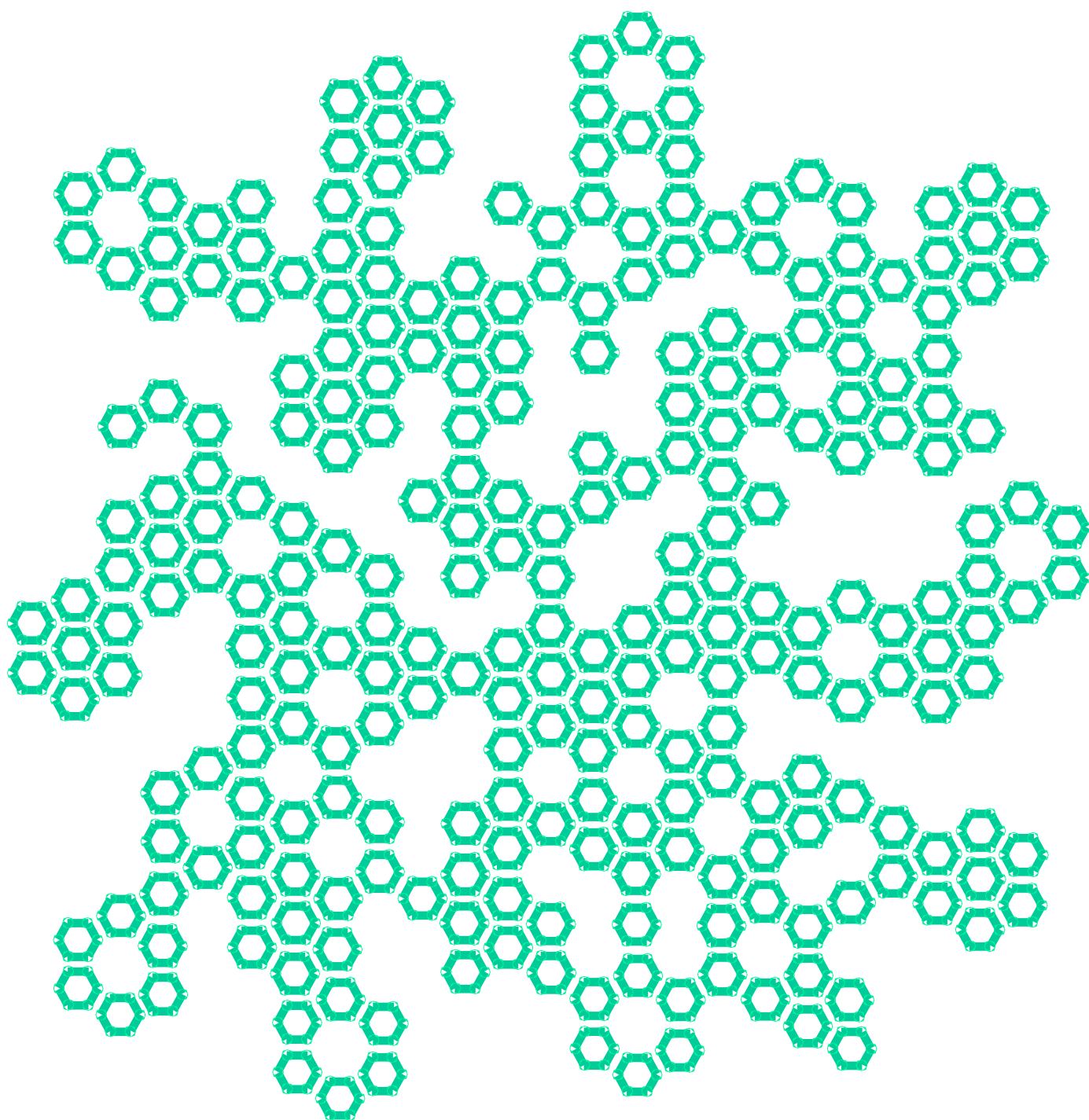


ACTIVITIES REPORT 2020



Irīdia_

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1. 1. Who we are and what we do

Who we are —

Irídia is an association that promotes and defends human rights, especially civil and political rights, using a methodology based on a combination of strategic litigation, psychosocial intervention, transformative communication and political advocacy from an intersectional feminist approach in order to promote changes in public policies.

The main objective of the organisation is to raise the standards of human rights protection in relation to institutional violence, racism and migration, historical memory, deprivation of liberty and the right to protest.

What we do —

Irídia carries out a comprehensive intervention in the face of rights violations in which free legal and psychosocial care is offered to the affected people, with the aim of boosting their strength and confidence. Their emotional circle is always taken into account in the process. If the case presents specific characteristics that may contribute to the development and execution of the judicial process having an impact beyond the specific case and, therefore, may have an impact on legislation, jurisprudence, police practice or public policies in general, and as long as the affected person agrees, the processes become strategic litigation through which the standards of protection of human rights can be raised.

To this end, we carry out political and social advocacy work through communication campaigns and direct interaction with the different political and parliamentary groups and with the governments of the municipalities, the Government of Catalonia and the Spanish State. It also provides advice on public policy matters from the specialised work of each area of the organisation.

Irídia believes that in order to bring about change for the people specifically affected in the legislative and jurisprudential sphere, it is necessary to work from an interdisciplinary perspective that places the dignity of the affected people and their empowerment as rights-holders at the centre of the debate and action. Irídia has always focused her work, moreover, on working for effective equality and non-discrimination in the field of gender justice.

Irídia's team is made up of people with various professional backgrounds: lawyers, psychologists, journalists, political scientists, social scientists and engineers who bring experience in the field of human rights protection.

Work areas —

Irídia is divided into different work areas, the backbone of which is the institutional violence suffered by people in different contexts. Through the work areas, projects are carried out and public policy consultancy is provided:

• Denunciation (SAIDAVI)

The Service of Attention and Denunciation in situations of Institutional Violence (SAIDAVI) is a transversal body of the organisation that offers free legal and psychosocial assistance to people who suffer situations of abuse within the framework of the Catalan penal system. Along these lines, it provides legal representation for people affected by institutional violence and psychosocial support throughout the process. It is structured in two areas that work together in permanent coordination. The Area of Advice, follow-up and urgent actions (AiS) carries out the psycho-legal care of accompaniment and advice for the affected person to file a complaint or obtain official legal assistance, as well as to secure all the existing evidence. In certain particularly representative cases, the service takes on the litigation as its own, passing it on to the Litigation Area and dealing with it in a comprehensive manner, from the legal and psychosocial perspective, as well as in terms of communication and advocacy.

• Migrations and racism

The migration area works to denounce situations of violation of rights and institutional violence in the context of migratory processes, with a view to the social and individual consequences that derive from them. It also seeks to generate processes of political and social influence in which migration is conceived as a human right that must be respected.

• Right to protest

The area of the right to protest intervenes in cases of violations of human rights in the exercise of freedom of expression, freedom of information, the right of assembly and demonstration and/or the right to freedom of movement. We work for the defence and promotion of civil and political rights and freedoms because we believe that these are the means by which other rights are exercised, claimed and defended.

• Prisons

The objective of the Prisons Area is to monitor prisons in Catalonia and to intervene in the event of human rights violations. Likewise, this area promotes a public debate on the need to generate structural changes in the penal system in order to incorporate a system of alternative sentences to imprisonment.

• Historical Memory

In the area of historical memory, work is carried out to make visible and denounce the crimes committed during the civil war and the Franco regime, with the aim of achieving the principles of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-repetition. It is necessary to place Memory at the centre in order to promote democratic quality, the end of impunity and a legal and social framework with more guarantees for the protection of civil and political rights.

• Psychosocial

The psychosocial care area creates spaces for support and accompaniment for people, families and groups affected by human rights violations and provides them with psychosocial tools from a perspective of resilience and empowerment that help them to overcome the effects of violence. It is a cross-cutting area of the organisation that permeates all of Irídia's activities and projects.

• Communication and advocacy

Communication is one of the main backbones of Irídia. It has been through this task that Irídia has managed to consolidate the level of impact of the organisation in only 5 years. A good communication strategy is essential in order to have an impact and transform the social and political reality. The area is responsible for making the general public, institutions and political parties aware of what Irídia does on a daily basis, through its own social networks, through the media and by disseminating information through projects carried out jointly with similar organisations. Through transformative communication, the main objective of this area is to be a platform and a tool at the disposal of citizens to denounce and make visible human rights violations in Catalonia and around the world, with the aim of promoting changes in public policies.

• Technical area

The technical area provides support to the different areas to ensure the smooth running of the projects. It monitors, prepares and justifies the projects, manages the team, carries out administrative and financial management tasks for both the projects and the organisation in general.

How we organise ourselves —

Over the last 5 years Irídia has been constantly restructuring and defining its organisation, prioritising the sustainability and stability of the team, while also facing a progressive increase in the volume of work and social demand.

As a result of this exercise, we currently have an organisational model that defines the functions and roles of each of the bodies that make up the organisation in order to improve our internal communication and with the aim of working more efficiently.

The spaces for participation and decision-making are the management team, made up of the board and management, the coordination space, made up of the coordinators of each area, the plenary space, made up of all the workers and volunteers, each of the areas with their staff and volunteers, the board of directors and the assembly of members.

Where are we —

Since the beginning of 2020 Irídia has been located in **La Comunal** space in the Sants neighbourhood of Barcelona, a **cooperative cultural space** born from the alliance between different projects of the social and solidarity economy, in order to share skills, strengthen inter-cooperative links and thus multiply the reach and community impact of the transformative socio-economic practices carried out by its members.

La Comunal is a service cooperative located in the Sants neighbourhood and is made up of seven worker cooperatives and one association: Aula d'Idiomes, Directa, Jamgo, Irídia, LaCol, La Ciutat Invisible, La Deskomunal and Quesoni.

The aim of La Comunal is to achieve social change, to unite efforts to promote an economy at the service of people, based on reciprocity and mutual support. A feminist economy, which places care at the centre and orients its activity towards satisfying personal and collective needs, with attention to diversity and collective sustainability. A community economy, on a human and proximity scale, linked to the environment and the territory, ecological and respectful of the environment. The vocation of the Comunal is to generate a time of social justice, with a more equitable redistribution of material resources and social wealth.

