



The Mexican Society of Electoral Studies (SOME E), the University of Salamanca (USAL), with the support of the Federal Electoral Institute (IFE), convokes researchers, academics, electoral and government officials and political parties members, to participate in the:

III International Conference of Electoral Studies

Parties, elections and quality of democracy in globalization

to be held in the University of Salamanca, in the city of Salamanca, Spain, in October 28th, 29th and 30th, 2009.

Introduction:

The first decade of the XXI century has brought big and deep transformations on political institutions and that has placed in the center of discussion the quality of democracy and not the access to governments with basic democracy conditions. This means that within a democratic regime, the political cohabitation is getting close to the citizenship democratic aspirations, as an essential characteristic of the democratic practice.

The academicians and specialized organisms priority is to try to measure and evaluate this cohabitation degree. For this reason the topic is being discussed on the democratic societies, as a result of the progress of globalization and the impact that it is having on the societies.

That is why, the electoral systems are on the interest of academicians and specialized organisms, on the matter of equity on representation, and the control over the government and governors practiced by citizens, and definitely, equality and freedom.

This topic has become the center of attention and has been discussed all over the world, because of the progress of globalization and the pressure that has been generated over the societies, as a result of the diffusion and enlargement of information, which has taken the electoral process to develop based on schemes that assure their equality, impartiality and cleanness, but most of all to assure better conditions for the democratic practices and, consequently, better quality of democracy.

The international forums for discussion about this topic have been homogenized and specialized, and there is a lack of national and international discussions, to debate several topics related to elections, political parties and quality of democracy.

The Mexican Society of Electoral Studies, the convoking institutions and invited organisms, strongly believe that each country possesses its own conditions to reach better forms of democracy, but we also believe that it is important to discuss, on the international scope, the national topics, so that with the discussion and the academic exchange, we learn from each other and we enlarge the margins and perspectives of our democracies.

Invited organizations:

AECPA (*Spanish Society of Political Science and Administration*)
ALACIP (*Latin-American Association of Political Science*)
ANES (*American National Election Studies*)
CEISAL (*European Council of Social Research on Latin-American*)
Council of the European Union
CSES (*The Comparative Study of Electoral Systems*)
IDEA-International (*International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance*)
IFES (*International Foundation for Electoral Systems*)
ISA – RC18 (*International Sociological Association*)
United Nations Electoral Assistance Division
NALACS (*The Netherlands Association of Latin American and Caribbean Studies*);
NIMD (*The Netherlands Institute for Multiparty Democracy*)
OEL (*Observatorio Electoral Latinoamericano*)
Science Po

Objective:

To promote scientific and academic analysis, discussion and diffusion of several and different points of view about the recent development of elections, electoral systems and the quality of democracy, on countries and regions of the world, analyzing their social, political, cultural, economic and legal contexts.

The papers must supply critic and analytic elements about the development of the electoral processes; the existence of the political parties and the electoral behavior of the citizens; the analysis of electoral laws and proposals for their reforms; the use of opinion surveys on the construction of electoral forecasts; the citizens participation, and any other topics that supply analysis of the quality of democracy.

Participants Profile:

Participation in any of the modalities: social researchers (political scientists, sociologists, historians, lawyers, anthropologists, mathematicians, psychologists, etc.); political leaders (from parties and political organizations); opinion formers

(journalists, analysts), students and electoral and government functionaries, interested on the congress topics.

Working Sessions:

	Chairs:	Chairs:
I.	<i>National elections (including local elections)</i>	
II.	<i>Parties and parties systems (nationals)</i>	
III.	<i>Elections and democracy (in continents)</i>	
IV.	<i>Electoral systems in countries (rules and organisms)</i>	
V.	<i>Electoral systems and quality of democracy</i>	
VI.	<i>Political behavior and democracy</i>	
VII.	<i>Elections and public opinion</i>	
VIII.	<i>Elections and quality of democracy. Theoretical aspects</i>	
IX.	<i>Mediacracy</i>	
X.	<i>Money and politics</i>	
XI.	<i>Electoral participation and governance</i>	
XII.	<i>Elections and assemblies</i>	
XIII.	<i>Electoral justice</i>	
XIV.	<i>Gender and elections</i>	
XV.	<i>Electronic voting</i>	

As part of the fourteen defined working sessions, other working sessions with specific topics may be proposed.

The proposals must be sent to the working session coordinator and a copy to the Coordinating Committee.

The proposal must have the general objective of the session, the names of all the participants and the abstracts.

Ways of participating:

There are two modalities:

- **Assistant:** Those who register on time and follow the established conditions, but do not present a paper. By paying the registration fee, they will have the right to participate on all congress activities. They will receive all the materials and documents that are handed, plus the assistant certificate.
- **Paper giver:** Those who register and present an abstract following the established conditions and that have been accepted by the committee. By paying the registration fee, they will have the right to participate on all congress activities. They will receive all the materials and documents that are handed, plus the speaker certificate.

Schedule:

Sept. 1st, 2008 thru Dec. 12, 2008:	Deadline to submit session proposals.
Jan. 1st, 2009:	Accepted sessions notification.
Jan. 15th, 2009 thru Feb. 27th, 2009:	Deadline to submit abstracts.
April 1st, 2009:	Abstracts notification of acceptance.
Aug. 31st, 2009:	Deadline for submitting accepted papers by e-mail to the Coordinating Committee.

Each session chair will evaluate and put in to consideration of the Coordinating Committee of the Congress, the session proposals and the integration of specific sessions, so the Coordinating Committee of the Congress can determine its acceptance.

The paper givers must send the abstract to the session chair's e-mail, with an attached copy to the Coordinating Committee within the established dates. The session chair will evaluate the abstracts, and will communicate the result to the Coordinating Committee so that the notification can be made.

Once the acceptance letter is sent, the paper giver must send its paper within the established dates and pay the registration share.

The Coordinating Committee will publish the provisional program of the Conference within the second week of September 2009.

Shares:

- **General Assistants** (from April 1st, 2009 until the Conference starts): € 50,00
- **Paper givers** (from April 1st, 2009 until May 31st, 2009: € 70,00
- **Paper givers** (from June 1st, 2009 until June 30th, 2009: € 85,00
- **Paper givers** (from July 1st, 2009 until August, 15th, 2009: € 100,00

The students and staff from the USAL will have a 50% off with the previous accreditation from their respective institution.

By paying the shares the participant will receive a folder, a personalized badge, a CD-room with all the received papers, a sample from the Mexican Electoral Studies Review, an invoice with your payment, a participation certification, and the right to participate on every academic and non academic events of the Conference.

Extra Information:

Language: The official language of the conference will be Spanish. Sessions with other languages may be organized but only with the consensus of all the participants.

Transportation: Each participant will have to make their own travel arrangements to arrive to Salamanca. The Coordinating Committee will be emitting some news about this specific topic.

Accommodation: Everything that is related to this aspect will be communicated through the news that the Coordinating Committee will be publishing.

Food Issues: there is a restaurant on the Salamanca's University student shelter that will provide special fares for the conference participants.

Book, magazines and materials sales: all the researchers and institutions that have publications that are related to the topics that will be discussed in the conference are invited to exhibit and sale their works during the conference, since there will be a space provided specifically for this.

For any extra information please enter the official SOME E web page: www.somee.org.mx or write an e-mail to: ciee@somee.org.mx