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Sociology at an Intellectual Crossroads

We are approaching the end of the twentieth century and the end of a millennium. We know that, historically, such moments are seen with a mixture of awe, fear, and uneasiness, and sometimes also with messianic hope. I think however there are more substantial reasons than the accidents of the calendar to suggest that sociology as an intellectual and organizational construct is at a crossroads. Intellectually we trace our traditions, narrowly defined, back perhaps 150 years. Organizationally, we exist at most just over 100 years, and that just in a few countries. The International Sociological Association will be celebrating only its fiftieth anniversary at its XIVth Congress in Montreal in 1998.

In a sense, we are mature. I think we can say we do have today a heritage, one indeed that is widely shared among persons who call themselves sociologists. We certainly have an extensive and widespread cadre of well-trained persons bearing the label. However, our public esteem is not very high. And our self-esteem leaves something to be desired. I say this in the light of the comments that I have heard repeatedly in the last five years, and virtually everywhere, that the discipline is splintered, has no center, and has no collective direction. Personally I think the same thing can be said about virtually every disciplinary group within the social sciences, and beyond. But we hear this nonetheless from sociologists. (Perhaps the other groups are circulating the same internal assessment among themselves; I am not sure.)

In any case, as the Thomases have taught us, "when men [sic] define a situation as real, it is real in its consequences." I think there are good reasons why sociologists have this sense that they are in some sort of crisis. The recent report of the Gulbenkian Commission which I chaired, *Open the Social Sciences* (1), analyzes what it is in the conditions of the post-1945 world that have created this sense of confusion, overlapping, and uncertainty of underlying justification in the social sciences, and I shall not repeat the argument here. I am concerned here rather with what the ISA as an organization can do to face up to this collective need of its members.

We have chosen for the Montreal Congress a theme that we hope will permit the participants to discuss this issue in all its aspects. The title chosen by the Program Committee is *Social Knowledge: Heritage, Challenges, and Perspectives*. The words are intended to point the debate in three directions: to the past, our heritage; to the present, the challenges to the heritage; to the future, the perspectives of sociology and the social sciences in the twenty-first century.

The first problem is how to have a debate. It is not easy in a congress that will have at least 5000 persons present and may have 7000 to give a sense that we are all debating anything, no matter how important. The Program Committee will do what it can, by making of the Symposia loci of authentic discussion. We intend not to have a series of unconnected papers in which speakers drone on, but round-tables, or debate-papers, or other mechanisms that will focus the attention on intellectual issues that we need to talk about, and really discuss the issues with each other.

In addition, ISA has been organizing a series of regional colloquia (small in size, but around the world) which have been discussing this basic theme from the perspective of the region. We expect that this will result in a series of small books that we can sell

inexpensively to participants in the congress, and which they can receive in advance of coming to Montreal. We hope thereby to stimulate the thinking of the participants, and most to all to make it clear how differently different regions of the world speak to the same theme. The issue of *Current Sociology* just before the congress will also speak to this theme. We hope that various national associations and research committees will also conduct their own reflection on the theme, if possible before the congress.

But all of this will do little good if the individual participants have not begun their personal, inward cogitation and interpretation of the issues before us. What are these issues?

Here I give you one sociologist's list.

1) How should we, how do we, define the "heritage of sociology"? Does this heritage really inform current work? Is our heritage different from that of other social sciences, and if so, in exactly what ways? If it is different, why is it different, and how sound are the intellectual, as opposed to organizational, bases of this difference?

2) What are the most significant challenges to this heritage that have been put forth within the last 50 years? And from where have the important challenges come - from within the discipline, or from outside it? from within the earliest centers of sociology (Western Europe and North America) or from the rest of the world? Have the challenges really shaken the profession, or are they simply being absorbed? Are the challenges equally affecting neighboring disciplines? Are there challenges to the disciplinary boundaries themselves, and to the degree that there are, how have we been reacting?

3) What are our perspectives? Looking ahead say fifty years, do we really expect sociology (or even social science as a whole) to be stronger intellectually and organizationally than it is now, or are we rather stagnating or even declining? Whatever your answer to this question, is this trajectory largely outside our collective control, or are there ways in which we could affect it significantly? Above all, are we satisfied with our basic epistemological premises, or are they in need of some drastic reorganization?

I have entitled this letter, *Sociology at an Intellectual Crossroads*. Perhaps you do not even agree with the title. But I believe that the picture of sociology (if such a term even continues to exist), and more fundamentally of social science will be transformed radically in the next fifty years, and that we shall reevaluate our heritage, not rejecting it but reformulating it in a broader context, and on new epistemological premises.

I do not expect any instant consensus in respect of these questions. Quite the contrary! We are divided among ourselves in any serious ways: along traditional preferences for more nomothetic or more idiographic modes of scholarship; in terms of our social location (region of world, class, race, gender among others), and in terms of our belief in the social role of the intellectual. Nor are our political instincts irrelevant to our intellectual choices. What I do think is that enough *Gemeinschaft* exists among us that a serious intellectual debate conducted with civility is possible and can be fruitful. I ask you to come to Montreal to take part in that debate (which must of course go on, as well, before and after), and to come to Montreal having prepared yourself to take part in that collective debate (as opposed to staying in a corner discussing with

your intellectual and social friends the latest variation on your special area of interest).

If a large number of us do this, the Montreal congress will be an exciting intellectual event in itself, and may be able to contribute to reinvigorating us with the sense of self-esteem and mission that is a crucial element in intellectual activity. If in addition we can reduce some of the cleavages that are real within the discipline and between it and other social sciences, then we shall have

accomplished a great deal.

(1) I. Wallerstein et al., *Open the Social Sciences: report of the Gulbenkein Commission on the Restructuring of the Social Sciences* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1996). There are also editions in Chinese, Dutch, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, Spanish, Turkish and forthcoming in other languages.

Lettre du Président, N° 5, Novembre 1996
par Immanuel Wallerstein

La sociologie à un carrefour intellectuel

Nous nous approchons de la fin du vingtième siècle et de la fin du millénaire. Nous savons que d'un point de vue historique ces moments sont perçus avec un mélange de respect, de peur et d'inquiétude, et souvent aussi avec un espoir messianique. Je crois, cependant, qu'il existe des raisons plus importantes que les accidents du calendrier pour mettre en évidence que la sociologie en tant qu'ensemble intellectuel et organisationnel se trouve à un carrefour. D'un point de vue intellectuel, nous pouvons faire remonter nos traditions, définies de manière stricte, peut-être 150 ans. D'un point de vue organisationnel, nous existons depuis tout au plus 100 ans, et cela seulement dans quelques pays. En 1998, lors du XIVème Congrès Mondial de Montréal, l'Association Internationale de Sociologie ne fêtera que son cinquantième anniversaire.

Dans un sens, nous sommes adultes. Je crois que nous pouvons affirmer qu'aujourd'hui nous avons effectivement un héritage, qui est largement partagé par des personnes qui se dénomment sociologues. Il existe certainement un groupe vaste et étendu de personnes qualifiées qui portent cette étiquette. Toutefois, le public ne nous estime pas trop et notre propre estime laisse à désirer. Je dis cela par rapport aux commentaires que j'ai souvent entendus ces cinq dernières années, et cela presque partout, que la discipline est atomisée, n'a pas de centre et manque de direction commune. Personnellement, je crois que l'on peut affirmer la même chose à propos de presque tous les groupes disciplinaires à l'intérieur des sciences sociales et au-delà. Mais pourtant nous l'entendons dire par des sociologues. (Peut-être que dans les autres groupes le même type d'évaluation est en train de circuler; je ne sais pas.)

En tout cas, comme les Thomas nous ont enseigné, "quand les hommes (sic!) définissent une situation comme réelle, elle est réelle dans ses conséquences." Je crois qu'il existe de bonnes raisons pour que les sociologues aient le sentiment de se trouver dans une sorte de crise. Le récent rapport de la Commission Gulbenkian que j'ai moi-même présidé, *Ouvrir les sciences sociales* (1), analyse quelles conditions dans le monde de l'après-1945 ont créé ce sentiment de confusion, d'empiètement et d'incertitude au sujet de la justification sous-jacente aux sciences sociales, et je ne vais pas répéter ici ces propos. Je me soucie plus de ce que l'AIS en tant qu'organisation peut faire pour répondre à ce besoin collectif de ses membres.

Nous avons choisi pour le Congrès de Montréal un thème qui, espérons-le, permettra aux participants de débattre cette question dans tous ses aspects. Le titre choisi par le Comité Programme est *La connaissance sociale: héritage, défis et perspectives*. Ces mots sont censés orienter le débat dans trois directions: vers le passé,

notre héritage; vers le présent, les défis de l'héritage; vers le futur, les perspectives de la sociologie et des sciences sociales au XXIème siècle.

Le premier problème est comment tenir un débat. Il n'est pas si simple dans un congrès qui va compter au moins 5000 participants, et peut-être jusqu'à 7000, de faire en sorte que tout le monde ait le sens de participer à un quelconque débat, quelle que soit son importance. Le Comité du Programme fera le possible, en faisant des Symposia des lieux de discussions authentiques. Nous ne voulons pas avoir des séries d'interventions sans rapport entre elles et monotones, mais plutôt des tables rondes ou des discussions autour d'une seule présentation à thèse ou d'autres mécanismes qui seront axés autour des problèmes intellectuels dont nous avons besoin de discuter et qui nous permettront d'en parler directement les uns aux autres.

En outre, l'AIS organise une série de colloques à l'échelle régionale (petits en taille, mais à travers le monde entier) où cette question aura été discutée du point de vue de chaque région. Nous espérons que ceci débouchera sur la publication d'une collection de petits livres que nous pourrions vendre à prix réduits aux participants du congrès, et de sorte qu'ils puissent les recevoir avant de se rendre à Montréal. De cette façon, nous comptons stimuler la réflexion des participants et surtout nous voulons mettre en évidence à quel point sont différentes les approches des diverses régions du monde sur le même sujet. Le numéro de *Current Sociology* qui paraîtra juste avant le congrès aborde aussi cette question. Nous espérons que les différentes associations nationales et les comités de recherche mèneront leur propre réflexion à ce sujet et cela, si possible, avant le Congrès.

Mais tous ces efforts n'auront que peu de résultats si les participants individuels n'ont pas commencé chacun leurs propres réflexions intérieures et leurs propres interprétations des questions devant nous. Quelles sont donc ces questions? Voici la liste qu'un sociologue vous propose:

1) Comment devrions-nous, comment pouvons-nous définir "l'héritage de la sociologie"? Est-ce que cet héritage est vraiment présent dans notre travail courant? Est-ce que notre héritage est différent de celui des autres sciences sociales, et dans ce cas, en quoi? S'il est différent, pourquoi est-il différent, et à quel point les bases intellectuelles de cette différence sont-elles fondées, par opposition à celles organisationnelles?

2) Quels sont les plus importants défis de cet héritage qui sont nés au cours des 50 dernières années? Et d'où sont venus les plus

importantes défis - au sein de la discipline elle-même ou de l'extérieur? des premiers centres de sociologie (Europe occidentale et Amérique du Nord) ou du reste du monde? Est-ce que les défis ont vraiment secoué la profession ou au contraire ont-ils été simplement absorbés? Affectent-ils de la même façon d'autres disciplines voisines? Y-a-t-il des défis aux frontières même des disciplines, et dans la mesure où ils existent, comment réagissons-nous?

3) Quelles sont nos perspectives? Regardant vers l'avenir, disons cinquante ans, pensons-nous vraiment que la sociologie (ou même la science sociale dans son ensemble) sera plus forte d'un point de vue intellectuel et organisationnel qu'elle ne l'est maintenant ou sommes-nous plutôt en phase stagnante voire de déclin? Quelle que soit votre réponse à cette question, est-ce que cette trajectoire est largement hors de notre contrôle collectif ou y-a-t-il des manières par lesquelles nous pourrions l'affecter considérablement? Surtout, sommes-nous satisfaits de nos principes épistémologiques de base ou ont-ils besoin d'une quelconque réorganisation drastique?

