



A reception honouring the launch of

***For a safer Latin America:
a new perspective for preventing and controlling crime***

Dr. Daniel Ortega

CAF Development Bank of Latin America, Caracas (Venezuela)
launches a new strategy for development banks and governments

(CAF produces an annual flagship report (*Economy and Development Report - RED*), citizen security is the chosen subject this year)

A 30 minute presentation with questions and discussion,
followed by a wine and cheese reception

The blistering growth of crime and violence in many countries of Latin America in recent years has not only entailed high economic and social costs but also, by undermining trust among citizens and public authorities, compromised democratic governance and state legitimacy. This year's Report on Economics and Development (RED) proposes an approach for the analysis of insecurity in which crime results from decisions made by individuals in a particular situation.

While it is true that beliefs, perceptions, self-control, and other personality traits can tip an individual into crime, his physical and social environment, the incentives provided by illegal markets (e.g., drugs), and the credibility and efficiency of the criminal justice system are also important. They determine the opportunities to commit a crime. That is why, efforts to improve public safety cover a wide range of dimensions: family, school, neighborhood, community, urban infrastructure, economic regulations, police, justice, prisons. The design of effective policies in these different areas, however, requires better statistical information and policy monitoring and evaluation mechanisms that make it possible to learn about their qualitative and quantitative effects as well as the channels through which these effects play out.

All are welcome

5.30pm, 16th September 2014, Basement, Institute of Criminology