



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, having concluded 27 association, trade or political and cooperation agreements. The partnership is of geostrategic relevance, with EU and LAC countries accounting for a more than a third of the UN membership. It is a force for a strong and rules-based multilateral order and an ambitious international response to defining global issues such as sustainable development, climate change, human rights and fair and free trade.

TRADE AND INVESTMENT



TRADE PARTNERS:

EU-LAC: 6TH

LAC-EU: 3RD

EU-LAC TOTAL TRADE IN GOODS: + 22%

€185 Bn IN 2008 €208 Bn IN 2019



THE EU IS THE **LARGEST INVESTOR** IN LAC REGION

EU FDI STOCK IN THE LAC

IN 2007 €253.1 Bn + 210%
IN 2017 €784.6 Bn

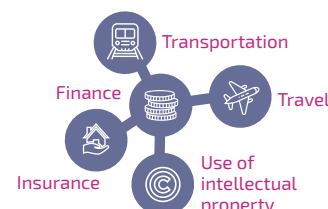
LAC FDI STOCK IN THE EU

IN 2007 €74.6 Bn
IN 2017 €273 Bn + 266%



TOTAL EU-LAC TRADE IN SERVICES IN 2018
€103 BILLION

MAIN TRADED SERVICES:



COOPERATION

€3.6 billion →

The EU is the largest provider of cooperation for sustainable development to LAC countries, allocating €3.6 billion in grants for bilateral and regional programmes between 2014-2020. As "Team Europe", the EU, its Member States and the European Investment Bank have mobilised €2.4 billion to address the immediate challenges of the COVID-19 crisis in LAC countries. The EU and LAC are joining forces to build back better following the pandemic, cooperating on critical areas such as:



SECURITY AND THE RULE OF LAW



ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE



DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION AND CONNECTIVITY



INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC GROWTH



DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

THE EUROPEAN INVESTMENT BANK'S PROJECTS



Bolivia

Construction of drinking water supply and wastewater treatment facilities benefiting **200,000 people**



Mexico

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



Ecuador

USD **60 million loan** to finance the development of drinking water and sanitation networks in the Portoviejo region in Ecuador.



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GREEN TRANSITION

The **EU and LAC countries are working together** to accelerate the transition towards **greener and more sustainable societies**, through policy dialogues, trade and investment and cooperation. The EU's flagship programme **EUROCLIMA+** has been supporting green, climate and environmental action for 10 years in a partnership with 18 LAC partner countries, **5 EU Member State Agencies and 2 UN Agencies**.



DIGITAL ECONOMY & SOCIETY

European & LAC Telecom Regulators work together to lay the foundations for the **digital economy** and **improve the roll-out of broadband**. Regulatory dialogues take place with individual countries in the region, in particular with Brazil, Argentina and Mexico.



AN ECONOMY THAT WORKS FOR ALL

The **EU is supporting regional efforts** to move towards more equal and socially inclusive economic models in LAC. The flagship programme **Eurosocial+**, funded by the EU since 2005, advances dialogue and peer-to-peer learning between the EU and 19 LAC countries to reduce gender and socio-economic inequalities, enhance social cohesion and strengthen public institutions.

A new high-speed submarine cable will link Europe and Latin America in 2021, and enhance connectivity across the region.



RESEARCH & INNOVATION

The EU-CELAC Joint Initiative on Research and Innovation (JIRI) promotes bi-regional research and innovation with a focus on researcher mobility, research infrastructure, global challenges and innovation.

Under Horizon 2020, LAC researchers have participated in 406 projects, to which the EU contributed €1.31 billion; €53 million went to LAC participants. An example: transnational cancer research with researchers from nine Latin American countries to improve early detection and develop targeted therapies.

Since 2014, nearly 2500 LAC researchers participated in the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions.



EDUCATION & PEOPLE TO PEOPLE

Of the LAC students who decide to go abroad to study, more than one third comes to the EU. Every year, through the Erasmus+ programme, the **EU funds facilitate more than 1900 student 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.



EU-LAC FOUNDATION

Created in 2011, the EU-LAC Foundation, located in Hamburg (Germany), brings together **62 countries from the European Union and Latin America and the Caribbean**. It contributes to the strengthening of the bi-regional partnership by working with governments, civil society and other social actors.