

The UNCITRAL Latin America and Caribbean Days (LAC Days) LAC Days 2023

Final Report



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I. Introduction

1. This report is on the UNCITRAL Latin American and Caribbean Days (“the LAC Days”) 2023, which is the fourth edition of those Days (the first edition was held in 2020). After providing background information on the UNCITRAL Days in general, including their earlier editions and different regional series, the report highlights the objectives, deliverables and outcomes of the LAC Days 2023. It includes a snapshot of host jurisdictions and the number of events and participants per jurisdiction, charts with some statistics and two annexes (annex I with a brief summary of the academic events and annex II with testimonies of partner institutions).

2. The following acronyms are used throughout the report:

- a. “ASADIP” means the American Association of Private International Law;
- b. “Commission” means the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL);
- c. “ICC” means the International Chamber of Commerce;
- d. “LAC” means the Latin American and the Caribbean region;
- e. “OAS” means the Organization of American States;
- f. “OECS” means the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States;
- g. “MINCETUR” means the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Tourism of Peru;
- h. “MSME” means micro, small and medium-sized enterprises;
- i. “SICA” means the Central American Integration System;
- j. “SIECA” means the Central American Economic Integration;
- k. “SOVEDEM” means the Venezuela Society on Trade Law,
- l. “UNCITRAL RCAP” means the UNCITRAL Regional Centre for Asia and the Pacific;
- m. “ESCAP” means the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific;
- n. “ECLAC” means the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;
- o. “WISTA” means the Women’s International Shipping and Trading Association

3. Universities and other institutions mentioned in this report are referred to as follows, listed per jurisdiction:

- a. In Argentina, “UBA” means *Universidad de Buenos Aires* and “USAL” means *Universidad del Salvador*;
- b. In Brazil, “FDSUP” means *Faculdade de Direito, Univesidade de São Paulo*;
- c. In the Dominican Republic, “PUCMM” means *Pontificia Universidad Católica y Maestra*;

- d. In Ecuador, “USFQ” means *Universidad San Francisco de Quito*;
- e. In Panama, “Adipcop” means the Association of International Private and Comparative Law of Panama;
- f. In Paraguay, “CEDEP” means *Centro de Estudios de Derecho, Economía y Política*;
- g. In Peru, “PUCP” means *Pontificia Universidad Católica*, and “IDEI” means *Institute of International Studies*;
- h. In Uruguay, “UM” means *Universidad de Montevideo*.

II. Background information on the UNCITRAL Days

4. The “UNCITRAL Days” are a flagship annual series of regional events that the secretariat of UNCITRAL co-hosts with partner institutions of higher learning (hereinafter, “partner institutions”). Conceived as an annual celebration of the establishment of UNCITRAL by the United Nations General Assembly in its resolution 2205 (XXI) on 17 December 1966, they were first launched as a regional event in 2014 by the UNCITRAL RCAP (“the UNCITRAL AP Days”). The UNCITRAL AP Days have become a success and led to the launch of the UNCITRAL LAC Days in 2020 followed by the UNCITRAL Africa Days in 2022 and the UNCITRAL Days in the Arab States (on a pilot basis in 2023).

5. The UNCITRAL Days aim to increase awareness of UNCITRAL texts generally and foster study, research and discussions by the participants of specific topics related to UNCITRAL’s work. They are aimed at and involve young legal scholars, law students and young legal professionals (i.e., the next generation of legal practitioners, academics and policymakers) who, in their respective capacities, may well become essential participants in, contributors to, and proponents of the work of UNCITRAL in the future.

6. The events under the UNCITRAL Days are organised throughout a given year by the partner institutions, with the support of the UNCITRAL secretariat. These events are academic in nature. The partner institutions that take the lead in organizing them typically focus for each edition on an area of commercial law identified as being of significant importance in their jurisdiction under an overarching theme suggested by and coordinated with the UNCITRAL secretariat. Participation in the UNCITRAL Days is free.

7. Since their inception, the UNCITRAL Days in all regions have reached many thousands of participants (students, professors, researchers, practitioners and, as applicable, government officials). Their deliverables (lectures, presentations, focused workshops, etc.) have increased awareness of UNCITRAL’s work and international trade law issues in general, which in turn led to increased participation in UNCITRAL’s work by States of these regions and assisted them in their consideration of UNCITRAL texts for domestic commercial law reform.

8. The Commission has welcomed the continued expansion of the secretariat’s engagement with academic partners geared toward students, young researchers and practitioners in international trade law and has extended its congratulations to all participants and hosts of the UNCITRAL Days.¹

¹ Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-Eight Session, Supplement No. 17 (A/78/17), paras. 237-239.

III. LAC Days 2023

1. A snapshot of host jurisdictions, events and participants



2. The main theme and subjects

9. The theme of the LAC Days 2023 was “Exploring the digital frontiers of cross-border trade”. The selection of this theme acknowledged the enactment of legislation in this region based on or influenced by the UNCITRAL texts on electronic commerce² and the conclusion of regional trade agreements with chapters on electronic commerce or the digital economy.³ In addition, countries in the region have experienced an increase in the use of paperless trade, as explained during the side event “New Frontiers of Digital Trade” organized during the fifty-sixth session of UNCITRAL.⁴

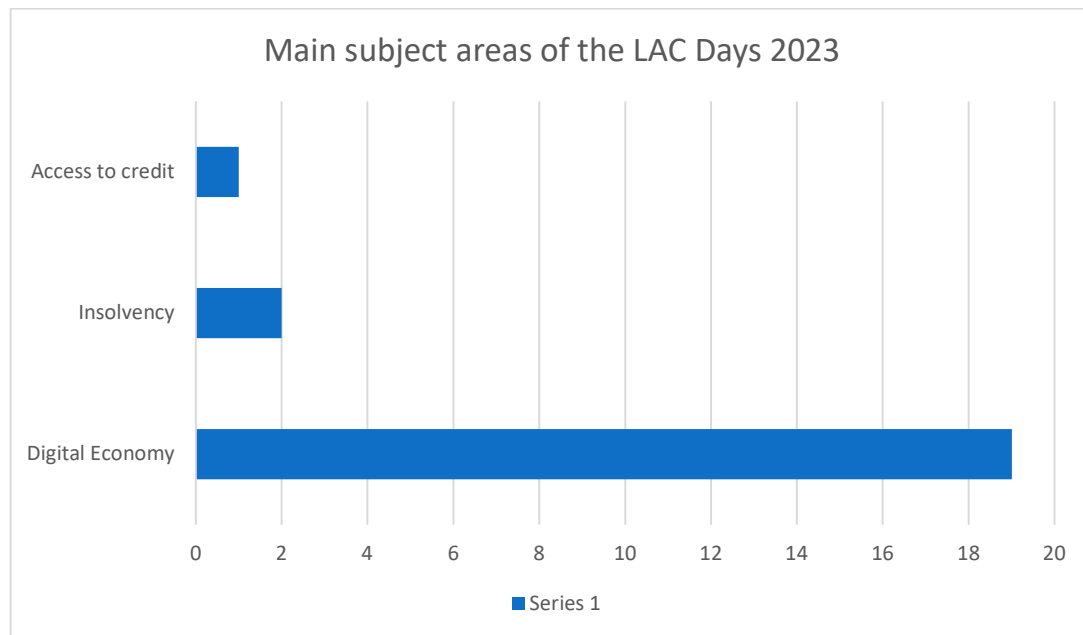
10. Under that broad theme, the following subjects were discussed: a) digital economy with reference to UNCITRAL texts on electronic commerce and the ongoing legislative work on legal aspects of the use of automation in contracting, including artificial intelligence, and of data contracts, i.e., contracts to share data; b) access to credit in the digital economy with reference to UNCITRAL texts on secured transactions and legislative work on electronic warehouse receipt; and c) insolvency, including digitalization of insolvency proceedings,

² For example, legislation based on the UNCITRAL Model Law on Electronic Commerce (1996) has been adopted in the following Latin America jurisdictions: Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Suriname and Venezuela. It was also adopted in the Caribbean in Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Trinidad and Tobago.

³ For example, article 14.5 in Chapter 14 on e-commerce of the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) expressly provides that “Each Party shall maintain a legal framework governing electronic transactions consistent with the principles of the UNCITRAL Model Law on Electronic Commerce or the United Nations Convention on the Use of Electronic Communications in International Contracts”. This agreement covers 11 economies of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), including Chile, Mexico and Peru in the LAC region.

⁴ Information on this event is available here <https://uncitral.un.org/en/side-events-56th-commission-session>

digital assets as part of the insolvency estate, their tracing and recovery and handling insolvencies of crypto exchanges, with reference to UNCITRAL insolvency model laws (i.e., on Cross-Border Insolvency, enacted in some countries in the region,⁵ on Recognition and Enforcement of Insolvency-Related Judgments, and on Enterprise Group Insolvency).



**More than one subject area is usually covered in any given event.*

11. The LAC Days 2023 offered a platform for participating stakeholders to review existing legal frameworks, identify legal gaps, exchange experiences and good practices, and increase their understanding of how UNCITRAL texts can enable digital trade. The discussions contributed to the (further) development of academic curriculums in this area of law. They have also contributed to the increased awareness and understanding of basic enablers of electronic commerce and digital economy, such as electronic signatures and electronic transferable records and of specific issues arising from the use of data, automatic and autonomous processing tools and generative artificial intelligence in trade, as well as specifics of insolvencies of crypto companies and of tracing and recovering digital assets.

3. The program of events

12. The LAC Days 2023 events were organized by 22 universities, with the support of 14 institutions of higher learning from the region and international and regional organizations active in international trade.⁶ It included 20 countries, including English, Portuguese and Spanish-speaking countries. Those were Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago (also attended by Barbados, Belize, Jamaica and Suriname), Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

⁵ Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Mexico and Panama.

⁶ See the list of participating universities and institutions in annex.

