

Anna-Lee Stangl is the Senior Advocacy Officer for the Americas at Christian Solidarity Worldwide, a British human rights organization with a focus on freedom of religion or belief for all and those of no faith. She managed the CSW liaison office with the European Union for 11 years, before moving to Washington, DC to establish a permanent presence for CSW there in 2012. She has directed CSW's research and advocacy on freedom of religion or belief in Latin America for 14 years with a focus on Colombia, Cuba and Mexico.

Under her direction and since 2005, CSW has maintained a log of documented violations of freedom of religion or belief in Cuba in an effort to measure changes, progress or deterioration in this area. This has also served as the foundation for CSW's regular reports on freedom of religion or belief in Cuba. Over the past fourteen years, CSW has developed a network of trusted contacts including religious leaders from a wide range of religious groups present on the island. Ms. Stangl's testimony today is based on first-hand information received directly from those affected by the arbitrary expropriation of church property who have given permission for these cases to be made public.

In addition to the Latin American focused research and advocacy, Ms. Stangl also currently oversees all of CSW's advocacy work with the United States on the approximately 30 countries on which CSW actively works. She has also headed up outreach and advocacy efforts to engage Latin American governments and civil society on issues related to international freedom of religion or belief in recent years. She holds a BA in International Relations from Randolph-Macon Woman's College and an MA in Conflict Resolution from Lancaster University (UK).