



Message of Dr. Leonel Fernández EU-LAC Foundation President

It is a matter of great pride and satisfaction to acknowledge the significance of an immense achievement of the European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean Foundation (EU-LAC): the creation of an international organisation with legal personality and capacity to ensure the fulfilment of its objectives and activities in the territory of each of its Member States.

This achievement, of course, brings with it the strengthening of the institutionality that the Foundation represents, after its creation in 2010, as an organisation under German law.

The achievement of the objective of transforming the EU-LAC Foundation into an international organisation is the result of the commendable and constant work of an entire team, which, over almost a decade, has been building a legacy in the consolidation of the bi-regional partnership between the Member States of the European Union and those of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States.

It was on the basis of the mandate adopted at a ministerial meeting held in parallel to the 6th EU-LAC Summit in Madrid, in 2010, that the creation of the EU-LAC Foundation was assumed as a favourable objective for this bi-regional relationship.

This mandate was manifest during the Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of CELAC and the EU, held in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, on 25 October 2016, when the Agreement establishing the Foundation as an international organisation was signed.



We now reach the historic milestone of being recognised as such, having collected the number of signatures needed to ratify the Agreement, as established by the Member States of the European Union and Latin America and the Caribbean.

As a result of all this effort, our peoples will have an effective instrument of representation, with an intergovernmental character and subject to international law, endowed with a wider scope and international presence, in order to further contribute to the strengthening of relations between the two regions.

Congratulations!