

CALL FOR PAPERS



LATIN
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ASSOCIATION

LASA2022

Polarización socioambiental y rivalidad entre grandes potencias

MAY 5 – 8, 2022 · SAN FRANCISCO, USA

Among the enormous challenges facing Latin America and the Caribbean in the 21st century, three that are intimately linked stand out for the LASA Congress in 2022: environmental destruction and climate change, socioeconomic polarization, and rivalry between the great powers that in one way or another affect the region. Environmental destruction and climate change have been accelerating since the mid-twentieth century, but took on a new impetus with the turn of the twenty-first century. In our region, these phenomena have been closely linked to the new commodity boom and deepening extractivism, both in mining and agriculture. Although this new boom facilitated the emergence of self-proclaimed leftist governments, their social programs were focused on alleviating poverty, but rarely tried to modify the productive structures that generate it and deepen inequality. Ideally, in our congress we should make contributions that account for both environmental destruction and for the new models and practices which might allow its transcendence.

Socioeconomic polarization, unfortunately, is one of the most distinctive features of the region, something that has worsened in times of the COVID-19 pandemic. Here we are referring to economic and social inequality, which is expressed in forms of discrimination based on social class, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, etc. In many cases, polarization has accelerated migration processes, now including climate migration, exacerbating conflict caused by struggles over land, water and by racism as new groups come into contact with each other.

Finally, the growing trade competition and rivalry between the United States and China puts Latin America in a complicated situation. On the one hand, its traditional trading partner, the United States, has always been a dominant power that seeks to get the most out of the region and has no qualms about intervening in its political processes. On the other hand, China is now emerging with a significant presence in all imaginable spheres. How should Latin American countries deal with this rivalry in a way that minimizes conflict and maximizes the advantages for their populations? Politicians and scholars in the region could play a mediating role to promote cooperation between the powers. But, successfully confronting the climate challenge requires that Latin America increases its industrial autonomy based on the sustainable use of resources.

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To address the issues outlined above, we propose five special tracks where the latest research on these core issues can be raised and discussed.

1. Extraction and appropriation by multinationals and states: Rising levels of national and private debt go hand in hand with accelerating levels of extraction and appropriation. How do multilateral trade and investment treaties affect the flow of materials and energies from Latin America to the U.S. and China? How do private and public actors affect deforestation, land grabbing, mining, and legal and illegal logging? What forms of rent extraction accompany intellectual property rights and emerging virtual economies?
2. Toxic presents and future imaginaries: The culture of the anthropocene or capitalocene implies a globalized toxicity. Toxicity is normalized as a necessary price for economic growth. The damage it inflicts is slow and invisible and unevenly distributed. The bodies of plants, animals and humans mutate, sicken and die under the impact of toxic substances and pathogens. What are the histories of these bodies and the narratives of toxic flows and pathogenic transmissions, such as the present pandemic of COVID-19? How does toxicity disrupt existing orders and life forms, while maintaining life forms at other scales? How do humans and non-humans adapt to and resist toxic conditions? What toxic discourses justify toxic economies?
3. Rivalry among great powers: At least since 2010, the rivalry between the United States and the People's Republic of China has become more generalized and intensified. This conflictive competition has significant effects on third countries and regions. There is practically no field of social sciences that is not involved and affected by its tensions and growing rupture. What are the conditions of this rivalry and what impact has it generated in the new Latin American infrastructures, mining and consumption? What is its relevance for the future in Latin America and the Caribbean and its environmental impact?
4. Political ecologies and new environmental thought: Political ecology, the study of power relations that cut across the socio-environmental field, has emerged in Latin America as a central interdisciplinary field for thinking about society/environment relations. How do disputes between knowledge systems and ways of being in the world come together with questions of environmental justice and injustice, class, race, and social costs for future generations as industrial production, infrastructure, and consumption drift to destroy the very basis of urban and rural livelihoods? How does political ecology integrate the challenges posed by the new rivalry in the global economy?
5. Polarization and development models: Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) has been one of the regions most affected by the implementation of the neoliberal development model since the 1980s, with some important exceptions. One of its most significant characteristics, in addition to the export orientation of its productive apparatus, has been its profound impact on polarization at the level of households, companies, sectors and regions within the countries themselves. Since then, alternative intellectual, social and political movements, also under socio-ecological, anti-neoliberal, post-neoliberal or socialism of the 21st century slogans, have also been perceived - and have been exacerbated since the beginning of the 21st century. What socioeconomic and socio-ecological effects have been generated by the strategy followed since the 1980s - in some countries even earlier - and differentiating among LAC countries and regions? What experiences are relevant in the third decade of the 21st century for a discussion on alternatives?

