



Sociology of
Professional Groups

NEWSLETTER

December 2021

RC52 Sociology of Professional Groups

Established in 1992

Objectives

To establish contacts and to encourage collaboration among scholars working in the field of sociology of occupational/professional groups throughout the world; to encourage the international exchange of research findings in the sociology of occupational/professional groups.

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Letter from the President of ISA RC52

Dear members and friends of ISA RC52,

Welcome to the December 2021 issue of the Newsletter for Research Committee 52 (Sociology of Professional Groups). We have come to the end of another year of challenges, with the COVID-19 pandemic affecting our lives, including the RC52 community, in so many ways. Lessons have been learnt. The pandemic transformed the way we worked, from campus shutdowns, meetings postponed and/or moving to the virtual world. Social problems and disparities increased, and we realised the importance and urgency of a social sciences perspective on COVID-19 times. It has been interesting times in terms of our domain of research focused on professions and professional groups. We have demonstrated that this is not just a health crisis. The current pandemic situation has placed the greatest unknowns before the professions. This crisis is also social and political and must be seen as a moment of rupture that will entail profound changes in professions and professional groups on a global scale. We realise how critical it is to advocate the sociology of professional groups.

Saying this, the past two years were times of accelerated changes, challenges, and opportunities for us all. Despite all obstacles, we managed to make 2021 about more than just the years of the COVID 19. Some members of the RC52 Board have been busy over the past few months attending several long Saturday meetings that ISA office arranged to decide about postponing the World Congress in Melbourne. After several deliberations, the next ISA World Congress of Sociology in Melbourne was postponed to 2023 (see further details on page 8). This means that the elections for the executive boards that serve each research committee were also postponed; an extra year in the RC52 executive committee, for all board members.

The RC52 community has been keeping in touch and enabling a lively intellectual exchange. Since its launch in late 2020 the RC52 *Webinar Series* has progressed with much success. Since the July newsletter report there has been a further RC52 Webinar. Thanks to the participants, chairs, and presenters and to Lara Maestriperi for her logistical support (see page 10 for more details).

A gentle reminder concerning ISA and RC52 subscriptions. The subscriptions of most members will expire at the end of December 2021. Please remember to renew your subscription on time.

Please look at the Notices section where you can find information on the Early Career Researcher Network; recent and forthcoming publications with special attention to the latest issue of *Professions & Professionalism*. You can follow RC52 activities on the RC52 blog (researchcommittee52.wordpress.com). The blog provides news and welcomes debates and announcements on the professions and professionalism; please contact blog Administrator Gitte Sommer Harrits (isa52.blog@gmail.com).

Some words are due to all colleagues who contribute in different ways to the achievements of RC52. Many thanks to all for taking RC52 to such a strong position; with more than a hundred members drawn from nearly thirty countries – one of the larger International Sociological Association Research Committees. I would ask members of RC52 to encourage new members to join to add further to its size and diversity. Guidance on how to join the ISA and RC52 appears later in the Newsletter, as well as other matters of interest to readers.

With very best wishes for the holidays and the New Year
Helena

Helena Serra
ISA RC52 President
helena.serra@fcsh.unl.pt

Carta de la Presidente del Comité RC52 de la ISA

Queridos miembros y amigos del grupo ISA RC52
Bienvenidos a la edición de Diciembre 2021 del Newsletter del Comité de Investigación 52 (Sociología de los Grupos Profesionales/ Sociología de las Profesiones). Hemos llegado al final de otro año de desafíos, con la pandemia COVID 19 afectando nuestras vidas, incluyendo la comunidad RC52, en muchos y variados sentidos. Las lecciones han sido aprendidas. La pandemia transformó el modo en que trabajamos, desde los cierres de las universidades a los congresos pospuestos y/o los movimientos hacia el mundo virtual. Los problemas y desigualdades sociales se incrementaron y se hizo evidente la importancia y urgencia de la perspectiva de las ciencias Sociales en tiempos del COVID-19. Han sido tiempos interesantes en términos de nuestro campo de investigación, centrado en las profesiones y los grupos profesionales. Hemos estado demostrando que no es sólo una crisis sanitaria. La actual situación de pandemia ha mostrado los grandes temas ignorados antes que el de las profesiones. Esta crisis es también social y política y debe ser vista como un momento de ruptura que traerá profundos cambios en las profesiones y los grupos profesionales a escala global. Somos conscientes de cuán crítico es dedicarse en este momento a la sociología de las profesiones.

