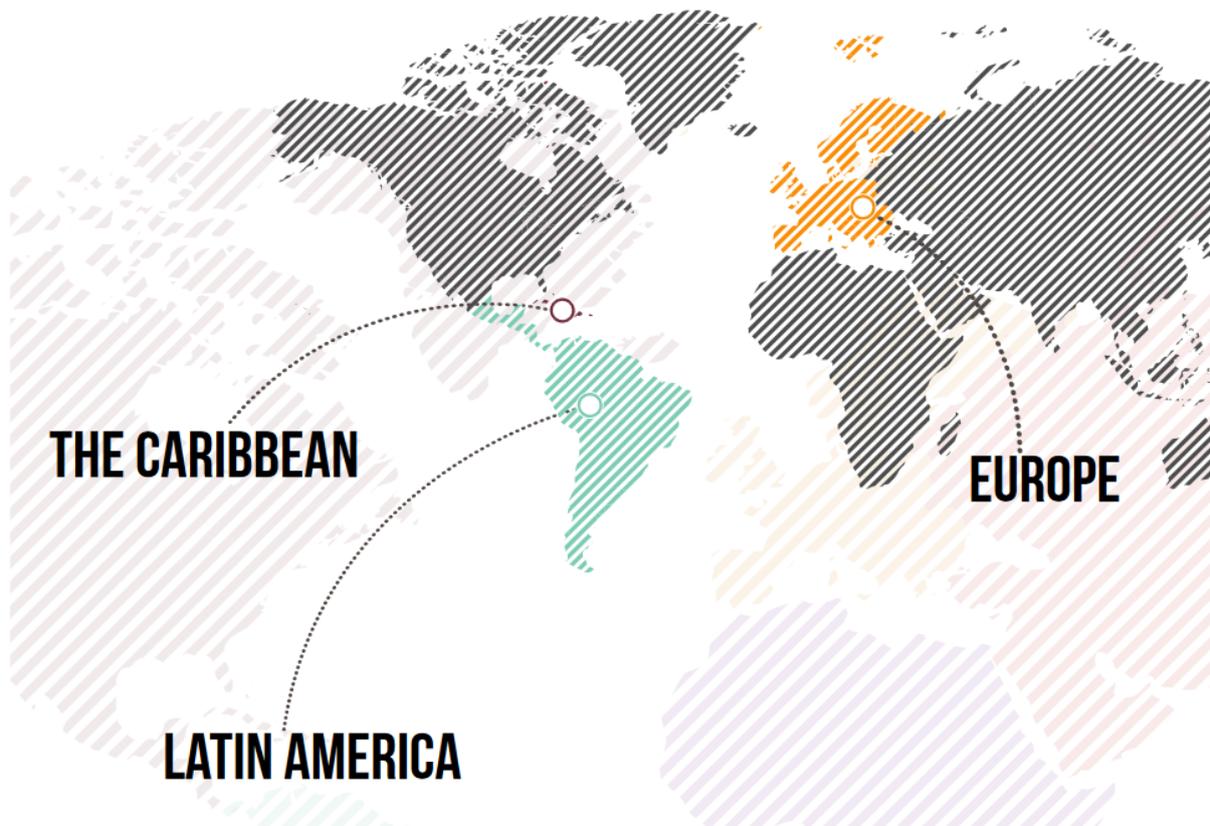




IFAIR

Young Initiative on Foreign Affairs and International Relations e.V.

The Participants of LACalytics 2018



WHAT IS LACALYTICS?

LACalytics is a programme that facilitates interregional cooperation between students and young professionals from Europe (EU) and the Latin America-Caribbean region (LAC). It develops in-depth analyses of current issues in LAC and the EU as well as of the relations between the regions from the point of view of young people. The aim of the programme is to foster bi-regional awareness and understanding, and to promote the young generation's impact on policy-making.

PUBLICATION AND CONFERENCE

LACalytics generates articles written by bi-regional teams of young thinkers from the EU and LAC. The contributions are published on the open think tank ifair.eu and other online platforms. Additionally, the best articles are featured in a printed policy publication and presented by their respective authors during a final conference.

OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAMME

With LACalytics, IFAIR pursues three main objectives:

1. To strengthen the bi-regional relationship between the EU and LAC and to foster the interregional understanding as well as the understanding of policy-makers on matters of relevance for the young generation in both regions.
2. To form an open platform for connecting young people from both regions in order to work together on important issues and raising the impact of students and young professionals on policy making.
3. To inspire dialogue and stimulate collaboration between the LAC-region and the EU and to raise the interest of the civil society for the respective other region.

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THE 1. EDITION - 2015-2016

The first edition of LACalytics, which was greatly supported by the German Federal Foreign Office and the EU-LAC Foundation, took place from 2015 to 2016. The programme attracted the interest of more than 200 applicants from 33 countries and brought together bright talents from EU and LAC. It produced twenty-three digital analyses on four general themes (economics, politics, environment, civil society). The best twelve contributions were featured in a multilingual digital and printed publication of a series of policy papers under the title: "EU-LAC Cooperation in the 21st century: Combining efforts in a globalized world" ([English](#) and [Spanish/Portuguese](#)). The articles of the printed publication were presented during a final conference held in Hamburg, Germany, from 22nd to 25th of October 2016.

THE 2. EDITION - 2017-2018

Due to the success of the first edition of LACalytics, IFAIR is currently working on a second edition: LACalytics 2018. The 44 participants of the programme have been selected from more than 260 applications received from over 40 countries. Currently, 22 teams of young thinkers from Europe and the LAC region are writing their articles. This booklet presents the participants of LACalytics 2018 and the chapters of the edition: *Politics, Economics, Environment, Civil Society & Culture* as well as *Science, Technology & Innovation*.

For more information on LACalytics, please send an email to: lacalytics@ifair.eu.

POLITICS

Willem Lijnders, The Netherlands

Willem is currently finishing his Bachelor's degree in Political Science with a major in International Relations at the Radboud University in Nijmegen. His regional interest in Latin America results from a project for AIESEC in Chile and a minor in Latin American Affairs at the Autonomous University of Barcelona. Additionally, he worked as an intern at the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Panama, where he focused on increased Chinese investment in the region. In September, he will start a Master's degree in Global Development at the University of Copenhagen.



Jevon Minto, Jamaica

Jevon is currently enrolled in Benemérita Universidad Autónoma de Puebla in Mexico, where he is pursuing a M.A. in Economic Development & International Cooperation. He is a Young Scholar of the Inter-American Dialogue-China/Latin America Programme and a member of the China/Latin America and Caribbean-China academic network. As part of his research, Mr. Minto is investigating China's contribution to economic development in Latin America and the Caribbean through regional and subregional development banks (RDBs). He holds a B.A. in Communication Studies from Northern Caribbean University.

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Felicia van Regteren Altena, The Netherlands

Felicia recently finished an internship with the United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security and holds a Bachelor's degree in International Relations and Development Studies from SOAS, University of London. She has interned with the Shanghai office of the NGO Thirst4Water and served as an aide to the Swiss delegation during the UN Climate Talks in Bonn in 2017. She has also written for a number of London student newspapers and currently leads Entitled Magazine, an online multi-media platform aimed at humanizing voices that are often twisted and sensationalized by the 24-hour news cycle.

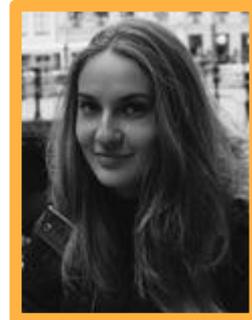


Carla Cueva, Ecuador/ Chile

Carla currently works at Fundación Heifer Ecuador, a local organisation dedicated to rural development, linked to Heifer International. She obtained her Master's degree in Human Rights at University College London and her Bachelor's degree in International Relations at Webster University Vienna. She has previously worked at the International Atomic Energy Agency and the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organisation. Her interests include transitional justice, rural development, and international cooperation.

Nicole Gerlis, United Kingdom

Nicole has recently finished her Master's in International Security at Sciences Po Paris, where she specialised in Latin America. Prior to this, Nicole obtained her Bachelor's degree in History from University College London. Amongst other work experiences, Nicole has interned at the Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development and is currently working in EU public affairs in Brussels. Nicole's areas of interest include European and British politics, as well as conflict resolution and geopolitical security issues.

