

7.º ENCUESTRO
LATINOAMERICANO

THINK TANKS

COLOMBIA 2019

SUMMIT REPORT

2019 Latin America Think Tank Summit Report

Bogotá, Colombia

James G. McGann

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

September 2019





ABOUT THE THINK TANKS AND CIVIL SOCIETIES PROGRAM (TTCSP)

The Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program (TTCSP) of the Lauder Institute at the University of Pennsylvania conducts research on the role policy institutes play in governments and civil societies around the world. Often referred to as the “think tanks’ think tank,” TTCSP examines the evolving role and character of public policy research organizations. Over the last 30 years, the TTCSP has developed and led a series of global initiatives that have helped bridge the gap between knowledge and policy in critical policy areas such as international peace and security, globalization and governance, international economics, environmental issues, information and society, poverty alleviation, and healthcare and global health. These international collaborative efforts are designed to establish regional and international networks of policy institutes and communities that improve policy making while strengthening democratic institutions and civil societies around the world.

ABOUT THE LAUDER INSTITUTE

The Lauder Institute of Management and International Studies offers an M.A. in international studies and conducts fundamental and policy-oriented research on current economic, political, and business issues. It organizes an annual conference that brings academics, practitioners, and policy makers together to examine global challenges such as financial risks, sustainability, inequality, and the future of the state.

ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

The University of Pennsylvania (Penn) is an Ivy League school with highly selective admissions and a history of innovation in interdisciplinary education and scholarship. A world-class research institution, Penn boasts a picturesque campus in the middle of Philadelphia, a dynamic city that is conveniently located between Washington, D.C. and New York, New York. The University of Pennsylvania was founded by Benjamin Franklin in 1740 to push the frontiers of knowledge and benefit society by integrating study in the liberal arts and sciences with opportunities for research and practical, pre-professional training at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. Penn is committed to meeting the full demonstrated need of all undergraduates with grant-based financial aid, making this intellectually compelling integration of liberal and professional education accessible to talented students of all backgrounds and empowering them to make an impact on the world.

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The views expressed are those of participants from the 2019 Latin America Think Tank Summit and should not be attributed to the Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program, the Lauder Institute, or the University of Pennsylvania. Any attributed quotes have been expressly consented to by the relevant participant.



Introduction and Format

The Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program of the Lauder Institute at the University of Pennsylvania, Fundación Ideas Para La Paz (FIP), Fedesarrollo, and the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung hosted the 2019 Latin America Think Tank Summit under the theme “Think Tanks: Helping to Manage the Transitions, Trade and Turmoil in Latin America.”

The 2019 Latin America Think Tank Summit (LATTS 2019) was held September 23rd-25th, 2019 at the Casa Dann Carlton Hotel and Spa in Bogota, Colombia. The most influential and innovative think tanks in Latin America gathered to discuss contemporary issues facing the region, such as employment, economic instability, domestic and global political tensions, ineffective inter-country communication, the environment and sustainability, trade disputes, and corruption.

This summit created a unique forum for cutting-edge and impactful think tanks to wrestle with the contemporary political and policy issues confronting the Latin American region. Its collaborative format fostered an environment in which think tanks challenged and learned from one another. Through constructive discourse, think tanks reflected on their work thus far, and collaborated ways in which they can better approach the current contentious political and social climate. To that end, think tanks came away with a greater understanding of the work being done by other think tanks and with a reinvigorated drive to engage in quality research and analysis practices to confront present-day challenges.

The summit was conducted in a Roundtable Format with panels intended to frame the key issues and provide constructively provocative questions to stimulate the discussion that followed each session. The summit was conducted in accordance with the Chatham House Rule.



Growth Opportunities for Latin American Think Tanks

Strategic Communication to Reach Policy Makers and the Public

It has become increasingly difficult for Latin American think tanks to successfully communicate with policy makers and the public. Think tanks must be able to directly and effectively communicate with the public in order to track public opinion with regard to specific policy issues. Through this enhanced communication, think tanks will be better prepared to influence policy in a way that reflects the needs and wants of the people.

Although it is important to communicate with the public, think tanks are primarily focused on engaging directly with policy makers. Improved methods of communication will grant think tanks more opportunities to collaboratively influence and shape the policy that will govern their respective nations.

Latin American think tanks need to empower underrepresented communities within their field but also the public policy field in order to be as influential and innovative as possible.

Think tanks have primarily attempted to overcome the obstacle of reaching the public and policy makers through two strategies. First, think tanks have hired individuals who were previously employed in Congress or the executive office. By hiring former policy makers, think tanks are able to learn how these offices operate and determine more impactful methods of approach. Second, think tanks have turned to social media in order to directly reach the public. Social media platforms also serve as a reflection of the sentiments among the public regarding specific policy issues.

Challenges

- ◆ Political polarization has blocked channels of communication. In some cases, there is no hope of communicating productively if the partisanship of the think tank and policy makers do not align.
- ◆ Political polarization forces think tanks to run the risk of losing their audiences if information is received as biased.
- ◆ People have grown accustomed to information that is accessible online and easily understood. Consequently, people tend to block off think tanks because their methods of communication are not as updated to reflect the new norms of accessible information.

Recommendations

- ◆ Use social media as a tool to communicate with the public. Social media can be used to learn the general trends and sentiments to which the general public subscribes with regard to certain policy issues or events.
- ◆ Form large committed audiences by creating interactive social media and internet campaigns. New research can be directly distributed to these new large followings.
- ◆ Research the political attitudes of their audiences before delivering information in order to mitigate the risk of severing communication, given the impact that polarization has.



