

# NAFTA 2.0: *The Puzzle of North America as a Region*

February 28 - March 1, 2019  
Texas A&M University School of Law  
Fort Worth, Texas  
Lecture Hall and Conference Center

Presented by



Texas A&M University School of Law  
Global and Comparative Law Program



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Guillermo Garcia Sanchez, Texas A&M University School of Law  
Charlotte Ku, Texas A&M University School of Law  
Elizabeth Trujillo, Texas A&M University School of Law

The United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA), which still must be approved by the respective country legislative branches, varies markedly from its predecessor, NAFTA, in its investment, environment and labor chapters, and treatment of automotive rules of origin, financial services and regulation, dispute resolution, energy, digital trade and intellectual property. Whether approved or not, negotiating the USMCA marks a new era in North American relations and raises important questions about the future of international trade, global institutions, and regionalism. This conference will consider the NAFTA 2.0 era, not only through the specific trade provisions of the USMCA, but also from the larger puzzle of North America as a region. It will examine the North American puzzle in the context of emerging trends in international trade, shifts in geo-political and economic interests, and the growing skepticism towards globalization and international dispute settlement.

## **Thursday, February 28, 2019**

- 4:30 pm      Registration
- 5:00 pm      **WELCOME**  
**Robert B. Ahdieh**, Dean and Anthony G. Buzbee Endowed Dean's Chair, Texas A&M University School of Law  
**Charlotte Ku**, Associate Dean for Global Programs, Co-Convener of the Global and Comparative Law Program, Texas A&M University School of Law
- 5:15 pm      **KEYNOTE**  
**Ricardo Ramirez**, former WTO Appellate Body Member; Professor, UNAM; Partner, RRH Consultores S.C.
- 6:00 pm      **Roundtable Discussion**  
David Gantz, Professor, University of Arizona; Will Clayton Fellow on International Economics, Mexico Center at Rice University's Baker Institute  
Tony Payan, Director, Mexico Center Rice University's Baker Institute  
Duncan Wood, Director, Mexico Institute Woodrow Wilson Center  
Tiffany Smith, Mayer Brown LLP  
Luisa del Rosal, Executive Director of the SMU Mission Foods Texas-Mexico Center
- 7:30 pm      Speaker Dinner (by invitation)

## **Friday, March 1, 2019**

- 8:15-9:00 am      Registration  
Coffee and Snacks
- 9:00 am      **REENVISIONING TRADE FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: IMPLICATIONS OF NAFTA 2.0?**  
**Moderator: Elizabeth Trujillo, Texas A&M University School of Law; Co-Convener Texas A&M University School of Law Global and Comparative Law Program**  
Alvaro Santos, Professor, Georgetown University Law School  
David Gantz, Professor, University of Arizona  
Patricia Hansen, Professor, University of Texas  
Tony Van Duzer, Professor, University of Ottawa  
Peter Yu, Professor and Director of the Center for Law and Intellectual Property, Texas A&M University School of Law
- 10:45 am      Coffee Break
- 11:00 am      **REFORMING DISPUTE RESOLUTION MECHANISMS: DISPUTE RESOLUTION FOR NORTH AMERICA UNDER NAFTA 2.0**  
**Moderator: Nancy Welsh, Texas A&M University School of Law; Director of the Aggie Law Dispute Resolution Program**  
Gabriel Cavazos, Monarch Global Strategies  
Sergio Puig, Professor, University of Arizona  
Kathleen Claussen, Professor at University of Miami, Co-Vice Chair, American Society of International Law International Economic Law Interest Group  
Jarrod Wong, Professor, McGeorge School of Law, University of the Pacific; Co-Chair, American Society of International Law International Economic Law Interest Group

12:45 pm

Lunch

1:15 pm

**LUNCHEON KEYNOTE**

**Ambassador Gerónimo Gutiérrez Fernández**, Ambassador of Mexico to the U.S. (2017-2018); Managing Director of the North American Development Bank (NADB) (2010-2017); Deputy Secretary for Governance and Homeland Security in the Interior Ministry of Mexico (2009-2010); Undersecretary for North America at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mexico (2003-2006); currently Managing Partner at Beel Infrastructure Partners

2:15 pm

**NATURAL RESOURCE EXTRACTION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN NORTH AMERICA**

**1.5 CLE Credit Hours**

**Moderator: Guillermo Garcia Sanchez, Texas A&M University School of Law**

Guillermo J. Garcia-Sanchez, Associate Professor, Texas A&M University School of Law

Sabrina Ragone, Associate Professor and Member of the Center of Latin American Studies, University of Bologna

Juan M. Mecinas Montiel, Professor, Universidad de las Américas Puebla.

Tim Meyer, Professor, Vanderbilt University Law School

James Coleman, Professor, Southern Methodist University Dedman School of Law.

Michael Lennon, Mayer Brown LLP

Jorge Gonzalez Gallastegui, DLG Abogados; ITESM

3:45 pm

Coffee

4:00 pm

**THE CROSS-BORDER LABOR PUZZLE: CITIES, CROSSINGS AND WAGES**

**1.5 CLE Credit Hours**

**Moderator: Alfonso Lopez de la Osa Escribano, University of Houston U.S.-Mexico Law Center.**

Andres Alvarez, Dallas Chapter Board Member, Mexican Entrepreneur Association; Foley & Lardner LLP

Raymond Robertson, Professor, Bush School of Government and Public Policy, Texas A&M University School of Law

Thomas Wilson, Partner, Vinson and Elkins; President, International Law Section Texas Bar

Pia Orrenius, Senior Research Fellow, SMU Mission Foods Texas-Mexico Center; Vice President and Senior Economist, Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas

5:30 pm

Conference ends.

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