

EVENTS 2016

Centre for Latin American
Research and Documentation



13/12/16 Periodismo independiente y el proceso de paz en Colombia. Juanita León.

Dos días antes de recibir el Premio de la Fundación Prince Claus, Juanita León nos contará sobre su trabajo para La Silla Vacía en CEDLA. La Silla Vacía nació hace 7 años para contar cómo se mueve el poder en Colombia. Desde entonces, ha cubierto la transición que vive este país después de 50 años de conflicto armado y con una paz recién firmada pero rechazada en las urnas por los ciudadanos. En esta charla, Juanita León, su fundadora y directora, contará cómo es hacer periodismo en una sociedad en una transición.

Juanita León es abogada de la Universidad de los Andes con una maestría en periodismo de la Universidad de Columbia en Nueva York. Trabajó en los grandes medios tradicionales de Colombia como El Tiempo y revista Semana para luego fundar su propio medio lasillavacia.com. Fue Harvard Nieman Fellow y Open Society Foundation Fellow. Se ganó el tercer lugar del prestigioso Lettre-Ulyses Award por su libro País de Plomo, crónicas de guerra, sobre el conflicto armado colombiano y el premio García Márquez a mejor cobertura por su cubrimiento del proceso de paz en Colombia.

09/12/16 Cuban revolutionary society in melody and lyrics: music, politics and resistance Jeffrey Pijpers, University of Amsterdam

*Ya vendrán los Revolucionarios
que entonen el canto del hombre nuevo
con la auténtica voz del pueblo.*

Ernesto "Che" Guevara. El socialismo y el hombre en Cuba (p. 59)

Ever since the Cuban Revolution in 1959 music provided a possibility for the authorities to get their political message across to "the people" in the most direct possible way. Dominant discourse was strongly focused on the empowerment of formally marginalized groups and the creation of "el hombre nuevo," 'the new man,' who, according to Guevara, was the role model of the Cuban man of the future: disciplined, humble, educated and dedicated to the Revolutionary project. As the above quote by Guevara suggests, music and the Revolution seem to form an organic whole.

However, in the decades that followed, music has also proven to be one of the primary forms of expression through which dominant, Revolutionary discourse was subverted. Younger generations of musicians started to mention a sense of alienation from the society they lived in, and in spite of fairly strict censorship the canon of Cuban music – including, but not limited to its diasporic territory – has in some cases become openly critical and sometimes even outright provocative towards the regime.

Within this particular framing, I wish to focus in this lecture on the relation music and politics. Not as separated realms, not in terms of "for or against," but in terms of interconnection and affect: In what ways are the rebelling musicians also a product of the Revolutionary cultural project? How can hegemonic discourse be subverted and what role does censorship play in all this? Of course, I will also let the music speak for itself with various examples and fragments of songs by cantautores as Sivlio Rodríguez and Carlos Varela, rapper Telmary Díaz, or the controversial rock group Porno Para Ricardo.

25/11/16 Migrants and music: hip hop and rap in São Paulo

Derek Pardue, Aarhus University, DENMARK

Since 2010 Brazil has reemerged as a destination for migrants and refugees. The major populations include individuals and families from Haiti, Syria, Colombia and a host of West African countries including Senegal, Democratic Republic of Congo, Nigeria and Angola. The diversity and intensity of this migration boom is most visible in Brazil's largest city of São Paulo.

In June of 2016 I helped organize an initial meeting involving the members of Surprise 69, a rap group composed of Haitian immigrants, and Z' Africa Family, a well-established hip hop group and neighborhood activist organization. The significance of this encounter is more than an opportunity for artists to exchange ideas, beats and stories. It speaks to the dynamic cultural geography of São Paulo and the contribution of immigration therein. In this talk, I analyze the Surprise-Z' Africa encounter using a theory of cultural occupation, thereby addressing the ever-increasing relationship between migration and the city.

