



Governance and Social Justice in Cuba: **The International Dimensions**

June 9, 2006
Château Laurier, Canadian Room
1 Rideau Street, Ottawa

This one-day conference will bring together experts and policy specialists from a range of countries to: 1) Diagnose the political, economic and social governance challenges facing Cuba; 2) Assess the impact of the international community in facilitating the promotion of good governance and social justice on the island; and 3) Explore practical, policy-relevant approaches for international actors such as Canada in facilitating the promotion of good governance and social justice in Cuba at present and in the future.

8:00 am – 8:30 am

Registration and Breakfast

8:30 am – 8:35 am

Welcome / Introductory Remarks

Eduardo del Buey (Executive Director, FOCAL)

Damián Fernández (Director, Cuban Research Institute, Florida International University)

8:35 am – 9:45 am

Governance and Social Justice in Cuba: Key Challenges

Chair: Cristina Warren (Program Director, Research Forum on Cuba, FOCAL)

Jorge I. Domínguez (Director, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Harvard University): "Cuba's Institutions and the Future Challenges of Governance and Social Justice"

Carmelo Mesa-Lago (Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Economics and Latin American Studies, University of Pittsburgh): "Assessing the Cuban Economy's Current and Future Capacity to Provide Social Justice: Social Services and Poverty-Reduction"

Damián Fernández (Director, Cuban Research Institute, Florida International University): "Vanishing Act?: The Political Culture of Social Justice and Good Governance in Cuba"

9:45 am – 10:00 am

Coffee Break

10:00 am – 11:30 am

Domestic Actors and International Linkages: Present and Future

Chair: Damián Fernández (Director, Cuban Research Institute, Florida International University)

Archibald R. M. Ritter (Professor of Economics and International Affairs, Carleton University): "Cuba's Strategic Economic Reorientation"

Katrin Hansing (Principle Investigator, University of Bayreuth, Germany): “*Más allá de la yuma: Cubans' Perceptions of International Society and its Role in the Island's Future*”

Velia Cecilia Bobes León (Professor, Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales-Mexico): The role of the diaspora, including the effect of Cuban-American remittances, on issues of social justice

Discussants: **Juan Antonio Blanco** (Executive Director, Human Rights Internet); **Daniel Erikson** (Senior Associate, Inter-American Dialogue)

11:30 am – 1:00 pm
Renaissance Room

Lunch

1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

International Actors and Policies: Exploring Lessons Learned

Chair: **Velia Cecilia Bobes León** (Professor, Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales-Mexico)

Christopher Sabatini (Senior Director for Policy, Americas Society/Council of the Americas): “Democracy Assistance in Cuba: Constraints and Stigma”

Marina S. Ottaway (Senior Associate, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace): “Managing Post-Conflict Issues”

Anthony P. Maingot (Professor Emeritus of Sociology, Florida International University): “Cuba as a Caribbean Actor: Challenges to Mutual Democratization and Social Justice”

Discussant: **Xavier Utset** (Director of Cuba Program, Freedom House)

2:30 pm – 2:45 pm

Coffee Break

2:45 pm – 4:15 pm

Social Justice and Good Governance in Cuba: National and Regional Policy Perspectives

Chair: **Eduardo del Buey** (Executive Director, FOCAL)

Susanne Gratius (Researcher, FRIDE - Fundación para las Relaciones Internacionales y el Diálogo Exterior): “The Social and Governance Dimension of EU Policy towards Cuba”

Michael Kergin (Former Canadian Ambassador to the United States): “Dancing with the Dialecticians: A Cuban and American Experience”

Peter Hakim (President, Inter-American Dialogue): “Hemispheric Trends and Implications for US policy Towards Cuba and the Region”

Discussant: **Javier Corrales** (Associate Professor of Political Science, Amherst College)

4:15 pm
Renaissance Room

Reception