



53rd INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICANISTS
THE PEOPLES OF THE AMERICAS: CHANGE AND CONTINUITY.
THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SELF-IDENTITY IN A GLOBALIZED WORLD

Centro Histórico. Mexico City. July 19th-24th 2009

FIRST NEWSLETTER

CALL FOR PAPERS

The Organizing Committee of the 53rd International Congress of Americanists (ICA) extends a warm greeting to the national and international academic community working in the field of studies of the American Continent. Whether the research is carried out from the perspective of a single discipline, or using a multi-disciplinary approach, the Organizing Committee invites you to participate at the 53rd ICA, to be held at the prestigious Historical Centre (Centro Histórico) in Mexico City from July 19th to July 24th 2009.

The International Congress of Americanists holds the longest interdisciplinary tradition of studies on this subject. It has been convened uninterruptedly since 1875 (when the first one was held in Nancy, France). Since 1895, it is held every three years, the host city changing from country to country—and also between continents—so that an edition in Europe is followed by an edition in America, and vice versa. In the last two decades, congresses were conducted in the Netherlands (Amsterdam 1988), United States (New Orleans 1991), Sweden (Stockholm-Uppsala 1994), Ecuador (Quito 1997), Poland (Warsaw 2000), Chile (Santiago 2004), and Spain (Seville 2006.)

The chosen theme for the 53rd ICA will analyze the development of the different cultural, social, and political traditions, as well as technological innovations in our continent, pertaining to the peoples of Amerindian origin. It will also examine the European, African, and Asian contributions to this field of studies. Our focus is to allow for a dynamic approach that includes the mestizaje processes and social and political conflicts, along with those transformations that stem from the current globalization phenomenon. The theme encompasses, as well, the construction of our own identities within a plural and multicultural context. It incorporates topics related to the development of archeological and historical research, anthropology, ethnohistory, linguistics, literature, cultural heritage, museography, human rights, research on urban and rural movements, economical studies, philosophy, sociology, law and political science, and education.

The Organizing Committee of the 53rd ICA wishes to express its gratitude for the trust granted to it by the Liaison Subcommittee, designated at the general assembly of the 52nd International Congress of Americanists. It is worth noticing that it was precisely in Mexico (1895) where the first Congress outside the European continent was ever held. We have been honored to host other editions as well in 1910, 1939, 1962, and 1974. In undertaking the challenge and privilege of organizing the sixth edition to be held in Mexico, we can only say that our goal is to attain the high standards of previous congresses, and, at the same time, promote new activities to strengthen scientific institutions; researchers' networks and programs of study on Americanist studies.

Our intention is to revive the tradition of publishing the Proceedings of the Conference by means of a formal, electronic edition. The Congress will be held in the renowned Historical Centre (Centro Histórico), located in Mexico City's downtown. The National School of Anthropology and History (ENAH) is the institution that hosts this prestigious event, and the Organizing Committee has deemed it pertinent to house the Congress in the ancestral Historical Centre, among the *Templo Mayor de Tenochtitlán*, the famous monuments of the Colonial Period, and the traditional spaces of the development of the Mestizo world.

Besides its symbolic meaning, the Historical Centre in downtown Mexico City has all the conveniences of modernity, with an array of options that cater to every need, appropriate means of transportation, and



enough variety of housing options for all budgets. This will facilitate the participation of students and young graduates. The Historical Centre is also conveniently located near Mexico City's International Airport, and is known for its variety of restaurants which offer a vast array of local and international cuisines. This will provide an opportunity for our guests to taste the best in ethnic and regional cuisine or choose their preferred food. Guests will also enjoy proximity to important libraries, as well as famous museums nearby, which we hope will enrich the experiences of all participants..

Certainly, neither archeology nor history are at odds with the conveniences of modernity. Therefore, the Congress will enjoy adequate conference rooms, equipped with the latest technology, all within close proximity, providing efficient functionality .

Theme Areas

We wish to continue to achieve a balance between the theme and scope of this congress, and the need to guarantee the open participation of the highest possible number of scholars studying the different fields of knowledge of the American reality. Hence, the 53rd ICA has decided to maintain its classical themes to share and discuss relevant scientific developments, and at the same time make space for new themes. An emphasis on inter and multi-disciplinary approaches to understanding the global processes at work in the American continent is a key goal of this Congress. The themes will be as follows:

Archeology	Human Rights
Social Anthropology	Social Movements
Cultural Anthropology	Economical and Social Studies
Physical Anthropology	Political Processes
Ethnology	Philosophy and History of Science
Bioanthropology	Education
Linguistics and Literatura	Globalization, Heritage and Public Policy
History and Ethnohistory	Science, Technology and the Environment
Art History and Iconography	Communication Sciences
Health and Culture	Gender Studies

We invite all our colleagues who are interested in proposing symposia, to do so taking into consideration the above-mentioned general topics. Papers and proposals should be submitted according to the instructions stated below. A scientific committee for each theme will evaluate each symposium proposal and all papers submitted, and dictaminate on its approval .



