

RCSL NEWSLETTER

INTERNATIONAL SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION RESEARCH COMMITTEE ON SOCIOLOGY OF LAW

<http://rcsl.iscte.pt/>

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**Fall
2011**

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PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

At the close of the year, the Research Committee on Sociology of Law is pleased to announce a record: that of 2011 as one of the most challenging, busy and rewarding period in its own long history.

As documented in the RCSL Newsletter Fall 2010, a total of 6 international Conferences were already on the agenda, all of them to be set up jointly with other associations or institutions. Of these Conferences 1 to be actually organized and performed, and 4 to be just programmed, in the course of this year.

The organization of the first international Conference on the agenda – held in September in Dharamshala, India, jointly with The Central University of Himachal Pradesh – had to surmount a number of difficulties at first, but the scientific format, the level of active participation and final outcomes can be considered as an extraordinary disciplinary, academic and cultural achievement that will surely mark deeply the future development of socio-legal studies, certainly in India, but also in any other part of non-western world (For details, see the report in this Newsletter at p. 4).

The other international Conferences planned this year and running in 2012, are the Joint RCSL-LSA Conference to be held in June, in Honolulu, USA; the ISA II World Forum to be held in August in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and the RCSL Jubilee Celebration, to be held in Warsaw, Poland, in October, to honour both the RCSL Father Founder, Adam Podgòrecki, and First RCSL President, Renato Treves. (For details, see the reports in this Newsletter at p. 5, 6). In turn, while dealing with all the above, the planning of the Joint RCSL Conference with IEP Political Science to be held in Toulouse, France, in September 2013, has been set in motion already.

Vittorio Olgiati

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RCSL GOVERNING BOARD 2010-2014

President:	Vittorio Olgiati
Vice-Presidents:	David Nelken Luigi Cominelli
Secretary:	Germano Schwartz
Elected Members:	Carlos Lista Ulrike Schultz Angela Melville Benoît Bastard Volkmar Gessner (resigned)
Past Presidents:	Anne Boigeol Johannes Feest Vincenzo Ferrari Lawrence Friedman Mavis Maclean Rogélio Perez Perdomo Jean Van Houtte

Coopted Members: Arvind Agrawal
Flora di Donato
Madalena Duarte
Hakan Hyden
Germano Schwartz

Working Groups & Chairs:

Civil Justice and Dispute Resolution: Masayuki Murayama.

Comparative Legal Culture: Marina Kurkchiyan

Gender: chair to be renewed

Human Rights: Dani Rudnicki (new chair)

Law and Migrations: Devanayak Sundaram

Law and Politics: Maria Angélica Cuéllar Vázquez

Law and Popular Culture: Guy Osborn

Legal Professions: Ulrike Schultz

Social and Legal Systems: Germano Schwartz

Urban Problems: Antonio Azuela de la Cueva

Observers: Angela Melville (IISL SD)
Pierre Guibentif (RCSL Website)

Founding members: Adam Podgórecki and William M.Evan (in memoriam †)

DONATIONS

The RCSL is really grateful to Jerzy Kwasniewski (Treves Grant, Podogorecki Prize and RCSL General Support), Rogélio Perez Perdomo (Treves Grant and Podgòrecki Prize), Vincenzo Ferrari (Treves Grant) and Michelle Cottier (Treves Grant), for their donations.

RCSL GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

After the RCSL Business Meeting held last September in Dharamshala on the occasion of the Joint RCSL-CUHP International Conference, the annual RCSL Governing Board Meeting has been regularly held in Milan on December 2nd, 2011.

Among the number of issues listed on the Agenda, it has been discussed the urgency to revise some articles of current RCSL Statute in order to meet either ISA specific dispositions concerning given items, or to up-dating it to comply with recently enforced new ISA Statutory rules. For the purpose it has been agreed to establish a proper Commission which will start working as soon as possible within the year.

