



# Americas Focus

YOUR SOURCE FOR IATA'S LATEST REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

1  
2025



## Dear Colleagues,

Foremost, as we embark on 2025, I would like to extend our warmest wishes for a prosperous and successful year ahead. The aviation industry in the Americas continues to be a cornerstone of global connectivity and economic growth, and your leadership is crucial in navigating the challenges and seizing the opportunities that lie ahead.

In 2025, our focus will be on enhancing the perception of the air transport industry among governments and the traveling public, as we have successfully done in Argentina, Ecuador, and Guatemala in recent months.

We will emphasize the importance of collaboration between governments and the industry to achieve joint initiatives. It is also crucial to ensure that governments do not impose detrimental consumer protection laws and unreasonable taxes and charges that could negatively impact the region's connectivity. Additionally, we will advocate for governments and airports to invest in cost-effective airport infrastructure, which is urgently needed in many airports across the region to accommodate the anticipated growth over the next several years.

The new year is off to a rapid start across the region already: In Peru, we continue the dialogue with Lima Airport Partners and government authorities to prepare for the once again postponed opening of the new LIM terminal, now scheduled for the end of March.

In Bolivia, authorities reconfirmed their commitment to the sector to repatriate funds and allow airlines to continue to pay local operational costs, such as fuel, in Bolivianos.

Argentina continues to make its environment for airlines more competitive by recently eliminating the PAIS tax and opening its ground handling market to new entrants. And in Paraguay, after some advocacy efforts, DINAC and the FAA agreed to develop an action plan for 2025 to ultimately recover IASA category 1 which would be positive news for our member airlines.

Last but not least, in the US, the air transport sector has high expectations of the Trump Administration and are hopeful recent re-regulation efforts will be reversed.

As usual, please find more details on these developments and all of IATA's latest activities across the Americas below.

Do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or ideas for follow up. We look forward to working with you to achieve new heights in 2025 and beyond.

