



# **DPI Comparative Study Visit: Conflict Resolution in Colombia - the Havana talks and beyond**

**Hosted by the Colombian Government and  
Office of the High Commissioner for Peace**

16-23 April 2016, Bogotá and San Juan de Pasto (Nariño)  
Summary Report



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*DPI participants and staff at Bolivar Square in Bogotá following roundtable meetings at the Congress of Colombia*

## **Foreword**

This report provides a summary of the conversations that took place during DPI’s week-long Comparative Study Visit to Colombia, from 16 – 23 April 2016. The visit comprised daily roundtable meetings with key actors from the Colombian peace process and experts and practitioners in related fields, and these took place in the Colombian capital Bogotá, as well as in San Juan de Pasto, a rural city in one of the country’s most conflict-affected regions, Nariño.

The aim of the visit was to gain an in-depth understanding of the conflict and ensuing resolution process in Colombia – to carry out a comprehensive “mapping” of the key actors, groups, and dynamics at play, and to explore in detail with those who have first-hand experience of the conflict and the resolution process to date, key themes and lessons

learned. As a “live” case study, the current peace talks in Havana between the Colombian Government and the FARC took much of the visit’s focus, however in addition to addressing the current situation, the visit also provided the opportunity to learn from Colombia’s long history of conflict and at past efforts towards peace, and to look ahead to the newly declared process with the ELN.

This visit took place in the midst of a very challenging time in Turkey’s own political context, in which renewed violence continues and polarisation throughout society remains at a peak. The country’s own Kurdish resolution process is facing great difficulties, and the Colombian experience offers hope in terms of identifying workable mechanism to get a process “back on track” when it has stalled, or is facing setbacks. It is hoped that the visit will go some way in broadening bases for dialogue throughout Turkey’s society, and draw attention to the aspects of the Colombian model of conflict resolution which have proven successful, as well as the lessons learned.

As always with DPI’s activities, this meeting was held under Chatham House Rule. In the interest of transparency, a full transcript and audio recording of the April 2016 Comparative Study Visit is available to the public. Please contact [info@democraticprogress.org](mailto:info@democraticprogress.org) for further information.

DPI working papers relating to some of the key topics addressed (including an update on the current context in Colombia regarding peace processes between the government and both the FARC and ELN) can be found at the end of this report. Other research papers on the subject of conflict resolution, and all previous DPI activity reports, can be found on the Institute’s website: [www.democraticprogress.org](http://www.democraticprogress.org).



*DPI delegation and staff at the Presidential Palace in Bogotá*

## **Background: convening polarised groups at a time of crisis**

Participants in this activity travelled to Colombia during what continues to be one of the most challenging times in Turkey’s resolution process. Polarisation and division at every level of society is growing, and fuelled by the increasing violence both in the country’s southeast, as well as in urbanised areas. The conflict in Turkey is no longer seen to be confined to the Kurdish populated regions, but instead, is felt by all of Turkey’s population. In addition, the conflict is no longer viewed as an “internal” issue involving Turkey alone, but rather has taken on cross border dimensions and external interests, placing it at the centre of the region’s geo-politics.

With the current stalling of the Kurdish resolution process, comes a clear need for platforms for dialogue among all stakeholders involved, and for opportunities to look beyond Turkey to draw from international experiences. Having identified this need, DPI invited 11 high-level delegates, representing all of Turkey’s main groups in society, however divergent, to come together in a way which would not be possible within the country, to learn from the experiences of Colombia and to spend a week together in a “safe” and neutral setting, away from the conflict environment and the glare of the media.



*DPI Comparative Study Visit participants on a field visit to San Juan de Pasto in the region of Nariño, one of the most conflict-affected areas of Colombia*

The roundtables that took place during this six day visit focused on the current dynamics and nature of the Havana peace talks, and allowed participants to explore in technical detail, the structure, format and choreography of the process, and in particular, the mechanisms incorporated to keep the process on track in the face of challenge or possible derailment, and the methods used in the Colombian context, to build confidence and maintain engagement on both sides during difficult times.

The “live” status of the Havana talks allowed participants in the visit to meet with those presently involved in the negotiation process which is underway between the Colombian government and the FARC, and to hear very current accounts from those regularly at the negotiation table. The visit also came at an important time in terms of the announcement of new negotiations between the government and armed group, ELN, and participants met with senior actors who shared on the new sets of challenges faced in the context of this new process. In addition to focusing on current events, actors from previous peace processes were also met with, to gain a full overview of the country’s conflict history to date, and to understand the internal experiences and lessons that have allowed for the success of the current process.



*Kadir İnanır, Kerim Yıldız, Yılmaz Ensaroğlu, Kezban Hatemi and Adnan Boynukara during a roundtable in Colombia as part of DPI's Comparative Study Visit*

This visit builds on previous activities and research, in particular, following on from in-country roundtable meetings on the topic of getting a process “back on track” in the face of difficulty. The narrowed down focus of the visit’s agenda and the wide scope of speakers met with allowed for this topic to be explored in even greater depth and from many different angles and perspectives. The visit’s objective was to allow for dialogue to continue and develop on this topic, not only among participants in the visit but across society as a whole.

Through in-depth analysis and study of the key themes arising from Colombia’s peace process, and through spending time in Colombia’s main



conflict affected area, participants gained a comprehensive understanding of the many valuable lessons offered by the Colombian case, and this allowed for reflection and discussion among the delegation throughout the week, both on the Colombian context and their own.