Growth Opportunities for Latin American Think Tanks

New Faces and New Ideas: The Diversity and Innovations Connection

Latin American think tanks need to empower underrepresented communities within their field but also the public policy field in order to be as influential and innovative as possible. The welcoming of these marginalized communities in the field is only the beginning of a long journey towards truly inclusive research and political impact. Think tanks must extend these initial efforts by actively empowering these communities to ignite political change in leadership positions.

Think tanks stand to gain innovative advancements as they diversify their personnel and leadership; however, different approaches need to be taken. New meaningful and groundbreaking insights are brought to light when individuals of different social identities and backgrounds work collaboratively in the think tank environment.

Think tanks have the responsibility of educating privileged individuals about how their actions have the potential to inhibit underrepresented individuals from bringing insights to the discussion.

Think tanks have the responsibility of educating privileged individuals about how their actions have the potential to inhibit underrepresented individuals from bringing insights to the discussion. Simply increasing the diversity in the field will not bring about the innovation think tanks seek, and as a result, think tanks must apply

this mindset into practice. As diversity increases, think tanks must also create an inclusive environment that welcomes contributions from all members and ensures that these contributions are weighed of equal importance.

Challenges

- ◆ Women in Latin American think tanks are not respected as much as their male counterparts due to a traditional culture of machismo. As a result, collaboration is hindered by limiting a woman's contributions or minimizing a woman's role in the organization.
- ◆ Individuals from underrepresented communities are often given projects of little importance and influence because their superiors do not trust them to produce meaningful work.
- ◆ Without having unique insights from underrepresented communities, Latin American think tanks face challenges in communicating with underrepresented communities in the public because they lack the insight and networks to do so.

In the case of female leadership, men must be taught how to abandon the norms of traditional machismo culture.

Recommendations

- ◆ Increase the presence of different communities such as women, young scholars, the LGBTQ+ community, and social activists in Latin American think tanks. It is important to give these individuals a fair opportunity to hold leadership positions within the organization.
- ◆ It is crucial for members of privileged communities to learn the importance of empowering members of underrepresented communities. More importantly, Latin American think tanks must teach more privileged members how to help empower these upcoming scholars in the field.
- ◆ In the case of female leadership, men must be taught how to abandon the norms of traditional machista culture.



Growth Opportunities for Latin American Think Tanks

Globalization, the Future of Multilateralism and the G20/T20

In analyzing the effects of globalization and the need for multilateralism, the usefulness of the G20 Summit is considered. Every year, a group of financial ministers and heads of states gather to discuss increased globalization, analyze how countries can work together to prevent financial crises of countries, and provide recommendations for effective and stable international economic policy. The T20 Summit is a group of think tanks and representatives of international organizations who also meet to discuss similar issues and present policy options to the G20 Summit attendees.

When assessing the limitations of the G20 and T20 Summits, it is imperative for think tanks to consider the inclusiveness of these events given that not all groups and countries are part of the conversations.

When assessing the limitations of the G20 and T20 Summits, it is imperative for think tanks to consider the inclusiveness of these events, given that not all groups and countries are part of the conversations.

Furthermore, think tanks at LATTS 2019 discussed the crisis of multilateralism between US-China trade. Some proposed that while many Latin American countries would benefit from the trade war, it poses many risks, and therefore think tanks should focus on researching who will “win” and what its impact will be.

Challenges

- ◆ Think tanks are effectively communicating the importance of multilateralism.
- ◆ There is too much reliance on hearing from the same experts during these summits.
- ◆ These summits have become limited to primarily academics, excluding policy makers from discussions.

Recommendations

- ◆ Think tanks need to reconsider who they include in the G20 and T20 Summits.
- ◆ The G20 Summit should become a focal point for researching and providing solutions to fiscal policy.



Policy Opportunities for Latin American Think Tanks

Challenges and Perspectives to Inclusive Growth in Latin America

Latin America has made significant progress in alleviating poverty. In the Andean region, poverty went down from 58% to 27%, and there has been an expansion of the middle class. These improvements are associated with the service sector along with the social and infrastructure expenditures. While the region's overall progress is substantial, it is not homogenous. As such, some countries experienced more progress than others, indicating that there is still much room for improvement in the region.

The summit highlighted a number of shortcomings among the Latin American countries that continue to impede inclusive growth. Some of these challenges included government failures, lack of infrastructural developments, a difficult business environment for small firms, low productivity growth, and dependency on other countries. The trade war between the United States and China was also discussed at the summit. The consensus on the topic was that the dispute would have little impact on Latin America. On the other hand, Chinese invasion in the region was discussed as an emerging threat.

With regards to the impacts of government failure, both populism and anti-globalization were topics of conversation during the summit. While free trade has the potential to benefit the region's economic prospects, the lack of trust in governments impedes such progress. Participants discussed how a provision of social protection for low-socioeconomic levels should precede the liberalization process.

Challenges

- ◆ Low growth prospects for the region, which has the potential to further widen the income gap between the wealthy and the poor.
- ◆ Social inequality in the region caused by government failures. There is little trust in government institutions.
- ◆ Governments' short-term approach on economic policy driven by elections. However, long-term economic gains require short-term compromises.
- ◆ Dependency on other countries for products with unstable prices, such as oil.
- ◆ Low productivity growth in the region.
- ◆ Challenging business environment within small businesses slows down their growth.
- ◆ Negative perception of globalization hurts international commerce and leads to a lack of foreign investment in the region.
- ◆ Insecurity in the region hampers tourism.
- ◆ Lack of integration within the region impedes cooperation.
- ◆ Abundance of informal labor in the region lowers the savings rate due to the lack of pensions.

