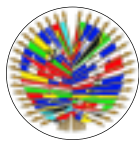


Américas Magazine is published by the Organization of American States, a regional organization of the Western Hemisphere



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ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL  
ALBERT R. RAMDIN

SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL RELATIONS  
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FROM THE EDITOR

The House of the Americas, headquarters the Organization of American States, is about to celebrate its one hundredth birthday. The classical-style building has been part of the landscape in Washington, DC since April 26, 1910, standing as an emblem of regional endeavors and a symbol of inter-American unity and understanding.

In this special issue of *Américas*, we celebrate the centennial by presenting some experts' reflections on the history and current challenges of the OAS. Secretary General José Miguel Insulza and Assistant Secretary General Albert R. Ramdin, both reelected for a new term, also take a look at the future of the hemisphere's oldest political forum.

The OAS is about to hold its 40th General Assembly in Lima, Peru. As the foreign ministers gather in June to discuss peace, security, and cooperation in the hemisphere, *Américas* is also taking in the sights and sounds of Peru. First we go to the Pampa de Cangallo, the dwelling place of the Morochuco, a legendary people who are proud of their *mestizo* ancestry. Then we take a look at some new discoveries that are enriching the already impressive Peruvian archeological treasury. Still in the land of the Inca, we discover Juan Diego Flórez, who top critics consider the greatest *bel canto* tenor of all times.



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Cover: *The Organization of American States celebrates the 100th anniversary of the construction of its headquarters—the House of the Americas*

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