

**2024 Washington Model Organization of
American States General Assembly**

Electronic Packet

General Committee



Washington Model
Organization of American States
Institute for Diplomatic Dialogue in the Americas



OAS

More rights for more people

April 8-12, 2024

ADDRESSING THE DEFINITION OF ASYLUM SEEKER

General Committee
Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Costa Rica

Topic No. 3 of the Agenda

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

NOTING:

The need for a standardization of the term "asylum seeker" to aid in the safeguarding of the dignity of all individual and to facilitate greater cooperation and understanding between OAS Members;

RECALLING:

Article 3 of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS), which affirms the principle that "Social justice and social security are bases of lasting peace";

The 12th Article of the OAS Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, which states that "The personal status of a refugee shall be governed by the law of the country of his domicile or, if he has no domicile, by the law of the country of his residence";

CONSIDERING:

Resolution 04/19 of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR), which affirmed "universality, indivisibility, interdependence, interrelationship, progressivity and non-regression of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and the need to guarantee all persons, regardless of their migration status, full respect for their human rights in accordance with Articles 1 and 2 of the American Convention";

AG/RES.2047 (XXXIV-O/04), on the protection of asylum seekers, which in resolved 1 "urge[s] the states parties to take or continue to take the necessary measures to strengthen refugee protection and make it more effective, including, inter alia, the adoption and implementation of national provisions pertaining to refugees and stateless persons and procedures for the determination of refugee status and for the treatment of asylum seekers and refugees";

AG/RES.2047 (XXXIV-O/04), on the protection of asylum seekers, which in statement 3 "encourage[s] countries of origin to make every possible effort, with support from the UNHCR and the international community, to address the circumstances that generate flows of persons fleeing to seek asylum";

That in the 2023-2027 Strategic Plan of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, the Rapporteurship on the Rights of Migrants proposed a strategic focus on the "development and innovation of inter-American standards on issues such as complementarity of the systems of protection, human rights and border security, externalization and internalization of immigration controls, mobility and integral human development, new cooperation mechanisms in human mobility, lasting innovative solutions and refugee status, journalists in exile, and large-scale human mobility and new emergencies"; and

NOTING WITH CONCERN:

AG/RES.2047 (XXXIV-O/04), which states that there has been a "significant increase in asylum seekers and the existence of a large number of refugees in some countries of the Americas who, owing to wellfounded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, are outside the country of their nationality and are unable, or owing to such fear, are unwilling to avail themselves of the protection of that country; or who, not having a nationality and being outside the country of their former habitual residence as a result of such events, are unable, or owing to such fear, are unwilling to return to it",

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) October-December 2023 report on *Migration Trends in the Americas*, which stresses: "2023 was marked by high migratory mobility on the American continent, characterized by a duality where most movements were regular, and a minority were irregular. The latter meant a growing need for protection, integration, and regularization measures",

RESOLVES:

1. To applaud the efforts being made for asylum seekers across the Americas that focus on ensuring human rights.
2. To express the hope that all capable Member States provide assistance to asylum seekers so as to share the burden.
3. To reiterate there are three different categories that must be met for an asylum seeker to become a refugee:
 - a. Fear of persecution on account of race, religion, gender, sexual identity, nationality, social group or political party;
 - b. Evidence of a genuine well-founded fear; and
 - c. The individual is unable to protect themselves in their host country.
4. To establish the legal standard that all asylum seekers gain access to the same rights and basic support as any other person who is a legal resident of that country, including:
 - a. Freedom of thought, of movement, and freedom from torture, forced repatriation and degrading treatment;
 - b. Provision of life sustaining measures; and
 - c. Protections against discrimination due to race, gender, sexual identity, religion, nationality, social group or political party.
5. To define forthwith an asylum seeker as an individual with a fear of persecution that is well founded and beyond their means of coping in their nation of origin, whereby:
 - a. This person does not have a safe residence in their country and is seeking refugee status but still has no permanent location; and
 - b. This person has no access to physical or economic protection from the country they are fleeing from and therefore must be provided for.
6. To state that this definition will be recognized by OAS Member States as the official parameter of an asylum seeker and will require host countries of asylum applicants to provide:
 - a. The refugee application, which will be processed as quickly as possible;

- b. Temporary housing and limited health care, for one year; and
 - c. The ability to work legally while their claim to permanent refugee status is being processed.
7. To mandate that the Secretary General of the OAS perform reports on member states every 3 years—starting on 1 January 2027—to ensure that this resolution is being implemented.

Approved for form and substance: _____
(Signature of Faculty Advisor)

Cosignatories: 1. _____
(Signature of Delegate) (Country Represented)

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**INTENSIFYING SUPPORTIVE EFFORTS THROUGH THE DEVELOPMENT OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT (DOID)**

General Committee

Topic No. 3 of the Agenda

Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of The Federative Republic of Brazil

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 1 of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS), which states that Member States seek “to achieve an order of peace and justice, to promote their solidarity, to strengthen their collaboration, and to defend their sovereignty, their territorial integrity, and their independence”;

Article 2(b) of the Charter, which states that one of the essential missions of the OAS is to “promote and consolidate representative democracy, with due respect for the principle of nonintervention”;

Article 16 of the Charter, which declares that “the jurisdiction of States within the limits of their national territory is exercised equally over all the inhabitants, whether nationals or aliens”;

Article 37 of the Charter, which maintains that “the Member States agree to join together in seeking a solution to urgent or critical problems that may arise whenever the economic development or stability of any Member State is seriously affected by conditions that cannot be remedied through the efforts of that State”;

Article 25 of the American Convention on Human Rights, which mandates the principle of the Right of Equal Protection: “All persons are equal before the law. Consequently, they are entitled, without discrimination, to equal protection of the law”;

Chapter XVIII of the Charter of the OAS, titled: “The Specialized Organizations,” which establishes and details their formation, functions, and the way they should develop and operate;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

The mandate established in 1998 for the Rapporteurship on the Rights of Migrants, to respond to the multiple challenges of human mobility in the region, focusing on respecting and ensuring the rights of migrants and their families, asylum seekers, refugees, stateless people, victims of human trafficking, internally displaced people, and other vulnerable categories of people;

That, according to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), there are 84 million forcibly displaced people worldwide, with an estimated 48 million people who are internally displaced, 4.4 million asylum seekers, and 26.6 million people with refugee status, and an estimated 26,700 refugees who were returned to their countries of origin in the first half of 2021;

REMEMBERING:

AG/RES. 1892 (XXXII-O/02), “The Protection of Refugees, Returnees, and Internally Displaced Persons in the Americas,” which urged member states to implement their obligations under the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol in order to “to strengthen asylum and render refugee protection more effective”;

The 2019 Global Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications Concerning Higher Education, designed to facilitate international academic mobility and promote the right of individuals to have their higher education qualifications evaluated through a fair, transparent, and nondiscriminatory manner; and

DEEPLY CONCERNED:

About the statistics provided by the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC), which reveal that over 71 million people are internally displaced in 2022,

RESOLVES:

1. To applaud Member States and the relevant organs of the OAS for their efforts towards helping those who have been displaced and extending protections to their displaced citizens even under difficult socioeconomic times.
2. To call for Member States to develop comprehensive programs that help those who have been displaced within their borders.
3. To reiterate the importance of protecting our displaced citizens and of continuing to provide public health and security in the State.
4. To urge Member States that have not already done so, to adopt procedures fully and effectively for the recognition and treatment of internally displaced persons.
5. To establish a voluntary annual summit for Member States that are seeing an incline of Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) within their borders, whereby:
 - a. Funding would be on a donation basis from the OAS, Member States, and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), such that:
 - i. Any Member State or NGO that donates the most during a calendar year will receive nominal power that includes, but is not limited to:
 1. Hosting of the annual summit.
 2. Recognition of their support at the General Assembly and at the Annual Summit.
 3. Suggestive Input on the herein proposed Department of Internal Displacement (DOID) operations for the following calendar year.
 - b. Hosting of the Summit will be on a rotating and voluntary basis, with the provision that in the event that no Member States volunteer to host, the summit will transition into a virtual format with any information available on the OAS website.
 - c. Representatives of Member States shall include the leader of the Member State and a person from its cabinet.
6. To create a Department of Internal Displacement (DOID) as an advisory Specialized Organization under the OAS Charter; whose objectives are to:
 - a. Produce and compile an updated compendium of best practices and strategies for the identification and treatment of internally displaced persons and the states annually.
 - b. Investigate causes of internal displacement within Member States with the express permission of the Member States.
 - c. Coordinate with outside organizations on collaborative efforts.
 - d. Coordinate with other OAS departments to create such new agencies as needed without duplicating existing efforts.

7. To recommend that the DOID should be composed of:
 - a. One representative of the General Secretariat of the OAS, which will ensure the due process within the commission.
 - b. One representative of the UNHCR, who will represent the relationship with world agencies that is expected from specialized agencies according to the OAS Charter (Article 129).
 - c. Thirteen delegations of member states that shall be rotated every 5 years and chosen arbitrarily; these will be given the task of the diplomatic procedure and procuring the best situation regarding the topic in the agenda.

8. To promote a collaboration between the Inter-American Development Bank, Member States, and the Rotatory Monetary Fund of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) to finance the DOID.

