

# 2022

# ACTIVITY

# REPORT



Irīdia\_



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# 1. The organisation

**Irídia** – Center for the Defense of Human Rights is a non-profit organisation whose main objective is to **raise the standards of protection of human rights in relation to institutional violence, racism and migration, historical memory, deprivation of liberty and the right to protest.**

Irídia's mission is to stand up for and defend human rights, especially civil and political rights. We achieve this through a **combination of strategic litigation, psychosocial support provision, transformative communication and political advocacy from an intersectional feminist perspective**, geared to encouraging changes in public policies. Our values are consistency, social change, independence from the influence of governmental and other powers, global justice and transparency. Irídia seeks to play its part in a meaningful, rigorous and independent way in the Catalan, Spanish and international networks of human rights organisations and social movements.

Irídia is an association that is built together by the members, workers and volunteers who actively participate in the organisation. Through membership fees and donations, the people who support the project make it viable as a free-to-access service for the general public. Currently, **our organisation has 1,470 members (data to the end of the year 2022), 13 volunteers and trainees, and 21 workers who make up the multidisciplinary support team.**

The organisation is made up of a members' assembly, a board of directors, a management team, a coordination team, and a plenary body. The functions, tasks and relationships between these parties is structurally defined in order to ensure an organisational sustainability adapted to the needs of the association and to promote its growth.

Contributions from members of the public in the form of donations and fees are the most valuable source of funding for Irídia, as they symbolise society's support for the work we carry out. It is for this reason that we are focused on the growth of this source of income, as well as the consolidation of public financing. Overall, the organisation's budget has increased by 44% over the previous year.

Irídia is based in Barcelona, at La Comunal, Riera de Escuder 38 Nave 1 bajos, 08028 Barcelona. The organisation's Tax Identification Number (NIF) is G66610882, and it is included in Government of Catalonia's register of associations (number 57634). At Irídia, we carry out our work principally in Catalonia, although we also have an office in Madrid which focuses on national political advocacy and regional and international outreach.

## 2. Strategy, projects and activities

Throughout 2022, Irídia worked intensively on the **design and deployment of the [Strategic Plan 2023-2025](#)**, which will serve as a roadmap for the coming years.

In line with Irídia's mission, vision and values, the Strategic Plan led to a **process of collective reflection over 2022 on the structure of the organisation and the operational design of our working strategy**, which in turn paved the way for the following configuration:

- **Lines of work** according to thematic areas: Service for Attention and Reporting in Situations of Institutional Violence (SAIDAVI); Transparency and accountability of police and security forces; Policies, regulations and practices for migration control and border management; Defence of civil liberties; Defence of the rights of the detained, and Strengthening the right to democratic memory.
- **Cross-cutting axes**, which intersect all lines of work to provide common methodologies and ways of working: strategic litigation; psychosocial perspective; communication, advocacy and culture, and sustainability

The following pages include a description of the projects, actions and activities that Irídia carried out in 2022.



## 2.1. Protection of human rights: Institutional violence, racism, democratic memory, detention and protest

### a. SAIDAVI: Prevention and reporting of institutional violence

Irídia's **Service for Attention and Reporting in Situations of Institutional Violence (SAIDAVI)** is a free-to-access service that offers **legal and psychosocial support to people who have suffered institutional violence in Catalonia**. This covers situations in which public bodies breach human rights through the use of any physical or psychological force which constitutes degrading treatment, or which leads to physical and psychological harm. SAIDAVI is particularly focused on infringements of rights committed or permitted by law enforcement officials.

SAIDAVI employs a **comprehensive care methodology: it offers psychosocial and legal care to affected individuals, as well as seeking justice and reparation**. Depending on the nature of the case and if the person so wishes, cases may be taken on as part of wider strategic litigation, with the aim of influencing and achieving changes in legislation and guidelines as means of taking steps forward in the recognition, protection and guaranteeing of human rights.

#### Data on the prevention and reporting of institutional violence in 2022:

**Over 2022, 113 people contacted SAIDAVI** to report cases of alleged human rights infringements. Of these, **57 fell within the scope of the Service**. These requests were met with the provision of an initial psycho-legal interview with the affected person, legal advice, psychosocial support and/or communications and advocacy work. Visits were also made to prisons and the Immigrant Detention Centre (CIE) in Barcelona. In a number of cases, referrals were made to other organisations with expertise in areas different to that of SAIDAVI.

Of the 57 requests received that fell within the scope of the Service, **legal representation was taken on in 6 cases**, in addition to one further case which came to the attention of the Service in 2021 and was taken on as litigation in 2022. As such, SAIDAVI **undertook 7 new cases of litigation**. Six of these cases relate to institutional violence in public space, and three of these to racial discrimination. The seventh relates to events which occurred in a private residence. In addition to these, there were 55 cases which remained ongoing from the previous year. As a result, **in 2022, SAIDAVI's lawyers and psychologists handled a total of 62 cases as part of the organisation's strategic litigation services**. This involved carrying out 400 legal counselling and follow-up sessions and 205 psychosocial interventions, in addition to corresponding action in communication and political advocacy such as press conferences and releases and meetings with political representatives.

**Of these 62 cases, 57 remained open at the end of 2022, with 5 ending during the year.** Of the 57 cases which remain open, 26 related to events which occurred during the exercise of the right to freedom of assembly and demonstration; 2, during the exercise of the right to freedom of expression and information; 5, in prisons; 6, in the Immigrant Detention Centre (CIE) in Barcelona; 2, during detention in police stations; 13, in public space, and 3, in a private residence.

### 2022 At a glance:

Unlike previous years, and in particular contrast to 2021, the past year did not see any period of mass demonstrations, resulting in notably few cases relating to protests coming to the attention of the Service. Nevertheless, **more than half of the cases which did, occurred in public spaces.**

It is particularly worrying that, in **eight of these cases, there was an element of racist discrimination in the conduct of police officers.** This figure serves to demonstrate the continued need for public authorities to address institutional racism, particularly among bodies such as the police who have the responsibility for preventing this type of discrimination.

### 2022 Reports and publications:

On 24 March 2022, the [2021 Annual Report on Institutional Violence](#) was presented at a press conference held at the Col·legi de Periodistes de Catalunya. The report focused particularly on cases of violence exercised by private security guards undertaking public safety duties. As has become customary, following the presentation the report was sent to a range of different groups and organisations, as well as to the Catalan and Spanish authorities, who were directly addressed in the recommendations section.



## b. Right to protest

One of Irídia's objectives is to work for the defence of civil liberties, denouncing any attempt to attack or undermine these and other related human rights (freedom of expression, information, association, assembly, manifestation and thought), and working jointly with other organisations for increased protection, respect and safeguarding of these rights.

In 2022, Irídia continued to work to safeguard the right to protest as part of the nationwide campaign *Defender a quien Defiende* (DqD), which was founded in Barcelona in October 2014. Eight years later, this campaign continues to work to provide a solid and coordinated network for the purpose of documenting and speaking out against cases of human rights violations in the context of protests across Spain.

