Dear members of RC 01,
dear colleagues and friends,

2011 is to come to a close very soon. It has been a packed year in many regards. With regard to RC 01, I would just like to draw your attention to a few things:

(1) We have established RC 01’s first website and hope you like it. But a website is a process. Thus, we encourage all of you to submit suggestions for things to include/change on our website.

(2) We have - upon request of the ISA - revised our Statutes. Those of you who have not yet responded to these revisions are kindly asked to let us know by mid-January 2012 the latest if you approve these revisions sent to you or not.

(3) The preparations for RC 01's Interim Meeting from 08 to 12 July 2012 in Maribor, Slovenia, are on their way. This newsletter entails the details and, especially, a Call for Papers for the sessions planned. We hope to see very many of you (and your friends and colleagues) in Ljubljana and herewith encourage you to submit paper proposals directly to the session organizers.

I close this letter and this year by saying thank you to all of you for your support of our RC! My special thanks go to Uros and the Board Members for investing so much time and energy to advance the cause of our RC!
Chers membres du RC 01, chers collègues, chers amis,

L'année 2011 se terminera sous peu. À bien des égards, c'était une année très intense. En ce qui concerne le RC 01, je tiens à attirer votre attention sur quelques éléments:

(1) Nous avons créé le premier site Internet du RC 01. Nous espérons que notre site vous plaît. Or le site, c'est un processus. N'hésitez pas à nous faire parvenir vos suggestions en la matière: nous serons heureux d'accepter vos idées sur les éléments qu'il conviendrait d'inclure ou de changer sur notre site.

(2) A la demande de l'ISA nous avons révisé nos Statuts. Nous vous invitons cordialement à nous communiquer vos réactions sur ces révisions jusqu'à la mi-janvier 2012 au plus tard, et de nous informer si vous approuvez ces révisions.

(3) Les préparations pour la Rencontre Intérim de RC 01, qui se tiendra du 08 au 12 juillet 2012 à Maribor en Slovénie, sont en cours. Dans cette lettre d'information vous allez trouver les détails sur cette rencontre, et surtout les sessions que nous avons prévues. Nous espérons vous voir nombreux (ainsi que vos amis et vos collègues) à Ljubljana. Nous saisissons cette occasion pour vous encourager à soumettre votre proposition d'intervention directement aux organisateurs des sessions.

Je voudrais clore cette lettre et cette année en vous remerciant tous pour votre soutien au RC. Je voudrais tout particulièrement remercier Uros et les Membres du Comité pour avoir consacré leur temps et leur énergie pour faire avancer la cause de notre RC.

Je vous souhaite une excellente année 2012,

Gerhard Kuemmel
Estimados socios de RC 01, estimados compañeros y amigos,

El final del año 2011 está acercándose. Ha sido un año intenso en muchos sentidos. En cuanto a RC 01, quisiera hacer las siguientes observaciones.

(1) Hemos conseguido nuestra primera página web de RC 01 y esperamos que sea del agrado de todos. La página web es naturalmente un trabajo en proceso. Y por eso animamos a todos a que nos hagan sugerencias de cambios y/o inclusión de datos e información.

(2) Por iniciativa de ISA hemos revisado los llamados “Estatutos”. La gente que aún no haya respondido a las revisiones, rogamos amablemente que nos hagan saber sus cambios hasta mediados de enero de 2012.

(3) Las preparaciones para la Reunión Interim de RC 01 de 08 a 12 de julio de 2012 en Maribor, Eslovenia, están en camino. El presente informe incluye todos los detalles y, sobre todo, las sesiones previstas. Esperamos ver a cuánta más gente posible (y naturalmente también a vuestros amigos y compañeros de trabajo). Al mismo tiempo animamos a la gente a entregar propuestas de trabajo directamente a los coordinadores de las sesiones.

Concluyo esta carta agradeciendo a todos su apoyo a RC. De un modo especial quisiera expresar mi agradecimiento a Uroš y a los Miembros del Consejo por haber invertido tiempo y energías en el desarrollo y la causa de RC.

Espero y deseo que el año 2012 sea fructífero para todos.

Gerhard Kuemmel
1. **RC 01 Business Meeting, October 2011**

A Business Meeting of RC 01 was scheduled for Sunday 23 October 2011 at the Palmer House Hilton Hotel in Chicago on the occasion of the IUS conference. Due to the health-related absence of both the President and the Executive Secretary, there was only a short meeting in which the Vice-Presidents encouraged the participants to attend RC 01’s Interim Conference in Slovenia in July 2012.

Some short information:
- **Membership:** For October 2011, RC 01 membership in good standing stands at 107. In the case of 11 of these, membership expires by the end of the year. Please check whether your name appears among those of expired or expiring membership and renew your membership.
- **Finances:** There are 1095,- USD in RC 01’s account at the ISA and another 1100,- USD and 1190,- Euro on RC 01’s bank account run by Uros Svetes.

2. **RC 01 Interim Conference 2012: Call for Papers**

RC 01 will have its Interim Conference in **Maribor/Slovenia**

from

**08 - 12 July 2012**

The overall theme is:

**Changes: The Military, Soldiers, Politics and Society**

Please respond to the following **Call for Papers** and send a paper proposal to the chair(s) of the panel of your choice.
The deadline for submitting paper proposals is

**10 February 2012**

Paper proposals are welcome to the following sessions:

**The Place of Women in the Military / The Place of the Military in Women's Lives**

The session will focus on the complex relations between women, Military service and life course trajectories. The extreme nature of militaries’ gender regime calls for a specific research on the effects of military on women’ life, however existing research in the field of military service in the life course focuses exclusively on men. This is surprising given the growing rates of women’s participation in western militaries following the shift to professional militaries and the European Court ruling from 2000 that EU member states must recruit women on an equal basis. The session calls for papers exploring the relations between military service and women's life course from two perspectives. First, we want to explore the changing constraints and opportunities that shape women's military service - what are the social factors that encourage or push women's enlistment, and what are the factors that hinder women's military participation? Second, we want to look into the meaning of military experiences throughout the lives of women: What is the influence of military service on women from differing social backgrounds and who served in various military roles life trajectories? How does the expanded participation of women in militaries affect their gendered consciousness, political awareness and political activism? What is the nature of gendered and ethnic/racial boundary work that is carried out by women following military service? What is the interpretative framing that is employed in understanding their military service in retrospect?

