



XI NATIONAL CONGRESS OF ALADAA COLOMBIA

AFRICA, ASIA, AND THE CONSOLIDATION OF NEW EMERGING GLOBAL LEADERSHIPS FROM THE SOUTH

EL BOSQUE UNIVERSITY, AUGUST 27–28, 2025
LIST OF APPROVED THEMATIC PANELS

PANEL 1

Epistemic Communities in the Global South

Thematic Area: *Soft Power and Culture as Tools in the International System*
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Description

Epistemic communities—understood as academic groups that share the validity of knowledge within their particular scientific domain and seek the resolution of social problems—play a unique role in reshaping the international system from the Global South. These communities are not inherently given; rather, they are built through deliberative processes that enable a shared vision of critical issues and the most appropriate solutions to address them.

Their contributions to national and international governance are not an end in themselves, but rather an extension of knowledge that involves intervening in the various stages of policy formulation. In this context, it is of academic interest to ask: Which epistemic communities are representative of the Global South? How were they formed? How have they managed to consolidate themselves? And to what extent have they achieved social and political impact?

PANEL 2

Indopacific: Ideas, actions and fictions

Thematic Area: Relations between the Global North and Global South and Power Structures in the International System

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Description

Over the past decades, the international system has entered a phase of structural transformation that has led to strategic tensions across all hemispheres of the planet. The Indo-Pacific region has been no exception. On the contrary, due to its geographical characteristics, the development of its production networks, trade flows, and the concentration of emerging countries, it has become a stage of increasingly open and direct confrontation by countries outside the Asian continent.

In 2007, the Japanese government revived the concept of the Indo-Pacific, originally coined in the early 20th century by Karl Haushofer to encourage the uprising of the peoples in that Asian space against colonialism by Germany's rivals.

Japan's reinterpretation aimed specifically at involving India in a strategic front to counterbalance China's rise at both regional and global levels. The U.S. government and several European countries embraced the Japanese initiative and developed their own Indo-Pacific strategies.

Based on the above, some of the guiding questions for this panel include: What are the theoretical foundations of these strategies? Does the reading of reality transcend objectivity to give way to imaginaries about the "Other"? How do ideas and fictions influence the mobilization of resources and the rise of confrontation in the Indo-Pacific? How does the presence of extra-regional powers impact the power structures in this geographical area and the relationship between the Global North and Global South?

PANEL 3

Japan in the world: dynamics and soft power

Thematic Area: Soft Power and Culture as Tools in the International System

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Description

The concept of soft power, academically relevant, allows us to analyze international phenomena and understand how, in a subtle and strategic way, there are societies—or perhaps nations—that, through their practices and cultural artifacts, disseminate their ideals, history, or values in a way that makes them attractive and highly desirable, creating impactful habits and practices in the consumption of entertainment.

Japan has been one of the global nations that has effectively leveraged soft power, thanks to strategies originating from the desks of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, rather than from official cultural institutions, as one might assume.

Today, Japan connects with various regions of the world through its culture, generating empathy, deep interest, and a desire to know more from audiences ranging from children to adults. This panel proposes an interdisciplinary space for reflection, connected to the artifacts, expressions, and mechanisms of Japanese soft power. In this sense, the panel invites participants to address questions about soft power primarily from the humanities, in fields such as history, literature, translation, and film. Due to its relevance, analyses from non-humanistic disciplines such as economics or international relations are also welcome.

PANEL 4

New development model: the Chinese proposal for harmony and the world progress

Thematic Area: New Models of Social Development and Power in the International System

Coordinators

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Pontificia Universidad Javeriana

Description

This panel will explore China's approach to economic and social development in the global context. It will analyze the core principles of the Chinese model, including its emphasis on innovation, international cooperation, sustainable development, and the concept of Humanomics, which centers human well-being and the harmonization of economic growth with cultural values and social equity.

The aim is to foster an academic dialogue around the foundational principles of the Chinese model and how it aligns with Humanomics, a perspective that seeks to balance economic efficiency with social justice and respect for cultural diversity.

Additionally, the panel seeks to promote discussions on how China's development model achieves a balance between economic growth and social stability, poverty reduction, and environmental protection, while exploring its impact on global trade, international relations, and economic governance.

PANEL 5

5th Symposium of candidates, dissertations of postgraduate students in business

Coordinator: Dr. Pedro Nel Valbuena Hernández, Director of Postgraduate Programs in Business at Universidad El Bosque. E-mail: dirposnegocios@unbosque.edu.co.

Description

This panel will showcase and discuss postgraduate students' theses in business, highlighting innovative research and theoretical and practical contributions to the business field. Participants will present studies in key areas such as corporate strategy, entrepreneurship, sustainability, digital transformation, and organizational leadership, addressing current challenges and emerging trends in the business world. In addition to analyzing models and theoretical approaches, the presented works will explore practical applications and case studies illustrating how academic research can contribute to solving real-world problems in various sectors.

