The Institute for Healing of Memories (IHM)

<https://www.healing-memories.org/>
Cape Town, South Africa

Support for Global South participation at IHMs international reconciliation conference.



DELEGATIONS FROM THE SOUTH AFRICAN COUNCIL OF CHURCHES' SOLIDARITY PILGRIMAGE TO PALESTINE IN JUNE.

International Peace Initiative for Syria (IPIS)

<http://www.peaceinsyria.org/>

Support towards the preparatory organizing for a civil society conference for peace in Syria.

Iraq Civil Society Solidarity Initiative (ICSSI)

<http://www.iraqicivilsociety.org/>
Iraqi Kurdistan and Bagdad

Support towards a youth project focusing on non-violent struggle to transform Iraqi society



PARTICIPANTS FROM THE RAMLAC-CONFERENCE IN PARAGUAY MET WITH MARIA GARCIA (MIDDLE) OF CODECO TO LEARN ABOUT THE DEVASTATING IMPACT EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES AND MILITARISATION HAS ON COMMUNITIES.

Jubileo Sur/Américas and Diálogo 2000,

[www.jubileosuramericas.net /](http://www.jubileosuramericas.net/)
www.dialogo2000.blogspot.com
Buenos Aires, Argentine

Support towards the coordination of the civil society resistance Summit and march against the WTO in Argentina.

Latin American Antimilitarist Network (LAAN/ RAMALC)

<http://www.ramalc.org>
Asuncion, Paraguay

Support to a network of antimilitarist and non-violent grassroots groups working against the militarisation of society and politics in Latin America and The Caribbean.

Mesavort Network

<http://www.mesarvot.org/>
Tel Aviv, Israel

Support towards political and strategic aid to youth deciding to refuse military service in Israel.

New Profile

<http://www.newprofile.org/>
Israel

Support to program for anti-militarist education for disadvantaged youth.

Our World Is Not For Sale (OWINFS)

<http://www.ourworldisnotforsale.org>
Washington D.C., USA

Support to ensure Global South participation at strategic WTO-events in Geneva and Buenos Aires.

South African Council of Churches (SACC)

<http://www.sacc.org.za/>
Midrand, South Africa

Support towards South participation to a solidarity pilgrimage to Palestine.

Philippine UPR Watch

www.humanrightspilippines.net/
The Philippines

Support to advocacy work on human rights in the Philippines

World Council of Churches

<http://www.wscfglobal.org>
Trondheim, Norway

Support to indigenous Global South groups travelling to take part in the 2017 Sami-people's celebration

World Student Christian Federation - Latin America and the Caribbean (WSCF-LAC)

<http://www.fumec-alc.org>
Buenos Aires, Argentina

Support towards student participation and planning of regional training programs and workshops focusing on eco justice and peace.

World Student Christian Federation (WSCF)

<http://www.wscfglobal.org>
Cairo, Egypt

Support to youth conference on peace building and overcoming violence in the Middle East.

IN AUGUST, 27 YOUNG PEOPLE FROM EIGHT COUNTRIES IN LATIN AMERICA MET IN BARRANQUILLA, COLOMBIA, UNDER THE MOTTO: "YOUTH FOR ECO-JUSTICE AND PEACE: THE CHALLENGE WE ACCEPT". THE GATHERING WAS CREATED AS A CONTINUATION OF THE WORLD STUDENT CHRISTIAN FEDERATION'S (WSCF/ FUMEC) WORK ON ECO JUSTICE THE LAST 4 YEARS. THE AIM WAS TO PROMOTE ECONOMIC JUSTICE, ECOLOGICAL JUSTICE AND ECUMENISM AMONGST CHRISTIAN STUDENT MOVEMENTS.



VOICES

FROM THE SOUTH

"VOICES FROM THE SOUTH" IS KARIBU'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER, WHICH HIGHLIGHTS ALTERNATIVES FROM GRASSROOTS ORGANIZATIONS AND THE NETWORKS WE ARE SUPPORTING. HERE IS A SELECTION OF THE ARTICLES FROM 2017. VISIT WWW.VOICES.KARIBU.NO FOR MORE:

"WE DO NOT
HAVE ALL THE
ANSWERS, BUT
WE ARE TAKING
STEPS AHEAD
TOGETHER FOR
DEMOCRACY,
THE RIGHTS OF
THE PEOPLES,
AND THE
RIGHTS OF THE
PLANET"

"WE ASK THAT
YOU WALK
ALONGSIDE
US IN OUR
PEACEFUL
STRUGGLE
AGAINST
OPPRESSION"



GLOBAL RESISTANCE AGAINST INJUSTICE: WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

JANUARY 2017

Mario Cruz (Brazil) reflects on the global struggle from democracy, universal rights and the rights of the planet in light of the new political, social and economic reality and challenges in the world.



