



2022



Annual Report

MELILLA

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About Us

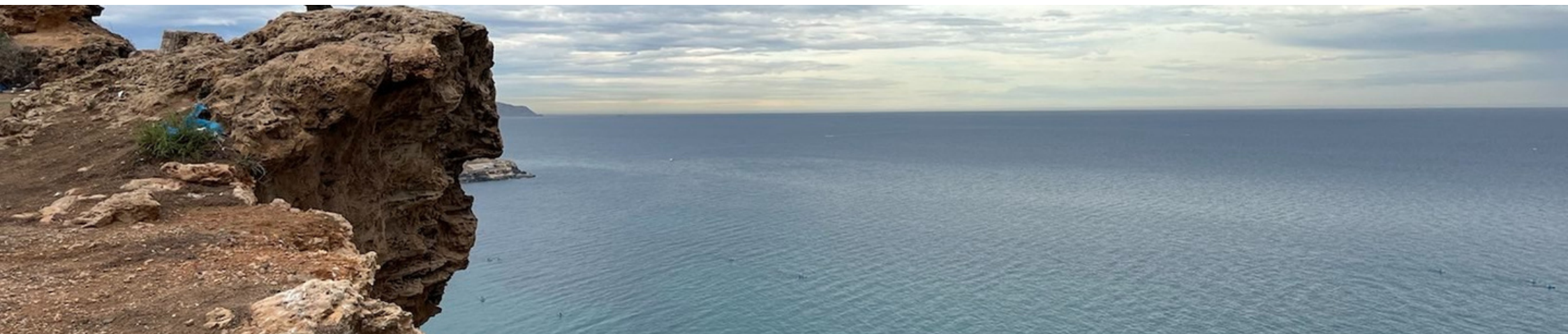
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Solidary Wheels No Borders for Human Rights is a non-profit association based in Melilla. We are a group of independent volunteers who share a feeling of indignation about European border policies and their constant violation of fundamental rights.

Since 2020, by supporting and accompanying migrants, especially young Moroccans forced into a situation of homelessness in the autonomous city of Melilla, we have developed a holistic and multidisciplinary work to identify violations of rights.

We identify violence, situations of vulnerability and real needs by creating safe spaces for active listening, reflection and trust.

We advocate for a more humane migration policy that allows for a social fabric that guarantees real inclusion. A vision that is more qualitative than quantitative.



Our Vision

We reject the existing dichotomy between economic migrants and refugees, and we defend the **right to migrate**, regardless of the reasons for doing so. Our demand is that people's rights are respected. We consider it essential to always work from a **gender perspective, in an anti-racist and empowering way, rather than in a paternalistic and infantilising way.**

Our Mission

We are an organization that provides legal and social accompaniment, documentation and advocacy to border territories from a feminist and anti-racist perspective, in order to promote the defense of human rights of people in conditions of migration, especially for young people who migrate unaccompanied.



Objetives

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The project has three main axes: firstly, **legal assistance** for young people in a state of migration in the autonomous city of Melilla and to families who have been living in the city for years, but whose rights are not recognised and are therefore violated on a daily basis, preventing their access to the most basic rights. Secondly, apart from this work, to **monitor, document**

and denounce the constant violations that occur in Melilla and the Southern Border, in order to have a social and political impact on the situation and possibly support cases of legal and strategic litigation. Finally, psycho-emotional accompaniment is another central pillar of the development of our work in the city; caring for and maintaining contact with the people we accompany.

The **legal team** of Solidary Wheels offers free legal assistance and advice in different processes and administrative procedures with the aim of **contributing to the recognition of the rights of people in border areas**.

This team is also responsible **for ensuring that people have access to information** about the Spanish legal system and their rights. This information is provided in a clear and truthful manner, both during individual accompaniment and in talks, workshops and group activities.

The **documentation and advocacy team is in charge of the documentation and denunciation of human rights violations that take place in Melilla**. Working hand in hand with the intervention team, we build relationships of trust with the people we accompany. This allows us to get to know their different and diverse realities in an intimate and horizontal way. We document violations and identify patterns of systematic abuse through daily and direct contact with people, participant observation, and knowledge and analysis of the context.

By using a specific documentation methodology, we are able to identify trends, share information with other rights defenders, and **produce reports to raise the awareness of civil society to demand the application of the principles of equal rights and anti-racism in migration policies, and to highlight this obligation to local, national and European institutions and bodies**.

The work of the **social intervention team** is fundamental to the achievement of objectives in line with our vision and code of ethics. Without the creation of safe spaces and relationships of trust, our work of legal accompaniment, documentation and denunciation is not possible. This team, in coordination with the other two, is responsible for the **promotion of actions of support and emotional support for migrant youth**.

