

Personal details

Name: Eduardo Cifuentez Muñoz

Place and date of birth: Popayán (Colombia), March 24 1954

Languages: English, French, Italian, Spanish,

Positions: -Former Justice and President of the Colombian Constitutional Court (1991- 2000)
-Former Ombudsperson of Colombia (2000 - 2003)
-Former Director of the Human Rights Division at UNESCO (2003 - 2005).

Academic record

University Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia.
Juris Doctor, 1977.

Universidad Complutense, Madrid, Spain.
Diploma in Advanced Studies in Law.

Columbia University, Parker School of Foreign and Comparative Law, New York, United States of America, June 1984.

Postgraduate academic experience

Lecturer in private and constitutional law at the Universidad de los Andes-Law School, for 15 years.

Founder and Director of several postgraduate programs at the Universidad de los Andes-Law School.

Founder and member of the editorial board of the Public and Private Law Journals published by Universidad de los Andes-Law School.

Founder and member of the editorial board of the Economic Law Journal, published by the Economic Law Association.

Member of the Advisory Committee of the Judiciary Academy Journal, Lima, Perú.

Professional experience

March 2011 – present	Los Andes University Associate Professor of Law.
March 2005 – February 2011	Los Andes University Dean of the School of Law.
September 2003 – February 2005	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Director of the Human Rights Division.
President of the Andean Council of Ombudspersons (Defensores del Pueblo).	
September 2000 - August 2003	Colombian Ombudsperson (Defensor del Pueblo).
November 1991- August 2000	Constitutional Court: - Justice - President (1999).
April 1986 - November 1991	Banco de Colombia Legal and Financial Vice-president.
April 1983 - March 1986	Los Andes University Coordinator, Postgraduate Degree in Financial Legislation.
June 1980 - January 1982	National Securities Commission (Superintendent's Office on Securities): - Head of Legal Office - Secretary General
October 1977 - April 1980	Colombian Superintendent's Office on Banking: - Legal Counsel - Counsel for the Banks Division - Head of Legal Office - Head of the Banks Division.

Publications (translated titles)

Books

- Leasing (Bogotá: Editorial Temis, 1988)
- The Concept of Value (Bogotá: *Universidad de los Andes*, Editorial PRAG, 1985).

Chapters in books

- “Study on the Monitoring of Public Policies of Demobilization and Reintegration” Criminal Policy Studies No. 2, Attorney General, 2006.

- “The ruling of the Constitutional Court of Colombia on re-election”, Human Rights, International Relations and Globalization, Ibañez Publishing Group, 2006.
- “The Ombudsman and the Effectiveness of Human Rights in the Current Status of the Colombian Justice: Analysis and Solutions”, *Universidad Externado de Colombia*, 2003.
- “Constitutional Judicial Review of Judicial Decisions in Comparative Law” in: “Constitution and Constitutionalism Today”, on the fiftieth anniversary of Manuel García Pelayo’s Comparative Constitutional Law, Manuel García-Pelayo Foundation, Caracas, August 2000.
- “Access to Justice and Due Process”, in: “Iberoamerican Yearbook of Constitutional Justice”, Center of Constitutional Studies, Madrid, 1999.
- “New Constitution and New Constitutional Interpretation: The Case of Colombia”, in: “Challenges of Democracy in the Andean Region, Essays in our Reality”, Andean Commission of Jurists, Lima-Peru, 1998.
- “Writ of Protection (*amparo*) against judgments” in: “Compilation of the lectures given at the seminars of diffusion, dissemination and updating of constitutional justice”, compilation of Rubén López Mijangos Homer, President of the Constitutional Court of Guatemala, Centro Impresor Piedra Santa, Guatemala, 1998.
- “Effectiveness of Fundamental Rights with regard to individuals”, Constitutional Journals México-Central America, National Autonomous University of México-Constitutional Court of Guatemala, México, 1998.
- “Constitutional Justice in Colombia”, in: “Latin American Yearbook of Constitutional Justice”, Center of Constitutional Studies, Madrid, 1997.
- “Constitutional Jurisdiction in Colombia”, in: “Constitutional Jurisdiction in Latin America,” Garcia Belaunde, D., Fernández Segado, F. (Coordinators), Madrid, Ed. Dykinson, 1997.
- “Fundamental Rights and Constitutional Interpretation”, in: “New Streams of Colombian Constitutional Law”, Colombian Association of Constitutional Law and Political Science, Medellín, 1994.

Articles in journals

- “States of constitutional exception in Colombia”, *Ius et Praxis*, University of Talca, Chile, 2002.
- “Constitutional Court in Colombia”, *Ius et Praxis*, University of Talca, Chile, 2002.
- “Subjects of special protection in the Constitution of Colombia”, in: “Constitutional Court of Colombia”, Imprenta Nacional de Colombia, 2001.
- “The Ombudsman's Office in Colombia: Challenges of an Ombudsman in the midst of a context of armed conflict and lawlessness”, *Ius et Praxis*, University of Talca, School of Law and Social Sciences, Chile, 2001.

