

# New Perspectives of Foreign Policy in the Americas

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**Kimberly Green Latin American and Caribbean Center (LACC)**

## NEW PERSPECTIVES OF FOREIGN POLICY IN THE AMERICAS

### INTRODUCTION

The Kimberly Green Latin American and Caribbean Center (LACC) at FIU's Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs in collaboration with FIU in DC, convened on March 11, 2024, a group of experts and scholars from Latin American and U.S. think tanks to engage in a lively discussion regarding new perspectives on foreign policy in the Americas. The guiding questions of the discussion addressed the following themes: In a world increasingly pulled apart by geopolitical tensions, what can states, civil society, and the private sector do to enhance inter-American cooperation? How can the foreign policies of states in the Americas converge to address common challenges such as climate change, environmental destruction, migration, organized crime, inequality, poverty, and threats to democracy? What role can diplomacy, described once as the art of letting others have your way, play in this process?

At this conference, members of foreign policy think tanks in Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as Washington D.C., addressed these questions. Think tanks represented included the Institute of Political and Strategic Studies (IDEPE), Lima, Peru; the Institute of International Studies, University of Chile (IEI), Santiago, Chile; Argentine Council for International Relations (CARI), Buenos Aires, Argentina; Brazilian Center for International Relations (CEBRI), Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; and the Global Foundation for Democracy and Development (FUNGLODE), Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. In addition, U.S.-based think tanks that participated included the Brookings Institution, the Atlantic Council's Adrienne Arsht Latin America Center, the Woodrow Wilson Center, the Inter-American Dialogue, and the Americas Society/Council of the Americas.



***“The hemisphere has transformed itself from an authoritarian to a democratic region in the last few decades, from an economically closed region to one open to trade, and from exclusive to inclusive societies.”***

*Thomas Shannon  
(in the opening address)*

## **A RENEWED FOCUS ON FOREIGN POLICY IN THE AMERICAS**

This policy paper focuses on new perspectives on foreign policy in the Americas discussed in four panels that addressed a series of topics, including major changes driving countries' foreign policy, geopolitical tensions and growing multipolarity, inter-American policy recommendations, and successful partnerships with the U.S. in addressing common challenges.

**The keynote address was provided by Thomas Shannon**, a U.S. diplomat and former Assistant Secretary of State for Political Affairs from February 2016 to June 2018. Thomas Shannon began his remarks by suggesting that policymakers such as himself tend to think of themselves as the managers of the hemisphere. But, he said, running the hemisphere is “a project for all of us”. Citing Henry Kissinger’s book *World Order* (New York: Penguin, 2015), he noted that the challenge for 21st century diplomats is how to deal with competing realities and narratives. The basic incongruity of the social order in our time is the co-existence of national sovereignty and economic globalization, argued Shannon. It is easy to despair. We’ve had the pandemic. State institutions are weak. However, the dynamism of the Americas is unique and important. Regional and subregional fora have proliferated.

Unfortunately, the hemisphere is a violent one in terms of crime – this includes the United States, argued Shannon. On the other hand, it has avoided major inter-state war since the Chaco War between Bolivia and Paraguay, which ended in 1935. The hemisphere has fashioned common political values, a common understanding of the individual’s relationship to the state, and this shared understanding is a major accomplishment. Very real challenges remain. Haiti and its deteriorating security situation are the largest. There are also Cuba, Venezuela, and Nicaragua, authoritarian regimes that remain outside the sphere of common values.

***“Democracy is not just an institutional arrangement. Democracy is essential to the economic and social development of the region, and it includes transparency, probity, and social justice. Democracy is not only defined in terms of states, but in terms of people and societies. Governments could be used to help produce democratic societies.”***

*Thomas Shannon  
(in the opening address)*

***“The region can peacefully resolve its disputes, it is relatively underpopulated, and it has no interstate war. It can continue to globalize and engage with the world, confident of its markets and its democracies. It can engage in international affairs by addressing human needs, but it needs imagination, leadership, and statesmanship. There needs to be a recognition of the dynamism and creativity of the region.”***

*Thomas Shannon  
(in the opening address)*

Shannon then posed the question of how should we think of this region that we call our home, the Americas? The rest of the world is struggling. Everywhere, technology is driving change. Political parties and political institutions are slow to react to change driven by technology. In this environment, it is easy to misunderstand symptoms for causes. It is important to remember that we have inter-American agreements such as the Inter-American Democratic Charter. The latter declares that democracy is a right of all the peoples of the region.