*In cooperation with research programme: Transforming citizenship through hybrid governance: the impacts of public-private security assemblages (SECURCIT)

23/11/16 Screening Documentary 'Burden of Peace

The Centre for Latin American Research and Documentation (CEDLA) and the Faculty of Law of the UvA are organizing a screening of the documentary 'Burden of Peace'. This documentary tells the impressive story of Claudia Paz y Paz, the first woman to lead the Public Prosecutor's Office of Guatemala. The country that has been ravaged for years by a devastating civil war, in which nearly 200,000 Mayan Indians were systematically massacred, is today one of the most violent countries in the world. Claudia starts a frontal attack against corruption, drug gangs and impunity and does what everyone had held to be impossible up until then: she arrests former dictator Efraín Ríos Montt on charges of genocide. His conviction becomes the first conviction for genocide in a national court in the world history. Directly after the movie, there was a Q&A with director Sander Wirken moderated by Dr. Barbara Hogenboom (CEDLA).

18/11/16 Unravelling the governance of nature-culture interactions: lessons from San Pedro de Atacama Constanza Parra, University of Leuven, BELGIUM

Focusing on the governance of San Pedro de Atacama, a desert region located in the north of Chile, Constanza Parra discusses the concern in ecology and social science to restore the unity between nature and culture as a lever to governance in social-ecological systems. She examines contemporary governance dynamics of this large desert and mountain area by means of a framework combining contributions from three fields: socio-ecological systems, political ecology, and diversity approaches in anthropology and cultural studies. San Pedro de Atacama has been under threat of modernist ambitions materialized in an exploitative relationship with nature. This modernist pressure has fractured a fragile socio-ecological system with a local life-culture that can be considered as the metabolic outcome of a historical struggle to survive first the vagaries of the desert, and then the atrocities caused by modernist intruders. The contemporary governance dynamics of San Pedro de Atacama are marked by fragmented relationships between disparate actors, including powerful mining companies, protected area managers, tourism micro-entrepreneurs, and indigenous communities. To fully understand these dynamics, this region has to be analysed as part of the broader neoliberal economy emanating from a resources greedy free market utopia/dystopia installed in Chile since the early 1970s. (See also: Parra, C. and Moolaert, F. (2016) The governance of the nature-culture nexus: lessons learnt from the San Pedro de Atacama case-study". *Nature and Culture* 11(3), Winter 2016: 239–258).

11/11/16 'Self-help Cemetery', Christien Klaufus (CEDLA).

Discussant: Ana María Fernández Maldonado (TU Delft)

This lecture builds upon the exhibition that narrates the story of Lima's informal cemeteries and their connectivity with the self-help neighborhoods which started to appear in the second half of the twentieth century. It is argued that the neighborhood life of today is mirrored by the activities in cemeteries. Lima's self-help cemeteries have developed into more than just a commemorative place; they are stages of frictions between informal and formal ways of planning and between small-scale businesses and powerful urban developers.

21/10/16 Drugs and violence in the Caribbean*

The event 'Drugs and Violence in the Caribbean' comprised of two lectures.

The Pacification of Violent Territorial Organized Crime: Legitimacy Dilemmas of a Weak State

Anthony Harriott, Institute of Criminal Justice and Security, University of the West Indies

Formal state policing in Jamaica suffers from large institutional legitimacy deficits. There is a crime control performance deficit and, a justice-in-policing deficit. By objective measures, its crime control performance has been poor. Jamaica has one of the highest homicide rates in the world. It also has one of the lowest homicide arrest and conviction rates. The performance of the police is also perceived by the population to be poor. Even more problematic is its record of fairness, respect for due process and for the rights of citizens including their right to life (justice in policing). On the afternoon of May 24, 2010, 69 citizens were killed during an internal security operation in the small inner-city neighbourhood of Tivoli Gardens. In this presentation, this operation is analysed as an instance that compressed and revealed the use-of-violence-dilemmas of policing the urban marginalized poor by a weak Jamaican state. These legitimacy dilemmas are identified and the methods that are used by the police and state to manage them are highlighted and explained.

Ganja as a Development Challenge

Axel Klein, Global Drug Observatory, University of Swansea, Wales, UK

In the Caribbean, drugs were identified early on as a tool for population control, the continued anxiety of ex slave colonies. In the interlude between the wars on communism and terror drugs emerged as a primary concern of security sector which established a heavy presence in Latin America and Caribbean. As a policy issue, drug control was interwoven with a range of social conflicts along lines of class, race and gender, and contributed to society/policetnesions, rising prison populations and corruption. As Jamaica is easing its policy with the decriminalisation of consumption and legislation for the production and use of medical cannabis a new chapter opens. Other Caribbean countries are watching, as are likeminded states. Issues arising over the shifting policy paradigm include the relationship of Jamaican ganja farmers vis-à-vis organised crime groups that for long were involved in the trade, but also the international pharmaceutical companies that are establishing themselves. For the largest donor, the European Commission, new challenges arise over how to respond to this development. Should ganja be recognised as a development opportunity for poverty eradication, therapeutic value, and good governance. Or will it simply be ignored.

