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# 2015 Latin America Think Tank Summit Report: Latin America in a Global Perspective

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# 2015 Latin America Think Tank Summit Report: Latin America in a Global Perspective

## **Disciplines**

Latin American Studies

## **Comments**

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THINK TANK SUMMIT REPORT



THINK TANKS & CIVIL SOCIETIES PROGRAM

The Lauder Institute

The University of Pennsylvania



# LATIN AMERICA SUMMIT

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November 11-13, 2015

# Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program

*“Helping to bridge the gap between knowledge and policy”*

Researching the trends and challenges facing think tanks, policymakers, and policy-oriented civil society groups...

Sustaining, strengthening, and building capacity for think tanks around the world...

Maintaining the largest, most comprehensive database of over 6,500 think tanks...

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## 2015 LATIN AMERICAN THINK TANK SUMMIT REPORT

### *Latin America in a Global Perspective*

**Center for the Implementation of Public Policies promoting Equity  
 and Growth (CIPPEC)  
 The Brick Hotel, Buenos Aires, Argentina**

**November 11-13, 2015**



# Introduction

**The 2015 Latin American Think Tanks Summit was the third meeting of Latin American Think Tanks that brought together more than 20 institutions from 12 Latin American countries to discuss the development agenda for the region.**

Throughout the sessions, participants that included ambassadors from Brazil, China, and youth of the region discussed growth and equality in Latin America, state capacities, regional geopolitics, the media, new technologies, and institutional strengthening of think tanks. The event organized by the Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program (TTCSP), CIPPEC, the Argentine Council for International Relations, the Getuilo Vargas Foundation, and with the support of CAF, The Development Bank of Latin America, involved meetings that analyzed the Latin American situation in light of the overall propositions of the Go To Think Tank Index from the University of Pennsylvania, which examined the institutional challenges and opportunities for Latin American Think Tanks in the long term. This exchange of best practices and experiences offered perspectives of the different think tanks that is intended to foster greater collaboration among the think tanks in the region while advancing the development of Latin American democracy, political and social liberty, and transparency of institutions. By focusing on important trends that affect Think Tanks in the region, institutions can embrace a forward-thinking stance on the evolving dynamics of politics and policymaking.



The conference proceeded under Chatham House rules in order to encourage free and productive discussion. This report is written under those same rules, in order to confidentially represent the conference's themes and ideas. The report details the substance of the conference under major themes identified at the conference: *the increase of think tank participation in improving state capacities, the evolving traits of Latin American think tanks that directly affect the region and mark their influence on a global scale, how the media can be used by think tanks as a platform to collaborate and disperse ideas to reach global audiences, expansion of opportunities to the youth and how younger generations can participate in think tank initiatives, the institutional changes need to take place to expand think tank influence to enhance coordination with other institutions, and how think tanks can adapt to new technologies to enhance and maintain strategic communication mechanisms to address timely issues.*



## Latin America in a Global Perspective

Latin America is at a unique and critical moment in world history and at a potential turning point for the region. The ties between Latin America and the rest of the world are growing immensely, and this is a time of consolidating and ensuring the sustainability of those ties. This was the third Latin American Think Tank Summit, and it was positioned to create a grassroots community of connections and networks among Latin American think tanks, tasked with strengthening civil society and proving essential insightful analysis for the region. The role of Think Tanks in relation to civil society is to create a space of knowledge in order to build public policies to improve society. There have been over fifteen Think Tank Summits in every region of the world and as is demonstrated in Latin America, the response has been extraordinary. There is the basic desire to connect with colleagues who share common interests, opportunities, and challenges, and now have the shared space to learn from one other and engage in peer to peer exchange. Latin America is growing through increased global connections and continues to strive for social and economic systems that promote equality and sustainability. Think tanks can contribute to and further all of these pillars of growth in Latin American civil society.

## Regional Policy Agenda: Building a Latin America Based on Equality

Think tanks play an instrumental role in strengthening progress towards equality and economic development goals. There has been a notable economic shift which has contributed to changing attitudes in relation to social issues. Social changes in the labor market are not measured in the region, and therefore are more difficult to analyze. Participants noted that fundamental change comes from the middle class's societal structure, which shows how the conditions have resulted in unskilled workers gaining more work and salary than those who are low-skilled or skilled. Think tanks are operating in a period that faces new challenges coupled with societal tensions and pressure for social progress. There are high expectations of positive development where democracy plays an integral role. Market expectations in Latin America are enduring huge economic changes that are currently in a slowdown period. There is a sustained decline in economic activity, where the regional economy is reaching a new balance. However, even though real economic growth is very low, the expectations of economists have been very optimistic.

Within the past decade, there has been a rise in GDP and a reduction of poverty with a rise in employment. As they have become more globally connected, the Latin American economy is now closely attached to the U.S. and China's growth; Central America is very attached to US growth. Latin America has the ability to grow through the support of political structures. However, economic change in Latin America affects social progress. It is projected that the economic growth of Latin America in relation to China, and Central America in relation to the US, is not going to improve. Due to this, the expectation of development in Latin America will decrease. The objective of this growth is to improve productivity in the region. Think tanks can contribute to new technologies and processes of innovation can stimulate this productivity. The growth of productivity requires the creation of a greater working force to drive economic growth. In parallel, it is also important to accelerate the agenda of structural reforms in the region. The agenda of development will contribute to decreasing poverty and inequality in the region.

