



II ESSAY CONTEST IV SUMMIT OF THE AMERICAS



“Creating Jobs to Fight Poverty and Strengthen Democratic Governance”

The Summits of the Americas Secretariat of the OAS is organizing the *II Essay Contest* heading towards the IV Summit of the heads of states and government that will take place in Mar del Plata, Argentina on November 4 and 5, 2005. The contest is designed for undergraduate and graduate students attending universities among the 34 member states of the OAS.

OBJECTIVE: To encourage the youth of the western hemisphere to analyze the challenges of the region, stimulating concrete proposals on the topics related to the theme of the IV Summit of the Americas.

THEME: The essays should be written on the theme of the IV Summit: “Creating Jobs to Fight Poverty and Strengthen Democratic Governance”.

PRIZES: The authors of the five best essays (one for each region- North America, Central America, Caribbean, the Andean Region, and MERCOSUR), will be invited to attend the IV Summit of the Americas. The five students will be awarded an all expense paid trip (airfare, hotel and meals), from their city of origin to Mar del Plata, Argentina, host of the IV Summit of the Americas to participate as observers in the Summit. The winning essays will be published on the Summits of the Americas website.

ESSAY PRESENTATION GUIDELINES AND DEADLINES: The essays must be original and written individually (in **Spanish** or **English**) and submitted in Microsoft Word, no longer than 10 pages, double-spaced in 12-point Times New Roman font. All papers must be accompanied by an abstract of half a page (200 words). Contestants have the option to send their paper as an attachment to: gochoa@oas.org. The paper must include the author's name, their telephone number, and e-mail address, as well as the name and address of the university or college. Alternatively, contestants may send their essays via mail including the printed version of the paper and the corresponding diskette containing the electronic file to:

II Essay Contest – IV Summit of the Americas
Summits of the Americas Secretariat
Organization of American States
1889 F Street, NW Suite 688
Washington DC 20006
Telephone: (202) 458-6438
Fax: (202) 458-3665
Email: gochoa@oas.org

The deadline to receive the essays, both electronic and hard copy versions is **September 27, 2005**. It is the responsibility of the participants to ensure that the essay arrives on time to the Summits of the Americas Secretariat. The Summits of the Americas Secretariat will announce the winners on October 11, 2005.

EVALUATION CRITERIA:

1. Essay structure (introduction, body, and conclusion), punctuation and spelling
2. Proper use of grammar, syntax, quality and precision of vocabulary
3. The essay should demonstrate the student's reflection and understanding of the topic
4. Material should be properly cited
5. Development of recommendations and conclusions consistent with presented proposals
6. Ability to produce critical and creative thinking and capacity to support points of view and conclusions
7. Use of examples and reliable resources to explain ideas
8. Knowledge and understanding of the theme, variables and concepts related to it
9. The essays should not have been previously published, nor have been submitted in previous contests

For more information on the II Essay Contest and to view the complete [guidelines](http://www.summitsoftheamericas.org) of the contest, visit www.summitsoftheamericas.org



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