Recommendations

- ◆ Strengthen institutions and social programs that distribute wealth better.
- ◆ Adopt modern technologies and catching up with the practices of the global business world would improve productivity.
- ◆ Adopt an agenda to improve productivity through increased women's participation in labor force, innovation in businesses, higher quality of education and labor training, improved transportation infrastructure, and easier entry, operation, and exit procedures for small businesses.
- ◆ Latin American countries need to start moving away from products and factors that create dependency, e.g., petroleum.
- ◆ Open up to trade to diversify commerce and attract foreign investment in the region.
- ◆ There is a need for stricter regulation on informal labor.



Policy Opportunities for Latin American Think Tanks

Role of the United States in Latin America

The purpose of this panel was to discuss the current status of the relationship between the United States and Latin America, and in particular to highlight the recent and central changes since the election of President Trump. The panel was comprised of key members in the region as well as experts in Latin American politics from Europe. There was a balance in the panelists' analyses regarding the role of the US. Some considered that—depending on the issue—the US was more involved and present in discussions about national policies, while others considered that the US's interest is decreasing in light of the role China and the European Union are playing. Immigration, organized crime, and trade agreements were central in analyzing the status of US-Latin American relationships.

Regarding immigration, some panelists considered that there was a change of interest on behalf of the United States, given that key officials from the US government have visited countries such as Guatemala to ask for help regarding immigration policies. In short, immigration is an issue where the US has increased their interest and involvement in the region, which is not a coincidence given President Trump's position on the matter. Cooperation Agreements have been signed between the US and Guatemala to ensure that migrants can remain in Guatemala during the process of applying for asylum in the US. The former has led to an increase of Asians, Central Americans, and Africans in Guatemala, which has generated controversy and issues in the implementation of public policy. Since Guatemala is both a fast road to the US and a welcoming country for migrants, a lot of them opt to reside in Guatemala if asylum is not granted. The reality is that countries such as

Guatemala, that receive a high flow of migrants, are unable to fully comply with the pressure and requirements that the United States imposes. In short, Latin America cannot solve the “caravan of migrants” for the US.

Latin America as a region has failed to assert effective governance to tackle two very different types of migration.

In addition, panelists considered that there is a difference between Mexican and Venezuelan migration. While migration in Venezuela poses more of a threat to Colombia, Mexican migration directly targets the United States. Latin America as a region has failed to assert effective governance to tackle two very different types of migration. Additionally, a panelist mentioned that we need to consider framing migration beyond “cheap labor”; it should be framed as an issue of national security for the US and reflect how the lack of assertive governance has led to the creation of sects that create alternative avenues to facilitate entrance to the US. The absence of the state apparatus leads to organized crime and drug cartels.

In regard to Guatemala, for example, the United States represents 24% of remittances, in comparison to 35% across the region, the main source of foreign investments. Despite the high figures, the reality is that for the US, “Americans come first,” as highlighted by a panelist when explaining that Latin America is not a priority for Trump. The statement was supplemented by discussing the role China and the European Union are playing as the US pulls back. An important difference was highlighted: when the Europeans are doing business or conducting trade agreements with Latin America, we are talking about European companies. However, when China is involved, the region is negotiating with the Chinese government, which is a significant difference. In conclusion, while some panelists argued that for the US, Latin America is irrelevant, others argued that when discussing immigration and migration fluxed, the interests of the US changes dramatically. Countries in Latin America must combat any submissive actions that benefit and allow the US to have more control over the region. Latin America as a region needs to work on developing a stronger leadership and governance at the regional level, if the region wants to avoid being subject to the Trump’s policies.

Challenges

- ◆ Latin America as a region needs to be more effective in terms of asserting their role on the global stage, in order to avoid being subject to the terms and pressure of the United States’ foreign policy.
- ◆ Understanding that US intervention in Venezuela is not about oil, but rather about immigration.

- ◆ Multilateralism versus bilateralism: a deterioration in regional and institutional governance when failing to communicate with the US.
- ◆ Analyzing the differences between negotiations with Europe (European companies) and negotiation with China (the Chinese government).
- ◆ Mexico has the resources to play a larger role in conversations about migration and trade. Their absence in the panel was noted.

Recommendations

- ◆ In terms of the lack of assertiveness in the region, Latin American countries need to have bilateral dialogues to decide which policies will be implemented in the region. Resourceful and strong states, such as Mexico, could help navigate negotiations and agreements on behalf of the entire region.
- ◆ Draft a regional agreement to combat organized crime.
- ◆ Implement greater measures to establish a response to the crisis in Venezuela, such as intervening in a pacific way to lead the way towards democratic elections.



Policy Opportunities for Latin American Think Tanks

AI and the Future of Work and Education in Latin America

There have been a multitude of technological innovations in recent decades, and there are many more to come in upcoming years that both positively and negatively affect Latin American countries. Unfortunately, many Latin American countries have not been able to benefit economically from these innovations due to low rates of STEM education and high rates of informal labor.

There is much discussion regarding increasing the employment rate in these technological industries. Because few people are earning STEM degrees and thus able to work in these industries, many technological companies have left Latin American countries in seek of more technologically educated workers from other countries. As a result, there is an emphasis on encouraging and empowering younger generations in Latin American countries to enter the technological industry.

For many Latin American countries, technological advances in the form of automation pose a threat to high-employing industries, such as the agricultural industry.

Many Latin American countries have implemented reform plans in order to reap the benefits of technological innovations. There has been an increase in advertising for degrees in STEM, growing scholarship for technology, and increased education about opportunities for technological occupations. These reforms have the potential of empowering countries to produce technological innovations themselves.

Participants during the summit also discussed the advantages and disadvantages of the informal labor market as a result of new technological advantages, such as Uber. While people who have low levels of education are able to make an income, governments in Latin American countries are still trying to figure out how to tax these new businesses. This subsequently affects the public sector because if workers in the informal labor market are not being taxed, they will pay into retirement funds or healthcare, making it harder for them to obtain these services.

