

Due Process of Law Foundation

Due
2007 Annual Report



Process
of Law
Foundation





OUR MISSION

The **Due Process of Law Foundation (DPLF)** was founded in 1996, by Hon. Judge Thomas Buergenthal, who sits today on the International Court of Justice, and his former colleagues of the United Nations Truth Commission for El Salvador. DPLF was created with the understanding that human rights can only be guaranteed through the existence of strong and independent national judicial systems. Therefore, DPLF is an organization that seeks to improve public policies related to the administration of justice, particularly in Latin America. Through our activities, we promote the rule of law and the institutions and conditions necessary to strengthen respect for human rights in democratic societies.

As an international non-governmental organization based in Washington D.C., DPLF is exempt from federal income taxes under Section 501(c)(3) of the US Internal Revenue Code.

Photos above, left to right: Discussion on the Chilean Constitutional Court; Laura Park, Katya Salazar, and Thomas Antkowiak with the Red Guerrerense de Derechos Humanos in Guerrero, Mexico; Board meeting at DPLF's office in Washington, DC.

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

What a Year for the Due Process of Law Foundation!

Our three program areas—Judicial Accountability and Transparency, Equal Access to Justice, and International Justice—achieved several important accomplishments, all of them related to DPLF's principal mandate: to promote the reform and modernization of national justice systems throughout the Western Hemisphere.

During 2007 DPLF worked on the ground with our Latin American NGO partners, and met with judges, prosecutors and other public officials. In Mexico, we were active in the states of Oaxaca, Chiapas and Guerrero. In Central America, we worked in Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Panama, Honduras and El Salvador. In South America, we organized and participated in activities in Peru, Chile, Argentina and Venezuela.

Furthermore, in this single year we added 12 more titles to DPLF's already extensive list of books and assorted publications. We also modernized our website, making it friendlier for researchers and activists in the field.

All these significant accomplishments were possible thanks to our DC-based staff and our consultants located throughout Latin America. But we still have so much more to do. While there is real hope for justice in Latin America (see the recent successes related to the extradition of Alberto Fujimori), problems still abound, including judicial independence further threatened by narco-trafficking, public lynching of suspected gang members, and continued impunity for corrupt public officials, all of which corrodes public respect, trust and belief in an already criticized judicial system.

Too often, Latin American governments responding to these growing threats have resorted to public policies that violate international human rights standards. DPLF's efforts seek to counter actions by authorities that sometimes result in Guantanamo-style violations of due process.

With democratically-elected governments in most Latin American countries, the people of the region are demanding more transparency and accountability from their officials. At the same time, a number of nations are considering constitutional changes that are not always in the best interest of the people. DPLF works with both civil society and judicial authorities to implement acceptable transparency and accountability policies. We also widely encourage responding to threats and challenges to the rule of law in a way that assures respect for human rights.

Over the years, DPLF has earned the trust and respect of many in the region, and our hands-on approach has allowed us to achieve significant results. We invite you to peruse our 2007 Annual Report to learn more about the past year's impressive activities and accomplishments.

Douglass Cassel, Foundation President
Eduardo Bertoni, Executive Director

Former Peruvian President Alejandro Toledo at DPLF Event



Alejandro Toledo, former President of Peru, was the keynote speaker at the official inauguration of the DPLF Program “Judicial Accountability and Transparency” (JAT). The event was held November 13, 2007 in Washington, DC.

Toledo spoke about the relationship between economic inequality, democratic governability, and judicial independence in Latin America. Following Toledo’s remarks, DPLF President Douglas Cassel provided commentary. Katya Salazar, DPLF Programs Director, presented the JAT Program’s work, and briefly discussed the results of the study

Evaluation of Judicial Corruption in Central America and Panama and the Mechanisms to Combat It. Eduardo Berton, DPLF Executive Director, welcomed attendees and moderated the discussion. Over 60 persons attended the event, including diplomats, representatives from inter-governmental organizations and NGOs, academics, journalists, and others.



