

## STATEMENT

# ON REINFORCING AND CONVERGING DIGITAL POLICY AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORKS ON AI

Madrid, 16 November 2023

On July 17th 2023, the EU and Argentina, The Bahamas, Barbados, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, and Uruguay signed a joint declaration on a Digital Alliance, an informal, values-based framework for cooperation. It is open to all Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) countries and EU Member States who may participate through their respective governments and agencies related to the digital agenda.

The Digital Alliance EU-LAC was established to increase a human-centric digital cooperation that can lead to the reinforcement and the promotion of the convergence of digital policy and of regulatory frameworks, among other streams of work.

Today, under the auspices of the Spanish Presidency of the Council of the EU, on the occasion of the AI Alliance, Argentina, Colombia, Chile, Dominican Republic, Mexico, Panama, Uruguay together with Belgium, Estonia, Germany, Slovenia and Spain, and in the presence of the European Commission, have gone a step further in proposing a number of activities to advance and promote convergence of policy and regulatory frameworks specifically in the area of AI.

In the EU, the upcoming Regulation on AI will define a set of requirements based on risks to safety and fundamental rights that will have to be complied with by providers of AI systems. The Regulation on AI also foresees the creation of regulatory sandboxes to enable development and testing of innovative AI systems in a controlled environment and under the supervision of competent authorities.

We acknowledge that the latest developments of generative AI have raised awareness worldwide over the risks it can entail – despite the benefits for societies and economies. Given the rapid evolution of these emerging technologies, we consider that exchanging information and best practices should be considered a priority for the partners of the EU – LAC Digital Alliance with a view to reinforcing and converging digital policy and regulatory frameworks on AI.

For these reasons, these States are committing to act as forerunners with their counterparts in their respective EU and LAC regions on activities related to the exchange of best practices on regulating AI and on measures to support implementation through guidelines, recommendations and/or sandboxes, among others, according to domestic legislation.

## ANNEX 1

### **A PRELIMINARY PROPOSAL OF THE WORK ON REINFORCING AND CONVERGING DIGITAL POLICY AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORKS ON AI TO BE EXPLORED WITH ALL EU-LAC COUNTRIES IN THE CONTEXT OF THE EU – LAC DIGITAL ALLIANCE**

#### **Exchanging best practices on AI regulation.**

- States will promote the exchange of best practices and sharing of operational regulatory measures and guidelines, including on the governance mechanisms set up to implement and monitor AI regulation. In the case of EU countries, this shall fall under the scope of the Regulation on AI and the Coordinated Plan on AI.
- Foster an environment where AI development thrives across linguistic diversities, particularly in Spanish, Portuguese and other official languages of the EU, to ensure AI technologies cater to the unique needs and contexts of the different communities, fostering innovation and inclusivity on a linguistic level.
- States may take into account the work on ethical guidelines outlined by UNESCO, particularly nations in Latin America and the Caribbean. These guidelines encompass a collective commitment to fostering responsible and inclusive AI practices.

#### **Implementing convergence on policy and regulatory frameworks on AI.**

- A bi-regional investment package exists for the implementation of the Digital Alliance.
- States will jointly define the form of Digital Alliance investment to be allocated for the purposes of this statement. Having under consideration local contexts and different needs and opportunities that States may have.

#### **Maintaining a regular dialogue to exchange information with a view to converging digital policy and regulatory frameworks on AI, while ensuring that innovation, human capital and infrastructure are fostered, and human rights are respected.**

- Regular dialogue will encourage the development of AI regulation that fosters innovation, human capital and infrastructure while ensuring safety, and protects human rights. These states will consider the different paces and impacts that the development of AI has taken in each individual country.
- Within these dialogues, States will have under their consideration the development of legislation and, as a possibility, sandboxes for innovative and trustworthy AI and accelerators, and to share good practices and lessons learnt in this respect, in particular to help innovative startups and SMEs to create trustworthy AI.