

Washington, DC

YEARS

WASHINGTON CONFERENCE ON THE AMERICAS

For information contact Stephanie Davis at sdavis@as-coa.org

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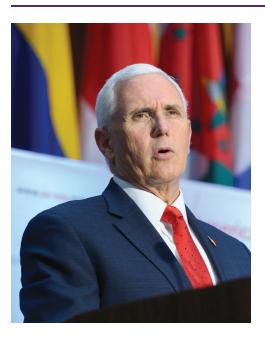
#2020WCA



WASHINGTON CONFERENCE ON THE AMERICAS



Disruption & Transformation in the Americas





Leaders including Vice President Mike Pence sent a powerful message in defense of Latin American democracy during the 49th Washington Conference on the Americas.

The 49th annual conference, titled "Disruption and Transformation in the Americas," gathered top officials from across the Americas and private-sector leaders to discuss the region's economic and political outlook.

U.S. Vice President Mike Pence energized the audience during his keynote address, highlighting the disruptions and transformations taking place in the Americas. "It's unquestionable that over the last two years, there has been profound transformation in Latin America... Since my first visit to Latin America two years ago, the people of the Western Hemisphere have voted in election after election for prosperity, security, and transparency from their governments—and the United States has stood with them every step of the way," said Pence.

Pence referred to Nicolás Maduro's regime as "the single greatest disruption to peace and prosperity in the Western Hemisphere." He also stated that the United States reaffirms its "commitment to the Venezuelan people—and to our partners in the region—to support the transformation that is now taking place."

"This partnership between the State Department and the Council of the Americas—the premier business association in the hemisphere—is a strong reminder of the positive relations that need to be continually forged between the public and private sectors to advance business in the hemisphere," said COA President and CEO Susan Segal, who opened the conference along with COA Vice President Eric Farnsworth.

Assistant Secretary for Western Hemisphere Affairs at the U.S. Department of State, Kimberly Breier, highlighted the importance of the inter-American relationship: "We believe that the Americas has an incredible opportunity—the chance to cement a future of democracy and prosperity for this hemisphere through deeper U.S. engagement, greater business investment, and stronger people-to-people ties, and we are committed to working to achieve results in these areas."







Breier was followed by a keynote interview between CNBC contributor Michelle Caruso-Cabrera and Nayib Bukele, the president-elect of El Salvador. Bukele outlined his priority to attract investment after taking office on June 1, which he saw as the best way to stem emigration flows. He estimated that every one job created in the country would prevent five people from emigrating. He also said the outgoing administration's decision to switch diplomatic recognition from Taiwan to China was not a done deal. "I'll be frank. We're not going to do what's in the U.S.' best interest or China's. We're going to do what's best for El Salvador," he said. "That might be going back to Taiwan, it might be staying with China. It's an ongoing discussion."

Following the interview, COA Chairman Andrés Gluski honored U.S. Senator Marco Rubio (R-FL), Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, with the Chairman's Award for Leadership, noting his leadership on Capitol Hill promoting U.S. policy toward Latin America. Following the award, Rubio gave remarks on the importance of democratic order in the region: "We have a chance for the Western Hemisphere to be, truly, the first free hemisphere in all of human history. We have two or three places left to go. But just imagine, that as a legacy of our time in public policy. To be able to say that we were able to be a part of having the first truly free hemisphere in the history of all of mankind."

Jan Van Acker, president of Latin America and Emerging Markets for Merck, introduced the panel "Prospects for Investment, Innovation and Inclusive Growth in the Americas." Moderated by Shery Ahn from Bloomberg, the panel included U.S. Senator Bill Cassidy (R-LA), Axel van Trotsenburg, the World Bank's Vice President for Latin America, and President Joaquim Levy of Brazil's development Bank, BNDES.

"The needs of this region are between \$150 billion and \$250 billion," said van Trotesnberg. Senator Cassidy, noting that Louisiana is the largest recipient of foreign direct investment per capita, said that Washington ought to pay more attention to its neighbors. "Any relationship needs to be tended to," he said. "And the U.S. needs to tend to its relationship with our fellow Americans in the hemisphere." Joaquim Levy talked about efforts to go digital in order to scale public services for a rapidly growing retirement population, and also deepening partnerships with countries in Asia where the development bank sees wealth generation and new demand markets.



