



JORNADA VENEZOLANA – SPEAKERS



Yvette Sánchez, Director of the Centre for Latin American Studies (CLS-HSG) and Full Professor of Hispanic Cultures and Literatures at the University of St.Gallen. Prof. Sánchez is engaged in several research projects on Latin American topics, especially on US Latinos. She basically attempts to bridge the gap between cultural studies and social sciences. In the field of cross-cultural training and research, she is currently preparing, together with her HSG colleagues, a manual on *Transcultural Management in the BRIC states*. yvette.sanchez@unisg.ch



Henri B. Meier wrote a PhD about the Venezuelan financial market at the University of St. Gallen. He started his career as a bookkeeper in Caracas. After holding various positions at the World Bank incl. Division Chief for Central America and Caribbean, member of the Executive Committee of Motor Columbus Ing AG and Handelsbank N.W., in 1994 he became the CFO of Roche Holding Ltd. Between 2000 and 2005 he was Chairman of the Board of Givaudan. He was member of the Board of Directors of many companies including HBM BioVentures AG, the Grand Hotel Victoria-Jungfrau AG, Roche Holding AG, Privatbank IHAG, Eufra Holding AG, Züblin, etc. and a member of the Board of several foundations and start-up companies he founded. He has authored many books and articles. Since retirement he has endowed various foundations, professorships and university programs, like the Henri B. Meier Entrepreneur School, part of the Executive School of Management, Technology and Law (ES-HSG) at the University of St.Gallen, HBM Fondation. henri_b.meier@hbmsekretariat.ch



Jakob Ritter completed his Master's Thesis on Venezuela's financial market focusing on its banking sector from a socio-economic perspective. He was guided by Dr. Meier's findings published in his PhD thesis 50 years ago. He travelled to Caracas in 2013 to interview experts in the field of his research. At the end of the spring semester 2014, he will finish his Master's in Accounting and Finance at the HSG. For the last two years he has been living in Latin America, where he was initially on an exchange program at the IPADE in Mexico. He subsequently worked at a subsidiary of Continental AG in the financial department. He currently lives in Mexico City. j-ritter@hotmail.com



Julia Buxton is Professor of Comparative Politics in the School of Public Policy, Central European University, Budapest and Senior Research Officer in the Global Drug Policy Observatory at the University of Swansea, Wales. She is a specialist on South America and the region's rapidly evolving political, economic and security architecture. An expert on Venezuela, she received her PhD from the London School of Economics. She was previously Adjunct Professor in the Edmund J. Walsh School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University, where she directed the Venezuela Studies program, and she has served in six election observer missions to Venezuela. She has thematic expertise on transition processes, post conflict recovery and conflict analysis. Her work in this area is based on her policy and consultancy experience, including USAID, SIDA and UK Department for International Development. buxtonj@ceu.hu



Claudia Zilla is Head of the Research Division "The Americas" at the German Institute for International and Security Affairs, Berlin, and Lecturer for Latin American Studies at the Free University of Berlin. She holds a PhD in Political Science from the University of Heidelberg, where she also had, among others, the position of Academic Assistant in the postgraduate program at Heidelberg Center in Santiago de Chile. Her research areas include comparative politics and international relations with a focus on Latin America as well as qualitative research methods. Her work has been published in edited volumes, journal articles, policy papers and encyclopedias. Her latest monograph is a comparative analysis of parties' discourse on democracy in Argentina and Chile. claudia.zilla@swp-berlin.org



Carlos Pérez Rocholl studied at the Advanced School of Industrial Engineering of University of Valladolid in Spain, where he graduated with a M. S. degree in industrial engineering. In addition, he holds a Ph. D. in electrical engineering at the Superior School in Zaragoza, Spain and a joint MBA from the Simon School in Rochester and Bern University Business School. He has experience working in a matrix management environment and in multiple functional areas such as operations, marketing, product management, and most importantly engineering and supply chain. Likewise, he is leading the two diversified zones EU/ZLA (Europa & Latina America) as Global Product Line Manager S3x00 at Schindler Headquarters Ebikon. carlos.perez.rocholl@ch.schindler.com