### 2022 At a glance:

**2022 saw the refoundation and reactivation of the [SomDefensores](#) Network following a period of inactivity.** The structure and operations of the network, the only one of its kind active in the Metropolitan Area of Barcelona, were reconfigured to bring it under the umbrella of the nationwide platform DqD. This strategic change allowed for the creation of a new network of observers in Madrid, taking as its starting point the drafting of a strategic document, an action protocol and shared training material.

As in previous years, DqD was the driving force behind the [Red Malla](#) Observatory, **a tool for support, monitoring and reporting in the collective fight against efforts to undermine civil liberties.** Red Malla focuses on the analysis of human rights violations, chiefly civil rights, and principally among these the right to assembly and demonstration, freedom of expression and information.

While maintaining an emphasis on the right to protest, **Irídia has also widened its framework for action to include broader work in the defence of civil liberties. This more comprehensive approach is the result of the recent adoption of draconian measures by authorities.** A clear example is the **state spying and human rights infringements related to the use of Pegasus spy software** by Spanish authorities. Faced with this case, Irídia, together with other organisations, issued a public statement on 5 May: "[Declaration of human rights organisations and groups in defence of the rule of law and democracy: state spying on journalists, politicians and lawyers in Spain.](#)"

Also in 2022, and as a result of the leaked proposal to reform the Criminal Code at the end of the year, Novact and Irídia piloted a project for activists and campaign



organisations to analyse the bill from a critical perspective focused on upholding the right to protest. The “[Declaration of grassroots organisations and activists on the proposal for the reform of public order offences and its serious effects on the right to protest](#)” (sponsored by 40 organisations and backed by more than 80 groups) was presented at a press conference on 20 November before the Superior Court of Justice of Catalonia.

#### **Data on defence of the right to protest in 2022:**

Throughout 2022, **9 organisations in Spain participated in DqD**: Novact, Ecológistas en Acción, APDHA, CGT, Stop represión Granada, Derechos Civiles y Políticos Zaragoza 15-M, Legal Sol, Irídia and the Human Rights Institute of Catalonia (IDHC). These organisations are divided into four territorial nodes: Catalonia (Metropolitan Area of Barcelona), Andalusia (Seville and Granada), Zaragoza and the Community of Madrid.

In Barcelona, **2 observation units were set up to undertake research on protests** throughout the year. One of these focused on protests against ‘The District’ and in support of the right to housing, and the other on demonstrations on the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women (25 November). Both units worked in conjunction and provided an emergency telephone line, managed via Irídia’s SAIDAVI hotline service. **Three observation units** were set up in Madrid, focusing on protests against NATO, demonstrations condemning the Melilla massacre, and demonstrations on 25 November in the city.

DqD **issued 8 press releases denouncing infringements of and limitations placed on the right to protest** that were identified by the territorial nodes through joint monitoring and follow-up work and the media, as well as the activation of the various research units which make up the platform’s two active networks of human rights observers focused on the rights of protesters.

**There was a 50 per cent rise in cases (167 cases) compared to the previous year (107 cases), covering a total of 501 infringements of the right to protest.** These 167 documented cases include 135 arrests, 112 fines, 106 prosecutions and 103 assaults. The growth in the number of cases both illustrates the undeniable increase in infringements of the right to protest in Spain and demonstrates **the increased persecution and criminalisation of grassroots activism**, as well as the introduction of draconian measures in a considerable number of areas. By the same token, the report **includes an alarming figure as regards the ‘right to housing’**, the highest by far, with a total of 139 infringements of this right.

## 2022 Reports and publications:

In December 2022, **Red Malla** published the report “[El derecho a la protesta en el Estado español: Análisis de los datos de Red Malla 2021](#)”, which presented the entirety of the data systematically recorded by the observatory. The document focuses on analysis of the growing trend of infringements of the right to **freedom of expression and the right to information**, based on an overview of three characteristic cases affecting journalists which occurred throughout 2021.

# EL DERECHO A LA PROTESTA EN EL ESTADO ESPAÑOL

ANÁLISIS DE LOS DATOS  
DE RED MALLA 2021

MALLA

## c. Detention and rights of prisoners

The main objective of Irídia's work concerning detention is to promote structural changes in the penal system and practices and to defend the rights of those deprived of their liberty.

Through work in this area, Irídia seeks to raise awareness and speak out against infringements of rights in prisons from an intersectional perspective. As such, our aim is to eradicate practices that violate the fundamental rights of those deprived of liberty, such as solitary confinement and mechanical restraints in prisons and immigrant detention centres.

### 2022 At a glance:

As part of our work defending the rights of prisoners, an **advocacy campaign was carried out throughout 2022 speaking out against the modification of the memorandum on the use of restraint in prisons**. New proposals represent a step backwards in terms of the rights of those deprived of their liberty insofar as they permit the use of mechanical restraints which can seriously harm the physical and mental health of those subject to them.

**Meetings were held throughout 2022 with the Ministry of Justice and the Secretariat for Criminal Justice, Rehabilitation and Victim Care** to address issues related to mechanical restraints, solitary confinement in prisons and legal action taken by Irídia in cases of institutional violence.

We also wish to highlight the efforts made throughout 2022 as part of a project funded by Barcelona City Council designed **to promote intersectional public policies for the upholding of the rights of women deprived of liberty in the city**. The project sought to address, from an intersectional perspective, the specific infringements and discrimination suffered by these women. As part of this initiative, an introductory event was held to both shed light on and find out more about the reality of women in prison.

### Data on the defence of the rights of those in detention in 2022:

On 26 May 2022, the event “***Violencias encerradas – Género y discriminaciones en la prisión***” was held at the Ateneu del Raval in Barcelona, bringing together more than **70 people to discuss the violence experienced by women in prison**. This event featured those with experience of prisons, as well as professionals working in criminal justice.

In connection with the previous project, **research was carried out using a partici-**

**patory action methodology as a means of making the voice of women in detention heard in relation to issues affecting their human rights.** They participated directly during the various phases of the research process through individual interviews and focus groups. The refusal to grant Irídia's team access to the Wad Ras Prison by the Secretariat of Criminal Justice, Rehabilitation and Victim Care forced a rethink of the research, and led to a series of steps being taken to ensure the organisation was authorised to access the prison in the future.

### 2022 Reports and publications:

The report “[\*Participación Política y mecanismos de \(no\) garantía de derechos de las mujeres privadas de libertad\*](#)” analyses, from a human rights perspective, the means of political participation available to women prisoners and the obstacles they face in conveying their needs and demands, via a case study of Wad-Ras prison.



## d. Migration policies and speaking out against institutional racism

One of Irídia's principal objectives is to **demand and ensure respect for human rights in migration and border management policies, regulations and practices in Spain**. As such, we work to raise awareness of structural and institutional racism as a means of promoting migration policies that respect human rights. We also push for the inclusion of an anti-racist and human rights perspective in the representation of migration through a transformative communications strategy.

### 2022 At a glance:

During 2022, **Irídia helped expand a network of organisations, activists, NGOs, advocacy groups and migrants involved in issues directly at the border**. All of them have first-hand knowledge of the range of human rights infringements arising upon the arrival and initial reception of migrants entering Spain. Specific work was done **to ensure the rights of migrants in Ceuta, Melilla, Andalusia, the Canary Islands and the Balearic Islands**, where many of those who migrate by irregular routes first arrive. The network was expanded through the identification of organisations, people and key groups, brought together during two face-to-face meetings in Madrid and Cadiz. These proved fundamental in collectively identifying needs in each border area, promoting joint work and facilitating mutual support in efforts to systematically record, report and deal with human rights infringements.

