

Patricia Rodríguez. 25 years old. Engineering student (Biomedical speciality).

Patricia meet her boyfriend, Antonio, when she's 16, as they both become Red Cross volunteers. In May 1999, Antonio gets into the Spanish Army, and in April 2000 is sent to Kosovo with the medical unit, in a KFOR mission. After four months, Patricia's boyfriend comes back to Spain. Only three months later, 1<sup>st</sup> November, he's dying due to a extremely accute leukemia.

In December, Patricia sees on TV how some other italian soldiers are dying or getting ill in very similar circumstances. She had never heard about 'Depleted Uranium' or the 'Balkans Sindrome' until that day. From that moment begins her particular fight to find out the truth: What's Depleted Uranium?, Have Antonio's death any relationship with it?

In February, Patricia goes to Madrid where she meet two Gulf War veterans: Carol Picou and Ray Bristow. Also has the first contact with Paco Castañón, the Director of the Soldier's Defender Office. This is the begining of a continuous collaboration until today. In March , granted by the Comitee of Solidarity with the Arab Cause, she participates in the Bruxels Conference: 'Uranium. Les Victimes Parlent'. She also goes to the 1<sup>st</sup> May Meeting, invited by the PTB in Bruxels. At this event, Patricia meet Alfredo Embid, expert in Holistic Medicine and Acupuncture and a very tireless activist in Spain. The following months Patricia, with the help of Paco, Alfredo and some other organizations tries to achieve a first important aim: the creation of a victims' Organization in Spain. By the moment, due to complicated reasons, this has been impossible.

She participates that year writing her testimony for a publication about Depleted Uranium: Sediciones nº 15, coord. by Eva Forest (ISBN 84-89753-63-6).

In November 2001, She gets into the 'Coalicion Para la Abolicion de las Armas Nucleares' (Coalition for the Nuclear Weapons' Abolition). Today, Patricia collabores with Alfredo and Paco in the edition of a book about Depleted Uranium.