

EU-LAC Feminist Foreign Policy Forum:

“Concepts, good practices and lessons learned for designing and implementing a Feminist Foreign Policy in the European Union and Latin America and the Caribbean”

Biographies

INAUGURAL SESSION



LLUÏSA MORET

President of Barcelona Provincial Council

Psychologist, specialized in social psychology, with a Master in Social Research Techniques and Gender Policies, Lluïsa Moret is President of the Provincial Council of Barcelona, President of the Presidency Area and Member of the Governing Board and the Executive Committee.



ALBERTO BRUNORI

Executive Director of EU-LAC Foundation

Graduate in Political Science and Master in Latin American Studies from UNAM, with experience in the fight against impunity, corruption and conflict resolution. He has worked for the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights in Central America, the Caribbean and South America. He was recently Regional Representative for Central America and the Caribbean (2020-2024).



STELLA RONNER GRUBAČIĆ

Gender and Diversity Ambassador, SEAE, European Commission

Holds a Master's degree in European Studies and postgraduate studies in International Relations in Amsterdam and The Hague, and started her career in the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs. She has been Ambassador to the OSCE and Spokesperson for the former Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Dutch EU Presidency.



EVA GRANADOS

Secretary of State for International Cooperation of Spain

Graduate in Political Science and Administration from the University of Barcelona, with a Master's degree in Public Management from ESADE. She has directed the Human Rights Observatory of the University of Barcelona and has been a member of the Parliament of Catalonia since the IX Legislature. Between 2021 and 2023 she was spokesperson for the Socialist Group in the Senate.



ANA REDONDO

Minister of Equality of Spain

Spanish politician, PhD in Constitutional Law and former professor at the University of Valladolid. She was a member of the Parliament of Castilla y León (2007-2015) and councillor of Culture and Tourism in Valladolid (2015-2023). Since November 2023, she is Minister of Equality of Spain.

HIGH LEVEL ROUND TABLE WITH POLITICAL AUTHORITIES:

“THE IMPORTANCE OF A FEMINIST FOREIGN POLICY (FFP) FOR THE EU-CELAC STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP IN THE FACE OF THE GLOBAL POLITICAL SCENARIO AND THE CRISIS OF MULTILATERALISM.”



MODERATOR: LEIRE PAJÍN

Member of the European Parliament, in the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats

She has been President of the EU-LAC Foundation, where she founded the EU-LAC International Women's Network and is currently Director of the ISGlobal Institute. She has been Spain's Minister of Health, Social Policy and Equality and Secretary of State for International Cooperation. She holds a degree in Sociology and is an associate professor in Madrid.



MODERATOR: ANNA BARRERA VIVERO

Director of Programmes, EU-LAC Foundation

Anna Barrera has an academic background in Political Science and Public Law from the Free University of Berlin, Germany. She holds a Dr. in Political Science from Simon Fraser University (Canada), the University of Hamburg and the GIGA Institute for Latin American Studies (Germany) and has extensive experience in international relations, international development cooperation scientific cooperation.



ANA MARÍA ALONSO

Ambassador-at-Large for Feminist Foreign Policy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation of Spain.

Degree in English Philology and member of the Diplomatic Career since 2007, posted to the Embassies in Afghanistan, Egypt, Thailand and Australia. She is a member of the Alliance of Women Ambassadors for Gender Equality and Feminist Foreign Policy in her role as Ambassador-at-Large for Feminist Foreign Policy.



ARLENE TICKNER

Ambassador-at-Large for Gender Affairs and Feminist Global Policy, Ministry of Foreign Relations, Colombia

He has more than 30 years of teaching, research, advisory and consulting experience in the field of International Relations. She holds a Ph.D. in International Studies from the University of Miami and a Masters in Latin American Studies from Georgetown University. She has been a professor at Universidad de los Andes, Universidad Nacional de Colombia and Universidad del Rosario. Since 2023 she has been Colombia's Alternate Ambassador to the UN. She is the author of nearly 100 publications on Colombian foreign policy, Latin American security and critical approaches such as feminism and postcolonial theories.



XIMENA GÓMEZ CHÁVEZ

General Director of Institutional Strategy, Internal Planning in Feminist Foreign Policy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mexico.

