

## Newsletter

### Meeting in Buenos Aires



#### On board for Buenos Aires!

The time approaches for the 2<sup>nd</sup> ISA Forum of Sociology on “Social justice and democratization” to be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina - August 1-4, 2012

The Research Committee on Sociology of Communication, Knowledge and Culture, (RC14) is participating with 14 sessions (and several joint sessions) having as main theme, “*Justice and democracy in the contemporary culture*”.

**One interesting** innovation is the organization of specific sessions either in English, French or Spanish (the three ISA official languages, but not altogether mixed up in a session – as it is often the case in ISA events); we thought that in this way, the best possible scientific communication among the 102 registered participants, could be achieved.

Thus, the RC14 organizes **6 sessions in English** (plus our Business Meeting –very important as we are about to discuss our proposed *new statutes*), **2 sessions in French** (taking in consideration that French was the official language of the Athens midterm conference, in May 2011), and **5 sessions entirely in Spanish**, in order to better encourage the “local” participation.

Expressing the RC14 board, I hope that the RC14 sessions at the Second Forum of Sociology will be big success and work for it; looking forward to meet you all in Argentina!

*C. Constantopoulou, RC14 President and Program Coordinator*

Some practical “links” for Buenos Aires:

#### **RC14 Liaison in Argentina**

Ana Marotías, Universidad de Buenos Aires, [anamarotias@gmail.com](mailto:anamarotias@gmail.com)

#### **Volunteer at the venue**

Andrés Scharager, [andres.scharager@gmail.com](mailto:andres.scharager@gmail.com)

**IN PREPARATION OF BUENOS AIRES BUSINESS MEETING:  
STATUTES OF RC14/PROPOSAL FOR THE DISCUSSION AND DELIBERATION**

**Updating of RC 14 statutes: procedure and agenda**

The International Sociological Association has asked the Research Committees to update their statutes; so, the RC14 Board, at its meeting in Gothenburg, decided to prepare a proposal for RC14 statutes, in concordance with ISA requirements; this proposal (validated by the Board Members, except one member who suspended his advice), consists in the following points (to be discussed in Buenos Aires):

1 -The proposal is now published in the present newsletter. All members are so informed of the proposal and of the inscription of this subject on the agenda of the business meeting in Buenos Aires, which will debate and vote.

2 - All members have the possibility to communicate propositions of modifications to the following addresses: **christiana.constantopoulou@panteion.gr** - RC14 president and **ochantraine@dbmail.com** - RC14 secretary until the deadline of 1st of June 2012. Proposals of modification to be taken in consideration must be supported by mail, or letter, by at least 3 members in good standing.

3 - Propositions supported by at least three members in good standing will be communicated to all members at least 6 weeks before the BM (until the 14th of June 2012).

4 -The Business Meeting in Buenos Aires will deliberate on the basis of the present proposals and of all the valid propositions of modifications received in due time. No other propositions of modification will be taken into consideration at the Business Meeting.

**Please take care to propose only modifications acceptable regarding the ISA requirements.**

P.S. One member, Dr. Elias Said Hung has already sent a proposal of amendments (signed by the necessary number of members; his proposal will be communicated to all members at the same time as all other propositions of amendments, June 14<sup>th</sup>).

**PROPOSITION FOR RC14 STATUTES**

**Research committee on Sociology of Communication,  
Knowledge and Culture, i.e RC14 of ISA**

**1. Statutes NAME**

The Research Committee on Sociology of Communication, Knowledge and Culture is referred to here after as RC14.

**2. NATURE OF RC14**

- RC14 statutes are in accordance with Article 4 of the ISA Statutes adopted in August 1993.

- RC14 raises its funds by levying a subscription on its members and in other ways.

### 3. OBJECTIVES OF Rc14

The objectives of RC 14 are:

- To promote the development of theory and research in the Sociology of Communication, Knowledge and Culture.
- To create and develop an international community among scholars in the field of Sociology of Communication, Knowledge and Culture.

### 4. ACTIVITIES OF RC14

The promotion of conferences and similar activities in various countries

- The provision of travel grants to members in good standing
- The promotion of research publications
- The encouragement of research networks and exchanges all over the world-
- The publication of a Newsletter twice a year ( The Newsletter can be substituted by new means of communication in accordance of ISA regulations)

### 5. MEMBERSHIP

- Membership to RC14 is open to all individuals and institutions working in the field of Sociology of Communication, Knowledge and Culture and related disciplines.

- Membership can be distinguished into two types:

a) regular members in good standing are defined as: “ members who paid the membership fees both to ISA and to RC14”,

b) affiliated members are defined as : “members who paid the membership fees to RC14 but not to ISA”.

