PRESENTING COLOMBIA

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Colombia

JUNE – 2024

At 12 june 2024.





COLOMBIA, A WORLD POWER FOR LIFE

Population: 48,258,494 (estimate based on the 2018 National Population and Housing Census). **DANE.**
Ethnic groups: indigenous, afrocolombian, *raizales*, ROM.
Language: Spanish.
Native languages: 68 (spoken by 850,000 people).
Time zone: GMT -5.
Currency: Colombian peso



Source: DANE, Ministry ol Foreign Affairs





National holiday: July 20, date of the declaration of Independence in 1810
National anthem: see **video.**
Political-administrative divisions Colombia has 1123 municipalities in 32 Departments and 5 Districts. **Click.**
Five natural regions Andean, Caribbean, Pacific, Orinoco and Amazon.
National bird: Andean Condor.
National flower: the orchid Catleya Trianae.
National tree: Wax palm.

Source: DANE / Ministry of Interior/ Ministry of Foreign Affairs

President of the Republic:

Gustavo Petro-Urrego
(2022 – 2026)



COLOMBIA POTENCIA DE LA VIDA

Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores

Minister of Foreign Affairs:

Luis Gilberto Murillo Urrutia



Ministerio de
Relaciones Exteriores

The Government of Change Cabinet

Profiles and potos here:

•President of the Republic
Gustavo Petro-Urrego

•Vice-President
Francia Elena Márquez-Mina

•Minister of Foreign Affairs
•Luis Gilberto Murillo

•Ministry of Interior
Luis Fernando Velasco

•Ministry of Finance
Ricardo Bonilla

•Ministry of Justice and Law
Néstor Iván Osuna

Ministry of Information and Communications Technologies
Mauricio Lizcano

•Ministry of Defense
Iván Velásquez-Gómez

•Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
Jhénifer Mojica Flórez

•Ministry of Health and Social Protection
Guillermo Alfonso Jaramillo

•Ministry of Labor
Gloria Inés Ramírez

•Ministry of Mines and Energy
Omar Andrés Camacho

•Ministry of Trade, Industry and Tourism
Luis Carlos Reyes

•Ministry of Education
Aurora Vergara-Figueroa

•Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development
Susana Muhamad

•Ministry of Housing, City and Territory
Catalina Velasco-Campuzano

•Ministry of Transport
William Camargo Triana

•Ministry of Culture
Juan David Correa Ulloa

•Ministry of Sport
Luz Cristina López Trejos

•Ministry of Science Technology and Innovation
Yesenia Olaya Requene

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN– 2022- 2023



On May 19, 2023 President Gustavo Petro signed the National Development Plan 2022-2026 (PND), 'Colombia, a World Power for Life' into law (Law 2294). It is the most important definition of the Government's goals and of the instruments needed to make Colombia a world power for life.

In this context, the Foreign Ministry applauds the approval of the Plan, which proposes a new strategy for the global and regional positioning of Colombia as a world power for life.

Video #ElPlanDeLaGente – ABC – Documento


COLOMBIA CO
THE COUNTRY OF BEAUTY









On September 8, 2023 the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Tourism, ProColombia and Fontur, launched a new worldwide projection of its Country Brand, **'Colombia, country of beauty'**, which highlights the natural and cultural attractions that make this country a unique destination for business and tourism.

The Government of President Gustavo Petro has said particular attention to this new narrative which aims "to achieve greater international projection, attract more sustainable foreign direct investment, capture more international travelers and increase the exports of our global products and services.. We also want to promote local tourists to explore and enjoy their own territory".

Colombia, country of beauty signals a promising future for the social and economic development of this country: ProColombia. **VIDEO** English - Spanish. More Information here. Presldent Petro speaks here.

Source: Ministry of Trade, Industry and Tourism, ProColombia and Country Brand

















Fuente: Ministerio de Comercio, Industria y Turismo, ProColombia y Marca País.


COLOMBIA
POTENCIA DE LA
VIDA
Ministerio de
Relaciones Exteriores
THE ECONOMY

INDICATORS

0.7%

FIRST QUARTER
2024

GDP

Gross Domestic Product

In the fourth quarter of 2023pr, Gross Domestic Product (original series) grew 0.3%Tcompared to the same period of 2022.
click here.

7.6%

MAY
2024

CPI

Consumer Price Index*

In May 2024 the monthly variation in the CPI was 0,.3%, in the year to date, 3.78% and year-on-year 7.16%. click here.

10.6%

APRIL
2024

UNEMPLOYMENT

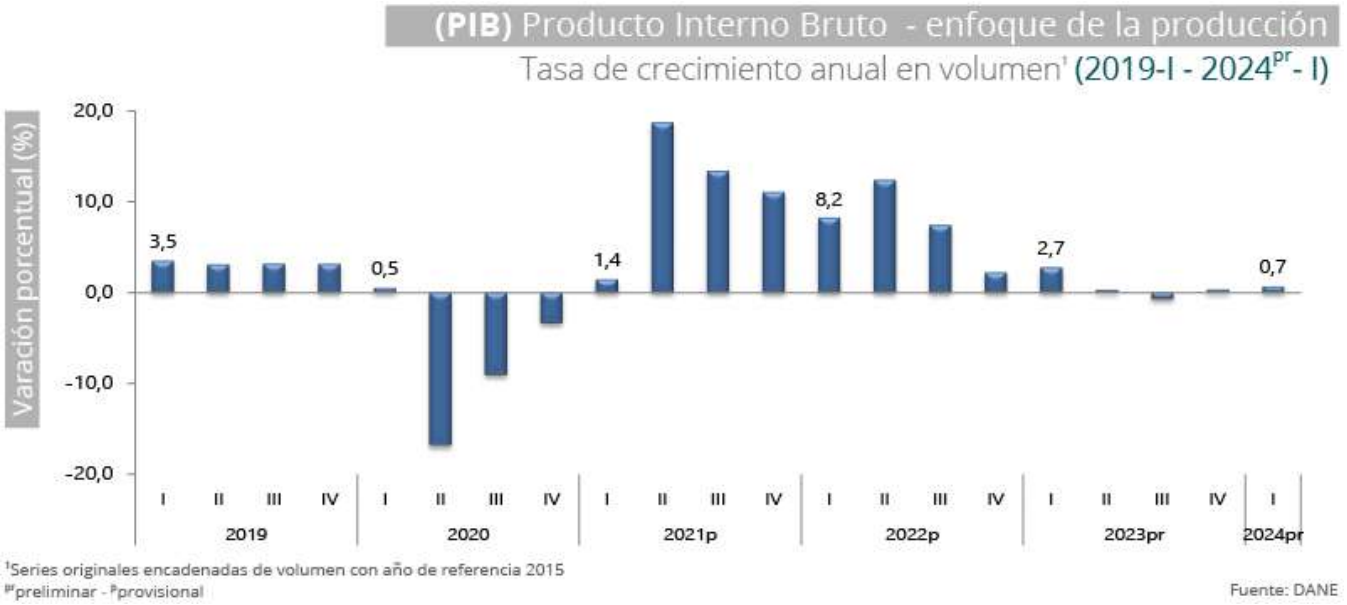
click here.

**A measurement of the change (variation) in the price of a representative basket of household goods and services in Colombia.*

Source: DANE

GDP – Gross Domestic Product

In the first quarter of 2024pr, Gross Domestic Product (original series) grew 0.7% compared to the same period of 2023



¹Series originales encadenadas de volumen con año de referencia 2015
prpreliminar - pprovisional

Fuente: DANE

Source: DANE

- Compared to the pervious quarter, Gross Domestic Product grew 1.1% (seasonally and calendar-adjusted series). Observation of the record of related economic activities:
- The economic activities that contributed most to added value are::

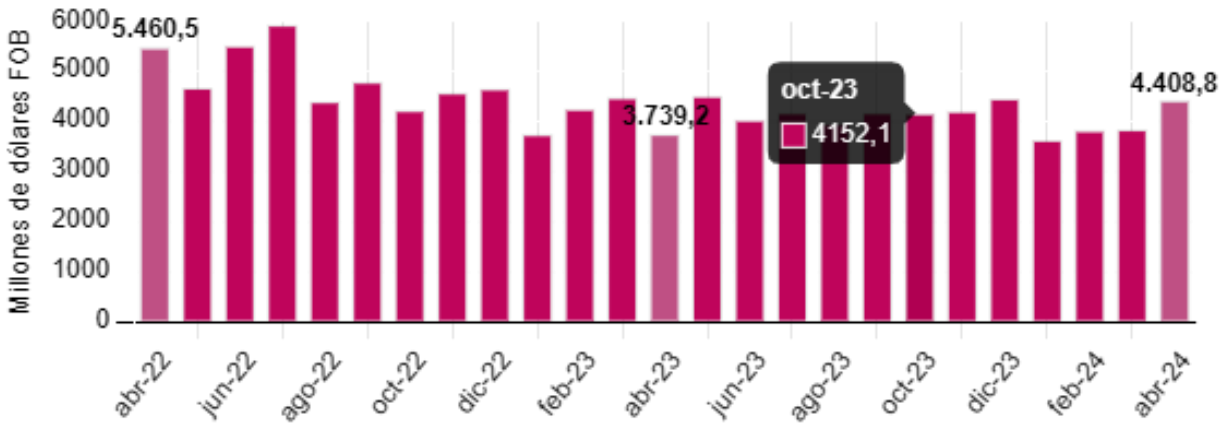
-Public administration and defense; mandatory social security plans; education; activities in attention to human healthy and social services grew 5.3% (contributing 0.7 percentage points to the annual variation).

-Agriculture, livestock breeding, hunting, silviculture and fishing grew 5.5% (contributing 0.5 percentage points to the annual variation),.

-Supplies of electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning: water distribution; evacuation and treatment of wastewater, waste management and environmental activities grew 4.5% (contributing 0.2 percentage points to the annual variation).

EXPORTS

In April 2024 Colombia's exports totaled US$4,408.8 million FOB, an increase of 17.9% compared to April 2023

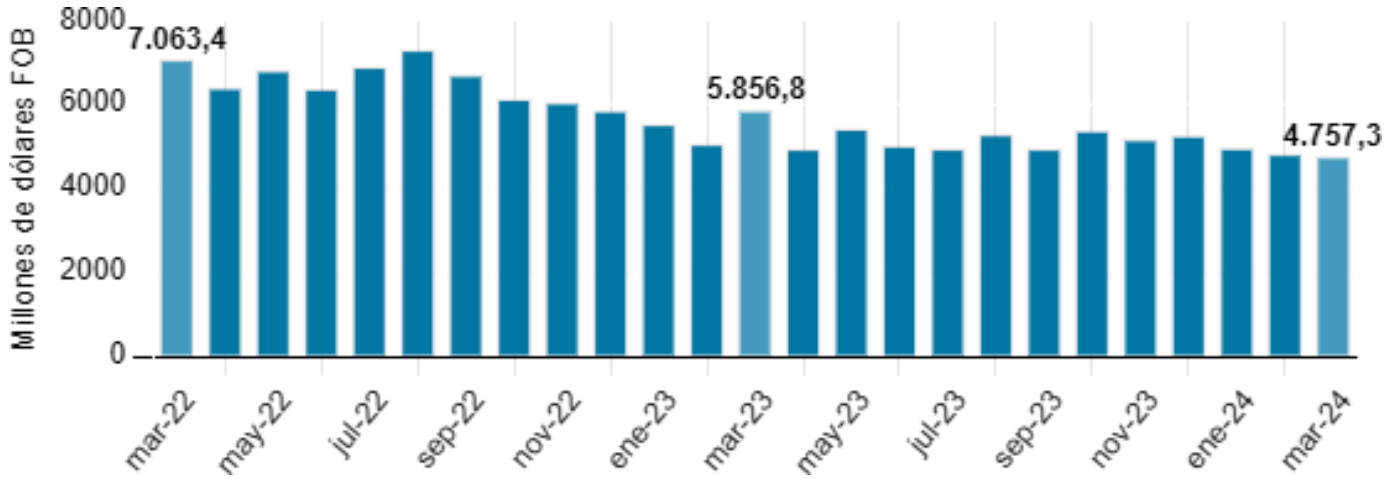


Source: DANE - DIAN

- In April 2024 exports totaled US$4,408.8 million FOB , representing growth of 17.9% compared to April 2023. This result was mainly due to an increase of 12.3% on the export of fuels and extractive industry products.
- Iin April 2024 fuels and extractive industry products accounted for 48.5% of all FOB exports; agro-products, foods and beverages 21.5%, manufactures 21.4%, and other sectors 8.6%.
- In April 2024 there were exports of 15.0 million barrels of crude oil, 2.4% less than April 2023.