Special emphasis will be placed on interdisciplinarity and the integration of new technologies, agile methodologies, and responsible management practices in a globalized and highly competitive environment. The panel provides a space for academic and professional exchange, fostering dialogue among students, professors, and industry experts. It also aims to generate synergies and collaboration opportunities, promoting the development of research with an impact on business practice and the formulation of strategic policies within organizations.

PANEL 6

Africa and the foreign policy in the Latin American countries

Thematic Area: New Proposals for the International Agenda from the Global South

Coordinator: Dr. Jerónimo Delgado Caicedo, Professor and Researcher at the Faculty of Finance, Government, and International Relations

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Description

This panel aims to analyze the role of Africa in the foreign policies of various Latin American countries, exploring how diplomatic, commercial, cultural, and cooperative ties have been constructed in recent decades. Through a comparative perspective, the panel will discuss the strategies, priorities, and challenges faced by Latin American governments in establishing relations with the African continent. Additionally, it will examine the potential of this South-South relationship to strengthen common agendas in multilateral forums, promote sustainable development, and facilitate academic and technological exchange.

PANEL 7

Dissident leaderships in resistance times in the Global South

Thematic Area: New Proposals for the International Agenda from the Global South

Coordinators:

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Description

This panel proposes a critical reflection on dissident leaderships emerging in contexts of resistance in the Global South, understood as alternative responses to hegemonic power structures, persistent colonialities, and multiple crises (social, political, environmental, and economic). It will address leadership experiences from communities, social movements, indigenous peoples, youth, women, and other collective actors who challenge dominant narratives and propose transformative forms of action based on care, social justice, and autonomy.

The discussion will include insights and testimonies derived from visits, exchanges, and fieldwork conducted in various territories of the Global South, allowing for a more direct and situated approach to resistance processes. In this framework, special attention will be given to the struggles of the Palestinian and Sahrawi peoples, whose historical trajectories embody leaderships deeply committed to the defense of territory, self-determination, and human rights. From an interdisciplinary and experiential approach, the panel seeks to highlight how these dissident leaderships are configured from concrete experiences, engage in dialogue with other global struggles, and open pathways for new forms of political construction, resistance, and hope in times of uncertainty.

PANEL 8

Contemporary India: Leadership and emerging global projection

Thematic Area: Emerging Powers and Regional Powers in Global South Countries

Coordinators:

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Description

This panel proposes a multidimensional analysis of India's role in the contemporary international arena, highlighting its growing influence as an emerging power in a multipolar world where nations strive to defend their interests amid new protectionist trends and market repositioning. Key aspects to be addressed include India's foreign policy, the strengthening and expansion of its economy, its role in multilateral organizations, advancements in science and technology, and its exercise of soft power through culture and diplomacy.

In this context, the panel will also explore the strategic opportunities that this emerging leadership represents for Colombia. The discussion aims to identify potential areas for economic integration, bilateral cooperation, and alternative sources for development financing. Sectors that could attract investment, innovation, and technology—such as higher education, energy transition, health, and agribusiness—will be examined. Furthermore, the panel will analyze how Colombia can strengthen its ties with India within the framework of a more active, diversified, and development-oriented South-South diplomacy.

PANEL 9

Leaderships, populism in the Global South: Institutional Roots and Capitalism

Thematic Area: Relations Between the Global North and Global South and Power Structures in the International System

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Description

This panel aims to foster discussions on the role of populist leaderships and movements in the Global South, analyzing their impact on power structures and relations with the Global North. It will explore the characteristics and strategies of these leaderships, their connection with social demands, and their influence on the configuration of the international order. From a critical perspective, the panel will debate

how populism, in its various manifestations, challenges or reinforces traditional power dynamics, examining specific cases in Latin America, Africa, and Asia.

The discussion will also address how these leaderships interact with multilateral institutions, global trade, and development agendas. The panel will provide a space for reflection on the contemporary challenges faced by countries in the Global South amid geopolitical and economic changes, considering the limits and possibilities of populism as a tool for transformation or stabilization in the international system.

PANEL 10

Sustainable energies in the Global South: challenges, opportunities and a sustainable transition

Thematic Area: Relations Between the Global North and the Global South and Power Structures in the International System

Coordinators:

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Description

This panel will delve into the development and adoption of alternative energy sources in the Global South, focusing on the challenges and opportunities faced by developing countries in advancing a transition toward cleaner and more sustainable energy sources.

