## Conflict, violence and humanitarianism



Colombian conflict Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) It was formed in 1964 It was the largest and oldestleft-wing group in Colombia It had approximately 8000 fighters (Muggah 2009).

Its mission was to overthrow the government and install a Marxist regime.

This is through the use of armed struggle.

After attack by the paramilitary forces, the group turned to drug trade in order to raise money to sustain itself (Rabasa & Chalk 2001).

Although it has weakened, it remains in the top list of US terrorist groups

National Liberation Army (ELN)

It was formed in 1965

The group was mainly inspired by Cuban revolution and Marxist ideologies (Isser 2011)

It has approximately 1500 fighters (Sandole 2009)

It generated funds through ransom and extortions

It recently turned to drug trafficking

This group has an attribute of being cruel, compulsive and inconsistent in the way they conduct their attacks

They have a behavior of murdering people, kidnapping, and arson

Their actions have context of body harm

United Self-Defense Forces of Colombia (AUC)

It was formed in 1997

It is led by Carlos Castaño

The group has more than ten thousands combatants

It was mainly formed by landowners and drug traffickers (Millett & Army War College (U. S.) 2002)

It was formed to respond to frequent kidnappings and extortions

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The group entered into a peace agreement with the government in 2002 (Loveman 2006)

This group has an attribute of being cruel, behavior of murdering people, and a context of poverty which makes them form the group.

BACRIM

It emerged after demobilization of paramilitaries

It has approximately 3400 members

It is involved in drug trafficking

It combines paramilitary's facets with mafia like criminal strictures and operations

They engage in extortions and illegal mining

It has an attribute of lack of empathy, behavior of coercion, and a context of poverty

Colombia government

The government has been trying to combat the various groups that have arisen due to poor leadership (Hintjens & Žarkov 2015). In several cases, it has been accused of failing to offer the people with the security. It controls the military although it was accused of being ill-trained and equipped (In Sacipa-Rodriguez & In Montero 2014). On the other hand, the government failed to bring the groups together in order to sign the peace deal. In addition, some of the officials have been accused of supporting the rebels. In 2002, President Álvaro Uribe refused to enter into a negotiating table with FARC and instead launched maximal military (Leech & Information Network of the Americas 2002). Nevertheless, the government has been trying to implement new laws on victims through compensation

Military

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It has been in the forefront in fighting the rebel groups. It has been helping in settling the indigenous people who have been replaced by the war (Drake & Hershberg 2006). It has been asking for external help in order to overwhelm the group of rebels. Poor financing from the government has been making it very hard for it to face the guerilla groups.

International Organization for Migration (IOM)

It has been compensating victims of violence in order to overcome extreme poverty. In addition, it has been in the forefront in pushing the government to sign the Victims and Land Restitution Law (Ballentine & Sherman 2003). The initiative aims at compensating four million people. Furthermore, it provides support to the affected people through building heath centers and schools (Fouskas 2007). The body has also been liaising with the private sector in order to encourage the organizations to participate in corporate social responsibility with the aim of improving the lives of the local population which has been mainly affected by the war (Öberg & Strøm 2008).

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

It entered Colombia in 1997. It has been supporting the victims of war through providing basic necessities (Bouvier 2009). In addition, it has been pressuring the government to sign peace deals and compensate the victims. Many of the people have been displaced, an aspect that has increased the demand for aid (Flämig & Leiner 2012).

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