

## Editorial

This edition of the newsletter presents lots of great information for all those passionate about the history of sociology. You will find publications news, call for papers and very interesting texts covering different aspects of our métier. We have brief articles on the history of our group and of ISA, a great analysis on the history of sociology in New Zealand and a piece on the concept of social time in sociology.

As the new secretary for the group, I hope you may find the new edition as good as the ones you are used to read twice a year. This is in fact a powerful tool because it brings together people from all over the world, even those who can't attend ISA's conferences and our intermediate meetings.

This is also the first newsletter edited by the new Board, so you may read the new's president's message, and also a report from our business meeting in Yokohama, in which the new team took office.

As usual, the Appendix contains information about membership. Do check if your information is correct, and also if you are still a regular member of the group. In case your membership has expired, you can easily renew it through ISA's website.

Enjoy your reading!

## President's Message

As it happens, my term as President of the RCHS coincides almost exactly with the centenary of what our ancestors called the Great War. The war and its aftermath had a profound impact on Sociology which is rarely discussed. Perhaps this is for reasons that are becoming apparent in the various attempts at commemoration of the war: the many remaining ambiguities, differences of perspective, and of course the continued discussion of war guilt and the events that led to the outbreak of war. Sociologists were both affected by and active in the war. Remarkably, both Durkheim and Weber wrote major documents on the events covering more or less the same facts: the diplomatic documents released by each government to support their case. Durkheim and E. Denis produced *Who Wanted War? The Origin of the War According to Diplomatic Documents* (1915).

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Weber was a founder of a private committee on the war guilt question that met in his home in anticipation of the peace negotiations, which led to his participation in the German response to the charge of war guilt, a response that was ignored by the victors. Weber signed the German response, which went over the same diplomatic material, and contributing a geopolitical analysis of who had an interest in war, pointing the finger at Russia (Luckau, 1941), an interpretation that has found new support in recent research (McMeekin 2011). Ferdinand Tönnies wrote a polemical text on British foreign policy (1915). The texts of Weber we regard today as the most profound expressions of his views and many of the comments that are repeated in the literature come from the extraordinary and politically tumultuous period between the signing of the Armistice and the Versailles accords, and reflect the intense and uncertain situation in which the *Kaiserreich* was over and the new political form was unsettled.

Durkheim lost not only his son in the war, breaking him, but several of his most talented followers. In Britain, the President of the Sociological Society, A. J. Balfour, was also Foreign Secretary. The effects on American sociology were considerable. The war split the New York reform community, already under strain between a vision of social science and "social work" devoted to activism and publicity and a vision of sociology as a science. Franklin Giddings promoted the war and the idea of a League of Nations. The hostility this generated among some of his academic colleagues at Columbia contributed to situation which led to the transformation of the department after his retirement.

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*"The war split the New York reform community, already under strain between a vision of social science and "social work" devoted to activism and publicity and a vision of sociology as a science".*

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Some of the reformers, such as Crystal Eastman, joined radical anti-war Peace parties and moved into the radical left. Other radicals on the Left, such as the Christian Sociologist and founder of the Rand School of Social Science, George Herron, supported the war, moved to Geneva to be closer to the events, and commented extensively as a public intellectual on events using his German contacts, criticized the Versailles Treaty, and after the war wrote a book, *The Defeat in Victory* (1921) expressing his sense that the war to make the world safe for democracy had turned into "The Great Disappointment." In the twenties, many prominent American sociologists collaborated with the sociologist and historian Harry Elmer Barnes, who became the intellectual leader of the school of historical "revisionism," which challenged the war guilt thesis.

The little nuggets and connections that can be found in the literature are fascinating. Crystal Eastman and her brother Max, who became a mouthpiece for Trotsky and reported on the Russian experiment, invited Thorstein Veblen, who had written two important books on *Imperial Germany* (1915) and *The Nature of Peace* (1917), to New York in support of their peace activities during the war. After the war, Crystal turned to journalism, and went to Budapest during the Hungarian revolution after the war to interview George Lukács, who was wearing, as a government minister, an elaborate Ruritanian uniform.

I am sure that the well-informed membership of the RCHS can find, or knows of, many more remarkable facts about sociology and the war. I encourage those of you with an interest in these topics to delve into them. The material is very rich and represents an unusual moment in the history of sociology in which public engagement was intense and to some extent consequential. The war was certainly consequential, and the consequences continue to the present. I would hope that this is a topic we can take up in future meetings.

**by Stephen Turner**

[turner@usf.edu](mailto:turner@usf.edu)

## REFERENCES

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Durkheim, Émile and E. Denis. 1915. *Who Wanted War? The Origin of the War According to Diplomatic Documents*, trans. A. M. Wilson-Garinei. Paris: Librairie Armand Colin.

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McMeekin, Sean. 2011. *The Russian Origins of the First World War*. Cambridge: Harvard.