Detailed reports were provided also about current RCSL efforts concerning already scheduled and prospective RCSL International Congresses, about RCSL financial asset, about Onati-IISL scientific activities, about the statutory ISA position of RCSL vis-à-vis the institutionalization of a World Consortium on Sociology of Law.

The state of the RCSL membership has been a matter of concern either with reference to on-going Working Groups activities, to the drop-out and renewal of current Chairs (as required by new ISA rules), to the

application to establish new RCSL Working groups on the part of new members.

The next RCSL Government Board Meeting will be held in Warsaw, Poland, on 12-14, October 2012, on the occasion of the Celebration of the RCSL Jubilee.

**PODGÓRECKI PRIZE 2011
AWARD TO DAVID NELKEN**



The Podgòrecki Prize 2011 had to be awarded, by Prize rule, to a socio-legal scholar whose outstanding achievements in his/her academic career and scientific work span the course of decades.

This year the ceremonial announcement of the Prize's winner has been officially made during a Plenary Session of the Joint International Conference of the Research Committee on Sociology of Law and the Central University of Himachal Pradesh – held in Dharamshala, India, on September 10-12, 2011 – by the Chair of the Prize Jury, Devanayak Sundaram from India, in accordance with other Jury members, Hanne Petersen, from Denmark and Harriet Silius from Finland.

The Jury members – having considered suggestions provided by other internationally re-known colleagues also – awarded **DAVID NELKEN**, verbatim, *“in the form of distinguished and outstanding lifetime achievement across the globe, as an excellent scholar and publicist, as a pioneer in sociology of law, as a great communicator, as a devote administrator and as a “bridge” between legal culture. The nomination of Prof. David Nelken has been unanimous”*.

As a matter of fact, as an excellent scholar and publicist David Nelken possesses an enviable publication record, being the author or editor of 24 books and more than 150 papers, all of them very well received by the international community of socio-legal scholars and published in important book series and journals.

In turn, as a pioneer in sociology of law David Nelken has been one of the first holders of an academic position in sociology of law in UK, as well as one of the most active scholar promoting either theoretical studies or empirical research, and raising interests in comparative approach, in a wide range of socio-legal areas as well as in a number of different socio-legal global-local contexts.

Besides, as a great communicator, David Nelken has been and still is teaching and lecturing in a variety of prestigious academic institutions all over the world, either as a Ordinary, Distinguished, Visiting, or Key-note speaker, Professor.

Then, as a devoted administrator, David Nelken can be mentioned as an excellent figure as Vice-president

of RC SL Board and as member of the Onati IISL Board, Furthermore, he served as Onati IISL Book Series Editor-in-chief, appointed as a member of a number of International Journals' Editorial Boards, selected as a Jury member of a previous Podgòrecki Prize, and so on.

Last, but not least, as a "bridge" between legal cultures, David Nelken has been and still is for sure one of the leading socio-legal scholar engaged with cross/inter/trans-cultural studies well beyond the so-called "Anglo-American" communicative mainstream. As it is well-known 7 of his most recent books have been translated in Chinese and from now on these will be of use for a number of Chinese students. Given the above, there is no doubt that the unanimous conferment of the 2011 Podgòrecki Prize to David Nelken for the outstanding value of his life-time scientific achievements will constitute also a living example for all emerging socio-legal scholars worldwide.

PODGÒRECKI PRIZE 2012 CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

RC SL established the Prize in 2005 to honour the memory and life-time scientific achievement of Adam Podgòrecki, a Father Founder of ISA and RC SL.

The prize is awarded every alternate year, by a Jury chosen by the RC SL President, as an honorary prize to a distinguished scholar in recognition of his/her substantial contribution in the field of sociology of law, and, as a commemorative certificate and monetary prize to an emerging scholar to reward his/her promising work in the disciplinary fieldwork.

