



Colombia's Escalating Conflict

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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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