

A NEW POLITICAL CYCLE IN IBERO-AMERICA?

LOCATION: Instituto Cervantes, Sydney

DATE: August 31. 5:00pm - 7:00pm

With Manuel Alcántara and Ferran Martínez i Coma

**RESEARCH & INNOVATION ALLIANCES
BETWEEN AUSTRALIA AND IBERO-AMERICA
Conference Series, Sydney. August-September 2016**



Research and Innovation in Australia and Ibero-America

Ibero-America is a global partnership that is comprised of twenty-two countries with over 630 million inhabitants, where Spanish or Portuguese are the predominant languages. The partnership includes all Spanish-speaking countries in Latin-America, Spain, Brazil and Portugal. These countries participate in the annual Ibero-American Summit, which has been organised by the Ibero-American Community of Nations since 1991. In addition, they are involved in major regional economic organisations, such as the European Union, NAFTA, the Transpacific Partnership, the Transatlantic Partnership, and MCCA.

A New Political Cycle in Ibero-America? Is part of a Conference Series, in which speakers will consider these key alliances and the ongoing collaboration in the exchange of innovative research and technologies between Australia and Ibero-America.

Organisers

Instituto Cervantes Sydney



The Instituto Cervantes is a non-profit organization founded by the Government of Spain in 1991. Its mission is to promote Spanish language teaching, as well as that of Spain's co-official languages, in addition to fostering knowledge of the cultures of Spanish-speaking countries throughout the world.

This Conference Series is a part of the *Cátedra Cervantes* Academic Forum. The Forum is dedicated to the dissemination of science and Spanish culture from an academic point of view, through lectures delivered by leading professionals in various fields, who work hand in hand with prestigious local universities, as well as Spanish companies in Australia.

SRAP



The Association of Spanish Researchers in Australia-Pacific (SRAP) is a non-for-profit organisation founded in 2015. It is aimed at supporting Spanish Researchers in Australia-Pacific and strengthening research networks between Australia and Spanish research centres and universities. SRAP organises and promotes research-related events and the open annual Australia-Spain Research Forum.

In Collaboration with:

Consulate-General of Spain in Sydney



A New Political Cycle in Ibero-America?

Wednesday, 31st August 2016

5:00pm – 7:00pm

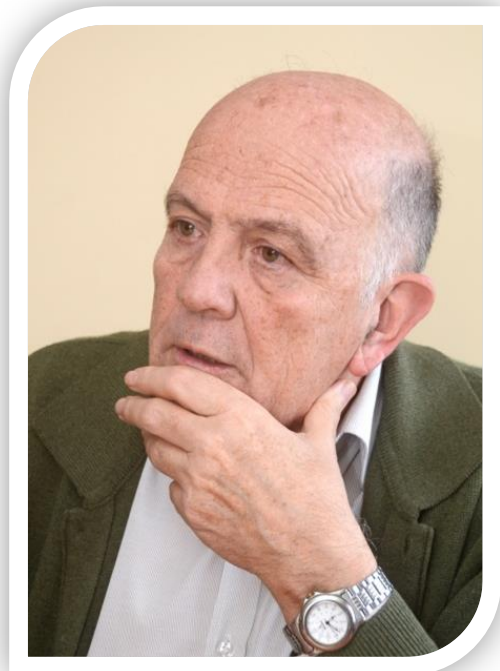
Instituto Cervantes Auditorium

Level 3, 299 Sussex St. Sydney NSW 2000

In this seminar, Professor Manuel Alcántara (University of Salamanca, Spain) will discuss the two periods of political evolution that took place in Latin American countries between 1978 and 2015. He will highlight the institutional, political and economic aspects of these cycles and discuss the possibility of a new political period, beginning in 2016, which is characterised by a trivialization of the democratic process.

The second part of the session will be delivered by Dr Ferran Martínez i Coma, a Spanish researcher at the University of Sydney, who is the founder of the blog “Piedras de Papel” and a contributor to the Spanish newspaper *eldiario.es*. He will discuss the recent political and electoral developments in Spain, namely the inability of any political party to form a cabinet following the December 2015 general election and the calling of a second election for June 2016. Dr Ferran Martínez i Coma will provide some key insights that are necessary to understand the current political situation in Spain.

Manuel Alcántara is a professor at the University of Salamanca and the Director of FLACSO Spain since 2014. He has taught courses at several universities, including Georgetown University, Tulane University, Kobe University, Paris III, FLACSO Ecuador, among others. Manuel was the Director of the Institute of Latin America at the University of Salamanca between 1994 and 2007, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor



of International Relationships and Cooperation from 2007 until 2009, and the Secretary General of the Latin American Association of Political Science between 2002 and 2009. He has been a visiting professor at the University of North Carolina (Chapel Hill) and at the University of Notre Dame. His major publications include *Gobernabilidad, crisis y cambio* (Mexico, Fondo de Cultura Económica, 1994), *Politicians and Politics in Latin America* (Boulder. Lynne Rienner Pub, 2008), *South American Legislatures: Thinking about Economic Integration and Defense Policy* (Washington, D.C. CSIS, 2000). In addition, he was appointed Doctor Honoris Causa at the University of San Martin (Argentina).

Event schedule

- 5 pm **Opening**
Mr Víctor Ugarte, Director, Instituto Cervantes Sydney
Mr Álvaro Iranzo, Consul-General of Spain in Sydney
- 5:10pm **A new political cycle in Ibero-America?**
Professor Manuel Alcántara
- 5:50pm **Political change in Spain: Much ado about nothing?**
Dr Ferran Martínez i Coma
- 6:15pm **Debate**
- 6:50pm **Closing**

Bookings are essential. For bookings and enquiries please contact bec1syd@cervantes.es