12th STUDY TOUR TO CUBA (2005-2017) VIENNA UNIVERSITY – POLITICAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME (Version 10 Dec 2016)

in cooperation with the

HAVANA UNIVERSITY (CENTER FOR HEMISPHERIC STUDIES - CEHSEU), CATEDRA HUMBOLDT (UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE of GERMAN LANGUAGE and CULTURE), AUSTRIAN EMBASSY HAVANA, UNITED NATIONS MISSION CUBA, 6 – 30 April 2017

Introduction: The Programme consists of a 33hr Academic Event/Lecture Cycle on Cuba's History (4), Internal Systems (3), External Relations (5), Culture (3), and Lectures by the Austrian Ambassador and the United Nations Resident Coordinator in Cuba plus Round Table Discussions with Cuban University students, a Career Coaching Workshop, Programme Recapitulation as well as an Intensive 30hr Spanish Language Course. All lectures/briefings will be held in English or German (ausgezeichnete Englischkenntnisse werden vorausgesetzt). Introductory lectures and meetings in Vienna will precede the Programme in Cuba.

The Academic Programme is complemented by numerous cultural evening events, by sightseeing incl. extensive journeys to geographic and historic highlights in the Western as well as the Central part of the Island, and by recreational undertakings and facilities. (Die Verpflichtung zur Teilnahme in allen Aktivitaeten, insbesondere der akademischen, ist Vorbedingung fuer eine Teilnahme an der Studienreise!).

The Study Tour has been organized by **Univ.Prof. DDr. Ingfrid Schuetz-Mueller**, Political Science Department, with specialization in International Organizations and Cuba, and **DI Ingolf Schuetz-Mueller**, former United Nations Resident Coordinator in Afghanistan, and Director, UNDP/UNOPS Environment Division, New York, with intensive professional links to Cuba. Both have received the Cross of Honour for Science and Art (Ehrenkreuz für Wissenschaft und Kunst) awarded by the Austrian President for their 30 years of work with the United Nations and their dedication for maintaining Austria's academic link to the UN and for organizing political science study tours to UN Headquarters/New York, to the Pacific Island countries and to the University Havana, Cuba. Both have also regularly appeared on Cuba related radio and television transmissions.

The day-to-day management of the Tour will be carried out by **Mag. Balazs Csekoe**, multiple Cuba Study Tour participant and co-manager, journalist and author of a thesis on the Cuban diaspora in the United States.

Itinerary:

Thursday,

6 April

00:30 **Departure** with flight Aeroflot SU 2355 (via Moscow) or Turkish Airlines (via Istanbul) four hours earlier at 20:15 on 5 April (or other Airlines with different departure times) from Schwechat International Airport. (Above is based on the majority of individually booked flights).

08:00 Arrival of Turkish Airlines (or 14:25 Aeroflot SU 150) in Havana, José Martí International Airport and transfer individually by taxi or by Transtur bus to:

Hotel Colina Calle L entre 27 y Jovellar Vedado District, Habana Tel.: (+53) 7833 2065

Friday, 7 April

07:30	Breakfast (daily included)
08:15	After breakfast walk jointly (200m) to the historical center of the Universidad de la Habana, the Campus Colina (Hügel), Vedado district,
	Faculty of Law (Juridica/Derecha), Building Ignazio Agramonte, Sala Polivalente,
08:30	Orientation discussion on the Academic Programme
09:00	 Lecture: Cuba's History (1) – From Pre-Columbian through Colonial and Post-Independence Period until Revolutionary Beginnings: Dra. Olga Rosa González Martín
10:30	 Lecture: History (2) – History of the Revolutionary Movement until its Victory in December 1958: Dra. Olga Rosa González Martín
12:15	Lunch may be taken individually but for expediency sake may today be organized jointly for the group in the Restaurant of the Hotel Colina
13:15	Walk to the Casa Balear (Center for cultural exchange with the Balearic Islands in Spain) the venue for the 30-hour Intensive Spanish Language Course
	Location: Avenida de los Presidentes (Calle "G") Nr 512, corner (esquina) Calle 23, Vedado
13:30	Start of daily 3-hour Intensive Spanish Language Course (Lessons 1,2,3) Beginners Course 1 (principiantes): with Profesora Myriam Gascón Beginners Course 2 (principiantes): with Profesora Cristina Mejías

