

RC55

NEWSLETTER

Social Indicator Matters

International Sociological Association (ISA)

Summer, June 2019 • Number 6

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Notes from Editor:

Dear Members, in this issue, along with regular reports of members' activities and new publications, two important pieces of information need your attention. The first one is the mid-term conference of 2019 to be held at July 3–6, 2019, Valencia, Spain. It is designed as a collaboration with the 13th Spanish Congress of Sociology. Sandra Fachelli (Universidad Pablo de Olavide) serves as the local program coordinator for this four-day event. Second, the call for papers from the fourth ISA Forum of Sociology in July 14-18, 2020 at Porto Alegre, Brazil. The deadline of sending abstracts is September 30, 2019, three months from now. So please note this date, upload your abstract sooner, and we'll get together again in a great port city!

Ming-Chang Tsai

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1. Activities, mobilities, and promotions of members

- **Yuvisthi Naidoo** (University of New South Wales, Australia), promoted to Research Fellow at the Social Policy Research Centre at the University of New South Wales.

2. New books and papers by members recently published

- Walter Bartl (Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, Germany) recently published:

- a). Bartl, Walter; Papilloud, Christian; Terracher-Lipinski, Audrey (2019): Governing by Numbers: Key Indicators and the Politics of Expectations. An Introduction. In: Historical Social Research 44 (2, Special Issue), 7-43.

Abstract: In this special issue of Historical Social Research, indicators are considered epistemic devices that render the world governable by quantification. While endowed with an aura of objectivity, indicators are not neutral devices. Instead they transform the world they claim to describe. Against the backdrop of a global proliferation of indicators, we argue in favor of research that strategically focuses on the processes that lead to the institutionalization and systematic use of key indicators in politics compared to cases in which these processes fail. This type of research strategy could enhance the accumulation of systematic knowledge as well as the relevance of social studies of quantification. Furthermore, we propose a heuristic for analyzing how indicators are involved in shaping imaginations of the future following the three distinct dimensions of meaning (factual, social, temporal) as introduced by Luhmann. We also review diachronic and synchronic approaches to analysing the genesis and use of indicators in order to derive testable hypotheses about the gap between indicator design and policy use. Finally, we introduce the articles of this special issue. Keywords: Quantification, key indicators, politics of expectations, genesis and use of indicators.

- b). Anson, Jon; Bartl, Walter; Kulczycki, Andrzej (Eds.) (2019): Studies in the Sociology of Population. International Perspectives. Cham: Springer.

This book presents a cross section of the work and concerns of social demographers worldwide, covering a broad range of topics from social structure

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through population structure to social policy; from fertility and mortality through migration to the way in which organisations deal with the demographic environment in which they operate. Topics addressed also include morbidity and health profiles and transitions, as well as policies and programs concerned with these and other issues. The volume touches on some of the major links between population and societal dynamics. It addresses demographic patterns and issues from micro-level, meso-level, and macro-level perspectives and helps put into focus the past, present and future of the mutual relations between population dynamics and societal responses. With a unique introductory chapter discussing the global unevenness of population growth today, its associations with inequality and the challenges it presents for the future, and a truly international approach to social and demographic change and policy responses, this book will serve as a valuable resource for professionals and students in sociology, demography, social policy and local governance.

- Yuvisthi Naidoo (University of New South Wales, Australia) recently published:
 - a). Naidoo, Y. (2019), 'A Multi-Dimensional Individual Well-being Indicator Framework - with an application to Older Australians', *Social Indicators Research*, DOI: 10.1007/s11205-019-02132-w.
 - b). Saunders, P., Brown, J.E., Bedford, M. and Naidoo, Y. (2019), 'Child Deprivation in Australia: A Child-focused Approach', *Australian Journal of Social Issues*, vol. 54, 4 - 21, [DOI: 1002/ajs4.61](https://doi.org/10.1002/ajs4.61).
 - c). Naidoo, Y. (2019), 'Comparing the Implications of Expanded Income Based Measures of Living Standards with an Application to Older Australians', *Journal of Social Policy*, 48(1), 83-105, [DOI: 10.1017/S0047279418000296](https://doi.org/10.1017/S0047279418000296).
 - d). Saunders, P. and Naidoo, Y. (2019), 'Poverty as Relative Deprivation: Application, Analysis and Implications for Social Security', in P. Saunders (ed), *Social Security Reform: Revisiting Henderson, Poverty and Basic Income*, Melbourne University Press, Melbourne, Melbourne, p. 189-213.

