

OBSERVATORY ON LATIN AMERICA
REPORT OF ACTIVITIES 2018 – 2024

THE NEW SCHOOL

Observatory on
Latin America

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1. Overview

Looking Back to Going Forward

The Observatory on Latin America (OLA) was founded in 2003 as the Observatory on Argentina on the occasion of the visit to The New School of President Nestor Kirchner and Senator Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner. The OLA has transited three phases over the last 20 years:

- A launch with mostly public events and a few high-profile research projects from 2003 to 2006,
- A rapid transformation into the OLA in an era of progressive governments in Latin America when representatives from Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, and Venezuela assembled in the Orozco Room to discuss the political challenges their governments faced. Fueled by the generosity of the late Julien Studley, former President of the New School's Board of Trustees, the OLA organized many more events and created the President Nestor Kirchner Fellowship Program which brought 24 young scholar-activists from Latin America to spend two weeks at The New School over seven years, sharing their work with faculty and students as well as through a well-attended public lecture, and
- From 2018, a deepening and broadening of a research program, with fewer public events but more intense collaboration with institutions in Argentina and Colombia, and the publication of books and articles.

Throughout these two decades the OLA has built a reputation as a credible convenor of political and academic events involving collaborating Latin American universities and civil society organizations. Its mailing list has passed 15,000 contacts and its name recognition has grown, even beyond Latin America. The OLA has held over 200 public events with talks by Latin American presidents, ministers, other politicians, UN Permanent Representatives, and many organizations such as the Abuelas de Plaza de Mayo and (Afro Brazilian organization) and the UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean. It has published 17 books showing its research work and its practice on the ground. Its website is filled with extensive documentation of past activities and invitations to new viewers to find opportunities for collaboration.

Today its challenge is fourfold:

- to reaffirm its current trajectory
- to identify new areas of work
- to build new collaboration and exchange with institutions and leaders in Latin America as the global and regional context changes, and
- to strengthen its contribution to The New School in the context of the project of strengthening the University's academic core.

If the first three are relatively easy, the fourth is more institutionally complicated. It requires a decision to selectively work with the University's academic units and its 40+ 2 centers and institutes to reinforce some of their priorities and initiatives so that the net impact of The New School on and in Latin America, and vice-versa, is greater, more sustainable, and more useful to Latin American partner institutions. These initiatives could be joint courses, research projects, focused "practice" programs such as the International Field Programs, or public events. Examples could include continuing to work with the Julien Studley Graduate Program in International Affairs, while developing ties with organizations such as the Urban

Systems Lab, the Zolberg Institute for Migration and Mobility, and the Design Lab at Parsons. These last three are a small number of the more than 40+ centers and institutes whose work could be enhanced by interaction and cooperation with Latin American institutions and people.

We believe that additional financial and human resources could make a big difference in achieving the first three challenges. However, increasing the contribution of the OLA to The New School depends not solely on the OLA, but rather on developing individual and collective relationships with New School colleagues working on their own subjects, whether they are about the environment, about India and China, about art and politics, or about race, power, and political economy. The attached report on OLA activities has been prepared to provide colleagues with more information about the OLA as a first step towards identifying shared interests and opportunities.

Thanks very much for your interest.

Michael Cohen and Margarita Gutman
Directors, Observatory on Latin America

About us

The Observatory on Latin America (OLA) is a research and practice center at the Studley Graduate Program in International Affairs, The New Schools of Public Engagement. Since its creation in 2006, it has fostered public debates on the processes of social reform occurring in Latin America. OLA has hosted more than 200 events with over 7,000 attendees at The New School and the region. In 20 years, it has positioned itself as a platform for the dissemination and discussion of Latin American perspectives to an international audience in New York, actively collaborating with intellectual leaders, universities, and civil society organizations across the region.

The Observatory on Latin America (OLA) fosters public debate about the processes of social reform occurring in the western hemisphere. A majority of this work is done through its ongoing programs: Latin America on the Move, Design and Development, New Urban Practices, Conflicts in the Digital Space, 2084 Imagined Futures, and the Cuba Program.

OLA has a core team of six people coming from Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, and the US, based at The New School in New York, as well as a team of two people based at Universidad de Buenos Aires in Argentina. With weekly meetings the core team (Michael Cohen, Margarita Gutman, Juan Manuel González Scobie, Martin Gromez, Andrea Giacobone, Rebecca Snyder, Maria Fernanda Pizarro, and Amanda Jorri) ensures work and follow through of the program's activities. Depending on the needs of different research projects and activities, OLA expands this basic team with Research Assistants, Research Associates, and other supporting personnel. OLA regularly invites Visiting Scholars (from one to up to three per year) who not only engage in their independent projects but also contribute substantially to the programmatic agenda. In addition, OLA supports a student group, Somos OLA, that brings together students from across the university that year after year manage their own agenda and at the same time are invited to participate in OLA's activities.

Executive Summary

Following suggestions received in 2022 from its Advisory Committee, OLA has achieved a better balance between its research and events agenda. It has also innovated and adapted its programming in alignment with its strengths and the key issues in the regional agenda. OLA has also continued to contribute to The New School community amid growing financial constraints.

Better balance between its research and events agendas

Our research initiatives have provided knowledge and support to regional institutions, national and local governments, universities, and community organizations across the Americas, especially in Argentina, Colombia, and the US. Our research also generates important opportunities for graduate students to gain hands-on practical and research experience. Most of our research endeavors generate additional revenue from overheads.

Our events programming has allowed us to offer a wide range of public programs about Latin America and maintain OLA's and The New School's visibility in the region and the city. This active agenda also allows us to expand the focus from our core research topics and respond to salient issues and events that unfold in the region. Our recent digital programming brings together researchers, educators, cultural activists, and practitioners to engage in future literacy discussions and projects from a South perspective.

Research programs evolve and innovate towards the future

OLA's programs have evolved, maintaining the center's mission and vision relevant and future driven. In recent years, three programs have sunsetted: PNK Fellowship, Design and Development, and Building Bicentennials. Responding to a changing landscape of increasing inequality and a broadened digital sphere, three innovative programs have emerged to the forefront: 2084: Imagined Futures from the South, a digital humanities program with a strong decolonial purpose; Conflicts in the Digital Space, that investigates social justice demands in the digital realm; and Infrastructure for Distribution, a research and advocacy initiative developed in parallel to the G20 and U20 discussions aiming at enhancing infrastructure co-benefits with a new generation of welfare-enhancing infrastructure systems.

Capacity to deliver results despite waning institutional financial support

OLA has skillfully navigated a 75% reduction of the income it used to receive from the Studley Foundation (from about $160,000 annually to $40,000). This has required rigorous discipline, increased reliance on our overseas collaborators, extra pressures of fundraising, and loads of creativity. It has also meant OLA's Research Assistants, Associates and some collaborators are hired on a temporary basis, depending on specific projects and contracts. OLA has learned to be leaner in its administrative tasks, even decentralizing some activities. We have also migrated our management systems to a cloud-based filing system and have replaced some of our programming with digital options, which has further reduced some costs, while increasing our regional reach.

2. Current Programs

2.1. Latin America on the Move

Description

Latin America on the Move (LAM) is OLA's signature program for public events. Each year, OLA brings together high-level political, social, and intellectual leaders from different sectors to share and discuss their views about the changes underway in the region, and the challenges in striving for social justice and economic growth. While most of the events are held at The New School, raising the visibility of Latin American topics across the New School community, OLA has also done several events in other cities across the region, especially in Buenos Aires. OLA is also active in the digital sphere, particularly after the pandemic.

Between 2018 and 2024 OLA is proud to have hosted lectures and conferences by high-profile leaders such as: Alberto Fernandez, President of Argentina; Celso Amorim, former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Brazil; Sacha Llorenti, Secretary General of ALBA–TCP and former Permanent Representative to the United Nations of Bolivia; Ambassador Federico Villegas, President of the United Nations Human Rights Council; Alvaro Garcia Linera, former vice-president of Bolivia; Alicia Bárcena, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission on Latin America (ECLAC); Maimounah Mohd Sharif, the Executive Director of UN Habitat; and Ernesto Soberón Guzmán, the Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations. among many others.

In the last five years, OLA hosted more than 60 public events, a third of which were online. About half of our OLA events belong to the LAM program, the rest are related to our research programs. Most LAM events were in-person gathering over 1,000 attendees, and eight were online. As is to be expected, online programming bloomed during the pandemic, and it boosted our regional reach in an unprecedented way. For instance, the *State, Politics, and Democracy in Latin America* event promoted in conjunction with the Puebla Group, had an attendance of 57,898 people who connected from 98 countries to 11 lectures. Michael Cohen was a speaker among several high-profile leaders like: Jose Mujica, former President of Uruguay; Dilma Roussef, former President Brazil; Ernesto Samper, former President of Colombia, and José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero former Prime Minister of Spain, among others. Discounting this large event, LAM's online events had 290 attendees. See full list of LAM events in annex 2.

Collaborators

Here is a shortened list of our most relevant external institutional partners in the public events programming over the last five years: AfroResistance (Brazil), Colegio de Mexico (Mexico), Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales – FLACSO (Ecuador), Friedrich Ebert Foundation – FES (Argentina), Grupo de Puebla (regional), Instituto de Ciencias Sociales de Paraguay – ICSO (Paraguay), Reconvexo Collective (Brazil), School of Latin American and Global Studies – ELAG (regional), Universidad de Buenos Aires (Argentina), Universidad de Los Andes (Colombia), Universidad Nacional de San Martin – UNSAM (Argentina), and Universidad Torcuato Di Tella (Argentina).

2.2. 2084: Imagined Futures from the South

April 2020 - Ongoing

Description

The Program 2084-Imagined Futures from the South aims to stimulate and mobilize thinking about the future. It focuses on engaging non-experts, people who may not regularly contemplate the future or do so only infrequently and unconsciously, to imagine three to four generations ahead. The Program explores how ordinary individuals envision the future by making explicit their aspirations and anticipations. A central objective is to reveal hopes, concerns and fears, understandings of the current state of the world, attitudes towards the future, expectations for the future, and the underlying assumptions that shape these imaginations Another purpose is to analyze and discuss how these individual conjectures can feed and inform collective conversations about the future. What do they say about how different groups conceive the present and what they believe can or should be done now concerning those imagined futures?

There are four interconnected pillars within this Program: 1) We activate the capacity to imagine the future of everyday life as an effort to construct new horizons based on inclusion and justice. We call for creative expressions about everyday life in 2084 and welcome imaginations in a wide range of formats that are made public. We do this directly through public calls and through collaborations with allies who become the direct activators in many types of spaces of collective interaction. 2) We share these imaginations and display them in the Museum of Futures. This digital Museum is an active and collective repository created by the Program 2084 and under permanent construction continuously being updated with new imaginations. 3) We hold discussions and learn from these imaginations of the future by organizing several types of spaces for conversation – online and face-to-face panels, workshops, and meetings which offer opportunities for collective reflection and debate and facilitate new connections that continuously expand the scope of the Program. 4) We connect lessons from these processes with people who make decisions about our future through the design of public policy, thus helping transform the results of the calls and discussions into pragmatic recommendations for collective action and public decisions.

The argument behind this Program is that to activate the imagination of the future using the year 2084 as a starting point can serve as a tool in both formal and informal educational settings, as well as in community engagement and public discussions to encourage collective conversations about possible futures and what actions to take in the present. This approach can lead to developing what some analysts call "possibility knowledge," which consists of non-expert insights that can make public debate more inclusive and robust. This is in sharp contrast to the expert knowledge behind exercises in futurism so common today that are based on building models, simulations, and scenarios of futures ever more robust, formal and sophisticated, centered on the use and manipulation of more and more data. The objective in these cases is to anticipate trends, that is, what is believed may happen, and with that mostly identify economic and political opportunities. This information is used to inform decisions and actions in the present by a few people, all of which have significant effects on the lives of many, many people that do not participate in these processes.

The team of 2084 has also participated in numerous meetings called for and organized by universities and other organizations in Argentina, Colombia, and Germany to talk about the Program and the possible place and role of these types of exercises in their own programs and activities. The idea is to extend this network of alliances to other countries in Latin America and to programs and organizations in the U.S. To see more information about 2084's publications and events, see annex 2 and 3.

