



HACIA 32

WELCOME PACKET

MEXICO CITY, MEXICO · MARCH 13–16, 2027

The official welcome packet for the 32nd edition of the HACIA Democracy Summit of the Americas. This document details information needed for registration, preparation, and successful engagement in the conference. Prospective attendees will find guidelines on the main goals of the conference, strategies for effective participation, and logistical details to ensure a seamless registration process.

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WELCOME MESSAGE



Frida López Bravo and Rita Palácio

Co-Presidents of HACIA 32

Welcome to the 32nd Summit of the Americas! On behalf of the HACIA 32 Board, it is with gratitude and excitement that we invite students, advisors, and schools from across the hemisphere to join us in **Mexico City, Mexico, from March 13 to 16, 2027.**

Since 1994, HACIA Democracy has brought high school students together to debate the issues that shape the Americas, simulating the proceedings of the Organization of American States in English, Spanish, and Portuguese. Each year, delegates leave with new friendships, new ideas, and a deeper understanding of what democracy asks of the next generation of leaders.

This packet brings together everything you need to prepare: who we are, what to expect in committee, information about the host city, and the registration process. Individual students are warmly welcome to join us as independent delegates, and financial aid applications will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

We are deeply grateful to every advisor, delegate, and school that makes HACIA possible. Your passion and belief in the power of dialogue keep this community thriving, and we cannot wait to welcome you to Mexico City.

With gratitude and excitement,

Frida López Bravo & Rita Palácio

Co-Presidents, HACIA Democracy XXXII



32nd SUMMIT OF THE AMERICAS



ABOUT HACIA

The Harvard Association for Cultivating Inter-American Democracy (HACIA) is an influential student organization dedicated to promoting democratic values among high school students through its annual conference, which simulates the proceedings of the Organization of American States (OAS). This immersive experience highlights the importance of democracy in fostering accountable governance, protecting human rights, and encouraging civic participation. Through realistic debates and negotiations, students develop a deep understanding of democratic processes and the significance of international cooperation in addressing regional challenges. HACIA empowers young participants to become informed and active citizens, equipping them with the skills and values needed to advocate for and uphold democratic principles in their communities and beyond.

HACIA is renowned for its intellectually vibrant debating rooms and diverse cultural experiences, including an intercultural fair, iconic talent show, delegate dance, and social entrepreneurship workshops. The conference also features panels on higher education in the United States, offering valuable insights into the admissions process and academic life. Each year, the Summit of the Americas, hosted in a different Latin American country, allows high school students to engage with over thirty Harvard students from various nationalities. With more than eight thousand participants over the past three decades, the conference offers committees in Spanish, Portuguese, and English, fostering the **largest and most diverse OAS simulation in the world**.

15+

Debate
Committees

15+

Represented
Countries to Date

8,000+

Delegates in
Past Editions

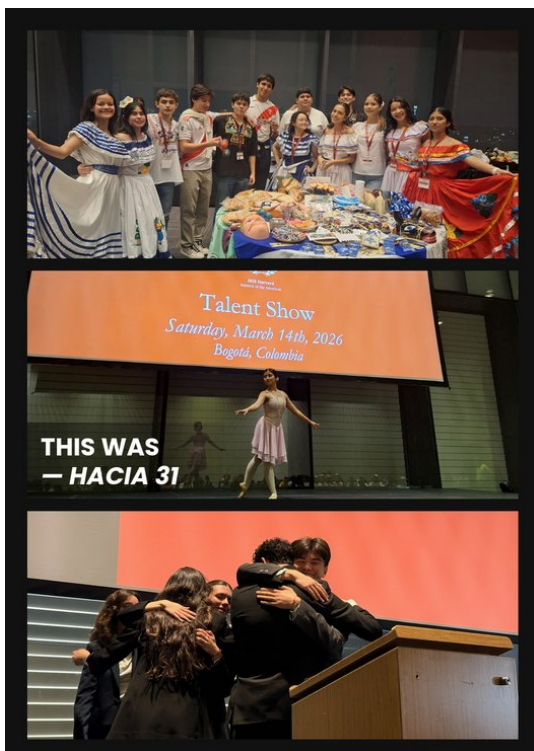
50+

Awards and Honorable
Mentions



OUR GOAL

Critical thinking is one of HACIA's pillars. By simulating the proceedings of the Organization of American States (OAS), students learn the importance of exploring new ideas. Participants engage in rigorous debates and discussions on domestic and regional issues affecting the Americas, encouraging them to analyze complex problems, develop nuanced arguments, and propose viable solutions. By addressing a diverse range of topics and simulating real-world diplomatic scenarios, HACIA challenges students to think critically about democratic advancement and development. This emphasis on critical thinking equips students with the analytical skills necessary to navigate and influence the complex political landscapes of their respective countries.



