

# COLOMBIA TODAY

A Weekly Update from the Embassy of Colombia

February 14, 2017

## President Santos Speaks with President Trump and Vice President Pence

Last Friday and Saturday, Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos spoke with U.S. Vice President Mike Pence and President Donald Trump, respectively.

Here's the White House readout of both calls:

*“President Donald J. Trump spoke with President Juan Manuel Santos of Colombia over the weekend to underscore the importance of continuing the long history of cooperation with Colombia, one of our strongest allies in the Western Hemisphere. President Trump reiterated the value the United States places on the relationship, and both Presidents discussed U.S. support for Colombia’s effort to create a just and lasting peace in its 52-year conflict with the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC). ... [T]he leaders discussed the importance of promoting respect for democratic institutions and norms throughout the Western Hemisphere. The two leaders look forward to meeting each other in the future.” See the full statement [here](#).*

*“Vice President Mike Pence spoke by telephone today with President Juan Manuel Santos of Colombia. The two leaders discussed the important bilateral relationship between the United States and Colombia that has existed for many years, and they pledged to maintain and deepen their cooperation on security issues. The Vice President congratulated President Santos for the initial steps in implementing the Colombian peace accord. The two leaders vowed to remain in close communication on bilateral and regional priorities.” See the full statement [here](#).*

Vice President Pence also tweeted the following:



## Ambassador Pinzón Visits the Mile-High City

Colombian Ambassador to the United States Juan Carlos Pinzón visited Denver last Thursday and Friday. During his two-day visit, the Ambassador met with local business leaders and policymakers on ways to expand the Colombia-Colorado partnership. On Thursday, the Ambassador sat down with Colorado Governor John Hickenlooper and visited the National Renewable Energy Laboratory. On Friday, he met with Denver Mayor Michael Hancock and business leaders from Ball Corporation, DaVita and Liberty Global.

Following the visit, Ambassador Pinzón said:

*“The U.S.-Colombia partnership led to Colombia’s remarkable turnaround from the brink of becoming a failed state to the most dynamic economy in Latin America. The partnership created the pathway to peace and laid the foundation for Colombia to be an even stronger ally and economic partner to the United States. My visit confirmed that working together there is so much more our two nations can achieve to benefit businesses, families and workers from Denver to Bogotá.”*

[Read more](#) about the visit in *The Denver Post* – and here are additional highlights in tweets:



Ambassador Pinzon @ColAmbPinzon · Feb 10

At @BallCorpHQ, met w/CEO John Hayes to learn more about the business, from packaging to aerospace, & opportunities in Colombia #COLinDenver



BCIU

4 retweets 9 likes



Ambassador Pinzon @ColAmbPinzon · Feb 9

@ GovofCO @hickforco considers what has happened in the last decade in Colombia is a source of inspiration



4 retweets 0 likes



Ambassador Pinzon @ColAmbPinzon · Feb 9

Had a chance to visit @NREL this afternoon and saw renewable energy innovation & technology at work #COLinDenver



4 retweets 4 likes



Ambassador Pinzon @ColAmbPinzon · Feb 10

Participated in a business roundtable at @libertyglobal, largest global TV & broadband company, on expanding US-COL economic ties. @BCIU



4 retweets 7 likes

**Ambassador Pinzon** @ColAmbPinzon · Feb 10  
.[@MayorHancock](#), thank you for the warm welcome. I look forward to working together to expand the Colombia-Denver partnership [#COLinDenver](#)



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**Ambassador Pinzon** @ColAmbPinzon · Feb 10  
Visiting w/our Colombian community here in Denver filled me with pride – a highlight of my trip [#COLinDenver](#)



4 10

## Embassy Teams with Google to Host Policy Forum on Innovation in South America

Ambassador Pinzón hosted a policy forum last Wednesday on “South America: Investing in Innovation.” The event, presented by Google and produced by CRAFT, brought together leaders in technology and innovation policy, including Diego Molano, former Colombian Minister of Information and Communication Technologies; Jose Miguel Sokoloff, Global President of Mullenlowe Group’s Creative Council; David Weller, Head of Global Trade Policy at Google; and Ashley Friedman, Director of Global Policy at ITI.

See more at [#ExperienceColombiaTech](#).

**Ambassador Pinzon** @ColAmbPinzon · Feb 8  
Great event w/[@Google](#) on tech and innovation in South America and Colombia’s role in driving further advances



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