IMPORTS

In March 2024 imports totaled US$4,757.3 million CIF, a drop of 18.8% compared to March 2023

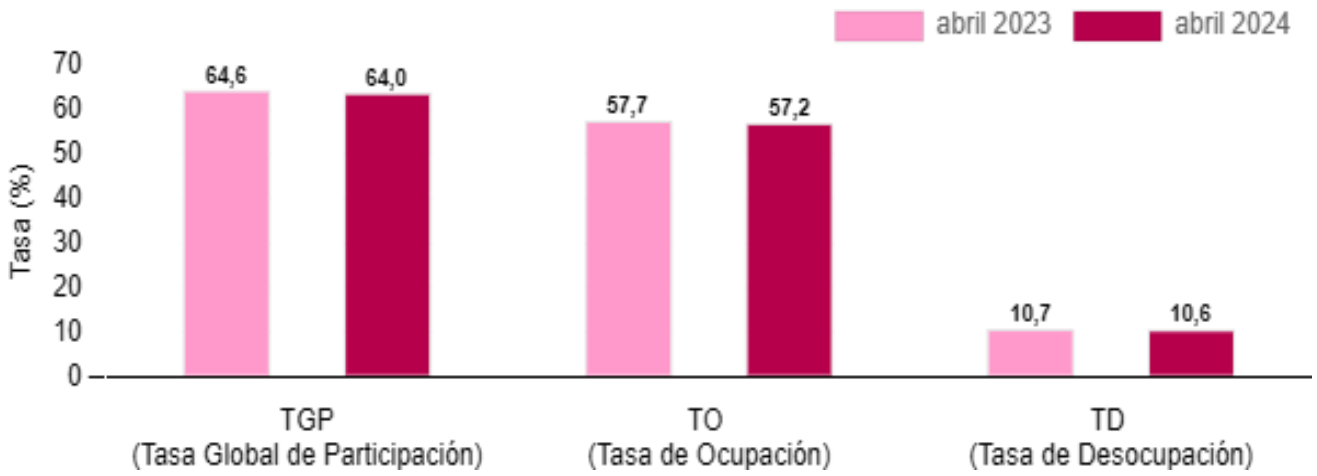


Source: DANE - DIAN

- DIAN reports import declarations for March 2024 for a total of US$4,757.3 million CIF, representing a drop of 18.8% compared to March 2023. This result is due mainly to a fall of 22.1% in the group of manufactures.
- In March 2024 manufactures accounted for 71.1% of the CIF value of imports, followed by agro-products, foods and beverages with 16.5%, fuels and extractive industry products with 12,4% and other sectors 0.1%.

UNEMPLOYMENT

In April 2024 total unemployment was 10.6%



Source: DANE - DIAN

- For April 2024 unemployment nationwide was 10.6%, compared to 10.7% in April 2023. Global participation was 64.0% and the occupation rate was 57.2%. For April 2023 these last two rates were 64.6% and 57.7%,.
- In April 2024 total unemployment in 13 major cities and metropolitan areas was 10.3%, compared to 11.1% on April 2023.. Global participation was 66.6% and the occupation rate was 59.7%. This two rates compare with 65.9% and 58.6%, for April 2023.

Especially:



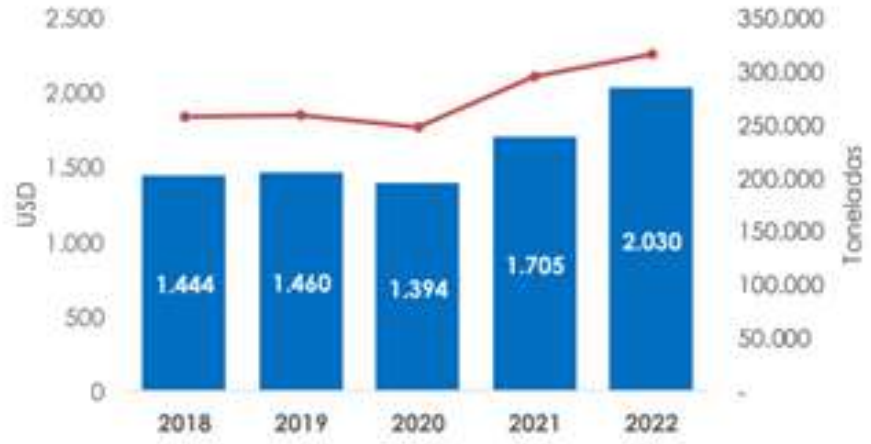
FLOWERS

- Colombia is one of the world´s most diverse countries for flowers, exporting 1,600 varieties.
- **Colombia is the world´s second largest exporter of flowers,** and leads the rest in carnations; it is the most important supplier of the United States.
- Almost 40% of Colombia´s flower exports carry the Florverde®. Certification, which means that they meet international standards such as Global G.A.P and Rainforest Alliance amongst others.
- **The sector is one of the most important elements in Colombia´s economy:** flowers are the second most important agro product. Colombian flowers now reach some 80 markets across the five continents.

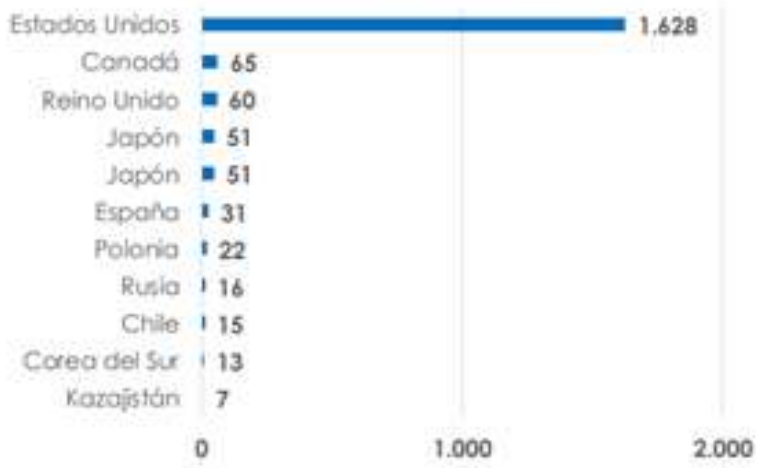
Source: ProColombia, Asocolflores Ministry of Agriculture

IN 2022, COLOMBIAN EXPORTS OF FLOWERS WERE 2.03 BILLION USD, A 19.1% INCREASE COMPARED TO THE PREVIOUS YEAR

Colombian exports of fresh flowers (millions of USD and tons) 2018 - 2022



Main destinations of fresh Colombian flowers 2022 (millions of USD)



- **The United States** concentrates 80.2% of exports of fresh Colombian flowers
- Colombian exports of fresh flowers represent a compound annual growth of 8.9% in the 2018 – 2022 period

Fuente: DANE

EJECUTADO POR PROCOLOMBIA COLOMBIA

Source: DANE, ProColombia, Marca País.

FRESH FLOWERS AND CUT BUDS WERE THE MOST EXPORTED FLOWERS GLOBALLY IN 2021

Main products exported in 2021



Fresh flowers and cut buds:

4.6 billion USD (45.6% participation)

Top 3 exporters: Netherlands (59.5%), Colombia

Ecuador (4.6%)



Fresh roses:

3.6 billion USD (35.2% participation)

Top 3 exporters: Netherlands (42.9%), Ecuador

(15.3%)



Fresh chrysanthemums:

946 million USD (9.2% participation)

Top 3 exporters: Netherlands (58.6%), Colombia (17.3%) and Malaysia (8.4%)



Fresh carnations:

577 million USD (5.6% participation)

Top 3 exporters: Colombia (44.3), Netherlands (28.8%), and Turkey



Fresh lilies:

255 million USD (2.5% participation)

Top 3 exporters: Netherlands (76.5%), Costa Rica (8.3%) and

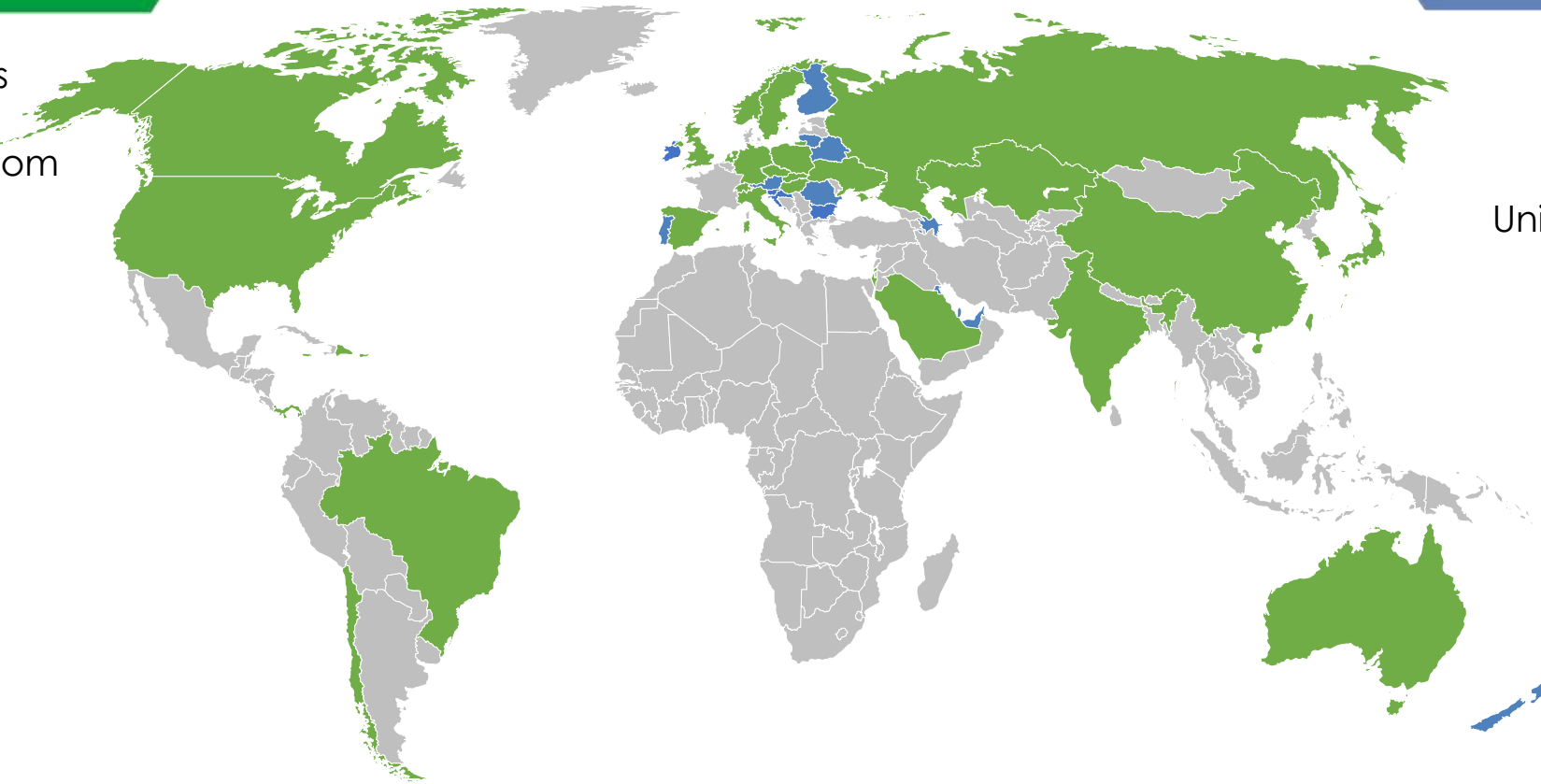
Source: TradeMap. Executed by ProColombia and Marca País.