Forms of Participation

The Organizing Committee of the 53rd ICA will open new avenues of presenting topics in order to provide efficient mechanisms for the simultaneous exposition of all works within the week of the Congress. It will endeavor to promote the fields of research, teaching, and the formation of new generations of specialists in Americanist studies.

To keep up with the contemporary trends that allow for plural participation and open new avenues of communication, the Organizing Committee has decided to accept innovations, such as Poster Sessions. These will be evaluated by a special committee, which will award prizes and honorable mentions as a way to motivate young scholars and students who often prefer a more flexible approach over reading papers. It is important to note that both, poster sessions and formal papers, will have to first be accepted in a symposium in order to be displayed and/or read.

Hence, forms of participation will be the following:

- Symposia
- Poster Sessions
- Parallel Events

Symposia

1. Symposia must have a maximum of two convenors, preferably from different countries. They must submit an electronic address and telephone and fax numbers.
2. It is not possible for a convenor to coordinate more than one symposium during the Congress.
3. Convenors will:
 - Establish the technical regulations for papers to be read and keep the discussion within the chosen theme.
 - Approve or reject proposed papers.
 - Abide by the symposium's program and schedule and decide about the publication of the Proceedings regarding those papers presented in their specific symposium.
 - Eventually, find a sponsor for these.
4. Regarding all symposia presented, the Organizing Committee of the 53rd ICA will publicize the pertinent information before and during the Congress. They will provide an appropriate location with adequate multimedia aids to hold the symposium.
5. Each symposium must have at least eight and no more than twenty papers. The time allotted to each symposium will consist of ten hours.
6. Because of the nature of the Congress, participants must be advised that simultaneous translation will not be available
7. Symposium proposals shall be submitted before March 31st, 2008. No proposals will be accepted after this deadline. Proposals must be sent to the following electronic addresses:



ica53.secretariageneral@gmail.com

ica53.secretariageneral@yahoo.com.mx

All symposia proposals must include the following information: Full name and address of the convenors, title of the symposium, a summary consisting of 300 words, and containing a preliminary list of each participant as well as the title and summary/abstract of each. Abstracts must have a maximum of 200 words and should include five key-words. This requisite applies to each paper to be read at a given symposium. Initial acceptance shall be decided by the respective scientific committee, which will communicate its decision on or before the 31st of May 2008.

For a symposium to be finally accepted and included in the Congress Programme, it must have at least eight registered papers. All speakers must have paid the Congress Registration Fee before December 31st 2008. Please note that if by this date these requisites have not been fully met, the symposium will not be included in the official Programme.

Symposium Papers

Proposals for papers must be submitted directly to the symposium convenors for their approval to be included in the symposium and the Congress Programme. Participants can present a maximum of two papers in different symposia. The registration deadline for presenting papers is December 31st 2008. Should any symposium convenor accept new papers on a later date, the organizers cannot guarantee their inclusion in the official Programme of the Congress.

Poster Sessions

1. This is an innovative avenue of presenting research at the ICA. Its goal is to facilitate the participation of investigators and to provide more fluid ways of communicating relevant data. Poster Sessions enhance interaction among participants. It also allows researchers to tackle topics that may usually not be dealt with in symposia. Poster Sessions, however, will have to remain within the general themes of the event.
2. A scientific committee shall be designated for each Poster Session exhibit.
3. The deadline to submit proposals for Poster Sessions is September 30th 2008. Proposals must be sent to the following electronic address:

ica53.presidencia@gmail.com

ica53.secretariageneral@yahoo.com.mx

4. Presenters must submit a summary of the Poster Session containing no more than 100 words, along with five key-words. Notification of acceptance will be delivered electronically before November 30th 2008.
5. All registration fees must be covered by December 31st 2008. Should it be otherwise, the Poster Session will not be included in the official Programme.
6. Texts of Poster Sessions will be included in the Proceedings/Memoirs of the Congress, which are to be published. Posters must adjust to the following measures: One metre wide and 1.30 meters in height. All didactical materials have to be provided by the presenters.



