

IX CONTINENTAL CONGRESS AND II INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM OF COOPERATIVE LAW

REGULATION

Chapter I. General Provisions

Article 1. Call for and implementation

The IX Continental Congress and II International Symposium on Cooperative Law is convened by Cooperatives of the Americas, within the framework of activities organized jointly with the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA). It will take place on September 16 and 17, 2026, in Panama City, Republic of Panama.

Article 2. Purpose

The Congress aims to contribute to the development of Cooperative Law in the regional and international sphere through the study, exchange and discussion of the papers presented on the topics included in the agenda.

Chapter II. Syllabus

Article 3. General topic and subtopics

The Congress will have as its general theme: "Cooperative law facing the challenges of our time", and will address the presentations on the following subtopics:

1. Cooperative identity and cooperative law
2. Technological advances and their impact on cooperatives
3. Cooperative associated work
4. Taxation of cooperatives
5. Challenges of cooperative integration
6. New forms of cooperative organization
7. Court case law on cooperatives

Chapter III. Participants

Article 4. Categories

Participants in the Congress will have the status of delegates, observers, special guests, and honorary members.

Article 5. Delegates

Delegates will be considered those who meet the following requirements: **a)** Be a lawyer, law graduate, notary or student of one of those careers; **b)** To have registered in a timely manner and paid the corresponding fee.



Article 6. Observers

Observers will be considered those who hold managerial and executive positions in cooperative organizations or in official bodies related to them and who register in that capacity and pay the corresponding fee.

Article 7. Special guests are considered to be those persons who, due to the position they hold in the cooperative or academic field of their respective countries, are invited to participate by the organizing committee or the board of directors of the Congress.

Article 8. Honorary members are those persons who are designated in such capacity by the organizing committee or the board of directors of the Congress.

Article 9. Participants in the Congress shall have the following rights: **a)**

Delegates may participate in all sessions under the conditions established in these regulations; **b)**

Observers

may participate in all sessions, in which they shall only have the right to speak when expressly authorized;

c) Special guests may be designated by the organizing committee to give presentations or participate in panels, as well as be consulted by the different sessions, as requested by their respective authorities; **d)**

Honorary members will not participate in the sessions, unless they also hold another category.

Article 10. Registration

Participant registration will be handled by the organizing committee, which will verify that the applicant meets the requirements and, if applicable, issue the corresponding credential. Registration entitles participants to lunch, coffee breaks, the closing cocktail reception, a certificate of participation, and a participant kit.

Chapter IV. Presentations

Article 11. Presentation

Registered delegates who have paid the corresponding fee may submit papers on the topics included in the syllabus mentioned in Article 3. Papers should be between 5 and 10 pages long, A4 size, single-spaced, in Times New Roman 12-point font, with 3 cm margins; preceded by an abstract no longer than half a page, and include the title, author's name and surname, and the topic. Papers should be sent by email to dcracogna@estudiocracogna.com.ar and nicolas.jacquet.coop@gmail.com.

Article 12. Language

Papers may be presented in Spanish, English, or Portuguese.

Article 13. Time Limit

The deadline for submitting papers will be August 15, 2026.

Article 14. Admission

The organizing committee is responsible for accepting the papers that meet the stated requirements and assigning them to the different committees for consideration.

Chapter V. Organs of Congress

Article 15. The Congress will have the following bodies: Organizing Committee; Board of Directors; and Working Committees.

Article 16. Organizing Committee The organizing committee will be composed of the members of the Legal Commission of Cooperatives of the Americas and will be responsible for all tasks related to the holding of the Congress. It will cease its functions once the board of directors has been appointed.

Article 17. Board of Directors

The presiding committee will be composed of the members of the Legal Committee and any other members it designates. It will consist of a president, a first vice-president, a second vice-president, three secretaries, and members. The presiding committee will be the highest authority of the Congress and will resolve all matters that may arise during its proceedings.

Article 18. President

The president's powers include: **a)** ensuring compliance with the regulations;
b) presiding over plenary sessions;
c) taking the measures he deems appropriate for the better development of the Congress;
d) all other powers not granted to another body by the regulations.

Article 19. Vice Presidents

The vice presidents replace the president in case of absence, in the order of their appointment.

Article 20. Secretaries

The secretaries are responsible for: **a)** organizing and directing the work of the staff in their department;
b) preparing the minutes of the plenary sessions;
c) distributing the corresponding documentation to the committees; **d)** coordinating the work of the committees;



e) to carry out the tasks assigned to them by the president.

Article 21. Commissions

Thematic committees will be formed according to the Congress program.

The authorities for each session will be: a president, a secretary, and a rapporteur appointed by the organizing committee.

Article 22. Work of the committees

In committee sessions, the reports submitted by the congressional authorities will be presented and discussed, and a summary will be prepared for presentation at the plenary session. There will be no vote on the reports.

Chapter VI. Deliberations

Article 23. The president of each committee session will organize the work by assigning the author of each paper a specific time for its presentation, taking into account the number of papers submitted.

Article 24. The chair shall also allocate time for the debate of each report to allow for its proper consideration with the participation of all members of the session and the opportunity for rebuttal by the rapporteur. Debate is a substantial part of the work of the committees.

Article 25. The secretary will collaborate with the president and the rapporteur in the development of the work of the commission and in the preparation of the report that the rapporteur must submit at the plenary session.

Chapter VII. Final Provisions

Article 26. Cooperatives of the Americas will remain as the depository of the Congress materials and will provide for the publication of the respective channels.