



Mapping of digital dialogues and identified EU-LAC agreements

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviation	Full Name
AI	Artificial Intelligence
APEC	Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
BELLA	Building the Europe Link to Latin America
CAF	Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean
CBPR	Community-based participatory research
CEDIA	Ecuadorian Corporation for Development of Research and the Academy
CELAC	Community of Latin American and Caribbean States
COP	Conference of Parties
CSW	Commission the Status of Women
DEI	Diversity, Equality and Inclusion
DIF	Dialogues Implementation Forum
DoA	Description of Action (in EU – Projects)
D4D	Digital for Development
EBP	European Blockchain Partnership
EBSI	European Blockchain Services Infrastructure

ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
ECSG	Electronic Commerce Steering Group
eLAC	Digital Agenda for Latin America and the Caribbean
EU	European Union
EuroLat	Euro-Latin American
EuroHPC JU	European High-Performance Computing Joint Undertaking
HLPF	High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development
ICT	Information and Communication Technologies
IDB	Inter American Development Bank
LAC	Latin America and the Caribbean
LAC4	Latin America and Caribbean Cyber Competence Centre
LLM	Large Language Model
MERCOSUR	Southern Common Market
MSMEs	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
OECD	Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development
RIA	Republic of Estonia - Information System Authority
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SIDS	Small Island Development States
STEM	Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics
UN	United Nations
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
VREs	Virtual Research Environments

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This final version of the mapping of digital dialogues and EU-LAC agreements tries to capture and showcase the work undertaken by the SPIDER consortium in order to provide a screenshot of the digital transformation landscape between the European Union and Latin America and the Caribbean. The analysis reflects the complexity and diversity of ongoing dialogues and commitments, which take place across multiple levels: at the bi-regional EU-LAC level; bilaterally between the EU and individual LAC countries or between specific LAC countries and EU Member States — such as Brazil and Germany; and within multilateral frameworks such as MERCOSUR, the Pacific Alliance or the United Nations even. This final version tries to showcase the most important take-aways. The focus is set first on listing and giving a short description of the dialogues and agreements and their resulting commitments in illustrative tables, to introduce the most important reoccurring dialogue formats and to sort them by frequency.

Following, the dialogues and agreements are analysed with the focus on (1) main actors involved in the dialogues, (2) different themes and key areas addressed, such as AI, 5G, blockchain, virtual research environments etc., (3) practical applications emerging from the dialogues and agreements, such as accelerators, hubs or software platforms deriving from the dialogues as well as (4) resulting commitments such as next steps, following dialogues, upcoming funding programmes, working groups etc. Eleven Dialogues and agreements are shown in an exemplary way.

A special add-on is a specific agent-based Artificial Intelligence (AI) algorithm resulting from the analysis in this report, which is capable of processing the vast underlying database of this report within seconds and generate reports. It is available on the SPIDER [website](#).

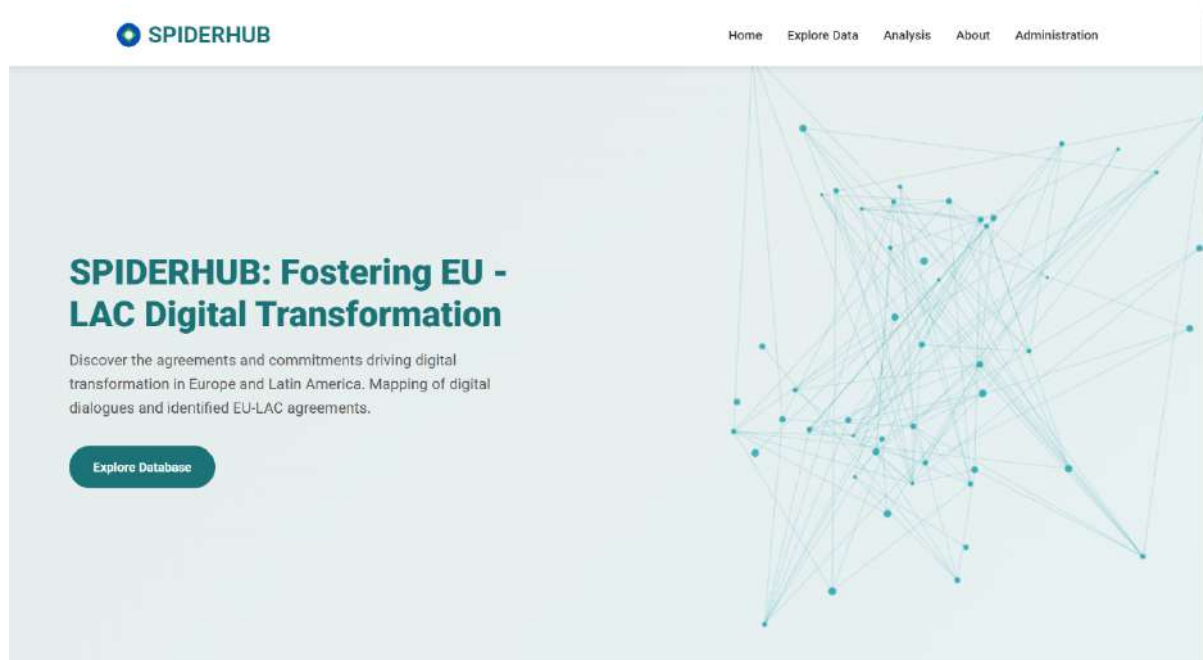


Figure 1: SPIDERHUB: Fostering EU-LAC Digital Transformation

The mapping has been compiled using a methodology-mix of (1) desk research and manual analysis; (2) AI-driven mapping and analysis; (3) partner connections, networking and consultation. Throughout the report, AI-created pictures have been used for illustrative purposes as well as small highlighting boxes for dedicated milestones in the digital landscape.

The following results and achievements have been reached with this mapping as of status 31. March 2025:

84 dialogues that took place between 2022 and March 2025 as well as 12 upcoming dialogues that will take place between March 2025 and December 2026¹, resulting in a total of 96 dialogues of relevance for the EU-LAC partnership. While the SPIDER project initially envisioned identifying eight to ten key dialogues (Description of Action, DoA), this target was quickly surpassed during the initial desk research conducted by the SPIDER consortium already for the interim version of this report² delivered in May 2024. The 96 dialogues are sorted by category, differentiating between:

- Bi-regional EU-LAC dialogues (26 dialogues + 4 upcoming)
- Bilateral dialogues between the EU and individual LAC countries (5 dialogues) or between specific LAC countries and EU Member States (see chapter 6)
- Multilateral dialogues (53 dialogues + 8 upcoming)

In total, 62 agreements and its outcomes and commitments have been mapped across the various levels of engagement:

- EU-LAC level agreements (18 agreements)
- Multilateral agreements (41 agreements)
- Bilateral agreements between the EU and individual LAC countries (3 agreements) or between specific LAC countries and EU Member States (see chapter 6)

A cross-cutting analysis on the following components of main actors, main themes, practical applications and resulting commitments has been undertaken:

The main actors from the dialogues and agreements could be clustered into four categories: Political Actors, Research and Innovation Performing Actors, Economic Actors and Other Actors (e.g. Society at large).

The main themes of the SPIDER project as mentioned in the description of action include AI, 5G, Blockchain, Cloud Computing, Cybersecurity and VREs. Through the initial workshop this was already expanded by further keywords such as digital transformation or quantum technologies. Overall, five core themes were identified:

1. Digital Transformation & Strategy
2. Technology & Innovation
3. Data & Governance
4. Inclusion & Social Development
5. Regional & International Cooperation

In total 54 sub-themes of relevance for the SPIDER project were identified. An in-depth analysis of the SPIDER's core themes AI, 5G, Blockchain, Cloud Computing, VREs, Cybersecurity, Quantum Technologies and Gender is given in relation with specific dialogues and agreements.

¹ All data and identifications of materials for the submission of the report (deadline June 2025) were chosen to be included until the 31st March 2025, everything beyond this is communicated as "upcoming" in the report.

² <https://spidernetwork.org/resources/>

Eight Practical applications are introduced and showcased from the overall mapping list, in addition to the practical applications that could be identified for the core themes in the section 7.2.1.

The resulting commitments could be sorted into seven categories: Action Plans, Agreements, Declarations, Memoranda of Understanding, Resolutions, Regulations, Roadmaps and Other (e.g. communication from the European Commission, joint programmes, statements).

The report features an exemplary in depth-analysis of agreements resulting from the dialogues (11 in total), providing the basis for a pilot AI-based-analysis.

A dedicated chapter on gender and underrepresentation of women in the use of digital transformation technologies has been added as well as a dedicated chapter on EU digital dialogues with other countries and regions in the world (outside of LAC), including with the Indo-Pacific Region, Sub-Saharan Africa, the USA and Canada.

The Annex of D1.3 provides the full list of dialogues and agreements with their commitments with the following set of components: Name, Format, Place, Date, Characteristics, Actors, Themes, Practical Applications, Resulting commitments, Links.

1. INTRODUCTION

The mapping provides an outline of the digital transformation landscape. It showcases the digital dialogues on various levels (bilateral, regional and multilateral) between the European Union (EU) and Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC). There are many different dialogues ongoing.

In chapter 2 the report shortly describes which sources are used to compile the final version of this mapping.

The following is the methodology in chapter 3, where all steps are laid out that were taken by the consortium to gather all the information for this report. It describes briefly a joint consortium workshop, the compilation and collection of dialogues and agreements in an excel file is combined with the approach of a desktop research with specific keywords.

Chapter 4 displays the whole collection of dialogues on an EU-LAC as well as multilateral level in a chronological order for the years 2022 - 2025, including the date, location and recurrence of the dialogues (bi-annual, annual, every two years, etc.). Upcoming dialogues beyond the publication date of this report are also listed if these are already confirmed and to the knowledge of the report authors. This collection is an excerpt of the more detailed list presented in the Annex with more information on each dialogue with e.g. main actors, main themes, practical applications.



Figure 2: Picture ©
Josi_Colonia
@Nightcaféstudio

In Chapter 5 the report showcases all agreements on an EU-LAC as well as multilateral level, including date and location, in a chronological order. This collection is an excerpt of the more detailed list in the Annex with more information on each agreement with e.g. main actors, main themes, practical applications.

Chapter 6 gives a picture of the bilateral cooperation's between the EU and individual LAC countries, e.g. EU-Brazil or EU-Belize. A short description is also provided for each of the cooperation.

Following chapter 7 entails a cross-cutting analysis of the dialogues and agreements about a more in-depth analysis of the following parameters: main actors, main themes (including key themes relevant for SPIDER), practical applications, resulting commitments as well as an exemplary analysis of 11 dialogues and agreements.

Chapter 8 shows additional information on dialogues of the EU with other key regions in the world such as Korea or Singapore. This part has been added as a peculiar request from the European Commission's technical review for the first interim version for this report.

In chapter 9, the report compiles additional information on digital cooperation between specific countries in the LAC region or EU such as Germany and Brazil. The chapter also includes information on countries' specific digital strategies e.g. the CAF Chile Country Strategy 2023-2026.

A conclusion is then given in chapter 10.

The following country unions, communities and alliances are included throughout the mapping and analysis:

- **European Union (EU)³**

The EU is a political and economic union of 27 European countries, created to promote economic cooperation, peace, and stability in Europe. It also plays an important role in driving digital transformation across its member states by setting policies, regulations, and frameworks that promote technological innovation, digital infrastructure, and digital rights.

- **Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC)⁴**

CELAC is a regional bloc comprising 33 countries from Latin America and the Caribbean, aimed at promoting regional cooperation and integration across various sectors, including politics, economics, and social issues. CELAC supports digital transformation by fostering collaboration on technology, innovation, and the digital economy to boost regional development and reduce the digital divide.

- **Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR)⁵**

MERCOSUR is the common market in South America consisting of Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay, and Bolivia,⁶ with the goal of promoting economic integration, free trade, and cooperation among its member countries. MERCOSUR supports digital transformation by facilitating cross-border cooperation on technology and innovation to enhance trade, digital infrastructure, and the digital economy within the region.

- **Pacific Alliance⁷**

The Pacific Alliance is a regional integration initiative in Latin America, consisting of Chile, Colombia, Mexico, and Peru, focused on promoting economic cooperation, trade, and regional integration. The alliance supports digital transformation by encouraging innovation, digital trade, and collaboration in areas such as e-commerce, technology, and digital infrastructure among its member countries.

- **United Nations (UN)⁸**

The United Nations (UN) is an international organization founded in 1945, composed of 193 Member States, aiming to promote peace, security, human rights, and development worldwide. The UN fosters digital transformation by supporting global initiatives on technology, digital inclusion, and innovation, while working on policies to ensure equitable access to digital resources and bridging the digital divide globally.

³ [Your gateway to the EU, News, Highlights | European Union](#)

⁴ [CELAC INTERNATIONAL – Seguimos haciendo historia](#)

⁵ [MERCOSUR - Official website](#)

⁶ The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela is suspended in all the rights and obligations inherent to its status as a State Party of MERCOSUR, in accordance with the provisions of the second paragraph of the Article 5 of the Protocol of Ushuaia (status as of 13 February 2025)

⁷ [What is the Pacific Alliance? – Alianza del Pacífico.](#)

⁸ [Welcome to the United Nations](#)

1.1 About the SPIDER Project

SPIDER aims to support the exploitation of the full potential of the established Building the Link to Europe (BELLA) Network⁹ and the implementation of the outcomes of EU-LAC dialogues in the context of digitalisation and Research and Innovation (R&I).



Figure 3: BELLA Network connecting Europe and LAC

SPIDER proposes a multi-stakeholder approach to enable the development of an EU-LAC strategic partnership. It engages relevant R&I stakeholders from EU and LAC countries more actively and strategically in supporting dialogues and creating a common and orchestrated vision and strategy for the exploitation of the full potential of BELLA network and the implementation of the outcomes of digital dialogues enhancing EU-LAC cooperation in R&I. Thereby, SPIDER adopts a human-centred and participatory approach, combined with an inclusive and intersectional perspective to stimulate the use of digital technologies.

At the core of this strategy is the EU-LAC Digital Dialogues Implementation Forum (DIF) that is unique of its kind in international cooperation in R&I and will serve as a multi-stakeholder platform to foster dialogues and exchanges of best practices to support the implementation of digital dialogues' commitments. Furthermore, DIF Working Groups will support the adoption of a human-centred approach to technology development, alongside Diversity, Equality and Inclusion (DEI) principles. Coupled with this, SPIDER will assess the use of BELLA and identify pathways for its future exploitation by engaging key actors of the digital ecosystem in project activities. Moreover, SPIDER implements a Twinning Programme to foster digital partnerships by connecting EU and LAC innovation hubs that can seize the opportunities of BELLA for digital transformation. A call for ideas was published to give young innovators from the EU and LAC a chance to be supported in laying the future ground in digital technology in various themes. On top of that, a cascade of events, including Dialogue Forum events, focus groups, webinars and workshops, demo-days and a final conference will support the project actions.

⁹ [Home](#)

2. SOURCES

The mapping is based on various sources detailing the ongoing digital transformation initiatives, dialogues and agreements between the EU and LAC countries. The key sources include a combination of official EU institutions, and strategic documents, such as the EU Digital Strategy, the Digital Europe Programme and communication form from the European Commission and the European External Action Services (EEAS). It also draws on regional and international cooperation frameworks, including declarations from the EU-LAC Digital Alliance, the EU-LAC Foundation, and the outcomes of EU-LAC and MERCOSUR summits. Relevant analyses and data from the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) provide further context on the digital economy in the LAC region. In addition, resources from the Horizon Europe and other EU-supported research and innovation programmes offer insight into collaborative digital efforts. The mapping also incorporates national sources, including policy documents, strategies, and announcements from the Ministries of Science and Technology and Digital Transformation (or their equivalents) in both EU and LAC countries, which reflect national priorities and bilateral or regional engagement. These platforms, along with government and regional organization reports, serve as the foundation for understanding the scope and impact of EU-LAC digital dialogues and agreements. Resources have mainly been found through desk research (explained in the Methodology chapter).

3. METHODOLOGY

This final version of the mapping is an updated and more elevated version of the interim version delivered in May 2024. Thus, two deliverables in two different time frames:

1. Initial draft mapping in Month 6, May 2024.
2. Final version in Month 20, June 2025.

3.1 Interim Version

As a first step and team-effort by the consortium, an excel feedback on the participation and identification of dialogues for EU-LAC digital transformation, identification of current bi-regional and/or national policies, strategies and funding programmes related to R&I, the most important actors as well as the main drivers to enhance EU-LAC cooperation on digital transformation was sent around to be filled out by partners. This Excel Sheet has been sent around by INMARK in November 2023 to all partners for their feedback collection.

Name	E-mail	Institution	Have you participated in Dialogues for EU-LAC cooperation on digital transformation. If yes, indicate the name and year of dialogue	Please indicate current bi regional and/or national policies, strategies and funding programmes related to R&I	Name the most important actors to enhance EU-LAC cooperation on digital transformation	Name the main drivers to enhance EU-LAC cooperation on digital transformation	Name the main barriers to EU-LAC cooperation on digital transformation	Observations/Comments
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Figure 4: Excel sheet sent around to partners for collective feedback

Following was a Co-creation Workshop on 14th December 2023 organized by Ecuador's Cooperation for Research and Academic Development (CEDIA) for all partners to contribute for the concept note¹⁰ and different parts for the mapping of dialogues.

¹⁰ https://spidernetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/Concept-note-for-EUnLAC-cooperation-on-digital-transformation_FINAL.pdf accessed 10.06.2025



Figure 5 Group picture of the SPIDER consortium (23 February 2024, Madrid)

After this, a second workshop on developing qualitative indicators for monitoring the dialogue outcomes was held during the SPIDER consortium meeting¹¹ in Madrid on February 23rd, 2024 in Madrid, Spain. This workshop was attended by all consortium partners.

For the purpose of the concept note (D1.1) and the interim version (D1.2) an initial set of dialogues and commitments was analysed.

Name	Description	Region of Impact	Main actors	Main Outcomes
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Figure 6: Table for initial set of dialogues and commitments

Deliverable D1.2 analysed an exemplary set of dialogues and commitments in a deeper way, which was now extended for this final version.

3.2 Final version

3.2.1 Desk Research and Manual Analysis

After the interim version, the final review and mapping of the dialogues and commitments provides a more comprehensive list to be shared for the European Commission and Latin American and Caribbean partner countries. It entails the following parts:

¹¹ [SPIDER Consortium met in Madrid to share advances in Cooperation in Digital Transformation – CEDIA](#) accessed 10.06.2025

Name	Place	Date	Characteristics	Actors	Themes	Practical Applications	Resulting Commitments	Links
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Figure 7: Table for final set of dialogues and agreements and their commitments

This excel table served as a basis for the illustration of:

1. The EU-LAC dialogues in chapter 4, which contains the name, date, location and frequency of the dialogues.
2. The EU-LAC agreements in chapter 5, which contains the name, date and location of signature of the dialogues.

