Crime and Violence in Latin America and the Caribbean: Prevention and Migration
Tuesday, February 7, 2017
9:00 a.m.–11:00 a.m.
Woodrow Wilson Center
6th Floor Auditorium

Opening Remarks

Jorge Familiar, a Mexican national, is Vice President of the World Bank for Latin America and the Caribbean. Familiar previously served as Vice President and Corporate Secretary of the World Bank Group, where he played a key role in facilitating and promoting cooperation and dialogue between the Board of Governors, Boards of Executive Directors, and Management of the World Bank Group institutions. In his current position, Familiar leads relations with 31 Latin American and Caribbean countries through a portfolio of ongoing projects, technical assistance and grants worth more than US$31 billion. Previously, Familiar devoted his efforts to financial inclusion as Chief Executive Officer of Mexico’s Instituto del Fondo Nacional para el Consumo de los Trabajadores (Instituto FONACOT), a public financial institution with more than one million clients that grants consumer loans to workers with the lowest income levels. In this role, Familiar provided strategic leadership to the organization and helped restore it to profitability during the global financial crisis. Between 2004 and 2008, Familiar served as Executive Director and Alternate Executive Director for the World Bank Group in Washington, DC, having been elected to represent Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Spain, and Venezuela at the Boards of Executive Directors of the IBRD, the International Finance Corporation, the International Development Association, and the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency. He holds a master’s degree in finance and bachelor’s degree in accounting from ITAM.

Keynote Speaker

Laura Chioda is Senior Economist in the Office of the Chief Economist of the Latin America and Caribbean Region and in the Office of the Chief Economist for Equitable Growth, Finance, and Institutions at the World Bank. Prior to joining the World Bank, Chioda was an Assistant Professor of Economics at Princeton University. Her research interests range from theoretical econometric issues of identification, limits of experiments, and weak identification to behavioral economics, intra-household decisions, and crime and violence. She is the author of the regional
studies “Stop the Violence in Latin America: A Look at Prevention from Cradle to Adulthood,” and “Work and Family: Latin American and Caribbean Women in Search of a New Balance.” She has also co-authored the World Bank report “Making Brazilians Safer: Analyzing the Dynamics of Violent Crime.” Her research includes published and ongoing work on the impacts of conditional cash transfers on crime and violence in Brazil, and on the human and economic costs of violence induced by Mexico’s “kingpin” strategy. As a member of the World Bank’s Development Impact Evaluation Initiative (DIME), Chioda co-leads DIME’s Program on Fragility, Conflict, and Crime and Violence. She also serves as principal investigator on ongoing evaluations of crime prevention programs studying the roles of social networks and labor market and soft skills interventions in shaping antisocial behavior. In Honduras, she studies whether vocational and soft skills training can break the vicious cycle between low productivity and high crime and violence; in Mexico, she leads an experimental impact evaluation of a cognitive behavioral therapy-based intervention targeting at-risk young men. Chioda has a PhD in Economics from the University of California, Berkeley.

**Panelists**

**Guadalupe Correa-Cabrera** is Associate Professor at the Department of Public Affairs and Security Studies, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley (UTRGV), Brownsville Campus. Her areas of expertise are Mexico-U.S. relations, energy, border security, immigration, and organized crime. Her teaching fields include comparative politics, Latin American politics, U.S.-Mexico relations, U.S.-Mexico border policy, comparative public policy and public administration, and Latino politics. Correa-Cabrera’s most recent book is entitled *Democracy in “Two Mexicos”: Political Institutions in Oaxaca and Nuevo León* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2013). Her forthcoming book is entitled “*Los Zetas Inc.: A Transnational Criminal Corporation, Mexico’s Energy Sector, and a Modern Civil War*. Correa-Cabrera is currently the Principal Investigator of a research grant to study organized crime and trafficking in persons in Central America and along Mexico’s eastern migration routes, supported by the Department of State’s Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons. Correa-Cabrera has a PhD in Political Science from the New School for Social Research.