**Grace Avila Casanova, Peru**

Grace holds a first-class degree in Politics and International Relations and is completing a MSc in Emerging Economies and International Development at King's College London. She has interned for Unicef UK, the London International Development Centre and Oxfam GB. Her work focuses on the development of youth-driven social impact projects in organisations such as Project Access and previously, Student Hubs UK. Additionally she is the founder of a social enterprise that aims to tackle unemployment and underemployment amongst young people in Latin America by providing micro-consultancy and networking opportunities to talented students from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Paul Weijers, The Netherlands

Paul is currently working as a Regional Analyst for the Americas and the Caribbean at the International Organization for Migration (IOM). As an alumnus of Leiden University in the Netherlands, Paul holds both a Bachelor's and a Master's degree in Latin American Studies with specialisations in the areas of contemporary history, public policy and civil society. As a result of this background, in combination with previous experiences at the Embassy of Guatemala in The Hague and the United Nations Department for Safety and Security (UNDSS) regional office in Panama, Paul has a profound interest in the issues of governability and insecurity in the LAC region.

**Valeria Cortés Bernal, Colombia**

Valeria is finishing her Bachelor's degree in Social Communication at the Pontifical Xaverian University in Bogotá. Her major allowed her to study both Journalism and Audiovisuals, as well as to pursue a semester abroad at the Federal University of Pernambuco in Recife, Brazil, where she got in touch with the cinematographic tradition of the country. She is currently a research assistant in a group that analyses the digital media ecosystem during the 2018 presidential race in Colombia, a collaborative project with the Berkman Klein Center for Internet & Society of Harvard University.

Julia Baumann, Germany

Julia currently works as an analyst in the field of environmental, social, and governance (ESG) research in Germany. Prior to that, she concluded a double master degree in Politics and Security at University College London as well as in International Relations at Higher School of Economics Moscow. She holds a Bachelor's degree in European Studies from Magdeburg University and gained work experience as an intern at the German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP) and the European External Action Service. Following a year of voluntary engagement in Mexico, she is passionate about Latin America and particularly interested in EU-LAC comparative research.



Ronald Trenchi, Uruguay

Ronald is co-authoring a publication about South America regional integration with the support of the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung in Mexico and the Konrad Adenauer Center for International Relations and Security Studies. He holds a Bachelor's degree in International Studies from ORT University Uruguay and studied a semester abroad at Sciences Po Paris. Ronald gained work experience as a trainee at the Delegation of the EU to Uruguay as well as an intern at the US Embassy in Montevideo and at the Organisation of American States. He plans to continue his graduate studies in international politics, security and economy.

ECONOMICS

Lewin Schmitt, Germany

Lewin holds a BSc in European Economics from the University of Bamberg and an MSc in Latin American Studies from the University of Oxford, where he focused on economic development and South American integration as well as EU-Latin American relations. Lengthy stays in Mexico and South America created a passion for Latin America and turned him into an interested observer of the region's political environment. After a stint at the German Institute for Economic Research (DIW Berlin), Lewin currently works in the sustainable development team at the European Commission's in-house think tank EPSC.

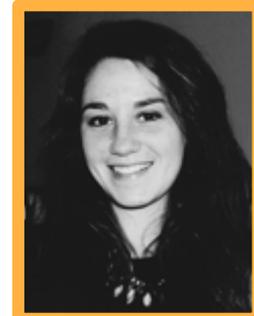


Jose Noguera, Nicaragua

Jose obtained his Bachelor's degree in Applied Economics at the Universidad Centroamericana. He currently works in a private bank. During his internship at the Consejo Superior de la Empresa Privada (COSEP), he investigated the current situation of Nicaraguan enterprises and developed a passion for research. José's research interests include macroeconomic and financial problems, especially in developing countries.

Juliette Mardon, France

Juliette holds a Double Degree in History and Law and recently obtained a Master's degree in Environmental Law from La Sorbonne University. She worked six months as an intern for the United Nations Environment Programme at the regional office for Latin America and the Caribbean localised in Panama. She is currently doing an internship in green and social bonds in an international agency providing environmental, social and governance research for investors, public and private organisations as well as NGOs. Juliette will start a Master's degree in Biodiversity, Territories and Environment in La Sorbonne in September 2018.



