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## Canadian Organization Committee— IPSA Invitation to the IX IPSA Congress

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The IXth World Congress of the International Political Science Association is to be held in Montreal, Canada from August 20th to the 25th, 1973 at Sir George Williams University. In conjunction with the International Political Science Association, the Canadian Organization Committee extends a warm invitation to political scientists throughout the world to attend this important triennial conference.

The Congress will be immediately preceded by the annual meetings of Canadian political scientists on the 18th and 19th of August, also at Sir George Williams University. Political scientists from all countries are most cordially invited to attend and participate in these meetings.

While the invitation extends to all political scientists, including professors, students and persons working outside the universities, several facts must be kept in mind. This is the first time the Congress is being held outside of Europe. Thus, past experience will not help us to estimate the number of persons from various countries who may wish to attend in this new location. To help us make adequate arrangements, *persons considering attending, SHOULD LET US KNOW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE*. It is for this reason that the Congress programme and detailed pre-registration forms are being distributed as widely as possible throughout the world. The need for pre-registration is all the more important because August is the height of the tourist season in Montreal and while we will do our best for late-comers, it will be very difficult to obtain accommodation that has not been arranged in advance. So please let us know your plans.

The above is particularly true of our American colleagues. Perhaps almost 70% to 80% of political scientists in the world live in the United States and this is the first time an I.P.S.A. Congress has been so close and accessible—not to mention Montreal's own particular charms. The fear is that many Americans may leave it to the last minute to decide to come or just task the Congress on to the end of a holiday trip. We would urge you most sincerely to let us know well ahead of time if you are planning to come to the Congress, so we may welcome you in style.

This is the first of several information letters on the Congress as we intend to keep all national political science associations informed of the

preparations as they progress. Supplies of programmes and registration forms have been sent to all national political science associations for distribution in their country, but should you desire more detailed information or if you have not yet received a copy of the programme and registration forms, you may write to:

André Philippart, Secretary General, 43 rue des Champs Elysées, Brussels 1050, Belgium.

OR

John Trent, University of Ottawa, 30 Stewart Street, Ottawa, Canada.

### Colombian Electoral Data Bank

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The Colombian Electoral Data Bank project consists mainly of the recollection, classification and centralization of the Colombian electoral data for the period 1930-1970.

The dispersion of the data, its lack of uniformity, the contradictory figures according to the different publications and the nonexistence of serious information sources, have made very difficult several research projects in Colombia. Thus generally most of the time and the effort of people in this particular field had to be spent on the search of the data.

In order to create this Electoral Data Bank, we proceeded in the following way:

1. A complete list of all the elections between 1930-1970 was elaborated. It was necessary to find the total number of elections and their dates. Since the official public records were not complete, the unpublished information had to be complemented by consulting the archives of Registraduría Nacional. Each election was counted separately for specific offices, even in those cases when the elections took place on the same day. With this criteria we found a total of 70 elections including those for the Presidency, Senators, Representatives, Deputies and Municipal Council Members.

Unfortunately, due to the lack of financial resources the purpose to also include data on municipal council elections had to be postponed. Nevertheless, the code system was designed to allow the inclusion of the municipal council elections as well as that of new electoral categories. Therefore, the total number of elections included in the Bank is 56 (Counting Plebiscite in 1957).