



**EU-LAC Foundation**  
**Fundación EU-LAC**

# Gender in times of post- COVID-19 recovery

## Index

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Introduction .....	3
Opinion Article.....	5
The EU-LAC Foundation commemorates its 2 <sup>nd</sup> Anniversary as an International Organisation .....	7
News .....	11
Recent Publications .....	14
Blog Articles.....	22
Upcoming Events .....	23
Tenders .....	26

# Introduction



## NEW PROPOSALS FOR THE NEWSLETTER

### **Adrián Bonilla**

Executive Director of the EU-LAC Foundation

This issue of the EU-LAC Foundation's Newsletter may come as a surprise for many since our last institutional Newsletter was sent only two months ago. In the past, the frequency of our thematic Newsletter was limited to approximately three times a year, collecting opinion articles from prestigious actors on highly relevant topics of the bi-regional strategic partnership between the European Union (EU), Latin America, and the Caribbean (LAC). The EU-LAC Foundation wants to maintain that space, but also to expand it to additional target groups, especially in the arenas of civil society and important social agents in both regions.

As part of its mandate, the EU-LAC International Foundation aims to embody an information and visibility platform regarding the thematic priorities of the bi-regional association and the great potential for strengthening the bi-regional ties through joint actions. To achieve this goal, we will increase the frequency of our Newsletter and facilitate its bi-monthly publication. By doing so, we aim to provide up-to-date news and inform more regularly about possibilities for participation, and the development of ongoing processes within the EU-CELAC association.

The Newsletters will continue to include an opinion article from a leading personality from the Caribbean, Latin America, or the European Union. The present episode features the distinguished Senator and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade of Jamaica, Ms Kamina Johnson-Smith, who shares her views on gender issues in times of post-COVID-19 recovery by virtue of her pioneering work on gender equality.

Since the EU-LAC Foundation seeks to convey diverse perspectives on strategic themes for the relationship between the countries of the European Union and Latin America and the Caribbean, we are constructing a new space on our website, the EU-LAC Blog, that offers the opportunity to publish author blog entries regarding the EU-CELAC strategic partnership. In doing so, the blog will serve as a knowledge repository where various strategic themes of the bi-regional partnership are discussed from different views – civil society, academia, governments, international organisations, etc. Consequently, it will highlight the numerous actors invested in the relationship between both regions, hence enhancing the already very close ties and partnerships between the EU and LAC. The EU-LAC Blog will offer the opportunity to reconcile various opinion articles, analysis and best practice examples from relevant actors and institutions in one central place.

This issue of our Newsletter is certainly a special one, even more since the EU-LAC Foundation recently celebrated its second anniversary as an international organisation on May 17. In this sense, we are delighted to present two opinion articles from Javier Niño, Deputy Executive Director for the Americas in the European External Action Service together with Paola Amadei, Former Executive Director of the EU-LAC Foundation 2016-2020, and Mauricio Escanero, Head of the Mission of Mexico to the European Union and Co-Chair of the Board of Governors of the EU-LAC Foundation. The authors have significantly driven the process of the institutional transformation into an international organisation. In their



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articles, they share their visions and expectations for the Foundation and reflect on the relevance of its status as an international organisation and its contribution to the strategic relations between the European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean.

We hope that you welcome these changes as much as we are happy to announce them, as they are important steps towards improving the visibility of the strategic EU-CELAC partnership, the involved institutions and individuals, and the initiatives of the EU-LAC Foundation itself. We care about your opinion and appreciate it if you could take some time to give us feedback at the end of this Newsletter.

## Opinion Article



### GENDER IN TIMES OF POST-COVID-19 RECOVERY

**Kamina Johnson Smith**

Senator and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade of Jamaica

More than a year after the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic we are very much aware of the extent and breadth of the negative impacts on our economy and people, especially on women and girls. As governments worldwide contemplate ways in which to lead their countries to build back stronger and better, we must consider that this presents a golden opportunity to ensure that women are appropriately placed as both contributors and beneficiaries of these processes for recovery.

The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in the loss of lives and livelihoods, burden on our healthcare systems, disruption in trade and tourism sectors and a significant fallout in our economies. In addition, the pandemic has exposed the social gaps and inequalities in our societies, including in the lack of or inadequate access to essential services and technology, particularly in rural communities. It is reported that gender-based violence has escalated for both women and girls as a result of the very measures taken to contain the spread of the disease.

There is no doubt that women have been disproportionately affected by the pandemic and have been financially and socially dislocated, bringing into greater focus the essential link between gender issues and sustainable development. The situation is further compounded by the fact that women comprise the majority of frontline workers and the COVID-19 response teams worldwide. In that regard, the issue of gender equality should be an integral component of the global post-COVID-19 recovery efforts.

According to U.N. Women reports, 70% of the global health-care workforce are women, yet only 30% of the leaders in the global health sector are women.

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), in its preliminary forecast, estimated that the female unemployment rate in 2020 would have been 22.2% for the region. COVID-19 containment protocols such as the closing of borders recorded an initial decrease in world trade. Remote work has resulted in reduced working hours or job losses mainly for female-dominated service sectors such as tourism, education, and paid domestic work. In order to build back stronger and more resilient societies, there must be a global commitment to take concrete action to achieve greater sensitisation to the realities that are unique to women. These include recognition of the multiple roles they play as mothers, teachers, breadwinners, caregivers and nation-builders. These actions must also be grounded in the sustainable development agenda aimed at greater advocacy, social equity, and economic empowerment. In addition, for the protection of the welfare of women, there must be collective action in the fight to eliminate violence against women and girls.

Of critical importance is ensuring the attainment of the highest standard of education possible for women and girls and for the removal of socio-economic barriers to the retention of young girls in schools. The importance of education and training, appropriate for a modern economy, is central to the future we want.



