

# Analysis of Critical and Positivist Accounting Theory in Latin America

Oscar Lenin Chicaiza Sanchez<sup>1</sup>, Galo Hernán García Tamayo<sup>2</sup>, Rolando Patricio Molina Diaz<sup>2</sup>, Sylvia Elizabeth Zarate Fonseca<sup>2</sup>, Maria Fernanda Larco Pachacama<sup>2</sup>, Daniela Lizbeth Palacios Barahona<sup>2</sup>, Gorozabel Basantes Evelin Melissa<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Universidad Técnica Estatal de Quevedo, Unidad de Posgrado, ochicaizas@uteq.edu.ec

<sup>2</sup>Universidad de las Fuerzas Armadas ESPE

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## Abstracts

This article establishes an analysis of the first contributions and the importance of the Critical and Positivist theories of accounting in Latin America over the years, through the study of scientific articles by recognized accounting experts from different countries on the theories. . Also, carry out a bibliographic examination of criticism and positivism applied to accounting, resulting in the correlation of concepts focused on accounting in Latin America. The type of research is descriptive with a qualitative approach with the purpose of developing a discussion of the Critical and Positivist theories of accounting in Latin America. Obtaining a greater scope to understand that this social science is immersed in two currents that are based on the fact that knowledge is obtained through practice and can be verified through scientific methods, establishing the importance of understanding the contributions that the critical and positivist theory in the field of accounting science.

**Keywords:** Critical Theory; Positivist Theory; Latin American Accounting.

## Introduction

Often, most accounting research has been developed under an operational approach, leaving aside the epistemological approach of various currents, such as critical and positivist theory, without taking into account that whose postulates favor the understanding of accounting science.

This article presents the epistemology of critical and positivist theory focused on accounting in Latin America, making an in-depth review of the first contributions and the importance of the theories. In the course of history, several perspectives have been established to understand accounting, among these the traditional approach of Positivism, which refers to the observation and analysis of economic facts in an objective, empirical and experimental way.

There are several paradigms that use different ways to arrive at the truth, which sometimes conflict with more current postulates, such as the positivist current and the critical current. It is known that positivism is aimed at a methodological approach to research, which identifies reality empirically.

### Positivist Theory

The beginnings of positivist thought are found in the French "geometres", this term was used to refer to the mathematical physicists of the eighteenth century, which are characterized by the connection of three currents that are: Newtonian physics, the Cartesian geometric mechanism and British empiricism, this phase is called proto-positivist where we can consider D'Alembert, Turgot and Condillac as the initiators of positivism, thus being considered the Genesis of this current. However, its recognized beginnings of the Positivist currents date back to the mid-nineteenth century in France, Saint Simon (1760-1825) was the first French philosopher to mention positivism, however Augusto Comte (1798-1857) was the one who popularized this current, becoming the father of this theory.

According to Diaz and Camas (2019), the objective of the positivismo postulated by Comte was "to provide individual mentalities with a system of beliefs to unify the collective spirit, establish a set of coordinated rules on the common beliefs in the system and determine a political organization accepted by all men" (p.4). According to the authors, Comte thought that in order to truly understand society, the only valid data come from the senses and the logical analysis of those data, he affirmed that all knowledge is developed from experience, supported by the scientific method.

Nowadays, positivism has influenced several sciences, and one of them is accounting science, which is based on studying the economic facts executed in different economic environments, in order to provide relevant information that can be used as objective truths, determining the fact as the only form of scientific reality.

### Critical Theory

Epistemologically, studies based on critical theory present an argumentative discourse, which, due to its interpretive, reflexive, and subjective nature, obviates the fieldwork characteristic of rationalism, but focuses on the subjectivist and idealist feature of science inclined towards the understanding of the subject as part of social practice (Padrón, 2007).

### Origin

It originated in interwar Europe in the 20th century and is historically associated with the Frankfurt School, a very important group of researchers of 20th-century Western thought founded at the University of Frankfurt. He adhered to the socio-historical theories of Hegel, Marx, and Freud ("Theory," 2021)

The term "critical theory" comes from Max Horkheimer's essay entitled *Traditional Theory and Critical Theory* (1937), considered one of the main contributions of this intellectual group, under the premise of constructing a "heterodox Marxism", which combined Marx and Freud. In simple

terms, critical theory proposed, more than just interpreting the world, to help transform it ("Theory", 2021).

