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2007 HIGHLIGHTS

We are pleased to present this summary of the Inter-American Dialogue's work in 2007.

This year, we welcomed Enrique Iglesias as the Latin America co-chair of the Dialogue's Board of Directors, and Enrique García, Jim Kolbe, and Tom Mackell joined the Board. In May, Enrique Iglesias, secretary general of the Ibero-American General Secretariat, hosted the Dialogue's Board in Madrid for its spring meeting, which was followed by a conference with European and other Latin American and U.S. leaders.

In 2007, Dialogue staff published a dozen articles and interviews in leading policy journals—*Great Decisions*, *Current History*, *The New Republic*, *Foreign Affairs Online*, and *National Journal*—which analyzed the policy choices facing the next U.S. president, what needs to be done to repair strained relations among the countries of the hemisphere, the rise of authoritarian tendencies in the region, and the lack of accountability in Latin American schools. They also published over 60 articles in newspapers, including *The Washington Post*, *Los Angeles Times*, *The Miami Herald*, *The New York Daily News*, *El Tiempo*, *Cambio*, and *O Estado de São Paulo*—on topics ranging from the prospects of a Colombia-U.S. FTA, social turbulence in Peru, threats to press freedom, U.S. Cuba policy, China and Taiwan's struggle for influence in the region, and the social and economic impact of remittances. Dialogue staff are regularly quoted by U.S., Latin American, and European newspapers and interviewed on television and radio.

The Dialogue's social policy program released the report, *Fair Growth: Economic Policies for Latin America's Poor and Middle Income Majority*, which presents a dozen "tools" meant to make life in Latin America more equitable for a majority of its people.

Other highlights of the year's activities include the 11th annual Corporación Andina de Fomento (CAF) conference, which reviewed hemispheric political and economic trends, and evolving U.S. relations with Latin America and the Caribbean. This was widely agreed to be the best CAF conference overall—with more than 300 participants and featuring such speakers as Guatemala vice president Eduardo Stein, seven U.S. Congress members, a number of current and former cabinet officials from Latin America, IDB president Luis Alberto Moreno, and our co-sponsors, CAF president Enrique García and OAS secretary general José Miguel Insulza.

In 2007, the Andean Working Group met twice—once in Washington and again in Bogotá, Colombia. The Dialogue's work on the Andean region analyzes the policy issues and choices confronting the region. Publications include a monograph on *Hugo Chávez: A Test for U.S. Policy* and an analysis of Latin America's drug problem in *Current History*, both by Michael Shifter, as well as Working Papers by Colombian governor Antonio Navarro Wolf on *Ending the Conflict with the FARC: Time for a New Course* and by Chilean political leader and analyst Genaro Arriagada on *Petropolitics in Latin America: A Review of Energy Policy and Regional Relations*.

In 2007, the Dialogue's Congressional Members Working Group hosted over 55 members of Congress in private discussions and public forums on Capitol Hill and other Dialogue events. Members met with President Alvaro Uribe, Vice President Francisco Santos, and Defense Minister Juan Manuel Santos to address U.S.-Colombia relations. Members also discussed education in Central America and the Dominican Republic with President Leonel Fernández; the role of the international community in Haiti's; U.S.-Cuba policy choices; aid programs in the region; U.S. immigration policy; press freedom in Latin America; remittance flows; issues facing the English-Speaking Caribbean; and the U.S. role in the region's social development.

The Dialogue's Trade Policy Group met to consider the expansion of Trade Adjustment Assistance; pending U.S. free trade agreements with Colombia, Peru, and Panama; and U.S. trade policy objectives in the hemisphere. In cooperation with the OAS, the Dialogue launched a project on democratic governance, which held two workshops this year—in Guatemala and the Dominican Republic. The Dialogue periodically holds informal press roundtables on Western Hemisphere relations and U.S. foreign policy in Latin America.

Also in 2007, with the Canadian Foundation for the Americas (FOCAL), the Dialogue co-sponsored a major conference on inter-American institutions, featuring remarks by IDB president Luis Alberto Moreno, OAS Secretary General José Miguel Insulza, and Trinidad's Summit of the Americas Coordinator Luis Alberto Rodriguez. Dialogue president Peter Hakim participated in the first meeting of the Special Advisory Group for the fifth Summit of the Americas in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago.

The Dialogue's education reform program, PREAL, organized eight launches of its 2007 report card on education in Central America and the Dominican Republic, *A Lot to Do*. Dominican Republic President Leonel Fernández spoke with members of Congress at a special event on Capitol Hill launching the report card. PREAL also organized an international conference on educational accountability, a final workshop in its Central American Coaching program, and a series of events related to its work on child labor and the prevention of school violence.

Dialogue forums and publications on remittances continue to play a leading role in setting the policy agenda. *Making the Most of Family Remittances*, the second report of the Dialogue's Task Force on Remittances was released on Capitol Hill with remarks by Senators Menendez (D-NJ) and Norm Coleman (R-MN).

Our Corporate Program continued to expand in 2007, and now includes 135 member companies. The Dialogue launched the Miami Group on Western Hemisphere Affairs, a forum that regularly assembles the city's corporate and financial leadership to exchange ideas on issues affecting business and trade with U.S. and Latin American policymakers. The first meeting featured Mexican finance minister Agustín Carstens.

U.S. FOREIGN POLICY IN THE HEMISPHERE

Congressional Program

- The Congressional Members Working Group (CMWG) convened on November 13 for a dinner discussion on the flow of remittances to Latin America and implications for development in the region. Dinner hosts Reps. Luis Gutierrez (D-IL) and Chris Cannon (R-UT) and their colleagues Reps. Xavier Becerra (D-CA), Sam Farr (D-CA), and Rush Holt (D-NJ) met with Donald Terry, manager of the IDB's Multilateral Investment Fund, Manuel Orozco, director of the Remittances and Development Program at the Inter-American Dialogue, among others.
- Reps. Adam Schiff (D-CA), Mike Pence (R-IN), and Connie Mack (R-FL) hosted a CMWG dinner on October 23 to discuss the state of press freedom in Latin America. Guest speakers included Philip Bennett, the managing editor of *The Washington Post*; Enrique Santos Calderón, the editor of *El Tiempo*, a leading Colombian newspaper; and Mariclaire Acosta, former minister of human rights and democracy under President Fox of Mexico. Other members of Congress included Reps. Mary Bono (R-CA), Gregory Meeks (D-NY), Xavier Becerra (D-CA), Rush Holt (D-NJ), Jerry Weller (R-IN) and Michael McCaul (R-TX).
- Nine members of Congress met with Defense Minister Juan Manuel Santos of Colombia for a dinner discussion on U.S.-Colombia relations on October 17. In the context of the debate over the U.S.-Colombia free trade agreement, the meeting was convened in anticipation of a review and renewal of funding for Plan Colombia. Rep. Gregory Meeks (D-NY) hosted the session. Also participating from Congress were Senator Mel Martínez (R-FL) and Representatives Xavier Becerra (D-CA), Sam Farr (D-CA), Marcy Kaptur (D-OH), David Price (D-NC), Charlie Rangel (D-NY), Joe Wilson (R-SC) and Jerry Weller (R-IL).
- President Leonel Fernández of the Dominican Republic and Reps. Mike Honda (D-CA) and Jim Moran (D-VA) presented the findings and recommendations from the *Report Card on Education in Central America*



Reps. Luis Gutierrez (D-IL), Chris Cannon (R-UT)

“As the next president contemplates how to revive U.S. prestige, Latin America may be the right place to begin. The cost should be lower, and the payoff quicker.”

Peter Hakim,
Great Decisions 2008

“ More than any policy, what is most needed is for Washington to adopt a different style and fresh attitude. ”

Michael Shifter,
“How to Repair a Damaged Relationship”



Reps. Gregory Meeks (D-NY), Sam Farr (D-CA), Albio Sires (D-NJ)

and the Dominican Republic: A Lot to Do, released by the Dialogue’s education program—the Partnership for Educational Revitalization in the Americas (PREAL) on September 19.

- Seven members of Congress participated in the Dialogue’s two-day Annual Conference on Trade and Investment in the Americas with the Andean Development Corporation (CAF) and the OAS on September 4 and 5. Rep. Rubén Hinojosa (D-TX) took part in the private luncheon on the current financial credit turmoil. Representatives Nita Lowey (D-NY), Xavier Becerra (D-CA) and Henry Cuellar (D-TX) spoke on the first panel of the session on the US Agenda in Latin America. The second panel—which focused on trade policy—included Reps. Gregory Meeks (D-NY) and Jim Matheson (D-UT). Rep. Eliot Engel (D-NY) spoke on the Energy Cooperation and Policy panel.
- Senators Bob Menéndez (D-NJ) and Norm Coleman (R-IN) hosted a members-only dinner on U.S. aid programs in Latin America on July 17. Senior representatives from the U.S. Department of State, USAID, the Millennium Challenges Corporation,

the Inter-American Foundation, the Inter-American Development Bank, and the Center for Global Development discussed the objectives and effectiveness of current aid programs to the region and how U.S. aid funds might be best utilized. Representatives Earl Blumenauer (D-OR), Phil English (R-PA), Sam Farr (D-CA), Gregory Meeks (D-NY), Albio Sires (D-NJ), and Jerry Weller (R-IL) joined the session. The meeting was co-sponsored by the Inter-American Foundation.

- Immigration policy and hemispheric migration were the focus of a June 26th dinner discussion hosted by Representatives Howard Berman (D-CA) and Chris Cannon (R-UT). Reps. Xavier Becerra (D-CA), Yvette Clarke (D-NY), Bob Filner (D-CA), Gene Green (D-TX), Luis Gutiérrez (D-IL), Rush Holt (D-NJ), Nita Lowey (D-NY), John Tierney (D-MA), and Diane Watson (D-CA) exchanged views on the Senate’s immigration bill, the Border Security and Immigration Reform Act of 2007 (S.300). Also participating were Doris Meissner of the Migration Policy Institute, Ambassadors Arturo Sarukhan of Mexico and Rene Leon of El Salvador, Carlos Iturregui of the U.S. Citizenship



Senators Norm Coleman (R-MN), Bob Menéndez (D-NJ)

“ U.S. aid to the region will never match Chávez’s largesse, at least as long as oil prices remain high. ”

Marifeli Pérez-Stable,
The Miami Herald

& Immigration Service, Stewart Baker of the U.S. Customs & Border Protection, Robert McCutcheon of the State Department, Larry Palmer of the Inter-American Foundation, among others.

- Just one week before heads of state and foreign ministers from the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) visited Washington for *The Conference on the Caribbean: A 20/20 Vision*, the Dialogue’s Congressional Members Working Group met with several ambassadors from Caribbean countries for a dinner discussion on June 13 regarding issues facing the English-speaking Caribbean and Washington’s ability to respond to these challenges. The dinner was hosted by Reps. Gregory Meeks (D-NY) and Jerry Weller (R-IL). Participating members were Donna Christensen (D-VI), Yvette Clark (D-NY), William Delahunt (D-MA), Sheila Jackson Lee (D-TX), Barbara Lee (D-CA), and Dianne Watson (D-MI). Other guests included Ambassadors Michael King of Barbados, Gordon Shirley of Jamaica, and Izben Williams of St. Kitts & Nevis, Daniel Fisk of the National Security Council, Brian Nichols of the State Department, and Albert Ramdin, assistant secretary general of the OAS.
- Colombian President Álvaro Uribe met with sixteen members of Congress on May 2 at a CMWG dinner hosted by Senators Ken Salazar (D-CO) and Mel Martinez (R-FL) and Representatives Dan Burton (R-IN) and Eliot Engel (D-NY). Participating members included Senator Bob Corker (R-TN) and Reps. Xavier Becerra (D-CA), William Delahunt (D-MA), Sam Farr (D-CA), Sander Levin (D-MI), Michael McCaul (R-TX), Gregory Meeks (D-NY), Donald Payne (D-IL), Albio Sires (D-NJ), Mark Souder (R-IN), Jerry Weller (R-IL), Joe Wilson (R-SC) and Frank Wolf (R-VA).
- The Dialogue sponsored a session on Capitol Hill with Senator Bob Menendez (D-NJ) on March 21. He spoke about the role of the United States in Latin America’s social development, highlighting his legislation for a proposed “Economic Development and Social Investment Fund for the Americas Act.”
- Michael Shifter, the Dialogue’s vice president for policy, met with the Congressional Members Working Group on March 13 to discuss the highlights of his recently-published report, *Hugo Chávez: A Test for U.S. Policy*, and reflect

“ If we cannot do things right in our own hemisphere, we will have trouble doing things right anywhere. ”

Xavier Becerra (D.CA), CAF Conference Report



Senator Ken Salazar (D-CO), President Álvaro Uribe of Colombia, Senator Mel Martinez (R-FL)

on the outcomes of President Bush's recent trip to Latin America. Reps. Eliot Engel (D-NY) and Dan Burton (R-IN) co-hosted and Reps. Xavier Becerra (D-CA) and William Delahunt (D-MA) joined the session. Shifter briefed congressional staff on the same issues the day before.

- Ten members of Congress met with Colombian Vice President Francisco Santos on February 13 to discuss congressional approval of the U.S.-

Colombia free trade agreement and the renewal of Plan Colombia. Reps. Nita Lowey (D-NY) and Jerry Weller (R-IL) co-hosted the dinner. Other congressional member participants were Reps. William Delahunt (D-MA), Sam Farr (D-CA), Doug Lamborn (R-CO), Sheila Jackson Lee (D-TX), Sander Levin (D-MI), Gregory Meeks (D-NY), Jean Schmidt (R-OH) and Mark Souder (R-IN).

- Reps. Eliot Engel (D-NY) and Jerry Weller (R-IL) hosted a Congressional



Senator Bob Corker (R-TN), Rep. Xavier Becerra (D-CA), Assistant Secretary of State Anne Patterson



Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee (D-TX)



Rep. Eliot Engel (D-NY)

Members Working Group Dinner on January 30 to discuss the role the United States and the international community will play in the future of Haiti's development with Ambassador Edmond Mulet, the director of the UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH), OAS Secretary General José Miguel Insulza, and other representatives from the Haitian, international and development community. Ten other members participated, including Reps. Xavier Becerra (D-CA), Phil English (R-PA), Jim Gerlach (R-PA), Nita Lowey (D-NY), Gregory Meeks (D-NY), David Price (D-NC), Charles Rangel (D-NY), Jan Schakowsky (D-IL), Dianne Watson (D-CA), and Lynn Woolsey (D-CA).

- Rep. Jeff Flake (R-AZ) and William Delahunt (D-MA) spoke about U.S.-Cuba policy choices at an Inter-American Dialogue event on Capitol Hill on January 23. The two congressmen are lead proponents of easing trade and travel restrictions to Cuba. Last December, Flake and Delahunt led the first congressional visit to Cuba since Fidel Castro fell ill in July and his brother Raúl assumed power—and the largest to the island since the Cuban Revolution in 1959.

- The Inter-American Dialogue, Inter-American Development Bank, League of Women Voters, Inter-American Foundation, and Organization of American States convened in Washington a small group of women political leaders from Latin America and the Caribbean on March 28 to discuss the dramatic advances achieved by women seeking public office in the past ten years—and the special challenges currently facing women in electoral politics. U.S. Reps. Hilda Solis (D-CA) and Jerry Weller (R-IL) joined the discussions that were held at the Library of Congress and the Inter-American Development Bank.