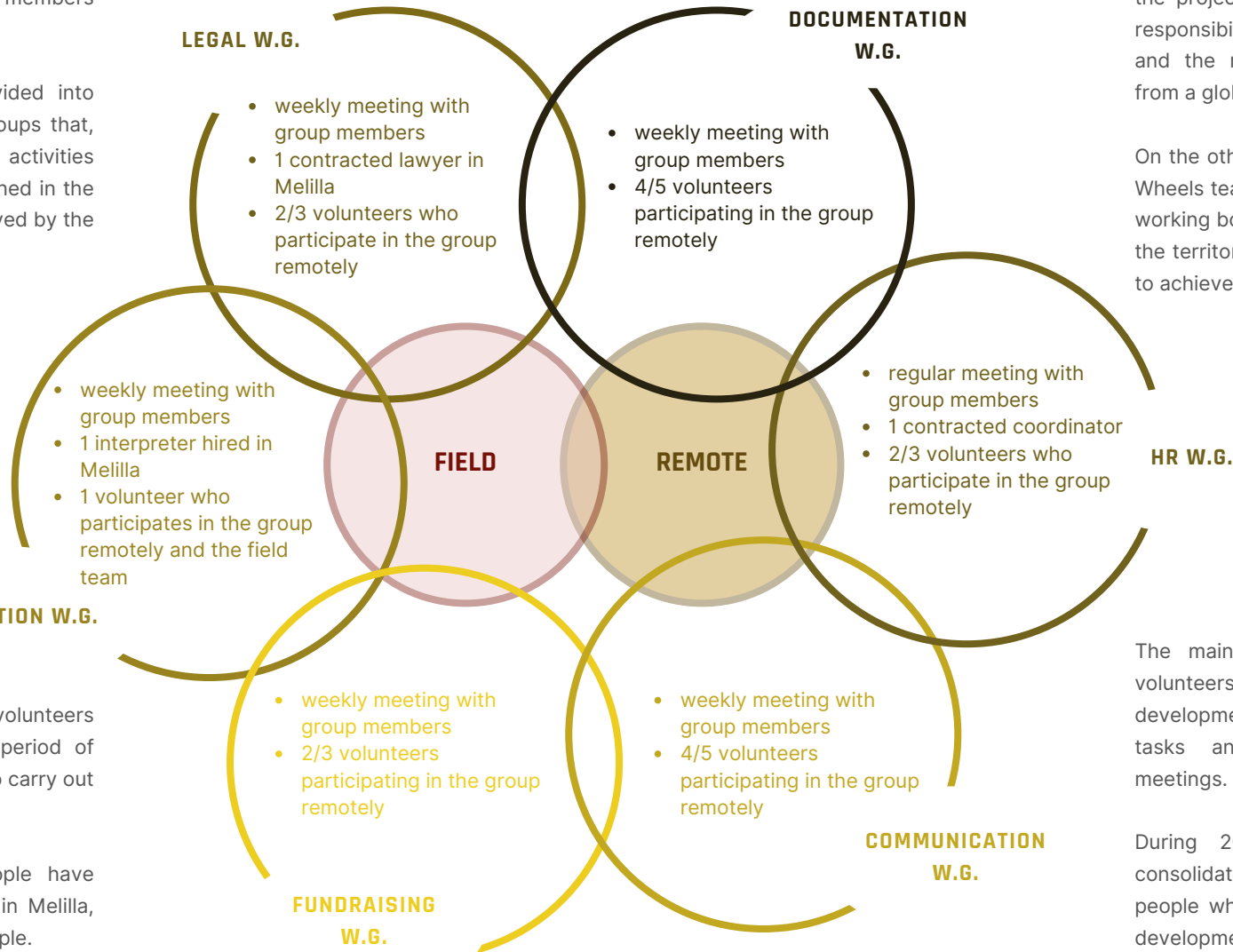
Together with the legal group, we work to **strengthen the capacities and autonomy of the people we accompany, raising their awareness of their rights, the mechanisms for defending them and their impact on the migratory journey**.



The Team

The entity has a non-hierarchical organization and decisions are made by assembly, thus taking into account the experience and opinion of all members of the team.

The internal structure is divided into different established work groups that, independently, program their activities to achieve the objectives defined in the annual operational plan approved by the general assembly.



Collaboration between the different working groups is fundamental and essential for the proper development of the project, since all activities are the responsibility of more than one group and the results are always analyzed from a global perspective.

