

Newsletter
Summer 2016

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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, Co- President of RC 09

Dear Colleagues,

As development sociologists, we know that successful social change requires responsible stakeholders that must consider global concerns in national practices. Further investments in development are morally justified and are the product of a healthy, well-educated population that can contribute to a dynamic world economy. Investments that promote poorer population groups, giving them new opportunities, impact global transformation processes worldwide.

We remark on new tendencies of societal transformations: on a worldwide scale, post-material attitudes are increasing; Sen's capabilities have become a central notion; middle-classes are living situations of decreasing status positions and

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impoverishment; and youth without job prospects is becoming a worldwide phenomenon. But there are other tendencies that allow for hope: economies are changing with jobs that permit to share services with each other or to give a second life to objects; and housing and consumption are done in new cooperative groups via networks created on the Internet. Enterprises are asked to display social, ethical, and environmental concerns while growth is criticized. Social networks of consumers and critical citizens have a chance to influence economic decisions in global enterprises. Hacktivists are disrupting the normal flow of business in enterprises and banks since 2008. Moreover, a modification of the relation of enterprises and consumers can be found: Global enterprises include new strategies in order to show their utility, such as GDF Suez in 2011 that showed its engagement in alternative energies, the creation of social integration projects, and the financing of further innovative projects in a mass media project.

...youth without job prospects is becoming a worldwide phenomenon. But there are other tendencies that allow for hope...

The crisis that many people live has triggered new social and economic solutions with rising importance. The power of a new generation of social entrepreneurs is increasing. Linked to this is the readiness of these new generations to demonstrate solidarity in mobilization on the Internet. The tendency of RAK, "Random Acts of Kindness," also illustrates this new economic attitude to show proximity and personal interest to the consumer. Inter Flora in Great Britain has presented flowers to people found on Twitter who are having a tough time. Sometimes, government and business are working side by side to promote good works and ecologically sustainable products and services. Meanwhile, global firms in the South target use the poor as consumers by providing cheap computers, phones, and cars only sold in the South. Solidarity is also shown in the creation of new collecting points

for food, books, or clothing donations and pick-up. This new thinking promotes a new circulatory economy where manufactured objects are recycled to live several lives more.

New ways of living, working, thinking, and making are emerging. New technologies permit them to spread all over the world. A new collective and cooperative intelligence has been created that asks for new links between social actors, economy, nature, policy, and society. Young entrepreneurs and scholars are creating new economic paradigms that question old models of the industrial era. A top-down society can give way to a bottom-up society that functions in networks and where civil society is more participative (e.g. *Nuit debout* and *Indignés*). Today, we are in a situation of in-between: where the old lives uneasily alongside the insurgent new. Globalization, increasing poverty, and inequality influence our societies. At the same time, new movements, trends, and phenomena appear among civil society and local groups that invent new local and economic relations with an ecological perspective. If you would like to read more on these interesting aspects I am finishing a manuscript on “Global Social Change” that should be published by Sage at the end of the year.

This Newsletter has many interesting articles that express a diversity of research and opinions. While as an organization ISA RC 09 does not necessarily share the opinions of the authors, we strongly encourage more members to add their voice to these and other debates in future Newsletters. I would like to thank Josh for putting together this Newsletter.

Let me turn to **our next great event**: During the **Vienna Forum** with many interesting sessions, **RC 09 will organize a reception on Tuesday, July 12th, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.** in a restaurant on the campus of the Vienna University. You will receive more information in our session room during the conference. I wish all of you a pleasant journey and look forward to meeting you soon in Vienna.

