10th ANNUAL
UQ-LATIN AMERICAN COLLOQUIUM

A decade of collaboration and innovation:
Celebrating Australian and Latin American partnerships
UQ Global Engagement would like to express sincere thanks to speakers, UQ Colleagues, and all others who have contributed to the development and delivery of this year’s special 10th Annual Colloquium program.
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Welcome to the 10th UQ-Latin American Colloquium.

This year, we are delighted to be celebrating a decade of Colloquiums – now 10 years since UQ first gathered dignitaries, researchers, students, and industry representatives to showcase, celebrate, and explore collaborations between Australia and Latin America. However, our long and proud history with Latin America goes back much further.

Since the early 1980s, UQ has fostered engagement with Latin American universities, government agencies, corporate networks, and non-governmental organisations, with representatives on the ground to build UQ’s profile and to support alumni. As a result, we’ve welcomed an increasingly large cohort of Latin American students on to our grounds in the past few years, and a very active Latin American Student Association ensures the vibrant colours, sounds, and tastes of the region are never too far away.

Since this event began, we have witnessed significant changes to the levels of partnership and engagement between Australia and Latin America. Throughout the past decade, the number of Latin American students enrolled across the Australian education system has more than doubled, higher education enrolments have boomed, and PhD candidates have tripled. This is something we are enormously proud of.

Successful innovation almost always relies on national and international partners outside universities who understand the needs of their communities and follow through on promises. This desire to encourage and enable partnerships between our two growing regions is a key driver of this event, and of UQ’s global strategy.

As we consider economic development in the next five to 10 years, it’s clear other regions, including ours, mirror the priorities and challenges for Latin America. We are both working towards good governance, high level education for all citizens, food security, and sustainable energy. We are all aiming to up-skill our workforces, and to build capabilities. I can tell you, with confidence, UQ is well positioned to support solutions to these challenges.

You can count on UQ to be an important part of the Australian-Latin American future; we are already heavily engaged in the region, and we look forward to expanding our academic partnerships, technological innovations, and trade relations with such an opportunity-filled part of the world.

I would like to extend sincere thanks to the Australian-Latin American Business Council (ALABC), the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, our speakers, guests, and UQ colleagues for their contribution to this Colloquium. This event presents a unique opportunity to celebrate previous successes, and exchange ideas for the future that will bring mutual benefit to our regions.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all of the supporters, speakers, and collaborators who have been involved in past 10 years. Without this enthusiasm for building engagement with Latin American, the UQ-Latin American Colloquium would not have been possible. Thank you.
PROGRAM

9.00am – 9.30am  REGISTRATION

9.30am – 9.45am  WELCOME
Professor Peter Høj, Vice-Chancellor and President, The University of Queensland

9.45am – 10.00am  WELCOME
His Excellency Dr Hugo Javier Gobbi, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Embassy of the Argentine Republic

10.00am – 10.45am  KEYNOTE ADDRESS
Mr John M L Woods PSM, Former Australian Ambassador to Peru, (2010-14) and to Venezuela (2000-03)

10.45am – 12.00pm  PANEL SESSION 1: GOVERNMENT
The role of governments in creating sustainable platforms for social and technological innovation.
Moderator:
• His Excellency Dr Ricardo Javier Varela Fernandez, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Embassy of Uruguay
Panellists:
• Ms Julienne Hince, Director, South America and COALAR section, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
• His Excellency Mr Manuel Innocencio de Lacerda Santos Jr., Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Embassy of the Federative Republic of Brazil
• Mr Grame Barty, Executive Director, International Operations, Australian Trade and Investment Commission (Austrade)

12.00pm – 1.00pm  LUNCH

1.00pm – 1.05pm  WELCOME BACK
Dr Jessica Gallagher, Deputy Director and Head, Global Engagement, The University of Queensland
1.05pm – 2.15pm  
**PANEL SESSION 2: INDUSTRY**  
Innovative technologies: 10 years of sustainable partnerships and collaborative outcomes.  
Moderator:  
• Mr Bernardo Alayza Solis, RHD Candidate, School of Communication and Arts, The University of Queensland  
Panellists:  
• Mr José Blanco, Chairman, Australia-Latin America Business Council (ALABC)  
• Mr Mauro Mezzano, Co-Chief Executive Officer, VANTAZ  
• Mr Daniel Gasparri-Rey, Chargé d’Affaires a.i., Embassy of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela  
• Ms Kate Bennett, Director, Somos21