Master in Comparative Public Policy from the Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences (FLACSO), member of the Mexican Foreign Service since 2010. She began her career at the Consulate of Mexico in Santa Ana, California (2010-2013), later she was attached to the Embassy of Mexico in the Russian Federation (2013-2017) and the Embassy of Mexico in Chile (2017-2022). Her master's thesis focused on analysing the agenda formation process of

Mexico's Feminist Foreign Policy, with the aim of strengthening it as public policy and moving towards its effective implementation.



NOEMÍ ESPINOZA MADRID

Ambassador-at-Large for Women's Affairs of Honduras.

With almost 30 years of experience in policy advice, partnerships and strategic guidance to senior officials and intergovernmental organizations, mainly at the UN. She has served in various positions at the Permanent Mission of Honduras to the United Nations and has a long career in the United Nations Secretariat, where she has been Senior Advisor to the President of the General Assembly and Special Advisor to the Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth. She holds two master's degrees, in Economics and Politics.



JONNA NAUMANEN

Senior Advisor to the European Union Ambassador for Gender and Diversity (SEAE)

Expert in Gender Equality and in the Women, Peace and Security program. She began her career in 2007, working on women's micro-entrepreneurship and prevention of gender-based violence in Central America. She has held advisory roles in various UN organizations, such as the UN Secretariat, ILO and UN Women, in countries such as Honduras, Vietnam, East Timor and Jordan. Prior to the EU, she managed a portfolio at the OSCE in Warsaw, focusing on gender equality and the rights of armed forces. She holds a Bachelor's and Master's degree in Social and Cultural Anthropology from the University of Helsinki.



TANJA FAJON

Minister of Foreign Affairs of Slovenia

She was an Euro member, first for the Social Democratic Party from 2009 to 2014 until she was elected Vice-President of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats until 2019, where she focused her work on issues such as human rights, press freedom and the European Union's expansion policy. She is the author of documentaries addressing the far right in Europe and the situation of migrants and refugees and was the only Slovenian to have been twice named among the 40 most influential MEPs by Politico magazine. She graduated in Journalism from the University of Slovenia and holds a Master's degree in International Politics.



RAPPORTEUR: CRISTINA HERNÁNDEZ

Director, Institute of Women Spain

She has worked in O16 and was an intern at the Women's Institute until becoming Director. Her professional experience includes advising the Socialist Parliamentary Group and the Federal Executive of the PSOE, as well as her work as a councillor in Ciudad Rodrigo. Expert in equality policies and gender violence, with studies at the Complutense University of Madrid, Middlesex University and a master's degree in refugee studies from the University of East London.

THEMATIC SESSION 1:

“APPROACHES TO A FEMINIST FOREIGN POLICY IN EQUALITY AND NON-DISCRIMINATION.”



MODERATOR: LARISSA MARQUES

Responsible for the Gender Unit, Ibero-American Union of Municipalists

Trained at UFRJ in Brazil and the University of Granada in International and European Relations, she worked as a researcher in International Cooperation and gender issues for the Ibero-American Union of Municipalists, before taking up the position of Head of the Gender Unit.



AINA CALVO

Secretary of State for Equality of Spain

Graduate in Philosophy and Letters, Doctor in Educational Sciences, and full professor at the University of the Balearic Islands since 2000. She has been Deputy of the Balearic Islands, Mayoress of Palma and has held positions as Director of the AECID and Deputy Director General of Cooperation and Foreign Cultural Promotion in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Balearic Islands.



KRISTINA LUNZ

Co-founder and Executive Director, Centre Feminist Foreign Policy (CFFP)

She is also the author of the bestseller “The Future of Foreign Policy is Feminist”. She is a consultant to the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation's “Goalkeepers” initiative. She has been named one of Focus magazine's “30 under 30” and one of “100 Women of 2020” and has earned two master's degrees, from University College London and Oxford University.



ERIX CORTES

Philanthropy Advocacy Coordinators, Urgent Action Fund for Latin America and the Caribbean.