Tinnies, Ferdinand. 1915. *Warlike England: As Seen by Herself*. New York: G. W. Dillingham. <https://archive.org/details/warlikeenglandas00tn> (accessed 7 August 2014)

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Veblen, Thorstein. 1917. *An Inquiry into the Nature of Peace and the Terms of Its Perpetuation*. New York, London: Macmillan & Co. <https://archive.org/details/inquiryintothena005294mbp> (accessed 26 August 2014)

## Business Meeting

**Date: Monday 14th July 2014**

**Venue: Booth 49, Pacifico Conference Center, Yokohama.**

### **Opening Remarks BAEHR**

The outgoing President Peter Baehr made his opening remarks and presented the proposed agenda for the audience. He also praised the work of the outgoing Secretary Per Wisselgreen for his work in the last four years.

### **Items not on the agenda (though it was supposed to be the second item in the agenda, we actually discussed by the end of the meeting)**

Fran Collyer suggested a change in the name of the group. She argued that "History of Sociology and Sociology of Knowledge" would better represent the kind of intellectual activity that takes place in our Research Committee. After a quick debate, the proposal was rejected on the grounds that there are different Research Committees which are already focused on sociology of knowledge.

Cherry suggested that we should make a statement regarding the bad working conditions within the premises of the Exhibition Hall. After some discussion, Peter decided that it was not the case for a formal statement. However, the complaint was transmitted to the local organizing committee.

### **Minutes from the previous meeting**

Per Wisselgreen reminded everyone to check the link with details of the last meeting. Everyone agreed with the content and the minutes were approved.

### **Next Interim Conference**

Peter started the discussion by asking the audience whether we should join the ISA Forum and organize our intermediate conferences in it. Sujata Patel argued that we should join the ISA Forums, because it is very expensive for members from the South of the globe to attend both our intermediate conference and the ISA Forum in the same year. After some debate, there was a vote and the proposal was rejected.

Regarding the next intermediate conference, which will happen in 2016, there was no official bid to organize it. Some suggested Rio de Janeiro, but João replied that the Olympics Game in August 2016 will boost hotel prices and air ticket prices, making it extremely expensive for people to attend the meeting in Rio. After some discussion, there was a suggestion to postpone the date for the conference (probably six months) so that the meeting could take place in Rio. There was another suggestion to host the event in Poland but in the end there was no official decision about the issue. The possibility of Sao Paolo was also evoked, Marcia Consolim (Federal University of Sao Paolo) is looking into the material possibilities. Peter Baehr suggested that the new EC make a decision about it and that he would talk to Stephen about it.

### **Activity Reports**

Per Wisselgreen provided up-to-date information about membership in the group. We have now 143 members in good standing. Regarding finances, the group has two bank accounts, one in Sweden and the other hold by the ISA. There is a total amount of U\$ 5.826,00 in these two accounts.

Per also informed that the newsletter has been edited twice a year (May and November) in the last four years, and that the statutes of the group were revised according to the ISA's regulations. The prize for Young Scholar was also changed due to ISA's recommendations. The elections for the new board also followed ISA's guidelines.

Finally, Per officially announced the Jury's decision on the Prize for Young Scholar, which was awarded to Stavid Sinai, from Konstanz University.

### **Final Remarks**

Peter greeted the new members and invited everyone to the dinner.

## **New Board 2014-2018**

### **Elections results: 45 votes (of 137 eligible members).**

President: Stephen P. Turner, USA

Vice-President: Cherry Schrecker, France

Vice-President: Charles Crothers, New Zealand

Secretary: João Marcelo Ehlert Maia, Brazil

### **10 Steering Committee Members**

Peter Baehr, Hong Kong

Marcel Fournier, Canada

Wiebke Keim, France

Jarosław Kiliński, Poland

Kristoffer Kropp, Denmark

Sujata Patel, India

Jennifer Platt, United Kingdom

Raf Vanderstraeten, Belgium

Per Wisselgren, Sweden

Kiyomitsu Yui, Japan

## **2016 Interim Conference**

### **Information about the Interim Conference:**

Our member Joanna Wawrzyniak informed that she, Jaroslaw Kiliński and Marta Bucholc took the initiative to organize the 2016 interim conference in Warsaw, Poland! In the next newsletter we hope to give more information. Many thanks to Joanna, Jaroslaw and Marta!

## The ISA's Archive

[Prof. Jennifer Platt provides here an introduction to the ISA's Archive of issues of its newsletter or Bulletin'. This text originally appeared in the ISA's website, and readers can check the primary sources to which prof. Platt makes reference through this link: http://www.isa-sociology.org/publ/isa-bulletin/](http://www.isa-sociology.org/publ/isa-bulletin/)

The ISA newsletters shown here ran from 1971 to 2001. They are fun to browse as well as providing a lot of historical information, about the growth of worldwide sociology as well as ISA activities. Reports on meetings show what issues concerned members then, and one can follow through the trajectory of the careers of some now-prominent colleagues; one can also see quite a few pictures of senior members of the discipline, whether taking part in committee meetings or relaxing informally.

