



Peru Position Paper

Ada Irem Özçelik

I. Background Information on the Country

Peru, officially known as the Republic of Peru, is a country located in western South America excluding Lake Titicaca which is located in the southeast. It shares borders with Colombia, Brazil, Ecuador, Bolivia and Chile. Its capital is the city Lima, with the whole country consisting of 32,5 million citizens.

“Peru is essentially a tropical country, with its northern tip nearly touching the Equator. Despite its tropical location, a great diversity of climates, ways of life, and economic activities is brought about by the extremes of elevation and by the southwest winds that sweep in across the cold Peru Current (or Humboldt Current), which flows along its Pacific shoreline.”¹

Peru was conquered by the Spanish in the 1500's, so was ruled by the Spanish for almost 300 years. In 1821, Peru declared independence and gained freedom in 1824. Later on a border problem led to a war with Ecuador in 1941, which then caused Peru to gain control over a large portion of the Amazon Basin. Lastly, in 1998, the border was fully established again.

Peru is highly relevant to the Advisory Panel on the Question of South America because of its geopolitical position, rich natural resources, and socioeconomic situation. Peru struggles with economic inequality, environmental degradation, and human rights issues. Peru's role as a major exporter in mining and agriculture also impacts regional economic dynamics and environmental sustainability. Furthermore, Peru's presence in alliances like the Pacific Alliance highlights its interest in promoting regional integration and economic cooperation, aligning closely with APQSA's goals.

¹Peru | History, Flag, People, Language, Population, Map, & Facts.” *Britannica*, <https://www.britannica.com/place/Peru>. Accessed 13 November 2024.



II. Past Achievements and Attempts of Country/Organization on the Issues

A. Maintaining judicial independence and accountability in Bolivia:

- Peru doesn't have previous accomplishments regarding the issue, however, Peru is Bolivia's neighbor.

B. Eliminating the possibility of armed conflict between Venezuela and Guyana:

- While the question of how to address Venezuela's conflict has polarized international opinion for the better part of the last two decades, the first week in February 2019 represented a milestone. Two efforts at peace-making were created, with host country Uruguay joining both. The previous week, in response to a call for dialogue in the Venezuelan conflict by United Nations Secretary General António Guterres, Uruguay and Mexico had announced a meeting in the capital of Montevideo, called the "International Conference on the Situation in Venezuela". This came after Venezuela's National Assembly President Juan Guaidó had assumed the interim presidency of Venezuela and had been recognized by the United States and the members of the Lima Group. The Lima Group was formed in August 2017 by countries in the region seeking to pressure Venezuela for a return to democracy. Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay and Peru were the original members.²

C. Tackling the ELN insurgency in Colombia:

- "Peruvian officials participate in counterterrorism activities with international organizations, including the United Nations, CICTE, and the APEC. The PNP Counterterrorism Directorate also coordinates with police in other countries to track terrorist activities."³
- "In negotiating that constitution the M-19 guerrillas gained an advantage for all the remaining Marxist groups by having included a prohibition against the state's organizing the population against the guerrillas."
- "By early 1999, the likelihood of victory for Colombia's insurgent groups was high. After decades of violence, the Andrés Pastrana administration (1998-2002) was besieged by the guerrillas and national morale was at its nadir due to the continuing defeats the security forces were suffering in the hands of the FARC, and to a lesser degree by the ELN. In negotiating that constitution the M-19

²Smilde, David, and Geoff Ramsey. *International peace-making in Venezuela's intractable conflict*. <https://erlacs.org/>, 2020. *Smilde-Ramsey-ERLACS_final.pdf*, https://venezuelablog.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Smilde-Ramsey-ERLACS_final.pdf.

³Peru - United States Department of State." *State Department*, <https://www.state.gov/reports/country-reports-on-terrorism-2022/peru/>. Accessed 13 November 2024.



guerrillas gained an advantage for all the remaining Marxist groups by having included a prohibition against the state's organizing the population against the guerrillas. This provision would have implications in the escalation of violence in that country, which had no self-defense committees like those in Peru.”⁴

- If successful, they could easily affect the security of at least four of Colombia's five neighbors: Ecuador, Peru, Panamá and Brazil.

