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Colombian Peace Process: IOM Weekly Report

May, 2013

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1. Background

On September 4, 2012, President Santos announced the signing of a General Agreement for Termination of the Conflict between the Government of Colombia and the FAR C, setting in motion the fourth official peace talks with this group. The initial agenda includes: 1) rural development, 2) guarantee of functional political opposition and civic participation, 3) end of conflict (laying down arms and reintegration into civilian life); 4) drug trafficking; and 5) rights of victims. Preparatory talks started in Oslo on October 17, 2012 and substantive negotiations, in Havana, on November 19, 2012.

2. Key Developments from May 1 to May 7

Conclusions from the Forum on Political Participation

In addition to exploring possibilities for FARC political participation, the April 28-30 Forum on Political Participation fostered dialogue on enhancing participation among minorities and under-represented groups.¹ The idea of approving peace accords through a Constituent Assembly garnered support from both leftist groups and conservatives.² The UN and Universidad Nacional estimated that 1200 people attended, and 400 proposals are being processed to send to the negotiating teams in Havana on May 20th.³

Tensions at the end of round 8

The GOC and the FARC noted progress at the end of the 8th round of negotiations on May 3, although the expectation of reaching an agreement on the first agenda item was not fulfilled. Tensions ran high as Minister of Agriculture Juan Camilo Restrepo said that the FARC unlawfully seized 639 hectares in Sucre. The FARC denied responsibility for the usurpation.⁴

El Espectador on GOC-ELN talks

El Espectador's sources say that GOC-ELN talks will happen outside Colombia, likely in Brazil, as turmoil in Venezuela has taken it off the top of the list of options; that guarantors are expected to be Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay, Switzerland, Cuba and Venezuela; and that the GOC is awaiting confirmation of the release of ELN hostage Jernoc Woebert before announcing the talks.⁵

¹ <http://www.elespectador.com/noticias/paz/articulo-419386-ecos-de-cambios-electorales>

² <http://confidencialcolombia.com/es/1/106/6798/La-Constituyente-toma-fuerza-D%C3%A0logos-gobierno-Farc-Constituyente-campesinos-Marcha-Patri%C3%B3tica-Urbe.htm>

³ http://www.eltiempo.com/politica/proceso-de-paz-propuestas-del-foro-sobre-participacin-en-politica_12771909-4

⁴ <http://www.elespectador.com/noticias/paz/articulo-419913-farc-dicen-el-dialogo-avanza-aun-no-han-cerrado-el-tema-agrario> and http://www.eltiempo.com/politica/ARTICULO-WEB-NEW_NOTA_INTERIOR-12778125.html

⁵ <http://www.elespectador.com/noticias/politica/articulo-419818-brasil-mira-proceso-el-eln>



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3. Negotiations & Agenda

GOC pressure to pick up pace

President Santos asked the FARC to act quickly in leaving aside their weapons “in exchange for votes”. He added that military pressure will continue until a settlement is reached. The Minister of the Interior, Fernando Carrillo, emphasized that if the talks continue too long, the FARC will miss out on next year’s elections.⁶ Meanwhile, GOC negotiator Humberto de la Calle called for the FARC to commit to peace by enabling talks to progress faster.⁷

Media plays an important role in the peace process

At a Media and Communications forum held on May 3, conclusions were drawn regarding the importance of the media as disseminators of information about the peace process. The success of the negotiations depends in part on how the topic is presented by the media.⁸

Regional “peace roundtables” begin

The second round of regional “peace roundtables”, or “mesas regionales de paz” began on May 6 under the auspices of the Congressional Peace Commissions and the UN. Proposals from these regional discussions will be forwarded to the negotiating table in Havana. Roundtables started in Rionegro (Antioquia) and will continue in eight other places.⁹

4. Other Voices

Indigenous people criticize FARC’s “empty” discourse

In a letter to FARC negotiator “Timochenko”, indigenous leaders from Cauca said that given the violence inflicted on their community by the FARC, current discussions of humanitarian relief taking place in the peace process reflect the guerrilla group’s “empty” rhetoric.¹⁰

5. International Context

Director of USAID explores US support to peace

In an interview with *Semana*, USAID Administrator Rajiv Shah discussed his goal of finding ways for USAID to support peace in the country. He stressed the importance of focusing on rural development and serving vulnerable people such as ethnic minorities and ex-combatant

⁶ http://www.eltiempo.com/politica/ritmo-del-proceso-de-paz-es-insuficiente-de-la-calle_12776842-4

⁷ <http://m.semana.com/nacion/articulo/gobierno-pide-farc-acelerar-ritmo-dialogos/342064-3>

