

BIO BRIEFS

The Honorable Alejandro Toledo, President of Peru

Alejandro Toledo was born in 1946 into a very modest family of peasants in Cabana, in the area of Ancash in the province of Pallasca. He grew up in Chimbote, by the northern Peruvian coast, where his parents moved in the hope of a better future. President Toledo studied at G.U.E. San Pedro where he won several of the school's literary competitions. In 1966, he gained a scholarship sponsored by the Peace Corps to study his first year of college in the United States. In 1970 President Toledo completed his Bachelor of Arts in Economics in the University of San Francisco and was later accepted to Stanford University where he obtained a Ph. D. in Human Resources Economics in 1976.

Between the years 1976 and 1985, President Toledo worked as an economist, consultant, and teacher. He has worked in the Center for Latin American Studies of Stanford University, the United Nations, the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, the United States Agency for International Development, the World Labor Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund, and the Organization for the Cooperation and Economic Development.

He returned to Peru in 1985 where he was named director of the Banco Sur Medio y Callao, a government-owned bank. During the next five years, Toledo was Finance professor of the Business Management School for Graduates in Lima, a prestigious graduate institution. There he led the Economic Development Institute.

President Toledo first ran for president in the 1995 elections. He then ran in the first electoral process of the 2000 Presidential Elections leading the Peru Possible party. He declined from participating in the second electoral process given the fraudulent apparatus installed by Fujimori's regime. On Peru's Independence Day, July 28, 2000, Toledo led the "March from the Four Suyos" where he announced the formation of a Democratic Alliance for the National Unity: a platform that could group all the political forces that opposed the elected government.

After's Fujimori's fall amid scandal of bribery and corruption, Valentin Paniagua's interim government prepared the country for the 2001 Presidential Elections. Alejandro Toledo won the Presidential Elections obtaining 52.5% of the valid votes defeating former president García. Toledo became the President of Peru on July 28th, 2001.

César Gaviria Trujillo

Former Colombian President César Gaviria was first elected OAS Secretary General in 1994. He was re-elected by acclamation at the 1999 regular session of the General Assembly, held in June in Guatemala. César Gaviria began his political career at age 23, when he was elected Councilman in his hometown of Pereira. Four years later, he became Mayor. In 1974 he was elected to Colombia's House of Representatives. He served in the Barco administration first as Minister of Finance and later as Minister of the Interior. He played a critical role in beginning peace negotiations with the leftist guerrilla group known as "M-19." In early 1989, he left the government to manage the presidential campaign of Senator Luis Carlos Galán. Following the brutal murder of Senator Galán by drug traffickers, the Liberal Party chose César Gaviria as its candidate. He was elected President of Colombia in May 1990.

María Elena Salinas

María Elena Salinas, network anchor and Emmy Award winning journalist, has marked her 20th anniversary with Univision, the fifth largest television network in the U.S. and the country's leading Spanish language television network. She has reported from Pope John Paul II's historic visit to Cuba, and from earthquake-ravaged El Salvador. Her coverage of Hurricane Mitch helped win Univision a National Emmy Award in the year 2000. Ms. Salinas has a daily commentary on RADIO UNICA, the only Spanish-language radio network in the United States. She has been featured in Hispanic Magazine as one of the "100 Most Influential Hispanics" in the United States and is a former vice president and founding member of the National Association of Hispanic Journalists.

Heraldo Muñoz

Heraldo Muñoz is the Minister Secretary General of the Government of Chile. Before this appointment, he held the office of Deputy Minister of Foreign Relations and served as Ambassador of Chile to Brazil between 1994 and 1998; and Ambassador to the OAS from 1990 to 1994, where he conceived and was the principal negotiator of the "Santiago Commitment to Democracy" and Resolution 1080. He is a co-founder of the Party for Democracy (PPD) and was a member of the Political Commission and Chairman of the Metropolitan Santiago Region of the PPD, elected with the highest majority in the country. Mr. Muñoz served as the joint representative of the Socialist Party and of the PPD in the Executive Committee of the "NO Campaign" for the 1988 plebiscite that defeated General Pinochet. In 1999 he was the international coordinator of the presidential campaign of Ricardo Lagos, and headed the international and defense commission that drafted the foreign policy platform of President Lagos. He has published more than 20 books and dozens of essays in academic journals.

