

FUNDED GLOBAL SOUTH FELLOWSHIPS

2025

Dejusticia Derecho
Justicia
Sociedad

ABOUT US



The Center of Study on Law, Justice and Society (Dejusticia) is a non-profit organization based in Bogotá, Colombia that works to strengthen the rule of law and promote human rights in the country and in the Global South. We are a think tank that combines rigorous research and strategic activism, with a single objective: achieving social transformations. Our research is based on our direct activism and advocacy (through campaigns, litigation, education and training); as in the evidence we gather and the analysis we carry out through our interaction with the communities and legal subjects with whom we work. This “research-action” methodology is the pillar of our work as an organization. We work collaboratively, building networks at national, regional and global levels, with a view to strengthening voices from the Global South on the issues we work on.

Since our founding in 2005, our work has evolved along ten thematic lines: Gender Justice; Racial and Ethnic Justice; Economic Justice (including business and human rights; economic, social and cultural rights; right to health; Tax Justice; and the justiciability of socio-economic rights); Rule of Law (anti-corruption and the functioning of state institutions); Technology, Transparency and Human Rights; Environmental Justice (participation, comprehensive management of land use and climate change); Judicial Systems; Drug Policy; Transitional Justice; and Land and Peasantry. In addition, we have five transversal areas that work in an articulated manner with the thematic lines: Strategic Litigation, Communications, Education, Regionalization and International.

Learn more about us at: <http://www.dejusticia.org>

ABOUT THE PROGRAM



The Dejusticia scholarship program offers a collaborative and creative space to reflect on various relevant topics; strengthen discussions about the fight for social and environmental justice in the world, and inspire new strategies, approaches and transformative actions. It also provides a quiet and safe space to work and weave bonds of solidarity and camaraderie. To that extent, it is an opportunity for mutual exchange both so that fellows can learn about the action research tools and strategies that we develop at Dejusticia in order for them to be more effective in the work they do in their countries of origin, and so that Dejusticia learn from the fellows' experience and that of their organizations.

This program may be relevant for human rights defenders from the Global South who: i) due to their work and advocacy, communication and research activities, have been subjected to high risk from repressive actions by governments and other actors; and ii) belong to human rights organizations from the Global South that wish to do joint research or advocacy work with Dejusticia or even do exchanges.

We seek to build lasting relationships with the scholarship recipients, as well as their organizations so that collaborations can continue after they have returned to their countries. This ensures that scholarships do not become ends in themselves, but rather function as accelerator nodes for connections that will make the movement for human rights more integrated, close-knit, and impactful on the issues most important to the Global South.

PROFILE



The Global South Fellow has the following general characteristics:

- * Is a human rights advocate from the Global South with the capacity to exchange knowledge and experiences with Dejusticia researchers.
- * Is willing to continue working with Dejusticia after the fellowship to create a joint work product.
- * Can work in either English or Spanish.

The program is looking for people with **three different profiles**:

1. The grantee may come from an emergency or high-risk context. **An emergency or high-risk context can be any of the following:**

- * The country/city where the grantee is working is under armed conflict, civil unrest or authoritarian rule with imminent risk to the individual;
- * The grantee or his/her organization has been subjected to threats, intimidation, or populist propaganda that poses a threat to his/her human rights advocacy work or the safety of his/her family; or
- * The grantee or his/her organization has been excluded from funding due to government or private sector influence or has been lobbied in any way intended to obstruct the work of the individual/organization.

2. The grantee may be at risk of burnout and looking for a quiet place to continue working on human rights issues, but in a different context.

3. The grantee may be linked to a human rights organization in the Global South that is interested in doing joint work with Dejusticia, exploring new collaborations or deepening previous collaborations.

PROFILE



THE FELLOW'S COMMITMENT:

- * The fellow will allocate his/her time at Dejusticia according to the following:
 - 55% to develop and implement work associated with some broader project in the host area/line;
 - 25% to continue to support the work of his/her home organization remotely;
 - 10% in the development of at least one blog post reflecting on her experience or work, to be published on the Dejusticia Global Blog.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS



The call for applications will be open until **January 31, 2025 (11:59 P.M., UTC-05:00)**. Please note that the scholarship will be for the second semester of 2025.

To apply, please [fill out the following form](#) and include:

1. Letter of motivation (max. 2 pages) containing a brief description of the applicant's profile, as well as his/her experience and trajectory in human rights. Also, indicate the period of availability, the Dejusticia research area in which you are interested in working, and the commitment to explore joint research/incidence/training collaborations after the fellowship is completed.
2. CV including level of English and/or Spanish language proficiency.
3. A paragraph indicating how your goals align with the specific line of interest; In addition to the basic requirements, the applicant will be asked to fill in on the form what his/her context is, and based on that, in addition to the basic requirements, the following will be requested:
4. If you are at risk or at risk of burnout, a brief description of the situation.
5. If you come from a human rights organization, attach a letter of institutional support from the organization.