Collaborators

Partners

Here is a shortened list of our most relevant external institutional partners in the public events programming over the last five years: Universidad de Buenos Aires (Argentina), Universidad de Córdoba (Colombia), AfroResistance (Brazil), Arquitectura Expandida (Colombia), Centro de Innovación de los Trabajadores (Argentina), Colectivo Artoarte (Colombia), Espacio MO (Argentina), Freie Universität (Germany), Heroínas Peruanas (Perú), Icesi University (Colombia), Instituto para la Ciudad en Movimiento and Fundación Urbanismo (Argentina), Ministry of Culture of Argentina, Sociedad Argentina de Collage (Argentina), Universidad de Antioquia (Colombia), Universidad Atlántida Argentina (Argentina), Universidad de Buenos Aires (Argentina), Universidad de Los Andes (Colombia), Universidad Metropolitana para la Educación y el Trabajo (Argentina), Universidad Nacional de Colombia (Colombia), Universidad Nacional de Córdoba (Argentina), Universidad Pontificia Bolivariana de Medellín (Colombia), Universidad del Rosario (Colombia), Universidad de San Isidro (Argentina).

Advisory Committee

Adam Brown, Associate Professor of Psychology, and Vice Provost for Research, The New School (Chair), New York
Julia Foulkes, Professor of History, The New School, New York
Clara Irazabal, Director, Urban Studies & Planning Program, University of Maryland, Maryland
Carin Kuoni, Senior Director and Chief Curator of the Vera List Center for Arts and Politics, The New School, New York
Eliana Martinez Herrera, Professor and Chair of Strategic Relations, National School of Public Health, University of Antioquia, Medellin, Colombia
Viviana Usubiaga, Centro de Investigaciones en Arte y Patrimonio CONICET - Universidad Nacional de San Martín Universidad de Buenos Aires. Former National Director of Heritage Management, Ministry of Culture of Argentina (2019-2023).

Internships

Associated with the Research Department of FADU UBA, the 2084 project ran a three-student internship under the project Digital Library of Latin American Futures, directed by Professor Adriana Guevara with the tutoring of Margarita Gutman. The 15-week internship was led by Martin Gromez and Andrea Giacobone. Students learned about the 2084 project, received Guevara and Gutman lectures, read a selected bibliography, uploaded imaginations to the website and elaborated three guided visits for the Museum of Futures.

2.3. Conflicts in the Digital Space

2015 - ongoing

Description

Since 2015 this OLA program focuses on how conflicts related to vulnerability, poverty, and segregation in urban territories are manifested in the digital public space. This program recognizes that the digital

dimension, present for decades in everyday life, contributes in many ways to the perception, uses and transformation processes of cities. We understand that it is possible to make a redirected use of digital technology from a perspective of rights and social inclusion, which exceeds, for example, the use given to technology in Smart Cities. We believe that it is a matter of finding the cracks that the corporate technological system has to obtain a more relevant visibility of poverty and informality and reclaim its space within the corporative digital cartography of the city. Quickly establishing itself as the quintessential representation of the real city, this digital city becomes a true second nature of the city, which nevertheless omits much of the conflicts and environmental and social vulnerability. If the visibility of these conflicts is increased, it is possible that they will eventually be recognized and processed by the respective social institutions and organizations. See annex 2 and 3 for details about the events and publications associated with the Conflicts in the Digital Space program.

Results of these investigations, including the development of a methodology for analysis, interpretation and visualization called TechnoSocial Explorer, have been published in various academic, institutional, and professional media, and presented at several scientific conferences and urban meetings in the University of Buenos Aires, Barcelona, New York, and Kuala Lumpur. They have taken the Metropolitan Region of Buenos Aires as a case study, and it is expected to incorporate other Latin American cities in the medium term.

Projects

Extradisciplinary anticipations of the future

This research deals with the identification and analysis of digital content (articles, blog posts, videos) that includes demands of transformation triggered by territorial conflicts and situations of vulnerability, poverty and segregation. These were disseminated by local media and local actors, both individual and collective, in a selection of platforms of the digital public space (Webs, Blogs and YouTube). They are small data sets that circulate on the web 2.0, which have no impact on the scales of trending topics; we could consider that these are "plebeian" demands. Starting in 2015 with three municipalities in the Southern part of Greater Buenos Aires, today the research includes the results obtained for seven municipalities and seven comunas adjacent to the border of Greater Buenos Aires and the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires, with a total of 1,632 entries identified and analyzed.

Google Street NO View

One offspring of this research is a detailed comparison between those vulnerabilities that emerged in the selected platforms identified through the methodology of the TechnoSocial Explorer we developed, and the same sites that are represented and can be visualized through Google Street View. Most of those sites could not be seen through the virtual walks of GSV or only seen from their edges. These findings are detailed thoroughly in order to serve as one example of the urgent need to denaturalize the current unreflective use of the digital platforms of big corporations and monopolies.

Emergent Territories

Produced between 2017 and 2019, this study was published between the Office of the Public Defender of the City of Buenos Aires and the Observatory on Latin America (OLA), at the Julien J. Studley Graduate Programs in International Affairs of The New School in New York.

The first part of the text contains general considerations on the possibilities offered by digital technologies for the surveying and interpretation of unfulfilled rights, as well as the methodology developed for this

purpose, called the Techno Social Explorer (TSE). The second part presents the interpretive survey, analysis, and visualization of the unfulfilled rights contained in 648 files (articles and videos) identified on websites, YouTube, and Facebook, disaggregated into eight categories: Education, Urban Space, Housing, Security, Infrastructure, Work, Health, and Environment, and their corresponding subcategories. The third part concludes with the reading of a series of geo-referenced diagrams, which visualize the interrelationships between categories, emerging territorial fragments, actors, and platforms, based on which an interpretation of the information compiled is articulated at the general level, as well as provides an assessment of its contributions.

Forthcoming books

Poder Digital Justicia y Derechos, ***Digital Power, Justice and Rights.*** This exciting new project is a collaboration among the University of Buenos Aires UBA (School of Law, Center for Financial and Tax Law), The New School University of New York (Observatory on Latin America/OLA), and the University of Salamanca.

This manuscript will be published as a Special Issue of DEBATES INTERUNIVERSITARIOS de Derecho Tributario y Derecho Financiero (INTER-UNIVERSITY DEBATES on Tax Law and Financial Law). It will be edited by Professor Horacio Corti (Director of the Center for Financial and Tax Law, School of Law, UBA, and former Public Defender of the City of Buenos Aires), and Margarita Gutman (Emeritus Professor and Director of OLA at The New School, and Profesora Consulta at the School of Architecture, Design and Urban Planning, University of Buenos Aires). It will include articles by leading thinkers from around the world.

Buenos Aires Not Found. What Google Street View Does Not See
Margarita Gutman and Ximena Puppo (2025). Buenos Aires Not Found. Vacíos en la Ciudad Digital Corporativa (Buenos Aires Not Found. Voids in the Digital Corporative City). Buenos Aires, EUDEBA University of Buenos Aires Press. This book presents the emergence in digital space of territorial and environmental vulnerability, as expressed in demands for transformation uploaded by residents of 14 municipalities and communes adjacent to the limits of the city of Buenos Aires and the greater metropolitan area. These demands, composed by articles or posts and videos, were published on digital platforms between 2000 and 2015 by individuals, local media, and neighborhood associations. The research shows that 1,132 online geographically localized demands expose the limitations and biases of Google Street View, which is a major component of Google digital cartography extensively used in all types of daily social, professional, academic, and governmental activities. It concludes that these digital cartographies require a critical perspective and use. It is imperative to visualize what corporate digital cartographies omit, to denaturalize its use and decolonize their data. Driven by algorithmic technology and business interests, the digital corporate cartographies can lead us in the not-too-distant future to live in a city that is totally foreign to us. It is composed of four parts: Public Digital Space; Demands; Emergent Problems, and Google Street No View.

We believe that Google cartography produces the city, that is, it shapes our perception of the city, the way we travel around it, enjoy it, study and consume it. It also influences how the city is administered and governed. Google decides, through its algorithmic technology, what exists for us and what does not exist. This is achieved through numerous mechanisms such as metadata indexing, assigning names and degrees of definition of satellite images, and also by eliminating certain aspects and places of the city that do not interest them. Protected by its supposedly objective and neutral economic and technological power, Google also tries to make us believe that it is placing the entire city with its smallest details at our feet. It's not like that.

Collaborators

Under Margarita Gutman's lead, in the period under review the researchers in this program are **Ximena Puppo, and until December 2022 Javier Nesprías,** architects and faculty of FADU UBA, and Program Associates of the OLA in Buenos Aires. Work on Emergent Territories was requested by the Public Defender of the City of Buenos Aires and was carried out and published in English and Spanish within the framework of the institutional cooperation between the New School and the **Ministerio Público de la Defensa** (MPD CABA).

2.4. New Urban Practices

2017 - ongoing

Description

This program calls for new urban practices where problems are no longer addressed in conventional disciplinary silos, but focus on integrated solutions in which economic, environmental, and social consequences are considered together in the design and implementation of policies, actions, and physical interventions. The New Urban Practices program has been associated with numerous publications and events, most recently, Michael Cohen's book titled *Infrastructure, Policy, and Inequality*. For an extensive list of the program's events and publications see annex 2 and 3.

Projects

Labor Inclusion for the Just City: Digital Training for Young People from LaMatanza

This is a joint effort between the Friedrich Ebert Foundation (FES) in Argentina, the municipality of La Matanza through its Secretariat of Science, Technology and Educational Policies and the Observatory on Latin America (OLA). Its objective is to address the problem of digital inclusion of young low-income people – aged 16 to 29 – through the development of a digital training program organized for this purpose by the municipality of La Matanza. This project included two studies undertaken by the OLA: one on the current state of digital access and capacity among this population and a second on the digital qualifications which employers in the Buenos Aires metropolitan area require for their employees. This was followed by a multi-month training program organized by the municipality of La Matanza for about 100 young people. An article was published by FES on the project in Nueva Sociedad. (LINK) Collaborators included for OLA: Juan Grana, Mara Belen Fodde, and Vladimiro S. Torres, and for FES: Svenja Blanke and Monica Sladogna.

Facing Risk: Urban Resilience in Latin America

This project ran from October 2017 to September 2019. Commissioned by CAF, the Latin American Development Bank, this work involves fieldwork to document best-case practices of strengthening urban resilience in six Latin American cities. This research offers a contextual analysis of six urban management experiences that have integrated disaster management policies to reduce the conditions of vulnerability and contribute to the sustainable and resilient development of the territories. The cases of Manizales, in Colombia, La Paz, in Bolivia, Cuenca, in Ecuador, Santa Fe and Pilar in Argentina, and Cubatão in Brazil, describe different problems and institutional approaches to resilience management, as well as lessons derived from its implementation and recommendations to optimize their impact on society.

OLA hired seven student researchers to conduct field work in each of the six cities, including local interviews, visits, and local data that could not have been accessible with desk literature reviews alone. OLA also led team-wide meetings to ensure coherence throughout the different chapters. In addition, OLA was also in charge of translating the material, ensuring a fully bilingual publication (English and Spanish), available in both hardcopies and online. The book was launched at a large event of the Global Resilience Partnership, organized by the Urban Systems Lab as a side event to the UN Climate Summit in September 2019.

The *Facing Risk* project supported by the Corporación Andina de Fomento CAF was led by Margarita Gutman and Michael Cohen; and was coordinated by Maria Carrizosa. Its authors included Bart Orr, Maria Carrizosa, David Lopez, Lena Simet, Flavia Leite, Ileana Versace, and Julia Nesprias.

IVC: Evaluation of neighborhood improvement

Phase 1. Monitoring Processes and Outcomes in Slum Upgrading in Buenos Aires

OLA was hired by the Buenos Aires City Government to develop an ambitious research project spanning extensive field presence, quantitative and qualitative analysis, and substantial desk review for a year and a half from June 2018 to Feb 2020. This commissioned project entailed the design of a monitoring platform to assess both processes and outcomes in quantitative and qualitative terms of the efforts of the Instituto de Vivienda de la Ciudad de Buenos Aires (IVC) in Villa 20 neighborhood.

The *Phase 1 of the IVC* project was supported by the Instituto de Vivienda de la Ciudad de Buenos Aires (IVC), with permanent input from Juan Maquieyra, Martin Motta, and Florencia Almansi. Margarita Gutman and Michael Cohen directed the project, Ileana Versace and Lena Simet acted as Coordinators. Other team members were Carolina Maglioni, Julia Nesprias, Matias Ruiz Diaz, and Maria Belen Fodde.

