



## INSTITUTE OF LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES NEWSLETTER

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### Message from the Director

Esteemed colleagues,

Academic events always offer the opportunity for analysis, comments and represent important sources of knowledge. What has changed in the relations between the EU and Latin America during the past year since the First EU-LAC Academic Summit? We have experienced both achievements and challenges in promoting them, but without any doubt there aren’t any present or future obstacles that couldn’t be overcome by strong political will and academic strength.

I’ve recently returned from the academic workshops on “European integration and UE-LAC relations”, organized by the Central University of Chile and have acknowledged the importance of such Institutes / Centres of Latin American Studies, that aim to strengthen academic cooperation into further development and promote the exchange of values and experiences between the two regions. Furthermore, I would like to assure you that we are working hard on organizing the preparatory seminar of the Second EU-LAC Academic Summit and express my hope and desire that together we could move forward in creating and promoting the Euro -Latin American common space of higher education, as it is established by the Declaration of Santiago. In this context, I will also renew the invitation to join the works of the Preparatory Seminar, which will take place in Bucharest between 26th-27th of May 2014.

Hoping that you would respond favourably to our invitation, please accept the assurance of the highest consideration from the team of the Institute of Latin American Studies !

IORDAN GHEORGHE BĂRBULESCU

## Preparatory Seminar for the Second EU-LAC Academic Summit

In January 2013 the first CELAC – EU Academic Summit was held in Santiago de Chile, which brought together academics and representatives of universities, higher education institutions and scientific networks from both regions, a few days before the CELAC – EU Summit of Heads of State and Government.

The Summit had outstanding results, among which the most important are the ones regarding the intention to promote a Euro – Latin American higher education, science, technology and innovation common space, to create a Latin America and Caribbean – European Union Permanent Academic Forum, to strengthen the integration of higher education, scientific research and innovation systems and promote collaboration between higher education institutions and their relations with society and the production sector. The main debates and proposals, but also the content of the Santiago Declaration can be found at the official site of the Summit.

The Summit 's success was due in part to the excellent preparation during the preparatory seminars in Paris (June 2012) and Lima (October 2012). Indeed, one of the most important elements of the Declaration, the creation of a Permanent Academic Forum was an initiative presented in Lima.

Therefore, we recognize the substantial importance of the preparatory meetings and hope that the goals established in the Preparatory Seminar of Bucharest (May 2014) may open new perspectives for discussions within the Second Academic Summit in 2015.



### TOPICS

1. The proposals of the 1st Academic Summit and the Action Plan of the EU-LAC Academic Forum: pathways for follow-up and implementation
2. Preliminary analysis of EU's educational programs UE H2020 and Erasmus Plus.
3. Analysis of the progress made by the Joint Initiative, in accordance with the CELAC-EU Action 2013-2014

### WORKSHOPS

WORKSHOP NO. 1: MAPPING OF THE EU-LAC ACADEMIC AND SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION: Models and features. Its main goal is to advance the proposed mapping, as it is specified within the 2013-2015 FAP Action Plan

WORKSHOP NO. 2: THE H2020 AND ERASMUS PLUS PROGRAMS: Preliminary evaluation of their implementation

WORKSHOP NO. 3: PROPOSALS MADE TO ADVANCE THE ACADEMIC CONVERGENCE WITHIN THE EURO-LATIN AMERICAN HIGHER EDUCATION FIELD

### PARTICIPATION

1. The participation to this event is open to all universities, research centers and scientific networks from member countries of the European Union and CELAC (Community of Latin America and the Caribbean).
2. Each participant institution is expected to cover the expenses related to travel, accomodation and internal transfers.
3. The Organizing Committee from Romania will ensure the logistic and administrative support, good coordination of the event's activities and finance the expenses related to all these logistic activities.
4. The Seminar enjoys the support of the Romanian Ministry of Education, the EU-LAC Foundation, the Americas Institute from France, CELARE and other European and Latin American institutions

### HOW TO REGISTER

The institutions that would like to attend this event are required to fill in the [Registration Form](#) and submit it to the following email address :

Email: [contact@isla.eu.com](mailto:contact@isla.eu.com) (CC: [ioana.dodi@isla.eu.com](mailto:ioana.dodi@isla.eu.com))

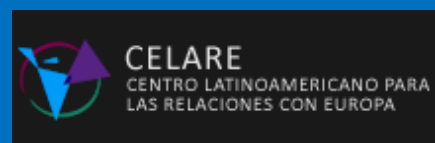
! The registration form is available on our website: <http://www.isla.eu.com/en/seminar/formular-de-inscriere/>

## Video Conferences Romania-Chile-France

M. Iordan Gheorghe Bărbulescu, director of the Institute of Latin American Studies (ISLA), spoke via video-conferences, March, 5, 13 and 14, with M. Hector Casanueva, director of the Latin-american Center for the Relationship with Europe (CELARE) and Mrs. Morgane Richard, official representative of the Institut des Amériques (IdA), about the Preparatory Seminar for the Second EU-LAC Academic Summit.

