

## Regional Session 4: Latin America

### Panelists:

**Christian Pardo**, President of Internacional Juvenil (an international movement of young volunteers)

**Stephanie Carolina de Castro**, On-Line Courses Manager, Youth Action for Change

**Cândido Mendes**, Author

**Ines Finchelstein**, Coordinator of the Geração Muda Mundo

### Moderator:

**Fernando Casas**, Segib

### Session Summary

Moderator Fernando Casas made it clear, that Latin America gained a vast role in shaping the world affairs over the last decades. However, Latin America is not involved in any international conflict. Thus, the first priority is to sort out the internal conflict between the ethnic majority and minorities, especially the indigenous population. By addressing the specific problems of the region every panelist came up with a solution different to the others’.

In his beginning statement Mendes de la Almeida determined that the Latin American countries are transforming. He stressed that democracy has been improved, e.g. in terms of fighting corruption. Not only the countries as individuals, but also the relationship between them is changing. He highlighted the fact that e.g. Brazil’s second international partner is China and fosters the cooperation to Africa in order to maintain competitive. He ventured to call for a neo-imperialistic Brazil. Furthermore, he claimed that the perception of what is regional is changing to a less centered concept.

Stephanie Carolina de Castro stressed the importance to foster an inclusive strategy regarding the indigenous population in order to solve the internal conflict. It should be a strategy aimed to guarantee and realize human rights for this group by promoting those fundamental rights within the educational system and an international dialogue. An international dialogue which could be shaped by the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, a necessary mediator to bring the government and the civil society together in order to dissolve inequality.

In coherence with Christian Prado and Ines Finchelstein she asked the responsible actors to include the youth into the decision-making process.

Christian Pardo made the concrete suggestion that the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations should work together with the Summit of South-American-Arab Countries (ASPA) on an effective strategy to strengthen human rights.

Ines Finchelstein, the coordinator of the Geração Muda Mundo, was a participant at the Youth Global Forum herself. She claims that one of the main challenges is addressing the great inequalities throughout the continent, such as the exclusion of the indigenous. She also strongly believes that the Alliance of Civilization can play a strong role in working against these. However she also praises new instruments and declarations and claims that it is important to support best practice models that are already taking place.