2.15pm – 3.30pm  
**PANEL SESSION 3: EDUCATION**  
Transformation through cultural exchange: fostering people-to-people linkages for improved social outcomes.  
Moderator:  
• Mr James Halford, PhD Candidate, School of Communication and Arts, The University of Queensland  
Panellists:  
• Dr Wendy Jarvie, Visiting Professor, The University of New South Wales; and former Deputy Secretary, Department of Education, Science and Training  
• Mr Carlos Daniel Espejel, Co-Founder, Australian Latin American Young Professional Networks (ALAYP)  
• Dr Lance Newey, Senior Lecturer in Social Entrepreneurship, UQ Business School, The University of Queensland  
• Mr Zac Braxton-Smith, PhD Candidate, School of Languages and Cultures, The University of Queensland  
• Her Excellency Ms Connie Taracena Secaira, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Embassy of the Republic of Guatemala

3.30pm – 4.00pm  
**AFTERNOON TEA**

4.00pm – 4.15pm  
**CLOSING REMARKS**  
Mr Carlos Morán, Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of the Republic of Chile

4.15pm – 4.30pm  
**CLOSING REMARKS**  
Dr Jessica Gallagher, Deputy Director and Head, UQ Global Engagement, The University of Queensland
Professor Peter Høj
Vice-Chancellor and President
The University of Queensland

Professor Peter Høj began as Vice-Chancellor and President of The University of Queensland on 8 October 2012. Prior to this appointment Professor Høj was Vice-Chancellor and President of the University of South Australia from 1 June 2007. Before that, he was Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Research Council (2004-2007) and Managing Director of the Australian Wine Research Institute (1997-2004).

He was educated at the University of Copenhagen, majoring in biochemistry and chemistry, and has a Master of Science degree in biochemistry and genetics, a PhD in photosynthesis, an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Copenhagen and an Honorary Doctorate from the University of South Australia.

Professor Høj is a member of the Medical Research Future Fund Advisory Board, Co-Deputy Chair of the Strengthened Export Controls Steering Group, a member of the edX University Advisory Board, a member of the Board of Group of Eight (Go8) Universities and a Queensland Plan Ambassador, and in 2014 was appointed as a senior consultant to Hanban in the Oceania Region.

He served on the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) Board 2011-2014, and was a member of the Australian Research Committee (ARcom) 2012-2014, a private member of the Prime Minister’s Science Engineering and Innovation Council (PMSEIC) from 1999-2004, and an ex-officio member from 2006-2007.
Professor Iain Watson  
Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Vice-President (External Engagement), The University of Queensland

Professor Watson completed his PhD in 1996, which investigated the use of market and industry data in financial distress modeling. His research interests are generally based in the broad capital markets area and corporate governance field along with interests in business finance, corporate disclosure of information, insider trading and investor relations.

Professor Watson has published academic papers in international journals and presented at leading international conferences, on topics such as insider trading, corporate governance and information asymmetry within the stock exchange.


Professor Watson has had various consulting assignments for different organisations ranging from professional accounting firms, investment banks and regulatory authorities. The majority of these assignments drew upon his expertise in the area of capital markets research, and more specifically in the arena of financial statement analysis and the reaction of various stock markets to the disclosure of company information.

Over the last ten years he has provided expert opinion, at the request of Australian Securities and Investments (ASIC), the Australian Federal Police, and leading international law firms in the areas of insider trading and financial disclosure.

