EU-LAC Newsletter 04/2022
Introduction

We are pleased to bring you the fourth edition of the EU-LAC Foundation’s bimonthly newsletter 2022, in which we bring you the latest news on our work.

In the second half of 2022, we are celebrating a number of activities within our thematic lines in Europe and Latin America. In particular, we are pleased to hold the EU-LAC Youth Days in Prague in November this year with the cooperation and support of the European Union in the framework of the European Year of Youth 2022.

For those based in Hamburg, Germany, we would like to reiterate that the annual Festival Programme “Latin American and Caribbean Autumn” offers a variety of cultural activities to engage in direct exchanges on current social issues in both regions. You can access the programme here.

Of course, we are working to make the knowledge generated during our activities available to all interested people, so we are pleased to announce 9 recently launched publications.

In addition, we have launched the III. EU-LAC Essay Competition on the Bi-regional Partnership, and we invite you to participate through your essays on the theme “The future of education and the opportunities of bi-regional cooperation to advance an inclusive, quality and sustainable transformation of the education sector.

Adrián Bonilla
Executive Director of the EU-LAC Foundation
News

LAC diplomats visit the HQ of the EU-LAC Foundation in Hamburg

26 September 2022

As part of a friendship programme between Germany and Latin America and Caribbean, on 26th of September the EU-LAC Foundation welcomed at its Headquarters in Hamburg a delegation of diplomats from 13 countries of Latin America and Caribbean: Argentina, Colombia, Chile, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Panama, Paraguay, Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

Read more!
https://eulacfoundation.org/en/lac-diplomats-visit-hq-eu-lac-foundation-hamburg

EU-LAC Women’s International Network launches the first inter-regional dialogue on women’s leadership and inclusion in climate action

20 September 2022

On September 16, 2022, within the framework of the 77th session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York, the EU-LAC Foundation and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) for Latin America and the Caribbean, through the EU-LAC Women’s International Network (EU-LAC WIN), successfully held the dialogue “Leadership and inclusion of women in decision-making process on the implementation of climate action”. This dialogue represents the first in a series of interregional dialogues on gender and climate action in Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) countries, the European Union (EU) and its member countries.

On this occasion, the aim was to generate a space for discussion on the challenges and opportunities in recognising and promoting the empowerment of women as agents of change in climate action and disaster risk reduction in EU and LAC countries. The hybrid event was attended by more than 300 participants from both regions.

Read more!
The EU-LAC Foundation attended the event “New Challenges and New Perspectives for International Cooperation: Approaches to Development from Latin America and the Caribbean”

16 September 2022

From 13 to 14 September, representing the EU-LAC Foundation, Ernesto Jeger, Senior Programme Manager - Sustainable Development and Economic Issues, participated in the event “New Challenges and New Perspectives for International Cooperation: Approaches to Development from Latin America and the Caribbean” organised by The OECD Development Centre, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the Chilean Agency for International Development Cooperation (AGCID) and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB). The event was held at CEPAL Headquarters in Santiago, Chile.


The “Latin American and Caribbean Fall” Festival promotes intercultural understanding with the Latin American and Caribbean community in the Hanseatic city

12 September 2022

On 5 September, the opening ceremony of this year’s “Latin American and Caribbean Fall” Festival took place in the Hamburg Senate, with the lively participation of Latin American and Caribbean consulates and embassies as well as civil society associations.

EU-LAC Foundation meets representatives of EEAS and PPT of CELAC in Brussels

09 September 2022

From 7th to 8th of September an EU-LAC Foundation delegation took part in a series of meetings held in Brussels with representatives of European External Action Service (EEAS) and the Directorate for International Partnerships (DG INTPA) to discuss work proposals of the Foundation for the year 2023. Another meeting was held at the Embassy of Argentina with the representative of PPT of CELAC with a view to a potential Summit of Heads of State and Government of the European Union and Latin America and the Caribbean to be held in the second semester 2023 during the Spanish Presidency of the EU Council.

Read more!

Discussing the perspectives of the strategic relationship between the EU and CELAC in Madrid

26 July 2022

Leire Pajín, President of the EU-LAC Foundation and Carlos Maza, Programme Manager for Members’ Relations and Strategic Partners traveled to Madrid on July 18th to participate in meetings with the State Secretary for the European Union at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation of Spain and the Secretary General of the Organization of Ibero-American States for Education, Science and Culture.

