FINAL REPORT

Third Meeting
of Media Professionals
from Colombia and Venezuela

Cúcuta, Colombia
May 11-12, 2011
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1. Introduction

In order to analyze and discuss characteristics of coverage of issues related to bilateral relations between Venezuela and Colombia by the media in both countries – and thus contribute to efforts to improve diplomatic relations between the two nations – the Andean-U.S. Dialogue Forum’s Media Working Group, in conjunction with the Program to Strengthen Journalism in Venezuela, organized three major meetings of professionals from key media outlets in both countries.

The meetings targeted high-level members of those media outlets, particularly directors, managers and editors. Based on the format designed for the meetings, academics specializing in the study of bilateral relations between the two countries were also invited.

This report summarizes the topics discussed during the third meeting, held in Cúcuta (Colombia) on May 11 and 12, 2011.

2. Summary of the Third Meeting

The third binational meeting of media professionals from Colombia and Venezuela brought together editors, directors and independent journalists from Colombian and Venezuelan media in the border city of Cúcuta (Colombia) on May 11 and 12, 2011. The main topic of the meeting was the analysis of journalistic coverage of border issues by the media in the two countries.

Colombian journalist María Teresa Ronderos gave the keynote address about the role of the media in covering border issues. The director of the Center for Border Studies (Centro de Estudios Fronterizos, CEFI) at the University of the Andes (Táchira), María Eugenia Bello, and the assistant director of the Cúcuta daily La Opinión, Cicerón Flórez, commented on the address. The discussion that followed was moderated by journalists Catalina Lobo-Guerrero (Colombia) and Aram Aharonian (Venezuela).

The director of Radio Fe y Alegría in the El Nula region and coordinator of the NGO Peace on Borders (Paz en Fronteras), the Jesuit priest Jesús (Txúo) Rodríguez, provided an overview of the difficult circumstances in which people live along the Colombian-Venezuelan border, including those related to the illegal trade in fuel. The director of The
Carter Center’s Americas Program, Jennifer McCoy, presented the results of the media content analysis that she coordinated, beginning in November 2010, with the participation of the Georgia State University and The Carter Center.

The meeting agenda also included a visit to the El Escobal neighborhood on the border between Cúcuta (Colombia) and San Antonio del Táchira (Venezuela), to discuss the local situation with members of the community, to help participants gain a greater understanding of the situation on the border.

2.1. Coverage of border issues

What is the current state of coverage of border issues? What is missing in the coverage? Why don’t journalists and the media fill in those gaps? What can journalists and the media do to address the shortcomings?

In her presentation, Ronderos said that the quality of journalistic coverage of border issues is critical for the people living in those areas. She invited the participants to cover “processes,” not just “events,” citing good coverage that had appeared in the dailies Panorama (Zulia) and La Opinión (Cúcuta), which she said were examples of investigative journalism that broke down the stories, examining their many and often complicated nuances. In her view, coverage of border issues generally lacks three major elements:

a) First, there is a lack of stories with vision and a larger perspective, she says, which go beyond simple reporting on day-to-day events (“The media on both sides report abundantly on what happens on the border, but they need to stop occasionally to ‘look at the lay of the land,’ because they are discussing issues of security, economics, politics or the environment. The media tend to cover ‘moments,’ giving short shrift to ‘processes’ so they are not performing their ethical duty of telling their readers what trends, what forces, what deep rivers are shaping the course of border societies”).

b) Second, there is a lack of stories told “from below,” which have to do with ordinary people and are not limited to “tear-jerkers” about the latest flood, anguish over the death of a loved one at the hands of criminals, or the everyday struggle for survival (for example, there is a need for reports on the border economy, with stories about people who are immersed in that economy; the story of life on the border between two countries, with stories of people who live in two countries, etc.).

c) And third, there is a lack of stories that examine events in detail, instead of “swallowing them whole” – stories that analyze in detail the issues of interest to people living in the area (for example, the implications of the latest deployment of troops on the border; the cost of a bridge over a river and its economic or security impact; efforts to reveal corruption of border security forces on both sides; the contraband trade on the border; etc.).

