

2023

ANNUAL REPORT OF ACTIVITIES



**NO PEACE
WITHOUT
JUSTICE**

*Organisation with Special Advisory Status (Category II) at the
Economic and Social Committee of the United Nations*

Opening remarks

2023 has continued to pose significant challenges for our organisation. No Peace Without Justice faced reputational damage due to legal proceedings initiated by the Belgian authorities, which had an unjust impact not only on individual members of the organisation, beginning with the arbitrary arrest and detention of our Secretary General in December 2022, but also on its activities. This situation represented a severe violation of the rule of law and democratic principles. Despite the deliberate attacks targeting our human rights advocacy work that we faced last year and despite the ensuing context that severely tested the survival of the organisation, we have persistently committed ourselves to strengthening the role of international law globally. No Peace Without Justice has continued to affirm that universally accepted human rights principles must be upheld and applied, working diligently to implement them through our activities.

2023 was also a very complex year on the international stage, marked by a significant increase in new conflicts, escalation of existing conflicts and a rise in insurrections and natural phenomena worldwide. The climate of insecurity and mistrust has become overwhelmingly oppressive, fuelling the rise of authoritarianism on the international scene.

Despite these challenges, NPWJ carried out advocacy activities at the United Nations (UN), participating with consultative status in the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) session on the United Arab Emirates, the 54th regular session of the Human Rights Council (HRC), and the 67th session of the Commission on the Status of Women. In our efforts to combat impunity and protect Human Rights Defenders, NPWJ has continued to support the work of the International Criminal Court and the Rome Statute system. Meanwhile, we have also strengthened our presence in Brazil, where accountability is difficult to achieve and those fighting against injustice and democratic principles are constantly threatened. Our activities have continued in Libya, where democracy is unstable, and the rule of law is weak. We have worked to empower Libyan civil society by providing valuable tools for the protection of human rights. Throughout this work, NPWJ has focused on protecting the rights of women and children, who are particularly vulnerable in times of conflict and crisis. However, the inability to access key funding has significantly limited our operational capacity.

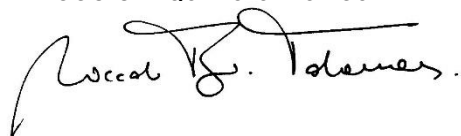
In our efforts to continue steadfastly fighting for international justice for every human being, the NPWJ team has faced both legal and financial obstacles. The situation in which NPWJ has been unjustly and reprehensibly entangled has been a source of uncertainty but also of introspective and external analysis. The former highlighted the resilience, cohesion and passion of our team, providing the opportunity to adopt a new and stronger statute approved by our members, who were willing and motivated to participate in multiple assemblies throughout the year. The latter served as a reminder that there are still many people willing to fight for the right cause. The support from all members and partners has been crucial for NPWJ's recovery, revealing that many people still believe in

the necessity of the organisation's existence and functioning. All this, combined with the profound awareness of always having acted correctly, encouraged us to withstand the shock of events.

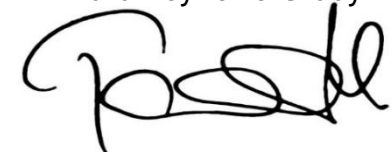
The past year has also brought some positive news. On 24 October 2023, the European Union concluded that NPWJ had not violated the EU Code of Conduct, thus confirming the absolute innocence and non-involvement of the organisation and its team regarding the charges brought against them. Consequently, the Secretary of the European Union Transparency Register decided to lift the suspension of NPWJ from the Register, making it possible to foresee a resumption of the organisation's activities within the European institutions. Furthermore, NPWJ obtained full accreditation to the National Single Registry of the Third Sector (RUNTS) in Italy.

These important steps forward represent significant signs of recovery for the organisation; NPWJ will enter its 30th year of activity with renewed vigour and the same vision that has always guided its mission: a world where democracy, peace, human rights and freedoms for all people are guaranteed by a universal rule of law, rooted in accountability for violations and redress for victims.

Niccolò Fiaà-Talamanca



Tara Reynor O'Grady



Cover photo:

No Peace Without Justice organized with local Amazonian partners the event "The Call of Chief Raoni: Great Gathering of Earth Guardians Leadership" that took place in the village of Piraçu in northern Mato Grosso.



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1. INTRODUCTION TO THE REPORT

2023 was characterised by the worsening of violations of the international order, increasing social inequalities, and the intensification of severe old and new conflicts over food and energy, further exacerbated by the climate crisis. Political instability and the climate crisis continue to fuel a global humanitarian crisis, with millions of people forced to leave their homes and seek refuge in foreign countries. The humanitarian situation in the Gaza Strip, Syria, Libya, and Yemen remains desperate.

In this context, No Peace Without Justice (NPWJ) has continued to work to strengthen international law and combat impunity for serious human rights violations worldwide. NPWJ has made significant efforts to contribute to the respect for the rule of law, international justice, and the strengthening of the International Criminal Court (ICC), fighting impunity and working to achieve justice and accountability, including in Afghanistan, Libya, and the Amazon. NPWJ also amplifies the voices of victims in international forums, such as the United Nations Human Rights Council.

All this despite the severe reputational damage inflicted on NPWJ due to the judicial investigation conducted by Belgian authorities into an alleged criminal organisation aimed at corrupting the democratic process of European institutions within the context of what is dubbed "Qatargate" by the media. Eighteen months since its inception, this investigation has yet to produce conclusive evidence of any sort and has instead become a glaring example of how due process and the rule of law are not guaranteed rights even in so-called advanced countries but are democratic principles to be defended and protected daily. Our profound awareness of always having acted correctly has given us the strength to withstand the impact of the events that have involved us, maintaining confidence in our Secretary General and fully cooperating with the investigative authorities when required.

In the course of 2023, we also completed the process of reviewing and adopting the new [Statute](#) in June, aimed at complying with the requirements for the Third Sector for registration of No Peace Without Justice within the RUNTS (Single National Third Sector Register), a recognition we obtained in October.

This annual report outlines the work we carried out in 2023, along with an overview of the financial context and our specific working methodology. In 2023, we also developed the NPWJ Strategic Plan 2024-2026.

2. ABOUT NO PEACE WITHOUT JUSTICE

2.1. Our History

No Peace Without Justice is an international non-profit organisation inspired and founded by Marco Pannella and Emma Bonino, resulting from a 1993 campaign by the Transnational Radical Party, working for the protection and promotion of human rights, democracy, the rule of law and international justice.

NPWJ's work is based on the central vision that impunity for any form of human rights violation and abuse is not acceptable, as respect for dignity and freedoms must be guaranteed to all, without exception, as enshrined in the rule of law. If violations and abuses are committed, those responsible at the highest levels of power must be held accountable to provide justice and reparation to victims and survivors. From the mass atrocities perpetrated in times of war, to the repressive policies implemented against dissenting voices, to the environmental and human devastation caused by practices such as deforestation and burning, and practices that brutally deny women's rights under the guise of "tradition", the only response to these violations is accountability.

2.2. The Association

As stated in Article 2 of our [Statute](#):

"The Association

1. Is non-profit;
2. Is established for the pursuit of civic, solidaristic and socially useful purposes aimed at:
 - a. Strengthening the system of international guarantees and jurisdiction;
 - b. Developing and reforming international organisations at universal and regional levels;
 - c. Promoting the role of the International Criminal Court (ICC) and ad hoc International Tribunals to combat impunity for war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide;
 - d. Combating all forms of gender-based discrimination and violence, including female genital mutilation;
 - e. Cooperating with governments, civil society, human rights activists, for the development of the rule of law and democracy, through the implementation of programs including in third countries;
 - f. Assessing the application of the right to just justice in the systems of member states of the United Nations (UN);
 - g. Disseminating, including by means of publications, whether self-financed, free or paid, of news of the association's activities and anything else everywhere pertinent to the association's activities.

- h. Developing cooperation and promoting and protecting all other human rights, whether gender, inclusion, environmental or otherwise.”

2.3. Our Vision

A world in which everyone's human rights and freedoms, democracy and peace, are guaranteed by universal rule of law, rooted in accountability for violations and redress for victims.

2.4. Our Mission

- To strengthen national, regional and international systems, mechanisms and standards that promote and protect human rights and deliver justice and redress for victims.
- To promote international justice and accountability, including the ICC, to combat impunity for war crimes, crimes against humanity, genocide and ecocide, also by holding States to their obligations to investigate and prosecute crimes under international law.
- To support Human Rights Defenders, communities and local actors struggling to defend and promote human rights, democracy and the rule of law.
- To fight all forms of discrimination and sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), including Female Genital and Sexual Mutilation and early and forced marriage.

2.5. Our Values

- We believe that silence in the face of human rights violations equals complicity: we encourage States and institutional actors to use their positions, cooperating with civil society, to denounce human rights violations and take action to end them worldwide.
- We seek to amplify local voices, not replace them: we support the empowerment of victims and survivors as active agents for change for themselves, their communities and the world.

- We challenge assumptions and push boundaries to help break discriminatory and harmful power dynamics and effect sustainable cultural, political and social change.
- We do not accept that massive war crimes and atrocities are an unavoidable consequence of conflict, nor that they “just happen”: they are the result of deliberate policy decisions by individuals at the highest levels, who can and should be held personally accountable by States and by the international community.
- We do not accept that universal human rights have no space in the private sphere, such as the relationship between parent and child or between spouses or partners: FGM and marital rape are examples of violations of these universal rights, which the State is responsible to prevent.
- We do not accept impunity for environmental and human devastation and consider that ecocide should be recognised at national and international levels to hold perpetrators accountable and ensure the preservation and restoration of ecosystems as well as the respect of human rights of local and indigenous peoples.
- We do not accept that poverty, illiteracy and underdevelopment can be separated from civil and political rights or that social justice can be achieved without individual freedom: political freedoms and civil liberties give voice to the poor, the oppressed and the disadvantaged and empower them to drive permanent change.

2.6. Our Strengths

Engaging



NPWJ engages institutional and non-institutional local actors in substantive and strategic partnerships: we work with these actors because they are partners on common priorities and shared values, not because they “implement” things for us or because we implement things for them.

Cherishing practical knowledge



NPWJ has recognised in-house expertise on a range of human rights issues and access to a large network of world-renowned experts to complement in-house resources where needed.

Listening



Learning from local actors: we work with them to adjust priorities as needed and bring the needs and constraints on the ground to the attention of relevant actors outside the country, also with a view to informing their policy priorities.

Empowering



Empowering victims and survivors of human rights violations and supporting vulnerable and under-represented groups (such as women, children, and minorities) as actors for change, including by bringing their experiences and built-up expertise and capacity to other situations in need.

