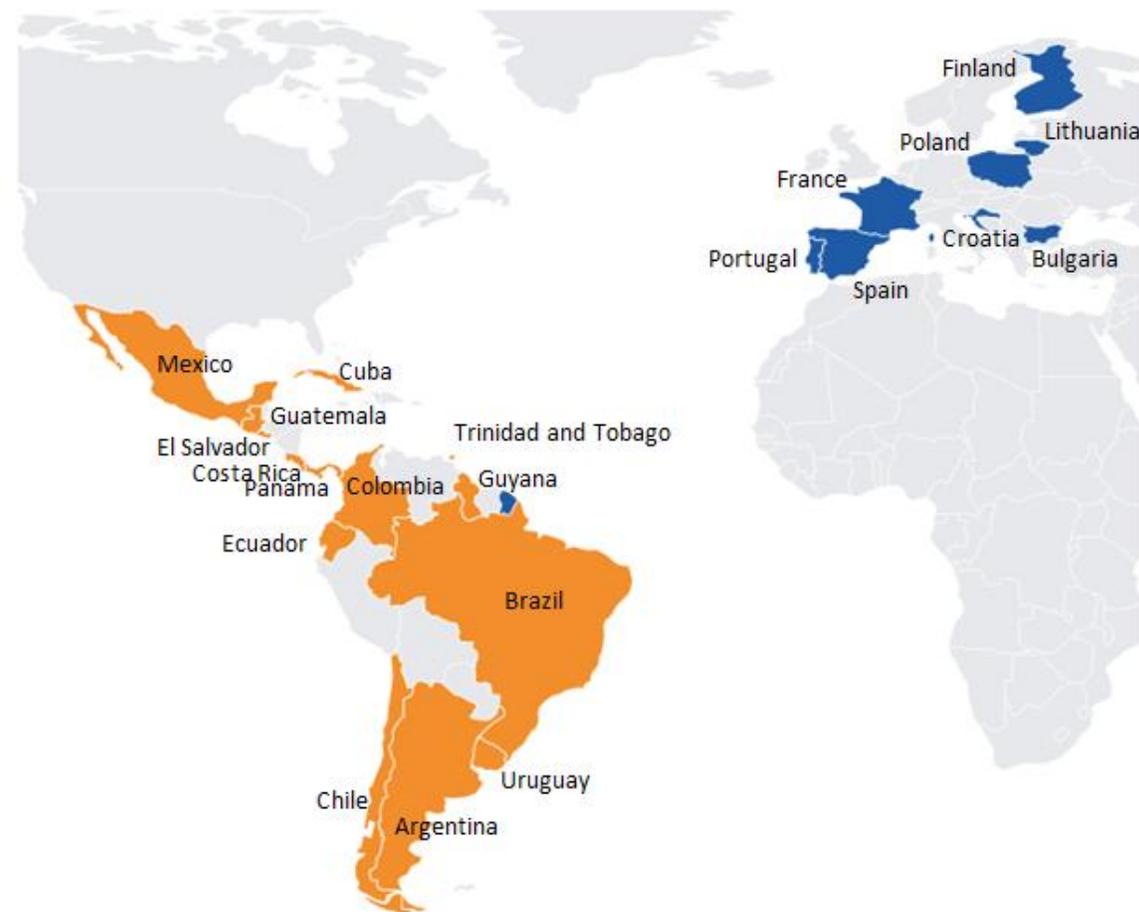# EU-CELAC HEALTH WORKING GROUP

11.3.2026

Countries involved

Co-leading: Guatemala, Portugal and Spain

CELAC: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Colombia, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Trinidad and Tobago, and Uruguay.

EU: Bulgaria, Croatia, Finland, France, Lithuania, Spain, Portugal and Poland.

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Strategic objectives

1. Advance bi-regional research cooperation in the three priority health axes
2. Integrate cross-cutting enablers across all cooperation activities
3. Implement coordinated collaboration mechanisms and cooperation platforms
4. Strengthen research capacity and mobility across the bi-regional partnership
5. Promote joint research and innovation funding mechanisms
6. Foster open science, societal engagement, and policy dialogue

Together, these elements will support the development of **a sustainable, inclusive, and innovation-driven bi-regional health research ecosystem** capable of addressing shared global health challenges.