3.2.2 Data Collection and Organisation

The first phase involved the systematic identification and compilation of relevant materials, including policy agreements, memorandum of understanding (MoUs), resolutions, and reports detailing EU-LAC cooperation in digital transformation. These documents were sourced from official repositories, governmental archives, and institutional databases. Metadata (e.g., publication date, country, institution, thematic focus) was systematically catalogued to facilitate structured retrieval and analysis.

The full list compiled is shown in the Annex. Throughout the data collection it was stored on the SPIDER consortium's google drive to work collaboratively on it by partners DLR and CEDIA.

For chapter 6 bilateral cooperation, the following keywords were used for the desktop research with Google and Ecosia and results of the first page used: "digital dialogue European Union [LAC-Country X]". For the LAC-Country all countries were then consecutively searched for. Results were found for Brazil, Bolivia, Belize, Colombia and Ecuador. For the remaining countries we could not find results.

3.3 AI-Driven Methodology for Mapping Digital Dialogues and Agreements

The mapping of digital dialogues and agreements within the SPIDER project was strengthened by applying AI-supported techniques for information extraction and validation to support the analysis of bilateral, regional, and multilateral commitments arising from dialogues between Europe and Latin America. Building upon the preliminary manual mapping and database (excel file), the methodology integrates Large Language Models (LLMs) to enhance the accuracy, scalability, and efficiency of information extraction, validation, and structuring. Following, a summary of the methodology is unfolded.

3.3.1 From Manual to AI-Assisted Processing

The original database (excel file) entails the materials and documents with website links. For example: <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/59837/celac-ue-roadmap-2022-2023-final.pdf>. This specific document (pdf) was uploaded to the AI web application, which then applied the same methodology with the key buzzwords shown in figure 6 with an illustrative outline as shown in the section 7.5 for the exemplary analysis of dialogues and agreements. The process was then repeated for the other documents (links, pdf's etc.) entailed in the original database.

3.3.2 AI-Based Information Extraction

The document processing phase was conducted using an LLM for automated extraction of structured data. A specialized prompt framework guides an LLM to distil five key elements from every document:

- **Key Actors:** governments, regional bodies, private-sector stakeholders, civil-society organisations.
- **Key Topics:** technical and policy areas such as AI governance, digital infrastructure, cybersecurity.
- **Resulting Commitments:** policy agreements, financial mechanisms, regulatory frameworks
- **Practical Applications:** identifiable initiatives or implemented projects.
- **Next Steps:** proposed action plans or follow-up mechanisms.

Post-processing applies controlled vocabularies to topics, normalises actor-names and enriches each record with additional metadata e.g. leading country, SDG, and DEI alignment, qualitative and key performance indicators.

The extracted information was formatted into structured outputs, maintaining alignment with the original analytical framework of the SPIDER project shown in this report.

3.3.3 AI-Driven Validation and Cross-Checking

To safeguard reliability, a second LLM evaluates the extracted summary against the original text. It measures fidelity, consistency, completeness and accuracy, producing a single global quality score (0–100) for each document. The validation workflow is model-agnostic: its scoring logic can be applied to any current or future LLM, making the pipeline adaptable to advances in language-model technology.

3.3.4 Confidence Scoring and Manual Curation

The global score is a weighted composite of four evaluation dimensions:

- **Fidelity (40 %)** – alignment between the summary and the source text.
- **Consistency (25 %)** – absence of internal contradictions among extracted elements.
- **Completeness (20 %)** – coverage of the expected data fields.
- **Accuracy (15 %)** – factual correctness when cross-checked against the source.

Each dimension is first normalised on a 0–1 scale using similarity metrics and rule-based checks. The **overall score** (S) is then computed as:

$$S = 100 \times (0.40 \times \text{Fidelity} + 0.25 \times \text{Consistency} + 0.20 \times \text{Completeness} + 0.15 \times \text{Accuracy})$$

This linear combination ensures that the most critical factor—fidelity—carries the greatest weight, while still rewarding thoroughness and factual precision.

If a document scores **below the operational threshold of 70/100**, it is flagged for manual curation. Human analysts review the AI output, amend any discrepancies and approve or reject the record, ensuring that low-confidence cases do not enter the repository unvetted.

3.3.5 Structured Data Storage and Analysis

Following validation, the processed information is stored in a centralised structured database, replacing the original Excel-based repository on Google Drive. Hosted securely

on CEDIA's server, this advanced system enables dynamic querying and longitudinal analysis, unlocking deeper insights into digital governance trends. The database stores both metadata and extracted data, which feed into interactive visualizations within the SPIDER web application. This centralized repository supports:

- **Thematic coverage**, with charts showing the distribution of agreements by main topics, actor types, or beneficiary categories.
- **Strategic alignment**, including radar charts tracking SDG coverage and pie charts showing legal bindingness and geographic scope.
- **Geographic visualisations**, such as world maps showing the distribution of lead countries or tree maps linking agreements to countries involved.

3.4 Sustainability of Results and forward-looking measures

This approach facilitates the **sustainability of the initiative**, ensuring that insights generated are not static but continually enhanced and reused in future phases. By maintaining an evolving knowledge base, SPIDER's aim is that new dialogues and agreements benefit from prior analysis, accelerating learning loops and strategic alignment.

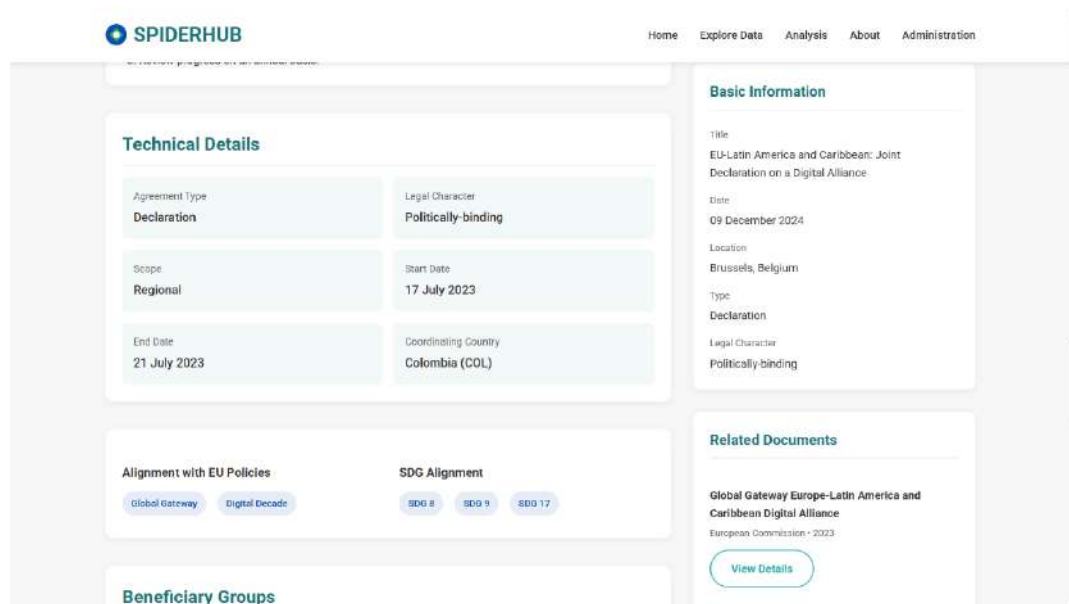


Figure 8: SPIDERHUB - Showcase example for the Technical Details of the analysed EU-LAC Joint Declaration on a Digital Alliance

Moreover, this sustainability component ensures that:

- **Knowledge is institutionalized** and not lost over time, creating a permanent resource for stakeholders and future projects.
- **Future agreements are contextualized** within historical patterns, allowing for more strategic planning and benchmarking.
- **Cumulative insights** are translated into policy intelligence and adaptable visual analytics tools for continuous engagement.

By leveraging AI for automated extraction and validation, the SPIDER project significantly enhances the efficiency, accuracy, and scalability of this mapping process. The AI-powered methodology allows for:

- **Time Efficiency:** Automating document parsing and structuring to eliminate repetitive manual tasks.
- **Data Accuracy:** Using AI-based cross-verification mechanisms to ensure consistency and factual integrity.
- **Scalability:** Enabling real-time tracking and analysis of emerging agreements and evolving policy landscapes.

Ultimately, this integration of AI and structured data workflows ensures **evidence-based, future-proof decision-making** in digital governance.

3.5 Partner Connections, Networking and Consultation

To obtain information on EU digital dialogues and agreements with other regions worldwide for chapter 8, we reached out to the SPIDER sister projects INPACE¹² and SEADE¹³ and consulted their websites. A joint presentation on Digital Innovation by INPACE and SPIDER secured a discussion on joint priorities and initial synergies during the ENRICH Global Innovation Days 2025 in Nice, France, on 23 April 2025, where project partners DLR (SPIDER) and GAC (INPACE) represented the projects¹⁴. A meeting or presentation with SEADE project is also planned for the next few months. In addition, we scanned the EIT Digital Global Outreach¹⁵ website.

Furthermore, the mapping exercise benefited from informal consultations and the partner institutions' extended networks. SPIDER partners leveraged their professional contacts to obtain non-public documents such as Memoranda of Understanding and cooperation agreements that are not officially published. These documents were reviewed exclusively to verify the existence of concrete commitments and were used solely for research purposes within the framework of the SPIDER project.

Chapter 9 includes additional information relevant for the SPIDER project that project partners came across during the mapping process such as dialogues between individual EU and individual LAC countries, as well particular country agendas (e.g. Argentina Digital Agenda 2030). However, an extensive list is beyond the scope and resources for the deliverable.

¹² [INPACE Hub](#)

¹³ [SEADE Project Page](#)

¹⁴ [ENRICH GLOBAL – Taking European Innovation Global](#)

¹⁵ [EIT Global Outreach Programme](#)

4. High-level dialogues of relevance for the EU-LAC Digital Partnership

The following tables and chapter 6 on bilateral cooperation identify 84 dialogues that took place between 2022 and March 2025 as well as 12 upcoming dialogues that will take place between March 2025 and December 2026¹⁶, resulting in a total of 96 dialogues of relevance for the EU-LAC partnership. While the Spider project initially envisioned identifying eight to ten key dialogues (DoA), this target was quickly surpassed during the initial desk research conducted by the SPIDER consortium already for the interim version of this report¹⁷ delivered in May 2024. The 96 dialogues have been categorised according to their institutional level, reflecting the structure and scope of EU-LAC cooperation:

- Bi-regional EU-LAC dialogues (26 dialogues + 4 upcoming)
- Bilateral dialogues between the EU and individual LAC countries (5 dialogues) or between specific LAC countries and EU member states (see chapter 6)
- Multilateral dialogues (53 dialogues + 8 upcoming)

4.1 Reoccurring Dialogues

For illustrative and introductory purposes this sub-section features a short description of reoccurring dialogues before a comprehensive table with the title, date, location and frequency of the dialogues is given. Further even more detailed information including the characteristics, actors, themes, practical applications and resulting commitments can be found in the Annex. 11 dialogues and commitments have also been analysed in an exemplary way in section 7.5. The AI component based on this mapping was initially trained with the exemplary analysis to provide the same kind of output within seconds. Step-by-step the AI component was then fed with the additional remaining mapped dialogues provided in the Annex.

Below a short description of the key EU-LAC and multilateral dialogues is presented, sorted by frequency. A more extensive list of dialogues is provided in chapter 4.2.

Bi-annual

Meeting of the European Political Community

The European Political community consists of 47 European countries, the EU, the Intergovernmental Military Alliance, OECD and the Council of Europe. It aims to foster political dialogue and cooperation between the countries and promotes European values. In recent years information technology has also become an important theme during the meetings.



Figure 9: High-level dialogue between MERCOSUR and the European Commission © Daniel Duarte/Getty Images

MERCOSUR Summit Meeting

MERCOSUR consists of five member countries (Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Paraguay and Uruguay¹⁸) as well six associated states (Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru and Surinam). Besides core themes such as democracy, human rights, cooperation and the

¹⁶ All data and identifications of materials for the submission of the report (deadline June 2025) were chosen to be included until the 31st March 2025, everything beyond this is communicated as "upcoming" in the report.

¹⁷ <https://spidernetwork.org/resources/>

¹⁸ The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela is suspended in all the rights and obligations inherent to its status as a State Party of MERCOSUR, in accordance with the provisions of the second paragraph of the Article 5 of the Protocol of Ushuaia (status as of 13 February 2025)

economy, themes like digital inequalities, digital platforms and the digital environment are also discussed.



Figure 10: UN HLPF 11 July 2022, source: UN High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) 2022 – The Movement for Community-led Development

Annual

Internet Governance Forum

The United Nations Internet Governance Forum serves to bring people together from various stakeholder groups in discussions on digital public policy. It serves to inspire those with policy-making power.

High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF)

The HLPF is the central UN platform for the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Forum includes ministerial and high-level representatives of governments, as well as a wide range of experts and stakeholders.

Ministerial and High Authorities Summit on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence in Latin America and the Caribbean

The summit seeks to strengthen regional cooperation and promote the implementation of policies aligned with United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's (UNESCO's) Recommendation on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence, an instrument that promotes a comprehensive approach to the responsible use of this technology, in the service of people and sustainable development, adopted by the 195 Member States. The summit addresses topics such as AI regulatory, governance initiatives, the importance of public-private collaboration, the application of AI for climate change mitigation and adaptation, and the specific challenges of the region in the development and use of this technology.

Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development

The forum serves to follow-up on the progress made regarding the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It involves States, the private sector and civil society, as well as subsidiary bodies of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), development banks, UN agencies and regional integration blocs.

This showcases the commitment of LAC countries for sustainable development on a regional scale.

Latin American High-Performance Computing (HPC) Conference

The Latin American HPC Conference is an international event that provides a forum to foster growth and strengthen the HPC community in Latin America through the exchange and dissemination of new ideas, techniques and research in HPC and its application areas.



Figure 11: Conference Carla 2025, Source Facebook

Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the Escazú Agreement

The COP of the Escazú Agreement serves to reinforce the Commitment to Recognize, Protect and Promote All the Rights of Human Rights Defenders in Environmental Matters. The Escazú agreement was adopted in Escazú, Costa Rica, on 4 March 2018. The agreement focuses on access to information, public participation and justice in environmental matters in Latin America and the Caribbean. Article 4 and 6 of the agreement put a specific focus on open data, accessibility of information, including information stored digitally, human rights and anti-discriminatory practices.

Latin America and Caribbean Cyber Competence Centre (LAC4) General Assembly

The LAC4's highest decision-making body, the General Assembly, convenes to bring together LAC4 members and partners to review the past year's achievements, identify gaps, discuss regional priorities and activities for the upcoming year, and enhance collaboration in cybersecurity capacity building. This meeting is pivotal in shaping the future direction of the LAC4, ensuring that its initiatives align with global developments and best practices, and address the specific needs of the LAC region, as well as bringing together diverse stakeholders from governments and other international partners to share insights, experiences, and opportunities for collaboration. More information about LAC4 can be found in section 7.2.1 "Key Themes Relevant for SPIDER And Dedicated Dialogues and Agreements".

Commission on the Status of Women (CSW)

The CSW is the principal global intergovernmental body exclusively dedicated to the promotion of gender equality, the rights and the empowerment of women. The CSW is instrumental in promoting women's and girls' rights, documenting the reality of their lives throughout the world, and shaping global standards on gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. Now, in the digital age, themes such as digital literacy for women have also become important to close the digital gender divide.

Every two years

EU CELAC Summit

The EU-CELAC Summit is the principal high-level political forum for dialogue and cooperation between the European Union and the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC). Bringing together Heads of State and Government from both regions, these summits serve as a strategic platform to strengthen bi-regional relations, reaffirm shared values, and coordinate joint responses to global challenges. The summits aim to deepen cooperation across a broad range of areas including sustainable development, climate change, digital transformation, and inclusive economic growth.

Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLAC) and the Caribbean Session

The session is the most important biennial meeting of ECLAC. It serves as a forum for the consideration of pressing development issues for the countries of the region, as well as an opportunity to review the progress of the Commission's work.

High-level Meeting of the EU-CELAC Joint Initiative for Research and Innovation

The meeting provides an opportunity to review joint bi-regional cooperation in research and innovation and to discuss shared priorities. For the meeting 2023, more than 60 Officials from 14 EU Member States and 20 CELAC countries worked towards the development of a modernised joint Roadmap for EU-CELAC research and innovation, to continue the cooperation as agreed at the EU-CELAC Summit. Particular attention was on biodiversity, marine research, urban transitions, agriculture, digital transformation and health research, as well as mobility of researchers, research infrastructures and open science.

Ibero-American Summit of Heads of State and Government

The summits are a space for political agreement and cooperation. The members of the Ibero-American Conference are the 22 countries of Ibero-America: the 19 Spanish- and Portuguese-speaking countries of Latin America, plus Andorra, Spain and Portugal. The Ibero-American Conference also has Associate Observers (states) and Consultative Observers (international organizations).

Others

Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States

The Heads of State and Government of CELAC convene to strengthen their commitment to foster integration and give a united voice through consultation, concertation and political dialogue to the multiplicity of challenges, opportunities and strengths facing the region.

Meeting of the Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communication Technologies of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

The conference is a permanent forum for policy and technical dialogue at the highest level on science, innovation and information and communications technologies that facilitates the coordination of action and knowledge-sharing to improve the quality and effectiveness of policies in these areas. It is also intended to strengthen the role of science, technology and innovation in the pursuit of greater sophistication, diversification and structural change in these economies to improve productivity and competitiveness, in an environmentally sustainable and socially inclusive manner. The conference convenes mainly the high-level authorities responsible for science, technology and innovation policies in each country.

Plenary Session of the Euro-Latin American (EuroLat) Assembly

The Assembly is composed of 150 Members: Half of the members - 75 - are members of the European Parliament and the other half - 75 - comes from the Latin American regional parliaments. During the plenary sessions reports and recommendations are adopted in advance by the various committees and working groups are voted on.

EuroLat Meetings

During the EuroLat meetings members from the European Parliament and the Latin American regional parliaments discuss current issues in bi-regional relations.

EU - CELAC Ministerial meeting

The meetings serve to foster collaboration and to reinforce the bi-regional partnership founded on shared values and a vision for the future of democratic, free and equitable

societies. They play a critical role in ensuring continuity and follow-up on decisions taken at the EU-CELAC Summits, thereby strengthening cooperation mechanisms at both regional and bilateral levels.

BELLA II Dialogues

The dialogues are part of the implementation process of the BELLA II project and serve to discuss topics such as cooperation and financing strategies, value-added services, key enablers of the digital ecosystem and alternative governance models for public-private partnerships within the framework of the project. The Dialogues' methodology emphasizes open and meaningful communication, deep listening, and collective exploration of complex issues.

Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean

The Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean is jointly organized by ECLAC and the Government of Uruguay. The Conference aims to define a set of digital policy priorities at the regional level within the framework of the Digital Agenda for Latin America and the Caribbean (eLAC).

Digital Alliance

The EU-LAC Digital Alliance Policy Dialogues provide a platform for structured dialogue between Team Europe and countries in Latin America and the Caribbean on priority topics for digital cooperation.