## State Capacity in Latin America: Reflections on a Continuous Learning Process

### Improvement of State Capacities

The discussion of state capacities involves an increase of participation of think tanks in the debate on how and why there needs to be improvements in state institutional capabilities to form the most productive states. Challenges in the region result in a need for construction of powerful states to prevent them from falling into ineffective systems of governance. As one panelist noted, a trend of developing states is that they begin their decline with a debt crisis. Latin American states attempting to develop into efficient states today struggle with resiliency against economic setbacks. Latin American think tanks can help the processes of capacity building through their influence of political implementation. Particularly, there is a need to increase accountability and productivity within the public sector. However, there is often limited interest in evaluating the impact of economic market assessments for the fear of its outcome. This fear is rooted in state capacities not having the capability of a developed measuring system;





economic impact assessment is usually done to validate the existence of programs rather than for its improvement.

Another difficulty discussed by participants is the rotation of officials that manage programs, which allows for the cyclical hiring of new employees. There must be diversity of schemes in the public sector. There is problematic informality in working arrangements in the public sector. Furthermore, there are serious distortions in compensation; staff obtain low-capacity earnings in the public sector in contrast to the private sector. Participants agreed that there should be a recalculation of the strategic focus on providing qualified personnel where they are most needed. The conclusion was that citizen services continue to suffer a deficiency in quality. There is an abundance of knowledge on what should be done, however, little follow-through about the steps that need to be taken to achieve reforms.

It is also important to explore the link between the crisis of corruption and strengthening democracy. Conflicts of interest are manifestations of institutional weakness. There is a communications challenge where many projects attempt to reach out and monitor citizens; however, this is difficult because there is very little public confidence in politics due to the fact that citizens do not trust that they are being properly represented by their government. To move this agenda forward, there needs to be a key commitment of the executive and the legislature to foster an active civil society. To transform the problem into possible solutions for improving state capacities, think tanks can provide diagnosis, knowledge, and facilitate citizen participation.



## **The Latin American Geopolitical Positioning**

### **Global Importance of Latin America**

Latin America is an important group of countries in the world, with rich resources and an increasingly important market that is growing in magnitude. Latin America has mining, agricultural and livestock resources and a large portion of the world's cereal, wine, and meat. Latin America has 24% of global arable land, 11% of the global cereal production and 31% of the fresh water in the world. Latin America is also crucial in terms of oil production and widespread exportation. With more than 500 million inhabitants and increasing re-industrialization and productivity, the region is outstripping Africa and Southeast Asian countries and growing in global importance. Ultimately, Latin America has an indispensable position in the world both economically and politically.

### **Asia and Latin America and China's Vision for the Future**

Latin America is a major exporter of the most important products in the world, particularly to the Chinese market. China and Latin America are at similar stages of development and industrialization and are facing similar challenges, which indicates that the two should look to one another to learn and grow. China is also a key third-party supplier of investment in the region. Recently, total trade between China and Latin America reached more than \$260 billion. Chinese investments in the region total more than \$98 billion in 2014. China, additionally, has advantages in certain technologies such as telecommunications, electronics and computer business, new energy, and infrastructure. China's complementarity to Latin America has resulted in talks of a cross-continental strategy. This involves the building of a rail or ocean shipping lanes to open the channels for trade and logistics between the two continents.

### **Think Tanks' Role in the Chinese-Latin American Relationship**

Participants discussed how think tanks can play a more active and productive role in promoting the deepening of ties between China and Latin America. China is also holding a summit of think tanks where academics from the USA, Europe, Asia, Japan, and South Korea will be present, and they would like to participate in the future with Latin America. More than 100 institutions participated in Latin America and the two previous summits held in China. These will continue to be held every two years and will hopefully involve more Latin America institutions to enable them to participate in this forum to share their views and improve diplomatic and social policies.



## Pursuit of a Global Agenda – Mercosur

Global challenges demand to be understood in the perspective of long-term strategic interests, including: climate change, food and energy security, reform of international financial institutions, reform of the UN Security Council, and the G20 paper. Participants discussed how global care reforms require internal developments of societies, because of the impacts of these decisions go beyond the borders of the states. Potential solutions are integration schemes such as Mercosur, and/or allowing for coordinated decisions with BRICS that mitigate possible undesirable impacts. Deepening regional market cooperation is a prerequisite for the growth of the regional market strategy on the international stage. In the future, a successful Mercosur requires a deepening of institutional policies and our own integration, allowing us a positive insertion in value chains that will be created from these processes. Asymmetry among Mercosur members requires instruments like a convergence fund to mitigate the impact of asymmetries. There needs to be improvement in the ways of integrating our economies into global value chains. The approximation between Mercosur and the Pacific Alliance and the formation of a South American free trade area by 2019 or earlier will allow an inclusive integration. Negotiations between Mercosur and the EU have strategic value to attract investment, promote employment, and consolidate the bloc as an international strategic player.

