

CONFERENCIANTES

**BCC**

INTERNATIONAL SPEAKERS



**ÓSCAR ARIAS**

Former President of Costa Rica.  
Nobel Peace Prize



Oscar Arias was President of Costa Rica (1986-1990) and (2006-2010) and Nobel Peace Prize. He studied at Costa Rica's University, in Boston and later at the London School of Economics and is P.h.D in the University of Essex.

Between 1986 and 1990, he focused on reducing Costa Rica's foreign debt and he fought for peace in Central American countries, which at that time were threatened by the "guerrillas". In 1987 he received the Nobel Peace Prize for taking part in peace processes in Central American conflicts, especially against U.S. supporting the Nicaraguan Contra conflict. A year later he was awarded with the Prince of Asturias Award for International Cooperation.



In 1988, Oscar Arias created the "Arias Foundation", becoming internationally renowned for leading numerous initiatives for human development, democracy and demilitarization. He has travelled around the world spreading his message of peace and applying his experience.

In 1997 he led the campaign for an International Code of Conduct on Arms Transfers, an initiative that became the current draft "Arms Trade Treaty", which promotes a comprehensive solution to prevent weapons that are still being used to violate human rights. In June 2005, Oscar Arias relaunched his name as a candidate for the presidency of Costa Rica and in 2006 he became again President of his country.



Oscar Arias has a significant international reputation as a lecturer in developing countries as well as a great defender of human rights.

Throughout his political and professional career he has travelled around many countries sharing with other leaders and people the Central American Peace Process applied to the debate on international news.



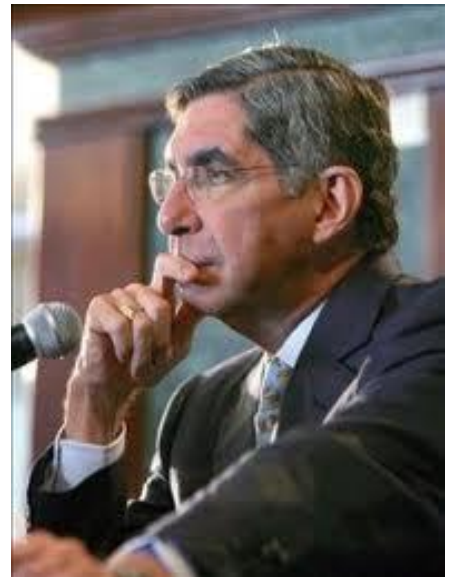
## Travel

Costa Rica



## Link video

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eQvINvSWPzk>



## Topics

Fighting for peace and justice  
**Human development and security**  
Moral leadership  
**Human rights**