International Conference on Small Island Developing States (SIDS)

The International Conference on SIDS is a global event aimed at addressing the unique challenges faced by small island nations. The conference serves as a platform for SIDS to discuss sustainable development, climate resilience, economic growth, and cooperation with international organizations and larger nations.

European Council meeting

European Council meetings are gatherings of the heads of state or government of the EU member countries. These meetings are held to discuss and make decisions on major issues affecting the EU, such as economic policies, foreign relations, security, and the EU's long-term strategic direction.

CIRT-BS Cybersecurity Conference and ITU Caribbean CyberDrill

The Computer Incident Response Team of The Bahamas (CIRT-BS) Cybersecurity Conference and the ITU Caribbean CyberDrill focus on improving cybersecurity in the Caribbean. ITU is the United Nations specialized agency for digital technologies (ICTs). The CIRT-BS conference gathers experts and stakeholders to discuss challenges and best practices in cybersecurity. The ITU CyberDrill is a simulated exercise where Caribbean nations test and improve their cybersecurity response systems through hands-on training and collaboration. Both events aim to strengthen regional cybersecurity resilience and promote cooperation. The CyberDrill takes place in other regions of the world too.

Global Forum on the Ethics of AI

First forum to discuss the ethics of AI on a global level.

The forum brings together global leaders, AI experts, industry pioneers, and policymakers to address critical challenges and opportunities in AI development. Key topics usually include AI's impact on human rights, gender equality, and sustainability, featuring expert panels, interactive discussions, and actionable strategies to align technological innovation with ethical principles.

4.2 Bi-regional EU – LAC Dialogues

Following is the table with the digital dialogues and where they took place sorted by year. The full list of the dialogues including characteristics, actors, themes, practical applications, resulting commitments and links (to websites or documents) is found in the Annex.

<u>DIALOGUES 2022</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Frequency</u>
EU-LAC Dialogues on Sustainable Food Systems			
EU-Central America Dialogue: Workshop	22-23 March 2022	Online	Singular
EU-Mercosur and Chile: Workshop	16-17 May 2022	Online	Singular
EU-Colombia, Ecuador and Peru: Workshop	28-29 September 2022	Online	Singular
14th EuroLat Plenary Session	11-14 April 2022	Buenos Aires	Recurrent
3rd EU - CELAC Ministerial Meeting	27 October 2022	Buenos Aires	Recurrent
BELLA II Dialogue on the Challenges and Opportunities of the Digital Transformation in Latin America and the Caribbean	14-18 November 2022	Montevideo	Singular
8th Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean	16-18 November 2022	Montevideo	Recurrent
EuroLat Meetings of Standing Parliamentary Committees	30 November - 2 December 2022	Brussels	Recurrent
<u>DIALOGUES 2023</u>			
3rd EU-CELAC Summit	17-18 July 2023	Brussels	Every two years
Workshop: Strategic Dialogues for the Development of the Digital Ecosystem for the Education, Research and Innovation in Latin America and the Caribbean	18 July 2023	Brussels	Singular
15th Plenary Session of the EuroLat Assembly	24-27 July 2023	Madrid	Recurrent
Multi-Actor Dialogue Forum on Higher Education, Gender Equality, Green and Digital Transitions and Social Cohesion	4 October 2023	San José	Singular

EuroLat Meetings of the Standing Parliamentary Committees	30 October - 2 November 2023	Santo Domingo	Recurrent
BELLA II Strategic Dialogues Workshop	15 November 2023	Panama	Singular
EU-LAC Digital Alliance Days	27-29 November 2023	Cartagena	Singular
High-level Meeting of the EU-CELAC Joint Initiative for Research and Innovation	28-29 November 2023	Brussels	Every two years
<u>DIALOGUES 2024</u>			
EU-LAC Digital Alliance			
Dialogue on Cybersecurity	14-16 February 2024	Santo Domingo	Singular
Dialogue on Artificial Intelligence	13 March 2024	Montevideo	Singular
High-Level Policy Dialogue on E-Governance	15-17 May 2024	San José	Singular
High-Level Policy Dialogue on Data Governance	30 September – 1 October 2024	Montevideo	Singular
Policy Dialogue on Connectivity and Inclusion	5-6 November 2024	Santiago	Singular
EU-LAC High-Level Event on Human Development and Health	21-22 March 2024	Brussels	Singular
4th International Conference on Small Island Developing States	27 - 30 May 2024	Antigua and Barbuda	Recurrent
EU-LAC Multi-Stakeholder Forum on Cybersecurity and Secure Connectivity	23-25 October 2024	Madrid	Singular
LAC4 General Assembly	7 November 2024	Santiago	Annual
Ninth Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean (with EU participation – eLAC Digital Ministerial)	7-8 November 2024	Santiago	Recurrent
<u>UPCOMING DIALOGUES 2025</u>			
4th Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs EU-CELAC	First half 2025	tbd	Recurrent

EU-CELAC Joint Initiative on Research and Innovation Ministerial meeting	Planned for June 2025	tbd	Singular
16th Plenary Session of the EuroLat Assembly	1-3 June 2025	Lima	Recurrent
EU-CELAC Summit	November 2025	Colombia	Every two years

4.3 Multilateral Dialogues

<u>DIALOGUES 2022</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Frequency</u>
Conference on the Future of Europe	April 2021 to May 2022	Online/ In-person across Europe	Singular
Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development, 5th Meeting of the Forum	7-9 March 2022	San José	Annual
66th Session on the Commission on the Status of Women	14-25 March 2022	Hybrid format	Annual
1st Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Escazú Agreement	20-22 April 2022	Santiago	Annual
High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development	5-15 July 2022	New York	Annual
MERCOSUR Summit Meeting			
60 th MERCOSUR Summit Meeting	21 July 2022	Asunción	Bi-annual
61st MERCOSUR Summit Meeting	6 December 2022	Montevideo	Bi-annual
Latin American High Performance Computing Conference	26-30 September 2022	Porto Alegre	Annual
Meeting of the European Political Community	6 October 2022	Prague	Bi-annual
Informal Meeting of Heads of State or Government	7 October 2022	Prague	Recurrent
39th Session of ECLAC	24-26 October 2022	Buenos Aires	Every two years
Internet Governance Forum, 17th Meeting	28 November – 2 December 2022	Addis Ababa	Annual

1st Global Forum on the Ethics of AI	13 December 2022	Prague	Recurrent
<u>DIALOGUES 2023</u>			
7th Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States	24 January 2023	Buenos Aires	Recurring
67th Session on the Commission on the Status of Women	6-17 March 2023	New York	Annual
28th Ibero-American Summit of Heads of State and Government	24-25 March 2023	Santo Domingo	Every two years
2nd Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Escazú Agreement	19 – 21 April 2023	Buenos Aires	Annual
Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development, 6th Meeting of the Forum	25-28 April 2023	Santiago	Annual
Meeting of the European Political Community	1 June 2023	Moldova	Bi-annual
	5 October 2023	Granada	Bi-annual
MERCOSUR Summit Meetings			
62th MERCOSUR Summit Meeting	3-4 July 2023	Puerto Iguazú	Bi-annual
63th MERCOSUR Summit Meeting	7 December 2023	Río de Janeiro	Bi-annual
Latin American High-Performance Computing Conference	18-22 September 2023	Cartagena	Annual
Internet Governance Forum, 18th meeting	8-12 October 2023	Kyoto	Annual
Regional Forum on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence	22-23 October 2023	Santiago	Singular
1st Ministerial and High Authorities Summit on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence in Latin America and the Caribbean	23-24 October 2023	Santiago	Annual
Community Leaders Forum	15 November 2023	Online	Singular

DIALOGUES 2024

2nd Global Forum on the Ethics of AI	5-6 February 2024	Kranj	Recurrent
8th Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (EU-LAC Foundation participates as observer)	1 March 2024	Kingston	Recurrent
68th Session on the Commission on the Status of Women	11-22 March 2024	New York	Annual
Interactive Dialogue on the Emerging Issue/Focus Area "Artificial Intelligence to Advance Gender Equality: Challenges and Opportunities"	21 March 2024	Hybrid format (New York)	Singular
European Council Meeting	21-22 March 2024	Brussels	Recurrent
4th Meeting of the Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communication Technologies of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean	4-5 April 2024	Bogotá	Recurrent
Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development, 7th Meeting of the Forum	15-18 April 2024	Santiago	Annual
3rd Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Escazú Agreement	22-24 April 2024	Santiago	Annual
MERCOSUR Summit Meeting			
64th MERCOSUR Summit Meeting	8 July 2024	Asunción	Bi-annual
65th MERCOSUR Summit Meeting	6 December 2024	Montevideo	Bi-annual
High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development	8-17 July 2024	New York	Annual
Meeting of the European Political Community	18 July	Oxfordshire	Bi-annual
	7 November 2024	Budapest	Bi-annual
Summit of the Future	20-23 September 2024	New York	Singular
Action Days	21-22 September 2024	New York	Singular
Summit		New York	Singular

	22-23 September 2024		
Latin American High Performance Computing Conference	30 September – 4 October 2024	Santiago	Annual
2nd Ministerial and High Authorities Summit on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence in Latin America and the Caribbean	3-4 October 2024	Montevideo	Annual
40th session of ECLAC	9-11 October 2024	Lima	Every two years
Women4Ethical AI Conference	30 October 2024	Paris	Singular
29th Ibero-American Summit of Heads of State and Government (also participating: Andorra, Spain and Portugal)	12-15 November 2024	Cuenca	Every two years
Internet Governance Forum, 19th Meeting	15-19 December 2024	Riyadh	Annual
<u>DIALOGUES 2025</u>			
3rd Annual CIRT-BS Cybersecurity Conference + 15th ITU Caribbean CyberDrill	15-17 January 2025	Nassau	Annual/Re current
69th Session on the Commission on the Status of Women	10-21 March 2025	New York	Annual
Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development, 8th Meeting of the Forum	31 March – 4 April 2025	Santiago	Annual
<u>UPCOMING DIALOGUES 2025</u>			
Meeting of the European Political Community	16 May 2025	Albania	Bi-annual
		Denmark	Bi-annual
Internet Governance Forum, 20th Meeting	23-27 June 2025	Lillestrøm	Annual
3rd Global Forum on the Ethics of AI	24-27 June 2025	Bangkok	Recurrent
High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development	14-23 July 2025	New York	Annual

Latin American High Performance Computing Conference	22-26 September 2025	Kingston	Annual
<u>UPCOMING DIALOGUES 2026</u>			
41st Session of ECLAC	tbd	Dominican Republic	Every two years
High-Level Political Forum of Sustainable Development	tbd	tbd	Annual
<u>UPCOMING DIALOGUES – no date</u>			
5th Meeting of the Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communication Technologies of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean	tbd	Brazil	Recurrent
3rd Ministerial and High Authorities Summit on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence in Latin America and the Caribbean	tbd	Dominican Republic	Annual

5. AGREEMENTS OF RELEVANCE FOR THE EU-LAC DIGITAL PARTNERSHIP

There are various different outcomes and commitments following the dialogues and agreements. These include the formats: Action plans, agendas, communications, declarations, memoranda of understanding, resolutions, roadmaps, etc. but also more concrete institutional and structural outcomes such as (a whole) accelerator, hub or specific software (see 7.2.2 practical applications). To give a better understanding, these are just a few specific examples on very different outcomes of the commitments:

- Digital for Development (D4D) Hub in LAC
- EU-LAC Digital Accelerator

The following tables in this chapter 5 and chapter 6 on bilateral cooperation identify a total 62 agreements of relevance for the EU-LAC partnership. The agreements are sorted by category, differentiating between:

- EU-LAC level agreements (18 agreements)
- Multilateral agreements (41 agreements)
- Bilateral agreements between the EU and individual LAC countries (3 agreement) or between specific LAC countries and EU Member States (see chapter 6)

For illustrative purposes the following tables show the title, date and location of the agreements. Further information including the characteristics, actors, themes, practical applications and resulting commitments can be found in Annex 2.

The mapping of agreements includes agreements before the year 2022, when the dialogues mapping started, since the agreements are still prevalent and valid for a longer period of time.

5.1 EU – LAC Level Agreements

AGREEMENTS 2019

EU Policy and Outreach Partnership in South America	2019 - 2022	N/A
Joint Declaration on a Partnership Between the States Parties to the Framework Agreement of the Pacific Alliance and the European Union	25 September 2019	New York

AGREEMENTS 2020

EU Policy and Outreach Partnership - Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean	2020 - 2023	N/A
Framework Agreement Organization of Ibero-American States - EU-CELAC Foundation	22 October 2020	Hamburg & Madrid
Program for the Strengthening of Science and Technology Systems	26 November 2020 - 25 May 2023	N/A

AGREEMENTS 2021

EU-CELAC 2021-2023 Strategic Roadmap to Step Up Research and Innovation with the Community of Latin American and Caribbean	30 April 2021	Brussels
Telco Cloud Thematic Roadmap	7 May 2021	N/A
EU Policy and Outreach Partnership - Mexico & Central America	15 May 2021 - 14 May 2025	N/A

AGREEMENTS 2022

Collaboration Agreement to Jointly Deepen Bi-Regional Relations Between Latin America, the Caribbean and Europe	22 February 2022	Hamburg & Madrid
Memorandum of Understanding Between RedCLARA and the Estonian Information Systems Authority (RIA)	5 October 2022	Santo Domingo

AGREEMENTS 2023

European Industrial Technology Roadmap for the Next-Generation Cloud-Edge (updated version)	4 July 2023	N/A
EU-LAC Global Gateway Investment Agenda	17 July 2023	Brussels
Joint Declaration on a Digital Alliance European Union – Latin America and Caribbean	17 July 2023	Brussels
EuroLat Resolutions		
EuroLat Resolution: On Bi-regional Cooperation for the Strengthening of Health Systems, for Access to and Distribution of Vaccines, and for Scientific Research to Face Pandemics	27 July 2023	Madrid
EuroLat Resolution: On Digital Platforms in the Modern Economy	27 July 2023	Madrid
EuroLat Resolution: On International Cooperation and Multilateralism in a COVID-19 Context	27 July 2023	Madrid
Statement on Reinforcing and Converging Digital Policy and Regulatory Frameworks on AI	16 November 2023	Madrid
<u>AGREEMENTS 2024</u>		
The Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for SIDS – a Renewed Declaration for Resilient Prosperity - Agreed ad ref	27-30 May 2024	Antigua and Barbuda

For commitments where the information regarding the location of signature was not retrievable N/A is written in the right column.

5.2 Multilateral Agreements

<u>AGREEMENTS 2016</u>		
5G Action Plan	14 September 2016	N/A
<u>AGREEMENTS 2018</u>		
Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America (Escazú Agreement)	4 March 2018	Escazú

AGREEMENTS 2019

Partnership for Development in Latin America and the Caribbean 4 July 2019 Quito

Joint Declaration Pacific Alliance - OECD 5 July 2019 Lima

AGREEMENTS 2020

Project for the Promotion and Articulation of Innovation Ecosystems in Latin America 2020- December 2022 N/A

AGREEMENTS 2021

2030 Digital Compass 9 March 2021 Brussels

Decisions: Council Decision (EU) 2021/764 of 10 May 2021 Establishing the Specific Programme Implementing Horizon Europe – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, and Repealing Decision 2013/743/EU 10 May 2021 Brussels

Council Regulation on Establishing the European High Performance 2 July 2021 Brussels

Computing Joint Undertaking and Repealing Regulation (EU) 2018/1488

Recommendation on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence 23 November 2021 Paris

Agreement for Cooperation Between Southern Market (MERCOSUR) and the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) 30 November 2021 N/A

AGREEMENTS 2022

Ministerial Declaration of the High-Level Segment of the 2022 Session of the Economic and Social Council and the 2022 High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, Convened Under the Auspices of the Council, on the Theme "Building Back Better from the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) While Advancing the Full Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" 15 August 2022 New York

2023 Commission Work Programme 18 October 2022 Strasbourg

Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions	18 October 2022	Strasbourg
Montevideo Declaration (eLAC 2024)	18 November 2022	Montevideo
Memorandum of Understanding of International Cooperation between the Common Market of the South (MERCOSUR) and the Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean (CAF)	5 December 2022	Montevideo
Special Declaration on Culture by the Member States of MERCOSUR and Associated States	6 December 2022	Montevideo
Special Declaration on Cybercrime	6 December 2022	Montevideo
Decision (EU) 2022/2481 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 December 2022 Establishing the Digital Decade Policy Programme 2030	14 December 2022	N/A
<u>AGREEMENTS 2023</u>		
European Industrial Technology Roadmap for the Next-Generation Cloud-Edge	2023	Brussels
Telco Cloud Thematic Roadmap	2023	Brussels
The Digital Decade Policy Programme 2030	9 January 2023	Brussels
Amsterdam Declaration on Funding Research Software Sustainability	17 March 2023	Amsterdam
3rd Ibero-American Cooperation Quadrennial Action Plan 2023-2026 / PACCI: III Ibero-American Cooperation Quadrennial Action Plan 2023-2026	25 March 2023	Santo Domingo
Digital Agenda Group Action Plan 2023-2025	11 May 2023	Online
Memorandum of Understanding Between MERCOSUR and the Organization of Ibero-American States for Education, Science and Culture	30 June 2023	Río de Janeiro
General Plan for Cooperation and Reciprocal Coordination for Regional Security	6 July 2023	Río de Janeiro
Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Digital Acceleration Agenda	15 September 2023	N/A
Declaration by the Ministers and High-level Authorities of the National Machineries for the Advancement of Women in Latin America and the Caribbean for the 68th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women	12 October 2023	Santiago

Political Declaration Adopted at the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, under the Auspices of the General Assembly in September 2023	16 October 2023	New York
Declaration of Santiago	23-24 October 2023	Santiago
Document on the Cooperation Mechanism Between National Data Protection Authorities for Mutual Assistance and Technical, Regulatory and Supervisory Cooperation on the Protection of Personal Data within the Framework of MERCOSUR	9 November 2023	N/A
European Declaration on Quantum Technologies	6 December 2023	N/A
Memorandum of Understanding Between Mercosur and the Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries	6 December 2023	Río de Janeiro
Special Declaration on Culture by the Member States of MERCOSUR and Associated States	7 December 2023	Río de Janeiro
<u>AGREEMENTS 2024</u>		
Regulation on the Adoption of a European Common Criteria-Based Cybersecurity Certification Scheme	31 January 2024	Brussels
Partnership for Development in Latin America and the Caribbean	22 April 2024	Washington D.C.
EU AI Act	13 June 2024	Brussels
Ministerial Declaration of the High-Level Segment of the 2024 Session of the Economic and Social Council and the 2024 High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development Convened under the Auspices of the Council on the Theme "Reinforcing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Eradicating Poverty in Times of Multiple Crises: The Effective Delivery of Sustainable, Resilient and Innovative Solutions"	11 July 2024	New York
Pact for the Future, Global Digital Compact and Declaration on Future Generations	22 September 2024	New York
<u>AGREEMENTS 2025</u>		
Memorandum of Understanding Focused on the Development of Telecommunications and Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) Between the Ministry of Transport and Communications of Peru and RedCLARA	4 February 2025	Lima

6. BILATERAL COOPERATION

During the mapping, 8 bilateral cooperations between the EU and LAC countries were identified (5 dialogues + 3 agreements):

- 12th Brazil-European Union Digital Dialogue (20 March 2023, Brasilia)
- 9th High-Level Dialogue between the EU and Bolivia (30 January 2025, Brussels)
- Belize and EU Partnership Dialogue (27 May 2024, Placencia)
- 4th EU-Colombia Forum (15-16 March 2023, Bogotá)
- 8th Meeting of the Mechanism for Bilateral Political Consultations between the EU and Ecuador (June 2024, Brussels)
- Brazil-EU Joint Communiqué (20 March 2023, Brasilia)
- Interim Agreement on Trade Between the European Union and the Republic of Chile (17 November 2023, Brussels)
- Joint Communiqué between Brazil and the EU (20 March 2023, Brasilia)

The dialogues and agreements address themes such as regional cooperation across diverse sectors, next-gen technologies, trade and digital transformation in general.

