

Corporate Accountability Lab Submits Report on Role of Economic Actors in the Armed Conflict to the Special Jurisdiction for Peace in Colombia

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Chicago, IL, March 24, 2022: This week, Corporate Accountability Lab (CAL) submitted the report *A Complete Transitional Justice: The Role of Economic Actors in the Colombian Armed Conflict* to the Colombian Special Jurisdiction for Peace (“JEP,” for its Spanish acronym).

The JEP is a transitional justice court established by the 2016 peace accords between the Colombian government and Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (“FARC,” for its Spanish acronym) after the country’s decades-long armed conflict. As the justice arm of the peace agreement’s Integral System for Truth, Justice, Reparation and Non-Repetition, the court investigates crimes committed during the armed conflict and administers judicial decisions.

CAL’s report is meant to serve the JEP’s ongoing investigations into human rights abuses allegedly committed by Colombian state actors in association with paramilitary groups and civilian third parties, a group that includes economic actors like individual businesspeople, local companies, and multinational enterprises. **CAL’s report provides evidence suggesting links between multinational companies Drummond Company, Inc. (and its Colombian subsidiary Drummond Ltd.) and the Prodeco Group to alleged crimes including targeted assassinations, forced displacement, and torture committed by armed actors in the Gran Magdalena region during the conflict.**

CAL’s report highlights the importance of investigating the nexus between economic actors, security forces, and paramilitary groups, which intensified violence against civilians, created benefits for the private sector, and promoted criminal conduct with increased impunity. **Evidence suggests that economic actors, including multinational companies, participated directly and indirectly in the conflict, including through financial support for illegal armed groups, targeted attacks on workers and union leaders, and displacement of rural farmers and indigenous communities. A lack of accountability for these actions leaves affected communities without redress, maintains abusive power structures, and undermines sustainable peace by preventing full recognition of the past and the establishment of measures to prevent its repetition.**

In this context, the role of multinationals cannot be overlooked. The report presents relevant information found in U.S. courts so that the JEP and Colombian society have access to necessary information to further investigate all the facts and actors involved in the atrocities committed in Gran Magdalena. While CAL’s JEP report is confidential, the organization will publish a public version in the coming months. CAL will continue to highlight the role of multinational companies in the Colombian armed conflict in pursuit of justice for victims, sustainable peace, and accountability for some of the world’s most powerful companies.