



# NEWSLETTER

Published by the Research Committee 22

## Letter from the President



new members to the Board. They are listed on the last page of this newsletter.

They are also listed on our redesigned website: [www.isa-rc22.org](http://www.isa-rc22.org). Besides looking a lot nicer than the old one, this website contains information about the Research Committee, notices of upcoming events, and so on. It also now houses Adam Possamai's e-mail list. Adam has moved that list to our blog page at [www.isa-rc22.org/news-events/](http://www.isa-rc22.org/news-events/). If you're not already getting our weekly notices of conferences, publishing opportunities, and so on, visit that page and sign up to receive them. The page also tells you how to add your events to the list. Thanks to Adam for carrying this project for so long.

Finally, the ISA is planning its next big event, the 3rd Forum of Sociology. It will be held in Vienna, Austria, in July, 2016. RC22 is planning to host as many sessions as we can. Read about it starting on page 6, below.

And check out our Secretary-Treasurer's request for a Deputy Editor of this newsletter (page 10). This is a great opportunity for an enthusiastic PhD student. We'll even cover your ISA membership fees.

Best wishes to you all,

Jim Spickard  
University of Redlands  
[president@isa-rc22.org](mailto:president@isa-rc22.org)  
[jim.spickard@redlands.edu](mailto:jim.spickard@redlands.edu)

Greetings from the ISA! This has been quite a year for the Research Committee for the Sociology of Religion. We had a wonderful World Congress in Yokohama, Japan. We have a newly elected Board. We have a redesigned website. And we are looking forward to our next ISA conference, in Vienna in July, 2016.

**The World Congress** was big. RC22 held 21 sessions plus our Business Meeting. About 280 scholars proposed papers, of which we accepted nearly 230. (A poster session and two round-table session let us host so many.) Unfortunately, about a third of those were unable to afford the trip. In the end, about 150 scholars presented at our sessions and many more attended. Personally, I found the intellectual tone to be excellent. The presentations were worthwhile, audience members asked meaningful questions, and the discussion was often deep. I want to thank the session organizers (listed on pages 3-5) for gathering a fine crop of papers. I particularly want to thank Esmeralda Sanchez for her work as Co-Program Coordinator. She and I divided the labor, each of us contributing our skills.

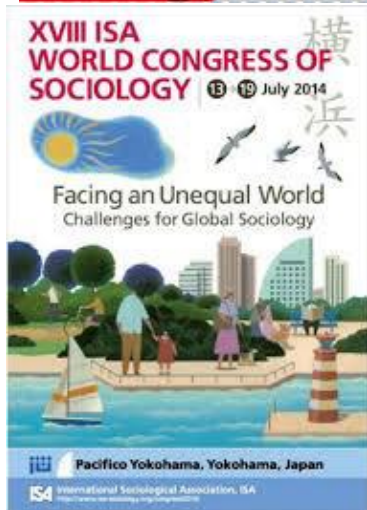
I want to make a special comment about the large number of younger scholars who presented on the RC22 program. I was pleased to see so many new faces doing such good research. I had an especially good set of conversations with the participants in the Poster Session. I thoroughly enjoyed hearing about their work one-on-one.

**RC22 Board.** Every four years, we elect a new governing board and officers. As your new President, I want to welcome Eloisa Martin as your new Secretary-Treasurer, Per Pettersson as your new Vice-President, and seven

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# Scenes from the Yokohama World Congress of Sociology



Yokohama was a beautiful venue for our conference. Hot and humid, but with good facilities and excellent intellectual stimulation. Yasukazu Kano and Ryutarō Kaneko performed on traditional Japanese instruments to open the event.



Adam Possamai, Jim Spickard, and Miroљub Jevtic



RC-22 Roundtable on Religion and Politics



RC-22 Session on Neo-Liberalism and Religious Organizations



RC-22 Session on Religion and Ethnic Identities



Michiaki Okuyama led a group from RC-22 to Kamakura. It was a rainy afternoon but a wonderful place to visit.





