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REVISTA LATINOAMERICANA SOBRE DEMOCRACIA

ABOUT THE JOURNAL

The Latin American Journal on Democracy (*Revista Latinoamericana sobre Democracia*, RLD) publishes empirical, methodological, and theoretical research on democracy in the Latin American context from a multidisciplinary perspective rooted in the Social Sciences.

It seeks to generate and disseminate scientific knowledge as to contribute to the political, academic, and civic debate on democracy at regional, national, and international levels.

The RLD was founded in 2025 in response to the need for a specialized space in which to discuss democracies and authoritarianisms from different perspectives, as contrasting, multidimensional, and complex objects of study.

This collaborative journal, edited by the Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales (FLACSO) and the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM), through its Instituto de Investigaciones Sociales (IIS-UNAM) and its Coordinación de Humanidades (COHU, UNAM), encourages an all-encompassing debate on democracy and all types of governments present in Latin America, the Caribbean, and worldwide.



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CALL FOR PAPERS

The Latin American Journal on Democracy (RLD) invites authors from all backgrounds to submit manuscripts for evaluation and possible publication in accordance with the following:

1. The RLD is a biyearly electronic academic journal, edited by the National Autonomous University of Mexico (Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, UNAM) and the Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences (Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales, FLACSO). It publishes empirical, methodological, and theoretical research on democracy in the Latin American context from a multidisciplinary perspective rooted in the Social Sciences.
2. Submissions can include: academic articles, methodological essays and bibliographical essays.
3. The journal only accepts unpublished original manuscripts, currently not under review for publication elsewhere.
4. Most of the work published in the journal is written in Spanish, however, we also accept submissions in English.
5. Submissions are evaluated through a double-blind scheme by specialists appointed by the Editorial Board. Please note that the results of this evaluation are final.
6. Submissions are accepted all year round, however, texts received within the established dates will be given priority. Dates will be posted at beginning of each semester on our website (<https://www.rld.sociales.unam.mx/index.php/relade/index>) and X account (@RLDUNAMFlacso).
- a. In line with the biyearly publication of the RLD, the evaluation process for proposals begins on June 9 and on November 30.
7. All submissions must be sent to this email address: relade@sociales.unam.mx
8. The editor retains the right to decide whether the manuscript is published in the issue it was submitted for or in the following one.



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SUBMISSIONS

Academic articles (p. 4)

Research papers with original contributions (theoretical, empirical, or methodological) related to democracy. Word count must be between 8 and 10 thousand words, including in-text citations, references, footnotes, and charts.

Methodological essays (p. 6)

Critical analyses of perspectives, methods, and data relevant to the study of democracy. Word count must be between 5 and 6 thousand words, including in-text citations, references, footnotes, and charts.

Bibliographical essays (p. 9)

Critical reviews of recently published books relevant to the study of democracy. Word count must be between 5 and 6 thousand words, including references and bibliographical data of the reviewed works.

TRANSFER OF RIGHTS

In all cases, authors will commit to the signing of a document, transferring the rights of their work in exclusivity to the RLD and authorizing its reproduction in electronic format and any possible print editions, as well as its circulation on social media and other institutional repositories at IIS-UNAM and FLACSO México. Upon publication, the authors will receive a link via email for consultation and free download of their work.



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ACADEMIC ARTICLES

Before submitting your manuscript, make sure that it adheres to the following guidelines:

- The text has 8 to 10 thousand words, including in-text citations, footnotes, charts, appendixes, and references (bibliography).
- The title has no more than 10 words (including articles, conjunctions, prepositions) and is also translated into Spanish.
- The article contains an abstract of no more than 100 words as well as a few relevant keywords (no more than 6), to ensure discovery through search engines, with their corresponding translation into Spanish.
- The article has no epigraphs or acknowledgements.
- The article is in Word format (Text: Arial 12, 1.5 spacing, justified; footnotes: Arial 10, 1.5 spacing, justified).

Note: If you would like us to do the Spanish translations for you, please state so in your submission email.

About the author(s)

The following information must appear on the first page of your paper using an asterisk footnote.

- a) Most recent academic title(s) and university
- b) Current institutional affiliation
- c) Areas of expertise
- d) Phone number (with international code)
- e) ORCID number
- f) Electronic address
- g) A brief statement declaring that your work is original, unpublished, and not currently being reviewed for publication elsewhere.