ProColombia has identified opportunities for exports for the flowers sector to over 50 markets

Colombia´s opportunities for exports

Consolidated opportunities

United STates
Japan
United Kingdom
Germany
Canada
Netherlands
Russia
Spain
Chile
Poland
Panama
Australia
South Korea
Puerto Rico
Brazil
China



Potential opportunities

Switzerland
Lithuania
Kuwait
United Arab Emirates
Kazakhstan
Belarus
Finland
Singapore
Rumania
Portugal
Qatar
Austria
Bahrain
New Zealand

Source: Model of potentials,. ProColombia.



COFFEE

- **Colombia is the world´s top producer of mild and special coffees,** distinguished by origin, planting techniques and premium quality.
- Colombia has two separate harvest seasons, one in each half of the year: this means that there are **reliable supplies** of **good quality**.
- The national variety is Arábica, which is exceptional for a number of reasons: higher acidity and mildness, better quality for infusion, intense aroma and lower concentration of caffeine, which makes it a healthier option.
- Colombian coffee comes from regions with a wide range of climate and geography, providing a wide range of special attributes to the product.
- Colombia is committed to **environmental sustainability and community welfare** linked to coffee production which includes **special certified organic coffees (**UTZ, Fair Trade and Rain Forest).

Source: ProColombia, Asocolflores and Ministry of Agriculture

COFFEE IN COLOMBIA HAS UNIQUE ORIGINS WITH A WIDE RANGE OF PROFILES FOR THE INDIVIDUAL CONSUMER

Antioquia

Aroma: fruity
Acidity: medium
Body: medium
balanced
Other characteristics: Mild with soft notes and a slightly fruity and herbal aroma.

Cauca

Aroma: pronounced
Acidity: medium/high
Body: medium
mild
Other characteristics: Silky and sweet with fruity notes and strong sugary aromas.



Santander

Aroma: pronounced
Acidity: medium
Body: medium
Balanced
Other characteristics: Balanced with herbal notes



Huila

Aroma: very strong
Acidity: medium/high
Body: medium
balanced
Other characteristics: mild
balanced

Source: Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and ProColombia – 2022.


COLOMBIA
POTENCIA DE LA
VIDA
Ministerio de
Relaciones Exteriores
FOREIGN POLICY
For Colombia, it's diplomacy of life, peace and democracy!

“In the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, we will work on a foreign policy that promotes peace. life and human dignity and which deepens democracy in a context of social justice.. We are fashioning a diplomacy of the peoples, civil society, o the citizenry, women and gender equity; and diplomacy that fundamentally involves (..)territorial and subnational government (..) and communities. This Will form a foreign policy that genuinely projects the different cultures and identities of this country.”

Luis Gilberto Murillo,
Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs
Exteriores of de Colombia. 21 May 2024.



In the Vatican City President Gustavo Petro held a meeting with His Holiness Pope Francis





On 19 January, 2024- President Gustavo Petro had a meeting in the Vatican with His Holiness Pope Francis. **Peace-building** in Colombia, the possibility that the Vatican State might be the host to negotiations with the Ejército de Liberación Nacional (ELN) and an Alliance with the Vatican State to secure more support for the non-proliferation treaty on fossil fuels for the protection of the environment, were the key topics discussed during the private audience with Pope Francis.

“We have spoken of the Peace of Colombia, as we had said, seeking a much more active position both of the Vatican State and or the Catholic Church in Colombia´s Peace Process. It is possible that we may hold a round of talks in the Vatican, we will now speak to the ELN so that we can construct a much deeper step forward in the laying down of arms”, said the President after the meeting. **Video.**





United Nations

-On September 19, 2023 President Gustavo Petro addressed the **78th General Assembly of the United Nations** in New York. He spoke of international problems and the crisis of the planet. In an overpowering and straight-talking speech, he proposed that the world should defend life, move forward in the plan for revitalization of the planet and put an end to war..

-"Saving Life demands a time of Change, and is urgent. Change and Life are synonymous today", he stated. He also declared that “A decarbonized economy will doubtless be a fairer and more human economy”” and further he proposed “to reform the world financial system “ in order to mitigate the climate crisis

-The Head of State also reiterated the need for a fresh focus on drugs policy. “Fentanyl, which is now killing not 4,000 but 100,000 young people a year, is the great result of the ban on drugs”. **Address**/ **key phrases**/ **Video.**

BILATERAL AFFAIRS

Highlights:





A new approach to drugs policy, Total Peace, climate change and energy transition: key topics of a meeting between the Presidents of the U.S.A. and Colombia

On April 20, 2023 President Gustavo Petro held a productive meeting with his U.C. counterpart Joe Biden at the White House in Washington, to develop strategic issues to enhance bilateral relations..

Accompanied by **Foreign Minister, Álvaro Leyva, and the Government delegation,** President Petro explained his policy for peace linked to the new approach to drugs policy, security policy, efforts to secure the energy transition and the struggle against climate change.

President Biden supported the transition towards a carbon-freed economy and debt-for-climate-action swaps proposed by President Petro.

During this meeting the Presidents “undertook to work jointly in the approach to the challenges facing our countries and the region... United States and Colombia are looking to adapt their strategies to reflect this important new moment in our shared history.", See the joint declaration / Video /White House.

Colombia and the United States held the XI High Level Dialog (HLD) in which they discussed strategic aspects of bilateral relations







- In Bogotá on 29 May the XI High Level Dialog ended with a joint declaration of Colombia and the United States. The meeting enabled 65 commitments to be set in 8 months' work with 149 actions, and created the 'Vida Colombia' ('Life Colombia') strategy, as a new framework for joint cooperation to match the global challenges of the 21st century. Video. Video 2.

-The event was chaired by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Luis Gilberto Murillo, and the Assistant Secretary of State for Management and Resources, Richard Verma. Colombia and the United States have maintained relations for more than two centuries, and the United States is one of Colombia´s principal strategic allies in cooperation, investment, trade and tourism, amongst other areas.

Meeting with the European Union High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security ¨Policy

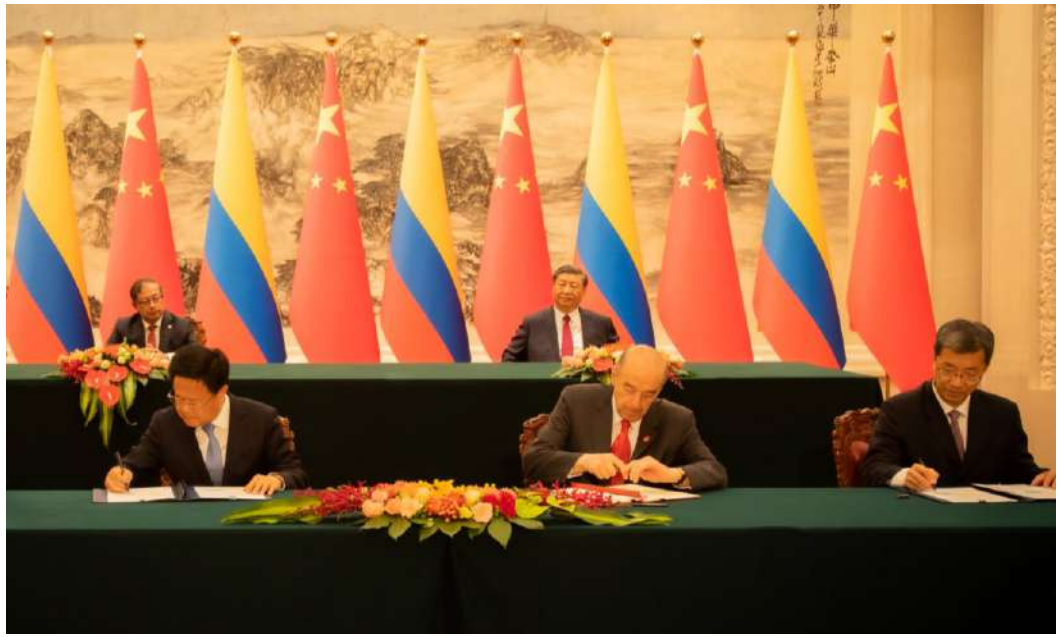


During the Munich Security Conference President Gustavo Petro,, accompanied by Acting Foreign Minister Luis Gilberto Murillo, held a meeting with the EU **High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy,** Joseph Borrell.

Climate change, Colombia's leadership in CELAC-EU, the interest and support for the peace agenda in Colombia were some of the topics addressed during the meeting.

President Gustavo Petro, accompanied by Minister Álvaro Leyva, visited China to diversify and enhance international relations between the two countries





-On 25 October, 2023 President Petro, accompanied by Minister Leyva, held a meeting with the **President of the People´s Republic of China, Xi Jinping,** in which 12 agreements were signed on economic matters, investment, trade, technology, environment, science, education and culture, in which Colombia and China are moving forward in the construction of a solid relationship in trade and cooperation. List of instruments of cooperation **here.**

-After the meeting the leaders issued a **Joint Declaration,** in which they raised bilateral relations to the level of a Strategic Alliance, a historic moment for both countries, reflecting over 40 years of diplomatic relations based on reciprocal respect and mutual benefit..

MULTILATERAL SCENARIOS

Highlights:

“In a world that speaks of war, Colombia speaks of peace””: President Gustavo Petro at the Munich Security Conference





On 16 February President Gustavo Petro attended the **60th Munich Security Conference (*MSC*)** to reaffirm Colombia’s leadership in the promotion of policies that address historical inequities and the crises that threaten human existence; and the importance of the protection of the environment, peace and dialogue, food security and the protection of life. Video.

In Vienna, 61 countries led by Colombia stressed the need for a new global approach to the world situation of drugs

Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores





During the 67th Period of Sessions of the United Nations Commission on Drugs, Colombia achieved a major international triumph in winning the recognition of harm reduction as a valid policy in the struggle against drugs, and human rights as part of any anti-drug strategy, said President **Gustavo Petro**, on 23 March 2024..