J'ai intitulé cette lettre, *La sociologie à un carrefour intellectuel*. Peut-être n'êtes-vous même pas d'accord avec le titre. Mais je crois que l'image de la sociologie (si ce terme va continuer à exister même), et plus encore de la science sociale, sera radicalement transformée au cours des prochaines cinquante années et que nous allons réévaluer notre héritage, non pas en le rejetant mais en le reformulant dans une perspective plus large et sur de nouvelles bases épistémologiques.

Je n'attends pas de consensus immédiat sur ces questions. Tout au contraire! Nous nous sommes divisés en plusieurs camps: selon nos préférences traditionnelles pour des modes de connaissance

plus nomothétiques ou bien plus idiographiques; selon nos différentes situations sociales (région du monde, classe, race, sexe, entre autres) ou selon nos convictions du rôle social de l'intellectuel. Nos instincts politiques ne sont pas non plus sans rapport avec nos choix intellectuels. Ce que je crois c'est qu'il existe assez de *Gemeinschaft* parmi nous pour qu'un débat intellectuel sérieux mené avec courtoisie puisse être possible et même fécond. Je vous demande de venir à Montréal pour participer à ce débat (qui doit bien sûr se poursuivre aussi bien avant qu'après) et de vous y rendre en vous ayant préparé à prendre part à ce débat collectif (au lieu de rester dans un coin à discuter avec vos amis intellectuels et sociaux à propos des dernières nouveautés de votre domaine d'intérêt particulier).

Si un grand nombre d'entre nous agit ainsi, le congrès de Montréal sera un événement intellectuel passionnant en lui-même, tout en étant capable de contribuer à rehausser le sens de notre propre estime et de notre mission qui sont des éléments essentiels de l'activité intellectuelle. Si, en plus, nous sommes capables de réduire les clivages, qui existent dans la discipline et entre celle-ci et les autres sciences sociales, nous aurons réussi quelque chose d'important.

(1) I. Wallerstein et al., *Open the Social Sciences: Report of the Gulbenkian Commission on the Restructuring of the Social Sciences* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1996). En édition française: *Ouvrir les Sciences Sociales* (Paris: Descartes & Cie.). Il existe aussi des éditions en allemand, chinois, coréen, espagnol, italien, japonais, néerlandais, portugais, turque, et de nouvelles éditions sont en train d'être publiées dans beaucoup d'autres langues.

**Carta del Presidente, No. 5, Noviembre 1996
por Immanuel Wallerstein**

La sociología en una encrucijada intelectual

Nos acercamos al final del siglo veinte y al final del milenio. Sabemos que, históricamente, tales fechas son vistas con una mezcla de temor, miedo, e inquietud, y algunas veces también con una esperanza mesiánica. Pienso sin embargo que hay razones más importantes que los accidentes del calendario para sugerir que la sociología, como una construcción intelectual y organizativa, se encuentra en una encrucijada. Desde el punto de vista intelectual nos podemos remontar unos 150 años a nuestras tradiciones, estrechamente definidas. Desde el punto de vista organizativo, existimos un poco más de 100 años, y eso sólo en algunos países. La Asociación Internacional de Sociología celebrará sólo su 50 aniversario en su XIV Congreso Mundial de Sociología en Montreal en 1998.

En un sentido, somos adultos. Creo que podemos decir que hoy tenemos una herencia, una que realmente está ampliamente compartida con la gente que se llama asimismo sociólogos. Ciertamente tenemos una extensa y amplia representación de personas muy bien formadas que lleva este nombre. Sin embargo, nuestra estima pública no es muy alta. Y nuestra autoestima deja algo que desear. Lo digo a la luz de unos comentarios que vengo oyendo repetidamente en los últimos cinco años en casi todos los lugares, que la disciplina está fraccionada, no tiene centro, y no tiene una dirección colectiva. Personalmente pienso que lo mismo se puede decir sobre prácticamente cualquier disciplina dentro de

las ciencias sociales y más allá. No obstante, esto se escucha más entre los sociólogos. (Quizá dentro de otras disciplinas circula la misma evaluación interna; no estoy seguro).

En cualquier caso, como los Thomas nos han enseñado, "cuando los hombres [sic!] definen una situación como real, ella es real en sus consecuencias". Creo que hay muy buenas razones por las que los sociólogos tienen el sentimiento de que se encuentran en algún tipo de crisis. El reciente informe de la Comisión Gulbenkian que yo presidí, *Abrir las ciencias sociales* (1), analiza qué hay en las condiciones del mundo posterior a 1945 que ha creado este sentido de confusión, superposición e inseguridad en la justificación fundamental de las ciencias sociales, y no voy a repetir aquí el argumento. Me preocupa más bien aquí ¿qué puede hacer la AIS, como organización, para enfrentarse a esta necesidad colectiva de sus miembros?

Hemos escogido para el Congreso de Montreal el tema que esperamos permita a los participantes discutir este problema en todos sus aspectos. El título escogido por el Comité de Programa es *El saber social: Herencia, desafíos, perspectivas*. Con estas palabras se intenta dirigir el debate en tres direcciones: al pasado, nuestra herencia; al presente, los desafíos de la herencia; al futuro, las perspectivas de la sociología y las ciencias sociales en el siglo veintiuno.

El primer problema es como organizar un debate. No es nada fácil, en un congreso que tendrá al menos 5.000 personas presentes y puede tener 7.000, dar la sensación de que estamos debatiendo algo, sea cual sea su importancia. El Comité del Programa hará lo posible para que los Simposia sean los lugares de discusión auténtica. Intentamos evitar una serie de ponencias desconectadas y monotonas, y organizar mesas redondas, o discusiones alrededor de una ponencia, u otros mecanismos que centren la atención en los problemas intelectuales de los que necesitamos hablar y discutir realmente entre nosotros.

Además, la AIS ha estado organizando una serie de colóquios regionales (de pequeño tamaño, pero a través del mundo) que han estado discutiendo este tema básico desde la perspectiva de cada región. Esperamos que como resultado se publique una colección de pequeños libros que vamos a vender baratos a los participantes del Congreso, y que puedan ser recibidos antes de llegar a Montreal. Esperamos estimular con ello el pensamiento de los participantes, y sobre todo dejar claro cómo diferentes regiones del mundo hablan de forma diferente del mismo tema. El volumen de *Current Sociology* anterior al Congreso discutirá también este problema. Se espera que también diversas asociaciones nacionales y comités de investigación lleven, si fuera posible antes del Congreso, su propia reflexión sobre este tema.

Pero todo esto tendrá poco efecto si los participantes no han empezado todavía sus reflexiones personales e interpretaciones de los problemas a los que nos enfrentamos. ¿Cuales son estos problemas? He aquí la lista que propone un sociólogo.

1) ¿Cómo debemos definir, cómo definimos, "herencia de la sociología"? ¿Influye verdaderamente ésta herencia en el trabajo actual? ¿Es nuestra herencia diferente de la de otras ciencias sociales? Si es así, ¿De que manera exactamente? Si es diferente, ¿Por que es diferente? y ¿Cómo de razonables son las bases intelectuales, versus organizativas, de esta diferencia?

2) ¿Cuales son los más significativos desafíos de esta herencia que aparecieron en los últimos 50 años? ¿De dónde llegaron estos importantes desafíos, desde la propia disciplina o desde fuera? ¿Desde los primeros centros de sociología (Europa Occidental y América del Norte) o desde el resto del mundo? ¿Los desafíos han agitado verdaderamente la profesión o han sido absorbidos? ¿Están estos desafíos afectando igualmente a disciplinas contiguas? ¿Hay desafíos de las mismas fronteras de las disciplinas? y, en este caso, ¿cómo hemos estado reaccionando?

3) ¿Cuáles son nuestras perspectivas? Mirando hacia adelante unos cincuenta años, ¿Esperamos verdaderamente que la sociología (o incluso las ciencias sociales como un todo) será más fuerte intelectual y organizativamente que es ahora, o estamos más bien estancados o incluso decayendo? Cualquiera que sea su respuesta a esta pregunta, ¿Está esta trayectoria en su mayor

parte fuera de nuestro control colectivo, o hay alguna manera de poder influir sobre ella significativamente? Sobre todo, ¿Estamos satisfechos con nuestras premisas básicas epistemológicas, o necesitan alguna reorganización drástica?

He titulado esta carta, *La sociología en una encrucijada intelectual*. Quizás no está de acuerdo con el título. Pero creo que la imagen de la sociología (si tal termino sigue existiendo) y más fundamentalmente de la ciencia social será transformada radicalmente en los próximos cincuenta años y que deberíamos reevaluar nuestra herencia, no rechazándola sino reformulándola en un contexto más amplio, y sobre nuevas premisas epistemológicas.

No espero ningún consenso inmediato con respecto a estas preguntas. ¡Todo lo contrario! Entre nosotros estamos divididos de diferentes maneras: según preferencias tradicionales por un modo de pensamiento más nomotético o más idiográfico; en términos de nuestra posición social (región del mundo, clase, raza, género, entre otros) y en términos de nuestras creencias sobre el papel social del intelectual. Tampoco nuestros instintos políticos son irrelevantes para nuestras elecciones intelectuales. Sin embargo, en mi opinión, hay suficiente *Gemeinschaft* entre nosotros para conducir civilizadamente un debate intelectual y que además pueda ser provechoso. Le ruego que venga a Montreal para participar en este debate (que ciertamente debe perseguirse, antes y después del congreso), y que venga a Montreal habiéndose preparado para participar en este debate colectivo (en lugar de quedarse en un rincón con sus amigos intelectuales y sociales discutiendo sobre las últimas variaciones en su particular área de interés).

Si un gran número de nosotros lo hace así, el Congreso de Montreal será en sí mismo un acontecimiento intelectualmente excitante y quizás contribuya a reestimar nuestra autoestima y misión que es un elemento crucial en la actividad intelectual. Si además podemos reducir algunas escisiones que son reales en la disciplina y entre ella y otras ciencias sociales, entonces habremos conseguido un gran logro.

(1) I. Wallerstein *et al.*, *Open the Social Sciences: Report of the Gulbenkian Commission on the Restructuring of the Social Sciences* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1996). En español, *Abrir las Ciencias Sociales* (Mexico: Siglo XXI de Mexico). Existen también ediciones en alemán, chino, coreano, flamenco, francés, italiano, japonés, portugués, turco y en breve en otros idiomas.

ISA XIV World Congress of Sociology

July 26 - August 1, 1998, Montreal, Canada

XIV World Congress of Sociology will be held at the Montreal Convention Centre and at the Université de Québec à Montréal (UQAM) in Montreal, Canada, from July 26th through August 1st, 1998. At the first constitutional meeting of the Congress Programme Committee the official theme of the Congress has been chosen: *Social Knowledge: Heritage, Challenges, Perspectives*. See following pages for Alberto Martinelli's (ISA Vice-President for Programme) statement on the theme.

PROGRAMME COMMITTEE

Eva Alterman Blay (Brazil)
Academic activities: Director of the Rural

and Urban Research Center (1980-85), and
Director of Women and Gender Social

Relations Center at the University of Sao
Paulo (Brazil). Currently Professor at the

University of Sao Paulo. Teaching areas: gender, work relations, social development and change, popular housing, shanty-towns and urban and rural planning. Political positions: First President of the Sao Paulo State Council of Women's Rights (1983-85); Senator (1992-95). Professional experience at international level: Interregional Adviser on UN Policies and Programmes for the Advancement of Women (DAW Vienna, 1992). Present research: Jews Immigration to Brazil 1890-1940

Jon Elster (Norway/USA)

Marcel Fournier (Canada)

Represents the Canadian Congress Organizing Committee.

Claudine Herzlich (France)

Present positions: Directeur de recherche au CNRS, Directeur d'études à l'Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris, France.

Fields of interest: sociology of health and illness, sociology of professions.

Selected professional activities and responsibilities: Scientific advisor National Center of Scientific Research (1982-86); Member, Comité National d'Ethique pour les Sciences de la Vie et de la Santé (1983-87); Director, Centre de Recherche Médecine, Maladie et Sciences Sociales (1986 to present); Member, Scientific Board of the National Institute of Health and Medical Research (1991-94); Chair, Société Française de Sociologie (1992-95).

