

**ANNUAL
REPORT
TEDIC**

2024

Dear community, donors and allies:

2024 was a year of profound changes, learning and challenges for TEDIC. We began a new cycle with a transformation in our organizational structure: we went from a co-directorship to having an executive director, and for the first time we added an executive management position that allowed us to strengthen our institutional management, better support our teams and deepen our long-term sustainability strategy.

This internal transformation did not take place in an easy context. On the contrary, for much of the year we faced a hostile environment towards civil society in Paraguay, especially towards organizations that defend human rights and denounce abuses of power. TEDIC was directly attacked from within Congress, unfairly questioned, and even defamed by the Minister of the Superior Tribunal of Electoral Justice.

These attacks only reaffirmed our commitment to the defense of digital rights, freedom of expression and access to information in contexts of increasing control and surveillance. We were able to respond with determination, with evidence, and above all, with community. Because one of our greatest strengths this year was to continue building alliances: with other organizations, allied media outlets, courageous journalists, human rights defenders and our team of volunteers.

Amid this challenging context, we also experienced moments of great light. We launched researches, added new campaigns, conducted many -many!- digital security workshops, participated in national and international events, always striving for more training, more free culture, more advocacy, more action and more community. At the regional and international level, we continue to actively participate in multilateral advocacy spaces, bringing the voice of Paraguay and the Global South to discussions on platform regulation, artificial intelligence, personal data, gender equality and surveillance technologies. Our participation was part of our ongoing effort to influence globally from a local perspective.

We know that the scenario ahead will not be simple. Threats to our rights are multiplying in the form of regressive laws, hate speech, and a digitalization that is often imposed without consultation or democratic regulation. But we also recognize the opportunities: there is more social awareness, more organized community, more feminist and territorial networks that are embracing technology from care and resistance.

From TEDIC, we close another year reaffirming our convictions. With humility and strength. Committed to open knowledge, collaborative culture, and a society where technology is at the service of human dignity, and not the other way around.

Thank you for walking with us. This report is also a testimony that we do not walk alone.

Maricarmen Sequera
Executive Director

TEDIC



What will you find in this report?

Spoiler alert! Get ready to look back at a year of intense work during which things like these happened:

13 research projects and publications ranging from technology-facilitated gender-based violence, personal data, cybersecurity, use of electronic voting machines, and much, much, more. With evidence and a focus on our rights!

Six campaigns that made noise and reached **8,149,980 users !!**

- #MyDataMyRights (now also in Guarani!)
- #NotWithMyFace (neither in the stadiums nor in the streets)
- Free and Safe on the Internet
- S.O.S Journalist
- Mind Online
- Digital Violence is Real

Memes, fanzines, stickers, graffiti, reels, infographics, kits, and even hand fans.



23 national advocacy actions

Meetings with Ministries? Done. Advocacy in Congress? Also done! Events and alliances with government authorities? Present!

International advocacy in 26 spaces:

We brought the voice of Paraguay and the Global South to strategic forums such as the UN, the OAS and Internet governance events, with contributions to rapporteurships, debates on artificial intelligence, privacy, gender and human rights.

22 digital security workshops:

We conducted **22 digital security workshops**, reaching **962 people** from all over the country!

In a context of increasing surveillance, we responded with knowledge, tools and training as the only organization in Paraguay that works on digital rights from a comprehensive perspective.

We participated in 124 national and international events. (Yes, you read that right! 124 🤖)

And you know what? We did all that with the strength of a community that doesn't give up. So turn the page, grab a coffee or take a sip of tereré, and join us on this journey.





PERSONAL DATA AND PRIVACY

#Campaign

#Advocacy

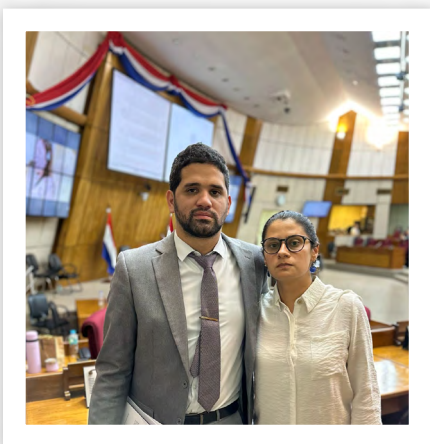
#Research

#Training

Personal data law moves forward in Congress!

After more than 10 years of sustained advocacy, in 2024 we achieved a major breakthrough: **on December 17, the Chamber of Deputies approved in general the Personal Data Protection Bill.**

During the year, we managed to have the bill included on the agenda in five sessions of Congress (August, September, October, November and December), facing attempts of indefinite postponement. Thanks to citizen pressure and the articulation with allies, we managed to keep the issue on the agenda until it was discussed and voted on.



From TEDIC we led strategic meetings with the Personal Data Coalition, produced an institutional video that encompasses the beginning and all the years of work of the Coalition, sent formal letters to Congress and participated in meetings with congress members and legislative advisors. A curious fact: all the people who supported this effort are women.

The bill is the result of a collaborative work between the Science and Technology Commission, the Ministry of Information and Communication Technologies (MITIC), the Presidency of the Republic and the civil society. Although the bill has yet to be discussed in detail, this advance marks a turning point in the defense of the right to privacy in Paraguay.

🗣️ In 2025 we will continue working for its final approval and regulation.

Campaign and territorial action

Throughout the year we also strengthened our communication strategy and our territorial work to bring the debate on personal data and privacy closer to diverse communities, beyond institutional spaces. We invested in art, the Guaraní language, intersectoral alliances and the production of knowledge in accessible formats.

👥 We established **alliances with FENAES and OPAMA**, two organizations that bring together students and public transport users in Asunción and Gran Asunción, to expand the **#MyDataMyRights** campaign to new territories.

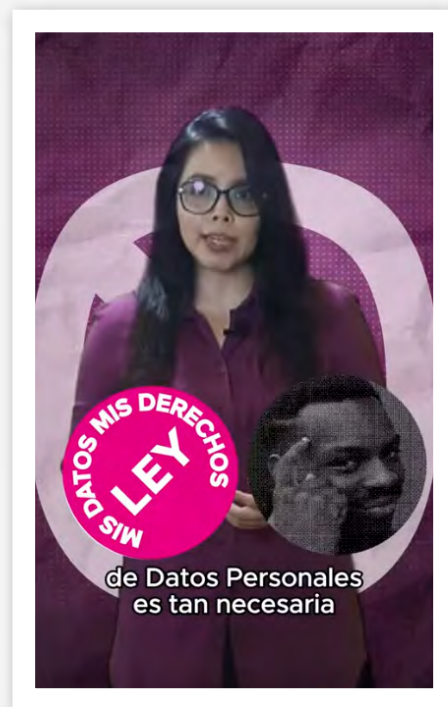
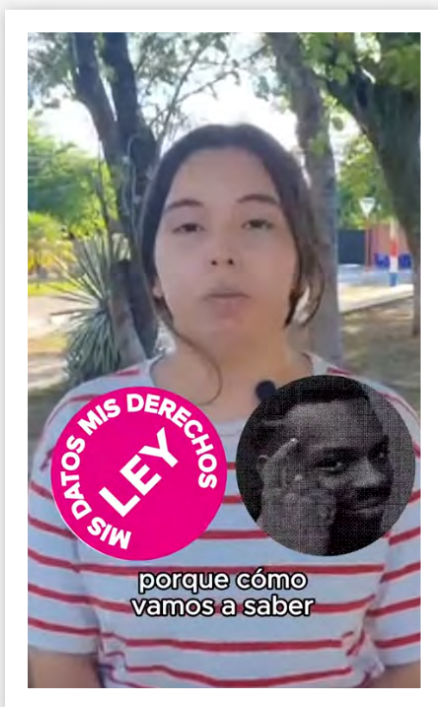
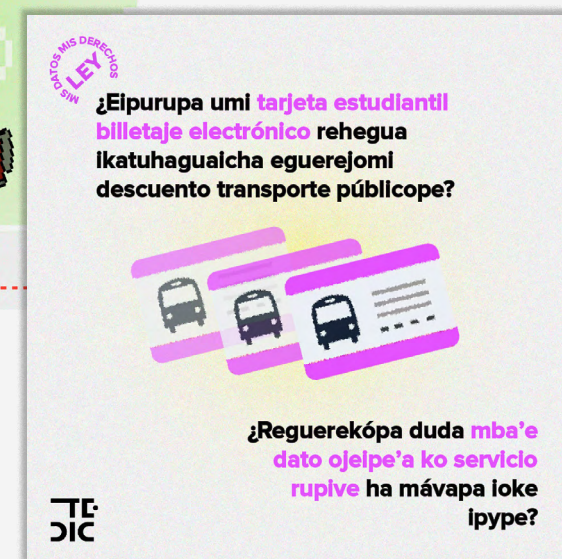
🗣️ Together with both organizations, **we also launched the #MyDataMyRights campaign in Guaraní**, adapting our messages and visual materials to reach communities that are not always included in the debate on digital rights.

📝 We published **more than seven blogposts** connecting real citizen concerns with the urgency of a data protection law. From state surveillance to digital identity to corporate abuses, each text aimed to provide information and clarity in areas and intersections not normally explored.

🎨 We relaunched the **#MyDataMyRights fanzines** and were present in **more than 15 events** distributing educational materials, stickers, posters and visual content designed to inspire reflection, sharing and action.

💻 We planned and developed **EmpowerDATA in Ciudad del Este**, with workshops, debates and spaces for collective creation to reflect on technological sovereignty, privacy and the importance of our personal data in local contexts.

🎨 We designed and made a **new collaborative graffiti at the Universidad Nacional del Este**, driven by women artists and students, which transformed a wall into an urgent call for a law to protect our data.



Personal data and business: an urgent agenda

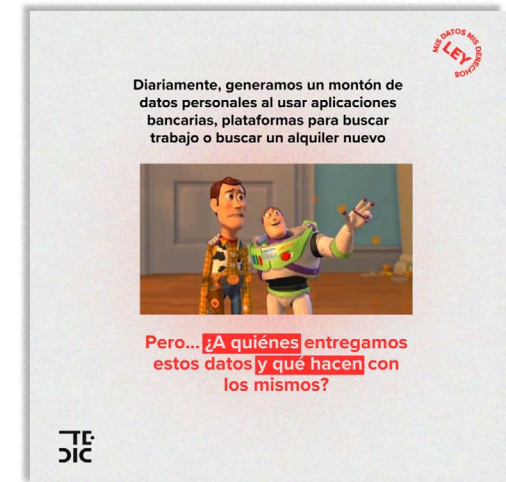
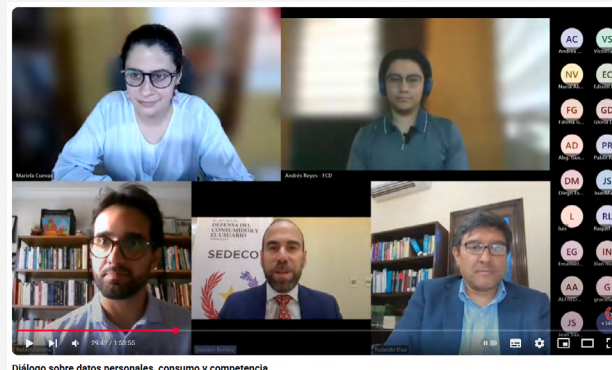
In a context marked by cyber-attacks, massive data leaks and a growing digitalization of services, all our advocacy work in Congress reinforces the call to enact a comprehensive personal data protection law in Paraguay. Meanwhile, we also promote actions to reduce knowledge gaps and promote best practices in the private sector, from a rights-based approach.



In March 2024 we launched the virtual course “**Personal data and business: standards, UX and best practices**”, aimed at entrepreneurs and the business sector. The course was a success:

- 128 people enrolled
- 47 people completed the full course and received certification
- 27 people certified in the additional practical workshop
- 74 certifications issued in total

💡 The course was developed in collaboration with **KLIRK**, and was articulated with new institutional allies such as the **Secretariat of Consumer and User Protection (SEDECO)**, the **Association of Entrepreneurs of Paraguay (ASEPY)** and the **Association of Christian Entrepreneurs (ADEC)**, all of whom showed interest in promoting international standards of data protection and discussing the challenges of the future law.



🔍 As part of this line of work, we conducted the research “**Personal data protection in the private sector in Paraguay: an exploratory study**”. And we found:

- Widespread lack of knowledge about the right to data protection as a fundamental right.
- Low level of preparedness among companies regarding an upcoming law.
- Urgent need to establish a legal framework that provides legal certainty to both individuals and companies.

To broaden the debate, we organized the regional online event “**A dialogue on personal data, consumption and competition**”, in partnership with **SEDECO** and **CONACOM**, public institutions in Paraguay, with the participation of experts in the field from Paraguay, Brazil and Ecuador. We discussed the urgency of protecting personal data as a central issue of economic justice, trust and rights in digital environments.

📺 [Dialogue on personal data, consumption and competition](#)

#NotWithMyFace: the sports fans defending their rights

During 2024, a new legislation was passed in Paraguay - Law 7269/2024 - which enables the collection of biometric data of all persons attending sporting events. This law was discussed and enacted with alarming speed, without a thorough debate, without consulting experts or civil society organizations, **in a country that still lacks a personal data protection law.**

From TEDIC, we publicly denounced the risks of this law and **launched the campaign #NotWithMyFace**, with the aim of informing and empowering soccer fans about the use of biometric surveillance technologies, especially facial recognition, in stadiums across the country.

🌐 During the months of July and August, we met with soccer fans of clubs such as **Cerro Porteño, Olimpia and Sportivo Luqueño** to discuss the law, gather concerns and collectively build the campaign messages. The stories were repeated: unfair criminalization, lack of transparency, forced release of personal data and use of technology without consent or regulation.



From this collective work, we developed a campaign with its own identity, **using soccer-related language and accessible resources**, to discuss surveillance, biometrics and human rights from the experience of those who attend stadiums.

🌐 We developed specific resources for the campaign:

- An **illustrated fanzine** on facial recognition, biometrics and how to act if you are a victim of misuse of this technology.
- A **dedicated website** with legal, communicational and comparative information: conmicarano.tedic.org.
- **¡What's new!:** Street advertising with high-impact messages in 3 zones of the city of Asunción.
- Masks and visual materials for events and mobilizations.
- A [technical analysis](#) on the acquisition and use of surveillance technologies in Paraguay.

In addition, we achieved a key ruling from the Supreme Court of Justice in the strategic litigation we initiated in 2018 to access public information about facial recognition cameras in Asunción. While the ruling did not resolve the merits of the case, **it recognized that previous courts misapplied the law**, opening a new opportunity for the access to information injunction to be reviewed in accordance with human rights standards.

