

Latin American Forum on Communications

January 25 - 28, 2000
Embassy Suites Hotel, Miami, FL

Sponsored by

[Public Utility Research Center](#)

Warrington College of Business Administration, University of Florida

[Nortel Networks](#)

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[Agenda](#) | [Summary](#) | [Readings](#)

Conference Description

Background: Communications industries are undergoing a rapid revolution. As a result, Latin America governments are reforming their telecommunications markets in an environment in which issues, markets and economic needs are changing rapidly. The issues cut across the usual country, industry, and institutional boundaries. Because the issues are new and emerging, there is no consensus on best practices in either a Latin American context or a global context. Also, many Latin American countries are choosing new leaders who have a need to network and explore issues.

Objective of conference: This conference will explore how Latin American countries can address communications policy issues that will arise in the next few years. The focus is on government regulation of private businesses that provide information services necessary for full participation in the information revolution. The policies examined are those that ensure that markets are open, function well, and are well-regulated environment. Areas of emphasis include both network infrastructure and the information systems necessary for provision of advanced communications services. Issues are examined in a global setting, with domestic development and global participation serving as important themes. Legal, financial, and diplomatic issues are covered.

Principal conference activities: There will be 15 sessions, which will be conducted in Spanish with simultaneous translation. Sessions cover such topics as e-business, industry convergence, and industry consolidation. A more complete list of topics is attached as a [Draft Agenda](#). For each topic, sessions will include expert speakers that will frame issues, provide information, and describe options and best practices. Then, selected fellows will form a panel to describe their countries' views and approaches on the topics. Fellows and experts will then participate in a roundtable discussion to examine issues in depth and challenge ideas. Because Miami is an international center for trade in Latin America and is becoming a hub for Latin American e-business, joint sessions with [itFlorida.com](#) will be held to allow Latin American and US-based information businesses to discuss trade and development issues with Latin America policy makers.

Financial Contributors

- [Communications Competitiveness Research Initiative](#), University of Florida
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Objectives

- Explore how Spanish Caribbean Basin and Latin American countries can address communication policy issues that will arise in the next few years.
- Establish a dialogue between these countries' leading policy makers and leading international experts.
- Provide a forum for these countries to share their plans and experiences.
- Develop a dialogue between Spanish Caribbean Basin, Latin American, and Florida leaders that are developing cross-border communications policies.