Phase 2. Villa 20 under COVID-19

As an immediate follow up to the monitoring project, OLA embarked on a second research initiative to study the impacts of IVC's extensive efforts (assessed in the previous study), under the Covid-19 crisis, highlighting the collective efficacy of the neighborhood's effects. This work was made possible with the support of Chalmers University in Gothenburg. It was developed between March and August of 2020. This study compared Buenos Aires neighborhoods of Villa 20, Villa 15, and Villa 1-11-14 analyzing public policies carried out by government agencies, especially the IVC and the Ministerio de Desarrollo Humano y Hábitat (MDHyH), and the active collaboration of local organizations. Results from this experience were published in the peer-reviewed journal Environment and Urbanization, as referenced below.

The *Phase 2 of the neighborhood evaluation project* was supported by Chalmers University in Gothenburg, with special help from Jan Riis, with the same team as noted above.

South Bronx: Immigration Trajectories and Pandemic Experiences

This 2022 study was produced by the Observatory on Latin America in partnership with Women's Housing and Economic Development Corporation (WHEDco), a community development organization that has operated since 1992 with the "radically simple idea that all people deserve healthy, vibrant communities." WHEDco builts, owns, and manages three affordable housing buildings in the South Bronx Community Districts 3 and 4 (CD3 and CD4). It offers their communities an array of support services like high-quality early education, after-school programs, healthy food initiatives, cultural programming, and economic opportunities.

Shifting OLA's core focus on Latin American communities to Latino communities in the US, this study offers a new window of engagement. Hence, the emphasis on immigrant communities. Notably, more than 90% of Bronx residents are minority residents, a higher share than any other borough. In these specific districts, 51% of residents are foreign born, and 32.2% are rent-burdened. During the pandemic, the Bronx had the highest hospitalization and death rates, despite not having the highest Covid-19 rates.

The mixed-method research posed these questions: How did immigration trajectories affect the way people experienced the pandemic in the South Bronx over the last two years? What support structures, institutions, or social infrastructures have been most useful during this time? How did the COVID-19 pandemic impact these communities? and What are their plans and expectations for the future?

The *South Bronx* project was developed by The New York-based OLA team led by Michael Cohen and Margarita Gutman. Researchers Maria Carrizosa, Belen Fodde, Caroline Risacher, and Dina Mulyani. Technical support from WHEDco was given by Davon Russell and Nicole Lavan. The Zolberg Institute on Migration and Mobility provided a grant and a dissemination opportunity to present the findings.

2.5. Cuba Program

Description

OLA is committed to promote applied research on Cuban realities with New School students and faculty and beyond. In 2016 OLA supported the creation of the International Field Program in Cuba, which prepares graduate students for a year-long research and practice experience with the island. Between 2018 and 2023, 60 students have participated in the program, doing research on issues of race, gender, environment, technology and infrastructure, socialism and neoliberalism, Cuba-US relations. The Cuba program has also hosted numerous events, such as a visit of New School students with Cuba's president, Diaz-Canel, as well as a film screening of Miguel Coyula's *Blue Heart*. The full list of events can be found in annex 2.

Project

Havana Studio

Havana holds one of the singular collections of historic buildings in the Americas. Yet given complex interacting factors at domestic and international scales, old structures across the cityscape have been widely under-maintained for about a half a century. The number of buildings subject to structural collapse has grown to 600 per year. At the same time, the city is internationally recognized for its innovative preservation practices under the leadership of Eusebio Leal Spengler and the Office of the Historian of the City of Havana. With 3,000 people at its height, by recycling the tourism income generated via the recovery of the city's unmatched 400-year-old colonial core, Habana Vieja, the OHCH saved more than 300 singular structures, created a far-sighted economic engine for Cuba, and passed onto future generations a UNESCO World Heritage site. Reconciling prevailing self-construction activity with the conservation of historic structures involves a problem of civic perception. Thus in 2018 the Havana Studio was created to engage this complex land-use issue.

The studio created a 1000-building Regla Survey that was acknowledged at multiple presentations in Havana in December 2019. This then led to the mounting of a collaborative survey in Centro Havana with the Technological University of Havana José Antonio Echeverría (CUJAE) which was interrupted by

COVID-19 travel restrictions. Nonetheless and once again, several members of the Havana Studio continued to work beyond the spring semester in developing an exemplary Centro Habana Test Survey. The students and professors of the Havana Studio look forward to continuing this research work in the future.

Collaborators

Michael Cohen participated in the Havana Studio from 2018-2022, **Anthony Tung** was Survey Director of the Havana Studio, **Gabriel Vignoli** is the faculty coordinator of the Cuba International Field Program and ran the IFP Cuba and preparatory seminar from 2020-2024. The 2024 program brought 20 students to Havana.

3. Past Programs

3.1. Design and Development

2011- 2022

Description

This program is the site of multidisciplinary, transnational, and networked research and advocacy in the field of design and social development, with a particular emphasis on urban policy. The first phase of the Design and Development Program, "Urban Anticipations, Making Cities" took place between 2011 and 2015 in collaboration with university research teams from: Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok, University of Buenos Aires, and The New School in New York City. The group was interested in identifying the footprints of the future in innovative forms of practice taking place in these three cities at the neighborhood or city level. Together, they worked building a joint understanding of the relationships between design, social science, and history. The second phase of the Design and Development Program began in 2016 with two projects related to the implementation of global commitments in the region, in particular, the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and the New Urban Agenda. Habitat in Debt is a publication that reviews the progress of the urban agenda between 1996 and 2016. The project about the SDG and NUA in Buenos Aires is a co-production exercise mostly centered in the localization of the Sustainable Development Goals at the city-level. To see the list of events and publications under this program, see annex 2 and 3.

Projects

Mistra Urban Futures

OLA together with the Mistra Urban Futures (MUF) platform (which links local interaction platforms from various cities around the world: Cape Town, Gothenburg, Stockholm, Sheffield-Manchester, Kisumu, Malmö, and via OLA, Buenos Aires) engaged in a co-production strategy to localize the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the New Urban Agenda (NUA) at the city level. The Buenos Aires partnership comprised three key institutions, the Faculty of Architecture and Urban Design of the University of Buenos Aires, the Foreign Relations Department of the City of Buenos Aires; o the world-renowned Centre of Legal and Social Studies (CELS), which works on human rights issues in Argentina and Latin America at large.

The work focused around two pillars, namely: the analysis of secondary sources and the co-production of knowledge with government players. For the first pillar, official documents relevant to the study of the strategic implementation of SDGs in the city (UN, ECLAC, the national government) were surveyed and processed to be used as inputs. For the second pillar, meetings were held with national and city government officials.

A public activity took place within the framework of the first **"Urban 20" (U20) Mayors Summit, held in Buenos Aires in October 2018**. OLA, FADU and the GCBA organized the conference "Contributions for U20: Co-production of Knowledge in the Metropolitan Dimension," which was attended not only by officials from the organizing institutions, but also by representatives of MISTRA Urban Futures (MUF),

CELS and several universities. Moreover, OLA and the IVC led a discussion session entitled "Urban Knowledge Dialogues" with the participation of representatives of MUF, CELS and the City Government.

In 2019 the OLA-CELS team worked in the analysis of the methodology implemented by the City government to include several internal and external stakeholders in the design of the localization plan.

Following the publication of the *Voluntary Local Review. Building a Sustainable and Inclusive Buenos Aires* in July 2019 (GCBA, 2019), the collaborative work focused on specific aspects of the localization plan, including the SDG prioritization criteria, the interpretation and redefinition of targets and indicators, the measurement and monitoring methods, the government departments involved in the evaluation of the city performance, the cross-sectional examination of specific topics, and a critical approach to the Agenda 2030.

Habitat in Debt

In preparation for Habitat III, thanks to a grant from the Ford Foundation, OLA joined the Global Urban Futures Project (GUF) at The New School, a large network of practitioners, researchers, and community members advocating that New Urban Agenda should be built on an analysis of what worked and what has not worked, so that past mistakes would not be repeated. With this objective, OLA -as part of GUF- participated in the creation of the Habitat Commitment Project and designed the Habitat Commitment Index (HCI), a quantitative tool to assess the performance of countries and cities in global agendas, to understand whether cities are likely to reach set targets, and where they currently stand. The HCI also sought an answer to the question whether economically thriving places are more apt to achieve commitments, and if not, what factors improve urban well-being. In addition to OLA's contributions to the quantitative research and advocacy agenda, OLA led a region-specific qualitative project titled: "Habitat in Debt". The "Habitat in Debt" initiative was an assessment of the fulfillment of Habitat II commitments (1996-2016) in six countries: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, and Mexico. By focusing on these six countries, this qualitative assessment talks about 70% of the region's population. OLA commissioned six highly recognized Latin American experts to prepare a document that would assess the progress each of their countries had during the last two decades with regards to the Habitat Agenda.

Collaborators

In the Mistra Urban Futures project, work was carried out thanks to the partnership with its Director David Simon, professor from the University of London at Royal Holloway. OLA's key research member was Ileana Versace. The Habitat in Debt project was carried out in conjunction with the Global Urban Futures Project at The New School, which had a team of more than 20 professors and student researchers.

4. Partnerships and Development

In the period under review, OLA actively pursued complementary funding streams via direct contracts, gifts, and grant proposals. We signed six contracts multiplying our revenue by five, helped the university develop three Memoranda of Understanding (MoU), and received four letters of commitment from these strategic partners.

4.1. Working Partners

The Observatory on Latin America has had institutional agreements and cooperates with the following institutions:

Ministerio de Cultura de Argentina
Between 2020 and 2023 the Ministry of Culture in Argentina was a close ally of OLA providing letters of support for funding applications and organizing events in its different programs. Two museums under the Ministry's coordination were close allies: the Museo de las Luces in downtown Buenos Aires, and the small Tilcara Museum, in the peripheric town of Jujuy.

Universidad Nacional de Colombia
A broad academic cooperation agreement with the National University of Colombia was signed in 2018, facilitating faculty and student exchanges, as well as joint programs and projects. The National University of Colombia is a national public research university in Colombia, with regional campuses.

Universidad del Rosario, Colombia
OLA and Universidad del Rosario signed an academic cooperation agreement in 2021, facilitating joint programs and projects. OLA collaborated most closely with the newly created Faculty of Creation, an innovative pedagogical project that merges the arts with a decolonial approach to teaching.

Icesi University, Cali, Colombia
Icesi has been collaborating actively with OLA since 2020. Over the last two years OLA and the Institute of Afro-Diasporic Studies as well as the Law and Social Studies School have engaged in various grant proposals. Icesi is a private university located in Cali, Colombia. It offers undergraduate programs, specializations, masters, and doctorates.

Universidad de Antioquía, Colombia
Universidad de Antioquia is a public university and one of the most important academic institutions in Colombia. Its main campus is located in the city of Medellín, along with other campuses in the nine regions of the Department of Antioquia.

Universidad de Buenos Aires (UBA), Argentina
OLA facilitated a Memorandum of Understanding to be signed between The New School and in UBA in 2014. The MoU is currently in the process of being updated. With more than 300,000 students, the Universidad de Buenos Aires is an important tertiary degree institution in Argentina.

Facultad de Arquitectura, Diseño y Urbanismo de la Universidad de Buenos Aires:
The Facultad de Arquitectura, Diseño y Urbanismo (of Architecture, Design and Urban Studies, FADU-UBA) has 23,000 students, and has remained OLA's most strategic partner in the region. Margarita

Gutman is an active member of its academic community. OLA's engagements with FADU have centered recently on two key programs: Conflict in the Digital Space and 2084 Imagined Futures from the South.

Facultad de Derecho, Universidad de Buenos Aires
OLA is currently in the process of establishing a working agreement with UBA's Law School and The New School, to develop joint research projects. An edited book under the title: Digital Power. Justice and Rights is being prepared with renowned academics from Argentina, US and Europe, under the coordination of Horacio Corti and Margarita Gutman.

Ecenarro Turrillo Chair, Taller Santangelo, Introducción al Conocimiento Proyectual (ICP), Ciclo Básico Común (CBC)
The Ciclo Básico Común (CBC) is a foundational educational program at the University of Buenos Aires (UBA). Students acquire essential tools to prepare for their desired degree. ICP serves as an introduction to the field of design and projective thinking.

Fundación SES, Argentina
OLA was engaged in a multi-year arrangement with Fundación SES to ensure the proper financial management of its activities in Argentina. This agreement came to an end in 2019. SES is an organization dedicated to promoting and developing new strategies for including at-risk adolescents and youth in the community. SES stands for the three fundamental values of the institution: Sustainability, for its commitment to future generations; Education, understood as a vehicle for development; and Solidarity, a basic element for social integration.

