



**Euro-Latin American Parliamentary Assembly
Assemblée Parlementaire Euro-Latino Américaine
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**EURO-LATIN AMERICAN PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Committee on Political Affairs, Security and Human Rights**

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PROVISIONAL

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

The European Union–Latin America Partnership with a view to the Sixth Summit in Madrid in May 2010

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The European Union–Latin America Partnership with a view to the Sixth Summit in Madrid in May 2010

The Euro-Latin American Parliamentary Assembly,

- having regard to the declarations of the five Summits of Heads of State and Government of Latin America and the Caribbean and the European Union, held to date in Rio de Janeiro (28 and 29 June 1999), Madrid (17 and 18 May 2002), Guadalajara (28 and 29 May 2004), Vienna (12 and 13 May 2006) and Lima (16 and 17 May 2008),
 - having regard to the joint communiqué of the 14th Ministerial Meeting of the Río Group and the EU, held in Prague on 13 and 14 May 2009,
 - having regard to the joint Communiqué of the Ministerial Meeting of the San José Dialogue between the EU troika and the ministers of the countries of Central America, held in Prague on 14 May 2009,
 - having regard to the Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council of 30 September 2009 on ‘The European Union and Latin America: Global Players in Partnership’ (COM(2009) 495/3, SEC(2009) 1227),
 - having regard to its resolution on and the Articles of the Euro-Latin American Charter for Peace and Security of 8 April 2009,
 - having regard to its resolutions of 8 April 2009 on trade and climate change and on water-related issues in EU-LAC relations, and to its urgent resolution of the same date on the financial crisis,
 - having regard to its resolutions of 1 May 2008 on European Union and Latin American energy policies, on the challenges and opportunities of the Doha Round and on poverty and social exclusion,
 - having regard to its resolution of 20 December 2007 on EU-Latin America relationships with a view to the Fifth Lima Summit and with special reference to democratic governance,
 - having regard to its resolutions of 20 December 2007 on the challenges and opportunities resulting from globalisation for the economic and trade relations between the EU and Latin America, and on sustainable development and environmental balance in the relations between the EU Member States and Latin America in the context of global warming,
 - having regard to its messages of 1 May 2008 to the Fifth European Union-Latin America and Caribbean Summit and of 13 May 2009 to the 14th EU-Río Group Ministerial Meeting,
 - having regard to Article 16 of its Rules of Procedure,
 - having regard to the report of the Committee on Political Affairs, Security and Human Rights,
- A. whereas it is essential for both regions that the Bi-regional Strategic Partnership decided on by the previous five summits be finalised,
- B. whereas, although considerable progress has been made since the first summit in Rio de Janeiro in June 1999, there are still important areas in the partnership’s three spheres where work remains to be done, namely as regards political, security, trade and economic aspects, social and environmental issues, knowledge and innovation, and gender issues,

- C. whereas the EU remains Latin America's second-largest trade partner and the region's biggest investor, having financed projects and programmes to the tune of more than EUR 3 000 million in the ten years since the launch of the Bi-regional Strategic Partnership in 1999,
- D. whereas, latterly, many Latin American countries have stepped up their political, economic and trade relations with other major international players, including Russia, India, Iran and, in particular, China, which has become the main trading partner and principal export market for a number of countries in the region, ahead of the United States and the European Union,
- E. whereas the geopolitical and strategic implications of these political and trade relations should be borne in mind, in particular their increasing intensity in connection with the accessibility and supply of energy resources, raw materials, arms sales and access to nuclear technology,
- F. whereas, according to a recent study by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), defence budgets in Latin American countries rose from USD 29 100 million in 2003 to USD 39 000 million in 2008, a significant increase of approximately 36 % within the space of five years, although not spread evenly throughout the region's various countries,
- G. whereas social inequality, made worse by the current international economic crisis, remains the main challenge facing Latin America societies; whereas the countries of Latin America and society in these countries must take the first step themselves if they want to reach the Millennium Development Goals,
- H. whereas there are currently more than 52 million people in Latin America who go hungry, six million more than in 2008, for which reason food security must be a top priority for national stakeholders, integration organisations and international bodies and their development cooperation programmes,
- I. whereas recovery from worldwide recession will still be slow in 2010; whereas, although Latin America has withstood the crisis better than other advanced economies and average growth there in 2010 will reach almost 3 %, recovery will be very uneven and growth levels will not be high enough to produce a significant improvement in social conditions for its population, which has far less social protection than its European counterpart,
- J. whereas the figure for urban unemployment has risen in both regions owing to the crisis, making it more than ever necessary to stimulate the creation of decent jobs, stop the crisis-driven constant worsening of working conditions and, above all, the rising levels of youth unemployment, and put wage-earners on an equal footing, particularly in Latin America, this being a region where, according to a recent study by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), women earn 17 % less than their male peers and people of indigenous or African descent earn 28 % less than their white counterparts,
- K. whereas the EU's immigration policy is causing great concern in Latin America and agreements need to be reached that take into account the Euro-Latin American partners' legitimate interests on this very sensitive subject, including the recognition of equal rights for all Latin American immigrants in the European Union and an ending to the criminalisation of illegal immigration,
- L. whereas a recent study by the Organization of Ibero-American States and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) put at EUR 55 000 million the

