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Venezuela's Petro-Diplomacy: Hugo Chavez's Foreign Policy

**with Anthony P. Maingot, Professor Emeritus
and Ralph S. Clem, Professor Emeritus
FIU Dept. of Global & Sociocultural Studies**

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Since coming to power in 1999, President Hugo Chavez has used the windfall of high oil prices to remake Venezuela internally along the model of 21st-century socialism and, even more audaciously, to rewrite global relations by directly challenging U.S. hegemony. The dramatic ascendancy of the country in hemispheric and global international relations over the past decade is the subject of *Venezuela's Petro-Diplomacy*. The contributors offer fresh, authoritative insights into a wide array of questions hanging over Venezuelan foreign policy and the leadership of the maverick president, Chavez. While revenue from petroleum exports has swelled national coffers and allowed the expansion of public programs and the extension of aid to foreign countries, bolstering Chavez's popularity at home and abroad, the volatility of petroleum prices and the neglect of other export industries have the potential to render Chavez's--and Venezuela's--power tenuous.



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