



CONGRESSIONAL HISPANIC CAUCUS
Linda T. Sánchez | Chairwoman
114TH CONGRESS

July 29, 2015

The Honorable Juan Manuel Santos Calderón
President
The Republic of Colombia

Dear President Santos:

As members of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, we write to commend you and your administration for the vision and leadership you have demonstrated in seeking a negotiated settlement to end Colombia's decades-long struggle with the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC).

As you know, these peace talks represent a crucial opportunity to finally bring the most enduring conflict in our hemisphere to a just conclusion. They also mark the beginning of a much-needed healing process for the Colombian people. Given the deep ties that bind our two countries and our shared commitment to democratic values, we are gratified by your progress thus far and remain hopeful that your administration will guide the negotiations to a successful end.

We applaud the milestones you have already reached in this process, including a landmine removal initiative, the decision to establish a truth commission and an agreement by the FARC to cease the recruitment of minors. We also appreciate your attention to victims' rights and strongly encourage you to ensure that the final accords satisfy the needs of victims of all armed actors for truth, justice, reparations, and guarantees that the violence of the past will not return.

Please be assured that as Latino members of Congress, we appreciate the critical role that U.S. assistance has played in facilitating your progress to date. We remain firmly committed to ensuring that the United States continues to serve as an effective partner in your efforts to secure and implement a lasting peace in Colombia.

Thank you again for your dedication to the peace process. We look forward to working with you to build a peaceful and prosperous future for the Colombian people.

Sincerely,

Rep. Linda T. Sánchez
Chairwoman
Congressional Hispanic Caucus

Rep. Ruben Gallego
Whip
Congressional Hispanic Caucus