The Inter-American Democratic Charter is a brave statement that was negotiated and approved nearly 25 years ago, in 2001. It is still profoundly relevant. It rewrote the social contract in the Americas. It was about giving citizens a voice in determining their individual destiny. We worry today about democratic institutions, but our crisis is not a crisis of democracy but of public governance. It is a crisis brought about by the failure of the government to help people live lives of meaning, security, and fulfillment.

In its relations with the rest of the world, the Americas stand out for their strategic reserves of energy, food, and water.

Thomas Shannon highlighted how we in the United States lament our recent politics of confrontation and polarization, yet also noted how in Latin America, our colleagues have already experienced this. Populism is not the enemy of democracy, it is the floodplain of democracy. It is a fertile area where the waters of democracy spill out. It is worth noting that democracy is not just a form of government but a fundamental moral commitment to an open society and the individual. It has spiritual and moral foundations. We need to articulate and extend this understanding. Democracy should be a platform from which we can advance society.

After the keynote speaker presented, the panels of the conference on New Perspectives on Foreign Policy in the Americas began. **The first panel was moderated by Dr. Anthony Pereira**, Director of the Kimberly Green Latin American and Caribbean Center at FIU. Panel I discussed the impact that changes in the world order have had on foreign policy over the past few decades, with a particular focus on Latin America. The panelists discussed the changes and transformation of the international order in the past two decades, along with the dynamics in international relations, and the emergence of new powers.

A new multipolarity has triggered the diversification of strategic actors in the Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) region. Additional geopolitical challenges that affect the LAC region include the impact of the Venezuelan crisis, U.S.-Russia tensions, the expansion of narcoterrorism, and drug-related territorial disputes. The emergence of China as a solid and sustainable economic partner in Latin America has diminished the influence of the U.S. and challenged its regional hegemony. Global geopolitical tensions have also contributed to rising commodity prices, inflationary pressures, and food insecurity in Latin America, which has led to increased inequalities and socioeconomic issues. In the economic realm, the discussion centered around the need to establish and deepen relations with countries that allow LAC partners to generate employment, promote investments, and expand exports. Additionally, proposals to generate employment in the Americas, such as an active role of the Inter-American Development Bank and the Corporación Andina de Fomento, with investment in physical and digital infrastructure, were discussed.

**The second panel was moderated by Guillermo Areas**, the head of government relations and external affairs in the Latin American and Caribbean region for BMW. Panel II examined how rising geopolitical tensions and increasing multipolarity have transformed foreign policies in the Americas. Panelists discussed how we can interpret differences in foreign policy and how these tensions have shaped current foreign policy. In doing so, panelists noted that Latin America is a deeply divided region, where tensions are displayed within groups, for example, the tensions within international and regional organizations, foreign policy, and responses to geopolitical challenges. Increased multipolarity has resulted in a very strong presence of China in the LAC region, with an economic and diplomatic presence.

These have generated an increase in trade flows, investment projects, and the expansion of China's diplomatic influence. Regional organized crime has also led to increasing tensions, particularly in a complex collaborative context with respect to migration and security issues. The increasing multipolarity of the international system makes it difficult to create rules that various parties are likely to comply with. This instability and uncertainty in the international system exposes LAC countries to the ups and downs of geopolitics, making it even more difficult to find consensual positions with other actors.

**The third panel was moderated by Dr. Gabriela Hoberman**, Director of Academic Programs at the Kimberly Green Latin American and Caribbean Center at FIU. Panel III explored inter-American collaboration. The session focused on the policy areas where states have been able to collaborate to face common challenges and what more could be done to find constructive convergence in foreign policies. While the panelists noted that there are many areas for collaboration in the Americas, they noted that structural challenges to this objective include systemic corruption and unequal growth. Many avenues for collaboration include the combat against drug trafficking, the protection of supply chains and livelihoods, intra-regional strengthening of security mechanisms, the presence of capital and the promotion of private sector initiatives. The impact of the Covid pandemic on collaborative efforts in the Americas was also discussed. While the US has been influential in technology, the post-Covid era facilitated the flow of finance in Latin America. This new reality has led countries such as the Dominican Republic to focus more on the knowledge society and the development of manufactured goods.

