

Agenda\*  
2008 Invited Speakers unless otherwise noted  
**Americas Conference®**  
*New Leadership—New Focus:*  
**Good Governance and Economic Development in the Hemisphere**  
**Biltmore Hotel, October 1-3, 2008**

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**Wednesday, Oct 1**

3:00pm - 5:30 pm Conference Registration at Biltmore Hotel, Coral Gables  
**Salon: Granada Lobby**

**Thursday, Oct 2**

7:30am – 8:30am Continental Breakfast & Registration  
**Salon: Center Terrace**

8:30am – 9:00am Welcome and Introductory Remarks:  
David Landsberg, President and Publisher, The Miami Herald  
Ron Berkman, Provost, Florida International University  
Allan Rosenbaum, Director, Institute of Public Management and Community Service (IPMCS), Florida International University  
**Salon: Granada**

9:00am – 9:30am Survey Findings: UPWARD MOBILITY IN LATIN AMERICA: WHERE ARE THE BEST OPPORTUNITIES  
Presented by: Samuel Freije-Rodriguez, Senior Economist, Latin American and the Caribbean Region, The World Bank Group  
**Salon: Granada**

9:30am – 9:45am Principal Address: Marisol Argueta de Barillas, Minister of Foreign Affairs, El Salvador  
**Salon: Granada**

9:45am – 10:00am Coffee Break  
**Salon: Center Terrace**

10:00am – 11:00am Plenary —STRENGTHENING DEMOCRACY: OLD CHALLENGES AND NEW PERSPECTIVES  
Carlos Appelgren, Director, North America, Central America and the Caribbean, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Chile  
David Rivera, State Representative, House of Representatives, State of Florida  
Federico Tinoco, Deputy, National Assembly of Costa Rica  
Jaime Trobo, President, International Committee, House of Representatives National Legislators of Uruguay  
Moderator: Allan Rosenbaum, Director, Institute of Public Management and Community Service (IPMCS), Florida International University  
**Salon: Granada**

11:00am – 12:00pm Plenary – THE ROLE OF THE MEDIA IN A DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM  
Claudio Paolillo, Uruguayan Columnist, Director of SIP  
Maria Antonia de Fuentes, Managing Director, Diario La Prensa, Honduras  
Victor Flecha, Director, COPLANEA, Paraguay  
Moderator: John Yearwood, World Editor, The Miami Herald  
**Salon: Granada**

12:00pm – 2:00pm Principal Address & Luncheon  
Introduction: David Landsberg, President and Publisher, The Miami Herald

Speaker: Leonel Fernández, President, Dominican Republic  
**Salon: Country Club Ballroom**

2:15pm – 3:30pm

**CONCURRENT PANELS**

**Panel I: POLITICAL PARTIES AND ELECTIONS IN LATIN AMERICA**

Leopoldo López Mendoza, Mayor, City of Chacao, Venezuela

Ottón Solís, Former Presidential Candidate (2006) and President, Citizen's Action Party (PAC), Costa Rica

Sebastian Acha, Deputy, National Congress of Paraguay

Moderator: Natalya Kolisnichenko, Professor, Regional Institute of Public Administration, Odessa, Ukraine

**Salon: Merrick**

**Panel II: CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AND PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY**

David Martinez, Executive Director, FundaSistemas, Fundación Paíz, Guatemala

Maria Fernanda Espinosa, former Minister of Foreign Relations of Ecuador and ambassador and permanent representative of Ecuador to the United Nations

Raúl Torres Torres, Director of Transparency Program, FUNDE, El Salvador

Rubens Barbery Knautd, Executive Director, CEPAD, Bolivia

Moderator: Ronnie McLean, Urban & Governance Specialist, World Bank Group

**Salon: Prado**

3:30pm - 3:45pm

Coffee Break

3:45pm – 5:00pm

**CONCURRENT PANELS**

**Panel I: INEQUALITY, RACE AND ETHNICITY IN A DEMOCRATIC HEMISPHERE**

Cristina Eguizábal, Director, Latin American and Caribbean Center (LACC), Florida International University, United States

Enrique Patterson, Journalist, Author, United States

Judith Morrison, Regional Director, Inter-American Foundation, United States

Romero Jorge Rodriguez, Advisor to President of Uruguay, Regional Office of Policy Analysis for Racial Equality (ORAPER)

Moderator: Meredith Newman, Professor and Director, School of Public Administration, Florida International University

**Salon: Merrick**

**Panel II: LATIN AMERICA'S MIDDLE CLASS: WILL IT SURVIVE?**

Amb. Jaime Darembaum, Director, Center for Latin American Studies, Hudson Institute

Christopher Sabatini, Senior Director, Policy, Council of The Americas

Charles "Chuck" Yaros, Associate Consultant for Economics, Washington Economics Group, Inc.

