

RC14 NEWSLETTER NO 1 JULY 2015

Colloque International | Διεθνές Συνέδριο | International Conference



Récits de la Crise: Mythes et Réalités
Thessalonique du 24 au 26 juin 2015
(Université de Macédoine)

**Αφηγήσεις της Κρίσης:
Μύθοι και Πραγματικότητες**
Θεσσαλονίκη 24 - 26 Ιουνίου 2015
(Πανεπιστήμιο Μακεδονίας)

Narratives of Crisis: Myths and Realities
Thessaloniki from June 24th to 26th 2015
(University of Macedonia)

www.narrativesofcrisis.com

Χορηγοί :



**narratives
of crisis**

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July 7th 2015

Dear RC14 Members

Our Midterm Conference on the Narratives of Crisis (an event –in three official languages- which took place in Thessaloniki, Greece on June 24th to 26th 2015) has just been over; it was a remarkable conference (because of the subject on the narratives of the crisis and because of the symbolic place in which it happened, Greece –in the middle of the economic crisis- and by a curious coincidence at the moment it happened on the edge of the dramatic turn of the Greek case, which served anyway as occasion to think on the crisis the whole world is in, nowadays); it was a remarkable event because of the rich content of the participations and some very important speeches (please see the sessions program which follows) among which the concluding speech of Markus S. Schulz (ISA Vice-President for Research and Forum President for Vienna) on the politics of futures.

An important theme, which will be the subject of the forthcoming ISA Forum which will take place in Vienna on 10 to 14 July 2016 and in which, RC14 participates with 14 sessions (in English, French and Spanish). The deadline to submit a paper on line is September 30th: you can find the sessions our RC proposes for Vienna in this Newsletter (you can also find more organizational details on: <http://www.isa-sociology.org/forum-2016/>); please note that the participation rules are indicated by ISA and we are all obliged to follow them (while during our midterm conference in Thessaloniki, where we could decide the rules, we did not impose any fees of participation). So, for practical –organizational information you will have to follow the ISA rules. If you need any scientific information on our sessions, then you could contact either me or Luc Bonneville (RC 14 program coordinators for Vienna Forum: christiana.constantopoulou@panteion.gr; luc.bonneville@uottawa.ca) or directly the session organizer of the session which interests you (you have their e-mails on the description of the sessions, which follows after the Thessaloniki program in this Newsletter). There are also possibilities to receive registration grants (please consult our information on the Vienna Forum in this Newsletter and the ISA site for more information)

Wishing you a very relaxing summer and hoping for your participation in our forthcoming conference in Vienna,

Many regards,

Christiana Constantopoulou

Professor of Sociology, Department of Sociology, Panteion University

RC14 President and RC14 Program Coordinator for Vienna Forum

NARRATIVES OF CRISIS: RC14 MIDTERM CONFERENCE JUNE 24TH TO 26TH 2015

Scientific Committee

International Scientific Committee

Bouvier Pierre (University of Nanterre, AISLF-GT21)
Chantraine Olivier (University of Lille-III, ISA-GT14)
Constantopoulou Christiana (Panteion University, ISA-RC14, AISLF-GT21)
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Péquignot Bruno (University of Sorbonne-Paris III)
Roventa-Frumusani Daniela (University of Bucharest, ISA-RC14)
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Kouskouvelis Ilias, Professor, University of Macedonia, Dean of the Faculty of Social, Human Sciences and Arts
Le Rigoleur Christophe, Consul General of France, Director of the French Institute of Thessaloniki
Papadopoulos Ioannis, Assistant Professor, University of Macedonia
Paschalidis Gregory, Associate Professor, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki
Petridou Evgenia, Professor, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Dean of the Faculty of Economic and Political Sciences.
Stankopoulos Gregory Telemach, Associate Professor, President of the Council of the Orthodox Academy of Thessaloniki.
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Organizing Committee

Brika Helen, PhD, Univ. of Macedonia
Constantopoulou Christiana, Professor, Panteion University, ISA-RC14, AISLF
Georgiadou Kyriaki, Sociologist, Municipality of Thessaloniki
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Larochelle Dimitra Laurence, MA of Sociology and Communication
Mylonas Georgia, MA Management, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki.
Saint-Raymond Odile, University of Toulouse-le-Mirail, AISLF.

Narratives are present in all societies, in myths, legends, news, rumors, politics, and everyday conversation; “stories” are able to construct reality. The different social discourses are supposed to reveal what a society considers as “natural”, as requiring no further explanation (the so called “common sense” used by media discourses). Narrative analysis has become fundamental for the social sciences, and especially for sociology. Fiction cannot always be clearly differentiated from reality in the social discourse (although it seems essential to the “reproduction” of the facts.

The International Conference “*Narratives of crisis: myths and realities of the contemporary society*”, is held on **June 24th – 26th, 2015**, in Thessaloniki, and is co-organized by the **International Association of French Speaking Sociologists** (AISLF GT21, Political Socio-Anthropology), the **International Sociological Association** (ISA –RC14, Sociology of Communication), the **Faculty of Social and Human Sciences and Arts of the University of Macedonia**, the **Faculty of Economic and Political Sciences of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki**, the **Ecclesiastic Academy of Thessaloniki**, with the **Consulate General of France** and the **French Institute of Thessaloniki** and the **Municipality of Thessaloniki**; it aims to record and analyze the myths which narrate the economic crisis in Europe and particularly in Greece, and investigate the ways media and the diverse political and social discourses represent the crisis. The official languages of the conference are **Greek, French and English**.

