

Juan Carlos Pinzón

Influential Diplomat, Politician, and Economist; Ambassador of Colombia to the United States (2021-2022 & 2015-2017); Colombian Minister of National Defense (2011-2015)

A Diplomatic Analysis of the Politics and Economics in Latin America. Previously the Ambassador of Colombia to the U.S., few possess the level of expertise and insights as Juan Carlos Pinzón when it comes to breaking down, and tying together, the ins and outs of the current political and economic landscape in Latin America and relating it to current events in the U.S. and elsewhere in the world. In this talk, Pinzón examines the changes in politics, policy, and economics that are taking place, explains the anticipated impact as Latin America continues to evolve, highlights can't-miss investment opportunities in the region for the US and its businesses, and opens the audience's eyes to Latin America's potential in an increasingly complex world.

The Past, Present, and Future of the US in Latin America. The U.S.-Colombian partnership has endured the test of time and continues to grow stronger, having crossed the bicentennial mark. A power player in diplomatic relations between the two nations in recent times, former Ambassador of Colombia to the United States Juan Carlos Pinzón takes audiences through history and into the present day as he shares an insider's perspective on the U.S.'s relationship with Colombia to set the scene for the current day between the two nations, and examine the U.S.'s interests in Latin America as a whole. In this talk, he provides a high-level overview of where the U.S. and its corporations' priorities stand in Latin America and why, and puts forth practical ideas for how to manage current risks in the region.

The Effects of Global Power Competition. With the rise of new world powers, inevitably comes increased competition as the world's leading nations vie to impart their influence and further their interests. Prominent political and economic expert and two-time Ambassador of Colombia to the United States Juan Carlos Pinzón leads a fascinating discussion as he describes the current global power competition (GPC) and investigates the roles of China, Russia, and Iran in Latin America and around the world, as well as how Latin American countries play into the GPC.

National Security in Latin America. Before his appointment as Ambassador of Colombia to the United States, Juan Carlos Pinzón served as Colombia's Minister of Defense from 2011-2015. Under his leadership, Colombia's armed forces greatly minimized the threats of terrorist organizations and criminal enterprises by degrading their capabilities, structure, and leadership, leading the country to improved security conditions and its lowest homicide rate in 35 years. Tapping into his national security acumen of the region, Pinzón leads the audience in a study of the current and potential areas of conflict and disruption in Latin America — both in the physical and digital realm. In doing so, he demonstrates the interconnectedness of Latin America's national security with the rest of the world, while also outlining action steps for strengthening the protections in place, beginning with the military.

Lessons in Leadership. A leader in both the public and private sectors, two-time Ambassador of Colombia to the U.S. Juan Carlos Pinzón draws from his experiences serving as the link between the U.S. and Colombia, advising the world's most powerful figures, and driving policy that strengthened international relations to share powerful lessons for leading in highly complex environments. Pinzón takes audience members behind the scenes, revisiting his time as Colombia's youngest and longest-serving civilian Minister of Defense and his special ops success in the boundaries of democracy and human rights, among other pivotal moments in his career, and provides actionable strategies for how leaders in any field can break through to their people, drive them to action, and achieve their goals.