

## *European Latin America Forum (ELAF) 2026*

*Virtual live event*

### **Advancing Multilateral (Economic) Collaboration between Europe and Latin America in a Shifting Global Order**

*As of March 7, 2026*

<b>March 19, 2026, online</b>	
<b>14:45</b>	<b>Registration and reception</b>
<b>15:00</b>	<p><b>Welcome speeches</b></p> <p>Andrea E Ostheimer, KAS Representative to the United Nations Geneva, Executive Director, Multilateral Dialogue Konrad-Adenauer Stiftung</p> <p>Prof. Dr. Ulrike Zika, Director of Department Alpine Region Development and Member of the University Executive Board, University of Applied Sciences of the Grisons</p>
<b>15:10</b>	<p><i>Keynote panel</i></p> <p><b>Advancing the Multilateral Trade Architecture: European and Latin American Perspectives</b></p> <p>Roger Gschwend, Ambassador, Delegate of the Federal Council for Trade Agreements &amp; Head of World Trade Division, Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO</p> <p>Guilherme de Aguiar Patriota, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Brazil to World Trade Organization, and other International Organizations based in Geneva</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Florencia Donovan, Journalist, La Nacion</p>
<b>16:00</b>	<p><i>Panel discussion</i></p> <p><b>Trade Relations Behind the Headlines: Capturing the Nuances of European–Latin American Agreements</b></p> <p>Tobias Käufer, Freelance Journalist and Foreign Correspondent</p> <p>Dr. Teresa Delgado, South America Correspondent, Swiss Public Radio (SRF)</p> <p>Oscar Schlenker Balza, Journalist, Deutsche Welle</p> <p>Diego Macera, Member of the Board of Directors, Central Reserve Bank of Peru</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Dmitry Grozoubinski, Executive Director, Geneva Trade Platform, Centre for Trade and Economic Integration, Geneva Graduate Institute</p>

<b>16:50</b>	<b>Break</b>
<b>17:00</b>	<p><i>Panel discussion</i></p> <p><b>Designing Proportional Standards to Strengthen the European–Latin American Economic Partnership</b></p> <p>Philip Grinsted, Private Sector Specialist, The World Bank</p> <p>Dr. Jean-Pierre Méan, Attorney-at-law, Eigenmann Associés</p> <p>Pedro Alves, Managing Director, IQNET – The International Certification Network</p> <p>Mauricio Céspedes Mirabelli, Executive Director, Institute of Technical Standards of Costa Rica (INTECO)</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> David Novák, Student</p>
<b>17:50</b>	<p><b>Wrap-up of the ELAF 2025 virtual live event</b></p> <p>Prof. Dr. Christian Hauser, Head of the PRME Business Integrity Action Center, University of Applied Sciences of the Grisons</p> <p>Andrea E Ostheimer, KAS Representative to the United Nations Geneva, Executive Director Multilateral Dialogue Konrad-Adenauer Stiftung</p>
<b>18:00</b>	<b>End</b>

## Event language

German / Spanish / English (with simultaneous translation)

## Start time

15:00, in Austria, Germany, Switzerland  
11:00, in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Uruguay, Paraguay  
10:00, in Bolivia, Venezuela  
09:00, in Panama, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru  
08:00, in Mexico

The Zoom meeting room will open 15 minutes before the webinar starts

## Organizers

connosco e.V. was founded in 2001 at the University of Cologne and has been registered as a non-profit organization since 2003. It is an interdisciplinary association dedicated to the analysis of economic, political, and cultural developments in Latin America and the Iberian Peninsula. Its work is driven by a team of volunteers from diverse academic backgrounds, with a core focus on providing students with insight into the practical side of their studies, as well as facilitating their transition into the professional world. In 2008, connosco e.V. was recognized as a “Selected Landmark” by the “Germany – Land of Ideas” initiative. Its work includes the publication of specialized studies and newsletters, as well as the organization of

prominent event formats, such as the Cologne Latin America Symposium (CLAS), the Cologne Latin America Round Table (CLART), and more recently, the European Latin America Forum (ELAF). Beyond its educational mission, *connosco e.V.* provides linguistic and organizational support for international delegations. The impact of its work is amplified through strategic partnerships with prominent institutions in Germany and abroad. Since its inception 25 years ago, *connosco e.V.* has played a pivotal role in fostering dialogue and collaboration between Europe and Latin America.

The PRME Business Integrity Action Center (BIAC) at the University of Applied Sciences of the Grisons has extensive experience conducting interdisciplinary research projects and hosting events. The event's topic lies at the intersection of the center's fields of competence "Corporate Responsibility" and "Internationalization." As an agile university, the University of Applied Sciences of the Grisons relies on dynamic thinking and proactive action. With this mindset, the university courageously and sustainably shapes the future. The university educates its more than 2,300 students to become highly qualified and responsible leaders. The university offers bachelor's, master's, and continuing education programs in architecture, civil engineering, computer and data science, mobile robotics, multimedia production, photonics, service innovation and design, supply chain management, tourism, and management. Teaching and research at the university are interdisciplinary and focused on practical business and societal challenges. In 2009, the University of Applied Sciences of the Grisons (FHGR) became the first public Swiss university to sign the United Nations-supported Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME). Since 2014, it has been a recognized member of the PRME Champion leadership group.

The Multilateral Dialogue of Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung in Geneva is the liaison platform to International Organizations. The office's main pillars of work are Human Rights, Peace and Security, International Trade, the governance of AI and Digital Technologies as well as Global Health. Its expert dialogues and stakeholder discussions bring together representatives from the UN-System, Member States as well as Civil Society and Academia. Drawing on the vast network of KAS partners globally, the Geneva office aims to enhance the dialogue on multilateral issues and the system as such while preserving democratic values and a rules-based international order.

## **Contact**

University of Applied Sciences of the Grisons  
PRME Business Integrity Action Center  
Comercialstrasse 22  
CH-7000 Chur

Contact person:

Prof. Dr. Christian Hauser

E: [christian.hauser@fhgr.ch](mailto:christian.hauser@fhgr.ch)

T: +41 81 286 39 24

I: [www.fhgr.ch/en\\_integrity](http://www.fhgr.ch/en_integrity)