

ATREVIA™



LATIN AMERICAN KEY HIGHLIGHTS

FEBRUARY 2024



Intense reformist legislative activity and economic stability shape Latin American scenario

Latin American political activity has been characterized by the presentation or approval of important legislative initiatives, while the economic situation has remained relatively stable.

Javier Milei's government's attempt to restructure the Argentine state has faced obstacles ranging from street demonstrations to obtaining the necessary parliamentary support. Meanwhile, inflation continues to rise and the poverty rate has reached 57%.

Chile expects to reach its 3% inflation target by mid-year, but its currency is one of the most depreciated in the region, down 8.25% so far in 2024. On the other hand, the Colombian peso remains below COP 4,000 to the dollar after a period of appreciation. This monetary stability is not reflected in the political arena, due to the controversy surrounding the election of a new Attorney General.

Former Peruvian President Pedro Castillo faces a possible 34-year prison sentence for the 2022 coup attempt. At the same time, Jair Bolsonaro is under investigation for his involvement in similar events in the Brazilian capital last year and has been forced to surrender his passport.

Ecuador remains in a state of internal armed conflict, and government measures have led to a high level of public acceptance of President Daniel Noboa's administration. Insecurity is also a growing problem in Uruguay, but on a positive note, the World Bank has revised upwards its GDP growth forecast for 2024 to 3.2%.

Finally, Mexico regained its position as the United States' largest trading partner and President Andrés Manuel López Obrador presented a comprehensive package of constitutional reforms and amendments.



Peruvian prosecutors requested 34 years in prison for former president Pedro Castillo for attempting to dissolve Congress. Possibly in response to low public approval of the government's management, the executive made four cabinet changes, with new ministers Defense, Economy, Mining and Environment. After the economy contracted by 0.55% in 2023, the Ministry of Economy is forecasting growth of 3% for this year, while the Peruvian Institute of Economy is forecasting growth of 1.9%.

Ecuador remains in a state of internal armed conflict, declared by President Daniel Noboa following the wave of violence that occurred in early January. In the midst of the militarization of the country, the legislature debated the VAT increase and approved tax measures to finance the fight against terrorism and drug trafficking, as well as to alleviate the economic crisis. These measures have been well received by the population, and the government's management has a high level of popular acceptance.

Tensions are rising in Colombia over the delay in electing a new Attorney General, including pressure from international organizations such as the UN and the IACHR, which are calling for a speedy solution without political interference. Economic activity has not yet recovered, but the Colombian peso continues to appreciate against the US dollar. The government and the ELN agreed to extend the ceasefire for six months and the trial of Nicolás Petro, the President's son, is progressing.

The Chilean government has managed to make legislative progress on one of its priorities, pension reform, but several key elements of the reform remain stalled for the time being. The Chilean peso is one of the region's most depreciated currencies, down 8.25% against the dollar so far this year. This would be a consequence of US monetary policy, the interest rate cut in Chile and the weakening of the copper price. However, inflation is expected to reach the 3% target by mid-2024.

Government reforms aimed at restructuring the Argentine state are intensifying political confrontation in the country. Meanwhile, inflation continues to erode families' purchasing power and the poverty rate has already reached 57% after rising 8% in one month. President Javier Milei expressed his willingness to move Argentina's embassy to Jerusalem, and a group of ruling party lawmakers presented a bill to recriminalize abortion.

Brazil's political news was dominated by the approval of the annual budget bill, the investigation of Jair Bolsonaro for his role in last year's coup attempt and President Lula da Silva's trip to Egypt. The unemployment rate closed 2023 at 7.8%, the lowest level in the last 9 years. Public health authorities launched a vaccination campaign against dengue fever following a significant increase in the number of cases.



The Mexican executive presented a package of constitutional reforms and amendments that would affect autonomous bodies, the pension system, the electoral system, salaries and the judiciary. The DEA reported that the 2006 presidential campaign was allegedly financed by drug trafficking. Mexico has regained its position as the United States' top trading partner and President López Obrador's six-year term may end with a record number of murders.

