

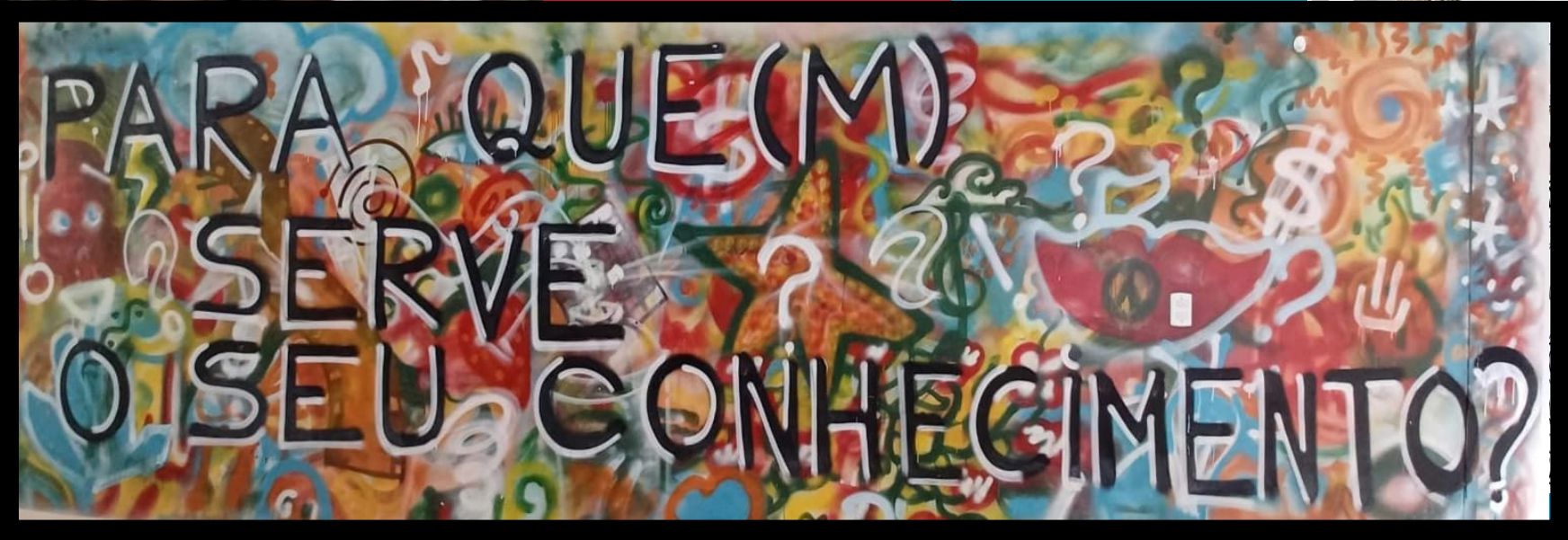


FOCUS ON LATIN AMERICA – What and Who is your knowledge for?

Focus on the Global South: EDUFI Programme Coordinators
Meeting, 24.10.2023

Johanna Kivimäki, Counsellor of higher education and science
Consulate of Finland in Sao Paulo, Brazil





✚ EU's Focus is back on LAC

- Geopolitics & Spanish presidency of EU
- 3rd EU-CELAC Summit, July 2023
- Informal meeting of EU and CELAC Ministers of Higher Education, May 2023
 - Aim: EU-CELAC Common Area of Higher Education
- The Joint Initiative for Research and Innovation (JIRI), Senior Officials Meeting, November 2023
 - Revision of the joint roadmap and priorities

