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## Peace Observer

University of Dayton

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# NEWS

Monday September 26, 2016

## Peace Observer

Camilo Pérez-Bustillo, executive director of the University of Dayton Human Rights Center, will be part of a U.S. human rights delegation observing the Oct. 2 vote by the Colombian people on whether to accept the peace deal between the Colombian government and the rebel group FARC.

While in Colombia, Pérez-Bustillo also will discuss the Colombian peace process and issues of migration and forced displacement at a conference Sept. 30 at Bogota's Universidad de La Salle.

The day after the election, he will be speaking at the Alfredo Carrizosa Human Rights Center at Bogota's Javeriana (Jesuit) University about the next steps for human rights after the vote.

Pérez-Bustillo, a former adviser to the United Nations and coordinator of a project on human rights along the U.S.-Mexico border, became the first executive director of the University of Dayton Human Rights Center this summer.

He came to the University of Dayton from New Mexico State University where he was a visiting professor in the departments of government and criminal justice and coordinator of the Border Human Rights Documentation Project.

Pérez-Bustillo, who served as an adviser on poverty and human rights to the United Nations Human Rights Council, is the author of several books, chapters and articles regarding human rights issues. His book, *Human Rights, Hegemony and Utopia in Latin America: Poverty, Forced Migration and Resistance in Mexico and Colombia*, written with human rights advocate and documentary photographer Karla Hernández Mares, came out June 16.

He also is a fellow of the Comparative Research Programme on Poverty, a project of the International Social Sciences Council based at the University of Bergen in Norway.

Pérez-Bustillo's experience also includes 20 years in Mexico as a human rights scholar and advocate, plus another decade as a civil rights lawyer specializing in the educational rights of immigrant children and youth.

The University of Dayton is a pioneer in human rights education. It started the country's first undergraduate human rights program in 1998 and offered one of the nation's first bachelor's degrees in human rights studies in 2008.

To interview Pérez-Bustillo in Colombia, contact him directly at 937-951-5911 (cell, text or call) or [cperezbustillo1@udayton.edu](mailto:cperezbustillo1@udayton.edu), or through Myriam Zapata at 011 57 320 476 6273 (cell).