

In August, 1964 the Second Conference on World Development met at Banff to discuss the topic "Latin America: Challenge and Response". Besides outlining the problems existing in Latin America, and the contributions made to that area by Canada, there was also debate on OAS membership, and discussion on the United States role in the area. Ronald Hilton, a British-born scholar from Stanford University, California, and a very subjective person, was impressed with the discussions which "were marked by that intellectual sharpness characteristic of Canada...", and he noted an interest in Latin America, but a disinclination to join the OAS.⁴⁴

One Banff speech in favour of OAS was published in 1965 in Queen's Quarterly. Arthur Irwin, the former ambassador to Brazil and Mexico, wrote it. And his speeches and writing on the subject during the year marked him as one of Canada's foremost advocates of membership. His cause was made more difficult by the United States intervention in the Dominican Republic.⁴⁵

CBC Vancouver had a weekly series on the "Crisis in Latin America" between January and April which elicited over 300 requests for scripts. The national network's "Newsmagazine" gave extensive coverage to the Dominican crisis; and Radio-Canada carried an interview with the Minister for External Affairs.

A Montreal Gazette editorial of January 24, 1966, on "Should Canada Join the O.A.S.?", pointed out that the issue came up frequently but irregularly and was usually sparked by some Government statement. In this case, it was the Prime Minister's remark during a trip to Jamaica. Mr. Pearson mentioned the possibility of Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, and Canada joining the organization. Charles Lynch's January 25, column