One of the main challenges that remains in the LAC region is to identify how infrastructure resilience and public policy can help in mitigating disaster risk. Areas of collaboration include climate change and investment in infrastructure and renewable energy, which have shown positive results due to leadership and the participation of civil society. An example of the latter are the collaborative efforts between Brazil, Ecuador, Peru, and Colombia in targeting the effects of climate change. The panelists also highlighted the intersectionality of labor, where social rights and the sustainability of migrant workers are directly connected to trade. In this area, the Biden-Lula partnership was mentioned, with a remarkable pro-labor language and pro-union mission. Labor, as an area for inter-American collaboration, was identified as one of the fundamentals of the OAS, based on the articles of the democratic charter. There is a need to create collaborative regional solutions and identify pathways of work. There are positive examples of collaboration, such as the one between Peru and Colombia regarding the protected status of migrants from Venezuela.

**The fourth panel was moderated by Dr. Carlos Diaz Rosillo**, Director of FIU's Adam Smith Center at FIU. Panel IV focused on Latin American – US relations and examined the areas where Latin-American-U.S. relations are producing positive outcomes, as well as the ones where there is a lack of understanding and/or conflict. The panel addressed whether there are new perspectives in the Americas, noting a shift from the 1990s when the US appeared to have answers to Latin American problems, to the current need to work together on concrete solutions to common problems. In this realm, it is important to share prosperity in the Americas, identify areas of common concern and develop practical policies that address those issues.



One of the challenges is to identify single areas of positive collaboration, as the subregions of the Americas have different needs and interests. One of the areas is public diplomacy. One of the panelists noted that the U.S. is not the only major player in the region, and China now also has tremendous influence. Regarding investment and opportunities for economic growth, one of the questions is whether the U.S. will take advantage of these opportunities, as the U.S. is no longer the top trading partner with most Latin American and Caribbean countries. While investment is key, the question is whether companies will invest in the region. With examples such as Mexico, which demonstrated its ability to attract companies and invest in careers such as engineering, the reality shows that there is not enough collaboration, and there is a gap between the private sector and governments.

There are different expectations of investment for subregions in Latin America, and the reality shows that the U.S. will lose leadership in some areas, while retaining its hegemony in others. The question in sum is why the U.S. should invest and engage, as neither of the main political parties in the U.S. sees trade and investment as strategic, even though investment can be a vehicle for change. With regard to US foreign policy makers, the U.S. cannot do it alone, there must be support from countries that share both interests and values with the US. The U.S. has not lost all of its hegemonic power in the region, but the type of influence that the US frequently attempts to use in Latin America and the Caribbean is often ineffective. The US must be creative, providing opportunities for education, private partnerships, and planning to its partners.

## **CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

This conference explored the following guiding questions. The first two questions examined how major changes (global, regional, and national) have shaped LAC countries' foreign policies over the past twenty years and the impact of geopolitical tensions and growing multipolarity in the region. The third and fourth questions addressed the policy dimensions of inter-American collaboration and the most successful areas of cooperation with the United States. Some of the themes that emerged during the discussions were the challenges of fighting increasing drug trafficking, mitigating climate change, managing relations with China, and promoting economic growth.

The fight against drug trafficking in Latin America has been aided by inter-American cooperation. The region should continue to fight drug trafficking through joint training programs designed to strengthen the capabilities of armed forces, and intelligence exchanges to improve and respond to the issues associated with drug trafficking. One notable trend in the success of inter-American collaboration has been the increased attention to climate change.

The panelists called for a more coherent strategy that aligns with the 2015 Paris Agreement, while promoting cooperation from countries that have so far been less engaged than others. In a multipolar scenario, China's growing geopolitical power has affected most of Latin America, but this has created tensions with the United States. While relations with China can be difficult to manage, China's involvement in the LAC region has promoted economic growth in some countries. However, with China's growing economic involvement in these countries, the latter have become increasingly entangled in geopolitics.

