

## **The project “(Un-) Stitching Gazes”**

After decades of armed conflict and the peace agreement of 2016, how can Colombians (re-) author their lives in order to live on? How can former guerrillas of the FARC, their families, their victims, their new rural neighbours, and society at large live together again?

These are the questions explored by the research project “(Un-) Stitching Gazes”. It was carried out by researchers at the Universities of Aberystwyth (UK) and Antioquia (Colombia). The project team used textile-making, embroidery and narrative interviews to explore everyday micro-processes of reconciliation. They worked in two rural communities now hosting the demobilised fighters: Llano Grande (Dabeiba) and San José de León (Mutatá).

The textile narratives resulting from these engagements form the core of the virtual exhibition “(Un-) Stitching Gazes”. The exhibition puts these experiences of the peace process in Colombia into conversation with conflict textiles from other countries. It invites us to reflect what assumptions we un-stitch or re-stitch when we get to know those living the peace process every day through their textile narratives.

Further information on the project:

- The project’s digital platform: [www.des-tejiendomiradas.com](http://www.des-tejiendomiradas.com)
- UKRI – Gateway to Research ([click here](#)).

### ***Project members and collaborators***

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### ***Project funding and implementation***

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It is collaboratively implemented by the Faculty of Nursing at the University of Antioquia (Medellín, Colombia), the Department of International Politics at Aberystwyth University (Wales, United Kingdom), and the Association of Victims and Survivors of Northeast Antioquia (ASOVISNA, Colombia).

### ***Related publications and materials (in English)***

- Beatriz E. Arias López, Berit Bliesemann de Guevara and Laura A. Coral Velásquez: “Textile-Making as Research Method.” In: Richmond O., Visoka G. (eds) *The Palgrave Encyclopedia of Peace and Conflict Studies*. Palgrave Macmillan, Cham, 2020. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-11795-5\\_147-1](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-11795-5_147-1)
- Berit Bliesemann de Guevara and Beatriz Arias López: “Biographical narratives and textile art: a research example from the Colombian peace process”, *Stitched Voices*

blog, 15 August 2019, <https://stitchedvoices.wordpress.com/2019/08/15/biographical-narratives-and-textile-art-colombia/>

- Christine Andrä: “Textiles Making Peace.” In: Richmond O., Visoka G. (eds) *The Palgrave Encyclopedia of Peace and Conflict Studies*. Palgrave Macmillan, Cham, 2020. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-11795-5\\_125-1](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-11795-5_125-1)
- Christine Andrä: “Textile efforts for peace”, Stitched Voices blog, 13 July 2020, <https://stitchedvoices.wordpress.com/2020/03/19/textile-efforts-for-peace/>
- Christine Andrä, Berit Bliesemann de Guevara and colleagues: “Case Study: (Un)Stitching the subjects of Colombia’s reconciliation process”, Stitched Voices blog, 15 June 2020, <https://stitchedvoices.wordpress.com/2020/06/15/needlework-as-research-method-a-case-study/>

### ***Related publications and materials (in Spanish)***

- Christine Andrä: “Textiles haciendo paz”, traducción de Antonia Mirella Arias, Stitched Voices blog, 18 de octubre de 2020, <https://stitchedvoices.wordpress.com/2020/10/18/textiles-haciendo-paz/>
- Antonia Mirella Arias: “Textiles haciendo paz. Conversatorio”, Stitched Voices blog, 25 de octubre de 2020, <https://stitchedvoices.wordpress.com/2020/10/25/textiles-haciendo-paz-un-conversatorio/>
- Berit Bliesemann de Guevara y Beatriz Arias López: “Narrativa biográfica y arte textil: un ejemplo del proceso de paz en Colombia”, Stitched Voices blog, 15 de agosto de 2019, <https://stitchedvoices.wordpress.com/2019/08/15/narrativa-biografica-y-arte-textil-colombia/>
- Beatriz Arias: “Trabajo biográfico y método de narrativa textil”, video, Stitched Voices blog, 26 de enero de 2020, <https://stitchedvoices.wordpress.com/2020/01/26/video-trabajo-biografico-y-metodo-de-narrativa-textil/>

