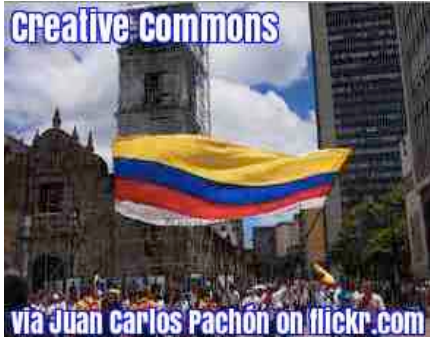


Colombia and FARC rebels sign peace deal

28th August, 2016



Colombians are celebrating as peace has finally come to Colombia.

Colombia's government signed a peace deal with the rebel group FARC. The deal ends 52 years of fighting,

during which 220,000 people died and millions had to leave their homes. The deal comes after two years of talks between the two sides. Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos called the deal, "the beginning of the end to the suffering, pain and tragedy of war". A spokesman for the Colombian government said: "The war is over but also there is also new beginning. This agreement opens the door to a more inclusive society." Both sides will now work together for justice for the victims of the conflict and to build a stable and lasting peace.

FARC is the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia. It was formed during the Cold War to protect farmers and workers. It started its fight against the Colombian government in 1964. It will now take part in the legal and political process to shape Colombia's future. In Bogota, the capital city, thousands of people came out to celebrate the news of the peace deal. One Colombian, Orlando Guevara, 57, told the Associated Press News Agency: "I can die in peace because finally I'll see my country without violence, with a future for my children." The next step is for the Colombian people to vote on the peace deal on the 2nd of October. President Santos said: "It will be the most important election of our lives."

Sources: bbc.com / BogotaPost.com / Wikipedia.org

Writing

One day, there will be world peace. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

celebrating / peace / rebel group / fighting / talks / tragedy / agreement / conflict / Cold War / farmers / 1964 / legal process / capital city / violence / future / election

True / False

- a) Most Colombians are not celebrating the peace deal. T / F
- b) FARC and the government fought for over half a century. T / F
- c) The peace deal was achieved after four years of talks. T / F
- d) FARC will not work with the government to help build a lasting peace. T / F
- e) FARC first started during the Cold War. T / F
- f) FARC started its fight against the government in 1964. T / F
- g) A man from Orlando spoke to the Associated Press news agency. T / F
- h) The Colombian people will vote on the peace deal in October. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| 1. finally | a. announcement |
| 2. deal | b. set up |
| 3. talks | c. significant |
| 4. suffering | d. agreement |
| 5. stable | e. stage |
| 6. formed | f. strong |
| 7. news | g. at last |
| 8. shape | h. hardship |
| 9. step | i. create |
| 10. important | j. discussions |

Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you think about what you read?
- b) Why do rebel groups form?
- c) Are there any rebel groups in your country?
- d) Are rebel groups good or bad?
- e) What do you know about the FARC?
- f) How do different sides agree a peace deal?
- g) What are the next conflicts to reach a peace deal?
- h) How long do you think peace will last for in Colombia?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|--|---------------------------|
| 1. rebel | a. political process |
| 2. the beginning of the | b. and lasting peace |
| 3. opens the door to a | c. out to celebrate |
| 4. work together for justice for the victims | d. group |
| 5. build a stable | e. more inclusive society |
| 6. It was formed | f. our lives |
| 7. take part in the legal and | g. end |
| 8. thousands of people came | h. without violence |
| 9. I'll see my country | i. of the conflict |
| 10. the most important election of | j. during the Cold War |

Discussion – Student B

- How can we better protect farmers and workers?
- Have you ever celebrated something in the streets?
- What's the happiest you have been with your country?
- How peaceful is your country?
- How can we end violence in the world?
- What would you like to see in your country before you die?
- What would you like to rebel against?
- What questions would you like to ask the leader of the FARC?

Spelling

- Colombians are ericbegaltn
- the end to the sgireffun
- pain and adtrgye of war
- This tnraemege opens the door
- work together for itsucej
- ivsmcti of the conflict
- fight for rsarmfe and workers
- the legal and political sepscro
- shape Colombia's tuuefr
- In Bogota, the atlpaci city
- I'll see my country without eielcvno
- the most important octlnee of our lives

Answers – Synonym Match

1. g	2. d	3. j	4. h	5. f
6. b	7. a	8. i	9. e	10. c

Role Play

Role A – Security
 You think security is the most important election issue. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their issues aren't so important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): education, immigration or job creation.

Role B – Education
 You think education is the most important election issue. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their issues aren't so important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): security, immigration or job creation.

Role C – Immigration
 You think immigration is the most important election issue. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their issues aren't so important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): education, security or job creation.

Role D – Job creation
 You think job creation is the most important election issue. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their issues aren't so important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): education, immigration or security.

Speaking – Election

Rank these with your partner. Put the most important issues in an election at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|------------------|-------------|
| • immigration | • security |
| • free speech | • tax |
| • job creation | • education |
| • welfare system | • health |

Answers – True False

a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.