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Vice President of Ecuador to Champion Disability Rights at American University

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Vice President of the Republic of Ecuador, Mr. Lenin Moreno, will lead the panel “[Disability Rights and Public Responsibilities: The Role of Public Policy in Fostering an Inclusive Society, The Ecuadorian Experience](#)” at [American University](#) in Washington, D.C. on 8 March 2012 from 3-4p.m. The event will be located in the [Mary Graydon Center, Room 4](#).

Vice President Moreno will share Ecuador’s experience of implementing public policies that benefit vulnerable groups on a university campus that is at the forefront of promoting a more inclusive, accessible, and barrier-free global society. Last summer, the [School of International Service](#) at American University launched the world’s first virtual Master’s program in disability policy: the [Master’s of International Affairs in Comparative and International Disability Policy](#).

The event will focus on the role of public policy and the [United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities](#). The [Embassy of Ecuador in the United States](#) and the [Institute on Disability and Public Policy \(IDPP\)](#) at American University are co-organizing the panel, which will also include the Ambassador of Ecuador to the United States, [Ms. Nathalie Cely](#), and high-level representatives from The World Bank, U.S. government, and civil society. [Dr. Derrick L. Cogburn](#), Associate Professor at the School of International Service at American University and Executive Director of the IDPP, will moderate the session.

Vice President Moreno will place special emphasis on the Manuela Espejo Mission, a government program that aims to identify the needs of, and provide support for, disabled persons in Ecuador.

This is a public event to which civil society members, students, and officials from the federal government, embassies, and international organizations are invited. The discussion panel will also be offered virtually via [Blackboard Collaborate](#). Blackboard Collaborate can be navigated using a screen reader. American Sign Language interpretation and closed captioning will also be provided.

Join the Twitter conversation surrounding the event at #MorenoAU.

American University is a leader in global education, enrolling a diverse student body from throughout the United States and nearly 140 countries. Located in Washington, D.C., the university provides opportunities for academic excellence, public service, and internships in the nation’s capital and around the world.

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