The president of Uruguay, Luis Lacalle Pou, sparked a row with Venezuela after calling the country a "dictatorship", criticizing the arrest of an activist and summoning the ambassador for consultations on elections due later this year. Alvaro Delgado, the president's right-hand man, launched his presidential bid. The World Bank has raised its economic growth forecast for this year to 3.2%, and tourism will generate 27.1% more revenue in 2023 than in 2022. On the other hand, insecurity remains the main concern of the population.



| PERU

POLITICAL CONTEXT

The Public Prosecutor's Office has filed charges against former President Pedro Castillo for his attempt to dissolve Congress, an act that led to his dismissal and for which the Public Prosecutor's Office is now requesting a 34-year prison sentence. The former president of the Council of Ministers, Betssy Chávez, and Aníbal Torres, former presidential advisor, are also part of this investigation. The former president, for his part, argues that the coup d'état did not take place, for which he considers the sentence requested by the prosecution to be excessive. Members of the Peruvian National Police and two of Castillo's former ministers are also among those accused.

According to the latest polls, around 84% of Peruvians disapprove of the government of President Dina Boluarte. This figure would be the result of a perceived lack of dialogue on the part of the executive, as well as political and economic tensions.

Possibly in response to these polls, the government made four changes to the ministerial cabinet. Walter Astudillo replaced Jorge Luis Chávez in the defense portfolio, José Arista took the place of Alex Contreras in the economy portfolio, Rómulo Mucho replaced Óscar Vera in the energy and mines portfolio and Juan Carlos Castro replaced Albina Ruiz in the environment portfolio.

ECONOMIC CONTEXT

The Peruvian economy contracted by 0.55% in 2023. However, better data on private spending, lower inflation and good financing conditions for private investment would be the main factors that would allow it to grow by 1.9% in 2024, according to the Peruvian Institute of Economics. This increase could be threatened by low business confidence and the El Niño phenomenon. Sectors such as trade, which would grow by 2.7%, and services, with an increase of 2.9%, would contribute 50% to GDP.

There are other sectors, such as manufacturing or construction, that will record negative results in 2023. In the latter, around 30,000 jobs will be lost, but these sectors will recover in the first quarter of 2024.

On the other hand, the Central Bank of Peru and the Ministry of Economy agree that the Peruvian economy will grow by 3% until 2024. Both indicate that GDP will become more dynamic in the second half of the year.

SOCIAL CONTEXT

The Multisectoral Commission of the National Study of the El Niño Phenomenon (ENFEN) announced that expert assessments maintain the state of "Coastal El Niño Alert" and that it will be prolonged. In response, the Executive declared a state of emergency in 63 districts in the regions of Arequipa, Ayacucho, Cusco, Huánuco, Huancavelica, Ica, Moquegua and Pasco, due to the possible effects of intense rainfall.

The people of Cusco called for the resignation of the Minister of Culture after changes were made to the way tickets are purchased to visit the Machu Picchu Sanctuary. The regional government of Cusco responded by saying that a consensus had been reached between civil society and the relevant authorities, and that the demonstrations had stopped. The agreement has allowed the dynamics of tourism in Cusco to continue, since the sale of tickets is guaranteed, while developing a virtual platform that will be in charge of the Secretariat of Government and Digital Transformation of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers.



| ECUADOR

POLITICAL CONTEXT

The series of attacks and assassinations in early January, following the escape of drug lord Adolfo 'Fito' Macias, led Ecuador to be considered the most insecure country in the region and the eleventh most insecure in the world. The situation has improved considerably since the government declared a state of emergency, which was extended by the declaration of a state of internal armed conflict. This measure was implemented in order to combat terrorism perpetrated by 22 criminal gangs.

Since the militarization of the country, some 80,000 operations have been carried out, including the seizure of 22 tons of drugs in Vinces, in the province of Los Rios. The fight against drug trafficking has crossed borders, as demonstrated by the "Gran Fénix 13" operation, a joint operation with the Spanish authorities. The operation resulted in 40 raids in Ecuador and 17 in Europe, 30 arrests in both countries and the seizure of 2.4 tons of drugs.

