From the President: The World Forum of Sociology was held in an online format in February 2021. Despite a few technical problems, it was successful. I thank Kseniya Kizilova and Marita Carballo for their work in organizing the program, and all of the session chairs and contributors—especially those who had to stay up late or get up early in order to participate. The next World Congress of Sociology will be held in Melbourne in July 2023 (postponed one year from the original date). Planning will need to begin soon, so if you are interested in organizing sessions, I encourage you to get in touch with me. Because new board members and officers are chosen at the World Congress, the terms of the RC20 board officers will be extended by one year. In addition to some new publications by RC20 members, this newsletter contains a Call for Session Proposals (Deadline: July 30, 2021) for a joint meeting with RC33 (Logic and Methodology) which will be held online in September 2022.

This newsletter comes out only twice a year, but we now have a new way to communicate with members: a Twitter account (@RC20_ISA). I thank Kseniya Kizilova and Nate Breznau for establishing the account. If you are on Twitter, I encourage you to follow RC20, and if you have material that you think would be of interest to RC20 members, you can send it to me, Kseniya, or Nate so it can be posted. This is the twentieth year of publication for the RC20 Journal, Comparative Sociology, and in honor of that anniversary I will be posting information about some of the notable articles that have appeared.

Finally, I want thank Fumiya Onaka for help with this newsletter—David Weakliem

Publications by RC20 Members


In 1984, the celebrated sociologist and historian Norbert Elias convened a major conference on ‘Civilisations and civilising processes’ at the Centre for Interdisciplinary Research (University of Bielefeld). Participants included the most distinguished and influential scholars in historical sociology and world history. This book will make available, for the first time in one place, the papers...
presented by the speakers and, even more interestingly, the transcripts of discussions at the symposium. This conference brought together eminent and internationally reputed scholars of macro-history and historical sociology such as Johann P. Arnason, Elias, Johan Goudsblom, Keith Hopkins, William H. McNeill, and Immanuel Wallerstein. This highly informative encounter between various leading scholars of humanity’s global social history has never before been published, although it was completely recorded on paper and in tape recordings. Its publication in one volume should be an important event for all students of the long-term structural transformations of humanity


Andrey V. Rezaev "Twelve Theses on Artificial Intelligence and Artificial Sociality”. In Monitoring of Public Opinion: Economic and Social Changes. NO.1, 2021


Upcoming Events

Call for Session Proposals (Deadline: July 30, 2021) - RC20 Regional Conference on Comparative Sociology & The 2nd RC33 Regional Conference on Social Science Methodology

(Tokyo, Japan, 12–16 September 2022 Japan Women’s University)

RC20 is pleased to invite members to submit session proposals to be considered for the RC20 Regional Conference on Comparative Sociology & The 2nd RC33 Regional Conference on Social Science Methodology in Tokyo, Japan. The conference will be held on 12–16 September 2022.
Call for session proposals guidelines:

The joint conference will reflect the focus of RC20, “Comparative Sociology,” and that of RC33, “Social Science Methodology.” We welcome a diverse range of topics on these themes.

Sessions should be proposed, organized, and presented in English.

Session proposals should be more than 200 words.

Session proposals should be submitted through the conference site (http://mcn-www.jwu.ac.jp/~fonaka/JC.htm).

The deadline for submission of session proposals is July 30, 2021.

The timeslot of the sessions is scheduled from 15:00 to 17:00 (Central Europe Summer Time [CEST]), which corresponds to 6:00-8:00 (US Pacific Daylight Time [PDT]), 22:00-24:00 (Japan Standard Time [JST]).

No registration fee is required for this conference.

The 1st RC20 Comparative Sociology Award for Best Papers is planned.

Timeline and process are as follows:

Call for session proposals: April 5, 2021
Close of session proposals submission: July 30, 2021
Acceptance of session proposals: September 10, 2021
Call for papers open (abstract submission): September 27, 2021
Close of paper submission: December 31, 2021
Submissions accepted and program prepared: March 11, 2022
Registration opened: April 11, 2022
Conference: September 12–16, 2022

The local organizing committee:
Fumiya Onaka (Prof. Dr., Japan Women’s University)
Akiko Nagai (Assoc. Prof., Japan Women’s University)
This conference is supported by JWU Research Institute for Women and Careers

Contact us: jwujc2022 [at] gmail.com