2. Service of Attention and Denunciation in situations of Institutional Violence (SAIDAVI)

The **Service of Attention and Denunciation in situations of Institutional Violence (SAIDAVI)** was born in 2016 to offer legal and psychosocial assistance to people who suffer situations of institutional violence with an innovative methodology in the field of human rights defence: the response to the vulnerabilities of human rights in situations of institutional violence is integral, so that psychosocial accompaniment and a communication and advocacy strategy are added to the legal accompaniment. This methodology was conceptualised and designed after having analysed the functioning of similar services that exist in Latin America.

This integral response to the people articulates various work axes that complement each other, building strategic litigation processes that aim to ensure the non-repetition of the violations detected. The work axes are as follows:

- **Legal action** allows the reparation of the damage to be sought within the framework of the judicial and administrative system, through non-impunity and the generation of processes of acknowledgement of the truth.
- **Psychosocial support** allows working for the mental health of people, to address the psychological and psychosocial impacts that victims develop as a result of violations of their rights, and to promote processes of coping, resilience and empowerment as active citizens in the defence of their rights.
- **Communication strategy** allows raising the visibility of the impact of institutional violence and generate public debate with the aim of promoting the implementation of policies that respect human rights.
- **Political advocacy** aims to raise awareness and generate debate on situations of institutional violence in front of the competent administrations and the legislative power.

From a perspective of accessibility and social inclusion, in which we seek to guarantee the right to the right, the service is free for the whole population. This is possible thanks to both public and private financial support, and in this sense, during 2020 a crowdfunding campaign was carried out with the participation of 752 people.

The declaration of the state of alarm in Spain on 14 March due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the police management of the pandemic, have been decisive in terms of institutional violence during this year. In a context in which rights and freedoms have been restricted and in which the vulnerability of the most disadvantaged people and groups has been even more accentuated, violations of rights by the security forces have increased both in places of deprivation of liberty and in the street and have even occurred in private homes. For this reason, between the months of March and June, from Irídia we have carried out tasks of monitoring the actions of the police and security forces throughout the State, through the campaign #AlertaConDerechos, carried out by the platform Defender a Quien Defiende.

On the other hand, the state of alarm has led to various changes in SAIDAVI's work methodology in order to adapt it to the health restrictions, especially during the months of March to June. In this sense, the workers began to carry out their tasks by means of teleworking and the visits and assessments were carried out by telephone or videoconference. Furthermore, in relation to the legal proceedings that had been opened, during that period the procedural time limits were suspended due to the paralysation of the work of the courts, a fact that led to a slowdown in cases and a subsequent accumulation of work from the beginning of June onwards.

Throughout 2020, the SAIDAVI received a total of 186 requests for action for alleged human rights violations. Of these requests, 96 were from people who have suffered situations of institutional violence, which fall within the scope of the service, 43 were from people who have raised problems that did not fall within the scope of the service and 47 were due to administrative sanctions in the context of sanitary restrictions or in contexts of protest. In response to these requests, the service has carried out assistance and advice, legal defence, psychosocial support, communication and advocacy actions, regular visits to prisons and centres for the internment of foreigners, as well as referrals to other organisations with expertise in specific areas.

Referral of cases

Of the 43 cases that did not fall within the scope of action of SAIDAVI, a total of 34 people has been effectively transferred to specialised entities or services. In the remaining cases, in which, due to their special circumstances, it has not been possible to make this transfer to a specific resource, they have been informed by the institution that the situation was not within the scope of action of the service.

Legal representation of cases

Of the 96 applications that did fall within the scope of SAIDAVI, the service undertook the legal representation of a total of 14 cases. To these, we should add the 46 cases that were received prior to 2020 and that have remained open throughout the year, with the Service assuming legal representation in each of them. Thus, over the course of 2020, the Service provided legal representation in a total of 60 cases, in which legal actions were combined with psychosocial support and communication and advocacy actions.

Of the 14 new cases chosen to develop strategic litigation, 3 have been for events that took place in public spaces and 11 in the context of detention and/or deprivation of liberty (CIE, prison and jail). Even so, it is important to highlight the 46 cases opened in previous years, which represent a very high level of follow-up and workload.

The total of 60 cases with legal representation - without counting the first assistance and advice (first interviews and psycho-legal assistance, drafting of complaints, tasks for the securing of evidence, etc.) - have involved a total of 375 legal actions, which correspond to:

- **138** documents (complaints, appeals, petitions requesting investigation proceedings, accusation letters, etc.)
- **7** accompaniments (to the forensic doctor, to ratify the complaint and apud acta, penitentiary services, etc.)
- **44** procedural documents
- **32** judicial declarations
- **2** oral court hearings
- **25** meetings with represented people
- **127** different actions (dealings with solicitors, team meetings to deal with the strategy of the cases, various approaches and actions before the corresponding Court, etc.).

Of these, 170 have been actions for the development of strategic litigation corresponding to violations in the context of deprivation of liberty, at the CIE or in prison (documents, accompaniment to the forensic doctor, oral court hearings, etc.).

In addition, 125 psychosocial actions were also carried out, of which 109 were individual interventions, 2 were group psychosocial accompaniment sessions, 4 were accompaniments at the request of the court, 1 accompaniment to a public event and 9 psychosocial impact assessment reports.

Counselling and follow-up

In the remaining 82 cases, the legal representation of which has not been assumed by the service, the actions have consisted of carrying out initial psycho-legal interviews, legal counselling and follow-up tasks, as well as occasional psychosocial actions.

The legal advice and follow-up tasks carried out by the service consist mainly of legal guidance; the preparation and presentation of complaints, appeals and other criminal proceedings; the performance of actions aimed at securing evidence (such as the request and collection of images, testimonies and other evidence); monitoring the course of the complaint filed and advice on how to obtain a court-appointed lawyer.

Throughout 2020, a total of 52 face-to-face psycho-legal interviews were carried out, in which legal advice and psychosocial counselling was provided with the aim of providing initial emotional support to deal with the symptomatology associated with the impact of the situation of institutional violence. These sessions have also involved judicial accompaniment with the aim of avoiding the revictimization of the process, as well as the drafting of reports at the request of the courts.

This has meant a total of 173 legal actions, which have consisted, specifically, in:

- **52** first psycho-legal interviews
- **41** advice sessions via the SAIDAVI telephone helpline or e-mail
- **4** urgent actions (3 of these consisted of the presentation of letters requesting the custody of video images)
- **16** accompaniments in the drafting and presentation of complaints before the Police Court
- **11** documents of different kinds, including complaints to the Catalan Ombudsman or writs of allegations in administrative proceedings, sanctioning proceedings and writs of criminal procedural proceedings
- **49** actions that are not included in the above-mentioned categories, such as: advice on how to obtain a court-appointed lawyer, monitoring the progress of complaints, accompaniments to the Court to consult on the status of the proceedings, etc.

— CIE

With regard to visits to the Centre for the Internment of Foreigners (CIE), it was closed from March to October and therefore only visits to detainees were made during the months it was open. In total, 9 visits have been made to 6 detainees at the Barcelona CIE – and one who was already released – who have suffered institutional violence at the centre. On the other hand, six complaints have been filed for possible police aggressions.

— Prisons

The actions related to institutional violence in prisons are summarised in 12 legal proceedings (accumulated between the 3 cases filed in 2020 and the 9 previous cases); a situation that has led to a total of 38 actions by our lawyers: 26 visits, 5 accompaniments, 3 complaints, 1 appeal for reform and 3 appeals.

— Psychosocial care

With regard to psychosocial care, a total of 167 actions were carried out in 2020, of which 150 were individual interventions, 2 group accompaniment sessions, 4 accompaniments to legal proceedings, 1 accompaniment to a public event and the preparation of 10 psychological impact reports to contribute to legal proceedings. The individual interventions are aimed at emotional containment, preparation of press conferences or court injunctions, work on integrating the trauma caused by institutional violence, construction of an empowering and resilient narrative for the person and finally working on the meaning of the judicial process for the victim. The aim of the accompaniments to court summons and accompaniments in public acts or press conferences is to avoid the revictimization of the individual during situations that can generate the appearance of anxious symptomatology.

Communication and advocacy

The outlook for the year 2020, strongly marked by the COVID-19 epidemic, has meant that the communication of Irídia has also focused on the rights violations derived from this context. Raising awareness of the situation of institutional violence during this year has had a broad impact on the public and a great impact on the media, in many cases managing to set the media agenda and bring situations of institutional violence to the forefront.

Irídia's message is focused on the defence of human rights, which can materialise in situations of violence committed by the public administration, with particular concern for cases of police violence, and by public and private security officials in public order functions, due to the situation of defencelessness and vulnerability that they generate.

The target public is the entire population of Barcelona, Catalonia and the rest of Spain, as well as institutions, public administrations and political parties. A fundamental part of Irídia's work is to carry out political advocacy in order to influence public policies and encourage the development of new policies more focused on the preservation of human rights.

With regard to the topics covered in strategic litigation during 2020 (new litigation and litigation from the previous year), the impact on social media has been very significant, with more than 58,000 interactions on Twitter. Irídia also obtained more than 2,600 interactions on Facebook and more than 1,200 on Instagram referring to the status of the litigation, requests for images for investigations and related actions, with a total of 84 interventions in the media.

In terms of political advocacy work in the field of communication, Irídia has had an impact on social networks of over 180,000 interactions on Twitter, over 12,000 on Facebook, over 700 on Instagram and over 1,600 views on YouTube. This includes the communication actions carried out as part of the campaigns carried out during 2020 - #CIErreYa, #DretsPresesCovid19, #LaImpunitatAJudici and #AlarmaConDerechos -, where it should be noted that the communication work carried out has largely focused on the coverage on social networks of the rights violations committed during the state of alarm, which had a strong impact on social networks, as did the campaign to close the CIEs in this context, with a total of 52 interventions in the media, using Irídia as a direct or indirect source.

→ Funding

SAIDAVI is a free service that is financed mainly thanks to **donations** from individuals, groups, organisations and others. We believe that the project is possible thanks to these contributions, which are aimed at building a collective service for the defence of human rights. This year, **donations have accounted for 38%** of the total funding received. The sponsorship campaign “La impunitat a judici” received donations from 752 people, raising a total of €34,690.