Above: Alejandro Toledo at the inauguration of the DPLF “Judicial Accountability and Transparency” event in Washington, D.C. Right: Katya Salazar, Programs Director; Laura Park, Operations and Outreach Director; Alejandro Toledo, former President of Peru; Douglas Cassel, President of DPLF; Eduardo Berton, DPLF Executive Director.

Our Program Areas

Judicial Accountability and Transparency (JAT)

DPLF recognizes the need for more accountable and transparent judicial systems. Remains of a judicial culture of secrecy can be found all around the Americas. If judicial independence is considered a right of the individual and a duty of the judiciary, it is essential to provide citizens with the necessary tools to verify that the judicial system complies with its obligation to provide justice in an impartial and independent manner. Transparency, access to information, and the establishment of means to fight corruption from within, should be recognized as fundamental requirements in any judiciary that promotes the rule of law.

This area addresses issues such as transparency in the judicial sector, access to judicial information, mechanisms to evaluate and combat judicial corruption, institutional control mechanisms and civil society monitoring.

Equal Access to Justice (EAJ)

DPLF’s Equal Access to Justice program promotes access to justice for vulnerable and marginalized groups and individuals in Latin America. The

program has carried out a number of initiatives with indigenous groups, detainees, women victims of violence, displaced persons, and migrants. Through several projects, we currently provide training and institutional strengthening to small human rights organizations involved in key issues throughout the region.

International Justice (IJ)

A fundamental step towards global democratization consists in the incorporation of nations into an international community that adheres to basic human rights principles. Our work in the international justice program area is rooted in this understanding.

The issues this area addresses include, among others, the national implementation of international treaties and recommendations, the ratification and implementation of the Rome Statute, national reforms needed to investigate human rights violations, international mechanisms to protect human rights, and truth and reconciliation commissions.

INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENTS



DPLF Executive Director, Eduardo Bertoni, visited Professor Thomas Buergenthal at his office at the International Court of Justice in The Hague. Professor Buergenthal is one of the founders of DPLF.

DPLF Strengthens Programs

In order to better carry out our ever growing number of projects and activities, DPLF sought to strengthen each of our program areas through staffing, focusing of projects, and funding:

* **Judicial Accountability and Transparency (JAT)**

Near the end of 2006, DPLF started a program to promote the rule of law in Latin America through addressing issues such as: judicial independence, transparency in the judiciary, access to judicial information, and the establishment of means to fight corruption from within the judicial systems themselves. In order to better carry out the varied activities envisioned under this program, DPLF hired a full time Program Coordinator. The grant supporting the program was renewed for a second year assuring its continuation in 2008. Please see the Projects and Activities section in this report to learn more about this program.

* **Equal Access to Justice (EAJ)**

The projects under this program focus on building capacity in small, geographically-removed civil society groups, especially those working with vulnerable groups –like indigenous people, women victims of violence, migrants, and children– so that they may demand full participation in the democratic process of their town, state, and country. DPLF hired a new staff member to coordinate the projects carried out under this program early in 2007. For more information on the projects carried out under this program please see the Projects and Activities section of this report.

* **International Justice (IJ)**

This program –although still in need of additional strengthening– has attracted interest of partners in Latin America and shows promising signs of growth. During 2007 DPLF carried out a number of activities under the program. Please see the Project and Activities section in this report for additional information.

DPLF Staff, Consultants, and Interns

DPLF Welcomes New Staff

As noted earlier, in order to carry out the ever-growing number of projects, and better address the crucial issues under each of our Program areas, DPLF sought and hired two new full-time staff members in 2007.



Montserrat Solano Carboni, a Costa Rican journalist and lawyer, joined DPLF as a consultant in 2006 and then as a full time employee early in 2007. Ms. Solano Carboni's unique experience and background as a journalist and legal scholar has helped define and focus the JAT program over this past year.

Thomas Antkowiak, an American lawyer, brings his experience at the Inter-American Court of Human Rights and the Human Rights Clinic of George Washington Law School to bear when extending legal technical assistance in our capacity building projects. Mr. Antkowiak joined our team early in the year as coordinator of our Equal Access to Justice Program.



DPLF Consultants and Interns

DPLF carries out its multiple activities with the help of consultants and interns. We continue to utilize Latin American in-country experts, who carry out research that is subsequently presented in our publications, conferences and seminars.