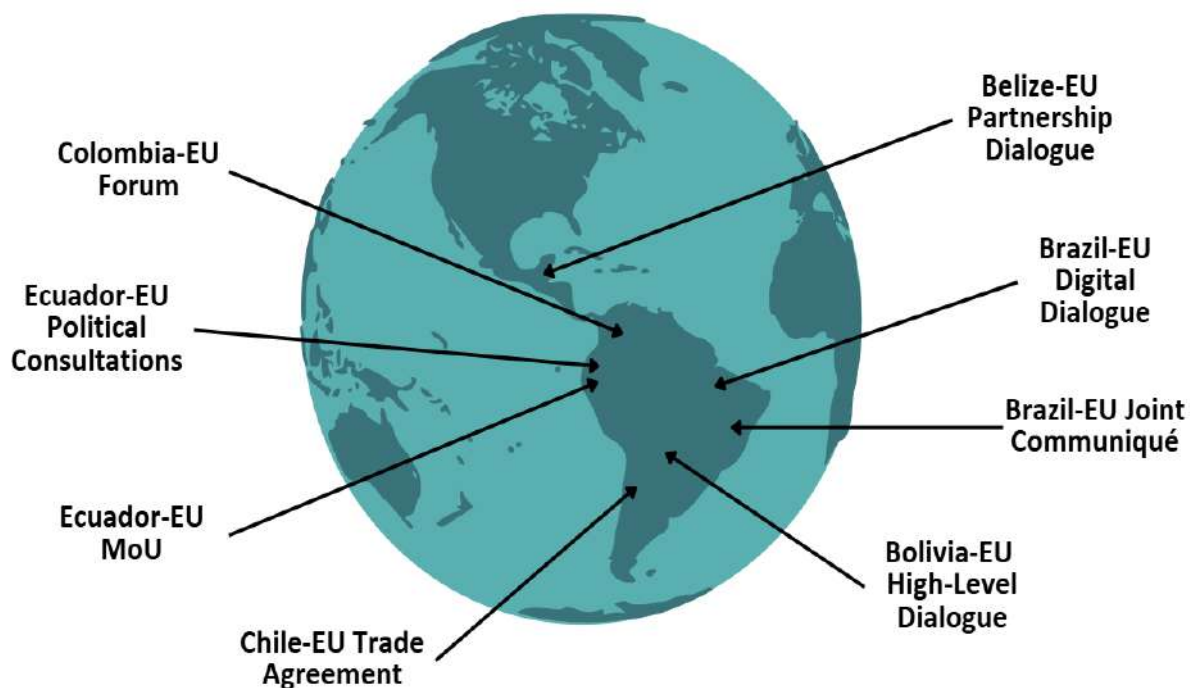


Figure 12: World Map showing EU-LAC bilateral cooperation

6.1 12th Brazil - European Union Digital Dialogue¹⁹

20 March 2024, Brasilia

On 20 March, the European Union and the Government of Brazil held their 12th Digital Dialogue in Brasilia, Brazil. At the occasion of the Digital dialogue, the EU and Brazil agreed to cooperate on connectivity projects, particularly in under-served regions of Brazil, continue their common work on 5G and 6G technologies and support enhanced cooperation between High Performance Computing centres in Brazil and the EU. Moreover, both partners also aim to foster exchange of information on semiconductors supply chains, work on the technical interoperability of digital signature systems, continue the dialogue on data protection and international data flows and exchange best practices and promote cooperation on the regulatory frameworks for data, artificial intelligence and platforms. They will continue to cooperate in international fora based on their shared values. The European Union and Brazil issued a joint communiqué²⁰ (see section 6.7). The next Digital Dialogue is planned for 2025.

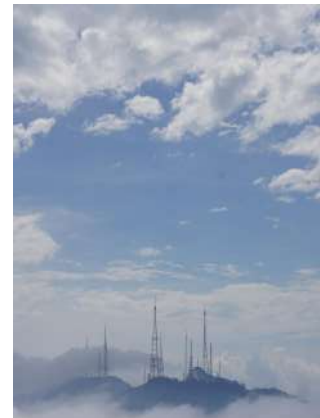


Figure 13: Antennas in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, © Johanna Füllmann

6.2 9th High Level Dialogue Between the EU And Bolivia²¹

30 January 2025, Brussels

The ninth High-Level Dialogue between the European Union and Bolivia took place in Brussels on 30th January. This Dialogue is part of a series of regular meetings to review the general state of relations between Bolivia and the European Union. The meeting addressed diplomatic issues of mutual interest, sectoral dialogue and cooperation, and pressing issues on the international scene. Both Parties confirmed their commitment to cooperate at regional level, notably through the dialogue between the EU and CELAC, and expressed their desire to work for the 2025 EU-CELAC Summit in Colombia to produce concrete results, including investments under the Global Gateway Investment Agenda, for the benefit of the citizens of both continents. The EU warmly welcomed the accession of Bolivia to the EU-LAC Digital Alliance.

6.3 1st Belize and EU Partnership Dialogue²²

27 May 2024, Placencia

On 27th May 2024, Belize and the EU held their first Partnership Dialogue in Placencia, under Article 3 of the new Partnership Agreement between the EU and members of the organization of African, Caribbean, and Pacific States, the 'Samoa Agreement'.

First Partnership Dialogue between EU and Belize.

This Partnership Dialogue is the successor of the Political dialogue held under Art.8 of the 'Cotonou Agreement'. [...] Discussions also covered the implementation of the EU's Global Gateway Investment Agenda, which aims to boost investment in Belize in digital transformation, climate and energy, transport, health, and education. Updates on the EU-

¹⁹ [12th Brazil - European Union Digital Dialogue | EEAS](#)

²⁰ <https://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/dae/redirection/document/103707>

²¹ [Bolivia: High Level Dialogue between the EU and Bolivia | EEAS](#)

²² [Belize and European Union Hold Partnership Dialogue | EEAS](#); accessed 06.02.2025

Economic Partnership Agreement, including its challenges and opportunities, were also provided.

Main Actors: The Partnership Dialogue was co-chaired by Honourable Francis Fonseca, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade, and H.E. Marianne Van Steen, Ambassador of the European Union. They were joined by H.E. Amalia Mai, Chief Executive Officer, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Directors: Ayesha Borland, Alfonso Gahona, Luis Salazar and Andy Sutherland. Ambassadors Johan Verkammen, of the Kingdom of Belgium; Zdeněk Kubánek, of Czechia; Maeve von Heynitz, of the Republic of Ireland; Alessandro Modiano, of Italy; Wilfred Mohr, of the Kingdom of the Netherlands; Manuel Carvalho, of Portugal; María Clara Girbau Ronda, of the Kingdom of Spain; Anders Bengtson, of the Kingdom of Sweden and Mr. Sébastien Bulot, Chargé d'Affaires of the Embassy of France in Guatemala.

6.4 4th EU-Colombia Forum²³

15-16 March 2023, Bogotá

On the 15th and 16th of March 2023 in Bogotá, the Euroamerica Foundation organised the IV EU-Colombia Forum. The event addressed key issues of a common agenda and the vision for the future between the two regions. This conference was attended by a high level of institutional representation from both the European and Colombian sides. Participants discussed the triple transition – digital, green, and social – focusing on people, investment and trade relations between Colombia and the EU. Other discussed themes were the Digital Alliance, the Global Gateway initiative, promoting digitalisation and the new digital environment.

6.5 8th Meeting of the Mechanism for Bilateral Political Consultations between the EU and Ecuador²⁴

June 2024, Brussels

The 8th Meeting of the Mechanism for Bilateral Political Consultations between the EU and Ecuador took place in June 2024 in Brussels. The Dialogue was constructive and cordial. It covered a broad agenda with topics of interest to both sides, confirming the strength of the bilateral relationship and the potential for closer ties in the future. The commitment to strengthen the bilateral relationship between the European Union and Ecuador was reiterated. In particular, the deepening of relations was noted following the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding, which has been followed up with the holding of dialogues in priority areas for both parties. The European Union and Ecuador highlighted the importance of the Global Gateway strategy to advance a green, digital and just transition.



Figure 14: Atomium, Brussels,
© Johanna Füllmann

²³ <https://www.euroamerica.org/conferencia/iv-foro-colombia-union-europea>

²⁴ [Ecuador: Bilateral Political Consultations Mechanism between the European Union and Ecuador | EEAS](#)

6.6 Interim Agreement on Trade between the European Union and The Republic of Chile²⁵

17 November 2023, Brussels

The EU-Chile Advanced Framework Agreement modernizes the EU-Chile Association Agreement, introducing comprehensive trade and investment rules. The agreement eliminates tariff barriers, enhances market access, and aligns with sustainability, digital trade, and regulatory cooperation objectives. It fosters an open, fair, and sustainable trading environment between the European Union and Chile.

6.7 Joint Communiqué between the EU and Brazil²⁶

20 March 2023, Brasilia

The joint communiqué between Brazil and the EU contains important information regarding the 12th EU-Brazil digital dialogues and priority areas for future cooperation. These include but are not limited to 5G technologies, digital connectivity projects, high performance computing, data governance and AI. In the communiqué a workplan is mentioned, which will aid in the implementation of joint initiatives.

6.8 EU-Ecuador: Memorandum of Understanding for stronger bilateral relations

17 July 2023, Brussels

On July 17, 2023, the EU and Ecuador signed a MoU to strengthen their bilateral relations. The signing ceremony took place during the EU-CELAC Summit in Brussels, Belgium, with the presence of Ecuadorian President Guillermo Lasso. The MoU outlines a framework for enhanced cooperation between the EU and Ecuador across various sectors. It identifies eight priority areas to guide the development of their relations

²⁵ [EU-Chile: Text of the agreement](#)

²⁶ <https://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/dae/redirection/document/103707>

7. CROSS-CUTTING ANALYSIS

The following section provides a cross-cutting analysis on the following parts of the dialogues and agreements: Main Actors, Main Themes, Practical applications, Resulting commitments.

7.1 Main Actors

The main actors from the dialogues and agreements are clustered into four categories: **Political Actors**, **Research and Innovation Performing Actors**, **Economic Actors** and **Other Actors** (e.g. Society at large). A more detailed overview can be found in the Annex for each specific dialogue and agreement. Additionally, included are the main actors identified during the consortium workshop in November 2023 (already mentioned in the interim report version from May 2024).

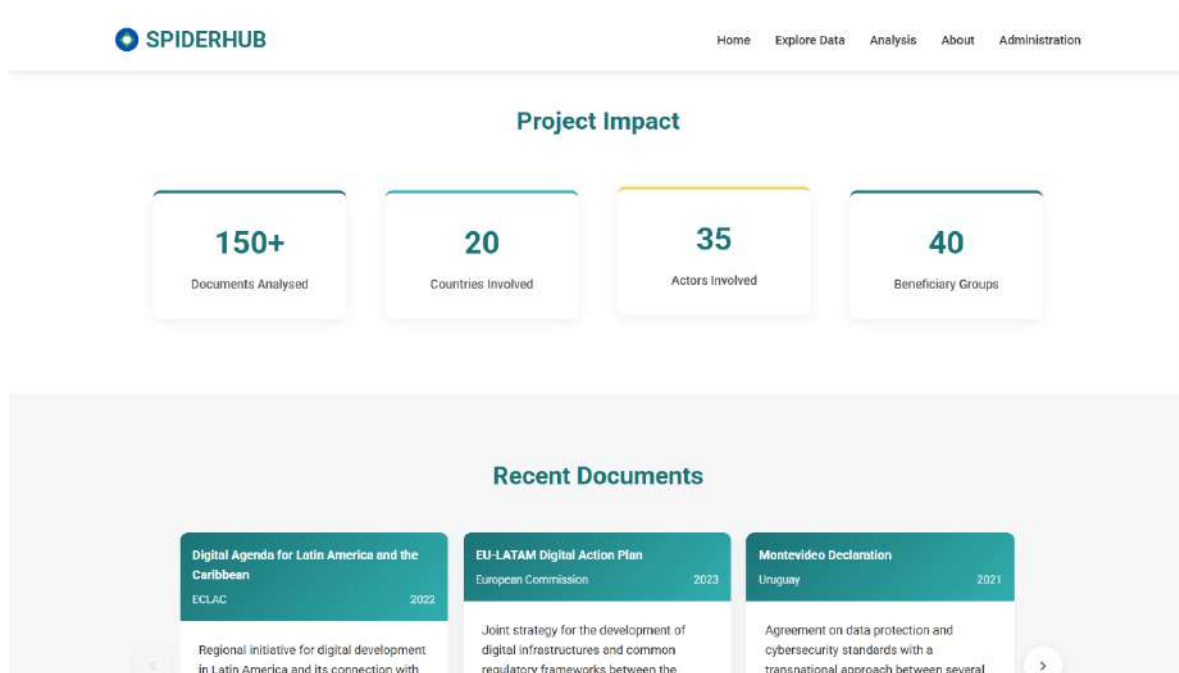


Figure 15: SPIDERHUB - Project Impact



POLITICAL ACTORS

Governments/Government Officials
(including representatives from Latin America, the Caribbean, and EU countries)

Policy Level Representatives (such as Ministries and Senior Government Officials)

Community of Latin American and Caribbean States Southern Common Market

Pacific Alliance

European Union

- EU Member States
- European Council
- European Parliament
- European Commission
- EU Delegations

Ibero-American General Secretariat

Community of Portuguese Language Countries

International and Ibero-American Foundation for Administration and Public Policies

Information and Communication Technologies and Digital Dialogue Leaders

Organisation of Ibero-American States

United Nations and affiliated entities

United Nations Officials

RESEARCH AND INNOVATION PERFORMING ACTORS

EU-LAC Foundation

Research Software Alliance

Latin American Cooperation of Advanced Networks (Coordinator of the BELLA II project)

Universities

Technology Organisations

Research Performing Organisations and Centres

Academic Institutions

Knowledge and Innovation Communities from the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT Digital)

Digital Innovation Hubs

"Thematic" communities (AI, Big Data, Blockchain, etc.)

Researchers and Innovators in fields such as computing and digital transformation

Digital for Development Hub

EU-LAC Digital Alliance

Pan-European Research and Education Network

LAC Space Agencies

National Research and Education Networks

Latin American and Caribbean Network Information Centre

Spanish Agency for International Development



Figure 16: Main Actors organised by category/type

7.2 Main Themes

The main themes of the SPIDER project as mentioned in the description of action include AI, 5G, Blockchain, Cloud Computing, Cybersecurity and VREs. Through the initial workshop this was already expanded by further keywords such as digital transformation or quantum technologies. Overall, five core themes were identified: **Digital Transformation**

& Strategy, Technology & Innovation, Data & Governance, Inclusion & Social Development and Regional & International Cooperation. In total 54 sub-themes of relevance for the SPIDER project were identified. These themes serve as starting points for further research as well as possible thematic areas of interest for future EU-LAC collaborations regarding digital transformation.

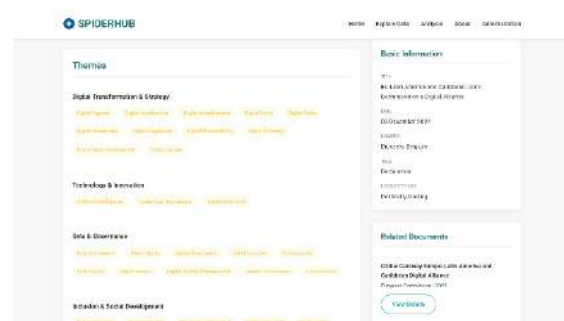


Figure 17: SPIDERHUB - Themes

1. DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION AND STRATEGY

	Digital Agenda	Digital Acceleration	Digital Platforms
	Digital Decade	Digital Infrastructure	Digital Trade
	Digital Policy	Digital Ecosystem	Digital Investment
	Digital Regulation	Digital Transitions	Digital Research
	Digital Sustainability	Digital Economy	Digital Skills Development

2. TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

Artificial Intelligence	AI Ethics	Tech-Driven Solutions
Quantum Technologies	ICT Innovation	Technology Regulations
High-Performance Computing	Sustainable Tech	Cloud Computing
Innovation in Computing	Blockchain	Quantum Technologies
Future of Technology	5G	VRE

3. DATA AND GOVERNANCE

	Data Governance	Digital Rights	Digital Governance
	Data Protection	Cybersecurity	Cyber Risk Management
	Data Privacy	Digital Access	Digital Identity Management
	Internet Governance	Digital Ethics	E-Governance

4. INCLUSION AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Digital Inclusion	Social Cohesion	
Gender Equality in Tech	Digital Education	
Connectivity	Sustainable Digital Development	

5. REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

	EU-LAC Digital Alliance	Bi-regional Cooperation
	Global Digital Cooperation	Multilateralism
	EU-CELAC Digital Partnership	Digital & Technological Partnerships

7.2.1 Key Themes relevant for SPIDER and dedicated Dialogues and Agreements

A more in-depth analysis was conducted on themes **AI, 5G, Blockchain, Cloud computing, VREs** and **Cybersecurity** listed in the description of actions (from the SPIDER Project) as well as the theme **Quantum Technologies**, which during the SPIDER workshops was found to also be of great relevance to the project, as well as **Gender** in a dedicated specific section 7.2.2, which the technical review of the interim version with the European Commission suggested.

The following compilation of images highlighting the key themes was created with the free AI Art Generator Nightcafé Studio using the AI art model Dall-E 3 and the basic prompt `European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean, digital partnership` replenished with one of the key themes respectively: `European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean, digital partnership, [...]`.



Figure 18 AI-Art image generation with key themes
@Johanna - User on NightCafe Creator - NightCafe Creator

Below the themes are listed directly with related dialogues, agreements and practical applications, which are meant to serve as a reference point for possible future collaborations or research in the areas.

