



FY 2025 Call for Proposals: Analytic Outreach Papers

The Florida International University Gordon Institute for Public Policy and U.S. Southern Command invite you to submit a proposal for our annual Analytic Outreach Program. This program supports the advancement of knowledge on topics of security and governance in Latin America and the Caribbean.

For the 2025 cycle, proposals will be funded based on availability of funds and contingent upon originality and new ways of looking at important issues. While we are looking for innovative ideas in specific issue areas, these are wide-ranging topics that are ripe for re-thinking and re-imagining. This is especially true in the Latin American and Caribbean context, where political change and social dynamics provide specific challenges in research. The topics include:

1. **External state actors:** The role of China and Russia in Latin America and the Caribbean is well documented, but what are they (and other countries/actors such as Iran) doing in the region to increase their influence and erode democratic principles. Further, what topics are yet to be explored in depth that would allow us to better understand their activities and its impacts on the region?
 - a. **Special Question:** How will China's military relationships with LAC develop in the next 3-5 years? (i.e. Chile, Argentina, Ecuador, and Peru)
2. **Transnational Criminal Organizations:** TCOs continue to operate with impunity throughout the region, spreading violence, corruption, and instability. How are TCO tactics and rivalries evolving? What new actors are entering this space? What approach are U.S. and other actors taking in supporting partners in the region in the fight against TCOs?
 - a. **Special Question:** How powerful have Mexican cartels become in the region, and in what ways do they compete or cooperate with local gangs?
3. **Artificial Intelligence:** What is being done to assess the risks, challenges, and opportunities for Artificial Intelligence in the region? What role are countries, and private sector organizations playing in setting the AI agenda? What are actors in the region doing to advance their capacities and which countries are leaders in this space?
4. **Environmental Security:** Hurricanes, drought, and rising sea levels are all exacerbating longstanding security challenges in LAC. How are climate change and natural disasters uniquely affecting the Caribbean, Central America, and South America? Who are the actors behind illegal mining, logging, and fishing, and how are they worsening climate change. How will the hunt for critical minerals like lithium and copper impact environmental policy? What can local security forces do to boost environmental security?



This is not an all-encompassing list, and we will be accepting other proposals unrelated to these topics. We want to hear fresh ideas and avenues to explore as well as potential policy prescriptions that lawmakers and decision-makers need to be thinking about.

All submitted proposals should include a written report (15-25 pages) and presentation of findings. The submission deadline is **Friday, November 1st 2024 at 11:59pm EST**. We have also identified issues of particular importance and encourage pieces related to these topics.

The levels of payment are as follows:

1. Individual Author
 - a. One research paper (15-25 pages) + 1 hour presentation for SOUTHCOM + 30-minute podcast interview: **\$3,000 for author(s)**
2. Individual Author and Dataset for Security Research Hub Dashboard
 - a. One research paper (15-25 pages) + dataset or spreadsheet + 1 hour presentation for SOUTHCOM + 30-minute podcast interview: **\$5,000 for author**
3. Institutional Partnership
 - a. A multi-month partnership with FIU on a specific topic, resulting in at least 3 papers (length to be determined), multiple presentations for SOUTHCOM, a 30-minute podcast interview, and other requirements: **\$10,000-\$20,000**

If selected, FIU will work with you to identify a timeline that works best for both organizations, set-up preliminary discussion meeting with USSOUTHCOM, identify date for product presentation, and process payment to author(s)/organization.

Individuals, multiple authors, or an organization can submit proposals by visiting https://fiu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8itMrBcq7PTCzpl. For examples of past products, please visit <https://gordoninstitute.fiu.edu/research/publications/index.html>.

If you have any questions regarding the proposal submission process, please reach out to me directly at llazarus@fiu.edu. We thank you again and look forward to working with you for the 2025 cycle.

Sincerely,

--Leland Lazarus

Associate Director, National Security Program
FIU Gordon Institute for Public Policy