PALESTINIAN CHRISTIANS: A PRESENCE OF HOPE AND ACTION

FEBRUARY 2017

Rifat Kassis (Palestine) speaks on the challenging situation of Christians in Palestine and explains how this group are steadfast and resilient in their struggle and why their continued presence in Palestine is important to reach a peaceful and just solution to the oppression.



DIFFERENT BUT SAME-SAME? MOVEMENT BUILDING IN TIMES OF FAR-RIGHT POPULISM

MARCH 2017

Tetet Nera-Lauron (Philippines) discuss how the Pilipino society best can meet the new populist reality in the country while at the same time work for a lasting structural change in the politics and economy.



ROJAVA: AN EXPERIMENT FOR A FUTURE DEMOCRATIC AND PEACEFUL SYRIA?

APRIL/ MAY 2017

Siam Mohammed (Syria) is a foreign representative for the autonomous area Rojava in Syria. She presents the visions of Rojava as a just and equal society where grassroots-based and direct democracy is a central component.



BUILDING A PEOPLE'S INTERNET IN LATIN AMERICA


DECEMBER 2017

Sally Burch (ALAI-Ecuador) reflects on how the major international digital corporations are controlling more and more of our daily lives, changing the power structures in society and challenging our right to privacy.

"POPULISM IN ITSELF IS NOT A DANGEROUS THING. IT IS THE COMBINATION OF POPULISM AND A HOST IDEOLOGY THAT ONE SHOULD BE WEARY OF"

"TO REBUILD THE SOCIAL FABRIC OF SYRIA, ITS PEOPLE MUST UNITE ACROSS VARIOUS LINES"

"WE BARELY REALIZE HOW DEPENDENT WE ARE BECOMING ON THE MEGA DIGITAL CORPORATIONS, AND HOW MUCH DATA WE FEED THEM DAILY; MUCH LESS HOW THEY TRANSFORM THESE DATA INTO WEALTH AND POWER."



YASMIN FALAH MANDALAWI (LEFT) AND TAIF SABAH ARE BOTH ACTIVE IN THE IRAQ SOCIAL FORUM (ISF). TAIF IS THE ICSSI-SECRETARY IN IRAQ AND WILL LEAD THE 'UN PONTE PER'-OFFICE IN BAGHDAD. YASMIN WORKS WITH THE ISF AND IS RESPONSIBLE FOR PROGRAMS AND VOLUNTEERS IN THE ORGANIZATION.

THE PHOTO IS FROM A TRAINING-EVENT IN SULAYMANIYAH, A CITY IN NORTHERN IRAQ - KURDISTAN. HERE YOUNG ISF-VOLUNTEERS TRAIN TO BECOME INTERPRETERS.

ANOTHER WORLD IS POSSIBLE

By: Andreas Saaghus

One of the main targets from the UN Sustainable Development Goals is to reduce inequality within and among countries. However, this goal is far from being reached. In January 2017 we learned that eight men owned the same wealth as half of the world's population. Going into a new year we do so with the realization that the inequality between the richest 1% and the rest is huge – and growing.



Photo: Dinner with several of Karibu's partners, Buenos Aires 2017. Photo credit: Jan-Erik Østlie

In 2017 I was engaged in a six months vacancy with the Karibu Foundation. Looking back on my stay and with the global realities in mind I try to reflect a bit on what role Karibu potentially can and should play in 2018 and beyond.

Given that Karibu is small two-staff operation with limited funding and a geographical location far north and away from the 'power-hubs' of the world, my immediate question was whether "Karibu matter at all?" or rather: "what 'actual change' can this minor foundation create in an increasingly unequal world?".

The overarching goal of Karibu is to *"raise the voices from the Global South that provide alternatives to the dominant paradigms of power, distribution and development"*. Yet,

in this the foundation finds itself in a constant underlying dilemma. Undisputedly being a North-based donor, is not Karibu merely enhancing the dominant power distribution of North entities giving conditioned money to partners in the South?