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Important lessons learnt from the experience of the COVID-19 pandemic, should help to shape a future that recognizes the invaluable role played by women as well as their vulnerabilities. Even as we seek to address the issue of gender inequality, consideration should also be given to present opportunities to formulate policies based on the principle of equal pay for equal work and an inclusive multi-sectoral approach to ensure that no one is left behind. Policies and programmes which are intended to protect women and girls from violence, must be pursued and implemented expeditiously and effectively at all relevant levels.

In a global environment of persistent gender inequalities, bold and decisive action will be required in order to dismantle social and cultural barriers that will ultimately lead to a paradigm shift towards achieving gender equality in leadership, policy-making and political representation.

The thrust to support the equal participation of women in rebuilding our societies can be facilitated by the involvement of women already in positions of leadership, in areas such as diplomacy, business, the health sector or in politics. In those capacities, women are provided with the opportunity to use their respective platforms for advocacy, for the exchange of ideas and information and for instigating and leading actions that would significantly contribute to strategies aimed at an effective and sustainable post COVID-19 recovery.

In order to secure growth and development in a post-COVID-19 recovery, it requires that women at all levels of society, be brought into the decision-making process and in ways that recognise the significant contributions that have historically been made by them in building back their communities and countries particularly in the post disaster period.

There is no question that increasing women's leadership in the COVID-19 recovery, including in the recovery of our economies, will contribute to bringing about a more equitable future, where both men and women can play a constructive role at all levels of society.

# The EU-LAC Foundation commemorates its 2nd Anniversary as an International Organisation



## ARTICLE FOR THE CELEBRATION OF TWO YEARS OF THE EU-LAC FOUNDATION

### Javier Niño Pérez

Deputy Executive Director, Department of the Americas,  
European External Action Service



### Paola Amadei

Former Executive Director  
of the EU-LAC Foundation 2016-2020

On this second anniversary of the entry into force of the Constitutive Agreement establishing the EU-LAC International Foundation, in our respective capacities as representatives of the European Co-Chair of the Board of Governors and as former Executive Director of the Foundation, we wish this agency and its members the greatest success in their valuable work at the service of the bi-regional relations.

In a world that seemed to have less and less confidence in multilateral instruments, the European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean succeeded two years ago in transforming the EU-LAC Foundation into a new international organisation, showing once again the shared confidence in global and regional governance structures and discarding the nationalist and isolationist temptation.

It is the first and only organisation that brings together only and exclusively the 60 countries of the two regions, as well as the European Union itself, and represents a tangible sign

of a relationship that has deep roots but could not be more relevant. The Foundation's mandate defines it as an instrument of dialogue and knowledge for the strengthening of the bi-regional relationship "involving participation and inputs of civil society and other social actors", reflecting a conception of the multilateral process not as a process exclusive to governmental bodies but open to the stimuli of society. Since its creation almost ten years ago, the Foundation has been weaving networks between the two sides of the Atlantic, involving new partners, connecting them with traditional partners, building bridges around key thematic axes and feeding the debate through research with a bi-regional focus. As a new organisation, the Foundation has not sought prominence but has placed itself at the service of its members and has acted as a catalyst for the efforts of various prestigious entities in both regions.

But above all, the Foundation's work has demonstrated relations that are stronger than any possible political disagree-



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ment or trade dispute, relations based on the closeness between their citizens.

The European Union has once again prioritised the ‘other transatlantic relationship’, as the High Representative, Josep Borrell, calls it, since the 2019 Communication ‘European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean: Joining forces for a common future’. Based on this Communication, endorsed by the EU Council, the usual cycle of bi-regional political dialogue meetings has resumed, with the ministerial meeting held in Berlin last December standing out.

Dialogue is essential to face together the global challenges, which are not necessarily new but have been particularly disruptive in the last year. The Foundation has already begun to promote fruitful reflection in this regard. This involves both identifying the challenges arising from climate change and the digital revolution, two pillars of the EU agenda defined before the pandemic and whose urgency has become even more palpable, and strengthening cooperation on health, both globally and bi-regionally. Our shared objective is clear: to build more sustainable, inclusive, just and caring societies, not simply seeking to return to the supposed pre-pandemic ‘normality’ but striving to “build back better”. This will also be reflected in EU cooperation programmes in the new multi-annual financial framework, which includes the push from the Foundation, among others, towards greater sensitivity to the challenges of middle-income countries.

The European Union and its Member States have already demonstrated their commitment to solidarity towards Latin America and the Caribbean: more than 2.4 billion Euros have so far been allocated to the region to address the health emergency, strengthen health systems, improve knowledge in epidemiological surveillance, and support economic recovery and social protection, without counting the contribution to the COVAX mechanism, of which most countries in the two regions are members.

At the multilateral level, the members of the Foundation have advocated and promoted side by side the strengthening and reform of governance, particularly in the framework of the United Nations and the World Health Organisation, especial-

ly with a view to contributing to a better preparedness and response to current and future pandemics. In this regard, we also hope to count on the support of Latin America and the Caribbean for the initiative, launched by the President of the European Council in the framework of the Special Session of the UN General Assembly, to adopt an international treaty on pandemics. Equally, reference should be made to the possibility addressed at the Berlin Ministerial meeting to create a research centre on infectious diseases in the Latin American and Caribbean region as a tool to link various institutions already engaged in research on these issues and thus improve preparedness and response. In all these tasks, the role of the EU-LAC Foundation as a channel for dialogue will continue to be appreciated, including notably the potential derived from the background of its President Leire Pajín in this sector.

In a few weeks, the BELLA transatlantic submarine cable will accelerate and enhance the exchange of data between the two continents; at the intellectual level, the EU-LAC Foundation has been the transmission cable of ideas between the two regions, supporting the intergovernmental process and providing it with momentum.





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## II ANNIVERSARY OF THE EU-LAC FOUNDATION. PROGRESS AND PERSPECTIVES.

