




LATIN AMERICAN PRESIDENTIAL MISSION

Leadership. Testimony and Action to the Service of the Region



**More than a
decade building
A region of
Opportunities
Beyond
ideologies**



“As *citizens* of this continent
and the world, called by our
conscience and our hearts, we wish
to proclaim our desire to continue
working for the unity of
Latin America”

*Excerpt from the Asunción Declaration
signed in 2010, One of the philosophical
foundations of the Latin American
Presidential Mission.*



**The Latin American
Presidential Mission has hosted**

Over 30 Former Presidents

From over 30 countries in the
region and other continents

Over 5000 speakers,
panelists, and special guests

Over 100,000 in-person
and virtual participants



**LATIN AMERICAN
PRESIDENTIAL MISSION**
Leadership, Testimony and Action to the Service of the Region

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Special Thanks

To the Founding Member Presidents and Participants, to the Global Peace Foundation, and to all the individuals and organizations that have contributed to the Latin American Presidential Mission.

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**“Nothing happens
without people, and
nothing lasts without
institutions.”**

Jean Monnet

French politician and businessman,
considered one of the fathers of the
European Union.

LETTER FROM THE FOUNDING PRESIDENTS

As founders of the Latin American Presidential Mission, we thank you in advance for the attention and time you are taking to read these lines and pages.

We only hope that through this, you can become familiar with the principles that gave rise to our association of former leaders, as well as our main lines of work and a historical account of the actions we have carried out in 10 years of existence.

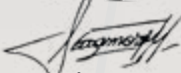
But the most important message we want to share is that it is worth continuing to work for Latin America, so that we can better leverage our competitive advantages, leave behind concepts of lost decades, and be a region not only of hope but also but also of prosperity and solutions.

Past, present, and future are what drive us. We have had the greatest privilege a people can grant a person; therefore, we will continue to contribute to the best of our abilities.

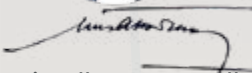
We also thank the or, members of the Board who have been the driving force behind the work of the Presidential Mission and also the support and co-sponsoring organizations, including the , the Esquipulas Foundation of Guatemala, the Dreamed Homeland Institute of Paraguay, the Leadership Conference of Uruguay, and especially the Global Peace Foundation, whose founder Dr. Hyun Jin Preston Moon has had the vision to believe, invest, and promote moral and innovative leadership in our region.

We invite you to build together a region of opportunities.




Juan Carlos Wasmosy
President of Paraguay 1993–1998




Luis Alberto Lacalle
President of Uruguay 1990–1995




Vinicio Cerezo
President of Guatemala 1986–1991

A DECADE BUILDING A REGION OF OPPORTUNITIES, BEYOND IDEOLOGIES

Dear colleagues,

After a decade of collective efforts in the Latin American Presidential Mission and the recent celebration of the Latin American Forum of Ideas, we find ourselves at a crucial moment of reflection and projection towards the future. The MPL, from its inception, has been a beacon of unity, leadership, and commitment to a more prosperous Latin America.

The invaluable experience of the former presidents has enriched every step of our mission. Their experiences and visions have provided an essential perspective to address the challenges and opportunities of our region. In every corner of Latin America, we see the emergence of a renewed desire for the construction of fairer and more equitable nations.

The recent Latin American Forum of Ideas, although it pluralistic only a part of our efforts, has highlighted the importance of democratic and plural dialogue. Brought together former presidents, prominent leaders from various sectors, academics, scientists, businessmen, and citizens to discuss and propose solutions for the development of Latin America. However, our vision goes beyond individual events; **we seek sustained and meaningful change throughout the continent.**

Our call is clear: to promote good governance with moral and innovative leadership. Through tangible actions, we encourage the exchange of experiences and knowledge. And as we look to the next decade, we make a call to action to every emerging leader, to every citizen, to join this movement.

May this edition serve as a reminder of the work that still remains to be done and the promise of a bright future for Latin America. Together, with determination and hope, we can and will achieve more.

With deep conviction and hope for the future,



Thomas Field

President

Latin American Presidential Mission



Olinda Salguero

Vice President and Executive Director

Latin American Presidential Mission

Dr. Hyun Jin Preston Moon

Founder of the Global Peace Foundation

“Building peace requires more than good intentions. The most important thing is the fundamental principles that can be expressed through effective action.”



The birth of a continental initiative

The Latin American Presidential Mission was inspired by the events and the Declaration of Asuncion of 2010. From then on, the conceptual framework was worked on through other efforts that allowed, within the framework of the 2012 Global Peace Convention, to hold the First Hemispheric Conference at the Carter Center in Atlanta. During this conference, with the presence of with the presence of former Presidents and hundreds of leaders of the Americas, its foundation was announced.

The Latin American Presidential Mission in the United States

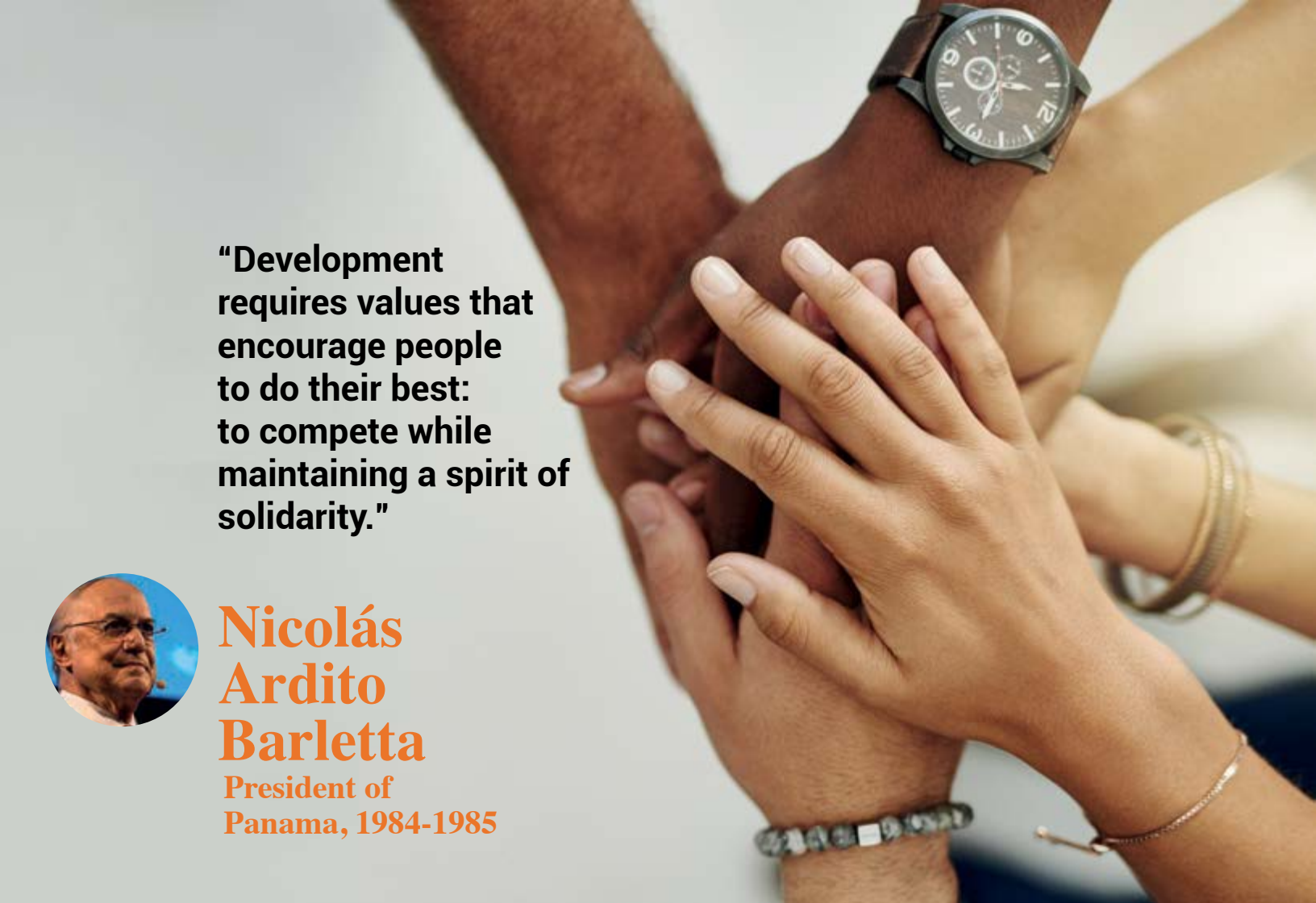
The Carter Presidential Center in Atlanta was where the Latin American Presidential Mission was officially established in 2012. Among the foundations of the MPL, political dialogue with the United States has always been at the heart of the efforts. That's why formalizing the creation of the Mission at the Center of one of the Presidents who has had the best and most extensive relationship with Latin America was a symbolic act.



Carter Presidential Center, Atlanta, United States 2012.



From left to right: Eduardo Duhalde, President of Argentina 2002 - 2002, Vinicio Cerezo, President of Guatemala, 1986 - 1991, Hyun Jin Moon, Founder of the Global Peace Foundation, Jun Sook Moon, Founder of the Global Peace Women, Álvaro Colom, President of Guatemala 2008 - 2012.