Maybe -- But hopefully not.

My experience with Karibu has shown that the foundation can define its identity and profile in other factors than amount of funds and staff. Karibu's identity and meaning can and should rather be found in the huge network it connects to. In the people, the organizations and movements -- all joining in, in the struggle to create a just and equal world. Varying in topics, geographical location and size, Karibu's partners utilize various strategic and creative non-violent methods against the powers, policies, regimes and economic systems that uphold systems of dominance and injustice.

Only through the transparent, strategic and impact-oriented interaction with the network can Karibu create change and challenge the structures in the world that create and enhance inequality and injustice. This conviction has been reconfirmed through my many encounters with the network this passing year.

In **2017** I met with Sahar Vardi, an Israeli activist working against the growing militarization of the Israeli society and involved with various organizations. One is Imbala, which is an initiative to create a political organizing space in Jerusalem where activists from both Israel and Palestine can meet and feel safe.



IN DECEMBER, MEMBERS FROM THE OWINFS-NETWORK ARRANGED AN ACTION-PROTEST OUTSIDE THE WTO MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE'S MEETING HALL. ONE OF THE TOPICS IN FOCUS WAS A FULL STOP ON NEW ISSUES INTO THE WTO-NEGOTIATIONS.



SOME OF THE INDIGENOUS STUDENTS FROM THE FACENORTH-CLASS AT THE FOLK HIGH SCHOOL NORD-NORGE. FROM THE LEFT: AMY (SOUTH AFRICA), TEANNA (CANADA), MIRIAM (PHILLIPINES), ERLING (TEACHER) AND ANTONI



AZRA SAYEED (FRONT LEFT) STAND WITH OTHER ACTIVISTS TO PROTEST THE GROWING GLOBALISATION AND INCREASING MILITARISM IN THE ASIA PACIFIC DURING THE APRN-CONFERENCE IN YOKOHAMA, JAPAN IN MARCH.

In **2017** I spoke with Ntone Edjabe, editor of Chimurenga. Based in Cape Town, Chimurenga is a pan-African platform of writing, art and politics whose aim is to encourage re-thinking on how we understand the world and current reality. Through this the magazine can open a space for new voices and truths to be heard.

In **2017** the Folk High School of Nord-Norge established a class for indigenous students from both the Norwegian Sami-population and from other indigenous communities. This unique meeting space for indigenous youth can be an important identity and capacity-hub and create strong indigenous leadership for the future.

In **2017** I experienced first-hand the excitement and engagement of many activists from the OWINFS-network who travelled to the WTO Ministerial conference to demand that international trade agreements should become just, and that no new topics that harm developing countries further should be put on the agenda.

In **2017** I met Marjorie Pamintuan of APRN. APRN is an Asian-research network that bring together alternative documentation centres, NGOs and social movements that document realities of current development issues affecting people across the region.

In **2017** I also got to know the ICSSI, and organization that works to strengthen civil society in Iraq and the Kurdish areas through building a Social Forum and through youth training.

These organizations are just some in a much wider network of partners, but show some of the wide spectre that Karibu operates within. Nevertheless, moving into 2018 it is important to remember that one cannot simply assume that having a large and geographically wide network working on various justice issues can in itself create a better and more just world. Rather it demands more – both from a foundation like Karibu and from its partners. It requires that the network must be tirelessly built, enhanced and expanded. All interaction needs to be transparent and fair. Donor-recipient attitudes must be challenged openly and honestly, and constructive critique must form the ground for new thoughts and ideas. Jointly, the network should find ways of not only speaking to its comrades – the already converted – but rather to the power-holders and structures or systems that uphold inequality.

Lastly, in a world where civil society organizations are being pushed away and marginalized it is tremendously important that Karibu and its network continue to demand that their voices are heard.

It is my firm belief that a just and better world can be created, and that an important step in this direction is the increased south-south corporation and opening of more space for the alternative voices from the Global South. In this context, the Karibu Foundation should continue to play a key role in working together with its partner-organizations and other civil society-actors to create these spaces and opportunities so that the alternatives can be voiced and be heard.