- On January 18, the Dialogue focused congressional attention on press freedom in Latin America and the Caribbean. The session on Capitol Hill was hosted by Sen. Christopher Dodd (D-CT) and Reps. Adam Schiff (D-CA), Sam Farr (D-CA), Sheila Jackson Lee (D-TX), Mike Pence (R-IN), and Thomas Petri (R-WI). Discussions were led by Colombian journalist Daniel Coronell, at the time in exile at the University of California, Berkeley; Gonzalo Marroquin, president of the Inter American Press Association; Ignacio Alvarez, OAS; Karin Karlekar, Freedom House; Carlos Lauria, Committee to Protect Journalists; and Ricardo Trotti, Inter American Press Association.
- On October 29, Viji Rangaswami, Democratic trade counsel for the House Committee on Ways and Means, and Angela Ellard, minority staff director at the House Committee on Ways and Means, spoke to the Dialogue's Trade Policy Group about the potential expansion of Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA), a federal program that provides aid and employment retraining assistance to workers who have lost their jobs because of trade.
- Angela Ellard, minority staff director at the House Committee on Ways and

“ Latin America's embrace of Iran indicates how far U.S. prestige has fallen. ”

Dan Erikson, *FOCALPoint*



Latin Americans blame the U.S. for the gap between rich and poor countries, dislike the U.S. idea of democracy, and oppose U.S. efforts against terrorism.

Marifeli Pérez-Stable,
The Miami Herald

Means, and Sophia King, then-legislative director for Representative Gregory Meeks (D-NY), met with the Dialogue's trade policy group on March 9. They discussed the direction of the U.S. trade agenda in the hemisphere. Participants weighed in on a variety of issues including free trade agreements with Colombia, Peru, and Panama, Andean trade preferences, and the expiration of the president's Trade Promotion Authority.

- Tim Reif, Democratic staff director for the Trade Subcommittee of the House Committee on Ways and Means, spoke on February 22 at the Dialogue's first trade policy group meeting of the year on the U.S. trade agenda in the Americas.

Other U.S. Foreign Policy

- The Dialogue hosted Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Western Hemisphere Affairs Stephen Johnson on October 16. The planned \$1.5 billion security cooperation partnership with Mexico was an important part of his presentation.
- Assistant Secretary of State for Western Hemisphere Affairs Tom Shannon spoke on March 20 about his extended visit to Latin America with President Bush.
- Angel Collado-Schwarz of Fundación Voz del Centro and José Julián Álvarez of the University of Puerto Rico Law School spoke on March 17 about U.S.-Puerto Rico Relations and the island's current commonwealth status.
- Florida International University's Cuban Research Institute co-sponsored a February 23 meeting at the Dialogue on "U.S.-Cuba Policy: The Choices Ahead." Vicki Huddleston, former chief of the U.S. Interests Section in Cuba, William Leogrande of American University; and Juan Del Aguila of Emory University were the featured speakers.

Congressional Testimony

Manuel Orozco, "Toward the Mainstream: Remittances and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean." Testimony presented before the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere at the hearing entitled, 'Leveraging Remittances for Families and Communities.' October 2.

Michael Shifter, "The current challenges for U.S. policy in South America." Testimony before the House Committee on Foreign Affairs at the hearing entitled, 'South America and the US: How to Fix a Broken Relationship.' June 19.

Manuel Orozco, "The Role of Remittances in Leveraging Sustainable Development in Latin America and the Caribbean." Testimony presented before the Subcommittee on Domestic and International Monetary Policy, Trade and Technology. March 7.

Peter Hakim, "U.S. Policy Towards Latin America." Congressional Testimony before the House Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere. March 1.

Published

Peter Hakim: "Latin America: The Next U.S. President's Agenda," in *Great Decisions 2008*, Foreign Policy Association: January 7, 2008; "Gaining Congressional Consideration and Approval of the Colombia-U.S. FTA," January 2008; "New president's challenges," *The Miami Herald*, December 7; "Ratifying the Colombia-US FTA," *El Tiempo* (Colombia), October 27; Coauthored with Nancy Birdsall, "Poverty and Inequality in Latin America: How the U.S. Can Really Help," CGD Briefing paper, October 1; "Free Trade Prospects with the United States," *El Tiempo* (Colombia), July 20; Coauthored with Nancy Birdsall, "A White House Focus on Social Justice in Latin America?" Center for Global Development's CDG Notes, July 1; "Democrats and Free Trade," *El Tiempo* (Colombia), May 2; "US-Brazil

Cooperation-2007,” *O Estado de São Paulo*, April 7; “Friends and business partners,” *The Miami Herald*, March 30; “Repairing Latin Relations” Interview in *National Journal*, March 10; “Bush’s opportunity to mend relations,” *The Miami Herald*, March 6; “Estados Unidos debería ser más generoso en sus acuerdos con los países pequeños,” *Diario Libre* (República Dominicana), February 25.

Michael Shifter, “Time for a Deep Breath,” *La Nación* (Argentina), December 27. “Es la hora de tomarse un profundo respiro,” *La Nación* (Argentina), December 26; “Elecciones en EEUU: Cualquier cosa puede suceder,” *ideele* (Peru), November 2; “US Elections: Anything Can Happen,” *ideele* (Peru), November 1; “How to Repair a Damaged Relationship,” Newsletter of Graduate School of International Studies, University of Denver, October 27; “A Renewed Relationship,” *La Tercera* (Chile), October 20; “EE.UU. Puede contrarrestar a Chávez,” *El Comercio* (Peru), March 31; “Bush y su nueva mirada a Latinoamérica,” *La Tercera* (Chile), February 18; “Latin America’s Drug Problem,” *Current History*, February 1.

Marifeli Pérez-Stable, “How our neighbors see us,” *The Miami Herald*, August 2; “La política de Estados Unidos hacia Cuba pasa por Miami,” *Infolatam*, May 7; “Trip benefits yet to come,” *The Miami Herald*, March 15; “The High Price of Dismissing Democracy,” *The Miami Herald*, January 18.

Daniel Erikson, “Ahmadinejad finds it warmer in Latin America,” *The Los Angeles Times*, October 3; “Review of U.S. Relations with Latin America: Opportunities Lost or Opportunities Squandered?” *Cuban Affairs*, July 1, 2007; “US-Cuba Relations: The Limits of Wishful Thinking,” *FOCALPOINT: Spotlight on the Americas*, February 1.

Daniel Erikson and **Megan Fletcher**, “Handle Labor Issues,” *South Florida Sun-Sentinel*, April 22.

Select Presentations

Peter Hakim

- Presented “Challenges for U.S. Policy in the Hemisphere” at the Aspen Institute Congressional Program on U.S. Policy in Latin America from November 27 to December 2, in Guanacaste, Costa Rica.
- Spoke at an event on “EUA Cénarios Eleitorais e o lugar do Brasil e da América Latina” sponsored by FECOMERCIO in SaoPaulo, Brazil on October 24.
- Spoke on “Disharmony in the Hemisphere” at a public session in Ottawa organized by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade of Canada on June 18 and addressed a private meeting of the members of the Deputy Ministers’ Committee on Global Affairs, Security and Human Rights on Cuba.
- Spoke at the 2007 World Economic Forum on Latin America that took place in Santiago, Chile on April 25. Hakim was a panelist on “Shifting Power in Inter-American Relations” and “Latin America’s Challenges and the World Shifting Power Equation.”
- Spoke at a conference in the Dominican Republic on February 19 organized by the Global Foundation for Democracy and Development on relations between the United States, Latin America and the Caribbean.
- Led a Council of Foreign Relations roundtable discussion on “Inter-American Relations: Challenges and Cooperation” in Atlanta, Georgia on February 2.
- Spoke at an event on January 26 sponsored by the Center for Hemispheric Policy at the University of Miami on “Republican Administration/ Democratic Congress: Implications for U.S. Policy toward Latin America.”

“ Latin Americans

have been troubled about the yawning gap between Washington’s priorities and what matters most to the region.”

Michael Shifter,
“How to Repair a Damaged Relationship”

“China has used a combination of aid projects and trade preferences to wean the Caribbean away from Taiwan.”

Dan Erikson,
The Miami Herald

Michael Shifter

- Twice spoke to classes at the NATO Defense College in Rome, Italy on “Regional Issues and Challenges in Latin America,” on January 3 and June 25.
- Gave a lecture on US-Latin American relations at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign on October 18.
- Presented at an Inter-American Development Bank workshop in Paris, France on the possibility of reformulating drug policy in the European Union and United States, on November 19 and 20.
- Participated in a panel on the prospects for Latin American relations for the Jirahara Group in Barquisimeto, Venezuela on April 29.
- Spoke on “US Support for Plan Colombia” at a State Department conference in Bogotá, Colombia on August 25.

INTER-AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS

- The Dialogue and FOCAL sponsored a meeting on October 12 to discuss inter-American institutions. Inter-American Development Bank President Luis Alberto Moreno, OAS Secretary General José Miguel Insulza, and Trinidad’s Summit Coordinator Luis Alberto Rodríguez were featured speakers on the challenges confronting the IADB and OAS as well as potential topics for the 2009 Summit of the Americas. Experts participating in the discussion prepared background papers on energy, crime and violence, trade and integration, migration, and civil society.
- The Dialogue hosted OAS Secretary General José Miguel Insulza, assistant secretary of state for the Western Hemisphere Thomas Shannon, and assistant secretary for the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor

Barry Lowenkron on May 24th to lead a discussion on the Inter-American Democratic Charter, its weaknesses and its utility in the promotion and defense of democracy in the Western Hemisphere.

- OAS Secretary General José Miguel Insulza presented an assessment of 13 presidential and 3 parliamentary elections at the Inter-American Dialogue on January 9. The OAS played a key role through its observation missions and technical assistance programs, which covered ten presidential elections, two general elections, and two referendums.

Select Presentations

- **Peter Hakim** participated in the first meeting of the Special Advisory Group for the Fifth Summit of the America in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, on August 29 and 30.

LATIN AMERICA AND THE WORLD

China & Latin America

Select Presentations

- Dialogue senior associate Dan Erikson gave a presentation entitled “Has China Changed the Rules of the Global Economic Game,” at the Centro de Estudios sobre Ciencia, Desarrollo y Educación Superior (REDES) in Buenos Aires, Argentina, on August 22.
- Erikson made a presentation on Chinese-Cuban relations at the annual meeting of the Latin American Studies Association in Montreal, Canada in September. Peter Hakim spoke on Canada-Latin America relations.
- Dialogue vice president for policy, Michael Shifter, traveled to Beijing and Shanghai in October and met with several scholars, diplomats, and journalists.



Peter DeShazo of CSIS, OAS Secretary General José Miguel Insulza, Assistant Secretary of State Thomas Shannon

“ For most of the last century and a half, Latin America grew faster than China. ”

William Easterly,
CAF Conference Report

Published

Daniel Erikson and **Janice Chen**, “China, Taiwan, and the Battle for Latin America,” *Fletcher Forum of World Affairs*, Summer 2007.

Daniel Erikson and **Paul Wander**, “CHINA: Cricket Champion,” *The Miami Herald*, April 28.

Europe & Latin America

- Hosted by Enrique Iglesias, secretary general of the Ibero-American General Secretariat (SEGIB) and the Dialogue’s new co-vice chair, the Inter-American Dialogue’s Board of Directors held its spring meeting in Madrid, followed by a conference with European, Latin American, and U.S. leaders, on May 17 and 18, 2007. Participants beyond the Dialogue’s Board included key foreign affairs ministers, international development agency officials, and business leaders from a variety of European nations. The discussions looked at regional challenges from a

trilateral perspective, tackling issues such as poverty and inequality, governance, and the trade agenda. Participants also examined the changing context of Latin America’s international relations, including the region’s growing relations with Europe, China, and other Asian countries.

TRADE AND ECONOMICS

Annual CAF Meeting

The Andean Development Corporation (CAF), the Inter-American Dialogue and the Organization of American States (OAS) held their annual conference on Trade and Investment in the Americas on September 4 and 5. It featured CAF president Enrique García, OAS secretary general José Miguel Insulza, Inter-American Development Bank president Luis Alberto Moreno, Guatemalan vice president Eduardo Stein, and, from Ecuador, the minister of internal and external security policy coordination, Fernando Bustamante and the minister of economic and production policy coordination, Mauricio Dávalos. The

“ Mercosur
needs to make
a choice between
whether it
wants to protect
or compete. ”

Sergio Amaral,
CAF Conference Report



Director of *Tal Cual* Teodoro Petkoff, CAF President Enrique García, OAS Secretary General José Miguel Insulza

conference brought together senior U.S. and Latin American government officials, seven U.S. Congress members, policy analysts, leading journalists, and private sector leaders for intense and expansive discussions about political and economic developments in the region and to identify a working agenda for the hemisphere.

Published

Trade and Investment in the Americas, Report on the Tenth Anniversary Corporación Andina de Fomento (CAF) Conference, September 2007.

Trade Policy Group

- The Dialogue's Trade Policy Group met on October 29 to discuss the expansion of Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA), a federal program that provides aid and employment retraining assistance to workers who have lost their jobs because of trade. Featured guests included Howard Rosen, executive director of the Trade Adjustment Assistance Coalition, Viji Rangaswami, Democratic trade counsel for the House Committee on

Ways and Means, Barbara Somson, deputy director of legislative affairs at the United Auto Workers, and Angela Ellard, minority staff director at the House Committee on Ways and Means.

- Members of the Inter-American Dialogue's Trade Policy Group met at the Dialogue on March 9 with Angela Ellard, minority staff director at the House Committee on Ways and Means, and Sophia King, legislative director for Representative Gregory Meeks (D-NY), a prominent advocate for engaging the hemisphere through trade. They discussed the direction of the U.S. trade agenda in the hemisphere. Participants weighed in on a variety of issues including free trade agreements with Colombia, Peru, and Panama, Andean trade preferences, and the expiration of the president's Trade Promotion Authority.
- The Dialogue's Trade Policy Group gathered on February 22 to discuss what might be accomplished in 2007 toward achieving U.S. trade policy objectives in the hemisphere. The discussion

featured Tim Reif, Democratic staff director for the Trade Subcommittee of the House Committee on Ways & Means; Everett Eissenstat, assistant U.S. trade representative for the Americas; Sandra Polaski, director of the Trade, Equity and Development Project at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace; and Sidney Weintraub, who holds the William E. Simon Chair in Political Economy at the Center for Strategic and International Affairs.

