

**SCRIPT FOR PUBLIC READING - RULING FOR CASE 03,
CARIBBEAN COAST SUBCASE, ARTILLERY
BATTALION NO. 2, "LA POPA"**

(Before beginning the reading, the Section symbolically places the ruling in a bag woven by indigenous and Afro-Colombian hands that have accompanied this process).

(Symbolic framing)

Dry soil got stuck between his toes. It was the color of a dawn in which the agave plant blooms only once, and then dies. He swayed silently. The poles that supported the wattle and daub house's zinc roof no longer creaked. Watched by a solitary breeze, Grandfather Mario closed his eyes and waited. As the air tried to rush past his neck and his cheeks became swollen, he remembered his grandson at three years old. His light footsteps did not damage the skin of the dark orange pumpkins ready for harvest. He embraced that image as the string tightened around his reddened throat.

A murmur of dust shook that hilltop in El Hatico de los Indios. But it was only heard in Urumita, where the body of his grandson, now no longer light, had been buried a few hours earlier, with army bullets in his back.



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On February 27, 2004, Carlos Mario Navarro, an indigenous member of the Wiwa people, was killed — along with Luis Eduardo Oñate — by soldiers from the Zarpazo platoon of the La Popa Battalion. The sergeant in charge in the area — who had already made agreements with the Northern Bloc of the United Self-Defense Forces of Colombia (AUC) to capture vulnerable youths to present them as combat casualties — contacted the major who commanded the operations at the time and asked for authorization to carry out an alleged operation in the Badillo sector. "I told him, 'Let us go, there will be results,'" he later declared, in order to make it appear that the Army was fighting the self-defense groups and to cover up the fact that, in reality, it maintained a relationship of collusion with them. The paramilitaries forced Carlos and Luis off a bus, held them as prisoners, then handed them over to the army platoon at the San Juan del Cesar exit in La Guajira. There, they were killed and later reported as paramilitaries killed in combat, although neither of them belonged to an armed group. Carlos, 18, was traveling to visit his mother and grandparents. Luis, 16, was traveling with his grandfather on his way to the village of La Sierrita. Carlos's grandfather took his own life at home; he said he would have preferred that they had killed him instead of his grandson.



I am Ana Manuela Ochoa Arias, president of the JEP's Section for Acknowledgment, and I led the dialogic trial stage of the Caribbean Coast subcase, La Popa Battalion.

Between January 2002 and July 2005, 135 people were killed and subsequently illegitimately presented as combat casualties in the northern part of the Cesar department and the southern part of La Guajira by members of the National Army's Artillery Battalion No. 2, "La Popa." Many of the victims were also disappeared and, in some cases, persecuted and tortured.

After a dialogic and restorative process that began in the Chamber for Acknowledgment, the Special Jurisdiction for Peace's First Instance Section for Cases of Acknowledgment of Truth and Responsibility issues a ruling against twelve of those most responsible for these events. The persons to be sanctioned in this ruling have provided truth and acknowledged their responsibility in this subcase, and have committed to contributing to reparations for victims and to the non-repetition of crimes.

The complexity of this process is reflected in the length of time and breadth of the judicial and restorative actions that have been carried out. The investigation stage in the Chamber

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for Acknowledgment began with the opening of the Caribbean Coast subcase within Case 03, called “Murders and forced disappearances illegitimately presented as combat casualties by agents of the State,” and culminated in December of two thousand twenty-two (2022) with the issuance of the Resolution of Conclusions. In this context, fifteen senior officers of the Artillery Battalion No. 2 "La Popa" were identified; of these, twelve acknowledged their responsibility.

The Chamber studied four years of violent actions, read, analyzed and contrasted multiple sources of information on the facts, including the files of the ordinary justice system, the military criminal justice system, and the special indigenous jurisdiction, as well as multiple reports from victims' organizations and state entities. It also conducted a hearing and proceedings for voluntary accounts, requests for information, analysis, and evidence. This rigorous investigation's dossier is made up of more than 500,000 pages.

Once the Section assumed jurisdiction over this subcase, it began the correspondence evaluation process, through which it verified the consistency of the investigation carried out by the Chamber for Acknowledgment.

As part of the restorative justice model, the Section conducted public hearings—restorative practices of truth-



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telling with victims and participants. It also carried out collective rituals with indigenous peoples and community councils in the territory where the events occurred.