*DPI delegates Levent Gök, Kezban Hatemi, Professor Dr. Sevtap Yokuş, Kadir İnanır with Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos Calderón and DPI Chief Executive Officer Kerim Yıldız at the Presidential Palace in Bogotá*

## **Themes**

Themes addressed during the visit include the nature of the current peace process between the Colombian government and FARC, including detailed analysis of the content, structure and sequencing/choreography of the process; the role of women in the process and the means through which gender perspectives have been incorporated into the process; in-

depth conflict analysis and exploration of the historical root causes of the conflict including class issues, rural/urban divide, the role of illegal drug production and criminality and other historical factors; lessons learned from previous conflict resolution efforts such as the need for inclusivity, the necessity of a concrete agenda and time frame, and the benefits of holding peace talks outside of the country; DDR and SSR; the role of third party actors and important factors to consider in selecting these; questions relating to governance, in particular relations between central and regional governments and how to bring rural regions “on board” to the process; rural reform including land and property reform; constitutional arrangements; the media and its role in preparing the public for peace; the role of civil society in creating public ownership of the process and the topic of transitional justice and memory.

### **Participants**

The visit was attended by 11 participants from different parts of Turkey, and included Members of Parliament; prominent members and chairs of Turkey’s wise persons’ commission; high level journalists and television personalities; popular public figures including Turkey’s best known film actor; human rights lawyers; leaders of civil society groups and think tanks; renowned academics, and policy makers and chief advisors to the parties to the process including Turkey’s Prime Minister and President. Lunch and dinner receptions were kindly hosted by the Turkish Embassy to Colombia. Participants spent time both in Bogotá, at the Presidential Palace and in government offices, and also travelled to San Juan de Pasto, a town in Nariño, one of the most conflict-affected regions of Colombia.



*DPI Colombia Comparative Study Visit participants Kezban Hatemi, human rights lawyer and member of Turkey's wise persons committee, and Adnan Boynukara, Member of Parliament, Justice and Development Party (AK Party) during a roundtable meeting*

## **Speakers**

Speakers met with during the visit include key actors currently engaged in the peace talks in Havana, including Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos and plenipotentiary negotiator, former minister Frank Pearl. Other key facilitators in the process, from other perspectives were met with, including Senator Iván Cepeda, official spokesman for the Organisation for the Victims of State Crimes, and Piedad Córdoba, a former combatant, who went on to work as a human rights defender in the context of gender and minorities and now plays a key role within the process, General Rafael Colón, an armed forces representative working in rural areas of Colombia, Senator Antonio Navarro Wolff, a well known Senator and former Commandant of the demobilised armed group M-19, Xavier Hernández, a former peace advisor and Eybar Insuasty,

an educator for peace, both based in Nariño, one of the most conflict affected regions, and offering perspectives of social movements and rural populations, Pablo Pardo Velasco, a representative of the Nariño regional government and a member of the regional peace commission based there, Luisa Cremonese, regional coordinator for the United Nations Development Programme based in Nariño, Dr Angelika Rettberg, an expert in armed conflict and peacebuilding at Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá, Alberto Lara and Ana María Restrepo, General Director and Projects Director of the Social Development Group, a think tank working on analysis, training and dialogue facilitation among different sectors of Colombian society, Sergio Guarín and Ángela Rivas, coordinator for post conflict work and coordinator for business and peacebuilding at the Fundación Ideas para la Paz, an NGO working to support the peace process, Philipp Lustenberger, Head of the Human Security Programme at the Swiss Embassy, Captain Omar Cortés, a Commander and Navy Officer specialising in naval intelligence and currently working with members of the armed forces to prepare for the transition to the post conflict period, and Paula Gaviria, Director of the Unit for Attention and Reparation for Victims, a governmental unit which coordinates the implementation of public policy for victims.



*DPI Director of Programmes Eleanor Johnson, DPI Senior Advisor Esra Elmas, participant Kadir İnanır and DPI Chief Executive Officer Kerim Yildiz during a roundtable on the current dynamics of the Colombian peace process at the Universidad de los Andes in Bogotá*

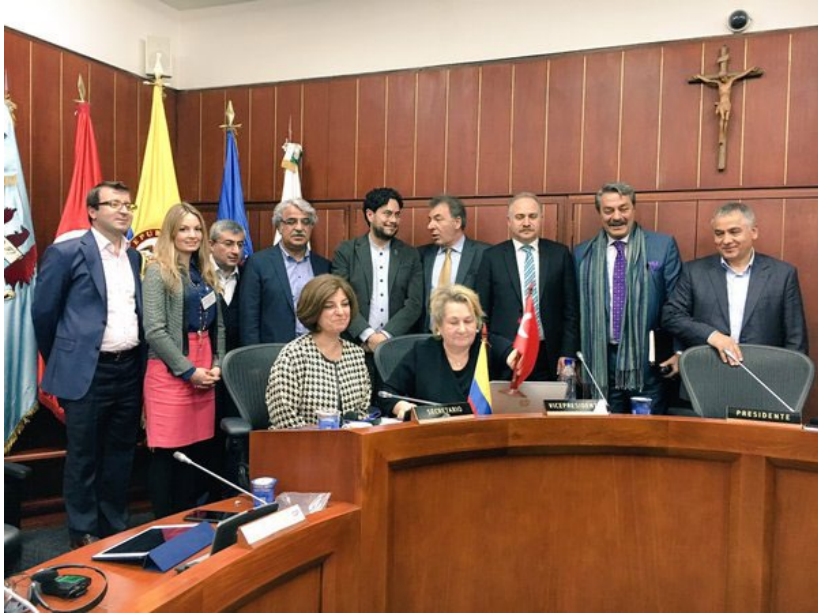
## **Lessons learned - the Colombian experience**

Much of the visit focused on *mechanisms employed to “get a process back on track”* during challenging times and crises faced in Colombia’s different experiences of conflict resolution. Participants heard from facilitators of the Havana talks, who shared about the difficulties in setting an agenda for the talks during the “preparatory phase” of the process, and how differences in views on what the priorities of the process should be almost led to a derailment. The importance of compromise was emphasised as well as the need to continue with the process despite deadlock or lack of consensus, and key actors shared that they learned to trust the process, not one another, in order to keep it moving forward.



