

JUAN MANUEL SANTOS

Chair of The Elders; 2016 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate; President of Colombia (2010-2014; 2014-2018)

- Sole recipient of the 2016 Nobel Peace Prize for his tenacity and commitment to peace and reconciliation in Colombia
- Led the international agenda to develop the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), an advocate for ESG Investing and Sustainable Development
- Featured by the World Economic Forum as Statesman of the Year (2017)
- His innovative policies to fight poverty and inequality earned him the appointment as co-founder of the Multidimensional Poverty Peer Network (MPPN) by the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative
- He is Chairman of The Elders, the Global Commission on Drug Policy; member of the board of the International Crisis Group, the Wildlife Conservation Society, and the Rockefeller Foundation Board of Trustees

- Visiting professor at Oxford University
- During his tenure, Colombia became a member of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)

Recognized as one of the most influential leaders in the world, Juan Manuel Santos was the President of Colombia, from 2010 to 2018, where he ushered in a new era of prosperity, peace, equity, and education throughout Colombia during his two-term tenure.

He was one of the initial promoters of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that became the world agenda in 2015 (he officially proposed them in the Rio+20 Summit in 2012). He also led the process to convene a special session of the General Assembly of the United Nations (UNGASS 2016) to discuss more effective ways to face the world drug problem. He was one of the founders and architects of the Pacific Alliance, the most successful economic integration process in Latin America.

He was the sole recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize in 2016 for “his resolute efforts to bring the country’s more than 50-year-long civil war to an end”, according to the Norwegian Nobel Committee. He was also awarded the Lamp of Assisi by the Catholic Church and the Tipperary International Peace Award in Ireland for his efforts to bring peace to his country and the region.

For his aggressive environmental policies to protect his country’s biodiversity and fight climate change, he was awarded the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew International Medal and the Wildlife Conservation Society Theodore Roosevelt Award for Conservation Leadership. In addition, the National Geographic Society honored him for his for unwavering commitment to conservation and Conservation International awarded him the Global Visionary Award.

His innovative and successful policies to fight poverty and inequality earned him the appointment as co-founder of the Multidimensional Poverty Peer Network (MPPN) by the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI), along with his former professor and inspirer of his policies, Economics Nobel Laureate Amartya Sen.

Before being President, he was Minister of Foreign Trade (April 1991) responsible for inserting his country in the global economy. At that time, he was also elected by Congress as the equivalent of Vice-president (Presidential Designate) of the country. He was later Minister of Finance (February 2000) in charge of lifting his country out of the worst recession Colombia had experienced in 80 years, which he did. He was also Minister of Defense (July 2006 – May 2009) where he was able to inflict the severest blows to the FARC guerrillas in their 50 years of existence and bring them to the negotiating table.

In 2005, Santos founded a new political party (The U Party). Just one year after its foundation, it obtained the largest majority in the legislative elections putting an end to one hundred and fifty-seven years of bipartisan dominance of the Congress by the Liberal and the Conservative parties.

He worked in London for nine years as the Chief of the Colombian Delegation to the International Coffee Organization. Before going into public life, he was a deputy publisher and editorial writer for eight years in the newspaper El Tiempo. He won the King of Spain Prize for Journalism for a series of chronicles that exposed the corruption of the Sandinista Revolution in Nicaragua. He has always been a staunch defender of the freedom of the press.

Santos graduated with honors from the Colombian Naval Academy in Cartagena. He holds a Business and Economics degree from the University of Kansas (1969) and did post-graduate studies in the London School of Economics (1973-1974), in the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University and in Harvard University as a Fulbright fellow, where he obtained a Master's in Public Administration from the Kennedy School of Government (1981). He was a Nieman Fellow at Harvard (1987- 1988) and after his presidency, he was named as the Angelopoulos Global Public Leaders Fellow also at Harvard (2018-2019). He has been awarded honorary doctorate degrees in various universities, including La Sorbonne and the London School of Economics.

The World Economic Forum distinguished him as Young Global Leader and years later presented him with an exceptional Global Statesman Award in recognition of his leadership and contribution to peace.

Santos was awarded the Chatham House Prize in 2017 in recognition of his role in formally ratifying a peace agreement with the FARC rebel group and bringing an end to the armed conflict in Colombia.

He was on the cover of Time Magazine and appeared twice on the list of the 100 most influential people in the world.

He has written several books: one of them with British Prime Minister Tony Blair on “The Third Way”; “The Battle for Peace” on the peace process with the Farc; “An optimistic message for a world in crisis” which shows the progress Colombia has made over the past 30 years; and most recently “An outstanding conversation” with Ingrid Betancourt.