The government's response has been well received by its citizens, and President Daniel Noboa is widely popular, with an approval rating of around 80%. This could be a favorable context for the executive in view of the popular consultation expected to take place on 21 April next year.

ECONOMIC CONTEXT

The National Assembly debated the bill to increase VAT. The permanent increase to 13% and the temporary rate of 15% until 2026 were rejected by the legislature, but were not tabled, so it is now in the hands of the executive, which has the option of vetoing them to allow the increase to go ahead. During the session, a special tax on the net profits of banks and savings and credit cooperatives, an increase in the foreign exchange tax to 5%, a temporary security contribution of 3.25% on the profits of large companies and a differentiated VAT of 5% on construction materials were approved.

Ecuador became the fourth country in the region to sign a trade agreement with China, after Chile, Costa Rica and Peru. As a result, 99.6% of Ecuador's exports will benefit from preferential access. China is Ecuador's second largest trading partner after the United States and its largest market for non-oil exports.

Ecuadorian bananas and carnations were found to be contaminated by Russia, which suspended their import, costing the country millions. The decision was justified on health grounds, but in reality, it was in retaliation for statements made by President Noboa, who described as "junk" the Russian weapons in Ecuador's possession that had been delivered to the United States.

SOCIAL CONTEXT

The Indigenous Movement of Cotopaxi called for the first march against the government to reject the possible increase in VAT. The president of CONAIE, Leonidas Iza, did not take part in this mobilization, which was local and had little impact.

The Constitutional Court declared the conditional legality of article 144 of the Organic Penal Code on euthanasia, promoted by Paola Roldán, who suffers from amyotrophic lateral sclerosis. Environmental groups and indigenous peoples express their concern and rejection of the possibility of extending the exploitation of Block 43 ITT, given that a moratorium to continue exploitation has not been ruled out in view of the economic crisis the country is going through.

The National Agency for Regulation, Control and Sanitary Surveillance has carried out food tests and found products contaminated with lead. These include brands of tomato sauce, nutmeg and some sausages.

There will be no blackouts until 29 February 2024, and the Ministry of Energy is confident that the crisis will be overcome and no blackouts will occur after that date.



| COLOMBIA

POLITICAL CONTEXT

The controversy surrounding the election of the new Public Prosecutor intensified after the Supreme Court failed to rule on who should replace Francisco Barbosa, who is opposed to President Gustavo Petro. Demonstrations called by the president have been held to press for the election of one of his proposed lawyers, but none has received the required 16 votes.

The current deputy prosecutor, Martha Mancera, has been appointed to replace Barbosa, while the court chooses between the three candidates proposed by Petro: Ángela María Buitrago, Amelia Pérez Parra and Luz Adriana Camargo Garzón. This uncertainty has led organizations such as the UN and the IACHR to call for the election of the new prosecutor to be prioritized and for the justice system not to be weakened. They have also denounced the pressure that the Supreme Court of Justice has been under during this process and have called on the government to guarantee the conditions for a calm election without interference.

Nicolás Petro, the President's son, asked the Supreme Court not to use the statements he made to the Attorney General's Office, which were leaked to *Semana* magazine. He is said to have confessed to the existence of illegal funds in his father's electoral campaign.

ECONOMIC CONTEXT

Eighty per cent of businessmen in the business sector reported that sales were the same or lower than the previous year. According to them, categories such as building materials, home improvement items, vehicles, furniture and electronics failed to recover. In addition, shopkeepers also saw their sales fall due to the impact of the increase in the tax on ultra-processed foods and sugary drinks. According to Fenalco, although food inflation rose by only 0.48% in January, the prices of sweets and sugary drinks rose by 3.66% and 1.22%, respectively.