*DPI participants and staff with Turkish Embassy representatives during a dinner reception hosted by Turkey's Ambassador to Colombia*

Also discussed in this context was the impact outbreaks of violence had on the process, both on the part of the armed forces and the guerrillas, in the absence of a formal, bilateral ceasefire. A number of speakers stressed the usefulness found in holding talks outside of the country in this regard, in order to separate the process from events and violence taking place internally, and to keep it on track in spite of active conflict. The divergent views of the parties relating to DDR and the form and timeframe this should follow, were seen to be a factor threatening to bring the process to a halt, and speakers shared about the need for flexibility and expectation management regarding deadlines set for agreement on sensitive issues.



*DPI staff and delegates following a roundtable meeting with Senator Iván Cepeda, a key facilitator in the Havana talks, in the Senate of Colombia, Bogotá*

The *role of third parties* in the Colombian process was explored in detail, with the key actors emphasising that while external actors have been crucial in the success of the process to date, it is still very much a Colombian process, led by Colombians. The roles of external third parties as technical support, facilitators, custodians/guarantors and host were discussed. The contribution of the US, Switzerland, Norway, Venezuela, Chile and Cuba were all examined in detail, as well as that of the United Nations, who will play a key role in relation to the “dropping of arms” (as the FARC have insisted that handing over arms to the Colombian army is not possible as it would signify defeat or surrender) and *ceasefire verification and monitoring* as part of a trilateral commission alongside government and FARC representatives. Speakers consistently shared that

the involvement of third party, neutral actors in Colombia's process has been effective in keeping the parties at the negotiating table so far.

Participants learned about the *importance of structure and sequencing* in the Colombian process from those who were present and who contributed to its construction, as well as the “guarantors” of the agreements made to date. Speakers reiterated the importance of establishing and following a timetable for the process as much as possible, with the four distinct phases in the Colombian case comprising a preliminary phase of backchannel talks to establish contact, a preparatory agenda setting phase (the phase currently underway in Havana), a final agreement phase, and an implementation phase, which will include a focus on transitional justice and continued peacebuilding.

The core *nature and design of the agreement* currently being constructed in Havana was discussed, with legitimacy, political viability, being beneficial for most (if not all) citizens, and being implementable, all being described as essential characteristics of a successful process. *Inclusivity* was continuously raised as another vital element of the Colombian process, and the presence of many of the country's smaller political parties at the table was described as key to its successful continuation so far. Speakers also shared on the importance of limiting the agenda to certain priority areas, rather than having an open, overly broad agenda, in order to maintain focus and to keep momentum, and to ensure the feasibility of the scheduled timetable as much as possible. The current process was compared to previous efforts towards peace and the reasons for previous failures were addressed, including the lack of structure and concrete agenda.





*DPI participants Professor Dr. Sevtap Yokuş of the University of Kemerburgaz, Vice Chair and Member of Parliament for the Republican People’s Party (CHP) Levent Gök, Member of Parliament for the Peoples’ Democratic Party (HDP) Professor Dr. Mithat Sançar and Professor Angelika Rettberg, Director of the Masters in Peacebuilding at Universidad de los Andes in Bogotá*

Speakers shared on the importance of political leadership and the role of personalities within the process, describing the way in which strong leadership and a new political will for change, for example following general elections (in the Colombian case the election of Santos meant a positive change in approach to the process) or a change of leadership within an armed group (as in the case of the FARC) can push a process forward and provide new confidence in the interested parties.

A key topic of the visit was the implementation of any final agreement reached in a peace process. Speakers shared their different perspectives

on the possible challenges arising in this future phase of the Colombian process, including the “*spoiler factor*” and the potential of new armed groups and paramilitary groups to fill the vacuum left following the disarmament and reintegration of FARC members if root causes of the conflict are not addressed. The need for *public support* for a process was also discussed in this context, and participants learned of the difficulties faced in terms of garnering support among the Colombian public for the process currently underway in Havana. Speakers discussed the importance of positive *media* coverage, *peace education* and the use of sensitive *language* by all parties to the process when communicating publicly, to prepare the Colombian population and to help forge a “social contract” for peace – to “sell the process”, in particular within rural areas of the country most affected by conflict.



*DPI Colombia Comparative Study Visit participants Dr Sevtap Yokuş,  
Levent Gök, Republican People’s Party (CHP) Vice President and Mithat Sancar,  
Peoples’ Democratic Party (HDP) Member of Parliament*

*DDR* was covered in detail during a number of the roundtable meetings that took place during the visit, with speakers sharing on the current discussions taking place between the actors in this area, and the possible scenarios regarding the speculated 8-50,000 demobilised combatants following a final agreement in Havana. Choreography regarding demobilisation of FARC members was discussed, as well as the role of the UN in the decommissioning process, and the vital need for trust within this process, both on the part of the parties to the conflict and on the part of the general population.

The theme of reform was addressed in detail, with many speakers describing *institutional reform* as a key factor contributing to the ripe conditions for peace talks to take place in the Colombian case. *Military reforms* undertaken by former President Uribe and the ministry of defence were discussed as a key component in this sense, and the military representatives met with discussed the way this was carried out in practice, as well as elaborating on the opportunity for dialogue between the military and FARC representatives created by the peace process so far.