For his part, on 14 March Acting Foreign Minister Luis Gilberto Murillo gave an address and, in the name of Colombia, led a declaration by 61 countries to highlight the need for a new global approach to the world drug situation, the imports of a focus on harm reduction based on justice and human rights, and a critical re-assessment of the worldwide system of drugs control. **Video**.



Colombia welcomes the Inter-American Commission for Human Rights on its eighth *In Loco* visit

On 15 April, Acting Foreign Minister Luis Gilberto Murillo, on behalf of Colombia, welcomed the commissioners, the Executive Secretariat and the Rapporteurs of the **Inter-American Human Rights Commission** (IACHR) for their *in loco* visit.

Acting Minister Murillo reiterated the interest of the Government of President Gustavo Petro in improving the human rights situation of this country; and stated that Colombia maintains a United Nations policy of openness to special procedures.



Signature of an Agreement between the Government of Colombia and the Office of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court

On 26 April, President Gustavo Petro, accompanied by Acting Minister Luis Gilberto Murillo, met in the Presidential Palace with the Prosecutor of the **International Criminal Court (ICC),** Karim Khan, for the signature of the Agreement between the Government of Colombia and the Office of the ICC Prosecutor, which seeks to engage in joint work to enhance cooperation, dialogue and the creation capacity between the judicial system and the organs of control in Colombia.

The Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs took part in the high-level segment of the United Nations Human Rights Council



-On 26 February the Acting Foreign Minister, Luis Gilberto Murillo, attended the high-level segment of the **55th Period of Sessions of the United Nations Human Rights Councill**. Video.

In his address he reiterated Colombia's wish to become a member of the Human Rights Council for the period 2025-2027 and proposed a third World Conference on Human Rights to lend continuity to the events held in Teheran (1968) and Vienna (1993).

He also drew attention to the Progressist Foreign Policy of the Colombian Government and the role played by the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Human Rights Council in the progress achieved by Colombia..

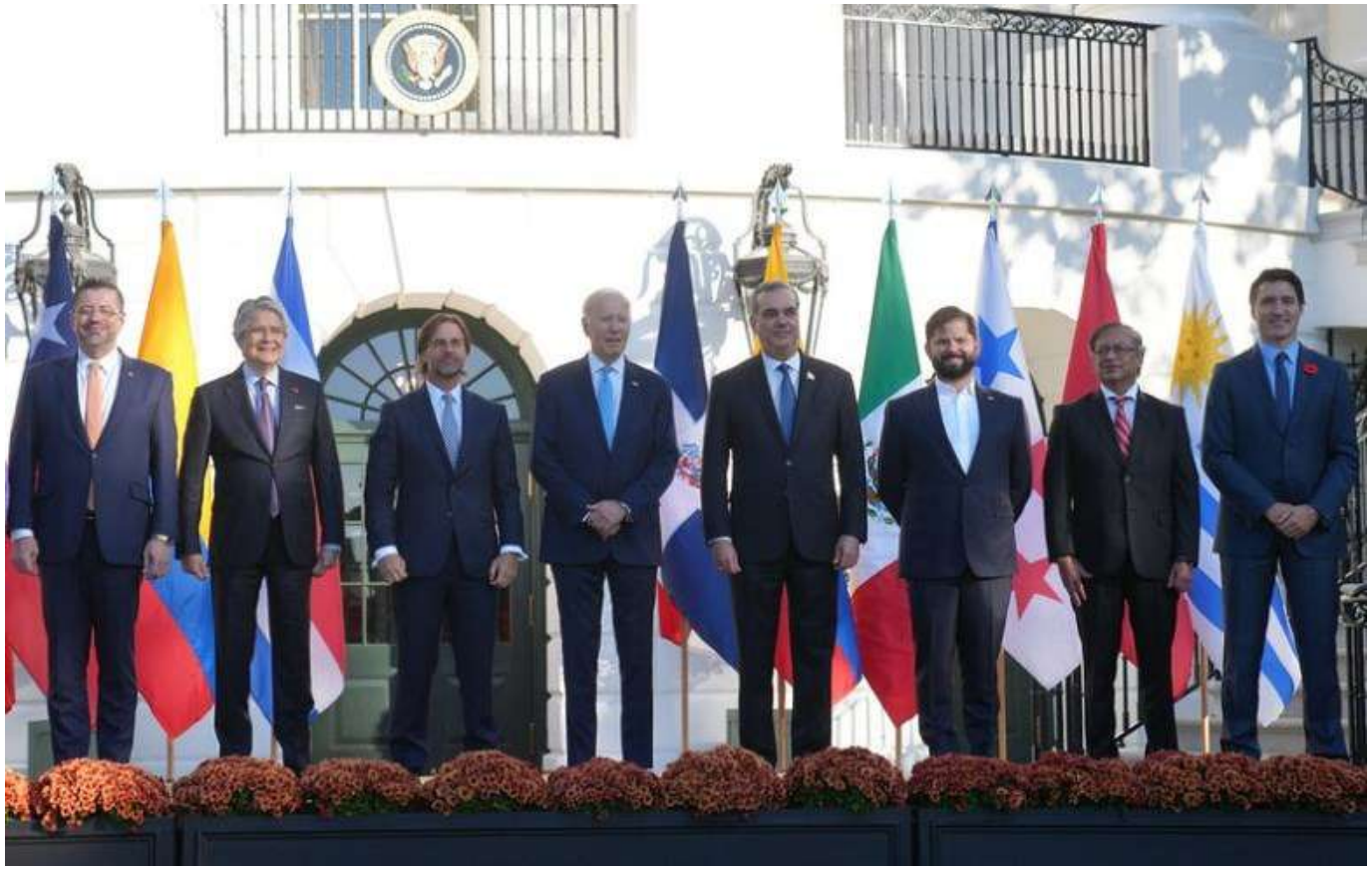
President Petro, accompanied by Minister Leyva, took part in the APEC Summit in the U.S.



On 16 November 2023 the Summit of the **Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation Forum** (APEC) was held in San Francisco, attended by 21 leaders from Member States, delegates and invited countries

- In his **address**, President Gustavo Petro, accompanied by Minister Álvaro Leyva, assured that “to decarbonize, the first things we have to do is end war” ". He also reiterated the importance of energy transition, debt-for-climate-action swaps and peace.

Summit of the Americas Partnership for Economic Prosperity (APEP)



November, 2023. President Petro, accompanied by Foreign Minister Leyva, took part in the **APEP Summit**, called by US President Joe Biden to discuss global challenges and enhance trade and political relations with the U.S. and the hemisphere. After the meeting Colombia´s Head of State said that during the APEP Summit he had been in dialogues on peace in the Middle East, migration and climate change; and further, he emphasized that South America has a great potential to generate clean energies and to continue to move forward towards energy transition

President Biden announced that the cooperation agenda with APEP includes work with the multilateral financial institutions “to channel thousands of millions of dollars into sustainable infrastructure construction in the hemisphere ".

At a regional meeting on Migration, the Acting Foreign Minister reaffirmed the importance of human mobility from the standpoint of the Human Rights of the migrant population





In Guatemala, on 7 May Acting Minister Luis Gilberto Murillo took part in the Ministerial Meeting of the **Los Angeles Declaration on Migration and Protection**, to reaffirm the importance of human mobility in the region from the standpoint of Human Rights, and the provision of attention to the fundamental needs of the migrant population.

“Our purpose at this meeting is to enhance the collective position for the mitigation of the structural causes of migration (...)”, the experience of Colombia shows that it is possible to take migrants in and offer them options of a life with dignity, said the Acting Minister. **Video.**

Minister Álvaro Leyva attended the 42nd General Conference of UNESCO



November, 2023. Minister Álvaro Leyva, took part in the **42nd General Conference of the** United Nations Organization for Education, Science and Culture **(UNESCO).**

-During his address he said that UNESCO is the scenario whose highest principle has been the achievement of peace through education, science, culture and communication; and he asserted that the international situation today demands a unanimous and firm call for Peace. **Address**

LatIn American and Caribbean Conference on drugs “for Life. Peace and Development



September 9, 2023. At the closing session of the Latin American Conference on Drugs President Petro proposed “a different and unified voice to defend our societies, out future and our history and to stop repeating a failed discourse that has now broken down”. **Video.**

The meeting was attended by delegations from 19 countries and ended with the 17-point **“Final Document of Santiago de Cali”** The event was closed by the Presidents of Colombia and Mexico, Gustavo Petro and Manuel López-Obrador, accompanied by Colombia´s Foreign Minister Alvaro Leyva and Mexico´s Foreign Secretary, Alicia Bárcenas.

At the closing session Foreign Minister Leyva said that the adoption of the “Final Document of Santiago de Cali” would means that the countries of the region could move forward together in building a single voice for Latin America and the Caribbean to speak to the world. **Video.** **The National Drugs Policy** of the Government of Change “Sowing Life we will banish drug-traffcking (2023-2033)”.

We should work untiringly on the continued protection of human rights: Government of Colombia at the installation of the sessions of the IACHR.





On 9 October 2023 President Gustavo Petro and Minister Álvaro Leyva welcomes the Justices of the **Inter-American Court of Human Rights (IACHR),** which began its 162nd Period of Ordinary Sessions in Bogotá.

Speaking at this encounter, the Head of State reiterated the commitment to comply with all the judgments handed down against Colombia by IACHR**.** Video.

At the installation of the 162nd Period of Sessions of IACHR**,** an act presided over by Minister Álvaro Leyva and the Court President, Ricardo C. Pérez Manrique, Colombia´s chief diplomat gave the assurance that "We must work untiringly on the continued protection of human rights". He also highlighted the role of the Court as the backbone of the quest for justice and as the safeguard of fundamental rights in the region. Video. Text.

In Belgium, Minister Alvaro Leyva urged the international community to act on the principle of shared responsibility in the face of the challenges of migration



On 17 March 2023, during the **Conference on Solidarity with Venezuelan Refugees and their Host Countries and Communities in Belgium**. Foreign Minister Álvaro Leyva urged the international community to act on the principle of shared responsibility and provide the support needed to face the challenges of mixed migration flows.

The Minister also reported that Colombia has recorded 2,508,242 Venezuelan migrants who intend to stay in Colombia, and that progress is being made to regularize their status through the Temporary Protection Statute..

-Video of the address:
https://bit.ly/3JBbFRCm

Summit for a New Global Financing Pact

On June 22 2023 with an agenda that included mechanisms for the protection of the Amazon jungle and the development of clean energy, and Colombia´s proposal for the exchange of foreign debt for climate action, President Gustavo Petro, accompanied by Foreign Minister Alvaro Leyva took part in the **Summit for a New Global Financing Pact,** called by France's President Emmanuel Macron.

-The purpose of the Summit was to lay the foundations of a new international financing pact which would provide help for the countries most vulnerable to the climate crisis.

-Colombia's President, attending the Summit in Paris, proposed a reform to the multilateral banks which would allow a worldwide Marshall Plan to be activated for setting aside funds for countries to face the global climate crisis. Video.



