



# EU-LAC Foundation Newsletter

## March 2014

Dear friends,

Welcome to the first edition of the quarterly newsletter of the EU-LAC Foundation. We have spaced this publication in time in order to give more space and protagonism to reflection and analysis. Besides reporting on our activities, projects and events of interest, we want to be a forum for discussion and give a voice to social organizations and experts, personalities and researchers that with their work, their experience, their initiatives and ideas enrich the bi-regional dialogue, adding value to the relation between European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean.

We hope that the news and opinion pieces contained in this newsletter, and featured in the following summary, arise your interest.

- **TOPIC: European and Latin American Social Model**
- **Reflection Forum: "Latin America and the Caribbean in a Context of Change: Opportunities and Challenges for the EU"**
- **Gaps in the statistics on gender equality**
- **Press Release of non-governmental organizations on feminicides**
- **Statement of the Embassy of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela in Germany about the recent events in the country**

### **TOPIC: European and Latin American Social Model**

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Information and Studies  
Center of Uruguay

Jon Kvist  
Roskilde University,  
Denmark

### **Upcoming events:**

**6-16 April 2014**  
**Latin American Forum on  
Global Governance**

**7-8 April 2014**  
**III Strategic Triangle Meeting  
Latin America - Europe -  
Africa**

**12 May 2014**  
**Latin America and the  
Caribbean - Opportunities for**



Photo: [www.radiouruguay.uy](http://www.radiouruguay.uy)

Latin America is undergoing a profound transformation of its social policies and of the very concept of social citizenship. While access to arenas and statuses that turn expectations into legitimate demands had expanded radically, access to the means to satisfy such demands had remained static (unequal and segmented) until the end of the century.

The tough objectives remain: extended coverage in early childhood, completion of high school, quality improvement, and true reduction of inequality of outcome in learning. It is in this context and these challenges that the possibility of a new social citizenship based on robust public goods, expansion of merit goods and universality of entitlements emerges.

If this is achieved then popular - middle class alliance can be forged; a distributional coalition that will in turn give political support and economic feasibility to a path of prosperity and increased equality of opportunity and outcome.

[Read the full opinion here...](#)



Photo: [www.15min.lt](http://www.15min.lt)

The social investment strategy holds the promise of achieving both social and economic goals. In brief the strategy hinges on different policies and returns over the life cycle that aims to help create, maintain and use human capital.

In childhood and youth social investment consists of policies like childcare, early childhood education, schools and colleges. Childcare and early childhood education stimulates the important social and cognitive skills that are vital for us to acquire new knowledge, skills and competences later in life. The success of the educational system thus rests on the availability and quality of these early policies.

In turn the educational system provide the fundament - different skill-sets - for stepping into the labour market. The social investment strategy is a dynamic framework where investment and return at one stage determine what policies and returns can be made at the next stage. Early investments in children are thus also crucial for the success of policies aimed at people later in life.


[Read the full opinion here...](#)

## central and Eastern Europe

13 May 2014

### Seminar "Latin America and the Caribbean: Exploring the Possibilities for Cooperation"

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## Publications of interest:

Álvarez Garro, L. and A. Fonseca Zúñiga, (2013): **"Estado de la Región América Latina y el Caribe." Boletín No. 9.** San José, FLACSO, CAF.

Bonilla, A. and I. Álvarez (Eds), (2014) **Desafíos estratégicos del regionalismo contemporáneo: CELAC e Iberoamérica.** San José, FLACSO, AECID.

Gadelha, R. M. A. F. (org.), (2013) **MERCOSUL a UNASUL. Avanços do processo de integração.** São Paulo, EDUC, FAPESP.

Quenan, C.; Velut, S. and E. Jourcin (Coord.), (2014) **Los desafíos del desarrollo en América Latina. Dinámicas socioeconómicas y políticas públicas.** París, Institut des Amériques.

Ronsain, O., (2013) **L'Alliance du Pacifique: Etat des lieux, enjeux et perspectives**

Rosales, O. and S. Herreros, (2014): **Mega-regional trade negotiations: What is**

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## Reflection Forum: "Latin America and the Caribbean in a Context of Change: Opportunities and Challenges for the EU"



About one hundred academics, politicians and the diplomatic corps gathered on March 6 to discuss, under the auspices of the EU-LAC Foundation and the Ibero-American General Secretariat (SEGIB) on "Latin America and the Caribbean in the context of changes: Opportunities and challenges for the EU." The forum, held at the Representation of the city-state of Hamburg in Berlin, was inaugurated by the President of the EU-LAC Foundation, Benita Ferrero-Waldner, and counted with Enrique Iglesias, the Ibero-American Secretary, as a guest of honour. The interventions of Ferrero-Waldner and Iglesias were preceded by welcoming remarks of the Secretary of State of the Senate of Hamburg, Wolfgang Schmidt, and the Secretary of State of the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Stephan Steinlein.

[Read more...](#)

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## Gaps in the statistics on gender equality



Coinciding with the International Women's Day, but looking beyond

at stake for Latin America? Washington, Inter-American Dialogue.

Zerka, P. (2014) *Will Poland re-discover Latin America?* Madrid, Real Instituto Elcano.

 Forward to Friend

2015, when the 15-years period fixed by UN to address the most urgent human development problems in the world concludes, EU-LAC Foundation joined the initiative led by Wikigender to detect the gaps in gender statistics.

The methodology followed in this occasion was an online forum on three main topics: gender violence, support of the socioeconomic empowerment of women and female participation in civil and political life.

During the debate, carried at for 21 days, it became clear that there is a necessity to unify the statistics in order to avoid exclusions arising from a restrictive use of concepts. Many participants called for more comparative information regarding the relation between gender and unpaid work, women participation in informal economy or the economic status of rural women.

This long and lively online debate represented a step forward in the support of the EU-LAC Foundation to the intergovernmental gender dialogue in European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean, launched in Buenos Aires in November 2013.

You can consult the final report on the Wikigender forum [here](#).

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## Press Release of non-governmental organizations on feminicides



Facing the International Women's Day, the Greens/EFA Group in the European Parliament with the support of civil society, ALOP, CIFCA, Grupo Sur and Oidhaco, together with the Heinrich Boell Foundation, organized in European Parliament, Brussels, a day dedicated to finding solutions to end femicide in Europe and Latin America.

[Read the Press Release about the event \(in Spanish only\) here...](#)

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## Statement of the Embassy of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela in Germany about the recent events in the country



**Embajada de la República Bolivariana de Venezuela  
en la República Federal de Alemania**

The Embassy of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela in Germany decided to release an official statement regarding the recent events in the country and kindly asked our Foundation to share it with the bi-regional audience. Therefore, we bring you the statement as it was delivered to us.

[Read the complete statement \(in Spanish only\) here...](#)

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