Other Trade and Economics

- Colombia's minister of defense, Juan Manuel Santos headlined an October 18 discussion on his country's evolving relations with the United States. He spoke of the U.S. Congress' failure to ratify the free trade agreement with Colombia despite security gains under Plan Colombia.
- Nine members of Congress met with Defense Minister Juan Manuel Santos of Colombia for a dinner discussion on U.S.-Colombia Relations on October 17. In the context of the debate over the U.S.-Colombia free trade agreement, the meeting was convened in anticipation of a review and renewal of funding for Plan Colombia. Rep. Gregory Meeks (D-NY) hosted the session. Also participating from Congress were Senator Mel Martínez (R-FL) and Representatives Xavier Becerra (D-CA), Sam Farr (D-CA), Marcy Kaptur (D-OH), David Price (D-NC), Charlie Rangel (D-NY), Joe Wilson (R-SC) and Jerry Weller (R-IL).
- The Dialogue hosted on September 28 a conversation with former candidate for vice president Epsy Campbell Barr, president of Costa Rica's Citizen Action Party, on the CAFTA-Dominican Republic referendum in Costa Rica.
- Luis Oganés of JP Morgan Chase, Anoop Singh of International Monetary

Fund, and John Williamson of Peterson Institute were featured speakers on September 13 at the discussion, Global Market Turmoil: What Will It Mean for Latin America?

- William Maloney and Guillermo Perry, two authors of the recent World Bank publication, *Informality: Exit and Exclusion in Latin America and the Caribbean*, discussed the causes and effects of the informal job market in Latin America at a September 7 Dialogue meeting. Nancy Birdsall, Center for Global Development, and Nora Lustig, George Washington University, commented.
- Considered by many to be the father of the Chicago Boys, Arnold Harberger, currently professor of economics at UCLA and chief economic advisor at USAID, spoke on a range of economic issues in the region at the Center for Global Development on August 10, with Dialogue president Peter Hakim and Peterson Institute for International Economics senior fellow John Williamson providing commentary.
- The Dialogue hosted two Ecuadorian ministers on June 13 for a conversation



Epsy Campbell, president of Costa Rica's Citizen Action Party and Dialogue member

“ The White House has to find agreement with Congressional Democrats, not expect to convert them. ”

Peter Hakim,
El Tiempo

“ Trade policy
has been an area
of some success
for the Bush
administration.”

Peter Hakim,
Great Decisions 2008

about their perspectives on politics, security, and trade in their country. The cabinet members were Fernando Bustamante, minister of internal and external security policy coordination, and Mauricio Dávalos, minister of economic and production policy coordination.

- Colombian President Álvaro Uribe met with sixteen members of Congress on May 2 at a CMWG dinner hosted by Senators Ken Salazar (D-CO) and Mel Martinez (R-FL) and Representatives Dan Burton (R-IN) and Eliot Engel (D-NY). Participating members included Senator Bob Corker (R-TN) and Reps. Xavier Becerra (D-CA), William Delahunt (D-MA), Sam Farr (D-CA), Sander Levin (D-MI), Michael McCaul (R-TX), Gregory Meeks (D-NY), Donald Payne (D-IL), Albio Sires (D-NJ), Mark Souder (R-IN), Jerry Weller (R-IL), Joe Wilson (R-SC) and Frank Wolf (R-VA).
- Ecuador's minister of foreign relations, María Fernanda Espinosa, spoke at a March 23 Dialogue session on the Andean Trade Promotion and Drug Eradication Act (ATPDEA), arguing that the U.S. Congress ought to extend it for at least another five years.
- The Dialogue held a session on the unsettled state of affairs in the Andean region on March 14. Marcelo Guigale of the World Bank and Patrick Esteruelas of the Eurasia Group spoke about current political and economic issues.
- Beatriz Nofal, president of Argentina's newly established National Investment Promotion Agency (ANDI), led a discussion on the state of the Argentine economy and prospects for investment, on February 28 at the Dialogue.
- Marcos Jank, president of the Institute for International Trade Negotiations (ICONE), spoke at a February 21 Dialogue meeting along with panelists Gary Hufbauer, senior fellow at the Peterson Institute for International Economics, and Mac Destler of the University of Maryland, on the difficulties of the WTO's Doha development agenda, which have continued to stall due to disagreements about agricultural goods, domestic support, and tariff rates.
- Ten members of Congress met with Colombian Vice President Francisco Santos on February 13 to discuss congressional approval of the U.S.-Colombia free trade agreement and the renewal of Plan Colombia. Reps. Nita Lowey (D-NY) and Jerry Weller (R-IL) co-hosted the dinner. Other congressional member participants were Reps. William Delahunt (D-MA), Sam Farr (D-CA), Doug Lamborn (R-CO), Sheila Jackson Lee (D-TX), Sander Levin (D-MI), Gregory Meeks (D-NY), Jean Schmidt (R-OH) and Mark Souder (R-IN).
- On February 9, Javier Santiso of the OECD Development Centre discussed his new book, *Latin America's Political Economy of the Possible*, at the Dialogue. Michael Gavin of Citadel Investment Group and Genaro Arriagada, a member of the Latin America Advisor Board and a director at Banco de Chile, offered critical commentary.
- Former presidential candidate Ottón Solís of Costa Rica's Citizens Action Party and Ambassador René León of El Salvador led a discussion on CAFTA, democracy, and development in Costa Rica and the region. The January 25th session was co-sponsored by the Inter-American Dialogue, the Center for Global Development, Oxfam, and Action Aid.

Published

Peter Hakim, "Gaining Congressional Consideration and Approval of the Colombia-U.S. FTA" January 2008;

“Ratifying the Colombia-US FTA,” *El Tiempo* (Colombia), October 27; “Free Trade Prospects with the United States,” *El Tiempo* (Colombia), July 20; “Democrats and Free Trade,” *El Tiempo* (Colombia), May 2; “Estados Unidos debería ser más generoso en sus acuerdos con los países pequeños,” *Diario Libre* (República Dominicana), February 25.

Marifeli Pérez-Stable, “Wanted: economic opportunity,” *The Miami Herald*, January 4.

Daniel Erikson and **Megan Fletcher**, “Handle Labor Issues,” *South Florida Sun-Sentinel*, April 22.

Michael Lisman, “El libre y justo comercio requiere una mejor educación,” *La Prensa* (Nicaragua), March 16; “A Lesson in Free Trade,” *The Guardian*, March 12.

Select Presentations

Peter Hakim

- Participated in Brown University’s Watson Institute Conference on “Inequality in Latin America: Politics & Policy,” held in Providence, Rhode Island on October 2. Hakim spoke on “Policy Instruments for Mitigating Inequality.”
- Was the featured speaker at JP Morgan’s 12th Annual Asia Pacific and Emerging Markets Equity Conference “Spring time for Latin America?” session held in New York City, New York on September 25.
- Spoke at the 2007 World Economic Forum on Latin America that took place in Santiago, Chile on April 25. Hakim was a panelist on “Shifting Power in Inter-American Relations” and “Latin America’s Challenges and the World Shifting Power Equation.”
- Spoke on a panel organized by the Institute for International Finance in Guatemala City on March 18 as part of the 2007 Inter-American Development Bank’s Annual Meeting.

REMITTANCES & DEVELOPMENT

- The Congressional Members Working Group convened on November 13 for a dinner discussion on the flow of remittances to Latin America and implications for development in the region. Dinner hosts Reps. Luis Gutierrez (D-IL) and Chris Cannon (R-UT) and their colleagues Reps. Xavier Becerra (D-CA), Sam Farr (D-CA), and Rush Holt (D-NJ) met with Donald Terry, manager of the IDB’s Multilateral Investment Fund, Manuel Orozco, director of the Remittances and Development Program at the Inter-American Dialogue, among others.
- A small group of government officials and senior executives of money transfer companies and banking institutions met on September 19 to discuss the impact of remittances on the region, new data on migrants, and competition in the industry. Participants focused on the consolidation of money transfer companies, the rapid diversification of the marketplace, and continuing price declines in most corridors, driven mainly by greater competitiveness. They also discussed evolving patterns of remittance flows to Latin America, new and emerging challenges to remittance transfers, and the potential for U.S. policy to effectively engage the region’s long-neglected social agenda. The goal was to exchange ideas about what changes in U.S. policy would be most helpful in facilitating growth of the transfer industry, making remittance transfers more relevant to development and growth in Latin America.
- *Making the Most of Family Remittances*, A Report of the Inter-American Dialogue’s Task Force on Remittances, was released on May 1 on Capitol Hill. Senators Bob Menendez (D-NJ) and Norm Coleman (R-MN) hosted the event, which featured the Dialogue’s Manuel Orozco; Maria

“Sending remittances is unambiguously a private matter.”

Making the Most of Family Remittances
(Inter-American Dialogue)

“ Remittances
are the most
important
migrant economic
activity. ”

Manuel Orozco,
*Reducing Global
Poverty: the Case for
Asset Accumulation*

Eugenia Brizuela de Avila, president of Banco Salvadoreño and former minister of foreign affairs of El Salvador; Earl Jarrett, president of the Jamaica National Building Society; and Donald Terry, manager of the Multilateral Investment Fund of the Inter-American Development Bank. This second Task Force report examines the high cost of transactions, financial sector opportunities to incorporate senders and receivers, and the macroeconomic effects of remittances. The authors recommend increasing the transparency of transfer fees, looking more closely at new technologies, and strengthening the relationship between money transfer operators and banking institutions.

- On March 14, 2007, the Dialogue brought together analysts and policy officials from U.S. and Latin American government agencies, private foundations, banks and other financial institutions, and international organizations to review current research priorities on remittances, discuss the main policy challenges regarding remittance flows, and identify new research and data needed to address the policy challenges.

Published

Making the Most of Family Remittances.

Second Report of the Inter-American Dialogue Task Force on Remittances. May 2007.

Manuel Orozco. “Looking forward and including migration in development: remittance leveraging opportunities for Moldova,” Moldova: International Organization for Migration, December 4; with Bryanna Millis, “Remittances, competition and fair financial access opportunities in Nigeria,” Washington, DC: United States Agency for International Development, October 2007; “Central America: remittances and the macroeconomic variable,” Washington DC: Inter-American Dialogue, September 17; “Worker Remittances and the Financial Sector: issues and lessons in the South Caucasus,” European Bank for Reconstruction and Development in cooperation with Bendixen and Associates, June 25; “Migrant Foreign Savings and Asset Accumulation,” in *Reducing Global Poverty: the Case for Asset Accumulation*, edited by Caroline O.N. Moser, Washington, DC: Brookings Institution, 2007; “Central American Diasporas and Hometown Associations,” in *Diasporas and Development*, edited by Barbara J. Merz, Lincoln C. Chen, and Peter F. Geithner, Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2007; with Katy Jacob and Jennifer Tescher, “Card-Based Remittances: A Closer Look at Supply and Demand,” Chicago, IL: The Center for Financial Services Innovation, February 2007; “Global Remittances and the Law—A Review of Regional Trends and Regulatory Issues,” in *International Migration Law: Developing Paradigms and Key Challenges*, edited by Ryszard Cholewinski, Richard Perruchoud and Euan Macdonald, Cambridge, England: Cambridge University Press, January 2007.



Daniel Ayala of Wells Fargo, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Treasury Brian O'Neill

Congressional Testimony

Manuel Orozco. “Toward the Mainstream: Remittances and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean.” Testimony presented before the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere at the hearing entitled, ‘Leveraging Remittances for Families and Communities.’ October 2.

Manuel Orozco. “The Role of Remittances in Leveraging Sustainable Development in Latin America and the Caribbean.” Testimony presented before the Subcommittee on Domestic and International Monetary Policy, Trade and Technology. March 7.

DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE

Dialogues on Democracy

The Inter-American Dialogue in cooperation with the Organization of American States has launched a project, National Dialogues on Democracy, which involves conducting well-prepared, two-day workshops in eight Latin American countries with 25 to 30 top-ranked and well-known politicians, entrepreneurs, journalists, and political analysts. The workshops are being held in Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, and Mexico. After each workshop, the Dialogue will publish a report that synthesizes the deliberations and provides benchmarks for future progress on democratic consolidation.

- The first workshop—Guatemala: Ten Years after the Agreements on a Firm and Lasting Peace—took place in Antigua, Guatemala from March 22 to 24, 2007. Participants included Vice President Eduardo Stein, Congresswoman Nineth Montenegro, Vice Minister of Foreign Relations Marta Altolaguirre, Bishop of San Marcos Alvaro Ramazzini, as well as Gustavo Porras, Raquel Zelaya, and Richard Aitkenhead, all signers of the 1996 Peace Accords. The Association



Marta Altolaguirre, vice minister of foreign relations of Guatemala

for Research and Social Studies (ASIES) co-sponsored the event.

- The second workshop—Democracy for a Better Life—was held in Juan Dolio, Dominican Republic, from October 5 to 7, 2007. Participants included Dialogue Board member Elena Viyella de Paliza, president of Grupo Inter-Quimica S.A.; Bernardo Vega, former ambassador to the United States; Ramon Albuquerque, president of the Dominican Revolutionary Party; and Julio Cesar Valentín, president of the Dominican Chamber of Deputies. The Dialogue carried out this workshop in partnership with the Instituto Tecnológico de Santo Domingo.

Published

Guatemala: Diez años después de los Acuerdos de Paz firme y duradera, Inter-American Dialogue, January 2008.

Marifeli Pérez-Stable, “Latin America: Dispirited democracies open door to populism,” *The Miami Herald*, October 11; “Latin America: Democracy brings stability, economic progress,” *The Miami Herald*, June 7; “Latin America: Democracy consists of more than just elections,” *The Miami Herald*, May 10; “The high price of

“ Despite their weaknesses, political parties are necessary because without them there is no democracy. ”

National Dialogue on Democracy: Guatemala (Inter-American Dialogue)

“ Political
discord made
progress by the
OAS on such key
questions as press
freedom virtually
impossible. ”

Michael Shifter,
The Miami Herald

dismissing democracy,” *The Miami Herald*, January 18.

Marifeli Pérez-Stable and **Christian Gomez**, “Latin America: To bridge ideological, economic schisms, reform Mercosur,” *The Miami Herald*, April 12.

Press Freedom

- Violence, Democracy, and Press Freedom in Mexico and Colombia was the topic of an October 23rd discussion at the Dialogue led by Enrique Santos Calderón, the editor of *El Tiempo* (Colombia), and Mariclaire Acosta, the Organization of American States.
- Colombian investigative journalist and documentary filmmaker Hollman Morris spoke on challenges to press freedom in Colombia on October 30. Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky (D-IL) participated in the discussions.
- Reps. Adam Schiff (D-CA), Mike Pence (R-IN), and Connie Mack (R-FL) hosted a CMWG dinner on October 23 to discuss the state of press freedom in Latin America. Guest speakers included Philip Bennett, the managing editor of *The Washington Post*; Enrique Santos Calderón, the editor of *El Tiempo*, a

leading Colombian newspaper; and Mariclaire Acosta, former Mexican minister of human rights and democracy under President Fox. Other members of Congress included Reps. Mary Bono (R-CA), Gregory Meeks (D-NY), Xavier Becerra (D-CA), Rush Holt (D-NJ), Jerry Weller (R-IN); and Michael McCaul (R-TX).

