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EDITORIAL

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER 1/2022

Dear RC01 members

For many of us, no less than a few months ago we were lulled into a false reality that our armed forces would probably be involved increasingly in domestic operations and that these would be the most likely future roles. Little did we know that as we headed into the new year, we would potentially be facing the prospect of a Third World War. Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine has profound consequences for not only European security but human security in the broadest sense across the globe. The end of the post-Cold War era as we know it is gone, as we witness the shift from a security order shaped by soft power to one dictated by the realpolitik of hard power. What this means for a new world order we can only speculate, but will no doubt have a profound effect on everyone across the globe. We join Ukraine in condemning the human rights violations and the immense human suffering caused by the Russian invasion. In this regard, I alert you to the public statement made by the ISA on behalf of RCs and our membership.

The International Sociological Association (ISA) expresses its deep concern about the Russian military offensive happening in Ukraine. We stand with the international community in condemning this war. War is never an acceptable solution and is against all the values we uphold. The ISA stands in solidarity with the Ukrainian social scientists, and with our colleagues elsewhere, including in the Russian Federation and Belarus, who have raised their voices against this war and have defended democracy and human rights.

Today, more than ever, we need critical interventions by social scientists. The ISA, as an international community of more than five thousand sociologists, declares its commitment to maintaining the resolve of its global membership, to strengthening international dialogue, particularly with and among those of our colleagues who are affected by this war, to making critical voices heard in our global scientific communities and on our social media, and to facilitating the dissemination of critical analyses in its publications and scholarly events.

Based on this, I urge RC01 Armed Forces and Conflict Resolution members, to actively comment and make your critical voices heard. One of our board members, Dr Oleh Ivanov (dr.zanuda@gmail.com) from Ukraine has been providing the RC01 Board with regular updates on events and I am sure he will be willing to share his briefs with you. He has also provided some

links to platforms on which RC01 members could make a **financial contribution** if you want to support Ukraine and its people in this war for freedom:

"Come Back Alive" NGO: <https://www.comebackalive.in.ua/> it supports the Ukrainian military with non-lethal equipment, medicine, etc. It has very transparent financial reporting: https://onedrive.live.com/view.aspx?resid=B0264747CBB7E393!16208&ithint=file%2cxlsx&authkey=!AMSRszH4rLFy_dE. There is also an official humanitarian aid portal created by the Ukrainian government: <https://help.gov.ua/en>. "Hospitallers", a volunteer organization of paramedics: <https://www.hospitallers.life/> (English version available with "English" button). The information hub of verified aid collection centers, and donation centers for helping Ukraine: <https://ukraine-helpers.com/>.

Oleh also recommends some resources for those who want to **follow developments**. For official news from the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine see <https://www.zsu.gov.ua/en> (check daily posts with "The operational update regarding the Russian invasion" down the page). For the troops' disposition and the general map of the warfare: the UK Ministry of Defence Intelligence updates on Twitter <https://twitter.com/DefenceHQ> (like this <https://twitter.com/DefenceHQ/status/1512746331479191557>). On the humanitarian situation, confirmed cases of civilian harm and war crimes: <https://ukraine.bellingcat.com/>. Please note that we also have an upcoming Seminar on the Russia-Ukraine War (see below).

Another important announcement is that a long-standing member and Vice-President of RC01, Prof Helena Carreiras, has been appointed **Minister of Defence in Portugal** from March 2022.



SEE: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-2ZS5rmDquA&t=289s>

At the time of her appointment as Portugal's first female Defence Minister, she was Director of the National Defence Institute, as well an associate Professor of Sociology, Public Policy and Research Methodology at ISCTE - Lisbon University Institute, and a senior researcher at the Centre for Research and Studies in Sociology (CIES- IUL). Throughout her career as an academic, her research has focused on topics related to gender and society, the armed forces, security and



defence, and qualitative research methodology. This is an outstanding achievement and we wish her well, especially taking up this important position at this epochal moment in Europe's history.

