

BEYOND THE FIGURES

Part Two

Report January - June 2018:
Information System on Attacks against
Human Rights Defenders - ISAAHRD





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The Non-Governmental Program for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders – We Are Defenders, is a protection area that seeks to develop a comprehensive proposal to prevent aggression and protect the lives of people at risk due to their work as human rights defenders, when they protect the interests of social groups and communities affected by violence in Colombia. The We Are Defenders Program is formed by:



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BEYOND THE FIGURES

PART TWO

A new presidential period of eight years was closed, and with it, the most awaited chapter in recent history: the pact to overcome the armed conflict with the FARC, now transformed into a political party. The negotiation table with the ELN and its expectation of continuance also remained on top. Perhaps like no other, the Government of Juan Manuel Santos has the stamp of the search for peace, with great contradictions such as bearing the loss of a plebiscite to endorse peace agreements, but at the same time with a Nobel Peace Prize.

However, in terms of guarantees for the exercise of the defense of human rights and social leadership, the balance in red is large and it is not comprehensible how, in a period marked by a context of peace, its greatest promoters and defenders, especially from the territories, have paid the highest cost. More than 600 people defending human rights, lost their lives, while the government negotiated with the insurgencies, the confrontation was de-escalated and the violence figures decreased.

But the phenomenon goes beyond the figures, which became the “problem itself”, given the multiplication of sources of information, studies on the phenomenon, and the discrepancies between them and those assumed by the Colombian State. Therefore, with this report we want to analyze a little more the issue of the figures; to see, if wanted, where the differences, methods and consequent results lie; but without forgetting, of course, that the centrality

lies in a fundamental problem, structural and structuring a very serious pathology, which grows with no measure and is configured as humanitarian and obstacle to continue the search for peace, as it is the criminalization of Colombian social leadership.

We have entitled this report Beyond the Figures, part two, reediting the title of the report from eight years ago, where we focused our attention on the same event¹. Today, we also try a brief balance of these two periods of government of Juan Manuel Santos in relation to the policy of protection and guarantees for social leaderships and the exercise of the defense of human rights; the reiterated role of the Attorney General’s Office, and of course, we risk some considerations and uncertainties still marked in the matter, with the new government of Iván Duque, especially for his proposals during the campaign, the bad exit of some of his Ministers barely taking possession of their positions, but above all, the political party that he owes to, the Democratic Center and its difficult positions on matters of peace and human rights.

In this brief balance, Beyond the Figures - part two, the progress in regulations is recognized, as well as the willingness to dialogue and agreement between the Government and society,

1 Beyond the figures, Report from January – June 2018, System of information about Agresions against Human Rights defenders in Colombia –SIADDHH, We Are Defenders Program, www.Somosdefensores.org

in addition to the negotiation table with the guerrillas; but also, how many traced routes and good intentions were reflected in two institutional roles and narratives, but without developments in practice, problematic ambivalence in the territories, especially where there was much expectation in the arrival of peace, but where, on the contrary, the violence strengthened as hope escaped like water between the fingers.

The Report also highlights the important role of the international community and its efforts in different areas of peace translated into human rights, guarantees, protection, human rights defenders, among others.

And as always, a recognition and an in memoriam to all the women and men who have left their lives in the corner of their homes, on their work space, on the roadside, in the hall of the union headquarters, in the arms of his partner or daughter who wanted to protect him with his body, in the communal house, in the fray of social mobilization... In short, in the daily struggle for the rights of their communities and peoples. But also to defenders who despite the extremely high risks, continue stoically in their territories with intact hope and the strong conviction that Colombia will continue the transition to build a balanced, fair and equitable society, where working for rights will not cost their life.

But as never before, there was a highly positive sensibility awakening in Colombian and foreign society, including media, about the seriousness and indignation before the increase of murders against social leaders, expressed in the “Velatón” for the life of July 6, 2018 (Velatón: figure used to describe a night spent in vigil, in which each attendant lights a candle by midnight, in honor of those who dies fulfilling their work).

And last but not least, the analysis of the figures released by the SIADDHH, which account for the increase in aggression, the most affected social sectors, the most distressed regions, the presumed responsible and the long and sad list of defenders of murdered rights.

We thank the technical support provided to SIADDHH by CINEP; as well as the support of human rights and peace and development platforms such as the CCEEU and other national, regional and local human rights organizations and networks with information that nourish our report. Special thanks to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in Colombia - OACNUDH. We also appreciate the financial support of the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Colombia and the international cooperation agencies DIAKONIA, MISEREOR, Terre des Hommes - Schweiz, as their support was essential for the completion of this Report.

*“Social leaders are the soul of the territories,
they are the beacon of their communities,
they are a source of democracy,
they are the seeds of ancestral knowledge,
they are part of the umbilical cord with the earth...
They are the hope of peace in the historical conjuncture that Colombia is experiencing.
These men and women are this and much more...
Their huge sacrifice will not be forgiven by history”.*

Diana Sánchez
Director of the MINGA Association and Program Coordinator of We Are Defenders

Convinced that the desire of these 77 human rights defenders murdered during the first semester of 2018 was also to have a country in peace, we remember their names and we make a brief review of the events that led to their deaths.
Peace in their graves and justice upon their murderers.

IN MEMORY OF THE MURDERED HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS

JANUARY 6, 2018
ALIRIO SÁNCHEZ
TOTORÓ - CAUCA
TOTORÓ INDIGENOUS COUNCIL

On January 6, 2018, around 5:40 in the afternoon, the traditional doctor of the Totoró Town Alirio Sánchez was attacked with a sharp instrument in the municipality of Totorá, Cauca. The crime occurred when Sánchez moved from the market square of the town to the sector known as La Peña, on the way he was intercepted by several individuals who attacked him with a sharp instrument, causing stab wounds to his chest, neck and back.

The traditional doctor was helped by people from the community of La Peña who took him to the local hospital. Due to the severity of the injuries, he was transferred to the University Hospital San José de Popayán. Despite the surgery and being in intensive care, the traditional doctor died on



Thursday, around 11:00 AM.

According to the Indigenous Cabildo of Totoró, Alirio Sánchez was a renowned traditional doctor, who had earned the respect of the members of the region due to his community work. In addition to his work as a spiritual leader, Alirio Sánchez sold potatoes in the galleries of Totoró and in the Bolívar neighborhood of Popayán.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Totoró Indigenous Council

JANUARY 9, 2018
DIANA LUZ ROMERO MOGAJES
PUERTO LEGUIZAMO, - PUTUMAYO
COMMUNITY ACTION BOARD OF SAN
JOAQUÍN

On January 9, 2018, in the rural area of the municipality of Puerto Leguizamo, Putumayo, Diana Luz Romero Mogajes, president of the Community Action Board of the San Joaquín Village, in the municipality of Piñuña Negro, was murdered. According to information from the Putumayo Police Department commander, who through a video sent to the media, announced that the incident occurred in the rural area of Puerto Leguizamo.

According to the police report, the community leader was murdered by stab wounds, in an attack carried out by her former partner. The alleged perpetrator was captured by the authorities on the morning of Monday, January 15, to face a judicial process for the crime of femicide. However,



to date there is no information about the progress of the investigations. The Township in mention is a territory highly affected by the presence of armed actors and drug trafficking networks.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Community Action Board of San Joaquín

JANUARY 17, 2018
VÍCTOR MANUEL MORATO
MUNICIPALITY OF YONDÓ - ANTIOQUIA
COMMUNITY ACTION BOARD OF THE EL
TIGRE TOWNSHIP

Víctor Manuel Morato, who served as president of the Community Action Board of the El Tigre Township in the municipality of Yondó, department of Antioquia, was attacked with a firearm while riding his motorcycle.



According to the available information, on the night of Wednesday, January 17, 2018, the noise of the shots alarmed the residents of houses near the road leading the village of La Rompida 1. Around 8:30 p.m., the president of the CAB (Community Action Board) was hit by bullets that ended his life.

Víctor Manuel Morato, would have left his home at noon to perform some proceedings with his daughter. On his way back home, he was mobilizing alone in the Yondó-Cantagallo road and he was intercepted by two subjects on a motorcycle who shot at him twice. Minutes after hearing the shots, the neighbors of the sector came to the place to aid to the community leader, however when they arrived to the site, his body presented no vital signs.

According to the Victims Association of Crimes of the State - Asorvimm, in the southern region of Bolívar and Yondó there is a constant presence of armed, unknown and hooded actors with rifles committing robberies and intimidating the rural population. The Regional Corporation for the Defense of Human Rights - Credhos also rejected the murder and also indicated that Morato had been reporting some anomalies with the EPM company due to shortcomings in the supply of the light service in the sector, in addition to the presence of the ELN and some micro traffic bands of the Magdalena Medio region.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Community Action Board of El Tigre Township

JANUARY 18, 2018
JORGE JIMY CELIS
CÚCUTA - NORTE DE SANTANDER
COMMUNITY ACTION BOARD OF
COLINAS DE EL TUNAL COMMUNE 6

On January 18, 2018, Jorge Jimy Celis was murdered. He led the creation of the Community Action Board Colinas de El Tunal, commune 6 in the city of Cúcuta. According to several reports, Jorge Jimy Celis was killed by a hooded man who caused him several bullet wounds.

According to the social organizations in the area, Jimy Celis is the forth



community leader to be killed during the first days of January. According to

Marta Maldonado, spokeswoman for the Federation of Community Action Boards of Cúcuta, he was a leader much appreciated by his community, who was working in the organization of Colinas de El Tunal where he lived more than 10 years ago.

Although there are no known threats against the life of Jorge Jimmy Celis, the community hopes that the facts will be investigated and that the material

and intellectual authors of the crime will be found. According to Maldonado, it is known that they detained a person related to the murder.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Community Action Board of Colinas de El Tunal commune 6

JANUARY 18, 2018
PLINIO PULGARÍN
SAN JOSÉ DE URÉ - CÓRDOBA
COMMUNITY ACTION BOARD OF THE
SAN PADRITO VILLAGE

On January 18, 2018, in the village of San Pedrito, in the district of Versailles, municipality of San José de Uré, Córdoba Plinio Pulgarín was murdered, apparently by a group of armed men. He was acting as president of the Community Action Board of the San Pedrito village.

The information was confirmed by Ubaldino Mercado Sacramento, secretary of the Mayor's Government of San José de Uré, who said that the crime caused the displacement of several families to the urban perimeter due to the harassment of illegal groups.

Preliminary versions indicate that a group of armed men arrived in the town in order to assassinate Pulgarín, who, in addition to being a community leader, was a member of the



Patriotic March, the Association of Peasant Reserve Zones and the National Coordinator of Cultivators of Coca leaves, Marihuana and Opium Poppy, who was also supporting the process of replacing illicit crops that was being carried out after the government agreement with the FARC.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Community Action Board of the San Pedrito Village.

JANUARY 19, 2018

LUIS DÍAZ LÓPEZ

MILLER DÍAZ LÓPEZ

TAME - ARAUCA

BETOYE INDIGENOUS RESERVE

In the municipality of Tame - Arauca, Betoye Indigenous Reserve, community of Juliero, on January 19, 2018, the National Army murdered the indigenous leaders Luis Díaz López, only 22 years old, secretary of the Cabildo and Miller Díaz López who was the prosecutor of the indigenous community of Juliero of the Betoye Town.

According to the information supplied by the regional authorities, around 11:00 PM the indigenous leaders were coming back from carrying out bush-meat hunting activities, a very traditional indigenous task, and when they were only 400 meters away from the hamlet very near from the residence, they were intercepted by members of the National Army, who shot them indiscriminately, taking their lives in the act.



The ONIC, according to declarations of the Indigenous Authorities of the region, informs and denounces that “the National Army moved the bodies to Arauca and presented them as guerrilla members of the ELN, a matter that the community strongly rejects. Before such absurdity and violation of the rights and honor of the indigenous leaders, the community decided to block the road as a protest until the facts are clarified and the Government - National Army rectifies the accusation”.

Alleged responsible: National Army
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Betoye Indigenous Reserve

JANUARY 20, 2018

BERVER VÍCTOR VELÁSQUEZ

CÁCERES - ANTIOQUIA

CITIZEN INVOLVEMENT MOVEMENT

On January 20, 2018, in the municipality of Cáceres, Antioquia, the social leader and professor Berver Víctor Velásquez disappeared, and on January



22, his body was found in the Cauca River. Berver Víctor Velásquez was the leader of the Citizen Involvement Movement and a cultural promoter in the region. He also worked as a dance teacher in the municipality of Cáceres and belonged to the Community Action Board of his neighborhood.

“There is concern because leaders’ bodies have been surfacing recently, that worries us a lot,” said Richard Sierra, Director of OIA’s Political Relations and Own Justice. In this regard the local authorities were surprised by

the murder of the leader and teacher. In the municipality of Cáceres there is a strong presence of the well-known group “Clan de Golfo” (The Gulf Clan) that has been exerting pressure on all types of leaders who oppose their actions. Velásquez’s work had a direct relationship with young people from the municipality who are usually the workforce of these groups.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Citizen Involvement Movement

JANUARY 22, 2018
ARLEY JOHANNY MOGOLLÓN BECERRA
SARAVENA - ARAUCA
PEASANT ASSOCIATION
(ASONALCA)

The peasant leader Arley Johanny Mogollón Becerra, was murdered on January 22, 2018 in the place known as the embankment located on the outskirts of the Saravena - Arauca municipality.

The crime occurred when the peasant leader was riding on a motorcycle with his wife, and arriving to the Cabeceras del Llano neighborhood, near the site known as the embankment, he was forced to descend from the motorcycle by two armed persons, one of whom fired several times against him to take his life.

Arley Johanny Mogollón Becerra, resided in the Caño Negro village. At the age of 22, he worked as coordinator of the Peasant Association (ASONALCA)



of District No. 1, he was part of the rural coordinator of the municipality of Saravena and member of the Peasant, Ethnic and Popular Guard of the Political Movement of Social and Popular Masses of the Middle East of Colombia. According to the complaints in this crime, the number of violent deaths recorded during the last week in the Arauca department has risen to 14.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Peasant Association (ASONALCA)

JANUARY 25, 2018
MIGUEL EDUARDO PARRA RONDÓN
CHITAGÁ - NORTE DE SANTANDER
COMMUNITY ACTION BOARD OF EL
ROBLE VILLAGE



On January 25, 2018 troops of the National Army, the Colombian Air Force and the National Police deployed an operation in the municipality of Chitagá to capture several members of the ELN guerrilla. In the midst of these military actions, the president of the Community Action Board of El Roble, Miguel Eduardo Parra Rondón was killed, since he got caught in the middle of the operation while riding on board a milk recollection vehicle.

This was reported in a communication letter by the Municipal Association of Community Action Boards (Asojuntas) Chitagá, because Parra Rondón, in the middle of the shooting, only “got out of the car and ran off in order to safeguard his life”, they argue. For the Association, the man was a member of the civilian population seeking refuge and he was no member of the ELN, as denounced by the military authorities.

Asojuntas Chitagá added that the community leader stood out in the region for his work on the defense of the environment, the rights and the living conditions of the inhabitants. They also claim that it is “a serious violation of Human Rights and the rules of International Humanitarian Law, thus damaging the image of the community members”, also demanding the case to be investigated in order to guarantee the right to the victims.

Alleged responsible: Public Force
Social and/or Human Rights Process
affected: Community Action Board of
 El Roble Village

**“EN PROMEDIO, ENTRE ENERO Y JUNIO DE 2018,
 CADA DÍA FUERON AGREDIDOS DOS DEFENSORES(AS) Y CADA
 2 DÍAS FUE ASESINADO UNO(A) DE ELLOS(AS)”**

JANUARY 26, DE 2018
 ELEAZAR TEQUIA VITUCAY
 CARMEN DE ATRATO - CHOCÓ
 KATIO COMMUNITY – THE 18 –
 OREWA ASSOCIATION

Eleazar Tequia Vitucay, 41, who participated in an Educational “Minga” (Joint meeting of friends and neighbors to do some common work, after which they share a generous meal paid by the beneficiaries) to claim the rights to Education, was killed by a gunshot on the night of Friday, January 26, 2018. Tequia was for 10 years the coordinator of the indigenous guard of the Embera Katio del Dieciocho community, on the road that leads from Quibdó to Medellín, in the municipality of Carmen de Atrato.

The community and the Association of Wounaan Indigenous Councils, Emberá Dovidá, Katio, Chamí and Tule del Chocó (Asorewa) point to the National Army as responsible for this murder, which, according to community accounts, occurred when the protest, which started on January 22, was already over and people were returning to their communities. The events happened at 10:56 p.m. and after the murder, the indigenous guard retained two soldiers and held on to their weapons. One of them was handed over on Saturday to representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)



as he was “bruised” because he was beaten when he was detained; the other soldier was delivered a day later.

Several indigenous and religious authorities and human rights organizations traveled to the site, and the community called on the Ombudsman to intervene in this critical situation. The community demanded immediate demilitarization. “If not, we will throw them out ourselves.” They also asked the UN to summon the authorities and international representatives urgently. “We are tired... We have been abused for many years and all the cases have gone unpunished, if the UN does not get really involved, we will have to do everything on our own,” they said after the leader’s death.

Alleged responsible: Public Force
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Katio Community – the 18 – OREWA Association

JANUARY 27, 2018
TEMÍSTOCLES MACHADO
BUENAVENTURA - VALLE DEL CAUCA
BUENAVENTURA CIVIC STRIKE
COMMITTEE

Temístocles Machado, leader of the Afro communities of Buenaventura Valle del Cauca, was murdered on January 27, 2018 in the city of Buenaventura. The event occurred around 6:00 p.m. in the Isla de La Paz neighborhood, about 20 minutes by motorcycle from downtown Buenaventura.

Temístocles Machado was in a parking lot near his house when he was approached by two men on a motorcycle who arrived through the internal alternate route, on the east of the port. Without a word, he was shot twice in the head. Despite the efforts of the community to save his life, the leader of the Afro-Colombian communities of Buenaventura was taken to the hospital but arrived there with no vital signs.

The murder of the 58 year old social leader of the civic strike and Buena-

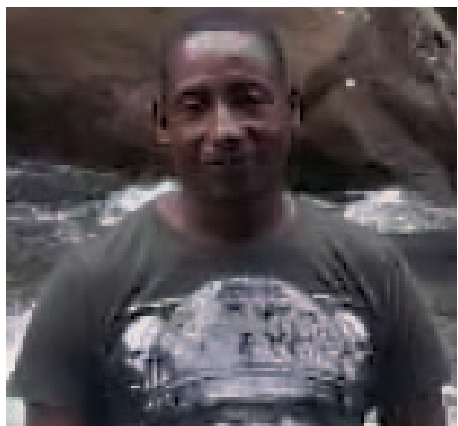


ventura land defender, Temístocles Machado, raised the alarm about the security of social leaders and made it clear that the land conflict in the main port on the Pacific coast is very strong. In addition, the death of 'don Themis', as he was known among the people of Buenaventura, jeopardizes the progress of the commitments agreed upon with the Strike.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Buenaventura Civic Strike Committee

JANUARY 29, 2018
NICOMEDES PAYÁN SEGURA
LÓPEZ DE MICAY - CAUCA
COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF BLACK
COMMUNITIES, MAMUNCIA

On January 29, 2018, in the Pacific Coast of Cauca, in the rural area of the municipality of López de Micay, the social leader Nicomedes Payán Segura was assassinated. The local municipal



ombudsman, Hermes Caicedo, said that according to preliminary versions, the leader was in his residence when he was approached by an unknown subject who attacked him with shotgun shots.

An officer of Public Ministry announced that the body of the social leader was transferred to the local hospital of López de Micay, where experts in criminalistics made the corresponding inspection. Social organizations from the Pacific Cauca, informed that Ni-

comedes Payán Segura, was a recognized leader in the area, original from the village of Taparal. Local authorities indicated that the social leader apparently had not been threatened and belonged to the Community Council of Black Communities, Mamuncia, in that area, located 45 minutes away from the urban area.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Community Council of Black Communities, Mamuncia

JANUARY 29, 2018
NIXON MUTIS SOSA
CANTAGALLO - BOLÍVAR
COMMUNITY ACTION BOARD OF THE
CHAPARRAL VILLAGE

On Monday, January 29, 2018, community leader Nixon Mutis Sosa was murdered in the Chaparral district, located in the municipality of Cantagallo, in the south of Bolívar.

The fact was reported by the Peasant Association of the Cimitarra River Valley (ACVC), which affirmed that the community leader, victim of the crime and who had been participating in the programs of substitution of illicit crops in the area, had already warned about the situation of insecurity that was occurring in the village and its surroundings.

Nixon Mutis Sosa served as the president of the Community Action Board and was delegated by the community of the Coca leaves, Poppy and Mari-



huana Growers Coordinator (COC-CAM) and he was also part of the Patriotic March movement. In the area where Mutis was murdered, a narco-paramilitary gang known as “the caparrapos” who would be behind the intimidation against the leaders associated to the voluntary substitution or eradication of crops and a very strong pressure from the ELN guerrilla.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Community Action Board of the Chaparral village

JANUARY 31, 2018
ANTONIO MARÍA VARGAS MADRID
SAN JOSÉ DE URÉ - CÓRDOBA
COMMUNITY ACTION BOARD OF THE LA
ILUSIÓN VILLAGE

On January 31, 2018, in the municipality of San José de Uré, the community leader Antonio María Vargas Madrid was assassinated. According to the reports, armed men arrived to the la Illusion village, located the community leader and caused him several bullet wounds. It is believed that the criminals are the same ones who murdered the leader Plinio Pulgarín and forcibly displaced the communities to the villages of San Pedrito and Altomira, according to the complaint filed by the human rights organization CORDOBEXIA Foundation.

According to CORDOBEXIA, Vargas Madrid was the treasurer of the Community Action Board of the la Illusion village, and was also signatory of the collective substitution agreement for



coca leaf in the south of Córdoba, as also was the social leader Plinio Pulgarín, president of the community action board of San Pedrito, in that same municipality of San Jorge, murdered on January 18. In the area, the Gaitanista Self-Defense Forces of Colombia are present and they control as an armed wing of the Gulf Clan.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Community Action Board of the la Ilusión village

FEBRUARY 1ST, 2018
MARÍA YOLANDA MATURANA
PUEBLO RICO - RISARALDA
SANTA CECILIA COMMUNITY /
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSOCIATION OF
FAUNA AND FLORA

On Thursday, February 1, 2018, leader María Yolanda Maturana was assassinated in the municipality of Pueblo Rico, department of Risaralda. The crime occurred during the night when



apparently armed men entered the home of the environmental social leader and murdered her with a firearm.

Maria Yolanda Maturana, 70 years old, lived in the township of Santa Cecilia, municipality of Pueblo Rico Risaralda, she was committed to defend natural resources, especially in the border area between the departments of Risaralda and Chocó. The Regional Defender of the Risaralda People denounced that days before the murder she had received allegations from indigenous leaders of the

reservations of Pueblo Rico, warning about the presence of hooded persons in the area that were besieging them. Yolanda earned her income from small-scale mining and also served as the president of the Fauna and Flora Environmentalist Association.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Santa Cecilia Community / Environmental Association of Fauna and Flora.

FEBRUARY 3, 2018

**DIANA PATRICIA MEJÍA FONSECA
BOGOTÁ. D.C**

LA NUEVA CANDELARIA COMMUNITY

Diana Patricia Mejía Fonseca who worked with the ICBF as a teacher and community mother, in Candelaria la Nueva neighborhood in the city of Bogotá, was murdered in the afternoon of February 3, 2018. Diana Patricia was in her home reunited with her family hours before the homicide, where she enjoyed the company of her loved ones. Apparently about 10:15 a.m. she went out to perform several procedures concerning her work.

At 5:45 p.m. The community mother called a friend and told her to accompany her because she had one more pending task to do. Diana went out with her friend, they were walking really slow. According to the available versions, the two women passed



nearby a place where her husband was. He seemed to have observed that she was in the company of a friend, when all of a sudden, a medium-sized subject came out of nowhere, he drew a weapon, reached the community mother and mercilessly fired two bullets through her head.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: La Nueva Candelaria Community

FEBRUARY 5, 2018
CARLOS EDUARDO MELO RAMÍREZ
BOGOTÁ. D.C
COMMUNITY ACTION BOARD OF
THE ANTONIO JOSÉ DE SUCRE
NEIGHBORHOOD



The community leader Carlos Eduardo Melo Ramírez, was assassinated on February 5, 2018 in the city of Bogotá. The incident occurred when Carlos Eduardo was walking near his place of residence, when a man abruptly approached him and apparently stabbed him twice with a knife, killing him immediately. The fact is registered in the security cameras of the sector. The surveillance equipment also captured the moment when the neighbors reached the victim and took him to a health center. Carlos Eduardo was immediately transferred to a hospital in a cab that was in the sector.

Carlos Eduardo Melo Ramírez, 50 years old, was known among the residents of the sector because of the

communal work he carried out in the Antonio José de Sucre neighborhood in the district of Usme, Bogotá. For this reason, the authorities investigate the aggressor's reasons for taking his life. This is not the first leader killed in Usme; in 2017 at least 2 leaders were allegedly killed for opposing micro-trafficking actions in the area.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process
affected: Community Action Board
 of the Antonio José de Sucre
 Neighborhood

FEBRUARY 6, 2018
DAGOBERTO ACOSTA LÓPEZ
PUERTO CONCORDIA - META
CAÑO LA SAL INDIGENOUS COUNCIL



On February 6, 2018, in the rural area of the municipality of Puerto Concordia in the department of Meta, Dagoberto Acosta López, Sheriff of the Caño la Sal Indigenous Council, of the Jiw Indigenous People, was assassinated.

The incident occurred when the indigenous leader arrived to his community riding his bicycle, badly beaten up. Upon reaching the community he lost consciousness. The community tried to help him but due to the severity of the blows, Dagoberto lost his life. The communities presume that the death of the indigenous Jiw leader was committed by members of FARC dissidents, who have been intimidating and harassing the indigenous communities of the area,

also because they are presumed to be responsible for several murders committed in the municipality of Puerto Concordia. Up to this date there is no effective action by the authorities to stop the action of these groups.

Alleged responsible: FARC
Dissidents
**Social and/or Human Rights Process
affected:** Caño la Sal Indigenous
Council

FEBRUARY 6, 2018
SANDRA YANETH LUNA
TIBÚ - NORTE DE SANTANDER
COMMUNITY ACTION BOARD OF THE
TUTUMITO CARBONERA VILLAGER

On February 6, 2018, the body of Sandra Yaneth Luna was found. She was the President of the Community Action Board of the Tutumito Carbonera village in the Campo Dos township, municipality of Tibú, Norte de Santander. According to information, armed men had removed her from her home on September 27, 2017.

The kidnapping of Sandra Yaneth Luna occurred in the area called La Silla. One of the hypotheses that the authorities handle is that her crime would be related to a complaint made by her before the Gaula about a case of extortion, in which common criminal groups would be involved.

The finding of the corpse, reported the Police of Norte de Santander, occurred



on Tuesday, February 6 in the village of La Primavera, in the Petrolea township of Tibú (Norte de Santander). In the inspection of the body, forensic experts established that the victim had three wounds produced with a firearm: one in the head and the other two in the right side of her body.

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head and the other two in the right side of her body.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Community Action Board of the Tutumito Carbonera villager

FEBRUARY 8, 2018
DAVID ALEXIS NARVÁEZ
TARAZÁ - ANTIOQUIA
TARAZÁ ILLICIT CROP SUBSTITUTION PROGRAM

On Thursday, February 8, 2018, David Alexis Narváez was killed in Tarazá, Antioquia. The victim was one of the leaders of the illicit crop substitution program in the region. The authorities do not rule out that members of the Colombian Gaitanistas Self-Defense (AGC) perpetrated the crime.

According to the preliminary versions, armed men arrived at the village of La Pipiola, in the El Doce Township, and violently broke into the home of the social leader, who was enjoying his family and was shot repeatedly.

In the face of the crime committed against David Alexis Narváez, the Social Guarantee Process asked the



Government and the Public Force to offer protection to the community of Tarazá, where massive displacements have been warned due to the confrontation of armed groups in the area.

Alleged responsible: Paramilitaries
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Tarazá Illicit Crop Substitution Program

“Human Rights defenders and peasant, communal, community, indigenous and Afro leaders were the common target of the aggressions during the first semester of 2018.”

FEBRUARY 9, 2018

ORLANDO GRUESO OBREGÓN

JHONATAN CUNDUMÍ ANCHINO

GUAPI - CAUCA

NATIONAL COORDINATOR OF COCA,

POPPY AND MARIJUANA GROWERS

COCCAM



Armed men arrived on the night of Friday, February 9, 2018, to the village of La Soledad in the municipality of Guapi, on the Pacific Coast of Cauca. The leaders Jesús Orlando Grueso Obregón and Jhonatan Cundumí Anchino were murdered. Receiving 10 and 13 rifle hits respectively is a proof that the double crime was not only due to the simple contempt of the armed stoppage order of the ELN, but also to the leadership of people of African descent in the socialization of the National Program for the Replacement of Crops of Illicit Use. (PNIS).