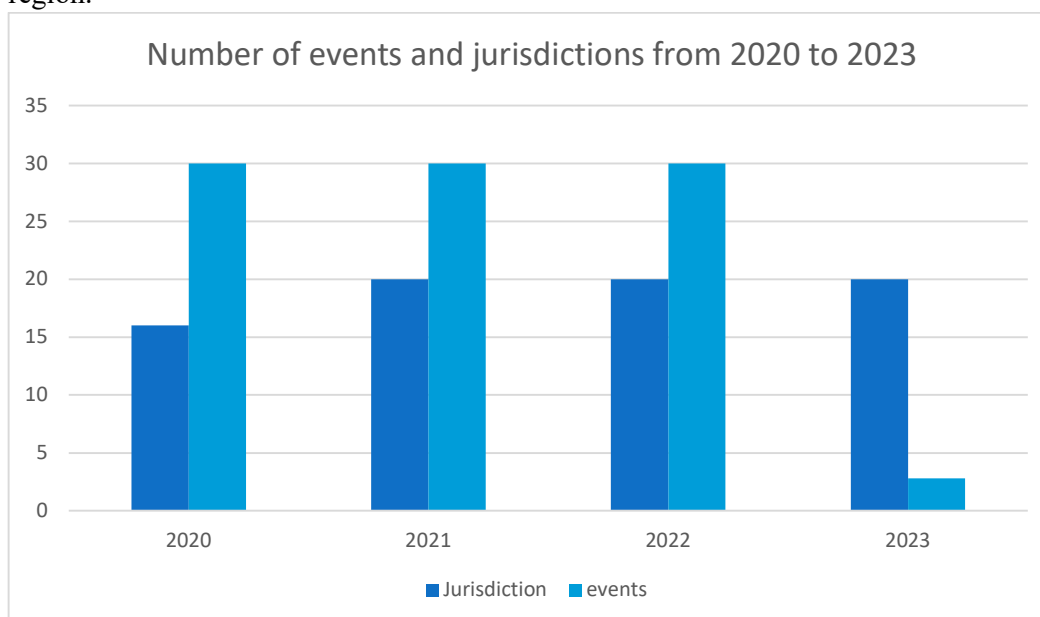
13. The LAC Days 2023 were launched at a side event held on the margins of the sixty-sixth session of Working Group IV (Electronic Commerce), to highlight the relevance of the theme selected for the LAC Days 2023 to the work of that Working Group and to encourage a greater engagement from the region in the work of that Working Group. With the support of the UNCITRAL secretariat, a number of online or hybrid events followed under the LAC Days 2023 with active participation of panellists and interested audience from inside and outside the region. The program of the UNCITRAL LAC Days 2023 consisted of the following events:

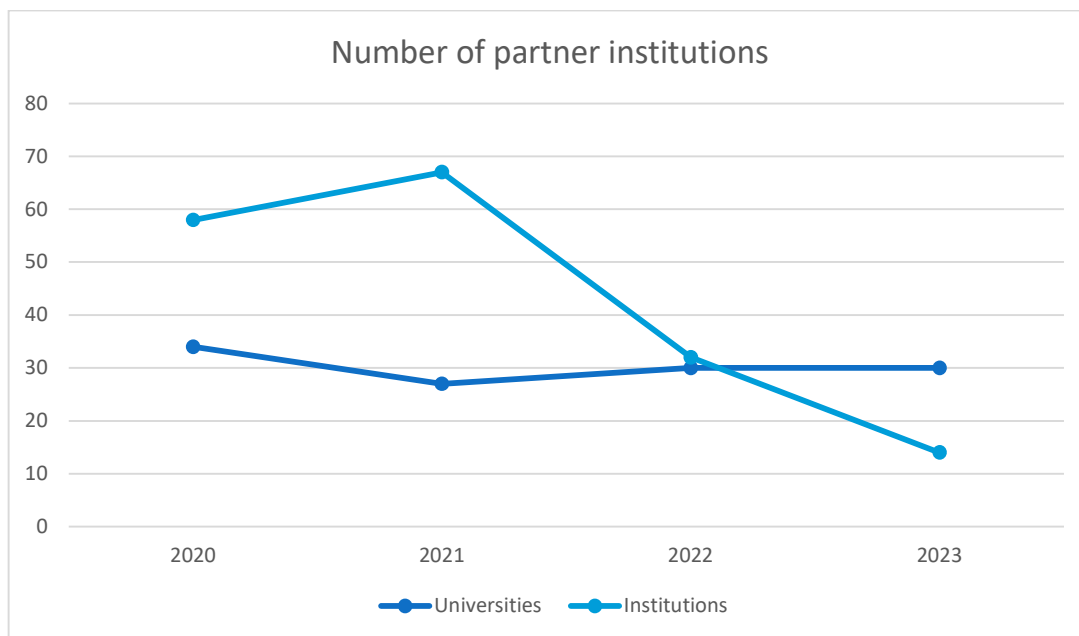
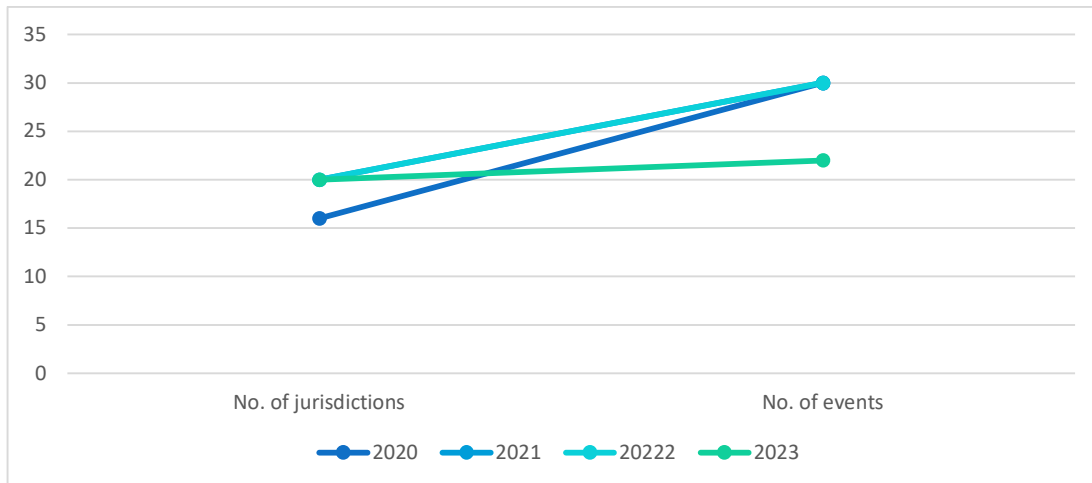
<p style="text-align: center;">UNCITRAL LAC DAYS 2023 Calendario/Calendar</p>  <p>12-de octubre UNCITRAL LAC DAYS-Colombia, actividad organizada por la Universidad Santo Tomás Tunja, en el marco del Congreso Internacional Nuevas Tendencias en Derecho "Disrupción, Tecnología y Protección Jurídica".</p> <p>17-de octubre Jornada Académica Preparatoria, actividad organizada con la Asociación Americana de Derecho Internacional Privado (ASADIP), con el apoyo del Centro de Estudios para la Integración Económica de la Secretaría de Integración de la SIECA.</p> <p>Video: https://youtu.be/nmQARp_dyk</p> <p>20-de octubre UNCITRAL LAC DAYS-Brazil, "Online Dispute Resolution and E-Commerce in the Transnational Context", an activity organized by the Faculty of Law, University of São Paulo (FDSUP) and the International Institute for Conflict Prevention and Resolution-Brazilian Advisory Board, during the São Paulo Arbitration Week.</p> <p>23-de octubre UNCITRAL LAC DAYS-Panamá, actividad organizada por la Facultad de Derecho y Ciencias Políticas de Panamá, el Colegio Nacional de Abogados de Panamá y Adipcop.</p> <p>Video: https://www.youtube.com/live/v1ReIoVX16E?si=zzWV72JTW_eJ40E</p> <p>25-de octubre UNCITRAL LAC DAYS-Argentina, "Facilitación del comercio electrónico: el reconocimiento mutuo de firmas electrónicas, visiones comparadas", actividad</p>	<p>organizada por la Facultad de Ciencias Jurídicas, Universidad del Salvador y el Centro de Estudios Salvador en Uruguay.</p> <p>Video: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2qoPE_1J7nJfAKrls1djzAc</p> <p>26-de octubre UNCITRAL LAC DAYS-El Salvador, Potenciales y Oportunidades del comercio electrónico en el marco de la nueva ley", organizado por el Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores y el Instituto Diplomático Dr. Jose Gustavo Guerrero, con la participación de universidades de El Salvador.</p> <p>UNCITRAL LAC DAYS-Venezuela, "La digitalización del comercio internacional: especial referencia a la legislación vigente venezolana", actividad organizada por la Sociedad Venezolana de Derecho Mercantil (SOVEDEM) y la Maestría en Derecho Internacional Privado de la Universidad Central de Venezuela.</p> <p>Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FUhsSfx420Y</p> <p>1-de noviembre UNCITRAL LAC DAYS-Argentina: "Construyendo un ambiente legal propicio para la economía digital", actividad organizada por la Universidad Nacional del Litoral, la Universidad Austral, Asociación Americana de Derecho Internacional Privado (ASADIP) y CEDEP.</p> <p>7-de noviembre UNCITRAL LAC DAYS -- Chile, "Desafíos actuales para el comercio electrónico", actividad organizada por la Facultad de Derecho y el Master en Derecho de la Empresa, Universidad de los Andes.</p> <p>14-de noviembre UNCITRAL LAC DAYS-Chile, "Explorando las fronteras digitales del comercio transfronterizo", actividad organizada por la Universidad del Valparaíso en asociación con Women's International Shipping and Trading Association (WISTA-Trade Committee).</p> <p>Video: https://www.youtube.com/uvalpochile</p>
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<p>15-de-noviembre</p> <p>UNCITRAL·LAC·DAYS-Chile, actividad organizada por la Facultad de Derecho, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile</p> <p>Video: https://youtu.be/TEZvRhdbHs4?si=rYkpZRqWick5OmuU</p> <p>UNCITRAL·LAC·DAYS-Argentina, “Explorando las fronteras digitales del comercio transfronterizo”, actividad organizada por el Departamento de Derecho Económico y Empresarial, Dirección de Relaciones Internacionales de la Facultad de Derecho de la Universidad de Buenos Aires y el Colegio Público de la Abogacía de la Capital Federal</p> <p>Video: https://youtu.be/qVJei49ostw</p> <p>16-de-noviembre</p> <p>UNCITRAL·LAC·DAYS-Colombia, “Explorando las fronteras digitales del comercio transfronterizo”, actividad organizada por el Departamento de Derecho de los Negocios, Universidad Externado de Colombia y ICC-Colombia</p> <p>21-de-noviembre</p> <p>UNCITRAL·LAC·DAYS-Uruguay, “Insolvencia en la economía digital: la insolvencia de grupos de empresa”, actividad organizada por la Facultad de Derecho, Universidad de Montevideo</p> <p>22-de-noviembre</p> <p>UNCITRAL·LAC·DAYS-Perú, “Retos del comercio electrónico transfronterizo”, actividad organizada por el Instituto de Estudios Internacionales Pontificia Universidad Católica de Perú</p> <p>Video: https://youtu.be/dJrI8b0RvDs</p> <p>23-de-noviembre</p> <p>UNCITRAL·LAC·DAYS-Cuba, actividad organizada por la Facultad de Derecho, Universidad de La Habana</p> <p>29-de-noviembre</p> <p>UNCITRAL·LAC·DAYS-República Dominicana, actividad organizada por la Escuela de Derecho, Pontificia Universidad Católica, Madre y Maestra, Campus de Santo Domingo</p> <p>Video: https://www.youtube.com/live/I4MaJV4wfGI?si=yPNTgPiFOoPgbC21</p>	<p>30-of-November</p> <p>UNCITRAL·LAC·DAYS-Trinidad and Tobago, activity organized by the Faculty of Law, the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus</p> <p>Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RUvNufx40s0</p> <p>5-de-diciembre</p> <p>UNCITRAL·LAC·DAYS-Perú, actividad organizada por la Facultad de Derecho, Universidad de Ciencias Aplicadas</p> <p>Video: https://youtu.be/PjO0GjY-z0Y</p> <p>11-de-diciembre</p> <p>UNCITRAL·LAC·DAYS-México “El Derecho Mercantil Internacional y su Implementación con las Nuevas Tecnologías”, actividad organizada por la Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores de México</p> <p>12-de-diciembre</p> <p>UNCITRAL·LAC·DAYS-Chile “Explorando las fronteras digitales del comercio transfronterizo”, actividad organizada por el Centro de Estudios en Derecho Informático, Departamentos de Derecho Económico, Derecho Comercial y el Instituto de Estudios Internacionales, Facultad de Derecho, Universidad de Chile</p> <p>22-de-enero-de-2024*</p> <p>UNCITRAL·LAC·DAYS-Ecuador “Explorando las fronteras digitales del comercio transfronterizo”, actividad organizada por el Colegio de Jurisprudencia de la Universidad San Francisco de Quito</p> <p>*Evento planeado durante 2023</p>
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4. Participation

