Historically, the strengthening and effective exercise of democracy has been and continues to be a central topic on the agenda of the Organization of American States (OAS). The Preamble of its constitutive Charter proclaims democracy as an indispensable condition for the stability, peace and development of the continent.

On September 11, 2001, the OAS General Assembly approved the Inter-American Democratic Charter, in Lima, Peru, with the main objective to
of strengthening the institutional structure and governance. This document establishes the essential elements of representative democracy: respect for human rights, the separation and independence of public powers, and freedom of speech.

The Inter-American Democratic Charter declares that “the peoples of the Americas have a right to democracy and their governments have an obligation to promote and defend it.” The Charter has six chapters and 28 articles:

I) Democracy and the Inter-American System;
II) Democracy and Human Rights;
III) Democracy, Integral Development, and Combating Poverty;
IV) Strengthening and Preservation of Democratic Institutions;
V) Democracy and Electoral Observation Missions; and
VI) Promotion of a Democratic Culture.

This important document gives the governments of the hemisphere an instrument to guide their collective action in defense of democracy. It is recognized as one of the most complete inter-American instruments for the promotion and strengthening of democratic principles, practices, and culture in the States of America.

Consult the document in the following link:
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Upcoming Anniversaries In The American Continent

**September 1st**
1999, Panama
Mireya Moscoso becomes the first woman president.

**September 2nd**
1947
Signature of the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance (IATRA) in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

**September 5th**
1908, Nicaragua
Creation of the current national Flag and Coat of Arms.

**September 7th**
1822, Brazil
Prince Pedro proclaims the independence. The United Kingdom of Portugal, Brazil and the Algarve is dissolved.

**September 9th**
1776
The Second Continental Congress proclaims the
name of the United States of America.

**SEPTEMBER 10**
1823, Peru
The Congress recognizes Simón Bolívar as Liberator of Peru.

**SEPTEMBER 13**
1759, Canada
Battle of Quebec: the British army defeats French forces, which was a decisive victory for the founding of the province.

**SEPTEMBER 16**
1810, Mexico
The Independence movement, led by Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla, begins in Dolores, Guanajuato.

**SEPTEMBER 18**
1810, Chile
Establishment of the First Government Junta. This date is celebrated as the Independence Day.

**SEPTEMBER 21**
1981
Belize becomes independent from the United Kingdom.

**SEPTEMBER 22**
1808, Uruguay
Creation of the Montevideo Governing Board.

**SEPTEMBER 22**
1867, Colombia
Foundation of the National University.

**SEPTEMBER 23**
1868, Puerto Rico
Grito de Lares: an armed insurrection that sought independence was thwarted by the Spanish-American War.

**SEPTEMBER 23**
1922, Dominican Republic
Signing of the Hughes-Peynado Plan that ends the American occupation.

**SEPTEMBER 24**
1889, Paraguay
Foundation of the National University of Asunción.

**SEPTEMBER 26**
1955, Ecuador
The National Congress proclaims this date as Flag Day.

**SEPTEMBER 29**
1538, Bolivia
Foundation of the city of Sucre, historical and constitutional capital.

**SEPTEMBER 30**
1813, Venezuela
Battle of Bárbula: during the War of Independence, forces of the Second Republic and the army of the United Provinces of New Granada defeat the Spaniards.