



CLACSO supports open access to knowledge as a commons, managed by the scholarly community

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*In Latin America and the Caribbean, research is mainly publicly funded. However, access to the results of that research is hampered by limitations in traditional scholarly communication systems. **CLACSO-Latin American Council of Social Sciences**, a non-governmental network of **481 research institutions and 650 postgraduate programs** in **37 countries**, partners with universities and governments of Latin America and the Caribbean in the promotion and development of strategies and initiatives that provide open access to research results in the region.*

*CLACSO works together with the regional initiatives **Latindex, Redalyc, SciELO, La Referencia, UNESCO-GOAP**, and with institutional repositories and university journal portals, to give visibility to research output from the region. All these initiatives are non-commercial and managed by the scholarly community. The Council renews its support to those non-commercial institutional and regional scholarly initiatives mentioned above to give visibility and open access to research output from Latin America and the Caribbean, and hopes that governments in the region will continue giving their full support to strengthen these initiatives.*

CLACSO promotes a model of open access to knowledge as a commons, managed in cooperative and inclusive models by the scholarly community, and defends this position in the international debate on a renewal of scholarly communications. In a region where open access initiatives mentioned above are managed by the scholarly community, the Council sees with great concern proposals from international commercial publishers to manage open access of Latin American journals.

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CLACSO's [Latin America and the Caribbean social science digital repository](#) started in 1998. Today, it provides open access to 67.677 full-texts, including CLACSO's peer-review journal collection in [redalyc.org](#), and receives a monthly average of 1.004.689 requests.

[CLACSO-REDALYC Portal](#) provides open access and indicators of 755 social science and humanities peer-review journals from Iberoamerican countries (278.709 articles). This collection receives an average of 4 million downloads each month.

1.078 editors and librarians are members of CLACSO's [digital repository community](#) which receives weekly communications on open access trends, initiatives and best practices.

Today, an estimated 68% of the 400 social science and humanities journals published in CLACSO's network are in open access.

CLACSO's [editorial catalog](#) includes 3.000 social science&humanities books in open access and also available for sale in print-on-demand.

The Council has signed

- The Berlin Declaration on Open Access [Access the declaration in [English](#), [Spanish](#), [Portuguese](#)]
 - The [Declaration of San Francisco on Evaluation of Research- DORA](#)
 - The [Declaration COAR-Confederation of Open Access Repositories](#), in support of reducing or eliminating embargo for immediate open access to scientific literature
 - The [Hague Declaration](#) on Knowledge Discovery in the Digital Age
- ✓ CLACSO is a member of the [Open Policy Network](#)
 - ✓ CLACSO's research Working Groups Program organized a competition in 2013 for the creation of a regional research group on the topic of the commons, where open access to knowledge as a commons is included. The working group is coordinated by Eduardo Aguado López (UAEM) and Elena Lazos Chavero (IIS-UNAM) with researchers from diverse countries in the region. Contact: ea123@gmail.com ; lazos@unam.mx
 - ✓ CLACSO's Scholarship Program organized in 2011 the contest "Common Goods: space, knowledge and intellectual property" and awarded 16 research grants in the region ([Access to the book](#)). In 2014 it organized the [Elinor](#)

[Ostrom Essays Award](#) on the right to knowledge as a commons: promotion of open access y Latin America and the Caribbean. (Access to articles from [Luis Reygadas y Esther Juliana Vargas A](#))

- ✓ CLACSO promotes national and institutional open access policies. E.g. [open access legislation was approved](#) by Congress in Argentina in May 2013. The Council participates in the Experts Committee of the National System of Digital Repositories, at the Ministry of Science and Technology, where the bill was drafted.