Anthony Harriott is a Professor of Political Sociology and Director of the Institute of Criminal Justice and Security at the University of the West Indies. He is the author/ co-author of several books, articles and technical reports - primarily on the issues of violence, organised crime and policing in Caribbean societies. Axel Klein is professor at the University of Swansea. He is the Team Leader and expert for the European Commission funded Cocaine Route Programme. He has published several books on drugs issues related to policy environment, the tensions between cultural phenomenon and international prohibitions, and the development dimension.

Discussant: Prof. Dr. Kees Koonings, Professor of Brazilian Studies at the University of Amsterdam

*In cooperation with research programme: Transforming citizenship through hybrid governance: the impacts of public-private security assemblages (SECURCIT)

30/09/16 Politics and resistance to genetically modified crops in Brazil and Argentina

Renata Motta, Freie Universität Berlin

Discussant: Fabio de Castro, CEDLA-UvA

The transformation of Brazil and Argentina as the second and the third largest producers, respectively, of genetically modified (GM) crops is not an automatic result of market dynamics or of technological and economic efficiency. Rather, it is a product from the strategies of interested actors to ensure the conditions for a flourishing agribusiness, favoured by a specific context in the political economy in these countries, in which the production of commodities acquired a renewed importance for state revenues. Behind similar positions of market leaders in GMO production, there are very different trajectories revealing the role of state intervention, market strategies and social mobilization. The lecture will present a comparative study of Brazil and Argentina, a case of successful (at a first stage) social mobilization and a negative case of absence thereof. It explores the differences in the paths of adoption of GM crops that are strongly related to differences in the processes of social mobilization while also tracing and explaining the changes over time.

09/09/16 What will be left of the left in Venezuela, Ecuador and Bolivia

Pablo Andrade, Universidad Andina Simon Bolivar, Quito

The political cycle of the left in power in Latin America seems to be ending. During a decade, the diverse left governments of the region advanced egalitarian goals by means of state action. Therefore, it is reasonable to assess the decade of the left in its own terms: What kind of states have the left built? Do these states make a difference with regards to inequality and social incorporation of the popular sectors? And have their projects successfully increased the infrastructural power of the state?

The talk will address those questions by examining the cases of Bolivia, Ecuador, and Venezuela. The governments of the three countries are consensually seen as representatives of the “radical left”, and they aimed to reinvent their respective states. In addition, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, the Citizen’s Revolution of Ecuador, and the Bolivarian Revolution of Venezuela, were the more ambitious of the egalitarian projects among the Latin American lefts. Finally, the three cases appear to illustrate a range of results: a seemingly quasi “failing state” in Venezuela, a well consolidated new state in Ecuador, and a state with problems for reaching the whole of its territory in Bolivia. What factors do explain such a variation?

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- 08/09/16 Een speciale vertoning van klimaatdocumentaire: *Samuel in the Clouds*

*In samenwerking met Pakhuis de Zwijger en CEDLA organiseert Cinema Delicatessen een speciale vertoning van klimaatdocumentaire Samuel in the Clouds. Na afloop vindt er een gesprek plaats over de film en de consequenties van klimaatverandering met Leontien Cremers (projectcoördinator CEDLA) en atmosferisch wetenschapper Bart Verheggen. In *Samuel in the Clouds* toont de Belgische filmmaker Pieter van Eecke met adembenemende beelden van het Boliviaanse Andesgebergte de consequenties van klimaatverandering voor de Zuid-Amerikaanse bevolking. Ook op 5.000 meter hoogte begint de wereld er anders uit te zien.*

- 08/07/16 CEDLA Workshop : Violence, Crime, and Public Security in Latin America
Kees Koonings & José Luiz Ratton (Organizers)



