

Newsletter



XVIII ISA World Congress of Sociology
Facing an Unequal World:
Challenges for Global Sociology
Yokohama, Japan
July 13-19, 2014

According to Raquel Sosa's (ISA Vice-President, Congress Program) words, International Sociological Association, aware of the social transformations taking place in the world, cannot be absent from a debate on inequality. An intellectual and moral force can emerge in order to achieve drastic changes in the manners, forms of reasoning and scopes of the decisions to be taken in the world to ensure the preservation of human life and societies; more specifically four axes (Dimensions of Inequality, Dynamics of Inequality, Alternatives to Inequality, Sociology and the Debate about Justice) demand particular reflection.

RC14 is looking forward to participate to the 18th ISA Congress in Japan, proposing work topics into this congress very interesting (for Sociology and the contemporary societies) theme of increasing inequalities (despite the social achievements which followed the Second World War and the international human rights declarations). The pressure exerted by important mobilized sectors of society has allowed the opening of a wide spectrum in which legality and legitimacy for the reversion of **inequality** is based: from human rights to public policies for equalization, Sociology is obliged to recognize the existing links among basic social demands, the requirement for the establishment of human rights, the enforceability of these rights, social empowerment and the building of new forms of citizenship.

Communication, Knowledge and Culture are in the heart of the inequality problem: human beings understand their existence, rights and needs in the way their culture and the existing knowledge possibilities explain these issues to them and in the way the media (old and new) vehicle the social "reality". For these reasons, RC 14, might propose for the 18th World Congress of Sociology a general work theme:

Culture and Communication in the Contemporary (Unequal) World

Many sessions (and joint sessions, as this issue concerns so many dimensions of contemporary life such as politics, education, ethnic relations, health...) could be proposed in relation with this general topic. RC14 members are invited to propose topics meant to create our next congress sessions (please send your propositions to: christiana.constantopoulou@panteion.gr). We here remind the ISA deadlines for the forthcoming congress.

January 15, 2013

- Proposals for Ad Hoc Sessions should be received at the ISA Secretariat in Madrid isa@isa-sociology.org;
- Proposals for Integrative Sessions which involve at least 3 Research Committees, 3 National Associations or a combination of the two, should be received at the ISA Secretariat in Madrid isa@isa-sociology.org;

- Proposals for regular sessions by National, Regional, Linguistic and Thematic Associations should be received at the ISA Secretariat in Madrid isa@isa-sociology.org;
- Research Committees, Working and Thematic Groups send Call for Sessions and contact details of Program Coordinators to isa@isa-sociology.org for posting on ISA website.

March 1, 2013

- Research Committees, Working and Thematic Groups submit a list of sessions/chairs to isa@isa-sociology.org for posting on ISA website.

These will become **A Call for Papers**.

Looking forward to all RC14 members collaboration,

Christiana Constantopoulou
RC14 President

Activities and Announcements related to the Second World Forum in Buenos Aires - 1-4 August 2012

RC 14 Sessions: "Sociology of Communication, knowledge and Culture"

All along the four days of the forum, in the room 450 of University of Buenos Aires, RC 14 proposed papers and debates with a large audience of members of the Committee and of participants to the Forum. The success of the sessions confirmed the relevance of the choice to organize discussions in the three languages in usage in ISA as well as of cooperation with partner research organizations.

The localization in Buenos Aires opened opportunities of work with Latin American and Hispanic research organizations and Spanish speaking young researchers. On the contrary, the financial difficulties caused by economic crises in Europe, and especially in Greece, made difficult the participation for some members; it was also the reason for the poor number of present members at the Business Meeting.

The present Newsletter provides additional information about publications of papers, notably papers in Spanish.

Olivier Chantraine
RC14 Secretary General

Business Meeting of RC14 Buenos Aires (Argentina) Friday August 3rd, 12H30 / 14H00

The business meeting was held as scheduled.

Agenda :

- Information and open discussion (on RC 14's proposed new statutes among others).
- Statutes.

25 persons were present, among which **12 full members of RC14 and ISA, only**.

1 - The discussion took in consideration the report of activities previously communicated by the President, Christiana Constantopoulou.

The Assembly evaluated the sessions in Buenos Aires Conference as a success and validated the choice of sessions held in each of the three languages of the Association, with a special place given to Spanish, as the

language of the host region of the conference and to English and French (the latter being present in two sessions in Buenos Aires, considering it was the official language of the Athens Conference, held in May 2011).

The Assembly regretted the absence of the President of RC14 at the Buenos Aires Conference, caused by economic and financial difficulties in her university and country. It was also regretted that several papers could not be presented by their authors, for the same reasons, while they had been evaluated and accepted to be presented in the sessions.

2 – The Assembly was informed of the representation of RC14 at the ISA Research Committees assemblies by Jeffrey Halley (Vice-President) for the first session, and Olivier Chantraine (secretary) for the second one.

Jeffrey Halley informed the Assembly of a debate risen at the ISA Research Committees BM about the sanitary issues related to the Yokohama Congress, in the context of the nuclear accident of Fukushima. He asked the Assembly to make a census of who would consider not to participate in the Congress for that reason. Two persons indicated they would certainly not go. The others formulated a request to ISA and the Congress organisers to provide full information about that topic in due time before the Congress.

