From the President: This newsletter has announcements of a new book, a new journal, and conferences of interest to members. I have also included a special feature to mark the 20th anniversary of RC20’s journal, *Comparative Sociology*: a list of the fifty articles with the most cumulative citations, according to my calculations from Google Scholar. The list gives a good sense of the range and quality of the work published in the journal. I have been editor since 2012: the previous editors are Masamichi Sasaki (who founded the journal) and David Sciulli. You can help *Comparative Sociology* continue to enjoy success by submitting your own papers, recommending it to colleagues, and asking your institution to subscribe if they do not already do so.

New Book:


DOI [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-15-9358-1](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-15-9358-1)

Description:

This volume combines approaches from three disciplines – economics, sociology, and demography – and empirically analyzes the key aspects of the labor market and social demography processes in post-Soviet transitional societies while focusing on the gender perspective. Here, readers will find empirical studies on such countries as Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Estonia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan. The volume contributes to the literature by addressing the lack of academic empirical research on gender difference issues in the labor markets of post-Soviet countries as well as gender inequalities in fertility preferences, gender disparities among the youth and elderly, the gender pay gap, gender differences in employment, and female voices. The book brings together researchers of different disciplines from a variety of countries, distinguishing this project as international and interdisciplinary. The authors use the quantitative survey micro-data approach as well as the qualitative methods of interview data analysis to provide a comprehensive and detailed overview of the economic and social developments in the region regarding gender differences. The volume consists of three
parts tackling the following topics: 1) gender differences and demography (family formation and fertility, youth and elderly employment); 2) gender differences and labor market (gender wage gap, motherhood wage penalty, gender differences among freelancers, and women in STEM science); and 3) gender differences, well-being, and gender equality attitudes (women’s voices, women’s collective actions, gender equality attitudes, and spending patterns of housewives).


New Journal:

MAUSS INTERNATIONAL
Anti-Utilitarian Interventions in Social Sciences
Digital Journal

N°1 | “Opening Gift”
Available on Cairn: https://www.cairn-int.info/journal-mauss-international-2021-1.htm
Subscription:
Individual: 10 € (one year)/14 € (two years)
https://www.editionsbdl.com/?post_type=product&p=18556
Institution: 15 €/22 €
https://www.editionsbdl.com/?post_type=product&p=18561

For four decades now, the MAUSS (Mouvement anti-utilitariste en sciences sociales) has been at the heart of the debates in social sciences in France and in French-speaking countries. While this landmass of works has found resonance and relays in Latin countries such as Italy as well as across South America, it has barely percolated across the language and cultural barrier into English – and therefore international – scholarship. For those of us who do, within the MAUSS, publish in English, how often have we been obliged to disappoint interest in this perspective because of the unfortunate unavailability of core MAUSS texts? This is the aim of the MAUSS International journal: To bring MAUSS-branded scholarship to a truly international audience and thereby partake more forcefully in the important debates in social sciences today.

Greeted early on by scholars such as Mary Douglas, Albert O. Hirschman, Marshall Sahlins, and Annette Weiner, the MAUSS was founded in 1981 by Alain Caillé and collaborators to resist the growing encroachment of neoclassical economics and other utilitarian approaches in the social sciences. It is interesting how what is often called “French theory” continues to be at the heart of social sciences and philosophy today in English language scholarship. Yet what is intriguing from a French perspective is how this felicitous reception has excluded the critiques and debates that have occurred over the last decades within French scholarship, creating what are sometimes serious problems of
interpretation and application of these theories. This continued reliance on heavyweights such as Foucault, Derrida, and Bourdieu is a sign that novel theoretical insights have failed (at least to some extent) to impose themselves within English language scholarship in the last decades. It also gives the impression that French language scholarship has dried up since these heydays and that nothing of similar or significant value has emerged since. This is not true.

The globalization of academia, meanwhile, has brought a diversity of national and regional traditions in contact with each other and has promoted certain issues as common concerns. This process is accelerated by the enmeshing of social realities as a result of these same globalizing trends. As the COVID-19 pandemic has shown, the world today is inextricably woven into a whole, to the extent that a pangolin or a bat in a market in inland China (or some other cause) has the potential to initiate a snowball effect that can reach remote areas of Africa or South America in a matter of weeks. In other words, many of the pressing issues of the day are shared ones, and we are better off if we address them from a plurality of communicating standpoints rather than in isolation.

The MAUSS International wants to act as a crucible for such transnational communicative processes and act as a cultural and intellectual broker for antiutilitarian perspectives on both sides of the linguistic divide in order to better address today’s important issues.

Conferences

**LAST CALL! RC20/RC33 Regional Conference**

Call for Papers (deadline: 31 December 2021): The RC20 Regional Conference on Comparative Sociology & the 2nd RC33 Regional Conference on Social Science Methodology: Asia (Tokyo, Japan, 12–16 September 2022, Japan Women’s University)

As announced earlier, RC20 is pleased to invite RC20 members to submit papers to be considered for the RC20 Regional Conference on Comparative Sociology and the 2nd RC33 Regional Conference on Social Science Methodology: Asia in Tokyo, Japan. The conference will be held from 12th to 16th September 2022.

**Deadline:**

31 December 2021

**Guidelines for submission of papers:**

The joint conference will reflect the focus of RC20, “Comparative Sociology,” and that of RC33, “Social Science Methodology.” We welcome papers on a diverse range of topics on these themes.
Papers should be proposed and presented in English.
Papers should be presented by *oral live presentation*, if accepted.
Papers should be of no more than 200 words.
Papers should be submitted through the conference site (http://mcn-www.jwu.ac.jp/~fonaka/JC.htm).
The deadline for submission of papers is 31 December 2021.
The timeslot for the sessions will be 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.
It is planned to present the 1st RC20 Comparative Sociology Award for Best Paper.

*Timeline and process are as follows:*
Call for papers open (abstract submission): 27 September 2021
Close of paper submission: 31 December 2021
Submissions accepted and program prepared: 11 March 2022
Registration opened: 11 April 2022
Conference: 12–16 September 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

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**Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics Conference**
The Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics (SASE) is pleased to announce the call for papers for its 34th annual conference, "Fractious Connections: Anarchy, Activism, Coordination, and Control", hosted by the University of Amsterdam from 9-11 July 2022.
Please find the call for papers [https://sase.org/event/2022-amsterdam/] (as well as SASE’s research networks [https://sase.org/about/networks/] and 2022 mini-conference themes [https://sase.org/event/2022-amsterdam/#mini]).

The hard deadline for submissions is Tuesday, 25 January 2022.

**Comparative Sociology: 50 most cited articles**

2. CQ Schneider, C Wagemann, 2010. “Standards of good practice in qualitative comparative analysis (QCA) and fuzzy-sets”
7. CQ Schneider, C Wagemann. 2010. “Qualitative comparative analysis (QCA) and fuzzy-sets: Agenda for a research approach and a data analysis technique”
15. JP Daloz, 2003. “’Big men’ in sub-Saharan Africa: how elites accumulate positions and resources”


27. S Neckel, 2005. “Political scandals an analytical framework”

34. A Diekmann, K Schmidheiny, 2013. “The intergenerational transmission of divorce: A fifteen-country study with the fertility and family survey”


42. A Liljegren, 2012. “Key metaphors in the sociology of professions: Occupations as hierarchies and landscapes”


44. D Kavanagh, D Richards, 2003. “Prime ministers, ministers and civil servants in Britain”


47. ME Sandovici, T Davis, 2010. “Activism gone shopping: An empirical exploration of individual-level determinants of political consumerism and donating”


