



**Cuban Futures Conference – Saturday 3 October 2015**  
**Council Chamber, Floor 5, TUC Congress House, London**

**09.00 – 09.30 Registration**

**09.30 – 10.30 Opening Plenary: 17 December and Beyond**  
Carlos Alzugaray, Arleen Rodriguez, Brian Wilson, Chair:  
Bernard Regan

**10.35 – 11.35 Seminar Sessions [1]**

**11.40 – 12.40 Seminar Sessions [2]**

**12.40 – 13.50 Lunch break**

**13.50 – 15.00 Round Table:**  
**Cuban perspectives on the Cuba-US**  
**relationship**  
Rafael Hernández, Carlos Alzugaray, Arleen Rodriguez  
Moderator: Victoria Brittain

**15.05 – 16.05 Seminar Sessions [3]**

**16.10 – 17.00 Closing Plenary: What next for Cuba? What next**  
**for international solidarity?**  
Linda Perks, Carlos Alzugaray, Rob Miller, Chair: Jayne  
Fisher

## Cuban Futures 2015 : Keynote speakers, chairs, sponsors and supporters

### Speakers from Cuba

**Dr Carlos Alzugaray:** Carlos is a former Cuban diplomat, internationally recognised political analyst and university lecturer. His last two diplomatic posts were advisor to the Foreign Minister of Global Political Affairs and Cuba's ambassador to the European Union. Since June 2007, Carlos has been Professor at the Center for Hemispheric and United States Studies at the University of Havana. He is the author of more than 30 publications on Cuban international relations.

**Dr Rafael Hernández:** Rafael is the editor of *Temas*, the leading Cuban magazine in the social sciences and the humanities, which is renowned for its contribution to intellectual debate on the island. He is a senior research fellow at the Centro de Investigación de la Cultura Cubana Juan Marinello in Havana and is the author or editor of several books, including 'Cuba and the Caribbean and United States-Cuban Relations in the Nineties'.

**Arleen Rodriguez:** Arleen is a prominent Cuban journalist and the Director of Mesa Redonda (Round Table) the most important discussion programme for analysis of national and international debates on Cuban TV, together with a weekly show on Telesur. A former member of the Cuban National Assembly, she has interviewed presidents and some of the most recognised personalities in the political and intellectual realm, inside and outside her country.

**Her Excellency Teresita Vicente:** Teresita is the current ambassador to Britain. Previously to this she was the Cuban ambassador in Canada and has worked in the Cuban Foreign Ministry.

### Speakers from Latin America

#### Her Excellency Rocio Maniero

Rocio is the current Venezuelan ambassador to Britain.

**Her Excellency Guisell Morales Echaverry**  
Guisell is the current Nicaraguan ambassador to Britain.

#### His Excellency Roberto Calzadilla

Roberto is the current Ecuadorean ambassador to Britain.

### Speakers from Canada

**Keith Bolender:** Keith is a lecturer in journalism and the award winning author of two books on Cuba – 'Voices From the Other Side: An Oral History of Terrorism Against Cuba', and 'Cuba Under Siege: American Policy, the Revolution and its People'.

### Speakers from Britain

**Victoria Brittain:** Victoria is a former associate editor of the Guardian and spent many years as a foreign correspondent based in Africa, Vietnam and Washington. She reported frequently on Cuba's role in Africa in the 1980s. Since then she has worked mainly on Palestine and on civil liberties issues in the US and UK related to the war on terror, and in particular Guantanamo Bay. She has written or co-written two books and two plays in this area, most recently *Shadow Lives*, the forgotten women of the war on terror.

**Professor Imti Choonara:** Imti is one of the leading paediatric clinical pharmacologists in the world. His research interests include drug toxicity, clinical trials, epidemiology of the use of medicines, inequalities in child health and access to medicines in children. He is interested in international child health and organises an annual workshop in child health in Cuba.

**Lauren Collins:** Lauren is a final year PhD candidate at the University of Nottingham. She is a member of the Cuban Research Forum and of the Society of Latin American Studies. Her research is concerned with the evolution, structure and dynamics of Cuban polity since the 1959 Revolution, with a focus on popular participation at the

local level. She first visited Cuba in 1978.

**Dr Francisco Dominguez:** Francisco is Senior Lecturer and Head of the Latin American Studies Research Group at Middlesex University. He came to Britain as a political refugee from the Pinochet dictatorship. He specialises on the contemporary political economy of Latin America about which he has published extensively. Since his arrival Dr Dominguez has been active on Latin American issues in the UK and in support of progressive developments in the region.

**Professor Antoni Kapcia:** Antoni is a Professor of Latin American History and Director of the Centre for Research on Cuba, at the University of Nottingham. He has been researching and publishing on aspects of modern and contemporary Cuban history since 1971, his most recent book being 'Leadership in the Cuban Revolution: The Unseen Story' (2014).

**Dr Emily Kirk:** Emily specialises in International Development and is a lecturer in US-Cuba relations and Cuban history at Nottingham University. Her research focuses on health and well-being in Cuba, with publications in areas including sexual diversity, human rights, medical internationalism and global health.

**Dr Steve Ludlam:** Steve is Senior Lecturer in Politics at the University of Sheffield. He teaches contemporary Cuban and Latin American politics, visits Cuba regularly, and is a specialist in Cuban employment law. He is a member of the Cuba Research Forum, an editor of the International Journal of Cuban Studies, and an honorary member of the Faculty of Third Age Studies of the University of Havana and of the Cuban National Lawyers Union's Labour Law section.

**Rob Miller:** Rob is the director of the Cuba Solidarity Campaign in the UK.

**Linda Perks:** Linda is the London Regional Secretary for trade union Unison, and the Vice President of South East Region Trades Union Congress (SERTUC) who are joint hosts of Cuban Futures 2015. UNISON Greater London has done much twinning work with SNTS, the Cuban health union, in

particular with the Havana Ambulance Service, and has worked with the CTC to support trade union solidarity initiatives across Latin America.

**Bernard Regan:** Bernard is National Secretary of the Cuba Solidarity Campaign in the UK. He is a former executive member of the National Union of Teachers and is a member of South East Region TUC International Committee, joint organisers of Cuban Futures.

**Rt.Hon. Brian Wilson:** Brian is a former Energy Minister and Labour MP from 1987-2005. Currently chairman of Havana Energy - which has secured the first ever joint venture to build power stations fuelled by biomass from sugar plantations.

### **Seminar and Plenary Chairs**

Jayne Fisher, Sue Michie, Carole Regan, Adrian Weir, Dodie Wepler.

### **Sponsors and supporters**

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### **Thanks also to other individual and trade union support from:**

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