⁸ http://www.eltiempo.com/politica/el-papel-de-los-medios-en-el-proceso-de-paz_12778086-4

⁹ http://www.eltiempo.com/politica/proceso-de-paz-santos-pide-a-farc-acelerar-acuerdos_12776739-4 and

<http://www.elespectador.com/noticias/paz/articulo-420228-lunes-arranca-segunda-ronda-de-mesas-regionales-paz>

¹⁰ http://www.elcolombiano.com/BancoConocimiento/l/indigenas_cansados_del_discurso_vacio_de_las_farc/indigenas_cansados_del_discurso_vacio_de_las_farc.asp



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populations in order to facilitate “shared prosperity”. Shah praised collaboration between USAID and Colombian institutions, which has laid a foundation for continued cooperation.¹¹

New UN Representative in Colombia optimistic

Fabrizio Hochschild, who became the UN representative in Colombia in April, expressed optimism about the peace process. In an interview with El Tiempo, he highlighted Colombia’s strong judiciary system, and noted displacement and poverty as challenges to peace.¹²

US will support Colombia in the post-conflict phase

GOC Defense Minister Juan Carlos Pinzón met with US Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel on a recent visit to the USA. Hagel expressed the US commitment to supporting the fight against terrorism and drug trafficking in the post-conflict phase.¹³

6. Emerging Challenges and Responses

Conservatives look into legal benefits for armed forces

The Conservative Party has begun to analyze possible legislation for judicial benefits for the military. Such legislation could allow military crimes to be processed without their perpetrators serving jail time.¹⁴ The possibility of these benefits extending to “false positive” cases has generated controversy.¹⁵

The FARC say the State should ask for forgiveness

FARC negotiator “Iván Márquez” read a statement from the guerrilla group declaring that the GOC should admit to oppressing the Colombian people, and ask the citizenry for forgiveness.¹⁶

7. Timeline

¹¹ <http://www.semana.com/nacion/articulo/vengo-explorar-como-podemos-ayudar-paz/342112-3>

¹² http://www.eltiempo.com/politica/entrevista-con-fabrizio-hochschild-mximo-jefe-de-la-onu-en-colombia_12779402-4

¹³ <http://www.wradio.com.co/noticias/actualidad/eeuu-mantendra-apoyo-a-colombia-en-lucha-antiterrorista-dice-ministro-pinzon/20130501/nota/1891203.aspx>

¹⁴ http://www.eltiempo.com/politica/conservadores-propondrn-ayudas-juridicas-a-militares_12774137-4

¹⁵ http://www.eltiempo.com/politica/reacciones-a-entrevista-a-alejandro-ordonez_12783296-4

¹⁶ http://www.eltiempo.com/politica/se-termina-el-octavo-ciclo-de-las-conversaciones-con-farc_12776802-4



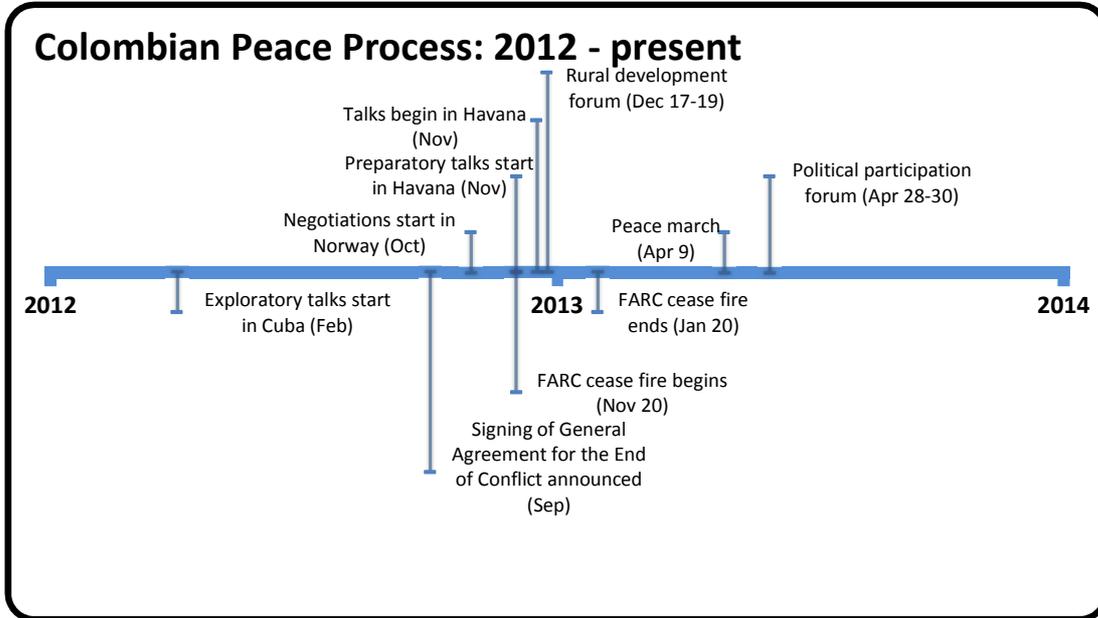
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8. Further Reading

