



**The Transformation of the Organization of American States**  
A Multilateral Framework for Regional Governance  
*Betty Horwitz*

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### Description

**This study provides a thorough assessment of the role and authority of the Organisation of American States as an International Organization.**

'I find the book an essential work for both scholars and practitioners of policy issues in the Americas.'  
—*Ambler H. Moss Jr, former US Ambassador to Panama, 1978-1982*

'Scholars and practitioners interested in contemporary US-Latin American relations and the prospects for regional governance will find this fascinating reading.'  
—*William C. Smith, editor of the journal Latin American Politics and Society*

*The Transformation of the Organization of American States* assesses the extent of the authority that the Organisation of American States holds over the key issues confronting its member states. It explores the extent and significance of the transformation of the OAS since 1991: its roots, the reasons for and extent of its emergence, and the role that the organisation currently plays in the promotion of regional governance in the two key issue-areas of security and the defense and promotion of democratic norms and principles of good governance. By assessing where the OAS has succeeded and failed, Horwitz provides an in-depth explanation of how cooperation and consensus works in the Inter-American system.

**Readership:** Students and scholars of comparative politics, Latin America, and US-Latin American relations; interested publics in the political arena; legal and business communities wishing to understand the functions of regional governance.

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### Contents

Glossary; Chapter 1: The Role of the Organization of American States in the Promotion of a Multilateral Framework for Regional Governance; Chapter 2: The Inter-American System: A History; Chapter 3: The Emergence of Consensus around Democratic Institutions and Shared Norms during the period of 1991 to 2005; Chapter 4: Collective Security in the Western Hemisphere; Chapter 5: Good Governance in the Western Hemisphere; Chapter 6: Conclusions; Appendix A; Appendix B; Bibliography

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### About the Author

Betty Horwitz attended Universidad Iberoamericana, Mexico City, graduating in 1979 with a BA in Social Sciences and a major in Sociology. She is a 2001 graduate of the Master of Arts and Liberal Studies (MALS) Program, and earned a PhD in International Studies in May 2007, both from the University of Miami.

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