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3. "Comparative Perspectives on Social Indicators" 13th Spanish Congress of Sociology

Mid-term Conference of the ISA-RC55 Research Committee on Social Indicators/Work Group 43 of the 13th Spanish Congress of Sociology

Comparative Perspectives on Social Indicators

July 3-6, 2019, Valencia, Spain

Within the context of the 13th Spanish Congress of Sociology



CONFERENCE PROGRAM

| WEDNESDAY, JULY 3, 2019 | |
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| Welcome | |
| 16:00 <i>Facultad de Sociales Planta baja Sala de actos</i> | <p>Sandra Fachelli (Universidad Pablo de Olavide, Coordinator of local organizing committee)</p> <p>Christian Suter (University of Neuchâtel, President ISA-RC55 Social Indicators)</p> |
| Workshop Session 1: Employment and Youth | |
| 16:00-17:30 <i>Facultad de Sociales Planta</i> | <p>Chair: Christian Suter (University of Neuchâtel)</p> <p>Amado Alarcón, Natxo Sorolla, M.A. Serrano (University of Rovira i Virgili): Social indicators of occupation skills, literacy and occupational prestige scales</p> |

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| <p><i>baja</i> <i>Sala de actos</i></p> | <p>Maria Cascales Mira (University of Sevilla): Análisis comparado de la calidad laboral a través de un Índice de Calidad Intrínseca del Trabajo</p> <p>Eulalia Alemany Ripoll, Paula Canal Rodriguez, Enrique Gil Calvo, Eusebio Megías Valenzuela, Verónica de Miguel Luken, Anna Sanmartín Ortí, Patricia Tudela Canaviri (University of Málaga): Comparative youth development index 2009-2017: Spain in the European context</p> |
| <h3>THURSDAY, JULY 4, 2019</h3> | |
| <h4>Workshop Session 2: Subjective Wellbeing</h4> | |
| <p>9:00-10:30 <i>Facultad de Sociales Planta baja</i> <i>Sala de actos</i></p> | <p>Chair: Eduardo Bericat (University of Sevilla)</p> <p>Hania Fei Wu (University of Fudan): Adaptation to major life events on subjective well-being in China and the United States: A comparative study based on individual panel data</p> <p>Jenny Chesters (University of Melbourne), Jehane Simona (University of Neuchâtel) and Christian Suter (University of Neuchâtel): Cross-national comparison of determinants of subjective well-being: Australia and Switzerland, 2001-2016</p> <p>Kanai Masayuki (University of Senshu): Diverse effects of relative comparison on subjective wellbeing among Asian societies</p> <p>Eduardo Bericat (University of Sevilla): The typology of the five Europes</p> <p>Ruut Veenhoven (Erasmus University Rotterdam): Uses of happiness as a social indicator in comparative research</p> <p>Ruey-Ming Tsay (University of Tunghai): Working through later years: Effects of employment on well-being</p> |
| <h4>Workshop Session 3: Politics, Social Progress and Conflict</h4> | |
| <p>16:00-17:30 <i>Facultad de Sociales Planta baja</i> <i>Sala de actos</i></p> | <p>Chair: Ruut Veenhoven (Erasmus University Rotterdam)</p> <p>Marta Aguilar Gil and Carlos Felipe Centelles Garcia (University of Sevilla): Citizen participation in Europe: The feeling of political efficacy</p> <p>Oliver Nahkur (University of Tartu) and Rein Taagepera (University of California): Lead and lag times of countries in a gentler world</p> <p>Walter Bartl and Fabian Schmid (Martin-Luther University of Halle-Wittenberg): The Königstein key as an indicator of territorial justice. Institutionalisation of a formalised</p> |

