

## **Platform Statement – Vice-presidency of Programs**

My name is João Guilherme Benetti Ramos, a proud Brazilian citizen, and I am thrilled to present my candidacy for the open position of vice-president of Programs at the International Association for Political Science Students (IAPSS). Currently pursuing a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degree at the prestigious University of São Paulo (USP), I bring a wealth of experience in program management from both the Third Sector and private companies, as well as a strong academic background.

With a bachelor's degree in International Relations from São Paulo State University (UNESP), I have actively contributed to the field of political science throughout my career. During my undergraduate studies, I served as a member and coordinator at the Defense and International Security Studies Group (GEDES) from 2010 to 2014. Additionally, I worked as an editor and writer at the South American Armed Forces and Defense Observatory from 2011 to 2012.

From 2012 to 2015, I had the privilege of working as a researcher and program manager at the Latin American Security and Defense Network (RESDAL). In this role, I spearheaded research initiatives on armed forces, defense policy, and public security forces across Latin America. My responsibilities included conducting comprehensive research, developing databases, and translating information into actionable data. Furthermore, I had the opportunity to contribute to numerous publications, such as books and articles, while fostering strong relationships with governments and organizing impactful events and training courses for government officials and the public.

During my tenure in the private sector, I honed my skills in team management and project execution, particularly in intelligence analysis and public sector project management.

Aligned with the foundational documents and missions of IAPSS, the vice-presidency of Programs should strive to create an environment conducive to the success of political science students. In

this role, I aim to enhance soft skills, facilitate publication opportunities in reputable journals, foster networking capabilities, and support continuous academic pursuits.

Furthermore, I am committed to elevating the recognition and influence of early-career and young scholars/students within our scientific community and the countries where our members are active. By strengthening mechanisms that encourage students to remain engaged in their studies during the early years, we can ensure a continuous path to academic achievement.

The vice-presidency of Programs will collaborate closely with all departments, regions, and the advisory board to align programs, events, and initiatives, maximizing their impact and effectiveness. This strategic approach will foster growth, develop methodological and professional competencies, and elevate the visibility of IAPSS as a leading organization in the field.

The proposed programs will focus on four key areas of initiatives:

- 1 IAPSS Regular Events: Organizing the World Congress, seminars, courses, and other regular initiatives to foster engagement and knowledge sharing.
- 2 Enhancing and Promoting Students' Production: Establishing collaborations with relevant organizations and partnering with university departments to offer exclusive methodology courses and thought-provoking discussions on professional opportunities, ensuring access for all IAPSS regions and students.
- 3 Improving Students' Well-being: Collaborating with the Academic Vice-President, we will engage with universities and government institutions to analyze and catalogue policies that benefit students, with a focus on implementing positive actions that enhance students' lives and careers.
- 4 Defending Freedom of Thought and Promoting Special Programs: Partnering with departments and reaching out to international organizations, donors, and think tanks, we will launch campaigns advocating freedom of speech and work towards securing scholarships to disseminate academic production, especially for students from crisis-affected regions.

I humbly ask for your vote to help me implement this ambitious agenda and contribute to the growth and prosperity of our esteemed organization. Together, let us make a lasting impact and shape the future of political science education.

Thank you