HUMAN RIGHTS: CHALLENGES OF THE PAST/CHALLENGES FOR THE FUTURE
JUNE 2, 2009
PARTICIPANTS

Ariel C. Armony, Audrey Wade Hittinger Katz and Sheldon Toby Katz Distinguished Teaching Professor in Government, Colby College. His research focuses on comparative democratization, civil society, and US-Latin American politics. Currently he is a Fulbright Scholar at Nankai University, China, and serves on the Executive Council of the Latin American Studies Association (LASA). He has received grants from the Rockefeller Foundation, Inter-American Foundation, National Science Foundation, Mellon Foundation, Freeman Foundation, Kellogg Foundation, Aspen Institute, and the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, among others. Dr. Armony’s publications include *The Dubious Link: Civic Engagement and Democratization*; *Repensando la Argentina: Antes de diciembre de 2001 y más allá de mayo de 2003; Repression, Resistance, and Democratic Transition in Central America*. Dr. Armony was born and raised in Argentina and received his doctorate from the University of Pittsburgh.

Cynthia J. Arnson, Director, Latin American Program, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. Dr. Arnson’s most recent work has focused on the ‘New Left’ and democratic governance in the hemisphere and on efforts to bring about negotiated settlements to internal armed conflicts in Latin America. Dr. Arnson is a member of the editorial advisory board of *Foreign Affairs en Español*, a member of the Latin America advisory board of the Open Society Institute, and of Human Rights Watch/Americas. Publications include *Crossroads: Congress, the President, and Central America, 1976-1993*; *Comparative Peace Processes in Latin America* (editor); *Rethinking the Economics of War: The Intersection of Need, Creed, and Greed* (co-edited with I. William Zartman). She received her doctorate from The Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies.

Débora Benchoam, Attorney, Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR), Organization of American States. Her specialties include freedom of expression, political rights, and the rights of political prisoners. She received her J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center and a Master’s in Education from Teachers College, Columbia University. She was imprisoned by the military dictatorship in Argentina in 1977 and spent four years and five months in jail as a political prisoner.

Leana Bresnahan, Chief, Human Rights Office, US Southern Command. She has developed a human rights awareness education program for Command staff and for Department of Defense personnel and military units deploying into the Command’s area. Bresnahan serves as Command liaison to the human rights community, planning and executing events to encourage dialogue between Command leadership and representatives of the human rights community. She has led an effort to develop human rights programs for military forces in Latin America and the Caribbean through the multi-year Human Rights Initiative. She holds a Master’s in International law from St. Thomas’ University.

Jo-Marie Burt, Associate Professor of Political Science and Director of the Human Rights, Global Justice, and Democracy Project at the Center for Global Studies at George Mason University. Her research focuses on state violence, human rights, and transitional justice. She has been a visiting lecturer and researcher at the Catholic University of Peru and a researcher for the Peruvian Truth and Reconciliation Commission. She previously worked as editor at North American Congress on Latin America (NACLA) *Report on the Americas*. She has received grants and fellowships from Open Society Institute, Fulbright, US Institute of Peace, the Aspen Institute, the MacArthur Foundation, and the Thomas J. Watson Foundation, among others. Dr. Burt is author of *Silencing Civil Society: Political Violence and the Authoritarian State in Peru* and co-editor of *Politics in the Andes: Identity, Conflict, Reform*. She received her doctorate from Columbia University.

