# International Parliamentarians' Congress (IPC) Election Observation Mission Colombia 2022



**Connecting Parliamentarians** 

### INTERNATIONAL PARLIAMENTARIANS' CONGRESS REPORT



## Presidential Election (First Round) of **COLOMBIA**-2022

This report covers the detail findings and observations of the Colombian Presidential Elections First Round 2022, observed by the International Parliamentarians' Congress on May 29th, 2022



**Connecting Parliamentarians** 

## CONTENTS

IVIESS/	AGE OF THE PRESIDENT INTERNATIONAL PARLIAMENTARIANS' CONGRESS (IPC)	4	
INTER	NATIONAL PARLIAMENTARIANS' CONGRESS (IPC)- AN OVERVIEW	6	
INTRODUCTION			
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT			
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY			
THE REPUBLIC OF COLOMBIA			
HISTO	RY: COLOMBIA ELECTORAL AND PARTY SYSTEM	11	
CANDIDATES FOR PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS			
i.	Mr. Gustavo Petro	11	
ii.	Mr. Rodolfo Hernández	12	
iii.	Mr. Federico Gutierrez	12	
iv.	Mr. Sergio Fajardo	12	
V.	Ms. Ingrid Betancourt	13	
REGISTRATION OF CANDIDATES			
ELECT	ORAL SYSTEM	13	
i.	LEGAL FRAMEWORK	14	
ii.	VOTERS REGISTRATION AND PROCESS	14	
COLOMBIAN PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS 2022 (First Round)			
OFFICIAL ELECTION RESULTS			
CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION			

## MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT INTERNATIONAL PARLIAMENTARIANS' CONGRESS (IPC)

Colombia, a developing country has struggled with political and social problems during the last decades but despite the internal conflict, Colombia has a strong democratic tradition. Colombia's democracy emerged in the late nineteenth century and is one of the three states of Latin America to be marked as liberal democracies.

Towards the end of the 1980s, however, the political, economic, and social situation in Colombia started to deteriorate, the electoral regime, however, survived the increasing political and social violence. After a series of institutional reforms, Colombia adopted a new Constitution in 1991, which was there to steer Colombia towards a democracy open to citizen participation.

The Politics of Colombia take place in a framework of a presidential representative democratic republic, whereby the President of Colombia is both head of state and head of government, and of a multi-party system. Executive power is carried out by the government.

The Republic of Colombia held its Presidential Elections (First Round) on 29th May 2022 to elect its President after the previous 2018 elections.

At the request of the International Parliamentarians' Congress (IPC), the Government of Colombia accredited IPC to exercise its Election Observation Mission (EOM) and observe the Colombian Presidential Elections 2022 (First Round). To fulfill the task, the Assistant Secretary General IPC Mr. Ijlal Ali Khan visited Colombia to observe the election process for Presidential Election.

The IPC is a transnational network of parliamentarians who have joined hands to play a proactive role in promoting peace and sustainable development through cooperation and dialogue. The agenda of IPC is not limited to the strengthening of democracy, the IPC intends to bring together MPs to make collective efforts for human development and prosperity. It is indeed a matter of great satisfaction that the IPC has been growing as per its founding aims and objectives which included the creation of synergies among the parliamentary community to cope with daunting challenges humanity faces through dialogue and cooperation.

I take the opportunity to present this report, which is based on the experiences of the IPC EOM sent to Colombia to observe the Presidential election held on 29th May 2022. This report gives a comprehensive overview of the elections and their Presidential system as well as provides a detailed analysis of the 2022 Presidential elections. The report also presents the findings, that were made by the EOM during their visits and list recommendations that could be taken up to improve the existing system.

#### Senator Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani

#### **The President**

International Parliamentarians' Congress (IPC)



## INTERNATIONAL PARLIAMENTARIANS' CONGRESS (IPC)- AN OVERVIEW

A transcontinental platform of individual members of national Parliaments across the globe united in purpose to jointly resolve global and regional issues that invariably impact the whole of humanity. IPC envisages bringing together parliamentarians from different countries to conceptualize, strategize, and implement ideas of peace, prosperity, and progress in the world through cooperation; mutual understanding; sharing, and exchange of ideas as well as experiences. At IPC we aim to collaborate and cooperate not only among world Parliamentarians but also with various multilateral organizations to promote mutual understanding, sharing, and exchange of ideas for the betterment of humanity.

