

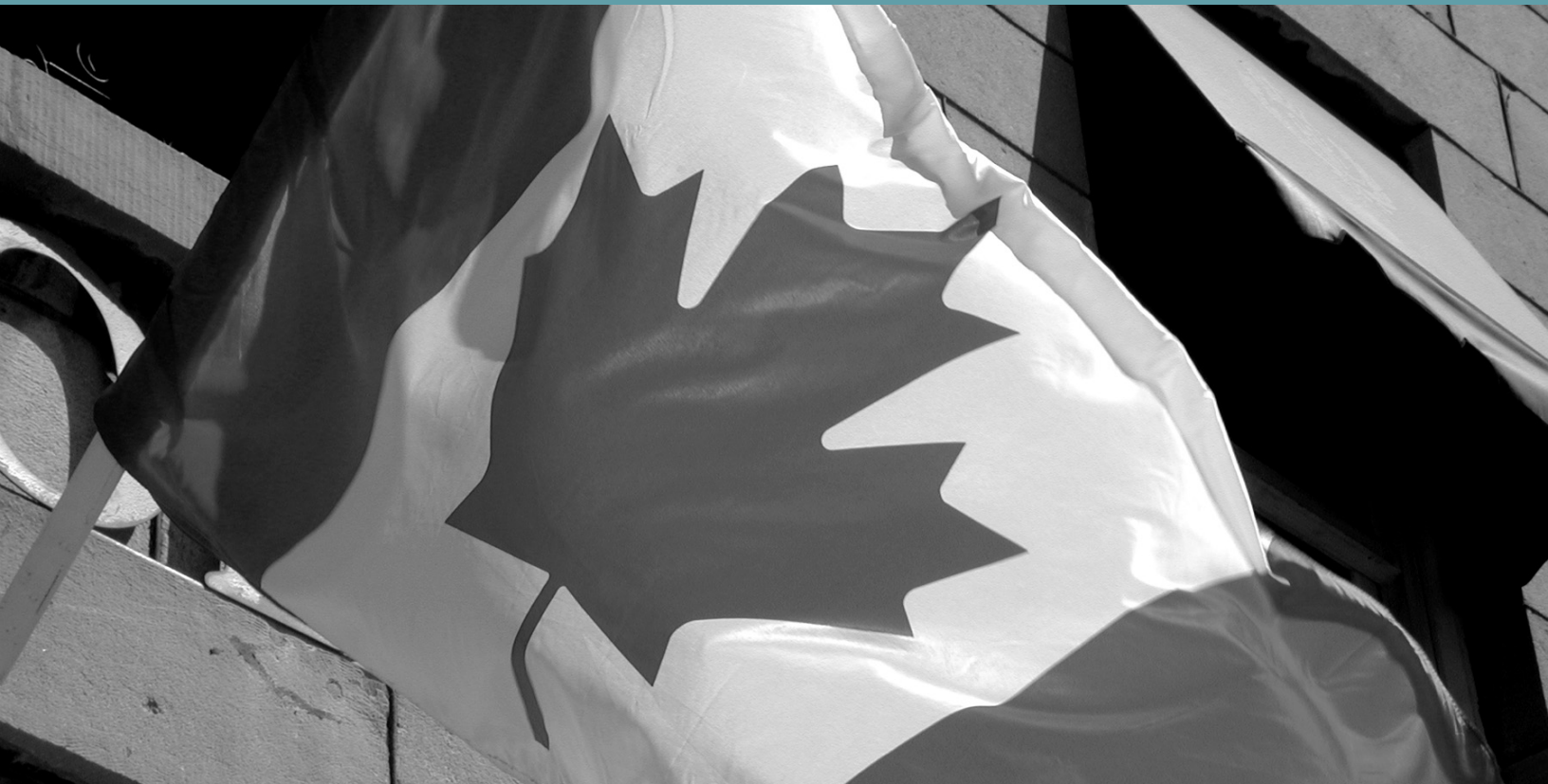
# Joining the FOCAL Corporate Circle

*In partnership with the Inter-American Dialogue*



# FOCAL

**Canadian Foundation for the Americas | Fondation canadienne pour les Amériques | Fundación Canadiense para las Américas**



**Business and Policy Leaders Shaping the Hemispheric Agenda**

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The Canadian Foundation for the Americas (FOCAL) Corporate Circle is the premier information network for Canadian businesses engaged in the Americas.

In partnership with the U.S.-based Inter-American Dialogue, the FOCAL Corporate Circle provides Canadian business leaders with:

- In-depth analysis on hemispheric affairs
- Direct access to information from key decision-makers through teleconferencing and web-based briefings and events
- Customized briefings from FOCAL analysts
- Subscriptions to the Inter-American Dialogue's daily publication, Latin America Advisor, as well as industry-targeted newsletters (e.g., telecommunications, finance, and energy)
- Access to events, institutions and forums in:
  - \* Canada
  - \* The United States
  - \* Latin America
  - \* The Caribbean

**DISCUSS ISSUES** *directly with senior Canadian and Latin American decision-makers*

**NETWORK** *with other business leaders who have a stake in  
Canada-Latin America policies*

*Enjoy* **DIRECT ACCESS** *to FOCAL's analysts and advisors*

Membership in the FOCAL Corporate Circle is a tangible method of incorporating sociopolitical intelligence and context into a company's strategic decision making. It is also a means of forging new contacts with a diverse array of decision-makers and stakeholders from different sectors within the United States, the Caribbean and Latin America.