Acting according to our convictions



NPWJ sets its own agenda based on political priorities, specific expertise, and needs assessed on the ground. We do not undertake activities outside our scope of political interest or beyond our expertise, or that of our partners, just because funds are available. Policy objectives and operational priorities are set independently of easily available resources; where we have the necessary expertise and there is a need for action, our objectives and priorities drive our fundraising strategy.

2.7. Our Goals

Fighting impunity in all its forms

NPWJ, a founding member of the Coalition for the International Criminal Court (CICC), seeks to combat impunity for massive atrocities, war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide by ensuring broad support for accountability as a systematic response to those crimes, starting from the ICC, also as a means to facilitate accountability at the domestic level. NPWJ also seeks to foster the implementation of more coherent and effective policies and operational guidelines on the role of children in transitional justice and the impact of transitional justice on children.

Priorities of action include:

- Reducing the expectation of impunity, thereby removing the perception of “reward for violence”, on the part of parties to conflict, potential perpetrators, victims and affected populations through engagement, advocacy and information-sharing.
- Increasing the impact, effectiveness, transparency and accountability of transitional justice mechanisms through policy-development, advocacy and technical support, including advocacy for cooperation and harmonisation between different mechanisms seized with the same situation.
- Providing support and technical assistance to civil society seeking to document violations for accountability purposes, to boost their ability to undertake that work effectively, efficiently and safely.

Empowering women and children

NPWJ works with governments, legislators and other institutional actors, women’s rights activists as well as community and religious leaders to target violence against women that is primarily being addressed as a cultural, rather than a human rights’ issue, including female genital and sexual mutilation, forced and early marriage, marital rape and other violations that are consequences of the subordinate status of women and girls.

Priorities of action include:

- Developing specific and effective legislative measures and innovative approaches to support those working to turn the tide of social norms, and to support actual and potential victims resisting societal expectations to be silent and acquiesce to violations against them.

- Advocacy and engagement with institutions to promote the rights of the child, including a focus on their participation in decisions and in mechanisms that affect their lives and on the recruitment, release and reintegration of children in armed forces and groups.
- Engaging women, girls, as well as boys and men, individually and in community settings, in situations of armed conflict, displacement and return, to understand the variety of power dynamics that lead to discrimination and the subjugation of women and girls “for their own good”, and to identify actionable policies to empower women and girls in acting as agents both for their own protection and for change in others.

Supporting human rights and environmental defenders

NPWJ seeks to support human rights and environmental defenders in their invaluable work to protect and promote rights throughout the world, working with individual human rights and environmental defenders and promoting a global environment that is supportive of and favourable to their work.

Priorities of action include:

- Supporting the capacity of human rights and environmental defenders to monitor, report and document past and ongoing violations and abuses.
- Analysing the legal and policy framework for measures that can be taken to protect human rights and environmental defenders providing information to accountability processes and developing an advocacy platform for their support and protection at national, regional and international levels.
- Providing support to individual human rights and environmental defenders on tools and techniques to promote and protect their real world and online safety and security.

Supporting democratic transition, the rule of law and respect of human rights

NPWJ continues to address situations where democratic values, fundamental and universal human rights and the rule of law are restricted by political and social dynamics imposed by authoritarian and closed regimes, or when complex transitional processes designed to respond to populations’ demands for change and liberty are at stake, by promoting and supporting democratic values, liberal institutions and open government. We do so through the development of effective and durable consultation mechanisms that

recognise non-governmental actors, NGOs and civil society as a legitimate and necessary counterpart for dialogue with State institutions on issues of democratic reform, human rights, the rule of law, justice, reconciliation and accountability.

Priorities of action include:

- Enhancing civil society's capacity to act as a positive and constructive force and to interact effectively with governments and monitor the implementation of their political commitments and legal obligations.
- Undertaking specific consultations between government and non-governmental actors in order to facilitate the establishment of a lasting system, practice or habit of consultation between State structures and non-governmental actors for all decision-making processes on democratic reform and human rights issues.
- Promoting a human rights approach within legislative bodies and national authorities and supporting their efforts to fulfil international obligations under human rights treaties and to regional and international human rights mechanisms.
- Facilitating the work of local actors at the UN level by ensuring that civil society and democracy advocates voice be directly heard by policy and decision makers.

Fighting environmental devastation and promoting a healthy environment

The current climate and ecological crises are outcomes of many years of destructive human activities that have been conducted without due regard to their impact on the natural environment and in some cases as a means of causing harm, whether to humans or to the environment itself. The perpetuation of harmful practices to the environment entails several risks to various species, including human beings, and creates challenges for the future of the planet as a whole. Updating international law to the current historical challenges by expanding its content and creating new legal tools to address climate and ecological emergencies is vital for preserving our planet's natural equilibrium, ensuring human and non-human well-being, and saving thousands of species from extinction.

Priorities of action include:

- Seeking accountability, raising awareness and effecting behavioural change in respect of deforestation, fires and other environmental and human rights violations taking place in Amazonia and elsewhere.
- Supporting and reinforcing legislations and policies at national, regional and international level aimed at environmental protection and promoting the right to a healthy environment.

- Promoting the recognition of Ecocide as a universal “ecocentric” crime, in order to extend international criminal liability to crimes against the environment, even where there is no immediately apparent harm to humans, so as to create an obligation on the part of the competent jurisdiction either to investigate and prosecute violations, or to extradite to another jurisdiction able and willing to do so.

Strengthening NPWJ's organisational structure and capacity

For the past several years, Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and civic political activism have been targeted with the aim to restrict the public discourse on issues relating to the respect of human rights, the rule of law and democratic values. NPWJ has become a direct victim of this trend. Since December 2022, NPWJ and its Secretary General have been subjected to a violent and defamatory campaign that has caused enormous harm to NPWJ's honour and reputation, operational and financial capacity and fundraising effectiveness. Confronted with these daunting challenges, NPWJ's staff is demonstrating enormous resilience and strength, continuing whenever possible to operate according to the mandate and objectives of the organisation. In 2023, NPWJ adopted a new Statute of the organisation, to comply with the Italian third sector law, which changed our governance structure and strengthened our resilience. At the same time, NPWJ undertook a review of our policies and procedures, with a view to strengthening our professionalism and working methodologies.

Priorities of action include:

- Strengthening our organisational structure to ensure it is dynamic, effective, efficient and flexible, to enable us to respond quickly to urgent needs and to enhance our effectiveness and impact.
- Streamlining internal processes and communication to ensure compliance with the new organisational structure and further enhance transparency and openness.
- Implementing a review system to enable us to keep our policies and procedures up to date on a rolling basis and to develop and implement new policies and procedures in response to new developments in non-profit management.
- Identifying new opportunities for support and visibility to our work, for example through considering a Strategic Council, Patrons or other similar possibilities.
- Reviewing and improving our communication tools and strategy and developing new ways of sharing information about our priority issues and our work.

Diversifying and strengthening NPWJ's funding base

NPWJ is funded by a variety of donors and in general we seek to have multiple donors for each initiative. NPWJ accepts funds from individuals, private foundations, companies, governments and international institutions, including funds that are earmarked for specific objectives, as long as these reflect NPWJ policy priorities according to a strict due diligence review of every funding source. NPWJ has been as affected as other organisations by a general reduction in funding available for human rights work. We are committed to reviewing our fundraising strategy, diversifying and strengthening our funding base, seeking more opportunities for obtaining the strategic funding that would allow us to respond quickly to urgent needs and exploring new ways of fundraising, for example through strategic partnerships with businesses seeking to make a positive human rights contribution.

2.8. Further information

NPWJ firmly believes that NGOs have a responsibility to follow the highest code of ethics, including transparency of our policies and methodologies. To stay in line with this goal, on our website you can consult all our policies and procedures, both in English and in Italian.

We are committed to providing a work environment free from sexual harassment and any form of discrimination and have never received any complaints related to these issues. NPWJ does not tolerate sexual harassment or discrimination under any circumstances. If a staff member or collaborator believes that they have been or are aware of sexual harassment, they should report this immediately to their supervisor or to their supervisor's superiors, if the direct supervisors do not take action. NPWJ staff may be fired, consultant contracts may be terminated, and contact with partners or other interlocutors may be terminated if sexual harassment is discovered. If necessary, the matter may also be reported to the police or other competent authorities, including depending on the legislation applicable at the place where the alleged sexual harassment occurred. Any report of sexual harassment will be subject to a full and confidential investigation.

In 2023 we did not receive any reports of sexual harassment. Also, during the year we continued to have a gender balance within our staff, which is very important to us.

NPWJ strictly follows privacy policies, with a focus on children and minors. Since the registered office of NPWJ is in the territory of the European Union, we follow the General Data Protection Regulation of the European Union 2016/679 (GDPR); our privacy policy is available on our website. In 2023, we received no complaints about privacy violations, nor sanctions for non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

NPWJ is firmly interested in protecting the environment and is therefore committed to being sustainable and reducing its impact through the implementation of environmentally conscious practices, in compliance with current regulations. We are committed to improving sustainability in all our locations.

Given the nature of our work, we also have specific security policies and risk management procedures in place, especially for field missions: the safety and well-being of our employees and partners is crucial to us.

In June 2023, NPWJ adopted the status of Ente del Terzo Settore, in accordance with the new Italian Law for the Third Sector.

3. STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

3.1. Organisational Chart



3.2. Stakeholders

In 2023, despite the crisis described above, NPWJ continued to cooperate with multiple stakeholders, albeit in reduced numbers. The commitment and determination of the entire staff ensured that the organisation remained on its feet, although there were changes in cooperation with various stakeholders, including some public and private donors and contracts of various consultants whose know-how was formed and grew with NPWJ. In addition, NPWJ continued to pursue its work at the UN, while there were no particular activities at European or national institutions.

We have maintained our relations with civil society and our support to organisations, human rights activists and people at risk of human rights violations in general, which is essential to broaden local voices and act according to needs on the ground. Our associates have shown special dedication and commitment and during 2023 were available to participate in the many events organised. Finally, the same goes for the collaborators and staff, who never stopped cooperating for the revival of NPWJ, showing tenacity and determination.

Below, we indicate the main stakeholders with whom NPWJ has cooperated in the past, taking into account the substantial changes that some of them have undergone.

- **Rights bearers:**
The protection of rights, both human rights and environmental rights, are integral to our work and, therefore, anyone who enjoys these rights lies at the core of our work.
- **People at risk or victims of human rights violations:**
We collaborate with and empower active change agents, listening to their needs and stories, so that they feel comfortable to speak first-hand about the direct situations they have been faced with or are currently facing.
- **Civil society:**
We collaborate with civil society on several fronts. This category includes all components of civil society in the areas in which we operate, both as citizens' associations and as free, unorganised citizens.
- **Activists and Human Rights Defenders:**
We collaborate with those who are committed every day to the front lines for the protection and promotion of human rights, not only individually but also collectively, often putting their lives at risk. We are committed to giving them a space from where they can express their voices so that their daily battles do not remain invisible and are further strengthened.
- **National, regional, and international policy makers:**

We provide our experience and skills to inform actors, including institutional actors and diplomatic representatives from different countries, so that they can develop effective policies for the protection and promotion of rights and be better equipped to face the challenges of the moment.

