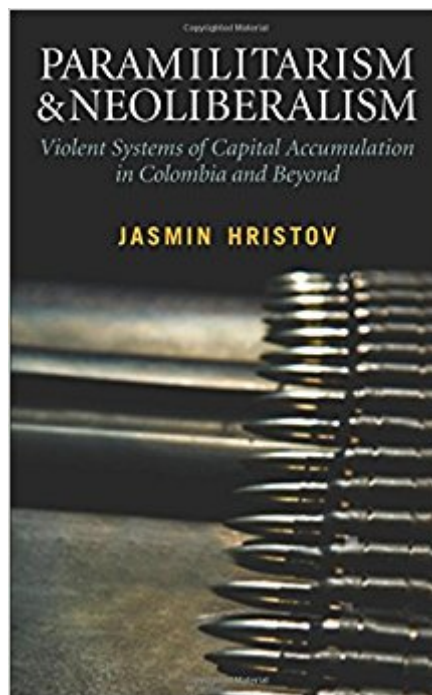




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Paramilitarism And Neoliberalism: Violent Systems Of Capital Accumulation In Colombia And Beyond



Synopsis

The people of Colombia have, for the last fifty years, been subject to a specific form of violence: paramilitarism. An embodiment of the underbelly of global capitalist accumulation, this form of pervasive violence expresses the exacerbation of social inequalities and class formation under capitalism. In *Paramilitarism and Neoliberalism*, Jasmin Hristov theorises this extreme expression in light of forced displacement, labour repression, subjugation of social movements, decentralisation of violence, drug trafficking and the emergence of a variety of para-institutional armed actors across Latin America. The activities of paramilitary groups in the post-demobilisation era, their involvement in human rights violations, and their multi-level support networks inside major state institutions are documented, with a particular emphasis on violent dispossession and illegal land appropriation that has benefited agroindustries and mining enterprises. Hristov engages in a Marxist political economy approach, combined with a global sociological perspective, allowing for an expansive and deep-reaching understanding of paramilitarism as a phenomenon with many faces, ultimately illustrating how it is increasingly becoming the coercive counterpart of global capital.

Book Information

Paperback: 232 pages

Publisher: Pluto Press (January 22, 2017)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0745337007

ISBN-13: 978-0745337005

Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 0.8 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

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Jasmin Hristov is Assistant Professor in Sociology at McMaster University and Sessional Lecturer at University of Toronto and York University. Hristov is author of *Blood and Capital: The Paramilitarisation of Colombia* (2009) and has had her work featured in the *Journal of Peacebuilding and Development*, the *Journal of Peasant Studies*, *Social Justice*, *Latin American Perspectives*, and *Labour, Capital and Society*.

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