Why do not journalists and the media in general fill in those gaps? First, Ronderos said, Latin American media, and journalists in general, tend to be tied to official agendas. As a
result, the media generally “look up,” and their coverage is dictated by the spheres of power. They tend to forget to “look straight ahead” at the country’s ordinary citizens. She gave local examples (events related to the so-called pinpineros, for example, do not carry the same weight in the media as other news, such as the most recent revelations from the contents of the computer of guerrilla leader Raúl Reyes. The same is true of many other stories, such as those of refugees on both sides of the border, contraband smugglers in Coltán, and coal mining and gold mining on both sides of the border).

Official statements, Ronderos said, have become the central focus of Colombian and Venezuelan media coverage. In her words, they have become “our Berlin Wall,” a wall that does not “enable us to meet or get to know each other.” Regardless of whether the media is aligned with the government or the opposition, most reporting revolves around official statements, either affirming them or criticizing them.

Therefore, Ronderos said, “It is not surprising that if the presidents yell, the media repeats it at the same decibel level; just as it is not surprising that, when foreign ministers whisper, the media immediately take a quieter, less strident tone.” The “heating up” and “cooling off” in the media always seem to coincide with crises and solutions to those crises. It is therefore crucial to ask how the rhythm of relations between Colombia and Venezuela has influenced journalistic coverage of matters of binational interest.

Finally, María Teresa Ronderos said, the challenge for journalists specializing in coverage of border issues is to turn local stories into universal stories.

2.2. Analysis of border problems

During the event, Reverend Jesús (Txúo) Rodríguez, a Jesuit priest, offered an introduction to the border situation, entitled, “Problems, challenges and proposals on the Colombian-Venezuelan border.” He urged the journalists not to limit coverage to security or economics, but to view problems on the Colombian-Venezuelan border from an integral perspective, so as to put a “human face” on the situation. Among other things, he described the serious problems that the illegal trade in gasoline has caused for residents in the area. The marked differences in the price of gasoline on the two sides of the border, he said, have led to the rise of well-established smuggling networks. Besides the large networks, which include members of the security forces, there are also various family-run mini-networks, made up of people from poorer sectors of society, who have
found the trade to be a source of income amid the region’s difficult socio-economic conditions.

“Father Txúo’s talk immersed the participants in the discussion about how everyday life in this region is affected by the illegal activities that occur,” one Colombian participant said. Colombian expert Socorro Ramírez called on the participants to consider the border as more than simply a “defensive perimeter between one country and another.”

Father Rodríguez’s talk had significant consequences, as large parts of it were reproduced in some major Venezuelan media, such as the daily Ultimas Noticias, the country’s largest-circulation morning paper (see Annex D for a list of the media coverage achieved). As a result, the border problem received national exposure in Venezuela, although that had considerable consequences for the speaker. The paper later reported that he was threatened several times and one of his close collaborators was physically attacked.

2.3. Other activities

As part of the scheduled activities, the participants visited the neighborhood of El Escobal, on the border between Cúcuta (Colombia) and San Antonio del Táchira (Venezuela), at the invitation of community leaders in the area. During the visit, the journalists explained the reason for their meeting in Cúcuta, while local residents described their community’s problems, leading to a lively exchange of opinions.

3. Achievements and agreements

The main achievements of the meeting included:

a) The deepening of the discussion of bilateral news coverage and expansion of the coverage of border issues.

b) The stimulation of public debate in Venezuela about border problems (such as the illicit trade of gasoline and connections with security forces), as a result of a series of stories about the issue published in some of the country’s major media.
c) The publication of a series of stories on border issues in major media in Colombia (especially Semana and La Silla Vacia), written by some of the Colombian journalists during their stay in Cúcuta.

### 3.1. Recommendations

The main recommendations and suggestions from participants in the event included:

- Creating a “border blog” that publishes material from various media in both Colombia and Venezuela, and which is also reproduced in different national media in both countries.

- Developing a *Google doc* that contains a handbook for covering border issues, including border sources (each journalist could include sources related to his or her city or region, to be shared with the others).

- Launching a joint media campaign to encourage residents on the border to discuss and speak out, through social networks, about issues such as the economy, policies and the media in the region.

- Establishing partnerships with civil society organizations that are interested in this type of information; seek sponsorship from private enterprises that seek to prosper in a well-integrated, safe region with well-informed citizens (grant proposals could be presented to international organizations interested in helping to build stronger institutions on the border, to reinforce journalistic teams charged with researching and writing longer, more in-depth stories that require time, travel and teamwork).