Conference Venue

University of Macedonia (Hall of Ceremonies / Conference Rooms)

Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (D. Constantopoulos Room)

NARRATIVES OF CRISIS.
MYTHS AND REALITIES OF CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY.
CONFERENCE PROGRAM

WEDNESDAY JUNE 24TH

09.00-09.30: Registration

09.30-10.00: Opening Speeches

10.00-11.45: OPENING SESSION: THEORETICAL APPROACHES TO THE NARRATION OF CRISIS

Chair: Didier Vrancken

Christiana Constantopoulou: *The narratives of crisis: on occasion of Greece.*

Bruno Péquignot: *A threatening narration: the crisis of capitalism.*

George Contogiorgis: *Regarding the character of crisis: a crisis internal to the system or a crisis leading beyond the world of ‘modernity’?*

11.45-12.00: Coffee-Break

12.00-14.00: SOCIAL NARRATIVES (GREEK & FRENCH – Hall of Ceremonies)

Chair: Georges Papachristou

Didier Vrancken: *In the heart of the biographical state: users of social services and their crisis narratives.*

George Kesisoglou: *“Escape Narratives”; young people precariously working, consider emigrating Greece. A critical socio-psychological perspective.*

Maria Thanopoulou, Ioanna Tsiganou, Zachou Chryssa: *Oral narrations and voices of crisis: latent dimensions of narration.*

Theunissen Fanny: *We are all Greeks: Analysis of metallurgy Trade Unionists’ (General Work Confederation of Belgium) narratives concerning the Greek crisis.*

Marianna Psilla, Dimitris Serafis: *At first, it was Castellorizo: narrative constructions at the dawn of the Greek crisis*

MEDIA AND THE CRISIS (GREEK & ENGLISH, Conference Room)

Chair: Yannis Stavrakakis

Maria Elena Kuntz: *How the Greek Press Constructed the “Greek Economic Crisis”.*

Ronny Scholz: *The discursive construction of crises in the German press since 1973. A corpus driven approach to the analysis of narratives.*

Lia-Pashalia Spyridou: *Narrating Collective Action in Mainstream Media: Constructing the Myth of Responsible Politics.*

Antonis Skamnakis, Sofia Karekla: *State Interventionism and State Television in times of crisis: on the closure of ERT (Hellenic Broadcasting Corporation).*

Philip Nikolopoulos: *Consequences of the crisis in everyday culture: an underestimated issue of mass media narratives.*

Roy Panayotopoulou: *Narratives of threats and fear: Media's political discourse in times of crisis during the electoral campaign in Greece and Italy.*

15.00-17.00: Boat trip in the gulf of Thessaloniki (departure: White Tower, destination Neoi Epivates port)

17.15-19.00:

THEORETICAL APPROACHES (GREEK & FRENCH, Hall of Ceremonies)

Chair: Daniela Roventa-Frumusani

Michel Messu: *Sociological narration and the state of "assertion" in sociology.*

Jan Spurk: *Narrations of crisis, narrations of "eclectic affinities".*

Alain Eraly: *Legitimation of the crisis, crisis of legitimation.*

Jean-Jacques Cheval: *Critics of the crisis, critics of journalism, media narrations under the prism of critical analysis.*

Cristina Coman, Mihai Coman: *Crises, emotions and myths*

Alice Canabate: *Narrations of the crisis and social critics: durability into the heart of a post-developmental narration*

CASE STUDIES, EXPERIENCES FROM THE CRISIS 1 (GREEK & ENGLISH, Conference Room)

Chair: Markus Shultz

Allen Kieran: *Economic expertise and class bias: The Irish case*

Tina Askanius, Yiannis Mylonas: *Extreme-right responses to the European economic crisis in Denmark and Sweden: the discursive construction of scapegoats and lodestars.*

Maria Yelenevskaya, Larisa Fialkova: *The crisis in Ukraine and the split of identity in the Russian-speaking world.*

Vasilis Vamvakas: *Polarization and confusion: popular televisual narrations of the crisis (2009-2013)*

Eugenia Petridou, Panayotis Gorezis, Victoria Bellou: *Brain Drain: a behavioral narration of the crisis.*

Oksana Kiforenko: *Crisis... Crisis? Crisis!*

19.00-19.15: Coffee Break

19.15-20.45:

MÉDIAS 1 (GREEK & FRENCH – Hall of Ceremonies)

Chair: Alain Eraly

Daniela Roventa-Frumusani, Adriana Stefanel: *The narration of media information on the crisis.*

Helen Mitropoulou: *The narrative itineraries of the crisis in images.*

Dimitra-Laurence Larochelle: *Beyond the crisis? A media global culture.*

Dimitra Papadopoulou: *Narrative fictive structures of the news discourse about crisis.*

CASE STUDIES –EXPERIENCES OF THE CRISIS 2 (GREEK AND ENGLISH, Conference Room)

Πρόεδρος: Gregory Stamkopoulos

Rui Gomes, Belmiro Cabrito, Luísa Cerdeira, Tomás Patrocínio, Rui Brites, Maria de Lourdes Machado-Taylor, João Teixeira Lopes, Henrique Vaz, Paulo Peixoto, Dulce Magalhães, Rafaela Ganga, Sílvia Silva:

Narratives of the crisis and emigration from the South.

Florica Iuhaş: *The mythicization and debunking of media contents in crisis situations.*

Albertina Pretto: *Narratives, values and voters: a case study in Italy.*

Miroslav Grznár: *Qualitative research of political culture: Conversational repertoires and narratives of crisis.*

Moh Alzwhabi, Hamied al Hashimi: *Fall of Mosul to ISIS: Jostle of Narratives between Conspiracy Theory and Betrayal.*

Jens Maesse: *European Democracy as a Discursive Field of Conflict: From Narrativity to Discursive Cultures.*

20.50-21.10 Hall of Ceremonies:

Musical Moment with mezzo soprano Angelica Cathariou (accompanied by the pianist Yannis Zgouras), performing compositions of G. Bizet, K. Weill and M. Ravel.

21.15 – 22.45: Reception at the War Museum of Thessaloniki

THURSDAY JUNE 25TH 2015

09.00-11.00: Guided Visit to the Byzantine Museum of Thessaloniki.

11.15-11.30: Coffee break

11.30-13.30:

MEDIA 2 (GREEK & FRENCH, Hall of Ceremonies)

Chair: Jean-Jacques Cheval

Christian Lamour: *Free agonies and advertising tranquilization. A glance into the urban crisis by the reality of the media "donation".*

Elena Maftai-Golopentia: *Media and the symbolic construction of the moments of crisis into the university context.*

Josep Maria Marti, Silvia Espinosa Mirabet :

Diary of the crisis: narratives of the audience of a Spanish radio program.