Constituted through a Resolution adopted by the Senate of Pakistan on 29th August 2019, Permanently Headquartered in Islamabad-Pakistan, IPC is headed by Chairman Senate/ President IPC Senator Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani.

IPC being an international organization, is under the ownership of two Vice Presidents, first belongs to the Republic of Djibouti, H.E Mr. Muhammad Ali Houmed, who is also a President of the National Assembly of the Republic of Djibouti, and the second Vice President is from the Azerbaijani Republic, H.E Ms. Sahiba Gafarova, who is also the Chair of the Milli Majlis (National Assembly) of Azerbaijan.

The congress works on key thematic areas of Climate Change, Food Security, Human Rights, Peace and Security, Conflict Resolution, Interfaith Harmony, Developmental Cooperation, Human Development, Trade & Commerce, and Monitoring of Elections in the World.

These thematic areas are operated under their respective committees. We tend to develop cooperation, synergy and strategies across all Parliaments for achieving a prosperous and peaceful world through effective independent interaction among Parliamentarians. We aim to reach out and unite nearly 56,000 parliamentarians worldwide under IPC's platform.

## **INTRODUCTION**

Election Observation Missions (EOMs) are one of the thematic areas in which the International Parliamentarians' Congress (IPC) is working to enhance cooperation and cordial relations among other states.

IPC carried out EOMs to observe an electoral process in a direct, complete, and precise manner, to assess free, fair, and transparent elections, its electioneering process, and to seek guidance from the country's electoral procedures. The evolution of international election observation has coincided with the strengthening of democratic governments.

Since the creation of IPC, we are keen to fulfill IPC's EOMs mandate and initiated sending the delegation to observe the elections in various countries after receiving accreditation from states. In the year 2019, a delegation of IPC observed the United Kingdom General elections, in 2020, The Jordanian General elections, and in 2021, a delegation observed the Netherlands Parliamentary elections. All the EOMs have their reports published, after the approval from the respective country's government and receive recognition from them. Moreover, IPC achieved the status of an International Observer in the 76th session of the Executive Committee of the African Parliamentary Union (APU) in 2021.

Similarly, at the invitation of the National Electoral Council (CNE) Colombia, IPC sent an Election Observation Mission (EOM) to Colombia, Mr. Ijlal Ali Khan, Assistant Secretary General IPC, to oversee the 2022 Presidential Elections (First Round). The EOM was to analyze the electoral process to assess its compliance with the international commitment and to observe its electioneering process. Mr. Ijlal Ali Khan met with the electoral administration, civil society representatives, and organizations of national and international observers, among others.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

We are very thankful to Assistant Secretary-General IPC Mr. Ijlal Ali Khan for carrying out EOM, overseeing the Presidential Elections 2022 (First Round) and further share his observations.

The IPC also wishes to thank the National Electoral Council which provides information on elections and accredited IPC for carrying out EOM, Jose Antonio Vargas Yuncosa, International Relations Advisor, and Surveys National Electoral Council for cooperation and continuous assistance.

We also extend our gratitude to representatives of Bogota-Colombia, political parties, candidates, media, civil society, the resident diplomatic community, and other interlocutors for support and sharing their views.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Elections in Colombia are regulated by the country's 1991 Political Constitution and 1986 Electoral Code. Colombian presidents are elected for four-year terms using a two-round system; if no candidate receives a majority of the vote in the first round, a runoff is held between the top two candidates. The vice president is elected on the same ticket as the president.

In accordance with Resolution 4371 (May 18, 2021) of the National Civil Registry (RNEC), Colombia held its presidential elections May 29, 2022. The RNEC arranged 102,152 voting booths in 12,513 polling stations across the country and abroad.<sup>1</sup>

Voting in Colombia is considered a right but is not a requirement. The Constitution guarantees the right to vote to every Colombian citizen over the age of 18 who has registered his or her national identification document. Exceptions are members of security forces (military and police) and individuals convicted of felonies. The number of citizens expected to vote in these elections were 39,002,239 (20,111,908 women and 18,890,331 men).<sup>2</sup>

IPC is mandated to monitor and observe the elections held around the world to ensure free, fair, and transparent elections. Besides election observations, IPC missions also utilize these opportunities to broaden their understanding of electoral procedures that states around the world practice and later to publish reports on the mission to disseminate the understanding to the government of Pakistan.