Universidad Nacional de San Martín (UNSAM), Argentina
From 2011 to 2019 the OLA collaborated closely with Universidad Nacional de San Martin in the President Nestor Kirchner Fellowship Program. This university emerged as one of the new public universities in Argentina with ten academic units. UNSAM and The New School's Julien Studley Graduate Program in International Affairs developed a Master's Program by which UNSAM students took courses in Buenos Aires with Studley Graduate Programs in International Affairs faculty and then spent a second year in New York completing their degrees.

Ministry of Public Defense of the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires
In 2020, OLA signed an institutional agreement with the Office of the Public Defender of Argentina [Ministerio Público de la Defensa de la Nación, MPD]. David Van Zandt, TNS's former President and Horacio Corti, the Public Defender discussed in person the reach of the agreement for joint research and publications. The results were published in a Special Issue of the Journal of the public Defender.

The Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES)
The Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES) is a German social democratic foundation with more than 35 years of presence in Argentina, committed to democracy and social justice. It promotes spaces for political dialogue, advice on public policies and citizen education. As an international organization with a presence in more than 100 countries around the world, it promotes the exchange of progressive ideas and initiatives between the global north and south. It works together with social movements, unions, political parties and other civil organizations to mainly develop the following axes: innovation and future of work, promotion and expansion of rights, gender equality and social-ecological transformation and modes of development. The first results of this collaboration were the publication of [insert title of booklet].

4.2. FUNDRAISING

Contracts and Gifts (2018-2023)

Mistra Urban Futures (Sweden)	74,317
Instituto de Vivienda Ciudad de Buenos Aires	250,398
Chalmers University (Sweden)	20,000
CAF Corporación Andina de Fomento	60,000
Zolberg Institute on Migration and Mobility	20,000
Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (Germany)	9,000
	433,715

5. Digital Communications

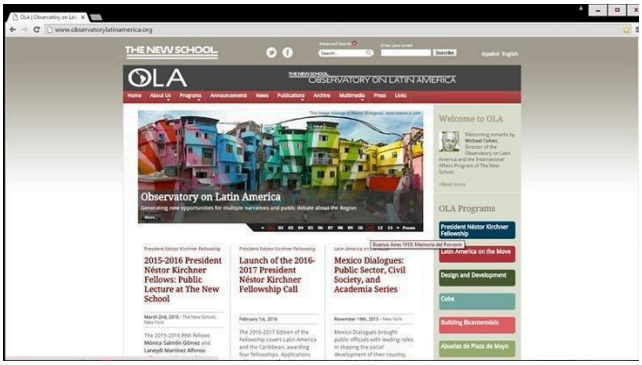
5.1. Web

OLA - observatorylatinamerica.org

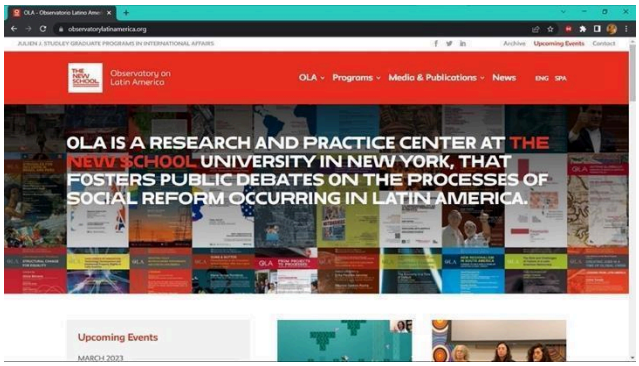
OLA's website has been maintained since 2008 as independent from The New School's website. Notably, it is a fully bilingual website, which in practical terms means we maintain two websites. All our dissemination materials are translated from English to Spanish or vice versa, to ensure a wider reach throughout the region.

In 2019, following the new image branding of The New School, OLA engaged in the redesign of its dual website.

OLA website 2008-2019



OLA website 2019-today



In April 2021, OLA launched a new website for its landmark program *2084: Imagined Futures from the South*. Since then, OLA manages these two bilingual websites. Maintaining this digital presence demands from OLA dedicated resources in terms of staff, contractors, hosting, domain, content management software, SEO tools, and other services. The OLA and the 2084 sites are consistently updated to disseminate information related to upcoming events, to report on our activities, to publicize calls, showcase publications, research papers, and policy briefs written by our staff, researchers, fellows, and allies. The 2084 website has an added level of complexity, since it has a module that allows for remote users to upload content.

During the 2018-2024 period, the OLA and 2084 websites combined received over 74,744 visitors. As expected, the 2084 website has been growing traffic in its first 4 years from 2021 to 2024. Meanwhile, the OLA webpage has maintained a sustained traffic of about 7,500 users. Our reach with these websites is quite global. This year we have been consulted by 9,555 users from 1,697 cities in 144 countries. Our digital readership is particularly active across Latin America, most especially in Argentina where OLA has its satellite office. The OLA website reaches all in the Americas, while the 2084 website reaches all countries in the region except Suriname. [in 2023 and 2024 UK, Spain, France, Germany and other European countries have reached the top ten in our chart of visitors].

Annex 1. Current Team biographies

Michael Cohen. Director. Director of the PhD Program in Public and Urban Policy, Professor of International Affairs and Founding Director of the Graduate Program in International Affairs at The New School University in New York. He worked at the World Bank from 1972 to 1999 and was responsible for formulating much of the World Bank's urban policy. He worked in 55 countries and was Chief of the Urban Development Division and the Water Supply and Sanitation Division. He has written widely on development policy issues, urban development, Africa, and Argentina, including two books, Argentina's Economic Growth and Recovery, and an edited volume, The Global Economic Crisis in Latin America: Impacts and Responses. He was a member of the US National Academy of Sciences Panels on Infrastructure and Urban Demographic Dynamics. He has been actively engaged in international urban policy debates since the Habitat I Conference in 1976 and participated in the Habitat III Conference in Quito in 2016. He has advised the UN, IADB, ADB, AfDB, Ford, Rockefeller, and MacArthur foundations, and many national and local governments.

Margarita Gutman. Director. Emeritus Professor of Urban Studies and International Affairs at The New School. Member of the Doctoral Commission of the School of Architecture, Design, and Urban Planning at the University of Buenos Aires (FADU-UBA). Holds a doctorate in Architecture and Urban History from the University of Buenos Aires. From 2004 to 2009, she was Full Professor and holder of a Chair (Cátedra) of History of Architecture and Cities at FADU-UBA. She was a Scholar at The Getty Research Institute and at the Woodrow Wilson International Center, Fellow at the International Center for Advanced Studies of New York University, and Senior Fellow at the Vera List Center for Art and Politics, The New School.

Juan Manuel Gonzalez. Visiting Scholar. Holds a PhD in geography from The Pennsylvania State University, an M.Sc. in geography from The Pennsylvania State University, and a B.A. in economics from the Universidad de los Andes in Bogotá, Colombia. Dr. González has over 25 years of experience in development studies and practice, with special emphasis in Latin America. He was the director of the Interdisciplinary Center for Development Studies, CIDER at Universidad de los Andes for 10 years as well as a member of the Academic Council of the University. He has worked with Colombian state agencies (national, regional, and local), international development agencies funding projects in Colombia (such as the World Bank, UNESCO, UNDP, IADB, UNICEF and USAID), and private initiatives in collaborations with investment banks and consulting firms and private sector associations.

Martin Gromez. Media Coordinator in Buenos Aires. Architect from the School of Architecture, Design and Urbanism, University of Buenos Aires (FADU, UBA). He was the FADU, UBA Representative on the Advisory Council of Heritage Affairs of the Government of the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires (1999-2011). Since 1998 he has managed Media Coordination for OLA/The New School projects developed in Buenos Aires at the Office of International Programs at FADU, UBA. Within the artistic field, he is a distinguished musician, performer, and multimedia producer for which he received a Fellowship from the Goëthe Institute.

Rebecca Snyder. Program Associate of the OLA in New York. She is currently pursuing her Master's in International Affairs at The New School. As a graduate student, Rebecca has worked with The Stimson Center on the Global Governance Innovation Report 2024, as well as with former deputy director of UNHCR, Richard Towle, on a report highlighting the challenges of sanctions on humanitarian action. Rebecca went on the 2024 International Field Program to Cuba where she studied remittances, inequality, and youth desires to migrate. Her main research interests are migration, global governance, and human rights.

Maria Fernanda Pizarro. Research Assistant. She holds a bachelor's degree in law from the Xaverian University in Colombia and is currently pursuing a Master of Arts in Media Studies at The New School in New York. Her career has revolved around the implementation of the peace agreement in Colombia. As a lawyer, she had roles in different NGOs documenting and defending war-related cases and victims within transitional justice frameworks. Most recently, she worked for the Colombian's Special Jurisdiction for Peace, developing pedagogical strategies about transitional and restorative justice.

Amanda Jorri. Research Assistant. She holds a bachelor's and master's degree in Economics and is currently pursuing a PhD in Public and Urban Policy at The New School. She has done work on ECLAC thinking and has analyzed the Brazilian economic development process. Her current interests include political economy, economic development and inequality, particularly in Latin America.

Annex 2. Events

Latin America on the Move

Meeting with Representatives from Argentina

November 7, 2024

On November 7, representatives from Argentina attended a special OLA presentation led by Dr. Michael Cohen. The event was organized by the Fundación Argentina de Jóvenes (FAJ), and brought 32 representatives to our office in New York City. Dr. Cohen highlighted the impact of the group's initiatives in various areas through books, events and projects carried out over the years. He also highlighted The New School's historical relationship with institutions in Argentina, such as the University of Buenos Aires. In addition, over the years, there have been important visits from figures such as Néstor and Cristina Kirchner, as well as the creation of a fellowship in honor of the former Argentine president after his death, which contributed to several Latin Americans having had the chance to present their work at the New School in New York. The meeting was a rich interaction between the guests and the other OLA staff, sharing experiences that aroused great interest among those present. It was raised some ideas and possibilities of further interaction and the potential opportunities for argentine students. OLA staff shared their experiences of studying at The New School and living in New York, describing this experience's unique opportunities. In the end, copies of the Books produced by the OLA were distributed, bringing the event to a close with a celebration of the knowledge and impact generated by the team.

Book Launch: *Infrastructure, Policy, and Inequality*

September 24 2024



The Observatory on Latin America (OLA) hosted a book launch for the book Infrastructure Policy and Inequality by Michael Cohen on September 24, 2024. The event had welcoming remarks from Joel Towers, President of The New School and Michael Cohen, Director of the Doctoral Program in Public and Urban Policy at The New School and Co-Director of the OLA. They were followed by a discussion about the book, which included expert panelists: Aromar Revi, Director of the Indian Institute for Human Settlements; Sakiko Fukuda-Parr, Professor of International Affairs at The New School; and Nidhi Srinivas, Professor of Management at The New School.

Two Panels - Continental Governance and The Impact of the US 2024 Elections on Latin America

May 2 2024

Update on U.S.-Cuba Relations in a Multipolar World

April 5 2024



The first panel examined the question of "continental governance", based on a 2024 report prepared by the three Latin American universities with support from the Ford Foundation. The substantive thrust of this panel was that despite many common economic and political interests, there was little concrete evidence that there was currently a consensus among countries in the region that "continental governance" was likely. A second panel on the impact of the US 2024 presidential elections on Latin America suggested strongly that there was little difference between the Republican and Democratic parties in the United States, citing the continuity between Trump and Biden in many areas, from trade or the US embargo against Cuba. The major exception to this was the extreme position that the Trump administration had taken vis a vis Mexico and the issue of reducing the number of migrants seeking entry into the United States on the southern border.



The topic of Ambassador Soberón's presentation was "An Update on U.S.-Cuba Relations in a Multi-Polar World". This presentation placed current U.S.-Cuban relations in the broader historical framework of the impact of the U.S. embargo on Cuba which has had a massive economic, social, and political impact on Cuba. The embargo has not only limited the direct importation of needed good and services to Cuba, but has been expanded, particularly during the Trump presidency, to dramatically increase the cost to Cuba of its international trade and its ability to provide needed supplies for the country to face the COVID-19 pandemic and its economic consequences.

Latin America in a Multipolar World

November 15-16 2023



The growing convergence of COVID-19, the war in Ukraine, food and fuel shortages around the world, have all given rise to a perception that the world cannot be left to either US-Russia or US-China bi-polar relations. The recent announcement that the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa) has been expanded to include Argentina, Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, Saudi Arabia, and United Arab Emirates is a major step in this direction. The conference discussed this process and what it means for Latin America.

South Atlantic: Peace, Cooperation and Dispute

October 9 2023



The Observatory on Latin America, Studley Graduate Programs in International Affairs of The New School, and The Permanent Mission of The Argentine Republic to the United Nations are pleased to invite you to: South Atlantic: Peace, Cooperation and Dispute.

