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Perfeccionamiento ?": Considering the Unequal Effects of Policy Transformations in Cuban Cuentapropismo: Lecture by John Vertovec

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Cuban Research Institute

Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs



“¿Perfeccionamiento?”: Considering the Unequal Effects of Policy Transformations in Cuban *Cuentapropismo* Lecture by John Vertovec

Thursday, February 7, 2019 | 2:00 PM | Deuxième Maison (DM) 353

Cuentapropismo (legal self-employment) has grown tremendously in Cuba since market-driven reforms in 2010. However, new state policies and regulations in 2018 have created many uncertainties for *cuentapropistas*. This lecture discusses the effects of these changes, with attention to how policy and regulatory shifts shape opportunities, challenges, and economic behaviors in unequal ways for a diverse group of self-employed people. Specifically, John Vertovec utilizes ethnography conducted in Havana to describe how *cuentapropistas*—each positioned differently in relation to intersections of race, gender, and other axes of social difference—face unequal access to local and global resources and, as such, must combine formal and informal economic strategies to navigate *cuentapropismo*'s current point of inflection.

John “Jack” Vertovec is a Ph.D. candidate in Global and Sociocultural Studies at Florida International University. Jack has conducted ethnographic research in Cuba since 2012 when he wrote an honors thesis at the University of Colorado, Boulder (anthropology department), which utilized *jinetismo* (street hustling, broadly defined) as a lens into contemporary changes in Cuban socialism. He received one of the 2018 CRI Cuban Studies Scholarships to conduct research in Cuba.

This lecture is free and open to the public.

To confirm your attendance and for more information, please call (305) 348-1991 or write cri@fiu.edu