

Another worried that what was being proposed was "cheap integration" involving only the few. This participant pointed out that there were alternative forces, like Cuauhtémoc Cárdenas in Mexico, who has proposed not a free trade agreement but a free development agreement that would include international standards on human rights, including rights for labor, women, children, and indigenous peoples.

As the background and discussion papers, distributed before the meeting, formed the basis for discussion, there was a concern that they, essentially, represented the same point of view and that it might have been better, for the purposes of promoting discussion, to have commissioned papers that represented divergent perspectives on the issues at hand. The assumptions of the Randall paper, especially, met with extensive criticism. While it was acknowledged that the paper had been heavily edited, a number of participants rejected the assumption found in the paper that economic development and the integrationist agenda necessarily went together with the emergence of democratic political regimes. Some wondered aloud whether the opposite was, in fact, the case--that the neoliberal agenda might be antagonistic to democracy and greater participation by the majority. Nor did some accept Randall's assumption that "liberalization," or, limiting the power of the state, would lead to "greater freedom" and fewer human rights' violations. Instead, participants pointed out that the situation of human rights was deteriorating and hunger increasing in some parts of Latin America because of the economic consequences of the adoption of the neoliberal model. Dr. William Black also provided a particularly