Jesús Orlando and Jhonatan were members of the Ethnic and Popular Movement of the Pacific - MOEP, of

the National Coordinator of Coca, Poppy and Marijuana Cultivators COCCAM and of the Political and Social Movement Patriotic March in the Department of Cauca and they had been promoting the process of gradual substitution and voluntary cultivation of illicit crops in the Framework of point 4 of the Havana agreement.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: National Coordinator of Coca, Poppy and Marijuana Growers COCCAM

FEBRUARY 11, 2018

DEIVER QUINTERO PÉREZ

EL TARRA - NORTE DE SANTANDER

COMMUNITY ACTION BOARD OF EL

TARRITA NEIGHBORHOOD



On February 11, 2018, in the municipality of El Tarra, department of Norte de Santander, the community leader Deiver Quintero Pérez was assassinated. The incident occurred when the victim left his house to work in a store that he had in the center of the town.

Several men arrived to the place, extracted him from the premises and took him to an unknown destination. His body was finally found the same day in the afternoon on the Tarra River, with 5 bullet wounds to his head.

Deiver Quintero Pérez was a community leader who served as the Sports Coordinator of the Community Action Board of the El Tarrita neighborhood

in the municipality of Tarra. He was known for his collaborative spirit and recognized by the community as an active leader in the Community Action Board.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Community Action Board of El Tarrita Neighborhood

FEBRUARY 13, 2018
ÁLVARO ARANGO
TUMACO - NARIÑO
COMMUNITY OF THE LA GUAYACANA
TOWNSHIP

On February 13, 2018, in the rural area of the municipality of Tumaco, the social leader Álvaro Arango was assassinated. The 69-year-old leader from Tumaco, died, is his farm, located at kilometer 76, of the road that leads from Tumaco to Pasto in the Guayacana Township. Apparently, strangers approached the home of Arango, called him out and then shot him seven times.

Those responsible for the murder fled on a high-capacity motorcycle towards an unknown destination after committing the crime. A person who was at the scene of the crime called Alvaro's wife, Mariela Rubiela Cortez, to inform her about his death, and then went to the leader's house. Álvaro Arango, recognized leader of the sector, left two orphan sons. 25



years ago he arrived in Tumaco from Medellín and committed himself to the raising of chickens and pigs. He was also a beneficiary of the PNIS and would have been pressured by FARC dissidents for entering that program. There is a lot of fear in the community to tell on this situation.

Alleged responsible: FARC
Dissidents
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Community of the La Guayacana Township

FEBRUARY 17, 2018
ELKIN FABIÁN TORO
EL TARRA - NORTE DE SANTANDER
COMMUNITY ACTION BOARD OF THE EL
ZUL VILLAGE

The social leader Elkin Fabián Toro, who had worked in a community radio station and also had an administrative position in a Community Action Board (JAC) in the municipality of El Tarra, Norte de Santander, was found dead by the authorities on Saturday February 17, 2018.

The body of Elkin Fabián Toro, 36 years old, was found with six bullet wounds in the Filo el Gringo village, which is part of El Tarra, in the Cata-tumbo region, bordering Venezuela, the police reported on a brief release. Toro was disconnected from both his work at the local station and from his position at the JAC since October 2017, the authorities added; however,



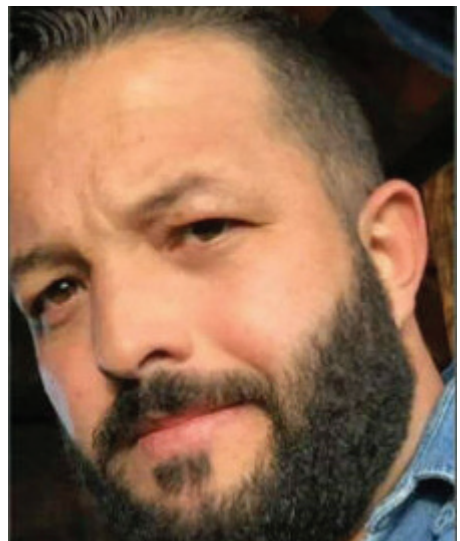
local sources said that he continued to do community work for the JAC.

In that zone there is a strong confrontation between ELN and EPL for territorial control of the strategic corridors of Catatumbo where El Tarra is located.

Alleged responsible: ELN
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Community Action Board of the El Zul village

FEBRUARY 17, 2018
CRISTIAN CAMILO TORO RODAS
QUIMBAYA - QUINDÍO
COMMUNITY OF QUIMBAYA

The former councilor and leader Cristian Camilo Toro Rodas was murdered on February 17, 2018 in the center of that municipality of Quimbaya, department of Risaralda. The incident occurred around 3:40 p.m., when the victim was chatting with a friend in a commercial establishment located on the 15th and 6th as he was approached by an assassin who shot him



repeatedly, causing three serious injuries in the right part of the thorax and the left arm. Cristian Camilo managed to be helped by people who witnessed the event, but when he arrived to the Sagrado Corazón de Jesus hospital, he did not show vital signs.

The former representative was 38 years old and had also been the manager of Cootrascien. The event caused consternation amongst the Quimbaya community, as he was a prominent

person in the town. He was a community leader recognized for his work with the community in the support of cultural demands in the Municipality. Former Liberal Party Councilor 2012-2016, with mayoral aspirations in 2019 elections.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Community of Quimbaya

FEBRUARY 23, 2018
FLOVER SAPUYES GAVIRIA
BALBOA - CAUCA
PEASANT ASSOCIATION OF BALBOA
ASCATBAL WORKERS

On February 23, 2018, 27-year-old social leader Flover Sapuyes Gaviria was assassinated in the municipality of Balboa Cauca. The event occurred in the Esperanza village, around 5:00 pm, there Flover Sapuyes was very close to his house when, all of a sudden, a man arrived on a white motorcycle- Approaching him, he pulled out a fire weapon and shot indiscriminately. The victim tried to escape but the attacker chased him and shot him until he took his life. Flover died as a result of five impacts with a firearm.

The commission of the Patriotic March Rights Network emphatically rejected the murder of one of its leaders. The victim was a social leader



and defender of Human Rights. By the time, he was the treasurer of the Coccam Impulse committee in the village of La Esperanza; member of the Peasant Workers Association of Balboa Ascatbal and member of the Political and Social Movement Patriotic March.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Peasant Association of Balboa Ascatbal Workers

FEBRUARY 23, 2018
JUAN EMILIO ABRAN SOLANO
CÚCUTA - NORTE DE SANTANDER
COOMUTRANORT

On February 23, 2018, in the city of Cúcuta, department of Norte de Santander, community leader Juan Emilio Abran Solano was assassinated. The incident occurred when the leader was painting the premises of a commercial place of his property, accompanied by his son Emilio. Around 10:40 am, two subjects on a motorcycle arrived: They descended their ride directly to intimidate the victims with a firearm and allegedly shot him in order to steal a golden ring.

Juan Emilio Abran Solano was a member of the Credit Union COOMUTRANORT, in which he held a position within the surveillance committee, working for the rights of the associates. He supported the Foundation



'Mis Quinceañeras' (My fifteen-year-old ladies) of the commune 8 which offered young people different kinds of support, he was also the former treasurer of Asojuntas commune 5 Cúcuta and was part of the Colombian Association of Sportswriters (Acord).

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: COOMUTRANORT

FEBRUARY 26, 2018
CRISTIÁN EMILIO JAIMES TRIANA
BUCARAMANGA - SANTANDER
COMMUNE 10 OF BUCARAMANGA

Cristián Emilio Jaimes Triana, social leader, was murdered on February 26, 2018 in the city of Bucaramanga, Santander. The incident took place in the neighborhood of Cristal Alto, when Cristian Emilio tried to recover two roosters that had been stolen and when he challenged the suspect, he repeatedly stabbed the leader of the 10th commune of Bucaramanga, un-



til his life reached an end. The police arrived at the scene and captured the alleged attacker, who is known by the alias of 'Cilindro'. According to General Manuel Vásquez, commander of the Metropolitan Police of Bucaramanga, it was an act of intolerance. However, Jaimes worked in this commune of Bu-

caramanga with other young people on issues for prevention of violence.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Commune Community 10 of Bucaramanga

MARCH 2ND, 2018
OBER HERMINSUL LARRAONDA
RENDÓN
ORITO - PUTUMAYO
COMMUNITY ACTION BOARD OF THE
LOS ALPES NEIGHBORHOOD

On March 2, 2018, in the municipality of Orito Putumayo, the community leader Ober Herminsul Larraonda Rendón was assassinated. He was a professional welder, who served as the President of the Community Action Board of the Los Alpes neighborhood.

Ober Herminsul Larraonda Rendón, 35 years old, was assaulted by unknown persons with a firearm, when he was in the Marco Fidel Suarez neighborhood, in front of the municipal mayor's office, in the company of other people, which resulted in two of them being injured. Thanks to the information provided by the citizens, the National Police rushed to the scene of the events and transferred him in a police vehicle to the local hospi-



tal, where due to the seriousness of the wounds, he died.

The situation in Orito for leaders like Ober is extremely dangerous, due to the massive presence of drug trafficking networks and organized crime gangs that are trying to control the peripheral neighborhoods of the municipality.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Community Action Board of the Los Alpes Neighborhood

MARCH 5, 2018
ÉIDER ARLEY CAMPO HURTADO
CALDONO - CAUCA
PIOYÁ INDIGENOUS RESERVATION

On March 5, 2018, in the Indigenous Reservation of Pioyá, Caldono Cauca, the communicator and indigenous guard, Éider Arley Campo Hurtado, was murdered. The incident occurred when a group of four men broke into the house of the indigenous council to rescue three people, which the community had retained due to a criminal situation that was under investigation by the indigenous authorities.

The four armed men fled with the people who were being held captive, the community and the indigenous guard realized the situation and began the search for these people. During the persecution, the armed men fired on the indigenous guard, and that's when Éider Arley Campo Hurtado was killed.

Finally, the community managed to capture the suspects of the murder



of Éider Arley Campo Hurtado, who were wearing military garments and belonged to a dissident group of the FARC. These people were sentenced by indigenous justice to 40 years, for the death of the indigenous guard, who also worked as a communicator on the radio station Pioyá stereo.

Alleged responsible: FARC
 Dissidents

Social and/or Human Rights

Process affected: Pioyá Indigenous
 Reservation

MARCH 6, 2018
LUÍS ARTURO ROYET FRANCO
SAN JOSÉ DE URÉ - CÓRDOBA
COMMUNITY ACTION BOARD OF THE
SANTA ISABEL VILLAGE

Luis Arturo Royet Franco, community leader was murdered on March 6, 2018 in the municipality of San José de Uré, Department of Córdoba. The events occurred around 8:30 p.m in the village of Santa Isabel, where Luis



Arturo worked as president of the Community Action Board. According to the relatives' version, two armed men in the vicinity of a farm known as Chaparral arrived onboard a motorcycle, entered the victim's home and violently removed him to a place known as Puente de Piedra. Later on his body was found on the road that connects San José de Uré with the municipality of Montelíbano.

Royet Franco was President of the Community Action Board of the village of Santa Isabel, Doradas Township and he was also leader of the process of

substitution of illicit crops. The streak of violent deaths of community leaders in San José de Uré started to take place on January 18, with the murder of Plinio Pulgarín, president of the Community Action Board of San Pedrito, who was also a leader in the policy of voluntary substitution of illicit crops. The fact of blood generated the displacement of more than 200 families.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Community Action Board of the Santa Isabel village

MARCH 6, 2018

VÍCTOR HUGO BARRAGÁN MARTÍNEZ
CIMITARRA – SANTANDER
PEASANT ASSOCIATION “LA NUEVA
ESPERANZA” (NEW HOPE)

Víctor Hugo Barragán Martínez, peasant leader of the municipality of Cimitarra in Santander, was known for accompanying peasant communities far from the municipality. He was killed by gunmen near his home on March 6, 2018 at night, when unknown subjects approached him and shot him repeatedly.

The Peasant Association “La Nueva Esperanza”, of which Barragán was the legal representative, is dedicated to the food security of the area and focuses their efforts on the problems related to mining in the region and the high levels of pollution that it generates.



The situation of the municipality of Cimitarra has been gradually becoming worse by the presence, again, of groups of paramilitary descent and the silence of the administration of the municipality.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Peasant Association “La Nueva Esperanza” (New Hope)

MARCH 6, DE 2018
JUAN MENA
QUIBDÓ - CHOCÓ
COMMUNITY ACTION BOARD OF THE
LOS ÁLAMOS NEIGHBORHOOD

On March 18, 2018, in the city of Quibdó, department of Chocó, the communal leader Juan Mena was assassinated. The incident occurred when armed men shot him multiple times while walking at plain sight on a public avenue of the capital city of Chocó. Right then, the aggressors fled.

Juan Mena was a social leader who served as President of the Community Action Board of Los Alamos neighborhood, rice sector, Commune 1. He had returned a few days ago to the capital city of Chocó, after having taken refuge outside the city during a few weeks because he had been receiving death



threats. The social leaders denounce that the area is severely beaten by the dissidence of the Farc and the drug trafficking gangs.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Community Action Board of the Los Alamos Neighborhood

MARCH 22, 2018
JOSÉ ANÍBAL HERRERA
VALDIVIA – ANTIOQUIA
COMMUNITY ACTION BOARD OF THE
MESETAS DE VALDIVIA VILLAGE

On March 20, José Aníbal Herrera had been 'off the grid' since the minute he left on a motorcycle taxi, heading from Valdivia towards the village of El Aro de Ituango. After a week of searching, his body was found in the waters of the Cauca River, in the jurisdiction of the municipality of Caucasia. It is not ruled out that the leader drowned while trying to escape an armed attack.



The disappearance of the leader José Aníbal Herrera also generated several contradictory statements among the authorities themselves, since the Mayor of Valdivia had reported the finding of the corpse several days ago, but the version was denied by the Army and the Police.

José, served as spokesman in that population of the Municipal Commission for Participatory Planning of the National Comprehensive Plan of Substitution, formed from the implementation of point four of the peace agreement between the Colombian

Government and the FARC on crops for illicit use. In his career as a rural leader, he was co-founder of the Association of Peasants of Bajo Cauca (Asobac), president of the Association of Peasants of Toledo, president of the Community Action Board of La Meseta and coordinator of the Municipal Committee of Valdivia Coca leaf growers created on February 17, 2017 in Puerto Valdivia.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Community Action Board of the Mesetas de Valdivia village

MARCH 25, 2018

VÍCTOR ALFONSO ZABALA OVIEDO

JORGE MIGUEL POLANCO ÁVILA

CAUCASIA - ANTIOQUIA

COMMUNITY ACTION BOARD OF THE EL

RIZO AND CAÑO PRIETO VILLAGES

On March 25, 2018, in the village of Jaguas in the municipality of Cauca, Bajo Cauca, Antioquia, Víctor Alfonso Zabala Oviedo and Jorge Miguel Polanco Ávila were assassinated. These two social leaders were approached by heavily armed men.

According to the report supplied by relatives of the victims, the first thing to happen was that Mr. Zabala Oviedo was murdered on a farm in the village of Jaguas at around 5:00 pm on Sunday, March 25. Zabala was the president of the Community Action Board of the El Rizo village in the municipali-



ty of Cáceres, Bajo Cauca and he was part of the crop substitution program.

Minutes later, the social and peasant leader Jorge Miguel Polanco Ávila was violently removed from a farm, his home, located in the village of

Caño Prieto, municipality of Cáceres. He was, against his will, transferred to rural area of Caucasia, where he was murdered by subjects who carried long-range rifles. This happened around 5:30 p.m. Sunday. Polanco Ávila had been president of the Community Action Board of Caño Prieto, municipality of Cáceres.

The attack, according to declarations, was allegedly perpetrated by men

belonging to the Caparrapos. In principle it was indicated that the double crime was executed in the village of Caño Prieto, but it was clarified by the authorities that both homicides were committed in rural area of Caucasia.

Alleged responsible: Paramilitaries
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Community Action Board of the El Rizo and Caño Prieto villages

MARCH 27, 2018
ISRAEL FAJARDO
LA MACARENA - META
COMMUNITY ACTION BOARD OF THE
BRISAS DE ITAVIARE VILLAGE

Israel Fajardo, community leader, was murdered in the municipality of La Macarena on April 27, 2018. The National Confederation of Community Action Boards denounced that this murder is added to those of other leaders in the area. Fajardo was the founder of the mentioned Community Action Board in 1968 and for several decades he served as their dignitary. By the time of his death he was accompanying the community processes of the Board.

However, the Meta government secretary, Gerardo León Mancera, said that the information supplied to him by the mayor of La Macarena states that Mr. Israel Fajardo was manipulating a weapon that was accidentally



activated, a bullet wounded him and he died. Nonetheless, there is no information available from the necropsy report to suggest that it was an accident. In the area, there is significant pressure from the FARC dissidents.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Community Action Board of the Brisas de Itaviare village

MARCH 30, 2018
MARÍA MAGDALENA CRUZ ROJAS
MAPIRIPÁN - META
ILLCIT CROPS SUBSTITUTION
MOVEMENT IN MAPIRIPÁN

The peasant leader María Magdalena Cruz Rojas, was murdered on March 30, 2018 by strangers in the municipality of Mapiripán, department of Meta. According to a statement from the Foundation for the Defense of Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law of the East and the Center of Colombia (DHOC), María Magdalena was murdered in front of her husband and son in a farm owned by the family, on Friday the 30th of March “by armed hooded and masked people who broke into their farm house where they live”.

The zone in which Mapiripán is located was for several years the scene of the armed conflict and fortress of the paramilitary group United Self-Defense of Colombia (AUC), which perpe-



trated a massacre in that municipality in which dozens of people died. Since then it has become a point of confrontation between the former FARC guerrillas and several other armed actors.

María Magdalena Cruz Rojas was part of the Movement for the substitution of crops in Mapiripán, the Iteviare sector, Rincón del Indio Inspection.

Alleged responsible: FARC
Social and/or Human Rights Process
affected: Illicit Crops Substitution
 Movement in Mapiripán

MARCH 30, 2018
HÉCTOR JANER LATÍN
CORINTO - CAUCA
PROCESS OF LIBERATION OF MOTHER
EARTH – CORINTO

Hector Janer Latin, liberator of Mother Earth in Corinto, Cauca, was murdered on March 30, 2018. The incident happened at 6:40 p.m. when Héctor Jáner went from Corinto to El



Guanábano on a motorcycle. In the crossing of Gualanday, unknown men stopped him, killed him with gunshots, took the motorcycle and left his documents and cell phone behind. The murder occurred in the same place where minutes before the army had installed a military checkpoint. A checkpoint that is normally installed in that spot.

The murder of Héctor Jáner takes place in the context of escalation of the war in the territory of northern Cauca in which guerrilla groups, or those who call themselves that, challenge community autonomy by sowing terror and paramilitary groups also ope-

rate in the territory, while the Public Force seems to be absent.

According to information received, Héctor Jáner was a happy and active man in the liberation; always with a fun commentary or a joke, supportive and attentive in times of emergency. The young liberators called him “The ugly” to focus his attention when he got too intense, but not even that made the Nasa leader lose his smile.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Process of Liberation of Mother Earth – Corinto

MARCH 30, 2018
BELISARIO BENAVIDEZ ORDÓÑEZ
ROSAS - CAUCA
TERRITORIAL COMMITTEE OF
TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE

On March 30, 2018, in the municipality of Rosas, Cauca, the victim defender Belisario Benavidez Ordóñez was murdered. The incident occurred in the Santander neighborhood when armed men approached Belisario while he was walking through the urban area of the town. The assailants gave him four shots, right in front of his three-year-old son and his nephew, who is 12.

Belisario Benavidez Ordóñez was part of the victims' table of that locality located to the south of the department of Cauca. According to the complaint,



the social leader was carrying out some work on cases of victims with the municipal administration. He was also a delegate of victims before the Territorial Committee of Transitional Justice.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Territorial Committee of Transitional Justice

APRIL 4, 2018

ÁLVARO BAYONA PÉREZ
SAN CALIXTO - NORTE DE SANTANDER
PEASANT ASSOCIATION OF CATATUMBO
ASCAMCAT

Álvaro Bayona Pérez, a peasant leader from Catatumbo, was murdered on April 4 in the municipality of San Calixto, Norte de Santander. The incident occurred in the Petrolera sector when Álvaro was riding on a pickup truck from Cúcuta to the Catatumbo region, when they were intercepted by a motorized person who shot indiscriminately against the social leader, killing him on the spot and leaving his nephew injured.

The peasant leader, member of the ASCAMCAT, died of multiple injuries and his nephew who was also wounded, was transferred to the hospital of the region. According to preliminary versions, Bayona and his nephew had just closed a cattle sales business and were heading back to their farms when they were attacked.



Olger Pérez, another social leader of El Catatumbo and brother of the victim, indicated that all the victimizing facts had been denounced and that it had become a leaders' slaughterhouse, every day killing people of the region simply because they are peasants or leaders.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Peasant Association of Catatumbo ASCAMCAT

APRIL 10, 2018

WILSON QUETAMA
CLAUDIO CHAVES
SAN JOSÉ DEL PALMAR - CHOCÓ
VICTIMS ASSOCIATION OF SAN JOSÉ
DEL PALMAR - ASOVICOPAL

Four armed men murdered the victim's defender Wilson Quetama, and the peasant leader Claudio Chaves in a rural area of San José del Palmar, department of Chocó.





According to the information of the witnesses, the victims went to a meeting with the community in the La Italia Township, where alleged members of the ELN guerrillas arrived, they tied up Quetama and shot him repeatedly until he died. Then they took Chaves to another place where they also murdered him.

General Mauricio Moreno, commander of the Task Force Titan of the

Army, declared that the Prosecutor's Office appointed a special group to investigate this crime, which is causing anguish among the residents of San José de Palmar. "The Office of the Prosecutor assigned a specialized group to establish who was responsible and how this happened, they are the competent authority on this issue" said the commander.

The pressure of the ELN in this area has become strong due to the departure of the FARC from these territories and in this framework they have started a process of co-optation of the population and leaders who, like Quetama and Chaves, were affected by opposing the presence of the FARC's new group.

Alleged responsible: ELN
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Victims Association of San José del Palmar - Asovicopal

APRIL 14 DE ABRIL 2018
 EFRÉN ZÚÑIGA
 PIENDAMÓ - CAUCA
 MELCHO DE PIENDAMÓ SCHOOL -
 ASOINCA

The ASOINCA organization and the Bureau for the defense of human rights, life and territory denounced the murder of Efrén Zúñiga, in the municipality of Piendamó, Cauca, on April 14. The relatives of the social leader said that the teacher left his house to negotiate a farm in the municipality of Piendamó, where his



body was found with a bullet in the head. They also claimed that Efen was apparently tortured and forced to dig his own grave.

According to Tito Torres, president of ASOINCA, 43 social leaders, trade unionists and human rights defenders in Cauca have been murdered this year, which, in turn, shows “the permanent and systematic violation of human rights addressed to those who belong to the social movement in Cauca”. He also said that behind these acts there are paramilitary structures that have claimed domain over the territory,

despite the multiple complaints that have been made to the authorities on the increase of this armed actor in Cauca.

Zúñiga was a renowned teacher of the municipality with several years of work in the district. He stood out due to his work and commitment to his students on the search for options different to war in the municipality.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Melcho de Piendamó School - ASOINCA

APRIL 20, 2018
JAMES LUIS JIMÉNEZ ESTRADA
TURBO – ANTIOQUIA
COMMUNITY ACTION BOARD OF
CACAHUAL, SAN VICENTE DEL CONGO
TOWNSHIP

James Jiménez was murdered during the morning of April 20, in the village of Santa Rosa de San Pedro de Urabá, while he was at his brother’s house. He had extensive knowledge in several of the problems that afflict his territory, especially the processes of formalization and restitution of land and substitution of illicit crops.

His work from the Community Action Board was an addition to a land reclamation process that he carried out and also accompanied other farmers in that task; situation that made him a target for several armed groups



operating in the area. Both the death of this social leader and the fact of violence that occurred on April 11 in the village of El Tomate in San Pedro de Urabá, where eight members of the Public Force died, when they accompanied proceedings related to the restitution of land; they reflect the State’s inability to ensure restitu-

tion processes and ignore mechanisms of collective judicial subjection of criminal groups to guarantee rights to the land.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Community Action Board of Cacahual, San Vicente del Congo Township

APRIL 27, 2018
MARÍA DEL CARMEN MORENO PÁEZ
ARAUQUITA - ARAUCA
COMMUNITY ACTION BOARD OF THE
CAÑO RICO VILLAGE

The mayor of the Arauquita municipality, in the department of Arauca, confirmed the murder of María del Carmen Moreno Páez, a community leader in the rural area of that town, who had been kidnapped by subjects when she was on her way to her farm.

According to the entity, the body of the woman, who was president of the Community Action Board of Caño Rico, was found in a high degree of decomposition in a farm next to the place from which she was abducted. "We categorically reject this vile murder that today mourns the hearts of the Arauquita people, that pleaded for the freedom of this woman", the mayor said in a statement.

The case was referenced as an extortive kidnapping, apparently committed by common delinquency.



In the investigation that was opened, it is sought to establish whether three citizens of Venezuelan nationality would be involved in the plagiarism.

In a message delivered by the captors, videotaped and read by Moreno Páez, whose hands were always, the criminals, who claimed to be members of a paramilitary group, asked for a billion pesos for her release, otherwise they would attack her life.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Community Action Board of the Caño Rico village

MAY 2ND, 2018
HUGO ALBEIRO GEORGE PÉREZ
PUERTO VALDIVIA - ANTIOQUIA
RÍOS VIVOS (LIVE RIVERS) MOVEMENT

Hugo Albeiro George, a member of the Ríos Vivos Movement, was murdered in Puerto Valdivia, Antioquia, around 11:00 am on Thursday, May 3. After the fact, which according to the environmental organization is the third deadly attack against its members, 42 civil society organizations expressed their repudiation.

According to the information made public, a man, with no hood nor mask, shot multiple times against the leader, who was heading to a public demonstration to protest against the risks associated with the obstruction of the Hidroitungo hydroelectric generation project tunnel.

The attack also Domar Egidio Zapata George was killed. He was the leader's nephew, who was only 23 years



old. The Ríos Vivos Movement has been subjected to multiple threats, intimidations and human rights violations due to their defense of the territory and the Cauca River.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Ríos Vivos (Live Rivers) Movement

MAY 6, 2018
LUIS OVIER GONZÁLEZ GUAZORNA
PUEBLO RICO - RISARALDA
INDIGENOUS TOWN EMBERA CHAMÍ,
ALTO BARAQUIDURA COMMUNITY

The indigenous leader Luis Ovier González Guazorna, who had been missing since Friday, April 4, was found dead and half-buried in the rural area of Pueblo Rico, Risaralda.



Apparently, strangers intercepted him when he was on his way to his Reservation.

One of the leaders of that community confirmed via radio, the finding of the body of the indigenous leader of the Embera Chami unified community. The leader said that Gonzalez was also an active leader, he had been an indigenous governor and also a member of the guard. He added that although his partner was threatened for several years, they do not know for sure why he would have been killed.

The community also indicated that the victim was a 'jaibaná' (traditional doctor) within that community and was engaged in the work of collecting coffee in Sanctuary (Risaralda). He said that since Friday he had told his

family that he was going to visit them over the weekend and that when he was on his way, strangers intercepted him and finished them.

The Community assures that several leaders, including González, have been threatened. They have received pamphlets and calls, among other intimidations. They added that, out of fear, they have not investigated where the pressure comes from, although they suspect that it is from armed groups that are present in those bordering areas between Risaralda and Chocó.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process
affected: Indigenous Town Embera
Chamí, Alto Baraquidura community

MAY 8, 2018
LUIS ALBERTO TORRES
PUERTO VALDIVIA - ANTIOQUIA
ASSOCIATION OF SMALL-SCALE MINERS
AND FISHERS OF PUERTO VALDIVIA -
AMPA

Luis Alberto Torres, 35 years old, was murdered in the "El Pescado" sector in the Puerto Valdivia village, Bajo Cauca, Antioquia, when he was performing his 'Barequeo' task (an artisanal practice related to mining) with his brother, Duvian Andres Correa Sánchez in the Cauca River. Luis Alberto left his wife his three children.



This leader was murdered in the same area where a week earlier the leader Hugo Albeiro George Perez was also killed, who according to the Ríos Vivos Movement, was attacked while preparing a day of protests over the problems brought to them by Hidroituango.

Torres belonged to the Association of small-scale miners and fishermen of Puerto Valdivia known as AMPA, which

is linked to the Ríos Vivos Movement. According to this movement there were two members killed in less than a week, including the case of Hugo George who they recognize as an activist.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Association of Small-scale Miners and Fishers of Puerto Valdivia - AMPA

MAY 13, 2018
HAROLD LERMA PALACIO
TUMACO - NARIÑO
COMMUNITY OF THE URIBE URIBE
TOWNSHIP

The social leader Harold Lerma Palacio was murdered on Sunday, May 13, in the village of El Ceibito, Uribe Uribe, Tumaco, Nariño. According to the authorities, the incident occurred at three in the afternoon when Lerma Palacio was traveling on a motorcycle from the village of El Ceibito to the sector of Chilví, a place where motorcycle assassins intercepted him and shot him three times in the back. Members of the community went to the place to transfer him to a medical center, but it was too late.