9. To encourage Member States to improve the quality of life of the internally displaced that are within their territories, and therefore, the quality of life of civilians in general.

Approved for form and substance: _____
(Signature of Faculty Advisor)

Cosignatories: 1. _____
(Signature of Delegate) (Country Represented)

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ACTIONABLE APPROACHES TO INCREASE POLITICAL PARTICIPATION IN UNDERREPRESENTED COMMUNITIES

General Committee
Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Colombia

Topic No. 1 of the Agenda

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 7 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, which reaffirms the necessity of representative democracy for Member States in its statement that “Democracy is indispensable for the effective exercise of fundamental freedoms and human rights in their universality, indivisibility and interdependence, embodied in the respective constitutions of states and in inter-American and international human rights instruments”;

Article 6 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, which states: “It is the right and responsibility of all citizens to participate in decisions relating to their own development. This is also a necessary condition for the full and effective exercise of democracy. Promoting and fostering diverse forms of participation strengthens democracy”;

Article 95 of the Charter of the Organization of American States, which confirms “strengthening of the civic conscience of the American peoples, as one of the bases for the effective exercise of democracy and for the observance of the rights and duties of man”;

CONSIDERING:

The Department of Electoral Cooperation and Observation (DECO) as a functioning organ of the Secretariat for Strengthening Democracy (SSD), which carries out the work of the General Secretariat by actively maintaining democratic political processes in Member States;

BEARING IN MIND:

That even though twelve of the twenty-seven countries in the world with compulsory voting laws exist in the Western Hemisphere, voting laws are rarely enforced, leading to low representation of each Member State’s populous in politics;

Trends involving several Member States, which signal a steady decline in Western Hemispheric control of corruption, and voice and accountability scores, accounted for by the World Bank’s Worldwide Governance Indicators (WGI) since 2016;

That in 2024 presidential elections will take place in at least six countries in the Americas—El Salvador, Panama, the Dominican Republic, Mexico, the United States, and Uruguay, and that several Latin American countries will be holding municipal elections throughout the year, such that the sheer number of elections in 2024 demonstrates the need for trusted electoral processes that widely include citizens in each country; and

RECALLING:

AG/RES. 2931 (XLIX-O/19), STRENGTHENING DEMOCRACY, which resolves to “support the institutional strengthening of the Department of Electoral Cooperation and Observation, ensuring the conditions for the development of methodological tools, the dissemination of good electoral practices in the

Member States, training services, and applications for the efficient management of electoral observation missions and for the implementation of their recommendations, through technical cooperation projects.”,

RESOLVES:

1. To commend all Member States for their concerted efforts in maintaining democracy and fighting electoral corruption, in addition to preserving proper electoral institutions at all levels across the Western Hemisphere.
2. To encourage Member States to continue careful monitoring of local, state, and national elections with the help of electoral observation missions, whereby they will:
 - a. Allow DECO to examine the necessity for additional polling stations in communities far from urban centers within each Member State.
 - b. Ensure that in-country representatives will work in collaboration with DECO specialists to determine infrequent voter locations and assess funding for potential polling stations.
3. To provide candidate information to citizens in communities far from urban centers, including:
 - a. Bolstering underrepresented citizens’ knowledge of candidates, by soliciting unbiased candidate information from each candidate, verified, and compiled by DECO, which will implement candidate information services for ballots at all levels of governance.
 - b. After information services have been established within the communities, DECO providing data to local magistrates and transition oversight following 5 years of uninterrupted operation.
4. To request the support of the Inter-American Foundation and the Inter-American Development Bank in the rectification of the proposed resolutions.

Approved for form and substance: _____
(Signature of Faculty Advisor)

Cosignatories: 1. _____
(Signature of Delegate) (Country Represented)

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**INCREASING ACCESS TO DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS IN INDIGENOUS AND
IMPOVERISHED COMMUNITIES IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE**

General Committee
Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Argentina

Topic No. 1 of the Agenda

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 45 (f) of the Organization of American States (OAS) Charter, which declares that “The incorporation and increasing participation of the marginal sectors of the population, in both rural and urban areas, in the economic, social, civic, cultural, and political life of the nation, in order to achieve the full integration of the national community, acceleration of the process of social mobility, and the consolidation of the democratic system” are necessary to creating a “just social order” and guaranteeing “true peace”;

Article VI of the American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which exhorts Member States to “promote, with the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples, the harmonious coexistence of the rights and systems of different population groups and cultures”;

Article 2 (g) of the OAS Charter, by which States commit themselves “To eradicate extreme poverty, which constitutes an obstacle to the full democratic development of the peoples of the hemisphere”;

Article 3 (f) of the OAS Charter, which states that “The elimination of extreme poverty is an essential part of the promotion and consolidation of representative democracy and is the common and shared responsibility of the American States”;

Article 23 of the American Convention on Human Rights/Pact of San José, Costa Rica, which declares that “Every citizen shall enjoy” the right to “vote and to be elected in genuine periodic elections” and “to have access, under general conditions of equality, to the public service of his country”;

Article XX of the American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man, which states that “Every person having legal capacity is entitled to participate in the government of his country, directly or through his representatives, and to take part in popular elections”;

Article 23 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, which establishes that “Member states, in the exercise of their sovereignty, may request that the Organization of American States provide advisory services or assistance for strengthening and developing their electoral institutions and processes, including sending preliminary missions for that purpose”;

Article 24 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, which states: “The electoral observation missions shall be carried out at the request of the member state concerned. To that end, the government of that states and the Secretary General shall enter into an agreement establishing the scope and coverage of the electoral observation mission in question”;

CONSIDERING:

That Indigenous communities around the hemisphere continue to live well below the poverty line and often live far from urban areas and thus have limited access to both economic opportunities and democratic institutions;

That the World Bank reports that of the 42 million Indigenous people in Latin America, “poverty afflicts 43 percent of the indigenous population in the region, which is more than twice the proportion of nonindigenous people” and that “Additionally, 24 percent of all indigenous people live in extreme poverty, which is 2.7 times higher than the proportion of non-indigenous people living in extreme poverty”;

That, reporting on modern Latin American politics between 1980-2020, *Latinobarómetro* states: “Overall support for democracy fell to 48%, the lowest level in recent years, while indifference between a democratic regime and an authoritarian one climbed from 16% to 28%. Dissatisfaction with democracy increased from 51% to 71% between 2009 and 2018”;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

The Annex of the United Nations (UN) Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which recognizes that “indigenous peoples have suffered from historic injustices as a result of, inter alia, their colonization and dispossession of their lands, territories and resources, thus preventing them from exercising, in particular, their right to development in accordance with their own needs”;

Article 5 of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which declares that “Indigenous peoples have the right to maintain and strengthen their distinct political, legal, economic, social, and cultural institutions, while retaining their right to participate fully, if they so choose, in the political, economic, social and cultural life of the State”;

The UN Sustainable Development Goal 16, which urges Member States to “Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels”;

REAFFIRMING:

The Ninth Summit of the Americas Inter-American Action Plan on Democratic Governance, which supports “free and fair elections” by providing “a standing invitation to the Organization of American States and other relevant electoral observation bodies for electoral observation missions”; and

RECALLING:

AG/RES. 991 (XIX-O/89), “Human Rights and Democracy - Electoral Monitoring”, which states that “when a member state so requests in the exercise of its sovereignty, missions should be organized and sent to said state to monitor the development, if possible at all stages, of each of its electoral processes”;

AG/RES. 2989 (LII-O/22), “Strengthening Democracy”, which emphasizes the “fundamental contribution of the OAS in the strengthening and development of electoral processes and systems in member states through OAS electoral observation missions and technical cooperation in electoral matters”;

AG/RES. 3004 (LIII-O/23), “Strengthening Democracy”, which instructs the Department of Electoral Cooperation and Observation (DECO) to update “the different guides on electoral processes, and that in that framework it continue considering international standards and existing best practices, including contributions from member states and their electoral bodies and authorities”;

RESOLVES:

1. To applaud the Member States for their commitment to integrating Indigenous and/or impoverished peoples into the fabric of their political life.
2. To establish a Working Group that will study modifications to the Department of Electoral Cooperation and Observation (DECO), which will serve as crucial safeguards against threats to democratic institutions.
3. To charge the Working Group with prioritizing initiatives that expand the participation and representation of Indigenous and impoverished peoples, including:
 - a. Updating the Manual for OAS Electoral Observation Missions (EOMs) to include comprehensive training and information for EOM observers to monitor the participation of Indigenous and impoverished citizens in local democratic institutions and national elections, whereby:
 - i. Local democratic institutions, under the direction of EOMs, would encourage the education of Indigenous and impoverished peoples of their democratic rights through case-specific publications and media campaigns, in order to raise the voice of underrepresented groups through greater participation in elections and local governing bodies.
 - ii. The primary national democratic institution being voting, EOMs would maintain their traditional duties of observing polling stations, along with the added responsibility of observing the participation of Indigenous and impoverished peoples, duly reporting limited participation and/or accessibility.
 - b. Leaving specific changes to the handbook to the Working Group to propose, although the General Assembly encourages it to consider changes that would be acceptable to nations hosting EOMs.
 - c. Establishing a Section of Indigenous and Impoverished Persons Participation in Elections (SIIPPE) within the DECO, with the specific functions and scope of the SIIPPE left to the Working Group to propose, though the General Assembly encourages it to consider the following non-exhaustive recommendations:
 - i. Require that the Director of SIIPPE be an Indigenous person to ensure the Section’s commitment to the issues at hand.
 - ii. Instruct the SIIPPE to regularly seek advice from and consult with local, national, and hemispheric Indigenous advocacy groups and tribal governments.

