

ifa ECP Monitor Fact Sheet

# Colombia

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## 1. Key Indicators

		2019	% change since 2015
<b>Population (million)</b>	Number /rank	50.33 / 29 <sup>th</sup>	5.93
<b>GDP (\$ million)</b>	Number/rank	323,803 / 39 <sup>th</sup>	10.86
<b>GDP per capita (\$)</b>	Number	16,077	20.6
<b>Cultural Economy</b>	As share of GDP	0.7 <sup>(2018)</sup>	-0.08
<b>Education economy</b>	As share of GDP	4.18 <sup>(2018)</sup>	-0.36
<b>R&amp;D economy</b>	As share of GDP	0.28	-0.04
<b>Media economy</b>	As share of GDP	-	-

Sources: OECD, World Bank

Geopolitical position	2019	Change over 2015	
<b>Hard power rank</b>	39 <sup>(2021)</sup>	-	-
<b>World trade rank</b>	54	53	↓
<b>Soft power rank</b>	n/d	n/d	-
<b>Diplomacy rank</b>	n/d	n/d	-

## 2. Government funding as percent of total government outlays, by selected fields

	2019	% change since 2015
<b>Culture</b>	-	-
<b>Education</b>	15.98	0.85
<b>R &amp; D</b>	-	-
<b>Media</b>	-	-

### 3. Overview of External Cultural Policy

	2019
<b>Number of countries with ECP activities</b>	~ 70
<b>Total number of institutions abroad</b>	(62 embassies and 120 consulates abroad)
<b>Total number of FTE staff engaged in ECP activities</b>	-
<b>Government financial support (\$ million)</b>	"Promotion of Colombia abroad": USD 1,906,890 <sup>(2015)</sup> <sup>1</sup>
<b>Total expenditure of all ECP operators (\$ million)</b>	-
<b>Comparative ECP ranking</b>	<i>medium</i>

#### MAIN OBJECTIVES

- Strengthen international relations and improve the perception of the country abroad through different cultural activities that showcase the many expressions of Colombian diversity.
- Promote Colombia as a contemporary, innovative, diverse, inclusive and committed to the pursuit of peaceful coexistence.

Sources: Cancillería (2016). Promotion of Colombia Abroad - Executive Summary Report 2015

#### POLICY CONTEXT

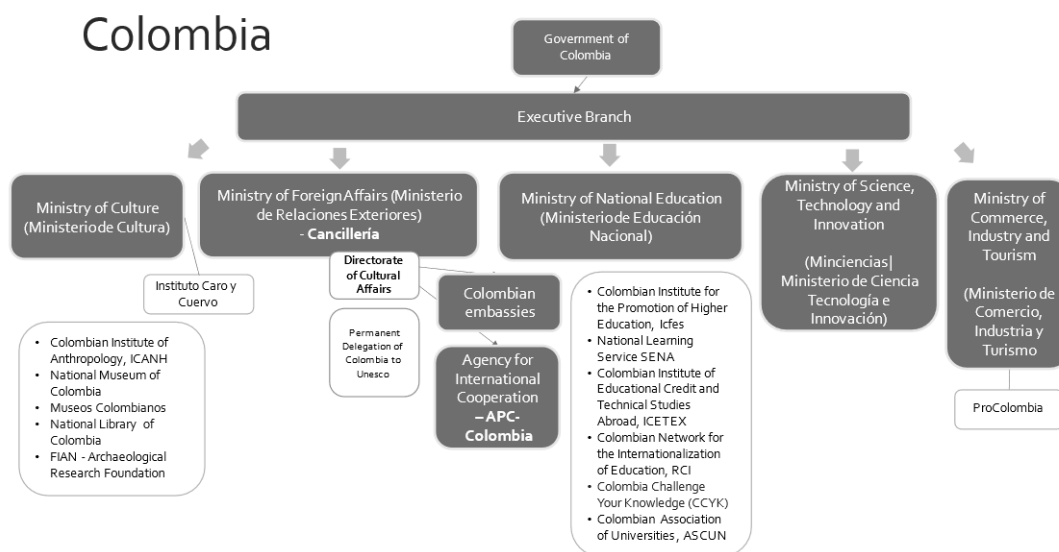
- Ongoing tensions in a fragile, post-conflict society perpetuate the international community's negative perception of Colombia

#### REGIONAL FOCUS AND INSTITUTIONAL EMPHASIS

Cultural activities abroad (2015): North America (2), Central America (6), the Caribbean (5), South America (9), Europe (14), Asia (16), Oceania (1), Africa (5).