Parallel Events within the Congress

- Audiovisual Presentations
- Seminary for Directors of Research Centers and Heads of Research Projects
- Seminary for Directors and Professors in charge of Graduate and Post-Graduate Programmes
- Exhibits and Stands of Graduate and Bachelor's Degree Programmes
- Special Meetings of Academic Societies and Researchers' Networks.
- Book Fair (new and used)
- Exhibits and Stands for Books and Publications Authored by Speakers and Participants.

Audiovisual Section

This is a new section at the ICA. Its goal is to facilitate the participation and exposition of researchers who prefer this form of presentation. The deadline for paying all registration fees for audiovisual presentations is September 30th, 2008. Presenters must send a summary of no more than 100 words and five key-words before the deadline to the following electronic addresses:

ica53.presidencia@gmail.com

ica53.secretariageneral@yahoo.com.mx

Notifications regarding acceptance will be sent before December 31st, 2008. Proposals submitted after this date may not be included in the official Programme of the Congress. Submitted texts are to be included in the Proceedings of the 53rd ICA.

Seminary for Directors of Research Centers and Heads of Research Projects

This space has been created in order to freely share experiences and tackle conceptual and strategic problems related to diverse fields of study. Another goal is to get to better know the different institutional research policies represented in the Congress, and promote inter-institutional cooperation in areas such as student and professors exchange programs, exchange of specialized publications, promoting joint editions for future works, exploring possibilities for research fellowships, and establishing formal cooperation agreements.

All registered research centers have the right to present a Poster Session to describe its mission. They will be included in a special publication issued as a compendium, whose aim is to acquaint all participating institutions with each other. It is recommended that interested parties include a directory of investigators along with current research projects and electronic addresses.

Seminary for Directors and Professors in Charge of Graduate and Post-Graduate Programmes

This space has been created in order to freely share experiences and tackle conceptual and strategic problems related to different fields of study. Another goal is to get to better know the different institutional research policies represented in the Congress and promote inter-institutional cooperation in



areas such as student and professor exchanges, exchange of specialized publications, promoting joint editions for future works, exploring possibilities for research fellowships, and establishing formal cooperation agreements.

All registered schools, faculties, departments, and study programmes have the right to present a Poster Session to describe its mission. It is recommended that interested parties include a directory of professors and investigators along with current research projects and electronic addresses. It is also desirable to include a summary stating the type of libraries, laboratories and institutional infrastructure available in their educational centers, as well as contact information and admission requirements.

Exhibits and Stands of Graduate and Bachelor Programmes Related to Themes of the Congress

The goal of this activity is to reach a wider audience; the attendant public at large. There will be an appropriate space for exhibits and interaction with potential students.

Research Projects Exhibit

The organizers have provided a space to showcase exhibits of different graduate, post-graduate and research programmes from attendant institutions. Although posters will be a major means of reaching the attendees, we also encourage the distribution of pamphlets and any other means deemed pertinent by attendant institutions.

Special Meetings of Academic Societies and Researchers' Networks

Habitually, academic societies welcome the confluence of a significant number of specialists. This can be an ideal time to schedule their annual meetings and such. The Congress will take into consideration all proposals and will facilitate the appropriate space for such events. Requests must be sent before January 31st 2009. Meetings of researchers networks also will be considered by the Congress according to available means. The Congress will take into consideration all proposals and will facilitate the appropriate space. Requests must be sent before January 31st 2009. In this case, proposals shall be submitted in writing by at least five researchers registered for the Congress.

Publication of the Proceedings of the Congress

The Congress will publish the Proceedings in digital format with an ISBN. This includes all plenary sessions and symposia with all papers presented. Authors must send the Organizing Committee a signed authorization that will be later requested. Presenters who wish to be included in the publication of the Proceedings must have covered all registration fees. We will send additional information as far as required format and publishing specifications. The magnitude of this kind of international congresses and the printing costs, have led to more dynamic and efficient ways of making materials accessible to the public; digital CD's, according to our experience, are a most feasible alternative. The Deadline for papers and other materials to be published in the electronic Proceedings is February 28th,2009. All works will be digitally secured to avoid their reproduction while still allowing for printing.

Another advantage of electronic formats, beyond their great capacity to store data, is the possibility of including tables, charts and graphics with great generosity. The CD edition of the Proceedings does not preclude or compete with proposals to publish printed monographic editions or book compilations, as is usually the case in many congresses. Symposia convenors can request, in agreement with their respective presenters, not to be included in the digital Proceedings, if deemed necessary.

Book Fairs (New and Used)

The Congress will open its doors to publishing houses, journals, and specialized bookstores to sell their materials in exhibits and stands. This invitation will include bookstores that carry a stock of out-of-print and used materials in order to better serve the needs of all participants.