In total this year 2020 the project has cost **€164,156.08**, of which 88% are hours of dedication of criminal lawyers specialised in different topics, psychologists, researchers, the communication team and the technical administrative team. The total number of hours of dedication this year was **2,940 hours** of paid staff, 80% of whom are women, and **2,140 hours** of volunteer staff. The rest of the expenses are travel costs for the follow-up of cases, legal proceedings, communication and incidence, and indirect costs.

The rest of the funding is obtained from public and private subsidies, from some external services and from the organisation's own resources. In total, public funding was 26% while private funding was 36%. The main funders have been the UN Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture, with an endowment of \$35,000, the Government of Catalonia, with an endowment of €23,223.20 and the Barcelona City Council, with an endowment of €20,000, all three through competitive grants.

It should be noted that this project is possible thanks to the number of hours dedicated by Irídia's volunteers, the voluntary contributions of various individuals and groups, the correlation with the other projects of the organisation that provide solidity, funding and resources, and finally thanks to the general structure of the organisation.

3. Projects by area

3.1. MIGRATION AND RACISM

The Migration and Racism area has focused its work in 2020 on analysing, highlighting and denouncing the violations of rights that occur around the deportation system in Spain. In a context of radicalisation of social and institutional racism, the aim was to expand the work that was already being done on the situation and context of deportations in order to **generate discourse and policies that call for a change in migration policies and progress in the protection of civil rights**. It should be noted that, in addition to working in the area of deportation, the area carries out political advocacy work on other issues related to institutional racism, such as racial profiling and the situation at the Southern Border.

a) Deportation System and Racism; case study: Morocco

In the framework of the line of work on deportations, Irídia and Novact presented together the project *System of Deportation and Racism, case study: Morocco* to the line of education for development of the call for grants 2019 of Global Justice and International Cooperation of the Barcelona City Council. The project, which began in September 2019, sought to analyse Spain's deportation system, as well as the consequences of the externalisation of borders and the deportation system with respect to Morocco. The main objective of the project was to contribute to the respect and defence of the human rights of migrants and refugees by making the public aware of the causes, violations and difficulties that these people suffer in the process and context of migration policy in Spain, in order to create social awareness.

This project was fully affected by the pandemic situation, as it was not possible to carry out the planned trip to Morocco and the research process had to be carried out mainly online. On the other hand, it was possible to carry out interviews in Madrid and Barcelona.

The presentation of the report **“Human Rights Violations in Deportations”**^[1] took place on Tuesday 7 October 2020 at 6 p.m. in the lecture room 1 of the CCCB (Centre of Contemporary Culture of Barcelona). The event brought together 56 people (with limited seating capacity due to COVID-19), including representatives of anti-racist groups and members of civil society organised for the defence of the rights of migrants in Barcelona, as well as institutional actors from both the local and Catalan spheres. Barcelona citizens were also present. In addition to the attendance in person, the presentation was streamed live on YouTube and Twitter. The event has been recorded on the first of these platforms and has 164 reproductions.

[1] Available at: <https://iridia.cat/publicacions/vulneracions-de-drets-humans-en-les-deportacions/>

It should also be highlighted that the presentation event was preceded by a press conference that took place on Sunday 7 October 2020 at 10 a.m. at the Association of Journalists of Catalonia and that a communication campaign was carried out on social networks with graphic and audio-visual materials on the issue of deportations, its impact on human rights and the consequences of the model of control and surveillance by the rule of law, with the aim, on the one hand, of **raising awareness among the general public** and, on the other, to **challenge key political actors in the field of migration**. The campaign had 4,378 total interactions on Twitter, 364 interactions on Facebook, 569 on Instagram and 2,113 visits to the links containing the report. In the press, the report “Human Rights Violations in Deportations” has appeared directly or indirectly in a total of 16 news items in different media and has been presented in meetings with representatives of different parties of the Committee on the Interior of the Parliament of Catalonia and the Congress of Deputies of Spain in two telematic sessions.

It is worth noting that the information related to the report gave rise to a report on the Catalan television (TV3) news programme in which a deportee born in Madrid and several members of the research team were interviewed. The “TN migdia” news programme on 7 October had **472,000 viewers** and a 28.3% share, and “TN Nit” news programme had 701,000 viewers and a 27.8% share.

Finally, on 24 January 2021, the documentary **“Vides Deportades”**² was broadcast on **TV3** by Sònia Calvó, Yeray S. Iborra and João França, which is a direct result of this project on sports, and had **243,000 viewers**.

→ Funding

The project has been financed from the grant awarded by the Barcelona City Council – Global Justice and International Cooperation in 2019 for a total of €37,800 for the 15 months that last, the management and execution has been done in collaboration with Novact. In 2019, €719.82 was spent to start the research and investigation work, €36,280.17 was spent in 2020 and the last €800 in 2021 to carry out an economic audit.

The project has been co-financed with a private grant from Intermón Oxfam and Novact’s own resources. Irídia’s total contribution is €7,204.07.

[2] Available at: <https://www.ccma.cat/tv3/alacarta/30-minuts/vides-deportades/video/6080297/>

b) Executive report on human rights violations at the Southern border: Gran Canaria and Melilla

A context of health emergency such as the one produced by the COVID-19 does not exempt that the fundamental rights of people are respected in the context of an arrest. Nonetheless, the Ministry of the Interior and the National Police have created situations in which both the conditions and the time of detention have been made more flexible, without legal justification. This fact has generated exceptional spaces and situations in which is understood that not only there are violations of the rights of migrants, but also indications of a crime that must be investigated in depth. That is why Irídia, with the support of Intermón Oxfam, decided to carry out a report on the situation. Between 2 and 8 December 2020, a team of 4 researchers and a communicator travelled to Gran Canaria to carry out the fieldwork, interviewing many key actors. The report was presented on 28th January 2021.

→ Funding

The project has been financed through Intermón Oxfam, being the total of €7.000 of which €3.177,94 were spent in 2020 to start the research.



3.2. RIGHT TO PROTEST

The health crisis caused by COVID-19 has also affected the use of public space and, in particular, the exercise of the right to protest. On the one hand, the declaration of a state of alarm through the approval of Royal Decree 463/2020, of 14 March, led to the adoption of measures restricting the right to freedom of movement, adopting punitive mechanisms that particularly affected the most vulnerable people. On the other hand, the right of assembly and demonstration was not suspended, but limitations were placed on its exercise, and it also meant that imaginative protest actions were developed and adapted to the current pandemic situation.

For this reason, during 2020, the Right to Protest area continued to monitor violations of rights in public spaces, marked this year by the impact of COVID-19, especially within the framework of the Defensor a quien Defiende (DqD) platform. Likewise, advocacy activities have continued at European level on the right to protest in the framework of the Right2Protest (R2P) project, also adapted to the new context.

a) RIGHT2PROTEST (R2P)

Advocacy, lobbying and capacity building for civil and political rights in Europe (2018-2021)

“Right2Protest”³ is a project promoted by Novact - International Institute for Nonviolent Action - and Irídia on a biannual basis (2019-2021), with the support of the Barcelona Provincial Council, which arises from the observation of a context of regression of the protection of the right to protest in various European countries. The project aims to map the situation of this right in five countries (Spain, Hungary, France, Poland and Germany), as well as to offer a practical guide of mechanisms that can be undertaken in the event that this right has been violated.

The project aims to strengthen the coordination between organisations in the participating countries, as well as to carry out political advocacy at local and European level in order to reinforce the protection of the right to protest and defenders of rights in protest contexts.

[3] Available at: <http://protesteurope.org/>

During the year 2020, in the framework of this project, Novact and Irídia organised, with the support of the European Civic Forum, two European meetings that initially had to be in person, but due to the situation caused by the COVID-19, they had to be held virtually:

- The first one took place on 2 December 2020 and was entitled **“Towards a European strategy to protect the right to protest from organisations”**. It was attended by various European civil society organisations in order to share challenges and successes, as well as to exchange strategies to defend and protect the right to protest.
- The second, entitled **“European meeting to protect the right of assembly and demonstration in the context of the rule of law”**, took place on 3 December 2020. This was an opportunity to discuss and share with high-level representatives of the European Union, including several Members of the European Parliament, on the right of assembly and demonstration during the COVID-19 pandemic in the context of the EU rule of law.

→ Funding

The “Right2Protest” project was funded by a grant from the Barcelona Provincial Council granted in 2018 in partnership with the Novact Association. The grant was for a total of €37.838,55 to Irídia, of which €14.945,82 were spent in 2019, €16.770,28 were spent in 2020 and as the project had to be extended, due to the COVID-19, the remaining €6.122,45 are for 2021.



b) Defender a quien Defiende

The platform *Defender a quien Defiende*, created in Barcelona in October 2014, is made up of human rights defenders, journalists, lawyers, social collectives and other organisations such as the Human Rights Institute of Catalonia (IDHC) and Novact, including Irídia. Its aim is to create a coordinated network to provide a response to cases of human rights violations in the context of social protest in Spain.

This project was born as a reaction to the context of repression and criminalisation of protest and social movements, which has materialised in abuses by the State security forces and police and has culminated in the approval of new legislation – the reform of the Penal Code and the new Law on Citizen Security (known as the “Mordassa” Law), among others – that seeks to prevent demands in the current situation of economic and social crisis.

It is in this context that the coalition *Defender a quien Defiende* arises, in order to support and strengthen the actions and coordination of people and organisations working against abuses, to influence politically, socially and legally in the effective protection of civil and political rights. For this reason, we work from a triple strategy of communicative advocacy, strategic litigation and research with concrete proposals. The aim is to create regulatory frameworks and public policies that guarantee security while respecting human rights and fundamental freedoms, establishing a dialogue between the different actors of civil society.

During the year 2020, Irídia, together with Novact, has actively collaborated in the different activities developed by the platform in the framework of the campaigns **#AlarmaConDerechos** and **#DescaladaConDerechos**, promoted to give a response to possible abusive situations on the part of police forces during the first state of alarm. These activities were included in the report ***Protection of rights during the state of alarm 2020⁴***:

1. **Systematisation of incidents.** From mid-March 2020 to the beginning of July 2020, the platform monitored the actions of the State security forces in order to record and report possible abusive actions and violations of rights. A total of 330 incidents were recorded in 164 cases.
2. **First legal assistance.** In addition to the registration of the aforementioned incidents, legal advice was also offered in the event of doubts related to the application of Royal Decree 463/2020, in relation to the imposition of possible disproportionate and/or arbitrary administrative sanctions, as well as in cases of denunciation of abusive situations and police violence.
3. **Official communications to the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Ombudsman.** Within the framework of the platform, various human rights organisations submitted two letters, one dated 25 March 2020⁶ and the other dated 16 April 2020⁵, addressed to the Ombudsman and the Ministry of Home Affairs denouncing various cases in which police officers belonging to different police forces in Spain have engaged in the unauthorised use of force according to the protocols of action, detecting actions that could be criminal; situations of legal insecurity and police arbitrariness.
4. **Guides, manuals and videos for self-protection and knowledge of rights.** There was a need to develop and disseminate information and self-protection tools that would be useful to civil society.

