

III Edition of the Training and Updating Programme for Young Diplomats on the EU-CELAC Strategic Partnership (Berlin, 13-17 November 2023)

1. Introduction

The partnership between the European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean is based on close historical and cultural ties, shared values and aspirations, such as commitment to democracy, human rights, the rule of law, among others. In 1999, with the Rio Summit of Heads of State of the European Union and Latin American and Caribbean States, a bi-regional strategic partnership was established, providing a consensual and dynamic framework for political dialogue and cooperation in specific areas of mutual interest.

Consequently, by decision of the Heads of State and Government of both regions, the EU-LAC Foundation was created in 2010 and since 2011 it has been operating in the city of Hamburg as an instrument to promote this bi-regional partnership. Comprising 61 countries from the European Union, Latin America, and the Caribbean, and international organisations such as the European Union, the Foundation became an international organisation on 17 May 2019, with the entry into force of its founding agreement.

The Foundation has two main purposes:

1. Contribute to the strengthening of the bi-regional partnership process between the European Union, Latin America, and the Caribbean, involving the participation of civil society and other social actors' inputs.
2. Foster mutual knowledge and enhance the mutual visibility of the bi-regional partnership.

In response to this mandate, and also recognising the potential of the bi-regional dialogue between the European Union and the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), the EU-LAC Foundation created the **Training and Updating Programme for Young Diplomats on the EU-CELAC Strategic Partnership** as a training tool for key sectors of the member countries. Its first edition was carried out with the Iberoamerican Institute of the University of Salamanca from 22 November to 03 December 2021, and its second edition with the Foreign Service Institute of Argentina (ISEN) from 31 October to 04 November 2022.

Due to this positive precedent, the EU-LAC Foundation and the German Federal Foreign Office are launching the call for the **III Edition of the Training and Updating Programme for Young Diplomats on the EU-CELAC Strategic Partnership**, to be held from 13-17 November 2023 in the city of Berlin, Germany.

2. Training and Updating Programme

The **EU-LAC Foundation** and the **German Federal Foreign Office** are joining forces to develop a training programme for foreign service officers from the countries of the European Union, Latin America, and the Caribbean, as well as the European External Action Service.

The initiative builds on the training experiences carried out by the Foundation between 2014 and 2022 with various countries in both regions, which is even more relevant in the current context of new global challenges that require international responses from existing multilateral spaces.

With this programme, the parties involved want to **contribute to mutual knowledge, learning and dialogue between diplomats and experts from both regions in order to build trust and identify opportunities for bi-regional collaboration for the benefit of the societies of the countries of both regions**, especially the most vulnerable ones, which are, for the most part, the least represented in the partnership.

The main objectives of the training and updating course are as follows:

- Promote and stimulate interest and **greater involvement in the strategic partnership between Latin America, the Caribbean and Europe and on priority issues of the bi-regional agenda**, among young officials of the diplomatic service of both regions.
- **Identify, analyse, and stimulate debate on common issues and strategic interests in the contemporary international order** for the countries of Latin America, the Caribbean, and the European Union, as well as CELAC.
- **Generate and disseminate knowledge on the foreign policy agendas of the European Union and of Latin America and the Caribbean**, as well as the shared agenda between both regions and the existing mechanisms and levels of cooperation.
- **Contribute to the professional training** of young civil servants and diplomats from both regions.
- **Offer spaces for reciprocal knowledge and networking** among young foreign service officials and diplomats from both regions to facilitate future channels of more direct and positive dialogue exchange and cooperation in the different areas linked to the bi-regional partnership association.

3. Course Overview

With the aim of achieving the proposed objectives, a training activity will be carried out with the following features:

- The programme will be open to members of the diplomatic careers from Latin America, the Caribbean, and the European Union, who must be duly accredited by their respective Ministries of Foreign Affairs.
- Each student will receive a dossier with support material for the course, which will include one or two texts, which will be compulsory reading and will serve as the basis for the work during the sessions.
- With the purpose of developing an educational repository, the EU-LAC Foundation will record the sessions.