🎯 This ruling is an important precedent in the defense of the right to information and transparency in the use of surveillance technologies.



Since 2018, we have been warning about the opacity in the acquisition and implementation of these technologies. Our findings show:

- Lack of transparency in public tenders.
- Possible irregular use of public funds allocated to telecommunications.
- Business links between the supplier company (ITTI SAECA) and the current President of the Republic.

The enactment of the new law only confirmed our warnings: **facial recognition cameras were already being used before there was even a legal framework to enable them.**

With **#NotWithMyFace**, we opened an **urgent debate** on mass surveillance, privacy, sport and democracy. We did it in the streets, social media, media outlets and with organized soccer fans.

Without protected data, there is no responsible artificial intelligence

In 2024, TEDIC was responsible for the Paraguayan chapter of the [Global Index on Responsible Artificial Intelligence](#), an international tool that evaluates the state of public policies on AI in more than 130 countries. Coordinated regionally by ILDA, the index highlights good practices, critical gaps and urgent regulatory challenges for ethical governance of AI.

At TEDIC, we strongly emphasize that **without a personal data protection law, there can be no such thing as responsible artificial intelligence in Paraguay**. The analysis revealed that our country ranks **84th out of 138**, with a score of **6.33 out of 100**, mainly due to the absence of regulatory frameworks and solid public policies in this area.

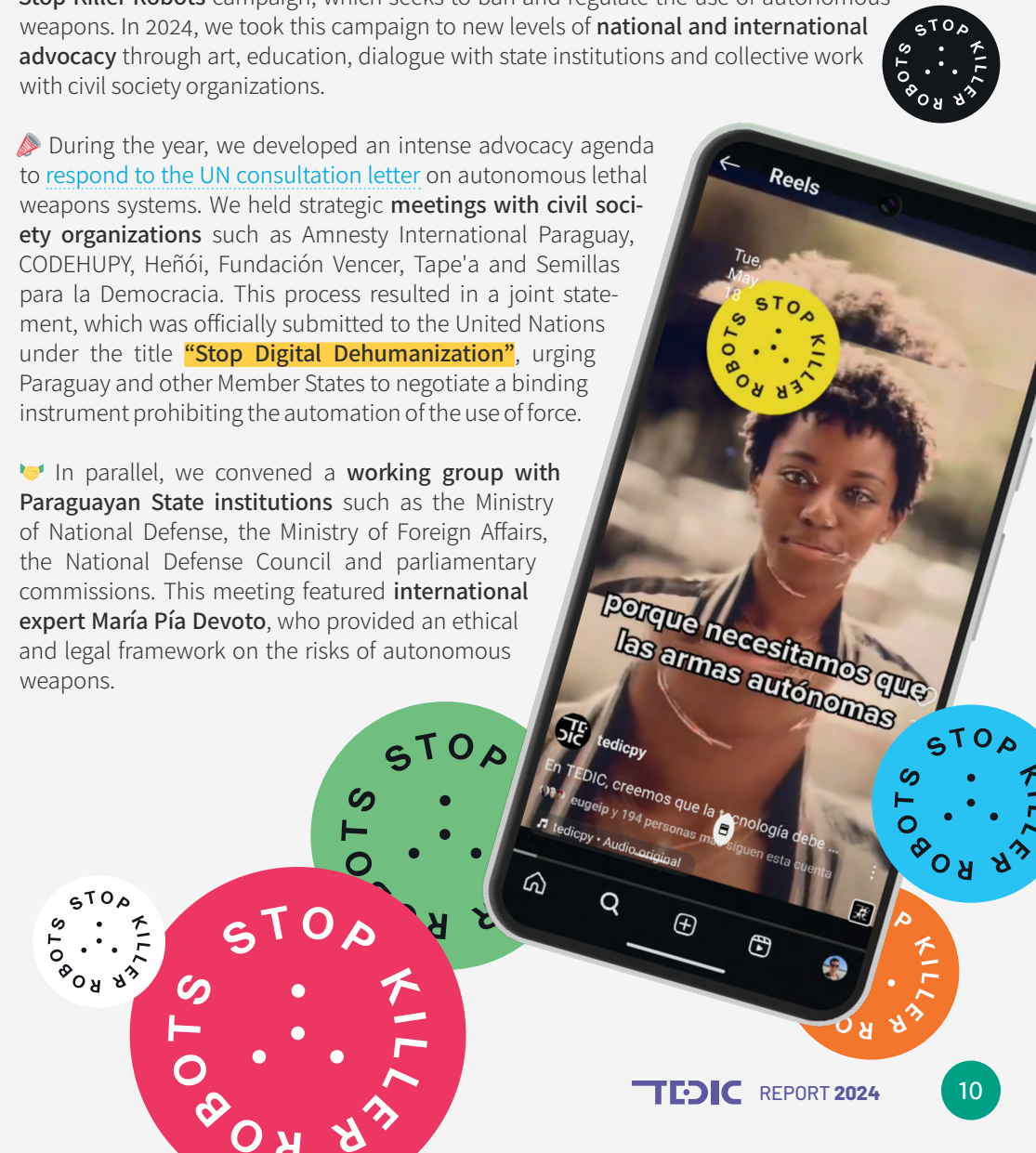


Stop Killer Robots: technology with human control

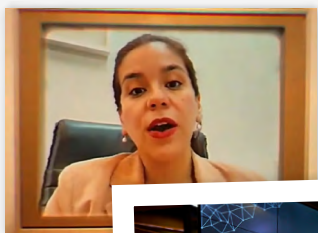
At TEDIC we believe that technology should always be at the service of people, respecting human rights and democratic control. That is why we are an active part of the international **Stop Killer Robots** campaign, which seeks to ban and regulate the use of autonomous weapons. In 2024, we took this campaign to new levels of **national and international advocacy** through art, education, dialogue with state institutions and collective work with civil society organizations.

During the year, we developed an intense advocacy agenda to [respond to the UN consultation letter](#) on autonomous lethal weapons systems. We held strategic **meetings with civil society organizations** such as Amnesty International Paraguay, CODEHUPY, Heñói, Fundación Vencer, Tape'a and Semillas para la Democracia. This process resulted in a joint statement, which was officially submitted to the United Nations under the title **"Stop Digital Dehumanization"**, urging Paraguay and other Member States to negotiate a binding instrument prohibiting the automation of the use of force.

In parallel, we convened a **working group with Paraguayan State institutions** such as the Ministry of National Defense, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the National Defense Council and parliamentary commissions. This meeting featured **international expert María Pía Devoto**, who provided an ethical and legal framework on the risks of autonomous weapons.



☀️ As a result of our advocacy, **Congressman Raúl Benítez** signed the [Parliamentarian Pledge](#), becoming the first Paraguayan parliamentarian to commit to the regulation of autonomous weapons at the international level. In addition, **Congresswoman Johanna Ortega joined later**, consolidating a historic advance towards an official position of the country on the issue.



📷 In June, we participated in the **54th OAS General Assembly** held in Paraguay. There, we showcased the exhibit **Re(x)sistents to digital dehumanization** across three strategic spaces:

- the "Voices for Rights" seminar organized by CODEHUPY,
- the Women's Assembly,
- and the Civil Society Fair.

More than **300 people participated in these exhibitions**, which connected art, activism, and regional politics to denounce the advance of surveillance technologies and automated militarization.

🌐 At the international level, TEDIC was part of the Paraguayan delegation at [key events in Vienna](#), where we shared advocacy spaces alongside the Ministry of Defense and representatives of Paraguay's Permanent Mission. At the forum "Action at the Crossroads", we presented how art can promote digital disarmament, and at the official event "Humanity at the Crossroads," we shared Paraguay's statement with an international audience.

🎓 As part of the "Dhesarme" course at UNILA University (Brazil), we gave a lecture on autonomous weapons and human rights to over 40 students, accompanied by the exhibition Re(x)sistents to digital dehumanization, which was also translated into English and Portuguese and is now freely available for download along with a mounting manual for replication in other spaces.

🔊 The UN General Assembly voted in favor of continuing discussions on the international regulation of autonomous weapons, [with the support of 166 countries](#), including Paraguay. This outcome aligns with years of advocacy from civil society and marks a very important precedent toward ethical governance of autonomous weapons.



DEMOCRACY & ACCESS TO INFORMATION

#Campaign

#Advocacy

#Research

#Training

The expansion of digital technologies in electoral processes opens up opportunities, but also presents new challenges for transparency, trust, and citizen participation. In 2024, TEDIC continues working to strengthen democracy through rigorous analysis of electronic voting systems and the promotion of evidence-based reforms.

Report on the use of electronic voting machines in the 2023 elections

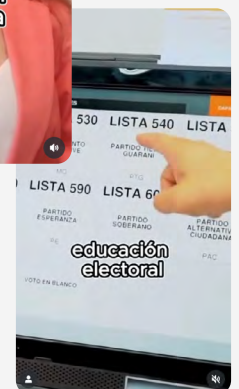
With the support of NED, we launched the report [“Use of Electronic Voting Machines in the 2023 Elections in Paraguay”](#). The study, based on 836 surveys conducted at 30 polling stations, is a continuation of the work initiated during [the 2021 municipal elections](#).

Among the findings, technical failures and a concerning lack of critical understanding of how electronic voting machines work were identified.

✦ In response to these challenges, we have developed a series of **recommendations addressed to the TSJE**, including:

- Implementation of **independent audits** with the participation of civil society, academia, and technical experts.
- Improvement of **communication campaigns and citizen education** about the electronic voting system.
- **Strengthening measures to ensure the secrecy of the vote**, as a fundamental principle of suffrage.

As part of the launch, we shared the report with **18 public authorities**, including TSJE ministers, legislators, diplomatic representatives, and international organizations. Additionally, we disseminated it on social media and in the press, promoting an open and pluralistic debate.



This work was also a contribution to the **national and international election observation missions**, such as the EU, PARLASUR, SAKA, and Alma Cívica.

Training in the service of democracy

To deepen these debates, we designed and implemented the virtual course “**Technology and Elections**”, aimed at political leaders, authorities, public officials and people committed to strengthening democracy.

During five days, **the 50 people selected** participated in classes given by experts who addressed topics such as:

- Transformations of the Paraguayan electoral system.
- Usability and risks of electronic voting.
- Political propaganda in social media.
- Disinformation and political violence.
- Challenges for an ethical regulation of the electoral digital environment.

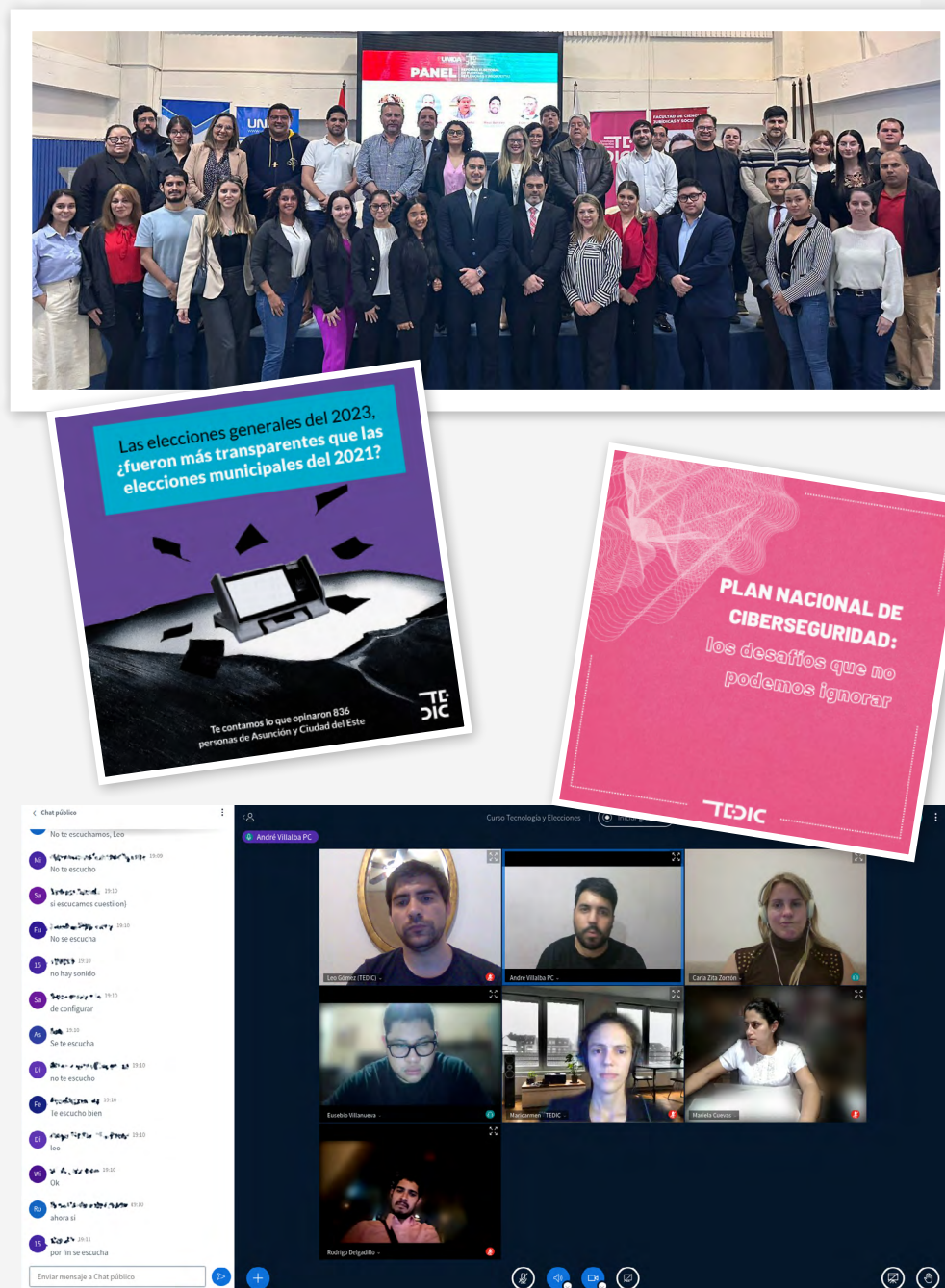
Among the speakers were Godofredo Fleitas, magistrate of the electoral jurisdiction; Mari-carmen Sequera, Mariela Cuevas, Eduardo Carrillo and Leonardo Gómez on behalf of TEDIC.