The panelists highlighted a series of recommendations for policy makers to achieve continued growth and collaboration in the Americas. For drug trafficking, the continued joint training and intelligence exchanges are recommended to not only foster a more unified approach to combat the drug trade, but to also continue facilitating real-time information exchanges that will expose trafficking routes, criminal networks, and emerging threats. On climate change, the effects of climate change are not only the creation of natural hazards but also the reinforcement of patterns of fragility and vulnerability, the exacerbation of migration patterns, the disruption of food production and livelihoods, and the creation of threats to national security. Inter-american collaboration, the sharing of information, and regular monitoring of climate trends are key to address climate change and mitigate disaster risk. The recommendation is therefore to share technology and information through the nearshoring of supply chains. This will not only aid in the sourcing of food and other goods, but also decrease greenhouse gas emissions. This can be done not only with the rest of the LAC region, but with the U.S., as this change has already led to the reduction of the effects of climate change.



## INDIVIDUAL SPEAKERS' BIOS

### Welcoming Remarks and Keynote Speaker

#### **Dr. Shlomi Dinar (Dean, Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs)**

Shlomi Dinar is the dean of the Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs and a Professor in the Department of Politics and International Relations. Dinar's research interests lie at the intersection of international environmental politics, security, and negotiation. In particular, he has published in conflict and cooperation over transboundary rivers (a field popularly known as 'hydro-politics'). In addition, he works on the linkages between climate change and international water issues, particularly as such a relationship pertains to the resilience and effectiveness of international river basins and institutions, respectively.



Dinar writings have appeared in such journals as International Studies Quarterly, Journal of Peace Research, Political Geography, Terrorism and Political Violence, and Foreign Affairs, among others. He is the Faculty Director for the Master of Arts in Global Affairs program. As Faculty Director, he is responsible for all academic-related matters including curriculum, course offerings, and Capstone research projects. Dinar completed his doctoral studies at Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies and master's studies at Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs. He completed his undergraduate studies at the University of California, Davis.

#### **Thomas Shannon, Keynote Speaker, former U.S. Undersecretary of State for Political Affairs, and Senior International Policy Advisor, Arnold and Porter**

Ambassador Thomas A. Shannon, Jr. brings more than three decades of government service and diplomatic experience to his practice, providing strategic counsel to clients across a range of legislative, foreign policy, and national security issues.





Most recently, Ambassador Shannon served as Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs, the third highest ranking position at the State Department. Holding the personal rank of Career Ambassador, he was the highest ranking member of the United States Foreign Service, the country's professional diplomatic corps. During his tenure as Under Secretary, Ambassador Shannon was in charge of bilateral and multilateral foreign policymaking and implementation, and oversaw diplomatic activity globally and in our missions to international organizations. He managed the State Department during the 2017 presidential transition, led bilateral and strategic stability talks with the Russian Federation, worked with our allies to oversee Iranian compliance with the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, and expanded US engagement in Central Asia, among other things.

### **Panel 1: The Changing World Order**

#### **Dr. Anthony W. Pereira (Director, Kimberly Green Latin American and Caribbean Center at FIU), Moderator**

Dr. Anthony W. Pereira is the director of the Kimberly Green Latin American and Caribbean Center at FIU. He is a visiting professor at the Brazilian Institute of the School of Global Affairs at King's College London. He holds a BA in Politics from the University of Sussex and a Master's and PhD in Government from Harvard University. His areas of research include studies of authoritarianism and democracy, human rights, public security and international relations and foreign policy.



His experience has led him to hold positions at several universities including Tulane University and the Fletcher School of Tufts University. Dr. Pereira has been a visiting professor at the Federal University of Pernambuco and at the Institute of International Relations of the University of São Paulo in Brazil. He has been a Fulbright and Fulbright-Hays fellow and received grants from, amongst other funders, FAPESP, the Sao Paulo research council, the British Academy, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, and the Organization of American States.

**Martin Redrado, Former head of the Central Bank of Argentina and Chief Economist, Fundacion Capital**

Mr. Martin Redrado is an Argentine economist who served as President of the Central Bank of Argentina between 2004 and 2010. During his time at the Central Bank, he managed to ensure that his policies helped the economy overcome the global financial crisis of 2008-2009. Mr. Redrado is the founder of "Fundación Capital", a leading think tank in economic and public policy research. He holds a master's degree in Public Administration from Harvard University and specializes in Finance and International Economics. Currently, he is a distinguished fellow at the Kimberly Green Latin American and Caribbean Center at FIU.