It should be noted that most of the judicial proceedings were carried out in various parts of the Caribbean Coast, including Valledupar, Barranquilla, San Juan del Cesar, the Kankuamo Indigenous Reserve, the José Prudencio Padilla Community Council in the township of Badillo (department of Cesar), and the Kusuto Ma Gende Community Council in the municipality of Luruaco (department of Atlántico).

This enabled the effective participation of the victims and contributed to defining the restorative projects that will be part of the special sanction.

Also, in order to make the restorative projects a reality, technical roundtables were held with national government entities and departmental and municipal authorities in La Guajira, Cesar, Magdalena, and Atlántico.

Furthermore, I would like to emphasize that this subcase's judicial process has highlighted its interjurisdictional nature and the dialogue between different justice systems. This has made it possible to demonstrate that protecting the rights of



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victims belonging to ethnic peoples is carried out with respect for their own rights.

Having made this introduction, I will now give a brief presentation of the ruling divided into five parts. First of all, I will refer to the special sanctions to be imposed on the parties in this case. Second, I will refer to the harm identified in this subcase. Third, I will describe the criminal elements of this subcase. Fourth, I will discuss the international crimes committed by the participants. Fifth and finally, I will conclude by referring to the orders issued in this ruling.

The ruling in this subcase imposes special sanctions on all twelve perpetrators. I would therefore like to begin by referring to the essential elements of special sanctions.

The sanctions themselves are transitional and restorative sanctions that were envisaged in the context of the search for solutions to the internal armed conflict, in the midst of a peace process that took shape with an armed group's commitment to lay down their weapons and reintegrate into society, and where it was agreed that there would be balanced, differentiated, equitable, and simultaneous treatment for members of the State security forces who committed crimes in the conflict.



These sanctions are the result of a negotiation process based on the premise of "no impunity in exchange," where each of its components was designed with the purpose of finding the best possible balance between the overarching interests of consolidating peace, strengthening the constitutional order, encouraging the return of combatants to civil society, and guaranteeing the rights of victims to truth, justice, and reparation.

It is especially important to note that the Constitutional Court endorsed the inclusion of these sanctions in the Constitution and their implementation in the JEP Statutory Law, emphasizing that, in the framework of a peace process that aims to negotiate the end of the armed conflict and build peace, an alternative sanctioning regime may be imposed on those who committed serious crimes in the internal armed conflict. The foregoing applies, provided that a strict regime of conditionality, acknowledgments of truth and responsibility, guarantees of non-repetition, commitments to truth, real and effective actions to satisfy the rights of the victims, and reparations for harm are respected.

Special sanctions have two components. The first is the reparative-restorative component, which must be accomplished through the performance of activities, work, and



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actions—also known as TOAR, as per its acronym in Spanish. The second component focuses on effective restrictions on the perpetrators' rights and freedoms.

Regarding the reparative-restorative component, this section has established that this component must do the following:

- (i) Guarantee the effective participation of victims
- (ii) Attend to the damage caused
- (iii) Avoid harming the rights of victims
- (iv) Contribute to rebuilding social ties or transforming society in a way that allows the conflict to be overcome
- (v) Enable the perpetrator to reintegrate into society

In relation to the restrictions of rights and freedoms associated with the special sanctions, Article 127 of the JEP Statutory Law states that "these imply that there are suitable mechanisms for monitoring and supervision to ensure compliance in good faith with the restrictions ordered by the Court." This component responds to the retributive function of the sanction and aims to guarantee reparation and restoration.



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Among the restrictions that apply are restrictions on freedom of movement, travel, residence, and work, among others.

In order to comply with these restrictions, the Section defines a **regime of residence, schedules, travel, and monitoring** adjusted to each TOAR and compatible with the perpetrators' fundamental rights.

This Section will be in charge of verifying compliance with the sanction, as established in Article 137 of Law 1957 of 2019. In the event of any eventuality or possible non-compliance, the Section will activate dialogue procedures and, if necessary, incidents of non-compliance, while always respecting the regime of conditionality.

For this task, the Section will be supported by the Mechanism for Monitoring and Verifying Special Sanctions. This mechanism brings together the UN Verification Mission, the Executive Secretariat of the JEP, and the Section for Acknowledgment, and its main functions will be to exchange information, strategically verify compliance trends, and analyze progress and challenges in implementing sanctions.