Thierry Guilbert: *The "Greek crisis" in the French press in 2010: narrative or the evidence of a naturalized discourse?*

Anastasia Tsiolcha, Nikolaos Tsingilis: *The framing of the Greek economic crisis in the Greek press: content analysis of the news journals relative to the crisis.*

Tessa Doulkeri, Dimitris Gartzonis: *Communicative messages in periods of crisis in Greece.*

POLITICAL ISSUES (GREEK & ENGLISH, Conference Room)

Chair: Evie Tastsoglou

Charalampos Chrysomallidis, Martinos Lykos, Napoleon Maravegias: *Research, technology and economic crisis in Greece: beyond political discourse, towards political action?*

George Lafferty: *The Complexities of the Rational: Examining Neoliberalism's Continuing Ideological Ascendancy.*

Sofia Boutsiouki : *Changing political discourses in the EU: reinventing youth potential.*

Yannis Stavrakakis:

Populism and anti-populism in crisis

Emmanouil Takas, Athanasios Samaras: *The rhetoric of blame for the Greek financial crisis and Parliamentary Discussions.*

Marcos Gonzalez Hernando: *A brief history of the crisis narratives of a British free-market think tank.*

14.00-16.30 : Walking Tour at the Centre of Thessaloniki (from the University of Macedonia to the White Tower and the Jewish Museum).

16.30-18.00: Guided Visit of the Jewish Museum of Thessaloniki.

18.15-18.30: Coffee-Break

18.30-20.00:

FICTIONS AND ARTS ON CRISIS (GREEK & FRENCH – Hall of Ceremonies)

Chairs: Régine Oboa/Michel Messu

Arnaud Gaillard: *IKARIA, when history fuses with myth in order to inspire a social movement in contemporary Greece.*

Lise Démailly: *Aspects of the crisis of human societies in the contemporary science-fiction.*

Monique Hirschhorn, Odile Saint-Raymond: *Crime literature and narratives of crisis : the crisis trilogy of Petros Markaris.*

Alcisti Efthymiou, Eliza Neofutou: *Narratives of the crisis and modern art exhibitions.*

Nick Poulakis: *Music Groups and Cultural Organizations in Greece in economic crisis: the politics of narration and the construction of “Success Stories”.*

NARRATIVES AND SOCIAL POLICY (GREEK AND ENGLISH, Conference Room)

Chair: Constantine Skrekas

Gregory Telemach Stamkopoulos: *The meaning of the other in the society of crisis. Narrations from the social work of the community.*

Ionela Vlase, Rebekka Sieber: *Narrating well-being in the context of precarious prosperity. An account of agency framed by culturally embedded happiness and gender beliefs*

Heath Cabot: *Another Face of Crisis: Narrating Community, Civil Society, and Care in Athens*

Iwona Mlozniak: *Aging and activity: the narratives of agency and the society in crisis (?)*

Catherine Nikolopoulou: *Forging crises discourses: workers’ narratives in contemporary Greece.*

Alexandros Sakellariou: *Orthodox Church and economic crisis: searching reasons and eventual solutions.*

18.30 -20.30 ROUNDTABLE A: CASE STUDIES AND THEORETICAL APPROACHES (GREEK AND ENGLISH, Room D. Constantopoulos, Law School Building, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki)

Chair: Eugenia Petridou

Athena Avgitidou: *The myth of Barthes: economic crisis and liberal discursive practices.*

Athanasios Samaras, Eirini Skevi: *Strategies of image restoring and apologizing discourse for the Memorandum situation of Greece in the Elections campaign of PASOK and KIDISO.*

John Tagaris: *Ways of argumentation of political parties concerning the reasons of crisis and the propositions of facing them.*

Constantine Bizas: *The work of Reinhart Koselleck on crisis.*

Susan-Mary Nikolaou (and research team: Napoleon Papageorgiou, Dimitra Drakou, Nefeli Christogoula): *The opinion of the students of the University of Ioannina, concerning the economic crisis.*

Zoe Ziontaki: *Narratives of teachers of primary and secondary schools about the impact of the crisis on their educational work and on the educational procedure: the couple “material poverty”- “moral collapse” in the frame of crisis.*

Alexandros Kyriakidis: *The Greek Crisis, then and now: 2008-2015.*

Adamantia Kehagia: *Factors having influenced the efficiency of the structural funds in Greece. Study and evaluation of three financed projects.*

20.30: Ceremonies Hall:

Traditional Dance (of Pontos) Performance by the Athletic Cultural Union of Pontii of Ambelokipoi of Thessaloniki (ENOPA)

20.45 -22.30 (Ceremonies Hall):

Documentaries Projection (subtitles in English):

1) A Haircut Story by Danae Stylianou,

2) Ikaria by Arnaud Gaillard

FRIDAY, JUNE 26TH 2015

09.00-11.00:

CRISIS AND SOCIAL MEDIA (GREEK & FRENCH, Hall of Ceremonies)

Chairs: Alice Delerue, Odile Saint-Raymond

Christine Chevret-Castellani: *Journalistic narratives about crisis in France: the experience of the blog “A year in France, Season 2” of the Newspaper “Le Monde”.*

Oksana Lychkovska : *Evolution of the narratives of crisis in Ukrainian Social Media: Evolution of the Myth or Evolution of the Society?*

Michael Meimaris: *Of Media and People: Digital Stories.*

Hecate Vergopoulos: *For a narrative guerilla or how Wikipedia introduces the circulation of the narrative of the crisis in Greece, totally ideological and nevertheless defined as “neutral”.*

Angelica Gazi, Angelica Boubouca: *New Forms of Narration, Internet Radio and Social Media: the case of ERT (Hellenic Broadcasting Corporation).*

Despoina Manolopoulou: *From narration to digital narration: a trip into the digital world of education.*

NARRATIONS (GREEK AND ENGLISH, Conference Room)

Chair: Larisa Fialkova

Nefeli Stournara, Anastasia Christou: *Narrating Fear of Sexual Violence in a Context of Crisis: Contemplating Self-Reflection and Self-Realization in the Working Lives of Russian Migrant Women in Greece.*

Izabela Korbiel, Katharine Sarikakis: *Narratives of suicide and the crisis.*

Evangelia Tastsoglou, Maria Kontos:

Crisis and the Breakdown of Normality: Negotiation, Resistance and Exit.

