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Blogging #Cuba: From Virtual Participation to Public Spaces

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Cuban Research Institute

Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs



Blogging in #Cuba: From Virtual Participation to Public Spaces

Lecture by Harold Cárdenas Lema

Friday, February 26, 2016 | 12:00 PM | FIU Modesto A. Maidique Campus | Green Library 220

Cuban blogs run the full spectrum from one political extreme to the other. As in any other country, those who write about a complex reality with honesty, are the ones who win the hearts and minds of youth and everybody else. Some of them are bloggers. A recent trend in matters of political participation is the expansion of public spaces to discuss the Island's future. *La Joven Cuba* ("The Young Cuba"), founded by students from the University of Matanzas in 2010, is one of the best-known blogs for young people, who want to invoke political participation in their country, not just by writing but also interacting with other people in Cuba and abroad.

Harold Cárdenas Lema is the founder of *La Joven Cuba*. He is currently a Ph.D. student in political philosophy at the Central University of Las Villas. He holds a B.A. degree in Cultural Studies from the University of Matanzas. He has lectured widely and often participates in social media workshops. In 2014, he was the first Cuban to be invited to participate in the Edward R. Murrow Program to International Journalists in the United States. Cárdenas Lemas writes a weekly column on politics for the independent Dutch online media project *El Toque* and for *La Joven Cuba*.

This event is free and open to the public. To confirm your attendance, please call (305) 348-1991 or write cri@fiu.edu.