Aim and focus

The workshop will analyze and debate current trends in (criminal) violence and (in)security in Latin America. This subject has been in the forefront of social science research on Latin America (and the Caribbean) for more than a decade. Recently, however, the urgency of the problem has again been brought to the attention of scholars and practitioners, among others by the publication of the 2013 UNDP Regional Human Security Report focusing on Citizen Security and the 2015 world wide ranking of ‘lethal cities’ by the Mexican think tank Seguridad, Justicia y Paz: among the 50 most lethal cities of 300,000 inhabitants or more in the world in 2015, 41 are located in Latin America, 21 of which are Brazilian cities and towns. (One city on the list, Kingston, is in the non-Spanish speaking Caribbean.) Apart from homicide rates, other evidence (such as victimization surveys and a growing body of ethnographic work) on crime, violence and insecurity points at the

ongoing and counterintuitive Latin American paradox of violence and insecurity combined with relative democratic stability, interstate peace, and (modest but real) reduction of poverty and inequality. This violence and insecurity is overwhelmingly urban. Apart from generating complex problems in national societies and (urban) communities, violence and insecurity pose specific challenges for analysis and intervention. In the case of Brazil, this has become particularly salient given the organization of sportive mega-events in 2014 and 2016. In the workshop we will focus on three dimensions: the dynamics and impact of violence and criminality, especially in cities and urban spaces; policing; public security policies and the democratic state. The workshop will have the form of a round table expert meeting, with the presence of a select public of scholars, policy makers and graduate students/PhD researchers.

As a prelude to the workshop CEDLA hosts, on Thursday 7 July 2016, a screening with Q&A of the documentary *Fighting for Peace about two young boxers in a Rio de Janeiro favela* (for details see below after the workshop program).

Workshop Programme Friday 8 July 2016

Venue: UvA REC – JK, Room 1.19, Valckenierstraat 65-67, Amsterdam

09:30 – Arrival and coffee

09:45 – Opening by Michiel Baud (director of CEDLA)

10:00-12:00 - Morning session: Crime, violence, and (in)security governance José Luiz Ratton (Federal University of Pernambuco and CEDLA/University of Amsterdam): Drug markets and violence in Brazil: the case of Recife

Graham Denyer Willis (University of Cambridge): Bureaucratic rationality and violence: everyday logics of public administration and security in São Paulo

Julienne Weegels (CEDLA/University of Amsterdam): The politics of refusal: sewn mouths and prison riots in Nicaragua

12:00-13:00 – Lunch break

13:00-15:00 - Afternoon session I: Policing crime and insecurity

Jacqueline Sinhoretto (Federal University of São Carlos): Policing and racial relations in Brazil

Paul Hathazy (Conicet, Argentina): Changing policing and the reshaping of public security policy in Chile

Marie-Louise Glebbeek (Utrecht University): Policing and (in)security in Central America, especially Guatemala

15:15-16:30 - Afternoon session II: Security governance, democracy, and the state

Rivke Jaffe (University of Amsterdam): Pluralizing Security and Citizenship in Kingston, Jamaica

Kees Koonings (CEDLA/University of Amsterdam and Utrecht University) & Dirk Kruijt (Utrecht University): Criminal governance, violent pluralism, and public security

16:30-17:00 - Closing debate:

Trends in violence and directions for public security policies in Latin America: do they match?

17:00 - Drinks Documentary

Screening Thursday 7 July 2016 – 15:30 p.m.

Venue: UvA REC – JK, Room 1.19, Valckenierstraat 65-67, Amsterdam

As a prelude to the workshop CEDLA will host a screening of the documentary *Fighting for Peace* (2015; 72 min.) by Joost van der Valk and Mags Gavan. The documentary portrays two boys from a favela in Rio de Janeiro who through boxing try to provide a livelihood for their families and deal with the risks of living in the favela.

-  27/06/16 CEDLA panel at SDGs conference
On the 27th of June, 14:00-15:30, CEDLA co-organizes a special panel on Sustainable Development Goals in Latin America and the Caribbean. The panel focuses on the relation between SDGs and contemporary civic engagement, and deals with questions such as: How (much) do various civic movements contribute to social and environmental justice and access? And what does further institutionalization of civic engagement mean for addressing social and environmental injustices? Recent research findings will be presented by Mariana Walter (ICTA-UAB, Barcelona), on community consultations, and Almut Schilling-Vacaflor (GIGA, Hamburg), on prior consultation of indigenous peoples.
- Leida Rijnhout, Director Global Policies and Sustainability of the European Environmental Bureau (EEB), and Rutgerd Boelens (UvA/WUR), holder of the special chair of Political Ecology of Water in Latin America, will join the discussion.