- **Policy implementers and decision makers:**

We interact with those who transform political decisions into concrete actions in order to link different experiences through our network and to ensure efficient and full implementation of policies.

- **Journalists and media:**

Communication plays a central role in increasing the impact and awareness-raising power of our campaigns, therefore journalists from various newspapers and publications, not only traditional newspapers but also innovative media, are always present in our network.

- **Associates:**

All those who decide to support NPWJ through an annual donation, thus acquiring a more active role as associates.

- **Partners:**

The organisations and entities that collaborate with us in the implementation of campaigns and projects play a key role. We are committed every day to establishing fruitful relationships of esteem and trust which enable them to continue even in the long term.

- **Supporters:**

We are grateful to anyone who supports our campaigns and projects, not only through individual donations but also, and above all, by actively contributing to the debate on issues concerning our activities. For example, by word of mouth, by participating in our events and following us through social media.

- **Public and private donors:**

We maintain a constructive relationship with all the actors and institutions that make the realisation of our programmatic objectives possible through the financial support they provide to our projects.

- **NPWJ staff and collaborators:**

Our work would not be possible without those who believe in our activities and dedicate their time to carrying out our campaigns every day, enriching them with their contribution, determination and passion.

3.3. Audit

During 2023 NPWJ in addition to the ordinary audits and monitoring carried out by the Board of Control and Auditor also supported several audits requested by donors and carried out by third parties, some of which straddled several fiscal years. These were mainly financial audits and in particular:

- Audit carried out by Ernst & Young Financial-Business Advisor Spa on behalf of the European Commission for the project "Best practices to Empower women against Female genital mutilation, Operating for Rights and legal Efficacy - BEFORE which did not reveal any critical issues on all aspects assessed
- Audit carried out by MAZARS on behalf of the European Commission for the project "Improving the reporting capacity of the Libyan Government and Civil Society to United Nations Human Rights Mechanisms" which did not highlight any critical issues on all aspects under evaluation

An impact audit had also been conducted on this project by the European Commission at the end of 2021 with very positive attestations on the work done and the verifiable results at that time resulting from the implementation of the project.

- As of today (March 2024), a further audit by PwC (PricewaterhouseCoopers) is being conducted at the request of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland for the project "Afghanistan human rights initiative".

4. OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)- Agenda 2030¹



No Peace Without Justice is committed to advancing its struggles that interact on different levels with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda. NPWJ pursues lines of action that fall mainly under SDGs 5, 15 and 16. **SDG 16** is the target with which NPWJ's work historically connects, through the promotion of the rule of law and accountability research; campaigns against all forms of violence against children; the development of more effective and transparent institutions; and the encouragement of participatory decision-making processes. In particular, target 16.3 to “Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all”; target 16.6 to “Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels”; target 16.7 to “Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels”; and target 16.10 to “Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements”. **SDG 5** is dedicated to “Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls”, and NPWJ’s work links particularly to target 5.3 for the elimination of “all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation”. Especially the campaign in the Amazon is in the context of **SDG 15** “Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss” and concerns action to halt deforestation and biodiversity loss (targets 15.2 and 15.3).

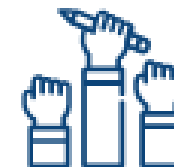
The work of NPWJ links in a cross-cutting way to other targets, such as SDG 1 on poverty eradication, SDG 3 on access good health and well-being, SDG 13 on climate action and SDG 17 on partnerships for the goals. Incidentally, NPWJ's work has positive effects on **SDG 1** targets on economic inequalities and vulnerability to the effects of climate change. Again, advocacy work in Amazonia links to **SDG 3.9** on reducing the number of diseases and deaths related to toxic chemicals and air, water and land pollution, as well

¹ United Nations. [The 17 goals | sustainable development. United Nations.](#)

as **SDG 13** on climate action. Finally, NPWJ engages in the achievement of **SDG 17** by, on the one hand, building partnerships and collaborating for global sustainable development, with a focus on cooperation between civil society, the public and the private sector, and, on the other hand, supporting capacity building of social actors to increase the availability and quality of available data.

4.1. **Advocacy work at the United Nations (UN)**

NPWJ considers the United Nations (UN) system as a key element in its strategy to achieve its organisational goals. Since its inception, NPWJ has anchored its major activities and objectives within the UN system, as in the case of its campaign for the establishment of the International Criminal Court (ICC), or its leading role in the campaign for the adoption of a UN General Assembly (UNGA) Resolution to ban Female Genital Mutilation (FGM).



NPWJ has always worked extensively with UN bodies, Specialised Agencies and Special Rapporteurs to achieve its stated goals. At the local level, while implementing specific in-country work, NPWJ has always tried to establish good and working relations with UN mechanisms and missions active in the field. NPWJ was granted special consultative status to the ECOSOC on 21 July 2022, opening up new opportunities for advocacy activities at the UN level, for which – until then – NPWJ had to rely on the goodwill, availability and partnerships from other organisations. NPWJ applied for the consultative status with the ECOSOC in 2017, and for 5 years its application was subject to close scrutiny, if not opposition, at the Committee on NGOs in New York. Obtaining consultative status in July 2022 opened additional avenues for advocacy and promotion of NPWJ policy priorities, offering an opportunity for NPWJ programs and activities to be more visible at the international level and for NPWJ’s local partners to have their voice directly heard by the international community.

67th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (6–17 March 2023). United Nations (UN) Headquarters - New York, USA

Addressing the 67th Commission on the Status of Women’s priority theme, “Innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls”, we stressed the importance of developing a legal and policy framework to reduce the gender gap in accessing innovation and technology. First and foremost, there is a need to ensure women’s and girls’ access to education and information, both offline and online. Second, the representation of women in policy and decision-making, and those fields where they are still largely underrepresented, such as science and technology-related fields, must be increased.

Outputs

- 1 written statement submitted to the CSW (E/CN.6/2023/NGO/40).

Results

The following recommendations were submitted to UN Member States through the statement:

- Update and align their domestic legal provisions with the highest standards of human rights set by the Treaties they have ratified, and to ratify human rights treaties where they have not yet done so;
- Ratify the Rome Statute to make sure access to justice and accountability is ensured for all women and girls worldwide;
- Fully implement UNGA Resolution 67/146 on “Intensifying global efforts for the elimination of female genital mutilation”;
- Challenge negative stereotypes and patriarchal structures that put girls and women at risk and prevent them from realising their potential;
- Ensure access to information and education for women and girls in all communities, especially marginalised and rural ones, also through preventing and combating sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and harmful practices;
- Remove all barriers that hinder women’s access to science and technology related fields;
- Support equal participation and representation of women and men in political and economic decision-making;
- Integrate gender mainstreaming in all policies to improve their impact on all genders.

Recipients

Direct:

- UN bodies and agencies,
- NPWJ local partners.

Indirect:

- Women and girls impacted by the gender gap in accessing education, innovation and technology, participation in decision-making processes;
- International community.

Stakeholders

- UN bodies and agencies;
- NPWJ local partners;
- International community and civil society advocates.

43rd session of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) Working Group (1 – 12 May 2023). United Nations (UN) Office - Geneva, Switzerland

NPWJ submitted one Individual Submission to the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) on United Arab Emirates (UAE), analysing the UAE judicial system, underlining how the use of the judiciary as a tool of oppression, coupled with massive use of new technologies, leads to a phenomenon also known as rule by law, contrary to rule of law. We also focused on specific concerns linked to court rulings and proceeding as well as practices linked to law enforcement that should be tackled as they are disrespectful of human rights.

Outputs

- 1 individual submission to the UPR on UAE.

Results

The following recommendation were submitted to the UPR:

- Develop a robust legal framework for the promotion and protection of human rights by ensuring that constitutional and national legislation are fully compliant with international human rights standards, including by a comprehensive review of the Penal Code and all other relevant legislation;
- Incorporate an absolute prohibition of torture in Emirati legislation in line with the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman, Degrading Treatment or Punishment;
- Ratify all human rights treaties, particularly, the International Convention for Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) e International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR);

- Ratify the Rome Statute of the ICC and enact implementing legislation to incorporate Rome Statute crimes in Emirati law and provide for cooperation with the Court;
- Implement an immediate moratorium on all executions imposed by federal courts and ensure full compliance with the restrictions prescribed in particular in Article 6 of the ICCPR, while all necessary measures are being taken to abolish death penalty;
- Repeal all legislation regarding the use of counselling centres and immediately release prisoners of conscience whose sentences have already been served;
- Immediately cease government interference in citizen privacy rights through the use of secret spyware.

Recipients

Direct:

- UN bodies and agencies;
- NPWJ local partners.

Indirect:

- Individuals in the UAE at risks of human rights violations related to court rulings and proceedings, and law enforcement practices;
- International community.

Stakeholders

- UN bodies and agencies;
- NPWJ local partners;
- International community and civil society advocates.

54th regular session of the United Nations Human Rights Council (UN HRC) (11 September – 12 October 2023). United Nations Office - Geneva, Switzerland

NPWJ contributed to the work of the HRC by underlining how all efforts to bring justice and accountability to Syria have failed so far, as well as the attempt to normalise relations with Damascus and the so-called “step-by-step” approach did not produce any meaningful results. The Syrian people are still suffering and still demonstrating against a government imposed upon them by violence and foreign support. Human rights violations continue to be committed and human rights advocates and those who criticise the authorities continue to disappear without a trace. In addition, it should be noted that Syria has been used for years as a training ground by the same troops invading Ukraine today.

Output

- 1 oral statement delivered by Mr Hussein Sabbagh during the Interactive Dialogue with the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic (Item 4).

Result

The following recommendations were submitted to UN Member States through the statement:

- Further strengthen and adapt their legal and judicial systems to utilise universal jurisdiction for the crimes committed in Syria;
- Encourage the international community to begin discussions aimed at the establishment of a Special Court for crimes committed in Syria and ensure proper fundings and support for the full implementation of UNGA Resolution 77/301.

Recipients

Direct:

- UN bodies and agencies;
- NPWJ local partners.

Indirect:

- Syrian people, human rights advocates at risk of human rights violations perpetrated by the government and foreign support;
- International community.

Stakeholders

- UN bodies and agencies;
- NPWJ local partners;
- International community and civil society advocates.