COLOMBIA AND THE REGION – THE AMERICAS - MULTILATERAL SCENARIOS

Highlights:

Colombia attends the VIII Summit of CELAC Heads of State





-On 1-2 March President Gustavo Petro, accompanied by the Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs, Luis Gilberto Murillo, took part in the VIII Summit of Heads of State of the Community of States on Latin America and the Caribbean (CELAC), in St Vincent and the Grenadines, to encourage and promote change in Latin America and the Caribbean . **Address**

In Suriname, Colombia assumed the Pro-Tempore Presidency of the Association of Caribbean States – ACS



On 9, May **Colombia assumed the Pro-Tempore Presidency for one year of the ACS,** which brings together 25 Member States and 7 Associates and works for the enhancement of regional integration and cooperation. “We recognize the importance of exercising the presidency of this Council, and we have a firm commitment to enhance its work and foster the revitalization of the organization (...)”, said Acting Minister Luis Gilberto Murillo, during the 29th Ministerial Meeting of the ACS.

President Gustavo Petro and Foreign Minister Alvaro Leyva took part in the XXVIII Ibero-American Summit



On 25 March 2023 President Gustavo Petro and Foreign Minister Álvaro Leyva spoke at the sesión for Heads of State and Government of the **XXVIII Ibero-America Summit** in Dominican Republic.

Colombia´s President proposed a grand agreement to exploit green hydrogen, and reiterated the importance of strengthening investment in clean energy, the American Convention and the union of Ibero-American countries to create a food bank.

Minister Leyva also spoke for Colombia to give priority to issues such as food security, the protection of the Amazon jungle, the climate crisis, sustainable development, migration and peace. **Declaration of Santo Domingo: https://bit.ly/42GC6hv**

53ª Asamblea General de la Organización de los Estados Americanos (OEA)





The Vice-Minister for Multilateral Affairs, Elizabeth Taylor, was Colombia´s Head of Delegation for **53 General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS),** held in Washington DC on June 21-25, 2023, with the theme "Strengthening a culture of democratic responsibility with promotion, protection and equality of human rights in the Americas"...

During the preparatory talks and at the inauguration of the Assembly Colombia´s Vice-Minister reiterated the importance of multilateralism in the commitments to the protection of the environment and the quest for peace. The Vice-Minister also spoke on other topics: the evolution of instruments such as the Charter of the OAS, the Pact of San José and the Inter-American Democratic Charter; and the need to protect the rights of boys, girls and the young. **Joint communiqué.**

Colombia is elected to be president of chair CELAC in 2025

The 32 countries in the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States – CELAC – unanimously decided to designate Colombia as Pro Tempore President for 3035 at its Meeting of CELAC Foreign Ministers on July 7.

This reaffirms Colombia´s interest in strengthening and promoting the integration of Latin America and the Caribbean; and it is a recognition of the leadership of President Gustavo Petro and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in regional integration of Latin America and the Caribbean



Foto: CELAC.

For South American integration, Colombia re-enters UNASUR

On 6 December, attending to the call from President Gustavo Petro to strengthen regional integration, Colombia official returned to the Union of South American Nations (UNASUR), after an absence of five years; this shows Colombia´s will to work hand in hand with the other Member States in their approach to shared challenges and opportunities in the region.

With progress, Colombia hands over the presidency of the Mesoamerica Project

On 4 December 2023 Colombia formally handed over the *pro tempore* Presidency of the Mesoamerica Project and the report on its various initiatives to strengthen cooperation, regional integration and the promotion of sustainable development



Colombia at the LXII Meeting of Mercosur





On July 4 the Vice-Minister for Multilateral Affairs, Elizabeth Taylor, represented Colombia at the **LXII Summit of Heads of States Party of Mercosur and Associated States in Argentina**. During the Summit the Vice-Minister said that "the region must project itself as a reference point for multidimensional progress" and stressed the importance of regional integration as a tool to enhance common interests and face world challenges.

She also drew attention to the role played by Colombia to position a policy for the exchange of public debt for climate action on the world agenda, and to its commitment to seek and construct Total Peace beyond frontiers.

XXII Council of Andean Presidents - August 2022



President Gustavo Petro, accompanied by Foreign Minister Álvaro Leyva, made a working visit to Lima, Peru during which he took part in the **XXII Council of Andean Presidents,** on 29 August.

During his address to the Council President Petro explained six proposals for the welfare of peoples::

1. A call for a scenario of peace between Ukraine and Russia.
2. An invitation to a conference of Andean nations to evaluate drugs policy.
3. The Andean Community should take climate change as a consideration cutting across all issues.
4. The more united the voice of Latin America, the more powerful it will be. Chile, Argentina and Venezuela should be included. The Andean Community should be expanded under the American Convention on Human Rights.
5. We must work in the Andean Community for a clean energy network for the entire region.
6. Free the economy of carbon through treaties to protect the Amazon jungle and expand the university community as steps to industrialize the Andean countries.. Vídeo pf speech of President Gustavo Petro: https://bit.ly/3dUTPwM

Colombia in Africa

The visit of Vice-President Francia Márquez to Africa in May 2023, **organized by their Ministry of Foreign Affairs**, is part of one of the central lines of Colombia´s foreign policy: The Africa 2022-2026 Strategy, which seeks to generate new opportunities for Colombian in the world's third largest continent.

The achievements of this high-level visit by Vice-President Francia Márquez, accompanied by Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, Francisco Coy; in South Africa, Kenya and Ethiopía. **Click here.**

During the visit, 17 cooperation agreements were signed: 8 in South Africa, 7 in Kenya and 2 in Ethiopia. Meetings were held with counterparts in each country; and there was a meeting with South Africa's President Cyril Ramaphosa; Kenya's President, William Samoei Ruto; Ethiopia's President, Sahle-Work Zewde; the Prime Minister of Ethiopia, Abiy Ahmed, and Representatives of the African Union and the Directors of UNHabitat, UNEP and the United Nations in Nairobi, amongst others.













Colombia is moving forward effectively in its Africa 2022-2026 Strategy, with some concrete achievements. with the High-Level Visit to Kenya and Ghana, by Vice-President Francia Márquez, who traveled by delegation of President of Gustavo Petro

-During the visit, this senior official took art in the African Summit on Climate in Nairobi, to which she took a proposal for debt-for-climate-action swaps, and made a call for concrete action to combat the climate crisis. Importantly, Colombia was the only Latin American country present at that international meeting.

-Vice President Francia Márquez also received an announcement from her Ghanaian counterpart, Alhaji Dr. Mahamudu Bawumia, who Will be taking steps to set up a diplomatic mission in Colombia . In particular also, there Will be a visit of ther Vice-President of Kenya Rigathi Gachagua; and it was agreed that arrangements would be pursued for a State Visit by the President of Ghana to Colombia in 2024; a Memorandum of Understanding to promote academic mobility, bilingualism and education for peace and gender was signed, amongst other things. More information **here.**



New Colombian Embassy in Senegal enhances the Africa Strategy 2022-2026 of the Government of Change

On 2 May Acting Foreign Minister Luis Gilberto Murillo, took the oath of office of the Afro-Colombian academic, researcher and teacher, Claudia Mosquera-Rosero, as **Ambassadress of Colombia to Senegal:** this was an historic milestone in the bilateral **relations between the two countries.**

“For me, and speaking on behalf of President Petro and Vice-President Francia Márquez, it is a real honor to be here for this milestone in the relations between Colombia and Senegal, because swearing-in of Ambassadress Mosquera marks the beginning of a new stage in an unprecedented relationship in what she has called the Africa Strategy 2022-2026”, said Acting Minister Murillo.

A call by Colombia to lead actions for the global south and international peace, at the Summit of the Non-Aligned Movement and Summit of the South of G77+China

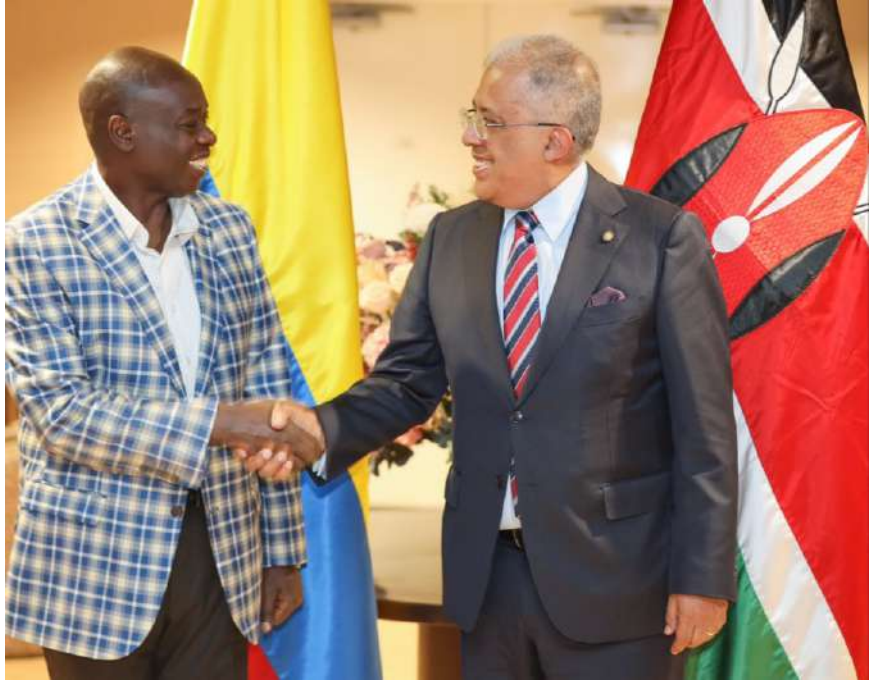




The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Álvaro Leyva, paid a visit to **Kampala, Uganda, where he represented Colombia at the XIX Summit of Heads of State of the Non-Aligned Movement and the III Summit of the South of G77+´China**.
On January 20 at the Summit of the Non-Aligned Movement. Minister Leyva made a call “to defend the life, dialogue between the parties and quest for solutions“. Colombia repeated its call for a ceasefire in the Middle East and rejected the unilateral coercion in measures imposed on Cuba..

Further, on January 22 Colombia’s chief diplomat addressed the G77´+ China Summit with the assurance that if different results are to be obtained in matters of development. Equity and the protection of life and the environment , then different and audacious actions must be adopted. “We must have a Bretton Woods to attend to the needs of the inhabitants of the five continents and include its commitment to sabe the life of the planet”, he said.







Colombia and Kenya enance bilateral relations with an official visit of Kenya´s Vice-President to Colombia

-On September 12, 2023 Vice-President Francia Márquez met her Kenyan counterpart, Rigathi Gachagua, who came to Colombia for a productive official visit. The visit was made to move forward in concrete actions and to strengthen ties of cooperation and bilateral relations. The two senior officials visited Cenicafé in Caldas, took part in the Colombian Business Forum and led the Joint Cooperation Commission (COMIXTA), in which they agreed on 15 areas of cooperation between Colombia and Kenya.

-Also, in the context of this visit, the Foreign Minister of Colombia received Kenya´s Foreign Minister Alfred Mutua, to hold the I Meeting of the Joint Economic, Scientific , Technical, Educational and Cultural Cooperation Commission; and led a meeting of the Cooperation Groups for Technical Cultural and Educational Affairs. Colombia and Africa continue to make progress in deepening their bilateral relations and cooperation

COLOMBIA POTENCIA DE LA VIDA



DIPLOMACY IN THE REGIONS

Subnational diplomacy is on the way: our foreign policy reaches the regions of Colombia

"We have a duty to work collectively to transform the historical social inequalities that persist in our communities (...). For this, we are aware that coordinated and concerted work with the international community in fundamental . International cooperation is an essential element of the development of our country".

