Project Overview
-Highlights of the Speech in Spanish-

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IELTS™ English for International Opportunity

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QS UNIVERSITY RANKINGS: LATIN AMERICA™

- The QS University Rankings:Latin America™ began as a consultation with academics from over 100 universities in the region. The methodology of the study takes into account region-specific context and the results reflect this. Understanding the availability of data and the feasibility of collecting such data was very important to the exercise.

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- Submitting data for the rankings proved to be valuable exercise for the universities involved, since it required data collection, integration and communication within the different departments of the institutions considered for inclusion.

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- The level of involvement from universities this year has greatly surpassed our expectations. Next year, we may require additional information on student mobility. For example: exchange student numbers (inbound, outbond) number of nationalities, number of international faculty. Internationalization was not included in the methodology in this year, but we will aim to include it in the near future.

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- The QS University Rankings: Latin America™ methodology will evolve to incorporate over time more detailed aspects of the universities output, activities and contribution.

- This year we collected complementary information which we are considering for potential future inclusion as part of the evollving methodology. E.g. inclusion, quality of education, international mobility , and international cooperation.

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Complementary information - Inclusion

- Latin American universities have a social role and this is important to highlight and emphasize…. Public universities have historically been the key to providing students from low-income backgrounds with higher education
  - i.e. National University of Colombia, Universidad Simón Bolivar, The University of Antioquia, University of Costa Rica

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- Great efforts from private universities with clearly structured programs have also given access to students from low-income backgrounds. These universities have also worked hard to encourage these students to stay in university.
  - i.e. The University of Los Andes- 'I want to study' program, free tuition scholarship program, which aims to benefit 10% of the total number of students.
  - The Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro- 24% of their students come from low-income backgrounds. The university has a program which covers over 80% of the cost of enrolling the student.

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- Governments are also key to promoting greater private sector participation.
  - i.e. The implementation of programs such as *Prouni* in Brazil, which allows tax exemptions in exchange for scholarships for low-income background students

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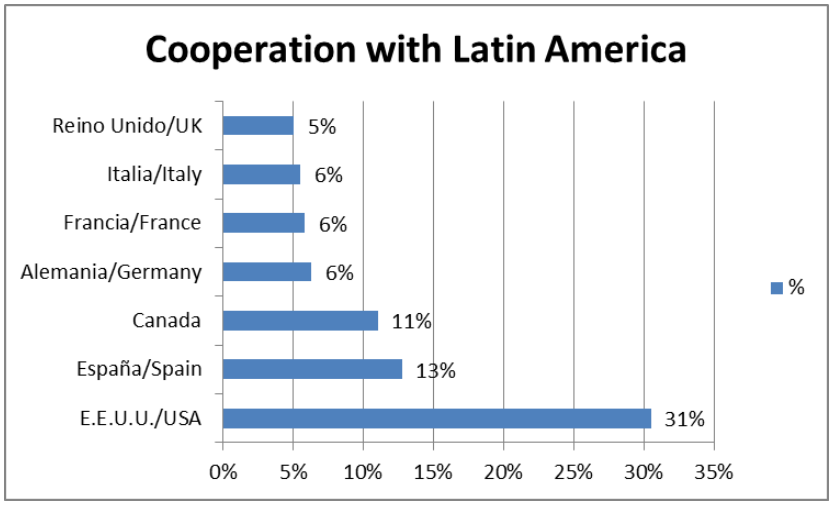
Complementary information – International Cooperation

- 25 universities from the region- 673 collaboration agreements in international mobility, teaching, research collaboration with universities around the world.

- Europe (Spain, Germany, France, Italy and United Kingdom)
- North America (USA and Canada)
- Asia - Japan and Korea



