

Tarcila Rivera Zea is a Quechuan activist from Peru who has devoted over 20 years of her life to defend and seek recognition and acknowledgement of Peruvian Indigenous peoples and cultures. In particular, Tarcila has responded to the practical needs of indigenous children and women in Ayacucho, where she comes from. Her main goals are to improve indigenous childrens nourishment levels based on a diet of native food complemented through attendance at cultural affirmation workshops.

Her specific contributions to the empowerment of indigenous children and women have resulted in the creation of the Permanent Workshop of Andean and Amazon Indigenous Women of Peru, the International Forum of Indigenous Women of the Americas and the Continental Link of Indigenous Women of the Americas.

Her professional experience is in editorial and journalistic communication geared towards the sustainable development of indigenous women and peoples'.

Tarcila's work has contributed to policy making regarding indigenous women's intercultural education, empowerment and visibility. Tarcila has participated in forums in Nairobi, Cairo, Beijing, Durban and in the United Nations Permanent Forum for Indigenous Peoples.