DPLF's Internship Program began to flourish this year. During the 2007 Spring Semester, we hosted a law student through Washington College of Law's Externship program. We also enjoyed hosting a summer administrative intern from Maryland University. During the fall semester, our internship program really took off. We hosted three interns, two legal interns and one administrative intern. In addition to helping our staff carry out a very intense schedule of events during the last half of the year, it was a special treat for our staff to work with these young people and add to their education through hands on experience in a small and vibrant non-profit office.

Through our internship program, DPLF seeks students interested in human rights and rule of law topics. Depending on the background of the student, our interns help conduct research on issues related to our current work in Latin America. Research internships are open to law students or graduate students in journalism, international relations, Latin American and/or Caribbean studies, or other related fields. We also have administrative internships for college students to help support project logistics, and/or help with administrative tasks around the office.

Because of the small office dynamics, we believe that an internship with DPLF allows students to experience all facets of our work. This invaluable exposure makes the internship experience that much richer for the students and DPLF. For applications see our web site at www.dplf.org

DPLF launches New Web site

DPLF redesigned and launched a new Web site in 2007. The new site continues our commitment to making the information and publications resulting from our various projects available to the widest possible audience by having those documents available for downloading in their entirety on the site. Hard copies of most of the publications are still available upon request. We continue to upload additional documents and information almost daily, including to a new Documentation Center, which contains various laws related to the region's struggle for judicial accountability and transparency (under JAT section).



DPLF's Web site: www.dplf.org, redesigned and launched in 2007.

PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

Judicial Accountability and Transparency

* Strengthening the Judicial Accountability and transparency Program Area

During 2007 DPLF carried out a number of activities that further strengthened our Judicial Accountability and Transparency Program. These activities included launching the program with a public event in Washington, DC with ex Peruvian president Alejandro Toledo, extending technical assistance to supreme courts in the region, publishing and disseminating our quarterly newsletter *AportesDPLF*, and redesigning our website which now includes a documentation center. In the coming year we will disseminate as widely as possible the information garnered through the various studies we published this year. We will also continue to develop our relationship with the judicial sectors of various countries through technical assistance activities related to the issues addressed in our studies. Through these activities we seek to make sure that our publications do not go directly into bookcases to never be seen again –but have direct impact on improving the administration of justice in the region.



* Assessing and Combating Judicial Corruption in Central America

Central American justice systems have seen great improvement in their legal frameworks, infrastructure, and budgets, but most of them continue to be subjected to interference from other branches of government or from society at large. The study carried out under this project makes this situation clear, showing that not only bribery but political interference in judicial decisions are among the most common forms of corruption within justice systems. The study includes chapters on individual countries and a comparative regional report.

Thanks to preliminary presentations made by DPLF to judicial authorities, we have begun to work with some of the supreme courts in the region, through a signed cooperative agreement with Costa Rica's Supreme Court and unofficially with other supreme courts. DPLF released this study during an event in San Salvador, El Salvador, in December 2007.

* Guide on Addressing Judicial Corruption in Latin America

Using the same methodology applied in our Central American judicial corruption project, DPLF developed a practical guide for measuring the real impact of anti-corruption initiatives on judicial systems of other Latin American countries. The Guide was released at an official event in Lima, Peru in September 2007 in collaboration with Pro-Etica, the Peruvian chapter of Transparency International.



Above: Abraham Siles, DPLF consultant and Montserrat Solano at the in Presentation of DPLF's "Controles y descontrol de la corrupción judicial". San Salvador, December 2007.

Right: Hernan Charosky, DPLF consultant; Montserrat Solano from DPLF; Carolina Lizarraga, head of the Peruvian Anti-Corruption Office; Damian Loretti, DPLF consultant; Katya Salazar, DPLF Programs Director.



*** Comparing Transparency in Latin America**

This comparative study of the impact of transparency and access to information laws on the executive and judicial branches of government in 6 Latin American countries (Argentina, Chile, El Salvador, Panama, Mexico, and Peru) seeks to highlight problems with the full implementation of these principles within the justice sector and create incentives to improve the situation. The study was released in Mexico City, in December 2007 at an event organized with the Human Rights Commission of Mexico City.