Additional speakers at the conference included U.S. Representative Eliot Engel, Colombian Vice President Marta Lucía Ramírez, Canadian International Trade Diversification Minister James Carr, Mexican Foreign Affairs Minister Marcelo Ebrard, and U.S. Acting Secretary of Homeland Security Kevin McAleenan.

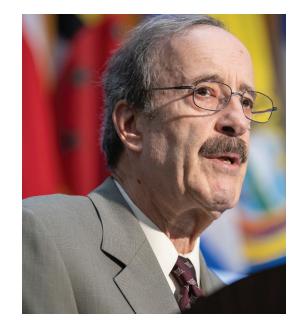
"A policy that cuts off aid, that turns our back on anti-corruption efforts, that keeps out migrants and refugees, and that stokes trade wars doesn't help United States citizens or anyone else. It leaves America standing alone," said Congressman Eliot Engel (D-NY), Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee. "I'm concerned with U.S. policy toward Latin America, starting with a wall on our southern border...I would never slam the door on immigrants who come here now because I wouldn't have wanted the door slammed on my grandparents."

Colombian Vice President Marta Lucía Ramírez said she feels the mantle of responsibility as the first female Vice President of her country for women in Colombia and throughout the hemisphere. She also talked about ways the Duque administration is working to strengthen the rule of law, gender equality, entrepreneurship, and economic development.

Canada's Trade Minister James Carr spoke about Ottawa's global trade agenda and leadership in advancing meaningful and pragmatic improvements to the World Trade Organization in a conversation with Financial Times Reporter James Politi. "Canada's relationship with the Americas is an enduring one because of the deep ties between our people and the growing trade ties that contribute to our mutual success," he said. "It is important that together we support efforts to modernize the World Trade Organization so it reflects the realities of a trading system of the twentyfirst century."

Marcelo Ebrard, Foreign Affairs Minister for Mexico, discussed the country's foreign policy agenda and the relations between Mexico City and Washington. He shared that the current Mexican government is working to achieve four main goals: tackle corruption, combat poverty and inequality, promote the growth of the country as a whole, and make the society safer. "We are shifting the focus of policymaking toward the benefit of society as a whole," he said. On the bilateral relationship with Washington, he emphasized that it's based on mutual respect, cooperation for development, and negotiated solutions to common problems.













To close the conference, Acting U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security Kevin McAleenan spoke about regional security and prosperity. He said that 63 percent Central Americans cite lack of food as a primary reason for migration. "This crisis is about children, their safety, and the future of our region," said McAleenan. "The status quo should not be acceptable for anyone who cares about the region and its people…The loss of energy and youth from whole areas of Central America could be devastating for its future."

The 49th Washington Conference was a complete success. Looking toward 2020, our 50th annual conference is not to be missed. After a half century of convening U.S. and Latin American leaders in Washington, DC, our 50th annual conference will be an opportunity to celebrate the continued engagement between governments and the private sector to address critical issues affecting the Western Hemisphere and to reflect on how the promotion of democracy, rule of law, and free markets has transformed the Americas. Make plans now to join us!





The Council of the Americas thanks the sponsors of our 49th annual Washington Conference on the Americas for their tangible and meaningful support. We look forward to seeing everyone on May 4 and May 5, 2020 at the 50th annual Washington Conference on the Americas!

THIS EVENT IS CO-SPONSORED BY THE BUREAU OF WESTERN HEMISPHERE AFFAIRS, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE













Americas Society / Council of the Americas 2018



WE CONNECT THE AMERICAS

Americas Society and Council of the Americas bring together the public and private sector to discuss the most important issues affecting the Western Hemisphere and advance their common agenda of economic and social development, open markets, the rule of law, and democracy in the region.

Dear Members and Friends,

2018 was a year of complex global relations, and the Western Hemisphere was no exception.

Nearly two-thirds of Latin American voters had the opportunity to cast ballots in presidential, congressional, and local elections. Corruption, security, and economic development became rallying cries of new voices challenging the status quo. The work of AS/COA is more crucial than ever before, providing a unique platform to engage on the most pressing issues in the hemisphere.