- “Report on the Constitutional Court in Colombia”, Ius et Praxis, Law in the Region, University of Talca, School of Law and Social Sciences, Chile, 2000.
- “Freedom of expression in Colombia”, Ius et Praxis, Law in the Region, University of Talca, School of Law and Social Sciences, Chile, 2000.
- “The writ of protection (acción de tutela) in Colombia”, in: Constitutional Actions for protection: reality and prospects in Chile and Latin America, Humberto Nogueira Alcalá (Editor), Chile, 2000.
- “Personal Freedom”, Ius et Praxis, Law in the Region, University of Talca, School of Law and Social Sciences, Talca, Chile, 1999.
- “Equality in the Jurisprudence of the Constitutional Court”, Journal of Public Law, No. 7, February of 1997, Bogotá, Colombia.
- “Habeas Data in Colombia”, Ius et Praxis, University of Talca, Chile 1997.
- “Women in the jurisprudence of the Constitutional Court”, Progress in the construction of legal equality for women in Colombia, Females series No. 4, 1995, Ombudsman, Colombia.
- “Some aspects of the policy debate on financial reform”, Journal of Economic Law, Year III, No. 7, July-September, Temis, 1985.
- “The Constitutionalism of poverty”, Dereito, University of DH Xurídica Journal Santiago de Compostela, Volume IV, No. 2, 1995.
- “Glosses to the decree on nationalization of financial institutions”, Journal of Economic Law, July-December 1984.

Conferences

- Participation as a speaker at various symposia and national and international seminars. The focus of the presentations was the legal defence of human rights.
- V Latin American Congress of Constitutional Law, Querétaro, México, 3 - 6 October 1994.
- Seminar and Course on Constitutional Guarantees, Caracas, Venezuela, 26 - 30 April 1995.
- International Seminar on the Constitutional Court, Lima, Perú, 2 - 3 May 1995.
- IV Venezuelan Congress of Constitutional Law, 16 - 18 November 1995.
- Workshop on Constitutional Guarantees, Andean Commission of Jurists, Lima, Perú, 27 - 30 November, 1995.
- I European Congress of Latin American experts - Forum "Latin American Law of Peoples: Unity of the Latin American Legal System" Subject: The right to life in the case law of the Constitutional Court of Colombia, Salamanca, Spain, 25 - 29 June 1996.

- Legal Protection of Women's Human Rights. Topic: The right to equality and non-discrimination in the case law of the Colombian Constitutional Court, Guayaquil, Ecuador, 25 - 27 September 1996.
- Workshop on the Constitutional Protection of Human Rights, Lima, Perú, 26 - 29 August 1996.
- American Tribune of the household of America, "Workshop on the modernization of justice in America", Madrid-Spain, 28 - 29 November 1996.
- I Conference of Constitutional Law. Topic: Constitutional Review and Fundamental Rights. Constitutional Law Association of Panama, Panamá, 22 – 23 October 1997.
- Seminar on the Unity of the Legal System and Identity in Latin America: democracy and judicial training, Rome, Italy, 15 -16 December 1997.
- V Venezuelan Congress of Constitutional Law. Topic: "Efficacy of Fundamental Rights in the relationships between individuals", Mérida, Venezuela, 27 - 29 November 1997.
- International Seminar. Topic: Supreme Court and Constitutional Court, Talca, Chile, 25 - 27 March 1998.
- American Institute of Human Rights. Topic: Seminar on "*Amparo* (writ of Protection) and *habeas corpus*. Legal nature, scope and procedural considerations", Guatemala and Quetzaltenango, Guatemala, 24 - 27 August 1998.
- Santiago de Compostela University- First topic: The Colombian Constitutional System, Second topic: Seminar on National Defence Studies, a study of the Armed Forces,) Madrid, Spain, 26 - 28 October 1998.
- International Seminar "Democracy and Justice - the judicial power in the construction of the Rule of Law", Brazil, 8 - 10 November 1998.
- VI Meeting of Presidents and Judges of Chambers and Constitutional Courts in Latin America, Buenos Aires, Argentina, March, 1999.
- International Conference on Procedural Law, Lima, Perú, July, 1999.
- International Forum on "Access to Justice and Equity in Latin America", October, 1999.
- IV Venezuelan Congress of Constitutional Law, Venezuela, October 1999.
- International Course "Constitution and Human Rights", Cusco, Perú, 25 - 26 November 1999.
- III Annual Meeting of the Andean Council of Defense Attorneys, Lima, Perú, 2 - 6, October 2000.
- International Meeting on Peace, Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law in Colombia, San José, Costa Rica, 16 - 18th, October 2000.

