

Final version in Gordon Mace, Jean-Phillipe Thérien, and Paul Haslam, eds., *Governing the Americas: Regional Institutions at the Crossroads* Lynne Rienner, 2007

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Confidence and Security-Building Measures: Relevance and Efficiency

David R. Mares¹

This chapter examines efforts by Western Hemisphere states and their organizations at the regional, subregional and bilateral levels to create and use confidence and security-building measures (CSBMs) to move the region from a “negative” to a “positive” peace (Kacowicz 1998). This transition means moving from competitive balancing as a means to security to a security system based on cooperation. Cooperative peace and security doesn’t mean that interstate disputes disappear; rather, it means that such disagreements are actively managed through friendly diplomacy or ignored until they can be handled amicably. Mitigating the rivalry embodied in disputes through confidence and security building facilitates the mutual adjustment of policy positions that is necessary for cooperation to ensue.

CSBMs are institutions in their own right, in the sense that institutions are rules that guide behavior (North 1990). Because of the number of outstanding inter-state disputes in the Western Hemisphere (see Table 6.1) and the domestic instabilities confronting many countries in

Confidence Security Building Measures

Jiyuan Zhang



Confidence Security Building Measures:

Unveiling the Magic of Words: A Report on "**Confidence Security Building Measures**"

In a world defined by information and interconnectivity, the enchanting power of words has acquired unparalleled significance. Their power to kindle emotions, provoke contemplation, and ignite transformative change is really awe-inspiring. Enter the realm of "**Confidence Security Building Measures**," a mesmerizing literary masterpiece penned with a distinguished author, guiding readers on a profound journey to unravel the secrets and potential hidden within every word. In this critique, we shall delve into the book's central themes, examine its distinctive writing style, and assess its profound affect on the souls of its readers.

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