

Our Origins

Our founder Marcela Celorio has thirty years of diplomatic experience in Europe, the Middle East, and mainly in the United States (Washington D.C., New York, San Diego, and Los Angeles). This background provides her with a unique understanding of different multicultural settings and their nuances.

Her long consular path gave her the opportunity to assist and protect Mexican immigrants, while dealing with complex challenges including: the migrant caravans arriving in the U.S.-Mexico Border; negotiating complex cases with authorities in both countries; assisting immigrants held at detention centers and jails; and facilitating dialogue in the *Cross-Cultural Community*.

Traditional strategies are mainly focused on advocating and defending human and civil rights. This fair and humane approach seeks to foster respect for the rights and dignity of all people. In this regard, other governments, international organizations, and nonprofit organizations perform astonishing and laudable work.

However, through years of diplomatic work, our founder realized that this approach focuses only one side of the equation - human rights, freedoms and protection, while failing to consider other key elements necessary to create a balance - duties, obligations, and responsibilities.

Human Rights should not be taken for granted and must be protected. All *Cross-Cultural Community* members must assume and be aware that they are obliged to respect the law and other people's rights as well. It is a bidirectional effort.

There is an incontestable fact that a majority of immigrants have been victims of social, economic, and historical adverse circumstances in both their community of origin and their new community.

From our founder and *Polidore's* team experiences as authorities and citizens in both Mexico and the United States, we will offer solutions to bridge the cultural divide, and help craft new approaches to empower the *Cross-Cultural Community*. *Polidore* will advance strategies that go beyond just providing assistance and protection, and ultimately overcoming the *victimhood trap*.

A way to empower immigrants is to guide them to become *civic leaders*. This is essential to improve education regarding their rights and freedoms, and with the same conviction and effort, about their duties and obligations. This implies not only the legal perspective, but more importantly the moral conviction that we abide by social norms and customs rooted in social values.

It is our obligation and moral duty to help immigrants understand the American culture and system. By living in this country, immigrants already contribute outstandingly to American society, but there is more to be done. For immigrants, residing in the United States also means that they need to assume responsibility to increase understanding of the *Cross-Cultural Community*, the importance of the *Rule of Law*, and embrace a *Culture of Lawfulness*.