



Organization of
American States

MOAS/PC Newsletter

The MOAS/PC is jointly organized by the Department of International Affairs and the Department of Human Resources

The Mission of the MOAS/PC

- 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.

This Newsletter was edited and prepared by:
Rhiannon Buehler
and
Camila Rodríguez,
MOAS/PC Public
Information Officers.

Final revision by the
MOAS Coordination
Team

OCTOBER 18, 2012

THE INTERN-AMERICAN

Welcoming Newsletter - 14th Model of the Permanent Council for OAS Interns

WELCOMING MESSAGE FROM MR. JORGE SANÍN, DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS AT THE OAS

I am pleased to welcome you to the 14th Model of the Permanent Council for OAS Interns.

During your preparation for this simulation to be held on October 22nd and 23rd, you will assume the role of Representatives of the OAS Member States in the Permanent Council, the political body responsible for implementing the decisions adopted by the General Assembly, encouraging institutional development and promoting the adoption of policies for cooperation in the Americas.



Painting by Rogelio Polesello, 1966, Argentina

The MOAS Program was created more than 30 years ago. Inspired by the principles of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, it has emerged as a tool for the promotion of democratic values and respect for human rights over the past decade. You will be the protagonists of this Model Permanent Council and will assume the role of Ambassadors for peace, security, democracy, development, and human rights with the responsibility of offering proposals for change and progress.

This dynamic, role-playing exercise replicates the processes that take place within the main political bodies of the Organization to develop collective actions designed to effectively address the major challenges facing the region. As you have already seen in your preparations, the issues you will discuss are very complex. For this reason, it is of the utmost importance that you explore the potential of these topics so the strategies and proposals that you present, negotiate, and approve during the MOAS are realistic, concrete, and achievable. The objective is to advance towards our common goals and to generate a measurable change to improve the living conditions of citizens in our communities, countries and in the region. You are the guardians of democracy and the promoters of peace.

We are convinced that young people are the protagonists of the present; they are the hope for change and the security for a better tomorrow. This is why we consider them invaluable partners and why we must continue to provide opportunities for youth involvement in the region. We believe in your visions for a better tomorrow, in the strength of your convictions, and in your desire to be citizens of a more democratic and inclusive region with greater opportunities for all.

We hope that you will take advantage of this opportunity to develop your analytical, negotiation, and decision-making skills, and we look forward to receiving your innovative proposals for the benefit of all the peoples of our hemisphere.



Organization of
American States

**MOAS/PC
Newsletter**

The MOAS/PC is jointly organized by the Department of International Affairs and the Department of Human Resources

The Mission of the MOAS/PC

- 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.

This Newsletter was edited and prepared by:

Rhiannon Buehler
and
Camila Rodríguez,
MOAS/PC Public
Information Officers.

Final revision by the
MOAS Coordination
Team

14TH MODEL OF THE PERMANENT COUNCIL FOR OAS INTERNS (MOAS/PC)

A MESSAGE FROM MS. EVELYN JACIR, DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND EMPLOYMENT

In the first place, if the youth are not interested in these topics then they have stopped being the youth. In general, what characterizes the youth is their fighting spirit and idealistic attitude in wanting a better society. This is imperative if you live in Latin America and the Caribbean, in our Hemisphere, because we are the most unequal continent in the world, when looking at the numbers, even more so than the African continent. There is a huge polarization in wealth, income, and production capabilities. The topics of inequity, inequality, discrimination, and the eradication of poverty directly affect the very high youth unemployment rate.



Painting by: Lola Fernández, 1963

The right of well-being is a human right, the right of everyone. On this theme, one of the biggest challenges we face is achieving more economic growth, especially more growth in employment on our continent. Compared with other regions we are generating the least amount of employment per year; one of the biggest problems is youth unemployment. It is important to note that these days the youth are more educated, but the unemployment rate of youth is higher. To give you some figures, in the age group of 15 -24 year olds which consists of 25% of the total population, there is a 14.6% unemployment rate. This triples the unemployment of adults (5.3%). In general, 60% of the youth work in the informal sector, and many work in conditions of sub-employment, that is to say, they may work 40 hours a week, but they earn a very low income. Twenty million youth neither study nor work.