### **Ambassador Mauricio Escanero**

Head of the Mission of Mexico to the European Union and Co-Chair of the Board of Governors of the EU-LAC Foundation

In my capacity as Co-Chair of the Board of Governors of the EU-LAC Foundation, representing the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), I am pleased to join this dialogue on the occasion of the commemoration of the second anniversary of the establishment of our Foundation as an international organisation, an auspicious occasion to reflect on the journey undertaken and to look ahead.

Vision and perseverance have guided the Foundation's steps. Conceived as a platform to strengthen and highlight the potential of our bi-regional strategic partnership through inclusive debate geared towards solidarity action, the Foundation was born at the Latin America and Caribbean-European Union Summit in Madrid in 2010. Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, was honoured to host the signing of the Constitutive Agreement in 2016, and Hamburg, Germany, to host the Foundation. On 17 May 2019, culminating a decade of joint efforts on both sides of the Atlantic, we reached the number of ratifications required for the entry into force of our Constitutive Agreement. Today, the EU-LAC Foundation has 62 member countries and the commitment to continue promoting and consolidating our bi-regional strategic partnership, with the engagement and contributions of civil society in support of the promotion of mutual knowledge and understanding between the two regions and their global projection.

The initial steps of the EU-LAC Foundation as an international organisation have coincided with Mexico's Pro Tempore Presidency of CELAC in the period 2020-2021, and this has provided us with an excellent opportunity to enhance syn-

ergies around the shared priority of revitalising political dialogue and bi-regional cooperation with an innovative and inclusive profile, fully multilateralist. Our converging purposes have come together in a virtuous synthesis of work.

Thus, the Mexican Mission to the European Union assumed the Co-Presidency of the EU-LAC Foundation's Board of Governors in January 2020, supporting the emergence of the EU-LAC Foundation as a leading international organisation, capable of providing a decisive impulse to the ongoing strengthening of strategic relations between Latin America and the Caribbean and the European Union, with a positive impact on our societies.

To this end, in the last two years, we have made progress in strengthening the Foundation as a privileged space for dialogue and reflection on the key issues that will define the scope and achievements of the bi-regional CELAC-EU partnership in our rapidly changing world: the projection of our culture, quality education for all, gender equality, comprehensive support for youth, and the challenges and opportunities of the technological revolution and the ecological transition, among other issues of global importance.

In this intense period, two major priorities have been the focus of our attention: the bi-regional contribution to the articulation of the global response to the COVID-19 pandemic and, in broader terms, our joint contribution in favour of a strengthened international cooperation, based on multilateralism as the ideal way to forge the consensus required to



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advance towards equitable and sustainable development on a global scale. In this line, from April 2020 to date, we have organised more than ten high-level multi-stakeholder seminars, under virtual modality, addressing in an interdisciplinary and prospective manner such relevant topics as EU-LAC scientific cooperation for pandemic management and the financing and equitable distribution of vaccines against COVID-19 in middle-income countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as two reflection forums dedicated to multilateralism and bi-regional partnership in the face of the COVID-19 crisis, and to the contributions of our bi-regional strategic partnership to the configuration of a fair, supportive and sustainable global recovery.

This multilateralist vocation of our bi-regional strategic partnership was also underpinned and highlighted by the publication of our Foundation's Newsletter in June 2020, which included, among other important contributions, the text by the Mexican Secretary of Foreign Affairs, Marcelo Ebrard Casaubon, entitled: "The way forward: Mexican multilateralism in the face of global crises". In his reflection, Foreign Minister Ebrard, after stressing that the crisis we are currently experiencing is unprecedented, calls for a deepening of the defence of multilateralism and a rethinking of the international architecture in order to effectively face the challenges of the future, through dialogue and cooperation for innovative action.

Furthermore, moving towards a higher stage of synergy with the purposes of bi-regional CELAC-EU cooperation, last October the EU-LAC Foundation participated as an observer in the re-launch of the CELAC-EU Joint Initiative on Research and Innovation, jointly led by Foreign Minister Marcelo Ebrard Casaubon, in his capacity as President Pro Tempore of CELAC, and the Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth of the European Commission, Ms. Mariya Gabriel. This relaunch was preceded by an intense, open and participatory consultation process facilitated by the Mission of Mexico to the European Union as Pro Tempore Presidency of CELAC in Brussels, which allowed reaching important bi-regional consensus oriented towards tangible results, embodied in the Joint Press Release and the Strategic Roadmap 2021-2023 for bi-regional cooperation in

science, technology and innovation that emanated from this exercise, and in whose implementation our Foundation will be able to provide valuable support.

The Foundation's first steps have pointed the way towards long-term transformational actions. With this momentum, going forward, the Foundation should continue to play a fundamental role in the design and deployment of the architecture of our bi-regional strategic partnership and its multilateralist profile. Let these lines serve to highlight this aspiration and reiterate the commitment of Mexico and CELAC to the continued flourishing of our Foundation in the years to come.

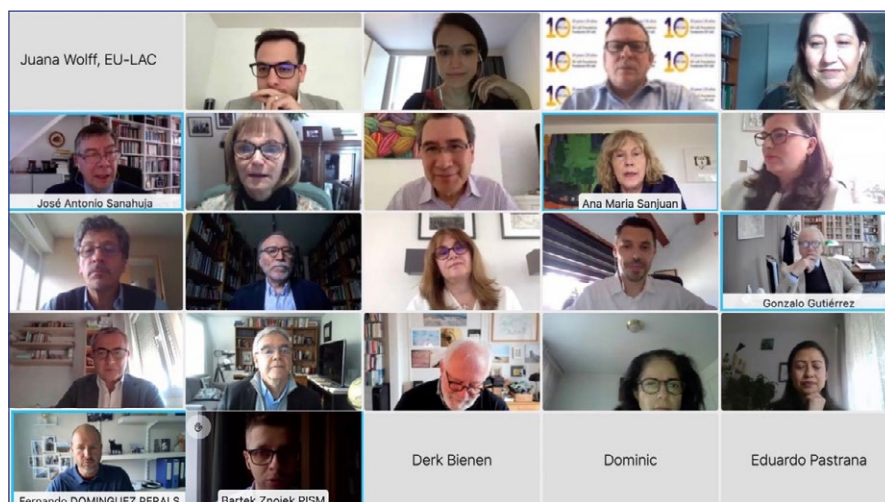
## News

### New Challenges for Association Agreements EU-Latin America and the Caribbean: I. Workshop

20 May 2021

The EU-LAC Foundation together with the [Fundación Carolina](#) organised the first Workshop of the joint project “Network of Association Agreements between the European Union and Latin America and the Caribbean”,

which presented the progress of studies carried out on the Multi-Party Agreement (EU-Colombia/EU-Ecuador/EU-Peru) by Prof. Alain Fairlie, and on the EU-Chile Association Agreement by Beatriz Hernández.