- “Press Freedom in Latin America: Moving Forward or Sliding Backwards?” was the topic of a discussion on July 11 featuring: Eduardo Bertoni of the Due Process of Law Foundation; John Dinges of Columbia University; Carlos Lauria of the Committee to Protect Journalists; and Rick Rockwell of American University.
- On January 18, the Dialogue focused congressional attention on press freedom in Latin America and the Caribbean. The session on Capitol Hill was hosted by Sen. Christopher Dodd (D-CT) and Reps. Adam Schiff (D-CA), Sam Farr (D-CA), Sheila Jackson Lee (D-TX), Mike Pence (R-IN), and Thomas Petri (R-WI). Discussions were led by Colombian journalist Daniel Coronell, at the time in exile at the University of California, Berkeley; Gonzalo Marroquin, president of the Inter American Press Association; Ignacio Alvarez, OAS; Karin Karlekar, Freedom House; Carlos Lauria, Committee to Protect Journalists; and Ricardo Trotti, Inter American Press Association.

Published

Michael Shifter, “La libertad de prensa, amenazada,” *El Tiempo* (Colombia), June 10; “Student Protesters Braver than OAS,” *The Miami Herald*, June 10; “Acumular poder o lograr el equilibrio, los dos caminos,” *La Nación* (Argentina), April 15; “Will Correa seek compromise, build good governance?” *The Miami Herald*, April 14.



Julio Cesar Valentín, president of the Dominican Chamber of Deputies, Elena Viyella de Paliza, president of Grupo Inter-Química and Dialogue Board member

Women's Leadership

- The Inter-American Dialogue, Inter-American Development Bank, League of Women Voters, Inter-American Foundation, and Organization of American States convened in Washington a small group of women political leaders from Latin America and the Caribbean on March 28 to discuss the dramatic advances achieved by women seeking public office in the past ten years—and the special challenges currently facing women in electoral politics. Held at the Library of Congress and the Inter-American Development Bank, the discussion offered women leaders a unique opportunity to strategize about how to increase women's representation and effectiveness in politics. U.S. Representatives Hilda Solis (D-CA) and Jerry Weller (R-IL) also joined the discussions. Panelists from the region included Billie Miller, senior minister and minister of foreign affairs and foreign trade of Barbados; Beatriz Paredes, president of the Institutional



Rep. Sam Farr (D-CA), Colombian journalist Daniel Coronell, Michael Shifter, Karin Karlekan of Freedom House

Revolutionary Party of Mexico; Epsy Campbell Barr, head of the Citizens' Action Party of Costa Rica; Nemeia Achacollo Tola, first vice president of the Congress of Bolivia; Senator Marta Lucía Ramírez of Colombia; and congresswomen Dayana Martínez Burke of Honduras, Olga Ferreira de López of Paraguay, and María Antonieta Saa of Chile. Campbell Barr, Miller, Paredes, and Ramírez are members of the Inter-American Dialogue.

- In cooperation with the Initiative for Inclusive Security, the Dialogue hosted a discussion on the participation of women in the Colombian peace process led by Isabel Londoño of the Foundation of Women for Colombia and Alicia Eugenia Silva Nigrinis of the Cultural Promotion Fund of Bogotá on January 18.

Published

Women in the Americas: Paths to Political Power. A Report Card on Women in Political Leadership. Inter-American Dialogue, Inter-American Development Bank, and League of Women Voters, January 2008.

Joan Caivano and Thayer Hardwick, "Latin American Women in Movement: Changing Politics, Changing Minds," in *Civil Society and Social Movements: Building Sustainable Democracies in Latin America*, ed. Arthur Domike. Washington, DC: Inter-American Development Bank, 2008.

Marifeli Pérez-Stable, "South America: Bachelet, Fernández push politics beyond gender," *The Miami Herald*, November 8.

- On January 31st, the Dialogue hosted a roundtable on the Latinobarómetro Report for 2006 focused on democracy and governance in Latin America. Marta Lagos of Latinobarómetro, and Mariclaire Acosta of the Organization of American States led the discussion.

“Conditions for Afro-descendant and indigenous women are not equal... there can be no exceptions when it comes to political participation.”

Epsy Campbell,
*Women in the Americas:
Paths to Political Power*
(Inter-American Dialogue)

“ Few Latin American countries set clear goals for their schools, nor do they hold students, parents, principals, or ministries responsible for results. ”

Tamara Ortega-Goodspeed and Jeffrey Puryear, FOCALPoint



Former deputy Anel Townsend of Peru, Senator Marta Lucía Ramírez of Colombia, PRI Party President Beatriz Paredes of Mexico

EDUCATION POLICY

PREAL—Partnership for Educational Revitalization in the Americas

Report Cards

- From May to September 2007, PREAL organized eight launches of its 2007 report card on education in Central America and the Dominican Republic: *A Lot to Do (Mucho por Hacer)*. The launches took place in the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Panama, and Honduras. President Leonel Fernández of the Dominican Republic, along with Representative Mike Honda (D-CA) and Representative Jim Moran (D-VA) spoke at a special event on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC, which capped these launches. Bolstered by extensive media coverage, the launches—which involved some 800 participants—emphasized that Central America needs to dramatically improve the quality and equity of its public schools.
- PREAL’s partner in the Dominican Republic, FLACSO-DR, presented *Taking Stock (Pasando Balance)*, the 2006 PREAL Report Card on Education Progress in the Dominican Republic, to members of the bicameral congressional education committee on February 8th. The event was co-sponsored by the Dominican Socio-educational Forum (*Foro Socio-educativo Dominicano*), a network of six institutions dedicated to public debate of education policy and reform in the country.
- El Salvador’s minister of education helped PREAL partners Centro Alfa and FEPADE launch the country’s second education report card—*Building the Future (Construyendo el Futuro)*—on January 18th in San Salvador. PREAL’s co-director presented PREAL’s 2006 Report Card on Education in Latin America, *Quantity Without Quality (Cantidad sin Calidad)*, at the same event. During the proceedings, the minister of education presented PREAL with a bronze statue of Don Quixote, in recognition of its 10 years of support for education reform in El Salvador. Approximately 80 government officials, business leaders, and media representatives attended the event.

Working Group on Standards and Assessments (GTEE)

- On August 30th, the Working Group on Standards and Assessments held a workshop on education standards in Latin America in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. The event was organized in collaboration with the Honduran Ministry of Education, USAID, and PREAI's national partner, the Foundation for Education Ricardo Ernesto Maduro Andreu (FEREMA). Speakers included the recently appointed vice-secretary of education in Honduras.
- The GTEE—in collaboration with UNCEP and Circulo Empresarial, and with the support of the Ministry of Education of Panama—held a seminar on “Standards: An Opportunity to Improve Learning” in Panama City on August 15th. Participants included the Panamanian vice minister of education; the president of the National Council for Education; the rector of the University of Panama; and members of the Private Sector Council for Educational Assistance (CoSPAЕ).

- At the request of the National Education Council and the Ministry of Economy and Finance of Peru, GTEE co-organized a discussion on the use of standards and assessments in the United States. The discussion took place July 11th and featured an expert on standards from the School of Education at the University of Miami.

Working Group on Teacher Professionalization (GTD)

- On November 20th, the Working Group on Teacher Professionalization and the Share Foundation (*Fundación Compartir*) co-hosted the seminar “Conceptualizing Professional Teaching Effectiveness,” which took place in Bogotá, Colombia.
- The GTD held the seminar “The Teaching Profession and Prospects for Continuous Professional Development” in Tegucigalpa, Honduras on November 6th. PREAI's national partner FEREMA and the Francisco Morazán National Teachers University (UPNFM) co-organized the event. Over 80

“ Fewer than half of boys and girls attend preschool and only four in ten attend secondary school. ”

PREAL Report Card on Education in Central America and the Dominican Republic



Rep. Mike Honda (D-CA), President Leonel Fernández of the Dominican Republic, Mack McLarty of McLarty Associates and Dialogue Board member

“ Latin

America's schools are not providing children with an internationally competitive education, and are unlikely to contribute much to reducing poverty or inequality. ”

Jeffrey Puryear,
Latin America Advisor

people attended the seminar, including professors from Honduran Teachers' colleges, representatives from the Ministry of Education, and leaders of several national teachers' unions.

- On March 29 to 30, the GTD held an international seminar entitled “The Teaching Profession in Latin America: A Pending Agenda and Four Emerging Challenges” in Lima, Peru. The seminar, sponsored by the Ministry of Education and co-organized by PREAL and two other non-governmental organizations—Task (*Tarea*) and the Educational Forum (*Foro Educativo*)—sought to generate and exchange ideas on the teaching profession in Latin America.

Other Education Policy

- PREAL, in association with the government of Chile and the Inter-American Development Bank, hosted on July 10 and 11 in Santiago, Chile the International Seminar to Prevent School Violence. The seminar featured results from the Red Cross Youth of Colombia and *Caja de Compensación Familiar*

de Antioquia (CONFAMA) programs, the International Children's Defense of Ecuador, the Educational Development Foundation of Brazil, and the Human Rights and Popular Education Center of Brazil. At the seminar, PREAL launched its new publication *Tools to Prevent Violence in Schools (Herramientas para Prevenir la Violencia en las Escuelas)*.

- PREAL and Learn First (*Primero Aprendo*)—a joint project of CARE, Catholic Relief Services, and DevTech—officially launched the book *Educational Policy for Child Workers: Towards the Eradication of Child Labor in Central America and the Dominican Republic* in Panama City on August 8. The book—which includes policy recommendations as well as synopses of the national case studies done in El Salvador, Nicaragua, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Costa Rica, and Honduras—promotes a regional agenda centered on offering more and better education opportunities for working children.
- PREAL teamed up with its Honduran partner FEREMA to present the national



Miguel Ángel Cañizales, former minister of education of Panama; Rossana Castrellon, president of the National Union of Private Educative Centers and co-president of the PREAL Central American Task Force; Monsignor Álvaro Ramazzini Imeri, president of the Episcopal Conference in Guatemala

report, “Educational Choices for the Working Children in Honduras” in Honduras on June 19th.

- On March 20 to 21, PREAL and *Primero Aprendo* held a two-day international workshop on child labor in Guatemala. The event convened some 35 civil society and government leaders from six Central American countries, including the Dominican Republic.
- PREAL, in cooperation with the Inter-American Development Bank, held the closing workshop for its Institutional and Managerial Capacity Development Program for Central American Education Ministries (Coaching) project in Panama City on June 14th. The workshop was part of the IDB’s Regional Policy Dialogue for Central America, a forum that periodically brings together the region’s education vice ministers to discuss strategic topics in education reform.
- PREAL, the IDEA Foundation (*Fundación IDEA*), and Mexicanos First (*Mexicanos Primeros*) co-organized the international seminar “Accountability: An Opportunity for Quality Education” on June 5 and 6 in Mexico City. Mexico’s secretary of public education inaugurated the event, along with PREAL’s co-director, the executive director of *Fundación IDEA*, and a representative of *Mexicanos Primeros*.
- “What can be done about Latin America’s failing public schools?” was the focus of a Dialogue roundtable featuring Emiliana Vegas, co-author, *Raising Student Learning in Latin America: The Challenge for the 21st Century* on December 7.

Published

PREAL distributed the following publications to a network of some 2,000 institutions and individuals, principally in Latin America.

Books

Educación y Brechas de Equidad en América Latina: Tomo I y II edited by Santiago Cueto. Distributed September 2007.

Estándares en Educación: Implicancias para su aplicación en América Latina by Guillermo Ferrer. August 2007.

Reports, Working Papers, and Briefs

Necesitamos Aprender con Calidad: Un Informe de Progreso Educativo de Panamá. June 2007.

A Lot to Do: A Report Card on Education in Central America and the Dominican Republic. May 2007. English and Spanish.

Construyendo el Futuro: Informe de progreso educativo El Salvador 2006. PREAL and Centro Alfa. January 2007.

Los costos de las evaluaciones de aprendizaje en América Latina by Laurence Wolff. September 2007. English and Spanish.

La remuneración de los maestros en América Latina: ¿Es baja? ¿Afecta la calidad de la enseñanza? by Claudio de Mauro Castro and Gustavo Ioschpe. January 2007.

Estados Unidos: El necesario cambio para enfrentar los requerimientos de la nueva economía global. September 2007.

Las Tecnologías de la Información y la Comunicación en la Educación en América Latina. March 2007.

Ambiente de aprendizaje innovadores. October 2007.

Reducción del Trabajo Infantil a Través de Oportunidades Educativas. April 2007.

Decálogo Educativo para Centroamérica, Belice, y República Dominicana. November 2007.

El camino hacia escuelas de nivel mundial. November 2007.

“ Girls repeat grades and drop out less often than boys. ”

PREAL Report Card on Education in Central America and the Dominican Republic

“Chávez's aid and cheap oil amount to more than four times U.S. spending on aid for the region in 2006.”

Nancy Birdsall and Peter Hakim, *Center for Global Development Brief*

Costo de las evaluaciones de aprendizaje. October 2007.

Bases sólidas: Atención y educación de la primera infancia. August 2007.

Por qué importa la calidad de educación. May 2007.

Toolkit Herramientas para la prevención de la violencia en las escuelas. July 2007.

Políticas Educativas para la Niñez Trabajadora: Hacia la Erradicación del Trabajo Infantil en Centroamérica y la República Dominicana by PREAL and Primero Aprendo. August 2007.

Opciones educativas para la niñez trabajadora en Honduras: Hacia la erradicación del trabajo infantil en Centroamérica y la República Dominicana. May 2007.

Articles

Michael Lisman, “A Lesson in Free Trade,” *The Guardian*, March 12. “El libre y justo comercio requiere una mejor educación,” *La Prensa* (Nicaragua), March 16.

Jeffrey Puryear, “El Acuerdo Chileno Sitúa la Accountability al Servicio del Aprendizaje,” *La Prensa* (Nicaragua), November 21. With L. Moodey, “Accountability Rare in Latin American Schools,” *Viewpoints Americas*, July 24.

Jeffrey Puryear and **Tamara Ortega-Goodspeed**, “Coveting Human Capital: Is Latin American Education Competitive?” *Can Latin America Compete?: Confronting the Challenges of Globalization* (J. Haar and J. Price, ed). New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2007.

Select Presentations

- The U.S. Embassy in Buenos Aires, Argentina, organized a videoconference on November 14 with Dialogue vice president for social policy, Jeffrey Puryear

on “The Role of the Private Sector in Education in Latin America.”

- Puryear spoke on Latin America's experience with using education assessments at the 48th General Assembly of the International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA) in Hong Kong, SAR, on October 8.
- Puryear moderated a panel entitled “Quality of Education in the Americas” at the first Americas Competitiveness Forum in Atlanta, Georgia on June 12.
- Puryear participated in the “Using Monitoring & Evaluation for Better Education Policy, Planning and Results Workshop” from April 16 to 20 in Bali, Indonesia, organized by the World Bank, the Government of the Netherlands and the ministry of education of Indonesia.
- Puryear spoke at a conference entitled “Basic Education in Brazil: What's Wrong and How to Fix It,” which was organized by the Brazil Institute of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington on January 29.
- On April 25, Puryear spoke at a working lunch on Quality Education for All at the World Economic Forum on Latin America in Santiago, Chile.

SOCIAL POLICY

- A discussion on the Inter-American Development Bank's latest research on social exclusion in Latin America, *Outsiders? The Changing Patterns of Exclusion in Latin America and the Caribbean*, took place at the Dialogue on December 11th and featured Hugo Ñopo, research economist, Inter-American Development Bank; William Maloney, lead economist for Latin America and the Caribbean, World Bank; and Nora Lustig, Shapiro Visiting Professor, George Washington University.

