

NOVEMBER 20–22, 2024



The motto of the Organization of American States (OAS), "More rights for more people," reflects its mission and lays the foundation for the debates and resolutions of Model OAS (MOAS) delegates. The 43rd edition of the Model OAS took place from November 20th to 22nd, 2024, providing a platform for the leaders of tomorrow to adopt a youth-centered approach to addressing pressing issues in the hemisphere through their innovative resolutions.

This year's Model OAS theme, "Leaving No One Behind," reinforces the OAS's commitment to promoting justice and equity. Ms. Kendall Belisle, Advisor and MOAS Program Coordinator, highlighted that the theme serves as a testament to the organization's dedication to these values.

OPENING CEREMONY HIGHLIGHTS

The Model's opening ceremony saw the return of keynote speaker Mr. Luis Almagro, the OAS Secretary General. His inspiring words to this year's delegates emphasized the importance of a rights-focused approach to the Model. He stated: "Don't forget the basics. Don't forget human rights. Don't forget justice,"

The spirit of the Model is clear: an exercise in justice and collaboration that harnesses diverse perspectives and thrives in a mix of cultures to form impactful resolutions. Through this, the motto of the OAS is fulfilled, namely, to give more rights to more people.



"Don't forget justice."

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MOAS Coordination Team



Kendall Belisle
Advisor
Office of the Assistant
Secretary General



Full interview



Mayuriel Tatiana Perez
Junior Advisor to the Assistant
Secretary General



Abayomi Edwards-Dyer
Assistant to the Chief of
Staff



David Aulicino Zagury
Intern to the Office of the
Assistant Secretary General

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DIRECTOR OF PRESS INTERVIEW

Gonzalo Espariz

Communications and Multilateralism in Action



- 1. Principle of Transparency:** The OAS prioritizes openness by ensuring all decisions made by member states are publicly accessible, reinforcing trust and democratic values.
- 2. Institutionalism:** Gonzalo highlighted the importance of maintaining the OAS's institutional image, ensuring that all communications, branding, and materials uphold the organization's credibility and professionalism.
- 3. Equitable Communications:** The department ensures that all member states are treated equally in communications and avoids any bias in how information is presented.
- 4. The Role of the Communication Center:** Gonzalo stressed the collaborative nature of communications, blending photography, writing, and editing to deliver cohesive messages.
- 5. Career Lessons:** Gonzalo encouraged students to continually innovate in their roles, seek tools to enhance productivity, and recognize the value of communication skills in all professional fields.

The MOAS Communication Center members participated in a session with Gonzalo Espariz, Director of the OAS Department of Press and Communications, where they learned about the essential role communication plays in advancing multilateralism. Gonzalo, who has worked in the OAS Press Department for 15 years, emphasized the importance of transparency, equal treatment, and effective messaging to ensure that the OAS serves as a facilitator for democracy, human rights, integral development, and multidimensional security.



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Academic Experience



MOAS has proven to be a staple among diplomatic events for the aspiring leaders of tomorrow. The tireless work of the MOAS Coordination Team and the dedication of student leaders and faculty advisors bring new light to the Model each year. The OAS expert for the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs, Mr. Daniel Ortegon of the Department of Social Inclusion of the OAS Secretariat for Access to Rights and Equity, perfectly embodied this commitment: “I can start to see future colleagues.” The “future of diplomacy is in the youth. They have not only the right but the need to be heard.”

Faculty Highlight

Jamie Lee Usher, faculty advisor for Saint Catherine's Academy in Belize City, Belize, has participated in the Model OAS since 2014.

“As we reflect on the incredible experiences from this year's Model OAS, I want to acknowledge the pivotal role each delegate played, their dedication, and enthusiasm. The theme, “Leaving No One Behind: A Youth-Centered Approach to Bolstering Human Security and Fostering Inclusivity in the Americas, invited the delegates to engage deeply with topics that matter to our future as global citizens.

As we focused on addressing challenges such as human trafficking and disaster risk management, the call to action is for people-centered, comprehensive, and prevention-oriented responses, which align perfectly with this year's focus on inclusivity. In this context, inclusivity emphasizes equal access to opportunities and resources for everyone, particularly those who might otherwise be marginalized. This year's Model challenged our delegates to incorporate these principles into their deliberations, ensuring that all policy recommendations promoted social inclusion.



Jamie Lee Usher
Saint Catherine Academy
Belize City, Belize

I encourage everyone to use this experience positively; it has shaped your understanding and enlightened you with valuable lessons learned and demonstrated how we can apply these insights moving forward together- no one left behind.”

Social Enrichment

MOAS provides a unique opportunity to bring together youth across the hemisphere regardless of cultural differences or country of origin, a core value of the OAS. As MOAS President Matias Beariault declared, “It doesn't matter where you're from [...] Everyone has a different perspective, and those differences, we have to embrace them.”

