



This callout box includes a weekly update on news and work specifically related to implementing the Peace Accord between the Government of Colombia (GOC) and the FARC.

FARC fighters who laid down their weapons in Colombia say they remain committed to peace, despite some former commanders urging them to rearm. The commanders accuse the government of betraying the deal, which ended Colombia's civil war three years ago. In Icononzo, south of the capital Bogota, even with the hard conditions for those struggling to reintegrate their resolve remains intact; Gonzalo Beltrán a former FARC combatant now in process of reincorporation appeals for a different response from the government, in which support for reintegration must be the foundation: "the government has not fulfilled his obligations with the agreement, they don't have the political will to implement the deal. I find it mindboggling that the government of president Duque offers a million dollars for information on the dissidents, when it would make more sense to use that money for our reintegration, [...] but despite all the difficulties we remain firm and keep betting on peace, we want to demonstrate Colombia and the world that we are keeping our word".¹

By decree, the national government added functions to the Agency for Reincorporation and Normalization (ARN) in order to **continue providing guarantees of security, public services, administration, sanitation and supply to former FARC combatants** residing in the Territorial Training and Normalization Spaces (ETCR). The first function will allow the ARN to assume the administration expenses of the lands where the Public Force is located, with which the security of the formerly called ETCR continues to be guaranteed. The second function establishes the administration, public services and supply of dry and fresh food in the former ETCR that the ARN will continue to assume. These measures guarantee the development of the social and economic reincorporation of ex-combatants and benefit the 3,220 people residing in these territories (figure as of July 31, 2019).²

Semana magazine revealed intelligence documents indicating Venezuela's security forces are plotting with guerrillas from Colombia in anticipation of a possible US invasion. Published extracts of the documents about military targets in the "Green Country" indicate that Venezuela's military is not just colluding with guerrillas, but also that **intelligence agency SEBIN (Servicio de Inteligencia Bolivariano) has received intelligence information from within the Colombian armed forces and reintegration sites of demobilized guerrilla group FARC**.³

Jamundí finds himself in a disjunction between narcos and the desire to replace coca. While more than seven thousand peasants in the Jamundí mountain range insist on opposing the forced eradication of coca crops by the security forces, Mexican and Colombian drug dealers continue to use this corridor to carry out their drug transactions. Armed killings, the appearance of corpses in graves, and kidnappings have become commonplace again. According to the Anti-Narcotics Police told Mayor Edgar Yandy, Jamundí has 600 hectares in the upper part, but, as already mentioned, the peasants and Afros are demanding the implementation of the National Program for the Substitution of Crops for Illicit Use, in order to change to productive projects that will take them out of this illegal economy.⁴

As in many countries, sexual violence in Colombia has been one of the most invisible atrocities: of the 8.8 million people who have been officially recognized as victims of the conflict, only 28,641 have reported sexual violence, according to the Victims Unit. However, the issue is growing, as five years ago there were only 5,997 registered victims. **Victims of sexual violence are increasingly vocal and empowered.** At least 10 of the 124 reports that organizations and individuals have submitted to the Special Jurisdiction for Peace (JEP) focus on these types of crimes and only one lists 2,000 episodes. "There has been a fortress to rise again from the ashes. The victims are raising their voices and we are coming together to have the recognition of this society," says Yolanda Perea, a 35-year-old Afro-Colombian who was raped by a FARC guerrilla.⁵