Christine Inglis (Australia)

Director of the Multicultural Centre of the University of Sydney (Australia) and a Senior Lecturer in the School of Social Policy Studies in Education. She has been a Visiting Fellow at the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies in Singapore, University of California Berkeley and the Australian National University; a Senior Fulbright Fellowship to the Department of Sociology, University of Washington.

She has a longstanding interest in ethnic relations and educational issues in the Asia-Pacific region and was a member of the Executive and Secretary of the Asian Studies Association of Australia (1980-90). Since 1990, she has been a member of the Editorial Board of the ASAA's Women in Asia Publication Series.

Current research interests include the impact of globalisation on migration in the Asia-Pacific region, the settlement experiences of recent Asian immigrants to Australia, the educational attainment and experiences of migrant and second generation minority youth in Australia. Author of numerous books and articles.

A member of the ISA Executive Committee and President of the Research Committee

on Ethnic, Race and Minority Relations.

Deniz Kandiyoti (Turkey/UK)

Teaching experience: Middle East Technical University in Ankara (Turkey), Bogazici University in Istanbul (Turkey), London School of Economics and Political Science, Richmond College, Surrey (UK), School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London (currently). Various invited lectures and fellow professor positions worldwide. Selected professional activities and responsibilities: Advisory Board, Centre for Near and Middle Eastern Studies, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London; Member, Joint Committee on the Comparative Study of Muslim Societies and Joint Committee on the Near and Middle East, Social Science Research Council (USA).

Alberto Martinelli (Italy)

Dean of the Faculty of Political Sciences at the University of Milan, Italy, where he is professor of political science; he is also professor of sociology at the University of Bocconi. He taught also at the Stanford University and at the University of California, Berkeley. Member of the National Council of Science and Technology in Italy.

Author of a number of books in the field of problems of organizations, entrepreneurship and management, and economic development. Member of Editorial Boards of several academic reviews.

President of the ISA Research Committee on Economy (1986-90), ISA Executive Committee member (1990-1994) and ISA Vice-President for Programme (1994-1998).

Partha N. Mukherjee (India)

Samir Naim-Ahmed (Egypt)

Academic career: National Center for Sociological and Criminological Research, Cairo, Egypt; San Francisco City College; Current position: Professor of Sociology and Director of the Center for Public Service and Social Development, Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt.

Research interest and publications: sociology of law, criminology, theory, methodology, social problems and social development.

Claus Offe (Germany)

Professional experience: Max Planck Institute, University of Konstanz, University of Bielefeld, School of Social Science in Princeton, International Institute for Management in Berlin, Netherlands Institute for Advanced Study in Wassenaar, Institute for Advanced Study in Vienna, New School for Social Research in New York, University of Wisconsin, Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Science in Stanford, Center for Social Policy Research, Center for

Social Policy Research at the University of Bremen, Institute for Advanced Study in Berlin. At present, Professor for Political Sociology and Social Politics at Humboldt University in Berlin.

Aníbal Quijano (Peru)

Director of the Center of Social Research (CEIS) in Lima, Peru, and Professor at the Department of Sociology, Binghamton University of New York. He has been a visiting professor at various universities in Latin America, Europe and the USA, among others, at: Columbia University, Free University of Berlin, University of Hannover, Universities of Sao Paulo, Chile, Mexico and Venezuela.

Author of a number of publications on the problems of nationalism, imperialism, capitalism and social classes. Founding Editor of a journal "Sociedad y Política"; editor and board member of various academic journal in Latin America, Europe and the USA.

Marie-Angélique Savane (Senegal)

Kokichi Shoji (Japan)

Professor of sociology at the Graduate School of Humanities and Sociology at the University of Tokyo.

Previous academic posts: Honorary Research Fellow, Department of Sociology, Harvard University; Visiting Scholar, Centre de Recherches sur le Japon Contemporain, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris; Visiting Scholar, Department of Sociology, University of California, Berkeley; Major fields of research and publications: International sociology, Problems of world society; Sociology of social consciousness.

Piotr Sztompka (Poland)

Professor of sociology at the Jagiellonian University in Cracow, Poland, and a regular Visiting Professor at the University of California at Los Angeles.

Specializes in sociological theory. His recent books include: "Society in Action", Polity Press 1991, "The Sociology of Social Change", Blackwell 1993, "Agency and Structure" (ed.), Gordon Breach 1994.

In 1995 he was awarded the New Europe Prize by the consortium of six Institutes for Advanced Studies (Stanford, Princeton, National humanities Center, Berlin, Wassenaar and Uppsala). Member of Academia Europea (London) and the Polish Academy of Sciences.

He co-founded the ISA Research Committee on Sociological Theory, and is presently a member of ISA Executive Committee.

Immanuel Wallerstein (USA)

Academic posts: Distinguished Professor of Sociology and Director of the Fernand

Braudel Center for the Study of Economies, Historical Systems and Civilizations, Binghamton University (1976-); Directeur d'études associé, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris (1976-). Previously taught at Columbia University (1958-71) and McGill University (1971-76). Visiting Professor at Alicante, British Columbia, Chinese University of Hong-Kong, Dar-es-Salaam, Illinois, Montpellier, Montreal, Napoli, Ottawa, Texas. Professional activities: ISA President (1994-98); Chair, Gulbenkian Commission on the Restructuring of the Social Sciences (1993-95); Member, Board of Directors, Social Science Research Council (1979-85); Member, Executive Council, International African Institute (1978-84); Member,

Comitato Scientifico, Istituto Int. di Storia Economica "Francesco Datini", Prato (1977-); President, Commission de Recherche, Centre Québécois des Relations Internationales (1974-75); President, African Studies Association (1972-73).

Books: *The Modern World-System* (3 volumes thus far); *Historical Capitalism*; *The Capitalist World-Economy: Race, Nation, Class: Ambiguous Identities*; *Geopolitics and Geoculture*; *Unthinking Social Sciences*; 26 others.

Tatiana I. Zaslavskaya (Russia)

Professional experience: Research Fellow, Institute of Economics of the USSR

Academy of Sciences in Moscow; Head, Sociology Department, Institute of Economics and Industrial Engineering, Novosibirsk; Director, All-Russian Center for Public Opinion Studies, Moscow; Current position: Co-president, Interdisciplinary Academic Centre for Social Sciences, Moscow.

Other responsibilities: Vice-President and President, Soviet Sociological Association; Member, International Institute of Sociology; Academia Europea; Elected USSR People's Deputy; Member of the Consulting Council of the President of Russia (1991-92).

ACADEMIC PROGRAMME OF THE CONGRESS

The Academic Programme of the Congress will consist of:

Three Presidential Sessions

These sessions will be organized by the President of ISA, and will all be plenary sessions.

Presidential Session I: July 26, 1998 (Sunday)

- Part I, 16:00-18:00: Opening Ceremony (Reception for participants 18:00-19:00)
- Part II, 20:30-22:30: Presidential Address
Chair: Raquel Sosa Elizaga (Mexico)

Presidential Session II: July 28, 1998 (Tuesday), 20:30-22:30

"Social Knowledge and the Multiplicity of Languages and Cultures"
Chair: Alain Touraine (France)

Presidential Session III: August 1, 1998 (Saturday), 9:00-12:00

- Part I: Installation of New President
- Part II: "The Future of Sociology and Social Sciences in the Twenty-first Century"
Chair: Alberto Martinelli (Italy)

Six Symposia

Each Symposium will consist of 4 sessions to be held at 9:00-12:00 on July 27,28,30,31, 1998 (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday). Papers by invitation only. Topics and organizers of Symposia are listed in page 8.

Research Committees

Research Committees can organize a maximum of 16 sessions:

- 15 sessions of 2 hours each at 14:00-16:00, 16:30-18:30 and 20:30-22:30 on July 27,30,31, 1998 (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday), at 14:00-16:00 and 16:30-18:30 on July 28 (Tuesday) and, optionally, at 14:00-16:00, 16:30-

HOW TO PRESENT A PAPER

Everyone interested in presenting a paper should contact directly a chair of a session of her/his choice. Session topics and addresses of session organizers will be published in the *ISA Bulletin 72* (forthcoming Spring 1997).

18:30 on July 29 (Wednesday) and August 1, 1998 (Saturday).

- 1 session of 3 hours at 9:00-12:00 on July 29, 1998 (Wednesday);

Working Groups

Working Groups can organize a maximum of 9 sessions:

- 8 sessions of 2 hours each at 14:00-16:00 and 16:30-18:30 on July 27,28,30,31, 1998 (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday);
- 1 session of 3 hours at 9:00-12:00 on July 29, 1998 (Wednesday);

Thematic Groups

Thematic Groups can organize a maximum of 5 sessions (2 hours each) at 14:00-16:00 and 16:30-18:30 on July 27,28,30,31, 1998 (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday);

Ad Hoc and SSO

Ad Hoc and SSO (special sessions by organizations affiliated to ISA) may be granted a maximum of 2 sessions.

In order to qualify for a place in the Congress programme, the sessions must involve (a) a substantial number of sociologists, (b) from several countries, (c) who have already engaged in some collaboration, and (d) whose special interest does not properly fit within the field of an established ISA Research Committee, Working Group or Thematic Group. Applications stating: Titles of sessions; Name(s) and full mailing address, fax, phone, e-mail, of the organizer(s); Short description of session contents; List of potential contributors; should be received by March 15, 1997, at the ISA Secretariat in Madrid.

TIMETABLE OF ACADEMIC SESSIONS

ISA XIV WORLD CONGRESS OF SOCIOLOGY MONTREAL 1998

1998	9:00-12:00	14:00-16:00	16:30-18:30	20:30-22:30
Sunday 26 July			16:00 Opening Ceremony 18:00 Reception	Presidential Session I
Monday 27 July	Symposia	RC, WG, TG	RC, WG, TG	RC Additional Events
Tuesday 28 July	Symposia	RC, WG, TG	RC, WG, TG Additional Events	Presidential Session II
Wednesday 29 July	RC, WG	FREE RC (optional)	FREE RC (optional)	FREE
Thursday 30 July	Symposia	RC, WG, TG	RC, WG, TG Additional Events	RC Additional Events
Friday 31 July	Symposia	RC, WG, TG	RC, WG, TG	RC Additional Events
Saturday 1 August	Presidential Session III and Installation of New President	RC (optional)	RC (optional)	

TIMETABLE OF ISA ADMINISTRATIVE MEETINGS

ISA XIV WORLD CONGRESS OF SOCIOLOGY MONTREAL 1998

1998	
Sunday 26 July	09:30-11:30 Research Council (1st meeting) Business meeting 13:00-15:00 Council of National Associations (1st meeting) Business meeting
Wednesday 29 July	20:00-22:00 Assembly of Councils Election of the President and Vice-Presidents
Thursday 30 July	17:00-19:00 Council of National Associations (2nd meeting) Election of 8 members of the ISA Executive Committee 20:00-22:00 Research Council (2nd meeting) Election of 8 members of the ISA Executive Committee
Saturday 1 August	13:00-15:00 New ISA Executive Committee Meeting

SOCIAL KNOWLEDGE: HERITAGE, CHALLENGES, PERSPECTIVES

by Alberto Martinelli, ISA Vice-President for Congress Programme

The Montreal Congress will be the last ISA congress of the twentieth century and will take place 50 years after the ISA's foundation. In this half century sociology has been institutionalized in a growing number of countries and it has grown in terms of scholars, students, research facilities, and its impact on social institutions. Yet, the status and the identity of sociology in the world of knowledge is still controversial. The Congress takes place at a time when sociology, as well as other social sciences, are questioning themselves about their scientific role in a rapidly changing world and are facing new challenges and new intellectual responsibilities.

As the twentieth century comes to a close, we can - as sociologists - try to assess its mixed heritage. Millions of people were freed from colonial oppression and domestic tyranny, but millions of others died and suffered in devastating wars and in totalitarian rule. Tocqueville's prediction of the unarrestable push toward equality seems fulfilled, but old inequalities are still resilient and new ones are emerging, between women and men, rich and poor, self-confident and scared, weak and strong. Science and technology made portentous advances for bettering life chances and the quality of life of individuals and groups, but for the first time in history mankind risks nuclear annihilation and the destruction of the environment. More and more goods and services are available in the global market, but million of people are excluded. Automation replaces many tiring jobs, but work gets more precarious and millions of people strive for survival in alienating jobs. Ideological conflict declined, but conflicts based on primordial ties and religion are spreading.