Continuous learning is a cornerstone of HACIA Democracy's mission, reflecting its commitment to the ongoing intellectual and personal development of its participants. Since its inception in 1994, the conference has continually expanded its scope, introducing new committees and topics to reflect the evolving issues in the Western Hemisphere. HACIA's faculty advisors and undergraduate staff, who bring a wealth of academic and cultural expertise, provide a rich educational experience that goes beyond the conference. The organization's annual research, recruitment, and fundraising campaigns further emphasize the importance of lifelong learning, encouraging students to stay engaged with international affairs and democratic processes long after the conference ends.

HACIA Democracy places a strong emphasis on **diversity and inclusion**, striving to create an environment where a wide range of perspectives can be heard and respected. From its early days, the conference has worked to include delegations from various countries, and its commitment to diversity has only grown over the years. Notably, the introduction of Spanish language committees and the participation of public school students have broadened the scope of voices represented at the summit. The virtual summit in 2020 marked a significant milestone, as it allowed unprecedented access for public school students and delegations from diverse geographical regions. As HACIA continues to evolve, it remains committed to fostering an inclusive forum that values and celebrates the diverse backgrounds and viewpoints of its participants.

MEET THE BOARD



Frida López Bravo
Co-President



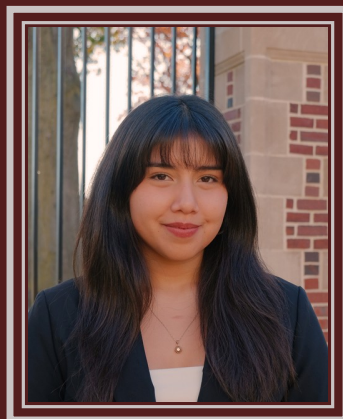
Rita Palácio
Co-President



Saleh Yassin-Shehadeh
Business Director



Ekaterina Popova
Administration Director



Fernanda Coña
Recruitment Director



Manuel Fernández Mollinedo
Development Director



Alexander Papazov
English Committees Director



Sara Padilla Amenkar
Spanish Committees Director



Lucas Moreno
Portuguese Committees Director



ABOUT THE COMMITTEES

Our English, Spanish, and Portuguese committees simulate the proceedings of the Organization of American States (OAS), offering a unique opportunity for students to engage deeply with important regional and global issues. In past conferences, participants have tackled critical topics such as climate change, the rights and challenges of indigenous communities, the impact of infectious diseases, responses to natural disasters, and international crises. Through these simulations, students develop valuable skills in diplomacy, critical thinking, public speaking, and collaborative problem-solving. This experience not only enhances their understanding of international affairs but also prepares them to become informed and active global citizens.

For more information about specific committee offerings and topics for HACIA 32, please visit our website:

haciademocracy.org/committees

English: english_committees@hacia-democracy.org

Spanish: spanish_committees@hacia-democracy.org

Portuguese: portuguese_committees@hacia-democracy.org

SPECIAL APPLICATIONS

Special committees are crafted to offer a comprehensive perspective on the conference's diverse aspects. They enable students to experience the HACIA conference from various viewpoints, whether through the media's lens, the urgency of crisis management, or the logistical and organizational efforts that ensure the event's success.

Participating in these special committees allows students to acquire insights and skills that extend beyond traditional debate and diplomacy. It provides a chance to view the conference from a fresh angle and contribute in ways that highlight their unique talents and interests.

J-Staffer Program. J-Staffers work closely with Harvard committee chairs, supporting them in facilitating discussions and managing session logistics. They receive specialized training before the conference and gain a behind-the-scenes view of how HACIA runs. Applications are submitted with your registration form.