III. Objectives, Aims and Possible Solutions Proposed by Country/Organization on the Issues

A. Maintaining judicial independence and accountability in Bolivia:

- “By comparing and contrasting the recent history of the CT and two previous ‘cases’ of ‘failed’ constitutional courts – the CT’s role during the Fujimori regime and its predecessor, the Tribunal of Constitutional Guarantees –, there is evidence that highlight the importance of political pluralism as a necessary condition for the emergence of independent courts, but there are cases that show an institutional design that ‘mirrors’ this pluralism is crucial to attain this outcome. The importance of these political and institutional factors suggests that it is too soon to be optimistic about the likelihood that the present CT can maintain its independence in the future.”⁵
- “In order to secure an authentic reform of the administration of justice, the judicial function must be at the service of the people’s rights. In other words, the existence of the judiciary is justified by the protection of human rights from excesses by the government and private powers. This means that the judges must vary their position with regard to the law because, although the fundamental rights were once only valid within the limits of the law, now the law is only valid within the limits of the fundamental rights.”⁶

B. Eliminating the possibility of armed conflict between Venezuela and Guyana:

- “It is common for intractable conflicts to see a flow of multiple efforts at conflict resolution. Reaching an agreement in Northern Ireland took over eleven years; the multiple attempts at forging the

⁴Bolívar, Alberto. “Latin America’s Terrorist and Insurgent Groups: History and Status.” *untitled*, May 2006, https://www.files.ethz.ch/isn/139631/2006_latinamericaterrorism.pdf.

⁵DARGENT, EDUARDO. “Determinants of Judicial Independence: Lessons from Three ‘Cases’ of Constitutional Courts in Peru (1982–2007)*.” *Determinants of Judicial Independence: Lessons from Three ‘Cases’ of Constitutional Courts in Peru (1982–2007) 1 /*, 2009, https://web.archive.org/web/20180725081335id_/https://www.cambridge.org/core/services/aop-cambridge-core/content/view/E9FAE35858605EBA40E6C91769F8A26F/S0022216X09005562a.pdf/div-class-title-determinants-of-judicial-independence-lessons-from-three-cases-of-.

⁶Landa, César. “The Scales of Justice in Peru: Judicial Reform and Fundamental Rights.” *landa-new.PDF*, 2001, <https://sas-space.sas.ac.uk/252/1/Landa.pdf>.



eventual Colombian peace accords took even longer. What is important is that each effort be informed by previous efforts. It is difficult to talk about “progress” being made in a series of peace-making efforts until an actual successful agreement is made. But we can see a progression in the various mediation efforts, as they have become more professional and more focused.”⁷

C. Tackling the ELN insurgency in Colombia:

- Peru should be alert since ELN getting strong and influential might affect the whole area politically and economically however currently Peru does not have any proposed solutions regarding this topic.

IV. Bibliography

Bolívar, Alberto. “Latin America’s Terrorist and Insurgent Groups: History and Status.” *untitled*, May 2006, https://www.files.ethz.ch/isn/139631/2006_latinamericaterrorism.pdf.

DARGENT, EDUARDO. “Determinants of Judicial Independence: Lessons from Three ‘Cases’ of Constitutional Courts in Peru (1982–2007)*.” *Determinants of Judicial Independence: Lessons from Three ‘Cases’ of Constitutional Courts in Peru (1982–2007) 1 /*, 2009, https://web.archive.org/web/20180725081335id_/https://www.cambridge.org/core/services/aop-cambridge-core/content/view/E9FAE35858605EBA40E6C91769F8A26F/S0022216X09005562a.pdf/div-class-title-determinants-of-judicial-independence-lessons-from-three-cases-of-.

Hill, Rob. “Peru.” *National Geographic Kids*, <https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/geography/countries/article/peru>. Accessed 13 November 2024.

Landa, César. “The Scales of Justice in Peru: Judicial Reform and Fundamental Rights.” *landa-new.PDF*, 2001, <https://sas-space.sas.ac.uk/252/1/Landa.pdf>.

“Peru.” *INSAMER*, <https://www.insamer.com/tr/ulke-profilu-peru/>. Accessed 13 November 2024.

“Peru | History, Flag, People, Language, Population, Map, & Facts.” *Britannica*, <https://www.britannica.com/place/Peru>. Accessed 13 November 2024.

⁷Smilde, David, and Geoff Ramsey. *International peace-making in Venezuela’s intractable conflict*. <https://erlacs.org/>, 2020. *Smilde-Ramsey-ERLACS_final.pdf*, https://venezuelablog.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Smilde-Ramsey-ERLACS_final.pdf.



“Peru - United States Department of State.” *State Department*,

<https://www.state.gov/reports/country-reports-on-terrorism-2022/peru/>. Accessed 13 November 2024.

Smilde, David, and Geoff Ramsey. *International peace-making in Venezuela's intractable conflict*.

<https://erlacs.org/>, 2020. *Smilde-Ramsey-ERLACS_final.pdf*,

https://venezuelablog.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Smilde-Ramsey-ERLACS_final.pdf.

“War of the Pacific | 1879, Latin America, Summary, & Facts.” *Britannica*,

<https://www.britannica.com/event/War-of-the-Pacific>. Accessed 13 November 2024.