- V Annual Congress of the Latin-American Federation of Ombudsman, México, 21-25 November 2000.
- World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related issues of Intolerance, Santiago de Chile, 5 - 8 December 2000.
- Meeting of the United Nations on "The Right to Adequate Food as a Human Right", Germany, 10 - 15 March 2001.
- Latin American Regional Seminar on the International Criminal Court, Argentina, 19 - 23 June 2001.
- Informal Meeting on the Humanitarian Challenges in Colombia, Geneva, Switzerland, 25 - 30 June 2001.
- Third World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, and participation in the Panel of Experts on the Refugees and Internal Displacement Persons Law, Durban-South Africa and San Remo, Italy, 27 August 27 - 10 September 2001.
- Conference "Preventive Detention" (on the Work and Cooperation of Ombudsman and National Human Rights Institutions), Copenhagen- Denmark, 23 - 25 September 2001.
- VI Congress of the Latin-American Federation of Ombudsman- Panelist - "Enforceability of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in domestic and international systems", San Juan, Puerto Rico, 5 - 8 December 2001.
- Summit for Peace, Havana, Cuba, 29 - 31 January 2002.
- V Meeting of the Andean Council of Defense Attorneys, Quito, Ecuador, 1 February 2002.
- First General Assembly meeting of the Network of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in the Americas, Kingston, Jamaica, 7 - 8 March 2002.
- International Seminar on "Constitutional Reform" at the University of Talca. Santiago de Chile, 19 - 23 March 2002.
- 58th Commission Session of United Nations Human Rights, Geneva, 15 - 18 April 2002.
- Preparatory session of the meeting Guardianship Intercontinental on Human Rights, meeting of Ombudsmen Madrid-Spain, 21 - 23 April 2002.
- Second Assembly of the Network of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in the Americas. Ombudsman Network Meeting, San Jose, Costa Rica, 17 - 18 July 2002.
- Seminar on impunity, Swedish Foundation for Human Rights. Stockholm, 20 - 27 October 2002.
- V Andean Regional Course on Human Rights for Law Professors and Professional Non-Governmental Organizations, Cuzco, Peru, 29 - 31 August 2005.

- First International Conference on Human Rights, International Relations and Globalization. Madrid, Spain, 22 - 23 March 2006.
- Seminar on Human Rights and Legal Certainty in Latin America. New York, April 19, 2006.
- Day of Reflection "Forced Displacement at the Constitutional Court." Medellin, May 23, 2006.
- Seminar "Ineligibility and Republican Thought: The Problem of Non-re-election", Vigo, October 20 - 21, 2006.
- X International Seminar on Constitutional Justice in the Twenty-First Century, Sucre, Bolivia, 18 - 20 July 2007.
- Second Meeting of the Inter-American and European Human Rights Network (LAEHR). Lima, 2 - 5 September 2007.
- IV International Symposium "The Constitution of Cadiz of 1812: Source of European and American law." Cadiz, 11 - 13 June 2008.
- World Justice Forum, Vienna, Austria, 2 - 5 July 2008.
- The Role of Latin America in International Criminal Justice (LAEHR), Netherlands, September 17 - 18, 2008.
- Seminar on Public Policy and Human Rights, Lima, Peru, 23 - 24 April 2009.
- International Course on Public Policies and Specially Protected groups in the Andean Region. Andean Commission of Jurists, Cartagena, 26 - 29 May 2009.
- Seminar in Latin American Constitutional Theory and Policy - SELA 2009, Asunción, Paraguay, 11 - 14 June 2009.
- Expert Meeting on Education for Community Development, Quito, Ecuador, 1 - 2 October 2009.
- Expert Seminar - Implementation of the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights: Future Role of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. Geneva, Switzerland, 28 - 29 October 2009.
- World Justice Forum-2009, Vienna, Austria, 11 - 14 November 2009.
- International Seminar "Respect and Guarantee of Fundamental Rights. Challenges for the Judiciary", Santiago de Chile, 6 - 7 May 2010.
- Seminar in Latin American Constitutional Theory and Policy, SELA 2010, Santiago de Chile, 10 - 13 June 2010.
- Conversation with the Judges and Lawyers of the Constitutional Court "Developing Constitutional Interpretive Standards in Light of International Standards in the Field of Human Rights", Guatemala City, 18 - 19, November 2010.
- V International Symposium "Cadiz to the Bicentennial - The Political Thought and Ideas in Latin America Before and During the *Cortes* of 1812", Cadiz, 23 - 26 November 2010.

Awards and other recognitions

- Distinguished guest of the State of Mérida (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela), as made by the honorable designation of the Libertador Municipality Council (November 1997).
- Order of the Congress of Colombia in the grade "Great Cross", for lifetime achievement (July 1999).
- Francisco Fajardo Order, first class, given by the Governor of the Federal District (Caracas, November 1995). The order is intended to reward those who, whether or not Venezuelans, deserve it for their service to science, culture, art, outstanding merit and eminent contributions to the development and progress of the country.
- José Ignacio de Márquez medal in the gold category, awarded by the Higher Judicial Council, Colombia (December 1999). The category is extraordinary and gold is awarded for exceptional merit of those who have occupied the highest positions in the judiciary, and whose works has contributed to enrich and give prestige to the administration of justice.
- Distinguished guest of the city of Queretaro, according to his honorable designation by City Council (October 1994).
- Order Francisco de Miranda Award, second class, awarded by the President of the Republic of Venezuela (1997). The said order rewards to those who deserve it for their service to science, the progress of the country or their outstanding merits.

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