## BRICS and Think Tanks

The BRICS countries play a central role in the global redistribution of production chains to improve global and regional value. Competitiveness and innovation are crucial to proper integration of international trade. The reorganization of productive activities is accompanied by urban changes, new channels in working conditions and environmental sustainability, hence the significance of BRICS in shaping a less asymmetric world order. It is important to also consider these countries' internal matters. Moments of transition, particularly in nations with high poverty rates, are always delicate and often result in internal exhaustion. They cannot profit as much from the flows of globalization so the importance of strong institutions is great. These institutions serve to respond well to challenges posed by external shocks. They can have their roots in broader society by being publicly run. This is an area that think tanks are crucial in terms of providing opportunities for reflection and proposals for action by the institutions in key sectors across developing states. TTs can facilitate responses to global challenges that are anchored in long-term strategic vision. Events like this summit, and the possibility of dialogue with public sector representatives and TTs is something that must be increasingly applied and supported.



## US Approach to Cuba

The US approach to Cuba has been fundamentally influenced by domestic issues, such as the large population of Cuban exiles in the US. President Barack Obama has articulated and supported a change in the US's historically anti-Cuba stance and policy. For decades the US has tried to force the regime to collapse in favor of a free democratic system. One of the most comprehensive and acute set of sanctions in the world has incentivized migration of Cubans to the US. After this migration process came to a halt diplomatic international relations had changed dramatically. Presidents over the years have tried to exert their influence to either tighten or relax the embargo, but ultimately Congress controls the implementation of the sanctions regime. The process will take many years to unfold completely, but great strides have been made during Obama's presidency. There is now diplomatic relations between the capitals, representing a significant and historic shift in US-Cuba relations. Although Cold War tensions have cooled, the embargo is still in place and Congress is unlikely to lift it any time soon, even if public opinion in the US is in favor of lifting it.

The basis of this change is a fundamental strategic shift from seeking to implement a regime change to a soft landing; the idea is to empower the Cuban people and help them become more independent from the state. Reforms since 2008 have facilitated this, although the steps are gradual. Cuba hopes to stop relying heavily on Venezuela, and is attempting to implement institutional reforms in areas such as mining, education, and health. This process is moving more slowly than changes in, for example, China and Vietnam. Major shifts should happen in terms of currency unification to stimulate the trading of goods, services, and assets. Castro's government is using the positive mood and anticipation of the end of the US embargo to attract foreign investments from EU, Latin America, Asia, China, etc.

## Latin America's Role in Bolstering Cuba

Latin America can cooperate in providing a platform to facilitate relations between the US and Cuba, which is precisely oriented to overcome nearly fifty years of increasing fragmentation in the region with domestic consequences in countries and in relations between our countries. Latin America can help generate an environment that is conducive to negotiating and peace-making. There is a large network of cooperation, not only between Latin America countries, but with Europe, Canada, and China. The triangular relationship between Latin America, Europe and China is a current topic of much discussion in the think tank community, and actions to facilitate this relationship should be taken. They are linked to peace processes in Colombia, Venezuela policy evolution, and a variety of other regional issues.



## Media and Think Tanks: Possibilities and Limitations of Cooperation in the Current Regional Context

### The Current State of the Media

The dissemination of think tank research and reports is of the utmost importance as the power of images and infographics continues to grow. Researchers widely observe that the information provided on websites (most often in long, technical reports) can often leave readers overwhelmed, whereas images and graphs are more effective in attracting the viewer. Therefore, in order to continue to capture readership from both the public and policymakers, think tanks need to leverage graphics and visual representations of data that engages with audiences on multiple levels. There is currently a substantial amount of collaboration with the non-profit sector which is quite beneficial to both parties. The media gathers information, usually supplemented by journalists, and then think tanks shed further light on important topics raised by the journalists through in depth analysis and research. In many contexts there is polarization between the media and think tanks where the media relies on journalistic anecdotes in reaction to urgent news items rather than factual support. Think tanks play an essential role in society to inform, explain, help understand, form opinions, and create social values; therefore, their engagement with the media and current events is essential. However, there is a dilemma for think tanks to balance between providing thoughtful analysis of the current news cycle and engaging in long term, in depth research. While the methods and internal management of think tank interaction with the media is subject to ongoing debate, the panelists agreed that they should strive to work in harmony while maintaining their differences.

### Risks and Challenges for Media

There are many potential risks in the media, one of them being transparency in the relationship between the media and think tanks. The media is audited by society, politicians, the government, and

others; the same should occur with think tanks. Transparency is key for leadership and political alignment, so a healthy relationship between the two parties needs to be built. Fighting corruption was positioned as a central issue in Guatemala from a complaint that ended with President and the First Lady. With social media becoming a more popular channel for expression, social networks have played and will continue to play a central role in the social demonstrations against corruption and injustice within and across borders. It is essential that reporting functions be up to date, have active agents and a web 2.0 presence.

## Youth Demographic Development in Latin America

Participants discussed the economic and social importance of finding productive roles and solutions for young disengaged Latin Americans who do not work or study, a demographic that is largely ignored at the moment. The challenges identified were: how to respond while recognizing the heterogeneity of these young people, how to take a rights-based approach, how to connect public policy, and how to increase access to education, information, the job market, and social services. The implementation of a rights-based approach poses particular analytical and practical challenges as think tanks and policymakers find a balance between being sensitive to their needs as they develop into adults and also tapping in to their economic potential and integrating them into a productive society.

Think tanks play a critical role in addressing this issue by helping democratize and make information accessible, by monitoring public policies, and by coordinating and creating hubs of exchange across different sectors that are attempting to engage with this issue. The challenges for younger generations living in Latin America moving forward are promoting the employment of young people providing care services, advocating opportunities for complementarity of middle school with vocational training, and strengthening interventions in sexual and reproductive health. Most importantly, think tanks can provide a nuanced understanding of a heterogeneous youth demographic that suffers from a lack of social and political support.