	Intermediate Course 3 (intermedios): with Profesora Elisa Guinart Advanced Course 4 (avanzados): with Profesora Rita Alfonso
16:30	Walk back to Hotel Colina
17:30	Walk jointly from Hotel Colina to the legendary Hotel Nacional,
	Location: Calle O, corner (esquina) Calle 21, Vedado
17:45	for Cocktail Reception in the Hotel garden seaside, followed by the:
18:45	"Ceremonia Bienvenida", Official Welcome Ceremony of the
	Universidad de la Habana in the Salon Vedado
	Dr. Jorge Hernández, Presidente Cátedra "Nuestra America" and Ex-
	Director, Centro de Estudios Hemisfericos y sobre las Estados Unidos,
	(CEHSEU), Havana University
	Dr. José Carlos Vázquez, Dean emeritus, Havana University, Facultá para
	la Filosofía y Historia, (Co-Founder of the Vienna University Study
	Tour to Cuba)
	Dr. Iván Muñoz Duthil, Presidente de la Cátedra Humboldt, University
	Institute of German Language and Culture,
	as well as professors, teachers, friends and Catedra Humboldt students
20:00	Walk back to Hotel Colina

Saturday,	8 April
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08:00 08:40	Breakfast Leave Hotel Colina jointly for the Casa Balear
09:00	Spanish Language Course (Lessons 4,5,6)
12:15	Lunch may be taken individually (but for expediency sake may today again be organized jointly for the group, this time in the Restaurant El Carmelo which is very close to the Spanish Course venue). After Lunch return to Hotel Colina
14:00	Departure from Hotel Colina for half-day guided Bus Sightseeing Tour of Havana (Guide: Dr René Caparrós)
17:30	Return to Hotel
Sunday,	9 April
	Keep all luggage readily packed in the room before leaving the Hotel
08:45	Departure by bus from Hotel Colina for Plaza de Armas, Templete, Habana Vieja (Old Havana) for

09:00	Briefing by Prof. Dr. Arquitecto Orestes del Castillo del Prado from the Oficina de Arquitectura Patrimonial on Restauration Activities in Old Havana (UNESCO World Cultural Heritage) including walk through Habana Vieja (Plaza Catedral, Bodeguita del Medio, Maqueta - architectural model of Old Havana, Hotel Ambos Mundos – Hemingway residence, Calle Obispo street, Plaza Vieja (Camera Oscura), ending with
11:30	Refreshments (or lunch) (individual) at La Cerveceria (Plaza Vieja), beer restaurant with Austrian /Salm Bräu mini brewery (other lunch option: later in Beach Club Habana)
12:30	Walk jointly from Plaza Vieja to Plaza de San Francisco and return from there by bus to the Hotel Colina.
13:30	Hotel check-out, gather in Hotel lobby with all belongings for individual walk to Casas Particulares (private homes with Cuban families), all in walking (or short taxi ride) distance of the Hotel Colina and the University
14:30	After settling in the respective private accommodations, assemble again at the Hotel Colina (which shall remain our assembly point for the rest of our Havana stay) for bus transfer to the exclusive Beach Club Habana Location: 5ta Avenida Nr 188-192, Municipio Playa. Afternoon at leisure (restaurants, bars, palm beach, swimming pools, tennis, beach volleyball, fitness center, internet)
20:00	Return by bus from Club Habana to Hotel Colina
Monday,	10 April
	Breakfast (included daily in all Casas Particulares)
08:40	Walk jointly from Hotel Colina to the University Campus , Faculty of Law (Juridica/Derecha), Building Ignazio Agramonte, Sala Polivalente,
09:00 10:30	3. Lecture: External Relations (1) – Latin America: Dr. Alberto Prieto 4. Lecture: History (3) – The First Post-Revolution Years (1959-64) incl. Invasion at the Bay of Pigs (1961) + the Missile Crisis (1962) : Ambassador Dr. Carlos Alzugaray
12:00	Individual luncheons
14:00 17:00	Spanish Language Course (Lessons 7,8,9) at the Casa Balear Walk back to individual Casas Particulares