Henry F. (Chip) Carey, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, Georgia State University. His research focuses on international criminal justice and human rights, comparative legal development, empirical democratic theory, and elections and democratization. From 1980-1983, he worked in the economics and development section at Arthur D. Little, Inc., where he specialized on investment pre-feasibility and feasibility studies in development banks for USAID. From 1992-1994 he taught in Romania and founded the Bucharest Social Science Center with a grant from the Soros Foundation. Thereafter he helped with the initial formation of the Eurasia Group, a US based consultancy firm. His publications include *National Reconciliation in Eastern Europe; Conflict Prevention and the Role of NGOs; and Geopolitics: France, Argentina, Israel and the US in Comparative Perspective*. His doctorate is from Columbia University.
Margaret E. Crahan, Kozmetsky Distinguished Professor and Director, Kozmetsky Center of Excellence in Global Finance, St. Edward’s University. Her research has focused on human rights, colonial legacies, religion and politics, and civil society. She has held a number of endowed chairs including the Henry R. Luce Professorship of Religion, Power and Political Process at Occidental College (1982-1994), the Marous Professorship at the University of Pittsburgh (1993-1994), and the Dorothy Epstein Professorship at Hunter College of the City University of New York (1994-2008). She currently serves as the Vice President of the Board of the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights, as well as a member of the Board of the Dorothy Epstein Professorship at Hunter College of the City University of New York (1994-2008). She has held a number of endowed chairs including the Henry R. Luce Professorship of Religion, Power and Political Process at Occidental College (1982-1994), the Marous Professorship at the University of Pittsburgh (1993-1994), and the Dorothy Epstein Professorship at Hunter College of the City University of New York (1994-2008). She currently serves as the Vice President of the Board of the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights, as well as a member of the Board of the Washington Office on Latin America. Dr. Crahan has published over one hundred articles and books including Africa and the Caribbean: Legacies of a Link (with Franklin W. Knight); Human Rights and Basic Needs in the Americas; The City and the World: New York’s Global Future (with Alberto Vourvoulias-Bush); Religion, Culture and Society: The Case of Cuba; and The Wars on Terrorism and Iraq: Human Rights, Unilateralism, and US Foreign Policy (with Thomas G. Weiss and John Goering). She received her doctorate from Columbia University.

Luigi R. Einaudi, National Defense University. He is the former Acting Secretary General, Organization of American States (2004-2005); Assistant Secretary General of the OAS (2000); and US Ambassador to the OAS (1989-1993). He was also US Special Envoy for the Ecuador-Peru peace talks (1995-1998). He received awards from Presidents Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan and George Bush, as well as Secretaries of State Henry Kissinger and Madeleine Albright. In 1997 he also received the Frasure Award for peace-making and has been awarded seven other medal citations from the Departments of State and Defense. In February of 1999, the presidents of Ecuador and Peru decorated Ambassador Einaudi for his role in bringing peace to their countries.

Tom J. Farer, Professor and Dean of the Josef Korbel School of International Studies at the University of Denver. His research focuses on human rights, international diplomacy, as well as transnational crime. He has been an Honorary Professor of Beijing University, Director of the Center for China-US Cooperation, Executive Director of the Social Science Foundation, a member of the Advisory Board of Human Rights Watch/Americas, and a member of the editorial boards of the American Journal of International Law and the Human Rights Quarterly. Dean Farer has served as special assistant to the General Council of the Department of Defense, special assistant to the Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs, legal advisor to the UN Intervention Force in the Somali Republic (1993), advisor on the Ugandan Constitution (1994), and legal advisor for the National Police Force of the Somali Republic (1994). His books include Toward a Humanitarian Diplomacy; The Grand Strategy of the United States in Latin America; and Confronting Global Terrorism and American Neo-Conservatism: The Framework of a Liberal Grand Strategy. He received his doctorate in law from Harvard.

Priscilla B. Hayner, Director, International Center for Transitional Justice Geneva Office and its Peace and Justice Program. She is a co-founder of the ICTJ. Previously, she was a consultant to the Ford Foundation and UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and a Program Officer for the Joyce Mertz-Gilmore Foundation. She also served as human rights advisor for the Kenyan National Dialogue and Reconciliation at the request of Kofi Annan and the Panel of Eminent African Personalities. Her publications include Unspeakable Truths: Facing the Challenges of Truth Commissions. She did her graduate studies at Columbia University.

