



Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission Briefing

Killings by Police in Brazil: Not a Game

Thursday, June 9, 2016

3:30 PM - 4:30 PM

Capitol Visitor Center Congressional Meeting Room South

Panelists



Paulo Sotero is the director of the Brazil Institute of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. From 1989 to 2006, he was the Washington correspondent for daily *Estado de S. Paulo*. Sotero began his career at *Veja* in the late 1960s and worked for the magazine in São Paulo, Recife, Brasília, and Paris, until he was named its correspondent in Portugal in 1974. In Washington since 1980, he is frequent guest commentator for

Brazilian and international radio and television networks and newspapers, magazines, and scholarly journals. A native of the state of São Paulo, Sotero holds a Bachelor's degree in History from the Catholic University of Pernambuco, and a Master's in Journalism and Public Affairs from the American University, in Washington, D.C. He has served as adjunct lecturer at the Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University, and the Elliott School of International Affairs, George Washington University. He is a member of the Board of the Institute of the Americas, La Jolla, California, Gacint-USP and the Maria Moors Cabot Prize Board at the Graduate School of Journalism, Columbia University.



Marselha Gonçalves Margerin serves as Advocacy Director for the Americas at Amnesty International USA, where she raises Latin American and Caribbean human rights issues directly with government officials and policymakers in the U.S. She was born and raised in the interior of Brazil during the dictatorship regime there and has dedicated her career to advancing human rights principles. Gonçalves Margerin has held hundreds of meetings and briefings with U.S. and foreign officials and served as an expert witness at the United Nations and Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. She has worked extensively with human rights defenders throughout Latin America and the Caribbean and is fluent in all of the official languages. Before joining Amnesty International USA, Gonçalves Margerin worked for the United Nations Human Rights Section in Haiti, Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and American University's Washington College of Law. She has advised activists, academics, and political figures, including former President of East Timor José Ramos-Horta, and conducted human rights fact-finding missions in the Americas and North Africa. Gonçalves Margerin has been frequently interviewed and cited by national and international media outlets, including EFE, Reuters, the New York Times, Washington Post, VOA News and Huffington Post. She holds a Master's Degree in International Peace and Conflict Resolution from American University's School of International Service and a law degree from Universidade Federal de Uberlândia in Brazil.



Elizabeth Leeds is currently a Senior Fellow at the Washington Office on Latin America to advise on public safety in Brazil. She is the founder and Honorary President of the Brazilian Forum for Public Safety, based in São Paulo, and a Research Affiliate at the Center for international Studies at MIT. She was a Program Officer for Governance and Civil Society at the Ford Foundation Brazil Office in Rio from 1997-2003 where she developed an initiative on Police Reform and Public Safety. Prior to that she was the Executive Director of the Center for International Studies (1989-1997) at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) where she had previously received a doctorate in Political Science. Current research interests include challenges to institutional reform of the police and the role of civil society in that process.



Liz Martin became an activist after a policeman murdered her nephew in Brazil. Liz is the daughter of a Worcester policeman. By joining with victims' families in Brazil and seeking advice and support from human rights activists Liz created the campaign "Don't Kill for Me; Safe Games for All". Through story telling and reporting, Liz works to educate others about the high rates of

police killing citizens in Brazil, considered among the highest in the world. Liz has spoken nationally and internationally about Brazilian police violence.

Moderator



Peter Meyer is an Analyst in Latin American Affairs at the Congressional Research Service (CRS), which provides policy analysis to committees and Members of Congress, regardless of party affiliation. He analyzes political, socioeconomic, and security trends in Brazil and several other Western Hemisphere nations, as well as U.S. policy in the region. Mr. Meyer joined CRS as a Presidential Management Fellow in 2008 and completed a six-month rotation at the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) in 2010. Prior to joining CRS, he received an M.A. in Latin American Studies from the University of New Mexico.