The University Network for Human Rights is proud to announce its new partnership with thirty universities across Latin America through the *Asociación de Universidades Confiadas a la Compañía de Jesús en América Latina* ([AUSJAL](https://www.ausjal.org/)). AUSJAL brings together Jesuit universities in Mexico and Central and South America. The partnership represents a major development for human rights clinical education in the Americas. On March 12, 2021, the two organizations signed an agreement to strengthen joint efforts in human rights education. [Luis Arriaga](https://magis.iteso.mx/content/luis-arriaga-valenzuela-sj-educador-y-defensor), President of the *Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Occidente* (ITESO), who has worked and written on human rights issues for two decades, signed on behalf of AUSJAL. [Jim Cavallaro](https://www.humanrightsnetwork.org/james-jim-cavallaro), the Executive Director of the University Network for Human Rights (UNHR), whose career in human rights advocacy and teaching spans three decades, signed on behalf of UNHR.

The *Asociación de Universidades Confiadas a la Compañía de Jesús en América Latina* is a leading network of Jesuit universities. Building on the longstanding Jesuit tradition of social justice and academic excellence, *AUSJAL* unites leading research and teaching centers in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, the Domincan Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

The University Network for Human Rights (UNHR) is an international human rights advocacy organization housed on the campus of Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut. UNHR facilitates supervised engagement in human rights at colleges and universities around the globe while partnering with communities affected or threatened by abuse. As a central part of its mission, the University Network collaborates with academics and practitioners around the world to foster a stronger global human rights community.

The AUSJAL-UNHR partnership is a key aspect of this mission. Through this collaboration, the two organizations have already completed an important book-length study of impunity in cases of grave rights violation in Mexico. A research team at ITESO, a Mexican member university of AUSJAL, has joined the University Network to identify the factors that undermine investigations and protections in the country. The project sets forth recommendations, including potential international involvement, to bolster efforts of Mexican authorities and civil society to end the country’s deadly cycle of impunity. The book, published by ITESO’s academic press, is scheduled for publication during 2021.

Through the agreement, the University Network will work with individual universities to develop and strengthen interdisciplinary clinics in human rights. These clinics will work with communities and individuals facing rights abuse. The partnership will thus strengthen the commitment of AUSJAL to social justice and human rights by direct engagement with victims of rights abuse, as well as through training of the next generation of human rights and social justice advocates.

AUSJAL’s network is comprised of the following preeminent institutions of higher education:

Universidad Católica de Córdoba (UCC)

Córdoba, Argentina,

Universidade Católica de Pernambuco (UNICAP)

Recife, Brazil

Centro Universitário FEI

São Bernardo do Campo, Brazil

Faculdade Jesuíta de Filosofia e Teologia (FAJE)

Belo Horizonte, Brazil

Instituto Especializado de Estudios Superiores Loyola (IESSL)

San Cristóbal, Dominican Republic

Instituto Filosófico Pedro Francisco Bonó (IFPFB)

Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

Instituto Superior de Estudios Humanísticos y Filosóficos (ISEHF)

Asuncion, Paraguay

Instituto Superior Intercultural Ayuuk (ISIA)

Oaxaca, Mexico

Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Occidente (ITESO)

Guadalajara, Mexico

Instituto Universitario Jesús Obrero (IUJO)

Caracas, Venezuela

Pontificia Universidad Católica del Ecuador (PUCE)

Quito, Ecuador

Pontificia Universidad Javeriana - Bogotá

Bogotá, Colombia

Pontificia Universidad Javeriana Cali

Cali, Colombia

Pontificia Universidade Católica do Rio de Janeiro

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Tecnológico Universitario del Valle de Chalco (TUVCH)

Estado de México, Mexico

Universidad Alberto Hurtado (UAH)

Santiago, Chile

Universidad Antonio Ruiz de Montoya (UARM)

Lima, Peru

Universidad Católica Andrés Bello (UCAB)

Caracas, Venezuela

Universidad Católica del Táchira (UCAT)

San Cristóbal, Venezuela

Universidad Católica del Uruguay (UCU)

Montevideo, Uruguay

Universidad Centroamericana UCA

Managua, Nicaragua

Universidad Centroamericana "José Simeón Cañas"

San Salvador, El Salvador

Universidad del Pacífico (UP)

Lima, Peru

Universidad Iberoamericana Ciudad de México

México City, Mexico

Universidad Iberoamericana Tijuana

Tijuana, Mexico

Universidad Iberoamericana Torreón

Torreón, Mexico

Universidad Iberoamericana León

León, Mexico

Universidad Iberoamericana Puebla

Puebla, Mexico

Universidad Rafael Landívar (URL)

Guatemala

Universidade do Vale do Rio dos Sinos (UNISINOS)

Sao Leopoldo, Brazil