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Ibero-American Soci-Economics Network

W E B I N A R  
LATAM   
POSCOVID

The Autonomous University of Madrid, Catholic University of Santiago de Guayaquil, National Autonomous University of Mexico, and Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, alongside the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics (SASE) organize a webinar on

**“Governance and Democratic Quality in Latin American Societies”**

***PRESENTATION***

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Early in the 21st century, the Covid-19 pandemic has marked the future of humanity. Current generations are facing a singular health challenge that has had widespread effects on the population’s various activities and conditions of existence. Although the origin of the problem is common—the SARS-Cov-2 virus—its impacts on different societies, nations, and regions of the planet are and will continue to be heterogeneous; likewise its effects on economies, social relationships, welfare, and rights in the short-, medium-, and long-term.

Ibero-American scholars in the field of socio-economics have joined together in the Ibero-American Socio-Economics Network to open a common space for reflection on and study of the effects, challenges, and lessons of the Covid-19 pandemic regarding our countries.

At the beginning of this century, the region of Latin America was continuing to insert itself into the international economy, largely through the export of commodities. But the Great Recession that began in 2008, and then the pandemic, interrupted and reduced growth rates. From a social perspective, it has not been possible in recent decades to reduce the massive poverty levels that affect a large part of the inhabitants of Latin America, nor to reduce the historical socio-economic inequality that has characterized it. From a political viewpoint, Latin America entered the 21st century following a period of expansion of democratic methods for electing its governments, although this

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did not generally translate to more governance or the consolidation of states and law. As such, democratic institutions in various Latin American countries now appear to be undergoing processes of deconstruction.

The agenda that we propose to discuss with specialists from and in Latin America has to do with the structural characteristics of the economic processes that take place in the region, as well as with the social relations that end up shaping the quality of life, the exercise of rights and, ultimately, the well-being of our societies.

Issues we propose to develop through an open, informed, and plural deliberation in the coming months include: the economy, employment, and wages; effective access to health services; educational opportunities and inequalities; the gender gap and its new expressions in light of the pandemic; the response of the different governments to the pandemic, not only in terms of health but also regarding its economic and social effects; the environmental agenda and the preservation of the natural capital on which the ecosystems of the region depend.

We are convinced that universities should promote multidisciplinary knowledge of our social reality as an essential condition to building alternative policies and decisions, which in turn make less unequal and uncertain the possibility of building life projects in freedom and dignity.

## ***ORGANIZATION***

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### **Ibero-American Socio-Economics Network**

#### **Organizing Committee**

- *Julimar da Silva Bichara, Laura Pérez Ortiz and Santos M. Ruesga*, from the Faculty of Economic and Business Sciences, Autonomous University of Madrid,
- *Erwin Guillen and Jorge Luis Delgado*, from the Faculty of Economic, Administrative and Business Sciences, Catholic University of Santiago de Guayaquil,
- *Marta do Reis Castillo*, from the Institute of Economics, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, and
- *Ciro Murayama*, from the Faculty of Economics, National Autonomous University of Mexico.

## SECOND SESSION PROGRAM



WEBINAR  
**LATAM POSCOVID**

**03 JUNE 2021**

10.00 am (CD MÉXICO, GUAYAQUIL)  
11.00 am (N. YORK)  
12.00 pm (RIO DE JANEIRO)  
17.00 pm (MADRID)

**Moderator:**  
José Woldenberg  
Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México

**Panelists:**  
Daniel Zovatto  
IDEA-Internacional, Santiago de Chile  
Carina Perelli  
Directora da Divisão de Assistência Eleitoral da ONU  
Carlos Malamud  
Pesquisador principal do Real Instituto Elcano, Madrid

**Governance and quality of democracy in Latin American societies**

+ Information | [webinarlatam2021@gmail.com](mailto:webinarlatam2021@gmail.com)  
[grupoinvestigam.wixsite.com/set-lase/webinar-latam-poscovid](http://grupoinvestigam.wixsite.com/set-lase/webinar-latam-poscovid)

UAM Universidad Autónoma de Madrid | Universidad Católica de Santiago de Guayaquil | UNAM Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México | ANOS 1960-2020 Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro | Faculdade de Ciências Econômicas e Empresariais | SASE | SUBMIT: [forms.gle/N97LYtYinWjQ4fq9](https://forms.gle/N97LYtYinWjQ4fq9)

**2<sup>nd</sup> session: Thursday, 3 June 2021 at**

**10:00am (México City and Guayaquil) / 11:00am (New York) / 12:00pm (Rio de Janeiro) and 5:00pm (Madrid and Paris)**

**Coordination:** Santos M. Ruesga, Autonomous University of Madrid and SASE

**Topic:** “Governance and Democratic Quality in Latin American Societies”

**Presentation:** Latin America began the 21<sup>st</sup> century with a political characteristic uncommon in its history: practically all of the region’s governments had emerged from democratic elections. The democratization of the region, however, coexisted (and continues to coexist) with high rates of socio-economic inequality and with the persistent presence of very high levels of poverty. This has made Latin American democracies structurally fragile. The emergence of the Covid-19 pandemic and the economic crisis that it provoked represented a new challenge for the political systems of the region. It is necessary to analyze and understand whether there has been a democratic response in terms of deliberation and inclusion of political and social actors to the ongoing crises in the fields of health, the economy, social impacts, and well-being. That is, have democracies contributed to building alternatives to the crises unleashed by Covid-19 or have democracies in Latin America also been weakened by the pandemic?.

**Introduction:** [Leonardo Lomelí](#), UNAM Secretary General

**Moderator:** [José Woldenberg](#), National Autonomous University of Mexico

**Panelists:** [Daniel Zovatto](#), IDEA-International, Santiago de Chile  
[Carina Perelli](#), International Expert on Governance, Director of the United Nations Electoral Assistance Division  
[Carlos Malamud](#), Principal Researcher at the Elcano Royal Institute, Madrid

**Colloquium with attendees**

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**REGISTER:** <https://forms.gle/N97LYtYinVvJQ4fq9>

+ **INFO:** <https://grupoinvestiguam.wixsite.com/set-lase/webinar-latam-poscovid>

**CONTACT:** [webinarlatam2021@gmail.com](mailto:webinarlatam2021@gmail.com)

*(Documentation prior to the session will be delivered to those registered)*

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To view the recording of the first webinar in the series, visit:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e5dQVA1JV0U>

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THESE WEBINARS TAKE PLACE  
IN SPANISH AND/OR PORTUGUESE**

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