To close the course, we organized the panel “**Electoral reform at the door: reflections and proposals**”, held at UNIDA University and broadcast live. In this event we gathered political, academic and institutional key figures: Camilo Filártiga (IDEA International), Carlos Ljubetic (TSJE), Ever Villalba (National Senator) and Raúl Benítez (Congressman).

The meeting was attended by more than 50 people from different fields who discussed the challenges of an inclusive, transparent and digitally-adapted electoral reform.

In addition to the public debate, from TEDIC we requested formal meetings with the **TSJE Reform Commission**, where we presented **our concerns and recommendations**. From these meetings, a communication campaign emerged to inform citizens about the risks and opportunities of a new electoral reform.

We also analyzed the articles proposed in the reform promoted by the TSJE, linking them with the findings of our previous investigations of the series “Technology and Elections” which already has more than **15 releases**.



New research in the Technology and Elections series

During 2024 we added new studies to this series, reaffirming our commitment to a more transparent democracy with clear rules regarding the use of digital technologies in political campaigns.



PubliElectoral: transparency in digital advertising

The first of these investigations analyzed Facebook advertising during the 2023 electoral campaigns. It involved monitoring 164 accounts of candidates, parties and satellite accounts in the most populated departments of the country (Asunción, Central, Alto Paraná and Itapúa).

Among the findings, the scarce control over digital electoral propaganda is evident and reinforces the urgent need for clear and effective regulations.

The influence industry: political campaigns, digital platforms and advertising companies

In partnership with Berlin-based Tactical Tech, we developed the research [“The Influence Industry in Paraguayan Elections”](#), a policy brief that exposes how digital advertising companies operate and their role in political campaigns between 2021 and 2023.

We also presented this research in a virtual event organized together with **Semillas para la Democracia** and **Tactical Tech**, where we shared findings on political spending on social media and its effect on the electoral process. During the event, we exposed how various political actors manipulated public discourse through opaque and poorly monitored digital tools.

Both research papers are available in Spanish and English and were part of public events, debates and working groups on electoral reform, including formal contributions to the TSJE Reform Commission.

Power under the microscope: closing of Bootcamp 2023 and publication of the compendium of articles

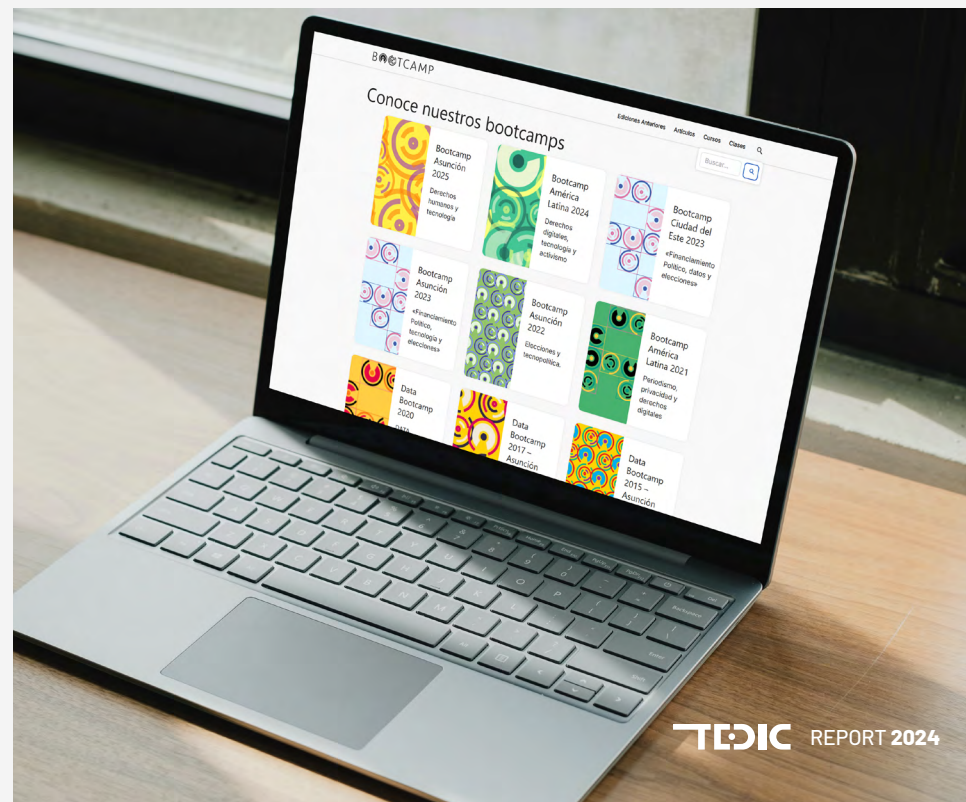
As part of our commitment to strengthening democracy through training, critical analysis and collaborative production of knowledge, TEDIC promoted during 2023 the **Bootcamp training cycle: Political finance, technology, data and elections**, developed in two editions and with a specific focus on **advocacy for electoral transparency, accountability and the use of social media during campaigns**.

To conclude this process, in 2024 we launched the compendium of articles [“Power under the microscope - Bootcamp 2023”](#), which gathers the publications developed throughout the Bootcamp, many of them replicated in media such as *Última Hora*, *El Urbano*, *El Nacional*, *Latitud 25*, *Quantico*, *NPY* and *El Puente*.

The event was attended by experts, journalists and civil society representatives who reflected on the lessons learned from the Bootcamp and discussed next steps to deepen citizen control over public authorities, political financing and the regulation of electoral discourse on digital platforms.

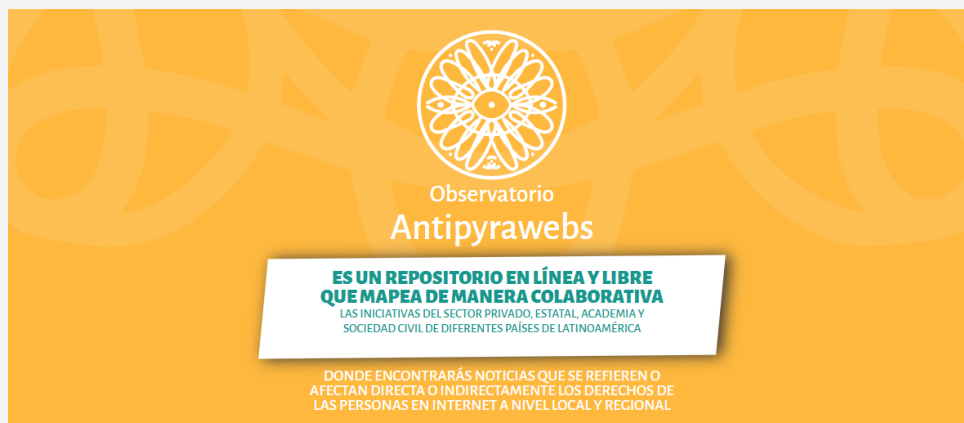
We also organized an event, together with Semillas para la Democracia, to launch the [new Bootcamp website](#) and to present the designed compendium that was given to all Bootcamp participants.

Everyone who visits the new website will be able to learn about the previous editions and even watch past course sessions asynchronously.



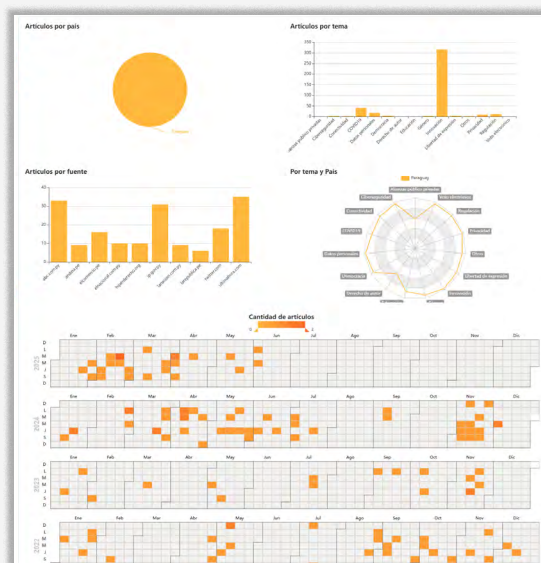
Antipyrwebs Observatory

From TEDIC we promote the [Antipyrwebs Observatory](#), an initiative of monitoring and analysis of media content focused on the intersection between technology, human rights and democracy. This observatory allows us to systematize and make visible how issues such as privacy, disinformation, technology-facilitated gender-based violence, state surveillance and freedom of expression are reflected in the press.



In 2024 we recorded a historic increase in monitoring, with **398 articles collected**—doubling the previous record of 195 in 2023 and quadrupling the annual average. This database, organized by theme and year, already has **more than 1,764 records across 13 categories**, and is a key source of analysis for our research, collaborations with international organizations and advocacy processes.

As every year, we also published an analysis of the monitored news coverage that we shared through a small campaign on social media to report on which were the most discussed and most widely disseminated topics in the different media outlets of the country.



Cybersecurity with a focus on human rights: contributions to the new National Strategy

In November 2024, MITIC opened the draft of the new National Cybersecurity Strategy for public consultation. From TEDIC, [we share a detailed document with recommendations](#) to improve the proposal from a human rights perspective.

Our main concern: the current approach prioritizes technical infrastructure but does not incorporate concrete measures to protect people, especially vulnerable groups such as journalists, women, activists or human rights defenders.

In order for these contributions to be more than just technical, we launched a communication campaign to explain, in a clear and simple way, why it is urgent to think about cybersecurity from a human rights perspective. With simple messages, we seek to bring more people closer to this key debate for the present and the digital future of Paraguay.





WORK & DIGITAL ECONOMY

#CollaborativeWork

#Advocacy

#Networks

At TEDIC we closely follow the growth of the platform economy in Paraguay and its multiple impacts on labor rights, privacy and social justice. This year, our actions focused on advocating both nationally and internationally to push for comprehensive, fair and rights-based regulation. We combined research, advocacy, strategic alliances and communication campaigns to highlight the precariousness of digital labor and propose concrete alternatives.

Towards a comprehensive regulation of the platform economy in Paraguay

As part of our participation in the international Fairwork network, we have been documenting working conditions on digital platforms in Paraguay since 2021. In 2022 we published the first national report, showing high levels of precariousness in transportation and delivery apps.

During 2024, we accompanied the legislative debate generated from the bill presented by congressmen Rodrigo Blanco and Pedro Gómez, which sought to regulate work on digital platforms. Although it has not yet been addressed, it opened a process of dialogue with institutions such as the Ministry of Labor, Employment and Social Security (MTESS) and the Ministry of Industry and Commerce (MIC), highlighting the urgency of a broader regulation that contemplates the voices of platform workers and their users.

In parallel, we conducted a [critical analysis of initiatives](#) such as the bill on **mandatory electronic identity for transportation platforms**, warning about its risks to privacy and cybersecurity. We also analyzed **Ordinance 17/24 of Ciudad del Este**, which imposes restrictive requirements on drivers, affecting the right to work. In both cases, we emphasized the need for inclusive, proportional and technically informed public policies.

At TEDIC, we maintain that these partial answers are not enough to regulate an ecosystem as complex as the platform economy. Therefore, we propose a **comprehensive and participatory** approach that addresses from safety to fair wages, including data protection, accessibility and freedom of association.



Paraguay in the global discussion on platform work at the International Labor Organization (ILO)

Aware that these issues are not exclusive to Paraguay, in 2024 we strengthened our **international advocacy** by actively participating in the [consultation process](#) opened by the International Labor Organization (ILO) in preparation for its 113th Conference in June 2025, where an international standard on decent work on digital platforms will be discussed.

In partnership with the **Central Unitaria de Trabajadores (CUT)**, **Kuña Pope** and the **Sindicato Nacional de Trabajadores Motociclistas (SINACTRAM)**, we collectively completed the official ILO questionnaire. This was developed with the support of the **International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC)** and the **ILAW network**, and highlights the precariousness of workers and users in the absence of a personal data protection law. With this action, we ensure that Paraguayan realities are represented in the global debate.



Looking ahead, we will work on a new national research using the Fairwork methodology, updating the information on working conditions on platforms and nurturing the public and political debate with evidence.



FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND FREE CULTURE

#Campaigns

#Advocacy

#Research

During 2024, TEDIC redoubled its efforts to defend freedom of speech against new forms of censorship and surveillance that threaten the rights of journalists, communicators and users of social media in Paraguay. Through research, legal actions and communication campaigns, we work to ensure that no law intended to protect rights becomes a tool to silence them.

Law 5777/16: research, cases and communication campaign

For some time we have been warning about the danger of fragmented legislation with the blog [“It’s time for a law on digital violence against women in Paraguay”](#). We raised there the need for a comprehensive regulation that effectively addresses gender-based digital violence, without falling into punitive mechanisms that affect freedom of speech.

This concern was deepened in February 2024, when we published a statement titled [“Concerns about the misrepresentation of Law 5777/16 in Paraguay”](#), where we systematized six court cases in which this law was used to restrict the critical expression of journalists and activists. Together with the Center for the Study of Freedom of Speech of the University of Palermo (CELE) of Argentina, we analyzed emblematic cases such as those of Mabel Portillo, Alfredo Guachiré and Christian Chena, showing how the law, which should function as a defense tool against all forms of violence against women, can become a double-edged sword if it is not considered in a comprehensive manner.



Continuing this work of case documentation, in May we launched the complete research [“Possible Distortions of Law 5777/16: Study of 6 legal cases”](#), published together with CELE with the support of the **National Endowment for Democracy (NED)**. This publication – translated into English and accompanied by a dissemination campaign with videos and outreach to public policy makers and members of state institutions– had a wide repercussion in national media, even reaching prime time television programs and also in international events as part of a regional trend analysis of misrepresentation and tensions between women’s rights and freedom of speech. The campaign facilitated public debate on how to protect women’s rights without compromising press freedom.

All these efforts were shared directly with **Pedro Vaca**, IACHR Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Speech, in a meeting led by attorney **Alejandra Peralta Merlo**. In that space, we presented our research and mapped cases, integrating them to the monitoring that RELE carries out on the impact of Law 5777/16 in Paraguay. This link strengthened our articulation with international human rights mechanisms and opened new channels of dialogue to continue promoting effective guarantees of freedom of speech.



Amicus curiae in the case Christian Chena vs. Gisele Mousques

In July 2024, TEDIC, together with CELE and Wikimedia Foundation, filed [an amicus curiae](#) to the Constitutional Chamber of the Supreme Court of Justice in the case Christian Chena vs. Gisele Mousques, as part of the litigation for critical publications that resulted in judicial restrictions.