19:15	Departure by bus from assembly point Hotel Colina for the Morro y
	Cabaña Fortaleza (Hafenfestung) to attend historic 17 th Century
	90'clock Cannon-shot Ceremony (marking the night closure of the
	former city gates), followed by optional dinner in a medieval tavern (El
	Bodegón) on the fortress

23:00 Return by bus to Hotel Vedado

Tuesday, 11 April

- 08:40 Walk individually from Hotel Colina to the **University Campus**, Faculty of Law (Juridica/Derecha), Building Ignazio Agramonte, Sala Polivalente,
- 09:00 5. Lecture: History (4) The past five decades, with overview on the recent socio/political/economic changes: Dr. Carlos Alzugaray
 10:30 6. Lecture: External Relations (2) United States of America: Dra. Olga Rosa González Martín
- 12:00 Individual luncheons
 13:30 Spanish Language Course (Lessons 10,11,12),
 16:30 Return from Casa Balear to respective Casas Particulares

Wednesday, 12 April

08:40	Walk individually to the "Cine Infanta" (Sala 1) Film Center located at Calzada de Infanta e/ Calle Neptuno y Calle San Miguel for the
09:00	7. Lecture: Cuba's Internal Systems (1) – The Political System: Dr. Karell Acosta
10:30	8. Lecture: External Relations (3) – Europe: Dr. Carlos Alzugaray
12:00	Individual luncheons
13:30	Spanish Language Course (Lessons 13,14,15), at Casa Balear until 16:30
18:30	Departure from assembly point Hotel Colina for Cultural Programme with Afro-Cuban 'religious' Music/Dance Tradition (related to Santeria) performed by the famous Ladies Group "Obiní Batá" at the Asociación Cultural/Yoruba de Cuba
	Location: Prado 615, Habana Vieja
20:30	Return by bus to Hotel Colina

Thursday,	13 April
08:40 09:00	Walk individually to the Cine Infanta 9. Lecture: Internal Systems (2) - Cuba's Social System: Dr. René Caparrós Aguiar
10:30	10. Lecture: External Relations (4) - Cuba's Historical Relations with Austria and Germany: Dr. Iván Muñoz Duthil, Presidente de la Catedra Humboldt
12:00	Lunch
14:30	11. (Lecture) Mesa Redonda - Round Table Discussion (in German) with Cuban Students from the Catedra Humboldt, moderated by Dr. Iván Muñoz Duthil , Presidente, Catedra Humboldt Location: Cine Infanta (until 17:00)
17:30	Student entertainment committee preparations for the evening Fiesta
20:00	Continuation of the Round Table as joint Fiesta Cubana with the Cuban Students at the Casa Balear (with music, drinks, snacks etc.)
Friday,	14 April (Karfreitag)
08:40 09:00	Walk individually to Cine Infanta 12. Lecture: External Relations (5) – Former Socialist Block & 3 rd World Countries ("Group of 77"): Dr. Carlos Alzugaray
10:30	13. Lecture: Cuba's Culture (1) – Dance (Ballet): Dr. Miguel Cabrera
12:00	Lunch
14:00	Spanish Language Course (Lessons 16,17,18), (until 17:00)
	Evening suggestions: Fabrica de Arte (Disco, ArtCine, Art Exhibition etc) Location: Calles 26 y 11, Vedado (smart-casual attire required!) or Mio & Tuyo* (Sports Bar & Disco) or La Flauta Magica* (Zauberfloete, Sky Bar & Music) or El Delirio (Sky Disco top-floor Teatro Nacional) or " 1830 " Live music open-air Club at end of Malecon. * No entrance fees
Saturday,	15 April (Karsamstag)
12:00	Early morning at leisure Lunch (can also be taken near the beach)

