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FIDH-CAJAR-WE ARE DEFENDERS 11.12.2021

## Colombia: "Deaths Announced" Duque's government was alerted, but failed to act to prevent hundreds of murders of vulnerable population

5 years after the signing of the Peace Agreement, 831 human rights defenders and 286 people in the process of reintegration have been killed



FIDH, the Jose Alvear Restrepo Lawyers Collective (CAJAR) and the Somos Defensores program, in the "Deaths Announced" Report that we publish today, denounce that the Colombian State was warned and knew of the high risks of serious human rights violations. Despite this, the National Government, headed by Iván Duque Márquez, who is responsible for deploying the institutional response to face these risks, did not do so diligently.

The numbers are dramatic. From 2018, the year of the beginning of the Government of President Iván Duque, until June 2021, there were 572 homicides of social leaders and

human rights defenders, 254 homicides of ex-combatants of the extinct FARC-EP and 184 massacres.

The deterioration of the human rights situation in the country and the consolidation and expansion of armed groups of various kinds throughout these 5 years of validity of the Peace Agreement shows that the lack of adequate implementation of the devices enshrined therein has contributed to a reconfiguration of violence in the territories that puts communities at high risk. organizational processes, people in the process of reintegration and human rights defenders that cannot go unnoticed by the international community.

It is the duty of the State to prevent serious violations of human rights, especially those in which such a risk has been foreseen. Since 2001, the Colombian State has had the Early Warning System (SAT) headed by the Ombudsman's Office, which was reinforced in the Peace Agreement and has operated with relative efficiency, monitoring and alerting about a good part of the phenomena of violence in the country. In 66.3% of the territories indicated in the 196 Early Warnings issued for the period 2018-2020, homicides of social leaders and human rights defenders occurred.

The report calls on the Colombian Government to publicly commit itself to the comprehensive implementation of the Peace Agreement, assuming its character as a State commitment, and particularly with regard to security guarantees for communities, organizations, social leaders and signatories of the Peace Agreement.

5 years after the signing of the Peace Agreement, 831 human rights defenders, social leaders and leaders have been killed, according to the Ombudsman's Office, as well as 286 people in the process of being reinstated, according to the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia. This is despite the fact that the Peace Agreement signed between the Colombian State and the FARC-EP in 2016, sought to lay the political and humanitarian foundations to end an armed conflict of more than 50 years and channel state action into public policy instruments to act on the structural causes of the conflict, prevent the recurrence of new events and ensure their non-repetition.

Las organizaciones igualmente alertamos al futuro Gobierno Nacional a dar cumplimiento a lo pactado en el Acuerdo de Paz, y comprometerse a brindar respuestas oportunas y contundentes en torno a los riesgos advertidos.

Vea aquí el informe completo formato PDF:



Colombia announced deaths



## FIDH-CAJAR-WE ARE DEFENDERS

Edited by María Piedad Ossaba

Source: FIDH (International Federation for Human Rights), 7 December 2021

Cover photo credits:Demonstration in Cali-Colombia against the murder of people in the process of reinstatement, February 27, 2020. Credit: Luis Robayo – AFP.

Read in La Pluma: Colombia: Manifesto for peace, to the last drop of our dreams

La Pluma. net 09.12.2021