CONFERENCE: LATIN AMERICA 2017
SATURDAY 2ND DECEMBER
CONGRESS HOUSE, LONDON

PROGRAMME

09:15 – 09:45   Registration
09:45 – 10:40   PLENARY – Standing up to Trump: Latin America fights back: *Main Hall*
Host: Bernard Regan. Contributors: Ken Loach, Kevin Courtney, Sally Hunt, Alicia Castro, Mark Weisbrot.

10:45 – 11:45   SEMINARS (A) & FILM FEST 1 hour
11:50 – 12:50   SEMINARS (B) & FILM FEST 1 hour

12:50 – 14:00   LUNCH BREAK
Lunch is available to buy on the day – *Marble Hall, upper ground floor.* Tickets from reception.

13.00 – 13.50 During Lunch break ALBORADA FILM FEST film details in programme.

14:00 – 14.55   PLENARY – Another world is possible: Voices from Latin America: *Main Hall*
Host: Victoria Brittain. Contributors: David Choquehuanca Cespedes, Valeska Teixeira Martins, Egle Sanchez

15:00 – 16:00   SEMINARS (C) & FILM FEST 1 hour

16:05 – 17:00   RALLY: No to US intervention, No to right wing destabilisation: *Main Hall*
Host: Diana Holland. Contributors: George Galloway, H.E. Teresita Vicente, Andrew Murray, Chris Williamson MP

Congress Centre Free Wi-Fi Password:
Twitter:

Please note there may be some further changes on the day. Thanks for your support.

ACCESS
Congress Hall (main hall) and Congress Suite rooms are on the lower ground floor.
Invision Suite rooms are on the 2nd floor - Access from lower ground floor foyer to 2nd floor rooms via 2 lifts and stairs at far end of foyer. No access from other lifts on LG floor.
Council Chamber and meeting Rooms 1-4 are on the 5th floor - Access to 5th floor rooms from lower ground foyer via 2 lifts and stairs near registration desk. No access from other lifts on LG floor.
Marble Hall is on the ground floor – access from lower ground foyer via stairs or lifts near registration desk.
Hearing Aid loop facility available in Congress Hall, Council Chamber and Invision Suite only. Please ask at registration.
TOILETS are located in the lower ground foyer beneath stairs near registration desk. Also on 2nd floor and 5th floor.

LUNCH   There will be a buffet lunch with a meat and a vegetarian option, with juice & fruit on sale.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Seminars (A) &amp; FILM FEST</th>
<th>10:45 – 11:45</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>A1</strong> Democracy in Cuba - the 2018 elections and beyond</td>
<td>Raul Castro intends to step down as president of Cuba following the country’s 2018 elections, in accordance with the new ten year term limit. As the &quot;revolutionary generation&quot; retires from public office, how will Cuba’s system of participatory democracy give the people a say in decision making and choosing their leaders of tomorrow?</td>
<td>Location A1</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Lauren Collins  • Tony Kapcia  • Cuban Embassy speaker</td>
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<td>Chair: Sue Michie</td>
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<td><strong>A2</strong> Solidarity with Venezuela: No to Trump’s Military Threats &amp; Regime Change Agenda</td>
<td>Trump has set his sights on Venezuela’s oil, the largest reserves in the world, issuing threats of military action and introducing far-ranging sanctions aiming at destabilising the country and overthrowing the country’s elected President. This seminar will also include a report back from an international observer at the recent regional elections.</td>
<td>Location A2</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Colin Burgon  • Javier Farje  • Egle Sanchez</td>
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<td>• George Galloway Chair: Jude Woodward</td>
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<td><strong>A3</strong> Military bases and US aggression in Latin America</td>
<td>The United States uses its military might across the region to back up its hostile approach to progressive governments. The militarisation of US foreign policy is about to stretch more deeply into Central and Latin America. Join our expert panel to hear how to tackle Trump’s increasing threats at this vital time for the region.</td>
<td>Location A3</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Grace Livingstone  • Francisco Dominguez  • Kate Hudson</td>
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<td>Chair: Victoria Brittain</td>
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<td><strong>A4</strong> Build Bridges Not Walls - Standing Up to Trump’s Hate &amp; Militarism in Latin America.</td>
<td>With the Trump administration waging an often racist and aggressive policy towards the people of the continent, as exemplified by his building of a ‘wall of hate’ on the Mexican border, experts and solidarity activists have become increasingly worried about a return to the dark days of US interventions in the region. Recent military threats against Venezuela, sanctions against Nicaragua, the blockade against Cuba and hateful rhetoric towards much of Latin America show that this threat is very real.</td>
<td>Location A4</td>
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<td>• Lindsey German  • Shabbir Lakha  • Laura Morales</td>
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<td>Chair: Sian Errington</td>
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<td><strong>A5</strong> Colombia - Where Now for Peace?</td>
<td>Justice for Colombia (JFC) hosts a talk on the latest from Colombia including films showing some of the international solidarity work being carried out by the British and Irish trade union movements.</td>
<td>Location A5</td>
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<td>• Nick Crook  • Christine Blower  • Mickey Brady MP</td>
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<td>Chair: JFC</td>
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<td><strong>A6</strong> Music, Culture and Politics – including case studies from El Salvador and Venezuela</td>
<td>How culture and the arts can be a catalyst for change, through local and, in particular, youth activism. Through the creative use of different cultural forms and approaches, they work to better their local communities and the lives of the people who live there, and develop counter-cultures, often in situations of profound marginalisation.</td>
<td>Location A6</td>
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<td>• Pablo Navarrete  • Tony Corden  • Consuelo Rivera Fuentes</td>
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<td>• Andrew Redden Chair: Maggie Day</td>
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### Climate Change and Social Justice