Collaborative working enabled knowledge-sharing regarding the situation in different border areas and the provision of support to organisations for the presentation of complaints to the Ombudsman, and strengthened their outreach potential. Clear examples of this are **the complaints filed regarding the excessive use of force and express deportations following the attempted mass crossing of the border in Melilla on 2 and 3 March, and following the events which occurred on 24 June at Barrio Chino border crossing in the city**. In parallel, joint work was carried out for training in the use of the **EyeWitness** application for human rights monitoring. This tool was made available to organisations via specific training programmes in 2022.

Throughout the year, **knowledge of the situation on the border was deepened through research undertaken by Irídia in Melilla, Ceuta and the Canary Islands**. In addition to planned in-depth research, **Irídia made an urgent visit to Melilla with EuroMedRights for a meeting with grassroots organisations, survivors and journalists after the events of 24 June**. In September, a European Parliament delegation visited the border crossing at which events unfolded. This visit served as the starting point of an internal advocacy report.

Regarding the monitoring of **human rights infringements in the Immigrant Detention Centre (CIE)** in Barcelona and the efforts to achieve its closure, 2022 began with a **total ban on visits to the CIE** due to an outbreak of Covid-19 which affected 32 people. This led to a **hunger strike** which revealed, once again, the systematic violation of rights occurring in the centre. Together with the organisations Migra Studium, Tanquem els CIE and Sos Racisme Catalunya, Irídia **filed a complaint before the Supervisory Court with jurisdiction over the CIE** (Investigative Court 30 of Barcelona), denouncing the situation. No response was obtained, and this restriction was maintained throughout 2022, despite the lifting of health restrictions to control the pandemic which had been used to justify this course of action.

Irídia led various meetings to bring this and other cases to the attention of the authorities. Meetings were also held with the new director of the CIE, Diego Magadán Martínez. In this and other interactions with the authorities, the issues of greatest concern were put on the table, alongside the demand that, for as long as the definitive closure of the CIE remains pending, further work must be done to, among others, address the infringement of the right to effective judicial protection, develop regulations concerning visits by lawyers and NGOs, and provide psychosocial assistance and access to health care services which are part of the wider public health network. We wish to highlight our **meetings with the Chief of the Judiciary at the CIE, with the heads of the NPM** (National Preventive Mechanism), with Barcelona City Council, and **with the two judges responsible for overseeing the CIE**.

#### Data on migration policy and anti-racism in 2022:

In terms of the strategic litigation brought **by Irídia regarding the CIE, in 2022, for the first time, a victim of ill-treatment at the CIE in Barcelona was able to clarify and explain the facts of their case to the court** by videoconference from abroad.

#### 2022 Reports and publications:

The results of visits to the Canary Islands have been gathered in the report [“Vulneraciones de derechos en la respuesta institucional a las llegadas de personas migrantes a Canarias \(abril – mayo 2022\)”](#). This report was produced in conjunction with other organisations working on border issues. Its publication was accompanied by an audiovisual exhibition bringing together images and witness statements, and was followed by an online awareness-raising campaign.



## e. Democratic memory

Throughout 2022, Irídia's Historical Memory team continued to work in collaboration with a range of dedicated organisations in order to **promote the right to justice, truth, reparation and guarantees of non-repetition of the victims and those who suffered reprisals during the Civil War, the Franco dictatorship, and the transition to democracy in Spain.**

This work has focused on the fight against systematic impunity in relation to the crimes of the Franco regime, the redesignation of the police station located on Barcelona's Via Laietana as a space for historical memory, and advocacy to ensure public policy on the matter contributes to social reparation and guarantees of non-repetition as demanded by the public.

### 2022 At a glance:

As part of the fight against systematic impunity in Spain regarding crimes against humanity committed during the Civil War, the Francoist dictatorship and the transition to democracy, in 2022 a **first-ever criminal complaint was filed for torture during Francoism after the entry into force of the Democratic Memory Act.**

The complaint was filed against three of the highest-ranking officials of the Prefecture at the time of events, as well as four inspectors of the Sixth Regional Brigade of Social Research of the Barcelona Superior Police Prefecture, and any other agents who may have been party to events. The complaint was made as part of strategic litigation as a means of ensuring the greatest possible reach and significance.

Further to this, one of the area's main tasks throughout 2022 was to **continue working so that the Superior Police Prefecture located at the address Via Laietana 43 be closed down as a police station and turned into a space for historical memory**, archives and visitor centre focused on impunity, torture and repression. This work came to a head in the public launch of the campaign "[Via Laietana 43. Hagamos justicia, hagamos memoria](#)".

### Data on the right to memory in 2022:

In November, the **International Conference on Spaces of Memory** took place in the former prison La Modelo in Barcelona, having been jointly organised with Barcelona City Council's Department of Democratic Memory. The conference brought together **22 speakers, including victims of torture, international experts and professionals** from organisations spearheading the resignification of spaces for historical memory from more than 6 different countries. The conference was pre-



sented as a unique opportunity to create a learning network.

The Memory team organised **bilateral meetings with leading international organisations** working in the field and carried out **political advocacy tasks to encourage both Spain and the Government of Catalonia to introduce effective historical memory policies**. As in 2021, joint work was undertaken together with the Ateneu de Memòria Popular to study **the proposed Catalan Democratic Memory Act** and draft amendments, such as: the creation of a Support Office for Victims; ex officio judicial investigation into mass graves and related matters; the design of a psychosocial accompaniment protocol as part of efforts to ensure truth, justice, reparation and non-repetition and, lastly, the application of international standards on impunity in historical memory public policy.

Further joint work was undertaken in relation to Catalonia in 2022, with efforts to reinforce and strengthen the organisation's participation in **national and international networks** such as the **National Memory Conference**, a network of like-minded organisations which provided support during the publication and follow-up work to a declaration following the introduction the Democratic Memory Act. Work was also undertaken with **CEAQUA**, an organisation coordinating the filing of complaints for crimes committed during the Francoist dictatorship and the transition to democracy throughout Spain.

### 2022 Reports and publications:

As part of the campaign '*VL43, Fem Justícia, Fem memòria*', Irídia contributed to the [press release](#) communicated by the Ateneu de Memòria Popular, in which it highlighted the anomalous nature, in international terms, of Via Laietana 43 remaining under police control in a democratic country. It called for the redesignation of the Prefecture as a visitor centre and archive open to the public to raise awareness of issues surrounding torture and impunity.

## f. Psychosocial perspective

Irídia's psychosocial care team offers **support for individuals, families and groups affected by human rights infringements**, and provides them with psychosocial tools to help them find the strength and resilience needed to overcome the effects of violence and speak out about the psychosocial impacts it causes. Psychosocial support aims to address the symptoms which emerge from experience, develop coping strategies and provide accompaniment throughout the judicial process, as a means of ensuring that revictimisation is avoided and those affected are empowered.