GUIDELINES FOR SESSION ORGANIZATION

One of the main goals for LASA's congress is to enable the highest level of intellectual exchange from the social sciences and the humanities about Latin America and the Caribbean. An important condition to achieve this goal is ensuring that each of our congress sessions incorporates important degrees of diversity along several criteria. These include diverse institutional affiliations of panel participants, region where they are based, disciplinary, career stage, and gender diversity. Not all of these criteria can be present in each and all sessions but, where possible, they should be observed when organizing them. A session constituted by presenters from the same institution

is likely to get a low ranking or rejected. A minimum of two institutions should be represented in each session, and preferably more. Even when a session is focused on a single country, it may be possible to find diversity among presenters in terms of the countries in which they are based. Such diversity could add a different perspective on the same country. Having in the same session scholars in different stages of their careers, from graduate students to junior and senior scholars, can promote productive intellectual networks and possibilities for mentorship. Gender diversity should be easy to attain in an association in which women make up more than half of its membership.

IMPORTANT

Before submitting a proposal, please review all the information on proposal submission at the following link:
<https://lasaweb.org/en/lasa2022/proposals/>

To learn more about the proposal selection process, please refer to this link:
<https://lasaweb.org/en/lasa2022/selection-process/>

THE DEADLINE FOR THE SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS IS
SEPTEMBER 9, 2021, AT 5 p.m., EASTERN TIME

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON
THE NEXT PAGE.

You are invited to submit a paper or panel proposal addressing either the congress theme or any topic related to the program tracks. LASA also invites requests for travel grants from paper presenters who qualify. Visit the LASA website for eligibility criteria. All proposals for papers, panels, and travel grants must be submitted to the LASA Secretariat via the online proposal system by September 9, 2021, at 5 p.m. EST.

The deadline for submitting proposals is September 9, 2021, at 5 p.m. Eastern Time.

Proposal forms and instructions will be available on the LASA website: <https://lasaweb.org>.

No submissions by regular mail will be accepted. A confirmation email will be immediately sent once the proposal is submitted successfully. Otherwise, contact the LASA Secretariat before the deadline for confirmation to lasa@lasaweb.org.

All participants will be required to preregister for the Congress.

Permanent tracks

The 2018-2019 Executive Council decided to work to ensure that each congress maintains a set of permanent tracks. To this end, an exhaustive analysis of the existing tracks since 1991 (221 in total) and the number of proposals received. The criterion has been to consolidate, homogenize and expand these tracks in order to offer a permanent space that represents the thematic diversity represented throughout the membership.

The 221 tracks found were discussed in several stages by the full Executive Council and by a subcommittee appointed by the Executive Council. Initially, the 221 axes were reduced to 43, then to 31 and finally to 29.

The Executive Council or a subcommittee appointed by the Executive Council will periodically evaluate new areas proposed by the

program committee to determine their permanence in the list of core tracks. This year, the EC decided to recover for 2022 the track "Other Knowledges and Alternative Methods" and add "Indigenous Peoples and Afro- descendants: epistemologies and knowledge" due to the great interest aroused during the LASA2021 congress.

New tracks for each congress

The Program Committee will have the possibility of proposing specific tracks that it considers relevant within the framework of its programming. For the 2022 congress, the Committee has agreed to discuss the effects of environmental destruction and climate change, socioeconomic polarization, and great power rivalry on Latin America and the Caribbean.

Program agenda

Select the most appropriate topic for your proposal from the list below and enter it in the designated space in the submission system. You may submit only one topic. Send your correspondence to the LASA Secretariat only.

PERMANENT TRACKS

Agrarian and Food Studies	Literature Studies
Art, Music and Performance Studies	Mass Media and Popular Culture
Childhood and Youth Studies	Migration and Refugees
Civil Societies and Social Movements	Otros saberes and Alternative Methods
Culture, Power and Political Subjectivities	Political Institutions
Democratization and Political Process	Public and Social Policies
Economics and political Economy	Race and Ethnicities
Education	Religion, Politics and Society
Environment, Nature and Climate Change	Scholarly Resources
Film Studies	Sexualities and LGBTI Studies
Feminism and Gender Studies	Urban Studies
Health Policies	Security and Violence
History and Archaeology	
Human Rights and Memory	
Indigenous Peoples and Afro-descendants: Epistemologies and Knowledge	
International Relations/Global Studies	
Labor studies	
Language and Linguistics	
Latinx Studies	
Law and Justice	

NEW FOR LASA2022

Extraction and Appropriation by Multinationals and States
Toxic Presents and Future Imaginaries
Rivalry Among Great Powers
Political Ecologies and New Environmental Thought
Polarization and Development Models



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