In the light of these epochal changes we should ask ourselves whether major sociological paradigms, such as the theory of action, structural functionalism, Marxist and conflict theories, ethnomethodology, succeeded or failed to describe, interpret, explain and predict, also in comparison with other social sciences. In other words, we should try to evaluate the place of sociology in twentieth-century culture; to make a critical assessment of 'what is dead and what is alive' in twentieth-century sociological heritage, in the ideas of the key figures, in the analyses of major schools, and to ascertain how and what extent sociological theories and methods can help understanding contemporary social reality.

OUTLINE OF THE SYMPOSIA SESSIONS

Symposium I: Changing Identities and Social Order

Programme Coordinators: Claus Offe (Germany) and Piotr Sztompka (Poland)

Session 1: Demos vs. Ethnos

Session 2: Gemeinschaft and Gesellschaft

Session 3: Religion between Universalism and Fundamentalism

Session 4: Gender and Changing Social Roles

Symposium II: Work and Technology

Programme Coordinators: Aníbal Quijano (Peru) and Dale Tomich (USA)

The twentieth century has witnessed the contested development of sociology as well as of other social sciences. Sociology was either fought or domesticated and made useless by totalitarian and authoritarian regimes. But, it also developed in many countries a distinctive perspective and method, aiming at understanding processes rather than facts, collective action and norms rather than individual action, searching for meanings and conditions rather than causes. And yet, the status of sociology at the turn of the century is still controversial.

The XIV Congress provides a unique opportunity for focused, intellectually challenging and honest debates about the fundamental issues that confront us as scholars and our discipline; not the gathering of a crowd, but the forum of an informed and interested public with active participation.

For these reasons, the Program Committee chose for the theme of the Congress to focus on major challenges and issues which are rooted in the sociological tradition of the twentieth century and which, at the same time, individuals and societies will face in the next decades. We stressed major contemporary problems framed in sociological language and theory, issues of both theoretical and practical relevance. We chose the title 'Social Knowledge: Heritage, Challenges, Perspectives' to convey these ideas. The general theme was, after a long deliberation, articulated into six more specific topics which are self explanatory:

1. Changing Identities and Social Order
2. Work and Technology
3. The Quality of Modern Life: Assets and Liabilities
4. Unequal Development: Causes and Consequences
5. Natural Parameters of Social Existence
6. Social Science and Power: Knowledge for What?

All these issues challenge our sociological imagination and demand our collective research effort and our commitment - as members of a meaningful community of scholars - to the advancement of social knowledge and to mutual understanding of women and men as citizens of one world.

Session 1: The Determinants of Labour Market Participation

Session 2: New Technologies and Organization of Work:
Alienation and Fulfillment

Session 3: Work and the Life Cycle

Session 4: The Future of Wage Work

Symposium III: The Quality of Modern Life: Assets and Liabilities

Programme Coordinators: Eva Alterman Blay (Brazil) and t.b.a.

Session 1: What Kind of Health, for Whom and How?

Session 2: Cities: Centers of Tolerance or Violence?

Session 3: Consumption and Leisure: The Pursuit of Happiness?

Session 4: Cultural Expression and Self-realization

Symposium IV: Unequal Development: Causes and Consequences

Programme Coordinators: Samir Naim-Ahmed (Egypt) and Kokichi Shoji (Japan)

Session 1: Shifting Cores and Peripheries

Session 2: Massive Migrations: Re-shaping Societies

Session 3: Human Rights and Unequal Life Chances

Session 4: Environmental Deterioration and Global Inequalities

Symposium V: Natural Parameters of Social Existence

Programme Coordinators: Claudine Herzlich (France) and Marc Renaud (Canada)

Session 1: Bio-identities and the State

Session 2: New Health and Environmental Dangers

Session 3: Body Engineering and Rights to Life

Session 4: Bio-identities and Social Interactions

Symposium VI: Social Science and Power: Knowledge for What?

Programme Coordinators: Christine Inglis (Australia) and Partha N. Mukherji (India)

Session 1: Material Basis of Scholarship and Research

Session 2: Ideology and Social Sciences: The Precarious Relationship

Session 3: Policy Making and Applied Sociology

Session 4: The Twentieth-Century Heritage and the Universalization of Sociology

Note: Only invited papers will be presented at the Symposia sessions

New ISA Working and Thematic Groups

The following new Working and Thematic Groups have been approved by the ISA Executive Committee in November 1996:

Working Group 01: Sociocybernetics & Social System Theory

The Thematic Group 02 is re-instated now as a Working Group. The group did have Working Group status up till 1992, when it was demoted to Thematic Group owing to the lack of activities and organizational structure. That situation has thoroughly changed since the ISA XIII World Congress (1994) when Felix Geyer (SISWO, Amsterdam) accepted a responsibility to coordinate the group. Elections took place early 1995 and led to the first elected board in the history of the group. A first 16-page Newsletter, edited by Tom Burns (Univ Uppsala) was produced and mailed to the membership. In cooperation with the organizers of the 10th International Congress on Systems and Cybernetics of the World Organization of Systems and Cybernetics (Bucharest, August 1996), a Sociocybernetics Section has been organized by the group. Arrangements for publication of a selection of papers have been made with Docupress Switzerland. The group membership has grown from 24 to 108 persons.

Board 1995-1998

President: Kenneth D.BAILEY (UCLA, Los Angeles, USA)

Vice-President: Richard L.HENSHEL (Univ Western Ontario, Canada)

Secretary: R. Felix GEYER (SISWO, Amsterdam, The Netherlands)

Board members: Venkateswara SUBRAMANIAM (Canada), Inga KRÄTTLI (Switzerland), Roberta M.SNOW (USA), George KAMPIS (Hungary), Philippos NICOLOPOULOS (Greece), Salvino A.SALVAGGIO (Belgium)

Past-President: Francisco PARRA-LUNA (Univ Complutense,

Madrid, Spain)

Newsletter Editor: Tom Burns (Uppsala Univ, Sweden)

The main **objective of the WG01** is to promote the development of (socio)cybernetic theory and research within the social sciences. Sociocybernetics is broadly defined here as including first- and second-order cybernetics, general systems theory, and various combinations and variations of these that can be subsumed under the term "the emerging sciences of complexity", to the extent these can be applied to the subject matter of the social sciences.

Forthcoming activities

September 15-19, 1997, Madrid, Spain

WG01 and World Association for Case Method Research and Case Method Application Conference on "Sustainable Development: Towards Measuring the Performance of Integrated Socioeconomic and Environmental Systems". Detailed information: Francisco Parra-Luna, Dept Sociology I, Fac Sociology, Univ Complutense, 28223 Madrid, Spain, tel: 34-1-3942923, fax: 34-1-3942901, Email: parralun@luznet.es

ISA members interested in joining WG01 are welcome to contact its Secretary: Felix Geyer, SISWO, Plantage Muidergracht 4, 1018 TV Amsterdam, The Netherlands, tel: 31-20-5270600, fax: 31-20-6229430, Email: geyer@siswo.uva.nl

Thematic Group 03: The Body in the Social Sciences

The body is a neglected subject in the social sciences, mirroring its neglect during the long history of Western civilization, all the way from Plato up till the present modernization process and the advent of postmodernity. For the last two millennia, the body has been the stranger and the inconvenient guest of our rational culture - which in spite of its many irrationalities is so rational, in fact, that the technological development process neglected *in tot* the individual's life and identity.

The experience of modernity formed the subject matter of -

and sanctioned at the same time - the schizophrenia of the artificial body-brain division. While the separation of subject and object can be seen as the achievement of the Age of Reason, postmodernism marked the return of the subject, but cut off from its corporeality, alienating the body from itself, denying the specificity of its structural and variable reality, and instead stressing a reproductive social order in which simulations and models constitute the world of knowledge. The status of the body consequently became ambiguous, the present-absent of daily life. In post-modern society,

body awareness merely expresses a social symbolism, like a ghost game lit up by the virtual screens of global electronic communications.

Traditionally, the social sciences have been profoundly influenced by this typically Western dualism between body and soul, body and mind, nature and culture. While anthropology has recognized the importance of the human body in its study of traditional societies, sociology has tended to consider modern society as an impersonal and disembodied agent which produces social behavior.

However, the body escapes from post-modern efforts to contain it within symbolical representations, as it has escaped from phenomenological "eidos" and any other attempts at theoretical knowledge. Social thought shows itself to be powerless to embrace the specificity of the body as the principal actor in social practice, although our everyday body continues to be the principal agent of our life, and our death - perhaps increasingly our death. The body cannot be reduced to a concept of health, fitness, aesthetic form or beauty, nor is it an abstract carrier of sexuality, homosexuality, or the feminist movement - as it often seems to be in contemporary society.

On the contrary, the body forms the key for settling the above dualism, for constructing a social culture which, on the one

hand, is functional for everyday life, and on the other hand is not opposed or contrary to its nature and rhythm.

This group crystallized around the Ad Hoc sessions held during the ISA XIII World Congress of Sociology in Bielefeld, 1994. In the following years the group organized itself around five sections: The Body in the Social Sciences (Chair: David LeBreton, Nanterre Univ), The Body in Post-modern Societies (Chair: Mike Featherstone, Teesside Univ), Anthropology of the Body (Chair: Antonino Colajanni, Rome Univ), The Body, Memory and Social Action (Chair: Bianca Maria Pirani, Rome Univ), and The Body, the Brain and Mental Disease (Chair: Israel Rosenfield, NY City Univ). In order to revise and elaborate a new synthesis of the results of Bielefeld - related to the principal research projects on the topic around the world - the participants of the group are preparing an Italian/English edition of the Bielefeld papers in the collective book *Body, the Plot of the Present: The Body, Memory and Social Action*.

ISA members interested in joining TG03 are welcome to contact its Coordinator: Bianca Maria Pirani, Department of Sociology, University of Rome "La Sapienza", Via Salaria 113, 00196 Roma, Italy, tel/fax: 39-6-86326461.

Thematic Group 06: Sociology of Local-Global Relations

The subject matter of the TG06 is the emergence and shifts of the new 'localisms', neighborhoods, local communities, ethnic and language identities, affinity groups, and economic and political associations, and their aggregation into networks and their formation of systems that create regions and impact the incipient world system. As part of this, the role of the individual will be examined, in particular the processes of individualization within a global framework.

The theoretical contexts include spatial and temporal relations, the development of increased complexity or integrated diversity that transcends traditional boundaries, the logics of regionalism, including those of political integration as well as classical concepts from human and social ecology.

The new methodological base of the TG06 would be that of fuzzy sets, most of which has been advanced in the engineering sciences and yet has limited applications in the social and behavioral sciences other than psychology. This methodology would depart from standard cross-level analyses, so much a part of ecological research with fixed sets, to that of fuzzy and sets and systems in which the member components have multiple and shifting memberships. Some of this has now been developed in computer programs, at a stage similar to that of cross-level analysis about 15 years ago, that can be adopted to sociological data.

The data to be addresses are at several levels,

community, region, country, transnational regions, and the world as a whole, at two or more points in time. This would be the ideal. Much less structured data are expected to be the norm. Since the 1950s data on sub national units and groups within countries have been accumulating, and, of course, these data are being stretched into several points of time. Indeed, the combination of individual survey data within structures of groups, countries, and associations beyond national boundaries, envisioned by Stein Rokkan more than three decades ago, have now become a reality for many domains of human activity and organization.

The group organized Ad Hoc sessions at the ISA XIII World Congress of Sociology in Bielefeld, 1994, and since then has been involved in exchange of research among the participants on the Democracy and Local Governance research program which now has gathered data on local political leaders in 24 countries.

ISA members interested in joining TG06 are welcome to contact Henry Teune, Department of Political Sciences, University of Pennsylvania, 211 Stiteler Hall, Philadelphia, PA 19128, USA, Fax: 1-215-5732073, Email: hteune@sas.upenn.edu

Publications News

by Jim Beckford, Vice-President for Publications

The Publications Committee has been busily developing a range of new initiatives. The aim is to have a revised 'stable' of ISA publications on offer to all members by the time of the Montreal World Congress in 1998.