### 2022 At a glance:

**In 2022, a support group was created for individuals affected by institutional violence**, in which all SAIDAVI users are able to participate. This group was brought into being with a triple objective in mind: to provide a meeting space in which to share individual experiences and develop **collective coping strategies**; to connect affected people with the organisation and promote their active participation in it, and to raise public awareness of the psychosocial impacts of human rights infringements.

The group is led by two psychologists from Irídia's psychosocial team, with the aim that it will ultimately be self-run by the people who take part in it. In 2022, 2 meetings were held, with an average of 15 participants attending.

This mutual support group paved the way for the [appearance of Jordi Salvanyà before the Examining Committee on Policing](#) (CEMP) in the Parliament of Catalonia on 17 June 2022. This was an opportunity for the voice of affected individuals to be heard, and for a spotlight to be shone on the psychosocial impacts and require public authorities to take steps to ensure effective reparation and protection.

Members of the group also participated in the crowdfunding campaign "*Con Memoria, Derechos Humanos*" via an appearance in a [video highlighting Irídia's work](#).

### Data on psychosocial care in 2022:

**During 2022, the SAIDAVI Psychosocial team carried out 295 psychosocial interventions, providing support to 49 people.** These interventions consisted mainly of individual accompaniment sessions, in addition to case monitoring, psycho-legal visits, drafting of psychological evaluation reports and accompaniment at trials and public events. Of the total of 295 interventions, 205 pertained to active litigation, while 90 related to counselling and follow-up. There has been a progressive year-on-year increase in psychosocial interventions, highlighting the relevance

of these impacts in cases of institutional violence.

### 2022 Reports and publications:

Continuing with the objective of raising awareness of psychosocial impacts, [the psychosocial team collaborated with the newspaper La Directa regarding a case of death in custody.](#)



## 2.2. Sustainability and scope of Irídia's communications and advocacy work

### a. Sustainability and internal structure of the organisation

Irídia has continued to make progress in consolidating our operational structure as a means of ensuring that the organisation is sustainable at both a technical and an economic level, all while staying true to our aim to act as an effective, rigorous and independent resource for the network of Catalan, Spanish and international organisations and activists working to defend human rights. By the same token, our organisation works to ensure that internal workloads and deadlines are sustainable both personally and collectively.

To this end, in 2022, Irídia undertook efforts to strengthen our economic-financial, human and organisational sustainability from a psychosocial and intersectional perspective.

#### 2022 At a glance:

**Working conditions for our employees were improved, our team in Madrid added to, transparency and internal systems improved, our care plan strengthened and our operations team provided with further specialist professional training.**

In addition, on 20 October, Irídia launched the crowdfunding campaign '[Con memoria, derechos humanos](#)' (Human Rights with Memory), with the aim of raising awareness of our work and expanding and strengthening the membership of the organisation. The message of the campaign emphasised that memory can be an ally in ensuring we remain strong enough to bring about change. In this regard, Irídia is a collective resource for memory and the defence of human rights in the face of intolerance, discrimination and institutional violence.

As part of the campaign, on 19 October, the project **Freedom First – Jazz** from Death Row was presented at the Paral·lel 62 concert venue as part of the Say It Loud festival, the organisers of which were involved in programming the first edition of IrídiaFest and form part of the [#JusticeForKeithLamar](#) campaign.

In addition, on the occasion of the **7<sup>th</sup> anniversary** of the organisation, Irídia organised two cultural events with space for debate. In Barcelona, the Calabria 66 space played host to a concert by Lu Rois, a poetry recital by David Caño, a conversation on human rights with Vivi Alfonsin, Sani Ladan, Miquel Missé, Carme Arcarazo and Sònia Olivella and moderated by the journalist Alaaddine Azzouzi, and a brief musical performance by Alejandro Lazo. In **Madrid**, a separate event was held at the Teatro del Barrio which included a round table discussion with Carlos Marquès-Marcet, Marita Zambrana, Gabriela López and Isabel Cárdenas, moderated by Irídia's Siham Jessica Korriche.





The event also featured performances by Yeison García and Salmabe, and a concert by Emilia y Pablo.

#### Data on the sustainability of Irídia in 2022:

The crowdfunding campaign attracted 836 people who made donations via the Goteo platform, raising a total of **€44,222**. In reward for these contributions, participants obtained – in addition to a bag or a T-shirt illustrated by Vane Julián – tickets **for the first edition of IrídiaFest, festival of human rights and culture**, held in February 2023.



## b. Impact of advocacy

Our political advocacy is geared towards encouraging legislative and public policy changes, as well as promoting activities aimed at getting administrative, judicial and legislative authorities to adopt decisions that guarantee effective respect for human rights. Irídia works to influence social attitudes and practices as a means of promoting human rights and speaking out against impunity and institutional violence, as well as encouraging the creation of networks and ties with grassroots activists and organisations to position the human rights agenda at the heart of public debate. All of this is done from an intersectional, feminist and psychosocial perspective.

### Data on political advocacy in 2022:

Throughout 2022, **97 advocacy meetings** were held with a range of local, Catalan, national and international stakeholders: **56 of these meetings were with grassroots actors, 14 with political actors, 26 with institutional bodies and one with the police**, specifically, the General Director of Police in Catalonia. These figures represent an **increase compared to the previous year, highlighting the consolidation of this line of work within the organisation as a whole.**

Regarding the creation of networks on a Catalan, national and international scale, it should be noted that Irídia is a member of the World Organisation against Torture (OMCT), the State Coordinator for the Prevention of Torture, the platforms for the defence of the right to protest Defender a Quien Defiende and No Somos Delito, the Global Network Against Police Violence (Red Global contra la Violencia Policial), the Barcelona Ateneu de Memoria Popular and the Spanish National Memory Conference, among others.

### 2022 At a glance:

Following Irídia's push for the creation of the **Examining Committee on Policing** (CEMP) by the Parliament of Catalonia in 2021, an **appearance** was made before said committee in 2022, during which the report "[\*Análisis de los mecanismos de control del cuerpo de los Mossos d'Esquadra\*](#)" was presented. The organisation also attended the appearances before the committee of [\*Jordi Salvañá\*](#), a victim of police brutality during protests in October 2019 against the sentencing of pro-Catalan independence figureheads, and Ester Quintana, vice president of Irídia and member of Stop Balas de Goma and Ojo con tu ojo. Likewise, we wish to highlight the joint work we undertook with Amnesty International Catalonia in making joint recommendations ahead of the CEMP's concluding report in December 2022. [\*Irídia drafted its own report\*](#) in which it reflected its position on various issues such as the creation of an external, independent police oversight body, the total ban on foam projectiles, and the creation of a dedicated support office for victims of human rights infringements.

Irídia [appeared](#) before the **Parliament of Catalonia's Committee on Institutional and Structural Racism** (CERIE) to highlight the patterns of racist institutional violence identified by the organisation. Among others, we highlighted the practice of racially-motivated stop-and-searches, the excessive and disproportionate use of force against racialised members of the public, and the underreporting that surrounds such cases.

The [#Identificación360](#) campaign was launched in 2022 to demand that all police officers with public order duties in Spain carry an identification number on their uniforms which is clearly visible and easy-to-remember both in terms of typography and size, and present on the front and back of their uniforms as well as on both sides of their helmets.

