



December 6, 2010

Dear Colleague:

The Latin American Program and the Mexico Institute are pleased to invite you for a discussion of:

## **Organized Crime in Central America**

**Tuesday, December 14, 2010**

**9:30 – 11:30 a.m.**

**Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars  
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
5th floor conference room**

Featuring country reports on Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala by:

**James Bosworth**, Consultant  
**Douglas Farah**, President, IBI Consultants  
**Julie López**, Freelance journalist

Commentary by:

**Christopher C. Ashe**, Central America Regional Security Initiative (CARSI), U.S. Department of State  
**Juan Carlos Garzón**, author of *Mafia & Co: The Criminal Networks in Mexico, Brazil, and Colombia*

As violent organized crime continues to wreak havoc in Mexico, the functioning and burgeoning role of criminal networks in Central America is often overlooked and little understood. Three authors will present the initial findings of research commissioned by the Woodrow Wilson Center, exploring the dynamics of organized crime in Central America and the situation in the three countries—El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras—hardest hit by the growing power of transnational criminal organizations. The speakers will focus on the history and nature of organized crime in Central America, how countries there fit into trafficking networks linking the Andes, Mexico, and the United States, and how Central America has been affected by increased enforcement efforts in Mexico.

We hope you can join us for this critical discussion. Please RSVP, acceptances only, by clicking [here](#). If you already sent an RSVP, you do not need to do so again.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Cynthia J. Arnson'.

Cynthia J. Arnson  
Director  
Latin American Program

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Eric Olson'.

Eric Olson  
Senior Program Associate  
Mexico Institute