1. **Artificial Intelligence**

EU AI Act²⁷

13 June 2024, Brussels

The AI Act is the first-ever legal framework on AI, which addresses the risks of AI and positions Europe to play a leading role globally. The AI Act sets out a clear set of risk-based rules for AI developers and deployers regarding specific uses of AI. The AI Act is part of a wider package of policy measures to support the development of trustworthy AI, which

²⁷ [AI Act | Shaping Europe's digital future](#)

also includes the AI Innovation Package, the launch of AI Factories and the Coordinated Plan on AI. Together, these measures guarantee safety, fundamental rights and human-centric AI, and strengthen uptake, investment and innovation in AI across the EU. To facilitate the transition to the new regulatory framework, the Commission has launched the AI Pact, a voluntary initiative that seeks to support the future implementation, engage with stakeholders and invite AI providers and deployers from Europe and beyond to comply with the key obligations of the AI Act ahead of time.

EU-LAC Digital Alliance Dialogue on Artificial Intelligence²⁸

13 March 2024, Montevideo

This dialogue served to discuss how to identify and mitigate the risks of AI while seizing the opportunities for socio-economic growth. It brought together representatives from the EU and LAC countries, as part of the EU-LAC Digital Alliance. The Dialogue allowed participants to share AI use cases and applications for sustainable development and showcase AI applications for the public sector.

Regional Forum on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence

22-23 October 2023, Santiago

The Forum was hosted by the UNESCO, in collaboration with the Ministry of Science, Technology, Knowledge, and Innovation of Chile, and CAF and aimed to foster a common strategy and partnerships for the responsible use of AI in the Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) region to support the leading UNESCO Recommendation, a comprehensive international framework and first global standard in its field.

Recommendations on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence²⁹

23 November 2021

This UNESCO recommendation aims to guide governments and organizations worldwide in the ethical development and deployment of AI. It stresses the importance of promoting human rights, inclusivity, transparency, accountability, and respect for privacy in AI systems. The document outlines principles for creating AI technologies that benefit humanity while minimizing harm, ensuring that AI advances social good, and prevents any discriminatory or harmful impacts. It encourages global cooperation and a human-centered approach to AI, with an emphasis on ongoing monitoring and adaptation to evolving challenges.

²⁸ [Exploring the potential of Artificial Intelligence with Latin America & the Caribbean | EEAS](#)

²⁹ [Recommendation on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence | UNESCO](#)

Global Forum on the Ethics of AI³⁰

The forum brings together global leaders, AI experts, industry pioneers, and policymakers to address critical challenges and opportunities in AI development. Since the publication of the “Recommendations on the Ethics of AI” the successful implementation of the recommendations has become a core aspect of the forum, balancing innovation with responsibility, and fostering global collaboration to shape inclusive and ethical AI governance frameworks.



Figure 19: Picture
©Josi_Colonia
@Nightcaféstudio

2. 5G

5G Action Plan³¹

14 September 2016

The 5G Action Plan is a strategic initiative, which aims at making 5G a reality for all citizens and businesses across the EU. The action plan set out a clear roadmap for public and private investment on 5G infrastructure in the EU. It focuses on: deploying 5G in major cities across the EU, developing 5G technology for faster speeds, lower latency, and more reliable communication, encouraging investment in 5G infrastructure, creating a single digital market for seamless cross-border services and ensuring security and privacy through common standards for 5G networks. The plan supports the EU's broader Digital Agenda and Digital Decade goals.

3. Blockchain

European Blockchain Partnership³² (EBP)

The EBP is an initiative to develop an EU strategy on blockchain and build a blockchain infrastructure for public services. The EBP was launched in 2018 with the objective to develop and deploy the European Blockchain Services Infrastructure (EBSI). This initiative leverages blockchain technology to create a more transparent, secure, and efficient way of managing and verifying information. The EBSI infrastructure may have various applications, including cross-border services, public administrations, businesses, and citizens, ensuring that data integrity and trust are maintained throughout the process. EBSI's architecture is built on a network of distributed nodes across Europe, making it the first EU-wide blockchain infrastructure driven by the public sector. This decentralised approach ensures that there is no single point of failure, enhancing the robustness and reliability of the system.

EUROPEUM-EDIC³³

The EUROPEUM-EDIC is a legal entity established by a consortium of 9 Member States, which further deploys and expands the exploitation of the EBSI to deliver EU-wide cross-border services, in particular public services. The aim is to reinforce trust and cyber resilience in compliance with EU regulation, including the newly adopted European Digital Identity framework. The EUROPEUM-EDIC supports cross-border cooperation between public authorities on Web3 and decentralised technologies, promoting innovation and interoperability of such solutions with other technologies. The EUROPEUM EDIC involves

³⁰ [Global Forum on the Ethics of AI 2024 - Artificial Intelligence | UNESCO](#)

³¹ [5G Action plan | Shaping Europe's digital future](#)

³² [European Blockchain Partnership | Shaping Europe's digital future](#)

³³ [Blockchain: Creation of EUROPEUM-EDIC | Shaping Europe's digital future](#)

Belgium – as hosting country – Croatia, Cyprus, Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, Portugal, Romania and Slovenia.

4. Cloud Computing

Telco Cloud Thematic Roadmap ³⁴

2021, updated version 2023

The Telco Cloud Thematic Roadmap was developed by the Cloud-Edge Industrial Working Group in 2020 and outlines a strategy for telecommunication companies to transition to cloud-based infrastructures. It focuses on cloudification, automation, and network virtualization to enhance flexibility, efficiency, and reduce costs. Security is a key priority, and collaboration with cloud service providers is encouraged to drive innovation. The roadmap aims to transform telecommunication businesses, enabling them to deliver next-gen services, improve customer experience, and meet growing digital demand.

European Alliance for Industrial Data, Edge and Cloud³⁵

established in 2020

The European Alliance for Industrial Data, Edge and Cloud aims to foster the development and deployment of next generation edge and cloud technologies. The Alliance brings together businesses, Member States representatives and relevant experts. It will strengthen the position of EU industry on cloud and edge technologies. It aims to serve the needs of EU businesses and public administrations that process sensitive categories of data, and has the objective to increase Europe's leadership position on industrial data.

Cloud - Edge Working Group³⁶

The Cloud-Edge Working Group focuses on integrating cloud and edge computing technologies to improve digital infrastructure and services. It brings together stakeholders from industry, academia, and government to share research, develop best practices, and create guidelines for deploying cloud-edge solutions. The group's work supports efficient, scalable digital ecosystems, particularly for IoT and real-time data processing.

5. Cybersecurity

EU-LAC Digital Alliance Dialogue on Cybersecurity³⁷

14 February 2024, Santo Domingo

The EU-LAC Digital Alliance Dialogue on Cybersecurity focused on enhancing cybersecurity collaboration between the EU and LAC. Recognizing the increasing global nature of cyber threats, the dialogue aimed to strengthen the strategic partnership between the two regions, emphasizing a human-centric digital transformation. Participants, including government officials, academia, and private sector representatives, discussed key issues like workforce development, bi-regional and multistakeholder cooperation, and strengthening national and regional cybersecurity ecosystems. The dialogue aimed to improve responses to cyber threats, promote secure connectivity, and share best practices.

³⁴ [New Telco Cloud Thematic Roadmap from the European Alliance for Industrial Data, Edge and Cloud | Shaping Europe's digital future](#)

³⁵ [European Alliance for Industrial Data, Edge and Cloud | Shaping Europe's digital future](#)

³⁶ [Cloud-Edge WG @ EU Cloud Alliance | Futurium](#)

³⁷ [EU-LAC Digital Alliance Dialogue on Cybersecurity](#)

Annual CIRT-BS Cybersecurity Conference + ITU Caribbean CyberDrill³⁸

15-17 January 2025, Nassau

The event, themed “Building Shared Cyber Resilience” in 2025 aimed to strengthen national and regional cybersecurity partnerships by enhancing communication and incident response capabilities. Through cyber incident simulation labs and sharing sessions, participants addressed common cyber threats, improving defenses and fostering regional collaboration. The event covered topics such as incident management, threat intelligence, legal frameworks, and compliance. It was open to decision-makers, telecommunications staff, regulatory authorities, and special guests from the Caribbean.

EU-LAC Multi-Stakeholder Forum on Cybersecurity and Secure Connectivity³⁹

23-25 October 2024, Madrid

The D4D hub convened the multistakeholder community to advance the EU-LAC digital cooperation by specifically engaging EU Member States and LAC countries, private sector, development financing institutions, civil society, and academia to implement the Santo Domingo conclusions on cybersecurity. Key themes mentioned were digital infrastructure, cyber threats, connectivity across the LAC region and capacity building.



Figure 20: Figure 16: Picture from the Multistakeholder Forum in Madrid

Latin America and Caribbean Cyber Competence Center⁴⁰

LAC4 is a regional hub for cybersecurity education and training in LAC countries. LAC4's objective is to provide cybersecurity and cybercrime expertise to support Latin American and Caribbean digital transformation and collaboration to counter cyber threats. LAC4 consists of 13 participating regions: Estonia, the Netherlands, RedCLARA, Panama, Honduras, El Salvador, Uruguay, Antigua and Barbuda, Cyber 4.0, Guatemala, Ecuador and the NUMU group. LAC was implemented by the Estonian Information System Authority (RIA) and is funded by the European Commission.

³⁸ [3rd Annual CIRT-BS Cybersecurity Conference + 15th ITU Caribbean CyberDrill - Nassau, Bahamas 15-17 January 2025](#)

³⁹ [EU-LAC Multi-stakeholder Forum on Cybersecurity and Secure Connectivity](#)

⁴⁰ [Latin America and Caribbean Cyber Competence Centre - LAC4](#)

6. **Virtual Research Environments**

VRE4EIC project⁴¹

1 Oktober 2015 - 30 September 2018

The VRE4EIC project focuses on improving VREs for multidisciplinary data-driven sciences. It aimed to enhance user experience, increase VRE adoption, and improve interoperability by reusing workflows and ensuring secure, sustainable data access. Key innovations include a new VRE architecture, semantic web integration for open data, and solutions for societal challenges like climate change. The project had a cost of € 4 370 000,25 and is assumed to impact 70,000 researchers across Europe, promoting collaboration through training and expanding VRE usage across various research domains.

7. **Quantum Technologies**

European Declaration on Quantum Technologies⁴²

6 December 2023



Figure 21: Picture
© Josi_Colonia
@Nightcaféstudio

The European Declaration on Quantum Technologies is a strategic initiative aimed at positioning Europe as a global leader in the development and application of quantum technologies. It was adopted by European countries to promote collaborative efforts in research, development, and commercialization of quantum technologies across Europe. The declaration focuses on fostering innovation, supporting education and training in quantum science, and ensuring that Europe can harness the economic and societal benefits of quantum advancements. It also highlights the need for ethical guidelines and ensuring that quantum technologies are developed and used responsibly. The declaration aligns with broader European Union strategies, such as the Horizon Europe program, to drive innovation in the field of quantum science and technology.

7.2.2 Gender and underrepresentation of women in the use of digital transformation

The substantial underrepresentation of women in the use of digital transformation technologies remains an ongoing issue. Gender divisions remain an important topic in dialogues across Europe and Latin American and Caribbean countries, such as the **"Meetings of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean"**⁴³ (last held: 4-5 December 2024 in Santiago) and the **"Reunión de Ministras y Altas Autoridades de la Mujer de MERCOSUR"**⁴⁴ (last held: 28-29 November 2024 in Montevideo). While these dialogues address gender inequalities as a whole there are also dialogues and initiatives which put a specific focus on digital transformation:

Women 4 Ethical Artificial Intelligence⁴⁵ Conference

⁴¹ [A Europe-wide Interoperable Virtual Research Environment to Empower Multidisciplinary Research Communities and Accelerate Innovation and Collaboration | VRE4EIC | Project | Fact sheet | H2020 | CORDIS | European Commission](#)

⁴² [European Declaration on Quantum Technologies | Shaping Europe's digital future](#)

⁴³ [Sixty-sixth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean | Santiago, 4 - 5 December 2024](#)

⁴⁴ [Reunión de Ministras y Altas Autoridades de la Mujer de MERCOSUR - MERCOSUR](#)

⁴⁵ [Women4Ethical AI | UNESCO](#)

30 October 2024, Paris

Themes: impact on AI on gender equality and women's rights, explore real-world solutions for a more ethical AI ecosystem

Laborateria⁴⁶

Laborateria is a non-profit organization, which provides women with a lack of opportunities in Latin America training in technical skills and helps them find job opportunities. Their bootcamp is open to women from Peru, Chile, Mexico, Brazil, Colombia, Panama, Paraguay, Costa Rica, Bolivia and Uruguay.

Women in Tech⁴⁷

Women in Tech® Global is the world's leading organization dedicated to closing the gender gap and empowering women to embrace technology. They provide and organize networking events, mentorship programs, and skill-building initiatives for women to excel in technology-related careers, and shape the future of the tech industry. Women in Tech® is operation in countries all across the world, including many Latin American and European countries.

This serves to highlight only some of the ways in which an increased participation of women in the digital world is fostered.

Furthermore, the document **"Women in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) in the Latin America and Caribbean region"**⁴⁸ published by UN



Figure 23: Women in STEM in LAC - Cover

TABLE 2:
Enabling STEM potential through education, training workshops, and studies

Name of the initiative	Initiator	Description and aim	Model of support	Country	Year of creation
Competition for young scientists for the advancement of women in STEM	UNESCO	This initiative aims to promote scientific research and the development of talent by organizing a competition for young scientists between the educational, scientific, and public communities. It organizes workshops, seminars, and so on that will deepen knowledge. It also researches, incorporating good practices in processes related to female and male scientists in the research teams, gender and scientific education, and institutional support for research and gender projects.	Coached	120+	2019 (first edition)
TechnoAfrica	CTC	It trains girls aged 15 to 18 using programming, basic mathematics and entrepreneurship training to help them overcome barriers to benefit from the advantages offered by the sector, in order to close the existing digital gender gap.	Technical assistance	Dominican Republic	2019
Panel for Research and Development of Women's Leadership	National Council for Science, Technology and Innovation of the National Women's Institute	The purpose of the Council is to promote scientific research, technological and innovation development through training research centers that can generate knowledge and technological development opportunities for the sector that address the problems and needs of the sector. It integrates students from 12 related universities in the area of natural resources and sciences through training in a Cross-Cutted Research Institute, a certification granted by the company from a system based on the management of research and innovation. In this, the project has impacted strongly on scientific and economic.	Panel	Mexico	2019
"Women in Tech" program	CTC	It aims to provide the local women's community with education in information and communication technologies (ICTs), generating quality professional skills, technical knowledge essential in the use of digital tools and equipment, and so on, to allow women to participate in the digital economy and contribute to economic growth.	Technical assistance	Dominican Republic	2019
Girls in Tech	Girls in Tech in a non-profit		Technical assistance	Guatemala	2019

Figure 22: Women in STEM in LAC - Excerpt

Status of Women"⁵⁰ in 2023 St. Kitts and Nevis called on international partners, particularly industrialized nations, to do more to help countries in the Caribbean, Latin

⁴⁶ [Laboratoria](#)

⁴⁷ [Women in Tech® Global](#)

⁴⁸ [Mujeres en ciencia tecnología ingeniería y matemáticas en américa latina y el caribe | UN Women – Americas and the Caribbean](#)

⁴⁹ [2400324e_cop-ez.3_draft_decision_mainstreaming.pdf](#)

⁵⁰ [CSW67 \(2023\) | UN Women – Headquarters](#)

America and Africa to close the digital divide as efforts to enhance gender equality are pursued⁵¹.

First time the CSW included digital transformation as a priority theme.

The CSW67 took place under the theme "Innovation and Technological Change, and Education in the Digital age for Achieving Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Rural Women and Girls" highlighting the importance of taking gender divides into account when addressing digital transformation worldwide.



Figure 24: CSW67 – Cover, [Source: CSW67 \(2023\)](#)

7.3 Practical Applications



Figure 25: Picture
©Josi_Colonia
@Nightcaféstudio

The practical applications resulting from the digital dialogues range from Software platforms to accelerators and hubs to the LAC Cyber Competence Centre. A full list needs to be established here from the analysis of the commitments deriving in a style of the current exemplary showcase.

Qualitative Indicators

The qualitative indicators obtained from a co-creation process, have the potential to provide a comprehensive and detailed view of the implementation status of dialogue outcomes. These indicators offer a variety of perspectives to understand the effectiveness and impact of ongoing dialogue initiatives. Given the diversity in the typology of the indicators, their application in SPIDER project activities can vary significantly. For example, in some cases, we might opt to conduct structured interviews or questionnaires to assess stakeholder satisfaction levels or to measure stakeholders' perception and satisfaction regarding the implementation of dialogue outcomes. These tools would provide a detailed understanding of participants' opinions and perceptions, which could directly inform about the impact and effectiveness of dialogue initiatives. In other cases, we might resort to deeper and more detailed analyses to evaluate the long-term impact of dialogue outcomes. This could involve conducting case studies, analysing historical data, or tracking progress over time to determine if sustainable changes are being achieved in the specific areas identified by the dialogue. Furthermore, the selection of the application methodology will also depend on the specific indicator and the context in which the dialogue is being implemented. For example, to assess the quality of dialogue, we could use focus groups or content analysis to better understand the nature and effectiveness of the conversations held during the dialogue process. In summary, the qualitative indicators offer a wide range of tools and approaches to assess and monitor the implementation of dialogue outcomes. By adapting the application methodology to each specific indicator and relevant context, we can obtain a more comprehensive and detailed understanding of the impact and effectiveness of dialogue initiatives in the EU-LAC cooperation on digital transformation. A dedicated report will focus on the specific set of indicators.

The following section shows the practical applications that have been mentioned and agreed upon by the dialogues and commitments in the exemplary analysis following in section 7.5 as well as those identified to be of exceptional relevance for the SPIDER project.

⁵¹ [ST. KITTS AND NEVIS CALLS ON INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS TO HELP DEVELOPING COUNTRIES TO BRIDGE THE DIGITAL DIVIDE – SKNIS](#)

These practical applications will be the main objectives to be continuously monitored by the SPIDER DIF.

Research Software Alliance⁵²

established in 2018

The Research Software Alliance is an international community dedicated to ensuring that research software and its developers are recognized and valued as fundamental components of research worldwide. ReSA coordinates efforts across various organizations to enhance software productivity, quality, reproducibility, and sustainability in the research ecosystem. The ReSA has also created this **public database of current and past research software funding opportunities⁵³** to improve the findability of this important information.

GovTech Global Partnership⁵⁴

established in 2019

To support countries in adopting sound practices and solutions in GovTech, and to ensure a broad global partnership for effective exchange and transfer of knowledge and good practice, the GovTech Global Partnership (GTGP) was first established by the World Bank's Governance Global Practice partnership with the Government of Switzerland, Austria, and Korea in 2019. The GTGP is a multi-stakeholder initiative that includes advanced and aspiring GovTech countries, development partners, private sector, academia, civil society, and others involved in the GovTech domain.