Dicho esto, los dos años pasados fueron tiempos de cambios acelerados, desafíos y oportunidades para todos nosotros. A pesar de los obstáculos, nos la arreglamos para hacer en 2021 igual o más cosas que antes. Algunos del Comité del RC52 Board hemos estado ocupados durante unos pocos meses anteriores atendiendo varias reuniones en sábados, que la oficina de ISA armó para decidir sobre la posposición del próximo Congreso Mundial de ISA en Melbourne. Luego de varias deliberaciones, el próximo Congreso se pospuso para 2023 (ver más detalles en página 8). Esto significa que la elección para los comités ejecutivos también se posponen: un año extra del comité RC52 para todos los miembros.

La comunidad RC52 community se ha mantenido en contacto y en activo intercambio intelectual. Desde su lanzamiento en 2020, los RC52 Webinar Series han progresado con mucho éxito. Desde el newsletter de julio han habido varios RC52 Webinar. Gracias a los participantes, coordinadores y presentadores, así como a Lara Maestriperi por su soporte logístico (ver página 10 para más detalles).

Un amable recordatorio acerca de las suscripciones a ISA y RC52. Las suscripciones de muchos miembros expiran a finales de Diciembre 2021. Por favor, recuerden renovar sus suscripciones a tiempo.

Por favor, miren la sección Noticias, donde pueden encontrar información sobre la red de investigadores de carrera temprana, publicaciones recientes y por salir, con atención especial al último número de Profesiones y Profesionalismo. Pueden seguir las actividades del RC52 en el blog (researchcommittee52.wordpress.com). El mismo contiene novedades y da la bienvenida a debates y anuncios de la sociología de las profesiones y los grupos profesionales. Por favor, contacte a la administradora del blog, Gitte Sommer Harrits (isa52.blog@gmail.com).

Deben ser dichas algunas palabras sobre todos los colegas que contribuyen de diversas formas a los logros del RC52. Muchas gracias a todos por llevar al RC52 a una posición cada vez más fuerte, con más de una centena de miembros de alrededor de treinta países: uno de los comités de investigación más grandes de la Asociación Internacional de Sociología. Me gustaría pedirles a los miembros del RC52 que sigan animando a más colegas para que se vuelvan miembros, de modo de agrandar el número y la diversidad de los mismos. Una guía de cómo unirse a ISA y al RC52 aparece luego en el Newsletter, así como otros temas interesantes para leer.

Con los mejores deseos para este año que comienza y las vacaciones
Helena

Helena Serra
Presidenta del RC52 de ISA

Translated by Javier Pablo Hermo
Board Member RC52

Lettre de la Présidente du RC52 de l' AIS

chers membres et amis du CR52 de l' AIS.

C Bienvenue dans le numéro de décembre 2021 du Bulletin du Comité de recherche 52 (Sociologie des groupes professionnels). Nous sommes arrivés à la fin d'une autre année de défis, avec la pandémie de COVID-19 qui affecte nos vies, y compris celle de notre communauté de recherche du CR 52, à bien des égards. Des leçons en ont

été tirées. La pandémie a transformé notre façon de travailler, des fermetures de campus aux réunions reportées ainsi qu'au passage en mode virtuel. Les problèmes sociaux et les disparités ont augmenté, et nous avons réalisé l'importance et l'urgence d'une perspective des sciences sociales sur cette période de COVID-19. L'ensemble soulève d'intéressantes questions pour notre domaine de recherche axé sur les professions et les groupes professionnels. Nous avons démontré qu'il ne s'agit pas seulement d'une crise sanitaire. La situation pandémique actuelle a soulevé de grandes inconnues pour les professions. Cette crise est aussi sociale et politique et doit être considérée comme un moment de rupture qui entraînera de profonds changements dans les professions et les groupes professionnels à l'échelle mondiale. Nous réalisons à quel point il est essentiel de défendre la sociologie des groupes professionnels.

