



Latin America's 2014 – 2015 Electoral Cycle

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Speakers' Biographies

David Altman is a Professor of Political Science and editor of *Revista de Ciencia Política* at the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile. His research and teaching are in the field of comparative politics with an emphasis on democracy: its quality, its institutions, and its innovations. He is particularly interested in mechanisms of direct democracy and his current research expands his previous work on the subject (*Direct Democracy Worldwide*, Cambridge University Press, 2011) by looking at the policy consequences of citizen participation through popular initiatives and referendums. He is also involved in two other research projects: Varieties of Democracy, and the Millennium Nucleus for the Study of Stateness and Democracy in Latin America. He holds a B.A. in Political Science and Government from The Hebrew University and a Ph.D. from the University of Notre Dame.

Harry Brown Araúz is President of the Centro de Iniciativas Democráticas (CIDEM) and a specialist on governance for the United Nations Development Program (UNDP). Brown is the author of *Partidos Políticos y Elecciones en Panamá: un enfoque institucionalista* (2007) as well as the editor and co-author of *Las reformas electorales en Panamá: claves de desarrollo humano para la toma de decisiones* (2010). He has published extensively in a variety of journal articles on democracy, political parties, and elections in Panama and Central America. Brown's most recent publications include "Cambiar todo para que nada cambie: los *inside-outsiders* de América Central" published in the magazine 'Contextualizaciones Latinoamericanas' by the Universidad de Guadalajara; and "Los tres consensos *transitistas* de Panamá: una propuesta para abordar la utilidad del voto a través de los clivajes políticos", which will be published shortly in an edited volumen published by the Colegio de México. He earned his Ph.D. in Political Science and Sociology from the Universidad Complutense de Madrid.

Rossana Castiglioni is the Director of Doctoral Studies in Political Science and professor at the Universidad Diego Portales in Santiago, Chile. She is also a researcher at the Instituto de Investigación en Ciencias Sociales (ICSO) at the Universidad Diego Portales, where she focuses on political institutions and comparative politics. Dr. Castiglioni has also been a visiting professor at Oxford University, the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and the Kellogg Institute for International Studies at the University of Notre Dame. Previously she served as a consultant for the UNDP. Among her published work is *The Politics of Social Policy Change in Chile and Uruguay: Retrenchment versus Maintenance, 1973-1998* (New York and London: Routledge, 2005, 2013). She is the author of several other publications in Argentina, Brazil, the United States, Mexico, and Uruguay. She studied Sociology at the Universidad de la República in Montevideo, Uruguay, and holds an M.A. and a Ph.D. on Political Science from the University of Notre Dame.

Ivana Deheza is an independent senior consultant currently providing technical expertise on different projects. She has over ten years of experience in project assessment, security analysis, impact evaluation, and public opinion research in countries such as the Dominican Republic, Bolivia, Colombia, Guatemala, Mexico, and the United States. Prior to her consulting work, Dr. Deheza served as a gender specialist for DayTech Systems (2012-13) and a senior consultant at Newlink Research (2004-12). At Newlink, she designed research, developed methodological guidelines, and identified research techniques to evaluate programs, projects, and policies. She also served as an independent consultant from 1992 to 2003 in Bolivia, during which time she contributed to policy change within the Bolivian government and legislature. She has a Master of Science in Project Management from The George Washington University and a Ph.D. in Political and Social Sciences from the European University Institute.

Juan Carlos Iragorri is the Director of NTN24's "Club de Prensa" and a correspondent for *Semana* magazine as well as RCN Morning News. In addition, Iragorri is the founder and director of the Master's program in Journalism at the Universidad del Rosario and *Publicaciones Semana*. He also served as a writer for *El Siglo* and *El Tiempo* and as Director of *El País* in Cali, Colombia. He spent the majority of his journalism career at *El Tiempo* and was subsequently awarded scholarships by the Reuters Foundation at Oxford University and by Weatherhead Center for International Affairs at Harvard University. Iragorri also served in Colombia's Foreign Service at the Embassy of Colombia in Spain as well as for the Organization of American States (OAS) in Washington, D.C. In February 2015, he was awarded the prestigious Premio de Periodismo Rey de España, presented by Agencia EFE y la Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional para el Desarrollo (AECID) for his television work. His publications include two interview books with Antonio Caballero and Antonio Navarro. Iragorri graduated with a law degree from the Universidad del Rosario and was awarded fellowships from Oxford and Harvard University.