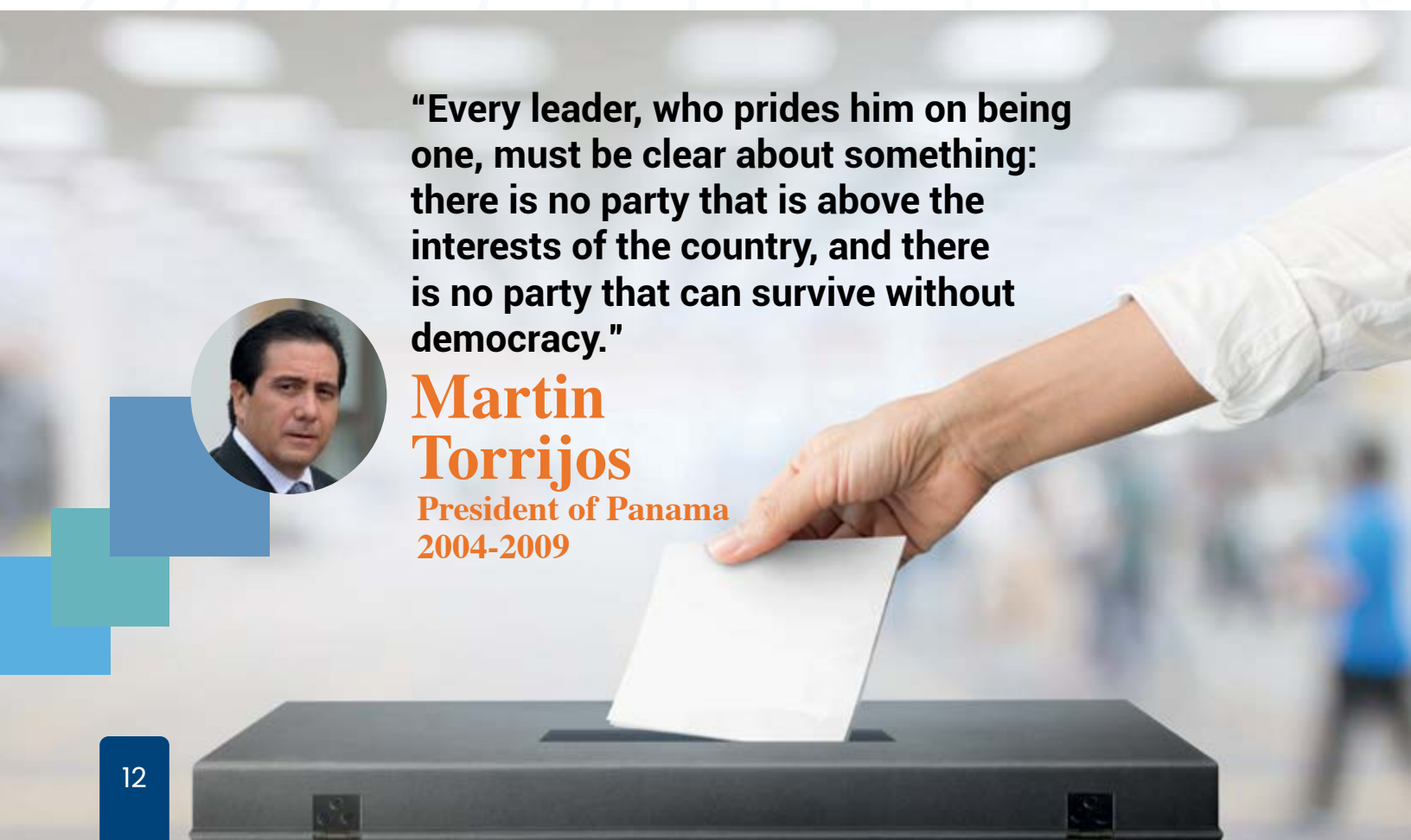


“Development requires values that encourage people to do their best: to compete while maintaining a spirit of solidarity.”



**Nicolás
Ardito
Barletta**

**President of
Panama, 1984-1985**




“Every leader, who prides him on being one, must be clear about something: there is no party that is above the interests of the country, and there is no party that can survive without democracy.”



**Martin
Torrijos**

**President of Panama
2004-2009**

A close-up portrait of Luis Alberto Lacalle, an elderly man with white hair, wearing a blue suit jacket, a light blue shirt, and a blue and white striped tie. The portrait is partially obscured by a white graphic element on the left side of the page.

Luis Alberto Lacalle

President of
Uruguay 1990 - 1995

“Experience can be passed on, and there’s nothing better than listening to someone who made a mistake and trying not to make the same error, or listening to someone who got it right, to improve upon that achievement.”

MEMBERS AND PARTICIPANTS



Vinicio Cerezo
(Guatemala, 1986-1991)



Luis Alberto Lacalle
(Uruguay, 1990-1995)



Ricardo Lagos
(Chile, 2000-2006)



Carlos Mesa
(Bolivia, 2003-2005)



Ernesto Pérez Balladares
(Panamá, 1994-1999)



Hipólito Mejía
(Rep. Dominicana, 2000-2004)



Laura Chinchilla M.
(Costa Rica, 2010-2014)



Martín Torrijos Espino
(Panamá, 2004-2009)

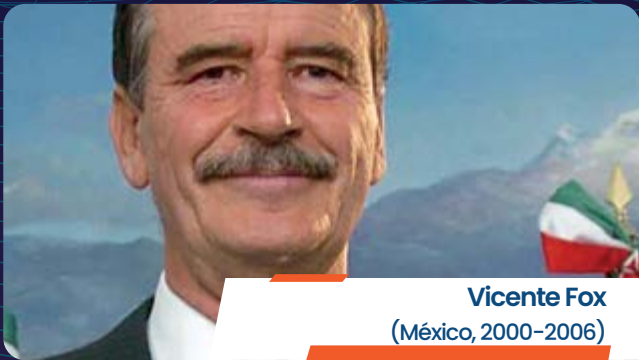
“We must come together, not to be together,



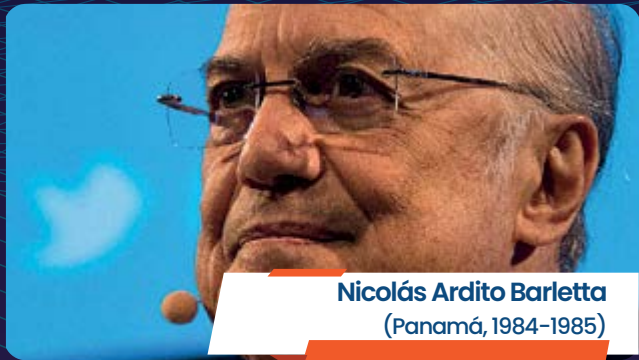
Juan Carlos Wasmosy
(Paraguay, 1993-1998)



Carlos Alvarado Quesada
(Costa Rica 2018 - 2022)



Vicente Fox
(México, 2000-2006)



Nicolás Ardito Barletta
(Panamá, 1984-1985)



Eduardo Duhalde
(Argentina, 2002-2003)



Luis Guillermo Solís
(Costa Rica, 2014-2018)



Jaime Paz Zamora
(Bolivia, 1989-1993)



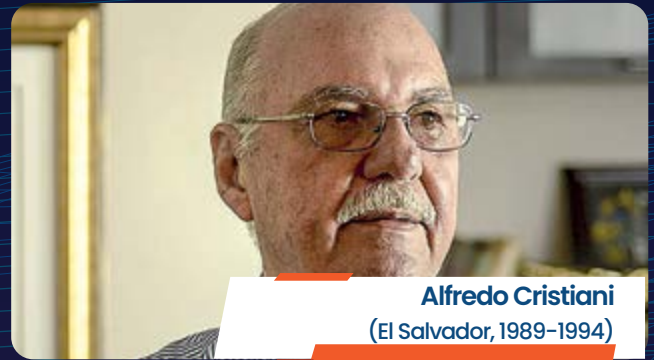
Luis Ángel González Macchi
(Paraguay, 1999-2003)

but to do something together". *Juan Donoso Cortés*

MEMBERS AND PARTICIPANTS



Rafael Correa
(Ecuador, 2007–2017)



Alfredo Cristiani
(El Salvador, 1989–1994)



Raúl Cubas Grau
(Paraguay, 1998–1999)



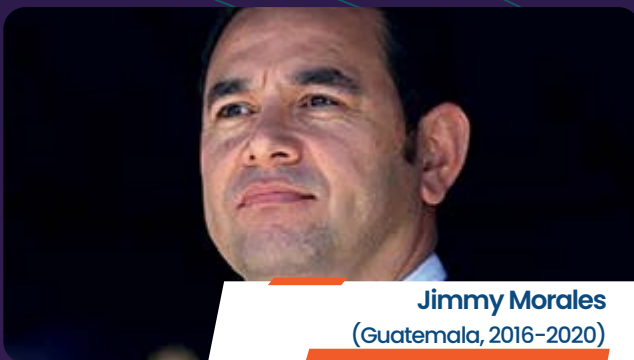
Juan Manuel Santos
(Colombia, 2010–2018)



Horacio Cartes Jara
(Paraguay, 2013–2018)



Jamil Mahuad
(Ecuador, 1998–2000)



Jimmy Morales
(Guatemala, 2016–2020)



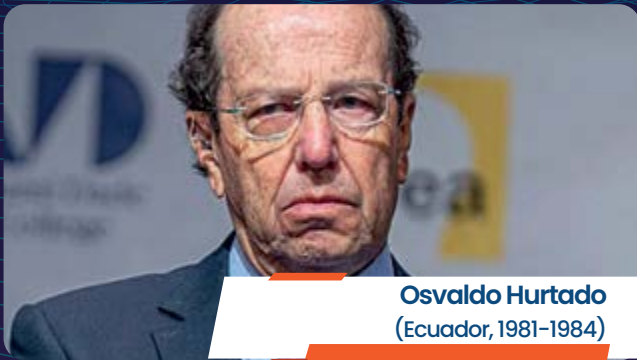
José Mujica
(Uruguay, 2010–2015)



Rafael Ángel Calderón
(Costa Rica, 1990-1994)



Jorge "Tuto" Quiroga
(Bolivia, 2001-2002)



Osvaldo Hurtado
(Ecuador, 1981-1984)



Miguel Á. Rodríguez
(Costa Rica, 1998-2002)



J. M. Sanguinetti
(Uruguay, 1985-90/1995-2000)



Ernesto Samper
(Colombia, 1994-1998)



Michelle Bachelet
(Chile, 2006-10/2014-18)



Leonel Fernández
(Dominican Republic, 1996-2000/2004-2012)

Over the course of a decade, Heads of State throughout the region, have participated at some point in activities organized or co-organized by the Latin American Presidential Mission.

WE HONOR THE PARTICIPATION OF THE PRESIDENTS WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE LATIN AMERICAN PRESIDENTIAL MISSION AND ARE NO LONGER WITH US. THEIR LEGACY IS WRITTEN IN THE PAGES OF THE REGION'S HISTORY.



LATIN AMERICAN
PRESIDENTIAL MISSION

Leadership, Testimony and Action to the Service of the Region



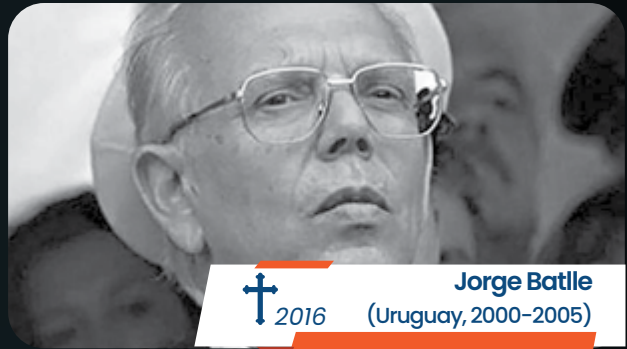
†
2021

Gustavo Noboa
(Ecuador, 2000-2003)



†
2023

Á. Colom Caballeros
(Guatemala, 2008-2012)



†
2016

Jorge Batlle
(Uruguay, 2000-2005)



†
2017

A. Calderón Sol
(El Salvador, 1994-1999)



†
2018

Álvaro Arzú
(Guatemala, 1996-2000)

A portrait of Vinicio Cerezo, President of Guatemala from 1986 to 1991. He is shown from the chest up, wearing a dark suit, a white shirt, and a pink tie with a small pattern. A boutonniere with a pink flower and green leaves is pinned to his lapel. He is looking slightly to the right of the camera with a serious expression. The background is a solid blue color. The portrait is framed by a white, stylized shape that resembles a large letter 'C' or a similar graphic element.