Colombians voted on 29 May 2022, to determine who would win the first round and would advance to the runoff second round of elections held on 19 June 2022.

The elections were competitive and pluralistic which provided voters with a wide range of choices. The registered voter turnout stood superior to 60 percent in the first round of the Colombian presidential elections of 2022.

<sup>1.</sup> Diana Roy. Council Foreign Relation: "Colombia's 2022 Presidential Election: What to Know", 17 May 2022.

<sup>2.</sup> National Registry of Civil Status. https://www.registraduria.gov.co/39-002-239-colombianos-estan-habilitados-para-votar-en-las-elecciones-de.html

## THE REPUBLIC OF COLOMBIA

Colombia, officially known as the Republic of Colombia, is the fifth-largest country in Latin America and home to the world's second-largest population of Spanish-speaking people. Colombia is nicknamed the "gateway to South America" because it sits in the northwestern part of the continent where South America connects with Central and North America. Its 1,600 km of coast to the north are covered by the waters of the Caribbean Sea, and 1,300 km of coast to the west are flowed over by the Pacific Ocean. The country is bordered by Panama, which divides the two bodies of water, on the northwest, by Venezuela and Brazil on the east, and by Peru and Ecuador on the south. The population is largely concentrated in the mountainous interior, where Bogotá, the national capital, is situated on a high plateau in the northern Andes Mountains.<sup>3</sup>

The only American nation that is named for Christopher Columbus, the "discoverer" of the New World, Colombia presents a remarkable study in contrasts, in both its geography and its society.

Colombia won independence from Spain in the early 19th century and was one of three countries that formed out of the 19th-century collapse of Gran Colombia.



The Government of Colombia is a republic with a separation of powers into executive, judicial and legislative branches. Its legislature has a congress, its judiciary has a supreme court, and its executive branch has a president. Colombia has a long history of democracy. The country is run by a president, who is elected every four years. Laws are made by a House of Representatives and a Senate.<sup>4</sup>

The citizens of Colombia cast votes concerning their government, and they hire a public sector office for an inspector general to oversee the public interface of the government. This safeguards the public, and guarantees the human rights spelled out in the Constitution of 1991, which provides the framework for a welfare state and a unitary republic.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>3.</sup> James J. Parsons. Estado de Nueva Granada, República de Colombia, Republic of Colombia, Britanicca.

<sup>4.</sup> Colombia - Facts & Information. <a href="https://www.infoplease.com/world/countries/colombia">https://www.infoplease.com/world/countries/colombia</a>

<sup>5.</sup> National Registry of Civil Status-Information on Procedures. (registraduria.gov.co)



## HISTORY: COLOMBIA ELECTORAL AND PARTY SYSTEM

Colombia represents a rare case of a political context with a number of electoral system changes over a period of years. It serves as a natural experiment that demonstrates that party systems do react to changes in institutional parameters.<sup>6</sup>

Colombia elects its head of state "the president" on national level and a legislature. The president is elected for a four-year term by the people. The Congress' (Congreso) has two chambers. The House of Representatives (Cámara de Representantes) has 162 members, elected for a four-year term by proportional representation. The Senate of the Republic (Senado de la República) has 102 members, elected for a four-year term by proportional representation.<sup>7</sup>

Colombia has mainly had two parties in most of its history, the Liberal and the Conservative party. The latter has always been more representative of rural districts and their big landlords while the liberal party's natural constituencies are urban. As urbanization increased, the Liberals increased their share of seats in Congress. The two parties maintained a balance between the 1960s and the 1970s, with a slight Liberal majority. The Liberal party consolidated its lead in the 1980s, achieving an average representation of 55% in Congress, while the Conservatives averaged about 25%, and the remaining 20% went to other political forces.<sup>8</sup>

Since the implementation of the 1991 constitution, however, there has been a proliferation of 3rd parties which have won the most recent elections.



