

SIGNIS LAC Latin American and Caribbean Catholic Association of Communication

Mandate for 2022-2026 July 15th to 16th 2022 Panama City, Panama SIGNIS LAC Mandate – Assembly 2022-2026

Communicators of the National Associates of SIGNIS LAC recognize that a transforming citizenship promotes Good Living.

Our communication will seek to promote an integral and supportive humanism, based on respect for the dignity of the person. To do this, we trace ourselves as transversal axes of all our actions: edu communication, democratization of communications, promotion of integral ecology and respect for human and people's rights.

We recognize, as a priority, the leading role of young communicators in SIGNIS LAC and its associates, guaranteeing spaces for dialogue and decision-making possibilities. It is necessary to look into the participation of young people. They make us see the need to assume new styles and new strategies (...). The Church needs your enthusiasm, your insights, your faith. It is all that we need! (Christus Vivit, 2019).

We also consider it essential to promote a spirituality of listening, embodied in the social, political, economic, intercultural and environmental reality, which builds an outgoing Church. The pope calls us to meet and build bridges, in synodality. An authentic faith—which is never comfortable and individualistic—always implies a deep desire to change the world, to transmit values, to leave something better behind when we pass through the earth. (Evangelii Gaudium, N° 183).

We encourage a communication committed to the person, that promotes critical and proactive citizens, with social awareness, that forms and promotes new social leaderships in preferential option for the poor, that reflects on the development model and stimulates fair and supportive models.

We are convinced that another communication is possible: communitarian, alternative and popular, that analyzes and understands social problems, and contributes from communication to possible solutions.

We must rethink communication as a science of relationships, open, inclusive and equitable, where the context prevails over the text and thus favors the establishment of respectful, sincere and fruitful relationships.

For all that has been said, we assume the following priorities as a mandate for this new period:

1. To develop processes of listening, training, recognition and assessment of the sociocultural context, prioritizing the participation of young people to strengthen their role in the national associates, with the accompaniment of a directive member of SIGNIS LAC, suggesting to implement this model in the associated, as well.
2. To strengthen the work of Radio Lío and communication projects with an integral ecology approach, edu communication and the construction of a culture of peace.
3. To implement the Safeguard Policy, both at the National Associates, and at the regional headquarters of SIGNIS LAC.
4. To support community radios in training, and include them in projects.
5. To strengthen SIGNIS LAC networking with other social and ecclesial organizations and movements, universities, continental networks (such as the extended CELAM communication's commission, Guarani Aquifer, REPAM, among others).

6. To strengthen National Associates and those of the subregion to achieve their sustainability and institutional growth.
7. To stimulate the participation of national associates in the elaboration of communications and cultural public policies.
8. To coordinate initiatives that arise from National Associates. SIGNIS LAC must define a mechanism that allows collecting the concerns, needs and/or experiences of actions and projects of the local SIGNIS.
9. To support communication's work in the various ecclesial jurisdictions of the Church.
10. To identify and promote the creation of news agencies and media observatories that contribute to the consolidation of human dignity and the common good, in addition to promoting research on communication issues in Latin America and the Caribbean and the reduction of inequalities and digital gaps in our continent.
11. To formulate, design and implement a strategic communication's plan that allows the development of specific campaigns considering all the objectives set out in this mandate.
12. Contribute from SIGNIS LAC processes and proposals to the policies developed by SIGNIS as a global community, in projection and communion with objectives and actions undertaken by the organization.

The Mandate was approved at the SIGNIS LAC Regional Assembly, held in Panama City on July 15th and 16th, 2022.