

The Woodrow Wilson Center's Mexico Institute invites you to a seminar on

The Debate for Justice in Mexico: The Reform and Future Challenges

Tuesday, May 20, 2008 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

5th Floor Conference Room Woodrow Wilson Center 1300 Pennsylvania Ave, NW Washington, DC

9:00 am <u>Welcome</u> **Andrew Selee**, Director, Woodrow Wilson Center Mexico Institute

9:15 am <u>Panel I: Understanding the Reform</u> **Ana Laura Magaloni**, Professor, CIDE

Ernesto Canales, Founding Partner, Canales y Socios Abogados, S.C. **Layda Negrete**, Lawyer and PhD Candidate, University of California, Berkeley

Moderator: **Javier Tello**, Chief of Staff, Embassy of Mexico

10:30 am Break

10:45 am Panel II: Challenges for Implementing the Reform

Miguel Treviño, Editor, Reforma and Professor, Monterrey Tec

Cristian Riego, Academic Director, Centro de Estudios de Justicia de las Américas (CEJA)

Enrique Ochoa, Professor of Constitutional Law, UNAM

Moderator: Eric Olson, Senior Advisor, Woodrow Wilson Center Mexico Institute

12:00 Adjournment

One of the most dramatic reforms to take place in Mexico in recent years has been the decision of the Mexican Congress to overhaul the judicial system through a major constitutional reform passed in late February. The wide-ranging reforms include adopting public "oral trials" for criminal cases in place of secretive paper trials, establishing the presumption of innocence, and overhauling the system of public defenders. Join some of Mexico's top judicial experts, who have been deeply involved in the constitutional reform, to take a look at these changes, their implementation, and their implications for Mexican society and democracy.