

**SECOND INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR
REALITIES AND CHALLENGES OF THE PROCLAIM
OF LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN AS ZONE OF PEACE
September 19-21, 2018**

**Venue: "Raúl Roa García" Higher Institute of International Relations
(ISRI, Spanish acronym)**

Calle Calzada No.308 esquina a H, El Vedado, Plaza, Havana

Calling

The World Peace Council and the Cuban Movement for Peace and the Sovereignty of the Peoples, with co-sponsorship of the Higher Institute of International Relations (ISRI, the Spanish acronym) and the Martin Luther King Jr. Center (CMLK, the Spanish acronym), convoke the peace organizations, social movements, civil society and all those interested, to debate the strengths and problems affecting peace in Latin American and Caribbean countries.

Latin America and the Caribbean is the only Zone of Peace in the world, as stated in the "Proclaim of Latin America and the Caribbean as Zone of Peace", a document signed by all Heads of State or Government participating in the Second Summit of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC, the Spanish acronym) held in Havana in January, 2014.

The Proclaim was signed for the benefit of the peoples and to promote cooperation based on solidarity and friendship among the nations in the region, on the basis of respect to the sovereignty and individuality of its members and of the Purposes and Principles established by the Charter of the United Nations and the International Law, which is an unquestionable strength.

The progress attained by Colombia in the peace process after five years of negotiations has been an indisputable achievement, although it will have to deal with big hurdles in the present and the future.

To be considered is also the influence of the highly complex political scene in Venezuela, Brazil and Argentina, resulting from the imperialist offensive aimed at recovering its hegemony and reestablishing neo-liberal policies in alliance with the national rightist and extreme rightist forces, and support of the mass media representing the capitalist interests behind them. To counteract these actions is it necessary to denounce to the world by all possible means the political, media, economic and financial war of the empire against Venezuela and other countries in the region.

The World Peace Council and the Cuban Movement for Peace and the Sovereignty of the Peoples endorse the postulates of the Proclaim of Latin America and the Caribbean as Zone of Peace. They promote actions to achieve a sustainable peace in the region, based on social justice, stability, human rights and effective governance, in turn based on democracy, which is the essential premise for the development of public policies that will favor the rise of cultural level, full access to education, public health and sports, and the eradication of inequalities and violence.

With that purpose they encourage solidarity among the peoples and join the actions of popular movements and leftist political forces that struggle to eliminate the restoration of neo-liberalism, which has caused negative retreats for some nations and for the region as a whole.

Latin American and Caribbean countries, like the entire humankind, have to strengthen their commitment and increase their actions to make world peace prevail. To accomplish it they must act firmly in the struggle to achieve their legitimate aspirations and contribute decisively to international security, the survival of the human species threatened by huge nuclear arsenals, the global climatic change and the plundering of natural resources.

The Seminar will work in plenary sessions and there will be panels on the following themes:

- The Current U.S. Policy toward Latin America and the Caribbean: Consequences for Peace
- Social Inequalities, Gender and Ethnic Minority Issues: Challenges for Peace
- The Environment, Natural Resources and Challenges for Peace
- Imperialist Information and Communications Technologies (ICT) and their Provocations to Peace
- Importance of the Proclaim of Latin America and the Caribbean as Zone of Peace

The panels will have the participation of prestigious Cuban and foreign professors, researchers and specialists, as well as valuable papers from representatives of social organizations, minorities and individuals who may wish to share their experiences and points of view on the proposed themes.

Special appearances and master conferences by Cuban and foreign personalities will also take place.

Official languages: Spanish and English

Participation forms

The participants may present papers or be observers. The registration fee will be 150.00 CUP for Cubans and 100.00 CUC (Cuban convertible pesos) for foreigners. Payment will be made in cash to the Organizing Committee at the moment of registering on September 19. The registration fee will cover lunch expenses during the three days of the Seminar, the program and other materials. All participants will receive a diploma at the end of the seminar.

Those interested in participating and/or presenting papers may contact the organizers per e-mails movpazri@enet.cu and movpaz@enet.cu

Those who wish to present papers will send an abstract of 300 words max. The presentation time will be 15 minutes.

The closing date for the registration and reception of abstracts for the Seminar will be Friday, June 29, 2018.

Options for the stay in Cuba

AMISTUR CUBA S.A. Travel Agency will offer a package for the attendants to the Seminar. Contact person: Yania Marrero León, Commercial Specialist, e-mails: eventos@amistur.cu and amistur@amistur.cu