

binding on, and individuals were also considered to be the source of threats that the Peace of God and the Truce of God had to eliminate. The concepts of the Peace and Truce of God provide us with an example of how the particularities of undertakings for security were determined by specific features of social relations. They also prove that Christian-

ity was most helpful in appreciating the great value of the idea of peace, though this tendency did not preclude the instrumental use of the idea for the sake of political goals. In times of the Crusades the Peace of God became a tool to secure internal peace within the Christian coalition and thus served as a means to provide for the success of the campaign.

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## ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES: 65 YEARS OF ACTIVITY

The article is devoted to the results of the work of the Organization of American States. The Organization of American States is the world's oldest regional organization, dating back to the First International Conference of American States, held in Washington, D.C., from October 1889 to April 1890. The author explores the key issues of the evolution of the organization and examines its achievements in the field of international legal regulation.

The author examines the Charter of the OAS, Inter-American Conventions, Inter-American Democratic Charter, Declarations, Resolutions, Treaties, Agreements and other Inter-American documents.

The article is dedicated to formation and development of regional legal system and effective mechanisms established on the basis of the Inter-American Conventions: Inter-American Convention Against Corruption; Inter-American Convention Against Racism and All

Forms of Discrimination and Intolerance; Inter-American Convention to Prevent and Punish Torture; Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women; Inter-American Convention on Human Rights; Inter-American Convention on Transparency in Conventional Weapons Acquisition and other.

Also, the author examines actual cooperation of States in protection of women's rights: gender equality, economic, social and cultural rights; access to justice; education and health; Inter-American System of Human Rights; cooperation with the International Criminal Court; activity of the Department of Democratic Sustainability and prevention, management, and settlement of conflicts, by using the mechanisms established by the inter-American system. The author distinguishes current and future directions of activity of the Organization of American States.