Raphael Zimmermann Robiatti, Brazil

Originally from Brazil, Raphael is a Ph.D. fellow in the Faculty of Law, Social Sciences and Economics and the University of Erfurt, Germany. His research focuses on the political economy and governance of Development Financial Institutions in Latin America. He holds a Master of Public Policy (MPP) degree from the Willy Brandt School of Public Policy and a Bachelor's degree in International Relations at from the Pontifícia Universidade Católica de São Paulo (PUC-SP). Raphael currently works as a Project Coordinator at the University of Erfurt and has worked several years with international trade and process management in his home country.

Adriana Espés Pizarro, Spain

Adriana is a PhD student at the DFG Graduate School in Law & Economics, hosted by the University of Hamburg. Her research interests are trade in services and regional trade agreements, with a special interest in MERCOSUR. Formerly, she worked as an employment lawyer for an international law firm in Spain. She holds a European Master in Law and Economics from the Erasmus University Rotterdam and the University of Hamburg, and a double degree in Law and Business Administration from the University of Zaragoza. She has been a visiting researcher at the University of California, Berkeley and the World Trade Institute.



Carolina Iris Mayen Huerta, Mexico

Carolina is a consultant for the Strategic Coordination Group at the Presidency Office of the Inter-American Development Bank in Washington DC. Previously, she worked for the International Finance Corporation, World Bank, in the Advisory Services Department, evaluating the feasibility of investment development projects and the risks associated with them. Carolina has a Master's Degree in Public Administration from Columbia University, and has done development consultancy work for TechnoServe in Kenya, Irupé Group in Paraguay, and Fundación IDEA in México. Carolina has also worked as a financial analyst for the credits area at Citibank in Mexico.

Nora Cyrus, Germany

Nora pursues an MPhil in Development Studies at the University of Oxford, where she is also a member of the Latin American Society and conducts research on urban development in Colombia. Her interest in Latin America stems from an exchange semester in Chile and extensive travels across the region. As a consultant, Nora has worked with various public sector clients for three years, focussing on ICT sector promotion, eGovernment and gender diversity. She also interned with the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH and holds a BSc in International Business Administration and an MSc in Marketing Management from Erasmus University, Rotterdam.



Alexandre San Martim Portes, Brazil

Alexandre is a Master's student in Public Economics, Law and Politics at Leuphana University, Germany. Previously, he completed a Bachelor's degree in International Relations at the Federal University of Santa Catarina, Brazil. Apart from his academic experiences in these two countries, he has studied and worked in South Korea. Currently, he is working at a German think tank on international relations. His main interests are international economics, trade regulation and development.

Amélie Jaques-Apke, Germany

Amélie Jaques-Apke is currently researching on Franco-German and European security policy in Paris and working for the think tank Europa Nova. She studied International Security at SciencesPo Paris PSIA, with concentrations in diplomacy, EU foreign policy and Latin America, and at King's College in London at the War Studies department. She holds her Bachelor from the Franco-German campus in Nancy (SciencesPo Paris) in European Affairs. She worked in Washington DC for the European Delegation PSD section, for a Spanish development company, the French ministry of interior and for the French Foundation Zelligja, where she remains project manager and member of the jury.



Juliane Becker Facco, Brazil

Juliane holds a Bachelor's degree in International Relations from Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina (Brazil) and currently is a research intern at the International Policy Centre for Inclusive Growth/ UNDP in Brasília. Previously, she worked as a research assistant at the Logistics Lab producing reports on economical analysis of Brazilian cities and demand studies on commodities for the Brazilian government. She was also an Erasmus fellow mundus scholarship holder in Poland. Her research interests are sustainable development, international cooperation, social protection and inequality.

ENVIRONMENT

Luciano Mateo Rodriguez Carrington, The Netherlands

Luciano is a Master's student in Development Studies at the Oxford Department of International Development (ODID). His research focuses on policy alignment for sustainable development in Mexico, exploring how greater institutional cooperation can serve to achieve objectives concerning poverty reduction and climate change mitigation. Luciano completed a Bachelor's degree in Social and Political Sciences at Goldsmiths, University of London. He also worked as a research assistant on a conservation and development project in Mexico and conducted research on issues of migration in Europe.