Best regards,

Ulrike Schuerkens ,RC 09 Co-President

The Futures We Want: Global Sociology
and the Struggles for a Better World



3rd ISA Forum of
SOCIOLOGY



July 10-14, 2016
Vienna, Austria

RC 09 Sessions in the Upcoming ISA Forum in Vienna, Austria

July 10 - 14, 2016

Program Coordinators:

Ulrike SCHUERKENS, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, France, and Habibul KHONDKER, Zayed University, United Arab Emirates

Sunday, 10 July 2016

09:00-10:30: Futures of Individualization in Local, Regional and Global Contexts

Session Organizer: Nikolai GENOV

10:45-12:15: The Battle of Ideas in NGO's: How Development Specialists Change Their Minds About Changing the World

Session Organizer: Brian DILL

Chair: Samuel COHN

12:30-14:00: Crafting Insurgent Urbanism and Democratic Spaces: Transforming Citizenship and Governance Systems in Cities

Session Organizer: Emma PORIO

14:15-15:45: Alternative Futures of the South

Session Organizer: Florian STOLL

Monday, 11 July 2016

09:00-10:30: Contested Futures of the South

Session Organizer: Dieter NEUBERT

Chair: Elisio MACAMO

10:45-12:15: Futures of Development

Session Organizer: Habibul KHONDKER

Chair: Nikolai GENOV

14:15-15:45: Gender-Technology Interface: Implications for Social Transformation and Development

Session Organizer: Bula BHADRA

16:00-17:30: Development, Social Transformations and New Gender Relations: Africa and the World

Session Organizers: Tamara HERAN CUBILLOS and Rae Lesser BLUMBERG

Tuesday, 12 July 2016

09:00-10:30: Political and Economic Developments in Postsocialist Countries

Session Organizer: Nina BANDELJ

Chair: Nina BANDELJ

10:45-12:15: Socio-Economic Development in Postsocialist Countries: Comparative Perspectives

Session Organizer: Nina BANDELJ

14:15-15:45: Changing Development-Scape and Unchanging Development Theories

Chair: Joshua DUBROW

16:00-17:30: Recent Breakthroughs in Development Sociology

Session Organizer: Samuel COHN

Wednesday, 13 July 2016

09:00-10:30: Development and its Theories

Session Organizer: Ulrike M.M. SCHUERKENS

10:45-12:15: RC09 Business Meeting

14:15-15:45: Globalization, New Forms of Work and Inequality

Session Organizer: Tamara HERAN CUBILLOS

16:00-17:30: Development, Social Transformations and New Gender Relations: Asia and Both Sides of the Pacific

Session Organizers: Tamara HERAN CUBILLOS and Rae Lesser BLUMBERG

Thursday, 14 July 2016

09:00-10:30: How Did Environment Call Development Pathways out?

Session Organizer: Bernard HUBERT

10:45-12:15: Monetary Practices in the Global South

Session Organizer: Ulrike M.M. SCHUERKENS

Articles

The Tragedy of the Refugee Crisis

by Habibul Haque Khondker, Co-President ISA RC 09, Zayed University

The image of Alan Kurdi, a three-year old whose dead body washed up the beach in Turkey in September 2015, jolted the conscience of the world; it brought the refugee crisis home.

In 2015, over a million refugees reached Europe to escape from war. Europe has received 190,960 refugees and asylum-seekers by sea from the war-affected regions of the Middle East and West Asia (as of May 25, 2016, according to the UN Refugee Agency). Syria, Afghanistan, and Iraq accounted for 75% of all refugees. There were migrants from Pakistan and Nigeria, as well. In 2015, nearly 4000 intended refugees were drowned as they embarked on a perilous journey on flimsy, overcrowded boats. According to International Organization for Migration, 3,771 died crossing the Mediterranean in 2015. Worldwide, this figure reached 5350. As of this writing in 2016, according to UNHCR, 1,375 are presumed dead or missing.

Why would families take such risk? What accounts for such desperation? Perhaps the risk of being bombed to death in the crossfire of a pointless, mindless, and seemingly endless civil war was higher than being drowned in the Mediterranean Sea. It was a choice between two dangerously lethal options. Many chose what they believed to be the less dangerous option. It is a real tragedy when such a cruel and dangerous calculus is imposed on people who prefer to live in relative peace in their own communities. In fact, until the onset of the disastrous civil war in 2013, Syria was a refugee receiving country.