- On November 8, the Dialogue hosted a discussion on Responding to Natural Disasters in the Americas, featuring Juan Carlos Villagrán of the United Nations University, Institute for Environment and Human Security.
- Business development and social inclusion in Brazil was the topic of an October 19th Dialogue roundtable featuring Giovanni Harvey, founder and director of *Incubadora Afro-Brasileira*—which provides business training for African-descendant entrepreneurs in Brazil—and program economist Dalton Franco on October 19. Ambassador Larry Palmer, president of the Inter-American Foundation, introduced the discussions.
- “Can Aid Work in Politically Changing Environments? The Achievements and Pending Challenges of the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) in Central America” was the topic of an October 2nd roundtable discussion at MCC Headquarters in Washington. Featured speakers were John Hewko, vice president of operations, MCC; John Danilovich, CEO, MCC; Roberto Flores Bermudez, Honduran ambassador to the United States; Matt Bohn, resident country director, Nicaragua, MCC; Stacy Rhodes, managing director, Latin America, MCC; and Kenny Miller, deputy resident country director, El Salvador, MCC.
- A roundtable discussion on European regional funds—intended to redistribute resources from wealthier countries to poorer nations and regions—and their relevance to Latin America was held at the Dialogue on September 28 and featured Antoni Estevadeordal of the Inter-American Development Bank; Anthony Ody of Georgetown University, and Nancy Lee of the Treasury Department.
- Rep. Bob Menendez (D-NJ) spoke at a March 21 presentation on Capitol Hill about the role of the United States in Latin America’s social development.
- On April 12, the Inter-American Dialogue hosted a roundtable conversation with the UN’s under-secretary-general for economic and social affairs, José Antonio Ocampo, on the prospects for sustained growth, economic stability, and social progress in Latin America in the next several years. Ocampo has served as Colombia’s finance minister and secretary-general of the UN Economic Commission for Latin America.
- The increasing attention capital markets are giving to issues of corporate social responsibility was the focus of a Dialogue roundtable discussion on March 16th featuring Raymundo Magliano Filho, president of the São Paulo Stock Exchange (BOVESPA). He reported on BOVESPA’s campaign to address Brazil’s social development needs and to increase the participation of individual citizens in the stock market.

Published

Peter Hakim, Coauthored with Nancy Birdsall, “Poverty and Inequality in Latin America: How the U.S. Can Really Help,” CGD Briefing paper, October 1; Coauthored with Nancy Birdsall, “A White House Focus on Social Justice in Latin America?” Center for Global Development’s CDG Notes, July 1.

Michael Shifter, “Social Turbulence in Peru,” *The Miami Herald*, July 30.

Select Presentation

- Dialogue vice president for social policy, Jeffrey Puryear spoke on “Politics and Social Policy in Latin America” at the Peace Corps Western Hemisphere Office annual retreat in Washington, DC on November 29.

“ U.S. subsidized grains are allowed to displace the corn and rice sales of peasant producers. ”

Nancy Birdsall and Peter Hakim, *Center for Global Development Brief*

“ Colombians believe that, more than other countries, Colombia deserves a free-trade arrangement with the U.S. ”

Peter Hakim,
Great Decisions 2008

COUNTRIES AND SUBREGIONS

Andean Region

Andean Working Group

The Dialogue held the thirteenth meeting of the Andean Working Group in Bogotá, Colombia on December 3 and 4, 2007. Participants engaged in a lively discussion of each of the countries in the region—Peru, Bolivia, Ecuador, Colombia, and Venezuela—as well as the region's cooperation with the United States, Canada and Europe. The meeting came during an especially active time, overlapping with the constitutional reform referendum in Venezuela, the controversial preliminary approval of a draft constitution in Bolivia, the start of the constitutional assembly in Ecuador, the passage of a free trade agreement between the United States and Peru, the release of proofs of life for high-profile hostages held by the FARC in Colombia, and tensions between Colombia and Venezuela over the involvement of President Chávez in the humanitarian exchange negotiation process. Participants addressed these topics and many others, but a few broad regional governance trends stood out, including clientelism, personalism, presidential succession problems, reelection, constitutional assemblies, and weak foreign ministries.

The twelfth meeting of the Andean Working Group was held in Washington on May 7 and 8. Participants discussed each of the countries in the region—Peru, Bolivia, Ecuador, Colombia, and Venezuela—as well as the growing influence of Brazil and the United States. The meeting came on the heels of President Álvaro Uribe's visit to Washington, which he used to push for the approval of the free trade agreement between the U.S. and Colombia, the renewal of Plan Colombia funding, and the unfreezing of aid money. Emphasis was placed on the U.S. free trade agreements with Peru and Colombia, the possible

extension of the Andean Trade Preferences and Drug Eradication Act, and Colombia's para-politics scandal—revelations that high-level legislators and government officials, primarily supporters of President Uribe, collaborated with paramilitary leaders. Other themes that emerged during the meeting included the political consequences of drug trafficking, energy integration, and fractured party systems in the Andean countries.

Other Andean Region

- At a special public session hosted by the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung Foundation in Bogotá following the Andean Working Group meeting, participants Michael Shifter and Alexandra Guáqueta offered a brief overview of the conclusions of the meeting before Eduardo Gamarra and Adrian Bonilla gave an update on the drug and security policies in Bolivia and Ecuador, respectively.
- Instituto de Defensa Legal, a Peruvian NGO, sponsored a public event in Lima on March 26 for Michael Shifter to present the Spanish translation of the Chávez report and engage in an exchange with the participants. The audience was a high-quality and diverse group of government officials, academics, and members of the policy community.
- The Dialogue hosted a public discussion about the Unsettled Andes: Current Economic and Political Issues on March 14 featuring Marcelo Guigale, director for the Andean region at the World Bank and Patrick Esteruelas of the Eurasia Group.

Select Presentations

- **Michael Shifter** presented on the Andean region at an event co-sponsored by Freedom House and the University of Miami in Miami, Florida on March 6.

Colombia

- Violence, Democracy, and Press Freedom in Mexico and Colombia was the focus of an October 23 discussion featuring comments by Enrique Santos Calderón, editor of *El Tiempo* (Colombia) and Mariclaire Acosta with the Organization of American States.
- Hollman Morris, Colombian investigative journalist and documentary filmmaker spoke on challenges to press freedom in Colombia on October 30, 2007. Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky (D-IL) participated in the discussions.
- Human Rights and the Justice System in Colombia were the focus of an October 9th discussion featuring two high-ranking officials from the office of the attorney general of Colombia, Luis González, director of the Peace and Justice Unit, and Sandra Castro, director of the Human Rights Unit.
- Colombia's minister of defense, Juan Manuel Santos headlined an October 18 breakfast discussion on his country's evolving relations with the United States. He spoke of the U.S. Congress' failure to ratify a free trade agreement with Colombia despite security gains under Plan Colombia.
- On September 17, Juan Manuel Santos, minister of defense of Colombia met with nine member of the U.S. Congress for a dinner discussion on U.S.-Colombia Relations. The meeting was convened in anticipation of a review and renewal of funding for Plan Colombia and in the context of the debate regarding consideration of the U.S.-Colombia free trade agreement.
- Eduardo Pizarro, president of the National Reparation and Reconciliation Commission of Colombia led a discussion on July 18 on the Colombian government's struggle to negotiate a sustainable peace with rebel groups

while at the same time ensuring that human rights violators are brought to justice and that the victims of the internal conflict receive adequate reparations. The July 18th roundtable highlighted the enormous challenges faced by Colombians trying to strike this delicate balance.

- Sergio Fajardo, mayor of Medellín, addressed a public session at the Dialogue on July 9 outlining his successful strategy for overcoming the challenges of running what was at one time one of the most violent cities of the world. He is credited with redefining local politics in Colombia, witnessed by his 90 percent approval rating.
- Co-hosted by the Dialogue, Vice President Francisco Santos of Colombia spoke on May 24 at the Carnegie Center for International Peace, highlighting Colombia's economic growth in the face of the para-politics scandal.
- The Dialogue presented a public symposium, "Understanding Colombia's Para-Politics Scandal: Domestic and International Implications," on May 8, featuring Antonio Navarro, general secretary of the *Polo Democrático Alternativo*; Rafael Nieto, columnist

“ Even between
the U.S. and
Venezuela,
pragmatism often
trumps ideology. ”

Michael Shifter
El Tiempo



Peter Hakim, President Álvaro Uribe of Colombia, IDB President Luis Alberto Moreno

“ Tit-for-tat exchanges between Washington and Caracas invariably bolster Chávez.” ”

Michael Shifter,
Hugo Chávez: A Test for U.S. Policy
 (Inter-American Dialogue)



Minister of Defense Juan Manuel Santos of Colombia

- for *Semana*; Rafael Pardo of the Liberal Party's National Leadership Board; Rodrigo Pardo, editor of *Semana*; and Marta Lucía Ramírez, senator from *Partido de la U*.
- On March 8, former M-19 guerrilla Gustavo Petro, now a widely respected Colombian senator from the opposition party *Polo Democrático Alternativo*—recognized for his key role in uncovering the current paramilitary scandal in Colombian politics—offered his perspective on the ongoing investigations and Colombian politics more broadly.
 - In cooperation with the Initiative for Inclusive Security, the Dialogue hosted a discussion on the participation of women in the Colombian peace process led by Isabel Londoño of the Foundation of Women for Colombia and Alicia Eugenia Silva Nigrinis of the Cultural Promotion Fund of Bogotá on January 18.

Published

Ending the Conflict with the FARC: Time for a New Course, Inter-American Dialogue Andean Working Paper by Antonio Navarro Wolff, January 2007.

Select Presentations

Michael Shifter

- Participated in a Washington College of Law at American University conference entitled “Plan Colombia and Human Rights: 7 Years Later,” on June 12.
- Spoke at a conference sponsored by the Colombian National Association of Foreign Trade (ANALDEX) in Medellín, Colombia on September 6 and 7.
- Presented on Colombian regional relations at a conference organized by the Business Leaders Program Universidad de los Andes in Bogotá, Colombia on August 1.

Venezuela

- At a Dialogue roundtable on October 1, Germán Munderaín, ombudsman of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, defended the constitutional reforms presented by President Hugo Chávez that passed preliminary votes in the National Assembly and were headed for a popular referendum. He addressed the major controversies over the reforms, which would allow for indefinite presidential reelection, change the classification of private property, and distribute social benefits to workers in the informal sector.
- Leopoldo López, mayor of Chacao municipality of Caracas, spoke on the current status of crime and justice in Venezuela and proposals for reform on June 21 at the Dialogue.
- The Center for Hemispheric Policy at the University of Miami invited Michael Shifter to present his report on Chávez at a public event they organized on March 29. Peter Hakim and Susan Purcell, the director of the Center for Hemispheric Policy, offered commentary and Shifter answered questions from participants, who included David Adams, Latin America Correspondent for the *St.*

Petersburg Times; Carl Cira, director of the Summit of the Americas Center at Florida International University; and Tim Padgett, Latin America bureau chief at *Time* magazine.

- Michael Shifter, the Dialogue's vice president for policy, met with the Congressional Members Working Group on March 13 to discuss the highlights of his recently-published report, *Hugo Chávez: A Test for U.S. Policy*, and reflect on the outcomes of President Bush's recent trip to Latin America. He briefed congressional staff on the same issues the day before.
- The Dialogue released *Hugo Chávez: A Test for U.S. Policy* on March 8. The report says the relationship with Venezuela poses a major challenge for U.S. policy in the hemisphere, but Washington has shown little skill or consistency when dealing with Hugo Chávez as he moves to polarize the region and disrupt the U.S. agenda. The monograph by Michael Shifter, vice-president for policy at the Dialogue, offers ten guidelines to help U.S. government officials formulate a more coherent approach to the complex Venezuelan situation and build a more effective presence in the region.

Published

Hugo Chávez: A Test for U.S. Policy

A Special Report of the Inter-American Dialogue by Michael Shifter, March 2007.

Select Presentations

Michael Shifter

- Gave a presentation to the World Affairs Council of Houston, Texas entitled, "Venezuela: Conflicting U.S. Interests," on April 17.
- Presented the Inter-American Dialogue report, *Hugo Chávez: A Test for U.S. Policy*, at the Aspen Institute in Washington, DC on April 19, 2007, at a University of Miami event on March 29 and an Instituto de Estudios Peruanos meeting in Lima, Peru on March 26.

Bolivia

- George Gray Molina, a researcher with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and coordinator of *The State of the Bolivian State*, a two-year research project on that country, presented his findings and analysis on May 21. His report combines recent public opinion data with an analysis of the long-standing social cleavages.
- The Dialogue hosted a special luncheon discussion on February 27 with Bolivia's minister of foreign relations, David Choquehuanca Cespedes, a prominent Aymara leader. He was visiting Washington to discuss the possible extension of the Andean Trade Preferences and Drug Eradication Act for Bolivia.

Ecuador

- Fernando Bustamante, minister of internal and external security policy coordination, and Mauricio Dávalos, minister of economic and production policy coordination of Ecuador led a discussion at the Dialogue on June 13 about the Correa administration's position on the Andean Trade Preferences and Drug Eradication Act, the state of the Ecuadoran security forces, the upcoming constituent assembly, and relations with Venezuela.
- César Montufar, director of the Centro Andino de Estudios Internacionales at the Universidad Andina in Quito, Ecuador, led a discussion at the Dialogue on May 9 about the political situation in Ecuador.
- Ecuador's minister of foreign relations, María Fernanda Espinosa, spoke at a

“Correa is not Chávez, Ecuador is not Venezuela, and success for Correa is apt to prove more elusive.”

Michael Shifter,
The Miami Herald

“ Fifty percent of Peruvians say García's second government is the same as or worse than his first. ”

Michael Shifter,
The Miami Herald

March 23 Dialogue session about the six-month renewal by the U.S. Congress of the Andean Trade Promotion and Drug Eradication Act (ATPDEA) on December 31, 2006.

Peru

- Carlos Basombrío, political analyst and columnist for *Perú21*, and Felipe Ortiz de Zevallos, Peru's ambassador to the United States offered their perspectives on Peru at a Dialogue roundtable discussion on September 11.

Published

Peter Hakim, “Gaining Congressional Consideration and Approval of the Colombia-U.S. FTA,” January 2008; “Un acuerdo aún es posible,” *El Tiempo* (Colombia), October 27; “Free Trade Prospects with the United States,” *El Tiempo* (Colombia), July 20; “Democrats and Free Trade,” *El Tiempo* (Colombia), May 2.