## CANDIDATES FOR PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

#### i. Mr. Gustavo Petro

Senator Petro, the candidate with the highest name recognition, belongs to the leftist party, the Historic Pact Coalition. Between times in Colombia's Congress, Petro served as mayor of the capital Bogotá and was a member of a leftist guerrilla group, the M-19. Petro last ran for president in the 2018 election, winning a historic number of votes for the political left in the runoff vote but unfortunately lost to Duque by 12 points. Petro would be Colombia's first leftist President if get selected. Petro's campaign has focused on economic and environmental matters, including a promise to transition away from fossil fuels and toward renewable energy sources such as solar, wind, and hydropower.



<sup>6.</sup> Steven L. Taylor and Matthew S. Shugart. "Electoral Systems in Context: Colombia", Apr 2018.

<sup>7.</sup> Dr Christopher Sabatini. "Colombia: a party system in free fall", Chatham House, 1st April 2022. <a href="https://www.chathamhouse.org/publications/the-world-today/2022-04/colombia-party-system-free-fall">https://www.chathamhouse.org/publications/the-world-today/2022-04/colombia-party-system-free-fall</a>

<sup>8.</sup> GÈrard Roland and Juan Gonzalo Zapata. "Colombiaís Electoral and Party System: Proposals For Reforms", June 2000.Holly K. Sonneland, Jon Orbach, and Hope Wilkinson. "Explainer: Who's Who in Colombia's 2022 Presidential Race", May 20, 2022. <a href="https://www.as-coa.org/articles/explainer-whos-who-colombias-2022-presidential-race">https://www.as-coa.org/articles/explainer-whos-who-colombias-2022-presidential-race</a>

He has also pledged to combat income inequality, reform the healthcare and pension systems, and eliminate corruption. He won his consultation with not only more than 80% of the vote, but he also received almost 4.5 million ballots, twice what he earned in the 2018 consultations.

#### ii. Mr. Rodolfo Hernández

An independent and relatively new to politics, he belongs to the citizens' group Liga de Gobernantes Anticorrupción. He is an engineer by training who became a builder and served as mayor of Bucaramanga from 2016 until his resignation in 2019. He is also a founder of a political movement known as the Anticorruption League. Hernández plans to self-finance his campaign and to avoid forming political alliances. Moreover, he did not compete in a March consultation but run as an independent in the Presidential Elections. <sup>10</sup>

The focal point of his campaign platform is anti-corruption. His campaign slogan is "Don't lie, don't steal, don't betray". He has conducted his campaign largely over social media platforms, such as TikTok, and has avoided candidate debates.



#### iii. Mr. Federico Gutierrez

AHe is a Colombian politician and civil engineer who served as the mayor of Medellín from 2016 to 2019 and was previously a member of the Medellín municipal council from 2004 to 2011. A right-wing candidate for Team of Colombia, he is supported by a conservative alliance. He's running under the banner of his We Believe Colombia movement.

His focuses are on anti-poverty and anti-crime measures, upon which he thinks that both are necessary to give economic growth stability to Colombia. He also advocates for education reform and more skills training and leans toward fewer market regulations and more state decentralization.



is "Don't lie, don't steal, don't betray". He has conducted his campaign largely over social media platforms, such as TikTok, and has avoided candidate debates. <sup>11</sup>

#### iv. Mr. Sergio Fajardo

Belong to Esperanza coalition Centre, he is a trained mathematician as well as a former mayor and governor. Campaigning as an independent, Fajardo gained national recognition as first the mayor of Medellín from 2004 to 2008 and then governor of Antioquia from 2012 to 2016. His tenure was characterized by a number of ambitious public works projects that garnered international recognition. After this term ended, Fajardo worked as a political commentator for several Colombian news outlets and joined Antanas Mockus' 2010 presidential campaign as the vice-presidential candidate. <sup>12</sup>

He has unsuccessfully run for president three times, and his campaign centers on improving education and environmental reform.



<sup>10.</sup> Ibid

<sup>11.</sup> Ibid.