Dejusticia will cover travel expenses (visa, tickets) and provide a monthly stipend based on the person's profile and experience. Although Dejusticia will provide support at the beginning of the process, where during the first two weeks of work a training space will be provided on amphibious research and on their work, it is important to highlight that the chosen persons will be responsible for managing their stipend to meet their housing, transportation and food needs.

TEAMS

TO WHICH YOU CAN APPLY

*DESCRIPTION OF
DEJUSTICIA'S AREAS
AND THEMATIC LINES*

STRATEGIC LITIGATION AREA



DESCRIPTION

The Strategic Litigation area of Dejusticia is responsible for carrying out legal advocacy actions for the defense and guarantee of human rights in the global south, which convert our research activities into concrete changes for society and the rule of law.

APPLICANT PROFILE

We are looking for a fellow who has experience in Colombian law, and can help us in our research tasks for strategic litigation in defense of human rights both nationally and internationally, specifically on issues of air quality and environmental law.

FUNCTIONS

1. Conduct research and documentary collection on data related to air quality and the right to health of people, initially in Bogota.
2. Support research work and preparation of the team's legal strategies for air quality and human rights issues.
3. Support the work of translation of the main pieces of communications and dissemination of the work of the area in the global blog and other spaces of international dissemination.

INTERNATIONAL AREA



DESCRIPTION

We would love to have the support of a fellow to work on migration and refugee issues, and their relation to climate change, the closing of civil society spaces and the rise of authoritarian governments, as well as the strengthening of the human rights movement in the Global South. Our team works on the aforementioned issues through research, training, advocacy and litigation projects. We also develop joint activities with human rights organizations in the Global South to strengthen their work and the different networks of which Dejusticia is a member.

APPLICANT PROFILE

Those interested in becoming a Fellow in the International Area must demonstrate a commitment to the defense of human rights, especially in the Global South, and a sensitivity to working in the service of historically excluded populations. They should have excellent interpersonal skills, a willingness to collaborate with multiple actors and the flexibility to contribute to projects with different thematic and methodological approaches. Preferably a professional in law, social sciences or international relations.

FUNCTIONS

- 1.** Review and analyze specialized literature on issues related to migrants' rights, climate change and the closing of civil society spaces.
- 2.** Support the design and conduct of interviews, focus groups and other methodological tools to collect information for research.
- 3.** Support with the organization and planning of events, trainings and other initiatives related to the team's work.
- 4.** Participate in external events (such as trainings or conferences) organized by Dejusticia's national and international networks and write internal summaries on the content of these events.

SCHOOL D



DESCRIPTION

In 2017, Dejusticia formally established the creation of a school in human rights practice (hereafter School D) with the intention of consolidating its amphibious approach to work, human rights, which involves combining social research projects with litigation, advocacy, communications and training strategies to advance its mission and influence multiple audiences. Our offer includes virtual, face-to-face and blended programs following an inverted learning logic that prioritizes co-creation methodologies. The functions of the Escuela D team include curriculum design, methodological design, design of pedagogical materials, facilitation, evaluation, monitoring and learning of training programs aimed at multiple audiences.

APPLICANT PROFILE

Individuals interested in becoming D-School Fellows should demonstrate a commitment to human rights advocacy, especially in the Global South, and a sensitivity to working with historically excluded populations. They should have excellent interpersonal skills, a willingness to collaborate with multiple actors, and the flexibility to contribute to projects with different thematic and methodological approaches. We are looking for a person willing to imagine, learn, support the achievement of collective results, innovate and strengthen our educational offerings.

FUNCTIONS

1. Support in the internationalization strategy of Escuela D and the establishment of strategic alliances with other organizations.
2. Support in the construction of methodologies for training and co-creation spaces.

ECONOMIC JUSTICE LINE



DESCRIPTION

The Economic Justice line is responsible for promoting the realization of social rights before different state and non-state actors. In relation to non-state actors, we seek to promote appropriate standards in terms of business and human rights, so that they exercise responsible conduct with the rights of people and the environment.

APPLICANT PROFILE

We are looking for a Fellow to join us on the Economic Justice team who is interested in researching appropriate human rights standards for business, particularly in international discussions on a legally binding instrument for business, as well as human rights standards for just transitions that should be established by energy companies in their work. The person in this role will work under the supervision of the Director of the Economic Justice line and with the accompaniment of the Senior Researcher on Business and Human Rights, as well as with the different cross-cutting areas and thematic lines of the organization.

