

¡Bienvenidas y bienvenidos to El CC, CCLATAM's newsletter!. Every other week you'll find the main events shaking up Latin America, from Ushuaia in the south to Los Algodones in the north. Sign up [here](#) to stay updated on the region. Get in touch with us, we may feature an excerpt of your response in the next newsletter.

DSL2026 is Ready to Take Off

With just 4 days remaining until [Digital Summit LATAM](#) convenes in Madrid (26–27 February), the timing could not be more critical. Latin America is navigating a rapidly shifting global landscape shaped by trade disruption, geopolitical competition, and the growing strategic importance of digital infrastructure — and the region is emerging with unexpected momentum.

Latin America is diversifying its economic and geopolitical partnerships. As dependence on the U.S. market declines, China has become a leading export destination for many countries, while Europe, the Middle East, and intra-regional ties gain strategic importance. Rather than choosing sides in an increasingly polarized global environment, governments across the region are pursuing pragmatic, multi-vector strategies that prioritize investment, connectivity, and long-term development.

This strategic rebalancing is closely tied to the rise of digital infrastructure as a pillar of economic sovereignty. Subsea cables, cloud services, data centers, spectrum policy, and AI infrastructure are no longer just technical components — they are central to trade resilience, competitiveness, and growth. The key question is no longer whether Latin America will integrate into the global digital economy, but how it will do so on its own terms.

CCLATAM Summit - Featured Speakers



Oscar López
Minister for Digital Transformation and Public Administration of Spain



Balan Nair
President & CEO, Liberty Latin America



Doreen Bogdan-Martin
Secretary-General, International Telecommunication Union (ITU)



Julissa Cruz
Executive Director, Dominican Institute of Telecommunications (Indotel)



Marcelo Benítez
CEO, Millicom



Sergio Díaz-Granados
Executive President, CAF - Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean



Antonio López Istúriz White
Member of the European Parliament; Chair, Delegation to the EU-Mexico Joint Parliamentary Committee



Verena Weber
Director, Agency for Support for BEREC



Carina Murcia Yela
Minister of Information and Communications Technology of Colombia



Ajit Pai
President & CEO, CTIA



Bocar Ba
CEO, SAMENA Telecommunications Council



Richard Cane
Executive Vice President and President International, SBA



Brando Benifei
Member of the European Parliament; President, Delegation for Relations with the United States



Karim Antonio Lesina
Co-Founder of CCLatam



Jorge Fernando Negrete
President of DPL Group



Roberto Kury
Minister of Telecommunications and Information Society of Ecuador

Digital Summit LATAM brings this conversation to the forefront. The event will gather leading policymakers, regulators, business leaders, and international institutions to address the region's most pressing challenges and opportunities. Confirmed participants include [Alejandro Sánchez](#) (Secretary of the Presidency of Uruguay), [Manuel Tovar](#) (Costa Rica's Minister of Foreign Trade), [Carlos Baigorri](#) (ANATEL Brazil), [Doreen Bogdan-Martin](#) (Secretary-General of the ITU), [Nadia Calviño](#) (President of the European Investment Bank), and leadership from the [OECD](#) alongside representatives from the [European Parliament](#) and Spain's [Ministry for Digital Transformation](#) and many more.

Industry leadership will be equally strong, with CEOs and senior executives from [Millicom](#), [Liberty Latin America](#), [Telecom Argentina](#), [SBA Communications](#), [CTIA](#), [Ericsson](#), [GSMA](#), [Intel](#), and leading infrastructure investors participating in high-level discussions on connectivity, investment, and innovation.

Crucially, the Summit will serve as a unique cross-regional forum for regulatory dialogue, bringing together authorities from Latin America, Europe, North America, and the Caribbean at a moment when spectrum policy, cybersecurity frameworks, and digital competition rules are being reshaped worldwide..

As global supply chains evolve and strategic connectivity becomes a cornerstone of economic resilience, Madrid will be the place where Latin America meets global partners — not to align with competing blocs, but to define an open, competitive, and sovereign digital future.

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La Charla

This week we interviewed [Laura Fernandez](#), Chief Operating and Strategy Officer at [Radius](#). She leads the development and execution of the company's global strategic vision, driving growth initiatives in the ever-evolving digital infrastructure sector.



For readers who may not yet be familiar with Radius, how would you describe the company's role in the global digital infrastructure ecosystem?

Radius Global Infrastructure, Inc. ("Radius") is a premier global investment company specializing in telecom and digital infrastructure. Our focus is on the strategic acquisition and management of critical telecommunication assets, including cell site leases, wireless solutions, fiber aggregation points, Distributed Antenna Systems (DAS), and data centers.

Radius Global is one of the largest acquirers of net lease communications assets and properties globally. Our extensive footprint spans 23 countries across North America, Europe, Latin America, and Australia, operating through our subsidiaries under the APW name. With 15 years of consecutive growth, we have invested over \$3 billion in assets and generate annual cash flows in excess of \$300 million.

Radius Global is a portfolio company of EQT Active Core Infrastructure and the Public Sector Pension Investment Board. Our mission is to deliver flexible and tailored strategic solutions to foster the growth and development of the telecommunications industry.