The European refugee crises can be read in many ways. First, it is a direct outcome

of a callous war imposed on everyday people by external aggressors with neo-imperial motives. One may tend to dismiss this reading by labeling it as a radical, anti-Western refrain. Second, it could be seen as well-intentioned intervention by the champions of democracy and human rights, who sought to “free” the Syrians (and before them, the Iraqis) from the oppression of local tyrants. As the war progressed, the difference between the external and the internal blurred. It became too messy to identify friends and foes, and yesterday’s enemy became today’s friend. Space does not permit a detailed analysis of the arithmetic of the wars and the contested ideologies here.

Why would families take such risk? What accounts for such desperation? Who is accountable for this crisis?

Citizens of the war-affected countries became persons without states; once people with dignity, they become faceless refugees. In the unfolding crisis, there are many levels of victimization, cruelty, and inhumanity. It is first and foremost a crisis of the global inter-state system of which refugees are the outcome. To label it as a “crisis of refugees” is to blame the victims.

In the discussion of governance, one of the most frequently heard phrases is accountability. Let us talk about accountability at the level of global governance. Who is accountable for this crisis?

Europe faces the brunt of the refugee crisis; it has become the beachhead of the West. Viewed from the 28-nation European Union, it is a refugee crisis, especially from the point of view of countries that had little or nothing to do with causing the tragedy. The resentment in some European countries is understandable. The Prime Minister of Slovakia is not wrong when he said that Slovakia did not bomb the refugee-sending countries. While it is only a humanitarian responsibility for some countries, for others it is a direct responsibility. Though its

actions do not hold it entirely blameless, the whole of Europe does not owe shelter to all the refugees and migrants; yet, all of Europe is part of a shared responsibility. The United States of America also shirks its responsibility to provide a home to people who they made homeless in the name of regime change.

Why should there not be a case of global liability? Why is the US and its warring allies not held accountable for creating a catastrophe for which they bear direct responsibility? Shouldn't the US take the lead in rehabilitating the refugees? At least, they should do their best to restore peace so that a large number of refugees can return home to their communities. US shops post the warning, "You broke it you buy it," as a reasonable guideline on the rules of liability. This, or, "you broke it and you must fix it, or pay for it" may apply to international politics, as well. The US (and UK) broke Iraq, hence the US – not Europe – bears the responsibility for reparation. In the case of Libya, it was France and the NATO allies who bear the responsibility, though the US was surely the instigator, the main campaigner for regime change. In this case a dual liability is in order. The case of Syria is a case of multi-party liability.

The refugee crisis is a perfect example of a man-made disaster. From the perspective of critical criminology, war needs to be redefined as a crime of the highest magnitude. Crimes were committed by external powers. No embellishment of the discourses of nationalism, patriotism, national interest, geo-political interest, post-cold war world order, and so on, can hide that mass murders were committed by the people of one country over the people of another country. If willful murder or homicide is a punishable crime, many murders must constitute multiple crimes. Just because the so-called super powers are militarily mighty does not mean that they are outside the bounds of international law. International laws for maintaining peace and order were written, largely by, the US and UK in the post-World War II period; now these powers, according to Philippe Sands (2005), broke the

same laws.

In the end, perspectives from the sociology of development may be drawn to analyze the events. Specifying two types of refugees -- political and economic -- is inadequate in the analysis of the European refugee crises. Yes, some are political refugees who were forced to flee their tyrannical rulers, and some are economic refugees looking for bread and shelter. In this case, two other categories should be added: a vast majority of war refugees, and a minority of opportunistic refugees who are not from the region of turmoil but were quick to jump on the bandwagon. The four types of refugees – political, economic, war, and opportunistic -- need to be dealt with differently. There cannot be one response that would fit all refugee categories.

The refugees, the economic migrants, and the economically disenfranchised who look for opportunities to move to a better place in the global market are all products of the injustices of a world order for which we, as members of the world society, must take responsibility and action.

Reference

Sands, Philippe (2005) *Lawless World: America and the Making and Breaking of Global Rules*. London: Allen Lane.

Crisis in Development – How Development Lives and Dies

by Rae Lesser Blumberg, University of Virginia and Samuel Cohn, Texas A & M University

How robust is the process of economic development?