Challenges

- ◆ For many Latin American countries, technological advances in the form of automation pose a threat to high-employing industries, such as the agricultural industry. Similarly, technological companies that are used daily by consumers are decreasing the demand for low-skilled laborers, and thus posing a threat to their livelihoods.
- ◆ Although educational opportunities in the technological field are slowly growing, these opportunities and the occupations that follow are not prominent.
- ◆ Due to the high rates of informal labor, automation poses a large threat to employment in Latin America.

Recommendations

- ◆ Encourage educational opportunities for citizens that match the technological innovations. Think tanks should also propose feasible plans to fund and implement these educational opportunities. In order to do so, think tanks must be prepared to discuss the economic benefits of advancing technological education.
- ◆ Use these technological innovations for other aspects of governing, such as tracking active investments and beginning digital investments.
- ◆ Implement labor reform that incorporates automation and advanced software, while also allowing flexibility for informal labor.



Policy Opportunities for Latin American Think Tanks

The Rising Tide of Populism and Political Polarization and Their Impact on Politics, Public Policy, and the Public

With increased disruptions in established norms, institutions, and operating procedures, think tanks are assessing how they fit within these set of changes. They are reconsidering what polarization is and how it has contributed to the rise of populist and nationalist movements. While some think tanks propose that an excess of populism is the problem and that it is “a degradation of the democratic system,” others comment that the problems are closely correlated to political fragmentation.

Think tanks need to recognize themselves as part of the problem, but they also must see themselves as part of the solution.

Seeing themselves as influencers, think tanks at LATTS 2019 also considered the ways in which they can be vehicles for combatting the fragmentation that is occurring. They are pushing themselves to assess the bigger picture, one that encompasses the various moving pieces that are causing this increased polarization and resurgence of populist movements. This includes researching the expansion of extremely conservative religions, the right to free speech, understanding people's fears, and comprehending the devaluation of younger populations.

Challenges

- ◆ There is not a common definition for populism and polarization.
- ◆ There is a disconnection between think tanks and the media, which affects fragmentation.
- ◆ It is easier for younger populations to become populists rather than educating themselves on the value of democracy.
- ◆ The ways of communication have changed, and populism is a reaction to that—one that is filled with uncertainty.

Recommendations

- ◆ Think tanks need to define what is understood as populism.
- ◆ In order to provide solutions to the increased number of populist movements, think tanks need to assess their threats, how they can overcome them, and extend their findings to public models of discussion.
- ◆ Greater educational efforts should be made for younger populations because the responsibility of think tanks will soon be passed onto them.
- ◆ Think tanks need to see themselves as part of the problem, but also see themselves as part of the solution.
- ◆ Rather than criminalizing populist movements, their members and followers need to be engaged in conversation in order to understand their positions and understand how to make a change.
- ◆ Lines of communications should be reworked to consider how the media can play a role in reaching out to larger populations that are not solely concentrated in larger cities.



Policy Opportunities for Latin American Think Tanks

Ending the Endless Cycle of Embedded Corruption in Latin America: Catalysts for Change

Corruption continues to be a prominent political concern in Latin America. Corruption is a complex, cross-cutting issue that is embedded in all systems and levels of government. There is a need for cooperation between the public and private sectors as well as international organizations to share tools and mechanisms to address the issue of corruption.

While many Latin American countries have implemented plans of reform in order to deal with the problem of corrupt systems, many have failed to address the prevention of corruption, the transparency of national governments, and the conflict of interests in public sectors.

Improving and increasing institutional capacities such as the strength of justice systems are crucial to effectively combat illegal financing of politics and impunity.



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In the last few years, there have been several high-profile cases of corruption that have sent shockwaves through the region. While these cases make headlines and shape peoples' perceptions of corruption in national institutions, there are other equally pervasive forms of corruption that impact the daily lives of citizens, families, and communities.

Challenges

- ◆ The study and analysis of corruption is a fairly recent phenomenon, and there has not been a consensus on what the mechanisms to implement policies of anti-corruption within Latin American countries are.
- ◆ Tolerance and normalization of corruption have been persistent issues surrounding corruption. There is still widespread tolerance within Latin American regions, both at the higher levels of government as well as in the everyday lives of citizens.

Recommendations

- ◆ Improve and increase institutional capacities, such as the strength of justice systems, to effectively combat illegal financing of politics and impunity.
- ◆ Increase cooperation between the private sector, the state, and international organizations in order to strengthen their institutional capacities to implement more effective anti-corruption policies.
- ◆ Latin American think tanks and civil societies need to play a larger role in conducting research and civic campaigns and programs in order to teach the values of transparency and educate citizens on identifying and preventing day-to-day forms of corruption.



2019 Latin America Think Tank Summit Program

Think Tanks: Helping to Manage the Transitions, Trade and Turmoil in Latin America

*Latin American Think Tank Summit Agenda
23 – 25 September 2019
Bogotá, Colombia*

*Co-Hosted by: The Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program, Lauder Institute, University of Pennsylvania;
Fedesarrollo; Fundación Ideas de la Paz; Konrad Adenauer Stiftung.*

Monday 23 September 2019
Salon Victoria, Casa Dann Carlton Hotel and Spa

17:30 – 18:00 **Registration**

Welcome Remarks:

Luis Fernando MEJÍA - Director, Fedesarrollo (Colombia)

María Victoria LLORENTE - Executive Director, Fundación Ideas para la Paz (FIP) (Colombia)

James MCGANN - Director, Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program (TTCSP), University of Pennsylvania (USA)

Winfried WECK - Program Director in Panama, Regional Program Director ADELA, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS) (Germany & Panama)

18:00 – 19:00 **Plenary Session I: Latin American Think Tank Presidents Panel**
Latin American in a Time of Transition, Trade Wars and Turmoil

A group of Chief Executive Officers from across the region will discuss the key policy issues confronting the region and the strategic and operational challenges facing their respective think tanks. The discussion will focus on the key policy issues, strategies, plans and programs that each executive has developed to meet both the challenges and opportunities presented by this new, complex and disruptive environment in which all policymakers and think tanks must operate. The objective of the panel is to highlight the cross-cutting issues facing the region and to foreshadow some of the issues that will be explored during the summit.

