



PRESS RELEASE | 002

THE SPECIAL JURISDICTION FOR PEACE (SJP) SUMMONS VICTIMS' ORGANIZATIONS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OBSERVATION HEARINGS REFERRING TO A NEW MACRO-CASES OPENING

- All victims' organizations which had presented or are preparing their reports for the Judicial Panel for Acknowledgement will be able to participate in these hearings.
- The new macro-cases which the Judicial Panel for Acknowledgement proposes to open will be of national reach. These will be organized considering the different actors and will include a multiplicity of criminal conducts to cover all the macro-criminal patterns of the armed conflict.

Bogota, January 19th 2022. The Judicial Panel for Acknowledgement of Truth, Responsibility and Determination of Facts and Conducts of the Special Jurisdiction for Peace (SJP) convened all victims' organizations, which had presented or are preparing their reports, to participate in the hearings where they will be able to pose their observations referring to the second round of new macro-cases opening.

In these hearings, victims will be able to participate in person or virtually. Also, victims will be able to submit their observations in writing, through their organizations.

In total, five of these hearings will be held in other regions and one in Bogota, following this schedule:

City	Date
Medellin	February 21 st
San Jose del Guaviare	February 25 th
Valledupar	February 28 th
Cali	March 3 rd

Villavicencio	March 7 th
Bogota	March 9 th

Cali and Valledupar will count with alternate rooms for ethnic groups.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the total capacity in these hearings will be limited to 40 people. Those organizations which cannot or do not want to attend in person will be able to participate virtually, with a previous registration. For this purpose, 60 additional registrations will be enabled through the Microsoft Teams platform.

Investigation strategy in the Judicial Panel for Acknowledgement

This call is made in fulfillment of the Law 1922 of 2018 (of JEP's procedure), in which it is stated that the victims' organizations "must be heard under the assumption of prioritization and selection of cases".

The call is also made following the "criteria and methodology of prioritization of cases and situations in the Judicial Panel for Acknowledgement", which determined that before the opening of a new case it must go through these stages: (i) aggrupation, (ii) concentration and (iii) prioritization.

The aggrupation phase in this second opening round took place between January 2020 and January 2021. In this phase, the SJP's Analysis of Information Group (GRAI) analyzed 458 reports delivered by the social and victims' organizations, as well by entities of the State, identifying 298.559 criminal acts. From this analysis, it surged a series of investigation lines about serious crimes allegedly committed by the extinct FARC-EP and members of Armed Forces and other State Agents, and about the damages on physical and cultural survival of ethnic groups in Colombia committed by both actors.

The stage of concentration of the investigation, which started in January of 2021, and it is currently on execution, will collect the victims' observations. In this phase, the process passes from an investigation logic based on criminal conduct (kidnapping, extrajudicial killings, and others) to a logic based in actors, that seeks to cover all the big macro-criminal patterns of armed conflict.

With the analysis of the reports, the Judicial Panel has focused the investigation on these three components:

1. **National concentration of crimes committed by the extinct Farc-EP.** It investigates sexual and gender-based violence, homicides, massacres, forced displacement, enforced



disappearance, sieges on populations, indiscriminate use of weapons and other non-amnestiable crimes committed by Farc-EP in all the country. There are three patterns hypothesis: i) illegal means and methods of war; ii) social and territorial control; iii) non-amnestiable crimes committed by Farc-EP's urban structures.

2. **Crimes committed by members of the public force, other State Agents, or in association with paramilitary groups and third-party civilians.** It investigates sexual and gender-based violence, murders, massacres, forced disappearance, tortures, forced displacement, dispossession of land allegedly committed by members of Armed Forces, other State Agents, or in association with paramilitary groups and third-party civilians in all the country. By now there have been identified five critical territories which may illustrate national violence phenomena: Antioquia, Magdalena Medio, Cesar, Montes de Maria and the Region del Ariari (Guayabero and Guaviare), Florencia and its area of influence.
3. **Concentration of crimes committed against ethnic groups and their territories in some illustrative regions.** It investigates selective and indiscriminate massacres and murders against regional authorities, women leaders and ethnic groups' members, destruction of nature, territories and socio-environmental harm and other repertoires of associated violence as sexual violence and forced disappearance, among others. This macro-case, in a first phase, will be focused in Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta-Alta Guajira, the Orinoquia-Amazonia and Buenaventura-Dagua.

This new strategy of investigation collects and deepens the findings of the investigations from the other seven macro-cases opened until now and seeks to facilitate the route towards the imputation of the most responsible actors. This strategy allows to give an account on the complexity of the conflict without fractioning reality, it shows the interaction that occur between various modalities of violence on specific contexts and has a bigger approximation to the different types of responsibilities and logics from the authors of crimes committed during conflict (political interests, economics, social, among others).