Santos is currently the Chairman of the Board of Compaz Foundation, which he created to promote peace, protect the environment and fight poverty, mainly through grassroot leadership. He is Chairman of The Elders and the Global Commission on Drug Policy, as well as a member of the board of the International Crisis Group and the Wildlife Conservation Society. He is a visiting professor at Oxford University. In addition, he is a member of the Rockefeller Foundation Board of Trustees, and he was Conservation International’s Arnhold Distinguished Fellow for three years.

Sought-out to speak everywhere from Harvard University to the World Economic Forum, in his compelling keynotes Santos shares his reflections on the challenges of leadership, revealing what allowed him to change Colombia's history and make the impossible, possible. He delivers a message of unity and humanity that is inspiring, refreshing and necessary amid these turbulent political times. Santos also offers shrewd insights and analysis on issues such as the global economic outlook, global security, and foreign affairs.

Santos is married and has two sons, one daughter, one granddaughter and one grandson.

TEMAS

President Santos tailors each presentation to the needs of his audience and is not limited to the topics listed below. Please ask us about any subject that interests you:

- Global Outook
- Leadership and transformation
- Conflict resolution
- Economic development and public policies
- The Third Way
- Sustainable Development
- Security & War against terrorism
- Drugs & Drug Trafficking

PROGRAMAS

Port of Destiny: From the Impossible to the Possible

In his determined efforts to bring peace to a country that had been plagued by civil war for five decades, President Juan Manuel Santos helped make the impossible, possible. In this moving, empowering, and captivating talk, he shares the lessons learned, his insights on leadership, and the true meaning behind his powerful maxim: that if you have a port of destiny, a true passion or calling, even the most unfavorable winds can help you reach your destination. Santos risked his career and his legacy to bring peace to his people, and he was awarded the 2016 Nobel Peace Prize for his transformative efforts. Now the subject of an inspiring documentary Port of Destiny: Peace, Santos can take audiences behind the scenes of the most crucial moments and decisions of his life, ultimately illuminating a path forward and moving audiences to make a positive impact in their own lives and achieve their goals despite any and all obstacles.

Making tough decisions in times of crises

Humanity is going through an unprecedented crisis. In difficult times, it’s the vision of bold and innovative leaders that enables tough decisions to be made today to build a better future. The experience of Juan Manuel Santos is proof of this. His leadership as Minister of Finance allowed Colombia to overcome an unprecedented economic crisis at the beginning of the 21st century. Subsequently, from the Ministry of Defense, he gave drug trafficking networks, organized crime, and terrorist groups the most successful military coups in the country's history. And, as president of Colombia (2010-2018), he put an end to an armed

conflict of more than 50 years; this milestone earned him the Nobel Peace Prize in 2016. During his government, the country reached record figures in economic growth, infrastructure, and the fight against poverty. Recognized for his conciliatory and constructive vision, President Santos' career shows that, amid a polycrisis, it is possible to make difficult decisions that improve the quality of life of millions of people around the world.

From Crisis to Prosperity: The Global Economic Outlook

Former President of Colombia and Nobel Peace Prize Winner Juan Manuel Santos ushered in a new era of prosperity and equity throughout Colombia during his tenure. During his administration, Colombia became the region's leader in economic growth, job creation, and reduction of poverty, as well as sustainable development. Sought after to speak everywhere from Harvard University to the World Economic forum, Santos offers shrewd insights and analysis on the global economic outlook, the development of international Sustainable Development Goals, and fostering growth in emerging markets.

Sustainable Development: The Key to a Lasting Peace

In his path to ending one of the world's longest armed conflicts, President Juan Manuel Santos pursued sustainable development to achieve a long-lasting peace and was awarded the 2016 Nobel Peace Prize for his determined efforts. Redefining peace around the world, Santos shares his reflections on the importance of protecting biological and cultural diversity as well as enhancing social justice. During Santos' tenure, Colombia led the international agenda to develop the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Thanks to his unwavering commitment to the environment, Santos was granted numerous prestigious international awards, including from National Geographic, Kew Gardens and the Wildlife Conservation Society. In this powerful speech, Santos offers illuminating insights into sustainable development, and how the keys to a lasting peace, conflict resolution, protection of the world's biodiversity, and poverty reduction are inextricably connected.

