

MARCELA MELÉNDEZ

Leading economist shaping Latin America's policy agenda across global institutions, governments, and development organizations

---

- Executive Director of Fedesarrollo, Colombia's leading economic think tank
- Former Deputy Chief Economist for Latin America & Caribbean, World Bank
- Former Chief Economist for Latin America & Caribbean, UNDP
- Yale PhD economist with deep expertise in public policy and development
- Trusted advisor on inequality, productivity, and economic growth

---

Marcela Meléndez is one of Latin America's most influential economists, currently serving

as Executive Director of Fedesarrollo, Colombia's premier economic and social policy think tank.

She brings a rare combination of global, academic, and policy experience. Prior to this role, she was Deputy Chief Economist for Latin America and the Caribbean at the World Bank, where she advised governments and institutions on economic strategy and development challenges.

Previously, she served as Chief Economist for Latin America and the Caribbean at the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), leading flagship regional research on inequality, growth, and structural transformation.

Marcela has also spent over a decade as Managing Partner of ECONESTUDIO, a leading economic consulting firm, and has been a professor at Universidad de los Andes. Her work focuses on applied microeconomics, public policy design, competition policy, and infrastructure regulation.

She holds a Ph.D. in Economics and a Master's in Public and Private Management from Yale University, and an undergraduate degree in Economics from Universidad de los Andes.

TEMAS

Marcela 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:

- Economic outlook for Latin America
- Public policy and institutional design
- Inequality, productivity, and inclusive growth
- Investment, regulation, and competitiveness
- Global economy and emerging markets

PROGRAMAS

Marcela is widely recognized for her ability to translate complex economic challenges into actionable insights for governments, boards, and global organizations—making her a powerful voice on the future of Latin America.

The Future of Latin America: Growth, Risks, and Opportunities

A strategic overview of Latin America's economic outlook, including macro trends, investment dynamics, and structural constraints. Marcela provides a clear framework to understand where the region is heading—and what leaders must do to unlock sustainable growth.

Inequality and Growth: Breaking the Latin American Trap

Why has Latin America struggled to escape low growth and high inequality? This keynote explores the structural barriers holding the region back and presents actionable policy and business insights to foster inclusive development.

Policy That Works: Designing Effective Public Solutions

Drawing on her experience at the World Bank and UNDP, Marcela explains how to design and implement policies that actually deliver results—bridging the gap between theory and real-world impact.

Investment, Confidence, and the Rules of the Game

What drives investment decisions in emerging markets? This session explores the critical role of regulation, institutions, and security in shaping economic growth and private sector confidence.

CONDICIONES

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