Footnotes, in-text citation, and references

- All footnotes have Arabic sequential numerals in superscript with a single space between the number and the text.
- Quotes occupying more than 5 lines of text are in a separate paragraph, indented only on the left-hand side, no quotations marks, no italics.



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- In-text citations include the last name of the author, publication date, and page number(s) between parenthesis, e.g. (Morlino, 2009, pp. 34-36).
- All in-text citations and references are included in the bibliography. Please ensure that in-text citations match the information provided in your references.

References are organized, first, alphabetically (Last name, First name); second, chronologically, starting with the most recent; and, third, numerically, according to the number of authors (starting with two, then three...). **In the case of several works by the same author, avoid using a line or a hyphen to indicate the repetition, last and first names must be written for each reference.** The journal uses APA 7 format for in-text citation and references, which you can consult on the official website: <https://apastyle.apa.org/>.

Charts, graphs, maps, diagrams, and illustrations

- All graphs in your article have been created using Excel and the file is included in your submission email (do not compress the files).
- Each graph has its own page on the Excel file and includes the numerical editable data (make sure to include the source, or a note if it is your own elaboration).
- All visual material has been included in its proper place within the text, not at the end, to simplify the process of evaluation and previsualization of the paper.
- The effective space of our journal's layout is 12.5 centimeters. All images, charts, graphs, &c will be reduced to fit the available space; in case they cannot be altered with sufficient quality by the publication date, these will be removed.
- In regards to quality, all maps, photographs, diagrams, mind maps, visual allusions, ideograms, &c must be submitted in JPG format with a minimum resolution of 300 dpi. **In the case of images obtained from third parties and other private institutions or repositories, the necessary permissions must be included.**

All proposals must be submitted in Word format to this electronic address:

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METHODOLOGICAL ESSAYS

In this category, we look for original and unpublished academic contributions that:

- Present novel research techniques or perspectives on the study of democracy.
- Evaluate existing methods and propose relevant alternatives.
- Discuss new ways to solve problems or overcome critical obstacles (access to sources, reliability of information, ethical dilemmas, &c).
- Propose novel methods of generating and analyzing data, or introduce new information on the subject, providing an explanation in regards to its scope and limitations.

Before submitting your manuscript, make sure that it adheres to the following guidelines:

- Word count is between 5 and 6 thousand words, including in-text citations, footnotes, charts, appendixes, and references (bibliography).
- The title has no more than 10 words (including articles, conjunctions, prepositions).
- The essay has no epigraphs or acknowledgements.
- Footnotes are used only to clarify concepts in relation to theory or specialized vocabulary, and for translations.
- There is no self-referencing (academic or journalistic work)
- The paper is in Word format (Text: Arial 12, 1.5 spacing, justified; footnotes: Arial 10, 1.5 spacing, justified).

About the author(s)

The following information must appear on the first page of your paper using an asterisk footnote.

- a) Most recent academic title(s) and university
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- d) Phone number (with international code)
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g) A brief statement declaring that your work is original, unpublished, and not currently being reviewed for publication elsewhere.

Footnotes, in-text citation, and references

- All footnotes have Arabic sequential numerals in superscript with a single space between the number and the text.
- Quotes occupying more than 5 lines of text are in a separate paragraph, indented only on the left-hand side, no quotations marks, no italics.
- In-text citation includes the last name of the author, publication date, and page number(s) between parenthesis, e.g. (Morlino, 2009, pp. 34-36).
- All in-text citations and references are included in the bibliography. Please ensure that in-text citations match the information provided in your references.

References are organized, first, alphabetically (Last name, First name); second, chronologically, starting with the most recent; and, third, numerically, according to the number of authors (starting with two, then three...). **In the case of several works by the same author, avoid using a line or hyphen to indicate the repetition, last and first names must be written for each reference.** The journal uses APA 7 format for in-text citation and references, which you can consult on the official website: <https://apastyle.apa.org/>.

