

Public Statement

Humanitarian Crisis Caused by Armed Conflict in Colombia

Bogotá, March 12, 2021

The 28 humanitarian organizations, members of the Humanitarian NGO Forum in Colombia, express our deep concerns regarding the increasing impacts of the armed conflict¹ on the Colombian population and Venezuelan migrants and refugees in Colombia

We are alarmed by the rise of humanitarian impacts on civilians in 2020 and 2021. These include massacres, individual and mass displacements, confinements and restrictions, child recruitment, anti-personnel mines, and improvised explosive devices and attacks on medical missions. They are prohibited by the International Humanitarian Law and are Human Rights violations.

After more than 20 years of collective in-country humanitarian action, we reaffirm our commitment to the population and the victims of the crises in Colombia. We remain steadfast in our assistance in the most affected and difficult to access regions, supporting the national and local capacities under universal humanitarian principles as neutrality, impartiality, and independence.

We call for the respect of civilians and the humanitarian organizations.

Humanitarian NGO Forum, Colombia

¹ The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) identifies, based on International Humanitarian Law, the existence in Colombia of at least five ongoing non – international armed conflicts.