There is always a constituency of academics who claim that capitalism is in crisis – with the unresolved social problem de jour being the cause of the end of economic growth as we know it. Those who constantly evoke a crisis in late capitalism, are much like the boy who cried wolf. After enough false alarms, readers don't want to believe them any more. World GDP per capita has increased steadily from 1820 to the present day. So in principle, all should be well.

We argue in our new edited collection, *Development in Crisis: Threats to Human Well-Being in the Global North and the Global South* (Routledge) that there are some reasons to be concerned, even in the face of a long term history of solid global growth.

Our own essay in this collection identifies four main threats:

1. Limits to the State's Capacity to Provide the Physical and Human Infrastructure Essential for Growth

Most of the developed world is on a Tea-Party-like campaign to reduce and restrict the activities of the state. Tax bases are being cut, and state functions are privatized or abandoned. This constriction of the state is utterly suicidal. We fully endorse James O'Connor's 1973 argument that state construction of physical and human infrastructure is essential for capitalist reproduction. Private capital simply does not build highways, airports, ports or sewer systems because these activities are expensive and unprofitable. Yet how could any modern economy survive without them?

Likewise, the modern economy is dependent on an educated labor force and the regular provision of technological innovations. Yet, neither mass education nor basic scientific research are profitable in the short term; the private sector provides a small percentage of all such services. Gutting state capacity destroys the stock of public goods on which all modern economic growth depends.

2. Limits to Societal Capacity to Recover from the Exhaustion of Technological Product Cycles

Kondratieff cycles are very real. They may not last exactly fifty years with two twenty-five year halves. They may not have the same timing in all nations. There may be both counter-cyclical products and counter-cyclical nations. But even with all of these loopholes – the basic Mensch (1979) arguments apply that waves of global economic growth are driven by the development of particular products. When these products reach technological and market saturation, the world goes into economic decline.

Gutting state capacity destroys the stock of public goods on which all modern economic growth depends.

How long can the world continue to grow with a computer/internet economy after engineers run out of innovations in hardware or software – and the cyber-economy becomes a mature industry? New Kondratieff cycles are dependent on the creation of new products based on breakthrough scientific and engineering innovation. If we continue to gut world university and scientific capacity, will there even exist a new product that would be the basis of the Sixth Kondratieff cycle?

3. Entrepreneurial Stagnation and Agrarian Conflict Caused By Excessive Class Inequality

Most of the world is becoming more unequal, although these tendencies are mitigated in Continental Europe. (Korzeniewicz and Moran 2009) Extreme inequality interferes with the

capacity of small businesses to produce economic growth. Extreme poverty shrinks the supply of local entrepreneurs by keeping some qualified people from getting the capital they need to start a business. (This is the eminently reasonable logic behind microfinance.) Inequality reduces the size of the market, since the super-rich save, reducing overall demand and consumption. Inequality allows elites to use political influence to obtain monopolies or shelter their own inefficient firms from competition.

Much of the current stagnation in employment in the Global North comes from inequality. Constant wage cuts have gutted the size of the market. Precarious employment prevents workers from saving to start their own business. Ever more powerful firms and banks dominate political process, and solve their problems by further merger or by financial speculation. The unequal economies risk going down the road of 16th-19th century Spain which fell from world prominence to semi-peripheral status by an all-out commitment to protect its latifundists from local competition and technological change.

4. Limits to Economic Activity and Social Reproduction Caused by Excessive Female Disempowerment

Women's economic empowerment is virtually a "magic potion" for development. According to the Economist, women's increased labor force participation in the global north has increased global economic growth more than the rise of China, the rise of India, the introduction of computers or the introduction of the internet. Women's control of income is particularly important. Women spend more than do men on children's nutrition, health and education. At the macro-level, these add to national income growth and well-being. Women who control income have more say in fertility, and opt for fewer children. Women's economic resources are also linked to lower infant mortality and higher rates of education for both girls and boys. All of this increases economic growth. Dollar and Gatti (1999) show that increasing the share of women with secondary education by 1% boosts per capita in-

come growth by 0.3%.