3.1 Course Format

It will be a **face-to-face** training activity for teachers and representatives of the authorities and organisations to be visited, as well as for invited officials and other external participants. In principle, the sessions will consist of lectures, group work, discussions, field visits to organisations involved in foreign policy and relations with Latin America and the Caribbean based in Berlin.

3.2 Course Length

The training programme will take place over **1 week, with working sessions on five (5) full time working days.**

3.3 Course Language(s)

The course will be given in **Spanish** and **English** indistinctly, depending on the preferences of the lecturer. Similarly, the materials considered for the course will be in the language suggested by the guest lecturers for each session. It should be noted that the programme will not offer interpretation during the sessions or field visits, so a passive knowledge (at least) of a second language will be necessary, which is suggested to be taken into consideration when applying.

3.4 Course Evaluation

Active involvement in the sessions is expected in order to obtain certification of participation. The evaluation will be based on a topic addressed during the course and in a format to be defined by the organisers, either as a policy paper of approximately 3,000 words, a presentation, participation in a debate or a simulation.

3.5 Course Certification

Each participant who meets the attendance requirements and satisfies the evaluation criteria will receive a joint official **certification from the German Federal Foreign Office and the EU-LAC Foundation**, which the participant can use as an additional merit in his/her career.

4. Course Programme

Final course information will be sent to each confirmed participant prior to the start of the course.

Preliminary Course Modules

Module 1:

Fundamentals of the EU-CELAC Strategic Partnership

- Outcome of the Brussels Summit 2023 and its impulses for the EU-CELAC strategic partnership
- The bi-regional partnership in the context of the European peace and security strategy and the mechanisms of integration and cooperation
- The bi-regional partnership from the perspective of cooperation and integration mechanisms in Latin America and the Caribbean
- The EU-LAC Foundation: A tool of the bi-regional partnership

Module 2:

Partnerships for trade and climate protection

- Partnerships for just transitions towards climate protection and renewable energies
- Bi-regional trade and economic diplomacy in the current international context: Geopolitical challenges. Partnerships for resources
- Global Gateway investment agenda and new approaches towards digital transformation, equity and science, technology, and innovation

Module 3:

Partnerships for Human Rights and Gender

- The protection of human rights
- Feminist foreign diplomacy

Module 4:

The Future of the EU-CELAC Partnership in the Global Context

- Partnerships for multilateralism
- The role of external actors in the bi-regional partnership: EFTA, the USA, China, and Russia
- The future of the bi-regional strategic partnership

5. Participants

Participants shall be members of the diplomatic service of the countries of the European Union, Latin America, and the Caribbean, with the rank of secretary or other, according to their diplomatic rank, and preferably not older than 35 years of age. They should be posted in their capitals, diplomatic missions and/or based in the country hosting the course, in Brussels or other European countries. Participants should ideally be working on issues of relations between the two regions in their current positions.

Participants must be duly accredited by their respective Ministries of Foreign Affairs through an official communication addressed to the EU-LAC Foundation and the German Federal Foreign Office. In principle, the participation of one diplomat per country will be accepted.

As a gesture of reciprocity, the respective Ministry undertakes to grant the participant the respective permission to engage in this training activity on a full-time basis.

5.1 Quotas and Scholarships

The organisers will provide up to 30 places for interested young diplomats, for which scholarships will be awarded as follows:

- **Full Scholarships**
The Foundation will provide up to three (8) full scholarships, which include flight ticket, accommodation, and meals. Full scholarships will be awarded based on the selection criteria developed in Annex 1.
- **Partial Scholarships**
The Foundation will provide up to seventeen (12) partial scholarships, including accommodation and meals. Applicants who receive one of these scholarships must identify the source of funding for their flight ticket. Partial scholarships will be allocated based on the selection criteria developed in Annex 1.
- **Tuition Scholarships**
The Foundation will offer ten (10) tuition scholarships, which will cover the cost of tuition for the course and lunch meals. In this regard, the applicant must identify the source of funding for his/her participation in the course, either through his/her Ministry of Foreign Affairs or by own means. Tuition scholarships will be allocated on the basis of the selection criteria developed in Annex 1.