Now, with respect to establishing special sanctions for this subcase, the first thing to highlight is that four (4) central



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themes were established for the restorative projects—after being identified based on the dialogue and the victims' requests for reparations. These themes are:

- (i) Memory and dignity
- (ii) Healing, territorial harmonization, and organizational strengthening
- (iii) Community infrastructure
- (iv) Productivity and income generation

Within the framework of these themes, and as a result of implementing dialogic and restorative process, nine (9) restorative projects were identified, which were subsequently grouped into six (6) projects by the Executive Secretariat of the JEP. These projects are:

1. Comprehensive Memorialization Plan for the Caribbean Coast
2. Harmonization center for the well-being of the Kankuamo people
3. OMONAPA Comprehensive Cultural and Memory Center of the Wiwa People



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4. Multipurpose, urban, and rural productive strengthening, Sowers of love and peace
5. Multipurpose Houses: Healing memories, rebuilding lives
6. Nelson Enrique Romo Romero Cultural House

The perpetrators will begin to comply with their special sanctions in the restorative project "Comprehensive Memorialization Plan for the Caribbean Coast," specifically in the construction of a mausoleum of memory that includes the construction of 700 ossuaries, with their respective tombstones in the Ecce Homo Cemetery in Valledupar, Cesar. The working days will be from Monday to Friday, and the participants will reside in Valledupar in a building provided by Sociedad de Activos Especiales.

Finally, when the subcase's other restorative projects are launched, the Section will issue a ruling defining the new activities, workplaces, schedules, and conditions of compliance, while maintaining the same security and monitoring scheme.

Furthermore, with respect to the length of the special sanction, the Section determined that given the seriousness



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of the crimes and the role the perpetrators played in them, all the perpetrators must comply with the maximum special sanction of eight years. Then, the amount was reduced in proportion to the duration of their deprivation of liberty already served within the ordinary justice system.

To this effect, following the jurisprudence of the JEP's Appellate Section, this Section recognized that some of the participants had already begun to settle their debt with justice and with the victims through previous criminal proceedings, in which they served prison sentences or were subject to security measures. For that reason, they could not be considered under the same conditions as those who were never brought to justice and whose crimes remained completely unpunished until the JEP opened the investigation.

I will now enter the second part of my presentation on the identification and characterization of the harm of this subcase.

On this subject, I would like to begin by pointing out that, given that the JEP's investigation is based on macro-cases, in which criminal patterns are identified on the basis of illustrative facts, the characterization of the harm reflects this same methodology of investigation and prosecution. Thus, based on the description of some of the harm suffered by the



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victims, the JEP identifies systemic harm, which is the result of the commission of systemic crimes or offenses.

This harm makes it possible to demonstrate macro-victimization, structural violence, and the global nature of the harm that the victims experienced. With regard to structural violence, it is worth noting that it generally predates the crimes and is based on forms of social, political, and economic control over certain sectors of the population, as well as stereotypes and discriminatory behaviors, which facilitated the crimes or aggravated their consequences.

Identifying and characterizing the harm involves establishing the following elements: the victimization profile; the harm caused to victims; the rights violated; the territories affected; and the continuity of the factors of violence, vulnerability, and poverty.

Regarding these elements, I would like to highlight the harm suffered by the victims in the subcase. This harm included:

- Harm caused by stigmatization
- Harm caused by impunity for crimes



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Peoples occurred in sacred places. Likewise, the assassinations led to the loss of the enjoyment of the territory as a place for the peoples to carry out cultural, social, economic, and spiritual activities.

Thirdly, I will refer to the criminal elements, which caused systemic harm in the case, and was committed by those most responsible in this subcase.

As many of you already know, the JEP's investigative methodology focuses on identifying patterns of macro-criminality, as opposed to a case-by-case analysis and adjudication of the facts.

This approach makes it possible to understand the magnitude of the criminal plan and, at the same time, to pinpoint each perpetrator's specific participation, whether by giving orders, carrying out operations, or covering up false results.

In this subcase, based on findings by the Chamber for Acknowledgment, this Section verified the existence of two macro-criminal patterns.

The first pattern consisted of unlawful killings and forced disappearances, committed in the context of an alliance and collusion between the State security forces and different



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fronts of the Northern Bloc of the United Self-Defense Forces of Colombia (AUC), with the aim of presenting those killed as combat casualties. In a few cases there was a prior, unverified allegation that the victim had participated in a guerrilla group or, to a lesser extent, in a common crime.

This pattern comprises nearly sixty events committed by different fronts of the Northern Bloc of the AUC. Through this relationship of collusion, the victims were singled out without any verification, often stigmatized as guerrillas or common criminals. Several were handed over or pointed out by informants, some of them belonging to the AUC itself.