## World Congress of Sociology

### RC22 Sessions

#### MONDAY, JULY 14, 2014:

10:30 AM - 12:20 PM,

The Impact of Neoliberal Policies, Practices and Ideas on Religious Organizations

Organizer: Tuomas MARTIKAINEN

Chair: Thomas KERN

03:30 PM - 05:20 PM,

New Forms of Religious Organization

Organizer: Thomas KERN

Chair: Tuomas MARTIKAINEN

05:30 PM - 07:20 PM,

Uses of the Past: The Politics of Religion and Collective Memories

Organizers: Marian BURCHARDT and Mattias KOENIG

Chair: Tuomas MARTIKAINEN

07:30 PM - 08:50 PM,

Film: Haifa's Answer

Organizers: Roberto CIPRIANI and Emanuela C. DEL RE

Chair: Emanuela C. DEL RE

#### TUESDAY, JULY 15, 2014:

08:30 AM - 10:20 AM,

Non-Religion in Question: Ethics, Equality, and Justice

Organizers: Susanne SCHENK and Cora SCHUH

Chair: Johannes QUACK

10:30 AM - 12:20 PM,

Locating Religion in Civilizational Analysis

Organizers: Edward TIRYAKIAN and Said ARJOMAND

Chair: Edward TIRYAKIAN

03:30 PM - 05:20 PM,

#### **RC22 Roundtable I**

Table A: Facing Inequality from the Perspective of Islamic Organizations

Organizers: Kerstin ROSENOW-WILLIAMS and Matthias KORTMANN

Chair: Matthias KORTMANN

Table B: The Best of All Gods: Sites and Politics of Religious Diversity in Southern Europe

Organizer: José MAPRIL

Chair: Eloisa Martín

Table C: Issues of Secularization

Organizer: Jim SPICKARD & Esmeralda SANCHEZ

Chair: \_\_\_\_\_

05:30 PM - 07:20 PM,

Religion and the Transition to Adulthood

Organizer: Kati NIEMELA

Chair: Per PETTERSSON





## World Congress of Sociology

### RC22 Sessions (continued)

#### WEDNESDAY, JULY 16, 2014:

08:30 AM - 10:20 AM,

Spiritual and Religious Capital

Organizers: Christo LOMBAARD and Maria HAEMMERLI

Chair: Christo LOMBAARD

10:30 AM - 12:20 PM,

Religion, Nationalism and Transnationalism

Organizers: Patrick MICHEL, Adam POSSAMAI and Bryan TURNER

Chair: Adam POSSAMAI

03:30 PM - 05:20 PM,

Religion and Countering Gender Inequality

Organizers: Anna HALAFOFF, Emma TOMALIN and Caroline STARKEY

Chair: James SPICKARD

05:30 PM - 07:20 PM

Religion, Immigrants, and Health

**Joint Session between RC22, RC15, and RC31**

Organizer: Ephraim SHAPIRO

CHAIR: Jualynne DODSON

#### THURSDAY, JULY 17, 2014:

08:30 AM - 10:20 AM,

**RC22 Roundtable II**

Table A: Lessons for Studying Religion in the African Diaspora

Organizer: Jualynne DODSON

CHAIR: Alpha POSSAMAI-INESEDY

Table B: Sociology of Orthodoxy: The Study of the Church Life in the Contemporary Russia

