# COLOMBIA 2022 ELECTORAL PROCESS SITUATIONAL AWARENESS

Analysis of the milestones, issues, and events highlighted on the road map towards the elections.

Prepared by Virtus Global



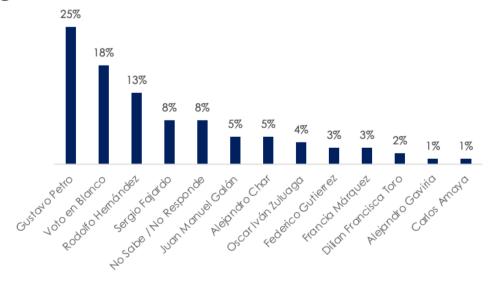
#### **CANDIDATES**



The list of presidential candidates was maintained between December 1, 2021, and January 16, 2022. However, the withdrawal of **Juan Carlos Echeverry** and **Dilian Francisca Toro** may be the first of other withdraws, before the March consultations, as a natural result of **campaign wear.** On the other hand, Enrique Peñalosa did not reach the threshold of required signatures. Still, he will continue in the electoral contest endorsed by Partido de la U. Additionally, Equipo Por Colombia assured that there would be no alliance with Oscar Iván Zuluaga, and **Rodolfo Hernández maintains his independent candidacy.** 

### **GENERAL TRENDS**

#### a) Voting intention- Candidate



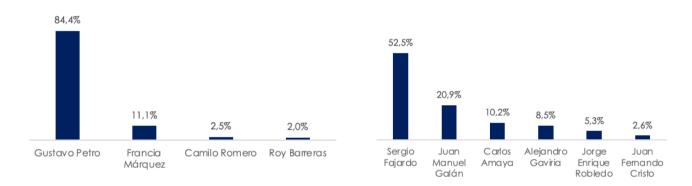
Source: YanHaas poll. Sample from NOV30 - DEC08 2021



• The survey by the YanHaas firm, which collected information between November 10 and December 8, 2021, showed that Gustavo Petro led the intention to vote (25%), followed by the blank vote (18%).

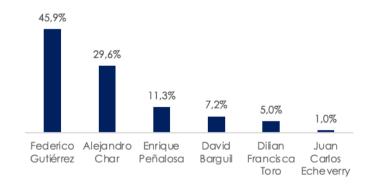
#### b) Voting intention- Coalitions

- According to figures from the Guarumo and EcoAnalítica survey, carried out in early January, **Pacto Histórico was the coalition with the most significant voting intention.**
- Additionally, compared to the results of the internal consultations of the coalitions, the survey found that the candidates who would be elected:



#### Pacto Histórico

#### Coalición Centro Esperanza

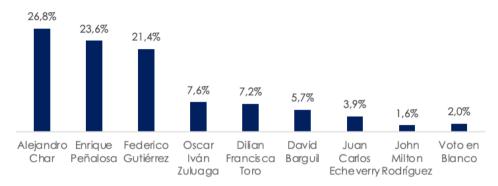


#### **Equipo por Colombia**

Source: Guarumo and EcoAnalítica Poll. Sample from DEC01-05 2021



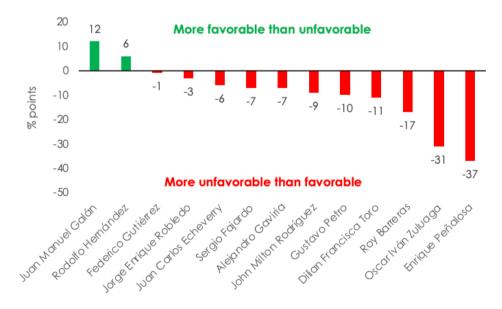
• Guarumo and EcoAnalítica also investigated a hypothetical scenario in which Oscar Iván Zuluaga and John Milton Rodríguez joined the coalition Equipo Por Colombia. In this scenario, **Alejandro Char would be elected.** 



