



## 2019 EROPA ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE CALL FOR PAPERS

The 2019 Eastern Regional Organization for Public Administration (EROPA) Annual International Conference is jointly organized by the EROPA Secretariat and the University of the Philippines National College of Public Administration and Governance (UP NCPAG). It will be held in Manila, Philippines on 22-27 September 2019.

The EROPA Conference Organizing Committee cordially invites scholars and practitioners in the field of Public Administration to take part in the conference and submit papers for presentation.

### **Theme: "The Future of Public Administration: Rethinking Resilience, Equity, and Sustainability in the Region and Beyond"**

We are living in a global community that is constantly stressed by discontinuities, disruptions and uncertainties. The latter are mainly driven by rebalancing of global economic and political power, emergence of new actors in a multipolar system, and prevalence of non-traditional threats to human security. It puts to the test the resilience, legitimacy, and efficiency of existing political and institutional actors, and exacerbates risks associated with rapid economic growth and globalization, which has implications on social equity and environmental sustainability.

The Asia Pacific has recently transformed into a global economic powerhouse, and is showing no signs of slowing down, at least in the near future. The region exudes so much potential for growth and development in the coming decades, yet it also faces multiple threats from various sources. In order to counter this, it needs to build resilience amid uncertainty and ensure that the gains of development will benefit everyone for generations to come. Such a goal would require long-term, strategic thinking and holistic approaches. Thus, in order to ensure that progress is made in terms of politico-administrative, social, environmental and economic resilience, equity, and sustainability, discourse on these topics with regard to Public Administration needs to be amplified.

*The theme for 2019 acknowledges that Public Administration cuts across four development concerns in the Asia-Pacific region, which are presented in the following sub-themes:*

#### **Sub-theme 1: Social Equity and Well-being**

While factors such as globalization, technological advancements, and market-oriented reforms have contributed much to growth and development in the region, these have also induced inequality within and across countries. Population ageing, state protectionism of developed economies and the shift towards competitive than collaborative governance could affect regional development. Moreover, there is a growing contradiction between free flow of goods and services and restricted mobility of human populations. Forced labor and vulnerable employment, particularly among women and youth, as well as gender-based violence, are also prevalent. These challenges require both regional and global solutions and structural reforms to systematically address social inequality. There is a need for the state to be more proactive in ensuring equity and well-being.

##### *Sub-topics:*

- *Income and wealth concentration*
- *Poverty and equality*
- *Redistribution policies*
- *Social protection (universal social protection floor [SOCPRO]/ universal basic income [UBI])*
- *Social services*
- *Inclusive governance (disability; ethnicity; race, caste, and class; sex and gender)*
- *Work and living/social wage*
- *Agrarian reform*
- *Social enterprise*
- *Mainstreaming human rights in governance*

#### **Sub-theme 2: Environmental Sustainability**

Environmental sustainability is a crucial concern given the growing global population and clear evidence of resource use exceeding the earth's ecological carrying capacity. This has become a major challenge for growth and development, particularly in the context of climate change and natural disasters. The Asia-Pacific region is most vulnerable to the climate change and disaster impacts. However, the unpredictability of extreme weather events and other natural disasters confound effective government action.

Strategic planning and evidence-based decision-making is crucial to supporting proactive adaptation, addressing vulnerabilities, anticipating future impacts, and sustaining environmental benefits. The challenge besetting public administration is how it will continue to support mitigation and adaptation measures, provide public service amid climate change and disasters, and factor in environmental sustainability in the development agenda.

##### *Sub-topics:*

- *Global commons/global public goods*
- *Environmental protection*
- *Green government*
- *Green communities*
- *Sustainable agriculture and forestry*
- *Climate change mitigation and adaptation*
- *Climate funding*
- *Disaster risk reduction and management*
- *Natural resource management*



**Sub-theme 3: Public Finance and the Good Life**

At the outset, financial conditions in the Asia-Pacific region have become more stable in recent years. However, tightening fiscal conditions brought about by higher oil prices and weakening of major currencies have remained a source of uncertainty. It restricts credit and flow of money and, in turn, affects economic competitiveness and debt sustainability.