SUOMI
FINLAND



✚ EU-LAC collaboration priorities

**SUOMI
FINLAND**

- EU-CELAC Strategic Roadmap 2021-2023 for the R&I cooperation:
 - Health, green transition, digital transformation, innovation, researcher mobility
- Team Europe initiatives with Latin America
 - Security and justice, inclusive and equal societies, green transition, digitalization, forest governance and biodiversity, sustainable growth and livelihoods, human rights
- Global Gateway
 - Energy, transport, health, education and research
- EU's bilateral science and technology cooperation agreements with Argentina, Brazil, Chile and Mexico
 - Energy, health, oceans, water and digitalization, etc.
 - EU-Brazil ST dialogue meeting, December 2024



+ Higher Education cooperation in LAC

- UNESCO's Regional Conference on Higher Education (CRES+5), Brasília, March 2024
 - Follow-up of the Action Plan 2018-2028 to advance collaboration between HEIs, governments and international organizations towards achieving the SDGs
 - Education system, diversity and interculturality, internationalization and integration, social challenges, science, technology and innovation, human and sustainable development
- New Regional Convention for the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees in Higher Education in Latin America and the Caribbean (NCRALC)
 - Yet to be ratified by all 23 signee countries
 - Aims to advance internationalization and mobility

SUOMI
FINLAND



✚ Focus on Brazil

- 7th largest nation, 9th largest economy
- Continental country with 26 states
- 3,2 % of the global scientific production, 13th place
- Importance in the global fora increasing
 - G20 presidency: Rio de Janeiro Summit, 18-19 November 2024
 - COP-30 in Belem, Para state, November 2025
 - BRICS presidency in 2025 & BRICS Bank presidency until July 2025
 - UNHRC 2024-2026
 - Seeks to reform the UNSC to gain a permanent seat with veto power

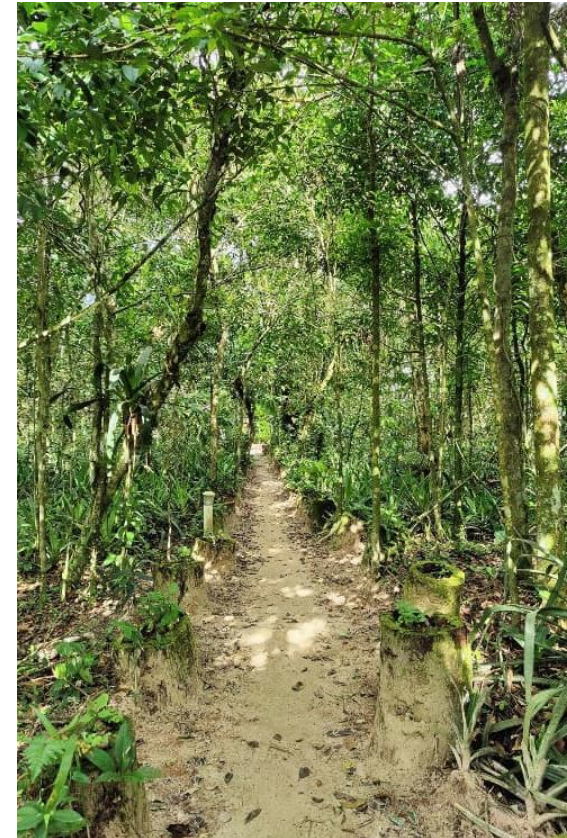
**SUOMI
FINLAND**



✚ News on Brazilian priorities

**SUOMI
FINLAND**

- Extra budgets for HEIs and for national study scholarships in 2023
- New national strategy for Science, Technology and Innovation in 2024
- Science and Higher education policies highlight diversity, inclusion and reduction of social inequalities
- Potential themes for joint interests:
 - Green transition: Bioeconomy, circular economy and renewable energy; biodiversity;
 - Digital transition: ICT, artificial intelligence and cyber security; space technologies;
 - Health: Health technologies and biotechnology;
 - Education: Education development at all levels, educational sciences and teacher training; edutech
- In the search for Joint strategy for Internationalization of Brazilian universities?
 - FAUBAI Conference for International Higher Education, April 2024