1. A re-launched journal

Our longest-running journal, *Current Sociology*, will be re-launched at the World

Congress in a modified form. Instead of concentrating on long Trend Reports it will become a peer-reviewed journal carrying shorter review articles dealing with more finely focused issues about, for example, concepts, theories, methods or substantive fields of inquiry. Given the journal's international status and worldwide distribution it will be the place to publish your articles about challenging issues. It will

not carry conventional reports of empirical research or theoretical argument: instead, its focus will be on new developments and controversies in fields or areas of sociological inquiry.

A new Editor of *Current Sociology* will be appointed in April this year; and a new contract for publishing the journal has been signed with Sage Publications. So, by the

time of the World Congress in Montreal we shall have a revitalized journal, a new Editor and a new contract. The out-going Editor, Robert Brym, has not only kept *Current Sociology* in the top flight of academic journals but has also helped to foster all these new developments. Watch out for the special promotional offers which will accompany the re-launch.

2. A very old journal

The ISA has agreed to forge an intellectual association with *The International Review of Sociology / La Revue internationale de sociologie*. The oldest journal of sociology in the world will now be published 'in association with the ISA'. Its Editor, Mino Vianello from the University of Rome 'La Sapienza', will join our Publications Committee, and the ISA will be represented on the journal's Editorial Board.

The International Review of Sociology / La Revue internationale de sociologie was founded in 1893 by René Worms and is currently owned by the University of Rome.

Early contributors to the journal were responsible for founding the Institut International de Sociologie. Its editorial policy is to favour an inter-disciplinary approach to the study of social activity, drawing on economics, history, demography, anthropology and social psychology. It disseminates the results of interdisciplinary research across the boundaries of disciplines, continents and cultures in either English or French. All ISA members are warmly invited to contact the

Editor for further information about manuscript for publication or proposals for thematic issues:

Professor Mino Vianello
Università degli Studi di Roma 'La Sapienza'
Facolta di Scienze Statistiche
Via Brennero 36, 00141 Rome, Italy

3. A rapidly maturing journal

International Sociology is now in its eleventh year of publication and is continuing to consolidate its reputation for publishing genuinely international work. Roberto Cipriani, the Editor, has strengthened the international character of the editorial panels and has put in place an exciting array of forthcoming special issues on 'national sociologies' and 'sociological portraits'.

4. Cheaper journals for ISA members

You will shortly be receiving sets of coupons which will entitle you to subscribe to a number of first-class journals at discounted rates. Please return these coupons to the relevant publishers: NOT to the ISA Secretariat.

Meanwhile, please take the time to check whether your own institution subscribes to the ISA's journals. If not, you would be helping to keep the cost of our journals in check, as well as improving the quality of your Library, if you could persuade your Librarian to take out one or more subscriptions. The more copies we sell, the lower the cost of subscriptions. In any case,

it is vitally important to make sure that your Library does not *cancel* any subscriptions to ISA journals. THIS IS SOMETHING THAT EVERYBODY CAN DO ON BEHALF OF THE ISA.

5. New at Montreal

We're planning to have a display of ISA publications (in addition to the display of Sage publications) at the World Congress in Montreal in 1998. You'll have the opportunity to record your comments at the time of visiting the display and to place orders for our books in the Sage Studies in International Sociology series and our journals. It is already possible, of course, to place your orders electronically by accessing the Sage Publications web site on <http://www.sagepub.co.uk>

You'll also be able to purchase low-cost copies of the books of papers arising from the ten ISA Regional Colloquia initiated by our President, Immanuel Wallerstein.

Please let me have your own thoughts on ISA publications. The Publications Committee needs to hear from you if we are to provide the best possible service to you.

Jim Beckford, Vice-President for Publications, Department of Sociology, University of Warwick, Coventry CV4 7AL, UK, Fax: 44-1203-523497, Email: syred@ice.csv.warwick.ac.uk

The History of the ISA: a preliminary sketch

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Foundation and membership of the ISA

The ISA was founded in 1949, at the initiative of the Social Science Department of UNESCO (SSD); this was part of a broader initiative, which also included the foundation of parallel worldwide associations in economics, law and political science, combined in the International Social Science Council (ISSC). Once the decision had been taken to set up such an association, a 'Constituent Congress' was organised. The initial problem was who, or which bodies, to approach as informants about each country or as potential members or delegates. The members of the ISA were to be national sociological associations; however, few countries then had national associations, and many had few or no sociologists, or even social scientists, clearly distinct as such from members of other disciplines. The files of UNESCO show much difficulty in identifying appropriate bodies or persons. Where those involved were aware of having any choice of potential delegates, the importance of drawing in national notables was stressed:

'It is... highly important that the delegates to the congress are people of standing in their respective countries so they will be able to convince their national organisations about

joining the organisation and also that the national organisation will feel that they are properly represented in the new organisation' (Rinde 1949).

This congress established a committee to take the proposal forward.

An immediate issue that arose in the short term was which to regard as eligible of those bodies which applied for membership. As Meynaud (1961: 9) pointed out, the emphasis on world coverage led to the recruitment of some associations 'about whose scientific qualifications [one] could have no illusions'. Others may have had 'scientific qualifications', but were not distinctively sociological; in particular, they were sometimes general social-science associations. Other countries had no associations at all, so room was made for other affiliates such as departments and research institutes. At a very early stage it was agreed that where there were individual sociologists, but no appropriate national body, individual membership would need to be permitted. This was, however, intended definitely to be the exception, and numbers remained very low until the statutes changed.

Questions about eligibility were regularly raised inside the

ISA, although it was not always clear to those at the centre what the real character was of the collective members in countries with which they were not personally familiar. Efforts were made to include the most authentically sociological and national bodies available, but differences in national intellectual traditions could lead to cultural conflicts of definition. Such conflicts could sometimes mean rival associations each claiming appropriate affiliation, or intergenerational disagreements within nations as younger people adopted more modern conceptions of sociology. Logically, when marginally appropriate associations had been accepted originally in the absence of a more suitable one the foundation of a true national sociological association should perhaps have led to the disaffiliation of the former. In this case as in others, however, diplomatic considerations seem generally to have led to allowing it to continue if it wished to do so. The 'problem' was dealt with by a structure of membership categories which allowed distinctions to be made between different types of member.

It is likely that the existence of the ISA itself played a part in increasing the number of associations. Without knowledge of the history of particular associations one cannot tell whether the creation of such a body, with associational membership, in itself led to their foundation, but the general pattern suggests that this was so. The British Sociological Association, for instance, was founded in 1951, after those who played a leading part in its foundation had been among the initial group setting up the ISA, and immediately joined. At least 10 national affiliates were founded in 1950 or 1951 and joined the ISA very shortly thereafter; a further 17 were founded and joined over the rest of the 1950s. Meynaud (1961: 9) suggests, however, that some of these by the end of the 1950s 'still exist only on paper'.

In 1970 it was decided to make individual membership normal, and to allow members to join Research Committees at will. That decision responded in part to financial problems which made any fresh source of income desirable. It was a radical change in the whole character of the association. Numbers of individual members rose rapidly, and became an important part of the association's financial base; by 1994, there were more than 3000. But the numbers have fluctuated in relation to World Congresses, rising as a Congress approaches and membership is required to present papers and to get a reduced conference fee. Once there were significant numbers of individual members, this obviously raised issues about governance which had to be addressed (on which see below).

An issue of importance in the early stages was whether the ISA had a special status as *the* international sociological association. Before the war, the Institut International de Sociologie (IIS) had some claim to be the only international association. It was, however, a body of a very different kind: its members were individuals, elected to it by their peers. Its activities had lapsed during the war, but afterwards Corrado Gini of Italy revived it, or claimed to have done so - the claim of continuity was disputed by some. Considerable embarrassment was caused to the early ISA by its announcement of congresses which made claims which the ISA thought were not appropriate. For instance, in 1954 the executive secretary of the ISA reported that stories had appeared in French newspapers which gave the impression that the IIS was the only international sociological body, and was writing to correct this (1). Gini took part in the ISA's structure, but continued to act in opposition to it, which led to ill feeling. However, IIS has continued to exist and to hold its own congresses, but it has long ceased to be regarded as a rival to the ISA. The healing of this historic conflict is marked by the interest now of its journal in establishing some form of association with the ISA.

Relations with UNESCO

The initiative to set up the ISA must be understood against the background of the political situation at the time, and cannot be regarded as intended to perform purely intellectual or cultural functions. The victors in World War 2 were concerned to establish a postwar settlement which would abolish the circumstances which produced fascism, and which led to war between nations and other forms of social friction. Social science was seen as in itself promoting democracy, and its research as serving broad social purposes. UNESCO's objectives in relation to social science were described as

'to knit together social science scholars of the world...with the expectation that this will increase international understanding...to raise the level of social science research in the belief that greater knowledge in these fields will benefit mankind...to promote research in fields crucial to the establishment of a peaceful world order...'
(Angell 1950: 282).

UNESCO had a clear conception of the ISA as playing a part in the performance of its wider role. That is reflected in the wording of the report on the ISA's founding conference:

'The IAS [sic] wishes to cooperate with UNESCO and the United Nations by mobilising the talent and resources of the sociologists of the world in order to find a solution to the problems with which these organisations are concerned and to whose solution sociology can contribute.' (2)

UNESCO's emphasis was on research topics directly relevant to international understanding, such as the early 'Tensions' project, designed to encourage 'a concentrated and integrated attack on the causes and cures of tensions affecting international understanding' (Cantril 1948: 237). It is, thus, not by chance that the first World Congress, held in 1950, was on the theme of 'Sociological research in its bearing on international relations', that a main theme of the second was 'Intergroup conflicts and their mediation', and that at the third a 'Round-Table Conference on Peaceful Cooperation' was held at UNESCO'S request. The associational membership of the ISA followed the general United Nations model of national representation, with all nations treated equally, as UNESCO policy required, although it was evident that this model did not have a good fit to the state of development of sociology at that period.

The boundaries between SSD and the ISA were not always clear in the early days. The work on such topics as international relations was close to, when not - as in the case of the 'Tensions' project - part of, the work of the SSD. The SSD can be seen to have implicitly assumed that ISA could be treated simply as an extension of its work, with a mission and obligation to follow their priorities (and to avoid duplication of their efforts even if independently initiated). This treatment was, moreover, backed by financial sanctions, since ISA depended on SSD for much of its money, and early correspondence makes it very clear that ISA would be given money for doing what was wanted but not for other things. It is clear that there were some 'tensions' between the SSD and ISA, and SSD pressures were sometimes resisted. (3) Over the years, ISA has increasingly detached itself from UNESCO tutelage and come to regard itself as a truly autonomous independent association of sociologists, although it has remained dogged by financial problems.

Functions and activities of the ISA (4)

UNESCO's mission meant that it saw as the most appropriate activities within sociology those which diffused knowledge of sociological work, whatever its origin, throughout the worldwide sociological community; thus bibliographical initiatives and reviews of work in specified fields, as carried out under the

auspices of *Current Sociology*, were important from the earliest days (5). One cannot know whether an entirely independent association of sociologists would have given this the same priority - probably not? It is not easy to assess how far these contributed to the diffusion of knowledge and the development of sociology, since their impact is unknown. Some available figures show, however, that although the numbers of subscriptions has probably not been above 2000, the large majority of those have been institutional rather than individual (6), so that potential readership will have been much higher. A recent publishing initiative has been the establishment in 1986 of *International Sociology*, a journal with the remit to operate in a genuinely international spirit which aims to overcome the barriers of language and cultural tradition, and whose policy has been to seek out papers from countries outside the First World and to operate positive discrimination in favour of authors from sociologically disadvantaged areas (Albrow 1991). In its short period of existence this has built up a circulation of c. 1000; in its first 4 years it had papers submitted from 51 countries, and published papers from 33, which included 11 from the Third World and 5 from the former Second World, though the largest contributors were the USA and Germany (Albrow 1991: 116-8).