budget needed if the 2021 Educational Goals, which aim to put an end to the huge inequalities that exist at present, wipe out the illiteracy currently suffered by 32 million people, guarantee an education for the 15 million children aged between 3 and 6 who still do not go to school, create robust, effective, vocational-training systems, currently non-existent, and improve dramatically university entry conditions, are to be achieved in the ten years between 2011 and 2021,

1. Undertakes, as the parliamentary arm of the Bi-regional Strategic Partnership, to work to make the next Madrid Summit a tangible and verifiable success for the people and citizens of the various countries belonging to the Strategic Partnership; welcomes the presentation by the European Commission of its Communication of 30 September 2009 in which it seeks to identify, assess and make recommendations regarding a EU-LAC partnership of global players;
2. Reiterates its conviction that support for the various regional integration processes in Latin America, in all their varied and asymmetrical forms, and in particular UNASUR, must continue to be a basic principle for the Strategic Partnership, and that for this reason a bi-regional approach in relations must be maintained to ensure that the Strategic Partnership is prioritised as the best means of safeguarding the partners' values and interests and reinforcing multilateralism;
3. Emphasises, based on the successful European experiment, that improving social cohesion, and supporting inter-connectivity and the development of infrastructure in Latin America, are equally important priorities for the Strategic Partnership;
4. Considers it essential that the partnership holds to its overall strategic vision, working towards its ultimate aim of creating a Euro-Latin American Global Interregional Partnership Area around 2012 that will cover political, economic, trade, social and cultural fields and guarantee sustainable development for both regions;
5. Recommends, consequently, that all possible advantage should be taken of the opportunities opened up by the partnership agreements in force (with Chile and Mexico), the various ongoing bilateral cooperation agreements, the new strategic partnerships (with Brazil and Mexico) and the planned high-level political dialogue with Argentina, without losing sight of the aforementioned overall strategic vision;

Better coordinated, more tangible and intensive political and strategic dialogue under the Partnership

6. Proposes that the Summit adopt a Euro-Latin American Charter for Peace and Security which, based on the United Nations Charter and related international legislation, includes joint strategies and guidelines for political action and security in order to tackle the common threats facing members of the Bi-regional Strategic Partnership; presents the Summit, for this purpose, with the Articles of the Charter annexed to its resolution of 8 April 2009;
7. Recommends prioritising the following in the bi-regional political dialogue:
 - a) *agreeing on common political, macroeconomic and financial positions in the United Nations, the G-20 and other relevant forums, so that the two regions play a prominent role appropriate to the size of their population of over 1 100 million and to their presence in the United Nations and the G-20, where they comprise one third of the members,*

- b) *agreeing on common positions in the various forums for dialogue on the environment and climate change*, especially in the UN and in regard to an agreement at the Copenhagen climate change conference in December 2009, for which reason the ministerial meetings between the environment ministers from both regions which began in Brussels in March 2008 must continue,
 - c) *deepening the dialogue on migration in the Euro-Latin American area*, between the European countries receiving immigrants and the countries of origin and transit, thereby continuing the structured dialogue decided on in the last Lima Summit and implemented in the meeting on 30 June 2009,
 - d) *deepening the dialogue on energy, and energy supply and savings*, which should attach particular importance to renewable sources of energy and energy security;
8. Recommends, also, stepping up bi-regional political dialogue on the following:
- a) continuing to hold the *EU-LAC Summits* once every two years, setting more specific and verifiable targets for these summits, and determining the action plans and instruments needed for these targets to be achieved; recommends harmonising the organisation, structures, methods and work rhythms of the summit system in order to make them more consistent, effective and transparent,
 - b) changing the *ministerial meetings of the Río Group and the San José Dialogue* into joint decision-making forums in the periods between summits, where the issues and agendas of the summits are considered, as well as other current matters of political importance,
 - c) *incorporating into political dialogue at ministerial level* regular meetings with the Union of South American Nations (*UNASUR*), the Organization of American States (*OAS*) and the *Ibero-American Summits*,
 - d) opening up bi-regional political dialogue to *new triangular approaches (EU-LAC-US, EU-LAC-Asia and EU-LAC-Africa)* where the issues, spheres and matters of common interest justify this, and in particular moving forward the establishment of a *Euro-Atlantic Space* comprising the United States, Latin America and the European Union to form a new western block capable of having a greater influence on the global agenda and the challenges and opportunities this presents,
 - e) expanding *sectoral ministerial political dialogue* to include regular meetings between defence ministers or their representatives, so that the partners may study peace and security issues on a regular basis and at the highest level,
 - f) launching a serious science and technology dialogue process in order to build a genuine '*EU-LAC knowledge and innovation space*',
 - g) *deepening dialogue on employment and sustainable growth*, looking particularly at youth employment, equal pay, the social protection network and decent working conditions,
 - h) *stepping up dialogue on tax policy*, to produce a fairer and higher income from taxation, which in its turn will make greater social spending possible,
 - i) *strengthening the direct legitimacy of all the regional integration parliaments* by encouraging the election as soon as possible of their representatives by direct universal suffrage;