The **#StopBalasGoma** campaign continued its activity in 2022 with the launch of a new [advert](#) and the presentation of the “Stop Balas de Goma” report to the Congress of Deputies. April 2022 saw Irídia participate, together with the associations Stop Balas de Goma and Ojo con tu ojo, in a commemorative event to mark the 10 years following the death of Iñigo Cabacas in Bilbao.

Lastly, with the support of No Somos Delito, Amnesty International, Greenpeace, DQD, NOVACT and LegalSol, regular meetings were held with the parliamentary groups of the Congress of Deputies to promote structural changes as part of the reform of the **Citizen's Security Act**, popularly known as the Gag Law, which is widely seen as running contrary to international human rights standards.

### 2022 Reports and publications:

As part of our drive for improvements in oversight and transparency of the country's police forces, we produced the report “[Transparency and accountability of police forces in Spain](#)” together with Novact and RIS. The aim of this report is to provide citizens, public authorities and political forces with an analytical tool for the development of a public policy roadmap.

The report was subsequently presented to the Catalan, Basque and Navarrese parliaments, as well as to a number of deputies belonging to the Congressional Interior Committee. In June, the “Guía de buenas prácticas en los procesos de incidencia sobre uso excesivo de la fuerza” was published, aimed at sharing the organisation's experience and building exchange and mutual support materials.



## c. Impact of communications

Irídia's communications strategy aims to raise awareness about the organisation among the general public, governmental bodies and political parties via social **networks** and the media, promoting the projects that our organisation carries out both individually and in conjunction with partner organisations.

We **publish graphic, written and audiovisual material** and organise press conferences and events to showcase the projects undertaken by the various teams within the organisation. Our transformative communications working axis aims for creativity and experimentation, investigating new ways of talking about issues that capture the complexity of what Irídia does. This communications strategy also contributes to our strategic litigation and campaigns, and ultimately seeks to help raise awareness of the defence of human rights among the general public. In addition, our communications team is responsible for campaigns aimed at **attracting new members** and, by extension, financial support for the organisation.

### 2022 At a glance:

In 2022, Irídia's communications activities were situated within the new transversal axis of Communication, Advocacy and Culture. Although Irídia has been organizing cultural events for seven years, in 2022 we decided to make a firm commitment to **integrate culture** into the same axis as communication and advocacy, introducing a wide variety of artistic performances into the organisation's events and promoting initiatives such as IrídiaFest (2023). This decision stems from our belief in the fundamental importance of demonstrating that there are empowering collective alternatives to radical hate speech, and that these can be expressed through the creation of spaces for coming together in celebration. Irídia understands the development and **promotion of culture as a historical and essential part of the defence of human rights**, and seeks to vindicate the role of art as a backbone of transformative ideas.

### Data on transformative communication in 2022:

As in previous years, in 2022 Irídia enjoyed a **significant presence in the media** as a go-to organisation for comment on human rights and institutional violence, with appearances on various programmes and talk shows and interviews on television, radio and in the written press throughout Catalonia and Spain.

In 2022, Irídia appeared in: ARA, La Directa, Punt Avui TV3, La Vanguardia, Públic, Catalunya Ràdio, VilaWeb, El Temps, Betevé, 20 minuts, RAC 1, el Nacional.cat, Xarxa.net, ACN and Mediacat, among others. Last year saw significant interest

from Spanish media outlets such as El Salto, El País, eldiario.es, 20 Minutos, Cadena SER, El Mundo, ABC, EFE, Europa Press, Público, Etb, RTVE, La Sexta, Tele 5 and Antena 3, among many others.

The number of followers of the organisation's Twitter and Instagram profiles continued to grow. On **Twitter, the number of followers increased by more than 1,700 people**, and on Instagram, by more than 1,100. Consequently, by December 2022, Irídia had a reach of 48,700 people via Twitter, 10,282 via Facebook, 7,743 via Instagram and 2,074 via Telegram.

**48.700 followers on Twitter**  
(1.700 more than the previous year)



**7.743 followers on Instagram**  
(1.100 more than the previous year)



**10.282 followers on Facebook**  
(less than the previous year)



**2.074 followers on Telegram**  
(less than the previous year)



## d. Strengthening psychosocial processes

Irídia promotes, both within the organisation and in our projects, an intersectional feminist approach, understood as a conceptual and analytical framework, a strategy, a methodology and a praxis that seeks to analyse and eradicate the structural causes of human rights infringements, inequalities and discrimination in all areas in an interconnected way.

At Irídia we work to put care at the centre of our organisation, taking into account the wellbeing of those who are a part of it, as well as the sustainability of the team. The demands of working in the field of human rights infringements and the daily contact with those who suffer them has an impact on an individual, organisational, family and community level that cannot be ignored. Identifying this allows us to address it and anticipate possible factors such as burnout, conflict and feelings of frustration and powerlessness which are habitual in this line of work. It also allows us to conscientiously foster specific attitudes, knowledge and skills.

### 2022 At a glance:

As part of our commitment to feminist learning within holistic policy, Irídia deployed the Strategic Plan of Care in 2022. This plan was first introduced within the organisation in 2020. As part of the resources provided for in this plan, several **team healing sessions were held during the year to develop tools** for managing limits, burnout detection, interpersonal communication and team cohesion. Individual mentoring was also provided to team members to address aspects related to their work and role in the team.

Another step forward in fostering a psychosocial perspective within the organisation came in 2022 with the **introduction of an external professional responsible for team care**, someone with both knowledge of the state of the organisation and at the same time capable of bringing an analytical outsider's perspective to the table. They have become a reference point for care, working within the organisation's Sustainability axis and in coordination with operational and organisational team managers.

In 2022, a **protocol for conflict prevention and management** was also approved, and work was done to extend a psychosocial perspective throughout the organisation and introduce this into the development of the Strategic Plan for 2023-2025.

### 3. Economic and infrastructural management

Irídia is a non-profit association funded by donations from individuals, membership fees, grants and tenders from public institutions, and contributions and contracts from other non-profit organisations.

Irídia is committed to ensuring a **balance between these various sources of financing**, with the aim of strengthening its fundraising through membership fees and private donations, in order to build a collective project for the defence of human rights that does not depend economically on any one exclusive funders.

Details of our funding and annual accounts can be found within the transparency section of our [website](#).

