

## **LACUANet call for papers – 2026 ICUA at Chicago**

### **The right to the city and “Buen Vivir” (Living well) in Latin American Cities: between global pressures, regional dynamics and local initiatives**

Deadline for LACUANet submissions: Sept 27th

Send your abstract according to ICUA guidelines back to [luciacapanema@gmail.com](mailto:luciacapanema@gmail.com)  
(<https://docs.google.com/document/d/12YB0kY9Ssve8twaGyNfscwT9CEZ1vA0p/edit?tab=t.0#heading=h.bjyzay3nod46>)

Dear all,

It is that time again, when we get together to bring a Latin America perspective to the upcoming UAA (now ICUA) conference.

After reviewing the call for proposals, we realize there are specific aspects we may contribute to the framing of the conference.

More than agreeing and submitting to the 2026 Call for Participation at the ICUA/Chicago we, in view of our Latin America background and our previous discussions and meetings under the UAA umbrella, may now collectively adopt a discourse that furthers the general call while also reflecting our groundbreaking theoretical positions, empirical research, and situated practices.

As such we take ‘resilience’ and ‘sustainability’ together to find in the philosophy of “Buen Vivir” a translation that might be more historically and ontologically faithful to our Latin America reality. Moreover, we propose that “The right to the city” be paired with the “Buen Vivir” as representatives of our urban ideals. We envision our panel proposals considering our urban realities facing conflicts, migrations and networks (close to the topic category group 1 in the general call); local issues such as inclusion/exclusion of under-represented majorities in public policies and services (close to topic category groups 2 and 3); and economic, social, political and institutional dynamics weaving the local, the national and regional levels (close to topic category group 4).

The Latin American and the Caribbean Urban Affairs Network (LACUANet), therefore, welcomes papers that focus on:

#### 1) Latin American Cities in face of conflicts, migrations and networks

- Reclaiming and rebuilding cities from violence, crime, and anti-democratic practices;
- Networks that help and reshape cities and their global role;
- Migration and economic, social and cultural change.

2) The “Right to the city” & “Buen Vivir”: the inclusion/exclusion of under-represented majorities in local policies and services

- Urban economic development strategies and urban fiscal policies;
- Urban design, land use, public space, and growth management;
- Race, ethnicity, gender, identity, and age;
- Micro and small business, financing urban entrepreneurship;
- Solidarity, mutual support and philanthropy;
- Urban political activism and social movements

3) Economic, social, political and institutional dynamics weaving the local, national and regional levels

- Metropolitan and regional dynamics, development politics;
- Urban public, private and non-government roles;
- Arts, culture, preservation and heritage;
- Environment and energy;
- Employment, labor, income and poverty;
- Health, food security, housing, education and public safety;
- Infrastructure and mobility;
- Media and communications;
- Technologies and smart cities.

We will organize as many panels as necessary to accommodate all the submissions.

PLEASE REMEMBER: OUR DEADLINE (09/27) IS BEFORE THE ICUA GENERAL DEADLINE BECAUSE WE HAVE TO ARRANGE OUR PANELS AND SUBMIT THEM ALL TOGETHER!

Looking forward to your proposals, thank you and best to all,

Lucia Capanema-Alvares, Cecilia Giusti, Arturo Flores and Pablo Meninato.