- 4. To instruct the Working Group to conclude its research and considerations by December 31, 2026, and compile its findings and recommendations in a report addressed to the General Secretariat no later than April 30, 2027, in time for the fifty-seventh regular session of the General Assembly.

Approved for form and substance: _____
(Signature of Faculty Advisor)

Cosignatories: 1. _____
(Signature of Delegate) (Country Represented)

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**STRENGTHENING DEMOCRACY THROUGH THE CREATION OF THE INDIGENOUS
EMPOWERMENT INITIATIVE AND PROMOTING THE INCLUSION OF PEOPLES OF
INDIGENOUS DESCENT IN THE AMERICAS**

General Committee
Draft Resolution Presented by the United Mexican States

Topic No.1 of the Agenda

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 2(b) of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS), which establishes as one of its main purposes to: “promote and consolidate representative democracy, with due respect for the principle of non-intervention”;

Article 3(2) of the Social Charter of the Americas, which asks member states to “strengthen and foster policies and programs directed towards the achievement of societies that offer all people opportunities to benefit from sustainable development with equity and social inclusion”;

Article 7 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, which proclaims that democracy is “indispensable for the effective exercise of fundamental freedoms and human rights in their universality, indivisibility and interdependence, embodied in the respective constitutions of states and in inter-American and international human rights instruments”;

BEARING IN MIND:

Article 22(3) of the American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which states that “matters concerning indigenous individuals or their rights or interests in the jurisdiction of each State shall be conducted in such a way as to afford indigenous individuals the right to full representation with dignity and equality before the law.”

Article 18 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which affirms that “Indigenous peoples have the right to participate in decision-making in matters which would affect their rights, through representatives chosen by themselves in accordance with their own procedures”;

Target 16.7 of The United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals, which promotes “responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels”; and

RECALLING:

The creation of the Office of the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (SRRIP) by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights;

That the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (CEPAL) estimates that approximately 45 million Indigenous people live in the Americas and the Caribbean, accounting for 8.3% of the region’s population;

The establishment of Local and Indigenous Knowledge Systems (LINKS) by the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), which states its mission as “helping indigenous peoples and local communities study and articulate the importance of their knowledge systems.”;

CEPAL’s study *Guaranteeing Indigenous People’s Rights in Latin America*, which acknowledges that “there are still few women and young people as leaders and in decision-making positions”;

RESOLVES:

1. To congratulate the Member States of the OAS for their continued efforts to promote democracy and uplift the respective indigenous communities that reside within them.
2. To reaffirm the commitment of Member States to the protection and greater inclusion of democratic values and democracy as a whole.
3. To urge for the establishment of a pilot program called the Indigenous Empowerment Initiative (IEI)—in collaboration with the OAS Secretariat for Strengthening Democracy (SSD), the InterAmerican Commission on Human Rights (IACHR), and the Office of the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (SRRIP)—aimed at promoting the education of Indigenous peoples on their rights and abilities to engage with their respective governments, the program’s purpose being to provide legal assistance, cultural competency training, and curriculum development within Member States, whereby;
 - a. After a Member States commits to the program, it will be assessed by a representative from the SRRIP to better understand the specific needs, challenges, and aspirations concerning engagement with government entities within its respective indigenous communities.
 - b. Following the investigation, the SRRIP will issue an “Implementation Procedure”, which will incorporate specific suggestions directed at the Member State regarding how to maintain participation from indigenous peoples, and how to tailor the program’s resources to ensure that indigenous communities gain the full range of benefits.
 - c. After 12 months, the Member State will be reassessed by the SRRIP to gauge the effectiveness of the program, identify challenges, and adjust strategies as needed.
4. To suggest that the IEI be overseen by a steering committee, which will oversee the implementation process and provide guidance and support, with the committee being comprised of nine members who meet the following criteria:
 - a. Three independent members directly affiliated with indigenous communities or organizations, ensuring that indigenous perspectives and interests are adequately represented in decision-making processes.
 - b. Three formal, but non-permanent observers appointed by the OAS Ambassador from a rotating selection of Member States, with representation from countries rotating annually.
 - c. Three independent specialists (for instance, any member with expertise/prior experience in indigenous rights, human rights law, education, etc.) elected through a majority by the

General Assembly, the elections being overseen by a pool of independent observers and experts selected by the SRRIP.

5. To recommend that the Indigenous Empowerment Initiative first be implemented in Mérida, Mexico, where it will undergo a trial period of 12 months, commencing from August 1st, 2024, to August 1st, 2025, during which its effectiveness and impact will be assessed.
6. To propose that the resolution's funding be provided by, but not limited to, requests to the Inter-American Development Bank program, the IACHR, the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD), and other voluntary funds.
7. To encourage Member States to collaborate with relevant stakeholders, including indigenous organizations, civil society groups, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), academic institutions, and international organizations, to leverage expertise, resources, and networks in support of the Indigenous Empowerment Initiative.
8. To suggest the dissemination of best practices and lessons learned from the pilot program to other Member States and relevant stakeholders, to scale up successful initiatives and foster regional cooperation in promoting indigenous rights and empowerment.
9. To request that the time frame for the proposed resolution be the implementation of the IEI under the SSD, IACHR, and SRRIP in Merida, Mexico, for the trial period, election motions in the following two months for the steering committee, and the General Assembly's election of the three specialists in the next three months, with the finite deadline set for JULY 1st, 2024.

Approved for form and substance: _____
(Signature of Faculty Advisor)

Cosignatories: 1. _____
(Signature of Delegate) (Country Represented)

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**STRENGTHENING THE DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTION
OF THE PRESIDENCY IN VENEZUELA**

General Committee
Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Venezuela

Topic No. 1 of the Agenda

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING:

Article 2 of the Charter of the Organization of American States, which states that one of the essential purposes of the Organization is “To promote and consolidate representative democracy, with due respect for the principle of nonintervention”;

Article 3 of the Charter, which reaffirms: “Every State has the right to choose, without external interference, its political, economic, and social system and to organize itself in the way best suited to it, and has the duty to abstain from intervening in the affairs of another State. Subject to the foregoing, the American States shall cooperate fully among themselves, independently of the nature of their political, economic, and social systems”;

Article 19 of the Charter, which declares: “No State or group of States has the right to intervene, directly or indirectly, for any reason whatever, in the internal or external affairs of any other State. The foregoing principle prohibits not only armed force but also any other form of interference or attempted threat against the personality of the State or against its political, economic, and cultural elements”;

RECOGNIZING:

Article 17 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, which states that “When the government of a member state considers that its democratic political institutional process or its legitimate exercise of power is at risk, it may request assistance from the Secretary General or the Permanent Council for the strengthening and preservation of its democratic system”; and

CONSIDERING:


That President Nicolas Maduro won reelection in Venezuela’s 2018 presidential election with 5.8 million votes, thereby winning by an historic margin of 68%, with his closest competitor, Henri Falcon, only winning 1.8 million votes;

That on January 23rd, 2019, the National Assembly leader, Juan Guaidó, swore himself in as president, upending the democratic results of the 2018 election;

That OAS member states—including Argentina, Bahamas, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, and the United States—broke the OAS Charter by interfering in Venezuela’s internal affairs, and, in doing so, breaking with the principal of supporting representative democracy by supporting the undemocratic usurper Juan Guaidó,

RESOLVES:

1. To require that all the aforementioned member states officially declare Nicolas Maduro the lawful and democratically elected president of Venezuela.
2. To strongly urge that member states declare they will not interfere in the internal affairs regarding the upcoming 2024 presidential election, such that member states will:
 - a. Not endorse nor support any candidate prior to the election;
 - b. Respect the democratic process of the election, by:
 - i. Recognizing the lawfully elected president.
 - ii. Not supporting any usurper who is not democratically elected by a plurality of the vote.
3. To strongly urge the Organization of American States to follow the Inter-American Democratic Charter in assessing the outcome of the 2024 presidential election, whereby:
 - a. Upon the repeat of the outcome of the 2018 presidential election in which a usurper upends the democratic process, then Article 17 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter will be enacted.
 - b. The democratically elected president will have the power to request enactment of Article 17, and the Secretary General and Permanent Council will assist the democratically elected president in strengthening and preserving Venezuela's democratic system.

Approved for form and substance: 
(Signature of Faculty Advisor)

Cosignatories: 1. _____
(Signature of Delegate) (Country Represented)

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**ADDRESSING MULTIDIMENSIONAL THREATS THROUGH COLLABORATIVE
EFFORTS WITH THE OAS**

General Committee
Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Suriname

Topic No. 1 of the Agenda

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 2 (e) of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS), which establishes as one of its main purposes to "seek the solution of political, juridical, and economic problems that may arise among them";

Article 2 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, which establishes that "Representative democracy is the political system of the states of the Organization of American States, on which their constitutional regimes and the rule of law are based";

Article 4 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, which establishes that: "Transparency in government activities, probity, responsible public administration on the part of governments, respect for social rights, and freedom of expression and of the press are essential components of the exercise of democracy";

Article II(b) of the Inter-American Convention Against Corruption, which states that one of its main purposes is "to promote, facilitate and regulate cooperation among the States Parties to ensure the effectiveness of measures and actions to prevent, detect, punish and eradicate corruption in the performance of public functions and acts of corruption specifically related to such performance";

CONSIDERING:

That regional justice systems can play a vital role in fighting corruption, which causes distrust of government and constitutes a threat to a democracy.

