

Newsletter
Summer 2014

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RC 09

Social Transformations and the Sociology of Development

a Research Committee of the
International Sociological Association



Remarks from Ulrike Schuerkens President of RC 09

Dear colleagues and friends,

I am glad to introduce the **RC 09 Summer Newsletter 2014**.

As usual, you will find information on new books, reviews, new publications of RC 09 members, and ongoing research projects, that was kindly prepared by Josh Dubrow, our newsletter editor. Furthermore, we suggest a new part where we give some information on national sections of sociology of development and/or social transformations.

In this Newsletter, we start with a presentation of the American Sociological Association's new journal, *Sociology of Development*. You are invited to submit papers to this new review. Other **presentations of national associations of the sociology of development and/or social transformations** are planned to follow. In this sense, we invite you to send us a short description of development sociology and/or social transformations in your country or region. Some questions to consider: Is there a section of development sociology and/or social transformations in your national sociological associ-

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Minutes of the RC09
Business Meeting 2014,
p. 3

New Journal Announcement, p.
5

Book Review, p. 6

Member Projects, p. 8

Member Books, p. 14

New Books on the Sociology of
Development, p. 18

Member Articles, p. 19

Member News, p. 21

New Membership Form,
p. 22

ation? If yes, please include in your presentation the website of this group. How many sociologists are members of this section? Who are the leading sociologists of development and/or social transformations in your region or country (please provide some information on publications and university belongings)? What are the universities that offer courses in the sociology of development and/or social transformations? How many students are enrolled in these programs? What are the leading course books? You may then give information on further related points so that RC 09 is able to include these overviews in future newsletters in order to cover countries and regions all over the world.

At the very stimulating **ISA Yokohama Congress**, RC 09 had 21 sessions (excluding the business meeting and including several joint sessions); 103 interesting papers were presented in a program that included regions and countries from all over the world and topics from a large spectrum of the sociology of development and social transformations.

We are now beginning to think on the **next ISA Forum, July 10th-17th, 2016 in Vienna, Austria** where RC 09 should have 14 sessions, including some regional roundtables. We hope that those of you who could not come to Yokohama (Japan) may be able to afford the voyage to a congress in a central European country.

Last but not least, we have included in this newsletter a **new membership form** that provides the **possibility to give donations** via the ISA office in Madrid to RC 09. The goal is to permit with this additional support of RC 09 members the creation of a **prize for a young sociologist's best paper** at an ISA Forum or an ISA World Congress. This prize may be introduced as soon as RC 09 finances permit this possibility.

Our interest in the sociology of development and social transformations is also linked to the **current changes in the multipolar global order** where the Ukraine crisis lets appear economic and political support of Russia by BRICS countries. At the 6th BRICS summit in July 2014 in Brazil, these countries rallied against the economic sanctions imposed by Western countries on Moscow so that it became obvious that the West is no longer the only force to set the international agenda even if Western media tend to ignore these facts. The financial markets and with them the global neoliberal economy closely follow the events in this region of Eastern Europe. It seems as if this conflict influences worldwide socio-economic situations not only in Europe that is most linked to Russia with its food imports but also in the U.S., Canada, and Australia. These events may have repercussions on such important topics in the research field of RC 09 as regional economic and employment situations, and political developments.

Finally, I wish those of you who start the academic year in September 2014 a successful and interesting beginning. I look forward to reading your reports on national/regional associations of the sociology of development and/or social transformations.

With my best wishes,

Ulrike Schuerkens

President ISA-RC 09

Minutes of the RC09 Business Meeting 2014

Prepared by Tamara HERAN

The RC09 Business Meeting took place on July 15, 2014 at the XVIII ISA World Congress of Sociology, Yokohama, Japan. The chairs of the Business Meeting were: Ulrike SCHUERKENS, RC 09 President and Habibul H. KHONDKER, RC 09 Vice-president. Persons present at the Business Meeting were: Alexander EBNER, Dieter NEUBERT, Freek CONJE, Jeffrey JACKSON, Jeffrey SWINDLE, Miguel SERNA, Mikko PERKIÖ, Rae BLUMBERG, Samuel COHN, Tamara HERAN, Tinashe KUSHATA, and Wolfram LAUBE.

Activity Report: Tamara HERAN began by presenting an update of the current membership list of RC 09. As of May, the committee has 172 members, an increase from 168 members in 2012 and from 135 members in 2010. 79 members are from 23 Category A countries (45%); 43 members are from 18 Category B countries (25%); and 50 members are from 12 Category C countries (30%). Ulrike SCHUERKENS presented some data on the participation of RC 09 in the Second ISA Forum of Sociology in Buenos Aires. RC 09 had 15 sessions (excluding the Business Meeting but including 6 joint sessions with RC 07, RC 13, RC 18, RC 31, RC 32) with 113 papers received. In the XVIII ISA World Congress of Sociology in Yokohama RC09 had 21 sessions (excluding Business meeting and including joint sessions) and 103 papers.