## Institutional and Strengthening Agenda: Latin American Think Tanks Observed by Go To Think Tank Global Index 2015

There are a number of observed insights about think tanks in Latin America that can be drawn from TTCSP's Go To Think Tank Index; both from the rankings and from additional information collected. Think tanks in Latin America, compared to those in other regions, seem to be less interconnected and less interested in global projection. Most focus on national issues and only use Spanish on their websites. This is a challenge for communication and reaching out to a broader global audience. Compared to their global counterparts, Latin American think tanks need more emphasis on finding peers and experts, increasing international networks, and their marketing and communications.



Think tanks in Latin America should focus on strategies to stay relevant in national, regional, and global contexts, to strengthen credibility, and to guarantee their sustainability. Given the frequently demonstrated link between the existence of a diverse think tank community and strong civil societies, Latin America particularly should focus on the strengthening of the think tank sector that is capable of providing solutions for the issues addressed at this summit.

## **Regional Cooperation to Institutional Strengthening of Latin American Think Tanks**

In order to strengthen regional cooperation among think tanks in Latin America, participants discussed the need for a larger involvement of smaller countries. The majority of think tank research is currently produced in Mexico, Argentina, Brazil, and Chile; however, there are also trained and capable scholars spread throughout the rest of the region that can step up to create a positive feedback loop of both national and international research.

More specifically, participants addressed the potential for regional cooperation on poverty reduction, good governance, business development, education, informal labor markets, extractive industries, accountability, crime prevention, and domestic violence. In order to properly address these cross-border issues, think tanks would need to further develop research capacity and coordination. However, the benefits of producing relevant and applicable knowledge on these issues that could be applied throughout the region would have immense economic and social benefits. Similar issues were observed in Asia, where an immense amount of think tank research is dedicated to social and economic issues such as financial inclusion, aging population and pension support, structural transformation of the Asian labor force, and poverty reduction. While the Latin American context is different in many ways, the regions parallel each other in terms of their need to politically support development and economic growth.



## **New Technologies for Public Policy Influence**

With the growing importance of technological communications innovations, participants discussed methods of dissemination, the challenges of monitoring and evaluation, and how to harness new and better technology. One panelist noted particularly the centrality of cellphones to consumer consumption of information, citing that an average adult checks his/her phone around 500 times per day and that 50% of adults check their e-mail first thing in the morning. One panelist noted that there is a particular tension in contemporary society between those who produce knowledge and those who use that knowledge. There is a disconnect between the format and speed of information consumption preferred by the former and the latter. Think tanks must adapt to the new standards of concise and quick communication without losing the rigor and complexity of their research.

In addition to the increased pace of communication, consumers and policymakers react positively to a higher diversity of modes of transmitting information—having a department that is specifically dedicated to harnessing new technology to create visualizations or interactive online tools is becoming an institutional norm in think tanks across the world.

Finally, one panelist stressed that it is ineffective to implement new technology without any form of monitoring and evaluation. The audience of each think tank varies, and will react differently to the wide array of communication tools now available. Having trained monitoring and evaluation professionals on both the producer and consumer side of information dissemination allows think tanks to have the highest possible returns on their communications investment.

## **Lessons learned By Think Tanks During Electoral Processes**





Particularly in Latin America, there are many lessons to be learned for think tanks and the public alike from electoral processes and the unique challenges and opportunities that they bring. In a region with a history of political instability, think tanks play a pivotal role in monitoring and analyzing electoral absenteeism and transparency in campaign spending, as well as developing instruments that can help reduce “clientelism” and promote informed voting. Recent examples of positive learning and public debate during an electoral cycle include Paraguay and Argentina. In both cases, members of all levels of society had the opportunity to engage in the political discussion. Continuation of successful discussion, participation, and transition is an essential part of Latin American growth and development that think tanks will continue to learn from and play a productive role in for the foreseeable future.

## Conclusions

Over three days, participants in the 2015 Latin America Think Tank Summit discussed a wide range of national, regional, and global policy and institutional challenges to both think tanks and the region in general. While the agenda of the program was one of collaboration, there was also a distinct effort to recognize the heterogeneity of both countries and think tanks in the region. Rather than to come to unanimous agreement, the purpose of the summit was the sharing of ideas to generate impact across distinct situational contexts. The diversity of discussions determined the vital need for think tanks to provide policymakers with both a wide scope of solutions that can provide pointed guidance to policy solutions. In the post-modern era where innovative technologies are essential for dissemination of information and spreading awareness of issues, think tanks need to be up to date with current event and constantly provide resource-intensive data; this will ensure its preparedness and secure its development. Many participants suggested that reacting to current events is now considered to be acting too late and is part of the reason why think tanks are often left out of policy decision making. Discussion of innovation, preparation, and collective responses demonstrated the need for communal think tank platforms that were products of the summit. The 2015 Latin American Think Tank Summit proved a productive exercise in sharing examples and providing recommendations for both policy and institutional advancements. TTCSP looks forward to implementing and expanding those innovations with the cooperation and support of the think tank community.

