

UN does not have evidence of foreign governments' influence in protests: representative in Colombia

Carlos Ruiz added that, in addition, much of what is being asked for in the streets is included in the already signed peace agreement.

By: [Noticias Caracol](#)

June 13, 2021

In an interview with María Alejandra Villamizar of Noticias Caracol, one of the mediators that has backed the government and the [national strike] committee working towards a solution to the national strike through dialogue and negotiation spoke, among others, of the supposed influence of foreign governments in the protests.

Carlos Ruiz, representative of the United Nations in Colombia, affirmed that the organism does not have evidence of external influences in the demonstrations and emphasized that what is being asked for in the streets is included in the already signed peace agreement.

“We have seen a very national movement, with different expressions in the streets. Yes, we have heard, but not verified, that armed groups could be participating or taking advantage of the situation that has been generated by different situations that have taken place in various cities, but we do not have any evidence of any foreign participation,” he affirmed.

He insisted, in addition, on the need for dialogue to avert crisis, because it “always brings results one way or another. Dialogue is always the path, independent of the fact that today we do not have concrete results from that dialogue, from that national round table.”

Likewise, Ruiz added that much of what is being asked for in the streets is included in the peace agreement already signed.

“The willpower exists to reach agreements, but these are very complex issues. For example, the implementation of the peace agreement (...) **The link between the manifestations and the peace agreement is important because in the end the agreement has tools to resolve many of the problems that the country is facing,**” he pointed out.

Source: <https://noticias.caracol.tv.com/politica/entrevista-a-carlos-ruiz-delegado-de-las-naciones-unidas-en-colombi>, accessed July 6, 2021. Translation: TLHRC staff.