To increase the visibility of RC01 we are also expanding our social media presence. This portfolio is also being managed by Dr. Oleh Ivanov (dr.zanuda@gmail.com). We already have Facebook and Twitter accounts, but we would like these to showcase our work more actively. He has also created a LinkedIn group for RC01: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/14080009>. RC01, ERGOMAS, and IUS members please join and share your work on these platforms. More than ever before, we need to have our voices heard.

Lindy Heinecken
President RC01

RC01/ISA MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS AND FEES

As we start our planning for the 2023 World Congress of Sociology, I appeal to all of you to renew your membership and strive to increase our membership base. Remember that the membership fees are for four years. In the previous newsletter, the benefits of ISA membership are outlined. Belonging to a professional association is also important for one's academic career and profile, to demonstrate that one is connected to a network of scholars and practitioners. For further information, please go to the following link. <https://www.isa-sociology.org/en/membership/individual-membership/benefits>.

Membership fees are based on the country of current residence. Countries are classified into 3 categories, A, B, and C, according to the Gross National Income of the **economy of countries** <https://www.isa-sociology.org/en/membership/table-of-economies-by-category>. RC01 will consider assisting members with these fees upon application, by waiving the RC01 fee. Please contact the RC01 president directly at Lindy@sun.ac.za to apply for this fees waiver.

ISA WORLD CONGRESS OF SOCIOLOGY 2023

Very important, is that **May 10 is the deadline** to submit panel proposals for the XX World Congress, in Melbourne, Australia, June 25-July 1, 2023. The general theme of the Congress is "Resurgent Authoritarianism: Sociology of New Entanglements of Religions, Politics, and Economics". The event will be in a hybrid format. Celso Castro is the RC01 Program Coordinator, and the guidelines for proposals can be found here: <https://www.isa-sociology.org/en/conferences/world-congress/melbourne-2023/deadlines-2023>.

Besides the call for RC01 panels, an invitation has been received by RC41, the Sociology of Population for papers on Covid-19 and the current Russia – Ukraine war. These events are related to all aspects of social life: inequality and power relations (i.e. the politics of vaccination distribution), family affairs (i.e. dating, family violence, separation), religious reactions, social economy, migration, mortality, and much more. These are special times. Covid has disrupted all aspects of social life and the war in Europe is calling into question all our assumptions about the current world order. Rather than compartmentalize our discipline, we need to work together and establish sessions that can pool insights from the different approaches that the RCs represent. There is thus a proposal to have joint sessions with RC01 and RC41.

SEMINAR SERIES

The War in Ukraine: Implications for the Militaries of the Democracies – May 2022

The War in Ukraine has already had many effects around the world. This short web-based seminar aims to discuss initial thoughts and observations about the sociological and organizational implications of the War for the armed forces of the democracies. The focus of discussions will be on the sociological and organizational issues that members of RC01 deal with, rather than the strategic or operational consequences of the war. Possible issues to be discussed (others are welcome):

- Changes in legitimizing organized armed violence for home defence or new expeditionary missions.
- Transformations in civil-military relations.
- Possible effects on force composition, training, and morale.
- Economic influences on defence budgets and security concerns.

Should you wish to form part of the panel, **please contact Prof Eyal Ben-Ari** at eyal1953@gmail.com. The seminar is scheduled for May. We are just trying to finalize the best date and time zone to suit everyone. The information will be communicated via our normal platforms and social media.

PROJECTS

NATO Research Task Force on Retention in the Armed Forces (Nato Sto Hfm Rtg-318)

The kick-off meeting of this three-year multinational collaborative project took place in Paris, on 29-31 March 2022. This RTG, co-led by Canada (Irina.Goldenberg@forces.gc.ca) and Johan Österberg (Johan.Osterberg@fhs.se), involves 14 nations, including Belgium, Canada, Estonia, Germany, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Netherlands, Romania, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, and the United States.