During the Annual Treasury Congress, Jonathan Malagón, president of the Banking and Financial Entities Association (Asobancaria), said that 31% of banking entities reported losses. This would be the result of a situation in which the economy "would have registered a growth of 0.9% last year, an atypical figure that represents the eighth worst result in the last 100 years in terms of GDP."

The Colombian peso continues to appreciate against the US dollar, and for several weeks the exchange rate has been below COP 4,000 to the US dollar.

SOCIAL CONTEXT

The government and the ELN agreed to extend the ceasefire for another 180 days, according to a joint communiqué in which the guerrillas pledged to temporarily suspend kidnappings for economic purposes. The six-month ceasefire agreed upon between the head of state and 'Antonio García', the commander of the armed group, expired on January 29, and, given the impossibility of reaching a new agreement, it was decided to extend it for seven days.

The significant increase in the number of kidnappings, assaults, and armed robberies has created a climate of insecurity. In Bogotá, this is one of the issues that most concerns citizens and is a priority for the new mayor, Carlos Fernando Galán. Councilors from various political parties in the city, including Nuevo Liberalismo, Centro Democrático, Colombia Justa Libres, and Alianza Verde, have decided to form a coalition, *Bancada por la Seguridad, la Convivencia, and the Restablecimiento del Orden*, to tackle the problem. The group proposes a review of the progress of the security strategies implemented by the current government.



| CHILE

POLITICAL CONTEXT

The pension reform, one of the priorities of the government of Gabriel Boric, took an important step forward in the legislature after months of debates and negotiations, although important elements were left out.

The bill to distribute the 6% additional contribution was rejected in the Chamber of Deputies, so the executive sent a new proposal to the Finance Committee, which was approved and sent to both chambers for debate. The idea of legislating the pension reform was accepted in both the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate, but key measures were not approved, such as the additional distribution of 6%, the Integrated Pension Fund, and the State Pension Investor, thus rejecting the core of the proposal. As a result, the Executive will have to present amendments to the bill when it returns from its March recess.

On the other hand, the Senate rejected the Chile Vamos bill, which sought to allow men over 70 and women over 65 to serve their sentences outside prison. It should be noted that the months of January and February are relatively quiet in the political arena due to the Christmas and summer holidays.

ECONOMIC CONTEXT

The Central Bank of Chile expects inflation to reach the 3% target in the second half of the year. The GDP contraction of 0.2% adjusted the projections, with a CPI variation of 0.20% expected in January. In addition, the price of the basic food basket fell by 0.9%, accumulating a variation of 6.6% over the last 12 months. This fall, added to the negative change in the CPI in December, could mean a slight easing in the economic reality of households. In this regard, the government has presented a project to stabilize electricity prices with a subsidy for 850,000 households.

In terms of exports, Chile set a record in 2023 with USD 43,633 million in non-traditional products and USD 2,437 million in services.

The Chilean peso continues to depreciate against the dollar and has already depreciated by 8.25% in 2024, making it the worst-performing currency among the six largest economies in Latin America. Among the factors that could explain this situation are US monetary policy, the reduction in interest rates in Chile, and the fall in copper prices.

SOCIAL CONTEXT

The government announced an increase in the Universal Guaranteed Pension (PGU) to US\$214,296 (≈221 USD). It also presented a bill to increase tax revenues by 1.5% of GDP to finance social programs, including the increase in the PGU to \$250,000 (USD ≈258).

The unemployment rate at the national level reached 8.5% in the last quarter of 2023, while in the Santiago Metropolitan Area it was 9.4%, an increase of 0.5 percentage points compared to the same period of the previous year. This increase was due to the fact that the labor force grew by 3.6%, which was higher than the growth in the number of employees, which was 2.9%.

The informal employment rate was 27.5%, a slight increase of 0.1 percentage points in one year. This represents an increase of 3.5% in the number of people employed in informal jobs. The situation is particularly acute for women, who experienced an increase of 7.2%, compared with 0.5% for men.



| ARGENTINA

POLITICAL CONTEXT

Political confrontation is intensifying as a result of the debate on the structural reforms of the Argentine state apparatus that the government of Javier Milei is trying to carry out. The Decree of Necessity and Urgency (DNU), signed on December 20, is still in force without having been discussed in the National Congress. The measure has allowed the deregulation of prices for food, medicines, transport, and energy tariffs, among others. Some elements could not be applied because they were declared unconstitutional by the judiciary, such as the points relating to labor law.