Charts, graphs, maps, diagrams, and illustrations

- All graphs in your essay have been created using Excel and the file is included in your submission email (do not compress the files).
- Each graph has its own page on the Excel file and includes the numerical editable data (Make sure to include the source or an author note if it is your own elaboration).
- All visual material has been included in its proper place within the text, not at the end, to simplify the process of evaluation and previsualization of the paper.
- The effective space of our journal's layout is 12.5 centimeters. All images, charts, graphs, &c will be reduced to fit the available space; in case they cannot be altered



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- In regards to quality, all maps, photographs, diagrams, mind maps, visual allusions, ideograms, &c must be submitted in JPG format with a minimum resolution of 300 dpi. **In the case of images obtained from third parties and other private institutions or repositories, the necessary permissions must be included.**

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BIBLIOGRAPHICAL ESSAYS

For this category, we look for original and unpublished critical pieces that:

- Review between 3 and 5 recently published books about democracy (no more than three years old). These must be significant contributions to the literature, in terms of their theoretical, comparative, and methodological impact.
- Provide a critical discussion of the contributions and limitations of the reviewed works.
- Constitute an integral appraisal of the literature, as opposed to a series of separate reviews, one that identifies connections, contradictions, and complementarity between the works and that leads to new horizons in the study of democracy.

Before submitting your manuscript, make sure that it adheres to the following guidelines:

- Word count is between 5 and 6 thousand words, including in-text citations, footnotes, charts, appendixes, and references (bibliography).
- The essay has no epigraphs or acknowledgements.
- The title is under 10 words (including articles, conjunctions, prepositions) and you have provided a few relevant keywords (no more than 6) to ensure discovery through search engines.
- Full bibliographical data of the works reviewed is included in the first page, after the title.
- The paper is in Word format (Text: Arial 12, 1.5 spacing, justified; footnotes: Arial 10, 1.5 spacing, justified).
- **Self-reviews are not allowed.**

The journal uses APA 7 format for in-text citation and references, which you can consult on the official website: <https://apastyle.apa.org/>.

About the author(s)

The following information must appear on the first page of your paper using an asterisk footnote.

- a) Most recent academic title(s) and university



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- b) Current institutional affiliation
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GUIDELINES FOR AUTHORS

To ensure that your submission is in line with our editorial and academic requirements, pay attention to the following points.

- It is an original and unpublished work, not previously or currently reviewed for publication elsewhere (in the case of the former, please include an explicatory note for the editors in your submission email).
- It is in Word format and has the required extension (keeping in mind that abstracts, author information, charts, footnotes, appendixes, references, &c are all included in the word count).
- There is no use of automated headers or table of contents.
- All the visual materials are included in the correct place within the text.
- You provide an Excel file with the graphs, as well as the images with the required quality and permissions of use when necessary.
- Your text and visual material adhere to the specifications provided for each type.
- In-text citations and references are in APA 7 format.

Transfer of rights

The authors will commit to the signing of a document, transferring the rights of their work in exclusivity to the RLD and authorizing its reproduction in electronic format and any possible print editions, as well as its circulation on social media and other institutional repositories at IIS-UNAM and FLACSO México. Upon publication, the authors will receive a link via email for consultation and free download of their work.

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EVALUATION PROCESS

Authors must ensure that their submissions are in line with the principles of honesty and integrity established in the Code of Conduct both of the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM) and FLACSO México.

All manuscripts will undergo an initial check with a plagiarism software to avoid any instance of intellectual theft. As a result, all manuscripts obtaining under 75% originality will be rejected. In exceptional cases, a second review will be conducted and the result determined by the Editorial Board.

Manuscripts submitted by academics affiliated to FLACSO México and UNAM will be pre-reviewed and peer-reviewed by members of the Editorial Board and other appointed specialists not affiliated with these institutions.

Peer-review will evaluate the relevance, originality, and methodological rigor of the proposals. There are four possible results:

- a) **Suitable for publication**, in which case the manuscript will advance in the editorial process (copyediting, proofreading, page layout) leading up to publication.
- b) **Conditional**, in which case the editorial process will continue only if the author carries out the necessary modifications as outlined in the pre-evaluation and the specialist reviews.
- c) **Negative**
- d) **Not in compliance with the editorial policy**

Peer-review will be carried out by two specialists, in case of differing opinions, the RLD will ask for an additional review. In all cases, the RLD will communicate the results to the authors no more than 10 days after receiving the evaluations from the specialists.

José Luis Velasco Cruz, Director

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