Equal Access to Justice

*** Strengthening Civil Society Organizations as a means to Promote Access to Justice in Latin America**

In view of the impact of our first two capacity building grants among small geographically removed NGO's in Oaxaca (see below), DPLF has moved to expand these activities to other countries in Latin America such as Guatemala, Peru and Bolivia. DPLF is currently carrying out assessments of each of the countries and identifying like-minded groups who would benefit from these kinds of activities.

*** Strengthening Civil Society and Contributing to the Recognition of Indigenous Rights in Oaxaca, Mexico**

DPLF completed a two-year project under which we extended technical assistance in legal strategies and institutional strengthening to CEDHAPI (Center for Human Rights and Advice for Indigenous Peoples), a small, geographically removed human rights organization in the Mexican state of Oaxaca. Activities included training, advocacy, and providing assistance in developing legal strategies for national as well as international cases. The profound impact of this project was the inspiration for our Equal Access to Justice Program Area. The direct, hands-on mentoring of our Oaxacan partner resulted in raising their profile and institutional capacity to the point where the Inter-American Commission of Human Rights asked that they host their visit to the town of Tlaxiaco, two-hours from the city of Oaxaca. The organization now has the ability, recognition, and self-confidence to shape the policies that determine the administration of justice in their state.



Top: Montserrat Solano and Katya Salazar with Emilio Alvarze Icaza, President of the Human Rights Committee of Mexico City, at the presentation of "Comparando Transparencia".
 Right: Katya Salazar visits the Center for Human Rights and Advice for Indigenous Peoples (Cedaphi) in Tlaxiaco, Oaxaca, Mexico.



*** Strengthening Civil Society and Contributing to the Recognition of Indigenous Rights in Chiapas, Mexico**

Using our experience in Oaxaca as a springboard, DPLF expanded its capacity building activities to other Mexican states. This year DPLF began working in Chiapas with a small organization in the border town of Tapachula. Here, DPLF extended technical assistance on legal strategy to an organization that addresses due process violations against migrants—including women and children—on the border between Mexico and Guatemala. In addition to the extensive

technical assistance, DPLF also assisted the organization in conducting an international conference where the United Nations Special Rapporteur for Migrants gave the keynote presentation. DPLF will continue to work with this organization in 2008.

*** Strengthening Civil Society and human rights in Guerrero, Mexico**

Also this year, DPLF began a 3-year capacity building project in the Mexican state of Guerrero. In order to develop the trusting relationship necessary for this kind of project, DPLF staff traveled to Guerrero for a two day orientation and planning session with each of our partner organizations, all of them members of the Red Guerrerense de Derechos Humanos. The agenda included identifying the issue(s) the organizations wanted to focus on during this project, extending technical assistance on developing legal strategy, and defining institutional areas (administrative and fundraising) to strengthen. During 2008 DPLF staff will continue to work closely with the organizations.



*** Uniting Law and Society in Indigenous Oaxaca, Mexico: A training and research project**

In coordination with the Department of Government of American University (Washington D.C) and the Universidad Autónoma Benito Juárez of Oaxaca, DPLF is carrying out a 3-year contract with USAID's TIES program that includes training and research activities. During this first year of the project, DPLF organized and led a meeting of national and international experts to gather relevant information and get a better understanding of some of the main problems surrounding

the frequently conflictive relationship between official law and customary law in Oaxaca, where most of the population belongs to an indigenous group.



Top: Thomas Antkowiak participates in a press conference held before a DPLF event in Chiapas, Mexico.
 Right: Laura Park and Thomas Antkowiak meet with the Morelos y Pavón Human Rights Center in Guerrero, Mexico.
 Above: Katya Salazar with experts at an event held by DPLF in Oaxaca, Mexico.

* **Evaluating the Judicial Reform process in Honduras and Bolivia**

In 2007 DPLF completed a study which identifies the variety of legal, political, social, and cultural risk factors that have impeded the successful implementation of judicial reforms in Honduras and Bolivia. The study focused on two specific areas: (1) the results and impact of criminal procedure reforms on pre-trial detention practices and impunity levels, and (2) reforms in the nomination and selection of judges. The study was presented at a World Bank meeting where the data collected was used to make key recommendations and to draw essential comparisons with similar countries in the world.