The other legislative project of great importance, the Ley de Bases y Puntos de Partida para la Libertad de los Argentinos, also known as the Omnibus Law due to the number of issues it addresses, was presented by President Milei. After a lengthy debate in Congress, the ruling party was unable to muster the votes to approve it, and it was sent back to the commissions to be reassessed.

Javier Milei travelled to Israel on his first bilateral visit as president and expressed his willingness to move the Argentine embassy to Jerusalem. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office welcomed the announcement as a diplomatic endorsement of Israel's claim to Jerusalem as its capital.

ECONOMIC CONTEXT

Inflation stood at 20.6% in January, up 254.2% year-on-year, according to the National Bureau of Statistics and Census. This represents a slowdown from the 25.5% recorded in December, the highest since February 1991.

According to the NSI, the fastest-growing sector was goods and services, with 44.4%, driven by personal care products. This was followed by transport, with 26.3%, due to the increase in the price of public transport and fuel; communications, with 25.1%; and food and non-alcoholic beverages, with 20.4%, the category with the highest incidence in all regions of the country, highlighting the increases in meat and derivatives and bread and cereals. On the other hand, the categories with the lowest variations were clothing and footwear with 11.9% and education with 0.9%.

These data were reflected in the 28.5% year-on-year fall in retail sales by small and medium-sized enterprises in January, measured at constant prices by the Argentine Confederation of Medium-Sized Enterprises (CAME).

All of this has affected the tourism sector, which is down by around 20% year-on-year. In an attempt to alleviate this situation, the government has launched the Cuota Simple program, which allows the purchase of various domestic products in 3 and 6 interest-free payments.

SOCIAL CONTEXT

The government's legislative initiatives have led various sectors, such as the General Confederation of Labor (CGT) and the Argentine Workers' Central (CTA), to call a 12-hour general strike to express their opposition.

The poverty index rose by 8 points last month, reaching 57% of the population. This is the result of the constant rise in inflation, which has caused a significant loss of purchasing power. As a result, queues at soup kitchens have become a common sight.

A group of lawmakers from the ruling party, La Libertad Avanza, presented a bill in Congress to criminalize abortion with the aim of repealing the law on voluntary abortion, which was approved at the end of 2020 after a large social mobilization. The text proposes penalties of up to 10 years in prison for those who provoke an abortion.



| BRAZIL

POLITICAL CONTEXT

President Lula da Silva approved the annual budget bill, the text of which was approved by the National Congress at the end of last year. The only proposed presidential veto would cut R\$5.6 billion from allocations for projects by parliamentarians in their electoral fiefdoms. The norm includes an increase in the minimum wage to R\$ 1,412 (USD ≈286) and important allocations for the Growth Acceleration Program and the Bolsa Familia Program. The president reiterated that he would seek to achieve a deficit in the public accounts this year, following last year's negative balance of 2.1% of GDP.

The Federal Police is investigating Jair Bolsonaro and some of his former advisors for the 2023 coup attempt. The investigation, called Tempus Veritas, accuses him of drafting a decree to annul those he had lost to Lula da Silva. The former president, who has had to surrender his passport, denies the charges and will have to testify at the end of February.

Lula da Silva travelled to Egypt and discussed the Gaza conflict with his Egyptian counterpart, Abdel Fatah El-Sisi, condemning the Israeli offensive in Gaza and calling for peace. His visit to Cairo coincided with the centenary of diplomatic relations between the two countries, and they agreed to coordinate their participation in international forums.

ECONOMIC CONTEXT

Financial market analysts have slightly raised their inflation forecasts for 2024 to 3.82% and for 2025 to 3.51%. The target is to reach 3% this year, with a range of 1.5 percentage points to 4.5%.

