



Abigail Golden-Vázquez, Vice President and Founding Executive Director of the Aspen Institute Latinos and Society Program (AILAS) whose mission is to identify, promote and catalyze ideas and solutions that foster greater opportunity for American Latinos, enabling a more prosperous and inclusive America for all (2015-2020).

Founded in 2015 by the Aspen Institute, AILAS seeks to improve understanding of the growing American Latino community and its critical importance to the success of the nation. The program focuses on the economic advancement of America's largest ethnic group - American Latinos. A signature program of AILAS founded under Abigail's leadership is The Forum on Latino Business Growth, a consortium of cross-sector stakeholders committed to accelerating the number of scaled Latino-owned Businesses to close the \$1.47 trillion opportunity gap. AILAS also uses the Aspen Institute platform to uplift and convene Latino leaders, insights and voices providing opportunities for greater Latino engagement with the Institute and its circles of influence.

For 8 years prior to co-founding AILAS, Abigail developed and managed the Institute's geographical (Africa, Central America, India, Middle East, and China) and topical leadership initiatives (education and environment) that comprise the Aspen Global Leadership Network with the goal of stimulating a new generation of local leaders poised to play a greater role in the civic engagement of their countries. As a Vice President at the Aspen Institute she is part of the executive management team working on strategy and representing the Institute publicly. Abigail joined the Aspen Institute from the German Marshall Fund (GMF) in 2006 where she was a senior manager and director of External Relations responsible for partnership development, congressional relations, and public outreach. She served as communications specialist for the Hurricane Mitch reconstruction effort at USAID/Honduras from 2000-2002.

Abigail holds a B.A. in Political Science and Spanish from Amherst College and an M.A. in International Relations and Latin American Studies from the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies. She is a National Hispana Leadership Institute Executive Leadership Fellow and an International Career Advancement Program Fellow. She has leadership training certificates from the Center for Creative Leadership and the Harvard Kennedy School.