<sup>12.</sup> Matthew Devlin. "From Fear to Hope in Colombia: Sergio Fajardo and Medellín, 2004-2007", Interview, November 3, 2009. <a href="https://successfulsocieties.princeton.edu/interviews/sergio-fajardo-valderrama">https://successfulsocieties.princeton.edu/interviews/sergio-fajardo-valderrama</a>

#### v. Ms. Ingrid Betancourt

She is a former senator and a late entry to the 2022 race, who was held prisoner by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) for more than six years. Her campaign primarily focuses on anti-corruption, securing reparations for victims of armed conflicts, and bolstering environmental protections.

During the 2018 campaign, she was an advocate for the implementation of the peace agreement with the FARC, while also criticizing the armed group's leadership.<sup>13</sup>





## REGISTRATION OF CANDIDATES

Per articles 191 and 204 <sup>14</sup> of the Colombian Constitution, the presidency and vice presidency share the same eligibility requirements. The candidate must be Colombian by birth, Colombian citizens, and over 30 years old.

In order to be accepted as a candidate, applicants must either have the backing of a recognized political party in order to run as their official candidate or to collect a minimum number of signatures in order to run as an independent candidate. Legislative Act No. 2 of 2015 established that the runner-up in the presidential elections is given a seat in the Senate and their vice-presidential candidate will become a member of the House of Representatives.



## **ELECTORAL SYSTEM**

The Colombian electoral system is comprised of two levels. Article 120 of the Constitution of Colombia establishes Colombia's Election Management Bodies: The National Civil Registry (RNEC) and the National Electoral Council (CNE).

- a. National Electoral Council (CNE), is the country's highest electoral authority. It is responsible for regulating and enforcing constitutional and legal provisions dealing with elections and democratic participation. It is also charged with "preserving the social welfare state by ensuring that citizens possess the means to exercise their electoral rights; and strengthening democratic participation through the application and enactment of appropriate regulatory mechanisms. The CNE is made up of nine magistrates who are elected by the Colombian Congress for four-year terms. Magistrates mirror the percentage of representation of parties in Congress. As part of the peace agreement between the Colombian government and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), a 10th magistrate was appointed in 2017, serving as a delegate from the demobilized group.<sup>15</sup>
- 2. The National Civil State Registry (RNEC), is responsible for organizing and processing vote tallies and election results. The RNEC is responsible for the technical and operational dimension of the electoral process in Colombia. Among its other responsibilities, the RNEC oversees the organization of electoral and citizen participation processes, carries out national civil registration policies, updates the voter roll and oversees the vote counting and result dissemination

<sup>13.</sup> Holly K. Sonneland , Jon Orbach and Hope Wilkinson. "Explainer: Who's Who in Colombia's 2022 Presidential Race", May 20, 2022. https://www.as-coa.org/articles/explainer-whos-who-colombias-2022-presidential-race

<sup>14.</sup> The constitution of Colombia. <a href="https://www.constitucioncolombia.com/titulo-7/capitulo-1/articulo-191">https://www.constitucioncolombia.com/titulo-7/capitulo-1/articulo-191</a>

<sup>15.</sup> The National Electoral Council (CNE). https://www.cne.gov.co/la-entidad/acerca-del-cne

processes. The RNEC is headed by the national registrar, who is selected for a four-year term by the Supreme Court, the State Council, and the Constitutional Court. The current national registrar, Alexander Vega, was appointed in 2019.<sup>16</sup>

#### i. LEGAL FRAMEWORK

The legal framework for elections in Colombia enshrines fundamental political rights and freedoms, generally guaranteeing the right to political participation without unreasonable institutional and legal barriers, and establishing effective mechanisms for their protection. Elections are framed by the 1991 Constitution, the 1986 Election Law, and the 2011 Law on political parties and electoral processes. Presidential elections are, in addition, specifically provided for by Law 996/2005, known as the Ley de Garantías.<sup>16</sup>

Colombian presidents are elected for four-year terms using a two-round system; if no candidate receives a majority of the vote in the first round, a runoff is held between the top two candidates. The Constitution prohibits election to more than one four-year presidential mandate. The Vice President is elected on the same ticket as the President.

