

 Canning House

UK-Brazil

Conversa

2021

Bringing the UK and Brazil closer together

Friday 3rd September

14:00-18:00 (UK time)



Programme of Events

14.00-14.10	Words of welcome from Alan Charlton CMG CVO , Founder of the Conversa; Trustee, Canning House
14.10-14.20	Keynote Speech 1 Hon. Ranil Jayawardena MP , Minister for International Trade, UK Government
14.20-14.30	Keynote Speech 2 Minister João Rossi , Junior Minister for International Trade, Brazilian Government

Session 1

14.30-15.30	Collaboration between Brazil and the UK during the Covid-19 pandemic and beyond <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>In what ways have the UK and Brazil worked together during the pandemic?</i> <i>How can the UK and Brazil build on the collaborative research relationship developed during the pandemic?</i> <i>How has the pandemic changed UK-Brazilian relations?</i> <i>What collaborative measures can be taken by the UK and Brazil to better protect the health of individuals and the economy in the future?</i> <p>Chair: Richard Lapper, former Latin America Editor, Financial Times</p> <p>Speakers: Dr Clare Wenham, Associate Professor of Global Health Policy, London School of Economics (LSE) Dr Nelson Teich, former Brazilian Minister of Health</p> <p>Rapporteur: Vanessa Buschschlüter, Latin America & Caribbean Editor, BBC News</p>
	How can the UK and Brazil improve relations in bilateral trade and business? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>What are the main obstacles to improving the business environment?</i> <i>Where is the 'low hanging fruit'?</i> <i>What difference will an official trade deal such as an FTA make between the two countries?</i> <p>Chair: Jonathan Knott CMG, HM Trade Commissioner, Latin America & Caribbean, Department for International Trade (DIT); HM Consul General in São Paulo</p> <p>Speakers: Emily Rees, Senior Fellow, European Centre for International Political Economy Ana Paula Vitelli, President, UK Chamber of Commerce in Brazil Vera Thorstensen, Professor of Economics, Fundação Getulio Vargas (FGV)</p> <p>Rapporteur: Cristina Irving-Turner, Latin America & Caribbean Business Specialist, DIT</p>
	Who should decide in our countries? The executive, legislature, or judiciary? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>How do the three branches of government function in each country, in theory and in practice?</i> <i>How can the UK and Brazil better ensure the separation of powers?</i> <i>How has social media shaped democracy in each country?</i> <i>What does the future hold for democracy in the digital age?</i> <p>Chair: Marco Aurelio Ruediger, Director of Public Policy, FGV</p> <p>Speakers: Frederico Singarajah, Barrister & Arbitrator, Gatehouse Chambers Raquel Dodge, Federal Prosecutor & Former Brazilian Attorney General</p> <p>Rapporteur: Nick Tidnam, Counsel, Hogan Lovells</p>
15.30-15.45	<i>Break</i>
15.45-16.00	Keynote Speech 3 Governor Eduardo Leite , State Governor of Rio Grande do Sul