- Collectively creating a manual to guide journalistic practice on borders (which is, by definition, different from the journalism practiced in the capital cities).

- Creating a column about border issues, written by various Colombian and Venezuelan journalists, to be published in the media that participated in the meeting (it could be published on the same day by all participating media, under a name such as “Borders”).

- Organizing workshops on the border to produce articles (design, reporting, and writing from a positive standpoint of integration).

- Supporting training for journalists on the border on issues related to refugees.

- Creating mechanisms for gathering and sharing information, and a communication network that includes media on the border. One such mechanism could be a “content bank” (“a place to go for information about border issues”).
• Promoting, documenting and disseminating the results of media monitoring.

• Producing a publication containing the discussions and reflections from the Cúcuta meeting.

• Keeping a current list of email addresses of journalists who participated in the meetings, to facilitate contact among them.

• Supporting the creation of community media (“Because of the lack of training for local journalists, information about border issues generally is not produced locally; there is a need to train local professionals, to increase the local production of information”).
**ANNEXES**

**Annex A: Meeting agenda**

Third Meeting of Journalists from Venezuela and Colombia  
Cúcuta, Colombia, May 11-12, 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROGRAM</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</table>
| May 11  | 12:30 p.m. | Lunch – opening remarks  
Jennifer McCoy  
Director, Americas Program, The Carter Center |
|         | 1:30 p.m. | Introduction of participants |
|         | 1:40 p.m. | Summary of previous meetings  
Héctor Vanolli  
Coordinator of the Program to Strengthen Journalism, The Carter Center |
|         | 2:00 p.m. | Presentation of content analysis, updated for 3rd meeting:  
Coverage of binational issues by Colombian and Venezuelan media  
Jennifer McCoy  
Director, Americas Program, The Carter Center |
|         | 2:30 - 3:00 p.m. | Introduction to the border situation: Problems, challenges and proposals on the Colombian-Venezuelan border  
Jesús “Txúo” Rodríguez Villarroel  
Executive Coordinator, Paz en Fronteras  
Director, Radio Fe y Alegría, El Nula, Venezuela |
|         | 3:00 – 3:30 p.m. | Keynote address  
María Teresa Ronderos, journalist, Revista Semana, Colombia |
|         | 3:30 – 3:45 p.m. | Comments:  
María Eugenia Bello, ULA Border Studies Center, Táchira, Venezuela |
|         | 3:45 – 4:00 p.m. | Cicerón Flórez, Asst. Director, La Opinión, Cúcuta, Colombia |
|         | 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. | Discussion among participants  
Moderator: Aram Aharonian (Venezuela) |
|         | 5:00 – 5:10 p.m. | Transfer to El Escobal |
|         | 5:15 – 6:45 p.m. | Conversation, Community of El Escobal  
Conversation with members of community organizations, displaced people & refugees |
|         | 6:45 – 7:00 p.m. | Transfer to Hotel Bolívar |
|         | 7:30 p.m. | Dinner in hotel |
| May 12  | 7:00 – 8:00 a.m. | Breakfast and check out |
|         | 8:30 – 10:00 a.m. | Discussion among participants  
Moderator: Aram Aharonian (Venezuela) |
|         | 10:00 – 10:30 a.m. | Coffee break |
|         | 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. | Conclusions and recommendations  
Moderator: Catalina Lobo-Guerrero (Colombia) |
|         | 1:30 – 2:30 p.m. | Lunch |
|         | 3:00 p.m. | Leave for airport |

Hotel Bolívar, Av. Demetrio Mendoza, Vía San Luis, near Bolívar Shopping Center, Cúcuta
### ANNEX B: Participant List

