

Call for Papers

LASA2026: Republic & Revolution

May 26 – 30, 2026 • Paris, France (exclusively in person)

Convening LASA in Paris provides an opportunity to think about Latin America and the Caribbean as a whole and in relation to the larger global forces that have shaped our world over several centuries. We have chosen to situate the region not only in relation to European colonization but also the transformations unleashed by the Atlantic revolutions and the anti-colonial struggles that led to the formation of new republics. As Brazilian philosopher Roberto Mangabeira Unger has written in *The World and Us*, the revolutions of previous centuries are not over, but we need to “breathe new life and new meaning into this revolutionary turn.”

At the heart of the transformations of the Atlantic revolutions is the romantic idea that citizens, regardless of race, creed, gender, or nation, possess inalienable subjective rights. Among the projects pursued by revolutionaries, the liberal, representative republic, which brought citizens together as equal consociates to form representative governments, agreeing (often by constitution-making) upon just laws, was embraced as the best arrangement to provide as much freedom as compatible with their mutual security and prosperity. Furthermore, this ideal polity was possible because of the perfectibility of the rational individual.

Yet, the emancipatory, egalitarian, and fraternal ideals of the liberal and representative republic have tended to coexist with empires, slavery, dispossession, odious debts, and repression. While the French Revolution introduced the colonies to the Declaration of the Rights of Man and the Citizen, it also introduced them, as Alejo Carpentier observed in his novel *El siglo de las luces*, to the violence of the guillotine. France imposed crippling reparations on Haiti’s revolutionary republic until 1947. The revolutionary spirit at Cádiz hastened Latin American independence in search of liberty and prosperity, but liberal republics also intensified dispossession of Indigenous peoples in the name of private property and free trade – similar to what neoliberalism has done in our times.

In addition to these contradictions, we are today besieged by the counter-revolutionary forces of ethno-nationalism, xenophobia, religious fundamentalism, patriarchal familism, white supremacy, and racial capitalism. The adversaries of the liberal and representative republic, in alliance with neoliberal forces, have promoted technocratic and oligarchic modes of rule that undermine the social basis of representation and popular participation. Added to this is the public demand for effective solutions to gang violence and organized crime, to which political leaders have responded with punitive measures that undermine fundamental rights and freedoms but do not solve the underlying problems of precarity

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and social exclusion. When republics have become systemically corrupt, disproportionately benefiting the powerful few to the detriment of the majority, then the state apparatus itself becomes a guarantor of corruption.

Is it still possible to build what Argentine political scientist Guillermo O'Donnell called "citizens' democracies" with a shared respect for freedom, human rights, social justice, and the possibility of human life in harmony with nature? Can liberalism's deep commitment to individual autonomy and anti-paternalism be retained, and even enhanced with participatory innovations, recognizing the need for more active forms of citizenship? Can we reclaim the public sphere from corrupt practices and renew a commitment to the common good without demanding allegiance to parochial communities? Can we educate human (and non-human, mechanical as well as biological) agents for democracy, citizenship, and freedom without imposing a vision that forecloses alternatives? Can decolonization provide an elusive synthesis of so-called Western notions of the common good and Indigenous traditions of *buen vivir*?

We invite LASA members to explore whether it is still possible to imagine revolutionary and republican ideals, and the paths that lead to shared egalitarian visions of transformative change that embrace truths grounded in diverse life forms and at the same time bring us together as autonomous and equal agents under just laws.

- Can we find the basis of solidarity beyond the nation state in new forms of communal organization, religious affiliation, diverse identities, ecological principles, or posthuman values?
- If we set aside the abstract individualism that erases embodied histories and communities, can we find a truer universalism in difference and pluralism? In what ways do embodied practices suggest new utopias, and how are bodies used to construct contemporary revolutionary idioms?

- How can we reinvent or reimagine the idea of the republic and popular sovereignty for a globalized world in which technologies of social communication are constantly changing and the public sphere is fragmenting?
- What is the role of technology—letters and print, numbers and data, images and sounds, celluloid and electronics, and other media of communication and representation—in the revolutionary republican arrangements that emerge in literature and culture, and how do we engage them through our research, learning, and public engagement?