4.2. Combat impunity in all its forms and support Human Rights Defenders (HRDs)

In 2023, NPWJ continued its fight against impunity to combat mass atrocities, war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide by ensuring broad accountability support as a systematic response to such crimes, including the ICC. This effort persisted despite facing challenges that led to reduced resources and a slower pace of action for NPWJ throughout the year, as illustrated in more detail in



In its work on international criminal justice, NPWJ has focused on national and international efforts to restore the rule of law and provide accountability and redress for victims of violations of international law – be they through the ICC or through ad hoc Courts or Tribunals, national prosecutions or other accountability processes. The ultimate goal is always to ensure that, regardless of which solution is adopted, it is structured and implemented to restore the rule of law and that it responds to the requests of stakeholders and respects the highest standards of protection of human rights. In fighting against impunity, NPWJ also supports HRDs facing threats and abuses in the fields in which they operate, amplifying their voices notably in Afghanistan. Additionally, NPWJ is working to try to ascertain accountability for environmental and human rights violations in the Amazon region, including threats to environmental and HRDs and through promotion of the adopted of the crime of ecocide.

Strengthen the International Criminal Court (ICC) and the Rome Statute System

Since the beginning of the process of the establishment and operation of the ICC, NPWJ has carried out multiple activities and campaigns in its support. Since 1994, NPWJ has been one of the organisations at the forefront of promoting the efficient and effective operations of the then-future ICC to investigate and prosecute war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide. In 2023, NPWJ continued to closely monitor the work of the ICC, aiming at strengthening its ability to work efficiently and effectively, and the work of other accountability mechanisms. Still today, the ICC continues to face challenges to its credibility and ability to work, including resource limitations and policy and implementation challenges of the ICC in areas that hinder its ability to be effective, be efficient and have a positive impact.

The objectives were to strengthen the work of the ICC, increase its transparency and efficiency and promote strong political will in support of the Court.

Activities

To achieve its goal of strengthening the ICC, NPWJ carried out advocacy activities throughout 2023. NPWJ advocated, among other things, for field presence, outreach, completion strategies, a sufficient and sustainable budget and support for HRDs. These activities were combined with research conducted on best practices and experiences gained in these areas. This advocacy involved, at various stages, interaction with the ICC itself, with the States Parties on the challenges faced by the Court and the use of public messaging to raise general awareness of the importance of these issues. The advocacy activities carried out by NPWJ on the ICC were complemented by policy meetings, including with the Working Party on Public International Law of the Council of the European Union (COJUR) and its ICC sub-group, as well as discussions with civil society, representatives of different States and with the ICC itself on the challenges faced throughout its work.

Over the course of the year, NPWJ issued several statements relating to international justice and the ICC, including on the ongoing conflict in Ukraine and in Gaza, on the ecocide and environmental crimes and a statement commemorating International Justice Day. NPWJ made in-depth submissions on draft policies of the ICC Office of the Prosecutor, including its Draft Policy on Complementarity and Cooperation. NPWJ also participated actively in the review of the OTP's Policy on Children, making detailed written submissions, participating in roundtable discussions and serving on the OTP's Advisory Group on the Review. NPWJ participated actively in the annual session of the ICC Assembly of States Parties, including intervening during side events, and in the Annual ICC-NGO Roundtables and thematic discussions including on a trauma-informed approach to investigations and prosecutions.

Outputs

- 2 submissions on draft ICC OTP documents;
- 1 joint submission on draft ICC OTP document;
- Interventions at side events at the ICC Assembly of States Parties;
- 30 meetings with the ICC, its stakeholders, civil society and other stakeholders to strengthen the work of the ICC;
- 20 contributions to joint official and unofficial statements and documents relating to strengthening the work of the ICC.

Qualitative Assessment of the Impact Generated

NPWJ's priorities have been reflected in both official and unofficial documents and statements and have had an impact on strengthening the ICC and informing the views of States Parties and other stakeholders. NPWJ's priority action regarding the rights of the child vis a vis international justice and accountability mechanisms had a major impact on the revised OTP Policy on Children, which is greatly strengthened in its child rights-based approach.

Recipients

Direct:

- Civil Society Organisations (CSOs);
- ICC;
- ICC States Parties.

Indirect:

- ICC stakeholders (victims, other stakeholders affected by the ICC's work);
- Public opinion through dissemination of documents and press statements.

Partners

- Human Rights Watch;
- Al-Haq;
- Parliamentarians for Global Action;
- The Ukrainian Legal Advisory Group (side events and joint statements);
- Coalition for the International Criminal Court (CICC), of which NPWJ is a founding and Steering Committee member;
- Global Coalition for the Rights to a Healthy Environment.

Stakeholders

- CSOs;
- ICC;
- ICC State Parties;
- United Nations member States;
- Public opinion.

Support for Human Rights in Afghanistan

On 15 August 2021, the Taliban took control of Afghanistan, beginning the resumption of increasingly serious human rights violations, especially against women, girls and minorities. NPWJ has strong partners in Afghanistan, having worked there in 2005-2010, and started working again more intensively on Afghanistan given the situation for our partners and for human rights in Afghanistan in general. In 2023, this has included support for partners in establishing a new, Afghan-led human rights organisation. Part of NPWJ's job has also been to inform policy makers in Brussels, as well as in Italy, about the plight of Afghan women committed to human rights.

The objectives for this project were to establish an agile, forward-looking Afghan organisation (Rawadari) to pursue three goals:

- Further unify and expand the Afghan human rights community with new constituencies and allies inside and outside the country.
- Strengthen monitoring and dynamic reporting on the systematic violations of women's rights and the human rights situation in Afghanistan using new tools and security protocols to provide reliable updates in a safe way.
- Revive and defend victim-centred justice and accountability for human rights violations.

These are all long-term goals, in part dependent on the situation in Afghanistan and requiring considerable groundwork to create the conditions for their realisation.

Activities

The first activity was the establishment of Rawadari as an independent organisation, which was achieved in December 2022 in the United Kingdom, while registration in other jurisdictions is still a work in progress.

The other activities have focused on strengthened monitoring and dynamic reporting. Rawadari has continued to invest in the capacity of the monitoring team by exposing them to relevant training and events, regular weekly internal meetings focused on sharing updates and analysis, as well as critically discussing the human rights reports of other human rights organisations on the situation in Afghanistan. The monitoring team held several discussions to map the actors in the field and develop a brief field analysis. This will be the basis for further refining Rawadari's areas of focus for monitoring. Since 15 August 2021, the Rawadari team has prepared dozens of human rights monitoring reports, covering a wide range of issues from the rights of girls and women to extrajudicial killings, and restrictions on freedom of speech, as well as periodic reports covering violations over several months and special reports such as one about the situation in Balkhab. These reports are not made public, but they are shared with donors and a wider range of partners (mostly policymakers), either as written reports or in form of verbal/oral updates on the human rights situation in Afghanistan. Rawadari has launched five important public reports on the human rights situation in Afghanistan, on the following topics: (1) One Year of Taliban Rule in Afghanistan; (2) Unlawful Targeted Killings in Afghanistan; and (3) Arbitrary and Illegal Detention; (4) Justice Denied: An Examination of the Legal and Judicial System in Taliban-Controlled Afghanistan; and (5) Human rights in Afghanistan from 1 January to 30 June 2023.

Challenges

There were two main challenges in the implementation of this project.

The first related to the deteriorating security situation in Afghanistan and ongoing threats faced both inside and outside the country towards HRDs working on human rights in Afghanistan, particularly on the rights of women and girls. This had an impact on operations on the ground and consequently on overall management of the project.

The second was the one posed by the ongoing investigations by Belgian Justice referred to in the introduction to this report, which saw funding suspended by some donors and the seizure of funds destined to support this project in mid-2023. In the first instance,

this resulted in some delays in progression (for example towards the hiring of new staff); in the second instance, it saw a suspension of activities in mid-2023 as we sought together to find ways around the challenge of a lack of available funds.

Despite these challenges, we were able to make considerable progress and achieve many of the foreseen outputs and results.

Output

- 5 public reports;
- Dozens of informal reports and briefings;
- Several press releases;
- 5 videos about rights published on social media;
- 1 social media poster;
- Twitter space discussions.
- Numerous meetings and collaborations with organisations inside and outside Afghanistan and the region.
- Speaking role at 10 high level events.
- 5 public human rights monitoring reports;
- Dozens of non-public monitoring reports;
- Engaged several researchers and data providers, of which 16 are HRDs inside Afghanistan.
- Public reports focusing on the rights of women and girls;
- Social media posts highlighting this issue.

Results

- Support for human rights inside and outside Afghanistan was expanded with new constituencies and allies, by utilising a range of new and traditional mediums, including culture and arts, to translate universal values to Afghan, locally driven aspirations and possibilities;
- New alliances for the human rights cause in Afghanistan were strengthened and developed within the region and with other Muslim majority countries, with the referable indicator being a stronger, more cohesive Afghan human rights community;

- We leveraged the copious and difficult lessons learned, abundant literature on the 20-year development effort, and the credible yet diverse Afghan voices on human rights, contributing to the global human rights discourse from the unique perspective of Afghanistan;
- Rawadari was established as legal entity, with key policies and procedures to guide the work adopted;
- Monitoring on the human rights situation in Afghanistan kept improving in accordance with the highest possible standards by deploying new methodology and new safety protocols for documentation, analysis, secure storage of information and access protocols, and expanding the network of local h HRDs and activists.
- Documentation and frequent reporting were shared to provide reliable and timely information on human rights violations particularly violations of the rights of women and girls by the de facto Taliban authorities.

Qualitative Assessment of the Impact Generated

The work has had a major impact in the world of human rights and Afghanistan in a relatively short time. Rawadari has become a major voice for the promotion and protection of human rights in Afghanistan, both because of its leadership and because of the high quality of work it produces. While improving the human rights situation in Afghanistan is a very long-term goal, the work that Rawadari has been able to do has contributed to keeping open the space for dialogue and keeping the light shining on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan. In this respect, the work has had a multiplier effect: Rawadari has not only been able to raise their voice, and through them the voice of others from Afghanistan, they have encouraged other actors – including international NGOs, governments and inter-governmental institutions – to maintain a focus on Afghanistan and to ensure that human rights are on the agenda during discussions about the situation there. Our overall assessment is overwhelmingly positive in terms of the impact it has had and the foundation it is laying for the future.

Partners, direct recipients and stakeholders

- Rawadari

Indirect recipients

- Policy and decision makers, public opinion.