The overall objective of this activity is to build on existing research on retention-related issues in the Armed Forces, as well as to conduct primary empirical research, to provide an analytically rigorous understanding of this critical personnel issue. More specifically, the RTG objectives are to:

- Review and assess current research to identify the main work and organizational factors related to retention and attrition in the military (e.g., relational, and transactional drivers, push and pull factors, and limited employment contracts). This will result in a comprehensive review and synthesis of the main factors influencing retention and attrition in the armed forces.
- Share and exchange methods, tools, and capabilities for empirical research in this domain.
- Develop and conduct a multinational personnel survey on military retention. This will result in a cross-national scientific survey instrument to measure personnel retention and the drivers thereof. Ultimately, it will result in the cross-national data set and scientific



results of the main factors affecting military personnel retention, including an examination of both cross-national similarities and differences.

- Conduct an international survey of subject matter experts to inform the factors affecting retention and attrition and to identify strategies for increasing retention (tapping into the perspectives of military scholars, human resources professionals, military makes policymakers, military leaders, and military career/occupational managers). This will result in a scientific survey instrument geared at subject matter experts, and a summary of subject matter experts' knowledge and recommendations to inform policies, strategies, and policies for improving military personnel retention.
- Identify and provide recommendations for retention-related practices, policies, programs, and strategies for increasing retention.

Domestic Military Operations and Covid-19

Another project that is well underway is the book project led by Lindy Heinecken and Christian Leuprecht (former President of RC01) on Domestic Military Operations and Covid-19, launched at the July ERGOMAS/RC01 Conference in 2021. We have now nearly 20 country contributions with a good representation from Africa, with countries such as Sierra Leone, Nigeria, Zimbabwe, Namibia, and South Africa making contributions. We also have countries from the East, such as Japan and South Korea joining the project. European countries that form part of the project include Belgium, France, Spain Italy, Portugal, Slovenia, and Sweden. We also have contributions from the global South, from Brazil, New Zealand, and Australia. This showcases the collaborative nature of our work and the importance of belonging to professional associations such as RC01. Oxford University Press has indicated their interest to publish the book as Open Access, opening up the impact of our work to anyone who has access to the internet.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS BY RC01 MEMBERS

Below are some of our members' most recent publications. Please remember to send us your publications and any opinion pieces that you have published.

Books:

1. Ben Ishai, Ofra and Yagil Levy. 2021. *Armed with Legitimacy: Justifications for Military Violence in Israeli Society*. Haifa: Pardes (in Hebrew).
2. Liebenberg, I. (eds) *Routledge Handbook of Conflict Response and Leadership in Africa*. London/New York, Routledge, Taylor and Francis, 2022, 339-355.

Chapters:

1. Alchin, A., Gouws, A. and Heinecken, L. Making a difference in peacekeeping operations: Voices of South African women peacekeepers, 2000-2018. in eds, Ozerdem, A, Akgul-Acikmese, S and
2. Ben-Ari, Eyal. 2021 Japan: "Normalizing" the Japan Self-Defense Force? In David Kuehn and Yagil Levy (eds): *Mobilizing Force: Linking Security Threats, Militarization and Civilian Control*. Boulder Lynne Rienner. 37-54.
3. Ben-Ari, Eyal. 2022 Military Sociology in Israel. In Markus Steinbrecher, Heiko Biehl and Martin Elbe (eds): *Empirical Social Research and the Armed Forces*. Berlin: Wissenschafts-Verlag. 131-56.
4. Fukuura, Atsuko and Eyal Ben-Ari. 2022 The Japanese Self-Defense Forces and Cinematic Productions: Resonance, and Reverberation in the Normalization of Organized State Violence. In



