

EUROSOCIAL MEETING

*SUPPORTING POLICIES, CONNECTING
INSTITUTIONS. EU-LATIN AMERICA POLICY
DIALOGUE FOR SOCIAL COHESION*

AGENDA

*BRUSSELS, BELGIUM
24-25 MARCH 2014*

EUROSociAL MEETING

SUPPORTING POLICIES, CONNECTING INSTITUTIONS “EURO-LATIN AMERICAN DIALOGUE ON PUBLIC POLICIES FOR SOCIAL COHESION”

24th-25th of March 2014
European Commission, Schuman room, Berlaymont Building, Brussels

EUROSociAL has become the flagship programme of the European Union in Latin America for social cohesion. Under the motto "Supporting policies, connecting institutions" it brings together political decision-makers and high-level public servants from European and Latin American public administrations to take part in exchanging concrete reform proposals in their respective domains.

It is therefore an opportune time to **present the achievements and results of EUROSociAL in Brussels**, by inviting relevant European and Latin American institutions to learn more about this unique programme, and to reflect on the future of cooperation between the two regions.

The programme enables **horizontal learning between public institutions** (“peers”), to accompany and support strategic public policies in Latin America. It pursues (and obtains) **tangible results at national level**, with substantial contributions to equitable and inclusive policies, while **facilitating, from a more strategic scope, policy dialogue at the regional and bi-regional level**. The EU contribution to this dialogue continues to be relevant. The process of European construction and the harmonisation and coordination of policies among Member States could bring interesting lessons learnt (positive or negative) to Latin America, a region that shares more and more issues with Europe, and which has placed concern for equity and social inclusion at the centre of the public agenda. In recent years European countries have faced turbulent times: cuts in public expenditure are a reality, and the way to economic recovery needs to be carefully planned. Despite that, many of the goals towards greater social and regional cohesion remain valid: **the European Welfare State is a dynamic and developing institutional reality**. As such, Europe can also get inspiration from the Latin American experiences and innovations to strengthen its own social model. Latin America is not only a strategic partner in the economic and commercial area, but also promoting internationally shared practices and values which are at the base of the European social model. In this sense, EUROSociAL is an effective operator that supports proposals for the strategic partnership between the two regions. The programme is also highly regarded among Latin American institutions and authorities at the highest level, which has allowed it to engage in result-oriented policy dialogue.

At this juncture, one at which the EU is defining its next development cooperation agenda, it seems relevant to highlight the unique features of a programme like EUROSociAL, not only for its **innovative approach cooperating with Latin America**, but also as an accountability exercise (in particular with regard to presenting its results) EUROSociAL is a strong example of the European cooperation efforts to implement the aid effectiveness agenda and to move forward towards **new cooperation models – which are more horizontal and more inclusive** and therefore more suited to the realities of middle-income countries.

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Objectives

The objective of the meeting is to reflect on the Strategic Partnership for the 21st century between Europe and Latin America regions. This partnership has been built on mutual respect and a shared conviction that both sides benefit from working together and learning from each other, as they have inseparable common interests in today's global world. Both regions have maintained an on-going active and dynamic cooperation relationship in many issues. At this current time, when the next agenda for EU-LAC cooperation is being defined, EUROsociAL aims at presenting itself as a useful and valuable mechanism for connecting the two regions.

Therefore, the meeting aims, on the one hand, to show the results and achievements of the Programme, along with contributing to the debate on the new agenda for EU-LAC cooperation. Underlying this debate are the facts that, on one hand, Europe has been strongly affected by the international crisis and, on the other hand, Latin America, with a bigger economic growth, is a heterogeneous region in which many countries could be caught in a middle-income trap.

Sessions

The meeting will consist of three sessions. The first session will consist of a reflection of the partnership between Europe and Latin America in today's inter-dependent world. In the second session, various Latin American authorities will assess the progresses achieved with the support of EUROsociAL, highlighting what makes this Programme different from others. Finally, at the last session, a discussion on the challenges of cooperation between the two regions will be carried out through a roundtable. Some issues such as the development cooperation with middle-income countries and new priorities for EU-LAC cooperation will be raised in this discussion.

1- EUROPE-LATIN AMERICA: STRATEGIC PARTNERS IN A GLOBAL WORLD

In a changing global context, where geopolitical balances are being redrawn, Europe and Latin America are positioning themselves as **“strategic partners”**. They are natural partners linked by strong historical, cultural and economic ties and share **values and common interest**. At this session two distinguished persons— from Latin American and Europe— will discuss the future of the bi-regional relationship, its mutual benefits and its contributions to global governance.