International Justice

* **Victims Unsilenced: The Inter-American System of Human Rights and Transitional Justice in Latin America**

Despite having developed some of the most progressive jurisprudence on matters of accountability, remedies and due process, the Inter-American human rights system has had a mixed record with regard to transitional justice processes in Latin America. This study examines the role of the Inter-American system in advancing transitional justice in Latin America. This comprehensive, policy-oriented study covers four cases: Argentina, Peru, Guatemala and El Salvador. Its authors include some of the region's foremost experts on transitional justice and the Inter-American system. The book was presented at a well attended event at the United State Institute of Peace, and included presentations from DPLF President Douglass Cassel, Juan Mendez, President of the International Center for Transitional Justice, and Santiago Canton, Executive Secretary of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, and Katya Salaza., DPLF Director of Programs.



* **Transitional Justice Processes: How are the Victims Now**

In November 2007 DPLF organized a meeting of experts in Washington, DC to assess the impact of transitional justice measures on victims, selecting Guatemala and Chile as case studies. The meeting helped identify questions and issues that will be addressed in a follow-up project (to be developed and implemented during 2008) that will implement field research and produce a final study.

* **Ratification and Implementation of the Rome Statute in Latin America**

In close coordination with the Coalition for the International Criminal Court and local organizations DPLF staff participated in a number of educational activities geared toward informing judicial authorities on the process and implications of ratification and implementation of the Rome Statute in Nicaragua, Honduras, and Ecuador.

Above: Neil Kritz from USIP; Juan Mendez from ICTJ; Katya Salazar from DPLF; Carola Weil from USIP and Santiago Canton, Executive Secretary of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights at the presentation of "Victims Unsilenced".

COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

Communications Initiative

Through its communications initiative, DPLF strives to reach as wide a public as possible to increase awareness of the issues related to judicial reform—at the individual and institutional level. In this respect, the following activities were accomplished:

* DPLF launches New Web Site

In 2007 DPLF redesigned and launched a new Web site. The new site continues our commitment to making the information and publications resulting from our various projects available to the widest public possible by having those documents available for downloading in their entirety on the site. Hard copies of most of the publications are still available upon request. We continue to upload additional documents and information almost daily, including to a new Documentation Center, which contains various laws related to the region's struggle for judicial accountability and transparency (under JAT section).

* Media Initiative

DPLF collaborates with the regional news media in an effort to make a more general public aware of the issues addressed in our activities. In addition to coverage of our events in local news media, DPLF staff members publish op-eds and are interviewed by national newspapers throughout the region.

* Our newsletter AportesDPLF

As part of our Judicial Accountability and Transparency Program Area, DPLF began issuing a quarterly newsletter in 2007. The newsletter is sent to our e-mail mailing list, as well as distributed in hard copy to key judicial authorities in the region and other stakeholders. AportesDPLF was warmly welcomed by many organizations as well as officials throughout Latin America. A number of supreme court presidents have already written articles for the newsletter, and a several organizations, experts and practitioners have used AportesDPLF as a source of information.



It is a pleasure when an institutional newsletter or magazine, in addition to describing its own activities and projects, has the objective to create a forum for debate that allows an exchange of viewpoints and experiences in the region. This is the case with the new AportesDPLF publication.

—Boletín Nexos No. 74, Justice Studies Center of the Americas, CEJA.

DPLF PUBLICATIONS

Publishing studies and seminar reports from our various projects, as well as distributing those publications to the greatest extent possible, remains an integral part of DPLF's work. In addition to posting our publications on the organization's Web site, we disseminate them as widely as possible in Latin America, the United States, and Europe. This year DPLF issued the following publications:



Controles y Descontroles de la Corrupción Judicial: Evaluation of Judicial Corruption in Central America and Panama and the Mechanisms to Combat It

This book is the result of a two-year project whose objective was to evaluate the phenomenon of judicial corruption in Central America and Panama, as well as the anti-corruption measures that have been implemented in these countries.

