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**El ente policía y la política de seguridad en Colombia, 2002-2018:
Estado, ciudadanía, gobernabilidad y la organización policial**
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Propositions

1. The Colombian state has so far followed a traditional security model, where the role of the Police is limited to the scope of control of crime and violence. This neglects the fact that police work is also connected to the objective of improving governability and guaranteeing the structural conditions of peaceful coexistence in the country.
2. The recurrent use of the public force as a prerogative of the Colombian state limited for many years the strengthening of the police's relationship with the citizenry and the participation of the people in the process of public security. This resulted in a lack of awareness of the police role and its use for building democratic governance.
3. Most Latin American countries which experienced military dictatorships during the 1970s and 1980s decided after democratic restoration to separate the police from the military institutions. Paradoxically, the fact that Colombia did not face a military regime (and a subsequent process of democratization) and the existence of organized crime groups and guerrillas has until now rather diffculted this process of institutional separation.
4. In recent decades, a sort of punitive populism has gained strength in several Latin American countries, calling for a strong increase in the penalties for law offenders as a way to improve the levels of security among the population. However, existing evidence indicate that such measures have produced no direct impact on the containment and neutralization of threats or causes that affect the citizens' security in the region.
5. As a consequence of the end of the Cold War and the emergence of a new international order, realism and idealism lost their centrality as articulating conceptions of the concept of security. This situation reaffirms the historical nature of security, along with the evolution of the needs and threats experienced by the different nations.
6. Human security is considered a fundamental condition for sustainable human development. Looking from a holistic perspective, human security involves not only elements of traditional provision of security by the state, but also absences, deficiencies or sources of anxiety experienced by the citizens which need to be integrated in the modern security strategies worldwide.
7. International organizations such as the United Nations have made a decisive contribution to the conceptualization and entrenchment of the principle of citizen security around the globe. Particularly with respect to the principle that the state must provide protection for the right of citizens to be free from violence or threat of violence or intentional dispossession.

8. Security policy is most of the time circumscribed to the importance the government of the day gives to a certain security approach. As a result of this, seldom a country manages to follow a long-term security policy which is subscribed by broad sectors of the political spectrum.
9. The Covid pandemic has dramatically revealed the inability of most Latin American governments to deploy serious and well-designed universal support strategies for the population. Instead, clientelism, familialism and corruption have often tarnished the governmental performance during the crisis.
10. After more than 50 years of continuous civil war the logic of conflict and violence has deeply penetrated Colombia's social fabric. In the long road to peace Colombians should have to learn to respect, to appreciate and to protect the existence of political diversity and tolerance in society.