



Co-Chairs' Communiqué (*press release*)
CELAC–EU 3rd Foreign Ministers Meeting

Buenos Aires, Argentina, 27 October 2022

1. The third CELAC-EU Foreign Ministers' Meeting took place in Buenos Aires on 27 October 2022, with the theme "Renewing the bi-regional partnership to strengthen peace and sustainable development". The Meeting was chaired by Argentina's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Santiago Andres Cafiero, as pro tempore President of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), and the EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy/Vice-President of the European Commission, Josep Borrell. The meeting was attended by the Foreign Ministers or their representatives from CELAC countries and EU Member States.
2. The meeting was the first formal EU-CELAC Ministerial since July 2018. It marked the resumption of a bi-regional dialogue based on a forward-looking, substantive and positive agenda. Both parties agreed that this meeting and the renewed process of engagement are a turning point, and the beginning of a major overhaul of relations between the two regions.
3. Ministers discussed ways to ensure an inclusive, equitable and sustainable post-pandemic economic recovery and agreed to deepen cooperation on food security, energy, health, social justice and the integration of production systems and value chains, including with respect to raw materials; and to strengthen trade and investment relations between the two regions.
4. In the current challenging geopolitical context, Ministers confirmed the importance of upholding the shared values upon which the bi-regional partnership is based, including the promotion and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, democracy and rule of law. Ministers underlined their commitment to jointly address

global challenges and to continue strengthening multilateralism. They reaffirmed their support to all the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, to uphold the sovereign equality of all States, and to respect their territorial integrity and political independence.

5. Ministers exchanged views on innovation, the fight against climate change and biodiversity loss, disaster risk management and the digital agenda. They considered the financing of climate change adaptation and mitigation measures, the transition towards a circular economy, protection of the oceans, and how scientific innovation can support development. Ministers welcomed ongoing work towards a Digital Alliance, aimed at promoting a human-centered digital transformation focused on values and social inclusion, as expressed in the EU Global Gateway initiative.
6. Ministers discussed cooperation in the field of security and governance, migration, and the promotion and protection of human rights. In this regard, the empowerment of women and girls, gender policies as well as the fight against discriminations, racism, xenophobia and intolerance received special attention, as well as cooperation in the fight against transnational crime, including money laundering and drug trafficking.
7. Ministers agreed to strengthen multilateralism and cooperation in multilateral fora and to reinforce the bi-regional partnership founded on shared values and a vision for the future of democratic, free and equitable societies.
8. The Co-chairs expressed their commitment to organise a number of high-level events on shared thematic priorities including a **bi-regional Summit of Heads of State and Government** to take place in 2023 and endorsed the attached indicative roadmap of events in this regard. These events will pave the way to a quantum leap in our bi-regional engagement supported by regular EU-CELAC ministerial and Heads of State and Government meetings.