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| | <p>intergovernmental transfer scheme for asylum seekers in Germany</p> <p>Daniel Capistrano (University College Dublin): Using social survey data to measure progress on the Sustainable Development Goals</p> <p>Elena Raevskikh (CNRS, France) and John Harrison (Rabdan Academy): Who is the winner? Analyzing the notion of victory in contemporary conflicts</p> |
| FRIDAY, JULY 5, 2019 | |
| Workshop Session 4: Comparative Indicators I | |
| <p>9:00-10:30</p> <p><i>Autorio Norte</i></p> <p><i>Planta 3</i></p> <p><i>Aula N313</i></p> | <p>Chair: Pedro López Roldán (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona)</p> <p>Juan Ignacio Piovani (University of La Plata) and Denis Baranger (UNaM): Comparabilidad y equivalencia en la investigación empírica - Comparability and equivalence in empirical research</p> <p>Paulina Benítez (University of Concepción): Estancamiento del modelo de desarrollo chileno, según indicadores de desigualdad de ingreso (2011-2017)</p> <p>Laura Oso and Laura Suárez Grimalt (University of a Coruña): Indicadores cualitativos para el estudio de la migración y las trayectorias de movilidad social transnacionales</p> <p>Pablo Molina Derteano (University of Buenos Aires): Problematizing international comparability: the role of welfare regimes</p> <p>Maria Gabriela Rubilar Donoso (Pontificia Catholic University) and Leticia Muñiz Terra (University of La Plata): Propuesta de indicadores de perspectiva biográfica comparada, análisis de modelo y casos empíricos</p> |
| Workshop Session 5: Social Capital Indicators | |
| <p>9:00-10:30</p> <p><i>Autorio Norte</i></p> <p><i>Planta 5</i></p> <p><i>Aula N508</i></p> | <p>Chair: Joonmo Son (National University of Singapore)</p> <p>Nicolae Bulz (National Defence College): "Quality of life" as a virtual network within the "societies at the crossroads" - Humans' work-family (dis)balance</p> <p>Xi Chen (Universtiy of Quinnipiac): Application of remote sensing in comparative studies: Using nighttime lights to update geophysically scaled economic data (G-Econ)</p> <p>Jenny Chesters, Hernan Cuervo and Jun Fu (University of Melbourne): Engagement with social media: A comparison of city, regional and rural dwellers</p> <p>Joonmo Son (National University of Singapore): Individual and organizational social</p> |

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| | <p>capital and civic engagement in East Asia</p> <p>Yu-Hui Kao (University of Soochow) and Stephen G. Sapp (Iowa State University): Is social capital as a determinant or an outcome of community attachment?</p> |
| <p>Workshop Session 6: Social Indicators on Rights, Risk and Insecurity Behaviours</p> | |
| <p>11:30-13:00</p> <p><i>Autorio Norte</i> <i>Planta 3</i> <i>Aula N313</i></p> | <p>Chair: Sandra Fachelli (Universidad Pablo de Olavide)</p> <p>Mercedes Camarero Rioja (University of Pablo de Olavide): Analysis to identify social factors of the accidents based on the variability of European countries risk indices</p> <p>Custodio Delgado (University of Sevilla): Men and Gender equality. Some European social indicators on gender cultures and unequal division of labour</p> <p>Anisur Rahman Khan, Kopano Ratele and Rebecca Helman (University of South Africa): Prevalence of and factors associated with suicidal behaviours in South Africa and Bangladesh: A review</p> <p>Silvia Avellaneda San Antonio (University of Castilla-La Mancha): Towards the concretion of the social indicators: The human rights indicators</p> <p>Mattia Vacchiano (University of Lausanne) and Ricardo Valente (Open University of Catalonia): Why do we have fear? A multilevel analysis of the feelings of unsafety in Latin America</p> |
| <p>Workshop Session 7: Inequality and Gender</p> | |
| <p>16:00-17:30</p> <p><i>Autorio Norte</i> <i>Planta 3</i> <i>Aula N313</i></p> | <p>Chair: Enrico Di Bella (University of Genoa)</p> <p>Cecilia Bustos Ibarra, Pamela Vaccari Jimenez, Norma Cecilia Perez Diaz and Elsy Mercedes Carrasco Portiño (University of Concepción): La investigación sobre desigualdades de género en salud; una reflexión metodológica sobre el uso de indicadores sociales en los casos de España, Argentina y Chile</p> <p>Màrius Domínguez Amorós (University of Barcelona): Linking the micro and macro indicators of social inequalities in comparative analysis among countries: Provision of care and gender inequality</p> <p>Ilenia Picardi and Maria Camela Agodi (University of Naples Federico II): Looking through the glass door: accounting for change in academia through context sensitive gender inequality indicators</p> <p>Núria Vergés Bosch, León Freude and Marius Dominguez Amorós (University of</p> |