*Turkish Daily Newspaper Yeni Şafak columnist and member of Turkey's wise persons committee Ali Bayramoğlu, Human rights lawyer and wise persons committee chair Kezban Hatemi and Justice and Development Party (AK Party) Member of Parliament Adnan Boynukara during a roundtable meeting with Plenipotentiary Negotiator Frank Pearl*

The emphasis of Colombia's process on *rural reform and development* was described as another key element leading to its success thus far. The central importance of the "rural agenda" within the process has meant that the priorities of both of the main parties to the process, the FARC and the Colombian government, intersect on a crucial point. Participants learned of the discussions taking place regarding *decentralisation* and the need for greater regional decision making capacity in Colombia. National and regional government representatives described the need for greater state presence in rural areas where much of the conflict has taken place and the way in which many rural areas of Colombia have historically been de-facto governed territories of armed groups such as the FARC.

Greater transfer of authority to regional authorities, through public functions, political organisations and civil society groups was described as a key means by which regional capacity could be increased. The inclusion of *land and property rights* within the peace process was also discussed, as was the need to disperse wealth and to create greater economic balance

between urban and rural areas in order to overcome the underlying causes of conflict.



*DPI participants meet with Philipp Lustenberger, Head of the Swiss Government's Human Security Programme in Colombia, at the Swiss Embassy in Bogotá, to hear about the role of third party actors in the Havana talks*

During the visit, participants learned of the *“sticking points”* of the Colombian process – the agenda items that have not yet been agreed on and that continue to fuel polarisation among society regarding the process. Among these, particular focus was given to questions of *transitional justice, prisoners, amnesty and victims' rights*, and the proposed special tribunal and truth commission (to provide truth, justice and reparation mechanisms) were elaborated on in detail, including the proposed provisions on amnesty conditions as well as budgetary issues in relation to reparations. Speakers described the central focus on victims (seen to also include state actors) as a defining feature of the current

process, and the inclusion of a victims' delegation at the negotiating table in Havana was discussed. The role of the Colombian government's victims unit currently in operation was analysed in detail.



*Participants meet with Alberto Lara, Former Minister of Justice and Minister of Defence for the Colombian Government and General Director, Social Development Group to discuss the role of social development in the Colombian peace process*

The *economic impact of conflict* and the positive *role of businesses* in terms of conflict resolution in Colombia were analysed during the visit, with experts and practitioners in this field describing the potential of businesses to play an important role in terms of social interaction and political, economic and human capital – and discussed the ways in which businesses can help build new narratives and increase local capacity, assist with transparency and anti-corruption, and create new business models not dependent on previous structures in which armed groups were engaged with, for example. The presence of representatives from Colombia's business community at the negotiation table in Havana was also discussed.



*The delegation with representatives of the Office of the Colombian Government's High Commissioner for Peace*

The inclusion of a gendered perspective within the Colombian peace process was discussed, and speakers shared on the gender sub-commission formed of both government and FARC representatives as a key mechanism to ensure the application of a comprehensive gendered approach to every aspect of the process. Speakers also discussed the role played by delegations of gender experts who have attended the Havana negotiations to make proposals in this area. Key women actors in the process were met with, including a woman former combatant, who shared on her first hand experiences from a gendered perspective.



*DPI participants and staff at the Sanctuary of Monserrate in Bogotá*



**Key lessons learned from the Colombian experience of conflict resolution to date include:**

- The importance of inclusivity – all groups in society and all stakeholders need to be represented in the process to minimise spoiler and ensure maximal support
- A concrete agenda, focusing on a limited amount of priority topics is more likely to succeed than an open agenda where anything can be discussed
- A well designed timetable helps keep the process on track and maintains momentum, in the Colombian case four distinct phases have been outlined: those of initial contact (secret backchannel talks without “microphone diplomacy” or media presence; preliminary agenda setting; final agreement and implementation. Well-designed sequencing and choreography are important to the success of a process
- Having a central focus on victims rather than perpetrators of human rights violations brought victims of the conflict “on board” and made them supportive of the process
- The inclusion of rural reform and increasing regional capacity for conflict resolution has meant that the process is not only focused on urban areas, and has meant it is applicable to and engaged with all parts of Colombia
- Holding talks outside of the country, in Cuba, has allowed for the process to continue despite ongoing conflict and a lack of a formalised bilateral ceasefire – it has allowed the process to be kept separate from events on the ground

- Third party involvement and international actors have played a vital role and have been essential in keeping actors at the table, providing technical assistance and support in times of deadlock or difficulty. That said, the process is a Colombian process led by Colombians and all third party involvement has been at the request of the parties
- Institutional reform including military reform has been a necessary step in creating the ripe conditions for a peace process to begin
- Peace education and positive media campaigns are key in garnering public support
- Talks can take place in the context of ongoing conflict – conflict does not have to end before a peace process can begin
- It is essential that a gendered perspective be applied throughout and at every level of the process, ensured through including gender experts at the negotiating table
- Collaboration between the parties on different areas has allowed for trust to be built, among themselves and also among the public eg. Armed forces and FARC working together to eradicate landmines

## **Broadening bases for dialogue and development**

The aim of DPI's comparative study visit to Colombia was to facilitate learning among participants in relation to the Colombian experience of conflict resolution, and to create a platform for constructive dialogue among the diverse delegation in a neutral setting away from the conflict environment and the glare of the media. At the end of the visit, DPI held an internal evaluation meeting, in which participants were invited to give their perspectives on the visit. Participants were unanimous in their positive feedback on the activity, which was seen to be both timely and important in terms of broadening bases for dialogue and discussion with regards to conflict resolution. The relevance of the Colombian case to Turkey was emphasised, with many of the key themes arising during the Havana talks being seen as applicable to Turkey's Kurdish resolution process.



*DPI Chief Executive Officer Kerim Yildiz, Yeni Şafak columnist and member of Turkey's wise persons committee Ali Bayramoğlu, Actor and member of Turkey's wise persons committee Kadır İnanır meet with Plenipotentiary Negotiator for the Havana talks Frank Pearl at the residence of Turkey's Ambassador to Colombia in Bogotá*

As with previous DPI activities, the visit was also seen to be a valuable opportunity for groups and individuals at every level of society in Turkey, to come together and assess the issues currently being faced by the country, at a time when this might not usually be possible.