CLACSO was selected by UNESCO to:

- ✓ Coordinate collaborative CLACSO-UNESCO-SciELO-REDALYC-PKP-AJOL research project “Open Access indicators: Assessing growth and use of OA resources from developing regions — the cases of Latin America and Africa” (2013) and edit [book with results](#)
- ✓ Prepare the contents of Section Latin America and the Caribbean, for [UNESCO-Global Open Access Portal](#)
- ✓ Contribute in the [Open Access Forum 2011: Open Access Experts Meeting](#) on 22-23 November 2011, UNESCO Headquarters, Paris
- ✓ Contribute in First Latin American and Caribbean Regional Consultation on Open Access to Scientific Information and Research, Kingston, 4 to 8 March 2013 and in recommendations for the [Final Report](#)

CLACSO’s Open Access Program publications and presentations in English (last 3 years)

- [Open access is about access and re-use, but it is also about being able to contribute and participate in global conversations - developing region concerns](#). Global Research Council & Research Councils UK Workshop “Unlocking the future: Open Access communication in a global research environment”. London, British Library, 1-2 April 2015.
- [Repositories as key players in non-commercial open access – a developing region perspective](#). COAR-SPARC Conference “Connecting research, bridging communities, opening scholarship”. University of Porto, Portugal, April 15-16, 2015
- [Latin America social sciences open access experience and perspective](#). Radical Open Access Conference, Coventry University (UK), 15-16 June 2015 (web presentation)
- [Towards global cooperative noncommercial open access - contributions from Latin America](#). Consultative Forum on Open Access: Towards high

level interventions for research and development in Africa. Network of African Science Academies – NASAC. Nairobi, Kenya, 29-30 January 2015

- Latin American Science is meant to be open access: Initiatives and current challenges (2015). *Information Development*, vol.31 (5).477-481. DOI: 10.1177/0266666915601420
- **The risk of open access becoming integrated into existing commercial publishing - the need of a global system of noncommercial open access scholarly communications** (2014). *Rev Eletron de Comun Inf Inov Saúde* [Internet]. out-dez 2014; 8(4):438-442.
- **Open Access Indicators and Scholarly Communications in Latin America** (book from Project: UNESCO-FLACSO-PKP-SciELO-Redalyc-CLACSO). Buenos Aires, CLACSO, 2014.
- **Voices from the Global South on Open Access in Social Sciences**. In: *Open Access Perspectives in the Humanities and Social Sciences*. Open Access Conference Booklet, London School of Economics Public Policy Group & SAGE.
- **“On the state of Open Access: Where we are, what still needs to be done”** Interview por Richard Poynder (UK). (25-7-2013).
- **Open access initiatives in the Global South affirm the lasting value of a shared scholarly communications system**. In: London School of Economics and Political Science Impact Blog, October 23rd, 2013.
- **10 questions about open access to increase visibility and use of Southern perspectives for addressing global challenges** nov 2014. In: CLACSO-CODESRIA-IDEAs South-South Comparative Research Workshop. Dakar, Senegal, 24-25 July 2014 and Bangkok, Thailand, 3-8 November 2014.
- **APC´s: the new enclosure to knowledge**. Presentation in panel "Opening up the world" at the Conference of OASP-Open Access Scholarly Publishers Association. Paris, UNESCO, Headquarters, 17-19 September 2014.
- **Open Access in Latin America** presentation in panel “Research without borders: Open Access in the Americas” organized by the Scholarly Communication Program and The Digital Humanities Center, Columbia University, April 29th., 2014.
- **Open Access contribution to inclusive and participatory global knowledge societies**. Presentation at 2013 World Summit on the Information Society multistakeholder review event (WSIS+10). UNESCO, Paris, 25-27 February 2013.

- **Open Access in Argentina.** Presentation at UNESCO Regional Latin America and the Caribbean Consultation on Open Access to Scientific Information and Research. UNESCO, Kingston, Jamaica, 5-8 March 2013.
- **Open access in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC)**
Presentation at UNESCO Regional Latin America and the Caribbean Consultation on Open Access to Scientific Information and Research. UNESCO, Kingston, Jamaica, 5-8 March 2013.

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