This amicus aimed to provide a legal and human rights perspective to defend freedom of speech against the restrictive interpretation of Law 5777/16.

 [Amicus curiae in the case Christian Chena](#)



WOMEN'S RIGHTS ON THE INTERNET AND DIGITAL GENDER- BASED VIOLENCE

#Campaign

#Advocacy

#Research

Gender, sexual orientation, age, social class and other intersections continue to mark profound inequalities in access, use and experience of technology. While digital environments can offer opportunities for empowerment and political participation, they also reproduce - and often amplify - the structural violence faced by women, girls and TLGBIQ+ people.

Throughout 2024, TEDIC worked on multiple fronts to raise awareness and combat technology-facilitated gender-based violence (TFGBV), promote public policies with a rights-based approach, and advocate both locally and internationally with concrete proposals that emerge from the Global South.

Data, definitions and collective action to combat gender-based violence facilitated by technology

Between August 2023 and May 2024, TEDIC was part of the international project “Better Data”, promoted by the World Wide Web Foundation through the Women’s Rights Online (WRO) network. This project aimed to close information gaps on online gender-based violence (GBV) through two key lines of research: one on who the perpetrators of this violence are, and the other on how its multiple forms are defined and manifested.

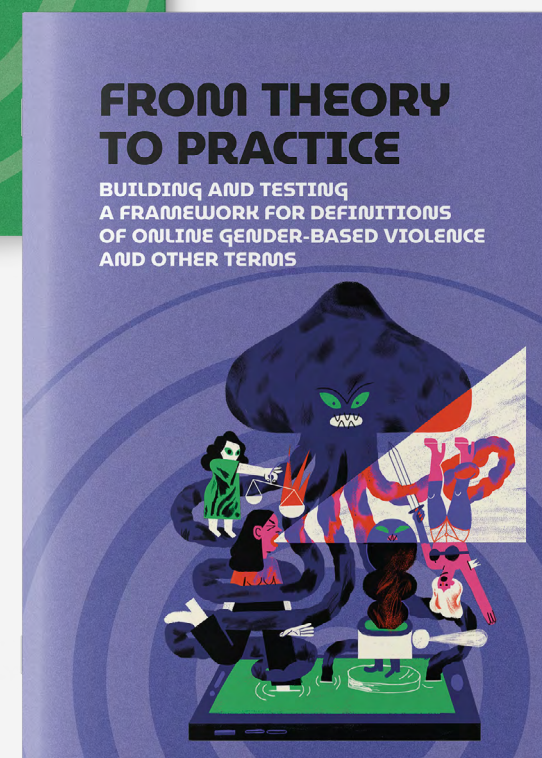
 [The project “Better data” and its methodologies](#)

TEDIC led this process in Paraguay together with partner organizations from Latin America, Africa and Europe, such as Pollicy, Sula Batsú, Fundación Karisma, WOUG-NET, Media Foundation for West Africa, HOPE for Mozambique and Pen to Paper, with the methodological support of Social Finance (UK).

During the project, eight working meetings were held, including three Technology Policy Design Labs (TPDL) and two multi-stakeholder round tables, in English and Spanish. These meetings were organized virtually and in face-to-face formats (including a session during CSW68 in New York), with a diverse participation of governmental, academic, private sector and civil society stakeholders, with a strong presence from the Global South.

The launch of the products was accompanied by an international communication campaign in partnership with the participating organizations. TEDIC translated materials into Spanish, designed visual materials and disseminated the findings both in Paraguay and in regional and international networks.

We also sent the results to bodies such as the PREVIM roundtable and the Ministry of Women, and presented them during CSW68 in New York, where we shared the implications of the project before an audience of decision-makers and digital and gender rights advocates.



Technology-facilitated gender-based violence against women politicians in Paraguay

During 2024, TEDIC promoted one of the most relevant investigations on **technology-facilitated gender-based violence (TFGBV)** in the Paraguayan political sphere. The study, entitled “[Technology-facilitated gender violence against women politicians in Paraguay](#)”, aimed to highlight how the digital environment has become a hostile space for women who exercise political leadership, amplifying traditional forms of violence and profoundly affecting their right to participation and freedom of speech.

Through interviews and focus groups with women from the Executive, Judicial and Legislative branches, we explored how online violence manifests itself and is confronted within the political sphere.

We identified **8 common types of technology-facilitated violence**, such as coordinated harassment, doxing, misinformation and non-consensual dissemination of intimate images, perpetrated by actors such as political rivals, trolls, bots, media and anti-rights groups.

Among the most alarming consequences, **self-censorship** was highlighted as a defense mechanism, weakening the political exercise of women and, consequently, the quality of our democracy.

Meeting with women politicians: Dialogue, reflection and proposals

On October 16, **we launched the research** at the Juan de Salazar Cultural Center, with the participation of more than **50 women** from the political, academic, social and media spheres. Authorities such as the Spanish ambassador, Carmen Castiella Ruiz de Velasco, and figures such as senator Blanca Ovelar, former senator Kattya González, former minister Lorena Segovia, journalist Menchi Barriocanal, congresswoman Johanna Ortega and peasant leader Teodolina Villalba were present.

The event was an intergenerational meeting space to discuss the research findings, share personal experiences and think about joint strategies to mitigate digital violence and strengthen the presence of women in politics.



The launch was accompanied by a **comprehensive communication campaign**, which included:

- **Three videos:** two with testimonies of women politicians and one summarizing the launch event.
- **Four informative carousels** on social media with key data, types of violence and recommendations.
- **A research blog**, a launch newsletter and a press release.
- **Multi-channel dissemination** on Instagram, X, LinkedIn, WhatsApp, Telegram, Facebook and TikTok.
- **Personalized distribution via email** of the research to more than 60 political actors and decision-makers.

The campaign generated great media impact and served to strengthen alliances with political representatives, women's organizations, journalists and human rights defenders.

Human trafficking and ICTs in Paraguay

During 2024, TEDIC developed pioneering research on the role of digital technologies in the processes of recruitment and exploitation of victims of human trafficking in Paraguay. In a context where social media, messaging and digital platforms are reshaping the forms of violence, this research seeks to produce data to understand and highlight a growing phenomenon: [trafficking facilitated by technology \(TFT\)](#).

We set out to better understand how recruitment networks operate in digital environments, what technologies they use, what strategies they apply, and how they interact with the social and territorial conditions that facilitate them.



Methodology: legal mapping, literature review and key interviews

The study was developed with a mixed methodological approach that combined:

- **Literature and media review** between 2020 and 2024.
- **Analysis of the current legal framework** in Paraguay.
- **Exploratory interviews and requests for access to public information** to institutions such as the Public Ministry, National Police, Migration, Ministry of Women's Affairs, MINNA and key stakeholders such as APRAMP (Spain) and the Trust & Safety area of Meta.

This fieldwork phase was possible thanks to the collaboration with the organization **Luna Nueva**, and made it possible to identify **institutional limitations**, gaps in official data and new modalities of victim recruitment in the digital environment.

🔍 Main findings

- ICTs –especially Facebook and WhatsApp– are used to gain the trust of potential victims through false job promises, misleading offers or emotional bonds that derive in digital extortion (sextortion) or direct recruitment. Platforms such as TikTok, Discord and OnlyFans are also emerging.
- Women, girls and adolescents in situations of socioeconomic vulnerability continue to be the main victims. An increase in cases involving adolescents and adult males for labor exploitation was also documented.
- The institutions consulted lack disaggregated information on the use of technologies in trafficking cases, hindering accurate diagnoses and evidence-based public policies.
- The current regulatory framework does not adequately address digital dynamics. Technology eliminates traditional stages of the crime (such as physical transfer), which requires redefining trafficking from a more updated logic.

8M and 25N: feminist action from the streets to the networks

In 2024, our actions were deployed both in the streets and in the digital space, strengthening networks, creating alliances and making technology-facilitated violence visible from an intersectional and territorial approach.

8M: We boarded the purple ship!

During the month of March, we actively joined the **Paraguayan 8M** with a diverse agenda that included participation in plenary sessions of the **Articulación Feminista del Paraguay**, fairs, mingas, workshops and a large mobilization in Asunción.

- At [Kuñanguéra Aty Guasu](#), we met with women from all over the country to share strategies of resistance and collectively build horizons of feminist justice.
- In alliance with Colectiva Robusta and the Juan de Salazar Cultural Center, we organized the [Feminist Minga](#), where more than 50 activists designed fanzines about their struggles, which we then shared over a round of tereré.
- We participated in the [8M fair and march](#), raising visibility for our campaigns on Feminist Internet and Cyborg feminism, offering digital security resources and merch with our own identity.
- We mapped our actions on the **feminist map of GeoChicas**, and participated in the **Tech Women Conversation** organized by Penguin Academy, generating dialogue between women who challenge the tech world.



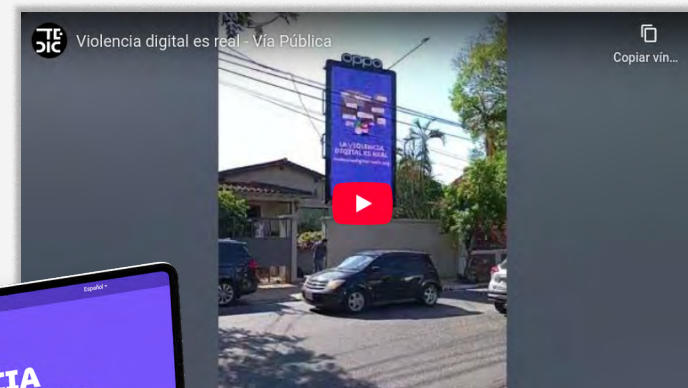
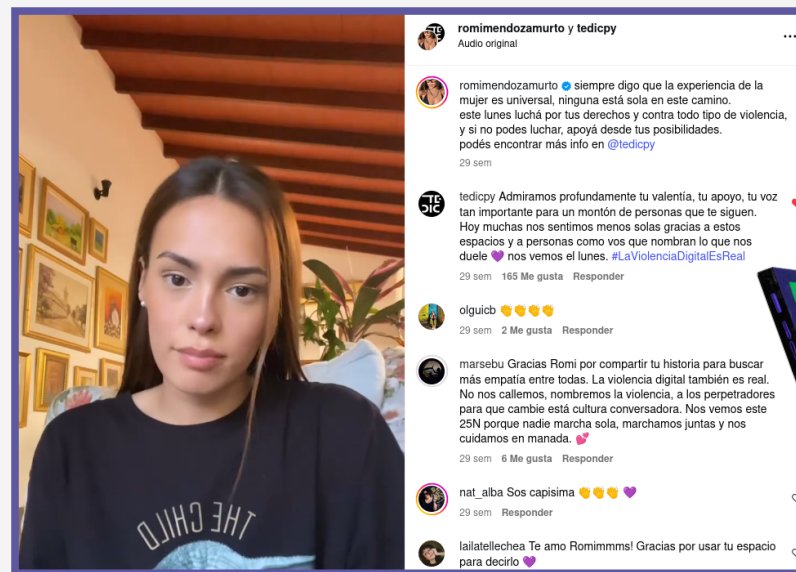
📢 25N: Digital violence is real

Under the slogan “[Digital violence is real](#)”, we took our campaign out of the social media and took it to the march, the street and other spaces:

- We actively participated in the [Feminist Coalition of Paraguay](#), contributing to the elaboration of the 25N manifesto and joining the march with banners, digital security guide-hand fans, stickers with QR and messages denouncing violence.
- We conducted a **digital security workshop with Kuña Sorora and Sununu** at the UNA (National University of Asuncion), where we trained 16 women on how to protect their devices during protests, and together we made posters for the mobilization.
- **We took the campaign to the streets**, occupying five strategic points in Asunción with posters and digital screens. This deployment generated more than **496,000 monthly impacts** and a **130% increase in traffic to our website**.
- We produced and disseminated a **video together with members of the PREVIM Board and the Ministry of Women**, in which we shared tools for prevention and defense against digital violence.
- We worked with influencers who shared their experiences and amplified the reach of the campaign.
- [The website was updated](#) with new inputs such as an update on the types of violence, the intersectionality of violence, types of perpetrators, important international milestones on gender-based violence facilitated by technology and the global trend, as well as the human rights affected by this type of violence.

The response was immediate: hundreds of people recognized our campaign in the streets and replicated it in social media, reaffirming the urgency of including **digital violence in the national feminist agenda**.

Both dates consolidated our **digital feminist action** approach, rooted in the territory, anchored in alliances and with real impact on public policies. Because at TEDIC we know that networks -social and human- can be tools for transformation if they are crossed by the struggle for equity.



Women's political participation in the OAS

As part of our agenda to strengthen women's political participation and promote more inclusive democratic systems, we actively participated in the **Workshop on recommendations of the OAS Electoral Observation Missions (EOMs) in Paraguay**, held on November 12 and 13. This event gathered representatives of the **TSJE, Ministry of Women, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Honorable Congress of the Nation, OAS** and representatives of international cooperation from Italy.

In addition, we shared with authorities and institutional allies our most recent research on political violence against women in digital environments, delivering **two printed copies to DECO/OAS representatives** as a contribution to the debate from civil society.

This space was key to reaffirm our commitment to the articulation between public and civil actors, and to the promotion of evidence-based public policies that guarantee the full and safe **participation of women at all levels of the democratic system**.



Collection of All Male Panels and new cycle of publications on Cyborgweb

Since 2017, we have been documenting and highlighting the existence of [all male panels](#) in Paraguay – panels composed only of men – a global initiative that exposes, with humor and a lot of irony, the persistent absence of women in spaces of discussion, decision and knowledge production. Yes, we are talking about those seminars, congresses, round tables, launches and events where all the “experts” are men. Sound familiar?

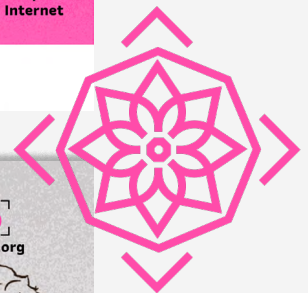
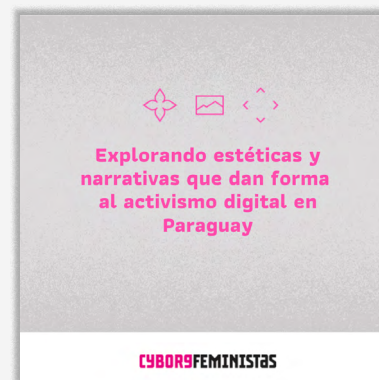
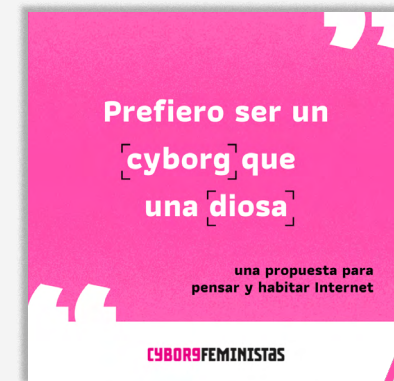
Like the original project, we adopted as our visual seal the incomparable David Hasselhoff, icon of the Baywatch series, who embodies like no one else that ridiculous ideal of the male hero: muscular, serious, professional savior and absolutely omnipresent. A perfect caricature to identify those events where they talk about EVERYTHING... except diversity.

