



Newsletter on the main activities
of the OECD Chief of Staff
and Sherpa,

GABRIELA RAMOS

Opening Eurasia Week 2018, Paris

On 19 November, the OECD Chief of Staff and Sherpa, Ms Gabriela Ramos, delivered [opening remarks](#) at the Eurasia Week 2018 on "Drawing the Lessons, Shaping the Future". In her speech, she acknowledged that, after a period of declining growth, Eurasia seems to be regaining momentum. She welcomed progress made by the OECD Eurasia Competitiveness Programme, which supports structural reforms to enhance competitiveness and facilitate transitions to inclusive market economies. She also stated that the OECD is committed to making SMEs a key driver of economic diversification in the region, as well as unlocking the potential of women, integrating the region into global value chains and combatting corruption.



2018 Global Strategy Group, Paris

On 19 November, Ms Gabriela Ramos participated in the session on "Fostering Innovation for Productivity, Sustainability and Inclusiveness" in the context of the Global Strategy Group, in Paris. In her remarks, she stressed the need to ensure that the new wave of technology and innovation benefits our societies and promotes more inclusive and sustainable growth. She emphasised the importance of making our economies more productive and able to meet the needs of future generations. Ms Ramos also stressed the importance of equipping people with the right skills so that they can adapt to the future of work.

30th Annual Meeting of the OECD Development Communication Network, Paris

On 21 November, Ms Gabriela Ramos delivered [opening remarks](#) at the 30th Annual Meeting of the OECD Development Communication Network (DevCom), in Paris. In her speech, she stressed the need to rethink what we communicate, but also how we do so in a digitalised world. She stated that, while digital communication provides us with around-the-clock access to unprecedented amounts of information, it could also facilitate isolation and distrust. She also emphasised the role of communications to empower women and help close gender gaps; as well as to help engage businesses as advocates of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). She concluded by underlining that International Organisations must create narratives which inspire people.

Mission to Guadalajara, Mexico

On 25-26 November, Ms Gabriela Ramos was in Guadalajara, Mexico to participate in the Guadalajara [International Book Fair](#) and several other events.



On 25 November, Ms Ramos delivered keynote remarks on "The Pursuit of Gender Equality: an Uphill Battle" at the University of Guadalajara. In her speech, she stated that women still face many disadvantages in fields such as labour markets, the digital world and education, among others. She emphasised that the burden of domestic work and unpaid childcare – along with insufficient provision of parental paid leave – contribute to the gender gap in labour participation. Women are also more likely to hold informal jobs with low wages and little social protection. Ms Ramos also emphasised

that more has to be done to better prevent teen pregnancy and Violence Against Women (VAW), which is rooted in stereotypes and misogynistic attitudes.

On 26 November, Ms Ramos gave opening remarks at the [OECD Forum on "Priorities for Mexico"](#). In her speech, she stressed that inequality in income and wealth generates inequality in access to education, quality healthcare and job opportunities. She stated that regional disparities are high in Mexico and that this has consequences in many areas including: poverty, school dropout rates, low hourly wages, and life expectancy, among others. Ms Ramos also emphasised the importance of closing the gender gap, including glass-ceiling barriers, as well as promoting formality in the labour markets and fostering more efficient, empowering and reliable governments.



Ms Ramos also [attended an event](#) on the OECD-Mexico Initiative [NiñaSTEM Pueden](#) with more than 40 girls. This initiative brings high-achieving women in STEM fields (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) into classrooms across the country, to help inspire women to pursue careers in these areas of study.

