

Democracy in Cuba: Seeking Common Initiatives

*Conference of the International
Committee for Democracy in Cuba*

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

Date: 25th – 26th April 2007

*Venue: Akademie der Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung,
Tiergartenstr. 35, Berlin, Germany*

Wednesday, April 25

Venue: Akademie der Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, Tiergartenstr. 35, Berlin
Working languages: English, Spanish, German

9:00 – 9:30

Registration

9:30 – 11:00

Opening Plenary Session

Opening Speech:

Mr. Václav Havel, former President, ICDC member, Czech Republic

Opening Address:

Mr Bernhard Vogel, President Konrad Adenauer Foundation, Germany (TBC)

Mr. Lech Walesa, former President, Poland

Mr. Luis Alberto Lacalle, former President, ICDC member, Uruguay

Mr. Rexhep Meidani, former President, ICDC member, Albania

Statement from Madeleine Albright, former Secretary of State, ICDC member, USA
Presented by **Ambassador Harriet Babbitt**

11:00 – 11:30

Coffee Break

11.30 – 12.30

Mr. Günter Nooke, Federal Government Commissioner for Human Rights, Germany

12:30 – 12:45

Video greetings from Cuba:

Mr. Oswaldo Payá Sardinás, Christian Liberation Movement

Mr. Vladimiro Roca Antúñez, Cuban Social Democratic Party

Ms. Martha Beatriz Roque Cabello, Assembly to Promote Civil Society

12:45 – 13:15

Press conference

13:15 – 14:45 *Lunch hosted by KAS*

15:00 – 17:00 **First Session:** *(two parallel workshops, participation based on registration)*

Workshop 1: Power of the Powerless - Cuban democrats and independent civil sector

Questions to be addressed during this workshop:

How is the independent civil society working to protect human rights and to promote democracy? What are the non-political activities of civil society? What are the sources of information for these groups? What are their common projects? What plans for the future transition of Cuba do they work with?

Introduction: **Mr. Edward McMillan-Scott**, Vice-president of the European Parliament, United Kingdom

Moderator: **Ms. María Luisa Bascur**, International Helsinki Federation, Austria

Panelists: **Mr. Manuel Vazquez Portal**, former political prisoner, Cuba/USA
Ms. Annabelle Rodriguez, Asociación Encuentro de la Cultura Cubana, Cuba/Spain
Ms. Sylvia Iriondo, President of M.A.R. Por Cuba, Cuba/USA
Mr. Julio Hernandez, foreign representative of Christian Liberation Movement, Cuba/Puerto Rico
Mr. Osvaldo Alfonso Valdes, former political prisoner, Cuba/Sweden
Ms. Olivia Ocampo, International Group for Corporate Social Responsibility, Cuba/Curacao

Rapporteur: **Mr. Gonzalez Cáceres**, Deutsche Welle, Germany (TBC)

15:00 – 17:00 **Workshop 2: Cuba after Castro - What path will Cuba take?**

Questions to be addressed during this workshop:

This workshop will show different scenarios of the future in Cuba. What will be the influence of international actors on the situation in Cuba and who are these actors? What will be the important countries of influence for Cuba? What steps can be taken at present in order to influence the future peaceful transition to democracy in Cuba? Is the Cuban society prepared for changes and what kind of change will the Cubans want?

Moderator: **Ms. Hildegard Stausberg**, Die Welt, Germany

Speakers: **Mr. Carlos Alberto Montaner**, Cuban Liberal Union, Writer, Cuba/Spain
Ms. Claudia Zilla, Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik, Germany
Mr. Gutenberg Martinez, Chile
Ms. María C. Werlau, Director of Cuba Archive, Cuba/USA
Dr. Orlando Gutiérrez, Directorio Democrático Cubano, Cuba/USA

Rapporteur: **Mr. Rafael Rubio**, Asociacion Espanola Cuba en Transicion, Spain
17:00 – 17:30 **Reports from the Rapporteurs**