About RC 09 finances: Since August 28, 2008, USD 5200 have been collected at the ISA Secretariat for RC 09. Expenses were incurred for cocktails at the occasion of the last congress (2010) and the forum (2012). Moreover, the book "Socioeconomic Outcomes of the Financial Crisis" received a publication grant; and

flowers for the funeral of W. Spohn were bought. At the end of May 2014, RC09 had USD 1738. The possibility of receiving other incomes from donors or sponsors, in addition to the membership fee was discussed in the meeting.

About the Newsletter: Tamara HERAN informed the audience that in the period 2010-2014, 8 issues of the RC09 Newsletter were published, sent to the members and hosted on the ISA and the RC09 websites (Spring 2010, Fall 2010, Spring 2011, Winter 2011, Summer 2012, Fall 2012, Summer 2013, Fall/Winter 2013/2014). Thus, RC 09 has published two newsletters each year.

Junior Sociologist Grant: Ulrike SCHUERKENS and Habibul KHONDKER have proposed to establish a grant for Junior Sociologists presenting in RC09 sessions at the Forum or the Congress that could be financed from an enlarged (donors) RC09 budget. The possibility of granting an amount around USD 700, for travel assistance to ISA Congresses for Junior Sociologist presenting a paper in a RC09 session was discussed. Junior Sociologists could apply for this grant and the best paper could then be selected. The participants of the business meeting agreed on this proposal and suggested trying and testing this strategy provided that the budget of RC 09 is increased.

Next ISA Forum and Congress: Ulrike SCHUERKENS informed the audience that RC 09 will have 14 sessions during the next ISA Forum of Sociology in 2016 in Vienna, Austria. As the number of sessions is rather limited, it was suggested to organize a roundtable session that Habibul KHONDKER would chair (based on regional principles) and a poster session. A possible topic for a roundtable session would be: "Globalization: Social Transformations and Sociology of Development." The next ISA World Congress of Sociology will take place in 2018 in Toronto, Canada.

Succession of the RC 09 Board: Ulrike SCHUERKENS and Habibul KHONDKER noted that according to the statutes of the Research committee, the next RC09 board elections will take place in September. These elections will be held electronically. Both mentioned that it was for them a great pleasure and great honor to chair this committee, and therefore, they would like to continue for a further period as co-chairs. Further board members that were suggested are Dieter NEUBERT (Bayreuth, Germany) and Alexander EBNER

(Frankfurt, Germany). Nina Bandelj, Fred Wherry and Nicolai Genov will again stand for the Board Membership. Tamara Heran and Josh Dubrow have suggested that they are interested to continue as secretary/treasurer and newsletter/website editor. The committee members will be informed timely of these elections.

Other activities: Samuel COHN, from Texas A&M University and Rae BLUMBERG, from the University of Virginia, proposed to open up a cooperation with the Sociology of Development section of the American Sociological Association. In particular, they proposed to share with RC09 members some information about the section, further activities, and grants for the next RC09 Newsletter.

It was suggested to specify the number of characters of the contributions for the next Newsletter. It was also proposed to share current research projects of the members to be included in the Newsletter.

Finally, Ulrike SCHUERKENS and Habibul KHONDKER talked about their article published in *Sociopedia*, entitled "Social Transformation and Sociology of Development".

New Journal Announcement

RC 09 is pleased to announce the creation of a new journal, *Sociology of Development*, to be published by University of California Press (ucpressjournals.com), and co-edited by Andrew Jorgenson and Jeffrey Kentor. The inaugural issue is scheduled for March 2015. The website is now open for submissions.

Sociology of Development is a new venue for scholarly work that addresses issues of development, broadly considered. Areas of interest include economic development and well-being, gender, health, inequality, poverty, environment and sustainability, political economy, conflict, and social movements, to mention only a few. Basic as well as policy-oriented research is welcome. The journal further recognizes the interdisciplinary scope of development studies and encourages submissions from related fields, including (but not limited to) political science, economics, geography, anthropology, and health sciences. A foundational principle of



this journal is the promotion and encouragement of intellectual diversity within the study of development. As such, the journal encourages submissions from all scholars of development sociology, regardless of theoretical orientation, methodological preference, region of investigation, or historical period of study.

The idea for this journal emerged from members of the new Sociology of Development section of the American Sociological Association (although it is not a section journal), most notably Sam Cohn, Jocelyn Viterna, Greg Hooks, and Matt Sanderson, among many others, and addresses the lack of venues currently available for publishing sociological research in this area. This is a global journal that is seeking articles from development sociologists all over the world so that it interests RC-09 members.

