

neoliberalism should be their ultimate objective or if neoliberalism itself should be rejected as incompatible with achieving these goals. As one participant expressed it, labor rights, human rights, and women's rights are not addenda to economic integration but should be the central issues. Another participant, remarking on the four themes to be discussed at the summit as set out on the first page of the discussion paper prepared by John Hay, stressed that the first three issues--poverty, education and human rights--were much more important than the fourth, that is, regional economic integration and free trade. Yet another doubted the inevitability of neoliberalism and proposed, in its place, sustainable development, which they described as a consultative approach to planning for the future. Some participants pointed to the particularly devastating affect of free trade on women around the world.

A diversity of opinion was also found within the group of participants concerned to include social issues as part of the agenda in Santiago, ranging from grudging acceptance of the current dominance of the neoliberal agenda to commitment to free trade as a positive good in its own right. One participant was very optimistic about the possibilities of the summit itself, seeing it as an example of a new, more organic, paradigm at work, a paradigm in which relationships in the world were based on inter-dependence and mutual vulnerability and where social and political issues were not separated from economic ones. This participant pointed to the involvement and participation of people from Latin America at all levels in this summit and the increased level of awareness and dialogue characterizing this summit as compared to the previous one.