George Kouzas: *Living from the rubbish: everyday life and strategies of survival in the narratives of rag pickers of Athens.*

Aris Gavrielatos: *Diary of an unemployed: from the site to the book. A sociological approach.*

Tetyana Ivanova: *Narrative as a way of organizing personal experience.*

09.00-11.00: ROUND TABLE B: CASE STUDIES (GREEK & ENGLISH, ROOM D. CONSTANTOPOULOS, LAW SCHOOL BUILDING, ARISTOTLE UNIVERSITY OF THESSALONIKI)

Chair: Paroula Perraki

Maria Kalfa: *Making the propaganda of the truth: Media and the economic crisis.*

Naya Kalfeli: *The narrative of “another crisis” in the crisis: the migrating issue and the Media.*

Athanasios Samaras, Myrsini Dogani, Helen Loukopoulou: *The Greek Economic Crisis and the rhetoric of fear in 2015: the electoral campaign in Greece.*

Thomas Siomos: *The media narration of the Greek crisis: dialectics of discourse and experience and their unique definition.*

Christos Frangonikolopoulos, Kalli Zaralli: *Populism, national populism and Europe in memorandum-era Greece. Representing conservatism and progress.*

Evi Manopoulou: *The question of meaning: Bureaucracy and modern reform programs.*

Evangelos Liotzis: *Pornified speeches or discourses of pornification? Facets of an antifeminist crisis.*

Mosxos Demiris: *The crisis: narratives of people with mental handicap.*

Dina Antoniou: *Narratives in the margins of existence.*

11.00-11.15 Coffee-Break

11.15-13.15:

POLITICAL ISSUES (GREEK & FRENCH, Hall of Ceremonies)

Chair: Lise Démailly/Marc-Henry Soulet

Regine Oboa: *Managers in trouble in front of the social and political transformation.*

Zouheir Ben Jannet: *Youth, State and revolution dynamics in Tunisia : research into the mines of Gafsa.*

Jean Ruffier: *Chronicle of a forthcoming disaster continuously announced: China against the wall.*

George Kaffes: *Armed Forces and Society in Greece: the years of Crisis?*

Olivier Chantraine: *Media autobiographical narratives of the crisis: singular writings and collective existential crisis.*

MEDIA (GREEK & ENGLISH: Conference Room)

Chair: André Petitat

Mariza Georgalou:

Small stories of the Greek crisis on Facebook.

Normunds Kozlovs, Ilva Skulte: *Surviving Crisis in Latvia: Narratives of the State and its Citizens in Internet Space.*

Theodora Maniou, Eirini Fotiou, Lambrini Papadopoulou: *The bank crisis of 2013 in Cyprus and the role of newspapers: narrative frames, myths and accusations.*

Augustin Zenakos, Christos Natsis: *The accusation of violence and democracy as conformity: the discourse of Extreme Center.*

13.30-17.30 VISIT OF VERGINA

17.30-19.00:

CASE STUDIES: (GREEK & FRENCH, Hall of Ceremonies)

Chair: Jean Ruffier

Jean Berlie: *Eastern Timor in the frame of globalized crisis, myths and realities.*

Noëlle Burgi, Georgia Soumana: *The Crisis as Told by Children: An Intervention Research in Schools in Thessaloniki*

Laurence Fond-Harmant: *Economic Crisis, crisis of identity and domestic violence.*

Diabi Siham-Meguedad: *An old ritual celebrated in a modern society (Algeria): the yennayer, New Year of Berbers.*

Ezel Ünal: *Preparative courses for the military service for girls of Turkey, during the Second World War: militarization and experience.*

Ioannis Papadopoulos: *weaving a double narrative weave, the chronicle of the crisis as described by a teacher-researcher in a column of a weekly magazine.*

CASE STUDIES: (GREEK & ENGLISH, Conference Room)

Chair: Olivier Chantraine

Helen Rethumniotaki, Chryssa Kapartziani, Ioannis Flutzanis: *Voices from underneath: justice in the discourse of social movements in Greece of economic crisis.*

Kyriakos Mikelis: *Towards a narration of neo-colonialist power of Europe? Post colonialist thought and internal affairs of the euro zone crisis.*

Kalerante Evangelia: *From the society of knowledge to the society of despair: abstract formations in a neoliberal model of education in Greece.*

Susan-Maria Nikolaou (and research team: Nefeli Glezou, Eleftheria Krommuda, Angelica Chilaki, Napoleon Papageorgiou): *The representation of the economic crisis in the daily press of Ioannina.*

Michael Petrou: *Investigating the itineraries of return and stay to the rural areas during the crisis. The case of a mountainous resort in Central Greece.*

Vicky Karavakou: *How authoritative are people's personal narratives?*

19.00-19.15 : Coffee - Break

19.15- 19.45:

Discussion on the documentaries and the photo exhibitions (Ceremony Hall)

Chair: Monique Hirschhorn

19.45-20.30:

Conclusions: Ceremony Hall

Chair: Imed Melliti

Markus Schulz: *Crisis and the Politics of Futures.*

Christiana Constantopoulou: *«The End Titles»: The sociological approach and the narratives of crisis.*

20.30: Musical Performance inspired by traditional Greek music by the group "Iliodromio" (University of Macedonia) and the compositor **Elias Sarigiannides** :

1) Perfumes of Spring

2) « Iliodromio »

Musicians : Stella Kambouridou, Giannis Dionusiou, Vasilis Zigerides & E. Sarigiannidis

21.00: Farewell cocktail at Villa Bianca.

Parallel events

Photo exhibition

During the conference there is a photo – exhibition on the economic crisis by:

Klikers (with photographers Elena Ganda, Charis Grigoriou, Ilias Seferides, Stavros Stamatiou and Tassos Chios).