There is some random variation over time in the topics covered, as members did or did not volunteer items, or meet deadlines set by the office, but the tables show in which issues to look if you want to learn about some of the recurring activities reported. Some of the World Congress programmes are given in fine detail, down to the names of speakers in non-plenary sessions and the titles of their papers, while others have not put so much in the newsletter; of course even just the named topics of sessions convey a sense of the period. Of the history of Research Committees, most of the listed items come from a period when a deliberate attempt was made to get each RC to provide an account of its history, and they did this with varying levels of detail; where officers had changed, of course, the institutional memory and written records could be limited. Since then the history has not been pursued systematically, but regular RC reports appear. For the obituaries, a very brief note of the roles played and contributions made by those remembered is given with each. For all the former ISA Presidents a full biographical note, and information on other useful sources, can be found elsewhere in this web site under the heading 'ISA Former Presidents'.

*by Jennifer Platt*

## From Madrid (1990) to Yokohama (2014). 25 years within research Committee History of Sociology

My introduction to Research Committee History of Sociology was by accident, in fact. It was during the first day of the XII World Congress in Madrid, that took place from July 9 till July 13, 1990. Temperature: extremely hot. My intention after the solemn Monday morning Opening Session: the Built Environment Group (RC 21). However, a colleague from the Netherlands, Henk Becker, was coming to present a paper in RC08 on Karl Mannheim and his famous 1928 essay "das Problem der Generationen". Listening to him, why not?

This proved to be the right decision. At least 35°C in that antique wooden lectureroom (no air conditioning). But the session chaired by Kurt H. Wolff<sup>1</sup>: breath-taking.

Thanks to the digital archives of the ISA Bulletins we read that's this particular session: "How can we justify studying [sic] the history of sociology with regard to humankind's present situation".

Afterwards I would regret not to have joined the Business Meeting. In that case I would have known that the next Midterm conference two years later was scheduled in Budapest, the birth town of Karl Mannheim, the place where his imposing career began.

Nevertheless, I was done for this committee. During all the World Congresses I attended since then, I was a participant in the committee's activities as well.

During the 1996 Midterm Conference in Amsterdam, halfway the English and German speaking countries, I presented a paper "Life in ambivalence", comparing some fundamental insights of Zygmunt Bauman and Ulrich Beck. Nowadays these sociologists are among the classics of sociology. (My paper appeared in a journal of philosophy, by the way.) A very stimulating session was the one devoted to the new book of Donald Levine<sup>2</sup>.

Within the Yokohama XVIII World Congress Opening Session – this time Sunday afternoon - a sparkling moment was the “ISA award for excellence in research and practice” to Immanuel Wallerstein. I have no doubts that Wallerstein's research, so diverse and rich, will be discussed at RC08 future events.

During the very First session of our committee, the Japanese sociology was in the center. Striking was the apparently great influence of the French sociologist Gabriel Tarde (1843-1904) in Japan. Active participants in this session were Kiyomitsu Yui (chair) en Yoshihiko Shiratori. They acted also as hosts during the magnificent Japanese Tuesday night dinner.

A flash back for me was the session “Ordinary sociologists”. To my surprise the penetrating research on housing and tenants preferences by the British sociologist Pearl Jephcott came to life again by the presentation of John Goodwin. The overview of Hedvig Ekerwald on life trajectories of three Swedish sociologists (in fact one, Jorge Calbucura, author of “The Chilean Senate 1932-1989”) affected me.

The problem of a World Congress is the overwhelming amount of interesting speakers, sessions and simultaneous meetings. We all know that. And of course I participated for that reason partially in the RC08 program. But it inspired me - back home - to refresh and enlarge again my knowledge of this delirious intellectual field<sup>3</sup>. Amidst a stream of bad news from the Middle East and the Ukraine, these sessions were a Fundgrube for history of sociology-lovers.

by **Maarten Mentzel**

[m.a.mentzel@planet.nl](mailto:m.a.mentzel@planet.nl)

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#### Notes

<sup>1</sup> Kurt H. Wolff, one of the authors in: *A history of sociological analysis*. Tom Bottomore, Robert Nisbet (eds.), London: Heinemann 1978.

Idem, *From Karl Mannheim*, New York: Oxford UP, 1971.

<sup>2</sup> Donald N. Levine, *Visions of the sociological tradition*, Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1995.

<sup>3</sup> Charles Tilly, “History of and in Sociology”, Introduction to the Didactic Seminar on Methodologies of the History of Sociology, American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Montréal, 12 August 2006. Borders between the disciplines are not so sharp. They are blurring. But for practical reasons it would be difficult to have a committee on the “History of the Social and Human Sciences”.