THE CONFERENCE

Taste of HACIA

Join us for a vibrant cultural evening where delegations from across Latin America come together to share the rich tapestry of their heritage! This event promises a delightful showcase of traditional foods and unique trinkets from various home countries. Experience the flavors, sounds, and colors of Latin America in one place, celebrating the diversity and unity that define our region.

Talent Show

A fan favorite, get ready for an unforgettable night of entertainment at our Talent Show! Delegations from across the region will come together to showcase their incredible talents, celebrating the diverse artistic heritage of our countries. From traditional dances and music to contemporary performances and unique acts, this event promises a dazzling display of creativity and skill.

University Panels

Don't miss the opportunity to attend our University Panels and Workshops, featuring students from Harvard University! Delegations from across Latin America are invited to participate in engaging sessions led by current Harvard students, providing valuable insights into higher education opportunities in the United States. Learn directly from Harvard representatives about various academic programs, student life, and gain practical advice on the application process.

Delegate Dance

Prepare for an enchanting evening at our Delegate Dance, where students from delegations across Latin America come together for a night of celebration following their last day at the conference. This event, reminiscent of a prom, promises an unforgettable experience filled with music, dancing, and camaraderie. Dress to impress and enjoy the chance to connect with fellow delegates in a festive atmosphere that celebrates the spirit of unity and friendship.



HOST CITY

MEXICO CITY, MEXICO

THE 32nd SUMMIT OF THE AMERICAS

March 13–16, 2027

Delegations, advisors, J-Staffers, and independent delegates from across the Americas

The Summit of the Americas travels to a different Latin American host city each year. For HACIA 32, delegations will gather in **Mexico City**, one of the largest and most culturally rich capitals in the hemisphere, for four days of debate, cultural exchange, and leadership development.

Hotel and Venue

Hotel and venue details for HACIA 32 are being finalized and have **not yet been announced**. Once confirmed, the conference hotel, any discounted group rates, and step-by-step room-booking instructions will be posted on the Accommodations page of haciademocracy.org. We recommend that delegations wait for this announcement before making hotel reservations.

What the Amenities Fee Includes

- Breakfast and lunch, Sunday–Monday
- Dinner, Saturday–Monday
- Wi-Fi
- Access to all of the hotel's amenities
- Coffee breaks for advisors, Sunday–Monday

The Amenities Fee (USD 250 for early registration) is paid by each member of the delegation. See the Registration Information page for full details.

Before You Travel

Entry and visa requirements vary by nationality. We encourage every delegation to confirm travel-document requirements for Mexico well in advance of March 2027. Questions about logistics can be sent to registration@hacia-democracy.org.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Deadlines

The registration deadlines for the 32nd Summit of the Americas are as follows:

Early: September 24 – October 30, 2026

Regular: dates to be announced (early 2027)

Extended: dates to be announced (March 2027)

Delegations wishing to register after the extended registration deadline should send an email to **registration@hacia-democracy.org** to confirm space availability. Participation in the conference after this deadline, however, is not guaranteed.

Fees

In order to complete the registration process, all delegations must pay the following fees in full. Please note that rates are only guaranteed once payment is processed. For example, a school that completes the registration form in December but only submits payment in March will have to pay extended registration fees.

	Early	Regular	Extended
Delegation Fee	USD 90	USD 90	USD 90
Additional Advisor Fee	USD 35	USD 35	USD 35
Delegate Fee	USD 270	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>
J-Staffer Fee	USD 195	USD 195	USD 195
Amenities Fee	USD 250	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>

Notes: All rates in USD. The Delegation, Additional Advisor (after registering two faculty advisors), and J-Staffer fees are the same regardless of registration date. Delegate and Amenities fees vary by deadline; Regular and Extended rates will be announced. Independent delegates (those without a delegation) have different costs. Financial aid is available; applications open soon and are reviewed case by case.

Due to the fixed costs of the conference, HACIA has a strict no-refund policy. However, if you believe that your delegation might require a refund due to unforeseeable and extenuating circumstances, please reach out to **registration@hacia-democracy.org** to discuss options.



READY TO
SIGN UP?

www.haciademocracy.org
registration@hacia-democracy.org
59 Shepard Street
Cambridge, MA 02138

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