*Third meeting of journalists from Colombia and Venezuela*

*Cúcuta – May 11-12, 2011*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>POSITION</th>
<th>MEDIUM</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PARTICIPANTS VENEZUELA</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aram Aharonian</td>
<td>Columnist</td>
<td>Independent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silvia Allegrett</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>Colegio Nacional de Periodistas (CNP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>María Inés Delgado</td>
<td>Assistant managing editor</td>
<td>Diario Panorama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elsy Barroeta</td>
<td>Information chief</td>
<td>Globovisión</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elides Rojas</td>
<td>Managing editor</td>
<td>El Universal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maryclen Stelling</td>
<td>Academic</td>
<td>Observatorio de Medios</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Omaira Labrador</td>
<td>Managing editor</td>
<td>La Nación (San Cristóbal)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carlos Subero</td>
<td>Chief correspondent</td>
<td>Diario La Calle (Valencia)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eleazar Díaz Rangel</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>Ultimas Noticias</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PARTICIPANTS COLOMBIA</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carlos Cortés</td>
<td>Editor</td>
<td>La Silla Vacía</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Francisco Miranda</td>
<td>Editor</td>
<td>El Tiempo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alfonso Ospina</td>
<td>Editor</td>
<td>ColPrensa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catalina Lobo-Guerrero</td>
<td>Columnist</td>
<td>Independent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cicerón Flórez</td>
<td>Assistant Director</td>
<td>La Opinión</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Omar Rincón</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>CEPER U.L.A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ricardo Avila</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>Portafolio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Socorro Ramírez</td>
<td>Academic</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SPEAKERS AND COMMENTATORS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jesús (Txuo) Rodríguez, SJ</td>
<td>Speaker (2)</td>
<td>Director, Radio Fe y Alegría, Parroquia El Nula, Venezuela</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer McCoy</td>
<td>Speaker (1)</td>
<td>Director, Americas Program, Carter Center, Atlanta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>María Teresa Rondoros</td>
<td>Speaker (3)</td>
<td>Revista Semana, Bogotá</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>María Eugenia Bello</td>
<td>Commentator (Ven)</td>
<td>Director, Border Studies Center, ULA, Táchira, Venezuela</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cicerón Flórez</td>
<td>Commentator (Col)</td>
<td>Assistant Director, La Opinión (Cúcuta)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>OBSERVERS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maritza Lucama</td>
<td>Regional coordinator</td>
<td>Norwegian Refugee Council, Cúcuta, Colombia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nikoska Laya</td>
<td>Officer</td>
<td>Norwegian Refugee Council, Cúcuta, Colombia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merete Hansen</td>
<td>Consultant</td>
<td>International Media Support, Colombia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>STAFF</strong></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer McCoy</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>Americas Program, Carter Center, Atlanta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Héctor Vanolli</td>
<td>Coordinator</td>
<td>Program to Strengthen Journalism, Venezuela</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Griselda Colina</td>
<td>Technical coordinator</td>
<td>Program to Strengthen Journalism, Venezuela</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karin Anderson</td>
<td>Consultant</td>
<td>Americas Program, Carter Center, Atlanta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karlymg Rodriguez Medina</td>
<td>Consultant</td>
<td>Program to Strengthen Journalism, Venezuela</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Annex C: Participant biographies

Participants from Venezuela

Aram Aharonian. A native of Uruguay, he has worked as a journalist in his native country, as well as in Argentina, Colombia and Venezuela. He has worked as a correspondent for the agencies PL and IPS, and as editor for the agency UPI and the dailies El Espectador (Bogotá), Proceso (Mexico) and Brecha (Uruguay). In Venezuela, he served as president of the Foreign Press Association (Asociación de la Prensa Extranjera, APEX). He is known for having played a key role in the creation of Telesur, where he served as the first director general. He currently teaches graduate-level communications courses in academic institutions in Argentina and Venezuela, edits the Question Digital and SurySur portals, and directs the Latin American Observatory on Communication and Democracy at the Latin American and Caribbean University (Universidad Latinoamericana y del Caribe).

Elides Rojas. Lawyer and journalist, he has been managing editor of the daily El Universal since 1996. Before that, he served as managing editor of the daily El Nacional (1979-1990) and managing editor and news and information director of the daily Economía Hoy (1972-1978). He has received various awards for his journalistic work in recent years, including the National Journalism Award in the Opinion category in 1999; the National Scientific Journalism Award in 1985; the Society of Newspaper Design’s Excellence Award in 1991; and the Inter-American Press Association’s International Award in the Opinion category in 2005.

María Inés Delgado. Currently assistant director of the print edition of the daily Panorama, in the state of Zulia, which has the largest readership and second-highest circulation in Venezuela. She has worked in journalism for 17 years, 14 of them at the daily Panorama, where she started in 1990 as an intern, later working as a feature writer and writer in the Culture section and editor of the Politics and Economy section. She is a licentiate in social communication from the University of Zulia (1993), and completed a Master’s degree in Communication Sciences with a concentration in the socio-semiotics of communication in 1998.

