



## *“The Community in Motion: Building Diverse Spaces, Social Cohesion and Change”*

**Santiago de Chile, October 2018**

Now in this seventh summit, *The International Conference on Community Psychology* (ICCP) will be 14 years old. In previous ICCPs, the conferences have traveled across several continents, including: North, Central and South America, Africa and Europe, affording diverse interactions and dialogues between participants from around 50 countries.

From its origins, ICCP has proposed to promote the exchange of ideas and agendas in order to: reaffirm the value of our discipline and to chart the course of its future contributions (ICCP in Puerto Rico, 2006); consolidate transnational and transdisciplinary research, as well as networking within and across the diversity of perspectives in community psychology on a global scale (ICCP in Lisbon, 2008); exchange information and knowledge of difficulties and advances in the theory, practice, research and ethics of community action (ICCP in Puebla 2010); discuss and reflect on the possibilities and conditions of empowerment and community empowerment in the face of the psychological and social implications of crisis and social exclusion in different national and local realities (Barcelona, 2012); analyze community psychology in the world today, with its practical challenges and limits, reflecting on the paths taken by Community Psychology in recent years (ICCP in Fortaleza, 2014); and most recently, to criticize assumptions and overarching influences that underlie the dominant knowledge of community psychology, which is considered to be formed by imperialism, colonization, neocolonization, globalization, ethnocentrism and racism (ICCP in Durban, 2016).

In the 7<sup>th</sup> ICCP now to occur in Chile in 2018, we aim to expand this trajectory of discussions and learning by promoting the exchange of ideas and debate on participation and organizational power of current communities in the generation of spaces for coexistence, solidarity and integration that promote respect for diversity, transformations and change, as much in regards to structural change as in social dynamics and contents.

In this context, the main themes or “axes” of this upcoming conference will be:

1. *Training and research associated with professional practice*: this axis organizes the contributions that communicate and reflect regarding professional training in the field of community psychology, extending its approach to other disciplines and professions, such as social work, anthropology, sociology and others. From this perspective, studies that address areas including the following, among others, will be considered: ethical and political dimensions involved in the teaching-learning processes; teaching methodologies and practices for research and work with communities; university and postgraduate training in community psychology; link between academia and community, multi-, inter- and trans-disciplinary work; curriculum development, and crises and tensions within the discipline.

2. *Public policies, community intervention and action*: this axis articulates the relationship between the state and the public through a critical and reflective approach of public and social policies in the community field. Moreover, social, economic and political organizational systems that underlie the construction of social policies in different domains are considered, namely: neoliberalism, globalization and others. The contributions of this theme fall under the following areas: community psychology and public policies; professional endeavors in the government and state; participation processes and dialogue between communities, government and state.

3. *Community perspectives of social cohesion and social justice*: this axis includes topics such as social exclusion, inequality, autonomy, diversity, inclusion, memory and social justice. It considers contributions that address the ethical-political dimensions involved in the different processes, principles and concepts, as well as the experiences that dialogue and reflect on the possibility of spaces of social cohesion and social justice at local and global levels. This axis particularly highlights intersectional praxis, which seeks to attend to, and address, the moral dilemmas of social and community life, which are so often rooted in the traumatic experiences of violence, conflict, and injustice.

4. *Methodologies and practices of community / collective action and multidisciplinary work*: this axis organizes the proposals that systematize and reflect professional practices in the field of community, problematizing features of socio-professional endeavors of the discipline today. Among these areas we find: work methodologies for community / collective action, professional and trade associations, professional networks and other organizations that are active in the field, professional ethics, interdisciplinarity and multidisciplinary work.

5. *Social subjects and movements, governance and citizenship*: this axis addresses the interactions between collective processes aimed at transforming canons, patterns or social institutions and the constitution of subjectivities and modes of existence within the framework of community. It includes recognition of minorities, reparation and justice-seeking processes of racialized groups and indigenous peoples, struggles for gender equity, immigrant rights, LGBTI (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex) equality, among others. This includes the consideration of modes of government that shape relations in the public, private and citizens' organizations (third sector) which impact social subjects and movements in these spheres.

6. *Environmental conflict and socio-environmental catastrophes, responses from the community:* this axis considers the problems and challenges that arise from the relationship between subject, society and environment, considering processes of influence and reciprocal co-definition, and particularly the modes of association that are involved in the development of environmental transformations associated with the right to the city, to natural resources, and impact of socio-natural catastrophes, among others. This implies considering modes of response and possible interventions or actions that emerge from the community and promote human rights and environmental justice.

This 7<sup>th</sup> ICCP is being organized by the Chilean Society of Community Psychology and a network of 16 Chilean universities, which is evidence of the wide development of the national community psychology throughout the past decade, standing out for the growing recognition of the field of work as well as in the areas of: university training (pre and postgraduate), research, training, intervention and community action. Holding this conference in Chile fills us with enthusiasm, since it will allow us to both contribute to the development of the discipline and to take a step further in the significant process that is the international conference of Community Psychology, as well as take a relevant step in the formation of Chile.

The conference will be held the first week of October 2018 in Santiago. The headquarters will be the Faculty of Social Sciences of the University of Chile, an important public university in the country.

Santiago de Chile is the capital city of the country and has a significant network of international flights, centralized at the Arturo Merino Benítez Airport. Chile has reliable and accommodating hotels and services, guarantying a comfortable stay. The University of Chile is centrally located in the city, with easy access from public transport and from the diverse networks of services, touristic sites, and hotels.

Very soon, through our website and social networks, we will be providing you with more information on this 7<sup>th</sup> ICCP conference, including the most relevant dates and information for you to be able to begin planning your trip and stay.

With deepest sincerity, we hope that you will join us and we cordially invite you to participate in this exciting conference.

**Organizing Committee**  
**7th International Conference of Community Psychology, Chile 2018**