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Embassy of Colombia in the United States

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Senate Foreign Relations Committee Holds Hearing on Peace in Colombia and the Colombia-U.S. Alliance

Washington, DC — Today, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, Transnational Crime, Civilian Security, Democracy, Human Rights, and Global Women's Issues held a hearing, "Assessing the Colombia Peace Process: The Way Forward in U.S.-Colombia Relations."

"The hearing held today by Senator Rubio for comes at a pivotal moment in Colombia's history, as we implement a historic Peace Agreement that brought more than a half-century of conflict to an end. Now, more than ever, further strengthening our bilateral alliance is key," said Ambassador of Colombia to the United States Camilo Reyes.

"The transition to peace demands a great amount of time, resources and leadership in Colombia – as well as the continued support of the international community, including the United States. Colombia is the nation it is today thanks in large part to our bilateral partnership. As a nation building stable and lasting peace, we are well positioned to be an even stronger U.S. strategic ally and economic partner," said Reyes.

The issues discussed during today's hearing were the focal point of a report released in May by the Atlantic Council's bipartisan Colombia Peace and Prosperity Task Force. Co-chaired by Senators Roy Blunt (R-MO) and Ben Cardin (D-MD), the Task Force issued recommendations on the roadmap for the future of the U.S.-Colombia partnership, including:

1. Establish Peace Colombia as the ongoing strategic framework for U.S. policy.
2. Recognize that robust peace accord compliance and implementation is critical to U.S. national security interests and regional stability.
3. Put forward policies that expand U.S.-Colombia cooperation in order to achieve concrete victories against transnational criminal networks.
4. Deepen U.S. commercial and economic cooperation through Peace Colombia and the existing Trade Promotion Agreement framework.
5. Expand the shared security portfolio in international hotspots where Colombian military and peacebuilding expertise can play a pivotal role to advance U.S. interests globally.

The Task Force is composed of members of Congress from both parties, former senior foreign policy experts from every Administration since President Reagan, as well as the private sector and the leading think tanks on Latin American policy in the United States.

For the full Task Force report, "A Roadmap for U.S. Engagement with Colombia," click [here](#).

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