On the other hand, beyond the Solidary Wheels team, the link with other entities working both in Melilla and in the rest of the territory and networking is essential to achieve our objectives.

The field team is made up of volunteers who travel to Melilla for a period of approximately three months to carry out the programmed activities.

During 2022, about 15 people have been involved in the project in Melilla, usually in groups of 4 or 5 people.

The mainland team is made up of volunteers who support the development of the project by taking on tasks and participating in online meetings.

During 2022 the team has been consolidated, consisting of about 10 people who participate regularly in the development of the activities.



Chronology 2022

CHAFARINAS RETURN

A group of Syrian people who were pushed back to the Chafarinas islands, return to Nador after three days in a prison in Casablanca. This is the second return in the first three days of the year after another group that arrived in the archipelago was also pushed back.

MARCH JUMPS

A total of almost 6,000 attempts to jump the triple fence of Melilla. According to official data a total of 871 people succeeded. Many of them had to be hospitalized as they were injured, many of them as a result of the violence exercised by the Spanish authorities.

BORDER OPENING

The land border between Spain and Morocco closed in March 2020, and in the early morning, May 17 reopened, causing confusion, joy, despair, expected reunions, endless waits.

MELILLA MASSACRE

According to various specialized sources, the Spanish and Moroccan States were responsible for the death and extrajudicial execution of at least 37 people, 77 victims of forced disappearance, hundreds subjected to the denial of aid, torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment.

3 YEARS OF THE PD'S RECOMMENDATION

Three years have passed since the Commissioner of the State's recommendation to Melilla regarding the obligation to register all citizens living there. Three years of violence and negligence of the rights of the Moroccan people living in a city that denies them visibility.



DENIAL OF ACCESS TO CETI

The government delegate, Sabrina Moh, declares that the CETI has less than 250 people on the move, the lowest number in years. Moh has pointed out that the residents of the CETI are mostly 'sub-Saharan', but without explaining what this situation depends on.

SC RULING REGISTRATION OF MINORS

The Supreme Court establishes that requiring a visa for minors from Nador (Morocco) to be registered in Melilla is discriminatory.

PROTESTS AT THE CETI

A group of 20 CETI residents and asylum seekers, exercising their fundamental rights, held a protest to make visible the need for measures to be made in the face of violence by Clece security guards.

RELOEX REFORM IS APPROVED

A reform is approved which consists of a relaxation of some requirements and an improvement in the renewal process, although it still does not guarantee the rights and freedoms of foreigners in Spain.



W.G. Legal

The Legal W.G, carries out various actions, from **information on rights, strategic accompaniment and monitoring of cases, to the construction of long-term strategies for the guarantee and defense of the rights of migrants in the city of Melilla.**

Some of the main accompanied cases have been related to impediments to free movement of asylum seekers, impediments to access to the CETI, criminal proceedings, access to registration

of minors and adults, access to schooling and health, police violence, administrative violence, among others.

Within the framework of access to rights and in order to promote and guarantee the right to information, this group promotes training sessions and this year four have been given to the group of young, unhoused Moroccans, aimed at refuting hoaxes and guaranteeing access to rights.



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Specific accompaniments aimed at guaranteeing access to rights and procedure in accordance with the law, given that the strong violence of repression and derogatory treatment is constant in administration, and only when accompanied by a person with documentation is a response given to requests.

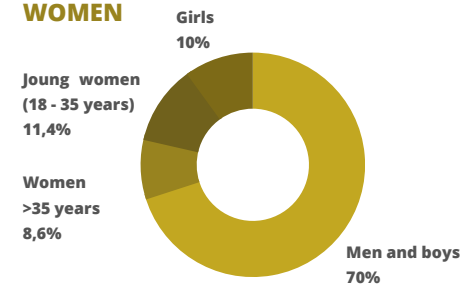
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Individual cases which, due to their complexity, are followed up in depth. Each of them usually involves more than one action and at least five of the cases are families with multiple members, each with different procedures. Thus, more than 60 legal actions have been carried out, as well as various accompaniments of a total of 70 people.

