

CLAS Events - Easter Term 2025

Tuesday 20, Wednesday 21 & Thursday 22 May - 3:00pm to 5:00pm | Workshop

Room S1 - First Floor, Alison Richard Building

THE POLICRISIS IN LATIN AMERICA

[Fernando Calderon](#) (Director of Research at the National University of San Martin in Buenos Aires, Simón Bolívar Professor 2017-18)

Abstract: The idea behind this seminar is that the transformations currently taking place in LATAM (Latin America) and, more broadly, in the Third World are interconnected on a global scale. Specifically, they are linked to a polycrisis or global multidimensional crisis that asynchronously affects all societies and modes of development.

To comprehend this from a holistic perspective, and based on a framework of empirical and historical research throughout 12 years, three interconnected presentations have been proposed:

* First session in Spanish, next two in English.

1. **The first** one will aim at analyzing a kind of sociological assessment of the continuity of long-term historical time in LATAM (Latin America), with the thesis that the past, present, and future are recurring and inseparable phenomena.
2. **The second** discussion will examine the main features of the polycrisis and societal transformations going on in the region.
3. Finally, **the third** one will propose the need for a new political framework and a techno-cultural innovation to rethink an informational, inclusive, and ecological development centered on human dignity.

Bibliography

1. First Conference:

- Fernando Calderon et al The Inheritance. Latin American collective imagination, youngsters, art and politics. Edit. Plural UMSS y OXFAM 2023 Bolivia

La herencia: imaginarios latinoamericanos jóvenes, arte y política / Fernando Calderón Gutiérrez (coordinador); con la colaboración de Enzo Faletto [and three others]. [Cochabamba, Bolivia]: CESU-UMSS; La Paz, Bolivia: Plural Editores, 2023.
University Library: [C207.d.5154](#)

2. Second Conference:

- The social protest in Latin America. Chapter 2 XXI Century Argentina en Español. (Abridged version in English) UNDP-UNIR Understanding Social Conflicts in Latin America UNDP-UNIR.2013. N.Y.

La protesta social en América Latina / coordinador, Fernando Calderón Gutiérrez. [Buenos Aires]: PAPEP: PNUD: Siglo Veintiuno Editores, 2012. Chapter 2: XXI Century Argentina.
Seeley Library: [PS.1085](#)

(Abridged version in English)
Understanding Social Conflict in Latin America. United Nations Development Programme, Fundación UNIR Bolivia, 2013.
[Freely available online](#)

- Castells M. y Himanen P. RECOMPTUALISING INFORMATIONAL DEVELOPEMENT IN THE INFORMATIONAL ERA. OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS 2015 y FCE 2016. Chapters 1 & 10.

Reconceptualizing development in the global information age / edited by Manuel Castells, Pekka Himanen. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2014. Chapters 1 & 10.
Seeley Library: [42.CAS.14a](#)
University Library: [420.c.201.176](#)
Available [online](#) (password restricted)

- Calderon F y Castells M. The new Latin America Polity Cambridge 2019.

The new Latin America / Fernando Calderón and Manuel Castells. Cambridge, UK; Medford, MA: Polity Press, [2020].
Seeley Library: [PS.1142](#)
University Library: [C216.c.8430](#)

- VANGUARDIA DOSSIER. The poser of Social Networks. March 2014. Number 50. BARCELONA. En Español.
- Calderon F y Colombo C. Crisis and Human Development FLACSO ARGENTINA 2023. En Español.

3. Third Conference:

- Calderon F. Sailing against the Wind. Chapter 1 UNSAM EDITA 2017. Argentina. En Español.

Navegar contra el viento: América Latina en la era de la información / Fernando Calderón G., editor. San Martín: UNSAM Edita, 2019. Chapter 1.
University Library: [C206.d.4348](#)

- Calderon F. Human dignity and the techno cultural innovation as key factor for an inclusive and ecological development. Book article J. Shultz et al in Edward, Edgard Pres. (In production 2025).

Video Resources:

- Presentations of the book: [The New Latin America \(Manuel Castells and Fernando Calderón\)](#)
- Presentación Libro: [La herencia: Imaginarios latinoamericanos Jóvenes, arte y política](#)
- ["Chile a 50 años del golpe: una perspectiva desde la FLACSO"](#) | Fernando Calderón Gutiérrez

Bibliographic resources:

- Book: [Navegar contra el Viento](#)
- Book: [Desarrollo humano y COVID](#)
- Book: [La construccion social de los derechos y la cuestion social del desarrollo](#)



Fernando Calderon. Director of Research at the National University of San Martin in Buenos Aires, Professor in the PhD in Social Sciences Program and in the Master Program in Human Development Public Policies at Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences (FLACSO) Argentina.

He taught at several universities in the United States of America (Austin, Chicago, Berkeley, and Cornell); at the Open University of Catalonia (UOC) in Barcelona (Spain); Le centre de études Global at the La Maison des Sciences de le Homme, in Paris, France; the Mayor University of San Andrés (UMSA) in La Paz (Bolivia), and in various universities in Mexico, Puerto Rico, Venezuela, and Chile.

He was Executive Secretary of Latin American Social Science Council (CLACSO), Social Policy Advisor at Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and Special Advisor on Human Development and Governance in United Nations Development Program (UNDP).

Coordinator and Senior Advisor in over 15 *Human Development Reports* in several countries of Latin America, Europe and Africa, and at sub-regional and global levels. In 2000 and 2002, the *Human Development Report* in Bolivia, which coordinated, was awarded worldwide.

ERUDITE Scholar in Residence from the Kerala State in Education Council. India 2019. Simon Bolivar Chair, University of Cambridge, 2017-2018. Doctorado Honoris Causa UNSAM, Argentina, 2018. Profesor Honorario Universidad Mayor de San Simón, Cochabamba, Bolivia, 1992.

Associated with several activities with UNESCO since 1972, with UNICEF, UNRISD, UNU, ONU and several international organisations.

Author of 24 books on democracy, culture and development, and 35 Readings in these topics. His book, with Manuel Castells, [The New Latin America](#), has three editions in different languages: FCE, Mexico, 2019 (Spanish), ZAHAR, Brazil, 2020 (Portuguese), and Polity Press, Cambridge UK/Polity Press, Medford, 2020 (English).