[4] Available at: http://defenderaquiendefiende.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Defender_a_quien_defiende-5-1.pdf

[5] Available at: <https://defenderaquiendefiende.org/organizaciones-de-derechos-humanos-exigen-al-ministerio-de-interior-que-los-cuerpos-policiales-actuen-con-proporcionalidad-durante-el-estado-de-alarma/>

[6] Available at: <https://defenderaquiendefiende.org/organizaciones-de-derechos-humanos-exigen-que-se-investiguen-nuevos-casos-de-violencia-institucional-en-el-marco-de-estado-de-alarma/>

Likewise, on 4 June 2020, took place the webinar *“Challenges and responses to institutional violence in times of pandemic. The cases of Argentina, Chile, Colombia and Spain”*^[7]. The aim of the event was to share experiences in different Latin American countries and Spain in terms of restriction of rights and institutional violence, and to identify the challenges and responses that civil society is building in the context of the management of the COVID-19 pandemic.

It was attended by members of the *Campaign Defending Freedom: An Issue for Everyone* from Colombia, the *Centre for Legal and Social Studies* (CELS), the *National Institute of Human Rights of Chile* (INDH), the *World Organisation Against Torture* (OMCT) and the platform *Defender a quien Defiende*.

The poster is for a webinar titled "RETOS Y RESPUESTAS ANTE LA VIOLENCIA INSTITUCIONAL EN TIEMPOS DE PANDEMIA" (Challenges and Responses to Institutional Violence in Times of Pandemic). The subtitle is "LOS CASOS DE CHILE, ARGENTINA, COLOMBIA Y EL ESTADO ESPAÑOL" (The Cases of Chile, Argentina, Colombia and the Spanish State). The event is scheduled for Thursday, June 4th (JUEVES 4 Junio). The schedule is as follows: 18:00 for the Spanish State (ESTADO ESPAÑOL), 13:00 for Argentina (ARGENTINA), 12:00 for Chile (CHILE), and 11:00 for Colombia (COLOMBIA). The poster lists four speakers: Thais Bonilla (moderator, NOVACT), Alexandra González (Defender la Libertad), Manuel Tufro (CELS), and Julio Cortés (INDH). It also lists two organizers: Teresa Fernández (OMCT) and Anaís Franquesa (Centre Irídia). The poster features logos for Irídia, NOVACT, and DEFENDER A QUIEN DEFIENDE, along with a stylized icon of a person with a raised hand.

RETOS Y RESPUESTAS ANTE LA VIOLENCIA INSTITUCIONAL EN TIEMPOS DE PANDEMIA
LOS CASOS DE CHILE, ARGENTINA, COLOMBIA Y EL ESTADO ESPAÑOL

JUEVES 4 Junio

18:00 ESTADO ESPAÑOL
13:00 ARGENTINA
12:00 CHILE
11:00 COLOMBIA

Thais Bonilla, moderadora
NOVACT, organización miembro de **Defender a Quien Defiende**

Alexandra González
Campaña **Defender la Libertad: un Asunto de Todas**. Colombia

Manuel Tufro
CELS, **Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales**. Argentina

Julio Cortés
INDH, **Instituto Nacional de Derechos Humanos de Chile**

Teresa Fernández
OMCT, **Organización Mundial Contra la Tortura**

Anaís Franquesa
Centre Irídia. Estado español

Organiza **Irídia** **NOVACT**
Con el apoyo de **DEFENDER A QUIEN DEFIENDE**

[7] Available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=8z4XrkYCIWQ>

On 21 January 2020, the platform *Defender a quien Defiende* participated in the **Side-event on the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of the United Nations Human Rights Council of Spain on the right to protest** organised by the Human Rights Institute of Catalonia (IDHC).

During the event, the rights to freedom of expression, assembly and association (the right to protest), analysed in the report that the platform *Defender a quien Defiende* presented for consideration at the Universal Periodic Review of Spain, scheduled for 22 January, were addressed. Likewise, the restrictions on the exercise of these rights were analysed, focusing on the Spanish case, but with a comparative perspective within the Euro-Mediterranean region, with the aim of carrying out a diagnosis of the situation of the right to protest in Spain and to generate proposals and recommendations to the Spanish government to reverse the current situation of restrictions and limitations on civil society.

In 2020, the platform supported and participated in two of the round tables of the first meeting of the **Global Network against Police Violence**, recently promoted and formed by various human rights groups and organisations in Latin America. Specifically, on 15 September 2020, the *Irídia* area of the Right to Protest participated, as part of the platform *Defender a quien Defiende*, in the round table entitled **“Entre macanas, tonfas, lacrimógenos y bolillazos. Violencia policial y represión a la protesta”⁸**.



b) Red Malla

The Red Malla is a network of support and denunciation to collectively confront repression during the exercise of civil and political liberties. Created in 2016, it is the result of the work of organisations, media and groups that are members of the coalition *Defender a quien Defiende*. It is also a tool for the visibility and analysis of human rights violations committed by police forces and private security agents in Spain, especially in contexts of social protest (rights of assembly and demonstration, freedom of expression and information as a priority).

Anyone who has suffered or witnessed an assault, identification, arrest or fine while exercising their civil and political liberties can enter the data on the platform. Once entered, they will arrive at one of the territorial nodes that make up the network. At present, Malla has nodes in Madrid, Cádiz, Granada, Seville, Zaragoza and Barcelona, where the node is the Irídia area of the Right to Protest. The organisations that make up the nodes analyse the case and contact the affected person in order to analyse and verify the information before including it on the map. Through the registered cases, where necessary and within the possibilities of each node and the support organisations, legal support and accompaniment is given to the affected people.

During 2020, we worked on the **Red Malla report on the violation of the right to protest in 2019**⁹. This report was published at the beginning of 2021 because due to the COVID-19 pandemic it was not possible to publish it in 2020.

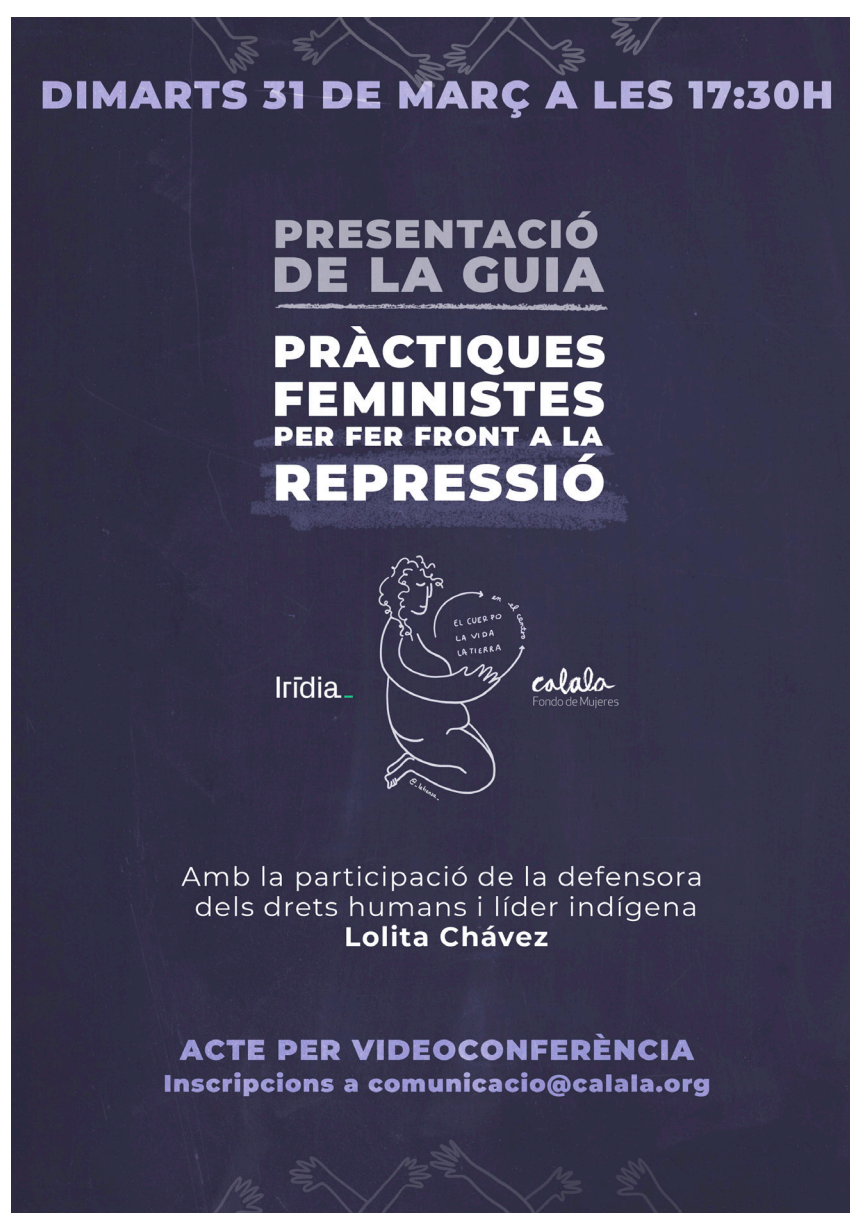
In 2019, a total of 113 cases were systematised in the form of administrative sanctions, judicial proceedings, arbitrary identifications or other police practices that violate the exercise of rights, including the excessive use of force, the most prominent incidents being those related to the right to housing, women's rights, the climate movement, mobilisations in Catalonia and anti-fascism.

[9] Available at: http://defenderaquiendefiende.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/INFORME2019_v3.pdf

3.3. GENDER

a) Feminist practices to confront repression

At the beginning of 2020, different members of the Right to Protest, Gender and Psychosocial areas of Irídia finalised the report **“Feminist practices to confront repression”**^[10], which is part of the programme “Safe women defenders. Building democracy and promoting human rights in Mesoamerica”, financed by the Catalan Agency for Development Cooperation (ACCD) of the Government of Catalonia in the 2017 call and coordinated by *Calala, Fondo de Mujeres*.