Read more!
The challenge of working together: the challenges of the EU-LAC strategic relationship under debate in Yuste
21 July 2022

The EU-LAC Foundation was present at the inauguration of the course ‘The challenge of working together: European Union-Latin America and the Caribbean relations in the face of major global challenges’ of Campus Yuste. The objective of the course is to analyse, from a multilateralism perspective, the current context in the European Union-Latin America and the Caribbean relations and face the challenges at a global level to which bi-regional relations can contribute.

Read more!
Recent Publications

**Women of the Ecuadorian diaspora in Genoa. Migration, identity and memory**

The European Union-Latin America and the Caribbean International Foundation (EU-LAC Foundation) is pleased to present the publication “Women of the Ecuadorian Diaspora in Genoa: Migration, Identity and Memory”, by Emy Díaz Erazo, President of the Transdisciplinary Research Network for the Development of Latin America and the Caribbean MOEBIUS.

This publication was elaborated by Emy Díaz Erazo with the support of the EU-LAC Foundation as a result of the International Call to tender “Proposals for the elaboration of a compilation of testimonies on the cultural identities of the European diasporas in Latin America and the Caribbean or Latin American and Caribbean diasporas in Europe”, launched in 2021 as part of the EU-LAC Foundation’s mandate to promote the visibility of the partnership between the European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean and of the contributions of civil society from both regions.

The cultural ties between the European Union and Latin America and the Caribbean constitute one of the pillars of this bi-regional strategic partnership, which is why the EU-LAC Foundation has as one of its fundamental purposes “to promote cultural cooperation between both regions”. In this sense, the main objective of the tender was to present unpublished testimonies on cultural identities from transcontinental migration and diasporic experiences between generations of immigrants from Europe in Latin America and the Caribbean or immigrants from Latin America and the Caribbean in Europe, as a way to contribute to visibility and mutual knowledge and better understanding between both regions.

**Version in English:**
https://eulacfoundation.org/sites/default/files/2022-10/eu-lac-Mujeres_diaspora_ecuatoriana-EN.pdf

**Version in Spanish:**
Geopolitics of the Energy Transition: Potentials for EU-LAC Partnerships

At the global level, attempts at an energy transition that liberates us from hydrocarbons are not only shaking up the energy landscape, but the economic, social, political, and geopolitical landscapes as well. To the constant appearance of new challenges that contribute to deepening the fault lines between the different actors in this transition, we must now add the consequences of the Russian invasion of Ukraine. This Policy Brief analyzes relations between the European Union (EU) and Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) in terms of the geopolitical dimension of the energy transition amidst the COVID-19 crisis, the consequences of the Russian invasion of Ukraine, and the increase in disasters linked to climate change. It analyzes the challenges, opportunities, and inherent contradictions found in both bloc narratives and tools to confront the energy transition which — faced with Europe’s “war ecology” — has given new intensity to the theater of strategic rivalry between the United States and China. After examining LAC’s position towards the European approach vis-à-vis China, as well as its non-alignment with the Washington-Beijing axis, the Brief looks at the potential for bi-regional partnerships around the energy transition as a driver of democratic renewal with greater social inclusivity, strengthened strategic autonomy, and the decarbonization necessary to meet climate change goals. It concludes with a series of recommendations that are able to respond to these new challenges, opportunities, and contradictions in order to harness the potential of these partnerships.

This document was produced by the EU-LAC Foundation in collaboration with the Spanish edition of Le Grand Continent, a publication of the Groupe d’études géopolitiques, and the Coordinadora Regional de Investigaciones Económicas y Sociales. This is one product of the events co-organized as part of the V Annual Call for co-organising events on topics relevant to the bi-regional partnership between the European Union and Latin America and the Caribbean, which has been selecting initiatives based on the priority themes of the strategic relationship between the two regions every year since 2018.

Version in English:

Version in Spanish:
Digitalisation: social appropriation and public policies from an ethical and rights perspective

In the framework of the 9th Latin American and Caribbean Conference of Social Sciences (CLACSO), on 9 June 2022, the EU-LAC Foundation, together with the Latin American Council of Social Sciences (CLACSO), organised in Mexico City the forum “Digitalisation: social appropriation and public policies from an ethical and rights perspective”.

The forum aimed to address different aspects of the relationship between digitalisation and the various levels of social life permeated by digital technologies. The purpose of the forum was to encourage reflections and proposals regarding enhanced bi-regional cooperation between Latin America and the Caribbean and the European Union aimed at the incorporation and management of digital technologies from an ethical, social cohesion and rights perspective, adopting the principles established by the United Nations SDGs and the recent UNESCO Recommendation on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence.

