liberal agenda and NAFTA contributed to that yet unresolved crisis.

There is also a clear link between poverty and education. The overwhelming historical tendency in the region has been for the poor to have access to lower quality, public, primary and secondary education, with the middle and upper classes sending their children to private schools. Education thus was a critical component of the Miami Summit of the Americas, and the heads of state and government pledged to guarantee universal access to quality primary education, including a 100% primary completion rate, by 2010, a secondary enrollment rate of at least 75%, and the establishment of programs to reduce truancy, improve nutritional levels of school children, and eradicate literacy. Participants also pledged to strengthen the quality of higher education, improve teacher training and cooperate to enhance scientific knowledge.[16]

The broader definition of economic development implies the integration of all sectors of society,i.e. Ensure that, as an economy expands, most sectors of society derive the benefits of that growth.

Another facet of the relationship between economic development and democracy involves ideology. In the past, socialists often argued that state ownership and control of the economy would stimulate economic expansion. The demise of communism in the Soviet Union and many Eastern European states challenged this theory. Today, the prevailing ideas behind "restructuring" the relationship between the state and the economy assume that greater freedom for "market forces" will result in economic expansion.[17]

One powerful component of the economic development literature strongly links economic "performance" in society with the consolidation of democracy. Larry Diamond states for instance that "A primary factor...is the performance of the regime over time in delivering what people want

---

[16]Jeffrey M. Puryear, *Implementing the Summit of the Americas: Reforming Educational Systems* (Miami: North-South Center, 1996).

[17] Przeworski, *Democracy and the Market.*