



For a Europe

responsible to Latin America
and the Caribbean

PROPOSALS FROM LA COORDINADORA DE ORGANIZACIONES
PARA EL DESARROLLO TO THE SPANISH PRESIDENCY IN
THE FRAMEWORK OF THE EU-CELAC SUMMIT

Spanish Presidency of the European Union Council
July to December 2023



INTRODUCTION

Spain will assume the Presidency of the Council of the European Union at a key moment when it is more important -and urgent- than ever to adopt political decisions **centred on people and the planet to address the current global crises**. Our goal is for the Spanish Presidency to ensure that **all the measures** adopted in the heart of the EU are bound by **three core principles**: contributing to **social justice** and the **reduction of inequality**; protecting the **respect and exercise of human rights** by guaranteeing the spaces and mechanisms needed for **citizen participation**; and driving a **feminist, decolonial and intersectional** focus.

From a policy coherence perspective, **the agenda for a fairer and more sustainable Europe should be shared with the rest of the world** through external action and international cooperation. An excellent opportunity for this initiative is to renew bilateral relations with Latin America and the Caribbean at **the European Union and Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (EU-CELAC) Summit** that will take place in Brussels on **17 and 18 July**, at the start of the Spanish Presidency of the EU.

During its presidency, Spain can champion a new bi-regional agenda in which the EU shows that **making economic investments and establishing business agreements (or in the area of energy, digital, infrastructure or services) is compatible with due diligence processes** that ensure compliance with environmental protections and rights by all the companies involved; **with closing the digital divide and restricting the use and governance of technology and artificial intelligence**; and **with promoting policies that help strengthen democracy and social justice through a feminist and human rights focus**.

PROPOSALS WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF EUROPEAN RELATIONS WITH LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN



Define an agenda aimed at defending human rights and social cohesion, reducing inequality, protecting civic space, and addressing the climate/food crisis, including a transformative gender focus in line with the feminist diplomacy promoted by the EU and the Government of Spain.



Drive a social pact that supports equality in the region and includes funding for social policies and **fair transitions** aimed at reducing inequality, preventing austerity policies and guaranteeing civic space.



Allocate Global Gateway funds towards reducing inequality and achieving Sustainable Development Goals, beyond private and geopolitical interests, guaranteeing transparency and accountability by establishing spaces for tracking and monitoring in which civil society is involved.





Ensure the EU fulfils the climate commitments outlined in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and championing the promotion of new production and consumption models that are compatible with the environmental systems that sustain life.



Back the adoption of an ambitious European Due Diligence Directive that is applied to the entire global value chain and by all businesses and industries, without exception.



Have the EU support debt cancellation efforts for the governments of Latin America and the Caribbean in multilateral spaces.



Promote the adoption of a bi-regional care pact -based on the European Care Strategy and the Buenos Aires Declaration on the care society- **and a bi-regional pact for eliminating all forms of gender-based violence**, as per the frameworks established by the Istanbul Convention and the Belém do Pará Convention.



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Founded in 1986, the Coordinadora de Organizaciones para el Desarrollo (Spanish Development NGO Platform, La Coordinadora) is a national network of organizations and social platforms working in the field of development, international solidarity, humanitarian action, education for global citizenship and the defence of human rights anywhere in the world.

Composed of 75 members organizations, six associates and 17 regional coordinators. In total, more than 600 organizations work in more than 100 countries defending human rights, gender equality and the protection of the planet.

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