13:00	Departure (optional) by bus from assembly point Hotel Colina for afternoon public beach activities at Playa del Este, Sta. Maria beach (in the nearby laguna: Mi Cayito Island Inn for food & drinks and pedal boat rental)
18:00	Return from Playa del Este to Hotel Colina
20:00 20:30	Departure by bus from Hotel Colina for a ballet evening at the Teatro Nacional: "Escuela Nacional de Ballet: Encuentro Internacional de Academias de Ballet"
	Location: Plaza de la Revolucion, Municipio Plaza
22:00	Return by bus to Hotel Colina
Sunday,	16 April (Ostersonntag)
07:30	(Request early breakfast at Casas Particulares ! and bring along hiking and swimming gear !) Departure from assembly point Hotel Colina for full-day bus Excursion to Western Cuba, i.e. Soroa, Las Terrazas and Viñales
08:45 10:15 11:15	Soroa – mountain hike up Monte Mirador de Soroa Walk to Rio Manantiales Waterfalls Drive to Las Terrazas: Lake/Bioreserve and famous architectural experiment of the 1960s for fully integrated sustainable rural village planning
12:15	Pic-nic Lunch (included) and swim at the Cascadas de los Baños del Rio San Juan
14:00 16:00	Departure for Viñales via Pinar del Rio Arrival Viñales, visit of Cueva del Indio (boat ride in underground cave river)
17:00 17:15	View of Mural de la Prehistoria (giant rock-painting) Los Jasmines Hotel, scenic view of the legendary Valle de Viñales (Cuba's most famous picture-book landscape)
19:30 22:00	Departure for Havana Arrival at Hotel Colina

Monday, 17 April

Since the **University Campus** will be closed this week, commemorating the Girón Victory (Bay of Pigs Invasion), an external University facility

10:00	 has been identified i.e. the Casa Fernando Ortíz (street level) in the block next to Hotel Colina (as per streetmap). 14. Lecture: Internal Systems (3) – Economy (incl. Agriculture): Dr. Ricardo Torres
12:00	Lunch
13:00	Spanish Language Course (Lessons 19,20,21), (until 16:00)

17:15 Departure by bus from Hotel Colina meeting point for a Matinée (evening dance) in one of the two famous "salsa temples" called Casa de la Musica Location: Casa de la Musica in Calle Galliano, Centro Habana or the Casa de la Musica in Miramar

After 21:00 return individually to Casas Particulares

Tuesday, 18 March

Walk individually to the Casa Balear for the...

- 09:00 Spanish Language Course (Lessons 22,23,24)
- 12:00 Return briefly home to Casas Particulares to pick-up beach gear for...13:00 Departure by bus from Hotel Colina for the private Beach Club Habana

(lunch possibility) Location: 5ta Avenida Nr 188-192, Municipio Playa

Whole afternoon at leisure (restaurants, bars, palm beach, swimming pools, tennis, beach volleyball, fitness centre, internet)

19:30 Return by bus from Club Habana to Hotel Colina

Wednesday, 19 April

09 :00	At Cine Infanta: 15. Lecture: Cuba's Culture (2) – Music : Dra. Sigryd Padron Diaz or
10:30	Dr. Lilian Lombera 16. Lecture: Cuba's Culture (3) – Architecture: Dr. René Caparrós Aguiar
12:00	Lunch
13:00	Spanish Language Course (25,26,27), (until 16:00)

17:00	Departure from Hotel Colina by bus for the Austrian Embassy
	Residency for Reception and
17:30	17. Briefing on: "Recent Socio-economic Developments in Cuba &
	Work and Challenges of the Austrian Representation in Cuba" by
	Ambassador Dr. Gerlinde Paschinger
	Location: 7ma Avenida, No. 3506, e/ 36A y 38, Miramar

