

LUIS ERNESTO DERBEZ BAUTISTA is a professor of economics and, since April 1, 2008, President of Universidad de las Américas Puebla (UDLAP). Dr. Derbez was Secretary of Economy from 2000 to 2002 and Secretary of Foreign Relations from 2003 to 2006 for the Government of Mexico. As Minister of Economy, Derbez was in charge of Mexico's international trade negotiations, and he finalized the trade agreement between China and Mexico, which allowed China's accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO), and he led the Mexican team which defined the terms for a Free Trade Agreement between Mexico and Japan. At the 2001 WTO's Ministerial Meetings in Qatar he was a member of the Director's Team, which successfully negotiated the start of the Doha Development Round. Following his participation, Derbez became the Chairman-elect for WTO's 2003 Ministerial Meeting. In this role, he also proposed ten industrial policy programs for key sectors of the Mexican economy. While representing Mexico at the UN Security Council during the Iraq crisis, Derbez realized that a major overhaul of the UN system was required. In 2004, Mexico invited 15 nations to form a group called Friends of the Reform, to propose administrative and organizational changes for the UN. He also organized another 16 nations into a group, named United for a Consensus, to propose reforms to the UN Security Council. The proposals of both groups played a major role in the reform decisions approved by the UN Assembly on September 2005. He later served as Chairman of the Board for several joint ventures of the Mexican Government and Mitsubishi Corporation of Japan. He was also a member of the Boards of Petróleos Mexicanos (PEMEX), Banco Mexicano de Comercio Exterior (BANCOMEXT), and Consejo Nacional de Ciencia y Tecnología (CONACYT). In his professional capacity as an economist, he worked for the World Bank from 1983 to 1997; and from 1998 to 2000 he was an international consultant for the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB). In 2007 he became a member of the Consultative Board of Bombardier, a private Canadian aircraft company, and an international consultant for Ford Motor Co., Grupo Financiero Banorte and Corporación Andina de Fomento (CAF). He is the former recipient of a Fulbright – Juárez scholarship to pursue graduate studies in the United States, and in May of 2007 he was admitted as a full member of the Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences of the Vatican. Among his best-known publications include: *Competitividad y Diplomacia* (*Competitiveness and Diplomacy*, 2005), *Prólogo a la Memoria de la Tercera Cumbre América Latina y el Caribe - Unión Europea* (*Prologue to the Third Summit of European Union and Latin America*, 2004), "Regionalismo abierto: gran visión del Pacífico mexicano" ("Open Regionalism: Great Vision of the Mexican Pacific") in *Economic Perspectives*, Vol. 7, No. 3, October 2002.

Intellectual issue to be addressed: What are the right politics for a developing country?