She came after a hard day of work, and preferred an open place where she could smoke.

She made the appointment at a crowded bar. This put us in a place with a lack of privacy, a lot of noise.

I felt she was comfortable, she spoke openly with confidence despite not being in a place with privacy.

She mentioned starting activism at 16. She mentioned the 60s; leftist movements from Latin America; the revolution; student movements and feminism; prominent influences in the building of her political thinking.

'We have been accused of defending criminals. A colleague accompanied a woman, a survivor of violence. The companion of this survivor was a cacique with links to narcos and organised crime. We received threats by telephone, rumours; someone saying 'Your organisation is hiding criminals’ ‘I recommend you be careful’ We do risk analysis case-by-case’

She mentioned that during a demonstration she and other companions were spreading political messages, in walls. She and other companions were detained.
36 hours.

She mentioned gender; men detained were battered, not women. Women were undressed and put in front of a physician to be examined. Women were reminded that they had kids that could be disappeared.

*Composed by Juliana Mensah from the interview transcript of a Mexican woman human rights defender working on women’s rights, indigenous rights and civil and political rights from the research project ‘Navigating Risk, Managing Security, and Receiving Support’, which focuses on the experiences of human rights defenders at risk in Colombia, Mexico, Egypt, Kenya, and Indonesia ([securityofdefendersproject.org](http://securityofdefendersproject.org)).*