The National Consumer Price Index (IPCA) rose by 0.42% in January, according to data from the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE). The result exceeded the financial market's expectations of a 0.35% rise. This brings the cumulative inflation over the last 12 months to 4.51%. For the third time, food and beverages were the main contributors to the HICP increase.

The consolidated public debt recorded an increase of 2.7 percentage points of GDP in 2023, reaching 74.3%, equivalent to R\$ 8.07 trillion. At the end of 2022, public sector gross debt was 71.7% of GDP, or R\$7.22 trillion.

SOCIAL CONTEXT

The unemployment rate was 7.8% at the end of 2023, the lowest in the last 9 years. This figure was accompanied by another record: the number of employees with formal contracts increased by 5.8%, which already represents 37 million people, the highest figure since the IBGE began measuring this concept in 2012.

The Ministry of Education (MEC) published the rules and payment schedule for the "Pé-de-meia" program, which will provide financial incentives to around 2.5 million secondary school students. The project aims to combat early school leaving and reduce inequality in access to universities and the labor market. Under the program, the government will pay up to R\$9,200 to students who complete their studies.

With the number of positive dengue fever cases in the country on the rise, the public health system has launched a vaccination campaign to protect around three million people. So far this year, there have been more than half a million cases and nearly a hundred deaths—the worst figures in 40 years.



| MEXICO

POLITICAL CONTEXT

President Andrés Manuel López Obrador presented a package of 20 constitutional amendments, including the abolition of autonomous bodies, reforms to the pension system, salaries, the judiciary, security, and political and electoral reforms.

The ruling party announced that these proposals would be analyzed in an open parliament with national and state forums. Meanwhile, lawmakers from the opposition PAN, PRI, PRD, and MC have said they will only support initiatives that benefit democracy and society.

The Laboratorio Electoral think-tank warned of possible interference by organized crime in the June 2 elections, as at least 16 candidates have been assassinated since the start of the 2023 electoral process.

The US Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) reported that President López Obrador's 2006 campaign was allegedly financed by a criminal organization. In response, the president asked the US State Department and the DEA to clarify their statements and expected them to apologize if they had no proof.

The President also held a bilateral meeting with White House Homeland Security Advisor Elizabeth Sherwood-Randall to discuss issues related to the fight against drug trafficking, fentanyl, and the growing flow of migrants along the border between the two countries.

ECONOMIC CONTEXT

According to the Bank of Mexico (Banxico), the exchange rate at bank counters is 17.09 Mexican pesos to the US dollar. Meanwhile, the volume of remittances broke the record at the end of 2023, totaling US\$63.313 billion, representing a growth of 7.6% over the previous year.

The institution also reported that inflation stood at 4.88% in January 2024, an increase of 0.89% compared to December 2023, which closed at 4.66%. Banxico is expected to keep the benchmark rate at 11.25%.

According to the US Department of Commerce (DOC), Mexico regained its position as the country's number one trading partner, thanks to a 4.6% increase in exports and the impact of nearshoring, which favored a 2.5% increase in bilateral trade. Mexican exports accounted for 15.4% of the total goods purchased by the United States, compared with 13.9% for China.

SOCIAL CONTEXT

The National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI) announced that the number of homicides in 2023 would be 36,773, and it is estimated that the six-year term of President López Obrador could end with a record 190,000 murders, of which 66,193 would be homicides, 43 murdered journalists, and 4,892 femicides.

According to the Mexican Association of Insurance Institutions (AMIS), truck theft increased by 13.1% in 2023 compared to the previous year. The states with the highest number of highway robberies were Mexico State, Puebla, and Veracruz, which has affected the distribution of goods in the country. The National Guard reported an increase in violence on the highways of Chihuahua, Veracruz, Chiapas, Guanajuato, Yucatán, Querétaro, and the State of Mexico, where assaults and kidnappings were reported.



| URUGUAY

POLITICAL CONTEXT

Controversy erupted between Uruguay and Venezuela after President Luis Lacalle Pou described Nicolás Maduro's government as a "dictatorship" and criticized the arrest of Venezuelan activist Rocío San Miguel. The Uruguayan government recalled its ambassador to Venezuela for consultations in order to present a report on the political situation in the country. The text will be used by the Foreign Ministry to determine its position on the validity of the elections scheduled for this year.