Participants will be selected in accordance with the provisions herein and will receive an official confirmation from the organisers. Notwithstanding the above, the organisers will ensure that there is an appropriate balance of gender, geography, and expertise.

5.2 Application Form

Each applicant must complete the information requested on the application form. Applications should be channelled to both organising institutions through their respective Ministries of Foreign Affairs.

Applications should be sent together with the application form to the following email address: members@eulacfoundation.org

The EU-LAC Foundation undertakes to keep all personal data strictly confidential and to respect the European Union General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

6. Professors

Each session will be led by a specialist in the field. Professors will be drawn from both regions, with the aim of ensuring that they are people with expertise in their respective fields. We will seek to have a teaching staff that is representative of the geographical diversity of Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as the gender issue.

The professors authorise the Foundation to make use of their image and material for dissemination and training purposes. For the course, they will provide a dossier with compulsory and voluntary reading materials in either English or Spanish, according to their preference.

7. Funding

The EU-LAC Foundation and the German Federal Foreign Office will be responsible for the financing of the course, which includes the scholarships indicated in Section 5.1. The costs of transport, accommodation, meals, and the stipends of the professors who will be attending the course in person, as well as, tuition for participating officials and other technical aspects of the course, logistical support and local facilities and other elements deemed necessary.

8. Call Deadlines

The deadline for submission of applications is **29 September 2023**. For this third edition, 30 applications will be accepted, considering what is stated in section 5.1 and section 7.

Applications should be sent together with the Application Form to the following e-mail addresses: members@eulacfoundation.org

The EU-LAC Foundation and the German Federal Foreign Office will jointly coordinate the selection of participants.

Contact Information:

EU-LAC International Foundation

Address: ABC-Straße 2

20354 Hamburg

Phone: +49 (0) 40806011457

Email:

members@eulacfoundation.org

Annex 1: Selection Criteria for Full and Partial Scholarships

1. Be a member of the diplomatic service with the rank of secretary or other according to their diplomatic ranks.
2. Diplomatic Note from the respective Ministry of Foreign Affairs presenting the applicant's candidature.
3. Advanced command of Spanish and English.
4. Motivation letter (the length of this letter should not be longer than one A4 page)
5. Proposal of a topic related to the course for final evaluation.
6. Geographical and gender diversity of the participants.
7. Candidates from countries that have not previously benefited from a full or partial scholarship in previous editions of the course will be favoured.
8. Order of arrival



Annex 2: Application Form

Please complete this application form and return it by the **29 September 2023** to:
members@eulacfoundation.org.

Title:	
Surname:	
Name:	
Nationality:	
Email:	
Proficiency in ENG and ESP:	
Institution:	
Position:	
Diplomatic Rank:	
Type of scholarship requested:	<input type="checkbox"/> Full Scholarship <input type="checkbox"/> Partial Scholarship <input type="checkbox"/> Tuition Scholarship
Explanation of source of funding: ¹	
Proposal of a topic to be developed for the final assessment (based on the course syllabus):	

¹ Tuition Scholarships: Information on the source of funding for the flight, accommodation and living expenses.

Partial scholarships: Information on the source of funding for the flight.

Full scholarships: Confirmation that funding for flight, accommodation and meals cannot be provided by the Ministry.

Letter of motivation

Please explain what motivates you to apply for this programme. You may also use this space to inform us about any additional elements that make you suitable for this training programme and the type of scholarship applied for (the length of this letter should not exceed one A4 sheet).



Processing of personal data and information

All personal data collected during the event will only be used for the purposes of these procedures and will under no circumstances be passed on to third parties. The data provided will be treated with the strictest confidentiality and with high security standards.

I consent to the processing of my personal data for the aforementioned purposes.

Signature: _____

Authorisation for photographic and audio-visual documentation

I authorise the photographic and audio-visual documentation during the event, including the dissemination of the archive of biographical profiles and photographs.

Signature: _____