

## Huber Petition Results

More than 13,000 people signed the petitions on Labourstart and Change.org. Thank you.

Although Huber has still not been released, the petition has had some concrete results.

As a result of the clear international attention on Huber's case, the Colombian authorities have had to respond to the pressure. He was finally moved to a different wing of the prison, where the conditions are better than where he was previously being held, with less overcrowding and a cleaner environment. He now has his own cell, whereas before he was sharing with 3 other men, one of whom was a paramilitary which was very dangerous for him. The wing where he is now also has different rules for visitors, so family and friends are able to bring him food on Sundays. This is very important as Huber suffers from diabetes and has been denied the special diet he needs from the prison authorities, so it is essential that he can be provided with food for a good balanced meal at least once a week. The authorities are considering his request to be able to write a book whilst he is in prison.

The scale of the call for Huber's release has also brought his case to the attention of the British authorities. The British Embassy in Colombia has requested to visit him in prison, and at FCO questions on Tuesday 21 January 2014, the Foreign Office Minister, Hugo Swire, stated that he was aware of Huber's case and had made representations.

The impact of the petition on those campaigning for his release in Colombia has also been significant. Upon seeing the huge amount of interest in, the coalition of Colombian organisations united in the international campaign, [Yo Te Nombro Libertad](#), have continued to grow and have gathered more organisations as supporters. They are focused on campaigning for the release of Huber Ballesteros and all Colombia's political prisoners. The Colombian trade union federation, CUT, has also continued to be active on the campaign, calling for their members to attend Huber's upcoming first trial hearing on February 12<sup>th</sup>.

Huber himself has expressed his gratitude on many occasions. It is extremely important for his morale to know that he has the support of thousands of people from across the world. He has photos of the petition hand in event on his cell wall.

On behalf of Huber, thank you, and please keep up the struggle for the release of Huber and all Colombia's political prisoners.

[www.justiceforcolombia.org](http://www.justiceforcolombia.org)