In 2012 the Podgòrecki Prize will be awarded to a young emerging socio-legal scholar for an outstanding published study. The study may be in the form of a book, an article or a series of article. **Nominations of emerging socio-legal scholars are invited. Nominations require support from at least two RC SL members.** Candidates are eligible if they have published one or more significant works within 10 years of their doctorate.

Publications can be in any language. For works in languages other than those known by the Prize Jury, the nominators should provide selected translations. To consider works in less well-known languages, the Prize Jury can co-opt other scholars and consult other members of the RC SL.

Nominations must include: (i) the candidate's CV; (ii) a short statement from the nominators of the value of the candidate's work; (iii) copies of relevant publications

The Members of 2012 Prize Jury are: Anne Boigeol (chair), Håken Hydén, Ulrike Schultz. Nominations should be addressed to both Anne Boigeol (aboigeol@gmail.com) the Secretary of the RC SL, Germano Schwartz (germano.schwartz@globo.com). Nominations should be received by March 30th, 2012. The Podgòrecki Prize rule can be downloaded at: http://rcsl.iscte.pt/rcsl_apodgpr.htm.

The announcement of the Prize winner will be officially made in the course of the RC SL Business

Meeting at the II ISA World Forum, to be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, on August 1-4, 2012.

ONATI-IISL NEW SCIENTIFIC DIRECTOR 2011-2013

Every two years, a new Scientific Director is appointed at the Oñati International Institute for the Sociology of Law, upon selection and proposal of RC SL Board, by the IISL President. This recurrent turn-over brings to the Institute an extraordinary diversity and an equally fruitful wealth of competence and experience.

Sol Picciotto ended his term as IISL Scientific Director at the end of the summer. In the course of his mandate, he has worked admirably, along with the whole IISL staff and the number of teaching and/or visiting scholars. He improved the organization of the Institute, promoted the WCSL web, organised a remarkable conference on socio-legal economic issues, contributed to increase IISL international relations by attracting, in particular, Latin American scholars and students. He has now returned to his university in Lancaster, UK. Thank you, Sol.

Starting from September 2011, Angela Melville is the new IISL Scientific Director. Angela is a Senior Lecturer in the Law School of Flinders University, South Australia. Her research interests include, among others, the provision of legal services, the legal profession, research methods, family and child legal issues, compensation law.

Welcome, Angela

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS OÑATI IISL SCIENTIFIC DIRECTOR 2013-2015

The Oñati International Institute for the Sociology of Law has a rotating directorship. Once every two years a new Scientific Director is appointed with a view to maintaining and enhancing the Institute's unique setting and activity.

The Research Committee on Sociology of Law, together with the Onati IISL, Oñati, Basque Country, Spain (www.iisj.es) invites applications for the position of Onati IISL Scientific Director from September 1st, 2013 to the end of July 2015.

The Oñati Institute is renowned worldwide for its high multicultural profile. The RC SL adopts this recognition as a guideline to in search of candidates. Knowledge of English is necessary. A fair competence in one of the other Institute's languages (in particular Spanish or French) or any other international language is desirable. Some familiarity with the Oñati Institute and its activities is also advisable. The SD job carries a Spanish Visiting Professor's salary (plus fringe benefits like travel allowances and free accommodation).

Socio-legal scholars interested in this challenging task are invited to submit formal applications or letters of intent and CVs to the RC SL President (Vittorio Olgiati:

vittorio.olgiati@unimc.it) before May 1st, 2012. The RCSL Board will select and propose one or more of the candidates to the Oñati Institute Board, which will confirm the appointment of the Director in September 2012.

Informal inquiries may be made to current Onati IISL SD, Angela Melville (email:Angela.L.melville@iisj.es).

NEWS FROM THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR THE SOCIOLOGY OF LAW

Workshops applications for 2013

Applications to hold a Workshop during 2013 at the IISJ are due by the 13th February 2012.

Workshop applications will be evaluated on: the quality of proposals; spread of participants; originality; and relevance to the Basque Country. We accept applications for workshops on any topic that will make a significant contribution to socio-legal studies or sociology of law. The Basque Government has also suggested several topics that are of particular interest. These are: juvenile delinquency; impact of legal reform on domestic violence; operation of juvenile courts; and cross-border.

