

# The Ibero-American Space

## A community for all



Secretaría General  
Iberoamericana  
Secretaria-Geral  
Ibero-Americana



# SEGIB

**Established:** 1994

**Description and purpose:** SEGIB is the permanent organ of the Ibero-American Conference, providing institutional, technical and administrative support, and having the following objectives: a) Contribute to strengthening the Ibero-American community and its position on the international scene; b) Help prepare and organize the Ibero-American Summits and other meetings; c) Support the cooperation activities carried out pursuant to the Bariloche Convention; and d) Promote the historic, cultural, social and economic ties among Ibero-American countries, while acknowledging and respecting the diversity of their peoples.

SEGIB promotes multilateral and horizontal cooperation in the framework of the Ibero-American Conference with a view to strengthening the Ibero-American identity through political, social, cultural and economic activities, and contributing to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in the region.

The Ibero-American General Secretariat is responsible for monitoring, evaluating and disseminating Summit Programs, Initiatives and Projects to ensure their quality, outcomes and sustainability.

SEGIB, in its capacity as Ibero-American coordination agency, reports directly to the Ibero-American Summit and implements its mandates.

**Members:** 22 countries

**Headquarters:** Madrid (Spain)

**Regional offices:** Brasilia, Mexico D.F., Montevideo and Panama

**Web site:** <http://www.segib.org/>



# The intergovernmental space and the Ibero-American Agencies

While planning activities to commemorate the Fifth Centennial, representatives of some of the Ibero-American governments began to form the idea of building a meeting space for Ibero-American countries.

The initiative resulted in the convening of the First Ibero-American Summit of Heads of State and Government that took place in Guadalajara, Mexico in 1991, which decided "...to establish a high-level dialogue between Ibero-American countries. We, the Heads of State and Government gathered in Guadalajara, Mexico, have decided to establish the Ibero-American Conference of Heads of State and Government with the participation of Spanish- and Portuguese-speaking sovereign States of America and Europe."

This was by no means the first attempt to find ways for Ibero-American countries to work together. In fact, the Organization of Ibero-American States for Education, Science and Culture (OEI) was created in 1954, as was the Ibero-American Social Security Organization (OISS); and the Organization of Ibero-American Youth (OIJ) and the Conference of Ministers of Justice of Ibero-American countries (COMJIB) were established in 1992. Today, these institutions function as Ibero-American international agencies.

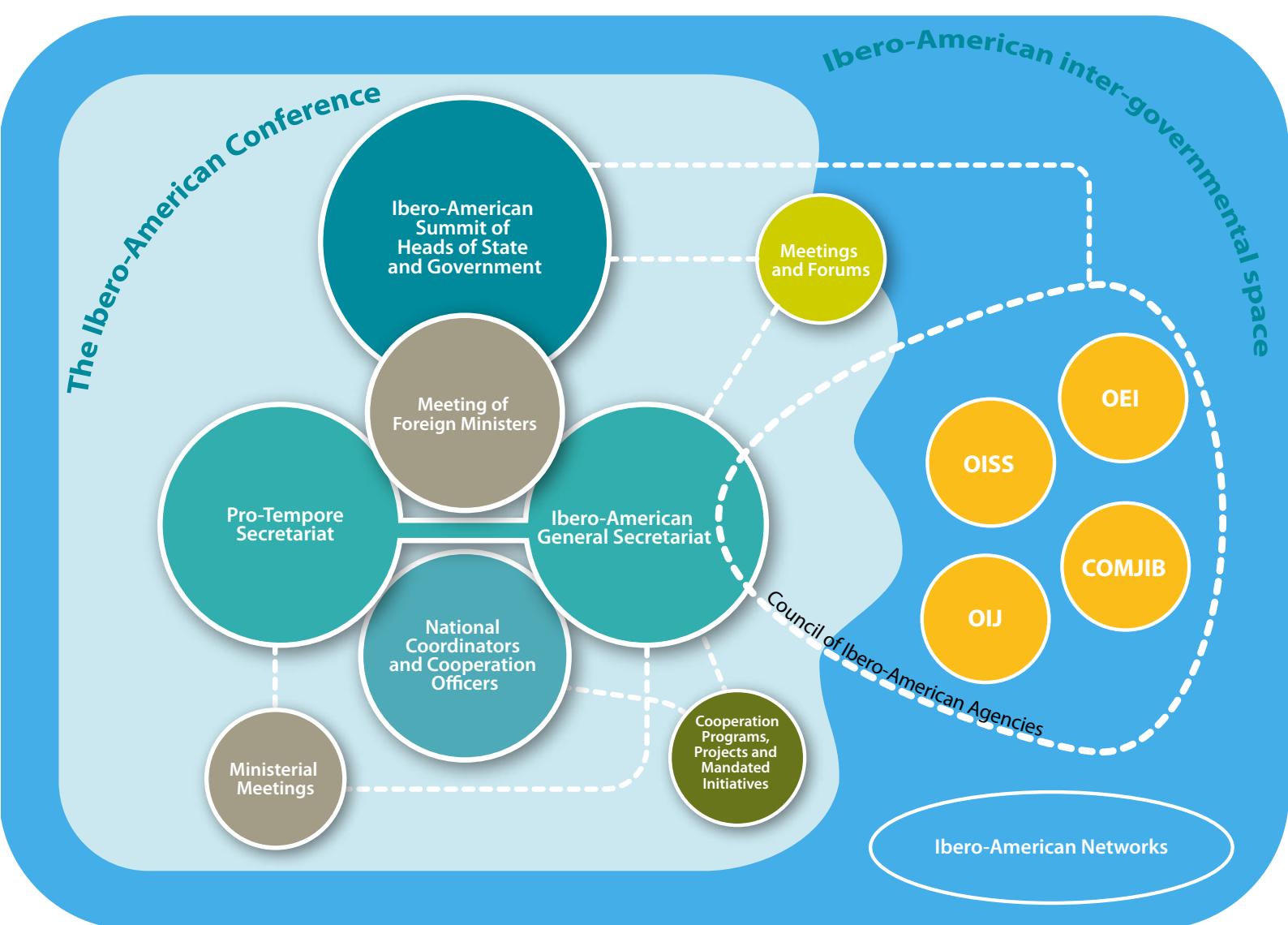
Finally, the Ibero-American General Secretariat - SEGIB - was established in 2004 as the permanent body of the Ibero-American Conference.

