

# Words of Welcome



It is a great pleasure to welcome you to the 27th World Congress of Political Science here in our beautiful city of Buenos Aires.

We are honored to be your host as you discuss Politics in the Age of Transboundary Crises. This year's theme guides us to some of the most important conversations that we must have as a global community because the challenges of our era know no geographical boundaries. Climate

change, the rise of populism, financial instability and the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic are challenges we must address and overcome, not as individual cities or countries, but as humankind as a whole.

In this way, the discussion between leaders, policymakers, theorists and scholars, is crucial to put people's well-being first. This is something we must never forget.

We have to do better in the future. We are here to discuss how to inspire future generations to go above and beyond. The academic perspective plays a crucial role in the advancement of politics. By encouraging diligent debates and discussions, we are creating an environment where diverse perspectives and ideas can grow.

So, to everyone here I say, in this congress we have the chance to seize the opportunity to take part in discussions that will help us to enlighten and enrich our thinking and shape the future. The world needs us working together. Let Buenos Aires be the place where we all make big steps forward towards building a better world.

While you are here, I hope you enjoy our excellent cuisine, beautiful parks, captivating museums and theaters that are among the best in the world. And don't miss out on the rest of Argentina, from waterfalls to coloured mountains and glaciers, there are so many unique places to visit now that you are here.

I wish you a successful congress and an unforgettable time.

Horacio Rodríguez Larreta  
Buenos Aires City Mayor

## The relationship between Argentina and IPSA



In the early 1980s, IPSA made its first significant impact on Argentine political science. After attending the 1982 World Congress in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Guillermo O'Donnell, Oscar Oszlak, and other leading scholars recognized the need for a national political science association in Argentina. Consequently, Oszlak founded the Argentine Political Analysis Society (known as SAAP in Spanish) the following year and

became its inaugural president. This development coincided with the end of the authoritarian regime in Argentina, and the emergent democracy provided a crucial backdrop for the practice of political science, leading to the development of a flourishing discipline.

IPSA's second influential moment in Argentina occurred eight years later. Under O'Donnell's presidency, IPSA decided to host the 1991 World Congress in Buenos Aires. The event was a tremendous success, revitalizing the local organizational community, modernizing teaching programs, and opening up new research topics and sources of state and private funding. In 1993, two years after the congress, SAAP began organizing its own national congresses of political science, which have seen increasing attendance and improved quality over the years.

Nowadays, the thematic interests of Argentine political science align with those of research institutions worldwide that incorporate Latin American countries in their comparative studies. North American and European dominant theories and methods are well-known and widely employed. However, local political issues remain important considerations for scholars when selecting their research topics. For example, the market-oriented reforms in the 1990s prompted extensive research on political economy and social protest. While the "shift to the left" in the 2000s led to Latin American colleagues spearheading the renewed global interest in the study of populism.

The Argentine political science community is large and vibrant. The country boasts over 50 universities offering graduate and undergraduate programs in political science, more than 10 peer-reviewed journals in Spanish, and a robust and widely respected association. Between 1993 and 2021, SAAP has organized 15 biennial national conferences in cities across the country.

SAAP takes great pride in hosting the 27th World Congress of Political Science in Argentina and hopes that it will serve as a landmark event in our scientific community's history, much like the 15th World Congress did in 1991. This occasion offers new generations of Argentine and Latin American political scientists an opportunity to showcase their extensive and high-quality research, which is of national, regional and global significance. We sincerely hope that colleagues from around the world share this sentiment and include our work within their academic interests.

Gustavo Dufour  
SAAP President