The aim of the document is to study and deepen how the application of a feminist perspective can guarantee the defence of human rights and the protection of those people who, through their social action, claim and defend them. Thus, using as an example the experiences and tools that have emerged and been implemented in Mesoamerica in contexts of repression, the report identifies the impacts, protection measures and countermeasures applicable to organisations, social movements and groups dedicated to the defence of social, civil and political rights in Catalonia.

In other words, based on the application of feminist and psychosocial perspectives that have taken into account the models applied by human rights defenders in Mesoamerica in contexts of political repression and persecution, this report details a series of protection and action tools applicable in situations of repression that are considered to be useful in our socio-political context. More specifically, the report highlights different practices that should enable the protection and empowerment of women activists and other groups (also activists) that are discriminated against in our societies, such as, for example, racialised groups or the LGBTBI group.

On 31 March 2020, the report was presented online, with the subsequent participation of the Guatemalan indigenous leader and human rights defender, Aura Lolita Chávez Ixcaquic. Lolita Chávez shared her experiences and knowledge of the struggles in Mesoamerica for the defence of land and territory and women's rights as part of the *Council of K'iche's Peoples for the Defence of Life, Mother Nature, Land and Territory* (CPK) of Guatemala, which emerged to confront transnational extractivist companies that violate the human rights of communities in the territories.

→ Funding

The work carried out has been financed through a service contract with Calala, Fondo de Mujeres, the entity that received the ACCD subsidy. The total cost of the service was €16,528.93, of which €5,349.12 were spent during 2020 on the preparation and presentation of the report.

3.4. HISTORICAL MEMORY

The Historical Memory area has continued to work throughout 2020 in collaboration with the network of memorialist organisations to highlight **the violations of fundamental rights by the State during the Franco dictatorship and the transition** and how this violation is perpetuated today by the policy of impunity implemented by the State.

Although the current context of restrictions for the COVID-19 has made it difficult to continue working fully for the right to truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-repetition, the area has adapted and adapted its projects to be able to carry them forward.

a) Impunities (Laietanes Project)

During 2020 Irídia has continued working together with the Ateneu de Memòria Popular of Barcelona within its project “Laietanes”, in the line of activities “IMPUNITIES”. In this context, the report *Torture as a crime against humanity in the Via Laietana police station during the Franco regime*, on the legal viability of the complaints for torture as a crime against humanity committed during the Franco regime, was drawn up. This report commissioned by the AMP to Irídia was accompanied by the historical context report on torture as a repressive tool of the regime and specifically the events of Via Laietana, which was written by the historian César Lorenzo.

The report includes a legal study of national and international law as well as the pronouncements of international monitoring bodies and jurisprudence and concludes that they support the thesis not only of the feasibility of opening investigations and prosecuting the torture of the Franco regime, but also of the obligation of the State to do so.

It was planned to present the report during 2020 in a face-to-face event with discussion panels on the impact of impunity both at a legal and psychosocial level. In the end, the event could not be held and is expected to be held in the near future.

This project is part of the campaign Memory against impunity for torture, whose final objective is to transform the Via Laietana building into a place of remembrance and to denounce the **need to investigate crimes against humanity committed during the Franco regime.**

→ Funding

The report has been financed by the AMP, with an endowment of €3.198 through external services.

b) Participation in the state network Encuentro por la Memoria in relation to the draft of the State Democratic Memory Law

In 2020 the Area of Memory has started its participation in this state network of memorialist organisations that joins to debate and contribute to the Draft Bill of the Law of Democratic Memory approved by the State Government on 15 September 2020 in order to advocate for a law that effectively remedies years of **lack of real public policies that protect and ensure the right to truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-repetition.**

In conjunction with the Ateneu de Memòria Popular, we have participated in the debates with the other entities, specifically in the area of the right to justice and have collaborated in the preparation of the document *“Conclusions of the 5th State Meeting of Historical Memory Collectives and Victims of Franco’s regime held on 10 and 24 October 2020; for a law to put an end to the Impunity of Francoism”* which contains an initial assessment of the proposed law, establishes red lines and makes proposals for real public policies to end the impunity of the Franco regime and the transition.

3.5. PRISONS

The aim of Irídia's Prisons area is to work to **defend the rights of prisoners and promote structural changes in the penal system** by monitoring prisons in Catalonia and intervening in the event of human rights violations. It also aims to contribute to the **generation of dialogue around prisons and to promote a public debate** on the need to generate changes in order to incorporate a system of alternative sentences to imprisonment.

During 2020, with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Prisons area worked on a campaign to guarantee the rights of people deprived of their liberty in the context of the restriction of rights that resulted from the declaration of the state of alarm. This campaign has been coordinated jointly with other entities, such as the Observatory of the Penal System and Human Rights of the University of Barcelona, and has aimed to bring to the Secretary of Penal Measures, Reinsertion and Victim Attention (hereinafter, SMPRAV) the **urgent measures that need to be taken to address the health emergency in Catalan prisons**. Likewise, once the phase of strict confinement in Catalonia was over, at the end of spring 2020, the area worked on a proposal for the deconfinement of Catalan prisons that passed on to the SMPRAV for its implementation.

On the other hand, during the year 2020, the Prisons Area has carried out three **training sessions aimed at external audiences** with the aim of explaining the workings of the organisation and the area, as well as raising awareness among the general public and opening the debate on institutional violence and cases of abuse and torture in Catalan prisons. More specifically, workshops have been held at the lecture room Aula d'Extensió Universitària de Barberà del Vallès, for first year students of the Degree in Criminology at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona and at the Association of Educators and Social Educators of Catalonia.

3.6. OTHERS

a) International Trial Watch

Irídia was one of the driving forces behind the **International Trial Watch – Catalan Referendum Case** platform, together with other organisations dedicated to the defence of citizens' rights and freedoms – the Col·lectiu Praga, the Catalan Association for the Defence of Human Rights, the Human Rights Institute of Catalonia, Novact and the Observatory of the Penal System and Human Rights of the University of Barcelona. The platform was presented on 17 December 2018 with the aim of managing and facilitating the presence of state and international observers at the Supreme Court trial against Catalan politicians and social leaders, which began on 12 February 2019.

Thanks to the work of *International Trial Watch*, it was possible for national and international observers to be present throughout the trial. Specifically, 61 experts participated: 40 international observers from 4 continents (Europe, America, Africa and Asia), 10 Spanish academics from different universities and former members of the judiciary and 11 members of organisations for the defence of rights and freedoms from all over Spain (Madrid, Valencia, Galicia, Andalusia, the Basque Country, the Balearic Islands and Catalonia).

The trial of the special case 20907/2017 began on 12 February and ended on 12 June 2019, in a total of 52 sessions at the Supreme Court of Madrid. The work carried out by the observers consisted of attending the trial in order to be able to make weekly assessments on the fulfilment of human rights during the trial. The assessments of the observers were made public on a weekly basis, and three observers also prepared individual reports analysing their experience in the process, which were also published on the platform's website. Afterwards, the platform produced daily reports of the sessions on the most relevant aspects of the trial from a human rights perspective, which were also made public on the platform's website.

Once the oral trial was over, the platform published a report based on the observation work carried out, to which 16 national and international organisations adhered. The report was presented publicly at an event at the CCCB in Barcelona on 9 July 2019, and covers mainly aspects of the oral trial, but also procedural issues arising from the investigation phase. The considerations resulting from the observation were grouped into two blocks: those referring to the substantive aspects of the case and those relating to procedural aspects.

On the international front, in July 2019, International Trial Watch submitted the **“Ombra” Report to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights for consideration in the context of the Universal Periodic Review of Spain** to be held on 22 January 2020. This report was taken in account for preparing the Report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (A/HRC/WG.6/35/ESP/3).

The sentence 459/2019 of the Supreme Court was made public on 14 October 2019 and the platform presented its legal-physical assessment one month later, on 14 November 2019, at a public event in Madrid. After a detailed analysis of the sentence, the platform concluded that the process and the sentence violate the following principles and rights: **the principle of criminal legality, the right to freedom, freedom of expression, ideological freedom, the right to peaceful assembly and the free exercise of representative public office, as well as the right to a fair trial with all guarantees**. The assessment was supported by 28 national and international organisations, and after a brief campaign to encourage jurists to sign up, 620 jurists from Spain and around the world expressed their support for the report.

During 2020, the platform’s website was redesigned to make it accessible and intuitive, so that all the materials generated (reports, weekly assessments, reports and basic documentation of the process) are easily accessible. The website is www.internationaltrialwatch.org and is considered to be of fundamental value in recording everything that has happened and the impact it has had on human rights. That is why a public presentation ceremony was held on 10 June 2020, with the participation of members of the platform and one of the observers of the trial: Claudio Paterniti of Antigone. Given its importance as a consultation tool, it is planned to continue to cover the hosting costs of the website for at least the next 7 years.

Finally, and in relation to funding, it should be highlighted that the platform has been financed solely by donations from the public and is independent of any political party or organisation.

→ Funding

In 2020 the project has meant an expenditure of €10,646.33, which has been spent from the €169,581.33 that were received in 2019 from the individual contributions received, of which €4,323.08 were spent in 2018, €151,423.50 in 2019, and a part remains to ensure the maintenance of the objectives of visibility of the platform for 7 more years. The economic audit of the project can be consulted on the platform’s website and on Irídia’s website.

b) NETPRALAT

“NETworking to strengthen PRe trial procedural rights by prActice oriented cross border LAwyers Training”

The **NETPRALAT** project started in October 2018 and was scheduled to last for a total of 24 months, until September 2020. Due to the consequences of COVID-19, the European Commission, which financed the project through its Justice Fund, agreed to extend it for 6 months, until March 2021.

This project aims to contribute to the effective implementation of Directives 2010/64/EU on the rights of interpretation and translation, 2012/13/EU on the right to information, 2013/48/EU on the right of access to a lawyer in pre-trial procedures, reinforcing the knowledge and practical skills needed by legal professionals to facilitate the **procedural rights of detainees and vulnerable persons and to reinforce certain aspects of the rights of detainees in pre-trial procedures.**

This project is made up of different partners: Consell de l'Advocacia Catalana (Council of Catalan Lawyers' Associations, CICAC), Maastricht University (UM), Human Rights Monitoring Institute of Lithuania (HRMI), Council of Polish Bar Associations (NRA), Irídia, Centre for the Defense of Human Rights, European Legal Interpreters and Translators Association (EULITA).

