

## ifa ECP Monitor At a Glance

# Colombia

## PRÉCIS

As a fragile post-conflict society, Colombia emphasizes peace and reconciliation in its foreign policy, including ECP. As the country moves towards peace and economic maturity, it has the opportunity to use external cultural policies as a tool to gain more credibility and a more prominent seat at the international table.

### Outstanding Fact:

*On April 28, 2020, Colombia became the 37<sup>th</sup> member of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).*

#### KEY INDICATORS 2019

Population	Rank/number	29 <sup>th</sup> / 50.33 million
GDP	Rank/number	39 <sup>th</sup> / \$323,803 million
GDP per capita	Rank/number	- / \$16,077
Cultural Economy	As share of GDP	0.7
Education economy	As share of GDP	4.18
R&D economy	As share of GDP	0.28
Media economy	As share of GDP	-
Geopolitical position	Hard power	39 <sup>th</sup>
	World trade power	54 <sup>th</sup>
	Soft power	n/a
	Diplomacy rank	n/a

#### OVERVIEW OF EXTERNAL CULTURAL POLICY 2019

Number of countries present	69
Number of institutions abroad	(62 embassies and 120 consulates abroad)
FTE staff	-
Freelance and local staff	-
Financial scale	-
Government support (\$)	1,906,890
Comparative ECP ranking	medium

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### Main Objectives

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- Strengthen international relations and improve the perception of the country abroad
  - Strengthen the capacities of Colombian institutions
  - Support the positioning of the Orange Economy in international forums
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### Policy Context

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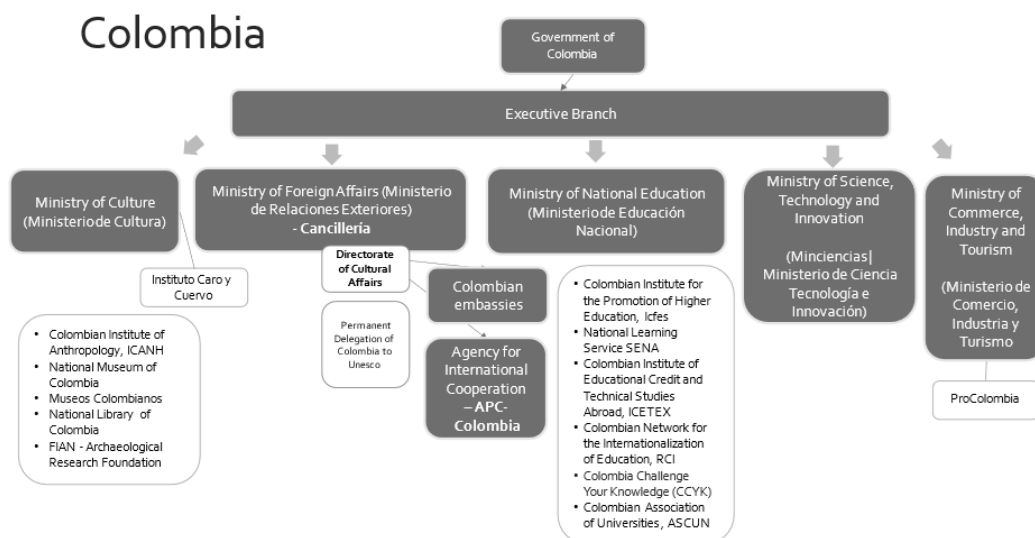
- Post-conflict society and rebuilding bilateral relationships
  - Presidentialism
  - Colombia's growing regional role and South-South cooperation
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### Regional Focus

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- North America: 2
  - Central America: 6
  - The Caribbean: 5
  - South America: 9
  - Europe: 14
  - Asia: 16
  - Oceania: 1
  - Africa: 5
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## INSITUTIONAL MAP



The principal actor is the President, followed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and its Directorate for Cultural Affairs. Through Colombian embassies abroad, the Directorate is responsible for coordinating the planning and implementation of foreign policy actions in the fields of culture, education, and sport.

## FIELDS OF EXTERNAL CULTURAL POLICY

	2019	2015	Comment
<b>Culture and the Arts</b>			
Number of cooperation agreements	46	-	
Number of countries present	69	58	
Number of institutes and branches	62 embassies and 120 consulates abroad	-	
Number of cultural activities	270	199	
Artists in exchange programs	31	34	Colombian Young Talents program
Budget (\$)	-	"Promotion of Colombia abroad": 1,906,890	
Government financial support (\$)	-	2 million	Colombian Young Talents program
Number of cooperation agreements	46	-	
<b>Language</b>			
Number of countries where courses are offered	35	-	(2013-2019) period
Number of students enrolled in Spanish courses for foreign diplomats	981	399	In total 3050 (2013-2019)
Number of language promotion actions	69	8	Spanish courses organised for diplomats and government officials
Number of language teachers	-	12	
Number of foreign language assistants in Colombia	194	148	
Budget (\$)	-	1,906,890	
Government financial support (\$)	-	336,944	
<b>Education – Tertiary</b>			
Number of countries present	-	-	
Number of universities / colleges	298	288	
Number of foreign students	4764	4323	

	2019	2015	Comment
Number of government scholarships awarded	109	116	Colombia Government Scholarship for foreigners
Number of international experts hosted by the Colombian Higher Education Institutions	1,804	1,389	
Budget (\$)	-	-	
Government financial support (\$)	-	-	
<b>Science and Research</b>			
Number of countries present	-	-	
Number of institutes	-	-	
Number of researchers /staff	-	2,767 foreign researchers	
Number of projects	-	914 (int. cooperation)	
Number of scientists in exchange	90	-	Program Passport to Science / "Pasaporte a la Ciencia"
Budget (\$)	5,471,012.18	-	"Pasaporte a la Ciencia"

#### CURRENT ISSUES AND DEVELOPMENTS

- As a fragile post-conflict society, Colombia is in a situation where any long-term government plan, including ECP, could be abruptly stopped in its tracks. Nonetheless, as Colombia moves towards peace and economic maturity, the country has the opportunity to use external cultural policies as a tool to gain more credibility and a more prominent seat at the international table.
- The main structural error of Colombian diplomacy is the primacy of presidentialism in decision-making, without much counterweight from other state institutions. Under the current leadership, the emphasis has been on strengthening ties with the US and fostering South-South cooperation.
- One of Colombia's most important assets is its strategic position on the Southern continent. For this reason, many countries are interested in strengthening ties with Colombia, a 'secondary' power in its own right. The country has slowly been gaining importance in the region, thanks to economic growth and the migratory situation of recent years. There is enough raw potential to establish an attractive external cultural policy.

#### FURTHER INFORMATION, SOURCES, AND REFERENCES

- A user-friendly summary of with additional data and data sources is here: "*Colombia – External Cultural Policy: Data Fact Sheet*"
- A full set of references are presented here: "*Colombia – External Cultural Policy: References*"
- A fuller report with a descriptive analysis is found here: "*Colombia – External Cultural Policy: A Report*"

## Imprint

The External Cultural Policy Monitor

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