Lilia Garcia Manrique, Mexico

Lilia works as a research assistant at the Latin American Faculty of Social Science (FLACSO), Mexico. She holds a Master in Economics from the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) with a specialisation in natural resources and sustainable development. Her Bachelor is in Economics from ITESM with a certificate in International Economics by the University of British Columbia. Lilia was an intern at ECLAC UN in Mexico, where she worked in topics about value chains and food security in Central America. She is a permanent member of the research seminar of energy, climate and the environment at UNAM Economics Graduate Department.

Hélène Ménard, France

Hélène studies a MSc in Global Development at the University of Copenhagen, Denmark. She holds a Bachelor degree in Economics from the University of Strasbourg, France. She studied abroad a year at the University of Constance in Germany and a full semester at the University of Bologna in Italy. She worked 3 months in La Paz at the INESAD and got familiar with the topic of green national accountability. She specialized in Latin American studies; more precisely, her interests include sustainable development, global health and justice, microfinance, gender equality, minority rights, education, entrepreneurship and informal economic practices.



João de Souza Trigo, Brazil

João is currently working in the Government Relations area in a Belgian chemistry company in Brazil. He is also in his last year of his Bachelor's degree in International Relations from Universidade de São Paulo. He worked as a junior researcher in an international negotiations specialized think tank to study EU - Mercosur relationship, granted by the Jean-Monnet programme which aims to promote European Union studies worldwide. His main research interests lay within European studies, sustainability and climate change regime, international trade policy, and economic agreements.

Lena Schubmann, Germany

Lena holds a Master’s degree in Latin American Studies from the University of Cambridge and Bachelor’s degrees in International Relations from King’s College London and in Business Administration from the University of Applied Sciences in Gottingen. Her research interests are social protection networks in Latin America. As part of her Master’s degree, she has conducted research on social protection, indigeneity and trade unionism in Andean Bolivia. She currently holds a Carlo-Schmid fellowship at the World Food Programme in Guatemala, specializing in resilience and climate change adaptation activities.



Nayaatha Taitt, Trinidad and Tobago

Nayaatha is presently working for the Inter-American Development Bank where she works on a regional program to scale up green finance across Latin America and the Caribbean. She holds a Master’s in International Affairs from the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva, Switzerland, a Postgraduate Diploma in International Relations, and a BA in French and Spanish from the University of the West Indies. Her professional interests lie in the sustainable development challenges attendant to Small Island Developing States. She held positions at the UN Development Programme, the Association of Caribbean States, and the International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development.

Erik Post, The Netherlands

Erik is a Master of International Affairs candidate at the Graduate Institute of Geneva. His research interests include imperialism, conflict dynamics and socio-environmental struggles around energy, water and extractive industries, with a focus on conflict formation and organised violence. He has conducted research on these dynamics in the DRC for the Dutch MFA and International Crisis Group in Mexico. He is currently working on an academic article on how the discourse on sustainable development and energy transition in Sierra Norte de Puebla facilitates the wholesale dispossession of indigenous territories to the benefit of extractive industries, threatening social reproduction and risking an escalation of organised violence.



Monica Gonzalez, Colombia

Monica holds a Bachelor’s degree in International Relations and National Security from Universidad del Rosario in Bogota, Colombia where she graduated with honors. As an intern at the William J. Perry Center of Hemispheric Defense studies in Washington D.C., she researched on topics related to international security, the Colombian peace process and defense sector reforms and participated in the coordination of high level events hosted by the U.S. Department of Defense. She plans to pursue a Master’s degree related to the fight against money laundering as well as financial and organised crime.

Claudia Wiese, Germany

Claudia Wiese holds a master degree in politics and economics from Sciences Po Paris and the University of Aix-Marseille. Having done a research internship in Desco Urbano, an NGO working on slum development in Lima, she gained some insights into infrastructure and slum upgrading projects. She also wrote a master thesis on the impact of slum living conditions on children's health and spend a year researching slum health at University of Aix-Marseille. Her interests lay in development economics with a special interest in urban development.

