

Research Committee on Sociology of Urban and Regional Development RC21

Statutes

Revised 2002, 2010

I. NAME

The Research Committee on the *Sociology of Urban and Regional Development* is referred to hereinafter as RC21.

II. NATURE OF RC21

- i. RC21 has been established in accordance with Article Four of the ISA statutes adopted in August 1993.
- ii. RC21 raises its funds by levying a subscription on its members, and in other ways.
- iii. RC21 administers its funds in accordance with Article Four of the ISA Statutes.

III. OBJECTIVES OF RC21

The objectives of the RC21 are:

- i. to promote the development of theory and research in the sociology of urban and regional development;
- ii. to create an international community among scholars in the field of sociology of urban and regional development.

IV. ACTIVITIES OF RC21

The activities of RC21 in pursuit of these objectives include, among other things:

- i. the publication of a Newsletter twice a year. The Newsletter might be substituted by new means of communication in accordance with ISA regulations;

- ii. the promotion of conferences and similar activities;
- iii. the provision of travel grants to members in good standing;
- iv. the promotion of comparative research;
- v. the encouragement of research networks and exchanges of information;
- vi. the promotion of Summer/Winter Schools targeted at young scholars and researchers.

V MEMBERSHIP

- i. Membership is open to all individuals and institutions working in the field of the sociology of urban and regional development and neighbour disciplines;
- ii. Membership can be distinguished into two types:
 - a) "*regular members in good standing*" are defined those members who paid membership fees to both RC21 and ISA;
 - b) "*affiliated members*" are defined those members who paid membership fees only to RC21.

This distinction applies to both individual and institutional members;

- iii. Regular members in good standing are entitled:
 - a) to receive travel grants made by RC21, subject to such rules of eligibility as are established by the officers or Board of RC21
 - b) to vote at the General Meeting of RC21 which usually takes place during ISA World Congresses or by electronic ballot.
- iv. All members are entitled to:
 - a) to receive the RC21 Newsletter and such other publications as RC21 may issue;
 - b) to obtain at reduced cost any publications on which RC21 has negotiated special rates for members.
- v. All members are obliged:
 - a) to observe the statutes of RC21;
 - b) to carry out conscientiously any tasks entrusted to them by the General Meeting or other competent bodies of RC21;

- c) to pay membership fees at the rates which are periodically fixed by the officers or Board of RC21.

VI. OFFICERS

i. The officers of RC21 are at present the President, up to five Vice-Presidents chosen to represent different geographical areas, Secretary (and Treasurer) and Newsletter Editor;

ii. The officers of RC21 shall carry out conscientiously the tasks entrusted to them by the Board of RC21;

iii. Among the tasks of the officers are:

- a) to be responsible for communications with the ISA;
- b) to be responsible for preparing a scientific programme for RC21 at the World Congress of Sociology;
- c) to arrange the General Meeting of RC21;
- d) to maintain a bank account;
- e) to execute all decisions and be responsible for the running of RC21 between General Meetings;
- f) to submit written reports on their activities at each General Meeting of RC21. These shall include reports on the Research Committee's activities, its Newsletter and its financial position;
- g) to organize a midterm conference between ISA World Congresses.

iv. The number of offices may be increased or decreased in order to maximize the effectiveness of the work of RC21.

v. Decisions on the number of officers shall be made either at the General Meeting, or, between General Meetings by the officers.

vi. Officers shall be elected at the General Meeting, see Art. VII.

vii. If any officer resigns or is unable to serve –including the president- then the remaining officers, with the advice of the Board, shall appoint a replacement.

VII. THE GENERAL MEETING

i. A general meeting of RC21 shall be held during each World Congress of Sociology.

ii. Its functions are:

- a) to receive reports on the work of RC21 since the last general meeting;
- b) to elect the Board and officers of RC21 if the election did not take place by electronic ballot;
- c) to give guidance regarding the work of RC21, by passing resolutions or by other means.

VIII THE BOARD OF RC21

i. The Board consists of:

- a) two ex-officio members : the Editor of the International Journal or Urban and Regional Research and the immediate past President
- b) the elected officers: at present the President, up to five Vice-Presidents, Secretary, Newsletter Editor;
- c) Up to 12 ordinary members.

ii. The elected members of the Board of RC21 shall be elected as detailed in Art. IX.

iii. In accordance with Article 4.6 of the ISA Constitution, every member of the RC21 Board shall be a member of the ISA.

iv. Any change in the number of elected members on the Board shall be decided at the General Meeting but before the election takes place.

v. The officers shall be entitled to co-opt up to three members between General Meetings.

vi. In the case of resignation or inability to serve of a Board member, the officers have the power to co-opt a replacement.

vii. The functions of the Board are:

- a) to promote all the activities of RC21;
- b) to give advice to the officers on any matter;
- c) to co-organize a mid-term conference between World Congresses;
- d) to nominate the delegate and alternate to the Research Council Meetings;
- e) to nominate an RC21 representative on the board of the International Journal of Urban and Regional Research.

IX ELECTORAL PROCEDURES FOR THE ELECTED OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF RC21

- i. The election for Elected Officers and Board Members shall take place by electronic ballot or at the General Meeting.
- ii. All RC21 members in good standing shall be eligible to vote, either by electronic ballot or at the General Meeting in case elections did not take already place.
- iii. All nominations must be submitted to the President and the Secretary 3 months before the General Meeting, i.e. 3 months before the first day of the ISA World Congress. All nominations must bear the signatures of three RC21 members in good standing other than the nominee. E-mails supporting a candidate equal a signature. Candidates must submit a candidature statement and a short CV.
- iv. If no nominations have been received in time, the officers of RC21 shall be empowered to nominate officers and members of the Board.
- v. The quorum for the General Meeting shall be 20 members. The quorum for the electronic ballot is 50% of the members in good standing.
- vi. If the election is inquorate both at the electronic ballot and at the General meeting the officers, advised by the Board, shall designate a new Board and officers.
- vii. Voting shall be by secret ballot and might take place electronically.
- viii. In the election for ordinary elected members the n persons receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared elected. The figure n is identical to the number of ordinary members elected at the previous General Meeting, unless it has been changed by a motion passed subsequently. In the event of a tie, the choice among those receiving the same number of votes shall be decided by lot.

X. AMENDMENT OF STATUTES

- i. Any motion to amend the statutes shall be sent to all members in good standing by e-mail and to the Newsletter Editor for publication in the RC21 Newsletter.
- ii. Such motions should have the signatures of ten members of RC21 in good standing.

iii. Motions to amend the statutes will be considered at the General Meeting of the RC21, and come into effect if supported by a simple majority of those present.