Book Review

Les ruses de la mondialisation en Afrique noire - Le rôle des intermédiaires du développement (The cunning of globalization in Africa - the role of intermediaries of the development) Roland Louvel, L'Harmattan, 2013, 256 pages.

Reviewer: Marie-Noëlle Reboulet, EHESS, Paris

Roland Louvel has worked more than 35 years in development cooperation in the Ivory Coast, Mali, and Niger. His reflections on the failures of development let him write several books on Africa during the 1990s. The latest one, *The cunning of globalization in Africa - the role of intermediaries of the development* was published by L'Harmattan in 2013.

In this book, R. Louvel reacts to the debate on colonialism in France (i.a. memory and history, positive or negative effects of colonialism, etc.). In his analysis of the process of long-term integration of Africa into globalization, he draws a parallel with *the Cunning of reason* in which Hegel claims that passions and antagonisms that divide men do not prevent them, unbeknownst to them, towards a common future.

In a first section entitled "Globalization in sub-saharan Africa", the author describes the four stages of the integration of sub-saharan Africa into global markets and world trade since the 15th century. First, in the time of the slave trade, European merchants gradually approached Africa by setting up factories where they managed their business with the help of interpreters and brokers. During colonialism, the colonizer

then relied on many auxiliaries, such as, in the case of France, 12,000 Senegalese *tirailleurs* and 50,000 indigenous leaders for some hundreds of army officers and French administrators. With the gaining of independence, a “development” stage began where the new African leaders (trained in the schools of the colonizers) became intermediaries between founders, international companies, and locals. Wangrin, the interpreter who is able to climb up the summit of power, famous character created by Amadou Hampaté Ba, serves as a guide to this thinking. He has adapted to this new situation: indeed, “development brokers” have facilitated the relations between foreign agencies and the beneficiaries of the “projects”. Nowadays, in the era of contemporary globalization, intermediaries continue to exist (parallel diplomacy, illicit trafficking, large commercial contracts, and so on), while globalization has multiplied the number of “anonymous agents” (women traders, European lawyers, mass media, global advertising, globalized sports, religion, the mobile phone and internet, or mass tourism).

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In the second section of the book, “How to understand the historical role of mediators?”, R. Louvel questions the foundations of mediation in “sub-saharan Africa”: these agents have common characteristics and relationships established in five centuries that have had impacts on the current situation of Africa: these are, according to R. Louvel, the *Cunnings of globalization*.

These intermediaries have in common their fluency in the language of the Westerners (with new emerging global players, “Wangrin, now, speaks Chinese...”), their “in-between” situation (that allows them to control the codes of each group), their knowledge of the techniques and practices of Westerners and their mobility (this mediation enables men and women to find jobs, income, promotion, or political opportunities). Working with foreigners is a way out of the shackles of established traditional social relations. However, on the other hand, this intermediary is often unloved, a potential traitor who has a thankless role and is sacrificed if he fails.

R. Louvel insists on the consequences of this intermediation, still very present that explains some behaviors considered as obstacles to development: short-term economic activities, reciprocal mistrust between

Africans and foreigners, illegal business and corruption. But these intermediaries have also brought changes and innovation (modern schools, new import markets, agricultural techniques, new ways of life, and so on). Beyond this ambiguous situation, these agents enable Africa to enter into globalization. The paradoxes of these new leaders, using the same methods as the colonizers, and the role of “development brokers” who progressively lead African populations to monetization and the worldwide capitalist economy, are also *Cunnings of globalization*.

According to the author, the traditional practice of mediation in sub-Saharan Africa can account for the preponderant role of intermediaries. Using a third party (to solve conflicts, arrange weddings, or negotiate transactions) in family, clan, or religious networks is a frequent social practice in Africa, especially when the State is weak and does not or only poorly assure its role of legislator and referee. The omnipresence of in-between powers in African tales (the crafty hare of Africa is cleverer than the European fox predator) and traditional religions, the absence of the efforts of foreigners to get to know Africa also support the role of this “development” intermediary. The ignorance of foreigners in front of Africans can be found in the debates of the colonial period, the instrumentalization of History, the colonial division, and the topic of the “integration” of African immigrants in France.

Roland Louvel has taken this interface role in his book. He wants to provide access to the analysis of specialists, historians, sociologists and anthropologists, whom he considers remaining too confined to their community of specialists. Yet, we can blame him for not always quoting the scholars whose ideas he uses.

Member Projects

Child Soldiers in Context

There is a new research project at the University of Bayreuth: “Child Soldiers in Context. Biographies, familial and collective trajectories in northern Uganda” (2014-2016), funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG). Principal Investigators: Dr. Artur Bogner (Bayreuth), Prof. Dr. Gabriele Rosenthal (Göttingen), Prof. Dieter Neubert (Bayreuth).