Vinicio Cerezo

President of Guatemala 1986-1991

**“Citizen participation is the
music of democracy.”**



Temple of the Great Jaguar (Gran Jaguar) at the Tikal archaeological site in Petén, Guatemala, in the heart of the Mayan world. Declared a Natural and Cultural Heritage of Humanity by UNESCO.



**“WE DID NOT
GATHER
OUR IDEAS,
BUT OUR
PURPOSES.
AND WE
AGREED,
THEN WE
DECIDED.”**

**POPOL VUH,
SACRED BOOK OF
THE MAYA**

**"Dear fellow citizens, Paraguay,
our country, will never be
different with indifferent
Paraguayans... Get involved!"**

**José V.
Altamirano**

Paraguay



**"In democracy, every four years
we are all equal, we all have the
same value, and with a pencil
and paper, we draw the country
we want."**



Ricardo Lagos
President of Chile
2000-2006

A portrait of Ernesto Samper, President of Colombia from 1994 to 1998. He is shown from the chest up, wearing a dark suit jacket over a light-colored, vertically striped shirt. He is looking slightly to the right of the frame. The background is a dark blue wall with the letters 'E L A' visible in a light color. The portrait is partially framed by white, rounded rectangular shapes on the left and right sides of the page.

Ernesto Samper

President of
Colombia 1994 -1998

“Education and innovation are
key pillars for the development of
Latin America.”

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thomas R. Field President

Regional Representative of the Global Peace Foundation for Latin America and president of the Institute for the Development of the Dreamed Homeland Thought (IDPPS) in Paraguay. He has lived in several Latin American countries for over 40 years and has extensive experience in managing both NGOs and companies. For seven years, he was the regional director of United Press International (UPI) for Latin America, based in Santiago, Chile.



Olinda Salguero Vice President

Born in Guatemala, Central America. She is a civic builder and social manager who has worked for the development of Central America for over 15 years, from the perspective of civil society and international organizations. In 2021, 2022, and 2023, she was recognized by FORBES magazine in the list of the **100 most powerful women in Central America and the Dominican Republic**. In 2022, the She Is Colombia Foundation named her Woman of the Year for her work in favor of peace, equity, and gender equality.



Marcos Regalado Director

Former government official in the United States with more than 30 years of experience in social and economic development issues. He is former director of the Miami Dade County Human Rights Commission. Entrepreneur and consultant in international business development and green energy projects. He holds a B.A. in Political Science and International Relations from Florida International University.



Margaret Delmont Treasurer

Founder and executive director of MagnifyFund, a company dedicated to helping corporations and non-profit organizations improve sustainability and growth. A U.S. citizen born in El Salvador, she is the co-founder of the Latin Women Empowering Latin Women Organization and previously served as vice president of Hispanic Unity of Florida. She worked as the regional manager for NALEO's Education Fund for South Florida during the 2019-2020 period. The Miami Herald described her as one of the most influential women in South Florida.



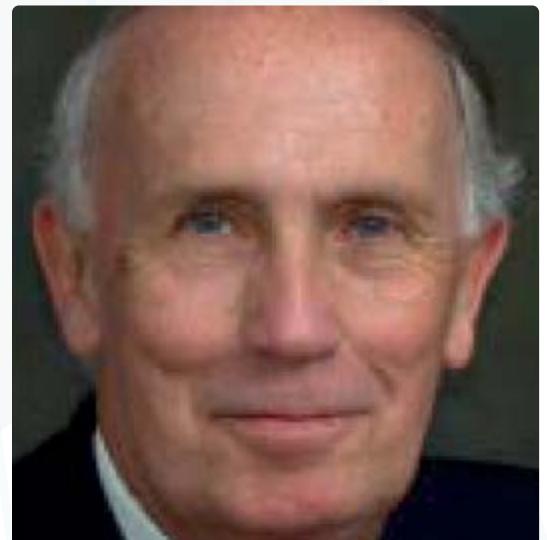
John Dickson Director

President of the World Trade and Development Group. He has founded World Trade Centers in Okinawa and Afghanistan and has obtained licenses for other countries. He is the senior advisor on economics and government relations for the Global Peace Foundation based in Washington D.C. Additionally, he is a member of the steering committee of the United Nations NGO Alliance for South-South Cooperation; founder and member of the executive board of the Native American Leadership Alliance; and co-founder and president of the Global Young Leaders Academy.



Michael Lenaghan Director

Holder of the Mardee Jenrette Chair of Teaching Excellence at Miami Dade College. He is also the chairman of the board of Service For Peace and a board member of the Institute for Alternative Futures, the Global Casimiro Foundation, and the Miami Chapter of the United Nations Association of the United States. He has supported global social and economic entrepreneurship in countries such as the Dominican Republic, Philippines, Kenya, Turkey, Paraguay, and the Republic of Korea.





MAIN AREAS OF ACTION OF THE LATIN AMERICAN PRESIDENTIAL MISSION



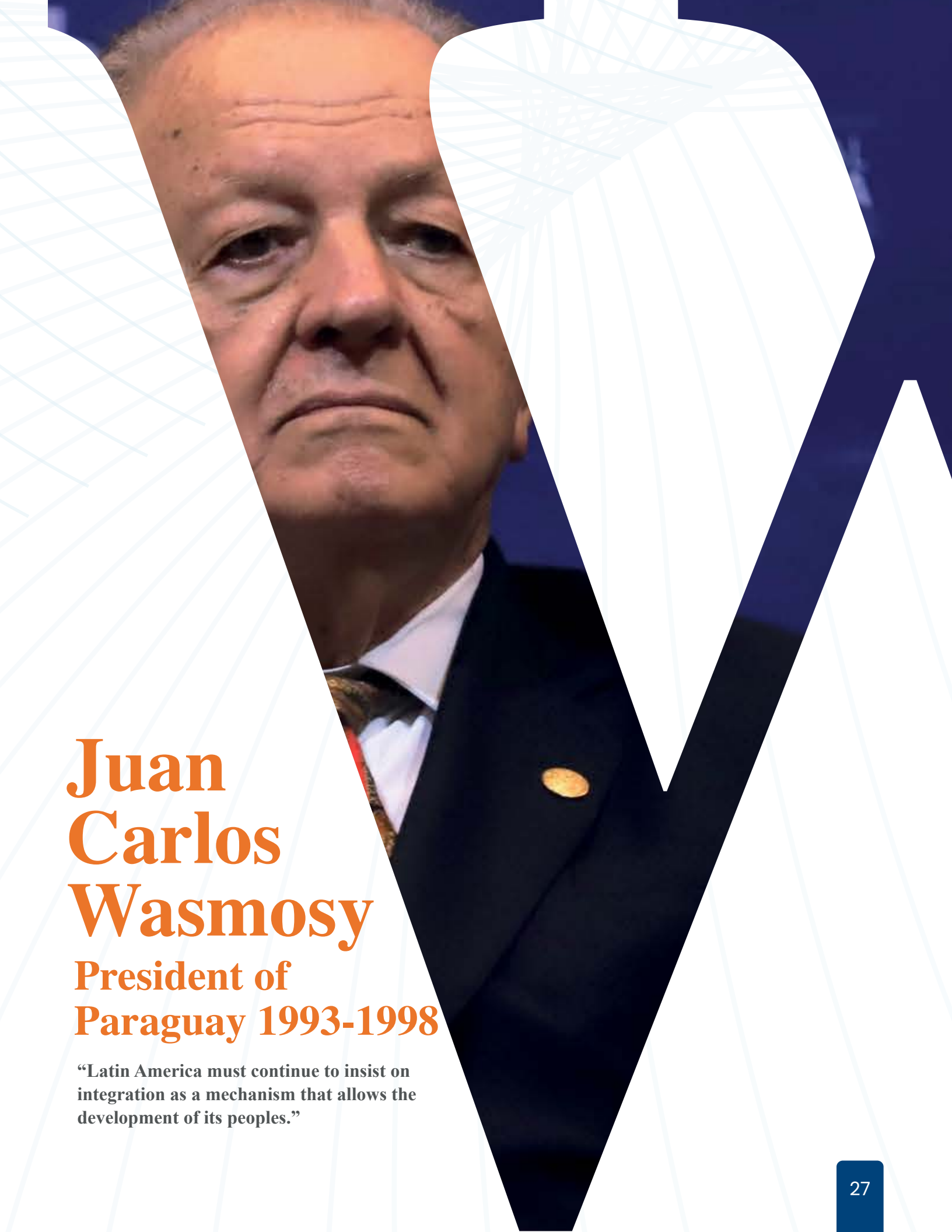
Political Dialogue in the Americas, United States, Europe, and Asia



Intergenerational Dialogue with Emerging Leaders



Knowledge Society for Institutional Strengthening

A portrait of Juan Carlos Wasmosy, President of Paraguay from 1993 to 1998. He is shown from the chest up, wearing a dark suit, a white shirt, and a patterned tie. A gold medal is pinned to his left lapel. The background is a dark blue wall with a light blue geometric pattern of intersecting lines. The portrait is framed by a large, white, stylized letter 'V' shape.

Juan Carlos Wasmosy

President of
Paraguay 1993-1998

“Latin America must continue to insist on integration as a mechanism that allows the development of its peoples.”



From left to right: Antonella Cavallari, Secretary General of the Italo-Latin American Institute (ILLA), Kiantar Betancourt, President of Atenil S.A., Marco Cerezo, Director of FUNDAECO.

The Environmental Wealth of Latin America, REDD+ Projects, and Their Impact on Global Economic Development: The Cases of Guatemala and Paraguay

By: Editorial Team of the Latin American Presidential Mission

Latin America stands out for its environmental treasures, whose impact on global economic development is undeniable. Biological diversity, natural resources, and participation in initiatives such as REDD+ (Reduction of Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation) play a fundamental role in this dynamic.

In Guatemala, Fundaeco, under the guidance of Marco Cerezo, has paved an exemplary path in the **REDD+ PROJECT FOR THE CARIBBEAN OF GUATEMALA: THE CONSERVATION COAST**.

Led by Fundaeco, the project embodies how conservation can be an economic driver. Marco Cerezo points out: ***“Our goal is to demonstrate that biodiversity and development can coexist. REDD+ has allowed communities not only to be guardians of their lands but also to benefit economically from their conservation.”***

In Paraguay, the **“Chaco Vivo”** project has been driven by Atenil S.A., under the direction of Kiantar Bethancourt. This project exemplifies the fruits of REDD+. Kiantar Bethancourt highlights: ***“Chaco Vivo is a symphony of conservation and development. By protecting our forests,***

we have seen an increase in tourism and sustainable investment opportunities in the region, proving that nature and the economy can flourish in harmony.”

The total extent of rainforest in Latin America is approximately 8.4 million square kilometers. This region is home to some of the world’s largest and most biodiverse rainforests, such as the Amazon rainforest in Brazil, Peru, and other countries, and also includes other significant forests in Central America and parts of South America.

These specific cases reflect how Latin America is transforming its environmental wealth into sustainable investment for global economic development. The RED+ projects in Guatemala with Fundaeco and in Paraguay with Chaco Vivo underline the importance of conservation and how it can generate employment, empower communities, and contribute to the fight against climate change. Latin America stands as a leader in the quest for a balance between economic prosperity and environmental safeguarding.