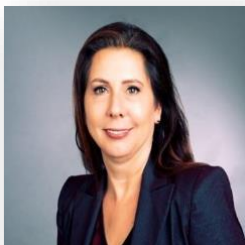
Master in Social and Cultural Anthropology from the VU Amsterdam, has more than a decade of work in accompaniment and strengthening of feminist movements and advocacy in Latin America. She has worked in different civil society spaces at regional and local levels, building strategic alliances, advocacy processes, MEAL and resource mobilization from a decolonial, feminist and care-centered perspective.



CLAUDIA GINTERSDORFER

Ambassador to the European Union in Chile, former Head of Division for the Americas - Regional Affairs at the European External Action Service

Previously, she was Head of the Political, Press and Information Section at the European Delegation in Uruguay. In Brussels, she worked in DG Enterprise on small and medium-sized enterprises and social responsibility, and was coordinator of the Political and Security Committee at the Council Secretariat, as well as managing the EU's human rights policy towards the Americas.



BIRGIT VAN HOUT

Director, Representation Office to the European Union, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

With a background in international policy and rights, she has worked as Team Leader of the Violence Prevention Team at the UN Human Rights Office, Outreach Coordinator for UN Treaty Bodies, and Regional Representative for Europe and Head of the Brussels Office for UN Human Rights.



MARIA EUGENIA GAY

Deputy Delegate for International Relations and Agenda 2030, Barcelona Provincial Council.

Graduated in Law from the University of Barcelona and with a master's degree in Mediation, she has worked as a lawyer and professor of Civil Law. In the Diputació de Barcelona, she has held various positions, including that of sixth vice-president. She has also been a member of the Xarxa Audiovisual Local, the Consortium of the Center of Contemporary Culture of Barcelona and the Consortium of the Royal Shipyards. Her political career includes the position of delegate of the Spanish Government in Catalonia from 2021 to 2023.



RAPPOREUR: MARÍA PAULINA RIVERA

PhD candidate, University of Potsdam Germany

Member of the research group “minor cosmopolitanisms” at the University of Potsdam. She also participates in the “Mexican Feminist Foreign Policy Network” and has a decade of experience in Mexican foreign policy. She was an advisor at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and founded the International Research Center of the Matias Romero Institute.



RAPPOREUR: EMMA RAINEY

Gender Equality Project Coordinator, WIDE+

Emma has over a decade of experience in feminist and gender equality projects, collaborating with grassroots initiatives and NGOs. She works as an independent researcher on gender issues and has recently collaborated with GiZ, 50:50 NI and Oxfam International. Currently, she collaborates with WIDE+ on EU projects focusing on migrant women's political participation and feminist education for climate justice. She holds a Master's degree in Criminology and is finishing a Master's degree in Gender Studies.

THEMATIC SESSION 2:

“PEF INSTRUMENTS TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE FIGHT AGAINST (GENDER-BASED) VIOLENCE.”



MODERATOR: NATALIA BONILLA

International journalist specializing in conflict, peace and gender issues
International journalist with more than 15 years of experience in conflict, peace and gender issues in 12 countries in Latin America and the Middle East. She has a master's degree in International Relations and specialization studies in Conflict and Peace Journalism. She has produced three documentaries, including the documentary map *Being a Woman in Latin America* (2020). She is founder and producer of the podcast *Womanhood and International Relations*.



ELEONORA BETANCUR GONZÁLEZ

Director of the Colombian Cooperation Agency

Sociologist with more than 15 years of experience in international cooperation and development. She has been advisor in humanitarian demining and consultant to governments in Latin America and Spain. She was executive director of ACI Medellín and has coordinated European Commission projects in Latin America. She has a master's degree in International Relations and Development Cooperation.



CLAUDIA ZILLA

Senior Research Fellow, German Institute for International Politics and Security (SWP), Germany

Senior Research Fellow at the research department “The Americas” of the *Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik (SWP)*, the German Institute for International Politics and Security, which she joined in 2005. From 2012 to 2019 she was director of this department. She holds a PhD in political science from the University of Heidelberg. In her research, she focuses regionally on Latin America and the Caribbean, especially South America. Her main topics are democracy and populism, development and inclusion, regional organizations, foreign policy, feminist foreign policy and international cooperation, as well as relations between Germany, the EU and Latin America.