Another area of activity which was consistent with both the UNESCO and the more independent sociological conception of ISA's remit was the internationally comparative research which soon emerged as an important activity, promoted by its Research Committees (7). The first programme, on social stratification, started under the auspices of what was then the single undifferentiated Research Committee. The Research Committee gave birth to the RC on Social Stratification and Mobility; clearly these themes struck a chord in a number of countries. This led to valuable research in a number of countries, carried out within a comparative framework. Not every RC has been so successful, or taken as part of its remit the active promotion of comparative research; probably most RCs' closest approach to this is the publication of collective works with contributions from diverse countries, brought together by an editorial framework. That in itself, however, is an advance in internationalism on more ordinary publication models, and creates pressure for concepts and theories which transcend local particularities. The movement to establish international data archives, which have made an enormous contribution to the practical possibilities for cross-national and comparative research, has been closely associated with the RC on Political Sociology (Rokkan 1981).

The RCs now form a vital part of the ISA's activities, and are generally recognised as one of its most valuable contributions. Over time, they have changed considerably in character. Initially they were conceived as working groups, and the total membership of each was limited to 18, no more than two of whom should come from one country. Their membership was by invitation, inevitably reflecting personal networks and skewing membership in an elitist direction. It has from time to time been complained, no doubt sometimes with justice, that particular RCs represented cliques, or were undemocratic personal fiefdoms. The central ISA has, however, striven to prevent such situations arising, and since 1970 has developed statutes which require RCs to formalize their procedures, to hold elections for office, etc. Some RCs have now become so large that they are almost like autonomous associations - considerably larger than many of the national associations were in the 1950s - and it has become an issue to ensure that their members, who benefit from ISA facilities, are actually paid-up ISA members. It remains understood that each RC should aim to include members of major international political and economic groupings, and it is expected that meetings and publications should wherever possible have contributions from countries where sociology is less developed; most RCs have reduced membership fees for those from poorer countries, and many find ways to

subsidise attendance at their meetings.

World Congresses have grown as the ISA has grown, and they are now very large meetings indeed, within which the RCs and other groups meet. Over time there has been a shift in the papers offered from ones focused on a limited number of themes, often commissioned, to a broader and less elitist structure. What from one point of view is an opening up from another is fragmentation; certainly it can no longer be possible for anyone to know most of those present, or easily to have a sense of a unified body with a shared agenda. The policy is to hold Congresses in a wide range of countries, but not many cities can easily provide the facilities for such a large meeting, and not every national association and discipline has the resources to staff its organisation; the need to find some local financial support also sets limits. The practical range of countries available is thus relatively small. However, the list of countries used so far shows a pattern of moving outwards from the original European centre. It is widely felt that one latent function of World Congresses is to raise the profile of sociology where they are held, and that they have in that way promoted its development.

Governance and administration

ISA has usually been in financial difficulties. It certainly has not helped that for some associational members the payment has been made in principle rather than in practice - the records show, for instance, that some member associations paid no dues for years on end. They were still, however, retained on the books as members, so the principle of universal coverage was treated as of overriding importance. (In 1970 it was agreed that stronger associations should pay higher subscriptions; in token of size and/or Cold War relations the USSR and the American Sociological Association each paid more than any other member.) UNESCO has had many other calls on its budget, and rules which prevent it from funding routine expenses; approaches to foundations have been made without success. Individual members have an understandable reluctance to pay much for what may be a rather small visible personal advantage, and to subsidise activities in which they do not take part. Without an appropriate budget to support office staff and the organisation of publications, meetings and other member services, there are strict limits to what can be done.

In the 1950s, very practical considerations were relevant. In those early postwar days, with much less developed air transport and many currency difficulties even when money from the home country was available, there were severe difficulties in organising any globally international meeting. The ISA could hardly afford even the expenses of executive members in attending meetings. Thus the records show frequent discussions about how economies could be made by arranging for the same person to represent two organisations, or to act as representative for one at two different meetings in the same place, or about the possibility of finding someone from further afield who would be passing through Europe anyway and could be used as a representative. Proximity to Paris, where UNESCO was based, was a not insignificant factor. In those circumstances the refinements of formal democracy were impracticable. Formal democracy did not necessarily have much practical reality; the minutes show that those who were actually able to attend committee meetings were almost invariably only a subset of their members - a problem not wholly overcome even now - and many matters had to be decided by ad hoc subcommittees of those actually in a position to meet and maintain regular contact. The situation has not been so serious more recently, but financial constraints still set real limits to what can be done.

The original formal structure of the ISA provided for a Council of national representatives, plus the officers. The growing role of RCs led to pressure for their inclusion in associational

decision-making, and eventually to provision for their representation in the ISA's governance. An internal ISA memo pointed out that '...the representatives appointed by the national associations are often only marginally interested in international cooperation while the most active internationalists in our Research Committees have little or no chance to get on our Council.' (8)

The constitutional reforms of 1970 created the Research Council, which elected members to the central Executive Council, to represent them; in 1994, a further revision of the Statutes put RCs on a par with national associations in the Assembly of Councils and gave their representatives the right to vote for the officers of the ISA, and to choose a Vice-President. National representative have often complained that they play little practical role in decision-making, and are inadequately informed; this is probably inevitable given the infrequency with which meetings can be held in any worldwide body. Much of the daily running of the association must be in the hands of the officers and the administrative office. For many years the administrative office was directed by a voluntary Executive Secretary who was a sociologist continuing to hold another job, and was subsidised to varying extents from local sources in the country where the office was located; the office moved at regular intervals. Since 1987 there has been a professional secretariat based in Madrid.

When, in 1970, individual membership became available to any sociologist who wanted to join, it made evident within the ISA's own structure what everyone of course knew, which was that some countries had many times more sociologists than others had, and that in particular the USA had more than anywhere else. The American Sociological Association has repeatedly complained about the lack of 'democracy' in the ISA's governance; most recently, it was the one national association to vote against the proposal to set up the Assembly of Councils, on the ground that it favoured a one person/one vote model. Understandably, the ASA line has been opposed by national associations which benefited from the alternative system and/or by those concerned on either professional or political grounds about US hegemony, as well as by those who see the ISA's distinctive functions as better served by a system which ensures wide national representation even if that means that votes do not correspond to numbers of individuals. (9)

ISA and internationalism

How truly international has ISA been? Although complete figures have not yet been found, some indicators are available of the range of regional and national participation in different ISA activities:

World Congresses

The number of countries represented among those attending has risen from 30 at the first to 82 at Bielefeld in 1994. Naturally the country in which the Congress is held, and its immediate neighbours, are always exceptionally heavily represented; hence sharp fluctuations in the proportions from Europe and North America have depended on the venue. (Congresses have been held consecutively in Switzerland, Belgium, Netherlands, Italy, USA, France, Bulgaria, Canada, Sweden, Mexico, India, Spain and

Germany.) The table below summarises the main regional patterns at approximately equal intervals, except that data for the 1980s were not available.

The countries which have had the highest proportions of those attending over the years are the USA, Germany, France, Britain and Italy.

Individual membership

Attendance at selected World Congresses

	1956 Amsterdam	1966 Evian	1974 Toronto*	1994 Bielefeld
N. America	11%	18%	54%	21%
W. Europe	69%	63%	24%	50%
E./Central Europe	9%	13%	10%	11%
Latin America	4%	2%	4%	5%
Other	5%	4%	8%	13%
Total	487	2074	2681	3678

* 272 participants of unrecorded nationality are excluded from these figures.

Available figures for this are scarcer and, unfortunately, do not use exactly the same regional breakdowns. For the two years where some acceptable figures are so far to hand, the pattern is shown in the table below. (It is likely that the reversal of the positions of N. America and W. Europe shown there relates only to the location of the preceding World Congresses.) Leading individual countries have been the USA and Canada, followed in the more recent year by Germany, Britain, The Netherlands, France and Italy.

Individual membership

	1977	1995
N. America	53%	28%
W. Europe	29%	44%
East/Central Europe	3%	8%
Latin America	4%	5%
Other	12%	13%

Officers and executive members

The number of individuals who have filled these positions over the whole life of the ISA has been recorded, counting again when they have filled another position, and here the pattern does not closely follow the proportions recorded above, although the USA is again in the lead with 17. Next, however, are Britain with 14, France, India and Italy with 11, Germany and Poland with 10, Japan with 9, Sweden and the USSR with 7. (The consecutive Executive Secretaries have been from Norway, Britain, Belgium, Switzerland, Italy, Canada, Netherlands and Poland; until the most recent period, the administrative office has followed the Executive Secretary, or vice versa.)

When the numbers involved are so small, the personal characteristics of the individuals are also relevant. It is striking how many of the most prominent figures in the ISA have had careers which are highly international, both personally and intellectually. A few examples will illustrate this. Stein Rokkan of Norway studied at the universities of Columbia and LSE; then at the Oslo Institute for Social Research, where research was regularly guided by American visitors, he worked on several internationally comparative projects; he continued to research on comparative politics, and played a key role in establishing the international network of data archives. René König had a French mother and a German father, lived as a child in Italy, Spain and Poland, studied Oriental languages in Vienna, then worked in Switzerland and the USA before ending in Germany (König 1973). Jacques Dofny was of Belgian origin, served in the US army in the war, and studied in England and Germany before working in Paris and Québec (Gervais 1991). There was a generation for whom wartime experience, as soldier, exile or allied researcher was crucial in establishing international contacts. (10) One may speculate how important this was for the early atmosphere of the ISA; one may also wonder if there is not some tension between such rich personal backgrounds and the idea of national representation.

It is obvious that the size of a country's population and higher education, the age and institutionalisation of its sociology, and the incomes of its academics, have something to do with the patterns shown in these figures, but those cannot account for everything. For the activities involving larger numbers, geopolitical considerations have also been relevant. Some aspects of ISA activity respond to much larger social movements than those internal to sociological associations, playing out on a smaller stage developments on the larger one. An important step forward was made when the Stalinist suppression of sociology ended, though participation from E. Europe was for a long time constrained; since 1989 it has burgeoned. The emergence into the world forum of the successful economies of the Pacific region, and of less developed countries, have begun to make their mark. For elected posts, in pursuit of ISA's mission special efforts have been made to encourage representation of underrepresented regions, and anecdotal evidence suggests that when elections were held voting has often been affected by the political rather than professional characteristics of the candidates.

The language issue, obviously relevant to cross-national participation, has always been to some extent problematic within ISA. There have never been the funds for simultaneous translation, so decisions have always had to be made to use in practice only a limited number of languages. At the period when it was set up, the tradition of French as the language of diplomacy still held, and the UNESCO office was in Paris; US hegemony was becoming established in the postwar settlement in Europe, and the British colonial record had left its linguistic mark; French and English became the only official languages. (This of course also reflected the history of sociology, from which the obviously missing languages are German and perhaps Italian - the languages of countries defeated in the war.) The only addition to this has been Spanish, added after the 1990 World Congress was held in Madrid and there were strong local feelings of exclusion expressed in student demonstrations. The ISA's practice since then has followed the rest of the world in favouring English as the language of international communication, though French resistance to this trend is well known; English has remained the working language of the association's office and committees, and is much the most commonly used at scientific meetings. Recent e mail responses to President Wallerstein's letter to members suggest that much opinion favours the use of a single language for practical convenience, even if for many members it is not their first language.

It seems reasonable to suggest that, though ISA has not been totally representative of the world's nations, it has moved a fair way in the direction of true internationalism insofar as the many practical constraints of its situation permit. It also seems probable that it has promoted a much higher and more diverse level of cross-national contact and sociological activity than would otherwise have occurred.

The historical work on which this article is based has only started and will, it is hoped, be developed much further. The sources on which it should depend are, in the nature of things, scattered. Jennifer Platt will very much appreciate any comments, contributions of material on which she can draw, or information which readers can provide about sources published or archival, especially when those relate to the role of the ISA in particular national sociologies, or to the role of national or research groups within the ISA.

Sources

This article draws heavily on the pioneering work of Kurt Jonassohn, to whom I am grateful for his cooperation. The archival sources mentioned in footnotes come from the archive of ISA papers deposited at the Internationaal Instituut voor Sociale Geschiedenis in Amsterdam (IISG), to whom I am most grateful for their skilled assistance. Some more diffuse references draw on material in the UNESCO archive at the UNESCO HQ in Paris. Figures are compiled from multiple sources, including the Transactions of the early World Congresses and reports in various issues of the *ISA Bulletin*.