EU-LAC Digital Accelerator⁵⁵

The EU-LAC Digital Accelerator offers acceleration services to EU-LAC Partnerships (at least one company from Europe and one from Latin America or the Caribbean; alternatively: one company from Latin America and one from the Caribbean). Services include (value up to 40.000 Euro/Partnership): Roadmapping, Proof of concept, Business case and investment and scaling



Figure 26: Picture
©Josi_Colonia
@Nightcaféstudio

Research Software Funders Forum⁵⁶

The Research Software Funders Forum is a collaboration of funding organizations committed to supporting research software, and those who develop it, as fundamental and vital to research. It provides a formal mechanism for funders to share practices and consider how to address common challenges to achieve the significant cultural change needed across the research sector globally.

Digital for Development (D4D) Hub⁵⁷

The D4D Hub is a strategic platform established by the European Union and its Member States with the aim of fostering multi-stakeholder partnerships and boosting investments

⁵² [ReSA](#)

⁵³ [Funding Opportunities · Research Software Alliance](#)

⁵⁴ [The Global Partnership](#)

⁵⁵ <https://eulacdigitalaccelerator.com/accelerator/>

⁵⁶ <https://www.researchsoft.org/funders-forum/>

⁵⁷ <https://d4dhub.eu/>

to advance a human-centric digital transformation worldwide. It consists of thematic working groups, advisory groups, regional branches and informal digital hubs.

The European High-Performance Computing Joint Undertaking (EuroHPC JU)⁵⁸

EuroHPC JU is a joint initiative between the EU, European countries and private partners to develop a World Class Supercomputing Ecosystem in Europe. The EuroHPC JU allows the European Union and the EuroHPC JU participating countries to coordinate their efforts and pool their resources to make Europe a world leader in supercomputing. This boosts Europe's scientific excellence and industrial strength, supporting the digital transformation of its economy while ensuring its technological sovereignty.

"FUT-Tourism: Rethinking Tourism and MSMEs in times of COVID-19"⁵⁹

January 2021 - June 2022

The "FUT-Tourism: Rethinking Tourism and MSMEs in times of COVID-19" project aims to technically and financially support Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) that are directly or indirectly linked to the tourism sector or have been significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. With gender equality and empowerment of women at its core, the proposal seeks to promote economic diversification, job creation and resilience with the "Blue Economy for Green Islands" approach in the tourism sector thereby boosting recovery and supporting the digitally enabled transformation of the business processes and value chains of MSMEs. A key component of this project is the Fut-Tourism Regional Dialogues: a 5-part series of weekly panels, facilitating catalytic discussions which will contribute towards shaping the future of tourism in the region.⁶⁰ The third dialogue focused on digital transformation regarding future tourism. It covered topics such as innovative technology, digital payments, online bookings and digital innovation in general. The project was implemented over an 18-month period from January 2021 to June 2022 with a budget of 1.5 million USD.⁶¹

Other practical applications already analysed in section 7.2.1 "Key Themes Relevant For SPIDER And Dedicated Dialogues and Agreements":

- EUROPEUM-EDIC (legal entity)
- VRE4EIC project
- European Blockchain Partnership
- European Alliance for Industrial Data, Edge and Cloud
- Cloud - Edge Working Group
- Laborateria (non-profit organization)
- Women in Tech® Global (organization)
- LAC4

⁵⁸ https://eurohpc-ju.europa.eu/index_en

⁵⁹ <https://www.undp.org/barbados/fut-tourism-rethinking-tourism-and-msmes-times-covid-19>

⁶⁰ [FUT-Tourism: Rethinking Tourism and MSMEs in times of COVID-19 | United Nations Development Programme](#)

⁶¹ [Regional Policy Dialogues | United Nations Development Programme](#)

7.4 Resulting Commitments

The resulting commitments from the dialogue's analysis were sorted into seven categories: **Action Plans, Agreements, Declarations, Memoranda of Understanding, Resolutions, Regulations, Roadmaps and Other** (e.g. communication from the European Commission, joint programmes, statements). These categories were used to provide a quantitative overview of commitments on the level of EU-LAC as well as on a multilateral level. Furthermore, Figure 23 provides a visual overview of the frequency in which the different commitment categories occurred during the mapping.

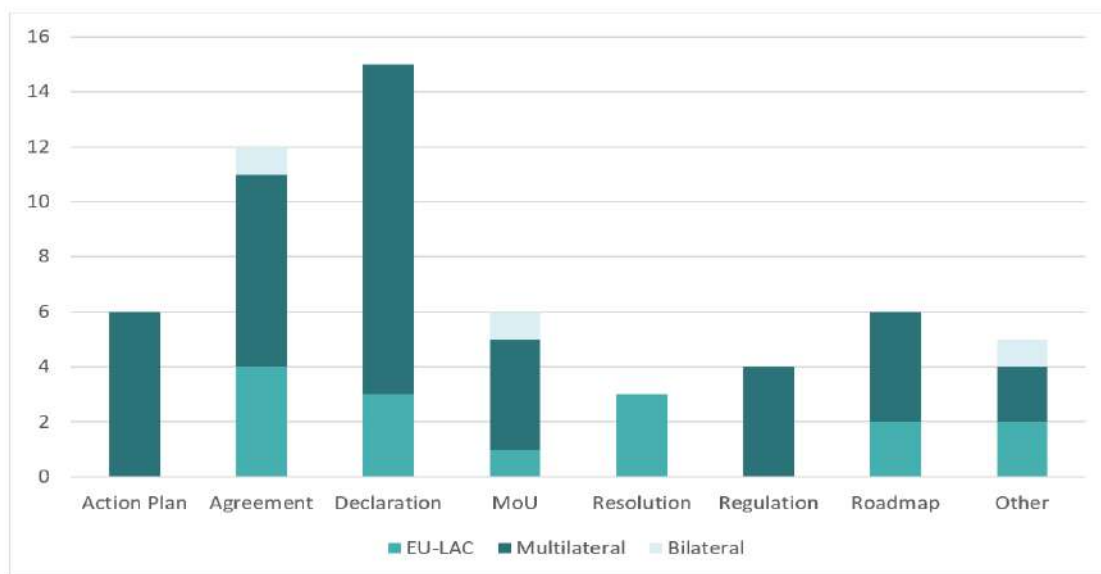


Figure 27: Resulting commitments sorted by category and frequency

7.5 Exemplary Analysis of Dialogues and Agreements

As examples for deeper qualitative analysis the following 11 dialogues and commitments have been examined according to 1) Characteristics, 2) Actors, 3) Main Themes, 4) Practical Applications, 5) Resulting Commitments and 6) Links:

- EU – LAC Digital Alliance in general (incl. Joint Declaration from the EU-CELAC Summit, 17 July 2023, Brussels)
- EU-LAC Digital Alliance Days (27-29 November 2023, Cartagena de Indias)
- MERCOSUR Digital Trade Roadmap (2018)
- Statement on reinforcing and converging digital policy and regulatory frameworks on AI (16 November 2023, Madrid)
- 39th Session of ECLAC (24-26 October 2022, Buenos Aires) including follow-up: 40th Session of ECLAC (9-11 October 2024, Lima)
- High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development
- Third meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Escazú Agreement (22-24 April 2024, Santiago)

- Ninth Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean (7-8 November 2024, Santiago)
- SDG Digital Acceleration Agenda (15 September 2023)
- Summit of the Future (22-23 September 2024, New York)

The full overview can be found in the Annex.

With the AI-agent this exemplary analysis can be generated for the SPIDERHUB on the SPIDER website within seconds and was developed using first the following examples in this report.

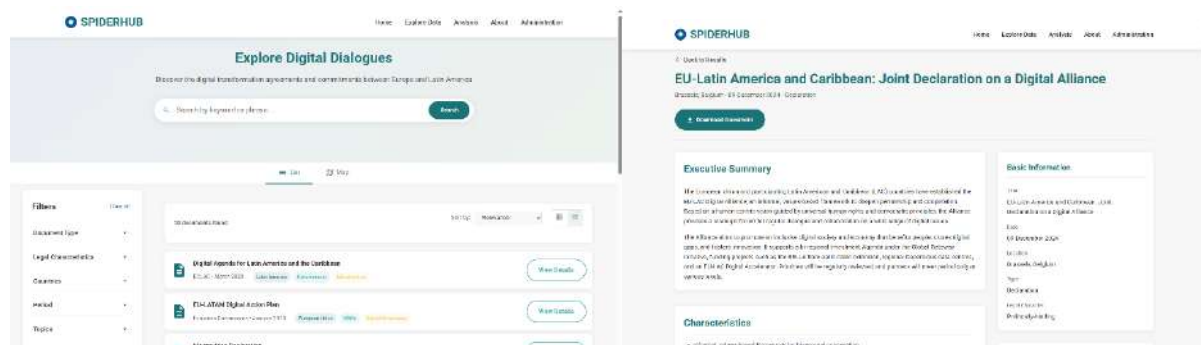


Figure 28: SPIDERHUB: Showcase examples of the website version for the dialogues search function and the example for the EU-LAC Joint Declaration on a Digital Alliance

7.5.1 EU – LAC Digital Alliance

17 July 2023, Brussels

Characteristics

The EU and Argentina, The Bahamas, Barbados, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, and Uruguay have agreed to deepen their partnership by establishing an EU-LAC Digital Alliance.

It was endorsed by a Joint Declaration at the third EU-CELAC Summit in July 2023.

The partners of the Alliance will meet regularly at different levels, including a periodic High-Level Policy Dialogue, regulatory dialogue and other meetings at technical level as appropriate. These meetings will serve for a free exchange of information and the identification of joint priorities. A progress review will take place on an annual basis.

Actors

The EU participates as Team Europe with Member States and their development agencies, European financial institutions and the LAC branch of the D4DHub. The Alliance will also provide for the participation of other stakeholders, such as the private sector, research and academic networks, and other social actors from both regions, as appropriate.



Figure 29: EU-LAC Digital Alliance - Excerpt

Main Themes

Wide range of digital issues:

including digital policy dialogue, internet governance, data governance, infrastructure, connectivity, security, data protection, artificial intelligence and other new emerging digital technologies, skills development, technology, entrepreneurship and innovation, digital trade, and space-related activities such as Copernicus Earth observation data and Galileo/EGNOS satellite navigation applications and services. Knowledge transfer and exchange on digital citizenship, digitalisation of public services and registries, digital identity, electronic signatures and related interoperability will also be pursued.

Practical Applications

Connections shall be made with EU-supported infrastructure in the LAC region, like:

- The BELLA programme
- Copernicus Centres
- The LAC Cyber Competence Centre
- The Latin American and Caribbean Space Agency
- Other specific projects, for example on cybercrime under the EL PAcCTO programme.

Resulting Commitments

- **High Level Policy Dialogues**
- **Investment Agenda**, which are to be agreed upon by the two regions
- A number of **Global Gateway flagship initiatives**. In 2023, cooperation will include the following activities, among others:
 - a) the extension of the BELLA fibre-optic cable to interested countries, building secure digital backbone connectivity and bringing the research communities of the EU and LAC closer together
 - b) the implementation of a regional Copernicus Strategy including two regional Copernicus data centres in Panama and Chile; and
 - c) the establishment of an EU-LAC Digital Accelerator aiming to foster multi-stakeholder collaboration between EU and LAC corporations, SMEs and innovative start-ups. The objective is to facilitate and accelerate at least 40 joint ventures for bi-regional innovation and digital transformation.

Link

[EU – LAC Digital Alliance](#)

7.5.2 EU-LAC Digital Alliance Days

27-29 November 2023, Cartagena de Indias

Characteristics

Over 150 senior government representatives from LAC, EU and its Member States, as well as civil society, academia, and private sector, gathered in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, on 27-29 November 2023, with the purpose of identifying concrete areas to advance digital cooperation towards the next EU-CELAC Summit, to be held in Colombia in 2025.

The EU-LAC Digital Alliance Days underlined the political determination of the partner countries to collaborate closely on key digital matters through shared dialogue and joint initiatives, fostering a human-centric digital transformation in both regions. As a critical component to delivering the ambitions of the Global Gateway in Latin America and the Caribbean, it forms part of the EU offer to build and boost trusted and sustainable connections with partner countries.

Actors

Co-organized by the European Commission, the Spanish Agency for International Development, the D4D Hub, and key partners of the EU-LAC Digital Alliance, brought together over 150 senior government representatives from LAC, the EU and its Member States, as well as civil society, academia, and private sector, such as AECID Training Center. Co-financed by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development.

Main Themes

AI, data governance, digital government, inclusive connectivity, and cybersecurity

Practical Applications

None so far

Resulting Commitments

The EU-LAC Digital Alliance Days underlined the political determination of the partner countries to collaborate closely on key digital matters through shared dialogue and joint initiatives, fostering a human-centric digital transformation in both regions. In this context, the event marked an important milestone in the strengthening of the bi-regional digital partnership following the endorsement of a Joint Declaration at the third EU-CELAC Summit in July 2023 towards the next EU-CELAC Summit, to be held in Colombia in 2025. Moreover, a first follow-up dialogue on cybersecurity in February 2024 was hosted by the Dominican Republic, with follow-up dialogues on connectivity and digital inclusion, data governance and e-governance taking place later in the year.

Link

[Recap: EU-LAC Digital Alliance Days in Colombia – Partners Agree on Joint Areas of Collaboration Towards 2025 Summit | BMZ Digital.Global \(bmz-digital.global\)](https://bmz-digital.global/en/recap-eu-lac-digital-alliance-days-in-colombia-partners-agree-on-joint-areas-of-collaboration-towards-2025-summit)



Figure 30: EU-LAC Digital Alliance Days Recap - Excerpt

7.5.3 MERCOSUR Digital

Fueling Digital Trade in Mercosur: A Regulatory Roadmap (2018)

Characteristics

The purpose of this report is to provide a regulatory roadmap that helps Mercosur region's policymakers and business leaders in this key juncture to unlock digital trade in goods and services as an engine of regional trade and job-creation. The report pays particular attention to frameworks and policies that enable Mercosur region governments to best help SMEs that sell goods and services online to grow, export, and create jobs. This report draws on new interview and survey data on the way firms in the region leverage ecommerce, and on the enabling environment for ecommerce, and puts forth policy recommendations.

Actors

MERCOSUR countries, Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) region, Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), Mercosur Region's Online and Digital Companies such as FinTechs, EdTechs, AgTechs, examples on p.10 and throughout the report.

Main Themes

FinTechs, EdTechs, AgTechs, digital trade, blockchain, machine learning, eTrader, Ecommerce, regulatory practices, digital regulations, small businesses, technology start-ups, intellectual property rights and protections, over-the-top rules⁶², fixed broadband, mobile broadband, data protection and privatization, Internet intermediary liability, Taxes on digital companies, Internet Exchange Points

Practical Applications

- The report lists several experiences from around the world for a digital integration and names the following that could be relevant to draw lessons learned from for SPIDER and EU-LAC Digital agendas or roadmaps:
 - The Pacific Alliance Digital Agenda (2016) pledging to work in 2017 toward regional digital market, regional cybersecurity, and public - private dialogues on the digital economy
 - European Union's Digital Single Market: In May 2015, the European Commission unveiled its plan to create a Digital Single Market aimed to tear down national regulatory silos by the end of 2016 through (1) improved access for consumers and businesses to digital goods and services across Europe; (2) a level playing field for digital networks and innovative services to flourish; (3) maximized the growth potential of the digital economy. The EU has also enabled online content portability, allowing EU citizens to access online subscription services while traveling within the EU – thereby ending the so - called "geo - blocking" tactics.
 - Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) ICT Master Plan. The ASEAN ICT Masterplan 2020 focuses on fuelling digital transformation of traditional industries and building a single integrated market for digital economy. It follows a Masterplan 2015 that was more about digital infrastructures and human capital for digital industries. ASEAN legislation has especially focused on electronic transactions, cybercrime, consumer protection, content



Figure 31: MERCOSUR Digital Trade Roadmap - Cover

⁶² OTT (over-the-top) is a means of providing television and film content over the internet at the request and to suit the requirements of the individual consumer. The term itself stands for "over-the-top", which implies that a content provider is going over the top of existing internet services.
<https://www.telestream.net/video/solutions/what-is-ott.htm> , accessed 30.04.2024

regulation, data protection and privacy, domain names, and dispute resolution.

- APEC's Electronic Commerce Steering Group (ECSG). APEC's ECSG promotes the development and use of e - commerce through legal, regulatory, and policy environments in the APEC region that are predictable, transparent, and consistent. The ECSG also explores how ICTs can drive economic growth and social development and has guided numerous capacity - building projects promoting the development and use of ecommerce and ICTs in the APEC region.
- The APEC Data Privacy Pathfinder and Subgroup. In 2007, APEC ministers endorsed the APEC Data Privacy Pathfinder initiative aimed to achieve cross - border flow of personal information within the Asia - Pacific region. APEC also has in place a Data Privacy Subgroup that helps identify best practices and build member economies' capacity for data protection and promote common data privacy approaches across the APEC region, and oversee the community-based participatory research's (CBPR) functioning. In August 2017, ECSG's Data Privacy Subgroup met with the European Commission to discuss interoperability on data protection and transfer between the CBPR and General Data Protection Regulation
- Mainly in the area of Fin Tech, MERCOSUR countries try modernising customs procedures to facilitate and secure new trade with new data - driven "Trusted eTrader" program and the use of blockchain and machine learning (p.6)
- The report hinted that taking a step further, the regional governments could draw on UK's work in FinTech regulations and establish a regional regulatory "sandbox" where companies in the Mercosur region could introduce digital innovations to any one Mercosur market or all Mercosur markets without requiring full regulatory approvals, and regulators could proceed learn how the innovation is used in the marketplace and establish regulations where they may be beneficial. This type of "learning by doing" takes guesswork and costly errors from the process of fashioning domestic and regional digital regulations (p.7)

Resulting Commitments

The report encourages Mercosur countries to promote the region's economic potential through digitisation by:

1. Creating smart digital regulations, and enforcing them in a pragmatic manner;
2. Driving at mutual recognition of online service providers;
3. Modernising customs procedures to facilitate and secure new trade;
4. Creating new instruments to fund small and medium enterprises skills development;
5. Starting systematic 'Regional Digital Dialogues'. Mercosur governments agreed to establish a **Digital Dialogue** (Dialogo Digital) that brings together each quarter government officials with businesses and consumer groups to discuss the benefits of new technologies and optimal regulatory frameworks for them and learn from best regulatory practices from other regions and world - class researchers (p7). The dialogues should result in:
 - Concrete regulatory roadmaps and implementation schedules;
 - Plan for metrics and analytics to monitor of the impact of regulations once they are in place, based on business and consumer surveys, case studies and interviews, and rigorous econometric analyses;
 - Metrics and analytics to track SMEs' digital trade and their skills for doing cross - border ecommerce;
 - An online platform to track the implementation regulations and is available publicly, as in Chile's Digital Chile Digital 2020 website that tracks the implementation of over 60 measures impacting the digital economy;

- Rigorous, data - driven assessments of the interoperability of domestic digital regulations with Mercosur markets, so that digital companies and online sellers grow and scale in the broader intra - regional market.
- Concrete plan to improve data and measurements of the digital economy, so as to help track policies, motivate policy improvements, and craft appropriate policies to facilitate digital trade. Innovative censuses and surveys can bolster official statistics, while public - private partnerships can leverage the rich real - time data that the private sector has to assess the state of the regional digital economy.