Increased support for peace process

A Gallup poll conducted in April showed that 64% of Colombians believe that the best way to resolve the conflict is through the peace process – up from 54% in February. President Santos' approval rating has gone up from 44% to 47%, while ex-President Uribe's rating has dropped from 65% to 56%. Support for GOC negotiations with the ELN has risen from 60% to 68%.¹⁷

How to approve peace

Semana Magazine analyzes mechanisms to approve a possible peace agreement, including National Constituent Assembly; popular consultation; and referendum..¹⁸

¹⁷ <http://www.elespectador.com/noticias/politica/articulo-419798-crece-respaldo-dialogos-de-paz-y-mejora-imagen-de-santos>

¹⁸ <http://www.semana.com/nacion/articulo/paz-no-camino-facil/342121-3>



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2. Key Developments from May 8 to May 14

Impunity, justice, and peace: fodder for debate

Inspector General Alejandro Ordóñez and Attorney General Eduardo Montealegre entered a heated public debate on Thursday at the Universidad Externado. Ordóñez criticized the Judicial Framework for Peace as allowing impunity and not satisfying international standards. Montealegre emphasized restorative justice (reparations, truth-seeking) and looked to El Salvador's use of alternative sentencing and conditional amnesty as an example for Colombia.

At the same event, the High Commissioner for Peace, Sergio Jaramillo, defended the use of transitional justice mechanisms to process the cases of high command FARC leaders and said that investigating the cases of all combatants in the 50-year conflict would be inefficient. He criticized "speculation" among those who assume that ex-combatants will be given impunity.¹⁹

In a forum organized by Fundación Ideas para la Paz, Jaramillo said that in the case of a peace agreement with the FARC, Colombia will enter a post-conflict transition for over ten years.²⁰

3. Negotiations & Agenda

FARC: We didn't come to Havana to hand over our weapons

Pablo Catatumbo', 'Iván Márquez' and 'Jesús Sántrich' said in an interview with El Espectador that FARC commanders would not hand over their weapons, but that these would "disappear" in the case of an end to the conflict.²¹

Peace timeline

¹⁹ <http://www.semana.com/nacion/articulo/colombia-quiere-paz-justicia/342950-3> and http://www.eltiempo.com/politica/foro-sobre-marco-juridico-para-la-paz-en-el-externado_12788363-4 and <http://www.elespectador.com/noticias/paz/articulo-421097-enfrentamiento-entre-procurador-y-fiscal-tesis-juridicas-sobre-p> and <http://www.semana.com/nacion/articulo/hablan-impunidad-ayer-apoyaron-ammistia-paras/342733-3>

²⁰ Notes taken at the forum titled "Peace-building and business sector commitment", 10th May 2013.

²¹ <http://www.elespectador.com/noticias/paz/articulo-421673-farc-dicen-no-fueron-habana-entregar-armas>



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Senate President Roy Barreras declared that development of legal mechanisms related to transitional justice would require at least one year, and accordingly the legal framework would be managed by the Congress elected in March 2014, not the current Congress.²²

“False positives” excluded under Judicial Framework for Peace

Senate President Roy Barreras confirmed that the military will not have legal benefits under the Judicial Framework for Peace for “false positive” cases as they are not considered part of the conflict, but military legal benefits may be applied for conflict-related incidents.²³

Regional victims’ roundtables start in Rionegro

The first regional victims’ roundtable was held on May 9-10 in Rionegro, with the support of UN agencies such as UN Women, OCHA, UNDSS, UNICEF, UNDP and IOM. 350 victims and 157 local entities attended, as well as representatives from the GOC, USAID, and MAPP-OEA, among others.²⁴

4. Other Voices

Indigenous victims

The National Indigenous Organization of Colombia reported that 104 indigenous people were murdered in 2012, of which 21 were community leaders. In addition, 44 incidents of indigenous displacement forced 12,304 people to abandon their homes.²⁵