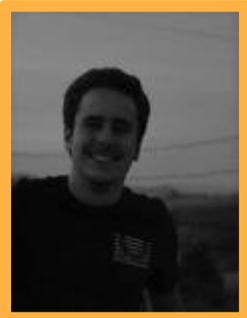
**Stefania Guadalupe Vallejo, Ecuador**

Stefania is a Technology & Innovation Analyst for Connection Silicon Valley (CSV) who possesses strong analytical and project management skills and is passionate about environmental issues and gender equality. Before joining CSV, she worked as a Blue Book Trainee for the Directorate General of Communication at the European Commission. She holds a Master's degree in Science, Technology and Society from Maastricht University, a Master's degree in Political Sciences from Liège University and has recently obtained an International Diploma in Project Management from UC Berkeley.

Civil Society & Culture

Miriam Henze, Mexico/ Germany

Miriam graduated in Audiovisual Arts at the Universidad de Guadalajara and studied a semester abroad at the Universität Bielefeld as a DAAD-ISAP scholarship holder. Miriam coordinated the first Gender Lab, a project-development platform of the International Film Festival with Gender Perspective in Mexico City. She worked in several film productions and co-founded the company Brujazul and produced her first feature film, *Los Años Azules*, which won an International critics prize and several recognitions as best Mexican feature. Miriam is pursuing a Master's degree in Film and Television production at the Film University Babelsberg Konrad Wolf.



Guilherme Felipin dos Santos, Brazil

Guilherme studies International Relations at the University of Sao Paulo. He was a member of the research center CAENI-USP and worked on several projects ranging from analysing the Chinese economy to reports for the United Nations Development Programme about Latin American Drug policies. He participated in a research programme at the West Bohemia University in the Czech Republic and published an article named „The Counterculture Cinema in the Cold War and the new social-cultural paradigms“. Right now, he is interning in the private sector.

Sian Creely, UK

Sian is pursuing an MPhil in Latin American Studies at the University of Cambridge, with a thesis focusing on the use of 'gender' by social conservatives as a byword for dissatisfaction with neoliberal democracy. She holds a BA in European Social and Political Studies from University College London, where her dissertation looked at the metaphors of austerity. Her research interests lie in the globalisation of culture in relation to discourses of activism. Sian works freelance as a translator and arts journalist. In September 2018 she joins UN Women as an intern.



André W. Blackburn, Trinidad

André is currently pursuing a MSc in Latin American Studies at the University of Oxford. Previously, he obtained a Post Graduate Diploma in International Relations and a BA in Spanish and History (First Class Honours) from the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine. From 2013 – 2017, he worked with the Embassy of Argentina in Port of Spain as the Executive Assistant to the Ambassador. His research interests include race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, and development in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Rebecca Gramlich, Germany

Rebecca is a student of North and Latin American Studies at the University of Passau, from which she as well obtained a Bachelor’s degree in International Cultural and Business Studies. She combines her research interest in Sustainability, (Brazilian) political Theater and Alternative Educational Methods as well as her studies abroad in Brazil and Canada to generate sustainable impact by connecting people and promoting opportunities for dialogue and exchange between LAC and other parts of the world. As such, she forms part of the committee that hosts the PLA – Passauer LateinamerikaGespräche, a conference on LAC organised by students.



Paz Patiño, Ecuador

Paz obtained her Bachelor’s degree in Integrated Social Sciences at Jacobs University in Bremen. After graduation, she chose to follow her interest in education by working at the National Insitute for Evaluation of Eduaction in Ecuador. For two years, she reserached methologies of standardised assessment and constructed frameworks of evaluation. She participated in projects to measure the quality of the Ecuadorian Intercultural System of Education, including ancestral languages. Currently, she is pursuing a Master’s in Development Studies at the University of Passau, Germany.

Felicitas Schmidt, Germany

Felicitas is a medical student at the Ludwig-Maximilian University Munich. Due to her interest in the social determinants of health and health inequalities, she studied a Master’s in Public Health and has been engaged in health care policy research ever since her undergraduate degree in Philosophy, Politics and Economics at the Free University of Bolzano and the HEC Lausanne. This interest also led her to IGES Institute in Berlin and to the Weill Cornell College of Medicine in New York for research purposes. She plans on specialising in infectious diseases and tropical medicine and continuing to tackle health care inequalities in a position at international organisations or foundations.