The objective of the project is to reconstruct the reintegration processes and biographies of former child soldiers and underage abductees of the rebels of the Lord's Resistance Army including their interdependencies with family biographies and the local histories in northern Uganda's recent war zone. In contrast to

previous research, data gathering and analysis shall focus on embedding biographical self-presentations of child soldiers in the contexts of their familial histories and the histories of their local social settings, interpreting them within these diachronic contexts. The methodological design of the study is based on the principles of sociological biographical research complemented by the dimension of family histories that receives growing attention in this field of study. One focus is on the interaction between self-interpretation and interpretation by others, self-thematisations and collective discourses. The main instrument of data gathering will be narrative interviews on their biographies and family biographies with former child soldiers and members of their families. Ideally these should include at least three members from each family belonging to three different generations. This method of data collection has been tested in a pilot study on the spot and also in the neighboring province. Based on these data, case reconstructions should be able to capture, in diachronic fashion, the significance of familial pasts and family-biographical work for the life trajectories and biographical self-interpretations of child soldiers before and after demobilization. Biographical/family-biographical interviews shall be supplemented amongst others by interviews and group interviews with other informants, usually from their local milieus, including members of state and non-state organizations involved in the reintegration of child soldiers. A further aim is to combine biographical and family-biographical case reconstructions with analysis of the relevant discourses inside and outside of families and their historical change. Theoretical sampling of cases and interviewees will be guided amongst others by the visible interpersonal, including intergenerational, conflicts and tensions between diverse interpretations concerning e.g. the transition from rebel-fighter to civilian status and from adolescence to adulthood. We plan comparisons to the findings and data of our previous project on the post-conflict process in the adjoining area of West Nile with regard to local developments and the reintegration of former rebel soldiers (mostly of older age) in this region. Thereby it is hoped to reach conclusions for improving practical efforts at supporting as well as methods of research and counseling in the context of the reintegration of former child soldiers, both in

“The objective of the project is to reconstruct reintegration processes and biographies of former child soldiers and underage abductees of the rebels of the Lord's Resistance Army including their interdependencies with family biographies and the local histories in northern Uganda's recent war zone.”

more general terms and with regard to specific circumstances in northern Uganda. For further details, please contact : dieter.neubert@uni-bayreuth.de.

Benchmarks Centre for Corporate Responsibility (CSR), J.F. CRONJÉ, Director

Following substantial work being done on different developmental issues (e.g. socio-economic issues, migration, etc.), mainly from the Department of Sociology, a Research Centre was established at the beginning of 2012 at the Potchefstroom Campus of the North West University in South Africa. The Centre focuses on developmental issues along the line of the three main dimensions of development (economic, environment and social); other dimensions, for example governance and legal issues are obviously also intertwined in the developmental equation. The Centre is specialising primarily, but not exclusively, in developmental problems in mining and extractive settings. The Bench Marks Foundation (BMF), an international

“This study revealed the dire social and environmental conditions that prevail in the platinum mining operations. This Report was finalised and released days before the Marikana incident on 16 August 2012, where 34 striking employees were shot dead by the police.”

NGO based in Johannesburg, that primarily sets and monitors developmental and corporate social responsibility (CSR) benchmarks, is a partner in the Centre, hence the name of the Centre, the Bench Marks Centre for CSR. The Centre is not only working in different extractive sectors (coal, diamonds, gold, platinum and uranium) in South Africa, but also wider in SADC (Southern African Developmental Community), for example in Botswana, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), and Zambia.

The Centre is proud to function and execute its core business in line with its vision and mission, as outlined in the final Memorandum of Understanding (MoU, 2011) between the North-West University (NWU) and the Bench Marks Foundation (BMF). The vision of the Centre is to contribute to sustainable development in the province, in the country and in SADC through the enhancement of research and training in the corporate social responsibility

arena, as well as through relevant and effective community engagement.

The flagship project of the Centre for the last two years was a SIDA (Swedish International Developmental Agency) Project. The collaborative partners in Sweden were colleagues from the Stockholm School of Economics. This project focused on the so-called Social License to Operate (SLO) within the iron ore industries of South Africa (Kumba in the Northern Cape) and Sweden. A paper on the essence of the project was presented in one of the RC 09 sessions at the ISA Congress in Japan. Another project that the Centre is actively

involved in is the Bekkersdal Project funded by the National Research Foundation (NRF) of South Africa. Bekkersdal is a highly contentious mining community near Johannesburg. This is a trans-disciplinary project that draws on the expertise of a number of disciplines e.g. Sociology, Social Work, History, and Psychology to research the health and well-being of the community of this West Rand mining town. The Centre is also currently leading a project on health issues in mining communities surrounding Soweto (near Johannesburg), and the associated link with the CSR practices of current and past mining operations in the area. During World Cup time in Brazil in 2014, the Centre also investigated the developmental and power issues during the FIFA World Cup in South Africa in 2010.