*DPI participants and Fundación Ideas para la Paz representatives during a roundtable meeting on the role of business leaders in Colombia's peace process*

All participants have shared learnings with their respective communities and constituencies, through compiling detailed reports on the visit - in the case of political party representatives this shall be shared with their respective parties including leadership, reports will also be shared with the Prime Minister and President by their advisors who took part, and the participating journalists and media representatives have published numerous articles and columns on the visit, many of which have attracted significant interest (with one article attracting 44,000 views on the day of its publication, four times the usual number). Civil society representatives have shared their intention to share with their communities, and academics will share learnings through their educational fora and through academic articles. Well known popular figures taking part in the visit have served to attract significant media attention and the visit has been documented throughout Turkey's media as well as on social media, allowing for the learnings from Colombia to not only be experienced by those taking part in the visit, but among society as a whole.



*DPI Comparative Study Visit participants and staff with Piedad Cordoba, a lawyer and politician currently engaged with the Havana talks*

The visit has built on previous comparative study visits carried out by the Institute, in particular regarding the topic of “getting a process back on track” and maintaining a process during difficult times. The visit also built on DPI’s work in the specific area of gender and conflict resolution, and will serve as a strong foundation for continued work in these areas.



*Member of Parliament for the Justice and Development Party (AK Party) Adnan Boynukara, Member of Parliament for the Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) Professor Dr. Mithat Sançar, Actor and member of Turkey's wise persons committee Kadir İnanir, Vice President and Member of Parliament for the Republican Peoples' Party (CHP) Levent Gök, Constitutional Law expert Professor Dr. Sevtap Yokuş of the University of Kemerburgaz, Kerim Yıldız of DPI, Eleanor Johnson of DPI and Human Rights lawyer and member and chair of Turkey's wise persons committee, Kezban Hatemi outside the Colombian Congress in Bogotá*

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## Annex 1: Participants

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>
Ali Bayramoğlu	Columnist, Member of the Wise Persons Committee	Yeni Şafak Daily Newspaper
Önder Boyacı	Second Secretary	Turkish Embassy, Colombia
Adnan Boynukara	Member of Parliament	Justice and Development Party (AK Party)
Gökay Dağdelen	Deputy Head of Mission	Turkish Embassy, Colombia
Esra Elmas	Senior Advisor, DPI, and Coordinator, Istanbul Bilgi University Centre for Conflict Resolution and Research	DPI and Istanbul Bilgi University
Yılmaz Ensaroğlu	Chief advisor to the Prime Minister, Former Director of SETA Human Rights and Democratisation programme, Member of the Wise Persons Committee	Turkish Prime Minister's Office
Levent Gök	Member of Parliament and Vice President	Peoples' Republican Party (CHP)

Kezban Hatemi	Human Rights Lawyer and Chair, Wise Persons Committee	Wise Persons Committee
Kadir İnanır	Actor, Member of the Wise Persons Committee	Wise Persons Committee
Eleanor Johnson	Director of Programmes	Democratic Progress Institute
Dr. Mehmet Özkan	Coordinator, Colombia	Republic of Turkey Prime Ministry Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA)
Professor Dr. Mithat Sancar	Member of Parliament	Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP)
Baris Yildirim	Simultaneous interpreter	
Kerim Yildiz	Chief Executive Officer	Democratic Progress Institute
Professor Dr. Sevtap Yokuş	Law Professor	Kemberburgaz University
His Excellency Ambassador Engin Yürür	Ambassador of Turkey to Colombia	Turkish Embassy, Colombia

## Annex 2: Speakers

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>
Julián Arévalo	Advisor	Office of the Colombian Government's High Commissioner for Peace
Senator Iván Cepeda	Senator of Colombia and Spokesman for the Organisation for the Victims of State Crimes	Polo Democrático Alternativo Party
General Rafael Colón	Director	Dirección para la Acción Integral contra Minas Antipersonal
Piedad Córdoba	Former Senator and Human Rights Defender	Colombianas y Colombianos Por la Paz
Captain Omar Cortés	Commander and Navy Officer	Colombian Armed Forces
Luisa Cremonese	Regional Coordinator	United Nations Development Programme
Paula Gaviria Betancur	Director	Unit for Attention and Reparation for Victims
Sergio Guarín	Coordinator for Post Conflict Work	Fundación Ideas para la Paz

Xavier Hernández	Former Peace Advisor	Nariño local government
Eybar Insuasty	Educator for Peace, expert in victim and indigenous rights	Nariño region
Alberto Lara	Former Minister of Justice and Minister of Defence for the Colombian Government and General Director, Social Development Group	Social Development Group
Philipp Lustenberger	Head of the Human Security Programme	Embassy of Switzerland in Colombia
Frank Pearl	Plenipotentiary Negotiator and Former Minister	Colombian Government
Ana María Restrepo	Administrative and Projects Director	Social Development Group
Dr Angelika Rettberg	Director, Masters in Peacebuilding	Universidad de los Andes
Ángela Rivas	Coordinator for Business and Peacebuilding	Fundación Ideas para la Paz
His Excellency President Juan Manuel Santos Calderón	President of the Republic of Colombia	Colombian Government

Catalina Toro Silva	Advisor	Office of the Colombian Government's High Commissioner for Peace
Pablo Pardo Velasco	Representative	Nariño Regional Government
Senator Antonio Navarro Wolff	Senator and Former Commandant of the demobilised armed group M-19	Colombian Government

### **Annex 3:**

DPI Briefing Note: Current Peace Process in Colombia

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### **Annex 4:**

DPI Briefing Note: Colombia Peace Talks with the ELN

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## DPI Board Members

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### **Kerim Yildiz (Director):**

Kerim Yildiz is Chief Executive Officer of DPI. He is an expert in international human rights law and minority rights, and has written extensively on international human rights mechanisms and international humanitarian law. Kerim is the recipient of a number of awards, including from the Lawyers Committee for Human Rights for his services to protect human rights and promote the rule of law in 1996, the Sigrid Rausing Trust's Human Rights Award for Leadership in Indigenous and Minority Rights in 2005, and the Gruber Prize for Justice in 2011.