Read more: <https://eulacfoundation.org/en/new-challenges-association-agreements-eu-latin-america-and-caribbean-i-workshop-o>

### COVID-19 in Latin America and the impact on the bi-regional relations with Europe

11 May 2021

On Friday, 7th of May the President of the EU-LAC International Foundation, Leire Pajín, participated in the event “COVID-19 in Latin America and the impact on the bi-regional relations with Europe” which was organised by the Senate of Hamburg within the

framework of the Europe Week in Hamburg, and which gave an overview of the political, social and economic consequences of COVID-19 in Latin America and their impacts on the European Union.



Read more: <https://eulacfoundation.org/en/covid-19-latin-america-and-impact-bi-regional-relations-europe>

## Keynote Lecture of Dr Adrián Bonilla in the Diplomatic Academy of Peru

30 April 2021

The Director of the EU-LAC International Foundation, Dr Adrián Bonilla, gave a lecture on 29 April 2021 to students of the Diplomatic Academy of Peru “Javier Pérez de Cuéllar”, in the pres-

ence of the Director of the Academy, Ambassador Gustavo Meza-Cuadra, as well as Ambassador Gonzalo Gutiérrez, Head of Mission of Peru to the European Union.



Read more: <https://eulacfoundation.org/en/keynote-lecture-dr-adrian-bonilla-diplomatic-academy-peru>

## Video Message Dr Adrián Bonilla during 2021 EUA Annual Conference

26 April 2021

The Executive Director of the EU-LAC International Foundation, Dr Adrián Bonilla, was invited to speak during the

European University Association (EUA) Annual Conference, which took place from 22-23 April 2021.



Watch his speech here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bez-XAs-YW-8>



## The EU-LAC Foundation promotes bi-regional cooperation towards ecological recovery through the XII. EU-LAC Reflection Forum

21 April 2021

Read more: <https://eulacfoundation.org/en/eu-lac-foundation-promotes-bi-regional-cooperation-towards-ecological-recovery-through-xii-eu-lac>

On 19-20 April 2021, a total of 98 participants from 44 EU and LAC delegations met at the XII. Reflection Forum “Contributions of the Bi-regional Strategic Partnership to Shaping a Greener Recovery” to exchange on challenges, national strategies and the potential of international cooperation for a green recovery. The Reflection Forum was organised by the International EU-LAC Foundation in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia to provide an informal

platform for discussion between senior government officials and experts from international organisations and academia on the relations between the European Union (EU), Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) around a systemic green transformation. The objective was to achieve a frank and useful exchange and understanding of different points of view as well as to identify the challenges that both regions are facing and to explore opportunities for cooperation.



## Master Conference “The reinvention of Europe” by Dr Adrián Bonilla

12 April 2021

Watch this keynote lecture here. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tERISmERD3A>

This day the Executive Director of the EU-LAC International Foundation, Dr Adrián Bonilla was invited to give a Master Lecture under the theme “The reinvention of Europe: current issues and future scenarios” in the framework of the XVII Interuniversity Meeting of European Studies organized by the Center for European Studies (CEE) of the Faculty of Political and Social Sciences of the UNAM, Mexico.



## Recent Publications



### Policy Brief “COVID-19 Vaccines: The Global Challenge of Equitable Distribution and Access”

The EU-LAC Policy Brief “COVID-19 Vaccines: the global challenge of equitable distribution and access” is the outcome of the EU-LAC Dialogue Sessions that took place on 23-24 March in a digital format. For more information on the event and further event materials see [here](#).

With the challenge of developing efficient and safe vaccines against the coronavirus having been overcome in record time, **the most pressing challenge of the current phase of the pandemic lies in the enormous asymmetry between demand and supply of COVID-19 vaccines.** By the end of March 2021, 462,824,374 doses of vaccine have been administered globally. The vast majority of these doses have been produced and distributed in the most developed regions and countries. The slowness of this uneven deployment is due largely to limited global vaccine production, but also to insufficient funding and coordination of distribution, which questions the limitations of global governance in the face of a crisis of this scale.

With the exception of Cuba, **the vast majority of Latin American and Caribbean countries lack the scientific and industrial capacities and rely heavily on both vaccine and various other medical supplies imports.** Beyond the difficult access to vaccines, the slow pace is also due to **reduced capacities in terms of logistics, distribution and coverage of health systems.**

In parallel to addressing the pandemic in the region, **the EU has, since the beginning of the pandemic, advocated for a multilateral approach that will ensure that everyone in the world has access to vaccines.** Together with the Member States, the European Commission is a major contributor to COVAX - the COVID-19 Global Access to Vaccines Facility for equitable and affordable distribution to low- and middle-income countries.