If this is done properly, I for one am certain that “Karibu matters” -- both in 2018 and beyond. ■



PHOTO: IN MAY, THE ‘PHILIPPINE UPR WATCH’ ARRANGED A DEMONSTRATION AT THE GENEVA OLD TOWN WITH CALLS FOR “NO TO US WARS OF AGGRESSION”, “US TROOPS OUT NOW”, “JUST AND LASTING PEACE”, “FREE LAND DISTRIBUTION”, AND TO “STOP THE KILLINGS”. THE ACTION DEPICTS THE CRIES OF THE FILIPINO PEOPLE THAT ITS GOVERNMENT CONTINUES TO IGNORE.

WHO WE ARE

OUR BOARD IN 2017:

Heidi Lundeborg (chair)

Cecilie Nustad (vice-chair)

Peder Nustad (in leave)

Titus Tenga

Kasper Landmark

Heidi Finskas

Agnar Gillebo (deputy member)



OUR STAFF:

Eilert Rostrup (director)

rostrup@karibu.no

Tyler Dale Hauger (information and project advisor)

tyler@karibu.no

Andreas Saaghus (information and project advisor, substitute aug-feb 2018)

--

Endre Havnes (financial manager)

Anne-Grete Røed (accountant)

KARIBU'S PRIMARY OBJECTIVES:

- To provide economic support to organizations and networks in the South that work for a just world
- To strategically cooperate with these organizations and networks, support network-building processes, and convey the thoughts and experiences of our partners to various arenas in the North

OUR PARTNERS:

Karibu seeks to partner with faith-based and secular organizations and networks of the Global South that provide alternatives to the dominant paradigms of power, distribution, and development.

Projects that Karibu supports are primarily related to the areas of information exchanges, mobilizing efforts, legislative and research efforts, bridge-building, dialogue, and capacity building.

OUR NAME:

The name, KARIBU, is the Swahili word for WELCOME.



▶ **FATHER MICHAEL LAPSELEY OF THE INSTITUTE FOR HEALING MEMORIES LED THE 'HEALING THE WOUNDS OF HISTORY' CONFERENCE IN CAPE TOWN IN SEPTEMBER.**

▶ **ACTIVISTS FROM THE FUERA OMC-MARCH IN BUENOS AIRES DEMONSTRATING AGAINST THE WTO. JUBILEE SOUTH/AMERICAS AND DIALOGUE 2000 WERE CO-COORDINATORS FOR THE MARCH.**



▶ **IN AUGUST, 45 YOUTH AND STUDENTS FROM THE STUDENT CHRISTIAN MOVEMENTS ALL AROUND THE WORLD GATHERED IN CAIRO FOR THE WSCF'S YOUTH CONFERENCE ON PEACE-BUILDING IN THE MIDDLE EAST.**

▶ **REGIONAL COORDINATOR, ENTENG BAUTISTA AT YES TO LIFE NO TO MINING (YLNM), ATTENDS A STRATEGY MEETING IN MARCH TO DISCUSS HOW THE YLNM-NETWORK BEST CAN STAND UP FOR EARTH JUSTICE.**



▶ **SINAM MOHAMMED FROM ROJAVA IN SYRIA SPEAKS AT THE EDGE-FUNDERS ALLIANCE CONFERENCE IN BARCELONA IN APRIL 2017. SHE ALSO CONTRIBUTED AT THE FEARLESS CITIES-CONFERENCE IN JUNE.**

▶ **DEBORAH JAMES IS THE COORDINATOR FOR THE OWINFS-NETWORK. HERE SHE SPEAKS TO JOURNALISTS AFTER A DEMONSTRATION IN BUENOS AIRES**



▶ **PARTICIPANTS AT THE CHURCHES WITNESSING WITH MIGRANTS 8TH INTERNATIONAL CONSULTATION IN BERLIN. HERE CHURCHES AND CHURCH-RELATED ORGANIZATIONS MET TO STRENGTHEN THEIR CAMPAIGNING FOR MIGRANTS' RIGHTS.**

▶ **THE ECUMENICAL BISHOPS FORUM (EBF) IS THE LARGEST ECUMENICAL PEACE MOVEMENT OF CHURCH LEADERS IN THE PHILIPPINES. HERE BISHOP REUEL NORMAN MARIGZA GIVES AN EBF STATEMENT AT RALLY IN JULY.W**



**COVER: KOREAN DEMOSTRATORS AT THE
FUERA OMC PROTEST IN BUENOS AIRES IN
DECEMBER 2017**

**PHOTO CREDIT: FOTOGRAFÍAS
EMERGENTES, BUENOS AIRES**

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