The critical theory of the Frankfurt School originated in the 1920s under the authoritarian leadership of the philosopher Horkheimer, and was formed as a theory of totalitarian late capitalism. Its intellectual center became the Institut für Sozialforschung (Institute for Social Research) ("Institute") in Frankfurt, together with the scientific journal *Zeitschrift für Sozialforschung* (Studies in Philosophy and Social Science). In the early years, Horkheimer and Marcuse directed a series of epistemological articles to a systematic critique of positivist reductionism of empirical knowledge of reality, to a mere search for facts detached from any hermeneutical or epistemological confirmation. His materialist epistemology had as its sources the young Marx (Horkheimer) and Heidegger (Marcuse), and was elaborated as a general framework of interpretation (Frankenberg; 2011; p.67-84.)

Critical research on accounting at the economic, political, social and institutional level arises with the need for accounting to evolve and rethink the regulations that govern its foundations, and the contribution of this theory to accounting research has been the understanding of hidden or unclear financial information whose phenomenon derives from power relations. making it necessary to promote and promote social change.

### **Introduction of critical and positivist theory**

#### **England**

John Stuart Mill introduced positivism in England, which differed from the fact that it was not entirely limited to the mathematical epistemological model, but is framed in the empiricist model of modern science.

John Stuart Mill and Herbert Spencer, despite being influenced to some extent by Comte's positivism, also developed their own theories and approaches, which differed significantly from Comte's ideas. Mill, for example, was more focused on individual liberty and utilitarian ethics, while Spencer was noted for his contributions to the theory of social evolution.

#### **Mexico**

Gabino Barreda was the one who introduced positivism in Mexico, he was a Mexican philosopher and politician who studied in France and was close to the positivists of Auguste Comte, who marked him with his ideology. When he returned to Mexico he brought with him Comte's course in positive philosophy, which he began to make known in his philosophy classes. Gabino Barreda introduced positivism to create an educational reform, he considered that education served to educate minds.

For Gabino, education is a main foundation for social integration, it is a condition for rational organization. Therefore, learning had to occur by logical processes to create cognitive structures.

Barreda's positivism does not only mean an educational reform in Mexico, but represents the figure of a philosopher who leads the country to the ideal of progress, Barreda and the philosophers of his time had the opportunity to shape education in the country.

## Peru

Positivism in Peru was introduced by Manuel Vicente Villarán, who saw the need to overcome its colonial past. That is to say, positivism was acquired in a hurry, since it was urgent to change colonial thinking in Peru, and also to give an accelerated, progressive and firm growth that had the purpose of exile the influence of the church and repair a country destroyed physically and intellectually.

## Argentina

Positivism in Argentina was introduced by Alfredo Ferreira who promoted educational reforms based on the postulates of positivism. It sought to update education and Argentine society through the implementation of scientific and rational methods. The main idea was to base the cooking on empirical observation proven through scientific methods.

Positivism left its mark on politics and public administration in Argentina. It advocated the application of scientific principles in government management and political decision-making. This approach was reflected in the search for a social order based on reason and the application of scientific laws

## Brazil

Positivism in Brazil was introduced by Benjamín Constant Botelho de Magalhães, who was a military man and politician, one of the greatest exponents of positivism in Brazil. In 1880, he proposed a republican method based on positivist postulates, his objective was to include a strong and centralized government, with the aim of social progress. Positivism in Brazil helped establish educational reforms that sought to introduce scientific methods into teaching and promote civic and moral values.

There is also Alcides Nogueira as the main exponent, who was a follower of Comte and in 1881 implemented a Brazilian positivist church, which promoted the main postulates of positivism as a kind of relegion of humanity.

## Ecuador

### Criticism

Accounting has been of great importance over time as a social discipline that is responsible for the registration of all economic information worldwide, however, in Latin America the scientific production in the area of accounting has not evolved much, as Flores (2018) points out: In Ecuador, accounting research has had a slow evolution, that does not reach the same pace in scientific production compared to Latin America and the rest of the world. Accounting research seeks to cement the empirical practice that deciphers the relationship between accounting theory (scientific approach) and practice (technical approach) used by accounting science for its development. (p.1) Accounting, whose main function is to measure, record and disseminate economic information, has been of great importance for public and private companies worldwide, but information on accounting practices has also been necessary for research studies that allow improving economic and social activities. Nowadays, new fields have been opened for the research of accounting as a science and accounting practices, with scientific and business

