



Ministry
of Foreign Affairs
of the Czech Republic



International Conference “Czech Republic and Ibero-America – New Forms of Cooperation in the Current Geopolitical Context “

*The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic
Prague, Czernin Palace, May 21, 2026*

08.15 - 08.45

Registration

08.45 - 09.15

Opening of the conference

Petr Macinka, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic

Mario Lubetkin, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Uruguay, Pro Tempore Presidency of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC)

Moderator:

Jiří Brodský, First Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic

09.15 - 11.00	Panel I – Challenges in the Current Geopolitical Context
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The global landscape is undergoing unexpected shifts and growing uncertainty, with potential consequences for the established rules of the international order. Rising domestic polarization, armed conflicts in Europe’s immediate neighborhood, and changes in U.S. strategic priorities present both the European Union and Latin American countries with a set of shared challenges.

The EU and Latin America are connected by deep cultural and historical ties that have long shaped relations between the two regions. The question is whether these bonds can help them navigate today’s turbulent environment. What steps can be taken to deepen political dialogue and develop a more ambitious common agenda? And, ultimately, are both regions capable of addressing current challenges together—and supporting each other in doing so?

The program is subject to change.

Moderator: **Marek Libřický**, Director General of the Security Policy and Non-European Countries Section, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic

09.15 – 10.00 Panel discussion
Mario Lubetkin, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Uruguay
José Antonio Arróspide del Busto, President of the EU–LAC Foundation
Berenice Díaz Ceballos, Ambassador of Mexico to the Czech Republic
Vicente Albornoz, Ambassador of Ecuador to the Czech Republic
Radek Buben, Head of the Center for Ibero-American Studies, Faculty of Arts, Charles University in Prague

10.00 – 10.30 **Q & A**

10.30 - 11.00 **Coffee Break**

Opening of the exhibitions by **Jiří Brodský**, First Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ambassador of Mexico **Berenice Díaz Ceballos**
Exhibition “Fragments of Quisqueya” by Dominican painter Wendy Morillo
Photographic Exhibition “Landscapes and Heritage of Ibero-America”

11.00 - 12.35	Panel II – From Dialogue to Action: Strengthening Security Cooperation between the EU and Latin America
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Security cooperation is increasingly becoming one of the central pillars of EU–Latin America relations, shaped by shared challenges such as transnational organized crime, cyber and hybrid threats, terrorism, and climate-related security risks. While the EU has developed a dense architecture of political agreements, security provisions, and cooperation tools across policing, justice, cybersecurity, and crisis management, these instruments remain unevenly used. For countries such as the Czech Republic, the challenge is not a lack of available instruments, but rather how to activate them in a focused, strategic, and politically sustainable way.

Why do mid-sized countries often underutilise existing EU–LAC security frameworks, despite clear common interests? And how can they translate shared concerns into sustained, practical forms of cooperation that deliver tangible results on both sides?

Moderator: **Edita Hrdá**, Former Managing Director for the Americas,
European External Action Service

11.00 – 12.15 Panel discussion
Joao Taborda, Vice President for Government Affairs, Embraer
Ivan Marques, Secretary for Multidimensional Security,
Organization of American States
Radka Konderlová, Director General of Industrial Cooperation
Division, Ministry of Defence of the Czech Republic
Matyáš Pelant, Director of Trade Promotion Department, EU and
Foreign Trade Section, Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech
Republic

12.15 - 12.30 **Q & A**

12.30 – 12.35 **Final Remarks**

Daniel Volf - Director of the Department of the Americas, MFA

12.45 **Lunch** – Sala Terrena
Degustation of regional culinary specialties
Argentine Roots: “A journey through Folklore” by María Paula
Benítez Jurena y Miguel Ángel Gutiérrez Kuruz

14.15 – 16.00	Panel III – Czech-Latin American Economic Cooperation: Business Opportunities
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Business-focused discussion highlighting opportunities for Czech companies in Latin America and companies from Latin America seeking to expand their business in Czechia. The event will present practical business experience from Czech companies active in the region, complemented by perspectives from Latin America’s companies and representatives supporting trade and investment.

14.15–14.30 **Opening Keynote: Where Are the Business Opportunities?**

14.30–15.30 Panel discussion: **From Entry to Expansion – How to
Succeed in Latin America**

Moderated discussion combining:

- Czech companies active in Latin America (real market experience)
- Trade and investment promotion agencies

15.30 –16.00 Open Networking & Bilateral Introductions

Informal exchange with the option of facilitated introductions for
interested companies

The program is subject to change.