

Vía Libre

YEARBOOK 2025

Fundación Vía Libre
Celebrating 25 years

English Version



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EDITORIAL



We close out 2025 with great satisfaction and look forward to a 2026 full of new challenges.



Fundación Vía Libre celebrated its 25th anniversary on November 28. The celebration was an opportunity to reconnect with our long-time partners and friends, with whom we share views, perspectives, and an interest in technology and its impact on people's lives. With two celebratory events—one in our hometown of Córdoba and another in Buenos Aires—we were able to review 25 years of work dedicated to defending fundamental rights in the digital sphere.

Recent years have shown that the mission we set for ourselves 25 years

ago is more important and relevant than ever. We hope to rise to the challenges we face every day, especially given the current situation in Argentina, where the scientific system is being virtually dismantled. **Increasingly, we rely on the work of our universities and public research centers to make a difference in the message and actions we carry out.**

We are wrapping up this year of significant celebrations with some achievements that we are very proud of. Our projects in the field of AI ethics have gained global visibility,

with notable achievements across various domains. Our work and academic output were selected by a highly demanding jury for presentation at EMNLP2025, the world's most important natural language processing conference, which this year was held in China.

Our academic work is making a significant impact on the international stage.

At the same time, the Mozilla Foundation selected us for its first incubation cohort to help us advance our mission beyond the progress we had already been making. We capped off that achievement by **being voted the project with the greatest impact by the public at the Mozilla Festival in Barcelona.**

We continue to build networks with projects within **the feminist AI community**, now in a role that supports new projects that approach technology from a perspective of inclusion and human rights.

But AI is not the only focus of our agenda. Throughout the year, we devoted significant effort to maintaining our involvement with WIPO, participating in both meetings of the Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights held during the year. Furthermore, **for the first time, Fundación Vía Libre organized a side event at WIPO**, which was a resounding success in terms of both attendance and impact.

We are ending the year amid very serious reports of data breaches affecting all Argentinians. Data that

should be safeguarded by the State is in the hands of private companies with limited security capabilities. Tax, social security, and vehicle registration databases are freely available on the Internet as we write these words.

Once again, privacy, information security, and data protection have become top priorities.

Our public policy team did outstanding work by participating in events, building capacity, conducting research, and raising awareness about the urgent need to properly protect personal data in Argentina. In addition, our work with the Citizen Initiative for Oversight of the Intelligence System (ICCSI) aimed to strengthen a roadmap to reverse the setbacks of recent months in this area. **Secrecy, the concentration of power, the concealment of expenditures, and the procurement of surveillance technologies are and will continue to be priority issues in our work.**

Information security is one of the key priorities on our agenda. **We are currently developing a work program on security in machine learning**, an initiative aimed at promoting best practices in the adoption of AI systems at multiple levels.

We would like to express our gratitude for the immense honor of receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award presented by Ekoparty as part of its event celebrating the 25th anniversary of the region's most important security conference. Thank you, Ekoparty, for this tremendous recognition, which we are very proud to receive.

By 2026, we will have made a significant return to our historical roots in the Free Software community: we are helping to **organize a new Debian conference in Argentina**.

It is essential to mention once again that **none of what we do would be possible without a community that provides constant support and encouragement**, friends of the Foundation who collaborate and coordinate actions, and partnerships with public universities—especially our second home, the Faculty of Astronomy, Mathematics, Physics, and Computer Science at the National University of Córdoba—without whose researchers much of our work would not be possible. We also thank the ecosystem of Latin American civil society organizations, with whom we work side by side on shared agendas.

The Vía Libre team has grown, and this is evident in the wonderful record of events and activities featured in this yearbook. To that great team, thank you so much!

And finally, we have received support from funders who make our work possible: the Ford Foundation, the Heinrich Böll Foundation, the Mozilla Foundation, the Luminare Foundation, IDRC through Derechos Digitales and the fAIr Network, American University, and the New Venture Fund through the Spyware Accountability Initiative. **To all of them, thank you very much for trusting in our work.**

Thanks to a great team, we have many plans in place for the next two years. We aim to expand our team and capabilities in the area of policy and governance, grow our communications

team in partnership with the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Buenos Aires (UBA), and scale up the work carried out under the AI program through agreements with other universities and research centers in Argentina and the region. **We know the challenges are immense and that Vía Libre is expected to deliver rigorous and sustained work.**

We close out 2025 with great satisfaction and look forward to a 2026 full of new challenges, lessons learned, and positive impact on the Human Rights and Technology agenda we are building.

To all of you who stand with us, thank you so much!

ABOUT VÍA LIBRE

Fundación Vía Libre is a non-profit civil organization born in Córdoba, Argentina, in 2000. Initially focused on Free Software, dissemination of knowledge and sustainable development, the Foundation reoriented its mission to broader issues such as the impact and influence of digital technologies on Human Rights, with special attention to social, economic, and cultural rights and civil liberties.

Our mission is to promote and defend fundamental rights in environments mediated by information and communication technologies, with special emphasis on the monitoring and development of public policies, public awareness on issues on our agenda, capacity building and the promotion of debates on technologies with potential impact on the exercise of Human Rights.

We have six key areas of work that guide our agenda and two cross-cutting themes that apply to all the issues we focus on.

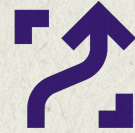
Free Software, Access to knowledge and Cultural Rights

From the ideas of Free Software we promote broad debates on the regulations of intellectual property rights based on the principles of free and open access to culture, science and technology. We understand cultural rights as central elements of public life, education and development, which is why we promote an agenda of debates, intellectual property reforms and the exercise of cultural rights based on freedom, access and full participation in culture.