Minister Luis Gilberto Murillo.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is moving forward in spaces of dialog and articulation with the regions of Colombia. It aims to bring our foreign policy to the **remotest areas of our territory** through tools such as **subnational public diplomacy** and the diplomacy of the peoples..

This strategy is being led by Foreign Minister Luis Gilberto Murillo, and will lend dynamism to the foreign relations of the different territories of this country; and its objective is to promote regional transformation, the closing of gaps, inclusive development and the generation of opportunities to offer a life of dignity, for the benefit of the communities.













Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores

In this context the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is working to enhance subnational diplomacy,

basically involving territorial and subnational government and the communities.

The Ministry is also moving forward in the construction of foreign policy that Will Project and defend the cultures and identities of this country, **recognizing the role of the ethnic peoples,** the agenda of historical reparation and social justice; and further enhance strategic regional and global ties.



TOTAL PEACE

The **Ministry of Foreign Affairs** joins the efforts of the Government of President Gustavo Petro in the construction of Total Peace, beyond borders, in its purpose to make Colombia a “power of life”.

The Ministry has coordinated and promoted international accompaniment for the 2016 Peace Agreement and has highlghted the Government´s commitment to the full implementation of it. It has also worked hand in hand with its international partners to provide cooperation for the development of the programs included in the Agreement, at the same time receiving and channeling international verification reports to improve the implementation process.

The Ministry has also promoted and received international support for other talks in Colombia now in progress in the context of the Total Peace policy. They are designed to extend and consolidate peace in rural and urban territories

The Government is committed to overcoming the years of violence and armed conflict which have marked the history of our republic: Acting Minister Murillo





Progress towards a democratic Colombia, with more social justice and less inequality, was the focus of Acting Foreign Minister, Luis Gilberto Murillo, in the presentation of the quarterly report of the United Nations Verification Mission for the peace process in Colombia..

He also highlighted that the Government recognizes and values “the unanimous support of the international community represented at this Council, for the Policy of Total Peace of our Government”, and he further recognized that Colombis still has challenges ahead to achieve Total Peace. Video.

Solving inequality and compliance with the Peace Agreement : President Petro at the United Nations Security Council during its visit to Colombia







February 10 -2024 marked the end of a **productive visit to** Colombia on the 15 members of the **United Nations Security Council,** made to analyze the progress and challenges of the implementation of the five points of the Peace Agreement being monitored by the UN Verification Mission in Colombia**.** In the course of this visit they held a meeting with President Gustavo Petro and a high-level encounter at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs with Government agencies responsible for the implementation of the Peace Agreement. They also made working visits in Bogotá, Caquetá and Valle del Cauca.. **ABC. / Statement** President Petro and the Security Council

Acting Foreign Minister Luis Gilberto Murillo said that “the visit of the United Nations Security Council was a milestone for Colombia, because it was the first visit after the extension of the mandate of the Verification Mission on fundamental matters for the transformation of territories: the problem is one of land and inequity affecting the peoples and ethnic communities, matters with the ELN and total peace.” ***Video** Vice-Minister for Multilateral Affairs, Elizabeth Taylor.







UN Security Council highlights the Colombian Government´s commitment to the Peace Agreement



The Security Council´s visit to Colombia is a recognition of the Government´s commitment to peace and a demonstration of support from the international community.

“We are here in Colombia to get a first-hand experience of the progress achieved in the last eight years of implementation of the Final Peace Agreement of 2016 and the commitment of the Security Council to peace in Colombia”, said the **Security Council President and Ambassador of Guyana,** Carolyn Rodrigues Birkett. Video.

The **Representative of Switzerland,** Pascale Baeriswyl, said that with the policy of Total Peace “Colombia has shown the world a positive example” and that it has “many innovative aspects". The **United Kingdom Representative**, Dame Barbara Woodward, concluded: “We are very motivated by the progress we have seen and aware that there is still much to be done in cooperation with the Colombian Government.”

United Nations extends its Verification Mission in Colombia for one year

The UN Security Council unanimously approved the **extension of the Verification Mission for the Peace Agreements in Colombia for a further year**.

Security Council Resolution 2704 of 2023, adopted at a session of 30 October, reaffirmed "full commitment to the peace process in Colombia" and decided to "extend the mandate of the Verification Mission through to 31 October 2024". **Video and communiqué.**



Security Council approves the extension of the UN Verification Mission for the Ceasefire between the Government and the ELN

As a sign of the support of the international community for Total Peace in Colombia, the **15 UN Security Council members** unanimously approved Resolution No. 2694 on 2 August, extending the mandate of the US Verification Mission in Colombia to monitor and verify the implementation of the ceasefire between the Government and the ELN which began on 3 August.

The decision was an advance signal of the willingness of the Security Council to consider that the Mission should also monitor and verify a ceasefire agreement between the Government and the self-styled EMC (Central Command), once it is confirmed that a ceasefire agreement has been reached with adequate procedures for verification in place. More details **here.**

Colombia renews in advance the agreement for OAS accompaniment to the Peace Process in Colombia

On 30 May Minister Luis Gilberto Murillo and the Head of the **Organization of American States Mission to Support the Peace Process in Colombia (MAPP/ OAS),** Roberto Menéndez, signed the agreement to extend the Mission´s mandate in Colombia through to 2027.

“This agreement to extend the mandate means much to this country, for peace-building and for our communities in our regions and provinces”, said Minister Murillo. Video.
-For his part, Mr. Menéndez emphasized the signature is a “reaffirmation of our (OAS) commitment to Colombia”. Video




COLOMBIA
POTENCIA DE LA
VIDA
Ministerio de
Relaciones Exteriores
ENVIRONMENT AND
SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT

COLOMBIA, ONE OFNTHE MOST BIODIVERSE COUNTRIES IN THE WORLD

- It is estimated that Colombia has the **world's greatest biodiversity** per square kilometer.
- Colombia has a total of 75,947 species within its borders. See details **here.**
- Colombia is the only country in South America with **access to two oceans**, and is one of only 21 countries to do so.
- Colombia has forests covering **over 50%** of its territory.
- Colombia has **50%** of the world's **high mountain plateaus (*páramos*)***.
- Colombia has among the **richest resources in rivers** in Latin America and the Caribbean.
- Colombia has **98 general types of ecosystem. See details here.**
- The **National Protected Areas System** (SINAP) is formed by 1.552 protected areas, occupying a total of 49,358,639.15 hectares, or 23.84 % of its total territory See details **here.**
- In June 2023, Colombia celebrated the designation by the United Nations Organization for Education, Science and Culture (UNESCO) of the **Tribugá-Cupica-Baudó Zone of the Colombian Pacific** seaboard as a new reserve of the biosphere.

***Páramo: These plateaus** are considered to be strategic ecosystems, particularly for their role in the hydrological cycle that supplies water for human consumption.
Source: Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development and Ministry of Foreign Affairs. At 2022.



Colombia, one of the most biodiverse countries on the planet is to host COP16

President Gustavo Petro announced that the Government has selected Cali, Valle del Cauca, has been to be host city for the COP16 Biodiversity Conference to be held from 21 October to 1 November 2024. Video.

COP16
COLOMBIA
Paz con la Naturaleza

World Environment Day "We are focused on a diplomacy of the environment and nature that promotes peace". Minister Murillo



On 5 June, Colombia, one of the planet's most biodiverse countries, joined the commemoration **of World Environment Day** and the call it makes to the United Nations to restore lands, halt desertification and enhance the resilience to drought with the slogan "Our Land. Our Future".

Colombia "recognizes the fundamental role which peoples and communities have played in protection. The making of peace with nature is an objective which we must achieve. In this context, **#COP16, the COP of the people**, acquired great relevance. World leaders Will come to our country to take decisions which Will ne crucial to our climatic future.

This event will enable Colombia to demonstrate its commitment to sustainable development and the protection of our biodiversity. We are #ElPaísDeLaBelleza, the country of nature, the country of biodiversity", said **Minister Murillo.**

Investment in energy and climate transition and joint actions: the proposal od President Petro to the world at COP28





On 30 November 2023 -President Gustavo Petro accompanied by Foreign Minister Álvaro Leyva and his official delegation , arrived in Dubai, UAE, to take part in the 28th Sessions of the United Nations Conference on Climate Change – COP28.

-During his productive working agenda Colombia´s President took part in the High-Level segment for Heads of State of CPOP28 in Dubai **(speech / video),** at the **Summit of the G77+ China Leaders** on Climate Change **(speech /video)** and at the **panel of COP28 'Mobilization around a new financial architecture' (speech / Video).** A call to overcome the climate crisis based on multilateralism and to open up dialogue tyo move forward with a Marshall Plan of investment i clean energies through climate action for public debt swaps: these were some of the themes of the Colombian President´s contributions at COP28.

At COP28, Colombia led a number of initiatives to promote joint action for the protection of the environment and sustainable development







December 2023. President Gustavo Petro, Foreign Minister, Álvaro Leyva; Environment Minister, Susana Muhamad; Trade Industry and Tourism Minister, Germán Umaña; amongst other members of the official delegation were present at the various discussions, exchanges of experiences, panels and bilateral meetings held during COP 28 to promote joint initiatives and actions and contribute to the global dialogues on the challenge of the climate crisis in the world **Video** (Spanish and English).

In particular the portfolio presented by the Government of Change with investment opportunities worth more tan US$32 billion, - equivalent to 2.5% of Colombia´s GDP – was presented to COP28 under the title **Portfolio of Leadership for Climate Action and Just Socioecological and Energy Transition**.

Video / Portfolio.

Protection for the Amazon Basin, the transition from illicit economies and public debt-climate action swaps, tourism and peace: some of the key topics addressed by Colombia at WEF



President Gustavo Petro, together with Minister Álvaro Leyva, took part in the World Economic Forum (WEF) in Davos, Switzerland, attending bilateral meetings, discussion panels and high-level encounters.

During his addresses, Colombia´s President set out the need for international cooperation and a pact in the Americas based on clean energy projects.. He also declared his Government´s intention to replace "foreign exchange earned from coal and oil with tourism"..

Video 1. **January 17, 2024.**
Video 2. **January 17, 2024.**

The Amazon countries are committed to the protection of integrity, the fight against poverty of its communities and indigenous peoples and the promotion of sustainable development Amazon Region



On August 8, 2023 the Amazon Summit brought together the eight countries that form the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO), to which Colombia belongs, and produced the Belém Declaration, with 27 introductory paragraphs that express the common interests of the ACGTO member-countries, with particular emphasis on the need for the integrity of the Amazon Region, the fight against poverty and inequalities and the promotion of sustainable development **Declaration here.**

President Gustavo Petro also proposed decarbonized prosperity, and another type of society of power and economy at the Amazon Summit of Belém do Pará, Brazil, at which he was accompanied by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Álvaro Leyva, and the Minister of Environment, Susana Muhamad. **Address here.**

There is no Amazonia without the Antarctic : Minister Álvaro Leyva from the South Pole, underlining the importance of the promotion of scientific research for the protection of the Antarctic





-Colombia´s Foreign Minister Álvaro Leyva and a research group of Chile´s Antarctic Institute (INACH), visited the **Antarctic** on 27 January 2023, with the support of the Colombian Air Force and Navy.