The second pattern consisted of unlawful killings and forced disappearances committed against people who were in vulnerable situations, and who were arbitrarily apprehended and/or deceived by members of the La Popa Battalion, in order to be presented as combat casualties.

In this pattern, the victims' place of residence is relevant. On the one hand, some of the murdered and disappeared persons lived in the area under the jurisdiction of the La Popa Battalion, which made it easier for members of the Battalion to arbitrarily detain them, often in an opportunistic manner. On the other hand, some victims were lured from other regions by false promises of work, business, or money, or to serve as guides for



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the platoons. In this case, the fact that the victims were not from the area where the Battalion operated facilitated the cover-up of the murders.

In that order of ideas, given the existence of these criminal patterns, it can be concluded, without any doubt, that these facts were not isolated or attributable to individual conduct, but were part of a systematic and generalized practice, aimed at generating operational reports and covering up international crimes in a context of institutional pressure for results.

Likewise, I must emphasize that the illustrative facts of this subcase revealed a recurring modus operandi: the victims were forced to wear military uniforms, sometimes held for hours or days, and finally, executed. Subsequently, in many cases, their identification documents were destroyed, or weapons were implanted to simulate combat. On some occasions before their death, some of the victims were tortured.

Furthermore, it is important to mention that according to the victims themselves, one of the most painful aspects of these macro-criminal patterns is that State agents murdered or disappeared their relatives while they were in conditions of total defenselessness, pretending to act within the law. It was members of the State security forces—using State resources—who participated in a criminal structure designed to lie to,



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murder, and disappear people, then present this violence as legitimate.

I would now like to refer to the identified victims of these macro-criminal patterns. Of the 135 people killed in this subcase, 131 were male— five of them children—and four were female, one of whom was an indigenous girl. Fourteen of the victims belonged to indigenous peoples: ten to the Kankuamo People and four to the Wiwa People. In addition, six victims were afrodescendants, one of whom belonged to the José Prudencio Padilla Community Council and two to the Kusuto MaGente Community Council.

Most of the victims were young, between 18 and 34 years old, and worked in the fields or in the informal sector. Their selection was based on their economic vulnerability, lack of employment, or the search for better opportunities, as well as their status as rural farm workers, Indigenous, or Afro-Colombian people, which highlights factors of historical discrimination.

There are thirteen people who have not yet been fully identified. I will now proceed to read the names of those who could be identified in the ruling:

1. **Jesús Emilio Márquez Gutiérrez**

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24. **Adalberto Fuentes Nieto**
25. **Walber Nell Domínguez García**
26. **Antonio Carrillo Donado**
27. **Corpus Carlos Carrero Angulo**
28. **Sergio Antonio Brugés Vanegas**
29. **Carlos Jaime Amaris Cantillo**
30. **José Grismaldo Castellanos Díaz**
31. **Rafael Serrano Martínez**
32. **Luis Fernando Daza Malo**
33. **Sigibaldo Aragón Fuentes**
34. **Manuel Romero Negrete**
35. **Andrés Avelino Vega Gutiérrez**
36. **Joaquín Vergara Cárdenas**
37. **Jaider del Carmen Valderrama Ruiz**
38. **Iván Navarro Fontalvo**
39. **José Albornia Ortiz**
40. **Neil Eduardo Hoyos Villadiego**
41. **Alfredo Antonio Hernández Polo**
42. **Willington Baena Ortiz**
43. **Nelson Enrique Romo Romero**
44. **José Antonio Mercado Hernández**
45. **Nelson Enrique Villalobos Brieva**

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46. **Carlos Arturo Cáceres**
47. **Uriel Evangelista Arias**
48. **Francisco Rafael Barraza Aragón**
49. **Evelio Vaca Pérez**
50. **Atilio Joaquín Buyones Solís**
51. **Luis Israel Vargas Pabón**
52. **Fredy Antonio Naranjo Martínez**
53. **Edgar Beltrán Hurtado**
54. **Albeiro Flórez Hernández**
55. **Luis Felipe Pabón Páez**
56. **Tania Solano Trisancho**
57. **Juan Carlos Galvis Solano**
58. **Ever de Jesús Montero Mindiola**
59. **Aquilino Alfonso Álvarez Orozco**
60. **Wilfrido Chantris Quiroz**
61. **Helbert Enrique Nieves Ospino**
62. **Ramón Enrique Cárdenas Soto**
63. **Leiner Guerrero Ayala**
64. **Ever Antonio Barrera Jiménez**
65. **Wilmar Antonio Serrano Quintero**
66. **Juan Nehemías Daza Carrillo**
67. **Olmer Enrique Yepes Maquilon**

