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Embassy of Colombia in the United States

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Contact: Olga Acosta  
202-821-2792

**Ambassador Reyes to Deliver Keynote Remarks at Colombia 2040,  
a Harvard University and MIT Conference**

*Joins Other Thought Leaders in Discussing the Country's Social,  
Economic, Political and Technological Future*

**Washington, DC** – Tomorrow, Saturday, April 28, Colombian Ambassador to the United States Camilo Reyes will deliver keynote remarks to open the second day of the two-day Colombian Conference at Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in Cambridge, Mass., themed “Colombia 2040.” The conference, which begins today, is now in its fifth edition and will focus on Colombia’s future during a series of panel discussions, workshops and high-level speeches.

“Colombia has never held more promise for the future. Without a doubt, President Santos and his Administration have, for the past eight years, propelled Colombia forward on the path to peace, prosperity and development,” said Ambassador Reyes. “As a nation at peace, Colombia is positioned to take another historic leap on this path. And the question is, what will the future hold? How will we take the gains we have achieved and maximize them to create the best and most sustainable future for our children and grandchildren? That is what we will explore over the next two days.”

The objectives of the Colombia 2040 conference are to:

- Identify opportunities for collaborative approaches to the most pressing national challenges of the next two decades;
- Address issues of current relevance in Colombia with a sharp focus on the future, through an open, critical and interdisciplinary dialogue; and
- Imagine the country leaders wish to build given Colombia’s social, political, economic, technological and environmental challenges.

The event convenes more than 30 prominent Colombian leaders and academics, as well as international experts from different disciplines who will discuss the issues that Colombian students at Harvard and MIT consider as fundamental for the country’s future development. Those issues include climate change, competitiveness, quality education, innovation, principled leadership, sustainable peace, journalism and health.

Additional keynote speakers include women’s rights advocate Natalia Ponce de León and investor and philanthropist Jaime Gilinski.

Panelists include President of News at Univisión Daniel Coronell, Colombian scientist nominated for the Nobel Prize in Medicine Nubia Muñoz, President of Promigás Antonio Celia, President of Alquería Carlos E. Cavelier, Director of Voces RCN Juan Carlos Iragorri, Director of Semana.com Maria Cristina Castro, Producer of "La Pulla" at El Espectador Maria Paulina Baena and many other well-known representatives of the Colombian government, the private sector, academia and civil society.

The Colombia 2040 conference is organized by the Colombian Student Society at Harvard University and the Colombian Student Association at MIT, with support from Avianca, Boston Consulting Group, KPMG, Colombia in Peace, David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies at Harvard, Foundation for Freedom of the Press and Program on Negotiation at Harvard Law School, among other organizations.

For more information, visit [www.colombianconference.co](http://www.colombianconference.co).

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