Michael Shifter, “Es la hora de tomarse un profundo respiro,” *La Nación* (Argentina), December 26; “The Beginning of the End,” *The New Republic*, December 7; “Latin America: Trading Places,” *Monocle* (UK), December 2007; “La nueva dependencia de América Latina,” *ideele* (Peru), December 2007; “In Search of Hugo Chávez,” *Chronogram*, November 27; “Slouching toward Authoritarianism,” *Foreign Affairs* online, November 7; “Elecciones en EEUU: Cualquier cosa puede suceder,” *ideele* (Peru), November 2007; “How to Repair a Damaged Relationship,” University of Denver GSIS Newsletter, October 27; “Una relación renovada,” *La Tercera* (Chile), October 20; “Can Hugo Chavez help Americans?,” *Los Angeles Times*, October 7; “De Caracas a Bogotá,” *Cambio* (Colombia), September 13; “Pragmatismo supera a ideología,” *El Tiempo* (Colombia), August 26; “Social Turbulence in Peru,” *The Miami Herald*, July 30; “La libertad de prensa, amenazada,” *El Tiempo* (Colombia), June 10; “Student Protesters Braver

than OAS,” *The Miami Herald*, June 10; “Obama: ¿El primer presidente negro de Estados Unidos?,” *ideele* (Peru), May 2007; “Es mejor sacarlo todo a luz,” *Cambio* (Colombia), April 21; “Acumular poder o lograr el equilibrio, los dos caminos,” *La Nación* (Argentina), April 15; “Will Correa seek compromise, build good governance?,” *The Miami Herald*, April 14; “EE.UU. Puede contrarrestar a Chávez,” *El Comercio* (Peru), March 31; “García sigue las encuestas,” *Perú21*, March 27; “‘No hay un eje del mal en América latina,’ dice Michael Shifter,” *La Nación* (Argentina), February 28; “Bush y Su Nueva Mirada a Latinoamérica,” *La Tercera* (Chile), February 18; “Latin America's Drug Problem,” *Current History*, February 2007; “Venezuelan Nut Begins to Crack,” *New York Daily News*, January 10.

Marifeli Pérez-Stable, “Venezuela: Opposition's window of opportunity,” *The Miami Herald*, December 10; “Latin America: Chávez's 21st century socialism is hopeless,” *The Miami Herald*, September 27; “Lula, Chavez: Marching to different drummers,” *The Miami Herald*, August 17.

Argentina

- On October 31, the Dialogue hosted a discussion about Argentina's political and economic prospects after the election of Cristina Fernández de Kirchner as president. The discussion featured Mark Falcoff of the American Enterprise Institute and the Dialogue's Claudio Loser.
- Argentine presidential candidate Elisa Carrió led a conversation at the Dialogue on September 19 about her country's upcoming elections.

Published

Michael Shifter, “Es la hora de tomarse un profundo respiro,” *La Nación* (Argentina), December 26; “Acumular poder o lograr el equilibrio, los dos caminos,” *La Nación* (Argentina), April 15; “No hay

un eje del mal en América latina,' dice Michael Shifter," *La Nación* (Argentina), February 28.

Marifeli Pérez-Stable, "South America: Bachelet, Fernández push politics beyond gender," *The Miami Herald*, November 8; Coauthored with Christian Gomez, "Latin America: To bridge ideological, economic schisms, reform Mercosur," *The Miami Herald*, April 12.

Brazil

- Business development and social inclusion in Brazil was the topic of an October 19th Dialogue roundtable featuring Giovanni Harvey, founder and director of *Incubadora Afro-Brasileira*—which provides business training for African-descendant entrepreneurs in Brazil—and program economist Dalton Franco on October 19. Ambassador Larry Palmer, president of the Inter-American Foundation introduced the discussions.
- Al Fishlow of Columbia University; Stan Gacek of the AFL-CIO; and Lisa Schineller of Standard and Poor's led a discussion, "Brazil: 100 Days of President Lula's Second Term," on April 24 at the Dialogue.
- The increasing attention capital markets are giving to issues of corporate social responsibility was the focus of a Dialogue roundtable discussion on March 16 featuring Raymundo Magliano Filho, president of the São Paulo Stock Exchange (BOVESPA). He reported on BOVESPA's campaign to address Brazil's social development needs and to increase the participation of individual citizens in the stock market.
- Marcos Jank, president of the Institute for International Trade Negotiations (ICONE), spoke at a February 21 Dialogue meeting along with panelists Gary Hufbauer, senior fellow at the

Peterson Institute for International Economics, and Mac Destler of the University of Maryland, on the difficulties of the WTO's Doha development agenda, which have continued to stall due to disagreements about agricultural goods, domestic support, and tariff rates.

- "Ethanol is the answer for reducing dependence on oil rich countries," asserted former Brazilian commerce and industry minister Roberto Gianetti da Fonseca, now with Confederation of Industry (FIESP) of Brazil. He and Marcos Jank, president of the Institute for International Trade Negotiations (ICONE) in Sao Paulo, spoke at a congressional staff briefing on biofuels, energy strategies and U.S.-Brazil relations. The event was co-sponsored by the Inter-American Dialogue, the Brazil Information Center, and the Woodrow Wilson Center for International Scholars on February 21.

Published

Peter Hakim, "US-Brazil Cooperation-2007," *O Estado de São Paulo*, April 7; "Friends and business partners," *The Miami Herald*, March 30.

Select Presentations

Peter Hakim

- Spoke at an event on "EUA Cénarios Eleitorais e o lugar do Brasil e da América Latina" sponsored by FECOMERCIO in SaoPaulo, Brazil on October 24.
- Spoke at an event sponsored by the Fundacao Gertulio Vargas on "Brazil's Insertion in Latin America" in Sao Paulo, Brazil on October 23.
- Spoke at the inauguration of the Fundação Armando Alvares Penteado (FAAP) Center for American Studies in Sao Paulo, Brazil on May 7.

“None of the countries of the Mercosur have pursued FTAs with the U.S.”

Peter Hakim,
Great Decisions 2008

“ U.S. policy
toward Cuba will
continue to go
through Miami. ”

Marifeli Perez-Stable,
Infolatam

Chile

- The role of the Chilean Constitutional Tribunal was the topic of an October 9th roundtable discussion featuring Jorge Correa of the Chilean Constitutional Court, and Diego Lovera and Jorge Contesse of the Diego Portales University Human Rights Center.
- On January 5, Mark Falcoff of American Enterprise Institute; Peter Kornbluh of National Security Archives; and Arturo Valenzuela of Georgetown University led a discussion on the historical impact of Augusto Pinochet, the recently deceased Chilean dictator, and his significance for Chile, Latin America, and U.S.-Latin American Relations.

Published

Michael Shifter, “Una relación renovada,” *La Tercera* (Chile), October 20; “Bush y Su Nueva Mirada a Latinoamérica,” *La Tercera* (Chile), February 18.

Congressional Testimony

Michael Shifter, “The current challenges for U.S. policy in South America.” Testimony before the House Committee on Foreign Affairs at the hearing entitled, “South America and the US: How to Fix a Broken Relationship.” June 19.

Caribbean Region

- On June 21, the Dialogue hosted the official launching of the Caribbean think tank (CaPRI), led by executive director of CaPRI Kim-Marie Spence and research director John Rapley. A panel of experts and economists from the international financial institutions commented on a presentation of the group’s working paper “Taking Responsibility: The Jamaican Economy since Independence.”
- Just one week before heads of state and foreign ministers from the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) visited

Washington for *The Conference on the Caribbean: A 20/20 Vision*, the Dialogue’s Congressional Members Working Group met with several ambassadors from Caribbean countries for a dinner discussion on June 13 regarding issues facing the English-speaking Caribbean and Washington’s ability to respond to these challenges. The dinner was hosted by Reps. Gregory Meeks (D-NY) and Jerry Weller (R-IL). Participating members were Donna Christensen (D-VI), Yvette Clark (D-NY), William Delahunt (D-MA), Sheila Jackson Lee (D-TX), Barbara Lee (D-CA), and Dianne Watson (D-MI). Other guests included Ambassadors Michael King of Barbados, Gordon Shirley of Jamaica, and Izben Williams of St. Kitts & Nevis, Daniel Fisk of the National Security Council, Brian Nichols of the State Department, and Albert Ramdin, assistant secretary general of the OAS.

- On May 11, the Caribbean Program organized a dinner with the Embassy of Jamaica and the Caribbean Caucus of Ambassadors at the residence of Jamaican Ambassador Gordon Shirley. A group of experts and policy makers met with the Caribbean Ambassadors and discussed ways to maximize the results of the upcoming visit of the diplomatic mission from the Caribbean to Washington, entitled *The Conference on the Caribbean: A 20/20 Vision*.
- The Right Honourable Joe Clark, former prime minister of Canada, and a small group of experts met March 27 at the Dialogue to review Canada’s engagement in Latin America and offer suggestions for sustaining Canada’s involvement with the Caribbean.
- Percy Hintzen, president of the Caribbean Studies Association (CSA), joined a select group of Caribbean ambassadors and other regional experts for a discussion at the Dialogue on January 16. The meeting sought to

determine ways in which the CSA, an international association for scholars of the Caribbean region, could best contribute to Caribbean communities. CSA plans to expand its mission to provide policy proposals and practical support to the Caribbean region, as well as increase research of its diasporas.

Select Presentations

Dan Erikson

- Organized a May 31st panel discussion on challenges to the Caribbean economy at the 32nd annual conference of the Caribbean Studies Association in Salvador da Bahia, Brazil which was themed, “Alternative interpretations of the circum-Caribbean: Interrogating Connections across History, Society, Culture, and Performance.”
- Spoke on Cuba and the Caribbean region at a Public Policy Seminar on April 24 for senior managers and executives from the Department of Defense entitled, “Latin America: Populist Temptations and Global Aspirations.”

Cuba

- The Dialogue hosted Gary Marx and Vanessa Bauza of the *Chicago Tribune*; Eugene Robinson of *The Washington Post*; and Tom Gjelten of National Public Radio for a discussion on U.S. reporting from Cuba on December 3.
- U.S.-Cuba immigration policy post-Castro was the topic of a Dialogue roundtable on October 4 featuring Katrin Hansing of the Cuban Research Institute; Caleb McCarry of the U.S. State Department; Doris Meissner of Migration Policy Institute; and Lisandro Perez of Florida International University.
- Alejandro de la Fuente of the University of Pittsburgh; Sujatha Fernandes of Queens College; Mark Sawyer of University of California; and Josefin Stubbs of the World Bank led a discussion on Cuba’s racial dynamic on May 23.
- Brian Latell of the University of Miami and Frank Mora of National Defense University spoke on Raúl Castro’s Cuba on May 21 at the Dialogue.
- On April 17, the Dialogue organized an off-the-record meeting of the members of the Working Group on the Cuban Economy to discuss the economic and political climate in Cuba and the potential for IFI engagement with Cuba via third party nations. Caroline Anstey, Caribbean Department director at the World Bank; Andy Wolfe, division chief at the International Monetary Fund; and Phil Peters, vice president of the Lexington Institute briefed a small group of economists from the international financial institutions on potential fissures in the Cuban economy and whether and how the IFI’s should be involved in any Cuban transition.
- On February 23, the Dialogue co-sponsored with Florida International University’s Cuban Research Institute the discussion, “U.S.-Cuba Policy: The Choices Ahead,” featuring Vicki Huddleston, former chief of the U.S. Interests Section in Cuba; William Leogrande of American University; and Juan Del Aguila of Emory University.
- In February, the Dialogue organized World Bank and IMF participation in the annual National Association of Cuban Economists (ANEC) conference in Havana, as well as private meetings. World Bank economist Humberto López presented a study on poverty reduction and economic growth in Latin America, and Caroline Anstey, director of the Caribbean Department at the World Bank spoke on special intervention.
- Rep. Jeff Flake (R-AZ) and William Delahunt (D-MA) spoke at an Inter-

“ Fidel Castro

has already written

what he must

consider a storybook

ending to his

long rule. ”

Dan Erikson,
Current History

“An era is ending. For one, Raul and Hugo are not soul mates.”

Marifeli Perez-Stable,
The Miami Herald

American Dialogue event on Capitol Hill on January 23. The two congressmen are lead proponents of easing trade and travel restrictions to Cuba. Last December, Flake and Delahunt led the first congressional visit to Cuba since Fidel Castro fell ill in July and his brother Raúl assumed power—and the largest to the island since the Cuban Revolution in 1959.

Published

Dan Erikson, “U.S.-Cuba Relations in 2007: Trade, Security, and Diplomacy,” *Cuba in Transition*, ASCE, Vol. 17; “Review of U.S. Relations with Latin America: Opportunities Lost or Opportunities Squandered?” *Cuban Affairs*: Vol. 2, No. 3, July 1; “Corruption and Transition: The Challenge to Cuban Democracy,” published in *Looking Forward: Comparative Perspectives on Cuba’s Transition*, ed. Marifeli Pérez-Stable. University of Notre Dame Press: September 1; *Cuban Affairs*, Vol. 2, No. 2, April, 2007; “US-Cuba Relations: The Limits of Wishful Thinking,” *FOCALPOINT: Spotlight on the Americas*,

February 1; “After Fidel: Oh Brother...,” *Current History*, February 1.

Marifeli Pérez-Stable, *Looking Forward: Comparative Perspectives on Cuba’s Transition*, ed. Marifeli Pérez-Stable. University of Notre Dame Press: September 1; in *The Miami Herald*: “Fidel Castro: Giving up the reins?,” December 20; “Democracy: Grateful to all who have worked for a better Cuba,” November 22; “Cubans: Between a rock and a hard place,” October 25; “After Castro: Better opportunities await Cuba,” August 30; “Cuba: In one couple’s story, a lesson for all,” July 19; “Cuba: Chinese-style reforms would be an improvement,” July 5; “Cuba: Getting away from polarized politics,” April 26; “Hints at renewing ties with Cuba,” February 15; “Sooner or later, ‘Fidel Show’ will end,” February 1.

Select Presentations

Dan Erikson

- Presented a paper entitled “U.S.-Cuba Relations in 2007: Trade, Security, and Diplomacy” at the 17th Annual meeting of the Association for the Study of the



Reps. Earl Blumenauer (D-OR), James Moran (D-VA), Charles Rangel (D-NY), Dialogue member Jorge Domínguez of Harvard University

Cuban Economy in Miami, Florida from August 1 to 3.

- Presented “Cuba and the Americas: What is the Current and Future State of Play?” at a March 3rd conference on Cuba sponsored by Research Analysts: Foreign and Commonwealth Office in London. He also met with experts at Canning House and Whitehall while in London.
- Spoke on the prospects for post-Castro Cuba at a February 20 seminar for government officials put on by CENTRA Technology, Inc.
- Presented at a conference on “The Reinsertion of Cuba into the Inter-American System,” in Mexico City, Mexico on January 17 and 18.

Haiti

- The Inter-American Dialogue and the Canadian Foundation for the Americas (FOCAL) organized a fact-finding mission to Haiti from July 29 to August 1. The joint delegation met with Haiti’s top policy makers, academics, and private sector leaders to assess the state of Haiti’s development. The group included the Right Honourable Joe Clark, former prime minister of Canada; Peter D. Bell, president emeritus of CARE USA; Peter Hakim, president of the Inter-American Dialogue; Carlo Dade, executive director of FOCAL; and Dan Erikson. The Dialogue published a report of the delegation’s findings and recommendations entitled “Haiti: Real Progress, Real Fragility” in November.
- Peter D. Bell, president emeritus of CARE USA and vice chairman of the Inter-American Dialogue; Carlo Dade of the Canadian Foundation for the Americas (FOCAL); Duly Brutus, Haitian ambassador to the OAS; Robert Maguire of Trinity University; and Senator Rudy Boulos of Haiti were featured speakers at a Dialogue roundtable discussion on Haiti on December 6.