Silvia Allegrett. Currently president of the Colegio Nacional de Periodistas de Venezuela (CNP), the country’s professional association of journalists, she formerly served for six years as general coordinator of the NGO Expresión Libre. She has also worked in the Film Office of the former Development Ministry and the Audiovisual Media Office of the National Institute for Education Cooperation (Instituto Nacional de Cooperación Educativa, INCE). She subsequently served for six years as head of the Information and Public Relations Office of the Foundation for Educational Buildings and Equipment (Fundación de Edificaciones y Dotaciones Educativas, FEDE). Before becoming president of the CNP, she served as secretary general of its national board of directors (2008-2010). She currently directs the newspaper, Entre Vecinos.

Elsy Barroeta. Since 2005, she has worked as information director for Globovisión, one of the TV channels with the largest audience in metropolitan Caracas. She has more than 30 years of experience in journalism, including 15 at Globovisión. A licentiate in Social Communication from the Central University of Venezuela (Universidad Central de Venezuela, UCV), she specializes in the production of news for the television industry. She participated actively in the conception, design, planning, organization, implementation, evaluation and modernization of the Globovisión news unit.
Carlos Subero. He has worked in print media for 28 years. He specialized in precision journalism in North Carolina (USA), with the creator of that discipline, Professor Philip Meyer. Using that concept (use of databases, statistics and census information), he has worked with various print media, including the dailies Notitarde, El Diario de Caracas and El Universal, winning numerous awards. He is currently editor in charge of political coverage in Caracas for the daily La Calle, in Valencia, Carabobo.

Omaira Labrador Moncada. A graduate of the University of the Andes-Táchira in social communication, she has worked as a journalist in regional print media such as the daily La Nacion (San Cristóbal), where she has been a reporter and information chief and is now managing editor. She also teaches at the Los Andes University Institute of Agroindustrial Technology (Instituto Universitario de Tecnología Agroindustrial Los Andes, IUT) and is currently doing graduate studies in digital media journalism at the University of the Andes-Táchira.

Eleazar Díaz Rangel. Former president of the Venezuelan Association of Journalists, director of the National Union of Media Workers (Sindicato Nacional de Trabajadores de Prensa) and founding president of the Latin American Federation of Journalists (Federación Latinoamericana de Periodistas, FELAP). He has also served as director of the daily Punto and the magazine Tribuna, and director of the School of Social Communication of the Central University of Venezuela (Universidad Central de Venezuela, UCV). Currently director of the daily Últimas Noticias, Venezuela’s largest-circulation daily.

Maryclen Stelling. A sociologist specializing in media studies, she is currently a sociology professor at the Andres Bello Catholic University (Universidad Católica Andrés Bello, UCAB) and the Social Management School Foundation (Fundación Escuela de Gerencia Social). Since 2009, she has also served as executive director of the Rómulo Gallegos Center for Latin American Studies (Centro de Estudios Latinoamericanos Rómulo Gallegos, CELARG). In the area of media, she is general coordinator of the Venezuela Chapter of the Global Observatory on the Media (Observatorio Global de Medios, OGM). She also hosts the program Primera Mano on Radio Nacional de Venezuela (RNV).

Participants from Colombia

Ricardo Avila. Journalist specializing in political current events, economics and finance. He currently serves as director of the business and economics daily Portafolio, in Bogotá, and assistant editor of the opinion section of the daily El Tiempo, also in Bogotá. In the public sphere, he served as cabinet chief for the secretary general of the Organization of American States (OAS) during the administration of former President César Gaviria. He studied economics at the Javeriana University and holds a Master’s degree in economics from the University of Pittsburgh.

Carlos Cortés. A lawyer specializing in journalism, he graduated from the University of the Andes (Universidad de Los Andes) in Colombia. From 2005 to 2009, he directed the Foundation for Freedom of the Press (Fundación para la Libertad de Prensa, FLIP). From 2003 to 2005, he worked in the Ombudsman’s Office and also wrote for the magazine Semana. He is currently editor of La Silla Vacía, where he is also adviser for special projects and issues related to international cooperation. He is a professor of politics and media law in the Journalism and Public Opinion Program at the University of Rosario.