This distinction applies to both individual and institutional members.

c) RC 14 encourages its members to be full members of ISA.

- Regular members in good standing are entitled:

a) To receive travel grants made by RC14, subject to such rules of eligibility as established by the Board of RC14. Grants are attributed by a committee of members of the Board. The members of this committee cannot receive grants.

b) To vote at the General Business Meeting of RC14 which usually takes place during ISA World Congresses or by electronic ballot.



- All members are entitled to

- a) Receive the RC14 Newsletter and such other publications as RC14 may issue,
- b) To obtain at reduced cost any publications on which RC14 has negotiated special rates for members.

- All members are obliged

- a) To observe the statutes of RC14,
- b) To carry out conscientiously any tasks entrusted to them by the quadrennial business meeting held during the World Congress of ISA, the board or the President,
- c) To pay membership fees which are periodically fixed either by the officers, the board or the quadrennial business meeting of Rc14.

## **6. THE PRESIDENT**

The President coordinates the Officers and the board, and, with assistance of the Officers and the Board the activities of the RC 14.

She/He represents RC 14 in any bodies inside or outside ISA. She/He can delegate this representation to members of the board.

She/He is responsible for the publications of RC14: newsletters, calls for papers and any publication printed or electronic. The Secretary, the Editor, and other members of the board assist her/him in that task.

The President proposes to the General Business Meeting the scientific activities of RC 14 between Congresses of ISA, which must include not less than one conference to which all members can take part.

She/He reports to the business meeting for activities of RC 14 and finances, with the assistance of the board.

She/ He presents the financial report, prepared in coordination with the Treasurer.

She/He establishes the report of the Business meeting, with assistance of the Secretary.

She/He represents the RC 14 in the research council of ISA. She / He can delegate this representation to a member of the board.

She/He is re-eligible.

In case of vacancy of the President, the Officers designate an Acting President. The Acting President is eligible to the Presidency or any office in the following board.

## **7. OFFICERS**

- Officers shall be elected at the General Meeting (during the ISA congress)



- The Officers of RC 14 are: the President, the Vice-presidents, the Secretary, the Treasurer, the Newsletter Editor(s). They are chosen to represent various geographical areas.
- The Officers of RC14 shall carry out conscientiously the tasks entrusted to them by the board. They are coordinated by the President, who is responsible of the actions and strategy of RC14.
- The Treasurer is in charge of maintaining a certified bank account of the committee and to execute the financial operations needed by the activities of the committee, in accordance with the quadrennial Business Meeting, the decisions of the Board, under the responsibility of the President
- The Treasurer cannot belong professionally to the same State than the President.

- Among the tasks of the officers are, under the general responsibility of the President:

- a) To be responsible for communications with the ISA;
- b) To be responsible for preparing a scientific program for RC 14 at the World Congress of Sociology;
- c) To arrange the General Meeting of RC 14;
- d) To execute all decisions and be responsible for the running of RC 14 between General Meetings;
- e) To submit reports on the different activities at each General Meeting of RC14.

These shall include reports on the Research Committee's activities, its Newsletter and its financial position;

- f) To organize at least one midterm conference between ISA World Congresses.
- g) To designate the members of a “grants committee”, within the board's members, no candidate to a grant being allowed to be member of the “grant committee”.

- The number of officers may be increased or decreased in order to maximize the effectiveness of the work of RC14. The Business Meeting, or, between general meetings, the Officers are in charge to determine this number.

- If any officer resigns or is unable to serve –including the president- then the remaining officers, with the advice of the Board, shall appoint the person who will replace/substitute her/him.

## **8.THE GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING**

A General Business Meeting of RC 14 shall be held during each World Congress of Sociology. An extraordinary General Business Meeting can be held if necessary, notably in the frame of world forums of ISA; in this case, the extraordinary Business Meeting must be announced six weeks in advance, by mail to all members.

Its functions are:

- To receive reports on the work of RC14 since the last general business meeting. The President presents these reports, with assistance of the board.