Harold was part of the illicit crop substitution program and until November 2017 he was part of the Community Action Board, JAC, of his village, in which he was also an



advisor. Jairo del Castillo, social leader and defender of Human Rights in Tumaco, was concerned although this situation of danger in which Harold Lerma and all the defenders and social leaders of the department were, was known to the authorities.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Community of the Uribe Uribe Township

MAY 22, 2018
GILBERTO ESPINOSA VICTORIA
BUGALAGRANDE - VALLE DEL CAUCA
SINALTRAINAL

According to Sinaltrainal, the union leader Gilberto Espinosa Victoria was killed in Bugalagrande, Valle del Cauca, at approximately 8 pm on May 13. Gilberto was a worker of the multinational Nestlé of Colombia for 25 years in the Bugalagrande factory. The fact took place in the development of a collective conflict that started with the presentation of the list of petitions by SINALTRAINAL to Nestlé de Colombia S.A. on April 9, 2018.

As background, on February 10, at approximately 11:40 hours, at the SINALTRAINAL facilities in the San Bernabé neighborhood in the municipality of Bugalagrande, through the SERVIENTREGA service, an envelope arrived, containing a death threat with the names of workers affiliated to SINALTRAINAL (Gilberto Espinosa and others). As a result of this serious



situation, the respective complaint was filed with the Attorney General of the Nation on February 12.

The murder of this union leader coincides with the reopening of judicial proceedings around the well-known “dragon operation” that linked paramilitaries and members of the public force who intercepted, harassed and persecuted social leaders and union leaders from Valle del Cauca, where SINALTRAINAL was affected.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: SINALTRAINAL

MAY 22, 2018
RAMÓN ASCUE
CORINTO - CAUCA
INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY OF CORINTO

The Fabric of Defense of Life and Human Rights of the Association of Indigenous Councils of Northern Cauca, ACIN, reported that Ramón Ascue, an indigenous community member and defender of the environment, was killed by gunmen in Corinto, Cauca.



Ascue belonged to the Pan de Azúcar village of the indigenous community of Corinto, Cauca and he was known for being a “liberator of Mother Earth” supporting his chapter in the expulsion of armed actors from the territory.

According to the organizations, the events occurred in the commercial zone of Corinto, when assassins would have been following him until his murder was completed with a firearm at around 9:15 p.m. The indigenous orga-

nizations of the area have been developing actions to free their lands from the presence of members of armed groups, laboratories for the processing of cocaine, coves with weapons and in general illicit crops that are prohibited. In the midst of these actions, liberators like Ascué have fallen.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Indigenous Community of Corinto

MAY 22, 2018
FÉLIX CASTAÑEDA
CANTAGALLO - BOLÍVAR.
COMMUNITY ACTION BOARD OF THE
CHAPARRAL VILLAGE

Félix Castañeda, member of the Community Action Board of Chaparral and also delegated by the community to the Coca, Poppy and Marijuana Growers Coordinator - Coccam was found dead after his disappearance.

Sources in the area reported that the social leader had left home, by the beginning of that week, on a motorcycle that he owns, and since then his whereabouts became unknown, until Thursday when he was found dead with bullet wounds.

After the news of Felix Castañeda’s crime became public, the community of the zone showed its concern, since he is the second leader of the Chaparral village who has been murdered this year, after having found in January the body of Nixon Mutis, who at that



moment was the president of the JAC and he also worked as a member of Coccam.

Sources of human rights groups in southern Bolivar said that the sector where these crimes have occurred is a corridor of several groups outside the law, such as ‘Acuamanes’ (Aquamen), ELN and others who profit from drug trafficking.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Junta de Acción Comunal de la vereda Chaparral

MAY 22, 2018

HARRY ALEXANDER ORTIZ PARRA.

BARBACOAS - NARIÑO

BARBACOAS COMMUNITY

Harry Alexander Ortiz Parra, community leader, was murdered in the village of La Guayacana; the pickup truck in which Ortiz Parra was traveling was attacked by several unknown men who hit it with a grenade and several bursts of rifle shots. The victim was heading to Pasto.

Among the passengers who were injured, there was a pregnant woman. He was accompanied by two men and a woman who are part of the process of reincorporation of the Farc. Apparently Ortiz was traveling to Pasto because the three people he was traveling with had asked him to transport them to the capital of Nariño.

Ortiz, 38 years old, was the one driving the vehicle. He managed to be transferred to the San Andrés Hospital



in Tumaco, where he died hours later. The victim was a native of Barbacoas, where he had stood out for his social and political leadership, but two years ago he had moved to Tumaco where he lived.

His life partner had told the authorities that he had never received death threats.

Alleged responsible: FARC
Dissidents

Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Barbacoas Community

MAY 22, 2018

MIGUEL ÁNGEL BAUTISTA MARTÍNEZ

TIBÚ - NORTE DE SANTANDER

COMMUNITY ACTION BOARD OF THE

CAÑO GRANDE PRIMAVERA VILLAGE,

CAMPO 2 TOWNSHIP

Miguel Ángel Bautista Martínez, a 30-year-old community leader, was murdered in the municipality of Tibú. The man, a native of Salazar de las Palmas, left his farm, located in the village of La Primavera, on Saturday morning heading to the school where



he was painting the classrooms during the day.

When he got on his horse in order to return to the farm, he was attacked by two men, who apparently were riding on a motorcycle. As it was known, the attackers initially shot Bautista with long-range weapons and then, attacked him possibly with a machete.

Bautista served as Prosecutor of the Community Action Board of Caño

Grande Primavera, Campo 2. This area is subject to strong pressure from the ELN and PLA guerrillas in the territorial struggle that they are developing to control the strategic corridor that exists in this area.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Community Action Board of the Caño Grande Primavera village, Campo 2 Township

MAY 23, 2018
CRISTIAN ANDRÉS LOZANO
LUIS EDUARDO DOMÍNGUEZ BLANDÓN
ANDALUCÍA - VALLE.
SINALTRAINAL

During a raid carried out by hired assassins, two union leaders of the Nestlé factory were murdered inside a house located in the Sol y Luna neighborhood in the municipality of Andalucía, Valle. The double homicide was perpetrated on Wednesday, May 23 at 10 p.m. in a building of that population in the center of the department. Cristian Andrés Lozano, 31, and Luis Eduardo Domínguez Blandón, 22, were shot in the head and thorax and killed.

According to Lieutenant-Colonel Guillermo Alejandro Carreño Arbeláez, commander of the Second Police District, it seems that the aggressor was known to the victims and once he murdered them he fled, leaving the door of the house closed, which is the reason why the authorities had to force the entry to access the site.



Carreño ruled out that these homicides are related to the murder occurred on May 13 in the Bugalagrande's neighborhood La María, of Gilberto Espinosa Victoria, 52, better known as 'Tito', who also worked at the Nestlé factory and who was provided with protection measures, as he had reported to the Prosecutor's Office death threats sent to him by certified mail. However, the coincidence is extreme, considering the reopening of judicial proceedings around the well-known "dragon operation" that linked para-

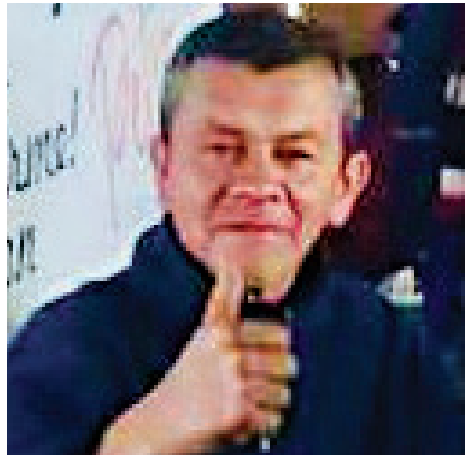
militaries and members of the public force who intercepted, harassed and persecuted social leaders and union leaders of Valle del Cauca, where SIN-ALTRAINAL was affected.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: SINALTRAINAL

MAY 27, 2018
GABRIEL MUÑOZ
LA ARGENTINA - HUILA.
CITIZEN OVERSIGHT PROCESS 'VEMOS TODO' (WE SEE IT ALL). COLOMBIA HUMANA COALITION.

Gabriel Muñoz was killed when armed men fired on several occasions against the leader and electoral attorney of the Colombia Humana committee in Argentina. According to the authorities, the leader was traveling through a forest area of the Las Águilas village, 20 minutes away from the urban area of La Argentina, where he was attacked with a firearm by unknown persons, after having finished a political meeting in which he coordinated the electoral agenda.

Gabriel was a peasant leader who had been reporting alleged corruption on the way schools manage their feeding processes in his community. In addition, he was a defender of territory and water; he was a member of 'Vemos Todo' (We See It All), a process



of citizen oversight with a high social commitment. He was to serve as a delegate to the 23rd table of his municipality for the presidential elections, on behalf of the Colombia Humana coalition.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Citizen Oversight Process 'Vemos Todo' (We See It All). Colombia Humana Coalition.

“Human Rights defenders and peasant, communal, community, indigenous and Afro leaders were the common target of the aggressions during the first semester of 2018.”

MAY 28, 2018
AMÍLCAR YAGARÍ SIAGAMA
EL DOVIO - VALLE DEL CAUCA
EMBERA CHAMÍ TOWN. INDIGENOUS
RESERVATION HAI KERA WERA

The 52-year-old indigenous leader, identified as Amilgar Yagari Siegama and member of the shelter Hai Kera Wera, was killed in the rural area of El Dovio, where, apparently, he had arrived displaced from a community located in Bolívar, north of Valle del Cauca. "In the existing background, which is being verified, it is reported that he was displaced by threats in the community where he was before," said Noralba García, Secretary of Security Valle del Cauca. Garcia declared that "they came for him, they forced him out and, unfortunately, they murdered him".

The man had wounds caused by firearm on several parts of his body and he would have been killed by people



wearing ski masks. Rafael Ulcué, who is part of the Human Rights team of the Valle indigenous organization, Orivac, said that the victim had been receiving threats. The leader was killed by hit men in the presence of his own family.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process
affected: Embera Chamí Town.
 Indigenous Reservation Hai Kera
 Wera

MAY 30, 2018
JUVENAL SILVA MANCHOLA
LA MONTAÑITA - CAQUETÁ
MIRAMAR VILLAGE COMMUNITY

In a supposed confrontation between the Army and residual groups of the FARC, Juvenal Silva, community leader of the Municipality of La Montañita, was murdered. According to the authorities, eleven people killed and two injured, including a minor, was the result of an alleged case in the Miramar village of this municipality.



According to official accounts, the combat originated after the Army was alerted of the presence of a group of subjects (who apparently were former members of fronts 7, 13 and 14 and now belonged to the FARC dissidences) commanded by alias 'Cabezas'. Another version delivered by the authorities, states that the alleged group of dissidents had forcibly taken several civilians, and apparently during the conflict, 11 people were killed, including two civilians: The leader, Juvenal Silva and a worker of his farm identified with the name of Jeferson Monrroy.

However, Ludivia Galindez, the com-

munal leader of the area, confirmed in open sources, how the FARC dissidents took leader Silva and a worker against their will, demanding to be transported in a vehicle owned by the leader. After that, an attack was made by the Military Forces where the community leader died. In fact, the leaders of the zone met with high-ranking Army commanders so that this leader is not included as a guerrilla member since he was a victim of kidnapping.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Miramar village Community

MAY 30, 2018
DELMAYRO REYES GONZÁLEZ
DAGUA - VALLE DEL CAUCA
DAGUA EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION

The incident occurred in the village of El Palmar de Dagua, around 7:00 p.m., when two gunmen approached the teacher and shot him several times causing his death. The teacher Delmayro Reyes González, respected by the educational community and who had fought against the consumption of marijuana and other substances in his school, was killed with a gun by a man who followed him for several meters, while the educator waited for the bus that would take him to Cali where he lived with his family.

The prosecutor's report says that "according to the investigation, the victim had finished his academic day



and was ready to return to Cali, where he lived, and when he was in the vicinity of the pedestrian bridge, waiting for transportation, he was approached by two subjects on a motorcycle and the one in the passenger seat shot him with a firearm several times, killing him, after which the perpetrators fled the scene".

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Dagua Educational Institution

JUNE 2ND, 2018
ORLANDO NEGRETE RAMÍREZ
TIERRALTA - CÓRDOBA.
COMMUNITY ACTION BOARD OF CAMU
LAS DELICIAS

Orlando Negrete Ramírez, 40, president of the Community Action Board of Camu Las Delicias, was killed while he was with family and friends attending a sportive event in the area, in the afternoon of June 2, in the municipality of Tierralta, Córdoba. Orlando Negrete, who was popularly known as El Coco, “was enjoying a football match when two guys arrived and shot him, causing him to die at the scene”, said Colonel Marcelo Napoleón Russi, commander of the Córdoba police.

Negrete, besides being the president of the Community Action Board of the Las Delicias sector of the municipality of Tierralta, was a citizen overseer of public works. The man received 12 shots and became the seventh



community leader killed in southern Córdoba to the date. Apparently, his interest and follow-up to the inconclusive public works of the municipality and his constant denunciation of the facts, would be related to his death.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Community Action Board of Camu Las Delicias

JUNE 2ND, 2018
CARLOS JIMMY PRADO GALLARDO
OLAYA HERRERA - NARIÑO
SATINGA JOVEN (YOUNG SATINGA)
MOVEMENT. ASSOCIATION OF
COMMUNITY COUNCILS AND ETHNIC
TERRITORIAL ORGANIZATIONS.

In Bocas de Satinga, the administrative center of the Olaya Herrera municipality, an unidentified gunman opened fire against human rights defender Carlos Jimmy Prado Gallardo. According to residents of the area, the vic-



tim served as the legal representative of the Satinga Joven movement, and was a national delegate of the board for prior consultation of black people, Palenque Afro-Colombians, and raizales (indigenous) in Nariño, and belonged to the board of directors of the Association of Community Councils and Ethnic Territorial Organizations.

In the framework of its community work, Prado Gallardo had attended a session on Friday in which members of the aforementioned movements and delegates from local and departmental administrations participated. Later, around 4:00 a.m. on Saturday,

he left towards his place of residence. In the evening hours, after the meeting, a young but still unidentified man arrived to his residence and without saying a word, he shot him in several occasions, leaving him on the verge of death. Although he was transferred to a health center, the leader died two hours later due to the severity of the injuries caused by the bullets.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Satinga Joven (Young Satinga) Movement. Association of Community Councils and Ethnic Territorial Organizations.

JUNE 10, 2018
FRANCISCO JOSÉ GUERRA
ITUANGO - ANTIOQUIA
COMMUNITY ACTION BOARD OF THE EL
MANDARINO VILLAGE

The authorities of Ituango, Antioquia, confirmed the murder of the president of the El Mandarin Community Action Board, Francisco José Guerra. The incident occurred on Saturday, June 9, when men arrived to his home and shot him repeatedly.

Faced with these facts, several organizations defending human rights have demanded urgent measures in the department of Antioquia, because including this homicide, 9 defenders have been murdered in the territory.

The inhabitants of the village said that this fact could be related to the



different actions carried out by Guerra for the defense of the territory due to the pressure of projects such as Hidroituango in the area. However, the authorities expressed that they are in the process of investigation.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Community Action Board of the El Mandarin village

JUNE 11, 2018
JEISSON RAMÍREZ
VALLE DEL GUAMEZ - PUTUMAYO
LA YET COMMUNITY ACTION BOARD

Jeisson Ramírez, president of the La Yet Community Action Board, was killed in the rural area of the Guamez Valley, in the department of Putumayo, on June 10. The facts were presented when Ramírez was with his partner in a store having a soft drink when armed men approached him and shot him several times causing him to die.

The residents of the village said that this could be related to the different actions that Ramírez carried out for the defense of the territory through the intervention of hydrocarbon exploitation companies. Also in the area there are important interests of armed groups for the control of illegal businesses like extortion and



collection of 'vaccines' (illicit practice by means of which a group of armed actors force the owners of local and legal businesses to pay a high amount of money in exchange for not hurting them or their families).

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: La Yet Community Action Board

JUNE 12, 2018
HOLMAN MAMIAN
LA VEGA - CAUCA
SANTA RITA AGRICULTURAL
EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION –
ASOINCA

Holman Mamian was a member of ASOINCA and a recognized teacher of the agricultural educational institution Santa Rita, in the municipality of La Vega, Cauca. The facts took place on June 12, when Mamian was heading to his work, where he was approached by men who shot him repeatedly.



According to Mario Daza, director of ASOINCA, Mamian was focused on the union work that was part of the organization with high visibility in the municipality of La Vega, which is why

he considers that his murder may be related to his social activism. In addition, he pointed out that these facts have become systematic in Cauca, “we see how the social and peasant leaders continue to be murdered, without the national nor departmental government moving a finger”.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights
Process affected: Santa Rita
 Agricultural Educational Institution –
 ASOINCA

JUNE 19, 2018
ARNULFO CATIMAY BLANCA
SANTA ROSALÍA - VICHADA
SÁLIBA INDIGENOUS TOWN

The National Indigenous Organization of Colombia (ONIC), denounced the murder of the indigenous leader Sáliba Arnulfo Catimay Blanca, “by a member of the national police” in the Municipality of Santa Rosalía, Vichada. The events occurred after an altercation between third parties on Tuesday, June 19.



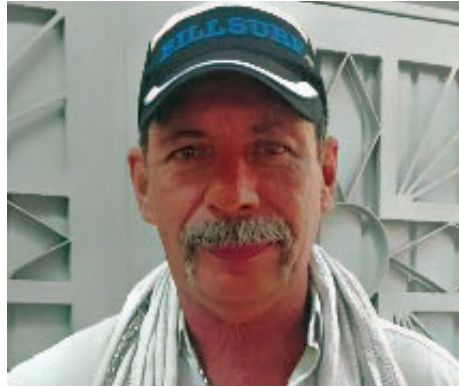
Aida Quilcué Vivas, Councilor for Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Human Rights and Peace of the ONIC, indicated that Catimay was the brother of the governor of Caño Mochuelo and helped in the custody of the town council as an indigenous guard; both the Governor and his family point to

the Police as responsible, and adds that the police has not referred to the case.

Alleged responsible: Public Force
Social and/or Human Rights Process
affected: Sáliba Indigenous Town

“On average, between January and June 2018, two defenders were attacked every day and every other day one of them was murdered”

JUNE 20, 2018
LUIS CARLOS CABRERA
FLORENCIA - CAQUETÁ
COMMUNITY ACTION BOARD OF THE
BERLÍN DE FLORENCIA NEIGHBORHOOD



Unknown subjects on a motorcycle murdered the president of the Community Action Board of the Berlin neighborhood of Florencia, Luis Carlos Cabrera, when he was riding back home on his motorcycle. The communal leader received several gunshot wounds, which caused his death right after he was transferred to a clinic in Florencia.

In the neighborhood where this community leader developed his activities, there has been a strong presence of illegal groups related to micro traffic who would be responsible for the homicide.

Authorities handle several hypotheses that could be related to the homicide of the communal leader. So far this year, two community leaders have been murdered in Caquetá and others have been the victims of threats by unknown persons.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Community Action Board of the Berlín de Florencia Neighborhood

JUNE 21, 2018
CRISTIAN ANDREY RODRÍGUEZ
SÁNCHEZ
HACARÍ - NORTE DE SANTANDER
COMMUNITY OF THE MARACAIBO
TOWNSHIP AND HACARÍ GROUP OF
YOUNGSTERS



On June 21, the young cultural and peasant leader Cristian Andrey Rodríguez Sánchez was violently murdered, in a rural area of the municipality of Hacarí, Norte de Santander. According to police sources, those responsible for this homicide would be members of the EPL, better known as 'Los Pelusos'.

According to the authorities, the incident occurred in the morning hours of Wednesday, in the village of La Es-

peranza, where the body of the victim was found with several bullet wounds. “An unfortunate fact is registered in the rural area of Hacarí. A 19-year-old person was killed. At this moment we are working on the investigation and the first conclusion is that the armed action was perpetrated by Los Pelusos”, said Colonel George Quintero, commander of the Police of Norte de Santander.

Rodríguez was an active member of the Maracaibo community of that

municipality in Norte de Santander and also part of the groups of the Hacarí young activists, who worked for cultural options for their people in the municipality.

Alleged responsible:
EPL Los Pelusos
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected:
Community of the Maracaibo Township

JUNE 23, 2018
HÉCTOR SANTIAGO ANTELIZ
TEORAMA - NORTE DE SANTANDER
SAN JOSÉ COMMUNITY ACTION BOARD

Héctor Anteliz, a member of ASCAMCAT and social leader of Teorama, was murdered in Norte de Santander. According to the information gathered by the community, Anteliz was held captive by armed men who arrived to his home on Friday, June 22. His body was found on the road the next day, with several bullet wounds.

Olga Quintero, spokeswoman for ASCAMCAT, said that four men arrived at the leader’s home and told Anteliz to accompany them because “the commander” needed to talk to him. Although the leader’s family opposed this, the armed men assured that nothing wrong would happen. The inhabitants said that later on they found the body during the morning of the next day, down the road. However, only until his sons arrived to the cited place on a motorcycle, the body was moved to a medical center.



ASCAMCAT said in a press release that Anteliz was a human rights defender in Teorama, coordinator of the committee and president of the San José Community Action Board. He also pointed out that no armed structure operating in the territory has taken responsibility for this act.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: San José Community Action Board

JUNE 26, 2018
JOSÉ ABRAHAM GARCÍA
ITUANGO - ANTIOQUIA
COMMUNITY ACTION BOARD OF THE
PASCUITA VILLAGE



The authorities are investigating the murder of José Abraham García, president of the Community Action Board of Pascuita, municipality of Ituango, north of Antioquia. According to the information of the authorities, during the night, men who on board a motorcycle repeatedly shot the social leader in the small populated area of the village.

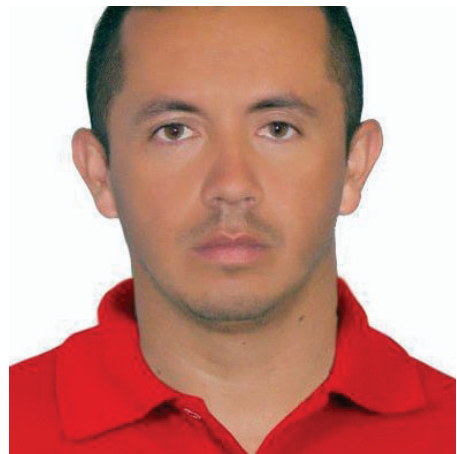
To this rural area, which is located three hours away from the urban perimeter, members of the National Army arrived to initiate the investigations, in a village where there are coca leaf crops and the presence of the recidivist group that belonged to the Farc, front 36. In addition, there have been reports of clashes over the control of territories

between this group and members of the criminal band Clan del Golfo.

According to the National Police, the leader José Abraham García was part of the coca farmers who in March held a protest demonstration in the municipality of Ituango and continued to work organizing the peasants around the agreed upon crop substitution.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Community Action Board of the Pascuita village

JUNE 26, 2018
JAMER ALBEIRO IDROBO NAVIA
BALBOA - CAUCA
COCA LEAF GROWERS COMMITTEE OF
THE JOAQUINA VILLAGE



The Human Rights Network Francisco Isaías Cifuentes denounced the murder of Jamer Albeiro Idrobo Navia, a former councilman and social leader of the municipality of Balboa, in the department of Cauca. The social leader, 39 years old, member of the

Committee of Coca leaf growers in the Joaquina township, died when strangers shot him twice in the head.

A commission of the Police and the Attorney General's Office initiated the corresponding investigations to find the whereabouts of those responsible and determine the motives of the homicide.

Idrobo had stood out in the municipality for its proximity to the peasant communities of the territory and for the defense of those before the forced eradication of coca crops in the area.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Coca Leaf Growers Committee of the Joaquina Village

JUNE 27, 2018
JULIO CÉSAR SUCERQUIA
ITUANGO, ANTIOQUIA
NORTH OF ANTIOQUIA BAREQUE
COMMITTEES ASSOCIATION

The Network of Social and Peasant Organizations of the North of Antioquia denounced that Julio César Sucerquia, founding member of the North of Antioquia Bareque Committees Association (artisanal small-scale miners) was assassinated in the village of Mote, rural area of the Ituango municipality.

Sucerquia was attacked with a firearm two kilometers from the humanitarian refugee camp, which he was a part of, "due to the humanitarian crisis in which the members of the association find themselves due to the damming of the upstream of the Cauca river" consequence of the effects of the Hidroituango project.

This dam is in emergency due to a landslide that blocked the tunnel that diverts the waters of the Cauca River, the second largest channel in the country, and which were dammed in



an unfinished reservoir and put it at risk of collapse. Social organizations say they are frightened "in the face of continuous degradation of security" in their "territories, which makes the submission to continuous violations of Human Rights imminent."

They also warned of the "imminent danger" to which the communities of northern Antioquia are exposed, and whose risks are maximized for those people who are organized in the different social movements.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: North of Antioquia Bareque Committees Association

JUNE 28, 2018

LUIS ERARDO FERNÁNDEZ VELAZCO
JAMBALÓ - CAUCA
INDIGENOUS TOWN NASA.

On June 28, 2018, the native indigenous Luis Erardo Fernández Velazco was assassinated. Luis was a native of the Loma Gruesa village. Fernandez left his house in his vehicle located in the village at approximately 2:00 pm, with detination set for the rural area of the indigenous reservation of Hueillas Caloto. Hours later he was found dead with two bullet wounds in the El Arrayan sector, jurisdiction of the municipality of Caloto.

Luis Erardo Fernández Velasco, was 33 years old. He was well known in the area for his community social work since in 2004 he graduated as an academic bachelor at the Marden Arnulfo Betancur Educational Institu-



tion. During 2004 - 2005 he was the Khambuesx authority of his village, then he was founder and coordinator of the youth movement of his village for several years and by the time of his death he was the captain of the football team of his community.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Indigenous Town Nasa

JUNE 29, 2018

IVÁN LÁZARO
PUERTO LIBERTADOR - CÓRDOBA
PEASANT ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH
CÓRDOBA, ASCSUCOR, SUBSIDIARY
OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
PEASANT RESERVATION AREAS –
ANZORC

At two o'clock in the afternoon of Friday, June 29, the peasant leader Iván Lázaro was assassinated. The incident occurred in the village of Juan José, in Puerto Libertador, municipality of Córdoba. Lázaro was a member of the



Association of Peasants of the South of Córdoba, Ascucor, a subsidiary of

the Patriotic March, belonged to the National Association of Peasant Reserve Areas - Anzorc, and was for two terms secretary of the Community Action Board of Rogero.

The leader, who stood out for sponsoring sport and cultural processes in the community, was attacked by armed men when he was sleeping in his room. Given the roots and recognition of the community by the charisma of this leader, dozens of people marched

peacefully at his burial, demanding the authorities to help stop the killings in this area of Cordoba and improve the security conditions of the leaders.

Alleged responsible: Unknown
Social and/or Human Rights Process affected: Peasant Association of South Córdoba, ASCSUCOR, Subsidiary of the National Association of Peasant Reservation Areas – ANZORC

POLITICS, PEACE AND HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS

A human rights defender or social leader is in itself, a person who builds peace, democracy, country and society. In Colombia, especially in the popular sectors, both rural and urban, where the absence of the State is evident, the role of these leaders becomes fundamental to the extent that it creates the bridge between the communities and the state and government institutions, in the pursuit of vindication of their rights. Consequently, the aggression or in the worst case, the murder of a male or female leader, is a blow of incalculable proportions for the communities. Hence when there's a purpose to silence a community that seeks changes or improvement of their situations and those affect particular interests, the strongest message that can be sent is to blind the lives of its leaders.

Eight years ago, also at a time of change of government, the Program We Are Defenders entitled its semi-annual analysis "Beyond the figures" as a way of meaning that, in the case of the analysis of assaults on HR defenders, it is imperative to go beyond the cold statistical data. That the tragedy which continues "in crescendo" against the Colombian social leadership, should attract the attention of the State, the media and society as a whole, as that,

as a human tragedy. Today, when the phenomenon does not stop, that call made 8 years ago is even stronger.

Thus, on this occasion and almost a decade later, this report claims the same title and tries to lead the observation and discussion of the violence against these people towards the same subject, given that the situation does not improve. This being the case, this chapter of the Report presents a brief analysis of the key situations that occurred in the first six months of 2018 that affect the exercise of the defenders, as well as a review of the progress and setbacks of the closing government (Juan Manuel Santos) and the challenges faced by the arriving one (Iván Duque).

ALL OF THE REPORTS... ALL OF THEM.