Although the legal framework provides an adequate basis for holding democratic elections, its dispersal across numerous instruments renders it complex, sometimes to the point of undermining legal certainty. <sup>17</sup>

#### ii. VOTERS REGISTRATION AND PROCESS

In line with the constitution, Colombian citizens by birth or by naturalization, aged eighteen or older, and who have registered or their national identification document have the right to vote. Voting in Colombia is considered a right but is not a requirement. Several scenarios can cause the loss of the right to vote, members of security forces (military and police) and individuals convicted of felonies cannot cast vote, as outlined in the constitution. Citizens in detention centers can vote from the establishments determined by the RNEC. The civil registry inscription is not automatic, and citizens must go to the regional office of the Registry to register.

Moreover, Colombia also allows voting for citizens who are out of the country. Colombians who wish to vote abroad must be included in the electoral roll of Colombians abroad. The role includes:

- I. Colombian citizens whose ID is registered in any voting post abroad.
- II. All Colombian citizens who, upon turning 18 years old after 2005, processed their citizenship cards for the first time in a consulate and have never been registered elsewhere. <sup>18</sup>

In the 2022 Colombian Presidential Elections, voting for the citizens outside the country took place for one full week, from May 23 to May 29, 2022, at the embassy or consulate where each voter is registered, with either an ID or passport used to vote Voting will take place.

<sup>16. &</sup>quot;Colombia - Political and electoral system", Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean, https://oig.cepal.org/en/countries/9/system

<sup>17.</sup> Election Experts Mission (EEM) to COLOMBIA Presidential elections - 27 May (first round) and 17 June 2018 (second round)

<sup>18.</sup> National Registry of Civil Status-Information on Procedures. (registraduria.gov.co)



## COLOMBIAN PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION 2022 (FIRST ROUND)

The first round of Colombia's 2022 presidential election was held on 29 May to choose the candidates for the second round for the posts of president and vice-president of the country for 2022-2026. A total of 102 152 polling tables were distributed in 12500 polling stations.

According to the RNEC, the total registered voters were 39,002,239 out of which 51.6 percent of those eligible to vote were women (20,111,908) and 48.4 percent were men (18,890,331). Total of 21,441,605 votes were cast in the first round making it a 54.98% turnout. <sup>19</sup>

In an unexpected turn of events, Gutiérrez, the closest candidate, who seemed to be the second most popular contender according to the opinion polls, ended up in a third place in the primaries. He was surpassed by Rodolfo Hernández, who obtained 28.17% nearly six million votes, against Gutiérrez who received 23.94% around 5 million votes. As for Petro, he received 40.32 percent of the votes cast, equivalent to 8.53 million ballots, winning the first round of Presidential Elections 2022.

Since no party obtained more than 50% of the votes in the first round of elections on May 29, a run-off election as a second round between the two candidates with the highest votes was held on 19 June 2022. The voters again cast their votes for Gustavo Petro and Rodolfo Hernández, the two most voted candidates of the primaries. <sup>20</sup>

This is the second time Petro has reached the runoff elections, as he was the candidate that faced Duque in the second round of the 2018 presidential elections. This time, however, the left-wing candidate led the polls in the primaries. As the runoff second round of elections was held on 19th June 2022, Gustavo Petro received 11,281,013 votes making it to 50.44%. While on the other hand the second candidate Rodolfo Hernández played off really well and received 10,580,412 votes with 47.31%. Therefore, after receiving 50% votes in the second round, Gustavo won the Presidential elections of Colombia 2022. <sup>21</sup> The total number of voters turn out in the second was recorded as 58.10 which is slightly bigger than the first round.

For the first time, a left-wing candidate was leading the opinion polls and won the elections. Thus, Colombia welcomes its first leftist President Mr. Gustavo Petro and Vice President Ms. Francia Márquez with 50.44% votes.

