

Colombia ready to negotiate with ELN rebels

Colombian President *Juan Manuel Santos* says he is ready to start peace talks with the country's second-largest rebel group, the National Liberation Army (ELN).

Colombia opened talks with the largest rebel group, the FARC, in November 2012



Ejército de Liberación Nacional

- Established in 1964 as Marxist guerrilla group by intellectuals inspired by Cuban revolution to fight unequal distribution of wealth in Colombia

- Estimated to have between 2,000 and 3,000 fighters

- Listed as terrorist organisation by U.S. and EU, ELN has financed itself through drug trafficking, kidnapping and extortion in recent years