For further information on how to apply: <http://www.iisj.net/iisj/de/description-regulations2012.asp?nombre=1956&cod=1956&sesion=1347>

Visiting Scholars and Residence Grants

Applications for Residence Grants must be received by February 13, 2012.

The IISL welcomes visitors who wish to make use of its facilities, including our outstanding socio-legal library. Accommodation can be provided in the Institute's Hall of Residence. Some scholarships are available which cover the cost of a shared room in the Residence. These are mainly aimed at younger scholars and/or those completing a doctorate.

Application forms can be downloaded from:

<http://www.iisj.net/iisj/de/description-1726.asp?nombre=1726&cod=1726&sesion=1347>

International Master's in Sociology of Law

Applications to study within the International Master's in Sociology of Law are due by the 19th February 2012.

The 12 month programme consists of a six-month period of intensive seminars and an individual research project. The Masters programme offers a unique opportunity to develop close personal contacts with eminent scholars in the field of socio-legal studies and sociology of law. Leading international specialists travel to Oñati in order to teach the intensive seminars and are also available to provide individual supervision. The programme is taught entirely in English, with the class size limited to a maximum of 20. Students come from a wide variety of academic backgrounds, such as sociology, law, political science, anthropology, psychology, economics and cultures. This year, we have 13 students from 11 different countries. The Institute provides facilities to visiting scholars, which gives students further opportunities to develop direct

contacts and networks. The programme also offers the advantage of giving students access to the best socio-legal library in the world.

Information about applications is available at: <http://www.iisj.net/iisj/de/general-information.asp?cod=2059&nombre=2059&prt=1&sesion=1347>

Call for papers

The IISJ hosts its own online peer-review journal, Sortuz: Oñati Journal of Emergent Socio-Legal Studies. We welcome submissions of articles pertaining to the relationship between law and society. Further information can be located at:

http://sortuz.org/content/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=12&Itemid=26

The Oñati Socio-Legal Series

The IISJ is celebrating the first year of the life of the Oñati-Legal Series. A total of 7 issues have been published to date, and we hope to publish further articles before the end of the year.

We would also like to congratulate Shahla Ali on having her paper on "Facilitating Settlement at the Arbitration Table: Comparing Views on Settlement Practice Among Arbitration Practitioners in East Asia and the West" published in the Oñati Socio-Legal Series, Vol, 1, No. 6, *Current Socio-Legal Perspectives on Dispute Resolution* listed in the SSRN's Top Ten download list for November 2011.

Further information about the Series, as well as our other publications is available at:

<http://www.iisj.net/iisj/de/informacion-general.asp?cod=1517&nombre=1517&prt=1&sesion=1>

RCSL – CUHP INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE DARAMSHALA, INDIA SEPTEMBER, 10-12, 2011



This year the annual RCSL meeting has been organised as a joint International Conference together with The Central University of Himachal Pradesh – CHUP – in Dharamshala, India.

Two main issues have been outlined as worth of consideration during the preliminary planning meeting held at the Onati IISL in September 2010: (i) the message of ISA President delivered at the ISA World Congress in Goteborg, claiming for, on the one hand, a "global sociology" devoted to trans-continental linkages, and, on the other hand, an increasing need about sociology as a pivotal educational fieldwork for contemporary society; and (ii) the need to generate

social awareness about the specific contribution provided by sociology of law to understand current unstable and even troublesome social-economic and political-institutional scenarios worldwide.

Accordingly, it has been a great opportunity for RCSL to have as a partner-supporter the whole CHUP – with all its teachers and students – and to know that they were enthusiastic about holding the Conference in their premises, as CHUP is a nascent university that is in the pursuit of excellence and inclusive access in both higher education and international study and research.