MARY COLLINS

Secretary General, European Women's Lobby

Expert in Economic and Social Policies, with a Master's degree from UCLouvain University. She has worked in child protection in Ireland and with homeless organizations in Brussels. Since 1995, at the EWL, she has coordinated issues such as violence against women, asylum policy, human rights and children's rights in the EU, as well as the Convention on Persons with Disabilities.



ANN SUE BARRATT

Leader of the Institute of Gender and Development at the University of the West Indies, Augustine campus.

Scholar specializing in human communication and gender expression and interaction. Dr. Barratt researches gender-based violence, especially how it manifests itself through social discourse. In addition, she explores the complexity and meaning of social identities, such as race/ethnicity, which is reflected in her most recent book, *Dougla in the 21st Century: Adding to the Mix*. She is committed to promoting gender sensitivity and gender justice in society.



BRUNA SOARES DE AGUIAR

Project Coordinator of the Observatory of Inclusive Feminist Foreign Policy of Brazil (OPEFI).

Postdoctoral Researcher at the Institute of International Relations of PUC-Rio. PhD in Political Science, with a master's degree in Sociology and Political Scientist. Specialist in Foreign Policy and Feminist Cooperation, she works as a consultant in feminist public policies for international organizations and conducted a research stay at the University Institute for Research in Women's and Gender Studies at the University of Granada.



RAPPOREUR: SONIA ACABAL

Network of Non-Violence against Women Guatemala

Sonia Acabal of Network of Non-Violence against Women (Red de No Violencia contra las Mujeres, Rednovi), the oldest network of women's organizations in Guatemala, has been at the forefront of the struggle for women's rights since its inception in 1991. The network was established in response to the political violence faced by women and the violent death of its leader, Señora Pérez. Rednovi aims to empower women to live free from violence and to guarantee their access to justice.



RAPORTEUR: ODILIA ABREU

Project Coordinator, Friedrich Naumann Foundation

Odilia Abreu joined the Madrid office of the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom in 2019. She previously worked for the EU-LAC Foundation in Hamburg as Project Manager for Communications and Public Relations. Over the past 20 years, she has worked in the NGO sector and foundations and gained experience in institutional communication and project development and implementation.

**THEMATIC SESSION 3:
“FEMINIST FOREIGN POLICY APPROACHES TO HUMAN MOBILITY”**



MODERATOR: CATALINA RUIZ NAVARRO

Feminist activist and journalist

Co-founder and director of Volcánicas, and writes a weekly column for El Espectador and El Heraldo of Barranquilla. She holds master's degrees in visual arts and literature. She co-founded Estereotipas, an award-winning YouTube project for its focus on gender equity. In 2020, she published the book “Las mujeres que luchan se encuentran” (Women who fight meet).



MAUREEN ZELAYA

President of the Calala Women's Fund

Salvadoran resident in Madrid. Professional in International Relations with postgraduate degrees in Development Cooperation and Local Development and Evaluation of Programs and Public Policies. She has more than 12 years of experience working with different NGOs and international cooperation organizations.



VERÓNICA JARAMILLO

Assistant researcher at the National Council for Scientific and Technological Research (CONICET) and academic coordinator of the Specialization in Migration and Asylum at the University of Lanús, Argentina.

Lawyer, PhD in Social Sciences and Master in Human Rights. She has worked on migration and gender issues, and coordinated a program on gender violence in migrants at the Ministry of Women, Genders and Diversity in Argentina. She has also been on the staff of the Center for Legal and Social Studies.



SEBASTIÁN VIELMAS

Co-founder and Director of Operations of the Platform for Feminist Foreign Policy in Latin America (PEFAL)

Bachelor's degree in History and Master's degree in Political Science. He has specialized in communications and public relations in civil society organizations and international cooperation. He is Senior Advisor in Communications and Media for Mission Inclusion Foundation and member of the Foreign Policy Council of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Chile.



DINORAH ARCETA

Coordinator of Advocacy, Institute for Women in Migration

She holds a Master's degree in Development Studies and Social Justice from the International Institute of Social Sciences of the University of Rotterdam and a Bachelor's degree in International Relations from the Tec de Monterrey. She is Coordinator of the Advocacy Area at the Institute for Women in Migration (IMUMI), a feminist organization that defends the rights of women in mobility in Mexico, and Advisor to the Advisory Council on Migration Policy of the Ministry of the Interior. She is a member of the European consortium Walking the Talk, which promotes funding for feminist development. She previously worked for Amnesty International and the UK Embassy in Mexico on gender and human rights issues.



