

LATIN AMERICAN LAW REVIEW (LAR) – CALL FOR ARTICLES

Invites the academic community to submit articles on the following topic:

Crime control in Latin America: historical perspectives

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I. DESCRIPTION

The way in which current societies govern crime has undergone an important transformation that began after the Second World War and was consolidated at the end of the 20th century. The abundant literature on this topic focuses on the effects that various factors had on the governance of crime, such as the economic changes at the end of the postwar boom; the withdrawal of the welfare state and the rise of neoliberalism and the consumer society; sociocultural and political changes, such as the rise of neoconservatism; the expansion of information technologies; the democratization of the media, among others.

These narratives have been predominantly constructed to describe the European and Anglo-Saxon experience. Thus, the perspectives of crime control analysis of these nations have become hegemonic in the relevant literature, giving rise to the predominance of supposedly adequate techniques of government which are merely the outcome of a past and specific tradition whose authority springs from questionable cultural prestige.

However, in recent decades, novel analyses of crime governance strategies in the global south have grown notably, as a way to fill the void and overcome the geopolitically exclusionary nature of global north narratives. Analyses that come from the south recognize the relevance of the experience of hegemonic countries to understand the reality of peripheral countries, but they focus on the particularities of the experience of the global South. This opens the possibility to develop new theoretical and methodological perspectives that broaden and make more complex the view of the realities of both the global north and south, and to build more fluid conversations between theoretical perspectives and the socio-historically differentiated experiences of the south and the north.

Despite this vibrant debate, the historical understanding of the global south's experience of crime governance is much more fragmented than that of countries in the global north. In the Latin American case, relevant and contextualized studies have recently emerged on different aspects of crime control and deviance, such as penal, prison, police or mental health systems. Nevertheless, the majority of academics have left aside historical explanations about the past and the formation of these institutions and practices of control and punishment (and the disciplines that make them their object of study), as a fundamental aspect to explain their current shape. The marginality of narratives, for example about colonial pasts and the early experiences of

independent republics, as well as the historical evolution of state institutions and government organizations, makes it difficult to understand the continuities and discontinuities of the experiences of governing crime in the region.

For this issue, Latin American Law Review (LAR) invites submissions of original research articles that contribute to filling these gaps by exploring the field of crime control in Latin America from a historical perspective, focusing on three main issues:

1. The historical reconstruction of crime governance strategies in the region.
2. The identification of continuities and discontinuities in the regional experience of crime governance.
3. The relationships (similarities and differences) between the Latin American experience and that of the hegemonic countries vis-à-vis crime control.

II. EDITORIAL GUIDELINES

Submitted manuscripts must not be in the process of evaluation or have editorial commitments with any other publication. It is an essential requirement that the articles submitted for evaluation strictly comply with the [standards established](#) by Latin American Law Review.

Questions about this call can be directed to the guest editors miturral@uniandes.edu.co and fl.tamayo10@uniandes.edu.co or to the general management of the journal, lar@uniandes.edu.co. Manuscripts must be sent through the [article reception platform](#).