Francisco Miranda Hamburguer. A political analyst specializing in social economics, currently serving as editor of the opinion section of the daily El Tiempo in Bogotá. He is also a professor at
the University of Rosario and the Business School of the College of Higher Studies in
Administration (Colegio de Estudios Superiores de Administración, CESA), both in Bogotá. He has
a Master’s degree in public administration with a concentration in economic development and urban
policy from Columbia University in New York. He was a Fulbright fellow in 2005.

Cicerón Flórez. Currently assistant director of the daily La Opinión in Cúcuta. Formerly Cúcuta
respondent for the Bogotá daily, El Tiempo (1970-1980). Was also co-director of the radio
magazine program, Confrontación, on Radio Guaimaral (1975-1982), and director of the news
program, Luces de la Ciudad, on Radio San José (1985-1992). In 1970, he founded the magazine
Guía Internacional in this border city, and served as director (1970-1975). He has taught journalism
courses and seminars in the Cúcuta branches of the Libre and Antonio Nariño universities.

Alfonso Ospina. Colombian journalist with undergraduate studies (communication and journalism)
at Colombia’s Externado University in Bogotá and a Master’s degree in political science at the
Javeriana University in Cali. From 1989 to 1994, he worked as a reporter for Todelar Radio, Radio
Súper and RCN Radio in Bogotá. Between 1994 and 2007, he was editor of information about the
judiciary, politics and sports for the daily El País in Cali, where he later worked as managing editor
from 2007 to 2008. Since 2008, he has been general editor for the Colombian news agency
Colprensa.

During Colombia’s 2010 parliamentary and presidential elections, she was editor of the portal, Vote
Bien, considered one of the best sources of election coverage in the hemisphere. She directed the
portal’s team of journalists, including reporting, editing and decisions about content. In 2009, she
worked as reporter and videographer for the portal of the Buenos Aires daily Clarín, where she
covered national daily news from Argentina. She was also responsible for filming and reporting a
multimedia special, En la tierra del Diego, about Buenos Aires’ slums. Between 2006 and 2008,
she covered Colombia’s armed conflict, the liberation of hostages, the attack on Raúl Reyes’ camp
in Ecuador, the Colombia-Ecuador crisis, the extradition of paramilitaries, reinsertion and
compensation programs for demobilized members of armed groups, and emerging criminal gangs,
among other topics, for the Colombian magazine Semana.com.

Socorro Ramírez (professor). Her studies and degrees include a post-doctorate at the Institut des
Hautes Etudes de L’Amerique Latina (HEAL) at the Sorbonne University, a diploma in Advanced
Studies in International Relations (Sorbonne University) and a Master’s degree in Analysis of
Political-Economic and International Problems from the Institute for Advanced Development
Studies (Instituto de Altos Estudios para el Desarrollo). She is currently coordinator of the
Regional Integration Group and the Latin America Group of the Project on Insertion of Colombia
into the International System. She is also a member of the Andean-U.S. Dialogue Forum, sponsored
by International IDEA and the Carter Center.

Omar Rincón. (Academic). Associate professor at the University of the Andes, where he is director
of the university’s Journalism Studies Center (Centro de Estudios de Periodismo, CEPE). He is also
director of the Friedrich Ebert Foundation’s center for Competency in Communication. He is author
of various publications, including “Narrativas Mediáticas o cómo Cuenta la Sociedad del
Entretenimiento” (Gedisa, Barcelona, 2006), and “Televisión, Vídeo y Subjetividad” (Editorial
Norma, Buenos Aires, 2002). He is also editor of publications, such as “Televisión Pública: del
pueblo, lejos de la democracia” (FES, Bogotá, 2008) and “Por Qué nos Odian Tanto? Estado y
Medios de Comunicación en América Latina” (FES, Bogotá, 2010).
Annex D
Media Coverage

La Opinión:

El Universal, Venezuela:
http://www.eluniversal.com/2011/02/15/pol_ava_periodistas-de-colom_15A5165131.shtml

Simón Bolívar University:

El Universal:

La Opinión:

Ultimas Noticias:
Annex E. Georgia State University study of characteristics of binational media coverage (2007-2010)

