



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.

The first day of Jesus **Santrich's possession as a Congressman** of the FARC party on 12 June was met with strong reactions, including his rejection in the House of Representatives, as several congressmen and congresswomen protested with signs reading "peace yes Santrich no".¹ In recent weeks President Duque requested the Supreme Court of Justice to issue an arrest warrant against the former FARC-EP leader and the Attorney General's Office to suspend him from his activities as congressman. The Attorney General, Fernando Carrillo, clarified that once Santrich is in office, his conduct can only be considered from his new position.²

The Council of State has decreed the **loss of investiture as Congressman of the former head of the FARC-EP, Iván Márquez**, who has not taken office for almost a year. Following the capture of Santrich in April 2018, the former chief negotiator of the FARC-EP and El Paisa disappeared, stating that the authorities were planning a setup against them. He repeatedly failed to appear at the Special Jurisdiction for Peace (JEP) and comply with his obligations, which he defended by claiming lack of security guarantees. The JEP, the Secretariat of the Presidency, and Senate leaders assured that they had no knowledge of facts that endangered his security and the only possible excuse for his absence, which was stated to be a "force majeure", could not be proven.³

The House of Representatives has rejected the **motion of no confidence against the Minister of Defense, Guillermo Botero**. With 121 votes in favor and 20 against, the Minister will **remain in office**. Botero and Army General Nicacio Martínez have been questioned about the alleged return of so-called "false positives", as well as the case of former FARC-EP combatant Dimar Torres, who was killed by the Armed Forces in Norte de Santander in April.⁴

Recent reports affirm that the majority of the FARC-EP combatants who demobilized as part of the Peace Accord have decided to transition to civilian life with their family members in their places of origin. At least **6,000 former FARC-EP combatants have elected individual reincorporation**, while **3,356 have chosen to remain in the 24 Territorial Training and Reincorporation Spaces**, carrying out collective productive projects. Another 1,000 former FARC-EP combatants have relocated to 30 points known as New Reincorporation Areas or Group Reincorporation Areas.⁵

The Administrative Court of Cundinamarca **denied** the tutelage action filed by Senator Roy Barreras, who sought **to recover the 16 special peace constituencies assigned to the victims** of the conflict in line with the Point 2.3.6 of the Peace Accord.⁶ The "Defend Peace" movement, in which former peace negotiators, congressmen, academics, victims, organizations and social leaders take part, announced that they will collect at least one million signatures in support of the peace constituencies. The 16 seats in the House of Representatives representing 167 municipalities were denied by the Senate in November 2017 as the voting did not obtain the required majorities.⁷

According to a report of the Conflict Analysis Resource Center, **political violence in Colombia increased by 86% in May**. The attacks were directed mainly against leaders of Communal Action Committees, regional political activists and, to a lesser extent, against teachers, union members and journalists. Acts of political violence have been recorded in 18 of Colombia's 32 departments; 53% of the acts were concentrated in Cauca (7), Tolima (6), Arauca (5), Antioquia (3) and Valle del Cauca (3).⁸