Opseis (www. opseis.gr –with the photographers Christos Ghighis and Theodore Kottaridis).

Fotoomada (with the photographers Lambros Kuriakou, Vaggelis Chatzistavrou, Giorgos Constantinopoulos).

Book Exhibition

During the Conference a participants' book-exhibition takes place.

Third ISA Forum of Sociology –Vienna, July 10-14

Call for Abstracts

14 April 2015 - 30 September 2015 24:00 GMT

Anyone interested in presenting a paper should submit an abstract on-line to a chosen session of RC/WG/TG



The abstract (300 words) must be submitted in English, French or Spanish

THE FUTURES WE WANT: Global Sociology and the Struggles for a Better World

The Third ISA Forum will be convened in Vienna, Austria, 10-14 July 2016 on the theme “The Futures We Want: Global Sociology and the Struggles for a Better World.” This theme encourages a forward-orientation in empirical, theoretical, and normative research to tackle the problems and opportunities that often cut across borders.

Protests around the globe have challenged inequality, oppression, and ecological destruction, and have insisted on the possibility of another, better world. Intensifying uncertainties demand innovations in methods and theories. Tomorrow no longer appears as pre-determined by inevitable trends but as a rather contingent outcome of complex, typically multi-scalar dynamics that vary in their intensity of contentiousness. Social actors aspire, desire, envision, expect, fear, imagine, plan, project, reject, sustain, and wage war over futures. What can sociology contribute to these broader debates? How do assumptions and aspirations about the future influence daily routines and long-term collective lives? How are risks identified, avoided, mitigated, transferred, or shared? What closes and opens the horizons of social imaginaries? How are different forces positioned to shape futures? How can the making of futures be democratized? What can be learned by comparing struggles in different countries and settings? How do emancipatory movements and everyday practices at the grassroots overcome discipline, exploitation, and misrecognition? What visions for alternative futures are imaginable, desirable, and achievable? What are viable roadmaps for social transformation?

This general theme provides a platform for dialog among ISA’s many participating Research Committees (RCs), Working Groups (WGs), and Thematic Groups (TGs). It calls for research on the full range of sociological topics from the tiny worlds of micro situations to the broad macro dynamics affecting the entire planet. It encourages inquiries into the multiplicity of possibilities, projects, and visions. It welcomes diverse approaches, including comparative and interdisciplinary collaborations.

Markus S. Schulz ISA Vice-President for Research and Forum President

RC14 Sociology of Communication, Knowledge and Culture

Program Coordinators: **Christiana CONSTANTOPOULOU**, Panteion University, Athens Greece, christiana.constantopoulou@panteion.gr, **Luc BONNEVILLE**, University of Ottawa, Canada, luc.bonneville@uottawa.ca

RC14 Proposed Sessions:

- 1) **A Return to the People? Popular Democracies and/or Populism in the 2.0 Public Sphere**
- 2) **Aportaciones de la Comunicación a los Procesos de Participación Social**
- 3) **Aportaciones de la Investigación en Comunicación al Desarrollo Social**
- 4) **Are Mobility and Hybridization Possibilities for a Better World?**
- 5) **Contemporary Power, Symbolisms and Narratives By the Media**
- 6) **Expertise and Interests: For a Sociology of Think Tanks**
- 7) **Fiction of Worlds and Struggles/Fictions des Mondes et de Leurs Luttes**
- 8) **Globalization, Communication and Social Transformation: Towards a Global Sociology of Communication**
- 9) **Media Activism, Emergent Journalism Practices, Participative Media and Struggles for Better Worlds.**
- 10) **Pouvoirs Contemporains, Mises en Scène, Symbolismes et Récits**
- 11) **The Complex Discursivity of Global Futures in the Making: Analyzing Transnational Orders of Discourse**
- 12) **The Future of the "War on Terror"**
- 13) **Visibility and Social Orders. on the Construction of Boundaries and Knowledge in the Contemporary Technological Condition**

Details on the RC14 sessions:

- 1) **A Return to the People? Popular Democracies and/or Populism in the 2.0 Public Sphere**

RC14 Sociology of Communication, Knowledge and Culture (host committee), Language: **French and English/ Anglais et Français**

At the beginning of the 21st century, information and participation asymmetries created by traditional media have been challenged by new technologies that reinvigorated the civil society and changed media policies. Optimists argued that the widespread use of the Internet for social networking, blogging, etc. fosters participatory (popular) democracy. Politicians and media are no longer the sole producers of political information; new actors from civil society, citizens, NGOs activists could contribute with equal influence on the political decision. Pessimists argued that the populist movements of the twentieth century, far from being displaced by the rise of the networked media and communication platforms incorporated the non-hierarchical characteristics of 2.0 communication to spread their populist rhetoric and coagulate regular people into movements that challenge the hard core of the democratic system. These scholars argued that movements like Podemos in Spain, Piraten in

Germany or Tea Party in the USA were destined to remain marginal without the on-line communication. The goal of this session is to bring together researches on the changing relationship and/or tensions between populism and popular democratic movements, in order to make sense of the challenges of the relationship between people, (new) media and political institutions.

Session Organizer:

Daniela ROVENTA-FRUMUSANI, Bucharest University, Romania, danifrumusani@yahoo.com

2) Aportaciones de la Comunicación a los Procesos de Participación Social

RC14 Sociology of Communication, Knowledge and Culture (host committee) Language: **Spanish/ Español**

Esta sesión pretende mostrar aportaciones realizadas desde la comunicación para mejorar los procesos de participación social. Se trata de mostrar cómo la comunicación resulta decisiva para profundizar en aspectos tan diversos de la participación como los principales retos de la democracia o en las relaciones cotidianas de pequeñas comunidades. Interesa promover un debate crítico sobre los sesgos que genera la implantación de tecnologías comunicativas emergentes. Y se trata de compartir aportaciones sobre experiencias positivas (buenas prácticas) o sobre aspectos particularmente rechazables en la puesta en marcha de experiencias de comunicación orientadas hacia la mejora de los procesos de participación.

