Enemies Forever?: Havana, Miami, and What New Cuban Sources Reveal about Cuba's US Policy

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Panel 26: Cuba's Foreign Relations: New Archival Sources and New Approaches

Abstract:

Hideaki Kami's "Enemies Forever?" explores Havana's US policy just after the end of the Cold War. In particular, the paper scrutinizes the ways in which Fidel Castro tried to transform the dynamic of Cuban-US relations through its new emigration policy. While focusing on the Cuban foreign ministry's preparation for the First Nation and Emigration conference, in which Fidel and other top Cuban leaders were directly involved, the paper presents how Havana attempted to reach out to a traditionally hostile Cuban-American community in Miami. The paper explains how the making of Cuban policy toward the United States and the shift in Cuban policy toward the Cuban American community intermingled during Cuba's so-called "Special Period."