- Haitian Senators Edmonde Supplice Beuzile, Evalière Beauplan, François Fouchard Bergrome, Rudolph Henry Boulos, and Michel Clerie, joined Lionel Delatour to lead an October 2nd discussion on Haiti’s stalled elections.
- “Haiti Under René Préval: A One Year Assessment” was the topic of a May 11th roundtable discussion featuring Robert Fatton, Jr. of the University of Virginia; Mark Schneider of the International Crisis Group; Juan Gabriel Valdés, former head of MINUSTAH; and James Dobbins of RAND Corporation.
- The Dialogue hosted a discussion on the United Nations mission in Haiti on January 31, featuring Ambassador Edmond Mulet, special representative of the secretary general in Haiti.
- Reps. Eliot Engel (D-NY) and Jerry Weller (R-IL) hosted a Congressional Members Working Group Dinner on January 30 to discuss the role the United States and the international community will play in the future of Haiti’s development with Ambassador Edmond Mulet, the director of the UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH), OAS Secretary General José Miguel Insulza, ten members of the U.S. Congress, and representatives from the Haitian, international and development community.



Former Prime Minister Joe Clark of Canada, Prime Minister Alexis of Haiti

“Haiti’s recent progress is real and profound, but it is jeopardized by institutional dysfunction.”

Haiti: Real Progress, Real Fragility (Inter-American Dialogue)

“Ortega is a master caudillo but a stranger to statesmanship.”

Marifeli Perez-Stable,
The Miami Herald

Published

Haiti: Real Progress, Real Fragility,

A Special Report by the Inter-American Dialogue and Canadian Foundation for the Americas, November 2007.

Dominican Republic

- Co-hosted by the Dialogue on September 18, President Leonel Fernández of the Dominican Republic spoke at the Center for Strategic and International Studies on constitutional reform in his country. The redefinition of Dominican nationality—changes that would alter the historic patterns of granting Dominican citizenship—has ignited controversy among Dominicans and Dominican-Americans alike. Roberto Alvarez, the permanent representative of the Dominican Republic to the OAS, moderated the discussion and introduced Ambassador Flavio Dario Espinal, the Dominican ambassador to the United States and one of thirteen jurists who developed the new constitution. As an independent observer on the panel, academic Rosario Espinal offered an evaluation of the proposed reforms. Secretary General of the OAS José Miguel Insulza and Claudio Grossman, professor and dean of the Washington College of Law at American University, commented.
- The second Dialogues on Democracy workshop was held in the Dominican Republic in October (see page 17).
- President Leonel Fernández of the Dominican Republic; Rep. Mike Honda (D-CA); Rep. Jim Moran (D-VA); Mack McLarty, president of Kissinger McLarty Associates presented the findings and recommendations from the *Report Card on Education in Central America and the Dominican Republic: A Lot to Do*, just released by the Dialogue’s education program—the Partnership for Educational Revitalization in the Americas (PREAL) on September 19.

Published

Peter Hakim, “Estados Unidos debería ser más generoso en sus acuerdos con los países pequeños,” *Diario Libre* (República Dominicana), February 25.

Puerto Rico

- At the crux of the complicated issue of Puerto Rico’s status is the constitutionality of the current arrangement, agreed speakers at a June 11 Inter-American Dialogue discussion. Dialogue member Maurice Ferré, former mayor of Miami, was joined by Jeffrey Farrow, President Clinton’s advisor on Puerto Rico, and Christina Duffy Burnett, professor of Constitutional law at Columbia University Law School.
- On March 27, the Dialogue hosted a roundtable discussion on the multiple challenges confronting Puerto Rico today and how the continuing impasse of the island’s political status might be addressed. Prominent Radio host Angel Collado-Schwarz, the president of the Fundación Voz del Centro and chairman of the University of Puerto Rico Press led off the discussion, and University of Puerto Rico law professor and constitutional expert, José Julián Alvarez offered commentary.

Central America

- Guatemalan vice president Eduardo Stein led a November 20th discussion on challenges facing President-elect Álvaro Colom, with commentary by Hugo Beteta, secretary of the Inter-American Development Bank; Carolina Roca, superintendent of the Tributary Administration of Guatemala (SAT); and Raquel Zelaya, executive director of the Association for Social Studies and Research (ASIES).

- Eduardo Stein also spoke at the Dialogue on September 20 about Guatemala's presidential runoff election on November 4. Álvaro Colom of the Unidad Nacional de la Esperanza party and Otto Pérez Molina of the Partido Popular each received roughly 30 percent of the vote in the first round.
- In anticipation of Guatemala's upcoming elections, on May 23 Eduardo Stein again presented his views on recent developments in Guatemala. Topics included challenges to Guatemala's security and prosperity, the optimal pathway to political reform, and the political climate in Washington regarding the Central American state. He also spoke at an informal breakfast on February 13.
- Álvaro Colom, the leading candidate for Guatemala's September presidential elections, spoke about his inclusive electoral strategy and the content of his political platform at a June 27th meeting at the Dialogue.
- The Dialogue hosted the first in a series of Guatemalan presidential candidate forums on June 22. Retired General Otto Pérez Molina candidate for the Partido Patriota, at the time second in the polls, presented his platform of *mano dura* security strategies and plans for deepening democracy.
- The first Dialogues on Democracy workshop was held in Guatemala in March. (See page 17.)
- The state of politics in El Salvador and the elections of 2009 were the topic of a conversation at the Dialogue on November 8 featuring Alberto Arene, president of the Frente Democrático Revolucionario, and Arturo Zablah, presidential candidate for the Alliance for Change coalition.
- The Dialogue hosted on September 28 a conversation with former candidate

for vice president Epsy Campbell Barr, president of Costa Rica's Citizen Action Party, on the CAFTA-Dominican Republic referendum in Costa Rica.

- Former presidential candidate Ottón Solís of Costa Rica's Citizens Action Party and Ambassador René León of El Salvador led a discussion on CAFTA, Democracy, and Development in Costa Rica and the Region on January 25. The session was co-sponsored by the Inter-American Dialogue, the Center for Global Development, Oxfam, and Action Aid.
- "Can Aid Work in Politically Changing Environments? The Achievements and Pending Challenges of the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) in Central America" was the topic of an October 2nd roundtable discussion at MCC Headquarters in Washington. Featured speakers were John Hewko, vice president of operations, MCC; John Danilovich, CEO, MCC; Roberto Flores Bermudez, Honduran ambassador to the United States; Matt Bohn, resident country director, Nicaragua, MCC; Stacy Rhodes, managing director, Latin America, MCC; and Kenny Miller, deputy resident country director, El Salvador, MCC.

Published

Guatemala: Diez años después de los Acuerdos de Paz firme y duradera, Inter-American Dialogue, January 2008.

Michael Shifter, "¿Por qué la invasión a Panamá?" BBC Mundo, September 5.

Manuel Orozco, "Central America: remittances and the macroeconomic variable." Washington DC: Inter-American Development Bank, September 17; "Central American Diasporas and Hometown Associations," in *Diasporas and Development*, edited by Barbara J. Merz, Lincoln C. Chen, and Peter F. Geithner, Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2007.

“When an immigrant has a bank account, it increases the amount of remittances he sends home by 9 percent.”

Manuel Orozco,
Congressional Testimony

“ Politics is
the art of the
possible; Calderon
should push
the envelope. ”

Marifeli Perez-Stable,
The Miami Herald



Finance Minister Agustín Carstens of Mexico

Marifeli Pérez-Stable, “The president of some Nicaraguans,” *The Miami Herald*, June 21; “Guatemala: A nation roiled in insecurity,” *The Miami Herald*, March 29.

Mexico

- In November the Dialogue launched the Miami Group on Western Hemisphere Affairs, a forum that regularly assembles the city’s corporate and financial leadership to exchange ideas with U.S. and Latin American policymakers on the most important issues affecting business and trade in the Americas. The Miami Group’s first meeting featured Mexico’s finance minister, Agustín Carstens.
- The Dialogue hosted a discussion with Rafael Fernandez de Castro of ITAM on November 16 on Mexican foreign relations under President Felipe Calderón. Rep. Chris Cannon (R-UT) joined the discussion.
- Violence, democracy, and press freedom in Mexico and Colombia were the topics of an October 23rd discussion led by Enrique Santos Calderón, editor of *El Tiempo* (Colombia), and Mariclaire Acosta, Universal Civil Identity Program in the Americas, OAS.
- The Dialogue hosted Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Western Hemisphere Affairs Stephen Johnson on October 16. The planned \$1.5 billion security cooperation partnership with Mexico was an important part of his presentation, and received considerable media attention.
- The Dialogue hosted a roundtable discussion on the first six months of Felipe Calderón’s administration on July 10, featuring Jonathan Davis and Carlos Hurtado of the Inter-American Development Bank, and Gray Newman of Morgan Stanley.
- Together with the Woodrow Wilson Center, the Dialogue hosted a welcoming reception on March 27 for Mexican Ambassador Arturo Sarukhan. Senator Ken Salazar was the keynote speaker. Also that evening, the Dialogue and the Wilson Center organized a small dinner for the ambassador.
- Patricia Espinosa Cantellano, secretary of foreign affairs of Mexico under President Felipe Calderón, spoke about the new administration’s policy priorities for U.S.-Mexican relations at a February 27th event co-sponsored by the Dialogue with the Center for Strategic and International Studies and the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, at CSIS.

Published

Michael Shifter, “Help Mexico with Costs of Drug War,” *The Miami Herald*, July 19; “Latin America’s Drug Problem,” *Current History*, February 2007.

Marifeli Pérez-Stable, “Mexico: Calderón on the right track,” *The Miami Herald*, September 13; “Calderón needs to push the envelope,” *The Miami Herald*, March 2.

Selected Presentations

Marifeli Pérez-Stable

- Participated in a Miami panel on President Felipe Calderón's first 100 days in office, sponsored by WorldCity's Connections program on February 28.
- Presented her recently released book, *Cuba en el siglo XXI*, at the Mexican Council of Foreign Affairs (COMEXI) on March 1.

Canada

- Canada's policy toward the Western Hemisphere was the focus of a Dialogue roundtable on October 19 featuring two senior Canadian officials responsible for policy in the Western Hemisphere—Alexandra Bugailiskis, assistant deputy minister of foreign affairs and international trade for the Americas and Gilles Rivard, vice president for the Americas for the Canadian International Development Agency.

- The Right Honourable Joe Clark, former prime minister of Canada, and a small group of experts met March 27 at the Dialogue to review Canada's engagement in Latin America and offer suggestions for sustaining Canada's involvement with the Caribbean.
- Peter Hakim spoke on "Disharmony in the Hemisphere" at a public session in Ottawa organized by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade of Canada on June 18 and addressed a private meeting of the members of the Deputy Ministers' Committee on Global Affairs, Security and Human Rights on Cuba.
- Peter Hakim spoke on Canada-Latin America relations at the annual meeting of the Latin American Studies Association in Montreal, Canada in September.

“Canada can and should play a role as an economic and trading partner and as a supporter of democracy building, particularly given that the focus of the U.S. has shifted to terrorism, drugs, and the war in Iraq.”

Barbara McDougall,
Latin America Advisor



Joachim Bamrud, editor-in-chief, Latin Business Chronicle; Juan Carlos Parodi, president, Latin America, Eastman Chemical; Rolando Montoya, president, Wolfson Campus, Miami Dade College; Enrique Fernández-Holmann, chairman, Ayucus

“ Cristina

Kirchner's

honeymoon may

be very short, even

with a solid majority

in Congress. ”

Claudio Loser,
Latin America Advisor

CORPORATE PROGRAM

The Dialogue's Corporate Circle continued to expand in 2007, with companies like Dell, Embraer, Prudential and Procter & Gamble joining the group, among dozens of others. The Circle attracted an all-time high number of companies, surpassing 135 members.

In November the Dialogue launched the Miami Group on Western Hemisphere Affairs, a forum that regularly assembles the city's corporate and financial leadership to exchange ideas with U.S. and Latin American policymakers on the most important issues affecting business and trade in the Americas. The Miami Group's first meeting featured Mexico's finance minister, Agustín Carstens, with sessions in 2008 planned with Brazil's Central Bank president, Henrique Meirelles, and Andean Development Corporation (CAF) President Enrique García.

In partnership with the Canadian Foundation for the Americas (FOCAL), the Dialogue in 2007 began bringing Canadian companies invested in Latin America and the Caribbean into our events and activities. Scotiabank and Xela Enterprises were among the Canadian companies becoming active with the Dialogue.

The Corporate Circle's *Advisor* newsletters added new executives to their Advisory Boards in 2007. General Motors economist Alejandro Delgado and former U.S. diplomat John Maisto, now a director of the U.S. Education Finance Group, joined the

Board of the daily *Latin America Advisor*. Washington attorneys Jonathan Hamilton and Raul Herrera now serve on the Board of the Dialogue's weekly *Energy Advisor*, while Jeanne Del Casino of Moody's Investors Service is part of the biweekly *Financial Services Advisor*. The Q&A section of the *Advisor* newsletters responded to more than 300 questions in 2007, many submitted by subscribing member companies. The Dialogue's *Advisor* also launched a new subscription-based web service, www.latinoutlook.net, jointly with Miami-based *Latin Business Chronicle*.

In the summer of 2007, the Corporate Circle began conducting polls with Zogby International. The joint Dialogue/Zogby polls report on U.S. public views of Latin America—and have generated widespread media attention. The Dialogue was named one of the top 25 most-cited think tanks in the United States media last year by an independent watchdog group.

The Dialogue secured a \$75,000 grant from the Ford Foundation to strengthen and expand its corporate sector engagement. John McCarter—a Dialogue member and former CEO for G.E. Latin America—agreed to serve as the lead consultant on the project.

Corporate Circle members met with senior Dialogue staff in private briefings throughout the year, and numerous Circle members spoke at Dialogue events (see the Trade and Economics section for a full listing).

PUBLICATIONS

Inter-American Dialogue Reports

Guatemala: Diez años después de los Acuerdos de Paz firme y duradera, Inter-American Dialogue, January 2008.

Women in the Americas: Paths to Political Power. A Report Card on Women in Political Leadership. Inter-American Dialogue, Inter-American Development Bank, and League of Women Voters, January 2008.

Haiti: Real Progress, Real Fragility, A Special Report by the Inter-American Dialogue and Canadian Foundation for the Americas, November 2007.

Trade and Investment in the Americas, Report on the Tenth Anniversary Corporación Andina de Fomento (CAF) Conference, September 2007.

Making the Most of Family Remittances. Second Report of the Inter-American Dialogue Task Force on Remittances, May 2007.

Hugo Chávez: A Test for U.S. Policy, A Special Report of the Inter-American Dialogue by Michael Shifter, March 2007.

Ending the Conflict with the FARC: Time for a New Course, Inter-American Dialogue Andean Working Paper by Antonio Navarro Wolff, January 2007.

PREAL publications

Books

Educación y Brechas de Equidad en América Latina: Tomo I y II edited by Santiago Cueto. Distributed September 2007.