The social drive which many OAS interns feel, can translate into an interest in public policy, which in reality, is a vehicle to achieve transformations through the instruments of governments and population, and because governments must follow policies for the state and respond to all the national actors. I was a government worker in my country, El Salvador, for almost 20 years before coming to the OAS. Before coming here, I thought I was going to work at an international body, I felt like the Inter-American Investment Bank or the World Bank, in terms that they have programs and projects, but I realized that for me working at the OAS is like working on public policy functions in my country, but at a hemispheric level. Here, what differentiates us from other organizations are the public policy issues debated, that is to say, what governments should do to achieve higher living standards and a better well-being for the Americas; how you construct democracy, how you construct citizenship security, and how you construct social development.

You can be an agent for social developmental change in whatever role you are in, as a student, employee, business owner, in the private and public sector. The responsibility to have a more equal, equitable region without poverty is a responsibility of all actors involved, social, political, and economic. The government's job is to lead, define, and implement the public policy. Everyone from their own reality can make a difference. Not everyone needs to go and work in the government; you can do so from your own business, or as employees elsewhere. As a citizen, you must ask what answer, what change am I giving in order to ensure a better society? You must think about who depends upon you to survive.

The youth have a living, energetic spirit, a hunger for knowledge, as the poet Gabriela Mistral wrote, "Los niños no son nuestro futuro son nuestro presente" (The children are not our future, they are our present). Sometimes, we look at the youth as the future, but in reality you are our present. You are not afraid of innovation, you are bold, intrepid, and that is why you are our hope for change and will help the human quality rise up. Everyone from wherever you are, should, and can every day, make changes for a better world.



Organization of
American States

MOAS/PC Newsletter

The MOAS/PC is jointly organized by the Department of International Affairs and the Department of Human Resources

The Mission of the MOAS/PC

- 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.

This Newsletter was edited and prepared by:

Rhiannon Buehler
and
Camila Rodríguez,
MOAS/PC Public
Information Officers.

Final revision by the
MOAS Coordination
Team

14TH MODEL OF THE PERMANENT COUNCIL FOR OAS INTERNS (MOAS/PC)



Picture provided by: Ms. Maria
Celina Conte

A MESSAGE FROM MS. MARIA CELINA CONTE, SPECIALIST, INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION OF WOMEN (CIM/OAS)

The topics of cooperation and its implications for development, employment generation, non-discrimination and gender equality are highly significant to the region. Latin America and the Caribbean region's economic progress, though considerable, has been insufficient in terms of human development. Our region is still the most unequal region in the world. In a context where social and political unrest continue to pose serious challenges, cooperation and partnerships aimed at tackling poverty and inequality, and at fostering decent employment opportunities for

all women and men, have become increasingly relevant, as have sound and inclusive public policies for these purposes. By engaging in this exercise, it is hoped that you, as OAS interns, will gain valuable insight into these issues.

In recent years, the countries of the Americas have experienced one of the most serious financial and economic crises, which have impacted women and men differently. Currently, more than 189 million people in Latin America and the Caribbean live in poverty, and poverty among women is higher than men in the region. In this context, young men and women between 15 and 24 years of age are becoming a majority among citizens and voters. Therefore, providing them with improved access to decent work is being highlighted as a key to fostering human development, democratic governance, and freedom.[1]

Despite the global economic crisis, employment rates in most Latin American and Caribbean countries have rallied. However, with few exceptions, this positive development has not translated into greater employment stability or quality, as a significant percentage of the jobs created have been unstable, precarious, low-productivity and self-employed jobs, with the statistics showing only a modest increase in paid jobs.[2]