Cuba and Bolivia are two countries working to develop their societies for the benefit of the people, while trying to ensure that environmental protection remains central to all their policies. But with a US president who thinks climate change is not a problem – what now for climate justice?

- **Wendy Emmett**
- **Derek Wall**
- **Roberto Calzadilla**

Chair: Carole Regan

### The WTO Summit, free trade imperialism and resistance in Latin America

In December 2017 Argentina will host the WTO Leaders’ Summit, symbolic of the fact that Latin America is being targeted for an enormous expansion of free trade and foreign investment. This will bring misery for workers, national industry and peoples across the region. Mass opposition stalled the FTAA and watered down the NAFTA but what hope this time?

- **Alicia Castro**
- **Mark Dearn**
- **Dorothy Guerrero**
- **Camila Méndez**
- **Gabriel Rodríguez**

Chair: Angela Roberts

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### ALBORADA FILM FEST 10:50 – 11:45

**Film: American Sandinista** Director: Jason Blalock, 2008, 31 mins.

In the 1980s, at the height of the Cold War, a bloody civil war between the socialist Sandinistas and US government-backed Contras ravaged Nicaragua. Despite the danger, thousands of US citizens disobeyed White House warnings and descended upon the Central American nation, lending their skills and labour to the revolutionary cause. This documentary tells the story of a small group of engineers who went further than anyone expected, and paid the ultimate price.

Introduced by Nicaragua Solidarity Campaign

### Seminars (B) 11:50 – 12:50

#### B1 Che Guevara - a revolutionary legacy

Fifty years after the CIA ordered the assassination of Ernesto Che Guevara in Bolivia, the legacy of the Argentinian revolutionary is as powerful as ever. We look back on his life, role in the Cuban Revolution, and how his ideas continue to help shape a better, more just world, in Cuba, Latin America and beyond.

- **Dr Steve Wilkinson**
- **Dr Bernard Regan**

Chair: Jayne Fisher

#### B2 Venezuela & the lessons of Chile: Exposing right-wing destabilisation, economic war & US intervention

This workshop will tell the truth about Venezuela that you don’t always see in the corporate media and expose the anti-democratic nature of much of the right-wing opposition, who are funded by Trump’s US. It will also feature a report back from Mickey Brady MP who was an international observer at the recent National Constituent Assembly elections.

- **Mickey Brady MP**
- **Rocio Maneiro**
- **Francisco Dominguez**

Chair: Sian Errington

#### B3 Brazil Since the Coup – Stand for Democracy & Social Progress!

Brazil’s illegitimate removal of Dilma Rousseff in 2016 saw the Worker’s Party (PT) removed from office, despite never being beaten at the ballot box. Since the coup the country has been mired by controversy, corruption, protests, repression and a hard line austerity agenda. Hear from experts and activists on the latest developments, including eye-witness accounts.

