# Strengthening Digital Policy and Regulatory Frameworks for AI: EU-LAC Alliance Statement

**Date**: 2023-11-16

**Location**: Madrid, Spain

## Executive Summary

On November 16, 2023, during the AI Alliance Assembly in Madrid, EU and Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) countries reaffirmed their commitment to a Digital Alliance aimed at enhancing cooperation on digital policy and regulatory frameworks for artificial intelligence (AI). Following a joint declaration in July 2023, participating nations, including Argentina, Colombia, and Mexico, proposed initiatives to promote convergence in AI regulation, emphasizing the need for best practice exchanges and the establishment of regulatory sandboxes. The upcoming EU Regulation on AI will set safety and rights-based requirements for AI systems, while fostering an environment for innovation across linguistic diversities. The statement highlights the importance of regular dialogue to ensure that AI development respects human rights and adapts to local contexts, ultimately supporting responsible and inclusive AI practices.

## Characteristics

* The statement emphasizes the establishment of a Digital Alliance between the EU and LAC countries to enhance human-centric digital cooperation and regulatory convergence on AI.
* It highlights the upcoming EU Regulation on AI, which will set safety and rights-based requirements for AI system providers, including regulatory sandboxes for innovation.
* The document calls for the exchange of best practices in AI regulation and governance, focusing on inclusivity across linguistic diversities.
* It proposes a bi-regional investment package to support the Digital Alliance’s objectives, considering local contexts and needs.
* Regular dialogues among member states are encouraged to foster innovation, human capital, and infrastructure while ensuring human rights are respected in AI development.

## Actors

| Category | Actor |
| --- | --- |
| Political Actors | EU; Argentina; The Bahamas; Barbados; Brazil; Chile; Colombia; Costa Rica; Dominican Republic; Ecuador; El Salvador; Guatemala; Honduras; Jamaica; Mexico; Panama; Paraguay; Peru; Suriname; Trinidad and Tobago; Uruguay; Belgium; Estonia; Germany; Slovenia; Spain; European Commission |
| Research and Innovation Actors | EU-LAC Digital Alliance; UNESCO |

## Main Themes

| Category | Subcategory |
| --- | --- |
| Digital Transformation & Strategy | Digital Policy |
| Technology & Innovation | Artificial Intelligence; AI Ethics |
| Regional & International Cooperation | EU-LAC Digital Alliance; Bi-regional Cooperation |

## Practical Applications

* Establishment of the Digital Alliance EU-LAC, a framework for cooperation among EU and Latin American and Caribbean countries to promote human-centric digital cooperation and convergence of digital policy and regulatory frameworks.
* Commitment by Argentina, Colombia, Chile, Dominican Republic, Mexico, Panama, and Uruguay, along with Belgium, Estonia, Germany, Slovenia, and Spain, to exchange best practices on AI regulation and implement measures through guidelines, recommendations, and regulatory sandboxes.
* Creation of regulatory sandboxes as part of the upcoming Regulation on AI in the EU, allowing for the development and testing of innovative AI systems under the supervision of competent authorities.
* Implementation of a bi-regional investment package for the Digital Alliance to support the initiatives outlined in the statement, considering local contexts and needs.
* Regular dialogues among participating states to exchange information and foster the development of AI regulation that promotes innovation, human capital, and infrastructure while ensuring safety and human rights.

## Commitments

No specific quantifiable commitments or targets identified.