

Mapping and Analysis of Academic Networks and Mobility Schemes between the EU and LAC



The report aims at identifying key actors, instruments and schemes of EU-LAC academic cooperation as well as of patterns and trends of bi-regional mobility of researchers and to explore opportunities for connectivity and up-scaling of bi-regional mobility and cooperation between the EU and LAC. The report thus covers three different dimensions of mobility and academic cooperation between LAC and the EU:

A general stock taking and mapping exercise of Academic networks and mobility schemes

There is a rich system of different academic networks in place both in LAC and the EU. The stock-taking exercise included in the report identifies 197 academic networks, mobility schemes and cooperation projects, of which 87 are institutionalised and ongoing academic networks, the remaining being more temporary schemes and cooperation projects.

Furthermore, the LAC national schemes are analysed in terms of aims and extension. EU and LAC mobility schemes differ notably in extension and geographical coverage; while the EU with Erasmus+, ERC and MSCA operate regionally and even bi-regionally, the LAC schemes of academic mobility are mostly limited to a national level.

Analysis of mobility trends and patterns (e.g. in FP7 and Horizon2020)

The report analyses the patterns of LAC participation in Erasmus+, the Framework Programmes and European Research Council grants. Overall, it is clear that the countries with more scientific presence internationally (Brazil, Argentina, Mexico, Chile and Colombia) are forefront countries also regarding participation in the abovementioned schemes.

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In terms of LAC funding, an analysis in made to survey the funding sources in WoS co-publications (a total of 176,507 EU-LAC co-published documents from 2005 to 2017), ranking the 10 most active Latin American funding agencies and number of funded publications, as well as the 10 most active European funding agencies.

In-depth examination of needs and potentials for the up-scaling of bi-regional cooperation and mobility

The report addresses seven bi-regional academic mobility networks to obtain more in-depth information, analyzing their approach to cooperation, organizational structure, key challenges and needs for support in order to extract good practices and the following recommendations:

- EU to establish a Service Facility for Support of International Cooperation in R&I
- Further stock-taking to align bi-regional research and mobility programmes
- Reinforced funding commitment from EU and LAC funding agencies
- Use university associations in both regions to up-scaling and strengthening mobility and cooperation.

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