Five articles from the Centre were published during the last four years in accredited journals:

Cronjé, J.F., Van Wyk, D. & Botha, D. 2010. The 2010 FIFA World Cup – Service Delivery, 'Afrophobia' and Brand Imperialism: Through the Eyes of Frantz Fanon. *Alternation*.

Cronjé, J.F. 2013. Science, Technology and Society. *South African Review of Sociology*.

Cronjé, J.F. & Van Wyk, L.J. 2013. Measuring Corporate Personality with Social Responsibility Bench Marks. *Business and Society*.

Cronjé, J.F., Reyneke, S.G. & Van Wyk, D. 2013. Local Communities and Health Disaster Management in the Mining Sector. *Jamba*.

Bester, V. & Cronjé, J.F. 2014. The Importance of People-Centred Approach for Corporate Social Responsibility: A Case Study of Welverdiend and the Surrounding Community. *TD The Journal for Transdisciplinary Research in Southern Africa*.

It is very important for the Centre to execute relevant research that does have an impact in different areas, especially at community level. Apart from undertaking research relating to community engagement, the Centre is also involved in the management of community projects both within South Africa and across its borders. This not only facilitates the Centre's corporate responsibility but the approach also helps to inform research, especially when dealing with issues relating to the gap between policy and practice.

The two best examples in this regard that can be mentioned is our work in communities in the Platinum Belt. This study revealed the dire social and environmental conditions that prevail in the platinum mining operations. This Report was finalised and released days before the Marikana incident on 16 August 2012,

where 34 striking employees were shot dead by the police. The Centre is also involved in a NRF project in the highly unstable mining community of Bekkersdal, on the West Rand. For further details, please contact: freek.cronje@nwu.ac.za

Political Behavior and 'Big Data'

From the wealth of quantitative cross-national survey projects, data and research, scholars know a lot about the relationship between political behavior, development and democracy. Yet, we have only begun to use this wealth to its fullest capacity: International survey projects could be harmonized ex post and turned into 'big data' that consist of an unusually large number of variables and with individuals nested in countries and time periods. This idea informed the two-part event *Interdisciplinary Studies of Political Behavior and the Use of 'Big Data'*. The Mershon Center for International Security Studies at The Ohio State University (OSU) and CONSIRT - Cross-national Studies: Interdisciplinary Research and Training program, of OSU and the Polish Academy of Sciences (PAN), including RC 09 member Joshua Kjerulf Dubrow, were the main organizers. They benefitted from the support of the OSU Polish Studies Initiative and of the Department of Sociology.

The conference *Interdisciplinary Studies of Political Behavior: From Elections to Protests* (May 6-7, the Mershon Center) was the first part of the event. Scholars from sociology, political science, international relations, area studies and communications presented theoretically grounded empirical papers that engaged with causes and consequences of different types of political behavior. Big data methodological topics included ex post data harmonization of 21 cross-national survey projects from the 1960s to the present by Kazimierz M. Slomczynski, Director of CONSIRT and Irina-Tomescu-Dubrow, associate professor at PAN, and Program Manager of CONSIRT) and political event counts from international news wires (Thomas Maher, OSU Sociology and J. Craig Jenkins, Director of Mershon). Substantive topics included a keynote speech on women's political under-representation worldwide by Pamela Paxton (University of Texas-Austin, Sociology), electoral protests in the developing world (Emily Beaulieu, University of Kentucky, Political Science), political legitimacy in weak states (Irfan Nooruddin, OSU Political Science), towards a unified theory of political conflict (Edward Crenshaw, OSU Sociology), democratic mobilization and Internet Communication Technologies use (Erik Nisbet, OSU School of Communication), determinants of the Arab Spring (Jenkins and colleagues), the Comparative National Elections Project (Richard Gunther and Paul Beck, OSU Political

Science), Muslim women's political representation in Western Europe (Melanie Hughes, OSU alumni and assistant professor at the University of Pittsburgh, Sociology), and exit, voice, and loyalty in contemporary Poland (Andrzej Rychard, Director of the Institute of Philosophy and Sociology, PAN).

The Workshop "Comparability of Survey Data on Political Behavior: Ex Post Harmonization of Selected Survey Projects" (May 8-9, Department of Sociology) focused on key methodological and statistical issues in comparability of survey data in the context of harmonization. The first day of the Workshop dealt with ways of assessing comparability of cross-national survey data for the purposes of harmonization. Discussions benefited from expert insights of established scholars, including that of Professor Dean Lillard, Department of Human Sciences, OSU, who is the principal investigator of the Cross-National Equivalent File (CNEF). The second day was tailored to graduate students who are interested in comparative methodology of cross-national surveys.