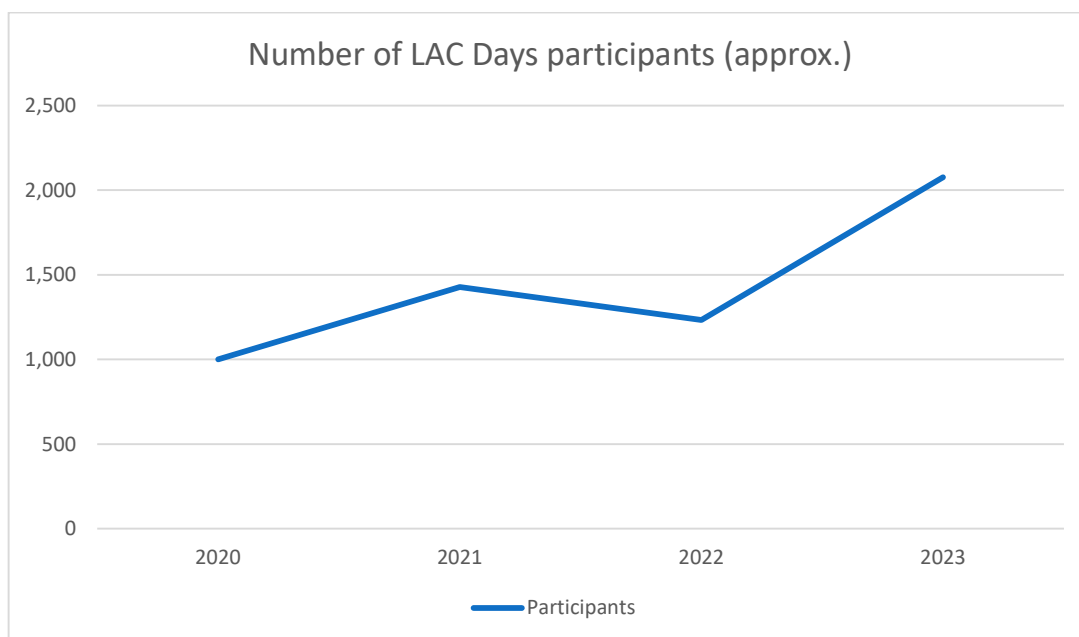
14. As shown in the graphs below, although attracting the same number of participating jurisdictions as in previous three years (22), the number of events and partner institutions is lower for the LAC Days 2023. This may be explained by the selected technical and highly specialized theme, which is not covered in academic programs of many universities across the region.



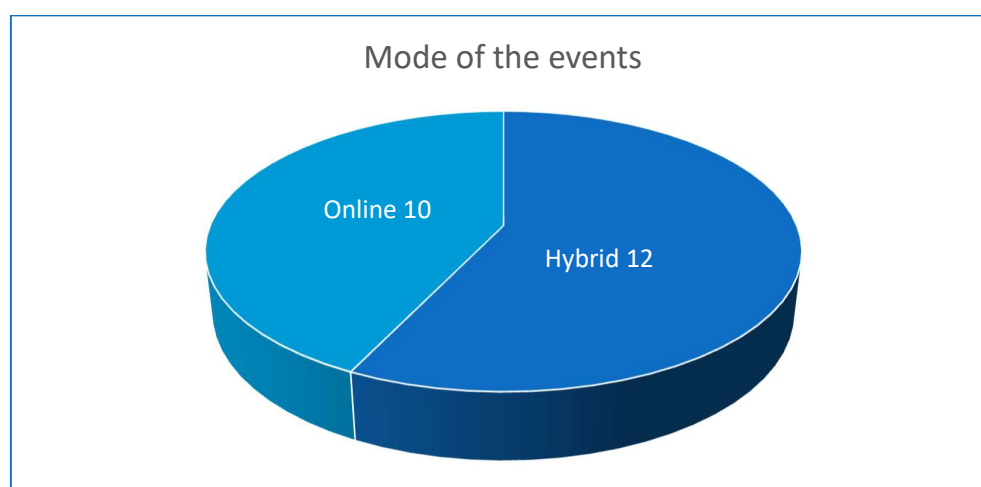


15. At the same time, the number of participants in the LAC Days 2023 considerably increased, reaching 2,077 participants.⁷ For the first time, the LAC Days reached out to participants from the member States of OECS (Antigua and Barbuda, Commonwealth of Dominica, Grenada, Montserrat, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines) and its associate members (Anguilla, the British Virgin Islands, Martinique and Guadeloupe).

⁷ In comparison, the 2020 edition had a global live audience of over 1,000 participants, with some events reproduced 1,500 times in Facebook; the 2021 edition of the UNCITRAL LAC Days reached a global audience of 1,428 participants; and the 2022 edition reached 1,233 participants.



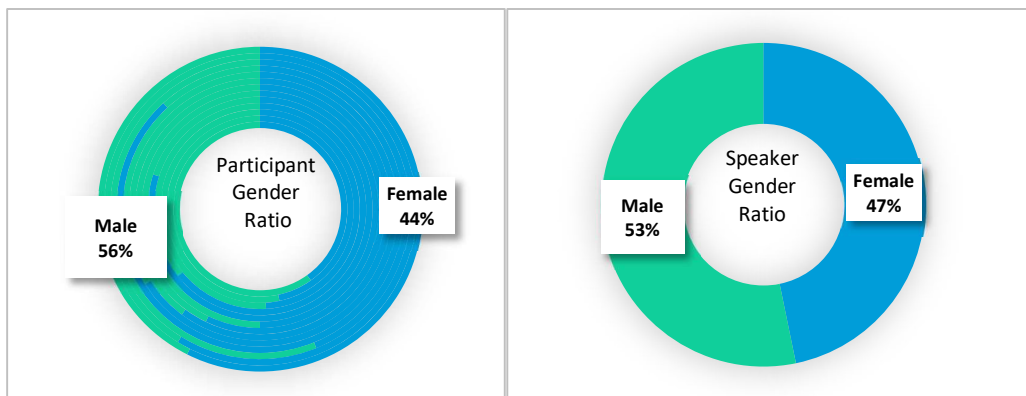
16. This uptick in participation is explained by several facts, including that the 2023 edition was built on the success of the earlier editions. Technology has continued to boost participation by overcoming geographical limitations and helping bypass the resource limitations associated with the organisation of in-person activities. Most of the events continued to be held online, enabling the participation of audiences from across the LAC region and beyond, covering developed, developing, landlocked countries and small islands. Some events, including high-level,⁸ were organised in a hybrid format with online participation of expert attendees from other countries in and outside the region. The Secretary of UNCITRAL attended two of these high-level events in person during the official visit to El Salvador and Panama.



⁸ For example, the Facultad de Derecho, *Pontificia Universidad Católica in Chile*, organised an academic event with the participation of the Minister of Justice of Chile and experts from the Government of Chile, the Legal Affairs Office at the *Ministry of Foreign Affairs of El Salvador* organised an academic event with the participation of the Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs, and high-level representatives from the Judiciary and from the authority on insolvency; the *PUCP* in Peru, organised an academic event with the participation of the Director of the Department of International Law, at OAS; the Faculty of Law of *UWI (St. Augustine Campus)*, organised an academic event with the participation of the Executive Director of the Economic Development Council of Belize, the General Manager, Legal Services and corporate Affairs, of the Republic Bank Limited in Trinidad and Tobago and expert from the OECS.

17. Most of the events continued being directed towards law students and members of the academia but some were delivered to additional stakeholders, such as the public, private experts and researchers and professional bodies with a specialisation in digital trade. As a result, this edition attracted larger audiences, which included legal practitioners, legislators, policymakers and private sector stakeholders (e.g. IT companies), in addition to the usual UNCITRAL Days' audience consisting of students, researchers and university professors. In addition to the usual efforts to circulate information about the events through UNCITRAL social media channels (LinkedIn/Facebook/X) and networks of professional bodies (e.g., the association of professors and lawyers), the extra efforts of partner institutions and the UNCITRAL secretariat also helped reach out to more diverse audiences across the region during each event.

18. At large, the UNCITRAL LAC Days 2023 gathered experts from jurisdictions at different stages of economic development, thereby ensuring that diverse perspectives could be represented. They also benefited from the active participation of domestic governmental and non-governmental stakeholders. The audience continued to be diverse, with over 55% of the participants being women, based on statistics provided by co-organizers where gender-disaggregated data was available.⁹ Gender parity was also ensured in the composition of the panels, where almost half of the expert speakers were women.



* Based on statistics provided by co-organizers where gender breakdown was available

19. The panellists have continued to include academics, practitioners, government officials, legislators, and members of the judiciary, who have written about UNCITRAL instruments and participated in UNCITRAL activities such as its Working Groups, colloquia and expert meetings, amongst others. More than half of the expert speakers were academics, followed by legal practitioners, entrepreneurs, policymakers, members of the judiciary and legislators. The participation of private sector representatives as panellists brought new perspectives, including ways of raising awareness and advocating for the incorporation of UNCITRAL texts in national and regional legal frameworks.¹⁰

⁹ Where gender breakdown was available, this pattern was broadly repeated throughout this series.

¹⁰ Some panellists were from Google-Brazil (Legal Department); Google-Chile (Government Affairs and Public Policies); Conecta Logistica (Data-Intelligent); ReDek-Colombia, BIMCO (Standards, Innovation and Research), Pop Comunicaciones-Peru; Republic Bank Limited-Trinidad and Tobago (Legal Services and Corporate Affairs)).

5. Format

20. The format of the events has remained flexible and varied according to the capacity and preference of partner institutions, ranging from informal, in-class discussions to international academic conferences.¹¹ Members of the UNCITRAL secretariat supported these events by delivering presentations online (in English and Spanish) and participating actively in the Q&A segments. All these events were opened by a welcome message from the Secretary of UNCITRAL.

6. Partner institutions

21. The success of the UNCITRAL LAC Days is largely attributable to the continuous support received from all LAC Days partner institutions, including universities, higher education institutions, training schools for Government representatives and diplomats, ministries in several countries, international and regional organisations, and professional bodies.

22. As in previous editions, this edition of the UNCITRAL LAC Days series was generously supported by ASADIP. Further, this edition has benefitted from the (renewed) support of: (a) the secretariat of SIECA; (b) the OAS Department of International Law; (c) the World Bank Finance, Competitiveness and Innovation Global Practice, Debt Resolution and Insolvency Department; (d) the ECLAC International Trade and Integration Division, Regional Integration Unit; and (e) the OECS secretariat. This series further received the support of the national branch of the International Chambers of Commerce and business or entrepreneurial associations, which, as partners, provided academic, professional, and technical assistance.

