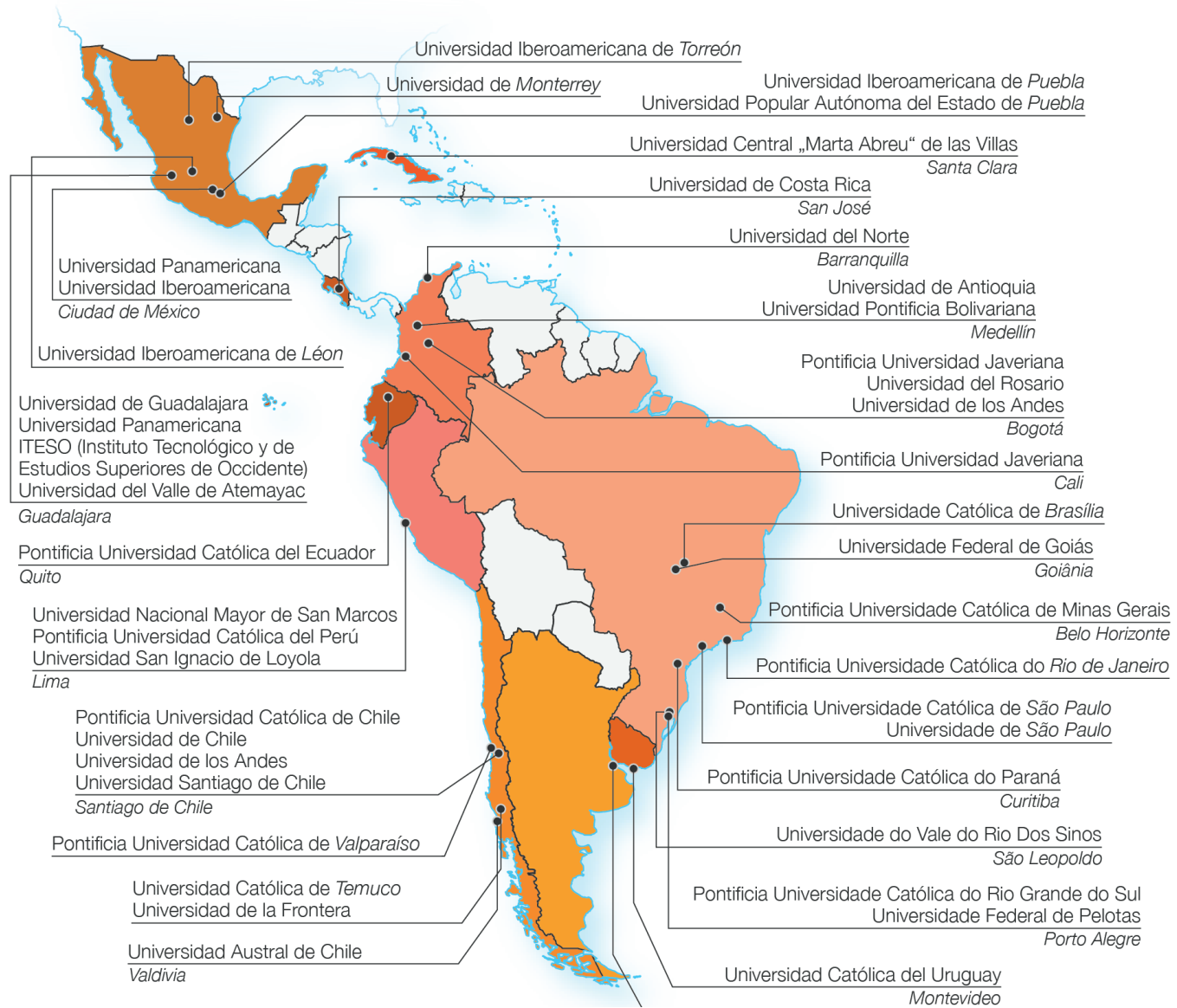


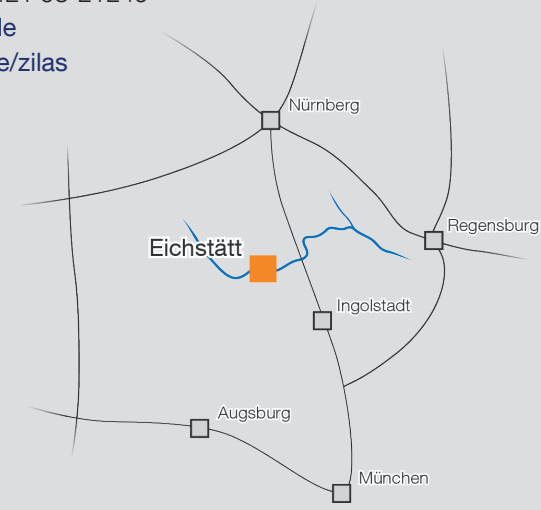
Agreements and network

More than 45 agreements with universities in Latin America, as well as our numerous contacts and collaborations in the region, enable close international research cooperation and joint publications. These ties are complemented in a variety of ways, for example, by the exchange of PhD students, postdoctoral researchers, and senior scholars.