We are dedicated to our mission of engagement, dialogue, debate, and impact on critical regional issues. Our numerous programs in New York, Washington, DC, Miami, and Latin American Cities Conferences, in addition to our various initiatives, offer an unparalleled platform for public and private exchange. Our flagship publication *Americas Quarterly* has established itself as a must-read for leaders and influencers. And our renowned art gallery coupled with our diverse musical offerings make the Americas Society a premier forum for understanding the political and cultural affairs of the Americas.

We have worked hard to highlight these political, cultural, and economic relationships that connect the Americas and the world since David Rockefeller founded the organization over 50 years ago. And we will continue to provide a oneof-a-kind space for the public and private sectors to come together and discuss these topics.

We look forward to bringing together our AS/COA community to connect, debate, and make an impact on all of these important issues. Our work is possible because of the participation and generosity of our members, donors and sponsors.

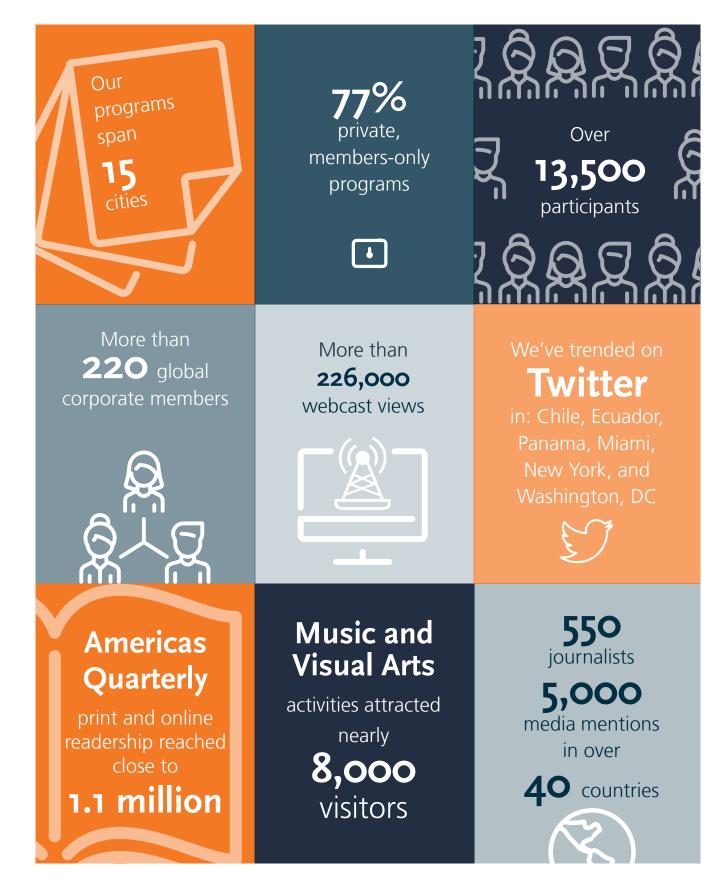
Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to seeing you often as we together support the Americas.

Andrés Gluski Chairman

Susand. Segal

Susan L. Segal President and CEO

MEASURING OUR IMPACT



ENGAGING TOP LEADERS

Our **Presidents of the Americas** series provides members with exclusive opportunities to meet and hear from Latin America's heads of state at our U.S. offices and across the region.

as-coa.org/presidents





- 1/ Martín Vizcarra, President of Peru
- 2/ Iván Duque, President of Colombia
- 3/ Mauricio Macri, President of Argentina
- 4/ Lenín Moreno, President of Ecuador
- 5/ Carlos Alvarado, President of Costa Rica
- 6/ Pedro Sánchez, President of the Government of Spain
- 7/ Juan Carlos Varela, President of Panama
- 8/ Mario Abdo Benítez, President of Paraguay

Our **Latin American Cities Conferences**, featuring public and private events, are held every year in major cities such as Bogotá, Buenos Aires, Lima, Santiago, Mexico City, and São Paulo.

as-coa.org/latamcities



ENGAGING TOP LEADERS

For nearly 50 years, the **Washington Conference on the Americas** has been the premier policy forum in the Western Hemisphere. The annual conference, held at the U.S. State Department, serves as the top platform for senior government and industry leaders to set an agenda for hemispheric affairs.