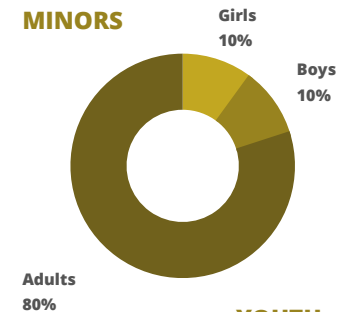
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Complaints to the State Commissioner, 10 on an individual basis and four reports of rights violations affecting many people in the city, **one of the most used reporting strategies.**

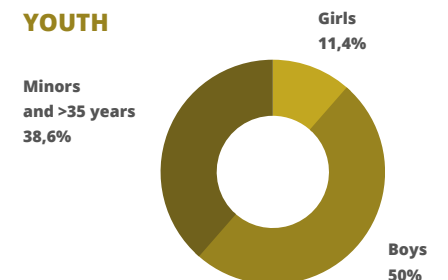
WOMEN



MINORS



YOUTH



W.G. Intervention



The Social Intervention W.G. works on the **creation of safe meeting spaces with the people we accompany, specifically young people of Moroccan origin who are forced to live on the street due to their impediment to enter the CETI.**

During 2022 we saw how the number of unhoused children slightly decreased. Due to the danger of arriving in **Melilla we detected a lower number of arrivals**, in addition to having access

to legal and safe ways to reach the peninsula, which has encouraged the departure of the vast majority of them.

On the other hand we have worked to strengthen networking, it is essential for the development of the project in Melilla, at the legal level, at the level of intervention cases, both for referrals and for common cases, and especially at a more state level. Collective work is key to incidents. Coordination is key.



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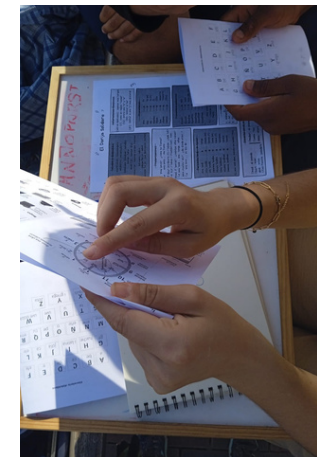
Meeting spaces with young people, which have been strengthened and consolidated throughout this year, where accompaniment and street education are carried out. Through the **beach or skateboarding**, the **distribution** (organized by Prodein, currently MDLR), and the **routes**, we work on trust, the creation of healthy bonds and safe spaces.

270

People who have been informed of their rights in the meeting spaces generated by the intervention team. In addition to offering **psycho-emotional accompaniment to promote the welfare** of minors and young people in street situations in Melilla.

100

We also provide **specific accompaniment** to different institutions such as the Department of Minors, the registration office, the Social Security in order to **ensure access to rights and a procedure in accordance with the law**, and also mainly to the Hospital to ensure the right to **access to health care**, because on many occasions, especially at the administrative level, people suffer strong violence by the people who attend them.



W.G. Documentation



The Documentation W.G.'s objective is **making an impact through the data collected in the field**. The objective is to be able to **denounce the violations of rights that we detect in the city, with the intention of creating permanent and not just ephemeral changes**.

During 2022, this group has focused mainly on the analysis of the interviews conducted so far and, together with thorough research work, has dedicated itself to the **drafting of a report**, which will be published in 2023.

Even so, the work of data collection in the field has not stopped, and a **methodology of data collection, analysis and evaluation has been established**.

We work with the perspective that the **protagonist's voice is that of the people we accompany, valuing the knowledge they have, without trying to superimpose ourselves on it**.

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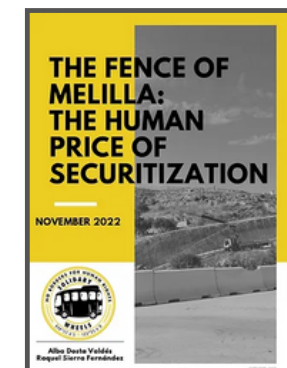
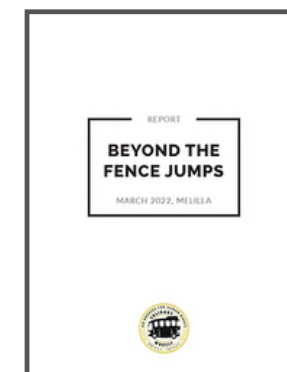
Interviews. The predominant profile of the interviewees was that of young people (up to 35 years of age) of Moroccan nationality, both adults and minors (all over 16 years of age). We did this work keeping in mind that **knowledge of a social context is built through interpersonal relationships and communication**.

3

Articles denouncing the violations of Human Rights in the Autonomous City of Melilla. We have worked in collaboration with the rest of the working groups on their elaboration.

4

Ways in which we have collected data this year, which have been increasingly structured. On the one hand, the **daily** diary, a field diary that compiles all the data collected through participant observation in the different meeting spaces. Secondly, the aforementioned **interviews**. The **lookouts** in different strategic points of the city to document those violations that we observe. And finally **Kobo**, a tool that allows us to collect data, especially on police violence, in a quantitative way.





