



ZENTRUM FÜR SOZIALE INNOVATION  
CENTRE FOR SOCIAL INNOVATION



**FLACSO**  
MÉXICO



... connecting Research on the Knowledge Society  
in the European Union and Latin America

# SUMMER SCHOOL

August 17 - 30, 2009 at the campus of FLACSO Mexico

**THE ROLE OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCES IN THE CONSTRUCTION  
OF THE KNOWLEDGE-BASED SOCIETY:  
EUROPEAN AND LATIN AMERICAN PERSPECTIVES**

The Centre for Social Innovation (ZSI) Austria in conjunction with the Latin American Faculty for the Social Sciences (FLACSO) campus Mexico invites Latin American and European master and doctoral students in the Social Sciences, young researchers with a multidisciplinary research focus on the dynamics of the knowledge society, as well as journalists with a specialisation in economic, industrial, and technological themes to participate in a Summer School on "The Role of the Social Sciences in the construction of the Knowledge-based Society: Latin American and European Perspectives". The Summer School will be organised at the FLACSO Mexico campus from August 17 to 30, 2009.



**FLACSO**  
MÉXICO



EUROPEAN  
COMMISSION



ZENTRUM FÜR SOZIALE INNOVATION  
CENTRE FOR SOCIAL INNOVATION



**FLACSO**  
MÉXICO



... connecting Research on the Knowledge Society  
in the European Union and Latin America

## Objectives of the Summer School

The Summer School is a joint activity of the EULAKS project, funded by the European Community's Cooperation Programme (Social Sciences and Humanities) under the Seventh Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development (Contract number: 217190). The Summer School will be coordinated by the Latin American Faculty for the Social Sciences (FLACSO Mexico). The EULAKS consortium, which is coordinated by the Vienna-based Centre for Social Innovation (ZSI), is composed by the following research institutions: The Latin American Faculty for the Social Sciences (FLACSO Mexico), the Institute for Development Research (IRD France), the University of the Republic (UdelaR Uruguay), the Metropolitan Autonomous University - Xochimilco (UAM Mexico), the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE United Kingdom), and the National University of General Sarmiento (UNGS Argentina).

The principal aim of the Summer School is the creation of a face-to-face linkage between young European and Latin American researchers and senior scholars in the social sciences and humanities with a focus on the design and implementation of public science, technology and innovation (STI) policies oriented towards enhancing the formation of human resources able to respond to the challenges in research, institutional governance and knowledge circulation that is the base for consolidating knowledge societies.

The Summer School is composed of seminars and work groups that are aimed at stimulating the discussion among students and provide them the base for the formulation and elaboration of specific problems related to the dynamics of evolving knowledge societies.

The overarching themes that articulate the different teaching modules of the Summer School are:

i) The processes and dynamics of knowledge generation and diffusion (both at the national and international level) that underpin the co-evolution of science, technology and society and which are indispensable to understand and explain the significance and effects of new paradigms in industrial production, and institutional and relational structures of societies.

ii) The design of public policies oriented towards innovation at European and Latin American level have broadened the space to identify objectives, guidelines of action and instruments to mobilize resources and social energies in the long and short run. The introduction of shared strategies (public and private) transforms the institutional structures, thus generating new authorities and functions that change the governance relations in society and specifically between the actors in the field of science, technology and innovation.

iii) Processes of creation and application of new knowledge are a complex phenomenon that involves the interaction between a diversity of institutions and actors that assume distinctive roles in the process of innovation and technological development. It is therefore important to analyse the new combinations of interactions that emerge in the development of innovative capacities.

iv) The new paradigms like ICT, biotechnology and nanotechnology introduce changes in the productive and institutional structures of countries and redefine industrial development processes and reconfigure the socio-economic dynamics of innovation systems. At the same time, they have a strong impact on the restructuring of the



ZENTRUM FÜR SOZIALE INNOVATION  
CENTRE FOR SOCIAL INNOVATION



**FLACSO**  
MÉXICO



... connecting Research on the Knowledge Society  
in the European Union and Latin America

knowledge base and the knowledge absorption capacity of industrial sectors. ICT, biotechnology and nanotechnology foster new mechanisms for R&D investment, human resource formation, and collaborative R&D arrangements between science and industry.

### **Specific Objectives**

- i) To provide a space for creative and multidisciplinary reflection to identify the new perspectives that emerge from the productive transformation of sectors based on the intensive use of emerging technologies. These transformations involve important challenges, both for the design and implementation of strategies and policies and for the governance of the social consequences of science and technology (for example in the case of the so-called converging technologies).
- ii) To bring together a group of specialised researchers from Europe and Latin America to discuss the tendencies and possibilities of different countries, sectors and social actors to broaden their scope of development.
- iii) The comparison and confrontation of the differential histories in the productive, institutional and relational development of each country facilitate the appropriation and absorption of knowledge about the processes, factors and conditions that favour or impede the development of innovation systems.
- iv) The consolidation of networks between Latin American and European students to favour the circulation of knowledge, the mobilization of human resources and the institutional and individual collaboration in future research activities in the context of the European Community's Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development.