Throughout 2020, the implementation of the project has continued, specifically on:

Adaptation of training to Spanish jurisdiction

A committee of experts, including Irídia, has been set up to adapt the European training and materials to Spanish jurisdiction. The content of the training has been adapted, specifically to the Spanish domestic law, but also to the idiosyncrasy of detention and the real functioning of the Spanish police stations and the role of lawyers in the defence of detainees. This adaptation has resulted in new training materials, as well as a new “Guide for trainers”.

Implementation of two pilot training courses in Spain

The first state-wide training was planned just before the declaration of the state of alarm. A practical training for criminal lawyers to share and acquire the necessary skills to represent detainees in the preliminary stages of criminal proceedings, with a special focus on interrogations, working with interpreters, assessing the special needs of detainees and acting in possible situations of abuse.

Face-to-face training had to be suspended and, given the restriction of mobility throughout 2020, it was decided to adapt the face-to-face training to an online format, ensuring that it would continue to be a practical and dynamic training with a high level of participation.

Coordination of the project

Throughout the year, several project coordination meetings have been held in order to solve difficulties and to discuss and agree on the strategies for the implementation of the project. Several telematic meetings have been held between the partner organisations to discuss specific activities.

Dynamization of the International Interchange Network

Throughout 2020, the International Interchange Network, a tool to facilitate cooperation and exchange of knowledge between legal professionals from different EU Member States in order to effectively implement EU directives and safeguard the procedural rights of persons under investigation in pre-trial proceedings, continued to be revitalised. In order to make the network more dynamic, a strategy has been implemented with a double objective: to attract more participants to the Network and to increase its participation by proposing interesting activities for lawyers (webinars, analysis of case law, comparative analysis between jurisdictions).

→ Funding

The grant awarded to Irídia by the European Commission for the implementation of the project has been a total of €37,231.72 to be spread over the 30 months that the project has finally lasted, of which €6,604.59 have been spent during 2020. The project's ceiling is destined for 2021, as the planned dedication of the staff will increase compared to 2020, when activities have been paralysed.

c) Psychosocial: elaboration of the guide “Recommendations for care and well-being in times of confinement”

Due to the health emergency caused by COVID-19 and the resulting home confinement, the Psychosocial Team of Irídia produced a guide of “Recommendations for care and well-being in times of confinement” aimed at the general population. The manual is divided into individual, family and community recommendations. It was disseminated through social networks and was sent to elderly people member of Irídia. The aim of the guide was to **contribute to improving the emotional well-being of the population** in the exceptional context of the health crisis caused by COVID-19.



[11] Available at: <https://iridia.cat/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Recomanacions-Confinament-IRI%CC%81DIA-1.pdf>

4. Campaigns

The aim of the campaigns is to raise public awareness and denounce situations of violation of civil and political rights, as well as to promote legislative improvements in relation to the strategic objectives of the organisation. They are built on the work of the different areas and strategic litigation carried out by SAIDAVI and help us to publicise what the organisation does to grow our social base. In most cases we work in collaboration with other organisations, with whom Irídia maintains fluid communication and coordinated work.

Throughout 2020 Irídia has worked on a total of 4 campaigns, 3 of which have been fully linked to the health, political and social situation that has been seen in relation to the pandemic by COVID-19. The strategy for these campaigns is defined within the communication and advocacy team in coordination with the work areas and consists of a combination of active communication work on social networks, promoting the presence of the debates in the media and developing relations with institutions through meetings with key institutional and social actors. Furthermore, in order to feed these campaigns, it is used the plenary session, in which all the members of the organisation participate, to generate consensus and political positions of the organisation.

#CIErreYA

One of the first campaigns was #CIErreYA, related to achieving compliance with the recommendation of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights that detention centres for migrants should be closed in the context of the pandemic. Moreover, the fact that the borders were closed, as well as the maximum detention period of 60 days, made the situation intolerable. At the end of March, the temporary closure of the Barcelona CIE was decreed, and it was extended to the rest of the CIEs in Spain in the following weeks.

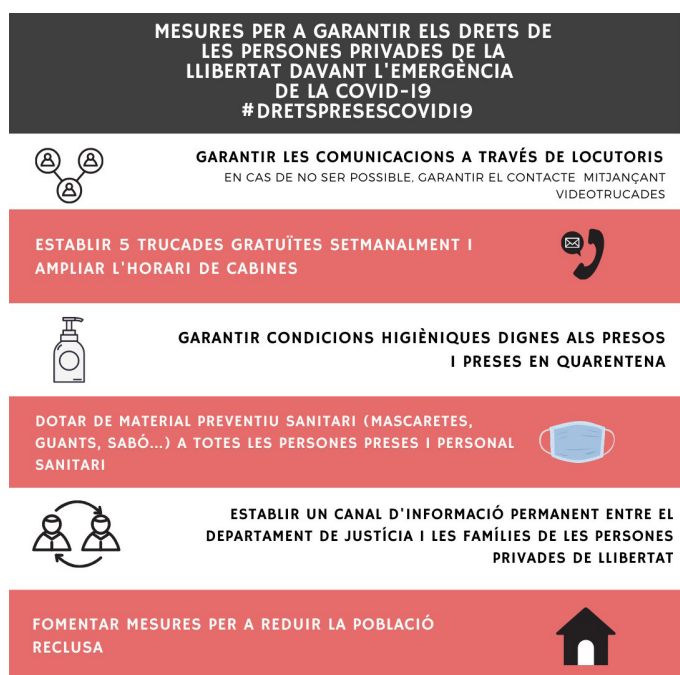
The campaign #CIErreYA, also known as LibertadyCIErre, was launched alongside different groups from all over Spain as part of the State Campaign for the Closure of CIEs. The main tasks that were carried out were, on the one hand, a reiterative work on the importance of the closure in complex health situations, and on the other hand, the sending of joint communications with other organisations (Migrastudium, SOS Racisme, Tanquem els CIE) to the authorities and the press. This work had a high media impact, and Irídia appeared directly or indirectly in a total of at least 30 press releases. All the press releases were posted on the website

#DretsPresesCOVID

The second of the campaigns that lídia developed was #DretsPresesCOVID, related to the rights of people deprived of liberty in the context of the pandemic. In Catalonia it was held at the Observatory of the Penal System and Human Rights (OSPDH) and the Catalan Association for the Defence of Human Rights (ACDDH), and in Spain it was held at different entities such as the Andalusian Association for Human Rights (APDHA) and Salhaketa Navarra.

Within this framework, it was achieved that third degrees would be facilitated for people who were in a suitable situation for not having to be in prison, as well as the incorporation of video surveillance systems between prisoners and their families. The aim was, in addition to facilitating contact between prisoners and their families, to guarantee mechanisms for contact with the outside world in the face of the pandemic situation and the possible generation of situations of institutional violence.

The campaign began under the slogan #TercerGrauACasa, with a video capsule of the different entities, and focused on the need to guarantee the contact of prisoners with the outside world, to avoid dangerous situations at the health level and to prevent situations of institutional violence. The main tasks that were carried out were, on the one hand, a reiterative work on the importance of the rights of prisoners in complex health situations, and on the other hand, the sending of joint communications with other organisations, which were posted on the website and reflected in some press articles.



#AlarmaConDerechos

On the other hand, from March to June, during the police management of the pandemic and the decree of home confinement, the organisation carried out a task of monitoring the security forces throughout the state in order to ensure their correct management. In view of the declaration of the state of alarm, a campaign was developed, alongside Novact and in the framework of the platform Defender a quien Defiende, to promote respect for human rights in a context of limitation of fundamental rights as a result of the health emergency.

This campaign was entitled #AlarmaConDerechos and had a strong impact on social networks, using this hashtag to denounce the situations of rights violations that Irídia detected from the service and also with the videos that were published on social networks recorded by residents from the balconies. In this context, we did a great job of raising awareness and denouncing the violations committed in this exceptional legal situation. We also sent press releases to the press and posted them on the website, and we appeared as a direct or indirect source in various written media, radio and television. The #AlarmaConDerechos campaign identified, made visible, and allowed us to assess and denounce cases of institutional violence, disproportionate use of force, arbitrary arrests and detentions, and the imposition of administrative fines throughout Spain, but especially in the city of Barcelona.

#LalmpunitatAJudici

Once the situation began to normalise, in October 2020, Irídia launched a crowdfunding campaign through the Goteo platform to broaden the social base of the organisation that focused on the cases Irídia is carrying: #LalmpunitatAJudici. The campaign highlighted the need to receive support from the public to bring to justice those responsible for the police violence of 1 October 2017, the police violence of October 2019 in the post-sentence context and also police racism, among others.



For this campaign Irídia developed 7 video capsules, 4 of which are directly related to the litigation: the first one on #ViolènciaPolicial10AJudici, where we focused on the charges of the agents in each school, with images from the archive, in relation to the 13 victims represented. The second video dealt with the revelation of the data concerning the agents charged and the victims represented in the protests in the afternoon of 2019. Another video was specifically dedicated to providing information about the young man who lost his eye on 14 October at the airport. Finally, it was recorded a video with some of the victims we represent, which focuses on the visibility of the psychosocial damage caused by institutional violence to the people affected.

In this campaign it has been essential to give centrality to the litigation that are carried out at a communicative level. In this sense, Irídia has worked and developed a communication strategy that seeks to highlight what Irídia does and what it has achieved as an organisation that defends human rights, focusing on the importance of influencing public policies. Press releases were sent to journalists and a strong communication effort was made on social networks, continuously informing about the data of the service, agents under investigation and charges, with some details of specific cases. On 14 October, we held a press conference to update the organisation on the cases Irídia is dealing with in relation to October 2019, which was attended by a total of 10 media outlets, and where Irídia focused on the case of the young man who lost his eye at the airport.



On the other hand, there was also important communicative support and strategy in terms of updating the 1-O cases, such as that of Roger Español. The specific case of the flying foot strike at the IES Pau Claris was particularly relevant, appearing in a total of 22 news items in different media when Irídia reported on the identification and indictment of the agent responsible. This news had a particularly strong media response and led to an increase in interactions on Irídia's social networks.