W.G. Communication

The communication group informs and communicates the different realities that exist in the city, in addition to denouncing the violation of rights that occur.

During the course of this year, we have established a semi-structured calendar so that the recurring publications are set on a specific day of the week, in addition to scheduling

updates from each working group in order to publicize the project and the situation in Melilla.

We support culture and the arts with cultural recommendations, in addition to publishing monographs to contextualize the border and the lives of the people who suffer its consequences. We also publicize our work and seek funding through fundraising campaigns.



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Entries in the Blog section of our website, in Spanish and English. **Reflection articles, updates on the situation in Melilla, legal notes, among others**, are some of the topics covered this year. One of the most outstanding blogs is the "Letter from an unrecognized Melilla citizen", in which Ikram shares her experience of what it means to be a citizen of a place where a person's most basic rights are not recognized.

4

Communiqués, which have been written throughout the year 2022, in collaboration with other groups, denouncing the violation of rights that we are witnesses to, such as the joint communiqué denouncing the Massacre of 24J.

24

Weekly reports in which, from the field, we regularly report on the **situation in Melilla, the team's and various events that are happening**, in order to publicize the violations that are experienced in a border city like Melilla.



W.G. Fundraising



The Fundraising W.G. works on the drafting of funding applications and on the search for new collaboration agreements with other groups that believe in the project and want to support it. We also manage the platforms through which people can make their donations or from which specific crowdfunding campaigns are promoted.

Financial support is essential to ensure the continuity of the work we do in Melilla. One of the greatest achievements promoted by the group has been to obtain funding for the hiring of an interpreter and for the renting of an office, thus significantly improving the quality of the accompaniments, especially those carried out by the Legal Team.

4

fundraising campaigns on social networks, disseminating them on Instagram, Facebook and Twitter profiles, in addition to a crowdfunding campaign that we promoted together with No Name Kitchen and Proyecto Frontera Sur - Canarias for the financing of the elaboration of a report that relates the violations of rights in the three territories of the southern border.

APOYA ESTA CAMPAÑA
Y RECIBE UN EJEMPLAR
DEL INFORME
"VIOLACIONES DE
DERECHOS HUMANOS
EN LA FRONTERA SUR"




6

collaboration agreements with different entities that support us financially. These are always groups with which we share a line of thought in line with our ethical principles and which comply with our code of ethics and therefore, allow us to carry out our advocacy and monitoring work independently and transparently.



14%

increase in donations made by recurring or one-time donors compared to the previous year. Through platforms such as **Teaming** (each teamer contributes one euro per month) or **Donorbox** (for recurring or occasional donors without a fixed amount), people contribute their financial support, which is so essential for us to continue.

Solidary Wheels  Teaming

105 Teamers

€3,607 raised



Upcoming projects

PUBLICATION OF A POLICE VIOLENCE REPORT

After three years collecting information and one year analyzing it, we will present the results of this research in a report in 2023.

REMEMBERING AND CONTINUING TO DEMAND TRUTH, JUSTICE AND REPARATION FOR THE VICTIMS OF THE MELILLA MASSACRE

We intend to continue demanding the clarification of the events that took place on June 24 at the Melilla fence. We will continue to remember the victims and demand justice and reparation for the survivors and their families.

PUBLICATION OF THE REPORT: "BURORREPRESIÓN"

Following the link with the territories of Ceuta and the Canary Islands, and after an investigation of the rights violations committed at the Southern Border, a report will be presented this coming year.

EXPAND NETWORKING

We continue to work to strengthen and expand the links with other organizations defending rights for a real and effective impact, capable of generating change.

FOCUS GROUP IMPLEMENTATION

Based on a focus group, a report will be elaborated, generating a format and structure that gathers the experiences and violations centering on those affected people.



Colaborate with Solidary Wheels

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Donate

To date, all the projects carried out by the association have been supported by the **active participation of volunteers and the financial support of individuals and other groups, associations and organizations**, who have trusted in our mission and share our code of ethics.

Collaborate with the project by making a donation, either through **Teaming** (1€/month), **Donorbox** (choose the amount and frequency, or make a one-time donation) or a **bank transfer**.

Volunteering

The volunteer team gets involved with the project in two different ways. Either by taking on the tasks that arise at **participating in one of the working groups online**, each meeting; or **by moving to Melilla for a minimum period of three months** to carry out the tasks assigned to the field team.

If you are interested in actively participating in the project in either of these two ways, please send an email to volunteers@solidarywheels.org for more information.