Radius began with a focus on ground and rooftop leases. How has your investment portfolio evolved to include towers, fiber aggregation points, and data centers, and what has driven that evolution?

Radius Global Infrastructure initially focused on ground and rooftop leases, which continue to be a fundamental component of our business due to their inherent diversification and resilience. In recent years, we have strengthened our position in this asset class through strategic partnerships with tower companies and Mobile Network Operators (MNOs).

These alliances have unlocked new opportunities for collaboration on strategic digital assets for operators, such as switches, fiber aggregation points, and data centers. By leveraging these partnerships, we have positioned ourselves as one of the most prominent investors in digital assets, capitalizing on our unique and specialized approach. As of today, our portfolio comprises more than 13,000 assets worldwide.

You often refer to “mission-critical” digital infrastructure. What defines these assets, and why is long-term ownership central to your investment philosophy?

At Radius Global Infrastructure, “mission-critical” digital infrastructure encompasses assets vital to our customers' operations and strategic objectives. Our investment philosophy emphasizes long-term ownership, aligning with the enduring nature of these assets to ensure stability and reliability for our clients.

We embrace a customer-centric approach by concentrating on what is mission-critical for our clients, enabling us to deliver tailored strategic solutions that enhance their operational capabilities. By prioritizing our customers' success, we strengthen our position as a trusted partner in the telecommunications industry, committed to supporting their strategic goals and industrial ambitions.

How does Radius' investor profile shape the way you partner with Telecom Operators, Towercos and PE-backed network operators?

Radius Global Infrastructure's investor profile and long holding periods significantly mirror our customers' long-term strategic financial and industrial needs. Our approach prioritizes investments that offer stable returns and contribute to the long-term sustainability of the telecommunications industry.

What is the fundamental difference between Radius and a traditional commercial real estate investor when it comes to digital infrastructure assets?

The fundamental difference between Radius Global Infrastructure and traditional commercial real estate investors is our focus on the permanence of the operator rather than asset disposal or redevelopment for commercial use. Unlike others who seek returns through sales or redevelopment, Radius is committed to long-term ownership of digital infrastructure, valuing the network criticality to operators.

This approach enables us to invest also in assets with lower commercial real estate appeal but critical in operational value. For example, you can find some of our assets in very remote areas across all our geographies. These assets, while overlooked by traditional investors, are invaluable for the telecommunication companies, allowing us to state that we "unlock embedded and unexpected value" for our partners.

How does your collaborative model—through sale-leasebacks and similar structures—help operators unlock capital while retaining control of critical infrastructure?

Radius Global Infrastructure's business model, utilizing sale-leasebacks and similar structures, offers telecom operators the opportunity to unlock capital while retaining control over critical infrastructure. By focusing on the passive component of the infrastructure, we enable operators to manage operations and technological upgrades independently. This approach is a core aspect of our business proposition and is highly valued by operators, who maintain full autonomy over active components with no impact on their industrial strategy.

Latin America is increasingly central to global digital and geopolitical dynamics. How does Radius view the region from a macro and strategic perspective?

Radius views Latin America as a region of significant strategic importance, both from a macroeconomic and geopolitical perspective. The region's potential for growth in digital infrastructure is immense, with 5G technology still in its early stages and fiber penetration lagging other regions. This presents a unique opportunity for investment and development. Moreover, the digital divide in the region underscores the need for enhanced connectivity, which Radius sees as a vital component of strategic engagement. From a geopolitical standpoint, Latin America's commercial ties with the United States and Europe, coupled with cultural proximity, further enhance its strategic relevance for a closer partnership also pursued by other regions across the globe. These factors position the region as a key player in global digital dynamics, offering Radius a promising landscape for strategic initiatives and partnerships.

In which Latin American markets does Radius currently operate, and what factors guide your market selection in the region?

Radius currently operates in key Latin American markets, including Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Mexico, and Peru. Our market selection in the region is guided by a strategic focus on collaboration and partnership, particularly with Mobile Network Operators (MNOs) and Tower Companies. This collaborative and trust-based model is central to our approach, allowing us to build strong, mutually beneficial relationships.

More than 50% of our acquisitions in Latin America arise from partnership agreements, highlighting the importance of these alliances. In a highly competitive environment, coupled with the unique socioeconomic characteristics of the region, we believe that collaboration with all industry stakeholders is essential for achieving stability and

efficiency. This approach not only strengthens our presence in these markets but also positions us to explore opportunities across the entire region.

What are the main digital infrastructure asset classes you currently own in LATAM, and where do you see the most significant growth opportunities going forward?

Historically, ground lease acquisitions have been the primary focus of our digital infrastructure investments in Latin America. However, in recent years, we have expanded our attention to include key strategic assets such as switches, interconnection points, and fiber aggregation nodes. These assets are crucial for enhancing connectivity and supporting the growing demand for digital services in the region.

Significant investments in data centers are beginning to flow into Latin America, presenting new opportunities for growth. We are selectively exploring these opportunities, prioritizing the ones that can be integrated with the business models of major telecommunications companies. This strategic approach allows us to align with industry trends and leverage the increasing demand for data processing and storage capabilities closer to end-users.