#### Revenue

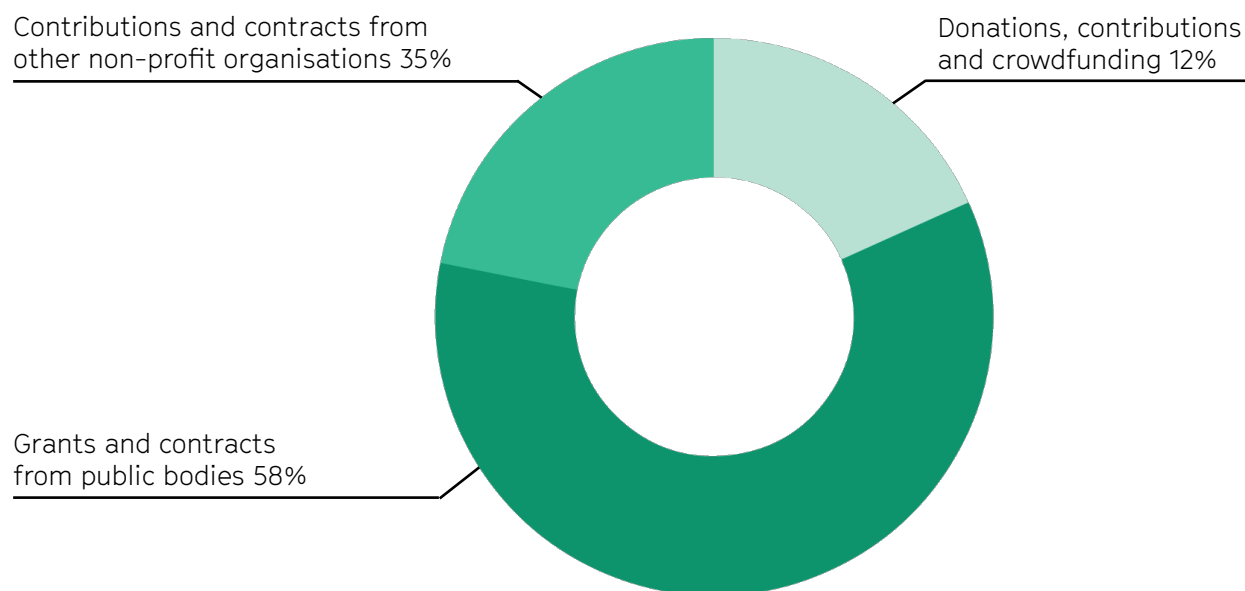
Provisional revenue for 2022 was **€645,691.08**, an **increase of 44% compared to revenues for 2021** (€447,913.38). This increase came following new funding, such as that received from the Ministry of Social Rights and Agenda 2030, with the opening of new lines of action in the transparency and accountability of police forces, as well as the addition of new employees and an increase in the team's working hours to carry out their tasks.

As a service for the general public, the legal assistance and support offered by Irídia through SAIDAVI is provided free-of-charge, and in no case do we ask for payment.

Irídia's revenue in 2022		
Contributions from members	€37,506.45	6%
Grants and contracts from public bodies	€386,568.62	58%
Contributions and contracts from other non-profit organisations	€141,299.03	22%
Donations and crowdfunding	€80,316.97	12%
<b>Total revenue in 2022</b>	<b>€645,691.08</b>	

The **public grants** put to use in 2022, whether they were awarded in 2022 or in previous years, came from: Barcelona City Council, the Government of Catalonia, the Catalan Agency for Development Cooperation (ACCD), the Employment Service of Catalonia and the Ministry of Social Rights and Agenda 2030.

In the majority of cases, these grants were awarded to Irídia, with the exception of group projects, such as those provided by the ACCD and the Ministry of Social



Rights and Agenda 2030, within which we work together with the association Novact.

Grants from public institutions	Total grants awarded to Irídia	Total 2022
<b>Barcelona City Council</b>		<b>€39,000.00</b>
Social Rights, Global Justice, Feminism and LGBTI	€26,000.00	€26,000.00
Economy, Work, Competition and Finance	€6,500.00	€6,500.00
Culture, Education, Science and Community	€6,500.00	€6,500.00
<b>Government of Catalonia</b>		<b>€182,726.79</b>
Ministry of Equality and Feminism	€34,002.34	€34,002.34
Ministry of Justice, Rights and Memory	€1,840.00	€1,840.00
Ministry of Social Rights	€18,000.00	€18,000.00
Ministry of Business and Labour	€70,000.00	€9,986.99
ACCD 2021	€ 100,000.00	€38,037.65
ACCD 2022	€147,535.11	€80,527.31
Employment Service of Catalonia (2022)	€4,987.49	€332.50
<b>Spanish Government</b>		<b>€152,181.83</b>
Ministry of Social Rights and Agenda 2030	€152,181.83	€152,181.83
<b>Total grants from public institutions for 2022</b>		<b>€373,908.62</b>

**Contracts** awarded by **public institutions** amounted to a total of **€12,660.00**, for the preparation of two reports, one for the Catalan Ombudsman and one for the Ombudsman of Barcelona, as well as the organisation of a remembrance event for Barcelona City Council.

**Contributions by non-profit organisations** in the form of grants or partnership agreements for Irídia's activities accounted for **15% of the total funding** in 2022. These organisations were the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights – OHCHR (via the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture), the Foundation for the Promotion of the Open Society Initiative in Europe (OSIFE), Intermón Oxfam, Front Line Defenders, and **two new organisations**, the World Organisation Against Torture (OMCT) and German Marshal Fund. Use was made of this revenue based on the expenditure of the total awarded.

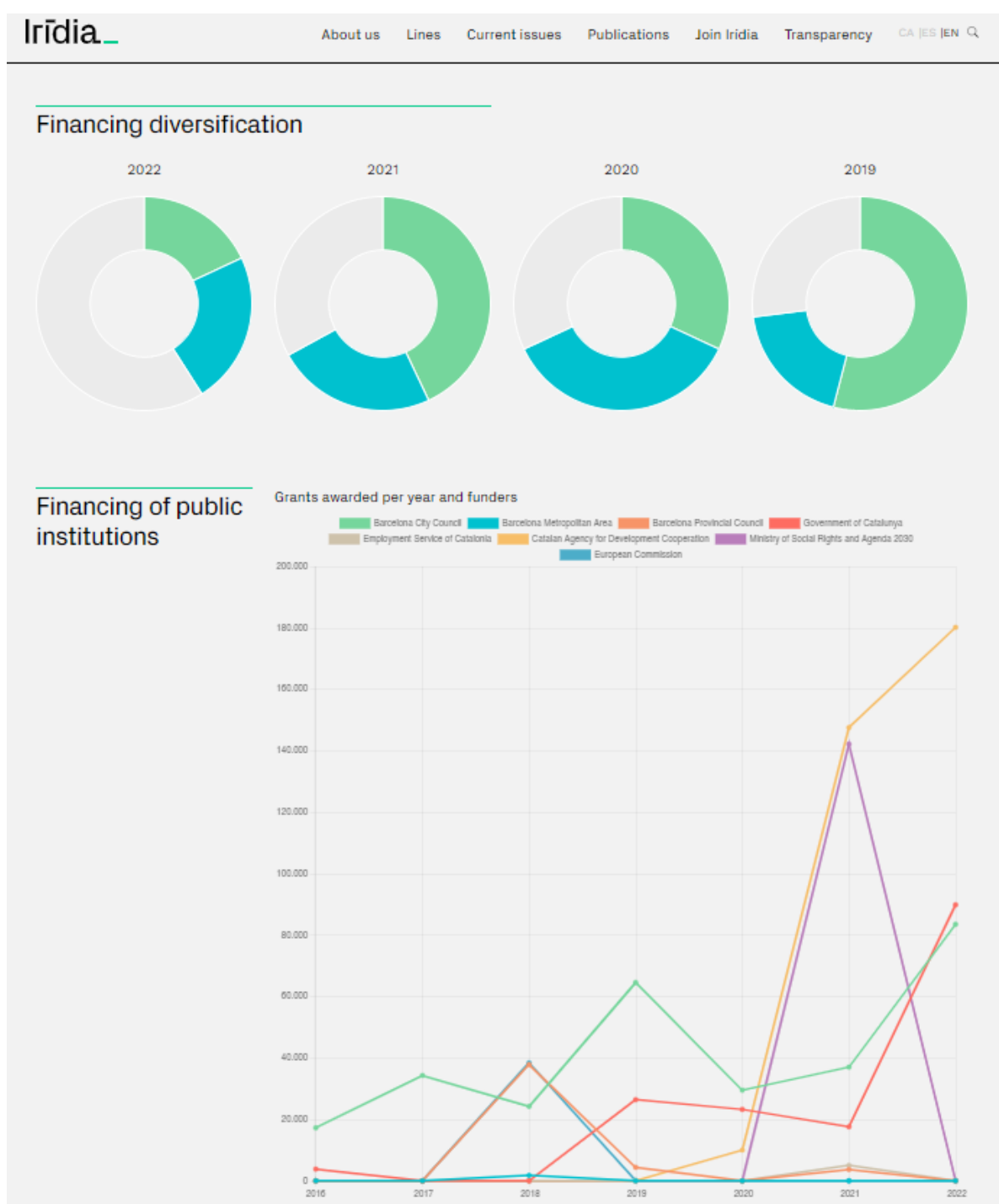
Contributions from non-profit organisations	Total awarded	Total 2022
United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture	€44,737.00	€44,737.00
Intermón Oxfam 2022	€10,000.00	€10,000.00
OSIFE (2021)	€62,573.00	€6,720.86
OSIFE (2022)	€103,507.93	€27,510.92
World Organisation Against Torture (OMCT)	€2,000.00	€2,000.00
German Marshal Fund	€1,758.49	€1,758.49
Front Line Defenders	€2,015.00	€2,015.00
<b>Total contributions from private organisations for 2022</b>		<b>€94,742.27</b>