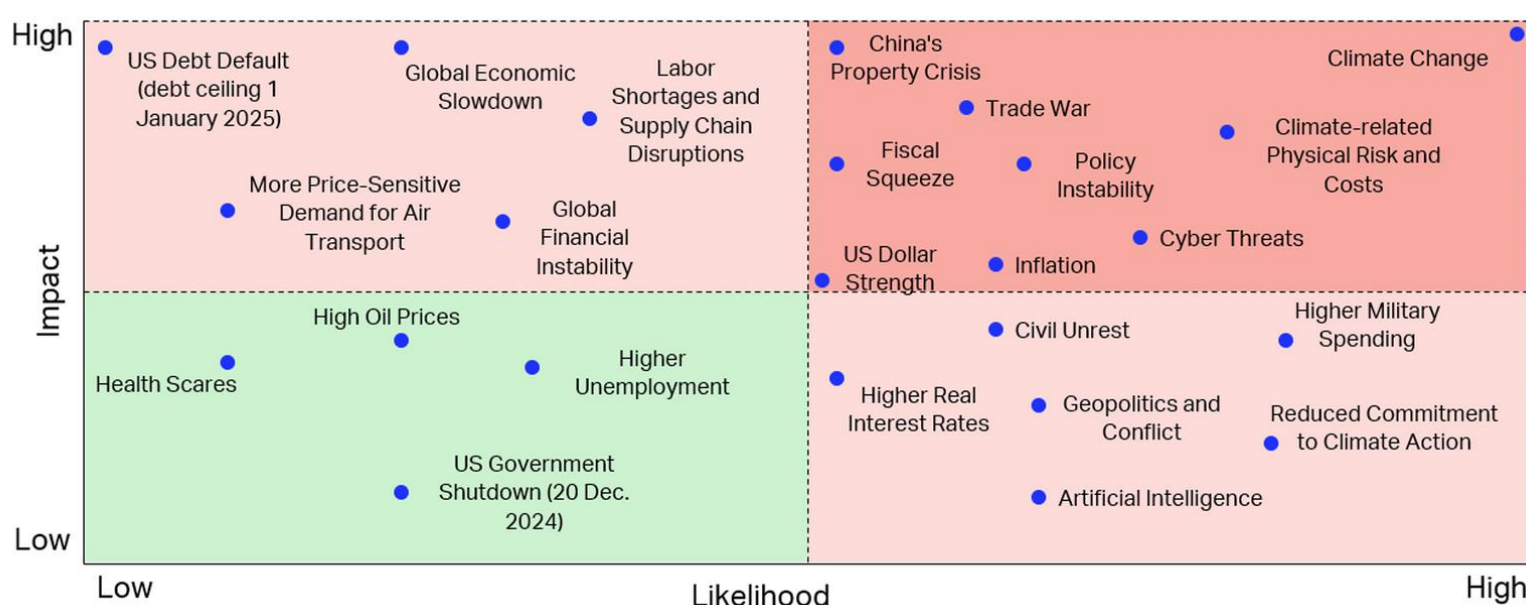


**PETER CERDÁ**  
REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT  
THE AMERICAS



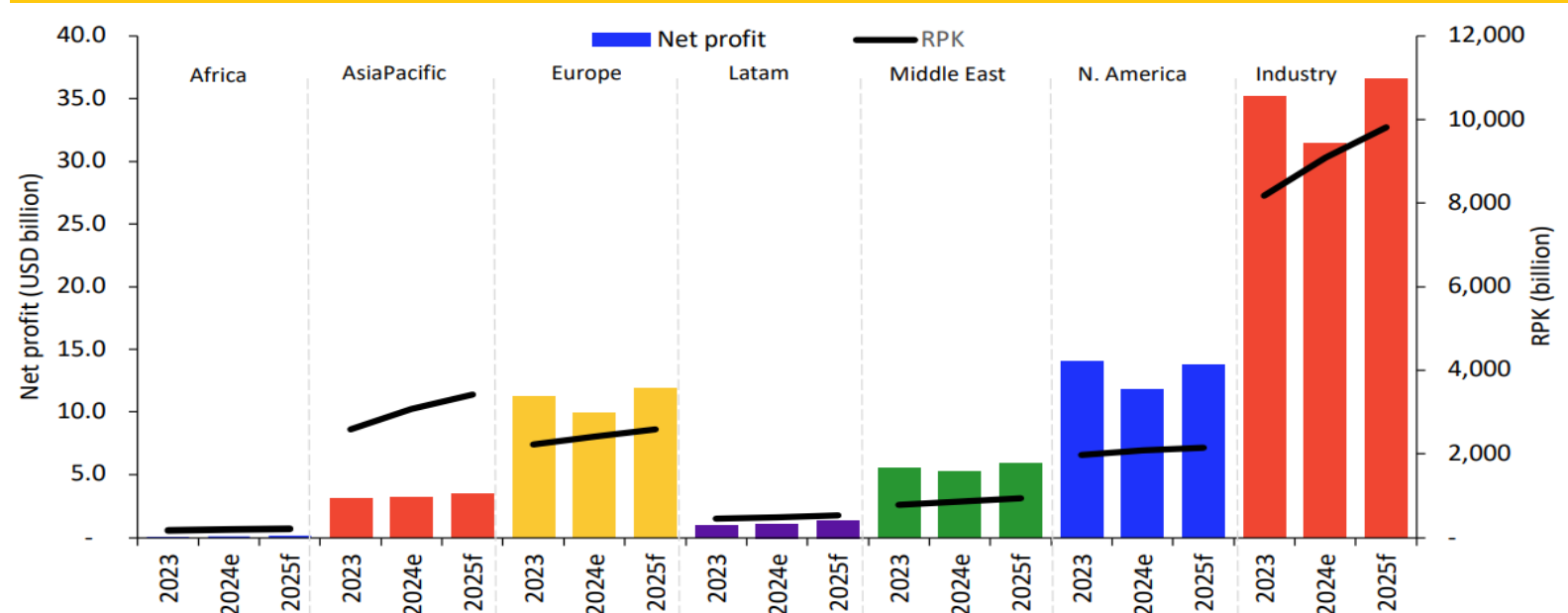
## 2025: CHALLENGES LURK BENEATH FAVORABLE OUTCOME

SOURCE: AIRLINES MAGAZINE



## IATA'S GLOBAL OUTLOOK: NET PROFIT PER BY REGION

NET PROFIT BY REGION. USD BILLION (LEFT). REVENUE PASSENGER KILOMETER, BILLION (RIGHT). FULL ANALYSIS [HERE](#)



Source: IATA Sustainability and Economics, Airfinance Global

## ARGENTINA: OPENING OF GROUND HANDLING & ELIMINATION OF PAIS TAX



The recent opening of ground handling services to competition in Argentina marks a significant shift in the sector. This move breaks a long-standing monopoly, offering airlines more choices and enhancing operational efficiency and service quality at airports nationwide. Additionally, the expiration of Law 27541 on December 23, which eliminated the 30% PAIS tax on international purchases and services, is a positive development. This tax reduction will boost the competitiveness of Argentina's aviation sector and make air travel more accessible. These changes reflect the Government's commitment to modernizing the aviation landscape, benefiting both airlines and travelers. IATA will remain in close dialogue with the authorities to further improve the operating environment for our member airlines. For more details, please contact IATA's Country Manager for Argentina, [Maria Jose Taveira](#).

