

The book was found

Costa Rica: Background And U.S. Relations



Costa Rica: Background and U.S. Relations

Peter J. Meyer
Analyst in Latin American Affairs

June 2, 2009

Congressional Research Service
7-5700
www.crs.gov
R40593

CRS Report for Congress
Prepared for Members and Committees of Congress



Synopsis

Costa Rica is a relatively politically stable and economically developed nation with a long tradition of civilian democracy. Former president (1986-1990) and Nobel-laureate Oscar Arias of the National Liberation Party was elected President in 2006. Throughout his term, Arias has focused on expanding the country's social safety net and increasing free trade. He faced strong opposition to the country's inclusion in the Dominican Republic-Central America-United States Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA-DR), but eventually secured its ratification and implementation. Arias has also been active in foreign affairs, establishing diplomatic relations with China and Cuba after decades without formal ties. Once a predominantly agricultural nation, Costa Rica has established a diversified economy with a strong export sector. Under President Arias, the country has increased its social investment, experienced significant economic growth, and seen a reduction in poverty. The global financial crisis and economic downturn, however, threatens to erase these gains. President Arias has responded to the crisis with an ambitious fiscal stimulus and social protection plan. While the plan may do much to mitigate the social impacts of the crisis, analysts believe it will be unable to prevent Costa Rica's economy from slowing considerably in 2009. In recent years, many have begun to recognize Costa Rica as a world leader in environmental protection. Successive Costa Rican administrations have sought to address the extensive deforestation and environmental degradation that resulted from decades of logging and agricultural expansion. The country's innovative policies, strong conservation system, and commitment to alternative energy have done much to restore Costa Rica's environment. Costa Rica is also party to a variety of international treaties and has committed to becoming carbon neutral by 2021. This commitment to environmental protection has been a significant source of economic growth for the country as Costa Rica is now a top destination for ecotourism. The United States and Costa Rica have long enjoyed close relations as a result of the countries' shared commitments to strengthening democracy, improving human rights, and advancing free trade. The countries have also maintained strong commercial ties, which are likely to become even more extensive as a result of the implementation of CAFTA-DR. Costa Rica and the United States have worked together on a number of other issues as well, such as conserving Costa Rica's tropical forests and combating narcotics trafficking. For additional information see CRS Report RL31870, *The Dominican Republic-Central America- United States Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA-DR)*, by J. F. Hornbeck, CRS Report RL34112, *Gangs in Central America*, by Clare Ribando Seelke, and CRS Report R40135, *Mérida Initiative for Mexico and Central America: Funding and Policy Issues*, by Clare Ribando Seelke and June S. Beittel.

Book Information

File Size: 222 KB

Print Length: 18 pages

Simultaneous Device Usage: Unlimited

Publisher: Congressional Research Service (June 2, 2009)

Publication Date: June 2, 2009

Sold by: Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B005OLF348

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #1,704,281 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #65

in Books > History > Americas > Central America > Costa Rica #352 in Kindle Store > Kindle

Short Reads > 30 minutes (12-21 pages) > Politics & Social Sciences #873 in Kindle Store >

Kindle eBooks > History > Americas > Latin America > Central America

Customer Reviews

The butler did it in the library with a knife.The butler did it in the library with a knife.(20 words are required)

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Costa Rica: Background and U.S. Relations Dominican Republic: Background and U.S. Relations Market, Socialist, and Mixed Economies: Comparative Policy and Performance--Chile, Cuba, and Costa Rica Central American and West Indian Archaeology: Being an Introduction to the Archaeology of the States of Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama and the West Indies (Classic Reprint) Developing Poverty: The State, Labor Market Deregulation, and the Informal Economy in Costa Rica and the Dominican Republic Sparrow and the Hawk: Costa Rica and the United States during the Rise of Jose Figueres Demanding Democracy: Reform and Reaction in Costa Rica and Guatemala, 1870's - 1950's INSIDE CENTRAL AMERICA: The Essential Facts Past and Present on El Salvador, Nicaragua, Honduras, Guatemala, and Costa Rica Gold and Power in Ancient Costa Rica, Panama, and Colombia (Dumbarton Oaks Pre-Columbian Conference Proceedings) Happier Than a Billionaire: Quitting My Job, Moving to Costa Rica, and Living the Zero Hour Work Week The

Ticos: Culture and Social Change in Costa Rica A Guide to the Birds of Panama: With Costa Rica, Nicaragua, and Honduras Nature of the Rainforest: Costa Rica and Beyond (Zona Tropical Publications) Africans into Creoles: Slavery, Ethnicity, and Identity in Colonial Costa Rica (Diálogos Series) Banana Fallout: Class, Color, and Culture Among West Indians in Costa Rica (Afro-American Culture & Society) West Indian Workers and the United Fruit Company in Costa Rica, 1870-1940: 1870-1940 Costa Rica Before Coffee: Society and Economy on the Eve of the Export Boom The Amphibians and Reptiles of Costa Rica: A Herpetofauna between Two Continents, between Two Seas Biografía de Costa Rica (Spanish Edition) Costa Rica: The Last Country The Gods Made

[Dmca](#)