That fighting corruption legitimizes governments and increases public trust in institutions, demonstrating the social value of the rule of law;

That in the Declaration of Managua for Advancing Democracy and Development [AG/DEC. 4 (XXIII/O/93)], the member states affirmed their strong conviction that democracy, peace, and development are interconnected and essential components of a comprehensive vision of solidarity in the Americas, and emphasized that the Organization's capacity to safeguard and reinforce democratic institutions in the region hinges upon adopting a strategy founded on the interconnection and mutual reinforcement of these values; and

RECOGNIZING:

That, according to Transparency International, most countries in Central and Latin America have a Corruption Perception Index (CPI) below the global average;

That, according to *Latinobarometro*, 78% of Latin Americans believe that corruption is a very serious problem in their region and 62% of respondents believe that their government is not doing enough to combat corruption.,

RESOLVES:

1. To extend congratulations to all Member States for their progress and dedication in addressing Multidimensional Threats across the Western Hemisphere, particularly in combating government corruption and promoting transparency within their respective administrations.
2. To urge Member States to embrace the concept of public involvement in government anti-corruption endeavors, organizing forums, town halls, and meetings to discuss the ongoing anti-corruption initiatives aimed at safeguarding government institutions from threats.
3. To encourage member states to intensify endeavors in promoting democratic values as fundamental elements of anti-corruption strategies, which may involve heightening awareness, championing legal and institutional reforms, and backing initiatives that cultivate a culture of transparency, accountability, and citizen engagement.
4. To encourage Member States to evaluate the effectiveness of the OAS institutional framework in promoting democratic principles and combating corruption, by:
 - a. Participating in virtual meetings to examine the mandates, structures, and mechanisms in place within the OAS.
 - b. Engaging in quarterly virtual gatherings with the OAS to assess transparency and accountability measures, ensuring adherence to democratic principles and integrity in operations, which entails reviewing procurement procedures, financial transparency, and internal oversight mechanisms.
 - c. Evaluating the efficacy of capacity-building programs and technical support extended by the OAS to Member States in their efforts to combat corruption and bolster democratic institutions, which includes examining the pertinence, influence, and durability of these aid initiatives.
 - d. To facilitate increased dialogue among Member States regarding Anti-Corruption initiatives, by holding a two-hour session during the annual General Assembly meetings.
 - e. Encouraging discussions on combating corruption to showcase their respective efforts.
 - f. Facilitating the exchange of ideas and experiences among participating Member States regarding their anti-corruption endeavors.

Approved for form and substance: _____
 (Signature of Faculty Advisor)

Cosignatories: 1. _____
 (Signature of Delegate) (Country Represented)

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ESTABLISHING A COMMISSION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL MIGRANTS

General Committee
Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Guyana

Topic No. 3 of the Agenda

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 30 of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS), which states that “Member States, inspired by the principles of inter American solidarity and cooperation, pledge themselves to a united effort to ensure...integral development for their peoples...[which] encompasses the economic, social, educational...fields through which the goals that each country sets for accomplishing it should be achieved”;

Article 95(c) of the Charter of the OAS, which encourages member states to “Promote, coordinate, and assign responsibility for the execution of development programs and projects to the subsidiary bodies and relevant organizations, on the basis of the priorities identified by the Member States, in areas such as: (1) Economic and social development, including trade, tourism, integration, and the environment”;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

The United Nations Convention relating to the Status of Refugees (1951, which defined “refugee” and provided standards for their protection, and the Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees (1967), which expanded that definition;

RECALLING:

The 1984 Declaration of Cartagena on Refugees, which concluded: “it is necessary to consider enlarging the concept of a refugee...Hence the definition or concept of a refugee to be recommended for the use in the region is one which...includes among refugees persons who have fled their country because their lives, safety or freedom have been threatened by generalized violence, foreign aggression, internal conflicts, massive violation of human rights or other circumstances which have seriously disturbed public order”;

The Advisory Opinion by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights (OC-21/14) (paragraph 237), issued 19 August 2014, which considers a need for “some type of standardized protection...for persons who have not been recognized as regular migrants nor qualifying under refugee status, but whose return would, however, be contrary to the general obligations of nonrefoulement under international human rights law”; and

BEARING IN MIND:

The Inter-American Climate Change Action Plan 2023-2030 objectives, which include “Strengthening cooperation for the benefit of the region..., Responding to the impacts of climate change..., and Enhancing the means of implementation for climate action” and its key activities of addressing climate change and financing climate action in the Americas,

RESOLVES:

1. To acknowledge the efforts of the OAS and its Member States in their independent pursuits to aid refugees, asylum seekers, migrants, and stateless people throughout the Hemisphere, implementing

**PROTECTING DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS FROM THE INTERCONNECTED
THREATS OF ORGANIZED CRIME, VIOLENCE, AND CORRUPTION**

General Committee
Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Jamaica

Topic No. 1 of the Agenda

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 2(b) of the Organization of American States (OAS) Charter, which establishes as one of the Organization's foundational goal "to promote and consolidate representative democracy";

Article 33 of the Social Charter of the Americas, which affirms that "Inter-American cooperation is a common and shared responsibility in the framework of democratic principles and the institutions of the Inter-American system";

The Preamble of the Inter-American Democratic Charter (IADC), which aims to combat threats to democratic institutions through "a continuing effort to prevent and anticipate the very causes of the problems that affect the democratic system of government";

Article 5 of the IADC, which emphasizes that "respect for the rule of law on the part of all institutions and sectors of society are...essential to democracy," and Article 27, which states that OAS programs will be designed to "promote good governance, sound administration, democratic values, and the strengthening of political institutions";

RECALLING:

AG/RES. 1969 (XXXIII-O/03), which acknowledges the threat violence poses to democracy and emphasizes "the need to promote actions or initiatives aimed at strengthening institutions in the Americas and cooperation among them on the various aspects of defense and security, so as to strengthen peace in the Americas";

The Inter-American Convention against Corruption, which warns that "corruption undermines the legitimacy of public institutions" and recognizes that "corruption is often a tool used by organized crime for the accomplishment of its purposes";

AG/RES. 1784 (XXXI-O/01), which established the Follow-Up Mechanism for the Implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption (MESICIC) to promote transparency, accountability, and cooperation on implementing best practices against corruption;

AG/RES. 3011 (LIII-O/23), which reaffirms the importance of all four pillars of the OAS (democracy, human rights, integral development, and security), and "considers it necessary that they all be allocated adequate funding to operate properly with an equitable allocation of resources aimed at ensuring fulfillment of the mandates agreed upon by the political organs of the Organization";

DEEPLY CONCERNED BY:

The weakening of democratic institutions in the Americas due to violence and democratic dysfunction, as noted in Freedom House's 2024 Report, which states that "integrity of elections may be eroded by violence and poor administration," and this trend is leading to a loss of citizen confidence in electoral institutions and to rising voter disengagement, thus "significantly weakening the legitimacy of elected governments";

The 2022 Carnegie Endowment for International Peace report, “The Rise in Political Violence,” which documents that more citizens in the Americas are experiencing and engaging in political violence, threats of violence against election workers are rising, and “violence and intimidation can be intentionally wielded as a tool to affect elections and weaken democracy itself”;

The World Bank’s finding in “Violence and Organized Crime” (2024) that violence becomes a self-reinforcing cycle that threatens both development and the rule of law, as it stunts economic growth, increases unemployment, and leaves youth with few options other than criminality: ultimately, “violence weakens state capacity, making it more vulnerable and less able to take the measures to defend itself”;

The decline in effectiveness of democratic institutions in the Americas, as shown in the Economist Intelligence Unit Democracy Index, which reports that from 2006 to 2022, South American democratic institutions’ effectiveness declined by .27 on a scale of 1 to 10, and the effectiveness of North/Central American and Caribbean democratic institutions declined by .8;

The increasing role of transnational, national, and local gangs in violence and the associated threats to democracy, as shown in The United Nations’ Global Studies on Homicide 2023, which documented that “organised crime/gang-related homicide accounts for 50% of the killings in the Americas”;

The threat of penetration and corruption of democratic political institutions by criminal gangs, revealed in case studies, such as “Violence and Politics in Latin America and the Caribbean” (Guggenheim Foundation), which found that a powerful gang often operates as a “multifaceted criminal enterprise focused on international arms and narcotics trafficking, extortion, and...close connections with the government for protection from law enforcement and access to patronage...the result [being] a criminal enterprise that trades on political connections”;

Evidence that criminal gangs have begun to corrupt electoral and judicial processes, sometimes in collaboration with political parties, as shown in The Global State of Democracy Indices (GSDI), which collect data on multiple dimensions of democratic performance, that in 2019, only 50% of countries in Latin America and the Caribbean had high performance in running clean elections, and only 10% had high performance in judicial independence and integrity;