Women's participation in the labor force in our region has increased from 36% in 1980 to 52% in 2009 (WDR 2012), which has in turn allowed women to enjoy greater economic autonomy. However, women – especially poor women – participate in the labor market in conditions of inequality and under a lack of protection as evidenced by underemployment, instability, lack of coverage by social security, and low incomes.[3] In addition, women earn between 60% and 90% of men's average income. In this regard, the condition of poverty among women of the Americas continues to be one of the barriers to their achievement of a higher level of human development, satisfactory levels of economic security, and active participation in their countries' political life. In order to achieve decent work for women, these gender inequalities need to be eliminated, and conditions that allow women to fully exercise their economic citizenship must be established. This will require the adoption of measures and the creation of opportunities for women in labor and employment policies and plans.

Change agents and social development and employment activists can be found in different sectors, including civil society organizations, such as grassroots organizations, NGOs and women's organizations, academia, local communities, schools, enterprises, professional associations, trade associations, labor associations, and international and regional organizations. In addition, there are also many young professionals and activists who can be considered change agents, like our OAS interns who have the opportunity to participate in activities that allow them to learn about and discuss matters of regional interest. They are able to engage in dialogue and exchange experiences,



Organization of
American States

MOAS/PC Newsletter

The MOAS/PC is jointly organized by the Department of International Affairs and the Department of Human Resources

The Mission of the MOAS/PC

- 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.

This Newsletter was edited and prepared by:
Rhiannon Buehler
and
Camila Rodríguez,
MOAS/PC Public
Information Officers.

Final revision by the
MOAS Coordination
Team

14TH MODEL OF THE PERMANENT COUNCIL FOR OAS INTERNS (MOAS/PC)

(CONTINUED) analyze and propose solutions to regional challenges, learn how to negotiate and reach consensus in policy-making, as well as how to establish and strengthen networks. I would also like to highlight the role played by natural leaders, in particular those from rural areas that perform invaluable work in places that sometimes lack a government presence.

In order to achieve and sustain appreciable growth and improve development, it is necessary to address the lack of equality and to strengthen social policies in the region. As future leaders who are in a privileged position, take every opportunity to promote gender equality as well as women's rights in policies, programs, and initiatives. Also, find role models and a mentor, and become a mentor to other young women and men who may benefit from your guidance and experience.

Because of your commitment to development and the initiative you have shown through your internship at the OAS, I am sure that your participation in the 14th MOAS will go a long way in deepening your understanding of the OAS' work and the main challenges faced by its Member States. In addition, it is also hoped that this experience will help you in your career and further encourage you to become an advocate for change and for those without a voice.

- 1 ILO (2011) Decent work and youth. Agenda for the Hemisphere, 2006-2015.
- 2 CIM/OAS (2011) Advancing gender equality in the context of decent work.
- 3 Idem.

EDITORS' REMARKS

As Public Information Officers for the 14th Model of the Permanent Council for OAS interns we feel it is our duty to keep you informed and to provide you with the most complete, substantial, and accurate news related to this session's MOAS.

In this edition of the Welcome Newsletter we sought to motivate you and to provide you with diverse perspectives on the chosen topics with interviews from Jorge Sanín, OAS Director of the Department of International Affairs; Evelyn Jacir, OAS Director of the Department of Social Development and Employment, and María Celina Conte, Specialist at the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM/OAS). Furthermore, we will also present you with words of encouragement from model authorities. It is our hope that these interviews will guide you in your research and knowledge of the topics and inspire you to put your best effort into this simulation.

We intend to continue with press releases and will also deliver a final newsletter covering key speakers, discussions, agreements, and resolutions reached.

All final editions will be published on the MOAS Facebook page and will be sent by DIA to your work emails as well. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any news' leads!

We enthusiastically look forward to your participation in the life changing experience of this MOAS/PC!



