

**Association for the Study of the Cuban Economy (ASCE)
31ST ANNUAL MEETING**

COVID and the VIII Party Congress: Reforming the Cuban Economy

August 12-14, 2021

Draft Program

DAY 1, THURSDAY AUGUST 12

9:45 AM – 12:00 PM

Opening Remarks—ASCE President

Session 1: Economic and Political Context

Chair: Gary Maybarduk, ASCE President

Carmelo Mesa-Lago, Professor Emeritus, University of Pittsburgh, “Key Economic and Social Factors That Provoked the Worst Cuban Economic Crisis since the 1990s and Subsequent Street Protests”

Jorge I. Domínguez, "The Triumphs and Failures of Bureaucratic Socialism in Cuba in 2018-2021."

Omar Everleny Pérez Villanueva, “La economía cubana: La Tarea Ordenamiento y su repercusión social”

2:00 PM- 4:00 PM

Session 2: Tarea Ordenamiento and its Aftermath

Chair: Joaquín Pujol, IMF retired

Luis R. Luis, “Inflation Trends and Devaluation in Cuba”

Ernesto Hernández-Catá, “Expectations under a Fixed Exchange Rate Regime: An Imaginary Model of the Official Cuban Peso”

Gabriel Di Bella and Rafael Romeu, “Considerations on the Impact of Peso Unification in 2021”

Gabriel Di Bella, Rafael Romeu, and Nemanja Jovanovic, “What can we learn from Cuba’s Parallel Exchange Rate after currency unification?”

7:30 PM – 9:00 PM

Open Mic Session: Cuba’s Economic Policy Options in Response to Current Crisis

Moderator: Luis Luis

Up to 3 experts to introduce topics to speak for five minutes each. Members' responses are limited to 3 minutes each.

DAY 2, FRIDAY AUGUST 13

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Session 3: International Dimensions

Chair: Natalia Delgado, Columbia Law School

Silvia Pedraza and Carlos A. Romero, “Cuba and Venezuela Cooperation. Doctors for Oil: The Social Dimension of the Partnership”

Yvon Grenier, St. Francis Xavier University, “No Sanction: Explaining Canadian Foreign Policy toward Cuba”

Martin Palous, Florida International University, “Cuba in 2021: A Central European Point of View”

2:00 PM- 2:15 PM

Announcements Comments by ASCE President

2:15 PM – 4:15 PM

Session 4: Cuban Political Economy Challenges

Chair: Jorge Esquirol, Florida International University

José Gabilondo, “Socialism 2.0: Rebuilding Cuba’s Post-Castro Economy”

Larry Catá Backer, “The 8th Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba and the Future of the Cuban Economic Model”

Vadim Grishin, “The 8th Congress of the CPC: Continuity vs. Reforms”

Soren Triff, “La trata de personas y la justicia transicional en la postura deliberativa digital de los artistas cubanos”

7:30 PM – 9:30 PM

Open Mic Session: The Cuban Crisis and American Policy Responses

Moderator: Gary Maybarduk

Up to 3 experts to introduce topics to speak for five minutes each. Members' responses are limited to 3 minutes each.

DAY 3, SATURDAY AUGUST 14

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Session 5: Agriculture

Chair: Felipe Manteiga

Olimpia Gómez-Consuegra and Tomás Depestre, “Producción de Semillas Hortícolas: Actualización de Caso de Estudio en Cuba”

William Messina, University of Florida, "Cuban Agricultural Production and Trade in the Midst of the COVID-19 Pandemic"

Mario A. Gonzalez-Corzo, Lehman College, The City University of New York (CUNY), "Policy Measures to Incentivize Agricultural Production in Cuba after the 8th Party Congress."

Alonso Exposito Alvarez, “El minifundio rural: principal estructura agraria de Cuba desde la época precolombina hasta nuestros días”

Recordando a Pepín Alvarez. Comments by Francisco Proenza, William Messina, and Jorge Perez-Lopez

2:00 PM- 4:00 PM

Session 6: The Last Wave: Recent Work on the Cuban Exodus

Chair and discussant: Jorge Duany, Florida International University

Elaine Acosta González, Universidad Internacional de la Florida, “Permanencias y cambios en la ‘nueva’ migración cubana a Miami”

Yarimis Méndez Pupo, Universidad de Guadalajara, México, “¿Por qué se van los que se fueron? Un acercamiento a las motivaciones y expectativas de migrantes cubanos calificados de la oleada migratoria de los años 1995–2017”

Veronica Diaz, Florida International University, “The (Cuban-) American Dream of Post-Soviet Era Cuban Immigrants: Perceptions vs. Realities”

Denisse Delgado Vázquez, University of Massachusetts, Boston, “Cuban Newcomers: Their Economic Behavior and Political Motivations”