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3rd Arab Congress for Open Access

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in cooperation with the Arab community for Open Access (ACOA)

📅 29 - 31 October 2022

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3rd. Arab Congress for Open Access 29-31 October 2022

Program section: **Trends in Open Science**

**“Global trends in Open Science – a developing region
perspective”**

Pablo Vommaro – Laura Rovelli – Dominique Babini



CLACSO in Arab countries

Collaborative activities in recent years

- * with the Arab Council for Social Sciences (ACSS), Lebanon
- * CLACSO Working Groups
 - Middle East and North of Africa
 - Includes researchers from the Gulf Studies Center at Qatar University; Al Mustafa Open University in Iran; Allameh Tabataba'i University, Iran.
 - Al Zeitun Journal - Palestine and Latin America
- * Member institutions of CLACSO in Arab countries
 - Center of Studies and Culture of Latin America (CECAL), Holy Spirit University of Kaslik (USEK), Lebanon
 - PhD Program in the Social Sciences at Birzeit University – BZU, Palestine
- * International virtual course on epistemologies from the South
- * Collaborative virtual seminars
- * Collaborative books

Contents of this presentation

- From Open Access to Open Science – the case of CLACSO and Latin America
 - CLACSO's path towards Open Science
 - Latin American contributions to Open Science
- The future of Open Access/Open Science for developing regions – opportunities and challenges in recent declarations and recommendations (UNESCO, OSTP Open Letter, BOAI20)

CLACSO's path towards democratizing open science



CLACSO
856 research
centers in
55 countries



CLACSO's path towards open science - participative science

- **CLACSO's Regional Working Groups** (90 WG at present, 4.000 members)

Objective: the creation of interdisciplinary networks of researchers, articulated with public policy decision-makers and referents of social organizations, research on relevant social issues and problems for Latin America and the Caribbean

- It is recommended that 70% of members of WG are researchers and 30% other participants (social movements, policymakers, activists, and other social actors). Equal gender representation. Stimulate participation of young researchers.
- Minimum of 15 members from at least 6 countries (ensure participation of members from countries with less developed research capacities).
- Incorporate South-South and North-South dialogues.
- All collaborative activities and outputs from the WG should be open to the public and/or open access

Towards knowledge creation processes to make it more inclusive and collectively governed by society

CLACSO's path towards democratizing open science

- Grant calls require a description of how and where research outputs will be available in open access
- CLACSO's network institutions publish approx. 400 journals in OA (no APC) and more than 3.000 books in open access (no BPC)
- CLACSO's repository: 100.000 full texts from member institutes (articles, journals, books, book chapters, research reports, opinions papers, multimedia)
- Campaign promoting non-commercial open access in Latin America, together with other OA initiatives in the region, and in the world
- Alliances: with Redalyc-AmeliCA: a joint collection of 1.025 SSH quality journals in open access
- CLACSO's Declaration on open access managed as a commons by the scholarly community.
- Latin American Forum on Research Assessment (FOLEC): reorienting research assessment mechanisms to foster open science. Undertakes research, advocacy, and consensus on changes needed.



**TOOL 2: PROMOTING BIBLIODIVERSITY
AND DEFENDING MULTILINGUALISM**

CLACSO – Consejo Latinoamericano de Ciencias Sociales (2021). Tool 2: Promoting bibliodiversity and defending multilingualism. CLACSO. <https://biblioteca-repositorio.clacso.edu.ar/handle/123456789/16947>



The Latin American Forum for Research Assessment (FOLEC-CLACSO) Declaration supports the following principles and proposals:

On the **aims of assessment**

1. The main objective of research assessment is to guarantee the development of quality and socially relevant science; ethical, respectful of human rights and committed to the construction of just, democratic, and egalitarian societies.
2. Adaptation to the current stage of open science is needed, through new assessment policies that give priority to the qualitative assessment of research.
3. Scientific knowledge is a collective construction, so it is essential that research assessment gives adequate weight to teamwork and its different forms of organization and construction.

On the **assessment processes**

4. It is essential to regain control of the academic and research community over the assessment processes and indicators.
5. The indicators of published output to be used in the assessment processes should also include those indicators produced by regional indexing services (in the case of Latin America: Latindex Catalogue, Redalyc, SciELO, among others), as well as indicators from national indexes of quality journals, to counter WoS and Scopus.
6. The notion of "impact" of scientific research should be broadened to include the "social relevance" of knowledge.
7. It is essential to recognize, in collaborative and participatory research processes, the contribution of knowledge provided by social actors outside the academic sphere linked to the topics being researched.
8. Multilingualism favors the development of socially relevant research and contributes to sustaining cultural diversity.
9. Assessment processes should be evolutionary, self-reflective, transparent, and participatory, promoting mechanisms that encourage dialogue and mutual learning, and ensure continuous improvement.

Cont...

The Latin American Forum for Research Assessment (FOLEC-CLACSO) supports the following principles and proposals: (2)

10. Consider peer review as part of the researcher's activities and as a relevant contribution to the scientific and academic community.