The choice of the Conference General Theme has been a matter of immediate mutual scientific agreement also. The General Theme was indeed carefully considered in sharp relation to what has been just said above: “Peace, Justice, Development”. First: because the theme itself is suggestive of the widespread need for these three socio-legal virtues and values in contemporary society. Second: because Peace cannot be reached by neglecting Justice, and Justice itself is a pre-requisite for a sustainable Development. Third: because a society can develop only if there is Peace within it. In summing up, the Conference General Theme aimed to make clear either the vital importance of such intertwinements, or the danger of overlooking unilaterally any of such virtues/values.

The Conference - the first of this sort to be held in India - was widely attended. Around 137 delegates participated from abroad as well from the country. The participants represented all continents of the world except Africa. In totality, 98 papers were read by participants under 14 technical sessions and 6 papers were presented in an Open Panel.

The Inaugural Session - chaired by Furqan Qamar, CUHP Vice-Cancellor - included speeches by Chief Guest Syed Shaid Madhi, from Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi and Vittorio Olgiati, RCSL President, plus presiding remarks from the Chair Furqan Qamar. The Plenary Sessions on Peace - chaired by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of Tibetan Govt. in Exile, Lobsang Sangay, lawyer educated at Harvard University – included speeches from R. Rosen., I.H. Azad Faruqi, H. Tarumoto. The Plenary Session on Justice - chaired by Samdong Rinpoche, former prime Minister of Tibetan Govt in Exile, a learned law scholar par excellence – included speeches from H.Petersen, V. Olgiati, U. Schultz, A. Czarnota. The Plenary Session on Development - chaired by Germano Schwartz - included speeches from D. Sundaram, H. Hyden, A. Agrawal and R.Jain.

The Conference Valedictory Session – chaired by Y.S. Verma, Dean of the CHUP School of Business & Management Studies – had as Chief Guest M.Z Khan, from Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi. In his speech Khan also lauded the efforts of A: Agrawal, Gen. Secretary of the Organization team, and congratulated him for the extraordinarily successful event.

In turn, Technical Sessions were logically grouped according to different Conference sub-themes: Violence, Human Rights, Gender, Environment,

Migration, Legal Professions, Law & Politics, Crime & Punishment, Memory & Reconciliation, Race, Discrimination & Marginalisation, Sacred/Secularised Divide.



All participants and paper presenters were enthused with confidence and vigour as this conference was being held at the CHUP. A very special case in point was the Cultural Evening, organised after the Technical Sessions within the premises of the same CHUP: talented students of the University performed a variety of traditional regional dances to show the culture of “Unity in Diversity” of Indian sub.continent. All the above was widely covered by various local as well as national newspaper. But what matters most from the scientific and cultural viewpoint is that the Conference has been perceived as a significant opportunity (i) to disseminate the discipline in an extremely complex, social and legal system, (ii) attract new generations of socio-legal scholars, and thus (ii) enlarging and refining the high quality of socio-legal studies and research at global-local level.

RCSL-LSA JOINT CONGRESS Honolulu, USA June 5-8, 2012

The importance of the 2012 Honolulu Joint RC SL-LSA Congress, organized together with various other socio-legal Associations, stems from its highly specific and extremely interesting task: to gather, in particular, scholars from Asian-pacific region in a trans-national conversation about the variety of socio-legal arrangements that shape and qualify local living conditions and socio-institutional assets of an area of the world that is increasingly involved in rapid and substantial changes.

In this respect the participation of RC SL scholarship - as in the case of the WG on legal professions – is a sign of a common cultural disposition to a wider convergence in understanding contemporary society as a whole.

ISA II FORUM OF SOCIOLOGY
August 1-4, 2012
Buenos Aires, Argentina
RCSL SESSIONS
“The Quest for Justice and the
Limits of the Law”
)



In line with the ISA General Theme of the ISA II World Forum in Buenos Aires, RCSL's Sessions will run around a specific issue "The quest for justice and the limits of the law: social and legal transformation in contemporary world society".