5. Emerging Challenges and Responses

Ex-paramilitaries under Justice and Peace law

Roughly 60 ex-paramilitaries who are part of the Justice and Peace law processes will be freed in 2014 after completing the alternative sentence of eight years.²⁶ Meanwhile, ex-paramilitary leader Agustín de Jesús Sánchez, alias ‘el Político’, will be excluded from the Justice and Peace law as he committed double homicide in 2008, two years after officially demobilizing.²⁷

Reintegration Agency says its ready

Alejandro Eder, the Director of the Colombian Reintegration Agency (ACR) stated that demobilizations have increased by 25% in 2013, and confirmed the agency’s readiness to receive

²² <http://www.semana.com/nacion/articulo/preparemonos-para-largo-proceso-paz/342678-3> and

http://www.eltiempo.com/justicia/mininterior-pide-que-proceso-de-paz-se- aparte-del-tema-electoral_12789310-4

²³ <http://www.elespectador.com/noticias/politica/articulo-421087-falsos-positivos-no-seran-cobijados-marco-paz>

²⁴ <http://www.pnud.org.co/sitio.shtml?x=71061>

²⁵ <http://www.senado.gov.co/sala-de-prensa/opinion-de-senadores/item/17068-continuan-las-violaciones-a-la-vida-e-integridad-etnica-de-los-pueblos-indigenas>

²⁶ <http://www.caracol.com.co/noticias/judicial/el-proximo-ano-podrian-quedar-libres-60-paramilitares-que-se-acogieron-a-justicia-y-paz/20130509/nota/1895385.aspx>

²⁷ http://www.eltiempo.com/justicia/expulsado-paramilitar-de-justicia-y-paz-por-delinquir-con-bacrim_12786667-4



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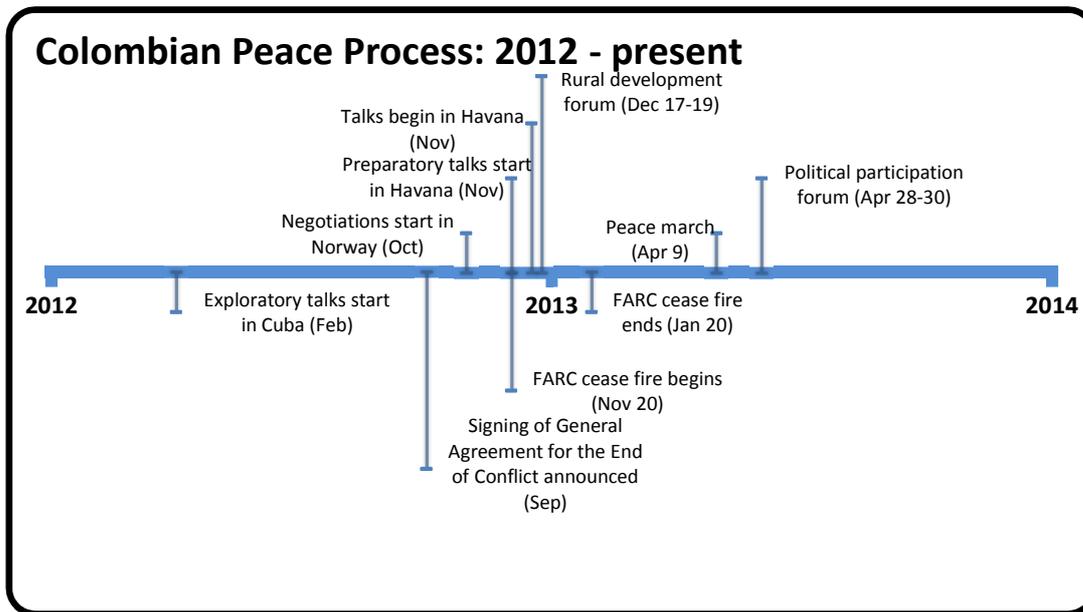
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demobilized FARC members after a possible peace agreement is signed. However, he said that Colombians still do not understand that peace depends on effective reintegration, and society is not ready to incorporate former guerrilla fighters.²⁸

6. Timeline



7. Further Reading

Demobilized FARC member interviewed by El Tiempo

Alfredo Úsuga, alias Marlón, decided to demobilize (on May 10) when he realized that FARC did not provide the refuge he expected when he joined in 2003. He discusses this decision, his role within the group and drug trafficking in Chocó.²⁹

Military justice system reform

In a recent speech to the military, Santos assured that the peace negotiations in Havana will not address any restructuring of the armed forces or military reform. Santos also confirmed that if judicial benefits are given to the FARC, they will be afforded also to the armed forces.³⁰