Link

<https://publications.iadb.org/en/publications/english/viewer/Fueling-Digital-Trade-in-Mercosur-A-Regulatory-Roadmap.pdf>

7.5.4 Statement on Reinforcing and Converging Digital Policy and Regulatory Frameworks on AI

16 November 2023, Madrid

Characteristics

On November 16th in 2023, the EU and Argentina, The Bahamas, Barbados, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, and Uruguay signed a joint declaration on a Digital Alliance, an informal, values-based framework for cooperation. It is open to all LAC countries and EU Member States who may participate through their respective governments and agencies related to the digital agenda.

Actors

EU and Argentina, The Bahamas, Barbados, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, and Uruguay, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, EU – LAC Digital Alliance, Spanish Presidency of the Council of the EU, Council of the EU

Main Themes

AI, digital policy, regulatory frameworks, linguistics, responsible and inclusive AI practices, innovative and trustworthy AI and accelerators, human rights

Practical Applications

A bi-regional investment package exists for the implementation of the Digital Alliance.

Resulting Commitments

In the EU, the upcoming Regulation on AI will define a set of requirements based on risks to safety and fundamental rights that will have to be complied with by providers of AI systems. The Regulation on AI also foresees the creation of regulatory sandboxes to enable development and testing of innovative AI systems in a controlled environment and under the supervision of competent authorities.

This includes:

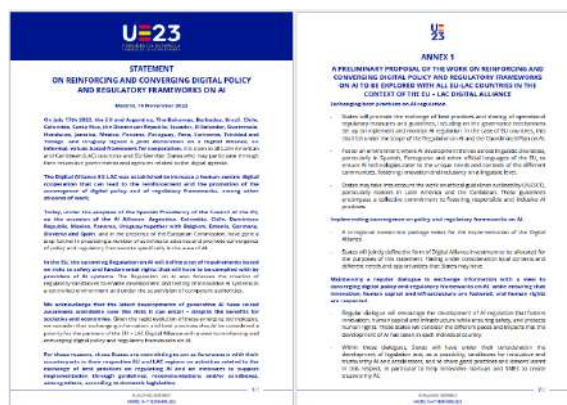


Figure 32: Statement on reinforcing and converging digital policy and regulatory frameworks on AI

1. Exchanging best practices on AI regulation.
 - States will promote the exchange of best practices and sharing of operational regulatory measures and guidelines, including on the governance mechanisms set up to implement and monitor AI regulation. In the case of EU countries, this shall fall under the scope of the Regulation on AI and the Coordinated Plan on AI.
 - Foster an environment where AI development thrives across linguistic diversities, particularly in Spanish, Portuguese and other official languages of the EU, to ensure AI technologies cater to the unique needs and contexts of the different communities, fostering innovation and inclusivity on a linguistic level.
 - States may take into account the work on ethical guidelines outlined by UNESCO, particularly nations in Latin America and the Caribbean. These guidelines encompass a collective commitment to fostering responsible and inclusive AI practices.
2. Implementing convergence on policy and regulatory frameworks on AI.
 - A bi-regional investment package exists for the implementation of the Digital Alliance. States will jointly define the form of Digital Alliance investment to be allocated for the purposes of this statement. Having under consideration local contexts and different needs and opportunities that States may have.
3. Maintaining a regular dialogue to exchange information with a view to converging digital policy and regulatory frameworks on AI, while ensuring that innovation, human capital and infrastructure are fostered, and human rights are respected.
 - Regular dialogue will encourage the development of AI regulation that fosters innovation, human capital and infrastructure while ensuring safety, and protects human rights. These states will consider the different paces and impacts that the development of AI has taken in each individual country.
 - Within these dialogues, States will have under their consideration the development of legislation and, as a possibility, sandboxes for innovative and trustworthy AI and accelerators, and to share good practices and lessons learnt in this respect, in particular to help innovative startups and SMEs to create trustworthy AI.

Link

[171123-Statement on AI EU LAC Final.pdf \(lamoncloa.gob.es\)](https://lamoncloa.gob.es/171123-Statement%20on%20AI%20EU%20LAC%20Final.pdf)

7.5.5 *Thirty-Ninth Session Of ECLAC*

24-26 October 2022, Buenos Aires

Characteristics

During the 24-26 October 2022 representatives from 33 members of ECLAC came together in a biennial meeting in Buenos Aires, Argentina to promote ambitious, transformative actions for a sustainable recovery, following the cascade of crises that Latin American and Caribbean countries have endured in the last few years. This proposal for economic reactivation includes a focus on the digitalization of the economy to accelerate the economic and social transformation of the region. The goal is to identify challenges through collaboration and to then exploit the extensive possibilities for cooperation to overcome these challenges.



Figure 33: 39th session of ECLAC document - Cover

Actors

During the event government representatives from 33 Member countries of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean came together with participants from the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations, academia and civil society. Overall, the 39th session of ECLAC was attended by 630 participants.

Main Themes

Digitalization of the economy, digital transformation, practical applications, digital inequalities, digital opportunities, digital technologies, access to technology, international cooperation, equity, digital infrastructure, digital policies

Practical Applications

It also includes the 2023-2024 calendar of conferences of ECLAC showing the commitment to also closely work together in the future and includes the Commission's programme of work and priorities for 2024.

- Proposed calendar of conferences of ECLAC for the period 2023-2024
- [Proposed calendar of conferences of ECLAC for the period 2023-2024. Note by the secretariat](#)

Resulting Commitments

At the end of the thirty-ninth session, the countries unanimously approved a document of resolutions that recognizes the work of ECLAC. The document recognizes the importance and benefits of information technology. This event successfully strengthened the partnership between countries from Latin America and the Caribbean, which is also shown by the commitment of meeting again in 2024 for the 40th session of ECLAC in Peru as well as entrusting the Commission with the task of organizing and holding regional and sub-regional meetings.

Links

[Towards transformation of the development model in Latin America and the Caribbean: production, inclusion and sustainability](#)

[RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED AT THE THIRTY-NINTH SESSION OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN](#)

7.5.6 Follow-up: 40th Session of ECLAC

9-11 October 2024, Lima

Characteristics

The 40th session of ECLAC successfully took place from the 9-11th of October 2024 in Lima. It brought together representatives from its 46 Member States and 14 associate members. The session focused on evaluating the region's economic, social, and environmental development and setting priorities for the Commission's future work.



Figure 34: Position document "Development Traps in Latin America and the Caribbean: Vital Transformations and How to Manage Them" - Cover

Actors

Representatives from member states and associated members, Peru: President Dina Boluarte Zegarra, Foreign Minister Elmer Schialer, United Nations: Deputy Secretary-General Amina Mohammed (via pre-recorded video), ECLAC: Executive Secretary José Manuel Salazar-Xirinachs, Argentina: Representative serving as Chair of the thirty-ninth session of ECLAC.

Main Themes

Digital transformation, regional integration, innovation, economic growth, sustainable development, digital connectivity, technology policies, digital inclusion, public-private partnerships, digital infrastructure, access to technology, international cooperation, economic competitiveness, technology adoption, social well-being.

Practical Applications

A key highlight of the dialogue was the presentation of the position document titled "Development Traps in Latin America and the Caribbean: Vital Transformations and How to Manage Them," which analyzes the region's challenges in achieving sustainable development. It was also decided that the 41st session of ECLAC will take place in 2026 in the Dominican Republic.

Resulting Commitments

Member States endorsed ECLAC's recommendations for achieving necessary transformations in the region. They confirmed their commitment to pursuing more productive, inclusive, and sustainable development models, addressing issues such as low growth capacity, high inequality, and weak institutional frameworks.

Links

[Fortieth session of ECLAC | Lima, 9-11 October 2024](#)

[Development Traps in Latin America and the Caribbean: Vital Transformations and How to Manage Them | Fortieth session of ECLAC](#)

7.5.7 High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development

Characteristics

The HLPF is the central United Nations platform for the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the SDGs at the global level. The Forum is convened annually under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council. The Forum conducts regular in-depth reviews of progress on the Sustainable Development Goals and includes Voluntary National Reviews where countries present the findings from national reviews of progress with a view to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

Especially in the advancement of the SDG 9 industry, innovation and infrastructure digitalization and the potential of new technologies plays a key role. Strengthening digital capacities is also seen as an essential component in helping small island developing states to recover and achieve resilience.



Figure 35: Summary by the President of HLPF - Page 1

Actors

The HLPF brings together ministerial and high-level representatives of governments, as well as a wide range of expertise and stakeholders, including heads of UN entities, academics and other experts, and representatives of major groups and other stakeholders.

Participating countries HLPF 2024: Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belize, Brazil, Chad, Colombia, Congo (Republic of the), Costa Rica, Ecuador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Georgia, Guinea, Honduras, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libya, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Namibia, Nepal, Oman, Palau, Peru, Samoa, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, South Sudan, Spain, Syrian Arab Republic, Uganda, Vanuatu, Yemen, Zimbabwe

Main Themes

progress on SDGs, digital divide, digital economies, digital transformation, digital technologies, digital policies, digital innovation, digital capacities, access to technology, digital literacy

Practical Applications

To support countries to raise the ambition level of their national climate plans the United Nations Environment Programme One Planet network, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change co-developed a practical digital toolbox. The digital toolbox platform is structured as a stepwise methodology that includes key questions, checklists, case studies and sectoral examples, enabling countries to:

- (a) Identify greenhouse gas emissions from material use to prioritize sectors and sub-sectors for circular economy interventions;
- (b) Select circular economy interventions for the prioritized sectors and subsectors for the nationally determined contributions and update targets;
- (c) Identify policy instruments, indicators and finance for the implementation of selected circular economy interventions;
- (d) Track and report progress in the biennial transparency report, if desire

Resulting Commitments

The annual forums helped strengthen the relationships between the participating countries and further forums are already planned for 2025, 2026 and 2027 to keep track of the progress made and to discuss how among other things innovations and science-based solutions can help advance the 2030 Agenda and its SDGs

Links

[Microsoft Word - POE's summary of 2021 HLPF - FINAL FOR POSTING](#) (2021)

[Microsoft Word - Summary of the 2022 HLPF by the President of ECOSOC Final](#) (2022)

[Microsoft Word - 23-01829 President's Summary of the 2023 HLPF](#) (2023)

[Progress report on the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns](#) (2024)

7.5.8 Third meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Escazú Agreement

22-24 April 2024, Santiago

Characteristics

The COP 3 of the Escazú Agreement serves to reinforce the Commitment to Recognize, Protect and Promote All the Rights of Human Rights Defenders in Environmental Matters. The conference took place in Santiago on April 22-24, 2024. The Escazú agreement has been adopted in Escazú, Costa Rica, on 4 March 2018 and since then has been signed by Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominica, Ecuador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Dominican Republic, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Uruguay.



Figure 36: ECLAC's Infographics on the Escazú Agreement, Source ECLAC

The agreement focuses on access to information, public participation and justice in environmental matters in Latin America and the Caribbean. Article 4 and 6 of the agreement put a specific focus on open data, accessibility of information, including information stored digitally, human rights and anti-discriminatory practices.

Actors

The conference was attended by delegations from the 15 States Parties and nine observer countries; members of the public, including numerous young people and representatives of indigenous peoples; and officials from the United Nations and international organizations. Hundreds of people also followed the event online and more than 700 people were brought together on site.

Main Themes

Open data, information technologies, discrimination, accessibility, decentralization of information, human rights, freedom of expression, gender, diversity, access to information

Practical Applications

The fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Escazú Agreement will take place on April 22-24, 2026, at ECLAC's headquarters in Santiago, Chile.

Resulting Commitments

At the COP 3, the States Parties approved a draft decision in which they welcome all measures, initiatives and activities aimed at integrating and strengthening the gender perspective in matters related to the Escazú Agreement. They also encourage Parties to continue to promote the full and effective participation of women in all their diversity, including indigenous women, and the incorporation of a gender equality perspective into the Agreement's implementation. Defenders in Environmental Matters, an unprecedented road map that seeks to highlight a set of priority areas and implement strategic measures to advance towards the full and effective implementation of article 9 of the Escazú Agreement on human rights defenders in environmental matters.

Links

[Third meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Escazú Agreement | Santiago, 22-24 April 2024 \(2024\)](#)

[Second meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Escazú Agreement \(2023\)](#)

[Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America](#)

7.5.9 Ninth Ministerial Conference on The Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean

7-8 November 2024, Santiago

Characteristics

The 9th ministerial conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean took place from November 7-8th 2024 in Santiago, Chile. It was organized by ECLAC. The usually biannual conferences are devoted to consideration of the subject "Development and international cooperation in the twenty-first century: the role of information technology in the context of a knowledge-based global economy". The 9th conference specifically was a fundamental forum for renewing policy priorities, facilitating the exchange of experiences among all stakeholders in the digital ecosystem and, more importantly, redoubling efforts to enable the region to deepen the real and effective use of digital technologies to address its development challenges, through concrete projects and actions.

Actors

The event was attended by more than 350 representatives from 41 countries, 23 of which were Latin American or Caribbean. The participants included key actors from the public and private sectors, civil society, the technical community and international organizations, who shared experiences and best practices regarding digital policy priorities in the region.

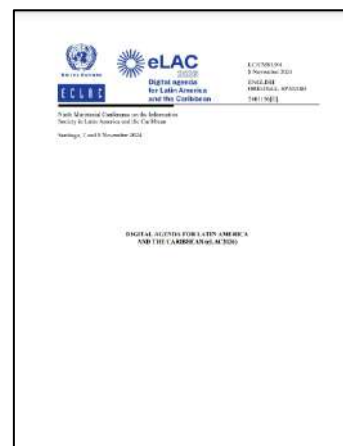


Figure 37: Digital Agenda for Latin America and the Caribbean (eLAC2026) - Cover

Main Themes

digital transformation, digital cooperation, digital technologies, digital ecosystem, digital technologies, digital infrastructure, digital policies, digital security, digital skills, human rights, digital public goods, digital economy, equality, digital inclusion, digitalization

Practical Applications

The countries also agreed that the Tenth Ministerial Conference on the Information Society and Digital Transformation in Latin America and the Caribbean will be held in Brazil in 2026.

Resulting Commitments

During the conference delegates from the governments present approved the Digital Agenda for Latin America and the Caribbean (eLAC2026). The agenda establishes the priorities for policy and action in this area at a regional level for the next two years. The list of targets includes:

- cultivating a legal and regulatory environment for digital matters, based on internationally agreed principles, international law and human rights, that

- strengthens innovation and competition in the digital ecosystem, ensuring the participation of all stakeholders in accordance with their roles and responsibilities
- ensuring equal access to digital educational resources
- developing inclusive digital platforms
- fostering a just digital ecosystem and preventing monopolistic practices
- using digital technologies to address the three development traps that Latin American and Caribbean countries are facing: low capacity for growth; high inequality and low social mobility; and weak institutional capacities and ineffective governance
- support digital public goods and open innovation

Links

[2401156e_cmsi.9_digital_agenda.pdf](#)

[Ninth Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean | Santiago, 7–8 November 2024](#)

7.5.10 SDG Digital Acceleration Agenda

15 September 2023

Characteristics

First agenda that merges digitalisation and SDGs in a global context.

The SDG Digital Acceleration Agenda, developed by ITU and UNDP with support from the IDB and the Boston Consulting Group, highlights the transformative potential of digital solutions. It was published on September 15th, 2023 and showcases 34 global digital solutions already making a difference in the world. The agenda provides strategies and key enablers to support governments, businesses, and civil society in driving an inclusive and comprehensive digital transformation to help meet the SDGs by 2030. The document highlights how data and digital solutions can accelerate the progress and help in achieving at least 70% of the 169 SDG targets.



Figure 38: SDG Digital Acceleration Agenda - Cover

Actors

ITU, UNDP, IDB, Boston Consulting Group

Target audience: governments, businesses, civil society, private sector, international organizations

Main Themes

Digital technologies, digital transformation, digital solutions, open-source, SDGs (especially SDG 9), digital payment, data-driven platforms, people-centred approach, digital initiative, digital development, digital applications, AI, cloud computing, blockchain, public technologies, gender, digital skills, digital public goods, cybersecurity, 5G, secure data transfer, digital public services, high-performance computing infrastructure

Practical Applications

The agenda was presented during the SDG Summit from the 18-19th September 2023 in New York. During the summit the transformative potential of digital solutions was recognized in parts due to the agenda presented.

Resulting Commitments

The agenda encourages countries to work towards achieving the SDGs through digitisation by providing an overview of digital transformation enablers and how they can be employed. The agenda differentiates between non-technical enablers (1. Leadership and strategy, 2. Governance, regulations and policies, 3. Digital skills and capacity, 4. Funding, financing models and incentives) and technical enablers (1. Digital public infrastructure, 2. Connectivity infrastructure, 3. Data centers, 4. Cloud and high-performance computing infrastructure, 5. Security). The agenda also provides an extensive list of sources, including general resources about digital transformation (e.g. the UNDP Digital Transformation Framework) to allow for further research.

Links

[SDG Digital Acceleration Agenda | United Nations Development Programme](#)

[Home - Taking Stock](#)

7.5.11 Summit of The Future

22-23 September 2024, New York

Characteristics

The Summit of the Future took place from September 22-23rd 2024 in New York. The Summit brought together over 4,000 individuals from Heads of State and Government, observers, intergovernmental organizations, UN System, civil society, and non-governmental organizations. In a broader push to increase the engagement of diverse actors, the formal Summit was preceded by the Action Days from 20-21 September, which attracted more than 7,000 individuals representing all segments of society. The Action Days featured strong commitments to action by all stakeholders, as well as pledges of \$1.05 billion to advance digital inclusion.

Actors

Representatives from UN member states, civil society, private sector, academia, local and regional authorities, youth, Heads of State, Ministers, senior UN officials, governments, intergovernmental organizations,

Main Themes

Digital cooperation, AI governance, open-source data, safety online, digitalisation in education and health care, technology, peace and security, sustainable development and financing, future generations, gender, human rights

Practical Applications

The summit produced several outcome documents, with the most important being the inter-governmentally negotiated, action-oriented Pact for the Future, which among other things focuses on digital cooperation. Overall, the agreement of the Pact is a strong statement of countries' commitment to the United Nations, the international system and international law. Annexes to the Pact are the Global Digital Compact (an inclusive global framework to overcome digital, data and innovation divides) and the Declaration on Future Generations (contains specific steps to account for the interests of future generations in national and global decision making).



