

Migration in the Americas: The Workings of Collective Hope

March 31, 2022

“Welcome Remarks”



Luis Guillermo Solís Rivera served as President of Costa Rica from 2014-2018. He is currently the Interim Director of the Kimberly Green Latin American and Caribbean Center at Florida International University. In 1984, he began his service to Costa Rica in the Foreign Ministry, leading Costa Rican delegations to the United Nations, the Organization of American States and the European Union. He was the country's Ambassador for Central American Affairs and for two decades held the office of Secretary General of the governing National Liberation Party. He previously taught at the University of Michigan and in 1999 was a Fulbright Scholar at FIU. Solís is a graduate of the University of Costa Rica and has a master's degree in political science and sociology from Tulane University. He has published more than 10 books and dozens of articles for professional journals.

“The Drivers of Central American Migration”



Cecilia Menjivar holds the Dorothy L. Meier Social Equities Chair and is Professor of Sociology at UCLA. She specializes in immigration, gender, family dynamics, social networks, and broad conceptualizations of violence. Her research explores the impact of immigration laws and enforcement on immigrants and the effects of multisided violence on individuals, especially Central American immigrants. She also focuses on the political, state, and judicial failures that sustain gender-based violence in Central America. Her most recent publication is "The Oxford Handbook of Immigration Crises" (Oxford University Press 2019). Menjivar is both, a John S Guggenheim Fellow and an Andrew Carnegie Fellow. She has served as Vice-President of the American Sociological Association and is currently President (2021-2022).



Elizabeth Ferris is an ISIM Research Professor at Georgetown and a non-resident senior fellow in Foreign Policy at the Brookings Institution. She joined ISIM in Fall 2015 after serving for 9 years as a Senior Fellow and Co-Director of the Brookings Project on Internal Displacement and as an adjunct professor in Georgetown's School of Foreign Service. She served as the interim director of ISIM for the 2017-2018 academic year while Dr. Katharine Donato was on sabbatical. Prior to joining Brookings in November 2006, Elizabeth spent 20 years working in the field of international humanitarian response, most recently in Geneva, Switzerland at the World Council of Churches. She has been a professor at several U.S. universities and served as a Fulbright professor to the Universidad Autónoma de México in Mexico City.

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Karla Cueva is the Former Minister of Human Rights of Honduras. She is currently an independent consultant on issues of development and social protection, protection and defense of human rights and the development of laws, regulations, public policies and programs on trafficking and commercial exploitation, social protection, child labor and early childhood development. Cueva is a lawyer from the National Autonomous University of Honduras and holds a Master's Degree in Advanced Studies of Children's Rights from the University of Fribourg and the Institut Universitaire Kurt Bösch in Switzerland. She also served as Assistant Minister of Human Rights and Justice for Honduras from 2014 to 2017, and as Assistant Minister of Social Policy of the Ministry of Social Development from 2010 to 2012.



Rafael Fernández de Castro is a Professor, the Aaron Feldman Family Chancellor's Endowed Chair in U.S.-Mexican Studies in Memory of David Feldman, and Director of the University of California San Diego's Center for U.S.-Mexican Studies (USMEX). A former foreign policy adviser to President Felipe Calderón, he is an expert on bilateral relations between Mexico and the U.S. Fernández de Castro is founder and former chair of the Department of International Studies at Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México (ITAM) in Mexico City. He has published numerous academic articles and written several books, including "Contemporary U.S.- Latin American Relations: Cooperation or Conflict in the 21st Century?" and "The United States and Mexico: Between Partnership and Conflict" with Jorge Domínguez.

"The Many Migrations in the Americas"



Allison Wolf is an Associate Professor of Philosophy at Universidad de los Andes in Bogotá, Colombia, where she teaches political philosophy, philosophy of immigration, and feminist philosophy. She is the author of *Just Immigration in the Americas: A Feminist Account* (Rowman & Littlefield International) and is currently co-editing an anthology entitled, *Incarnating Feelings, Constructing Communities: Experiencing Emotions in the Americas through Education, Violence, and Public Policy*. Currently, Dr. Wolf is working on philosophical issues arising in the content of Venezuelan migration to Colombia, issues in feminist epistemology (especially related to epistemic oppression and feminism and skepticism), and obstetric violence in the context of immigration in the Americas.



Jonathan Hiskey is a Professor of Political Science at Vanderbilt University with a courtesy appointment in the Department of Sociology. His research focuses on the role local politics play in the formation of democratic citizenries across the emerging democracies of Latin America. His recent book (co-authored with M. Moseley), *Life in the Political Machine* (Oxford University Press 2020), explores the ways in which subnational "dominant-party enclaves" in Mexico and Argentina shape the political attitudes and behaviors of their citizens. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Pittsburgh where he received the Gabriel A. Almond award from the American Political Science Association for best dissertation in comparative politics.

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Johanna Sáenz is a Political Scientist with a minor in International Relations from the Pontificia Universidad Javeriana of Bogotá and holds a Master's degree in Latin American Studies from the same university. She has more than 14 years of work experience in the field of international migration. She has been an advisor to various institutions of the Colombian Government and consultant to the International Organization for Migration, the International Labor Organization, the Pan American Development Foundation, and the World Bank. She is currently the Human Mobility Advisor for Latin America and the Caribbean at the Regional Center of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).



