Abstract

Knowledge Production in Transitional Societies: the Case of the Colombian Peace Process

The signature of the peace agreement between the Colombian government and the FARC-EP guerrillas, in order to reach a stable and sustainable peace, can be understood as a mechanism of transition in the Colombian society. Although knowledge production is not the main entry point to analyze the complexity of the Colombian peace process, it is constantly referenced within the text of the signed agreement and it poses different challenges for understanding the relationship between knowledge production and peace-building in transitional societies.

The presentation will analyze some theoretical approaches to understand the role of the production and use of knowledge in the case of the Colombian peace process. Based on evidence provided by this case, it will highlight three analytical challenges that emerge when knowledge is studied in relation to peace: the contribution of territorial perspective to the reconfiguration of disciplinary peace studies, the interaction between local and scientific knowledge as a mechanism to reintegrate former combatants, and the influence of the transformative approach for designing innovation policies that promote transformative change.

Short Bio

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cooperation in different Colombian universities. Carlos Nupia was research leader in the area of science policy and international relations in the Colombian Observatory of Science and Technology (2013-2017), and director of international offices in Colciencias (2000-2003 and 2007-2008) and in the Universidad Nacional de Colombia. He served as communication advisor in the former Colombian Agency for International Cooperation (today APC) and in agencies of the United Nations System such as United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and World Food Program (WFP). Currently works on the dialogue between scientific communities, government and civil society, and in the construction of the interface between science and policy to face the post-conflict stage in Colombia.