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| | <p>Barcelona): Measuring homonationalist values quantitatively: a methodological proposal and empirical evidences</p> <p>Begoña Elizalde-San Miguel, Vicente Díaz Gandasegui y María Teresa Sanz García (University of Navarra): Políticas familiares y fecundidad: Aportaciones desde la sociología matemática</p> |
| <p>SATURDAY, JULY 6, 2019</p> | |
| <p>Workshop Session 8: Comparative Indicators II</p> | |
| <p>9:00-10:30</p> <p><i>Autorio Norte</i></p> <p><i>Planta 3</i></p> <p><i>Aula N314</i></p> | <p>Chair: Christian Suter (University of Neuchâtel)</p> <p>Pedro López-Roldán (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona) and Sandra Fachelli (Universidad Pablo de Olavide): Comparative analysis between Argentina and Spain of a composite indicator of social stratification</p> <p>Pamela Vaccari Jiménez and Marco Astete Cerceda (University of Concepción): Construcción social de mujer migrante en políticas públicas de Chile, Francia y España</p> <p>Marcelo Boado Martínez (University of República): Contrastando educación y movilidad social en Buenos Aires y Montevideo hacia 2010</p> <p>Enrico Di Bella (University of Genoa): Gender equality in the UE: a comparative analysis of synthetic indicators</p> <p>Gustavo Castillo Rozas and Carla Vidal Figueroa (University of Concepción) : Review of the social policy index for a comparative analysis of the countries in the INCASI network</p> |

4. UNSW Scientia PhD Scholarship opportunity on 'Inter-generational equity and well-being within and between generations'

<https://www.scientia.unsw.edu.au/scientia-phd-scholarships/intergenerational-equity-and-well-being-within-and-between-generations>

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Population ageing is generating significant social and economic challenges in Australia and other countries. Fiscal pressures on retirement income, health and aged care systems, along with the distribution of housing, employment and care between generations have profound implications for social cohesion and well-being. This intergenerational distribution of contributions and costs across all social policy spheres will be a central issue for decades to come. This project will draw upon new sources of survey and administrative data and collect complementary qualitative data to document current challenges and to explore future policy options.

IDEAL CANDIDATE

High quality candidates will hold an honours or masters level degree in social science, sociology or economics with demonstrated skills in quantitative (econometric) and/or qualitative research methodology. They will possess experience or demonstrated interest in social and economic policy frameworks and a thorough understanding of the workings of government (for example, relating to taxes and transfers, income systems, care provision or labour markets). Also highly regarded is a familiarity with broad social policy theory (for example, relating to micro-economic theory, life-course theory and social indicators). Given the significant policy implications of the project, the candidate should exhibit a strong commitment to social engagement and knowledge exchange to enable the translation of research into policy, and a desire to use the PhD for career development.

5. Call for Papers ISA Forum of Sociology 2020



The Research Committee 55-Social Indicators of International Sociological Association

The Call for Papers is now opened. Please find below the description of all sessions organized by the Research Committee 55 Social Indicators. If you are interested in presenting a paper, please submit an abstract on-line via the ISA conference Website. The online submission system is open through **September 30, 2019, 24:00 GMT**. Please note that the deadline is set by ISA and is inflexible. To upload your abstract proposals, use this link on the ISA website (<https://www.isa-sociology.org/en/conferences/forum/porto-alegre-2020>) and then click on the "Research Committee 55 Social Indicators" and the session you are interested.

