**TUCSON COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CUBA EXPERT TO SPEAK IN TUCSON**

**IMPACT OF U.S.-CUBA DIPLOMACY TO BE DISCUSSED**

**AT TUCSON COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS EVENT**

**TUCSON, AZ, February 29, 2016**—Elizabeth Newhouse will discuss U.S.-Cuba relations and the future of Cuba in a presentation to the Tucson Committee on Foreign Relations on March 15, 2016, at Tucson Country Club. Ms. Newhouse is Director of the Cuba Project of the Center for International Policy in Washington, D.C. The dinner event, which is open to TCFR members and their guests, precedes President Barack Obama’s historic visit to Havana scheduled for March 21 and 22.

The trade embargo imposed on Cuba by the United States in 1960, following Cuba’s nationalization of U.S.-owned oil refineries, is yielding to renewed U.S.-Cuba diplomatic ties. Some see this as evolution to a more hopeful future and a productive relationship between Cuba and the United States. But others say Havana’s reforms are insufficient and lifting the embargo would reward a regime that has caused decades of suffering.

Elizabeth Newhouse will assess the merits of this debate and prospects for the future of Cuba. Ms. Newhouse was raised in Cuba and is a recognized expert on the history and politics of the Caribbean nation. She has led numerous U.S. delegations to Cuba and has written extensively on conditions there. She is the author of the book, *Cuba* (National Geographic, 1999).

**About TCFR**

The Tucson Committee on Foreign Relations was formed in 1965 to provide the Tucson community with international relations education and a non-partisan forum for the discussion of foreign policy issues. TCFR brings to Tucson nationally and internationally renowned speakers from academia, the diplomatic corps and other positions in government, the military, “think tanks,” and non-governmental organizations. Topics are selected by the TCFR executive board based on surveys of members.

The membership of TCFR includes present and former diplomats and foreign service officers, academics, military officers, international business executives, professionals, and many others who simply have an interest in learning more about international relations. Events are open to TCFR members and their guests. Information about how to join can be found at [tcfr.org](http://www.tcfr.org/).

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Inquiries concerning interview opportunities with Ms. Newhouse should be directed to Gary Guertner, Ph.D., TCFR Vice President, Programs (contact information appears at the top of this media release).