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Implementation

Axes (Vertical):
Axis 1 – Personalised Medicine & Clinical Trials
Axis 2 – Infectious Diseases & AMR
Axis 3 – Pandemic Preparedness & Data Sharing

Horizontal Lines (Transversal):
A) Open Science and Data Sharing
B) Research Infrastructures
C) Communities/SHS/Diversity
D) Digital/Emerging Technology + AI
E) Innovation
F) Mobility

Implementation Modalities

1. Mapping for coordination/synergies- subgroups and other thematic WGs
2. Networking and matchmaking
3. Capacity building and awareness
4. Expand multilateral platforms or hubs
5. Knowledge sharing (databases, virtual library/labs, workshops, protocols)
6. Best practices and policy advise
7. Joint mobility calls (sharing research infrastructures)
8. Joint research calls (RI)
9. Innovation and digital technologies-AI
10. Open Science and society involvement

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Personalized Medicine & Clinical Trials

PRIORITIES

Rare Diseases
Goal: Increase diagnostic yield and enable federated rare disease research
Core Actions:
- Capacity & registry mapping
- Ethical/regulatory convergence
- Interoperable federated registries
- Joint undiagnosed disease pilot
- Mobility & training
- Coordinated joint research call

Non-Communicable Diseases (Diabetes, Rheumatic Diseases)
Goal: Implement precision medicine in chronic diseases
Core Actions:
- Cohort & infrastructure mapping
- Harmonised clinical/molecular data model
- Multicountry pharmacogenomics pilot
- Capacity building & shared infrastructure
- Joint research call

Personalised Medicine & Advanced Therapeutics
Goal: Expand biomarker-driven therapeutic innovation
Core Actions:
- Genomic + AI data integration
- Theragnostic radiopharmaceutical platforms
- Multicentric clinical trials & GMP strengthening
- Regulatory harmonisation
- Joint calls & shared infrastructures

Cross-Cutting Principles
- Federated data
- Capacity building
- Regulatory convergence Infrastructure sharing
- Equitable access across diverse populations
- Progressive joint funding

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PERSONALISED MEDICINE & CLINICAL TRIALS

Priority Area	Rare Diseases (including rare cancers) (Genetic Diagnosis and Registries)	Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs)	Personalised Medicine, Molecular Biomarkers and Advanced Therapeutics
Activities	• Bi-regional Capacity Mapping • Ethical & Regulatory Convergence Framework • Interoperable Rare Disease Registries • Undiagnosed Rare Disease Joint Diagnostic Pilot	Implement precision medicine approaches in chronic diseases through harmonised clinical and molecular frameworks, with a special emphasis on the following focus areas: • Diabetes • Rheumatic/Immunological Diseases • Cancer • Pharmacogenomics variability	• Use of genomic repositories and AI tools. • Exchange of best practices across health systems. • Integration of molecular imaging biomarkers and theragnostic radiopharmaceutical platforms in precision oncology. • Harmonisation of clinical and regulatory frameworks for biomarker-guided targeted therapies. • Strengthening GMP capacity and translational infrastructures supporting advanced personalised therapeutic strategies.
Short-term	• Mapping existing capacities • Networking and seminars • Ethical/legal framework Exchange • Governance and regulatory alignment	• Bi-regional epidemiological and infrastructure mapping and networking • Governance and regulatory alignment	• Webinars, knowledge exchange and mapping of genomic and molecular imaging capacities • Governance and regulatory alignment
Medium-term	• Mobility and capacity building (including opportunities under Erasmus+ and Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions) • Mapping existing ongoing projects • Data registries: local, to national, transnational (legislation differences)	• Capacity building and infrastructure sharing • Mapping existing ongoing projects • Harmonised Data Framework and Precision Medicine Pilot (Joint assessment of genetic variability in drug response)	• Mobility and training • Mapping existing ongoing projects
Long-term	• Joint research calls (including possible links with Horizon Europe)	Joint research programmes	Joint calls and shared infrastructures, supporting advanced biomarker-driven therapeutics, including theragnostic platforms

Infectious Diseases and Antimicrobial Resistance

Priorities
Collaborative networks for epidemiology and surveillance of ID and AMR
One Health approaches to AMR and zoonotic infections
AI-supported modelling and forecasting for ID/AMR risk and impact
Research on emerging and climate-sensitive infectious diseases
Innovation in diagnostics and development of new treatments

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Pandemic Preparedness

Priorities
Coordination and Alignment for Interoperable Surveillance and Data Systems
Cooperation on Advanced and High-Containment Research Infrastructures
Scientific Diplomacy, Open Science and Risk Communication Framework
Digital and AI Tools for Epidemic Intelligence
Biotechnology and Diagnostic Innovation Initiative

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Thank you.

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