



# OAS | MOAS

## CONCEPT PAPER ON THEME AND PRELIMINARY AGENDA OF TOPICS

43<sup>rd</sup> Model OAS General Assembly for High Schools of the Hemisphere

November 20-22, 2024 | OAS Headquarters, Washington, D.C.

### ***Leaving No One Behind: A Youth-Centered Approach to Bolstering Human Security and Fostering Inclusivity in the Americas***

#### **Background on Theme of the 43<sup>rd</sup> Model OAS for High Schools:**

Coined by the United Nations (UN), the term, *leave no one behind* is the central focus of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The UN approach to leaving no one behind represents the world's unwavering commitment to eradicate poverty in all its forms, end discrimination and exclusion, and reduce inequalities and vulnerabilities, which undeniably stagnate inclusive socio-economic development, curtail social mobility, and leave marginalized groups behind in humanity's proverbial quest for an equal, fair, secure, and just world.

Like the UN, the Organization of American States (OAS), which is the world's oldest regional organization, was established to promote peace, justice, and solidarity among its Member States. Based on its four main pillars of democracy, human rights, multidimensional security, and integral development, since its inception, the OAS has remained at the vanguard of implementing policies which foster a hemisphere that is rights-based, inclusive, equitable, safe, and leaves no one behind. In this context, this year's 43<sup>rd</sup> Model OAS for High Schools seeks to further advance this ideal where delegates will address the myriad of issues facing our hemisphere bearing in mind the principles of inclusivity and equality so that no one is ever left behind.

Held under the theme, *Leaving No One Behind: A Youth-Centered Approach to Bolstering Human Security and Fostering Inclusivity in the Americas*, the Model will analyze topics related to human security and inclusivity. As defined by the UN in General Assembly resolution 66/290, "human security is an approach to assist Member States in identifying and addressing widespread and cross-cutting challenges to the survival, livelihood and dignity of their people." It calls for "people-centered, comprehensive, context-specific and prevention-oriented responses that strengthen the protection and empowerment of all

people.”<sup>1</sup> It encompasses the multi-dimensional threats to a person’s security including environmental, food, health, economic, political, and personal security. However, human security can only be achieved through inclusivity, which is defined as policies and programs that provide equal access to opportunities and resources for people who might otherwise be excluded or marginalized, such as those having physical or intellectual disabilities or belonging to other minority or underrepresented groups.

In their deliberations, delegates will be challenged to ensure that all policy recommendations are inclusive and promote social inclusion by considering the needs of groups in vulnerable situations, the underrepresented, and marginalized. As future leaders of the Americas, this year’s Model will offer delegates a fecund space to analyze topics from a youth-centered approach, which takes into consideration youth voices, creativity, and foresight and envisions a world where no one is excluded, and everyone is able to enjoy their full rights and freedoms.

Furthermore, in their committees, delegates will use the declarations and resolutions emanating from the 54<sup>th</sup> Regular Session of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States<sup>2</sup>, which was held in Asunción, Paraguay from June 26-28, 2024, as reference to formulate effective responses to the hemisphere’s most imminent socio-economic and political concerns.

The Model OAS Coordination Team is therefore pleased to share with delegations the agenda of topics to be included in the 3 Committees of this year’s Model: General Committee (GC); Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs (CAJP); and the Committee on Hemispheric Security (CHS).

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<sup>1</sup> What is Human Security?: <https://www.un.org/humansecurity/what-is-human-security/>

<sup>2</sup> [AG/doc.5871/24](#); [OAS :: Declarations and Resolutions of the General Assembly](#)

In accordance with Articles 44 through 48 of the MOAS Rules of Procedure, the format of the MOAS for High Schools is a Working Group Format. The working group instructions of each committee are the following:

1. The head delegates will work and debate **Topic No.1** in each committee.
2. The alternate delegates will work and debate **Topic No. 2** in each committee.
3. **Subtopics** (“a” through “f”) **have been assigned by the MOAS Team**. Each subtopic will originate a Working Group. A table will be prepared shortly.
4. Each of these Working Groups will produce one (1) resolution on the subtopic.
5. Please follow the times and instructions included in the Schedule of Activities to organize the work within each Working Group.
6. The joint resolutions issued by the Working Groups of the alternate delegates will be debated by the head delegates and vice versa (according to Art. 54 to 56). Please note the following:
  - a. Each working group elects a “Working Group Leader” to present the resolution to the committee (this applies also to the Alternate delegates’ working groups).
  - b. The Alternate delegates may respond to the questions that any head delegate asks during the debate of their working groups’ resolutions. However, both the head and alternate delegates for the same country must have the same position and cannot go against one another (Art. 56.).