as-coa.org/wca



1/ Nikki Haley, U.S. Ambassador to the UN
2/ Rick Perry, U.S. Secretary of Energy
3/ David Malpass, Undersecretary for
International Affairs, U.S. Department of the
Treasury
4/ Private meeting with U.S. Vice President
Mike Pence
5/ Robert Menendez, Senator (D-NJ)
6/ Marco Rubio, Senator (R-FL)





All year round, leaders gather in cities across the Americas to forge relationships and share industry trends at the **BRAVO Leadership Forums**, a signature series that includes the Council of the Americas Symposium, BRAVO Business Awards, CFO Forums, and CEO Roundtables.

as-coa.org/bravo as-coa.org/cfo











1/ Gabriela Frías, Portafolio Global, CNN en Español; César Cernuda, Microsoft Latin America; Gabriel Di Lelle, Bancolombia S.A.; Vernon Murray, Emerson Automation Solutions; Fernando Iraola, Bank of America Merrill Lynch; Ana Paula Assis, IBM Latin America

2/ **Katia Bouazza** & **Gerardo Mato**, HSBC Securities (USA) Inc.

3/ Susan Segal, President & CEO, AS/COA; Eduardo Tricio Haro, Grupo Lala; Patricia Menéndez-Cambó, Greenberg Traurig; Carlos Mario Giraldo, Grupo Éxito; Isabel de Saint Malo de Alvarado, Vice President and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Panama; Fabio Schvartsman, Vale; Eugenio von Chrismar, Bci; Andrés Gluski, Chairman, AS/COA; Maria Lourdes Gallo, Senior Director, BRAVO Leadership Forums, AS/COA

4/ CEO Roundtable São Paulo: Susan Segal, President & CEO, AS/COA; Henrique Meirelles, Minister of Finance, Brazil 5/ Png Cheong Boon, Enterprise Singapore; Jorge Becerra, Boston Consulting Group

DRIVING THE DIALOGUE

Our **public and private events** draw top leaders from across the Americas to assess economic and political outlooks, investment opportunities, energy issues, and innovation in the region.

as-coa.org/leadershipevents







CO















ANALYZING THE AMERICAS

AS/COA initiatives and working groups allow members to engage in resultsoriented discussions on issues critical to business and investment in the Americas.

Women's Hemispheric Network as-coa.org/women



Tech Series as-coa.org/tech





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Cuba Working Group as-coa.org/cuba



Anti-corruption Working Group

as-coa.org/awg







 Sheri Henck, Medtronic
 Abrão Árabe Neto, Secretary of Foreign Trade, Brazil
 Juan Guaidó, Congressman, Venezuela

4/ **Catherine Tornel**, Capital Markets Coordinator, Ministry of Finance, Chile 5/ **Ariel Yepez**, Energy Division Chief, Inter-American Development Bank 6/ Alana Tummino, Head of Cuba Working Group, AS/COA; Ambassador Jeffrey DeLaurentis, former Chargé d'Affaires at the U.S. Embassy in Havana

7/ Claudio González, President and Cofounder, Mexicanos Contra la Corrupción y la Impunidad; Alan Clutterbuck, President and Cofounder, Fundación Red de Acción Política; Brian Winter, Editor-in-Chief of Americas Quarterly and Vice President of Policy at AS/COA; Thelma Aldana, Attorney General, Guatemala; Geert Aalbers, Control Risks; Sérgio Moro, Federal Judge, Brazil

CONNECTING THE NEXT GENERATION

With a network of over 1,500 young leaders in New York, Washington, Miami, and across the hemisphere, **Young Professionals of the Americas (YPA)** inspires and connects its members through professional development and social events.



1/ YPA NY Steering Committee Meeting 2/ YPA Miami Cafecito; **Kenneth Ray**, Zimmer Biomet; **Francisco Martinez**, Senior Associate, AS/COA; **Gustavo Pupo-Mayo**, TAP Latin America and COA Board Member; **Yndira Marin**, Llorente & Cuenca; **Zac Hersman**, Raymond James; **Vanessa Perez**, TAP Latin America 3/ YPA NY: The Mystical World of the Mayan Weavers of Guatemala; Alida Boer, MARIAS and Miss Guatemala 2007; José Isaias Tiney Sisay, Guatemalan Artisan 4/ YPA DC: Argentina Tech Forum; Lisa Besserman, Startup Buenos Aires; Zoe Dauth, Program Manager, AS/COA; Nicolás García Mayor, Cmax System Inc.; Ady Beitler, Nilus; Irene Arias Hofman, IDB Lab; Guillermo Areas, The BMW Group 5/ Latin American Business Conference 2018 6/ YPA NY: Latin America in the Era of Fake News; Luisa García, Llorente & Cuenca; Alana Tummino, Executive Director, YPA

