

Mexican Human Rights and Canadian Policy Options

The following are conclusions which emerged from Conference Speakers, and from the audience.

1) More research needs to be conducted regarding the root of Mexican insecurity and human rights abuses, and the threats that are posed to Canadian interests within NAFTA. The Canadian Government should sponsor more Canadian research on these issues, and should re-instate research grants through programs such as the Cooperative Security Competition Program.

For Canada to have a truly credible foreign policy, Canada must also have sufficient Canadian research which informs such policy.

2) Transnational NGO networks are key to Mexican democratization, and to the struggle against human rights. The Canadian Government should provide seed money for the organization of such networks (through funding preliminary conferences and meetings, and so forth).

3) The Canadian Government should work through the Organization of American States and the United Nations to promote human rights in Mexico.