## Developing a History of a National Sociology

In 2013 SAANZ (for the first half of its existence with the acronym meaning the Sociological Association of Australia/New Zealand and subsequently the Sociological Association of Aotearoa/New Zealand) celebrated its 50th anniversary. As a choice of starting-point the 50th anniversary is arbitrary but certainly the late 1950s through to the late 1960s was a founding decade during which the foundations for almost all of the subsequent developments were laid. The Australian association (TASA) celebrated with an address from Raewyn Connell (*Setting Sail: 2014*) and launching an historical website <http://www.tasa.org.au/about-tasa/tasa-history/> developed by (RCHS member) Fran Collyer and including short biographies of prominent Australian sociologists (including a few with New Zealand links). Earlier a history of Australian sociology had been published, including a chapter on the history of NZ Sociology.

SAANZ celebrated with a December 2013 conference session on histories of each of the main departments and a closing plenary panel of personal reflections from younger, middle and late-career sociologists (Schmidt et al., 2014). A special issue of *New Zealand Sociology* (the official journal of the association) is under preparation to develop this material further – not only completing the set of departmental histories but to also adding some histories of particular ‘fields’. No particular instructions or templates were developed to guide the development of these histories, and it was realized that the stories published merely cover some of the major contours, perhaps giving some directions to any awaiting future historians. Hopefully the range of different approaches will also be interesting, even if the result leaves gaps. Some interesting pictures have been provided as illustrations but of course difficult or embarrassing matters have been voluntarily suppressed (which is a pity although nothing too scandalous has ever rocked NZ sociology departments).

In tackling this task we are emulating not just several recent edited volumes – especially those on US and UK national sociologies Cf. Calhoun, 2007 and John Holmwood, John Scott (ed.) (2014) but also a slew of other historical/contemporary studies. Although this collection is aimed at ‘domestic consumption’ it may be of wider interest in the field of the historical sociology of sociology. And some lessons that might be useful to other historians of national sociologies can be drawn. NZ has particular advantages of being small-scale (so that much is visible) and short-range (so much is remembered - with the initial wave of professorial appointments only just dying out). Some of the ways of organizing material seems quite different than those suggested by the 2 volumes referred to. There are no particular schools, movements etc. in NZ sociology and so recourse was made to good solid departmental histories to lay a foundation. Onto these are being added specialist histories. Most of these involve interfaces with other social science disciplines although some are focused around particular issues or fields within Sociology. The more I thought of the relations between sociology and its neighbors the more possibilities for historical work opened up. Examples include Sociology of Education and Sport, each of which has many academics in NZ but seldom link up with the mainstream discipline. However, not all specialties deserve separate attention so a ‘wrap-up’ mentioning many might suffice.

A special issue of the journal seemed much more likely a publishing possibility than a book, although whether there really is all that much difference is unclear. There was already a surprisingly very considerable volume of partial accounts – together with a few chapter overviews - which could be drawn on. These have been assembled into a bibliography attached to the editorial introduction and overview.

What sort of methods were used to secure material? The main source are reminiscences gleaned from older colleagues through interview, supplemented by some writings and occasional written sources. As editor I have provided analyses based on University ‘Calendars’ (that is Handbooks which usually list staff names, qualifications etc.) and the Commonwealth Universities Yearbook and also drawn on an examination of material indexed in Sociological Abstracts and studies of book production.

Just over 90 items comprise the bibliography, overwhelmingly published in the Association’s journal. Most were general but there seemed to be quite a few groups of other items (on departments, research programmes but particularly more specialist areas). Whereas there was a trickle going back to the 1960s there was a steady production through to the turn of the century after which number of items took off.

At the time of writing this the special issue has yet to go on-line, and it is likely it will surface in a couple of tranches (with earlier-published articles hopefully serving to encourage later surfacing contributors). However, there will be much room for more detailed treatment in the future – if this topic is of sufficient interest to future students or staff.

**by Charles Crothers**

## References

Calhoun, Craig (ed.) (2007) *Sociology in America: a history*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.  
 Crothers Editorial Introduction *New Zealand Sociology* 29 (3)  
 John Holmwood, John Scott (ed.) (2014) *The Palgrave Handbook of Sociology in Britain*.

## Appendix

### Topic

General: c30  
 Accounts of Research programmes: 7  
 Fields/Subdisciplines 17  
 Obits/Retirement notices 9  
 Departments/teaching. 6  
 Year of Publication  
 60s: 4 70s: 13 80s 12 90s 10 00s: 29 10s: 18

### Publication type

NZ Sociology article: 61  
 chapter: 10  
 Book: 8  
 Other Journal article: 12  
 Report: 2  
 Total: 93

## Social Times- – Social Times- the stalemate of theoretical sociology?

In 1937 P. A. Sorokin, together with R. K. Merton, published an essay entitled "Social Time: A Methodological and Functional Analysis", in the *American Journal of Sociology*. They noted that most social scientists share in a silent assumption about the use of the astronomical concept of evenly flowing, quantitative time, and maintained that the astronomical concept of time has a number of shortcomings when applied in the social sphere, so they tried to promote the concept of "social time" as a theoretical and methodological tool.