FUNCTIONS

- 1.** Participate in the elaboration of academic documents that, from a legal perspective, seek to analyze the way to establish binding international and national frameworks that establish human rights duties for companies, especially those that develop transnational activities.
- 2.** Analyze relevant national and international instruments on Business and Rights, relevant cases in different jurisdictions and theoretical advances on the subject, all in order to build a regulatory proposal that establishes the commitments and responsibilities that energy companies must assume to ensure a just energy transition in the countries in which they operate.
- 3.** 3. To make short memorandums for the understanding of certain specific issues related to the area.
- 4.** 4. Participation in team meetings and meetings with external partners on this topic.

ETHNO-RACIAL JUSTICE LINE



DESCRIPCIÓN

The Ethnic and Racial Justice Line is dedicated to the search for equality for indigenous and Afro-descendant peoples. We are present in the design, accompaniment and strengthening of participation and prior consultation mechanisms related to natural resources and extractive industries. We also monitor decisions that affect these peoples and promote affirmative actions, especially in the areas of carbon credits, biogenetic resources, employment and education. We advocate for increased representation and participation and its impact on the effective enjoyment of the rights of indigenous and Afro-descendant peoples.

APPLICANT PROFILE

Be a professional in law, political science, anthropology or social sciences interested and preferably with previous experience in ethnography, prior consultation, historical reparations, production of legal documents and action-participatory research. Knowledge of a second language (preferably indigenous and/or English) and experience in accompanying ethnic, social and human rights organizations would be an asset. Applications from professionals belonging to ethnic groups are appreciated. Applications with experience in intersectional approach between indigenous, Afro-descendants and gender, carbon credits, biodiversity convention, preservation of indigenous languages, prior consultation and/or historical reparations will be valued.

FUNCTIONS

- 1.** Support the design and conduct of interviews, systematization of interviews and other methodological tools to collect information for research.
- 2.** Support in the realization of interventions, coadjutants and amicus before the Constitutional Court and the Inter-American Human Rights System.
- 3.** Support in the exploration and review of sources and literature on intersectionality, indigenous languages, carbon credits, genetic resource rights, prior consultation and historical reparations.
- 4.** Individually or jointly write chronicles, life stories and academic articles on the Line's areas of research.
- 5.** Support with the organization and planning of events, trainings and other initiatives related to the work of the team.
- 6.** Attend academic discussions promoted at Dejusticia as well as internal meetings of the Line.

TAX JUSTICE LINE



DESCRIPTION

The Fiscal Justice Line focuses on analyzing the relationship between the fiscal policies of States and their capacity to protect, respect and guarantee the human rights of their citizens. It also studies the impact of taxation and public spending systems on income and wealth inequality. Thus, research and advocacy actions are sought to ensure that the tax systems of the world, as well as the international taxation system, design a progressive and fair taxation that allows States to have the maximum resources available to finance the needs of its inhabitants.

APPLICANT PROFILE

The profile sought for the Fellowship is that of an economist, sociologist, political scientist, internationalist or related career, with prior knowledge and research interests in national, regional and global debates on tax justice with a human rights approach.

FUNCTIONS

Currently, the line is advancing in four strategic actions: supporting the strengthening of global taxation to mitigate tax avoidance and evasion, the dissemination and implementation of human rights principles in tax policy, the training of social actors in tax policy and human rights, and tax justice in climate change. The Fellow will be expected to:

1. Support the collection of information for research being developed in the line.
2. Support in the systematization of comparative experiences (country of origin of the fellow) according to the research topic to be developed.
3. Write and co-write research papers, columns and communication pieces.
4. Support with the organization and planning of events, trainings and other initiatives related to the work of the team.
5. Attend academic discussions promoted at Dejusticia as well as internal meetings of the Line.

PEASANTRY AND LAND LINE



DESCRIPTION

In the Peasantry and Land Line we work for the right to land, the recognition of the rights of the peasantry and peasant territoriality. To this end, we articulate efforts hand in hand with regional and national peasant organizations, seeking their organizational strengthening through legal training and political advocacy. Internally and externally, we also have an impact through research, communication strategies and pedagogical mechanisms with decision makers.

APPLICANT PROFILE

Being aware that the struggle of peasants is a global struggle, we are looking for a new member to join us in the Global South fellows program who has experience working with collective groups, peasants or agrarian producers and/or land and territory issues.

