

CALL FOR PAPERS

Papeles de Coyuntura

Informality and the Quality of Urban Life:

Negotiating the Unplanned City

Call for Papers – Issue No. 51 (2026)

Master's Program in Urban and Territorial Management

HABITAT and TERRITORY

Piloto de Colombia University – Faculty of Architecture and Arts 2026



Manuel Arturo Garzon Albornoza-Final Studio Design



Call for Papers

Coordinator:

María Patricia Farfán Sopó Ph.D.
Universidad Piloto de Colombia
Faculty of Architecture and Arts – Master's Program in Urban and Territorial
Management
pfarfan@unipiloto.edu.co

Papeles de Coyuntura invites researchers, scholars, and professionals to submit contributions for **Issue No. 51**, which explores how **informal urban practices** contribute to redefining the **quality of urban life** in contemporary cities.

Informality, often perceived as a symptom of inequality or lack of planning, can also be understood as a creative and adaptive response to structural limitations. This issue aims to challenge established notions of urban quality and explore how informal networks, spaces, and practices foster forms of accessibility, resilience, and collective well-being that defy conventional planning paradigms.



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Thematic Axes

Informal Strategies for Accessible and Inclusive Cities Everyday mobility, community-based design, and spatial practices that enhance the quality of urban experience.

Informal Architecture and Governance as Adaptive Response Self-managed construction, participatory governance, and hybrid design approaches that improve livability and sustainability.

Cultural Expressions and the Development of Informal Urban Identity Cultural narratives, artistic production, and informal aesthetics as agents of spatial and social cohesion.

Informal Justice, Spatial Equity, and Urban Rights Community-based justice systems, local governance mechanisms, and their contribution to equitable urban quality.

Informal Labour, Urban Economy, and Everyday Sustainability Spatial and social dimensions of informal work as drivers of urban productivity, accessibility, and resilience.

Urban Resistance, Collective Memory, and the Right to Quality Living Environments Community responses to violence and exclusion, and the reconstruction of social and environmental quality through grassroots action.



Author Guidelines

Languages of Publication

Submissions are accepted in Spanish, English, Portuguese, or French.

Articles must be sent by email to pfarfan@unipiloto.edu.co. Indicate in the subject line: **Article – Papeles de Coyuntura 51**.

- The length of the articles should be between 3,000 and 4,000 words (approximately 10 to 15 pages). This length should include figures, tables, illustrations, and references.
- Articles must be submitted in Word format, using Calibri or a similar font, 12 points, single spacing.
- Each article must include an abstract (approximately 150 words) as well as keywords (it is recommended to use the UNESCO Thesaurus, the Art & Architecture Thesaurus, Vitruvio, or another discipline-specific thesaurus).
- **Below the title**, include the author's full name and institutional affiliation. As a footnote, specify academic degrees and granting institutions, current professional activity, and contact details (phone and email).
- **Footnotes** should be explanatory only and must not exceed 40 words.
- **References should** be cited within the text following APA style (Author, year, p. xx). The full reference list should be included at the end of the document.
- All **figures and tables** must be incorporated and referenced in the text. They should also be submitted as separate files (image format such as .jpg, .tiff, etc., in good quality; tables and graphs must be provided in editable format or PDF).
- Authors must sign and submit the Certificate of Originality and the License of Use, available at:

<http://www.unipiloto.edu.co/publicaciones>



Editorial Process

1. Verification of originality using plagiarism-detection software.
2. Review by the issue coordinator and the Editorial Committee.
3. Double-blind peer review.
4. Review feedback and revision by authors.
5. Copy editing and final layout.
6. Final approval and digital publication.

Journal Sections

Articles

Review, analytical, and reflective papers addressing topics in urban management, architecture, political sciences and other related fields of knowledge, framed within the specific themes proposed by the Editorial Committee for the current call. This section welcomes submissions from academics, researchers, and all those interested in the subject.

Opinion

Short reflections that are not necessarily based on research projects, but that offer alternative perspectives on various issues related to urban management and other academic areas already mentioned.

From the Classroom

A section that gathers valuable contributions from students, resulting from exercises and projects carried out within academic institutions, particularly at the master's and Ph.D. levels.

Reviews

Critical reviews of texts related to the theme of the call, as well as recent publications or event proceedings relevant to the field.



Selection and Publication Process

Once the call for papers has closed, the submitted texts will go through the following process to select the articles that will make up the issue and advance to the editing and publication phase:

- Originality review using specialized plagiarism-detection software.
- Review by the editor and the issue coordinator.
- Approval by the Editorial Committee.
- Return of comments and requests for revisions.
- Notification of acceptance and submission of the required forms: Certificate of Originality and License of Use.
- Copy editing and typographical correction.
- Digital layout in PDF format.
- Final review and approval by the authors.
- Publication and dissemination.

The publication timeline depends on the Department of Publications and Graphic Communication of the Universidad Piloto de Colombia and the authors' timely responses.

Important Dates

Submission deadline: March 20, 2026

Submission email: pfarfan@unipiloto.edu.co

Email subject line: Call – Papeles de Coyuntura No. 51

We Look Forward to Your Contributions!

This issue of Papeles de Coyuntura aims to highlight the creative, ethical, and social dimensions of urban informality as vital forces in the production of quality in cities. By understanding informality not as an absence of order but as a space of innovation and coexistence, this issue invites interdisciplinary perspectives that rethink how quality and accessibility are designed and lived in urban territories.