About Instituto de Estudios Peruanos (Institute of Peruvian Studies – IEP)

The IEP focuses on researching, teaching and disseminating social studies about Peru and other Latin American countries. The Institute aims to contribute to Peru's economic development with equity, the strengthening of its democratic institutions and the development of greater awareness of rich and historical cultural diversity. Established in 1964, the Institute has close cooperative relationships with various governmental organizations, such as: the Ministry of Education, PROMPERU, Central Bank, National Council for Sciences and Technology, and PETROPERU. The Institute's researchers are organized in four areas: anthropology; sociology and political science; economics; and history.

IEP is the administration institution of the DIRSI network, which focuses on research on ICT regulation to promote inclusion of the poor and marginalized peoples of Latin America into the Information Society. Established in 2005, with support from IDRC, DIRSI has produced several studies which have impacted the public policy debate in Latin America. As administrative node, IEP has hosted the network coordinator and administrator, who served as liaisons to researchers from Latin America and the Caribbean. Of particular relevance are the four rounds of DIRSI's Young Researchers Competition Program, which awarded 3 scholarships in each round to young researchers from all over the region (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Peru, and Uruguay). All these researchers were tutored by DIRSI members from other countries, relying on Internet-based communications, and their papers were blind-refereed by other researchers. IEP plans to rely on the DIRSI network to mobilize senior researchers to serve as referees, mentors and resource people in general. The IEP's large database and frequent update of the region's knowledge mapping is a strong asset that has been committed to SIRCA's development.

IEP is committed to further young researchers' interests. Besides hosting DIRSI and their activities, the Institute regularly call for proposals from young researchers, to support research efforts, by integrating them into their activities.

Roxana Barrantes, who is a member of the DIRSI's Steering committee and currently Director General of IEP will be committed to SIRCA, with the aid of Laura León, who has been part DIRSI's coordinating team in Peru since its inception.