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Alumni Profile

Elsi Angulo

BA '11 Social Justice & Peace Studies

Current Career

Organization: Colombian Government (Procuraduria General de la Nacion) **Title:** Counselor of the Procurador General in Ethnic Affairs and Human Rights

Career Overview

I am a lawyer. My current job requires in-depth knowledge of ethnic and human rights issues.

Based in Columbia, I advise on legal issues, specifically ethnic and human rights issues. I also work in the field with the ethnic communities, and I consult for governmental institutions regarding different issues that are related issues of justice for vulnerable people. Now that Colombia is in the post-agreement after having made a peace agreement with the guerrilla FARC, my com-pany works to fulfill the commitments made through the peace-process, that should benefit the ethnic groups that were historically the most affected by the conflict and discrimination.

How has SJPS helped prepare you for your current work or helped you get where you are today?

I came to Canada from Columbia as a refugee, after suffering displacement and threats. I had experienced injustice and violence firsthand. However, studying Social Justice and Peace Studies broadened my perspective on international situations and conflicts. And above all, it helped me to acquire more tools to advocate and call for social action in order to transform societies in the interest of human dignity, equality and peace.

Have you volunteered with any organization or cause that seeks to promote social justice and peace?

Yes, all the time. I volunteer in the community where I was born (Tumaco, Pacific coast of Colombia). I work with members of the community to help youth and women through culture, sport and education. Our project is called Ong Despertar. Because of this work, I had the chance to pursue my fellowship Program for People of African Descent with the United Nations in 2014. I am part of the Mediators Beyond Borders Canada Regional Group, and am a Fellow with the International Academy of Mediators. Each of these organizations supports conflict resolution skill-development and the advancement of mediation worldwide.

Further Degrees / Certifications

Fellowship Program for People of African Descent, United Nations