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68. **Joaquín Felipe Contreras Romero**
69. **Luis Eduardo Oñate**
70. **Carlos Mario Navarro Montaña**
71. **Néstor Rafael Oñate Arias**
72. **Robinson Ascanio Arenas**
73. **Nelson Antonio Meneses Payares**
74. **Jair Mora Contreras**
75. **Luis Alberto Palomino Villar**
76. **Ezequiel Ballesteros Rondón**
77. **Noheli Arias Chona**
78. **Héctor Raúl Arévalo Serrano**
79. **José Rafael Bula Molina**
80. **Enrique Laines Arias Martínez**
81. **Alberto Edwin Meza Viana**
82. **David Rubio**
83. **Jhon Jader Escorcía Bonett**
84. **Carlos Alfredo Castro Aguirre**
85. **Esnel Matute Ibáñez**
86. **Wilson Darío Ruíz Arboleda**
87. **Luis Javier Molina Gutiérrez**
88. **Martín Villazón Ochoa**
89. **Juan Bautista Buelvas Arias**

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90. **Jesús María Coronel**
91. **Ronald José Blanquicet Cano**
92. **Cristian Alberto Bustamante Martínez**
93. **Rafael Ignacio Puerta Flórez**
94. **Víctor Enrique Carpintero Manjarrez**
95. **Víctor Hugo Maestre Rodríguez**
96. **Yobani Quintero Donado**
97. **Rafael Mario Bernal Real**
98. **Álvaro Rafel Santis Vergara**
99. **Nohemí Esther Pacheco Zabata**
100. **Hermes Enrique Carrillo**
101. **Álvaro Adolfo Piña Londoño**
102. **Carlos Carmona**
103. **José Alberto Bello González**
104. **Adalberto Vásquez Torres**
105. **Javier Armando Molina**
106. **Ángel Miguel Soto**
107. **Roberto Henry Taguer Bolívar**
108. **Cristian Camilo Santiago Redondo**
109. **Deivis de Jesús Pacheco Hernández**
110. **Dagoberto Cruz Cuadrado**
111. **Gustavo José Púa Ortiz**

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- 112. Ariel Enrique Marín Urrutia**
- 113. Daiver José Mendoza Montero**
- 114. Modesto Antonio Castillo Borrego**
- 115. Rafael Alfonso Pertuz Barragán**
- 116. Jorge Luis Medina San Juan**
- 117. Jenner Ospino Mandón**
- 118. Luis Eduardo Ojeda Martínez**
- 119. Albeiro de Jesús Aragón Aragón**
- 120. Julio Rafael Cañizares**
- 121. José David Quintero**
- 122. William Vásquez Sánchez**

Fourth, I will explain the international crimes committed by the perpetrators.

In today's ruling on this subcase, the Section concluded that the perpetrators are responsible for the international crimes against humanity of forced disappearance of persons, murder, torture, and persecution, as well as for the war crimes of murder of protected persons and torture.

On the one hand, these acts constitute crimes against humanity, since they consisted of a systematic and generalized



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attack directed against the civilian population, executed in accordance with a policy aimed at perpetrating such an attack.

On the other hand, the crimes also constitute war crimes since their commission is explained by the existence of an internal armed conflict in Colombia. In effect, as the Chamber for Acknowledgment was able to prove—and this Section verified—the non-international armed conflict was "substantial in the decision, manner, and purposes of those most responsible for committing the crimes." In particular, this circumstance occurred because one of the purposes of the crimes committed was **"to heighten the perception of the State security forces' effectiveness in the area [...] to respond to the operational results (especially casualties) demanded by the battalion."**

Regarding the particular crimes committed, it is worth noting that several of the victims were subjected to severe suffering during their detention prior to the murder, thus constituting acts of torture.

Likewise, the concealment of the victims' identities, through the disappearance of their documents and the concealment of their bodies, constituted the crime of forced disappearance. In several cases, the fate and whereabouts of the missing persons are still unknown, so their families



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continue to search for them and live with the constant anguish of not knowing what happened to their loved ones or where they are. This situation has prevented them from mourning and having a place to visit their loved ones.

Let this be the moment to recognize the continuous searching that these relatives—particularly the women—have been carrying out for decades, and who have often encountered abuse and indifference from State institutions.

This ruling not only recognizes the profound and serious harm caused by the forced disappearances, but also adopts measures to ensure that all necessary actions are coordinated and taken during the search, identification, and return of disappeared persons.

