

COLOMBIA

Region: South America (Global South)
[Population \(2022\)](#): 51.9 million (28th)
[Life Expectancy at Birth \(Women\)](#): 81.87 years
[Governance System](#): Presidential republic (democratic)

Capital: Bogotá
[Land Area \(km²\)](#): 1,109,500 (26th)
Major Language: Spanish

Select Global Rankings

[GDP \(2022\)](#): 45th (343,939 US\$ Millions)
[Human Development Index](#): 88th (High)
[Fragile States Index - Inverted](#): 120th (Cat. 7)

[Good Country Index](#): 68th
[Human Freedom Index](#): 89th
[World Happiness Ranking](#): 72nd

Select Global Rankings (Gender-Focus)

[Gross National Income Per Capita \(Women\)](#): 76th
[Gender Social Norms Index](#): 45th
[Women's Power Index](#): 52nd
[Social Institutions and Gender Index \(World Cup rank\)](#): 24th

[Gender Inequality Index](#): 102nd
[Global Gender Gap Index](#): 42nd
[Women Peace & Security Index](#): 90th

Elite Sport System Rankings

[2020 Summer Olympic Women's Medals \(% of Total\)](#): 2 (40%)
[2022 Winter Olympic Women's Medals \(% of Total\)](#): no medals
[Global Cup Ranking \(Women\)](#): 30th

Football/World Cup Profile

[FIFA Region](#): CONMEBOL
[FIFA Ranking](#): 25
World Cup Appearance: 3rd
Best World Cup Performance(s): Round of 16 (2015)

Qualification: Copa América 2nd place
[World Cup Group](#): H
Last World Cup Appearance: 2015

COLOMBIA in International (Gender) Affairs (by Jonah Lee)

Previously a colony of Spain, Colombia emerged from the [collapse of Gran Colombia in 1830](#). While the nation has not had many large disputes with other countries since independence, it has long suffered from internal conflict. [La Violencia](#) was a ten-year civil war that took place between the Colombian Conservative and Liberal parties from 1948-1958. Resulting in over 200,000 casualties, the war left Colombia in a state of social tension and with a fragile economy. In the mid-1960s came the uprising of a group of farmers and land workers fighting against the nation's security forces to reduce the levels of inequality seen throughout the country. Known as the [Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia](#) (Farc), they quickly grew into Colombia's greatest rebel group who were known to utilize explosives, landmines, and kidnap civilians for ransom as the primary means of communicating their message. A large portion of [financing for the Farc was through the illegal drug trade](#) and cultivation of coca plants, something that has become engrained in the country's international reputation. Moving towards present day and legal resources, Colombia's economy is built on [commodity-driven industries](#) with oil, coal, coffee, and gold being the nation's top exports. Although it is classified as a country with an upper middle-income

economy, the stark levels of inequality continue to place the nation as one of the [highest in poverty rates and income disparity](#) in the world.

The past two decades have shown major progress towards gender equality across the country. According to the [World Economic Forum's Global Gender Gap Index](#), Colombia ranks 22nd out of 153 countries, a number that is the product of numerous policy implementations. Since 2005, UN Women has worked with the nation to increase political leadership and participation, economic development, and put an end to gender violence. Through the [quota law](#), it is required for women candidates on party electoral lists to comprise at least 30% of the total. In 2012, a plan to address the nation's struggles with violence against women came in the form of the [Public Policy Guidelines for Women's Gender Equality and the Victims and Restitution of Land Law](#). Unfortunately, [these efforts have not been successful](#), as 2021 saw only 18.8% of seats in parliament held by women and in 2018, 11.9% of women from the ages of 15 to 49 reported being victims of physical or sexual violence by their past or present intimate partners in the previous 12 months. Furthermore, the previously mentioned income inequality affecting the nation hits [particularly hard for women living in rural areas](#) as not only are there far fewer economic opportunities, social norms are much more traditionalist and favour the patriarchy. Considering soccer, the Colombian women's team has faced numerous struggles in the past few years. [Not qualifying for the 2019 Cup](#) as a result of not having a head coach and a continued gender pay gap are just a few of the ways in which the Federation of Colombian Futbol has continued to discriminate against the women's team.