Professor Watson is currently a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Management, member of the Committee for Economic Development of Australia (CEDA) Advisory Board; member of the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business, Initial Accreditation Committee; a director of the Australian Ireland Fund; and sits on the American Chamber of Commerce (AMCHAM Australia) Council of Governors.
Mr John M L Woods, PSM
Former Australian Ambassador to Peru (2010-14) and to Venezuela (2000-03)

John Woods has had a distinguished career spanning 42 years with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. He served as Australian Ambassador to Peru from September 2010 to September 2014, where he re-opened the Australian Embassy in Lima. He was accredited as non-resident Ambassador to Bolivia from 2012 to 2014.

His first assignment as Ambassador was to Venezuela from 2000-2003 with non-resident accreditation to Colombia, Ecuador, the Dominican Republic and Haiti.

He directed Australia’s relations with Canada and Latin America in DFAT Canberra between 2006 and 2010 after serving as DFAT’s State Director in Victoria in 2003 and 2004.

He has served in Australia’s diplomatic missions in New Delhi, London, Cairo and Jeddah (Saudi Arabia) and has worked in Canberra in a range of areas, including managing relations with Japan, Korea and the United Nations. He established Australia’s APEC Studies Centre in Melbourne in 1995.

John now lectures and coordinates International Policy Making in Practice in Melbourne University’s Masters in International Relations program and consults on Latin American issues. He is Vice-chair for Victoria in the Australia Latin America Business Council (ALABC) and a member of the Council of the Victorian Branch of the Australian Institute of International Affairs.
Born in Buenos Aires in November 1955, Ambassador Gobbi is an Economist with a Master degree in International Relations and a PhD in Political Science from the Université Catholique de Louvain, Belgium. He also has a Diploma in Trade Policy from the GATT in Geneva.

As a career diplomat graduated from the Argentine Foreign Service Institute in 1985, he has served in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at the Directorate of Multilateral Economic Relations (1985-1987); the Embassy of Argentina to the European Economic Community (1987-1992); the Directorate of MERCOSUR (1992-1994); the Mission of Argentina to MERCOSUR and ALADI (1995-1997); the Embassy of Argentina to Brazil (1997-2002); the Senate, as counsellor of ex-President and Senator Raúl Alfonsín (2003); the Secretariat of International Economic Relations (2003-2005); and the Embassy to the Holy See (2005-2010). In 2010, he was appointed Director of Special Economic Affairs and was Sous Sherpa for Argentina in the G20 between 2010 and 2016. He was the Director of Economic Multilateral Affairs and G20 between 2013 and 2016. These positions allowed him to be the Head of the Argentine Delegation in several multilateral fora: WTO, FAO, OECD, G20 (Toronto, Seoul, Cannes, Los Cabos, Saint Petersburg, Brisbane and Antalya).

On 24th February 2016, H.E. Gobbi presented the letters of Credence to Governor General of Australia, H.E. Gen. the Hon Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC (Retd) that accredited him as Ambassador of the Argentine Republic. He has also been designated non-resident Ambassador of Argentina to the Independent State of Papua New Guinea.

His Excellency Dr Ricardo Javier Varela Fernandez
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Embassy of Uruguay

Dr Ricardo Javier Varela Fernandez was born in Uruguay in 1955. He studied at the University of the Republic of Uruguay where he obtained a Bachelors degree in Diplomacy. He completed a Masters degree in Political Science at the University of Georgetown (Washington DE, USA). His professional experience has led him to many delegations and embassies in capacity of Deputy Director, Chief of Cabinet and First Secretary around the world. He has been awarded the Grand Official of the Italian republic and is currently Ambassador of Uruguay to Australia.
Ms Julienne Hince
Director, South America and COALAR section, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Ms Hince is a career diplomat with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), where she has served for over 20 years. She has been posted to foreign and economic policy positions in Australian Embassies in Germany and Bangladesh and served overseas most recently as Deputy Ambassador to Greece. Julienne was director of DFAT’s regional office in Darwin between 2003 and 2007, and Deputy Director of the Department’s Victoria office from 2011 until late 2014. As Director of DFAT’s South America Section since December 2014, Julienne is currently responsible for bilateral relations with 10 countries and oversees the work of the Council on Australia-Latin America Relations (COALAR).

His Excellency Mr Manuel Innocencio de Lacerda Santos Jr.
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Embassy of the Federative Republic of Brazil

Manuel Innocencio de Lacerda Santos Jr. is a career Brazilian Diplomat having entered the Brazilian Foreign Service in 1974.