11. It is essential to guarantee the equal representation of women and diversities in the assessment systems and processes, with a minimum of parity, and in priority research and topics.

12. Attention should be paid in the early stages of academic and research careers to the problems of inclusion that originate in inadequate assessment practices.

On the **information systems and indicators**

13. Information systems at science and technology public agencies and research funding institutions and universities should reflect the career of researchers and professors doing extension, linking, and social intervention along with those who are teaching, respecting the diversity of institutional and disciplinary cultures and their diverse means of communication.

14. The citation indicators extracted from the databases limited in their geographical, linguistic, and disciplinary scope should not be considered a valid measure to carry out a comparison of scientific production between individuals, institutions, or countries.

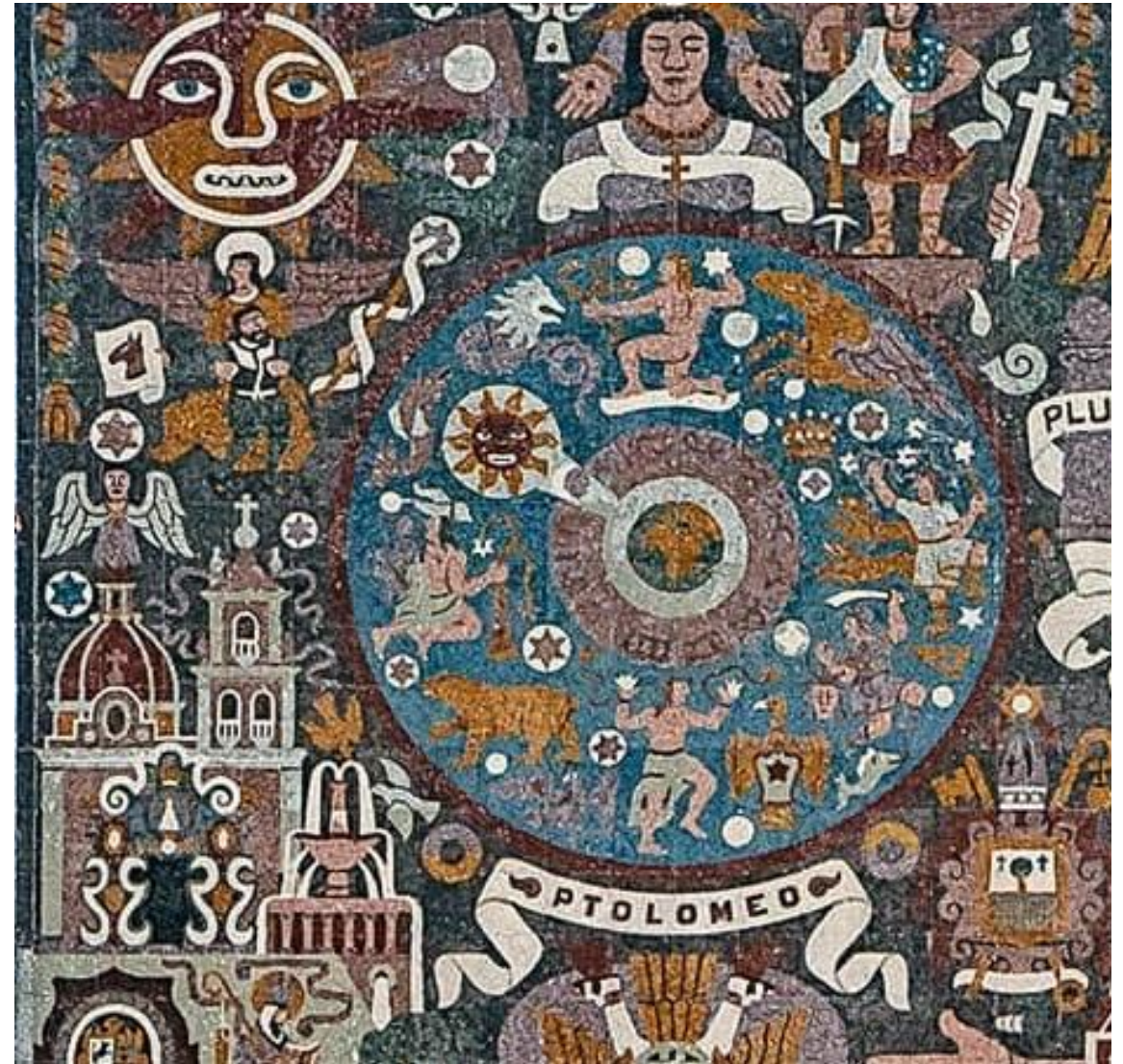
Source:

Latin American Forum for Research Assessment (FOLEC-CLACSO) – **Declaration of Principles “A new research assessment towards a socially relevant science in Latin America and the Caribbean”**

<https://biblioteca-repositorio.clacso.edu.ar/bitstream/CLACSO/169565/1/Declaracion-de-principios-version-ingles.pdf>

Latin America's path towards open science

Latin America has created and maintains a non-commercial infrastructure where **scientific publishing belongs to academic institutions** and not to large publishers



Latin America: scholar-led, publicly funded, non-profit, open access infrastructures