Ramona Hernández, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, City College of New York and Director, City University of New York Dominican Studies Institute. Her research interests include the mobility of workers from Latin America and the Caribbean, the socioeconomic conditions of Dominicans in the diaspora, particularly in the United States, and the restructuring of the world economy and its effects on working and poor people. Dr. Hernández was appointed by New York City Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg to the twelve-member New York City Panel of Education. She is also a member of the Editorial Board of the Latino Studies Journal and Encyclopedia Latina: History, Culture, Society. She is Vice Chair of the Dominican Studies Association. Dr. Hernández is the author of The Mobility of Workers Under Advanced Capitalism: Dominican Migration to the United States and co-author of Dominican Americans. Her doctorate is from the City University of New York. She is a native of the Dominican Republic.

Katherine Hite, Associate Professor of Political Science and Director of the Program in Latin American and Latino/a Studies, Vassar College. Professor Hite has written about the politics of memory and commemoration in Latin America and Spain, as well as legacies of authoritarian rule. She served as the Associate Director of the Institute of Latin American and Iberian Studies at Columbia University. Her research has been funded by the Fulbright Foundation and the Ford Foundation. She is the author of When the Romance Ended: Leaders of the Chilean Left, 1968-1998 and co-editor of The New Politics of Inequality in Latin America: Rethinking Participation and Representation, as well as Authoritarian Legacies and Democracy in Latin America and Southern Europe (with Paola Cesarini). Her doctorate is from Columbia University.
Elizabeth Lira, Director, Centro de Ética, Universidad Alberto Hurtado, Santiago, Chile. Her fields include dilemmas of political memory, truth commissions, human rights and reconciliation. She was a member of Chile’s National Commission of Political Prison and Torture, Chairwoman of the Superior Board of Sciences of the National Scientific and Technological Development Fund of Chile (Fondecyt), and a member of the Superior Board of the Latin-American Faculty of Social Sciences (FLACSO). Her publications include El Espejismo de la Reconciliación política: Chile 1990-2002; Las ardientes cenizas del olvido: La vía chilena de reconciliación política. 1814-1932; Las ardientes cenizas del olvido. La vía chilena de reconciliación política 1932-1994 (with Brian Loveman). She is a native of Chile.

Luis Maira Aguirre, Ambassador of Chile in Argentina. Formerly Ambassador Maira was Chilean Ambassador to Mexico (1997-2003) and Chile’s Minister of Planning and Cooperation (1993-1996). In 1965 at the age of 24 he was elected a member of the Chilean National Congress where he served until 1973. He was the first director of the Instituto de Estudios sobre Estados Unidos del Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas (CIDE) in Mexico. In 1988 he joined the Comité Directivo de the Comando Nacional por el No in preparation for the plebiscite that restored democracy to Chile. He also served as one of the founders of the Concertación de Partidos Políticos por la Democracia. His publications include over 100 articles and fourteen books including El largo conflicto entre Chile y Bolivia: Dos visiones (con Javier Murillo de la Rocha); Chile-México, dos transiciones frente a frente (con Carlos Elizondo); Superando la Pobreza, Construyendo la Equidad. He received his law degree from the University of Chile and also studied at the Universities of Oxford and Bristol and the Universidad Autónoma de Méjico.

George E. Martin, President, St. Edward’s University, Austin, Texas. He has written, lectured and consulted about the challenges confronting higher education in the 21st century, strategic planning, enrollment management, marketing strategies, geodemographics, and American politics and government. Currently Dr. Martin is forming partnerships to establish a spectrum of educational programs in France for European and US students as part of the Global Understanding Initiative at St. Edward’s. Dr. Martin serves on the boards of the Council of Independent Colleges, the Independent Colleges and Universities of Texas, and the American Academic Leadership Institute (AALI). He is currently chair-elect of the Independent Colleges and Universities of Texas. He received his doctorate in political science from Fordham University.

Joy Olson, Executive Director, Washington Office on Latin America (WOLA). She has directed WOLA for more than five years and developed new programs addressing critical problems in Latin America such as youth gang violence and organized crime. Prior to joining WOLA, Ms. Olson served nine years as Director of the Latin America Work Group (LAWG), a coalition of 60 non-governmental organizations working together to promote a peaceful and just US foreign policy toward Latin America. She has also worked for Church World Service on immigration and refugee policy and served two years as a community development worker in Honduras. Olson also co-founded the “Just the Facts” project and co-authored its three books on US military programs with Latin America. Ms. Olson has a Master’s degree in Latin America Studies from the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Méjico (UNAM).