Rhiannon Buehler & Camila Rodríguez, Public Information Officers
Picture: Harv Bauer



14TH MODEL OF THE PERMANENT COUNCIL FOR OAS INTERNS (MOAS/PC)

Organization of
American States

MOAS/PC Newsletter

The MOAS/PC is jointly organized by the Department of International Affairs and the Department of Human Resources

The Mission of the MOAS/PC

- 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.

This Newsletter was edited and prepared by:
Rhiannon Buehler
and
Camila Rodríguez,
MOAS/PC Public
Information Officers.

Final revision by the
MOAS Coordination
Team

ISABELLE BARRIENTOS VARGAS, 14th MOAS/PC SECRETARY GENERAL

Greetings fellow OAS interns and elected officials and welcome to the 14th MOAS. Our main objective for this Model will be to find two vital solutions for social and economic mobility.

Although the leadership and organization provided by your committee chairs will play a major role in the trajectory of our MOAS and the resolutions we will pass, the role you play as ambassadors will be indispensable to the success of our Model. Therefore, it is you who we, the elected officials and the entire MOAS, will depend upon to formulate innovative resolutions. This is why I ask you to consider the weight your actions have in solving critical issues in our Hemisphere and to remember the main purpose of this particular exercise: improving social and economic mobility throughout the Americas.

It will be challenging to find consensus amongst our 34 Member States, but I have absolute faith in the respect and flexibility we will have with one another. The experiences and knowledge we shall acquire will result in us becoming more educated and open-minded individuals. It will also benefit us professionally with new skills in problem solving and strategic planning, and in our personal lives, where conflict resolution and negotiations always take place.

To end, I would like to thank you for taking the time to learn about your assigned country and for proposing intelligent, innovative, and considerate solutions for our Hemisphere. I realize that we all come from distinct cultures and have different values and perceptions of the world, which can either be an advantage or challenge when writing our resolutions and performing in this model. Our diversity can be a challenge if we are individualistic and prioritize our national goals over those of the entire hemisphere, or it can be an advantage if we genuinely listen and consider all opinions and stances presented to later democratically choose the direction we would like our MOAS to go.

Let us succeed in the 14th MOAS by treating each other in a professional and civilized manner. I look forward to working with, and learning from all of you while promising my consideration and attention to fairness.

Therefore, it is you who we, the elected officials and the entire MOAS, will depend upon to formulate innovative resolutions.



Painting: Victor Chab, 1930 Argentina

ANDRES URIBE, GENERAL COMMITTEE CHAIR



The MOAS depends massively upon the participation of the interns, both officers and delegates. A Model with minimal participation and engagement could well produce the resolutions that are its ultimate goal, but the quality of both these resolutions and the MOAS experience depend entirely upon intern participation.

I believe there are facets of the MOAS that can appeal to everyone. My advice is that delegates find the component of the



Organization of
American States

MOAS/PC Newsletter

The MOAS/PC is jointly organized by the Department of International Affairs and the Department of Human Resources

The Mission of the MOAS/PC

- 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.

This Newsletter was edited and prepared by:
Rhiannon Buehler
and
Camila Rodríguez,
MOAS/PC Public
Information Officers.

Final revision by the
MOAS Coordination
Team

14TH MODEL OF THE PERMANENT COUNCIL FOR OAS INTERNS (MOAS/PC)

(CONTINUED) MOAS which most interests them, be it the substance of the topic of debate, the debate itself, or the process of negotiation and consensus building. Focus on investing effort and enthusiasm into these interests, using your personal experiences to contribute a unique perspective to the model.