📅 In 2024 we collected [83 new all male panels](#), surpassing the 1,200 images archived since 2017. These panels are shared weekly on social media and are systematized on our **Cyborg Feminist website**, where you can also see the complete collection and browse by year, sector and theme.



But we didn't stop there. In 2024 we also redesigned the [Cyborg Feminist website](#) with usability and privacy-by-design criteria. We improved navigation, renewed the aesthetics, reorganized all the resources on gender, technology and digital rights and **added four new technofeminist articles**, consolidating the site as a reference space for technofeminism from Paraguay and the Global South:

- [Technology and power: cyborg feminism as an exercise of autonomy from the South](#), by Maricarmen Sequera
- [Cyborgfeminism as a proposal to think about and inhabit the Internet](#), by Jessica Pereira
- [Chiques thing: exploring inclusive aesthetics and narratives shaping digital activism in Paraguay](#), by Jazmín Ruíz Díaz
- [Sexting as a right and StopNCII.org as a tool](#), by Lía Rodríguez





DIGITAL SECURITY FOR JOURNALISTS AND HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS

#Campaign

#Advocacy

#Research

In a country where attacks on activists, journalists and critical organizations are on the rise, strengthening collective digital security is an urgent strategy to sustain struggles and resistance from the territories. At TEDIC, we remain committed to a defense of human rights that is also built in digital spaces: with shared knowledge, careful practices and free technologies.

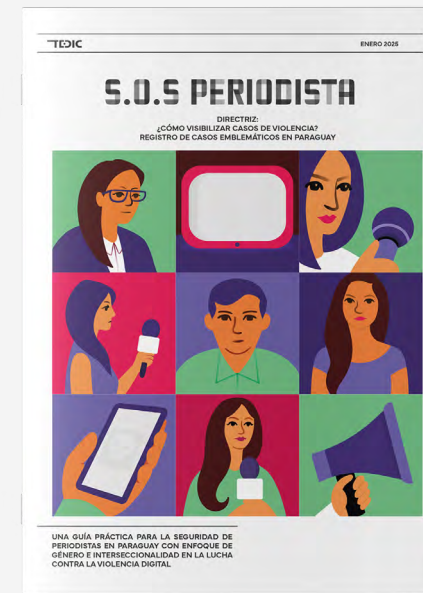
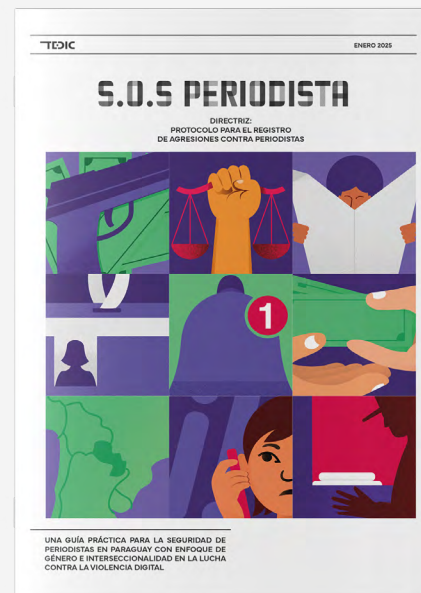
S.O.S Journalist: Training and digital protection with a feminist approach

In a context of increasing hostility towards the press and journalists, TEDIC continued its project **S.O.S Journalist - Towards a feminist approach of digital security**, a project that focuses on the defense of journalists and communicators in Paraguay. Throughout 2024, this initiative combined **training, practical tools and territorial accompaniment** to strengthen the capacity to respond to physical and digital threats faced especially by women journalists and communicators from diverse communities.

Based on the development of a **national training strategy** that combined **virtual and face-to-face formats**, we achieved a wide and decentralized reach that included:

- The **virtual course “S.O.S Journalist”**, held between September 20 and 27, had more than **180 applications and 110 people selected** from all over the country, including participants from rural areas and Uruguay. The training included six intensive days, with internationally renowned speakers such as **Eliezer Budasoff (Radio Ambulante)**, **Natalia Zuazo (UNESCO)**, **Phineas Rueckert (Forbidden Stories)**, **Maricarmen Sequera** and local journalists such as **Susana Oviedo**.
- In addition, we held **in-person workshops in Asunción, Encarnación and Ciudad del Este**, focused on **digital security, fact checking, situational analysis and source protection**. These spaces allowed a direct exchange with local journalists, addressing the specific challenges they face in their cities.

👤 In these workshops we issued more than **200 certificates of participation**, reinforcing the commitment of those who completed the training with updated security tools and protocols.



Bootcamp 2024 - Latin America: Digital Rights, technology and activism

The ninth edition of the bootcamp and second in Latin America. [And each time, with more impact.](#) In 2024, in TEDIC we organized for the ninth consecutive year our Bootcamp on technology, human rights and activism. This edition once again crossed borders and was projected at a regional level, consolidating the **Bootcamp Latin America 2024** as a space for training, knowledge production and articulation for journalists and activists from all over the region.

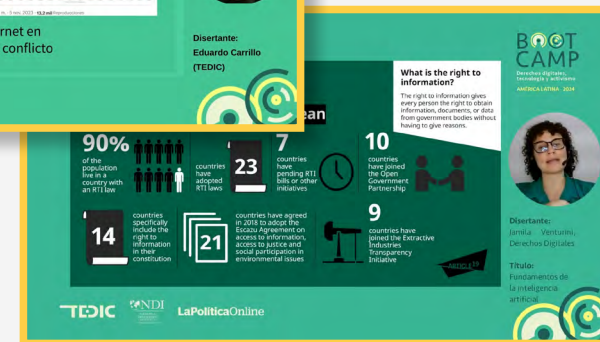
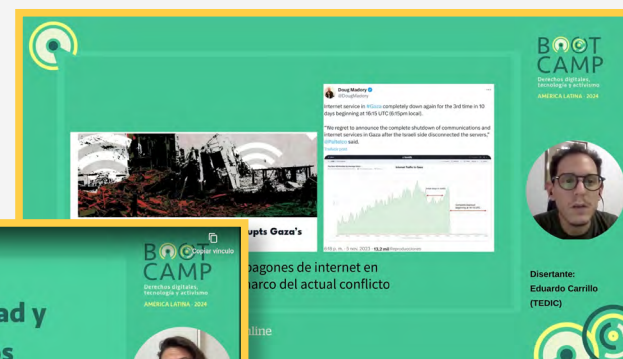
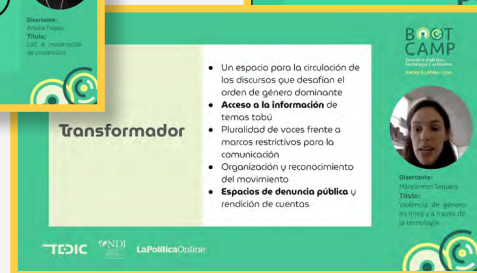
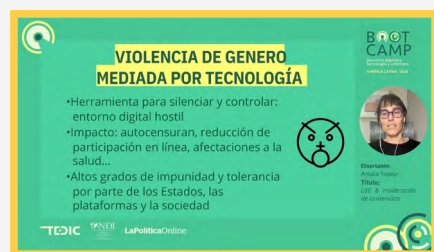
Since its launch in April 2024, this training cycle - organized by TEDIC in partnership with La Política Online and with the support of the National Democratic Institute (NDI) - aimed to provide a **comprehensive understanding of the intersection between human rights and information and communication technologies (ICTs).**

The program ran from May to June and included nine asynchronous classes and **nine live sessions** with subject matter experts. The training covered urgent and strategic topics: privacy, content moderation, Internet outages, disinformation, artificial intelligence, digital security, environmental activism, algorithmic censorship and online gender-based violence. The classes were led by an outstanding group of instructors:

- Veridiana Alimonti (EFF),
- Amalia Toledo (Wikimedia),
- Jamila Venturini (Derechos Digitales),
- Maximiliano Manzoni (Oxford Climate Journalism Network)
- Patricio Porta (La Política Online)
- and key members of the TEDIC team: Maricarmen Sequera, Eduardo Carrillo, Araceli Ramírez, LuPa Alonzo

The interest of people exceeded our expectations: we received **120 applications** from all over Latin America and the Caribbean. We finally selected **10 participants** from **nine countries**, prioritizing geographic diversity and diversity of experiences in activism and digital journalism:

- 🇵🇪 Perú: Angela Meza
- 🇸🇵 Bolivia: Kosset Mamani
- 🇺🇾 Paraguay: Alma Areco
- 🇦🇷 Argentina: Noelia Gómez
- 🇲🇽 México: Natalia Ruiz y Alma Zamora
- 🇻🇪 Venezuela: Katherine Pennacchio
- 🇨🇺 Cuba: Kianay Pérez
- 🇨🇱 Chile: Matías González
- 🇪🇨 Ecuador: Alfredo Velazco



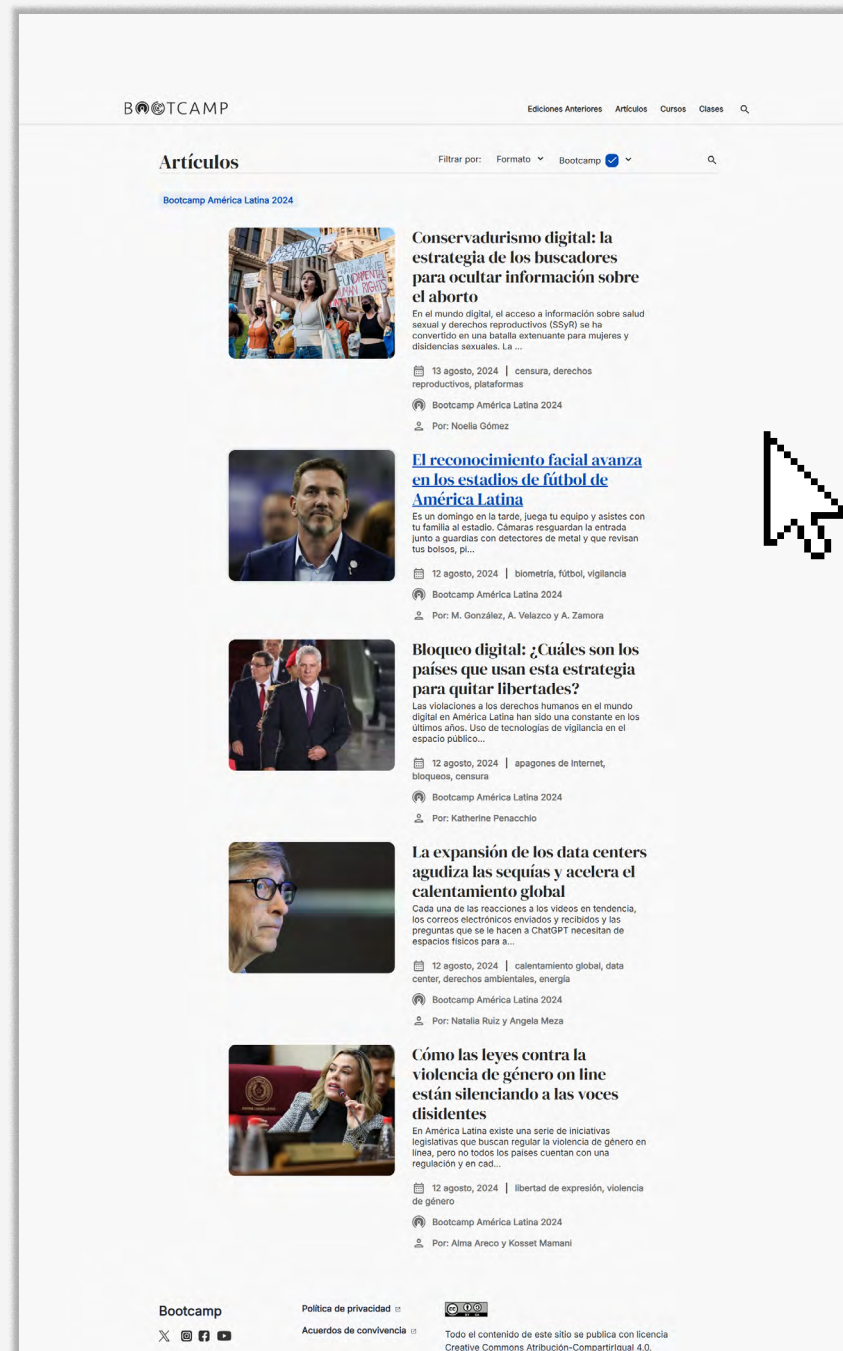


After the training phase, we developed a mentorship program to support the production of **five collaborative articles**, providing editorial guidance and style review for their final publication. Each group worked with the support of mentors from the TEDIC team and strategic allies.

The articles that resulted from this edition are:

- [“Digital conservatism”](#) – censorship on reproductive health in search engines (Noelia Gómez).
- [Facil recognition in stadiums](#) – its advance as a massive security measure (Matías González, Alfredo Velazco, Alma Zamora).
- [Digital extractivism](#) – environmental impacts of data centers and cryptocurrency mining (Natalia Ruiz, Angela Meza).
- [Digital blocking](#) – as a mechanism of censorship and repression (Katherine Pennacchio).
- [Misapplied laws](#) – digital gender-based violence used as a censorship tool (Alma Areco, Kosset Mamani).

This edition of the Bootcamp not only trained a new generation of digital advocates, but also consolidated a regional articulation network, strengthened critical journalism and produced valuable and public knowledge for the entire region.



Digital security for human rights organizations and defenders


During 2024, in TEDIC we reinforced our mission to accompany activists, journalists, social organizations and communities in strengthening their digital security. In an increasingly challenging context for those who defend human rights, we conducted **22 digital security workshops and finished complete processes of organizational security (ORGSEC)** with two partner organizations, reaching more than **962 people trained**, adapting the workshops according to the threat model.