Likewise, the Section determined that acts of persecution were also committed against the Kankuamo and Wiwa Indigenous Peoples. These acts included actions related to territorial control and restrictions on their mobility, cultural practices, and access to resources essential to the survival of these peoples.

Fifth and finally, it is important to refer to the orders issued in this ruling.



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Regarding the orders, the first thing to mention is that special sanctions are imposed on the twelve most responsible parties for the commission of international crimes that cannot be eligible for amnesty.

Secondly, in order to carry out the two components of the special sanction—i.e. the implementation of the restorative projects and the imposition of restrictions on freedom—orders are issued to various State entities, including the Ministry of Finance and Public Credit, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Defense, the Agency for Reincorporation and Normalization, and the Peace Agreement Implementation Unit.

Thirdly, orders are issued so that various State entities comply with their obligations—within the scope of their powers—in favor of comprehensive reparations for victims. For example, it is worth noting the order for the Unit for Comprehensive Assistance and Reparations for Victims to adopt the necessary measures to include those victims of the subcase who are not yet recognized in the Single Registry of Victims. Likewise, the Unit is asked to adopt measures to ensure that victims have access to the reparations provided for in the Victims Law, including access to the psychosocial care program.



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Other orders in favor of comprehensive reparations for victims include the order to design and implement a housing solution strategy for the victims accredited in this subcase, which is issued to the Ministry of Housing, City, and Territory, in coordination and concurrence with the Special Assets Society, the National Land Agency, the Special Administrative Unit for Comprehensive Assistance and Reparations for Victims, the governors' offices of Cesar, Atlántico, La Guajira, and Magdalena, and the municipalities where the victims are domiciled.

Fourthly, the ruling also includes requests to various State institutions. For example, it urges the government to publicly condemn these actions, apologize to the victims, ensure publicity for this ruling, and promote a National Day of Remembrance for Victims of Extrajudicial Executions. It also urges the revocation of any decorations linked to the events.

Fifth, it should be noted that orders are adopted to continue the search for the disappeared persons related to this subcase.

(Closing)

In conclusion, this judicial decision represents not only a step towards justice and truth for the victims of the Caribbean



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Coast subcase, but also a turning point in the relationship between the State and society. The crimes tried here did not occur solely due to the actions of individuals, but as an expression of a distorted institutional order, fed by the weakness of democracy, the lack of effective oversight, and the sustained absence of the State in vast regions of the country.

With this ruling, the JEP not only fulfills its judicial mandate, but also strengthens democratic legitimacy and reaffirms that peace is built on truth, reparations, and a collective commitment to non-repetition.

This ruling also recognizes the accompanying immeasurable pain—an absence that makes it difficult for many victims to imagine a possible future. Such suffering stems from atrocious crimes that were massively and systematically committed by agents of the State.

The ruling also represents an opportunity for State institutions—such as the National Army, whose members committed these crimes—to adopt a reflective and critical stance while continuing on a path of structural transformation, in order to prevent human rights violations in the future. The transitional and prospective justice implemented by the JEP not only serves to respond to the past; it also serves as a starting point to promote reforms, guarantee non-repetition, and



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strengthen an institutional culture based on respect for human rights and legality. For this reason, guarantees of non-repetition are not reduced to individual commitments by the perpetrators, but rather imply structural transformations in the doctrine, training, and oversight mechanisms of State security forces, as well as a State policy of memory, truth, and accountability.

Additionally, I wish to place on record that the judicial representatives and all parties will be notified of the ruling, in order to ensure due process and full access to the decision. Likewise, in compliance with the provisions for ethnic peoples, the notification will be delivered with ethnic-cultural relevance, so that both individual victims and their families, as well as indigenous peoples and Afro-descendant community councils, receive this decision while respecting their traditions and collective rights.

(Symbolic delivery of the ruling) (5 minutes)

The Section for Acknowledgment placed this ruling in a handmade bag woven with threads of memory, resistance, and dignity. This gesture means that the decision does not belong only to the courts, but returns to where it should always have been: to the individual victims, to their families who have borne the burden of grief and the search, and also to the



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indigenous communities and Afro-descendant community councils that suffered collective harm.

Thank you.

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I, Lina Rosas, competent official translator, and interpreter, duly registered before the Ministry of Foreign Affairs pursuant to Certificate of Professional Proficiency in Official Translation and Interpretation No. 183 (English<>Spanish) issued on July 17, 2018, by the Universidad de Antioquia, certify that this is an accurate and complete translation to the best of my knowledge, ability, and belief.

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