

SECURITY & JUSTICE PARTNERSHIP LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN (LAC)



TEAM EUROPE PROPOSAL



This regional TEI responds to EU-Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) shared challenges in security and justice.

Security-related interventions are more efficiently addressed at regional/multi-country level and no bilateral security-related TEI has been proposed in the programming process.

Consolidation of structural regional and inter-continental cooperation networks to fight against Serious and Organised Crime:

- Enhancing the EU-LAC high-level strategic partnership and dialogue on security and justice.
- Bi-regional cooperation along the justice-security chain.
- Promotion of EU model on joint decision making, based on common intelligence standards.
- Economic and financial cooperation on anti-money laundering and assets recovery.

Strengthening the LAC's overall rule of law environment:

- Strengthening of justice and law enforcement institutions.
- Fight against corruption facilitating operations of organised crime.
- Promotion of innovative approaches to fight against organised crime.
- EU standards, respect of human rights, rights-based approach, and gender equality (youth)

Priority focus on bi-regional cooperation on the main 'lines of business' of LAC organised crime:

- Drug trafficking.
- Environmental crimes (in synergy with the regional TEI on Amazon basin).
- Cybercrime.
- Trafficking in human beings.
- Firearms trafficking.

MODALITIES/TOOLS

Bi-regional dialogue

Technical assistance (capacity building)

Legislative support and consensus building

Blending operations and guarantee support and consensus building

TRANSFORMATIONAL POTENTIAL

Leverage the transformative impact of EU-LAC cooperation on the rule of law and fight against transnational organised crime by joining forces with EU Member States, Commission DGs, EU Specialised Agencies (EUROPOL, ERUOJUST, CEPOL, EMCDDA, FRONTEX), and OLAF.

*This Team Europe Initiative is work in progress

**SDGs included based on a new JRC electronic text mining tool, which identifies SDGs (targets)

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NATIONAL CONTEXT

Organised crime originating in LAC:

- High levels of violence and insecurity
- Affects basic human rights
- Root causes: inequality, unemployment, and informality
- Infiltrated in public administration, law enforcement/justice system and economy
- Direct impact on EU security (cocaine trafficking).

Cocaine trafficking from Latin America via Brazil, Venezuela, Argentina, Paraguay and the Caribbean is the biggest organised crime threat.

90% of cocaine in the EU is originating from Colombia, Peru or Bolivia, the world's top producers.

Only 20% of perpetrators of homicide in Central America and 24% for LAC are convicted, compared to 43% worldwide.

High levels of gender-based violence in the region.

Youth in LAC bear a disproportionate share of the risk of committing crimes and becoming a victim of violence.

Internet usage: dark web to locate buyers, or for cross-border trafficking.

Increased migrant flows:

- From Central America and Venezuela
- Led to trafficking of human beings, smuggling of migrants, sexual exploitation.

COMMON AREAS OF INTERVENTION

Security and justice
Judicial and law enforcement
Digital technologies

GEOPOLITICAL CONTEXT AND RELEVANT SDGS

EU Green Deal

Digital agenda

EU Security Strategy, Drugs Strategy, Action Plan on Firearms Trafficking and Strategy on Organised Crime

Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy 2020-2024

COVID-19 pandemic

EU-Africa Partnerships on Sustainable Raw Material Value Chains