From a policy and regulatory standpoint, why is long-term, passive ownership of digital infrastructure becoming increasingly important for connectivity, resilience, and economic development?

Across our footprint, we see multiple government policies and initiatives oriented towards the expansion of resilient connectivity with very ambitious targets to maximize its reach to unlock the full potential of digital and emerging technologies. With the bulk of the investments needed coming from the private sector and the associated financial strain on telecoms operators and infrastructure providers, our collaborative investment model, focused on long-term, passive ownership of digital infrastructure, acts as a catalyst for resources to deliver on those targets for network deployment.

Regulation plays a central role in the industry, and we are committed to collaborating at an institutional level to shape a regulatory framework that enhances predictability and fosters investment and innovation, addressing the connectivity needs of communities, thereby driving economic progress.

As a personal reflection, I am truly excited to have joined Radius Global Infrastructure at this pivotal moment of transition to its next phase of growth. With a lifelong background in the telecommunications industry, particularly with an operator that significantly contributed to the development of communications in Latin America, I am eager to bring a unique perspective to Radius. This experience gives me a deep understanding of the region's untapped potential, which aligns with Radius's strategic goals. I am confident that my expertise will be valuable as we look to the future and explore new possibilities together.

Elsewhere in Latam

 [Argentina's Chamber of Deputies approved President Javier Milei's landmark labor reform by a 135-115 vote after a 13-hour session.](#) The debate took place amid the country's largest general strike, which the CGT said achieved 90% compliance, and clashes broke out outside Congress during the proceedings. To secure passage, lawmakers removed **Article 44 on sick leave**, meaning the bill must return to the **Senate before the February 28 extraordinary-sessions deadline**. Meanwhile, the Merval index surged 4.26% on Thursday, fully reversing Wednesday's selloff.

 Colombia is heading into its **March 8 legislative elections** amid the most intense campaign violence the country has experienced in decades. According to the [Electoral Observation Mission](#), at least **61 political leaders** have been killed during the campaign, and nearly a third of Colombia's municipalities are considered unsafe for candidates, underscoring widespread security risks across the country. Recent reporting describes the current election cycle as one of the deadliest since the era of cartel-driven political violence in the late twentieth century. [Latin American Pulse for Friday, February 20, 2026 Colombia endures deadly poll campaign.](#)

 Mexico's flagship [Plan México](#) investment initiative is facing early setbacks, Bloomberg reported Tuesday, just as President Claudia Sheinbaum may need it most. Former U.S. President **Donald Trump** is reportedly weighing whether to pull out of the [\\$1.9 trillion USMCA trade agreement](#) ahead of its July 1 review deadline – a move that could significantly impact Mexico's economic outlook.

 President **Donald Trump** has invited leaders from across [Latin America to attend a summit in Florida on March 7](#). The meeting comes as his administration raises concerns about China's growing influence in the region. A White House official confirmed the plans, though the event has not yet been formally announced. The summit is expected to take place just weeks before Trump travels to Beijing for talks with Chinese President Xi Jinping.

 Venezuela has taken a major political step after acting president [Delcy Rodríguez](#) signed a **new amnesty measure into law** on February 19, a move that could lead to the release of hundreds of political detainees. [The legislation grants clemency](#) for many political offenses dating back to the start of the Chávez era, though it excludes serious crimes such as murder or human rights violations. Government officials say more than 1,500 people have already applied for amnesty. The coming weeks will show whether the measure marks a genuine political opening or only a partial reform.

 Mexican drug lord [Nemesio Oseguera, known as "El Mencho"](#) and leader of the powerful [Jalisco New Generation Cartel \(CJNG\)](#), was killed Sunday during a military raid, marking one of Mexico's most significant blows against organized crime in years. The former police officer built the CJNG into a global trafficking force and evaded

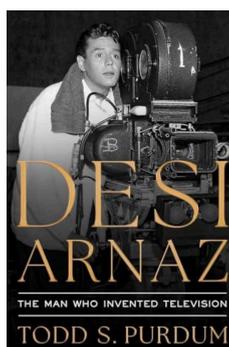
capture for years despite a \$15 million U.S. bounty. Authorities have linked the cartel to large-scale fentanyl trafficking into the United States

La Cita

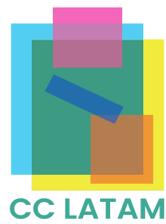
“Salsa is not a rhythm – it’s a concept. It’s a way of making music.”

[Willie Colón](#) (1950–2026), legendary Nuyorican salsa trombonist, bandleader, composer, and producer, known as “El Malo del Bronx,” became a significant voice in Latin music and politics.

La Lectura



[Desi Arnaz](#) in [Todd Purdum's](#) book, wasn't just Lucille Ball's co-star – he helped revolutionize television by pioneering filming techniques like the three-camera setup and preserving episodes on film, which made reruns possible and shaped modern TV production. At the same time, his life is a powerful immigrant success story: after fleeing Cuba and facing racism in America, he rebuilt his life and became both a groundbreaking Latino performer and one of the first Latino executives in the TV industry.



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