Since that time, he has served in Bonn, Hong Kong, Prague, Baghdad, Toronto, Kinshasa, São Tomé, and Faro (Portugal). In Brazil, he has served in various positions: the Ceremonial Branch, Cabinet of the Minister of State for External Relations, Presidency of the Republic, Head of the West Africa Division, Head of the Division of Central Asia, and as an Advisor for International Affairs in the Ministry of Social Welfare.

He has also taught Ceremonial and Protocol at the Brazilian Diplomatic Academy.

Before he arrived in Canberra, he served as Consul-General in Faro, Portugal, and as Ambassador to São Tomé e Príncipe, Indonesia and ASEAN.

Ambassador Manuel Innocencio de Lacerda Santos Jr. was posted to Canberra as the Brazilian Ambassador-Designate to the Commonwealth of Australia on 4th January 2016, and presented his credentials to the Governor-General of Australia on 24 February 2016.
Bernardo is a Research Higher Degree Candidate at The University of Queensland. He has a Bachelor degree in Arts and Communications Sciences with a major in Development Communication from Pontificia Universidad Catolica del Peru (PUCP) and a Qualification of Licentiate in Communication for Development and a Masters Degree in Technology and Innovation Management and Policy from the same university.

Bernardo has worked at PUCP for seven years. First, in the Rural Support Group within the Engineering Department, managing technology projects and innovation oriented to solve local needs in rural communities. He was then responsible for communication of innovation strategies, advising on the development of innovation projects and building networks with public and private organisations at the International Projects Office from the Vice-Rectorate PUCP.

Bernardo was awarded by the International Youth Foundation-YouthActionNet and the Starbucks Foundation-USA for work at PUCP. He has also raised significant funding for the implementation of projects about technology and innovation for development in rural zones of Peru. In addition, Bernardo has participated in international study tours and conferences about innovation for development and policies in USA, Germany, India, Indonesia, Colombia, Honduras and Nicaragua.

Mr Grame Barty
Executive Director, International Operations, Austrade

Grame Barty is a senior executive with over 30 years of international business and government experience in innovation commercialisation, marketing, trade and investment incorporating with multinationals, foreign companies and government agencies.

He has been a successful information technology entrepreneur, developing a software product that was sold globally. He started, and grew the company HarvestRoad Limited securing funding through venture capital and an IPO on the Australian Stock Exchange.

As a senior executive in Austrade, he has influenced and implemented government policy in international trade, developed and marketed new products, negotiated international multiparty agreements, and secured numerous foreign direct investment and collaborative research opportunities, particularly in the information technology, bio-fuels, water sustainability and management sectors. He is regarded as one of Austrade’s experts on Latin America.

Mr Bernardo Alayza Solis
RHD Candidate, School of Communication and Arts, The University of Queensland

Bernardo is a Research Higher Degree Candidate at The University of Queensland. He has a Bachelor degree in Arts and Communications Sciences with a major in Development Communication from Pontificia Universidad Catolica del Peru (PUCP) and a Qualification of Licentiate in Communication for Development and a Masters Degree in Technology and Innovation Management and Policy from the same university.

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Mr José Blanco  
Chairman, Australia-Latin America Business Council (ALABC)

José has served as the chairman of the Australia-Latin America Business Council since 1991.

José is also the founding partner of Blanco Partners, an advisory firm that he established in August 2012, following a 22 year career at Banco Santander in Australia. The firm focuses on cross-border business between Australia, Spain and the major markets in Latin America.

From 1990 until January 2011, José served as the Country Manager of Banco Santander in Australia, then as an Adviser to the bank until July 2012. Before joining Banco Santander, José practiced law for 10 years, having been a partner in the Sydney-based firm, Bodors.

José is currently a consultant to the international law firm, Clyde & Co, and a counsellor of Dragoman.