2018 continues with the trend presented since the previous year in relation to the diversity of reports, analyzes and observations on the phenomenon of violence against human rights defenders and their organizations; which is something positive since, the more information there is in the media and social networks, the more attention and sensitivity of society is achieved and that will be reflected on more pressure

that can be put on the State, since they have been living this invisible and silent drama for several decades.

However, these reports, although they coincide in the reasons for the violence and areas of affectation, differ from each other in terms of figures, which has its origin in several reasons: On one hand, many stop only in the field of murders, but do not contextualize them with a broader or more detailed analysis of other types of attacks such as threats, attacks, retentions, judicial proceedings, sexual violence or information theft, among others. On the other hand, periods of time and references from different contexts are taken, which generates disparity in accounting. Likewise, many studies are carried out based on secondary sources and do not have verification mechanisms in the field, generating, of course, different understanding frames. But what all the analyzes agree on is the growth of aggression, the

inability of the State and government to stop it and the serious impact on the peace context that it implies.

Added to this is the confusion, partly created by the Colombian State, especially from the Attorney General’s Office, who by giving “official figures” of investigations into murders of human rights defenders, reduces the number only to the corresponding processes in recent years, a very short period (2016, 2017 and 2018), without giving an account of the broad universe of cases of previous years or at least, of the last two presidential periods.

But in the middle of this context, from the Program We Are Defenders, we try to contribute to clarify the scene, for which a review of all the reports and pronouncements published at the closing date of this document (July 2018) was made to analyze its content and identify common points, differences and possible outputs to the problem.

Organization – Institution	Registered Figure	Special Features Identified	Difficulties
Peace and Reconciliation ¹ Report: HOW IS PEACE GOING	434 aggressions including 153 homicides (between Nov. 26, 2016 and May 15, 2018)	Performs an analysis that connects the murder of leaders with political issues and derivatives of the agreement (crop substitution)	Does not have a detailed public list of victims to contrast Methodology for collection of information in the field is unknown

Organization – Institution	Registered Figure	Special Features Identified	Difficulties
<p>INDEPAZ / Patriotic March / Agrarian Summit / Heinrich Böll Stiftung2</p> <p>Report: Situation of social leaders, Human Rights Defenders and former members of the FARC – EP and their Families.</p>	<p>385 registered murders (between January 2016 and May 2018)</p>	<p>Identify possible perpetrators of violence against leaders, patterns of systematicity and forms of violence</p> <p>It has a public list of cases</p>	<p>Definition about who is a Human Rights defender or a Social Leader is unclear.</p>
<p>José Alvear Restrepo Lawyers Association– CAJAR3</p> <p>Report: Report to the Commission of Clarification of the Truth about patterns of aggression against people who defend Human Rights and the territory in Colombia</p>	<p>664 murders (between 2002 – 2016)</p>	<p>Identifies patterns of repression and criminalization against defenders with historical perspective</p>	<p>Does not have a detailed public list of victims to contrast</p>
<p>Consulting for Forced Displacement – CODHES / National Center of Consulting / USAID</p> <p>Report: Analysis of homicides of leaders in Colombia 2016 - 2018</p>	<p>122 murders (between January 2016 and March 2018)</p>	<p>Explores the social demographic and homicide characterization of defenders</p> <p>Explores the differential impacts of the defenders deaths (ethnic and gender)</p>	<p>Does not have a detailed public list of victims to contrast</p> <p>The sampling is very small and, being a pilot exercise, it makes characterization difficult.</p> <p>Methodology for collection of the information in the field is unknown</p>

Organization – Institution	Registered Figure	Special Features Identified	Difficulties
<p>Ombudsman's Office⁴</p> <p>Early Alert No. 026 - 18</p>	<p>331 murders (between January 2016 and August 2018)</p>	<p>Builds a strong warning of leaders in danger with background, risk scenario, characterization of modes of violence with regional and local detail</p>	<p>Does not have a detailed public list of victims to contrast</p> <p>There is no detail of figures in more recent periods; in: January - June 2018, or from other years.</p>
<p>Solicitor General of the Nation's Office⁵</p> <p>Report: Systematic violence against defenders of territorial rights in Colombia.</p>	<p>Compares figures from different sources</p>	<p>It clarifies much about the generality or systematicity of the murders of defenders of the land and the territory.</p> <p>It analyzes with precision the institutional response in the topic of protection and attention to cases.</p>	<p>Does not have a detailed public list of victims to contrast</p> <p>There is no detail of figures in more recent periods; in: January - June 2018, or from other years.</p>
<p>Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in Colombia⁶ – OACNUDH and United Nations Peace Mission⁷</p> <p>Report: Annual OACNUDH 2017 and Report of the Secretary General on the Mission of Verification of the United Nations in Colombia 2018</p>	<p>121 murders (January – December 2017)</p>	<p>It gives a complete panorama of the percentage increase rates of murders, territorial distribution, responsible for the crimes and state action in the subject</p>	<p>Does not have a detailed public list of victims to contrast</p> <p>There is no detail of figures in more recent periods; in: January - June 2018, or from other years.</p>

Organization – Institution	Registered Figure	Special Features Identified	Difficulties
Electoral Oversight Mission – MOE8 Report: REPORT OF VIOLENCE AGAINST POLITICAL, SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY LEADERS	199 murders (January 1st to July 17th, 2018)	It has updated information Makes a clear difference between political leaders and human rights defenders. Performs territorial discrimination of the murders.	Does not have a detailed public list of victims to contrast There is no analysis of perpetrators or motivations of the murder

These measurements are in addition to the publication of figures in reports such as CERAC / CINEP², Pacifista³, International Crisis Group⁴, Front Line Defenders⁵ and International Amnesty⁶, among others, which are based on secondary sources (such as the reports mentioned above) with the multiplicity of diverse figures and different interpretations about the phenomenon of assassination of social leaders.

So, after the exercise of comparing the reports, the difference in the dispersion of figures lies in the fact that each document has a different defini-

tion of who is a human rights defender and also has a different methodology for the survey, systematization, characterization, analysis and data exposure, which makes each report have different counts and analyzes in obedience also to different periods of observation.

But beyond the figures, the truth is, and all reports agree about this, that the murder of human rights defenders in Colombia is increasing, without effective policies by the State and National Government to prevent it. To this is added the lack of political decision of the National Government to create an information system or its own statistics that accounts for the real magnitude of the problem, clinging to a facilitative attitude to rely exclusively on the documentation work of the Office of the High Commissioner of the United Nations for Human Rights in Colombia - OACNUDH, somehow ignoring the figures of the Ombudsman's Office, institution of the State itself.

2 https://www.procuraduria.gov.co/relatoria/media/file/flas_juridico/1721_PGN%20Directiva%20002%20DE%202017.pdf

3 https://www.procuraduria.gov.co/relatoria/media/file/flas_juridico/1721_PGN%20Directiva%20002%20DE%202017.pdf

4 https://www.procuraduria.gov.co/relatoria/media/file/flas_juridico/1721_PGN%20Directiva%20002%20DE%202017.pdf

5 https://www.procuraduria.gov.co/relatoria/media/file/flas_juridico/1721_PGN%20Directiva%20002%20DE%202017.pdf

6 https://www.procuraduria.gov.co/relatoria/media/file/flas_juridico/1721_PGN%20Directiva%20002%20DE%202017.pdf

As example of this situation are the words of Attorney General Néstor Humberto Martínez when he says “... we must say it clearly: The State’s function is not to count dead people and, therefore, what we have to do as a society is to preserve their lives”. With this phrase, the Prosecutor does not know that the two actions are not mutually exclusive and they both are the responsibility of one and the same State, when it actually requires qualitative and quantitative studies and analyzes for the construction of public policy to guarantee the life and physical integrity of the citizens.

The District Attorney also forgets the recommendation of the Office of the Solicitor General of the Nation contained in Directive 002 of 2017⁷, Point Sixteenth, according to which the National Government must create a single, integrated, consolidated and updated record of persons who have been violated in their rights (human rights defenders).

With this background, the most effective way to minimize the differences on the various reports of murders of social leaders in the country, is that once and for all the Colombian Government and State, assume the political responsibility of having a single registry of defenders attacked and murdered and build a mechanism of reception and documentation of cases that produces a state figure collecting all these reports, and stop clinging to the

figures that thanks to the excellent work of the OHCHR, the government gets with no effort at all.

But also, beyond the figures of murders of social leaders, it is necessary to make visible and focus on the situation of those who have not yet been affected, but who surely are at high risk and continue their work under fear levels, uncertainty and insecurity. Undoubtedly, this is the new challenge of civil society and, in particular, of the Colombian State. And here is the question: How is the Colombian State doing in terms of prevention of attacks on these human rights defenders?

THE “DWARF” JUST GOT BIGGER

What in principle was believed to be a slight escalation of armed actions by actors seeking to take control over the ex - FARC areas, became a new regionalized conflict, which has nothing to do with skirmishes of criminal gangs.

The first semester of 2018 was the scene of an increase in the generalized violence in several regions of the country that until last year showed the lowest homicide rates ever recorded. According to the District Attorney’s Office, the national homicide rate increased again by 7.2%⁸ in 2018, and to this date, the strategy to reduce this situation, remains unclear. This figure is validated with the partial reactivation of acts of violence of the former armed conflict, such as the massacres:

7 https://www.procuraduria.gov.co/relatoria/media/file/flas_juridico/1721_PGN%20Directiva%20002%20DE%202017.pdf

8 <http://www.eltiempo.com/justicia/conflicto-y-narcotrafico/narcotrafico-enemigo-de-la-paz-asegura-fiscal-general-207270>

El Tarra (Norte de Santander)⁹, Algeria (Cauca)¹⁰, El Tandil¹¹ and Magúí Payan (Nariño)¹² and Vegachí (Antioquia)¹³ that produced around 40 fatal victims, all of them civilians.

This situation also has another important alteration which is the reactivation of the forced displacements in the country that, according to the United Nations Agency for Refugees - UNHCR, added more than 90 thousand people in 2017¹⁴ and only the Ombudsman's Office has already accounted for 17,825 displaced persons between January and June 2018. In

addition, the Kroc Institute evidences in its most recent report, a recrudescence not only of forced displacement but also of confinement and permanent threats to communities in regions such as the Pacific platform (Chocó, Valle, Cauca and Nariño), Urabá (Chocó, Antioquia and Córdoba) and Catatumbo (Cesar and Norte de Santander)¹⁵.

This violence stems from the confrontations between ELN, EPL, but also from the Gaitanist Self-Defense Forces of Colombia (Clan del Golfo) and narco-paramilitary groups such as "Los Caparrapos", who would be supported by Mexican drug dealing cartels, and concentrates on same ex-FARC zones where, coincidentally, there are also the highest levels of murder of social leaders: Norte de Santander, Cesar, Córdoba, Antioquia, Chocó, Valle del Cauca, Cauca, Nariño and Putumayo. But we must detail the state of each of these actors and on whom is focused the violence they exercise.

9 <http://www.eltiempo.com/justicia/conflicto-y-narcotrafico/narcotrafico-enemigo-de-la-paz-asegura-fiscal-general-207270>

10 <http://www.eltiempo.com/justicia/conflicto-y-narcotrafico/narcotrafico-enemigo-de-la-paz-asegura-fiscal-general-207270>

11 <http://www.eltiempo.com/justicia/conflicto-y-narcotrafico/narcotrafico-enemigo-de-la-paz-asegura-fiscal-general-207270>

12 <http://www.eltiempo.com/justicia/conflicto-y-narcotrafico/narcotrafico-enemigo-de-la-paz-asegura-fiscal-general-207270>

13 <http://www.eltiempo.com/justicia/conflicto-y-narcotrafico/narcotrafico-enemigo-de-la-paz-asegura-fiscal-general-207270>

14 <http://www.eltiempo.com/justicia/conflicto-y-narcotrafico/colombia-volvio-ser-el-pais-con-mas-desplazados-internos-en-el-mundo-segun-la-acnur-232658>

15 Taken from the Kroc report on the implementation of the peace agreements <https://kroc.nd.edu/research/peace-processes/accords/pam-colombia/>

Group	Zones	Description	Affected Defenders
Gaitanist Self-Defense Forces of Colombia	La Guajira, Cesar, Magdalena, Atlántico, Bolívar, Sucre, Córdoba, Norte de Santander, Santander, Antioquia, Chocó, Risaralda, Caldas, Valle, Cauca, Nariño, Meta, Casanare, Cundinamarca and Amazonas.	The 'Clan del Golfo' The 'clan of the Gulf' would have approximately 7000 members ⁹ and it is a third generation organization, that is, it works in a network, with territorial nodes and the commands are easily replaceable. It is the most important paramilitary descent group with drug trafficking orientation in the country ¹⁰ . Since 2017, the AGC (Gaitanist Self Defense of Colombia) had an internal division in which a fraction decided to approach the Government for a submission to justice ¹¹ Since 2017, through Law 1908 of 2018, and another fraction refuses to hand over their weapons and remains in combat.	Pressure on community leaders, indigenous, Afro, peasant, environmental, union, educator, women and other leaders.
FARC Dissidents	Guaviare, Vaupés, Caquetá, Meta, Tolima, Cauca, Valle, Nariño, Chocó and Antioquia.	There would be approximately 1,200 men in arms as a result of internal divisions of FARC fighters and new, both voluntary and forced recruitments. Driven by fronts in disagreement with the dialogues of Havana as Front 1 or the Daniel Aldana Column ¹² .	Pressure on JAC (Community Action Boards) leaders, peasant, Afro and indigenous associations and representatives of voluntary illegal crop eradication. Also to people associated with artisanal small-scale mining.
ELN	Arauca, Casanare, Norte de Santander, Santander, Antioquia, Chocó, Valle, Nariño, Cauca and Putumayo.	According to the Peace and Reconciliation Foundation, in 2016 the ELN guerrillas would have 6700 members and an active presence in 96 municipalities, in 10 others they would act through small groups that tried to recover areas of incidence. Currently their presence has been extended to 17 more municipalities, which evidences their interest in expanding their radius of action, precisely in ex - FARC areas. ¹³ Currently this process is in recess while the new government makes inquiries to determine if it gives continuity to the negotiation and under what conditions.	Pressure on JAC leaders, peasant, Afro and indigenous associations and representatives of voluntary eradication of illicit crops, in some territories and confrontation with the EPL, particularly in the Catatumbo, which has generated a very difficult context for communities, organizations and social leaderships. Also in ex-FARC areas such as Cauca, Nariño, Antioquia and Chocó.

Group	Zones	Description	Affected Defenders
EPL - Pelusos	Norte de Santander and Cesar	<p>The EPL Dissidents, called by the Public Force as 'Los Pelusos', is a dissident group of the former guerrilla group Popular Liberation Army - EPL. Today they are considered an Organized Armed Group (GAO) dedicated exclusively to drug trafficking. Its main center of operations is the border region of Catatumbo, where it has been involved in cross-border criminal activities, such as drug and arms trafficking, and goods smuggling.¹⁴</p> <p>Currently they are in a strong confrontation with the ELN to take control over the Catatumbo area.¹⁵</p>	Pressure on Community Action Board leaders, peasant associations and representatives of voluntary eradication of illicit crops, given their relationship with the dynamics of drug trafficking.

To this brief description of the armed groups that still operate in Colombia, we must add the action of an endless number of small bands and “combos” (gangs) of organized crime that commit crimes in cities and rural areas with an ineffective action by the State to stop them, such as “Los Puntilleros” (Meta), “Los Caparrapos” (Magdalena Medio), “La Oficina” (Medellín) or “La Coordinera” (Risaralda), to name just a few, who would also have presumed responsibility in the violence against social leaders as it has been confirmed by the Office of the Attorney General of the Nation in the progress of investigations for crimes against defenders recently: “The results presented by the Prosecutor’s Office show that the perpetrators of these crimes are, in greater importance,

members of the Gulf Clan and Organized Crime Groups”.¹⁶

“ÁGUILAS NEGRAS” (BLACK EAGLES)

To this is added the “dark hole” in which the existence or not of the group so-called “Black Eagles” has become responsible for approximately 60% of the threats against social leaders from 2006 to date, and that according to the government (both Uribe and Santos) does not exist, but they continue to threaten in different areas of the country. Since then, the Human Rights organizations in Colombia have demanded from the State, to

¹⁶ <https://www.fiscalia.gov.co/colombia/seccionales/los-lideres-sociales-estan-siendo-asesinados-preponderantemente-en-los-territorios-donde-operan-ejercitos-del-narcotrafico/>

investigate and clarify who is behind the dozens of threatening pamphlets (virtual most of the time) and whose supposed author is the “Black Eagles”¹⁷.

The responses of the authorities in recent years to the perpetration of these threats seem to always be the same: lack of complaint, difficulty tracking the origin of the pamphlet, inability to build a methodological route of investigation, the crime was not criminalized (situation that changes with the issuance of Law 1908 of 2018), etc. The truth is that impunity in cases of threats, and especially threats of the “Black Eagles”, is 100%.

The organizations that defend human rights have repeatedly expressed the lack of political will to advance in these investigations, through spaces such as the National Board of Guarantees (a space where progress in the matter was demanded) or the National Commission of Security Guarantees, derived from the Havana Agreement, where the responsibility is precisely focused on revealing who is behind this type of organizations, however its progress is null.

Nevertheless, after years of observation of this phenomenon, it is possible to presume that behind these threats could be a mixture of illegal actors and legal persons who, from the State institutions, provide information on

names, action scenarios, dynamics of organizations social, and in some kind of “outsourcing” for this type of criminal activities that continue to fight a dirty war to frighten and generate anxiety, especially on social leadership. An irrefutable proof of this model of outsourcing was the new finding of the authorities that in August 2018 unveiled a company in the southwest of the country, commanded by a retired General of the National Police, which illegally intercepted communications against all kinds of people including trade unionists and social leaders¹⁸.

To broaden the analysis of this topic, we return to the conclusions of the Peace and Reconciliation Foundation, from an unpublished study that is consistent with many of the theories that the movement of human rights defenders in Colombia has had for years about the “Black Eagles”:

1. The Black Eagles do not exist as a criminal structure. There was no record of camps, leaders or armed commandos revealing their existence. Instead, what was found is that:
 - Some criminal groups, such as the Gulf Clan, when they perpetrate criminal operations that leave many victims dead or that are very violent, they do under the name of Black Eagles to not be identified. This was what happened in Norte de Santander in the war between Rastrojos and Urabeños or Clan del Golfo.

17 See the annual report SIADDHH 2014 “La Divina Comedia” (The Divine Comedy). Pág. 60. <https://www.somosdefensores.org/attachments/article/132/la-divina-comedia-web-final.pdf>

18 <https://www.semana.com/nacion/articulo/chuzadas-ilegales-los-secretos-de-la-red-de-espionaje-en-colombia/579805>

- There are legal sectors, such as alleged businessmen, politicians or individuals, who hire assassins to kill or intimidate people, and use the name of Águilas Negras. That is, Colombia has generated illegal mercenaries that are used as private security groups.
2. Evidence was found that institutional agents use pamphlets with the name of Águilas Negras to intimidate communities, individuals and even groups of young people with violent behavior. Maybe Caquetá some years ago, is the best example.
 3. They also found that the name of Black Eagles is used by individuals, through pamphlets, to spread fear in different communities.
 4. Perhaps the last interesting conclusion is a summary of all the previous points, and it is that in most cases the use of the name of Black Eagles has political purposes, far from being simple common crime groups that seeks to extort.”¹⁹

This complex situation of public order contrasts with the few results of the Ministry of Defense in the matter, which concentrated many of its efforts in the eradication of crops, neglecting the safety of leaders and defenders. In this regard, the national government launched the “Horus Plan” which, despite the effort, has not delivered the expected results, as indicated in the most recent report of the Kroc Institute:

19 <http://pares.com.co/2018/08/07/que-son-las-aguilas-negras/>

“Regarding preventive security deployment, in the 160 prioritized municipalities, progress has been made with five (5) Joint Task Forces and the start of deployment in rural areas of 27 municipalities through the “Horus Plan”. This deployment is complemented by the work of rural police through the Police Unit for the Building of Peace (UNIPPEP) and the Basic Carabineros Units (UBICAR), particularly around the ETCR, part of the “Safe and Peaceful Communities” plan “Thus, despite the fact that the Agreement has brought substantial improvements in the indicators of generalized violence and human rights violations related to the armed conflict with the FARC, it is worrisome that the aggressions against human rights defenders and social leaders have been exacerbated.”²⁰

This “dwarf” of the heirs of war in Colombia, grew exponentially in the first half of 2018; we will have to wait for the proposal of the new government to face this complex situation, as well as to hope that this response does not concentrate on an exclusively military and armed action, but rather deals with the structural causes of why these groups are still in force and getting adepts (mostly in poor people) whose only way out of precariousness, is still a salary from war.

Just as a final note, the enactment of Law 1908 of 2018²¹ that already has

20 Taken from the Kroc report on the implementation of the peace agreements <https://kroc.nd.edu/research/peace-processes-accords/pam-colombia/>

21 <http://es.presidencia.gov.co/normativa/normativa/LEY%201908%20DEL%209%20DE%20JULIO%20DE%202018.pdf>

Decree 1455 of 2018²² as the regulatory standard, will be the legal platform for all these groups to be deactivated in a peaceful manner and cease their violent activities. Everything will then depend on the capacity for dialogue and concertation of the Duque government that has in its hands a powerful tool to the violence without resorting to war again.

PARTIAL JUSTICE

The Attorney General's Office, apparently, accelerated the investigation for the crimes against defenders, in the last two years, as already mentioned. In its most recent communication letter, the investigating body pointed out that *"Of the 178 social leaders who have been murdered between 2016 and 2018, according to the UN list, homicide authorship has been established in 50% of the cases. Due to this, 184 people have been captured, accused of those crimes, and, in total, 211 have been linked to the investigations."*²³

It is absolutely necessary to recognize that these are historical advances for this entity that before 2016 did nothing to investigate crimes against defenders. However, it is also necessary to recognize that to reach such progress, the OHCHR has played a determining role. Since 2015, under the administration of

Eduardo Montealegre, the Office of the Prosecutor began to receive technical support from the OHCHR on the methodological route for crimes against defenders, on how to identify them and, above all, on-site verification of cases. In the current administration of Prosecutor Martínez, this alliance was strengthened and other government institutions (Presidency, Vice Presidency, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Defense) validated the cases reported by OACNUDH as those that should be prioritized and investigated and, ultimately, adopted the figure of this UN office as the official figure of the Government of Colombia.

Although this effort to prioritize the Government and above all of the Attorney General's Office is important, it is not enough, given that a greater number of cases of homicides reported by both civil society organizations and other State institutions, among them the Ombudsman's Office, are not taken into account. In this regard, and without the intention of concentrating the discussion on the figures, it is important to clarify that each of the national and international institutions and organizations such as OACNUDH have their own analysis methodology and field work, which is why the government should not prioritize in their actions one methodology over others, but on the contrary, should address in its entirety the reported cases - and not keep the smallest number - to clarify the kinds of victims, the motives of the events, the alleged material and intellectual authors and provide a

22 <http://es.presidencia.gov.co/normativa/normativa/DECRETO%201455%20DEL%2006%20DE%20AGOSTO%20DE%202018.pdf>

23 <https://www.fiscalia.gov.co/colombia/seccionales/los-lideres-sociales-estan-siendo-asesinados-preponderantemente-en-los-territorios-donde-operan-ejercitos-del-narcotrafico/>

response to the victims in matters of justice, truth and reparation.

It is not clear if this attitude of the Government and the Attorney General's Office has any political interest in ignoring the real proportion of the homicide phenomenon against leaders, what is certain is that it is a partial view of the search for justice for the hundreds of murders reported since 2016 and previous years.

On the other hand, and in order to give an overview of the levels of impunity and procedural advance on the cases of murders of leaders in the last 8 years, the Program consulted directly with the Attorney General's Office²⁴ regarding the state of investigations for 563 cases of homicides registered by the Information System of the We Are Defenders Program between 2009 and 2017. These are the results:

Status of the Process	# Cases	%
Inquiry	362	64%
Trial	59	10.3%
Penalty execution	48	8.5%
Cases not registered by the Attorney General's Office	46	8%
Investigation	35	6%
Inquiry with Arrest Warrant	11	2%
Preclusion	1	0.1%
Judgement of Acquittal	1	0.1%
TOTAL	563	100%

Tabla estado avance investigaciones por crímenes contra defensores según información de fiscalía 2009-2017.

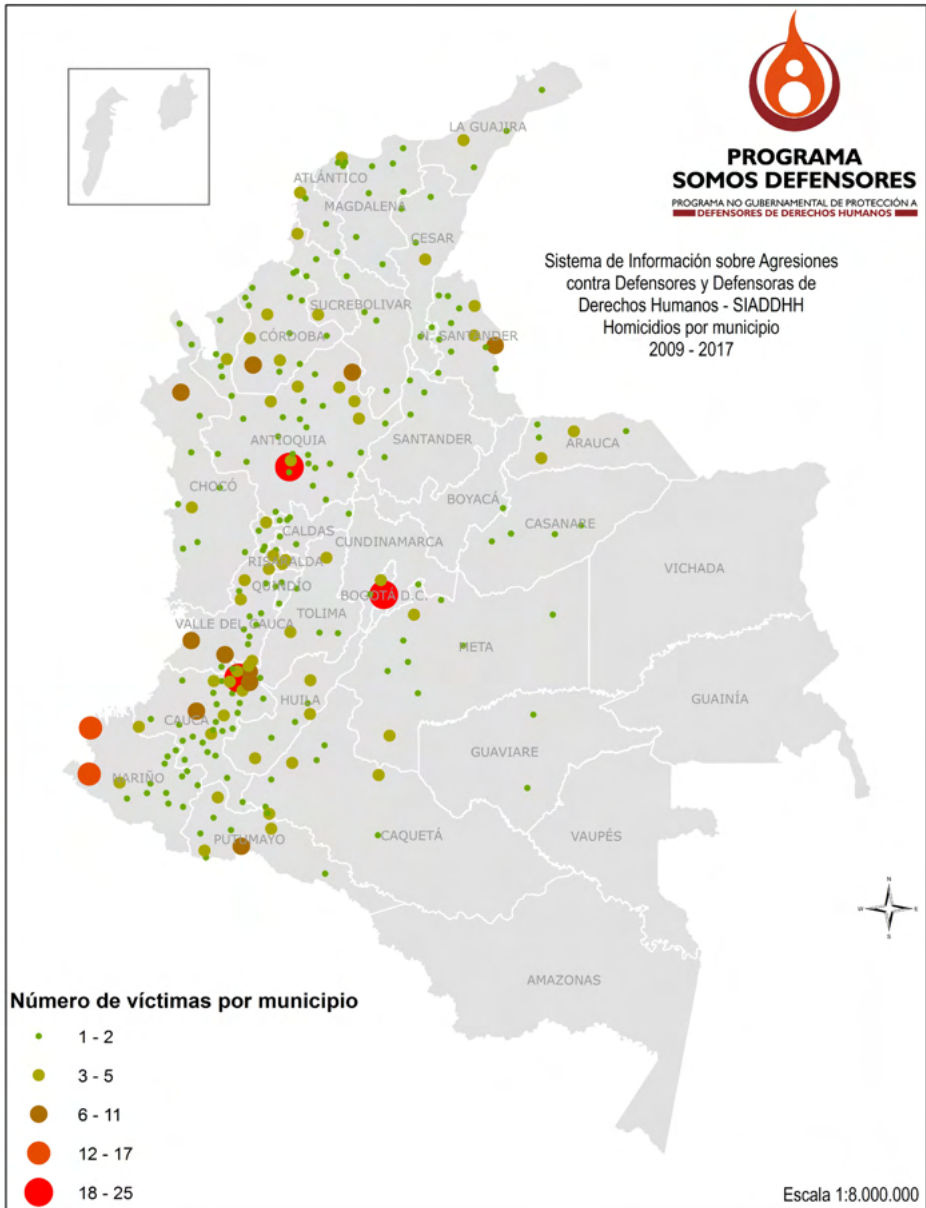
Fuente Fiscalía General de la Nación

This measurement allows to deduce that there is an effective scope of justice in 49 cases (8.6%) in which there is a sentence (condemnatory or acquittal). In other words, in 91.4% of the cases of the murder of human rights defenders between 2009 and 2017, justice has not yet been achieved and could be understood as cases that continue to be in impunity. It is true that this task is not exclusive of the Attorney General's Office and it involves the silent judicial power of the country in an important way. However, a judge can and should give greater results, according to the current justice system, as long as the previous investigation made by the Attorney General's Office offers celerity and quality.

On the other hand, it is important to highlight a significant procedural advance of the investigations in 155 cases (27.5%) which correspond to cases of Investigation, Trial and Arrest Warrant. And here it is important to clarify a term that has been created by the Attorney General as a synonym of decrease in Impunity that focuses in a lingering way. In several interventions, Attorney General Martinez has referred to the clarification, that is, the progress of an investigation, as if it was a reduction of impunity, a situation that can only be achieved when there is a sentence. In short, "clarification" is not equal to "decrease in impunity". Clarification is simply showing indexes that the Attorney General's Office is finally doing its job: investigating.