- Jennifer Coates and Eyal Ben-Ari (eds.) *Japanese Visual Media: Politicizing the Screen*. London: Routledge, 161-79.
5. Heinecken, L. Women and military service. In Shields, P. and Elias, N., (eds.) *Handbook on Gender and Public Administration*. New York: Edward Elgar Publishing, 2022.
 6. Heinecken L. The South African Military and Gender Integration: Bridging Theory and Practice. In: Fritz J.M. (eds) *International Clinical Sociology*. *Clinical Sociology: Research and Practice*. Springer, Cham, 2021: 277-294, https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-54584-0_15.
 7. Heinecken, L. 2021. Combatting Covid-19: Roles and challenges associated with the deployment of the South African Military, in Mahe, A-L & Wilen, N. (eds). *Facing a Pandemic: African Armies and the fight against Covid-19. Report No 91*. ISREM/EGMONT, pp 59-69.
 8. Levy, Yagil. The Relations Between the Nationalization of Israel's Politics and the Religionization of Its Military, 1948–2016, in *When Politics are Sacralized: Comparative Perspectives on Religious Claims and Nationalism*, eds. Nadim Rouhana and Nadera Shalhoub-Kevorkian (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press), 2021.

Special issues:

1. Christoph Harig, Nicole Jenne & Chiara Ruffa (eds.) Special Issue: Operational experiences, military role conceptions and their influence on civil-military relations, *European Journal of International Security* 7(1), 2022. This special features contributions by Risa Brooks & Peter M. Erickson, Yagil Levy, Rafa Martinez & Nicole Jenne, Nina Wilen & Lisa Strömbom, Christoph Harig & Chiara Ruffa, and Anit Mukherjee. Link to the introductory article: <https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/european-journal-of-international-security/article/operational-experiences-military-role-conceptions-and-their-influence-on-civilmilitary-relations/899B8538DFFB3FD1A0643E2EE5C5947D>.
2. Van Rensburg, W., van Zyl Gouws, N. & Heinecken, L. Parliament's contributions to security sector governance, reform and sustainable development goals: Testing Parliaments Resolve in Security Sector Governance During Covid19. *DCAF/ Geneva Centre for Security Governance, Paper 21*, pp 1-80, 2022. <https://dcaf.ch/parliaments-contributions-ssgr-and-sdgs>

Journal Articles:

1. Fisher, KM and C. McIntosh. Failing isn't an Option, It's the Only Option: Critical Politics as a Time of Contradiction and Failure, *International Studies Review*, August 2021. https://www.academia.edu/51763137/Failing_Is_Not_an_Option_It_Is_the_Only_Option_Critical_Politics_as_a_Time_of_Contradiction_and_Failure
2. Heinecken, L. and Wilen, N. No Place Like Home? Post-deployment Reintegration Challenges Facing South African Peacekeepers, *Armed Forces, and Society*, 47 (3), 2021: 415-434. <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/0095327X19894719>
3. Levy, Yagil. Legitimacy of Violence: Extra-Military versus Intra-Military Legitimacy, *Critical Military Studies*, 2021 <https://doi.org/10.1080/23337486.2021.1953740>
4. Levy, Yagil. The Israeli Policing Army – The Gray Arm of Annexation. *British Journal of Middle Eastern Studies*, 2021 <https://doi.org/10.1080/13530194.2021.1972795>
5. Buscha, Connie. [Sexual Arenas, Alcohol \(Ab\)use, and Predatory Leadership: Facilitators of US Military Sexual Violence - Connie Buscha, 2021.](https://doi.org/10.1080/13530194.2021.1972795) <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/0095327X2111044526>
6. Levy, Yagil. 2022. The People's Army 'Enemising' the People – The Covid-19 Case of Israel, *European Journal of International Security*. 7(1): 104-123.



<https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/european-journal-of-international-security/article/peoples-army-enemising-the-people-the-covid19-case-of-israel/BEFD4BBB89FA9E71878FC513B4ACDBE4>

7. Musa, Sallek & Heinecken, Lindy. The Effect of Military (Un)Professionalism on Civil-Military Relations and Security in Nigeria. *African Security*, Published online 24 Jan 2022. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/10246029.2021.2014917?tab=permissions&scroll=top>.

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We hope that you enjoyed reading this issue of RC 01's newsletter.