



Book **Ensayos de historia económica: Cien años del Banco de la República** (Essays on Economic History: One Hundred Years of **Banco de la República**)

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Publication Date: Friday, 17 of November 2023 Foreword

Banco de la República was founded on 23 July 1923. Its design followed the recommendations of the mission led by Edwin Kemmerer, the North American advisor who, at the same time, led the establishment of central banks with similar characteristics in all the Andean countries of South America: Ecuador, Perú, Bolivia, and Chile. The centennial of that date is a great opportunity to reflect on the role that the Bank has played in Colombian economic history during the century since its founding. Thanks to the support of the Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean (CAF) and its president, Sergio Diaz-Granados, we have been able to publish five essays of great relevance for such reflection in this book.

The first four essays were written by authors who, besides being widely recognized as historians, have also been key players in Colombia's economic policy and have been directly linked to the Bank and its Board of Directors. José Antonio Ocampo chaired the Board twice as Minister of Finance, between August 1996 and November 1997 and between August 2022 and April 2023, and served as a Board Member between 2018 and 2019. Miguel Urrutia was Governor for twelve years starting in 1993 and had previously served as Board Member since the creation of the Independent Board by the 1991 Constitution. Antonio Hernández Gamarra was a Board Member between 1996 and 2001, and Carlos Caballero, who in this article is accompanied by Pilar Esguerra as co-author, was a Board Member between 2001 and 2003 [...].