²⁸ http://www.eltiempo.com/politica/entrevista-a-alejandro-der-director-de-la-agencia-colombiana-para-la-reintegracin_12789414-4

²⁹ <http://www.eltiempo.com/justicia/habla-guerrillero-desmovilizado-12795328-4>

³⁰ http://www.eltiempo.com/politica/santos-conmina-al-eln-a-liberar-a-canadiense_12788571-4 and <http://www.elespectador.com/noticias/paz/articulo-421250-santos-y-su-defensa-de-paz>



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2. Key Developments from May 15 to May 21

The ninth round of talks begins

At the end of the eighth round of talks on May 3, the GOC and FARC teams took home an agrarian reform proposal. When they returned on May 15, each side spent three days reviewing the other's notes. Success in reaching an agreement on the first agenda item before the ninth round culminates on May 25 requires resolution of differences on mining regulations, incentives for small-scale farms and foreign investment in agriculture.^{31,32}

Santos makes moves for reelection

Last Friday, President Santos confirmed his interest in reelection, alluding to the continuation of his policies after 2014. Santos reinforced and reactivated *Fundación Buen Gobierno* (Good Government Foundation), with the installation of several political heavy-weights, including former Housing Minister Germán Vargas Lleras. The Foundation was established by Santos in 1994 and serves as a think-tank and ideological platform in support of his political aspirations.³³

3. Negotiations & Agenda

De-mining could be an alternative sanction for the FARC

Attorney General Eduardo Montealegre, responding to criticism that treatment of the FARC would be overly lenient, stated that there will be no unconditional amnesty. Alternative penalties will be imposed, such as de-mining activities.³⁴

'Timochenko' replies to the indigenous people of El Cauca

³¹ <http://www.elespectador.com/noticias/paz/articulo-422107-comisiones-separadas-farc-y-gobierno-analizaran-agenda-de-paz> and

http://www.eltiempo.com/politica/comienzo-noveno-ciclo-de-conversaciones-con-las-farc_12800425-4

³² <http://www.elespectador.com/noticias/paz/articulo-422905-proceso-de-paz-tan-cerca-y-tan-lejos> and http://www.eltiempo.com/politica/proceso-de-paz-entrevista-a-pablo-catatumbo-e-ivan-marquez_12812344-4

³³ http://www.eltiempo.com/politica/analisis-sobre-la-probabilidad-de-reeleccion-de-juan-manuel-santos_12808729-4 and <http://www.semana.com/nacion/articulo/el-presidente-santos-alista-su-reeleccion/343532-3> and

<http://www.eluniversal.com.co/cartagena/politica/revivir-fundacion-buen-gobierno-jugada-magistral-de-juan-manuel-santos-119935>

³⁴ http://www.eltiempo.com/justicia/fiscal-propone-el-desminado-como-pena-alternativa-para-las-farc_12799987-4



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After receiving a letter in which the indigenous people of El Cauca accused the FARC of plotting to exterminate the ethnic group, FARC commander 'Timochenko' wrote a reply, denying the group's accusations. He asserted that the FARC have been victims of attacks by indigenous people, and that crimes against ethnic minorities can be reported to the FARC, who will punish such acts.³⁵

4. Other Voices

Forum on Afro-Colombians and the peace process

On May 21, President Santos opened a forum to mark Afro-Colombian Day and express the ethnic group's support of the peace process. The first panel discussed the impact of the conflict on Afro-Colombians and the second addressed their post-conflict role.³⁶

Victims roundtable in Los Llanos

A regional victims roundtable brought together 322 victims from 181 organizations in los Llanos, who made proposals for the negotiating teams, including: the FARC and the GOC should provide lists of civilian conflict casualties; housing should be guaranteed for all victims; and a truth commission should be created to recover historical memory.³⁷

Partiality assessment of the Colombian press

Global News Intelligence surveyed Colombian journalists with respect to the peace process and found that 59.3% are impartial, while 23% criticize the process and 17.6% support it. La República had the greatest polarization of opinion, followed by El Herald and Portafolio.³⁸

5. International Context

Congressional visit to victims in Europe

Congressional peace commission delegates went to Europe on May 17 to visit victims of the conflict who currently live in Brussels, Barcelona, Paris, and London. The proposals made by those victims will be sent to the GOC and FARC teams in Havana.³⁹

Amnesty is not the solution: ICTY Prosecutor

In an El Espectador interview, Serge Brammertz, Prosecutor for the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, stated that amnesty should not be used as a transitional justice tool. He emphasized the important role of victims in discussions of justice and peace.⁴⁰