Session Organizer:

José A. RUIZ SAN ROMAN, Universidad Complutense Madrid, Spain, jars@ucm.es

3) Aportaciones de la Investigación en Comunicación al Desarrollo Social

RC14 Sociology of Communication, Knowledge and Culture (host committee), Language: **Spanish/ Español**

En esta sesión se pretende intercambiar información sobre experiencias de la investigación en comunicación que sean significativas y relevantes para los procesos de mejora social. No sólo se trata de centrarse en mejoras globales sino también son interesantes mejoras locales relacionadas con la implantación de nuevos modos de comunicación o de un uso alternativo de los procesos de comunicación existentes. Se valora particularmente las investigaciones sobre América Latina.

Session Organizer:

José A. RUIZ SAN ROMAN, Universidad Complutense Madrid, Spain, jars@ucm.es

4) Are Mobility and Hybridization Possibilities for a Better World?

RC14 Sociology of Communication, Knowledge and Culture (host committee), Language: **English**

One of the most helpful category for understanding the 21st century is mobility: a category including “the diverse mobilities of peoples, objects, images, information and wastes” (Urry, 2000) analyzing their complex interdependencies and social consequences. The converging mobile technologies have made a mobile world where the connections between physical travel and modes of communication are complex and extensive. In a mobility context even the physical changes can be understood like de-materializing connections; people, machines, images, information, money, ideas are all in movement, making and remaking connections all around the world, producing inexperienced hybridization.

So the movement connecting the sense of belonging and mobility integrates in some enclaves the hybridization of physical and digital worlds by a process that can be positive or negative: on the one hand, a process of

appropriation and belonging, on the other hand, a condition of de-rooting and exclusion that changes the places into “ghettos”.

If it is easy to find a connection between mobility and an extended identity (to manage these increasing activities about physical, cognitive, imaginary and emotional spheres) what scenario could/would we imagine for the future? What issues can emerge from mobility in the future? Are digital communication, information, and knowledge, all promoted by mobility, and hybridization efficient tools for transforming today’s world into a better world? Or are they only instruments for extending the existing inequalities, hegemonies and ideologies? We welcome theoretical and empirical contributions that deal with the issues of mobility and hybridization in everyday life.

Session Organizer:

Fiorenza GAMBA, University of Sassari, Italy, fiorenza.gamba@gmail.com

5) Contemporary Power, Symbolisms and Narratives By the Media

RC14 Sociology of Communication, Knowledge and Culture (host committee)

Language: **English**

The mediation of political life (the intensive and regular use of the media, the press, radio and especially television from the political class) is intimately attached to the transformation of contemporary societies’ political frame. This transformation places the relation between the media and the power in the heart of today’s relevant scientific debates. The relation between media and political life constitutes an important factor for understanding contemporary political issues.

Session Organizer:

Christiana CONSTANTOPOULOU, Panteion University, Greece, christiana.constantopoulou@panteion.gr

6) Expertise and Interests: For a Sociology of Think Tanks

RC14 Sociology of Communication, Knowledge and Culture (host committee)

RC18 Political Sociology Language: **English**

Think tanks are becoming ever more relevant policy actors in much of the world, even if their organizational diversity renders their contours difficult to define. Originally circumscribed to the Anglo-American sphere, think tanks are now ubiquitous in places as far between as Brussels, Beijing, Nairobi and Santiago. In the process, they have become significant actors in informing and framing public policy debates, as well as being part of elite networks inside a polity. As a consequence, many sociologists and political scientists argue that think tanks can help the legitimation of particular policy agendas – sometimes aligned with their funders – thus helping to blur the distinction between interests and knowledge.

Hence, over the past decades, policy institutes have become significant agents to research, as their murky character – hovering over the edges of academia, the media, economic interests and politics – allows them to use a diverse array of credentials, styles of public performance, intellectual tools and strategies in their efforts to attain political relevance. Moreover, their effectiveness – even for those seen as little more than lobbies – depends on seeming credible and respectable across audiences. This makes these organizations sociologically fascinating, as they make manifest the complex connection between political and economic institutions and the intellectual sphere.

We accept submissions that confront these issues and the tensions underpinning think tanks from both theoretical

and empirical standpoints, exploring their role in modern political systems and, more broadly, the part played by professional expertise and advocacy organizations in modern policymaking.

Session Organizers:

Fiorenza GAMBA, University of Sassari, Italy, fiorenza.gamba@gmail.com

Marcos GONZALES-HERNANDO, University of Cambridge, United Kingdom, mjg221@cam.ac.uk

7) Fiction of Worlds and Struggles/Fictions des Mondes et de Leurs Luttes

RC14 Sociology of Communication, Knowledge and Culture (host committee)
and French – Anglais et Français

Language: English

As a mirror or contrast to sociological approach of struggles for a better world, fictions and their worlds are a sphere for struggles for representation as well as struggles opposing representations. In the very heart of popular culture, its avant-garde, elites or mainstreams, literature, movies, games, comics, mangas, performances question social, environmental, technical and political orders and disorders. They experiment dystopias and utopias; players, readers and actors often live these worlds of fiction as real life, through avatars and pseudonyms or as co-authors in interactive digital creation. The world of work and organisation also contributes to fiction-making for management, enrolment or resistance purposes: serious games, video for training and control, storytelling. Social and political struggles are represented, experienced and somewhat fought. The session will host presentation of works, plans and devices, production, practice and consumption in the fields of literature, imaginary creation, games and organization.

Session Organizer:

Olivier CHANTRAINE, Geriico/université de Lille, France, ochantraine@dbmail.com

8) Globalization, Communication and Social Transformation: Towards a Global Sociology of Communication

RC14 Sociology of Communication, Knowledge and Culture (host committee)

Language: English

Globalization refers to widening, deepening and speeding up of worldwide interconnectedness in all aspects of contemporary social life. New communication technologies have facilitated the process of globalization and transformed the socio-cultural milieu of different societies in such a way that the fields of interactions are cutting across the boundaries of communities and nation-states. The transnational flow of people, commodities, ideas and activities is closely associated with the information technology.