24 Answer DVFG No. 201820000003811 from the Office of the Attorney General of the Nation, dated July 17, 2018, issued by the Deputy Attorney General Dr. María Paulina Riveros.

And the Attorney General's Office has announced with a lot of media reso-



nance that 50% of the cases investigated have already been clarified²⁵; it could be assumed that it is at least 300 processes, which is not true, since

he refers to 181 cases of the last two years; while the SIADDHH Information System registers 609 murders in the two presidential periods of Juan Manuel Santos. To this is added that there are only 16 sentences in two and a half years of prioritization of cases of the Attorney General's Office, which

25 <https://www.fiscalia.gov.co/colombia/derechos-humanos/fiscalia-registra-historico-esclarecimiento-del-50-en-casos-por-homicidios-contra-lideres-sociales/>

indicates that there is only effective justice in 8.5% of these cases.

In the middle of this scenario, and judging by the information delivered by the Public Prosecutor in cases from 2009 to 2017, the investigation progress is recognized in 46 cases that were archived in the system and from their identification, courtesy of the Program in 2017²⁶, the investigations were reactivated. However, there are still cases that the Attorney General's Office does not know or cannot find in its information systems. In the measurement made in 2017, 56 cases were identified, for the 2018 measurement there are 46 cases not found. Although there are 10 cases that the Attorney General's Office already "found", there is still concern about the dispersion of information in the entity and the treatment of these data with reference to the historical cases of assassinations against leaders.

Finally, we draw attention to the fact that although the Attorney General's Office prioritized cases from 2016, it cannot forget its responsibility in the investigation of all murders of human rights defenders of previous years, since to this date there is a high percentage (64%) without procedural advance. We must of course celebrate

that there are investigative advances, that finally sentences are produced and, of course, that the Office of the Prosecutor has substantially changed its position regarding crimes against defenders, but we must not lose sight of the fact that the volume of cases is greater, that it is obliged to give an account of all reported cases and above all, that it should start to promote investigations for other aggressions such as threats, attacks, disappearances to name a few, in order to foresee the death of these leaders, to try and achieve that justice is not only partial.

THE THREE MUSKETEERS?

The Public Ministry also showed signs of life in the first half of 2018 on the issue of defenders. The Solicitor General's Office, the Ombudsman's Office and the actions of the legal entities have taken into account the situation of the social leaders and defenders of Human Rights and have proposed actions to deal more thoroughly with the issue. This is evidenced in reports, pronouncements and public actions. However, this approach is still done separately by each institution and, on the contrary, it requires more inter-institutional work to concretize the good intentions and actions that are now being carried out. Following are some of them:

²⁶ Special Report STOP WARS – Stop War Against Defenders / Episode I – Crimes against defenders: Impunity Strikes Back, www.somosdefensores.org

Institution	Progress	To Improve
<p>Solicitor General of the Nation</p>	<p>Directive 002 of 201716. Promotes the action of the Public Ministry in favor of the defenders and gives specific recommendations to the Government to improve their protection</p> <p>Report on Systematic Violence against defenders of territorial rights in Colombia¹⁷. This document explores with legal bases the possible systematic or general nature of crimes against defenders associated with land and territory and analyzes the state action regarding the protection of these activists.</p> <p>Resolution 393 of 201818. Creation of the Board for the Protection of Life. The entity created an internal mechanism to follow up on Resolution 002 and promote disciplinary investigations against officials who attack defenders; this Board was also created in order to join forces with other institutions as to promote changes in issues of protection to leaders.</p> <p>#LideraLaVida Campaign¹⁹ (LeadTheLife). This entity took the public initiative of defending social leaders in partnership with national media such as Noticias Caracol, seeking to sensitize public opinion to the seriousness of the crimes against them.</p>	<p>To discipline public officials who commit aggressions against leaders. The implementation of directive 002 one year after its promulgation, is very low. Just to mention an example of the 5 cases of murders allegedly carried out by members of the security forces in 2017, this entity has only initiated investigations in 1 of them and another is under investigation. They did not acknowledge any of the remaining 3 20.</p> <p>Regional Solicitors' Offices. It takes a much more determined work by the Solicitors Offices to really make Directive 002 their own, since at present this initiative is concentrated on the efforts of the Solicitor General himself.</p> <p>Solicitor General of the Nation. Although the campaign led by the Solicitor General Fernando Carrillo to raise awareness of the attacks on defenders deserves mention, the substantial part of the Public Ministry is the disciplinary investigation role it must perform on public officials, which by action or omission allow these attacks. These results can help reduce the growth of aggression. The creation of the Board for the Protection of Life must become a space that encourages the investigation and punishment of state officials at all levels (local, regional and national) around the fulfillment of their functions of prevention, protection or investigation. However, it cannot pretend to duplicate existing spaces of agreement and dialogue with the Government and the State, such as the National Guarantees Roundtable, which spent 9 years of tripartite work (Government - International Community - Defenders).</p>

Institution	Progress	To Improve
<p>Ombudsman's Office</p>	<p>SAT strengthening by Decree 2124 of 2017²¹. Although this is a norm derived from the Havana agreements, the Ombudsman's Office and its SAT instrument has increased its prevention action by issuing at least 65 early warnings for the first semester of 2018, which allows to have qualified information to face the structural risks of social leaders.</p> <p>Risk Report 010-1722 and Early Warning 026-1823. During the last two years, the Ombudsman's Office has warned, with increasing precision, the risk scenarios faced by HR leaders and defenders in the country. In fact, the issuance of these specific alerts on social leaders allowed the National Government to count on key elements to advance preventive issues, but it did not have the necessary vehemence. A reason for concern is that before this last alert (026-18) the Ministry of the Interior issued progress²⁴ that, to this date, do not have a true document that accounts for such advance in monitoring this alert.</p> <p>Ombudsman's Regional Presence. In the last period, their regional presence has been a characteristic of this defense institution, at the head of its community and regional defenders and the National People's Defender. This accompaniment to communities and leaders in the field has placed in situations of danger even leaders and staff of the entity, as was the case of the kidnapping of the leader Íber Angulo in Buenaventura²⁵.</p>	<p>Improve early warning recommendations. Although these alerts contain substantial information to determine the levels of risk in the regions, it is necessary to expand and specify in greater detail the recommendations that these reports contain so that the decision makers can be clear about the procedure to be followed.</p> <p>Periodic publication of information about aggressions against leaders. Although the Ombudsman is the only institution of the State and Government that is given the task of collecting and systematizing information on murders of social leaders, this information does not have an update in real time and for specific periods of time, as it is the case of the first semester of 2018 since they handle general figures from 2016 without any details on the information.</p>

Institution	Progress	To Improve
<p>Personerías (Legal Representatives)</p>	<p>Portrait of Territorial Realities in the Post Agreement. The National Federation of Personeros - FENALPER has conducted an interesting exercise to characterize the effects on the most vulnerable communities after the peace agreement, including social leaders and defenders. This exercise is one of the first analyzes in which the representatives link the defenders and identify them as key elements for the construction of peace.</p>	<p>Effective and visible joint work. Although in the field the representatives work hand in hand with many local leaders (who are the victims of most aggressions) it is necessary for this joint action to be more visible, in order to provide guarantees to their exercise of democratic construction and not only to local opposition to unfair situations or political and economic interests adverse to communities.</p>

These three institutions have made important multilevel efforts (local, regional, national and international) for the defenders and social leaders, however, this action continues to be disjointed within the Public Ministry itself, to which they all belong. In this way, these institutions could become “the three musketeers” that support and defend the social leaders from the institutional framework, but they still need to do a systemic work so that their results are translated into a reduction of attacks against human rights defenders.

INTERNATIONAL PRESSURE AND OBSERVANCE

The situation of crimes against human rights defenders, and the implementation of peace agreements, has had Colombia in the eye of international observation during the last semester. In the most important multilateral political instances, the

issue was a matter of discussion and emission of messages of concern to stop not only the wave of crimes, but also to provide guarantees for the participation of these activists.

The Chancellery of María Ángela Holguín and the Santos government team, defended their work by exposing over and over again the budgets in protection that the National Protection Unit executes. However, the figures are overwhelming and the voices of help from Colombia continue to emerge, as seen on the “Velaton”²⁷ in which Colombians and foreigners in more than 10 countries in America, Europe and Asia joined about 20,000 people in Colombia who lit a candle for the lives of defenders. These are some of the most important pronouncements:

²⁷ <http://www.hchr.org.co/index.php/informacion-publica/eventos/433-eventos-ano-2018/8902-epu-colombia-2018>

- **Universal Periodical Exam of the UN²⁸:** On May 10, 2018, Colombia went through the exam on Human Rights, which this multilateral organization performs on the member countries with reports of human rights violations. Although there was a share of congratulations to the Colombian State for signing the peace agreement with the FARC, other results of this exercise were quite opposite to the Santos Government, since one of the biggest concerns of the intervening countries involved in the exam was the murders and the lack of protection of social leaders²⁹.
- **Security Council of the UN³⁰:** In the framework of the Third Report to the United Nations Security Council on the Verification Mission in Colombia, it was indicated as a high concern “The increase in the number of deaths of social leaders and human rights defenders, in a dynamics of violence that continues affecting mainly the rural areas of the country. The need to accelerate progress in the implementation of productive income-generating projects for former combatants. And move forward in the task of “consolidating peace”, as uncertainty persists on issues such as legal guarantees”³¹. This council called for urgent measures by the Government to stop such situation.
- **Academic Visit UN Special Rapporteur for Defenders³²:** Michel Forst, UN Special Rapporteur for human rights defenders, was in Colombia on an academic visit from July 28 to August 1, 2018. This visit was made possible thanks to the articulation of the National University of Colombia with more than 10 Colombian organizations and human rights platforms and 40 international organizations that support Colombia in Human Rights. This visit, in spite of being academic, allowed a key approach between the Colombian defenders and the rapporteur as well as informal interviews with State and Government entities. One of the most important results of this visit was to join the efforts of the Attorney General’s Office, the Ombudsman’s Office, the human rights organizations in the commitment to protect the lives of these leaders and the joint search for solutions, in view of a possible official visit of the rapporteur.
- **Pronouncement of the European Parliament:** In a letter dated July 13, 2018, 38 members of the Eu-

28 <http://www.hchr.org.co/index.php/informacion-publica/eventos/433-eventos-ano-2018/8902-epu-colombia-2018>

29 <http://www.eltiempo.com/mundo/europa/colombia-presento-la-lista-de-recomendaciones-del-examen-periodico-universal-217406>

30 <https://colombia.unmissions.org/sites/default/files/n1808244.pdf>

31 <https://www.elespectador.com/noticias/politica/asesinato-de-lideres-sociales-preocupacion-de-la-onu-frente-la-consolidacion-de-la-paz-articulo-802365>

32 <https://colombia2020.elespectador.com/pais/los-lideres-sociales-no-son-enemigos-del-estado-michel-forst>

European Parliament members expressed their deep concern about the systematic murder of social leaders in the country before the High Representative on Security issues and Vice President of the European Commission of the European Parliament, Madama Morgherini. The letter urges the European parliament to take actions to support leaders in cases of threat in the context of actions such as the defense of territory in Hidroituango or the civic strike of Buenaventura³³.

- **U.S. Congressmen Pronouncement:** By means of a communication letter, 73 Republican congressmen and democrats of the United States expressed to the President of that nation Donald Trump, their concern for what they describe “the alarming increase in murders of social leaders and human rights defenders in Colombia”. In this letter, the Department of State and USAID are asked to secure resources and aid to Colombia as it faces a human rights crisis at a time of transition to peace³⁴.
- **OEA/CIDH³⁵:** The Inter-American Commission on Human Rights

(IACHR) expressed its concern about the high number of murders of human rights defenders and social leaders registered this year in Colombia and stated that “the State is urged to take urgent measures to protect those who defend human rights in the country, as well as carrying out diligent investigations that take into account the human rights defense activity of the victims”³⁶. Although the IACHR acknowledged the regulatory advances in protection, it also urged the Colombian State to take urgent measures to stop these deaths.

These pronouncements of institutions and influential scenarios in the international arena were joined by the always diligent and necessary action and pronouncements of the diplomatic delegations in Colombia of sensitive countries such as Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, Germany, France, Spain, United Kingdom and United States among others; along with the efforts of the United Nations system agencies in Colombia that, led by the OACNUDH, day after day support the action of protection and respect for human rights defenders in Colombia.

SANTOS: 8 YEARS OF DIALOGUES AND RESULTS ON PAPER

Santos as president and the government he represented, marked a dividing line with previous governments by establishing constant bridges of dialogue with civil society. Like no

33 <https://www.elespectador.com/noticias/politica/eurodiputados-piden-intervencion-inmediata-ante-asesinato-de-lideres-sociales-articulo-800011>

34 <https://noticias.caracol.tv/mundo/congresistas-de-ee-uu-expresan-preocupacion-por-asesinatos-de-lideres-sociales-en-colombia-11269>

35 <http://www.oas.org/es/cidh/prensa/comunicados/2018/065.asp>

36 *Ibíd.*

previous administration, the one led by Santos always recognized the role of defenders in Colombia and made them part of important discussions for the country, either by will or by pressure. The Presidency of the now holder of a Nobel Peace Prize, in fact, took over many of the flags of social movement and made them its own, that is the case of the negotiated solution to the conflict or the recognition of the victims as the fundamental axis of the construction of a real State of law.

However, the Santos era is now over, and despite the vocation for dialogue and permanent recognition, it left behind a bittersweet landscape for human rights defenders. Although during these eight years of government, Juan Manuel Santos took the lead on topics such as the recognition of the victims, the land restitution law and the complex path of peace dialogues with the FARC and ELN (with the first group, the achievement of a real Agreement but with thousands of difficulties for its implementation); the Presidency of Santos was characterized by the opening of dozens of dialogue tables, interlocution and concertation tables held during his mandate, according to him, to build in a participative way, but in practice, without palpable material results.

This excess of tables and scenarios resulted in a broad package of laws, norms, decrees and resolutions that, in the face of the change of government, falter in their sustenance and even more in their application. In short, the

Santos government was a mandate in the middle of the dialogue with results on paper. Scenarios such as the National Guarantees Roundtable (with 9 years of existence), National Commission for the declassification of Intelligence Archives (with 5 years of existence) or the National Commission of Security Guarantees (with 2 years of existence) are samples of the previous thesis; all these spaces, in which human rights defenders participate, had tiny advances compared to the volume of problems to be solved.

And this action of the Santos Government was until his last day of government. On July 10, at the last minute and due to a wave leaders' assassinations, President Santos summoned an extraordinary meeting of the National Commission of Security Guarantees, to take urgent measures before the increase of murders. Eight measures were taken by the president in that session, which in general terms did not have any novelty of what has already been done in terms of armed force response. Four of the measures adopted are of a military nature, headed by the Ministry of Defense; more resources for individual and material protection (UNP), a perspective highly questioned by its limited scope and economically burdensome. The other provisions, so basic and precarious for the situation, end up being political comics: A direct window in the Ministry of the Interior for complaints against threats to social leaders, and the rewards system, which is already public knowledge of its results. For

the rest, collect early warnings and increase from 4 to 10 prioritized municipalities to implement Decree 660 for the protection of communities. In conclusion, many meetings, tablecloths, provisions, rules, calls, militarization, but overflowing violence in many territories.

In terms of defenders, protection and guarantees, it is worthwhile to review the performance of the ministries. In previous reports of the Program We Are Defenders, the progress of each institution has already been acknowledged, however, given the context of aggression, in this report we will see what are the unpaid debts that each ministry is left with:

Ministry of the Interior: Germán Vargas Lleras (2010 -2012), Federico Renjifo (2012), Fernando Carrillo Flórez (2012 -2013), Aurelio Iragorri Valencia (2013-2014), Juan Fernando Cristo Bustos (2014 -2017) and Guillermo Rivera Flórez (2017 -2018) had in their hands the task of building, promoting and implementing public policy, political and executive actions to safeguard the action of human rights defenders in these 8 years. Unfortunately, the balance is not very encouraging.

It modified the Protection Program for people at risk and converted it into a transversal decree that would create the UNP and focus protection on individual measures, exclusively material. Only at the end of the Santos administration and thanks to the possibilities emanating from the Peace Agreements with the FARC, could the

decrees be responsible for measures with a differential approach (gender and ethnic group) and collective rights to defenders and their organizations.

Although it was one of its primary responsibilities, all interior ministers “slipped” when it came to creating and implementing mechanisms to prevent violence against defenders. This is a pending task and is one of the great debts of this ministry with the defenders. All the ministers were at the head of the National Guarantees Process with the human rights platforms and although the government made progress in overcoming the stigmatization, there were few results in the construction of a public policy related to the protection of leaders, which remains cornered in a formal space concerning the production of normativity which still does not materialize; facing a null advance in subjects of policy of prevention, situation that did not start in the past government.

At the last minute, this Ministry published Decree 660 of April 2018, which creates the Comprehensive Security and Protection Program for communities and organizations in the territories, that is, for the protection of communities and organizations at high risk of being attacked. However, a series of doubts remained after its formulation. On one hand, it is a decree that could easily be replaced by another and its scope is very limited for other instances of the State and the government itself. On the other, it is possible that the Duque govern-

ment does not assume it since it is an inconvenient heritage from Santos.

National Protection Unity: Andrés Villamizar (2011 - 2013) and Diego Mora (2014-2018) were in charge of this new institution, derived from the Ministry of the Interior and created by Germán Vargas Lleras, but whose promoters were the human rights platforms and with a focus on rights and not on security as it finally was. It had a rather questionable start due to serious corruption problems initially discovered by the Office of the Attorney General³⁷ and then confirmed by the Comptroller General of the Nation. These mismanagements made under the administration of Andrés Villamizar (today investigated by the Solicitor General's Office for these facts ³⁸) they were the subject of systematic denunciation by the organizations defending human rights, among them the SIADDHH report "La Divina Comedia" (The Divine Comedy) in 2014³⁹.

After this scandal, and under the administration of Mora, the entity took another direction but the doubts were sown in the community of defenders for its dubious procedures and the resumes of those who protect these activists (several of them from the

DAS), as well as the disproportionate budget that is invested in the protection of all types of people at risk, not only human rights defenders.

In the last stage of this government, the UNP initiated pilots for the implementation of collective protection measures but the ignorance on the subject and the disproportionate amount of collectives that have requested this resource, did not allow to advance effectively in the matter; another pending issue for the UNP under the Duque government.

Vice Presidency: Angelino Garzón (2010 - 2014), Germán Vargas Lleras (2014-2017) and Oscar Naranjo (2017-2018) took over of this instance of the Santos government, and their participation in the issue of defenders was quite ambivalent. There was never a clear mandate about what their duties were in the matter and many times their performance on the subject was interpreted as "cosmetic" or "to muddle through". During those eight years, there was a kind of overlap of their mandate in Human Rights with the Ministry of the Interior, a portfolio that has it constitutionally. This crossing of agendas wore down the human rights movement in issues of guarantees, protection and Action Plan in Human Rights, as it was not clear to whom it belonged.

Ministry of Defense: Rodrigo Rivera (2010-2011), Juan Carlos Pinzón (2011-2015) and Luis Carlos Villegas (2015-2018) were the representatives of the ministry with the greatest re-

37 <https://noticias.canalrcn.com/nacional-pais/fiscalia-destapa-red-corrupcion-unidad-nacional-proteccion>

38 <https://www.elespectador.com/noticias/judicial/procuraduria-formulo-cargos-en-contra-de-andres-villamizar-exdirector-de-la-unp-articulo-705264>

39 <https://www.somosdefensores.org/index.php/en/publicaciones/informes-siaddhh/132-la-divina-comedia>

Type	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018 (January-June)	TOTAL
Threats	109	140	202	209	488	539	317	370	272	2646
Murders	32	49	69	78	55	63	80	106	77	609
Attacks	21	20	50	39	41	35	49	50	23	328
Arbitrary detentions	11	23	26	22	23	26	17	23	4	175
Disappearances	0	6	5	1	1	3	2	0	4	22
Arbitrary use of the legal system	1	1	1	10	8	8	9	9	11	58
Sexual violence	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	2
Sensitive Information Theft	0	0	3	7	10	8	6	2	6	42
TOTAL	174	239	357	366	626	682	481	560	397	3882

General Table of aggressions against Human Rights Defenders January 2010 – June 2018.

Source SIADDHH We Are Defenders Program 2018.

sistance to the action of human rights defenders. Their attitude towards the defense of the rights of indigenous peoples, Afros and peasants manifested through social mobilization and public actions, was the repression through the ESMAD of the National Police and even, the joint action of the Police - Army to stop the social protest in departments such as Cauca, Chocó, Antioquia and Valle del Cauca, among others. To such a point came the resistance of this ministry that its last director, Luis Carlos Villegas, naturalized the increase of crimes against social leaders between 2016-2018 when relating it to “intimate conflicts” of the defenders, devoid of political reasons or in relation to their action of human rights defense⁴⁰. This statement ear-

ned him a number of criticisms and despite the fact that the human rights movement asked for his retraction or correction, he stood by it.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs: María Ángela Holguín (2010-2018). This senior government official Santos was quite reluctant to many of the actions of denunciation of human rights organizations in areas such as the IACHR, the EU, the US Department of State and the UN in its various instances. Although she did enjoy a conciliatory and respectful speech with the defenders, she was a staunch enemy of the permanence of the OHCHR in Colombia, considering it unnecessary. Nor did she share the usual dialogue with the tripartite human rights movement, that is, government, society and international community.

40 <https://www.elespectador.com/noticias/politica/asesinatos-de-lideres-son-por-lios-de-faldas-ministro-de-defensa-articulo-728893>

Ministry of Finance: Juan Carlos Echeverry (2010-2012) and Mauricio Cárdenas (2012-2018) were the ministers who completely ignored the issue of the human rights defenders and the plans and programs proposed for their protection and prevention of violence. Many of the initiatives of other ministries and executive offices were cut short by the impossibility of accessing public resources for financing. Thus, it would seem that for the Ministry of Finance the issue of defenders is unnecessary and of little economic and political profitability for the Government, perhaps because it is not an investment line, but an unnecessary expense.

The Santos Government leaves behind a country with a difficult but real opportunity for peace. However, in its process, 3882 social leaders and human rights defenders were victims of some type of aggression and at least 600 of them were killed. A bittersweet result for the Nobel Peace Prize.

DUQUE: THE BIG QUESTION

“The Heart of the Nation... The social leaders are the Heart of the Nation” said the new President of Colombia, Iván Duque, in his inauguration speech, regretting the murders of these activists in recent years. However, the subject was quite elusive during his campaign. There are no known plans or proposals of President Duque to this date, which would address the problem on how to stop the wave of murders and aggressions of the recent years. However, once elected, he

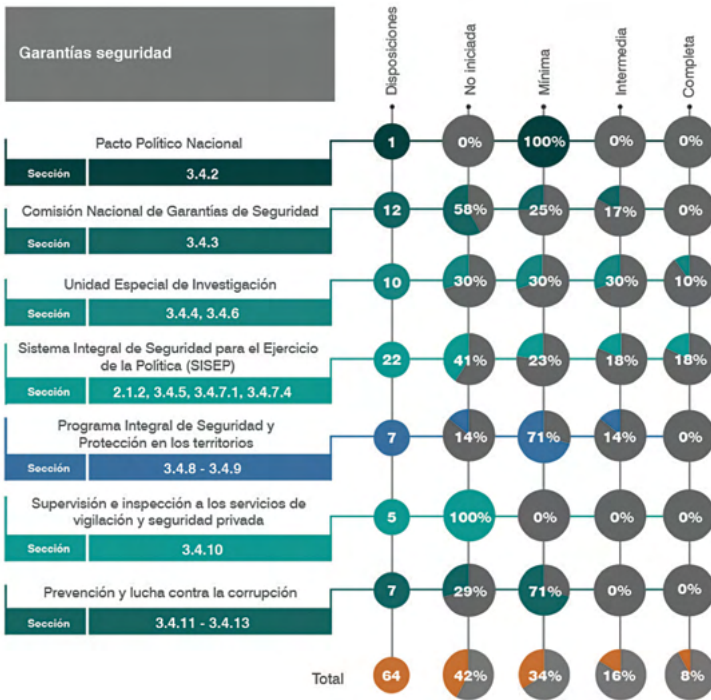
had a couple of appearances talking about the issue in a meeting with the Ombudsman Carlos Negret, where he promised joint work to face the situation⁴¹.

This makes the new President and his government remains a mystery to defenders, as they ignore what is his clearest and strongest position on the subject, and especially the silence of the Minister of the Interior, Nancy Patricia Gutiérrez, responsible for the issue, and the false start of the new Minister of Defense, Guillermo Botero in front of the social protest.

However, the assistance and commitment of President Duque with the meeting in Apartadó, Antioquia, on August 23, summoned by the Attorney General in the framework of the Board for the Protection of Life, where he also signed the “Pact for Life and the Protection of social leaders and human rights defenders”, opens an indicator to measure the new government in this matter and say for now that “nothing is written in stone” and that surely Duque will take distance from the close positions of the former president Uribe and the Democratic Center in relation to human rights defenders

In terms of peace, an indissoluble axis of human rights, the outgoing Government left a path that was went through and marked, in many circumstances, by the peace accords with

41 <https://www.elspectador.com/noticias/politica/ivan-duque-trabajara-con-defensoria-del-pueblo-para-la-proteccion-de-lideres-sociales-articulo-802746>



the FARC. And apparently, that should be one of the first tasks after the Santos era: To de - sanctify peace; that is, make the agreement and its implementation overcome the political hatred and have a clear determination of the executive power to implement them, moving away a little from the apocalyptic vision on peace with the FARC that the party that made Duque our president has: The Democratic Center.

Two years later, the agreement had a significant impact on the most vulnerable communities, those who have suffered the war and those who still believe in the construction of peace and the possibility of social justice and democracy in their territories. An indicator of this could be the significant increase in the voting turnout during the last elections that exceeded the

50%⁴² barrier of the current electoral census. Undoubtedly, the role of social leaders in these processes is crucial, hence the violence against these people is the strategy of adverse interests to change, to get them out of the way.

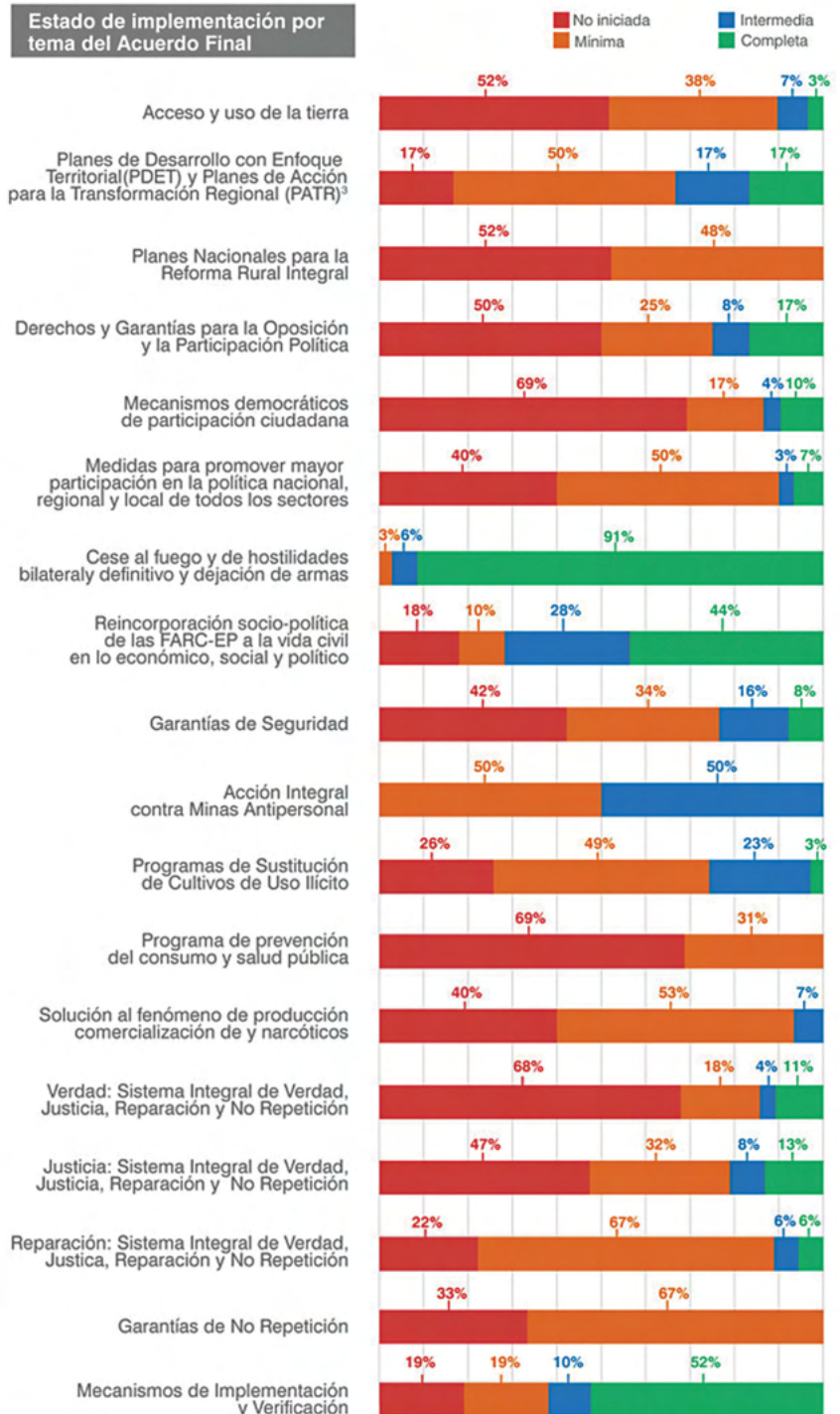
Precisely in this matter (protection and guarantees to defenders, as well as preventive actions to stop the aggressions against them), the Peace Agreement offers a significant package of new norms and guidelines, that if implemented, could contribute to stop the affectation to this population.