PANEL 11

Integración en países del Sur Global y poder en el sistema internacional – Relación entre Latinoamérica y la ASEAN

Thematic Area: Emerging Powers and Regional Powers in Global South Countries

Coordinators

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Description

This panel aims to conduct a comprehensive analysis of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), focusing on its evolution, current role, and prospects as a regional power within the Global South. ASEAN was established on August 8, 1967, in Bangkok, Thailand, with the signing of the ASEAN Declaration by its founding members: Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand. The primary objectives were to accelerate economic growth, promote regional peace and stability, and foster cultural development among member states. Over the years, ASEAN expanded to include Brunei Darussalam (1984), Vietnam (1995), Lao PDR and Myanmar (1997), and Cambodia (1999), bringing the total membership to ten countries. The panel will explore ASEAN's internal dynamics, including its decision-making processes, economic integration efforts, and political cooperation. A significant focus will be on ASEAN's external relations, particularly its growing engagement with Latin America. Both regions share interests in enhancing economic ties, especially in areas like renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, and trade. For instance, ASEAN has expressed interest in Latin America's renewable energy potential and aims to collaborate on sustainable energy initiatives. ↕ Additionally, ASEAN seeks to boost trade and promote small and medium-sized enterprises, aligning with Latin America's economic priorities. The panel will also examine challenges and opportunities in ASEAN-Latin America relations, considering geopolitical shifts, economic complementarities, and cultural exchanges. By fostering a deeper understanding of ASEAN's role as a regional power and its interactions with Latin America, the discussion aims to identify strategies for enhanced cooperation and mutual development within the Global South. ■

PANEL 12

Peace building in the Global South

Thematic Line: Leadership in Global South Countries in International Forums and Organizations

Coordination:

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Description

While maintaining a focus on Colombia and the challenges in implementing the Final Agreement and the Total Peace policy, this thematic panel aims to position peacebuilding within the framework of leadership initiatives from the Global South for the Global South. In the early 1990s, the world witnessed a series of historic milestones in peace processes that seemed promising, including the signing of the Chapultepec Accords in El Salvador and the Paris Peace Agreements in Cambodia, both in 1991; the General Peace Agreement for Mozambique in 1992, signed in Rome; as well as the Oslo I and Oslo II Accords between Israel and Palestine in 1993 and 1995, respectively. Additionally, the United Nations Secretary-General at the time, Boutros Boutros-Ghali, provided a reference framework with "An Agenda for Peace: Preventive Diplomacy, Peacemaking and Peace-Keeping."

Concurrently, despite the successful conclusion of peace processes with the 19th of April Movement (M-19) and the Quintín Lame Armed Movement (MAQL), Colombia experienced a divergent trajectory with the escalation of armed conflict involving the former Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia - People's Army (FARC-EP), the National Liberation Army (ELN), and paramilitary organizations. Currently, approaching a decade since the signing of the Final Agreement at the Teatro Colón in 2016 with the then FARC-EP, and amidst the Total Peace policy involving the ELN and various non-state armed structures—with varying degrees of success—the balance of implementing these peace agreements appears discouraging. Compounding this are the Russian invasion of Ukraine and the humanitarian tragedy in Gaza, painting a bleak and somber picture for peacebuilding efforts. Nevertheless, the Institute for Integrated Transitions (IFIT) has recently been promoting the Peace Treaty Initiative, and the United Nations Secretary-General has published the policy brief "A New Agenda for Peace," prompting the question of whether there are new prospects for peace from a leadership perspective within the Global South for the Global South.

PANEL 13

The Dissemination of Asian Knowledge in Latin America

Thematic line: Soft power and culture as a tool in the international system

Coordinators

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Description

Translating Asia into the reality of Latin America requires, first, an understanding of the Asian continent, and second, the development of formats that enable the transmission of reliable information—information that goes beyond stereotypes and preconceived notions. From Latin America, various initiatives have emerged aiming to share Asian knowledge with diverse audiences, including non-specialized ones. The purpose of this panel is to reflect on those efforts and to explore new paths for continuing the dissemination of information and fostering dialogue between these two worlds.

This space will open the door to reviewing the content we consume about Asia and examining how it is produced. It aims to analyze the sources we use as references for understanding the continent and the formats that make such dissemination possible. There will be a reflection on new methods and frameworks for communication, as well as on the significance of each. From editorial work to journalism, this panel will offer a window into communication as an effective tool for connecting different realities—realities that, ultimately, share a common humanity.

PANEL 14

Open thematic panel

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Description

This panel offers a free and multidisciplinary dialogue space focusing on the diverse realities, histories, traditions, and contemporary transformations of Asia and Africa. From cultural, social, political, and economic perspectives, it invites exploration of connections, contrasts, and points of convergence between these two regions, both rich in diversity and complexity.

Participants are encouraged to present research, critical reflections, field experiences, or artistic proposals addressing topics such as postcolonial resistances, non-Western philosophical thought, oral literature, social movements, diasporas, religions, various forms of

communication—including media, audiovisuals, and press—traditional and contemporary art, music, languages, modernization processes, environmental issues, and intercultural links with other parts of the world.

The panel welcomes creative and diverse approaches that contribute to decentralizing dominant narratives and highlighting the multiple voices that make up the cultural fabrics of Asia and Africa.