

**Association for the Study of the Cuban Economy (ASCE)
2023 Annual Conference
To be held at the
Florida International University College of Law
Miami, Florida**

**Cuba's Economic Crisis:
Domestic, External and Social Policy Challenges**

FRIDAY AUGUST 4

8:30 am – 9:15 am REGISTRATION

9:15 am - 11:00 am PLENARY – Room 1000

Welcoming/Opening Remarks

Shlomi Dinar, Dean, School of International and Public Affairs, Florida
International University

Luis Locay, University of Miami, ASCE President

1 Current Economic Situation and Prospects – Room 1000

Chair: Luis Locay, University of Miami

Carmelo Mesa-Lago, Emeritus Professor, University of Pittsburgh, “The Cuban
Economy in 2021-2022 and Prospects for 2023”

Comments by Ricardo Torres Pérez, American University; Omar Everleny Pérez
Villanueva, Centro Cristiano de Reflexión y Diálogo, Cuba

11:00 am – 11:15 am COFFEE BREAK

11:15 am – 12:45 pm CONCURRENT SESSIONS

2a Political/Governance Issues – Room 1000

Chair: Carlos Seiglie, Rutgers University

Jorge Domínguez, Harvard University (retired), "Cuba's March 2023 National
Assembly Election: When Everyone Wins, Who Performs Best and Who Performs
Worst?"

Armando Chaguaceda, El Colegio de Veracruz y Raudiel Peña Barrios, El Colegio de México, “Cuba: El régimen político y la transición incierta. Nociones revisitadas y la transición incierta”

Discussant: José Jasán Nieves Cárdenas, editor, El Toque

2.b Cuba’s External Debt – Room 2008

Chair: Luis R. Luis, International Research and Strategy Associates

Carmen Reinhart, Kennedy School, Harvard University, “Sovereign Debt Restructuring in Emerging Markets: Challenges Ahead”

Natalia Delgado, Cuba Capacity Building Project at Columbia Law School, "Decision of the High Court of the UK on Cuban Debt: What Comes Next?"

Abelardo Curdumi, 5th Street Advisors, "Using External Debt as Currency"

Discussant: Lorenzo Pérez, IMF (retired)

12:45 pm – 1:45 pm LUNCH BREAK

1:45 pm – 3:15 pm CONCURRENT SESSIONS

3a El impacto de la Tarea Ordenamiento en la consolidación de un patrón de vulnerabilidad social en Cuba: análisis y propuestas sobre cuidados y calidad de vida en la vejez – Room 1000

Moderador: Dagoberto Valdés, Director del Centro de Estudios Convivencia, Cuba
Panelistas:

Carmelo Mesa-Lago, Profesor Emérito, Universidad de Pittsburgh

Claudia González Marrero, Food Monitor Program

Elaine Acosta González, CUIDO60

Juan Carlos Albizu-Campos, Centro de Estudios de la Economía Cubana, Cuba

3b Currency Markets – Room 2008

Chair: Joaquín Pujol, IMF (retired)

Luis R. Luis, International Research and Strategy Associates, “The Structure of the Parallel Foreign Exchange Market in Cuba”

Pavel Vidal Alejandro, Pontificia Universidad Javeriana Cali, Colombia and

Abraham Calás Torres, El Toque, “An Independent Measurement of Cuba’s Parallel Exchange Rate”

Discussants: Rafael Romeu, DevTech Systems; Ricardo V. Lago (formerly at World Bank and IADB), Consultant and Adjunct Professor, University of Miami

3:15 pm – 3:30 pm COFFEE BREAK

3:30 pm – 4:45 pm PLENARY—Room 1000

4 Carlos Díaz-Alejandro Lecture – Room 1000

Chair: Carlos Seiglie, Rutgers University

Bryan Roberts, Center for Risk and Economic Analysis of Threats and Emergencies, University of Southern California, "Eight Decades of Communism and Transition in Poland and Potential Insights for Cuba"

ASCE RECEPTION

SATURDAY AUGUST 5

8:30 am – 9:00 am REGISTRATION

9 am – 10:30 am CONCURRENT SESSIONS

5a Cuban Transnationalism – Room 1000

Chair: Helena Solo-Gabriele, University of Miami

Juan Carlos Albizu-Campos Espiñeira, Universidad de la Habana, "Cuba and Its Emigration: Exit as Voice"

Silvia Pedraza, Professor of Sociology and American Culture, University of Michigan, "Transnational Engagements Among Cuban Immigrants and the Island: Economic, Political, and Social Challenges"

Discussant: René Costales, IDB (retired)

5b Cuba: Desmontaje de la "justicia social": Repercusión sociopolítica – Room 2008

Moderador: Juan Antonio Blanco, Asociación Cuba Siglo 21, España

Panelistas:

Alina B. López Hernández, Cuba, "Desmontaje de la justicia socialista cubana. Repercusión socio-política"

Mauricio de Miranda Parrondo, Pontificia Universidad Javeriana Cali, Colombia, "Crisis estructural y política económica y social en el 'post-ordenamiento' cubano"

Emilio Morales Dopico, The Havana Consulting Group, EEUU, "Cuba: crisis de gobernanza y futuro incierto"

10:30 am – 10:45 am COFFEE BREAK

10:45 am – 12:15 pm CONCURRENT SESSIONS

6a Book Forum – Room 1000

Chair: Luis Locay, University of Miami, ASCE President

Presentation by Carmelo Mesa-Lago of his forthcoming book, *Comparative Policy and Performance of Two Socialist Economic Models: Cuba's Central Plan and China-Vietnam's Socialist Market*

Comments by Vegard Bye, Chr. Michelsen Institute, Bergen, Norway; Mauricio de Miranda Parrondo, Pontificia Universidad Javeriana Cali, Colombia