Sessions of RC55 Social Indicators

1. Indicators to Compare Social Stratification and Inequalities Among Countries Joint Session of RC55 (host committee) with RC28 (Social Stratification)

Session Organizer(s):

Sandra FACHELLI, sandra.fachelli@gmail.com, Autonomous University of Barcelona, Spain and Universidad Pablo de Olavide, Spain

Pedro LÓPEZ-ROLDÁN, pedro.lopez.rolدان@uab.es, Autonomous University of Barcelona, Spain

Session in English, Spanish

We propose to receive contributions that address comparative research in the study of social reality, focusing on the construction and use of social indicators in comparative research of social inequalities among countries. Contributions can be of a theoretical nature, applied studies or methodological reflections (either in a quantitative, qualitative or mixed perspective), but which main object of study of the same phenomenon in different countries.

2. Varieties of Population Indicators: Their Construction and Use in Politics Joint Session of RC55 (host committee) with RC41 (Sociology of Population)

Session Organizer(s):

Christian SUTER, christian.suter@unine.ch, University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland

Walter BARTL, walter.bartl@soziologie.uni-halle.de, Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, Germany

Session in English

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The relevance of population indicators for democratic politics has been widely acknowledged in the still young field of Quantification Studies. A basic assumption in this line of reasoning is that there is an inherently political dimension to what seems to be methodological or technocratic issues in the construction and use of numbers in politics. The planned session picks up this argument by focusing on specific aspects of how population indicators are constructed and used in politics.

Population indicators often operate largely hidden from public scrutiny, while indeed defining the population(s) to be considered in public policy, the size of electoral districts, the nature of intergovernmental fiscal relations etc. However, the processes by which population indicators are constructed and institutionalized as key elements of public policy are still poorly understood. Why do some societies rely on censuses and others on registers to know their populations? How contentious are institutionalization processes?

Expectations about the future are often narrated by using demographic projections. On the one hand demographic projections belong to the most reliable type of projections that we know and are hence crucial for policy formulation. On the other hand, migration movements introduce a notoriously hard to predict element in demographic projections. Critics have argued that demographic projections are politically exploited for sparking fears of ethno-racial conflicts or suggesting overwhelming factual constraints. How do population indicators operate as instruments of political imagination and why are they chosen over other possibilities?

3. Population Censuses: Preconditions and Alternatives

Joint Session of RC55 with RC41 (Sociology of Population) (host committee)

Session Organizer(s):

Walter BARTL, walter.bartl@soziologie.uni-halle.de, Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, Germany

Alberto VEIRA-RAMOS, alberto.veira@uc3m.es, University Carlos III of Madrid, Spain

Session in English, Spanish

Population censuses have become part of the indispensable epistemic infrastructure of modern statehood and seem to be equally indispensable for holding governments accountable through analysis and critique when they fail to deliver on their declared public policy aims. While national statistical systems have been designed more and more

systematically also because the United Nations have promoted population censuses worldwide since the 1950s, the census is by far not a global model that travels without translations. First, some states have never managed to implement a consistent system of population statistics leading to various problems of invisibility and exclusion for vulnerable groups. Others, often multi-ethnic states, have strategically refrained from collecting systematic statistics on their populations for decades in order to avoid possible conflicts about political power distribution among population subgroups. What are the challenges and risks of introducing systematic forms of population statistics? Second, increasingly population registers are becoming a primary source of official population statistics replacing or transforming traditional, questionnaire-based censuses, either by themselves, or in combination with other data sources. Why do we see this search for alternative methods of counting populations? Third, increasingly more states from every world region engage in highly innovative experiments of data collection on their populations partially in response to the Cape Town Global Action Plan for Sustainable Development Data. How are alternative data for key population indicators generated and used?

