



## Special lecture:

### Demilitarization of Politics and the exceptional story of Costa Rica

Militarization is a critical component of the history of Latin America. There is one exception to this trend, however: Costa Rica. Unlike all its neighbors, this small nation could refrain from creating large and powerful armed forces; so much so that even after having a well-furbished army for many decades, Costa Rica was able to abolish it by constitutional mandate after the end of its last civil war in 1948. Since then, for Costa Rica, demilitarization has become much more than just a historical event. Instead, it represents the unilateral and voluntary adoption of a way of life and a form of political culture and power organization that defies conventional wisdom.

Why was the abolition of the armed forces possible in Costa Rica? Why has it been successful? What benefits has Costa Rica obtained from abolishing its armed forces? Can this policy be replicated in other places? Is it convenient and likely to happen? Join the special lecture with the Former President of Costa Rica, Luis Guillermo Solís Rivera, organized by Professor Daryl Bockett from the Graduate School of International Studies at Yonsei University.

Date	May 26, 2023.
Time	10:00 a.m. (South Korean Time)
Registration	Join Kakao Group "Meet President Solis"
Link	To be provided in the Group Chat

### Special guest: Luis Guillermo Solís Rivera, President of Costa Rica (2014-2018).



Professor, diplomat, and politician Luis Guillermo Solís Rivera served as the 47th president of the Republic of Costa Rica from 2014-2018.

Before his election, he was a full professor, researcher, and Director of the Central American Master's Program in Political Science, Deputy Director of the School of Political Science, and Associate Dean of the School of Social Sciences at the University of Costa Rica. After his constitutional term, he became a Distinguished Visiting Scholar and later Interim Director at the Kimberly Green Latin American and Caribbean Center, Florida International University in Miami, Florida (2018-2022).

He also worked at the Costa Rican Ministry of Foreign Affairs as Chief of Staff to the Minister, and later as Ambassador at Large for Central American Affairs and Director General for Policy. Between 2009 and 2012, he represented the Ibero-American General Secretariat for Central America and Haiti. In 2016 he was appointed co-chair of the UN Secretary-General High-Level Panel on Women's Economic Empowerment.

Solís is a University of Costa Rica graduate with a master's in History and Political Science from Tulane University and several Honoris Causa doctorate degrees. With 35 years as an educator, he has also taught in universities throughout the US and Europe, and in 1999 was a Fulbright Scholar at FIU. In addition, he has published extensively in books and professional journals on US-Latin American relations and Central American history and politics.

### Agenda:

10:00 – 10:05 a.m.	Welcoming remarks, Professor Daryl Bockett, Visiting Professor, Ph.D in International Studies
10:05 – 10:10 a.m.	Welcoming remarks, Professor Jung-Hoon Lee, Dean of the Graduate School of International Studies, Yonsei University, D.Phil.
10:10 – 10:40 a.m.	<b>Special lecture, Luis Guillermo Solís Rivera, Former President of Costa Rica (2014-2018)</b>
10:40 – 11:10 a.m.	Discussion time

### More information:

If you have any question, please contact [alexander.riverag@gmail.com](mailto:alexander.riverag@gmail.com)