



Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics

Request for proposals

About SASE

Founded in 1989 by Amitai Etzioni, the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics (SASE) is an international, interdisciplinary academic association with members in over 50 countries on five continents. The association is an American 501(c)(3) non-profit, domiciled in Timonium, Maryland.

The academic disciplines represented in SASE include economics, sociology, political science, management, psychology, law, history, and philosophy. The membership of SASE also includes business people and policy makers in government and international organizations. Our members hail in majority from North America and Europe, with an additional significant contingent from Latin America - all continents are represented.

SASE has grown from a small association of some 200 members, to its current membership base of 1,300-1,600 individuals from around the world. We currently organize one conference annually, where typically around 1,200 papers are presented in parallel sessions. It is an important venue for early career researchers to present their work and network with senior scholars, and is a home for many scholars working in the interdisciplinary fields of economic sociology and political economy.

Target audience

SASE's main audience is academics, working in the fields named above. Our conference is particularly important for younger scholars, who need international exposure for their work and are often making their first steps on the international academic job market.

SASE History

Our first conference was organized in 1989, and we have held annual conferences every year since. Conferences organized in Europe and North America consistently attract between 1200 to 1500 participants, with conferences in Latin America and Asia welcoming 600-800 participants. We have held two virtual conferences, 2020 and 2021, but we do not have plans for hybrid or virtual conferences going forward. Our membership base is growing, so we anticipate conferences of up to 2000 in coming years.

Timeline and process for bidding

SASE is currently looking for a location in North America for its 2025 conference, and a European location for 2026. The SASE conference typically rotates between Europe and



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North America, with occasional (every 5 years approximately) locations in Asia or Latin America. We do not have national associations that need to be involved in the bid, but typically the local organizing committee consists of one or more SASE members, and we aim to identify these individuals before submitting the bid.

The location for the annual conference must be approved by the Executive Council. This discussion typically takes place during its December meeting, and we aim to present a shortlist to the Council 3-4 years in advance of the meeting (e.g., discuss a shortlist for the 2025 conference in the December 2022 meeting). The shortlist is determined by the Executive Director and the current SASE president. We aim to only present locations that are a feasible option for the association, with the idea that if a shortlisted destination is not chosen for the immediate future, it can be used for the medium term.

Bids are collected during the year prior to the December meeting (ideally completed by October).

Proposal guidelines

It is important for the SASE conference to have some connection to the local academic community. Even if the conference is not organized at the university, we typically try to find local SASE members who would be willing to participate as part of the local organizing committee or the program committee (which makes decisions about the plenary speakers and panels). We also welcome local academics to participate by presenting their research in the conference itself.

Dates

SASE conferences take place over four consecutive days in early summer, often running from 8:30am to 9pm. Ideally, the last weekend in June or the first weekend in July is preferred, with the conference starting on a Wednesday and ending on a Saturday.

On the first day of the conference (Wednesday), we only have some 100 participants, with an Early Career Workshop and the meeting of the Executive Council. The full conference begins on Thursday.

City Location

I. The city must be easily accessible from all around the world. An international airport must be at a reasonable distance and well connected to the city.

II. The city must have abundant availability of accommodation facilities at different price points to cater to all types of participants.



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III. The city must have an efficient public transport network to allow the easy movement of the participants.

Conference site

The location of the conference must meet the following criteria:

- The location can be a university, conference center, or hotel, conveniently located near hotels and public transport.
- The conference venue must contain a minimum of 30 rooms for workshops and parallel sessions with minimum 25-person seating capacity, including 5 rooms of 80-100 seats. Each room needs a projector, microphone, and screen. Ideally each room would also have a desktop computer.
- All rooms at the venue must be within short walking distance.
- The conference location must have at least one auditorium with 400 to 600-person seating capacity inside or near the area, to be made available for plenary sessions on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th days of the conference. This room should be equipped with a projector, computer, microphones and screens.
- 1 reception space for 500-800 standing
- The conference venue must have specific areas which can be designated for lunches and coffee breaks during the Conference. All participants will have lunch at the location.
- High-quality, high-speed wireless internet access throughout the venue.

Catering

The SASE conference is an international event, and SASE wishes to achieve an exceptional event not only in terms of a high-quality program, but also as an occasion to facilitate networking opportunities between participants, while also allowing them to discover the local culture and food. Vegan options need to be available, and when possible, the catering can be entirely vegan.

The following catering would need to be provided, and would be included in the registration fee:

- Water: participants will be provided a reusable, environmentally friendly (not plastic) water bottle, and there should be stations for refilling this throughout the venue.
- A welcome coffee in the morning: very light refreshments and hot beverages at a central location to allow active networking.
- 2 Coffee breaks per day (morning and afternoon): light refreshments at one or more locations which allow active networking.

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- 1 Lunch per day: a lunch facility needs to be provided for participants at the conference location. Lunch shall be provided to all participants - it needs to be quick and easy to serve (brown bag lunches of sandwiches and fruit are ideal).
- A welcome reception for all participants at the conference venue on the 2nd day (Thursday) of the conference, with light refreshments and drinks.
- Conference dinner: for approximately 800 participants. This should be at an outdoor location not too far from the venue. Multiple food stations and bars should be available on the site, to avoid long lines. This is ticketed separately, and we aim to keep costs at or below 60 € per participant. This would take place on the evening of the 3rd day of the conference (Friday)

Smaller events during the conference:

- Executive council dinner: on Wednesday. Would need to be at a nice restaurant near the conference venue, for approximately 30 people.
- Early career workshop dinners: on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. Reasonably priced restaurants near the venue, for approximately 30 people.
- Lunch for Early Career Workshop: on Wednesday. Simple catered lunch on site for 30 people.
- Coffee breaks for Early Career Workshop and Executive Council: on Wednesday. For approximately 30 people for each.

Childcare

SASE would need to provide childcare on-site for up to 20 children during the hours of the conference (Thursday-Saturday, 8:30-18:00 approximately). The exact age of the children is unfortunately not known in advance, but we can make stipulations (as in, SASE would provide childcare for 20 children aged 3 to 12). This would be paid separately, not included in the cost per participant detailed below. We would need the contacts and arrangements to be made by the bidding organization.

Costs

We aim to keep costs at or below 170 € per participant. This does not include travel or accommodations, nor does it include the conference dinner, nor any catering or facilities for the Early Career Workshop, nor childcare. All other catering and equipment (facilities, technology, etc.) are included in this figure.