

PEACE MAIL

January 16-22

WEEKLY UPDATE: Implementing the Peace Accords

This callout box includes a weekly update on releases and work specifically related implementing the Final Peace Accord between the Government and the FARC in Colombia.

The first tasks facing the 30 magistrates sworn into the Special Jurisdiction for Peace (JEP), covered in last week's Peace Mail, include the creation of its internal regulations to ensure impartiality for those who are called before the transitional justice mechanism. An estimated 3,500 guerrillas and 1,750 members of the Public Forces have been thus far named to come before the JEP. Additionally, the magistrates will be responsible for the amnesty cases that regular judges have been managing to date.¹

On Tuesday, January 16th, **two FARC former guerrillas and members of the FARC political party were assassinated in the department of Antioquia**. Following, the United Nations issued a public statement condemning the killings and calling for a comprehensive investigation into the events and effective security guarantees to ensure political rights during the electoral processes. Since they laid down their arms, the FARC have had 36 members and 13 relatives of former combatants killed.²

Hope for a new ELN bilateral ceasefire

This marked the second full week after the end of the ELN-GoC ceasefire on January 9th. At least 24 events have been registered, since the 100 day ceasefire ended, though the pace seems to have slowed towards the second half of the two week period. On Saturday, January 20th, the ELN expressed interest to restart peace talks in Ecuador.³ The following day, President Santos said that he would send new chief GoC negotiator Gustavo Bell back to the negotiating table to investigate the possibility of restarting the talks with the guerrilla group and arriving at another bilateral ceasefire agreement.⁴