Mission to Argentina
On 27 November - 1 December, the OECD Chief of Staff and Sherpa, Ms Gabriela Ramos, was in Buenos Aires, Argentina to participate in the 4th Sherpa Meeting and in the G20 Leaders’ Summit. Ms Ramos actively participated in the negotiations of the Leaders’ Communiqué with the Sherpas of G20 countries and other International Organisations. She also coordinated the analytical contributions of the OECD to the Argentinian Presidency of the G20, which supported discussions and the agreement, at Leader level, on key issues such as migration, excess steel capacity, international tax rules and anti-bribery, among others.

Keynote Speech on Transnationalisation of Anti-Corruption Law
On 6 December, Ms Ramos delivered keynote remarks at the Transnationalisation of Anti-Corruption Law on “Levelling the Playing Field: from Corruption to Multilateral Cooperation”, at the Sciences Po University of Paris.

In her speech, she stressed that corruption has an undermining effect on governance, as it lowers trust and feeds nationalist, protectionist and populist movements. She highlighted the importance of a stronger implementation of global anti-corruption and integrity standards, as well as greater international co-operation. Ms Ramos also underlined that commitment by global leaders is key to promote integrity.

Conference on Unleashing the Transformative Power of Culture and Creativity for Local Development
On 12 December, Ms Ramos participated in the OECD Conference on “Unleashing the Transformative Power of Culture and Creativity for Local Development”, which took place in Paris. Ms Ramos addressed the panel: “Cultural Policies and Beyond: Culture as a Level for Inclusive Growth”. In her remarks, she stressed the importance of promoting art and culture in the face of growing inequalities and stagnant social mobility. She praised the opportunities that art and culture can offer in bridging social divides, such as women’s empowerment, socio-emotional skills development and individual well-being.

TUAC Liaison Committee Meeting Chair
On 10 December, Ms Ramos delivered opening remarks on “Growth & Accountability Today, Just Transitions Tomorrow” at the Trade Union Advisory Committee (TUAC) Liaison Meeting Chair, in Paris. In her speech, she highlighted that as the global economy is losing steam, there is a need to address inequalities and to adapt to a changing world. Looking ahead, she stated that the OECD offers a series of instruments to facilitate accountability and she also stressed the importance of the creation of new jobs, as well as greater social protection in a digitalised world. Ms Ramos also praised the importance of multilateralism in supporting these endeavours.

Mission to Brazil
On 4-5 December, Ms Ramos was in Brasilia, Brazil to hold a number of meetings with several high-level officials of both the incoming and the current administration. During her meeting with Mr Ernesto Araújo, incoming Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ms Ramos commended the fruitful co-operation between the OECD and Brazil on areas such as legal instruments, transfer pricing, integrity and competition. They also discussed the progress of Brazil’s accession to the OECD, as well as many activities held by the OECD LAC Regional Programme, to which Brazil is a Key Partner. During her visit to Brasilia, Ms Ramos also met with Mr Marcello Estevão, Vice-Minister of Finance; Mr Marcelo Guaranys, Vice-Minister of the Presidency; Mr Abraham Weintraub, member of the Transition Team; and Mr Ronaldo Costa Filho, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs and G20 Sherpa.

2018 Sporting Chance Forum, Paris
On 12 December, Ms Ramos delivered opening remarks at the 2018 Sporting Chance Forum at UNESCO’s Headquarters in Paris. In her speech, she highlighted that sport teaches millions of people about values such as fair play, team spirit and respect. However, she stated that some aspects of the sport (including infrastructure and major sporting events) can be prone to risks such as bribery, corruption and human rights abuses. In this respect, she stressed the need to combat these issues due to the size and potential that the sport industry possesses. Ms Ramos also emphasised the importance of boosting sport potential to promote quality employment and local development.