The accelerating erosion in citizen faith in democratic institutions caused by the intersection of violence, criminality, deteriorating rule of law, and corruption, as found in *Latinobarometer* 2023, in which 69% of the Latin American population is barely satisfied or not satisfied at all with democracy and democratic institutions, and in Transparency International reports that in every country in the Americas, 50% or more of its population thinks corruption is a big problem in their state; and

ACKNOWLEDGING:

United Nations’ Resolution 78/229, which calls for strengthened international cooperation to “dismantle illicit networks and counter transnational organized crime...which threaten national security and undermine sustainable development and the rule of law,” and stresses “the importance of law enforcement cooperation and exchange of information”;

The work of the OAS Permanent Council, which adopted a recommendation instructing the General Secretariat “to carry out a legal, technical, and budgetary review in order to chart and define a roadmap for the American Police Community (AMERIPOL) to become part of the inter-American system, and so strengthen its current activities in the area of police management and cooperation”;

The Andean Cooperation Plan for the Control of Illegal Drugs and Related Offenses, which aims to “reinforce the mechanisms for coordination among the police and military forces and state security bodies, the Public Ministry and/or the Attorney General’s Office, and the Judiciary”;

CP/RES. 861 (1400/04), which recognizes that “violence and armed gangs constitute a major obstacle to governability and progress toward a peaceful, negotiated, democratic, and constitutional resolution” and condemns “criminal elements and activities that defy the rule of law and established government institutions,”

CP/RES. 908 (1567/06), “Hemispheric Plan of Action Against Transnational Organized Crime,” which calls for “taking a comprehensive approach to preventing and fighting transnational organized crime, with the participation of all institutions having responsibilities in this area” and “strengthening the ability of public institutions to fight transnational organized crime effectively and promote cooperation and the exchange of experiences among states”,

RESOLVES:

1. To praise the Member States for their commitment to protecting democratic institutions from the interconnected threats of violence, corruption, and criminal penetration of politics.
2. To strengthen OAS and member-state capacity to combat these threats through collaboration to prevent state capture by corrupt criminal elements, while pursuing crime and violence-reduction strategies that respect human rights and the rule of law.
3. To call on OAS bodies across the four pillars to prioritize collaborative initiatives to safeguard democratic institutions from the threats posed by insecurity, criminal impunity, and corruption, with the following bodies taking lead roles:
 - a. The Secretariat for Strengthening Democracy (SSD) and its Department for Electoral Cooperation and Observation.
 - b. The Secretariat for Multidimensional Security (SMS) and its Department against Transnational Organized Crime (DTOC).
 - c. The Inter-American Juridical Committee (CJI), which works on the harmonization of criminal and corruption legislation across member states.
 - d. The Secretariat for Legal Affairs (SLA) Department of Legal Cooperation, which oversees the Mechanism for the Implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption (MESICIC)
 - e. The Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI) and its Technical Cooperation section, which is tasked with optimizing partnerships, building alliances and networks, and leveraging development assistance.
4. To mandate that these Secretariats “mainstream” democracy in their work, similarly to their mandate to mainstream gender, such that:
 - a. The Secretariats will assess the implications for democracy of planned programs in their areas.
 - b. Strengthening democracy will be integrated into the design, implementation, and evaluation of initiatives in the security, development, and human rights spheres.
5. To prioritize the fight against criminal penetration of democratic institutions as the initial focus of democracy mainstreaming, which will involve:
 - a. Enhancing the mandate of the Department against Transnational Organized Crime (DTOC) to include fighting gang efforts to undermine state capacity or engage in state capture.
 - b. Creating joint projects between DTOC, MESICIC, SSD, DTOC, and SEDI, to disempower and dismantle gangs and transnational criminal organizations through anti-corruption, governmental transparency, election integrity, and development initiatives.
 - c. Collaboration among member states and CJI to consider designating transnational criminal gangs as terrorist organizations in OAS and member-state law, based on gangs’ deliberate actions to destabilize democracies, target civilians, and undermine security and state capacity.

- d. Concluding an agreement between the OAS and the American Police Community (AMERIPOL) to incorporate AMERIPOL into the Inter-American system and enhance its cooperation and joint law enforcement initiatives with member states' police forces.
- 6. To ask the General Secretariat to elevate democracy mainstreaming in its annual prioritization of budget mandates, in order to ensure adequate funding for democracy-related initiatives and to incentivize OAS bodies to develop collaborative, multidimensional democracy protection programs, which could involve:
 - a. Budgetary reallocations into collaborative projects mentioned in resolves 5.
 - b. Compensatory budget reductions in low-impact, understaffed, and/or bilateral projects that lack a solid track record of success.
 - c. Calls for additional contributions by member states and permanent observers to the Specific Fund for Fighting Transnational Organized Crime, which was established by the Hemispheric Plan of Action against Transnational Organized Crime.
- 7. To instruct the SEDI’s Technical Cooperation section, along with other involved OAS bodies, to seek additional funding from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the World Bank’s Global Program on Justice and Rule of Law, the European Union, and the Italian government and their Anti-mafia division.
- 8. To instruct the collaborating OAS Secretariats to report out their progress on multidimensional anticrime, corruption, and violence projects to the General Secretariat on an annual basis.

Approved for form and substance: _____
(Signature of Faculty Advisor)

Cosignatories:

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ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES FREE TRAVEL AGREEMENT

General Committee
Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Guatemala

Topic No. 3 of the Agenda

GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

That Article 45 of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS) affirms that “all human beings, without distinction as to race, sex, nationality, creed, or social condition, have a right to material well-being and to their spiritual development, under circumstances of liberty, dignity, equality of opportunity, and economic security”;

That Article 106 of the Charter stresses the utmost importance of the observance and protection of human rights;

Article 22 of the American Convention on Human Rights, which states the right to seek and be granted asylum in a foreign territory, along with the right to freedom of movement;

Article 8 and 9 of the American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man, which state the right to residence and movement for all, and the right to an inviolable home;

CONSIDERING:

The United Nations High Commission for Refugees’ Global Report 2022, stating that approximately 22.1 million people are living displaced from their homes in the Americas, of which 665,200 are seeking asylum in Central America alone;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

The current state of affairs in Latin America and beyond, causing millions of people to seek asylum from their home countries;

The Mercosur agreement on travel, which has allowed for the free travel, work, and trade amongst Member States within South America; and

RECOGNIZING:

The “good faith” and “spiritual unity” clauses within Article 3 of the OAS Charter,

RESOLVES:

1. To establish a new OAS free travel agreement in the Americas, whereby:
 - a. This agreement will eliminate the need for a visa when entering a country with a valid government-issued identification from any participating Member State.
 - b. OAS Member States will have the option to participate in this agreement.

- c. Only participating member-state identification documents will be valid (i.e.: a national passport, government-issued driver’s license, government-issued photo ID, or permanent residency card), with the provision that employers will have the option to accept these documents for work-related purposes.
- 2. That only participating Member States will be subject to the visa-free zone, such that citizens of a participating Member State will be able to travel, reside, and work within other participating Member States.
- 3. All customs and border immigration laws will still be in place for each Member State, as this agreement does not eliminate borders or immigration laws.
- 4. To address the hemispheric issue of internal displacement, this agreement:
 - a. Would allow displaced individuals within participating Member States to move freely amongst other participating Member States.
 - b. Will also apply to those who have obtained asylum status within a participating Member State.
- 5. That participating Member States will be responsible for implementing and regulating the free travel visa within thier own jurisdictions.

Approved for form and substance

(Signature of Faculty Advisor)

Cosignatories:

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RAISING AWARENESS ABOUT MUSLIM IDENTITY TO CREATE AN INCLUSIVE ENVIRONMENT FOR ALL

General Committee
Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Ecuador

Topic #1 of the Agenda

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 2 (a) and (g) of the OAS Charter, which establishes its purpose “to strengthen the peace and security of the continent”;

Article 3 (f) of the OAS Charter, which recognizes that the “elimination of extreme poverty is an essential part of the promotion and consolidation of representative democracy and is the common and shared responsibility of the American States”;

Article 3 of the OAS Charter, which reaffirms the following principles: (b) “The American States condemn war of aggression,” (l) “The American States proclaim the fundamental rights of the individual without distinction as to race, nationality, creed, or sex;” (m) “The spiritual unity of the continent is based on respect for the cultural values of the American countries and requires their close cooperation for the high purposes of civilization,” and (n) “The education of peoples should be directed toward justice, freedom, and peace”;

Article 15 of the OAS Charter, which clarifies that one State's right to live “does not authorize it to commit unjust acts against another State”;

Article 17 of the OAS Charter, which establishes that “the State shall respect the rights of the individual and the principles of universal morality”;

Article 22 of the OAS Charter, which establishes that American member-states do not have the right “to...use of force, except in the case of self-defense”;

Article 45 (f) of the OAS Charter, which establishes its commitment to the “incorporation and increasing participation of the marginal sectors of the population, in both rural and urban areas, in the economic, social, civic, cultural, and political life of the nation, in order to achieve the full integration of the national community, acceleration of the process of social mobility, and the consolidation of the democratic system”;

UNDERSCORING:

That in the Western Hemisphere, many Muslims have historically found it challenging to practice their faith and have felt excluded for the following reasons: (a) a lack of prayer rooms with ablution stations in

schools and workplaces; (b) the lack of awareness and recognition of Muslim holidays, and (c) the lack of provided accommodations for Muslims to pray on time and observe these holidays with their communities;

This sense of exclusion was exacerbated after October 7th because state actors, educational institutions, and media outlets did not provide accurate and comprehensive historical context of Israeli occupation in Palestine leading up to October 7th nor did they provide such information about the events unfolding in the region since then;

The Middle East Eye cited a “nearly 180% spike in anti-Muslim and anti-Palestinian incidents in the U.S” and Al-Jazeera cited a survey by the Anthropology Group on Islamic and Arab Contexts, an organization at a Brazilian University, which found that “approximately 60% of Muslim Brazilians experienced religious intolerance” after October 7th;

Many Muslim students were forced into silence and their mental, emotional, and physical health was adversely affected because there was a lack of paid chaplains and professional counselors at educational institutions who had an understanding of Muslim, Arab, and Palestinian needs and who students could meet with during times of crises;

Muslims have lost faith in their government’s ability to do the right thing and are de-incentivized from political participation because many public and private parties continue to commit egregious human rights violations against civilian populations in Muslim-majority countries and/or support member-states that do without being held accountable, leading to devastating humanitarian catastrophes;

RECALLING:

Article 2 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which states “everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind, such as...religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin”;

Article 7 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which states that “all...are entitled without any discrimination to equal protection of the law... against any discrimination in violation of this Declaration and against any incitement to such discrimination”;

Article 9 and 12 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which states that “no one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention or exile” or “be subjected to arbitrary interference with his privacy, family, home or correspondence, nor to attacks upon his honour and reputation. Everyone has the right to the protection of the law against such interference or attacks”;

Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which states that “everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers”;

The 1993 mandate of the Special Rapporteur established by the United Nations Commission on Human Rights “to [promote] and [protect]...the right to freedom of opinion and expression”;

Article 20 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which states that “everyone has the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association”;

Article 26 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which states that education shall promote understanding, tolerance and friendship among all nations, racial or religious groups, and shall further the activities of the United Nations for the maintenance of peace”;

APPLAUDING:

The UN 2024 calendar’s recognition of Eid-al Fitr and Eid-al-Adha as official holidays on which the UN Headquarters is closed;

The statement made by Tanya Greene, U.S. Program Director of the Human Rights Watch, in which she encourages “government officials, law enforcement, college and university administrators, and employers, among others...to step up to uphold [fundamental human rights to free speech and assembly]” of all people, regardless of whether their viewpoint is in solidarity with or demands justice for victims of Palestine or Israel, or both;

A call by the UN High Commissioner for states “to end the rise of hate speech, antisemitism and islamophobia”;

The statement by Special Rapporteurs of the Human Rights Council, which recognizes the “highly disturbing trend to criminalise and label pro-Palestinian protests as ‘hate protests’ and to pre-emptively ban them, often citing risks to national security, including risks related to incitement to hatred, without providing evidence-based justification;”

A call in 2014 by the Organization of American States and its members, including Ecuador, for a ceasefire and the end to the violence in Gaza, in which the Secretary General of the OAS, José Insulza, recognized the underlying cause of the violence: Israel forcing “1.8 million [Palestinians] to live in a territory that small” and denying them basic human rights;

DEEPLY CONCERNED:

That human right violations against Muslims and non-Muslim allies have continued, and those who are responsible face little to no accountability despite the aforementioned rights being internationally recognized; and

EMPHASIZING:

The importance of resolutions that focus on marginalized communities whose needs and concerns are not adequately addressed through current initiatives;

The necessity of the political participation of all marginalized communities to have a unified and wellfunctioning democracy;

The responsibility of states to make marginalized communities feel safe, respected, and understood, incorporate and increase participation of marginalized communities, and address egregious human right violations and humanitarian catastrophes to maintain international peace and security,

RESOLVES:

1. To recognize Eid-al Fitr and Eid-al-Adha as official holidays of the OAS and its member-states.
2. To create prayer-rooms with ablution stations in schools and workplaces.
3. To raise awareness about Islam and Palestine:
 - (a) To offer publicly accessible Islam and Palestine 101 classes in places like universities, libraries, mosques, etc.
 - (b) To waive a PhD requirement for Islamic scholars to teach at universities on a case-by-case basis based on experience and knowledge.
 - (c) To request that Muslim-majority countries help fund this education in developing states across the Western Hemisphere as Muslim-majority countries have a history of funding education in the Western Hemisphere.
 - (d) To reallocate existing funds to provide these classes. Universities with significant endowment should use these funds to do so. If universities with low endowment in wealthy states are unable to do so, the state has a responsibility to provide this funding through reallocation. This reallocation depends on each state. The U.S, for example, can reduce the number of weapons it supplies to parties abroad, especially if they commit human right violations.
4. To provide Muslim students with mental and spiritual support:
 - (a) To hire paid chaplains and professional counselors with an understanding of Muslim, Arab, and Palestinian needs at universities who students can go to in times of crises.
 - (b) To request that Muslim-majority countries help fund this in developing states in the Western Hemisphere as Muslim-majority countries have a history of funding education in the Western Hemisphere.
 - (c) Chaplains and professional counselors at the university should be local.
 - (d) To reallocate existing funds to pay chaplains and professional counselors. Universities with significant endowment should use these funds to do so. If universities with low endowment in wealthy states are unable to do so, the state has a responsibility to provide this funding through reallocation. This reallocation depends on each state. The U.S, for example, can reduce the number of weapons it supplies to parties abroad, especially if they commit human right violations.

- 5. To consistently and publicly condemn and disengage from partnerships with those who commit and support egregious human-rights violations.

Approved for form and substance: _____
(Signature of Faculty Advisor)

Cosignatories: 1. _____
(Signature of Delegate) (Country Represented)

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**MECHANISMS TO MINIMIZING THREATS TO DEMOCRACY, RECOGNIZING
CORRUPTION, POLITICAL INSTABILITY, AND ORGANIZED CRIME**

General Committee
Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Honduras

Topic No. 1 of the Agenda

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 31 of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS), which states that “InterAmerican cooperation for integral development is the common and joint responsibility of the Member States, within the framework of the democratic principles and the institutions of the inter-American system”;

Article 95 (3) of the OAS Charter, which specifies “Strengthening of the civic conscience of the American peoples, as one of the bases for the effective exercise of democracy and for the observance of the rights and duties of man”;

Article 12 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, which states that “Poverty, illiteracy, and low levels of human development are factors that adversely affect the consolidation of democracy”;

Article 16 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, which affirms that “Education is key to strengthening democratic institutions, promoting the development of human potential, and alleviating poverty and fostering greater understanding among our peoples”;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

Chapter 5 of the United Nations (UN) Millennium Declaration, focusing on Human Rights, Democracy, and Good Governance, which states in Article 24 that “We will spare no effort to promote democracy and strengthen the rule of law, as well as respect for all internationally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development”; and

CONSIDERING:

That several military Coup d'état attempts in the region, and eroded democracy, in recent years have been a driving force in threatening democracy;

Election corruption, driven by drug violence in most of Central America in the past several decades, and the lack of advanced and modern elections;

The increase in organized crime in Latin America: such as in one Member State, where a former dictator escaped jail after being incarcerated for drug trafficking, murder, kidnapping, and embezzlement; in another Member State, where sanctioned lawmakers are preventing anti-corruption leadership from taking office; and in other Member States that have turned to fully-fledged authoritarianism because of the severity of organized crime,

RESOLVES:

1. To commend the member states of the OAS who have strongly upheld democratic values in the past several decades and not succumbed to these threats to democracy: organized crime, election corruption, and military coup d'état attempts.
2. To encourage member states who have struggled with election security to make adequate investments in resources that will help increase transparency during election seasons, by:
 - a. Condemning corruption, as defined as dishonest actions taken by people on whom power has been bestowed;
 - b. Incorporating legislation to:
 - i. Increase voting rights to citizens;
 - ii. Prosecute those found guilty of malpractice to the full extent; and
 - c. Increasing operations of the OAS Electoral Observation Mission (EOM).
3. To propose to all member states, regardless of democratic status, that they condemn all forms of bribery and corruption in government that lead to violent uprisings—such as Coup d'état attempts—and to continue to have the OAS prepare reports on countries that have systemic violations.
4. To challenge member states to implement preventative efforts towards gang violence, in order to minimize the threat of organized crime for generations to come, such as:
 - a. Offering incentives to families to keep children in school:
 - i. After-school enrichment programs; and
 - ii. Tax breaks to those who keep their children in school for longer than the national average of that member state.
 - b. Having the OAS create a committee based on what was said at the Special meeting of the Permanent Council on Wednesday, November 1, 2023, on guns, gangs, and violence, some of the main points of the discussion being:
 - i. Providing financial support in order to:
 1. Create support groups for those affected by gang violence;
 2. Aid local economies;
 3. Assist with implementing policies in hindering gang activities in member countries; and
 4. Educate citizens, specifically children, of member states on the dangers of joining a gang.
 - ii. Offering a multi-member approach on combating the international problem of gang violence; and
 - iii. Carrying out prevention methods for gang violence in member states who may not have sufficient resources.
5. Allocating OAS funds accordingly from all prior propositions, knowing that the current budget for the Secretariat for Strengthening Democracy is around \$17.2 million:
 - a. Reallocating the budget to lessen personnel funds;

- b. Reallocating funds for “The Department of Electoral Cooperation and Observation” from about 28% of the funds (~\$5.1m) to 35% of the funds (~\$6.5m), aiding greatly for the second and fourth resolves points;
- c. Maintain funds for “The Department of Sustainable Democracy and Special Missions” at about 54% of the funds (~\$9.4m);
- d. Reallocating funds for “The Executive Office of the Secretary for Strengthening Democracy” from about 18% of the funds (~\$3.1m) to 10% of the funds (~\$1.8m); and
- e. Maintaining funds for “Department for Promotion of Peace & Coord. with Subnational Governments” at about 1% of the funds (\$0.2m).