LATIN AMERICA

- **community owned and governed open access:** bibliodiversity + multilingualism
- **region with highest % of open access adoption in scholarly journals** published in the region, with no APCs and no outsourcing to commercial publishers
- **university leadership of open access**
 - * open access journal platforms (university and national -OJS + regional Latindex, Redalyc-AmeliCA, SciELO)
 - * institutional repositories (La Referencia-COAR)
- **national and institutional open access policies prioritize open access repositories** for publications and data
- **more recently, open science is promoted in the region**
 - * research data platforms (institutional, national)
 - * co-production of knowledge with other societal actors

community governance contributes to equity, inclusion, bibliodiversity and multilingualism

International initiatives in support of
democratizing global open access and open science

These sustainable development goals (SDG) need as much local as international research outputs



CLACSO

From the principles and actions established in the **UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science** (2021), CLACSO-FOLEC wishes to highlight some concepts of the Recommendations that strengthen science as a public good

- Provide **opportunities to access, contribute to and benefit** from open science, regardless of discipline, geographic location, gender, ethnicity, language or socio-economic circumstances;
- Build on collaborative practices, services and infrastructures and long-term funding models that ensure the **equitable participation** of science producers from less advantaged institutions and countries;
- **Integrate community knowledge** into the solution of problems of societal importance;
- Promoting **bibliodiversity** and encouraging **multilingualism** in the practice of science, in scientific publications and in scholarly communications;
- Support **collaborative, non-commercial** publishing models that do not involve article or book processing charges;
- Harmonise **incentives and evaluation systems** in favour of open science, taking into account the wide range of missions that form the knowledge production environment, and the different forms of knowledge creation and communication that are not limited to publication in international peer-reviewed journals.

The 8 principles endorsed by the International Science Council (ISC, “the global voice for science”)

- 1. There should be universal open access to the record of science, both for authors and readers, with no barriers to participation, in particular those based on ability to pay, institutional privilege, language or geography.**
2. Scientific publications should carry **open licenses** that permit reuse and text and data mining.
3. Rigorous and ongoing **peer review** must continue to play a key role in creating and maintaining the public record of science.
4. The **data and observations** on which a published truth claim is based should be concurrently accessible to scrutiny and supported by necessary metadata.
5. The record of science should be maintained in such a way as to ensure open access by future generations.
6. Publication traditions of different disciplines should be respected, while at the same time recognizing the importance of inter-relating their contributions in the shared enterprise of knowledge.
7. Publication systems should be designed so that they continually adapt to new opportunities for beneficial change rather than embedding inflexible systems that inhibit change.
- 8. Governance of the processes of dissemination of scientific knowledge should be accountable to the scientific community.**

BOAI20



20 years after the first international declaration on open access (Budapest 2002), a new international declaration is issued to guide open access in this decade.

The same 20 years have sharpened our understanding of certain systemic problems. We know more today than we knew before about the harms caused by proprietary infrastructure, commercial control of research access, commercial control of research assessment indicators.... As our understanding improved, we saw the need to favor open infrastructure, academic or nonprofit control of research access and assessment indicators, policies to ensure unembargoed OA, assessment methods without perverse incentives.

budapestopenaccessinitiative.org/boai20

Recommendation 1:



Host OA research on open infrastructure. Host and publish OA texts, data, metadata, code, and other digital research outputs on open, community-controlled infrastructure. Use infrastructure that minimizes the risk of future access restrictions or control by commercial organizations. Where open infrastructure is not yet adequate for current needs, develop it further.

Recommendation 2:



Reform research assessment and rewards to improve incentives.

Adjust research assessment practices for funding decisions and university hiring, promotion, and tenure decisions. Eliminate disincentives for OA and create positive new incentives for OA.

Recommendation 3:



Favor inclusive publishing and distribution channels that never exclude authors on economic grounds. Take full advantage of OA repositories and no-APC journals (“green” and “diamond” OA). Move away from article processing charges (APCs).

Recommendation 4:



When we spend money to publish OA research, remember the goals to which OA is the means. Favor models which benefit all regions of the world, which are controlled by academic-led and nonprofit organizations, which **avoid concentrating new OA literature in commercially dominant journals**, and which avoid entrenching models in conflict with these goals. **Move away from read-and-publish agreements.**

CLACSO's main concerns from a developing region perspective and ways forward

- **Underfunding of community-owned infrastructures** because scarce funds directed to APCs
 - Prioritize funding and resources dedicated to non-APC/BPC community-based infrastructures/initiatives and quality certification of its contents
- **Weak international dialogue**, cooperation and interoperability among community-owned infrastructures
 - Call for more international collective action, have a stronger and collective voice
 - South-South cooperation for international non-commercial open access/open science
- **Researchers rewarded only when publishing in “mainstream” journals with “prestige industry” indicators**, making invisible other contributions
 - Reward quality and relevance independent of publication venue
 - Reward doing peer-review of contents from community-based infrastructures (eg.: repositories)



Thank you !!!

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This presentation available in <https://es.slideshare.net/CLACSOredbiblio>