Social impacts of Artificial Intelligence

Every day more social processes and decisions are made by automated systems based on algorithms. These processes are rarely transparent and imply impacts on the citizens rights. We work on monitoring, analysis and debate from ethics and Human Rights perspective to ensure the adoption of AI does not imply setbacks in the quality of life and the dignity of people.



Civil and political rights, electoral technologies

We understand that it is essential to ensure the integrity of the processes and the electoral rights of the citizenry. That is why, since 2003, we have integrated in our agenda the adoption of electoral technologies, including electronic voting machines, counting, and voter identification. That's why we support arguments and evidence to say #NoAIvotoElectrónico.



Privacy, surveillance and public security policies

Privacy is a fundamental right included both in Human Rights and in our National Constitution. Its full exercise is of special importance for the development of individual autonomy, the consolidation of citizenship and the development of personality. The full exercise of the right to privacy is essential for democratic societies, which is why we work to protect this right from both public and private sector surveillance. In this sense, we also monitor public surveillance policies, intelligence services, due process and protection of personal data in the digital environment.



Information Security

We have maintained for many years that the practice of infosec should be protected and promoted. We consider that the research, monitoring, reporting and mitigation of incidents and vulnerabilities are essential tasks in a society crossed by the use of digital devices and that these practices should never be considered as worthless or criminalized. Claiming the right to research, to repair, to study, to tinker and to report is essential in our times.



Freedom of expression and Internet regulations

The arrival of the Internet enabled forms and possibilities of expression that no other media had enabled before. Freedom of expression, as a fundamental right, is one of the essential aspects to nurture the civic space and the diversity of voices. However, situations related to discourse regulations, intellectual property policies or scenarios of high concentration of Internet platforms pose threats to the exercise of freedom of expression. We work to give an in-depth debate on the new trends on the regulation of online speech.



We have two transversal agendas to all our work

We build our projects with a perspective of integration and gender equality. We consider that the defense of Human Rights is only achievable in environments where plurality and diversity are reflected in the integration of all the aspects that constitute human societies without exclusion and free from all kinds of violence and discrimination.

We understand that the preservation and promotion of responsible environmental policies are essential for the future of life in our planet. The environmental impact, the climate crisis and the goals of sustainable development should be considered as a priority, therefore we integrate this perspective into each of our projects.

AFFILIATIONS

Creative Commons

Creative Commons is a non-profit organization that promotes the legal exchange and use of content covered by copyright. For this, among other activities, it offers a set of standardized legal tools: Creative Commons licenses, which are based on copyright and serve to take the extreme position of "All rights reserved" towards a more flexible one, of "Some all rights reserved" or, in some cases, "No rights reserved". These licenses can be used in almost any creative work as long as it is under copyright and related rights, and can be used by both individuals and institutions.

Our World Is Not For Sale (OWINFS)

The "Our World is not for Sale" (OWINFS) network is a loose grouping of organizations, activists and social movements worldwide fighting the current model of corporate globalization embodied in the global trading system. OWINFS is committed to a sustainable, socially just, democratic and accountable multilateral trading system.

Just Net Coalition

The Just Net Coalition (JNC) is a global network of civil society actors committed to an open, free, just and equitable Internet. Founded in February 2014, the coalition engages on topics of the Internet and its governance, with the goal to promote democracy, human rights and social justice. Its founding principles and objectives are contained in the Delhi Declaration.

Citizen Initiative for the Control of the Intelligence System (ICCSI)

The Citizen Initiative for the Control of the Intelligence System (ICCSI, in Spanish) is a space for monitoring, promoting and promoting the effective operation of the control mechanisms over the intelligence system of Argentina. This initiative represents a response by civil society to the need to build a space committed to the democratization of intelligence agencies, in particular, through the promotion of policies aimed at improving internal and external controls of the system, whose effectiveness is of vital importance for the proper functioning of the rule of law and democratic institutions.

Permanent Observer of World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and the World Trade Organisation (WTO)

The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) is the global forum for services, policies, cooperation and information on intellectual property. It is a self-financed United Nations body, created in 1967, with 193 member states and around 250 permanent observers. On the other hand, the World Trade Organisation (WTO) is the only international organisation responsible for the rules governing trade between countries. The WTO's fundamental objective, as set out in its founding agreement, is to use trade as a means of improving people's standard of living, creating better jobs and promoting sustainable development. Fundación Vía Libre retains its status as an accredited organisation in both forums.

Access to Knowledge Coalition - A2K

A2K Coalition members represent educators, researchers, students, galleries, libraries, archives, museums, other knowledge users and creative communities around the world. Our individual missions are varied, but we all share a common vision for a fair and balanced copyright system. In addition, Fundación Vía Libre is part of the regional group of the Latin American Civil Society Alliance for Fair Access to Knowledge.

A+ Alliance and f&a+i;r Network

The <A+> Alliance for Inclusive Algorithms is a global, multidisciplinary feminist coalition, organised by Women@theTable and the Technological Institute of Costa Rica, which brings together academics, activists and technologists who are developing prototypes for the future of artificial intelligence and automated decision-making to accelerate gender equality through technology and innovation.

The f&a+i;r network is part of this initiative. Through local partners, it promotes training and the strengthening of collaborative networks in the production of feminist and decolonial knowledge from the Global South.

The Feminist AI Research Network (f&a+i;r) brings together experts committed to influencing public policy, developing intelligent technologies based on feminist principles, and conducting action research to ensure these technologies serve communities.

Fundación Vía Libre forms part of the Latin America and Caribbean hub of the f&a+i;r network. With a repository of resources, spaces for debate, training and collaboration, it also serves as a hub to raise the profile of feminist AI research and as a permanent space for the exchange of knowledge, experiences and shared projects.

Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)

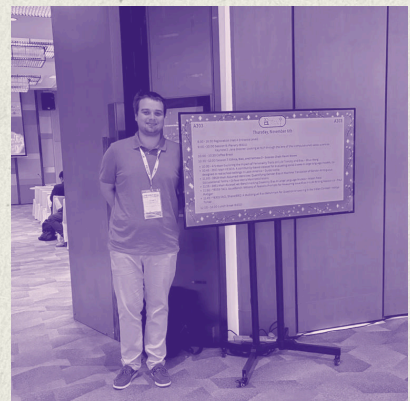
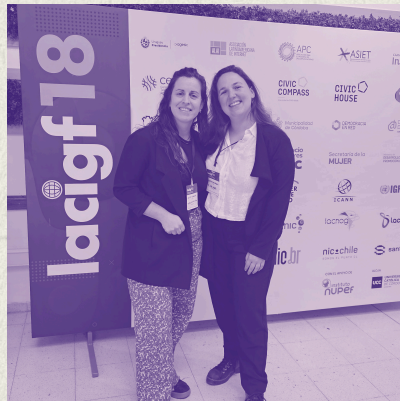
The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) is dedicated to preserving the stability of the Internet through consensus-based processes. Fundación Vía Libre is part of the Non-Commercial Stakeholder Group (NCSG), which aims to represent, through its elected representatives and interest groups, the interests and concerns of non-commercial registrants and non-commercial Internet users of generic top-level domains (gTLDs).

**Fundación Vía Libre has an ED
Equivalence Determination
validated by NGOSource.**





2025 ACTIVITIES



JANUARY

In Argentina, this is a month for pause and organization. At Vía Libre, we use this time to plan our strategies for the year ahead, so our public activity schedule is considerably reduced during this period.

FEBRUARY

CBS research seminar

Luciana Benotti delivered the seminar "Evaluating Social Bias in AI: Perspectives from a Collaborative Foundation" at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University.



Society-Centered AI Workshop

Marcos Gómez presented the poster "Empowering Teachers with AI for Participatory Bias Evaluation in Language Technologies: Expanding Teacher Participation in Latin America," which was selected by the Google Academic Research Awards (GARA) program for AI.



■ RightsCon 2025

AI in Schools: Capacity building to identify biases in language models with secondary school teachers

We presented our work on the community collection of linguistic resources for bias evaluation in language technologies carried out throughout 2024.

Side event "Strengthening the human rights framework in AI governance"

We participated in the workshop organized by Access Now, AI Collaborative, RightsCon, and the Government of France to continue the conversation started at the AI Action Summit.

Building Feminist AI in Latin America: Grassroots Experiences

In this un-conference, activists, academics, and professionals will share their experiences in developing a more inclusive and rights-oriented AI at #RightsCon 2025. Organized by the f<a+i>r Network.

Size Really Matters: Rethinking AI Development to Avoid the Marginalization of the Marginalized

Luciana Benotti was invited to participate in the session alongside various global leaders, where she shared the Latin American perspective.

Additionally, we facilitated the Latin American meeting.



MARCH

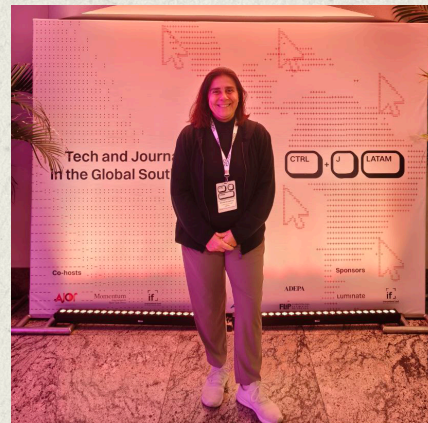
Stakeholder Consultation on Artificial Intelligence

Within the framework of the preparation process for the UNESCO report on Argentina's state of readiness for artificial intelligence, Fundación Vía Libre was invited to participate in the Stakeholder Consultation on AI, an activity that contributes to the construction of the National Artificial Intelligence Strategy.



CTRL+J Latam

We attended the CTRL+J Latam event "Technology and Journalism in the Global South," which took place in São Paulo, Brazil.



We participated in the IACHR Hearing "Artificial Intelligence and Human Rights"

The regional thematic hearing "Artificial Intelligence and Human Rights" was convened ex officio by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) to analyze the challenges that artificial intelligence (AI) poses for the exercise and guarantee of human rights.



■ Khipu 2025

Empowering teachers with AI for bias evaluation in language technologies in Latin America

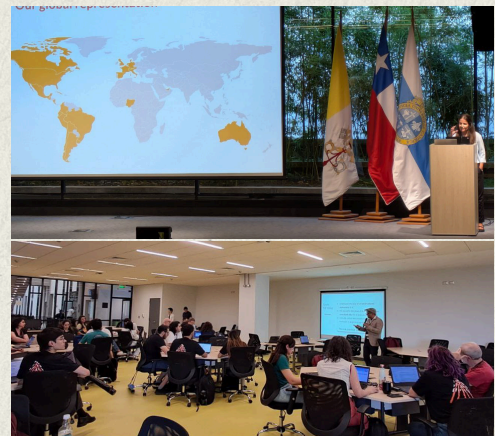
Poster presented by Pietro Palombini.



Challenges and new questions for security engineering in ML

Poster presented by Enrique Chaparro.

Khipu is one of the most important gatherings in the region, bringing together researchers, students, and experts to debate the present and future of AI in Latin America.



In addition to presenting the posters, we participated in the talk "**Research in academia and industry**", the **AI governance panel**, and conducted the workshop "**Sociocultural evaluation of AI**".



APRIL

Sociocultural Evaluation of AI

Luciana Benotti and María Emilia Echeveste delivered the workshop "Sociocultural Evaluation of Artificial Intelligence" at the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM), invited by Helena Gómez Adorno.



