



Weekly Report

Colombia

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REPORT CONTENTS

Nov 4-10

- 1** FARC & Government Progress on Peace Agreement
- 2** Displaced people who seek redress face further reprisals

FARC and Colombian Government Progress on Peace Agreement

- The FARC rebel group and the Colombian government have been in peace talks in Cuba since November 2012. On November 6, 2013, they completed the second step in the 5-point peace plan, on the issue of political participation. This means the FARC may become a political party.
- Globe and Mail article (Nov 6):
<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/world/accord-may-pave-way-for-farc-to-enter-colombian-politics/article15294290/>
- Trust.org gives a useful summary of the current situation in regards to peace talks:
<http://www.trust.org/item/20131106173416-2d6fe/?source=search>

Displaced people who seek redress face further threats

- Human Rights Watch recently released a report documenting incidents of violence and intimidation by paramilitary groups against those seeking to reclaim land they have been forced to abandon. The Victims Law of 2011 offers redress to the roughly 5 million displaced persons in Colombia, and more than 43,500 claims have been made so far. HRW's research shows many face intimidation, some have been killed, and the perpetrators are rarely brought to justice.

“The partial agreement may pave the way for FARC to enter Colombian politics, which lead government negotiator Humberto de la Calle said would provide a “new democratic opening” that will lead to peace after an end of conflict.”

The report can be found at:

<http://www.hrw.org/reports/2013/09/17/risk-returning-home-0>