### **Nick Stewart QC (Chair):**

Nicholas Stewart, QC, is a barrister and Deputy High Court Judge (Chancery and Queen's Bench Divisions) in the United Kingdom. He is the former Chair of the Bar Human Rights Committee of England and Wales and Former President of Union Internationale des Avocats.



**Prof. Penny Green (Secretary):**

Professor Penny Green is Professor of Law and Globalisation at Queen Mary University of London, UK, and Director of the International State Crime Initiative (ISCI), UK. She joined Queen Mary University in September 2014 following seven years as Professor of Law and Criminology at King's College London, UK. Professor Green has published widely on state crime, state-corporate crime, natural disasters, Turkish criminal justice and politics, transnational crime and asylum and forced migration.



**Priscilla Hayner:**

Priscilla Hayner is co-founder of the International Center for Transitional Justice. She is a global expert on truth commissions and transitional justice initiatives and has authored several books on these topics. She is former consultant to the Ford Foundation, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and numerous other organisations.





**Arild Humlen:**

Arild Humlen is a lawyer and Director of the Norwegian Bar Association's Legal Committee. He is widely published within a number of jurisdictions, with emphasis on international civil law and human rights, and he has lectured at the law faculty of several universities in Norway. Arild is the recipient of the Honor Prize of the Bar Association of Oslo for his work on the rule of law and in 2015 he was awarded the Honor Prize from the international organisation Save the Children for his efforts to strengthen the legal rights of children.



**Jacki Muirhead:**

Jacki Muirhead was appointed Chambers Administrator at Devereux Chambers, London, UK, in November 2015. Her previous roles include Practice Director at FJ Cleveland LLP, Business Manager at Counsels' Chambers Limited and Deputy Advocates Clerk at the Faculty of Advocates, UK.



**Prof. David Petrasek:**

Professor David Petrasek is Associate Professor at Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, University of Ottawa, Canada. He is former Special Adviser to the Secretary-General of Amnesty International. He has worked extensively on human rights, humanitarian and conflict resolution issues, including for Amnesty International (1990-96), for the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (1997-98), for the International Council on Human Rights Policy (1998-02) and as Director of Policy at the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue (2003-07).



**Antonia Potter:**

Antonia Potter Prentice has wide ranging experience on a range of humanitarian, development, peacemaking and peacebuilding issues. She has lived and worked extensively in, and on, conflict and post-war environments; increasingly specialised in women's empowerment she has worked directly with women and peace process actors in countries including Afghanistan, Cambodia, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Libya, Indonesia, Myanmar, Nepal and Philippines, South Sudan, Timor-Leste, Yemen, and at the global policy level. She has also published widely on these topics. Antonia co-founded the Athena Consortium as part of which she acts as Senior Manager on Mediation Support, Gender and Inclusion for the Crisis Management Initiative (CMI) and as Senior Adviser to the European Institute for Peace (EIP).

## DPI Council of Experts

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### **Dermot Ahern**

Dermot Ahern is a former Irish Member of Parliament and Government Minister and was a key figure for more than 20 years in the Irish peace process, including in negotiations for the Good Friday Agreement and the St Andrews Agreement. He also has extensive experience at EU Council level, including as a key negotiator and signatory to the Constitutional and Lisbon Treaties. In 2005, he was appointed by the then UN Secretary General Kofi Annan to be a Special Envoy on the issue of UN Reform.



### **Dr Mehmet Asutay**

Professor Mehmet Asutay is a Professor of Middle Eastern and Islamic Political Economy & Finance at the Durham University Business School, UK. He researches, teaches and supervises research on Islamic political economy and finance, Middle Eastern economic development and finance, the political economy of Middle East, including Turkish and Kurdish political economies.



**Ali Bayramoğlu:**

Ali Bayramoğlu is a writer and political commentator. He is a columnist for the Turkish daily newspaper *Yeni Safak*. He is a member of the former Wise Persons Commission in Turkey, established by then Prime Minister Erdoğan.



**Prof. Christine Bell:**

Professor Christine Bell is a legal expert based in Edinburgh, Scotland. She is Professor of Constitutional Law and Assistant Principal (Global Justice) at the University of Edinburgh and a Fellow of the British Academy. She is an expert on transitional justice, peace negotiations, constitutional law and human rights law. She regularly conducts training on these topics for diplomats, mediators and lawyers, and has been involved as a legal advisor in a number of peace negotiations.



**Cengiz Çandar:**

Cengiz Çandar is a senior journalist and columnist for Turkish newspaper Radikal Daily News. He is an expert on the Middle East and former war correspondent. He served as special adviser to former Turkish president Turgut Ozal.



**Yılmaz Ensaroğlu:**

Yılmaz Ensaroğlu is the former Director of Law and Human Rights Studies at SETA Foundation for Political, Economic and Social Research in Ankara, Turkey. He is a member of the Executive Board of the Joint Platform for Human Rights, the Human Rights Agenda Association (İHGD) and Human Rights Research Association (İHAD). He is also Chief Editor of the Journal of the Human Rights Dialogue and member of the former Wise Persons Commission in Turkey, established by then Prime Minister Erdoğan.



**Prof. Mervyn Frost:**

Mervyn Frost is Professor of International Relations in the Department of War Studies at King's College London, UK. He was previously Chair of Politics at the University of Natal, Durban, South Africa and was President of the South African Political Studies Association. He is an expert on human rights in international relations, humanitarian intervention, justice in world politics, democratising global governance, the just war tradition in an era of New Wars, and, ethics in a globalising world.