³⁵ <http://www.elespectador.com/noticias/paz/articulo-422012-respuesta-de-timochenko-los-indigenas-del-norte-del-cauca>

³⁶ http://www.eltiempo.com/politica/foro-para-discutir-el-papel-de-la-comunidad-afrocolombiana_12810385-4 and <http://www.elespectador.com/noticias/paz/articulo-423204-los-enemigos-de-paz-no-son-muchos-son-muy-activos-santos> and http://www.plenglish.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=1432181&Itemid=1

³⁷ <http://www.elespectador.com/noticias/paz/articulo-422681-propuestas-de-victimas-de-los-llanos>

³⁸ http://www.eltiempo.com/politica/prensa-polarizada-sobre-proceso-de-paz_12804657-4

³⁹ http://www.eltiempo.com/politica/congresistas-europeos-se-reunirn-con-vctimas_12806287-4



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6. Emerging Challenges and Responses

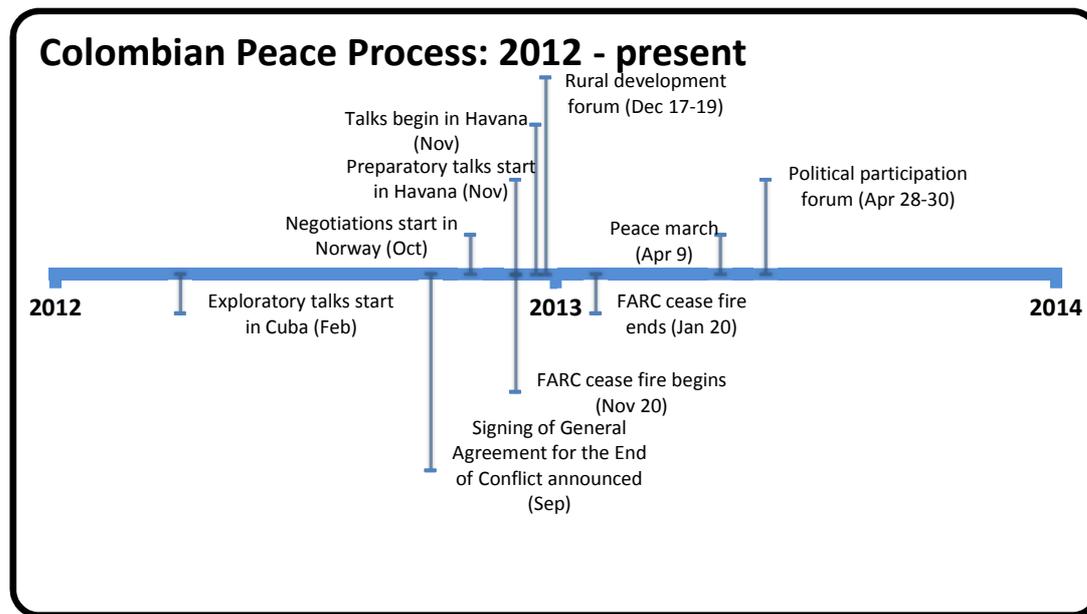
FARC continue recruiting children

While the negotiations progress in Havana, the FARC have experienced military defeats nationwide, as well as a high number of desertions. This has led the guerrilla group to increase their recruitment of child soldiers, according to the Presidential Human Rights program.⁴¹

Conflict crime “black list”

The Attorney General’s office has selected 3 ex-guerrilla and 13 ex-paramilitary members for judicial prioritization. They will be charged with more than 300,000 crimes committed in the conflict. By concentrating on the most serious crimes and holding the group leaders ultimately responsible, the Attorney General’s office hopes to facilitate the rapid processing of cases.⁴²

7. Timeline



8. Further Reading

High Commissioner for Peace speaks on transition

⁴⁰ <http://www.elespectador.com/noticias/judicial/articulo-422219-prometer-ammistias-no-solucion>

⁴¹ http://www.laopinion.com.co/demo/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=420131&Itemid=210

⁴² http://www.eltiempo.com/justicia/lista-de-desmovilizados-que-cometieron-los-crimenes-mas-graves_12804490-4



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In an event at the Universidad Externado, Jaramillo explained that the transition to peace will require: a defined timeframe, possibly 10 years; judicial measures created specifically for the transition; a focus on Colombia's regions; and broad participation from all sectors and regions.⁴³

What would a referendum on peace agreements look like?

This El Espectador opinion piece describes how the Colombian public would participate in a referendum on the peace process, should that course be taken:

<http://www.elespectador.com/opinion/columna-422247-refrendacion-de-acuerdos>

⁴³ The full text of Sergio Jaramillo's speech was given to the IOM in a meeting with the High Commissioner for Peace. It is attached to this report as an annex.