**Contracts were undertaken with non-profit organisations** for the development of campaigns, project collaboration, training and talks, with a total of **€46,556.77** received from Novact, Òmnium Cultural and others.

12% of revenue came from **donations by individuals and groups** to Irídia, totalling €80,316.97. Funds received through donations can be apportioned to any one of the organisation's projects or activities or to the organisation in general, affording a solid structure that guarantees our sustainability.

The at-present **1,470 members** of Irídia contribute a monthly, semi-annual or annual membership fee of between €50 and €160 per year. In 2022, the total contribution received via membership fees, excluding those who became members

through the crowdfunding campaign, reached **€37,506.46**, representing 6% of the total funding obtained during the year. These membership fees are allocated both to the general running of the organisation, and to ensuring we can offer our Service for Attention and Reporting in Situations of Institutional Violence (SAIDA-VI) free-of-charge.





## Expenditure

Technical team (18 people)	€492,902.54
External hiring	€62,670.84
Property, accounting and energy supplies	€26,054.90
Travel expenses	€8,238.44
Communication	€27,132.90
Accommodation and per diems	€10,708.35
Commissions (Goteo and banks)	€3,715.59
Judicial costs of cases	€6,362.18
Internal audits/Project audits	€3,051.84
Insurance	€1,529.93
Office equipment	€6,069.58
Contributions, subscriptions and fees	€7,633.30
Official procedures, taxes and fees	€653.01
<b>Total de gastos</b>	<b>€658,723.48</b>

Irídia's total expenditure for 2022 was **€658,723.48**. The **remuneration of our technical team accounts for the majority of the organisation's expenditure**: in 2022, **75%** of the total was allocated to staff remuneration, at a total cost of €492,902.54, with an average of **21 employees on the equivalent of 15 full-time contracts**.

This notwithstanding, some of our work requires the **payment of external professionals**, such as collaborators in report writing, speakers and performers at events, psychosocial support professionals, trainers, translators and graphic designers. External contracting expenditure in 2022 was €62,670.84, 10% of the total. With regard to external services, there are differences in the expenses related to the **legal proceedings** that we take on as an organisation. Among other costs, Irídia covers legal, notary and expert analysis expenses in these cases. In 2022, this amounted to a total of €6,326.18.

**Communication** is an essential pillar of our organisation. Therefore, to complement the work done by our technical team, we sometimes need to contract specialist external services in design, printing, advertising, event and press conference spaces, photography and videos. A total of €27,132.90 was invested in this in 2022.

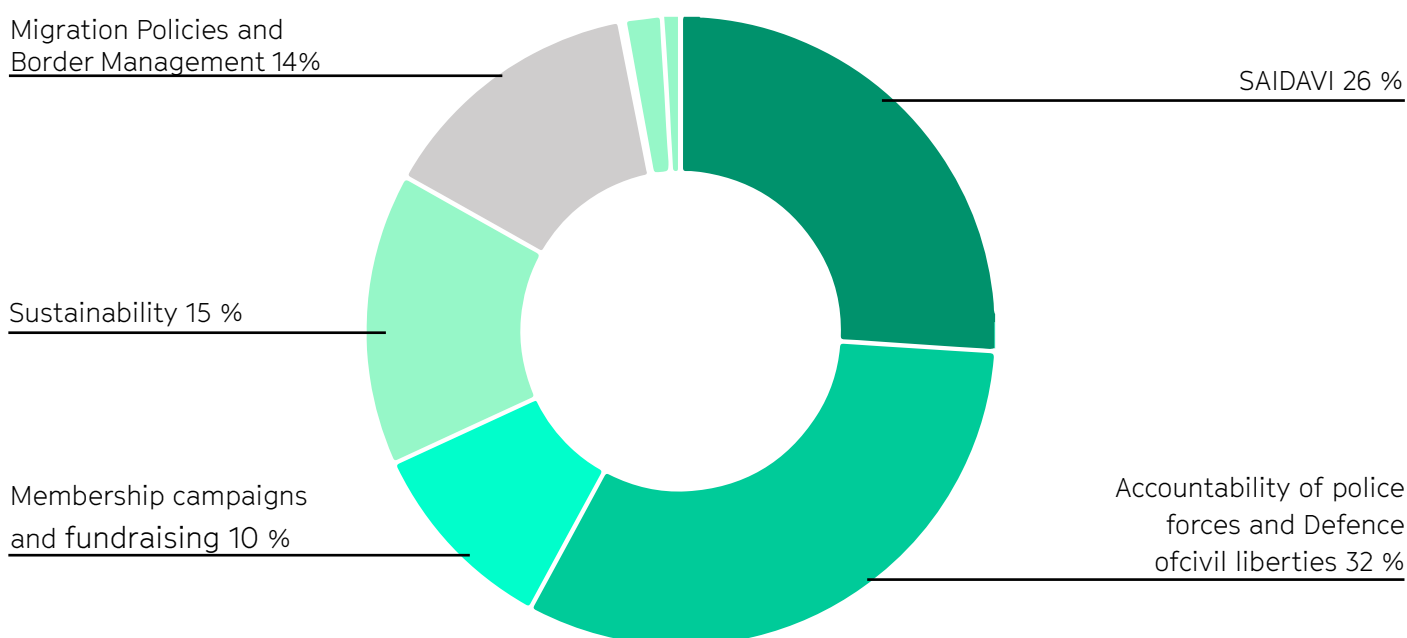
Furthermore, **indirect expenses** such as property, tax and accountancy, energy

supplies, cleaning, printing, software and computer services accounted for a total of €26,054.90 in 2022.