Co-Chairs: Luis Fernando MEJÍA - Director, Fedesarrollo (Colombia)

María Victoria LLORENTE - Executive Director, Fundación Ideas para la Paz (FIP) (Colombia)

Participants:

Marlos LIMA - Executive Director, Fundação Getulio Vargas (FGV) (Brazil)

Julia POMARES - Executive Director, Centro de Implementación de Políticas Públicas (CIPPEC) (Argentina)

Mauricio Rafael DÍAZ BURDETT - General Coordinator, Social Forum of External Debt and Development of Honduras (FOSDEH) (Honduras)

Miguel ÁNGEL SIMAN - President, FUSADES (El Salvador)

19:00 – 19:30 **Keynote Address: Latin American Perspectives and Think Tanks**

Guillermo PERRY - Colombian economist and politician, professor at Universidad de los Andes; previously Minister of Finance, Minister of Energy, Member of Parliament, Chief Economist for Latin America and the Caribbean at the World Bank; Ex-Director of Fedesarrollo

Title of Address: Latin America at a Tipping Point: Challenges and Opportunities

19:30 – 20:15 **Light cocktails**

Tuesday 24 September 2019

Salon Victoria, Casa Dann Carlton Hotel and Spa

7:30 – 8:00 **Registration**

8:00 – 9:45

Plenary Session II:

Ending the Endless Cycle of Embedded Corruption in Latin America: The Catalysts for Change

Corruption is a complex phenomenon that has become one of the main obstacles for economic growth and government legitimacy. It is an element that has nurtured people's mistrust and has become central in the political debate. Lately, there has been a wave of scandals and massive reactions of the population towards it that have contributed to a regional crisis. How can the region think of an effective strategy and serve as a catalyst for change?

Chair: María Clara ESCOBAR PELÁEZ - Executive Director, Instituto de Ciencia Política Hernán Echavarría Olózaga (ICP) (Colombia)

Participants:

Giulia DE SANCTIS - President, Centro de Iniciativas Democráticas (CIDEM) (Panamá)

Liliana ALVARADO – Head of Economics and Social Development Division, Ethos Public Policy Lab (México)

Pablo HURTADO - Executive Secretary, Asociación de Investigación y Estudios Sociales (ASIES) (Guatemala)

9:45 – 10:00

Coffee break

10:00 – 11:45

Breakout Session I: *(Three concurrent panel sessions, two on a policy issue and one on the strategic and operational challenges facing think tanks)*

Breakout Panel A: AI and The Future of Work and Education in Latin America

Technological changes worldwide have now reached the point in which allowing such changes to follow their course unrestricted is not an option. The acceleration of emerging technologies has reshaped not just the jobs but also the skills required, increasing the demand for sociobehavioral, adaptive and higher cognitive skilled workers, especially in the industrial sector. Therefore, investment in human capital, such as education and social protection, opens societies to gain from capabilities that technology provides. In particular, investment in education relies on creating skills since early childhood with lifelong learning. In contrast, with the now scaled up digital platforms, such as Rappi and Uber, and their network effects, new challenges have been created in terms of labor informality, agglomeration issues and others. How do we manage an effective transition towards the future of work? What are the regulatory challenges governments face and how to address them? How can think tanks help these regulations keep up with the pace of technology?

Chair: Elaine FORD - Directora Fundadora, De&D Internacional, Democracia Digital (Peru)

Participants:

Luis Fernando MEJÍA - Director, Fedesarrollo (Colombia)

Andrés LALANNE - Dean, Centro Latinoamericano de Economía Humana (CLAEH) (Uruguay)

Marlos LIMA - Executive Director, Fundação Getulio Vargas (FGV) (Brazil)

José Hidalgo PALLARES - General Director, Corporación de Estudios para el Desarrollo (CORDES) (Ecuador)

Breakout Panel B: Strategic Communication to Reach Policymakers and the Public

A large part of the success of think tanks is based on their power to communicate the results of its research and policy analysis in an effective way. How can think tanks send the right message, at the right time, to the key person? It is pointless to produce high quality analysis if it does not end up in the hands of those who formulate policies. Think tanks have to get their recommendations to be

used, and this requires a diversified communication strategy that is able to find “windows of opportunity” and satisfy the needs of multiple and diverse audiences. How impact can be planned?

Chair: Josué MARTÍNEZ-CASTILLO – Research Economist, Academia de Centroamérica (Costa Rica)

Participants:

Beatriz Bechara DE BORGE - President, Caribbean Node of the Millennium Project (Colombia)

Fernanda COBO - Coordinator of the Health Information and Communications Council, Fundación Mexicana para la Salud (FUNSALUD) (Mexico)

Alejandra GONZÁLEZ FERRO - Coordinator of thematic and strategic affairs, Fundación Ideas para la Paz (FIP) (Colombia)

Carla DUARTE - Institutional Relations Manager, Brazilian Center for International Relations (CEBRI) (Brazil)

Breakout Panel C: The Rising Tide of Populism and Political Polarization and their Impact on Politics, Public Policy and the Public

In the Age of Disruptions, the only constant is change and uncertainty. The digital, political, social and economic disruptions are expanding and accelerating, and they are driven by technological advances, geopolitical shifts, demographic change, climate change and innovation. These disruptions are shattering established norms, institutions and operating procedures. The dramatic changes have helped give rise to the populist, nationalist and protectionists movements challenging established political parties and media and political elites. A panel comprised of a journalist, a policymaker and think tank executive will discuss how their organizations are thriving in the age of digital and political disruptions. How can think tanks create the necessary disruption in this system of polarization?

