



Organization of
American States

OAS
YOUTH

Youth Conference of the Americas 2014

Education & Migration:

"A Conversation with Youth of the Americas"

December 2, 2014

Hall of the Americas, Organization of American States

17th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington DC

With support from

Google™

OAS Youth Conference of the Americas
Education & Migration: A Conversation with Youth of the Americas
December 2, 2014

1. Introduction
2. Background
3. Key Objectives
4. Organizer
5. Participants
6. Logistical Information
7. Contact Information

1. INTRODUCTION

Today, migration rates are higher than any other time in human history. According to the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), nearly 35 million, or about 17 percent, of international migrants are between the ages of 10 and 24 years.

These young people, the majority of whom originate from developing countries, very often see migration as the only means to better education and employment prospects. They have, as a result, become powerful actors in the social, economic and political development not only in their countries, but also beyond national borders.

Against the backdrop of the recent surge in youth migration involving OAS member states, the topic of migration has once again become a political priority for the Americas, the OAS and our youth. The recent discussions have sparked a need to hear the voices of those most affected by these trends, in order to fully understand the elements of this situation, and to search for the most innovative solutions to support youth in their quest for a better life.

This year, the Organization of American States will host the 3rd Annual Youth Conference of the Americas on December 2, 2014, and will focus on the interrelationship between **Education & Migration**, and its influence on young people's decision to migrate. The objective is to underscore the need for cooperation among member states in order to manage migratory trends of our youth in a holistic and balanced manner. In 2007, the OAS member states initiated an important dialogue on human migration and agreed to prioritize the need to *"consider, analyze, and discuss human migration flows, their impact on the member states, and their relation to the human rights of migrant workers and their families, with the participation of all stakeholders."*

In addition to the main conference, there will also be a virtual dialogue in the weeks leading up to the conference, as well as an Expo, on the day of the conference, showcasing OAS programs and programs from some of the Organization's partners.

2. BACKGROUND

To address the myriad challenges and needs of the Youth of the Americas, the OAS has been spearheading the empowerment of youth through a variety of programs and projects which focus on training and strengthening the skills and opportunities of our youth. During the 2008 General Assembly in Medellin, Colombia, member states further reaffirmed their commitment to its young citizens and officially mandated the OAS General Secretariat to *"mainstream the youth perspective into the programs and activities of the OAS, in particular, activities that focus on the promotion of democratic principles and values."*

Furthermore, the OAS Inter-American Democratic Charter holds the governments of the Hemisphere accountable for the preservation of democracy and all its benefits. Member States affirmed their commitment to “*carry out programs and activities designed to promote democratic principles and practices and strengthen democratic culture in the Hemisphere*”¹ and that “*special attention shall be given to the development of programs and activities for the education of children and youth as a means of ensuring the continuance of democratic values, including liberty and justice.*”²

To facilitate and promote the OAS youth portfolio throughout the Americas, the Secretary General established in 2007 the Inter-departmental Working Group on Youth at the OAS. The IWGY chaired by OAS Assistant Secretary General Ambassador Albert Ramdin has focused more intensely on the next generation of citizens and leaders to ensure prosperous and stable Americas well into the future.

Since 2012, the OAS has organized two hemispheric-level Youth Conferences: ***Youth in Action for Democracy and Entrepreneurship*** held in December 2012 and “***OAS Youth Conference of the Americas 2013: Youth in Action*** held on November 5th, 2013 at the OAS headquarters in Washington, DC”

3. KEY OBJECTIVES

Among the key objectives of the OAS Youth Conference of the Americas:

- To facilitate dialogue among youth stakeholders, OAS Member States, experts and other leaders from across the Americas on current events and common challenges;
- To expose youth to the perspectives of the public and private sectors;
- To provide recommendations and proposals to OAS Member States, experts and leaders, from youth stakeholders.

4. ORGANIZER

The Organization of American States, through Assistant Secretary General Albert Ramdin - Chair of the OAS Inter-Departmental Working Group on Youth

5. PARTICIPANTS

- Representatives of youth organizations across the Americas
- Delegations from universities and schools across the Americas
- OAS Experts
- Private Sector Experts
- OAS Member States & Observers
- Government Representatives
- Intergovernmental Organizations
- Civil Society Organizations

¹ Article 26, Inter-American Democratic Charter (2001)

² Article 27, Inter-American Democratic Charter (2001)

6. LOGISTICAL INFORMATION

Admission: Free

Registration:

To register, please visit <https://adobeformscentral.com/?f=hfrWVWHnYBIOmVIs2GRcNQ>. Please register as soon as possible as limited seating is available.

