

PARTICIPANTS BIOGRAPHIES

EU-LAC SEMINAR

Advancing the whole-of-society approach in European Union – Latin America and the Caribbean cooperation against transnational organised crime

**JUNE 15, 2026 BRUSSELS
EUROPEAN CRIME FIGHTING WEEK**



OPENING SESSION



Alberto Brunori

Executive Director
EU-LAC Foundation

Alberto Brunori has served as Executive Director of the EU-LAC Foundation since August 2024. Previously, he was Regional Representative of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights for Colombia, Guatemala, Mexico, Central America, and the English-speaking Caribbean. He has been awarded the Order of the Quetzal, Grand Cross grade, by Guatemala, and the title of Cavaliere dell'Ordine della Stella d'Italia. He holds a Master's degree in Latin American Studies from UNAM and a degree in Political Science from the University of Pisa.



Emb. Pablo Sader

Ambassador of Uruguay to the
European Union,
Pro Tempore Presidency of CELAC

Ambassador Pablo Sader is Uruguay's Ambassador to Belgium, Luxembourg and the European Union. A senior career diplomat, he has served as Director General for Political Affairs, Director of Uruguay's Artigas Institute of the Foreign Service, and Ambassador to Finland, Estonia and Latvia. He has also worked on MERCOSUR trade negotiations, including as chief negotiator and MERCOSUR coordinator for talks with South Korea.



Pelayo Castro

Director/Deputy Managing Director
for the Americas at
the European External Action Service

Pelayo Castro Zuzuárregui is Deputy Managing Director for the Americas at the European External Action Service (EEAS). A Spanish diplomat with more than two decades of experience in the European Union's external relations, he has served as EU Ambassador to Costa Rica and Nicaragua, adviser to High Representative Josep Borrell, and Head of Division for Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria. He currently oversees the European Union's relations with Latin America and the Caribbean.

KEYNOTE

One year after the establishment of the Alliance for Citizen Security, which are they keys achievements, results and future opportunities for bi-regional CELAC-EU cooperation?



Carlos Álvaro Quesada

President of Costa Rica (2018-2022),
President of the Latin American and
Caribbean Group on Security and
Democracy (GLACSED)

Carlos Álvaro Quesada is a professor and former President of the Republic of Costa Rica (2018–2022). A writer, journalist, and political scientist, during his presidency he promoted an international agenda focused on decarbonization, democracy, human rights, and multilateralism. After leaving office, he joined The Fletcher School at Tufts University as Professor of Practice in Diplomacy and Senior Fellow. He currently serves as Chair of the Latin American and Caribbean Group on Security and Democracy.



**Luis Enrique Chávez
Basagoitia**

Ambassador of Peru to the European
Union, Co-presidency of the CELAC-
EU Coordination and Cooperation
mechanism on Drugs

Ambassador Luis Enrique Chávez Basagoitia is a senior Peruvian diplomat and Ambassador of Peru to Belgium. He has held high-level diplomatic responsibilities, including serving as Peru's Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and being designated as Peru's Permanent Representative to the United Nations. His work focuses on strengthening Peru's bilateral and multilateral relations in Europe and internationally.



Olivier Luyckx

Head of Unit for Country
Programmes for Latin America and
the Caribbean at DG INTPA

Olivier Luyckx is Head of Unit for Country Programmes for Latin America and the Caribbean at the European Commission's Directorate-General for International Partnerships (DG INTPA). He has over 29 years of experience within the European Commission, where he has held senior positions in international cooperation, development policy, resilience, peace and security, counter-terrorism, crisis management and aid effectiveness. Before his current role, he served as Head of Unit for Resilience, Peace and Security in DG INTPA. He also previously led the Terrorism and Crisis Management unit in DG HOME. Earlier in his career, he worked on EU external relations, trade issues, relations with Asia, development cooperation with ACP countries, and the preparation of the launch of the euro.

FIRST PANEL

How can private sector actors and local communities better contribute to the whole-of-society approach in bi-regional cooperation against transnational organised crime?



Céline Chazelas-Baur

European Ports Alliance Public
Private Partnership Coordinator

Dr. Céline Chazelas-Baur is a Policy Officer at the European Commission's Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs, working on organised crime and drugs. Her expertise includes the protection of cultural heritage and EU action against illicit trafficking in cultural goods. She has represented the European Commission in international discussions on cultural property crime and criminal justice cooperation.



William O'Neill

Expert Designated by the High
Commissioner in Haiti (UN)

William G. O'Neill is a lawyer specializing in humanitarian, human rights, and refugee law, with a focus on rule of law in post-conflict settings. He currently serves as the United Nations Expert on Human Rights in Haiti and has held senior UN roles in Kosovo, Rwanda, and Haiti. He has contributed to police, judicial, and prison reform across several post-conflict countries, including helping establish the Kosovo Police School and the Haitian National Police. A visiting professor at the University of Vienna and Scuola Sant'Anna, he holds degrees from Haverford, Stanford, the London School of Economics, and New York University.



