



ASAMBLEA PARLAMENTARIA EURO-LATINOAMERICANA
EURO-LATIN AMERICAN PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
ASSEMBLEIA PARLAMENTAR EURO-LATINO-AMERICANA
ASSEMBLÉE PARLEMENTAIRE EURO-LATINO- AMÉRICAINNE
PARLAMENTARISCHE VERSAMMLUNG EUROPA-LATEINAMERIKA

New IDB presidency: EuroLat Co-Presidents call for postponement of election

Joint statement by Javi López MEP (S & D, Spain) and Jorge Esteban Pizarro, President of the Latin American Parliament, Co-Presidents of the EuroLat Parliamentary Assembly:

'The American continent is suffering the devastating effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and it is still too early to tell when and how Latin America and the Caribbean will be able to undertake the huge task of economic and social post-COVID reconstruction. We consider, however, that this task will call for development and cooperation policies based on multilateralism.

We are convinced that the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), as the main financial institution for the development of Latin America and the Caribbean, with its experience of more than 60 years providing financial and technical assistance for the sustainable and inclusive development of the Americas, will be called upon to play a crucial role in this reconstruction process. As a result, we consider that the election of its president is of vital importance, all the more so at this critical time for the future of Latin America and the Caribbean.

We therefore regret that the nomination of a candidate for this post was not the result of a debate and a possible consensus among IDB Member States. We further regret that, at such a politically, economically and socially sensitive time, some IDB Member States are considering a departure from the customary practice in that institution whereby the presidency is assigned to a Latin American or Caribbean candidate and the vice-presidency to a candidate from North America.

We therefore consider that the conditions for a thoughtful debate and a careful decision on the election for the IDB presidency and vice-presidency are not currently given and we therefore join the call by many states, international organisations, regional and national parliaments, former political leaders, academics and experts, for the election of the IDB presidency and vice-presidency to be post-poned until the holding of the IDB Assembly, scheduled for March 2021 in Barranquilla, Colombia.

We call for the current customary arrangements not to be dispensed with and for the strong European and Latin American commitment to be maintained in support of multilateralism, which in the context of the current pandemic is all the more crucial.

We also consider it a priority that, in such extraordinary circumstances, IDB Member States urgently discuss the priorities and strategies that the Bank must weigh in order

to help the American continent to emerge stronger from the current crisis caused by the pandemic and to face a future which should be based on a green, digital, innovative, and efficient economy, a more inclusive society, with greater opportunities for young people and women, and improved education and healthcare accessible to all.”

Further information

The [Euro-Latin American Parliamentary Assembly \(EuroLat\)](#) is the parliamentary institution of the Bi-regional Strategic Association established in June 1999 in the context of the EU-CELAC summits. EuroLat was set up in 2006. Its constituent session took place in November of that year in Brussels. It meets in plenary session once a year.

EuroLat is a multilateral Parliamentary Assembly composed of 150 members, 75 from the European Parliament and 75 from the Latin American component, which comprises the Parlatino (Latin-American Parliament), Parlandino (Andean Parliament), Parlacen (Central American Parliament) and Parlasur (Mercosur Parliament). Given that there is also an EU-Mexico and an EU-Chile Joint Parliamentary Committee, the Mexican and Chilean Congresses are also represented in EuroLat.

Links

Profile of Javi López (S&D, Spain)

https://www.europarl.europa.eu/meps/en/125042/JAVI_LOPEZ/home