As evidenced in the previous report “A Stone in the Shoe”⁴³ of the Program,

42 <https://www.elespectador.com/noticias/politica/por-fin-con-el-53-los-votos-le-ganaron-la-abstencion-articulo-791085>

43 <https://www.somosdefensores.org/index.php/en/publicaciones/informes-siaddh/149->

Estado de implementación por tema del Acuerdo Final



0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%

Todos los cálculos porcentuales se han redondeado al número entero más cercano para facilitar la lectura de las tablas y gráficos. Por ejemplo, 16.6% se redondea a 17%. Como resultado, no todos los porcentajes suman 100%

there are at least 21 provisions in the peace agreement that help the protection and security guarantees. In the next graph we list these provisions again thanks to the Kroc Institute, with the actions of progress in implementation and specific recommendations for the next government to carry them out, see insert folding.

Of these provisions, there are at least 10 that would guarantee, if implemented in its entirety, that the violence against social leaders would decrease, however only 3 have started minimally, 1 has an average level of progress and 6 are still in 0% implementation⁴⁴. The above mentioned (the strict monitoring done by the Kroc Institute and the low level of implementation of the measures) is a clear message to the new government of Duque to continue the task already started by Santos and to not waste years of dialogue, dissertation and creation of policy, which would contribute to curbing violence against defenders.

But unfortunately the first statements by officials of the new government are not encouraging. In July 2018 and still without taking office, neither President Duque nor his ministers, Guillermo Botero, now Minister of Defense, “placed the finger on the wound” with one of the most complex situations affecting social leaders and their communities: The social protest. The current Minister, who comes from

the business sector, said that “...In the social field, we respect social protests, but we also believe that it must be an orderly protest that truly represents the interests of all Colombians and not just a small group.”⁴⁵

This first public pronouncement generated even more concern, since the public and peaceful demonstration is a human right that derives from the rights to freedom of expression and assembly and to try to regulate it and / or “put it in order” is, in a democratic country, a contradiction. Likewise, the attempt to appoint Claudia Ortiz (a radical member of the Democratic Center party and very close to the harshest line of the retired military) as director of the National Protection Unit, the main institution responsible for the protection of leaders and defenders, worries to a great degree, due to her derogatory political position towards those that she would have the responsibility to protect⁴⁶. Given this, President Duque had to abstain from the designation, due to the reaction and pressure on social networks.

These first outlines of political radicalism, generate an environment of fear in the community of defenders taking into account that eight years with Santos allowed spaces for dialogue that offered medium results and with attitudes and positions such as those

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44 Taken from the Kroc Report on the Implementation of the Peace Agreements. Page 65. <https://kroc.nd.edu/research/peace-processes-accords/pam-colombia/>

45 <https://www.elespectador.com/noticias/politica/regular-la-protesta-social-la-primera-propuesta-de-quien-sera-ministro-de-defensa-articulo-800876>

46 <http://www.eltiempo.com/politica/partidos-politicos/polemica-por-trinos-de-claudia-ortiz-nueva-directora-del-a-unp-253756>

#	Agreement	Instance	PAM	SECURITY AND / OR PROTECTION MEASURE	Responsible Entity	Progress Status	Assessment
1	2.1.2.2	Guarantees for Leaders and Defenders	108	[To create an] Early Warning System [for leaders of social organizations and movements and human rights defenders]	Ombudsman's Office (Public Ministry)	Decree 2124 of December 18, 2017 "System of prevention and alert for the quick reaction to the presence, actions and / or activities of organizations, criminal acts and conducts that put at risk the rights of the population and the implementation of agreements and the construction of peace."	It is important that 1) the Office of the Public Defender, the Ministry of Interior and UNP work jointly on its implementation and 2) it counts on the necessary resources to guarantee the territorial deployment of the Ombudsman so that the SAT can operate in a decentralized manner. It is desirable that the rest of the Public Ministry (Surveillance entities and Solicitor's Office) articulate and complement this system to optimize resources.
2	112		Program of Individual and Collective Protection for leaders of social organizations and movements and human rights defenders.	Ministry of Interior & UNP	"Decree 1581 September 28, 2017 ""Public policy of prevention of violations of the rights to life, integrity, freedom and safety of individuals, groups and communities, and other provisions are dictated."" Decree 2078 December 7, 2017 ""Route of collective protection of the rights to life, integrity, freedom and personal safety of groups and communities"" Decree 2252 December 29, 2017 ""on the work of governors and mayors as agents of the President of the Republic in relation to the individual and collective protection of leaders of social and community organizations and movements, and human rights defenders who are at risk."" Resolution 0845 of June 14, 2018 ""on the Comprehensive Program of Guarantees for Female Leaders and Defenders of Human Rights.""	The Ministry of Interior leads the implementation together with the UNP and in coordination with local authorities. They must have resources or re-prioritize them to ensure their operation. In order to fulfill the objective of strengthening these programs, progress must be made regarding the implementation of the standards, by supplying training for public employees.	
3	3.4.2	Political Pact	260	The National Government and the new political movement arising from the FARC-EP's transition into legal political activity, commit themselves to promote a National Political Pact, and from the regions, with the political parties and movements, the guilds, the organizations of women and the LGBTI population, the living forces of the Nation, the organized society and the communities in the territories, unions, the National Trade Union Council and the different economic associations, the owners and directors of the media, the churches, religious confessions. This National Political Pact which shall be promoted from the regions and especially throughout the most affected by the phenomenon, seeks to make effective the commitment of all Colombian population so that, never again, weapons are used in politics, nor violent organizations like paramilitarism are promoted.	Ministry of Interior & FARC	The first National Peace Congress, in which the National Pact for Life and Peace was signed, Colombia País con Nuevo Rumbo (Colombia a Country with a New Destination), was a starting point for a common agenda to promote ending the use of weapons in politics and paramilitarism. Once the FARC party was constituted in October, a technical commission was formed between the government and the FARC to design a methodology that has not yet been agreed upon between the parties. The PMI estimates 5 years to finalize this pact.	Although the PMI estimates 5 years for the concretion of the National Political Pact, given the situation of polarization, threats and harassment in the electoral stage, it is recommended to speed up the implementation of this measure as an action in which all sectors of the country converge to promote a message of no tolerance for politics with weapons or violence. The National Council for Peace and Reconciliation is willing to promote the National Political Pact.
			317	Incorporation into the constitution of the prohibition of the promotion, organization, financing or official / private employment of paramilitary structures and the National Government in coordination with the judicial branch, will present a bill to promote the submission or reception to justice of the organizations previously indicated [criminal organizations including those that have been named as successors of paramilitarism and their support networks].	Congress & Constitutional Court	Although the Legislative Act 04 of 2017 approved by the Senate, is pending review of constitutionality by the Constitutional Court. Priority of Normative Implementation.	
4	3.4.3	National Commission of Security Guarantees - CNGS	263	Permanent Action Plan against the PAPCOC Criminal Organizations with the purpose of fighting and dismantling the organizations and conducts object of this agreement.	National Commission for Security Guarantees (CNGS)	Although the National Commission of Security Guarantees created by Decree 154 of 2017 established several objectives, to this date it is expected to deliver the PAPCOC before the change of government as a tangible result. The PAPCOC proposal has 4 technical support commissions that will generate the main inputs of this plan on: 1) Normative adjustments, 2) Sources of Financing, 3) Differential, territorial and gender approach and 4) Institutional Response and Impact Measurement. It will be fed by contextualized information from the territorial subcommittees of security guarantees. These subcommittees must be carried out in the agreed schedule in order to collect inputs in the expected frametmes and contribute to a territorial approach. Although it is not contemplated in the Agreement, it is essential to articulate the recommendations and inputs of the CNGS and the territorial subcommittees, with spaces that are being reactivated, such as civil society participation the National Guarantees Roundtable and the Territorial Guarantees Tables.	The National Commission of Security Guarantees must approve the Permanent Action Plan against Criminal Organizations (PAPCOC) which becomes a key roadmap to combat and dismantling of the criminal organizations that in several territories are fighting over the territory left by the FARC, and / or areas of illegal economies. It is key for the PAPCOC to be received by the new government as an instrument of public policy and grant it all the financial, technical and human resources recommended by the CNGS for its implementation. It is suggested the implementation of subcommissions of territorial security guarantees to be continued in order to promote territorial articulation and response of the State according to the territorial contexts. The CNGS is left with pending tasks in terms of public policy recommendation and clarification of the truth, which is important for them to fulfill their objectives. This includes its financial sustainability. The CNGS, and in particular the territorial subcommittees of security guarantees, must generate a public accountability scheme to facilitate the follow-up of the commitments acquired in these spaces, and contribute to the generation of trust.
5	3.4.4	Special Unit of Investigation UEI		The Special Investigation Unit must design strategies and policies related to the investigation of homicides and massacres, facts or conducts that attempt against defenders of human rights, social movements, political movements, the implementation of agreements and the construction of peace; the identification of criminal structures and their support networks that are within their competence, on the part of the Special Investigation Unit; and the analysis of political and social contexts that allow establishing common patterns of aggressions or behaviors defined in section 3.4.	Attorney General's Office	"Decree 898 of 2017 that creates the Special Investigation Unit has a director, Martha Cuellar, appointed in November 2017. The fact that the Constitutional Court has declared the decree as demandable facilitates the appropriation of resources from the EU and also that a team has been started to be put together so that the Unit begins to work formally and elaborates its action plan, prioritizing the design of research strategies and behavior against defenders with territorial emphasis. The fact that the PMI is valid for 15 years is an excellent sign. It is important to highlight that despite the lack of formal operation of the UEI, the prosecution made special efforts to delegate responsibilities to internal officials to expedite investigations of human rights defenders. Directive 002 of 2017, which prioritizes the role of social leadership as the first possible motive for such homicides, has been fundamental to advance in the investigation and prosecution. Even so, the growing trend of homicides of defenders in the last 2 years is one of the topics of greatest alert."	Taking into account the delay of about 16 months of the formal start-up of the Special Investigation Unit, which has a key role in the investigation of homicides of human rights defenders, but above all the identification of territorial criminal patterns, it is important to surround the UEI and its technical support team and the maximum of inter-institutional articulation for it to give results. It is also important to take advantage of the joint work between entities and organizations that have historically monitored and verified patterns of aggression against human rights defenders and social leaders. The UEI must strengthen working ties with the Public Ministry, local authorities, police, international community and civil society organizations. It is expected that the results of these investigations will be the basis of historical memory archives before the aggressions against human rights defenders and in turn will become a truth clarification mechanism and non-repetition guarantee.
6	3.4.5	Police Elite Corps	284	Elite Corps of the National Police with multidimensional focus.	National Police	The Elite Police Corps was created since June 2017, and it is formed by 1,088 men in charge of confronting organized crime networks, to support the work of territorial consolidation and prioritize the safety of social leaders, under the coordination of Colonel William Rincón Zambrano. To this date, the information system is being strengthened and will also serve as a basis for documenting historical memory archives. Its operational deployment is running in the prioritized areas, including the establishment of headquarters and judicial police base teams. The Elite Corps has been a key support mechanism for the Special Investigation Unit.	It is essential to support the work of territorial deployment of the Elite Corps so that it can facilitate regional contextual reading and promote articulation with institutions of all levels, international community and civil society, as it has been done at a national level. By February 2018, the Elite Corps had identified 287 incidents of threats and homicides, 244 in the investigation phase, 21 captures, and it had implemented 1,850 preventive measures. It is important to continue with the effort of articulated work between the Elite Corps, the Attorney General's Office, the international community (UNODC, UN Mission, Mapp OAS) and civil society (Cinep, We are Defenders, FIP, Indepaz) among others.



#	Agreement	Instance	PAM	SECURITY AND / OR PROTECTION MEASURE	Responsible Entity	Progress Status	Assessment
7	3.4.7	SISEP	100 & 109	Preventive Security Deployment	Ministry of Defense	Currently there are more than 80,000 men deployed in 160 prioritized municipalities through various strategies: Victoria Plus Plan that includes 5 campaign forces (Atlas in Nariño, Perseo in the South Pacific, Esparta in Norte de Santander, Zeus in Oriente and Agamenón in Urabá), the Communities in Peace and Secure Police Strategy, with 65 UBICAR in 24 ETCR, UNIPEP, Carpa Azul (Blue Tent) Strategy, IRENE and SIRIE (National System of Immediate Reaction for the progress of Stabilization). To the 5 joint task forces, the implementation of the Horus II Plan with a focus on 67 villages and territorial prioritization of 185 municipalities is added. Despite the results in terms of reducing violent deaths as a result of the conflict between the FARC and the government, there is concern about the proliferation of criminal groups. These include: successor groups of the paramilitaries, ELN, EPL, Pelusos, Clan del Golfo and dissidents or residual armed groups that are estimated to have around 1,500 men. The consolidation of organized crime patterns for the control of illegal rents and strategic territories is of concern. In this dynamic of transnational crime there is an incidence of Mexican cartels, among others. One of the great challenges will be to address the problem of illicit crops, generating trust in the community.	One of the main challenges will be to combine the preventive deployment of security with the arrival of the institutional offer and strengthening of the Rule of Law in prioritized municipalities. The communities, leaders, members of the FARC and the institutions in the field have stated that this deployment is insufficient given the security threats on the part of other illegal armed groups. It is urgent to stop the problematic situation of murders of human rights defenders and social leaders, many of them involved in actions to implement the agreement. It is important to review the security and protection strategies to protect former combatants during their process of reincorporation. And it is key to solve the humanitarian situation in regions such as the Pacific platform, Urabá, Catatumbo and Oriente of the country. In different instances, it has been clear that the articulation of the physical security offer must be complemented with the offer in terms of protection, justice and further development to prevent territorial problems. All this gear must have financial sustainability and articulation with local authorities and community in the territory.
8	3.4.7	SISEP	288	Strategic Security & Protection Plan includes material and non-material measures and the campaign against stigmatization.	Technical Table of Security	Although Decree 299 of 2017 mentions the creation of the Strategic Plan for Security and Protection, its implementation is delayed while focusing on intangible measures that complement the material measures already approved. The Plan that should be the strategic framework for the different security and protection actions has not been approved and therefore has not generated the regulatory adjustment according to the needs of the current context of the population in the process of reincorporation.	"In accordance with the provisions of Decree 299, it is pending: b) To periodically perform follow up and evaluation on the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Security and Protection in coordination with the state institutions that have competence on the subject. A proposal for the National Government through the Presidential Delegate, with the reforms and normative adjustments that are required for the protection and security of those who make up the population that is the object of the Program that this Chapter addresses. g) Developing, coordinating, following up and making suggestions for the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Security and Protection. It is important to provide continuity and human and financial resources to the Technical Safety and Protection Board in order to implement the plan."
9	3.4.7	SISEP	286	Integral Protection Program, members of the new political party or movement that arises from the FARC-EP's transition to the legal activity, venues and activities, and former members of the FARC-EP who rejoin civil life and the families of all the previously mentioned.	DAPRE/ UNIPEP/UNP	Although Decree 299 of 2017 creates the Specialized Security and Protection Program, it must be implemented respecting the established principles in order to cover the entire target population, securing resources for the current phase that covers approximately 11,000 members of the FARC, in a context of dispersion outside the ETCR. Unipep is covering part of the responsibility of UNP. Currently there are 186 members of the FARC party with security schemes. The venues do not have protection despite the threats.	In accordance with Decree 299 it is important that the Integral Protection Program is adapted to the current conditions of reincorporation in the territories. For this, it is important to evaluate the 1) Suitability: The protection and prevention measures will be adapted to the situation of extraordinary or extreme risk for which they will try to adapt to the individuals of the people that are the object of this Program and to the regional contexts. 2) Temporality: The prevention and protection measures are temporary and will continue to be as long as there is an extraordinary or extreme level of risk with respect to the persons targeted by this Program.
10	3.4.7	SISEP	296	The members of the new political movement arising from the transition of the FARC-EP to the legal political activity, will have presumption of extraordinary risk according to reasonable criteria presented by their representatives before the Technical Board.	UNP	While there is a general regulation in decree 895 for all the FARC members, each person requires individual risk assessment to adjust their security scheme. There is a delay in these evaluations for several members of the FARC, relatives and former members of FARC-EP, since there is no institutional capacity of the UNP to process so many requests. Part of the protection in territory is being temporarily covered by UNIPEP in areas close to ETCRs. The political headquarters have protection from the municipal police.	It is important for the presumption of extraordinary risk to the members of the FARC to be maintained and the requested evaluations to be expedited to the Technical Board so they can be carried out by the UNP. As established in Decree 299, the implementation of the procedure for the study and approval of measures must be sped up.
11	3.4.7	SISEP	294	Joint Security and Protection Body (Start with the training of 300 of the 1,200 expected members. No resources insured)	UNP	In accordance with Decrees 298, 299, 300 and 301 of 2017 the Mixed Corps is partially running. Out of 1,200 members, 935 have been trained, of which 545 are members of the FARC-EP, and 84 of them are women. It requires financial sustainability beyond 2018. The third course will include a module on gender issues in the analysis of risks and protection, which will be supported by the Gender Committee of the FARC, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and the UN Mission II.	The Joint Security and Protection Corps is reaching its peak, although there is a growing need for protection schemes. The sustainability of the Mixed Corps must be evaluated both at the timeframe and financial levels, as well as a possible expansion if necessary. For this purpose, Decree 298 must maintain the exceptionality of fiscal validity to the UNP. These types of figures have been used in several successful peace agreements.
12	3.4.7	SISEP	298	Training in Self-protection (led by UNP, shall be launched)	UNP	Despite it was established in Decree 299 of 2017, its implementation has been really poor.	It is essential to carry out training in self-protection, and at the same time to ensure training in a gender and differential approach.

#	Agreement	Instance	PAM	SECURITY AND / OR PROTECTION MEASURE	Responsible Entity	Progress Status	Assessment
13	3.4.8	Security & Protection Program for Communities and Territories	299	Integral Security Program for the rural communities and organizations in the territories	Ministry of Interior	The Decree Law 660 of April 2018 "By means of which Chapter 7, Title 1, Part 4, Book 2 of Decree 1066 of 2015 is added, Sole Regulatory of the Administrative Sector of the Interior, to create and regulate the Integral Security and Protection Program for Communities and Organizations in the Territories, and other provisions are dictated". To this date the Ministry of Interior has held several sessions of socialization of the rule with territorial entities and national institutions, with many questions on how to implement it.	It is key that the Ministry of Interior as the leader of this Program of Security and Community Protection that seeks to strengthen the programs of individual and collective protection of human rights defenders must: Harmonize the resulting programs with the spirit of the agreement to provide security guarantees to communities and territories in accordance with collective protection instruments that have worked previously promoting the articulation of local and national institutions. One of the main questions to be answered is how to ensure the financial sustainability of these programs and the strengthening of the capacity of public officials to be able to transcend from an individual material protection perspective to a true collective protection perspective that includes material and immaterial measures based on the needs of each context and community.
14	3.4.8		300	Communitary Promoters of peace and Coexistence	Ministry of Justice and Interior		
15	3.4.8		301 y 187	Special Protocol for the Protection of rural communities that were affected by the conflict.	Ministry of Interior		
16	3.4.8		302	Program to Strengthen the Reporting Capacity of Human Rights Organizations in Rural Territories	Ministry of Interior		
17	3.4.9		303, 305	New Prevention and Alert System for Quick Reaction to the presence, operations and / or activities of the organizations and criminal behaviors object of the agreement - Territorial Committees of Alert for the Immediate Reaction in the territories.	Ombudsman's Office (Public Ministry), Ministry of Defense and Attorney General's Office.	"As a result of Decree 2124 of 2017 that adjusts the SAT and gives it autonomy to issue alerts, it is essential to ensure the territorial deployment of defense in at least the prioritized municipalities. The expedite response to these alerts requires the highest level of articulation and coordinated work between the Public Ministry, the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Defense, the Attorney General's Office and local authorities. The Ministry of Defense implemented mechanisms such as SIRIE and Carpa Azul (Blue Tent), but not uniformly in all regions, and this strategy concentrates the offer in the ETCRs. Carpa Azul was designed to supply an integral offer to ETCRs, without taking into account that the offer in terms of protection by the Public Ministry and the Attorney General's Office is provided in places where the population requires attention and has the lowest degree of exposure."	The SAT must be strengthened in accordance with Decree 2124, and for the purpose of activating the Territorial Committees of Alert for Immediate Reaction, the presence of the Public Ministry in the 160 prioritized municipalities must be reinforced and the public servants of the mentioned entities must be trained. It is recommended to follow up on the recommendations arising from CIPRAT. The above demands to ensure the presence of the Ombudsman in the territory, and financial sustainability to provide human resources and technical support. The activation of Territorial Committees of Alert and Rapid Reaction is urgent, to articulate the state offer. Strategies such as SIRIE require a higher level of articulation with all entities, and not enough in response to alerts. And the Carpa Azul strategy needs to be adjusted.
18	5.2	No Repetition Guarantees	301 y 187	Protocol for the Integral Protection of Human Rights Defenders in rural contexts.	Ministry of Interior	There has been no mention of progress on this protocol, although it is one of the most necessary, particularly for priority areas for the replacement of illicit crops (PNIS, PDET and, in general, municipalities prioritized by post-conflict).	It is urgent for the next government to prioritize the design and coordination of comprehensive protection protocols in rural contexts, particularly those in the peripheral zones. Such protocol should promote articulated action of local, national and the Public Ministry.
19	5.2	No Repetition Guarantees	463	Strengthening the information system on the human rights situation, taking into account the progress of the National Human Rights System and Strengthening the monitoring system of the human rights situation at the national and regional levels, taking into account the early warning system.	Presidential Counseling for Human Rights	There is no progress. An internal consistency in this regard emphasizes an articulated work with the entities, in which the existing Information Systems are recognized, their sources of measurement, so that the Observatory provides instructions and technical guidelines that allow the incorporation of the human rights approach, avoiding duplication of systems and measurements.	The outgoing Government leaves some incipient advances in the matter of indicators and design of the Information and Monitoring System. It is a priority for the Colombian State to have its own information system on Human Rights.
20	5.2	No Repetition Guarantees	466	National Commission on Human Rights with the effective participation of organizations of human rights defenders and social organizations and movements	Presidential Counseling for Human Rights	1- The outgoing Presidential Council for Human Rights designed a road map for the preparation of the Plan, with institutions and civil society. It is not estimated that the Plan can be achieved before the change of Government, time is limited to ensure a participatory process with the human rights platforms and the component institutions at the national and territorial levels. 2-Colombia is a signatory of United Nations Resolution A / C.3 / 72 / L.50 of November 20, 2017: Promotion and protection of human rights: Human rights issues, including other means of improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms. This Resolution becomes the basic international normative framework for the whole component of Non-Repitition Guarantees of the Peace Agreement.	The departing government provides guidelines for public policy on human rights as part of the development plan, with a national consultative process of more than 19,000 people. The Final Agreement establishes the need to land these guidelines in a National Human Rights Plan updated to the current context so that it can be the guiding framework for the entire institutional framework. The elaboration and implementation of this plan would be a sample of the will of the State to contribute to the guarantees of non-repetition through the promotion and protection of human rights.
21	6.4	Normative Implementation Priority	515	Security Protocol for the Implementation of the Joint Effort for the Voluntary Substitution of Illicit Use Crops.	Presidential Counseling for Security	Although it is the Priority of Normative, Administrative and Legislative Implementation, the document that rules such Protocol is not known. The Presidential Security Council has summoned meetings to coordinate inter-institutional efforts to replace illicit crops before entering a territory. However, each entity decides autonomously how to enter territory. It is key to understand that forced eradication strategies affect the substitution of illicit crops. The leaders of substitution of illicit crops are not currently subject to protection for such work and instead they are being targeted for homicides because of the work they do.	It is urgent to have a Security Protocol for the Implementation of the Joint Effort for Voluntary Substitution of Illicit Use Crops, duly regulated. The Protocol must have the participation of competent authorities in Security, Protection and Substitution of Crops, in order to facilitate interinstitutional articulation and provide the necessary security guarantees to officials and leaders of the Substitution Program in substitution actions different from those of eradication.

mentioned above, it is expected that there will be a suffocation for these said spaces in such a way that they become exhausted and disappear. It will then be the task of civil society, supported by the international community, to make a detailed observation and follow-up so that this does not happen.

BUSINESS PEACE

Finally, to close this section of politics, peace and human rights defenders, it is not possible to miss a central issue in the discussion of the future of peace and defenders: The role of the private business. The participation of the powerful Colombian business sector in the political decisions of the country has never been more evident before. Leading the National Trade Union Council and the Business Council for a Sustainable Peace (formed by the National Trade Union Council, Competitiveness Council and ANDI), he took advantage not only in supporting Iván Duque in his career as president⁴⁷, also in the discussions during the dialogue process with the FARC⁴⁸, after the victory of the 'NO' in the plebiscite⁴⁹; and also in the modifications to the peace agreement before its signature⁵⁰. It

even suggested conditioning the continuity of the dialogue process with the ELN⁵¹. In the final phase of the government Santos they pronounced against the decrees that promulgated on social protest, the black line in the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta and the delimitation in the environmental reserve areas⁵².

The intervention of the Colombian business community also played a role in the designation of the new Duque cabinet, since 90% of them comes from the business sector⁵³ with profiles technically very well trained but with little experience in social issues such as the protection of human rights defenders. An example of this was the attempt to appoint Claudia Ortiz as Director of the UNP (very close to the retired military of the country and with a well-known disdain for social organizations). Of course, the business community also spoke out in favor of stopping the crimes against social leaders and proposed a joint action to identify the cases and have certain information on the subject⁵⁴.

Both the designation of this "business" cabinet and the intervention of the Na-

de-paz/consejo-empresarial-por-la-paz-habla-sobre-nuevo-acuerdo-30461

47 <http://www.eltiempo.com/elecciones-colombia-2018/presidenciales/consejo-gremial-nacional-apoya-candidatura-de-ivan-duque-227764>

48 <https://www.dinero.com/pais/articulo/consejo-gremial-nacional-negociaciones-paz-2015/214930>

49 <https://www.semana.com/economia/articulo/gana-el-no-en-el-plebiscito-gremios-urgen-mantener-estabilidad-economica/496713>

50 <http://www.eltiempo.com/politica/proceso->

51 <https://www.asuntoslegales.com.co/actualidad/consejo-gremial-nacional-se-refirio-la-reapertura-de-la-mesa-de-dialogos-con-el-eln-2610993>

52 http://caracol.com.co/programa/2018/07/27/6am_hoy_por_hoy/1532693423_618321.html

53 <https://www.las2orillas.co/ministros-tecnicos-en-su-mayoria-formados-en-el-sector-privado/>

54 <http://www.redmas.com.co/colombia/consejo-gremial-lidera-iniciativa-protoger-los-lideres-sociales/>

tional Trade Union Council in the peace issues, makes it foresee that in the coming years the implementation (or modification) of the peace agreements with the FARC, as well as the possible continuity of Negotiations with the ELN will have to go through the endorsement of this Council, which will result in a kind of “business peace” in which the interests of large capitals of the country are not affected by these agreements. This can be a contradiction considering that one of the main problems of the country and that originated the war, was the concentration of the land and where the entrepreneurs are the owners of the majority of the productive lands of the nation and the distribution of those is the most inequitable of the continent⁵⁵.

Another worrisome element is the participation of entrepreneurs behind the war as funders or sponsors. In this sense, important reports during 2018 such as the Attorney General’s Office entitled Systematic Violence against defenders of territorial rights in Colombia⁵⁶ demonstrated how palm entrepreneurs and others would be behind the violence against social leaders and communities in Urabá. Faced with this, the National Trade Union Council also criticized the role of the Special Justice for Peace, which shall precisely have the task of unveiling the links between businessmen and

armed actors during the conflict⁵⁷; such would be the pressure of this council that the previous Minister of the Interior had to modify several articles of this justice⁵⁸. Although both the National Trade Union Council and the Business Council for a Sustainable Peace do not represent the entire Colombian business community, the future role of these “heavyweights” of the national economy in the political discussions of peace in the country is a matter of analysis.