**Michael Shifter, former President and Senior Fellow, Inter-American Dialogue**

Michael Shifter is former president of the Inter-American Dialogue, a policy forum on Western Hemisphere affairs based in Washington, DC. Shifter held senior positions at the Dialogue for nearly three decades, including a dozen, until April 2022, as president. He currently serves as senior fellow at the organization. Prior to joining the Dialogue, Shifter directed the Latin American and Caribbean program at the National Endowment for Democracy and, before that, the Ford Foundation's governance and human rights program in the Andean region and Southern Cone. Shifter graduated Phi Beta Kappa and Summa Cum Laude from Oberlin College and holds a MA in sociology from Harvard University, where he taught Latin American development and politics for four years.



**Cynthia Arnson, Distinguished Fellow and former Director of the Latin America Program, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars**

Dr. Cynthia Arnson is a member and former director of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. Dr. Arnson is recognized worldwide as an expert in Latin American politics, economics, and international relations. Her experience has managed to get her quoted in international media. In addition, she has testified before the U.S. Congress. Arnson served as an assistant professor of international relations at American University's School of International Service from 1989 to 1991. As a foreign policy aide in the House of Representatives during the Carter and Reagan administrations, she participated in the national debates over US policy and human rights in Central and South America.



**Eric Hershberg, Emeritus Professor and former director, Center for Latin American and Latino Studies, American University**

Dr. Eric Hershberg is a professor of government at the American University where he has served in various academic positions. Dr. Hershberg earned his Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and has taught at New York University, Southern Illinois University, Columbia, Princeton and the New School. His research deals with comparative politics in Latin America and regional economic development. Lately, his experience has led him to speak to the media about issues affecting Latin America and its communities in the United States. He is also an advisor to philanthropic and academic agencies.



## **Panel 2: Rising Tensions and Multipolarity**

### **Guillermo Areas, Government Relations, BMW, Moderator**

Mr. Guillermo Areas is in charge of government relations and Latin American and Caribbean affairs for the BMW group. Mr. Areas is Nicaraguan, and holds a degree in international relations from Florida International University and a master's degree in business administration from Thunderbird Global Management School. His experience has taken him to world-renowned companies such as DHL and Bayer. His area of focus consists of interacting with government and civil society institutions to promote and develop the use of electric mobility in the Latin American region.



### **Martha Barcena, Former Mexican Ambassador to the US, fellow, Atlantic Council's Adrienne Arsht Latin America Center**

Ambassador Martha Barcena is a Mexican diplomat and expert advisor for the Center for Strategic and International Studies. The ambassador has a degree with honors in communication sciences, in addition, she has a bachelor's and master's degree in philosophy. Being the first female ambassador of Mexico to the United States, her experience has led her to navigate one of the most complex diplomatic relationships in the world. She has served in various positions including working as a permanent representative in international organizations and as ambassador to European and Asian countries. She has also written on topics including international security, globalization, cultural diplomacy, among others.



**Richard Feinberg, former White House, State Department and Treasury official and professor at UCSD; professor at School of Global Policy and Strategy, UC San Diego**

Dr. Richard Feinberg is a professor at the School of Global Policy and Strategy at University of California San Diego. Dr. Feinberg holds a PhD in International Economics from Stanford University and was a nonresident fellow at Brookings. His public service includes being special assistant to President Bill Clinton for National Security Affairs and he was the senior director of the National Security Council's Office of Inter-American Affairs.



**Hussein Kalout, Advisory Board member, Brazilian Center for International Relations, Rio de Janeiro, and Research Scholar, Center for Middle Eastern Studies, Harvard University**

Mr. Hussein Kalout is a senior fellow at the Center for Strategic and International Affairs and research scholar at the Center for Middle Eastern Studies at Harvard University. He is a political scientist at the University of Brasilia and served as the Special Secretary of Strategic Affairs of Brazil. His work included being an advisor to the Brazilian government with projects related to foreign policy, economy, international trade, defense, security, among others. Mr. Kalout has also been authored in several academic papers and journals. His expertise focuses on Middle Eastern politics, defense, authoritarianism, and conflicts.





### **Valerie Wirtschafter, Fellow in Foreign Policy, Brookings Institution**

Dr. Valerie Wirtschafter is a fellow at the Brookings Institute Foreign Policy and the Artificial Intelligence and Emerging Technology Initiative. Dr. Wirtschafter holds a doctorate in political science from the University of California, Los Angeles. She has taught international politics in the digital age and was a researcher on Latin America with the Council on Foreign Relations. Her area of research focuses on democratic resilience and erosion, along with artificial intelligence, technology, and information space with a focus on the Western Hemisphere.



