

# Discover grandeur on an intimate scale.

16th and M Streets NW | t: 202.448.2300 | JEFFERSOND C.COM



Home

News

About

**Embassy Row** 

Global Calendar

Subscribe

Diplomatic Life

🝌 🗎 💌

User Login

search...

# Katia Dantas

WRITTEN BY ADMINISTRATOR I 05 SEPTEMBER 2011

Policy Director for Latin America & Caribbean International Centre for Missing and Exploited Children (ICMEC)

#### Describe the impact on foreign policy you have made in your current/past jobs.

As a Policy Director for Latin America & Caribbean, I have had the opportunity to impact policies to protect children in the region, working directly with countries and regional bodies to enhance legislation for the protection of children from exploitation.

## What personal contribution to foreign policy are you most proud of?

After long discussions with the Organization of American States, and after persistent and diligent efforts to engage with their activities, ICMEC's model legislation against child pornography was the highlight of the X Report to the Secretary General, a document sent to all state members, and a guide to formulating policies and legislation.

### What is your vision of foreign policy in the 21st Century?

Increasingly, harmonization of legislation is necessary, particularly in the context of a globalized world and with the increase in transnational crimes. More and more, the coordination between regional bodies and national states are fundamental for policymaking and for the protection of children globally.

# What is the greatest foreign policy issue facing our generation?

The increase in technological advances and the advent of the internet, has posed great challenges for policies and legislation. Increasingly children are lured over the internet, and people are increasingly vulnerable to cyber crimes, identity theft and other types of online vulnerabilities.

# What challenges need to be overcome to create better foreign policy?

The disparities between countries, particularly in the context of scarce resources, pose obstacles to the proper implementation of policies and to the effectiveness of the governmental response. Increasingly policy makers need to resort to innovative and costreduced solutions to address policy issues affecting our world.

What personal, managerial, and leadership skills and traits must the next generation of foreign policy leaders possess? Innovation, perseverance, flexibility and the ability to understand the perspective of different stakeholders.

#### How can foreign affairs be made more accessible to Americans, particularly younger generations?

Fostering social entrepreneurs and allowing for the increased volunteerism in this generation, both in and out of America.

#### Which living or dead foreign policy practitioner do you look up to the most?

In terms of his character and contributions to the peace movements in South Africa and abroad, Nelson Mandela was more than a policy practitioner - he was a true leader. His actions still reverberate up to now and his policy of "leading by example" is still leading my actions and of many other leaders in the world.