Cela dit, les deux dernières années ont été des périodes de changements accélérés, de défis et d'opportunités pour nous tous. Malgré tous les obstacles, nous avons réussi à faire de 2021 davantage que les années de COVID-19. Au cours des derniers mois, quelques-uns des membres du bureau du CR 52 ont assisté à plusieurs longues réunions les samedi, organisées par le bureau de l' AIS, pour décider du report du Congrès mondial à Melbourne. Après plusieurs délibérations, le prochain Congrès mondial de sociologie de l' AIS à Melbourne a été reporté à 2023 (voir les détails à la page 8). Cela signifie que les élections des membres de l'exécutif qui siègent à chaque comité de recherche ont également été reportées. Une année supplémentaire au sein du comité exécutif du CR 52 a été attribuée pour tous les membres du bureau.

La communauté du CR 52 est restée en contact et a permis un échange intellectuel animé. Depuis son lancement fin 2020, la série de webinaires du CR 52 a connu beaucoup de succès. Depuis le rapport du bulletin de juillet 2021, il y a eu un autre webinaire. Merci aux participants, aux présidents et aux présentateurs et à Lara Maestripieri pour son soutien logistique (voir les détails à la page 10).

Un rappel amical concernant les abonnements AIS et CR 52: les abonnements de la plupart des membres expireront à la fin décembre 2021. N'oubliez pas de renouveler votre abonnement à temps.

Veillez consulter la section Avis où vous trouverez de l'information sur le Réseau de chercheurs en début de carrière, des publications récentes et à venir avec une attention particulière au dernier numéro de *Professions & Professionalism*. Vous pouvez suivre les activités du CR 52 sur le blogue (researchcommittee52.wordpress.com). Celui-ci fournit des nouvelles et accueille les débats et les annonces sur les professions et le professionnalisme; pour toute question, veuillez contacter l'administratrice du blogue Gitte Sommer Harrits (isa52.blog@gmail.com).

Quelques mots de gratitude sont dus à tous les collègues qui contribuent de différentes manières aux réalisations du CR 52. Un grand merci à tous d'avoir amené le CR 52 à une position aussi forte, avec plus d'une centaine de membres provenant de près de trente pays – l'un des comités de recherche les plus étendus de l'Association internationale de sociologie. J'aimerais demander aux membres du CR 52 d'encourager de nouveaux membres à se joindre à nous pour ajouter davantage à sa taille et à sa diversité. Des

indications sur l'adhésion à l' AIS et au CR 52 apparaissent plus loin dans le bulletin, ainsi que d'autres questions d'intérêt pour les lecteurs.

Avec mes meilleurs vœux pour les vacances et le Nouvel An
Helena

Helena Serra
Président du RC 52 de l' AIS
helena.serra@fcsh.unl.pt

Traduction de l'anglais : Jean-Luc Bédard
Board member of RC52

RC52 Board 2018 – 2022. Extended 2023

President Helena SERRA, New University Lisbon, Portugal,
helena.serra@fcsh.unl.pt

Vice-President Debby BONNIN, University of Pretoria, South Africa (*Newsletter editor*)

Secretary-Treasurer Lara MAESTRIPIERI, Politecnico di Milano, Italy,
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Mike DENT, Staffordshire University, United Kingdom

Julia EVETTS, University of Nottingham, United Kingdom (*Honorary member*)

Board Members Gitte Sommer HARRITS, VIA University College, Denmark

Javier Pablo HERMO, Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina

Christiane SCHNELL, University of Frankfurt, Germany (*Associate member, President of ESA RN19 Professions*)