Many doubts, uncertainties and fears are lingering around the new National Government facing the fate of the peace processes, the guarantees of human rights, the fate of social movements, the political opposition, given the adverse position that the government party, the Democratic Center, has had before them. However, we must insist that nothing is written in stone and a new period just begins where the international community has its commitment to give continuity to the progress made by the previous government in these matters and has already expressed their concerns. Surely that international pressure, but also the broad political, social, academic, environmental, artistic, feminist and other sectors that were counted in an important way in the presidential elections, will make that path traveled to continue to be constructed despite the contrary announcements.

55 <https://sostenibilidad.semana.com/impacto/articulo/concentracion-de-la-tierra-en-colombia-el-1-por-ciento-de-las-fincas-mas-grandes-ocupan-el-81-por-ciento-de-la-tierra/40882>

56 <https://verdadabierta.com/violencia-defensores-derechos-territoriales-sistematica-generalizada-procuraduria/>

57 <http://www.wradio.com.co/noticias/actualidad/consejo-gremial-hace-fuertes-criticas-a-la-jep/20171024/nota/3617474.aspx>

58 <https://www.dinero.com/pais/articulo/ministerio-del-interior-modifica-jep-por-consejo-gremial/251758>



PROGRAMA SOMOS DEFENSORES

PROGRAMA NO GUBERNAMENTAL DE PROTECCIÓN A
DEFENSORES DE DERECHOS HUMANOS

REPORT JANUARY – JUNE 2018 INFORMATION SYSTEM ON AGGRESSIONS AGAINST HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS IN COLOMBIA - SIADDHH

According to the registry made by the Information System on Attacks against Defenders of Human Rights -SIADDHH- of the Non-Governmental Program for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders - We are Defenders⁵⁹, during the first six months of 2018, 397 defenders were victims of some type of aggression that put their lives and integrity at risk and hindered the legitimate and legal work of defending human rights in Colombia.

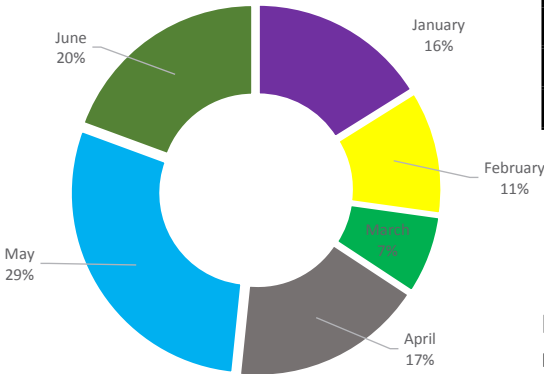
INDIVIDUAL AGGRESSIONS

In the first semester of 2018, an approximate increase of 16% is registered in the individual aggressions against defenders in relation to the same period in 2017. Between January and June of 2017 the SIADDHH reported 335 assaulted defenders; in 2018 in the same period, there were 397 cases.

When referring to the occurrence of these attacks per month, we see that the largest number of registered cases took place in May 2018 (presidential election month) with 115 assaults, followed by June with 77 assaults, April with 69, January with 64 and finally February with 44 cases and March with 28 attacks respectively.

59 This System registers information known directly by the We Are Defenders Program and by direct source with the Social Organizations and Non-Governmental Organizations that report cases to the Program.

Number of Aggressions per mot
SIADDHH Figures Period January-June 2018



Source: SIADDHH- We Are Defenders Program 2018

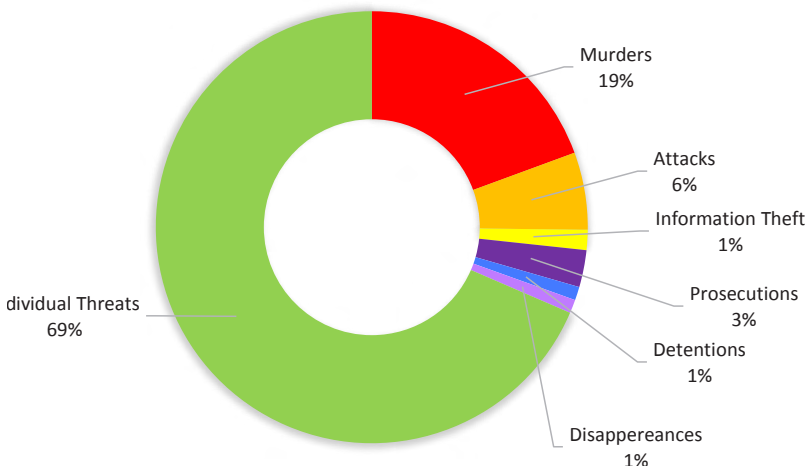
With regard to the aggressions by gender, it is said that out of the 397 defenders attacked between January and June in 2018, 74% were men and 26% were women. Violence against female human rights defenders increased again in the period of January - June with respect to the same period in 2017, which reported 24% of assaults.

Aggressions by Gender	Cases
Women	102
Men	295
Total individual Aggressions	397

AGGRESSIONS ACCORDING TO THE TYPE OF VIOLENCE

In the period of time covered by this report, information was gathered that accounts for seven types of aggression against human rights defenders in Colombia: Assassinations, attacks, threats, arbitrary detentions and arbitrary use of the penal system, disappearances and information theft. From the analysis of the figures it is possible to determine an important increase in the murders, prosecutions (or arbitrary use of the penal system), information theft and disappearances of social leaders in the semester with respect to the measurement of 2017.

PERCENTAGE ACCORDING TO THE TYPE OF AGGRESSION
SIADDHH FIGURES PERIOD JANUARY-JUNE 2018



Source: SIADDHH- We Are Defenders Program 2018

“Human Rights defenders and peasant, communal, community, indigenous and Afro leaders were the common target of the aggressions during the first semester of 2018.”

Type of Individual Aggressions	Number of Aggressions January – June 2018	Number of Aggressions January – June 2017
Threats	272	225
Assassinations	77	51
Attacks	23	32
Arbitrary Detentions	4	18
Arbitrary Use of the Penal System	11	9
Information Theft	6	Not Registered
Disappearances	4	Not Registered
Total individual aggressions	397	335

ASSASSINATION OF DEFENDERS

In the first semester the homicide figures increased again; between 2016 and 2017 we show a 31% increase in homicides. It went from 35 cases reported in the first half of 2016 to 51 defenders and social leaders killed in

the first six months of 2017. In 2018 there are 77 cases of murder, which means an increase of 34%. Next, we review their names, in recognition of their work, so that they are not forgotten and justice is done

“On average, between January and June 2018, two defenders were attacked every day and every other day one of them was murdered”

Tabla Homicidios Enero Junio 2018

No.	DATE OF THE FACTS	DEPARTAMENT	PLACE	VICTIM	GENDER	ORGANIZATION TO WHICH HE/ SHE BELONGED	TYPE OF LEADERSHIP	ALLEGED RESPONSIBLE
1	06/01/2018	Cauca	Totoró	Alirio Sánchez	MALE	Indigenous Leader, authority and traditional doctor of the Torotó Indigenous Reservation	DEFENDER OR INDIGENOUS LEADER	UNKNOWN
2	09/01/2018	Putumayo	Puerto Leguizamo	Diana Luz Romero Mogajés	FEMALE	President of the Community Acton Board of the San Joaquín village, Township of Piñuña Negro	DEFENDER OR COMMUNAL LEADER	UNKNOWN
3	17/01/2018	Antioquia	Yondó	Víctor Manuel Morato	MALE	"President of the Community Action Board of the La Rompida Uno village, of the El Tigre township in the municipality of Yondó, in Magdalena Medio Antioqueño. Part of the board Worthy Life of Yondó. Public services committee member of the municipality"	DEFENDER OR COMMUNAL LEADER	UNKNOWN
4	17/01/2018	Norte de Santander	Cúcuta	Jorge Jimmy Celis	MALE	He stood out due to his continuous work in the community of the Colinas del Tunal Neighborhood, 10 years of work	DEFENDER OR COMMUNITY LEADER	UNKNOWN
5	18/01/2018	Córdoba	San José de Uré	Plinio Pulgarín	MALE	"President of the Community Action Board of San Pedrito, belonging to the district of Versalles village in the municipality of San José de Uré. Association of Peasant Reserve Areas and the National Coordinator of Coca Leaf Cultivators, Marihuana and Ampaola, COCCAM. He supported crop substitution."	DEFENDER OR COMMUNAL LEADER	PARAMILITARY

No.	DATE OF THE FACTS	DEPARTAMENT	PLACE	VICTIM	GENDER	ORGANIZATION TO WHICH HE/SHE BELONGED	TYPE OF LEADERSHIP	ALLEGED RESPONSIBLE
6	19/01/2018	Arauca	Tame	Luis Díaz López	MALE	Secretary of the indigenous Cabildo El Juliero of the Betoyé indigenous people	DEFENDER OR INDIGENOUS LEADER	PUBLIC FORCE
7	19/01/2018	Arauca	Tame	Miller López Díaz	MALE	Prosecutor of the indigenous community of Juliero del Pueblo Betoye	DEFENDER OR INDIGENOUS LEADER	PUBLIC FORCE
8	20/01/2018	Antioquia	Cáceres	Berver Víctor Velásquez Vitola	MALE	Leader of the movement Citizen Commitment and cultural promoter in the region and who also worked as a dance teacher in the municipality of Cáceres, plus he was a member of the Community Action Board	DEFENDER OR DESCA LEADER	UNKNOWN
9	22/01/2018	Arauca	Saravena	Harley Johnny Mogollon Becerra	MALE	Coordinator of ASONALCA District No. 1, he was a member of the rural coordinator of the municipality of Saravena and member of the Peasant, Ethnic and Popular Guard of the Social and Popular Mass Political Movement of the Middle East of Colombia	DEFENDER OR PEASANT OR AGRARIAN LEADER	ELN
10	25/01/2018	Norte de Santander	Chitagá	Miguel Eduardo Parra Rondón	MALE	"President of the Community Action Board of the El Roble village. Recognized for his work in defense of the territory against the mining and energy exploitation in the Páramo del Almorzadero."	DEFENDER OR COMMUNAL LEADER	PUBLIC FORCE
11	26/01/2018	Chocó	El Carmen de Atrato	Eleazar Tequia Bitucay	MALE	Chief of the indigenous guard of the Embera Katio del Dieciocho community - ASOREWA	DEFENDER OR INDIGENOUS LEADER	PUBLIC FORCE

No.	DATE OD THE FACTS	DEPARTAMENT	PLACE	VICTIM	GENDER	ORGANIZATION TO WHICH HE/ SHE BELONGED	TYPE OF LEADERSHIP	ALLEGED RESPONSIBLE
12	27/01/2018	Valle del Cauca	Buenaventura	Temístocles Machado	MALE	Community leader of the Isla de la Paz neighborhood, located on the internal alternate road. Black Communities Defense	DEFENDER OR COMMUNITY LEADER	UNKNOWN
13	29/01/2018	Cauca	López de Micay	Nicomedes Payán Segura	MALE	Prosecutor of the Community Council of Black Communities, Mamuncia	DEFENDER OR AFRO- DESCENDANT LEADER	UNKNOWN
14	30/01/2018	Bolívar	Cantagallo	Nixon Mutis Dávila	MALE	"President of the community action board of Chaparral, municipality of Cantagallo and alternative substitution of coca crops, COCCAM. He was a member of the CREDHOS Committee of Cantagallo"	DEFENDER OR PEASANT OR AGRARIAN LEADER	UNKNOWN
15	31/01/2018	Córdoba	San José de Uré	Antonio María Vargas Madrid	MALE	"Treasurer of the Community Action Board of the la Ilusión village, in the jurisdiction of San José de Uré. He was leading processes of collective substitution of coca leaf in the south of Córdoba"	DEFENDER OR COMMUNAL LEADER	UNKNOWN
16	01/02/2018	Risaralda	Puerto Rico	María Yolanda Maturana	FEMALE	"Defender of natural resources in the border area between the departments of Risaralda and Chocó. He was known for denouncing illegal mining and pollution of water sources in the Santa Cecilia Township in Pueblo Rico."	DEFENDER OR DESCA LEADER	UNKNOWN

No.	DATE OF THE FACTS	DEPARTAMENT	PLACE	VICTIM	GENDER	ORGANIZATION TO WHICH HE/ SHE BELONGED	TYPE OF LEADERSHIP	ALLEGED RESPONSIBLE
17	03/02/2018	Bogotá	Ciudad Bolívar	Diana Patricia Mejía Fonseca	FEMALE	Community mother of the Candelaria La Nueva neighborhood (Ciudad Bolívar). she worked with the ICBF and she was a teacher.	DEFENDER OR COMMUNITY LEADER	UNKNOWN
18	05/02/2018	Bogotá	Usme	Carlos Eduardo Melo Ramirez	MALE	Community leader of the Antonio José de Sucre neighborhood, in Usme	DEFENDER OR COMMUNITY LEADER	UNKNOWN
19	06/02/2018	Meta	Pto Concordia	Dagoberto Acosta López	MALE	Sheriff of the Caño La Sal Reservation, J'iw indigenous people.	DEFENDER OR INDIGENOUS LEADER	FARC DISSIDENTS
20	06/02/2018	Norte de Santander	Tibú	Sandra Yaneth Luna	FEMALE	President of the Community Action Board of the Tutumito Carbonera village in the Campo Dos Township	DEFENDER OR COMMUNAL LEADER	UNKNOWN
21	08/02/2018	Antioquia	Tarazá	David Alexis Narváez	MALE	Leader and beneficiary of the illicit crop substitution program in the region	DEFENDER OR PEASANT OR AGRARIAN LEADER	PARAMILITARY
22	09/02/2018	Cauca	Guapi	Jesús Orlando Grueso Obregón	MALE	Jesús Orlando and Jhonatan, were members of the Ethnic and Popular Movement of the Pacific - MOEP, of the National Coordination of Coca, Poppy and Marijuana Growers COCCAM and of the Political and Social Movement Patriotic March in the Department of Cauca. They had been promoting the process of gradual and voluntary substitution of the cultivation of illicit crops in the Framework of point 4 of the Havana agreement.	DEFENDER OR PEASANT OR AGRARIAN LEADER	UNKNOWN

No.	DATE OF THE FACTS	DEPARTAMENT	PLACE	VICTIM	GENDER	ORGANIZATION TO WHICH HE/SHE BELONGED	TYPE OF LEADERSHIP	ALLEGED RESPONSIBLE
23	09/02/2018	Cauca	Guapi	Jhonatan Cundumí Anchino	MALE	Member of the Ethnic and Popular Movement of the Pacific, (MOEP), of the National Coordination of Coca, Poppy and Marijuana Cultivators COCCAM and of the Political and Social Movement Patriotic March in Cauca.	DEFENDER OR PEASANT OR AGRARIAN LEADER	UNKNOWN
24	11/02/2018	Norte de Santander	El Tarra	Deiver Quintero Pérez	MALE	Coordinator of sports of the Community Action Board of the El Tarrita neighborhood of El Tarra municipality	DEFENDER OR COMMUNITY LEADER	UNKNOWN
25	13/02/2018	Nariño	Tumaco	Álvaro Arango	MALE	Community leader of the La Guayacana Township - Community Action Board	DEFENDER OR COMMUNITY LEADER	FARC DISSIDENTS
26	17/02/2018	Norte de Santander	El Tarra	Elkin Fabián Toro	MALE	He worked in a local radio station in the municipality of El Tarra, Norte de Santander, and he also had an administrative position in the Community Action Board of the El Zul Village. The victim had ceased to exercise the functions mentioned above since October 2017.	DEFENDER OR COMMUNITY LEADER	ELN
27	17/02/2018	Quindío	Quimbaya	Cristian Camilo Toro Rodas	MALE	Community leader recognized for his work with the support of the community in cultural reinvidications in the Municipality. Former council of the Liberal party 2012-2016, with mayoral aspirations in the 2019 elections.	DEFENDER OR COMMUNITY LEADER	UNKNOWN

No.	DATE OF THE FACTS	DEPARTAMENT	PLACE	VICTIM	GENDER	ORGANIZATION TO WHICH HE/ SHE BELONGED	TYPE OF LEADERSHIP	ALLEGED RESPONSIBLE
28	23/02/2018	Cauca	Balboa	Flover Sapuyes Gaviria	MALE	Treasurer of the impulse committee of the Coccam in the village of La Esperanza; member of the Peasant Workers' Association of Balboa Ascatbal	DEFENDER OR PEASANT OR AGRARIAN LEADER	UNKNOWN
29	23/02/2018	Norte de Santander	Cúcuta	Juan Emilio Abbran Solano	MALE	"Member of the Creditician Institution COOMUTRANORT, in which he held a position in the vigilance committee, working for the rights of the associates; he supported the 'Mis Quinceañeras' Foundation of the commune 8, support for young people. Former treasurer of Asojuntas commune 5, Cúcuta. Colombian Association of Sportswriters (Acord)"	DEFENDER OR COMMUNITY LEADER	UNKNOWN
30	26/02/2018	Santander	Bucaramanga	Cristián Emilio Jaimes Triana	MALE	"A young man who was an example of leadership and improvement. He stood out for his social works and for being leader of the commune 10 of Bucaramanga."	DEFENDER OR COMMUNITY LEADER	UNKNOWN
31	02/03/2018	Putumayo	Orito	Hermisul Larraonda Rendón	MALE	President of the Community Action Board of Los Alpes neighborhood, communal leader	DEFENDER OR COMMUNAL LEADER	UNKNOWN
32	05/03/2018	Cauca	Caldono	Éider Arley Campo Hurtado	MALE	Member of the Indigenous Guard, Cabildo de Ployá and Communicator of the indigenous people.	DEFENDER OR INDIGENOUS LEADER	FARC DISSIDENTS

No.	DATE OD THE FACTS	DEPARTAMENT	PLACE	VICTIM	GENDER	ORGANIZATION TO WHICH HE/ SHE BELONGED	TYPE OF LEADERSHIP	ALLEGED RESPONSIBLE
33	06/03/2018	Córdoba	San José de Uré	Luis Arturo Royet Franco	MALE	President of the Community Action Board of the Santa Isabel village, Doradas Township, and leader of the process of substitution of illicit crops	DEFENDER OR COMMUNAL LEADER	UNKNOWN
34	06/03/2018	Santander	Cimitarra	Víctor Hugo Martínez Barragán	MALE	Legal Representative of the Peasant Association "La Nueva Esperanza" (The New Hope)	DEFENDER OR PEASANT OR AGRARIAN LEADER	UNKNOWN
35	18/03/2018	Chocó	Quibdó	Juan Mena	MALE	President of the Community Action Board of Los Alamos neighborhood, "La Atrocera" sector, Commune 1	DEFENDER OR COMMUNAL LEADER	UNKNOWN
36	22/03/2018	Antioquia	Valdivia	José Aníbal Herrera	MALE	President of the Community Action Board of the Mesetas de Valdivia village and he was also spokesman in that town before the Municipal Commission for Participatory Planning of the National Integral Plan of Substitution, formed from the implementation of point four of the peace agreement between the Colombian Government and the FARC on crops for illicit use	DEFENDER OR COMMUNAL LEADER	UNKNOWN
37	25/03/2018	Antioquia	Cáceres	Víctor Alfredo Zabala Oviedo	MALE	President of the Community Action Board of the El Rizo village in the municipality of Cáceres, Bajo Cauca. He was part of the crop substitution program	DEFENDER OR COMMUNAL LEADER	PARAMILITARY

No.	DATE OF THE FACTS	DEPARTAMENT	PLACE	VICTIM	GENDER	ORGANIZATION TO WHICH HE/ SHE BELONGED	TYPE OF LEADERSHIP	ALLEGED RESPONSIBLE
38	25/03/2018	Antioquia	Cáceres	Jorge Miguel Polanco Ávila	MALE	"He was president of the Community Action Board of Caño Prieto, municipality of Cáceres. He led the project of the construction route of Development Programs with Territorial Approach, in its territory"	DEFENDER OR PEASANT OR AGRARIAN LEADER	UNKNOWN
39	27/03/2018	Meta	La Macarena	Israel Fajardo	MALE	"He gave birth to the first Community Action Board, of which he was their Dignitary for many years. The Community of the whole territory of the region is outraged and repudiates the assassination of this octogenarian Leader of the Community Action Board, who from the Board was still fighting and making efforts for the development and welfare of the community in general."	DEFENDER OR COMMUNITY LEADER	UNKNOWN
40	30/03/2018	Meta	Mapiripán	María Magdalena Cruz Rojas	FEMALE	Movement for the substitution of crops in Mapiripán, Brisas de Iteviare Sector, Inspection of Rincon del Indio.	DEFENDER OR PEASANT OR AGRARIAN LEADER	FARC DISSIDENTS
41	30/03/2018	Cauca	Corinto	Héctor Janer Latín	MALE	Mother Earth Liberator in Corinto	DEFENDER OR INDIGENOUS LEADER	UNKNOWN

No.	DATE OF THE FACTS	DEPARTAMENT	PLACE	VICTIM	GENDER	ORGANIZATION TO WHICH HE/SHE BELONGED	TYPE OF LEADERSHIP	ALLEGED RESPONSIBLE
42	30/03/2018	Cauca	Rosas	Belisario Benavidez Ordóñez	MALE	"Member of the victims' board of that locality located on the south of the department of Cauca. In fact, he was carrying out some work with the municipal administration. Delegate of victims before the Territorial Committee of Transitional Justice"	DEFENDER OR VICTIMS LEADER	UNKNOWN
43	04/04/2018	Norte de Santander	San Calixto	Álvaro Bayona Pérez	MALE	"Leader belonging to the Caturumbo Peasant Association ASCAMCAT. Leader of the rural committee of the Caturumbo Peasant Association in the municipality of San Calixto. He was leading a housing project in conjunction with the municipal mayor's office."	DEFENDER OR PEASANT OR AGRARIAN LEADER	UNKNOWN
44	08/04/2018	Chocó	San José del Palmar	Wilson Arnulfo Quetama Hurtado	MALE	Member of the victims association of San José del Palmar and the Association of Victims of Palmar, Asovicopal.	DEFENDER OR VICTIMS LEADER	ELN
45	10/04/2018	Chocó	San José del Palmar	Claudio Chávez	MALE	Peasant leader in rural area of San José del Palma	DEFENDER OR PEASANT OR AGRARIAN LEADER	ELN
46	14/04/2018	Cauca	Piendamó	Efren Zúñiga	MALE	Teacher of the Melcho de Piendamó School and he belonged to ASOINCA	DEFENDER OR STUDENT OR EDUCATIONAL LEADER	UNKNOWN

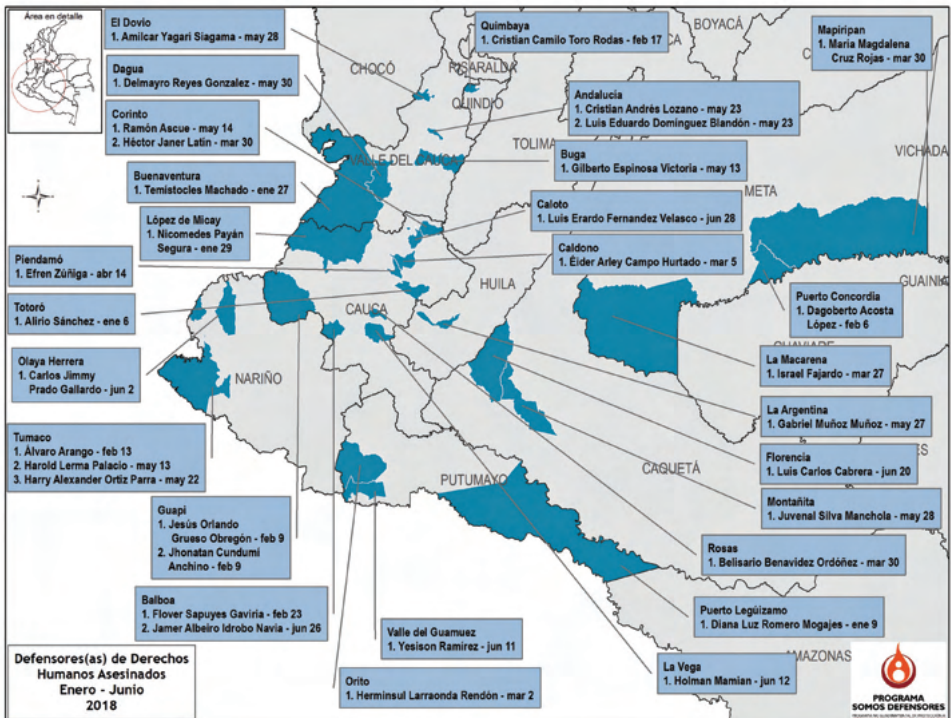
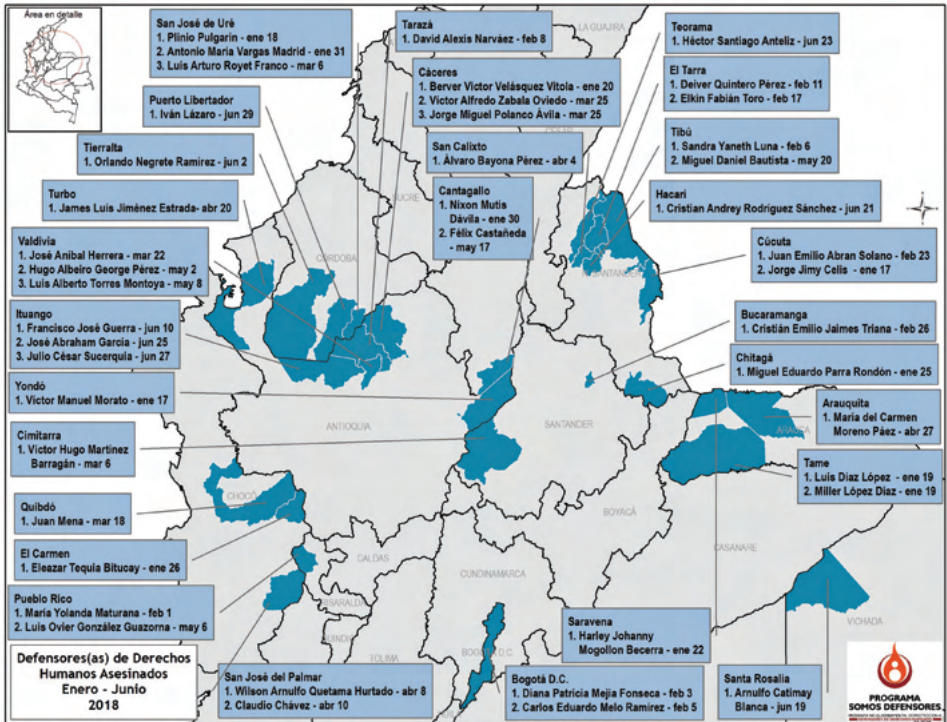
No.	DATE OF THE FACTS	DEPARTAMENT	PLACE	VICTIM	GENDER	ORGANIZATION TO WHICH HE/ SHE BELONGED	TYPE OF LEADERSHIP	ALLEGED RESPONSIBLE
47	20/04/2018	Antioquia	Turbo	James Luis Jiménez Estrada	MALE	"President of the Community Action Board of Cacahual, in the township of San Vicente del Congo. Leader of the process for Restitution of Lands in Turbo."	DEFENDER OR COMMUNAL LEADER	UNKNOWN
48	27/04/2018	Arauca	Araucuita	María del Carmen Moreno Páez	FEMALE	President of the Community Action Board of the Caño Rico village, in the rural area of the municipality of Araucuita	DEFENDER OR COMMUNAL LEADER	UNKNOWN
49	02/05/2018	Antioquia	Puerto Valdivia	Hugo Albeiro George Pérez	MALE	Member of the Ríos Vivos Movement. He was part of the Association of Victims and People Affected by Megaprojects, in the municipality of El Aro, which was linked to Ríos Vivos	DEFENDER OR DESCA LEADER	UNKNOWN
50	06/05/2018	Risaralda	Pueblo Rico	Luis Ovier González Guazorna	MALE	Indigenous leader of the Unified Community of Embera Chami.	DEFENDER OR INDIGENOUS LEADER	UNKNOWN
51	08/05/2018	Antioquia	Puerto Valdivia	Luis Alberto Torres Montoya	MALE	Association of Small Miners and Fishermen of Puerto Valdivia -AMPA- and he also has connections with the Ríos Vivos Movement.	DEFENDER OR DESCA LEADER	UNKNOWN
52	13/05/2018	Nariño	Tumaco	Harold Lerma Palacio	MALE	"He belonged to the Community Action Board of the Cebito village of the Uribe Township, and who by the time of his decease served as an advisor to the mentioned Board. Harold was part of the program of restitution of illicit crops and he was an active member of Agropalma"	DEFENDER OR PEASANT OR AGRARIAN LEADER	UNKNOWN