Session 2

16.00–17.00	<p>Bilateral approaches to tackling inequality in the UK and Brazil</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>What progress has been made in tackling inequality?</i> • <i>What are the most common types of inequality seen in each country?</i> • <i>What can the UK and Brazil learn from each other with regard to fighting inequality?</i> <p>Chair: Dr Rosana Pinheiro Machado, Lecturer, Department of Social & Policy Sciences, University of Bath</p> <p>Speakers: Dr Ryan Centner, Assistant Professor of Urban Geography, LSE Dr Malu Gatto, Assistant Professor of Latin American Politics, University College London (UCL)</p> <p>Rapporteur: Dr Amir Lebdioui, Canning House Research Fellow, LSE Latin America & Caribbean Centre</p> <p>Collaborative solutions to the clean energy transition in the UK and Brazil: COP26 and beyond</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>What common objectives are there for both countries in the clean energy transition?</i> • <i>What does each country hope to gain from COP26?</i> • <i>Where are the opportunities to work together on a green recovery?</i> <p>Chair: Professor Anthony Pereira, Professor of Brazilian Studies, Kings' College London Brazil Institute</p> <p>Speakers: H.E. Vijay Rangarajan, Director General, Americas & Overseas Territories, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) Christian Vargas, Chief International Advisor, Ministry of Mines & Energy, Brazilian Government</p> <p>Rapporteur: Lucinda Elliot, Latin American Affairs Correspondent, Monocle</p>
	<p>How can Brazil and the UK build back better and what are the key areas for cooperation?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>At the political level, what does each country value about its relationship with the other, and where are there grounds for improvement?</i> • <i>What can be done to strengthen economies to make them more resilient and sustainable?</i> • <i>Beyond trade and business, what areas can the UK and Brazil cooperate closely on?</i> <p>Chair: Laura Trajber Waisbich, Senior Researcher, Instituto Igarapé</p> <p>Speakers: Melanie Hopkins, Deputy Head of Mission, Brasilia, FCDO Roberto Doring, Deputy Head, Brazilian Embassy, UK</p> <p>Rapporteur: Hinesh Rajani, Head, Brazil and Southern Cone Team, FCDO</p>
17.00–17.30	<p>Plenary Session</p> <p>Rapporteurs to give key findings from each panel (5 minutes max each)</p>
17.30–17.45	<p>Way ahead for Conversa</p> <p>Alan Charlton CMG CVO, Founder of the Conversa; Trustee, Canning House Cristina Cortes, CEO, Canning House</p>
17.45–18.00	<p>Closing Keynote Address</p> <p>Hon. Wendy Morton MP, Minister for European Neighbourhood & the Americas, UK Government</p>

Speaker Biographies



Vanessa Buschschlüter



Latin America & Caribbean Editor, BBC News

Vanessa is the Latin America and Caribbean editor for BBC News Online. Her interest in Latin America goes back to her youth in Spain, followed up with an MA in Latin American studies in Berlin. After a degree in Broadcast Journalism, Vanessa joined the BBC, covering the EU and US, where she reported on the impact of Hurricane Katrina. In 2010 she settled on Latin America, joining the News Online team in 2013. Her assignments have taken her to Chile, Colombia, Honduras, Panama and Venezuela. [Twitter](#)



Dr Ryan Centner



Assistant Professor of Urban Geography, London School of Economics (LSE)

Ryan is Assistant Professor of Urban Geography at the LSE. His diverse research portfolio revolves around a core interest in urban transformation. Before joining the LSE, he was faculty in the Department of Sociology at Tufts University; he received his PhD from the University of California, Berkeley, and has had visiting affiliations in Buenos Aires, Cape Town, Irvine, Los Angeles, and Paris. [Twitter](#)



Alan Charlton CMG CVO

Founder of the Conversa; Trustee, Canning House

Alan was British Ambassador to Brazil from 2008–2013, and subsequently founded the UK–Brazil Conversa. He was a British diplomat for 35 years, with his other postings including Jordan, Germany and the United States. He now devotes time to the education sector, with teaching posts and governorships, and lectures international relations and diplomacy.



Cristina Cortes



CEO, Canning House

Cristina is an Oxford and LSE politics and economics graduate. Having worked in government, banking and energy across a variety of commercial, business development and government relations roles in London, Houston, Venezuela, Colombia, Argentina and Brazil, in 2015 she joined Canning House, the UK's leading forum for Latin America and Iberia. She took over as CEO in 2018.



Raquel Dodge

Federal Prosecutor & Former Brazilian Attorney General

Raquel was the 41st Attorney General of the Republic between 2017 and 2019. She has also held the post of 7th President of the National Council of Public Prosecution and of Electoral Attorney General. She has also been the Coordinator of the Criminal Chamber and has been the Deputy Federal Prosecutor of the Rights of the Citizen. She was a Member of the Chamber of Indigenous Peoples and Traditional Populations between 1993–2004. [Twitter](#)



Roberto Doring

Deputy Head, Brazilian Embassy, UK

Roberto is the Deputy Head of Mission at the Brazilian Embassy to the UK, concentrating on economic affairs, as well as cultural, scientific and academic cooperation. He arrived in London in January 2019, coming from Brasilia, where he was Deputy Chief Diplomatic Advisor to the President of Brazil (2016–2018). Since joining the Brazilian Foreign Service in 1999, he has served in Embassies in Paris, Bogotá and Washington, D.C, and has acted as advisor to Brazil's Foreign and Defence ministers in Brasilia.



