The establishment of the Participation Grants Committee was approved at the Executive Council of the AILC-ICLA at its meeting in Shenzhen, 27 July 2019. The by-laws of the Participation Grants Committee were approved by the Executive Council at its meeting on June 10, 2021, via Zoom. The by-laws are now public at the ICLA website.

The Committee has been constituted by Helena Buescu (Chair), Adelaide Russo, Oana Fotache-Dubalaru, and Paulo Horta.

After agreeing on the criteria to assess the proposals (see below) in a preliminary meeting held in early February, in close connection with President Sandra Bermann and with Secretary Anne Tomiche, the Participation Grant Committee had an online meeting via Zoom on May 16, 2022.

The Committee assessed all the applications submitted to the Congress organizers and, after close consideration, agreed to grant fee waivers to 26 scholars. The evaluation criteria included: quality of the proposed abstract, academic status, country of origin/affiliation, geographical diversity.

The total amount paid to the Tbilisi Congress, corresponding to the 26 fee waivers, is: $1560.00 USD ($60.00 USD each). Here the list of the 26 scholars who were granted fee waivers:

1. Abhilash Banerjee, student, India
2. Dipayan Dutta, MA student, India
3. Angana Das, PhD student, India
4. Dattatreya Ghosh, PhD student & Junior Research Fellow, India
5. Asit Kumar Biswal, graduate, India
6. Justin Honeyford, MA student, Germany
7. Li Xin, PhD student, China
8. Mrinmoy Pramanick, Assistant Prof., India
9. John Arierhi Ottuh, senior lecturer, Nigeria
10. Mili Aishwarya, PhD student, India
11. Oluwafunmilayo Miriam Akinpelu, MA student, USA
12. Omid Azadibougou, Prof., Iran/China
13. Pavitra Kumari, Assist. Prof., India
14. Saswati Saha, Assist. Prof., India
15. Saheb Kaur, PhD student, India
16. Seyedeh Zahra Moosavi, Iran/Canada
17. Zaineb Saeed El-Mansi, lecturer, Egypt
18. Yangxiohan Zheng, PhD student, China/Germany
19. Xingtong Zhou, PhD student, Scotland, UK
20. Tias Basu, PhD student, India
21. Zarqua Adam, research scholar, India
22. Velimir Mladenovic, PhD student, Serbia
23. Suddhadeep Mukherjee, MA student, India
24. Negar Basiri, PhD student, Iran/USA
25. Laleh Atashi, Shiraz University, Iran
26. Amirhossein Vafa, Shiraz University, Iran

Note. These last two scholars were indicated by Omid Azadibougar, their group session co-chair, as potential beneficiaries of fee waivers given the difficulty to transfer funds for Iran-based scholars. The PG committee decided to support them in their efforts to attend the Congress.

The Committee agreed to propose to the EC a discussion on the possibility of granting fee waivers to all graduate students at the next ICLA Congress, in 2025 (as this practice is already used by other similar organisations, for instance, the ACLA).

Respectfully submitted,

June 9, 2022,

The Participation Grant Committee,
Helena Buescu (Chair)