### **Work Programme and invited lecturers**

The work programme will be delivered as soon as the participants have been selected. The Summer School will be held by researchers from the EULAKS consortium. In addition, a number of distinguished European and Latin American experts with a proven record of international collaboration and expertise have been invited as guest lecturers.

Each day of the Summer School will consist of different sessions. The sessions will be mostly in the form of lectures, seminars and work groups. Lectures will be given in English. There will be also informal contacts between students and teachers during lunch, tea and coffee breaks. The details of the provisional programme will be published on the EULAKS website by the end of May.

### **Requisites for applicants**

- i) The applicants are expected to have at least a Master's degree in a relevant subject related to the study of science, technology and society (STS) and currently be enrolled in a research programme or engaged in academic jobs. They are expected to have at least two years work experience. Some applicants will be chosen from outside the academia (e.g. government, private sector, NGOs), provided they have the minimum academic qualifications and relevant experiences. All these are, however, basic guidelines, and all applications will be evaluated individually.



ZENTRUM FÜR SOZIALE INNOVATION  
CENTRE FOR SOCIAL INNOVATION



**FLACSO**  
MÉXICO



... connecting Research on the Knowledge Society  
in the European Union and Latin America

ii) The prospective candidates that wish to apply should send their Curriculum Vitae, an official transcript in English or Spanish language (showing courses taken and degrees obtained) from BA onwards. All applicants have to send their applications through the online application form that is available on the EULAKS website [www.eulaks.eu](http://www.eulaks.eu)

iii) All applicants have to provide a justification for their participating in the Summer School. This justification should provide details about the relevance of the summer for their further academic and/or professional development. The justification should not exceed five pages.

iv) All applicants should provide one letter of reference from someone who is familiar with their academic work (e.g. thesis supervisor). The letter of reference should also refer to the relevance of participation in the Summer School for the applicant's academic and professional career.

v) The deadline for applications has is **12 June, 2009**. Please note that we are not able to accept any documents faxed or submitted via e-mail, with the possible exception of the reference letter. While we will not individually acknowledge the receipt of the documents, we will be happy to confirm the receipt if asked. The results of the selection process will be available on the EULAKS website by mid-June 2009. The selected candidates shall inform themselves about visa requirements for Mexico in advance and the duration of the visa application procedure in their home country.

vi) The lectures and seminars will be imparted in English language. Therefore, all participants need to have a high level of proficiency in order to benefit from the Summer School.



ZENTRUM FÜR SOZIALE INNOVATION  
CENTRE FOR SOCIAL INNOVATION



**FLACSO**  
MÉXICO



... connecting Research on the Knowledge Society  
in the European Union and Latin America

## **Selection Process**

The Academic Committee consists of researchers from the EULKAS consortium, which will evaluate the applications and select the prospective candidates. The Academic Committee is composed of:

Mónica Casalet (FLACSO, Mexico)

Dirk Johann (Centre for Social Innovation, Austria)

Judith Sutz (Universidad de la República, Uruguay)

Daniel Villavicencio (Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana-Unidad Xochimilco, Mexico).

Mina Kleiche-Dray (IRD, France)

Josef Hochgerner (Centre for Social Innovation, Austria)

Javier Medina (Universidad del Valle, Colombia)

## **Support for the selected candidates**

The development of the Summer School, as well as the accommodation and the meals of the selected students will be financed by the EULAKS project. The need for funds to finance travel and accommodation should be indicated in the application. If necessary and after a previous evaluation of the Committee, the selected students may request an economic support (not more than \$800 USD) to cover travel and subsistence. It is recommended that the selected students have an international health insurance since the EULAKS project does not cover such expenditures.

At the end of the Summer School the participants will receive a certificate that accredits the achieved academic performances.

## **To obtain further information please contact:**

### **In Austria:**

Dirk Johann

Tel: +43 (1) 4950 442 – 18

E-mail: [summerschool@zsi.at](mailto:summerschool@zsi.at)

### **In Mexico:**

Danilo Chavez Rodríguez

Tel: +52 55 3000 0200 – 106

Norma Cruz

Tel: +52 55 3000 0200 – 294

E-mail: [summerschool@flacso.edu.mx](mailto:summerschool@flacso.edu.mx)

**[www.eulaks.eu](http://www.eulaks.eu)**

**[www.flacso.edu.mx](http://www.flacso.edu.mx)**