interest, however, it is necessary to develop new techniques and ways of seeing the science of accounting as a generator of new accounting knowledge that benefits society. According to Urbina, (2019): Accounting research in Ecuador was born on July 8, 1964, where the Institute of Accounting Research of Ecuador was legalized, this entity being a contribution to the work carried out by the National Federation of Accountants. All these institutions were born since the invention of accounting by Lucas Paccioli and have evolved in such a way that they know the financial situation of the public and private sectors, being a matter so necessary for the proper functioning of society (p.10) These institutions seek to keep professionals updated in terms of regulations and new accounting practices for the proper exercise of accounting in all entities, in the same way, they are responsible for disseminating and expanding research in the accounting area, however, it is important to point out that Ecuador does not meet the required parameters in terms of accountant research that can contribute to the scientific community of Ecuador, in this sense Urbina, (2019) points out that: There is little research culture in Ecuador in the undergraduate area in universities in the accounting branch, training few professionals who are framed in the necessary guidelines to adequately investigate topics of accounting interest that contribute to the Ecuadorian scientific community. Since at the country level there is little support from government entities to promote and encourage new generations to be professionals who generate new knowledge that is not only practical, but that; is scientifically grounded. (p.11). It is necessary to implement a plan that allows the development and promotion of research studies on accounting practices and their regulations, and in the same way the impact that the evolution of accounting as a science has had in favor of improving accounting practices in all areas (political, social, economic, institutional).

### Positivism

The positivist current in accounting predominates in this science due to the foundation of its postulates regarding the ways in which knowledge is acquired through the objective observation of economic facts, the professional who performs the tasks with a positivist approach is based on the economic records of facts and the preparation of financial statements according to the established regulations. works according to the laws and rules imposed. Currently in Latin America, students at the university level and/or researchers from scientific academies have a different approach from those maintained by accounting research because they are not aware of the importance of research in this social science in their training, in this sense Arias, Maldonado & Arciniegas, (2021) establish that: Fact, which is revealed by an academic production of very little relevance, subject to the support of applied works of a technical nature, based on positivist paradigms that seek to reproduce knowledge, often forgetting its mission of research contribution to the continuous improvement of accounting sciences. (p. 355) Research related to the area of accounting in Ecuador has been improving due to the policies that regulate educational activities, as pointed out by Arias, Maldonado & Arciniegas, (2021): In this sense, Ecuador, in recent years, has sought to improve the quality of education by implementing policies and standards that regulate the teaching and research activities of higher education at all levels, with the purpose of training more competitive professionals who are in accordance with the needs of the country. (p. 356). According to what the authors point out, the implementation of rules and laws to regulate accounting research and everything related to this social science has been beneficial, because the impact it has had over the years has been noted and how the quality and quantity of

accounting education professionals who have dedicated themselves to scientific research has been visible. knowledge being reflected in scientific productions and articles, as Arias, Maldonado & Arciniegas, (2021) refer: Accounting research in Ecuador has been consolidated in recent years, thanks to reflections developed in different academic spaces, such as national congresses for both students and professionals, which is also reflected in the degree projects of undergraduate students from universities nationwide. (p.357). It is worth mentioning that many of the research works on accounting issues in Ecuador maintain a positivist approach, as pointed out by Arias, Maldonado & Arciniegas, (2021): "Undergraduate projects are based on a strong positivist approach, which is predominant in the natural sciences, as it addresses from the empirical perspective the reality or generation of facts in accounting". (p.358). In this sense, this trend is still maintained within the research on accounting areas.

### Positivist theory of accounting

Positive accounting theory has its indications in the 60s, however the first promoters were Watts and Zimmerman (1978) who define positive accounting theory as the accounting discipline whose central objective is to explain and predict accounting practice, through empirical research (Barbei & Bauchet, 2014). However, the antecedents of this positive orientation are close to the year 1964 (Gordon). This author was the first to provide a theory to explain the incentives that motivate firms' choice of accounting methods (Barbei, Bauche, 2014).

For Chambers (1993), the term positive accounting theory was used to emphasize the need for a theory of accounting in general, which is the basis for the explanation and prediction of the events that occur in the exercise of accounting practice

"The assumption that management selects accounting procedures that maximize its own utility is used by Gordon (1964, p.261) in a first attempt to derive a positive accounting theory" (Watts and Zimmerman, p.113, 1978)

Thus, positive accounting seeks to explain the choice of accounting practices used by companies. Monterrey Mayoral believes that empirical methods examine that accounting information is not an exogenous variable but that it interacts with the company's operational, investment and financing decisions.