Seminar on Bias and Calibration in Language Model

Luciana Benotti delivered the seminar at the Auditorium of the Institute for Research in Applied Mathematics and Systems (IIMAS) of the National Autonomous University of Mexico.



[watch](#) 

Argentina and Artificial Intelligence: Policies, Communication, and Culture

Beatriz Busaniche participated in the event organized by the Communication and Culture Area of the Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences (FLACSO).

SCCR/46 WIPO



Ph: Emmanuel Berrod

We participated in the 46th meeting of the Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights organized by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) in Geneva, Switzerland.

The Foundation also participated as a member of the A2K Coalition and the Latin American Civil Society Alliance for Fair Access to Knowledge.

Side Event: Promoting AI for the Good of the Global South

We organized the side event "Promoting AI for Good in the Global South: Copyright Policies for the Development of Artificial Intelligence in Latin America and Africa" in conjunction with ReCreate South Africa.



It was the first time we organized a Side Event at WIPO!



MAY

Summer School on Responsible AI and Human Rights

Margarita Trovato was selected to participate in the 3rd cohort organized by the Quebec Artificial Intelligence Institute (Mila).



Discussion Panel “What’s Happening with AI in Science?”

Emilia Echeveste and Lourdes Aguiar Cau addressed the impacts of AI on scientific knowledge production and educational processes.



Personal data, secret purposes: new authorizations for SIDE and the UIF

This document analyzes Decree 274/2025, which expands the State's capabilities to collect and share personal data within the framework of anti-money laundering and cybersecurity policies.

It specifically examines the changes in the Financial Intelligence Unit (UIF) and the relocation of cybersecurity policy within SIDE (State Intelligence Secretariat), highlighting the risks they pose to privacy and fundamental rights.

The analysis contrasts these modifications with Law 25.326 and international data protection standards, in a context already marked by regulatory gaps and a lack of oversight. It is complemented by previous findings from Fundación Vía Libre regarding the state's handling of personal data.

Produced with the support of the Heinrich Böll Foundation.

[DOWNLOAD THE
DOCUMENT](#)



ANÁLISIS DECRETO 274/25

**Datos personales, fines secretos:
nuevas habilitaciones para la SIDE
y la UIF**

JUNE

Responsible Evaluation of Machine Learning Systems

The intensive course "Responsible Evaluation of Machine Learning Systems," organized by Luciana Benotti and taught by Luciana Ferrer, was held at the National University of Córdoba (UNC).



Discussion Panel: What is True in the Age of AI? Public Space and Knowledge

Beatriz Busaniche participated in the discussion "What is True in the Age of AI? Public Space and Knowledge," as part of the Master's in Communication and Culture program at the Faculty of Social Sciences (UBA).

IGF 2025

We participated in the 20th Internet Governance Forum (IGF) in Norway. Beatriz Busaniche attended in person, while Luciana Benotti participated remotely in the "Agents with Artificial Intelligence" session.



FACCT 2025

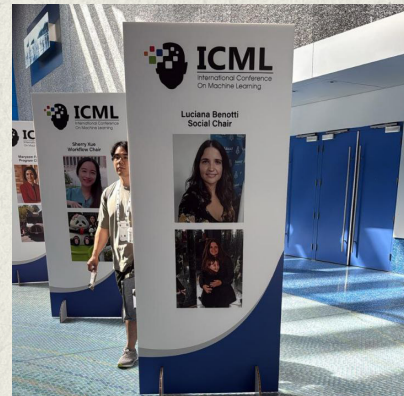
Luciana Benotti participated as a mentor in the Doctoral Colloquium and in the session "Ethical and sustainable financing strategies for feminist and Latin American-led initiatives: a collective analysis" alongside the F<A+i>r Network.

JULY

ICML 2025

We participated in the 42nd International Conference on Machine Learning at the Vancouver Convention Centre, Canada.

Luciana Benotti, who serves on the organizing committee as Social Chair, attended virtually



Digital Governance: Towards a New Legislative

Beatriz Busaniche presented at a training cycle for Uruguayan legislators organized by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP Uruguay), in co-organization with the Parliament of Uruguay and its School of Government.




ACL 2025

We were present at the Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL 2025), one of the most significant international gatherings in the field of natural language processing.

Tutorial: Addressing ethical challenges in natural language processing: practical strategies for students and researchers

The tutorial aimed to provide practical tools for researchers and students to identify and address ethical challenges in their academic work. It was developed by the Vía Libre AI team in collaboration with the ACL Ethics Committee.

Check out the official publication of the tutorial on the ACL Anthology website and the full tutorial video in English.

[watch](#) 

Luciana Benotti served as co-chair of the ACL Ethics Committee



AUGUST

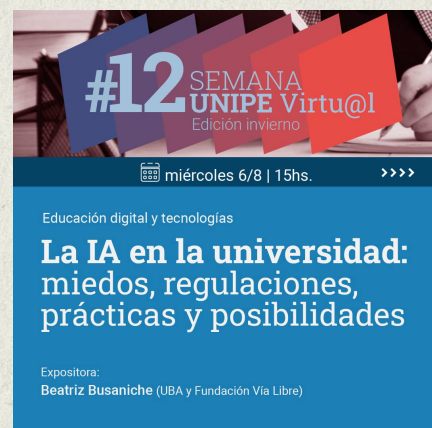
■ **Appropriations, consumption, and risks in the use of social networks by children and adolescents**

We were invited by "La Defe" — a national agency dedicated to advising on and protecting the rights of children and adolescents in physical and digital environments — to provide our critical perspective on public policy and technology.



■ **AI in the University: Fears, Regulations, Practices, and Possibilities**

Beatriz Busaniche presented at the sessions organized by the National Pedagogical University (UNIFE).



