



Photograph: Paula Lutinger

on torture

A SYMPOSIUM SPONSORED BY
THE HEINRICH BÖLL FOUNDATION AND
THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

Tuesday, November 18th, 2008
9:00am – 6:30pm

The George Washington University
Jack Morton Auditorium, Media & Public Affairs Building
805 21st Street NW, Washington, DC

The "torture debate" since the Abu Ghraib photographs has involved talk of legal permissibility, costs and benefits, policies, ticking time bombs and moral absolutes. Yet torture is much broader and deeper in its moral, political, legal, and social implications. This public symposium explores torture as a systematic means of exerting control and extracting information; it examines official depictions of torture; analyzes the history and institutionalization of torture; and raises the issue of accountability.

9:00-9:30am

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: SANTIAGO CANTON

Executive Secretary of the *Inter-American Commission on Human Rights*

9:30-11:30am

TORTURE AND LAW

David Luban, *Georgetown University Law Center*

Michael Hatfield, *Texas Tech University Law School*

Carlos Castresana, Public Prosecutor, Commissioner,
United Nations International Commission Against Impunity (Guatemala)

MODERATOR: Andrew Zimmerman, *The George Washington University*

11:30-1:00pm: Lunch Break

1:00-3:00pm

TORTURE AND CULTURE

Stephanie Athey, *Lasell College*

Eduardo Subirats, *New York University*

Alphonso Lingis, *Penn State University, Emeritus*

MODERATOR: Silvio Waisbord, *The George Washington University*

3:00-3:15pm: Coffee Break

3:15-5:15pm

POWER AND POLITICS

Rebecca Wittmann, *University of Toronto*

Pilar Calveiro, *Benemérita Universidad Autónoma de Puebla, Mexico*

Christopher Britt Arredondo, *The George Washington University*

Thomas C. Hilde, *University of Maryland*

MODERATOR: Sergio Waisman, *The George Washington University*

5:30pm

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: ARYEH NEIER

President of the Open Society Institute

Sponsored by the Heinrich Böll Foundation, Columbian College of Arts & Sciences (George Washington University), RGSLD Department (George Washington University), Latin American and Latino Studies Group in CCAS (George Washington University)

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