Irídia has continued to implement a communication strategy focused on social networks, understanding their usefulness in facilitating, simplifying and speeding up the transmission of information, both on the work of the organisation and on the political and social context. One of the central objectives of the communication has been to offer rigorous information to society on the evolution of the cases Irídia is dealing with. The video capsules have had a very positive impact.

During the campaign, the communication team decided to innovate by carrying out for the first time the initiative “Irídia converses with 2020”, with four separate debates via Instagram Live. On 13 October, Sani Ladan, activist and intercultural mediator, and Edith Espinola, spokesperson for #RegularizaciónYa, moderated by Andrés García Berrio, began the cycle with a conversation on racism and deportations.

On 20 October, human rights lawyer and activist Pastora Filigrana and Anaïs Franquesa talked about protest and institutional violence. On the 27th, Alejandro Torrús, journalist for Público, and Anaïs Franquesa discussed historical memory. To conclude this cycle, on 3 November, Kathy Sey, African descent actress and singer, and Lamine Bathily, spokesperson for the Sindicat de Manterers, spoke about police racism, moderated by Andrés García Berrio.

Furthermore, as a reward for the crowdfunding campaign, totebags were ordered with an illustration by the artist Joan Manel, which symbolically represents the work that Irídia does. The screen printing of the totebags was done through Monestereo, an initiative of the Sants neighbourhood that works with eco-sustainable material.



Irídia

www.iridia.cat

oct	13	Sani Ladan i Edith Espinola	hrs	19:00	RACISME I DEPORTACIONS
oct	20	Pastora Filigrana	hrs	19:30	PROTESTA I VIOLÈNCIA INSTITUCIONAL
oct	27	Alejandro Torrús	hrs	19:00	MEMÒRIA HISTÒRICA
nov	03	Kathy Sey i Lamine Bathily	hrs	19:00	RACISME POLICIAI

#LalmpunitatAJudici

#5anysIrídia

5. Communication, impact and repercussion in the media

5.1. COMMUNICATION

Communication is one of the main pillars of Irídia. It has been through this task that it has been possible to consolidate the level of impact of the organisation in only 5 years. A good communication strategy is essential in order to influence and transform the social and political reality. The main objective of this area is to make the general public, institutions and political parties aware of what Irídia does on a daily basis, transmitting the organisation's approach to human rights through its own social networks and the media and disseminating it through projects carried out jointly with like-minded organisations, as well as being a platform and a tool at the disposal of citizens to denounce human rights violations in Catalonia and around the world.

In this sense, strategic litigation is one of our main tools for political advocacy, from which we aim to generate impact on state structures, in the understanding that these violations are not isolated cases. Irídia also disseminates the projects carried out by the different areas of work, publishing information on reports, events and training.

The denunciation of human rights violations in Barcelona and in the rest of the world and the dissemination of the work done by the associative network to reverse this situation has an impact on the collective imagination from a critical but at the same time empowering perspective. Irídia places special emphasis on the publication of news and reports produced by different media related to human rights, always contrasting sources, and on denouncing violations of rights in the context of protest, public space or deprivation of liberty with rapid and rigorous communication, making use of images made available by the public.

Campaigns are also one of the main tasks of the Communication and Advocacy area, carried out in coordination with the work areas and other groups and organisations involved. To define the campaigns, Irídia focuses on creativity and experiment with different audio-visual and graphic materials and formats so that they are attractive and generate visual impact and content, with great care in the graphic design, audio-visual material and the quality of the photographs, and with the presence, if necessary, of Irídia's corporate image.

5.2. ADVOCACY

Irídia positions itself in front of the current fundamental rights, establishing as our main objectives the political incidence, always through a psychosocial, feminist and intersectional point of view. Through communication campaigns and the dissemination of the work done in the different areas of work, Irídia seeks to:

- Influence institutional political decisions.
- Influence electoral campaigns.
- Influence the speeches of political parties so that they incorporate human rights as a fundamental axis of their political objectives.
- Influence social discourses and practices.
- Influence police forces as a public service that should be close to the people, generating a framework of fluid relations and a space for reflection with the aim of changing their internal functioning.

During 2020, advocacy work focused mainly on the following points:

a) Correct identification of Mossos d'Esquadra police agents in public order functions.

The campaign for the police identification of officers of the Mossos d'Esquadra who carry out public order duties, the most important of the year, has been carried out jointly with Amnesty International Catalonia. This campaign responds to the need to put an end to impunity in cases of police violence, which is the subject of strategic litigation. Given the importance of this objective, a campaign has been carried out to raise awareness of the lack of identification of many police officers in public order functions and its consequences, as well as the institutional dialogue that will articulate the reform of the regulations that will be approved by the parliament in November 2019^[11].

The implementation of the reform was carried out during 2020 in the Mobile Brigade area of the Mossos d'Esquadra. It remains pending its implementation in the ARRO units of the Mossos d'Esquadra. This is a great step forward in the defence of human rights.



b) Creation of a committee on institutional racism in the Catalan Parliament.

On 8 July 2020, Parliament approved the creation of a committee to study racism in security management. Its aim was to establish a shared diagnosis on the measures that should be taken to avoid any racial discrimination in the management of public and private security. The Commission was set up but was not concluded as the legislature ended prematurely. There is a commitment from the parliamentary groups to create it again in this new legislature.

c) Presentation with Amnesty International of a Non-Law Proposal to introduce mechanisms to control the use of taser guns in the Congress of Deputies

In the PNL presented to the parliamentary groups, Irídia proposed to request to guarantee the training of agents and to prohibit the use of “repeated or prolonged” discharge, as well as the use of this device “against certain groups”, citing “minors, people with emotional disorders or mental or physical incapacity, or people under the influence of drugs”. It was also requested that all actions in which tasers are used be recorded as well as that its use be clearly limited to exceptional situations. The Non-Law Proposal has been presented by a parliamentary group and will soon be put to the vote in the Committee on the Interior of the Congress of Deputies.



5.3. REPERCUSSION IN THE MEDIA AND SOCIAL NETWORKS

During 2020, Irídia has consolidated relations with different Catalan and national media. There have been established trusting relationships with journalists who on many occasions use Irídia as a source of reference, or request its vision on a specific topic in relation to the cases and projects Irídia carries and in relation to current issues related to the defence of human rights.

This year Irídia has once again had a significant presence in the media, in different formats, from the written press - news, personal and in-depth interviews, reports, opinion articles - to radio programmes and various interventions on television, in the context of press conferences, interviews, reports, debates and documentaries.

During 2020 Irídia has appeared in ARA, La Directa, el Punt Avui, la Xarxa.net, El País, eldiario.es, TV3 (Els Matins, daily TV news bulletin, Planta Baixa, 30 minuts, Tot es Mou and Sense Ficció), La Vanguardia, Público, Catalunya Ràdio, VilaWeb, El Temps, betevé, Cadena SER, el Nacional.cat, La República, COPE, ACN, EFE, Europa Press, Mediacat, Etb, RTVE, La Sexta, Tele 5 and Antena 3.

On the other hand, social networks are one of the cornerstones of our communicative work, especially with regard to the direct and immediate connection between the work we do and the citizens. Social networks allow Irídia to generate an open dialogue with citizens and a communicative space through which each user can make use of Irídia's information, and this often generates an exponential growth of the impact in terms of political advocacy.

In addition, Irídia provides its followers with rigorous and useful information on human rights violations, combining journalistic articles, its own and other organisations' reports, audio-visual material, information on our events and those of other groups, and a daily monitoring of current affairs. Irídia also uses social networks as a platform for denouncing and questioning institutions, often calling for accountability.

In 2018 it was published a new corporate image that is mainly disseminated through our website. During 2019 Irídia has been completing and enriching this platform with information about what the organisation does on a daily basis according to the area of work, campaigns and audio-visual material. During this 2020 it was updated the website with new, more interesting and in-depth information pages, such as the Publications section, with all the published reports, and Transparency, with the Annual Accounts, Documentation, Social Balance Sheet and Funding. Furthermore, it has been updated the Collaborate section and created a special section, the Members' Area, with a username and password, to provide a private space for members' transactions. In 2020, a total of 64,301 users visited Irídia's main web page.

Irídia's current figures on social networks are as follows:



45.800 followers on Twitter
(6.000 **more** than last year).



5.552 followers on Instagram
(2.152 **more** than last year).



10.616 followers on Facebook
(888 **more** than last year).

At the same time, Irídia also has a **Telegram channel** with a total of **2,643 subscribers**, who have been regularly informed of the progress being made in the field and awareness of human rights violations in Catalonia and around the world.

6. Funding

From the area of Economics and Accounting is worked to ensure that Irídia is a sustainable entity from an economic and independent perspective from a political point of view. Understanding that the tasks that are carried out could not be carried out if it wasn't combined paid work with activism, and that is why some of the actions Irídia carries out do not have their own funding, but in all cases, they are integrated by a team that supports them.

