



Colombia's Escalating Conflict

[Source: TH](#)

Colombia faces a **surge in violence** as rival militias clash, threatening its **fragile peace process** and prompting a state of **emergency** with **military deployments**.

- Violence involves guerilla groups that rejected the **earlier peace accords**.
 - The deal **terminated** the conflict between the **Colombian government** and the Marxist-Leninist **guerillas (1964-2016)**.
 - Groups are fighting for control of a strategic border region with **coca leaf plantations**, the **raw material for cocaine production**.
- Hundreds of refugees sought safety in **Tibu**, a city in Colombia, where several **shelters** were established to house them.
- **About Colombia:** It is called "**gateway to South America**" due to its location connecting **South America with Central and North America**.
 - Its vast **grasslands** are called **Los Llanos** and open in both the **Pacific and Atlantic Ocean**.
 - About **10% of the world's animal species** live in Colombia, despite it covering **less than 1% of Earth's land area**.
 - It is the **world's largest producer of cocaine**.



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Renaming Gulf of Mexico and Denali

[Source: HT](#)

US President Donald Trump signed an executive order to rename the **Gulf of Mexico** as the **Gulf of America** and revert **Denali** to **Mount McKinley**, to honor American greatness.

- **Governance on Naming:** [International Hydrographic Organization \(IHO\)](#) (US and Mexico are members), ensures uniformity but allows domestic alternative names, with **no formal renaming protocol**.
 - Mexico and Cuba aren't bound to the new name, and international agreements still use the **Gulf of Mexico**.
- **Gulf of Mexico:** It is the world's largest gulf, bordered by **Cuba, Mexico, and the US**, connects to the Atlantic via the [Straits of Florida](#) and to the Caribbean via the [Yucatán Channel](#).
 - The Gulf of Mexico supplies 14% of US **crude oil**, 5% of **natural gas**, and hosts 48% of the **US petroleum refining capacity** and 51% of the **natural gas processing capacity**.



- **Mount McKinley:** **Mount McKinley, the highest peak in North America**, is located in **Alaska** and was renamed Denali in 2015 to honor the indigenous **Koyukon people**.
 - Reverting to Mount McKinley honors **President William McKinley (1897-1901)** for his leadership in the **Spanish-American War** and **US economic growth**.
- **Similar Global Disputes:** The "[Persian Gulf](#)" vs. "**Arabian Gulf**" between Iran and Saudi Arabia, the "**Sea of Japan**" vs. "**East Sea**" between Japan and South Korea, and territorial naming disputes in the [South China Sea](#).