- To give guidance regarding the work of RC14, by passing resolutions or by other means.
  - To approve the modifications of the statutes of RC 14, if the modifications were not approved by electronic ballot.
  - At the ordinary GBM held during Isa World Congress, to elect the President.
  - At the ordinary GBM held during Isa World Congress to elect the Board: Vice-President (s), Officers and RC14 board members.
  - At the ordinary GBM held during Isa World Congress, to receive and approve the financial report, presented by the President with assistance of the Treasurer
- The quorum of General Business Meeting shall be of 20 members.
- Voting shall be by secret ballot.
- Decisions are approved at the majority of the present members.
- Vice-President (s) and other members of the board shall be approved by a majority of the present members. - In the election for ordinary elected members of the board the n persons receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared elected. The figure n is identical to the number of ordinary members elected at the previous General Meeting, unless it has been changed by a motion passed subsequently. In the event of a tie, the choice among those receiving the same number of votes shall be decided by lot.
  - To prepare the General Business Meeting, a “Nomination Committee” is designated by the board to receive applications to the board and offices.
  - Applications are valid if supported – by letter or mail - by at least three members in good standing of RC 14. Candidates cannot be members of the “Nomination Committee”. In case no nominations have been registered by the nomination committee, or in case the nomination committee has registered an insufficient number of candidates, the General Business Meeting can designate the necessary number of officers and board members among the present members in good standing.

## 9. ELECTRONIC BALLOTS

Modifications of the statutes can be decided by electronic ballots. In that case, the quorum required for validity is of 50% +1 of the regular member in good standing. The President and officers in function are in charge of the organization of the ballot.

## 10. AMENDMENT OF THE STATUTES

Any motion to amend the statutes shall be sent to all members in good standing by e-mail and to the Newsletter Editor for publication in the RC14 Newsletter.

Such motions should have the signatures of 15 members of RC14 in good standing.

Motions to amend the statutes will be considered at the General Business Meeting of the RC14 or submitted to electronic ballot, and come into effect if supported by a simple majority of those present or a simple majority of the electronic votes.

## ACTIVITIES REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 2010 - 2012 ISA Research Committees, Working and Thematic Groups

### 1. Name of the Research Committee: Sociology of Communication, Knowledge and Culture

### 2. Composition of Board 2010-2014:

POSITION	NAME	ELECTION/ APPOINTMENT	START/ END OF TERM
President	CONSTANTOPOULOU CHRISTIANA	Election	July 2010 - July 2014
Vice-President	HALLEY J. & PAPADEMAS D.	“”	“”
Secretary	CHANTRAINE OLIVIER	“”	“”
Treasurer	GAMBA FIORENZA	“”	“”
<b>Board Members</b>	<b>Daniela Frumusani</b>	“”	“”
	<b>Ryoichi Horiguchi</b>	“”	“”
	<b>Nataliya Ikonnikova</b>	“”	“”
	<b>Oksana Lychkovska</b>	“”	“”
	<b>Elias Said-Hung</b>	“”	“”
	<b>Krzysztof Stachura</b>	“”	“”
Newsletter Editor	FONTENELLE ISLEIDE	“”	“”

### 3. Date of the next Board elections: during the 2014 ISA Congress In Japan.

### 4. Delegate and Alternate to ISA Research Council Meetings at the Second Forum of Sociology, Buenos Aires, August 2012 (*Observers in the case of WGs and TGs*)

Delegate: President (C. Constantopoulou)

Alternate: Vice President or Secretary 1) J. Halley, 2) D. Papademas, 3) O. Chantraine)

### 5. Past Activities Fall 2010 – December 2012

EVENT	No. ISA RC MEMBERS	No. NON MEMBERS
Midterm Conference entitled “Culture et Barbarie” bilingual, French and Greek in Athens 26-28 May 2011	10	70
Midterm -participation at the 2nd Forum of Sociology, with general theme: “Justice and democracy in the contemporary culture”; Buenos Aires, 1-4 August 2012; Sessions in Spanish, English and French.	30	72

### 6. Finances 2010-2012

i) *Affiliation fees from ISA members: 134 members in good standing in May 2012.*

ii) *ISA grant (used for a cocktail in Athens conference); the remnants of Gothenburg grant used a) for the publication of the book “Récits et fictions dans la société contemporaine” L'Harmattan, Paris 2011, b) for the publication of the acts of the Athens conference.*

## 7. Newsletters in 2010 -2012

Newsletters have been published (two per year- in electronic -pdf- file and are posted on RC14 website). Copies have been sent immediately to members and the ISA Secretariat.

Dates of Newsletters issues: September 2010, March 2011, September 2011, May 2012. Format: PDF.