Organizer: Igor RYAZANTSEV and Maria PODLESNAYA

Chair: Anna HALAFOFF

Table C: Religion, State, and Law

Chair: Sinisa ZRINCAK

Table D: Religion and Politics

Chair: Roberto BLANCARTE

Table E: Religion and Media

Chair: Eloisa MARTIN

10:30 AM - 12:20 PM

The Role of Religion in the Public Sphere

Organizer: Inger FURSETH

Chair: Per PETTERSSON



## World Congress of Sociology

### RC22 Sessions (continued)

03:30 PM - 05:20 PM

RC22 Presidential Session: Facing an Unequal Post-Secular World

Organizer: Adam POSSAMAI

Chair: James SPICKARD

05:30 PM - 07:20 PM

Welfare and Civil Society: The Role of Religion

Organizer: Per PETERSSON

Chair: Inger FURSETH

07:30 PM - 08:50 PM

#### **RC22 Poster Session**

Topics in the Sociology of Religion

Organizers: James SPICKARD and Esmeralda SANCHEZ

### FRIDAY, JULY 18, 2014:

08:30 AM - 10:20 AM

Sociology of Religion in Africa: Challenges and Prospects

Organizer: Afe ADOGAME

Chair: Afe ADOGAME

10:30 AM - 12:20 PM,

RC22 Business Meeting

03:30 PM - 05:20 PM

Religious Diversity and Social Change in Contemporary East Asia

Organizer: Michiaki OKUYAMA

Chair: Michiaki OKUYAMA

05:30 PM - 07:20 P

Multiculturalism and Religion: Contemporary Challenges and Future Opportunities

Organizer: Joshua M. ROOSE

Chair: Esmeralda SANCHEZ

### SATURDAY, JULY 19, 2014:

08:30 AM - 10:20 AM

Religion as a Factor in the Composition and Decomposition of Ethnic Identities

Organizer: Miroljub JEVTIC

Chair: Miroljub JEVTIC

**3rd Forum of Sociology — Vienna, July 2016****Call for Session Proposals****Third ISA Forum of Sociology****“The Futures we want: Global Sociology and the struggles for a better world”****RC 22: Research Committee for the Sociology of Religion Call for Sessions:  
“Religion, Secularity and Post-Secularity: Crafting Meaningful Futures”****Programme Coordinator: Vineeta Sinha (socvs@nus.edu.sg)**

**PROGRAM THEME:** The world’s current socio-economic and political turmoil has a profound impact on religious expressions, sensibilities and worldviews. Religious expressions and worldviews also affect the surrounding socio-economic and political spheres. Such dramatic changes produce disquiet, tumult and agitation but also open opportunities to question the status and create novel social possibilities.

Sociologists of religion face a number of challenges in understanding these interactions. Among these is the need to develop new theoretical and empirical approaches to our subject. Sociologists have long argued about the continuing place and value of religions in a secularizing and globalizing world. Although the notion of ‘post-secularity’ is hardly new, it has recently emerged forcefully (and somewhat fashionably) in attempts to theorise the visibility and relevance of religiosity in the world today. This raises serious questions that deserve sociological attention. Among these:

- Do recent developments signal to some extent the passing of a ‘secularist’ moment?
- What is meant by ‘post-secularity’?
- Are we living in a post-secular age? Or are we merely looking forward to one?
- If so, what would religion look like in such a context?
- What effect could religion have in a rapidly changing world?

The objective of these thematic sessions is to theorise the complex religious landscapes in the present and to contemplate if, where, how and with what effect religions will manifest and organize themselves in a rapidly changing socio-political landscape.

**CALL FOR SESSION PROPOSALS:** We invite RC 22 members to propose sessions that deal with these complex issues. We especially welcome sessions that include cross-cultural and cross-national comparisons. Besides the thematic topics above, we also seek sessions that contribute to other recent debates within the field. Here are some ideas:

- any of the thematic ideas listed above
- religion in the public sphere
- popular religion
- religion, gender and feminism
- urban forms of religiosity
- material religion
- religious commodification and consumption
- religious revivalism and religious innovation in a global context
- other topics of interest.



## 3rd Forum of Sociology — Vienna, July 2016

### HOW TO PROPOSE A SESSION:

If you wish to propose a session before February 2nd, please send an abstract (no more than 300 words), your full name, institutional affiliation, e-mail and a short bio to **Vineeta Sinha** ([socvs@nus.edu.sg](mailto:socvs@nus.edu.sg))

Otherwise, starting 2 February, 2015, you can submit your proposals online at the International Sociological Association's website. A link will appear at <http://www.isa-sociology.org/forum-2016/>

- Session proposals must be in English, French, or Spanish.
- **Deadline** for submit your session proposal is **15 March, 2015**

Please also note that you must become an RC22 member to have your session proposal accepted; you can join the Research Committee through the ISA website at [http://www.isa-sociology.org/memb\\_index.htm](http://www.isa-sociology.org/memb_index.htm)

In order to be included in the programme, all participants (presenters, chairs, discussants, etc.) must join the ISA and register for the Forum by the early registration deadline of 1 April, 2016. Without early registration and membership, presenters, chairs, etc. will not appear in the Programme Book or in the Abstracts Book.

