



# Diaspora engagement mapping

## PERU

### Facts & figures

Terminology: In addition to the term “diaspora”, the government of Peru and the laws related to this topic refers to “peruanos en el exterior”, “peruanos residentes en el extranjero” and “ciudadanos residentes en el extranjero”.

#### Political rights



Dual citizenship<sup>1</sup>



Right to vote in national elections for citizens residing abroad<sup>3</sup>



#### Remittances



Remittances as a share of GDP: **1.71%**  
Remittances inflow (USD million): **4,934**

#### Voting from abroad:<sup>4</sup>

At embassies/designated locations



#### Data disclaimer

As diaspora definitions vary widely, we have chosen to use comparable data on emigration as a proxy. This does not include all who consider themselves diaspora and is not necessarily aligned with national definitions of diaspora. Emigration data comes from UNDESA (2024) and remittances from the World Bank (2024).

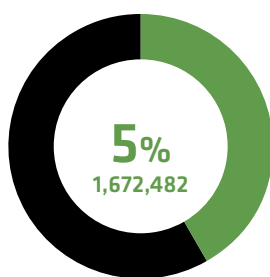
#### Emigration



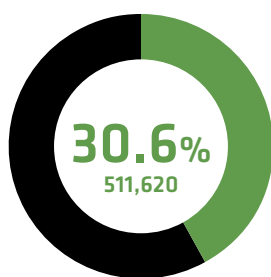
% of emigrants in total population<sup>2</sup>



% of which in the EU



♂ 46.7%  
♀ 53.3%



♂ 42%  
♀ 58%

#### Top countries of destination



|                          |         |
|--------------------------|---------|
| United States of America | 512,316 |
| Spain                    | 352,470 |
| Chile                    | 261,522 |
| Argentina                | 156,019 |
| Italy                    | 127,352 |

1 Constitución Política del Perú, 1993. Article 53 provides that Peruvian nationality shall not be lost, except by renunciation thereof. “Ley de Nacionalidad (Ley No. 26574)”, 1995. Article 9 provides that Peruvians by birth who adopt the citizenship of another country, shall not lose their Peruvian citizenship, except by voluntary renunciation.

2 According to national data, the Peruvian diaspora represents 3 million people or 10.1% of the total population. The top 5 countries of destinations is also in a slightly different order according to this source: USA (30,2%), Spain (15,4%), Argentina (13,6%), Chile (11,8%), Italy (10,2%)

INEI. (2022). Perú: Principales características sociodemográficas de los peruanos residentes en el exterior, 2022 II Encuesta Mundial a la Comunidad Peruana en el Exterior (p. 167). INEI.

3 “Ley Orgánica de Elecciones”, 1997. Title X of this Law refers to the vote of Peruvians abroad and its article 224 provides they have the right to vote in general elections and popular consultations. The Act also includes the procedures for doing so. It includes an electoral district for Peruvians abroad, so they will be able to elect representatives. [Additional resource](#).

4 “Ley Orgánica de Elecciones”, 1997. Articles 26 and 27.

## Overview of the policy and legislative framework



- 2005** ● **Consular Regulation (Supreme Decree No. 076.2005-RE) - Reglamento Consular (Decreto Supremo No. 076.2005-RE)** creates a special commission in charge of the review and update of the Consular Regulation, formed, among others, by the General Director of the Rights of Peruvians in Foreign Countries. It also establishes the guidelines for consular activities, including a program for the promotion of an effective exercise of the citizenship and democratic participation by Peruvians abroad and programs on remittances security and promotion.
- 2013** ● **Law on Economic and Social Reintegration for the Returnee Migrant (Law No. 3001) - Ley de Reinserción Económica y Social para el Migrante Retornado (Ley No. 3001)** aims to facilitate the return of Peruvians residing abroad (regardless of their migratory situation), through incentives and actions that enable economic and social reintegration and that contribute to the generation of productive employment. It provides fiscal incentives (tax exemptions on household goods, vehicles, and professional tools).
- 2017** ● **Legislative Decree on Migrations (Decree No. 1350) - Decreto Legislativo de Migraciones (Decreto No. 1350)** regulates immigration, as well as the entry and departure of both nationals and foreigners, defining what topics should be included in the Migratory Policy, including the protection and assistance of Peruvians abroad.
- 2017** ● **National Policy on Migration 2017-2025 (Supreme Decree No. 015-2017-RE) - Política Nacional Migratoria (Decreto Supremo No. 015-2017-RE)** addresses Peruvians abroad and returnees, recognizing their importance and the problems they face.

## Practices

Explore 520+ practices by country, SDG or sector of engagement in the [interactive database!](#)



### Day of Peruvians Residing Abroad

In 2006, the government of Peru proclaimed October 18 as the “Day of the Peruvians Residing Abroad”, in order to recognize and reward those Peruvians abroad known for their commitment with social projects and the strengthening and link of the Peruvian community abroad.

### Academic Scholarships

The President Scholarship is awarded to Peruvian citizens, with excellent academic performance, who wish to study abroad. The award covers the cost of tuition, transportation, food, accommodation, medical insurance, class materials, and a living stipend. This scholarship allows many students the ability to travel abroad, who might otherwise not be able to do so for financial reasons.

### Empowering The South American Diaspora As Agents For Sustainable Development

The objective of this project is to support governments (including Peru) to contribute to the empowerment of the South American diaspora as actors in the sustainable development of the region, especially in the context of the response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The project foresees two main outcomes:

- The governments and other actors in the participating countries share lessons learned and good practices in relation to diaspora engagement;
- Men and women of the South American diaspora actively engage in opportunities to contribute to the well-being of communities in the region.

### Capacity Development Lab: Strengthening regulatory foundations for diaspora institutional performance and coordination in Peru



This initiative aimed to strengthen Peru's institutional framework for diaspora engagement was carried out with the support of EUDiF through its Capacity Development Lab (CDL) with the Directorate for Protection and Assistance to Nationals (ASN) under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The project supported the clarification of roles and functions within the Ministry's diaspora-related structures, particularly the Migration Policy Department, with the aim of improving coordination, regulatory foundations and service delivery for Peruvians abroad. Through needs assessments, diaspora consultations, peer learning exchanges and co-drafting sessions, the initiative provided a clearer and more coherent basis for diaspora governance in Peru.

### Organization of the Convention of Consular Councils of Peruvians abroad 2021

The objective of the project is to constitute a space for dialogue and cooperation with the consular office, in the identification and solution of problems that apply directly to the Peruvian community abroad.

### National Programme "Tu Empresa" (Your Company) 2018

The objective of the project is to support the creation and business formalization of all Peruvians and foreigners residing in the country. Between 2018 and 2021, 2,483 business advisories for foreigners in Peru and 194 advisories for returned migrants were concluded, 830 business formalizations for foreigners in Peru and 42 for returned Peruvians.

### EuroPROMPEX

A network of Peruvian entrepreneurs and small exporters in Europe. The initiative's objectives are to: (1) Promote bilateral trade and tourism between Peru and Europe by helping Peruvian products enter new markets; (2) Support diaspora entrepreneurship by training "Peruanos en el Exterior" (PEX) businesspeople on export/import practices; (3) Inform on policies and commercial opportunities by providing guidance on regulations and networking for Peruvian SMEs; and (4) Facilitate real-time business exchanges by enabling live B2B contacts between European-based Peruvians and firms back home.

## >> Observations

The “Observations” and “Obstacles” sections contain additional information on the context of diaspora engagement that does not fit directly into the other sections. They are based on a combination of literature review and comments from the authors. New information is incorporated during the annual updates. Readers are invited to verify the relevance of the information at the time of reading, as the context may have evolved.

Through legal initiatives, Peru has shown efforts to encourage the Peruvian diaspora to return and to recognize its importance in local political decisions. The Law on Economic and Social Reintegration for the Returnee Migrant mentioned above provides Peruvians abroad with fiscal incentives for their return. Since 2020, the creation of an electoral district for Peruvians abroad allows them to elect congressional representatives, through an amendment to the Organic Law on Elections. On that same line, each year, the Peruvian Congress organises recognition ceremonies to honour outstanding members of the Peruvian diaspora for their achievements and contributions in fields such as gastronomy, business, technology and philanthropy. These annual awards reflect a broader effort to acknowledge the role of Peruvians overseas in promoting the country’s identity and contributing to national development.

Additionally, the government makes a point to recognize accomplishments of its citizens abroad at international events.<sup>5</sup> The government also promotes study abroad through scholarships managed by the Scholarships and Educational Credit National Programme (Programa Nacional de Becas y Crédito Educativo (PRONABEC)),<sup>6</sup> in order to improve skills for young students so they come back to Peru and help the country’s development.