As I see it, the MOAS is primarily beneficial as a learning experience. I do not mean to discount the value of the resolutions it will produce - which I am sure will contain innovative perspectives on two topics crucial to the Americas - but I believe that the MOAS is, above all, a tool for professional and personal development. The knowledge we gain through our research and participation in the process of the model will be important and relevant throughout our lives, preparing us to be more informed, responsible citizens of our countries and of the hemisphere. We will hone skills involved in diplomacy, debate, communication, negotiation, and the reconciliation of contrasting positions - all areas crucial to any professional path. It is my sincere belief that this experience can be of great educational value to all of us, and that an enthusiastic and avid participation in the MOAS will enhance both its utility and its enjoyability.

This should be a lot of fun! Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have.

ANA MORAGA, FIRST COMMITTEE CHAIR

This MOAS is an opportunity to explore our interests in international relations, develop and strengthen our skills in research and diplomacy, and a chance to have fun influencing each other's perspectives. It is a platform to critically analyze the topics that are impacting the lives of people and communities in our region by placing ourselves in the shoes of key players at this multilateral organization, the Organization of American States.



We are fortunate to be a highly diverse team with a wide variety of backgrounds, whether we have a degree in the sciences, liberal arts, or the creative arts. Together we have the task of finding the commonalities amongst the positions of our assigned countries and combining them into a resolution that reflects regional concerns. The 14th MOAS/PC presents us with the challenge of owning the position of a country that we may not be familiar with prior to our research, leaving our personal viewpoints aside, and engaging with others by listening, acknowledging, and respectfully discussing our states' agendas on employment and development.

The region has already taken significant steps in the advancement of these topics. As Member State delegates, you must recognize this progress and be critical of its successes, as well as its flaws. Your abilities in recalling this history, embodied in past international and regional resolutions and agreements, as well as looking at your assigned country's experiences in the implementation of these commitments, will be essential in justifying your arguments. These resolutions must encompass our regional vision for strengthening decent employment and social development, equal opportunities and non-discrimination in the Americas.

Beyond the tangible product of this exercise, the 14th MOAS/PC is a step toward our integral development as leaders - an opportunity for our personal and professional development and enrichment. Embrace it and run with it!



Organization of
American States

MOAS/PC Newsletter

The MOAS/PC is jointly organized by the Department of International Affairs and the Department of Human Resources

The Mission of the MOAS/PC

- 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.

This Newsletter was edited and prepared by:
Rhiannon Buehler
and
Camila Rodríguez,
MOAS/PC Public Information Officers.

Final revision by the
MOAS Coordination
Team

14TH MODEL OF THE PERMANENT COUNCIL FOR OAS INTERNS (MOAS/PC)

STEPHANIE HORNA, GENERAL COMMITTEE SECRETARY



Since the interns are the delegates representing their countries, their contribution is at the core of the successful development of the MOAS; there is no MOAS/PC without interns.

Being able to recreate the Model of the Permanent Council allows us all to have an internal understanding of how delegates come together to discuss issues directly affecting their lives as individuals, their countries, and the international community. The possibility of being able to express our ideas on such a platform; first, ensures that our ideas are heard, and second, that they come across in a diplomatic and effective way to influence other Member States in creating resolutions that are beneficial to all. Receiving innovative ideas from young people gives a different perspective than the one brought to the table by an older generation of diplomats and politicians. The resolutions represent the collaborative thinking process of 34 Member States that have engaged in thoughtful dialogue to provide ideas that have the potential of being heard by, and even implemented by higher-level authorities.

The skills attained at the MOAS range from carrying out effective research to properly and diplomatically articulating your ideas in a public forum of discussion and negotiation. By doing research the interns not only familiarize themselves with their country's position but also with that of other Member States. Interns will gain knowledge and skills in defending political views, in drafting resolutions, and in acting with decorum throughout a heated debate. They will grow as professionals and individuals, acknowledging that even though their country might have a traditional mind set, they can still be open to points of view not seen or considered before.

The OAS Secretary General and Member States may actually read our resolutions and, who knows, some clauses might even be implemented. As cliché as this may sound, it's more about the road than the destination, and this is a great chance to engage in productive dialogue that can generate positive solutions. It's a great opportunity to have fun!

