

Call for Chapters

“Technology and Innovation in Latin America: The need for a turning point”.

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It is a book on the latest debates about Technology & Innovation, Latin American works originated from or with a scope in this region, with a view on the previous phases of both the former and the latter, since it is necessary to understand the theoretical and practical context of technology and innovation. Each theme focuses on the different views that researchers in this region have on the theoretical and empirical advances of recent decades and, at the same time, the multiplicity of processes in national and subnational spaces to understand the challenges, and especially a vision of your competitive future and a better understanding of global debates. Similarly, the interest is to focus on the participation of young women and researchers in the field of technological development using an inclusive approach. These concepts have invaded everyday life, and cannot be disassociated to explain their practice.

Some of these new agents belong to long-standing family groups and are successors of second and third generations. Therefore, one of the new debates is associated with business continuity through business families and SMEs, as these are the most representative sizes in Latin America. The main contribution is the specific context of Latin America. Latin America has been tagged as an unequal territory and has grown based on a productive and export structure focused on sectors with low productivity and low technological dynamism. It is highly vulnerable to fluctuations in the external sector, and its development has exhibited unstable behavior. Although there is evidence of a series of incentives for innovation activities in Latin America, they have not been sufficiently disruptive to systematically contribute to productive development in the region. In Latin America, technological change has demanded more efficient processes of technological adaptation and more dynamic processes of diffusion of innovation as a structural condition of the ecosystem; however, this has not yet been accomplished, and it is the fundamental responsibility of the state, its institutions, and the dynamic capabilities available in the ecosystem. (Álvarez & Palacios, 2021).

Each chapter may recover different theoretical and empirical perspectives built from the region on different scales to understand sustainability challenges. Additionally, strategies or methodologies to put them into practice are based on a critical and deep reflection that allows the use of new concepts and medium-range theoretical routes for the Latin American context. Based on this discussion, the first steps for its

implementation in this region and other regions can be proposed: a new vision and practice of new categories in Latin America and the Global South.

Regarding innovation, what about deep learning on empirical and theoretical opportunities emerge in innovation based on territorial capital? How does context influence the development of innovation policy? How do the dynamics of financing and involvement of financial institutions impact the support of innovation? What innovations trigger social and productive transformations in different industries, sectors, and types of organizations? What processes systematically generate creative solutions to solve problems through creative thinking methodologies under conditions of social inequality? What are the conditions for the development of innovations for the base of the pyramid using tools to create concrete solutions with circular and behavioral economic approaches? This is central to Latin American economic systems and development.

On Technology, the book will try to make an even deeper debate on R&D, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship; Corporate Venturing and Digital Entrepreneurship; Intrapreneurship strategy and processes; Technology Foresight and Forecasting; Industry 4.0, Digital Innovation management and applications of Artificial Intelligence; Responsible research and technology development; Human, Socio-Economic and Culture Issues on technology, Green Technology and business model for Sustainability; Regional competitiveness policy, and smart specialization strategies. Exploring this is central to the economic system and development of a region.

Latin America has historically imported business paradigms and theories. Moreover, research in this region has generally been oriented toward supporting those paradigms, both theoretically and empirically. However, times are changing, and now the researcher base is more experienced, has grown in number, and new, innovative propositions are building up calling for a more regional-oriented focus and view that can bring new ways of thinking and doing things, without that ethnocentrism, both politically and academically, that does not value enough what it has been producing in research.

Innovation focuses on opportunities to generate sustainable competitive advantages over a period until other companies outweigh these advantages (Mothe and Arndt, 2015; Mothe and Nguyen, 2010). However, innovation goes beyond the economic and technological landscape, linked to areas such as social or political, and has been positioned as a critical driver of local development in dissimilar contexts (Álvarez et al., 2016). The idea of innovation has always implied a close link with economic growth, social equality, and so one environmental responsibility, all of which are mixed to promote welfare and capacity improvement (Arenal et al., 2020; Fukuda, 2020; Jacobides, Cennamo, & Gawer, 2018; Järvi, Almpantopoulou, & Ritala, 2018; Russell & Smorodinskaya, 2018).

Thus, public policies that aim at economic development at any of its levels (micro, macro, mezzo, and meta) could incorporate various lines of research beyond the traditional spheres, giving relevance to the context and its agents (creators, entrepreneurs, families, women, and youth). The new perspectives of analysis from the perspective of complexity can contribute to a better understanding of actors, evolution, forms of research, and public policies. ²Welter (2017) questions how we can

contextualize theories and how they re-signify contexts for better public policies for Technology and Innovation. It is imperative to analyze what the processes and contexts surrounding the stages of innovation are like to talk about Latin America and bring a new perspective to the region and literature on the Global South.

Furthermore, Latin American countries are considered a living lab for research because of their social, cultural, and economic profile (Álvarez, Arroyo, & Romero, 2023).

Potential themes (not exhaustive).

- Latin American history of technology and innovation
- Human, socio-economic, and culture issues on technology towards responsible research and technology development
- Smart cities and digital entrepreneurship
- Creativity and entrepreneurship as key factors to innovation and technological development
- Intellectual capital, and Open Science and Innovation towards social appropriation of knowledge
- Technology on education, training, and learning: STEM capital in Latin America and Caribbean
- Inclusive innovation and its technological challenges in LATAM
- Women scientists, researchers, and technologists in Latin America and Caribbean
- Startups & small firms: transfer and commercialization of technology
- Technology 4.0, digital innovation, and applications of artificial intelligence
- Advance manufacturing and factories of the future: challenges and barriers
- Green technology and business models for sustainability
- Rural technology in Latin America in a call for a new paradigm
- Latin American technology foresight and forecasting and innovation: trends and turning points.

Deadlines:

July 2023	Meeting with editors to discuss specific chapter features.
August 2023	Definitive title and abstract.
December 2023	General meeting of authors by section.
May 2024	Delivery of the (final version) chapter (6,000 words).

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