Stephanie SHORT, The University of Sydney, Australia

Alexandra VINSON, University of Michigan, USA (*RC52 Representative of Early Career Researchers/PhD Students*)

XX ISA World Congress of Sociology



Resurgent Authoritarianism:
*Sociology of New Entanglements of
Religions, Politics, and Economies*

Melbourne, Australia | June 25-July 1, 2023
Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre
www.isa-sociology.org



XX ISA World Congress of Sociology

Resurgent Authoritarianism: The Sociology of New Entanglements of Religions, Politics, and Economies

The XX ISA World Congress of Sociology in Melbourne, Australia will be held from 25 June – 1 July 2023. The Congress will be in a hybrid format. The theme is *Resurgent Authoritarianism: Sociology of New Entanglements of Religions, Politics, and Economies*.

Forthcoming Deadlines:

- 7 March 2022: Announcement of Programme Coordinator/s.
- 10 May 2022: Submission of proposals (for *Integrative Sessions, Regular Sessions by Associations, Author meets Critic Sessions* and *Ad Hoc Sessions* to the ISA Secretariat. The ISA Programme Committee will announce its decisions on accepted proposals on 31 May 2022.
- 2 - 31 May 2022: Call for Sessions (submitted via the Confex platform).
- 1 - 26 June 2022: Programme Coordinators to finalise the sessions.
- 1 July 2022 to 30 September 2022: Abstracts submission. Abstracts submitted on-line via the Confex platform.
- 7 October to 7 November 2022: Abstracts selection.
- 8 November to 25 November 2022: Abstracts re-location. Further sessions cannot be added after the deadline.

Note: those who wish to apply for registration and / or travel grants need to be in good standing with both RC52 and the ISA.

Please contact the RC52 programme coordinators with any queries. ISA and Confex will communicate directly with you before and after the registration deadline.

RC52 Programme Coordinators:

Helena Serra, NOVA University Lisbon, Portugal, helena.serra@fcsh.unl.pt

Tracey Adams, University of Western Ontario, Canada, tladams@uwo.ca

More information can be found at <https://www.isa-sociology.org/en/conferences/world-congress/melbourne-2023>





Sociology of Professional Groups

RC52 WEBINAR SERIES

Since the July newsletter report there has been a further RC52 Webinar. Thanks to the convenors, chairs and presenters and to Lara Maestriperi for her logistical support.

Dematerialisation of Platform Work (29 September 2021)

- Coordinator and chair Christian Azaïs (LISE/CNAM, France)
- Presenters Giorgio Pirina (Universidade de Coimbra & University of Bologna)
The materiality of digital platforms: the case of Uber in Portugal
- Arthur Jan (LISE/CNAM/CNRS) *Facing material and symbolic decline : the professional disillusion of platform bike couriers*
- Registered 29 participants

ISA AND RC52 SUBSCRIPTION REMINDER

The subscriptions of most members expires at the end of December 2021.
PLEASE remember to renew your subscription timeously.

EARLY CAREER RESEARCHER NETWORK

The RC52 Early Career Researcher Network is coordinated by Board Member Alexandra Vinson. All ECR's (grad students, postdocs and anyone who received their PhD in the last five years) should contact her at ahvinson@umich.edu. You will then be added to the ECR mailing list and directly included in future announcements.

SUBSCRIPTION TO RC52 NEWSLETTER

The mailing list of ISA RC52 is now available for subscription at: <http://bit.ly/RC52listSubscription>. The mailing list is the new official news channel of ISA RC52, in compliance with GDPR regulation of European Union. Please subscribe to the

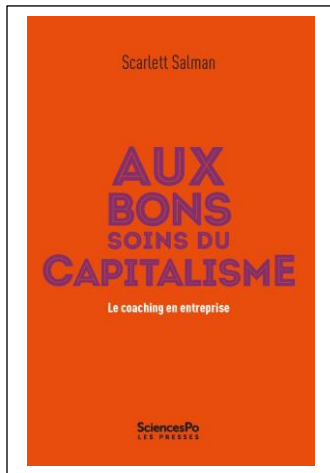
mailing list if you want to be updated about our initiatives and to keep receiving the ISA RC52 newsletter.