No.	DATE OF THE FACTS	DEPARTAMENT	PLACE	VICTIM	GENDER	ORGANIZATION TO WHICH HE/SHE BELONGED	TYPE OF LEADERSHIP	ALLEGED RESPONSIBLE
53	13/05/2018	Valle del Cauca	Buga	Gilberto Espinosa Victoria	MALE	Union leader, member of the National Syndicate of the Agrifood System, Sinaitrainal. He worked for the multinational Nestlé of Colombia for 25 years in the Bugalagrande factory.	DEFENDER OR UNION LEADER	UNKNOWN
54	14/05/2018	Cauca	Corinto	Ramón Ascue	MALE	"Liberator of Mother Earth of the Corinto Indigenous Reservation, Ramón Ascue. Asociación de Cabildos Indígenas del Norte del Cauca"	DEFENDER OR INDIGENOUS LEADER	UNKNOWN
55	17/05/2018	Bolívar	Cantagallo	"Félix Castañeda"	MALE	Member of the Community Action Board of the Chaparral village, and delegate of the community for the Coordination of Coca, Poppy and Marijuana Growers - Coccoam	DEFENDER OR PEASANT OR AGRARIAN LEADER	UNKNOWN
56	22/05/2018	Nariño	Tumaco	Harry Alexander Ortiz Parra	MALE	He was a recognized political leader of the region, in Barbaocoas he had stood out for his social and political leadership	DEFENDER OR COMMUNITY LEADER	FARC DISSIDENTS
57	20/05/2018	Norte de Santander	Tibú	Miguel Daniel Bautista	MALE	Prosecutor of the Community Action Board of the Caño Grande Primavera village, Campo 2 Township.	DEFENDER OR COMMUNAL LEADER	UNKNOWN
58	23/05/2018	Valle del Cauca	Andalucía	Cristian Andrés Lozano	MALE	Alleged trade union leader, worker of Nestlé of Colombia and affiliated to the National Union of Workers of the Agrifood System - SINAITRAINAL	DEFENDER OR UNION LEADER	UNKNOWN

No.	DATE OF THE FACTS	DEPARTAMENT	PLACE	VICTIM	GENDER	ORGANIZATION TO WHICH HE/SHE BELONGED	TYPE OF LEADERSHIP	ALLEGED RESPONSIBLE
59	23/05/2018	Valle del Cauca	Andalucía	Luis Eduardo Domínguez Blandón	MALE	Alleged trade union leader, worker of Nestlé of Colombia and affiliated to the National Union of Workers of the Agri-Food System - SINALTRAINAL	DEFENDER OR UNION LEADER	UNKNOWN
60	27/05/2018	Huila	Argentina	Gabriel Muñoz Muñoz	MALE	Peasant leader and electoral attorney of the Humana Colombia committee in La Argentina	DEFENDER OR PEASANT OR AGRARIAN LEADER	UNKNOWN
61	28/05/2018	Valle del Cauca	El Dovio	Amilcar Yagari Siagama	MALE	He belonged to the Indigenous Guard of the Garrapata reservation. Former governor of the community and he was acting as spokesman for the territory.	DEFENDER OR INDIGENOUS LEADER	UNKNOWN
62	28/05/2018	Caquetá	La Montañita	Juvenal Silva Manchola	MALE	Community leader of the Miramar community, affiliated to the Community Action Board	DEFENDER OR COMMUNITY LEADER	PUBLIC FORCE
63	30/05/2018	Valle del Cauca	Dagua	Delmayro Reyes Gonzalez	MALE	Teacher of the educational institution El Palmar of the Dagua municipality.	DEFENDER OR STUDENT OR EDUCATIONAL LEADER	UNKNOWN
64	02/06/2018	Córdoba	Tierralta	Oriando Negrete Ramirez	MALE	President of the Community Action Board of the El Camu sector, in Las Delicias. Citizen overseer of public works.	DEFENDER OR COMMUNAL LEADER	UNKNOWN
65	02/06/2018	Nariño	Olaya Herrera	Carlos Jimmy Prado Gallardo	MALE	Legal representative of the Satinga Joven movement, he was also a national delegate of the space for prior consultation of Afro-Colombians, palenqueros and raizales in Nariño and belonged to the board of the Association of Community Councils and Ethnic Territorial Organizations.	DEFENDER OR AFRO-DESCENDANT LEADER	UNKNOWN

No.	DATE OF THE FACTS	DEPARTAMENTO	PLACE	VICTIM	GENDER	ORGANIZATION TO WHICH HE/SHE BELONGED	TYPE OF LEADERSHIP	ALLEGED RESPONSIBLE
66	10/06/2018	Antioquia	Ituango	Francisco José Guerra	MALE	President of the Community Action Board of the El Mandarino village, in Ituango.	DEFENDER OR COMMUNAL LEADER	UNKNOWN
67	11/06/2018	Putumayo	Valle del Guamez	Yesison Ramirez	MALE	Community leader of the Valle del Guamez municipality, Campo Alegre sector	DEFENDER OR COMMUNITY LEADER	UNKNOWN
68	12/06/2018	Cauca	La Vega	Holman Mamian	MALE	"He was an active trade unionist and a declared defender of the environment. He had faced cases of illegal mining. Mamián belonged to the Association of Educational Institutes and Workers of Cauca (Asoinca) - Santa Rita Educational Institution headquarters Ventadero."	DEFENDER OR DESCALADER	UNKNOWN
69	19/06/2018	Vichada	Santa Rosalia	Amulfo Catimay Blanca	MALE	Brother of the Governor of the Indigenous People Sáliba	DEFENDER OR INDIGENOUS LEADER	PUBLIC FORCE
70	20/06/2018	Caquetá	Florencia	Luis Carlos Cabrera	MALE	President of the Community Action Board of the Berlin neighborhood, in sector 4 of the Malvinas east of Florencia	DEFENDER OR COMMUNAL LEADER	UNKNOWN
71	21/06/2018	Norte de Santander	Hacarí	Cristian Andrey Rodríguez Sánchez	MALE	He was part of the Community Action Board of the Maracaibo Township and the youth of the population association. He was a community leader.	DEFENDER OR COMMUNITY LEADER	UNKNOWN
72	23/06/2018	Norte de Santander	Teorama	Héctor Santiago Anteliz	MALE	President of the community action board of the San José village, located in the rural area of the municipality of Teorama	DEFENDER OR COMMUNAL LEADER	UNKNOWN

No.	DATE OF THE FACTS	DEPARTAMENT	PLACE	VICTIM	GENDER	ORGANIZATION TO WHICH HE/SHE BELONGED	TYPE OF LEADERSHIP	ALLEGED RESPONSIBLE
73	25/06/2018	Antioquia	Ituango	José Abraham García	MALE	President of the Community Action Board of Pascuita, municipality of Ituango, north of Antioquia.	DEFENDER OR COMMUNAL LEADER	UNKNOWN
74	26/06/2018	Cauca	Balboa	Jamer Albeiro Idrobo Navia	MALE	"Confirmed by the Francisco Isaías Cifuentes Human Rights Network. He was a former councilman and social leader of the Colombian municipality of Balboa, in the department of Cauca (southwest) Member of the Committee of Cocaleros of the Joaquina village. Former councilman and member of the Association of growers of coca leaf, poppy and marijuana, COCAM"	DEFENDER OR PEASANT OR AGRARIAN LEADER	UNKNOWN
75	27/06/2018	Antioquia	Ituango	Julio César Sucerquia	MALE	Association of the Boatmen's Committee of the North of Antioquia (Small-scale miners)	DEFENDER OR PEASANT OR AGRARIAN LEADER	UNKNOWN
76	28/06/2018	Cauca	Caloto	Luis Erardo Fernandez Velasco	MALE	Khambuesx Authority of his village, then he was founder and coordinator of the Youth movement of his village in the Huellas Reservation.	DEFENDER OR INDIGENOUS LEADER	UNKNOWN
77	29/06/2018	Córdoba	Puerto Libertador	Iván Lázaro	MALE	"Member of * ASCSUCOR * and during two periods, he was the secretary of the *Roger Community Action Board* community. He stood out for leading and sponsoring sportive and cultural processes in the community. National Association of Peasant Reservation Areas -Anzorc"	DEFENDER OR COMMUNITY LEADER	UNKNOWN



Out of the 77 murders, 96.1% corresponded to men (74 cases) and 3.9% to women (3 women); it should be noted that there has been a significant decrease in the number of murders of female defenders that went from 7 cases registered in 2017 to 3 in 2018 in the same period (January - June). Cauca (13 cases), Antioquia (12 cases) and Norte de Santander (10 cases) are the departments with the highest number of defenders killed. Valle is next with 6 cases; Córdoba with 5 cases; Arauca, Chocó and Nariño with 4 cases each; Meta and Putumayo with 3; Risaralda, Bogotá, Bolívar, Caquetá and Santander with 2; and Quindío, Huila and Vichada with one case respectively. Of these 77 homicides, in 12 of them the consulted sources confirm that the defenders had denounced threats before their murder; in the remaining 65 cases no threats were reported or information was not available.

Likewise, out of the 77 homicides, 70 of them were carried out with firearms, 5 with a knife, 1 case product of beating and one case more product of other forms of violence. According to the reports received by the Program, 8 of the homicides reported were preceded by the disappearance of the defender and their body was later found. It was also evident that in one case, the body of the defender killed

showed signs of torture and in 8 cases the murder was carried out with extreme cruelty (more than 5 shots). A key fact is that in 17 of the 77 cases there was affectation to third parties while the murder was perpetrated, which means that a relative, friend or close person was also assaulted in the act. This contrasts with the 5 cases of 2017 in which the same pattern occurred. This situation shows the derivation of the risks of the defenders to their families and circles of closest friends, and how it double affects social leaders and defenders, as their activity is seen as dangerous for those close to them and in many cases it generates social rejection, stigmatization and abandonment by family and friends. The pattern of affectation to third parties is a situation detected since 2009 that has been increasing in percentage terms.

It is worth noting that 70 of the 77 homicides were perpetrated through the SICARIATO (Hit men), modality in which one or several unknown and armed men burst into the defender's home, near it or on roads that the leader passes and firearms are activated against their humanity causing their death. To date there is no information that the murdered defenders had state protection measures.

“Between January 2009 and June 2018, 609 human rights defenders in Colombia have been killed”

Type of Leadership	# of Cases
DEFENDER OR COMMUNAL LEADER	19
DEFENDER OR AGRARIAN OR PEASANT LEADER	16
DEFENDER OR COMUNITARY LEADER	15
DEFENDER OR INDIGENOUS LEADER	12
DEFENDER OR DESCA LEADER	5
DEFENDER OR UNION LEADER	3
DEFENDER OR AFRODESCENDANT LEADER	2
DEFENDER OR VICTIMS LEADER	2
DEFENDER OR STUDENT OR EDUCATIONAL LEADER	2
DEFENDER OR COMUNITARY LEADER	1
TOTAL	77

When reviewing the leaderships which are most affected by murders, in the first semester of 2018 we find that they are those associated with Community Action Boards, community work (especially in rural areas), peasant leaders and indigenous leaders that have the highest number of homicides (62 of the 77) that is, 80% of the cases.

The high levels of planning and monitoring by murderers of human rights defenders in Colombia are still evident. In 83% of cases, it is noticeable that crimes occur in the early hours of the morning or late at night when leaders either leave for or return from work, or are resting, and even several of them were preceded by the disappearance of the leader.

Alleged Responsible for the Murder	January – June 2017	January – June 2018
Unknown	45	59
Paramilitary	3	3
Public Force	2	6
ELN	1	4
FARC Dissidents	Not Registered	5
TOTAL	51	77

The alleged perpetrators of these homicides are still largely UNKNOWN, a number that increases in 2018. The increase in homicides by the Public Force as well as the ELN guerrillas

and the emergence of the FARC's dissidence as alleged perpetrators is truly worrisome. In 5 deaths. Although the Attorney General's Office has indicated that 50% of the 178 murder

cases between 2016 and 2018 that were reported to it by OACNUDH are already clarified, we do not have 2018 data from the Attorney General's Office that allows us to determine what the stage of procedural progress on these murders is.

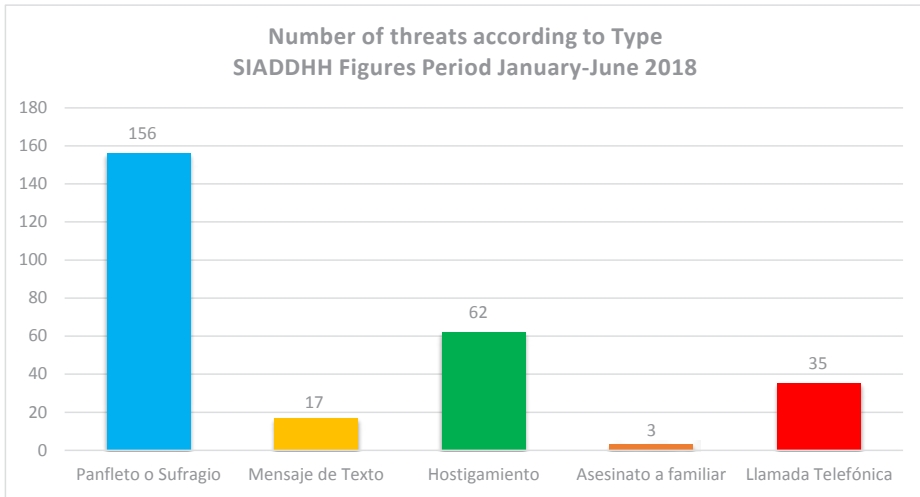
INDIVIDUAL THREATS

In the January - June 2018 period, there were 272 threatened defenders throughout the country. It should be noted an increase of 18% in this type of aggression. This percentage increase contrasts with the decrease in threats identified in the same period of the previous year.

Of the alleged perpetrators of the threats in this semester, we find that a group of paramilitary origin has the greatest number of threats, the Colombian Gaitanist Self-Defense Groups, which registered 94 cases, followed by unknown actors who increase their percentage with 61 cases. Other denominations of paramilitary groups that are supposed to no longer exist, such as the "Clan Úsuga", "Los Rastrojos" or "Urabeños" as well as organized crime gangs reported 32 cases. The reappearance in this list of guerrilla forces of insurgent origin, such as the Dissidences of the FARC and ELN deserve a separate mention, which although they have a small participation, they remain an important actor in the intimidation of human rights defenders.

Alleged responsible for the threats	Number of threatened defenders January-June 2017	Number of threatened defenders January-June 2018
Águilas Negras (Black Eagles)	117	57
Unknown	35	61
Other Paramilitary groups	52	32
Gaitanist Self-Defenses of - AGC	20	94
Public Force	1	Not Registered
FARC Dissidents	Not Registered	23
ELN	Not Registered	5

“Product of these 77 murdered defenders, 77 peasant, communal, indigenous, union, victims and LGBTI processes, among others, they lose a leader, their training, their experience and recognition.”



In the same way, Cauca continues to register the largest number of defenders threatened with 55 cases, followed by Valle del Cauca with 37; Cesar with 28, Córdoba with 23, Norte de Santander with 16, Chocó with 15, Bogotá with 13, Antioquia with 12 and La Guajira with 11 cases closes the list of the departments with the highest figures of defenders threatened. It is extremely worrisome that departments such as Cesar, Córdoba, Norte de Santander, Chocó and La Guajira, which historically did not have a significant participation in threat rates, now appear in the first places. On the other hand, the threatening pamphlet continues being the most used method to threaten, with 156 defenders threatened through this mechanism (17 cases more than 2017), followed by direct harassment with 62 cases (43 cases more than 2017) and threatening calls with 35 cases to close this measurement.

The proliferation of pamphlets and direct intimidating acts as mechanisms

of threats against defenders, suggests that these threatening actions are increasingly far from being in the hands of unknown persons and that in this way the investigation process can be made much faster to take judicial action against the perpetrators and prosecute them promptly. For this, the Santos government and the Attorney General's Office succeeded in having the law 1908 of 2018 approved in the Congress of the Republic, which clearly establishes the crime of threat:

“Article 9 °. Add article 188E to Law 599 of 2000, which will read as follows: Article 188E Threats against human rights defenders and public servants. Whoever that by any means intimidates or threatens a person who carries out activities of promotion and protection of human rights, or their relatives, or any organization dedicated to the defense of them, or political leaders, or trade unions communicating the intention to cause a constitutive damage of one or more crimes, by reason of or on the occasion

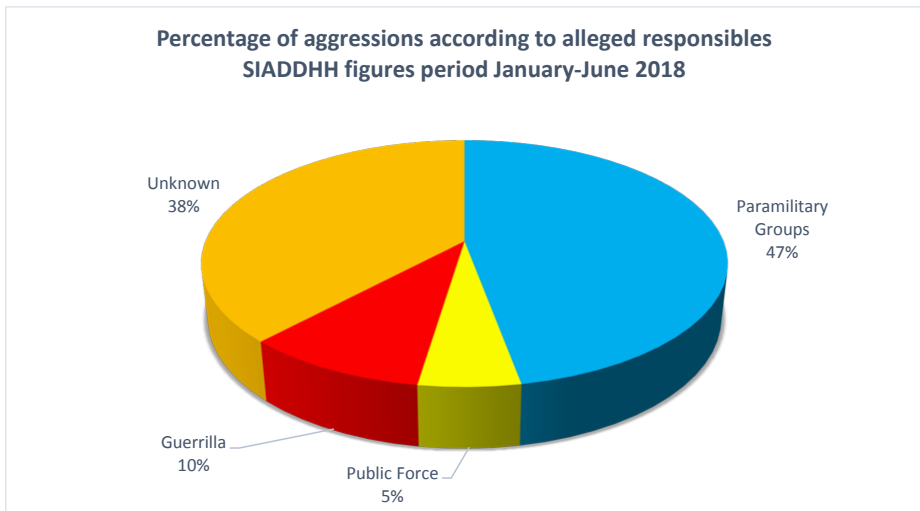
of the function performed, shall incur a prison term of seventy-two (72) to one hundred and twenty-eight (128) months and a fine seventeen point seventy-seven (17.77) to two hundred minimum monthly legal salaries in force. The same penalty shall be incurred in when the conduct referred to in the preceding paragraph falls on a

public servant or his family.”⁶⁰

With this legal provision, enshrined in a law of the Republic, it is expected that the investigation processes for this type of aggression, may have real advances.

⁶⁰ <http://es.presidencia.gov.co/normativa/normativa/LEY%201908%20DEL%209%20DE%20JULIO%20DE%202018.pdf>

ALLEGED RESPONSIBLES



About the alleged perpetrators or responsible for the 3397 attacks that occurred between January and June 2018, the SIADDHH registered, in most cases Paramilitaries with 187 cases, while in 151 cases the figure corresponds to those Unknown (44 more cases than in 2017). The members of state security forces (National Army, Police, SIJIN, Prosecutor’s Office among others) are registered in 21 cases with alleged responsibility in the attacks (their participation decreases with respect to 2017 with 30 cases). The guerrillas increase exponentially

their participation in the aggressions going from 1 case with responsibility in the aggressions in 2017 to 38 cases in 2018.

AREAS OF AGGRESSION

Compared to the areas where there was the highest number of attacks in this semester, compared to the records for the same period in 2018, the departments of Cauca and Valle del Cauca still have the highest levels of aggression. In contrast there is a decrease in cases in Bogotá (from 43

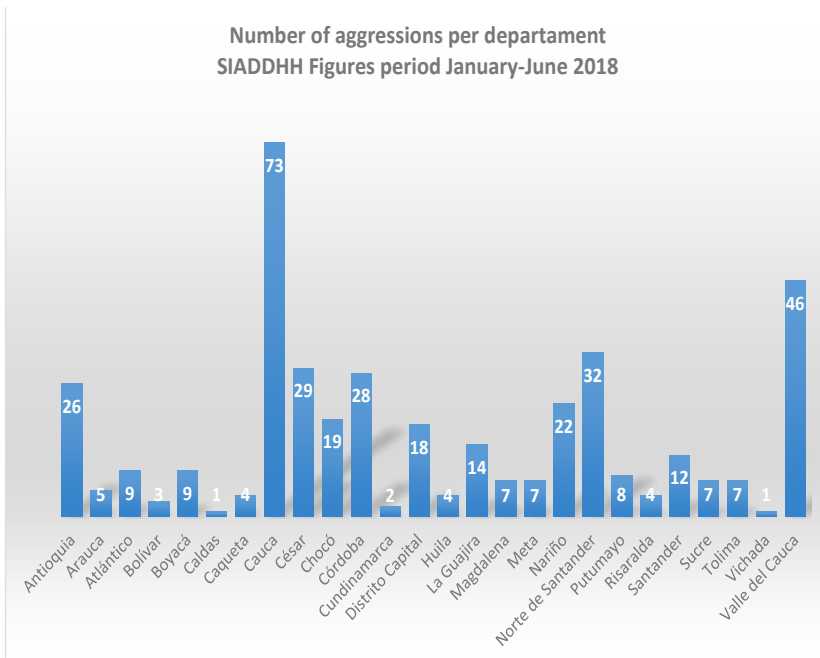
cases to 18) and the department of Tolima (from 19 to 7 cases). In the case of Bogotá, the procedural fall of assaults is striking since in other measurements of previous years, the capital of the Republic was one of the areas with the greatest degree of aggression manifested in threats.

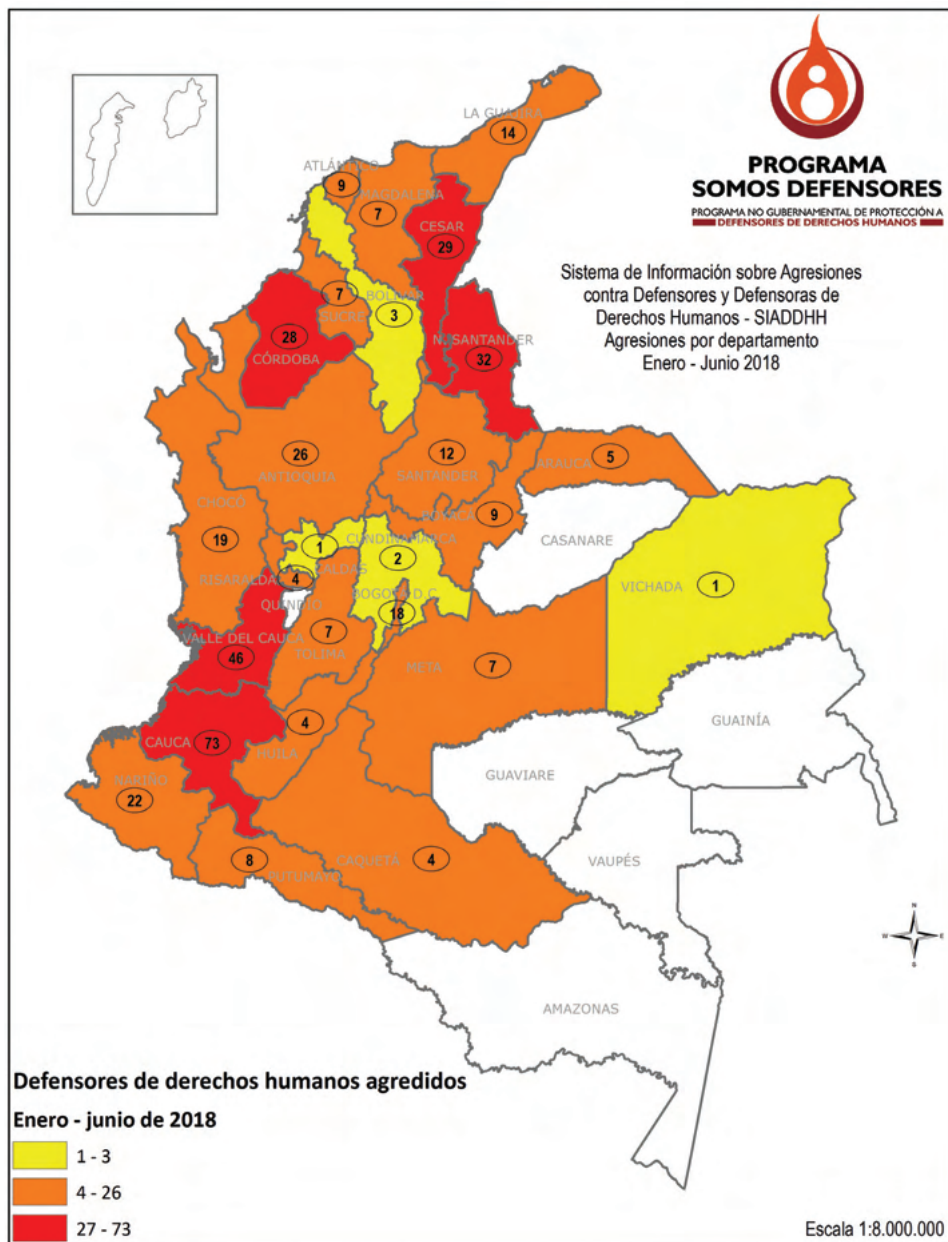
However, the departments of Norte de Santander, Cesar, Córdoba and La Guajira generate extreme concern since, during previous periods, their

aggressions did not exceed 10 cases and in the present measurement, they appear in the first places with more than 20 cases each.

On the other hand, Antioquia increases slightly its participation in the aggressions, going from 23 to 26 cases. This is consistent with several early warnings generated by the Ombudsman's SAT for these departments, without knowing to this date the institutional actions taken to mitigate such risk.

Ranking	Greater number of cases 2017	Greater number of cases 2018
1	Cauca – 78 cases	Cauca – 73 cases
2	Bogotá – 43 cases	Valle del Cauca – 46 cases
3	Valle del Cauca – 40 cases	Norte de Santander – 32 cases
4	Antioquia – 23 cases	Cesar – 29 cases
5	Tolima – 19 cases	Córdoba – 28 cases
6	Cesar – 18 cases	Antioquia – 26 cases
7	La Guajira – 18 cases	Nariño – 22 cases





GENERAL CONCLUSIONS

After a look at some key aspects related to the situation of aggression against human rights defenders in the first semester of 2018, we risk the following general conclusions, which we hope will affect in some way the policies that the Colombian State has to take to start closing the cycles of violence:

1. It is true that the referential framework of figures and statistics that measure the phenomenon of violence against people who defend human rights in Colombia was broadened, especially in remote regions. However, instead of that being a negative or distorting element of reality, reaffirms that it is a growing, worrisome and sensitive situation for the continuity of the search for peace.
2. Once again it is acknowledged and emphasized that indeed the Office of the Attorney General of the Nation is gaining ground in the investigations regarding the murders against social leaders, in the face of the historical impunity that accompanies these events. Nevertheless, we believe that it should be a greater effort before the dimension of the problem and its long journey for so many years, because the emphasis or prioritization focuses on the last two and a half years, without hope for previous years. In the same way, as the Report shows, it is not healthy media management given by the accusing Agency to show conclusive and wide-ranging results in relation to the clarification of murders, when the reality is different. In terms of investigations regarding threats to social movements, peace initiatives, women's platforms, trade union sectors and others, the results of the Attorney General's Office and the National Police are null, despite the incessant work on the part of organized society and the many announcements in a decade of proliferation of threatening pamphlets rolling on the web and various territories of the country: About four thousand identified by the SIADDHH.
3. It is clear that the government of Juan Manuel Santos imprints into history the fact of having closed the armed conflict with the FARC and having left the process in an advanced stage with the ELN, in addition to the recognition of the victims as subjects of rights and a new institutionality for materializing these processes. However, the balance in relation to the right to life and personal integrity of human rights defenders goes red, more than 600 murders, and it is not fully comprehensible because they are leaders committed to building peace in their territories.

4. The role of other State entities such as the National Ombudsman's Office and the Office of the Attorney General of the Nation is highlighted, as well as its media and institutional leadership to raise awareness of the critical situation of violence against social leadership and initiatives to raise awareness of the problem. But hopefully that effort will not be left alone, because beyond its mobilizing role, the centrality of its mandate is to discipline public officials who by action or omission favor the commission of these crimes, in no other way may the role of the Attorney General's Office be complemented to identify the intellectual and material authors.
5. It is important to highlight that similar to the previous eight years, in the first semester of 2018, community leaders were the sector most affected by violence, followed by community, indigenous, agrarian and Afro-descendant leaders.
6. In relation to the most difficult territories for these activists there is also a sustained trend in recent years and the first half of 2018, where Cauca, Antioquia, Valle del Cauca, Chocó, Nariño and Norte de Santander, unfortunately stand out.
7. About the alleged responsible people in charge of the assassinations of social leaders, they are still the paramilitary and those registered as 'unknown', the ones mostly accused of committing such crimes. But Military Forces, the ELN and dissidence of the FARC also participate.
8. Women continue to be highly attacked, which, in addition to being disturbing, is outrageous, in a country where women's and feminist movements have not stopped mobilizing against all kinds of violence, including gender-related, and against war. But also to express that in terms of judicial investigations, the cases of women are practically in total impunity.
9. It is expected that the new Government of Iván Duque gives continuity to the normative, legal and political routes drawn up by the government of Juan Manuel Santos and advance in the construction of the policy of guarantees for the free exercise of the defense of human rights and social leadership, for which it is always positive to maintain the dialogue with civil society and social movements.
10. Finally, we acknowledge, as always, the support and accompaniment of the international community represented in friendly governments of Human Rights and peace, cooperation agencies, multilateral organizations and solidarity organizations.