

September 14, 2011

Dear Colleague:

The Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars and the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA) are pleased to invite you to a discussion of:

Guatemala: A Post-Elections Assessment and Future Challenges

Friday, September 16, 2011

9:00 am – 12:00 pm

6th floor Flom Auditorium

Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.

With none of the candidates in last Sunday's Guatemalan presidential elections receiving the required 50 percent of the vote, the top two candidates are headed for a runoff election scheduled for November 6. Former general Otto Pérez Molina of the right-of-center Patriot Party, who had been favored to come out ahead, secured just 36 percent of the votes, while business man Manuel Baldizón came in second with 23 percent. A distinguished panel of experts will join us to discuss electoral results as well as the country's major security, political, and economic challenges:

Edgar Gutiérrez, Director, Fundación Derechos Económicos, Sociales y Culturales para América Latina; Former Minister of Foreign Relations and former Secretary of Strategic Analysis, Republic of Guatemala

René Mauricio Valdés, Resident Representative, United Nations Development Program (UNDP), Guatemala

Edmundo Urrutia, Director, Central American Graduate Program in Social Science, Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales (FLACSO), Guatemala

Raquel Zelaya, Executive Director, Asociación de Investigación y Estudios Sociales (ASIES)

Please RSVP, acceptances only, to lap@wilsoncenter.org. We hope you will be able to join us for this important discussion. If you have responded to a previous invitation, there is no need to do so again.

Sincerely,

Cynthia J. Arnson
Director
Latin American Program

Daniel Zovatto
Regional Director, Latin America
International IDEA