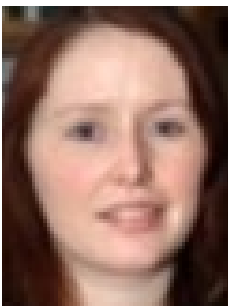
### **Martin Griffiths:**

Martin Griffiths is a senior international mediator and Executive Director of the European Institute of Peace (EIP). From 1999 to 2010 he was the founding Director of the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue in Geneva where he specialised in developing political dialogue between governments and insurgents in a range of countries across Asia, Africa and Europe. He is a co-founder of Inter Mediate, a London based NGO devoted to conflict resolution, and has worked for international organisations including UNICEF, Save the Children and Action Aid. Martin has also worked in the British Diplomatic Service and for the UN, including as Director of the Department of Humanitarian Affairs (Geneva), Deputy to the Emergency Relief Coordinator (New York), Regional Humanitarian Coordinator for the Great Lakes, Regional Coordinator in the Balkans and Deputy Head of the Supervisory Mission in Syria (UNSMIS).



### **Kezban Hatemi:**

Kezban Hatemi holds an LL.B. from Istanbul University and is registered with the Istanbul Bar Association. She has worked as a self employed lawyer, with Turkey's National Commission to UNESCO as well as a campaigner and advocate during the Bosnian War. She was involved in drafting the Turkish Civil Code and Law of Foundations as well as in preparing the legal groundwork for the chapters on Religious Freedoms, Minorities and Community Foundations within the Framework Law of Harmonization prepared by Turkey in preparation for EU accession. She has published articles on human rights, women's rights, minority rights, children's rights, animal rights and the fight against drugs. She is a member of the former Wise Persons Commission in Turkey, established by then Prime Minister Erdoğan, and sits on the Board of Trustees of the Technical University and the Darulacaze Foundation.



### **Dr. Edel Hughes:**

Dr Edel Hughes is Senior Lecturer at University of East London, UK. Prior to joining the University of East London, Edel was awarded an LL.M. and a PhD in International Human Rights Law from the National University of Ireland, Galway, in 2003 and 2009, respectively. Between 2006 and 2011 she was a Lecturer in Law at the School of Law, University of Limerick, Ireland.



**Prof Dr Ahmet Insel:**

Professor Ahmet Insel is a former faculty member of Galatasaray University in Istanbul, Turkey and Paris 1 Panthéon Sorbonne University, France. He is Managing Editor of the Turkish editing house Iletisim and member of the editorial board of monthly review Birikim. He is a regular columnist at Cumhuriyet newspaper and an author who published several books and articles in Turkish and French languages.



**Avila Kilmurray:** A founder member of the Northern Ireland Women's Coalition and was part of the Coalition's negotiating team for the Good Friday Agreement. She has written extensively on community action, the women's movement and conflict transformation. Serves on the Board of Conciliation Resources (UK); the Global Fund for Community Foundations; Conflict Resolution Services Ireland and the Institute for British Irish Studies. Avila was the first Women's Officer for the Transport & General Workers Union for Ireland (1990-1994) and became Director of the Community Foundation for Northern Ireland in 1994. Avila was awarded the Raymond Georis Prize for Innovative Philanthropy through the European Foundation Centre.





**Joost Legendijk:**

Joost Legendijk is a columnist for the Turkish dailies Zaman and Today's Zaman and a lecturer at the Suleyman Shah University, Istanbul, Turkey. He has authored and edited a number of books on the EU, European policies and modern Turkey. From 1998 to 2009 he was a member of the European Parliament (EP) for the Dutch Green-Left party. In the EP he focused on foreign policy and EU enlargement and served as the chairman of the parliaments' Turkey Delegation and as rapporteur for the parliament on the Balkans and Kosovo. From 2009 to 2012 he worked as a senior adviser at the Istanbul Policy Center in Istanbul, Turkey.



**Dr Salomón Lerner Febres:** Professor Salomón Lerner Febres holds a PhD in Philosophy from Université Catholique de Louvain. He is Executive President of the Center for Democracy and Human Rights at the Pontifical Catholic University of Peru and Rector Emeritus of Pontifical Catholic University of Peru. He is former President of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Peru. Professor Lerner has given many talks and speeches about the role and the nature of the university, the problems of scholar research in higher education and about ethics and public culture. Furthermore, he has participated in numerous conferences in Peru and other countries about violence and pacification. In addition, he has been a speaker and panellist in multiple workshops and symposiums about the work and findings of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Peru.



**Prof. Ram Manikkalingam:**

Professor Ram Manikkalingam is Visiting Professor at the Department of Political Science, University of Amsterdam in the Netherlands. He served as Senior Advisor to the President of Sri Lanka. He is an expert on issues pertaining to conflict, multiculturalism and democracy, and has authored multiple works on these topics. He is founding board member of the Laksham Kadirgamar Institute for Strategic Studies and International Relations, Colombo, Sri Lanka.



**Bejan Matur:**

Bejan Matur is a renowned Turkey-based author and poet. She has published ten works of poetry and prose. In her writing she focuses mainly on Kurdish politics, the Armenian issue, minority issues, prison literature and women's rights. She has won several literary prizes and her work has been translated into over 28 languages. She was formerly Director of the Diyarbakır Cultural Art Foundation (DKSV).