With reference to such an issue, the response from socio-legal scholars has been remarkable indeed, and RCSL is pleased to list the following RC12 items::

RC12 Programme Coordinator

Reza Banakar University of Westminster, UK,
(r.banakar@westminster.ac.uk)

RC12 Liaison in

Andrea Gastrón, Universidad de Buenos Aires,
(andregastron@hotmail.com)

Number of allocated RCSL sessions :11
Plus Business meeting and RCSL Board meeting .

Session A: The Quest for Justice and the Limits of the Law

This is a plenary session on current social movements with papers by Reza Banakar, Vittorio Olgiati, Dani Rudnicki .

Session B: Comparative Legal Culture. Chair:

Marina Kurkchian, Oxford University, UK
(mkurkchian@hotmail.com)

Session C: The Sociology of Human Rights. Part

1. Chair: Dani Rudnicki, UniRitter, Porto Alegre
(danirud@hotmail.com)

Session D: The Sociology of Human Rights. Part

2. Chair: Dani Rudnicki UniRitter, Porto Alegre
(danirud@hotmail.com)

Session E: Urban Problems. Chair: Antonio Azuela, UNAM. Univ.(cueva@servidor.unam.mx)

Session F: Law and Politics. Chair: Angélica

Cuellar Vazques, UNAM,(
cuellarv@servidor.unam.mx)

Session G: Social Systems and Legal Systems. Part 1. Chairs: Vittorio Olgiati, Macerata Univ., (vittorio.olgiati@unimc.it) and Germano Schwartz, Unilasalle, FSG, (germano.schwartz@globo.com)

Session H: Social Systems and Legal Systems. Part 2. Chairs: Vittorio Olgiati, Macerata Univ., (vittorio.olgiati@unimc.it) and Germano. Schwartz, Unilasalle,FSG, (germano.schwartz@globo.com)

Session I: Law and migration. Chair: Devanayak Sundaram (dsundaram@hotmail.com)

Session J: Legal professions. Part 1. Chair: UlrikeSchultz (ulrike.schultz@fermuni-hagen.de)

Session K: Legal professions. Part 2. Chair: UlrikeSchultz. (ulrike.schultz@fermuni-hagen.de)

Session L: RC12 Business Meeting

ISA Forum Grants Applications

ISA is able to provide through RCs two types of Grants (a) travel accomodations, (b) Registration Individual scholars in good standing can apply for RCS!2 selection to the Programme Coordinator, Reza Banakar, by January 13, 2012

2012 RCSL JUBILEE CELEBRATION WARSAW, Poland October 12th-14th, 2012

As it has been announced in the RCSL 2011 Summer Newsletter, next year will occur the 50th Anniversary of the ISA-RCSL foundation.

To celebrate the Jubilee event a special Conference will be held in Warsaw, Poland, thanks to the organizational support of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology of Law of the University of Warsaw, and, more particularly, thanks to the enthusiastic commitment of Jacek Kurczewski, Malgorzata Fuszara and their colleagues.

The choice of the Jubilee Conference's location has been almost compulsorily, due to its highly symbolic value: it is the place where, during the Fifties of the last century, Adam Podgórecki began to envisage the need to promote a stable international forum to gather socio-legal scholars and promote altogether debates, studies and research. For the purpose, Podgórecki travelled in Europe and USA to establish personal contacts with other internationally re-known scholars.

Having obtained their explicit support, at the ISA World Congress held in Washington DC in 1962, he was able to propose together with W.E. Evan the official establishment of the RC SL. In that occasion Renato Treves was elected first RC SL President. Given the recurrence in 2012 of the 20th anniversary of Treves' death and the recent death of Evan, the RC SL Jubilee Celebration will be also a way to honour their remarkable contribution.

The plan of the Conference format is already advanced, but still in progress. Full details on the final programme will be provided, together with general informations, will be provided in the RC SL 2012 Spring Newsletter

**2013 RC SL- IEP Sciences Politiques
Joint International Congress
TOULOUSE, FRANCE
“Sociology of Law and Political Action”
3-6 Sept 2013**

“Sociology of Law and Political Action” is the General Theme that has been chosen for the joint RC SL and the Institut d'Études Politiques of Toulouse University in 2013.

A preliminary meeting, chaired by Wanda Capeller and Philippe Raimbault, has been held in Toulouse last September to plan the general organizational and scientific grids of the event. The outcomes of this meeting here now condensed into a provisional Report that includes the tasks that must be dealt with and the cultural guidelines that will qualify the areas of enquiry.

One of the main objectives of the Congress is to take full mutual advantage of the expertise jointly provided by both RC SL and IEP in order to enlarge and strengthen the interdisciplinary relationship between sociology of law and political sciences: a relationship of crucial relevance nowadays in the analysis of the ongoing global-local social, economic and political processes.

To raise awareness among the international community of associated scholars and strongly involve their working groups, a specific WG Call-for-papers has been distributed already by the Congress Secretary, Veronique Leroux, to be filled up and re-sent to veronique.leroux@sciencespo-toulouse.fr.

In turn, the launch of individual Call-for Papers will occur in spring 2102 by means of an *ad hoc* news put on the official Website of the Congress.

The whole Congress programme will be finalised in a meeting scheduled for spring 2013. Its diffusion among potential participants will take advantage of any sort of communication tools, included those provided by Onati-IISL.

In the meanwhile, questions and suggestions should be sent to veronique.leroux@sciencespo-toulouse.fr.

**2014 RC SL AT ISA WORLD CONGRESS
(YOKOHAMA)**

The International Sociological Association officially announced that the XVIII ISA World Congress will be held in Yokohama, Japan, from 13th to 19th July 2014. The RC SL as a whole is particularly pleased about this choice not only because of the relevance of Japanese sociological scholarship within the worldwide community, but also because of the long lasting, strict and fruitful, collaboration between the RC SL and the Japanese Socio-legal Association, currently chaired by our colleague Masayuki Murayama. We hope to be able to honour together the legacy of a pioneer of sociology of law such as Masaji Chiba and further develop our common endeavours.

**2015 RC SL – ABRASD
Joint Conference
PORTO ALEGRE, BRAZIL**

The idea to organize a RC SL Congress in Porto Alegre, Brasil in 2015 has been envisaged during First National Congress of the newly created ABRASD - Associação Brasileira De Pesquisadores em Sociologia do Direito – held at the Universidade Federal Fluminense in Niteroi (Rio de Janeiro) in November 16-17, 2010. The idea is now turning into a real option, given the fruitful contacts and the common visions already established between the two associations.

Further information will be found also in the ABRASD website (www.abrasd.com.br)

**International Conference
THE NORMATIVE ANATOMY OF SOCIETY
Lund, Sweden, April 24-25, 2012**

The Department of Sociology of Law at Lund University. Announces the International Conference on “The Normative Anatomy of Society”: Relations between Norms and Law in the 21st Century, scheduled for April 24-25, 2012. The Conference aims to promote an interdisciplinary debate about the role of norms in our society and their interaction with official law.

The scientific rationale of this topic stems from daily experiences about the number and variety of rules, standards, etc., that are playing an essential role in defining the way in which society at large work. Accordingly it is crucial to be able to understand differences and relationship about the normative layers that influence our behaviour and our lives: in other words it is crucial to understand the “Normative Anatomy of Society”.

From a scientific view-point this understanding is not only a specific task of Sociology of Law, but a matter of mutual interdisciplinary interaction between a variety of other fieldworks

Scholars from any knowledge area are thus warmly welcome to participate with contributes concerned with their own particular cultural backgrounds.