The panel coordinated by Barbara Hogenboom and Hebe Verrest is part of the conference 'Critical perspectives on Governance by Sustainable Development Goals', 27 - 29 June, of the Centre for Sustainable Development Studies (CSDS), UvA. Venue: C-Building, Nieuwe Achtergracht 166, Amsterdam.

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20/05/16 Las nuevas formas de participación en América Latina
Albert Noguera, Universitat de València

En paralelo a la crisis del constitucionalismo en Europa y Norteamérica se ha producido durante la últimas dos décadas en América Latina, un fortalecimiento de constitucionalismo. Ello se ha plasmado en la activación de diversos procesos constituyentes y la aprobación de nuevas constituciones.

- Este nuevo constitucionalismo latinoamericano se acostumbra a presentar como un modelo propio y autónomo, reconocible en muchos elementos que son claramente diferentes y especialmente provocadores con aquellos que, tradicionalmente, se ha considerado como correcto en la doctrina constitucional clásica. Uno de estos aspectos es la ruptura con el viejo modelo representativo de democracia delegada, conformando una nueva organización política donde la participación popular en lo político, lo económico, lo medioambiental y lo social adquiere un protagonismo sin precedentes.
- Ahora bien, ¿podemos hablar de un único modelo homogéneo de democracia participativa dentro del nuevo constitucionalismo latinoamericano? La tesis que se defenderá en este seminario es que la distinta naturaleza organizativa y sociológica del sujeto constituyente en países como Venezuela, Bolivia, Ecuador, etc. implicó la constitucionalización de modelos de democracia participativa muy distintos en cada uno de estos países. Tras analizar cada uno de estos modelos, sus características y diferencias, nos centraremos de manera más detallada en el caso ecuatoriano.
- 12/05/16 Political Crisis in Brazil: Roundtable and Public Debate
Organization: CEDLA & De Balie
Venue: De Balie, Kleine-Gartmanplantsoen 10. Amsterdam
- On Wednesday 11 May 2016 the Brazilian Senate will have voted on starting the impeachment trial against President Dilma Rousseff. This vote may lead to her immediate suspension and eventually to her dismissal. This is yet another crucial step in the gathering storm of political crisis Rousseff has been facing since her narrow re-election in October 2014. The once applauded Brazilian success story of growth, social reform, and political participation appears to have come to an end. What is going on? What actors in Brazilian politics and society are involved, and how? What are the immediate political, economic, social and international implications? In this round table leading scholars will be presenting their reflections on the recent societal transformations and stimulate a public debate on Brazil in the eye of the current political storm.
- Invited Speakers
Kees Koonings
Full Professor in Brazilian Studies at University of Amsterdam and Associate Professor in Anthropology at Utrecht University

- Jose Luiz Ratton
Professor in Sociology at the University of Pernambuco, Brazil and Visiting Scholar at CEDLA-University of Amsterdam
- Marianne Wiesebron
Associate Professor in Latin American Studies at Leiden University
- Moderator - Fabio de Castro
Assistant Professor in Brazilian Studies at CEDLA-University of Amsterdam
- 22/04/16 MESA REDONDA
Cuba: El rol de los medios y la juventud en el proceso de cambio

Numerosas reformas sociales y económicas, el restablecimiento de las relaciones diplomáticas con los Estados Unidos y la reciente visita histórica del presidente Barack Obama marcan claramente el proceso de cambio en Cuba iniciado por el presidente Raúl Castro. La población aplaude las reformas y las nuevas generaciones buscan mayor participación en el proceso mientras que el gobierno prioriza en los cambios del sistema económico. CEDLA y El Toque (RNW-Media) les invitan a participar en un encuentro con tres jóvenes periodistas y blogueros cubanos sobre participación ciudadana, el rol de la juventud en el proceso de cambio y los nuevos medios digitales independientes en Cuba. Con Harold Cárdenas Lema (profesor universitario y bloguero de La Joven Cuba), José Jasán Nieves (periodista Oncuba y editor de El Toque) y Beatriz Valdés (periodista y community manager El Toque). El Toque es una plataforma que reúne a más de 25 jóvenes periodistas, blogueros y productores multimedia cubanos apoyados por un equipo de RNW-Media. "Contamos las historias de jóvenes que se sienten protagonistas de esta Cuba que cambia; aquellos que transforman, que emprenden, dialogan y construyen iniciativas ciudadanas para su gente"– www.eltoque.com.