A World in Crisis as seen from Latin America

16-17 November 2022

Film Screening: *Iran #3037: Political Sexual Violence Under The Dictatorship*

13 October 2022



This conference was made in partnership with the Friedrich Ebert Foundation, Nueva Sociedad, Colegio de Mexico, and Torcuato di Tella University. The first day it discussed the major findings of the survey "European Union - Latin America: Perspectives, Agendas and Expectations". The second day, reflected on the dilemmas shared by Latin America, Europe, and the United States in face of the ongoing uncertainties and threats that currently dominate global affairs.



Iran #3037 was a clandestine center of detention and torture under the brutal regime of Pinochet. It was referred to as The Sexy Blindfold (*La Venda Sexy*) or the Discotheque and known for sexual violation and abuse. The movie was screened for the first time in the United States, followed by a conversation with its director, Patricia Artés Ibañez. This event was co-organized by NSPE's Associate Professor of Comparative Literature, Terri Gordon.

Book Launch: *Cities and Economic Inequality in Latin America*

29 September 2022



Lena Simet is senior researcher and advocate on poverty and inequality at Human Rights Watch, she received her PhD in Public and Urban Policy at The New School in 2020. In her book she examines trends and determinants of economic inequality in cities in Latin America. It explores how the gap between the haves and the have nots manifests in every part of urban life – from housing to schooling to employment. It asks why some cities have higher inequality than others and what we can learn from these differences as we push back against inequality.

Facing Global Challenges: A Latin American Perspective by Alberto Fernández

20 September 2022



The president of Argentina delivered a major address at The New School on global challenges from the perspective of Latin America. This event was President Fernández's second appearance at The New School, he first visited more than 10 years ago to meet with students and speak about his experience serving as chief of cabinet. He was invited to also speak as the president of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC).

Book Launch: *The Walls of Santiago*

5 May 2022

Peace and Security, and Sustainable Development from a Human Rights Perspective

21 April 2022



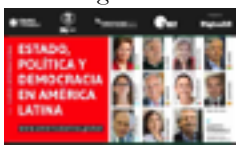
Terri Gordon, Associate Professor at The New School and Eric Zolov, Associate Professor at Stony Brook University—who were in Santiago to witness and document the protests from their very beginnings—offer a vivid catalog of Chilean wall art, along with reflections on its artistic antecedents, the context of global protest movements, and the long shadow cast by Chile's authoritarian past.



Ambassador Federico Villegas, President of the United Nations Human Rights Council and Permanent Representative of Argentina to the United Nations Office, Geneva gave a talk on peace, security, and sustainable development at The New School.

State, Politics and Democracy in Latin America (online course)

2 August 2021



The 11-session online course "State, politics and democracy in Latin America" was developed by the School of Latin American and Global Studies. It counted with the participation of Dilma Rousseff, Ernesto Samper, Elizabeth Gómez Alcorta, José Luís Rodríguez Zapatero, Álvaro García Linera, Alicia Bárcena, Raúl Zaffaroni, Esperanza Martínez, Manuela d'Ávila, Pepe Mujica and President Alberto Fernández.

Book Launch: *La Vulnerabilidad Ante La Incertidumbre: La situación de la población infantil y adolescente en Paraguay durante la pandemia de COVID-19*

22 July 2021



"Vulnerability to Uncertainty. The situation of the child and adolescent population in Paraguay during the COVID-19 pandemic", this publication was coordinated by the OLA visiting fellow (2018-2019) Luis Ortiz, who was also part of the panel of presenters.

ONLINE | Latin American Dissertation Seminar Series · Second Panel

22 April 2021



This seminar was the second panel of a series featuring research on Latin America, and was part of the work of doctoral students at The New School's Public and Urban Policy (PUP) doctoral program: Maria Carrizosa and Rita Sandoval.

ONLINE | Latin American Dissertation Seminar Series · First Panel

22 April 2021



This seminar was the inaugural panel of a series featuring research on Latin America, and was part of the work of doctoral students at The New School's Public and Urban Policy (PUP) doctoral program: Lena Simet, David Lopez, and Cristina Handal.

It's Not $30.00 Pesos, It's 30 Years

5 March 2020



In this talk, Terri Gordon, Associate Professor at The New School and Eric Zolov, Associate Professor at Stony Brook University, discussed and showed the protest graphics and graffiti covering the walls of Santiago in Chile, as a way to understand the roots, social configurations and demands of Chile's contemporary crisis.

A Green New Deal to Latin America: Challenges to Brazil

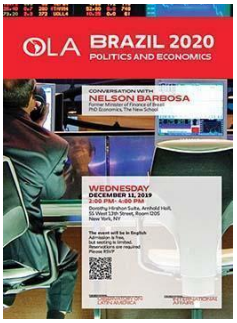
5 February 2020



This seminar discussed the political and economic challenges to implement a Green New Deal in Latin America and in the US, comparing the case of Brazil and of the US. The debate is also around how to politically reorganize progressive movements towards an equal and sustainable development.

Brazil 2020: Politics and Economics Brazil

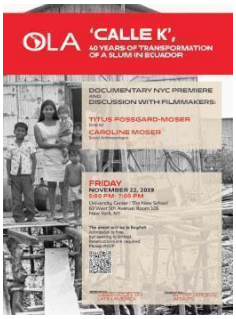
11 December 2019



Nelson Barbosa, former Brazilian Minister of Finance under Dilma Rousseff and New School alumni, Economics Ph.D. in 2002, discussed Brazil's current political and economic challenges, a discussion that is relevant in a time where political changes, and demands for equality and transparency have sparked across Latin America.

Documentary Screening: *Calle K*

22 November 2019



Calle K (2019) is a documentary film that looks at the transformation over time of an illegal squatter settlement. In 1978 Titus Fossgard-Moser lived with his brother and filmmaker/anthropologist parents in the community of Indio Guayas, then on the mangrove outskirts of Guayaquil, Ecuador.

Bottom-Up Urban Policies in Brazil

18 April 2019



Paraguay: 30-Year-Old Democracy

10 April 2019



In this public lecture, Nabil Bonduki, a Brazilian architect, town planner, university professor, and politician, explained how he played a key role in the drafting of the Strategic Master Plan of São Paulo in 2002 and 2014. In his work, he engages on a critical formulation of public urban policies, with emphasis on the environment, solidarity economy, cultural politics, popular participation, as well as cultural popular manifestations.

Social Inequality and Education in Paraguay

22 March 2019



In this seminar, Luis Ortiz, a visiting fellow from Paraguay, presented his research on the relationship between education, social welfare, and labor inequalities in Paraguay over the last 30 years. Ortiz explained that an educational reform at the beginning of this period played an important role in expanding access to education for the entire population. However, in the face of an increasing concentration of income, the promise of "equality of opportunities" is not being fulfilled.

Is Coffee Sustainable?

10 October 2018



The Observatory on Latin America presented a roundtable on production, trade, and community in the coffee industry. Sustainable Harvest, a coffee importer, were in conversation with Coocentral, a Colombian coffee farmer cooperative. Guests were invited to taste coffees and learn about the challenges that confront farmers and threaten their livelihoods.

New Citizenship Rights in Latin America - PNK Lecture

8 March 2018

Luis Ortiz, Susana Sottoli, and Javier Uriarte spoke to an audience of students, faculty, and general public about the concentration of economic assets in Paraguay, the Paraguayan democracy, and the role that war and democratization plays in the processes of state consolidation.

Aportes Para El U20 Argentina

24 October 2018 (Buenos Aires)



The Observatory on Latin America, in partnership with the Facultad de Arquitectura, Diseño y Urbanismo of the Universidad de Buenos Aires (FADU-UBA) and the City Government of Buenos Aires, organized a daylong conference entitled "Aportes para el U20, Coproducción del Conocimiento en la Dimensión Metropolitana" (Contributions to the U20, Coproduction of Metropolitan Knowledge). This evento took place at FADU-UBA.

From Projects to Processes

4 September 2018



The Observatory on Latin America hosted Juan Maquieyra, President of the Housing Institute of the City of Buenos Aires (Instituto de Vivienda, IVC) who spoke to an audience of students, faculty, and the general public. Maquierya brings an innovative and dynamic approach to the housing sector, emphasizing the importance of participatory processes in design and implementation of housing programs.

Transport infrastructure for inclusive urban development: The case of Quito's subway



New Citizenship Rights: With this lecture, the Observatory on Latin America celebrated the second session of the 7th annual edition of the PNK Fellowship, a joint initiative of the Universidad Nacional de San Martin (UNSAM) in Argentina and The New School, in New York. The Spring 2018 Fellows Patricia Martinez Coral from Colombia, and Casandra Castorena Sánchez from Mexico, presented their respective works at an event entitled: "Citizenship Rights in Latin America". This was the last event of the PNK program.

25 January 2018



Jacobo Herdoiza, Secretary of Territory, Habitat, and Housing at the Metropolitan Municipality of Quito, Ecuador, talked about the subway of Quito and presented the city's strategy to provide a space of debate about how to achieve successful implementation of such measures for urban integration.

2084: Imagined Futures from the South

Creamos Futuros Mar de Plata 2124

8-9 November 2024



The 2084 Imagined Futures from the South program closed the International Forum We Create Futures, organized by the Futures Laboratory of the Atlántida University, Mar del Plata (province of Buenos Aires) directed by Laura Novick. Before an audience of 200 people, the Forum was held on November 8 in the theater of the Museo Mar, and the Workshop on November 9 at the headquarters of the Atlántida University. Directors from Colombian universities in Medellín and Popayán associated with the Lab Creamos Futuros project also participated in the Workshop.

Escuela de Futuros, Bogota

13-16 November 2024



The Department of Culture, Recreation and Sports of the city of Bogotá, Colombia launched in November 2024 a project called School of Futures: Imagination and Collective Action for Bogotá. This project is a creative and pedagogical experimental strategy that will be dedicated to the collective creation of narratives, stories and scenarios of futures of the city. The inauguration of the School of Futures involved a four-day event, The first day consisted of conferences and panels. Juan Manuel González of OLA was invited by the team of the School of Futures to participate in and observe the event. He had the opportunity to talk extensively about OLA's program 2084: Imagined Futures.

Contesting Futures: Beyond the UN Summit for the Future

19 September 2024



Is the UN approach to the future ambitious enough? Does it represent the aspirations of the diversity of peoples around the world? Can it empower nations, communities, and cultures to identify their paths to fulfill their own expectations, desires, and capacities? This panel challenged the UN Summit approach envisioning a single future based on decades of meetings and international commitments. Speakers examined different attitudes towards the future, means of articulating fears and desires for the world to come, including possibilities, limitations, and agency. The idea was to create spaces for more inclusive imaginations.The event concluded with an open conversation with the audience about their insights provoked by the panelists.

Colonized Temporalities

27 February 2024



Professor Ibañez started off by mentioning how many historical accounts of the Spanish conquest of the Americas depict this as the clash of different cultures. She argued that this contact between colonizers and colonized, in this case Aymara and Quechua peoples, brought together two forms of conceiving time that were very different. The result of this encounter was what she calls a chrono-structural mismatch, with important consequences that should be unveiled and understood.

Time for the Indians mentioned above is conceived as a moving spiral, whereas the Spanish introduced a linear and progressive notion of time. Professor Stoler's comments agreed with a non-linear idea of time and suggested Foucault and his genealogical approach as a way to think and unveil the multiple splinters of time.

Pieles del Future

28 November 2023



This online meeting brought together prominent Colombian academics with the student authors of the imaginations created within the framework of the exercise proposed in the subject Introducción al Conocimiento Proyectual II, Taller

Temporalidades Andinas y Futuros Ancestrales

4 May 2023

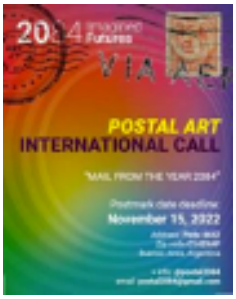


Este cuarto conversatorio del programa 2084: Futuros imaginados desde el Sur nos invita a escuchar cómo lo indígena puede entenderse no como algo anclado en el pasado

Santangelo – Cátedra Ecenarro del Ciclo Básico Común (CBC) de la Facultad de Arquitectura, Diseño y Urbanismo de la Universidad de Buenos Aires (FADU-UBA).

y exotizado, sino como un poderoso posibilitador de nuevas imaginaciones de otros futuros posibles.

