

**GOC and FARC peace delegations, in 'permanent session' on final points of the agenda**

According to a joint statement issued on May 25, the FARC and GOC delegations in Havana will discuss in a 'permanent session', without any interruptions, the final points of the negotiation agenda: the operation and characteristics of the UN political verification mission, the end of hostilities, the laying down of arms, safety guarantees for the FARC and the final, bilateral ceasefire.<sup>1</sup>

**ELN calls for a bilateral ceasefire with the GOC**

The ELN, the second largest guerrilla in Colombia, proposed a bilateral ceasefire with the GOC, and insisted on the development of 'mutual humanitarian actions' regarding the negotiation process.<sup>2</sup> However, in the same statement, the insurgent group "regretted" the five-day kidnapping of three journalists in the department of Norte de Santander, who have been already released with the mediation of the Catholic Church and National Ombudsman's Office.<sup>3</sup> After the Minister of Defense confirmed that the journalists were held as hostages by the ELN, the kidnappings were condemned by the chief negotiators of the separate peace process between the FARC and GOC.<sup>4</sup>

**Additional funding for the post-conflict**

The European Union announced 575 million euros to support the implementation of the peace accords with the FARC.<sup>5</sup> Once the final accord is signed, rural areas will receive investments for income generation opportunities, community radios and humanitarian demining.

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