



#IDAHOT2020

# CONFLICT-RELATED SEXUAL VIOLENCE AGAINST LGBT PEOPLE IN COLOMBIA

Three things that we must remember on the occasion of the International Day against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia.



## 1. It was a systematic form of violence based on prejudice

This violence aimed to punish, correct, subordinate or instrumentalise anyone who loved, looked or identified differently.



It was systematic. This means that it was not committed randomly or by chance. On the contrary, it occurred during operations by paramilitaries, Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia – People’s Army (FARC-EP).

Sexual violence included rape, sexual slavery, forced pregnancy, forced witnessing or perpetration of sexual acts against the person’s will, forced nudity and sexual harassment.

The official registry of these cases is limited. As of March 2020, the Victim’s Registry (RUV), had identified 481 LGBT victims of sexual violence since 1985.

Certain LGBT people faced increased risk of CRSV which was linked to their age, socioeconomic status, ethnicity and race.

## 2. This violence has multiple and differential impacts

LGBT people suffered various impacts. The greatest impacts were on their mental and physical health and socio-economic situation. In addition, structural discrimination, social complicity and judicial impunity contributed to:

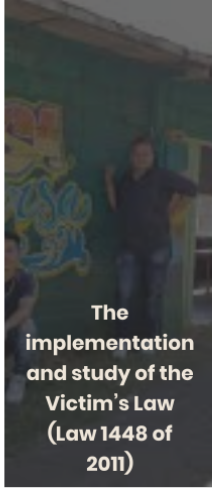
- The silencing of victims
- The lack of availability of quality medical, mental health and psychosocial care
- The destruction of ties of affection, friendship and family
- The fracture of collective organisation processes
- The lack of reparations



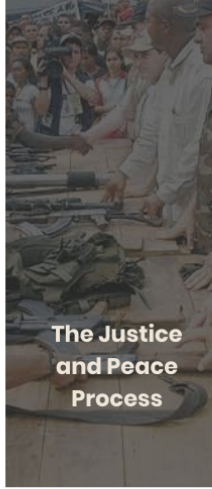
## 3. Victims demand access to justice, reparation and knowledge of the truth

For more than a decade LGBT victims of the armed conflict have been calling for transitional justice mechanisms to recognise their victimisation and their place as peacebuilders.

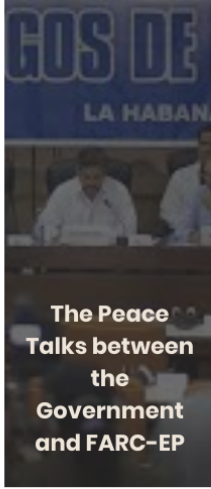
Colombia Diversa and Caribe Afirmativo have participated in mechanisms such as:



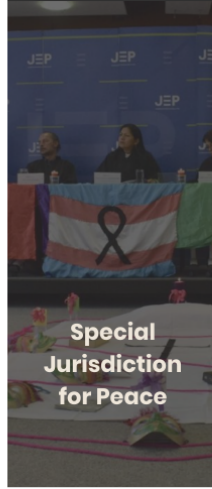
The implementation and study of the Victim’s Law (Law 1448 of 2011)



The Justice and Peace Process



The Peace Talks between the Government and FARC-EP



Special Jurisdiction for Peace



Truth, Coexistence and Non-Recurrence Commission

Caribe Afirmativo, Colombia Diversa and All Survivors Project seek to highlight the prejudice-based sexual violence which has been perpetrated against LGBT persons in the armed conflict, the serious crimes that constitute such acts and the importance of understanding that discrimination has been the fuel behind these appalling human rights violations.