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2. Key Developments from May 22 to May 28

Ninth round ends with agreement on rural reform

After six months of talks, the GOC and FARC reached an agreement on the first point on the agenda: integrated rural reform. According to GOC negotiator de la Calle, the agreement aims to transform rural work and living conditions. The announcement was made on Sunday at the close of the ninth round of talks. The tenth round will begin on June 11.⁴⁴

Santos asks for FARC's help to fight against drugs

President Santos invited the FARC to join the Colombian state in fighting drugs trafficking as part of a peace agreement. He encouraged the guerrilla group to admit their role in this illegal activity.⁴⁵

3. Negotiations & Agenda

Rural reform agreement outlines far-reaching agrarian and land initiatives

The integrated rural reform agreement covers access to land; formalization of property titling; rural infrastructure; social development programs focusing on health, education, and poverty reduction; stimuli for agricultural production; technical assistance; and subsidies for rural economies. These initiatives aim to reverse the conflict's effects and address issues affecting victims and the rural communities in general.⁴⁶ GOC chief negotiator de la Calle stated that the agreement also takes into account environmental conservation and policy.⁴⁷

⁴⁴ http://www.eltiempo.com/politica/gobierno-y-farc-logran-primer-acuerdo-del-proceso-de-paz_12824923-4 and <http://www.semana.com/nacion/articulo/el-campo-primer-acuerdo-politico-entre-gobierno-farc-30-anos-negociaciones/344564-3> and <http://www.semana.com/nacion/articulo/farc-gobierno-logran-acuerdo-tema-agrario/344557-3> and <http://www.elespectador.com/noticias/paz/articulo-424241-presidente-santos-celebra-primer-acuerdo-alcanzado-farc>

⁴⁵ <http://www.elespectador.com/noticias/paz/articulo-424169-santos-pide-farc-luchar-contra-narcotrafico-y-reitera-no-bajara>

⁴⁶ http://www.eltiempo.com/politica/gobierno-y-farc-logran-primer-acuerdo-del-proceso-de-paz_12824923-4 and <http://www.elespectador.com/noticias/paz/articulo-424241-presidente-santos-celebra-primer-acuerdo-alcanzado-farc> and <http://www.elespectador.com/noticias/paz/articulo-424200-acuerdo-de-gobierno-y-farc-busca-se-reviertan-efectos-del-confli> and



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The full announcement can be read [here](#).

FARC suggest public debate on political participation

FARC negotiators in Havana proposed that a public debate be opened so that Colombians can express their opinions about the role of the guerrilla group in the 2014 elections.⁴⁸

[FARC blog disappears](#)

The blog used by the FARC to publish updates about the negotiations was taken offline. The FARC stated that they did not remove the blog, and that whoever did committed internet terrorism.⁴⁹

4. Other Voices

Regional roundtable in Valledupar

The latest roundtable for peace took place in Valledupar on May 24,⁵⁰ with participation from 226 representatives from 217 entities. Among these, salient points include the need for civil society to speak at the negotiating table; the importance of regional differences in a possible agreement; and the need for measures to protect local populations in a post-conflict scenario.⁵¹

Ex-guerrilla members will make proposals to government

Ex-members of the guerrilla M-19, Quintin Lame, and PRT met with High Commissioner for Peace Sergio Jaramillo to share ideas about the peace talks and resulting DDR processes.⁵²

5. International Context

Biden visits Colombia

US Vice President Joe Biden arrived in Colombia on Sunday on a trip aiming to support the peace process and strengthen commercial and diplomatic ties between the two countries during this important time for Colombia.⁵³

Colombia's changing human rights panorama

http://www.eltiempo.com/politica/comunicado-conjunto-16_12825022-4 and http://www.eltiempo.com/politica/los-pilares-de-la-reforma-rural-tras-acuerdo-con-farc_12827707-4

⁴⁷ <http://www.elspectador.com/noticias/paz/articulo-424242-acuerdo-del-gobierno-y-farc-esta-centrado-gente-de-calle>

⁴⁸ <http://www.elspectador.com/noticias/paz/articulo-423655-farc-sugieren-un-debate-popular-sobre-su-papel-campana-electoral>

⁴⁹ <http://www.elspectador.com/noticias/paz/articulo-423876-eliminacion-blog-donde-farc-reportaba-avances-proceso-de-paz>

⁵⁰ http://www.prensa-latina.cu/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&idioma=1&id=1443701&Itemid=1

⁵¹ Information provided to the IOM by PNUD.

