

4.3.6. Indigenous and Afro-descendant communities in conflict-areas

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Despite legal guarantees against it, there were reports of discrimination on the basis of gender, as well as against women, indigenous people, Afro-descendant Colombians, and people with disabilities.1109F[721] Colombia has a 'solid and advanced' legal and jurisprudential framework that recognises and protects the human rights of indigenous peoples and black, Afro-Colombian, Raizal and Palenquera communities. However, these ethnic peoples are disproportionately affected,[722] encounter 'differentiated impacts from the internal armed conflict, and face obstacles in accessing and enjoying their economic, social, cultural and environmental rights', as armed groups take advantage of the lack of state presence in rural areas.[723]

In October 2025, ACLED provided data to EUAA recording 411 events of civilian targeting by armed groups against 'indigenous groups' and 118 events targeted against 'Afro-Colombian ethnic groups' between August 2022 and October 2025.[724]

In regions where the state is absent or has little presence, Indigenous and Afro-descendant leaders in the community are at the forefront of encountering armed groups that arrive in their territory to contest the local order and, as a consequence, many social leaders who are murdered come from these communities.[725] Ongoing conflicts in areas with ethnic communities have led to restrictions on freedom of movement, imposed curfews, surveillance, and disrupted ways of life.[726] Areas where these groups experienced the most mass displacement and confinements were in Antioquia, Cauca, César, Chocó, La Guajira, Magdalena, Nariño, Putumayo, and Valle del Cauca.1157F[727]

There are approximately 30 (out of 115) indigenous groups at risk of extinction that are protected under orders of the Constitutional Court.1158F[728] Indigenous people have been targeted 'by all sides of the country's various conflicts.'1159F[729]

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