Approved for form and substance: _____
(Signature of Faculty Advisor)

Cosignatories: 1. _____
(Signature of Delegate) (Country Represented)

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ARTIFICE: INTER-AMERICAN TECH ALLIANCE FOR DEMOCRATIC SECURITY

General Committee
Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Canada

Topic No. 1 of the Agenda

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 2 (e) of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS), which emphasizes as one of the main purposes of the Organization to “seek the solution of political, juridical, and economic problems that may arise”;

Article 19 of the Charter, which states: “No State or group of States has the right to intervene, directly or indirectly, for any reason whatever, in the internal or external affairs of any other State. The foregoing principle prohibits not only armed force but also any other form of interference or attempted threat against the personality of the State or against its political, economic, and cultural elements”;

Article 30 of the Charter, which declares that “the member states, inspired by the principles of InterAmerican solidarity and cooperation, pledge themselves to a united effort to ensure... integral development for their peoples, as conditions essential to peace and security”;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

Article 1 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter (2001), which affirms that “the peoples of the Americas have a right to democracy and their governments have an obligation to promote and defend it. Democracy is essential for the social, political, and economic development of the peoples of the Americas”;

Article 16 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, which resolves that “when the government of a member state considers that its democratic political institutional process or its legitimate exercise of power is at risk, it may request assistance from the Secretary General or the Permanent Council for the strengthening and preservation of its democratic system”;

ACKNOWLEDGING:

AG/RES. 2958 (L-O/20), “Strengthening Democracy” (Washington, D.C, 2020), which incentivizes the digitalization and simplification of State procedures and services, and acknowledges how essential it is for promoting innovation in management and to facilitate multisectoral cooperation, so safe and transparent procedures guarantee that citizens exercise their rights;

The Inter-American Model Law 2.0 on Access to Public Information, adopted at the same session of the General Assembly, by operative paragraph 4 of Section X—”Access to public information and protection of personal data” of resolution AG/RES. 2958 (L-O/20)—specifically Article 34, “Defense and national security”, which affirms that when there are concerns about national security, the judicial branch, the legislative branch, leaders of state and government, supervisory institutions, intelligence agencies, military forces, police, and other security bodies may limit the public's ability to access information;

CA-VIII (1/18), “Lima Commitment” (Eighth Summit of the Americas, Lima, Peru, April 2018), which reaffirms the importance of the promotion of policies on integrity and transparency, open government, e-government, open data and public procurement to strengthen governance and combat a weak democracy, and/or prevent a debilitated democracy;

CONSIDERING:

That according to the “Cyber Threats to Canada’s Democratic Process” report, elaborated by the Canada’s Communications Security Establishment (CSE), between 2021 and 2023, 146 national elections worldwide were subject to online disinformation aimed at influencing voters, and an increase in synthetic content related to national elections was detected, likely due to the increased accessibility of generative artificial intelligence (AI);

That during the 2023 OAS High-Level Roundtable Policy Dialogue on AI and the Public Policy Imperatives for the Americas, speakers highlighted that the use of generative AI for synthetic content related to national elections is expected to increase in the next two years as this technology becomes more widely available, and that there is an imminent warning associated to cyber activity threats targeting elections, which have also increased globally, from 10 percent in 2015 to 26 percent in 2022; and

DEEPLY CONCERNED:

About the findings of the OAS and Cybersecurity Program of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE) in the report on the “Development of the Cybersecurity Workforce in an Era of Skills and Talent Shortages”, which showcases how slightly over a quarter of all national elections globally had at least one reported cyber incident;

About the evidence highlighted by the Canadian Centre for Cybersecurity, according to which cyber threat activity targeting elections is mostly unattributed, with over half of perpetrators unknown; as they use several techniques to conceal their identities or any potential foreign government links,

RESOLVES:

1. To praise Member States for their commitment and steadfast collaborative efforts in resolutely confronting the pressing challenges posed by anti-democratic cybersecurity threats, thereby demonstrating a collective dedication to upholding democratic principles and safeguarding electoral integrity across the Americas and underscoring the imperative for technological innovation in safeguarding democratic processes.
2. To commend CICTE and its Cybersecurity Program, whose diligence and expertise have played a pivotal role in the development of comprehensive strategies to strengthen and safeguard democratic institutions, in the face of evolving cyber risks.
3. To assign to CICTE the establishment of a multidimensional taskforce named ARTIFICE, an InterAmerican Tech Alliance for Democratic Security, in coordination with national cybersecurity agencies— including Canada’s Centre for Cyber Security, the United States Directorate of Cyber and Technology Security (CTS), and Mexico’s Secretariat of Security and Citizen Protection (SSPC), among others—with the purpose of fostering international cooperation and coordination to enhance cybersecurity measures to safeguard democratic processes.

4. To recommend that the ARTIFICE taskforce establish policy mechanisms in coordination with the national governments, for, but not limited to the following goals:
 - a. Enhancing national cybersecurity capabilities and resilience, with a specific focus on detecting and mitigating cyber threats aimed at influencing electoral processes.
 - b. Conducting periodic reviews and updates on the implementation of cybersecurity measures and the effectiveness of countermeasures against cyber threats targeting democratic processes.
 - c. Harnessing advanced technology to fortify democratic institutions and proactively combat cyber threats
 - d. Constructing a comprehensive report, every two years, to be submitted for review and evaluation by the General Assembly.
 - e. Developing a rapid response protocol for cyber incidents, establishing a standardized procedure for responding to cyber incidents targeting democratic processes, including swift identification, containment, and mitigation of threats.
5. To encourage that Member States to allocate necessary resources and funding to support the ARTIFICE initiative, which is dedicated to fortifying and safeguarding democratic institutions in the face of evolving cyber threats.
6. To offer the city of Toronto (Canada) for an initial meeting of the ARTIFICE taskforce for representatives of member states to exchange best practices and formulate collective strategies in response to cyber threats targeting democratic systems.
7. To request that CICTE monitor the implementation of this resolution, tasking it with regularly assessing Member States' progress in enhancing cybersecurity capabilities, mitigating cyber threats to democratic processes, and fostering collaboration within this Inter-American Tech Alliance for Democratic Security (ARTIFICE), and that CICTE provide periodic reports to the General Assembly on the status of implementation and any emerging challenges or opportunities for further action.

Approved for form and substance: _____
(Signature of Faculty Advisor)

Cosignatories:

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MIGRANT STATUS ADVANCEMENT PROGRAM (MAP)

General Committee
Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of the Republic of Chile

Topic No. 3 of the Agenda

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING:

The Preamble of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS), which affirms Member States' duty to "provide for the betterment of all, in independence, in equality and under law";

That Article 37 of the Charter confirms that "The Member States agree to join together in seeking a solution to urgent or critical problems that may arise whenever the economic development or stability of any Member State is seriously affected by conditions that cannot be remedied through the efforts of that State";

That Article 45(a) of the Charter reiterates that "All human beings, without distinction as to race, sex, nationality, creed, or social condition, have a right to material well-being and to their spiritual development, under circumstances of liberty, dignity, equality of opportunity, and economic security";

RECOGNIZING THAT:

The 1951 OAS Department of International Law (DIL) Convention on the "Status of Refugees" defines a refugee as "any person who owing to well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality;"

The 1997 OAS Conference on Regional Response to Forced Migration in Central America and the Caribbean highlighted the challenge of external displacement and established the Permanent Consultation on Internal Displacement (CPDIA), which provides a legal framework and recommendations to coordinate solutions and plans for internally displaced people;

AG/RES. 2232 (XXVI-O/06), "Protection of Asylum Seekers, Refugees, and Returnees in the Americas," cements members states commitment to "provide protection and assistance and find lasting solutions for refugees in the region" to promote international cooperation and solidarity; and

NOTING THAT:

In the 2022 Global Report of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), 21.5 million citizens in the Americas region were forcibly displaced due to violence, human rights violations, and economic insecurity;

The Rapporteurship on Internally Displaced Persons has tirelessly worked toward legally protecting the rights of international refugees and internally displaced persons through creating "Guidelines on the

Formation of Public Policies”, and creating reports to evaluate Member States’ treatment of refugees and internally displaced persons so that any public policy can be improved or used as a model,

RESOLVES:

1. To recognize and commend Member States for assisting and providing resources to internally displaced peoples and international refugees.
2. To encourage the Permanent Consultation on Internal Displacement (CPDIA) to continue providing technical assistance and best practices to Member States, so that internally displaced persons and international refugees are informed about their rights and the best course of action for their favored outcome.
3. To create the Migrant Status Advancement Program (MAP) under the Rapporteurship on the Rights of Migrants, in collaboration with the Permanent Consultation on Internal Displacement, which will:
 - a. Create a clear universal definition and distinction between international refugees and internally displaced peoples, so that their respective needs can be met.
 - b. Be composed of volunteers who have a background in migration or legal fields that can convey important information about the specific immigration processes within the Member State they are residing in.
 - c. Provide resources and instruction on smooth integration within the host nation economically and socially to improve the general standard of living for migrants.
 - d. Help facilitate the return and resettlement of individuals who wish to return to their homes, by:
 - i. Working towards reuniting families.
 - ii. Providing resources so that refugees and internally displaced people have the resources to rebuild or resettle.
4. To request the Rapporteurship on the Rights of Migrants to monitor the implementation of this resolution and to present a report of the findings at the next regular session of the General Assembly, the execution of which shall be subject to the availability of financial resources of the Organization and other resources.