## BOLIVIA: ADDRESSING AIRLINES' CURRENCY REPATRIATION CHALLENGES



On 7 January, IATA met with the Minister of Public Works, Services, and Housing, the Minister of Economy and Public Finance, the Director General of Civil Aviation, and representatives from the Financial System Supervisory Authority (ASFI) regarding the airlines' currency repatriation challenges due to the diminished reserves of USD in Bolivia, which had impacted USD transfers by commercial banks. As a result, the government and banks committed to review and implement urgent relief measures, prioritizing the industry's currency needs and continuing to reduce the current backlog, increasing availability of USD. Also, the government has reassured IATA that all aviation ground services (ground handling, fuel, and airport charges) will continue to be invoiced for payment in Bolivianos. IATA urges airlines engage directly with their local banks to align on other potential solutions while IATA continues to monitor and communicate with the banks and government to ensure a return to normal operations. For more details, please contact IATA's Area Manager for Peru, [Martín La Rosa](#).



## BRAZIL: LAW ENACTED TO ESTABLISH ENERGY TRANSITION ACCELERATION PROGRAM

The Federal Government has enacted Law 15103, establishing the Energy Transition Acceleration Program (PATEN), which underscores Brazil's dedication to sustainable development and decarbonization. Coordinated by the Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME), PATEN aims to promote clean technologies and expand the renewable energy matrix. IATA will work closely with its member airlines and authorities to support the program and utilize its mechanisms. For more details, please contact IATA's Senior Manager, Sustainability, [Pedro de la Fuente](#).

## CANADA: UPDATE ON PROPOSED AIR PASSENGER PROTECTION REGULATIONS



On December 20, 2024, the Canadian Transportation Agency (CTA) published "Canada Gazette, Part 1, Volume 158, Number 51: Amending the Air Passenger Protection Regulations." Comments are due by March 6, 2025. IATA will submit comments in coordination with the National Airlines Council of Canada (NACC). This follows a CTA consultation paper issued earlier this year, to which IATA provided comprehensive feedback. IATA and NACC are concerned about proposed changes to rebooking and refunds, claims for compensation, assistance for any circumstance, and unintended consequences that will increase the cost of operating in Canada. For more details, please contact IATA's Vice President, Member & External Relations, North America, [Doug Lavin](#).

## CHILE: CONCERNING CONSUMER PROTECTION PROPOSALS FOR DOMESTIC FLIGHTS



Chile's Congress is reviewing a bill to enhance the powers of the Consumer Protection Authority (SERNAC). Recently, additional articles have been proposed that would impact domestic air transport services. These include creating an electronic platform for ticket transfers, a baggage allowance requirement, and the right to retract up to 8 hours before a flight. IATA and ACHILA have sent a letter to the Congress Commission to formally express industry concerns, opposing these proposals and warning that it could set a negative precedent in the region, despite being intended only for domestic flights. On 22 January, given the industry pushback, the Congress Commission dismissed the majority of the proposals included in the bill. IATA will continue to monitor the discussion in Congress. For more details, please contact IATA's Country Manager for Chile, [Helen Kouyoumdjian](#).

## COLOMBIA: PROPOSED CARBON TAX ON DOMESTIC FLIGHTS DID NOT ADVANCE



Colombia's Congress voted in favor of filing the national tax reform initiative in December. Consequently, the proposed carbon tax on domestic flights, which was expected to increase by 200%, did not advance. However, the President has expressed his desire to reintroduce the proposal in the next legislative period. We will continue to monitor this issue closely to stay informed about any developments. For more details, please contact IATA's Country Manager for Colombia, [Paula Bernal](#).

## GUYANA: IATA FOLLOWS SUCCESSFUL CORSIA EEU PROCUREMENT EVENT WITH SECOND EVENT IN Q1



IATA [announced](#) that it will hold regular procurement events in 2025 for airlines to purchase CORSIA Eligible Emissions Units (EEUs). Supported by Guyana, Mercuria, and Xpansiv, the first event ran from October 28 to November 29, 2024 where 32 airlines participated and 11 purchased CORSIA Phase 1 EEUs from Guyana at \$21.70/tonne. These EEUs will help airlines meet their 2024-2026 offsetting obligations. IATA plans quarterly procurement events in 2025, starting in Q1 with Guyana and Mercuria. For more details, please contact IATA's Senior Manager, Sustainability, [Pedro de la Fuente](#).