In order to achieve a rapid distribution of vaccines to the world’s population, and with priority amongst vulnerable groups and health personnel, **the current instruments of regional (within LAC), bi-regional (between LAC and the EU) and international coordination and cooperation deserve to be better exploited and more innovative** in the face of a pandemic of this nature (including the declaration of the vaccine as a public good and the more flexible management of intellectual property and production licences), **whilst also not missing the opportunity to opt for a better reconstruction, geared towards economic, social and environmental sustainability, including a determined commitment to investments in science, research and technology, the development of logistical capacities and regional value chains.**

#### Version in English:

[https://eulacfoundation.org/sites/default/files/2021-04/1%20EU-LAC%20Policy%20Brief\\_EN\\_o.pdf](https://eulacfoundation.org/sites/default/files/2021-04/1%20EU-LAC%20Policy%20Brief_EN_o.pdf)

#### Version in Spanish:

[https://eulacfoundation.org/sites/default/files/2021-04/1%20EU-LAC%20Policy%20Brief\\_ES\\_1.pdf](https://eulacfoundation.org/sites/default/files/2021-04/1%20EU-LAC%20Policy%20Brief_ES_1.pdf)

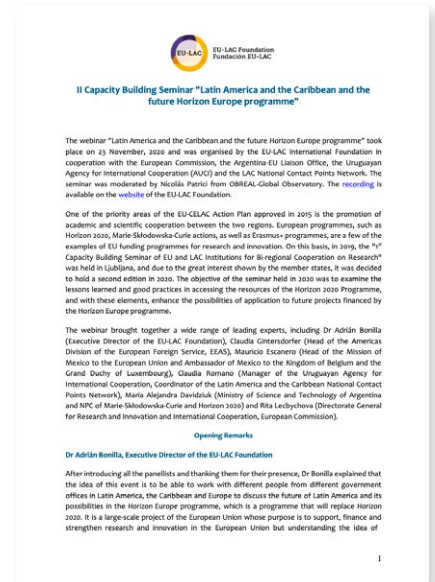
## II Capacity Building Seminar “Latin America and the Caribbean and the future Horizon Europe programme”

The webinar “Latin America and the Caribbean and the future Horizon Europe programme” took place on 23 November, 2020 and was organised by the EU-LAC International Foundation in cooperation with the European Commission, the Argentina-EU Liaison Office, the Uruguayan Agency for International Cooperation (AUCI) and the LAC National Contact Points Network. The seminar was moderated by Nicolás Patrici from OBREAL-Global Observatory. [The recording is available on the YouTube page of the EU-LAC Foundation.](#)

One of the priority areas of the EU-CELAC Action Plan approved in 2015 is the promotion of academic and scientific cooperation between the two regions. European programmes, such as Horizon 2020, Marie-Sklodowska-Curie actions, as well as Erasmus+ programmes, are a few of the examples of EU funding programmes for research and innovation. On this basis, in 2019, the “1st Capacity Building Seminar of EU and LAC Institutions for Bi-regional Cooperation on Research” was held in Ljubljana, and due to the great interest shown by the member states, it was decided to hold a second edition in 2020. The objective of the seminar held in 2020 was to examine the lessons learned and good practices in accessing the resources of the Horizon 2020 Programme, and with these elements, enhance the possibilities of application

to future projects financed by the Horizon Europe programme.

The webinar brought together a wide range of leading experts, including Dr Adrián Bonilla (Executive Director of the EU-LAC Foundation), Claudia Gintersdorfer (Head of the Americas Division of the European Foreign Service, EEAS), Mauricio Escanero (Head of the Mission of Mexico to the European Union and Ambassador of Mexico to the Kingdom of Belgium and the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg), Claudia Romano (Manager of the Uruguayan Agency for International Cooperation, Coordinator of the Latin America and the Caribbean National Contact Points Network), María Alejandra Davidziuk (Ministry of Science and Technology of Argentina and NPC of Marie-Sklodowska-Curie and Horizon 2020) and Rita Lecbychova (Directorate General for Research and Innovation and International Cooperation, European Commission).



### Version in English:

[https://eulacfoundation.org/sites/default/files/2021-04/Report\\_Webinar\\_Horizon\\_Europe.pdf](https://eulacfoundation.org/sites/default/files/2021-04/Report_Webinar_Horizon_Europe.pdf)

### Version in Spanish:

[https://eulacfoundation.org/sites/default/files/2021-04/Reporte\\_Webinario\\_Horizonte\\_Europa.pdf](https://eulacfoundation.org/sites/default/files/2021-04/Reporte_Webinario_Horizonte_Europa.pdf)





## Women in Movement in Latin America, the Caribbean and Europe

This publication is the result of the colloquium “Women in Movement in Latin America, the Caribbean and Europe” held in the form of three webinars November 2020, as part of the annual meeting organised since 2012 with the support of the EU-LAC (European Union Latin America and the Caribbean) Foundation, the [French Development Agency \(AFD\)](#) and the [Institut des Amériques \(IdA\)](#).

The webinars aimed to break with gender stereotypes according to which women would more or less passively suffer their living conditions and would therefore be victims with no capacity for action. The “Women in Movement” scientific project, therefore, set itself the task of overturning these representations by highlighting the actions taken by Latin American, Caribbean and European women to combat the various forms of discrimination and violence they suffer.

The online seminars, therefore, sought to highlight the diversity of contemporary women’s initiatives to combat the discrimination and violence suffered on both sides of the Atlantic. The aim was to bring together diverse voices from civil society and not only from the academic world, to give a voice to the women themselves, to make their actions, their initiatives and their hopes visible. The scientific project was divided into three parts: women’s political action, their inclusion in cities and their fight against violence. These three webinars

set out to go beyond the observation to discuss concrete actions and initiatives implemented in Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean in recent years and even during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**The objective of the first webinar, entitled “Organising in the feminine”, was to show the diversity of organisational forms and the participation of women in different areas of economic, political and social life. The second, “Gender, urbanism and public policies”, looked at the city as a space experienced by women who, far from being confined to the domestic space, go out and move around in it daily, under constraining conditions that they seek to overcome. The last one, devoted to “violence against women: from observation to action”, focused on a central aspect of feminist mobilisations in recent decades, namely gender violence, by considering the actions of women and public authorities to combat this scourge. This book brings together most of the papers presented during the three sessions of the conference.**