23. The following table lists the institutions of higher learning that hosted UNCITRAL LAC Days events in 2023, and other partners involved in organizing and supporting these events (listed in alphabetical order by co-hosting country):

COUNTRY	PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS	DATE OF EVENT
ARGENTINA	USAL, Facultad de Ciencias Juridicas and its Centro de Estudios Salvador in Uruguay	25.10.2023
ARGENTINA-PARAGUAY	Universidad Nacional del Litoral, Universidad Austral with the support of ASADIP and CEDEP, Paraguay	1.11.2023
ARGENTINA	UBA, Departamento de Derecho Económico y Empresarial, Direccion de Relaciones Internacioanles de la Facultad de Derecho, with the support of the Escuela de Postgrado del Colegio Público de Abogados de la Capital Federal	15.11.2023
BRAZIL	FDSUP and the International Institute for Conflict Prevention and Resolution-Brazilian Advisory Board	20.10.2023

¹¹ Videos of events have been shared on the UNCITRAL website once they were made available. See the calendar here <https://uncitral.un.org/en/lacday2023es>

COUNTRY	PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS	DATE OF EVENT
CHILE	Facultad de Derecho y Master en Derecho de la Empresa, Universidad de los Andes	7.10.2023
	Universidad del Valparaíso, with the support of WISTA-Trade Committee.	14.11.2023
	Pontificia Universidad Católica, Campus Santiago de Chile	15.11.2023
	University of Chile, Facultad de Derecho, Departamentos de Derecho Económico, de Derecho Comercial y de Derecho Internacional.	12.12.2023
COLOMBIA	Universidad Santo Tomás Punja	12.10.2023
	Universidad Externado de Colombia, Facultad de Derecho, Departamento de Derecho Comercial, Departamento de Derecho de los Negocios, Departamento de Derecho Fiscal y ICC-Colombia	16.11.2023
CUBA	Universidad de La Habana, Escuela de Derecho	23.11.2023
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	PUCMM, Escuela de Derecho	29.11.2023
GUATEMALA	ASADIP, SIECA and OAS	17.10.2023
ECUADOR	USFQ	22.01.2024
EL SALVADOR	Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores (Dirección de Asuntos Jurídicos), Instituto Diplomático Dr. Jose Gustavo Guerrero y Consorcio de universidades de El Salvador	26.10.2023
MEXICO	Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores (Consultoría Jurídica) y Universidad Autónoma de Ciudad Juárez	11.12.2023
PANAMA	Universidad de Panamá, Facultad de Derecho y Ciencias Políticas, Colegio Nacional de Abogados y Asociación de Derecho Internacional Privado y Derecho Comparado	23.10.2023
PERU	PUCP, Instituto de Estudios Internacionales, OAS Department of International Trade Law.	22.11.2023
	Universidad de Ciencias Aplicadas, Facultad de Derecho, Iuris Corpus	5.12.2023
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO (ATTENDED BY BARBADOS, BELIZE, JAMAICA, AND SURINAME)	University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus, Faculty of Law,	30.11.2023
URUGUAY	UM, Facultad de Derecho	21.11.2023
VENEZUELA (BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF)	Universidad Central de Venezuela, Master Programme in International Private Law and SOVEDEM,	26.10.2023

7. Supporting progress towards achieving Sustainable Development Goals

24. In 2015 the United Nations Member States adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which included 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The SDGs are an urgent call for action by all countries in a global partnership and an acknowledgement that ending poverty and other deprivation must go hand in hand with strategies that improve health and education, reduce inequality and spur economic growth.¹²

25. Aiming to improve education and increase awareness of UNCITRAL's mandate and legislative work, the UNCITRAL Days in all regions, including the LAC Days, have reinforced UNCITRAL's contribution to achieving the SDGs by countries in areas related to the theme for each event.¹³

26. In particular, the LAC Days series has contributed to the accomplishment of **SDG 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development** by strengthening long-term partnerships with regional organisations active in international law in the region.



27. Over the years, the LAC Days series has built effective partnerships with governments, members of the judiciary and the academia, legislators, policymakers, regional and international inter-governmental organizations, United Nations specialized agencies, professional bodies, and chambers of commerce. These partnerships have created a platform for reinforcing UNCITRAL's direct engagement with stakeholders in this region and beyond.

28. This edition of LAC Days has continued to rely on longstanding cooperation and support from regional and international institutions active in international trade in the LAC region (e.g. ASADIP, SIECA, OAS, and the World Bank) that have participated as panellists in events, co-sponsored academic activities on this series and advocated for the creation of an enabling legal environment for the digital economy, modelled after UNCITRAL instruments.

29. For example, in the UNCITRAL LAC Days 2023 (Uruguay), a senior expert from the World Bank Finance, Competitiveness and Innovation Global Practice, Debt Resolution, and Insolvency Department delivered presentations on the importance of establishing rules governing cross-border insolvency based on UNCITRAL texts, which are used by the World Bank worldwide as a benchmark in modernizing legal frameworks in that area of law. In the UNCITRAL LAC Days 2023 (Colombia), an expert from ECLAC explained the economic importance of digital trade in the region and its plans to replicate the experience of ESCAP in implementing the Readiness Assessments for Cross-Border Paperless Trade.¹⁴ For example, its legal readiness checklist serves to identify potential legal gaps and highlight what may need to

¹² Information on the implementation progress and SDGs in general is available here <https://sdgs.un.org/goals>

¹³ For additional information on how UNCITRAL texts supports SDGs, see <https://uncitral.un.org/en/about/sdg>

¹⁴ ESCAP – UNCITRAL – EIF Readiness Assessment Guide for Cross-Border Paperless Trade.

be done to ensure the laws support engagement in cross-border paperless trade. Part I of this checklist on laws related to electronic transactions and electronic signatures includes the principles guiding the UNCITRAL legislative texts on electronic commerce.¹⁵

30. The subjects discussed in the LAC Days 2023 series are also of direct relevance to:

- a) **SDG 5: Gender Equality. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.** Target 5 (adopt and strengthen sound policies and enforceable legislation for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls at all levels).
- b) **SDG 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all;** specifically in relation to Target 8.3 (Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalisation and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services),
- c) **SDG 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation and foster innovation,** specifically in relation to Target 9.3: Increase the access of small-scale industrial and other enterprises, particularly in developing countries, to financial services, including affordable credit, and their integration into value chains and markets).

IV. Main takeaways from the LAC Days 2023

31. An approximately 40% increase in participation from previous years and a more diverse group of participants in the 2023 LAC Days evidence that the 2023 overarching theme, “Exploring the digital frontiers of cross-border trade”, was very topical and well received in the region. Notably, it attracted English-speaking countries in the Caribbean, some of which enacted legislation on electronic commerce based on UNCITRAL texts, that were participating in LAC Days for the first time

32. Although highly technical and specialized, the theme allowed analysis of several cross-cutting issues (e.g., fintech, crypto assets and artificial intelligence) and the impact of technological developments on domestic and cross-border trade. Most of the events focused on the analysis of these issues in the context of the domestic legal framework applicable to digital economy. The panellists identified legal gaps and needs for improvement in that framework, including through harmonization of the domestic legal framework with internationally accepted standards prepared by UNCITRAL.

33. Different departments from partner universities that helped to organize the events brought perspectives from a variety of sectors (e.g. legal, trade, policy, and finance). In addition, the legal officers from IT companies joined the events sharing their experiences and best practices with policymakers, legislators, professors and students. As a result, through this series

¹⁵ The ESCAP legal readiness checklist is available here <https://readiness.digitalizetrade.org/legal-guide/introduction>

of events, a diverse group of participants (policymakers, legislators, students, academics, legal practitioners and entrepreneurs) became aware of the local needs in an enabling legal framework for digital trade and the benefits of using UNCITRAL instruments in that context. The increased knowledge of those instruments should make the participants of the LAC Days 2023 more equipped and better prepared for their use once their respective jurisdictions have adopted or enacted those instruments.

The UNCITRAL secretariat is grateful to all organizers and participants and to all those who supported the organization of the LAC Days 2023 for their level of engagement and enthusiasm. It hopes that the LAC Days 2024 will be welcomed in the region with renewed enthusiasm and an increased level of engagement. For institutions interested in co-organizing an UNCITRAL Days 2024 event, please contact the UNCITRAL secretariat at uncitral@un.org.



Annex I: Brief summary of events

UNCITRAL LAC Days – Academic Pre-event

(Guatemala City, Guatemala/Vienna, Austria, 17 October 2023)

This academic pre-event officially launched the UNCITRAL LAC Days 2023. It was organised as a side event to the sixty-sixth session of UNCITRAL Working Group IV (Electronic Commerce). UNCITRAL's long-standing partner institutions in the region (ASADIP, SIECA and OAS) co-sponsored this event. The event featured a message from the Chair of Working Group IV and presentations from high-level representatives from the Permanent Mission of Guatemala to the United Nations. The Secretary of UNCITRAL delivered opening remarks jointly with the President of ASADIP and the Chief of Cabinet of the SIECA Secretariat. Representatives from the OAS and from Mexico (expert-country delegate) talked about regional initiatives and UNCITRAL legislative work, from electronic commerce to digital trade.

76 participants attended the event. Most of them were from universities organising LAC Days events and UNCITRAL country delegates to Working Group IV (Electronic Commerce).

This event contributed to raising public awareness of the cross-border issues of the digital economy and how the work of other organisations on different aspects of the digital economy interacts with UNCITRAL's existing texts and ongoing legislative work on paperless trade transactions to create an enabling environment for digital trade.



UNCITRAL LAC Days Colombia

(Punja, Colombia, 12 October 2023)

UNCITRAL LAC Days Colombia was an academic activity organized by the Universidad Santo Tomás Punja, on the second day of the International Colloquium on new trends in law: disruption, technology and judicial protection.

The event was attended by 10 participants, mainly students and members of the judiciary from the municipality of Punja, Colombia.

This event educated students on UNCITRAL legislative texts on electronic commerce and familiarized members of the judiciary of the city of Punja with UNCITRAL's work on electronic commerce.



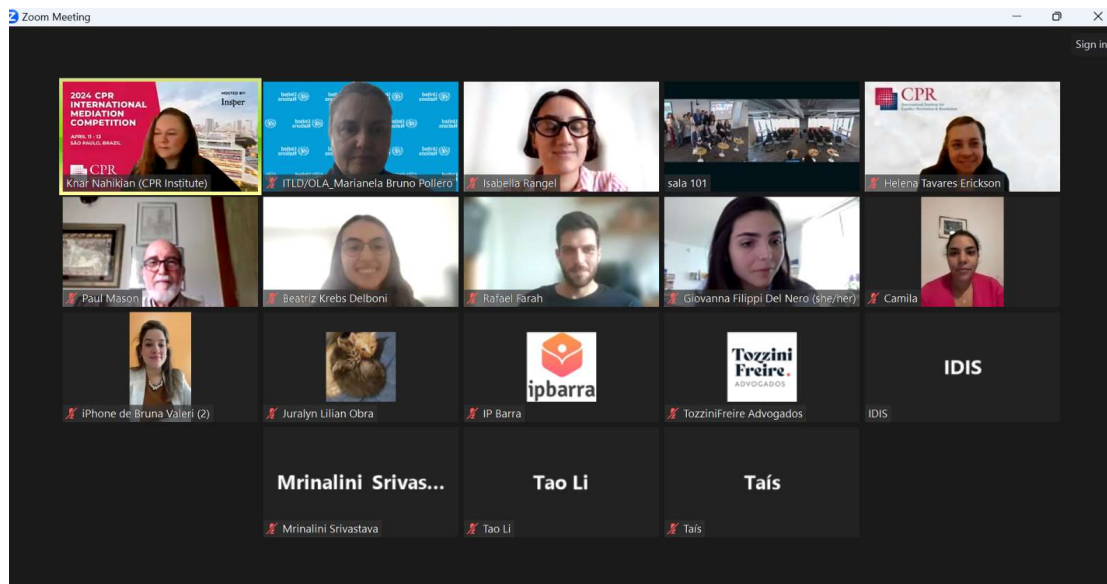
UNCITRAL LAC Days Brazil

(Sao Paulo, Brazil, 20 October 2023)

UNCITRAL LAC Days Brazil, “Online Dispute Resolution and E-Commerce in the Transnational Context”, was organized by FDSUP and the Brazilian Advisory Board of the International Institute for Conflict Prevention and Resolution during the São Paulo Arbitration Week.