Luis Vicente León is the Director of Datanálisis, Venezuela's leading polling firm, and a columnist for the Venezuelan paper *El Universal*. He is also a professor of Economics and Market Research at the Universidad Católica Andrés Bello and the Instituto de Estudios Superiores de Administración (IESA). León also serves as Director of the Venezuelan Executive Association, and has served as Director of the Venezuelan Industrial Federation (CONINDUSTRIA). Since 1992, León has specialized in economic, political, and social forecasting through Datanálisis. León co-authored "Understanding Populism and Political Participation: The Case of Venezuela," published by the Wilson Center's Latin American Program. He graduated with a degree in Economics from the UCAB and holds an M.A. in Managerial Engineering from the Universidad Simón Bolívar as well as degrees from the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México and the National Taiwan University.

Paula Lugones has been a journalist for the Argentine daily, *Clarín*, for over 20 years and is now *Clarín's* correspondent in the United States. She was awarded the Fundación Nuevo Periodismo Iberoamericano award in 2009, the Rey de España award in 2010, and a Sociedad Interamericana de Prensa (SIP) award in 2013, all for "Ruta 66, el largo camino a la Casa Blanca," a series of short videos and reports covering the U.S. presidential election in 2012. She holds journalism degrees from the Universidad de La Plata in Argentina as well as from Columbia University. She was the Chief Adjunct Editor of the El Mundo section for *Clarín* as well as professor at *Clarín's* Master's Program in Journalism and the Universidad de San Andrés.

Héctor Silva Ávalos is currently a research fellow at the Center for Latin American and Latino Studies at American University, where he is the co-investigator for a Department of Justice-funded project to assess the MS-13 gang in Washington, D.C., Los Angeles, and El Salvador. He has also been researching and covering the crisis of unaccompanied children at the U.S.-Mexico border. Simultaneously, Mr. Silva has served as a journalistic collaborator for *La Prensa Grafica*, *elfaro.net* and *InSightCrime.org*, focusing on organized crime, gangs and citizen security, and U.S. policy towards Central America with an emphasis

on security issues and immigration reform. He also served as Deputy Chief of Mission at the Embassy of El Salvador in Washington (2009-12), where he was in charge of El Salvador's security and immigration portfolios in the United States. Prior to moving to Washington, Silva worked as Managing Editor, Chief Information Officer, and Editor for *La Prensa Grafica*, where he conducted investigative reporting on security and organized crime issues. Silva's most recent publications include *Infiltrados. A Chronicle of Corruption in the National Civilian Police of El Salvador* (2014) and a working paper for the Inter-American Dialogue entitled "The U.S. and the Northern Tier of Central America: The Ongoing Misconnection" (2013). Silva graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Communications and Journalism from the University of Central America (UCA) in San Salvador. He received an M.A. in Film and TV Production from the Center of New Images and Technologies and an M.A. in Journalism from the University of Barcelona, with support from the Graduate Program at Columbia University.

Matthew Taylor is a Fellow of the Brazil Institute of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars and an Associate Professor at the School of International Service at American University. His research and teaching interests include state capacity, corruption, judicial politics, and Latin American political economy. He has lived and worked extensively in Brazil, working most recently at the University of São Paulo, where he was a member of the faculty from 2006 to 2011. He is also the author of *Judging Policy: Courts and Policy Reform in Democratic Brazil* (Stanford University Press, 2008), which was awarded the Brazilian Political Science Association's Victor Nuñez Leal Prize for best book, and co-editor with Timothy J. Power of *Corruption and Democracy in Brazil: The Struggle for Accountability* (University of Notre Dame Press, 2011). His scholarly work has been published in a variety of journals, including *Comparative Politics*, *Journal of Latin American Studies*, *Latin American Politics & Society* and *World Politics*. He holds a B.A. from Princeton University and an M.P.P. and Ph.D. from Georgetown University.

Evelyn Villarreal is the Research Coordinator for the State of Justice Reports of the Programa Estado de la Nación in Costa Rica. Villarreal joined Estado de la Nación in 1998 and served as Research Coordinator for the third and fourth State of the Region reports. She has also participated as an analyst and research manager for past investigations on Central America (1999 and 2003). In addition, Villarreal helped coordinate the Citizen Audit regarding the Quality of Democracy (2001) and for many years was a technical consultant and analyst for the chapter on strengthening democracy for the State of the Nation report. She has focused principally on mechanisms of control and accountability, transparency, the fight against corruption, and citizen involvement. Villarreal is currently a professor of political methodology and Central American politics at the Universidad de Costa Rica and the Universidad Estatal a Distancia. She graduated from the Universidad de Costa Rica with a Bachelor's degree in Political Science and International Relations and received her M.A. in Latin American Political Studies from Oxford University (UK).