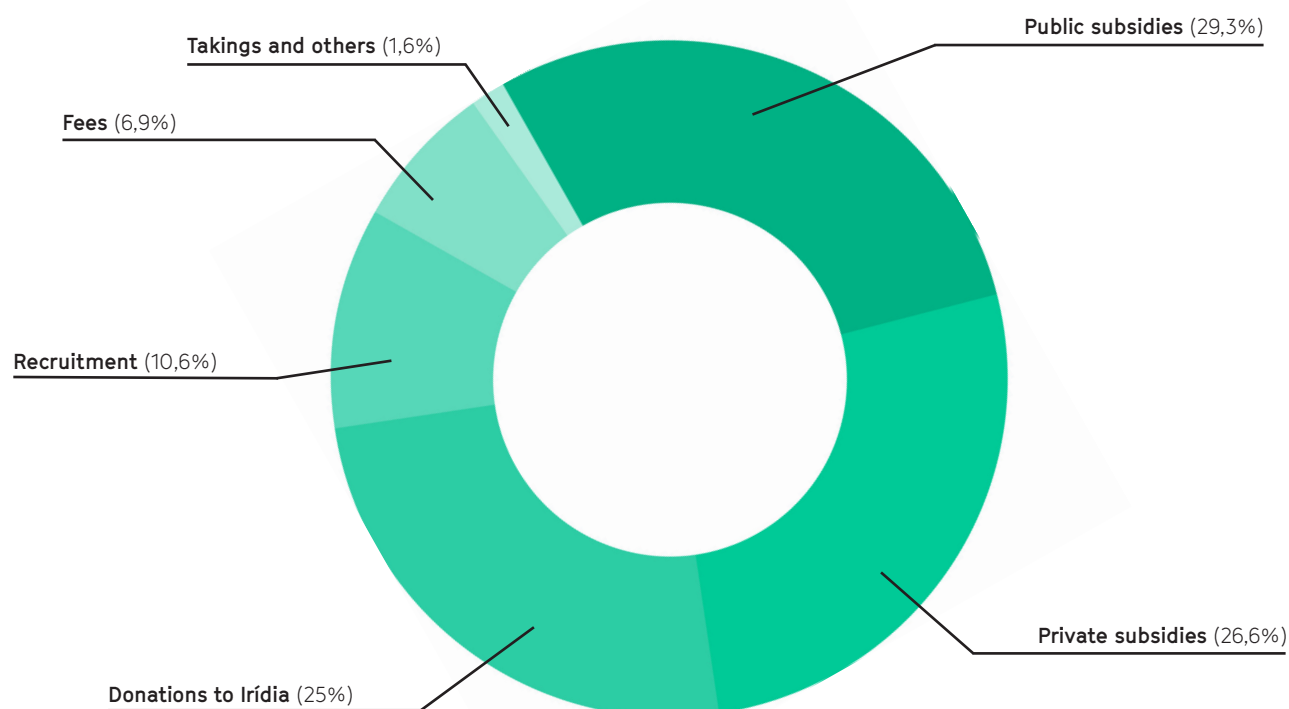
Irídia is a non-profit association, financed by public subsidies, private subsidies, donations and external services. It is committed to a balance between the different sources of funding, giving priority to **donations, as these are aimed at building a collective project in defence of human rights.**

This year was the first period of implementation of the grant awarded by the UN Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture, one of SAIDAVI's main sources of funding. It should also be noted that, although COVID-19 has affected many of the activities of the projects, the organisation has not been greatly affected in its activity and the planned budget has been met almost in its entirety.

Incomes

The total income of Irídia in 2020 was **€366,536.20** (provisional figures). Irídia's income, as mentioned above, is divided between donations, public and private subsidies, external service contracts, membership fees, and income from takings at events. As an entity, the income is computed taking into account the execution corresponding to the year.

Incomes Irídia 2020



The 29.3% of Irídia's funding came from public subsidies, amounting to a total of 107,573.57€. The subsidies corresponding to 2020 from the different administrations and departments are listed below (with details of the period of execution of the subsidy):

- **Barcelona City Council:**
 - Department of Citizenship Rights 2020
 - Cooperative, Social and Solidarity Economy and Consumption 2020
 - Global Justice and International Cooperation (in partnership with the Novact Association) 2019-2020
- **Barcelona Provincial Council:**
 - Development Cooperation of the Directorate of International Relations (grouped with the Novact Association) 2018-2021
- **Government of Catalonia:**
 - Ministry of Employment, Social Affairs and Families 2020
- **European Commission:**
 - Justice and consumers (in partnership with CICAC and others) 2018-2021

	Total of the subsidy	Total of the subsidy granted to Irídia	Execution % during 2020	Total corresponding to 2020
Barcelona City Council				60.975,50 €
Department of Citizenship Rights	20.000 €	20.000 €	100 %	20.000,00 €
Cooperative, Social and Solidarity Economy and Consumption	9.500 €	9.500 €	49 %	4.695,33 €
Global Justice and International Cooperation	37.800 €	37.800 €	96 %	36.280,17 €
Barcelona Provincial Council				16.770,28 €
Development Cooperation of the Directorate of International Relations	79.609,20 €	37.838,55 €	44 %	16.770,28 €
Government of Catalonia				23.223,20 €
Ministry of Employment, Social Affairs and Families	23.223,20 €	23.223,20 €	100 %	23.223,20 €
European Commission	377.602,63 €	37.231,72 €	18 %	6.604,59 €
Total public subsidies corresponding to 2020				107.573,57 €

A 25% of the income has come from **donations** to Irídia, the total amount being €91,820.76. Donations can go to one of our projects in particular or to the organisation in general, making possible a solid structure that allows us to develop all our projects. 34,690 of the donations came from the crowdfunding campaign entitled “Impunity on trial”. Some of the crowdfunding rewards were to become a member of Irídia, so it is expected that, as in previous years, in the future these donations will be consolidated to become membership fees.

The 26.6% of Irídia’s total funding in 2020 came from **private grants**, a total of €97,502.12. The sources of private funding are the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights - OHCHR, through the UN Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture, Intermón Oxfam through the Programa Domèstic, and the Foundation for the Promotion of the Open Society Initiative for Europe (OSIFE) through a 3-year agreement awarded in 2018.

	Total granted	% execution during 2020	Total corresponding to 2020
OSFIE	132.552,90 €	35 %	46.103,41 €
United Nations Voluntary Fund for Torture Victims	32.242,80 €	100 %	32.242,80 €
Programa Domèstic 2019 Intermón Oxfam	10.000 €	85 %	8489,88 €
Programa Domèstic 2020 Intermón Oxfam	10.000 €	75 %	7.488,09 €
Executive Report Southern Border 2020-2021	7.000 €	47 %	3.177,94
Total private subsidies corresponding to 2020			97.502,12 €

The 10.6% of the funding for 2020 was for one-off **contracts** for the preparation of reports, training, workshops, consultancy and the organisation of conferences and campaigns. In total, income from external services amounted to €38,397.47. The contracts were awarded by Calala Fondo de Mujeres, the Novact Association, the University of Barcelona, Òmnium Cultural, the Ateneu de Memòria Popular, Palma City Council, the Fundació Autònoma Solidària, and others. The income obtained from contracts is allocated both to the internal structure of the organisation and to different projects depending on the type of contract.

The 6.9% of Irídia's funding in 2020 came from membership **fees**, although this percentage is constantly growing. During 2020, 1,023 new people became members of Irídia, with a total of 1,342 members at the end of the year, and a collection of €255,242.28. Thanks to all the people who have donated or paid a contribution, Irídia can continue to actively protect and promote justice. It is possible to join and become part of the community of people committed to human rights through Irídia's website: iridia.cat/fem-iridia.

Finally, **takings and other items** could not be carried out as usual, as it was not possible to hold the events due to COVID-19. Nevertheless, Irídia has received the 2019 Civic Award of the Government of Catalonia, of €1,000 and an extraordinary economic aid for third sector entities of €5,000.

Expenses

The total expenditure for Irídia in 2020 was **€356,797.88** (provisional figures). At Irídia, most of the expenses are the human resources of the organisation: this year, 74% of the total expenses have been destined to the remuneration of the staff, being the total of €265,775.74, with an average of 17 people hired.

However, some tasks require the contracting of **external professional services**, such as the collaboration of journalists and photographers, collaboration in the preparation of some special reports, artists and production of events, professional psychosocial support services, translation services, layout and web maintenance costs. The total amount of external contracts was €36,824.96, 10% of the total.

Regarding the external services, it is necessary to differentiate the **costs related to the legal proceedings** that are assumed as an entity. Irídia collects the costs of solicitor's fees, notary's fees, expert's fees and other costs related to the cases that are handled. In total, in 2020 it was €1,165.99.

Communication is an essential pillar of the organisation, which is why the budget is mainly earmarked for the dedication of the organisation's own staff, but it is also accompanied by expenses for layout, printing, advertising and renting rooms for events and press conferences. The total this year was €15,449.93.

The **indirect** costs are the rental, tax and labour management, supplies, digital packaging and software, with a total of €18,042.93.

In 2020 the organisation opened its new headquarters in La Comunal, a cooperative cultural space shared with 7 other social and solidarity economy organisations. As a partner of La Comunal, Irídia has provided social capital and voluntary contributions to make the project possible. In total the contributions have been €3,864.17, including the contributions to La Comunal, as well as the subscription fees to federations and other entities of which Irídia is a member, such as La Directa, Migreurop, LaFede.cat, Coop57 and Ateneu de Memòria Popular.

Travel, accommodation and subsistence allowances are expenses related to the various projects of the organisation. They also include daily allowances for volunteer staff and travel for incidental tasks. In total, they amounted to €3,716.13 in travel and €2,243.63 in accommodation and subsistence.

Budget line	Import
Recursos humanos	265.775,74 €
Contrataciones externas	36.824,96 €
Alquiler, gestoría y suministros	18.042,93 €
Viajes y desplazamientos	3.716,13 €
Comunicación	15.449,93 €
Alojamiento y dietas	2.243,63 €
Comisiones (Goteo y bancarias)	2.832,34 €
Gastos judiciales de casos	1.165,99 €
Seguros	1.432,77 €
Equipo de oficina	2.968,43 €
Aportaciones	3.864,17 €
Auditorías internas y de proyectos	1.768,89 €
Trámites, impuestos y otros	711,95 €
Total	356.797,88 €

Finally, it should be emphasised that the work Irídia carries out could not be done without the contribution of volunteer hours to the organisation. During 2020 the volunteer hours dedicated to the projects have been a total of **2,300 hours of internships and 700 hours of volunteering.**

Irídia thanks the following entities, companies and individuals who have provided professional volunteer hours to contribute to the project:

MMMU Arquitectes
Lluís Gené Torrandell
Gemma Sastre
Martí Cruz Cisqueilla
Sònia Calvó Carrió
Aguiló Gràfic SL
Victor Serri
Jordi Borràs
Xavi Hurtado
Martí Urgell
Carles Palacio
Brais G. Rouco

Result

The result of 2020 has been positive, with €9,738.32 (provisional figures, before taxes). The positive results are reverted in the own activity of the entity, as a reserve fund.

For more information on each project in particular, please consult the section on *Financing* of each project described in this report.

Irídia continues to grow in terms of equipment, financial resources, quality, rigour, social recognition and diversity of subjects, evolving towards a solid and stable structure. The economic growth over these years can be seen in the following graph, which shows the results of annual income and expenditure since the foundation of the association. It must be said that the crisis generated by COVID-19 has not had a negative effect with a substantial decrease in the budget, but it has slowed down the exponential growth of the organisation at an economic level.

