



## **SIGNIS ALC**

Latin American and Caribbean Catholic Communication Association

### **CURRENT MANDATE**

We, communicators making part of the National Associates of SIGNIS-ALC, want to confirm that all our efforts seek to join roads to contribute to the transformation of reality from communication spaces.

Our Latin-American and Caribbean region has major challenges facing poverty, injustice, inequity, social exclusion, lack of education in democracy and the globalization of indifference. Some of the social actors deserves our special attention as Church: indigenous peoples. Peasants, peoples from the Amazon, African-American people; migrants, unemployed marginalized from large cities; Youth and children, women; each of these groups with their specific problems and their own wealth.

As Catholic Communicators we want to continue working for the present and the future of our people as well as for Christian communities, announcing and showing to poor and excluded people that God loves them and choose them. In a moment like ours, full of great expectances and contradictions, we wish to bring to all the mercy of God revealed in Jesus Christ.

We renew our commitment as missionary disciples in the Church by offering all our capacities to promote a better understanding of the current culture of communication with the aim of accompanying initiatives, projects and formative paths that promotes a real culture of encounter and commitment to our neighbors.

From reality that defies and shows us the invitation of God and the Church that calls us to renew and be committed to mission, we assume as a mandate for this new period in lives of Catholic communicators and the following priorities:

1. Accompany and promote the renewal actions of the whole Church, from the new impulses gestated in Aparecida and consolidated with the universal magisterium in *Evangelii Gaudium* and *Laudato Si*, together with all the lessons from Pope Francis, in communion with our Episcopal Conferences, CELAM and all communication agencies, old and new, to contribute to the articulation of the life of Catholic ecclesial communication in the regional and international order.
2. To promote, together with our world association SIGNIS, a communication for a culture of peace, and stories of hope in a network, from their values, creativity, and new forms of communication, participation and education, incorporating young people, adolescents,

girls and boys into the activities of our national partners and in the media. Especially strengthen the SIGNIS ALC Young Journalists Network.

3. Strengthen the work of various communicators' networks in our countries and at the regional and global levels, so that we can cope closely with the challenges of our world today. With special attention to the people of Haiti. In particular, following the invitations of Pope Francis, we get together in the search for a sustainable and integral development, in collaboration to "build our common home", taking care of all creation. Facing the ecological crisis as "an external manifestation of the ethical, cultural and spiritual crisis of modernity" (Laudato Si, number 119, pag. 93).
4. Focus on the design and implementation of public policies related to social communication in the fundamental rights of people, cultures and nature, promoting new experiences of solidarity economy, participatory democracy, citizen organization, care of the Common good and defense of human dignity.
5. Encourage and consolidate Catholic communicators' organizations in our countries and the relationship with communicators who do not participate in the Church, with whom we wish to meet, dialogue and collaborate, for the construction of more grounded societies in truth, dignity and Justice, and to enrich us all with the power of the Gospel.
6. To work in close coordination and collaboration with the communication departments of the Episcopal Conferences of our countries, CELAM, RIIAL, as well as with continental communication networks and with all persons and institutions interested in making communication to the service our peoples, identities and cultures.
7. In coordination with SIGNIS, give attention to the national associations having problems or limitations and to communicators living in countries where we are not present. Prioritize the management role of the national partners and ensure the actions and projects we develop keep their criteria of equity in their concretion, taking into account the various geographical regions.
8. In coordination with SIGNIS, support and consolidate information and participation processes of our partners in order to achieve their civil and juridical recognition, transparency in the control and the maturation of institutional decisions. Likewise, socialize the exchange of work experiences and achievements of the associates that help us to strengthen our potentialities, recognize our weaknesses, and enhance the mission of our association.
9. To update our experiences, knowledge and methodologies in the field of communication, according to the new times, new knowledge, new technologies, new languages, and new challenges that Church and society are facing today. Educommunication remains a historical priority for us.

10. Continue developing in the region and in each of our countries a communication strategy that allows the corporate positioning of our institutional name and brand: Latin American and Caribbean Catholic Communication Association - SIGNIS ALC, as well as our mission and objectives.

The Mandate was approved at the Regional Assembly of SIGNIS ALC, reunited in Asunción, in October 10 to 11 2016.