**Monica McWilliams:** Professor of Women's Studies, based in the Transitional Justice Institute at the University of Ulster. Was the Chief Commissioner of the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission from 2005-2011 and responsible for delivering the advice on a Bill of Rights for Northern Ireland. Co-founder of the Northern Ireland Women's Coalition political party and was elected to a seat at the Multi-Party Peace Negotiations, which led to the Belfast (Good Friday) Peace Agreement in 1998. Served as a member of the Northern Ireland Legislative Assembly from 1998-2003 and the Northern Ireland Forum for Dialogue and Understanding from 1996-1998. Publications focus on domestic violence, human security and the role of women in peace processes.



### **Mark Muller QC:**

Mark Muller QC is a senior advocate at Doughty Street Chambers (London) and the Scottish Faculty of Advocates (Edinburgh). He specialises in public international law and human rights. He has many years' experience of advising on conflict resolution, mediation, ceasefire and power-sharing and first-hand experience of a number of conflict zones, including Afghanistan, Libya, Iraq and Syria. Since 2005 he is Senior Advisor to the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue, Beyond Conflict and Inter Mediate. He is also a Harvard Law School Fellow and former Chair of the Bar Human Rights Committee and Head of Rule of Law for the Bar Council. He is the founder of Beyond Borders – a Scottish initiative dedicated to fostering peace and international understanding through cultural dialogue. He currently acts as Senior Mediation Expert for the Standby Team of Mediators of the UN Department of Political Affairs.



**Giles Portman:**

Giles Portman is an experienced British and EU diplomat, having worked for the UK Foreign Office in Brussels, New York, Prague and as Deputy Head of Mission in Ankara; and for the EU's External Action Service as an Adviser to the High Representative, Head of Division for Turkey and Eastern Neighbourhood strategic communications adviser.



**Jonathan Powell:** Jonathan Powell is founder and CEO of Inter Mediate, an NGO devoted to conflict resolution working in the Middle East, Latin America, Africa and Asia. He was appointed as the UK Official Envoy to Libya by Prime Minister David Cameron in 2014. Jonathan was Chief of Staff to Tony Blair from 1995 to 2007, and from 1997 he was also Chief British Negotiator on Northern Ireland. From 1978 to 79 he was a broadcast journalist with the BBC and Granada TV, and from 1979 to 1994 a British Diplomat.



**Sir Kieran Prendergast:** Sir Kieran Prendergast served in the British Foreign Office, including in Cyprus, Turkey, Israel, the Netherlands, Kenya and New York. He was later head of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office dealing with Apartheid and Namibia. He is former UN Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs. He was also Convenor of the Secretary General's Executive Committee on Peace and Security and engaged in peacemaking efforts in Afghanistan, Burundi, Cyprus, the DRC, East Timor, Guatemala, Iraq, the Middle East, Somalia and Sudan.



**Rajesh Rai:**

Rajesh Rai was called to the Bar in 1993. His areas of expertise include Human Rights Law, Immigration and Asylum Law and Public Law. He is Founding Director of HIC, a community centred NGO based in Cameroon, and of Human Energy (Uganda) Ltd. He was previously Director of The Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants (JCWI). He lectures on a wide variety of legal issues, both for the Bar Human Rights Council and internationally in India, Africa, Asia and the USA.



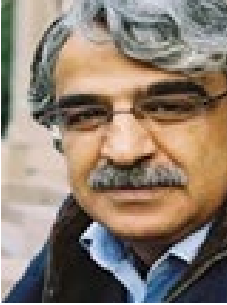
**Sir David Reddaway:**

Sir David Reddaway now works as an adviser, board member and consultant in the private and university sectors. He previously served as British Ambassador to Turkey and to Ireland; High Commissioner to Canada; UK Special Representative for Afghanistan; and Charge d’Affaires in Iran, where he had first worked during the Iranian Revolution. He has also worked in Argentina, India and Spain. He was a Fellow at Harvard University and a volunteer teacher in Ethiopia. He read History at Cambridge and Persian at the School of Oriental and African Studies in London.



**Prof. Naomi Roht-Arriaza:**

Professor Naomi Roht-Arriaza is Distinguished Professor of Law at, San Francisco, USA. She is an expert on transitional justice, human rights violations, international criminal law and global environmental issues, and has authored several works on these issues.



**Prof. Dr. Mithat Sancar:**

Professor Dr Mithat Sancar was formerly Professor of Law at the University of Ankara, Turkey. He is an expert on constitutional citizenship and transitional justice. He has written extensively on international human rights law and constitutional issues. He is a member of the former Wise Persons Commission in Turkey, established by then Prime Minister Erdoğan. In Turkey's 2015 general election he was elected as an MP for Mardin Province.



**Catherine Woollard:**

Catherine Woollard is an independent consultant based in Brussels. Previously she served as the Director of the Brussels Office of Independent Diplomat, and from 2008 to 2014 she was the Executive Director of the European Peacebuilding Liaison Office (EPLO) – a Brussels-based network of not-for-profit organisations working on conflict prevention and peacebuilding. She previously held the positions of Director of Policy, Communications and Comparative Learning at Conciliation Resources, Senior Programme Coordinator (South East Europe/CIS/Turkey) at Transparency International and Europe/Central Asia Programme Coordinator at Minority Rights Group International. She has also worked as a consultant advising governments on anti-corruption and governance reform, as a lecturer in political science, teaching and researching on the EU and international politics, and for the UK civil service.





**Prof. Dr. Sevtap Yokuş:**

Professor Dr Sevtap Yokuş is a Professor of Law at the University of Kemerburgaz, Istanbul, Turkey. She holds a PhD in Public Law from the Faculty of Law, Istanbul University, awarded in 1995 for her thesis which assessed the state of emergency regime in Turkey with reference to the European Convention on Human Rights. She is a widely published expert in the areas of Constitutional Law and Human Rights and has multiple years' experience of working as a university lecturer at undergraduate, postgraduate and doctoral level. She also has experience of working as a lawyer in the European Court of Human Rights. Since 2009 she has been contributing to the ongoing work to prepare a new constitution in Turkey.



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