2- EUROSOCIAl, A FACILITATOR IN PUBLIC POLICY CHANGE PROCESSES.

EUROSociAL is acting as a **“catalyst” for change processes**, it supports **small** changes which can **drive or sustain deeper processes** for policy reform. During this session various Latin American authorities will assess the progress achieved with the support of EUROsociAL. This session aims to show the main achievements of EUROsociAL and its *modus operandi* to keep a balance between:

- A **regional approach**, which facilitates addressing common problems, **and a national approach**, adapting its support and assistance to the specific context of each country.
- A **strategic level**, that promotes debate and reflection on key topical issues, **and an operational level** with tangible results and a direct effect on citizens.

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This session will also emphasize the **peer-to-peer learning process**, its operating modes and its utility for the institutions involved, emphasizing European support and South-South cooperation.

3- CHALLENGES IN COOPERATION BETWEEN EUROPE AND LATIN AMERICA

✓ *COOPERATING WITH MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRIES: INEQUALITY AND NEW SOCIAL GAPS.*

Latin America stands at the centre of the debate on cooperation with middle-income countries (MIC). It is a diverse and heterogeneous region facing complex development challenges; which overstep those defined by the Millennium Development Goals (MDG). EUROsociAL has shown itself to be an innovative and relevant programme to cooperate with Latin America.

At a time when cooperation with middle-income countries is being redefined, this roundtable will facilitate a debate on middle-income traps, highlighting the unique aspects of a programme like EUROsociAL for avoiding these traps. The discussion will start with the presentation of a discussion paper prepared by members of the assessment group of the Orientation Committee.

✓ *THE NEW EU-LA COOPERATION AGENDA*

This session will feature a discussion of the new 2014-2020 European cooperation agenda, whose guidelines have been recently approved by the European Parliament. As bilateral programmes have been cancelled for several of the countries, regional cooperation represents an opportunity to promote the MIC cooperation agenda, and, along these lines, EUROsociAL is a medium from which these countries can gain value.

The roundtable will start with a presentation by a member of the European Parliament, who will explain the strategic axes of cooperation with Latin America.

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Programme

24 March 2014

14:00 Registration

14:30-15:00 **OPENING CONFERENCE**

- Presented by: **Jolita Butkeviciene**, Director of Latin America and Caribbean, Directorate - General of Development and Cooperation of the European Commission.
- **Andris Piebalgs**, European Union Commissioner for Development.

15:00-16:00 **EUROPE-LATIN AMERICA: STRATEGIC PARTNERS IN A GLOBAL WORLD**

- **Clarisa Hardy**, Minister of Planning, Bachelet Government from 2006 to 2008.
- **Josep Borrell**, President of the European Parliament from 2004 to 2007.
- Chairperson: **José Antonio Sanahuja**, Complutense Institute of International Studies.

16:00-16:30 *Coffee break*

16:30-18:00 **Debate**

European Authorities:

- **Jesus Gracia**, Secretary of State for Iberoamerica and Development Cooperation (Spain)
- **Mario Giro**, Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (Italy)
- **Klaus Krämer**, Director. Latin America Region Development Policy. Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Germany)

Latin American Authorities:

- **Marcelo Cortés Neri**, Minister of Strategic Affairs of Brazil (video-conference).
- **Roberto Gallardo**, Minister of Planning, Costa Rica.
- **Ekaterina Parrilla**, General Secretary, Planning and Programming Secretary (SEGEPLAN), Guatemala.

Members of the European Parliament:

- **Jürgen Klute**, Member of the Delegation to the Euro-Latin American Parliamentary Assembly.
- **Inés Ayala Sender**, Member of the Delegation for relations with the countries of Central America.

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18:00-19:00 **EUROSOCIAl: BALANCES AND PERSPECTIVES**

- **Presented by: Jolita Butkeviciene**, Director of Latin America and Caribbean, Directorate - General of Development and Cooperation of the European Commission.
- **Inmaculada Zamora**, Director, EUROsociAl, FIIAPP.
- Video on EUROsociAl's actions in Costa Rica.
Presented by:
Roberto Gallardo, Minister of Planning, Costa Rica
Olman Segura Bonilla, Minister of Labor, Costa Rica

