



**Association for the Study of the
Cuban Economy
2024 Annual Conference**

Co-Sponsored by the
**Cuban Research Institute
Florida International University**



**October 18-20, 2024
FIU College of Law
Miami, Florida**

ASCE 2024 Annual Conference
Co-Sponsored by the
Cuban Research Institute, FIU

CUBA IN CRISIS

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18

8:30 am – 9:15 am REGISTRATION

9:15 am – 10:45 am PLENARY SESSION– Room 1000

Welcome/Opening Remarks

Luis Locay, University of Miami, ASCE President

Jeff Gonzalez, Associate Dean, School of International and Public Affairs, Florida International University

1. La Crisis Cubana en Perspectiva Multidimensional

Chair: Luis Locay, University of Miami

Omar Everlenny Pérez Villanueva, Centro de Reflexión y Diálogo, Cuba, “La profundización de la crisis: La economía cubana en el primer semestre de 2024”

Ricardo Torres Pérez, American University, “Soft budget constraints in Cuba’s state-owned enterprises”

Tamaris Lien Bahamonde, University of Delaware, “Otra cara de la crisis cubana: Mercado laboral, precariedad del trabajo y trabajadores precarizados”

Mauricio De Miranda Parrondo, Pontificia Universidad Javeriana Cali, Colombia, “Sector externo y crisis de inserción internacional de la economía cubana”

10:45 am – 11:00 am COFFEE BREAK– Atrium

11:00 am – 12:45 pm PLENARY SESSION– Room 1000

2. Essential Policies to Address the Crisis

Chair: Lorenzo Pérez, IMF (retired)

Ricardo Torres Pérez, American University, “Macroeconomic situation and policies to mitigate the crisis, particularly in fiscal policy, including public sector enterprises”

Pavel Vidal Alejandro, Universidad Javeriana Cali, “Monetary and exchange policies; the foreign exchange market”

Felipe Manteiga, USAID (retired), “The agricultural sector, with emphasis on food production”

Natalia Delgado, Columbia University Law School, “The regulatory environment: reforms to promote the private sector both domestic and foreign”

Discussant: Rafael Romeu, DevTech Systems

12:45 am – 1:45 pm

LUNCH BREAK

1:45 pm – 3:15 pm

PLENARY SESSION– Room 1000

3. Basic Legal Institutions Required by a Functioning Market Economy: Challenges for Cuba

Chair: Natalia Delgado, Cuba Capacity Building Project, Columbia Law School

Property rights: Thomas W. Merrill, Charles Evans Hughes Professor of Law, Columbia University

Contract rights: Jody Kraus, Alfred McCormack Professor of Law, Columbia University

Rule of law: Natalia Delgado, Cuba Capacity Building Project, Columbia Law School

3:15 pm – 3:30 pm

COFFEE BREAK– Atrium

3:30 pm – 4:45 pm

PLENARY SESSION– Room 1000

4. Engaging Autocratic States: A Discussion and Debate on Strategies and Challenges

Moderator: Bryan Roberts, Senior Economist, DevTech Systems and External Research Fellow, CREATE Research Center, University of Southern California

Gary C. Hufbauer, Senior Fellow, Peterson Institute for International Economics

Luis Locay, Department of Economics, University of Miami

Enrique S. Pumar, Fay Boyle Professor, Santa Clara University

5:00 pm ASCE RECEPTION– Atrium

Remarks in recognition of Roger Betancourt’s leadership in the creation and growth of ASCE by Rafael Romeu, ASCE President-Elect, and of Carlos Quijano’s many contributions to the organization by Ricardo V. Lago, University of Miami (read by Luis Locay, ASCE President).



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19

8:30 am – 9:00 am REGISTRATION

9:00 am – 10:30 am PLENARY SESSION– Room 1000

5. Cuba in an International Context

Chair: René Costales, IDB (retired)

Silvia Pedraza, University of Michigan, and **Carlos A Romero**, Universidad Central de Venezuela (retired), “Cuba, Nicaragua y Venezuela. Unas revoluciones menguadas”

Vadim Grishin, George Washington University, “The Cuban Crisis in the Current Geopolitical Context”

José Pineda, DevTech Systems, “Macroeconomic Modeling of Venezuela Under a Potential Recovery”

Discussants: María Werlau, Free Society Project/Cuba Archive; **John Devereux**, Queens College, City University of New York

10:30 am – 10:45 am COFFEE BREAK– Atrium

10:45 am – 12:15 pm CONCURRENT SESSIONS

6. Legal and Foreign Investment Issues -- Room 1009

Chair: Silvia Pedraza, University of Michigan

Nicolás Sánchez, Professor Emeritus of Economics, College of the Holy Cross, and **Frank Carlos Martínez**, Global Risk Analyst, Bank of America, “Sexual Rules in Post-Revolutionary Cuba”

Amelia Rodríguez Cala, former practicing attorney in Bufete Colectivo Salvador Allende, “El Secreto Profesional en el ejercicio de la abogacía”

Diana Yuditxa Bautista Martínez, Miembro del Colegio de Abogados de Milán, “Contigo ni pan ni Cebolla: Ni la inversion extranjera en Cuba, ni MIPYMES: Los impagos a las empresas extranjeras en la crisis económica”

Discussants: **José Pineda**, DevTech Systems; **Ted A. Henken**, Baruch College, City University of New York

**7. Social and Cultural Consequences of Cuba's Economic Path
–Room 1000**

Chair: **Jorge Duany**, Former Director, Cuban Research Institute, and Professor of Anthropology, Florida International University

Larry Catá Backer, Penn State University, "Cuba—The Construction of a State of Misery"

Jorge Domínguez, Harvard University, retired, "Inching toward Democratization? Comparing Cuba's National Assembly Elections in 2018 and 2023"

Enrique S. Pumar, Fay Boyle Professor, Santa Clara University, "The Economics of Higher Education: The Crises and the University."