Figure 39: Pact for the Future - Cover

The Pact and its annexes foresee concrete follow-up mechanisms: a high-level review for the Global Digital Compact in 2027, a high-level plenary meeting in 2028 for the Declaration on Future Generations, and a Heads of State and Government meeting at the beginning of the 83rd session of the General Assembly in 2028 for a comprehensive review of the Pact for the Future

Resulting Commitments

The Pact for the Future contains a list of 56 concrete actions of which 6 directly related to science, technology and innovation and digital cooperation:

- Action 28. We will seize the opportunities presented by science, technology and innovation for the benefit of people and planet
- Action 29. We will scale up the means of implementation to developing countries to strengthen their science, technology and innovation capacities
- Action 30. We will ensure that science, technology and innovation contribute to the full enjoyment of human rights by all
- Action 31. We will ensure that science, technology and innovation improve gender equality and the lives of all women and girls
- Action 32. We will protect, build on and complement Indigenous, traditional and local knowledge
- Action 33. We will support the Secretary-General to strengthen the role of the United Nations in supporting international cooperation in science, technology and innovation

The implementation of these actions will advance through relevant, mandated intergovernmental processes, where they exist. The overall implementation of the Pact will then be reviewed at the beginning of the eighty-third session of the General Assembly through a meeting at the level of Heads of State and Government

Links

[Summit of the Future 2024 - United Nations | United Nations](#)

[Pact for the Future - United Nations Summit of the Future | United Nations](#)

[A Declaration on future Generations - United Nations Summit of the Future | United Nations](#)

[Global Digital Compact - United Nations Summit of the Future | United Nations](#)

8. EU DIGITAL DIALOGUES AND AGREEMENTS WITH OTHER REGIONS WORLDWIDE

Beyond the digital partnership and dialogues between the EU and LAC, the EU holds also regularly dialogues with other countries and regions. The official digital partnerships can be viewed here: [Digital Partnerships | Shaping Europe's digital future.](#)

The **EIT Digital Hub**⁶³ features the EIT Global Outreach, which bridges the EU innovation ecosystem with those of strategic locations worldwide, forging synergies to drive EU innovation. With hubs in Silicon Valley, the UK, and programmes in Canada, the US East Coast and Japan, the initiative enables startups to launch innovations worldwide, attract investments and build impactful cross-border collaborations.

⁶³ <https://go-eit.eu/>

To obtain information on this part, SPIDER project partner DLR extended the desk research and reached out to the SPIDER sister projects INPACE⁶⁴ and SEADE⁶⁵. A joint presentation on Digital Innovation by INPACE and SPIDER secured a discussion on joint priorities and initial synergies during the ENRICH Global Innovation Days 2025 in Nice, France, on 23 April 2025, where project partners DLR (SPIDER) and GAC (INPACE) represented the projects⁶⁶. A meeting or presentation with SEADE is also planned, but has not been implemented yet.



Figure 40: Berlin
©Johanna
Füllmann

Single EU Member States such as Germany also have regular digital dialogues with e.g. Ghana, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kenya, Republic of Korea, Singapore and South Africa⁶⁷.

8.1 EU - Indo-Pacific Digital Partnerships



Figure 41: INPACE flags

INPACE⁶⁸ is a Coordination and Support Action Project funded by the European Commission's Horizon Europe Programme that started in January 2024 and runs until June 2027. INPACE's mission is to support the implementation of the Digital Partnerships between the European Union and Japan, South Korea, Singapore, as well as the Trade and Technology Council with India. Powered by a consortium of 21 European and Asian partners, the project establishes a multi-stakeholder Hub for collaboration in digital technologies between Europe and the Indo-Pacific region and fosters long-term cooperation in key digital technologies by bringing together experts and stakeholders from both regions.

As the EU increasingly strengthens its connection to Asia, the promotion of digital technologies and cooperation in this field are a high priority. In line with its Digital Compass Strategy and Strategy for Cooperation in the Indo-Pacific, the EU has established Digital Partnerships with Japan (2022), South Korea (2022) and Singapore (2023), as well as the Trade and Technology Council with India (2022). These bilateral partnerships aim to foster cooperation in common strategic areas in the digital economy and society sectors.

The mission of the INPACE project is to translate these high-level partnerships into concrete outcomes and tangible collaborations. By tackling joint priorities from the EU and its strategic Asian partners, the INPACE project aims to create a more inclusive, sustainable, and prosperous digital future for both regions.

8.2 EU – Africa Digital Partnership

Funded by the European Commission's Horizon Europe programme and coordinated by Steinbeis 2i in Germany, SEADE⁶⁹ works with key partners and advisors from the innovation landscape of Europe and Africa. The vision is to provide R&IID actors with a comprehensive and smooth Route-to-Market pathway to support increased market uptake of applied research and digital transformation solutions. SEADE will develop and deliver

⁶⁴ [INPACE Hub](#)

⁶⁵ [SEADE Project Page](#)

⁶⁶ [ENRICH GLOBAL – Taking European Innovation Global](#)
⁶⁷ [Partner countries - Digital Dialogues](#)

⁶⁸ <https://inpacehub.eu/> ; accessed 06.02.2025

⁶⁹ <https://www.seade-project.eu/> ; accessed 30.05.2025

cooperation opportunities to the R&I actors in the digital field in Sub-Saharan Africa and Europe designed to meet existing ecosystem barriers and gaps identified through user experience research. It shares a human-centred design methodology with SPIDER and also features some other similarities such as a mapping on digital dialogues and commitments.

8.3 European Union - USA Digital Cooperation

The **U.S.-EU Trade and Technology Council Advancing 6G: A Vision for Transatlantic Collaboration**⁷⁰ is a roadmap that aims to foster collaboration in research and innovation between the EU and the United States of America. It was published on April 5th, 2024, and serves to ensure that the development and deployment of 6G technology align with shared principles and values. Key themes mentioned in the document are: 6G, digital information, AI, digital divides, digital transformation, digital equity, innovation, collaboration, SDGs. Practical applications are: Joint Research Projects, Standards Workshops and Policy Dialogues.

The **EU-US Trade and Technology Council Joint Roadmap on Evaluation and Measurement Tools for Trustworthy AI and Risk Management**⁷¹ (1 December 2022) & the **EU-U.S. Terminology and Taxonomy for Artificial Intelligence**⁷² aim to advance shared terminologies and taxonomies, but also to inform the approaches to AI risk management and trustworthy AI on both sides of the Atlantic.

8.4 European Union - Canada Digital Partnership

Canada and the EU have been developing comprehensive strategies on digital identity management, digital credentials and trust services. Canada and the EU work towards the interoperability of their trust services, which are key enablers for public administrations, business transactions and e-commerce.

The **EU – Canada Alignment on Digital Credentials, Identity and Trust Services - The Road towards Compatible and Secure Tools**⁷³ is an online expert workshop that took place on the 27th of February 2024. During the workshop representatives of different stakeholders from government, industry, academia, and other relevant institutions addressed topics such as human-centric digital identity management and e-governance. The event sought to promote bilateral cooperation, share best practices, and explore how regulatory provisions can be reinforced through the creation of harmonised standards under the Canada – European Union Digital Partnership. A proposal for concrete actions has been agreed upon, but not yet published (as of this report submission date). The main goal of this Expert Workshop is to bring together representatives of different stakeholders from government, industry, academia, and other relevant institutions to identify and discuss relevant use cases and provide recommendations for a possible follow-up.

9. ADDITIONS

9.1 Bilateral Digital Dialogues between individual EU Countries that are part of the SPIDER Project and individual LAC Countries

The following list does not include all bilateral digital dialogues between individual EU countries and individual LAC countries as an extensive list is beyond the scope and

⁷⁰ [Advancing 6G: A Vision for Transatlantic Collaboration | Shaping Europe's digital future](#)

⁷¹ [TTC Joint Roadmap on Evaluation and Measurement Tools for Trustworthy AI and Risk Management - December 1, 2022](#)

⁷² [EU-U.S. Terminology and Taxonomy for Artificial Intelligence - Second Edition | Shaping Europe's digital future](#)

⁷³ [EU – Canada alignment on digital credentials, identity and trust services |The road towards compatible and secure tools | Instar](#)

resources for the deliverable. The list merely serves as an insight that showcases what collaboration regarding the digital transformation can look like on a smaller scale. It showcases some examples mainly from the partner countries represented by SPIDER project partners.

Mexican – German Digital Dialogue⁷⁴

September 2022

A Work Plan for the bilateral Digital Dialogue was signed in September 2022. It focuses on three main pillars: (1) Innovation and technology transfer, (2) Data policy, and (3) Emerging technologies and Industrie 4.0.

Brazilian - German Digital Dialogue⁷⁵

March 2021



Figure 42: Brazil at night © Johanna Füllmann

The German Federal Ministry for Digital and Transport and the Brazilian Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation conduct a bilateral Digital Dialogue. Within this Digital Dialogue, they implement activities to support the digital transformation of small and medium-sized enterprises, as well as strategy-building initiatives in the areas of internet governance, data protection, Industrie 4.0, AI, industrial 5G applications and cybersecurity.

Luso-Brazilian Summit⁷⁶

last held 19 February 2025, Brasilia

The Luso-Brazilian Summits between Portugal and Brazil aim to strengthen the historical, cultural, political, and economic ties between the two countries. The summits are held at

⁷⁴ [Mexico - Digital Dialogues \(digital-dialogues.net\)](https://digital-dialogues.net/)

⁷⁵ [Brazil - Digital Dialogues \(digital-dialogues.net\)](https://digital-dialogues.net/)

⁷⁶ [Lusa - Business News - Portugal: Eleven ministers from Lisbon to attend 14th Luso-Brazilian summit](https://lusa - Business News - Portugal: Eleven ministers from Lisbon to attend 14th Luso-Brazilian summit)

the head of state level and serve as an opportunity for the leaders of both nations to discuss important issues and foster cooperation in various sectors. During the most recent summit 19 bilateral agreements⁷⁷ were approved, including one on “cooperation and exchange of good practises on digital dialogues”.

Memoranda of Understanding between RIA and individual LAC countries

The MoUs between RIA (Riigi Infosüsteemi Amet, Information System Authority) in Estonia and LAC countries are strategic agreements aimed at enhancing digital cooperation, e-governance practices and cybersecurity efforts. The partnerships allow for the exchange of knowledge, best practices, and technologies, ultimately helping the countries improve their digital infrastructure and become more resilient to cyber threats. They also strengthen Estonia’s position as a global leader in digital governance and cybersecurity. RIA plays a key role in both Estonia’s and EU’s digital strategy. RIA’s work aligns closely with the EU’s goals of enhancing cybersecurity, digital innovation, and ensuring the safety and security of digital infrastructures.

- **Uruguay - RIA MoU** between the Agency for the Development of Electronic Government Management and Information and Knowledge Society of the Eastern Republic of Uruguay and RIA⁷⁸ (21 March 2022, Montevideo)
- **Ecuador - RIA MoU** between the Government of Ecuador and RIA⁷⁹ (27 April 2022, Santo Domingo)
- **Brazil - RIA MoU** between the Director General of RIA and the Institutional Security Cabinet of the Presidency of the Federative Republic of Brazil⁸⁰ (22 September 2022)
- **Costa Rica - RIA MoU** between the Ministry of Science, Innovation, Technology and Telecommunications representing the Government of Costa Rica and RIA⁸¹ (7 December 2022, San José)

9.2 Dialogues, Statements, Plans, etc. from single EU or LAC Countries

Note: The following list does not include all dialogues, statements, plans, etc. from single Eu or LAC countries as an extensive list is beyond the scope and resources for the deliverable. The list merely is intended to show how countries can take independent action regarding the digital transformation.

Argentina

- Argentina Digital Agenda 2030⁸²

Colombia

- CAF Colombia Country Strategy 2023-2026⁸³

⁷⁷ [Brasil e Portugal assinam 19 acordos bilaterais | Agência Brasil](#)

⁷⁸ [Cimeira mostrou a «perfeita amizade que une os nossos países e povos» - XXIV Governo Constitucional](#)

⁷⁹ [Signing of the Memorandum of Understanding with Uruguay to support LAC4 sub-regional activities - LAC4](#)

⁸⁰ [Signing of the Memorandum of Understanding with Ecuador to support LAC4 sub-regional activities - LAC4](#)

⁸¹ [Celebrating the signature of the Memorandum of Understanding with Brazil to establish cooperation in LAC4 activities - EU CyberNet](#)

⁸² [Signing of the Memorandum of Understanding with Costa Rica - LAC4](#)

⁸³ <https://dig.watch/resource/agenda-digital-argentina>

⁸³ [Estrategia País CAF Colombia 2023-2026](#)

Chile

- CAF Chile Country Strategy 2023-2026⁸⁴
- Digital Transformation Strategy Chile Digital 2035: Effective Connectivity Plan⁸⁵

Costa Rica

- IDB Strategy for Costa Rica for the period 2024-2027⁸⁶

Costa Rica's country strategy 2024-2027 aims to strengthen essential factors for sustained growth and improved well-being, particularly among vulnerable populations, and position Costa Rica as a regional leader in sustainable development and solutions generator, through three strategic pillars: Resilient infrastructure and climate action, enabling environment for the private sector and social contract protection. It also addresses key themes relevant for the SPIDER project such as digital transformation, digital divide, digitalization, digital infrastructure, digital connectivity, digital skills and cybersecurity.

- National Development and Public Investment Plan 2023-2026⁸⁷

The plan includes an overview of strategic priorities for the country's development such as promoting cybersecurity and digital skills.

Uruguay

- EduIA Regional Conference on AI in Education⁸⁸ (8-9 October 2024)

Further Resources

- **Compendium of Digital Government Initiatives⁸⁹**

Collection of examples and case studies from various countries showcasing successful digital government projects, initiatives, and policies aimed at improving public sector services through digital transformation.

- **EU Policy and Outreach Partnerships⁹⁰**

Framework that supports the EU's digital diplomacy efforts by fostering partnerships with non-EU countries and regions, promoting cooperation on digital policies, and advancing global digital governance.

- **Overview of Digital Dialogues between Germany and other Countries⁹¹**
provided by the German Ministry

A summary of the digital policy discussions and collaborations between Germany and other nations, focusing on shared objectives related to digital transformation, cybersecurity, and digital economy development.

⁸⁴ [Estrategia País CAF Chile 2023-2026.pdf](#)

⁸⁵ [Estrategia de transformación digital Chile Digital 2035: plan de conectividad efectiva | Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean](#)

⁸⁶ [IDB | Costa Rica](#)

⁸⁷ [Costa Rica's National Development and Public Investment Plan 2023-2026 | Regional Observatory on Planning for Development](#)

⁸⁸ [EduIA Conference - Ceibal](#)

⁸⁹ <https://publicadministration.desa.un.org/good-practices-for-digital-government/compendium>

⁹⁰ <https://www.cultureinexternalrelations.eu/2020/10/09/eu-policy-and-outreach-partnerships-pop/>

⁹¹ <https://digital-dialogues.net/en/partner-countries>

10. CONCLUSION

The comprehensive mapping of digital dialogues and agreements between the EU and LAC countries, as part of the SPIDER project, highlights the ongoing and future significance of these interactions in fostering digital transformation, innovation, and cooperation. Digital dialogues and agreements form the cornerstone for international cooperation in the digital sector as they facilitate a knowledge exchange between a variety of actors ranging from high-level government officials to society at large. The resulting commitments from the dialogues form a general framework which can be used to enhance competitiveness in the EU-LAC region as well as worldwide while considering Diversity, Equality and Inclusion (DEI) principles. Throughout the report, AI-created pictures have been used for illustrative purposes as well as small highlighting boxes for dedicated milestones in the digital partnerships.

The time frame for the dialogues is 2022-2025 and for the upcoming dialogues 2025-2026. For the final version, a set of 96 dialogues of relevance for the EU-LAC digital partnership including 12 upcoming dialogues have been identified. The mapping includes 26 dialogues on the level of EU-LAC (+ 4 upcoming), 5 dialogues on a bilateral level and 53 dialogues on a multilateral level (+ 8 upcoming). A more in-depth analysis of recurring dialogues showcases the long-term commitment between EU and LAC countries to work together and to foster digital transformation in the region. Overall, 62 resulting commitments such as action plans, roadmaps, joint declarations, statements etc. were identified. 18 agreements are on the level of EU-LAC, 3 are on a bilateral level and 41 are on a multilateral level. The agreements underscore the solid foundation of collaboration between the EU and LAC countries across digital, political, economic, and research sectors. An exemplary analysis containing the aspects characteristics, actors, main themes, practical applications, resulting commitment and links is provided for 11 dialogues and agreements. This has served as the basis for an AI developed approach possible to use as a web-application resulting from the dataset in this report and soon be available on the SPIDER website.

The analysis of the dialogues and commitments revealed an extensive list of actors, which were sorted into four main categories based on their thematic backgrounds: Political Actors, Research and Innovation Performing Actors, Economic Actors and Other Actors (e.g. Society at large). The categorization of the thematic backgrounds of the actors is significant for the advancement of the SPIDER project as it can aid in the identification of other potentially relevant stakeholders from EU and LAC.

The analysis of the dialogues and commitments also revealed five core themes relevant for the SPIDER projects: Digital Transformation & Strategy, Technology & Innovation, Data & Governance, Inclusion & Social Development and Regional & International Cooperation. A more in-depth analysis was furthermore provided for dialogues, agreements and practical applications directly related to the themes AI, 5G, Blockchain, Computing, Cybersecurity, Quantum Technologies and VREs as these are of special interest for the SPIDER project.

An overview of the topic "Gender and underrepresentation of women in the use of digital transformation" including relevant dialogues, agreements and initiatives is also provided corresponding to the EU value of gender equality.

In the section practical applications and overview of eight real-world examples of how the mapped dialogues and agreements translate into impactful initiatives such as the EU-LAC Digital Accelerator is given.

The categorization of resulting commitments, which includes declarations, roadmaps, etc., revealed the diversity of dialogue outcomes and their extensive areas of impact. In total five categories have been clustered from the mapping.

Additionally, a selection of EU digital dialogues and agreements with other regions worldwide are mapped to show how digital transformation is a topic of global interest that can benefit from worldwide cooperation. This includes the digital partnerships with the Indo-Pacific (INPACE), Sub-Saharan Africa, the USA and Canada. Together with SPIDER's sister project INPACE a joint meeting and presentation on digital innovation has been given at the ENRICH Global Innovation Days 2025 on 23 April 2025 in Nice, France, underlying the synergies and collaborative, human-centered approach for the digital partnerships.

Finally, a short overview of dialogues between individual EU and individual LAC countries as well as dialogues and statements from single EU or LAC countries is provided to show how working towards digital transformation can look like on a different scale.

Overall, this mapping not only provides an extensive and detailed overview of digital collaboration initiatives between the EU and LAC countries but also identifies significant milestones in regard to a human-centric, equitable and inclusive digital transformation. These include the first EU-Belize Digital Dialogue, the SDG Digital Acceleration Agenda, the 67th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), the Global Forum on the Ethics of AI and the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development. These dialogues and agreements are crucial for the SPIDER project as they play a major role in bridging the gap between advancing digitalisation and simultaneously promoting core EU values such as gender equality, diversity, inclusion, ethical technological progress and sustainability.

By leveraging AI for an automated extraction and validation, the SPIDER project provides a sustainability component ensuring institutionalized knowledge, contextualized future agreements to transfer cumulative insights into policy intelligence and digital governance with adaptable visual analytics tools.

Overall, the results of this mapping will be feeding into the work of the Community of Practice (e.g. with the identified core-themes) or the Dialogues Implementation Forum (DIF) and it's two Working Groups to continue monitoring the resulting commitments from the political digital dialogues.

ANNEX

List of dialogues and agreements