

Colombia's Sovereignty in Danger

by www.360geopolitica.org

This assessment holds that Petro's decisions have pushed Colombia into a position of acute vulnerability. It contends that giving Maduro direct involvement in the Total Peace process has surrendered strategic ground to external actors and opened space for networks tied to corruption, smuggling, and armed violence.

Under this view, cross-border criminal structures are tightening their grip on Colombia's security institutions and political arena, driving urgent fears of foreign interference, democratic destabilization, and a deepening erosion of national sovereignty ahead of the pivotal 2026 elections.

Illegality in Petro's 2022 Presidential Campaign

A series of serious allegations has cast doubt on the integrity of Petro's 2022 presidential campaign. Testimonies, major investigative reports, and findings by Colombian institutions outline suspected illegal financing and possible links between campaign actors and armed and criminal organizations.

Petro's own family members publicly claimed that illicit funds supported the 2022 campaign, raising concerns about internal awareness of wrongdoing (EFE; Noticias Caracol 2024; Forbes Colombia).

Separately, Calarcá-identified as a FARC dissident and later involved in the "Total Peace" initiative-produced documents alleging financial support from dissident FARC fronts. Media investigations report that related evidence reached the Attorney General's Office in July 2024 and became public after a year-long Noticias Caracol investigation aired on November 23, 2025 (Noticias Caracol; El Colombiano; La Silla Vacía).

Additional materials attributed to Calarcá, including documents and chat logs, suggested intersections between dissident groups, members of the Colombian Army, and the National Intelligence Department (DNI). As

presented by Noticias Caracol in 2025, these communications point to possible cooperation between state actors and illegal armed organizations—an allegation confirmed by the Attorney's General Office.

On November 27, 2025, the National Electoral Council (CNE), in a 6-3 ruling, concluded that the "Petro Presidente" campaign violated financing limits in 2022—exceeding spending caps by over 5.3 billion pesos, failing to report expenses, and receiving prohibited contributions. The CNE imposed more than 5.9 billion pesos in sanctions on campaign officials Ricardo Roa, Lucy Aydée Mogollón, and María Lucy Soto, and sanctioned Colombia Humana and Unión Patriótica for financial and auditing irregularities (El Tiempo; Noticias RCN; La Silla Vacía).

Further allegations suggest Petro's government may have shared intelligence with organized criminal groups. Two incidents are central: the assassination of Senator and presidential candidate Miguel Uribe—where Simeón Pérez Marroquín, alias *El Viejo*, appears in related inquiries and had been held at La Picota Prison, the site of negotiations later known as the "Picota Prison Pact"—and the attack on a U.S. helicopter in Amalfi, Antioquia, carried out by individuals linked to Calarcá (El Tiempo; Noticias Caracol 2025).

Together, these cases have led investigators and journalists to consider the possibility—still under formal investigation—that elements within Petro's inner circle may have shared sensitive intelligence with criminal and illegal armed groups. The convergence of actors, timelines, and communications has intensified concerns about potential infiltration or co-optation of state institutions by organized crime.

Territorial Sovereignty

President Petro, Vice President Márquez, the Pacto Histórico coalition, and Senator Iván Cepeda have promoted a Total Peace Policy that has empowered illegal armed groups and

criminal networks in Colombia and Venezuela, increasing their wealth and influence.

Rather than reducing violence, this approach appears to have expanded narcotrafficking networks, strengthened territorial control by armed actors, and caused widespread environmental destruction—including deforestation, river contamination, and loss of thousands of hectares of land (El Tiempo).

These groups now control nearly 75% of Colombian territory (Guajira, Catatumbo, Cesar, Sierra Nevada, Urabá, Antioquia, Chocó, Cauca, Nariño, Caquetá, Vaupés, Putumayo, Orinoco) and are among the world's top cocaine producers and exporters.

Reports link these organizations to attacks on political opponents, with at least 369 incidents recorded in 2025 (MOE, Blu Radio), and potentially even the assassination of Senator and presidential candidate Miguel Uribe Turbay. Allegations also suggest that figures in Petro's government have shared intelligence with individuals connected to these armed groups (Noticias Caracol), while these actors influence voting in municipalities under their control (Office of the Ombudsperson).

Critics contend that, in less than three years, the administration has effectively ceded national territory to networks tied to the Total Peace initiative—including Venezuela's Cartel de los Soles, Tren de Aragua, the ELN, Second Marquetalia, Hezbollah, and Hamas—in exchange for political support.

Food Sovereignty

Over 13 million Colombians—more than a quarter of the population—face food insecurity. Poverty, inequality, rising prices, violence, displacement, and infrastructure gaps hinder both access to and production of food (World Food Program).

Illegal activities exacerbate the crisis: coca cultivation exceeds 300 hectares, illegal mining spreads across fertile regions, 88,000 hectares

have been deforested, and 1,100 km of illegal Amazon roads disrupt farming and ecosystems (General Prosecutor, May 2025). Climate shocks—droughts, floods, and degraded land—hit small farmers hardest, while social safety nets fail to compensate.

Petro's Total Peace Policy has allowed armed groups to operate with impunity, turning violence and illegal activity into business as usual, worsening food insecurity rather than solving it.

Intelligence Sovereignty

Since taking office, President Petro and his coalition have faced allegations of sharing sensitive information with Maduro's regime, linked to the Cartel de los Soles and Tren de Aragua.

A November 2025 Noticias Caracol report, citing the Attorney General, claims that members of Petro's inner circle, including the Army and national intelligence, shared intelligence with criminal groups, strengthening narcotrafficking corridors and human trafficking networks in Colombia, Venezuela, and beyond. Critics also note that visa-free policies for African nationals may facilitate illegal transit to the U.S., reinforcing Colombia's status as the world's top cocaine producer.

Energy Sovereignty

Colombia urgently needs a credible energy-transition strategy. Critics argue that Petro's policies, rather than bolstering domestic energy capacity, deepen reliance on Venezuela's oil and gas sector.

While praised by the UN and EU, the approach risks long-term dependency on a regime entwined with criminal networks. Without a strong domestic energy foundation, Colombia's energy transition could be unworkable and strategically vulnerable.

Economic Sovereignty

Colombia's external debt reached US\$207 billion in 2025—nearly 49% of GDP—with over US\$116

billion owed by the government alone (Colombia One). This debt limits fiscal flexibility, constrains social spending, and exposes the country to global financial risks (Reuters, IMF).

Though debt can fund growth if managed wisely, reports suggest the government prioritizes short-term political goals over economic stability, including funding electoral campaigns and reshaping cultural narratives. Even with a change in leadership, the structural debt burden persists, leaving Colombia vulnerable and its economic sovereignty at risk.

Conclusion

Critics argue that under Petro's administration, policies across territorial, food, intelligence, energy, and economic domains have weakened Colombia's sovereignty. In practice, the Total Peace initiative and related strategies appear to empower illegal networks, heighten vulnerability, and compromise national independence in exchange of funds for 2026 elections.

Bogotá, Colombia, 9 December 2025.