Statement of Purpose

CUSLAR is an Ithaca-based organization dedicated to educational and solidarity work concerning Latin America. This region is experiencing unprecedented poverty and repression. We express our support for and solidarity with popular movements in Latin America that seek self-determination and the restoration of their basic human, political, and economic rights. We work to oppose military dictatorships in Latin America and the foreign policy of the United States that actively supports those dictatorships. As citizens and residents, we realize the unique role of the U.S. government in repressing popular resistance movements in Latin America together with the systematic underdevelopment of Latin American nations through the operation of an oppressive international economic and political system. The U.S. government in connection with multinational corporations and banks, bear the responsibility for the continuation of this system and it is, therefore, our special responsibility to oppose these forms of control, which we recognize as imperialism. We also recognize the necessity of linking the struggle of popular resistance movements in Latin America with movements in the U.S.A. for economic justice and human rights.