VICENÇ MARGALEF PARELLADA

Director, Catalan Agency for Development Cooperation

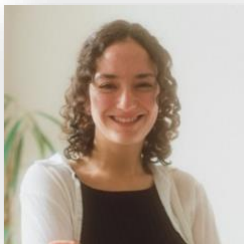
Degree in Business Sciences and graduate in International Business from the University of Barcelona, with a master's in Financial Management and an MBA from Pompeu Fabra University. He has 16 years of experience at UPF Barcelona School of Management, where he has led the Administration and Finance and Operations departments. He is also a member of the Advisory Council of the Catalan Association of Accounting and Management.



RAPPOREUR: ELEKTRA LAGOS

Executive Director, International Human Rights Network

Independent advisor on the EU development cooperation mechanism in Latin America, in particular on relations with the private sector and civil society organizations. Elektra Lagos is a recognized communications and public relations professional based in Brussels. She has a degree in International Relations, and extensive professional experience focused on fundraising for development cooperation.



RAPPOREUR: MARTA CASTRO

Consultant International Women's Network EU-LAC

Economist with a master's degree in International Relations, international consultant on migration policy and gender equality issues. She has worked for organizations such as ActionAid, Norwegian Refugee Council, Girls Not Brides and International Organization for Migration. She currently supports the coordination of the EU-LAC International Women's Network at the EU-LAC Foundation.

THEMATIC SESSION 4: “FEMINIST FOREIGN POLICY AND THE ROLE OF CIVIL SOCIETY”.



MODERATOR: ANNA AYUSO

Senior Researcher, Barcelona Centre for International Affairs CIDOB
PhD in Public International Law and Master in European Studies from the UAB, she is Senior Researcher for Latin America at CIDOB since 2002 and was coordinator of the International Cooperation Area. She has carried out consultancies for Spanish and EU organizations. She coordinated the Europe-Cuba Jean Monnet Network Forum between 2018 and 2021



GINA ROMERO

Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association
Previously, she was Executive Director of the Latin American and Caribbean Network for Democracy (Redlad) for nearly 10 years and Secretary of the Civil Society Pillar of the Community of Democracies. She has worked with governments, civil society and the private sector in 19 countries in the Americas and at least 35 in Europe, Africa and Asia.



MANUELA MESA

Director CEIPAZ and Vice President of Women League for Peace and Freedom
She is also a member of the Committee of Experts on the Global Peace Index. She specializes in peace studies, global citizenship and gender. She has directed the CEIPAZ Yearbook on peace and conflict from 2004 to the present. Teacher and lecturer on culture of peace, education for development and gender and peace building at the national and international level.



ALICE APOSTOLY

Co-Founder and Co-Director, Gender in Geopolitics Institute

Expert in feminist diplomacy and international gender issues. In her role at the Gender in Geopolitics Institute, a think tank, her work focuses on integrating a gender perspective and providing recommendations against gender-based violence and inequalities, always with a human rights approach.



ADRIANA BENJUMEA

Co-Director, Humanas Corporation Colombia

Feminist lawyer, expert in human rights and sexual violence in armed conflicts. Co-Director of the Humanas Corporation, with experience representing women victims and survivors of violence in domestic and armed conflict contexts, as well as working on the monitoring of public policies for the attention of conflict victims, ensuring the inclusion of a gender perspective in these policies in Colombia and Guatemala.



JULIETA IZCURDIA

Director of the Justice Area, Latin American Justice and Gender Team (ELA)

Lawyer from the National University of La Plata (UNLP), Master's candidate in Human Rights at the National University of Lanús, and diploma holder in International Human Rights Defense. She was an intern at the Inter-American Court of Human Rights and at the Human Rights and Access to Public Information Law Clinics at UNLP. She teaches courses on fiscal policy with a gender perspective and human rights in graduate programs at UBA and in civil society training spaces at local and regional levels. She is part of the Fiscal Equity Working Group (ETFE) and was the coordinator of the Fiscal Justice Program at the Civil Association for Equality and Justice (ACIJ).