To train the next generation of international, interdisciplinary scholars, graduate students from the Graduate School for Social Research at PAN and from departments across OSU attended both the conference and the workshop. Event organizers are planning a special publication based on the event, and a newsletter designed to build a scholarly community on methodological issues in survey data harmonization. For more details, please contact dubrow.2@osu.edu.

"From the wealth of quantitative cross-national survey projects, data and research, scholars know a lot about the relationship between political behavior, development and democracy. Yet, we have only begun to use this wealth to its fullest capacity..."

The two-part event *Interdisciplinary Studies of Political Behavior and the Use of 'Big Data'* was organized within the research project "Democratic Values and Protest Behavior: Data Harmonization, Measurement Comparability, and Multi-Level Modeling in Cross-National Perspective" funded by the Polish National Science Centre within the framework of the Harmonia grant competition (2012/06/M/HS6/00322). For more information on this project, please visit the data harmonization website, dataharmonization.org.

“Development Sociology Section” from the American Sociological Association

The American Sociological Association (ASA), after a long period of inactivity in the study of development, has revitalized itself in this area with the foundation of the ASA Section on Development Sociology (ASA DEVSOC, sociologyofdevelopment.com). Founded in 2011, the section has been the fastest growing section in ASA history with nearly 500 members in 2014, according to S. Cohn.

The section offers a number of concrete services to development sociologists and sponsors an annual Development Sociology Conference. Past conferences were held at Cornell, the University of Virginia, and the University of Utah. Next year’s conference will be held March 13-15, 2015 at Brown University. The number of development-related panels at the ASA annual meetings has moved from two in 2009 to over 10 in 2014 with a set of additional roundtables as well. The section’s listserve announces jobs in development sociology as well as grant opportunities. There is also an official program for mentoring graduate students.

RC 09 members may join the section if they are ASA members so that they can participate in both the national ASA conferences and the development sociology section conferences. To participate in the National ASA Conference, one submits a paper (not an abstract, or proposal, but a fully complete paper) on the ASA website; the deadline for submissions will be in early January 2015. Procedures concerning participation in the DEVSOC conference at Brown will be announced . RC 09 members are encouraged to contact the incoming Chair of the Section, Rae Blumberg, at the University of Virginia, or Samuel Cohn, at Texas A & M University by e-mail: rlb9b@virginia.edu and s-cohn@tamu.edu.

Member Books

Etnicidade Polonesa no Brasil a Luz de Pesquisas Sociologicas, 272 pages, ISBN 978-83-7901-034-9, ISBN 978-83-60875-22-3, by Elzbieta Budakowska

Etnicidade polonesa no Brasil à luz de pesquisas sociológicas nasceu com base nas pesquisas de campo da Autora realizadas em 13 estados do Brasil no meio das gerações pós-imigratórias de origem polonesa. É um estudo aprofundado da face contemporânea da etnicidade, analisada numa perspectiva pós-moderna. O livro abrange também os contextos estruturais da etnicidade polonesa no Brasil, sua influência na formação das presentes identidades culturais individuais e coletivas e no desenvolvimento dos contatos com a Polônia.

L'adaptation au changement climatique, by Valentine Valentine van Gameren, Romain Weikmans, and Edwin Zacchai, La Découverte, Paris, 2014, widget.editis.com

L'adaptation émerge aujourd'hui comme une dimension incontournable de la réponse au changement climatique. Complémentaire à l'indispensable réduction des émissions de gaz à effet de serre, ses enjeux restent cependant largement méconnus. À quels risques les sociétés humaines et les écosystèmes vont-ils être confrontés ? Dans quelle mesure l'adaptation peut-elle y répondre ? Comment se matérialisent les politiques en ce domaine, depuis le niveau international jusqu'au niveau local, en passant par les pays et les villes ? Quels rôles auront les entreprises, les assurances, les individus ? Telles sont les questions dont traite cet ouvrage, qui apporte au lecteur un historique, des clés de compréhension et des illustrations éclairantes. Cette synthèse intègre également un nombre important de références essentielles en matière d'auteurs et de travaux internationaux.

Global Management, Local Resistances: Theoretical Discussion and Empirical Case Studies
Edited by Ulrike Schuerkens, École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, France
Series: Routledge Advances in Sociology August 2014 Hb: 978-0-415-73220-8

This book originates from a research project involving extensive collection and analysis of primary and secondary materials (scholarly literature, statistical data, and interviews with key actors) on global management and local resistances in all major world regions during the last years. It seeks to assess the overall management situation in the world, looking at the world as a social system where some countries act as winners of socioeconomic globalization, others as losers, and some combining positive and negative aspects. Offering analytical and comparative insights at the global level, this book will be useful for scholars, students, NGOs, and policy makers.