# Why top companies join the Corporate Circle:



As private sector involvement changes Canada-Latin American relations, business and policy leaders must work together to shape the hemispheric agenda. To foster this cooperative effort, we encourage leaders in the private sector to become members of FOCAL's Corporate Circle. Corporate Circle members will have the opportunity to engage important political and economic figures in the hemisphere through teleconferencing, meetings and roundtables. They will be encouraged to contribute to FOCAL's monthly publication, *FOCALPoint*, which is read widely throughout the region. In addition, members will have access to information from key hemispheric institutions such as the World Bank, the Organization of American States, and the Inter-American Development Bank. Members also have opportunities for private briefings by FOCAL's staff and network of analysts, as well as priority access to FOCAL's latest published research and commentary on the region.



Our partner, the Inter-American Dialogue, is the leading U.S. centre for policy analysis and dialogue on Latin America.



**FOCALPoint**  
Canada's Spotlight on the Americas  
Canadian Foundation for the Americas / Fondation canadienne pour les Amériques / Fundación Canadiense para las Américas  
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December 2007, Volume 6, Issue 10 ISSN 1700-7964

<p><b>Colombian Hostages: Proof of Life</b></p> <p>On November 29, the Colombian military recovered five videotapes, seven hand-written letters and a cache of digital photos of various hostages being held by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), the country's largest guerrilla group. The videos and digital photos were date stamped between January and October 2007, offering the public the first proof of life of FARC hostages since 2003. Ingrid Betancourt, former presidential candidate and French-Colombian national, appeared in one of the videos looking tired and gaunt. Several American contractors and Colombian military officers also appeared. The Colombian military says that it obtained the materials after a military operation against an urban division of the FARC.</p>	<p><b>Striking the Right Balance: The Recruitment of Female Migrant Workers to Canada</b></p> <p>Monica Boyd and Joanne Nowak</p> <p>For much of the twentieth century, researchers and policy analysts assumed that women migrated almost exclusively for marriage or family reunion. This gender-stereotypical approach is disappearing as western governments turn their attention toward the prospective labour contributions of women from regions such as the Americas and the Caribbean, in order to fill key labour shortages in their economies. This recruitment likely will increase in the future. In 2015, nearly one third of all Canadians will be between the ages of 45 and 64 and one out of six will be 65 and older. In addition, low fertility rates from the 1970s onwards means that fewer young people are entering the workforce. As a result, there will not be enough Canadians to fill the labour positions created by baby boomer retirements. Adding to the labour crunch, Canadians are living longer, meaning that increased pressures will be placed on healthcare and care-giving sectors – areas of the Canadian labour market that are already experiencing financial pressures and labour shortages. Together these demographic and economic factors create a pressing need to recruit female labour from abroad.</p> <p>Today, about one in five foreign-born women who are in the core working ages (20-64) and who are in the labour force are from the United States, the Caribbean, and Central and South America. Most are permanent residents. However, around two per cent are here temporarily because they are working while they study, or they have come as domestic workers under Canada's Live-in Caregiver Program, or they are waiting for the resolution of refugee claims. One quarter is from the U.S., while the remainder come from other countries</p> <p><i>(Continued on page 1)</i></p>
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<b>Gender and Armed Groups</b>	<b>Truth and Justice in Guatemala</b>	<b>Human Trafficking</b>	<b>Indigenous Women</b>	<b>Editor's Note</b>
Rachel Schmidt examines the links between gender roles and recruitment in Colombian non-state armed groups.	Colleen Duggan explores feminist and psycho-social approaches to justice and reconciliation in Guatemala.	Bari Madansky looks at the conventional national security approach to human trafficking and suggests alternative options.	Olivia Amparo Rodriguez brings the struggle of Colombia's Indigenous women by examining the impact of the armed conflict.	2
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Recent contributors to *FOCALPoint* include:

- Rick Waugh, CEO and President of Scotiabank
- Joe Clark, former premier minister of Canada
- David Wilkins, U.S. Ambassador to Canada
- Peter Hakim, President, Inter-American Dialogue
- Robert A. Pastor, Director of the Center for North American Studies at American University.

*The challenge is to find a way for companies to incorporate an awareness of socio-political issues more systematically into their core strategic decision-making processes.*

“When Social Issues Become Strategic,” *McKinsey Quarterly*, 2006, No. 2

# MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS



We invite you to bring your company into FOCAL's corporate circle. Please select a membership option below.

- Corporate Membership     \$6,500**  
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-Advance access to research  
-Ongoing networking opportunities  
-Ability to order a custom analysis or briefing and  
-Direct access to FOCAL analysts

- Executive Membership     \$3,200**  
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