Atlee Rodney

Deputy Executive Director at the
Regional Security System
Headquarters (RSS)

Atlee P. Rodney serves as Deputy Executive Director at the Regional Security System Headquarters, bringing over four decades of law enforcement and regional security experience. His career began with the Royal Police Force of Antigua and Barbuda and grew alongside the RSS, including service in its first regional security operation in Grenada. A seasoned trainer, strategist, and former RSS Staff Officer, he has contributed to leadership development, regional exercises, policy coordination, and emergency response operations. Former Commissioner of Police of Antigua and Barbuda and recipient of the Queen's Police Medal, he remains committed to advancing safety and security across RSS member states.

FIRST PANEL

How can private sector actors and local communities better contribute to the whole-of-society approach in bi-regional cooperation against transnational organised crime?



Elizabeth Dickinson

Deputy Director for Latin America,
International Crisis Group

Elizabeth Dickinson is Deputy Director for Latin America at the International Crisis Group, based in Bogotá. She helps oversee the organisation's research, analysis and advocacy across Latin America, with particular expertise in conflict dynamics, peacebuilding and security issues in Colombia and the wider region.



Charlotte Geertman

PhD researcher
FORT-PORT project
Erasmus University Rotterdam

Charlotte Geertman is a PhD candidate at the Department of Law, Society and Crime at Erasmus University Rotterdam. Her research is part of the FORT-PORT project and focuses on public-private cooperation in the governance of cocaine trafficking and human trafficking in the Port of Rotterdam. She obtained a Master of Science in Crisis and Security Management at Leiden University, and a Master of Science in Criminology at Erasmus University Rotterdam.



Lieselot Bisschop

Expert on Corporate Crime, Erasmus
University Rotterdam

Lieselot Bisschop is a professor of Public and Private Interests at Erasmus University Rotterdam (Netherlands). A criminologist specializing in environmental, corporate, and organized crime, as well as their governance. She has worked on several projects on organized drug-related crime in the Netherlands, especially in the Port of Rotterdam, including the FORT-PORT project. She obtained her PhD from Ghent University (Belgium) in 2012, and worked there as a lecturer and researcher, as well as at John Jay College of Criminal Justice (USA), before joining Erasmus School of Law in 2015.

SECOND PANEL

How are academia and civil society actors enriching the whole-of-society approach in bi-regional cooperation against transnational organised crime and what can be improved?



Ana Arjona

Founder and Director, Red de Estudios Sobre Drogas en América Latina (REDESAL)

Ana Arjona is an associate Professor in the Department of Political Science at Northwestern University. She is also Co-Editor-in-Chief of the journal Perspectives on Politics and founding director of REDESAL (Network of Studies on Drugs in Latin America). Her research focuses on the relationship between violence, governance, and individual behavior, with special attention to armed conflict, social control, and illicit economies. She earned her PhD in Political Science from Yale University and has held academic positions at institutions such as Columbia, Notre Dame, and Universidad de los Andes



Sarah David

Global Partnership on Drug Policies and Development (GPDPD),
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)
GmbH

Sarah David is the project Director of the Global Partnership on Drug Policies and Development (GPDPD) program at the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ). Since 2016, she has led initiatives on drug policy centered on development, public health, and a feminist approach, with special attention to Latin America, the Caribbean, and Central Asia. Her work promotes drug policies based on rights, health, and evidence.



Luciana Torchiario

Regional Advisor Latin-America and the Caribbean, Transparency International Secretariat

Luciana Torchiario is the Regional Advisor for Latin America and the Caribbean at the Transparency International Secretariat. She has more than fifteen years of experience in civil society and regional network coordination, and leads initiatives related to anti-corruption, public integrity, gender, and inclusion. Her work focuses on strengthening national chapters, regional cooperation, and responses to corruption and organized crime in Latin America and the Caribbean.

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Romain Le Cour

Director Haiti and Caribbean Observatory, Global Initiative Against Organised Crime (GI-TOC)

Romain Le Cour Grandmaison is the Director of Haiti and Caribbean Observatory at the Global Initiative against Transnational Organized Crime (GI-TOC). Romain holds a PhD. in Political Science from the Sorbonne University. He has been a Research and Visiting Fellow at Columbia University; at the University of California, San Diego (USMEX Center); and at the Universidad Ibero in Mexico City. His work focuses on Criminal Organizations and Governance, State and Violence, and Public Security in Mexico and Central America.



Tony Duffin

Chair Advisory Committee of Correlation – European Harm Reduction Network

Tony Duffin is a Dublin-based international policy advisor and consultant specialising in drug policy reform, harm reduction, and public health–justice responses. He leads Progressify, chairs the Advisory Committee of the Correlation – European Harm Reduction Network, serves as a Trustee of Harm Reduction International, and teaches at Trinity College Dublin. With over three decades of experience, his work advances evidence-based, human rights–centred approaches to drug policy, decriminalisation, and community safety.



Alessia Schiavon

Executive Director, Fundación Internacional Baltasar Garzón (FIGBAR)

Alessia Schiavon is the executive Director of FIGBAR (Baltasar Garzón International Foundation). Lawyer, criminologist, and expert in human rights, rule of law, and strategic litigation. She has coordinated international projects on freedom of expression, protection against SLAPPs, and international justice, including PATFox. She frequently takes part in seminars and discussion forums on universal jurisdiction, corporate impunity, and the protection of human rights defenders.