An interdisciplinary network of advanced studies and research in the humanities and social sciences

The project to create the Institute of the Americas (Institut des Amériques, IdA) started in the 1990s. The Institute of the Americas was launched in March 2007 as a Scientific Interest Group (GIS – Groupement d’Intérêt Scientifique) with the support of the National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS). The primary mission of the IdA is to be a leading European institution dedicated to the study of the American continent. The Institute contributes to the dynamics of research on the Americas through the organization and support of scientific events (e.g., the annual symposium), and by granting thesis awards and support for doctoral research.

www.institutdesamericques.fr
The Institute of the Americas coordinates studies on the Americas in the humanities and social sciences by developing a trans-American and transdisciplinary approach. It is a network:

- Of research,
- Of education,
- Of international cooperation,
- Of scientific and technical information, and
- Of partnerships.

The IdA also promotes the development of joint projects among French, North and Latin American researchers and scholars. These missions benefit from the IdA’s organizational structure comprising regional and international centers.

The Institute of the Americas provides a forum for exchange and cooperation in the scientific community. It is also open to those involved in the political, diplomatic and economic sectors, the media, as well as non-profit organizations.

The Institute of the Americas’ 2015 membership consists of 61 French higher education institutions and research institutes. It brings together more than 1,000 researchers.
The IdA's Task Groups

**Research**

The Institute of the Americas coordinates programs to offer financial support for doctoral research and symposia, grants thesis awards, organizes activities in relation to IdA publications, especially the electronic journal *Idées d'Amériques*.

The Research Task Group participates in the definition of the IdA's research policies together with the Advisory Committee.

**Education**

The Institute of the Americas fosters the circulation of information on Master and PhD. programs. It also ensures the promotion and creation of international Chairs for the studies of the Americas in France, which are meant to encompass the whole American territory, and to be involved in scientific and academic international exchanges in the humanities as well as in the social sciences. These Chairs also seek to make students aware of the emerging issues and debates related to this area in the political, economic, social and cultural fields.

Moreover, they promote exchange of faculty, researchers, experts and students in order to increase the transfer of knowledge, experiences and teaching resources. Finally, these Chairs encourage debates on research conducted on both sides of the Atlantic and promote political and civil discussions through forums open to all IdA's partners.
Scientific and Technical Information

The main objective of the Scientific and Technical Information Task Group is to build an information system, and to assist scholars in the process of acquiring information tools facilitating knowledge exchange between researchers.

It works to promote scientific research on the Americas by facilitating access to research results and improving dissemination.

International Relations

One of the most important features of the IdA is its international presence on the American continent and Europe. By setting up international centers, the IdA seeks to ensure the dissemination of French research about the Americas and to promote French higher education.

The IdA's expansion strategy is part of a project—launched in 2000—originally designed to create a network for advanced studies in Europe and Latin America, now expanded to North America.

To complete these projects successfully, the IdA receives support notably from the French Ministry of National Education, Higher Education and Research and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development.
Partnerships and Development

The Partnerships and Development Task Group works to bring together academic specialists in American studies and European and American key players from the political, diplomatic and economic sectors.

The French Ministry of Higher Education and Research as well as the Ministry of European and Foreign Affairs are its natural intermediaries.

Since January 2011, the Institute of the Americas has a strategic partnership, on behalf of France, with the EU-LAC Foundation, as a leader in the field of “intellectual exchanges concerning regional integration dynamics in the globalization context.”

This partnership strives to analyze and strengthen bi-regional relations; further the Europeanization of French projects in Latin America and the Caribbean; as well as develop academic and research networks.

Support the Institute of the Americas

Since April 2010, the Institute of the Americas has had an endowment fund which can receive donations from businesses and individuals and issue tax receipts to donors. Supporting the IdA will help to promote research on the Americas and French higher education.

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