30 participants (e.g., legal practitioners, researchers, professors, and students) attended this event, which shared valuable insights about current tools for resolving conflicts arising out of e-commerce platforms and discussed the future of online dispute resolution.

This event supported community-based institutions that contribute to economic activity, private sector development, access to justice, legal education, and skills-building in the region and beyond. At the same time, this event raised the awareness of young legal practitioners on the existing UNCITRAL texts on e-commerce and online dispute resolution.



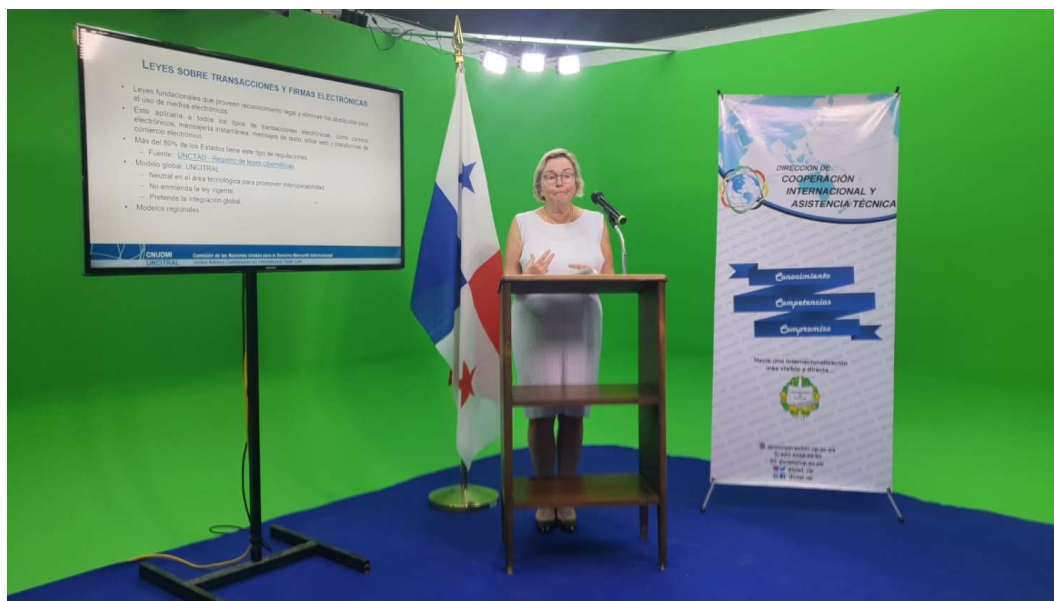
UNCITRAL LAC Days Panama

(Panama city, Panama, 23 October 2023)

UNCITRAL LAC Days Panama "Exploring the digital frontiers of cross-border trade" was organized by the Faculty of Law and Political Sciences of the University of Panama, the National Bar Association of Panama, and Adipcop. The Secretary of UNCITRAL participated in this activity in person on the occasion of her official visit to the country. Authorities from the university, jointly with members of the Judiciary, were members of the panel.

56 participants (e.g. law, students, young practitioners, members of the judiciary, legislators and policymakers) attended this event. The event was broadcast on YouTube and Facebook, reaching 551 viewers.

This event assisted members of academia in raising participants' awareness of the importance of UNCITRAL texts as a foundation for creating an enabling legal environment for the digital economy.



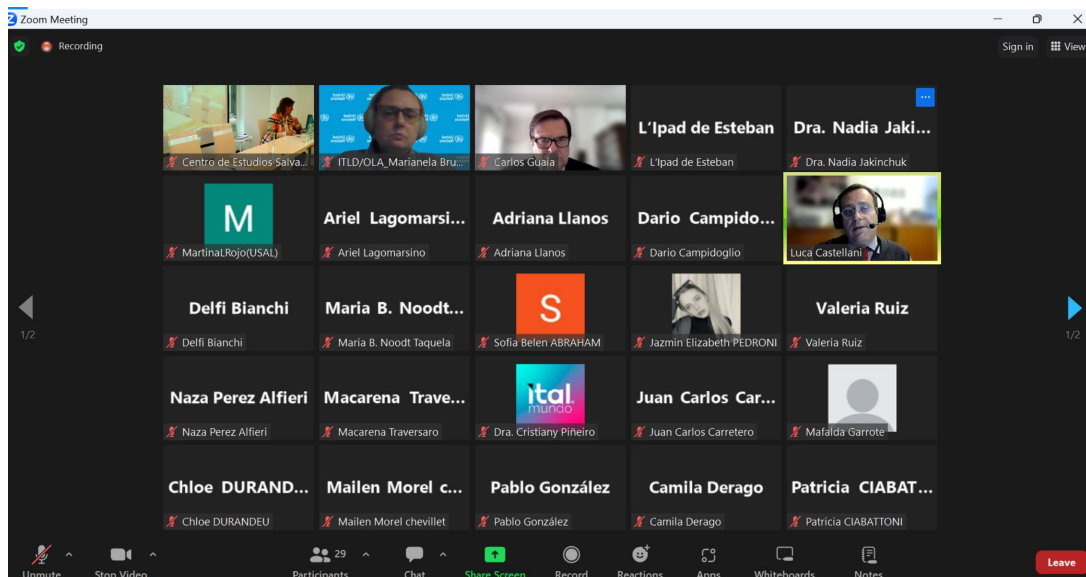
UNCITRAL LAC Days Argentina

(Montevideo, Uruguay 25 October 2023).

UNCITRAL LAC Days Argentina “Facilitation of economic commerce: the mutual recognition of electronic signature and contradicted views” was organized by USAL, the Faculty of Law at its Center of Studies of Salvador in Montevideo, Uruguay.

54 participants (e.g., entrepreneurs, legal practitioners, professors from and outside the region (France), and students) attended this event.

This event analyzed interoperability issues related to the implementation of the Mercosur Agreement on Mutual Recognition of Electronic Signature, which entered into force in Argentina (2021), Paraguay (2023) and Uruguay (2021). This event raised awareness of how UNCITRAL instruments on electronic commerce could facilitate removing obstacles to the interconnectivity in this region and promote legal harmonization. Paraguay is the only party to the United Nations Convention on the Use of Electronic Communications in International Contracts in this region. In addition, Paraguay has enacted legislation based on the UNCITRAL Model Laws on Electronic Transferable Records, Electronic Signatures and Electronic Commerce.



UNCITRAL LAC Days Venezuela

(Caracas, Venezuela, 26 October 2023)

UNCITRAL LAC Days Venezuela “The digitalisation of international trade: especial reference to the current legislation in Venezuela” was organized by the Master Program in International Private Law at the Universidad Central de Venezuela in partnership with SOVEDEM.

411 participants attended this online event, which was live-streamed to different regions of Venezuela.

This event supported community-based institutions that contribute to legal education and skills-building in the region and beyond. In addition, it promoted the use of domestic legislation modelled after the UNCITRAL Model Law on Electronic Commerce among legal practitioners.



Law on electronic signature, December 2000 and its Decree 1.204/2001

https://www.oas.org/juridico/spanish/mesicic3_ven_anexo19.pdf

<https://www.asambleanacional.gob.ve/storage/documentos/leyes/decreto-no-20220315144506.pdf>

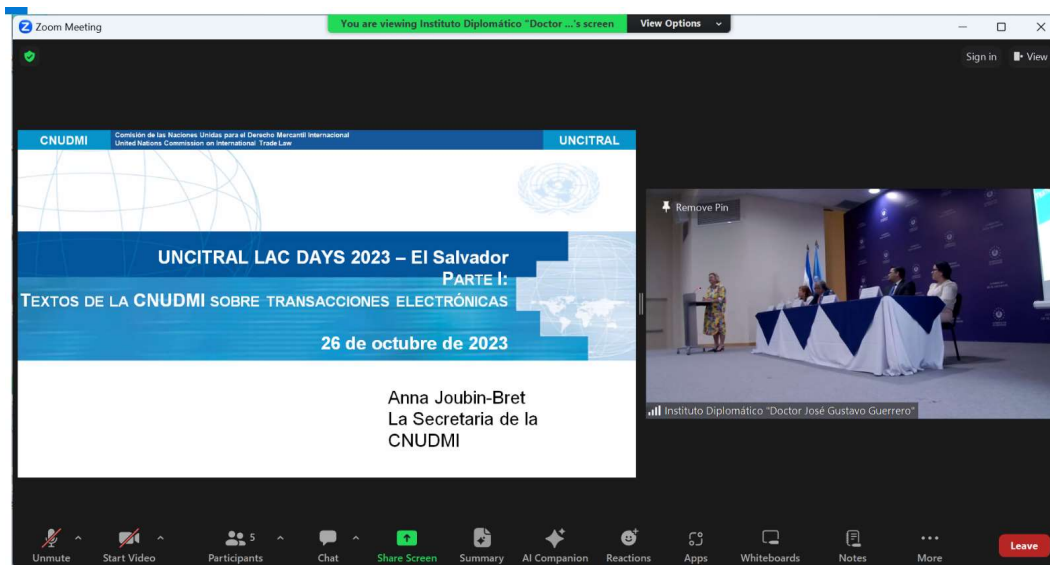
UNCITRAL LAC Days El Salvador

(San Salvador, El Salvador, 26 October 2023)

UNCITRAL LAC Days El Salvador “Exploring the Digital Frontiers of Cross-Border Trade” was organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of El Salvador and the Diplomatic Institute “Dr. Gustavo Guerrero”.

This event was hybrid and attended by 200 participants, including students, professors and researchers from universities in El Salvador; representatives from the Ministry of Foreign Relations, the Ministry of Economy, members of the Supreme Court of El Salvador and delegates of El Salvador to the United Nations in New York and Vienna.

This event underscored legal challenges related to the digital economy, including the treatment of personal data, digital identity and cybersecurity. The required amendments to the Civil and Commercial Code were discussed. Members of the judiciary analyzed emblematic court decisions related to UNCITRAL texts or its areas of law.



UNCITRAL LAC Days Argentina y Paraguay

(Buenos Aires, Argentina, 1 November 2023)

(Asuncion, Paraguay, 1 November 2023)

The UNCITRAL LAC Days Argentina y Paraguay “Building an Enabling Legal Environment for the Digital Economy” was organized by Universidad Nacional del Litoral and Universidad Austral in Argentina with the support of ASADIP and CEDEP (a private institution of education in Paraguay).

58 participants, mainly from the region (Argentina, Chile, Costa Rica, Mexico, Nicaragua and Paraguay), attended this event online.

This event raised awareness of the importance of the mandate of the working group and UNCITRAL's existing texts on e-commerce to set an enabling legal foundation for the digital economy. This event also supported community-based institutions that contribute to legal education and skills-building in the region and beyond.



