

*To the Presidents of the Research Committees, Working and Thematic Groups of the ISA*

**Research Council Meeting**  
**6 March 2021**

Dear colleagues,

The ISA Forum is now approaching fast. Over 3.300 papers will be presented in hundreds of panels in a Forum that was scheduled in July 2020, then postponed to February 2021 and then moved entirely online. It has represented a tremendous amount of work for the RC program coordinators, presidents and panel chairs. Many thanks to each for making it happen!

As announced in my previous VPR letter, a meeting of **the Research Council** will be held a week after the Forum, on Saturday **March 6<sup>th</sup> from 10h to 15h, time of Porto Alegre (13h-18h GMT; 14h-18h Berlin; 9h-14h NYC)**. The link to the Zoom platform will be communicated on March 1<sup>st</sup>.

The Research council gathers the presidents of the RC/WG/TG. Your RC/WG/TG may send a second delegate to this meeting if you want. The research council is a unique space to share our experience, concerns and projects. I hope you that every RC/WG/TG will join us.

Please have a look at the proposed program below. I have included the main topics raised in exchanges with RC/WG/TG presidents. I have tried to focus on concrete proposals and to open spaces for sharing our perspectives on some key ISA events and topics. Suggestions for additional topics are welcome.

We previously planned to a **second Research Council meeting** on Saturday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, to open more space for sharing our experience and questions. I suggest postponing it to **April 10<sup>th</sup>** to include a report of the main decisions of the ISA Executive Council (EC) meeting held on March 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. It would also give us some time to work on the issues raised in our March 6<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Please do not forget that **April 15th 2021** is the deadline for submitting to [isa@isa-sociology.org](mailto:isa@isa-sociology.org) proposals for **Integrative sessions for the 2022 congress**. **The proposals have to** involve at least 3 Research Committees, 3 National Associations or a combination of the two.

The ISA Forum program is available on <https://www.isa-sociology.org/en/conferences/forum/porto-alegre-2021>. I wish you all an insightful Forum and look very much forward to this opportunity to share our perspectives and projects.

Geoffrey Pleyers  
ISA Vice-President for Research

**ISA Research council meeting  
06/03/2021 – 10h-16h time of Porto Alegre / 13h-18h GMT.**

**Proposed agenda**

**10h-13h:**

**1. RC/WG/TG at the heart of the ISA**

1. Balance of activities and projects and challenges ahead
2. Sharing experience and better communication between the RCs
3. Diversity and inclusiveness in the RC/WG/TG
  - Sharing experiences and good practices, Debra Davidson (RC24)
  - ISA report on diversity, Allison Loconto (RCC)
4. ISA RCs at the UN
  - History, achievements and new projects, Jan Fritz (RCC)
  - Report on the ISA at the UN, Rhoda Reddock (RCC)
5. ISA RC/WG/TG in Regional Associations
6. Proposal for a research webinar on global challenges

**13h-13h30: Break**

**13h30-16h:**

**2. Balance of the ISA Forum and its preparation process**

- 2.1. Early balance and proposals by VP research
- 2.2. Open discussion
- 2.3. Suggestions for the next Forum to be submitted to the RCC

**3. 2022 ISA congress**

- 3.1. Presentation, Sari Hanafi
- 3.2. Practical information, Dan Woodman, head of the Local Organizing Committee
- 3.3. An experience of a RC preconference, Breno Bringel & Geoffrey Pleyers, RC47
- 3.4. Open discussion
- 3.5. Suggestions to be submitted to the ISA EC and the Local Organizing Committee

**4. Next Research council meeting.**

- Confirmation / consultation on the date and schedule.
- Points to be added to the meeting agenda

This program may still be adapted.

Further issues will be discussed at a second Research Council meeting on April 10<sup>th</sup>.