

Sub-theme proposal – 12th International Conference in Critical Management Studies

Online Stream

**OPENING SPACES FOR PLURIVERSAL FUTURES:
PEOPLE ORGANIZED TO STRUGGLE AGAINST OPPRESSION**

Convenors

Guilherme Dornelas Camara

Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul (Brasil)

Maria Ceci Misoczky

Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul (Brasil)

Carlos Juan Núñez Rodríguez

Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana de México – Azcapotzalco (México).

José Francisco Puello-Socarrás

Escuela Superior de Administración Pública (Colombia)

Enrique Dussel (2013a), the Latin American philosopher of liberation, argues for the construction of a transmodern world that includes a pluriverse episteme. He denies the possibility that the future alternative may be a non-capitalist modernity, since modernity and capitalism are two aspects of the same: “modernity is the whole, and foundation of the particular aspect in the economic field consists of the capitalist system (p. 360).” As an alternative, transmodernity is a project with a claim to universality that opposes capitalism, patriarchy, imperialism, and coloniality. It will not emerge from the same Eurocentric modernity despite being inspired by some aspects of the critical current of European modernity (Dussel, 2016). This pluriverse dialogical presupposes, in addition to formal morality, an ethical-material morality that determines the criterion of universal and concrete truth: the production and reproduction of human life in community (Dussel, 2004). Transmodernity, as a possibility and a project, emerges from both ancestral positive experiences and those generated within the colonial cultures, and from dominated and excluded groups. It emerges from the moments and processes in which collectives organized around themes of gender, race, ways of life in their relation to nature discover themselves as valuable; from memories, histories, victories, and heroes of the past; from defeats and new beginnings; and from sharing advances on the various fronts of struggle to build a new pluriverse humanity, “rich in analogical similarities and differences, which avoids the univocal uniformity of the universalization of only one culture and the irreconcilable confrontation of all against all” (Dussel, 2013, p. 165). A humanity that avoids, also and as a logical consequence of the normativity of an ethical-material principle, relativism, and dialogue as a value in itself (Misoczky and Dornelas Camara, 2020).

We should also take into consideration, that the claims of the total domination of the free market, individualism and political apathy have been continuously challenged by people who dare to organize and struggle. In their praxis, they confront capitalism in its

neoliberal phase and the perspective of a dystopian world dominated by technologically empowered elites. In fact, when we pay attention to what is happening around us, we find a plethora of organizational processes that confront determinism and experiment the freedom of opening spaces and constructing alternatives. Even if these organizations/events are transitory, they constitute a moment, an “attempt to achieve the total realization of a possibility” that is, however, always determined and partial (Lefebvre, 2014: 642).

These processes cannot be properly understood unless we articulate the knowledge that is theoretically elaborated and the knowledge that emerges from below and remains, most of the time, restrained to the practices and spaces of struggle (Misoczky, Böhm, Dornelas, 2017). Therefore, we are interested in the organization of workers and popular struggles, as well as in the organization of active solidarity, that carries the seeds and open possibilities for a future transmodern and pluriversal world.

By workers struggles we refer to those mediated by traditional institutional organizations, but also and foremost to the multiple and creative organizational processes that are emerging in the contemporary context of precarious work and platform economy. By popular struggles we refer to the praxis of social subjects (such as peasants, indigenous communities, the homeless and unemployed as well as homeworkers) who are often invisible in analysis that focus on the institutional and structural dimensions of protest and territorial organization. By active solidarity we refer to embracing alterity, and to the commitment for and with those whom the system excludes (Dussel, 2013b).

We particularly invite – but do by no means restrict submissions to – manuscripts on one or several of the following topics. We also invite the connection of the submissions to pandemic and the contemporary crisis.

- Organizational processes that open futures liberated from exploitation and oppression.
- Unions and/or emerging forms, strategies and tactics of workers organization under the reconfiguration of labour.
- Feminist and LGBTQI organizational processes and praxis struggling against cultural-economic oppression.
- People organized to confront racism in its many forms.
- Migrant workers and people organizing in active solidarity to confront the reconfiguration of labour, racism and xenophobia.
- Struggles in defense of forms of living, against extractive industries.
- Rural struggles against land-grabbing and mono-cultural agriculture.
- The organizational significance of ephemeral movements and/or events.
- Refusing the reification of the organizational – critical reflections about ‘autonomous’ practices, such as self-management and cooperatives.
- Research practices for studying the organization of struggles against oppression and their limits.
- Ethics of liberation and the production of the consensus of the oppressed.
- Engagements with the renewed interest in critical and revolutionary thinkers that has arisen in Latin America and in other countries of the Global South, in the wake of the contemporary deep socio-economic and environmental crises.

