



IIAS2026 CONFERENCE

Seoul, South Korea

November 17-20

**Growth for Society: Collaborative
Governance, Social Innovation, and Public Value**



iias-iisa.org/iias-2026-conference/

Transparency, Citizenship and Digital Government in Latin America

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Rationale

The IIAS 2026 Conference theme, “Growth for Society: Collaborative Governance, Social Innovation and Public Value,” invites scholars and practitioners to examine how governments can create sustainable public value through collaboration, innovation, and citizen engagement.

Across Latin America, digital transformation has become a central component of this challenge. Governments have expanded transparency initiatives, open government policies, digital public services, open data platforms, citizen participation mechanisms, and artificial intelligence applications to strengthen public trust, improve service delivery, and enhance democratic accountability.

The region has also emerged as an important source of governance innovation. Experiences such as participatory budgeting, open government reforms, transparency portals, integrated digital service platforms, electronic procurement systems, civic technology initiatives, and open data ecosystems have attracted international attention as promising approaches to increasing accountability, improving service delivery, and fostering citizen engagement. More recently, governments across the region have begun experimenting with artificial intelligence, digital identity systems, predictive analytics, and data-driven policymaking, creating new opportunities for innovation while simultaneously raising important governance challenges.



These experiences provide valuable lessons for governments worldwide seeking to strengthen collaborative governance and generate public value in increasingly complex and digital societies. At the same time, important questions remain regarding the extent to which these innovations effectively promote meaningful citizen participation, reduce inequalities, foster institutional trust, and improve public outcomes. Issues such as digital exclusion, algorithmic bias, privacy protection, misinformation, cybersecurity, and unequal access to digital public services continue to shape the governance agenda across the region.

Latin America therefore offers a particularly rich setting for examining both the opportunities and the limitations of digital-era governance. The region combines ambitious reforms, significant institutional diversity, and persistent social challenges, making it an important laboratory for understanding how transparency, citizenship, and digital government can contribute to collaborative governance, social innovation, and public value creation.

This panel seeks to bring together scholars, public managers, policymakers, civil society actors, and technology specialists to discuss how transparency, citizenship, and digital government can contribute to collaborative governance, social innovation, and public value creation in Latin America and beyond. Contributions that generate comparative insights, identify transferable lessons, and advance theoretical understanding of digital governance are particularly encouraged.

Focusing mainly on Latin America, the panel is particularly interested in addressing questions such as:

- How can digital transformation strengthen collaborative governance and public value creation?
- Under what conditions do transparency and open government initiatives enhance citizen trust and democratic legitimacy?
- How can governments leverage artificial intelligence and data-driven technologies while preserving accountability, privacy, and fundamental rights?
- What institutional capacities are required to ensure that digital innovation generates inclusive and equitable outcomes?
- Which lessons from Latin American experiences can inform governance reforms in other regions of the world?



- Can digital transformation become a vehicle for collaborative governance and public value creation, or does it risk reproducing existing inequalities and accountability deficits in new forms?

Topics of interest

Contributions may address, but are not limited to:

- Transparency and public value creation
- Open government and collaborative governance
- Digital participation and citizen engagement
- Social innovation through digital platforms
- Open data and civic innovation
- Artificial intelligence and public sector innovation
- Algorithmic accountability and transparency
- Digital inclusion and social equity
- Trust, legitimacy, and democratic governance
- Data protection, privacy, and accountability
- Digital transformation and governance capacity
- Public communication and misinformation
- Citizen-centred digital services
- Digital government and sustainable development
- Comparative studies of digital governance reforms

Types of contributions

The panel welcomes:

- Full research papers
- Research-in-progress papers
- Comparative studies
- Conceptual and theoretical contributions
- Quantitative and qualitative research
- Experimental and quasi-experimental studies
- Public sector case studies
- Practitioner and policy perspectives



Expected Outcomes

The panel aims to:

- Advance comparative knowledge on digital governance in Latin America;
- Promote dialogue between scholars and practitioners;
- Identify governance innovations that generate public value;
- Strengthen international research networks on transparency, citizenship, and digital government;
- Explore opportunities for future collaborative research and publication initiatives.



Practicalities

Key Links

- Conference website: <https://www.ias-iisa.org/ias-2026-conference/>
- Submission system: <https://www.conftool.org/ias2026/>
- Contact: ias-conference@ias-iisa.org

Important Dates

- Abstract / Panel submission deadline: **30 August 2026**
- Notification of acceptance and opening of registration: **30 August 2026**
- Full paper submission and registration deadline: **4 October 2026**

Submission Guidelines

- Unless otherwise specified in the track call, abstracts are limited to **500 words**. They should clearly outline the research question, theoretical framework, methodology, main findings (or expected findings), and implications.
- Accepted abstracts are expected to be developed into full papers.
- **Panels** are session proposals submitted under the main conference theme. A panel proposal includes a title, abstract, proposed chairperson(s), and a list of expected presentations. Panels are not required to produce full papers.

Evaluation

Proposals (papers and panels) are evaluated by the chair(s) (or co-chairs) of the track to which they are submitted. Evaluation criteria include:

- Academic quality and rigour
- Relevance to the track theme and overall conference theme
- Thematic fit and originality
- Clarity and quality of presentation

Paper Requirements

- Maximum length: **6,000 words** (all inclusive, including references).
- Structure: abstract, introduction, main body (developing the research question, theoretical framework, methodology, findings, and implications), conclusion, and references.