These changes have posed a serious challenge to the state-centrist assumption of sociology in recent past. Sociologists who have traditionally focused their analysis on the relationship between media, culture and society are now shifting to analyzing these emerging trends at different levels. In what ways globalization and new communication technologies are transforming the socio-cultural milieu of different societies would be the main theme of the proposed session.

Session Organizer:

Virendra P. SINGH, University of Allahabad, India, etdrvps@gmail.com

9) Media Activism, Emergent Journalism Practices, Participative Media and Struggles for Better Worlds.

RC14 Sociology of Communication, Knowledge and Culture (host committee)

Language: **English**

Digital media and their interactive and participative potentialities are a field for voluntary construction of alternative worlds, ways of living, debating, creating, informing, telling, writing. Participative media lead new kinds of authors and actors to build spheres of communication, creation and culture. Hackers, developers and opponents create and promote open tools and practices contesting the global communication industrial monopolistic firms. Some of them emerge into alternative utopias; others are innocent parts of a totalitarian merchandise puzzle.

The session will investigate emerging authors and actors in the digital sphere and the competition between the specter of Brave New World and media activists and creators co-operating or opposing for better worlds.

Session Organizer:

Olivier CHANTRAINE, Université de Lille 3, France, ochantraine@dbmail.com

10) Pouvoirs Contemporains, Mises en Scène, Symbolismes et Récits

RC14 Sociology of Communication, Knowledge and Culture (host committee)

Language: **French /Français**

La relation entre médias et vie politique constitue de nos jours un facteur important pour la compréhension des enjeux liés aux pouvoirs en place. Il est particulièrement intéressant de se pencher de plus près sur certains aspects du politique contemporain, qui se rapprochent intimement du processus communicationnel et des médias.

Session Organizer:

Christiana CONSTANTOPOULOU, Panteion University, Greece, christiana.constantopoulou@panteion.gr

11) The Complex Discursivity of Global Futures in the Making: Analyzing Transnational Orders of Discourse

RC33 Logic and Methodology in Sociology (host committee)

RC14 Sociology of Communication, Knowledge and Culture

WG02 Historical and Comparative Sociology Language: **English**

Global and transnational civil society, the proliferation of arenas and organizations involved in the definition of “world problems”, the burgeoning economic power of the BRIC states as well as general recognition of a “post-colonial constellation” together constitute a new and challenging reconfiguration of transnational or global orders of discourse.

The joint session addresses sociological tools for analyzing the complex discursivity of such sites of discourse, communication, and knowledge production. This complexity is a result of the hybrid constellations of the actors and knowledge claims involved, interconnections of heterogeneous arenas of dialogue and negotiation, diverse cultural rationalities of factuality, evidence, and legitimation, and also of translation between epistemic cultures and languages from around the world.

In order to address these challenges, the session focuses on the reach of sociological tools for analyzing transnational and global discourses as knowledge-making activities which will profoundly shape the future. It

intends to strengthen genuinely sociological methodologies of discourse research – a task which, according to sociologist Adele Clarke, is at the center of our discipline today.

The session welcomes contributions which refer to theories, methodologies, and methods of discourse research designed especially for sociological research as well as presentations of empirical research that are related to these questions.

Session Organizer:

Reiner KELLER, Universität Augsburg, Germany, reiner.keller@phil.uni-augsburg.de

12) The Future of the "War on Terror"

RC14 Sociology of Communication, Knowledge and Culture (host committee)

Language: **English**

When the war on terror (WOT) was declared after Al Qaeda's spectacular 2001 attacks some predicted that it would lead to several dystopian effects. This session is devoted to paper presentations that assess these predictions and the possibilities of more favorable outcomes.

Potential topics:

- Critique of the WOT as a mode of power and domination, as Western hegemony, as US dominance;
- Cultural analysis of the WOT as bio-politics, neoliberalism, and elite political communication;
- Outcomes such as endless war, more frequent interventions around the world, more frequent campaigns of high-tech homicide bombings and drone warfare;
- More cycles of "terror" and "counter-terrorism" and the emergence of police-states; an intensification of surveillance and securitization, of individuals and populations, oppositional groups, domestic threats to democracy;
- Perversion of the social and psychological sciences and the abandonment of its critical function, the reduction of social scientists to an adjunctive, auxiliary role in the WOT as "terrorism" or "counterterrorism" experts, narrowing the objects of knowledge, stigmatizing the enemies of Empire;
- More utopian consequences; a radical intensification of democracy, a new birth of emancipatory politics, a reduction in political violence, new forms of democracy, etc.

Session Organizer:

Michael BLAIN, Boise State University, USA, mblain@boisestate.edu

13) Visibility and Social Orders. on the Construction of Boundaries and Knowledge in the Contemporary Technological Condition

RC14 Sociology of Communication, Knowledge and Culture (host committee)

Language: **English**

In contemporary societies inclusion, exclusion, participation and access to knowledge production are not anymore primarily organized through social status, access to institutions, and exchange structures. This session addresses the question of visibility, which has been neglected as a focus of interaction and a generator of social structures, and as the implications of visual research for sociality and culture remain under-theorized. The ubiquity of vernacular knowledge creation and sharing via multimedia channels gives rise to a) new modes of cultural production b) new chances for the recognition of people and issues c) new boundaries e.g. between the spectacular and the boring, the famous and the non-famous. Thus, the visible becomes an increasingly important interface between meanings, milieus, organizations and technologies – as well as an ordering principle of its own. For the session, we welcome papers that address the following issues:

- How are boundaries drawn (or erased) visually between nature and culture, between the social and the non-social, the human and non-human and between different categories of people?
- In which ways might the production and distribution of knowledge change within the context of a general aesthetization of “networked” societies? What are the roles and activities of experts and amateurs and their relationships in the development of cultural skills such as visualization, self-presentation, redaction, distribution in media networks?
- How far do visibilities and legibilities have the capacity to shape social and cultural orders through technologies, practices, and activism? Which forms of subjectivity are advanced in these contexts?