6b Non-Sugar Agriculture – Room 2008

Chair: Jorge Pérez-López, International Economist

Mario González-Corzo, Lehman College, City University of New York (CUNY), Tomás Depestre Manso, and Olimpia Gómez Consuegra, "Factores que inciden sobre la producción de tomate en Cuba. Resultado de una encuesta luego del análisis de tendencias"

Alonso Expósito, "El Actual Sistema Agrario Cubano y su Regresión a la Cultura Aborigen de la Yuca"

Anicia García Alvarez, Universidad de la Habana, "El sector agropecuario: clave para el desarrollo de Cuba"

Discussants: Felipe Manteiga, USAID (retired); Pedro Acosta, Periodista Independiente

12:15 pm – 2:15 pm ASCE LUNCHEON – FIU School of Business

Ernesto Betancourt Lecture

Introduction: Luis Locay, ASCE President

Luncheon Speaker: Alan Dye, Barnard College, Columbia University, "Unraveling Reciprocity: Reflections on the History of Cuban-US Trade Cooperation"

2:15 pm – 3:45 pm CONCURRENT SESSIONS

7a Transition Issues – Room 1000

Chair: Lorenzo Pérez, IMF (retired)

Carlos Seiglie, Rutgers University, "Reflections on the Future of a Cuba Without Transformative Changes"

Vadim Grishin, Adjunct Professor, Georgetown University and George Washington University, "Are Russian-Style Reforms Possible in Cuba?"

Discussants: Gary Maybarduk, U.S. Department of State (retired); Manuel Santos, University of Miami

7b Contemporary Immigration Issues – Room 2008

Chair: Sergio Díaz-Briquets, International Consultant

Bryan Roberts, Center for Risk and Economic Analysis of Threats and Emergencies, University of Southern California, and Malgorzata Zachara-Szymańska, Faculty of International and Political Studies, Jagiellonian University, Poland, “Polish Immigration Policies: A New Model for Migration Management?”
Luis Locay, University of Miami, “Where are Recent Cuban Immigrants Ending Up?”

Discussant: Roger Betancourt, Emeritus Professor, University of Maryland

3:45 pm – 4:00 pm COFFEE BREAK

4:00 pm - 5:30 pm CONCURRENT SESSIONS

8a Economic/Legal Topics – Room 1000

Chair: José Gabilondo, Florida International University College of Law

Juan Emigdio García Cuza, “Panorama social y político de los derechos constitucionales económicos en Cuba”

Adrian Ganic, Graduate Student, London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), “Ideology and the Political Effects of Remittances: An Examination of the Survival of Cuban Authoritarianism, 1991–2019”

Discussant: Amelia Rodríguez Cala; Emilio Morales, The Havana Consulting Group

8b External Sector Issues – Room 2008

Chair: Gary Maybarduk, U.S. Department of State (retired)

Jorge Pérez-López, International Economist, and Sergio Díaz-Briquets, International Consultant, “Cuban Tourism after the Pandemic: Slow Recovery, Hotel Expansion and Pressure on Inputs”

Diana Yuditxa Bautista Martínez, Studio Legale Diana Bautista, Milan, Italy, “¿Rescatar la inversión extranjera? La economía y sistema jurídico cubano es como la Torre de Pisa”

María C. Werlau, Free Society Project/Cuba Archive, “Cuba-China: A Post-Cold War Marriage in Context”

Discussants: Juan Antonio Blanco, Asociación Cuba Siglo 21; Natalia Delgado, Cuba Capacity Building Project at Columbia Law School.

5:45 pm – 6:45 pm

ASCE Business Meeting – Room 1000

SUNDAY AUGUST 6

9:00 am – 10:30 am CONCURRENT SESSIONS

9a Venezuela-Cuba Economic Relations – Room 1000

Chair: Roger Betancourt, Emeritus Professor, University of Maryland
Jorge Piñón, University of Texas at Austin, “Venezuela: The End of Cuba’s Life-Line?”

Rafael Romeu and José Pineda, DevTech Systems, “Cooperation between Venezuela and Cuba: Assessment and Prospects”

Discussant: John Devereux, Queens College, City University of New York

9b Perspectives on Sugar—Room 2008

Chair: Alan Dye, Barnard College, Columbia University

Ana Vera Estrada, Profesora Titular, Universidad de la Habana e Investigadora Titular del Instituto Cubano de Investigación Cultural Juan Marinello (ICIC), “¿Guajiros en el Siglo XXI? Itinerario de un cambio cultural 2002-2023”

Federico Sulroca, Profesor Titular, Universidad de La Habana e Investigador del Instituto de Investigaciones de la Caña de Azúcar (INICA), “La producción de caña de azúcar en Cuba y su futuro”

Discussants: Silvia Pedraza, Professor of Sociology and American Culture, University of Michigan; Juan Tomás Sánchez, Cuba Sugarcane Growers Association, Inc.

10:30 am – 10:45 am COFFEE BREAK

10:45 am – 12:30 pm CONCURRENT SESSIONS

10a Labor Rights in the Emerging Cuban Private Sector – Room 1000

Chair: Ted Henken, Baruch College, City University of New York

Panelists: William Bello, Programa Oasis, CubaEmprende

Eloy Viera Cañive, legal expert with El Toque

Camilo Condis, Cuban entrepreneur

10b Food Availability and Cost of Living – Room 2008

Chair: Nicolás Sánchez, Emeritus Professor, College of the Holy Cross
William Messina, University of Florida, “Cuba's Food Situation: Domestic
Production Patterns and Import Dependency”

Omar Everleny Pérez Villanueva, Centro Cristiano de Reflexión y Diálogo, Cuba.
“Costo de la Vida en Cuba”

Discussant: Ricardo Torres Pérez, American University