

EMTA WEBINAR: Ecuador's Elections and Post-Restructuring Outlook October 8, 2020

RAMIRO BLAZQUEZ (MODERATOR) BancTrust

Ramiro Blazquez is currently Head of Research & Strategy at BancTrust & Co. He holds an MSc in Financial Engineering from Birkbeck College, The University of London, and an MA in Economics from Universidad Torcuato Di Tella (Argentina). In addition, he pursued graduate studies in Finance at Universidad de San Andrés, where he also obtained his Economics degree.

Prior to joining BancTrust, Ramiro was Head of Research at Mills Capital Markets, an Argentine brokerage house. In the previous ten years, he worked as Senior Latam Economist for HSBC Global Research, covering the major South American countries. He was also an economist at the IMF's Argentina office, Managing Director at Universidad Di Tella's Center for Financial Research (CIF) and adviser for the Presidential office during Fernando De la Rúa's term.

Ramiro has taught several courses at Universidad Torcuato Di Tella, both at graduate and undergraduate levels. He is a former Chevening Scholar, a fellowship granted by the United Kingdom's Foreign Commonwealth Office.

AUGUSTO DE LA TORRE Columbia University, and former Ecuadorean Central Bank President

Augusto de la Torre is a professional economist that has combined research, writing, service at multilateral organizations, policy advice, and policy making throughout a rich career, with a special focus on Latin America.

De la Torre currently teaches at Columbia University's School of Public and International Affairs, in New York City; is the Director of the Economics Research Center at the Universidad de las Américas (UDLA) in Quito, Ecuador; and acts frequently as a senior policy consultant.

He left the World Bank at the end of 2016, after 20 years of service in various senior roles. In the first 10 years he concentrated in macroeconomic and financial sector themes, including as Head of the Global Financial Systems Department and as Senior Financial Sector Advisor for Latin America. In the last 10 years, he was the World Bank's Chief Economist for Latin America.

Prior to his World Bank career, he served as the Governor of the Central Bank of Ecuador (1993-1996) and worked at the International Monetary Fund (1986-1992), including in the post of IMF Resident Representative in Venezuela (1991-1992).

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De la Torre has published extensively on a broad range of financial, macroeconomic, and economic development topics. He is an active participant in Latin American-related policy forums and scholarly endeavors. He was chosen by Euromoney Magazine as the "Best Latin Central Banker" for 1996.

He earned his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in Economics at the University of Notre Dame and holds a Licenciatura in Philosophy from the Catholic University of Ecuador.

TODD MARTINEZ Fitch Ratings

Todd Martinez is a Director in Fitch Ratings' sovereigns group, responsible for analysis and ratings of sovereign credits in Latin America.

Before joining Fitch in 2014, Todd served as an economist at the Institute of International Finance (IIF) in Washington, DC, conducting analysis of country-specific and regional macroeconomic developments in Latin America. Todd previously worked as an analyst in a consulting firm in his home state of Colorado, where he carried out fiscal impact studies and data analysis of public policy issues.

Todd earned his M.A. in economics and Latin American studies from Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS). He earned a B.A. in international affairs from the University of Denver, after which he spent a year conducting research as a Fulbright Scholar in Uruguay. He is fluent in Spanish and Portuguese.

EAMON AGHDASI GMO

Eamon Aghdasi is an analyst with GMO's Emerging Country Debt team, focused primarily on sovereign credit. Prior to joining GMO in 2018, he worked as a sell side emerging markets strategist for FX and fixed income, with stops at UBS, Societe Generale, and State Street. A native of Massachusetts, Eamon began his career as a research assistant at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston.

He holds an MBA from MIT Sloan, a Master's in International Development from the Harvard Kennedy school, and a Bachelor's in Economics from Tufts University.

RICHARD SEGAL Manulife Investment Management

Richard Segal is a senior investment analyst at Manulife Asset Management, where he runs the Emerging Market Credit Research team. In this role, Richard analyzes specific companies, interprets macro trends and market activity to provide information and analysis for the decision-making process across Manulife's fixed income funds.

Prior to joining Manulife, Richard spent four years at Jefferies International in London. As a desk analyst, he was responsible for CEE corporate and sovereign credits. Beforehand, he worked at Knight Capital as a director in the emerging markets division, and has also worked at institutions such as Bank of America and Santander, as well as specialized credit funds, investment banking boutiques, and consulting firms.

Richard has a degree in economics from MIT.