Estándares en Educación: Implicancias para su aplicación en América Latina by Guillermo Ferrer. August 2007.

Reports, Working Papers, and Briefs

Necesitamos Aprender con Calidad: Un Informe de Progreso Educativo de Panamá. June 2007.

A Lot to Do: A Report Card on Education in Central America and the Dominican Republic. May 2007. English and Spanish.

Construyendo el Futuro: Informe de progreso educativo El Salvador 2006. PREAL and Centro Alfa. January 2007.

Los costos de las evaluaciones de aprendizaje en América Latina by Laurence Wolff. September 2007. English and Spanish.

La remuneración de los maestros en América Latina: ¿Es baja? ¿Afecta la calidad de la enseñanza? by Claudio de Mauro Castro and Gustavo Ioschpe. January 2007.

Estados Unidos: El necesario cambio para enfrentar los requerimientos de la nueva economía global. September 2007.

Las Tecnologías de la Información y la Comunicación en la Educación en América Latina. March 2007.

Ambiente de aprendizaje innovadores. October 2007.

Reducción del Trabajo Infantil a Través de Oportunidades Educativas. April 2007.

Decálogo Educativo para Centroamérica, Belice, y República Dominicana. November 2007.

El camino hacia escuelas de nivel mundial. November 2007.

Costo de las evaluaciones de aprendizaje. October 2007.

Bases sólidas: Atención y educación de la primera infancia. August 2007.

Por qué importa la calidad de educación. May 2007.

Toolkit Herramientas para la prevención de la violencia en las escuelas. July 2007.

Políticas Educativas para la Niñez Trabajadora: Hacia la Erradicación del Trabajo Infantil en Centroamérica y la República Dominicana by PREAL and Primero Aprendo. August 2007.

Opciones educativas para la niñez trabajadora en Honduras: Hacia la erradicación del trabajo infantil en Centroamérica y la República Dominicana. May 2007.

Staff Publications

Peter Hakim, “Latin America: The Next U.S. President’s Agenda,” in *Great Decisions 2008*, Foreign Policy Association: January 7, 2008; “Gaining Congressional Consideration and Approval of the Colombia-U.S. FTA,” January 2008; “New president’s challenges,” *The Miami Herald*, December 7; “Ratifying the Colombia-US FTA,” *El Tiempo* (Colombia), October 27; Coauthored with Nancy Birdsall, “Poverty and Inequality in Latin America: How the U.S. Can Really Help,” CGD Briefing paper, October 1; “Free Trade Prospects with the United States,” *El Tiempo* (Colombia), July 20; Coauthored with Nancy Birdsall, “A White House Focus on Social Justice in Latin America?” Center for Global Development’s CDG Notes, July 1; “Democrats and Free Trade,” *El Tiempo* (Colombia), May 2; “US-Brazil Cooperation-2007,” *O Estado de São Paulo*, April 7; “Friends and business partners,” *The Miami Herald*, March 30; “Repairing Latin Relations” Interview in *National Journal*, March 10; “Bush’s opportunity to mend relations,” *The Miami Herald*, March 6; “Estados Unidos debería ser más generoso en sus acuerdos con los países pequeños,” *Diario Libre* (República Dominicana), February 25.

Michael Shifter, “Time for a Deep Breath,” *La Nación* (Argentina), December 27; “Es la hora de tomarse un profundo respiro,” *La Nación* (Argentina), December 26; “La nueva dependencia de América Latina,” *ideele* (Peru), December 2007; “The Beginning of the End,” *The New Republic*, December 7; “Latin America: Trading Places,” *Monocle* (UK), December 2007; “In Search of Hugo Chávez,” *Chronogram*, November 27; “Slouching toward Authoritarianism,” *Foreign Affairs* online, November 7; “Elecciones en EEUU: Cualquier cosa puede suceder,” *ideele* (Peru), November 2; “US Elections: Anything Can Happen,” *ideele* (Peru), November 1; “How to Repair a Damaged Relationship,” Newsletter of Graduate School of International Studies, University of Denver, October 27; “A Renewed Relationship,” *La Tercera* (Chile), October 20; “Can Hugo Chavez help Americans?,” *Los Angeles Times*, October 7; “De Caracas a Bogotá,” *Cambio* (Colombia), September 13; “¿Por qué la invasión a Panamá?,” BBC Mundo, September 5; Pragmatismo supera a ideología,” *El Tiempo* (Colombia), August 26; “Social Turbulence in Peru,” *The Miami Herald*, July 30; “Help Mexico with Costs of Drug War,” *The Miami Herald*, July 19; “La libertad de prensa, amenazada,” *El Tiempo* (Colombia), June 10; “Student Protesters Braver than OAS,” *The Miami Herald*, June 10; “Obama: ¿El primer presidente negro de Estados Unidos?,” *ideele* (Peru), May 2007; “Es mejor sacarlo todo a luz,” *Cambio* (Colombia), April 21; “Acumular poder o lograr el equilibrio, los dos caminos,” *La Nación* (Argentina), April 15; “Will Correa seek compromise, build good governance?,” *The Miami Herald*, April 14; “EE.UU. Puede contrarestar a Chávez,” *El Comercio* (Peru), March 31; “García sigue las encuestas,” *Perú21*, March 27; “‘No hay un eje del mal en América latina,’ dice Michael Shifter,” *La Nación* (Argentina), February 28; “Bush y Su Nueva Mirada a Latinoamérica,” *La Tercera* (Chile), February 18; “Latin America’s Drug Problem,” *Current History*, February 2007; “Venezuelan Nut Begins to Crack,” *New York Daily News*, January 10.

Marifeli Pérez-Stable, in *The Miami Herald*: “Fidel Castro: Giving up the reins?,” December 20; “Venezuela: Opposition’s window of opportunity,” December 10; “Democracy: Grateful to all who have worked for a better Cuba,” November 22; “South America: Bachelet, Fernández push politics beyond gender,” November 8; “Cubans: Between a rock and a hard place,” October 25; “Latin America: Dispirited democracies open door to populism,” October 11; “Latin America: Chávez’s 21st century socialism is hopeless,” September 27; “Mexico: Calderón on the right track,” September 13; “After Castro: Better opportunities await Cuba,” August 30; “Lula, Chavez: Marching to different drummers,” August 17; “How our neighbors see us,” August 2; “Cuba: In one couple’s story, a lesson for all,” July 19; “The president of some Nicaraguans,” June 21, 2007; “Latin America: Democracy brings stability, economic progress,” June 7; “Cuba: Chinese-style reforms would be an improvement,” July 5; “Latin America: Democracy consists of more than just elections,” May 10; “Cuba: Getting away from polarized politics,” April 26; “Guatemala: A nation roiled in insecurity,” March 29; “Trip benefits yet to come,” March 15; “Calderón needs to push the envelope,” March 2; “Hints at renewing ties with Cuba,” February 15; “Sooner or later, ‘Fidel Show’ will end,” February 1; “The High Price of Dismissing Democracy,” January 18; “Wanted: economic opportunity,” January 4. “La política de Estados Unidos hacia Cuba pasa por Miami,” *Infolatam*, May 7. Co-authored with Christian Gomez, “Latin America: To bridge ideological, economic schisms, reform Mercosur,” *The Miami Herald*, April 12

Jeffrey Puryear, “El Acuerdo Chileno Sitúa la Accountability al Servicio del Aprendizaje,” *La Prensa* (Nicaragua), November 21. With L. Moody, “Accountability Rare in Latin American Schools,” *Viewpoints Americas*, July 24. Co-authored with Tamara Ortega-Goodspeed, “Coveting Human Capital: Is Latin American Education Competitive?”

Can Latin America Compete?: Confronting the Challenges of Globalization (J. Haar and J. Price, ed). New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2007.

Joan Caivano and Thayer Hardwick, “Latin American Women in Movement: Changing Politics, Changing Minds,” in *Civil Society and Social Movements: Building Sustainable Democracies in Latin America*, ed. Arthur Domike. Washington, DC: Inter-American Development Bank, 2008.

Daniel Erikson, “Ahmadinejad finds it warmer in Latin America,” *The Los Angeles Times*, October 3; “U.S.-Cuba Relations in 2007: Trade, Security, and Diplomacy,” *Cuba in Transition*, ASCE, Vol. 17; “Review of U.S. Relations with Latin America: Opportunities Lost or Opportunities Squandered?” *Cuban Affairs*: Vol. 2, No. 3, July 1; “Corruption and Transition: The Challenge to Cuban Democracy,” published in *Looking Forward: Comparative Perspectives on Cuba’s Transition*, ed. Marifeli Pérez-Stable. University of Notre Dame Press: September 1 and in *Cuban Affairs*, Vol. 2, No. 2, April, 2007; “US-Cuba Relations: The Limits of Wishful Thinking,” *FOCALPOINT: Spotlight on the Americas*, February 1; “After Fidel: Oh Brother...,” *Current History*, February 1, co-authored with Janice Chen, “China, Taiwan, and the Battle for Latin America,” *Fletcher Forum of World Affairs*, Summer 2007; with Megan Fletcher, “Handle Labor Issues,” *South Florida Sun-Sentinel*, April 22; with Paul Wander, “CHINA: Cricket Champion,” *The Miami Herald*, April 28.

Manuel Orozco, “Looking forward and including migration in development: remittance leveraging opportunities for Moldova,” Moldova: International Organization for Migration, December 4; with Bryanna Millis, “Remittances, competition and fair financial access opportunities in Nigeria,” Washington, DC: United States Agency for International Development, October

2007; “Central America: remittances and the macroeconomic variable,” Washington DC: Inter-American Dialogue, September 17; “Worker Remittances and the Financial Sector: issues and lessons in the South Caucasus,” European Bank for Reconstruction and Development in cooperation with Bendixen and Associates, June 25; “Migrant Foreign Savings and Asset Accumulation,” in *Reducing Global Poverty: the Case for Asset Accumulation*, edited by Caroline O.N. Moser, Washington, DC: Brookings Institution, 2007; “Central American Diasporas and Hometown Associations,” in *Diasporas and Development*, edited by Barbara J. Merz, Lincoln C. Chen, and Peter F. Geithner, Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2007; with Katy Jacob and Jennifer Tescher, “Card-Based Remittances: A Closer Look at Supply and Demand,” Chicago, IL: The Center for Financial Services Innovation, February 2007; “Global Remittances and the Law—A Review of Regional Trends and Regulatory Issues,” in *International Migration Law: Developing Paradigms and Key Challenges*, edited by Ryszard Cholewinski, Richard Perruchoud and Euan Macdonald, Cambridge, England: Cambridge University Press, January 2007.

Tamara Ortega-Goodspeed and Jeffrey Puryear, “Coveting Human Capital: Is Latin American Education Competitive?” *Can Latin America Compete?: Confronting the Challenges of Globalization* (J. Haar and J. Price, ed). New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2007.

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Thayer Hardwick and Joan Caivano, “Latin American Women in Movement: Changing Politics, Changing Minds,” in *Civil Society and Social Movements: Building Sustainable Democracies in Latin America*, ed. Arthur Domike. Washington, DC: Inter-American Development Bank, 2008.

Michael Lisman, “El libre y justo comercio requiere una mejor educación,” *La Prensa* (Nicaragua), March 16; “A Lesson in Free Trade,” *The Guardian*, March 12.

Paul Wander and Daniel Erikson, “CHINA: Cricket Champion,” *The Miami Herald*, April 28.

Inter-American Dialogue

Statement of Financial Position

Assets:	2007	2006
Cash and cash equivalents	1,225,295	795,758
Accounts receivable	53,300	101,113
Grants receivable	1,764,905	853,546
Investments	6,704,014	6,468,363
Prepaid expenses	31,544	30,102
Property and equipment	45,529	32,299
Deposits	19,605	19,605
TOTAL ASSETS	9,844,192	8,300,786
Liabilities:		
Accounts payable	20,400	43,747
Accrued expenses	85,408	72,826
Refundable advances	3,610	—
Grants payable	843,378	145,278
Deferred rent	77,152	24,597
Total Liabilities	1,029,948	286,448
Net Assets:		
Unrestricted	295,808	303,387
Temporarily restricted	2,214,224	1,631,727
Endowment funds:		
Board-designated funds	1,959,828	1,734,840
Permanently restricted	4,344,384	4,344,384
Total Net Assets	8,814,244	8,014,338
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	9,844,192	8,300,786

Statement of Activities 2007

Revenue	
Foundations	870,000
Corporations	282,350
Governments	2,566,567
International organizations	742,102
Collaborating institutions	234,699
Individual contributions	175,352
Miscellaneous program revenue	26,415
Interest/dividends	460,134
Gain (loss) on investments	102,920
TOTAL REVENUE	5,460,538
Expenses	
Program Services:	
U.S. Policy	878,106
Social Policy	2,317,102
Democratic governance	384,026
Sol M. Linowitz Forum	25,471
Other outreach and communications	23,038
Corporate programs	223,258
Support Services:	
Administration	697,070
Fundraising	101,328
Governance	11,233
TOTAL EXPENSES	4,660,632

FUNDING SOURCES

Foundations and Corporations

Annie E. Casey Foundation
Christopher Reynolds Foundation
Dade Community Foundation
Ford Foundation
GE Foundation
John S. and James L. Knight Foundation
Henry Luce Foundation
Open Society Institute (OSI)
Robert R. McCormick Tribune Foundation
Tinker Foundation
William and Flora Hewlett Foundation

Organizations

Asian Development Bank
Andean Development Corporation (CAF)
Development Alternatives Inc
Global Development Network
Inter-American Development Bank
International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA)
International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
International Organization for Migration (IOM)
United Nations Democracy Fund (UNDEF)
World Bank

Governments

Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)
Embassy of Chile
Embassy of Mexico
Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA)
U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)

Corporate Circle Members

Companies interested in enrolling in the Corporate Circle are invited to send an email to Erik Brand ebrand@thedialogue.org.

AFL-CIO
AIG
AMLA Consulting
Andrews Kurth LLP
Aperture SA
Arias & Muñoz
Arnold & Porter
Bank of America
Bausch & Lomb
BG Group
Bancomer Transfer Services Inc.
Carisam Inc.
Carlson Restaurants Worldwide
Caterpillar Inc.
CEMEX
Centra Technology
Chemonics International
Chevron Corporation
Chubb & Son
CIFI
Cisneros Group of Companies
Citigroup
Cleary, Gottlieb, Steen & Hamilton
Coca Cola Company
Continental Airlines
Darby Overseas Investments, Ltd.
Dell Inc.
Deutsche Bank
DevTech
Diageo PLC
Diaz Reus Rolff & Targ LLP
E.M. Warburg, Pincus & Co., Inc.
Embraer Aircraft Holding
Emerging Markets Partnership
EnCana Corporation
Energia Communications, Inc.
Eton Park Capital Management
Experian
Federal Express Corp.
Federal Mogul Corporation
Ferreyros S.A.
Fitch, Inc.
Fowler Rodriguez
Fujisawa Healthcare, Inc.
Gartner, Inc.
General Electric
General Motors Corporation
Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP
Global Crossing International Ltd.
Globelec

Goldwyn International Strategies LLC
Grupo Domos
Grupo Financiero Uno
Grupo Marhnos
Harris Wiltshire & Grannis
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