Seminar "Institutional Architecture for Surveillance: Data in the Hands of the State and Cybersecurity"

We organized the hybrid seminar at the Heinrich Böll Foundation offices - Buenos Aires to reflect on how the Argentine State collects, shares, and protects (or not) our personal data through presentations by Margarita Trovato and Marcela Pallero.

We addressed the current regulatory framework, modified by recent decrees, and the current state of affairs regarding state cybersecurity.



SEPTEMBER

Advancing AI Safety in Latin America: Generating Learnings from the Local Level

Enrique Chaparro represented Vía Libre at the meeting held at the British Embassy in Mexico City, with the objective of reflecting on the findings and recommendations of the International AI Safety Report 2025 and exploring its specific relevance for Latin America.

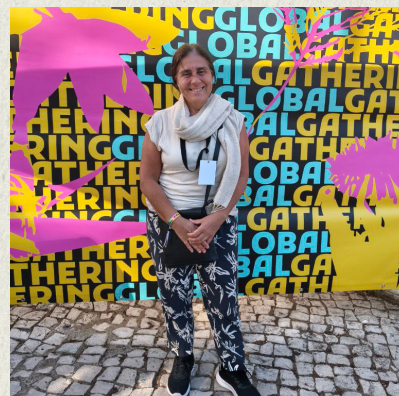


Panel Discussion: Artificial Intelligence and Intellectual Property: Perspectives for a Research Agenda

We participated in the meeting organized by the University of San Andrés with the objective of advancing a research agenda on artificial intelligence and intellectual property.

Global Gathering

We attended the gathering of digital rights defenders organized by Team CommUNITY in Estoril, Portugal.



Spoiler: no, Chat GPT is not a psychologist

Emilia Echeveste conducted the training session "Spoiler: no, ChatGPT is not a psychologist. New boundaries in our profession," aimed at psychologists from the Primary Health Care Direction (DAPS) of the City of Córdoba.



OCTOBER

International Seminar: "AI and the justice system in Latin America: lessons learned and paths for the guarantee of rights"

Beatriz Busaniche was a speaker at the panel "Transparency: approaches, gaps and concrete opening initiatives" at the event held in São Paulo and organized by the Public Defender's Office of the State of São Paulo and the Electronic Frontier Foundation (EFF), with the support of the School of the Public Defender's Office (EDEPE).

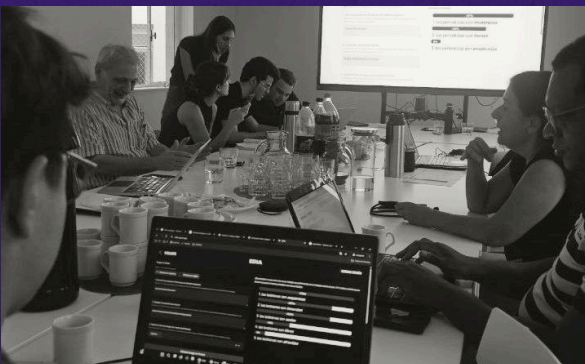
CELE Workshop

Alexia Halvorsen participated in the 13th edition of the "Towards a Free Internet" workshop, an annual event organized by CELE that brings together specialists and activists to discuss the relationship between new digital technologies and human rights, with an emphasis on freedom of expression issues.



Artificial Intelligence Under the Microscope

We organized the in-person workshop "Artificial intelligence under the lens: exploring biases in language models," a practical proposal to learn how AI works by doing, in a participatory and accessible way at the Heinrich Böll Foundation offices - Buenos Aires.



Spring School in Deep Learning

Sofía Martinelli, Pietro Palombini, and Guido Ivetta took part in the 1st Spring School in Deep Learning at the Institute of Computer Science (CONICET-UBA).



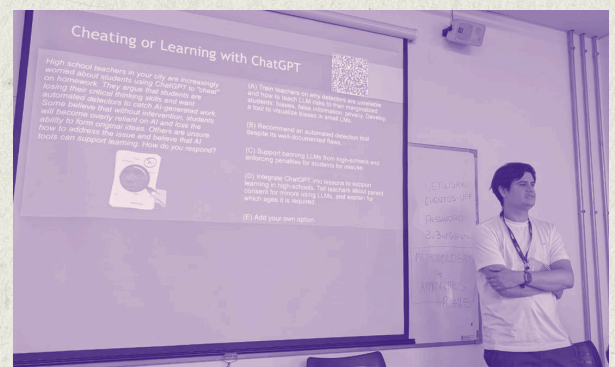
Technofeminist confluences for possible futures

Sofía Martinelli and Marcos Gómez participated in the Meeting of the Latin American Feminist Artificial Intelligence Network at the State University of Rio de Janeiro.



AoIR 2025

Marcos Gómez participated in person, facilitating the workshop "Rethinking AI from the ground up: building sustainable AI ecosystems for local communities" in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

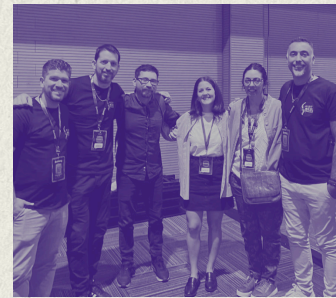


Ekoparty 2025

As we do every year, we participated in the conference that brings together people interested in cybersecurity. It began as a "hackers for hackers" conference in the year 2000 and today is the most important meeting point in the region.

Cybersecurity vs. National Intelligence

Margarita Trovato spoke on the "Cybersecurity vs. National Intelligence" panel organized by the group "A 1 bit de ir en cana" (One bit away from going to jail).



We were honored with the 2025 Trajectory Award!



Beatriz Busaniche and Enrique Chaparro received this great recognition from the Ekoparty community. Thank you very much!



