Lie Detector:
The struggle to attack post-truth during the Plebiscite for Peace

Natalia Arbeláez Jaramillo
www.lasillavacia.com
@lasillavacia
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#PA14Col
A digital media platform, completely independent, which was created over eight years ago and covers how power moves in Colombia. Our motto: “we tell everything we know and we know everything we tell.”
We check speeches, publications, conversations, or statements by people in power in Colombia.

We check chains that are sent to us by users with our WhatsApp detectors.

Our criteria for selection is that they are of public interest and are not opinion. We divide them by claims, do reporting and verify with other documents, and then we rate each statement on our scale.
Plebiscite for Peace

• In October 2016, President Santos put the final agreement signed with the FARC to end the armed conflict of more than fifty years to a popular vote.

• The campaigns focused on telling people why to vote YES or NO to the agreement and the environment was totally polarized in terms of those for or against peace.

• In the midst of this frightening environment, there was a lot of disinformation (“fake news”) circulating on social media.

• The NO side won and then there was a renegotiation of the Agreement and an endorsement by Congress.
Our Lie Detector in action

The most repeated lies:
- The FARC’s salary.
- The Peace Agreement is against farmers.
- The Justice Agreement exempts kidnappers.
- The FARC has handed over recruited minors.
- The FARC will buy the elections with ill-gotten money…
• We checked the beginning of the No campaign through speeches by former president Álvaro Uribe in Bucaramanga and Barranquilla.

• We reviewed a WhatsApp chain sent to us by the director of the Political Committee of the Democratic Centre, which was presented as a summary of the Final Agreement.
• We checked an interview in *El Heraldo* by General Mora, a member of the negotiating team, in which he was educating on the peace process.

• We also checked what was said about the Peace Agreement during a demonstration in Cartagena, attended by 10 Members of Congress and a councilor from Bogotá, by the Yes Political Committee.
The polarization continues…

- Even after the plebiscite, during the implementation, the polarization remains.

- Every week we receive WhatsApp chains about post-conflict.

- We have checked: the FARC’s political strategy, the guerrilla boduguards, the blank vote and the FARC, the failure in implementation, and the presence of non-nationals in training and reincorporation zones, among other things.