However, the most dramatic effects involve warfare. Caprioli found that every 5% drop in women's labor force participation was linked to a nearly 500% increase in both internal and international armed conflict. As Paul Collier (2003) argues, war is development in reverse.

Female empowerment also speeds up the rate of recovery from war. In our volume, Blumberg shows in a contrast of Afghanistan and Northern Uganda, female physical mobility and economic entrepreneurship are linked to increased economic activity in the aftermath of civil war.

The Blumberg and Cohn Routledge collection discusses other threats to global well-being as well. We consider the imperialist threat to state capacity in dependent regimes, the shrinkage of global commodity chains through 3-D printing, the destructive effects of preference for male offspring, the ecological effects of female disempowerment, the political disempowerment of women and indigenous groups, and the reproduction of underdevelopment through biased curricula in higher education.

The capitalist world economy is likely to survive, but there certainly are a lot of threats out there.

Upcoming Conferences

Romania

The Romanian Sociological Society organizes its annual conference, in Sibiu, between the 29th of September and the 1st October, 2016. The conference will be hosted and co-organized by the "Lucian Blaga" University of Sibiu. The main theme of the conference

is: New Societies, Old Minorities / New Minorities, Old Societies? Official language of the conference is English. The 2016 Midterm Conference of the European Sociological Association RN36 will precede the event (September 28th-29th). The conference will be hosted by the “Lucian Blaga” University of Sibiu (LBUS), in a region recommended by Lonely Planet as best destination in 2016.

Keynote speakers:

Christian Welzel, Professor for Political Culture Research, Leuphana Universität Lüneburg

Eric M. Uslaner, Professor of Government and Politics, University of Maryland

Merlin Schaeffer, Professor of Demography and Social Inequality, Universität zu Köln

Ferruccio Biolcati Rinaldi, Associate professor of Sociology, Università degli Studi di Milano

Scholars in the social sciences are invited to submit paper proposals (not exceeding 300 words). Deadline for submitting paper proposals: 25.05.2016. Announcement of accepted papers: 15.06.2016.

Participation fees: 60 EUR; SSR members: 45 EUR ; Participation fees for convenors: 30 EUR; ESA RN36 participants: 30 EUR.

We hope to see you in Sibiu!

United Kingdom

On behalf of the Coordination team of the European Commission FP7 research project ArabTransitions “Political and Social Transformations in Arab World”, I have the pleasure to invite you to present your paper/poster at our academic conference “After the Uprisings: Political, Economic, and Social Transformations in the Middle East and North Africa”

on Tuesday May 31st, 2016 we are co-hosting with the Center for Security Research (CeSeR) at the University of Edinburgh.

Funded by the European Commission's Framework 7 Program, the project uses survey-based research, policy analysis, and secondary data to explore the beliefs, values, and behaviour with respect to political and social transformations in seven Arab countries (Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, Egypt, Jordan, and Iraq). The conference is co-hosted with the interdisciplinary Center for Security Research (CeSeR) that is based in Politics and International Relations in the School of Social and Political Science at the University of Edinburgh. The conference on May 31st will include presentations both from academic experts in the region from across the UK and Europe.

For more information please visit the project's website: <http://arabtrans.eu/edinburgh-conference-2016/>

Should you have any queries, please feel free to contact Dr Ilia Xypolia, via e-mail ilia.xypolia@abdn.ac.uk or +44 (0)1224 272647.

We look forward welcoming you in Edinburgh.

Austria

A Great Transformation? Global Perspectives on Contemporary Capitalisms International Conference

Johannes Kepler University Linz, Austria 10-13 January 2017

Ever since the global economic area opened up in the 1990s – and most recently, in the wake of the 2008 financial crisis – Karl Polanyi's economic and cultural history of capitalism, published as *The Great Transformation* in 1944, has been attracting renewed attention. Given his deft analysis of the liberal creed or how he refers to labor, land, and money as fictitious

commodities, Polanyi's critique of capitalism has never disappeared from the discussion. However, the unleashing of the market – and more specifically, of financial markets – has resulted in his ideas being widely received among sociologists, political scientists, and economists from all over the world. Polanyi's analyses of the relationship between economy and society, and between economy/market and politics/state – along with his perspectives on civil society movements – all seem to be custom-made for capturing the crises, changes, and transformations of contemporary capitalisms. Meanwhile, Polanyi's ideas and models have been profusely revised, pursued, developed, and checked for appropriateness when analyzing developments in the Global North and South. Moreover, a wealth of answers has emerged to the question of how his particular analysis of society may have inspired sociology, political science, and economics.

