

About the first edition of the Summer School – activities and results

International Summer School of Latin American Studies, under the slogan *Latin America and the Caribbean, why do we need to know more?* was realized from June 29 to July 3, 2019 in Belgrade (Institute Cervantes, Cultural Center of the municipality of Stari grad “UK Stari grad” and Institute of European Studies) and Novi Sad (University of Novi Sad: Faculty of Philosophy and University Business Academy).

The following data confirms the significance and results of the third edition:

- Number of participants: 18 (15 from Serbia and 3 from abroad: Tunisia, Russia and United Kingdom).
- Number of lecturers: 12 academics and experts from different areas related to Latin America, coming from Serbia, as well as Mexico, Argentina, Brazil, Costa Rica, Spain, United States, Germany and Austria.
- An issue of *Reflejo Magazine*, dedicated to the third edition of the International Summer School of Latin American Studies, is scheduled for the final quarter of 2019. This bilingual journal (Spanish and Serbian) will contain a series of academic and / or critical texts (articles, interviews, summaries, translations of relevant texts), signed by both the lecturers and students of the School and the organizers, associates and members of the academic board.
- Institutions that supported the project: Institute of European Studies, Institute Cervantes, Cultural Center of the municipality of Stari grad “UK Stari grad”, University of Novi Sad: Faculty of Philosophy, Embassy of Spain, University Business Academy in Novi Sad, daily newspaper Danas, Professor Andrzej Dembicz Foundation, Institute for Intercultural and Comparative Research IDEAZ (Austria), NUCLEAS (Brazil), International School of Intercultural Philosophy EIFI (Spain), University of Belgrade Faculty of Philology, AlternAktiva, YULATAM, Mediterran Publishing, Self-educational University “Svetozar Markovic”.
- Media coverage of the school: several social media posts, 2 radio shows, 6 newspaper and magazine articles.

During the five-day duration of the School, numerous activities were held:

INTRODUCTORY DISCUSSIONS (organized before the start of the School, open to the public):

- Influences and views on neozapatism, held by Weselina Gacińska and Sergio García García (Autonomous University of Madrid, Spain)
- Confronting the past in Argentina and Spain: unfinished stories, held by Nikolina Židek (International relations, International University in Spain)

- Role of South American countries in peace operations of United Nations, held by Kai Michael Kenkel (Institute of International Relations, Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro)
- Argentinian literature today: what is being written, edited and read, held by Edgardo Scott (writer, translator and editor, Argentina) and Guido Herzovich (CONICET, Argentina)

ROUND TABLES:

- Latin America and the Caribbean: why do we need to know more? (Institute Cervantes) Participants: Carlos Juárez Centeno (Argentina), Dejan Mihajlović (Mexico), Emilio Gallardo Saborido (Spain), Johannes Maerk (Austria), Dalibor Soldatić (Serbia). Moderator: Tijana Čupić (Serbia)
- Latin America in the face of a new wave of change: between Trump and the new leaders (Institute of European studies) Participants: Dejan Mihajlović (Mexico), Alexis Toribio Dantas (Brazil), Oscar Barboza Lizano (Costa Rica). Moderator: Miša Đurković (Serbia)

LECTURES:

- Mexico's foreign policy in the context of "4T" (Fourth Transformation) held by Adolfo Alberto Laborde Carranco (Anáhuac University, Mexico) in Spanish
- Perspectives of the Brazilian economy held by Alexis Toribio Dantas (Rio de Janeiro State University) in English
- Foreign policy opportunities for Latin American countries beyond the Monroe Doctrine of the United States held by Višeslav Simić (Monterrey Institute of Technology and Higher Education, Mexico) in English
- Global South perspective. Epistemological issues concerning Latin America and the Caribbean held by Johannes Maerk (University of Vienna) in Spanish
- The impact of Mexican muralism on art, literature and contemporary communication networks held by Gorica Majstorović (Stockton University, USA) in English
- What can Argentinian film teach us about neoliberalism? held by Guido Herzovich (University of Buenos Aires, Argentina) in English
- The importance of the Aztec Grand Temple as an initiator of power, identity and establishing relationships with others held by Sanja Savkić (University of Berlin) in English
- Latin American feminism: practical application, theory, debate and people's awareness of it held by Tiana Bakić Hayden (University of Buenos Aires, Argentina) in English
- The position of South America in the international context through the prism of new leaders in its countries, the ideological traditions and insecurities that confront this continent held by Carlos Juárez Centeno (National University of Córdoba, Argentina) in Spanish
- The Caribbean as the "American Mediterranean". Discussion between unipolar and multipolar world held by Oscar Barboza Lizano (University of Warsaw, Poland) in Spanish

WORKSHOPS:

- Epistemology of the South held by Dejan Mihajlović (Monterrey Institute of Technology and Higher Education, Mexico) in Spanish
- The importance of politics in the education of the individual. Claudio Naranjo and his view of education as a vehicle for personal and social development held by Ana Jovanović (University of Belgrade, Serbia) in English
- Contemporary relations between Cuba and Eastern Europe held by Emilio Gallardo Saborido (Hispanic-American Studies School, Spain) in Spanish
- Micro-stories: the literary genus of the new Hispanic-American millennium held by Bojana Kovačević Petrović (University of Novi Sad, Serbia) in Spanish

CULTURAL EVENTS (program open to the public):

- Roundtable: The Yu-Mex phenomenon: A day in the life of Yugoslav music and film. Participants: Aleksandra Đorđević (Serbia) and Francisco Ohem (Mexico). Moderator: Jelena Spasojević (Serbia)
- Pub Quiz (About Latin America and the Caribbean)

How the project is founded and what its achievements and goals are

With its concept and quality that it has achieved over the last three years, Summer School seeks to contribute to empowering young people to try to engage professionally with those regions of the world that we, unfairly, do not pay enough attention to; with whom we traditionally and evidently maintain friendly relations; which bring us many solutions and ideas in the face of the challenges of globalization and modern society of the 21st century. After three successful editions, more than fifty young participants, thirty volunteers, Latin American enthusiasts, and more than thirty exhibitors from Serbia and around the world, the project is recognized as a new energy in the development of Latin American studies in the Balkans, as well as empowering young people to respond to new challenges and temptations that imposes the time in which they live. The operation of the Summer School is based on the work of three committees (academic board, associate committee and organizing committee), who agree that the project aims to:

- Provide support and cooperation between students, academic community, researchers of various profiles, civil society organizations and other stakeholders from different countries on Latin America and the Caribbean topics, as well as to provide incentive for their interconnection and future work.
- Keep up with the aspirations of European countries, primarily with the aspirations of those around Serbia (such as Hungary), which are paying more attention to Latin American studies by investing in the education of their students.

- Contribute to the spread of a very narrow scientific corpus related to Latin America and the Caribbean, and to the creation of the basis for future student projects and the development of Latin American studies in the country and in the region.
- Empower connections between young people from Serbia and the region, and Latin America and the Caribbean.
- Promote interregional and international student, academic, activist and cultural cooperation.
- Be a pivot and a gathering point for Latin Americanists and for those from the country and the region who realize the importance of developing Latin American studies and the need to strengthen the ties with Latin America and the Caribbean.

However, that is not everything! Many point out that it is extremely interesting that the project is led by seven girls (with great and unselfish help from four expert associates), who do not live in the same country and have their meetings and arrangements online. It's a team led by the same vision, kept together with the incredible enthusiasm and faith that they can contribute to the ultimate goal. They do have support from benefactors, friends and associates, like few in this world, who seem to be facing the end of an era.