FUNCTIONS

The line is currently advancing in three strategic actions: strengthening peasant organizations in their commitment to the recognition of peasant territoriality; proposals for the harmonization of peasant territorial rights and environmental protection and conservation regulations; dissemination of the general land observation. The Fellow will have to:

- 1.** Support the design and conduct of interviews, systematization of interviews and other methodological tools to collect information for research.
- 2.** Support the systematization of comparative experiences on the harmonization of peasant land rights, environmental conservation and ethnic rights.
- 3.** Write and co-write research documents, columns and communication pieces.
- 4.** Support with the organization and planning of events, trainings and other initiatives related to the work of the team.
- 5.** Attend academic discussions promoted in Dejusticia as well as internal meetings of the Line.

TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE LINE



DESCRIPTION

The purpose of the transitional justice line is to conduct research and advocacy activities in order to promote the rights of victims to truth, justice, reparation and non-repetition, as well as to promote public discussions on negotiated solutions to violence.

APPLICANT PROFILE

Professional in law, social sciences or international relations with interest in political transition processes. Experience in processes of promoting the rights of victims of massive human rights violations in domestic or international contexts, in particular the relatives of forcibly disappeared persons, will be a plus. Knowledge of a second language, preferably English, would be an asset.

FUNCTIONS

The person who is part of the transitional justice team as a fellow will perform the following functions:

1. Produce documentary inputs for research on three topics, mainly, (i) search for forcibly disappeared persons; (ii) gender approach in the search for disappeared persons; and (iii) victims' participation before transitional justice mechanisms.
2. Support the design and implementation of interviews, focus groups and other methodological tools to collect information for the investigations.
3. Support with the organization and planning of events, trainings and other initiatives related to the work of the team.
4. Participate in external events (such as trainings or conferences) organized by Dejusticia's national and international networks and write internal summaries on the content of these events.
5. Participate in internal meetings of both the transitional justice team and the organization's academic seminars.

SPECIAL PROJECT: STRENGTHENING CIVIL SOCIETY



DESCRIPTION

Dejusticia has a Civil Society Strengthening Hub called ENLAZA SUR which aims to become a mechanism for Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and Community Based Organizations (CBOs) in the Andean Region to strengthen their organizational and programmatic bases. At Dejusticia, we have focused on making this Hub a tool so that, on the one hand, we can strengthen ourselves as civil society and thus strengthen our democracies. And, on the other hand, so that organizations can strengthen themselves internally and externally, and thus face the post-pandemic economic crisis, the widespread inequalities, the shrinking civic spaces and the different forms of authoritarianism that threaten their survival as well as their ability to impact social policies.

APPLICANT PROFILE

We are looking for a professional in law, political science, anthropology, philosophy, sociology and related fields with an interest in strengthening civil society in Latin America and the global south. We value positively: i) previous knowledge of civil society and civic space closure; ii) excel skills for the creation of tables, graphs and reports; iii) research and writing skills for the drafting of columns, reports and documents; iv) capacity for honest, sensitive and mediating relationships with civil society and community-based organizations and; v) ability to work as part of a team.

FUNCTIONS

1. Conduct state of the art papers and research on civil society, civic space closure, technology and human rights.
2. Conduct mapping of organizations and partners working on issues related to strengthening civil society in the global south, technology and human rights.
3. Organize meetings with Latin American and Global South civil society leaders to create alliances.
4. Carry out logistical tasks such as calls, mailings, meeting minutes, etc.

GENDER LINE



DESCRIPTION

Dejusticia's gender line develops research, strategic litigation and advocacy actions that contribute to the defense of the human rights of women and LGBTIQ+ people. Currently, the line is advancing research and projects related to the right to care, gender-based violence with an intersectional approach and tax justice with a gender approach.

APPLICANT PROFILE

Professional in social sciences and/or law with interest in gender inequality, feminism, women's rights and LGBTIQ+ people's rights. We will value positively (1) research experience in issues related to gender-based violence, care economy, feminist fiscal policy and/or intersectional approaches; (2) the ability to write academic texts, opinion columns and blogs and (3) knowledge of a second language (preferably English).

FUNCTIONS

1. Develop state of the art and papers on gendered fiscal policy and gender-based violence with intersectional approaches.
2. Support the team in the design and organization of advocacy actions, events, workshops and interventions on the right to care, gender-based fiscal policy and gender-based violence with intersectional approaches.
3. Support the team in writing opinion columns and blogs on issues of gender equality, gender-based violence, right to care and gender-sensitive fiscal policy.
4. Attend weekly team meetings and Dejusticia's internal discussion spaces.

