Dear colleagues and friends,

The critical and postcolonial perspective: What to think about it?

I would like to say a few words about two recent international events which are important: the publication of a book and the organisation of an interdisciplinary conference. These two events are significant for us in our field of research, the field of history of sociology, introducing a critical (and postcolonial) perspective.

A new book: *The Social Sciences in the Looking Glass*

The subtitle of the book is *Studies in the Production of Knowledge* (Durham, Duke University Press, 2023) and the two editors are Didier Fassin (Collège de France/Institute for Advanced Study Princeton) and George Steinmetz (University of Michigan).

According to the editors, we can define the recent years in social sciences as a "reflexive moment" characterised by a critical analysis of the historical roots and contours of the disciplines (sociology, anthropology, philosophy, political sciences, legal theory, religious studies), including their politics and practices, epistemologies and methods, institutionalisation and professionalisation, national development and colonial expansion, globalisation and local contestations, and their public presence and role in society. The objective of the book is to "outline the present transformations of the social sciences, explore their connections with critical humanities, analyse the challenges of alternate paradigms, and interrogate recent endeavors to move beyond the human". The collaborators try "to
trace how the social sciences are thoroughly entangled in the social facts they analyse, and are key to helping us understand the conditions of our world”.

The topics of the numerous chapters and their authors are:

- The Public Anthropology of Violence in India. (Chitralekha),
- Critical Humanities and the Unsettling of the Sociological Field: Is There a French Exception? (Jean-Louis Fabiani),
- The Rise and Rise of Posthumanism: Will It Spell the End of the Human Sciences? (Didier Fassin),
- Making Sense of Globalizing Social Science. (Johan Heilbron),
- Challenging Objectivity in Japan’s Long 1968 (Miriam Kingsberg Kadia),
- How Political Commitment Delineates Social Scientific Knowledge (Kristoffer Kropp),
- Spaces of Real Possibilities: Counterfactuals and the Impact of Donors on the Social Sciences (Álvaro Morcillo Laiz),
- Cooperative Primates and Competitive Primatologists: Prosociality and Polemics in a Nonhuman Social Science (Nicolas Langlitz),
- Thinking About Cognitive Scientists Thinking About Religion (John Lardas Modern),
- The Reinvention of Sociology: Into the Trenches of Fieldwork at the Time of the Algerian Liberation War (Amin Pérez),
- Epistemological Crises in Legal Theory: The (Ir)Rationality of Balancing (Carel Smith),
- Concept-Quake: From the History of Science to the Historical Sociology of Social Science (George Steinmetz),
- Recovering Subalternity in the Humanities and Social Sciences (Peter D. Thomas),
- The Social Life of Concepts: Or, How to Study the Idea of Creativity? (Bregje F. van Eekelen),
- How Sociology Shaped Postwar Poland and How Stalinization Shaped Sociology (Agata Zysiak).

The topics of many papers are about the history of sociology, and some use the postcolonial perspective.

Secondly, the conference: Rethinking Race, the Colonial and the Postcolonial in Contemporary France. An important interdisciplinary (Law and social sciences) conference was organised by the University of Chicago Center in Paris, and held last December, 13-15, 2022 with the participation of researchers from various countries (France, Belgium, UK, USA, Japan, Austria, Abu Dhabi, South Africa). The title was “Rethinking Race, the Colonial and the Postcolonial in Contemporary France”. The conference had an ambitious objective which was “to seek to engage some crucial neglected topics: comparisons of regimes of racialisation; the implementation of anti-racist legislation; the racial question in the academic world; and the reception of the concept of intersectionality”. The notion of “intersectionality” seems to have been introduced into France during 2005. Known first among scholars of feminist and gender studies, it has been mobilised more broadly by sociologists working on social inequality and discrimination. Promoted by those who saw it as a key to radical emancipation, this notion has been seen by others as a sign of the “Americanisation” of French elites. So the concept has been the object of regular, quite violent controversy among and between politicians, intellectuals, scholars and journalists.

In addition, while class and gender inequalities in the Academy have been the subject of much study in the French social sciences, those of racial inequality have met with a strange silence. It is a question not only of demonstrating the extent and form of racial discrimination in higher education and in research, in France and other Western countries, but also to reflect on the individual experiences of under-represented minorities. The goal is to reflect on the intellectual and epistemological consequences of the penury of minority scholars in France.
The postcolonial perspective is also central in this recent conference. Maybe it will be the same in our next Mundial ISA Congress in Melbourne: many colleagues will use and make reference to the wokeism with a great sensitivity to social and political injustice, social inequalities, discrimination, sexism, and racial prejudice. For the best, I hope. We should have to be careful, trying to avoid ideological debates and keep an open and rational dialogue between us.


In 1913, the Karluk, flagship of the first Canadian Scientific Artic Expedition, became trapped in the Artic ice. Over months, the old ship drifted away from the land, carrying a party of 25 people: explorers, engineers and five Inuit hunters with two children toward a near-certain death. According to the author, this expedition had been not well-organised: insufficient warm clothes, a ship which was not suited to a winter in the Artic, etc.

Many of the members of this expedition died, and in their midst was a former research assistant of Marcel Mauss, Henri Beuchat (1878-1914), a French specialist of the Eskimos who wrote with his supervisor a famous essay on seasonal variations of Eskimo societies (L’Année sociologique, 1905). (See Marius Barbeau, “Henri Beuchat”, American Anthropologist, N.S., 1916 18(1):105-110). Beuchat was one of two ethnologists in the expedition, the other was Vilhjamour Stefansson (1879-1962), an explorer born in Manitoba, Canada and who studied anthropology at Harvard University and organised and directed the Canadian Artic Expedition, 1913-1916. Beuchat died, not Stefanson. What did happen? I quote the author of the bookreview: “On September 1913, Stefanson, under a pretext of going caribou hunting, took five men and 12 dogs and left his ship behind. His stated intention was to return after ten days, but when a storm struck, he made for land instead. Once safe, he put the Karluk of his mind”. Ouf! Stefanson is today well known in Canada and USA as a great specialist of the Artic and of its people. I or another historian of social science should write a critical analysis of the work ad life of this famous Canadian explorer and ethnologist.

Marcel Fournier

President RC 08 History of sociology.
Dear friends and colleagues,

I am sure many of us will have had a busy 2022, but when December comes around I feel it is a good time to produce a newsletter and reflect on our various – and numerous – achievements, trials and challenges. My own major role for the end of the year was to attend the Australian Sociological Association conference (TASA) in November in Melbourne. This year it was joined with the inaugural Humanities and Social Sciences Congress, running in the same venue over the same 10 days or so. Although we had our own conference sessions to attend (and our own meal breaks and conference dinner) it brought sociologists into contact with members of kin disciplines, enabling participants to attend different sessions if they so wished. It also made good economic sense for the organisers with the greater economy of scale - one set of caterers, cleaners etc. for a multitude of small disciplinary conferences. A truly eventful event.

At the TASA conference I was able, alongside my colleagues Ben Manning and Natalie Maystorovich Chulio, to present a series of papers about the history of Australian sociology. We are still slowly analysing the data from this large history project (life history interviews with 186 participants), and at present have been following a few of our many research questions and discovering some interesting associations from the data. For example, the paper led by Ben, with the title 'Theory, Theorising, and the Identity of Australian Sociologists', revealed the importance of social theory to the sociological identity of our participants. Indeed, social theory, or more accurately, social theorising, appears in our data as one of the more central symbolic markers of 'real' sociologists – as perceived by the participants themselves. Ben's second paper, titled 'A Crisis of Reproduction in Australian Sociology' expressed a concern for the intergenerational transmission of sociological knowledge in the midst of the neo-liberal turn in the Australian university sector.

The paper led by Natalie, titled 'Casualisation of the Higher education Sector and Lost Hope of Early Career Sociologists' followed a similar theme explored in the data: the challenges being faced by a generation of PhD and early career individuals who aspire to an academic career as a sociologist but are finding it extraordinarily difficult in the current, neo-liberal university sector.
My own paper took a quite different approach. This was titled ‘Sociologists in Australia: Who are They and What do They do?’. The paper examined the social class backgrounds of the participants in our study. Approximately half referred to their originating families as belonging to the working class (which is a particularly high proportion among disciplines of the academy), and while the project is qualitative, not statistical, it is quite clear from the participants’ stories about their career trajectories that class continues to function within the otherwise middle class culture of the university.

The papers presented at the conference were as follows:


The next task in the process is of course writing these up for publication! I hope you enjoy this newsletter. It has all the usual sections with members’ notices, members’ publications, and calls for papers, but we can always introduce new sections, so please contact me if you have ideas for future editions.

Fran Collyer
Editor and Secretary RC08
Natalia Maystorovich Chulio, Program Convenor for RC08 offers an update:

We originally had 11 sessions, however, as two of the sessions had only three papers, we have combined these to form a single session. This means that those who submitted abstracts to 'Follow the Money, Social Research and Funding Sources', or 'When the Devil Started Laughing: Social Prognostication in Historical Comparison', will now form a single session called 'Social Research, Funding Sources and Social Prognostication in the History of Sociology' chaired by Paolo PARRA SAIANI. This leaves us with ten exciting sessions that examine the history of the discipline in distinct ways. From comparative national histories; transnational histories; learning from past research; funding sources and social research; social prognostication; the importance of social knowledge production and politics; sociology and its influence on other disciplines; South-South intellectual exchanges; sociology and sociologists in Latin America; theories and methods for studying the history of sociology and reflecting on translation in the history of sociology. These other sessions are:

• Comparative National Histories of Sociology - Fran Collyer and Matthias Duller
• Past, Present and Future: Learning from 'Old' Sociological Research - John Goodwin and Laurie Parsons
• Reflecting upon Translation in the History of Sociology - Rafael Schoegler
• Sociology and Sociologists in Latin America. Institutions, Biographies, Networks, and Comparative Perspectives - Diego Pereyra and Joao Marcelo Ehler Maia
• South-South Intellectual Exchanges: Networks, Actors, Theories, Impact - Stephane Dufoix and Leandro Rodriguez Medina
• The Genesis of Sociology and the Relationship to Its Sibling Disciplines - Hedvig Ekerwald
• Theories and Methods in Undertaking Histories of Sociology - Marcel Fournier
• Transnational Histories of Sociology - Barbara Hoenig, Marcia Consolim and Wiebke Keim
• When Sociologies Matters. Authority of Social Knowledge Production and Political Inclusion of Sociologists - Mikhail Sinyutin

We also have two integrative sessions:

• The Good University: Addressing Growing Stratification and Gender Discrimination in the University Workforce - Participating units: Australian Sociological Association, RC08, RC32, RC56.
• De-Centering Global Sociology: The ' Peripheral Turn' in Social Theory and Research - Participating units: German Sociological Association, RC08, RC16, RC35.
Juan Morales Martin and Justino Gómez have a new publication for 2022 to share with all colleagues of RC08. Published by Palgrave Macmillan, it is part of the book series: Sociology Transformed.

*History of Sociology in Chile: Trajectories, Discontinuities, and Projections* provides a comprehensive overview of the rich and diverse tradition of social thought in Chile over the last century. The authors emphasise the close relationship between sociology and society, and address large issues such as the institutionalisation of sociology in the face of an open modernisation process following WWII, the key role played by Chile in the regionalisation and internationalisation of sociology and social sciences in Latin America from the late 1950s until the 1973 Coup d’état, and the radicalisation of sociology and the boom of dependency theories during that time. The analysis extends to independent academic centres that kept sociological thought, social intervention and the democratic dream alive within an authoritarian context, and the role of academic and professional sociology since the return to democracy, which has been attentive to accompanying and interpreting the development of a changing Chilean society. Framed within the country’s cultural, economic, historical, social and political experience, this overview of the debates, dissemination, networks, and educational programs associated with sociology, will be of interest to students and scholars of Latin American studies and historical sociology.


Adam Rajčan from Macquarie University in Sydney, with New Zealand-based colleague Edgar Burns, has published a new article on Australian sociology:


A previous article may also be of interest to members: Burns, A. and Rajčan, A. (2021) 'The publishing practices of Australian sociology PhD students Do they achieve outputs in sociology journals?' *Australian Universities’ Review* 63(2): 1-10.
João Marcelo Ehlert Maia has just published an article on Latin American sociology and the Cultural Cold War. It focuses on the relations between Florestan Fernandes, Aldo Solari, and the ILARI (Latin American Institute of International Relations, the regional branch of the former Congress for Cultural Freedom). The paper came out in English in the Brazilian journal 'Manguinhos-História, Ciências e Saúde'. Please find the link below.

https://www.scielo.br/j/hcsm/a/9bjiYfBwWGJFv4DtkMbfVng/?format=pdf&lang=en

Philipp Altmann, Professor Titular for Sociological Theory at the Central University of Ecuador, informs us that his book is finally out: *Sociology in Ecuador* (2022) Palgrave Macmillan.

This is the summary:

This Palgrave Pivot presents a concise yet comprehensive history of sociology in Ecuador. The case of Ecuador is especially interesting, as Ecuadorian sociology oscillated between theoretical debates—some of them out of time—and a constant search for ways of applying them to the local reality. In the decades after its formal creation in 1915, early academic sociology in Ecuador worked creatively with already outdated theories around positivism and organicism to understand the indigenous population's position, the regional fragmentation, and the formation of a coherent nation-state in Ecuador. After a short attempt of installing a more technical sociology in the 1960s, those topics were taken up and re-read by Marxist-inspired critical sociology after the 1970s, leading to the nation-wide institutionalisation of one particular tradition that could connect to continental debates. This book engages with several relevant debates in social sciences and humanities, particularly by adding to the thriving research on social sciences and the role of the university and higher education in Latin America. Furthermore, it touches some recently influential topics in sociology: Ecuadorian sociology can be read as Southern Theory or engaged with from a postcolonial or decolonial perspective; the research on how ideas travel, are diffused or localised is vital for understanding sociology in Ecuador; the relation between academia and politics; and more.

Philipp Altmann also has a paper in the latest issue (2022, number 7) of the (Spanish only) journal *Sociología y Política Hoy* - a journal dedicated to the history of sociology in Ecuador.

This latest issue has texts on the reception of the classics of sociology in Ecuador at the beginning of the 20th century; on Agustín Cueva Sáenz, the pioneer of sociology in Ecuador; several revisions of the development of sociology in Ecuador; an ethnographic take on this topic; a revision of the teaching syllabi; and more.

There have been many advances in the disciplines of sociology and political science since 1914, when the first chair of Sociology was established in Ecuador, and since the creation of the first School of Political Sciences in 1960. However, we have previously had little reflection on how knowledge has been produced in the country, on the articulation of local debates with the Latin American and global academy, the formation of new cohorts of social scientists, the publications we produce, the methodologies we use, the criteria of rigor with which we operate, the professional and work fields that we occupy, etc.

Therefore, this issue holds contributions for a sociology of sociology: a reflection that takes up both an inventory and a sociohistorical perspective of the evolution of the disciplines and their links, as well as a prospective of the challenges facing the social sciences in the country.

See:  

Philipp’s paper is titled:  
*Hacia una Sociología de la Sociología ecuatoriana* [Google translate says this is: Towards a Sociology of Ecuadorian Sociology]

Palabras clave:  
HISTORIA DE LA SOCIOLOGÍA, POBLACIÓN INDÍGENA, POPULISMO, DESIGUALDAD, MARXISMO

[Keywords: History of sociology, indigenous population, populism, inequality, Marxism]


Marx’s masterpiece Capital (Das Kapital) has been ignored or misread as well as selectively and creatively interpreted by the generation of social scientists that came after him. Emile Durkheim, Max Weber, and Georg Simmel attempt to supplement what they call ‘historical materialism’ or to engage in debates about ‘socialism’ through their readings of The Communist Manifesto and occasional Capital. Although these and other classical sociologists did not have access to most of Marx’s published and unpublished works as we do today, each is concerned with revising and refining Marx’s unfinished critique of political economy. Despite their differences with Marx and with one another, they share his concern with how empirically detailed and scientifically valid knowledge of the social world may inform historical struggles for a more human world. This commitment can be called ‘Faustian’, after the title character of the poet J.W. von Goethe’s tragic epic of modernity, insofar as Marx and the classical sociologists hope to translate theory into practice while making a pact or wager with the diabolical social, political, and economic forces of the modern world.

Simon Susen from the University of London, has some recent publications of note:

https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/2158379X.2022.2055279

https://www.bloomsbury.com/uk/hansherbert-k%C3%B6glers-critical-hermeneutics-9781350228634/

https://uk.sagepub.com/en-gb/eur/an-introduction-to-sociology/book268648#contents


Stephen Turner has a few recent publications to tell us about:


Wiebke Keim from the Université de Strasbourg, along with co-authors - Sitas, Ari; Damodaran, Sumangala; Pande, Amrita; and Trimikliniotis, Nicos, has published, in 2022, the book *Scripting Defiance. Four Sociological Vignettes* Delhi: Tulika Books.

This is the second volume from the authors (along with several others) of *Gauging and Engaging Deviance*, which is positioned between the ideas of deviance and defiance and attempts to uncover scripts through which notions of deviance as well as acts of defiance unravel. It argues that instead of the monologue about the binary of European modernity and its traditional backwoods, the contours are to be found in another archive, one that is made up of significant scripts or narratives of defiance that endure through subaltern people’s cultural formations despite and in response to dominant ideas and ideologies. Such scripts within this archive will help sociology reconstitute itself away from its original mandate: to be part of the fixers, to help the maintenance of social order, to predict and control aberrant behaviour and to create functional individuals and ensembles. The chapters look at specific figures of discontent: the worker, the woman, the student, the artist, the migrant and refugee, the prisoner, and, as a countervoice, the movements of reaction to their discontent, the movements of authoritative restoration.

Wiebke Keim has recently published several articles:


Wiebke Keim has also recently published several book chapters:


and two book reviews:


Matteo Bortolini from DiSSGeA at the University of Padua has published a new book, A Joyfully Serious Man: The Life of Robert Bellah Princeton University Press. This book won the Distinguished Publication Award, 2022, American Sociological Association, Section of History of Sociology and Social Thought. Congratulations Matteo!

Robert Bellah (1927–2013) was one of the most influential social scientists of the twentieth century. Trained as a sociologist, he crossed disciplinary boundaries in pursuit of a greater comprehension of religion as both a cultural phenomenon and a way to fathom the depths of the human condition. A Joyfully Serious Man is the definitive biography of this towering figure in modern intellectual life, and a revelatory portrait of a man who led an adventurous yet turbulent life.

Drawing on Bellah’s personal papers as well as in-depth interviews with those who knew him, Matteo Bortolini tells the story of an extraordinary scholarly career and an eventful and tempestuous life. He describes Bellah’s exile from the United States during the hysteria of the McCarthy years, his crushing personal tragedies, and his experiments with sexuality. Bellah understood religion as a mysterious human institution that brings together the scattered pieces of individual and collective experiences. Bortolini shows how Bellah championed intellectual openness and innovation through his relentless opposition to any notion of secularization as a decline of religion and his ideas about the enduring tensions between individualism and community in American society.

Based on nearly two decades of research, A Joyfully Serious Man is a revelatory chronicle of a leading public intellectual who was both a transformative thinker and a restless, passionate seeker.
Abstract:
In this paper we start from Mark Solovey’s *Social Science for What?* to analyse the place and the role of the social sciences in the US National Science Foundation from the mid-1940s to the end of the 1980s. The book highlights the tensions that built up around the epistemic status of the social sciences vis-à-vis the natural sciences and the reputational debates surrounding their role and fate during and after the postwar period. We mostly focus our attention on structures, actors and processes not addressed by Solovey: relationships, networks, and patterns of stratification within and across disciplines; the emergence of novel approaches outside the scientistic and positivistic framework sponsored by the NSF; alternative sources of funding, such as the National Endowment for the Humanities; and a set of broader, long-term processes in the macro-field of the social and behavioral sciences. We present some preliminary data suggesting that a wider, theoretically-oriented approach might be fruitful in casting a more complex and dynamic portrayal of the development of American social science.

Matteo Bortolini also sends us news of the symposium in the online journal, *Civic Sociology* (2022) volume 3, Issue one, “Matteo Bortolini’s *The Life of Robert Bellah*: A Roundtable”.

Contents:

- Joan W. Scott, “Comments on Matteo Bortolini’s *A Joyfully Serious Man: The Life of Robert Bellah*”.
- Chad Alan Goldberg, “Robert Bellah’s Legacy in Time of Trial”.
- Amy Borovoy, “Robert Bellah as Modernization Theorist: Comments on Matteo Bortolini’s *A Joyfully Serious Man*”.
- Arvind Rajagopal, “Robert Bellah: A Cold War Sociologist?”.
- Matteo Bortolini, “In Search of a Schema in a Joyfully Serious Life”.

https://online.ucpress.edu/cs

Additional publications from Matteo Bortolini:


This essay advances a “heretical” reconstruction of the secularisation debate from the postwar period to the early 2000s. My main hypothesis depends on two theoretical assumptions: the inherent pluralism of intellectual fields as spaces of interconnected and agonistic positions, which makes it difficult to point to encompassing hegemonies; and the difference between paradigms, theories and doxa, understood as interpretive frames differing in their degree of systematisation and accuracy. Far from being a hegemonic theory, the so-called “theory of secularisation as the
decline of religion” has not only always faced attacks from skeptics and antagonists, but was not codified as a true “theory” until a competing scientific approach—that is, the application of rational choice theory to the religious field in the early 1980s—forced its proponents to systematise their ideas.

Matteo Bortolini: “A Sociologist Can Write on Anything’ or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love Biography,” Timelines. Newsletter of the ASA History of Sociology and Social Thought Section, 34, 2022, pp. 4-8.

In this paper, written in occasion of the awarding of the 2022 Distinguished Publication Award, 2022 of the Section of History of Sociology and Social Thought of the ASA to A Joyfully Serious Man; I recount the difficulties of writing a theoretically-informed biography which nonetheless should be easily accessible by lay, non-academic readers. I also show the “political edge” of A Joyfully Serious Man, which can be read as an implicit critique of our current neoliberal academe.

Barbara Hoenig, at the Department of Sociology at the University of Graz, Austria, has published, with colleagues, the following edited book:


Abstract

This volume examines the criteria of excellence producing inequalities of gender in the daily working environment and evaluation of academics. Policymakers have increasingly placed emphasis on gender equality as part of a strategy for achieving research excellence, and efforts to reduce gender bias have become mainstream. This book suggests that this goal has remained elusive in practice due to continuing under-representation of women across many academic and scientific fields. Questioning the old structures of male dominance still prevalent in national research policy, the book explores the effects of institutional values and practices on the careers of academics, particularly the academic identities of women and their career developments. It focuses on case studies drawn from Europe while also highlighting the rise of new forms of public management and a neoliberal framing of the value of academic work, that have a much broader global reach. Using participatory research, the book analyses contemporary forms of "gendered excellence" in an intersectional and international perspective. It will be of interest to junior/senior researchers, teachers, and scholars in sociology, education, gender studies, history, political science and science and technology studies.
Stephan Moebius from the University of Graz has published


(engl. translation: 'The "wild seventies" and their "opposing sociologies": Historical-Sociological Reconstruction of a Constellation of West German Sociological History').

OPEN ACCESS

Stephen has also published, with Karl Acham, the second edited volume of Soziologie der Zwischenkriegszeit. Ihre Hauptströmungen und zentralen Themen im deutschen Sprachraum [The Sociology of the Interwar Period in the German-speaking countries]

In den Bänden dieser Reihe werden erstmalig detailliert die wichtigsten Strömungen und Themen der ungewöhnlich fruchtbaren Periode der Soziologie der Zwischenkriegszeit im deutschen Sprachraum dargelegt. Damit leisten diese Bände nicht nur einen eminent wertvollen Beitrag zur Aufarbeitung der Geschichte der Soziologie in theoretischer, empirischer und institutioneller Hinsicht, sondern vertiefen die eingehende Erörterung Spezieller Soziologien auch durch die Bezugnahme auf Nachbardisziplinen wie Sozial- und Ideengeschichte, Ökonomik, Psychologie und Ethnologie.

[In the volumes of this series, the most important currents and themes of the extraordinarily fruitful period of sociology between the wars in the German-speaking world are presented in detail for the first time. These volumes not only make an extremely valuable contribution to the processing of the history of sociology from a theoretical, empirical and institutional point of view, but also deepen the detailed discussion of special sociologies by referring to neighboring disciplines such as social and intellectual history, economics, psychology and ethnology].

Stephan Moebius has also published


and

Charles Crothers announced his recent edited publication, with colleagues Lorenzo Sabetta and Larry Stern (2022) *The Anthem Companion to Robert K. Merton*, Anthem Press. Anthem Companions to Sociology.

About the book:

Robert K. Merton (RKM) was an important figure in the mid-nineteenth development of sociology in terms of social theory, methodology and several substantive areas key to understanding modern societies – the sociologies of science, media, professions and bureaucracy. This book reveals the different components of RKM’s work and how each relates to the other.

https://anthempress.com/the-anthem-companion-to-robert-k-merton-hb

Diego Ezequiel Pereyra of the University of Buenos Aires, Argentina, sends news of his publication (with colleague Lautaro Lazarte):

DT N° 87. Rebelión en la granja sociológica. Controversias e impacto de la huelga de estudiantes de sociología

[in English]

*Revolt on the Sociological Farm. Controversies and Impact of the Sociology Student Strike (Buenos Aires, 1963)*

Resumen [summary]

La creación del primer departamento universitario de sociología en Argentina en 1957, de la mano de Gino Germani en la Universidad de Buenos Aires, significó un paso importante en la institucionalización de la disciplina. Sin embargo, su apertura y desarrollo desencadenaron un debate epistemológico y político sobre los valores y el sentido de la sociología y el rol de los sociólogos en la sociedad.

[The creation of the first university department of sociology in Argentina in 1957, by the hand of Gino Germani at the University of Buenos Aires, meant an important step in the institutionalisation of the discipline. However, its opening and development triggered an epistemological and political debate on the values and meaning of sociology and the role of sociologists in society].

De esta forma, el férreo apoyo de los estudiantes al liderazgo de Germani del comienzo fue derivando rápidamente en un cuestionamiento sobre el origen de los fondos, la orientación teórica y metodológica de la disciplina y la ausencia de compromiso social. Así, en 1963, los estudiantes
declararon una huelga que se extendió durante un semestre y que adquirió ribetes míticos en la historia de la lucha estudiantil.

Por lo cual, este documento de trabajo quiere reconstruir el proceso buscando una reinterpretación sobre las razones del reclamo, el comportamiento de los actores y las consecuencias institucionales del conflicto. A través de un análisis de los documentos institucionales, folletos y notas de estudiantes y docentes, entrevistas y cartas, se quiere analizar la huelga como un repertorio del movimiento estudiantil que exigía cambios en la orientación del departamento, en un contexto de fuertes tensiones sociales.

El trabajo se centra además en una evaluación del impacto del proceso en los valores de la tradición reformista, la naturaleza del debate metodológico y las interpretaciones sobre el sentido del uso del conocimiento sociológico.

http://iigg.sociales.uba.ar/2022/08/17/dt-n-87-rebelion-en-la-granja-sociologica/
Fran Collyer would like to let you know that the latest issue from Serendipities, our journal on the Sociology and History of the Social Sciences, has just been published. You can find it here:

https://tidsskrift.dk/Serendipities/issue/view/9669

Serendipities publishes a broad range of approaches to its subject matter, and the editors are keen to receive papers on the development of methodologies and research techniques for examining the history of sociology or the social sciences; the institutionalisation processes of disciplines and research directions; the "traveling of ideas" from one scholarly culture to another; the role of funding agencies; the interaction of social science with the public or publics; and the relation among the social sciences, the state, and social movements. Of particular interest at this time are papers that offer comparative analyses of national sociologies — either an analysis itself or a discussion of the methodologies appropriate for such an endeavour. If you are working on this subject, Fran would be happy to talk with you about it and introduce you to others who may share similar interests.

Serendipities' Editorial Team
Andreas Kranebitter (University of Graz, Austria) (managing editor)
Fran Collyer (The University of Karlstad, Sweden) (managing editor)

Editors
Ivan Boldyrev (Radboud University, Nijmegen, Netherlands)
Matteo Bortolini (University of Padua, Italy)
Hon-fai Chen (Lingnan University, Tuen Mun, Hong Kong)
Marcia Consolim (Universidade Federal de São Paulo, Brazil)
Christian Dayé (Graz University of Technology, Austria)
Stéphane Dufloix (Université Paris Nanterre, France)
Matthias Duller (Central European University, Vienna, Austria)
Christian Fleck (University of Graz, Austria)
Andreas Hess (University College Dublin, Ireland)
Olessia Kirtchik (National Research University, Higher School of Economics, Moscow, Russia)
Thomas König (Institute for Advanced Studies, Vienna, Austria)
Kristoffer Kropp (Roskilde University, Denmark)
Stina Lyon (London South Bank University, United Kingdom)
Diego Pereyra (Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina)
Elisabeth Simbürger (Universidad de Valparaíso, Chile)
Chris Husbands, Emeritus Reader at the London School of Economics, has fully translated Werner Sombart’s Das Proletariat, published in 1906.

It is in essence his analysis/lament about the state of the German working class of his day. It has been said by some commentators that his later disillusion with the working class dates from this work. In later life he came close to fully embracing Nazism, or at least some aspects of it. He died in 1941.

Chris’ next translation will be Sombart’s Die gewerbliche Arbeiterfrage [The industrial worker question], but this has 142 small-print pages in gothic script and the translation will not be ready for a good while!

C.Husbands@lse.ac.uk

Stephen Turner from the University of South Florida, provides us with an update on Sociology Transformed. A decade ago John Holmwood and I launched a series of short books designed to explain the trajectory of sociology in different countries since 1945, which we thought had been a neglected topic. The series now has over twenty books, including most recently on Greece, Serbia, and Ecuador. These projects have produced many startling results. The trajectory of sociology has varied enormously in different settings, and there are many interesting figures who have been recognised in the series as serious sociologists who were attuned to the larger intellectual currents of the time and thought creatively about them and about their relevance to their local situation, as well as developing new perspectives. But the case studies also show a great deal about the influence of foundations, the divisions in sociology that reflected divisions in society, and the highly problematic and ever-changing relation of sociology to state power. There is no easy way to summarise this, and that is the point. Rather than converging toward some sort of standard model, the history of sociology shows both attention to international sources and a high degree of variation dependent on local circumstance.

We welcome additions to the series! There are still many countries to consider, and there is much still to learn.
Fran Collyer and Stéphane Dufoix would like to announce the publication of a special issue of the *Revue d'histoire des sciences humaines*, titled *Sciences Sociales du et au Sud* [Social sciences of and in the South]. It will be available online in December, and as a hard copy in January 2023, but the issue will be dated 2022. The hard copy will be in the French language, but the English version will be available online.

Abstract:

A very recent development in the social sciences has been the intensification of claims about the exclusion of scholarship emerging from scholars of the global South. Drawing from diverse disciplines (literary studies, the social sciences and the humanities) and diverse origins (post-colonial theory, post-orientalism, subaltern studies and post-structuralism), this social and intellectual movement has now begun to seriously challenge the discipline of sociology and its traditions. This special edition seeks to present some of the leading theorists and their scholarship to French audiences. In this introduction to the special edition, we address the notion of a social science “in” and “of” the global South, drawing on a claim by sociologists from Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Arab world about the similarities between countries that are politically, culturally and geographically far from Europe and North America—the “metropole”—which headquarter the major publishers and the most prestigious universities. Many of the countries of the global South share a history of colonialism, imperialism and the systematic exploitation of their peoples and wealth.

The introduction, by Stéphane and Fran, is titled ‘Repenser la boussole épistémique’, or, in English, ‘Rethinking the Epistemic Compass’.

The English titles of the papers are as follows

CHEN Hao, "Global" Entanglements of a "Local" Medical Historian: The Transnational Historiography and Modernity of Chinese Medical History

KEIM Wiebke, Ibn Khaldun in early German-language sociological theory. A historical case of South-North reception

FERRETTI Federico, Social tropicalism, engaged geographies and the Brazilian “hub”: The South as a place for producing critical knowledge (1930s-1950s)
Call For Papers

CFP: Eighth Annual Conference on the History of Recent Social Science (HISRESS)

Department of History of Science and Ideas, Uppsala University

9–10 June 2023

This two-day conference of the Society for the History of Recent Social Science (HISRESS), at Uppsala University in Sweden, will bring together researchers working on the history of post-World War II social science. It will provide a forum for the latest research on the cross-disciplinary history of the post-war social sciences, including but not limited to anthropology, economics, psychology, political science, and sociology as well as related fields like area studies, communication studies, history, international relations, law, and linguistics. The conference aims to build upon the recent emergence of work and conversation on cross-disciplinary themes in the postwar history of the social sciences.

Submissions are welcome in such areas including, but not restricted to:

- The interchange of social science concepts and figures among the academy and wider intellectual and popular spheres
- Comparative institutional histories of departments and programs
- Border disputes and boundary work between disciplines as well as academic cultures
- Themes and concepts developed in the history and sociology of natural and physical science, reconceptualised for the social science context
• Professional and applied training programs and schools, and the quasi-disciplinary fields (like business administration) that typically housed them
• The role of social science in post-colonial state-building governance
• Social science adaptations to the changing media landscape
• The role and prominence of disciplinary memory in a comparative context
• Engagements with matters of gender, sexuality, race, religion, nationality, disability and other markers of identity and difference.

The two-day conference will be organised as a series of one-hour, single-paper sessions attended by all participants. Ample time will be set aside for intellectual exchange between presenters and attendees, as all participants are expected to read pre-circulated papers in advance.

Proposals should contain no more than 1000 words, indicating the originality of the paper. The deadline for receipt of abstracts is February 3, 2023. Final notification will be given in early March 2023 after proposals have been reviewed. Completed papers will be expected by May 5, 2023.

Please note that published or forthcoming papers are not eligible, owing to the workshop format.

The organising committee consists of Jenny Andersson (Uppsala University), Jamie Cohen-Cole (George Washington University), Philippe Fontaine (École normale supérieure Paris-Saclay), Jeff Pooley (Muhlenberg College), and Per Wisselgren (Uppsala University).

All proposals and requests for information should be sent to submissions@hisress.org.

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**Call For Papers**

Seventh International Undergraduate Research Conference on Science, Technology, Medicine, and Society (STMS)
To be held online at the University of Toronto

*March 23–24, 2023*

**Conference Theme:** Science and Public Welfare

**Keynote Speaker:** Erika Dyck, Canada Research Chair in the History of Medicine, University of Saskatchewan. Publications include *Psychedelic Psychiatry: LSD on the Canadian Prairies* (University of Manitoba Press, 2012) and *Facing Eugenics* (University of Toronto Press, 2013).

Science impacts every aspect of our lives and has long been viewed as a public good. However, the relationship between science and society is complex and multifaceted. Scientific developments and their technological counterparts have created both new solutions and new problems for the public. How has the increased presence of science and technology in our everyday lives impacted mental, social, economic, political, environmental, and physical health? How have scientific and technological advancements created new problems for the Earth, and can science help us avoid the impending climate crisis? What ethical issues arise when we avail ourselves of powerful science-based technologies, such as prenatal genetic screening? How do agricultural developments such as genetically modified organisms (GMOs) affect long-term crop health, and how do we weigh problematic
environmental impacts against positive impacts on food availability? How do psychiatric and other medical diagnoses shape our self-image as well as social conceptions of normality and abnormality? Have advanced military and surveillance technologies contributed more towards public safety or a state of vulnerability?

The Seventh International Undergraduate Research Conference on Science, Technology, Medicine, and Society at the University of Toronto invites student submissions that examine the interactions between science and public welfare. Topics may include but are not limited to: climate science, agricultural science, medical technologies, mental health diagnoses, and artificial intelligence (AI). We also invite submissions on other issues related to Science, Technology, and Medicine (STM) in historical and contemporary contexts throughout the world. As an interdisciplinary gathering, we encourage students to submit papers from across the arts, humanities, social sciences and natural sciences—check out our 2022 conference webpage to view previous abstracts.

Interested students should submit an abstract (250 words) and a brief bio (50 words) by January 9, 2023 using the following link: https://forms.gle/gwDqEogT6kCkcPL47. If you have any questions, please contact Ava Spurr at: ava.spurr@mail.utoronto.ca.

All applicants will be notified by February 6, 2023.

Sponsored by the University of Toronto’s: Institute for History and Philosophy of Science and Technology (IHPST), Arts and Science Student Union (ASSU), History and Philosophy of Science Undergraduate Society (HPSUS), and Victoria College.


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**Call For Papers**

**ESA RN15 Midterm Meeting 2023 in Milan - The Call for Papers is out now!**

Dear Colleagues,

We are happy to announce that the Call for Papers for the next ESA RN15 Midterm Meeting is out now! We will meet in Milan on 18-19 May 2023. For details, see the CFP text below. We are currently updating the programme and will inform you about further details in due course.

We look forward to having many of you with us in Milan next spring!

With warm season greetings,

Marjaana Rautalin and Peter Holley
ESA RN15 Coordinators

European Sociological Association – Research Network 15 “Global, Transnational and Cosmopolitan Sociology”

**Second Mid-Term Conference**

“Which globalization during and after multiple crises?”

18-19 May, 2023, Milan (Italy)
Call for papers

The close succession of crises that have characterized recent years (e.g. the economic crisis of 2008, the migration crisis that followed the Arab Springs, the climate emergency, the Covid-19 pandemic, and the war in Ukraine) requires updated sociological reflection on the theme of globalization. On the one hand, in fact, these crises appear, in their causes and consequences, as processes of a genuinely global nature which transcend the capacity for action of individual states or other local actors, and, as such, require responses that are equally global. On the other hand, the global emergence or sharpening of threats, divisions and clashes open worrying scenarios of uncertainty for the future, and require a rethinking of the sociological tools used to study the social reality in which we are immersed. This Mid-Term Conference of ESA Research Network 15 “Global, Transnational and Cosmopolitan Sociology” calls for papers dealing theoretically, methodologically, and empirically with all topics related to the global, transnational and glocal dimension of present social and political life. We welcome all kinds of papers that deal with how the local, the transnational and the global are entwined and simultaneously define the meanings of one another, and how individuals, organizations or states try to (or should) manage old and new threats and challenges which face either humankind as a whole or specific parts of our planet.

Key dates
- Submission of abstracts (max 300 words) and panel proposals by 24th February 2023
- Notification of decision on abstract and panels by 13th March 2023
- Confirmation of participation and fees payment by 3rd April 2023

Abstracts and panel proposals should be sent to
ESARN15Conference.Milano@unicatt.it

Participation fees
The conference package/fee includes refreshments during coffee breaks and two buffet lunches.
- Student (Bachelor/Master’s Degree & PhD Students): 50 Euros
- ESA members: 60 Euros
- Non ESA members: 80 Euros

Travel and Accommodation
Participants need to book and pay for their travel arrangements and accommodation separately. A list of hotels will be sent to participants after their confirmation.

Organizing Committee
Marco Caselli (coordinator), Anna Facchetti, Peter Holley, Silvia Malacarne, Marjaana Rautalin.

Info
ESARN15Conference.Milano@unicatt.it
Happy Holidays!

The End