International Call for Mail Art and Exhibition
October-December 2022



The Observatory on Latin America invited the mail art community around the world to mail postcards from the year 2084. The postcards received were presented at the Exhibition Hall of the Library of the Facultad de Arquitectura, Diseño y Urbanismo, Universidad de Buenos Aires (FADU UBA), Argentina in November and December 2022.

An Argentine Tunnel
25-26 March 2022



In August 2020 the Terry National Museum and the Manzana de las Luces Historical Complex in Argentina invited 12 young people from the Jujuy province to meet virtually during the pandemic to exchange experiences, reflect on the present and imagine possible futures. On March 25th 2022, the participants were invited to Buenos Aires to meet in person. On March 26th, the digital book 2084: An Argentine tunnel, the result of this project, was presented by the 12 young authors in a public event held in downtown Buenos Aires.

ONLINE | Gamers del Sur: Otros Futuros
2 November 2022



The Observatory on Latin America explored the idea of literacy in the future through video games. The authors of three video games discussed with panelists from Colombia, the United States, and Argentina. Three Argentine authors of video games that explore the future engaged in conversation with three Latin American scholars.

ONLINE | Futuros del Pasado - Segundo conversatorio
8 September 2021



In this second discussion about futures of the past organized by the 2084 program, members of the International College of Graduates "Temporalities of the Future" of the Freie University of Berlin, presented their research on Latin American futures as seen from the past.

ONLINE | Futuros del Pasado - Primer conversatorio
2 December 2020

Imagined Futures from the South Program Launch
28 April 2021



In this first conversation, the panelists addressed futures of the past from very different sources: popular imaginations of Buenos Aires at the beginning of the 20th century reflected in illustrated magazines, contrasted with the imaginations of experts in urban planning; the conception of space-time in Quechua culture, and the reimagining of the early 21st century from hypothetical interviews conducted in 2066.



The 2084 Imagined Futures from the South program invited us to occupy and activate the future of Latin American cities by using our imaginations and amplifying the voices of those who are less heard. Scientists, scholars, and authors of the imaginations from Argentina and Colombia were the panelists of this online event attended by a large audience.

Conflict in the Digital Space

Metadata Roundtable: Dilemmas of Data Construction Processes

8 November 2021



This roundtable reflected on current research and future projects on methodological and political problems and dilemmas about data construction. The presenters were Emmanuel Borthiry, Emiliano Calomarde, Javier Nesprias, Marcelo A. Soria, Margarita Gutman, Martin Pablo Groisman, Milagros Dolabani, Nicolás Quiroga, Silvana Ferreyra, Wanda Juares and Ximena Puppo.

ONLINE | Ciudad Digital: territorios emergentes y derechos incumplidos

25 February 2021



Horacio Corti, General Defender of the Public Ministry of the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires, Diego Golombek, Professor and Executive Director of the National Institute of Technological Education, and Margarita Gutman presented this bilingual publication (Spanish and English) which identifies and analyzes claims published on a selection of digital platforms by individuals and social groups from the most vulnerable neighborhoods located south of Buenos Aires. This work has been carried out within the framework of the institutional link between the New School and the Ministerio Público de la Defensa (MPD CABA).

Sociotechnical Explorer: Digital Territorial Demands in Buenos Aires

3 March 2020

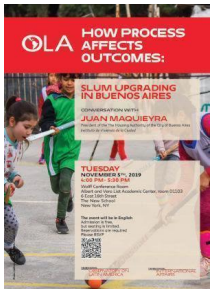


Margarita Gutman presented her work titled "Sociotechnical Explorer: Visual Tools for the Study of Territorial Demands that Emerge in the Digital Space (Metropolitan Region of Buenos Aires 2000-2015)". The focus of this report was on demands sparked by problems in urban public and private space, infrastructure, and environment, associated with hydric basins, sub-basins, and states of vulnerability and risk. William Morrish, Professor of Urban Ecologies at the New School offered comments.

New Urban Practices

How Process Affects Outcomes: Slum Upgrading in Buenos Aires Argentina

5 November 2019



The Housing Authority of the City of Buenos Aires (Instituto de Vivienda de la Ciudad, IVC) launched an innovative program which uses participation as an instrument to achieve socio-economic integration and to reduce inequality. The following questions were discussed: Which are the costs and benefits of participation? How process-projects can contribute to reducing social exclusion? What conditions enable sustainability?

Book Presentation at Building a Resilient Future Conference

22 September 2019



The OLA joined a pool of 450 changemakers at the Building a Resilient Future event organized by the Global Resilience Partnership. They presented the book *Facing Risk: New Urban Resilience Practices in Latin America.*

Book Launch: *Facing Risk: New Urban Resilience Practices in Latin America*

12 September 2019



Workshop: Integration, Participation, SDGs Argentina

26 October 2018



The publication is the result of a collaboration agreement between the OLA and the Latin American development bank CAF. The authors conducted field research in Manizales, in Colombia, La Paz, in Bolivia, Cuenca, in Ecuador, Santa Fe and Pilar in Argentina, and Cubatão in Brazil. Three of the seven researchers shared the highlights from the city they studied: Maria Carrizosa on Manizales, Colombia; David Lopez, on La Paz, Bolivia, and Lena Simet on Santa Fe, Argentina. Timon McPhearson, faculty and Director of the Urban Systems Lab at The New School, offered some comments on the book.

The Observatory on Latin America presented their preliminary findings of two research projects at a special session of the Urban Knowledge Dialogues organized by the Instituto de Vivienda (IVC) of Buenos Aires. The project was called "Integration, Participation and Sustainable Development Goals".

Cities and the Global Agenda Global: on the Road to the U20 in Buenos Aires

13 July 2018



The High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) met at UN headquarters in New York from July 9 to 20, 2028 to conduct a review of progress towards the achievement of the SDGs. The New School hosted a full day conference co-organized with MISTRA Urban Futures, the University of Buenos Aires, and the Global Platform for the Right to the City.

The Challenge of Transdisciplinary Co-Production Global

9 April 2018



This presentation surveyed the lessons learnt and challenges faced by the research of Mistra Urban Futures (MUF) in Sweden, the UK, South Africa, and Kenya in developing and deploying different forms of urban transdisciplinary co-production. While it is important to understand the local context within which each method has evolved, this project seeked to explain the potential for adaptation in diverse settings in order for such methods to be more widely utilized.

Cuba Program

Film Screening: Blue Heart

10 November 2023



Meeting of New School Students with the President of Cuba Diaz-Canel

12 July 2022



Screening of the film "Blue Heart" (Corazon Azul), followed by a discussion with the director, Cuban filmmaker Miguel Coyula and actress Lynn Cruz.

SYNOPSIS: In an alternate reality, Fidel Castro uses genetic engineering to build the new man and thus save utopia. The experiment fails as these beings are highly intelligent but also cruel and uncontrollable. Rejected by their own creators, a group organizes a series of terrorist actions, and chaos reigns on the island.

The Real Estate Market in Cuba: Impacts and Challenges

10 October 2018



This public lecture by Carlos Garcia Pleyan showed how, fifty years after the enactment of the Urban Reform Law, which canceled the processes of urban speculation in Cuba in 2011, the government of Raúl Castro modified the Housing Law opening the possibility of the free sale of housing and, with this, the operation of a growing real estate market. Six years after that measure, the effects on the social and economic geography of the cities are beginning to be felt and the legislative and tax deficiencies of a regulatory framework conceived for another socioeconomic reality are evident.

"Thanks for the meeting, for the time, and for building bridges," said the First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Party and President of the Republic Miguel Díaz-Canel Bermúdez in a meeting in the afternoon of July 12 with a group of students from The New School, a top-tier university in New York , who are attending a summer course sponsored by Casa de las Américas.

Design and Development

Mobility, Migration, and Immigrant Communities in the South Bronx

23 September 2022

WHEDco
Building A Greater Bronx

ONLINE | OLA at the 17th International Conference on Urban Health

7 July 2021



OLA presented its research at a two-day event hosted by the Zolberg Institute for Migration and Mobility. The study was done in partnership with WHEDco (Women's Housing and Economic Development Corporation). Focusing on local responses during the pandemic, this study aimed at understanding the COVID-19 experiences, whether those experiences have changed the perceptions of the future for households living in affordable housing units managed by WHEDco in the South Bronx.

The OLA project "COVID-19 in Real Time: Comparing the Struggle of Three Slums in Buenos Aires" was presented in the session "COVID-19, Housing, and Health: Learning from Pandemic Responses from across the Americas" during the 17th International Conference on Urban Health, organized by the International Society for Urban Health (ISUH).

ONLINE | Inclusión y tensiones en la cuenca Matanza-Riachuelo. Dilemas de la integración socio espacial en Buenos Aires

9 May 2021



Two renowned representatives of the academic and political field of Argentina, Roberto Doberti and Antonio Colicigno commented in the book launch of *Inclusión y tensiones en la cuenca*. This book, edited by Margarita Gutman, OLA Director, addresses the complexity of the basin from multiple disciplinary and scalar approaches: social work, anthropology, sociology, architecture, anthropology, art, and biology.

Book Launch: *Urban Policy in Latin America*

16 October 2019



The Observatory on Latin America launched this book that evaluates the impact of 20 years of urban policies in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador and Mexico. Martha Susana Jaimes and Maria Carrizosa, PhD candidates in Public and Urban Policy at The New School, made presentations followed by comments by Thomas Angotti, Professor Emeritus of Urban Policy and Planning at Hunter College and the Graduate Center, City University of New York, and author with vast experience in Latin America.

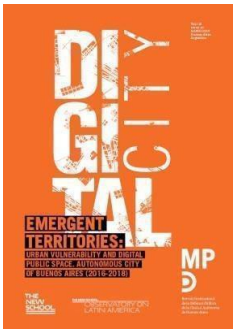
Annex 3. Publications

2084: Imagined Futures from the South

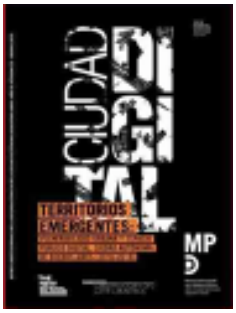


2084: Un Túnel Argentino
Ministerio de Cultura y de la Nación. (2021)
This publication is the result of an initiative promoted by the Ministry of Culture, through its Secretariat of Cultural Heritage and the National Directorate of Heritage Management, to imagine desired futures to be projected and, at the same time, pasts that deserve to be treasured. The initiative involved 12 youth from two Argentine cities (Tilcara and Buenos Aires) 15 hundred thousand kilometers apart, who worked together to imagine the future together. Two Museum led this process: the Tilcara Museum in Jujuy and the Museo de las Luces in the capital.

Conflicts in the Digital Space



Territorios Emergentes: vulnerabilidad urbana y espacio público digital. Ciudad Autónoma de Buenos Aires (2016-2018)
(2020), Ciudad Autónoma de Buenos Aires
Gutman, M. Ed.
This Spanish version of the publication identifies and analyzes claims about unfulfilled rights in the City of Buenos Aires, uploaded on a selection of digital platforms by individuals and social groups from the most vulnerable neighborhoods located south of the city.



Emergent Territories: Urban Vulnerability and Digital Space. Autonomous City of Buenos Aires (2016-2018)
(2020), Ciudad Autónoma de Buenos Aires
Gutman, M. Ed.
The English version of the publication makes accessible the study to a wider global audience. It also identifies and analyzes claims about unfulfilled rights in the City of Buenos Aires, uploaded on a selection of digital platforms by individuals and social groups from the most vulnerable neighborhoods located south of the city.



Inclusión y tensiones en la cuenca Matanza-Riachuelo. Dilemas de la integración socio espacial en Buenos Aires.
(2021), Café de las Ciudades
Gutman, M. (ed.) et al
With twelve recognized authors, this volume compiles local expert thinking of the socio-environmental issues in the Matanza Riachuelo river basin within Buenos Aires Metropolitan Region. It constitutes a reference for such studies, unique in its multi-scalar approach.

Emergencia de vulnerabilidades territoriales en el espacio público digital
(2020), Cuestión Urbana. Vol.7.
Gutman, M., Nesprias X., Puppo X.

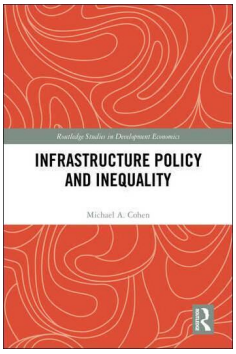


This article investigates the expression and representation of urban vulnerabilities in demands published in the digital public space and gives an account of the scope and limitations found in the navigation of digital space. It includes the methodology developed for the construction and interpretation of a corpus of more than 1,000 records, referring to five jurisdictions adjacent to the Matanza-Riachuelo River.