Venue:

Hall of the Americas-Organization of American States located at 17th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington DC.

Airfare and Per Diem:

All participants are responsible for all costs associated with their travel and stay in Washington, DC.

Interpretation:

Interpretation will be available in English and Spanish only.

Hotels:

The Organization of American States has a Corporate Rate for participants at the State Plaza Hotel, the Concordia, the Hotel Lombardy and Washington Plaza Hotel. Room availability is on a **first come first serve** basis and all participants are in charge of liaising directly with the hotels regarding reservations. **Please note that several simultaneous events will be taking place in Washington DC at the time of this conference. With this in mind, we recommend that hotel reservations be made as soon as possible.**

State Plaza Hotel:

2117 E Street, NW

Washington, DC 20037

Website: http://www.stateplaza.com/?src=ppc_google_brand&gclid=CKuL9paLirkCFa1xOgodoTAAAbA

State Suite (Single rate with breakfast for one)	\$169.00/nt plus 14.5% tax
Plaza Suite (single rate with breakfast for one)	\$219.00/day plus 14.5% tax

For Reservations:

Guests can make reservations directly by calling 1-800-424-2859 or 202-861-8200. Please refer to the **“Organization of American States (Reference Code S1047)”** to guarantee the preferred rate. Reservations can also be made via email to David Manalang at dmanalang@stateplaza.com.

The Concordia

1250 New Hampshire Ave NW

Washington, DC 20036-2309

Website: <http://www.theconcordia.com/>

Queen Suite (Double Occupancy)	\$189
Queen Queen Suite (Double Occupancy)	\$209
Queen Sleeper Suite (Double Occupancy)	\$189
Queen Balcony Sleeper Suite (Double Occupancy)	\$189
Queen Balcony Sleeper ADA (Double Occupancy)	\$189

For Reservations:

Guests can make reservations directly by calling 1-202-557-2000. Please refer to the **“Organization of American States”** to guarantee the preferred rate.

Hotel Lombardy

2019 Pennsylvania Avenue,

N.W. Washington D.C. 20006

Website: <http://www.hotellombardy.com/index.cfm>

Superior King Room (Single Occupancy)	\$189
Deluxe Room (Single Occupancy)	\$219
Executive King Room (Single Occupancy)	\$229
Parkview Suite (Single Occupancy)	\$249

Hotel Lombardy can offer The Lombardy Breakfast for \$24 per person, inclusive of tax and gratuity. This consists of two eggs cooked any style, home fries, choice of bacon, sausage, or ham, toast or English muffin, served with coffee or tea, and juice. Please note that breakfast is a separate charge and not included in the rates provided above.

For Reservations:

1. Call or email General Secretariat of the Organization of American States contact, Dara Goldberg, at Hotel Lombardy directly at (202) 587-2172 or dgoldberg@hotellombardy.com to secure reservations.
2. Travelers may call the hotel directly at (800) 424-5486 or locally at (202) 828-2600. Please note you are with **the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States.**

Washington Plaza Hotel

10 Thomas Cir NW,
Washington, DC 20005

Website: <http://www.washingtonplazahotel.com/>

Single or Double Occupancy	\$149
----------------------------	-------

For Reservations:

1. Reservations for **GS/OAS** can be made through the hotel reservation office at (800) 424-1140, outside the Washington DC area, (202) 842-1300 locally, or by fax (202) 408-6159 or email, reservations@washingtonplazahotel.com.
2. When making reservations, please request the preferred rate for **GS/OAS**.

7. CONTACT INFORMATION

For further information, please contact:

Yadira Soto
Senior Advisor
Office of the Assistant Secretary General
Organization of American States
Phone: (202) 370-0276

And

Mariette Vidal
Specialist
Office of the Assistant Secretary General
Organization of American States
Phone: (202) 370-0274

Please email all inquiries to: OASYouth@oas.org