### **Panel 3: Inter-American Collaboration**

#### **Gabriela Hoberman, Director of Academic Programs, Kimberly Green Latin American and Caribbean Center, Florida International University, Moderator**

Dr. Gabriela Hoberman is the Director of Academic Programs and Study Abroad Program at the Kimberly Green Latin American and Caribbean Center. In her role, she oversees all academic offerings at LACC, including the M.A. and B.A. in Latin American and Caribbean Studies, undergraduate and graduate certificates, and study abroad programs. Dr. Hoberman is a political scientist and researcher focused on disaster policy and management, public policy, genocide studies, and politics in Latin America and the Caribbean. Dr. Hoberman teaches comparative politics at Florida International University and is a scholar affiliated with the Jack D. Gordon Institute for Public Policy and the M.A. in Global Affairs. She earned her PhD and MA in political science from Florida International University. Her academic articles appear in several journals on disaster management and environmental policy.



**Gustavo Martinez, Managing Director, Head of Public and International Affairs, CARI, Argentina**

Mr. Gustavo Martinez is the Head of Public International Affairs and Managing Director of CARI. He is also the Executive Director of the Argentine Think20 and heads its committees, as well as oversees the liaison with different committees on global affairs. Mr. Martinez has served in national organizations as well as his role of Chief Advisor to the Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee at the Argentine Parliament. Martinez has taught at universities around Argentina and has been a speaker in multiple summits, conferences, and seminars globally.



**Stanley Gacek, Senior Advisor for Global Strategies, United Food and Commercial Workers International Union**

Mr. Stanley Gacek is the senior advisor for Global Strategies at the United Food and Commercial Workers International Union with a focus on international relations. Mr. Gacek is a labor lawyer with U.S. and international experience and is an expert with global labor standards issues and global labor relations systems. He holds a B.A. and J.D. from Harvard College and Harvard Law, respectively. His roles have included being a visiting professor, author of a comparative study, expert on Brazilian labor and politics, and member of the Council on Foreign Relations. Mr. Gacek has also been an officer for the US Department of Labor's Bureau of International Labor Affairs where he represented the government in global bilateral discussions.



**Jennifer Garcia, Global Foundation for Democracy and Development, Dominican Republic**

Jennifer Garcia is a development consultant at the Global Foundation for Democracy and Development (FUNGLODE) and Chief Executive Officer of JENGA Strategies, a strategic consulting and planning organization. Garcia also serves as the director of communications at Instituto Global de Altos Estudios en Ciencias Sociales in the Dominican Republic. She holds a BA in Political Science from Manhattan University and a Master's degree in Political Management from George Washington University.



**Greg Howell, Senior Deputy Assistant Administrator, Bureau of Latin America and the Caribbean, USAID**

Mr. Greg Howell is the Senior Deputy Assistant Administrator at the U.S. Agency for International Development Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean. Mr. Howell has an extensive background in USAID, and he has served around the world in various directorial positions like Deputy Mission Director and Director of Economic Growth. His management positions also include programs in Africa and the Middle East. Mr. Howell holds a BA from American University's School of International Service and a Master's degree in International Management from the Thunderbird School of Global Management.



#### **Panel 4: Latin American-US Relations**

##### **Carlos Díaz-Rosillo, Director, Adam Smith Center at Florida International University, Moderator**

Dr. Díaz-Rosillo was a member of the faculty of Government, as well as the Assistant Dean of Harvard College. He earned both his Master's degrees in Public Policy and Government, as well as his PhD in Government from Harvard, with a dual undergraduate degree in Civil Engineering and International Relations from Tufts University. Most notably, Dr. Díaz-Rosillo has served as the Director of Policy and Interagency Coordination to former President Donald Trump. Currently, he is the Founding Director of the Adam Smith Center for Economic Freedom at FIU. He is responsible for setting the strategic vision and development and implementation of the Center's programs.