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Our **Boards, Chairman's International Advisory Council, Corporate Members**, and **Sponsors** form a collaborative network of leaders who focus on hemispheric issues through our meetings, discussions, elite programming, and conferences across the Americas.

as-coa.org/members

















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 Victor Rico, CAF - Development Bank of
 Latin America
 Julia Torreblanca, Cerro Verde

RECOGNIZING EXCELLENCE

The recipients of the Americas Society 2018 Gold Medal were honored at the annual **Spring Party** held in New York City. In the Fall, Susan Segal was awarded Peru's Order of Merit for Distinguished Services. Ambassador Thomas A. Shannon, Jr. was recognized with Americas Society's Gold Medal for his distinguished diplomatic service.



 Gerardo Mato, Chairman of Global Banking & Markets - Americas, HSBC Securities; Stuart Gulliver, HSBC Holdings; William R. Rhodes, Chairman Emeritus, AS/COA; Susan Segal, President & CEO, AS/COA; Arminio Fraga, Gávea Investimentos; Andrés Gluski, Chairman, AS/COA
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 John D. Negroponte, Chairman Emeritus, AS/COA; Ambassador Thomas A. Shannon Junior, former Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs and retired American Diplomat; William R. Rhodes, Chairman Emeritus, AS/COA

AMERICAS QUARTERLY

AQ's audience grew another 30 percent and featured **insightful coverage of Latin American politics, economics, and culture in 2018**. Our political coverage earned the attention of presidents, CEOs and thought leaders all over Latin America. We convened a historic meeting of Latin America's anti-corruption leaders in March and gathered VIP guests at events around the region.

americasquarterly.org



1/ 2018 Elections in Latin America: Americas Quarterly Launch Event; Brian Winter, Editor-in-Chief of Americas Quarterly and Vice President of Policy at AS/COA

2/ What's Next in Venezuela after May 20?; Asdrúbal Oliveros, Ecoanalítica; Luisa Palacios, Medley Global Advisors; Brian Winter, AQ; David Smolansky, exiled former Mayor of El Hatillo, Venezuela

3/ Argentina: Cities and the Future of Work in Latin America; Daniel Martínez, Mayor of Montevideo, Uruguay

4/ Argentina: Cities and the Future of Work in Latin America; Brian Winter, AQ; Horacio Rodríguez Larreta, Mayor of Buenos Aires, Argentina

ARTS & CULTURE

In 2018, the **MetLife Foundation Music of the Americas Concert Series** presented 22 events at our headquarters and venues across Manhattan, featuring music spanning centuries, from Cuban baroque to premieres of Americas Society commissions by living composers, and from new opera to folk music.

as-coa.org/music



1/ Cuban early music ensemble Ars Longa de La Habana performs at Columbia University.

2/ **Nelson Freire**, Brazilian Pianist; **Sebastián Zubieta**, Americas Society Music Director after the screening of Nelson Freire.

3/ Juancho Herrera and Sofía Rei perform music by Jorge de la Vega at Americas Society.

The **Visual Arts** program in 2018 held three outstanding and widely reviewed exhibitions. Public programs for each included partnerships with leading local and national institutions. Publications accompanying each exhibition have reached increased readership with a new pocket book format.

as-coa.org/visualarts





1/ José Leonilson: Empty Man, *Co-published by Koenig Books, London.*

2/ The Metropolis in Latin America, 1830 -1930. Installation view.



3/ Dr. Julio Frenk, President, University of Miami; Gabriela Rangel, Chief Curator and Director of Visual Arts, Americas Society; Hans Ulrich Obrist, Artistic Director of the Serpentine Galleries, London, at the opening reception of Lydia Cabrera and Édouard Glissant: Trembling Thinking.

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Image on page 22: Detail of hand-blocked scenic wallpaper "Les Incas" printed by A. Leroy, Paris, 1832. This romantic interpretation of Pizarro's conquest of Peru in 1513 decorates Americas Society's Incas Room.



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