Amazonia Beyond the Crisis - Accountability for deforestation: preventing further violations against human rights and protecting against continuous environmental and economic destruction



In recent years, the world's attention has turned to the Amazon region due to the crisis linked to deforestation and fires. The growing rate of deforestation resulted in disastrous human and environmental consequences. The indigenous inhabitants and local communities of Amazonia have been severely affected by the invasion, destruction and deterioration of their territories as well as by the political persecution perpetrated against many indigenous community leaders and environmental defenders. In addition, the global crisis linked to the Covid-19 pandemic has hit indigenous communities in the Amazon in a particularly negative way, increasing their vulnerability even more. Furthermore, taking advantage of the attention paid elsewhere, actions related to deforestation increased. Deforestation has proved damaging not only to biodiversity and human rights locally, but also to climate and health both regionally and globally. This project addresses climate change, the degradation of the Amazon and the consequent violations of human and environmental rights in the region through the perspective of accountability, that is, the need to ascertain and attribute responsibility for certain actions and violations.

The overall objective of the project is to work with local partners from Amazonia, as well as regional and international partners, to seek accountability, raise awareness and effect behavioural change in respect of deforestation, fires and other environmental and human rights violations taking place in Amazonia, particularly against indigenous people.

Activities

The project activities are divided into three main activity clusters: related to the attribution of accountability, advocacy and local actions - which consist of supporting local actors and their initiatives, keeping the decision-making entirely in the hands of the indigenous peoples, and not having external organisations speaking “on behalf of” Indigenous people.

Our activities on accountability included the production of a historical study and report on Tapayuna land, with the aim of creating evidence to bring back the Tapayuna to their original land - subject to two lawsuits currently under consideration. We brought the

issue to the new government relevant bodies, by meeting the Secretary for Articulation in the new Ministry for Original Peoples, Juma Xipaya. In addition, NPWJ supported two prominent indigenous leaders from Amazonia to amplify their voice through statements at the United Nations Human Rights Council (UN HRC) thanks to our special consultative status in the ECOSOC committee.

Our main advocacy activities consisted in navigating complex legislative and judicial landscapes regarding indigenous land rights. This included active monitoring and influencing of decision-making processes between legislative and judicial bodies, as well as bolstering indigenous people's capacity to advocate on this critical issue and supporting their participation in decision-making activities. In addition, we participated in several discussions with ICC officials and ICC States Parties; advocacy strategy sessions with other CSOs, including within the framework of the NGO Coalition for the International Criminal Court (CICC); and the 22nd Session of the ICC Assembly of States Parties in December 2023, at which we forged closer ties with organisations working on climate change and ecocide, including youth organisations from New Zealand.

We continued our work related to the criminalisation of ecocide with the aim of building political will at the national and international levels and inviting global leaders to actively join the journey towards more stringent environmental protection through the lens of criminal justice. We participated in the [UCLA Symposium](#) on 'An International Crime of Ecocide: New Perspectives' which resulted in the publication of a [paper](#) and a podcast with other international experts. We continued to promote the Resolution of the Global Coalition for the Right to a Healthy Environment and its implementation, as a signatory member of the Coalition.

Finally, our local actions included the planning and organisation of the event titled "The Call of Chief Raoni: Great Gathering of Earth Guardians' Leadership" that took place from 24 to 28 July 2023 in the Piraçu village in Northern Mato Grosso. It was a landmark meeting of indigenous leaders from all across Amazonia, along with media, partner NGOs, donors, politicians and even representatives of foreign governments. The projected number of invitees nearly doubled to over 1,000. It was by far the single largest indigenous gathering ever held in an indigenous land. In addition, we continued leveraging funds to be channelled through local partners through strategic fundraising for future activity development.

Output

- Regular meetings throughout the year with our partners and decision-makers to raise awareness and support indigenous participation in relevant decision-making activities;
- Regular meetings with local actors to inform about project developments;
- Video appeals for the Tapayuna leaders;

- 1 oral statement delivered by indigenous leaders during the UN HRC.

Results

- Despite the suspension of funds, we continued our advocacy activities and local actions;
- The Raoni Gathering was successfully organised with outcome and participation beyond what had been planned;
- Bringing back indigenous peoples' rights' agenda to public discussion after four difficult years of the Bolsonaro government, during which indigenous rights had been the subject of systematic violations.
- Our work contributed to raising interest and participation by important donors on next steps and on upscaling/broadening the range of activities;
- Awareness raising of the main stakeholders at the national, regional and international level on the crisis in the Amazon region and on the link between environmental and commercial policies and violations of human and / or environmental rights;
- Communicational bridges between diverse decision-making bodies and people fighting on the frontlines against Amazonia's destruction were facilitated;
- Links between regional and international institutions and local actors, including CSOs and HRDs, were established;
- We supported and worked at amplifying voices of partners in the region, facilitating direct involvement of indigenous peoples in advocacy activities;
- Civil society members are more involved in institutional discussions;
- The Global Coalition for the Right to a Healthy Environment and its implementation was awarded the UN Human Rights Prize.

Qualitative assessment of impact generated

Despite the adverse and unforeseen circumstances that led to the suspension of funding, the credibility of the work developed by NPWJ in the previous years of the project allowed us to find emergency alternatives, rely on the work of local partners who volunteered to make sure critical activities would not stop and find a suitable climate for trust and follow-up.

The model of ensuring indigenous peoples have full responsibility and autonomy for policy and project decisions, through providing technical help without seeking to shape or influence their agenda, proved essential and worked very well, especially in the case of the Raoni Gathering, leading to the development of further initiatives using this model on the part of indigenous leaders and donors.

Giving priority to indigenous leaders – more than to an association that is supposed to represent them – proved essential for two reasons. First, genuine demands from each people are often filtered or weakened in the context of organisations that end up more accountable to their own staff rather than to traditional leaders. Second, since the current Minister for indigenous peoples had been managing the association for years prior to her governmental appointment, the association was unable to stand up to current government decisions and is regarded by most indigenous people as unable to distance itself from government, despite this being a critical role for the association to play.

Bringing donors, for the first time, to meet within indigenous land, had a significant impact on their perception and strategy on this matter. It also provided a unique opportunity for direct dialogue, rather than it being diluted through intermediaries.

Challenges, non-achievements and reasons

Due to the interruption of funding, we have unfortunately had to discontinue our locally implemented projects. The suspension took effect at the end of March and will last until the end of November 2023. Nevertheless, we are committed to providing substantial support to local organisations willing to continue the initiatives.

2023 was supposed to be the final year of this project. However, due to the disruption of disbursements, although we were able to mobilise a significant amount of additional funds, we were only able to advance about half of the remaining funds. For this reason, and also in light of the matching funds for local work that are being raised, the project will be extended until the end of 2024, in order to spend the remaining funds effectively and to obtain additional funds through local partners.

Recipients

Direct:

- Local indigenous organisations, indigenous communities of the Amazon basin, indigenous representatives and activists, local and regional CSOs;
- ICC States Parties, ICC officials.

Indirect:

- Civil society at local, regional and international level

Partners

- The Peretti Foundation;
- Amigos da Terra, Moore Foundation, Climate and Society Institute, Fundo Brasil de Direitos Humanos, Raoni Institute, O Mundo Que Queremos, IPAM, Hutukara, Global Canopy with special thanks to Hylton Murray-Philipson as key person who allowed to bridge activities;
- Other foundations such as ReWild and Open Societies will consider joining in 2024.

Stakeholders

- Local indigenous peoples, indigenous leaders and HRDs in the Amazon; NGOs working in the Amazon and at the regional and international level; European institutions; international organisations and institutions; activists and civil society in general.

4.3. Empowerment of Civil Society in the Middle East and North Africa

NPWJ has been active in the Middle East and North Africa since 2003, addressing situations where fundamental and universal principles are often set aside in the name of political stability and presumed cultural incompatibility. Our ultimate goal is to promote democratic values, liberal institutions and governance transparency by developing political consultation mechanisms that recognise non-governmental actors, NGOs and civil society as legitimate and necessary actors within discussions and activities surrounding the enactment of democratic reforms. Addressing both known and more hidden challenges, our projects work at national, regional and international levels to develop effective and lasting mechanisms to promote dialogue between our partners in civil society, government and non-governmental



We work with our partners to develop and support a range of activities that promote democracy and the protection of human rights on the ground. Campaigns, workshops and consultations incorporate transitional justice, accountability and reconciliation issues at all levels of decision-making, as prerequisites for the stability, democratic development and reconstruction of those Middle Eastern and North African countries that still find themselves in situations of conflict or political transition.

Strengthen the participation and commitment of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) in Libya in advocacy and campaigns aimed at participatory governance, human rights, accountability and transitional justice



NPWJ started this new project in August 2022, as part of the work carried out in Libya since 2012 to contribute to creating an environment favourable to the promotion and protection of human rights and accountability in Libya through the strengthening of national human rights institutions, the legal aid system for vulnerable groups and the improving of the capacity of government and CSOs to report and interact with the United Nations (UN) human rights mechanisms. As part of the results of our previous activities, there was the creation of the National Mechanism on Reporting and follow up to the UN recommendations in the field of human rights and the strengthening of the National Council for Civil Liberties and Human Rights (NCCLHR), an independent national human rights institution (NHRI) and therefore a pivotal actor in the protection and promotion of human rights in the country. This project will bring forward such results, to continue this work on capacity building with a particular focus on the justice system.

The overall objective of this project is “to promote justice and the rule of law in Libya”, which will be achieved through two main outcomes:

- The justice system is better equipped to improve its functioning;
- The accountability of the institutions has been encouraged and the transitional justice process has been supported.

There are therefore three main areas of action linked to the main objective aforementioned: access to justice and fair trial, monitoring and reporting on human rights obligations, transitional justice and accountability.

Activities

In 2023, NPWJ carried out different activities including training and capacity building actions for CSOs and members of Libyan institutions. In order to improve the capacity of legal professionals to provide legal assistance and monitor fair trial rights in line with

international standards, NPWJ conducted an assessment study on the Libyan judicial system in the field of human rights, access to justice, fair trial standards and legal assistance provided to the most vulnerable groups.

In addition, NPWJ organised several workshops with civil society and institutions to improve their capacity to engage with international mechanisms for the protection of human rights.

NPWJ continued its collaboration with the NCCLHR, with activities aimed at developing its strategic plan and its operational activities in order to allow the Council to be compliant with Paris Principles and ensure a substantial contribution to the protection of human rights in the country, as well as an effective contribution to the country's compliance with international standards and the implementation, by the government, of the recommendations made by the different UN human rights mechanisms.