Chair: María Victoria LLORENTE - Executive Director, Fundación Ideas para la Paz (FIP) (Colombia)

Panelists:

Hernán ALBERRO - Programs Director, Centro para la Apertura y el Desarrollo de América Latina (CADAL) (Argentina)

Kristina BIRKE DANIELS - Director, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) (Germany)

Sergio FAUSTO - Executive Director, Fundação Fernando Henrique Cardoso (FFHC) (Brazil)

James MCGANN - Director, Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program (TTCSP), University of Pennsylvania (USA)

11:45 – 13:00

**Plenary Session III:
Democracy, Governance and Security**

The relation between democracy and security has become a contested space due to the confrontation between criminal and state governance in the local contexts. When criminal groups take control and create a fake feeling of security in local communities, they destroy institutions and hurt local governments autonomy. Often national governments have to intervene with further detrimental effects on local capacity and community-based security. Which are the factors that affect the democratic governance of security that may harm the citizens' security conditions?

Chair: Jeronimo CASTILLO - Director of the Security and Political Crime Area, Fundación Ideas para la Paz (FIP) (Colombia)

Participants:

María ACENÑA - Vice President, Centro de Investigaciones Económicas Nacionales (CIEN) (Guatemala)

Hernán ALBERRO - Programs Director, Centro para la Apertura y el Desarrollo de América Latina (CADAL) (Argentina)
 Jorge Ignacio GUILLÉN MARTÍNEZ - Coordinator, Centro Convivencia (Cuba)
 Erika RODRÍGUEZ PINZÓN - Coordinator Latin America, Fundación Alternativas (Spain)

13:00 – 14:30 Lunch

14:30 – 16:00 **Breakout Session 2:** (Three concurrent panel sessions, two on a policy issue and one on the strategic and operational challenges facing think tanks)

Breakout Panel A: The Future of Latin America in the Global Economy

The lingering effects of the 2008 economic crisis and the blowback from the uneven and unfulfilled promise of globalization have helped give rise to populism, nativism and protectionist sentiments in across Europe and the Americas. The costs of free trade -- closed factories, unemployed workers and the effect it has local economies and communities -- are easy to see. Less obvious are the benefits in lower prices, higher quality goods, more choices and a better standard of living. The uneven distribution of these benefits of the liberal economic order and free trade are raising questions about fairness and viability of the free and fair trade around the world. What do these factors impact for economic growth, regional integration and trade in the region? With this backdrop in mind, the panel will explore the current economic turbulence and trade war between the US and China impacting the regional and global economy.

Chair: Luciana GAMA MUNIZ - General Manager, Brazilian Center for International Relations (CEBRI) (Brazil)

Panelists:

Luis Fernando MEJÍA - Fedesarrollo, Executive Director (Colombia)
 Gerardo MALDONADO - Associate Professor, Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas (CIDE) (Mexico)
 Federico SACASA - Executive Director, Fundación Nicaragüense para el Desarrollo Económico y Social (FUNIDES) (Nicaragua)

Breakout Panel B: New Faces and New Ideas - The Diversity and Innovations Connection

This panel will feature women, young scholars and executives from think tanks from across the region. The panelists have been asked to address the following questions: why did you choose to work at a think tank; what obstacles did you encounter in the hiring process and advancing your career at a think tank; what perspective on policy and organization innovation do you bring to your think tank and the issues facing your country; and what specific recommendations you would suggest to improve the role and impact of think tanks? Finally, and most importantly, what recommendations would you make to improve the careers of women, young scholars and executives?

Chair: Klaus STIER - International Coordinator, Fundação Getulio Vargas (FGV) (Brazil)

Participants:

Juliana HERNANDEZ DE LA TORRE – Co-Director, Exstituto de Política Abierta (Colombia)
 Mauricio ALBARRACIN - Deputy Director, Dejusticia (Colombia)
 Giulia DE SANCTIS – President, Centro de Iniciativas Democráticas (CIDEM) (Panamá)
 Milena GAITÁN - Administrative and Financial Director, Fundación Ideas para la Paz (FIP) (Colombia)

Breakout Panel C: Globalization and the Future of Multilateralism and the G20/T20

In early 2012, a meeting of foreign policy think tanks from the G20 countries at the University of Pennsylvania took place to explore how the world's leading think tanks could produce innovative policy recommendations to help G20 leaders address pressing global challenges and deliver more inclusive, sustainable growth for all. The meeting served as a catalyst for the creation of the T20 which was launched in Mexico in 2012. In the face of growing transnational threats, what is the future of multilateralism, international organizations and global summits of the emerging and established powers of the world?

Chair: Winfried WECK - Program Director in Panama, Regional Program Director ADELA, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS) (Germany & Panama)

Panelists:

James MCGANN - Director, Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program (TTCSP), University of Pennsylvania (USA)

Julia POMARES - Executive Director, Centro de Implementación de Políticas Públicas (CIPPEC), 2018 T20 Host (Argentina)

Fahad ALTURKI - Vice President of Research, King Abdullah Petroleum Studies and Research Center, 2020 T20 Host (Saudi Arabia)

Antonella MORI - Head of the Latin America Program, Italian Institute for International Political Studies (ISPI) (Italy)

16:00 – 17:00 Keynote Address: Climate Change
Carolina URRUTIA – Director of Parques Como Vamos, Expert in Public Policy and Climate Change and Specialist in Environment and Sustainability (Colombia)
Title of Address: Between Vulnerability and Opportunity: Biodiversity and Climate Change in Latin America

19:00 – 21:00 Dinner

Wednesday 25 September 2019
Salon Victoria, Casa Dann Carlton Hotel and Spa

8:00 – 8:30 Registration

8:30 – 9:45 **Plenary Session IV:**
Role of the United States in Latin America

Since the Trump era started, the United States has played a different role in the international arena. There has been a shift in the US foreign policy and a new security (including drugs and organized crime), migration, trade and economy approach that seeks to protect the US society from any possible external threat. These approaches have impacted the relationship with Latin America. What has been the experience of the different countries in the region? What is next?

