

Participants



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Candido Mendes (Brazil). President of Candido Mendes University, president of the Rio de Janeiro Forum of Rectors, member of the Brazilian Academy of Letters, secretary-general of the Academy of Latinity, member of the Economic and Social Development Council to the Presidency of Brazil, president of the Senior Board of the International Social Science Council (ISSC), and Alliance of Civilizations Ambassador. Former secretary-general of the Brazilian Justice and Peace Commission and President of the International Political Science Association (IPSA). Among his most recent books are *A*

presidência afortunada (1999); *Lula: a opção mais que o voto* (2002); *Lula depois de Lula* (2005); *Lula apesar de Lula* (2006); *Dr. Alceu, da 'persona' à pessoa* (2009); *Subcultura e mudança: por que me envergonho do meu país* (2010); and *Razão armada* (2012).

Daniel Innerarity (Spain). Professor of Political and Social Philosophy and Ikerbasque researcher at the University of the Basque Country. Visiting professor at the European University Institute (Florence). His latest books include *The ethics of hospitality, the transformation of politics* (3rd Miguel de Unamuno Essay Prize and 2003 National Literature Prize in the Essay category); *The invisible society* (21st Espasa Essay Prize); *The new public realm, the future and its enemies*, and *The democracy of knowledge*.

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Enrique Rodríguez Larreta (Uruguay). Director of the Cultural Pluralism Institute at Candido Mendes University. His writings include *Gold is illusion* (2003); *Gilberto Freyre e a sociologia crítica* (2001); *Collective imagination: limits and beyond* (2001); *Identity and difference*

in the global era (2002); *Reality / simulacra / artificial: ontologies of postmodernity* (2006); and *Subjectivity at the threshold of the digital culture: the self in network* (2007). He is co-author, with Guillermo Giucci, of *Gilberto Freyre, uma biografia cultural* (2007).

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Hélé Béji (Tunisia) has taught French literature at the University of Tunis. She held an international post at UNESCO and in 1998 founded the International College of Tunis. She has published several essays and novels, such as: *Désenchantement national* (1982); *L'oeil du jour*, a novel (1985); *Itinéraire de Paris à Tunis*, a satire (1992); *L'art contre la culture* (1994); *L'imposture culturelle* (1997); *Une force qui demeure* (2006); *Nous, décolonisés* (2008); and *Islam pride (Derrière le voile)* (2011).

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Paulo Gabriel Hilu Pinto (Brazil). He holds a Ph.D. in Anthropology from Boston University. He is a professor of Anthropology at Universidade Federal Fluminense (Federal University of the State of Rio de Janeiro), Brazil, where he is also director of the Centre for Middle East Studies. His research is mainly concerned with Syria and Brazil on the subjects of Islam, ethnicity and transnationality. He has conducted fieldwork in Syria since 1999 and with the Muslim communities in Brazil since 2003. He has published, among other works, *Islã: religião e civilização, uma abordagem antropológica* (2010); and *Árabes no Rio de Janeiro: uma identidade plural* (2010).

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Susan Buck-Morss (USA) is distinguished professor of Political Science at CUNY Graduate Center and core faculty member of the Committee on Globalization and Social Change. Her books include *Hegel, Haiti, and universal history* (2009); *Thinking past terror: Islamism and critical theory on the left* (2003); *Dreamworld and catastrophe: the passing of mass utopia in East and West* (2000); *The dialectics of seeing: Walter Benjamin and the arcades project* (1989); and *The origin of negative dialectics: Theodor W. Adorno, Walter Benjamin, and the Critical theory of the Frankfurt School* (1977; 2nd ed., 2002).

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