José Rubén Zamora Marroquín is the founder and President of the newspaper *el Periódico* (1996). He also founded the newspapers *Siglo Veintiuno* (1990) and *Nuestro Diario* (1998) as well as the non-profit organization "Guatefuturo" (2006) which focuses on increasing human capital in Guatemala through education. Dr. Zamora has been recognized on numerous occasions in Guatemala and internationally for his commitment to freedom of speech and efforts to foster civic engagement. In 2000 he launched a civic campaign for education that received widespread support; his most recent campaign focuses on anti-violence measures. In 1994, he was awarded the Maria Moors Cabot Award by Columbia University and the International Press Freedom Award by the Committee to Protect Journalists, gaining recognition for defending journalism and fighting corruption in his newspapers. Dr. Zamora was named one of the 50 Heroes of Free Press of the Twentieth Century by the International Press Institute and received the Knight Award for his journalistic courage. Zamora has an M.A. in Business Administration from the Instituto Centroamericano de Administración de Empresas (INCAE), specializing in Finance and Banking. He received his Ph.D. in Political Science and Sociology from the Universidad Pontificia de Salamanca.

Moderators

Cynthia Arnson is director of the Latin American Program at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. Her work focuses on democratic governance, conflict resolution, citizen security, international relations, and U.S. policy in the Western hemisphere. Arnson is a member of the editorial advisory board of *Foreign Affairs Latinoamérica*, the Spanish-language edition of the distinguished journal *Foreign Affairs*. She is a member of the advisory boards of the Social Science Research Council's Conflict Prevention and Peace Forum and of Human Rights Watch/Americas. She is co-editor of *Latin American Populism in the 21st Century* (Johns Hopkins, 2013); editor of *In the Wake of War: Democratization and Internal Armed Conflict in Latin America* (Stanford, 2012); and author of *Crossroads: Congress, the President, and Central America, 1976-1993* (Penn State, 2d ed., 1993), among other works. Arnson was a foreign policy aide in the House of Representatives during the Carter and Reagan administrations. She graduated magna cum laude from Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut, and has an M.A. and Ph.D. in International Relations from The Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies.

Muni Jensen is a consultant for *El País* and a political analyst for NTN24's "Club de Prensa." She is also a senior advisor for Latin America practice of the Albright-Stonebridge Group. She previously worked at the Colombian Embassy in Washington for six years, under Ambassadors Luis Alberto Moreno, Carolina Barco, and Gabriel Silva. During this time, Ms. Jensen focused on congressional relations in the effort to ratify the U.S.-Colombia Free Trade Agreement, as well as serving as press counselor and spokesperson for the Embassy. Prior to her time in Washington, she worked at the Cali Chamber of Commerce division of International Trade and as vice president for Market Intelligence of Proexport Colombia in Bogotá. Ms. Jensen earned a Master of Arts in Latin American Studies from Georgetown University, where she is currently an Affiliate. She also received a B.A. from Trinity University in Washington, majoring in Political Science and Latin American Studies. In Colombia, she received a certificate in Public Policy in a joint program between Universidad Externado de Colombia and Columbia University.

Vicente Jiménez is the New York correspondent of *El País*, a position he has held since the summer of 2014. He first joined *El País* in Madrid in 1990 as a reporter in the Sports section. He then took over *El País de las Tentaciones*, a section of the newspaper aimed at younger audiences. Jiménez served as Deputy Director of *El País* during the paper's migration to a digital format, a change that has led to its leading position among Spanish-speaking readers. Jiménez has a B.A. degree in Journalism from the Facultad de Ciencias de la Información of the Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona.

Daniel Zovatto is the regional director for Latin America and the Caribbean of the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA). He is a member of the international Advisory Board of the Wilson Center's Latin American Program, as well as of the Latinobarómetro's International Consulting Council, the Consultative Committee of the Inter-American Center for Political Management, the Council of Arab Relations with Latin America and the Caribbean (CARLAC), the Governance Report for Africa of the Mo Ibrahim Foundation, the external advisory board of the political studies department at the Salvadoran Foundation for Economic and Social Development (FUSADES) and a nonresident senior fellow with Foreign Policy's Latin American Initiative at Brookings Institution. Dr. Zovatto is also a political analyst for CNN en Español, UNIVISION, and other Ibero-American media outlets as well as for various Latin American publications. Zovatto has designed, negotiated, and supervised over 100 technical assistance and political advisory programs related to democratic governance, elections, political

parties, electoral management bodies, parliaments, judicial branches, reforms of democratic institutions and constitutional reforms in the 18 countries of Latin America and the Caribbean. He is the author of over 20 books and 100 articles on law, democracy, elections, political parties, and governance in Latin America. Zovatto holds a law degree from the Universidad Nacional de Córdoba, and a Bachelor's degree in Political Science and International Relations from the Universidad Católica de Córdoba. He also has a Master's in Public Management from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, as well as a Master's in International Studies from the Escuela Diplomática del Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores de España. Zovatto received a Ph.D. in international law from the Universidad Complutense de Madrid and a Ph.D. in government and public administration from Spain's Instituto Universitario de Investigación Ortega y Gasset.