- 08/04/16 "Pregunta & Respuesta" con Héctor Abad

Héctor Abad Faciolince es un novelista colombiano. Su libro más famoso es 'El olvido que seremos' de 2006. Fue traducido en inglés como 'Oblivion'. El libro se puede leer como una autobiografía del autor pero trata, sobre todo, de la historia del asesinato de su padre en manos de paramilitares en medio de la Violencia en Colombia.

- El evento en CEDLA tendrá la forma de 'Pregunta & Respuesta'. En la primera parte, el director del CEDLA, Michiel Baud, entrevistará a Héctor Abad sobre una variedad de temas. Por ejemplo sobre la compleja posición de los intelectuales en una sociedad desigual con un contexto de violencia e inseguridad.
- En la segunda parte del evento el público puede participar activamente y formular preguntas al autor. Contrariamente a lo anunciado anteriormente, el idioma de este evento será el castellano, pero en la segunda parte las preguntas podrán ser formuladas en inglés y/o castellano.

- - 06/04/16 SOYA, AGRARIAN TRANSFORMATION & RESISTANCE. Perspectives from Brazil & Southern America
ISS, The Hague, Aula A

Book Launch

Challenging Social Inequality:

The Landless Rural Workers Movement and Agrarian Reform in Brazil

Speakers

Miguel Carter (DEMOS)

Prof. Bernardo Mançano (UNESP-SP)

Ana Terra Reis (MST)

- Journal of Peasant Studies, Launch of
2 Special Issues

Brazilian Agrarian Social Movements
Soy production in South America: Globalization and new agroindustrial landscapes

Speakers:

Rebecca Tarlau (Berkeley University)
Gustavo de L. T. Oliveira (Berkeley University)
Lucia Goldfarb (Utrecht University)
Ben McKay (ISS)

- Discussants:
Dr. Fabio de Castro (CEDLA)

23/03/16 Consuelo Morales - Searching the missing in Mexico

CEDLA, in collaboration with Movies that Matter, kindly invites you to a special meeting with Mexican human rights activist Consuelo Morales as part of this year's Movies that Matter Festival - A Matter of ACT (18-26 March, The Hague).

This meeting aims to give students and others interested in the war on drugs and its effects in Mexico, the chance to listen to Consuelo's story. The meeting also features selected scenes from the documentary. Consuelo will be introduced by Dr. Arij Ouweneel (CEDLA).

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- 26/03/16 FILM Transit Havana

26 maart spreken we na de film met regisseur Daniel Abma, scenarist Alex Bakker en prof. Javier Corrales (CEDLA & Amherst College).

In Cuba ontmoeten we Odette, Juani en Malú, drie transgenders in afwachting van hun geslachtsoperatie. Ze maken onderdeel uit van het nieuwe behandelingsprogramma van de regering aangevoerd door Mariela Castro – Raul's dochter en Fidel's nicht. Onder haar inspirerende leiding is de Cubaanse staat recentelijk gestart met het behandelingsprogramma voor transgenders waarbij alle kosten door de staat vergoed worden. Gedurende een jaar zien we hoe Odette, Juani en Malú in hun zoektocht naar seksuele vrijheid te maken krijgen met onbegrip, seksisme en religieuze intolerantie. Als pioniers van de seksuele revolutie worden ze gestuurd door hoop en vinden ze steun bij elkaar. Maar deze band onderling wordt hevig onder druk gezet wanneer bekend wordt dat de buitenlandse chirurgen slechts vijf patiënten per jaar kunnen helpen. Regisseur Daniel Abma laat met Transit Havana de worstelingen zien van de seksuele revolutie die Mariela Castro's leidt binnen een land dat kampt met prostitutie en armoede. Is het bestaansrecht van dit programma een teken van groeiende vrijheid in Cuba en gaan deze sociale veranderingen wel samen met dictatoriale beleid?

