Latin America in the emerging global order
From crisis to opportunity?

13th International Economic Forum on Latin America and the Caribbean
Thursday, 27 May 2021

15:00 – 15:50 CET  High-level Presidential dialogue: LAC and the post-pandemic international agenda

The Covid-19 pandemic has hit Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) hard. Confronted with high human and socio-economic costs, governments have implemented targeted national responses to mitigate impacts and support the recovery. However, some responses, for example in relation to vaccines, financing and accelerating long-term sustainable transformation, can only happen through greater co-ordination and co-operation at the international level. As the world strives to build forward better, LAC countries and their partners have an opportunity to contribute to shaping the new global agenda and new strategic partnerships in the interest of the LAC region and the world.

What role can the LAC region play in today’s changing global context? What do leaders from across the region consider to be the main priorities in the multilateral agenda today? How can they work with international organisations and countries outside the region to shape a new global order?

Mia Amor Mottley, Prime Minister of Barbados
Iván Duque Márquez, President of Colombia
Luis Abinader, President of the Dominican Republic
Ángel Gurría, Secretary-General, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
Mauricio Claver-Carone, President, Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)
Bertrand Walckenaer, Associate Chief Executive Officer, Agence Française de Développement (AFD)
Josep Borrell, High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy

Introduction: Carol Guerrero, News Anchor Deutsche Welle in Spanish, Correspondent W Radio in Germany
The Covid-19 crisis is affecting the most vulnerable groups such as low paid and informal workers, women, Afro-descendants, indigenous people, migrants and people with lower levels of education. The crisis is deepening inequalities within countries and for the first time since 2010, the average person in LAC is poor as opposed to middle class. Restoring social cohesion has never been more urgent, calling for the design and establishment of a new social pact between governments and citizens. This also involves policy solutions that go beyond borders and that need to take into account an international perspective. More than ever countries must join forces to address the global drivers of inequalities whilst supporting national and regional efforts to create inclusive societies.

What are the most pressing measures that need to be taken at the international level to tackle global drivers of inequality? What international initiatives can boost national efforts to achieve social cohesion, create jobs and empower the most vulnerable groups? How can the international agenda link up with local challenges?

Panel discussion

Jolita Butkeviciene, Director for Latin America and the Caribbean, Relations with all Overseas Countries and Territories, Directorate-General for International Partnerships, European Commission (INTPA)
Mario Cimoli, Deputy Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)
Andrea Costafreda, Programme Director for Latin America and the Caribbean, OXFAM
Christian Gomez, Director of Global Government Affairs, Walmart

Moderator: Mario Pezzini, Director OECD Development Centre and Special Advisor to Secretary-General on Development

The Covid-19 crisis highlights the global nature and interdependency of development challenges. When designing national and local policies to improve the well-being of citizens, policy-makers need to consider the impact of global or supranational phenomena – climate change, volatility in capital and export markets, digital transformation, migration flows—while offering local responses.

To what extent have policy makers in LAC been able to integrate these international dimensions in national and regional action? To what extent have international and regional co-operation efforts succeeded in accounting for local contexts and priorities? What opportunities are there for LAC countries and their partners to build new alliances to finance the ecological, productive and social transformations? And how can LAC countries contribute to strengthening global responses to shape the post-pandemic world?

Panel discussion

Rebeca Grynspan, Ibero-American Secretary-General
Benigno López Benítez, Vice President for Sectors and Knowledge, Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)
Edith Flores de Molina, Vice-Minister of Integration and Foreign Trade, Republic of Guatemala
Sergio Gusmão Suchodolski, President, Banco de Desenvolvimento de Minas Gerais

Moderator: José Antonio Sanahuja, Director, Carolina Foundation
In the framework of

17:30 – 17:45 CET  Concluding remarks

**Mario Pezzini**, Director OECD Development Centre and Special Advisor to Secretary-General on Development