### Version in French, English and Spanish:

<https://eulacfoundation.org/sites/default/files/2021-05/Femmes%20en%20Mouvement%20%28FR%2C%20EN%2C%20SP%29.pdf>

### Access the recordings on YouTube here:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E13ngsJw1R8&list=PLdalrXrw-4bcKToJT\\_XEwcHUK-73TghMGs](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E13ngsJw1R8&list=PLdalrXrw-4bcKToJT_XEwcHUK-73TghMGs)



## Exchange on Quality Standards in the Offer of Postgraduate Virtual Academic Courses in the European Union and Latin America and Caribbean

This document is based on a virtual meeting of Higher Education and Postgraduate Institutions from the European Union and Latin America and the Caribbean entitled “Exchange on quality standards in the offer of virtual postgraduate academic courses in the European Union (EU), Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC)”, co-organised by the EU-LAC Foundation and the Ibero-American General Secretariat (SEGIB), on 8th April 2021, in the framework of the preparation of the XXVII Ibero-American Summit.

The objective of this meeting, held with representatives of universities, higher education associations, quality assurance networks and other relevant actors in the field of accreditation, was to address the question of how to ensure recognised quality standards in online master’s and PhD programmes offered by European, Latin American and Caribbean universities. The dialogue focussed on the following questions:

- the most important challenges that the participating entities have been experiencing in your efforts to guarantee the quality of investigation and virtual teaching in the context of the pandemic;
- the methodologies and tools that have recently been established or updated in the EU and LAC regions in order to safeguard the quality standards of distance education and online courses;

- the need to converge around a common reference framework of (minimum) quality standards for distance education and the next steps of a roadmap towards such a framework;
- the construction of an international quality assurance regime.

Interventions during the meeting were made by Dr Adrián Bonilla (EU-LAC Foundation) – opening remarks, and Dr Rebeca Grynspan (Ibero-American General Secretariat – SEGIB) – closing remarks, Dr Ricardo Mairal (European Association of Distance Teaching Universities – EADTU), Dr Hugo Juri (National University of Córdoba), Dr Miguel Ángel Castro (Ibero- American Postgraduate University Association – AUIP), Dr Antonio López (University of Santiago de Compostela), Dr Stephan Gift (The University of the West Indies - UWI), Dr Josep Planell (Interuniversity Development Centre – CINDA), Dr Melchor Sánchez Mendiola (National Autonomous University of Mexico – UNAM), Dr Alexander Hasgall (European University Association – EUA), Dr Néstor Pan (Ibero-American System for Quality Assurance of Higher Education – SIACES), Dr María Pilar Delgado Hito (University of Barcelona) and Dr Antonio Serrano González (European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education – ENQA). The meeting was also attended by Dr María Lurdes Correia Fernandes (University of Porto) and Dr Carmen Vargas Macias (University of Seville).



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## The structure, organisation and institutional management of university research

In conditions of scarce human, material, and financial resources, how can research be organised and managed in order to generate scientific knowledge and technological solutions of quality, relevance and impact for the well-being and development of peoples and countries, while enhancing the meaningful learning of students?

This online forum was aimed at exchanging visions, experiences, good practices and proposals for regional, Central American and international collaboration in this field. It was introduced and moderated by the president of SIRCIP (Central American and Caribbean Regional System of Research and Postgraduate Studies) of CSUCA, followed by three interventions, marking different experiences in research management:

- the University of El Salvador (UES), highlighting the dynamics of the country and the Central American region, its challenges and needs in terms of capacity building;
- the experience of the [Mimir Andino project](#), an Erasmus+ project coordinated by the Association of Colombian Universities (ASCUN) and OBREAL Global, which has developed a model for university management of research in Andean countries; and
- the experience of a European regional university, the University of Extremadura in Spain, which can provide important lessons for university research and its relevance for regional development.

## Innovation in teaching and learning processes and quality assurance

Often times it is claimed that Central American higher education has generally been overburdened, and too focused on content and the use of traditional teaching methods. It has paid not enough attention to the key competences that people need to be successful as citizens, professionals, and decision-makers in the 21st century. It is argued that society and the world of work are changing rapidly and profoundly, and that the education offered in the region needs to change accordingly.

Quality assurance and accreditation of higher education can be an instrument for change, inspiring and supporting innovation in teaching-learning processes in the spirit of continuous improvement,

or it can be a bureaucratic burden and a further obstacle for universities. What would be the key to achieve the former and avoiding the latter? What international lessons can be drawn from different parts of the world?

This virtual forum followed up on the HICA and CAN INNOVATE projects (a proposal by CSUCA and OBREAL Global for the Erasmus+ programme to develop learning innovation centres in CSUCA member universities). It aimed to exchange views on innovation in learning from different perspectives (from universities, national systems, quality agencies... from Central America and Europe) and explore opportunities for regional and international collaboration in this field.

**OBREAL GLOBAL IN FOCUS 2021**

**Webinar Report**

**"The structure, organisation and institutional management of university research"**

Virtual Forum prior to the IX Central American University Congress  
Co-organised by CSUCA, OBREAL GLOBAL and EU-LAC FOUNDATION

18 March, 2021  
Time: 9:00 am (Guatemalan time) // 16:00 CET

**Agenda**

TIME	ACTIVITY
09:00 - 09:10 (Guatemala) 16:00-16:10 (CET)	Opening of the webinar <b>Dr Carlos Alvarado Cerros</b> , CSUCA Secretary General
09:10 - 09:30 (Guatemala) 16:10-16:30 (CET)	Welcome from <b>OBREAL Global</b> and the <b>EU-LAC Foundation</b> <b>Elizabeth Calves</b> , Project Director, OBREAL Global <b>Dr Ana Barrene</b> , Senior Programme Coordinator, EU-LAC Foundation
09:30 - 10:45 (Guatemala) 16:30-17:45 (CET)	Interactive panel, moderated by <b>Dr. Amanda Escobar</b> , President of the Central American and Caribbean Regional System for Research and Postgraduate Studies (SIRCP/CSUCA) <b>Dr José Miguel Serrano</b> , Director of Scientific Research, University of El Salvador <b>Dr Elizabeth Bernal</b> , Academic Director, ASQU/Chair of the South American Chapter of OBREAL Global and Coordinator of the Andalus Mirror project <b>Dr Alfonso Manuel Reynolds</b> , University of Extremadura, Spain
10:45 - 11:00 (Guatemala) 16:45-18:00 (CET)	Conclusions and closure <b>Dr Amanda Escobar</b> , President SIRCP, CSUCA