Session Organizer:

Boris TRAUÉ, Leuphana University Lueneburg, Germany, boris.traue@leuphana.de

Deadlines and Rules for Presenters

How to present a paper

Anyone interested in presenting a paper should submit an abstract on-line through a centralized website which will be operational from April 14 through September 30, 2015.

Please follow the below listed steps.

1. Select session

List of sessions is available in the relevant RC/WG/TG section

2. Submit abstract: 14 April till 30 September 2015

Participants must submit abstracts on-line from April 14, 11:00 GMT through September 30, 2015, 24:00 GMT



- The abstract text cannot contain more than 300 words and must be submitted in English, French or Spanish.
- Only abstracts submitted on-line will be considered in the selection process
- The author is required to choose the RC/WG/TG session in which s/he wishes the abstract to be included
- One cannot submit more than two abstracts
- One cannot submit the same abstract to two different sessions

- It is the Author's responsibility to submit a correct abstract; any errors in spelling, grammar, or scientific fact will be reproduced as typed by the author.
All changes/updates should be done via on-line system by September 30, 2015 24:00 GMT.
- Each abstract received on-line will be assigned an identification number

3. **Notification: 30 November 2015**

4. **Registration deadline for presenters: 1 April 2016 24:00 GMT**

- On the registration deadline April 1, 2016 presenters who have failed to register will be automatically deleted from the program.
- It is very important that all participants respect conference deadlines concerning registration and submission of abstracts. **No extension of deadlines is possible**

Rules for All Presenters

- **Limited appearance in the Program**

Participants may be listed **no more than twice** in the Program. This includes all types of activities requiring physical presence: chair or co-chair, author or co-author (oral or poster presentation, distributed paper), roundtable presenter, panelist, critic, discussant.

In addition, participants may be listed in the Program up to two more times as Program Coordinators and/or Session Organizers.

RC/WG/TGs can further limit the number of appearances within their own sessions.

A participant cannot present and chair in the same session.

- **ISA and RC/WG/TG membership**

ISA does not require anyone to be a member in order to present a paper, and provides different registration fees for members and non-members. Those RCs which require that presenters in their sessions are members of the RC, and/or also of ISA, should clearly inform potential presenters about these requirements from the very start of conference preparations.

- **Registration payment**

In order to be included in the program the participants (presenters, chairs, discussants, etc.) must pay registration fees by **April 5, 2016**. If not registered, their names will not appear in the Program Book and in the Abstracts Book.

In case of a co-authored paper, in order for a paper to appear in the program, at least one co-author must pay the registration fee by the early registration deadline April 5, 2016; the names of other co-authors will be listed as well.

If other co-authors wish to attend the conference they must pay the registration fee.

How to Become an ISA Member: Individual Membership

Open to scholars and professionals of sociological teaching, research or practice. At present there are 5,000 members from 167 countries.

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Benefits of the individual membership are:

Subscription to ISA journals **Current Sociology** and **International Sociology**.

Reception of **Isagram**, an electronic newsletter containing announcements of the forthcoming conferences, calls for papers and manuscripts, prizes, competitions, job offers, etc.

On-line access to

- **eSymposium**, a forum through which ISA members are able to engage in debate, showcasing the diverse work, practices, ideas and voices.
- **sociopedia.isa** an online database with state-of-the-art review articles in social sciences.
- **SAGE Collection** which includes 36 journals with more than 12,500 articles.
- **Sage Research Methods**, a resource which brings together information on methodological issues and choices, and provides copies of relevant articles; it can be used in many ways, including the planning of methods teaching and the making of decisions on what methods might be appropriate for a new project.
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A reduction in registration fees at ISA World Congress and Forum of Sociology.

**Forum registration
fees in Euro**

	Before April 5, 2016	After April 5, 2016
Regular fees		
Category A		
Member ISA	250 €	280 €
Non-member	410 €	440 €
Category B		
Member ISA	140 €	170 €
Non-member	206 €	236 €
Category C		
Member ISA	120 €	150 €
Non-member	142 €	172 €
Student fees		
Category A		
Student member ISA	80 €	110 €
Student non-member	156 €	186 €
Category B		
Student member ISA	60 €	90 €
Student non-member	92 €	122 €
Category C		
Student member ISA	35 €	65 €
Student non-member	51 €	81 €

Congress registration fees are divided into regular and student fees. Each student must provide a copy of the valid student card or equivalent.

ISA Members are scholars who paid their individual membership fees for the current year to the ISA Secretariat in Madrid.

Registration fees have been divided into three categories: A, B, and C. Each participant must identify the economy category in which her/his country of residence is classified and pay the registration fee corresponding to this category (see categories on ISA site).

All program participants (paper givers, session organizers, chairs, discussants, etc.) must pay a full registration fee before April 5, 2016.

Daily registration of Euro 120 will be available for purchase at the Registration Desk. A daily registration fee is not available for program participants (paper givers, session organizers, chairs, discussants, etc.) who must register before an early registration deadline.

On-line conference registration will open in mid-2015.

Registration Grants - Guidelines for grant application submission

1. Type of grant

Registration grants have been established for active participants in the Research Committee (RC), Working Group (WG) or Thematic Group (TG) programs.

2. Eligibility

Individual ISA members in good standing (i.e. who have paid the individual membership fee at least two years before the month of the ISA conference) are eligible for registration grants.

3. How to apply

One can apply for a grant to only one RC/WG/TG. Multiple applications will not be considered. A letter of application should be sent **before January 31, 2016** to the Program Coordinator of the RC/WG/TG where a paper will be presented.

E-mail addresses of the Program Coordinators of the RC/WG/TGs are available in the relevant RC/WG/TG section.

4. Decisions

The Board of each RC/WG/TG will review all applications and recommend the allocation of available funds by March 1, 2016. A list of the selected individuals will be posted on the ISA website in mid-March 2016.

5. Grant allocation

Registration grant code will be provided to the selected individuals by the ISA Secretariat so that all successful applicants can register with this code to the conference before the early registration deadline **April 5, 2016**.



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