##### **Donna Hrinak, former U.S. Ambassador in Latin America**

Donna Hrinak, former U.S. Ambassador to Brazil, Venezuela, Bolivia, and the Dominican Republic, has worked in both government service and the private sector. While working with the government, she served as the Deputy Assistant Secretary in the State Department for Mexico and the Caribbean, as well as in the Congressional office of Rep. Patricia Schroeder on a fellowship program from the American Political Science Association. Hrinak then joined the private sector as Senior Counselor for Trade and Competition of the Miami law firm of Steel Hector & Davis. Her private sector experience also includes positions as the President of Boeing for Latin America and Canada, Vice President for Global Public Policy at PepsiCo., creator of the Corporate Affairs team at Royal Caribbean group, and a board member of the Adtalem Global Education and the Inter-American Dialogue. Donna Hrinak has pursued her education in George Washington University, the University of Notre Dame School of Law, and Michigan State University, where she received an Honorary Doctorate of Humanities.



### **Federico Rojas de Galarreta, Instituto de Estudios Internacionales, University of Chile**

Professor Federico Rojas de Galarreta is the Head of the Bachelor's Degree program in International Studies at the University of Chile. He currently serves as an Assistant Professor in the Institute of International Studies. Professor Rojas specializes in International Relations and Research Methods. He has earned degrees at all levels of Political Science, with a Bachelor's of Political Science from the University of Buenos Aires in Argentina; two Master's of Political Science from the University of Chile and the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, respectively; and a PhD in Political Science from the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile. Professor de Galarreta is a member of the International Studies Association (ISA), and the Asociación Latinoamericana de Ciencia Política (ALACIP).



### **Moises Rendon, Director, Washington at Americas Society/Council of the Americas**

Moises Rendon is a Policy Strategist and Consultant to governments, embassies, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), and private companies. He is currently a consultant for the U.S. State Department in USAID. He earned his Law degree with a concentration in International Law, Negotiations & Conflict Resolution from Andres Bello Catholic University. Rendon has his Master of Law with a concentration in International Business and Economic Law from Georgetown University Law Center. As a Latin American Expert, speaking both English and Spanish fluently, he has founded and directed the Future of Venezuela Initiative & Fellow Americas Program in 2019. As a strategic thinker, he has a successful track record of delivering policy recommendations and solutions to shape key decisions in governments, non-profits, the private sector and individuals alike.





## **Think Tank Introductions**

### **CARI**

The Consejo Argentino para las Relaciones Internacionales (CARI) is a non-governmental, non-profit, nonpartisan academic institution that generates concise analyses with up-to-date information on international problems from a national Argentine perspective. This organization was founded June 15th, 1978 in Buenos Aires with the intention of launching an effective initiative that contributes to the peace-making and developmental efforts of Argentina. This is done through the analysis of the political, economic, cultural, and social aspects of international relations. CARI's basic principles include pluralism in the ideas and activities of its members, freedom of opinion of members and study bodies, and partnerships with public and private bodies through collaboration of studies and debates used for decision-making. The Council, as a body, will not issue statements. Instead, studies will be published through the Executive Committee, working groups, or special seminars. Opinions of these publications will not compromise the individual thought of Council members.

### **FUNGLODE**

La Fundacion Global Democracia y Desarrollo (FUNGLODE) is a private, non-profit organization dedicated towards the study and instruction of different sectors of the social, political, economic, democratic, and international spheres of the Dominican Republic. FUNGLODE is recognized with leading academic institutions of social sciences in countries around the world, including Spain, France, and the United States. FUNGLODE's affiliate is Global Foundation for Democracy and Development (GFDD), with offices in Washington D.C. and New York City. Their mission is to be a think tank focused on intensive research, academic excellence and creativity, that fosters public policy tools for strengthening democracy, respect for human rights, sustainable development, creativity, as well as the modernization of the Dominican Republic. FUNGLODE's centers are dedicated to research, the study and analysis of critical areas for democracy and development that promote decision making, cooperation, and the generation of public policies in the Dominican Republic and the region.

## **INSTITUTO DE ESTUDIOS INTERNACIONALES (UNIVERSIDAD DE CHILE)**

The Instituto de Estudios Internacionales (IEI) of the Universidad de Chile, is a leading postgraduate center of research, teaching, analysis and the promotion of the debate in political science, international relations & law, history, and international economy. Founded October 19th, 1966, it is one of the oldest research institutes in Latin America, formerly directed by Claudio Véliz. Véliz was a prominent historian, academic, and researcher, who transformed the institution into an emerging contributor to the study and analysis of problems with international relations within Chile and Latin America. Since then, the institution has built up its regional and international reputation through publications of books and journals, and the development of several degree programs and certificates. The institute aims to be a benchmark for Latin America in the field of international studies, which means understanding the world from multiple perspectives and taking advantage of the knowledge and theoretical frameworks in a multidisciplinary fashion. The purpose of doing so establishes connections between these different perspectives by understanding how they relate and can be weaved together in a larger framework.