- **Joabe Cavalcanti**
- **Colin Burgon**
- **Matt Willgress**

Chair: Christine Blower
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<th>Session</th>
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| B4      | Argentina - Resistance and solidarity -Neoliberalism, forced Disappearances, debt and free trade | Ever since President Macri’s election in 2015, Argentina has been rolling back a decade of progressive reforms. Its neoliberal programme, human rights’ abuses, attacks on labour, record national indebtedness, and most concerning of all, the Forced Disappearance of Santiago Maldonado by the state, are facing widespread resistance and global solidarity.  
  • Martina Rodriguez  • Bert Schouwenburg  • Dr Pablo Bradbury  
  Chair: Vicky Grandon   |
| B5      | Trump, the Media and Regime Change in Latin America                  | Media has played a large role in the vilification of the new Latin America, both domestically and internationally. Media outlets were key players to the coup in Brazil and the elections in Venezuela and Argentina. What lessons can we learn from media representation and its relationship with the right wing?  
  • Dr Alan MacLeod  • Gabriela De Oliveira  • Pablo Navarrete  
  Chair: Wendy Emmett   |
| B6      | Women in Latin America                                              | Women across the region are in the front line of the struggle for a progressive future across the region. The panel will focus on achievements in Cuba, Nicaragua and Venezuela particularly in terms of education and work, and explore how the ongoing struggle for women’s rights are central to building better societies for all.  
  • Philippa Harvey  • Guisell Morales Echaverry  • Egle Sanchez  
  Chair: Carole Regan   |
| B7      | The Empire strikes back - the resurgent right in Latin America       | After the coups in Brazil, Honduras & Paraguay, the right wing is on the rise again, but countries such as Venezuela continue to offer a progressive alternative. Remembering the brutal history of US intervention reminds us why our solidarity and support for countries such as Venezuela, Cuba and Nicaragua is so important.  
  • Andrew Murray  • Mark Weisbrot  
  Chair: Sue Michie   |
| B8      | Bolivia: The policies of inclusion of the Bolivian Government since the election of Evo Morales | President Evo Morales’ administration continues to inspire at home and abroad with a range of policies and developments improving lives across Bolivia, showing another world is possible with inspiring health, education and public programmes. But the old ruling elite and the US continue to oppose this revolutionary process, making our solidarity vital.  
  • Manuel Bueno  • Roberto Calzadilla  • David Choquehuanca Cespedes  
  Chair: Marie Taylor   |

ALBORADA FILM FEST  11:50 – 12:50  
**Documentary – The Past is Not History**  
Director: Richard Duffy, 27 mins, 2015  
A film made for the Arcatao Museum of Historical Memory in Chalatenango, El Salvador. The film investigates memories of the Salvadoran conflict from the perspective of the ‘campesinos’, or peasant farmers, and the process of creating a popular history from the bottom.  
**Documentary – Taxi to the Revolution**  
Director: Richard Duffy, 7 mins, 2015  
Julio Cortez gave up everything to join the Salvadoran revolution as a teenager, a revolution that became a war that raged for 12 years. Today, 20 years after the signing of the peace accords, he drives a taxi in San Salvador and helps young people to get out of street gangs, a crime epidemic.
that is destroying lives and destabilising the nation. Take a taxi ride with Julio as he tells you his remarkable life story, the story of El Salvador’s violent recent history as he lived it, and of a revolution that for him and many others continues today on a different front.  
Plus Q&A with the director Richard Duffy

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<tr>
<td>12.50 – 14.00</td>
<td>Lunch break</td>
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| 13.00 – 14.00 | **ALBORADA FILM FEST**  
Dare to Dream: Cuba's Latin American Medical School | Location C1  
Director: Jennifer Wager, 2017, 30mins  
This film tells the story of the largest medical school in the world, the Latin American School of Medicine (ELAM) in Havana, Cuba through the eyes of US students who received scholarships with the commitment to practice medicine in under-served communities.  
Through the stories of ELAM graduates, we learn the history of this medical school that is revolutionizing healthcare on a global level, graduating more than 26,000 doctors from around the world. Cuba has emerged over the last 50 years as a global health leader through an emphasis on preventative and primary care and a commitment to improving the health of economically struggling communities around the world. Grassroots leaders and activists in both the US and Cuba dared to make the school and scholarships a reality — at a time when Cuba suffered brutal economic pressure as the US government tightened its blockade against the island nation. Can one medical school change the world?  
Introduced by Cuba Solidarity Campaign

