

THE INTERN-AMERICAN



NEWSLETTER

MOAS/PC BULLETIN

The MOAS/PC is jointly organized by the Office of the Assistant Secretary General and the Department of Human Resources.

The Purpose of the MOAS is to:

- Promote democratic values among the Youth of the Hemisphere.
- Increase awareness of the mission and work of the OAS.
- Illustrate the importance of diplomacy and negotiation.
- Make students aware of the most important issues in the Americas.
- Train committed leaders

Welcome all of you to the 16th Model of the Permanent Council for OAS Interns. Your participation in this meeting will help strengthen your understanding of how the OAS works and its importance to each Member State. The topics to be discussed at this Model PC are timely as we seek to further strengthen democracy, freedom of information, and the protection and promotion of the rights of persons with disabilities. There are over 230 million youth in the Americas and the challenges facing them are great. I believe forums like the Model PC give youth participants from across the Americas the opportunity to learn crucial skills in leadership, dialogue, and diplomacy. As Chair of the OAS Interdepartmental Working Group on Youth there is nothing more rewarding than watching young leaders discuss ideas and issues which have an impact on the hemisphere. Participation is key, if you hope to be a generation that brings positive change. I wish you all good luck and I look forward to the deliberations.



Ambassador Albert Ramdin
Assistant Secretary General of the OAS

**THIS MOAS BULLETIN
WAS WRITTEN AND ED-
ITED BY**

**Ilana Nagib
and
Lucia He**

**Photos by
Luisa Zuffo**

**Final Edition by:
Nelly Robinson**

THE INTERN-AMERICAN



Fellow OAS interns and elected officials, **welcome to the 16th MOAS/PC!** My name is David Fisher and I will be serving as Secretary General. As the Secretary General, it is my responsibility to ensure a smoothly run, enjoyable, and productive Model in close collaboration with the Chairs and the delegates. I am happy to make myself available to provide advice on the Modus Operandi and to be the liaison between both working groups. Please, do not hesitate to ask any questions either to me or any of the other authorities. We're here for you! This year's objective is to develop two substantive resolutions related to democracy and freedom of information on the media and internet, as well as the promotion and protection of the human rights of people with disabilities. As ambassadors I encourage you to take the time to learn about and adequately represent your country's positions on these subjects (however different they may be from your own), as well as to listen to other delegates' positions on the issues so that we can come to a consensus on these two timely topics. Your role as delegates is what drives the MOAS, so please remember to treat this process with respect. Although finding consensus can be challenging, I have faith that we can work together maturely and professionally towards the end goal. Thank you for taking the time to participate in the Model. I look forward to working with you all!

David Fisher, PC Secretary General. Contact: CIDHInt7@oas.org



With the entry into force of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the international community, especially all Human Rights organizations, are anxiously waiting for the States to act and create the necessary internal legislation to protect persons with disabilities. There are 133 states that are part of the Convention, obliging themselves by International Law to positive obligations to ensure the well being of these people. The Organization of American States understands that to ensure the progressive development of the region, discrimination must be attacked at its core, creating different mechanisms where people who may not have access to education, health or jobs are helped and encouraged to do so. The role of the Special Committee is essential, because it must ensure that obligations regarding persons with disabilities are fulfilled, suggesting regional mechanisms that can effectively oversee the work of member states. I encourage everyone to actively participate in the Committee, having in mind that there is a true need to create a regional mechanism and that our work might constitute a first working paper for the Organization of American States.

Luis Felipe Yanez, Chair of the MOAS/PC First Committee. Contact: CIDHInt9@oas.org

THE INTERN-AMERICAN

16th MODEL OF THE PERMANENT COUNCIL FOR OAS INTERNS



As chair of the General Committee on Democracy and Freedom of Information on the Media and Internet, **welcome to the 16th MOAS PC!** Throughout this Model, we will be exploring crucial issues related to human rights in the region through the perspective of all 34 OAS Member States. Our topic focuses on examining the relationship between governments and the press, strengthening democracy, and access to information in an ever-advancing online environment. It is your role as diplomats from each Member State to be up-to-date on the policies of your country, as well as the collective challenges for making progress in terms of freedom of information, freedom of expression, and media policy, to ensure compliance with Article 13 of the American Convention on Human Rights and the Declaration of Principles on Freedom of Expression. In order to accomplish this goal and reach consensus within the Committee, I encourage you to review the publications and reports available through the Office of the Special Rapporteurship for Freedom of Expression within the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR). This topic is timely and, coincidentally, one can find many resources and information dealing with its importance and implications for the region. I look forward to facilitating your debate and negotiations, and to hearing your ideas as we all learn together during this simulation of the OAS Permanent Council.

Kate Sizemore, Chair of the MOAS/PC General Committee. Contact: CICTEInt2@oas.org



As secretary of the General Committee on Democracy and Freedom of Information on the Media and Internet, **welcome to the 16th MOAS PC!** Our participation in this model is going to let us find an approach to this topic that, for most of the countries, not only in Latin America, is a situation that needs to be discussed. Nowadays, the Internet and the media can be very influential for most of the population. We have seen in the news that some countries are fighting against anarchies through the Internet and the media in order to implement democratic systems in their countries. So now we have the opportunity to discuss what are the implications of these communications' mechanisms, as well as propose and develop policies to exercise of our human rights. It is a big challenge, but also a topic that is exciting for us because we are the generation that grew up with the development of the Internet and the media. I hope that we can all enjoy this great opportunity to discuss a topic that is proper to our generation.

Monica Lara, Secretary of the MOAS/PC General Committee. Contact: CICADInt1@oas.org

THE INTERN-AMERICAN

16th MODEL OF THE PERMANENT COUNCIL FOR OAS INTERNS



As we approach the MOAS/PC, I would like to thank you all for the work that you have already put into preparing for this experience. This MOAS exercise provides an opportunity for us all to gain firsthand knowledge of the decision-making and negotiation processes that the Member States face in their efforts to improve the situation in the Americas. Your commitment and dedication are essential to making this experience a success. The best way to enjoy and take advantage of this activity is to participate actively in it, while keeping in mind that, though this is a serious occasion, we can also have a good time. These two days will be both challenging and rewarding, and I hope that we can all learn from our time together at the MOAS/PC.

Joelle Blais, Secretary of the MOAS/PC First Committee. Contact: OEInt1@oas.org

Are you enjoying your internship? Have a remarkable picture that you would like to share? Send it to us and tell us your story!



Ilana Nagib: OASGIInt2@oas.org



Lucia He: DSDEInt2@oas.org