



## **Internet & Jurisdiction and ECLAC Regional Status Report 2020 frames the benefits and challenges of digital integration in Latin America and the Caribbean**

The Internet & Jurisdiction and ECLAC Regional Status Report 2020 of the multistakeholder organization the Internet & Jurisdiction Policy Network and the United Nations Economic Cooperation for Latin America and the Caribbean, showcases the digital policy initiatives taking place across Latin America and the Caribbean. Outlining key policy areas where harmonization is challenging, the Report presents the state of cooperation towards a regional digital single market.

- *83% of stakeholders agree or strongly agree that the deployment of innovative frameworks, such as regulatory sandboxes, helps foster economic growth.*
- *61% believe that the cross-border nature of the internet facilitates foreign interference with the democratic process.*
- *73% agree or strongly agree that there is a demand for coordination to address cross-border legal challenges.*
- *81% of stakeholders believe that foreign regulatory approaches (e.g. EU or the U.S.) inspire initiatives in the LAC Region.*

Launched at the 7th Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean on **November 24, 2020**, the Internet & Jurisdiction and ECLAC Regional Status Report 2020, draws on the pioneering methodology of the Internet & Jurisdiction Global Status Report 2019 by combining detailed desk research with a regional data collection engaging key stakeholders – states, internet companies, technical operators, civil society, academia, and international organizations.

“The Report outlines the challenges the region is facing in efforts towards digital integration and how foreign regulatory approaches are inspiring action. It seeks to make available a trans-regional picture of the current policy landscape to support an inclusive and coherent debate.” Carlos Affonso de Souza, Professor and Author of the Regional Status Report, Rio de Janeiro State University (UERJ), Director - Institute for Technology & Society (ITS Rio).

Translating highly technical information into actionable information for policymakers, the Report

reveals the latest trends on key topics ranging from the role of intermediaries, privacy, freedom of expression and also start-ups, artificial intelligence and Internet of Things.

“A key message of the Report is that more policy coherence is needed to build a thriving and integrated regional digital ecosystem. By laying out key trends with regard to the handling of legal challenges on the continent, the Report intends to assist policymakers in building common evidence-based priorities” said Bertrand de La Chapelle, Executive Director and Co-founder of the Internet & Jurisdiction Policy Network.

The COVID-19 pandemic has shone a light on the necessity of the digital economy as well as the challenges when people are left behind. As societies become more reliant on digital goods and services, strong cross-border normative frameworks are becoming increasingly necessary to handle cross-border data transfers, privacy, and data security.

“The Report seeks to strengthen our understanding of how digital integration is progressing in Latin America and the Caribbean and identifies opportunities we can seize to bring us closer to a more harmonized digital single market.” Alicia Bárcena, Executive Secretary, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)

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### **About the Internet & Jurisdiction Policy Network**

The Internet & Jurisdiction Policy Network is the multistakeholder organization addressing the tension between the cross-border internet and national jurisdictions. Its Paris-based Secretariat facilitates a global policy process in which over 400 key entities including governments, the world's largest internet companies, technical operators, civil society groups, academia and international organizations from over 70 countries work together. They enhance policy coherence and legal interoperability through the joint development of operational solutions.

### **About the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean**

The Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA) -the Spanish acronym is CEPAL- was established by Economic and Social Council resolution 106(VI) of 25 February 1948 and began to function that same year. The scope of the Commission's work was later broadened to include the countries of the Caribbean, and by resolution 1984/67 of 27 July 1984, the Economic Council decided to change its name to the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC); the Spanish acronym, CEPAL, remains unchanged.

ECLAC, which is headquartered in Santiago, Chile, is one of the five regional commissions of the United Nations. It was founded with the purpose of contributing to the economic development of Latin America, coordinating actions directed towards this end, and reinforcing economic ties among countries and with other nations of the world. The promotion of the region's social development was later included among its primary objectives.

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### **The Report and Infographics can be downloaded here:**

<https://www.internetjurisdiction.net/news/release-of-internet-jurisdiction-and-eclac-regional-status-report-2020>

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