We implemented workshops in Asunción, Ciudad del Este, Encarnación, Caaguazú and other locations, with a methodological approach based on adversary analysis and threat models. We adapted each space to the specific realities, resources and risks of each community.


These meetings lasted between two and four hours and were attended by feminist defenders, journalists, health right activists, students and civil society organizations.





Some of the most important milestones:

 **Workshop on disinformation and fact-checking on Journalist's Day**, featuring speakers from Access Now and specialists in digital narratives.


 **Workshops with feminist organizations** such as CONAMURI, CLADEM, Sintradespy and rural women from AMUCAP, in alliance with Casa de la Mujer of Bañado Sur.


 **Training in Encarnación and Itapúa** with organizations such as Kuña Róga, La Poderosa and Universitarias Feministas de Itapúa.

 **Workshops with journalists** at the Universidad del Norte and with the Union of Journalists of Paraguay (SPP) in Encarnación and Ciudad del Este.

 **Workshop with students** of the Faculty of Social Sciences of the UNA with a focus on digital gender-based violence.

 **Specific trainings** for groups such as Feipar, Fundación Vencer and activists at the Comunera University.

 In the framework of **25N**, we conducted a workshop with Kuña Sorora and Sununu that included creative activities and a joint march for an Internet free of violence.

 In all these spaces we work with pre- and post-tests to measure the impact of the trainings, and we shared technical advice for account recovery in Meta and TikTok.

Organizational safety protocols (ORGSEC)

In addition to the workshops, during 2024 we initiated complete organizational safety processes with a SAFETAG approach in two social organizations, supporting them in developing internal **protocols and policies adapted to their reality**.

- **Kuña Poty** – Ciudad del Este

Feminist organization working for women's human rights. The process included: risk analysis, digital security workshops, design of internal manual, policies and protocols, as well as implementation of concrete tools. The accompaniment lasted 6 months and will continue in 2025 to consolidate the implementation.

- **Alma Cívica** – Asunción

Organization dedicated to promote a participatory democracy and with a human rights perspective. The process replicated the same model: audit, co-design of digital security policies and workshops with the entire team. The result was the adoption of sustainable practices to protect their work from surveillance and public exposure.

- **CODEHUPY (Human Rights Coordinator of Paraguay)** - Asunción

An organization that brings together several Paraguayan civil society organizations that work in the promotion and defense of human rights. It coordinates actions, prepares reports and carries out advocacy to make rights violations visible and promote public policies based on human rights.

- **Enfoque Niñez** – Asunción

This is an initiative or program focused on promoting and protecting the rights of children and adolescents in Paraguay, prioritizing their well-being, active participation and comprehensive development in all areas, especially in vulnerable contexts.


All the organizations concluded the year with **internal manuals and institutional policies on digital security**, strengthening the capacities of approximately **20 team members**. These materials remain as confidential documents for use within each organization.


Trusted Partner: direct assistance in critical digital security cases


We also strengthened our digital protection work for human rights defenders through 14 specialized advisories on account recovery and mitigation of digital attacks, within the framework of our alliance as a **Trusted Partner** of Meta and TikTok.


This strategic collaboration positions us as the only organization in Paraguay with a direct response channel to incidents that affect the digital integrity of journalists, activists, community leaders and civil society organizations.

During the year, we provided assistance in 14 critical situations, which included:

 Six cases of human rights activists, including women and people from the LGBTIQ+ community.

 Four cases linked to journalists and press unions, in a context of increasing digital harassment in Paraguay.

 Two cases related to cultural and artistic organizations whose accounts were stolen and used maliciously.

 Two additional interventions for phishing attacks and unauthorized disclosure of personal data.

We will continue to strengthen this rapid attention channel, supporting and training more defenders in the safe use of digital platforms, because we firmly believe that digital security is also a form of resistance and collective care.

Cybersecurity Week: autonomy, collective care and digital defense

In a world where technology permeates every aspect of our lives, cybersecurity is no longer a technical issue but a tool for empowerment. Aware of this scenario, in October 2024 in TEDIC we organized for the first time [the Cybersecurity Week](#), a proposal to address these issues from an accessible, intersectional and collective perspective.

For three days, the Juan de Salazar Cultural Center was transformed into a meeting place for more than 90 people, including activists, journalists, students, representatives of public institutions and civil society.

The proposal was structured with participatory activities, high-level panels and practical workshops focused on the defense of rights in digital environments. From the first day, the focus was on thinking about cybersecurity not only as a defense against threats, but also as a practice of collective care and technological sovereignty, especially in the face of the expansion of the surveillance industry, the use of spyware and invasive technologies.



Day 1 - Collective strategy and digital defense

On Tuesday, October 29, we kicked off the week with the launch of the research on cybersecurity in human rights defenders in Paraguay. We had the outstanding participation of Paula Berruti, human rights officer of the Regional Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Dante Leguizamón from Codehupy, and Mariela Cuevas from TEDIC. They analyzed the growing risks for those who defend human rights in the digital environment.

That same day, we hosted a fair of technologies for digital defense and a panel on current events in cybersecurity, with referents from the public, private and civil society sectors. Participants:

- Diana Valdez (MITIC) presenting the National Cybersecurity Strategy 2024-2028,
- Raúl Querey (Internet Society - Paraguay Chapter) addressing privacy and encryption issues,
- Paola Brizuela (BTC Consulting) sharing digital self-protection tools,


And the TEDIC team presented for the first time in Paraguay two outstanding open source tools from Internews' INSIGHTFUL project: PiRogue Tool Suite and Wazuh, oriented to the digital defense of civil society organizations.

These tools, known as [Blue Team Tools](#), make it possible to monitor threats, detect risks in real time and protect devices and networks, especially in vulnerable contexts. Their use strengthens organizational resilience and builds security culture from a community and free logic.



Day 2 - Technology, mental health and self-care

On Wednesday, October 30, the day focused on the emotional impact of the intensive use of technology. An open workshop was held with interventions by Maricarmen Sequera, presenting resources from the Mind Online campaign, Raquel Samudio from a psychiatric perspective, and Montserrat Vera from Psicofem, who shared practical tools from feminist psychology.

 In this space, we reflected on technostress, the anxiety generated by hyperconnectivity and the importance of incorporating emotional care as part of our digital security. It was a key moment to understand that protecting ourselves online is also taking care of ourselves offline.



Day 3 - Cybersecurity and journalism

On Thursday 31 we closed the week with a focus on the role of journalism and the protection of sources in surveillance contexts. In conjunction with the SSP, we presented a set of intersectional gender guidelines for the digital protection of journalists, developed by TEDIC with active participation of the guild.

The guidelines addressed:

- Protection against organized crime (Maricarmen Sequera and LuPa Alonzo),
- Documentation of attacks on journalists (Ruth Benítez, SPP),
- Highlighting of emblematic cases (Lourdes Cano and Montserrat Berro, SPP),
- Litigation with a gender perspective (Alejandro Vera).

The day ended with a practical workshop led by TEDIC's technical team, providing concrete tools to protect journalists' information, devices and networks from risks in the exercise of their work.



Cybersecurity for human rights defenders


In a regional context marked by violence, state control and surveillance technologies, the defense of human rights faces growing threats in the digital environment. To shed light on these issues, TEDIC is promoting two key products in 2024:


- [A national research on cybersecurity](#) and human rights defenders in Paraguay.
- [A regional comparative report](#) between Paraguay and Colombia, prepared together with the Karisma Foundation and with the support of Digital Defenders.

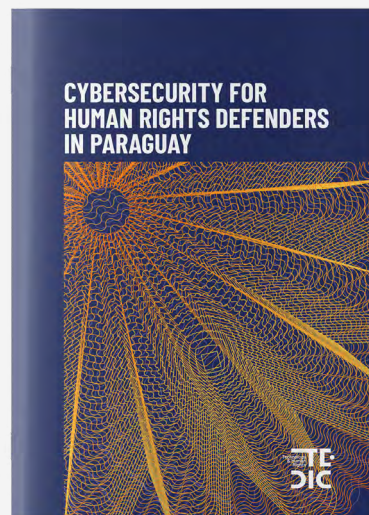
Both works reflect our commitment to strengthening digital capacities and designing protection strategies that respond to local and regional realities.

National research on cybersecurity of human rights defenders in Paraguay

This research marks a milestone as the **first national baseline on cybersecurity and digital risks** faced by human rights defenders in Paraguay. Through a mixed approach, 130 surveys and key informant interviews were conducted with the support of the Human Rights Coordinator of Paraguay (CODEHUPY).


 **Main objective:** to analyze the practices, threats, weaknesses and strengths regarding the digital security of those who defend rights in the country, in a context of increasing digitalization and criminalization of activism.

 The research highlights a **large knowledge gap on digital protection measures**, evidencing the urgent need for training, organizational protocols and technical and legal support networks.



Paraguay-Colombia comparative report: cross-learning on digital security

In parallel, we developed a comparative report between Paraguay and Colombia, together with the Karisma Foundation, in order to understand similarities and divergences in the digital security conditions faced by defenders in both countries.

 Main findings of the comparative report:

- **Geographical differences:** the Paraguayan study focused on urban areas, while the Colombian study prioritized rural areas.
- **Similarity in risks:** both groups face privacy attacks, misuse of their data, digital harassment and targeted surveillance.
- **Complementary approaches:** Paraguay focuses on diagnosing exposure to risks and response capacities; Colombia explores how defenders appropriate technologies and adapt them to their contexts.
- **Structural gaps:** both countries share a low access to safe infrastructure, lack of specific public policies and scarce articulation between the State and civil society to face these threats.

This report provides key evidence for designing regional digital security strategies, adapted to diverse contexts, but connected by the same urgency: to protect those who fight for human rights from all fronts, including digital environments.



#StrategicAlliances

INTERNATIONAL & NATIONAL ADVOCACY

During this period, TEDIC participated in 124 national and international events, strengthening its local and global advocacy with the aim of protecting and promoting human rights in digital environments. Our work included 23 concrete national advocacy actions – from meetings with Congress, the TSJE and Ministries, to strategic alliances with State institutions – and presence in 26 key international spaces, including the UN, the OAS, MERCOSUR, LACIGF and the OECD.

National advocacy: between meetings, alliances and concrete proposals

At the national level, we carried out **23 advocacy actions**, including meetings with state authorities, participation in inter-institutional spaces and public events. During this period, we held meetings with representatives of the TSJE, the Ministry of Women, the National Competition Commission (CONACOM) and members of the Science and Technology Commission of the Chamber of Deputies. We also held at least 12 regular meetings with CODEHUPY, as part of our commitment to sustained coordination with other human rights organizations.

Among the most important activities, we participated in the Symposium “Violence against women in Paraguay: making it visible with data” organized by UCOM, the International Seminar on human trafficking in Asunción, the Panel on electoral reform at UNIDA and the Workshop on digital literacy in Asunción.

During this period, we also promoted our own advocacy activities, such as the EmpowerDATA event in Ciudad del Este, discussions on migrant voting and electoral reform, workshops on political disinformation, meetings with journalists on freedom of speech, and training forums on technology and elections. These actions allowed us to bring our content closer to different sectors, build new alliances and make our proposals visible in local media outlets.



Outstanding international advocacy

Our international advocacy reached **26 multilateral spaces**, including the UN, OAS, MERCOSUR, UNESCO, OECD, the Summit of the Future, and various Internet governance forums. We made concrete contributions to rapporteurships, consultations, technical roundtables and high-level conferences, positioning the challenges of Paraguay and Latin America on issues such as artificial intelligence, digital platforms, privacy, gender and democracy.

Among the most relevant events we highlight:

- **UN - Summit of the Future and Global Digital Compact (GDC):** We raised the perspective of the Global South on human rights, artificial intelligence and the digital divide, participating in side events, presenting contributions and strengthening strategic alliances with other organizations.
- **OAS - 54th General Assembly:** We participated in panels on digital rights, delivered key research on freedom of speech to Rapporteur Pedro Vaca and joined the WiCE network to strengthen cybersecurity with a gender focus.
- **NGO CSW68 - New York:** We co-organized two international events on online gender-based violence with platforms such as Meta and Google, positioning our research on perpetrators and mitigation tools.
- **LACIGF 17 - Santiago de Chile:** We participated in the Workshop Selection Committee and multiple panels on gender, digital governance and evaluation of Internet universality indicators.
- **NetMundial+10 and G20 - São Paulo:** We contributed to the drafting of a global roadmap on Internet governance, strengthening the participation of Latin American civil society.
- **Consultation with the Rapporteur for Freedom of Speech (IACHR):** we raised concerns about the regressive use of Law 5777/16.
- **31st World Press Freedom Conference - Santiago de Chile:** we advocate for a fair regulation of digital platforms.
- **ILDA Forum on AI:** we presented the Paraguayan case and proposed guidelines from the South.
- **EU-LAC Week on digital regulation - Santiago:** we contributed to the bi-regional roadmap on AI.

- **Global Digital Compact - UN:** we brought the voice of AISur to the Summit of the Future to demand digital principles that include the reality of the Global South.
- **GNI Learning Forum - Washington D.C.:** we participated in key debates on governmental demands, digital rights and corporate responsibility.

During the year we also:

- Contributed to the **UN Global Digital Compact** and signed the **Civil Society Joint Brief** with concerns from civil society.
- Actively participated in AISur, signing the **Open Letter on the International Convention on Cybercrime**.
- Added our voice to the call in defense of civic space in Venezuela and to **the Call to Action on Information Integrity in the AI Era**.
- Contributed to the **OECD recommendation on information integrity** and participated in the **Civil Society Forum on Autonomous Weapons**.

Contributions to rapporteurships and statements:

- **Freedom of Speech Rapporteurship of the IACHR - OAS:** In April, TEDIC participated in an official consultation to warn about the misuse of Law 5777/16 in Paraguay.
- **UN and OECD:** We contributed to consultations on information integrity, AI and digital rights

Statements signed:

- Civil Society Joint Brief on the UN Global Digital Compact
- AISur Open Letter on the International Convention on Cybercrime
- Global call on the closure of civic space in Venezuela
- Call to Action on Information Integrity in the AI Era



COMMUNITY & VOLUNTEERING

#Feminisms
#TLGBIQ+Community
#SafeParties
#Networks

At TEDIC, we believe that building a safe digital community is not only about technical protocols, but also about bonds, spaces of trust and collective celebration. During 2024, we promoted territorial actions that connect the defense of digital rights with everyday life, music, art, memory and the struggle for a more just environment. Throughout the year, we organized and participated in key spaces to share knowledge, offer tools and strengthen collective care in digital environments.