9. Supports the establishment of the *Europe-Latin America and Caribbean Foundation*, a public-private institution whose primary purpose would be to prepare for the summits, follow up on the decisions and political courses of action adopted at the summits, and act as a forum for dialogue and coordination in the periods between summits for all the political, institutional, academic and civil society bodies working to strengthen Euro-Latin American relations;
10. Proposes the following broad outlines for the *Europe-Latin America and Caribbean Foundation*:
- a) a simple and flexible structure, reflecting the Foundation's public-private nature and its voluntary and peer-based composition, to include a governing council made up of representatives of the European and Latin American States and institutions belonging to the Foundation, including the Euro-Latin American Parliamentary Assembly, and charged with laying down the broad lines and principles on which the Foundation shall operate,
 - b) a limited budget, but one that allows it to carry out correctly the tasks it is entrusted with and which is financed by contributions from those EU and Latin American States that are members of the Foundation, the EU budget, and own resources generated by the Foundation itself or which are made available to the Foundation by public or private sponsoring bodies with connections to the Euro-Latin American area,
 - c) the Foundation should allow very close and fluid relationships to be established between the various governmental and parliamentary spheres dealing with European Union-Latin American relations in various forums (EU-LAC Summits, Ibero-American Summits, SEGIB, Río Group, San José Group, Euro-Latin American Parliamentary Assembly, etc.), as well as with academic bodies (CELARE, the Instituto de Altos Estudios para la Integración y el Desarrollo Legislativo–IDL, etc.), organised civil society (European Economic and Social Committee, Mercosur's Economic and Social Consultative Forum, the Andean Community, Central America, etc.) and non-organised civil society, so that the synergies of the various bodies are best used and coordinated and duplication of resources is avoided,
 - d) the Foundation should be assigned, on either a temporary or indefinite basis, a set of tasks which, since they are cross-cutting, focus on just one issue, and are of political, economic and social importance for the Strategic Partnership, the Foundation, acting as a catalyst and mobilising the resources of its members, is best suited to perform; such tasks are:
 - I. *Migration Observatory for the Euro-Latin America Area*, responsible for permanently and closely monitoring all issues connected with migratory flows in this area,
 - II. *Bi-regional Centre for Conflict Prevention* responsible for the early detection of causes of potential violent and armed conflicts, and seeking how best to prevent them and stop them from escalating,
 - III. *Bi-regional Centre for Disaster Prevention* to devise common strategies and contingency, warning and preparation measures aimed at reducing mutual vulnerability to natural disasters arising from climate change and its manifestations, including volcanic eruptions, earthquakes, hurricanes and floods;

Overall aim for economic and trade relations

11. Reiterates its proposal that a Euro-Latin American Global Interregional Partnership Area should be created, based on a ‘WTO–Regionalism’ compatible model and applied in two stages:

- a) the first stage to be characterised by:
 - the relaunch and conclusion as soon as possible of negotiations on the *EU-Mercosur Association Agreement*,
 - the conclusion of negotiations on the *EU-Central America Association Agreement* and the *EU and the Andean Community trade agreement with a regional perspective*, currently the subject of bilateral negotiations, which could encompass *revising and expanding the 2003 Political and Cooperation Agreement*; each of these agreements has its own timescale and procedures but ultimately they are based on three pillars common to the Bi-regional Strategic Partnership, namely: a political and institutional chapter reinforcing mechanisms for dialogue and political agreement; a cooperation chapter promoting sustainable economic and social development; and thirdly a commercial chapter with progressive and reciprocal liberalisation programmes that take into account asymmetries in the respective economies’ levels of development, stressing solidarity and complementarity;
 - implementation of the *Economic Partnership Agreements with the CARIFORUM countries*, which will be advantageous for both parties,
 - not making the aforementioned association and partnership agreements conditional upon any conclusion of WTO negotiations,
 - effective application of the SPG ‘*plus*’ model to the Andean and Central American countries until such time as these agreements come into force,
 - *deepening of the existing EU-Mexico and EU-Chile Association Agreements*, through the implementation of the review clauses on agriculture, services and investment, stepped-up political dialogue (including the new framework of the EU-Mexico Strategic Partnership) and advanced formulas for development cooperation (which as far as Chile is concerned should culminate in the ‘association for development and innovation’ which the country has itself proposed),
- b) the second stage, to be completed by 2012, aimed at:
 - the creation of an *Global Interregional Partnership Agreement* which provides legal and institutional support and full geographic coverage for the various strands of the Bi-regional Strategic Partnership, and establishes *common provisions and rules of general scope* that facilitate the free movement of persons, goods, services and capital and create as broad a partnership as possible by deepening both the integration agreements within Latin America and the EU’s partnership process with the various countries and regional groups,
 - making decisive progress towards achieving the *objectives of social cohesion and cultural and human development* which should be characteristic of the partnership;

Greater social cohesion, interoperability and development cooperation in the partnership

12. Welcomes the efforts made in respect of social cohesion in recent years by the European Commission, the IDB, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank, and recommends that the EUROsociAL, URB-AL and EUrocLIMA programmes be renewed and stepped up;
13. Deems it essential that the deficiencies in infrastructure in Latin America, which hinder economic growth, be corrected and interoperability in the region be promoted in order to boost inter-American trade which barely accounts for 6 % of the region's total trade figure at present, as compared with the EU where the figure for trade between the Member States is 76 %; considers that support from the public and private sectors and financial institutions is fundamental for this;
14. Welcomes, for this reason, the Latin America Investment Facility (LAIF) proposed by the European Commission as being a tangible expression of the EU's commitment to consolidating regional integration and inter-connectivity in Latin America; takes note that an amount of EUR 100 million has been set aside from the Community budget for the period until 2013, without prejudice to other possible additional contributions and subsidies from the Member States; states that the Facility should act as a catalyst, mobilising resources from other financial institutions, in three very specific areas: inter-connectivity and infrastructure, the social and environmental sectors which includes climate change, and private sector growth with particular reference to SMEs;
15. Reiterates its call for a genuine partnership in the social and knowledge sectors and the sustainable development research sector, by means of:
 - more decisive actions to achieve the common objective of meeting the Millennium Development Goals by 2015, taking advantage of the new opportunities that exist for south-south and triangular cooperation with other countries and regions,
 - moving beyond a purely aid-oriented approach to development cooperation with Latin America, and concentrating funding from the Financing Instrument for development cooperation (DCI) in the poorer countries and on the most vulnerable groups,
 - establishing new forms of cooperation with Latin America's emerging and middle-income countries through the Industrialised Countries Instrument (ICI+), extending cooperation to cover technology, higher education, science and innovation, renewable energy, combating climate change, etc.
 - greater use of the EU's Instrument for Stability to carry out and fund programmes in Latin America that support democratic stability, governance, institutionality, and conflict prevention in countries which need and request this;
16. Reiterates its support for the building of an 'EU-LAC common area of higher education' and for the stepping up of the dialogue on science, research, higher education, technology and innovation proposed by the European Commission;
17. Stresses the importance of stepping up bilateral dialogue with the various countries in Latin America on robust, effective, policies for democratic governance, social affairs, public finances and taxation, with a view to improving social cohesion and reducing poverty, inequality and marginalisation;
18. Reiterates its suggestion that common provisions and rules of general scope to facilitate the free movement of not just goods, services and capital, but also of people, should be studied

by 2012, in order to achieve a partnership that is as mutually beneficial as possible and has the global approach to migration advocated by the United Nations;

19. Highlights the economic, social and cultural benefits to be derived from orderly migration which respects human rights, not just for the countries of origin but also for the destination countries within the Euro-Latin America area; reiterates the importance of the structured bi-regional dialogue launched in June 2009 and refers to the conclusions and proposals drawn up by the Assembly's Working Group on EU-LAC Migration Issues for the summit,
20. Recommends stepping up the interparliamentary training and exchange scheme currently being run through the Financial Instrument for the Promotion of Democracy and Human Rights Worldwide created by the European Union in December 2006, with a view to improving the skills and training of the administrations, officials and other staff employed by the regional and national parliamentary bodies of the Strategic Partnership;

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21. Instructs its Co-Presidents to forward this resolution to the Presidency of the Sixth EU-LAC Summit, the EU Council and Commission, the Group of High-Level EU-LAC Officials, the Parliaments of the EU Member States and of all the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, the Latin American Parliament, the Central American Parliament, the Andean Parliament and the Mercosur Parliament.

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