(The book including the national reports and the regional comparative report is available in Spanish only. The Executive Summary and the regional comparative report is available in English)



Comparando Transparencia: Un estudio sobre acceso a la información en el Poder Judicial

(Available in Spanish)

This book gives an account of the evolution of access to information and its current application in the justice systems of Argentina, Chile, Ecuador, Mexico, Panama and Peru.



Migración con justicia

(Available in Spanish)

This publication summarizes the presentations and conclusions of a high-level seminar on migrants' rights conducted in Tapachula, Chiapas, the busiest crossing point on Mexico's southern border. The event featured the participation of Jorge Bustamante, UN Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants.



Victims Unsilenced: The Inter-American Human Rights System and Transitional Justice in Latin America

(Available in English and Spanish)

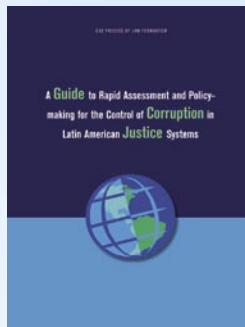
This volume, published jointly with the United States Institute of Peace, evaluates the impact of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights on four countries—Argentina, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Peru—that have struggled for justice after enduring periods of massive human rights violations.



Disclosing Justice: A Study on Access to Judicial Information in Latin America

(Available in English)

This report analyzes the legal and jurisprudential frameworks related to access to judicial information in ten Latin American nations, including countries that have and have not approved access to information legislation.



A Guide to Rapid Assessment and Policy-making for the Control of Corruption in Latin American Justice Systems

(Available in English and Spanish)

This guide serves as a methodological tool to assess judicial corruption in Latin America and proposes a model that can be used throughout the continent.

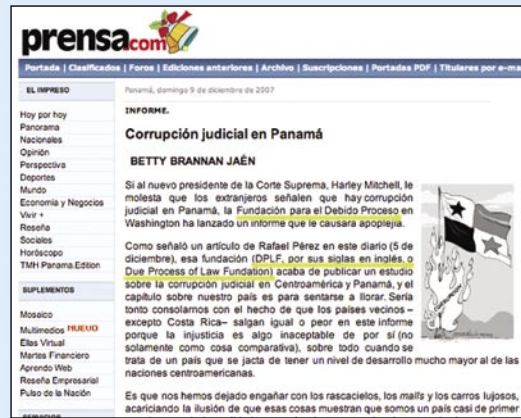


Uniting Law and Society in Indigenous Oaxaca

(Available in Spanish)

This publication discusses the expert meeting held in the city of Oaxaca August 9-10, 2007. The main objective of the meeting was to gather relevant information and obtain a better understanding of several of the main problems surrounding the often conflictive relationship between official law and customary law in Oaxaca, where most of the population is indigenous.

Over the course of the year articles on our events, op-eds and interviews with DPLF staff have appeared in local and national media throughout the Western Hemisphere. The following is a sampling of this coverage.



January 19, 2007 (Peru) – Interview with DPLF Executive Director Eduardo Bertoni in *Diario La República* of Perú. Title: “Pena capital no resuelve delitos por arte de magia”.

February 18, 2007 (Venezuela) – Two interviews by *El Universal* and *El Nacional* newspapers of DPLF Executive Director Eduardo Bertoni during his trip to Caracas to attend the Transparency International conference “Consolidating Change: the Inter-American Convention Against Corruption in its Second Decade.”

March 8, 2007 (multiple countries) – Op-Ed by DPLF Executive Director Eduardo Bertoni and Program Coordinator Montserrat Solano in recognition of International Women’s Day addressing the low number of women in supreme courts throughout the region. This OpEd appeared in *El Nuevo Herald* of Miami (USA), *La Nación* (Costa Rica), and *Panamá América* (Panama). It also was circulated by Pulsar news agency, and was read on *Radio Tierra* in Chile.

April 26, 2007 (Nicaragua) – Articles published in the *El Nuevo Diario* on the activities carried out this week by DPLF Executive Director Eduardo Bertoni under our International Justice Program Area. Title: *Instan a Nicaragua a Ratificar Estatuto de Roma*.