Such a theory will help us better understand the source of the pressures that lead to the process of setting accounting standards, the effects of various accounting standards on different groups of individuals and the allocation of resources, and why various groups are willing to spend resources attempting to affect the process of setting accounting standards." (Watts and Zimmerman, p.112, 1978)

The authors argue that business management plays a key role in setting standards and therefore seek to understand the managerial incentives that influence the choice of accounting method

From a positivist point of view, the task of the accountant is to record economic facts and prepare reports according to predetermined parameters, so the central part of the professional or the reason for being is not included, since his position is related to regulatory acts.

### Critical Accounting Theory

Accounting deserves to be considered on a theoretical and conceptual level in order to claim its theoretical status and gain recognition as a socially effective natural science in the ongoing revolution because it is related to human disciplines and it is necessary to create mechanisms of improvement to create solutions. various problems. Economic activity carried out by people, therefore the objective is to provide social and economic solutions that do not affect the profitability of the various organizations. Therefore, critical theory recognizes the existence of interests and values present in the determination of the theory(s), which are not pure, (formal), but, on the contrary, full of interests. In this sense, as intended, accounting cannot hide the existence of value judgments, because people cannot change the unjust reality that determines the interests of certain entities, they cease to be passive entities in the face of the problems they experience. therefore, they seem to be entities that create changes in the context of various factors that organizations go through in their economic activities. In this situation, the critical perspective of accounting is interested in change, conflict, and the application of a framework that assumes that there is a fundamental structural inequality in the world that repeats itself across generations, creating a conflict between the favored class and the class. oppressed class (Lanirraga: 1999: 12), so the theoretical structures of accounting do not pretend to be mere formalities, because they are characterized by social and accounting practices in each economic process within society. In this sense, Habermas's work confirms two general aspects of accounting, which can be shown as a formal path and another whose content comes from criticism and corresponds to the social one. Formal, which is identified from the perspective of functioning with the concept of system, and social, which aims to overcome functionalism. Starting from the critique of systems from the concept of the whole, Jürgen Habermas defines two typical forms of social science; two forms, one of which is limited to the use of the concept of functional system, while the other clings to the dialectical concept of the whole (Habermas: 1999), so that every way of knowing reality is interesting; hence the need to combine information and interests. In this sense, it is possible to identify internal theoretical interests and external theoretical interests. Intertheoretical interests are those that arise in the theoretical-conceptual systematization of all historical-social practices. Non-theoretical interests refer to interests prior to cognition (economic interest; interest in recognition and social status; ideological-political interest; interest in power) (Osorio: 2007: 110). Following Gaffikin (2006), Laughlin (1999) argues that critical accounting has at least four important characteristics: a) contextual, b) inclusive, c) particularly general, d) interdisciplinary. Through these four characteristics, Laughlin intends that accounting brings social, political and economic consequences, as Professor Archel said, "the role that accounting plays in the construction and maintenance of social structures (2007: 18), which is also determined by the intention to change social structures (commitment), care for knowledge in dialogue with other departments (interdisciplinary) In this way, The accounting discourse would approach the understanding of the world, where its postulates must be justified in relation to social and political factors with a strong sense of participation in the general social sphere. In this sense, the use of accounting as a representative language would be effectively related to what Habermas calls communicative activity, following of course important aspects such as the provision of semantic content, the presence of qualifying conditions and the reasons that sustain it. This qualification Accounting is related to other disciplines, constructions such as double-entry accounting have a formal mathematical component (Salgado 2015), because the relationship with the economy is strengthened, sharing

different variables such as: circulation of assets, resource optimization processes, maximization. On the micro and macro levels, finance and taxation, all these processes are united by a utilitarian and technical approach to presenting the economic facts related to profitability, the creation or destruction of material wealth.

### Economic Science

Economic Science studies the ways of satisfying the needs of societies based on time, resources and organization, they are related to the production, distribution and consumption of goods and services of society, according to González, (2012) who points out that: Economic Science studies social realities whose basis are human needs (food, clothing, housing, etc.) and, at the same time, this discipline investigates how to expand human potentialities through designs, so that it enters a purely artificial field (in financial economics, international trade, etc.). (p.2).