Selected Table of Contents: 1. Globalization: A Challenge for Management Practices in Worldwide Enterprises Ulrike Schuerkens; **Empirical Case Studies on the Implementation of the Globalized Management Discourse:** 2. The Rise of Management Education in Post-Socialism Nina Bandelj 3. New Working Norms and Social Relations in Poland: The Example of a Transnational Company Antoine Heemeryck 4. A New Model of Risk Management: Credit Lending to Small and Middle Enterprises: Calculations, Guarantees, and Information Gathering in 21st Century Russia Caroline Dufy 5. "Coca-Cola Quit India": Resisting Cor-

porate Social Responsibility as a Global Management Strategy Krista Bywater 6. Ethnography of a Corporate Document: The Diversity and Social Cohesion Brochure of a French Corporation: The Ethnographic Journal of Tristan d'Inguibert Michel Villette; **Resistance Movements to the Globalized Management Discourse:** 7. Resistance Against New Working Practices in the Service Sector in Turkey Esin Gülsen 8. Precariousness and Resistance: A Case Study of a Supermarket and a Hypermarket in Argentina (2008-2011) Julieta Longo 9. When Resistance Crosses Over the Workplace in a Context of Precarious Labor: A Study of the Invisible World of Agribusiness in the Limarí Valley, Chile Tamara Heran 10. Marikana's Meaning for Crisis Management: An Instance of South Africa's Resource Curse Patrick Bond 11. Keeping Neoliberal Economic Principles at a Distance: The Case of "Radical" Independent Presses in France Sophie Noël

Soziale Transformationen und Entwicklung(en) in einer globalisierten Welt. Eine Einführung. Ulrike Schuerkens, Reihe: Grundlagentexte Soziologie. August 2014, 196 pages, € 24,95, ISBN 978-3-7799-2612-2.

This introduction into the sociology of social transformations and development(s) shows the current state of research in this area and discusses and questions the main issues. The first chapter focuses on a detailed theoretical discussion of this part of sociology. In the following chapters, Ulrike Schuerkens analyzes topics such as the delimitation of local processes in globalization and addresses particular questions of global societies, including social inequality, poverty, socio-economic practices, management, transnational migrations, the crisis of neoliberalism, and the transition to a multipolar world. Short country and regional case studies illustrate in each chapter the arguments and discusses them critically for students.

Agency and Changing World Views in Africa. Dieter Neubert, Christine Scherer (Eds.) 2014. Lit Verlag, Münster, Hamburg, Berlin ISBN 978-3-643-90236-8, ISSN 0938-7285

Current debates on the transnational impact of world views often refer to the concepts of 'globalization' or 'travelling models' with an emphasis on domination or on a translation process. This volume highlights situations where different world views are confronted with each other and the question of how actors mediate the two. The conceptual chapters criticize the normative implications of agency itself and reflect on the claim of interpretive hegemony of human rights, concepts of law, democracy, or neoliberalism. We also examine the confrontation of world views in particular cases, discussed on distinct empirical grounds: law,

(e.g. Islamic law, children's rights, law and development), political ideology and the role of power. Contributors are: W. van Beek, P. Chabal, H. Dorsch, D. Goetze, S. Howell, N. Oberauer, E. Macamo & D. Neubert, H. Sippel & U. Wanitzek

Political Inequality in an Age of Democracy: Cross-national Perspectives. Edited by Joshua Kjerulf Dubrow
Routledge 2014, 154 pages Series: Routledge Advances in Sociology

We live in an age of democracy. Modern nations have inscribed the ideals of democracy on their constitutions and similarly august documents. They contend that democracy is the key to unlock humanity's great potential. People have fought and died for its ideals. Political equality is a foundation of democracy, a pillar on which humanity's heights rest. Yet, everywhere there is democracy, there is political inequality. Political inequality – as both unequal influence over decisions made by political bodies and the unequal outcomes of those decisions – is felt most acutely by the disadvantaged who remain outsiders to the political system they help to legitimize and whose interests are chronically underrepresented. Governments at all levels are places where access to political power is constrained and where benefits are allocated unequally. *Political Inequality in an Age of Democracy: Cross-national Perspectives* builds on previous work to address the present and future of the concept of political inequality from multi-disciplinary and cross-national perspectives. It is comprised of nine theoretical, methodological, and empirical chapters. This edited collection seeks to create a new path and contains original works by both established and young, up-and-coming social scientists, including those from Latin America, Eastern Europe, Greece, and the U.S.