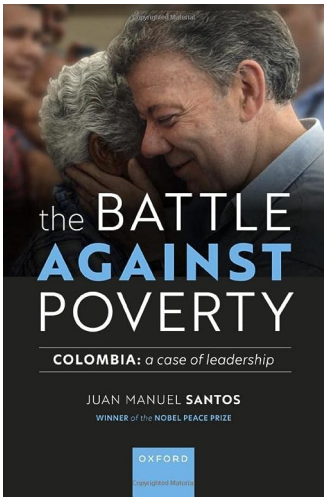
From Colombia to the World: The Future Global Landscape

In his eight years as President of Colombia, Juan Manuel Santos transformed a country that was once the murder capital of the world into a global destination for investment and

tourism. Recognized as one of the most influential leaders in the world, Santos' tenure is marked by his efforts to bring Colombia's five-decade civil war to an end—for which he was awarded the 2016 Nobel Peace Prize— transforming Colombia's economy into the region's leader in economic growth, job creation, and poverty reduction, his unwavering commitment to the environment, and his leadership on education. Drawing on Colombia's remarkable successes, Santos offers shrewd insights into the future global landscape and an urgent message of unity and humanity that is crucial amid these turbulent political times. Informative and inspiring, he provides analysis on themes ranging from fostering growth in emerging markets and sustainable development, to global security and how to build a lasting peace.

PUBLICACIONES

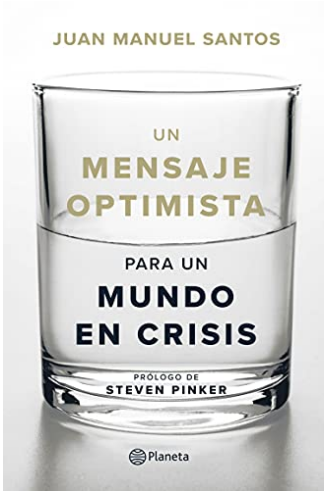
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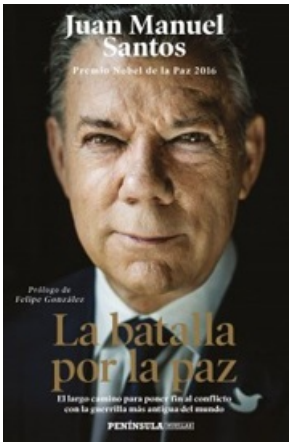
THE BATTLE AGAINST POVERTY



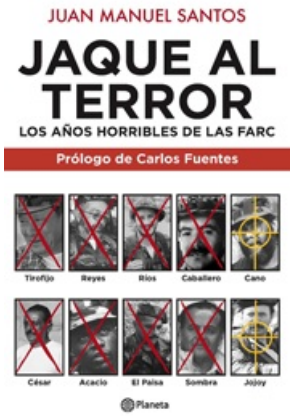
UNA CONVERSACIÓN PENDIENTE



UN MENSAJE OPTIMISTA PARA UN MUNDO EN CRISIS



LA BATALLA POR LA PAZ



JAQUE AL TERROR



LA TERCERA VÍA

RECONOCIMIENTOS

- Carnegie Distinguished Fellow at Columbia's SIPA Institute of Global Politics (2025–2026)
- Visiting Professor at Notre Dame University (2022)
- Nobel Peace Laureate 2016 awarded for his tenacity and commitment to peace and reconciliation in Colombia
- Featured twice by TIME Magazine among the 100 most influential people in the world
- Named the next Angelopoulos Global Public Leaders Fellow at Harvard Kennedy School
- Appointed by Oxford University as Co-Founder of the Multidimensional Poverty Peer Network with Nobel Prize in Economics, Amartya Sen
- Appointed by International Crisis Group as member of its Board of Trustees (2018)
- Received Conservation International's Founders' Award 2018 with the 47th Vice President of the United States, Joe Biden
- Member of The Global Commission on Drug Policy (2019)
- "Honoris Causa Doctorate", London School of Economics and Political Science - LSE (2019)
- Awarded in Morocco at the Nador Film and Common Memory Festival (2019) for his contribution to peace and reconciliation
- Tipperary International Peace Award (2017)
- Selected member of Wildlife Conservation Society's Board of Trustees (2018)
- Awarded by National Geographic and World Wildlife Fund for his work to preserve the environment and biodiversity, and his commitment to sustainable development
- Chatham House Prize 2017, by the Royal Institute of International Affairs
- Kew International Medal 2017, by The Royal Botanic Gardens

- Honored by Harvard Law School with the "Great Negotiator Award" (2017)
- 2016 Nueva Economía Fórum Award for Economic Development and Social Cohesion
- Recognized with the "Lamp of Peace", the “Nobel Prize” of the Catholic Church
- Featured by the World Economic Forum as Statesman of the Year (2017)
- Winner of the first King of Spain International Journalism Award
- Honored by Harvard Law School with the "Great Negotiator Award" (2017)
- Gernika Prize for Peace and Reconciliation (2017)
- “Honoris Causa Doctorate”, Sorbonne University (2017)
- Global Citizen Award from the Atlantic Council (2015)
- Global Citizen Award, Clinton Foundation (2016)
- Shalom Prize(2012)

CONDICIONES

- **Travels from:** Colombia
- **Fee Range:** Please Inquire