SUNITA NASIR TAREEN

President of the Afghan Women's Association in Spain (AMAE), Activist for Women's and Refugees' Rights

Graduated in Social Studies and Human Rights from Complutense University of Madrid, she has also studied at the University of Salamanca. She has collaborated with organizations such as Amnesty International and Doctors Without Borders, participating in various initiatives to empower Afghan women and facilitate their integration into Spanish society.



LAURA OROZ ULIBARRI

Director of Cooperation with Latin America and the Caribbean at the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID)

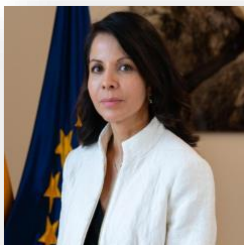
Lawyer and diplomat since 2004, she has worked at the Spanish Embassies in Abuja, New Delhi, Hanoi and Panama. At AECID, she has held various positions, such as Technical Advisor for Cooperation with Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa, as well as Head of the Support Unit in the Directorate of Cooperation with Latin America and the Department of Cooperation with Andean Countries and the Southern Cone. Before becoming Director of Cooperation with Latin America and the Caribbean, she was Consul General in Santiago de Chile.



RAPPOREUR: CECILIA MENA

President, Citizen Action for Democracy and Development

Expert in Social Policy and Human Rights, consultant in Gender, Public Policy, and Sustainable Development. Government advisor on women's rights. Feminist educator and activist in Ecuador. For two decades at ACDemocracia, she has worked on active citizenship and a violence-free life for diverse women.



RAPPOREUR: ERIKA RODRIGUEZ

Director, Carolina Foundation

She is a sociologist and holds a PhD in International Relations from the Autonomous University of Madrid, with a diploma in Advanced Studies in Political Theory, Public Administration, and Management. Previously, she was an associate researcher at the Complutense Institute of International Studies, serving as a professor of International Development Sociology. She has been a senior consultant on cooperation programs for numerous international organizations and development agencies.

FINAL REMARKS AND CLOSING CEREMONY



RAQUEL ALBIOL

Fifth Vice President and Delegate President of the Feminisms and Equality Area, Barcelona Provincial Council

Master's degree in Institutional Leadership and Public Policy Management. She has been a councillor and spokesperson in Cornellà de Llobregat since 2015, as well as a regional and national advisor for ERC. She also has experience in communication and audiovisual production.



MARÍA NOEL VAEZA

Regional Director of UN Women for the Americas and the Caribbean

She worked as Program Director at UN Women in New York, Director of the Global and Regional Portfolio Services Office at UNOPS, and held various positions at UNDP. She was also part of the foreign service of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Uruguay.



ANA GÜEZMES GARCÍA

Director of the Gender Affairs Division of the Economic Commission for Latin America (CEPAL)

With over 30 years of experience in the region, she has served as Representative in Colombia and Mexico and as Subregional Director for Mexico, Central America, Cuba, and the Dominican Republic at UN Women (2010-2020). Previously, she was a regional advisor for UNFPA and has collaborated with WHO, PAHO, and AECID. Dr. Güzmes is a physician, specialist in community health, expert in international cooperation, and holds a master's degree in public health. She is a co-founder of the Gender Studies Program at the National University of San Marcos in Peru.



JAUME DUCH GUILLOT

Councillor for the European Union and External Action, Government of Catalonia

Lawyer with a degree in Law from the University of Barcelona. Since 1990, he has worked in the European Parliament in various roles, notably as Director-General for Communication since 2017. He has served as spokesperson and in charge of media relations for the Parliament. He has also taught Public International Law.



AINA CALVO

Secretary of State for Equality of Spain

Graduate in Philosophy and Letters, Doctor in Educational Sciences, and full professor at the University of the Balearic Islands since 2000. She has been Deputy of the Balearic Islands, Mayoress of Palma and has held positions as Director of the AECID and Deputy Director General of Cooperation and Foreign Cultural Promotion in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Balearic Islands.



ALBERTO BRUNORI

Executive Director of EU-LAC Foundation

Graduate in Political Science and Master in Latin American Studies from UNAM, with experience in the fight against impunity, corruption and conflict resolution. He has worked for the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights in Central America, the Caribbean and South America. He was recently Regional Representative for Central America and the Caribbean (2020-2024).