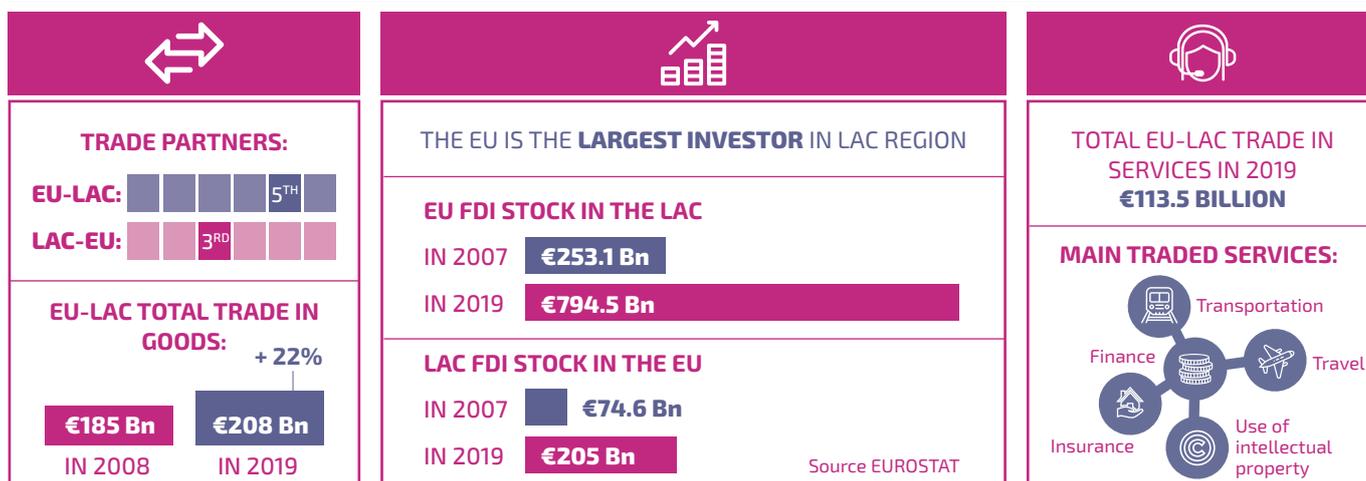




# EU-LAC PARTNERSHIP

The European Union (EU) and the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) are essential partners in today's challenging global context. The two regions have developed one of the most integrated partnerships, including a network of association, trade, political and cooperation agreements with 27 of the 33 countries. The EU's association with this like-minded group of countries is of geostrategic relevance, together accounting for nearly a third of the UN membership. As "Team Europe", the EU with its Member States and the European Investment Bank have committed around EUR 3 billion to address the immediate challenges of the COVID-19 crisis in LAC countries.

## TRADE



## COOPERATION

close to  
**€3.4 billion** →

The EU is a leading provider of funding for sustainable and inclusive development to LAC countries, allocating **close to EUR 3.4 billion** for bilateral and regional programmes under NDICI-Global Europe for 2021-2027. **For the first time, the LAC region will also have access to the European Fund for Sustainable Development Plus (EFSD+), which could leverage an additional EUR 12 billion in investment.** The EU and LAC are joining forces to build back better following the pandemic, cooperating on critical areas such as:



**SOCIAL COHESION AND ADDRESSING INEQUALITIES**



**GREEN TRANSITION**



**DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION**



**SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE ECONOMY**



**DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE, SECURITY AND MIGRATION**

### THE EUROPEAN INVESTMENT BANK'S PROJECTS



Brazil

**EUR 10 million** contract with Banco de Desenvolvimento de Minas Gerais supporting local SMEs to finance renewable energy projects.



Mexico

NAFIN credit line to boost access to finance for MSMEs in Mexico affected by the Covid-19 outbreak.



Barbados

**EUR 10 million** loan to rehabilitate the island's drinking water distribution network, helping to mitigate climate change impacts.



## EU-LAC PARTNERSHIP



## GREEN TRANSITION

The EU and LAC countries are **working together towards greener and more sustainable societies**. The EU's flagship programme **EUROCLIMA+** has been supporting green, climate and environmental action for 10 years in partnership with 18 LAC partner countries, EU Member State and UN Agencies. The EU and several LAC countries are founding members of the **Global Alliance on Circular Economy and Resource Efficiency (GACERE)**.



## SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE ECONOMIES

The EU is supporting regional efforts towards a **more sustainable and socially inclusive economic model in LAC**. The implementation of EU-LAC trade and association agreements will **help economic recovery** and the EU also partners with LAC countries to **promote climate neutrality, protection of biodiversity and more sustainable consumption and production** patterns. Citizens, business, investors and consumers will be key partners in LAC's road to economic recovery.



## RESEARCH & INNOVATION

The EU and CELAC have launched a **Joint Roadmap for intensifying research cooperation** in areas of strategic importance to both regions, such as Health, Digital transformation and Environment. The new Horizon Europe programme is open to LAC organisations and funds projects that bring together excellent research ideas. Since 2014, **LAC researchers have participated in 482 projects**, which received a **contribution of €1.6 billion** (€60 million were assigned directly to LAC scientists). Examples: developing **affordable 3G coverage** for isolated villages in the Amazon; or helping to **conserve Andean crop diversity**.

**The Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions have so far attracted 2897 researchers from LAC.**



## CITIZENS' SECURITY AND RULE OF LAW

The EU and LAC have a decade long cooperation in the **fight against drugs**, through the COPOLAD programme and the EU-CELAC Drugs Mechanism. The EU contributes to **security and justice** in LAC through various programmes: **EL PACCTO supports the fight against transnational organised crime**; the Global Illicit Flows Programme addresses trans-regional trafficking while EUROFRONT supports Integrated Border Management (IBM).



## EDUCATION & PEOPLE TO PEOPLE

**More than one third of LAC students who want to study abroad comes to the EU.** Every year, through the **Erasmus+ programme**, EU funds facilitate **more than 2500 students and staff exchanges** between the EU and LAC countries. **Close to six million people from EU and LAC countries live and work across the Atlantic**, well integrated in their host countries and the economies to which they contribute. Citizens from most LAC countries can enter the EU without a visa.



## DIGITAL ECONOMY & SOCIETY

Since Summer 2021 the **EU and LAC** are directly **linked through the 6,000 km high-speed submarine cable ELLaLink, cofunded by the EU as part of the BELLA network, which with its terrestrial links will connect around 12,000 research and education institutions and 65 million people** in various countries in South America. The launch of an EU-LAC Digital Alliance for a human-centred digital transformation is foreseen in 2022. With the objective to further align policies, consolidate digital connectivity and **facilitate business partnerships for innovative digital solutions**.



EU-LAC Foundation  
Fundación EU-LAC

## EU-LAC FOUNDATION

**Created at the initiative of Heads of State and Government**, the EU-LAC Foundation celebrated its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary in November 2021. Located in Hamburg (Germany), it brings together over 60 countries from the two regions. An international organisation since 2019, the EU-LAC Foundation contributes to the strengthening of the bi-regional partnership by **working with governments, business, academic and other civil society actors from both regions**