## **BRAZILIAN CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (CEBRI)**

Centro Brasileiro de Relações Internacionais (CEBRI) is an independent think tank that is dedicated to contributing to Brazil's international agenda - the only one in the country and the second most influential think tank in Central and South America. CEBRI stands out for its intellectual patrimony and the size of its Board of Trustees. Its board members include those who have built and continue to build Brazil's history. CEBRI's 25-year history is linked to the development of Brazilian diplomacy and foreign policy, and for 20 years, the institution has been dedicated to promoting pluralistic and purposeful dialogues on the international perspective on Brazilian foreign policy. This institution came to be by a group of ambassadors, intellectuals, and businessmen who sought to strengthen Brazil's international engagement. They now disseminate knowledge and influence public policy-making with the goal of national development. They are made up of a wide, influential, and plural network of specialists and high-quality content with essential players in several areas of expertise in the public and private sectors, academia, and civil society.

## **BROOKINGS INSTITUTION**

The Brookings Institution is a think tank based in Washington D.C., is a nonprofit organization focused on conducting non-partisan research to improve policy and governance at local, national, and global levels. Brookings consists of research programs including: Economic Studies, Foreign Policy, Governance Studies, Global Economy and Development, and Brookings Metro. Brookings emphasizes its non-partisan contributions through having staff from multiple viewpoints and producing influential research that covers topics including domestic and international affairs.

## **ATLANTIC COUNCIL'S ADRIENNE ARSHT LATIN AMERICAN CENTER**

The Adrienne Arsht Latin America Center (AALAC) of the Atlantic Council is focused on broadening the understanding of regional transformations and Latin America's strategic role in a global context. The AALAC presses political, economic, and social issues that will define the region's trajectory, while proposing constructive, results-oriented solutions to address a shared vision for a more prosperous, inclusive, and sustainable future. The guiding values of fostering non-partisanship, strengthening democracy and rule of law, advancing free markets and inclusive economies, accelerating public-private cooperation, fostering opportunities for the globalization of the Latin American region, promoting gender equality and diversity, and re-affirming locally-driven, country-specific solutions, are used to demonstrate why Latin America and the Caribbean matter in the world stage. The AALAC builds consensus for action in advancing innovative policy perspectives, providing unique insight on global challenges such as regional and economic development, commercial opportunities, and energy transitions. Their influence positions the region as a core partner in the transatlantic community.

## **WOODROW WILSON CENTER**

The Woodrow Wilson Center is a non-partisan think tank that focuses on regional studies to provide insights on global affairs relevant to policy making through research, analysis, and scholarship. The Wilson Center convenes scholars to initiate global dialogue on ideas that can be acted upon by Congress, the US Presidential Administration, and international policy making community. This renowned think tank has been accredited by several public figures, including the Secretary of State, ambassadors, and members of the multiple presidential cabinets.

## **INTER-AMERICAN DIALOGUE**

The Inter-American Dialogue (IAD) or the Dialogue, is a Washington based non-profit organization that engages with a network of global leaders to foster democratic governance, prosperity, and social equity in Latin America and the Caribbean. Their members include over 100 individuals from the United States, Canada, and 21 countries of Latin America and the Caribbean. As the face of the organization, these members actively participate in informing and advancing rigorous debate of shaping policy, devising solutions, and enhancing cooperation within the Western Hemisphere. The Dialogue is unique in that it boasts not only the reach of their influence and quality of work, but also by their identity as a truly Hemispheric organization.

## **AMERICAS SOCIETY/COUNCIL OF THE AMERICAS**

The Americas Society (AS) mission is to foster understanding of contemporary issues affecting Latin America, the Caribbean, and Canada as well as increasing public awareness of diverse cultures that make up the Americas. This premier forum dedicated to education and dialogue within the Americas highlights the importance of inter-American relationships. The Council of the Americas (COA) is an international business organization dedicated to sharing a commitment of economic and social development in the Western Hemisphere. Along with open markets, rule of law and democracy prevailing in the region. COA membership consists of multiple, leading companies that compose a broad range of sectors pivotal to development.

