

# Peace Process in Colombia: Options for the Trump Administration

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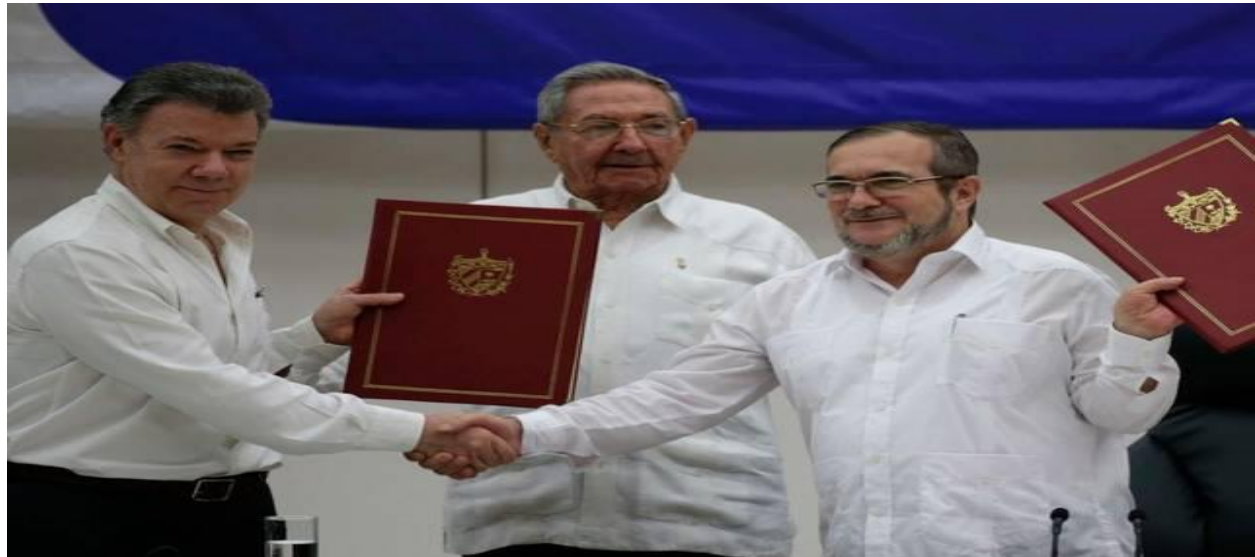
**“After the Peace Agreement: What Next for Colombia?”**

**Woodrow Wilson Center**

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# Overview

- Introduction
  - How/Will the Trump Administration Support the Peace Process?
- Range of Options for the Trump Administration
  - Unconditional Support for the Peace Process
  - Press for Amendments to the Peace Accords
  - Support the Peace Process with Conditions
- Review Options
- Conclusions



# The Range of Options

Unconditional Support  
For Peace Process

Support the Peace  
Process w/ Conditions

Press to Amend the  
Peace Process



**Trump: Americans First...  
Everybody else got to go...  
America is not your sugar daddy**

# Option 1

## Unconditional Support for Peace Process

### **Rationale:** Support Colombia—a Steadfast US Ally

- US spent Billions on Plan Colombia w/Bipartisan Support
  - Peace Accords are evidence of Plan Colombia's success
  - President Obama promised \$450M for Implementation
- US Traditionally Supports Democratic Governance
  - Peace accords result from democratic process
- Agreement not perfect—but there had to be incentives to get FARC to demobilize
- If Accords not implemented, FARC members will return to crime and insurgency:
  - BACRIM, Organized Crime, ELN, Dissident Groups
- Implementation will be Expensive (\$30B over 10 years)—But less costly than 10 more years of war

## Option 2

### Press to Amend Agreement: Improve Chances for Success

**Rationale:** Why support a flawed process that could fail?

- “No” Sector: Peace Agreement Does not Equal Peace
  - A step on the path to peace
- Agreement Could Increase Insecurity
  - “Transitional Justice” only restricts liberty of perpetrators of atrocities
  - FARC Chiefs can be appointed to Congress despite heinous crimes
- Will FARC Comply w/Agreement?
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Phase: Continued “political warfare” by any/all means (“Combinar todas las formas de lucha”)
- 2018 Presidential Elections could Reverse Pact
  - Congressional approval of amended agreement in Nov 16 lacks democratic legitimacy of referendum
  - Gaining a Popular Consensus Important

## Option 3

# Support Peace Process w/Conditions that Advance US Interests

### **Rationale: “America First”:**

- Old approach: Benefits of US leadership worth more than the cost
- Current approach? Leadership Costs more than it benefits US?

### **US policy results from integration of institutional interests:**

- DOS: Regional Stability—Uncertainty causes strategic instability
  - Would affect Colombian and regional economies
  - Impact of Venezuela Collapse?
- DOD: Security: Military-to-Military Relationship
  - Colombia helps export security
- DOJ: Reduce Drug Flow and Counter Organized Crime
  - Increase Eradication (Resume Aerial Spraying)?
  - Extradition of Narco-traffickers?
- NSC: Integrate Institutional and Presidential Objectives

# Conclusions