Mr Mauro Mezzano  
Co-Chief Executive Officer, VANTAZ

Mauro is an Industrial Engineering graduate of Pontificia Universidad Católica de Valparaíso, and holds an MBA from Pontificia Universidad Católica de Santiago. He is co-founder of Vantaz Group, a Management Consulting and Services firm with a focus in the Mining Industry. Starting in 2000, the business now has offices in Chile (Santiago and Antofagasta), Australia (Perth and Brisbane), Perú (Lima) and USA (Houston). He specialises in IM, supply and HSEC areas, along with shared services and vendor development.

Before starting Vantaz did work in EY Consulting and in Mineduc at a World Bank sponsored project.

Mauro has been part of Endeavor since 2008, a volunteer from 2010 and Director of Endeavor Atacama since 2013; is a former director of Auscham (Australian Chilean Chamber of Commerce) (2013); member of Minnovex (Supplier Mining Association with focus in innovation and exports); coordinator of the Chilean Shared Service Network; Director and Co-Founder of Santiago Bike Friendly (NGO pro sure bike cycling in the city); Director at Nevesco (Investment Mining Found) and Co-Founder of V Smart (Health Food Project).

Mauro was awarded the 2008 Young Entrepreneurial of the Year by the Engineering Faculty of PUCV, 2012 Volunteer of the year by Endeavor Chile and Aushcam Man of the Year 2014.
Ms Kate Bennett
Director, Somos21
Kate Bennett is Senior Advisor, Sustainability Research Development at Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology, tasked with promoting greater industry application of research and innovation to deliver significant social, environmental and economic impact. She is also Founding Director of Somos21 - an organisation inspiring action and collaborative engagement with and between young Australian and Latin American professionals to deliver positive personal, professional and social impact.

In 2015, Kate co-founded Somos21 with a group of passionate young professionals in Sydney. The organisation now has 12 chapters across 8 countries, and is working to establish a presence across all 20 Latin American countries by July 2017. With a contributing team of over 50 young professionals across Australia and Latin America, Somos21 is harnessing the power of innovative technology to work together collaboratively and effectively, and to optimise human capital flows across the two regions to deliver personal, professional and social impact.

Kate is an MBA candidate at UQ Business School and is also on the Board of ALABC and Stop the Traffik Australia.

Mr Daniel Gasparri-Rey
Chargé d’Affaires a.i., Embassy of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

Mr Daniel Gasparri-Rey is currently Chargé d’Affaires at the Embassy of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, a position he assumed in July of this year. He also has acted as Minister Counsellor from January 2014 at this Diplomatic Mission.

Mr Gasparri-Rey was previously President of the State Company of Recycling REMACA; a Member of the Presidential Negotiating Commission for the entrance of Venezuela into MERCOSUR and Commercial Attaché at the Embassy of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela in the Republic of Chile; and Secretary of the Special Commission for the Study of Proposals FTAA, G3, CAN, MERCOSUR, NAFTA and other agreements on International Economic Integration of the Venezuelan Parliament.

Mr Gasparri-Rey holds a Bachelor in Business Administration from the University Santa María, Venezuela (Mention Summa Cum Laude); a Degree in Human Resources from the National Experimental University Simon Rodriguez, Venezuela; a Master of Business Administration from the Technical University Federico Santa Maria, Chile; and a Master in Business Management from the University of Lleida, Spain. He is the Coordinator of Postgraduate and teacher in the area of Business Management at the University Santa María, Venezuela.
Dr Wendy Jarvie
Visiting Professor, The University of New South Wales and former Deputy Secretary, Department of Education, Science and Training

Dr Wendy Jarvie spent 22 years working in the Australian Public Service, including seven years (2001 - 2008) as a Deputy Secretary in the Department of Education, Science and Training where she oversaw the Australian Government’s international education engagement. She has been a longtime supporter of Australian education engagement with Latin America including being responsible for the development of the 2003 international education package that led to the expansion of Australian government’s overseas education network into Latin America, and was a member of COALAR 2004-2008. Since leaving the public service she has undertaken research work on Australia’s engagement in Latin America, and was a member of the selection panel for Ausaid’s postgraduate scholarships for Latin America (2011-2013).