The organization is built to bring joy to students. These experiences encourage Ms. Kendall Belisle to make the organization better and brighter with each passing year: “What propels me forward is to see the smile on your guys' faces, to see the excitement, the joy.” MOAS is an opportunity to enrich your academics and life experiences.

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Support the OAS

Along with the facilities that the model has offered to the delegates, a store that allows delegates and collaboratives to purchase merch attributed to the event is also appended. Hoodies, pins, umbrellas, and other articles are available therein. Participants take a little piece of the Model home to remember their experiences.



Green MOAS

MOAS is committed to reducing its negative impact on the environment. As such, paper waste is reduced by issuing all participants lanyards whose QR codes are scanned to reveal all necessary information on the OAS. This includes the schedule of events, themes, rules of procedure, and more. Additionally, delegates draft resolutions on their computers to minimize waste. This change demonstrates the OAS's commitment to bringing its organization towards the future and fostering a clean society.

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COMMITTEES

GENERAL COMMITTEE

The General Committee delegates conversed prominent issues affecting the Americas, including human development—aiding in the provision of education, addressing food insecurity, disaster risk management, and maximizing social protection with the use of technology. They are collaboratively developing sustainable practices to impede these persisting issues and address their impact on youth and vulnerable groups.



Chair and President Matias Beariault
Vice-Chair

COMMITTEE ON JURIDICAL AND POLITICAL AFFAIRS



Chair Shafik Fraija
Vice-chair Leonardo Garza

The delegates of the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs emphasized the importance of social inclusion in the Western Hemisphere, including the experiences of migrants. Delegates worked diligently to protect marginalized groups in vulnerable situations by drafting resolutions to promote their rights, strengthen legal frameworks, and explore new paths for such individuals.

COMMITTEE ON HEMISPHERIC SECURITY

The delegates of the Committee on Hemispheric Security discussed the ways their nations are affected by transnational crimes such as human trafficking and gender-based firearms use. They discussed how they could mitigate these illegal acts while implementing them.



Chair Nicholas Unanue
Vice-Chair Anette Leal Ugalde

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Elections

Every year, each committee democratically elects its Chair and Vice Chair. The heads of the General Assembly elect the Secretary-General and MOAS President. Next year's MOAS and committee leaders are pictured below.



GENERAL COMMITTEE

Secretary General Mardi Roques Colón, left
(Saint John's School)
MOAS President Juan Miguel Posada, middle
(Colegio Lamatepec)
Vice Chair Jimsung Kim, right (Georgetown
Preparatory School)



COMMITTEE ON JURIDICAL AND POLITICAL AFFAIRS

Chair Lara Yassin, left (Saint John's School)
Vice Chair Hana Halimitabrizi, right (Julia
R. Masterman)



COMMITTEE ON HEMISPHERIC SECURITY

Chair Cyrus Wunker, left (Saint John's
School)
Vice Chair Carleone Eyombo-Bella, right
(Georgetown Preparatory School)

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SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

The scavenger hunt, formulated by Ms. Belisle and engineered by Mr. David Aulicino Zagury, an OAS Intern to the Office of the Assistant Secretary General, was a forward-thinking initiative to provide an entertaining and educational activity on the OAS grounds for students to learn about art, history, and architecture while enjoying everything the OAS grounds have to offer. After a technical glitch concerning the operations of the application intended for use, they looked in a new direction.

**PARTICIPATING IN TRIVIA**

In the face of misfortune, the MOAS Coordination Team organized a mixer full of trivia, dancing, laughing, fun, and cultural exchanges. Thursday's mixer was held in the same building as the Committee of Hemispheric Security and Committee in Juridical and Political Affairs. Participants enjoyed food and drink while dancing and sharing cultural artifacts like pins, candies, and flags. This activity shows what the MOAS experience is all about fostering long-lasting friendships between youth across the hemisphere.

**DANCING AT THE SOCIAL MIXER****CULTURAL EXCHANGE**

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Best General Statement Awards

MOAS celebrates delegates for exemplary general statements. This honor is presented to one head and one alternate delegate in each committee.