Sonia Picado, President, Inter-American Institute of Human Rights. She is a former member of the Costa Rica Congress and former Costa Rican ambassador to the United States. She is also the first woman elected dean of a law school in Latin America, as well as the first woman elected to the Inter-American Court of Human Rights. She headed the UN’s International Commission of Inquiry on East Timor and currently serves on the UN’s Commission on Human Security. Her areas of expertise include human rights, women in politics, development economics, and educational administration. She has received awards from the United Nations, as well as a number of countries, universities, and non-governmental organizations. She has a doctorate in law from the University of Costa Rica.

Carlos Portales, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Chile to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva. Ambassador Portales is the former Director-General for Foreign Policy of the Chilean Ministry of Foreign Affairs. As Director-General, he oversaw Chile’s foreign policy both bilaterally and multilaterally. Prior to his assignment at the Foreign Policy Division, Ambassador Portales was Director for Planning at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2001-2002) and Principal of the Chilean Diplomatic Academy “Andrés Bello” (2000-2001). His ambassadorial postings have been in Mexico (1994-1997) and the Organization of American States (OAS) in Washington, DC, (1997-2000). He has authored, co-authored and edited several books in the field of political science and international relations including State and Armed Forces (with Hugo Frühling and Augusto Varas) and Elusive Friendship: Relations between the United States and Chile (with Heraldo Muñoz). He graduated in 1971 (magna cum laude) from the University of Chile with a degree in Law and Social Studies. In 1977 he received his Master’s degree (with distinction) from Stanford University.
**Francisco F. Quiroz.** Professor of History, Universidad de San Marcos, Lima, Peru. Professor Quiroz’ research focuses on indigenous social movements in the colonial period, as well as slavery. He has taught at the University of Connecticut and the City University of New York. His publications include *Artesanos y manufactureros en Lima colonial; Historia del Callao: De Puerto de Lima a Provincia Constitucional*. He has graduate degrees from the Universidad de San Marcos and the Universidad Católica del Peru.

**Denise Stanley.** Associate Professor of Economics, California State University – Fullerton. Dr. Stanley specializes in development, labor, environmental and other areas of applied microeconomics. She received a Fulbright Teaching and Research Award for 2006-2007 to assess the impact of immigration remittances on the economies of receiving communities. She has also served as a reviewer for the Fulbright Central America Committee and as a member of the Advisory Council for Remittances Research of the National Alliance of Latin American and Caribbean Communities (NLACC). Dr. Stanley’s publications include “Public Perceptions on Public Goods: An Assessment of Willingness to Pay for Endangered Species Recovery in an Economic Downturn,” *Contemporary Economic Policy* 23: 165-179, 2005 and “The Economic Impact of Exports on a Small Regional Economy,” *World Development*, 31: 191-210, 2003. She received her doctorate in economics from the University of Wisconsin.

**James Sweet.** Associate Professor, Department of History, University of Wisconsin. His research focuses on transnational slavery in Africa, Europe and the Americas. His book, *Recreating Africa*, won the American Historical Association’s Wesley Logan Prize for the best book on the history of the African diaspora in 2004. Sweet is currently working on a book-length study that traces the life of a man from eighteenth-century Dahomey, to Brazil, and finally to Portugal. With Tejumola Olaniyan he is editing a volume entitled *The African Diaspora and the Disciplines*. He received his doctorate from the City University of New York.

**José Thompson.** Director, Center for Electoral Assistance and Promotion (CAPEL), Inter-American Institute of Human Rights (IIHR). He is also a Professor of International Law at the University of Costa Rica. He has been a consultant for the Costa Rican Foreign Service and served as Minister Counselor and Consul General at the Costa Rican Embassy in Washington DC. Dr. Thompson has also been a Professor at the Law School of Columbia University and the United Nations University for Peace. He is the author of several publications on international law and its relation to human rights, democracy, electoral institutions and administration of justice. He has served as an international observer for more than seventy five electoral processes. His law degree is from the University of Costa Rica.