An important stimulus for Sorokin and Merton was the view of French sociologist Émile Durkheim (1912), who claimed that the basis of the category of time is the rhythm of collective life. According to Sorokin and Merton, social time represents the change or movement of social phenomena in relation to other phenomena taken as reference points. Time data and measurements differ in societies as a reflection of the contrasting social and cultural environments in which they are understood and applied. Social time is not continuous. Its periods have specific qualities thanks to the meanings and associations of the particular activities performed in them.

Counting time is significantly dependent on the organization and functions of individual societies and groups. Systems of counting time, time data and measurements are numerous and varied. With the development of interaction among groups, and especially then in the context of urbanization and social differentiation, such time systems become inadequate and their local specifics lapse and are overcome. Synchronization and coordination require well-known and valid reference phenomena, which due to expansion of interaction become increasingly abstract, i.e. separated from actual social events. This is why astronomical phenomena are reflected in conventionalised time continua. As a substitute for multidimensional social time there is a time 'Esperanto' – one-dimensional astronomical time. Even though one-dimensional astronomical time – as a social invention – had by then replaced multidimensional social time, in order to facilitate and enrich research in the area of social dynamics Sorokin and Merton had to re-establish social time, at least as an auxiliary concept which could contribute to the better understanding of social periodicity. In 1943 P. A. Sorokin followed up these ideas in the book *Sociocultural Causality, Space, Time*.

Another shift in the understanding of social time is presented by Georges Gurvitch in *La multiplicité des temps sociaux* (1963). As its title suggests, he talks about the pluralism or multiplicity of social times. Gurvitch's multiple theory is grounded in the proposition that social life in its various forms flows in extremely different and frequently diverging times. In his sociological theory, the concept of social time falls into a confusing welter of social times, which in summary is typologically broken down into several general types. On the basis of criteria such as duration, method of pulsation and rhythmicity of movement, the author distinguished eight types of social time: 1.time of long duration and slow decline, 2.misleading (deceptive) time, 3.irregular (erratic) time, 4.cyclical time, 5.retardant time, 6.alternating time, 7.time overtaking itself, 8.explosive time.

According to Gurvitch, no society, social class or structured group (local, professional, family, etc.) can live without trying to control its social times, but that does not mean that this will be achieved. Each social unit, class, group, micro social element, relationship, activity, etc. has a tendency to move at an inherent time, while society aims to unify this plurality. Efforts to establish their cohesion and coordination lead to the creation of a specific gradation of social times, in which individual social structures vie for domination in a flux of structuring, destructuring and restructuring, leading to collisions, and even to "explosions".

The concept of social time can be found in a variety of specialized texts to the present day, though somewhat infrequently. This is because Sorokin and Merton, despite being referred to in a number of studies dealing with the problem of time in the context of social sciences, failed to move research to make the significant shift to the concept of social time that both authors advocated. There of course exists a large number of studies that examine the concept of time in pre-modern societies and cultures from an anthropological or historical perspective; these studies, however, usually manage without the concept of social time, working with the category of time "without attribute".

The problems associated with the assumption of the existence of social time are several. A major argument of supporters of the concept of social time is that it does not flow evenly; that it can slow down, speed up or even stop. Such a claim can be difficult to prove. The problem to which we allude here consists in the confusion of time and movement. What does not follow evenly are the processes that take place in time, i.e. the movement of things and events. The fact that this movement does not flow equally to all may not automatically mean that time also passes unevenly. Recall who it was that in the question of the relationship of time and motion warned about their mixing. For Aristotle time was "number (*aritmos*) of motion earlier and later". We measure movement by time and conversely movement (e.g. movement of sand in the hourglass) serves to measure time; but it is necessary to distinguish between them, because time is not motion.

The concept of social time assumes that time is a human work. Even this is very problematic premise. The products of social life (sometimes intended, sometimes unintended) not only include various time (temporal) structures of social phenomena in terms of time plans, schedules, timetables, but also spontaneous and unplanned cycles or rhythms. Human works are also instruments for measuring time, and people set the units in which time is measured. However, what is definitely not a human creation is time in terms of its objective, inevitable flow in the direction of the time arrow. Let us add that Stephen W. Hawking talks about three arrows, which, however, are all heading in the same direction: a) thermodynamic, in which direction is growing disorder (entropy), b) psychological, whose direction is given by the fact that we remember the past and not the future, c) cosmological, defined by the direction in which the universe expands. The existence of this arrow of time is then also what enables us, despite the morass of temporal structures, to think about time in a single (monistic) and realistic approach.

*by Jiří Šubr*

## Publications

### **The Collected Works of Norbert Elias in English**

Many sociologists tend to associate the name of Norbert Elias (1897–1990) with just one famous book, *Über den Prozess der Zivilisation*, or maybe – with *Die höfische Gesellschaft* – two. But he is an important figure in the history of sociology, who published voluminously mainly in the last two decades of his life. Taken as a whole, his writings set out a distinctive style of sociology. Unlike the mainstream of sociological theorists from Weber through Parsons to Habermas who acknowledged their roots in Kantian philosophy, Elias (like Bourdieu) was anti-Kantian, and this gives a consistent flavour to the work of the continuing 'figurational' research tradition, in which the social, the psychological and the historical are interlinked in a way that is always simultaneously theoretical and empirical.