**Introduction**

In conditions of scarce human, material, and financial resources, how can research be organised and managed in order to generate scientific knowledge and technological solutions of quality, relevance and impact for the well-being and development of peoples and countries, while enhancing the meaningful learning of students?

This online forum was aimed at exchanging visions, experiences, good practices and proposals for regional, Central American and international collaboration in this field. It was introduced and moderated by the president of SIRCP (Central American and Caribbean Regional System of

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## Generating, promoting and applying research results

An important issue for the development of research in Central America is not only capacity building, but also the consideration of policies, tools, and strategies for communicating, evaluating and leveraging research results in order to generate greater societal impact. How can research results be managed for publication, transfer and use with respect to performance and quality assessment, accountability and the delivery of effective services to society, but also to provide visibility, strengthen relationships and highlight the value of the work generated in a university? In these considerations, aspects such as

open science, repositories Institutional issues, bibliometrics, the evaluation of academic merit, the editorial policy of scientific books and journals, intellectual property and actions for the transfer of knowledge to society play an extremely important role.

This virtual seminar sought to foster the exchange of views, experiences, good practices and proposals aimed at strengthening Central American regional collaboration and bi-regional collaboration between Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean in this field.

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## Regional academic harmonisation: The role of qualifications

Regional higher education integration remains an important political priority in different parts of the world, driven by different forces and entailing different policy choices. In Central America, it has its own dynamic, driven in a very bottom-up fashion with the support of regional organisations and networks that create a space for cooperation in the sector. Amongst the priorities of CSUCA, for example, has been the promotion of qualifications frameworks for higher education as a means to help systems dialogue and also to support universities to reform their curricula towards learning outcomes-oriented approaches. In the context of the Erasmus+ project HICA (2015-2018), qualifications frameworks (regional and national) were seen as motors educational innovation and regional academic harmonisation. This forum will explore the following questions:

- Where is the Qualifications Framework for Central American Higher Education (MCESCA) standing now, and how is it used at the level of universities and systems
- How do Central American integration dynamics compare to other regions? For example, how have the Bologna Process objectives evolved with respect to harmonisation and what can Central America learn?

The forum will entail an exchange of information, visions, and experiences on qualifications frameworks (achievements, challenges and opportunities for the future). Furthermore, from a European perspective, the panel will offer a reflection on the Bologna process and the 2021 Rome Ministerial Summit.



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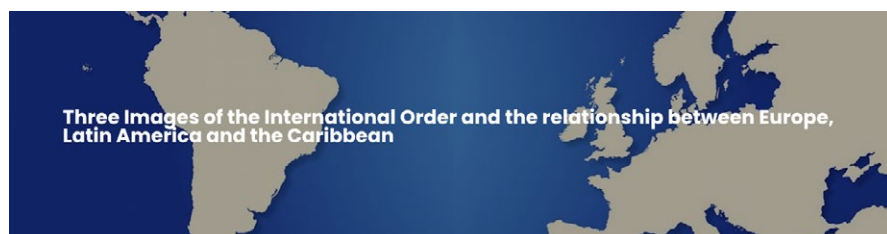
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## Blog Article

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### Three Images of the International Order and the relationship between Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean

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31 May 2021

**Adrián Bonilla**

The relationship between Europe and Latin America and the Caribbean cannot be explained without introducing a context that refers to how the contemporary international order is being constructed. In order to account for this phenomenon, very schematically, we can allude to a conventional and classic vision, that which prioritises identifying the distribution of capacities of the sources of international power: economic, defence or political resources; we can also evoke the image of what

has been defined as globalisation and interdependence, especially the process of world interaction at the productive, financial or market levels; and also the image of international reordering that visualises a global process characterised by the dispersion of political resources across the planet, as well as the increasingly accentuated limits of the hegemonic capacities that national states had in the 19th and 20th centuries: the image of No one's World (Kupchan, 2014).

**Read more:**

<https://eulacfoundation.org/en/three-images-international-order-and-relationship-between-europe-latin-america-and-caribbean>

# Upcoming Events

## Societies, crises and public health in the European Union and Latin America and the Caribbean

International Colloquium organised in cooperation with the [Institut des Amériques \(IdA\)](#), the French Development Agency (AFD) and with the support of the [French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs](#) and the [European Commission](#).

In 2021 the colloquium will deal with the theme “Societies, crises and public health (COVID-19) in Europe and Latin America and the Caribbean” and will take place in a virtual format on 31 May, 1 and 2 June. The colloquium is structured in an opening session, keynote lectures, round tables and a closing session. Participants will include policymakers and local authorities, representatives of international, regional, financial and media organisations, researchers from Latin America, the Caribbean and the European Union.

**Date and Place:** 1 May – 2 June 2021

**Event Online**

**Time:** 15:00h CEST

**More information and register:**

<https://eulacfoundation.org/en/international-colloquium-societies-crises-and-public-health-eu-and-lac>

## Cafés Mimir Andino

Series of five virtual discussions co-organised with [OBREAL Global](#), ASCUN and the [Mimir Andino project](#), co-financed by the European Union, in the framework of the Erasmus+ CBHE (Capacity Building in Higher Education) Programme.

