Dear Friends,

The purpose of this letter is to cordially invite you to participate and take full advantage of the delegation programs that CRISPAZ offers to the international community and not be deterred by the often misleading news about the violence in El Salvador.

We are pleased to know that on January of the current year many delegations from Jesuit Colleges and Universities decided to come to El Salvador such as St. John the Baptist Catholic Parish, Loyola University Chicago, Saint Joseph's University, Fordham University, University of Dayton, Le Moyne College and John Carroll University.

We are also sure that all these delegations have come back with many deep experiences to share and with a broader perspective about the history and context of El Salvador. In this sense, we would like to remark that CRISPAZ delegations have never suffered any harmful incidents in all the years that the program has been implemented in the country; this confirms the effectiveness of its mission to build bridges of solidarity among people and to form global citizens committed to the struggle for peace and justice.

In addition, it is worth mentioning that CRISPAZ maintains a close relationship and communication with security officials and with community leaders at its work sites. It also has the support of members from several U.S. universities who are on its Board of Directors, as well as the support of our University.

As the Rector of the José Simeón Cañas Central American University of El Salvador, I am convinced that these opportunities can contribute to raising awareness of the need to build a better society led by peace and social justice, so one more time I encourage you to come to El Salvador to be part of the CRISPAZ experience.

We will be very delighted to welcome you.

Fraternally,

[Signature]

Andreu Oliva de la Esperanza, S.J.
Rector