Lucinda Elliott

Latin American Affairs correspondent, Monocle

Lucinda has worked as a foreign correspondent across Latin America, reporting from the frontline in Venezuela during 2017. She has since been based in São Paulo, Brazil and later Rio de Janeiro throughout the coronavirus pandemic. Her work across print and radio plays a key part in foreign coverage of affairs in Brazil and the wider South America region for British outlets. She is currently writing from Montevideo, Uruguay. [Twitter](#)



Malu Gatto

Assistant Professor of Latin American Politics, University College London (UCL)

Malu is Assistant Professor of Latin American Politics at the UCL Institute of the Americas. Previously, she was postdoctoral researcher at the Department of Political Science of the University of Zurich and a Research Fellow at the Wilson Center in Washington, D.C.. Her work explores questions about the gendered dynamics of political behaviour, representation, and policy-making with a regional focus on Latin America. [Twitter](#)





Melanie Hopkins

Deputy Head of Mission in Brasilia, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO)

Melanie is Deputy Head of Mission at the British Embassy Brasilia. She began her career in management consultancy, working, among other things on the launch of anti-cancer treatments and vaccines in various Latin American countries. She joined the FCDO in 2002 and has completed several multilateral roles in London and overseas, covering UN, NATO and EU, and at UK Embassies and High Commissions in the Pacific. [Twitter](#)


 Foreign, Commonwealth
& Development Office


Cristina Irving Turner

Latin America & Caribbean Business Specialist, Department for International Trade (DIT)

Cristina is the Business Specialist for Latin America and the Caribbean (LATAC) at DIT. She is based in the UK and is the face of DIT-LATAC for UK business with the specific remit to actively promote UK-LATAC trade. Prior to DIT, Cristina was the Business Manager for LATAC at Emerald Publishing. Cristina has over ten years' experience in the academic publishing industry; within both sales and editorial departments.


 Department for
International Trade


Hon. Ranil Jayawardena MP

Minister for International Trade, UK government

Ranil was appointed Minister for International Trade in May 2020. He was first elected as the Conservative MP for North East Hampshire in 2015. Ranil was also made Deputy Chairman of the Conservative Party by the Prime Minister. Prior to his election to Parliament, he was a councillor, serving as deputy leader of the Borough of Basingstoke and Deane. Ranil combined his service in local government with working for Lloyds Banking Group plc, and is a freeman of the City of London. [Twitter](#)


 Department for
International Trade


Jonathan Knott CMG

HM Trade Commissioner, Latin America & Caribbean, DIT and HM Consul General in São Paulo

Jonathan took on the role of HM Trade Commissioner for Latin America & the Caribbean in February 2021. He became HM Consul General in São Paulo in August 2021 when he arrived in Brazil. Jonathan joined the UK Diplomatic Service in 1989. He has twice been Her Majesty's Ambassador: in Poland and in Hungary; and held other roles in South Korea, Mexico, Cuba and at the OECD. [Twitter](#)


 Foreign, Commonwealth
& Development Office


 Department for
International Trade



Richard Lapper

Former Latin America Editor, Financial Times

Richard Lapper is a writer and consultant on Latin America. He is author of *Beef, Bible and Bullets: Brazil in the Age of Bolsonaro* published in June 2021 by Manchester University Press. Richard is an associate fellow at Chatham House and an associate of King's College, London. He was formerly at the Financial Times, where he was editor for Latin America between 1998 and 2008 and founding editor of FT Brazil Confidential. [Twitter](#)



Dr Amir Lebdioui



Canning House Research Fellow, LSE Latin America and Caribbean Centre (LACC)

Amir is the Canning House fellow in the Latin American and Caribbean Centre of the London School of Economics and Political Science. His research focuses on export diversification, industrial policy, inequality and environmental sustainability. He holds a PhD in Development Studies from the University of Cambridge. [Twitter](#)



Governor Eduardo Leite

State Governor of Rio Grande do Sul

Eduardo is the governor of the State of Rio Grande do Sul, taking office in January 2019. He is currently Brazil's youngest state governor. Eduardo was previously elected Mayor of Pelotas City in 2013, having earlier served there as municipal secretary, city councillor and president of the City Council. In his term as governor, he has focused on administrative and social security reform, alongside fiscal adjustment and budget balancing through a programme of privatisation and public service concessions. [Twitter](#)