NEWSLETTER AND BLOG CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions to the *RC52 Newsletter* are very welcome. These could feature news, new developments in the field, call for papers, publications, forthcoming events including conferences, report-backs. Anything that you think might be of interest to members and help fulfil the objectives of RC52. Please email, as a word document, your contribution to the Newsletter Editor Debby Bonnin debby.bonnin@up.ac.za

Remember the ISA-RC52 Blog Please remember that you can post any news with relevance for the ISA-RC52 community and beyond on our blog! It could be call for papers, news on publications, or notes on events and developments in your part of the world. Send your contribution to blog editor Gitte Sommer Harrits at isa52.blog@gmail.com. And follow the blog at www.researchcommittee52.wordpress.com.

Recent and Forthcoming Publications



Scarlett Salman (2021) Aux bons soins du capitalisme. Le coaching en entreprise. Les Presses de Sciences Po.

Happy employees are efficient employees. Based on this creed, a whole range of discourses and practices have been introduced into companies over the past twenty years: psychological services offered to managers and executives; training in "caring management"; Chief Happiness officers; stress-reduction meditation sessions at work; and so on.

At the heart of this trend, a new profession, coaching, has developed a strong appeal. Yet coaches' interventions, orchestrated by HR departments converted to the ideas of self-help, remain shrouded in mystery. Is coaching the symbol of a form of capitalism with a human face or, on the contrary, the agent of a managerial injunction to foster well-being and self-improvement?

This long-term investigation, which combines the accounts of coaches, HR managers, and executives, explores the professional world of coaching and examines the "new spirit" of a capitalism that tends to consider the individual and even their inner, subjective dimensions, as a project. This "personal turn" of capitalism runs the risk of relieving companies of their organizational responsibilities.

[Aux bons soins du capitalisme. Le coaching en entreprise](https://www.pressesdesciencespo.fr/fr/book/?gcoi=27246100430280#h2tabtableContents)
<https://www.pressesdesciencespo.fr/fr/book/?gcoi=27246100430280#h2tabtableContents>

Scarlett Salman is Associate Professor at Lisis, Université Gustave Eiffel and Visiting Professor at Irisso, Université Paris Dauphine PSL.



The latest issue of the Journal of Professions and Organizations Volume 8 Issue 3 October 2021 is available at

Volume 8, Issue 3, October 2021

<https://academic.oup.com/jpo/issue/8/3>

& PROFESSIONS PROFESSIONALISM

Professions and Professionalism (P&P) is an open-access online journal that invites research-based empirical, theoretical or synoptic articles focusing on traditional professions as well as other knowledge based occupational groups approached from any perspective or discipline. The journal creates a space for development of the research field, prioritizing no single theoretical horizon or methodological approach. All articles are peer-reviewed.

The latest issue Vol 11, No 3 (2021):

[Students' Interprofessional Workplace Learning in Clinical Placement](#)

Ann-Charlotte Bivall, Annika Lindh Falk, Maria Gustavsson

[Clinical Teaching as a Challenge in Transforming the Nursing Profession in Estonia](#)

Kristel Kotkas, Anja Heikkinen, Larissa Jõgi

[To Co-Opt or To Be Co-Opted? The Role of Professional Elites in Strengthening Professional Control Vis-à-Vis Clients](#)

Sanna Eklund

[A Discretionary Toolkit: Reasoning When Teaching Controversial Issues in Norwegian Upper Secondary School](#)

Silje Andresen

[A Gendered Analysis of Work, Stress and Mental Health, Among Professional and Non-Professional Workers](#)

Ivy Bourgeault, Jungwee Park, Dafna Kohen, Jelena Atanackovic, Yvonne James

[Professionals and Volunteers: The Importance of Recognising Diversification in the Healthcare Division of Labour](#)

Mike Saks, Marianne van Bochove

Indexing

The journal is included in Scopus and EBSCO Sociology Source Ultimate indexes.

