



10 YEARS OF MULTIDIMENSIONAL SECURITY

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April 2015

The 2003 Declaration on Security in the Americas gave life to the concept of multidimensional security moving us beyond the traditional definitions of security, and placing integrated approaches, personal well-being and positive outcomes at the center of the OAS's security agenda. When Secretary General José Miguel Insulza created the Secretariat for Multidimensional Security (SMS) in 2005, he was sending a strong message that new challenges needed new approaches if we want better results. Ten years later I believe we have built a robust and positive Secretariat that is more than the sum of its parts.

During an interactive session on The Changing Security Landscape in Latin America at the World Economic Forum Latin America 2015 on May 6 in Riviera Maya, Mexico, General Óscar Naranjo said something to the group that was a pleasant surprise. He thought that the OAS member states were too modest in their appreciation of the importance of the creation of the concept of multidimensional security in the region. General Naranjo, one of the region's leading security thinkers and actors believes that security is not about single issues, products or institutions, but requires an integrated and multidimensional approach. General Naranjo is not the only one to reference our approach to security. Mr. Lambert Zannier, the Secretary General of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, spoke on the "multidimensional challenges that require different tools, diversity of actors and institutions" at the International Conference on Strengthening Peace and Security Cooperation towards Democracy and Development on April 29-30. As they say, imitation is the finest form of flattery and the fact that other organizations, governments and individuals are adopting the principles and structures of our approach is both humbling and extremely reassuring for the future of security.

The Secretariat for Multidimensional Security is tasked with coordinating political, technical and practical cooperation among member states and other American and international organizations to analyze, prevent, confront and respond to emerging threats to national, regional and citizen security. It seeks to unify a range of disparate security

Politically speaking, the Secretariat receives mandates from the Summit of the Americas,

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