Moderator: Christopher Barton, Senior Advisor, Office of the President, Inter-American Development Bank

**Salon: Prado**

5:00pm

Closing of Day One

**Friday, Oct 3**

7:30am – 8:00am

Continental Breakfast & Registration

**Salon: Alhambra**

8:30am – 8:45am

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Anders Gyllenhaal, Executive Editor, The Miami Herald

Allan Rosenbaum, Director, Institute of Public Management and Community Service (IPMCS), Florida International University

**Salon: Granada**

- 8:45am – 9:15am Principal Address: Charlie Crist, Governor, State of Florida  
Introduction of Governor: David Rivera, State Representative, House of Representatives, State of Florida  
Chairperson: Cesar L. Alvarez, Chief Executive Officer, Greenberg Traurig LLP  
**Salon: Granada**
- 9:15am – 10:15am Dialogue: THE NEXT U.S. PRESIDENT'S LATIN AMERICAN POLICY  
Adolfo Franco, Advisor to Senator John McCain  
Dan Restrepo, Senior Policy Advisor, Western Hemisphere to Senator Barack Obama  
Francisco Sanchez, Policy Advisor for Latin America and the Caribbean; Chairman National Leadership Council, Obama For America  
Richard Fontaine, Foreign Policy Advisor to Senator John McCain  
Moderator: Andres Oppenheimer, The Oppenheimer Report, The Miami Herald  
**Salon: Granada**
- 10:15am – 11:00am Plenary: ENERGY: SOLUTIONS TO THE OIL CRISIS  
Arnaldo Vieira de Carvalho, Sustainable Energy Specialist at the Energy Division (ENE) of the Infrastructure and Environment Department (INE) of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)  
Carlos St. James, President, Argentine Renewable Energies Chamber and Managing Director, Santiago & Sinclair LLC  
Mauricio Nicholls, General Manager, Chevron  
Mustafa Mohatarem, Chief Economist, General Motors  
Moderator: Mimi Whitefield, Special Projects and Sunday Business Editor, The Miami Herald  
**Salon: Granada**
- 11:00am – 12:00pm Plenary: SECURITY IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN  
Panel Introduction: Samuel Lewis Navarro, Vice President and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Panama  
Monte Alejandro Rubido García, Executive Secretary of the National Public Security System, Mexico  
Gerardo Le Chevallier, Director of Political Affairs and Planning, United Nations  
Wilfred Elrington, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Belize  
Moderator: Andres Oppenheimer, The Oppenheimer Report, The Miami Herald  
**Salon: Granada**
- 12:00pm – 12:45pm Plenary: COMPETITIVENESS, TECHNOLOGY AND TRADE  
Remarks: Rebeca Patricia Santos, Minister of Finance, Honduras  
Remarks: Ricardo Esmahan, Minister of Economy, El Salvador  
Remarks: Felix Feddersen, Vice-president, Division of Managerial Solutions, HP Latin America  
Moderator: Andres Oppenheimer, The Oppenheimer Report, The Miami Herald  
**Salon: Granada**  
***Panel Sponsored by Hewlett Packard***
- 12:45pm – 2:00pm Principal Address & Luncheon  
Introduction: Anders Gyllenhaal, Executive Editor, The Miami Herald  
Speaker: Julio Cobos, Vice President, Argentina  
**Salon: Country Club Ballroom**
- 2:15pm – 3:15pm Dialogue: POLITICS AND MONEY  
Anthony Johnson, Ambassador to the United States, Jamaica

Bayney Karran, Ambassador to the United States, Guyana  
Glenda Morean Phillip, Ambassador to the United States, Trinidad and Tobago  
Luis Gallegos, Ambassador to the United States, Ecuador  
Mariano Fernández, Ambassador to the United States, Chile  
Roberto Flores Bermudez, Ambassador to the United States, Honduras  
Moderator: John Yearwood, World Editor, The Miami Herald  
**Salon: Granada**

3:15pm – 3:45pm      Principal Address: René Préval, President, Haiti  
Introduction: Anders Gyllenhaal, Executive Editor, The Miami Herald  
**Salon: Granada**

3:45pm                Conference Closing  
Allan Gyllenhaal, Executive Editor, The Miami Herald  
Allan Rosenbaum, Director, Institute of Public Management and Community Service  
(IPMCS), Florida International University  
**Salon: Granada**

**Notice:**            **3:45 – 5:00 PM**  
**President René Préval will host a Post-Hurricane Status Meeting**  
Open to Haitian Community in South Florida, Investors, Disaster Relief Organizations and  
Interested Parties  
**Salon: Merrick**

[\\*Agenda subject to change](#)