## Obstacles



- **Lack of incentives to return:** Even though the legal framework has changed to attract the return of Peruvians abroad, there are some practical obstacles to overcome. These include the lack of economic opportunities upon return.
- **Difficulties to obtain dual citizenship:** Due to current regulations, while it is not discouraged to obtain dual citizenship, it is difficult. To become a naturalized citizen, you must be at least 18 years of age, have at least two consecutive years of legal residence in Peru at the submission of the request, and have been in the country for more than 183 consecutive days or accumulated days in one calendar year. Additionally, individuals must have a clean record and show economic stability.<sup>7</sup>
- **Lack on information:** The Ministry of Foreign Affairs offers little information about the Peruvian diaspora.<sup>8</sup>
- **Lack of policy framework:** The Peruvian government currently has a lack of clearly defined policies to bolster Peruvian communities abroad or create mutually beneficial relationships with other countries in order to support the diaspora population.

5 <https://www.gob.pe/institucion/rree/noticias/61174-celebracion-del-dia-de-los-peruanos-residentes-en-el-exterior> Accessed September 2020.

6 Please see: <https://www.pronabec.gob.pe/becas-otros-paises/> and <https://gestion.pe/economia/management-empleo/pronabec-becas-estudios-peruano-postular-beca-18-presidente-nnda-nnlt-250462-noticia/> Accessed September 2020.

7 <https://www.dualcitizenshipreport.org/dual-citizenship/peru/>

8 <https://socialprotection.org/connect/stakeholders/peru-ministerio-de-relaciones-exteriores-ministry-foreign-affairs>

## Annex:

# List of Actors

Explore the institutionalisation of diaspora engagement worldwide via the [typology of 520+ institutions](#)

### Diaspora related institutions

- **National institutions**

#### **Intersectoral Working Bureau for Migration Management – Mesa de Trabajo Intersectorial para la Gestión Migratoria (MTIGM) 2011**

This multi-sectoral entity was created by decree. It is chaired by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and in charge of proposing migration policies and programmes, and promoting the strengthening and updating of migration regulations.<sup>9</sup>

- At ministerial level

#### **Ministry of Foreign Affairs – Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores**

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs oversees foreign policy and diplomatic and consular services. It works in coordination with Peruvian ambassadors and consuls and international organizations.

#### **Minister of Interior – Ministerio del Interior**

The entity in charge of internal and public order, with a technical and specialized area called Superintendencia Nacional de Migraciones, which attends the migratory control.

- At sub-ministerial level

#### **Consulates**

By the mandate of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Peruvian missions abroad provide assistance and protection to Peruvians and bring them information about legal and educational services, among other.

#### **General Directorate of Peruvian Communities Abroad and Consular Affairs - Dirección General de Comunidades Peruanas en el Exterior y Asuntos Consulares**

Under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, this Directorate oversees protection and assistance to Peruvians abroad.

#### **Superintendencia Nacional de Migraciones**

Assigned to the Minister of Interior, this is a technical and specialized entity in charge of the migratory control of both Peruvians and foreigners.

<sup>9</sup> “Decreto Supremo No. 076-2011-PCM”, 2011. Accessed September 2020.

## Diaspora organisations in Europe

**Asociación Cultural Alma Peruana** 1991 Spain

### ✓ Integration activities

This Association promotes Peruvian cultural heritage through dance, aiming to protect it. It also pretends to develop educational programs.

**Comunità Italo-peruana** Italy

### ✓ Integration activities

The organisation promotes Peruvian culture in Italy, through dance, music, and cuisine. It also offers help to Peruvians in Italy, so they can adjust to the new country.

**Associazione Sonrisas Andinas** Italy

### ✓ Development activities

This group organizes fundraising activities to finance medical surgeries for Peruvian children. [ f ]

**Peruanos en España** 2018 Spain

### ✓ Integration activities

This is a public Facebook group for Peruvians living in Spain with over 31,000 members. The description states that they give preference to publications of job offers, job searches, and room/house rentals. [ f ]

**Federación de Comunidades Peruanas en Europa (FECOPE)**

Promotes the cooperation between diaspora members across Europe and spearhead international diaspora meetings.

Read more about diaspora organisations  
in "[Starting guide: What is a diaspora  
organisation](#)"



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Find out more at [www.diasporafordevelopment.eu](http://www.diasporafordevelopment.eu)