<sup>19. &</sup>quot;Colombia: Election Preparedness - DREF Plan of Action", DREF No. MDRCO020, 8th June 2022, <a href="https://reliefweb.int/report/colombia/colombia-election-preparedness-dref-plan-action-dref-no-mdrco020">https://reliefweb.int/report/colombia/colombia-election-preparedness-dref-plan-action-dref-no-mdrco020</a>

<sup>20.</sup> Teresa Romero. "Presidential elections in Colombia 2022 - statistics & facts", June 23, 2022. https://www.statista.com/topics/9444/presidential-elections-in-colombia-2022/#dossierKeyfigures

<sup>21.</sup> Julie Turkewitz. "Colombia Election: Gustavo Petro Makes History in Presidential Victory", 21st June 2022. <a href="https://www.nytimes.com/live/2022/06/19/world/colombia-election-results">https://www.nytimes.com/live/2022/06/19/world/colombia-election-results</a>

## OFFICIAL ELECTION RESULT

Candidate for President		Candidate for Vice Party President	First round		Second round		
			Party	Votes	%	Votes	%
Enrique Gómez		Carlos Cuartas	National Salvation Movement	48,685	0.23		
Federico Gutiérrez		Rodrigo Lara Sánchez	Team for Colombia (Creemos Colombia)	5,069,448	23.94		
Gustavo Petro		Francia Márquez	Historic Pact for Colombia (CH)	8,541,617	40.34	11,281,013	50.44
	Íngrid Betancourt	José Luis Esparza	Oxygen Green Party	14,161	0.07		
	John Milton Rodríguez	Sandra de Ias Lajas	Fair and Free Colombia	271,372	1.28		
	Luis Pérez Gutiérrez	Ceferino Mosquera	Independent	11,507	0.05		
	Rodolfo Hernández	Marelen Castillo	League of Anti- Corruption Governors (IND)	5,965,335	28.17	10,580,412	47.31
	Sergio Fajardo	Luis Gilberto Murillo	Hope Center (ASI)	885,268	4.18		
Blank votes				365,764	1.73	501,987	2.24
Total				21,173,157	100.00	22,363,412	100.00
Valid votes				21,173,157	98.75	22,363,412	98.70
Invalid votes				268,448	1.25	295,282	1.30
Total votes				21,441,605	100.00	22,658,694	100.00
Registered voters/turnout				39,002,239		39,002,239	
Total Turnout				54.98%		58.10% <sup>22</sup>	

<sup>22.</sup> National Registry of Civil Status (RNCE) and National Electoral Council (CNE).

## CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

- The EOM from IPC observed that a huge number of security personnel were placed near the polling stations and on the path way to it and people need to cast vote under their surveillance. The high security alert hindered the way of citizens to reach to polling stations easily. Moreover, the huge number of security/Police personnel not only increases stress level in people but also make people anxious with their decision and actions.
- As a recommendation, the freedom of mind is as important as freedom of speech, thus freedom of mind may be
  given to the citizens of Colombia by minimize the deployment of security/Police personnel at the polling stations
  and on the way to the place. This might enhance the voters turns out and can provide citizens with open mind
  approach to cast vote.
- The absence of official media campaign for Presidential Candidates was missing. Limited time can be given to the media campaign for the general public who has less or no access to media, to provide candidate's information regarding their attributes, political agendas, and proposed plans.
- The ballot box (A box with transparent window in front) used for voting in Colombia for Presidential elections is one of the best selections to avoid the Fraudulent voting. The box shown in figure, used in Colombian Presidential elections 2022 keeps a sense of transparency among voters during an election and also safeguarded the people beliefs that the casting of the votes is held free and fair.



Ballot Box used in Colombian Presidential Elections 2022

## ANEXXURE -1

### Selected Pictures from the Elections Observation Mission



National Electoral Council Consejo Nacional Electoral (CNE) Bogota-Colombia



Citizens walking into polling station to cast their vote



Jury sitting to count the votes



The huge number of Police/Security personnel deploy near polling station and on way



Assistant Secretary-General - IPC with the Jury



The security/Police Personnel deploy outside the Polling Station



Assistant Secretary General IPC presenting Global Elections Directory to the officials of National Electoral Congress (CNE)



Assistant Secretary General IPC presenting a letter written to the head of the National Electoral Congress (GNE) by the IPC President



Display of the counting of the votes, received by every candidate in the polling Station

A picture at the Polling Station before the polling start







International Parliamentarians Congress Block C, Ataturk Avenue, G-5, Islamabad Pakistan



WhatsApp +92 51 9244713



Vist our website at www.ipcongress.org



Facebook: /Secretariat.IPCongress



Twitter: @IPCongress



**Connecting Parliamentarians**