



RMPS 2026 Edition – Concept Note

The MERCOSUR Journal of Social Policies (RMPS), within the framework of the work axis defined by the Meeting of Ministers and Authorities of Social Development of MERCOSUR (RMADS), seeks to promote the production and dissemination of knowledge aimed at strengthening efficient, targeted, and financially viable social protection systems in the region. In this context, the 2026 edition proposes addressing the role of social promotion policies as a relevant component of these systems, insofar as they are tools aimed at fostering trajectories of autonomy, improving employability, and expanding effective access to opportunities, while promoting conditions for the progressive exercise of rights.

Social protection systems in Latin America have historically developed instruments aimed at guaranteeing basic levels of protection against situations of poverty, exclusion, or violations of rights. However, current challenges raise the need to also strengthen those policies which, beyond assistance, promote sustained processes of social inclusion, capacity development, and personal, family, and community autonomy.

In this sense, social promotion policies seek to support the trajectories of individuals and households throughout the life cycle, expanding their educational, labor, and social opportunities, and strengthening their capacity to participate in economic, cultural, and community life. These policies are articulated with the different components of social protection systems, integrating income-generation instruments, access to social services, care policies, and strategies for socio-labor and socio-educational inclusion.

From this perspective, it is particularly relevant to analyze how MERCOSUR countries have been developing strategies that combine social protection and capacity promotion, with the objective of sustaining well-being trajectories and preventing processes of social exclusion or violations of rights. Likewise, it is important to explore the mechanisms of coordination among different areas of public policy, as well as the institutional innovations that make it possible to strengthen the comprehensiveness of State responses. Among the possible thematic lines of contribution, the following stand out:

1. Strategies for socio-labor inclusion, productive development, and income generation.
2. Strategies for socio-educational inclusion aimed at access, retention, and continuity in education.
3. Care systems and dependency support policies throughout the life cycle.
4. Institutional innovations in social protection systems to strengthen well-being trajectories.
5. Territorial and community experiences in the promotion of rights and social inclusion.

Through this call for papers, the RMPS seeks to contribute to the regional exchange of experiences and knowledge that make it possible to strengthen MERCOSUR social protection systems,

highlighting the role of social promotion policies as key tools to expand opportunities, sustain well-being trajectories, and guarantee effective access to rights. To participate in this volume of the MERCOSUR Journal of Social Policies, authors may submit contributions addressing these topics through different methodological approaches: comparative studies of social policies in countries of the region, analyses and impact evaluations of implemented public policies, original research using quantitative or qualitative methodologies, case studies on successful or challenging experiences, systematic reviews of specialized literature, and theoretical-conceptual essays that provide innovative interpretative frameworks for the development of social promotion strategies within social protection systems in Latin America and MERCOSUR.

The contribution that articles may make to regional integration will be valued through papers that promote comparisons among national experiences, regional case studies, or proposals for regional articulation of promotion policies, thereby strengthening a regional narrative on social protection in line with the objectives of the Social Dimension of MERCOSUR.

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