

Bogotá, D.C., June 5, 2025

**WE, THE WOMEN OF ETHNIC COMMUNITIES, CALL FOR THE U.S. GOVERNMENT TO
REFRAIN FROM INTERFERING IN THE COLOMBIAN ELECTION PROCESS**

We, the Indigenous and Black women of the Ethnic Commission for Peace and the Defense of Territorial Rights, as guardians of ancestral territories, peacebuilders, and survivors of centuries of colonization and resistance, address the national and international public to express our position regarding recent events that compromise the integrity of the Colombian electoral process.

On June 2, 2026, U.S. President Donald Trump publicly announced his support for a Colombian presidential candidate less than three weeks before the runoff election. In that statement, he outlined the political agenda he expected the candidate to implement and disparaged the other candidate. This act is neither diplomacy nor an expression of friendship between nations: it is a direct and deliberate interference in the democracy of a sovereign people, in contradiction to the principle of non-intervention and self-determination of peoples enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations (UN) and in the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS), one of the fundamental pillars of international law and coexistence among states.

We are explicit on the following point: ***this statement does not favor any Colombian candidate or any political force.*** What we defend is something deeper than any candidacy. We defend the right of every Colombian woman and every Colombian man to vote with full freedom and without external pressure. When a foreign power interferes in an election, it not only distorts public debate: it weakens institutional trust, polarizes society, and opens the door for results to be questioned or exploited.

Our peoples have resisted for centuries the imposition of external powers that sought to define our destinies, our lands, and our ways of life. We know, from our own lived history, what it means for an external force to intervene in a people's self-determination. We carry that memory in our history and in the territories we have defended with our bodies and our voices. We cannot, therefore, remain silent in the face of interference that repeats that logic in new forms.

Colombian democracy, with all its tensions and historical debts to ethnic peoples, is a sovereign process. Making bilateral relations between two countries contingent on the results of a presidential election is not an act of cooperation: it is unacceptable pressure on the will of the people.

For all these reasons, we issue a respectful call:

To the Government of the United States, to honor the principles of international law to which its own country has subscribed, and to remember that mutual respect among nations is not optional.

To the international community and multilateral organizations, to closely monitor what is happening in Colombia and to reaffirm, in a clear voice, the principle of non-intervention as a minimum condition for respect among nations.

To the candidates and their teams, to publicly reject any form of external interference in the election results, regardless of its origin or intention.

To the Colombian people, to understand that sovereignty is not an abstract concept: it is the collective right to determine one's own course without any foreign power tipping the scales. That right cost us too much to give it up in silence.

We speak from the principles that have sustained our historic struggles: the self-determination of peoples, the dignity of communities, and the inalienable right to decide one's own future.

Colombia decides. We decide.

Women's Process of the Ethnic Commission for Peace and the Defense of Territorial Rights