Hon. Wendy Morton MP

Minister for European Neighbourhood & The Americas, UK Government

Wendy is the Minister for European Neighbourhood and the Americas at the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office. Wendy was first appointed as a Parliamentary Under Secretary of State in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the Department for International Development on 13 February 2020. She was first elected as Conservative MP for Aldridge-Brownhills in May 2015. [Twitter](#)



Professor Anthony Pereira

Professor of Brazilian Studies, Brazil Institute, KCL

Anthony is a Professor in the Brazil Institute and Department of International Development in the School of Global Affairs at King's College London. From 2010 to 2020 he was the founding director of the Brazil Institute. He has held other positions at universities and colleges in the United States, and has been a visiting professor at institutions in Pernambuco and São Paulo, Brazil. [Twitter](#)



Ian Perrin

 Canning House

Head of Policy, Research and Operations, Canning House

Ian is Head of Policy, Research and Operations at Canning House. He joined the organisation in 2015 following an MSc in Latin American Politics at UCL. He has a broad knowledge of Latin America, and has travelled extensively throughout the region. He previously worked at Chatham House, where he established and managed the Centre on Global Health Security. Ian is also the Director of Programming at the Young Professionals in Foreign Policy London chapter.



Dr Rosana Pinheiro Machado



Lecturer, Department of Social & Policy Sciences, University of Bath

Rosana Pinheiro-Machado is an Assistant Professor of International Development in the Department of Social and Policy Sciences at the University of Bath. Previously, she was a Lecturer at the University of Oxford and held visiting positions at the University of São Paulo and Harvard University. Her ethnographic work focuses on socioeconomic and political contradictions and challenges of emerging economies from the global South. She regularly writes on Brazilian affairs for The Washington Post, El País, and The Intercept. [Twitter](#)



Hinesh Rajani



Head, Brazil and Southern Cone Team, FCDO

Hinesh joined the UK Diplomatic Service after studies at Oxford and Sciences Po, Paris. He has worked on issues of peace and stability, with tours in Nepal, Jordan and Egypt, and supporting the Cypriot peace process from London. After two years coordinating the FCDO's planning for a 'no deal' Brexit, he moved to the Latin America Department to lead the team responsible for the UK's relationships with Brazil and the Southern Cone.



H.E. Vijay Rangarajan

 Foreign, Commonwealth
& Development Office

Director General, Americas & Overseas Territories, FCDO

Vijay Rangarajan is Director General, Americas and Overseas Territories at the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office. Vijay was the UK Ambassador to Brazil from June 2017 until August 2020. From 2013 to 2016 he was Europe Director in the Foreign & Commonwealth Office, responsible for work on the UK EU referendum, associated negotiations, and wider EU policy such as on energy, social security and foreign policy. [Twitter](#)



Emily Rees



Senior Fellow, European Center for International Political Economy

Emily is an international trade policy expert and founder of Trade Strategies, a trade and regulatory consultancy. She comes from an extensive career in EU affairs, trade policy and economic diplomacy, having led Brazil's trade and investment agency relations with the EU and served as Deputy Trade Attaché of France to Brazil. She is a Senior Fellow at the European Centre for International Political Economy, where she leads the EU-Mercosur project. [Twitter](#)



Minister João Rossi

Assistant Deputy Minister for Foreign Trade and International Affairs, Ministry of Economy

João is Assistant Deputy Minister for Foreign Trade and International Affairs at the Ministry of Economy. He has been a career Foreign Trade Analyst since 2001, having held various positions in international affairs, such as the Head of International Advisory Office of the Minister and General Coordinator of Extra-Regional Negotiations of the Secretariat of Foreign Trade.



Marco Aurelio Ruediger



Director, Public Policy Analysis, Fundação Getúlio Vargas (FGV)

Marco is Director of Public Policy Analysis at FGV. His research interests focus on political sociology, technological innovation and the impact of social networks on democracy. Marco is leading the creation of FGV's School of Communication, Media and Information, and coordinates the "Digitalization and Democracy in Brazil" project. He is also a member of the Advisory Council of the Brazilian Business Communication Association. [Twitter](#)



Frederico Singarajah

Barrister & Arbitrator, Gatehouse Chambers

Frederico is a specialist in international trade and investment disputes. He is especially sought out for his unique expertise in matters involving emerging markets in Latin America, Africa and Asia. He is an experienced trial advocate, having advised and acted for states, state entities, public and private companies in English court proceedings. In international arbitration he acts both as counsel and arbitrator.