20:00 Return by bus to Hotel Colina

Thursday, 20 April

08:30	Departure by bus from meeting point Hotel Colina for the United Nations Mission in Cuba , for Reception and
09:00	18. Briefing on United Nations (UNDP/WFP etc) Activities in Cuba, Ms Myrta Kaulard, United Nations Resident Coordinator in Cuba, Location: Calle 18, No 110 e/ 1ra y 3ra Ave, Miramar
10:45	 19. Briefing on Career Possibilities with International / UN Organizations, Mr Ingolf Schuetz-Mueller, Former United Nations Resident Coordinator in Afghanistan and later: Director of UNDP/UNOPS Environment Division, New York Location: same as above
12:45	Return by bus to Hotel Colina
13:00	Lunch
14:30 16:30	Final Spanish Language Course (28,29,30) Spanish Language Tests (until 17:30) Late afternoon and evening to be used for individual preparations of Recapitulation session and for Student Entertainment Committee organization for the Friday afternoon Ceremonia Clausura gift
	presentations and Fiesta night

Friday, 21 April

09:00 **20. Recapitulation and Discussions on the Academic Programme Experience** moderated by Prof. DDr. Ingfrid **Schuetz-Mueller** and DI Ingolf Schuetz-Mueller (presentations by students) Location: Casa Fernando Ortíz or Asociación Cubana de las Naciones Unidas (**ACNU**), Calle J, esq. Calle 25, Vedado or another venue.

12:00	Lunch
16:50	 Walk to the Hotel Nacional, (left wing) Sala Vedado, for the "Ceremonia Clausura" formal University Farewell Ceremony Hand-out of Diplomas for Lectures and Language Courses by Dr. Jorge Hernandez, Ex-Director CEHSEU / Dr José Vázquez, Dean emeritus Dr. Iván Muñoz Duthil, Presidente de la Catedra Humboldt, and the four Profesoras de Español (who, together with the local Coordinadora Berta Martinez, are being thanked by the students with gift presentations and thereafter each profesora is being taken for dinner by their respective student group)
20:00	Farewell Fiesta Cubana with Cuban students/friends at Casa Balear (with music, drinks, snacks etc)

Saturday, 22 April

Morning at leisure **for visits to Museums (e.g. Museo de la Ciudad de La Habana, Museo de la Revolución, Museo Nacional de las Bellas Artes, etc.)**

Afternoon is dedicated to follow the famous Nobel laureate Ernest Hemingway's tracks in Cuba where he spent a large part of his life and with which he developed deep bonds.

- 12:00 Departure by bus from Hotel Colina for a visit of **Finca Vigía**, Hemingway's beautiful Mansion, to be followed by a visit to **Cojimar** (the Author's fishing village and location of his Nobel Prize winning novel: "The Old Man and the Sea"). Thereafter continue and
- 14:45 Arrive at **Playa del Este, Sta Maria** public beach (nearby **Mi Cayito** Lagune Island Inn for snacks & drinks and pedal boat rental)
- 18:30 Departure from Playa del Este and return to Hotel Colina at 19:00

Evening free for individual activities and preparations for departure from Havana

Sunday, 23 April

08:45	Leave Casas Particulares with all luggage
09:00	Assemble at Hotel Colina and load all luggage on Transtur bus for a

