

Americas

The digital economy & society is now firmly part of the agenda for the EU's relations with the Americas.



USA

The European Commission has regular ICT policy dialogue with the US Department of State, and the Directorate has had an ICT Counsellor stationed at the [EU Delegation in Washington D.C.](#) since 2010.

In June 2021, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and President of the United States Joe Biden [launched the EU-US Trade and Technology Council \(TTC\)](#). The TTC is a forum for both sides to coordinate approaches to key global trade, economic, and technology issues and to deepen transatlantic trade and economic relations based on shared democratic values.

Cooperation was further strengthened by the [opening of an EU office in San Francisco](#) in September 2022, to further the EU's digital diplomacy in the US. The office will work under the authority of the EU Delegation in Washington, D.C., in close coordination with Brussels and in partnership with EU Member States consulates in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Latin America

The EU is committed to making digital cooperation central to its relationship with Latin America and the Caribbean, assisting the economies of both regions to reap the benefits of new technologies while promoting innovation and digitalisation.

Areas of cooperation include connectivity through the BELLA transatlantic fibre-optic cable, high-

performance computing, research & innovation, ICT standards, and regulatory cooperation in telecommunications, digital media, online platforms, eCommerce and cybersecurity.

A number of projects on digital cooperation with Latin America were launched under the [Partnership Instrument](#) with key partners in the region. These projects include:

- cooperation on personal data protection while promoting free flow of data across international borders (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Mexico and Uruguay with bilateral activities and regional activities).
- cooperation in the field of standardisation and interoperability of ICT services across international borders (Brazil)
- international efforts to build trust and security in cyberspace (Brazil)

The meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the EU and the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) adopted a [political declaration](#) in July 2018, which includes the digital economy as one of the main priority areas for cooperation.

Four strategic areas of cooperation at regional level were explored during the first [EU-LAC digital cooperation workshop](#) in July 2018. The following ideas for future cooperation were identified:

1. telecoms regulation
2. media
3. cybersecurity
4. eCommerce and online platforms

A second workshop took place in March 2019 to elaborate specific action-oriented roadmaps in the aforementioned areas.

[RegulateL, the Forum of Latin America telecoms Regulators](#), works with [the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications](#) (BEREC) to deepen understanding of regulatory issues.

The Commission also participates in [the eLAC Ministerial Conferences](#) organised by the [UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean \(ECLAC\)](#), whose long-term vision is to promote ICT as a tool for economic development and social inclusion.

A contract to launch a submarine fibre-optic cable linking Lisbon in Portugal to Fortaleza in Brazil was signed in August 2018. This would connect [RedCLARA](#), the South American research & education network and [GEANT, the European research & education network](#). The cable is expected to be operational in 2021.

A [final report on digital cooperation](#) between the EU and Latin America and the Caribbean was published in March 2019.

BELLA: A new digital data highway between Europe and Latin America

The [BELLA \(Building the Europe link to Latin America\)](#) project will provide ultra-high speed connectivity through submarine and terrestrial cable to connect Latin America with Europe.

The cable will boost business, scientific and cultural exchanges between the two continents and within Latin America. This paves the way to cooperation in high-performance computing and Earth observation data.

BELLA includes 11 European and Latin American research and education networks from Germany,

Portugal, Italy, Spain, France, Ecuador, Colombia, Chile and Brazil and is led by [RedCLARA](#), the South American research & education network, and [GEANT](#), the pan-European research and education network.

A contract was signed in August 2018 by a group of public stakeholders to form the BELLA consortium and ELLALINK, a private consortium to deploy a submarine fibre-optic cable linking Europe and Brazil. The BELLA consortium was established to take full advantage of the future high-capacity link for the benefit of research and education networks.

The EU is the main funder of the consortium, with around €26.5 million invested from the [Horizon 2020 programme](#), [Copernicus](#) and the Development Cooperation Instrument.

The EllaLink transatlantic cable connecting the European and South American continents was [inaugurated during the Digital Assembly 2021](#).

Linking Fortaleza in Brazil with Sines in Portugal, this digital data highway will enable the first direct, high-capacity data connection between the two continents to support research and education data exchange.

Brazil

The EU and Brazil established a strategic partnership in 2007 where Science & Technology is one of the most active areas. The bilateral agreement was renewed for another five years in 2017.

Ongoing cooperation focuses on cloud computing, high-performance computing and experimental platforms. Further topics to be explored include 5G, cloud and the Internet of Things.

Brazil is a key Latin American partner under the ICT theme [Horizon 2020](#), with several coordinated calls leading to results with high social and industrial impact. Brazil also plays a prominent role in the context of the ongoing trade negotiations with MERCOSUR.

As part of this cooperation framework, a dedicated dialogue takes place yearly between DG CONNECT and Brazil.

Read the [11th EU-Brazil Digital Economy Dialogue Joint statement](#)

Mexico

Domestically, Mexico has undergone a radical transformation of its telecoms and audio-visual markets following a reform in 2014. This brought the country to a much closer level playing field with the EU digital market. Mexico's reform has started the deregulation of the market to introduce competition.

Regionally, Mexico is very active together with Colombia in pushing the 'Mercado Digital Regional' an initiative within the CELAC members and the so-called 'eLAC 2020' process (Digital Agenda for Latin America and the Caribbean).

The [EU and Mexico reached an agreement in principle](#) in April 2018 on the trade part of a modernised EU-Mexico Global Agreement, which will replace a previous agreement between the EU and Mexico from 2000. Besides the revised Free Trade Agreement, the agreement contains an updated [political pillar for cooperation](#) on many sectors, including digital economy.

