Launch of the OECD Report “Educational Opportunity for All”, Paris

On 6 December, the OECD Chief of Staff and Sherpa, Gabriela Ramos, launched the OECD report on “Educational Opportunity for All: Overcoming Inequality throughout the Life Course”. In her keynote speech, Ms Ramos indicated that parental social background has a significant role in influencing children’s opportunities. She also underlined that across the OECD countries, children, students and adults from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds receive very little support to succeed in school and in learning opportunities later in life. Ms Ramos highlighted that education, particularly in early childhood, can play a vital role in combating rising social inequalities and building more inclusive societies; she stressed the need for each country to step up its education efforts to make disadvantaged children their priority.

This report is part of the OECD Inclusive Growth initiative. Watch the launch here. Read the full report here

Conference of Paris, “Reshaping Globalisation”

On 8 December, Ms Ramos moderated the closing session ‘Towards a New Universal Humanism’ of the Conference de Paris that took place on 7 and 8 December in Paris. During this session, Ms Ramos interviewed Professor Muhammad Yunus who is the founder of Grameen Bank and was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2006. Professor Yunus presented a number of key issues of his new book “A World of Three Zeros – the New Economics of Zero poverty, Zero employment and Zero net carbon emissions”.

Anti-Bribery Convention 20th anniversary, Paris

On 12 December, a roundtable discussion was organised at the OECD on the occasion of the 20th Anniversary of the Anti-Bribery Convention. Moderating the opening session, which focused on the ‘Global Impact of the OECD Anti-Bribery Convention’, Ms Ramos highlighted that there has been a rise in enforcement as well as an increase in joint settlements and multi-jurisdictional cases. In addition, countries have implemented radical changes to anti-corruption laws which is often the result of peer pressure within the OECD Working Group on Bribery. Lastly, while stating that 43 economies – representing over half of the world’s exports – have ratified the Convention so far, she underlined that some major economies, including China and India, are still missing from the list in order to achieve a truly global level-playing field and a clean, fair and transparent market.

1st G20 Sherpa Meeting, Bariloche, Argentina

Gabriela Ramos participated in the 1st G20 Sherpa Meeting under the G20 Argentinian Presidency. The meeting took place on 14 - 16 December in Bariloche, Argentina. In her keynote speech, Ms Ramos focused on how technological transformation is changing the world of work across the G20 counties. In particular, she stated that digitalisation poses significant risks for the future of work such as changing labour markets which are expected to increase labour informality, exacerbate the digital gender divide and leave behind disadvantaged youth, migrants and disabled people. To make the digital transformation a positive one and address these risks, Ms Ramos stressed the need to adopt a multi-faceted approach focused on improving digital skills, adapting social protection and labour market policies and ensuring that digital transformation will not widen inequalities. Read the press release here