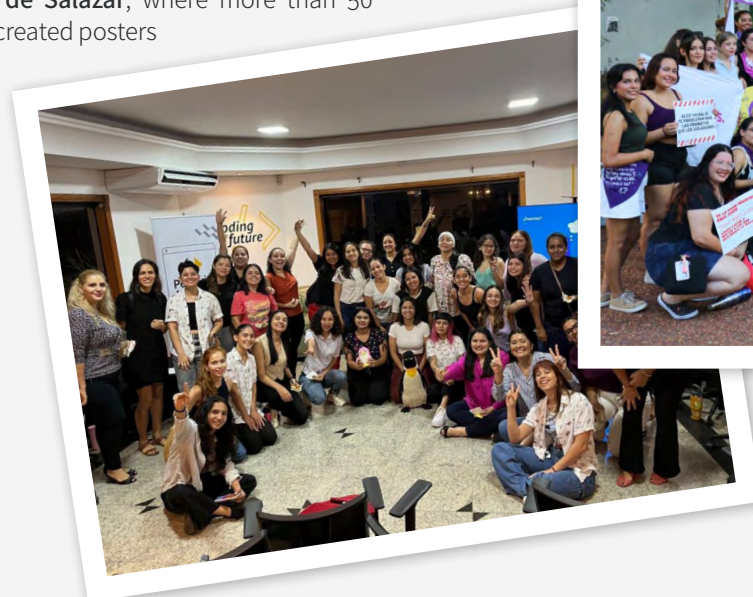
Crypto Summit of the South

In February, we participated in the [3rd edition of the Southern Crypto Summit](#) in Ciudad del Este, where we shared with the tech and blockchain community our focus on the impact of cryptocurrencies in the environment and data protection. We presented resources from the My Data My Rights campaign, informative postcards and recommendations on how to navigate this digital ecosystem with a critical eye from the Global South.



Feminist presence in the 8M: fair, minga and march

[March was synonymous with sorority, memory and collective struggle.](#) As part of #8M we participated in the **fair at Plaza Uruguaya**, where we set up a booth with our cyborgfeminist merch and cybersecurity resources for activists. We also promoted a creative minga together with **Colectiva Robusta** and **Juan de Salazar**, where more than 50 activists designed fanzines, shared tereré and created posters with messages about safe sexting, the right to technology and daily resistances. We closed the day marching together with women from all territories: peasant, indigenous, artists, urban and working women, demanding equity, justice and digital sovereignty.



TLGBIQ+ Pride and memory: presence at fairs and marches

Between June and September we reaffirmed our commitment to the digital rights of the TLGBIQ+ community in Paraguay. We were present with booths at the **SOMOSGAY** fair, at the **Diversity Festival**, and at the **21st March of the TLGBIQ+ Coalition**, making our campaign Free and Safe on the Internet visible and sharing digital security resources tailored to the community.

During the month of memory TLGBIQ+ we joined **Callecultura**, the **Festifera Amarú Gaspar**, the event **108 Hadas del Jardín Kiki Ball** and other emblematic spaces of resistance and celebration. Through these actions, we brought our campaigns closer and provided practical support to strengthen the digital protection of the community, in contexts of enjoyment and also of struggle.



OAS: street activism in parallel to diplomacy


During the 54th OAS General Assembly, TEDIC volunteers actively participated in the mobilization led by the OAS kuñanguéra roma'ë penderehe coalition. With posters, banners and slogans of **the Digital Violence is Real** campaign, we accompanied more than 30 feminist organizations to demand real commitments from the Paraguayan State to defend the rights of women and the TLGBIQ+ community. A strong, creative and mobilizing presence, inside and outside the protocol.

Pop-Up workshops on digital security: activism between rhythms and resistances

Throughout the year we held three Pop-Up Workshops on digital security in festive and community contexts that combine celebration, care and resistance, reaching **more than 450 people**.

In October, we were part of **Bolivia Tropical**, an iconic alternative music festival in Paraguay. Under the slogan “October with O for On the Dance Floor”, we set up a booth where we shared digital safety tips, assisted in the safe setup of phones and conducted quizzes with prizes. Because the dance floor is also a place to take care of ourselves.

In November, we brought our Pop-Ups to two key counterculture and dissident memory events. We participated in the **Goldie Oldie party**, where witches, zombies and cyborgs participated in our quizzes and received assistance in protecting their accounts. Then, as part of the **10th anniversary of La Chispa Cultural Center**, a self-managed space that is a reference in human rights and LGTBIQ+ community, we celebrated together with activists with short workshops, stickers, hand fans, cybersecurity tips and secure phone setups. This was a particularly significant action: La Chispa was shut down by conservative institutions of the Paraguayan State, and our presence was also an act of memory and digital resistance.

These Pop-Ups consolidated a political and festive proposal aimed at bringing digital rights to new audiences, outside the traditional institutional spaces. Because defending our rights can (and should) also be danced. 



👊 25N: feminist minga and march against violence

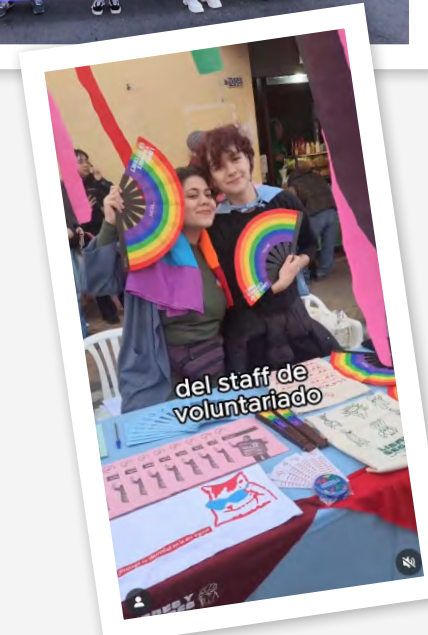
In November, we held a **creative minga** at **FACSO-UNA**, in alliance with **Kuña Sorora** and **Sununu**. During the activity, students shared reflections on violence and made posters that we later took together to the **march on 25N**. As every year, we were out in the streets raising awareness about digital violence with clear messages: online harassment is also violence. Our participation included a booth, assistance in digital security and direct support actions for those who need it most.

🌐 Robusta Fair and Purape Fest: art, networks and rights

At the **Robusta Fair**, we shared illustrations inspired by the cyborgfeminists campaign and dialogued about art, technology and rights. We were also at **Purape Fest Vol. II**, a space for creators of sound art and podcasting where we presented episodes of the podcast *Mind Online*, a series about mental health and technologies. In both events, we promoted our campaigns, generated alliances and brought resources to cultural communities.

🎥 Volunteer Day: we celebrate those who support us

On **December 5**, we celebrated those who are always there: our volunteers. We recorded a special video where they shared their motivations, learnings and wishes. Throughout 2024, their commitment was key in our campaigns, fairs, workshops, launches and research. The staff consisted of: **Alejandro Correa**, **Antonella Cuomo**, **Carmen Gayoso**, **Ash Hrycan**, **Alícia Ortiz**, **Virginia Prieto**, **Ginibel Rondán** and **Kevin Yegros**. Their work is a driving force, a companion and a collective strength.





COMMUNICATION & SOCIAL MEDIA

#StrategicCommunication

#Contents

#Campaigns

In 2024, at TEDIC we made communication a tool for transformation, with a clear commitment: to talk about digital rights in all possible spaces, from social media to the streets. This year was the most active in our history, and we say it with numbers, content and many campaigns that reached farther than ever before.

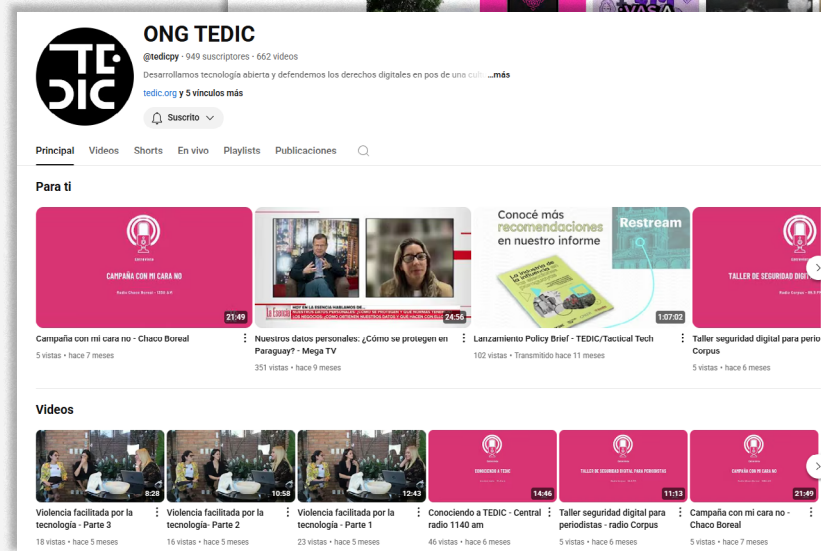
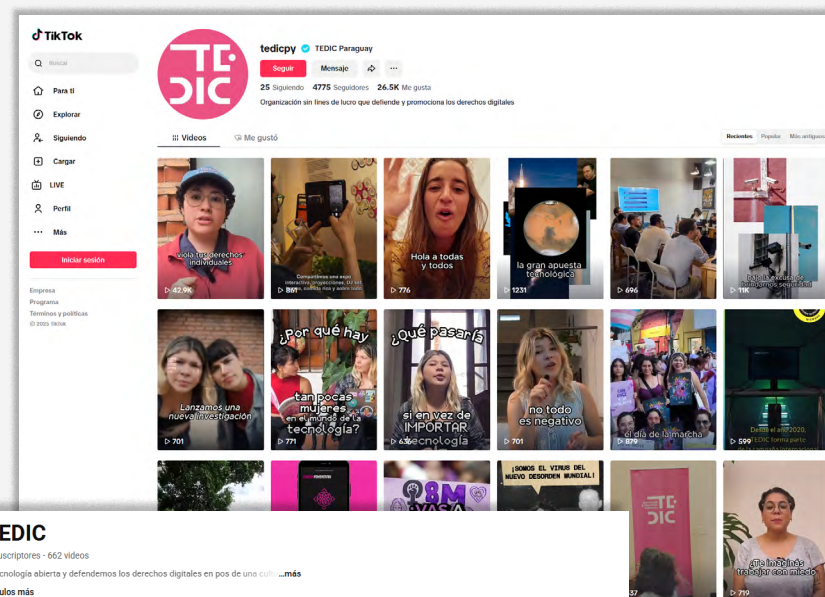
🚩 **20 campaigns.** Yes, twenty! We talked about facial recognition, digital gender-based violence, personal data protection, artificial intelligence, trafficking and ICT, digital security for activists, electoral reform and more. Some outstanding campaigns were Digital violence is real, S.O.S Journalist, Not With My Face, My Data My Rights (in Spanish and Guarani) and Cyborgfeminist (with a brand new website).

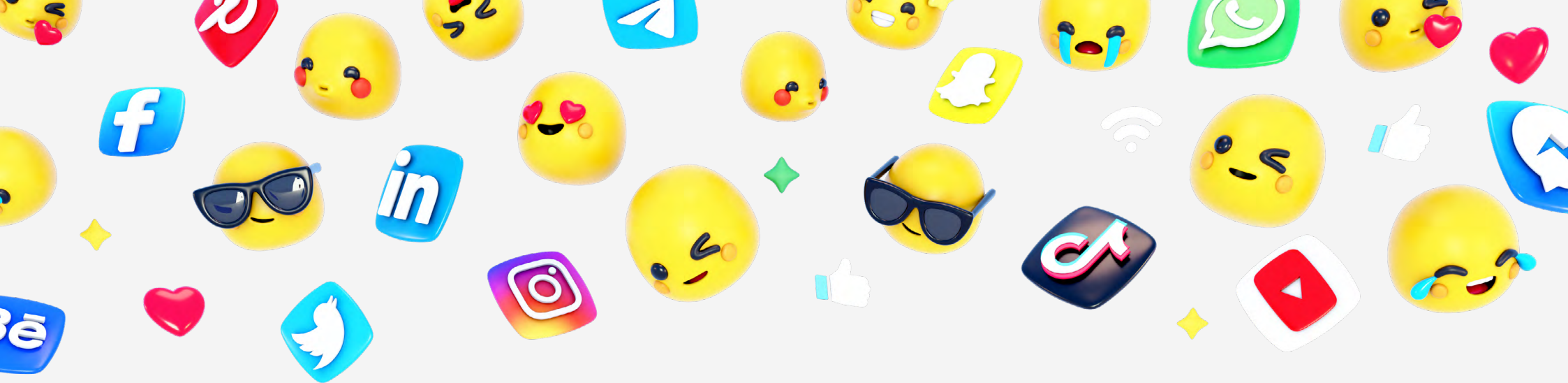


[#CONMICARANO]

🎥 **136 videos produced.** Crazy, isn't it? Yes, 54 more than last year.




We created reels, TikToks, informative and testimonial videos, with accessible language and formats to reach more audiences. Our commitment to audiovisuals was total.