TABLE OF CONTENTS: **Introduction:** Political Inequality in an Age of Democracy — Joshua Kjerulf Dubrow; **Part I. Concepts and Theories of Political Inequality:** Chapter 1: The Concept and Study of Political Inequality — Joshua Kjerulf Dubrow; Chapter 2: Inequality and Partial Democracy: South America in Comparative Perspective –Carlos Waisman; Chapter 3: Neoliberalism and Democracy — Alex Afouxenidis; **Part II. Methodological Considerations:** Chapter 4: Crossing Intersections: Overcoming the Challenges of Cross-National Research on the Legislative Representation of Women from Marginalized Groups — Melanie Hughes; Chapter 5: Are Imported Survey Questions Under-measuring Political and Gender Participation in the Global South (...and North)? — Solange Simoes; **Part III. Empirical Analyses:** Chapter 6: Political Capital and the Unequal Career Origins of the Political Elite in Chile — Alfredo Joignant, Lucas Perello, and

Javier Torres; Chapter 7: Elite Perception of Inequality as a Threat to Democracy in Six Latin American Countries — Matias Lopez; Chapter 8: Social Class and Contentious Politics in Contemporary Europe — Henryk Domanski; Chapter 9: Xenophobia and Ethnic Discrimination — Irina Tomescu-Dubrow and Kazimierz M. Slomczynski; **Conclusion: Lessons Learned** – Joshua Kjerulf Dubrow

New Books on the Sociology of Development

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Member Articles

"La inserción organizacional en la economía," by Andrés Zambrano in *Revista de Sociología*, N. 28 (2013) pp. 115-137. Online: facso.uchile.cl

Abstract: The economy's formal and informal sectors have been defined in national statistics from different points of view: business, workers, and employment contract status. Although the concepts may be clear, when studying economic activities the borderline between the sectors is fuzzy. A total 1,166 small businesses in 19 cities of Venezuela were surveyed. From the organizational relations established between the government and the market, we defined the formal and informal sector, in which we found three types of informality.

"Migration Policy and Development in Chile," by Doña-Reveco, Cristián and Brendan Mullan. forthcoming in *International Migration*.

“Climate Change Vulnerability and Adaptation in Metro Manila: Challenging Governance and Human Security Needs of Urban Poor Communities,” by Emma Porio in *Asian Journal of Social Science* 42 (2014) 75–102.

“What is "Middle Class"? In search for an appropriate concept,” by Dieter Neubert. Online: meta-journal.net

Abstract: The middle class of the Global South is often identified as a new group of consumers and seen as the carrier of democratic values and societal progress. Obviously the middle class is not homogenous: Protagonists of a liberal democratic opposition, as well as followers of radical religious groups and supporters of the conservative authoritarian regimes, are all part of the middle class. Is the concept of middle class useful under these conditions? Are concepts of socio-cultural differentiation, such as milieus or lifestyles, applicable in the Global South, even when cross-cutting elements like religion and ethnic identity play a much more important role than in Europe?

“Negotiated Peace, Denied Justice? The Case of West Nile (Northern Uganda),” by Dieter Neubert and Artur Bogner in *Africa Spectrum*, 2013, 48, 3, 55-84.

Abstract: “Reconciliation” and “justice” are key concepts used by both practitioners and authors of conflict-management and peacebuilding textbooks. While it is often recognized that there may be contradictions between, on the one hand, the implementation of justice and truth-telling, and on the other hand, an end to organized violence, reference to the rather utopian concept of “positive peace” (Galtung) upholds the ideal of a fusion of these diverse goals. One difficulty arises from the fact that discussions usually focus on (post-)conflict settings that resemble a victory of one party of the conflict, whereas the reality is a more ambiguous and complicated scenario: peace settlements are often negotiated in a context more similar to a military or political stalemate. This article discusses these problems against the background of an empirical case study of the peace accord between the government and the rebels in the West Nile region in north-western Uganda.

Member News

Congratulations to Brendan Mullan, Sociology, Michigan State University (MSU), who has been elected as President-elect of the North Central Sociological Association in the United States. In 2016, the North Central Sociological Association and the Midwest Sociological Association will jointly hold their annual meetings in Chicago with members from 17 states and Canada attending. As President, Mullan will represent the NCSA regionally and nationally and will act as chairperson of the NCSA Council. He is the eighth MSU Sociology faculty member to be elected to the position in the organization's 90-year history.

Upcoming ISA Forum and ISA World Congress

2016 ISA Forum in Austria



2018 ISA World Congress in Canada





**International Sociological Association
Research Committee on Social Transformations and
Sociology of Development (ISA-RC09)**

President: Ulrike Schuerkens <uschuerkens@gmail.com>
Secretary-Treasurer: Tamara Heran <isarc09@gmail.com>

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ISA, Facultad de Ciencias Políticas y Sociología, Universidad Complutense, 28223 Madrid, SPAIN

In case you are not yet a member of ISA, then please use the general form to join both ISA and RC09 available at:
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