CHACO VIVO

The largest and most impactful
REDD+ project in the Gran Chaco,
Paraguay.



FORO LATINOAMERICANO
DE LAS IDEAS

Hacia la región
en la diversión

ASUNCIÓN, PARAGUAY



Conmebol Convention Center, former presidents of Latin America and MPL authorities in the presence of the President of Paraguay, participate in the inauguration of the Latin American Forum of Ideas.

que queremos dad política

BRAGUAY 2023




MISIÓN PRESIDENCIA
LATINOAMERICANA

Liderazgo, Testimonio y Acción al servicio de la



CANO DE LAS IDEAS

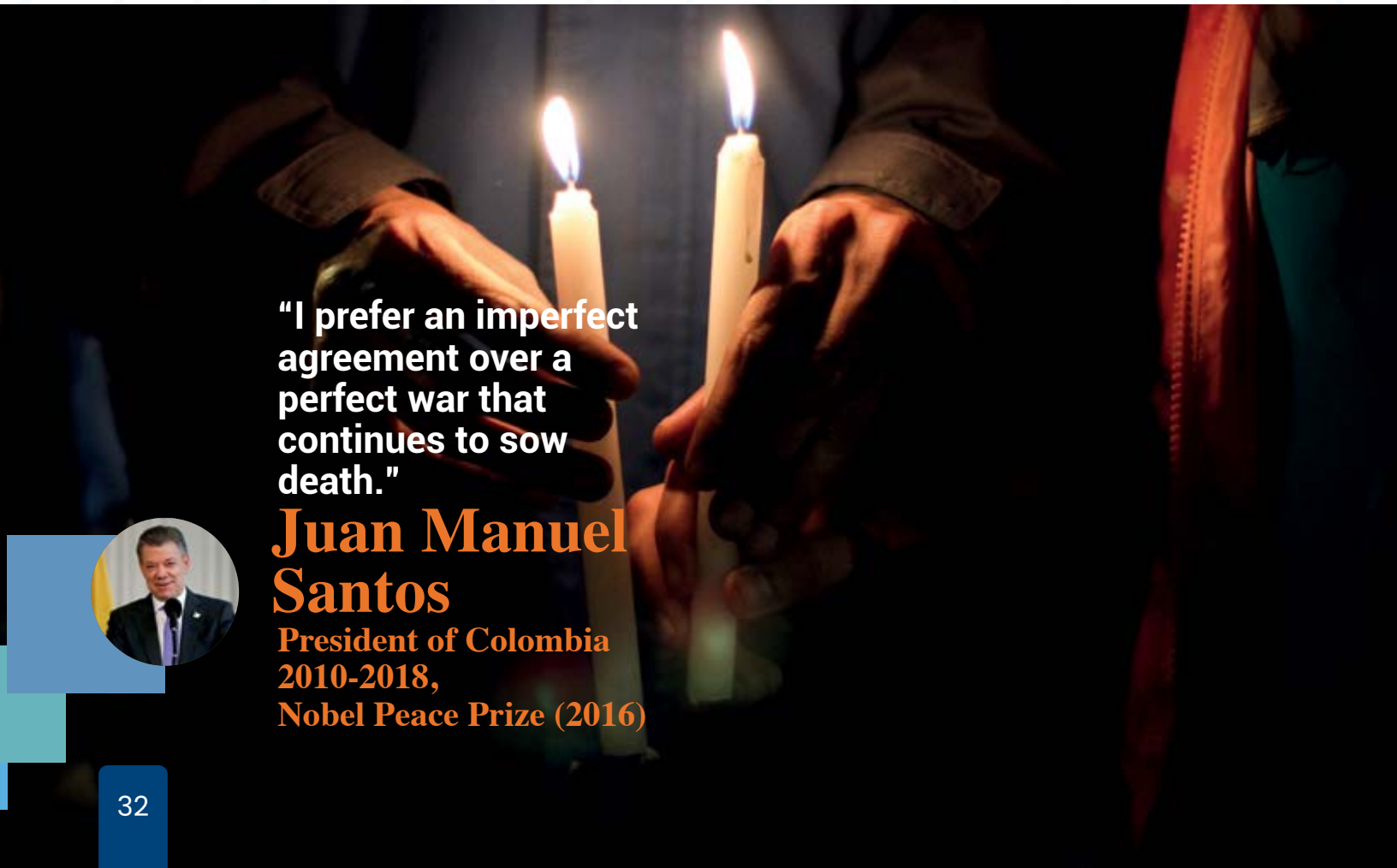


"To return to progress, we must come hand in hand with culture."



**Leonel
Fernández**

**President of the Dominican Republic
1996-2000 y 2004-2012.**



"I prefer an imperfect agreement over a perfect war that continues to sow death."



**Juan Manuel
Santos**

**President of Colombia
2010-2018,
Nobel Peace Prize (2016)**

A circular portrait of Carlos Alvarado, President of Costa Rica, smiling and wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and a red patterned tie. The background of the portrait is a blurred outdoor setting.

Carlos Alvarado

President of
Costa Rica 2018 – 2022


“The younger generation and those not yet born will be the ones who have to live with the most radical consequences of global warming for many years. Humanity must accept that we need to decarbonize.”

Strengthening Ties

The importance of political dialogue between the United States and Latin America



Vinicio Cerezo, President of Guatemala 1986-1991, Donald Trump, 45th President of the United States, Melania Trump, Former First Lady of the United States, Olinda Salguero, Vice President of the Latin American Presidential Mission.



**“ THE VOICE OF
FORMER PRESIDENTS
RESOUNDS AS AN
ECHO OF LEADERSHIP,
REMINDING US OF
THE IMPORTANCE
OF RECONCILIATION,
JUSTICE, AND
BRIDGE-BUILDING
TO FORGE A UNITED
AND PEACEFUL
LATIN AMERICA. ”**



Building a Shared Future

Exiting the Capitol after discussions with U.S. congressmen about economic development initiatives and a vision of migration beyond a national security perspective. (2016) From left to right: Olinda Salguero, from the Latin American Presidential Mission, and Laura Chinchilla, President of Costa Rica (2010-2014).

Strengthening Ties and Forging Futures: The Vital Importance of Political Dialogue between the United States and Latin America

Political dialogue between the United States and Latin America is crucial for stability, development, and cooperation in the region. These conversations allow both parties to constructively address the challenges and opportunities they face, promoting collaborative solutions and a deeper mutual understanding. In an increasingly interconnected world, where problems transcend national borders, political dialogue offers an essential platform for forging strategic alliances and addressing issues of global importance, such as climate change, regional security, migration, and fair trade.

Political dialogue also plays a fundamental role in promoting democratic values and respect for human rights in Latin America. Through direct communication and the exchange of ideas, the United States can support the region's efforts to strengthen its democratic institutions, ensure fair and transparent elections, and protect the fundamental rights of its citizens. Furthermore, political dialogue allows sensitive and contentious

issues to be addressed peacefully, avoiding the escalation of tensions and contributing to resolving disputes of disputes through diplomatic means.

Ultimately, the importance of political dialogue between the United States and Latin America lies in its ability to build bridges, foster cooperation, and create an environment conducive to the progress and well-being of both regions in an increasingly complex and challenging world.



Did you know?

Machu Picchu, Chichen Itza, and The Christ the Redeemer are 3 of the 7 Wonders of the World located in Latin America.



In the Statuary Hall of the United States Capitol, from left to right; John Dickson, Board Member of MPL, Nicolás Ardito Barletta, President of Panama 1984-1985, Thomas Field, Chairman of the MPL Board, Laura Chinchilla, President of Costa Rica 2010-2014, Vinicio Cerezo, President of Guatemala 1986-1991, Álvaro Colom, President of Guatemala 2008-2012, Armando Calderon Sol, President of El Salvador 1994-1999, Juan Francisco Facetti, Member of IDDPS, Olinda Salguero, Executive Vice President of MPL, Margaret Delmont, Board Member of MPL, David Caprara, International Advisor of the Global Peace Foundation.



**INTERGENERATIONAL
DIALOGUE IS THE
LIVING LINK THAT
WEAVES THE PAST,
PRESENT, AND FUTURE
INTO A TAPESTRY OF
SHARED WISDOM.**



José "Pepe" Mujica, sharing with hundreds of young volunteers from Guatemala, at the closing of the Esquipulas Regional Forum 2015.





Young people from the region participate in a conversation with Vinicio Cerezo, Founding Member of the Latin American Presidential Mission.

Investing in Youth to Achieve the Region We Want

In the vast and diverse Latin American region, a key factor has been silently weaving the tapestry of development: intergenerational dialogue and the demographic dividend. These two interconnected concepts have been playing a fundamental role in economic growth, social transformation, and building a sustainable future for the region. In this publication, we will explore the importance of intergenerational dialogue, which is one of the main areas of work of the Latin American Presidential Mission, and the demographic dividend in the Latin American context.

The Demographic Dividend: A Precious Demographic Asset refers to the window of opportunity in which the proportion of the working-age population is significantly larger than that of dependents (children and the elderly). This situation can provide a unique

economic boost if properly harnessed. Latin America is in the midst of this phase, with a growing young population. However, the demographic dividend is a temporary window, and its full potential can only be unlocked through investments in education, health, and employment opportunities.

Intergenerational Dialogue: Weaving Connections and Wisdom Intergenerational Dialogue involves communication and collaboration between different generations, sharing experiences, knowledge, and perspectives. In a region rich in traditions, stories, and family values, intergenerational dialogue is a crucial bridge to transfer wisdom and forge a deeper mutual understanding. The harmonious coexistence of generations can contribute to social cohesion, conflict resolution, and the building of more inclusive societies.

The dialogue of the Presidents who have governed our countries with emerging leaders is a window of opportunity that we have explored since the creation of the Latin American Presidential Mission.

Challenges and Opportunities: Despite the potential presented by the demographic dividend, its harnessing is not automatic. Challenges include ensuring quality education for all, reducing the skills gap, promoting gender equality, and fostering the creation of productive jobs. Intergenerational dialogue also faces obstacles, such as the technological gap and cultural differences that can hinder effective communication between generations. However, these challenges also open opportunities for innovation, investment in training, and the development of inclusive policies.

Driving Positive Change: To optimize demographic dividend and strengthen intergenerational dialogue, it is essential for governments, institutions, and civil society to work together. Here are some key measures:

Investment in Education: Ensure that everyone has access to quality education, including training in skills relevant to the current and future economy.

Promotion of Youth Employment: Create job opportunities for young people through policies that promote entrepreneurship, job training, and access to the labor market.

Mentoring Programs: Facilitate interaction between generations through mentoring programs, where young people can learn from the experiences of older generations and vice versa.

Technology for All: Ensure that older generations also have access to technology and can participate in the digital economy.

Dialogue in Public Policies: Involve all generations in policy formulation that addresses the needs and concerns of each group.