**Rodrigo Guerrero Velasco** is the former Mayor of Cali, Colombia. He has spent his life in academia, teaching epidemiology for undergraduate and graduate students at the Universidad del Valle in Colombia, where he has worked in various administrative capacities, including Head of the Department of Epidemiology, Dean of Health Sciences, and University President. Guerrero Velasco was the Secretary of Health for the city of Cali, and was elected Mayor of Cali in 1992. During his tenure he developed a successful approach to urban violence prevention, which has been successfully applied in several Colombian cities and in other countries. Following his first term, Guerrero Velasco joined the Pan American Health Organization in Washington. In 2008 he was elected as Cali’s City Counselor and in 2012 was elected Mayor of Cali for a second term, which ended in December 2015. Currently Guerrero Velasco works in a non-profit organization addressing issues of violence in conflict-ridden rural areas. He is a member of the U.S. National
Academy of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, a member of the Violence Research Center of the Universidad del Valle (CISALVA), and the former Director of Fundacion Carvajal, a social development institution. Guerrero Velasco has an MD from the Universidad del Valle and a MSc and PhD in Epidemiology from Harvard University.

**Daniel Lederman** is Lead Economist and Deputy Chief Economist for Latin America and the Caribbean of the World Bank. Previously, he served as Lead Trade Economist in the World Bank’s International Trade Department (PRMTR), Senior Economist in the Development Research Group (DECRG), and Senior Economist and Economist in the Office of the Chief Economist for Latin America and the Caribbean. Before joining the World Bank in 1995, he worked for the United Nations’ Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean. An economist and political scientist by training, Lederman has published numerous books and articles on a broad set of issues related to economic development, including financial crises, crime, political economy of economic reforms, economic growth, innovation, international trade, and labor markets. His most recent books include *Does What You Export Matter?, Latin American Entrepreneurs: Many Firms but Little Innovation* (with J. Messina, S. Pienknagura, and J. Rigolini; World Bank, 2013) and *Latin America and the Rising South* (with A. de la Torre, T. Didier, A. Ize, and S. Schmukler; World Bank, 2015). Lederman holds a BA in Political Science from Yale University and an MA and PhD from the Johns Hopkins University’s School of Advanced International Studies.

**Eric L. Olson** is Associate Director of the Latin American Program at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington, DC. His research and writing have focused primarily on security issues and the impacts of crime, organized crime, and violence on democracies. He has also written about the reform of police and judicial institutions as a vehicle for addressing the problem of expanding crime in the Americas. Olson has traveled extensively in Mexico, Central America and the Andes. Prior to joining the Wilson Center he was a Senior Specialist in the Department for Promotion of Good Governance at the Organization of American States from 2006–2007. He served as Advocacy Director for the Americas at Amnesty International USA from 2002–2006. Prior to Amnesty, he was the Senior Associate for Mexico, and Economic Policy at the Washington Office on Latin America for eight years. He worked at Augsburg College’s Center for Global Education in Cuernavaca, Mexico from 1989–1993, where he was the program director. From 1986 to 1988, he worked in Honduras as a development specialist for several local non-governmental organizations. He has testified before the United States Congress on several occasions, and appeared in numerous press stories as an expert commentator on human rights, drug policy, and organized crime. He has an MA in International Affairs from the School of International Service at American University, Washington, DC.
Moderator

Ray Suarez is a veteran journalist who has most recently hosted Al Jazeera America’s daily news program, *Inside Story*. Before coming to AJAM, Suarez spent 14 years as a correspondent and anchor at public television’s nightly newscast, *The PBS NewsHour*, where he rose to become chief national correspondent. Before working with PBS, Suarez was the Washington-based host of NPR’s *Talk of the Nation* for six-and-a-half years. Along with years of daily deadline journalism, Suarez has done extensive work in writing and long-form broadcast storytelling. His books include *Latino Americans: The 500-Year Legacy that Shaped a Nation* (Penguin, 2013); *The Holy Vote: The Politics of Faith in America* (Rayo/Harper Collins, 2006); and *The Old Neighborhood: What We Lost in the Great Suburban Migration* (Free Press, 1999). Over the years many organizations and institutions have recognized and honored Suarez and his work. He has received two DuPont-Columbia Silver Baton awards, four CINE Golden Eagle Awards, UCLA’s Public Policy Leadership Award, and the National Council of La Raza’s Ruben Salazar Award. The *New York Times* has called Suarez the “thinking man’s talk show host,” and “a national resource.” In 2010, he was inducted into the National Association of Hispanic Journalists Hall of Fame. Suarez holds a BA in African History from New York University (NYU), an MA in Social Sciences from the University of Chicago, and 14 honorary doctorates from colleges and universities across America.