**Mark Ungar.** Associate Professor of Political Science, Brooklyn College, and of Criminal justice, The Graduate Center, City University of New York (CUNY). His research focuses on judicial and police reform in the context of human rights. He has worked as an advisor to the United Nations, the Inter-American Development Bank, and the governments of Argentina, Bolivia, and Honduras. He has had grants and fellowships from the Ford Foundation, the Tinker Foundation, and the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. He is currently completing a book on citizen security reform in Latin America and an edited volume on community policing in the region. His publications include *Elusive Reform: Democracy and the Rule of Law in Latin America*, and *Violence and Politics: Globalization’s Paradox* (co-author). He received his doctorate from Columbia University.

**Marcelo Varela-Erasheva.** Associate Director for the Americas Program, Carter Center, Atlanta, Georgia. He has worked in designing, coordinating, and managing international cooperation programs on democratization, development, national dialogue initiatives, human rights, electoral processes, civil society, police, and military. He also has extensive experience in negotiating and managing the financial resources of international cooperation programs. Mr. Varela-Erasheva was previously an advisor and international cooperation project manager to electoral management bodies in Latin America and several international organizations and civil society organizations such as the UNDP, UNDESA, OAS, IADB, International IDEA, OSI, and the World Bank. Mr. Varela-Erasheva holds a Master’s degree in European-Latin American relations from the University of Bradford, England. He also holds an MBA from the Universidad Europea de Madrid and the Universidad Interamericana in Costa Rica.
George Vickers, Director, International Operations, Open Society Institute and Soros Foundation Network Worldwide. From 2002 until July 2007 he served as OSI’s regional director for Latin America and senior policy analyst at the Open Society Policy Center. From 1993-2001 Dr. Vickers was Executive Director of the Washington Office on Latin America (WOLA). He was also a professor of sociology at the Graduate Center and Brooklyn College of the City University of New York (CUNY) from 1975-1997. He has co-directed missions monitoring the implementation of peace agreements in Nicaragua, El Salvador, and Guatemala, and served on numerous electoral observer delegations in Central and South America. He is the author of several books and has written extensively on the dynamics of revolutionary movements, democratization processes in Latin America, civil-military relations, and United States military strategy. Vickers has MA and PhD degrees from Washington University in St. Louis.

Thomas G. Weiss, Presidential Professor of Political Science, The CUNY Graduate Center and Director of the Ralph Bunche Institute for International Studies. He is co-director of the United Nations Intellectual History Project. He is also President of the International Studies Association (2009-1010) and Chair of the Academic Council on the UN System (2006-2009). His research focuses on human rights, international organizations, US foreign policy, and the UN system. He was editor of Global Governance, Research Director of the International Commission on Intervention and State Sovereignty, Research Professor at Brown University’s Watson Institute for International Studies, and a member of the UN secretariat. He has written or edited some 35 books and 150 articles and book chapters about multilateral approaches to international peace and security, humanitarian action, and sustainable development. His latest book is What’s Wrong with the United Nations and How to Fix It (2009).

Alexander Wilde, Centro de Ética, Universidad Alberto Hurtado, Santiago, Chile. From 2000-2004 he was Vice President for Communications of the Ford Foundation and from 1994-1999 directed Ford’s regional office in Santiago, Chile. There he developed new programming in human rights, historical memory, freedom of expression, and audiovisual documentary. From 1987-1993, Wilde directed the Washington Office on Latin America (WOLA) and from 2004-2007 he chaired its Board of Directors. He previously held senior research and management positions at the Helen Kellogg Institute, University of Notre Dame (1982-1987), and the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars (1978-1982). He is the author of Conversaciones de caballeros, a historical study of the breakdown of democracy in Colombia in the 1940s and co-editor of The Progressive Church in Latin America. Wilde holds a PhD in Political Science from Columbia University.