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Notes

- (1) Bottomore to Friedmann, 22 Sep. 1954, ISA box 14, Jan.-Mar. 1954, IISG.
- (2) 'Report on the first conference of the IAS', 1949: 4, ISA box 44/2, IISG.
- (3) Correspondence in the ISA's archives shows an attempt by

UNESCO to impose its general policy of non-recognition of the Taiwan regime in favour of mainland China. This was described by Reuben Hill, then President of ISA, as:

'...a curious directive...attempting to coerce our voluntary international association to follow the same principles of membership of political states as UNESCO does...' (ISA, box 44/1, Hill to Martinotti 25 Jan. 1974, IISG)

On this occasion ISA appears to have succeeded in maintaining its independence.

(4) Space does not permit a full account here of all the ISA's activities, so the decision has been made to omit those of more regional or specialist character.

(5) Initially, there was ISA activity connected with the teaching of sociology, intended to diffuse good practice and to assist countries which were developing their first courses; more recently this has ceased.

(6) This is to be expected for a journal which covers a different specialist topic in each issue.

(7) There is a formal distinction between RCs and Working Groups and Thematic Groups, but the latter two are essentially of the same type, if less developed, so they are not separately discussed.

(8) Memo from President and Executive Secretary to Council members, ISA/CM/70-4, box 32/2, folder 'Proposed amendments to ISA statutes', IISG

(9) For a valuable discussion of these and related issues, see Oommen 1994.

(10) Jan Szczepanski (Szczepanski 1973) and T. H. Marshall (Marshall 1973) gained formative foreign experience as a forced labourer and as a prisoner of war respectively.

Call for Participation and Papers

Competition on Girls and Young Women and the Women's Movement.

ISA Research Committee on Women in Society (RC32) is organising a world competition to stimulate the formation of comparative studies on the changing position of women throughout the developing world. Papers are invited that elaborate a conceptual framework dealing with the effects of the women's movement at bringing about change in the cultural, religious, ethnic and national political spheres as these involve or influence girls and young women.

The essay should highlight the conditions under which girls and young women move toward a position of autonomy within households. It should consider the effects of the demands of the women's movement on the changing ways in which girls and young women deal with sexuality and reproduction. It should consider both the appeal of and the rejection of the women's movement by girls and young women. You may wish to place the essay within the context of global restructuring.

The purpose of the competition is to stimulate the participation of new researchers from indigenous groups to developing countries particularly those from remote regions as well as those who have had little opportunity to engage in world meetings.

An International Jury will be established by RC32. because of the financial and resource constraints of this project, the competition will not consider

pages that have more than 6,000 words or about 20 pages of text, plus 10 pages maximum of references and footnotes. Papers must be typed in standard pitch and be double spaced. Given the communication needs of this project and the lack of translation resources, papers must be submitted in English. Since papers will be judged anonymously, your name, address, phone, fax numbers, e-mail address (if relevant) and the paper's title should be submitted on a separate page. The paper's title but not your name should be at the top of the paper.

Papers will be evaluated on the basis of their use of sociology to work out gender questions; their conceptual innovation; their way of developing the arguments; the possibility of the use in a comparative international framework; and their potential to be operationalized for use in a future comparative research project. Papers that are not on the topic as outlined in paragraph one (and elaborated on in paragraph 2) will not be considered. Results will be announced early in 1998. The sociologists whose papers are chosen will be invited to present their papers in Montreal, Canada, at the ISA World Congress of Sociology, July 26 - August 1, 1998. Although funding cannot be promised, RC32 will provide support to help the winners find resources to attend this meeting. It is anticipated that winners will also participate in a pre-conference seminar before the ISA meeting will continue work on the planning of a comparative research project.

Papers should be received by June 1st, 1997, at: International Competition on Gender and Development, c/o Department of Sociology, University of Ottawa, Box 450, Station A, Ottawa, Ontario K1N 6N5,

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Calendar of Future Events

Note: For more details on the conferences organized by the Research Committees, Working and Thematic Groups see ISA Home Page at <http://www.ucm.es/OTROS/isa>

January 20-22, 1997

RC01 Armed Forces and Conflict Resolution

Place: Modena, Italy

Theme: Interim meeting on Armed Forces and Conflict Resolution in the Post-Cold War World

Information: David Segal, Dept Sociology, Univ Maryland, College Park, MD 20740-1315, USA, Fax: 1-301-3146892, Email: segal@bss1.umd.edu

March 1997

RC41 Sociology of Population

Place: Costa Rica

Theme: Mid-term conference

Information: RC Secretary, James Derry, Dept Communication, Utah State Univ, 553 East 1200 North, Logan, UT 84321, USA, Fax: 1-801-7973973, Email: derry@cc.ucu.edu

March 19-22, 1997

23rd Annual Third World Conference

Place: Swissotel, Chicago, IL, USA

Theme: Connecting Theory and Practice for the Emerging Global Changes into the 21st Century

Information: Roger Oden & Winberg Chai, 1507 E 53rd Street, suite 305, Chicago, IL 60615-4509, USA, tel: 1-312-2416688, fax: 1-312-2417898, Email: r-oden@govst.edu

March 20-22, 1997

RC24 Environment and Society

Place: Woudschoten, The Netherlands

Theme: Sociological Theory and the Environment

Information: August Gijswijt, SISWO, Plantage Muidergracht 4, 1018 TV Amsterdam, The Netherlands, fax: 31-20-6229430, Email: gijswijt@siswo.uva.nl

March 25-27, 1997

ISA Regional Conference: Southern Asia

Place: Mumbai, India

Organizer: Partha N. Mukherjee, India

Information: M.L. Moran, Dept Sociology, Univ Complutense, 28223 Madrid, Spain, Fax: 34-1-3524945, Email: soso104@sis.ucm.es

April 7-10, 1997

British Sociological Association Annual Conference

Place: University of York, UK

Theme: Power / Resistance

Information: 1997 BSA Conference, Unit 3G, Mountjoy Research Centre, Stockton Road, Durham DH1 3UR, UK

April 25-27, 1997

The Gypsy Lore Society Annual Meeting

Place: Boston University, Boston, USA

Information: Sheila Salo, Gypsy Lore Society, 5607 Greenleaf Road, Cheverly, MD 20785, USA, Email: ssalo@capaccess.org

May 18-20, 1997

RC28 Social Stratification

Place: Tel Aviv, Israel

Theme: Inequality in Immigrant and Multi-ethnic Societies

Information: RC28 Secretary, H.B.G. Ganzeboom, Dept Sociology, Univ Utrecht, POB 80140, 3508 TC Utrecht, The Netherlands, Fax: 31-30-2534405, Email: ganzeboom@cc.ruu.nl

May 18-23, 1997

RC06 Family Research

Place: Jerusalem, Israel

Theme: XXXIV CFR Seminar on Family, Household and Community

Information: Yochanan Peres, Tel-Aviv Univ, Ramat-Aviv, 69978 Tel-Aviv, POB 39040, Israel, Fax: 972-3-6429215

May 28-31, 1997

RC26 Sociotechnics, Sociological Practice

Place: Chania, Crete

Theme: Mid-term conferences on Global to Local Governance: Policy Development

Information: George Tsobanoglou, Univ Thessaloniki, Greece, Fax: 30-31-992094, Email: geotso@jour.auth.gr

May 29 - June 1, 1997

Law and Society Association Annual Meeting

Place: St. Louis, Missouri, USA

Theme: Violence: The Interaction of Law, Social Relations, and the State

Information: Law & Society Assoc, Hampshire House, Box 33615, Univ of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003-3615, USA, fax: 1-413-5451640, Email: isa@legal.umass.edu

June 1-5, 1997

World Congress on Action Research, Action Learning and Process Management

Place: Cartagena, Colombia

Theme: Convergence in Knowledge, Space and Time

Main subjects: (1) Action research within and for people: Construction of democratic societies and cultures; Theory and practice. (2) Action learning: Creation, transmission and utilization of knowledge. (3) Process management: System building for socioeconomic, industrial and ecologic administration.

Information: Executive Committee World Congress 4/8, Apartado A.52508, Bogotá 2, Colombia, Fax: 57-1-3687471, Email: elleras@uniandes.edu.co and ofalsb@bacata.usc.unal.edu.co

June 11-14, 1997

RC43 Housing & the Built Environment

Place: Alexandria, Virginia, USA

Theme: Housing in the 21st Century: Looking Forward

Information: Edward Goetz, Univ Minnesota, Housing Program, 240 McNeal Hall, St. Paul, MN 55108, USA, Fax: 1-612-6242750, Email: egoetz@che2.che.umn.edu

June 11-13, 1997

2nd International Conference of the Association of Genocide Scholars

Place: Montreal, Canada

Theme: Genocide and the Modern World

Information: Roger W. Smith, Dept Government, College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA 23187, USA

June 12-14, 1997

RC38 Biography and Society

Place: Moscow, Russia

Theme: The Role of Interpretation in Biographical Research

Information: RC38 President, Kathy Davis, Fac Social Sciences, Univ Utrecht, POB 80140, 3508 TC Utrecht, The Netherlands, Fax:

31-30-2535551, Email: davis@fsw-extern.fsw.ruu.nl

June 13-15, 1997

ISA Regional Conference: Nordic Europe

Place: Copenhagen, Denmark

Organizer: Peter Gundelach, Denmark

Information: M.L. Moran, Dept Sociology, Univ Complutense, 28223 Madrid, Spain, Fax: 34-1-3524945, Email: soso104@sis.ucm.es

June 16-18, 1997

RC04 Sociology of Education

Place: Joensuu, Finland

Theme: Mid-term conference on Education, Knowledge and Culture

Information: Leena Koski, Dept Sociology, Univ Joensuu, POB 111, 80101 Joensuu, Finland, Fax: 358-13-2512714, Email: leena.koski@joensuu.fi

June 20-22, 1997

ISA Regional Conference: Mediterranean

Place: Istanbul, Turkey

Organizer: Caglar Keyder, Turkey

Information: M.L. Moran, Dept Sociology, Univ Complutense, 28223 Madrid, Spain, Fax: 34-1-3524945, Email: soso104@sis.ucm.es

Junio 25-28, 1997

RC10 Subcomité Iberoamericano

Lugar: Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, España

Tema: X Seminario Internacional sobre Educación y Formación para la Participación en las organizaciones

Información: Angela García Cabrera, Depto Psicología y Sociología, Univ de Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Sta. Juana de Arco 1, 35004 Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, España, Fax: 34-28-452880, Email: agarcia@agc1.ext.ulpgc.es

July 3-5, 1997

RC02 Economy and Society

Place: Montreal, Canada

Theme: International Conference on Knowledge, Economy and Society

Information: Arnaud Sales, GRETSE, Univ Montreal, CP 6128, Succ A, Montreal, Que H3C 3J7, Canada, Fax: 1-514-3435722, Email: sales@ere.umontreal.ca

July 4-7, 1997

International Association for Media and Communication Research

Place: Oaxaca, Mexico

Theme: New Information Technologies, Globalization and Multi Cultural Societies

Information: Hamid Mowlana, School Int'l Service, American Univ, 4400 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20016, USA, tel: 1-202-8851628, fax: 1-202-8852494, Email: mowlana@american.edu

July 6-11, 1997

World Federation of Mental Health World Congress

Place: Lahti, Finland

Information: Finnish Asso Mental Health, Lauttasaarenti 28-20, 00200 Helsinki, Finland, Fax: 358-9-6924065

July 7-9, 1997

ISA Regional Conference: Latin America

Place: Colonia Tovar, Venezuela

Organizer: Heniz Sonntag, Roberto Briceño-León, Venezuela
Information: M.L. Moran, Dept Sociology, Univ Complutense,
28223 Madrid, Spain, Fax: 34-1-3524945, Email:
soso104@sis.ucm.es

July 20-22, 1997

RC21 Sociology of urban and Regional Development

Place: Berlin, Germany
Theme: Cities in Transition
Information: Hartmut Haeussermann, Sozialwissenschaften,
Humboldt Univ, Unter den Linden 6, 10099 Berlin, Germany, Fax:
49-30-20934213, Email: hartmut.haeussermann@sowi.hu-berlin.de

August 1997

ISA Regional Conference: North America

Place: Toronto, Canada
Organizer: Janet Abu-Lughood
Information: M.L. Moran, Dept Sociology, Univ Complutense,
28223 Madrid, Spain, Fax: 34-1-3524945, Email:
soso104@sis.ucm.es