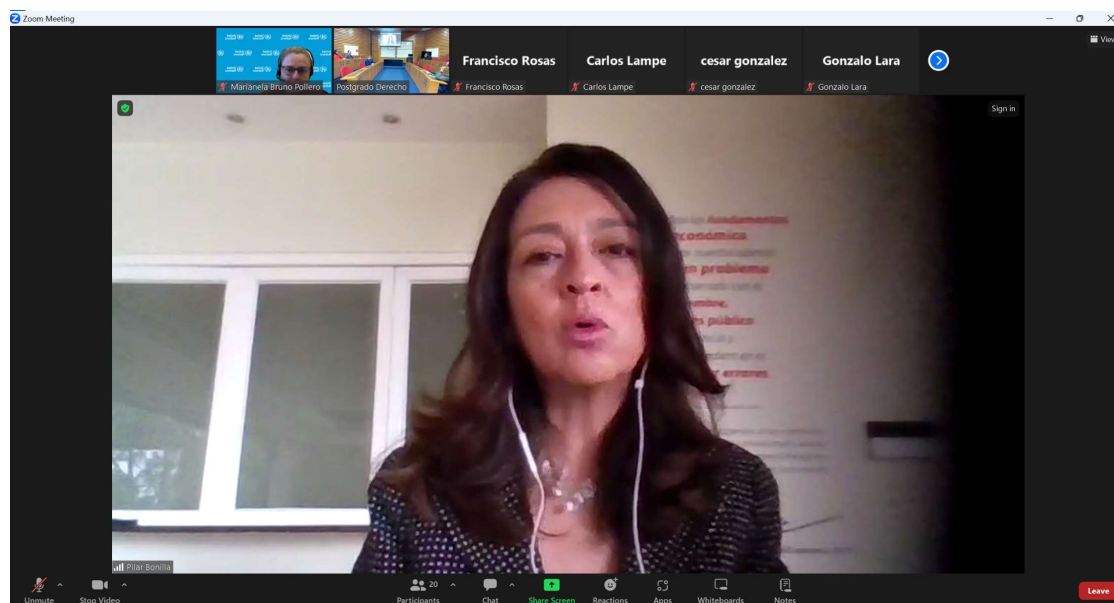
UNCITRAL LAC Days Chile

(Santiago de Chile, Chile, 7 November 2023)

The UNCITRAL LAC Days Chile “Current challenges for digital trade” was organized by the Faculty of Law and the Master Programme on Corporation Law, Universidad de los Andes, with the participation of UNCITRAL expert in Guatemala.

30 participants mainly professors, researchers and students from the Master Programme attended this event online.

This event raised awareness of the importance of the mandate of UNCITRAL Working Groups I (Warehouse Receipts), II (Dispute Settlement) and IV (Electronic Commerce) for facilitating the creation of an enabling environment for the interoperability of payment systems. In addition, UNCITRAL's existing texts on e-commerce enable the dematerialization of negotiable transport documents. This event also supported community-based institutions that contribute to legal education and skills-building in the region and beyond. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Chile has invited members of the academia to contribute to the work of Working Group I.



Law No.18.690/1988 Ley sobre Almacenes Generales de Depósito.
<https://www.bcn.cl/leychile/navegar?idNorma=30072>

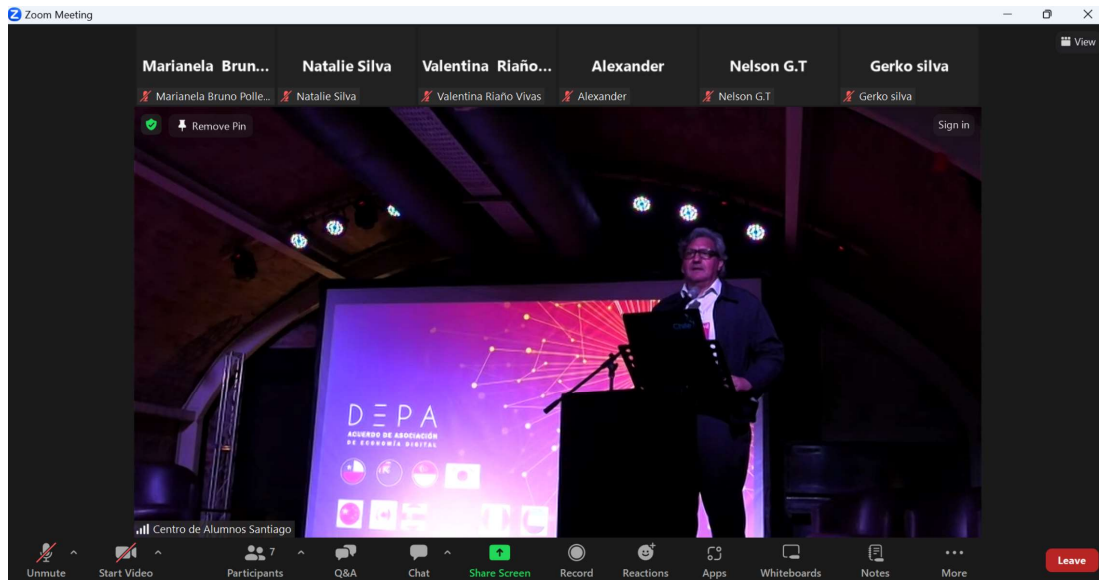
UNCITRAL LAC Days Chile

(Valparaiso, Chile, 14 November 2023)

The UNCITRAL LAC Days Chile, “Exploring the frontiers of cross-border digital trade,” was organized by the Alumni Association of the School of International Business, University of Valparaíso, in association with the WISTA-Trade Committee.

150 participants attended this event, mainly policymakers, legal counsels from IT companies, researchers, students from the master's program and professors.

This event raised awareness of how UNCITRAL's existing texts on electronic commerce facilitate the implementation of international agreements such as the Digital Economy Partnership Agreement (DEPA) and the Trans-Pacific Partnership in Chile, as well as a discussion at the Pacific Alliance. It has also educated the audience on Chile's priorities on cross-cutting issues related to the new era of global digital connectivity, such as cybersecurity, personal data protection, digital inclusion of MSMEs and women in trade, and a moratorium on custom tariffs to electronic transmission, among others.



UNCITRAL LAC Days Chile

(Santiago de Chile, Chile, 15 November 2023)

The UNCITRAL LAC Days Chile “International law and digital economy: challenges and opportunities” was organized by the School of Law of the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile. The Minister of Justice of Chile and the Secretary of UNCITRAL delivered opening remarks. Next, the coordinator of Chile to UNCITRAL, experts from the Government and UNCITRAL secretariat legal officers, informed the audience about existing UNCITRAL texts and ongoing legislative work on the digital economy at UNCITRAL.

102 participants, including members of the Association of International Private Law of Chile, students, young practitioners, policymakers, legislators, members of the judiciary, researchers and professors from the university attended this hybrid event.

This event assisted members of the academia with facilitating the discussion of a draft bill on private international law that facilitates the use of soft law instruments like UNCITRAL texts in cross-border business transactions.



Ley 19 799/2002 “Electronic Documents, Electronic Signature, and its service of notice” <https://www.bcn.cl/leychile/navegar?idNorma=196640>

UNCITRAL LAC Days Argentina

(Buenos Aires, Argentina, 15 November 2023)

The UNCITRAL LAC Days Argentina “Exploring the Digital Frontiers of cross-border trade” was organized by the UBA Department of Economic and Corporate Law jointly with its International Relations Division and the Colegio Publico de la Abogacia, Capital Federal.

40 participants, including young practitioners, researchers, students, policymakers, members of the judiciary and legislators attended this hybrid event.

This event supported community-based institutions that contribute to economic activity, empowerment of the poor, private sector development, access to justice, legal education and skills-building in the region and beyond. In 2022, professors attending the previous edition of the LAC Days 2022 contributed to the work of the Ministry of Productivity and Developments of MSMEs. In this edition, a call was made to reform the domestic legal framework for micro and small enterprises according to the UNCITRAL Legislative Guide on Insolvency Law, part five on insolvency law for micro and small enterprises (2021).



UNCITRAL LAC Days Colombia

(Bogota, Colombia, 16 November 2023)

UNCITRAL LAC Days Colombia “Exploring the Digital Frontiers of cross-border trade” was organized by the Department of Business Law at the Universidad Externado de Colombia jointly with ICC Colombia.

105 participants, including legal practitioners, students, professors, and researchers on automated contracting and electronic transferable records attended this event.

This event supported community-based institutions that contribute to discussing interoperability challenges in the supply chain as a main component of cross-border digital trade. At the same time, this event informed members of academia about international initiatives to promote the UNCITRAL Model Law on Electronic Transferable Records, such as the ICC Digital Standards Initiative towards the establishment of a globally harmonised digital trade environment. The ICCs Standards Toolkit for Cross-border Paperless Trade was also promoted.

Figure O.3 Data governance layers at the national and international levels

	National	International
Infrastructure policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Universal coverage of broadband networks• Domestic infrastructure to exchange, store, and process data	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Global technical standards for compatibility of hardware and software• Regional collaboration on data infrastructure to achieve scale
Laws and regulations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Safeguards to secure and protect data from the threat of misuse• Enablers to facilitate data sharing among different stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cybersecurity conventions for collaboration on tackling cybercrime• Interoperability standards to facilitate data exchanges across borders
Economic policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Antitrust for data platform businesses• Trade in data-enabled services• Taxation of data platform businesses	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• International tax treaties to allocate taxation rights across countries• Global trade agreements on cross-border trade in data-enabled services
Institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Government entities to oversee, regulate, and secure data• Other stakeholders to set standards and increase data access and reuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• International organizations to support collaboration on data governance and promote standardization• Cooperation on cross-border regulatory spillovers and enforcement issues

Source: WDR 2021 team.



Law 527/1999 on electronic commerce including data messages and electronic signatures and its Decree 2364/2012 and Decree 1789/2021 on electronic signature.

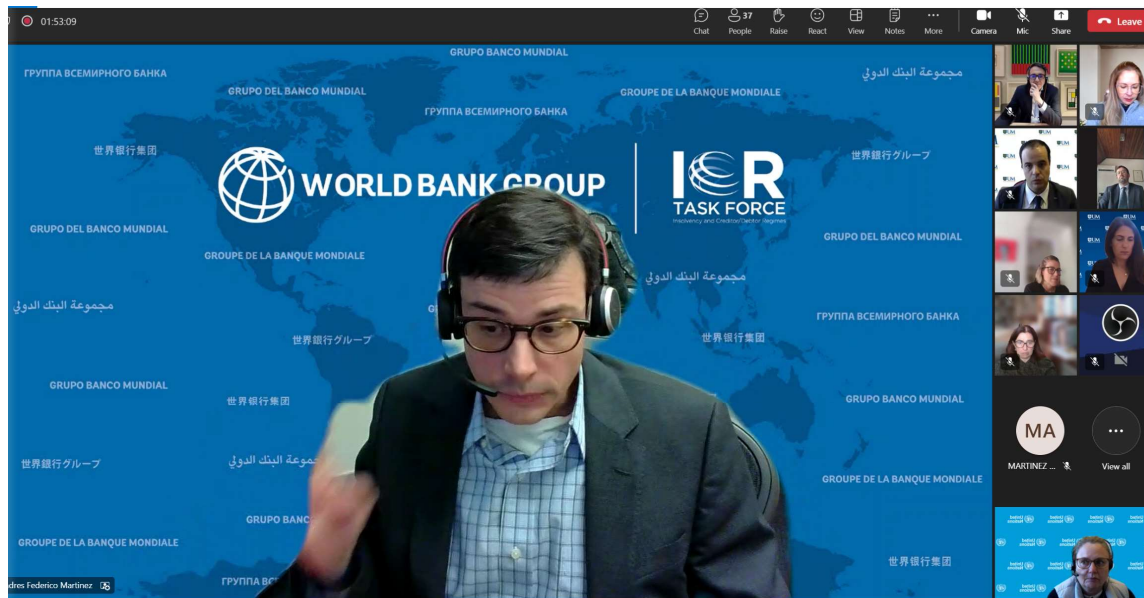
UNCITRAL LAC Days Uruguay

(Montevideo, Uruguay, 21 November 2023)

UNCITRAL LAC Days Uruguay “Insolvency in the Digital Economy: Insolvency of Enterprise Groups” was organized by the Faculty of Law, University of Montevideo

42 synchronous participants, including students, lawyers, legislators, judges, arbitrators, experts from the public and private sectors and members of academia, attended this event.