The conference, “A Great Transformation? Global Perspectives on Contemporary Capitalisms,” seeks to continue this discussion, identify new salient points and study the following questions: How do developments in contemporary capitalisms in the Global North and South constitute a great transformation, i.e. an epochal change in which the relationship between politics/state and economy/market undergoes fundamental changes at the global, international, transnational, and national levels? Have there been parallel, contradictory or interwoven developments and what form do these take? How are they shaped by social inequalities arising from gender, ethnicity and class, by power and dominance, and by conflict and resistance? How can all these developments be considered in light of Karl Polanyi's *The Great Transformation*? How do other analyses of and theories on capitalism rooted in sociology, political science, and economics contribute to social analysis and criticism? Where do they interlink with Polanyi's perspective and where do they take different paths? All these questions will be thoroughly discussed at this interdisciplinary international conference.

The conference will start with an opening speech by Michael Burawoy, University of California, Berkeley/USA, and conclude with his on-stage conversation with Kari Polanyi Levitt, McGill University, Montreal/Canada. Keynote speakers will be José Luis Coraggio, Universidad Nacional de General Sarmiento, Buenos Aires/Argentina and Beverly Silver, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore/USA.

The conference will be held in English. Conference homepage: jku.at/conferences/great-transformation

New Journal Announcement

The Regional Studies Association (RSA) is pleased to announce that the first issue of our latest journal: *Area Development and Policy*. This journal engages with the transformation of the modern world as a result of development of the global South/Greater BRICS. In three issues per year, *Area Development and Policy* publishes original academic research examining the multi-scalar and geographically differentiated relationships between economic and political organization/governance, ways of life and work and their context, as they shape regions, cities, rural areas and their inter-relationships.

Area Development and Policy will be published online in three issues throughout the year and a printed volume containing all three issues will be printed and available to RSA members as part of their membership benefits. For more details on RSA membership, please go to www.regionalstudies.org/membership. To access the journal, please go to the publisher's website, Taylor and Francis. We welcome submissions for this journal from RSA members and non-members.

Papers in the first issue:

“Area development and policy: an agenda for the 21st century” by Michael Dunford, Yuko

Aoyama, Clélio Campolina Diniz, Amitabh Kundu, Leonid Limonov, George Lin, Weidong Liu, Sam Ock Park & Ivan Turok

“Geopolitics of the Amazon” by Bertha K. Becker

“Getting urbanization to work in Africa: the role of the urban land-infrastructure-finance nexus” by Ivan Turok

“Land acquisition in India: The political-economy of changing the law” by Sanjoy Chakravorty

“Regional cultural diversity in Russia: does it matter for regional economic performance?” by Leonid Limonov & Marina Nesena

“China’s evolving role in Apple’s global value chain” by Seamus Grimes & Yutao Sun

“Population growth, land allocation and conflict in Mali” by Mark Skidmore, John Staatz, Nango Dembélé & Aissatou Ouédraogo

“Urban–rural integration drives regional economic growth in Chongqing, Western China” by Weidong Liu, Michael Dunford, Zhouying Song & Mingxing Chen

Member Publications

Genov, Nikolai (2015) ‘The European Union and Its Eastern Partnership: Explanation and Regulation of Migration Flows’. *Ukrainian Socium*, N4, December, pp. 8-22;

Genov, Nikolai (2015) ‘Cross-border Migration: Explanatory Schemes and Strategies for Management’. In: Elena Danilova, Matej Makarovic, and Alina Zubkovich (Eds.). *Multi-faced Transformations: Challenges and Studies*. Cambridge: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, pp. 11-36.