ANALISIS DE CONTENIDO
(Versión Preliminar)
Cobertura de los temas binacionales realizada por la venezolana y colombiana 2007-2010
Cobertura de noticias de periódicos colombianos de noticias temáticas en el país opuesto en fechas seleccionadas entre 2009 – 2010

Frecuencia de palabras

Cobertura de noticias de periódicos venezolanos de noticias temáticas en el país opuesto en fechas seleccionadas entre 2009 – 2010

Frecuencia de artículos

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Cobertura de noticias de periódicos venezolanos y colombianos de noticias temáticas en el país opuesto en fechas seleccionadas entre 2007 – 2010

**Frecuencia de artículos**

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<th>Fecha</th>
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<th>Venezuela</th>
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<td>21 de noviembre 2007</td>
<td>Pierdad Cordoba</td>
<td>Secuestrados</td>
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<td>25 de noviembre 2007</td>
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<td>10 de enero 2008</td>
<td>Rehenes</td>
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<td>21 de julio, 2009</td>
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<td>28 de julio, 2009</td>
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<td>9 de marzo 2008</td>
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<td>2 de marzo 2008</td>
<td>Cruz Batallones</td>
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**Palabras Clave :**
- Presidentes: Chávez, Santos, Uribe
- Canciller: Holguín, Maduro, Bermúdez
- Economía: Comercio, Deuda, Devaluación, Inflación, Inversión
- Seguridad Personal: Crimen, Droga, Homicidios, Seguridad
- Migración: Migración, Refugiados
- Diplomacia: OEA, Restablecimiento, Normalización
- UNASUR: UNASUR
- Política: Elecciones, Reforma Constitucional, Corte Constitucional, Tribunal Supremo
- FARC/Secuestrados: Armamentos, Beligerante, Córdoba, Ejército, Guerrilleros, insurgentes, Lanzacohetes, FARC, Liberación, Mediación, Militares, Negociaciones, Paramilitares, Rehenes, Terroristas, Secuestrados
- Seguridad Nacional: Amenaza, Bélica, Invasión, Incursión
Cobertura de noticias de periódicos venezolanos y colombianos de noticias temáticas en el país opuesto en fechas seleccionadas entre 2007 – 2010
Frecuencia de palabras

21 de noviembre 2007 (Pierdad Córdoba)
25 de noviembre 2007 (Secuestrados)
10 de enero 2008 (Rehenes)
18 de enero 2008 (Carácter Beligerante)
2 de marzo 2008 (Diez Batallones)
9 de marzo 2008 (Cumbre de Río)
21 de julio, 2009 (Bases Militares)
28 de julio, 2009 (Lanzacohetes)
28 de agosto, 2009 (UNASUR)
13 de noviembre, 2009 (OEA)
21 de junio, 2010 (Santos)
25 de junio, 2010 (Holguín)
15 de julio, 2010 (Jefes Guerrilleros)
10 de agosto, 2010 (Restablecimiento)

Palabras Clave
- **Presidentes**: Chávez, Santos, Uribe
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- **Seguridad Personal**: Crimen, Droga, Homicidios, Seguridad
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- **UNASUR**: UNASUR
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- **Seguridad Nacional**: Amenaza, Bélica, Invasión, Incursión

Colombia: Coverage by newspaper of selected bilateral events 2007 – 2010
Venezuela: Coverage by newspaper of selected bilateral events 2007 – 2010

- **El Nacional**
- **Panorama**
- **Tal Cual**
- **Últimas Noticias**
- **El Universal**

- 21 de noviembre 2007 (Pierdad Córdoba)
- 10 de enero 2008 (Rehenes)
- 2 de marzo 2008 (Diez Batallones)
- 21 de julio, 2009 (Bases Militares)
- 28 de agosto, 2009 (UNASUR)
- 21 de junio, 2010 (Santos)
- 15 de julio, 2010 (Jefes Guerrilleros)
- 25 de noviembre 2007 (Secuestroado)
- 18 de enero 2008 (Carácter Beligerante)
- 3 de marzo 2008 (Cumbre de Río)
- 28 de julio, 2009 (Lanzacohetes)
- 13 de noviembre, 2009 (OEA)
- 25 de junio, 2010 (Holguín)
- 10 de agosto, 2010 (Restablecimiento)