-Speaking from the South Pole, Minister Leyva said that the Antarctic is the heart of the planet, given that it is the source of over 80% of the world´s fresh water and that all ocean currents flow out from it. He added that **"There is no Amazonia without the Antarctic",** and drew attention to the decisive and unique role of the "white continent" in the mitigation of the devastating effects of global warning.

-The Minister also said that, in the same vein as President Gustavo Petro´s proposal to promote a pact to save Amazonia, there must be a **State policy to promote research and protection for the Antarctic,** as a vital source for the planet He added that Colombia will be calling on the countries in the region which have not so far engaged in Antarctic research to come together in leading scientific work and international conferences.

At the Summit of the Three Basins Minister Leyva reaffirmed the Government´s commitment to the protection of the environment and sustainable development



On 28 October Foreign Minister Álvaro Leyva took part in the **'Summit of the Three Basins, Ecosystems of Biodiversity and Tropical Forests',** In Brazzaville, capital of the **Republic of the Congo.**

In his address Colombia´s chief diplomat emphasized the commitment of the Government of President Gustavo Petro to the environment, diversity and the conservation of the world´s major basins (Amazon, Congo and Borneo-Mekong).

At the P4G 2023 Summit Minister Álvaro Leyva called for a definition of actions and tangible commitments for Sustainable Development



On September 23 Foreign Minister Álvaro Leyva took part in the closing session of the **Summit of Alliances for Green Growth and the Global Objectives 2030 (P4G)** in Bogotá**.**

This was the first time that Colombia, and this Continent, had hosted a P4G Summit. The group is formed by Chile, México, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Vietnam, Korea, Kenya, Ethiopia, South Africa, Denmark, Netherlands and Colombia. The meeting brought together world leaders and investors to speak about green growth biodiversity, fair energy transition, electric mobility,, and sustainable cities amongst other issues. **Video.**

COLOMBIA POTENCIA DE LA VIDA

Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores



Source: ProColombia

Colombia: A world power in bird-watching

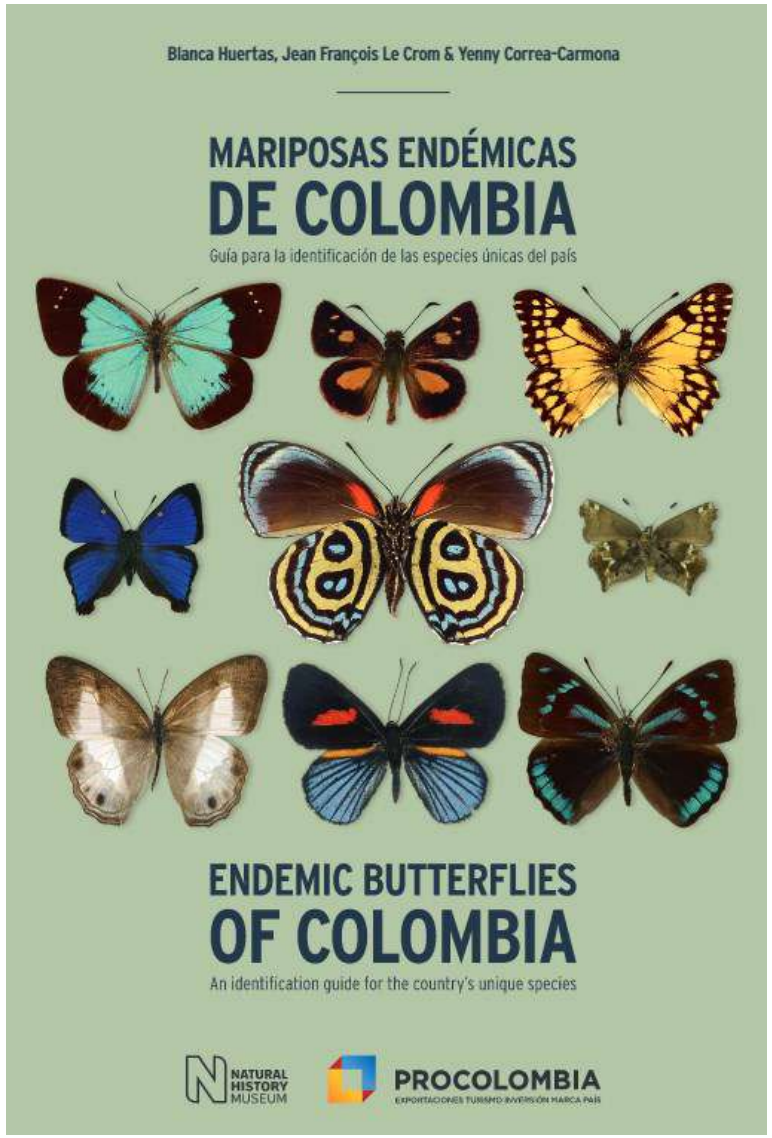
- **Colombia is the most biodiverse country in world in birds.** This fact has been confirmed by Colombia´s Instituto Alexander von Humboldt, international scientific organizations and the Ornithology Laboratory of Cornell University.

- **Over 1,954 species of birds have been identified in Colombia**, and the count is still rising as time and again new species are being discovered (Handbook for Nature Guides). The Departments with the largest numbers of species are Cauca, Nariño, Antioquia, Boyacá and Meta, according to Instituto Alexander von Humboldt.

- *Global Big Day*, organized Cornell University was held on 14 May 2022, bringing together the scientific the scientific community and birdwatchers from around the world.. **Colombia recorded the largest number of species – a total of 1,538 – representing 20% of the total reported by the entire world.**

  -Some 48,600 people attended this event and spotted over 7,600 species. Colombia was top of the Global Big Day ranking for the fifth time, updated by reports from spotters on the eBird platform developed at Cornell.

For further information, see: https://birds.colombia.travel/en
The Essential Colombian Hotspots (swarovskioptik.com)



Colombia and its more tan 200 endemic species of butterflies

- *Colombia Nature Travel Mart 2022* launched the publication **"Endemic Butterflies of Colombia: An identification guide for the country's unique species", -** which for the first time brought together detailed information about more than 200 endemic species of butterflies to be found in this country, representing **20% of the total number of species in the world**

- The book, published free, was produced by London´s Natural History Museum with the support of ProColombia. It reflects Colombia´s wealth as a nature destination, with its enormous biodiversity. The book is also a key tool for use by tour guides and operators, ProColombia reports.

- A digital Spanish-English version is available at https://biblioteca.colombia.travel/es/mariposas-endemicas-Colombia

Source: ProColombia

*Colombia´s diversity and offer of flowers is among the greatest in the world

Especially:



Rose



Carnation



Chrysanthemum and pompom



Alstroemeria



Hydrangea



Water lily



Bouquet



Lily



Heliconia



Daisy



Foliage

Source: ProColombia



Ministerio de
Relaciones Exteriores

FEMINIST FOREIGN POLICY



The Ministry of Foreign Affairs leads feminist foreign policy in Colombia

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Change is committed to full guarantees of women's rights. On International Women's Day this year we presented a report on matters of gender equality.

There is also transformation taking place in the Foreign Affairs sector, designed to ensure that bilateral and multilateral international work is inclusive, and offers guarantees and equality. Feminist Foreign Policy is a mechanism that guides Colombia´s foreign policy to recognize, reduce and transform social rules and practices that reproduce gender gaps and inequalities. The objective is to secure gender equality in Colombia´s foreign policy in bilateral and multilateral affairs. **Report**.

In Geneva the Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs ratified Colombia's commitment to gender equality and the protection of women's rights



During the event on Women in Multilateralism in the context of the United Nations Human Rights Council in Geneva, the Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs, Luis Gilberto Murillo, drew attention to the work of the Government of Change to achieve gender equality and secure the effective participation of women in all spheres.

He also shared the Government''s achievement in gender equality and highlighted the fact that for the first time, Colombia has a Feminist Foreign Policy.

Colombia, host to the I Global Cervical Cancer Elimination Forum





On 6-7 March Colombia, in alliance with the Government of Spain and other partners came together to hold the I Global Cervical Cancer Elimination Forum, in its commitment to guarantee and promote women's rights.

Cartagena, Colombia was the host city for this international event, which brought together representatives of government, experts, donors, health organizations from all over the world and civil society to move forward in global action to eliminate cervical cancer.

Vice-Minister Elizabeth Taylor reiterated the Government´s commitment to encourage policies that will help to provide care for the lives pof women close the gender gap in Colombia and enable the construction of social justice and the guarantee of women's rights in all their diverse expressions. **Video**

Colombia reiterates its commitment to Feminist Foreign Policy





In the context of the implementation of **Feminist Foreign Policy,** Colombia and United States signed a Memorandum of Understanding on February 1 to create a Women´s Center of Excellence, for Peace and Security of Latin America and the Caribbean in Colombia. The Memorandum made Colombia the third country in the world, with Namibia and United Arab Emirates, to adopt this system.

On November 28, 2023, also as part of the actions to draw up its **Feminist Foreign Policy,** led by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the United Kingdom handed over the Chair of the Preventing Sexual Violence ib Conflict Initiative (PSVI) to Colombia, for the period 2024 – 2025.



COLOMBIA POTENCIA DE LA VIDA

Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores

INVESTMENT

INVESTMENT IN COLOMBIA

A Dynamic and stable economic systemmo

A platform for trade: 10 trade agreements that give investors preferential Access to third markets.

An increasingly large proup of professionally-managed Colombian businesses able to associate with international organizations and investors to reach regional markets.



A grlowinhg market, strategically located to facilitate transactions and business in the region.

Several centers of devlopment and regions with a growing middle class, guaranteeing optimum demand for godos and services.

A wide range of investment opportunities in a wide variety of sectors

Colombia is one of the largest economies in the region, according to the International Monetary Fund, and it is exceptional for being one of the most stable in Latin America (Brazil, Mexico, Argentina, Colombia). For more information about reasons to invest in Colombia, click **here**.

Source: DANE - DIAN



FREE TRADE AGREEMENTS



Source: Ministry of Trade, Industry, and Tourism

IN FORCE

Pacific Alliance
Northern Triangle (El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras)
CAN
Caricom
Mercosur
EFTA
Chile
Korea
Costa Rica
Mexico
Canada
United States
Partial Scope Agreement with Nicaragua
Partial Scope Agreement with Venezuela
Economic Complementation Agreement with Cuba
Trade Agreement between the European Union, Colombia, and Peru
Israel

SIGNED

Panamá

UNDER NEGOTIATION

Turkey
Japan
TiSA (Agreement on Trade in Services)

There are currently 50 parties to the negotiation:
Canada, United States, Mexico, Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia, Peru, Chile, European Union (28 countries), Iceland, Norway, Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Turkey, Israel, Pakistan, South Korea, Japan, Hong-Kong, Taiwan, Australia, New Zealand, and Mauritius.


