



**EU-LAC Foundation  
Fundación EU-LAC**

**I EU-LAC Essay Contest on the Bi-Regional Partnership**

**2020**

***Information to applicants***



## 1. Introduction

The partnership between the European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean is based on close historical and cultural ties and shared values and aspirations, such as a commitment to democracy, human rights, the rule of law, the search of sustainable development for a prosperous, inclusive society committed to respecting for the environment and the fighting against climate change. Over the years, the two regions have progressively built a relationship based on mutual respect and open dialogue. As a result, a bi-regional strategic partnership was established in 1999, providing a consensual and dynamic framework for political dialogue and cooperation in specific areas of mutual interest.

Consequently, by decision of the Heads of State and Government in 2010, the EU-LAC Foundation was established and since 2011 has been operating in the city of Hamburg, as an instrument to promote this bi-regional partnership. Composed of 61 countries from the European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean, plus the European Union itself, for a total of 62 members, the Foundation became an International Organization in May 2019, with the entry into force of its constitutive agreement.

In this sense, the Foundation has two fundamental purposes:

- a. To contribute to the strengthening of the bi-regional partnership process between the European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean, involving the participation and inputs from civil society and other social actors.
- b. To promote mutual knowledge, and improving the mutual visibility of the bi-regional partnership.

In response to this mandate, and also recognizing the potential of the bi-regional dialogue between the European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean, the EU-LAC Foundation presents the following call for the **First EU-LAC Essay Competition on global and/or sectorial issues concerning the bi-regional partnership**. The awarding of prizes to the essays is provided, in particular, with the support of a grant from the European Union and the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

## 2. The Essay Contest

The main purpose of the EU-LAC Essay Contest is to receive essays on topics of relevance to the bi-regional partnership, especially academic papers aimed at increasing visibility and promoting mutual understanding.

For the 2020 edition, the theme chosen was **The New Multilateralism in the Age of COVID-19 from the perspective of European Union-Latin America and Caribbean relations**.

In this sense, the essay is expected to address the agendas, priorities and instruments at the disposal of the bi-regional partnership. The following are some questions that could serve as





guidance for the preparation of the essays:

- What challenges and opportunities does the current health crisis create for the EU-LAC multilateral relations in the following aspects:
  - 1) In the transformations of global strategic scenarios: The bi-regional partnership and the other international political presences Global political processes.
  - 2) Economy and trade: the bi-regional agendas.
  - 3) In the institutional instruments: Procedures, rules and mechanisms for relations between the parties.
- How should these challenges be addressed and what opportunities exist in the bi-regional relationship and institutionalism?
- What would be a possible short- and medium-term agenda that should be addressed by multilateral entities producing bi-regional initiatives?

### 3. Award

The three best essays with the highest scores according to the evaluation committee will be awarded. The award will consist of the publication of the essay and the acquisition of the rights for that purpose. The award will be a face-to-face ceremony that will be duly announced.

The Foundation will cover the transportation, lodging and travel expenses for the winner's participation in the award ceremony.

The essay that takes first place will be awarded a prize of 2,500 euros (two thousand five hundred euros) as an advance on publication rights.

The essay in second place will be awarded a prize of 1500 euros (one thousand five hundred euros) as an advance on publication rights.

The essay that takes third place will be awarded a prize of 1,000 euros (one thousand euros) as an advance on publication rights.

### 4. Eligibility Criteria

Applicants must be researchers or members of academic or civil society organisations, and nationals of one of the 61 member countries of the EU-LAC Foundation.

Each applicant may submit a maximum of one essay to this contest.

Individual or collective authorship of essays with no more than two authors will be accepted, according to the bi-regional principle. In the case of collective essays, the prize will be unique for







each work.

The essay must:

- be rigorously unpublished, that is to say, it must not have been previously published in any type of media or communication, nor have it won any other prize in any other contest.
- be written in Spanish or English.
- Contain between 5,000 and 7,000 words, including bibliography and notes, of which 200 constitute the executive summary.
- be sent with a title and no attachments
- Be sent in PDF format and written in Candara font, size 11 and with normal margin (2.5 cm for the top and bottom margins and 3 cm to the left and right); that is, a Word pattern. The space between the lines must be 1.5.
- The Chicago Deusto Manual will be used for the inclusion of references and quotations.

To guarantee the integrity of the anonymous evaluations, authors should not include in the document any indication of authorship (names, e-mail, university). This information will only be provided through the registration form.

## 5. Dates

The deadline for submission of essays is 3 November 2020 23:59 (CET). Each author may submit only one essay. Essays received within this deadline and that meet the requirements will be considered for the contest.

Essays should to be sent together with the registration form to the following e-mail address: [call@eulacfoundation.org](mailto:call@eulacfoundation.org)

The results of the contest will be communicated on December 7th on the website of the EU-LAC Foundation and on its social networks.

## 6. Evaluation Criteria

A jury composed of the EU-LAC Foundation and independent international experts will evaluate the essays.

The members of the jury will evaluate the works considering criteria such as

- Relevance of the topic
- Depth of the argument





- Clarity and consistency of approach and theoretical underpinning
- Quality and sufficiency of evidence
- Writing/Editorial issues
- Compliance with technical specifications.

At the time of evaluation, the jury will only receive the content of the essays, and no reference to the author of the essay, to ensure transparency at this stage.

Essays sent after the deadline, and in general, those that do not meet the conditions expressed in the terms of reference, will not be accepted in the contest.

## 7. Register Form

To ensure the integrity of anonymous evaluations, authors should not include any indication of authorship (names, email, university) in the document. This information will only be provided through the registration form.

The EU-LAC Foundation undertakes to keep all personal data strictly confidential and to respect the European Union regulations governing the protection of citizens' data (RGPD).

For their part, the applicant commits, through the declaration of honour included in the application form, to guarantee the originality of the text.

## 8. Publication of the Winner Essays

The winners will be notified once the Jury Committee has made its decision. The decision of the Committee is final and binding. The EU-LAC Foundation expects to reach the final decision about four weeks after the closing date of the Call.

The winners will grant the EU-LAC Foundation the right to publish the original works, but they may subsequently be published in any other media, provided that the original publication and the framework of this Call are cited.

The views and content of the essays published in the framework of the contest are the responsibility of the authors and do not reflect the views of the EU-LAC Foundation, the European Union, or any of the Member States of the Foundation.