Dr Nelson Teich

Founder and Partner, Teich Consulting; former Brazilian Minister of Health

Nelson is the founder and a partner at Teich Consulting. He was the former Minister of Health of Brazil, and the former Brazilian Ministry of Health Advisor in areas of Health Technology Assessment and Oncology. Nelson has a Masters in Health Economics from the University of York and an MBA in Health Management from the Federal University of RJ, Brazil. Nelson also is the founder and former president of Grupo COI and COI Management, Education and Research Institute.



Vera Thorstensen

Professor of Economics, FGV

Vera is a professor at the FGV School of Economics in São Paulo and is Head of the Centre on Global Trade and Investments, created in 2010. From 2014 on she was appointed as a WTO Chair Holder in Brazil. From 2014 to 2018 she was appointed President of the Brazilian Committee on TBT and Regulatory Barriers. She has coordinated extensive projects on Trade Regulation, Preferential Agreements, economic impact analysis on Brazil Trade Policy and published many articles and books on the WTO.



Nick Tidnam

Counsel, Hogan Lovells

Nick's current practice is focussed on advising infrastructure investment funds on their financing arrangements, leading legal input into Covid financial support programmes and on a variety of financings across Africa & the Middle East. Nick has over the past ten years also worked on a succession of oil and gas financings for state oil companies in Latin America.





Christian Vargas

Chief International Advisor, Ministry of Mines and Energy, Brazilian Government

Christian is Chief International Advisor to the Ministry of Mines and Energy. A career diplomat, he has served at Brazilian missions and embassies in Moscow and Washington D.C., where he was Deputy Chief of Mission; as well as Montevideo, Buenos Aires, Paris and at the European Union. In Brasilia, he has been advisor at the Department of Environment and Special Affairs in the Ministry of External Relations, an International Advisor to the President, was Director for Mercosur, and Advisor to the Minister of External Relations.



Ana Paula Vitelli

President, UK Chamber of Commerce Brazil and Business Development Director, ao3tech

Ana Paula has over 25 years of experience in the higher education/executive education industry, leading business development activities in online and blended learning. In 2020, Ana became the first female President at British Chamber of Commerce in Brazil. She also currently acts as Business Development Director at ao3tech, a software and content company.



Laura Waisbich

Senior Researcher, Instituto Igarapé

Laura is Senior Researcher at the Climate & Security Program at the Igarapé Institute. She holds a PhD in Geography from the University of Cambridge and has over ten years of research and policy experience working on issues related to international development cooperation, foreign policy, social policies, citizen participation and human rights. She is also associate researcher at the Brazilian Centre for Analysis and Planning and the South-South Cooperation Research and Policy Centre.



Dr Clare Wenham

Associate Professor of Global Health Policy, LSE

Clare is Associate Professor of Global Health Policy at the LSE. Clare's work considers global health governance and security, pandemic preparedness and outbreak response, the role of WHO, national priorities and innovative financing for pandemic control, particularly in Latin America. She previously worked at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, delivering projects relating to infectious disease transmission. [Twitter](#)



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Use **#Conversa** and tag us in your posts on any of the platforms below:



@Canning_House



Canning House



Canning House

Tell us about your experience

At Canning House, we are constantly striving to improve and host events that interest our audience. In light of this, we would like to gather feedback on the **UK-Brazil Conversa 2021**.

All attendees will receive an email including a **short post-event survey**. We kindly ask that you provide any feedback you may have, such that we can provide the best experience possible at future Canning House events.

Upcoming Canning House events



**Demand for African Slaves:
The Role of New Christians
from Rio de Janeiro**

Thursday 9 September
16:00–17:30



**Politics and the Military in
Latin America**

Thursday 23 September
16:00–17:30



**Sustainable Education and
Opportunities**

December

The UK-Brazil Conversa 2021 is supported by



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