Source: Guarumo and EcoAnalítica Poll. Sample from DEC01-05 2021

#### c) Perception of the candidates

- According to the December measurement of the Invamer survey, the candidates with **the most favorable** image were Gustavo Petro (34%), Juan Manuel Galán (32%), Sergio Fajardo (25%), Enrique Peñalosa (18%) and Rodolfo Hernández (17%).
- According to the same source, the candidates **with the most negative image** were Enrique Peñalosa (55%), Gustavo Petro (44%), Oscar Iván Zuluaga (43%), Sergio Fajardo (32%), Roy Barreras (28%).
- In December, only two of the thirteen candidates had favorability over their unfavourability according to people polled.



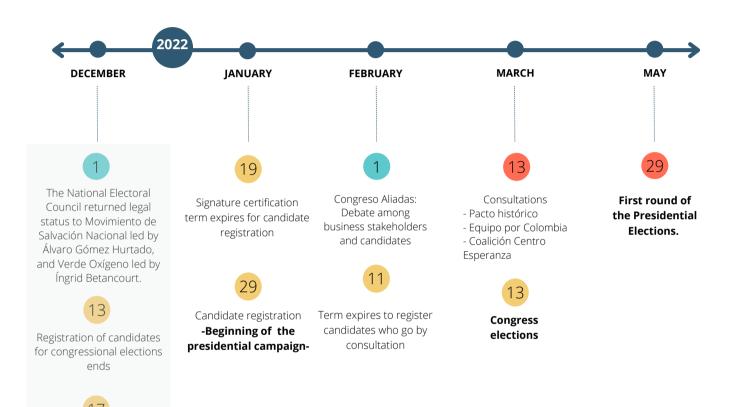


Source: Invamer Poll. Source DEC20 2021 - JAN03 2022

Signature certification term expires for candidates registration: - Hernández, Gutiérrez, Gaviria, Echeverry, Char and Pérez reached required signatures. - Peñalosa did not reach the required signatures.

#### **ELECTORAL PROCESS MILESTONES**







# STRATEGIC ISSUES OF POLITICAL AGENDA



## **Security**

- Related to insecurity in Colombia, Rodolfo Hernández asserted that it is not the fault
  of Venezuelans but generated by "thieving politicians" who steal the public budget, and
  nothing happens to them. In contrast, those who steal a cell phone and a necklace get
  severe sentences.
- Regarding security in Colombia, Enrique Peñalosa affirmed that it is the highest priority; therefore, citizens have the right to live without fear. We must seek to have more under house arrest with a bracelet to make spaces for other criminals. He also argued that the National Police should continue to be part of the Ministry of National Defense.
- Regarding the death of alias Romaña and el Paisa in Venezuela, Gustavo Petro pointed out that it is still paradoxical that they, who resisted a very experienced Army like the Colombian for years in Colombia, died at the hands of an inexperienced Venezuelan Army.
- **Fundación Paz y Reconciliación** assured that electoral violence had left 140 victims in Colombia, including 16 people killed, in 99 events since March 2020.
- **Juan González,** Special Assistant and Director of the National Security Council for the Western Hemisphere of the White House, stated that the US would carry out surveillance tasks during this electoral period in Colombia to avoid any influence from external actors in favor of one or several candidates.



- Related to the land property statute, **Gustavo Petro** pointed out that he is not planning to take the land away from people. However, he emphasized that the issue of fertile land that is not used must be worked to boost the country's economy.
- Regarding the housing policy in a possible government, **Gustavo Petro** stated that he is interested in lowering the cost of housing in Colombia. For this, products found in international trade cheaper than in the nation would reduce the tariffs to zero.
- Regarding the housing policy in a possible government, **Enrique Peñalosa** affirmed that there are more and more houses of 20 and 30 meters in housing projects. In Colombia, more single-person households prefer smaller but better-located places.