*The Research Committee on the Sociology of Religion (RC22) is the section of the International Sociological Association tasked with advancing theory and research in the sociology of religion, in the context of world sociology.*

*Please visit our website at [www.ISA-RC22.org](http://www.ISA-RC22.org) for information about us and about our programs.*

*Visit the ISA's website at [www.isa-sociology.org](http://www.isa-sociology.org) for information about our parent organization.*

*Information about the Third Forum of Sociology can be found at <http://www.isa-sociology.org/vienna-2016/>*

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



3<sup>rd</sup> ISA Forum of  
**SOCIOLOGY**



July 10–14, 2016  
Vienna, Austria



## ISA PhD Dissertation Abstracts

The ISA has undertaken a new initiative to create an international community of young sociologists who are in the middle of their PhD dissertations or have completed them in the last 5 years, disseminating their dissertation abstracts. At <http://www.isa-sociology.org/abstracts-dissertations/> you can search the entries by keyword, author, title or area of interest.

Below, you can find the most recent abstracts on Sociology of Religion, including the year of completion and the country where the dissertation is defended.

Dissertation Title	Author	Year	Country	Key words
<a href="#"><u>Jihadi Violence: A Study of al-Qaeda's Media</u></a>	Armborst, Andreas	2012	Germany	political violence, terrorism. jihadism
<a href="#"><u>Educational Sociology in Brazil (1946-1971): An Analysis of a Catholic Educational Institution</u></a>	Cigales, Marcelo Pin	2014	Brazil	Instruction of Sociology; Historical Sociology; Catholic Church; Normal School
<a href="#"><u>The Tale of Industrialization in a Small Town in Turkey: Hacilar-Kayseri</u></a>	Cengiz, Kurtuluş	2012	Turkey	Islamic Capital; Islamic Calvinism; Kayseri; Anatolian Tigers
<a href="#"><u>Sexual Individualisation Strategies and Masculinity Construction in Moroccan Men during Transition to Adulthood</u></a>	Fidolini, Vulca	In progress	Italy	Sexuality; masculinities; young adults; body
<a href="#"><u>Religious Renewal and Transformation: A Case Study of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America in the 21st Century (Working title)</u></a>	Freudenberg, Maren B.	In progress	Germany	social change structure/agency
<a href="#"><u>Change without Confrontation: The Making of Mainstream Meditation</u></a>	Kucinkas, Jaime L	2014	USA	Meditation; social change; social movements; cultural change
<a href="#"><u>The Members of Atheist Organizations in Germany and the United States of America: Participation in a Freethought-Secularist Movement</u></a>	Mastiaux, Björn	2013	Germany	Social Movements; Participation; Atheism; Secularism
<a href="#"><u>Expressing Post-Secular Citizenship: A Sociological Exposition of Islamic Education in South Africa</u></a>	McDonald, Zahraa Z	2013	South Africa	Participation; public sphere; literary public; Deobandi
<a href="#"><u>Old Gods, New Religions, and Modern Marriages in Nepal</u></a>	McKendry-Smith, Emily	2013	USA	Nepal, new religious movements, Brahma Kumaris





## ISA PhD Dissertation Abstracts

Dissertation Title	Author	Year	Country	Key words
<a href="#"><u>The Formation Process of the “National Orthodoxy” Regime in Contemporary Russia: A Study of Global Sociology</u></a>	Miyakawa, Shinichi	2012	Japan	National Orthodoxy; Russian Orthodox Church; national identity; global sociology
<a href="#"><u>“Ethno-Religiosity, Stigma and Mass Conversions to Evangelical Pentecostalism Among Spanish Gypsies”</u></a>	Montañés Jimenez, Antonio	In progress	Spain	Gitanos/Spainis Gypsies; Evangelical Pentecostalism; Ethnic identities; Stigma
<a href="#"><u>The Dakwah Media in Post Suharto Indonesia From Politics of Identity to Popular Culture (The Case of Ummi)</u></a>	Pamungkas, Arie Set	2014	Germany	Islam; Media; Politics of Identity; Popular Culture
<a href="#"><u>Globalization in Everyday Life of Iranian High School Students</u></a>	Pasha, Nourollah	2014	Malaysia	Iran; globalization Pluralism; de-territorialization
<a href="#"><u>Exploring Individual Motivation for Social Change: Mobilization of the Muslim Brotherhood’s youth in pre-revolutionary Egypt</u></a>	Poljarevic, Emin	2012	Italy	Social Classes and Social Movements
<a href="#"><u>Religion and the Social Construction of Memory amid Violence: The Case of the Massacre of Bojavá (Colombia)</u></a>	Rios Oyola, Sandra M	2014	UK	Social Memory; Religious Peacebuild; Transitional Justice
<a href="#"><u>Development, State and Religious Non-Governmental Organizations in Bangladesh</u></a>	Salehin, Mohammad M	2014	Australia	Islam; Faith-based Development; Neoliberal Governmentality; Gender
<a href="#"><u>The Persistence of a Sacred Patrilineage in Contemporary Turkey: An Ethnographic Account of the Descendents of Hacı Bektas Veli, the Ulusov Family</u></a>	Salman Yıkmiş, Meral	2012	Turkey	Sacred authority; The Alevi-Bektaş; Secularization; Ritual
<a href="#"><u>“Prayer, a Heritage from Generation to Generation”: The Elderly and Religion in Finland at the Turn of the 21st Century</u></a>	Spännäri, Jenni A	2009	Finland	Aging; collective memory
<a href="#"><u>The Varieties of Religious Reproduction: An Anthropological Study of Orthodox Fertility Management in Contemporary Israel</u></a>	Taragin-Zeller, Lea	In progress	Israel	Fertility Management; Gender; Judaism
<a href="#"><u>Competing Islamic Traditions: An Anthropological Perspective</u></a>	Wiktor-Mach, Dobrosława	2010	Poland	Islam; post Soviet states; Azerbaijan