There is a close relationship between human activities, nature and the philosophy of ethics, man seeks to live well and economics as a social science contributes to the allocation of resources that are sometimes scarce for his well-being and that of society. In this sense, economics as a science seeks to solve the problems that affect humanity, as pointed out by González (2012) who says that: Economics appears as an Applied Science, insofar as it is aimed at solving specific problems (inflation, unemployment, budget balance, trade deficit, etc.), and as a Design Science, insofar as it conceives models to meet objectives that expand human possibilities, which requires processes and results in results. (p.9) In relation to what the author describes, the sciences apply their parameters, in whose practical dimension is to try to solve the problems or situations that affect societies in a given time. Accounting It is a process that allows accounting records to be kept of all the financial operations of a company or business, according to Vega, (2018), accounting is: "the art of recording, classifying and synthesizing in a meaningful way expressing them in money the acts and operations that have, even partially, financial characteristics and of interpreting their results. (p.5), in this sense, this accounting registration process allows for clear and accurate information on all the financial movements of a company. In the same way, the author also refers to accounting as: It is an auxiliary technique of Economics, whose purpose is to support the processes in the Administration of a company in order to provide efficiency. The information it provides serves Executives to guide Decision-Making regarding the future of the organization. (p.4) In this sense, the information recorded through accounting is of utmost importance for all companies because based on it, decisions are made in favor of the development and growth of the organization for a correct management of resources, this information must be accurate, true and timely. Currently companies must have an efficient information system to be able to compete, and one of the most important is the accounting system, because it contains all the accounting record and the operations that the company carries out, this being key in decision-making, every company must know the origin of the resources it has and the usefulness they must have, mostly investments and subsequently must have the record of the results obtained from the financial operations carried out. Accounting in Latin America Latin America is one of the regions that has a serious problem in terms of the area of research and has been a limitation in the incorporation into the world economy, this is due to several factors such as: few trained personnel for research, failure in government policies regarding the research topic, there is no financing from the productive sector for research, in terms of science and technology they have



no investment plans, among many other aspects that limit the region, Saavedra and Saavedra, (2015) point out that: "the 29 countries that concentrate 80% of the world's wealth owe their well-being in 67% to intellectual capital (education, scientific and technological research, information systems), 17% to its natural capital (raw materials), and 16% to its productive capital (machinery, infrastructure)" (p.101), based on what the authors point out, the impulse that can be given to research in countries that are currently developing is of great importance and it should be a commitment of governments to design investment strategies to finance research programs, and in the case of this study, research programs on accounting.

## **Methodology**

The type of research is called descriptive because it seeks to define a problem and at the same time collect truthful, exact and coherent information for the hypothesis, carrying out the analysis of the main contributions and importance of the Critical and Positivist theories of accounting in Latin America, through scientific documents from different countries, as well as the review of bibliographies referring to the focus on accounting, and finally to seek the conceptual correlation of the critical and positivist approaches in the accounting area.

It has a qualitative approach because it is based on the meaning of the experiences or situations that an individual has had. The tool used to collect the information was documentary because it was obtained through scientific articles, and bibliographic references from accounting experts over time in the world. The technique used was the critical analysis of the documentation, allowing the evaluation of the way in which the ideas of the various authors are developed and the examination of possible errors.

The population is established in documentary and bibliographic studies on the subject of the Positivist and Critical Accounting theories. Studies at the Latin American level on the approaches mentioned above are determined as a sample and a type of non-probabilistic sampling is proposed.

## **Results and discussion**

Based on the analysis of the articles on positivist and critical theory, it can be denoted that there are very evident differences and similarities, depending on their focus and nature, despite the fact that the two approaches focus on studying and describing accounting processes, positivism is based on quantifiable operations, accepting only the facts acquired through experience and subjected to rigorous scientific methods to reduce the subjectivity of accounting facts. on the other hand, criticism is based on the understanding of how it is born and the factors that influence the development of the accounting phenomenon, focusing on knowing social, cultural and intangible events.

Specifically within the critical theory, accounting actions respond to: according to Guao (2020)

The contributions of critical theory to accounting research can be summarized as: a) accounting is not conceived as a technically rational activity detached from broader social relations and; b) as a social practice, accounting contributes to the understanding of the conflicts between the different classes (entrepreneurs, workers, the State, corporations, among others), the regulation

of power relations and; the establishment of control mechanisms in the public and private sectors. (p.34) . On the other hand, within positivism we have the following criteria:

a) The physical and social reality (independence between the subject and the object of study); b) Knowledge (based on empirical evidence); c) The social world (part of an accounting social order); d) Theory and practice (the observation of the means to satisfy information demands (Guao, 2022, p.13).