Chair: Sandra BORDA – Dean of Social Science Faculty, Jorge Tadeo Lozano University (Colombia)

Participants:

Pablo HURTADO - Executive Secretary, Asociación de Investigación y Estudios Sociales (ASIES) (Guatemala)

Antonella MORI - Head of the ISPI Latin America Program, Italian Institute for International Political Studies (ISPI) (Italy)

Gustavo MARTINEZ - Managing Director, Consejo Argentino para las Relaciones Internacionales (CARI) (Argentina)

9:45 – 10:45 Keynote Address: Inclusive Growth
Osmel MANZANO - Regional Economic Advisor at the Interamerican Development Bank (USA)
Title of Address: The Expansion of the Middle Class in the Region: Challenges and Opportunities

10:45 – 11:00 Coffee Break

11:00 – 12:15 **Plenary Session V:**
The Venezuelan Crisis: National and Regional Responses

Venezuela is experiencing a major political, economic, and humanitarian crisis, and the effects of this crisis have a regional impact. The Venezuelan government continues to take antidemocratic actions, the internal economic collapse is accelerating, violations of the rights of Venezuelans are increasing, shortages are worsening, and the overall situation has become increasingly unstable. As a result, large segments of the population are forced to leave Venezuela to escape the domestic crisis in search for better opportunities. While there are a number of challenges two policy issues stand out: the potential for a peaceful democratic transition and how to deal with the growing migration crisis that has reached more than 4 million people leaving their home country since 2015. These two issues present a number of policy options for how the countries can deal with the challenges that Venezuela presents and how potential opportunities can be leveraged? The Panel discussion will explore the crisis and suggest what policymakers should do at the national and regional levels.

Chair: Cynthia ARNSON - Director, Latin American Program, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars (USA)

Participants:

Gustavo MARTINEZ - Managing Director, Consejo Argentino para las Relaciones Internacionales (CARI) (Argentina)

Edmundo GONZALEZ - Member of the board, Institute for Parliamentary Studies (Venezuela)

Lucía RAMIREZ - Coordinator of the Migration and Venezuela Program, Dejusticia (Colombia)

Magaly SANCHEZ R - Senior Researcher, Office of Population Research, Princeton University (USA)

12:15 – 13:15 **Closing Plenary Session**

Luis Fernando MEJÍA - Director, Fedesarrollo (Colombia)

Jerónimo CASTILLO - Security and Criminal Policy Area Director, Fundación Ideas para la Paz (FIP) (Colombia)

Winfried WECK - Program Director in Panama, Regional Program Director ADELA, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS) (Germany & Panama)

James MCGANN - Director, Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program (TTCSP), University of Pennsylvania (USA)

13:15 – 14:30 Lunch and networking

14:30 Visit to the Museum of Gold



List of Participants

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List of Participating Institutions

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Asociación de Investigación y Estudios Sociales (ASIES)

Asociación Nal. Inst. Financ (ANIF)

CADAL

Consejo Argentino para las Relaciones Internacionales (CARI)

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The Heritage Foundation

*Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program
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Summit Acknowledgements

Summit Co-Hosts and Co-Organizers:



Fedesarrollo (Colombia)



Fundación Ideas para la Paz (Colombia)



Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (Germany)



Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program, Lauder Institute, University of Pennsylvania (United States)

Summit Global Partners:



Getulio Vargas Foundation (Brazil)



Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (Germany and Colombia)



Italian Institute for International Political Studies (ISPI)



Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (Germany and Panama)

Summit National Partners:



Open Societies Foundation (Colombia)



2019 Latin America Think Tank Planning Committee:

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CLAEH University (Uruguay)
Democracy and Community Center (Chile)
Ethos Public Policy Laboratory (Mexico)
Fedesarrollo (Colombia)
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2019-2020 TTCSP Think Tank Summit and Fora Schedule*

* Summits and fora dates are subject to change but are confirmed unless otherwise indicated

September 23-25, 2019

Latin America Think Tank Summit, Bogota, Colombia TTCSP Partner: Fedesarrollo & Fundación Ideas de La Paz

November 10-12, 2019

Asia Think Tank Summit, Bangkok, Thailand, Partner: Trade, Investment and Innovation Division UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

December 5, 2019

Euro-Med Think Tank Forum, Rome, Italy TTCSP Partner: Institute for International Political Studies ISPI

December 12-13, 2019

Global Think Tank Summit, Rio de Janeiro, TTCSP Partner: Fundação Getúlio Vargas (FGV)

January 13, 2020

India Think Tank Summit, New Delhi, India

January 30, 2020

Think Tank and Civil Societies: Catalyst for Ideas, Innovation and Action 2020 Why Think Tanks Matter in Washington, DC and 150 cities around the world.

