Organization of American States: Law, Policy, and Governance in the Western Hemisphere

Marshall B. Lloyd
Law Instructor, St. Mary’s School of Law

• The only guide available that provides a comprehensive view of the Organization of American States (OAS) and other sub-regional institutions in the Western Hemisphere

• Offers a unique view of the OAS by providing historical context with respect to public policy and a broader framework of democratic institutions

• Addresses timely and relevant topics that impact all of the Americas, such as regional security, human rights, transnational crime, and more

• A thought-provoking guide for students studying law, political science, criminal justice, security issues, Latin American politics, and more

About this Title

Organization of American States: Law, Policy, and Governance in the Western Hemisphere is a comprehensive guide exploring the pivotal role of the Organization of American States (OAS) as an institutional facilitator, focusing on its mission to strengthen democratic institutions, human rights, address security threats, and enhance institutional capacity for complex situations. An intriguing feature of the chapters lies in their historical context, offering insight from a public policy perspective. Additionally, the book adopts an interdisciplinary approach, providing a broader perspective on key events within the framework of democratic institutions.

With learning objectives, key terms, selected Internet sites, and review questions located within each chapter, this textbook is an ideal resource for those studying Latin American studies, Western Hemisphere politics and institutions, and anyone seeking a deeper understanding of democratic institutions and processes, by delving into the OAS’s impact on regional governance.
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Chart 2.1
Organization of the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Secretariat</th>
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<tr>
<td>Secretariat for Strengthening Democracy</td>
<td>Strengthen political processes among the member states, in support of democracy to ensure peace, security, and development.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive Secretariat for Integral Development</td>
<td>Support, facilitate, and foster integral development among the member states in coordination with measures to strengthen democracy, multidimensional security, and the promotion of human rights.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretariat for Multidimensional Security</td>
<td>Promote and coordinate cooperation among OAS member states and between them and the inter-American system and other bodies in the international system to assess, prevent, confront, and respond effectively to threats to security.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretariat for Administration and Finance</td>
<td>Provides leadership and guidance on administrative support activities, including budgetary and financial management, information technology services of the General Secretariat.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretariat for Legal Affairs</td>
<td>Develops, promotes, and implements the Inter-American Program for the Development of International Law; provides advisory services concerning international law and the development and codification of inter-American law; and supports the follow-up mechanisms for certain inter-American conventions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretariat for Access to Rights and Equity</td>
<td>Promotes and facilitates the full enjoyment of the rights of the citizens of the Americas as a crosscutting priority to other OAS pillars: democracy strengthening, multidimensional security, and integral development.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretariat for Hemispheric Affairs</td>
<td>Promote initiatives of the Secretary General as well as ideas stemming from the dialogue among member states in order to implement inter-sectoral programs; to foster the strengthening of public institutions so they can be more transparent, effective, and participatory; to provide support for member states through all phases of the Summit’s process.</td>
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Source: OAS, Office of General Secretariat (http://oas.org/en/about/general_secretariat.asp)
About the Author

Marshall B. Lloyd is a fourth-generation Texan, living within a two-hour drive from the US-Mexico border. He is licensed in Texas as a lawyer, has taught in higher education for more than 30 years across multiple disciplines, and has worked as a police officer. Lloyd is a graduate of the J.S.D. Human Rights Program at St. Thomas University College of Law, the LL.M. Program at St. Mary’s University School of Law, and earned his Juris Doctor at Oklahoma City University Law School. He specializes in transnational crimes, issues involving the Western Hemisphere, and the role of public institutions as a means to solving common problems among democratic nation-states.