4. Participation, Trust and Social Capital in Cross-Cultural Perspective: Examining the Key Social Indicators

Joint Session of RC55 with RC10 (Participation, Organizational Democracy and Self-Management) and RC20 (Comparative Sociology) (host committee)

Session Organizer(s):

Michela FREDDANO, michela.freddano@invalsi.it, INVALSI, Italy

Ming-Chang TSAI, mtsai304@gate.sinica.edu.tw, Research Center for Humanities and Social Sciences, Academia Sinica, Taiwan

Kseniya KIZILOVA, ksenniya.kizilova@gmail.com, World Values Survey Association, Ukraine

Session in English

Political participation, trust and social capital constitute important factors essential for the establishment of sustainable and accountable political systems, participatory democracies, cohesive and inclusive societies. Development of comparative political science research in the recent three decades has contributed to the formation of an extensive empirical data-base offering a variety of measures of trust, participation and social capital. Yet analysis of this

empirical evidence frequently reveals a significant cross-national and cross-regional variation in the patterns of interplay between participation, trust and social capital. Some studies suggest that higher levels of social capital promote conventional forms of political participation such as voting and contacting elected officials. Other studies reveal that lower levels of political trust as, for example, trust in government are associated with higher levels of unconventional participation such as joining in demonstrations, strikes, boycotts while the link between social trust and political participation is found to be weak or frequently context dependent.

This session invites papers exploring correlations and causal links between various forms of political participation (and more broadly – civic engagement), social and political trust and social capital in various cultural and political environments. We particularly welcome papers employing quantitative survey empirical evidence originating from comparative global research programs such as the WVS, ISSP, CSES, CNEP, EVS, ESS, Global Barometer Survey etc. and proposing innovative methodologies and approaches for the development of social indicators and multi-component indexes of participation, trust and social capital.

5. Social Capital and Public Externalities

Session Organizer(s):

Joonmo SON, socioson@nus.edu.sg, National University of Singapore, Singapore

Session in English

Social capital has varied definitions and measurements depending on how one conceptualizes its meaning, causes, and outcomes. Despite its complexity and ambiguity as a concept, the basic proposition is that it is efficacious in producing certain externalities. Among them are public goods indicated by, for instance, informal and formal actions of sacrificing one's time and money for others. These public externalities go beyond a smaller scope of personal social networks and their embedded resources mobilized to achieve private utilities such as jobs, promotions, and higher wages. This session aims to organize a series of presentations with regard to if and how social capital, measured either at individual or organizational level, generates public externalities serving communal and collective needs. It invites both within-country and cross-national comparative studies that used empirical data to test their hypothesized relations between social capital and public externalities.

6. Beyond Measurement and Interpretation: Stories of Social Well-Being Studies Impact

Session Organizer(s):

Dolgion ALDAR, dolgion29@gmail.com, Independent Research Institute of Mongolia, Mongolia

Tselmegsaikhan LKHAGVA, tselmegsaikhan@irim.mn, Independent Research Institute of Mongolia, Mongolia

Session in English

The aim of the session is to identify and discuss practical uses of various subjective well-being and surveys using social indicators. As such, the session will help showcasing the aspects of Public Sociology, where sociological studies inform clear policy changes and create positive impact.

Lessons and experiences from various countries, organisations and research centers will be presented in an interesting format and open dialogue with the participants will enrich the discussion.

Panelists can share stories and cases related to:

- particular methods used in disseminating research findings.
- particular methods used in disseminating research findings.
- who were the key partners involved.
- how the social indicators and research findings aligned with or even changed the country's own development priorities.
- do these surveys and studies continue shaping socially inclusive policies.
- how the policy-change momentum was built and how long it took.

7. Institutional/Cultural Context in Subjective Wellbeing and Its Mechanism**Session Organizer(s):**

Masayuki KANAI, mkanai@senshu-u.jp, Senshu University, Japan

Session in English

Recent literature in psychology has disclosed cultural differences in the meaning of happiness/life across the world. The mechanism and key drivers of subjective wellbeing would also not be uniform but diverse depending on time and place. This possible heterogeneity in the micro-level mechanisms of wellbeing, however, has not been fully investigated so far even in the social-science research which should understand the importance of institutional/cultural settings in social phenomena. This session calls for

papers which tackle this research gap with innovative methodology and data sources. Empirical research from a comparative standpoint based on cross-national or repeated/longitudinal micro datasets combined with other data sources such as macro indicators or qualitative data is especially welcome, though theoretical or methodological works are also fine.

8. Long Term Trends in Quality of Life

Session Organizer(s):

Jeroen BOELHOUWER, j.boelhouwer@scp.nl, The Netherlands Institute for Social Research, Netherlands

Session in English

In recent times there have been crises of different kinds - whether that be economic crises or political crises. In all parts of the world. One possibility to study how each of these crises affect quality of life and how the developments differ between countries or within countries between social groups.

