



VIII Summit  
of the Americas  
LIMA - PERU - 2018



## SUMMIT TALKS

### EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES: PREVENTION AND FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION

- Date:** May 26, 2020 – 11:00 am (EST – Washington DC) – Length: 2 hours.  
**Organizer:** Summits of the Americas Secretariat, in cooperation with the Department for Effective Public Management of the OAS  
**Audience:** Public officials and civil society from the region  
**Platform:** Online

This webinar falls under the cooperation initiatives being pursued by the Summits of the Americas Secretariat, in the framework of implementation of the Mechanism for Follow-up and Implementation of the Lima Commitment, with the participating states, Joint Summit Working Group (JSWG) entities, and civil society and social actors. In such context, this seminar seeks to facilitate the sharing of experiences and deepen knowledge from the perspective of governments and civil society regarding the adoption and use of emerging technologies as instruments for the prevention and fight against corruption; including, in view of the need to take advantage of technologies in response actions to emergency situations such as the current global health crisis caused by COVID-19.

The Lima Commitment of the VIII Summit of the Americas of 2018 "Democratic Governance Against Corruption" calls in its commitments 14 and 17 to "Promoting and or strengthening the implementation of national policies and plans, and as appropriate subnational plans in the areas of open government, digital government, open data, fiscal transparency, open budgeting, digital procurement systems, public contracting and a public registry of state suppliers", as well as "Promoting the use of new technologies that facilitate digital government in order to promote transparency, interaction with citizens and accountability, through development of tools for the identification, detection, systematization, and monitoring of government procedures." From the OAS General Secretariat, these commitments are met through the work carried out by the Department for Effective Public Management of the OAS against the mandates of member states in the areas of digital government, open data, open government, and government purchases, as Technical Secretariat of Red Gealc and RICG.

#### *Introduction*

The rapid evolution of information and communication technologies (ICT) has triggered an accelerated appropriation by citizens and the public and private sectors in the last 30 years. Its effects contribute to efficiency and the best provision of services; however, its appropriation by the state apparatus does not seem to perceive the same benefits in terms of generating greater transparency in public management. In light of the latest report by the international transparency organization in 2020 and its index of the perception of corruption in the world, the fight against corruption in Latin America shows no major changes since 2012.

As the evolution of ICT continues, new technologies or emerging technologies appear that promise to further transform the way we live and our societies, immersing ourselves in the 4<sup>th</sup> industrial revolution, which deals with the convergence of digital, physical and biological. These technologies have started to be adopted in the region, and governments are certainly facing this challenge. Artificial intelligence (AI) in the cloud, the blockchain; quantum computing, and the internet of things (IoT), are some of these technologies. In light of this immersion, the experts invited to this dialogue will speak about some questions such as

Do new technologies have a role in preventing and fighting corruption?

What use is it being given to these technologies?

What are the latent risks of using these technologies?

Is the region ready for these technologies? What challenges does the region face?

### ***Program***

#### *I. Introduction*

#### *II. Opening remarks:* María Celina Conte, Acting Director, Summits of the Americas Secretariat, OAS

#### *III. Presentations*

1. Mr. Edward Hartwig, Deputy Administrator, United States Digital Service (USDS)
2. Ms. Barbara Ubaldi, Digital Government and Open Data Lead, Directorate for Public Governance, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)
3. Ms. Carol Roach, Acting Director, Department of Transformation and Digitization, Office of the Prime Minister, Government of the Bahamas
4. Mr. Miguel Porrua, Coordinator of the Data and Digital Government Cluster, Institutions for Development Sector, Institutional Capacity of the State Division, Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)
5. Ms. Saiph Savage, Director of the Civic Innovation Lab, West Virginia University

#### *IV. Q/A Session*

#### *V. Final thoughts:* María Celina Conte, Acting Director, Summits of the Americas Secretariat, Organization of American States (OAS)

*Moderator:* Mike Mora, Specialist, Department for Effective Public Management, OAS

### **Other considerations:**

1. Simultaneous interpretation (English and Spanish) will be provided.
2. The session will be recorded and published for its reproduction.
3. The presentations that are presented will be shared.
4. A record of the meeting, with action items or recommendations made, will be shared.

**Regarding the Summit of the Americas and the Department for Effective Public Management**

The Eighth Summit of the Americas (Lima, Peru, 2018) concluded with the adoption, by the Heads of State and Government, of 57 mandates or concrete measures to prevent and fight corruption set forth in the “Lima Commitment: Democratic Governance against Corruption.” These 57 measures include specific mandates in the areas of e-government, open data, open government, and public procurement to prevent and fight corruption. The Summits Secretariat of the OAS General Secretariat, as Technical Secretariat for the Summits of the Americas Process, has a mandate to support the member states in implementing Summit mandates and initiatives, and to follow up on implementation of the mandates from both the Eighth Summit of the Americas and the Summits that preceded it. For its part, the OAS Department for Effective Public Management (DEPM) is responsible for helping to ensure that public management is more effective, transparent, and participatory for the “effective exercise of democracy,” pursuant to Articles 2, 4, and 6 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter. Its work areas include, among others, those already noted above with regard to e-government and open data.

Queries about this webinar may be addressed to Mr. Mike Mora – [mmora@oas.org](mailto:mmora@oas.org), Specialist, OAS.