Conclusion: The importance of intergenerational dialogue and the demographic dividend in Latin America lies in their potential to build a more equitable, prosperous, and cohesive society. Harnessing the demographic dividend and fostering dialogue between generations are essential steps towards a sustainable and enriching future for the entire region. By working together, we can weave a vibrant and diverse tapestry that reflects the wealth of experiences and intergenerational collaboration for the benefit of all.



“The brain allows us to think, the heart allows us to feel, and both allow us to build.”



Ernesto Orbegoso

**“Media outlets are not judges,
they are information agents. They
should not be political actors, but
guarantors of the truth.”**



**Gustavo
Noboa**
President of
Ecuador, 2000-2003



Olinda Salguero

Guatemala

“There is a certain kind of ethics pertaining to time that we cannot overlook, the moment to transform Latin America is Today! Tomorrow? Tomorrow is always too late.”



GLOBAL PEACE
CONVENTION
2014

ASUNCIÓN, PARAGUAY

PLENARIA
CONVENCIÓN



Knowledge Society

In academic spaces, knowledge becomes the engine of progress, empowering individuals and communities to address complex challenges and transform them into tangible opportunities.

DE APERTURA PAZ GLOBAL 2014



GLOBAL PEACE
CONVENTION
2014

ASUNCION, PARAGUAY



Global Peace Convention and Hemispheric Summit of the Latin American Presidential Mission in Paraguay in 2014.



The Knowledge Society:

Driving Latin America's Development

In today's world, access to information and the ability to transform it into knowledge have become fundamental pillars of development. In this context, the Knowledge Society for institutional strengthening has been one of the areas of work of the Latin American Presidential Mission. It emerges as a crucial engine to drive progress in the region and overcome historical challenges.

Latin America has rich cultural diversity, valuable natural resources, and a young and dynamic population. However, to fully leverage these assets, it is imperative to embrace the Knowledge Society. What does this entail?

Firstly, it's about fostering quality education and access to information for all citizens. An informed and educated population can innovate, solve problems, and make informed decisions. This not only promotes economic growth but also strengthens democracy and citizen participation.

Secondly, the Knowledge Society drives research and development. By investing in science, technology, and creativity, Latin American countries can generate their own solutions to regional and global problems. This, in turn, encourages the creation of high-quality jobs and reduces dependence on foreign technologies and products.

Furthermore, collaboration and knowledge exchange are essential in this era. Research networks and international cooperation allow Latin American countries to learn from best practices and share their own experiences.

This accelerates the adoption of new technologies and sustainable development strategies. Additionally, all the generated spaces are important to oxygenate ideas, discuss topics, and exchange opinions.

In summary, the Knowledge Society is a path to prosperity and well-being in Latin America. By investing in education, research, and collaboration, the region can unleash its potential and overcome historical challenges, building a brighter future for its citizens.



Hundreds of people participated in the Latin American Forum of Ideas, Paraguay 2023.

Women's Leadership Transcends Borders



Laura Chinchilla, President of Costa Rica (2010-2014) and Jun Sook Moon, Founder of the Global Peace Women.



Transformative Leadership:

Female Presidents Who Made Their Mark in Latin America

In a continent where political leadership has largely been dominated by men, a group of brave women challenged established norms and left an indelible mark on the history of Latin America. These visionary leaders, among whom we highlight Laura Chinchilla as a member of the Latin American Presidential Mission, not only held the presidency in their respective countries but also paved the way for gender equality and demonstrated their ability to guide nations towards a more promising future. Below, we explore the influence of some of these notable female presidents in Latin America:

- 1. Isabel Perón - Argentina (1974-1976):** As the first woman in Latin America to assume the presidency, Isabel Perón paved the way for future leaders. Despite the challenges and brevity of her term, her historic role inspired many women to seek high-level political positions.
- 2. Violeta Barrios de Chamorro - Nicaragua (1990-1997):** Violeta Chamorro demonstrated her ability to unite a nation torn apart by internal conflicts. Her peaceful leadership and focus on reconciliation were fundamental to Nicaragua's recovery after years of turmoil.
- 3. Janet Jagan - Guyana (1997-1999):** A pioneer in Guyana, Janet Jagan became the first woman to assume the presidency in this South American nation. Her focus on education and social development left a lasting impression on Guyanese politics.
- 4. Mireya Moscoso - Panama (1999-2004):** Mireya Moscoso stood out for her commitment to democracy and economic stability. During her tenure, Panama experienced sustained growth and increased citizen participation.
- 5. Michelle Bachelet - Chile (2006-2010, 2014-2018):** Michelle Bachelet is a benchmark in female leadership in Latin America. Her emphasis on gender equality, education, and social justice transformed Chilean politics and paved the way for future generations of female leaders.
- 6. Cristina Fernández de Kirchner - Argentina (2007-2015):** Fernández de Kirchner stood out for her focus on social justice and her ability to mobilize the masses. Her charismatic leadership and determination left a deep mark on Argentine politics.

7. **Laura Chinchilla - Costa Rica (2010-2014):** Laura Chinchilla earned a special place in Costa Rican history as the country's first female president. Her focus on environmental sustainability, education, and citizen security demonstrated her commitment to her nation's well-being.

8. **Dilma Rousseff - Brazil (2011-2016):** Dilma Rousseff stood out for her fight against inequality and her focus on social inclusion. Despite economic challenges, her resilient leadership left a lasting legacy in Brazilian politics.

Among these notable leaders, **Laura Chinchilla** stands out as an inspiring example of leadership in Costa Rica and throughout the region. Her commitment to sustainability and social justice, as well as her focus on citizen participation and education, make her a role model for future generations of leaders, both women and men. Her legacy endures as a reminder of the power of female leadership to drive positive and lasting changes in Latin America and beyond.



A large, modern conference hall with a curved wall of vertical slats. A large screen on the left displays a logo with the word "PROGRESSO" and a star. Several people are visible in the foreground, some taking photos. The overall atmosphere is professional and high-tech.

“REGIONAL INTEGRATION in Latin America is the key that will unlock a future of shared prosperity, strengthening the collective voice of nations and unleashing boundless potential for economic growth, political stability, and the well-being of all its inhabitants.”



The Chamber of Deputies of the Congress of Brazil in Brasília was the venue for the II International Leadership Conference.



Driving the Development of Latin America through Science, Technology, Innovation, and Artificial Intelligence

By: Editorial Team of the Latin American Presidential Mission

At the Latin American **Forum of Ideas** of the Latin American Presidential Mission, the topics were very diverse, ranging from peace, democracy, and economy to the opportunities of the region in science, technology, innovation, and artificial intelligence.

In the 21st century, science, technology, innovation, and artificial intelligence (AI) have emerged as key drivers for the progress and growth of nations. In Latin America, these areas represent an unprecedented opportunity to boost the economic and social development of the region. As globalization and digitalization transform the way we interact with the world, Latin American nations are becoming increasingly aware of the need to invest in these fields to ensure global competitiveness.

Science and technology are fundamental pillars for creating a solid foundation in the knowledge economy. Latin American countries are beginning to recognize the importance of investing in research and development (R&D) to address regional and global challenges, such as climate change, public health, and food security.

Collaboration between governments, universities, companies, and research organizations is essential to foster innovation and knowledge transfer, allowing the creation of solutions relevant to local problems.

Some Applications

The potential where it is of AI is particularly noteworthy. **In Mexico**, it is being used to forecast disease outbreaks and improve health responses. **In Peru**, AI is being used to analyze weather patterns and predict disasters. **In Argentina**, it is being used to optimize traffic management in congested urban areas. **In Colombia**, AI is empowering farmers with accurate data to make informed decisions about crops and harvests.

In summary, Latin America is at a unique crossroads to shape its future through knowledge, innovation, and collaboration. By investing in quality education, promoting collaboration between sectors and governments, and adopting measures that encourage research and technological adoption, the region can lay the foundations for sustainable growth and meaningful participation in the global economy.

However, along with these advances, it is essential to ensure the protection of privacy and equity in the distribution of benefits.

Ten Years of Action Building a Region of Opportunities

Active and meaningful participation in activities spanning over twenty countries and three continents stands as a fundamental pillar in promoting the development of Latin America. Since its foundation.

Through this participation, borders fade and bridges are built towards a future of international collaboration, allowing Latin America to access new perspectives, strategic alliances, and opportunities for economic and social growth. Interaction with different cultures and thought systems nourishes creativity, strengthens adaptability, and molds leaders capable of addressing global challenges with innovative and sustainable solutions.

Ultimately, participation in these global activities becomes an essential catalyst for empowering Latin America in its pursuit of a prosperous future connected at a global level.









A close-up portrait of Michelle Bachelet, the former President of Chile. She is wearing glasses, a dark blazer, and a pearl necklace. The image is framed by white rounded corners on a dark background with a light blue grid pattern.

Michelle Bachelet

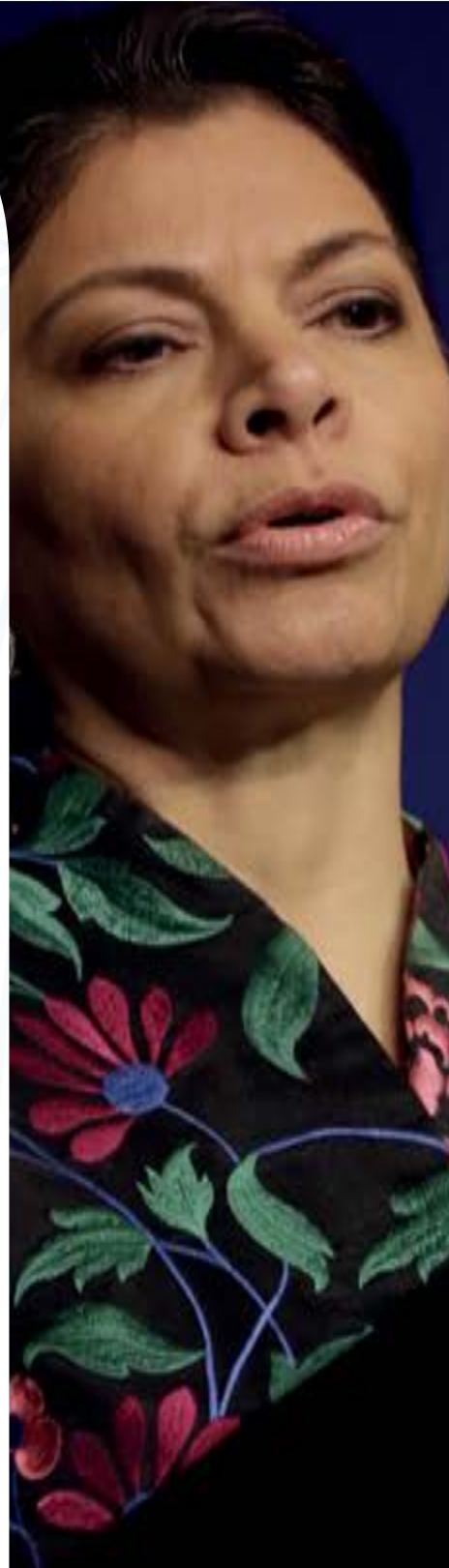
**President of
Chile 2006-2010
and 2014-2018.**

**“Gender equality must be a lived
reality.”**

Laura Chinchilla

President of
Costa Rica
2010-2014

Latin America, in the process of growing its middle class, did something fundamental: understand the value of its population, understand the value of investing in its people.