17:30 – 19:30 *Reception hosted by KAS*

Thursday, April 26

Secretariat: **People in Need, Sokolska 18, 120 00 Prague 2, Czech Republic**

Phone: +420.226.200.462, E-mail: icdc@peopleinneed.cz, www.icdcprague.org

Venue: Akademie der Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, Tiergartenstr. 35, Berlin
Working languages: English, Spanish, German

- 9:00 – 9:30 *Registration/ Coffee*
- 9:30 – 10:00 *Keynote speaker:*
Mr. Karel Schwarzenberg, Minister of Foreign Affairs, ICDC member, Czech Republic
- 10:00 – 11:45 **Second Session:** (*two parallel workshops, participation based on registration*)
- Workshop 3: What should be the European common position?**
Questions to be addressed during this workshop:
What is the outcome of present common position of the EU towards Cuba? What should be the main focus in the current situation? What should be the measures taken by EU member states but also EU institutions to support the future democratic change in Cuba?
- Moderator:* **Ms. Anna Lee Stangl**, Christian Solidarity Worldwide, United Kingdom
- Panelists:* **Mr. Mart Laar**, former Prime Minister, ICDC member, Estonia
Mr. Peter Weiss, Member of Parliament, Germany
Mr. Jorge Moragas, Member of Parliament, International Secretary of Partido Popular, Spain
Mr. Daniel Lipsic, Member of Parliament, Slovakia
- Rapporteur:* **Mr. Javier Martínez Corbalán**, Fundación Hispano Cubana, Spain
- 10:00 – 11:45 **Workshop 4: Opinion and recommendations of those who support Cuban civil society**
Questions to be addressed during this workshop:
What are the current needs of the groups of independent civil society in Cuba? What repression do they face and how it can be helped? How can we break the information blockade? What are the recommendations of activities for governments of EU members states but also other international actors?
- Moderator:* **Ms. Kristina Prunerova**, People in Need, Czech Republic
- Speakers:* **Mr. Hans Blomeier**, Head of Latin America Department, Konrad Adenauer Foundation, Germany
Mr. Martin Lessentin, International Society for Human Rights, Germany
Mr. José Miguel Vivanco, Human Rights Watch, USA
Mr. Fernando Gril, Member of the International Youth Committee for Democracy in Cuba, Argentina
Mr. Martin Hagenmeier, ADVENIAT, Germany
- Rapporteur:* **Ms. Mae Liz Orego**, Swedish International Liberal Center, Sweden
- 11:45 – 12:15 *Coffee break*
- 12:15 - 14:00 **Final Plenary Session: The Common Interest – Is There Possibility for Common Approach (Europe, US and Latin America) towards Cuba**
Questions to be addressed during this workshop:

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What is the main objective of policies towards Cuba of various international actors? What are the measures taken to achieve such objective? What are common goals and initiatives of the different actors? What are the biggest obstacles in achieving the objective? Is there need for cooperation on approach to Cuba? What can be the measures of such cooperation?

Introduction:

Reports from the workshops 3 and 4

Moderator:

Mr. Igor Blažević, People in Need, Czech Republic

Panelists:

Mr. Caleb McCarry, Coordinator for Assistance to a Free Cuba, US Department of State, USA

Mr. Andrzej Jaroszyński, Director of the Department of Americas, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Poland

Mr. Arnold Vaatz, Member of Parliament, ICDC member, Germany

Mr. Jaime Trobo, Member of Parliament, Uruguay

Mr. Julio Borges, president of Primero Justicia party, Venezuela

Mr. Frank Calzon, Director of Center for a Free Cuba, Cuba/USA

Rapporteur:

Ms. Liduine Zumpolle, Cuba Futuro, The Netherlands

14:00 – 14:30

Final Remarks:

Speakers:

Mr. Arnold Vaatz, Member of Parliament, ICDC member, Germany

Mr. Markus Meckel, Member of Parliament, ICDC member, Germany

14:30 – 16:00

Lunch hosted by KAS

Partners of the conference are:

