Fernando Henrique Cardoso
President of Brazil (1995-2002)

President of Brazil from 1995 until 2002, Fernando Henrique Cardoso is currently president of the Instituto Fernando Henrique Cardoso (São Paulo, Brazil) and honorary president of the Brazilian Social Democracy Party, one of the largest and most important political parties in the country. He is also an accomplished Professor of Sociology and recipient of the prestigious Prince of Asturias Award for International Cooperation.

Former President of Brazil, Fernando Henrique Cardoso, will deliver the Henry E. and Nancy Horton Bartels World Affairs Fellowship Lecture on April 7, 2010, at 4:30pm in Call Alumni Auditorium, Kennedy Hall, on the Cornell University Campus. Cardoso’s talk, “Beyond the Global Financial Crisis: Politics, Economics and Culture,” is free and open to the public.

Former President of Brazil for two consecutive terms (1995-2002), Fernando Henrique Cardoso is currently president of the Instituto Fernando Henrique Cardoso (São Paulo, Brazil) and honorary president of the Party of the Brazilian Social Democracy (PSDB). He is member of the Board of Directors of the Club of Madrid and of the Board of Directors of the Inter-American Dialogue; member of the Clinton Global Initiative; the World Resources Institute; the Thomas J. Watson Jr. Institute for International Studies of the Brown University and the United Nations Foundation.

He was born in Rio de Janeiro, in 1931, and married to the anthropologist Ruth Cardoso (1930-2008), with whom he has three children. A sociologist trained at the University of São Paulo, Cardoso emerged in the late 1960s as one of the most influential figures in the analysis of large-scale social change, international development, dependency and democracy. Cardoso was deeply involved in Brazil’s struggle for democracy to overcome the authoritarian military regime (1964-1985). Elected Senator in
1982, he was a founding member of the Party of the Social Democracy. He served as Minister of Foreign Relations in 1992-93 and Minister of Finance in 1993-94. Professor Emeritus of Political Science at the University of São Paulo, he was professor at the universities of Santiago de Chile, California American (at Stanford and at Berkeley), of Cambridge (United Kingdom), of Paris-Nanterre, of the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales and at the Collège de France. From 1982-1986, he was President of the International Sociological Association.

Cordoso has the Doctor Honoris Causa from more than 20 of renowned universities and is a Foreign Honorary Member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He was awarded honors such as the "Prince of Asturias Award of International Cooperation 2000", the UNDP's 2002 inaugural "Mahbub ul Haq Award for Outstanding Contribution to Human Development" and in 2003 the "J. William Fullbright Prize for International Understanding."

His main works include The Accidental President of Brazil (2006, with B. Winter), Charting a New Course: The Politics of Globalization and Social Transformation (2001, M. Font editor), and Dependency and Development in Latin America (with E. Faletto, 1979). He is a participating author, among other books, in São Paulo: Growth and Poverty (et al, 1978), and The New Global Economy in the Information Age (with M. Carnoy, M. Castells and S.S. Cohen, 1993). He has also published papers and essays in journals such as: International Sociology, Foreign Affairs, Foreign Policy and others.

The Henry E. and Nancy Horton Bartels World Affairs Fellowship was established in 1984, to bring prominent international leaders to Cornell. The mission of the fellowship program is explicitly educational-to foster a broadened world view among Cornell students by bringing to campus persons who have distinguished themselves as international public figures. In addition to delivering a major public lecture for the University and local community, Bartels Fellows spend two or three days on campus in close interaction with faculty and students, especially undergraduates. In classes, seminars, and informal gatherings, the Bartels Fellow discusses major issues of global concern as well as his or her own personal experience in international public service. The Bartels World Affairs Fellowship enables students to appreciate the opportunities and constraints of an international career.

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