In May 2014, University College Dublin Press on behalf of the Norbert Elias Foundation, Amsterdam, completed publication of the Collected Works of Norbert Elias. The full list of the 18 volumes is as follows:

- 1- Early Writings
- 2- The Court Society
- 3- On the Process of Civilization
- 4- The Established and the Outsiders
- 5- What is Sociology?
- 6- The Loneliness of the Dying and Humana Condition
- 7- Quest for Excitement: Sport and Leisure in the Civilizing Process
- 8- Involvement and Detachment
- 9- An Essay on Time
- 10- The Society of Individuals

- 11- Studies on the Germans
- 12- Mozart and Other Essays on Courtly Art
- 13- The Symbol Theory
- 14- Essays I: On the Sociology of Knowledge and the Sciences
- 15- Essays II: On Civilising Processes, State Formation and National Identity
- 16- Essays III: On Sociology and the Humanities
- 17- Interviews and Autobiographical Reflections
- 18- Supplements and Index to the Collected Works

The first two volumes were published in 2006. The series was intended to resemble the corresponding *Gesammelte Schriften* published by Suhrkamp Verlag in 19 volumes <[www.suhrkamp.de/werkausgabe/gesammelte\\_schriften\\_in\\_baenden\\_39.html](http://www.suhrkamp.de/werkausgabe/gesammelte_schriften_in_baenden_39.html)>, although we decided that it would be impractical to translate into English the volume of Elias's poetry, which appears as volume 18 of the *Gesammelte Schriften*. And the contents of the German and English volumes do not coincide exactly. One point on which our editorial policy differed from that of the editors of the *Gesammelte Schriften* was that we have aimed to produce definitive scholarly editions that include not only everything that Elias published in his lifetime, but also a small number of pieces that were only published posthumously or have not been previously published at all. Richard Kilminster and I are particularly pleased with the three volumes we edited of Elias's essays; many even of those that had been published in English before had appeared in very obscure places and were very difficult to find. Some essays have also been inserted into other volumes, such as *Mozart and Other Essays on Courtly Art*.

We decided that it would be useful to add cross-references to Elias's dispersed discussions of similar topics. We also came to add a great many explanatory footnotes, especially about people and historical events to which Elias referred. Elias claimed to be self-taught in his knowledge of history, and he often appeared to take for granted that his readers were similarly equipped with a comprehensive knowledge especially of European history and culture. In places, we may have irritated readers by explaining points that they consider to be common knowledge. But, since we expect these volumes to be consulted for decades ahead, we have chosen to err on the side of annotating slightly too much rather than too little.

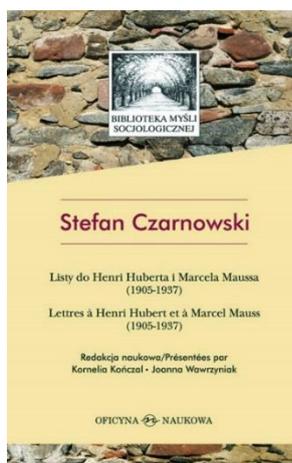
When we began to plan the *Collected Works*, we were fortunate to secure the agreement of Edmund Jephcott to translate all of Elias's remaining writings in German that had not previously been published in English. They amounted to one book, 51 essays and 8 interviews. Dr Jephcott had already produced excellent translations of many of Elias's German books, but the publishers' copy-editing had not always been on a par with the quality of the translations. So we have made a good many corrections to those texts that had been published before.

The title pages and contents lists of all 18 volumes can be seen at <http://www.norberteliasfoundation.nl/foundation/works.php>. A list of all of Elias's writings that have not previously been published in English – or, in a small number of cases, not previously been published at all – can be found on the same webpage.

The volumes can be purchased at a considerable discount by ordering directly through the UCD Press website ([www.ucdpress.ie](http://www.ucdpress.ie)). Readers of this newsletter are urged to order the complete set – also at a generous discount – for their university libraries.

**by Stephen Mennell**

General Editor



### Stefan Czarnowski's letters to Henri Hubert and Marcel Mauss (1905-1937)

Stefan Czarnowski's unpublished letters to Henri Hubert and Marcel Mauss from 1905-1937 allow us to trace the travel of Durkheimian identity in time and space: from pre-war Paris to post-war Warsaw and from the cosmopolitan pre-war times to post-Versailles Europe. Letters written by Czarnowski to Hubert and Mauss do not only document the history of their intellectual friendship, but also the process of Czarnowski's transformation from a student to a university professor. These letters also invite us to rethink the history of sociology by returning to its multidisciplinary beginnings. Moreover, they allow us to explore the history of the Polish humanities in the first decades of the twentieth century through the broader context of the international circulation of ideas.

*"The discovery of Czarnowski's letters to Henri Hubert and Marcel Mauss is a remarkable event for the Polish humanities."*

Marcin Kula

*"Letters written by Czarnowski to Hubert and Mauss, the disciples of Émile Durkheim, constitute an invaluable resource for cultural history, the history of ideas and the history of the social sciences. Their publication substantially enriches our knowledge about the intellectual life of Europe in the first three decades of the twentieth century."*

Antoni Sutek

### Louckx, K. & Vanderstraeten, R. (2014). Statistics and State-istics: Exclusion categories in the population census (Belgium, 1846-1930). *The Sociological Review*, 62, 530-546.

"During most of the nineteenth century, the etymology of the term 'statistics' was still much alive: statistics was state-istics, the empirical study of the state. It has been argued that the nineteenth-century avalanche of printed numbers gave rise to a new discourse about society. Not only was society conceived of as a population; the corps social (Quetelet) was also conceptualised as a subject of statistics. An important contribution of this state-istics was to conceive a new sort of object, which could be both the target of research and of policy interventions. On the basis of a case-study of all the Belgian population censuses taken before the Second World War, we attempt to articulate the complex interactions between science, government, and society in the modern era. We thereby direct our attention to the range of exclusions and exclusion places that appeared in these censuses. Our analysis highlights the intimate relationship between population and territory in the 'search engines' of the statisticians. The discursive constitution of territorial exclusions allows us to analyse the articulation of inclusion ideals – in the period before such ideals became firmly institutionalised in the so-called welfare state of the postwar period."

**Filipe Carreira da Silva "G.H. Mead". In Oxford Bibliographies Online: Sociology,** <http://www.oxfordbibliographies.com/view/document/obo-9780199756384/obo-9780199756384-0141.xml> (accessed 20-Aug-2014).

**Huebner, Daniel. 2014. *Becoming Mead: The Social Process of Academic Knowledge*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.**

*The description of the book from the University of Chicago Press is:*

"George Herbert Mead is a foundational figure in sociology, best known for his book *Mind, Self, and Society*, which was put together after his death from course notes taken by stenographers and students and from unpublished manuscripts. Mead, however, never taught a course primarily housed in a sociology department, and he wrote about a wide variety of topics far outside of the concerns for which he is predominantly remembered—including experimental and comparative psychology, the history of science, and relativity theory. In short, he is known in a discipline in which he did not teach for a book he did not write.

In *Becoming Mead*, Daniel R. Huebner traces the ways in which knowledge has been produced by and about the famed American philosopher. Instead of treating Mead's problematic reputation as a separate topic of study from his intellectual biography, Huebner considers both biography and reputation as social processes of knowledge production. He uses Mead as a case study and provides fresh new answers to critical questions in the social sciences, such as how authors come to be considered canonical in particular disciplines, how academics understand and use others' works in their research, and how claims to authority and knowledge are made in scholarship. *Becoming Mead* provides a novel take on the history of sociology, placing it in critical dialogue with cultural sociology and the sociology of knowledge and intellectuals."

More information about it is available from the University of Chicago Press's website: <http://press.uchicago.edu/ucp/books/book/chicago/B/bo18602059.html>

**Jennifer Platt, 'The International Library of Sociology and Social Reconstruction and British sociology', pp. 236-259 in ed. John Holmwood and John Scott, *The Palgrave Handbook of Sociology in Britain*, Palgrave Macmillan 2014.**

The International Library of Sociology and Social Reconstruction was founded in 1942, and edited by first Karl Mannheim, who made a very personal mark on it, and then W. J. H. Sprott; it was a major source of sociology books in Britain. The archives of its publisher, Routledge Kegan Paul, are drawn on to explore the selection of books, and how that changed over time. In addition to new books by British authors, their form often influenced by the editors, they published classic European authors such as Durkheim, work by contemporary refugees, and important new American work. Wartime conditions created high demand for books, and much concern with post-war planning, but practical factors such as paper rationing and market demand limited the response; as circumstances changed, authors became more British and books more academically specialized.

#### **Stephan Moebius:**

- *Zyklus. Jahrbuch für Theorie und Geschichte der Soziologie. Band 1. Yearbook of the theory and history of sociology* (edited with Martin Endreß und Klaus Lichtblau), 2014, Wiesbaden: Springer VS.

Entails i.e. unedited lectures of Helmut Schelsky and René König, article about Theodor Geiger, Franz Oppenheimer, Max Weber, Heinz Maus...)