- Theoretical dialogues with the knowledge produced by activists in their organizational processes, including emergent anti-management perspectives.

References

Dussel, E. (2004). La introducción de la transformación de la filosofía de K.-O. y la Filosofía de la Liberación: Reflexiones desde una perspectiva latinoamericana. In K.-O. Apel & E. Dussel, *Ética del discurso y ética de la liberación* (pp. 73-125). Madrid, España: Trotta.

Dussel, E. (2013a). *16 tesis de economía política*. Buenos Aires, Argentina: Docencia.

Dussel, E. (2013b). *Ethics of Liberation in the Age of Globalization and Exclusion*. Durham: Duke University Press.

Dussel, E. (2016). *14 tesis de ética: Hacia la esencia del pensamiento crítico*. Madrid, España: Trotta.

Lefebvre, H. *Critique of everyday life*. London: Verso, 2014.

Misoczky, M. C., Böhm, S. & Dornelas Camara, G. (2017). Organizational practices of social movements and popular struggles: understanding the power of organizing from below. *Qualitative Research in Organization and Management*, 12 (4): 250-261.

Misoczky, M. C. & Dornelas Camara, G. (2020). To think from Latin America in dialogue with the organization of decolonial social struggles: Exploring possibilities. *Revista de Administração de Empresas*, 60(2): 93-103. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1590/s0034-759020200203>

Please submit a 1,000 word abstract (excluding references, Word document, single spaced, no header, footers or track changes) together with your contact information to guilherme.dornelas@ufrgs.br. The deadline for submission of abstracts is September 30th, and we will notify you of our decision by mid October. The authors who have abstracts accepted will have until November 6th to send us the full paper. We will distribute the full papers to all the stream participants and designate two discussants for each paper. The proposal is to construct a space for engagements and in-depth discussions.

Short biography of the proponents:

Guilherme Dornelas Camara is professor of Organization Studies at the School of Administration of the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil. His research interests are related to the organizational praxis of social movements, especially those of homeless and street population, as well as Latin American Critical Social Thinking. His recent publications are in journals such as QROM, *Cuadernos de Administración*, *REAd*, *ephemera*, and book chapters in México. He convened an ICMSC stream in the edition of 2019 and of an EGOS stream at the edition of 2016. E-mail: guilherme.dornelas@ufrgs.br

Maria Ceci Misoczky is professor of Organization Studies at the School of Administration of the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil. She coordinates the research group Organization and Liberation Praxis, she is Co-Chair of the Critical Management Studies International Board and the General Secretary of REOL (Red de

Estudios Organizacionales de Latinoamerica). Her research interests focus on the organizational processes of social movements and popular struggles, Latin American Critical Social Thought and Critical Ontology. She convened ICMSC streams in 2011, 2013, 2015 and 2019. E-mail: maria.cecil@ufrgs.br

Carlos Juan Núñez Rodríguez is professor of Organization Studies at the Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana de México (UAM-Azcapotzalco). He coordinates the network of researchers on Contemporary Perspectives of Administration and Organization. He is the author of a series of books, including: *Genealogía del Estado desde América Latina* [Genealogy of State in Latin America]- 3 volumes, *La invención de la subjetividad moderna, una interpretación desde el necropoder* [The invention of modern subjectivity: an interpretation based on necropower]; *Del golpe de estado, estado de excepción y genocidio, una interpretación desde el necropoder* {El coup d'état, the state of exception and genocide, an interpretation based on necropower}; *La invención del Estado-nación y su relación con los pueblos indígenas* [The invention of the nation-state and its relation with the indigenous peoples]. E-mail: carlosjnu@gmail.com

José Francisco Puello-Socarrás is professor at the Escuela Superior de Administración Pública - Colombia. He coordinates the Grupo de Estudios Comunes en Nuestramérica; he is a researcher and the executive director of the Centro de Pensamiento y Diálogo Político, he is also a researcher at the Working Group Crisis and the Capitalist World Economy of the Latin American Centre of Social Sciences (CLACSO). His research interests, expressed in many books and articles, are the related to processes and dynamics following the Peace Agreement and the social armed conflict in Colombia and considering the possibilities of the construction of a popular piece, (nuevo)neoliberalism and its concrete expressions in Nuestra América, and the commons. He was a convenor of an ICMSC stream in the edition of 2019. E-mail: josepuel@esap.edu.co