Fiscal policies need to focus on resilience, equity, sustainability and the good life of the public. Governments need to reallocate public expenditures such that they contribute to considerable improvement of welfare outcomes, e.g. education, health and social protection. They may consider widening the fiscal space to reallocate military expenditures and energy subsidies for social policies. They should also aim for tax progressivity to better induce tax collection, reduce tax evasion and avoidance, prevent capital flight, and address systemic inequality and wealth concentration in the region.

*Sub-topics:*

- *Debt sustainability*
- *Mobilization of domestic resources*
- *Government expenditures*
- *Macroeconomic policy*
- *Fiscal consolidation*
- *Remittances for development*
- *Participatory budgeting and audit*
- *Fiscal Policies (planning, redistribution and accountability)*

**Sub-theme 4: Fourth Industrial Revolution and Development**

With the onset of the Fourth Industrial Revolution, technological advancements offer vast opportunities for development, yet they also pose certain challenges. On one hand, technology contributes to economic growth and may potentially support sustainable development. However, technology is also seen as a tool for repression and degeneration. There also remains a digital divide between the information-rich and information-poor. Cyber-attacks and cyber-security breaches have, time and again, hampered government operations, and issues on privacy, access and interoperability in the management of big data also remains prevalent. These challenges serve as sources of strength and motivation to help revive the role of the State in enabling sustainable development.

*Sub-topics:*

- *E-governance*
- *Open data initiatives*
- *Data privacy*
- *Information access and use*
- *Bridging the digital divide*
- *Cyber security*
- *Intellectual property rights*
- *Impact of automation on labor and employment*

**SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACT AND FULL PAPER**

1. Paper presenters should submit papers that are relevant to the themes and sub-themes of the conference.
2. All papers should be written and presented in English.
3. Paper presenters should first submit a 200-word abstract before they can be invited to submit their full paper. A biographical sketch of not more than 100 words should also be attached.
4. Paper presenters who have been notified by the Organizing Committee to submit their full paper and PowerPoint presentations should do so on or before the given deadlines. The paper should be from 6,000 to 8,000 words long, inclusive of notes and references, and should be typed double-spaced on A4-sized paper using the Times New Roman font, sized 12 pt. If necessary, the paper should include figures, graphs and tables.
5. Papers should be organized according to the following sequence: title of paper, name of author/s, abstract, main text, references and appendices (if needed).
6. Papers should also include a cover page with the following information: title of paper, sub-theme, institution or agency, country and contact information, as well as logistical support needed (e.g. additional computer unit, laser pointer, etc.).
7. References and citation should follow the APA style. Please visit <http://www.apastyle.org> for more information on the APA citation format.
8. Each paper presenter is allowed a maximum of 15 minutes for presentation and five (5) minutes for answering questions from the audience.
9. The Asian Review of Public Administration and the Philippine Journal of Public Administration will consider quality papers for possible publication. Paper presenters who wish to have their papers considered for publication in the journal must adhere to the journal style guidelines set forth by the ARPA and PJPA Editorial Boards.

**NOTE: All submissions should be made to the 2019 EROPA Organizing Committee via e-mail ([ph2019@eropa.co](mailto:ph2019@eropa.co)).**

<b>IMPORTANT DATES</b>	
<b>Deadline of Abstract and Bionote Submission</b>	30 April 2019
<b>Notification of Acceptance of Abstract for Presentation</b>	31 May 2019
<b>Start of Online Registration</b>	
<b>Deadline of Submission of Full Papers</b>	15 August 2019
<b>Deadline of Submission of PowerPoint Presentations</b>	31 August 2019
<b>End of Online Registration</b>	
<b>Conference Dates</b>	22 to 27 September 2019