Regarding the origin of the theories, the studies agree that these theories arose from research by foreign academics outside the Latin American context and were proposed from perspectives that have nothing to do with the Latin American reality, but that correspond to the needs and concepts of accounting science that explain and reflect various accounting events, facts and activities.

In this context, it is specified that the origin of the positive theory in accounting, according to Barona and Norma (2020), is established in "The application of the positivist approach in accounting has its origin in the decade of the sixties, when Ray Ball and Philip Brown (in 1968)" (p.13). Watts and Zimmerman in 1978 were the main exponents, who through their studies explained that accounting has a quantifiable approach.

With reference to critical theory, we have its origin in the 80s, in the Frankfurt School in 1923, it was founded by several authors where the social events of the time were studied.

From a Latin American perspective, the results of research on accounting theory are disappointing, since there is not enough bibliographic documentation and extensive research to consider it as a science with significant research in the region, in relation to this point Saavedra and Saavedra, (2015), point out that:

The scarce presence of authors, publications and citations from developing countries in the ISI (Institute for Scientific Information) indexes is known as "lost science" since its visibility is scarce, as well as its impact" and in the same order of ideas the authors point out that: "The challenge then is to build capacities for this "lost science". which has greater breadth in the social sciences. (p.111)

Considered a little-studied science, although it exists in the academic and social development of the region, it does not show sufficient interest in applied research and does not take into account the literature and theoretical achievements in the development of accounting in this area. In this regard, it can be said that the lack of action, including the lack of research on the subject, is mainly due to foreign investment in the subject and the practical concepts taught in the research faculties that train students. A purely practical field, in which the priority is the implementation of practical processes, without taking into account the conduct of academic research and the theoretical, epistemological and etymological analysis of theory.

In the field of research established in Ecuador, the presence of literature and bibliography of general accounting studies from an economic perspective, which is interested in business activity in an economic context, is made visible, According to Urbina, (2019):

Accounting research in Ecuador was born on July 8, 1964, where the Institute of Accounting Research of Ecuador was legalized, this entity being a contribution to the work carried out by

the National Federation of Accountants. All these institutions were born since the invention of accounting by Lucas Paccioli and have evolved in such a way that they know the financial situation of the public and private sectors, being a matter so necessary for the proper functioning of society (p.10)

As for education at the professional level, especially in the field of accounting, it is well known that students of the subject lack a full understanding of the theoretical bases that gave rise to this social science that has transformed practice over time. Organizations always focus on the practical part of accounting and operational methods, but they forget the importance of understanding the theoretical bases that gave rise to this science, which is evident in the results obtained from the tools used, summarized in the information of this research. . In this sense, Arias, Maldonado & Arciniegas, (2021) establish that:

A fact that is revealed by an academic production of very little relevance, subject to the support of applied works of a technical nature, based on positivist paradigms that seek to reproduce knowledge, often forgetting its mission of research contribution to the continuous improvement of accounting sciences. (p. 355)

From an academic perspective, the relevance of theoretical research in the field of accounting is low, there is a lack of relevant or significant research materials, which has halted the development of the theoretical discipline of accounting and preserved the practical model. In this situation, it is important to recognize that, although the contribution of scientific research in developing countries is not significant, the practice of accounting maintains a sound policy.

## **Conclusions**

Based on critical and positivist theories, it can be argued that the development of narratives over time in relation to the flow of information and the methods used in the research process has been significant, with a greater possibility of understanding this social science. Of the two tendencies based on experiential knowledge and testable by scientific methods, it is important to understand the contributions of critical theory and positivist theory.

The application of critical and positivist methods in accounting research determines that the bibliography of critical and positivist theories is wide and diverse. In this sense, it is concluded in the first place that the critical theory created by the Frankfurt School is based on the subjectivity of action and critical thinking as the basis of freedom and social change, as well as the rejection of the objectivity of scientific knowledge. linking it to accounting as a social science, which forces scientists to consider morality and ethics as important in accounting practice. The theory of positivism arose from the generation of knowledge from experience, observation and logic in the reality of accounting facts in various fields.

Combining the concepts of critical approach and positivist approach to deepen accounting concepts with a focus on Latin America, it can be said that, although at a global level, accounting science has a scientific record that is based on accounting facts over time in many countries. , and in the specific case of Latin America, there are not enough publications to support the accounting base in this region due to the policies of governments, educational organizations, scientific research institutions, etc. In this sense, investments need to be made. research policies

in developing countries, so that better recommendations can be developed for application in accounting practice in the region based on our understanding of these social science policies

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