⁵² <http://www.elspectador.com/noticias/paz/articulo-424520-exguerrilleros-entregaran-al-gobierno-sus-propuestas-de-paz>

⁵³ http://www.eltiempo.com/politica/agenda-del-vicepresidente-de-estados-unidos-joe-biden-en-bogota_12825769-4 and

<http://www.semana.com/nacion/articulo/el-encuentro-joseph-biden-juan-manuel-santos/344565-3>



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In its 2013 report, Amnesty International stated that the GOC-FARC negotiations should address human rights issues. The report suggested that proposed reforms, namely the Legal Framework for Peace, could allow impunity for human rights violations.⁵⁴ Read report [here](#).

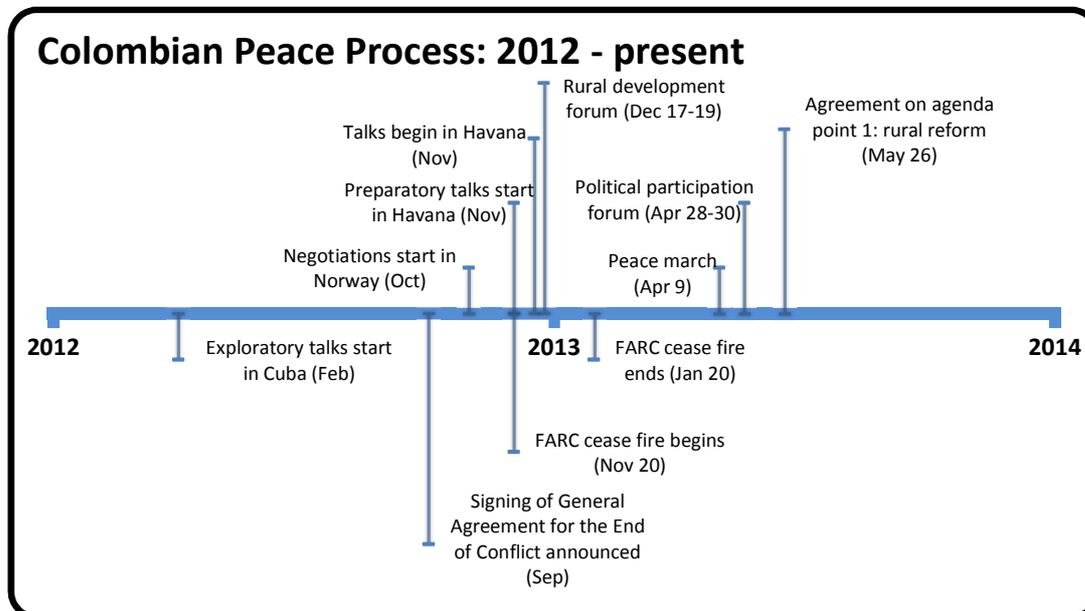
GOC defends reforms in the ICHR

Minister of Justice Ruth Stella Correa and Minister of Defense Juan Carlos Pinzón traveled to Costa Rica to explain current human rights-related efforts. The ministers were to clarify proposals involved in military justice system reform and the Legal Framework for Peace.⁵⁵

Peace roundtables in Europe

The peace roundtables in Europe finished after a five-member delegation of the Peace Commission visited London, Brussels, Paris, and Barcelona, allowing Colombians in these cities to share views on the peace process. Various organizations of exiled Colombians, as well as the broader Colombian emigrant population, made over 200 proposals, which will be compiled and sent to the negotiating table. See analysis on the peace roundtables in Europe [here](#).

6. Timeline



⁵⁴ <http://www.elespectador.com/noticias/paz/articulo-423588-el-riesgo-de-impunidad-sigue-latente>

⁵⁵ http://www.eltiempo.com/justicia/masacre-de-pueblo-bello-seguimiento-a-la-sentencia-de-la-cidh_12826603-4



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7. Further Reading

The Economist editor comments on peace process

Michael Reid, Latin America editor for The Economist, believes that there is more optimism about the peace process outside Colombia than within. In an El Tiempo interview, he emphasized the need for an efficient DDR process, and highlighted the difficulties of holding peace talks during a presidential election period. Read the interview [here](#).

FARC leaders speak out in mainstream media

With El Tiempo, FARC negotiators Pablo Catatumbo and Iván Márquez discuss topics they have usually avoided, such as the need to recognize victims and for forgiveness. Read the interview [here](#). [In a second interview, with Semana magazine](#), Pablo Catatumbo addresses Santos' reelection, amnesty, the prospect of jail time, political participation, and FARC commitment to peace. Read the interview [here](#).