But what about the trends over a longer period of time? Is quality of life nowadays better or worse than it was 10, 20 or 30 years ago? In this session contributions are welcomed that look at the results of research (what got better and what got worse; for which groups or which countries?), but also contributions that look at methodological issues (how to measure longitudinally progress in quality in life?), or even forecasts (can we predict new crises?). We are also interested in contributions that relate the development of quality of life to the mood of people and the rise of more populist parties/politicians.

9. Gender, Social Capital, and Subjective Wellbeing: Do Neighborhood- or Community-Level Perception, Interaction, and Participation Matter?

Session Organizer(s):

Hsin-Chieh CHANG, hcchang@ntu.edu.tw, National Taiwan University, Taiwan

Session in English

How individual social capital contributes to subjective wellbeing across different societal contexts remain an intriguing empirical puzzle for researchers from a broad array of academic disciplines. Generally framed as *network perspectives* (Moore & Carpiano 2019), some studies demonstrate the varied effects of bonding, bridging, and linking or other

network-based social capital on subjective wellbeing. On the other hand, researchers taking *cohesion perspectives* are concerned about whether cognitive, participation or other cohesion-based social capital leads to improved wellbeing. To date, limited research has examined whether individual involvements in the geographically-bounded neighborhood or community mitigate the unequal distribution and accumulation of social capital and social resources. Moreover, much of the gendered patterns in social capital and subjective wellbeing deserve further investigation from both the network and cohesion perspectives. This session welcomes research addressing the following research questions: How do community-level perception (such as psychological sense of community), daily contact or social interaction (e.g. neighboring behaviors) and voluntary participation matter in explaining the links between individual social capital and subjective wellbeing? Do the patterns, associations, and explanatory mechanisms across and within different societies vary by gender, socioeconomic status, immigrant status, marital status, urban versus rural residence, or life stages? We specifically invite empirical research that considers gender not only as a variable but as a social process that intersects with other socio-demographic backgrounds and social-cultural identities.

10. Inequality in Educational Attainment Taking into Account Race/Ethnicity, Class and Gender Indicators

Session Organizer(s):

Sandra FACHELLI, sandra.fachelli@gmail.com, Autonomous University of Barcelona, Spain

Carlos COSTA RIBEIRO, carloscr@iesp.uerj.br, Rio de Janeiro State University, Brazil

Patricio SOLIS, psolis@colmex.mx, El Colegio de México, Mexico

Session in English, Spanish

Educational attainment remains extremely important to reduce inequality. However, educational systems had expanded and diversified in all levels. Not only the quantity of education, but specially the quality of education has been increasingly important in order to reduce inequality. However, access to better schools in primary, secondary and tertiary levels of education tend to be associated to upper class backgrounds (higher parental income and educational levels) as well as to other ascriptive characteristics such as gender, race/ethnicity and class, while returns in the labor market tend to be higher for those coming from better schools. This section is specially interested in papers dealing with educational attainment and returns to education in the labor market taking into racial/ethnicity, class and gender

indicators that can amplify processes of inequality.

11. Super-Urbanization Effects on Quality of Life

Session Organizer(s):

Dmitry IVANOV, dvi2001@rambler.ru, St.Petersburg State University, Russia

Session in English

The world is facing super-urbanization as more than 50% of the world's population live now in urban areas and number of cities with populations exceeding 5 million has risen from 6 (1950) to 71 (2014). Super-urbanization is a new phenomenon that differs from urbanization of two previous centuries. In the large cities and megacities people experience social life as intense, mobile, and multicultural existence in regime of augmented social reality. The augmented sociality is opening new dimensions of quality of life while many small cities and rural communities are losing even some traditional components of quality of life which are 'washed away' by outflows of material, symbolic, and human resources redirected towards super-urban hubs. Rising economic and social disparities between super-urban points of access to flows of resources and surrounding areas require to revise national measures of quality of life and to elaborate new indicators being relevant to new social structures and processes.

