

ABSTRACT

Mexico is a study in paradoxes: Its people are often defensive toward foreigners while the country draws much of its revenue from tourism. Its government has a reputation for being conflict-adverse, yet drug violence is spiraling out of control. The country has a conflicted relationship with the United States even as it becomes more integrated into the North American economy. Jorge Castañeda, a Mexico City native who was educated in Princeton and Paris and served as Mexico's foreign minister from 2000 to 2003, has a unique vantage point from which to examine where his native country is headed. In his new book, *Mañana Forever? Mexico and the Mexicans*, he paints a picture of a nation at a crossroads. Castañeda visits the Burkle Center and Zócalo to discuss possible futures for Mexico.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER- Jorge Castañeda

Jorge Castañeda is a renowned public intellectual, political scientist, and prolific writer, with an interest in Latin American politics, comparative politics and U.S.-Latin American relations. He was Foreign Minister of Mexico from 2000 to 2003, and in that position he focused on diverse issues in U.S.-Mexican relations, including migration, trade, security, and narcotics control; joint diplomatic initiatives on the part of Latin American nations; and the promotion of Mexican economic and trade relations globally.

Born in Mexico City in 1953, Dr. Castañeda received undergraduate degrees from both Princeton University and Université de Paris-I (Pantheon-Sorbonne), an M.A. from The Ecole Pratique de Hautes Etudes, Paris I, and his Ph.D. in Economic History from the University of Paris. He has taught at Mexico's National Autonomous University (UNAM), Princeton and U.C. Berkeley. Dr. Castañeda was a Senior Associate at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace (1985-87), and was a John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation Research and Writing Grant Recipient (1989-1991). He is a member of the Board of Human Rights Watch, and since 2003 has hosted "Voices of Latin American Leaders" at NYU, where he teaches undergraduate and graduate courses.

Among his many books are *Utopia Unarmed: The Latin American Left after the Cold War* (1993); *The Mexican Shock* (1995); *Compañero: The Life and Death of Che Guevara* (1997); *Perpetuating Power: How Mexican Presidents Were Chosen* (2000); *Somos Muchos: Ideas para el mañana* (Planeta Editores, Mexico City, 2004); *La diferencia: Radiografía de un sexenio* (with Rubén Aguilar, 2007); *Y Mexico Por Que No?* (2008); and *Ex-Mex: From Migrants to Immigrants* (2008). Dr. Castañeda is a regular columnist for the Mexican daily *Reforma*, and *Newsweek International*.