Outputs

- 1 study on the justice system in Libya and “guarantees of the right to a fair trial and mechanisms of access to justice in the Libyan legal system” and a validation workshop on fair trial and mechanisms for access to justice for the most vulnerable groups in the Libyan legal system;
- Consultative meetings with lawyers of the Department of Public Lawyers to develop and strengthen the skills of lawyers affiliated with the DPLD-Benghazi in the field of legal assistance and international human rights principles and standards related to fair trial and access to justice;
- 2 training workshops for Libyan CSOs, on the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) and on the UN human rights special mechanisms;
- 2 workshops on the validation and adoption of the 3-year strategic plan and the 3-year capacity building plan (2023-2026);
- 2 training workshops for NCCLHR staff on human rights basics.

Results

- Networking: increased collaboration and stronger network between civil society actors in the country;
- Awareness raising: participants to the workshops are more aware of the international human rights standards and mechanisms;
- Reporting capacity: participants are becoming better equipped to report to UN human rights mechanisms;
- Number of CSOs members trained and involved in drafting shadow reports: 68.

Qualitative assessment of the impact generated

Given the interlinkages of many activities foreseen in this project, an evaluation of the impact cannot be done at this stage. However, we can affirm that, through the various activities held, members of Civil Society and HRDs improved dialogue cooperation, as well as increased their awareness and capacity to interact with international human rights mechanisms, gaining practical knowledge through case studies and exercises on specific areas of work. In addition, national institutions and lawyers started to gain understanding and knowledge of human rights standards and mechanisms, which will be strengthened further in the following years of activity.

Challenges, non-achievements and reasons

The context of the country is fraught with challenges, from political division to insecurity and sporadic clashes between rival armed groups in Tripoli and other areas of the country, to heavy bureaucracy in relation to the renewal of NGO registration and personnel changes within national entities.

Moreover, the crisis faced by the organisation, as illustrated earlier in the annual social report, was an additional factor in 2023. This led to postponing some activities to 2024 or changing them for the safety of staff and participants.

Recipients

Direct:

- Members of Libyan CSOs and HRDs;
- Libyan Ministries, particularly the Ministry of Justice;
- Libyan experts, officials and practitioners in the field of justice;
- Lawyers from the Department of Public Lawyers (DPLD);
- The National Council for Civil Liberties and Human Rights (NCCLHR).

Final beneficiaries benefitting from the project in the long term:

- Individuals from vulnerable groups, such as detainees, children, migrants, asylum seekers, refugees, women and persons with disabilities in Libya.

Partners

- Project funded by the European Commission;
- We have collaborated with various national and international actors, such as: the International Humanitarian Law Centre (IHLC), UNDP, UN Support Mission in Libya (SMIL), Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).

Stakeholders

The European Commission;

UNDP;

- UNSMIL;
- OHCHR;
- International Humanitarian Law Centre (IHLC);
- Libyan government;
- NCCLHR;
- Libyan CSOs working in the field of human rights, women's rights, people with disabilities and migrants.

4.4. Communication and social media

The situation we found ourselves in in the year 2023 resulted in, among other things, a sharp reduction in communication activities.



In particular, the activities that used to take place on a weekly basis were suspended: the Italian newsletter with in-depth coverage of issues and initiatives related to ongoing projects, which reached around 24,000 recipients, and the radio column on Radio Radicale, which in addition to updating on ongoing campaigns also involved external guests, including members of the European Parliament, experts and activists.

Work continued, with an inevitable slowdown, with a communications agency on the new website and an updated visual image.

5. FINANCIAL REPORT

| BALANCE SHEET | | | | | |
|---|------------------|------------------|------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| ASSETS | At 31/12/2023 | At 31/12/2022 | LIABILITIES | At 31/12/2023 | At 31/12/2022 |
| | | | | | |
| A) Receivables from shareholders for capital contributions | | | A) Net worth: | | |
| | | | I - Corporate capital; | | |
| | | | | | |
| B) Fixed assets: | | | II - Share premium account: | | |
| I - Intangible fixed assets: | | | | | |
| 1) establishment and expansion costs; | | | 1) Statutory reserve; | | |
| 2) development costs; | | | | | |
| 3) industrial patents and intellectual property rights; | | | 2) Institutional bodies' reserves; | | |
| 4) concessions, licences, brand names and similar rights; | | | | | |
| 5) goodwill impairment; | | | 3) Third-party reserve; | 788.666 | 1.519.125 |
| 6) current fixed assets and down payments; | | | | | |
| 7) others. | | | III - Unrestricted account: | | |
| <i>Total</i> | <i>0</i> | <i>0</i> | | | |

| | | | | | |
|--|----------|----------|--|----------------|------------------|
| II - Tangible fixed assets: | | | 1) Earnings or management reserve; | 449.394 | 320.053 |
| 1) lands and buildings; | | | | | |
| 2) plants and machineries; | | | 2) Other reserves; | | |
| 3) equipment; | | | | | |
| 4) other goods; | | | IV - Operating surplus/deficit. | -280.770 | 129.341 |
| 5) current fixed assets and down payments. | | | | | |
| <i>Total</i> | <i>0</i> | <i>0</i> | Total | 957.290 | 1.968.518 |
| III - Financial fixed assets, with separate indication for each item, of amounts receivable after the subsequent financial year: | | | | | |
| 1) shareholding in: | | | | | |
| a) subsidiaries; | | | B) Provisions for risks and expenses: | | |
| b) affiliated businesses; | | | | | |
| c) other businesses; | | | 1) Directors' termination benefits and similar provisions; | | |
| 2) credits: | | | | | |
| a) towards subsidiaries; | | | 2) for taxation, including deferred taxation; | 7.000 | 9.000 |
| b) towards affiliated businesses; | | | | | |
| c) towards other bodies in the Third Sector; | | | 3) others. | 5.071 | 4.256 |

| | | | | | |
|--|----------------|----------|--|---|---------------|
| d) towards others; | 753.674 | | | | |
| 3) other securities | | | | Total | 12.071 |
| <i>Total</i> | 753.674 | 0 | | | 13.256 |
| Total fixed assets | 753.674 | 0 | | | |
| | | | | C) Severance pay | 22.247 |
| C) Current assets: | | | | | 20.160 |
| I - Inventory: | | | | | |
| 1) raw, ancillary and consumable materials; | | | | D) Liabilities, with separate indication for each item, of amount payable after the subsequent financial year: | |
| 2) work-in-progress and semi-finished products; | | | | | |
| 3) commissioned on-going work; | | | | 1) Banking financing; | |
| 4) finished products and goods; | | | | | |
| 5) down payments. | 38.239 | 177.086 | | 2) Debts towards other financiers; | |
| <i>Total</i> | 38.239 | 177.086 | | | |
| II - Credits, with separate indication for each item, of amounts receivable after the subsequent financial year: | | | | 3) Shareholders' financing; | |
| 1) towards consumers and clients; | | | | | |
| 2) towards associates and founders; | 0 | 50 | | 4) Payables to parent companies; | |
| 3) towards public bodies; | | | | | |

| | | | | | |
|--|---------------|----------------|--|---------|---------|
| 4) towards private parties for grants; | | | 5) Debts from conditioned charitable donations; | | |
| 5) towards bodies of the same associative network; | | | | | |
| 6) towards other bodies in the Third Sector; | | | 6) Advances; | | |
| 7) towards subsidiaries; | | | 7) Payables to suppliers; | 189.489 | 177.909 |
| 8) towards affiliated businesses; | | | | | |
| 9) tax credit; | 0 | 0 | 8) Debts towards subsidiaries and affiliated businesses; | | |
| 10) from 5 per thousands of Italian taxes; | | | | | |
| 11) pre-paid taxes; | 8.683 | 8.747 | 9) Tax payables; | 10.035 | 6.214 |
| 12) towards others. | 46.413 | 113.046 | | | |
| <i>Total</i> | <i>55.096</i> | <i>121.843</i> | 10) Debts towards social security institutions; | 5.225 | 5.428 |
| III - Financial assets that are not fixed assets: | | | | | |
| 1) shareholding in subsidiaries; | | | 11) Debts towards employees and collaborators; | 12.462 | 25.150 |
| 2) shareholding in affiliated businesses; | | | | | |
| 3) other bonds. | 1.033 | 1.033 | 12) Other debts. | 126 | 3.765 |
| <i>Total</i> | <i>1.033</i> | <i>1.033</i> | | | |

| | | | | | |
|---|------------------|------------------|--|------------------|------------------|
| IV - Available cash: | | | Total | 217.338 | 218.466 |
| 1) bank and postal deposits; | 365.531 | 1.886.798 | | | |
| 2) checks; | | | | | |
| 3) cash and securities on hand. | 218 | 913 | | | |
| <i>Total</i> | <i>365.749</i> | <i>1.887.712</i> | | | |
| Total current assets | 460.118 | 2.187.673 | | | |
| | | | | | |
| D) Accruals and deferrals assets | 1.377 | 33.347 | E) Accruals and deferrals liabilities | 6.223 | 619 |
| | | | | | |
| TOTAL ASSETS | 1.215.169 | 2.221.019 | TOTAL LIABILITIES | 1.215.169 | 2.221.019 |

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

| EXPENSES | 2023 | 2022 | PROCEEDS | 2023 | 2022 |
|--|------------------|------------------|---|------------------|------------------|
| A) Expenses from activities of general interest | | | A) Proceeds from activities of general interest | | |
| 1) Raw, ancillary and consumable materials and commodity | 13.164 | 18.180 | 1) Proceeds from membership dues and founders' contributions | 4.150 | 850 |
| 2) Services | 915.405 | 3.122.946 | 2) Proceeds from member for mutual activities | | |
| 3) Use of third-party assets | 48.822 | 39.374 | 3) Proceeds from services and transfers to associate and founders | | |
| 4) Personnel | 255.271 | 380.347 | 4) Charitable donations | 37.976 | 40.370 |
| 5) Depreciation | | | 5) Proceeds from the 5 per thousands of the Italian taxes | 3.983 | 4.622 |
| 6) Provisions for risks and charges | 815 | 4.256 | 6) Contribution from private stakeholders | 595.572 | 1.961.727 |
| 7) Other operating expenses | 3.694 | 32 | 3) Proceeds from services and transfers to third parties | | |
| 8) Closing inventory | | | 8) Proceeds from public bodies | | |
| Sub Total | 1.237.171 | 3.565.134 | 9) Proceeds from contracts with public bodies | 639.802 | 1.810.068 |
| | | | 10) Other proceeds | | 0 |
| | | | 11) Closing inventory | | |
| | | | Sub Total | 1.281.482 | 3.817.637 |
| | | | General interest's activities surplus/deficit (+/-) | 44.312 | 252.502 |