Eduardo Stein Barillas

Eduardo Stein is President of the Foundation of the Americas. A former Foreign Minister of Guatemala, he headed the OAS Electoral Observation Mission to Peru in 2000 and 2001. Mr. Stein participated actively in the Central American peace processes both in the Esquipulas regional negotiations as well as in the San José Dialogue with the European Union. He has been a consultant with the International Organization for Migrations and the United Nations Development Programme and was a member of the International Commission of Intervention and State Sovereignty. Presently, Mr. Stein is advising on national dialogue efforts in Panama and Peru that include political parties, civil society, government and private sectors.

Barbara J. McDougall

Barbara McDougall is President and CEO of the Canadian Institute of International Affairs. She was a Member of Parliament and held numerous cabinet posts including Finance (Minister of State), Privatization, Employment and Immigration, and External Affairs. Ms. McDougall has been a Canadian representative to the Inter-American Dialogue in Washington, the International Crisis Group, the International Advisory Board for the Council on Foreign Relations and Chairperson of the Japan Society in Toronto. She was a public governor of the Toronto Stock Exchange and is director of several Canadian corporations, including Bank of Nova Scotia, Corel, the Independent Order of Foresters and Stelco. Ms. McDougall is the Founding Chairperson of the Patron's Council of the Toronto Association for Community Living. She is a Governor of York University and a director of the Canadian Opera Company. Ms. McDougall is an Officer of the Order of Canada.

Colin Terrence Granderson

Colin Granderson is the Assistant Secretary-General, Foreign and Community Relations at the CARICOM Secretariat. Named Ambassador at Large of Trinidad and Tobago in 1993, he was Executive Director of the OAS/UN International Civilian Mission in Haiti (MICIVIH) from 1993 to 2000. He has been Chief of the OAS Electoral Observation Missions in Guyana (2001), Suriname (2000) and Haiti (1997). At the request of the U.N. Secretary General, Mr. Granderson chaired the International Commission of Inquiry on human rights violations in Côte d'Ivoire. Mr. Granderson was Director of Political Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Trinidad and Tobago after serving at diplomatic posts in London, Geneva, and the United Nations in New York. At the latter post, he was one of the representatives of Trinidad and Tobago on the U.N. Security Council.

Program

9:30 a.m. Registration and Continental Breakfast

10:00 a.m. Introduction

Elizabeth Spehar, Executive Coordinator, Unit for the Promotion of Democracy

10:05 a.m. Inaugural Address

Dr. César Gaviria, Secretary General, Organization of American States

10:20 a.m. Introduction of Keynote Speaker

Susan Phillips, Dean, School of Business and Public Management, The George Washington University

10:25 a.m. Keynote Address: The Americas in the Promotion and Defense of Democracy

The Honorable Alejandro Toledo, President of the Republic of Peru

11:00 a.m. Question and Answer Period

11:10 a.m. Break

11:20 a.m. Panel Discussion: The Inter-American Democratic Charter: Its Significance, Applicability and Potential and a Caribbean Perspective

Moderator: Maria Elena Salinas, News Anchor, Univision

Significance: The Juridical "Value Added" in the Defense and Promotion of Democracy

Heraldo Muñoz, Minister of Government, Chile

Applicability: Parameters for the Application of the Inter-American Democratic Charter

Eduardo Stein, President, Foundation for the Americas

Potential: Sustained Promotion of Democracy in the Hemisphere

Barbara McDougall, President, Canadian Institute for International Affairs

A Caribbean Perspective

Colin Granderson, Assistant Secretary General, Foreign and Community Relations, CARICOM Secretariat

12:30 p.m. Discussion

1:00 p.m. Adjournment

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REFLECTIONS ON THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE INTER-AMERICAN DEMOCRATIC CHARTER

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Unit for the Promotion of Democracy
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in conjunction with the
Center for Latin American Issues at
The George Washington University

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