



# INSTITUTE OF LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES NEWSLETTER

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## Message from the Director

Distinguished Colleagues,

Increasing globalization has enhanced the importance of international cooperation and knowledge exchange, and created strong international scientific communities, without minimizing the importance of the local factors in adapting and capitalizing on knowledge.

In the strive for excellence universities play a great role. They are challenged to transform themselves into major players on the knowledge market, attracting and training skilled human resources and hosting leading research facilities. Their research and ever closer ties with the economic environment have not only translated into sources of additional income, but represented key elements in their educating and training process.

Emerged as a distinct component within the Department of International Relations and European Integration of the National University of Political Studies and Public Administration, the Institute of Latin American Studies (ISLA) is an unique initiative in the Romanian academic community, attempting to bridge the economic, political, cultural and scientific relations between European Union and Latin America.

In this context, I have the honour of inviting you at the Preparatory Seminar of the Second EU-LAC Academic Summit, an ISLA initiative, in partnership with the Executive Secretariat of the EU-CELAC Permanent Academic Forum, together with the EU-LAC Foundation.

Confident that our actions, combined with your support, will lead to the success of the event, please accept, Esteemed colleagues, the assurances of my highest consideration.

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



### PRIMARY AIMS OF THIS REUNION

- Further debating and analyzing the provisions encompassed by the Santiago Declaration, agreed upon during the 1st Academic Summit ALC-UE ( 22nd and 23rd of January 2013). (<http://www.cumbreacademica-alcue.cl/en/>)
- Exchanging opinions and ideas regarding the EU's new research and education programmes entitled Horizon 2020 and Erasmus Plus
- Discussing and analyzing the progress of the Joint Initiative for Research, Science and Technology CELAC-EU, according to the CELAC-EU Action Plan 2013-2015
- Developing ideas and proposals regarding the current and future cooperation within the Euro-Latin American space, in fields such as higher education, science and technology, that will be later discussed during the Second Academic Summit from 2015

### TOPICS

- The proposals of the 1st Academic Summit and the Action Plan of the EU-LAC Academic Forum: pathways for follow-up and implementation
- Preliminary analysis of EU's educational programs UE H2020 and Erasmus Plus, as well as the EU-LAC cooperation and JIRI convergence within the EU-LAC Academic Forum
- Joint collaboration between these three entities: Universities – Business companies – Public Sector, aimed to advance innovation, competitiveness and growth.

### AGENDA

#### MONDAY, MAY 26TH

09:00 – 09:45: Welcoming act:

09:45 – 10.15: Inaugural Conference:  
Remus Pricopie, Minister of National Education of Romania

10:15 – 11:30: Panel 1: The proposals of the 1st Academic Summit and the Action Plan of the EU-LAC Academic Forum: pathways for follow-up and implementation

11:30 – 11:45: Coffee break

11:45 – 13:00: Panel 2: Preliminary evaluation of the EU H2020 and Erasmus Plus programs, the synergy between Higher Education – Research - Innovation

13:00 – 14:30: Lunch

14:30 – 15:45: Panel 3: Joint collaboration between University – Business Companies - Public Sector, aimed to promote innovation and growth

15:45- 16:00: Coffee break

16:00 - 18:30: Scheduled workshops

1- MAPPING OF THE EU-LAC ACADEMIC AND SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION: Models and features. The main goal is to advance the proposed mapping, as it is specified within the 2013-2015 FAP Action Plan

2- THE H2020 AND ERASMUS PLUS PROGRAMS: Preliminary evaluation of their implementation.

3- JOINT COLLABORATION BETWEEN UNIVERSITY - BUSINESS COMPANIES – PUBLIC SECTOR, aimed to advance innovation, competitiveness and growth

20:00: Formal dinner

#### TUESDAY, MAY 27TH

09:00 – 10.30: Presentations

10:30 – 13:00: Further debating within the assigned workshops:

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

2- THE H2020 AND ERASMUS PLUS PROGRAMS: Preliminary evaluation of their implementation.

3- JOINT COLLABORATION BETWEEN UNIVERSITY - BUSINESS COMPANIES – PUBLIC SECTOR, aimed to advance innovation, competitiveness and growth

13:00 – 15:00: Lunch

15:00 – 16:00: Workshop conclusions and recommendations

16:00: Closing ceremony

## Our activities

### MA in Latin American Studies

The MA Program in Latin American studies, 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, is undergoing accreditation and is expected to welcome its first generation of students in Latin American Studies for the 2014-2015 academic year.

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..



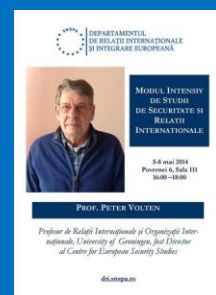
### Transversal Competencies Training Module

Differences in educational and employment opportunities as well as an unbalanced income distribution are structural phenomena in the Euro-Latin American space. There exists an important consensus on the need to develop basic skills, key skills, and general and transversal competencies for all people, including technological and social skills. In this regard, the Transversal Competencies Training Module, organized within the "Competence, quality, flexibility and employability in the education offer of master programs", co-financed from the European Social Fund through the Sectoral Operational Programme Human Resources Development 2007-2013, provided the opportunity for our students to complete their education.



### Intensive International Relations Module

Between 5-8 May 2014, the Department of International Relations and European Studies hosted an Intensive International Relations Module, directed by M. Peter Volten, professor of International Relations and Organizations, University of Groningen, former Director at the Centre for European Security Studies of Groningen. This module was designed for advanced International Relations students who are interested in pursuing independent academic research in addition to their academic coursework.



## News from our partners



### The IX Jean Monet Chair International Seminar

The University of Externado, in Bogotá, Colombia, will celebrate the IX Jean Monet Chair International Seminar on the 22 and 23 October 2014, where national and foreign researchers will have the opportunity of exposing and debating their different political, legal, historical and interdisciplinary point of views on the subjects of European integration and Latin America. This seminar is supposed to be an effort for developing in a wider way the comprehension about the different regional integration processes we are witnessing. Main subject of the seminar will be the contribution of economic integration to the development of regional peace.

For further information please access:

<http://eulacfoundation.org/news/ix-jean-monet-chair-international-seminar>

or [http://www.uexternado.edu.co/esp/noticias/seminario\\_jean\\_monnet.html](http://www.uexternado.edu.co/esp/noticias/seminario_jean_monnet.html)



### Reflection Forum Latin America and the Caribbean in the context of changes: Opportunities and challenges for the EU

About one hundred academics, politicians and the diplomatic corps gathered on March 6 to discuss, under the auspices of the EU-LAC Foundation and the Ibero-American General Secretariat (SEGIB) on "Latin America and the Caribbean in the context of changes: Opportunities and challenges for the EU." The forum, held at the Representation of the city-state of Hamburg in Berlin, was inaugurated by the President of the EU-LAC Foundation, Benita Ferrero-Waldner, and counted with Enrique Iglesias, the Ibero-American Secretary, as a guest of honour. The interventions of Ferrero-Waldner and Iglesias were preceded by welcoming remarks of the Secretary of State of the Senate of Hamburg, Wolfgang Schmidt, and the Secretary of State of the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Stephan Steinlein.

For further information please access: <http://eulacfoundation.org/news/reflection-forum-%E2%80%99Latin-america-and-caribbean-context-change-opportunities-and-challenges-eu%E2%80%9D-0>

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