



# FOCAL

Canadian Foundation for the Americas  
Fondation canadienne pour les Amériques  
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January 30, 2008

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Contact: Rachel Schmidt  
Communications Director**

Tel: 613-562-0005 x242

Cell: 613-240-7584

Email: [rschmidt@focal.ca](mailto:rschmidt@focal.ca)

[www.focal.ca](http://www.focal.ca)

### **Canada-Peru FTA Will Strengthen Democracy and Political Stability**

FOCAL commends the Canadian government in concluding the negotiations of a free trade agreement (FTA) with Peru. FOCAL recognizes the diligence required to reach such an important bilateral agreement and applauds the Canadian and Peruvian negotiating teams for their successful work. This FTA is a first step in the broader prosperity agenda, and we support the government in its effort to move forward on these issues.

FOCAL supports bilateral FTAs as a development tool, while emphasizing that trade is a necessary but not sufficient factor in economic development. To ensure the equitable redistribution of the gains from trade, FTAs must be supported by a series of complementary policies. FOCAL looks forward to working with governments, academics, local stake holders and the private sector to advance the voice and needs of all those who stand to benefit from such a historic agreement.

The Canada-Peru FTA will provide unrestricted market access for Canadian and Peruvian companies, facilitating the mutually beneficial economic gains created by open two-way trade flows. Beyond the economic gains, this trade agreement will improve Canada-Peru bilateral relations and help strengthen democracy and political stability for the Latin American country.

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*FOCAL is an independent, non-partisan think tank that fosters informed analysis and debate on social, political and economic issues in the Americas.*

For more information, or to schedule an interview with a FOCAL analyst, please contact Rachel Schmidt, Communications Director, at 613-562-0005 x242 or [rschmidt@focal.ca](mailto:rschmidt@focal.ca).