The session welcomes contributions addressing theme of quality of life in super-urban areas and focusing on such questions:

- How does the growth of large cities and megacities lead us to re-think concept of quality of life and its indicators?
- What role, positive or negative, is played by large cities and megacities in social development of different countries?
- How do network and flow structures change availability of traditional components of quality of life - consumption, education, healthcare, and comfortable environment?
- How do augmented experiences and intense life of the largest cities dwellers contribute to quality of life?

12. Indicators of Social Class

Session Organizer(s):

Pedro LÓPEZ-ROLDÁN, pedro.lopez.rolدان@uab.es, Department of Sociology.
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The Research Committee 55-Social Indicators of International Sociological Association

Pablo DALLE, pablodalle80@hotmail.com, Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina

Eduardo CHAVEZ MOLINA, echavezmolina@gmail.com, Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina

Session in Spanish, English

The study of social classes constitutes one of the central theoretical and methodological axes in the history and present of sociological thought. From the diversity of conceptualizations and as an object of multiple debates, the indicators to measure social class or prestige have been and are a constant source of expression of these debates as well as expression of the social changes they are trying to capture. The social reality in permanent transformation finds in social class one of the main forms of expression of social inequalities. In addition, the generalizing character of the class concept is contrasted with the specificity of each social reality and raises the question of the adaptation of measurements to the particularities of each space and time. Under this problem, the fields linked to gender, generation and ethnicity take on a more multidimensional character, among other factors, when observed under the prism of social class. The challenge of capturing in an indicator the complexity of the phenomena expressed by social class is a constant source of contributions and revisions. In this session we want to collect contributions that provide reflections and theoretical-methodological proposals for the conceptualization and measurement of the class structure at the present time.

13. Integrating Subjective Well-Being in Poverty Measurement

Session Organizer(s):

Tugce BEYCAN, tugce.beycan@unine.ch, University of Neuchatel, Department of Sociology, Switzerland

Session in English

In the literature, there is a growing body of research focusing on the link between subjective well-being and poverty. Notably, the subjective poverty approach emerged in the late 1980s has attempted to include subjective well-being components into poverty measurement. In this regard, various subjective poverty lines are proposed by scholars as opposite to the traditional absolute monetary ones. From conceptual side, the life satisfaction and happiness approaches are often employed by scholars in academy to measure subjective poverty. However, the majority of multidimensional poverty studies is based on objective indicators.

There are few countries who attempted officially to measure subjective poverty at national level (e.g. South Africa Statistics). Hence, development of new indicators and methodologies in subjective poverty measurement remains an important challenge in the literature. Herewith, this session addresses the following questions: the link between subjective well-being and multidimensional poverty, the use of subjective well-being indicators (including weight and measurement scale) in measurement of multidimensional poverty, debates on objective vs. subjective poverty lines, social reporting in subjective poverty, and combination of objective and subjective indicators in multidimensional poverty measurement. The form of contributions will be oral presentations in English.

6. Common Session on “The Politics of the Population Census: Key Indicators for Sustainable Development?” in The Fourth ISA Forum of Sociology, July 14-18, 2020, Porto Alegre, Brazil

In Porto Alegre, the ISA Research Councils on the Sociology of Population (RC41) and Social Indicators (RC55) will co-organize a Common Session on “The Politics of the Population Census: Key Indicators for Sustainable Development?”, being one out of twelve proposals approved by the ISA Research Coordination Committee. The Common Session will feature Mara Loveman, University of California at Berkeley, USA, Ram B. Bhagat, International Institute for Population Sciences, Mumbai, India, and Patrick Simon, Institut National d’Etudes Démographiques, Paris, France as invited speakers. Organizers are Walter Bartl and Christian Suter who aim at an intensification of the dialogue between the emerging field of quantification studies and the classical research on social indicators. With regard to the public discourse in several countries, the session seems to be painfully timely, therefore it is a good occasion to gaining a comparative perspective on (trans-)national practices from the invited speakers. You are cordially invited to attend and engage in a vibrant scholarly debate on the often overlooked political dimension of data infrastructures.

<https://www.isa-sociology.org/en/conferences/forum/porto-alegre-2020/common-sessions-2020>