Conflictos ambientales en el espacio público digital. Disputas en torno a reservas naturales y arroyos del sur del Área Metropolitana de Buenos Aires
(2020), AREA, 26(1), pp. 1-18
Gutman, M., Nesprias, J. y Puppo, X. C.
The article summarizes the findings and the research methods of this multi-year project. Special attention is given to environmental conflicts as they reveal urban inequality. It brings to the forefront ideas and voices of civil society actors that are often overlooked by public officials and professionals when thinking and planning the city.

New Urban Practices



Infrastructure, Policy, and Inequality.
Routledge 2024, Michael Cohen.
This book reframes the purpose of infrastructure from being an input to economic growth to becoming a major instrument in reducing socio-economic inequalities in both industrialized and developing countries. Drawing on global and national lessons of COVID-19 and extensive working experience in 55 countries, this book reviews infrastructure policies and performance over several decades and suggests that the "underperformance" of infrastructure could be improved by more attention to users and the demand side, and thereby contribute to overcoming many obstacles facing low-income communities around the world. This book argues that growth is not a necessary condition for sustainability or social justice, and that both are undermined by structural inequalities which reduce the income and opportunities of urban households.



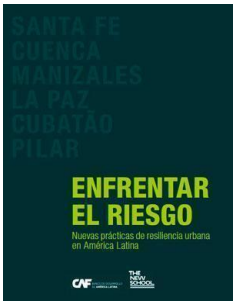
Tres experiencias de colaboración y transferencia, antes y durante el COVID 19.
Margarita Gutman (2024) Revista Cuestión Urbana No.14 (dic. 2023). Buenos Aires: Centro Estudios de Ciudad, Facultad de Ciencias Sociales, Universidad de Buenos Aires, pp. 63-73.
This article presents a selection of three collaborations developed within the framework of two projects of UBACYT research, both in the PIUBAMAS program. The first project addresses the tensions, projects and interventions for development with socio-spatial inclusion in the Matanza-Riachuelo basin (2014-2017). The second continues with the focus on tensions and development with socio-spatial inclusion, focusing on the border areas between the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires and the first ring of the Buenos Aires suburbs (2021-2022). Based on these projects, we collaborate with the Public Ministry of the Defense of the CABA (2016-2020), the Housing Institute (IVC) of the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires and the New School University of New York. The three examples presented provide knowledge, procedures and valuable approaches for the design of public policies.



Inclusión laboral para la ciudad justa. Capacitación digital para jóvenes de La Matanza. Para abonar al debate sobre el concepto de una ciudad justa, social e inclusiva.
Juan M. Graña, Belén Fodde, Vladimiro S. Torres, Margarita Gutman, Michael Cohen (2024). Buenos Aires: Friedrich Ebert Stiftung FES Argentina, The Observatory on Latin America/The New School. Municipio de La Matanza.

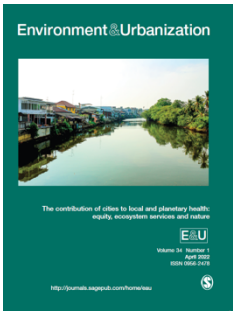


Facing Risk. New Urban Resilience Practices in Latin America.
(2019), Corporación Andina de Fomento
Michael Cohen, Margarita Gutman, Carrizosa, María, Flávia Leite, David López García, Julia Nesprias, Bart Orr, Lena Simet, and Ileana Versace.
The book presents effective urban resilience practices to address the risks of natural and anthropic disasters in six Latin American cities: Manizales, Colombia; La Paz, Bolivia; Cuenca, Ecuador; Santa Fe and Pilar, Argentina; and Cubatão, Brazil. It provides answers to some of the dilemmas faced by local governments and communities as they seek to strengthen their resilience to disasters.



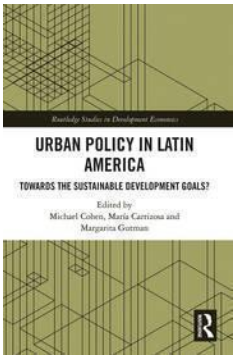
Enfrentar el Riesgo. New Urban Resilience Practices in Latin America.
(2019), Corporación Andina de Fomento
Michael Cohen, Margarita Gutman, Carrizosa, María, Flávia Leite, David López García, Julia Nesprias, Bart Orr, Lena Simet, and Ileana Versace.
Making this book fully available in two languages English and Spanish guarantees its purpose of reaching public officials of middle-sized cities across the region.

Design and Development

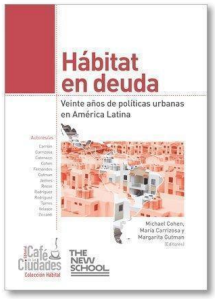


COVID-19 in real time: comparing the struggle of three low-income neighbourhoods in Buenos Aires.
Environment and Urbanization 34, no. 1 (2022): 209-228.
Cohen, Michael, Margarita Gutman, Matias Ruiz Díaz, María Belén Fodde, Cecilia Cabrera, Bárbara Mora Doldan, and Carolina Díaz.
This article seeks to explain why some popular neighbourhoods in Buenos Aires have responded more effectively than others to COVID-19. It compares actions that took place between March and October 2020 in the neighbourhoods of Villa 20, Villa 15 and Villa 1-11-14. We analyse public policies carried out by government agencies, especially the Instituto de Vivienda de la Ciudad (IVC) and the Ministerio de Desarrollo Humano y Hábitat (MDHyH), and the active collaboration of local organisations. While significant scholarship has focused on COVID-19 effects and coping strategies in Latin American neighbourhoods, there is limited analysis of how pre-existing relationships

between local actors and government agencies have shaped neighbourhood responses. This comparative analysis shows that in fact the consolidation and depth of historical working relations between local government and local organisations determined the response capacity of each informal neighbourhood.



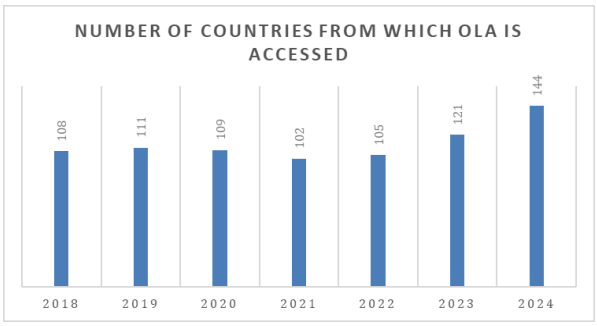
Urban Policy in Latin America: Towards the Sustainable Development Goals?
Cohen, Michael, María Carrizosa, and Margarita Gutman, eds.
Routledge, 2019.
The book provides a critical assessment of the economic, social and environmental consequences of urban interventions during Habitat II. The country-level chapters are written by recognized experts in urban issues, with first-hand knowledge of the Habitat process. The latter part considers wider topics such as the Habitat Commitment Index, the New Urban Agenda and the regional and global-scale lessons that can be extracted from this group of countries.

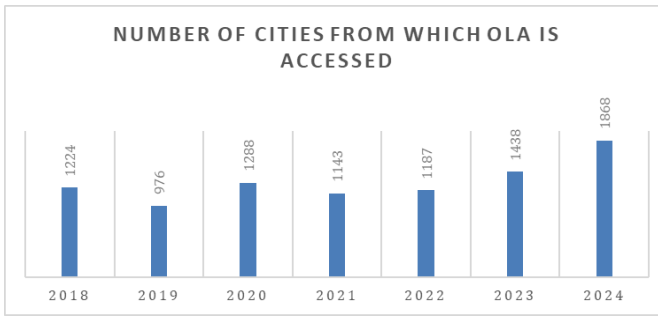


Hábitat en deuda: veinte años de políticas urbanas en América Latina Cohen
Michael A., María Carrizosa, and Margarita Gutman, eds.
Editorial Café de las Ciudades, 2016.
This book evaluates the impact of 20 years of urban policies in six Latin American countries: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, and Mexico. Author chapters by experienced scholars from each country. The book was launched at the United National Habitat III Conference in Quito.

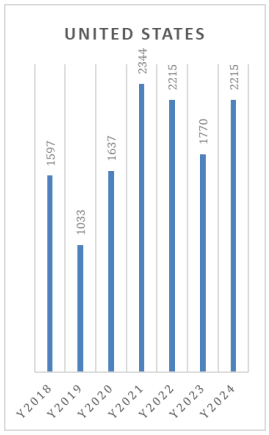
ANNEX 4. OLA IN NUMBERS

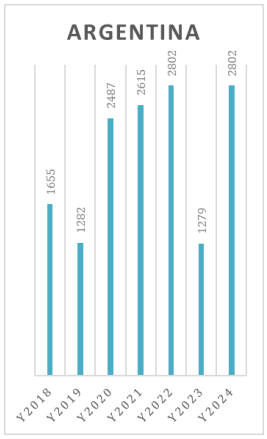
The graphs below compare the total number of users and places where these users are accessing our websites from. What is particularly interesting about these numbers is that despite the fact that there is not a growing number of users, there is a wider spread of the reach, which is particularly encouraging.

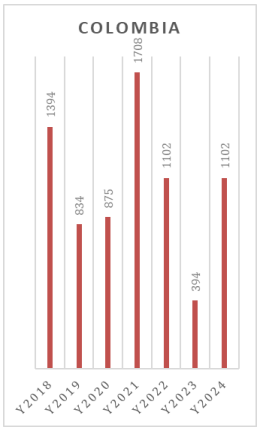


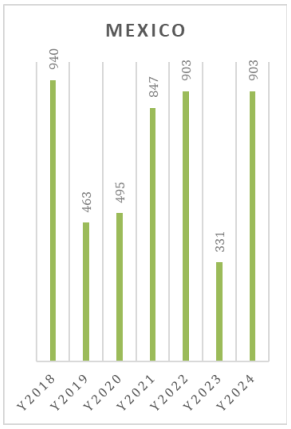


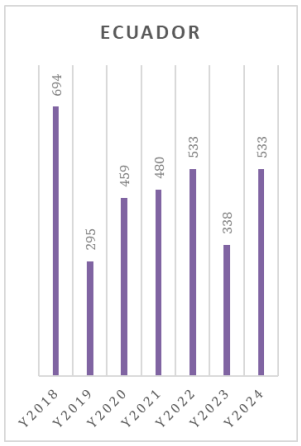
Another interesting way to look at this data is by country. The set of graphs that follow show the readership of our OLA website in the 10 most active countries, over the last five years.

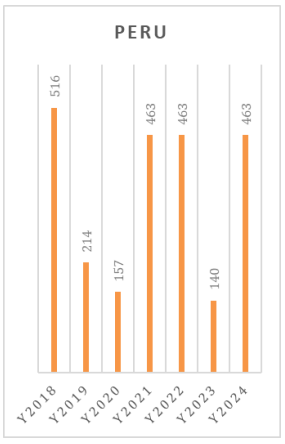


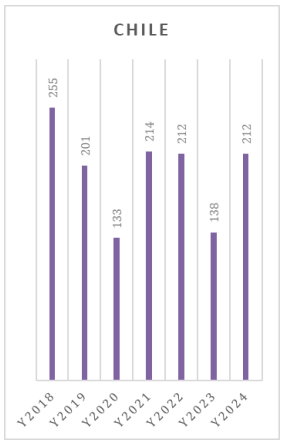


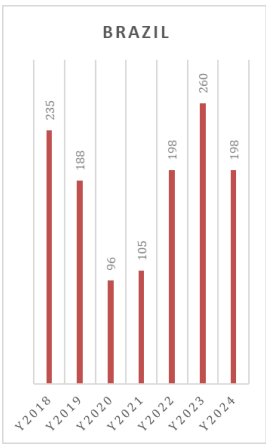


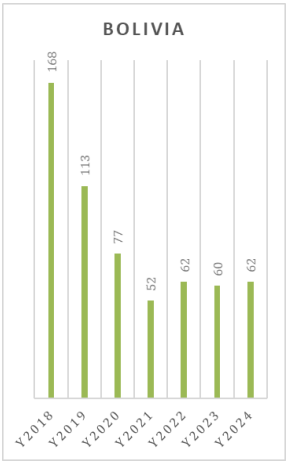


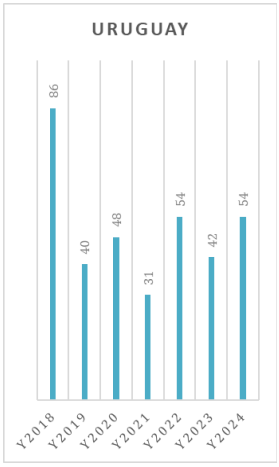






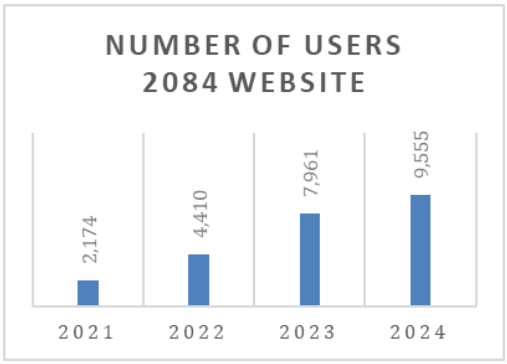


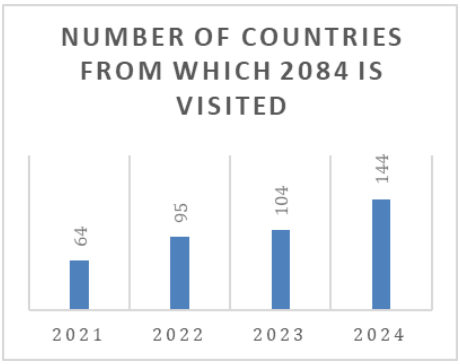




2084 – 2084FUTUROSIMAGINADOS.ORG

As a public digital humanities program, our recently launched 2084 website has had steady growth and an impressive regional reach. As explained, this website has a module that allows for remote users to upload content. In its first four years, our 2084 website has received 9,555 new users from 144 countries in 1,697 cities.

