



How can the EU-CELAC Summit contribute to a partnership of equals and promote global justice?

Panel discussion with religious & faith-based organisations as well as grassroots communities, and EU policy-makers, in view of an EU-LAC partnership that supports inclusive sustainable human development

Location: COMECE (Sq. de Meeûs 19, Brussels, Belgium) & Online

Date and time: Tuesday, 6 June 2023 at 16h00 - 18h00 (UTC+2)

Language: EN-ES interpretation available

Organisers: Latin American Episcopal Council (CELAM), Commission of the Bishops' Conferences of the European Union (COMECE), Caritas Latin America and the Caribbean, Caritas Europa

[Click here to register until 31 May](#) (before the event you will receive an email confirming your registration and including the connection details in case of virtual attendance)

The European Union (EU) and the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) are currently preparing for the Summit of their respective political leaders to be held on 17-18 July in Brussels. At a time when our regions face serious security, socio-economic and ecological challenges, Bishops, Church communities as well as humanitarian and development organisations from Latin America, the Caribbean and Europe have [recently expressed](#) their hope that the renewed EU-LAC cooperation may focus on tackling the structural causes that undermine peace, social justice and societal cohesion. Based on their daily experience of accompaniment of people experiencing situations of vulnerability, they [propose](#) to orient the future EU-CELAC partnership around three pillars: (1) Integral human development & social justice; (2) Integral ecology & care for our common home; (3) Peace & a culture of encounter.

During this panel discussion, we hope to foster constructive discussions on concrete initiatives that can help put this vision into action, towards corporate accountability, fair trade rules, production and business models that protect human rights and the environment, just global financial and debt architecture, and democratic ownership of policy- and decision-making processes.

Facilitator: Luísa Fondello, International Cooperation Officer at Caritas Europa

Programme (UTC+2)

16.00-16.30	Welcome drinks & snacks	
16.30-16.40	Introductory remarks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> H.E. Msgr. Mariano Crociata, President of COMECE Representative of the CELAM Presidency (<i>tbc</i>)
16.40-17.20	Our vision for fair trade, ecological transition, and socio-economic justice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sorcha Tunney, Irish Coalition for Business & Human Rights Coordinator at Trócaire Elizabeth Coca, Ecotheology Coordinator at Caritas Ecuador Humberto Ortiz Roca, economist and coordinator in the development and projects office of CELAM
	Reaction by EU institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Felix Fernandez-Shaw, Head of INTPA Directorate B - Latin America and The Caribbean; Relations with all Overseas Countries and Territories (<i>tbc</i>) Madelaine Tuininga, Head of Unit TRADE C4 - Multilateral Trade and Sustainable Development Policy, Green Deal, Conflict Minerals (<i>tbc</i>)
17.20-17.40	Q&A	Facilitated by Luísa Fondello, International Cooperation Officer at Caritas Europa
17.40-17.50	Concluding remarks	Spanish Permanent Representation to the EU (<i>tbc</i>) Maria Nyman, Secretary General of Caritas Europa
18.00	End of the event	