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- 11/03/16 From informal urbanism to gentrification in Mexico: a new colonialism?
Ann Varley, Dept. of Geography. University College London

A growing literature opposes the provision of property titles for the residents of informal settlements. From a policy perspective, the main concern is that titling leads to the displacement of the original inhabitants. From a political perspective, the fear is that titling

entrenches and normalises the sociospatial inequality of an unjust urban order. In both cases, the arguments resonate with recent interpretations of gentrification as a new form of colonialism and of informal urbanism as resistance to a 'colonial' urbanism. In this presentation I review over thirty years' of evidence on the effects of titling in urban Mexico, plus new and unpublished research from the Federal District of Mexico City and from Guadalajara. The findings provide no evidence of market-driven displacement or gentrification resulting from formalisation. I agree with the argument that titling normalises the existing order, but argue that legalisation does so by endorsing rather than creating the desire of Mexico's poor urban citizens for private property, property as 'propriety' and, above all, homeownership.

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- 04/03/16 Changes in social policies in Chile
Rossana Castiglioni
Universidad Diego Portales
Latin American studies, Universiteit Leiden

This research seeks to explain the contrasting patterns of social policy variation across distinct areas in Chile from 2000 on. In doing so, it explains the results of social policy rollbacks and/or market-oriented changes taking preliminary evidence from two policy areas: health care and pensions. I hypothesize that three explanatory factors combine to account for contrasting social policy outcomes: the perceptions of government officials about real and/or potential budgetary constraints, the characteristics of the technical teams in charge of social policies, and the (in)balance of power between collective "pro welfare" actors and stakeholders representing the interests of the business sector.

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- 19/02/16 Working in Chains?
Human Security in Global Production Networks between Brazil and the Netherlands
Lee Pegler, ISS – Erasmus University
Discussant: Jan Willem LeGrand

The conditions applying to workers supplying (global) value chains has become a lively area of analysis. Existing studies of chains suggest that they often lead to uncertain and precarious conditions, especially for those at the beginning of chains in agricultural sectors and buyer driven situations. There is also much debate on our understanding of the governance and coordination of chains. The question is how other actors may help to improve labour conditions? The GOLLS (governance of labour and logistics for sustainability) project addresses this theme for the case of the Brazil-Netherlands relationship via a series of studies. It is aimed at improving our understanding of chain governance and its outcomes by taking an along-the-chain view of labour conditions in the context of the two countries. This historical relation is showing a growing involvement of the Dutch private and public sectors in key areas, including those of logistics and ports (a key aspect of value generation/coordination). What does this mean for today's trade relations and, especially, for workers along these chains? This lecture presents the variety of consequences that this process is generating. Case studies show the diversity of products, production processes, actors and politics of chain management (at both a local/global and public/private level). At the level of social (human) relations, there seems to be considerable value gained by moving beyond standard measures of wellbeing and to consider people's sense of security. Understanding the complexity of governance seems key. Regarding workers, the question is whether they are able to influence the actions of the corporate sector, who often control both local processes of accumulation and global processes of distribution.

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- 29/01/16 Quilombos: between poverty, identity rights and culture
Tereza Ventura
State University of Rio de Janeiro

Analyzing specific public policies combating poverty and reconstructing ethnic identities, the

presentation discusses the conflictual relations between the concepts of inequality, recognition and difference. It discusses the inclusion of the maroons communities as specific groups in the program "Brazil without Misery". The program aims to overcome poverty and inequality through affirmative policies for gender and race, welfare payments, education, jobs, healthcare and access to public services. First we present how legal changes in Brazil took place from its Constitution in the year of 1988, as well as after the ILO (International Labor Organization) convention 169 and the UN conference against racism, which opened a political opportunity to improve land and cultural rights of minorities.

The government recognizes the particular case of race relations in Brazil, where discrimination and racism left behind for centuries black communities without any protection form from the State. However, by shaping the perverse confluence between the celebration of new liberal multicultural policies and the institutional anchoring of legal rights, the politics of social integration of the marrons brings them to a legal status of poor's . Thus they are eligible for the public benefits – one hand. On the other hand, public institutions reinforce their primitive quality way of living, as well as the main capitalist value of the ideology of achievement. This process also offers a moral justification for the unequal distribution of opportunities and goods since social inequality is now also legitimated by ethnic, racial and cultural motivations.