



What is Justice for Colombia?

- Irish and British organisation founded in 2002
- Founded in response to the high levels of violence against trade unionists, human rights defenders and community activists
- Working with parliamentarians in Ireland and Britain and the European Union to raise awareness, amplify voice and protection for targeted communities and pressure for policies that support peace and human rights in Colombia
- In Colombia work closely with human rights organisations, victims groups, trade unions, international institutions and embassies, and pro-peace politicians

Historic Human rights

- Historic violence and human rights crisis in Colombia
- In the context of the civil war between 1964 and 2016
 - Over 8 million forcibly displaced
 - Over 120,000 disappeared
 - Over 440,000 killed
- Over 3,200 trade unionists killed since 1970s
- Over 6,400 civilians were killed by the army in the so-called false positives scandal
- Over 5,000 members and supporters of the Patriotic Union political party were killed

Peace agreement of 2016

- Hope for many that peace process would bring a beginning of a new era
- Agreement focusing on social and political causes of the armed conflict and on victims' rights
- Key advances and concerns in implementation
- Importance of continued support for implementation of 2016 agreement

Recent human rights and security crises

- Continued operation of illegal armed groups and growth of illicit economies
- Increased violence against rural community activists
- Insecurity for former combatants who signed up to the peace agreement
- Cases of state human rights abuses
 - Army alleged murder of civilians in Putumayo in April 2022
 - Police response to protests in April/May 2021

New government and proposals for peace and human rights

- Historic Pact election victory in Presidential and Congressional elections
- Coalition for peace in Congress and in Ministerial appointees

- Total Peace / Paz Total
 - ELN negotiations
 - Talks with FARC dissident groups
 - Talks with neoparamilitary groups
 - 2016 agreement
- Social and political reforms passing through congress
 - Police reform
 - Increasing civilian state presence in rural areas
 - Regional community meetings

Key asks from international community

- Continued focus and support for 2016 peace agreement
- Support for efforts to bring all armed groups to the table
- Support for reforms to tackle historic human rights problems
- Continued attention on community activists and at risk rural regions