Genov, Nikolai (2016) 'Eastern Europe as a Laboratory for Social Sciences'. In: Eliaeson, Sven, Lyudmila Harutyunyan and Larissa Titarenko (ed.) *After the Soviet Empire. Legacies and Pathways*. Leiden and Boston: Brill, pp. 135-163. ISBN 978-90-04-29144-7.

Genov, Nikolai (2016) 'Competing Sociological Diagnoses of Contemporary Times: Potentials of the RISU Conceptual Framework'. *International Journal of Social Science Studies*, Vol. 4, No. 1; January, pp.86-98.

Khondker, H. H. (2016). "Nationalism and the 'politics of national identity'." In Ali Riaz and M. Sajjadur Rahman (Eds.), *Routledge Handbook of Contemporary Bangladesh* Milton Park, Abingdon, Oxon. and New York: Routledge (Taylor and Francis). (pp. 28-39).

Khondker, H. H. (2016) "Famine" *Blackwell Encyclopedia of Sociology*, Edited by George Ritzer, UK: Blackwell Publishing Company. (Accepted for publication)

Khondker, H.H., (2015). "New Media, Political Mobilization, and the Arab Spring." In: James D. Wright (editor-in-chief), *International Encyclopedia of the Social & Behavioral Sciences*, 2nd edition, Vol 16. Oxford: Elsevier. pp. 798–804.

Khondker, H. & Jahan, M. (2015). *Coping and Overcoming: South Asian Domestic Workers in the United Arab Emirates*. In Ajaya Kumar Sahoo (Ed.), *Diaspora, Development and Distress*. New Delhi: Rawat Publications. pp. 181-200.

Khondker, H. (2015). "Bangladesh: History, Culture and Global Diplomacy". *Asian Journal of Social Science*, 43, 635-647.

ISA RC 09 Member Survey Announcement

Dear RC 09 Members,

We, the Executive Committee of the International Sociological Association's Research Committee 09 on Social Transformations and the Sociology of Development, would like to better understand the interests and needs of the members of this Research Committee.

We would like to hear from you. We created an online survey that is anonymous and confidential. We first sent this survey to you via email on May 18, 2016. This survey was designed to be completed within ten to fifteen minutes. We will remove any personally identifying information from these survey data. These survey data will be kept by RC 09's Executive Committee.

A report on the results of the survey will be distributed – without any personally identifying information – in the RC 09 Newsletter for Fall 2016 that is emailed to all RC 09 members and in the RC 09 website.

If you have any questions about this survey, please contact the survey administrator, Joshua Kjerulf Dubrow (Website and Newsletter Editor of ISA RC 09) Associate Professor, Institute of Philosophy and Sociology, Polish Academy of Sciences, 72 Nowy Swiat, Room 211, 00-330 Warsaw, Poland, dubrow.2@osu.edu.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Ulrike Schuerkens and Habib Khondker, co-Presidents of ISA RC 09

Call for bids for venue host of the Fourth ISA Forum of Sociology, 2020

The Executive Committee of the International Sociological Association (ISA) invites all ISA collective members to make a bid for the site of the ISA Forum of Sociology in 2020. The bids should be submitted by **December 1, 2016**.

The conference venue must be available for 4 days, preferably during the months July-August 2020.

THE ISA FORUM

The ISA Forum is an international conference designed first and foremost as a meeting place for over 60 ISA Research Committees, Working Groups, and Thematic Groups. Aiming to provide an array of opportunities for the promotion of global dialogue about transformative change, it focuses on a socially relevant theme, involving public actors, to which different areas of sociology can contribute. Examples of such themes include environmental issues, human rights, welfare, social justice, inequality, and democratic participation.

The first ISA Forum was held in 2008 in Barcelona (Spain); the second in 2012 in Buenos Aires (Argentina) attracted 3,600 participants. The third Forum will take place in 2016 in Vienna (Austria) in 2016. ISA will be organising its fourth Forum in 2020.

The ISA aims for geographic diversity when selecting the locations of its events in order to reflect its global membership.