Álvaro Delgado, Luis Lacalle Pou's right-hand man, has officially launched his candidacy for next October's presidential elections.

The former secretary of the presidency presents himself as the continuity of the current government and leads the polls within the National Party for the primaries to be held in June. Together with Delgado, Yamandú Orsi leads the Frente Amplio, and Robert Silva leads the Partido Colorado.

Uruguay won its long-running dispute with Argentina over the Rio de la Plata after the Milei government authorized the dredging of the entrance channel to the port of Montevideo to 14 meters. This decision will make it possible to fulfil the contracts signed with three multinational companies that set this depth, as well as allowing the use of larger container ships and increasing their cargo capacity.

ECONOMIC CONTEXT

The World Bank has raised its growth forecast for the Uruguayan economy for 2024 from 2.8% to 3.2%. The government, for its part, is forecasting growth of 3.7%, supported by an increase in exports, a rise in consumption, the start of production at a new cellulose plant, and new investments in sectors such as infrastructure, energy, and sanitation.

Uruguay participated in the Fitur trade fair in Madrid, highlighting the diversity of its tourism offer, gastronomy, tax system, and facilities for foreign companies to set up shop in the country.

The objective now is to deepen the diversification of the offer, increase visits from Europe and the Middle East, and consolidate its main markets, Argentina and Brazil. The country will receive more than 3.8 million tourists in 2023, generating revenues of USD 1,776 million, 27.1% more than in 2022.

The state has to pay USD 80 million for the closure of its airline, Pluna, which went bankrupt in 2012 in favor of a Panamanian shareholder company. Meanwhile, the Sociedad Uruguaya de Aviación (Uruguayan Aviation Society) has launched a process to create a new Uruguayan flag carrier. Although still at an early stage, the plan envisages a fleet of ten Airbus aircraft in the first three years of operation.

SOCIAL CONTEXT

The latest survey by Equipos Consultores shows that insecurity is the problem that most worries Uruguayans, at 43%, followed by unemployment at 29%, the economic situation at 23%, and education at 13%. Geographically, the perception that insecurity is the main problem is higher in Montevideo than in the rest of the country.

According to the UN, the homicide rate in Uruguay increased by 25.8% between 2021 and 2022, reaching 11.2 per 100,000 inhabitants. For its part, the Ministry of the Interior estimates that there will be 10.7 homicides per 100,000 inhabitants in 2022, an increase of 37.9% over the previous year.

ATREVIA™



www.atrevia.com



AGENCY

PUBLIC RELATIONS

MARKETING INFLUENCERS

COMMUNICATION AND DIGITAL MARKETING

ADVERTISING & ACTIVATIONS

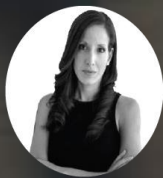
CONSULTING

CORPORATE AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

CULTURE & PEOPLE

SOCIAL TREND, MONITORING AND TRACKING

For more information, please contact:



CARMEN SÁNCHEZ-LAULHÉ

VP ATREVIA LATAM
(Andean Region & Brazil)

csanchezlaulhe@atrevia.com



MIGUEL ÁNGEL LÓPEZ

VP ATREVIA LATAM
(Peru & Southern Cone)

malopez@atrevia.com



PEDRO MIGUEL CASADO

VP ATREVIA LATAM
(Mexico, Central America & the Caribbean)

pcasado@atrevia.com



SPAIN PORTUGAL BRUSSELS ARGENTINA BOLIVIA BRAZIL CHILE COLOMBIA
ECUADOR MEXICO MIAMI PANAMA PARAGUAY PERU DOMINICAN REPUBLIC