María-Gabriela Sarmiento holds a Master's Degree in International Trade Law from the Université de Bourgogne, France, and a Law Degree from the Universidad Central de Venezuela. She has taught commercial arbitration at the Universidad José María Vargas in Caracas. Her articles focus on the legal aspects of electronic commerce. She is the co-founder and Senior Partner of Sarmiento Núñez Consulting (SNC). Between 1998 and 2004 Mrs. Sarmiento was based in Geneva providing services to a number of United Nations agencies. She oversaw implementations in field-missions to Africa, Asia and South-America. She currently works as a lawyer and lives between Switzerland and Venezuela. mg.sarmiento@snconsult.com



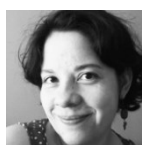
Thomas Meister studied International Affairs at the University of St.Gallen, where he received his Bachelor's Degree. He is currently finishing a Master's Degree in Management and a Master's Degree in German Linguistics at the Universidad Central de Venezuela in Caracas. His area of research is cultural differences. He was a lecturer at the Universidad Central de Venezuela and from 2009-2011 he held the position of Operations Manager at StatMark Group, an American-Venezuelan Market Research Company. For the last three years, he has been the Assistant to the CFO of FARMA, a multinational pharmaceutical company of Swiss capital and origin. thomas@meister.tc



Malte Daniljuk obtained a degree in Media and Communication Studies at the Freie Universität Berlin. He has visited Latin America since 1997, particularly México, Colombia and Venezuela. From 2005 to 2013 he accompanied multiple projects for political exchange with Venezuela, where he also observed the last presidential elections on 14 April 2013. In 2012 he published the first piece of research on Venezuela's media system in the German-speaking area. As editor of the German non-profit online portal for Latin America amerika21.de, he headed the section "background & analysis". Malte Daniljuk works as a journalist for print and online media in Germany. His favorite subjects are media politics, human rights, international politics and foreign relations. He has also advised human rights groups and political organizations as a consultant for public relations. malte@lassdass.de



Philippe G. Nell, Minister, Head of Americas Unit, State Secretariat for Economic Affairs, Bern. He is in charge of trade and investment issues that concern Swiss firms across the Americas and has published several articles on Swiss economic integration policy and specific WTO negotiations as well as a book on the Swiss strategy during the negotiations of the European Economic Area. He has written his PhD thesis on exports of manufactures under market imperfections analyzing Venezuela and Ecuador throughout the 1970s and early 80s. He is the editor of the yearly *Swiss – Latin America Economic Relations Report* (SECO) and a lecturer at the European Institute of the University of Basel, at the University of Fribourg and for select MBA programs. philippe.nell@seco.admin.ch



Claudia Ávila is a choir conductor and pianist. She graduated from the Universidad de los Andes in 2008. Since she moved to Basel in 2009, Claudia Ávila has studied singing (early music) at the Schola Cantorum Basiliensis with Rosa Domínguez. Her interests are wide: she sings from early 15th-century to contemporary music, and folk music from Colombia, Venezuela, Argentina, Chile and Perú. She has taken additional repertoire and style training with various masters, and opera training with Manfred Weiss. She has attended different master classes in Switzerland and Germany, and has participated in opera staging and acting workshops with director Pablo Maritano. claudiaa.22@gmail.com



Vittoria Pagani was born in Novara, Italy. She obtained the maximum grade in the classical guitar diplomas of the 1st and 2nd level (Bachelor and Master) at the "Istituto Superiore di Musica G.Cantelli" under the guidance of Dell'Ara Mario and Guido Fichtner. In Basel since 2010, she has studied at the "Hochschule für Musik" with Pablo Márquez and has received master classes from teachers Alirio Díaz, Alberto Ponce, Pavel Steidl and Marcin Dylla. In 2008 she won the "Nazionale delle Arti" award in guitar performance, and in 2009 she won first prize in the "Internazionale di interpretazione Musicale "Carlo Mosso"". Her interests in world music led her to take flamenco guitar and theory lessons at the Conservatory of Murcia (Spain). Presently she is taking modal improvisation and Indian music classes under the guidance of Ken Zuckerman in Basel. pagani.vittoria@gmail.com