With this reflection on revolution and alternative republics, we seek to further a conversation about the future of republican revolutions in which we may reimagine the role of Latin America and the Caribbean in the world, and speak and write *for* the world *from* the region. In this way, we hope to build bridges among disciplines, between academics and practitioners, and contribute to the continuing relevance, dynamism, inclusiveness, and pluralism of our association.

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Session Creation Guidelines

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 incorporate 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 be 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 scholars in different stages of their careers, from graduate students to junior and senior scholars in the same session, can promote productive intellectual networks and possibilities for mentorship.

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, 2025, 5:00 p.m. (ET).

The deadline for submitting proposals is September 9, 2025, 5:00 p.m. (ET).

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 sent immediately after the proposal is successfully submitted. If you do not receive it, contact the LASA Secretariat at lasa@lasaweb.org before the deadline to confirm submission.

Important

Before submitting a proposal, please review all the information on proposal submission at the following link:
<https://lasaweb.org/en/lasa2026/proposals/>

To learn more about the proposal selection process, please refer to the following link:
<https://lasaweb.org/en/lasa2026/selection-process/>

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Program Tracks

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 LASA Secretariat.

Permanent Tracks

Agrarian and Food Studies

María del Pilar Zazueta, The University of Texas at Austin

María Marcela Crovetto, Universidad de Buenos Aires/CONICET

Archives, Libraries and Digital Scholarship

Nicolás Suárez, CONICET/Universidad de Buenos Aires

Melissa Jerome, University of Florida

Victoria Zurita, Stanford University

Art, Music and Performance Studies

Enzo Vasquez Toral, The University of Texas at Austin

Laura G. Gutiérrez, The University of Texas at Austin

Cristián Opazo, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile

Biopolitics and Biopower

Graham Denyer Willis, University of Cambridge

Karin Alejandra Roseblatt, University of Maryland-College Park

Ana Carolina Vimieiro Gomes, Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais

Childhood and Youth Studies

Patricia Ames, Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú

Valeria Llobet, Laboratorio de Investigación en Ciencias Humanas, CONICET/UNSAM

Civil Societies and Social Movements

Françoise Montambeault, Université de Montréal

Sofía Donoso, Universidad de Chile

Adrian Gurza Lavalle, Universidade de São Paulo

Culture, Power and Political Subjectivities

Jon Beasley-Murray, University of British Columbia

Ryan Long, University of Maryland, College Park

Susan Antebi, University of Toronto

Ericka Cervantes, Universidad Michoacana de San Nicolás de Hidalgo

Democratization and Political Process

Eduardo Dargent, Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú

Benjamin Goldfrank, Seton Hall University

Rodrigo Barrenechea, Universidad del Pacífico

Economics and Political Economy

Francisco Urdinez, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile

Moises Arce, Tulane University

Laura Macdonald, Carleton university

Education

Mariana Eguren, Instituto de Estudios Peruanos (IEP)

Sebastián Fuentes, FLACSO/CONICET-UNTREF

Environment, Nature and Climate Change

Astrid Ulloa, Universidad Nacional de Colombia

Heidi Jane Smith, Universidad Iberoamericana/George Mason University

Maritza Paredes, Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú

Feminism and Gender Studies

Lidia Possas, Universidade Estadual Paulista

Erika Busse, Macalester College

Beatriz Padilla, University of South Florida

Film Studies

María Helena Rueda, Smith College

Juan Poblete, University of California-Santa Cruz

Cynthia Vich, Fordham University

Health and Well-being

Courtenay Sprague, University of Massachusetts-Boston

Steven Palmer, University of Windsor

Teresa Huhle, University of Cologne

History and Archaeology

Laura Cucchi, Freie Universität Berlin

Nancy P. Appelbaum, Binghamton University/State University of New York

Human Rights and Memory

Santiago Garaño, Universidad de Buenos Aires/CONICET/Universidad Nacional de Lanús