- **Alexander Vega**, National Civil Registrar, stated that 700,000 IDs were withdrawn from the electoral census due to different irregularities. Nearly 290,000 documents belonged to deceased persons and 300,000 to foreigners.
- The **National Civil Registry Office** signed an agreement with the Organization of Ibero-American States (OEI) to guarantee transparency of the scrutiny software in the 2022 elections.
- The Vice President and Minister of Foreign Affairs, **Marta Lucía Ramírez**, accompanied by the National Registrar, Alexander Vega, and the President of the National Electoral Council (NEC), Doris Ruth Méndez, signed an agreement with the European Union Ambassador in Colombia, Gilles Bertrand, to allow an EU delegation to observe the electoral processes that will take place in the country during 2022.

# International Relations

- Regarding the relations with Venezuela, **Óscar Iván Zuluaga** highlighted the importance of opening the border not only for pedestrian traffic, as it currently applies. However, he added that there is no talking about re-establishing diplomatic relations.
- Regarding the Andean Pact, **Gustavo Petro** announced that if he wins the Presidency of Colombia, he will reset it with the support of the region's leftist governments.
- Regarding Gustavo Petro's meeting with the President of the Spanish Government, Pedro Sanchez, the Vice President and Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Marta Lucía Ramírez, asked the Spanish Government to receive all the candidates for the presidency as they did with Petro.



## **CAMPAIGN TIMES**

Between DEC01 2021 to JAN16 2022, these were the main events that defined the route of Colombia's 2022 presidential and legislative elections.

- 2,853 candidates registered to participate in the Senate and House of Representatives elections. Of the 172 representatives in the House, 27 appear on the lists of different parties to the Senate.
- The National Civil Registry Office released the official list of the 398 candidates who aspire to the 16 peace seats created in the House of Representatives.
- Senator John Milton Rodríguez officially received the endorsement of Colombia Justa Libres despite the strong opposition of the president of that party, Senator Ricardo Arias.
- Coalición de la Esperanza will present two lists to the Senate and lists to the House of Representatives in most departments. Humberto De la Calle announced that he would lead one of these.
- Polo Democrático Alternativo
   will maintain its status as a formally
   constituted political party capable of
   giving endorsements and joining
   the closed lists of Pacto Histórico.

- The Members of Equipo Por Colombia,
   Dilian Francisca Toro, and Alejandro
   Char stated that they disagreed with the arrival of Óscar Iván Zuluaga to this Coalition. However, David Barguíl asked to open the doors to Zuluaga.
- Partido Mira joined to Equipo por Colombia.
- Gustavo Petro invited the Coalición de la Esperanza to work on a single unity proposal for the upcoming presidential elections. Sergio Fajardo rejected the proposal.
- Miguel Uribe Turbay will head the list in the Senate for Centro Democrático. However, key figures such as Jennifer Arias, José Obdulio Gaviria, María del Rosario Guerra, Ernesto Macías and Paloma Valencia will not run.
- Álvaro Uribe Vélez insisted that it is unacceptable that in Centro Democrático, the discrepancies with Duque Government lead to mistreating the President of the Republic.



# HIGHLIGHTS DEC01 2021 - JAN16 2022

- 1) In the analyzed period, there is a long list of candidates for the Presidency of the Republic. However, **three coalitions are recognized**: Pacto Histórico, Centro Esperanza y Equipo Por Colombia, **the independent candidacy of Rodolfo Hernández** and the candidacy of Óscar Iván Zuluaga for Centro Democrático.
- 2) According to different surveys carried out, in this case, the Yanhaas survey, **Gustavo Petro** has been shown as the candidate with the best chance of being President. Secondly, the uncertainty among Colombians when choosing a candidate continues to be representative. Finally, **the rise of Rodolfo Hernández in the polls has also been notorious**.
- 3) According to the Invamer survey, **only two of the thirteen candidates had favorability over their unfavorability** to people polled in December.
- 4) **Gustavo Petro** continues to be the candidate with **the most significant role and leadership in the public debate** on the issues on the electoral agenda.