This series of five virtual discussions is intended to serve the project’s partner universities and especially their research leadership. The activities gather experts and specialists from Europe and Latin America to share reflections and examples with leaders in R&I management associated with the project, and rectors and vice-rectors associated with the Mimir Andean project. The objectives of the Cafés Mimir Andino are to generate ideas around the implementation of the research management model to be proposed by the project; to offer a networking space for research leadership; and to generate international debates, relating the main theme to different political and economic contexts.

**Café Mimir Andino 1:** Specialisation of public research and investment

**Café Mimir Andino 2:** Communicating research: university and public opinion

**Café Mimir Andino 3:** Scientific recognition and incentives for the researcher’s career

**Café Mimir Andino 4:** Management and information systems for the institutional development of research in universities

**Café Mimir Andino 5:** Patent and technology transfer policies

**Date:** 15 & 29 June, 13 & 27 July 2021

**Event Online**

**Time:** 15:00 – 16:30 h CEST

**More information and register on our website!**

<https://eulacfoundation.org/en/cafe-mimir-andino-1-specialisation-public-research-and-investment>



## New Challenges for Association Agreements EU-Latin America and the Caribbean

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Series of workshops within the project “Network of Association Agreements between the European Union and Latin America and the Caribbean” co-organised with the [Fundación Carolina](#).

The two foundations have agreed to carry out a comprehensive study on the network of Association Agreements between the European Union and Latin America and the Caribbean. As a result of this study, a series of virtual workshops will be held from 20th of May to 1st of July 2021 with the participation of the main stakeholders in each of the Association Agreements (governments, officials from both regions, experts, parliamentarians, private sector and civil society organisations).

The initiative aims at reviewing the mapping of the association agreements between both regions to identify to what extent their ratification, modernisation and full use can contribute to a better international insertion, in economic matters and in the international relations of each party. The study also looks at the transitions that must be undertaken in the EU and Latin America in aspects such as sustainable development, digitalisation, and social cohesion.

II Workshop: EU - Cuba

III Workshop: EU-Central America + EU - Mexico

IV Workshop: EU - Mercosur

V Workshop: EPA EU – Caribbean

## 4th Ordinary Meeting of the Board of Governors of the EU-LAC International Foundation

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The IV Ordinary Meeting of the Board of Governors of the EU-LAC International Foundation will be held on 10 June 2020, by telematic means, due to the health measures adopted by the local authorities still in place to prevent the spread of COVID-19. This will be the first ordinary session of 2021, in which the members of the Board of Governors will be able to adopt the decisions and resolutions necessary for the proper operational and programmatic functioning of the Foundation, in accordance with the provisions of the Foundation’s Constitutive Agreement, which came into force on 17 May 2019.

**Date and Place:** 3, 17 & 24 June, 1 July 2021

**Event Online**

**Time:** 16:30 – 18:30 h CEST

**Participation is  
by personal invitation only.**

**Date and Place:** 10 June 2021

**Event Online**

**Time:** 15:30 – 18:30 h CEST

**Participation is  
by personal invitation only.**



## Keynote Lecture Series: The COVID-19 Crisis and Pathways to Sustainable Recovery in the European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean

Series of six virtual Keynote Lecture Series co-organised with Latin American Studies Programme of the [University of Hamburg](#).

Based on the need felt by both institutions to engage in the joint search for sustainable and transformative ways out of the crisis in its different dimensions, the EU-LAC Foundation and the Latin American Studies Programme of the University of Hamburg have developed, throughout 2021, a series of 6 virtual Keynote Lectures under the title “The COVID-19 Crisis and Pathways to Sustainable Recovery in the European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean”. With this series of lectures, both institutions want to contribute to the generation of knowledge and the exchange between scientists, civil society actors, public officials and decision-makers on concepts, best practices and public policies that have been developed in Latin American, Caribbean and European countries to promote a “better” and sustainable recovery of the sectors and areas that have been particularly affected by the pandemic.

- Keynote Lecture 1:** Sustainable recovery of public health systems
- Keynote Lecture 2:** Sustainable recovery of educational institutions
- Keynote Lecture 3:** Sustainable recovery of the economic sector
- Keynote Lecture 4:** Recovery towards a more balanced gender relations
- Keynote Lecture 5:** Sustainable recovery of cities
- Keynote Lecture 6:** Sustainable recovery in favour of socially minoritised groups / migrant population

**Date and Place:**

17 June, 1, 15 & 29 July 2021,  
12 & 26 August,

**Time:** 16:30 – 18:00 h CEST

**Event Online****More information and register on our website!**

<https://eulacfoundation.org/en/keynote-lecture-series-sustainable-recovery-public-health-systems>

# Tenders

## Open Call for Presenting a Paper at the „Euro-Latin American and Caribbean Congress“



The Centre of Ibero-American Studies of the [Rey Juan Carlos University \(URJC\)](#) and the EU-LAC Foundation extend a cordial invitation to all young experts or researchers in the field of Ibero-American, Latin American and Caribbean Culture who are interested in demonstrating their research work to present a paper at the [“Euro-Latin American and Caribbean Congress - The Necessary Creation of a Euro-Latin American Cultural Space: Values, Principles and Proposals”](#).

The EU-LAC Foundation and the Rey Juan Carlos University, co-organize the “International Euro-Latin American and Caribbean Congress”, which will take

place from 22-24 of September 2021 under a hybrid format. The initiative was selected in the framework of the EU-LAC Foundation’s “IV Annual Call for Co-organising Events on topics relevant to the bi-regional partnership between the European Union (EU), Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC)”.

The main objective of this project is to research and analyse the cultural dimension in the bi-regional space between Latin America and the Caribbean and the European Union through the elaboration, exhibition and debate, in order to disseminate and raise awareness of culture for the creation of a Euro-Latin American cultural space.

**Access the invitation and the selection criteria here (in Spanish):**

<https://eulacfoundation.org/en/open-call-presenting-paper-euro-latin-american-and-caribbean-congress>



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