5. Request voluntary funding from Permanent Observer States, and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) such as the UNHCR, Refugees International, and Human Rights Watch.

Approved for form and substance: _____
(Signature of Faculty Advisor)

Cosignatories: 1. _____
(Signature of Delegate) (Country Represented)

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DEFINING THE STATUS OF INTERNATIONALLY DISPLACED PERSONS

General Committee
Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Panamá

Topic No. 3 of the Agenda

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING:

The AG/RES. 2232 (XXXVI-O/06), “Protection of Asylum Seekers, Refugees, and Returnees in the Americas,” and its resolve: “To call on member states and the international community to increase technical and economic cooperation to the countries of the Hemisphere that receive refugees and that so require, and to work in cooperation with the UNHCR to provide effective protection to asylum seekers and refugees in the region”;

Article 106 of the Organization of American States (OAS) Charter, which sets forth that “There shall be an Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, whose principal function shall be to promote the observance and protection of human rights”;

RECOGNIZING:

The lack of a universal definition for internationally displaced persons by the OAS;

The United Nations’ lack of a legally binding definition of internationally displaced persons, but rather an explanation based on the findings of experts;

That gang violence is a pernicious problem affecting all Member States;

That violence inflicted to make unsafe environments has led to increased migration in the Hemisphere, influencing the reality that “More than 500,000 people are on pace to cross the Darien Gap by the end of this year”; and

EMPHASIZING:

The Mexico Declaration and Plan of Action to Strengthen the International Protection of Refugees in Latin America adopted in 2004, and their positive impacts on the national mechanisms to determine refugee status, strengthening national and regional protection networks, and the process of changing migration status and naturalization,

RESOLVES:

1. To acknowledge Member States and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR), the Inter-American Committee on Migration (IOM), and the General Assembly for the efforts made to regulate and manage migration throughout the Hemisphere.
2. To recognize gang violence as a primary cause of increased international migration.

3. To re-examine the Mexico Declaration and Plan of Action to Strengthen the International Protection of Refugees in Latin America (2004), in order to examine avenues of further development regarding situations of migrants and refugees, including:
 - a. Reexamination of security pressures that influence the increase in migration.
 - b. Analysis of the beneficial and negative effects of the Mexico Plan of action
 - c. Analysis of challenges and difficulties the Mexico Declaration has faced since its adoption.

4. At the discretion of the IACHR Special Rapporteur, to create—within 180 days after the adoption of this resolution—a special committee of experts on gang violence’s influence on increased migration in the Americas, whose members shall:
 - a. Have a range of diverse academic backgrounds in respected areas relevant to the topic of migration and issues influencing migration.
 - b. Be appointed from various Member States, cognizant of different cultural and national backgrounds.
 - c. Collect data on the ongoing migration crisis in the western hemisphere.
 - d. Provide data and evidence regarding the relationship between gang violence and migration.
 - e. Encourage all Member States to provide quantitative data to the committee regarding the number of migrants traveling through or exiting their respective borders.

5. To provide a report of all findings by the committee at the General Assembly meeting in 2027.

Approved for form and substance: _____
 (Signature of Faculty Advisor)

Cosignatories: 1. _____
 (Signature of Delegate) (Country Represented)

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**CREATION OF THE OAS DEPARTMENT FOR THE PROMOTION OF DEMOCRACY
AND THE PREVENTION OF MISINFORMATION IN YOUTH**

General Committee
Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of the United States of America

Topic No. 1 of the Agenda

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 2(b) of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS), which proclaims as one of its main purposes: "To promote and consolidate representative democracy, with due respect for the principle of nonintervention";

Article 16 of the OAS Charter, which establishes: "Education is key to strengthening democratic institutions, promoting the development of human potential, and alleviating poverty and fostering greater understanding among our peoples. To achieve these ends, it is essential that a quality education be available to all, including girls and women, rural inhabitants, and minorities";

Article 17 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, which affirms that "When the government of a member state considers that its democratic political institutional process or its legitimate exercise of power is at risk, it may request assistance from the Secretary General or the Permanent Council for the strengthening and preservation of its democratic system";

Article 26 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, which states: "The OAS will continue to carry out programs and activities designed to promote democratic principles and practices and strengthen a democratic culture in the Hemisphere, bearing in mind that democracy is a way of life based on liberty and enhancement of economic, social, and cultural conditions for the peoples of the Americas. The OAS will consult and cooperate on an ongoing basis with member states and take into account the contributions of civil society organizations working in those fields";

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

The Resolution of The United Nations A/RES/77/268 (2023), "Education for Democracy", which encourages "Member States to further their efforts to develop and strengthen educational policies and initiatives that contribute to combating disinformation, misinformation, stigmatization, racism, xenophobia, hate speech, discrimination, exclusion, and violence, in particular through accessible media and information literacy and digital literacy to improve education for democracy in the emerging digital environment";

CONSIDERING:

That according to the Americas Barometer survey, conducted by the Latin American Public Opinion Project (LAPOP) at Vanderbilt University in the United States, carried out in 20 Latin American and Caribbean countries offering an exceptional view of voters' attitudes towards the state of democracy in the region in 2021 posted in the Inter-American Development Bank: only 43% of the participants are satisfied with the development of democracy in its country; only 42% trusts in the election processes; and the youth voter turnout was 38%;

That according to the 2023 United Nations (UN) global survey, 76% of respondents under 30 think that politicians do not listen to young people and only a minuscule 2.6% of the world's parliamentarians are below 30 years old;

DEEPLY CONCERNED:

That the world's average youth participation rate in national elections was 47.7% in 2020, reflecting apathy, mistrust, and dissatisfaction towards democracy;

That, according to the "Been seen, been heard" 2021 report launched by the UN office of the Secretary-General's Envoy of Youth; the majority of people agree that the age balance in politics is wrong, and that more than two thirds (69%) of people across all age groups agree that more opportunities for younger people to have a say in policy development/change would make political systems better; and

RECALLING:

The Cooperation Agreement between the OAS General Secretary and the Youth and Democracy in the Americas for the celebration of the First Annual Youth and Democracy Summit in the Americas signed in October 17th of 2019,

RESOLVES:

1. To endorse Member States for their interest and their efforts made towards the promotion of democracy and counteracting misinformation, such as the OAS youth debate about democracy, including entrepreneurship.
2. To encourage nations and institutions such as the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural organization (UNESCO), to continue reinforcing the participation of youth in democracy and political matters.
3. To suggest the creation of an "OAS Department for the Promotion of Democracy and Prevention of Misinformation in Youth", to be part of the Secretariat for Strengthening Democracy (SSD), and having the following functions:
 - a. Strengthening democracy in young people.
 - b. Designing social media material with the support of the mass media in each country, both national and international.
 - c. Conducting analysis of the democratic context.
 - d. Establishing young democratic missions to provide support in the Member State that requires it, by:
 - i. Providing spaces in which youth can participate with the objective of gaining greater recognition, and getting involved in digital activism, preventing misinformation.
 - ii. Training young people in the Americas, through interactive content created by them and democracy experts, on key factors for exercising their participation and preventing disinformation.
4. To promote national and hemispheric spaces in which youth can participate in order to gain greater recognition and become involved in digital activism, through:
 - a. A national meeting in each Member State lead by the SSD of the OAS, in which each Member State's youth would meet to:
 - i. "Socialize ideas" for the creation of content that would attract more young people to democracy, through informative videos and testimonies, whereby:

- ii. Elect a representative for the department for each Member State, which should be elected by a member of the SSD.
 - iii. Hold this meet annually in the first semester of the year, with each member state free to determine the place of the gathering.
 - b. A hemispheric meeting in which a socialization among the representatives of each country will take place, whereby:
 - i. This meeting will be held every year on September 15.
 - ii. The place of the gathering will be determined after the first meeting by the representatives.
 - c. A section of publications in the OAS Department for the Promotion of Democracy and Prevention of Misinformation in Youth website, which would include the reporting of the meetings results, so that each member state can implement the strategies they consider seeking for the benefit of their country.
- 5. To request the necessary funds and technical cooperation for the implementation of the department from the Inter-American Development Bank, UNESCO, and UNICEF.



Approved for form and substance: _____
(Signature of Faculty Advisor)

Cosignatories: 1. _____
(Signature of Delegate) (Country Represented)

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