"They have put their voices and bodies on the line so that technology accompanies democracy and vice versa. Our community will always support you"

Fede K

November 28th

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS

gracias x
hacer trabajo
tan serio
y tan
divertido ♡

Que sigamos
construyendo
Juntos

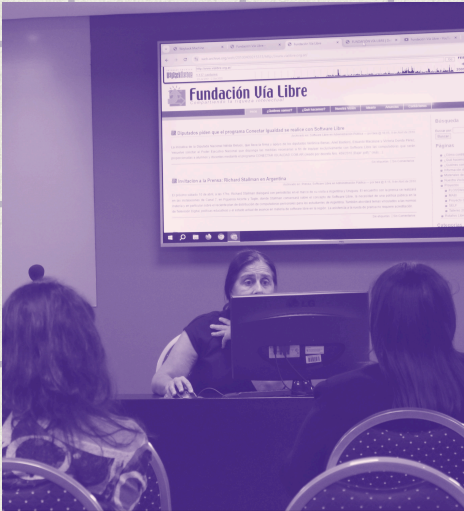
VAMOS x
25 MÁS
! !

Por muchos
25
MÁS !!!

Felices
25 añitos
Les queremos
Escuelita_TEC

CYBERCIBUJAS
x TUJAS
SALUDA Y AGRA-
DECE A VIA
LIBRE
EN SUS 25 AÑOS

We celebrated our anniversary alongside our community throughout the year in both Córdoba and Buenos Aires. We are deeply grateful to everyone who shared their best wishes and support during this celebration.



NOVEMBER

LACIGF 2025

We participated in the 18th edition of the Latin American and Caribbean Internet Governance Forum (LACIGF) in Córdoba, Argentina.

María Emilia Echeveste was a panelist in the plenary session "Local and Contextual Artificial Intelligence: alternatives for sustainable digital economies."

YOUTH LACIGF 2025

We participated in the 10th Internet Governance Forum for Youth in Latin America and the Caribbean, held at the National University of Córdoba (UNC).

Alexia Halvorsen facilitated the conversation at the side event "Seeking a gender approach in internet governance," co-organized with colleagues from the region.



■ Mozilla Festival

Beatriz Busaniche, together with Marcos Javier Gómez, presented the project "Community collection of linguistic resources for the evaluation of bias in language technologies" in Barcelona, Spain, as part of the 15th Mozilla Festival.

This work, from Vía Libre's AI department, is part of the Mozilla Incubator program. It continues the experiences of the HESEIA 2024 and EDIA courses with the goal of providing resources and involving citizens in the collection of datasets, as well as the identification of biases, stereotypes, cultural expressions, and hallucinations in language models.

'Igwebuike': Unity is strength

Beatriz Busaniche participated in the panel where community-driven solutions from the Global South were proposed.



We were chosen as the project with the greatest impact!



After giving the presentation and receiving feedback from the judges, our project was the most voted for by the audience, and we received the award for the project with the greatest impact. Thank you very much!



We publish "HESEIA: A community-based dataset for evaluating social biases in large language models, co-designed in real school settings in Latin America"

The HESEIA experience stems from the teacher training course developed by Vía Libre in 2024, involving 370 teachers and more than 5,000 students from 189 schools across Latin America. During the process, a set of 46,499 sentences was collaboratively constructed to identify and analyze biases and stereotypes present in artificial intelligence models. Unlike other existing resources, HESEIA incorporates an intersectional and situated perspective, reflecting local contexts and the pedagogical experience of educational communities.

The paper was published in ACL Anthology. Available [here](#).

Authors: Guido Ivetta, Marcos J. Gómez, Sofía Martinelli, Pietro Palombini, M. Emilia Echeveste, Nair Carolina Mazzeo, Beatriz Busaniche, and Luciana Benotti.



HESEIA: A community-based dataset for evaluating social biases in large language models, co-designed in real school settings in Latin America

Guido Ivetta^{1,2}, Marcos J. Gomez^{1,2}, Sofía Martinelli¹, Pietro Palombini¹, M. Emilia Echeveste^{1,2,3}, Nair Carolina Mazzeo², Beatriz Busaniche², Luciana Benotti^{1,2,3}

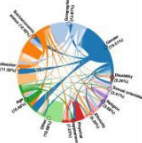
¹Universidad Nacional de Córdoba, Argentina - ²Fundación Vía Libre - ³CONICET

INTRODUCTION

- Large Language Models (LLMs) reproduce social biases; however, evaluation resources are often developed without participatory co-design from the affected communities. This raises significant ethical concerns about fairness and harm.
- We introduce HESEIA, a large-scale Spanish dataset of 45,416 sentences, co-designed through a professional development course. It involved 370 high-school teachers and 5,370 students from 189 Latin American schools.
- HESEIA is the first dataset organized per school area and includes intersectional demographics, reflecting local contexts using educators' expertise. Experiments showed its contextually relevant stereotypes are harder for current LLMs to recognize or reject.

The HESEIA Dataset

HESEIA is a large-scale Spanish dataset comprising 45,416 sentences generated by high-school teachers and students. It is the first bias dataset organized by academic area, allowing for multidisciplinary bias analysis. HESEIA significantly captures intersectional biases across demographic axes. This community-based approach captures nuanced stereotypes reflecting local Latin American contexts.



Area	Sentence written by students
Art	European art is better
Music	The Cuarteto Cordobés is for uneducated people
Biology	Poor people pollute more
Economy	Circular fashion is for workers
Sports	Women exercise to look better
Physics	Wind power is accessible to the rich

Area	Model	HESEIA		CrowS-Pairs		Stereoset		Experiment 1		Experiment 2		
		Recall	Precision	Recall	Precision	Recall	Precision	Recall	Precision	Recall	Precision	
Area	Model	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
		0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
		0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
		0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
		0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
		0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
		0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
		0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
		0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
		0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
		0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
		0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

Professional Development Course

The professional development (PD) course involved 370 high-school teachers and 5,370 students from 189 Latin American schools. It utilized a co-design, participatory method, centering educators (median 12 years of experience) as experts on their communities. The 36-hour training was grounded in constructivist learning principles, emphasizing active participation and critical thinking.