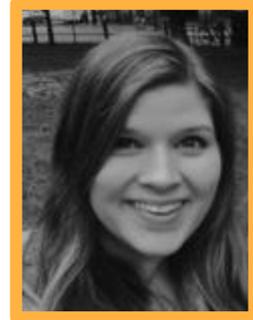


Angela Requena, Peru

Angela is an International Affairs and Interprofessional Healthcare Coordinator at the Peruvian University of Applied Sciences (UPC). Due to her background in oral health promotion programmes and leadership of public health initiatives at UPC, she obtained a Master’s degree in Public Health at the University of Edinburgh and has been engaged in interprofessional health care research ever since. Her unique training has led her to be keynote speaker for several non-profit organisations in the USA and Peru. She plans on tackling healthcare inequalities from her position at UPC and continuing her work with nonprofit international organisations.

Ella Rouhe, Finland

Ella is currently pursuing a Master's degree in Development Studies at the University of Helsinki. She holds a BSc in Liberal Arts and Sciences: Global Challenges from the University College in The Hague. Her interest in Latin America stems both from her studies as well as her personal experience volunteering and travelling in the region. Ella is a board member of the Finnish Society for Development Research and she previously worked for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Finland.



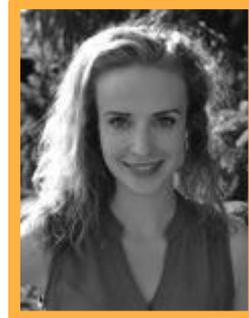
Antonio Romero, Mexico

Antonio is co-founder and audiovisual producer of Bully Magnets, a so-called edutainment channel and social-digital initiative for cultural promotion in Spanish. He holds a Master's degree in gender Studies from The College of Mexico. He pursued a Bachelor's degree in Communication Sciences at the National Autonomous University of Mexico. His interests are regional collaboration on education, cultural management and gender mainstreaming in digital media. Antonio has worked as a gender consultant for the Mexican Ministry of Health and some Non-governmental organisations.

Science Technology & Innovation

Hannah Redders, Germany

Hannah is currently finishing her Bachelor's degree at the University of Passau in International Cultural and Business Studies with a focus on Economics and Latin American Studies. After High School she spent one year working abroad in Pachuca, Mexico as a "kulturweit"-volunteer. She gained practical experience in the field of International Relations as in intern in human rights and economic co-operation at the German Embassy in Bogotá, Colombia. As a spokeswoman for Amnesty International, she became active in promoting self-determination for women in Latin America in the context of the "my body my rights" campaign. She was awarded a scholarship by the Heinrich Boell foundation.



Jennyfer Paiz Rosales, Guatemala

Jennyfer is currently working for a research center in Guatemala City, where she focuses on chemical, environmental and social projects. She is also pursuing a Masters's degree in Sanitary Engineering at the Regional School of Sanitary Engineering (ERIS) of Central America. Prior to this, she graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of San Carlos of Guatemala; and took different courses in Costa Rica, Uruguay and Spain. She wrote her bachelor thesis in a leading construction materials company in the region, with the topic of cement and nanotechnology.

Eleanor Gibson, Scotland

Eleanor graduated from the University of Glasgow with a Bachelor in Geography and Spanish. Her interests lie in the field of environmental studies, sustainable development and education. She also has experience carrying out volunteer work in Cameroon, where she helped develop a social project for the sustainable use of water, and has spent six months living in Panama working as an intern in green economy and resource efficiency for UN Environment. Currently, she is a member of the Guyana Green State Development Strategy Coordination Office working toward countrywide sustainable development and economic growth.



Scarleth Vasconcelos, Nicaragua

Scarleth is a Master student in Sustainable Engineering at Villanoca University, U.S.A, with a Bachelor's degree in Renewable Energy Engineering in Nicaragua. She is currently researching for the Electrical and Computer Engineering department at Villanoca University. During her bachelor studies, she volunteered in renewable energy (photovoltaic systems) and eco-friendly stoves in rural communities in Nicaragua. Scarleth was also a volunteer at UNICEF, Nicaragua where she and her team participated in "The Global Design for UNICEF" 2014, proposing a telehealth project for communities in the Caribbean Coast of Nicaragua and winning the first place worldwide of the contest.