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<th>Seminars (C) &amp; Film</th>
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| C1 | **Back to the future with Donald Trump**  
Donald Trump has turned back the clock on Cuba-US relations to win right-wing votes in Miami. His aggressive posturing has mutated into concrete measures against the island, tightening the blockade and attacking diplomatic relations. How will Cuban socialism survive the onslaught and what can solidarity campaigners do to help.  
• Teresita Vicente  
• George Galloway  
• Philipa Harvey  
• Rob Miller  
Chair: Bob Oram |
| C2 | **Venezuela: 15 Years Since the Coup Against Chavez – Never Again!**  
Venezuela under Hugo Chavez sparked a tide of progressive Governments across the region which saw the focus switch to tackling poverty and inequality, but early in his government the US tried to oust him in a coup. This workshop will celebrate his achievements and look at how we can ensure the US doesn’t regain control of Venezuela. Including video by Oliver Stone.  
• Ken Livingstone  
• Rocio Maneiro  
• Mark Weisbrot  
• Alicia Castro  
Chair: Doug Nicholls |
| C3 | **Correa’s Citizens’ Revolution in Ecuador - Celebrating 10 years of social progress**  
Rafael Correa recently left Ecuador’s presidency after 10 years in which the country was transformed, and showed investment, rather than cuts, can advance both the economy and social inclusion. Workshop with eyewitness accounts from recent delegations and Ecuadorean guests.  
• Jorge Forero  
• Adrian Weir  
• Georgia Platman  
Chair: Susan Grey |
| C4 | **Nicaragua: Education, hopes, threats and international solidarity**  
Since returning to power in 2007, the Sandinista government has been one of the most popular and successful governments in the region in reducing poverty and inequality. This |
A seminar will focus on what has been achieved in the priority area of education and the challenges and threats the country faces including possible US sanctions in the form of the NICA Act. International solidarity remains critical. Members of NEU (NUT Section) will report back their teachers’ delegation to Nicaragua to exchange experiences with Nicaraguan teachers of English as a second language.

- Guisell Morales Echaverry
- Christine Blower
- Joe Whittington
- Liz Stevenson
  
  Chair: Louise Richards

**C5 In Defence of Lula – Brazil’s President for the Many, Not the Few**

Following the coup in Brazil in 2016, former President Lula has been the victim of a ‘trial by media’ as the right wing seek to stop him returning to power at the next election. Hear reports from his legal team and eyewitness accounts of recent developments in Brazil.

- Geoffrey Robertson QC
- Valeska Teixeira Martins
- Cristiano Zanin Martins
- Chris Williamson MP
  
  Chair: Andy De La Tour

**C6 Corporate Media and Latin America – telling just one side of the story**

Whether it is coups in Brazil and Honduras, the reality of Cuban society, or the rise of the right in Venezuela and Argentina, the corporate media has continually pushed one sided narratives in Latin America. Warped reporting, lazy journalism or simply not reporting stories that don’t fit the narrative – our panel looks at the effects this is having globally and in the region.

- Ben Chacko
- Jeremy Dear
- Gabriela De Oliveira
  
  Chair: Paul Glover

**C7 ALBA (Bolivarian Alliance for the Peoples of our Americas) & Latin American Unity – Putting People and Planet Before Profit**

Donald Trump openly uses anti-Latino and racist rhetoric in a divisive and disturbing way. At such a crucial time globally, come and hear the ideas and ideals of a regional bloc and organisation putting regional cooperation at the forefront of Latin American politics.

- Carlos Abad
- David Raby
- Julio Enrique Pujol Torres
- David Choquehuanca Cespedes
  
  Chair: Sue Michie

**C8 Mexico: Standing up for Democracy and Human Rights**

In 2018 Mexico will elect a new president. The government of Enrique Peña Nieto has been a disaster for democracy and human rights, with rampant violence, political corruption and impunity. Trump’s efforts to build a wall and renegotiate NAFTA also challenge Mexico’s political establishment. The panel will reflect on these issues and the outlook for diverse actors, including civil society, to engage and influence these processes to transform Mexico’s democracy and strengthen the protection of human rights.

