



Call for Chapter Contributions

The Palgrave Handbook on Social Justice and Inequality in Latin America and the Caribbean

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INTRODUCTION

The Handbook addresses the persistent and multifaceted inequalities that plague Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC), exacerbated by historical injustices, economic disparities, and social fragmentation. It evaluates how mechanisms such as policies, legal frameworks, and grassroots movements can address and contest various inequalities. As LAC grapples with issues such as poverty and discrimination against groups that are marginalised, this collection will serve as a crucial resource for scholars, activists, and policymakers seeking to understand the complexities of these challenges. The Handbook aims to foster informed dialogue and collaborative action toward building a more equitable and inclusive society by synthesising diverse perspectives and providing evidence-based strategies. In a time when social justice is more critical than ever, this resource can help catalyse meaningful change and empower communities to advocate for their rights and needs.

The Handbook stands out due to its comprehensive exploration of systemic inequalities across diverse contexts within the region. Its multidimensional lens facilitates the integration of social, economic, and political perspectives, making it a valuable resource for scholars, policymakers, and activists alike. The content is organised to address pressing issues such as law and order, social protection and disaster risk management based on interdisciplinary theoretical frameworks. It also aims to amplify voices that are marginalised and fulfil the need for actionable insights and collaborative approaches to social justice.

KEY THEMES

At this time, we are inviting chapters particularly on Latin America covering any of the following themes:

- Definitions of social justice and inequality;

- Colonial legacies, path dependency, and their role in shaping inequalities;
- Intersectionality: race, gender, class, and ethnicity in justice and inequality;
- Inequity in education;
- Theories of development, dependency, and neoliberalism;
- Colonialism, slavery, and the plantation economy;
- Indigenous and Afro-descendant marginalisation;
- The impact of dictatorships, civil wars, and political violence;
- Land and agrarian struggles;
- Income disparities and labour market inequalities;
- The role of international financial institutions (IMF, World Bank, IDB);
- Extractivism, environmental injustice, and Indigenous land rights;
- Taxation, fiscal policies, and wealth concentration;
- Feminist and LGBTQ+ movements;
- Indigenous and Afro-descendant activism;
- Workers' rights and union movements;
- The role of civil society, NGOs, and community organisations;
- Corruption, clientelism, and governance challenges;
- Police violence, prison systems, and criminal justice reforms;
- The role of the judiciary in reinforcing or addressing inequality;
- Human rights frameworks and transitional justice;
- Unequal access to education and the role of privatisation;
- Health inequities, pandemic responses, and access to care;
- Social protection policies and their effectiveness;
- The impact of international aid and development programmes;
- Housing crises and informal settlements (favelas, barrios, shantytowns);
- Rural poverty and agricultural policies;
- Gentrification and displacement;
- Infrastructure gaps in transportation, water, and sanitation;
- Gender-based violence and femicide;
- LGBTQ+ rights and discrimination;
- Care work, unpaid labour, and economic participation;
- Reproductive rights and access to healthcare;
- Forced displacement due to violence, climate change, and economic hardship;
- Migration policies and treatment of migrants and refugees;
- Remittances and transnational economic contributions;
- The role of the Latin American diaspora in shaping social justice agendas;
- Climate change impacts on vulnerable communities;
- Disaster resilience and recovery in small island developing states (SIDS);
- Indigenous ecological knowledge vs. extractivist policies;
- Water rights, pollution, and environmental degradation;
- Access to digital education and technology in marginalised communities;

- The impact of automation on employment and labour rights;
- Cyber surveillance and digital rights violations;
- The role of social media in activism and resistance;
- Progressive taxation and redistribution strategies;
- Universal basic income (UBI) and social protection models;
- Regional cooperation and integration for justice and equity;
- The role of grassroots movements in shaping public policy.

IMPORTANT DATES

- **EXTENDED** Deadline for the submission of abstracts: April 30, 2025@11:59 (EST)
- Acceptance notification deadline: May 30, 2025@11:59 (EST)
- Deadline for complete chapters (if the abstract is accepted): August 30, 2025@11:59 (EST)
- Expected publication date (if the chapter is accepted) (TBD).

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS FOR CONSIDERATION

Contributors should present proposals for chapters in English in the form of an abstract of 250 words, including keywords.

Proposals should include the authors' names, affiliations, and email addresses.

Queries and submissions should be sent to dacia.leslie@uwimona.edu.jm, kevin.williams@uwimona.edu.jm and wbenfield@bmcc.cuny.edu