José Miguel Cruz is the Director of Research at the Kimberly Green Latin American and Caribbean Center at Florida International University (FIU) in Miami. Previously he was visiting a professor of the Department of Politics and International Relations at FIU. He holds a Ph.D. in Political Science from Vanderbilt University, a Master's degree in Public Policy in Latin America from the University of Oxford and a Bachelor's degree in Psychology from the Central American University of El Salvador (UCA). Dr. Cruz was also the director of the Public Opinion University Institute at the UCA from 1993 to 2006 and has served as a consultant for many regional institutions and international cooperation agencies. Dr. Cruz is a researcher on issues of security, violence, youth gangs, political culture, and democratization, and has published more than 100 articles, chapters and academic reports, and books in English and Spanish.

“The Multiple and Endless Challenges of Migrants and Refugees”



Honorable Lloyd Axworthy is the chair of the World Refugee Council and one of Canada's leading voices on global migration and refugee protection. After a 27-year political career, where he served as Canada's minister of Foreign Affairs and minister of Employment and Immigration, among other postings, Mr. Axworthy has continued to work extensively on human security, refugee protection and human rights in Canada and abroad. He was presented with the Pearson Peace Medal by the Governor General of Canada in May 2017. In his term as president and vice-chancellor of the University of Winnipeg, Mr. Axworthy initiated innovative programs for migrant and aboriginal youth communities and has also done a great deal of work on refugee reform as a

Richard von Weizsäcker fellow at Germany's Robert Bosch Academy.

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Juan Pablo Gordillo is a political scientist and public policy analyst from the National University of Colombia (COL). Gordillo is a former UNDP Regional Citizen Security and Crisis Prevention and Recovery (CPR); advisor in UNDP for Latin America and the Caribbean Regional HUB in Panama (2013-2015); former Regional Advisor and head of analysis of the regional system of standardized indicators of coexistence and citizen Security (SES) – of the Inter-American Development Bank and the CISALVA-Interamerican Development Bank initiative (2010-2012). He has 16 years of experience on situation analysis, conflict analysis, conflict sensitivity, governance, prevention, and policy

recommendations to several countries in Latin America and the Caribbean (24 countries) with NGOs, the IADB, UNDP, GIZ, AECID, USAID among others.



Mariana Sánchez is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Health Promotion and Disease Prevention, Research Associate at the Center for Research on U.S. Latino HIV/AIDS and Drug Abuse at Florida International University (FIU). Sanchez has over 20 years of experience in conducting longitudinal and community-based health disparity research across the lifespan including youth, emerging adults, and adults. She is currently a co-principal investigator of a mixed-methods study funded by the National Institute for Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism aimed at understanding the environmental, demographic, and sociocultural factors influencing drinking and driving trajectories among recent Latino/a immigrants. She also serves as a co-investigator on the

Adolescent Brain and Cognitive Development (ABCD Study®) and the Program Director for FIU's Doctoral Program in Public Health with a Concentration in Health Disparities.



Randolph P. McGorty serves as the Executive Director of Catholic Legal Services, Archdiocese of Miami (CLS). He has served as the Director since the inception of the agency. In that capacity, he supervises a staff of 45, including 22 staff attorneys. Almost three thousand individuals seek the services of CLS each month: individuals seeking to reunite with their families; political and religious refugees seeking safety and security, many of whom have experienced persecution and torture; battered spouses and their children; and long-term residents of the U.S. with significant family and community ties who face deportation. He has received proclamations from both the City of Miami and Miami-Dade County recognizing his work on behalf of the immigrant and refugee

communities of South Florida.

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April 1, 2022

“Fireside Chat with Director Sonja Wolf”



Alejandro Alvarado is the Director of the Spanish-Language Journalism Master's program at FIU. He is an Associate Professor of Journalism and Communication, and functions as the Spanish-language editor of the South Florida Media Network. Additionally, Alvarado co-chairs the Journalist & Editors Annual Workshop in coordination with the Kimberly Green Latin American and Caribbean Center, and the International Forum of Health Journalism, together with FIU's Global Health Consortium. He is a fellow of the Scripps-Howard Journalism Entrepreneurship Institute, and a trained educator at the Solutions Journalism Educators Academy. Alvarado holds a Ph.D. and a Master's on International Studies from the University of Miami, and a bachelors on Political Science from the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México.



Juan Carlos Gómez is Director of the Carlos A. Costa Immigration and Human Rights Clinic at the Florida International University College of Law. Gómez has been defending the rights of individuals in immigration matters for over 30 years; during this time, he has represented persons before the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit, as well as the United States Departments of Justice and Homeland Security in complex immigration matters. Within the field of immigration law, he has helped thousands of individuals in situations including removal and deportation proceedings, family immigration, and the transfer of professionals and executives to the United States. He has represented refugees from every part of the world where there have been conflicts over the last three decades. As director of East Little Havana Legal Services, he led a team of attorneys to resolve the series of problems faced by clients.



Sonja Wolf holds a PhD in International Politics (Aberystwyth) and is a Cátedra CONACYT Assistant Professor with the Drug Policy Program at the Centre for Economic Research and Teaching (CIDE), Mexico. Previously, she held research positions at the Autonomous Technological Institute of Mexico (ITAM), the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM), and the Mexico City-based Institute for Security and Democracy (INSYDE). Dr Wolf's research interests focus on violence, security, and migration, especially in Mexico and Central America. She is the author of *Mano Dura: The Politics of Gang Control in El Salvador* (University of Texas Press, 2017). She is also a Visiting Fellow at the Latin America and Caribbean Centre (LACC) of the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE).