I. Introduction

In this edition of the RC03 newsletter we include news from the RC03 Board, reminder of registration deadline for the 4th Forum of Sociology and ESA RN37 IV Midterm Conference as well as information on current research and publication activity of the RC03 members.

II. News from the Board

The RC03 statute has been updated in line with the new ISA requirements. In order to comply with the new statute, the elections must be conducted to elect new President as well as Editor of the Newsletter. Soon, all eligible RC03 members in good standing will receive an email with invitation for voting. The elections will be proceeded in two steps: first RC03 members will be requested to nominate candidates to President and Newsletter Editor from the list of eligible RC03 members; then the list of nominated candidates will be sent to all eligible RC03 members in good standing for final voting. The elections starts on October 1st and will be closed 20 weeks later, following the timing in the RC03 and general ISA statutes.

III. Conferences

Although RC03 organizes no session during the 4th ISA Forum in Sao Paulo, some of our members have been accepted for oral presentations in sessions organized by other networks.

Due to the global pandemic that particularly affects Brazil, the IV ISA Forum of sociology will be held entirely online, between February 23 and 27, 2021, with some possibility to extend it a few more days for RC/WG/TG that wish to do so.

The theme and the structure of the Forum remain largely unchanged. All the abstracts that have been selected by the RC/WG/TG program.
coordinators remain valid and included in the Forum online platform.

The Forum fees have been reduced by 50% while maintaining the possibility of paying the full amount as a contribution to a solidarity fund to enable sociologists experiencing hardship to participate. **The deadline for presenters’ registration has been extended to December 15, 2020.** However, in order to be able to plan the sessions and to ensure lively exchanges among sociologists from all continents, **Authors of the accepted abstracts are requested to confirm their participation by October 15th.** Unconfirmed abstracts will be deleted from the program.

IV Midterm Conference of the **Research Network on Urban Studies (RN37) of the European Sociological Association** entitled “**Urban Theory and Urban Praxis: Past, Present and Possible Futures**” will be held ONLINE, hosted by Department of Sociology and Business Law, University of Bologna, on January 27th-29th, 2021. For details please visit the RN37 website: [https://esarn37.hypotheses.org/](https://esarn37.hypotheses.org/)

**IV. The most recent publications by RC03 members**


Shunsuke Takeda, 2020, Fluidity in rural Japan: How lifestyle migration and social movements contribute to the preservation of traditional
ways of life on Iwaishima, in Wolfram Manzenreiter, Ralph Lützeler and Sebastian Polak-Rottmann (eds), Japan’s New Ruralities: Coping with Decline in the Periphery, Routledge: 196-211.


V. Current research projects run by RC03 members

Escenas culturales saludables: el carácter simbólico del contexto cultural y los estilos de vida saludables (HEALTHY-SCENES)
Partners from RC03:
• Clemente Navarro Yañez
• María Jesús Rodríguez
• Tery N. Clark
• Marta Klekotko

Participación y Desarrollo Cívico Comunitario en las políticas de bienestar social local en Andalucía.
Funding institution: Programa Operativo FEDER Andalucía. 2020-2022

IP: Cristina Mateos Mora and Maria Rosa Herrera Gutiérrez
Partners from RC03:
• Clemente Navarro Yañez
• María Jesús Rodríguez García
• Lucia Muñoz García

Jean Monnet Chair on European Urban Policies (EUrPol)
Main researcher: Clemente J. Navarro
Funded by: European Commission
Date: 2019-2022
RC03 Partners: María J. Rodríguez-García

New Possibilities for the Succession of Rituals and Folk Performing Arts in Depopulated Villages: Collaboration of Residents, Other Residents, Migrants and Artists (from 2019 to 2020, Suntory Foundation, 1,000,000 Yen)

“Culture and Identity in Chinatown, Calgary,” 2019-20, Principal Investigator, (Funded by the City of Calgary, $26,461.50 CAD)

Qualitative Research on Succession of Festivals and Folk performing Arts in Depopulated Villages: Focusing on Relations and Mediators between Inhabitants, Out-Migrants, and Lifestyle Migrants (from 2019 to 2020, Inamori Foundation, 1,000,000 Yen)

The quality of urban and territorial planning design (CADIPAT)
Funded by: Consejería de Fomento y Vivienda-Junta de Andalucía; 2018-2020; PI: Clemente J. Navarro, RC03 Partners: María J. Rodríguez-García.

Succession and Reconsturuction of Festivals/Folk Performing Arts in Overaged and Depopulated Communities: Focusing on the Role of Mediator between Inhabitants, out-migrants, incomers, and volunteers (from 2018 to 2020, Toyota Foundation, 1,200,000 Yen)

Succession and Transfiguration of Festivals and Folk Performing Arts in Depopulated Communities: Focusing on the Relationship
between Residents, Migrants, Migrants and Volunteers (from 2018 to 2021, Mitsubishi Foundation, 1,100,000 Yen)

Cultural mechanisms of structuration of urban communities (funded by The National Science Centre, Program OPUS 12, 2017-2021, budget 50,000 €, Poland), PI: Marta Klekotko (website: martaklekotko.com/research)

VI. Contact

The RC03 website containing a variety of information is available at the location below. Please visit it!

http://rc03communityresearch.wordpress.com/

Please send future announcements to the editors for inclusion in upcoming newsletters.

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VII. Background on RC03

The RC03 was launched at the Evian World Congress in 1966. We were initially a Working Group under the Committee on Political Sociology of Seymour Martin Lipset and Stein Rokkan. In 1969 we became an autonomous Research Committee, with Terry Clark as President and Ken Newton as Secretary. World Congresses every four years joined larger sets of us from more countries, but from near the beginning we met between the World Congresses on a more geographically limited basis, such as at the American Sociological Association (within which we founded a few years after RC03 the ASA Section on Community, currently Urban and Community). At the ISA World Congress in Mexico City in 1982, Harald Baldersheim suggested that some of us join in a common research enterprise. This led to the Fiscal Austerity and Urban Innovation Project, which continues actively. The Scenes Project extends these activities.

VIII. FAUI and Scenes Projects

Several RC03 collaborators launched two continuing projects, FAUI and Scenes.

As part of the Fiscal Austerity and Urban Innovation (FAUI) Project, collaborators in 35 countries have collected surveys of mayors and often council members and administrators using the same core items for over 10,000 local governments. Surveys include a range of items widely used in local politics literatures, such as group activity of some 20 types of groups, responsiveness to each group, policy preferences of the mayor and council and citizens as assessed by the mayor and council members, relative emphasis on a list of some 31 policy strategies (contracting out, subsidizing various groups, raising taxes, fees, across the board cutbacks, etc.—of the sort being discussed at the national level in the Eurozone about 2010-13), and more. Surveys were conducted from the 1980s to present, sometimes in up to five waves. They are generally merged with local socio-economic, fiscal, and other characteristics for analysis. Over 50 books and hundreds of papers use the data, books and survey questionnaires listed at www.faui.org.

The Scenes Project has published 10 books to date and many papers, growing out of ISA RC03 and jointly organized conferences with related professional associations. Scenes have been discussed for centuries. The Scenes project is adding the concept of scene to social science via systematic research. It is more open than class or status group or formal organizations, but includes elements of these as part of their context. Citizen initiatives from parades and political demonstrations to social media linked arts and cultural events are transforming the
more rigid past concepts. We are seeking to capture and detail how these shift all manner of social processes, from migration and urban development to arts engagement and political mobilization. We have used multiple methods from case studies, ethnographic participation, oral histories, to cross-national surveys, web scraping, and merging all these with big data from census sources. In recent years we have added data on small area units like blocks and postal codes including hundreds of amenities from cafes to malls to gang turf battles, and how they join to create scenes. We have pooled files that join international FAUI and Scenes data.

More details are on FAUI and Scenes websites listing conferences and publications:
FAUI: www.fau.i.org
Scenes: http://scenescapes.weebly.com
To access the raw data, contact Terry Clark tnclark@uchicgo.edu or Clemente Jesus Navarro Yanez <cnavyan@upo.es>.