This event assisted members of academia in developing a local legal doctrine on commercial law issues in line with internationally prevailing ones, in particular by facilitating discussions on the UNCITRAL Model Law on Enterprise Group Insolvency (MLEGI) and how to trace tracing and recovery of digital assets in insolvency proceedings. The main takeaways include how the MLEGI could serve as a model for promoting cooperation and addressing the domestic and cross-border insolvency of enterprise groups whose insolvency estate is composed of digital assets. This event analysed the proprietary rights of digital assets as part of the insolvency estate.



Law No. 18387/2008 on Insolvency (Ley de Proceso Concursal)

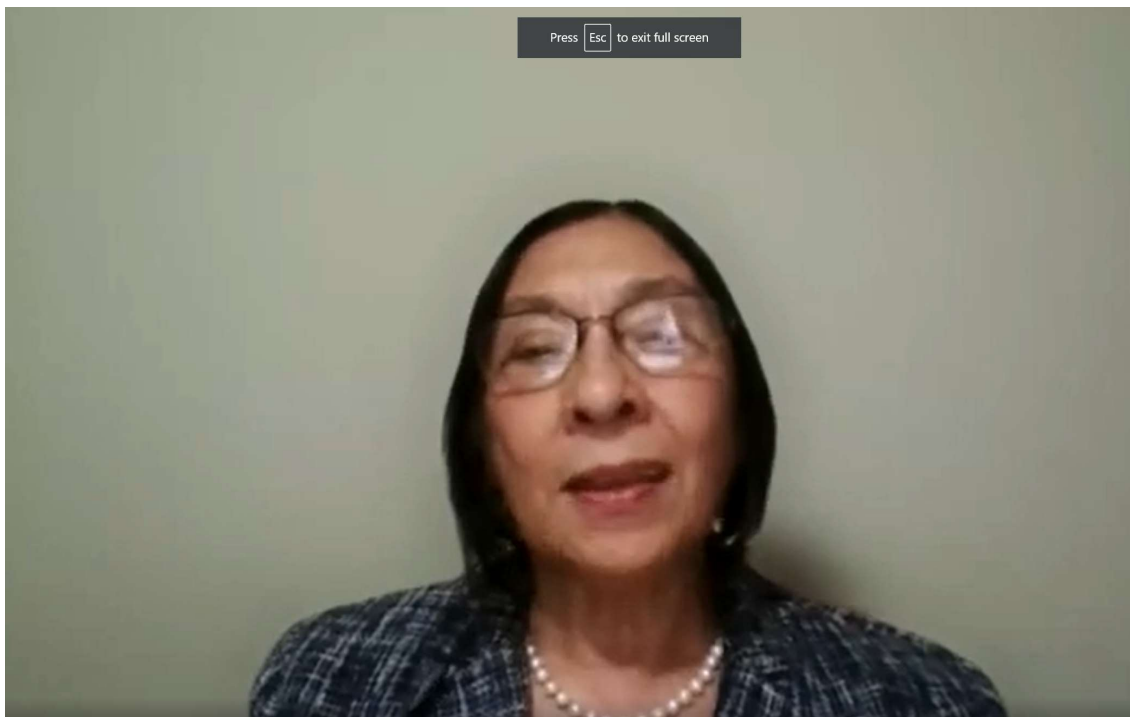
UNCITRAL LAC Days Peru

(Lima, Perú, 22 November 2023)

UNCITRAL LAC Days Peru “Challenges on cross-border electronic commerce” was organized by IDEI at the PUCP, with the support of the Department of International Law at OAS.

40 participants, including students, researchers, legal practitioners from the public and private sectors and officers from MINCETUR, also attended this event.

This event assisted members of academia in developing a local legal doctrine on an enabling legal environment for cross-border trade in Peru. It also raised the awareness of young legal practitioners on the UNCITRAL model laws on electronic commerce and electronic signature. In addition, this event supported discussions on how UNCITRAL instruments on electronic commerce could assist countries in the region in preparing for paperless cross-border trade. It concluded with a call for the organisation of a Moot court for the region.



UNCITRAL LAC Days Cuba

(La Habana, Cuba, 23 November 2023)

UNCITRAL LAC Days Cuba focused on discussing how to create a legal framework that enables cross-border paperless trade, and it was organized by the Faculty of Law, University of La Habana.

Young researchers and professors of commercial law with specialization in contracts in the digital economy attended this event.

This event trained members of academia to develop a local legal doctrine on commercial law issues in line with internationally prevailing ones, in particular by facilitating discussions on an enabling legal environment for cross-border trade, including in times of emergencies such as the COVID-19 pandemic.



Law Decree 370/2018 “Informatización de la Sociedad en Cuba”, title III, chapter 1: Electronic Commerce.

UNCITRAL LAC Days Dominican Republic

(Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, 29 November 2023)

UNCITRAL LAC Days Dominican Republic, “Cross-border Transactions and Digital Challenges”, was organized by the School of Law of the PUCMM in coordination with its Departments of Public International Law, International Trade Law and Business School.

85 participants, including practitioners from the public and private sectors, students, researchers, and members of academia and the judiciary attended this hybrid event. It was also streamed live on PUCMMTV to 100 viewers.

This event supported community-based institutions that contribute to legal education, and skills-building in the region and beyond. The high level of participation reinforces the importance of electronic commerce for the Dominican Republic and the relevance of UNCITRAL's work toward facilitating the creation of an enabling legal environment for cross-border paperless trade.



Ley No.126/2002 Electronic Commerce, Documents and Electronic Signature

<https://dgii.gov.do/legislacion/leyesTributarias/Documents/Otras%20Leyes%20de%20Inter%C3%A9s/126-02.pdf>

UNCITRAL LAC Days Trinidad and Tobago

(Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, 30 November 2023)

UNCITRAL LAC Days Trinidad and Tobago “Exploring the digital frontier of cross-border trade”, was organized by the University of West Indies, St. Augustine Campus.

167 participants attended this event from across the Caribbean, including Belize, Jamaica, Suriname Trinidad and Tobago, and the members of the OECS for the first time (Antigua and Barbuda, Commonwealth of Dominica, Grenada, Montserrat, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines) and associate members of OECS (Anguilla, the British Virgin Islands, Martinique and Guadeloupe).

This event supported community-based institutions that contribute to private sector development, legal education, and skills-building in the region and beyond. Experts from Barbados, Belize, Trinidad and Tobago and the OECS jointly with the UNCITRAL secretariat, discussed how UNCITRAL’s existing framework on e-commerce and ongoing legislative work could support States in developing an enabling legal framework for cross-border trade in a digital economy in the region and beyond. At the same time, it also contributed to discussing how UNCITRAL texts complement digital policy objectives (e.g., in intellectual property, cybersecurity, and data privacy) and the multilateral rule-making process at the World Trade Organization.

The screenshot shows a Zoom meeting interface. On the left, a presentation slide titled "Electronic Transactions Legislation across OECS States" is displayed. The slide lists the following acts:

- Antigua : Electronic Transactions Act No. 24 of 2013
- Dominica : Electronic Transactions Act. No. 19 of 2013
- Grenada: Electronic Transactions Act No. 21 of 2013
- Montserrat: Electronic Transactions Act No. 7 of 2009
- St Kitts and Nevis: Electronic Transactions Act No. 9 of 2011
- St Lucia: Electronic Transactions Act No. 16 of 2011
- St. Vincent and the Grenadines: Electronic Transactions Act No. 6 of 2015

Below the list is an image of a person's hands holding a green banknote. To the right of the slide is a video feed of a woman with glasses, identified as Nicole Garraway, speaking. The Zoom interface at the bottom shows icons for Unmute, Start Video, Participants (57), Chat, Share Screen, Record, Raise Hand, Apps, Whiteboards, and a red Leave button.



Electronic Evidence Act, 2021, Belize (electronic communication and electronic transactions) <https://www.nationalassembly.gov.bz/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Act-No-21-of-2021-Electronic-Evidence.pdf>

UNCITRAL LAC Days Peru

(Lima, Peru, 5 December 2023)

UNCITRAL LAC Days Peru “Exploring the digital frontiers of cross-border trade” was organized by the Faculty of Law of the Universidad de Ciencias Aplicadas, with the support of the Association “Corpus Iuris”.

74 participants, including practitioners from the public and private sectors, students, researchers, and members of academia and the judiciary, attended this event.

This event focused on the discussion of an enabling legal environment for cross-border trade in Peru, and further, it raised the awareness of young legal practitioners on the UNCITRAL texts on electronic commerce. In addition, this event supported community-based institutions that contribute to economic activity, private sector development, legal education and skills-building in the region and beyond by explaining how UNCITRAL instruments on electronic commerce could assist countries in the Pacific in promoting interoperability and the participation of the supply chain in paperless cross-border trade. The ICC Standards Toolkit for Cross-Border Paperless Trade framework, the Framework Agreement on facilitation of cross-border paperless trade in Asia and the Pacific and the work of the Technical Grupo Dital Agenda at the Pacific Alliance were highlighted as examples of accelerating digital trade.



Law No. 27291/2000 electronic signature

<https://www.gob.pe/institucion/congreso-de-la-republica/normas-legales/292288-27291>

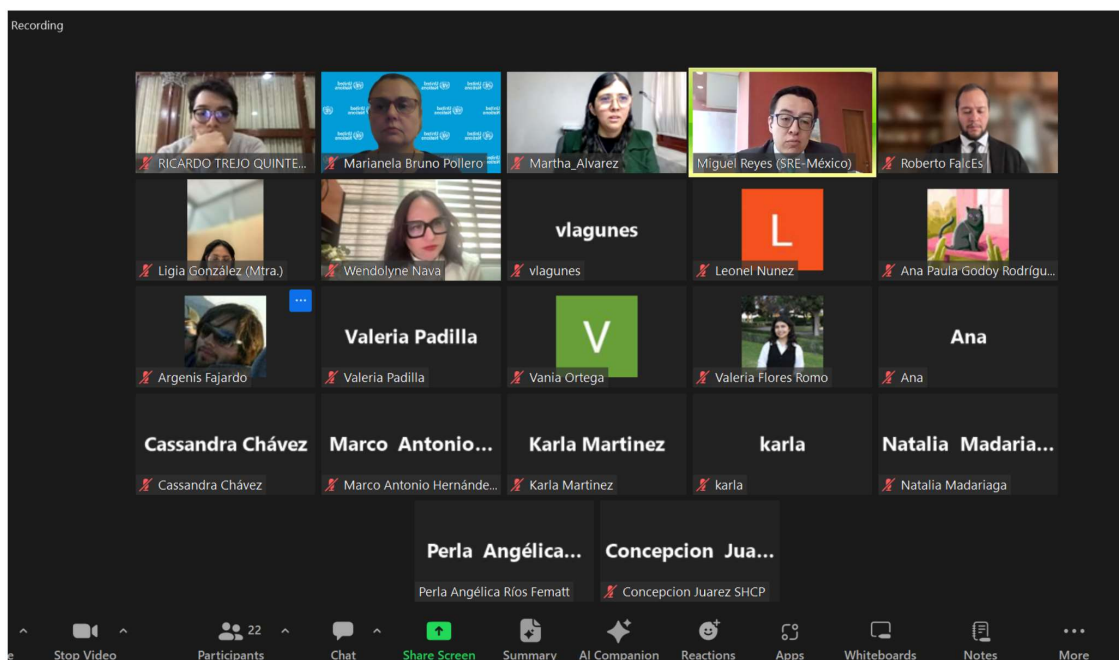
UNCITRAL LAC Days Mexico

(Mexico city, Mexico, 11 December 2023)

UNCITRAL LAC Days Mexico “International Trade Law and its implementation with new technologies” was organized by the Office of the Legal Advisor, Secretary of Foreign Relations, with the participation of the Universidad Autónoma de Ciudad Juárez.

