RN27 contributes to the ESA Conference theme with a series of sessions on how sociological knowledge helps to inform action (and alternative possible futures) in both public policies and civic society domains in Southern European Societies. Participants are invited to discuss issues of social structure, cultural dynamics, and institutional foundations of Southern Europe as a means to understand current challenges and dilemmas.

Papers with a comparative focus between countries of Southern Europe, other parts of Europe, the Mediterranean area and beyond are especially encouraged, as well as specific studies at country and regional level that provide general implications for the whole region.

Authors can send their proposals to one of the main thematic tracks of RN27:

- Territories, communities and social spaces
- Nature, environments and ecologies
- Education, research and innovation
- Gender
- Social stratification
- Cultures and lifestyles
- Social policy
- Migration and mobility
- Work, firms and markets
- Theoretical and conceptual development on Southern European societies

At this conference, RN27 will highlight crosscutting themes regarding the social impact of the current pandemic crisis on the South of Europe.

PhD students are welcome to send their papers and encouraged to submit for a RN27 award and support for publication that would be assigned to the best selected paper.

**Joint Sessions with other research networks**

JS_RN27_RN30: “Refugee unaccompanied teenagers in Southern Europe” (Joint session with RN30 Youth & Generation)

**PhD students’ award for the best paper**

ESA RN27 will organize an award for the best paper presented by a PhD student. The award will consist on the reimbursement of travel cost and registration (up to 1000€ upon the presentation of tickets and invoices) and support for publication in a journal that collaborates with the RN27 (based on the preferences of the authors).
PhD students wishing to participate in the award should send an email to the RN coordinators: Manuel Fernández Esquinas (mfernandez@iesa.csic.es) and Teresa Consoli (consoli@unict.it). Students should provide a full text of the paper of min 5,000 max 10,000 words (references included) by the end of May 2021. (Note that abstracts should be submitted through ConfTool 2021: https://www.conftool.pro/esa2021/) by 15 February).

Publication opportunities
Special Issue of the Spanish Journal of Sociology on ‘The social landscape after the pandemic crisis in southern European societies’. Special Issue organized jointly by the Spanish Journal of Sociology and the ESA RN27. See call for papers at https://recyt.fecyt.es/index.php/res/announcement/view/431


Other collaborations with journal special issues, subject to the usual peer review process of each journal, will be communicated as soon as possible.

Key dates
Abstract submission: Deadline 15 February 2021
Participant registration will open in Spring 2021 after notification of abstract acceptance.

Abstracts
-Abstracts should not exceed 250 words.
-Each participant can submit and present one paper as first author. The submitting author will be considered the presenting author. All submitting/presenting authors can be second author of one more paper.
-Abstracts will be peer-reviewed and selected for presentation by the RN/RS/SP coordinators.
-Abstracts should be submitted through ConfTool 2021: https://www.conftool.pro/esa2021/

The ESA Conference does not collect full papers.

ESA website: https://www.europeansociology.org/
ESA 2021 conference website: https://www.europeansociology.org/about-esa-2021-barcelona

Physical and online sessions
According the ESA Secretariat, the ESA 2021 Conference will take place either with full physical co-presence of all attendees, or wholly online, or in some hybrid mode combining these two possibilities.

Membership
ESA membership is not mandatory for the participation at ESA conferences (except for RN coordinators, board members and session chairs). Note that ESA members benefit from reduced conference fees! We encourage you to be a member of our Research Network on Southern European Societies. When getting or renewing your ESA membership, click on RN27 (it is just 10 additional euros to ESA membership).

Remember that members of the RN27 can attend and vote at the business meeting, participate in the board, chair sessions and get discounts at both ESA conferences and mid-term conferences of RN27 organized every two years.

Coordination team
Coordinators
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**About the RN27**

**ESA RN27 – Regional Research Network on Southern European Societies** is one of the research networks of the European Sociological Association. By organizing regular meetings, publications and research training, ESA RN27 brings together research experience and critical views of the different ways in which research is being conducted, along with perspectives concerning social trends and socio-politics operating in Southern Europe. The aim of the network is to facilitate sociological research and to promote cooperation between sociologists and other social scientists interested in the region. For that purpose ESA RN27 collaborates actively with the Network of Sociology Associations of Southern European Countries (RESU) in joint events and publications. ESA RN27 welcomes the participation of researchers from neighbouring countries working on common social issues, especially from the Mediterranean area, the Middle East and others regions of Europe. ESA RN27 organizes a mid-term conference every two years.

During the term 2020-2021 mid-term conferences are replaced by a series of online seminars with collaborating institutions.

See the new website of ESA RN27: [https://www.esarn27.com/](https://www.esarn27.com/)