## 8. Publications

- 1) *Récits et fictions dans la société contemporaine* L'Harmattan Paris 2011 (Acts of the Gothenburg sessions in French).
- 2) *CD with the acts of the Athens conference (French and Greek): people wishing to receive an electronic copy, are invited to contact Christiana Constantopoulou ([sociology@otenet.gr](mailto:sociology@otenet.gr))*
- 3) (forthcoming) book on "Barbaries Contemporaines" (Selected essays of the Athens conference)

## SECOND ISA FORUM OF SOCIOLOGY - RC14 SESSIONS

### Sessions in English

New media, democracy and social justice Part I - *Wednesday, August 1, 2012: 02:30 PM - 04:00 PM*

Consumer culture and social issues - *Thursday, August 2, 2012: 09:00 AM - 10:30 AM*

New media, democracy and social justice Part II - *Thursday, August 2, 2012: 10:45 AM - 12:15 PM*

Cultural industries, new media and art in the global world - *Thursday, August 2, 2012: 02:30 PM - 04:00 PM*

Media, cultural diversity and identity transformations in a global world - *Thursday, August 2, 2012: 04:15 PM - 05:45 PM*

Contemporary Communication Issues - *Friday, August 3, 2012: 02:30 PM - 04:00 PM*

### Sessions in French (co-organized by AISLF\* - GT 21\*\*)

Discours à propos de la démocratie - *Wednesday, August 1, 2012: 09:00 AM - 10:30 AM*

Imaginaires démocratiques contemporains - *Wednesday, August 1, 2012: 10:45 AM - 12:15 PM*

### Sessions in Spanish

Ciudadanía digital, e-democracia y e-competencia en las sociedades contemporáneas - *Friday, August 3, 2012: 09:00 AM - 10:30 AM*

Desarrollo social y cooperación 2.0 (co-organized with AISO\*\*\*) - *Friday, August 3, 2012: 10:45 AM - 12:15 PM*

Jóvenes y comunicación (co-organized with ALAS\*\*\*\*) - *Saturday, August 4, 2012: 09:00 AM - 10:30 AM*

Redes y transformaciones sociales (co-organized with ALAIC\*\*\*\*\*) - *Saturday, August 4, 2012: 10:45 AM - 12:15 PM*

Responsabilidad social, participación y medios de comunicación (co-organized with AISO\*\*\*) - *Saturday, August 4, 2012: 02:30 PM - 04:00 PM*

\* Association Internationale des Sociologues de Langue Française

\*\* Socioanthropologie Politique

\*\*\* Asociación Iberoamericana de Sociología de las Organizaciones

\*\*\*\* Asociación Latinoamericana de Sociología

\*\*\*\*\* Asociación Latinoamericana de Investigadores de la Comunicación

## Joint Sessions

**The joint sessions with other ISA Research Committees are scheduled by ISA**

### Language and discourse in online social media

Joint session of RC14 Sociology of Communication, Knowledge and Culture and RC25 Language and Society [host committee]

Aug. 3<sup>rd</sup> 12.30-14.00

### Leisure and digital transformation: Emerging patterns of communication and electronic community

Joint session of RC13 Sociology of Leisure [host committee], RC14 Sociology of Communication, Knowledge and Culture and RC23 Sociology of Science and Technology

Aug. 3<sup>rd</sup> 10.45-12.15

### Videography and the analysis of visual knowledge and culture

Joint session of RC14 Sociology of Communication, Knowledge and Culture and RC33 Logic and Methodology in Sociology [host committee] Thursday Aug. 2<sup>nd</sup> 12.30-14.00

### RC14 BUSINESS MEETING AT BUENOS AIRES

Friday August 3rd 2012,  
12.30-14.00

### RC14 GRANTS FOR BUENOS AIRES

In order to realize the grants distribution for the Buenos Aires Forum, a “grant committee” constituted by the members of the board, O. Chantraine, secretary, F. Gamba treasurer and R. Horiguchi, member, was designated by the president. The RC 14 available grants were awarded to CONTRERAS Natalia (Colombia), LYCHKOVSKA Oksana (Ukraine) and SAID-HUNG Elias (Colombia).

## Announcements

### Media and Politics in Latin America: Globalization, Democracy and Identity

Carolina Matos (author)

Latin America is an increasingly important geopolitical entity and its nations are emerging as some of the most influential and radical states in the modern world. The media conglomerates which control the television and radio platforms in these countries, such as the Globo organization in Brazil and the Mercurial S.P.A. media corporation in Chile, have great political influence across the region. Here, Carolina Matos contrasts public service broadcasting in Latin America to that in Europe and the UK, engaging with current debates on globalisation and theories of cultural imperialism. She examines the role public media has played in the processes of national development, democratisation and international dialogue across South and Central America, arguing that it can be a powerful tool for political and social inclusion. This book will be essential reading for students and scholars of Media, Politics and Cultural Studies, as well as those with an interest in Latin American culture. As key polities, such as Brazil and Mexico, begin to flex their economic and demographic muscle, Media and Politics in Latin America is a timely examination of society and politics in the region.