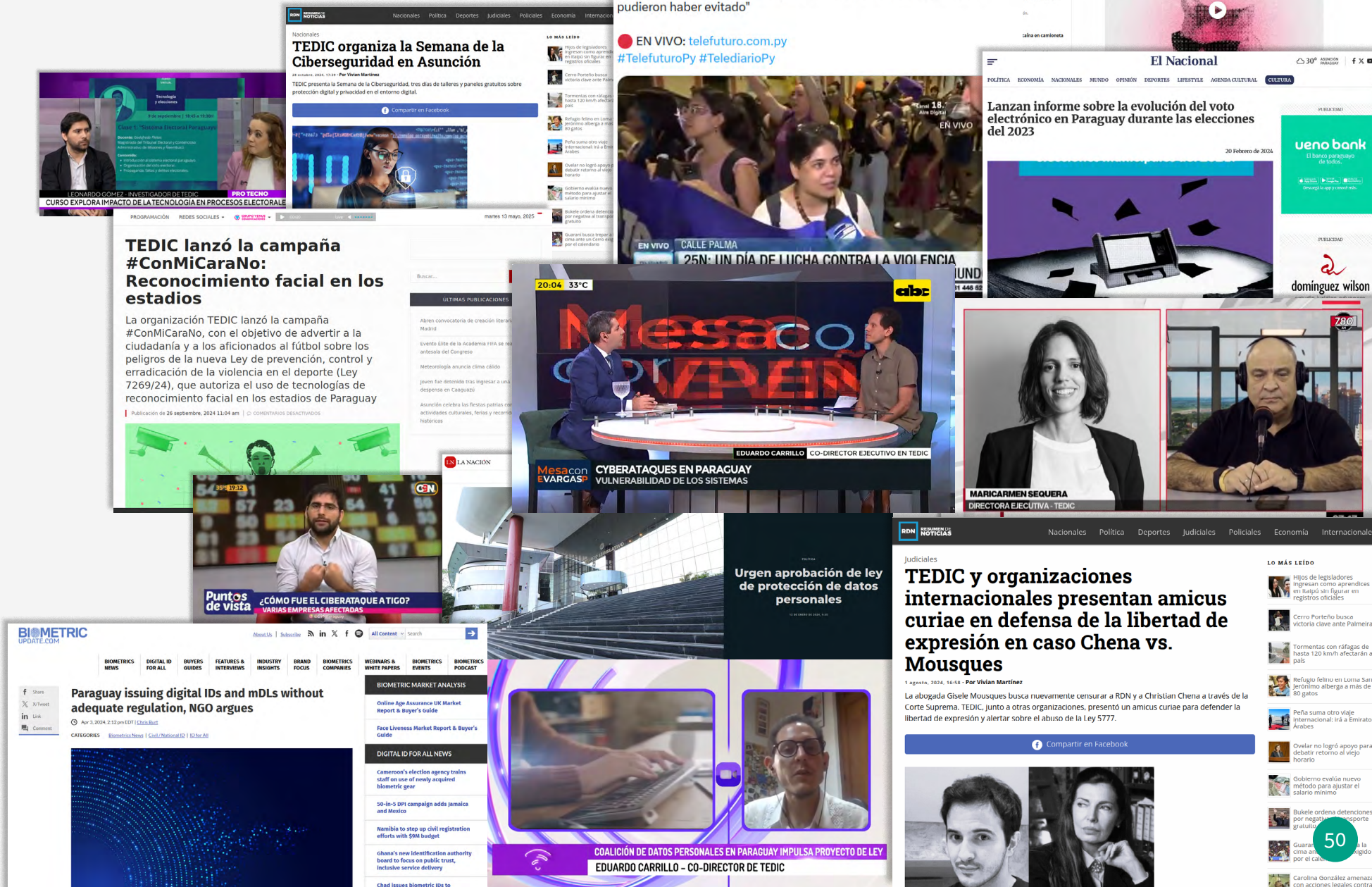
📝 In addition, we wrote, edited and disseminated 57 blogs on [TEDIC's website](#) and seven on the [cyborgfeminist website](#), adding 13 more entries than in 2023. In addition to this, we accompanied the redesign and relaunch of the [Bootcamp website](#) and the [Cyborgfeminist website](#).

📱 Social media that explode (for good!):

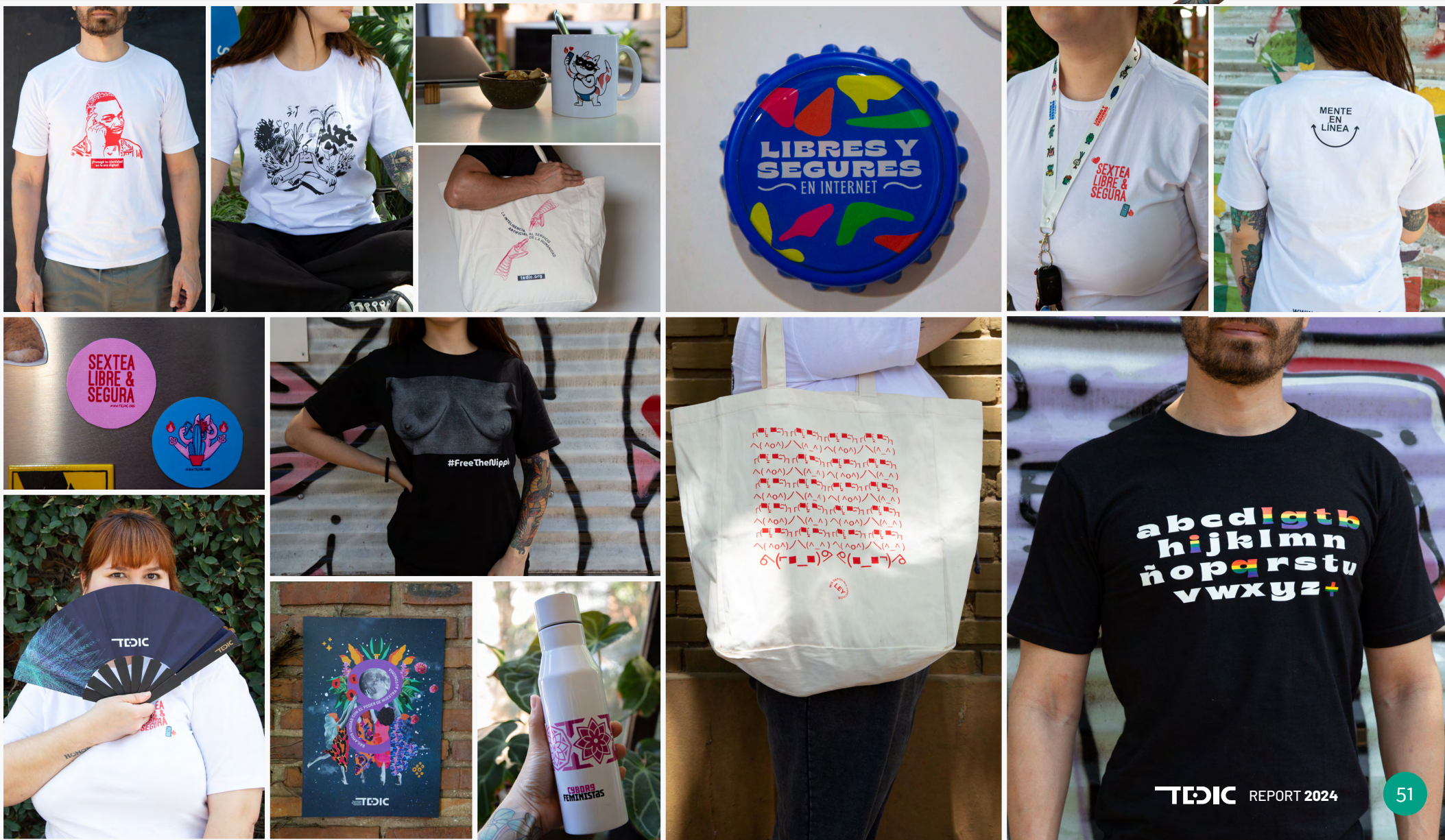
 X	3,556,400 people reached	636,800 interactions	+5375 new followers
 Facebook	889,544 reach	232,900 interactions	+13 followers (we know it's hard here 🤖)
 Instagram	2,974,818 reach	817,300 interactions	+3675 new followers
 LinkedIn	345,827 reach	120,222 interactions	+1448 new followers
 TikTok	345,450 reach	80,407 interactions	+981 new followers
 YouTube	37,941 views	+197 new subs	
 Mastodon	+176 followers		

📺 We were in the media more than ever before!

We went from 73 to **151 mentions in the press**, doubling our visibility. We spoke in media about freedom of speech, personal data, gender and technology, democracy and surveillance. We were a source for Última Hora, ABC, HOY, RDN, Canal PRO, Made in Paraguay, and many more.



Merch with a message: we launched hand fans, stickers, tote bags and more, designed for parties, events and campaigns. 15 new sticker designs and five unique hand fans to accompany you in every space! In addition, we updated the photos of all our merch and promoted them on social media.





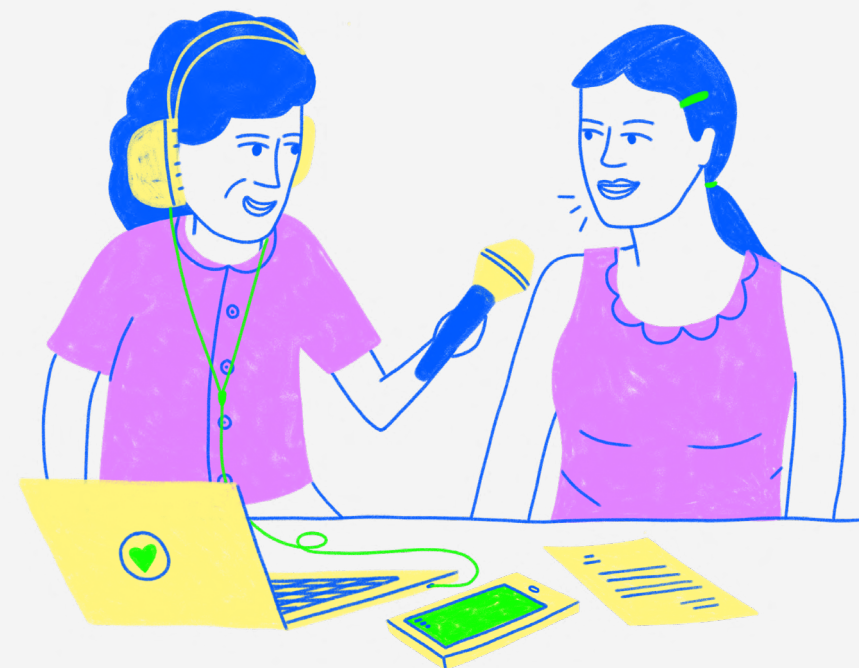
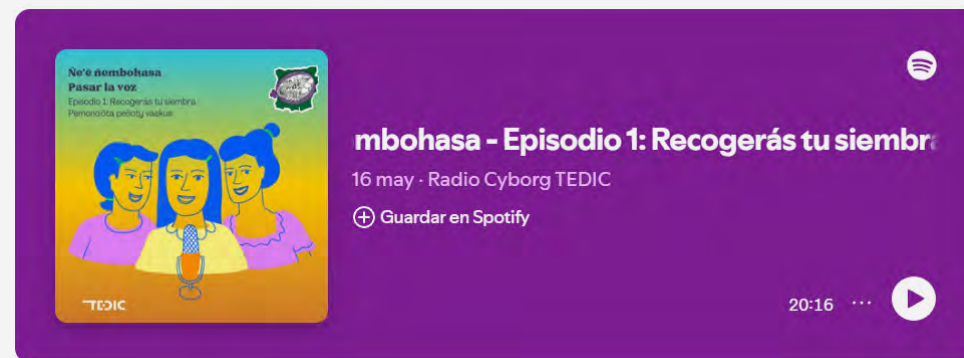
🎧 **Influencers with a cause:** we collaborated with [Romina Mendoza](#), [Carmina Masi](#) and [Luchi](#) (Cerro Porteño Club fan) to bring our messages to new communities, talking about gender-based digital violence and mass surveillance in a close and powerful way.

📍 What's new! We hit the streets!

This year we took a big step: we brought our messages to the public space!



📍 **Nine strategic points in Asunción** were intervened with our campaigns Digital Violence is Real, Not With My Face and My Data My Rights, with posters, screens and vinyls. We achieved more than **730 new monthly visits to our websites** and hundreds of people shared photos of the posters via WhatsApp and social media.



🎧 To top it all off, we received the **Juana Manso Award** for the [podcast Ñe'e ñembohasa](#), produced in collaboration with the Kuña Aty de Táva committee.

💬 Something that surprised us?

We took the stage at the **Pride March** to [present in front of more than 500 people](#) our digital security course for activists.



COLLABORATIONS

COLLABORATIONS

National

At the national level, we collaborated with the following organizations, companies and institutions:

- Consumer Protection Secretariat (SEDECO) - State
- National Competition Commission (CONACOM) - State
- Science and Technology Commission of the Chamber of Deputies - State
- Superior Court of Electoral Justice (TSJE) - State
- National Council of Science and Technology (CONACYT) - State
- National Union of Motorcycle Workers (SINACTRAM)
- PREVIM Board of the Ministry of Women - State
- Union of Journalists of Paraguay (SPP)
- CLADEM
- APADIT
- Kuña Pópe
- Kuña Poty
- Kuña Sorora
- AMUCAP
- Psicofem
- Juan de Salazar Cultural Center of Spain
- Alma Cívica
- Fundación Vencer
- REPAR+
- Cuarto Mundo
- Paraguayan-German Cultural Institute (ICPA)
- Kiki ballroom community of Paraguay
- La Chispa Cultural Center
- Fiesta Bolivia
- Goldie Oldie
- Colectiva Robusta
- Hola Metódica
- Sununú
- La Poderosa
- La Política Online
- FEIPAR
- Enfoque Niñez
- FLACSO Paraguay
- Klirk
- Puente
- UCOM
- UNIDA
- UNINORTE

International

At the international level, we collaborated with the following organizations and institutions:

- United Nations High Commissioner - Regional
- Center for the Study of Freedom of Speech of the University of Palermo (CELE)
- InternetLab
- Fundación Karisma
- Artigo 19
- Hiperderecho
- Sula Batsú
- Women Rights Online Network
- AL SUR Coalition
- LATAM Digital Rights
- Privacy International
- Fairwork network
- IDEC
- Data Privacy Brazil
- R3D – México
- Tactical Tech
- Pollicy
- WOUGNET
- Media Foundation for West Africa
- HOPE for Mozambique
- Pen to Paper
- Access Now
- GNI Network
- Wikimedia Foundation
- EFF
- Radio Ambulante

Alliances

In 2024 we joined three new coalitions including:



Forum on
Information
& Democracy





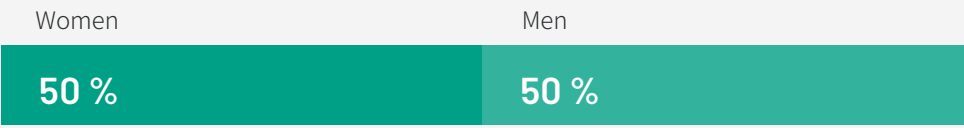
WORK TEAM & 2024 IMPLEMENTATION

WORK TEAM

Staff



Board of Directors



Consultants



13 people

IMPLEMENTATION 2024

Donors

- Electronic Frontier Foundation
- Digital Rights
- Semilla USAID-TEDIC Funds
- Alphabet (Google)
- Internews
- National Endowment For Democracy
- Association for Progressive Communications (APC)
- Fund Mines Action Canada
- World Wide Web Foundation
- South Women Fund (FMS)
- Fondos Avina
- Meta Platforms, INC
- European Union
- Pan para el Mundo
- Internet Society Foundation (ISOC)
- Digital Defenders
- Fund for the defense of media - UNESCO
- Luna Nueva
- New Venture Fund
- Global Giving Fund

TOTAL 595,841.52 USD