February 4-6, 2019

MENA Think Tank Summit, Amman, Jordan

February 2020

AI Think Tank Forum, Palo Alto, California or another venue

February 26-28, 2020

Africa Think Tank Summit, Cape town, South Africa

March 30 – April 1, 2020

North America Think Tank Summit, Washington, DC

April 22-24, 2020

Europe Think Tank Summit, Marseilles, France

May 6-9, 2020

All China Think Tank Innovation, Beijing, China

May 20-21, 2020

Central and Eastern European Think Tank Summit, Bratislava, Slovakia

Date and location to be determined

Global Food and Water Security Summit

Date to be determined

Bahrain Think Tank Regional/Global Summit

Think Tanks & Civil Societies Program

The Lauder Institute

The University of Pennsylvania

“Helping to bridge the gap between knowledge and policy”

Researching the trends and challenges facing
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Sustaining, strengthening, and building
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All requests, questions, and comments should be directed to:

James G. McGann, Ph.D.

Senior Lecturer, International Studies

Director

Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program

The Lauder Institute

University of Pennsylvania



About TTCSP

Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program

The Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program (TTCSP) of the Lauder Institute at the University of Pennsylvania conducts research on the role policy institutes play in governments and civil societies around the world. Often referred to as the “think tanks’ think tank,” TTCSP examines the evolving role and character of public policy research organizations. Over the last 30 years, the TTCSP has developed and led a series of global initiatives that have helped bridge the gap between knowledge and policy in critical policy areas such as international peace and security, globalization and governance, international economics, environmental issues, information and society, poverty alleviation, and healthcare and global health. These international collaborative efforts are designed to establish regional and international networks of policy institutes and communities that improve policy making while strengthening democratic institutions and civil societies around the world.

The TTCSP works with leading scholars and practitioners from think tanks and universities in a variety of collaborative efforts and programs and produces the annual Global Go To Think Tank Index that ranks the world’s leading think tanks in a variety of categories. This is achieved with the help of a panel of over 1,900 peer institutions and experts from the print and electronic media, academia, public and private donor institutions, and governments around the world. We have strong relationships with leading think tanks around the world, and our annual Think Tank Index is used by academics, journalists, donors and the public to locate and connect with the leading centers of public policy research around the world. Our goal is to increase the profile and performance of think tanks

and raise the public awareness of the important role think tanks play in governments and civil societies around the globe.

Since its inception in 1989, the TTCSP has focused on collecting data and conducting research on think tank trends and the role think tanks play as civil society actors in the policy-making process. To date TTCSP has provided technical assistance and capacity building programs in 81 countries. We are now working to create regional and global networks of think tanks in an effort to facilitate collaboration and the production of a modest yet achievable set of global public goods. Our goal is to create lasting institutional and state-level partnerships by engaging and mobilizing think tanks that have demonstrated their ability to produce high quality policy research and shape popular and elite opinion and actions for public good.

The Lauder Institute of Management and International Studies

The Lauder Institute of Management and International Studies offers an M.A. in international studies and conducts fundamental and policy-oriented research on current economic, political, and business issues. It organizes an annual conference that brings academics, practitioners, and policy makers together to examine global challenges such as financial risks, sustainability, inequality, and the future of the state.

University of Pennsylvania

The University of Pennsylvania (Penn) is an Ivy League school with highly selective admissions and a history of innovation in interdisciplinary education and scholarship. Its peer institutions are Harvard, Stanford, Columbia, Brown, Dartmouth, and the University of Chicago in the US and Oxford and Cambridge in the UK. A world-class research institution, Penn boasts a picturesque campus in the middle of Philadelphia, a dynamic city that is conveniently located between Washington, D.C. and New York, New York the University of Pennsylvania was founded by Benjamin Franklin in 1740 to push the frontiers of knowledge and benefit society by integrating study in the liberal arts and sciences with opportunities for research and practical, pre-professional training at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. Penn is committed to meeting the full demonstrated need of all undergraduates with grant-based financial aid, making this intellectually compelling integration of liberal and professional education accessible to talented students of all backgrounds and empowering them to make an impact on the world.

TTCSP Recent and Forthcoming Publications:

Think Tanks: The New Knowledge and Policy Brokers in Asia (Brookings Press and Asian Development Bank Institute, 2019) <https://www.brookings.edu/book/think-tanks/>

Trends and Transitions in Security Expertise from Deterrence to Climate Change and Back Again (Routledge, 2017)
<https://www.routledge.com/Global-Trends-and-Transitions-in-Security-Expertise-From-Nuclear-Deterrence/McGann/p/book/9781138304000>

Think Tanks, Foreign Policy and the Emerging Power Policy Networks (MacMillan, 2017)
<https://www.palgrave.com/us/book/9783319603117>

Think Tanks and Emerging Power Policy Networks (MacMillan, 2017)
<https://www.palgrave.com/us/book/9783319719542>

The Fifth Estate: Think Tanks Public Policy and Governance (Brookings, 2016)
https://www.brookings.edu/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/chapter-one_-the-fifth-estate.pdf

Think Tanks and SDGs: Catalysts for Analysis, Innovation and Implementation (TTCSP 2015)
<http://www.lulu.com/shop/james-mcgann/think-tanks-and-sdgs-catalysts-foranalysis-innovation-and-implementation/paperback/product-22563604.html>

How Think Tanks Shape Development Policies (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2014)
<http://www.upenn.edu/pennpress/book/15244.html>

Security Expertise Practice, Power, Responsibility (Chapter 6) (2014 Routledge)
<https://www.routledge.com/Security-Expertise-Practice-Power-Responsibility/Berling-Bueger/p/book/9781138819115>

Think Tanks and Global Policy Networks, Chapter in an edited volume (Routledge, 2013)
<https://www.routledge.com/International-Organization-and-Global-Governance/Weiss-Wilkinson/p/book/9781138236585>

Global Think Tanks, Policy Networks and Governance (Routledge, 2010)
<https://www.routledge.com/Global-Think-Tanks-Policy-Networks-and-Governance/McGann-Sabatini/p/book/9780415779791>