

Honduras and the Inter-American System: One Year After

Monday, December 13, 2010
9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Speakers' Biographies

His Excellency Jorge Ramón Hernández-Alcerro became Honduran ambassador to the United States on June 9, 2010. Previously, Ambassador Hernández-Alcerro held positions in academia, public service, and the private and public banking sectors. He has served as a judge in the Central American Court of Justice in Managua; Honduran secretary of justice and the interior; and congressman elected to the National Constituent Assembly. Hernández-Alcerro has also served as the executive director of the Honduran Business Council for Sustainable Development; executive president of the Honduran private bank, *Banco del País*; and executive director for Central America, Belize, and Haiti at the Inter-American Development Bank. He holds a B.A. with honors in judicial and social sciences from National Autonomous University of Honduras, a degree with honors in advanced international studies from the *Institut Européen des Hautes Études Internationales* in Nice, France, and a doctorate in International Cooperation Law, cum laude, from the University of Nice in France.

The Honorable José Miguel Insulza is secretary general of the Organization of American States. He was previously professor of political theory at the University of Chile and of political science at Chile's Catholic University. In Mexico City, Insulza served as director of the United States Studies Institute in the Center for Economic Research and Teaching (CIDE). He also taught at Mexico's National Autonomous University, the Ibero-American University, and the Diplomatic Studies Institute. Insulza has held many positions as a public figure in Chile, including under-secretary of foreign affairs, minister of foreign affairs, and minister secretary general of the presidency. Insulza completed his postgraduate studies at the Latin American Social Sciences Faculty (FLACSO). He has a master's in political science from the University of Michigan and a law degree from the University of Chile.

Facundo Nejamkis is a professor at the University of Buenos Aires (UBA) and also teaches political science at the University of Business and Social Sciences (UCES). He has served as executive director of the *Centro de Estudios Políticos, Económicos y Sociales* (CEPES) - Observatorio de Política Exterior since 2003. Nejamkis has served as an advisor for the general secretariat of the *Unión de Naciones Sudamericanas* (UNASUR) and as chief of cabinet of the presidency of the *Mercado Común del Sur* (MERCOSUR). Nejamkis has published widely on issues of comparative politics, political parties, citizenship, and political institutions in Argentina and Latin America. He holds a B.A. in political science from the UBA and studied administration and public policies at the graduate level at San Andrés University.

Julissa Reynoso has served as deputy assistant secretary for Central America and the Caribbean in the Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs, U.S. Department of State, since 2009. She is an attorney by profession and practiced law at the international law firm of Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP in New York before joining the State Department. Reynoso was a fellow at New York University School of Law and at Columbia Law School. In 2006, she served as deputy director of the Office of Accountability for the New York City Department of Education. Reynoso has published widely in both Spanish and English on a range of issues including regulatory reform, community organizing, housing reform, immigration policy, and Latin American politics for both the popular press and academic journals. She holds a B.A. in government from Harvard University, a Masters in Philosophy from the University of Cambridge in the U.K., and a J.D. from Columbia University School of Law.

Leticia Salomón is a Honduran sociologist and economist dedicated to the study and research of national defense, security, democratic governance, citizenship, public policy, political system, and violence issues. She is a research associate at the Centro de Documentación de Honduras (CEDOH), where she has published several books on these topics. In addition, Salomón is a professor-researcher at the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Honduras where she has been appointed as director of scientific research for the past four years.

Eduardo Stein has coordinated the Truth Commission in Honduras since its preparatory stages in February 2010. Currently, he is an independent consultant, coordinates a Central American network of think tanks, and is member of the board of the Inter-American Dialogue. Stein is the former vice president (2004-2008) and foreign minister (1996-2000) of the Republic of Guatemala. He participated actively in the Esquipulas peace process in Central America in late 1980s and early '90s as well as in the San José Dialogue between Central America and the European Union. Stein was chief of the OAS' Electoral Observation Mission in Peru in 2000 when then-President Alberto Fujimori attempted re-election for a third term; the OAS declared the process fraudulent in the face of numerous irregularities. Stein was also one of 12 members of the International Commission on Sovereignty and Intervention that reported to the secretary general of the United Nations, and has been member of the council of the International Crisis Group.