| | | | | | |
|--|----------|----------|--|---|------------|
| | | | | | |
| B) Expenses for other activities | | | | B) Proceeds from other activities | |
| 1) Raw, ancillary and consumable materials and commodity | | | | 1) Proceeds from services and transfers to associate and founders | |
| 2) Services | | | | 2) Contributions from private entities | |
| 3) Use of third-party assets | | | | 3) Proceeds from services and transfers to third parties | |
| 4) Personnel | | | | 4) contributions from public bodies | |
| 5) Depreciation | | | | 5) Proceeds from contract with public bodies | |
| 6) Provisions for risks and charges | | | | 6) Other proceeds | |
| 7) Other operating expenses | | | | 7) Closing inventory | |
| 8) Closing inventory | | | | | |
| Sub Total | 0 | 0 | | Sub Total | 0 0 |
| | | | | Other Activities surplus/deficit (+/-) | 0 0 |
| | | | | | |
| C) Expenses from fundraising activities | | | | C) Proceeds from fundraising activities | |
| 1) Expenses for regular fundraising activities | | | | 1) Proceeds for regular fundraising activities | |
| 2) Expenses for occasional fundraising | | | | 2) Proceeds for occasional fundraising | |

| | | | | | |
|--|---------------|---------------|---|----------------|----------------|
| 3) Other expenses | 2.281 | 1.338 | 3) Other proceeds | | |
| 4) Personnel | 34.483 | 38.973 | | | |
| Sub Total | 36.765 | 40.311 | Sub Total | 0 | 0 |
| | | | Fundraising activities surplus/deficit (+/-) | -36.765 | -40.311 |
| | | | | | |
| D) Financial expenses | | | D) Proceeds from financial activities | | |
| 1) Bank loans | 3.690 | 27.147 | 1) Bank loans | 62 | 106 |
| 2) Financial assets | | | 2) Financial assets | | 0 |
| 3) Building stock | | | 3) Building stock | | |
| 4) Other building stock | | | 4) Other building stock | | |
| 6) Provisions for risks and charges | | | 5) Other proceeds | 290 | 18.170 |
| 6) Other assets | 366 | 2.347 | | | |
| Sub Total | 4.057 | 29.493 | Sub Total | 352 | 18.276 |
| | | | Financial activities surplus/deficit (+/-) | -3.705 | -11.218 |
| | | | | | |
| E) General support expenses | | | B) General support proceeds | | |
| 1) Raw, ancillary and consumable materials and commodity | 4.221 | 10.672 | 1) Proceeds from personnel secondment | | |
| 2) Services | 150.432 | 22.803 | 2) Other general support proceeds | 1.482 | 65.150 |

| | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|--|---|----------------------------|
| 3) Use of third-party assets | 25.109 | 21.265 | | | |
| 4) Personnel | 98.567 | 69.891 | | | |
| 5) Depreciation | | | | | |
| 6) Provisions for risks and charges | | | | | |
| 7) Other charges | 621 | 3.032 | | | |
| Sub Total | 278.950 | 127.663 | | Sub Total | 1.482 65.150 |
| Total Expenses | 1.556.942 | 3.762.602 | | Total of proceeds | 1.283.316 3.901.063 |
| | | | | Operating surplus/deficit before taxes (+/-) | -273.626 138.461 |
| | | | | Taxes | 7.143 9.120 |
| | | | | Operating surplus/deficit (+/-) | -280.770 129.341 |
| | | | | | |
| Imputed expenses | | | | Imputed proceeds | |
| 1) General interest activities | | | | 1) General support activities | |
| 2) Other activities | | | | 2) Other activities | |
| Total | 0 | 0 | | Total | 0 0 |

FINANCIAL REPORT
BALANCE SHEET CLOSED ON 31/12/2023

The Balance Sheet as of 31 December 2023:

This report has been drafted in accordance with the accounting standards and with the provisions of the Legislative Decree 117/2017 and subsequent amendments to the "Codice del Terzo Settore" (Code of the Third Sector), as well as in compliance with the implementing provisions adopted with the decrees of the Italian Ministry of Labour and Social Policies.

It has received positive feedback for its approval from Dr. Guglielmo Gebbia, audit accounting and statutory audit.

The overall financial report consists of the Balance Sheet, the Financial Statement and this financial report, which are presented in a comparative format, thus indicating the corresponding amount for the previous year.

The amounts are expressed in Euros and the values are rounded up or down depending on whether the number was higher or lower than 50 cents.

In drafting the report, assessments have been made in accordance with the prudence principle and accrual basis, for the continuation of the business and, where required by law, with the consent of the audit accounting.

Proceeds and expenses pertaining to the operating period have been taken into consideration, regardless of the date of transactions, even if they were received between the closure of the financial year and the preparation of this annual report.

Foreign-currency items have been accounted as follows:

- regarding expenses, on the basis of the rules agreed upon in loan contracts, namely on the basis of the exchange rate at the date on which the relevant transactions were carried out or on the basis of the average monthly exchange rate of reference;
- regarding banking transactions, on the basis of the exchange rate applied by the bank.

Accruals and deferrals assets and liabilities – deriving from the assessment of foreign-currency items – have been credited and debited, respectively, on yearly accrual basis.

Although using the ministerial model since 2020, Even though not enrolled in RUTNS in the years prior to 2023, no balance sheet items were eliminated, even if they were not valued, in compliance with the provision that this is only possible after two consecutive financial years with nil amounts.

As usual, by virtue of the collaborative agreements that No Peace Without Justice has with No Peace Without Justice AISBL (Belgium) and No Peace Without Justice International Committee (New York) these Financial Statements represent the consolidation of the three separate entities. The two foreign entities follow the cash principle and transfer their movements to the main organization on a monthly basis; therefore, NPWJ AISBL's and NPWJIC's charges and expenses, which are generally very small, are recognized on a cash basis upon receipt of the financial statements.

BALANCE SHEET

The association has no intangible or tangible fixed assets.

It has, however, since 2023 financial fixed assets of 753.674 euros due to the preventive seizure of funds in connection with the ongoing investigation called Qatargate.

Specifically, funds were seized as to €740.000 from NPWJ AISBL's bank account and as to €13.674 from NPWJ AISBL's bank account.

On December 7, 2023, the Rome Court of Appeal declared the appeal, which we filed against the seizure, inadmissible because the seizure order was issued at the request of Belgian investigators. The appeal petition submitted to the Belgian Judicial Authority on October 3, 2023 is still awaiting the scheduling of the hearing, despite the fact that the orderly deadline expired on October 18, 2023.

It should be pointed out that the seizure decree is a precautionary measure issued in the course of the preliminary investigation with the purpose of crystallizing a factual situation pending the definition of the trial: only when all levels of trial have been exhausted can and should the proceeding judge also issue a final decision on the measure issued as a precautionary measure at the state of the acts and knowledge and on the basis of summary evaluations and as such considered by the code.

All monies subject to the attachment order are and remain the Association's, but frozen pending the final decision of the proceeding Judge.

There are no receivables or debts with a remaining term of more than five years, and no debts are secured by collateral on corporate assets or other guarantees.

At the beginning of the year, the operating surplus amounted to EUR 449.394 and at the end of the year to EUR 168.624 due to the decrease of EUR 280.770 corresponding to the loss for the year.

Since this total surplus is not subject to constraints, it is fully available to the organisation for its activities.

The 'restricted reserves earmarked by third parties' are the amounts received in advance from donors for projects that had not yet been spent as at 31.12.23, totalling EUR 788.666, broken down as follows:

- The Nando and Elsa Peretti Foundation for project "Amazonia Beyond the Crisis - Accountability for deforestation: preventing further violations against human rights and protecting against continuous environmental and economic destructions" EUR 45.687;
- European Commission for project NEAR/2022/431-968 "Adalit Libya" EUR 205.369;
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs Switzerland for project "Afghanistan human rights initiative" EUR 55.677;
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs Norway for project "Afghanistan human rights initiative" EUR 125.527;
- Open Society Foundations for project "Afghanistan human rights initiative" EUR 356.406.

Net Worth

The association does not have an endowment fund or reserves that are restricted by virtue of compliance with the articles of association or decisions of the institutional bodies.

The net assets consist solely of the funds from the compensation of the financial year's results, including that of the current year, and the share of the amounts received in advance from donors for projects.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The financial statement highlights the funding sources, and the way resources are used among the management areas. Overall, incurred expenses amounted to EUR 1.556.942, while the proceeds amounted to EUR 1.283.316.

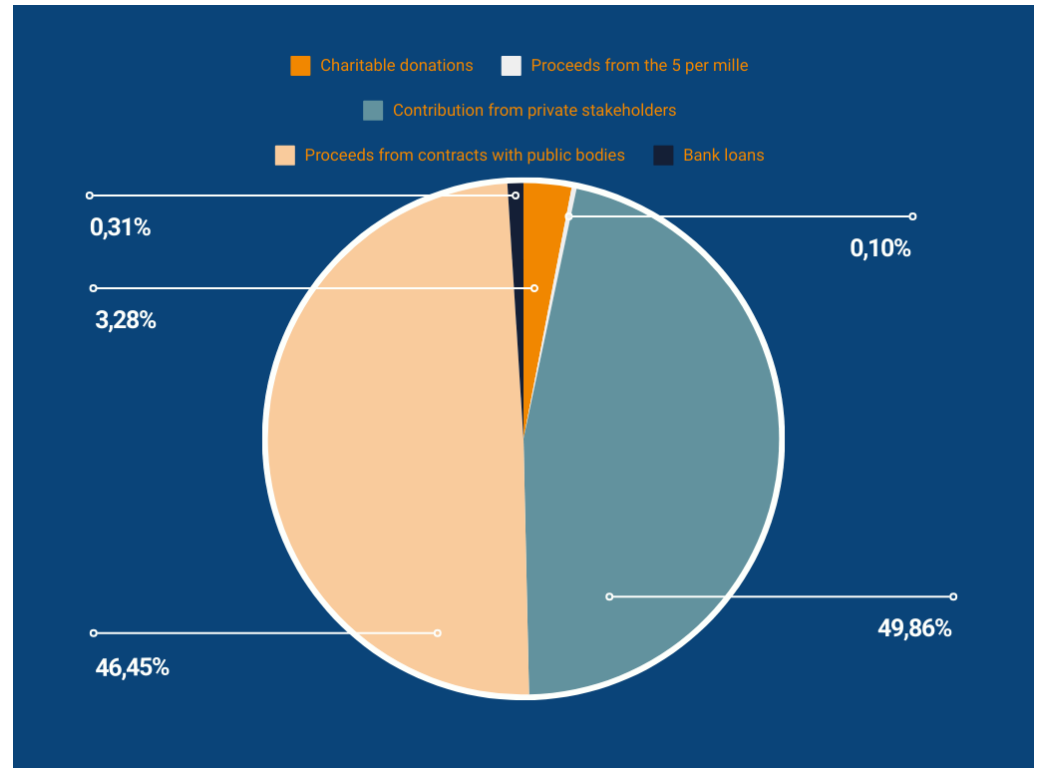
The operating balance, before taxes, is a surplus of 273.626 euro, but it is reduced to EUR 280.770 due to the registration tax of EUR 120, in relation to the lease of the Rome office, NPWJIC's taxes of EUR 13 and to the Italian Regional Tax (IRAP) estimated at EUR 7.000.

