



# AUS MODEL UNITED NATIONS

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**POSITION PAPER - IAEA**  
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*Delegation from*  
The Republic of Columbia

*Represented by*  
American University of Sharjah

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is the global center for nuclear cooperation. It was founded in 1957 as the United Nations organization for "Atoms for Peace," and it targets a wide range of issues, including worldwide nuclear disarmament and Iran's role in the Middle East. Colombia has continuously proved its commitment to supporting nuclear technology that is safe, secure, and peaceful.

### **I. The Question of Global Nuclear Disarmament**

The issue of worldwide nuclear disarmament first arose in 1957, with the launch of the Nuclear Disarmament Campaign. The General Assembly included atomic disarmament in its resolution in 1959, triggering a chain of actions and treaties against the use of nuclear weapons and technology. Nuclear disarmament supporters say that it minimizes the likelihood of nuclear war and prevents devastating consequences for the environment, economy, and civilization as a whole, such as countless casualties and regions that are uninhabitable for decades.

Colombia's foreign policy principles are consistent with nuclear non-proliferation and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. The Colombian Constitution forbids the production, importation, and use of weapons of mass destruction (nuclear, biological, and chemical), as well as the importation of nuclear or toxic waste. Colombia regularly engages in international forums on these issues and is a signatory to key nuclear disarmament treaties. The country signed and ratified the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) in 1996. Colombia voted in favor of a UN General Assembly resolution mandating discussions for a legally binding treaty outlawing nuclear weapons and aiming for their total eradication in 2016. Furthermore, in 1968, Colombia ratified the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons which was ratified in 1986. The manufacture, importation, and use of nuclear, biological, or chemical weapons, as well as the importation of radioactive or hazardous waste, are all prohibited under Colombian law. Colombia highlights the necessity of binding rules governing conventional weapons and improving monitoring of arms transfers, while also adhering to United Nations policies aimed at fostering confidence, security, and transparency in the context of conventional weapons.

Colombia's foreign policy includes nuclear non-proliferation efforts. The country regularly participates in international forums debating these issues and has been a signatory to important legal treaties on this subject. Colombia has also ratified many nuclear disarmament treaties. Given the enormous destructive potential of nuclear weapons, governments that possess them must engage in verifiable conversations aiming at eliminating them. The elimination of nuclear weapons is critical for the survival of humanity.

### **II. Iran and the Middle East: Peace and Security**

Peace talks between the Colombian government and the FARC militants began in Oslo in October 2012. Despite prior failed attempts by former President Andres Pastrana in the late 1990s, President Juan Manuel Santos was adamant about achieving peace and received widespread support from Colombians. Santos, who is dedicated to the cause, ran for re-election in 2014 on the slogan "United for Peace" and won.

Colombia made history on June 19, 2022, when it elected its first leftist president, Gustavo Petro, resulting in the formation of a leftist government. This shift from Colombia's historically right-wing and US-aligned foreign policy was welcomed by a number of countries, including Iran, which saw it as an opportunity. According to an analysis of Hispan TV, Iran's largest Spanish-language media station, three major developments are expected under Colombia's new administration. First and foremost, Iran expects that President Petro will end any military collaboration between Colombia and the United States, allowing Iran and its proxy Hezbollah to continue their military buildup in Venezuela.

The Republic of Columbia maintaining global peace and security in the Middle East and Iran depends on collaboration between surrounding nations, the European Union, and Asian nations to help partnerships make Middle Eastern security missions possible. To promote peace and stability in the Middle East, the entire government must work together with allies and partners from across the region.

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