Head Delegates



Alejandro Madero, Bolivia
(Saint John's School)

Alternate Delegates



Alejandro Steiner, Dominican Republic
(Colegio Lamatepec)

General Committee



Anthony Leslie, Ecuador
(Belize High School)

Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs



María José Lagunas Rojo, Guatemala
(Prepa Tec Campus Querétaro)

Committee on Hemispheric Security



Glenya Leader, Honduras
(Saddlers Secondary School)



Malena Aponte, Bolivia
(Saint John's School)



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Delegations of the 43rd MOAS

Delegation of Dominica - St. John's College High School

Delegation of Guyana - Legacy High School

Delegation of The Bahamas - Colegio de Bachillerato Particular Antonio Pena Celi

Delegation of Antigua and Barbuda - Colegio Lamatepec

Delegation of Belize - Washington Archibald High School

Delegation of Bolivia - Saint John's School

Delegation of Canda - Colegio La Floresta

Delegation of Brazil - Georgetown Preparatory School

Delegation of Saint Vincent & The Grenadines - Penn Model OAS

Delegation of Chile - Colegio Lamatepec

Delegation of Colombia - Colegio de Bachillerato Particular Antonio Pena Celi

Delegation of Grenada - Saint John's School

Delegation of Costa Rica - Colegio Royal

Delegation of Dominican Republic - Colegio Lamatepec

Delegation of Haiti - Prepa Tec Campus Queretaro

Delegation of Ecuador - Belize High School

Delegation of El Salvador - Saint Catherine Academy

Delegation of Guatemala - Prepa Tec Campus Queretaro

Delegation of Honduras - Saddlers Secondary School

Delegation of Jamaica - Belize High School

Delegation of Mexico - Penn Model OAS

Delegation of Panama - San Ignacio de Recalde

Delegation of Paraguay - Colegio La Floresta

Delegation of Saint Kitts and Nevis - Colegio La Floresta

Delegation of Peru - Colegio Royal

Delegation of The United States of America - Colegio Bautista de Carolina

Delegation of Uruguay - Connelly School of the Holy Child

Delegation of Saint Lucia - Colegio Royal

Delegation of Suriname - San Ignacio de Recalde

Group Photos*



Group Photos*





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Group Photo*

Unfortunately, not all groups could coordinate a group photo during the event; however, please note that all delegations are listed on page 10.



☆☆☆ 2024 OAS EXPERTS [LEARN MORE](#)





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CLOSING CEREMONY

The closing remarks delivered by H.E. Nestor Mendez, OAS Assistant Secretary General, marked a poignant conclusion to the 43rd Model OAS for High Schools. They emphasized the remarkable contributions of over 240 students and faculty members who participated under the theme “Leaving No One Behind: A Youth-Centered Approach to Bolstering Human Security and Fostering Inclusivity in the Americas.”

Assistant Secretary General Mendez highlighted the delegates’ spirited negotiations and their approval of resolutions addressing critical regional challenges, including human development, social inclusion, and crime prevention. He praised the students for their dedication to democratic principles and thorough preparation and described them as future leaders poised to create meaningful global change.

The speech underscored the importance of carrying forward the diplomacy and inclusivity lessons learned during the assembly. Delegates were reminded that their experiences in simulating the OAS General Assembly have equipped them to become architects of change, advocate for justice, and foster human security within their communities.



**Assistant Secretary General of the OAS
His Excellency Nestor Mendez**

H.E. Mendez thanked the MOAS organizers, elected authorities, and OAS experts whose efforts enriched the program. As the event concluded, he inspired the participants to embrace their roles as changemakers, urging them to translate their achievements into real-world impact and champion a united, inclusive future for the Americas.





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CLOSING CEREMONY HIGHLIGHTS

A true democracy. The 43rd High School adaptation of the OAS ends with a joyful and thrilling back and forth tie for the new organizations presidential electee. The delegation of Chile, gathers the support of voters from not only the voters sat around the table of the general committee, but from the radiating support from the delegates, who had also just walked from their adjourned committees that finished electing new vice chairs and head chairs.



Follow the official MOAS accounts on social media



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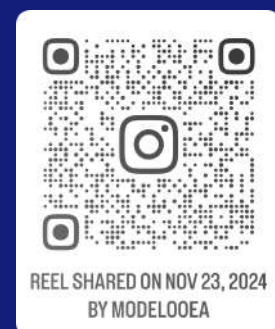


@modeloOEA



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Watch the newest MOAS reel:



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Credits

MOAS coordination team:

-Kendall Belisle

-Mayuriel T. Perez

-Abayomi Edwards-Dyer

-David A. Zagury



-Martin Quinonez - Legacy High School (Editor Chief)

**-Nigel Miller - Washington Archibald
High School (Writer)**

-Valeria Ledesma-Lugo - University of Pennsylvania

-Cecilia Rodriguez Lugo- Saint John's School (Writer and Editor)

-Constanza Arauzo Soto

**Giada Crespo - Saint Catherine Academy
(Photographer and Editor)**

**Mark Cuellar - St. Johns College High School
(Committee Writer)**

-Stellamaris García Rivera - Colegio Bautista de Carolina

-Melanie Romero Morales - University of Pennsylvania

**Eiesha Flowers - Saint Catherine Academy
(Committee Writer)**

-Kimoni Smith - Washington Archibald High School (Photographer)

-Kahvonte Pemberton - Washington Archibald High School (Writer)

**-Zaeem Khan - Georgetown Preparatory
School (Photographer)**