From left to right: Olinda Salguero, Vice President of the Presidential Mission, Kofi Annan, Former Secretary-General of the United Nations, Vinicio Cerezo, President of Guatemala 1986-1991 at One Young World 2016.

Ottawa **Canadá** 
One Young World 2016

As part of the intergenerational dialogues with new leaders carried out by MPL, former presidents Vinicio Cerezo and Carlos Mesa participated in the “Transformation and Innovation in Latin America” panel at the One Young World Summit, in Ottawa. The former presidents shared their vision of Latin America and inspire sought to young people to do even more, leveraging their experience, leadership, and political relevance. The panel was moderated by regional expert in Public Policies, Barry Featherman.

[The former presidents offered their vision on democracy, cooperation, and socio-economic development in the region. They also addressed sensitive issues such as the cases of Venezuela and Brazil, and the impacts of these geopolitical changes on the continent.]

International Leadership Conference “Present and Future Relations between the Americas”

The International Leadership Conference “Present and Future Relations between the Americas” was hosted at the 2012 Global Peace Convention in Atlanta.



Latin America A Continent in Peace



Fort-Lauderdale United States



FITCE – Florida International Trade & Cultural Expo

Since 2016, the Latin American Presidential Mission has participated in and co-organized the annual Florida International Trade & Cultural Expo, hosted by the Office of Economic and Small Business Development of Broward County, in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, (USA). Every year, this forum brings together government leaders, international trade experts, and delegations from around the world for discussions related to trade, investments, and culture. In addition to 1,500 attendees, hundreds of international companies and over 1,200 local businesses have attended. The event also gathers multicultural representatives of global trade from more than 60 countries, federal trade, state and local agencies, and government leaders.







Miami United States



The Evolution of Relations between Cuba, the United States, and Neighboring Countries



Within the framework of the awareness and advocacy day in the United States, and with the support and commitment of Miami Dade College, The Latin American Presidential Mission organized this International Symposium with the participation of former presidents Luis Alberto Lacalle, Carlos Mesa, Álvaro Colom, and Vinicio Cerezo. They contributed their experience and leadership to analyze the evolution of international relations, ensuring that the changes are irreversible and that the Cuban people will continue to drive both superficial and profound changes for the Caribbean island.

Forum: "Venezuela: Challenges and Solutions"

Given the profound crisis in Venezuela, international experts met with the MPL in Doral, Florida, to provide their expertise and contribute from their perspective. Establishing dialogue as a tool to overcome obstacles and the strength of the opposition in defense of democratic values were part of the consensus.

Nueva York United States

Hogan Lovells Latin America Summit 2017

The Hogan Lovells Latin America Summit was the ideal setting for former Latin American leaders Carlos Mesa (Bolivia), Laura Chinchilla (Costa Rica), and Vinicio Cerezo (Guatemala) to discuss the opportunities and dynamics of change that exist in Latin America.



They assessed the forces that are driving innovation and the establishment of alternative models to create businesses in Latin America that generate development and competitiveness opportunities.





In 2022, the international law firm “Womble Bond Dickinson” presented its Latin America Summit in New York City, USA, a space that examined the opportunities and considerations for doing business in Latin America. The summit hosted a select group of the firm’s lawyers, as well as entrepreneurs, investors, and global personalities. Topics such as international trade, democracy, geopolitics, security, legal compliance, investment opportunities in strategic infrastructure, and others were discussed, highlighting the importance of strengthening the commercial alliance in the American continent.

Did you know?

Latin America is home to the largest tropical rainforest on the planet.

A portrait of Thomas Field, a middle-aged man with light brown hair, wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and a patterned tie. He is looking slightly to the right of the camera with a neutral expression. The background is dark blue. The portrait is partially framed by white curved shapes on the left and right sides.

Thomas Field

latin america

“Today’s misunderstandings can be resolved by applying universal principles and values in our lives and endeavors.”



PRESIDENCIA
AMERICANA

Acción al servicio de la República





From left to right Thomas Field, President of the MPL, Vinicio Cerezo, President of Guatemala 1986-1991, Luis Almagro, Secretary General of the OAS, Carlos Mesa, President of Bolivia 2003-2005, Olinda Salguero, Vice President of the MPL, on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the Esquipulas Agreements for peace in Central America.

Washington D.C. United States



Conference “Central America Reflects on 30 Years of the Esquipulas Peace Accords” – OAS Washington D.C., United States

On the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of the Esquipulas Accords of 1986 and 1987, Esquipulas I was 1986 and Esquipulas II was 1987. The commemoration was 30 years later. Which established peace in Central America after decades of civil conflict and cost hundreds of thousands of lives, the MPL participated in a highly significant event at the headquarters of the Organization of American States (OAS) in Washington D.C. Former Presidents Vinicio Cerezo and Álvaro Colom, Armando Calderón Sol, Laura Chinchilla, and Nicolás Ardito Barletta, along with Carlos Raúl Morales (Foreign Minister of Guatemala) and Luis Almagro (Secretary General of the OAS), as well as other regional leaders - some of whom were directly involved in the peace and democratization processes of the region - reflected on the advances and challenges of Central America.

Forum: “Central America in Focus: Advances and Challenges”

The MPL organized a panel at the Ronald Reagan Building with five former Presidents to discuss current dynamics in the region and propose increased partnerships in the American Continent focused on innovative solutions based on universal principles and values. During this gathering, they engaged with policymakers, representatives of civil society, think tanks, and businesses. Throughout their day in Washington D.C., MPL members were received by members of U.S. Speaker of the House Paul Ryan’s (Republican) cabinet, they also met with a member of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, Congresswoman Norma Torres (Democrat). They visited the U.S. Supreme Court, the Library of Congress, the U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants (USCRI), and were received by Mr. Carl Gershman, President of the National Endowment for Democracy.



The Latin American Presidential Mission and the Leadership Conference of Uruguay supported and participated in the Regional Forum of the Latin American Youth Network for Democracy held in Cancún on June 19 and 20, 2017. Former Presidents Nicolás Ardito (Panama), Laura Chinchilla (Costa Rica), and Felipe Calderón (Mexico), as well as Mexican Senator Juan Carlos Romero Hicks, were among the speakers.

Did you know?

The Guarani Aquifer
is the world's third
largest freshwater
reserve



Esquipulas Regional Forum





Guatemala Guatemala

Esquipulas Regional Forum

The Esquipulas Regional Forum (FRE) is a discussion platform organized by the Esquipulas Foundation for Peace, Democracy, Development, and Integration. It brings together prominent figures from the political, academic, and civil society realms. Through serious and profound dialogue, solutions to the challenges faced individually or collectively by governments and countries in the Central American and Caribbean region can be envisioned. For this reason, former presidents who played a crucial role in directing their countries during special circumstances, as well as government officials, analysts, academics, and entrepreneurs, participate in the forum.

The Esquipulas Regional Forum also serves as a space for refreshing political debates and reflections on current issues. Its name, "Esquipulas," refers to a historical process of consensus and negotiation in the pursuit of peace and democratic institutionalization, which occurred through the Esquipulas I and II Accords. These historical achievements marked the recent history of Central American nations.

The Esquipulas Regional Forum also indirectly functions as a means for channeling valuable information, such as concrete proposals and initiatives to enrich the content of the Esquipulas III document.

The forum is designed to be a resource for academics, students, politicians, government officials, and representatives of civil society who are interested in national and regional affairs.

The final outcome of the Esquipulas Regional Forum is a report that compiles findings and situations discussed in each of the topics. The aim is to provide inputs to regional institutions on the current situation from a civil society initiative, so that the conclusions and recommendations can serve as a foundation for the formulation of regional policies. The intention is to distribute this report to as many institutions and organizations as possible.



FORO REGIONAL ESQUIPULAS

VOCES PROTAGONISTAS PARA EL DESARROLLO CENTROAMERICANO







Foro Regional Esquipulas 2015





Central American Meeting of Emerging Leaders

The Central American Meeting of Emerging Leaders represents a strategic pillar by providing a space of convergence for outstanding young people in the region. Through conferences, workshops and debates, it catalyzes the exchange of perspectives and the formation of interdisciplinary networks, thus fostering the development of leadership skills and a deep

understanding of the unique challenges and opportunities in Central America. This event a new generation of leaders with the potential to address regional issues in innovative and collaborative ways, thus establishing a solid foundation for a prosperous and united future.

San Salvador El Salvador

Ibero-American Electoral Campus Day



Vinicio Cerezo, Founder of the Ibero-American Presidential Mission and then Secretary General of the Central American Integration System, engages with Ibero-American youth at the Electoral Campus in El Salvador (2018).

Authorities from the Central American Integration System engaged with youth from the Ibero-American Leader Network, sharing the spirit of “Living Integration” and motivating them to continue strengthening and promoting the involvement of emerging leaderships, which are essential for the development of Latin America. Also present at the event was the representative of the Presidential Mission in Miami, Lic. Margaret Delmont Sánchez, who shared with participants the history, principles, and goals of the Ibero-American Presidential Mission.

Santo Domingo Dominican Republic

International Forum of Santo Domingo



Organized by the Global Foundation for Democracy and Development (Funglode), the forum centered around the theme “The State of Democracy in Latin America: 40 Years Since the Third Wave of Democracy.” Participating were former presidents Leonel Fernández (President of Funglode), Ernesto Samper, Carlos Mesa, and Vinicio Cerezo. The event also featured the presentation of the book “The State of Democracy in the World 2017: Examination of Democratic Resilience,” edited by the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance.

Panamá Panamá

Annual Meeting of Postgraduate Students: Finance, Marketing, and Business from ESADE



Development, Innovation, and Digital Transformation for Recovery in the Region was part of the Annual Meeting of Postgraduate Students in Finance, Marketing, and Business from ESADE.

“

DEMOCRACY MUST BE
ESTABLISHED WHERE
IT DOES NOT EXIST,
CONSOLIDATED WHERE IT
HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED,
AND PERFECTED
WHEN IT HAS BEEN
CONSOLIDATED.

”

ARÍSTIDES CALVANI,
FORMER FOREIGN MINISTER OF VENEZUELA.



GLOBAL PEACE
CONVENTION
2014

ASUNCION, PARAGUAY



I International Leadership Conference “Opportunities, Difficulties, and Challenges of Latin America in this Era”

This internationally significant conference for the entire hemisphere was organized by the Global Peace Foundation, with the presence of former heads of state Juan Carlos Wasmosy (Paraguay), Luis Alberto Lacalle (Uruguay), Vinicio Cerezo (Guatemala), and Jorge Quiroga (Bolivia), along with hundreds of leaders from various sectors of Paraguayan society and other countries in the Americas and Europe. The opening speech was given by the founder of GPF, Dr. Hyun Jin Preston Moon, in which he explained the fundamental principles and values that should underpin any national transformation and eloquently spoke about the need for moral and innovative leadership.

