

# YouthLEAD

YouthLead (Colombia) is a participatory arts research project and collaboration between Queen's University Belfast, National Centre for Historical Memory, Konrad Lorenz University and Gestores de Paz. which addresses two broad research questions. First, how are young people in Colombia tackling the legacy of violence, and second, how can the arts amplify the voices of young people?

The research project uses PhotoVoice as a participatory and artistic research tool to build dialogue, reflection and action and to amplify the voices of children and young people who seek to contribute to the construction of peace in Colombia.

Using the PhotoVoice methodology children and youth researchers took photographs focused on stories, emotions and characters in the territory of Ciudad Bolívar-Potosi. Several locations within the territory of Ciudad Bolívar Potosi later exhibited the artistic work, along with Fundacion Universidad Konrad Lorenz where the research outputs were open to a national audience.

The research project delivered further participatory arts training on mural painting, which led to subsequent repainting of a community space in Potosi by youth collaborators.

Through PhotoVoice and muralism, children and young researchers took ownership in the production of creative content and modified their immediate physical context, the territory they occupy, discovering through art they could introduce real change within their community. The research outputs can be viewed at the YouthLEAD Interactive Digital PhotoVoice Exhibit where they will remain permanently to document the legacy of the project: [amplivoces.com/la-exhibicion/](http://amplivoces.com/la-exhibicion/)

Stay up to date with the latest project news via [changingthestory.ac.uk/youthlead\\_Colombia](http://changingthestory.ac.uk/youthlead_Colombia) and [@Changing\\_Story\\_](https://twitter.com/Changing_Story)

Credit: Laura Taylor



YouthLEAD is funded by the AHRC GCRF project **Changing the Story**, a participatory action research project that asks how the arts can support youth-centred approaches to civil society building in post-conflict settings across the world.