April 28, 2007 (Nicaragua) – Articles published in *El Nuevo Diario* and *La Prensa* with respect to the activities of our Executive Director, Eduardo Bertoni as part of DPLF’s efforts under our Judicial Accountability and Transparency Program Area. Titles: *Funcionarios están sujetos al escrutinio público* and *País urge de transparencia*.

June 2, 2007 (Panama) – Article in *La Prensa*, that appeared during the General Assembly of the OAS meeting being held that week in Panama, with a quote by DPLF Executive Director Eduardo Bertoni regarding freedom of expression issues in the region.

June 4, 2007 (Panama) – June 4, 2007 (Panama) – Op-Ed published in the *Diario Prensa* during the OAS’s General Assembly meetings being held that week in Panama.

June 19, 2007 (Peru) – Op-Ed by DPLF Executive Director Eduardo Bertoni and Programs Director Katya Salazar published in the *Diario La República* addressing the recent selection of judges for Peru’s Constitutional Tribunal.

September 1, 2007 (Peru) – *La República* newspaper interview with Thomas Antkowiak, Program Coordinator of the Access to Justice Program at DPLF, on the extradition case of former President of Peru Alberto Fujimori.

October 16, 2007 (Venezuela) – Article in *El Universal* newspaper with a quote by DPLF Executive Director Eduardo Bertoni. The piece deals with a proposal for constitutional amendments that would authorize the Venezuelan Government to suspend due process and access to information guarantees during states of emergency.

December 3, 2007 (El Salvador) – Articles published in *La Prensa Gráfica* of El Salvador on the presentation of our study titled *Evaluation of Judicial Corruption in Central America and Panama and the Mechanisms to Combat It* released during a series of events called “Transparency and Ethical Values Week” held from December 3 to 7 in San Salvador, El Salvador.

December 5 & 9, 2007 (Panama) – Articles and a report of the review published in the Panama edition of the *Miami Herald* (in English) and the Panamanian newspaper *La Prensa* on our Judicial Corruption study and the situation of the judiciary in Panama.

Discussion on the Chilean Constitutional Court



The Inter-American Dialogue and DPLF organized a roundtable discussion titled “The Chilean Constitutional Court: What Role Will It Play?” The seminar was held at the Inter-American Dialogue on October 22, 2007 and included the participation of Domingo Lovera and Jorge Contese, both of Diego Portales University.

Jorge Correa Sutil, Judge of the Chilean Constitutional Court, informed the audience about the Court’s activities, decisions reached, and general tendencies followed during its very first year of existence.

Left: Roundtable held at the Inter-American Dialogue led by Jorge Correa Sutil, Judge of the Chilean Constitutional Court, Michael Schifter, Vice President of Policy at the Inter-American Dialogue, and Eduardo Bertoni, DPLF Executive Director.
Right: OAS Secretary General José Miguel Insulza (left) with Jorge Correa Sutil.

OUR SUPPORTERS

DPLF is grateful for the generous support of individuals, private foundations, and agencies that make it possible for us to carry out our programs and activities. In 2007 support came from the following sources:

Institutional Donors

Ford Foundation
General Service Foundation
John Merck Fund
John D. & Katherine t. MacArthur Foundation
National Endowment for Democracy
Open Society Institute
Parthenon Trust
USAID/TIES/American University
U.S. Institute for Peace
World Bank

Individual Donors

Ora & Arnold Band, *Beverly Hills, CA*
Sandra Coliver, *New York, NY*
Rachel Garst, *Coon Rapids, IA*
Nora Hamilton, *Santa Monica, CA*
Betty S. Hoffenberg, *Pacific Palisades, CA*
Julie Kaufman, *Evanston, IL*
Jay & Andrea Labinger, *Claremont, CA*
Maximo Langer, *Los Angeles, CA*
Caroline & Christopher Miller, *Gansevoort, NY*
Henry Pinsker, *Teaneck, NJ*
Jeremy Popkin, *Lexington, KY*
Susan & Norman Hall, *Vienna, VA*
Diane Ross, *San Francisco, CA*
Renee Weitzner, *Washington, DC*

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Due Process of Law Foundation is an independent, non-governmental organization with tax-exempt status under internal revenue code Section 501(c)(3).