## GENERAL COMMITTEE

### 1. HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL PROTECTION

- a. Promoting the OAS Scholarship and Training Programs<sup>3</sup> to increase the participation of persons from groups in vulnerable situations in the Americas.<sup>4</sup>
- b. Strengthening mechanisms to improve the targeting, reach, and delivery of social protection services through the use of digital technology.<sup>5</sup>
- c. Expanding inclusive and nutrition-sensitive social protection programs to eradicate hunger and child malnutrition and address food insecurity in the region.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> [OAS :: Scholarships](#)

<sup>4</sup> [Groups in Situations of Vulnerability \(oas.org\)](#)

<sup>5</sup> [Social Protection Overview \(worldbank.org\)](#); [Promotion of Equity \(oas.org\)](#)

<sup>6</sup> [https://www.oas.org/en/sare/publications/CONFRONTING\\_FOOD\\_INSECURITY\\_AMERICAS.PDF](https://www.oas.org/en/sare/publications/CONFRONTING_FOOD_INSECURITY_AMERICAS.PDF)

## 2. DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT

- d. Compiling best practices for the development of sustainable cities in the face of the effects of climate change.
- e. Measures to incorporate the traditional knowledge and practices of local communities and indigenous peoples into existing national strategies to combat the effects of climate change.
- f. Addressing the disproportionate impact of climate change on the youth and persons from groups in vulnerable situations and actions to foster socio-economic opportunities for their sustainable development.

## COMMITTEE ON JURIDICAL AND POLITICAL AFFAIRS

### 1. MIGRATION

- a. Protecting the rights and dignity of migrants and refugees in the Americas, particularly young people, and ensuring their integration into host societies.<sup>7</sup>
- b. Strengthening regional legal frameworks and cooperative mechanisms among OAS Member States to protect the social and economic rights of unaccompanied migrant children in the Americas.
- c. Addressing the legal gaps in protecting climate migrants in the Americas and exploring new legal protections and pathways for these individuals.

### 2. SOCIAL INCLUSION

- d. Exploring strategies for improving governmental and institutional legal frameworks and policies to combat inequality and promote social inclusion.<sup>8</sup>
- e. Promoting the rights of groups in vulnerable situations in the Americas.
- f. Identifying the challenges faced by young people from groups in vulnerable situations and measures to protect their rights.<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>7</sup> [Migration and Forced Displacement \(oas.org\)](#)

<sup>8</sup> [Department of Social Inclusion \(oas.org\)](#)

<sup>9</sup> [Social inclusion of young people from groups in situations of vulnerability \(oas.org\)](#)

## COMMITTEE ON HEMISPHERIC SECURITY

### 1. HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND ILLICIT FIREARMS

- a. Bolstering regional and international frameworks to assist human trafficking victims, particularly children and the youth, and prevent re-trafficking of victims.<sup>10</sup>
- b. Identifying major risk factors for youth populations susceptible to human trafficking in order to strengthen international cooperation efforts to mitigate and eradicate human trafficking in the Americas.
- c. Leveraging social media and government-based programs to help prevent the illicit trafficking and proliferation of firearms, particularly among the youth.

### 2. CRIME AND VIOLENCE

- d. Measures aimed at deterring at-risk youth from joining gangs and strengthening existing rehabilitation and reintegration programs and initiatives.
- e. Actions to prevent and respond to cyber-crime in the Americas.
- f. Compiling best practices in combatting crime and violence among youth in the hemisphere.

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<sup>10</sup> [Department against Transnational Organized Crime \(DTCO\) \(oas.org\)](http://oas.org)