The EU and Mexico have successfully organised two dialogues on digital economy, in Brussels in 2017 and in Mexico City in 2019. Both dialogues reflected on shared values and approaches to common challenges.

Canada

Following the first Digital Dialogue between the EU and Canada on 27-28 May 2019 in Ottawa, strong ICT and artificial intelligence (AI) conclusions were a highlight of the subsequent EU-Canada Summit held in July 2019.

Points relevant to ICT and AI in the [Canada-EU Summit Joint Declaration of July 17-18 in Montreal](#) included:

- no.19: responding to technological change in a manner that upholds democracy, respects human rights and advances our shared values;
- no.20: deepen our cooperation on artificial intelligence.

Follow-ups with the [Canadian ministry of Innovation, Science and Economic Development \(ISED\)](#) and [Canadian Heritage](#) on common areas of interest has increased. Progress on artificial intelligence, quantum and public sector innovation has been made, and various joint actions have been undertaken.

The EU and Canada signed a [Strategic Partnership Agreement](#), and its implementation began with the [first Joint Ministerial Committee](#) in December 2017. The committee adopted a joint statement and agreed to strengthen EU-Canada bilateral relationship, to enhance foreign policy coordination and to work closer together to address global challenges and opportunities.

A Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) was also adopted by the Council and [signed at the EU-Canada Summit on 30 October 2016](#). Provisional application of CETA started on 21 September 2017.

The Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between Canada and the European Union has been in place since 1996 and is not limited in time. The responsibility for the scientific and technical cooperation dialogue lies with the EU-Canada Joint Science and Technology Cooperation Committee, which meets on a regular basis to review progress and provides new directions for cooperation in the fields of science and technology.

Spremljajte najnovejša dogajanja in sodelujte v družbenih medijih.

- [Follow the Commission's work on tech and digital @DigitalEU](#)

Latest News

PRESS RELEASE | 16 marec 2023

[Strategija Global Gateway: EU, Latinska Amerika in Karibi v Kolumbiji vzpostavile digitalno zavezništvo EU-LAK](#)

Evropska unija ter Latinska Amerika in Karibi so 14. marca v Bogoti v Kolumbiji ustanovili digitalno zavezništvo, ki je skupna pobuda za spodbujanje na človeka osredotočenega pristopa k digitalni preobrazbi.

PRESS RELEASE | 08 marec 2023

[Prenosni računalniki za Ukrajino: V Ukrajino bo poslanih 13,000 prenosnih računalnikov in pametnih telefonov](#)

Zbranih je bilo 13,000 dodatnih prenosnih računalnikov, pametnih telefonov in tabličnih računalnikov, ki bodo Ukrajini dostavljeni v okviru pobude Laptops za Ukrajino, ki jo podpira Komisija.

PRESS RELEASE | 14 februar 2023

[Nadaljnji korak k dolgoročnemu sporazumu o gostovanju kot doma z Ukrajino](#)

Ukrajina je korak bližje območju prostega gostovanja EU, saj je Komisija sprejela predlog za vključitev gostovanja v pridružitveni sporazum med EU in Ukrajino.

PRESS RELEASE | 06 februar 2023

[EU-Indija: novi svet za trgovino in tehnologijo, ki bo prevzel vodilno vlogo na področju digitalne preobrazbe, zelenih tehnologij in trgovine](#)

Evropska unija in Indija sta okrepili svoje odnose kot strateški partnerici z ustanovitvijo novega Sveta za trgovino in tehnologijo.

[Več na temo International relations](#)

Povezane vsebine

Ä irÄja slika

[Foreign policy](#)

As more countries are inspired by the European digital model, European companies have more opportunities to do business, creating more jobs for citizens.

PodrobnejÄe informacije

[Digitalno v Svetu EU-ZDA za trgovino in tehnologijo](#)

Svet EU-ZDA za trgovino in tehnologijo (TTC) je Atlantski forum, ki spodbuja sodelovanje pri vprašanjih, povezanih s trgovino in tehnologijo, ki temelji na skupnih demokratičnih vrednotah.

Glej tudi

[Sosedje EU](#)

Evropska komisija tesno sodeluje s tretjimi državami, ki so geografsko blizu Evropski uniji.

[Afrika](#)

Digitalna preobrazba ponuja Afriki izjemne priložnosti.

[Svetovni observatorij za internetno politiko \(GIPO\)](#)

Globalni observatorij za internetno politiko (GIPO) je spletna platforma, katere namen je olajšati razumevanje vpliva in razvoja interneta.

[Regionalni in dvostranski odnosi](#)

Regionalni in dvostranski odnosi so osredotočeni na dostop do trga za evropska podjetja ter na spodbujanje trdnega in preglednega regulativnega okolja na svetovni ravni.

[Svetovni internet in telekomunikacije](#)

Evropska komisija na mednarodni ravni sodeluje z drugimi svetovnimi akterji pri oblikovanju razvoja interneta in telekomunikacijskega sveta.

[Mednarodne organizacije in večstranski forumi](#)

EU si prizadeva za napredek evropskega pristopa k digitalni preobrazbi s sporazumi, sklenjenimi z mednarodnimi organizacijami in forumi.

[Azijsko-pacifiško območje](#)

Azija je ključna gospodarska regija na svetu z dinamičnimi trgi in močno inovacijsko zmogljivostjo.