Through the interventions and presentations of the panelists from Latin America and Europe, and the dialogue with the audience at the recent Forum, it was possible to articulate the risks and concerns associated with the digitization of different spheres of human life.

Specifically, in terms of gaps and exclusions, it was noted the limitation of democratic spaces, the expansion of symbolic and cultural hegemonies, and human rights violations. At the same time, it was highlighted the potential of technological appropriation, the opening of new spaces for access to education, mobilisation, the denunciation of human rights violations, and the transformation of public and democratic spaces. Critical analyses and the presentation of the results of scientific studies led to important reflections on necessary legal and regulatory frameworks, ethical criteria and options for action for both civil society and decision-makers at national, transnational and international levels, which deserve to be deepened in future analyses and spaces for dialogue.

Version in English:

Version in Spanish:
https://eulacfoundation.org/sites/default/files/2022-10/Reporte%20Foro%20CLACSO-%20ESP.pdf
Report: Towards sustainable tourism policies in Europe, Latin America, and the Caribbean

In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic put on hold the world’s tourism sector. Tourism businesses and venues suspended their operations, partially or in full, and for a very prolonged period in some cases. As borders closed, the biggest economic crisis since 1950 began. The link is clear: tourism is a key economic driver and source of employment, accounting for more than 20 percent of the gross domestic product (GDP) of some of the world’s strongest economies (United Nations, 2020).

In 2020, a 73 percent drop in international arrivals and a 64 percent reduction in international tourism revenue were recorded. Some 62 million people lost their jobs in the tourism sector (United Nations World Tourism Organization [UNWTO], 2021).

To save the tourism sector, all actors must participate and form partnerships to accelerate the shift to a tourism that is sustainable, socially responsible, and supportive of communities. To face the future with greater certainty, the sector needs new and innovative tourism models, which begin with the community, and which are inclusive and equitable, respectful of the environment and of people.

The EU-LAC Foundation and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) have therefore agreed to focus on tourism as a sector severely affected by the pandemic. This will include jointly organizing a series of events to foster dialogue and coordinate bi-regional perspectives on policies and initiatives in the European Union (EU), Latin America and the Caribbean for the sustainable recovery of this sector. This document is a product of one of those initiatives (a joint project of the UNDP Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean and the EU-LAC Foundation) to promote dialogue, cooperation, contribution and the exchange of good practices, programmes, and policies to help countries develop skills and institutional capacities that will help them achieve the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and build more sustainable, inclusive, and resilient tourism.

It is very important to note that this document is based on a bi-regional approach between the EU and Latin America and the Caribbean. Compared to other tourism-related tools previously presented by other entities, the innovative approach used here adds value to this initiative.

Version in English:

Version in Spanish:
Towards sustainable tourism policies in Europe, Latin America, and the Caribbean

This document summarizes the main findings generated in a bi-regional dialogue between the European Union (EU) and Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) regions of perspectives, knowledge, practices, instruments, and effective policies to tackle the effects of the pandemic in the tourism sector. The aim of the initiative “Good practices and recommendations to mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and sustainably transform tourism in Latin America and the Caribbean and the European Union” – a cycle of five digital and hybrid events held from September to December 2021, was to address challenges and opportunities associated with the recovery of the tourism sector and discuss with governmental and non-governmental experts from both regions recommendations and good practices to enable governments to develop tourism policies for a resilient tourism sector, by strengthening the capacities of all parties involved, thus building a tourism sector that is beneficial for society – economically, culturally, and environmentally sustainable and inclusive – and contributing to the implementation of the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda.

Version in English:

Version in Spanish:
New partnerships for development: Keys to strengthen the relationship between the EU and Central America

Current growing global challenges expose the need to strengthen a partnership between the European Union (EU) and Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC). In the case of Central America, there are shared objectives and interests that provide ample opportunities to strengthen the partnership and move towards renewed bi-regional cooperation. This cooperation can focus on common agendas such as an inclusive recovery from the pandemic and the promotion of fair digital and green transitions as ways to comprehensive address national, regional and global challenges. This paper is the result of a cooperation between the EU-LAC Foundation and the OECD Development Centre. The author is Martina Lejtreger.

Version in English:

Version in Spanish:

Multilateralism revisited: building resilience through transformation

This paper presents a review and contextualisation of the multilateral system, and proposes to address current debates on multilateral cooperation and partnerships between the European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean.

