

# Feminism and Conservativisms in Latin America

September  
2019 **19 - 20**



## Introduction

Thank you for your interest in sending a proposal for the International conference, “Feminisms and Conservativisms in Latin America” organized by the International Feminist Journal of Politics (IFJP) and the Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences (FLACSO Mexico), to be held on 19 – 20 September in Mexico City.

We are delighted that you wish to participate in the conference and are looking forward to receiving your proposal.

The focus on feminisms and conservatism is rooted in the observation of various phenomena that constitute particular challenges to feminist movements in the region and also in countries of Global South. In the past decade, events have occurred that were not foreseen by recent studies related to the advancement of a gender and sexual justice agenda in Latin America. On one hand, there are a greater number and cumulative spread of protests to uphold feminist demands, including the human rights of women and LGBT collectives.

On the other hand, and simultaneously, the presence of counter-movements rooted in religious groups has increased, both on a local level and within national institutions of representative government (Executive, Legislative and Judicial). These religious groups include both those connected to the Catholic church, as well as, more recently and with increasing intensity, evangelical groups belonging to various denominations.

Within this context, we seek to address the following central questions:

- What is the relationship between new and old forms of institutional activism regarding movements supporting the feminist and LGBT agenda and counter-movements that oppose this?
- Which movement and counter-movement networks of institutional activists are maintained in institutional spaces and which not?
- How do the contexts of economic crisis, depletion of development models and growing criminal violence ideologies impact the growth of counter-movements and conservative and religious ideologies of a “family” perspective?
- What are the political lessons for progressive feminist politics in this new and challenging international political context?
- What are the diffusion and learning processes that could feed into the work feminists are doing in other regions or in international political spaces?

In order to respond to these questions, **10 of the best proposals will be selected. The winners will receive a grant (airfare and hotel costs)<sup>1</sup> to attend the Conference in Mexico City on 19 and 20 September 2019.**

**We will choose 2 proposals that analyse the conference topic in the context of Global South countries (including East Europe, Asia and Africa).**

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<sup>1</sup> This does not include travel expenses for food and transport nor other forms of financial support.

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On conclusion of the Conference, various papers written in English (or translated to English) will be selected to be included in a special edition of IFJP.

## Main selection criteria for the paper

To be included in the Conference, it is of utmost importance that the proposals are completed in the form of a written document of high academic quality and received by 30 August 2019 (of between 5000 and 9000 words. See format below).

Selected papers will be presented and actively discussed during the respective sessions, having been previously circulated and read. As such, the Conference aims to carefully build an open and plural space for quality discussion, learning and exchange regarding the issues.

Submissions presented or translated into English will be included in a special Edition of the International Journal IFJP after the conference. This Edition will be subject to the normal review process followed by the Journal in such cases.

Our objective is for the Special Edition to include papers that have been presented for discussion in the Conference and include contributions and suggestions.

## Important dates

18 February 2019: Starting date for receiving submissions.

26 April 2019: Closing date for receiving submissions.

31 May 2019: Notification of acceptance (and rejection) of submissions.

30 August 2019: Final date for submitting electronic versions of written paper.

19-20 September 2019: Conference in Mexico City, Flacso, Mexico.

## Rules and procedures

Please observe the following rules for your submissions:

### Rule 1: Participation Limitations

- Participants in the Conference are limited to one article, without exception.
- If an article has co-authors, one author needs to be chosen for the presentation in Mexico City.
- If a participant co-authors a paper, this will be considered as the single contribution.

### Rule 2: Format for initial proposals (abstracts)

The following rules guide the abstracts that need to be sent for evaluation and selection as winners (the 10 best proposals) of the travel and hotel grant.

- a) Abstracts must include the following sections: a) general abstract, b) methodology and c) main contributions and arguments. The abstract a) must include the objectives and main arguments that underpin the written contribution, b) must specify the evidence that will be provided in support of the arguments and methodology implemented to obtain said evidence and c) will state the main contributions and discussions that the findings and arguments presented can offer for further research into the issue in questions.

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## Rules and procedures

b) Must be a maximum of one page (maximum 500 words). Title: it is recommended that this does not exceed 6 words.

c) Proposals must correspond to one of the following panels:

• **Feminisms versus Conservatism: Institutions and Institutional activism:** The objective of this panel is to discuss the main forms and repertoires that have been adopted by feminist movements against counter-movements in institutional spaces of governments in the region (legislative, executive and judicial) as well as in institutional spaces of international cooperation.

• **Sexual citizenship versus conservatism:** This panel will discuss the main conservative counter-movement threats to sexual and reproductive rights and the LGBT population as well as the main responses of the latter groups.

• **New tendencies in feminist activism:** The panel incorporates research that documents and analyses new forms of feminist activism (for example, university collectives, feminist organizations for support and accompaniment of abortion outside of state spaces, new indigenous feminisms, etc.). We are interested in looking at how these confront a context increasingly threatened by conservative moral agendas.

• **Counter-movements: characterizations and contexts for conservative actors.** This panel will incorporate research into conservative actors, both religious and non-religious, who have entered the world of politics and promoted new influential moral agendas in the political and policy arena (for example, Pentecostal and neo-Pentecostal evangelicals).

Submit your paper abstract\* here: <https://goo.gl/forms/ZwElaFsys7iVZ6vU2>

### Rule 3: Selection and Evaluation of Proposals

Paper proposals will be evaluated by academics on a scientific committee convened specifically for this Conference, namely: Constanza Tabbush (UBA, UNRISID), Elisabeth Jay Friedman (University of San Francisco) and Gisela Zaremberg (FLACSO México), in addition to the following colleagues per panel:

**Feminisms versus Conservatism: Institutions and Institutional activism:** Débora Rezende (UnB, Brazil),

**Sexual citizenship versus Conservatism:** José Szwasko (UERJ, Brazil), Luz Angela Cardona Acuña (FLACSO Mexico)

**New tendencies in feminist activism:** Daniela Cerva (UAEM, Mexico),

**Counter-movements: characterisations and contexts for conservative actors:** Helena Varela (Universidad Iberoamericana) and Jeraldine Cid del Castro (FLACSO Mexico).

\* Abstract paper can be submitted in English, Portuguese or Spanish.

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## Rules and procedures

### Rule 4: Format and Submission of paper

Authors and presenters of papers should take account of the following obligations and recommendations.

1. Upload the written paper to the portal by no later than 30 August 2019.
2. Papers should be between 5000 and 9000 words.
3. Regarding format and language\*, we recommend following specifications of the journal sponsoring the Conference (IFJP) available [here](#). Should your paper be selected to be included in the Special Edition of the IFJP, this will facilitate the process.
4. Ensure the circulation of the written paper among members of the panel, including the panel moderator.