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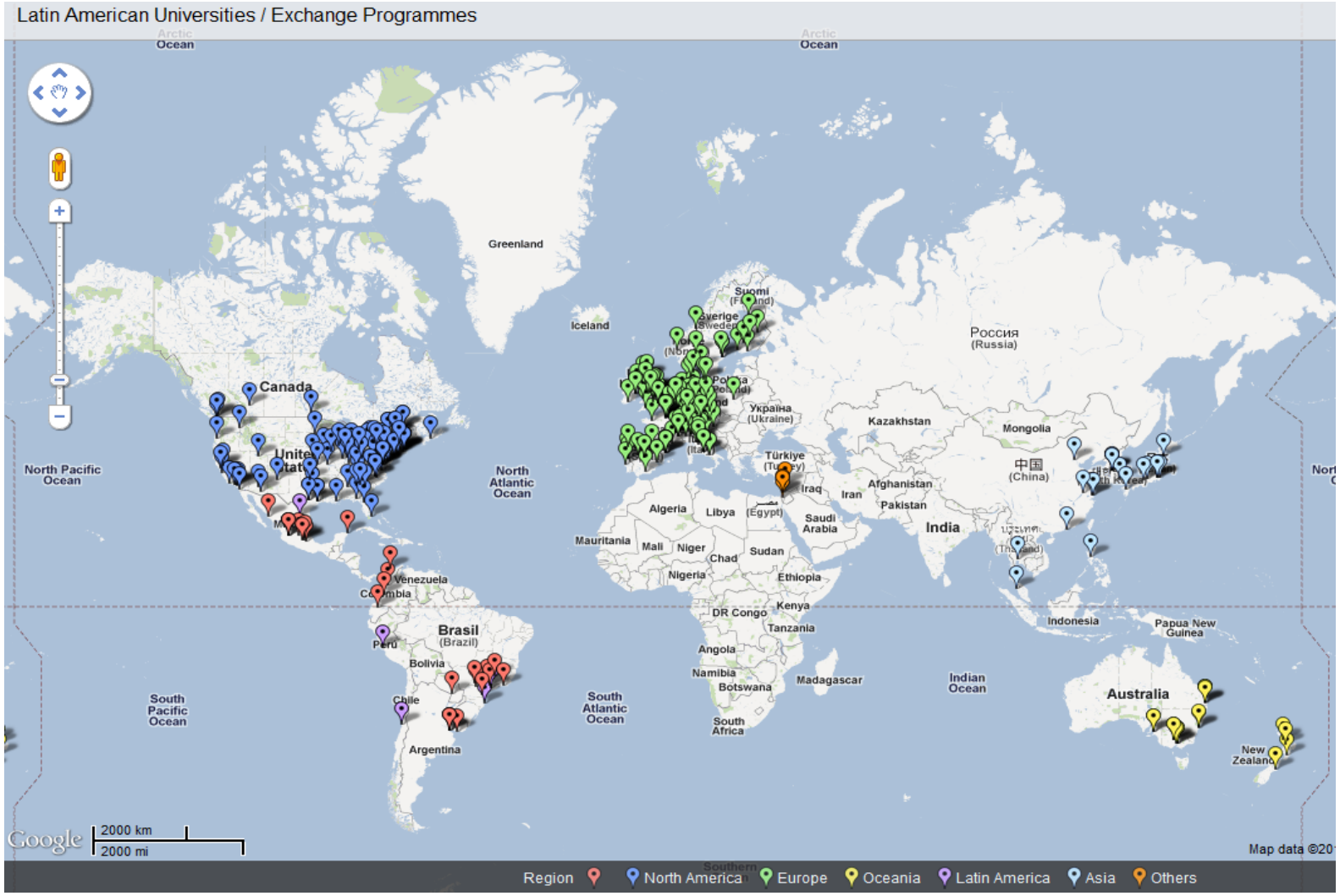

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- The map above shows a large number of cooperation agreements with universities in the **United States**, 9 of which are in the Top 20 of the 2011/2012 QS World University Rankings®. –
  - Agreements focused on research - Life Sciences subjects.

- There are also many partnerships in Europe, particularly Spain. Among the most active universities are:
  - University of Salamanca
  - University of Santiago de Compostela
  - Autonomous University of Barcelona

- United Kingdom included 23 universities that support student exchange agreements. Most active: University of Leeds and the University of Liverpool. Alfa Project –EU: University of Warwick, UCL.

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- Example of Latin American universities with cooperative agreements with the top 100 in the 2011/2012 QS World University Rankings®:

Pontificia Universidad Católica do Rio de Janeiro - PUC – Rio	Brazil
Universidad de Palermo	Argentina
Universidad Andina Simón Bolívar	Ecuador
Universidad Autónoma de Guadalajara	Mexico
Universidad CES	Colombia

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- QS University Rankings: Latin America™ 2012

The main focus for the second edition of the rankings will be to evolve the methodology and expand the data collection, especially in Central America

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- QS wishes to thank IELTS for sponsoring the launch of the first QS University Rankings: Latin America™.
- To Canning House and The Foreign Commonwealth Office for their support in this event.
- To the universities, academics, employers and students who participated in the collection of information.

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- Latin America is a fast-developing region, attracting investors from all over the world .
  We hope the QS University Rankings: Latin America™ will draw more attention to its great diversity and potential.

Results: www.topuniversities.com / www.topmaster.com

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THANK YOU