19:00 COCKTAIL

25 March 2014

9:00 – 12:30 **EUROSOCIAl, A FACILITATOR IN PUBLIC POLICY CHANGE PROCESSES**

- Chairperson: **Fabian Repetto**, International Consultant

9:00- 11:00 **DISCUSSION ON 4 REPRESENTATIVE CASES OF EUROsociAl**

- **New management models of employment public services.** *Luis Ernesto Gómez, Director General of the Employment Services, Minister of Labor, Colombia.*
- **Enhancing coordination among actors in the fight against corruption.** *Raúl Ferrada, Director General. Council for Transparency, Chile.*
- **Policy dialogue on fiscal policy.** *José Luis Araya, Viceminister of Finances, Costa Rica.*
- **Access to justice and rights for vulnerable people.** *Rosa de Lourdes Paz Haslam, Magistrate, Supreme Court of Justice, Honduras.*

Participants:

- *Sandra Pérez, Advisor of Undersecretary of Employment, Argentina.*
- *Carlos Roberto Occaso, Undersecretary of Tax Collection and Taxpayers Services, Tax Administration, Brazil.*
- *Roberto de Jesús Solorzano, Viceminister of Finances, El Salvador.*
- *Paola Soares, Acting Director of the Secretariat for Justice Reform. Ministry of Justice, Brazil.*
- *Víctor Ticona, Magistrate Supreme Court of Justice, Perú.*
- *Patricia Arriagada Villouta, Executive Director OLACEFS.*
- *Julia Cori Calixto, Counsellor, Comisión Anticorrupción, CAN, Perú.*
- *Gonzalo Arias, Inter American Center of Tax Administration, CIAT.*
- *Paolo Reboani, President. Italia Lavoro, Italy.*
- *Karima Zouaoui, Director, Justice International Cooperation, JCI, Francia.*
- *Fernando Ferraro Castro, Secretary General, COMJIB.*

11:00-11:15 **Coffee break**

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11:15- 12:30 STRUCTURED DEBATE

Drawing on the presentation of those representative cases, the chairperson will promote a structured debate among Latin-American authorities attending the meeting.

Special participants:

- *Fernando Terán, Viceminister of Non-contributory Social Security. MIES, Ecuador.*
- *Elena Clavel, Director General. National Integrated Health System, Uruguay.*
- *Jerónimo Roca, Deputy Director. Planning and Budget Office, OPP, Uruguay.*
- *Ramón Carranza, Under Secretary. Employment and Social Security Secretary, Honduras.*
- *Gustavo Porras, President. Social and Economic Council, Guatemala.*
- *Paolo Pitanga, Coordinator General of Strategic Planning, Brazil.*
- *Carlo Flamment. President. Formez, Italy.*

12:30-14:00 Lunch

14:00- 17:00 CHALLENGES IN COOPERATION BETWEEN EUROPE AND LATIN AMERICA

14:00 – 15:30 COOPERATING WITH MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRIES: INEQUALITY AND NEW SOCIAL GAPS.

- *Presentation of the document for the discussion: “Challenges of Social Cohesion in Latin America”*
 - Presented by: **Clarisa Hardy**, member of the EUROsociAL Orientation Committee.
 - Chairperson: **José Luis Rhi-Sausi**. Instituto Latino Americano.
- *Discussion and contributions to the document:*
 - **Mario Pezzini**, Director of the OECD Development Centre.
 - **Jonathan Glennie**, Overseas Development Institute (ODI).
 - **Iliana Olivié**, Elcano Royal Institute.
 - **Jorge Valdez**, Executive Director. EU-LAC Foundation.
 - **María Irigoyen**, Member of the Delegation to the Euro-Latin American Parliamentary Assembly. European Parliament.

15:30-15:45 Coffee break

15:45 – 17:00 THE NEW EU-LA COOPERATION AGENDA

- Presented by: **Catherine Gréze**, Member of the European Parliament
- Chairperson: **María Esmeralda Almeida-Teixeira**, Directorate of Latin America and Caribbean, DEVCO, European Commission
- *Participants:*
 - **Jonathan Hatwell**, Head of Regional Affairs Division, European External Action Service.

- **Paul Engel**, Director. European Centre for Development Policy Management (ECPDM).
- **Corinne Brunon-Meunier**, Deputy Director, Direction for Development and Global Public Good. Ministry of Foreign Affairs, France.
- **Oscar Cetrángolo**, Member of the EUROsociAL Orientation Committee.

17:00-17:30: CLOSING

- **Jolita Butkeviciene**, Director of Latin America and Caribbean, Directorate - General of Development and Cooperation of the European Commission
- **Pedro Flores Urbano**, Director of FIIAPP.

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