Russia and Iberoamerica in the Global World

Fourth International Forum (1 – 3th October 2019)

On October 1-3, 2019, St. Petersburg State University in coordination with Institute of Latin America of RAS, Institute of Bering-Bellingshausen for Americas, Foundation of Egor Gaidar, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation and Bank Santander, CRIES (The Regional Coordinator of Economic and Social Research), CLACSO (Latin American Council for Social Sciences), AMECIP (Mexican Association of Political Sciences) will hold the fourth international forum "Russia and Iberoamerica in the globalizing world: history and modernity". The forum is the most representative event in Russia devoted to socio-political, economic processes of Latin America, its history and culture. Carried out in St. Petersburg and marked by participation of famous politicians, scientists, journalists of the Ibero-American countries and Russia, the Forum steadily draws attention of media that confirms the status of the St. Petersburg university as one of the leading centers of iberoamerican studies in Russia.

Goals of Forum-2019:

1. To become a step on the way of Russian-Latin American relations elaboration under conditions of transition from bipolar to multipolar world

2. To formulate new approaches to Ibero-American perspective studies

The forum aims to be a modern expert and discussion platform for defining the directions of Latin America development in the globalized world and the prospects of Russian-Latin American cooperation. **Organizers seek to create opportunities for critical judgment and dialogue within the main directions of social disciplines for improved understanding of social, political, economic and cultural realities of Latin American countries in the modern world.**

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The Panel *Artificial Intelligence (AI): New Opportunities and Social, Political and Psychological Challenges in Latin America*

Panel Co-Chairs:

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According to many recent reports, such as from the UN, the World Economic Forum, the Bank of America, Merrill Lynch, the McKinsey Global Institute, Oxford University, and others, 30% or more jobs will disappear in the coming two to three decades as a result of the robotization of manufacturing, finance, services, and management; this also includes highly paid positions. In 2016, the World Bank published a report stating that in the coming decades more than 65% of the jobs in developing countries would be threatened by the accelerating development of technology.

The possibilities of artificial intelligence and machine learning are growing at an unprecedented speed. These technologies have many extremely important areas of social utility: from machine translation to medical diagnostics. The next years and decades will bring immeasurably more opportunities for such applications. The volume of investment in the field of artificial intelligence in the next two decades could be trillions of dollars. Thus, according to the report of the international company PricewaterhouseCoopers Middle East (PwC), published in Dubai during the World Government Summit, economic growth in the world will be provided by 14% through the use of artificial intelligence, which is equivalent to 15.7 trillion dollars. China now is a leader in AI funding. Last year, 48 per cent of total equity funding of AI start-ups globally came from China, compared to 38 per cent funded by the US, and 13 per cent by the rest of the world. This is a significant jump from the 11.3 per cent of global funding China made in 2016 (Robles P. China plans to be a world leader in Artificial Intelligence by 2030 // South China Morning Post. 01.10.2018).

The end of South America's latest economic boom earlier this decade exposed, once again, the region's reliance on commodity exports and an inability to address its persistent productivity low levels. AI could boom the economy in all main sectors.

Up to now AI adoption in Latin America is in the early stages. In 2017, the average AI company in Latin America sold 1.1 million USD in revenue, and plans to end 2018 with 1.64 million USD. The sectors in which the activity of companies with a high level of AI specialization in Latin America is concentrated in software and services to companies, health and media, although there are a variety of companies dedicated to education, mining, marketing, logistics, retail (The State of Artificial Intelligence Adoption in LATAM. 2018). In 2017, the AI market in Latin America is estimated to be worth around 95 million U.S. dollars and in 2025 to be more than 2 billion dollars. Artificial intelligence technologies are being used in a variety of situations across consumer, enterprise, and government markets (Revenues from the artificial intelligence market in Latin America, from 2016 to 2025 (in million U.S. dollars). Statista. 2018).

"The need for a universal basic income will become increasingly clear", warns professor Guillermo Simari, Chair of the Artificial Intelligence R&D lab at the Universidad Nacional del Sur in Argentina. But income is only part of the equation. How will we treat paid work versus unpaid work? Will we tax robots? Will sections of society feel freed or stripped of their dignity and self-worth if paid work is no longer an option for them? Such questions about the structure of society and social contracts must be carefully examined as we plan this journey (Ovanessov A., Plastino F. How Artificial Intelligence Can Drive South America's Growth. P. 26). What are the role of external factors in the development of AI markets? How AI shape the development of Latin America and entire world for longer period of time.

The areas and types of the malicious use of artificial intelligence (MUAI) should be given further attention. It is impossible to exclude global, disastrous, rapid, and latent consequences of MUAI. MUAI implies the possibility of using multiple weaknesses of individual and human civilization as a whole.

Submissions may include, but are not restricted to:

- dynamic social and political systems in Latin America and the use of AI;

- AI and economic growth in Latin America

- AI in civil and military conflicts;

- the use of AI in contemporary geopolitical confrontation: focusing Latin America;

- AI systems are said to "predict the future through analysing the past" – the Holy Grail of the finance sector but a potential for malicious use too. Predictive analytics in Latin America in the area of political conflicts: EMBERS and other programmes. Prognostic weapons;

- algorithms which are based on language or 'fuzzy logic", genetic algorithms' and other capacities which increase the AI capabilities, including ones under the malicious use;

- sentiment analysis, image recognition, natural language processing, pattern recognition: the risk scenarios of the malicious use of AI;

- AI in Lethal Autonomous Systems (LAWs): opportunities and risks for political processes and stability;

- deepfakes and their possible influence on political warfare in Latin America;

- amplification and political agenda setting through AI in Internet;

- Emotional AI in political warfare;

- terrorist repurposing of commercial AI systems;

- physical attacks further removed in time and space as a result of autonomous operation with AI;

- the growth of complex comprehensive infrastructure systems with active or leading AI participation and the risk of malicious interception of control over such systems

- damage reputation through bot activities during political campaigns;

- challenges of the malicious use of AI through Multimodal Emotion AI, General AI: science fiction or real scenarios for foreseeable future;

- ways and means to neutralize the targeted information and psychological destabilization of democratic institutions using AI;

- AI as a defence tool in psychological security of society.

Propose your paper to the Organizing Committee of the Forum (http://iberorus.spbu.ru/en/page/proposal) and forward a copy of your proposal to the panel chair before June 30 (icspsc@mail.ru). Your application should consist of a title of your paper, abstract (no less 250 words), keywords, BIO (academic degree and title, full name, place of work and job position, address, e-mail).

Keywords: artificial intelligence, Latin America, predictive analytics, prognostic weapons, malicious use of AI, psychological security, machine learning, bots.