At the conclusion of this historic conference, the “Asunción Declaration” was issued, providing the doctrinal basis for the subsequent formation of the Latin American Presidential Mission. The keys to

governance were analyzed, and summarized in the search for a society that transforms the mind (heart and values) and the body (political, social, and economic structures) as the foundation for sustainable development.

Other Activities::

Conference “Freedom, Press, and Courage: Towards Strengthening Democracy under the Ethic of Responsibility”

International Conference “Governance, Ethics, and Development”

Hemispheric Summit of the Latin American Presidential Mission - “Towards National Transformation. Freedom, Prosperity, and Integrity”

II International Leadership Conference “Opportunities, Difficulties, and Challenges of Latin America: Consensual Strategy on Energy, Food, and Ethics”

This gathering was convened thanks to the crystallization of previous efforts in the I International Leadership Conference in Asunción, Paraguay. This first conference allowed for the maturity of an even broader and more important second gathering in the heart of the largest country in Latin America, continuing with the practical and spiritual approach that characterizes this event.



International Conference “Democracy, Rule of Law and the Judiciary”.

Together with the Leadership Uruguay Conference, the MPL held an International Conference entitled, “Democracy, Rule of Law and the Judiciary”; with four panels: “Challenges to the separation of powers and the independence of Justice: The situation in South America”; “The Judiciary facing the phenomena of corruption and the power of organized crime: The situation in Central America and Mexico”; and “Threats to democratic republican institutions in Latin America”.

International Conference “Emerging Leaderships and the Experience of Former Governors: Renewal, New and Old Challenges and Transcendent Values”.

Young leaders with responsibilities in the governments and parliaments of Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay exchanged ideas with former presidents Luis Alberto Lacalle, Jorge Batlle, Juan Carlos Wasmosy, Vinicio Cerezo, Jaime Paz Zamora and Gustavo Noboa. The objective was to emphasize the importance of the separation of powers and the independence of the judiciary as a support for the rule of law and the threats to the republican democracies of the continent.



Commemoration of the 800th Anniversary of the Magna Carta of England’s Freedom

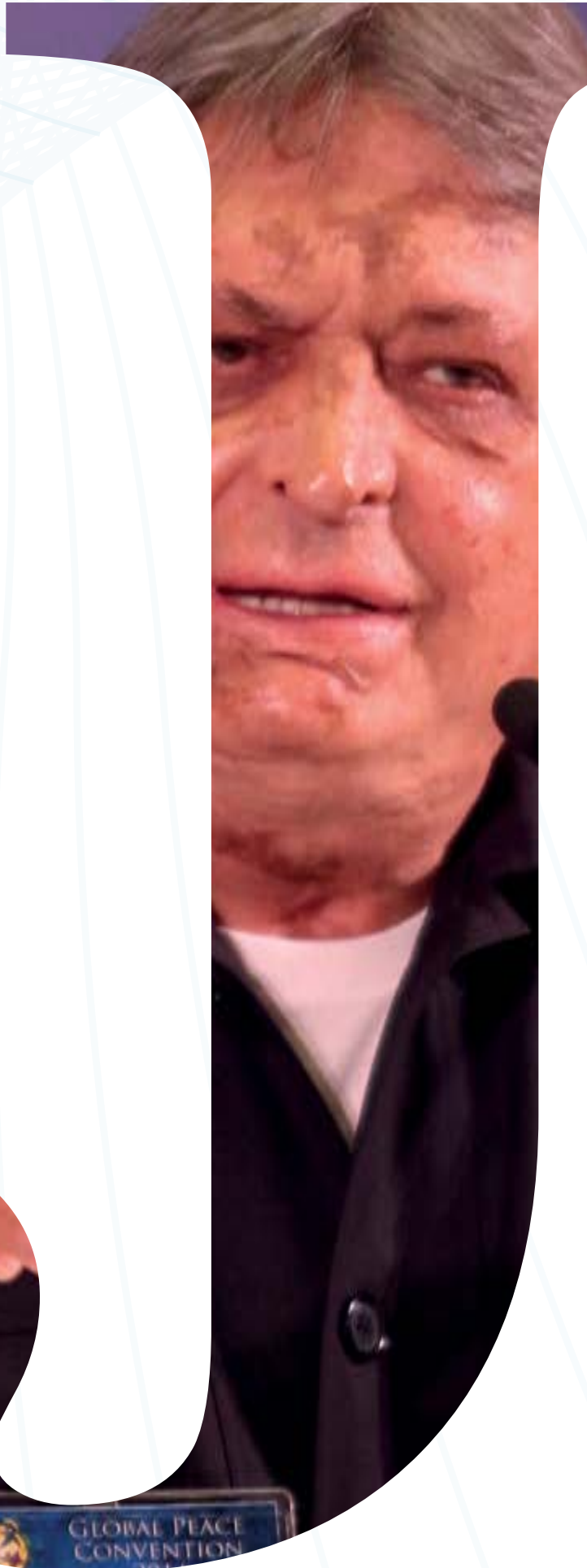
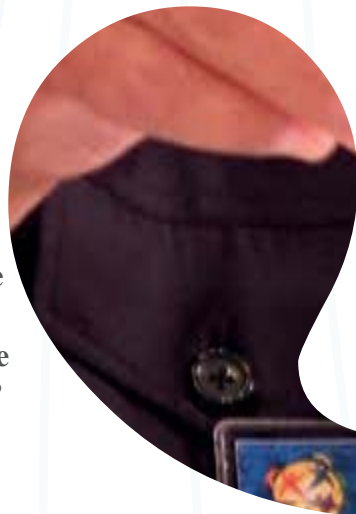
Convened by the Latin American Presidential Mission and the Leadership Conference of Uruguay, a commemorative event was held at the seat of Parliament to commemorate the 800th anniversary of the signing of the Magna Carta that first codified civic freedoms in England. Speakers were former Presidents Julio María Sanguinetti and Luis Alberto Lacalle.



Jaime Paz Zamora

President of
Bolivia
1989-1993

“I hope that the twenty-first century becomes the century where love becomes cutting-edge technology; and when I say love, it seems to me that it is one of the most transcendent values of all.”



ASIA Seoul South Korea
Kuala Lumpur Malaysia Manila Philippines



Global Peace Convention



The Latin American Presidential Mission began as an initiative of the Global Peace Foundation (GPF) with the purpose of promoting moral and innovative leadership at the highest levels of government and civil society and strengthening ties among nations in the Western Hemisphere. Bi-annually, GPF holds a convention in different regions of the world. The Global Peace Convention brings together distinguished international experts, policymakers, and peace advocates to share best practices and develop multi-sector partnerships for sustainable peace and development. The convention has been held in various locations in Asia, including Seoul, South Korea, Kuala Lumpur Malaysia; and Manila, in the Philippines.






The Latin American Ideas Forum: A Vital Space for Regional Development

Amidst the diversity of cultures, economies, and challenges that characterize Latin America, arises the compelling need for a space that fosters the exchange of thoughts and proposals. This is where the relevance of the Latin American Ideas Forum becomes evident—a crucial platform to propel regional development and address the common challenges facing the region.

The Latin American Ideas Forum represents the evolution of the Summits of the Latin American Presidential Mission, which for ten years have contributed to the region's development beyond ideologies.

The Latin American Ideas Forum is an inclusive space that promotes interdisciplinary dialogue. The region



The Latin American Forum of Ideas is the evolution of the Latin American Presidential Mission Summits, which for 10 years has contributed to the development of the region beyond ideologies.

boasts a rich spectrum of perspectives, traditions, and knowledge, and a forum that brings together experts, leaders, academics, and ordinary citizens can harness this diversity to generate innovative solutions to shared problems. The interaction between disciplines like politics, economics, science, culture, and technology creates a fertile ground for ideas that might not have emerged in a more limited context.

The existence of the Latin American Ideas Forum allows for the exchange of best practices and successful experiences. Latin American countries face similar challenges such as social inequality, corruption, lack of access to education and healthcare, and climate change.

By facilitating communication among nations and regions, the forum offers the opportunity to learn from the successes and failures of others, thus accelerating the development process and avoiding unnecessary duplication of efforts.

The significance of the Latin American Ideas Forum also lies in its capacity to strengthen regional cooperation and integration. Through constant dialogue, beyond ideologies, and the establishment of collaborative networks, countries can address transborder issues like migration, trade, and security. These challenges transcend national borders and require joint solutions; hence, a forum dedicated to idea promotion can facilitate the creation of more coherent regional policies and strategies.

The Latin American Ideas Forum is an essential instrument to promote development, innovation, and cooperation in a diverse and challenging region like Latin America. By providing a space for the exchange of thoughts, experiences, and solutions, the forum becomes a catalyst for progress across a wide range of areas. Its existence and relevance will endure as long as development and prosperity remain necessary in the region.

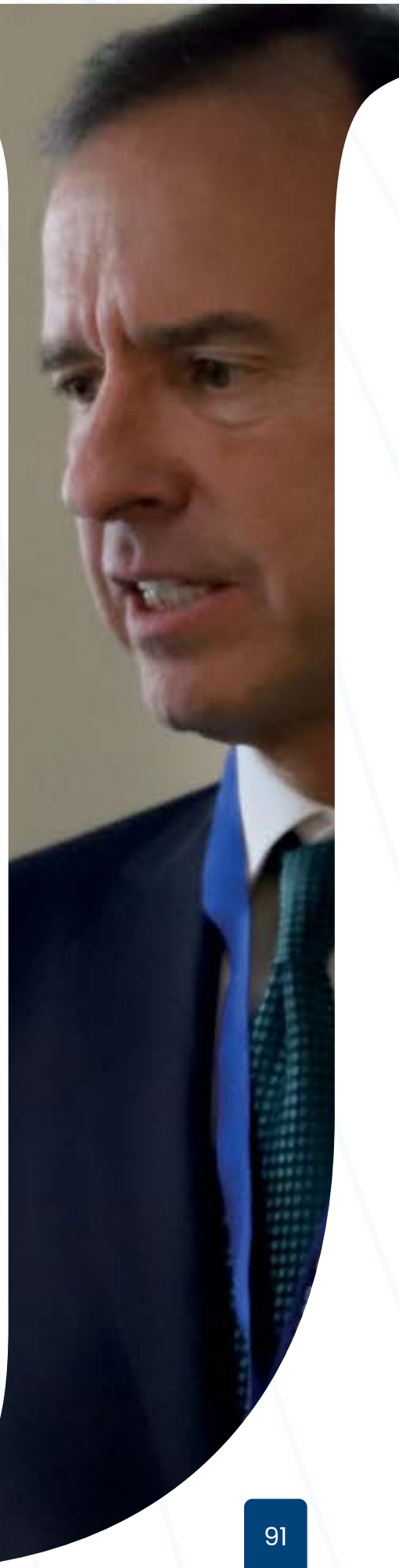




Jorge “Tuto” Quiroga

President of
Bolivia
2001-2002

“China is a very important economy, and it is for Latin America: yuans move just like dollars.”