44 participants, including practitioners from the public and private sectors, students, researchers, and members of academia, all with an interest in the evolution of technology and trade, attended this event.

This event supported community-based institutions that contribute to economic activity, legal education and skills-building in the region and beyond.



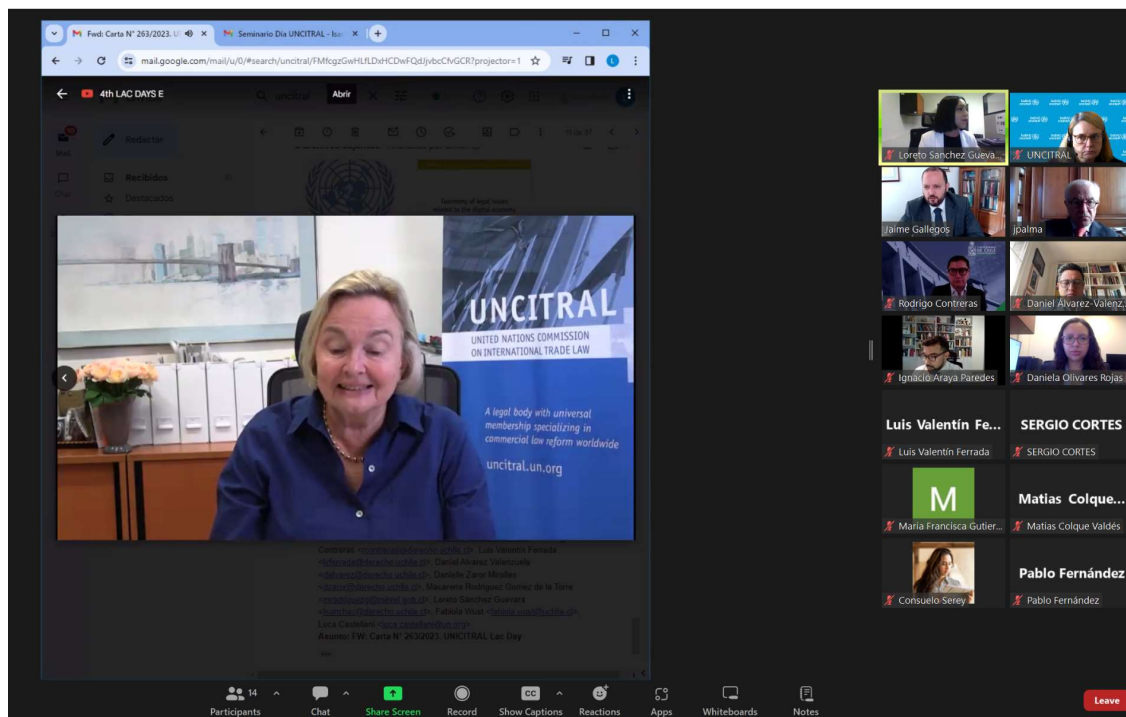
UNCITRAL LAC Days Chile

(Santiago de Chile, Chile, 15 December 2023)

UNCITRAL LAC Days Chile, “Exploring the digital frontiers of cross-border trade,” was organized by the University of Chile in coordination with its Departments of International Law, Trade Law, and Economics.

14 participants, including practitioners from the public and private sectors, students, researchers, and members of academia, attended this event.

This event supported community-based institutions that contribute to legal education and skills-building in the region and beyond.



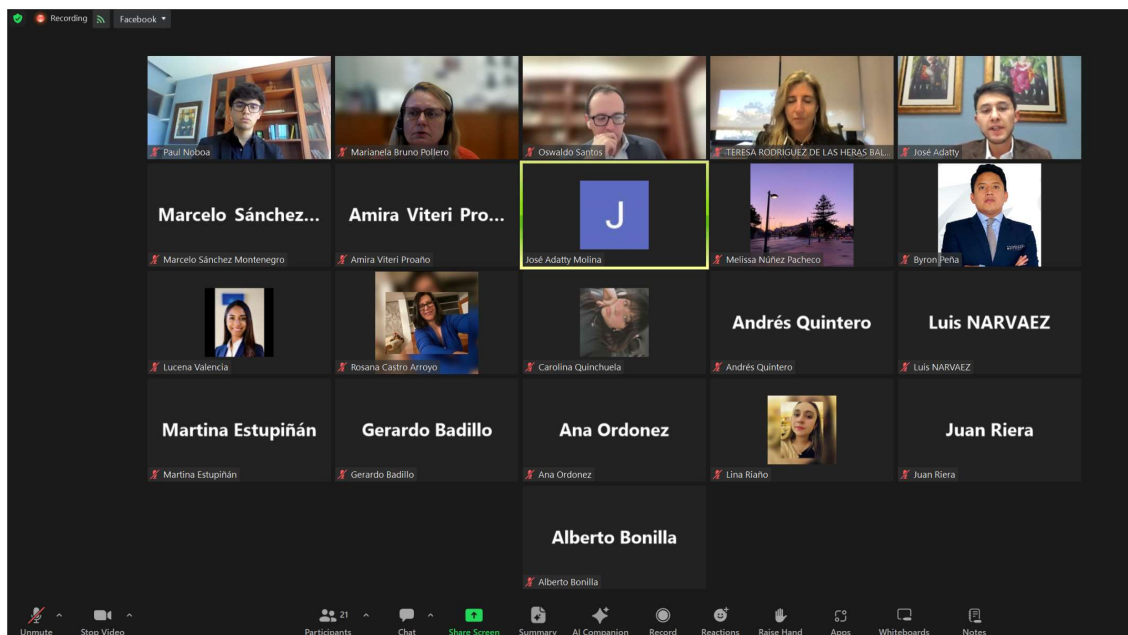
UNCITRAL LAC Days Ecuador

(Quito, Ecuador, 22 January 2024)

UNCITRAL LAC Days Ecuador “Exploring the digital frontiers of digital trade” focused on insolvency in the digital economy. It was organized by the USFQ with the participation of UNCITRAL experts from the University of Carlos III Madrid and the private sector in Ecuador.

34 participants, including practitioners from the public and private sectors, students, researchers, and members of academia attended this event.

This event assisted members of academia with developing a local legal doctrine on commercial law issues in line with internationally prevailing ones, in particular by facilitating discussions on draft bills modelled after the UNCITRAL insolvency model laws, applicable law in insolvency proceedings, and case law on digital assets.



Decree No. 4-23-UE/23 <https://www.corteconstitucional.gob.ec/corte-constitucional-emite-dictamen-no-favorable-respecto-de-dos-proyectos-de-decretos-ley-de-urgencia-economica/>

Annex 2: Testimonies from Beneficiaries

Below are some extracted testimonials from the UNCITRAL LAC Days series partner universities and institutions (organised in alphabetical order) discussing the benefits to students and stakeholders:

Argentina

[...] la jornada salió excelente [...]Nos ilusiona que esta propuesta haya germinado tan bien en nuestra universidad y, en lo personal, que hayamos logrado desplazar el protagonismo e iniciativas desde el área de Derecho Internacional al área de Derecho Económico y Empresarial donde está el centro de atención de la cuestión mercantil. [...]

Entretanto, aquí estaré apoyando iniciativas también desde lo académico, me quedo a tu disposición para nuevos desafíos y te envío un cordial saludo desde Buenos Aires.

Gabriela Antonelli Michudis
Departamento de Derecho Económico y Empresarial
UBA - Derecho

Desde lo institucional, en la Facultad de Ciencias Jurídicas de la USAL nos sentimos muy honrados con el acompañamiento de la Secretaría en la organización y desarrollo de la actividad y renovamos el compromiso de seguir colaborando en estas iniciativas.

Prof. Mag. Martina L. Rojo (LLM)
Directora
Programa Franco-argentino de Abogacía
Asuntos Internacionales
Facultad de Ciencias Jurídicas
Universidad del Salvador

Guatemala

[...] me honra poder colaborar y, de alguna manera, alentar a tomar en consideración el importante trabajo que lleva a cabo uncitral y que tiene verdadero impacto en las reformas legales integrales, pues no son textos separados sino se complementan.

He participado en el grupo de trabajo de PYMES y he colaborado en la potencial reforma en materia de sociedades de acciones simplificadas, con la finalidad de contar con una forma de limitación patrimonial a empresarios más pequeños o a emprendedores. Sería poder trabajar de alguna forma en la implementación tanto de la normativa de garantías mobiliarias, los certificados de depósito/ bono de prenda, su implementación en forma electrónica. [...]

Maria del Pilar Bonilla (U. Francisco Marroquín, Guatemala)

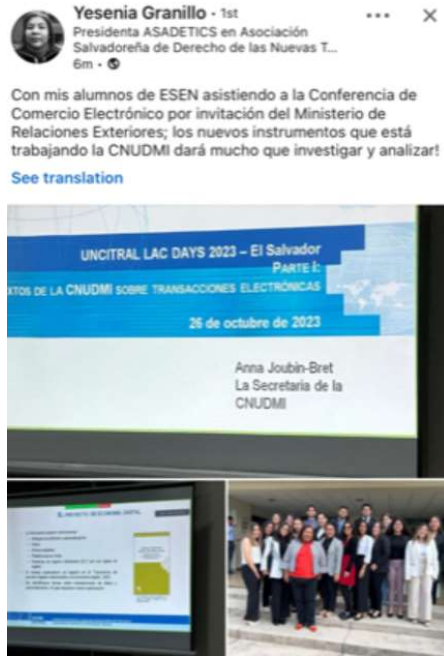
Ecuador

[..] el evento del día de hoy. Lo encontramos muy interesante y relevante para modernizar el debate académico en Ecuador.

El Colegio de Jurisprudencia de la USFQ estará siempre a su disposición.

Paúl Noboa Velasco, MA, Profesor, Colegio de Jurisprudencia, USFQ

El Salvador



Peru

Como en ediciones anteriores, ha sido muy grato poder participar en el V UNCITRAL LAC DAYS y contribuir en la difusión y reflexión de la labor y documentos de la CNUDMI. A nombre del Instituto de Estudios Internacionales (IDEI), será muy grato seguir participando en las próximas ediciones del UNCITRAL LAC DAYS. Estaré atenta a la información sobre la convocatoria que nos envíen en el futuro.

Elvira Méndez Chang, Directora, Instituto de Estudios Internacionales, Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú

Uruguay

[...] Fue una discusión muy interesante y espero que hayan disfrutado tanto como yo. Espero encontrarnos nuevamente en otra actividad académica como esta.

Marcelo Sheppard Gelsi, PhD
Coordinador de Maestrías y Postgrados de Derecho, Facultad de Derecho