**Travel, accommodation and per diems** related to our various projects also generate expenditure. This included trips to Madrid, Ceuta and Melilla and the Canary Islands, travel for court cases, per diems for volunteers and other travel related to research and advocacy work. In total, €8,238.44 was spent on travel and €10,708.35 on accommodation and per diems in 2022.

According to **our lines of action**, the economy of Irídia during 2022 is as follows:

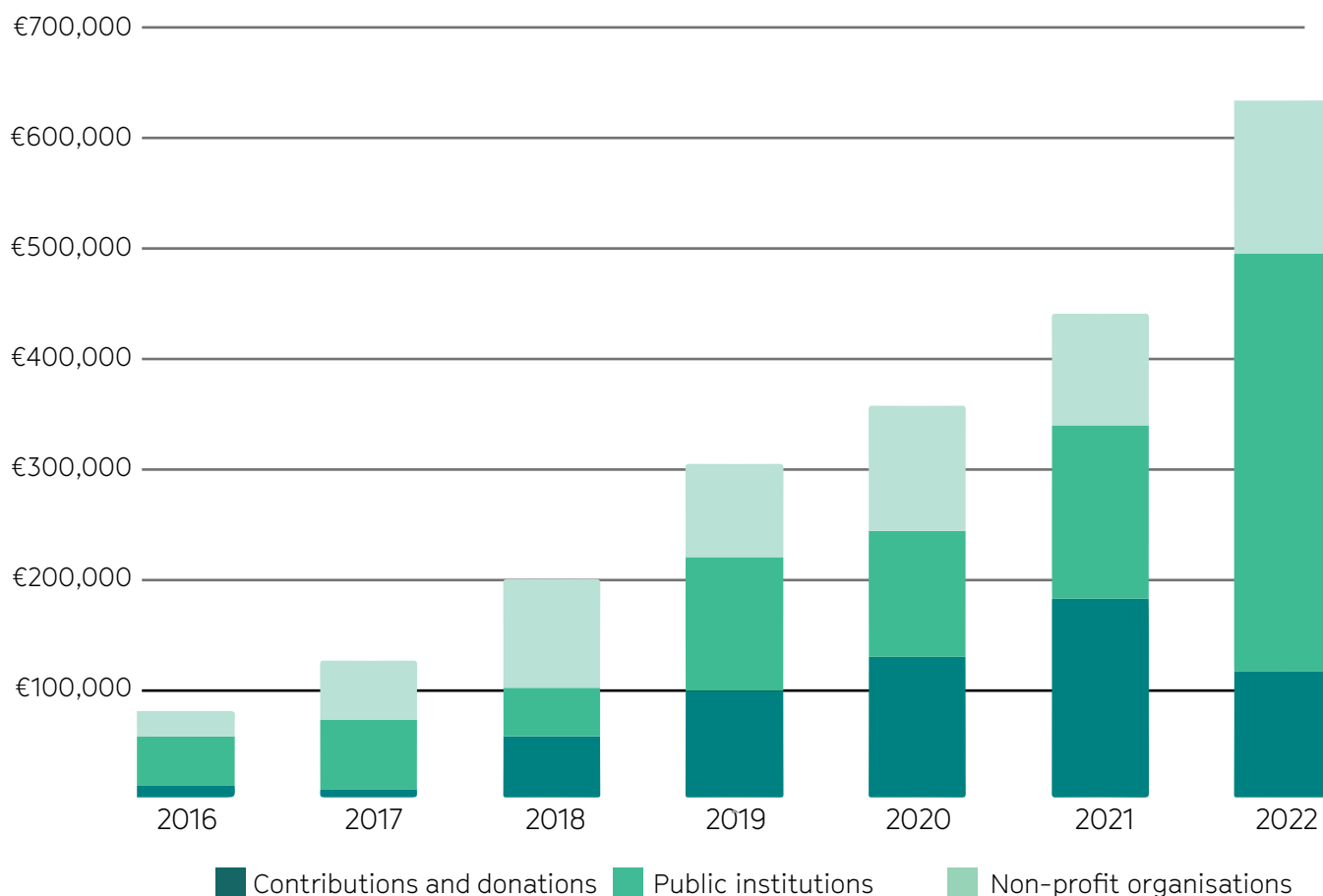
Lines	Expenditure	
Service for Attention and Reporting in Situations of Institutional Violence (SAIDAVI)	€173,201.17	26 %
Accountability of police forces - Defence of civil liberties	€210,199.37	32 %
Migration Policies and Border Management	€90,527.31	14 %
Right to Memory	€12,626.50	2 %
Detention	€6,000.00	1 %
Membership campaigns and fundraising	€67,214.31	10%
Sustainability	€98,954.75	15%
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>€658,723.48</b>	



## Financial results

The financial balance at the end of 2022 was negative, standing at €-13,032.32. Despite this, the organisation has a reserve fund and the outlook for 2023 is very positive, with grant applications in progress, in addition to the grants already awarded in 2022. Furthermore, the organisation has increased and more diverse sources of funding and potential for obtaining economic resources.

Since its inception, Irídia has grown in terms of our team, our economic resources, our quality, rigor, social recognition and our working areas, with the clear objective of achieving **sustainability** across all areas. Economic growth over these years can be seen in the following graph, which shows revenue by typology since the association was founded:



## 4. Acknowledgements

In this 2022 report, **Irídia wishes to especially thank all those who have made the project possible**, especially our members, partners and donors, as well as everyone from the technical and volunteer teams that make up the organisation and ensure the fulfilment of Irídia's objectives.

We also wish to thank also those who have donated or made other contributions. Thanks to you, Irídia is able to continue to actively protect and promote the defence of human rights. You can become a **member and be part of the community of people committed to human rights through the Irídia [website](#)**.

In addition to our collaborative partners, numerous organisations have contributed to Irídia in the form of time and resources: StopBalesGoma, Bruna Coop, Teatro del Barrio, Calàbria 66, Quesoni, Say It Loud, Paral·lel 62, La Deskomunal and Foli Verd.

Finally, we also wish to thank all those people who have contributed to Irídia's advocacy, research and awareness-raising work from the cultural, media, communications, judicial and psychosocial sectors:

Martí Cruz Cisquella | Cirilo Barba | Izar Invierno | Asaari Bibang | Erin Corine | Marc Ayza | Albert Marquès | Keith Lamar | Carlos Marquès-Marcet | Marita Zambrana | Gabriela López | Isabel Cádenas | Yeison García | Salmabe | Emilia y Pablo | Lu Rois | David Caño | Vivi Alfonsín | Sani Ladan | Miquel Missé | Carme Alcaraz | Alaadine Azzousi | Alejandro Lazo | Anna Ferrer | Txell Feixas | Marc Llinàs | La Lvcha

## 2022 ACTIVITY REPORT