- Tony Burke
- Rupert Knox
- Jan Nimmo
- Louise Regan
  
  Chair: Laura Morales

**ALBORADA FILM FEST 15:00 – 16:00**

**Berta Vive** Director: Katia Lara, 30 mins, 2016

A documentary on the life and death of Honduran activist and environmentalist Berta Cáceres. Introduced by Alborada
SPEAKERS

HE Carlos Abad, Ecuadorian Ambassador
Christine Blower, NEU (NUT section)
Dr Pablo Bradbury, Argentina Solidarity Campaign
Mickey Brady MP, Sinn Fein
Victoria Brittain, journalist
Manuel Bueno, Trade Union Friends of Bolivia
Tony Burke, Unite Asst General Secretary and VSC Executive
Colin Burgon, Former MP
HE Roberto Calzadilla, Bolivian Ambassador
Alicia Castro, former MP, Argentina and former Argentinian ambassador to UK and Venezuela
Joabe Cavalcanti, Brazilian Workers Party
Ben Chacko, Morning Star
David Choquehuanca Cespedes, ALBA
Lauren Collins, academic
Tony Corden, El Sueño Existe
Kevin Courtney, NEU (NUT section)
Nick Crook, UNISON
Maggie Day, El Sueño Existe
Jeremy Dear, International Federation of Journalists
Mark Dearn, War on Want
Andy De La Tour, actor
Gabriela De Oliveira, contributing editor of Alborada, Brazil
Dr. Francisco Dominguez, Middlesex University
Richard Duffy, filmmaker
Wendy Emmett, Cuba Solidarity Campaign
Sian Errington, Stand Up to Trump
Javier Farje, Journalist
Jayne Fisher, Cuba Solidarity Campaign
Jorge Forero, sociologist and former advisor to Correa’s government, Ecuador
George Galloway, former MP, broadcaster and filmmaker
Lindsey German, Stop the War Coalition
Paul Glover, UNISON
Vicky Grandon, Argentina Solidarity Campaign
Susan Grey, No Coup in Brazil
Dorothy Guerrero, Global Justice Now
Philipa Harvey, NEU (NUT section)
Diana Holland, Unite the Union Asst General Secretary & CSC Executive
Kate Hudson, CND
Sally Hunt, TUC
Tony Kacian, University of Nottingham
Rupert Knox, University of Sheffield
Shabbir Lakha, Stand Up To Trump
Grace Livingstone, Author, ‘America’s Backyard’
Ken Livingstone, former Mayor of London
Ken Loach, Film maker
Dr Alan MacLeod, Glasgow University

HE Rocío Maneiro, Ambassador of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela
Camila Méndez, Environmental Committees of Tolima, Colombia
Sue Michie, Cuba Solidarity Campaign
Rob Miller, Director, Cuba Solidarity Campaign
Laura Morales, Justice Mexico Now
HE Guisell Morales-Echaverry, Nicaraguan Ambassador
Andrew Murray, Unite Chief of Staff
Pablo Navarrete, Alborada Films
Doug Nicholls, GFTU
Jan Nimmo, Artist
Bob Oram, Cuba Solidarity Campaign
Georgina Platman, TELESUR
Julio Enrique Pujol Torres, Cuban Embassy
David Raby, Green Party International Committee
Andrew Redden, Music for Hope
Bernard Regan, Secretary, Cuba Solidarity Campaign
Carole Regan, Cuba Solidarity Campaign
Louise Regan, NEU (NUT section)
Louise Richards, Nicaragua Solidarity Campaign Action Group
Consuelo Rivera Fuentes, Hispano-American Women Poets
Angela Roberts, UNISON
Geoffrey Robertson QC
Gabriel Rodriguez, International Transport Federation
Martina Rodriguez, Ni Una Menos UK/Argentina Solidarity Campaign
Egle Sanchez, Venezuelan Trade Union Federation
Bert Schouwenburg, GMB International Secretary
Liz Stevenson, NEU (NUT section)
Marie Taylor, Trade Union Friends of Bolivia
HE Teresita Vicente, Ambassador of Cuba
Valeska Teixeira Martins, Lula’s legal team Brazil
Derek Wall, Green Party
Adrian Weir, Unite Asst Chief of Staff and CSC Executive
Mark Weisbrot, Center for Economic and Policy Research in Washington, USA
Joe Whittington, NEU (NUT section)
Dr Steve Wilkinson, University of Buckingham
Matt Willgress, No Coup in Brazil
Chris Williamson MP, Labour Party
Jude Woodward, Venezuela Solidarity Campaign
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