- *Kultursoziologie im 21. Jahrhundert.* (edited with Joachim Fischer), 2014, Wiesbaden: Springer VS, 309 S., ISBN 978-3-658-03224-1

- *Kultur-Soziologie. Klassische Texte der neueren deutschen Kultursoziologie,* (edited with Clemens Albrecht), 2013, Wiesbaden: Springer VS, 430 S., ISBN 978-3658022532

**Alexandre Paulange-Mirovic, "We re-invented sociology". The Social Origins of an Academic Enterprise:** The Association For The Development Of The Applied Social Sciences (1968-1975), *Revue française de science politique* (english), 63 (3-4), pp. 61-84. <[http://www.cairn-int.info/article-E\\_RFSP\\_633\\_0061--we-re-invented-sociology.htm](http://www.cairn-int.info/article-E_RFSP_633_0061--we-re-invented-sociology.htm)>

**João Marcelo Ehlert Maia. History of sociology and the quest for intellectual autonomy in the Global South: The cases of Alberto Guerreiro Ramos and Syed Hussein Alatas.** *Current Sociology*, v. 62, p. 1097-1115, 2014 <<http://csi.sagepub.com/content/62/7/1097>>

## Call for Applications

### Revue d'Anthropologie des Connaissances

Travelling texts in the humanities and social sciences: textual parameters of acceptance and rejection. Guest editor: Wiebke Keim

In case you want to know how to send your contribution, check <<http://www.ird.fr/socanco/article316.html>>

### Epistemologies of In-Betweenness: East Central Europe and the World History of Social Science, 1890-1945

**Workshop- Institut für Ost- und Südeuropaforschung Regensburg \*\* 29-30 May, 2015\*\***

#### Call for Papers

*Convenors: Katherine Lebow, Vienna Wiesenthal Institute for Holocaust Research; Małgorzata Mazurek, Department of History, Columbia University; Joanna Wawrzyniak, Institute of Sociology, Warsaw University; Ulf Brunnbauer, Institut für Ost- und Südeuropaforschung Regensburg/Universität Regensburg.*

The period ca. 1890-1945 saw both the crystallization of modern social scientific disciplines and some of the most profound crises of the social, political, and economic systems they were devised to study. This workshop asks how intellectuals' sustained engagement with these crises in the "shatterzones" of East Central Europe shaped the development of social science between the end of the nineteenth century and the onset of the Cold War.

Conceived as a follow-up to the workshop "Malinowski's Children: East Central European 'Betweenness' and Twentieth-Century Social Science" (Heyman Center for the Humanities, Columbia University, May 2014), the present workshop aims to develop new approaches to the study of social science history. Besides decentering classic narratives of scientific innovation and dissemination focusing on "the West," it seeks to historicize key concepts that structure our understanding of the region's history—concepts that took shape during this period, but remained unstable throughout—that were, themselves, part of that history.

While East Central European social science and social scientists have been widely studied, East Central Europe has rarely been considered as a historical locality in the circulation of social scientific knowledge. We approach the region not only as the birthplace of many authors of the social scientific canon, but as ambiguous terrain in a modern global imaginary characterized and categorized by asymmetries of power. To the extent that social science arose in response to such asymmetries (anthropology vis-à-vis imperialism/colonialism, sociology vis-à-vis capitalism/class, psychology vis-à-vis sexuality/gender, etc.), we are interested in how East Central European scholars problematized their region's "in-betweenness," its non-normative status in the modern world. We are interested, too, in how East Central European scholars-confronted with the collapse of empires, the crisis of the global economic system, and the rise of nationalism and racism-understood their disciplines' human and historical potential. Would social science serve to naturalize and legitimate authority, or was its purpose to demystify and liberate?

Papers may address a wide range of topics, including but not limited to the transnational circulation of people and ideas (biographies on the move; the translation of concepts from the local to the global, and vice-versa); competing historical frameworks and chronologies of social science history (Western vs. East Central European; Eurocentric vs. non-Eurocentric); regionally distinct fields of social research such as nationalism studies or Jewish social science; shifting deployments of specific concepts, methods, or epistemologies ("backwardness," "cosmopolitanism," "unevenness," humanism vs. positivism); as well as dead ends and failures, paths not taken, and repressed or forgotten disciplinary histories.

**PROSPECTIVE SPEAKERS ARE INVITED TO SUBMIT ABSTRACTS OF APPROXIMATELY 500 WORDS AND THEIR C.V. SUBMISSIONS SHOULD INCLUDE NAME, AFFILIATION AND CONTACT DETAILS. THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS IS DECEMBER 1, 2014. FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE CONFERENCE, OR TO SUBMIT AN ABSTRACT, PLEASE EMAIL THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE AT**

**KATHERINE.LEBOW@VWI.AC.AT , MM4293@COLUMBIA.EDU OR WAWRZYNIAKJ@IS.UW.EDU.PL**

**CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS WILL BE ASKED TO SUBMIT ORIGINAL PAPERS (MAX. 10 000 WORDS) IN ENGLISH NO LATER THAN MAY 15, 2015. THE PAPERS WILL BE PRE-CIRCULATED AMONG ALL PARTICIPANTS TO LEAVE TIME FOR DISCUSSION AT THE CONFERENCE.**

**THE CONFERENCE IS SUPPORTED BY THE GRADUATE SCHOOL FOR EAST AND SOUTHEAST EUROPEAN STUDIES (UNIVERSITY OF REGENSBURG, LMU MUNICH), THE INSTITUT FÜR OST- UND SÜDEUROPAFORSCHUNG REGENSBURG AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.**