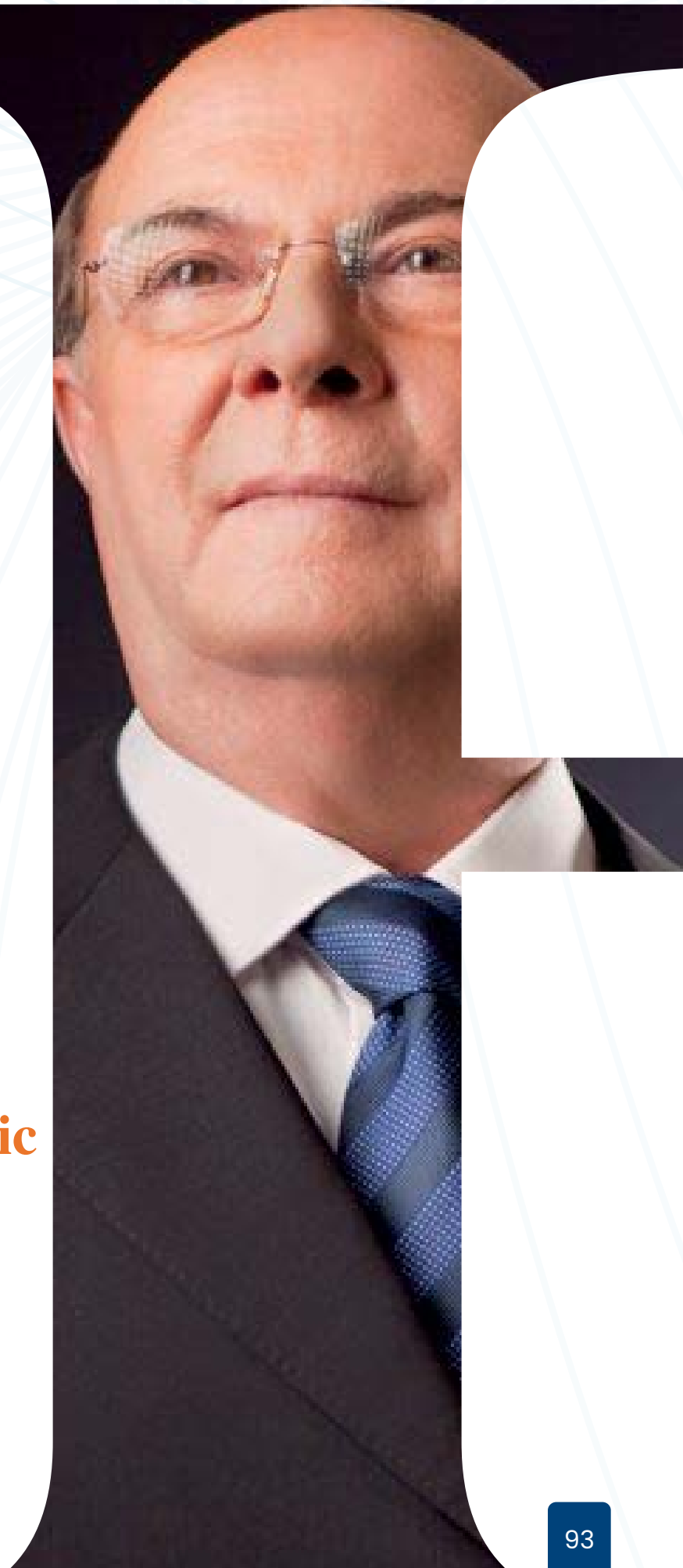




Hipolito Mejía

**President of the
Dominican Republic
2000 - 2004**

“I want to make it clear, I will never be an obstacle to the development of the leadership and aspirations of the valuable men and women that the Majority Current, the Convergence, civil society, and other sectors and personalities of the country can count on.”







“Through the democratic system and the system of respect for human rights, one can have good education, good health, good housing, opportunities for improvement, good quality of life, and well, that’s the Latin America I want, that’s what I aspire to, and for which we still continue to fight.”



Rafael Ángel Calderón Fournier

President of
Costa Rica 1990-1994

“Winning elections is relatively easy compared to governing a country. The government of the Republic must have the ability to dialogue with different sectors.”



Luis Guillermo Solís

President of
Costa Rica 2014-2018



A circular portrait of Carlos Mesa, President of Bolivia from 2003 to 2005. He is shown from the chest up, wearing a dark suit, a white shirt, and an orange tie with a white geometric pattern. He has a grey beard and is wearing glasses. The background of the portrait is dark blue with some faint, illegible text. The portrait is set against a white background with a light blue grid pattern.

Carlos Mesa

**President of
Bolivia, 2003-2005**

**“We need to renew our
democracies, we need to rethink
the idea of how political parties
function.”**

An aerial photograph of a lush tropical island. A winding river flows through the dense green forest, leading to a white sandy beach on the right side. The water is a clear, vibrant blue. The text is overlaid on the lower portion of the image.

WHAT DO
WE WANT FOR
THE REGION
IN POLITICAL
DIVERSITY?



Amazonian rainforest

What's Next in Building the Region We All Aspire For

Latin America, with its rich cultural, historical, and geographical diversity, has witnessed countless transformations over the centuries. Each country has navigated its own challenges, from struggles for independence to movements for civil rights and democracy. But if there's one thing that unites our nations, it's that we are a continent at peace and share a common yearning for a better, more just, and prosperous future.

We've come a long way, and recent efforts like the Latin American Ideas Forum of the Latin American Presidential Mission are a testament to that. These spaces promote dialogue, cooperation, and the joint search for solutions to our most pressing challenges. However, it's a multisectoral effort that primarily involves governments and, in general, all civil society and different sectors.

What are the next steps in our journey towards building the region we all yearn for?

1. **Strengthening Democracy:** Democracy is not just a system of government; it's a social pact. We must tirelessly work to strengthen our institutions, ensure transparency, and fight corruption. Active and educated citizen participation is crucial for consolidating robust and resilient democracies.
2. **Inclusion and Diversity:** The richness of Latin America lies in its people. It's essential that all sectors of society, regardless of their origin, gender, age, or condition, have

a voice and vote in decisions that affect their lives and communities.

3. **Quality Education:** Education is the cornerstone of development. We must invest in educational systems that not only transmit knowledge but also foster critical thinking, creativity, and civic engagement.
4. **Innovation and Technology:** In an ever-evolving world, we can't afford to lag behind. Adopting technologies and promoting innovation will not only boost our economies but also offer solutions to urgent problems, from climate change to health and education. Artificial intelligence presents challenges and opportunities that the region must consider from a developmental perspective.
5. **Regional Integration and Cooperation:** Instead of competing, we should collaborate. By joining forces, sharing resources, knowledge, and experiences, we'll be better equipped to face global challenges and build a brighter future for all.
6. **Sustainability:** We can't talk about a prosperous future without considering sustainability. It's imperative that we seek a balance between development and the preservation of our natural resources and biodiversity. Latin America is a lung for the planet, and that should be even more reflected in its development model.

In conclusion, building the region we all aspire for is an ongoing journey, one that requires commitment, determination, and collaboration, a vision that goes beyond ideologies. Every step we take, every action we embark on, brings us closer to that ideal and requires moral and innovative

leadership. It's a path we won't walk alone; together, as a region, with solidarity and unity, we'll forge the bright destiny that Latin America deserves, because we are not just a region of hope but one that can provide solutions not only for ourselves but for the entire planet.



Panama Canal

FOUNDING ORGANIZATIONS



The Global Peace Foundation, founded by Dr. Hyun Jin Preston Moon, is an international non-profit organization, not affiliated with any political party or sectarian group. It promotes an innovative values-based approach to peacebuilding, guided by the vision of One Family Under God. GPF engages and organizes a global network of partners from public and private sectors to develop community, national, and regional peacebuilding models as the foundation for ethical and cohesive societies.

 www.globalpeace.org



The Institute for Development of the Dreamed Homeland (IDPPS) is a non-profit association with restricted capacity. Its purpose is to create spaces to strengthen the exchange of serious initiatives that enhance democracy and project necessary changes. It brings together multidisciplinary intellectuals and thinkers dedicated to research, analysis, critical and reflective thinking, capable of producing and facilitating strategic measures for effective solutions towards sustainable development. These are based on scientific data, universal principles, and values such as human dignity, freedom, equality, social justice, solidarity, among others.

 www.instituto.org.py



The Leadership Conference of Uruguay has existed as a civil association since 2008. Its fundamental activities include the study of a Worldview for twenty-first-century Uruguay, seminars for the formation of ethical and innovative leadership, and the presentation of proposals and opinions on public policies.

 Facebook: [/Conferencia.Liderazgo.Uruguay](https://www.facebook.com/Conferencia.Liderazgo.Uruguay)



The Esquipulas Foundation for Peace, Democracy, Development, and Integration is a private, non-profit, non-partisan organization of civil society with social projection goals. Its ultimate objective is to contribute to the preservation of peace, the strengthening of democracy in each of the countries of the region, to contribute to achieving economic and social development with equity, and to promote integration as a tool for partnership to achieve common purposes in the region and collaborate efforts in Central America.

 www.fundaesq.org/

acronym

MPL	Misión Presidencial Latinoamericana
GPF	Global Peace Foundation
FPG	Fundación Paz Global
IDPPS	Instituto de Desarrollo del Pensamiento Patria Soñada
FUNDAESQ	Fundación Esquipulas para la Paz, Democracia, Desarrollo e Integración
CLU	Conferencia Liderazgo Uruguay
FUNGLODE	Fundación Global Democracia y Desarrollo
CARTER	CENTER Carter Presidential Center
FITCE	Florida International Trade & Cultural Expo
ECLE	Encuentro Centroamericano de Líderes Emergentes
FUNDAECO	Fundación para el Ecodesarrollo y la Conservación
FRE	Foro Regional de Esquipulas
FLI	Foro Latinoamericano de las Ideas
SICA	Sistema de la Integración Centroamericana
OEA	Organización de los Estados Americanos
ONU	Organización de las Naciones Unidas
CELAC	Comunidad de Estados Latinoamericanos y Caribeños
CAF	Banco de Desarrollo de América Latina y el Caribe

Cristo Redentor



**“ UNITED FOR A BRIGHT
TOMORROW, LATIN
AMERICA ADVANCES
WITH PASSION TOWARDS
A FUTURE FILLED WITH
OPPORTUNITIES AND
FULFILLED DREAMS. ”**





LATIN AMERICAN PRESIDENTIAL MISSION

Leadership, Testimony and Action to the Service of the Region

IN THEIR OWN WORDS

LEADERSHIP, TESTIMONY AND ACTION
OF THE PRESIDENTS
OF THE AMERICAS FOR THE WORLD.



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