CONFERENCE REQUIREMENTS

Venue Requirements

Facilities for 3,000 or more attendees must be available for free, or at a minimal cost, and must include:

- 1 plenary hall with a capacity of at least 2,000 persons
- 3 rooms with a capacity of 300 persons (simultaneous sessions)
- 65 session rooms with a capacity of 60-200 persons (simultaneous sessions)

- Book exhibition space for 30 book sellers (at the meeting site, or in close proximity)
- Office facilities for an ISA Secretariat (see also technical equipment requirements)
- Luncheon facilities on the conference site or in restaurants within walking distance that can serve 2,000 persons within two hours
- At the conference site, or in very close proximity, the following services must be available: banking, postal, and public copy facilities, travel agency and medical services

Technical Equipment Requirements

- Standard audio-visual equipment in all session rooms: computer with PowerPoint and data projector
- Availability of other equipment including: internet connection, video player, slide projector, overhead projector, projection screen, white/blackboard or flipcharts, and a microphone system (if needed)
- Office facilities for an ISA Secretariat of at least 5 persons equipped with computer, printer, international telephone/fax/e-mail facilities, internet connection, and coping machine, etc.
- Cybercafe and WiFi on-site

Hotel Facility Requirements

- Efficient and reliable hotel-booking system
- Hotels of different categories:
 - 40% two star hotels
 - 50% three star hotels
 - 10% four star hotels
- Availability of medium and low-cost accommodations (including student dormitories) for at least 2,000 persons
- A distance between conference venue and hotels of no more than 10 minutes by public transport or 20 minutes on foot.

International Transport

- An international airport, with regular, direct connections to all main airports world-wide, must be located close to the host city.

- A possibility of the conference airline with discount offers.

LOCAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE

The Local Organising Committee (LOC) must be committed to assist in the organisation of the following aspects of the event:

- Organisation of sessions on national sociology / social issues in cooperation with the ISA Program Committee
- Design of conference poster and logo
- Address problems regarding visa for participants coming from many different countries
- Rent of the conference venue(s), including book exhibition and social events
- Responsibility for the tasks associated with ensuring that the conference runs smoothly, including at least: establishing media relations, developing regional contacts, encouraging participation in the conference, mobilizing volunteers
- Opening and/or closing reception
- Social programme, for example conference party and/or other cultural events
- Preparation and handling of sight-seeing tours
- On-line booking of hotel accommodation for participants
- Production of paraphernalia (t-shirts, logos, souvenirs, etc.) for sale at the conference (optional)

COSTS

The costs of hosting the conference should be shown to be reasonable. The following financial aspects should be taken into consideration when preparing a bid. Please clearly specify the costs for each point.

- Conference facilities: rent and cleaning; technical equipment and support; signs and decoration; internet connection, WiFi and Cybercafe; exhibition space; registration area
- Medical and child-care services; special arrangements for disabled participants
- Translation English/French/Spanish: interpretation equipment (cost per 2-hour session) and interpreters (cost per language)
- Conference materials: design of conference poster and logo; conference bag (incl. local information, maps, etc.); printed materials such as posters and leaflets; pro-

gram book

- Social events: opening and closing ceremony; reception; tourism programs
- Exhibition: handling expenses
- Cost of a Professional Congress Organiser company selected for the event

A list of approximate air fares from representative sites across the globe, including what reduction might be secured from the national or other airlines

DEADLINE FOR BIDS

Bids, including all information requested in this call, should be received by the ISA Secretariat (see contact information below) no later than **December 1, 2016**. A decision will be made by the ISA Executive Committee at its **spring 2017** annual meeting.

International Sociological Association

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Campus de Somosaguas

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2018 ISA World Congress in Toronto, Canada



**Join ISA and the Research Committee on
Social Transformations
and the Sociology of Development!**

Established in 1971, RC 09 strives to represent sociologists interested in the study of social transformations and development around the world, regardless of their theoretical persuasion, methodological approaches or ideological perspective. The goal RC 09 is to advance sociological knowledge on social transformations and development and to support research on this topic among scholars worldwide.

To join, please see visit either the RC 09 website, rc09socialtransformations.org, or the ISA website, isa-sociology.org.

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