3- STATUTES.

Olivier Chantraine introduced the statutes issue: ISA requires all RCs to update their statutes.

The board prepared a text for the statutes, taking in consideration ISA's requirements and RC 14's specificities. This text was approved by the board to be proposed to the deliberation of the members. One amendment was prepared by Elias Saïd Hung, this amendment was included in the agenda of the BM, 8 full members supporting it's registration for the debate. Both texts had been communicated to all members of RC 14, six weeks before the meeting.

The floor was given to Elias Saïd Hung, who explained the amendment.

Olivier Chantraine explained the text proposed by the board.

A discussion took place.

The Assembly decided to vote first on the amendment and second on the main text.

The result of the vote was:

Full members voting: 12

Amendment of Elias Saïd Hung: 6

Initial proposal (without the amendment): 5

Abstentions: 1

No majority of 50%+1 being was achieved. it was thus decided to consult the ISA secretariat on the result of the vote: "which quorum was needed for validation of the vote? Which majority was required?"

Elias Saïd Hung and Olivier Chantraine were designated for that consultation.

The Assembly adopted at the unanimity of the present members the 2 following motions:

- **No officer of RC 14's, including president, should be allowed to serve in the same function for more than 2 consecutive terms;**
- **Applications to the presidential function must be published one month before the elections, as well as the programmes of the candidates.**

Some of the colleagues present suggested that the election of officers and board should be handled through electronic suffrage.

The session of the business meeting was closed at 14H00.

After consultation of ISA the statutes issue the results are the following:

- ISA cannot validate a vote by only 12 members and with no majority of 50%+1;
- ISA requires the amendment, and any other amendment, to be submitted, as it was done for the text of the board, to the statutes advisors of ISA before being proposed to the vote of members;
- No statutes of RC 14 are presently validated, so the general statutes of ISA apply until a new deliberation will succeed. That deliberation will necessarily require a quorum of 50% of full members of ISA and RC 14;
- An electronic vote should be organised in due time for the BM at Yokohama to be convoked in the frame of valid new statutes. An electronic vote will be valid if 50% of full members of RC14 and ISA participate. The majority required will be of 75% of the members participating to the vote.

August 2012

Olivier Chantraine

Activities (and visibility) of RC14 members participating in sessions organized in Spanish II ISA Forum

Thanks to the work of Elias Said-Hung (Universidad del Norte), Jose Antonio Ruiz-San Roman (Universidad Complutense of Madrid), Cesar Bolaños (Federal University of Sergipe) and Silvia Lagos (university of Buenos Aires), coordinators of the Spanish sessions organized by the RC14 in the 2nd ISA Forum in Buenos Aires, the publication of all the presentations in these sessions will be published (by [Online Eptic](#) of the Federal University of Sergipe, [TecCom Studies](#) at the Universidad Complutense of Madrid and a digital book by [Digital Colombia Corporation](#)). This is a very positive result demonstrating a very dynamic cooperation coming from the Iberian / American RC14 members contributing to the RC goals and we expect them to continue this way!

E. Said-Hung, member of the board responsible for the 2nd Forum RC14 Sessions in Spanish.

Further Announcements

Conference call for VI Simposium Las Sociedades ante el Reto digital (Societies to the Digital Challenge), organized by the Universidad del Norte in Colombia

On October 2012 will be announced the conference call of the sixth edition of the Symposium Las Sociedades ante el Reto Digital (Societies and Digital Challenge), organized by the Universidad del Norte in Colombia, during the 21 and 22 March 2013.

The central issues to be discussed at this symposium will be related to the application of ICT in education and communication.

Proposals for participation will be accepted in English and Spanish and there will be possibility to participate by videoconference too.

For more information, please go to URL: <http://www.uninorte.edu.co/retodigital> (from October 2012, onwards).





Call for Papers for volume 6, n° 2(12)/ 2013

ESSACHESS – Journal for Communication Studies
www.essachess.com

Secret, Publicity, Social Sciences Research

Coordinators:

Olivier CHANTRAINE (Geriico, University Charles de Gaulle of Lille 3, France) and
Patrice de la BROISE (Geriico, University Charles de Gaulle of Lille 3, France)

Research in Social Sciences cannot escape a confrontational and problematic relationship to secret and secrecy, for the reason that its focus is on “discovering”, “unveiling”, “detecting”, revealing”, “making explicit” and “publicizing”, this supposing that its subject (or object) of research is often “covered”, “veiled”, “hidden or concealed”, “unknown”, “implicit” or “private”... for more or less legitimate reasons sustained by weak or strong forces. Superior interests, sometimes, and, often, merely “good reasons” according to the view of institutions and public opinion, or even University itself.

Science obeys to a duty of publicizing and an ethic of “publicity”, while it often deals with social facts and situations considered by the stake holding actors as being of a very different status. Secret is in fact in the very heart of construction of social forms. (Simmel, 1991, Petitat, 1998) and registers in a great variety of significations according to contexts and stakes.