We encourage our young colleagues to submit their abstracts, and we invite supervisors to ask their students and former students to post dissertation abstracts in English. ISA will make it available on this website, in its attempts to build a global community of young sociologists. If you have further thoughts or suggestions please contact: isa@isa-sociology.org



## From the Secretary-Treasurer

### Welcome to a New Year

It is my pleasure to initiate my appointment as Secretary-Treasurer of RC22. I am very glad to work jointly with the recently elected Board. As Jim Spickard, our new President, stated in his letter, we have many new projects to develop during the following years, and I would like to invite all RC22 members to participate in all these endeavours. Please do not hesitate to contact me any time.

Last, but not least, I want to thank Afe Adogame, my predecessor, for his brilliant labour and his support in the administrative handover.

Looking forward to hear from you all, soon!

Eloísa Martín  
Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil  
[sectreas@isa-rc22.org](mailto:sectreas@isa-rc22.org)

### Looking for a Deputy Newsletter Editor

We need a Deputy Editor for the RC-22 Newsletter. The post is ideal for an enthusiastic PhD student of any nationality. The applicant should have:

- A good command of English
- Familiarity with Microsoft Publisher software (or be willing to learn it)
- Previous experience with writing or editorship (highly recommended)

Duties:

- Assist the Secretary-Treasurer and President put out a twice-a-year newsletter.
- If possible, assist with the ISA-RC22 News and Events blog

There's no pay, but the RC will cover your 4-year ISA membership fee (at the student level) and your RC-22 membership fee.

Send a short CV (up to 3 pages) stating your qualifications for the position and a one-page letter of interest to Eloísa Martín ([eloisamartin14@yahoo.com.br](mailto:eloisamartin14@yahoo.com.br)). Include "Deputy Editor" in the subject line. Applications will be received until March 6th.

All applications will be reviewed by an ad hoc selection committee who will make recommendations. Best applicants will be short-listed for and contacted for a Skype interview. The Final decision will be communicated in April 2015.

### Contribute your News & Events

Do you have news you want to share with international colleagues? Events that you'd like to publicize? Do you want to report on important scholarly trends? RC-22 has two ways for you to communicate with your colleagues.

1. Send calls-for-papers, conference notices, book announcements, job openings, and so on to our blog. Visit [www.isa-rc22.org/news-events](http://www.isa-rc22.org/news-events) to see the kind of things we're posting. Then send your events and news to [BlogSubmit@isa-rc22.org](mailto:BlogSubmit@isa-rc22.org). We can't do attachments, so put your text in the body of your email. We'll put it on the blog.

A weekly summary goes out to over 800 scholars worldwide. If you're not getting it, go to the [blog page](#) and sign up.

2. Want to write for our Newsletter? Propose a topic to our Secretary-Treasurer at [sectreas@isa-rc22.org](mailto:sectreas@isa-rc22.org). If we like your idea, we'll tell you to go ahead. We welcome well-written short interviews, conference reports, and matters of widespread intellectual concern.

**RC22—International Sociological Association (ISA)****2012-2018 RC22 BOARD MEMBERS**

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