Deadline for abstract submission is February 10, 2012 (normsconference@soclaw.lu.se)

14th CONGRESS of the WORLD SOCIETY OF VICTIMOLOGY

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

20-24 May 2012

World Forum, The Hague, The Netherlands

The World Society of Victimology, together with the International Victimology Institute Tilburg, Victim Support Europe, Leuven Institute of Criminology is pleased to invite to participate on the Congress theme "Justice for victims: Cross-cultural perspectives on conflict, trauma and reconciliation.

Three sub-themes will expound the general theme: (i) Victims's Rights, (ii) Transitional Justice; (iii) Trauma, resilience and justice. Submission of proposals by researchers academics, practitioners and policy makers are encouraged. Abstracts must be submitted through website, indicating type of submission – workshop; panel session, round table, poster presentation - and the theme the paper is focusing on. The submission deadline is March 1st, 2012.

Further information on www.14thsymposium.wsv

ONATI-IISL INTERNATIONAL MASTER IN SOCIOLOGY OF LAW 2012-2013

The ONATI-IISL International Master in Sociology of Law is both a recognised self-standing higher qualification, and a qualification that is accepted as a foundation for higher research degrees (PhD) by universities all over the world. It is a one-year programme covering the main techniques and topics of the sociology of law for a Master of Arts degree (60 ECTS) accredited by the Università degli Studi di Milano and the University of the Basque Country (UPV/EHU). The programme is in its 21st year, and previous graduates are now among the leading scholars or practitioners in the field.

A maximum of 20 applicants will be selected from all countries to benefit from the unique resources of the Oñati International Institute for the Sociology of Law, in the beautiful Basque Country. The courses are taught at ONATI-IISL from September to March by visiting professors who are leading specialists on each topic (40 ECTS credits). The degree is completed by an individual, independent, research project supervised by a specialist in socio-legal

studies, culminating in the writing of a dissertation submitted in September (20 ECTS credits).

Courses 2012-2013

Rhetoric, Communication, Negotiation *Ulrike Schultz* - Fern Universität

Comparative Legal Culture (3 ECTS) *Joxerramon Bengoetxea* - Universidad del País Vasco

Foundations of Sociology of law (3 ECTS) *Alberto Febbrajo* - Università di Macerata

Law and Anthropology (3 ECTS) *André Hoekema* - University of Amsterdam

Socio-Legal Research Theory and Practice: Qualitative Methods (3 ECTS) *Maggie Walter* - University of Tasmania

Professional Ethics & Regulation (t.b.a)

Socio-Legal Research Theory and Practice: Quantitative Methods (3 ECTS) *Larry Barnett* -

Widener University

Socio-Legal Approaches to Rights: The Multicultural Constitution (3 ECTS) *Daniel Bonilla* - Universidad de los Andes

Studies in Civil Justice (3 ECTS) *Ted Wright* - University of Newcastle, Australia

Gender and Law (3 ECTS) *Amy Barrow* - Chinese University Hong-Kong

Professional Actors of the Legal System: Judges, Lawyers and Scholars (3 ECTS) *Rogelio Pérez Perdomo* - University of Stanford

Comparative & International Criminology (3 ECTS) *Susanne Karstedt* - Leeds University

Thesis Seminar & Tutorials (4 ECTS) *Oñati IISL Scientific Director and Visiting Fellows*

Research Project & Master's Thesis (20 ECTS)

Information & Application Forms

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NEXT ISSUE OF THE RC SL NEWSLETTER

The next issue of the RC SL newsletter will be published in May 2012. You are welcome to submit any material that is related to socio-legal research and which might be of interest for our members. The next issue will include short items (400-500 words), information about conferences, seminars and workshops, brief presentations of collaborative research projects, debates on issues related to teaching, information about courses, recent or forthcoming publications, notices on research funds, prizes and awards. The deadline to submit an item is April 15, 2012. Please write to vittorio.olgiati@unimc.it and germano.schwartz@globo.com

Former issues of the RC SL Newsletter are available on the RC SL Website: http://rcsl.iscte.pt/rcsl_nl.htm