



## What is BLISS Summit?

The BLISS Summit is an annual platform in Costa Rica where global democracy and freedom advocates convene to collaborate on innovative projects. By merging capital with innovation, BLISS catalyzes positive change through programs focused on freedom, entrepreneurship, sustainability, and education.

## Importance

### Why is the BLISS Summit Important?

In a world where the future of democracy hangs in the balance, the BLISS Summit shines as a beacon of hope amidst a stark funding crisis. Shockingly, a mere 1% of U.S. philanthropic giving is directed towards democracy and freedom promotion, leaving countless innovative projects starved for resources. This stark reality underscores the urgency and necessity of BLISS, a platform that bridges the gap between visionary ideas and the capital needed to bring them to life. By fostering collaboration and amplifying the impact of every invested dollar, BLISS empowers democracy advocates to create lasting change. It's more than a summit; it's a lifeline for democracy, a testament to the power of collective action, and a vital force in the fight for a more just and freer world.

## Where?

Costa Rica, a beacon of liberal democracy in a region often marked by political volatility, is uniquely positioned to host the BLISS Summit. The country's unwavering commitment to peace, freedom, human rights, and institutional stability offers a safe haven for freedom fighters from authoritarian regimes to convene, collaborate, and strategize without fear of reprisal. By providing a neutral ground for dialogue and action, Costa Rica amplifies its moral obligation to defend democracy not just within its borders, but across the globe. The BLISS Summit, hosted in this haven of liberty, embodies the very essence of democratic values and serves as a symbol of hope and resilience in the face of rising authoritarianism.

## Beacon of Innovation and Collaboration

BLISS is a beacon of innovation, attracting diverse participants from various sectors who are dedicated to solving societal challenges. The summit facilitates the exploration of powerful ideas and their real-life applications, particularly in the realm of technology and its potential to enhance democracy. By uniting business leaders, activists, academics, and technologists, BLISS exemplifies the spirit of sustainable progress.

## Personal Impact and Community Building

The personal stories and testimonials from past participants highlight the impact of the BLISS Summit. Rwandan freedom advocate Carine Kanimba shared how the summit amplified her family's story of surviving genocide, leading to tangible support for her cause. Venezuelan activist Lilian Tintori emphasized the solidarity and strength found within the BLISS community. These personal connections and shared experiences underscore the summit's role in building a supportive and action-oriented community.

At BLISS, we don't just talk about change; we ignite it. We are the spark that ignites a fire of hope, resilience, and unwavering commitment to a brighter future. Together, we are the guardians of democracy, the champions of freedom, and the architects of a world where every voice is heard, every dream is nurtured, and every individual is empowered to reach their full potential.

## How we move the Needle?

### **Innovation and Capital:**

Identifying and presenting groundbreaking projects, attracting philanthropists and investors to fund initiatives.

### **Knowledge Sharing:**

Creating expert panels and discussions throughout the event; reporting on the progress of each BLISS initiative.

### **Collective Action:**

Encouraging partnerships between stakeholders through hands-on workshops and training sessions to build collaboration and commitment.

### **Freedom Fighters Network:**

Community building, support, and resources, amplifying voices, showcasing programs, and sharing successes.

## Meet Our Strategic Partners

DemoLab: A research and innovation hub focusing on democracy and governance technologies.

**The Reynolds Foundation:**

Committed to making a positive impact on communities and the environment, empowering partners to create significant change, and envisioning a world where all live in freedom and

**Cornell University:**

An Ivy League university renowned for its research and academic excellence across various disciplines.  
National Endowment for Democracy: A private, non-profit foundation supporting democratic institutions worldwide.

**Kudlow Strategic Center:**

A think tank focused on strategic policy solutions in national security and defense.

**Human Rights Foundation:**

Promoting and protecting human rights globally with a focus on closed societies.

**Wilson Center:**

A non-partisan policy forum for tackling global issues through independent research and open dialogue.

**International Republican Institute:**

Advancing democracy and freedom by training and empowering political and civic leaders.

**World Liberty Congress:**

An international coalition committed to promoting and defending freedom and democracy worldwide.

**Tras La Perla (Tras La Perla de La América):**

An initiative aimed at sustainable development and community empowerment in Santa Marta, Colombia.

**Marvelous Way International:**

Dedicated to enhancing educational opportunities and community development through innovative programs and partnerships.

**FWD Tech and Freedom:**

An organization leveraging technology to advance freedom and democracy worldwide.

**Artavia Consultores:**

A consulting firm specializing in strategic communication and public affairs in Latin America.

# Meet Our Bliss Makers



**Carlos Vives:**  
A celebrated Colombian singer, songwriter, and actor, and founder of Tras La Perla de La América, known for his contributions to Latin music and his efforts in promoting Colombian culture and social causes.



**Claudia Vives:**  
Co-founder of Tras La Perla de La América, working alongside Carlos Vives to promote sustainable development and community empowerment in Santa Marta, Colombia.



**Céline Boustani:**  
President of the Human Rights Foundation. Activist and advocate for human rights and democracy, known for her work in supporting freedom and social justice initiatives.



**Laura Chinchilla:**  
Former President of Costa Rica, recognized for her leadership in promoting democratic governance, human rights, and environmental sustainability.



**Jack Dorsey:**  
Co-founder and former CEO of Twitter and Founder and CEO of Block Inc., a tech entrepreneur focused on social media innovation, financial technology, and advocating for freedom of expression.



**Leopoldo Lopez:**  
Venezuelan political leader and activist, known for his efforts in promoting democracy and human rights in Venezuela.



**Alex Gladstein:**  
Chief Strategy Officer at the Human Rights Foundation, dedicated to promoting and protecting human rights globally, with a focus on technology and freedom.



**Alberto Trejos:**  
An economist and academic, recognized for his work in economic policy, development, and his contributions to public policy discussions in Latin America.