## COIB

The above institutions coordinate their work through the Council of Ibero-American Agencies (COIB), serving as a mechanism for dialogue and for suggesting proposals to further bolster inter-agency coordination, fostering the effective use of existing human and material resources, always with the purpose of strengthening the Ibero-American space.

The Council consists of the five Secretaries General and is chaired by the Secretary General of the SEGIB. Proposals and agreements reached by the Council are presented to the Ibero-American Summit of Heads of State and Government.

This is the final step in a process aimed at boosting the cooperation effort, strengthening the Ibero-American system and institutionalizing, through the SEGIB, relations between the Ibero-American Conference and the OEI, OISS, OIJ and COMJIB.



Andorra



Argentina



Bolivia



Brazil



Colombia



Costa Rica



Cuba



Chile



Dominican Republic



Ecuador



El Salvador



Guatemala



Honduras



Mexico



Nicaragua



Panama



Paraguay



Peru



Portugal



Spain



Uruguay



Venezuela

# OEI

**Established:** 1954

**Description and purpose:** The Organization of Ibero-American States for Education, Science and Culture (OEI) is an organization for inter-governmental cooperation in the fields of education, science, technology and culture working to strengthen public policy, develop citizen participation, solidarity and a more just society, and help build democracy and a culture of peace in the region.

**Members:** 23 countries (the Ibero-American countries excluding Andorra, but including Puerto Rico and Equatorial Guinea)

**Sector Ministerial Meetings:** Education and Culture

**Seat:** Madrid (Spain)

**Field offices:** 14 (Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, El Salvador, Mexico, Peru, Chile, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Paraguay)

**Web site:** <http://www.oei.es/>

# OISS

**Established:** 1954

**Description and purpose:** The Ibero-American Social Security Organization (OISS) is a specialized technical international agency for the promotion of economic and social welfare in Ibero-America and other Spanish- and Portuguese-speaking nations through coordination, exchange and sharing of mutual experiences with respect to Social Security.

**Members:** Institutions from 22 countries (the Ibero-American countries excluding Andorra, plus Equatorial Guinea)

**Sector Ministerial Meetings:** Social Security

**Seat:** Madrid (Spain)

**Regional offices:** 5 (Regional Action Centers in Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Costa Rica and Colombia)

**Web site:** <http://www.oiss.org/>

**Established:** 1992

**Description and purpose:** The Organization of Ibero-American Youth is a multi-governmental international agency created in 1992 to promote dialogue, consultation and cooperation in youth-related issues in Ibero-American countries. The Organization's mission is to suggest public policies and initiatives contributing to the social integration of young people based on equal rights.

**Members:** 21 countries (the Ibero-American countries not including Andorra)

**Sector Ministerial Meetings:** Youth

**Seat:** Madrid (Spain)

**Field office:** 1 (Argentina)

**Web site:** <http://www.rij.org/>

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## COMJIB

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**Established:** 1992

**Description and purpose:** The Conference of Ministers of Justice of Ibero-American Countries (COMJIB) is an inter-governmental organization working since 1970 for the promotion of public policies in the Justice sector and the furtherance of cooperation between countries to improve justice with a public service commitment for the benefit of citizens.

The Agency is also the Secretariat General of the Ibero-American Juridical Cooperation Network (IberRed) comprised of the Judiciary Branch and Offices of the Public Prosecutor in Ibero-American countries.

**Members:** 21 countries (the Ibero-American countries excluding Andorra)

**Sector Ministerial Meetings:** Justice

**Seat:** Madrid (Spain)

**Field office:** 1 (Argentina)

**Web site:** <http://www.comjib.org/>



[www.segib.org](http://www.segib.org)



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