Experiments

We evaluated four LLMs (including GPT-4o-Mini and LLaMA3.1-8B) across two experiments comparing HESEIA (Spanish) against benchmarks like CrowS-Pairs and Stereoset. Experiment 1 assessed stereotype recognition using a scale that included "don't know". HESEIA consistently elicited the highest proportion of "don't know" answers, suggesting its stereotypes are less recognizable by current models. Experiment 2 measured agreement, showing LLMs were less likely to reject the biases presented in HESEIA. This outcome demonstrates that HESEIA surfaces unfamiliar forms of bias, exposing the limits of LLM generalization across diverse social realities.

Language	Dataset	Exp 1 (5-Rank)		Exp 2 (5-Rank)		Stereoset		CrowS-Pairs	
		Recall	Precision	Recall	Precision	Recall	Precision	Recall	Precision
Spanish	HESEIA	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	LLaMA3.1-8B	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Spanish	MultiLingualCrowPairs	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	CrowS-Pairs	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
English	CrowS-Pairs	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	MultiLingualCrowPairs	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%



Publicado en ACL Anthology

HESEIA

Un conjunto de datos basado en la comunidad para evaluar sesgos sociales en modelos de lenguaje grande, co-diseñado en entornos escolares reales en América Latina

Autores: Guido Ivetta, Marcos J Gomez, Sofía Martinelli, Pietro Palombini, M Emilia Echeveste, Nair Carolina Mazzeo, Beatriz Busaniche, Luciana Benotti.

EMNLP 2025

We were in Suzhou, China, at the 2025 conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP 2025).

Paper Presentation and Q&A Session

Guido Ivetta presented the paper "HESEIA: a community-based dataset for evaluating social biases in large language models," along with Luciana Benotti, during the question and answer session.

[watch](#) 



How will multimodal language models shape industry and society?

Luciana Benotti participated in the conversation within the industry sessions track.

[watch](#) 



Luciana Benotti received the Outstanding Senior Area Chair Award!

In recognition of her outstanding work in the evaluation of scientific papers for #EMNLP 2025 within the Human-Centered NLP area.



CAESCyT

On November 28, Beatriz Busaniche participated in the closing panel "For the opening of science and technology" of the VI Argentine Congress of Social Studies of Science and Technology. The meeting took place at the National University of Córdoba.



DECEMBER

AI4GS

Luciana Benotti attended the AI4GS (AI for the Global South) meeting from December 9 to 11 in Masdar City, Abu Dhabi. On November 11, she was a panelist in the session titled: "Exploring innovative methods to ensure that data collection is carried out ethically."



SCCR/47

Patricia Díaz participated on behalf of Vía Libre in the 47th meeting of the Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights organized by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).



PRESS AND COMMUNICATIONS



Among Fundación Vía Libre’s core activities is the engagement in dialogue with the press to foster an informed, evidence-based public debate.

The Foundation maintains ongoing relationships with the media and is frequently consulted as an expert in its various fields of work. Throughout 2025, the organization was featured in international and national media, local outlets from across the country, community and university media with which it regularly collaborates, and specialized publications related to its mission. Here are some of those highlights:

AM 1270 | FM 97.1 UNE

Meta shuts down its fact-checking program

Página 12

A wake-up call to Congress regarding SIDE

la diaria mundo

Social surveillance and cyber-patrolling in Argentina spark concern among social organizations and academia

RÍO NEGRO

"Negligence and lack of transparency": the hack of Mi Argentina and government websites

La Nota

All is not lost: community AI experiences as tools for social justice

LA NACION

#8M: Artificial Intelligence is still a double-edged sword for the gender struggle

#ElResaltador

Cyber-patrolling in the Federal Police: "There is no strong framework regarding what the State can or cannot do with that data"

PERFIL

One year after its creation, the Government hides the role of the Ministry of Security's Artificial Intelligence Unit

Anfibia

A Latin American AI is possible

El Grito Del Sur

Unlimited cyber-patrolling: new forms of surveillance and the attempt to silence voices



An Argentine foundation, globally recognized for identifying biases in artificial intelligence.



Social Media: "Both children and adults have lost their attention span due to a type of consumption characterized by constant scrolling."



Facial recognition in public spaces in the City of Buenos Aires



Does AI discriminate?



These are the jobs AI will replace and perform better than you



AI and rights: Beatriz Busaniche



The paradoxes of AI



Artificial Intelligence as a geopolitical strategy between China and the US



An AI project seeking to preserve the region's cultural sovereignty moves forward

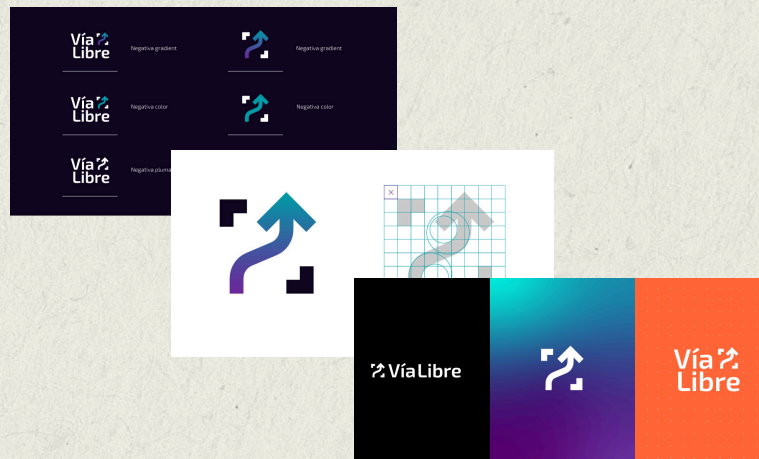
2025 UPDATES!