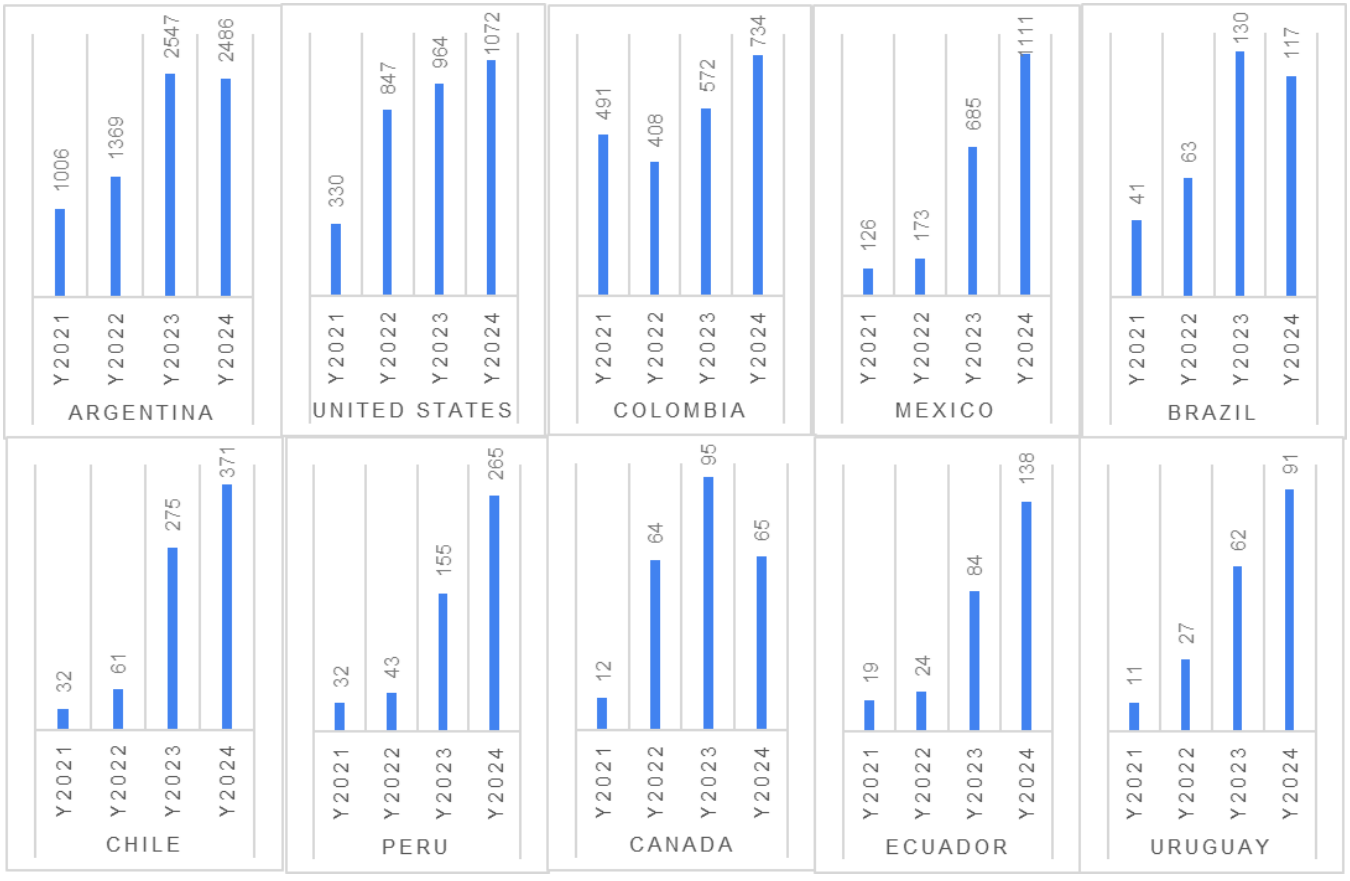


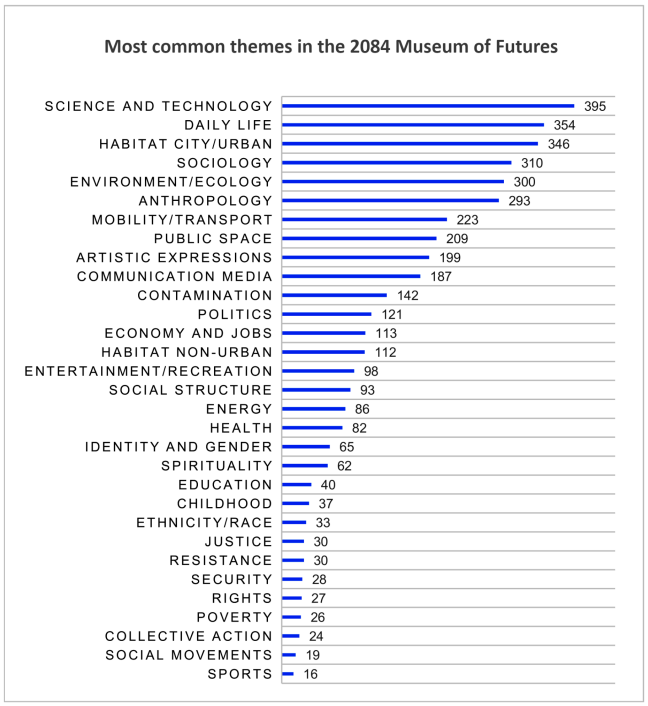


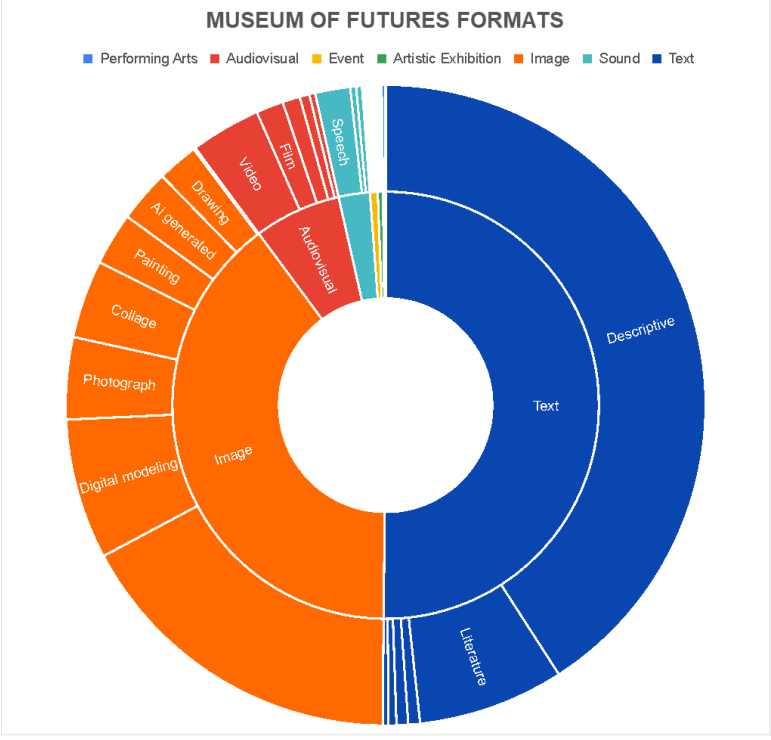
The content uploaded remotely by the users of this website feeds into the "Museum of the Futures", which has two permanent collections. One is the *2084 collection* which showcases "imaginations" of people about what the year 2084 might look like. The second one is the *Futures of the Past collection*, which collects historical imaginations produced in the past, answering the question: How was the future imagined in the past?

Total number of imaginations uploaded to the Museum of the Futures by collection			
	Futures 2084	Futures of the Past	Museum of Futures
2021	90	98	188
2022	47	10	57
2023	176	0	176
2024	260	0	260
Total	**573**	**108**	**681**

Again, another interesting way to look at this data is by country. The set of graphs that follow show the readership of our 2084 website in the 10 most active countries.

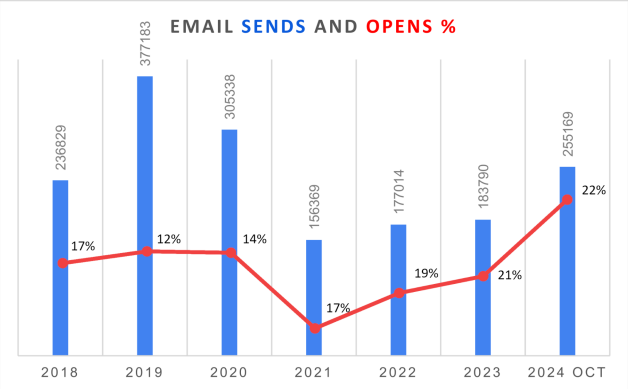



Most common themes in the 2084 Museum of Futures
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY 395
DAILY LIFE 354
HABITAT CITY/URBAN 346
SOCIOLOGY 310
ENVIRONMENT/ECOLOGY 300
ANTHROPOLOGY 293
MOBILITY/TRANSPORT 223
PUBLIC SPACE 209
ARTISTIC EXPRESSIONS 199
COMMUNICATION MEDIA 187
CONTAMINATION 142
POLITICS 121
ECONOMY AND JOBS 113
HABITAT NON-URBAN 112
ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION 98
SOCIAL STRUCTURE 93
ENERGY 86
HEALTH 82
IDENTITY AND GENDER 65
SPIRITUALITY 62
EDUCATION 40
CHILDHOOD 37
ETHNICITY/RACE 33
JUSTICE 30
RESISTANCE 30
SECURITY 28
RIGHTS 27
POVERTY 26
COLLECTIVE ACTION 24
SOCIAL MOVEMENTS 19
SPORTS 16


MUSEUM OF FUTURES FORMATS
Performing Arts
Audiovisual
Event
Artistic Exhibition
Image
Sound
Text
Speech
Film
Video
Drawing
AI generated
Painting
Collage
Photograph
Digital modeling
Audiovisual
Image
Descriptive
Literature
Text

Emailing

During the period under review, 128 campaigns were sent via OLA's emailing service, which is independent from The New School's emailing service. Per year, OLA sent an average of 241,671 emails on Constant Contact, which had an average open rate of 18.5%. The sharp decline in the number of emails sent from 2020 to 2021 is due to the introduction of a complementary emailing service, Splash. Splash is integrated to The New School's online platform to manage public events. The key to maintaining a healthy database of email contacts is to implement cleaning strategies to ensure that old or irrelevant emails are taken out of the list. OLA used to have a peak number of email contacts in 2016 and has since cleaned this database to ensure a stable number of 15,000 contacts independent of Splash's New School emails.



Social media

The social media landscape evolves quickly. OLA began its Facebook profile in 2010, and currently has 5,200 followers. OLA's LinkedIn followers are currently 860, 500 + connections, X followers are 1,746. The most recent and most active social media outlet at the moment is Instagram. This account started being managed in mid-2021 and to date it has 1020 followers.