

IASIA 2026 CONFERENCE

12-16 October Athens, Greece

Rethinking Governance for a Changing World



CALL FOR PANELS

<https://iias-iisa.org/iasia-2026-conference/>

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Rethinking Governance for a Changing World

“Rethinking Governance for a Changing World” calls for both critical reflection and practical action. Governance systems must remain dynamic and responsive to ensure effectiveness, legitimacy, and public trust. Institutional reform, professional development, and educational innovation are mutually reinforcing components of this transformation. Against the background of these thematic pillars, scholars, practitioners, educators, and policy-makers are invited to actively engage with the following recommended – though not limited to – areas of inquiry, including:

- Rethinking Public Administration Education and Curricula
- Capacity-Building for Complex and Multilevel Governance
- Professionalization of Public Service
- Digital Transformation and Governance Learning
- Leadership, Management, and Ethics in Changing Contexts
- Comparative and International Perspectives on Governance

Key Research Questions

Guiding research questions frame the intellectual direction of the conference theme and identify the central challenges facing governance systems in a rapidly changing world. They call for rigorous analysis, comparative insight, and practical reflection.

To structure scholarly contributions and facilitate focused dialogue, the conference invites engagement with the following research questions:

- How can governance systems adapt institutionally to remain effective, responsive, and legitimate in a rapidly changing environment?
- What competencies and skills should define the future public servant?
- How must public administration education and training evolve to support modern governance needs?
- How can digital transformation and emerging technologies strengthen governance capacity and public value?
- What leadership approaches best support ethical decision-making, innovation, and sustainable reform?

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Call for Panels

Alongside the eleven IASIA Working Groups, the thematic stream aligned with the conference theme, the PhD Seminar, and the plenary sessions, the association invites the submission of panel proposals addressing topics of significance to both the academic and practitioner communities in public administration.

Institutional members, partners, and affiliated individuals are encouraged to actively contribute to the IASIA 2026 Scientific Programme through the development and submission of high-quality panel proposals that advance dialogue and engagement within the field.

These panels provide a dynamic platform for the exchange of ideas, the dissemination of research, and the advancement of dialogue on contemporary governance challenges. In line with the 2026 Conference theme, "Rethinking Governance for a Changing World," panel contributions are encouraged to engage with emerging issues, innovative approaches, and evolving practices across diverse administrative and policy contexts.

Panel Format

Panels are designed as interactive, discussion-oriented forums that bring together diverse perspectives to examine and debate topics of direct relevance to the conference theme. Rather than focusing on formal paper presentations, panels are expected to foster meaningful exchange, with active engagement from both panelists and the audience forming a central component of the session.

Each panel will be allocated a 90-minute session within the conference programme.

Panelist are not required to submit full academic papers; however, a formal proposal is required for review.

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Panel Chairs bear responsibility for the overall organization and quality of the session, including the identification and confirmation of panelists. Each panel should comprise a minimum of four to five panelists to ensure a balanced and substantive discussion.

Submission

Generalities

- Proposals should be submitted in **English**, ensuring proper grammar, punctuation and spelling.
- The deadline for proposal submissions is **June 11th, 2026**.
- Submitted proposals will be reviewed by members of the Scientific Committee, in accordance with established criteria of quality, relevance, and originality. The Committee may, where necessary, invite panel convenors to make appropriate revisions or adjustments prior to final acceptance.
- Notifications of acceptance will be sent out no later than **June 30th, 2026**.

Procedure

- The **Chairperson** of the panel should **create an account here:** <https://www.conftool.org/iasia-conference-2026/>
- Proceed to "Your submissions" and select "panel" to begin.

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Expected ConfTool Fields

The table below provides a structured guide to the information required before formal submission.

Information	ConfTool Entry
Title of the panel	Title of contribution
Description of the Panel and questions to be discussed	Abstract (400 words)
Keywords	Min 5 keywords
Chairperson(s) of the panel (full name, institution, country, email contact)	Chairs
Panelists(Name, institution, country email contact)	2nd, 3rd, 4th. and 5th Presenters

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Presentation and Registration Conditions

All presentations will be delivered onsite, and panelists are expected to be physically present at the conference venue to ensure full participation and engagement in the programme.

Only panelists who have completed their registration by 31 August 2026 will be included in the main conference programme. Submissions without confirmed panelists' registration by this deadline may not be scheduled.

Please find the PowerPoint template [here](#).

Calendar

Phase	Deadline
Call for Papers Launch	March 31, 2026
Abstract Submission	June 11, 2026
Notification to Authors	June 30, 2026
Opening of Registrations	June 30, 2026
Full Paper Submission	August 31, 2026

Please note that deadlines may be subject to change. You are advised to consult the official conference website regularly: <https://ias-iisa.org/iasia-2026-conference/>.

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Registration

- Participation in the conference is conditional upon the payment of registration fees.
- All conference related costs, including registration fees are incurred by prospective attendees
- The applicable conference rates can be found on the conference website.
- The registration fee covers participation in the conference, as well as the social events (welcome reception and gala dinner). Two excursions are also included.

Contact

iasia-conference@iias-iisa.org Cc: d.muia@iias-iisa.org

We look forward to welcoming you to Athens as we collectively shape the future of governance.