“Peace Will Never Come: The (Trans) Nationality of the National Security State”

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In Colombia, on the one hand, and in Israel/Occupied Palestine on the other, two apparently distinct sets of phenomena co-exist in extensive contemporary time: peace talks, national reconciliation, restorative justice, and mediation workshops compose one set; waves of intensive violence, displacement of communities and minority populations, unaccountability for human rights violations, and exacerbated polarization of political and ideological positions compose the other set. This is the scenario for the National Security State (NSS), a global feature that has become the most “developed” in Colombia and Israel, although many of the characteristic traits of the NSS also permeate everyday life in the United States. What are the substantive links between the development of the NSS in Israel and Colombia—i.e. what corporate, technological, and foreign policy relationships have co-created the NSS in the two countries? What are the ideological innovations that resonate in the two? The paradigm of the never-ending peace talks that never produce peace, but instead produce and re-produce the conditions for an evermore powerful NSS in the two countries lies at the center of this paper’s descriptive analysis.