

To Colombian Embassies and Consulates,

We are international advocates for peace who are distressed by the humanitarian crisis unfolding today in Colombia. More than 700 human rights defenders and 150 former insurgents have been murdered, and those committing the crimes, with few exceptions, act with impunity. The Peace Accord implemented in 2016 is being undermined on multiple fronts. This crisis has repercussions for the entire world, and much of the world bears some responsibility. Colombia is not safe for the political opposition nor for anyone, Colombian or international, who stands with them in solidarity, who dares to deviate from the “official” tourist path. We have, therefore, issued a People’s Travel Advisory on Colombia that will not be lifted until our two basic demands are met.

We demand:

- An end to the genocide against the social movements and rural, indigenous, and Afro-Colombian communities;
- Fulfillment of the government’s obligations with respect to the Peace Accord.

While the People’s Travel Advisory does not call for a boycott of travel to Colombia, we will continue to publish this travel warning widely until our demands are met. **We deliver this letter to you along with a copy of the People’s Travel Advisory with the expectation of a clear response to this question: How will the Colombian government and, especially, the administration of President Iván Duque Márquez, end the violence and terror against social movements and fulfill its obligations to the peace?**

We further commit ourselves to advocate for change in our own governments’ policies that encourage and make possible political violence, repression, and criminal poverty in Colombia. Those of us from the United States recognize that our nation has made possible the massive militarization of Colombia. We denounce the role of US President Donald Trump and his administration’s demands that Colombia abandon commitments to rural development, land reform, and crop substitution and, instead, pursue fumigation and forced, violent methods of eradication of coca and marijuana fields. We denounce the collaboration of the Trump and Duque administrations in undermining the Special Jurisdiction for Peace (JEP). We denounce the integration of Colombia into NATO, a move that ignores Colombia’s terrible human rights record and weaves the country into the very fabric of neoliberal Empire around the world. We denounce the role of right wing and belligerent governments throughout the Americas that enable Colombia to ignore calls for peace and justice at home. Colombia’s alliances with these governments poses a threat to popular movements and governments throughout Latin America.

Colombia stands as a gateway that connects all the Americas. Its geographical position, as well as its rich resources so coveted by transnational corporations, give it an added importance to the entire planet. This campaign is not only about achieving peace, justice, and human rights in Colombia: peace for Colombia is a huge step toward peace for the world.

And that is what we are calling for: Peace in Colombia and the world. What, then, is your response?

Coalition for Peace in Colombia

Observatorio de los Derechos Humanos de los Pueblos

