



# “Assisting Independent Trade Unions in Cuba”

Sponsored by: **Committee for Free Trade Unionism**

with assistance from

ALBERT SHANKER INSTITUTE

FREEDOM HOUSE

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR DEMOCRACY

21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY ILGWU HERITAGE FUND

**April 1-2, 2009**

*Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill*

*400 New Jersey Ave, N.W.*

*Washington, D.C. 20001*

## **Wednesday, April 1, 2009**

*Thornton Room (11<sup>th</sup> Floor)*

4:30 p.m. Registration

5:00 p.m. Welcome Reception

Introduction: **Thomas R. Donahue**, *Chair, Committee for Free Trade Unionism*

Speaker: **Randi Weingarten**, *President, Albert Shanker Institute & American Federation of Teachers*

## **Thursday, April 2, 2009**

*Capitol Room (lobby level)*

8:15 a.m. Continental breakfast and Registration

8:45 a.m. Welcome: **Thomas R. Donahue**, *Chair, Committee for Free Trade Unionism*

9:00 a.m. Panel I: **“Cuban Economy, Politics, Employment and Labor”**

Chair: **John T. Joyce**, *Vice-Chair, Committee for Free Trade Unionism; former Vice President, AFL-CIO*

Panelists:

**Jorge Pérez López**, *International Economist*

**Joel Brito**, *Executive Director, International Group for Corporate Social Responsibility in Cuba, GIRSCC*

**Jaqueline Arroyo**, *President, Afro-Cuban Alliance*

9:55 a.m. Discussion

10:15 a.m. Introduction: **Jack Otero**, *Secretary, Committee for Free Trade Unionism; former Vice President, AFL-CIO*

Remarks: **Pedro Pablo Alvarez Ramos**, *former trade union prisoner and General Secretary, Unitary Council of Cuban Workers (CUTC)*

10:35 a.m. Discussion

11:00 a.m. Break

- 11:15 a.m. Panel II:  
**“Forced Labor – The Curacao Case and International Legal Implications”**
- Chair: **Jay Mazur**, *Vice Chair, Committee for Free Trade Unionism;*  
*former Vice President, AFL-CIO,*
- Panelists:  
**Armand Pereira**, *ILO Washington Representative*  
**Gerardo Becerra**, *President, International Longshoremen's Association,*  
*Local 1922, Miami*  
**John Thornton**, *Partner, do Campo & Thornton*
- 12:00 p.m. Discussion
- 12:30 p.m. Break
- 12:45 p.m. **Lunch**
- 1:15 p.m. **Lunch Speaker Introduction: Thomas Donahue**,  
*Chair, Committee for Free Trade Unionism*  
Speaker: **Carl Gershman**, *President, National Endowment for Democracy*
- 1:45 p.m. Discussion
- 2:00 p.m. Panel III: **“Strengthening International Action on Cuba”**
- Chair: **Tom Melia**, *Deputy Executive Director, Freedom House*
- Panelists:  
**Jose Miguel Vivanco**, *Executive Director for the Americas, Human Rights Watch*  
**Stan Gacek**, *Associate Director, International Affairs Department, AFL-CIO*  
**Eric Chenoweth**, *Co-Director, Institute for Democracy in Eastern Europe*  
**Barbara Joe**, *Coordinator, Regional Action Network, Amnesty International*
- 3:00 p.m. Discussion
- 3:30 p.m. Break
- 3:45 p.m. **Discussion on Advancing Worker Rights**  
Moderator: **Eugenia Kemble**, *Executive Director, Albert Shanker Institute*
- 5:00 p.m. Conference Adjourns