In celebration of the Foundation's 25th anniversary, we have undergone a rebranding of our institutional image, adapting it to contemporary styles and the current era. We say goodbye to our long-standing logo and welcome a new aesthetic that will represent us in the years to come.



Fundación
Vía Libre

 **Vía Libre**



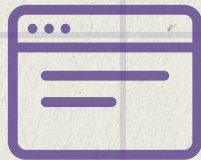
Additionally, a commemorative logo was developed to mark the Foundation's 25th anniversary for this special occasion.



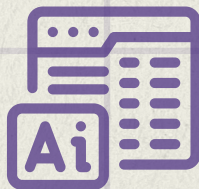
Our new logos are available for download at [this link](#).

OUR COMMUNICATION CHANNELS

WEBSITES



www.vialibre.org.ar



www.ia.vialibre.org.ar



www.derechodeautor.org.ar

SOCIAL MEDIA

Fundación Vía Libre has a presence on various social media platforms, including **Instagram**, **Linkedin**, **X**, **Youtube**, and the decentralized network **Mastodon**.



PODCAST

El Bestiario de Internet
Cuentos y mitos en la era digital.

[Listen](#)



FUTURE PROYECTS

Ford Foundation

Institutional Strengthening

The Ford Foundation supports the institutional work of Fundación Vía Libre, specifically focusing on institutional strengthening and capacity building for advocacy in international policy processes related to technology and Fundamental Rights. Over the coming years, we will deepen our work in international policy, particularly by monitoring processes in institutions such as the World Trade Organization (WTO), the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), and the Internet Governance Forum (IGF), among others.

■■■ HEINRICH BÖLL STIFTUNG BUENOS AIRES

Argentina | Uruguay | Paraguay

Fundamental Rights in the Digital Environment

The Heinrich Böll Foundation of Germany provides sustained support to Fundación Vía Libre's work in defending fundamental rights in the digital environment. Within the framework of promoting Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (ESCR) and democratic strengthening, the Foundation supports initiatives in areas such as privacy protection, personal data protection and public safety, the development of artificial intelligence based on Human Rights principles, and the promotion of appropriate technologies in electoral processes and political campaigns.

Community Collection of Linguistic Resources for Bias Evaluation in Natural Language Technologies

This initiative goes beyond the technical realm; it represents a commitment to socially conscious and inclusive AI. By positioning teachers and students as active participants in evaluating these technologies and creating datasets, we aim to bring AI research closer to the communities it affects and interacts with.

The goal is to "Latin Americanize" this project, signaling a regional movement toward more equitable AI development. With strong networks and collaborative partnerships, we aspire to contribute significantly to a fairer digital landscape.

Supported by the Data Empowerment Fund, the Mozilla Foundation, and the FAIR Network of A+ Alliance, in partnership with the University of Córdoba and the Ministry of Education of the Province of Córdoba.

moz://a

**DATA
EMPOWERMENT
FUND**



Combating Inequalities in a World Dominated by Big Tech

This initiative aims to challenge hegemonic narratives regarding Big Tech companies and their role in innovation systems, especially concerning the use and development of artificial intelligence, by promoting public awareness of these systems and their social, economic, and environmental impacts.

With the support of Luminate, we will collaborate with like-minded organizations to promote the fair and ethical adoption of digital technologies, particularly in areas such as surveillance and privacy protection, public oversight of law enforcement agencies using surveillance technologies, and the adoption and use of technologies in state decision-making processes.

Luminate

newventurefund

The Path of Espionage in Argentina: Protecting Civic Space and Strengthening Civil Society Capacity

This project aims to strengthen regulation and accountability regarding the procurement and use of spyware by public entities in Argentina and Latin America. Through an approach based on research, advocacy, and training, the project seeks to identify and mitigate the risks these technologies pose to individual and collective rights.

The use of surveillance technologies—particularly spyware—by state actors has raised serious concerns about human rights protection in Argentina and other Latin American countries. The lack of an adequate regulatory framework and accountability mechanisms exacerbates the risk of rights violations, especially against human rights defenders, journalists, and activists.

In this context, it is crucial to move toward regulation that addresses both the threats posed by spyware and the specificities of federal countries. This project is supported by the New Venture Fund.

Community-Centered Alternatives for AI Development

This initiative seeks to promote an artificial intelligence ecosystem in Latin America and the Caribbean based on feminist principles, dedicated to actively dismantling historical and systemic inequalities related to gender, race, class, ethnicity, ability, language, and geography—fostering comprehensive justice and improving the collective well-being of historically marginalized communities.

As members of the Feminist AI Network in Latin America and the Caribbean, which is built on years of collaboration between academic institutions, community organizations, and civil society groups across the region, and with the support of Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC), we will accompany the selected projects throughout 2026.

DebConf26

DebConf is the annual world conference for Debian Project developers. The event is held annually and is itinerant, taking place in a different city or country each year. In addition to a full schedule of technical, social, and policy talks, DebConf provides a space for developers, contributors, and interested individuals to meet and collaborate closely.

Fundación Vía Libre will be part of the organizing team for a new Debian conference in Argentina. It will take place from July 20 to 25, 2026, at the Faculty of Engineering and Water Sciences (FICH) of the Universidad Nacional del Litoral, located at the University Campus (Ciudad Universitaria) in the city of Santa Fe.



DebConf '26
SANTA FE | ARGENTINA

THANK YOU
FOR YOUR SUPPORT

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