

CALL FOR PAPERS



LATIN
AMERICAN
STUDIES
ASSOCIATION

LASA2021: Crisis global, desigualdades y centralidad de la vida

May 26 – 29, 2021 • Vancouver, Canada • Hybrid Congress (on-site and virtual)

The global crisis highlighted by the expansion of COVID-19 over the entire planet has had dramatic consequences in Latin America, testing the capacity of the states to protect their citizens. The effects of the illness, understood as a social and political event, have laid bare the structural shortcomings of the countries in the region and the dynamic persistence of inequity, exclusion, and authoritarianism.

The consequences for the economy have been devastating in a region that was already experiencing problems with growth and the concentration of wealth. The pandemic has involved profound effects on social reproduction processes and everyday life in many social sectors on the continent. At the same time, this crisis has also ignited deep reflections about the centrality of life and health care in economic and social models, the urgency of confronting social inequalities, the imperative to act against environmental devastation, and the powerful need to also guarantee the democratic process.

Additionally, COVID-19 is developing at the historical moment of greatest global connectivity. In this context, paradoxically, measures have emerged restricting movement and confining the national space in practically all countries, which has generated policies of control over the people and their bodies. Undoubtedly, these processes will have long-term effects in public and private life.

The purpose of the 2021 LASA congress in Vancouver is to convene people who study the societies and cultures of Latin American and the Caribbean to reflect on contemporary globalization processes in the regions and the impacts these processes have had on the lives of its residents, the institutional architecture of the states, and the cultural dynamics on

the continent. The management of the crisis — above all the consequences for the most vulnerable groups — demonstrates the need to reflect on the causes of that vulnerability in both historical and circumstantial terms.

The current crisis, in reality, exacerbates various tendencies that were already present in the social, cultural, economic, and political life of the region. We have experienced dramatic phenomena of human mobility that are illustrated in the exodus and mass intraregional movements or movements toward the societies of the world's economic centers. Certain authoritarian political dynamics have also been reinforced in emergency contexts. Slow growth of economies, as well as the worsening of structural inequalities, reveal dynamics of the labor market characterized by informality and insecurity. Finally, the persistent exclusion of native peoples and African descendants and different scenarios of human rights violations are all processes showing that the need to deliberate on democracy is more valid than ever in the region.

In the last year, Latin America and the Caribbean lived through widespread situations of social protest in various countries in the region. Mass movements were triggered not only around basic problems like poverty and social injustice but also demands related to the fight against gender violence and femicide, the legalization of abortion, enforced disappearances, the defense of natural resources and territories, movements for peace and against selective murders, and, of course, democracy. Social protest becomes a strategic site for understanding political cultures and the limits of our political systems at different scales: local, national, and global.

The current crisis has created a series of ruptures that evidence memories of authoritarian expressions and practices in Latin America. The events of the last year invite us to rethink the current situation without forgetting the past and its legacy, and to exercise collective memory to identify the multiple cultural and societal responses that have been formulated in other critical periods. It is necessary, in this sense, to reflect on the different manifestations of power and its reproduction that societies have constructed throughout history to express their unrest and proposals for change.

New challenges put pressure on states and societies in Latin America and the Caribbean. This call for LASA2021 congress is also a call to contribute from our disciplines and fields of knowledge to the debate around access to justice, basic rights, and the construction and consolidation of democratic regimes.

Lastly, having the global nature of COVID-19 as the axis of discussion also offers the opportunity to link debates between the social sciences, the humanities, and other sciences such as biology and the health sciences. We hope that this congress will also make these bridges possible.

This call plans for a hybrid congress that enables both face-to-face participation in the city of Vancouver, if the evolution of the global health situation allows it, and virtual participation.

LASA PRESIDENT

Gioconda Herrera
FLACSO, Ecuador

PROGRAM CO-CHAIRS

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THE DEADLINE TO SUBMIT PROPOSALS IS
SEPTEMBER 7, 2020, 5 P.M., EDT

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR INSTRUCTIONS.

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 7, 2020, 5 p.m. EDT.

The deadline to submit proposals is September 7, 2020, 5 P.M., EDT

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.

Permanent Program Tracks

The 2018-2019 Executive Council decided to work to ensure each congress maintains a set of permanent program tracks. Therefore, a thorough analysis was conducted of the program tracks existing since 1991 (221 in total) and the number of proposals received. The criterion was to consolidate, standardize and expand those tracks to offer a permanent space that represents the thematic diversity represented throughout the membership.

The 221 program tracks found were discussed in various phases by the full Executive Board and by a subcommittee appointed by the Executive Board. Initially, the 221 tracks were reduced to 43, then to 31, and finally 29 remained.

As of the 2021 Congress, these 29 program tracks will be permanently available. The Executive Board or a subcommittee appointed by the Executive Board will periodically evaluate new tracks proposed by the program committee to determine their permanence on the list of "core tracks".

Program Syllabus

Select the most appropriate subject for your proposal from the following list and enter it in the space provided in the submission system. Send your correspondence ONLY to the Secretary of LASA.

PERMANENT PROGRAM TRACKS

Agrarian and Food Studies
Art, Music and Performance Studies
Childhood and Youth Studies
Civil Societies and Social Movements
Culture, Power and Political Subjectivities
Democratization and Political Process
Economics and Political Economy
Education
Environment and Nature
Film Studies
Feminism and Gender Studies
Health Policies
History and Archaeology
Human Rights and Memory
International Relations/
Global Studies
Labor Studies
Language and Linguistics
Latinx Studies
Law and Justice
Literature Studies
Media Studies
Migration and refugees
Political Institutions
Public and Social Policies
Race and Ethnicities
Religion, Politics and Society
Scholarly Resources
Urban Studies
Security and Violence

New program tracks for each congress

The Program Committee will have the possibility of proposing specific program tracks it deems relevant in the framework of its programming. For the 2021 Congress, the committee believes a space is needed to debate the impacts of COVID-19 in our societies and states from multi-dimensional perspectives that include reviewing the experiences of past pandemics and also present challenges. It also seeks to preserve and deepen the debates about epistemology and the knowledge of indigenous peoples and African descendants on the continent and to offer a specific track for discussions about sexuality. Finally, this context invites a deep reflection about the reconfiguration of global processes and Latin American relationships with other regions. For this, the committee proposes the Asia and the Americas track.

NEW FOR LASA2021

Indigenous Peoples and Afro-descendants: epistemologies and knowledge
Asia and the Americas
Fighting COVID-19
Sexualities and LGBTI Studies