During these online meetings, they established the mechanism of registration for the participants who want to have a presentation at the Seminar. They also established a work plan for the Cartography project that will be completely mapped at Bucharest.

Between March 25-29, the director of the ISLA will have a working visit in Paris to continue the preparation for the Seminar.



## Academic cooperation UE-LAC

Androulla Vassiliou, European Commissioner for Education, Culture, Multilingualism and Youth, said at the 9th International Congress of Higher Education which took place in Havana, Cuba, between 10-14 February that students and academic staff from Latin America will have more opportunities to study or train in European universities thanks to increased support from Erasmus+, the new European funding programme for education, training, sport and youth.

European students and staff will similarly have the opportunity to experience Latin American universities. During her visit to the island, the Commissioner also held talks with senior government figures including the Ministers for Foreign Affairs (Bruno Rodríguez), Higher Education (Rodolfo Alarcón Ortiz), Education (Elsa Velázquez), Culture (Rafael Bernal) and Foreign Trade and Investment (Rodrigo Malmierca).

*„Erasmus+ is proof of Europe's commitment to strengthening academic cooperation with Latin America, building on the links which already exist between our higher education institutions. As well as providing more individual grants for students from Latin America wishing to study in the EU, we will also provide more support to increase the international reach of universities on both sides of the Atlantic and to invest in capacity building.”*

More detailed information can be accessed at: [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-14-122\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-14-122_en.htm)



Visit of Androulla Vassiliou, Member of the EC, to Havana for the launch of the Erasmus+ programme

Source:  
[http://ec.europa.eu/avservices/photo/photo\\_Details.cfm?sitelang=en&ref=024995#3](http://ec.europa.eu/avservices/photo/photo_Details.cfm?sitelang=en&ref=024995#3)

## European Journal of Latin American Studies No. 3

European Journal of Latin American Studies / Revista Europea de Estudios Latinoamericanos is an initiative of the Institute of Latin American Studies at the National School. This journal is bilingual (comprising articles/reviews in English and Spanish) and is issued twice a year.

The European Journal of Latin American Studies appeared from a vivid interest in disseminating the results of the academic research conducted at the Institute, but from the necessity of providing Romanian and European researches with a platform enabling them to publish on topics related to bi-regional relations between Europe and Latin America, to the European vision on development and Latin American area or to other topics dealing with regional issues. At the issuing time of this academic journal in Romania, this was the sole initiative dedicated entirely to the Latin America and the Caribbean region.

This initiative aims at setting new standards in terms of Romanian research in the field of Latin American studies and to provide quality expertise for the international and domestic academic environment in order to develop a venue for discussion relevant to the most significant issues of concern. This journal aims to promote in-depth research, study and understanding of the areas of analysis, by bringing together the most important Romanian researchers and important names of the global academia and by efforts to promote research, especially interdisciplinary ones. The journal is open to contributions from different theoretical paradigms and environments, and shows no preference for a particular theoretical approach, methodological or epistemic.

## MA in Latin American Studies

The MA Program in Latin American studies is an initiative of the Institute of Latin American Studies and of the Department of International Relations and European Integration within the National University of Political Studies and Public Administration and is the first of its kind in Romania.

The outlining of such a program resulted from the need to meet the requirements and changes occurring in the international system, as the Latin American states are becoming increasingly attractive for the international community.

Through its bilingual (English and Spanish) courses, the Program's purpose is to introduce students to the developments in the Latin American space, to analyse phenomena triggering various actions and above all, to attempt to predict relations between the states in this area and the European Union, the US or other relevant actors in the international system.

The Program aims to become a regional point of interest for those intending to complete their training in international relations and to acquire expertise in Latin American issues.

Currently the MA Program is undergoing accreditation – it was approved in the NUPSA Senate - and is expected to welcome its first generation of students in Latin American Studies for the 2014-2015 academic year.



Dear readers,

We are pleased to announce that the spring edition of the European Journal of Latin American Studies will be published in April!

We take this opportunity to thank the authors for their contributions!



### Director of the Institute of Latin American Studies:

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