This document is one of the products of the events co-organised in the framework of the 4th Annual EU-LAC Call. The call for EU-LAC co-organised events selects, every year since 2018, initiatives to be developed around the strategic themes of the European Union-Latin America and the Caribbean relation. The webinar co-organised by the Jean Monnet Atlantic Network 2.0 and the EU-LAC Foundation aimed to promote a high-level debate on the potential contribution of the countries and regions of the Atlantic Basin to multilateralism in key aspects to face global challenges in the post-pandemic scenario, considering the Atlantic region as a laboratory of multilateral cooperation.

Version in English:

Version in Spanish:
Digital Conference: “European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean Young Scientists’ Networks Days 2022”

This document is a compilation of the presentations in the framework of the EU-LAC 2022 Young Scientists’ Networks Days. Between 14 and 18 March 2022, more than 200 young scientists from Latin America, the Caribbean and the European Union met virtually during the EU-LAC 2022 Young Scientists’ Networks Days, organised by the EU-LAC Foundation. The aim of the conference was to create links between the networks of young scientists present, as well as the articulation of their concerns, needs, ideas and perspectives on the EU-CELAC Common Area of Higher Education and bi-regional cooperation in Science, Technology and Innovation. The event also served to formulate proposals and inputs for dialogue with universities, university associations and decision-makers in the field of science in both regions, and to facilitate interaction, visualisation and strengthening of the networks present.

Version in English:

Version in Spanish:
**Blog Articles**

**European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean: new beginnings in the post-Covid world: The pandemic has opened a window of opportunity for EU-LAC relations**

Melany Barragán  
22 September 2022

On December 31, 2019, while virtually the entire planet was celebrating the turn of the year, the Wuhan Municipal Health Commission (Hubei Province, China) was reporting a cluster of pneumonia cases in the city. Few imagined then that a pandemic that would disrupt the global order was developing. 2019 had been a complex year where dissatisfaction with the political and socioeconomic situation had led citizens from different parts of the planet to mobilise against their authorities. From Lebanon to Ecuador, passing through France or Puerto Rico, the population raised its voice against the economic measures adopted by their States, climate change or gender violence. However, 2020 would be the most complex year at the global level in recent history.

**Gender, ideology or mandate?**

Anna Terrón  
26 August 2022

Almost a quarter of the 21st century has passed and there is no longer room for doubt. Gender equality is an imperative. Equality between women and men is a right included in practically all modern constitutions and, therefore, marks a political duty: to remove the obstacles that prevent effective equality.

**Read more!**
Upcoming Events

International Seminar: “The EU-LAC Strategic Association and the instruments of political and sectoral cooperation, trade, investment and sustainable development”

Given the current international context, Latin America and the Caribbean and the European Union must redouble their efforts to build strategic alliances, taking into account the shared values of democracy, sustainable development, human rights and the rule of law.

In view of the meeting of foreign ministers of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) and the EU in Buenos Aires, on October 27th, the EU-LAC Foundation together with the Carolina Foundation and the University of Buenos Aires organized the International Seminar “The EU-LAC Strategic Association and the instruments of political and sectoral cooperation, trade, investment and sustainable development”. This will aim to promote a dialogue with specialists and senior officials from the EU and LAC on the opportunities offered by the bi-regional strategic association and its instruments to respond to common challenges both regions are facing in the geopolitical and development spheres. The event will take place on 24th October in Buenos Aires, at the Faculty of Economics of the University of Buenos Aires (UBA).

Course co-organised by the Carolina Foundation, the EU-LAC Foundation and the University of Buenos Aires

Date and Place: 24 October 2022, Buenos Aires

The “Latin The changing geopolitical scenario following the pandemic and the invasion of Ukraine generates important challenges for the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) and the European Union (EU), both for their domestic and international policies.

The effects of the war in Ukraine will accelerate the increase of negative factors such as poverty, inflation and terms of trade, but should also be seen as part of other structural phenomena that have affected both regions in recent decades, such as the pandemic, the international financial crisis and the tense rivalry between China and the United States. Nevertheless, it is clear that the complexity and magnitude of the current problems require greater regional and extra-regional coordination and concerted action at the multilateral level to find sustainable solutions.

The objective of the International Seminar is to promote a dialogue, with experts and senior officials from the EU and LAC, on the opportunities offered by the EU-LAC trade and association agreement network - and in particular the AA with Mercosur - to respond to common challenges such as green transition, digital transformation, social inclusion or the revitalisation of multilateralism, in view of the objectives of both regions in the geopolitical field.