## MEXICO: PROPOSED MODIFICATION TO THE COLLECTION OF THE AIRPORT USE TARIFF (TUA)



On January 9, 2025, IATA submitted comments on a draft regulation by the government aimed at modifying the collection of the Airport Use Tariff (TUA) through airline tickets. The proposed regulation mandates airlines to automatically and proactively refund the TUA for unused tickets, including no-shows. IATA and the local Bar are actively advocating against this regulation, highlighting concerns about its impact on the industry. For more details, please contact IATA's Country Manager for Mexico, [Cintya Martinez](#).

## PARAGUAY: EFFORTS UNDERWAY TO RECOVER IASA CATEGORY 1



The government of Paraguay announced their collaboration with the FAA to regain IASA category 1 status. At the request of its member airlines, IATA has been engaging with Paraguay's Civil Aviation Authority (DINAC) and has raised the issue with the FAA, Brazil's ANAC, and the President of Paraguay in a recent meeting, underscoring the economic and social benefits that improved connectivity to the US would bring to Paraguay. For more details, contact IATA's Country Manager for Argentina, [Maria Jose Taveira](#).

## PERU: OPENING OF NEW LIM TERMINAL DELAYED TO MARCH 30, 2025



The opening of the new terminal at Jorge Chávez International Airport in Lima has been postponed to March 30, 2025. IATA and AETAI support the delay, and we issued a joint [press release](#) to publicly highlight the need for better coordination and transparency from Lima Airport Partners (LAP) to prevent further disruptions. In addition, IATA and AETAI urged the Minister of Transport and Communications to hold regular meetings with all stakeholders to ensure an orderly transition. Airlines have been collaborating since February 2024 to ensure a smooth start of operations, contingent on completing necessary safety and service quality tests. We will continue to engage the respective stakeholders and authorities to ensure these tests are successfully completed prior to the March opening target date. For more details, please contact IATA's Area Manager for Peru, [Martín La Rosa](#).

## THE BAHAMAS: UPDATE ON BANSА AIR NAVIGATION CHARGING SCHEME



The new BANSА air navigation charging scheme, scheduled for implementation on November 1, 2024, continues to be indefinitely delayed. Despite our continuous follow-up efforts, the implementation remains pending, and we have not received substantial feedback from BANSА regarding the timeline for the new fees or our concerns raised in our final letter to BANSА dated September 18, 2024. Given this abrupt and questionable conclusion to the consultation, IATA has sent a follow-up letter to the Deputy Prime Minister, expressing our dissatisfaction, and urging for a more transparent and timely resolution. For more details, please contact IATA's Area Manager for the Caribbean, [Annaleen Lord](#).

## UNITED STATES: DOT ISSUED FINAL RULE ON PASSENGERS WHO USE WHEELCHAIRS



On 17 December 2024, the US Department of Transportation issued a final rule on passengers who use wheelchairs while traveling by air. Among other things, the rule requires airlines to publish information on their public websites describing the relevant dimensions of the cargo holds of all aircraft types operated by the airline; to transport a delayed wheelchair/scooter to the passenger's final destination within 24 hours of the passenger's arrival for domestic flights and short international flights (12 hours or less) and within 30 hours of the passenger's arrival for long international flights (more than 12 hours); to provide and pay for loaner wheelchairs/scooters while individuals with disabilities are waiting on returns, repairs, or replacements for their mishandled devices; and to provide annual training of airline employees and contractors who physically assist passengers with mobility disabilities or handle wheelchairs/scooters. The overall effective date of the rule was January 16, 2025. However, certain provisions have later effective dates. For more details, please contact IATA's Vice President, Member & External Relations, North America, [Doug Lavin](#).

## UNITED STATES: TRUMP ADMINISTRATION ISSUED REGULATORY FREEZE



On 20 January 2025, the Trump Administration issued a 60-day freeze on new regulations. What this means over the longer term for potential regulations, such as a final rule on passenger compensation, remains to be seen. For more details, please contact IATA's Vice President, Member & External Relations, North America, [Doug Lavin](#).

## IATA: UPCOMING EVENTS

[www.iata.org/events](http://www.iata.org/events)