Ted A. Henken, Baruch College, "Saturn's Children: The 60-Year Struggle to Reestablish a Free Press in Cuba"

Discussant: **Gary Maybarduk**, US Department of State (retired),

Carlos Seiglie, Department of Economics, Rutgers University, Newark

12:15 pm – 2:15 pm

ASCE LUNCHEON– Atrium

Ernesto Betancourt Lecture

Eduardo A. Gamarra, Professor, Department of Politics and International Relations, Green School of International and Public Affairs, and Director, Latino Public Opinion Forum, Jack Gordon Institute for Public Policy, Florida International University, "Democratic Backsliding in Latin America and Its Impact on Cuba's Political Future"

2:15 pm – 3:45 pm

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

8. Student Papers – Room 1009

Chair: **Dr. Jorge Ulloa Hung**, University of Miami, Department of Anthropology

Britney Ngo, University of Miami, "Navigating Hyphenated Identities: A Comparative Analysis of Identity Formation Amongst First-Generation American Children of Vietnamese and Cuban Refugees"

Victoria Locay, University of Miami, "Piety and policy: impacts of religious prohibition in Cuba"

Humberto D. Guerra Pinon, Lynn University; **Jenny Mora Herrera**, Facultad de Comunicación, Universidad de La Habana; and **Olivia Pérez Marin**, Facultad de Lenguas Extranjeras, Universidad de La Habana,

“Employability, Insertion, and Job Satisfaction of Cuban University Graduates: Economic Implications”

Discussants: **Enrique S. Pumar**, Fay Boyle Professor, Santa Clara University; **Mario González Corzo**, City University of New York, Lehman College

9. Economic Issues – Room 1000

Chair: **María Dolores Espino**, St. Thomas University (retired)

Paolo Spadoni, Augusta University, “The Cuban Tourism Industry: Evolution, Challenges, and Prospects”

Bryan Roberts, Senior Economist, DevTech Systems and External Research Fellow, CREATE Research Center, University of Southern California, “Automobiles in Cuba: Number, Characteristics, and Issues”

Juan Tomás Sánchez, Presidente de la Asociación de Cultivadores de Caña de Azúcar de Cuba, Inc., “Una propuesta de transformación para Cuba”

Discussants: **María Dolores Espino**, St. Thomas University (retired); **René Costales**, IDB (retired)

3:45 pm – 4:00 pm

COFFEE BREAK– Atrium

4:00 pm – 5:30 pm

PLENARY SESSION– Room 1000

10. Developments in Cuba’s Agricultural Sector

Chair: **Gary Maybarduk**, US Department of State (retired)

Mario González-Corzo, The City University of New York, Lehman College, “Recent Employment and Output Trends in Cuba's Non-Sugar Agricultural Sector”

William A. Messina, Jr., University of Florida, “Cuba’s Food Situation: Bad News, Good News, Bad News”

Federico Lázaro Sulroca, “Management model for sugarcane with precision agriculture”

Discussant: **Felipe Manteiga**, USAID (retired)

5:45 pm – 6:45 pm

ASCE BUSINESS MEETING– Room 1000



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20

9:00 am – 10:30 am

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

**11. Cuba's Sugar Sector: Retrospective and Prospective –
Room 1009**

Chair: Jorge Pérez-López, International Consultant

Federico Lázaro Sulroca, “Cuba and Sugar Cane, Will the Agroindustry Disappear?”

Juan Tomás Sánchez, Sugarcane Growers Association of Cuba, “The Importance of Cuba's Democratization for the Recovery of Cuba's Participation in a New Reciprocity Treaty with the U.S.”

Ana Vera Estrada, Instituto Cubano de Investigación Cultural Juan Marinello, “Ideas for the Future of the Cuban Sugar World”

Discussant: Silvia Pedraza, University of Michigan

**12. Las MiPymes en la encrucijada: Retos del sector privado en
Cuba – Room 1000**

Coordinador: Juan Carlos Albizu-Campos Espiñeira, Centro Cristiano de Reflexión y Diálogo-Cuba

Omar Everlery Pérez Villanueva, Centro Cristiano de Reflexión y Diálogo-Cuba, “Las MiPymes y la ‘economía de guerra’: Un análisis de situación”

William Bello Sánchez, Proyecto Cuba Emprende, “Empleo y salario en el sector privado en Cuba: Su rol en la dinámica de las MiPymes y en las perspectivas de la vida cotidiana de la nación”

Rita María García Morris, Centro Cristiano de Reflexión y Diálogo-Cuba, “El CCRD-C y la estrategia de acompañamiento al emprendimiento local”

Comentaristas: Juan Carlos Albizu-Campos Espiñeira, Centro Cristiano de Reflexión y Diálogo-Cuba; **Ricardo Herrero**, Cuba Study Group

10:30 am – 10:45 am

COFFEE BREAK– Atrium

10:45 am – 12:30 pm

PLENARY SESSION – Room 1000

13. Recent Cuban Exodus and its Social and Economic Repercussions

Chair: Rogelio de la Torre, Consultant

Juan Carlos Albizu-Campos Espiñeira, Centro Cristiano de Reflexión y Diálogo-Cuba, “Cuba: Una mirada rápida a la migración y la población”

Jorge Duany y Elaine Acosta, FIU, “Crisis migratoria y sostenibilidad de la vida en Cuba: Causas, dinámicas e impacto de los recientes desplazamientos de Cubanos a Estados Unidos”

Discussants: Sergio Díaz-Briquets, International Consultant; **Denisse Delgado Vázquez**, Consultant, United Nations Development Program