Co-organised event by EU-LAC Foundation, Carolina Foundation and University of Uruguay

Date and Place: 29 October 2022, Montevideo

More information on our website! 
Upcoming Events

2nd edition of the “Training and updating programme for young diplomats on the EU-CELAC strategic partnership”

The EU-LAC Foundation and the Foreign Service Institute of the Nation (ISEN) of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship of Argentina agreed to join forces for the development of a training course programme for foreign service officials 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 2021 with several 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 diplomatic officials and experts from both regions 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.

Co-organised event by the EU-LAC Foundation and the Foreign Service Institute of the Nation (ISEN) of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship of Argentina

Date and Place: 31 October 2022 - 04 November 2022, Buenos Aires

More information on our website!

Seminar: Local Actions for the Sustainability Development Goals (SDGs)

The EU-LAC Foundation, together with Universidad Nacional de Colombia (UNAL) and University College Cork (UCC) in Ireland are delighted to co-organise the event “Local Actions for the Sustainability Development Goals (SDGs)” on issues of relevance to the bi-regional association and aimed at contributing to the Foundation’s mandate in the priority area of Sustainable Development and Climate Change. The Seminar will take place from 1st to 4th of November at UNAL’s Campus.

University communities and local partner organisations, students, and staff from Colombia, Caribbean states and Ireland will gather in UNAL’s Caribe Campus & UNAL’s Bogota Campus for workshops and an innovation challenge to apply SDGs to community-university partnerships.

EU-LAC Foundation, UNAL and UCC also join forces with partner organisations CEMARIN, ASCUN, UPB, OBREAL Global, GOAL, MAREI, TRAJECTS to work together to foster innovative contributions to climate action in the Caribbean.

Co-organised event by EU-LAC Foundation, Universidad Nacional de Colombia (UNAL) and University College Cork (UCC)

Date and Place: 1-4 November 2022, UNAL Caribbean and Bogotá Campus

More information on our website!
The EU-LAC Foundation in collaboration and with the support of the European Union is pleased to present the III Europe - Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) Youth Days to be held at Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic, on 15-16 November 2022. The languages of the event will be English and Spanish. Plenary sessions, including panels, will be translated into both languages and the event will be held in a hybrid format to facilitate virtual access to the sessions.

In continuity with the successful first two editions held in Quito (Ecuador, 2015) and Zaragoza (Spain, 2018), this third edition of the EU-LAC Youth Days resumes the process of exchange and dialogue between young people from both regions.

The objective is to provide a platform for constructive and significant dialogues that involve young people from both regions in reflecting on the future of bi-regional relations between Latin America and the Caribbean and the European Union, and thereby providing ideas for the future. In this framework, will be discussed common challenges and opportunities linked to issues such as youth participation, advocacy and involvement, education, employment, social cohesion, and green and digital transitions.

Co-organised event by EU-LAC Foundation and the European Union

Date and Place: 15 November 2022 - 16 November 2022

More information and register on our website! https://eulacfoundation.org/en/iii-eu-lac-youth-days
In response to its mandate, and also recognising the potential of the bi-regional dialogue between the European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean, the EU-LAC Foundation launches the following call for the Third EU-LAC Essay Contest on global and/or sectorial issues concerning the bi-regional partnership. The main purpose of the EU-LAC Essay Contest is to encourage the writing of essays on topics of relevance to the bi-regional partnership, and, in particular, analytical papers aimed at increasing mutual understanding and offering pertinent ideas on the strengthening of cooperation between both regions. The essays submitted for the 2022 edition of the EU-LAC Essay Contest should focus on the future of education and the opportunities for bi-regional cooperation to advance in an inclusive, quality-based and sustainable transformation of the education sector.

### Award:

- **The essay that takes first place** will be awarded a prize of 2,500 euros (two thousand five hundred euros) as an advance on publication rights.
- **The essay in second place** will be awarded a prize of 1,500 euros (one thousand five hundred euros) as an advance on publication rights.
- **The essay that takes third place** will be awarded a prize of 1,000 euros (one thousand euros) as an advance on publication rights.

### Deadline: 13 November 2022

**Read more about the tender here!**

The EU-LAC Foundation is funded through the voluntary contributions of its Members and in particular, for this activity, from the European Union and the German Federal Foreign Office.