Statement of Financial Position

12/31/2007 (unaudited)

Assets		
Cash & cash equivalents	273,683	
Accounts receivable	55,222	
Prepaid expenses & other assets	7,203	
Fixed Assets	559	
Total Assets	336,667	
Liabilities & Net Assets		
Liabilities:		
Accounts payable and deferred revenue	15,880	
Total Current Liabilities	15,880	
Net Assets:		
Net Assets - Restricted	248,242	
Net Assets Unrestricted	72,545	
Total Net Assets	320,787	
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	336,667	
Statement of Activities (Statement of Revenue & Expenses)		
Period January 1, 2007 - December 31, 2007		
Revenue		
Grants	434,600	65%
Contributions	76,456	12%
Contractual Services	142,926	21%
Interest Income	12,773	2%
Total Revenues	666,755	100%
Expenses		
Program Services	569,583	93%
Supporting Services		
Management & General	25,969	4%
Development	16,586	3%
Total Expenses	612,138	100%

DPLF AT WORK



* Pursuant to an agreement with the Supreme Court of Costa Rica, in September 2007 DPLF hosted Zarella Villanueva, Costa Rican Supreme Court Justice, in a visit to Peru where she met with various NGO's and state officials. In the photo, Zarella Villanueva is shown with members of the Asociacion de Jueces para la Justicia y Democracia, a Peruvian association of judges.

* DPLF Programs Director Katya Salazar gave a seminar to a group of indigenous women in Oaxaca who were participating in a project led by Beatriz Hernandez, a Oaxacan indigenous lawyer. The project was funded by Semillas (Mexican Society for Women's Human Rights).



* On August 11, 2007, Florentin Melendez, President of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR), visited Oaxaca and held a meeting with indigenous groups in Tlaxiaco, 3 hours from Oaxaca City. The meeting was hosted by CEDHAPI, a DPLF partner. In the picture, IACHR staff receive petitions from indigenous representatives.



* On June, 2007 DPLF Executive Director Eduardo Bertoni participated in the US release of Transparency International's Global Corruption Report 2007, which focused upon corruption in judicial systems. The main speaker in this event was Aryeh Neier, with whom Bertoni appears in the picture.

DPLF'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS—2007

Reinaldo Figueredo Planchart, *Chairman of the Board*

- Former Senior Advisor to the Secretary General of UNCTAD
- Former Special Rapporteur on Debt for the United Nations Commission on Human Rights
- Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Venezuela

Douglass Cassel, *President of the Foundation*

- Professor and Director, Center for Human and Civil Rights, Notre Dame Law School
- Board Member, Justice Studies Center of the Americas

Alejandro Garro, *Vice Chairman of the Board*

- Adjunct Professor of Law, Columbia University of Law

Jorge Carpizo

- Former Attorney General of Mexico
- Former Minister of Interior of Mexico
- Former President of the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México
- First National Human Rights Ombudsman of Mexico

Christopher Jochnick

- Oxfam America

Helen Mack

- President, Fundación Myrna Mack

Alain Philippson

- Chairman Banque Degroof, Belgium

Jeremy Popkin

- University of Kentucky

Susan Popkin

- Urban Institute

Margaret Roggensack

- Attorney

Ronald Scheman

- Former Director General of the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development
- Former Executive Director for the United States, Inter-American Development Bank

DPLF OFFICERS

Douglass Cassel, *President of the Foundation*

Susan Popkin, *Treasurer*

Katya Salazar, *Secretary*

DPLF STAFF

Eduardo Bertoni, *Executive Director*

Laura Park, *Operations and Outreach Director*

Katya Salazar, *Programs Director*

Montserrat Solano, *Program Coordinator*

Thomas Antkowiak, *Program Coordinator*

William Spencer, *Development Consultant (part time)*



Due Process of Law Foundation

1779 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Suite 510-A
Washington, D.C. 20036

Telephone: (202) 462-7701 • Fax: (202) 462-7703
info@dplf.org • www.dplf.org