DRUG POLICY LINE



DESCRIPTION

In this line we work to ensure that drug policies incorporate human rights standards at the regional, national and international levels. We also work for the abandonment of the prohibitionist approach, the regulation of cannabis and other substances, the development of drug use services, as well as the regulation of alternative uses of coca leaf. We address these problems from a public policy standpoint under the approaches of repairing the damage caused by drug policy and drug trafficking, the inclusion of the most affected communities, gender and risk and harm reduction approaches, and the fulfillment of the obligations derived from the Final Peace Agreement. We use strategic litigation, national and international advocacy, civil society networking, academic research and communications as tools for transformation.

APPLICANT PROFILE

Professional in social sciences, with more than five years of experience in drug policy, particularly with respect to the coca leaf. Research experience on the plant and its uses, the regulatory frameworks for research on the plant, and the international architecture of the drug control regime is required. Experience with indigenous and peasant movements, at the intersection between drug policy reform and economic and social rights, would be appreciated.

FUNCTIONS

1. Develop, jointly with the team, the technical inputs to be presented by Dejusticia for the processes in the framework of the critical review of the coca leaf being advanced by the World Health Organization.
2. Support the development of awareness and dissemination campaigns on the critical review process with movements and allied organizations related to the issue of coca leaf and drug policy reform.
3. Organize spaces for discussion with civil society and regulatory authorities, in order to energize the technical discussion in the country on the critical review process of coca leaf.
4. Create strategic alliances at the regional level to promote the critical review process of the coca leaf.

LINE OF TECHNOLOGY AND DIGITAL RIGHTS



DESCRIPTION

In the line of Transparency, and Digital Rights of Dejusticia we work on two general topics: access to public information as a basic condition of democracy and the impact of technology on human rights, especially in an unequal society.

APPLICANT PROFILE

We are looking for a person interested in the intersection between technology and human rights and/or the fight against corruption. This person should have technical knowledge on how different technologies work or know the legal regulatory framework of digital technologies and/or should have knowledge on anti-corruption. This person can be a professional in engineering, computer science, sociology, law or social sciences. The person chosen will contribute to the development of the line's objectives which include: advancing the issues of democracy and closing civil society spaces, equality and non-discrimination, environmental and climate justice, among others.

FUNCTIONS

1. Conduct research on the intersection between Human Rights and Technology and/or on anti-corruption.
2. Support the team by identifying the effects and impacts that new technologies may have on the exercise of human rights.
3. Study the new dimensions that traditional rights acquire in the digital environment.
4. Provide technical knowledge on technology that facilitates its regulation.
5. Identify the ways in which technology can favor and strengthen the promotion of human rights.
6. Support the team by researching collective harms arising from acts of corruption.
7. Develop state of the art to contribute to academic research.

SUB-DIRECTORATE A (LITIGATION)



DESCRIPTION

The Sub-Directorate works with all areas of Dejusticia in a cross-cutting manner. For this position, it works directly with the Strategic Litigation area. It is responsible for carrying out legal advocacy actions for the defense and guarantee of human rights in the global south, which convert our research activities into concrete changes for society and the rule of law.

APPLICANT PROFILE

We are looking for a fellow who has experience in Colombian law, and can help us in our research tasks for strategic litigation in defense of human rights both nationally and internationally, specifically on issues of air quality and environmental law.

FUNCTIONS

1. Conduct research and documentary collection on data related to air quality and the right to health of people, initially in Bogota.
2. Support research work and preparation of the team's legal strategies for air quality and human rights issues.
3. Support the translation work of the main communications pieces and dissemination of the work of the area in the global blog and other international dissemination spaces.

SUB-DIRECTORATE B (ACADEMIC)



DESCRIPTION

This sub-directorate promotes interdisciplinary research in which the analysis of human rights converges with the social sciences, environmental humanities, ethnography, the climate crisis and justice beyond the human. In this context, the sub-directorate has a special interest in studying indigenous cosmologies to transform international law and promote environmental justice.

APPLICANT PROFILE

We are looking for an applicant with a background in environmental humanities and/or social sciences: professionals in anthropology, ecology, law, arts, sociology, or related fields. We value positively: (i) previous knowledge of biocultural rights and, in this context, of the critiques of the separation between nature and culture and of the links between biodiversity and climate change; (ii) skills in qualitative research and creative writing; (iii) interest in working in a team with indigenous peoples.

FUNCTIONS

1. Support the research processes of the sub-directorate, including transcription of interviews, literature review, methodological planning of focus groups, and elaboration of presentations.
2. Perform logistical tasks of the activities led by the sub-directorate (calls, emails, minutes, etc.).
3. Elaborate methodological and visual contents to support the written material of the sub-directorate's research.

Dejusticia