



Guidelines for Discussants – IPC 2025

Thank you for agreeing to serve as a discussant for a session at the 30th International Population Conference (IPC 2025) in Brisbane. While discussants are not required for every session, your participation, when included, is a valuable part of the conference experience. The IUSSP encourages organizers to prioritize speaking time for presenters and audience Q&A, but when a discussant is included, your role can help spark deeper engagement. Here are some suggestions that you may find useful for a lively and stimulating discussion at the session.

Your Role as a Discussant

After all presentations are made, you are invited to open the discussion by making one or two comments on each paper in the session. Your comments should be helpful and provide constructive feedback to the presenters. Your questions should help foster dialogue with the audience and kick-off the discussion with the audience.

Your comments should be limited to one or two minutes per presentation, and **no more than about 10 minutes for the total session**. Please avoid detailed critiques or extended remarks—your contribution should serve as a springboard for audience engagement.

Accessing Papers in Advance

You will have been copied on emails to presenters in the session. This means:

- You are aware of your role and the paper authors in your session, and you have their email contact information. You can also find contact information for authors for the session at ipc2025.popconf.org.
- You can reach out directly to presenters with questions or to request missing papers.

Presenters have been asked to upload their papers by **30 June 2025** to the IPC conference site: ipc2025.popconf.org. These will be accessible to registered participants. If a paper you're reviewing isn't available online, you may follow up with the author or the session chair.

Preparing for the Session

- Aim to read all papers before the session and identify one or two key questions for each presentation to encourage rich audience interaction.
 - There is no expectation to comment on papers submitted after the 30 June deadline, though you may choose to if you wish.
 - Coordinate with the Session Chair prior to the session so you are clear on your role.
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During the Session

- Arrive 5–10 minutes early to meet the chair and presenters.
 - Be ready to deliver your comments after each presentation within the timeframe of the session.
 - Keep your tone collegial and concise—your comments should help the presenters feel supported and the audience feel engaged.
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Your thoughtful preparation and facilitation help set the tone for lively, inclusive academic exchange. We are grateful for your role in helping to make IPC 2025 a meaningful experience for all participants.