+ Focus on Amazonia

- Collaboration with the Universities in the Amazon high on the agenda
- Amazônia +10 Initiative, Brazil
 - To support scientific research of tropical forests, technological development, interaction between nature and society
 - Strengthening Higher Education in the region
 - Activate local researchers with their partners
 - Sustainable and inclusive development of the region, based on the needs of local communities
- Amazon Fund
 - Fund actions to reduce CO2 emissions caused by deforestation: Bioeconomy with local impact
- COP 30: Smart city development of Belem

**SUOMI
FINLAND**



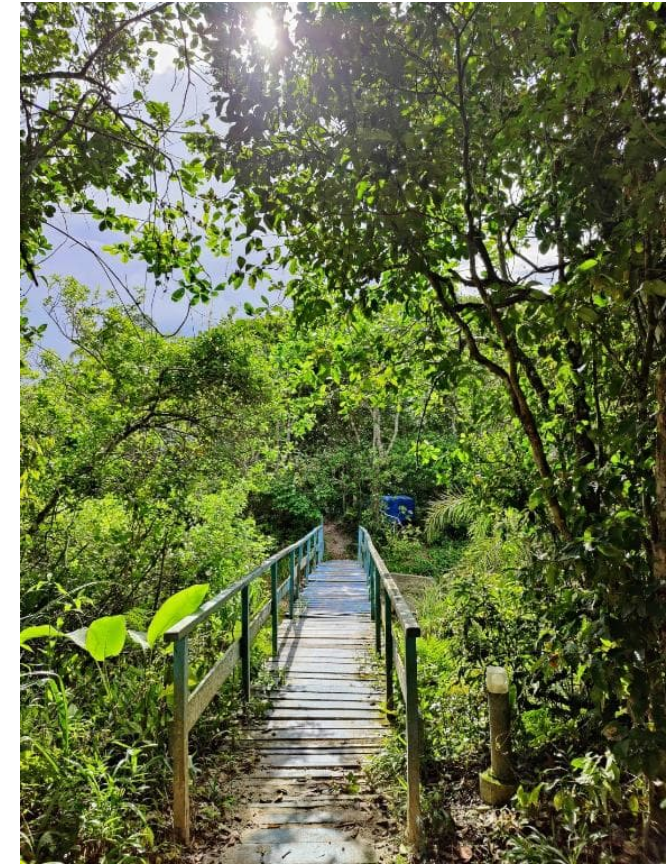


What and who is your knowledge for?

SUOMI
FINLAND

- Addressing the thematic and strategic needs defined by
 - Global, regional, national, local, public, private, third sector interests?
 - By Higher Education Institutions?
- Global operational environment for HE and science does not reflect the diversity of its actors - LAC is underrepresented!
 - Weak position of Spanish and Portuguese as international languages of science
 - Societal relevance of universities much highlighted in LAC – not reflected in the international rankings

(Kyria Finardi, FAUBAI 2023)



➤ Much focus on the needs for internationalization of HE and Research

+ FIN-LAC higher education collaboration

SUOMI
FINLAND

- + 200 MoUs between Finnish and LAC HEIs (2022)
 - Most with Brazil, Chile, Mexico
 - Activities: Education and teaching cooperation; Student and staff mobility; Research and RDI; Education export
 - Many would need to be activated!
- EDUFI TFK calls 2022 & 2023: 23 projects funded for LAC
 - Brazil, Chile, Argentina, Peru, Mexico and Uruguay
 - *IT, AI, energy, food and agriculture, bio and circular economy, health, aging, business, indigenous studies, maritime economy, morfology, teacher training, study environments, humanitarian work*
 - Offers opportunities for developing internationalization!
- 15 Erasmus+ Global Mobility partnerships with LAC





**SUOMI
FINLAND**

KIITOS! GRACIAS! OBRIGADA!

Johanna Kivimäki

Counsellor of higher education and science

Consulate of Finland in Sao Paulo, Brazil

johanna.kivimaki@formin.fi