

Words of Welcome



Welcome to the 27th IPSA World Congress of Political Science taking place in the marvelously vibrant city of Buenos Aires. After the difficult isolation of the pandemic years, it is a great pleasure to bring colleagues together to share new scholarship and perhaps most importantly, to renew old friendships and build new ones. Great enthusiasm greeted the return to in-person meetings and the 27th World Congress will be one of the largest ever. The allure of Buenos Aires and a desire to put the 'Zoom years' behind us led to the submission of more than 5,200 paper proposals with an unprecedented number from scholars based in South America.

We developed the congress theme "Politics in the age of transboundary crises: Vulnerability and resilience" in consultation with the Program Committee, Executive Committee and Local Organizing Committee. Our discussions took place in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic and the enormous disruptions and transformations caused by it. To a great extent, this motivated the emphasis in the theme on transboundary dynamics and the complex challenges which traverse state boundaries in an era of intense global connectivity. Disruptions in one part of the world quickly move around the globe through highly integrated global networks. While the international order was briefly interrupted by the freezing of politics in the early part of the pandemic, it quickly became evident that citizens, states and the global system are resilient. And In addition, transboundary dynamics also create opportunities. The

diffusion of debates and action on vaccines, human rights and, specifically, on matters relating to gender equality, anti-racism and LGBT rights have benefited from global coalitions. To investigate, understand and contribute to academic and public debates on these complex transboundary problems and opportunities, the congress theme emphasized and called for interdisciplinarity, sub-field pluralism, diversity of methodological approaches, and connecting theory and praxis. We have been heartened by the depth of the response from colleagues around the world, and by the rigor and creativity in the research that will be shared in the coming days.

The 27th World Congress program includes four plenaries, 12 general sessions rooted in the major sub-literatures of political science including a newly created session on teaching and learning, panels from the specialist areas of the 53 research committees of IPSA and many awards, congress theme and special sessions. There is also a rich program of cultural and social events that showcase the very best of Argentina.

We want to offer sincere thanks to the IPSA Congress Team: Yee Fun Wong, Roksolana Bobyk, Felicia Solomon, Geneviève Guay, Thomas Chapdelaine, Oleksii Zahreba and Breanna Clark. Other members of the Secretariat staff who need to be thanked are Kim Fontaine-Skranski, Ekaterina Kuzmenko, Mathieu St-Laurent, Halûk Dag and Eric Grève.

What you see is what they have made possible. They have been wonderfully receptive to our ideas and have worked tirelessly over the last two years with great patience, grace and most of all good humor! If you have any questions, comments or suggestions, please contact either one of us. Your input and comments concerning previous congresses were greatly appreciated and helped us to lay the groundwork for this meeting in Buenos Aires.

We wish you an intellectually stimulating, inspiring and enjoyable world congress.

Euiyoung Kim (Seoul National University)
and Theresa Reidy (University College Cork)
Program Co-chairs