MELISSA LAMASTUS, FIRST COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Hello fellow Interns! I would like to welcome you to the 14th MOAS PC and to encourage you to participate in the most proactive way you can! Consider this an opportunity to learn and have fun while trying to discover possible solutions for the problems that affect our region's countries.

The participation of the interns is of vital importance for the development of the MOAS because the outcome of this activity will depend on what we do and how we act before and during the MOAS. Therefore, if we want a fun and interesting MOAS we have to put our best effort forth, without losing sight of the importance of learning and producing good resolutions.





Organization of
American States

MOAS/PC Newsletter

The MOAS/PC is jointly organized by the Department of International Affairs and the Department of Human Resources

The Mission of the MOAS/PC

- 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.

This Newsletter was edited and prepared by:
Rhiannon Buehler
and
Camila Rodríguez,
MOAS/PC Public Information Officers.

Final revision by the
MOAS Coordination
Team

14TH MODEL OF THE PERMANENT COUNCIL FOR OAS INTERNS (MOAS/PC)

(CONTINUED) The main contribution of interns in general, will be the resolutions. If we create good resolutions, these may be submitted to the Permanent Council as an option and opinion of the youth, and thus may help improve the quality of life of our countries. What will really make the interns get involved with the MOAS is being aware that as future leaders of tomorrow we must start today to get involved in our communities and try to solve the problems closest to us.

Where and when we will apply the knowledge gained in the MOAS will depend on the path we follow in our lives, not only in the academic field but in our personal lives as well. The experience of working together with people from different countries and cultures teaches us to respect and tolerate other forms of thought; it is also an opportunity to see beyond what surrounds us.

CONTACT INFORMATION

MOAS AUTHORITIES

- **Secretary General:** Isabelle Barrientos Vargas - DECOInt2@oas.org
- **General Committee Chair:** Andres Uribe - smsintern1@oas.org
- **First Committee Chair:** Ana Moraga - CIMIntern1@oas.org
- **General Committee Secretary:** Stephanie Horna - CICTEInt2@oas.org
- **First Committee Secretary:** Melissa Lamastus - dhrint3@oas.org
- **Public Information Officer:** Rhiannon Buehler - pdint2@oas.org
- **Public Information Officer:** María Camila Rodríguez - YABTInt1@oas.org

GROUP REPRESENTATIVES

- Group 1: Rhiannon Buehler – pdint2@oas.org
- Group 2: Juan Daniel Salazar – DIAInt2@oas.org
- Group 3: Guillaume Lamontagne – OECInt1@oas.org
- Group 4: Sofía Jaramillo – CIDHrelaint1@oas.org
- Group 5: Julia Claire Malmo-Laycock – DSDInt3@oas.org
- Group 6: María Camila Rodríguez – YABTInt1@oas.org
- Group 7: Lidia Rafaela Brito Peralta – DFAMSInt1@oas.org
- Group 8: María Natalia Buenahora Streithorst – CIDHInt9@oas.org

MOAS COORDINATION TEAM

- Nelly L. Robinson, Coordinator, MOAS Program DIA/SER – nrobinson@oas.org, Ext. 6897
- Luis José Consuegra, Consultant, MOAS Program DIA/SER – lconsuegra@oas.org, Ext. 3378

MOAS Email – moas@oas.org

14th MOAS/PC Website:

http://www.oas.org/en/ser/dia/moas/interns/14th_MOAS.PC/default.asp

MOAS Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/moea.moas>

INTERNSHIP COORDINATION TEAM

- Natalia Franco, Coordinator, Internship Program DHR/SAF – nfranco@oas.org, Ext. 3653
- Luisa Zuffo, Consultant, Internship Program – Lzuffo@oas.org, Ext. 3267

We would like to give special thanks to Hary Bauer for his help and to Young Americas Business Trust, and the OAS Press and Communications Department for their patience and consideration.