

May 10, 2012

Dear Colleague,

We are pleased to invite you to the conference:

Brazil and South America
Friday, June 1, 2012
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Sixth Floor Flom Auditorium

At her inauguration in 2011, Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff announced, “with vehemence and firmness,” Brazil’s decision to “associate its economic, social, and political development” with the continent of South America. Rousseff specifically mentioned the Mercosur trade bloc and the Union of South American Nations (UNASUR) as essential components in the construction of a multipolar world. Yet huge asymmetries separate Brazil from its neighbors: at the end of 2011, Brazil’s GDP accounted for approximately 60 percent of the total GDP of South America and close to 40 percent of the total output of all of Latin America. Brazil’s “rise” as a global power and its growing clout on a host of global issues raise as many questions as they answers about the Brazil’s relationship with other nations in South America.

- What does South America mean for a range of actors in Brazil—the government, private sector, and other state entities such as the development bank BNDES and the oil company Petrobras? Do strategic actors in Brazil view South America or Latin America in general as a platform from which to project the country’s global rise?
- How is Brazil viewed by its neighbors? Is it considered a regional leader in political and diplomatic terms, or do others act in that capacity? How do countries situate themselves vis-à-vis Brazil’s economic power? Is Brazil’s rise viewed as beneficial or threatening or some combination of the two?

Agenda

9:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. The Views from Brazil

Hon. Antonio Simões, Under-Secretary for South America, Brazilian Ministry of External Relations
Sergio Fausto, Executive Director, Instituto Fernando Henrique Cardoso
Ricardo Sennes, Director and Partner, Prospectiva Consultoria Internacional

10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Coffee Break

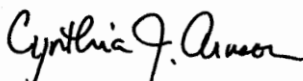
10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. The Views from the Region

Hon. Juan Gabriel Valdés, former Foreign Minister of Chile
Hon. Gustavo Fernández, former Foreign Minister of Bolivia
Ana María Sanjuán, Senior Advisor, Andean Development Corporation, Venezuela
Juan Gabriel Tokatlian, Professor, Universidad Torcuato di Tella, Argentina
Juan Estebán Orduz, President, Colombian Coffee Federation, Inc.

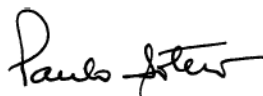
Please click [here](#) to RSVP, or email acceptances only, to lap@wilsoncenter.org.

We hope you will be able to join us for this important discussion.

Sincerely,



Cynthia J. Arnson
Director, Latin American Program



Paulo Sotero
Director, Brazil Institute