The Economic Commission of Latin America was created by the UN Economic and Social Council in 1948, and later expanded to include the countries of the Caribbean, changing its name to the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) in 1984. ECLAC is headquartered in Santiago, Chile, and is one of the five regional commissions of the United Nations. There are 45 member states, comprised of the 33 countries of Latin America and the Caribbean and 12 Asian, European, and North American countries that have ties to the region.

ECLAC is charged with contributing to the economic and social development of Latin America and the Caribbean, primarily through research and recommendation of best practices, advising regional governments, promoting regional cooperation, and bringing a regional perspective to global forums.

This committee will discuss three issues of major importance to the region: education, the repurposing of drug fields, and expanding Mercosur. Improving educational attainment in Latin America and the Caribbean is essential to the development of regional economies. In particular, this committee will focus on education in rural areas and for women. Many rural economies in Central and South America are heavily dependent on drug production. This committee will discuss ways to repurpose fields used for drug production in order to lessen the dependence of rural economies on the drug trade. Finally, the committee will discuss how to integrate regional economies, including the potential expansion of Mercosur.