COLOMBIA
POTENCIA DE LA
VIDA
Ministerio de
Relaciones Exteriores
TOURISM

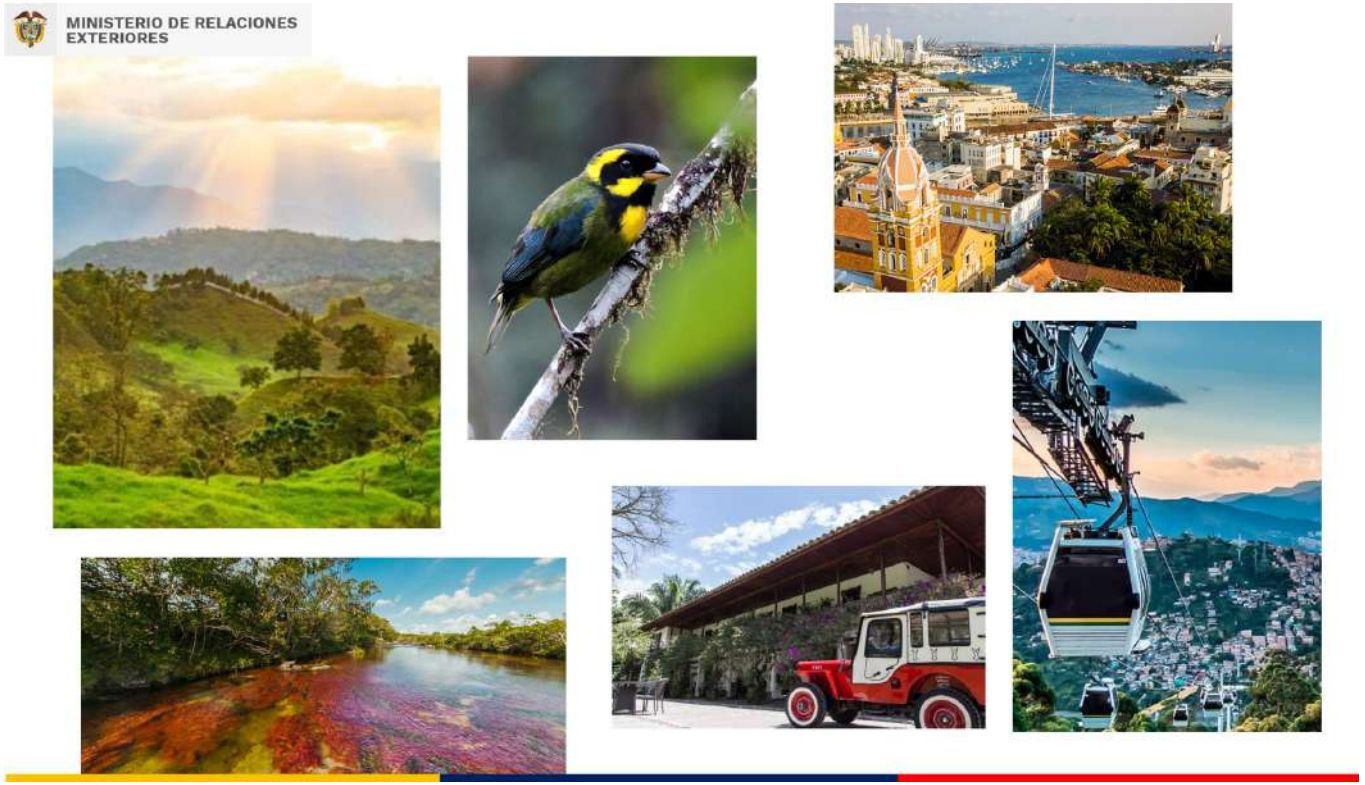
Tourism in Colombia

Colombia: land of natural and cultural beauty. “Tourism in Harmony with Life”.

President Gustavo Petro took part in the opening oof the XLII Tourism Showcase on 22 February, organized by the Travel Agency and Tourism Association ANATO. He invited those attending to promote **Colombia as a country of beauty for the whole world and public policy 2022-3026 “Tourism in Harmony with Life”.** Vídeo: https://bit.ly/3kojyBo / https://bit.ly/3KJ4vwK

The President also stressed that the promotion of Colombia must be a priority. “The communication of our beauty, in which is something the State and the Government are also active and where ProColombia has a role to play, along with out entire diplomatic system, **is the priority”.**

He said that the Government´s aim is to encourage tourism and attract revenues of US$ 15,000 million from it.



Source: Ministry of Trade, Industry and Tourism and ProColombia

Tourism in Colombia

Colombia invites all society to rethink tourism and make it more inclusive, more sustainable and more resilient

Colombia celebrated World Tourism Day on 27 September. “This year the theme of the World Tourism Organization is “Rethinking tourism”, and this matches President Gustavo Petro´s aim to focus on the exploitation of our regions of natural and cultural wealth, so that local and foreign visitors alike Will generate revenues and improve the quality of life of their inhabitants”, said the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Tourism (CIT).

In this context CIT Minister Germán Umaña said that encouragement would be given to “…a policy to develop tourism, promoting a culture of peace, sustainability and productivity. Based on our wealth of natural resources , human talent and cultural heritage”:

He also explained that sustainable tourism “….. helps to close gaps and take advantage of our potential in a scenario of energy transition in which our conception of biodiversity, the enhancement of peace and social investment Will be reflected in the territory, reducing levels of inequality”.









Source: Ministry of Trade, Industry and Tourism and ProColombia

Tourism in Colombia

COntemplation, COmprehension, COnservation: An illustrated Handbook for Nature Tourism Guides in Colombia

The first version of the illustrated handbook COntemplation, Comprehension, Conservation is designed to **promote nature tourism** and, based on a knowledge of Colombia´s biodiversity, promote the conservation of this country´s biological heritage.

The publication was produced under the leadership of the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Tourism and ProColombia, with the support of the Natural Wealth Program if USAID, Instituto Alexander von Humboldt and the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS).

The text of the manual is in Spanish and English and is a beautifully-illustrated compendium of the best of Colombia..

https://bit.ly/3HAEUmQ
Spanish: https://guianaturaleza.colombia.travel/
English: https://guianaturaleza.colombia.travel/en/



Source: ProColombia

Sustainable tourism in Colombia



New catalogues on sustainable tourism on Colombia will encourage foreign visitors to come here

Today, travelers form all over the world can discover five new catalogues for tourism in Colombia, with novel information on the offer of tourism services for international markets with sustainable, high-quality standards.

“Sustainability is one of the pillars of the Tourism Sector Plan for 2022-2026. We therefore value the intentions of business to develop products and experiences that are in harmony with life, making Colombia a destination for more aware travelers” added Tourism Vice-Minister Arturo Bravo.

The initiative forms part of the Project “Club for Tourism Products and Innovation” created by the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Tourism through ProColombia. Catalogues **here.**

Source: ProColombia

DESTINATIONS IN COLOMBIA

ProColombia: In Colombia, rhythm is in our blood. It''s a country that makes you vibrate with its emotions, where you can find the destination of your choice.

Discover the destinations that Colombia offers - click here.



Fuente: ProColombia

*COUNTRIES NOT REQUIRING VISAS FOR COLOMBIANS

*Countries

- Albania
- Andorra
- Antigua and Barbuda
- Argentina
- Austria
- Bahamas
- Barbados
- Belgium
- Belize
- Bolivia
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Brazil
- Bulgaria
- Chile
- Croatia
- Cuba
- Cyprus
- Czech Republic
- Denmark
- Dominica
- Dominican Republic
- Ecuador
- El Salvador
- Estonia
- Finland
- France
- Georgia
- Germany
- Greece
- Guatemala
- Guyana
- Haití*
- Holy See
- Honduras
- Hungary
- Indonesia
- Iceland
- Israel
- Italy
- Jamaica
- Kazakhstan
- Kosovo
- Latvia
- Liechtenstein
- Lithuania
- Luxemburg
- Macedonia
- Maldives
- Malta
- Morocco
- Mexico
- Moldova
- Monaco
- Montenegro
- Netherlands
- Norway
- Omán
- Panama
- Paraguay
- Peru
- Philippines
- Poland
- Portugal
- Qatar
- Rumania
- Russia
- St Kitts and Nevis
- Samoa
- San Marino
- St Vincent and the Grenadines
- Serbia
- Singapore
- Slovakia
- Slovenia
- South Korea (Republic of Korea)
- Suriname
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- Trinidad and Tobago
- Turkey
- Ukraine
- United Kingdom (after 9 November, 2022)
- Uruguay
- Venezuela

***For more detailed information, click here.**

*Non-state territories

- Aruba
- Bonaire
- Curacao
- French Guyana
- French Polynesia
- Guadaloupe
- Mayotte
- New Caledonia
- Saba
- Hong Kong
- Reunion
- Martinique
- Saint Pierre et Miquelon
- San Eustaquio
- San Martín
- Wallis and Futuna

*COUNTRIES REQUIRING VISAS FOR COLOMBIANS

- Afghanistan
- Angola
- Algeria
- Armenia
- Australia
- Azerbaijan
- Bahrain
- Bangladesh
- Belarus
- Benin
- Botswana
- Brunei
- Darussalam
- Burkina Faso
- Burundi
- Bhutan
- Cambodia
- Cameroon
- Canada
- Cape Verde
- Central African Republic
- Chad
- China
- Comoros
- Congo
- Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Democratic People´s Republic of Korea
- Ivory Coast
- Costa Rica*
- Djibouti
- East Timor
- Egypt
- Equatorial Guinea
- Eritrea
- United States
- Eswatini
- Ethiopia
- Fiji
- Gabon
- Gambia
- Ghana
- Granada
- Guinea
- Guinea-Bissau
- Haiti*
- India
- Iran
- Iraq
- Ireland*
- Ivory Coast
- Japan
- Jordan
- Kenya
- Kirghizstan
- Kiribati
- Kosovo
- Kuwait
- Laos
- Lesotho
- Lebanon
- Liberia
- Libya
- Macao(Sarg-China)
- Madagascar
- Malawi
- Malaysia
- Mali
- Marshall Islands
- Mauretania
- Mauritius
- Micronesia
- Mongolia
- Mozambique
- Myanmar
- Namibia
- Nauru
- Nepal
- New Zealand
- Nicaragua*
- Níger
- Nigeria
- North Macedonia
- Pakistan
- Palau
- Palestine
- Papua
- New Guinea
- Rwanda
- St Bartolomé
- St Martin
- Santa Lucía
- San Tomé y Príncipe
- Saudi Arabia
- Senegal
- Seychelles
- Sierra Leona
- Solomon Islands
- Somalia
- South Africa
- South Sudan
- Sudan
- Sri Lanka
- Syria
- Thailand
- Taiwan
- Tanzania
- Tajikistan
- Togo
- Tonga
- Tunis
- Turkmenistan
- Tuvalu
- Uganda
- Uzbekistan
- Vanuatu
- Vietnam
- Yemen
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe.



Fuentes:

Presidencia de la República de Colombia
Vicepresidencia de la República de Colombia
Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores de Colombia
Ministerio de Ambiente y Desarrollo Sostenible de Colombia
Ministerio de Comercio, Industria y Turismo de Colombia
PROCOLOMBIA
Ministerio de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural de Colombia
Ministerio de Minas y Energía de Colombia
Ministerio de Hacienda de Colombia
Departamento Administrativo Nacional de Estadística (DANE)
Fondo Nacional de Turismo de la República de Colombia (Fontur)
Dirección de Impuestos y Aduanas Nacionales (DIAN)
Federación Nacional de Cafeteros
Asocolflores
Flickr Ministerio de Ambiente y Desarollo Sostenible
Flickr Parques Nacionales Naturales de Colombia
Flickr PROCOLOMBIA
Flickr Ministerio de Comercio, Industria y Comercio
Flickr Ministerio de Hacienda
Flickr Ministerio de Transporte

Traducción oficial por Anthony Letts.