| TOTAL accrual for the year | | |
|---|------------|---|
| From 5 per mille | 3.982,77 | They relate to the choices made by 70 taxpayers in 2022 for the 2021 tax year |
| Tavola Valdese progetto OPM | 1.295,86 | Project "Preventing and Combating Female Genital Mutilation (FGM): amplifying the voice of diaspora communities, spreading the principles of international protection, informing and raising awareness", implemented from September 2021 and completed in 2022 |
| The Nando and Elsa Peretti Foundation "Amazonia" 2 | 492.916,27 | Project ""Amazonia Beyond the Crisis - Accountability for deforestation: preventing further violations against human rights and protecting against continuous environmental and economic destructions" implemented by August 2019 |
| European Commission project Libya NEAR-TS/2020/418-262 | 5.000,34 | Project "Improving the reporting capacity of the Libyan Government and Civil Society to United Nations Human Rights Mechanisms", implemented from August 2020 and completed in October 2022 |
| European Commission project Libya/2022/431-968 | 392.192,41 | Project "Adalit Libya", implemented from August 2022 |
| Ministry of Foreign Affairs Netherlands for "Afghanistan human rights initiative" project | 38.112,36 | Support for the 'Afghanistan human rights initiative' project aimed at enabling Afghan civil society to operate autonomously in support of activities to document and report human rights violations, particularly against women and girls, committed by the Taliban regime. Specifically, the project provides logistical, legal and political |

| | | |
|---|--------------|--|
| Ministry of Foreign Affairs Switzerland "Afghanistan human rights initiative" project | 204.496,40 | assistance for the creation and development of an Afghan NGO, called Rawadari, to be registered in England and Belgium for the defence of human rights in Afghanistan, implemented from 2022 |
| ROCKEFELLER Brothers Fund for project "Afghanistan human rights initiative" | 45.155,20 | |
| Open Society Foundations | 49.027,05 | |
| Contributions from Foundations and minor associations | 7.727,36 | |
| Contributions from societies | 0,00 | |
| Contributions from Foundations and minor associations | 4.150,00 | |
| Self-financing by individuals | 37.976,00 | |
| Foreign exchange gains | 0,00 | |
| Allowances and rounding up | 44,72 | |
| Interest income on bank and postal accounts | 62,16 | |
| Interest income on security deposits | 242,46 | |
| Dividends | 2,79 | |
| Contingent assets | 931,60 | |
| TOTAL | 1.283.315,75 | |

Economic resources, amounting to EUR 1.283.316, are broken down as follows:

| | Absolute value | % |
|--|-----------------------|---------------|
| Charitable donations | 42.126 | 3,28 |
| Proceeds from the 5 <i>per mille</i> | 3.983 | 0,31 |
| Contribution from private stakeholders | 596.122 | 46,45 |
| Proceeds from contracts with public bodies | 639.122 | 49,86 |
| Bank loans | 62 | 0,00 |
| Other proceeds | 1.221 | 0,10 |
| | 1.283.316 | 100,00 |



These financial resources were used for the implementation of the following main projects, of which the following are given: project title, place of implementation, objectives, results, duration, total amount of the project budget, total planned contribution (which only appears in the year for the accrual share) and funder.

(1) Project Title: Adalit Libya

Place: Libya

Objectives: The general objective is to promote justice and the rule of law in Libya, in particular by: (SO1) contributing to improving the functioning of the judiciary, with a focus on vulnerable groups' access to justice and due process; (SO2) strengthening the capacity of the Libyan government and civil society organisations to report on human rights violations and to interact with international and regional human rights mechanisms (HRM); (SO3) support the efforts of stakeholders, including state and non-state actors, to ensure systematic follow-up and implementation of human rights recommendations, particularly those related to the judiciary, transitional justice, accountability and the fight against impunity.

Results: the expected results of the project are: (a) the justice system is better equipped to improve its functioning; (b) accountability of institutions is encouraged and the transitional justice process is supported

Duration: August 2022 – July 31 2025

Budget: 2.000.000

Contribution: 2.000.000

Donors: European Commission (DG NEAR)

(2) Project Title: Amazonia Beyond the Crisis - Accountability for deforestation: preventing further violations against human rights and protecting against continuous environmental and economic destruction.

Place: Amazonia Region

Objectives: with local Amazonian and regional and international partners, to seek accountability, raise awareness and bring about behavioural changes with respect to deforestation, fires and other human and environmental rights violations occurring in the Amazon.

Results: the main expected results of the project are: (a) pathways are identified and pursued with the objective of determining accountability for systemic violations and deterring future violations, facilitated by a favourable legal and political environment; (b) awareness is raised among key stakeholders of the Amazon crisis and climate change, and their links to environmental and land management policies and human rights violations; (c) plans and initiatives for behavioural change among key stakeholders are designed and implemented by local and regional actors.

Duration: December 1 2019 – December 31 2024

Budget: 3.000.000

Contribution: 3.000.000

Donors: The Nando and Elsa Peretti Foundation

(3) **Project Title:** The Afghanistan Human Rights Initiative

Place: Afghanistan

Objectives: long-term goals: the Afghan human rights community is more united and has expanded inside and outside the country; strengthening the monitoring of systematic violations of women's rights and the human rights situation in Afghanistan through tools that make data reliable, victim-centred justice and accountability for human rights violations are revived and defended.

Results: (a) The Afghan human rights community is more united and has expanded with new constituencies; (b) Monitoring is strengthened and reports on systematic violations of women's rights and the human rights situation in Afghanistan are dynamic and use new monitoring tools and security protocols to safely provide reliable updates.

Duration: 1 April 2022 - 31 December 2024

Budget: 1.3000.000

Contribution: 1.3000.000

Donors: Netherlands, Switzerland, Norway, Open Society Foundation, Rockefeller Brothers Fund.

As stated in the financial report, there were no specific fundraising campaigns.

6. OVERALL EVALUATION AND IMPROVEMENT GOALS

2023 was characterised by great difficulties for No Peace Without Justice due to actions carried out by the Belgian judicial authorities in the context of the so-called “*Qatargate*” investigation. Strong misgivings have been expressed - including by the international press - about the investigation, which is now undergoing a ‘judicial review’ by the Belgian judicial authorities themselves on the legal effect of the violations committed during the original investigation. This has caused serious repercussions in both practical and reputational terms.

The events and our ability to respond:

- The searches in the Brussels office and the arrest of the Secretary General on 9 December 2022 released two months later without conditions by the same investigating judge who placed him under arrest;
- The suspension in December 2022 from the European Union (EU) Transparency Register and the concomitant launch of an investigation that concluded on October 2023 with a formal finding that NPWJ has fully complied with the EU Code of Conduct and is therefore eligible to remain on the Transparency Register;
- The freezing of both public and private funding, only partially overcome during the year;
- The search of the Rome office in February 2023 and our total willingness to provide the documentation and answers requested;
- The preventive seizure of funds held in the current accounts (mostly not at NPWJ's disposal but belonging to the donors who financed the contracts being implemented), of NPWJ AISBL (BE) in May 2023 and NPSG (IT) in July 2023. These funds are still blocked despite the fact that the Judicial Authority excludes the participation of NPWJ's representatives in the offences of conspiracy and international corruption that allegedly lie at the heart of Belgium's investigation. In addition, the Judge for Preliminary Investigations of the Court of Rome has specified that the money laundering hypotheses at the basis of this measure would certainly have been committed by third parties other than NPWJ through transactions in favour of the bank account in the Association's name without ever affirming the participation in the facts of either the Association or its representatives.

The fact that much of NPWJ's resources and energies were channelled into safeguarding the structural, financial and moral integrity of the organisation to cope with the numerous requests for audits, verifications, documents and updates, had a strong negative impact on the execution of the planned initiatives.

The organisation maintained its management capacity despite an operating loss of EUR 280.770 and the recourse to heavy expenditure cuts, starting with the termination of ten-year contracts with collaborators and consultants whose know-how was formed and grew with NPWJ, and above all thanks to the generous work that the staff continued to ensure as far as possible.

Despite these difficulties, the resilience and ability to react to any adversity of the members of our organisation, as well as the generous support of our members and a board of directors more determined than ever, remained active and we continued to fight and work for what we believe in without even interrupting our internship programme during the crisis management period. We have continued and completed the work for the adoption of the new Articles of Association and the application for registration in the “*Registro Unico del Terzo Settore*” (RUNTS) in October 2023.

On the organisation's future and our goals for improvement, it remains a priority for us to make the work on the Social Report more structured and punctual, proceeding with its drafting from the beginning of the year and carrying it forward progressively to its conclusion, with the Social Report as the outcome of this continuous work.

Equally important for us is the goal of continuing to stabilise the situation into which the organisation has been dragged since December 2022, and strengthening our internal structure, fostering efficiency and improving our ability to meet any challenge.

Finally, the work undertaken during 2022 to create a more modern, simple and intuitive website that will allow us to better communicate and enlarge our supporter base has been affected by the same stagnation that has characterised most of our activities during this difficult year. Our future commitment will therefore be to launch the new website during 2024, the year of No Peace Without Justice's 30th anniversary, to successfully start a new chapter in the organisation's life. We would also like to return to all the regular activities that were discontinued, such as the Italian newsletter and the radio column on Radio Radicale.

7. SUPPORT US

If you share the objectives and campaigns of NPWJ, if you care about the protection and promotion of human rights and democracy everywhere in the world, if you feel it is right to support and strengthen existing international criminal justice instruments, if you also think that there should be no impunity for environmental and human rights violations taking place in Amazonia, join us, support our initiatives and make them yours. There are multiple ways to support us, such as through membership and donations. By becoming a member, you will receive a periodic bulletin of activities and participate in the Assembly of associates, which elects the bodies and contributes to annually determine the policies of NPWJ. Payments can be made through:

Bank transfer to one of these accounts

Non C'è Pace Senza Giustizia ETS

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Chase Bank: 015500849765, ABA 021000021

SWIFT: CHASUS33

To receive further information, please contact us at: donations@npwj.org

If you would like to receive weekly updates on our initiatives and campaigns, you can access our website via the link <https://www.npwj.org/>

You can read our weekly news digests on FGM and women's rights, international criminal justice and environmental justice and human rights by checking the dedicated section on our website or our social media profiles.

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NO PEACE WITHOUT JUSTICE

*Organisation with Special Advisory Status (Category II)
at the Economic and Social Committee of the United Nations*