She is currently a Visiting Professor at The University of New South Wales School of Business in Canberra as well as working as an early childhood education and public policy expert with the World Bank in the Pacific. She is a member of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade’s Audit and Risk Committee and its Independent Evaluation Committee for Australian Aid.

Mr James Halford
PhD candidate School of Communication and Arts, The University of Queensland

James Halford is a writer and early-career literary scholar from Brisbane, Australia, who has lived and worked in Mexico and Argentina for extended periods over the last ten years. His writing has appeared in Best Australian Short Stories, Meanjin, Antipodes, and Variaciones Borges. He is a current PhD candidate in Creative Writing at The University of Queensland.

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Lance is driven to see business schools produce graduates who are skilled in a blended value approach to getting business to contribute its maximum to society. This involves research and teaching based on understanding different types of businesses (e.g., profit-maximising and social enterprises) and creating different blends of value (financial, social and environmental). Lance believes societies do better when they promote a mix of these different businesses and foster the skills among graduates to provide a strong supply. To help achieve these aims, Lance pioneered the Social Entrepreneurship in Practice course at UQBS. This hands-on course challenges students to have to design, execute and incubate their own social enterprise with measurable social and financially sustainable impact. The course is informed by Lance’s global wellbeing research agenda, which puts students on the leading edge of an expanded vision for business in the 21st Century.

Carlos Daniel is the current Strategic Mine Planner for CRCORE working on the optimisation of Long Term Mine Plans through the implementation of new mining technologies and methodologies as grade engineering. Additionally, he has been working for nine years in the Metalliferous Mining industry as a Strategic Mine Planner, particularly in Scoping, Prefeasibility, and Feasibility studies for Green and Brown field Tier 1 projects.

Carlos Daniel holds a Bachelors Degree in Engineering with a Major in Mechanical Engineering (Minor in Mining Engineering) from the University of Queensland, a Masters Degree in Mining Engineering at the University of New South Wales, and is currently undertaking a PhD in Mining Engineering at The University of Queensland.
Ms Connie Taracena Secaira studied International Relations at the Rafael Landivar University, Guatemala. She completed a Master’s degree in Political Science at the Pontificia Javeriana University, Colombia as well as International Politics at the Université Libre de Bruxelles. Her professional experience has led her to many destinations in the capacity of First Secretary and Consul including Russia, Sweden, Belgium, The Netherlands and Luxembourg. Her tenure as Minister Counsellor, Guatemalan Permanent Mission to the UN oversaw the work of the Third Committee, Social Humanitarian, Human Rights and Cultural Affairs. In UNICEF she was a member of the Executive Board of Directors as representative of GRULAC. She is currently Ambassador of Guatemala to Australia. She has received the Honour of Merit and Outstanding Services.

Her Excellency Ms Connie Taracena Secaira
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Embassy of the Republic of Guatemala

Mr Zac Braxton-Smith
PhD Candidate, School of Languages and Cultures, The University of Queensland

Zac Braxton-Smith is an early career researcher working in the fields of Australian and Argentine literary studies. Zac is currently completing a doctoral candidacy at The University of Queensland, where he is examining the similarities, differences and transnational links between literary nationalism in these two countries. He has previously written essays and presented papers on the idea of race in the writings of the Argentine politician D. F. Sarmiento, Borges and the Argentine tradition, Henry Lawson’s politics, and the links between bush poetry and gauchesque poetry. An Australian by birth, Zac has lived in the Cono Sur and returns most years.
Mr Carlos Morán  
Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of the Republic of Chile

Mr Morán was born in Chile in 1963. He studied law and history at the Catholic University of Valparaiso. He graduated from the Chilean Diplomatic Academy in 1989 and completed a diploma on International Trade at the Institute CEDEIN, University of Barcelona, Spain and International Negotiations at the University of Chile. He served as a diplomat in Finland, Spain, Argentina and twice in Australia. In Chile he worked at the Protocol Office; European Affairs; Ministry of Foreign Affairs Cabinet and at the Summits Secretariat. He has taught as an Adjunct Professor at the Catholic University of Valparaiso, University of Belgrano, Argentina, and the University of La Plata, Argentina.
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