

## KEY MESSAGES IN DAUDELIN AND DOSMAN ARTICLE

"Diplomatic activity, high-level visits, large business delegations, involvement in the OAS, dialogues on security issues, educational linkages, and so on are well established compared with the 1980s. Yet all these activities appear to be floating in thin air, as an economic basis has yet to develop to ground this flurry of political activism into tangible mutual material interests." (217)

"In spite of much effort and rhetoric, Latin America and the Caribbean, beyond Mexico and Chile, have not yet become significant economic partners. In relative terms compared with the 1980s, both exports and investment in Latin American have fallen sharply." (217-218)

"While both exports and imports to the region have been growing steadily between 1990 and 1996, they barely kept pace with the tremendous growth of global Canadian trade." (218-219)

"To the extent that an opening to the region was meant to weaken Canada's trade dependence . . . has proved to be a major disappointment." (220)

Re. Canada's insistence during free trade talks that Chile's controls over capital movements be eliminated: "Much damage was done in the region's chanceries, however, to Canada's image of openness, flexibility, and understanding towards partners that were--or felt more vulnerable to the vagaries of international capital flows." (223)

"The key risks are for Canada to find itself alone in front or, perhaps more damaging politically, alone with the US against the rest of the hemisphere--as happened in Costa Rica last fall on the issue of a US proposal to set up working groups on labour and environmental standards." (232)

"The wider civil society linkages that have been established in recent years are led essentially by a coalition of NGOs and unions opposed to greater trade and investment liberalization. The NGO sector is probably the segment of Canadian society whose involvement in Latin America has been the most consistent over the last 20 years." (234)

"The overview presented in this paper suggests that region has been badly oversold." (236)

"The thinness of institutional memory regarding Latin America, both in government and outside is striking . . . there are no first-rate specialists in Canada on the Brazilian economy, and only published expert of its political system. Similar statements could be made, barely amended, on all other countries of South America. Mexico is the notable exception. But Canada will have to acquire expertise on Brazil, Argentina, Venezuela, Peru, Chile and Colombia in the next decade if it is to forge a long-term relationship with the region." (236)