<sup>1</sup> (7,557,985,000 Colombian pesos), Source: Cuéllar (2016). Memorias al congreso 2015-2016, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores - República de Colombia.

## INSTITUTIONAL MAP



## 4. Fields of External Cultural Policy

	2019	2015
<b>Culture and the Arts</b>		
Number of countries present	69 (cultural events abroad)	58
Number of institutes	n/a (62 embassies and 120 consulates abroad)	n/a
Number of FTE staff	-	-
Number of artists in exchange programs (Colombian Young Talents / Jóvenes Talentos colombianos)	31	34 <sup>(2016)</sup>
Number of cultural agreements	46	-
Number of cultural activities abroad	270	199
Sports and cultural exchanges	73 <sup>(2019-2020)</sup>	-
Budget (\$)	-	USD 2 million (Colombian Young Talents) <sup>(2016)</sup>

	2019	2015
<b>Language</b>		
Number of countries where courses are offered	35 <sup>(2013-2019)</sup>	7
Number of students enrolled in Spanish courses for foreign diplomats	In-class: 981	In-class: 399
	~ 3050 <sup>(2013-2019)</sup>	
Number of language promotion actions	69 Spanish language courses <sup>(2013-2019)</sup>	8 Spanish courses organised for diplomats and government officials
Number of language teachers	-	12
Number of foreign language assistants in Colombia	194	148 <sup>(2016)</sup>
Budget (\$)	-	USD 1,906,890 <sup>(2015)</sup> 2
Government financial support (\$)	-	USD 336,944
<b>Education – Primary &amp; Secondary</b>	<i>No Colombian schools abroad</i>	
<b>Education - Tertiary</b>		
Number of countries	-	-
Number of universities / colleges	86 universities, 134 university institutions, 48 technological institutes, 30 technical training institutes	81 universities, 121 university institutions, 51 technological institutes, 35 professional technical institutions <sup>(2014)</sup>
Number of internationally mobile students	inbound: 4764 <sup>(2018)</sup> outbound: 46,631 <sup>(2018)</sup>	inbound: 4323 outbound: 35,108
Number of students at transnational higher education (TNE)	n/a	n/a
Number of government scholarships awarded	109 postgraduate scholarships for foreigners <sup>3</sup>	116 <sup>(2016)</sup>
(Colombia Government Scholarship)	864 scholarships for Colombian students abroad	716 <sup>(2016)</sup>

<sup>2</sup> Source: Cancillería (2016). Promotion of Colombia Abroad - Executive Summary Report 2015.

<sup>3</sup> In the general call, 50 scholarships were awarded (46%), in the call for Colombia-Ecuador Reciprocity Scholarships, 37 (34%) scholarships were awarded to Ecuadorian citizens, and in the Pacific Alliance Postgraduate scheme, 22 scholarships (20%) were awarded to Ecuadorian citizens. ICETEX (2020)

	2019	2015
Number of international experts hosted by the Colombian Higher Education Institutions	1,804	1,389 <sup>(2016)</sup>
Budget (\$ million)	-	-
Government financial support (\$ million)	-	-
<b>Science and Research</b>		
Number of countries	-	-
Number of institutes	-	-
Number of researchers / staff	-	2,767 foreign researchers
Number of projects	-	914 (int. cooperation)
Number scientists in exchange programs Program Passport to Science / "Pasaporte a la Ciencia"	90	-
Budget (\$) "Pasaporte a la Ciencia"	USD 5,471,012.18 <sup>4</sup>	-
<b>Media</b>	<i>No significant international media presence, for more detail see the Colombia country report</i>	

## 5. Current Issues and Developments

- As a post-conflict country, Colombia is in a situation where any long-term government plans, including ECP, could be abruptly changed or abandoned. Nonetheless, as Colombia moves towards stability and economic maturity, there is plenty of opportunity to use external cultural policies as a tool to gain more credibility and an improved international standing.
- The main fault of Colombian ECP is the primacy of presidentialism in decision-making, without much influence from other state institutions. The current administration has focused on strengthening ties with the US and fostering South-South cooperation.
- Colombia enjoys a strategic position in South America. For this reason, many countries are interested in strengthening bilateral ties with Colombia, a 'secondary' power on the rise, and much owing to its economic growth and the migratory situation of recent years.

<sup>4</sup> Resources earmarked for the 70 *Pasaporte a la Ciencia* programme beneficiaries to advance their studies abroad. ICETEX (2020).

## 6. Contributions to multilateral cultural organisations

	2019	2015
UNESCO (\$)	499,340	-

Sources: UNESCO, CoE, European Commission

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