Eugenia Allier, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México

Francesca Lessa, University College London

Indigenous Languages and Literature

Kelly S. McDonough, The University of Texas at Austin

Gloria E. Chacón, University of California-San Diego

Indigenous Peoples and Afro-descendants: Epistemologies and Knowledge

Héctor Nahuelpan, Universidad de los Lagos

Joanna Boampong, University of Ghana

John Thomas III, College of Charleston

International Relations/ Global Studies

Cynthia Sanborn, Universidad del Pacífico

Carol Wise, University of Southern California

Labor Studies

Callan Hummel, University of British Columbia

Santiago Anria, Cornell University

Language and Linguistics

Sandra Milena Osorio Monsalve, Universidad del Quindío

María del Mar Bassa Vanrell, Universidade de Lisboa

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Latinx Studies

Maria I. Puerta Riera, Valencia College
Pablo Biderbost, University of Salamanca
Eduardo Munoz Suarez, University of Kansas

Law and Justice

Pablo Policzer, University of Calgary
Hugo Rojas, Universidad Alberto Hurtado/
Instituto Milenio para la Investigación
en Violencia y Democracia
Lisa Hilbink, University of Minnesota-
Twin Cities

Literature and Culture

Yanna Celina Hadatty Mora, Universidad
Nacional Autónoma de México
Roberto Cruz Arzabal, Universidad
Veracruzana
Monica Simal, Providence College
Mayra Bottaro, Universidad Nacional
de Tres de Febrero

Literature Studies: Colonial/19th Century

Vanesa Miseres, University of Notre Dame
Marcel Velázquez, Universidad Nacional
Mayor de San Marcos

Literature Studies: 20th/ 21st Centuries

Nicolas Campisi, Georgetown University
Regina Pieck, Stanford University

Mass Media and Popular Culture

Celia del Palacio, Universidad de
Guadalajara
Giuliana Cassano, Pontificia Universidad
Católica del Perú
Rossana Reguillo, Instituto Tecnológico y
de Estudios Superiores de Occidente
James A. Dettleff, Pontificia Universidad
Católica del Perú

Migration and Refugees

Carolina Stefoni, Universidad de Tarapacá
Luciana Gandini, Instituto de Investigaciones
Jurídicas y SUDIMER, Universidad Nacional
Autónoma de México

Otros saberes and Alternative Methods

Diana Marcela Gómez Correal,
Independent Scholar
Sabrina Melenotte, IRD/CIESAS
Alberto Diaz-Cayeros, Stanford University

Political Institutions

Benedicte Bull, University of Oslo
Carolina Curvale, FLACSO-Ecuador
Agnes Cornell, University of Gothenburg

Public and Social Policies

Merike Blofield, Universität Hamburg
Jennifer E. Pribble, University of Richmond
Raul Pacheco-Vega, FLACSO-México

Race and Ethnicities

Maria Beldi Alcântara, Universidade
de São Paulo
Mariela Noles Cotito, Universidad
del Pacífico
Jorge Sánchez Cruz, University of
California-San Diego

Religion, Politics and Society

Valentina Pereira Arena, Universidad
Católica del Uruguay
David Lehmann, University of Cambridge
J. Michelle Molina, Northwestern University

Security and Violence

Verónica Zubillaga, Universidad Simón Bolívar
Angélica Durán-Martínez, University of
Massachusetts-Lowell
Inés Fynn, Universidad Católica del Uruguay

Sexualities and LGBTI Studies

Alexandra Gonzenbach Perkins,
Texas State University
Jordi Díez, University of Guelph
Carolina Castellanos Gonella,
Dickinson College

Urban Studies

María José Álvarez Rivadulla,
Universidad de los Andes
Maria Luisa Mendez Layera, Pontificia
Universidad Católica de Chile

New for LASA2026

Constitutional Aspirations and Frustrations

Roberto Gargarella, CONICET
Catalina Pérez Correa, Centro
de Investigación y Docencia
Económicas (CIDE)
Verónica Undurraga, Universidad
Adolfo Ibáñez

Democracias Violentas

Juan Albarracín, University of
Illinois-Chicago
Agustín Goenaga, Lund University
Alejandra Luneke, Instituto Milenio
Investigación en Violencia y
Democracia, VioDemos

Republics Under Oligarchic and Popular Pressures

Alberto Vergara, Universidad
del Pacífico
Federico M. Rossi, Universidad
Nacional de Educación a
Distancia-Spain
Jan Boesten, Freie
Universität Berlin

Revolutionary Legacies: Culture and Social Protest in the Digital Age

Dylon L. Robbins, New York
University
Pavel Andrade, Texas Tech
University
Ana Sabau, University of Michigan

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