## Attachment 1: 2015 Latin American Think Tank Summit Agenda



# III LATIN AMERICAN THINK TANK SUMMIT

**NOVEMBER 11-13, 2015  
BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA**

► **WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11**

**19:00 - 21:00 > Welcome Cocktail**

- Horacio Rodríguez Larreta, incumbent Major of Buenos Aires City, *to be confirmed*
- James Mc Gann, Think Tanks and Civil Society Program Director, Upenn
- Rubén Ramírez, Argentina Representative Director, CAF
- Fernando Straface, Executive Director, CIPPEC

► **THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12**

**Regional Policy Agenda**

**8:30 > Registration of participants**

**9:00 - 9:30 > Summit Opening**

**Objectives:** Formal inauguration of Summit; Welcoming of participants.  
**Format:** Official welcoming (5' each participant)

**PARTICIPANTS:**

- James Mc Gann, Think Tanks and Civil Society Program Director, University of Pennsylvania
- Christian Asinelli, CAF Institutional Development Director, Argentina
- Jesko S. Hentschel, World Bank Director for Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay
- Fernando Straface, Executive Director, CIPPEC
- José María Lladós, Academic Director, CARI

**9:30 - 10:30 > Panel I**

**"Balance and results: Building a Latin American agenda based on equality"**

**Objectives:** Round table on the social and economic situation of the region considering new international agreements on sustainable development; presentation of national agendas of participants' think tanks. Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) vis-à-vis Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).  
**Format:** (3/4 panelists 10' each followed by commentator and debate)

**PARTICIPANTS:**

**MODERATOR:** Marlos Lima, Executive Director, Latin American Public Policy Center, FGV, Brazil

- Jesko S. Hentschel, World Bank Director for Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay
- Pablo Sanguinetti, Economic and Knowledge for Development Director Area, CAF

**COMMENTATOR:** Lucio Castro, Economic Development Director Area, CIPPEC

**10:30 - 10:45 > Coffee break**



CONSEJO ARGENTINO PARA LAS  
RELACIONES INTERNACIONALES



## III LATIN AMERICAN THINK TANK SUMMIT



NOVEMBER 11-13, 2015  
BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA

### 10:45 - 11:45 > Panel II

“State capacity in Latin America. Reflections on a continuous learning process”

**Objectives:** To discuss the evolution of governments' role in the region, analyze strengths and weaknesses, visualize opportunities and challenges of consolidate the state's capacities to improve the quality of public policies and to present thematic agendas of participants' think tanks.

**Format:** (3/4 speakers 10' each followed by commentator and debate)

#### PARTICIPANTS:

**MODERATOR:** Orazio Belletini Cedeño, Grupo FARO Executive Director, Ecuador

• Miguel Jaramillo Banaante, Executive Director, GRADE, Peru

• Eduardo Engel, President, Espacio Público, Chile

• Pablo Brassiolo, Senior Economist, Socioeconomic Research Division, CAF

**COMENTARISTA:** Christian Asinelli, CAF Institutional Development Director, Argentina

### 11:45 - 13:15 > Panel III

“Analyzing the new Latin American geopolitical scenario”

**Objectives:** From a global perspective, the objective is to generate an open debate about the new geopolitical scenario in Latin America and its impact in the think tanks' agendas. Topics that will be discussed are as follows: Growing China-LAC commercial relationships; Brazil leadership as an emerging economy and BRICS member vis-à-vis current political and economic crisis; restored bilateral relationships USA-CUBA and its impact in the region. A new scenario as a challenged opportunity for Latin American thinks tanks; could it lead to new international alliances among think tanks?

**Format:** (3/4 speakers 15' each followed by commentator and debate)

#### PARTICIPANTS:

**MODERATOR:** José Octavio Bordón, President, International Advisory Board, CIPPEC

• Yang Wanming, Ambassador of the Republic of China to Argentina

• Everton Vieira Vargas, Ambassador of Brazil to Argentina

• Ted Piccone, Senior Fellow Latin America Initiative, Brookings Institution

• Félix Peña, Advisory Council Member, CARI

### 13:15 - 14:45 > Lunch

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER:** Jorge Fontevicchia, CEO Editorial Perfil

### 14:45 - 16:15 > Panel IV

“Media & think tanks. Possibilities and limits to cooperation in current regional context”

**Objectives:** To analyze the relationship between media and Latin American think tanks, their collaboration and independence, and the emerging tensions for public policies advocacy.

**Format:** (3/4 speakers 7' each followed by commentator and debate)

#### PARTICIPANTS:

**MODERATOR:** José Luis Chicoma, Executive Director, Ethos Laboratorio de Políticas Públicas, México

• Martín Echevers, External Relations Manager, Grupo Clarín

• Carmen Ortiz, Vicepresident ASIES, Guatemala

• Simone Haf, Institutional Development Coordinator, FUNDAR, México

**COMMENTATOR:** Sonia Jalfin, Audiovisual Director, Sociopúblico





## III LATIN AMERICAN THINK TANK SUMMIT



NOVEMBER 11-13, 2015  
BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA

16:15 - 16:30 > Coffee Break

16:30 - 17:30 > Panel V

“Youth: ¿Demographic bonus for development in Latin America?”

**Objectives:** To analyze challenges for rights, guarantee and propose an academic, social and labor agenda to analyze youth role in knowledge production and its impact on regional development.

