

Debate Linking Latin America



Invitation

Debate Linking Latin America: The geopolitical impact of China, the US and Europe and the role of the Netherlands

Monday 25th October - Nieuwspoord The Hague

After the democratization process in Latin America, and the end of the wars and dictatorships, Latin America became an important and likeminded ally for the EU and the Netherlands. Furthermore, Latin America is of importance in providing raw materials from mining and agriculture. Nevertheless, the worrisome political and economic developments in Latin America and changing geopolitical relations show that we have to update our knowledge and understanding of Latin America and maybe even redefine our role in the region.

We would like to invite you to Linking Latin America, a debate program on current developments in Latin America and the geopolitical impact of China, the US and Europe and the role of the Netherlands.

About us:

A group of Dutch organizations (CNV Internationaal, NIMD, PAX, Free Press Unlimited, Both ENDS, Impunity Watch, CEDLA, Steungroep Nicaragua) work together to raise knowledge and awareness on developments in Latin America and analyse the effects of Dutch and EU policy in Latin America and the other way around.

Programme

Optional: 13.00- 14.00 movie screening and discussion zooming in on Guatemala, organized by Impunity Watch and CNV Internationaal

14.30 - 14.45 **Welcome**

14.45 - 15.15 **Keynote – Barbara Hogenboom - Changing relations between Latin America, US, EU and China**

Dr Hogenboom is professor of Latin American Studies at the University of Amsterdam's and director of the Centre for Latin American Research and Documentation (CEDLA).

Keynote – Carlos Dada – Geopolitical changes, and the effect on rule of law, media and democracy

Carlos Dada, El Salvador, is the founder and director of the news website El Faro, which has become a reference for independent and high quality journalism in Central America since 1998 and is known for its investigations of corruption and violence.

15.15 - 16.00 **Debate and responses from Dutch MPs with Ruben Brekelmans and others**

16.00 - 16.30 **Break**

16.30 - 18.00 **Breakout sessions**

Ø Session 1 International trade and extractive industries

With Mario Valencia from Cedetrabajo on the sustainability chapter of trade agreements, Sara Murawski (coordinator Handel Anders Coalition) about MercoSur negotiations and Joseph Wilde (researcher SOMO) on human rights due diligence, responsible disengagement and Just Transition.

Ø Session 2 Civic space, protest and repression

With Colombian Milton Puertas from Citizen Diplomacy on sanctions, Juan Melendez (NIMD El Salvador) and journalist Carlos Dada on shrinking democratic space, Angela Rodriguez (NIMD Colombia) on protest and inclusive democracy, and Enrique Gasteazoro from media outlet Confidencial in Nicaragua.

Ø Session 3 Rule of law, state capture & international crime

With Guatemalan rule of law expert Claudia Escobar on corruption and impunity, Venezuelan political analyst Mariana Vahlis on rule of law and democratic space and Dutch scholars Kees Koonings and Julienne Weegels on the interconnectedness of governance, rule of law and violence.

18.00 – 19.00 **Closure and drinks**

More information and register at: www.cnvinternationaal.nl/register