



Thomas A O'Keefe

Lecturer

Program in International Relations

 Curriculum Vitae available Online

Bio

BIO

Thomas Andrew O'Keefe is the President of Mercosur Consulting Group, Ltd. [<https://www.mercosurconsulting.net>], a legal and economic consulting firm that assists companies with their strategic business planning for South America as well as advises Latin American firms exporting to the United States. He has been a principal of Indigenous ADR [<https://www.IndigenousADR.com>] since 2024.

Mr. O'Keefe is a dual national of the United States and Chile. He is bilingual in English and Spanish, and fluent in French and Portuguese. He did his undergraduate work at Columbia University, and received his J.D. from the Villanova University School of Law. In 1986, he worked for the legal departments of the Chilean Human Rights Commission and the Vicaría de la Solidaridad (the human rights office of the Archdiocese of Santiago). He also worked as an associate for a number of years at the Wall Street law firm of Carter, Ledyard & Milburn and the Boston-based Gadsby & Hannah before returning to study at the University of Oxford, where he received an M.Phil. in Latin American Studies (History and Economics) in 1992. He has taught courses on Colonial Latin America, Western Hemisphere economic integration, the political economy of the Southern Cone Countries of South America, energy and climate cooperation in the Western Hemisphere, and U.S.-Latin America diplomatic history at American University, Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies, The George Washington University's Elliott School of International Affairs, and Stanford University. He served as Chair of the Western Hemisphere Area Studies Program at the U.S. State Department's Foreign Service Institute between 2011 and 2016. During the spring 2015 semester, he also taught a seminar on International Human Rights Law at the Villanova University School of Law.

Mr. O'Keefe is the author of numerous book chapters and articles on Latin American economic integration, globalization, energy security, and climate change, and has lectured extensively on these topics both in the United States and abroad. He has also been invited to brief U.S. government officials and testify before the U.S. Congress on developments within MERCOSUR and the Free Trade Area of the Americas project. He is the former Managing Editor of Focus Americas, an analytical review of business and legal developments throughout the Western Hemisphere. He is the author of Latin American Trade Agreements (Ardsley, NY: Transnational Publishers, Inc. 1997-), Latin American and Caribbean Trade Agreements: Keys to a Prosperous Community of the Americas (Leiden NL: Martinus Nijhoff (Brill), 2009), and Bush II, Obama, and the Decline of U.S. Hegemony in the Western Hemisphere (New York: Routledge, 2018).

In 2001, Mr. O'Keefe participated in the USAID/RAPID project as an African Growth & Opportunity Act (AGOA) trade specialist based in Gaborone, Botswana. In 2005, he received a Fulbright Scholars Award to lecture on international trade topics at the National Universities of Córdoba and Rosario in Argentina and conduct research on the Argentine energy sector for a chapter in a book published by the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) in 2007. In 2011, he was the recipient of a Fulbright Senior Specialist Award to lecture on the Peru-United States Free Trade Agreement at the Law School of the Catholic University of Peru in Lima. Between October 2005 and October 2006, he was the Legal and Economic Integration Specialist for the USAID's Caribbean Open Trade and Support Program

based in Antigua and Barbuda. He served as Chief of Party of USAID's Caribbean Business Enabling Environment Reform Activity based in Barbados between July 2022 and July 2023.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Lecturer, Program in International Relations

BOARDS, ADVISORY COMMITTEES, PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- Co-Chair, American Bar Association-International Law Section-International Energy and Environmental Law Committee (2021 - present)

LINKS

- Mercosur Consulting Group, Ltd.: <https://www.mercosurconsulting.net>
- Indigenous ADR: <https://www.IndigenousADR.com>

Teaching

COURSES

2023-24

- Energy and Climate Cooperation in the Western Hemisphere: INTNLREL 146A, INTNLREL 246A (Spr)
- Political Economy of the Southern Cone Countries of South America: INTNLREL 147, INTNLREL 247 (Win)

2021-22

- Energy and Climate Cooperation in the Western Hemisphere: INTNLREL 146A (Spr)
- Political Economy of the Southern Cone Countries of South America: INTNLREL 147 (Win)

2020-21

- Energy and Climate Cooperation in the Western Hemisphere: INTNLREL 146A (Spr)
- Political Economy of the Southern Cone Countries of South America: INTNLREL 147 (Win)

Publications

PUBLICATIONS

- **Bush II, Obama, and the Decline of U.S. Hegemony in the Western Hemisphere**
O'Keefe, T. A.
Routledge.2018
- **Building on Sub-Regional Economic Integration Projects to Forge an Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas** *INTER-AMERICAN COOPERATION AT A CROSSROADS*
O'Keefe, T., Mace, G., Cooper, A. F., Shaw, T. M.
2010: 95–110
- **Latin American and Caribbean trade agreements : keys to a prosperous community of the Americas**
O'Keefe, T. A.
Martinus Nijhoff.2009
- **Latin American Trade Agreements**
O'Keefe, T. A.
Transnational Publishers.1997