**Format:** (3/4 speakers 10' each followed by commentator and debate)

#### PARTICIPANTS:

**MODERATOR:** Ana Tijerino, Adjunct Deputy Director, FUNIDES, Nicaragua

- Mariano Machado, Coordinator Youth Group, CARI
- Joaquín Tomé, Regional Projects Manager, Organización Iberoamericana de Juventud (OIJ)
- Fabián Repetto, Director of Social Protection Program, CIPPEC

18:00 > Group photo

20:00 - 22:00 > Dinner

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER:** Carlos Iván Simonsen Leal, President, Fundación Getulio Vargas, Brazil

### ► FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13th

Institutional strengthening agenda

9:00 - 10:00 > Conference

Latin American think tanks observed by GoTo Think Tank Global Index 2015.

- James Mc Gann, Director of the Think Tanks and Civil Society Program at the University of Pennsylvania.

10:00 - 11:00 > Working Groups sessions

**Working Group I:** “From regional cooperation to the Institutional strengthening of Latin American think tanks towards an enhanced coordination of working agendas.”

**Objectives:** To analyze good practices and lessons learned of South-South processes of exchange and cooperation.

(Working groups/3 or 4 speakers 7' each followed by moderator and debate)

#### PARTICIPANTS:

**MODERATOR:** Ricardo Córdoba, Executive Director, FUNDAUNGO

- Roxana Barrantes, Executive Secretary, Iniciativa Latinoamericana para la investigación para las Políticas Públicas (ILAIPP)
- Ha-Yan Lee, Economist, Asian Development Bank Institute, Japan
- Mark Lewis, Director of ELLA Program, Evidencias y Lecciones desde América Latina, Perú
- Paul Villaroel, Executive Director, Fundación ARU, Bolivia

11:00 - 11:15 > Coffee Break





CONSEJO ARGENTINO PARA LAS  
RELACIONES INTERNACIONALES



### III LATIN AMERICAN THINK TANK SUMMIT



NOVEMBER 11-13, 2015  
BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA

#### 11:15 - 12:15 > Working Group II "New technologies for public policies influence"

**Objectives:** To debate about "innovation to influence", understanding the role of evidence in communication, getting to know new ways of interaction between knowledge and public policies, to discuss the scarce scientific and technologic integration of think tanks as knowledge producers and the global geopolitical dimensions of this problem, to analyze new roles and challenges for Latin American think tanks for the promotion and development of applied research platforms, and to examine researchers' exchange programs and innovative integrated practices of knowledge.  
**Format:** (Working groups /3/4 speakers 7' each followed by moderator and debate)

**MODERATOR:** Natalia Aquilino, Evaluation and Monitoring Program Director, CIPPEC

- Mauricio Díaz Burdett, Coordinator, FOSDEH, Honduras
- Cristina Galindez Hernández, Executive Coordinator, CLEAR, México
- Haydeé Pérez Garrido, Executive Director, FUNDAR

#### 12:15 - 13:15 > Working Group III "Lessons learned by think tanks during electoral processes"

**Objectives:** To compare strategies and results achieved by think tanks throughout various different electoral campaigns, examine current affairs and adapting to changing electoral scenarios, read into coordination between think tanks: allies and expectations, and looking into the aftermath: strategies to adopt according to each situation, capitalizing positive outcomes and lessening negative ones. Lastly, to understand Institutional changes and outer positioning of think tanks in light of electoral processes experiences.

**Format:** (Working groups /3/4 speakers 7' each followed by moderator and debate)

**MODERATOR:** Cynytia Arnson, Latin American Program Director, Wilson Center

- The Paraguay Debate experience, Fernando Massi, Executive Director, CADEP, Paraguay
- The Argentina Debate experience, Fernando Straface, Executive Director, CIPPEC
- The Ecuadorian experience, Orazio Belletini Cedeño, Executive Director, Grupo FARO, Ecuador
- The Guatemala experience, Carmen Ortiz, Vice President ASIES, Guatemala

#### 13:15 - 14:30 > Lunch

#### 14:30 - 15:30 > Plenary Session Conclusions and Recommendations

- Fernando Straface, Executive Director, CIPPEC.
- James Mc Gann, Director of the Think Tanks and Civil Society Program at the University of Pennsylvania.



**WHERE:** The Brick Hotel  
**ADDRESS:** Posadas 1232, Buenos Aires.  
[www.thinktankslatinoamericanos.org](http://www.thinktankslatinoamericanos.org)

Strategic Partners:



## Attachment 2: Participant List

Last Name	First Name	Participant Title	Organization	Country
Alvarado	Liliana	Director of the Department of Economic and Social Development	Ethos Laboratorio de Políticas Públicas	Mexico
Amato	Victoria	Consultant, Advocacy Program, Monitoring and Evaluation	Centro de Implementación de Políticas Públicas para la Equidad y el Crecimiento	Argentina
Angelino	Diego	Emerging Market Sustainability Dialogues/	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit	Mexico
Aquilino	Natalia	Director, Programa de Incidencia, Monitoreo y Evaluación	Centro de Implementación de Políticas Públicas para la Equidad y el Crecimiento	Argentina
Arias	Eva	Program Coordinator of Advocacy , Monitoring and Evaluation	Centro de Implementación de Políticas Públicas para la Equidad y el Crecimiento	Argentina
Arnson	Cynthia	Latin American Program Director	Wilson Center	USA
Asinelli	Christian	Director of Institutional Development	Banco de Desarrollo de America Latina	Argentina
Barrantes	Roxana	Executive Secretary	Iniciativa Latinoamericana para la investigación para las Políticas Públicas	Peru
Bellettini Cedeño	Orazio	Executive Director	Fundación para el Avance de las Reformas y las Oportunidades	Ecuador
Bordon	Jose Octavio	President of Consejo Asesor Internacional de CIPPEC	Jose Octavio Bordon	Argentina
Brasiolo	Pablo	Economic Researcher	Banco de Desarrollo de America Latina	Argentina
Carnero	Carlos	Managing Director	Fundación Alternativas	Spain
Castro	Lucio	Director of Economic Development	Centro de Implementación de Políticas Públicas para la Equidad y el Crecimiento	Argentina
Chicoma	Jose Luis	Director General	Ethos Laboratorio de Políticas Públicas	Mexico
Córdova	Ricardo	Executive Director	Fundaungo	El Salvador
Dias Leite	Julia	Executive Director	Centro Brasileiro de Relacoes Internacionais	Brazil
Díaz Burdett	Mauricio	Coordinator	Foro Social de la Deuda Externa de Honduras y Desarrollo	Honduras
Dr. Nakabayashi	Shinichi	Director	Asian Development Bank Institute	Japan
Echevers	Martin	External Communications Manager Clarin	Grupo Clarin	Argentina
Engel	Eduardo	President	Espacio Público	Chile
Estevez	Sofia	Asistant, Programa de Incidencia, Monitoreo y Evaluación	Centro de Implementación de Políticas Públicas para la Equidad y el Crecimiento	Argentina
Estrany y Gendre	Antonio	Executive Committee	Consejo Argentino para las Relaciones Internacionales	Argentina
Fontevicchia	Jorge	Journalist	Grupo Perfil	Argentina
Forgues	Jorge	Senior Executive	Banco de Desarrollo de America Latina	Argentina

Frascheri	Federico	Consultant, Advocacy Program, Monitoring and Evaluation	Centro de Implementación de Políticas Públicas para la Equidad y el Crecimiento	Argentina
Galindez Hernandez	Cristina	Executive Coordinator	Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas	Mexico
Gerbasi	Nathalie	Senior Executive Management of Institutional Development	Banco de Desarrollo de America Latina	Argentina
Gonzalez	Guillermo	Executive Director	Espacio Público	Chile
Haff	Simone	Coordinator of Institutional Development	Fundar, Centro de Análisis e Investigación	Mexico
Ha'Yan	Lee	Capacity Building Economist	Asian Development Bank Institute	Japan
Hentschel	Jesko	Director of Banco Mundial para Argentina, Paraguay y Uruguay	World Bank	Argentina
Herrera	Marco	Executive Director	FUNGLODE	Dominican Republic
Ivan	Carlos	President of FGV	Fundacao Getulio Vargas	Brazil
Jacob	Olaf	Head of Foreign Offices, Argentina	Konrad Adenauer Stiftung	Germany
Jalfin	Sonia	Audiovisual Director	Sociopúblico	Argentina
Jaramillo Baanante	Miguel	Executive Director	Grupo de Análisis para el Desarrollo	Peru
Jost	Stefan	Residential Representative	Konrad Adenauer Stiftung	Mexico
Jozami	Anibal	Comité	Consejo Argentino para las Relaciones Internacionales	Argentina
Lewis	Mark	Director of ELLA Program	Evidencias y Lecciones desde America Latina	Peru
Likos	Paulina	UPenn Intern	University of Pennsylvania, Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program	USA
Lima	Marlos	International Director for FGV	Fundacao Getulio Vargas	Brazil
Lladós,	José María	Academic Secretary	Consejo Argentino para las Relaciones Internacionales	Argentina
Lozada	Mili	Language and Culture Programs	The Lauder Institute	USA
Machado	Mariano	Grupo Joven	Consejo Argentino para las Relaciones Internacionales	Argentina
Martinez	Gustavo	Secretary of Coordination	Consejo Argentino para las Relaciones Internacionales	Argentina
Masi	Fernando	Executive Director	Centro de Análisis y Difusión de la Economía Paraguay	Paraguay
McGann	James	TT and Civil Society Program Director	University of Pennsylvania, Think Tank Program	USA
Molano	Manuel José	Deputy General Manager	Instituto Mexicano para la Competitividad	Mexico
Ortega Frei	Eugenio	Executive Director	Centro Democracia y Comunidad (CDC, Zentrum für Demokratie und Gemeinschaft)	Chile
Ortiz	Carmen	Vice President	Asociación de Investigación y Estudios Sociales	Guatemala
Pacheco	Napoleón	Consejo Directivo	Fundación Milenio	Bolivia
Peña	Felix	Executive Committee	Consejo Argentino para las Relaciones Internacionales	Argentina
Pérez Garrido	Haydee	Executive Director	Fundar, Centro de Análisis e Investigación	Mexico
Piccone	Ted	Senior Fellow Latin America	Brookings Institution	USA