	7day/6night guided Excursion eastwards to Central Cuba: Guamá – Bay of Pigs/Girón – Cienfuegos – Trinidad – Sierra de Escambray/ Caburní Waterfalls - Sta.Clara/Che Guevara Monument – Varadero - Havana
09:30	Departure East for Guamá on Zapata peninsula wetland reserve, Matanzas Province
11:30	Arrival La Boca, Laguna del Tesoro marina. Visit of Crocodile Farm, thereafter optional lunch at the marina restaurant
13:30	Speedboat transfer through mangrove lined canals and swamps and across lake Laguna del Tesoro to the Island Resort Villa Guamá (Pfahlbauten)
14:00	Visit of Sculpture Park depicting Taino Indian life (bronze statues by Rita Longa)
14:30	Check into Villa Guamá Resort Hotel (Tel.: +53 45 959 100) and walk to lake lodges (cabañas) Afterwards assemble at swimming pool for afternoon leisure
20:00	Dinner (included) at the resort restaurant lodge
Monday,	24 April
06:30	Optional early morning bird-watchers boat tour around islands (5 CUC)
08:00 08:15	Luggage to be stored at reception or outside each lodge Breakfast (included) at restaurant
09:00	Departure by speedboat from the Resort for La Boca marina
09:30 10:00	Departure by bus from La Boca for Bahia de los Cochinos (Bay of Pigs) After passing through Playa Larga , one hour stopover for
	snorkeling/diving at the Cueva de los Peces (small 80m deep lake with unusual marine fauna)
12:00	Arriving at Girón and visit of Museum and Invasion beach (Playa Girón – April 1961 Schweinebucht Invasion)
12:45	Lunch (individual) at Bar Playa Cristal (Spaghetti/Pizza/Hamburger)
14:00 15:45	Departure for Cienfuegos Drive through/sightseeing of the charming city of Cienfuegos "La Perla del Sur", (incl. visit of Palacio del Valle, one of Cuba´s most famous architectural treasures)
17:15 19:00	Departure for Trinidad Arrival in the famous colonial city of Trinidad (UNESCO World Heritage), Playa Ancon; check-in

	at Beach Hotel Ancon Club Amigo (Tel.: +53 41 996 146). All meals included.
20:30	Buffet Dinner, thereafter possibly Dance/Song show at the 24hr Pool Bar
Tuesday,	25 April
	Full day at leisure for Playa Ancon beach activities
19:00	Buffet Dinner
20:15	Drive to downtown Trinidad, Escaleras Casa de la Musica (open-air music/dance)
23:00	Return by bus to Hotel Ancon via the spectacular underground disco club La Cueva (cave) for brief visit or optional stay there and in that case return

Wednesday, 26 April

Morning and early afternoon at leisure for beach activities

- 16:15 Departure by bus for guided sightseeing tour of the Valle de los Ingenios (Sugar Mills Valley) incl. Torre de Iznaga (National Monument) and on to the Historic Center of Colonial Trinidad for guided walking tour of the old town.
- 20:00 Return by bus to Hotel Ancon

individually by taxi

20:30 Dinner

Thursday, 27 April

07:45	Breakfast (Reiseproviant will be provided for this – the longest - tour day)
08:30	All luggage to be loaded on bus
08:45	Departure from Hotel Ancon for scenic mountain drive over the Sierra de
	Escambray with 4-wheel-drive Russian made trucks
10:15	After stop at Mirador scenic outlook, arrive at mountain pass Topes de
	Collantes (from there 2h walk to/from Caburní Waterfalls/Lake)
13:00	Leaving Topes de Collantes and arrive in the city of
15:00	Santa Clara for individual snack lunch at pool-side grill of
	Hotel/Restaurant Los Caneyes, followed by visit of the
	Che Guevara Monument/Memorial Site
16:30	Departure from Sta. Clara for Varadero
19:00	Arrival Varadero Beach, short orientation drive on Varadero peninsula

19:30 check-in at **Hotel Mar del Sur** (Tel.: +53 45 61 22 46) 150 metres from beach (all inclusive basis)

Optional evening activities, e.g. dance at Casa de la Musica or Salsa Club Mambo

Friday, 28 April

Breakfast (included) Whole day at leisure for **beach activities**

18:30 Adios Cuba - Final Group Farewell get-together at Hotel pool side lounge

Optional evening activities

Saturday, 29 April

- 09:15 Rooms to be vacated (luggage to be stored on bus)
- 10:00 Tentative Departure by bus from Hotel Herradura for Havana via Matanzas and Bacunayagua bridge (Cuba's largest bridge, with spectacular view)
- 12:00 Arrival Havana José Martí International Airport for check-in and
 14:25 Aeroflot flight SU 151 take-off (Later departure of other airlines, e.g. Turkish Airlines who are only flying on Sunday morning 10:00)

Sunday, 30 April

17:15 **Arrival Schwechat International Airport** (Aeroflot). (Turkish Airlines would arrive the following day at 13:15)