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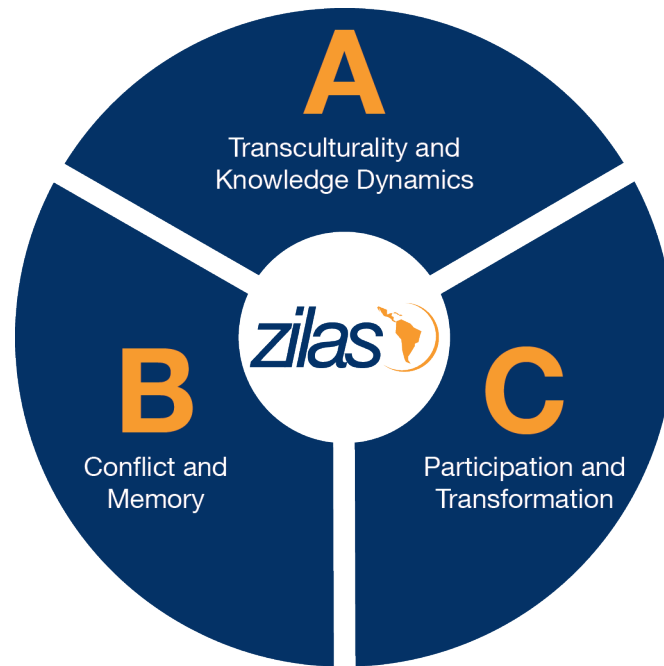
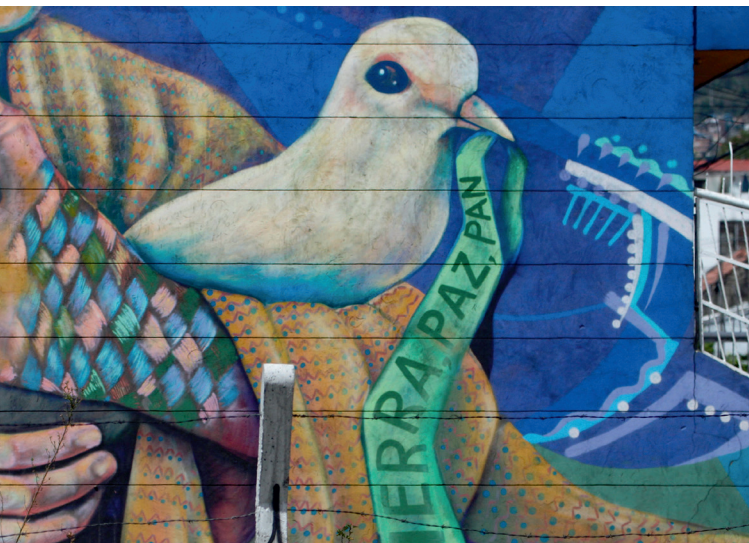


The Center for Latin American Studies (ZILAS), founded in 1986, is the only university center for Latin American area studies in southern Germany.

Primary objectives

ZILAS aims to contribute to the understanding of social, cultural, and political aspects of historical and contemporary phenomena in Latin American societies. Along with the faculties of the Catholic University of Eichstätt-Ingolstadt (KU) and its national and international external partners, it organizes and coordinates diverse academic events about the region.

The funds for these activities are acquired from a wide range of donor organizations, and transnational research efforts have consistently widened in scope and ambition.



Interdisciplinary approach

We believe interdisciplinary cooperation to be the most appropriate way to meet our objectives. The disciplines at KU currently specializing in the region are political science, human geography, history, literature, cultural studies, linguistics, theology, and social work. Within the research work at ZILAS, the different approaches are grouped into three research lines – Transculturality and Knowledge Dynamics, Conflict and Memory, and Participation and Transformation, each of which highlights specific strengths and areas of expertise. These disciplines also cooperate in the context of two interdisciplinary programs focused on Latin America, one BA program on Latin American Studies and one MA program on Conflict, Memory and Peace.

The goal of ZILAS has always been to cooperate directly with researchers and universities in Latin America. During the more than three decades of the center's existence, a large number of international congresses has been organized, various research projects have been implemented, and dozens of publications have been edited, largely within the framework of our series *Americana Eystettensia* and *Mesa Redonda*, which is published jointly with other German universities working on the region. Current research activities in Eichstätt focus on the research lines outlined in the diagram above. Each of them includes projects from different academic disciplines. For more information, see www.ku.de/en/research/research-infrastructure/research-institutions/center-for-latin-american-studies/research.



Training emerging scholars

Another core element of ZILAS' mission is the training of excellent emerging scholars from both sides of the Atlantic. Every semester, several doctoral and postdoctoral researchers from a wide range of partner institutions stay at KU, using the infrastructure and network of ZILAS in order to implement their research projects, to propel their academic careers, and thereby furthering the center's academic exchange relations, and often enabling reciprocal academic mobility for KU researchers. Several of our ZILAS research fellows have since moved on to professorships in various disciplines, at universities in Germany, Latin America, and in other world regions.



Our specialization in Latin American studies provides opportunities to deal with the complex political, economic, and cultural relations that link this region with Europe. Promoting scientific and public interest in Latin America is an essential goal of our center.

The research carried out at ZILAS is also relevant as an intellectual driving force for the contents of two interdisciplinary programs focused on Latin America, one BA and one MA program, which are on offer at KU. Their graduates are working in development cooperation, international business, and political consulting, or have opted for an academic career in or with a focus on Latin America, contributing in turn to the networks of ZILAS.

Since the establishment of ZILAS, there have been several field trips to the region, exhibitions and information seminars in educational institutions. We also provide other services for the general public such as

- advising and informing political organizations and the media,
- conducting workshops,
- lecture series,
- an annual theme week focusing on one Latin American country,
- an annual Latin American Film Festival.