		Initiative		
Piccone	Antonia	Rapporteur		USA
Picon	Mario	Senior Evaluation Specialist	International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie)	USA
Rafferty	Jillian	Americas Program Director	Center for Strategic and International Studies	USA
Ramirez	Ruben	Representative Director in Argentina	Banco de Desarrollo de America Latina	Argentina
Repetto	Fabián	Director Social Protection	Centro de Implementación de Políticas Públicas para la Equidad y el Crecimiento	Argentina
Rodriguez	Emil	Executive Direction of Institutional Development	Banco de Desarrollo de America Latina	Argentina
Rodriguez	Lucia	Directorate of Institutional Development	Banco de Desarrollo de America Latina	Argentina
Rodriguez Giavarini	Adalberto	President	Consejo Argentino para las Relaciones Internacionales	Argentina
Romero	Antonio	Program Officer	International Development Research Center	Uruguay
Sanguinetti	Pablo	Corporate Director of Economic Analysis and Knowledge for Development	Banco de Desarrollo de America Latina	Argentina
Straface	Fernando	Executive Director	Centro de Implementación de Políticas Públicas para la Equidad y el Crecimiento	Argentina
Suarez	Luz Elena	Communication & Human Resources	Centro de Investigación para el Desarrollo	Mexico
Suaya	Agustina	Advocacy Program Coordinator , Monitoring and Evaluation	Centro de Implementación de Políticas Públicas para la Equidad y el Crecimiento	Argentina
Taras	Daniel	Director of Emerging Market Sustainability	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit	Germany
Tijerino	Ana	Assistant Deputy	Fundación Nicaragüense para el Desarrollo Económico y Social	Nicaragua
Tome	Joaquin	Regional Project Manager in Latin American Youth Organization	Organización Iberoamericana de la Juventud	Spain
Tschudin	Alain	SAAA/CEO of Good Governance Africa	South African Institute of International Affairs	South Africa
Tsethlikai	Kenric	Managing Director	The Lauder Institute	USA
Vieira Vargas	Everton		Embajada de Brasil	Argentina
Villaroel	Paul	Executive Director	Fundación ARU	Bolivia
Wanming	Yang	Ambassador	Embajada de la República Popular China	Argentina
Winfried	Weck	Coordinator, Development Policy and Human Rights	Konrad Adenauer Stiftung	Germany

## ORGANIZERS AND HOSTS:



## GLOBAL PARTNERS:



## REGIONAL PARTNERS:



*TTCSP gratefully acknowledges the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung for their support in the publication of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Latin American Think Tank Summit report*



# About CARI

The Argentine Council for International Relations is a flagship institution in the field of international relations in Argentina and the world. It is a civil society, partisan-free, non-profit think tank, with a long-standing track record. CARI provides a forum for dialogue and pluralistic debate on the most relevant issues between major players and their peers from public and private sectors, both domestically and internationally. CARI also produces reliable papers and supplies updated information. CARI's core principles are the pluralism of ideas, freedom of speech, objectivity in research and publications, and cooperation with public and private actors.

CARI was established on June 15th, 1978 by Carlos Manuel Muñiz and a group of distinguished international affairs professionals in order to bring together foreign policy experts and officials and providing a forum for national dialogue on Argentine international insertion.

CARI's usual activities are developed by a working team that organizes the institution's general functioning. The main component is the Academic Secretariat, which carries the Council's agenda and coordinates the work of its different study areas (institutes, committees and working groups)

# About CIPPEC

The Center for the Implementation of Public Policies Promoting Equity and Growth (CIPPEC) is a private, non-profit organization that strives to create a more just, democratic, and efficient State in Argentina to improve the quality of life for all Argentine citizens.

## Vision

CIPPEC envisions a developed Argentina, with an equitable distribution of income, equal opportunities, solid and efficient public institutions. The organization aims to consolidate a just, democratic society, open to the world, in which all people can develop in freedom.

## Goals

- Working towards a State capable of responding to the needs of its citizens, by promoting the implementation of best practices in the public sector and the development of more and better professionals with a public calling.
- Developing and disseminating tools allowing civil society to increase its capacity to participate in public policies.
- Serving as a permanent source regarding public policies and contributing to the public debate with innovative proposals to improve public policies and the well-being of society.
- Carrying out investigation projects that complement the work of other centres of study and that aim at comprehending and solving the fundamental problems of Argentine reality.



# About FGV

Founded in 1944 with the main purpose of training qualified personnel for the administration of the nation's public and private sectors, Fundação Getúlio Vargas has pushed the boundaries of teaching and advanced into the research and information areas, becoming a center of quality and excellence. A pioneer in the education field, Fundação Getúlio Vargas is considered a reference point not only for its undergraduate, master's and doctorate programs and for its research, but also for its constant search for modernity and innovation. FGV researchers and executives have been key advisors to ministries, presidents and state governors. In last 5 years 3 former staff have served as ministers of Brazil. In addition, a number of FGV alumni, researchers, and professors are former ministers and heads of the central bank. There is an ongoing dialogue among the FGV president, the President of Brazil, and key ministers.

# 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 25 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 policymaking process. In 2007, the TTCSP developed and launched the global index of think tanks, which is designed to identify and recognize centers of excellence in all the major areas of public policy research and in every region of the world. 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 MA 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. A world-class research institution, Penn boasts a picturesque campus in the middle of a dynamic city. Founded by Benjamin Franklin in 1740 and recognized as America's first university, Penn remains today a world-renowned center for the creation and dissemination of knowledge. It serves as a model for research colleges and universities throughout the world.

