

# Lecture

## „Nature as a Victim of Armed Conflict: The Case of Colombia“

**Juliette Vargas, LL.M.**

Scientific collaborator of the German-Colombian Peace Institute– CAPAZ Institute

After over 50 years of internal armed conflict between the Colombian government and the former FARC-EP guerrilla group, the historic 2016 Peace Agreement instituted various transitional mechanisms, including the Special Jurisdiction for Peace (JEP). Integrating a criminal procedure with restorative aims and elements, one of the JEP's noteworthy achievements is its ability to address environmental damage under the premise "Nature and ethnic territories as victims of the armed conflict". This milestone owes much to the contributions from worldviews of indigenous and Afro-Colombian peoples to transitional justice, revealing different layers of harm that shed light on alternative epistemologies regarding the human-nature relationship.

This presentation will highlight some of the most important cases that have been decided by the JEP, in relation to the accreditation of territories and the Cauca River as victims of the armed conflict and responsibility for international crimes in the JEP's macro cases 02 and 05 that address damage to nature as a consequence of oil spills, illegal mining and illicit crops.

**Wednesday, June 12 2024, 2.15pm**  
**Room 43, Licher Straße 68 (JuWi)**