August 1997

RC09 Social Practice and Social Transformation

Place: Toronto, Canada
Theme: RC09 Second Regional Conference on Social Change and
Transformations, Global Restructuring and Beyond
Information: Mustafa Koc, Dept Sociology, Reuerson Univ, 350
Victoria St, Toronto, Ont M5B 2K3, Canada, Fax: 1-416-9795273,
Email: mkoc@acs.ryerson.ca

August 6-7, 1997

ISA Research Council Meeting

Place: Montreal, Canada
Theme: Major Advances and Challenges in Sociology in the 1990s.
Information: International Sociological Association, Faculty of
Political Sciences and Sociology, University Complutense, 28223
Madrid, Spain, tel: 34-1-3527650, fax: 34-1-3524945, Email:
isa@sis.ucm.es

August 8-10, 1997

Association for the Sociology of Religion Annual Meeting

Place: Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Theme: Modeling Diversity, Understanding Religious Ecologies
Information: Nancy L. Eiesland, Candler School of Theology, Emory
Univ, Atlanta GA 30322, USA, Fax: 1-404-7272915, Email:
neiesla@emply.edu

August 14-15, 1997

RC28 Social Stratification

Place: Quebec City, Canada
Theme: Changing Patterns of Stratification and Mobility
Information: RC28 Secretary, H.B.G. Ganzeboom, Dept Sociology,
Univ Utrecht, POB 80140, 3508 TC Utrecht, The Netherlands, Fax:
31-30-2534405, Email: ganzeboom@cc.ruu.nl

August 17-21, 1997

International Political Science Association

XVII World Congress
Place: Seoul, Korea
Theme: Conflict and Order
Information: John Coakley, IPSA Secretary General, Dept Politics,
Univ College Dublin, Belfield, Dublin 4, Ireland, Fax: 353-1-7081171

August 17-21, 1997

World Congress on Violence and Human Coexistence

Place: Dublin, Ireland
Information: Jessica Bates, Univ College Dublin D4, Ireland, fax:
353-1-7061125, Email: jess.bates@ucd.ie

August 21-14, 1997

RC19 Poverty, Social Welfare and Social Policy

Place: Copenhagen, Denmark
Theme: Mid-term conference
Information: RC19 Secretary, Karl Hinrichs, Cntr Social Policy
Research, Univ Bremen, Parkallee 39, 28209 Bremen, Germany,
Fax: 49-421-2184052, Email: hinrichs@zes.uni-bremen.de

August 27-30, 1997

III Conference of the European Sociological Association

Place: University of Essex, Colchester (London), UK
Theme: 20th Century Europe: Inclusion/Exclusion
Thematic sessions: Revisiting Classical Theory; Globalization;
Work, Welfare and Citizenship; European Process, Boundaries and
Institutions; Inequalities Old and New; Cultures and identities.
Information: ESA Conference, Dept Sociology, Univ Essex,
Wivenhoe Park, Colchester, Essex C04 3SQ, UK, Fax: 44-206-
873410, Email: esa97@essex.ac.uk

August 30-31, 1997

RC07 International Seminar

Place: Kyoto, Japan
Theme: Trends of Life in the 21st Century
Information: Reimon Bachika, Dept Sociology, Bukkyo Univ,
Murakino Kitanobocho 96, Kita-ku, kyoto 603, Japan, fax: 78-
2521337, tel: 78-2713276

September 22-25, 1997

Tenth Polish Sociological Congress

Place: Katowice, Poland
Theme: Changing Society in Local and Global Perspectives
Poland has opened up to the rest of the world and, along with other
countries in East and Central Europe, has taken the road leading
to transnational structures. These processes depend not only on
economic achievements and political decisions. They are
determined by social factors as well. Once set in motion, they are
leading to significant social changes in Poland. These changes are
cultural, civilizational and psychological and will ultimately lead to
alterations in the national consciousness. By opening up to others,
Poland is also affecting others - neighbouring societies in particular.
The changes which are taking place in Poland have their specific
Polish sources and are proceeding according to their own
idiosyncratic course. Nevertheless, they are also a part of larger
processes in East and Central Europe and have their counterparts
in other regions of the world. The changes which are taking place
in Poland cannot be understood without a wider comparative
backdrop. Their analysis has also universal meaning. The
systematic description and theoretical analysis of these processes
are the basic objectives of Tenth Polish Sociological Congress.
Information: The Polish Sociological Association (PTS), Nowy Swiat
72, 00-330 Warszawa, Poland, fax: (48-22) 267737.

September 1997

RC07 Futures Research

Place: Bukkyo Univ, Kyoto, Japan
Theme: The Future of Religion and Traditional Culture
Information: Reimon Bachika, Bukkyo Univ, 96 Murakino,
Kitanobo-cho, Kita-ku, Kyoto 603, Japan, Fax: 81-78-2521337

September 15-19, 1997

TG02 Sociocybernetics & Social System Theory

Place: Madrid, Spain

Theme: Sustainable Development: Towards measuring the Performance on Integrated Socioeconomic and Environmental Systems (jointly with World Association for Case Method Research)
Information: Francisco Parra-Luna, Dept Sociology I, Univ Complutense, 28223 Madrid, Spain, Fax: 34-1-3942901, Email: parralun@luznet.es

September 22-26, 1997

RC06 Family Research

Place: Strobl/Wolfgangsee, Austria

Theme: XXXV CFR Seminar on Cultural Diversities in Family, Partnership and Generational Situations
Information: Rudolf Richter, Dept Sociology, Univ Vienna, Neutorgasse 12/9, 1013 Vienna, Austria, Fax: 43-1-5336592, Email: rudolf.richter@univie.ac.at

October 1997

ISA Regional Conference: Portuguese-speaking World

Place: Azores, Portugal

Organizer: Ana Nunes de Almeida, Portugal

Information: M.L. Moran, Dept Sociology, Univ Complutense, 28223 Madrid, Spain, Fax: 34-1-3524945, Email: soso104@sis.ucm.es

October 10, 1997

RC41 Sociology of Population

Place: Beijing, China

Theme: Workshop preceding IUSSP Population Conference
Information: RC Secretary, Dudley Poston, Dept Sociology, Texas A&M Univ, College Station, TX 77843, USA, Fax: 1-409-8624057, Email: dudley@tamuv1.tamu.edu

October 11-17, 1997

XXIII General Population Conference

Place: Beijing, China

Information: International Union for the Scientific Study of Population, 34 rue des Augustinas, 4000 Liège, Belgium, fax: 32-41-223847, Email: fdevpop@vm.ulg.ac.be

December 18-20, 1997

Norbert Elias Centenary Conference

Place: Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Theme: organizational Violence: The Formation and Breakdown of Monopolies of Force Conditions and Consequences
Information: Judith van Rooyen, SISWO, Plantage Muidergracht 4, 1018 TV Amsterdam, The Netherlands, Fax: 31-20-6229430, Email: rooyen@siswo.uva.nl

January 7-9, 1998

RC28 Social Stratification

Place: Taipei, Taiwan

Theme: Social Stratification and Social Mobility: The New Industrializing Economies.

Information: RC28 Secretary, H.B.G. Ganzeboom, Dept Sociology, Univ Utrecht, POB 80140, 3508 TC Utrecht, The Netherlands, Fax: 31-30-2534405, Email: ganzeboom@cc.ruu.nl

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Each issue of *Current Sociology* is devoted to a comprehensive Trend Report on a topic of interest to the international community of sociologists. Authors review current trends in all areas of sociological work - theories, methods, concepts, substantive research and national or regional developments. The aim is to analyze ongoing controversies and new tendencies, sketch desirable lines of future work and provide extensive bibliographies. From time to time commentaries on Trend Reports are published in subsequent issues of the journal.

Since its inception in 1952, *Current Sociology* has published Trend Reports by some of the world's leading sociologists, such as S.M. Miller's classic on *Comparative Social Mobility* (1960). More recently, the journal has covered topics of growing importance with the discipline such as the sociology of law, the sociology of the body, economic sociology, and the sociology of legitimation.

Issues are published in French or English, but a text

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Members of the ISA will receive their copies of *Current Sociology* at a discount, if pre-paid, from the ISA Secretariat.

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Recent issues

Vol. 44, No. 3, Winter 1996:

(i) **Political Sociology at the Crossroads** edited by **BARUCH KIMMERLING**

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Selection and coverage: three types of journals have been distinguished in the following order of priority:

Type 1 - journals published by sociological associations, groups, faculties and institutes, and periodicals containing the word 'sociology' in their titles. These are abstracted fully, irrespective of language of publication.

Type 2 - journals from such related areas as anthropology, economics, education, medicine, community development, philosophy, statistics, political science, etc. Such journals are abstracted selectively.

Type 3 - journals from the humanities and journals

of general circulation wherein scholars and laymen publish discussions or criticism of sociology and sociological topics. These journals are abstracted selectively.

Publishers and editors are urged to send copies of new publications for abstracting.

Other services and publications available:

- Information entered into the database since 1963 is available online from the following commercial information services: BRS, DIALOG, Data-Star, DIMDI, and EPIC.

- A subset of **sociological abstracts** contains journals abstracts entered since 1974 and dissertation listing from 1985 onward, is available on the **sociofile** compact disc.

- **Social Planning/Policy, and Development Abstracts (SOPODA)**, published biannually since 1980, offers practitioners and social problems researchers access to in-depth abstracts of the journal literature in their areas of vital concern. **SOPODA** is also available online and on CD-ROM as a subfile of the **sa** database.

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- **SOCIOLOGY*Express** provides rapid and efficient document delivery of articles cited in **sa** and **SOPODA**.

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- *The User's Reference Manual* provides detailed information on article classification, editorial and indexing practices, host-system search guides to simplify online searching, and a listing of journals screened.

- **sociosearch** offers custom searches of the **sa** database in response to individual requests.

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INTERNATIONAL REVIEW OF SOCIOLOGY / REVUE INTERNATIONALE DE SOCIOLOGIE

The International Review of Sociology / La Revue internationale de sociologie is the world's oldest journal in the field of sociology, founded in 1893 by René Worms and currently owned by the University of Rome. Since 1997 published in association with the ISA.

Its editorial policy is to favour an inter-disciplinary approach to the study of social activity, drawing on

economics, history, demography, anthropology and social psychology. It disseminates the results of interdisciplinary research across the boundaries of disciplines, continents and cultures in either English or French.

Information on submitting manuscripts for publication or proposals for thematic issues can be obtained from **IRS Editor: Mino Vianello**

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The books contain a selection of papers chosen for their scientific quality, their international representativeness and their relevance to the various debates currently taking place in the discipline. Proposals should be submitted to the Editor.

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3. Standard length of papers is 6000 words, but shorter contributions are also welcomed. They should be typed, double spaced on one side of paper with margins of 3 cm.

4. Two copies should be submitted (although one will be sufficient). They will not normally be returned, so authors should ensure they keep a copy.

5. Title, author's name, full address and brief biographical note should be typed on a separate sheet.

6. An Abstract of 100-200 words should also be typed on a separate sheet.

7. Figures, maps and diagrams should be precisely and boldly drawn to permit photographic reproduction. Use single quotation marks (except for quotes within quotes).

8. Notes should appear at the end of the text. Referencing in the text should be as follows: (Archer 1982: 157).

Recommended style for the bibliography is:

ARCHER, M.S. ed. 1982. *The Sociology of Educational Expansion*. London: Sage.
SAYAD, A. 1984. 'Tendances et courants des publications en sciences sociales sur

'Immigration en France depuis 1960'. *Current Sociology* 32: 219-304.

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Crisis and Transformation

ROBERT J. BRYM: The Ethic of Self-Reliance and the Spirit of Capitalism in Russia.

STJEPAN ORESKOVIC: The New World Order: Nosological Principles and Epidemiological Techniques from Comte to Huntington.

JON MULBERG: Environmental Planning, Economic Planning and Political Economy.

FEIWEL KUPFERBERG: Strategic Learning: East Germany as a 'Model Case' for Transformation Theory.

E.L. QUARANTELLI: Basic Themes Derived from Survey Findings on Human Behavior in the Mexico City Earthquake. Résumés/Resúmenes

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