For further information, registration with the journal, downloading and submission of articles access: www.professionsandprofessionalism.com

ISA RC52 Blog

The ISA RC52 blog researchcommittee52.wordpress.com has been available online for the past two years and provides a space where all those interested in professions can participate and put a step forward in the debate about professions.

PhD students and early career researchers are especially invited to participate, but the blog is open to everybody who is interested in the sociology of professions. It welcomes notices (max 1000 words) about professions in Europe and in the world, in which RC52 members and non-members can present their recent work in the field of sociology of professions and/or exchange of research findings. There are three main sections:

- **Conferences:** write about your national and international forthcoming conferences on professions
- **Publications:** present your recent books about relevant topics for RC52.
- **Debates:** introduce your research, discuss 'hot spots' in the area of professions and professionalism, propose a new debate, or search for research project collaborators.

Everybody interested in participating the blog, please send a brief summary of your idea (max 150 words) to Gitte Sommer Harrits (isa52.blog@gmail.com).

researchcommittee52.wordpress.com

Change of Address

If you change your email or postal address, please do not forget to contact us by email.

Updated details should be sent to the ISA secretariat,
email: isa@isa-sociology.org

With a copy to ISA RC52 Treasurer/Secretary Lara Maestriperi,
email: lara.maestriperi@uab.cat.

We strongly encourage you to rejoin RC52 and ISA when your membership is due for renewal. Do also inform your colleagues about RC52 and ask them to join RC52 so that we can increase the strength of the group. To join the ISA please visit the ISA website and register online. The regular affiliation fees for RC52 specifically are an additional USD 40 for a 4 year period: <http://www.isa-sociology.org/en/membership/individual-membership/>

Individual ISA membership is open to scholars and professionals of sociological teaching, research or practice. At present there are more than 5,000 members from 167 countries.

Benefits:

- Participation in the activities of the ISA and its [Research Committees](#), [Working](#) and [Thematic Groups](#) (additional fee required).
- Reduction in registration fees at ISA World Congress and Forum of Sociology
- Online access to ISA journals [Current Sociology](#) and [International Sociology](#)
- Reception of [isagram](#), an electronic newsletter containing announcements of conferences, calls for papers and manuscripts, prizes, competitions, job offers, etc.
- Discount 45% on SAGE Publications books.
- Discount price, £9.99 postage included, on [SAGE Studies in International Sociology](#) books published since 2013.
- On-line access to
 - [SAGE Sociology Collection](#), which includes 83 journals.
 - [Sage Research Methods](#), a resource which brings together information on methodological issues and choices, and provides copies of relevant articles; it can be used in many ways, including the planning of teaching methods and the making of decisions on what methods might be appropriate for a new project.
- ISA Digital Worlds:
 - [Global Dialogue](#) - Newsletter published in 16 languages. A venue for debates, reports on conferences, state of different sociologies, interviews, and much more.
 - [sociopedia.isa](#) - An online database with state-of-the-art review articles in social sciences.
 - [eSymposium](#) - Forum through which ISA members are able to engage in debate, showcasing the diverse work, practices, ideas and voices.
 - [Social Justice & Democratization Space](#) - Website that aims to build a global community through an open participatory approach to research, policy, pedagogy, practices and images.
 - [Universities in Crisis](#) - Blog of the ISA with reports of concerned academics on the status of universities in the world.
 - [Journeys through Sociology](#) - Interviews with members of the ISA Executive Committee.
 - [Sociotube](#) - Videos of ISA Conferences and of the everyday life of sociologists.

All members may participate in the meetings of the ISA and its Research Committees, and the Working and Thematic Groups upon paying an affiliation fee.

To apply for membership, submit:

- electronic membership or renewal form
<https://www.isa-sociology.org/en/membership/individual-membership>
- membership form in pdf format
- or write to ISA at isa@isa-sociology.org