Exhibits of Publications by Congress Participants

Participants are welcome to bring all of their relevant publications. A space will be available for this purpose within the scope of the symposia. The National School of Anthropology and History will create a research and educational fund with donations received by attendees.

Participant Categories and Registration Fees

All participants, including symposia coordinators, speakers, registered participants and students, are entitled to the following:

1. To participate in all the academic and social activities of the Congress.
2. To propose motions, speak and vote at the General Assembly.
3. To receive all the information material and any other service that may be provided to participants.
4. There will be a special discounted student registration fee and a sponsorship system. Detailed information will be available in the near future

Institutional Registration

All attendant institutions have the right to the following:

- To accredit one presenter to read a single paper
- Access to the inter-institutional meetings
- To insert their institutional profile in the CD to be published with the Proceedings.
- To place a poster in the academic exhibit
- Four sets of the published Proceedings of the Congress.

Accompanying Persons

Accompanying Persons must be registered as such by a participant, using the appropriate form. They are entitled to participate in all the social and complimentary activities of the Congress.



Registration Fees

Registration	Participants with Paper	Participants without Paper	Accompanying Persons	Institutions
Before December 31 st , 2008	150 U.S. Dollars	150 U.S. Dollars	120 U.S. Dollars	350 U.S. Dollars
Before April 30 th , 2009	200 U.S. Dollars	200 U.S. Dollars	170 U.S. Dollars	400 U.S. Dollars
Before June 1 st , 2009	250 U.S. Dollars	250 U.S. Dollars	200 U.S. Dollars	450 U.S. Dollars
From June 2 nd to July 19 th , 2009	300 U.S. Dollars	300 U.S. Dollars	250 U.S. Dollars	500 U.S. Dollars

Reimbursement

Participants unable to attend the Congress after having paid the registration fee will be reimbursed, as long as a written notice of cancellation of registration is provided to the Organizing Committee before May 31st, 2009. After this deadline no registration fees can be reimbursed.

Structure and General Programme

According to the classic organization of the Congress, the Structure of the 53rd ICA includes the following:

- Plenary Sessions: Opening and Closing of the Congress and General Assembly meeting
- Plenary Lectures. One per general topic
- Symposia: Main Academic Activity
- Round Tables: Meetings of International Committees as Societies and the like

Certifications

1. The only instance authorized to issue certificates regarding the registrations of papers to be read is the Symposium Coordination.
2. The organizers of the 53rd ICA can issue a certificate of Congress registration, once the registration fee is paid. On the other hand, formal invitations to participate in the Congress can only be issued in the case of special guests.



Schedule and General Programme

Friday, July 17 th to Sunday, July 19 th , 2009	Sunday, July 19 th , 2009	Monday, July 20 th	Tuesday, July 21 st	Wednesday, July 22 nd	Thursday, July 23 rd	Friday, July 24 th	
Registration and Accreditations	18:00 Official Opening Event	08:30 Registration and Accreditation	08:30 Registration and Accreditation	08:30 Registration and Accreditation	08:30 Registration and Accreditation	08:30 Registration and Accreditation	
		08:30–10:30 Work Sessions	08:30–10:30 Work Sessions	08:30–10:30 Work Sessions	08:30–10:30 Work Sessions	08:30–10:30 Work Sessions	
		10:30–10:45 Break	10:30–10:45 Break	10:30–10:45 Break	10:30–10:45 Break	10:30–10:45 Break	
		10:45–13:00 Work Sessions	10:45–13:00 Work Sessions	10:45–13:00 Work Sessions	10:45–13:00 Work Sessions	10:45–13:00 Work Sessions	
		13:00–14:30 Plenary Lectures	13:00–14:30 Plenary Lectures	13:00–14:30 Plenary Lectures	13:00–14:30 Plenary Lectures	13:00–14:30 Plenary Lectures	
		Break	Break	Break	Break	Break	
		16:00–18:00 Work Sessions	16:00–18:00 Work Sessions	16:00–18:00 Work Sessions	16:00–18:00 Work Sessions	16:00–20:00 General Meeting	16:00–20:00 Work Sessions
		18:00–18:15 Break	18:00–18:15 Break	18:00–18:15 Break	17:00–19:00 Awards and Honorific Mentions	20:30 Official Closing Ceremony	
		18:15–20:00 Work Sessions	18:15–20:00 Work Sessions	18:15–20:00 Work Sessions		21:00 Reception	



Organizing Committee

53rd INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICANISTS

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Executive President

Elio Masferrer Kan

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