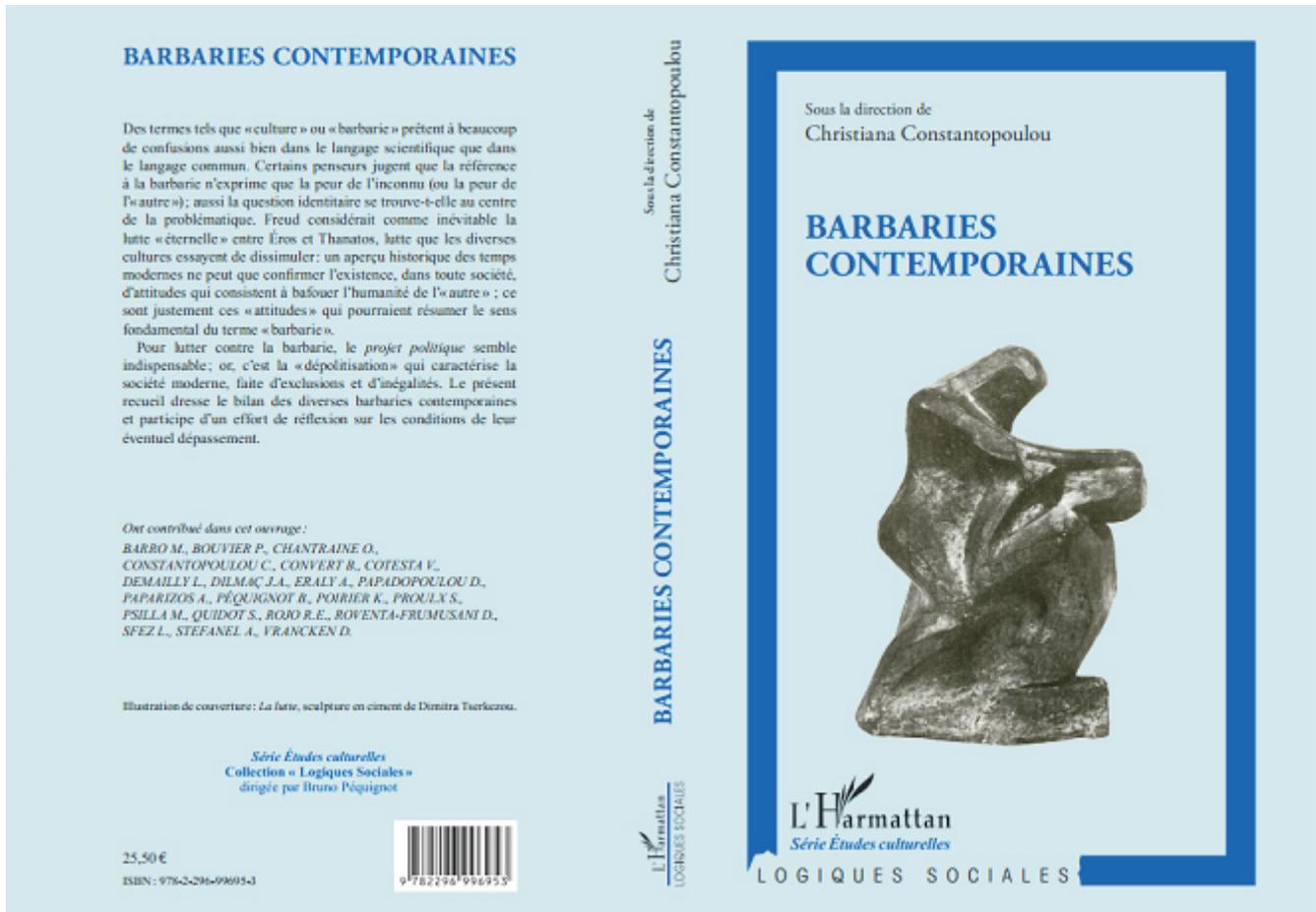
Deadlines

- **December 30, 2012**: submission of the proposition of article in the form of a summary of 400-500 words. The proposal must include a list of recent references;
- February 15, 2013: acceptance of the proposal;
- **July 15, 2013**: full paper submission;
- September 30, 2013: full paper acceptance.

Please read the full text (in French and in English) of this Call for Papers at the following address:
<http://www.essachess.com/index.php/jcs/index>, or ask for it at: ochantraine@dbmail.com.

Consider submitting material (publications,
reviews of books, call for papers) for the 6th RC14 Newsletter
to be edited in Spring 2013.

Forthcoming book (October 2012) based on selected essays of the RC14 midterm conference held in Athens in May 2011; we remind that the conference acts (with the publication of all the communications, in French or Greek), have already been published electronically since 2011.



ISARC14 is looking forward to participate in a dynamic way at the next ISA Congress in Yokohama; joint sessions are already beginning to be proposed (and the “habitual” cooperation between ASLF RC33 “Sociology of Communication” and WG21 “Political Socio-Anthropology” for the sessions in French, is already sure; others will certainly follow).

NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

Isleide Arruda Fontenelle
 Fundação Getulio Vargas – São Paulo, Brazil
 Isleide.Fontenelle@fgv.br