**Organizers:**
Orna Sasson-Levy, sassono@mail.biu.ac.il
Edna Lomsky-Feder, msednal@huji.ac.il

**The Military Profession and Asymmetric Warfare**

The end of the Cold War and the resulting disappearance of the two opposing blocs of states whose equilibrium was nevertheless a strong guarantee of the preservation of some sort of status quo, opened a Pandora’s box from which have progressively and tumultuously emerged religious wars, ethnic conflicts, the
disintegration of states and the birth of new state entities often in conflict with each other, phenomena all strongly at odds with the free trade and globalization needs of the victors in that war. Most of these new conflicts (new wars, according to the M. Kaldor definition) are asymmetric and the Western World (in a broad sense) has now to face a different and peculiar form of warfare, characterized by a situation where a weak side (state or non state actor) is opposed to a strong military state power. What could an appropriate answer from the West be?

Organizer:
Giuseppe Caforio, gcaforio@fastwebnet.it

Managing the Armed Forces: Issues of Inter-Organizational Cooperation, Downsizing and Change

This session proposes to collect papers on managerial issues concerning military organizations and wants to make use of concepts that emerge from the sociology of organizations as well as from military sociology and related disciplines. The idea is that military organizations are conventional organizations, to which conventional ideas and concepts may apply, but flavored with specific features that make them different: dealing with life threatening circumstances surrounded by a highly political context. They resemble so called High Reliability Organizations, but they are more politically influenced and more uncertain about their strategy, legitimacy, effectiveness and operational styles. In this session contributions on any sort of managerial issues are welcome: organizational structure, strategy and legitimacy/reputation/status, cooperation with other organizations/networking, management control of operations (including Effects Based Operations), military culture and manpower policies.

Organizer:
Joseph Soeters, JMML.Soeters@NLDA.NL

Military Families

The panel is intended to present and discuss papers devoted to research on military families of various types: families where one or both partners are military members, families where parents have a son/daughter in the military. Topics could cover family difficulties and stress related to deployment, mission legitimacy and consequences on recruitment as derived from parents’ attitudes toward mission deployments in high-risk theatres, family vs. career tradeoffs in double-career families. The aim is to consider the topic under a comparative
Conflict Resolution in Prolonged, Frozen and New Conflicts

War, evidently, is understood in remarkably different ways by the military, politicians, civilian scholars, and the public at large. All agree, however, that war is most frequently violent. And there is a widespread acknowledgement that the nature of war waged by particular states is determined by the conflicting nature of interstate relations. Therefore there is a natural tendency to use all available means to avoid a transformation of conflict in a form of dispute into war. War is always a climax of conflicts of various types. Similarly, there is a consensus that conflicts cannot be divorced from their political and social origins, historic roots, etc. Modern sociological theory and research practice pays too little attention towards sociological dimensions of both conflicts and ways of their resolution in the world in which (unsurprisingly) war is inherent. The purpose of the panel of the RC 01 is to tackle the entire problem. The current global economic crisis is likely to intensify various types of conflicts in our world of scarce resources. Because vital national interests are given a priority, new conflicts necessary follow, but the old so-called ‘prolonged’ and ‘frozen’ conflicts might get a new sounding too.

Organizer:
Vladimir Rukavishnikov, rukavish@hotmail.com

All-Volunteer Forces: The Promise and Perils of Ending the Draft

The transformation of Western style armed forces in the last two decades following the end of the Cold War, has had a major impact on the recruitment system of most European countries. The conscript system was abolished and replaced by all-volunteer forces not only in the majority (but not all) of the traditional NATO member states, but also in many former Warsaw pact countries. With this change in the recruitment system an adaption to new challenges, new tasks and new missions was intended. Anecdotal evidence suggests that the changed recruitment system had positive as well as negative effects. The panel
evaluates the ramifications and possible unintended side effects of these changes by including different country examples with a variety of experiences with new and old recruitment and retention patterns.

**Organizers:**
Johan Österberg, johan.osterberg@fhs.se
Sabine Collmer, collmers@marshallcenter.org

**Recruitment and Retention**

As many European and Western countries have abolished conscription, their armed forces are now facing different challenges of employers who strive to attract and retain qualified staff. New security political threats such as terrorism have led to growing demands on the military profession, whereas changes in societal values may have weakened its attractiveness. Further, the armed forces are confronted with declining military expenditures and political support as well as with demographic change all of which reflect in recruiting and retention problems. This session will therefore show how armed forces deal with these challenges, particularly focusing on service motivation, campaigns to enhance the attractiveness of military service and career, the recruitment and retention of minorities such as ethnic minorities and female employees, and military turnover and retention strategies. The session is open for all interested researchers.

**Organizers:**
Tibor Szvircsev Tresch, tibor.szvircsev@vtg.admin.ch
Natalia Merkulova, Natalia.merkulova@vtg.admin.ch

**Peacekeeping Operations and Multinational Cooperation**

This session will focus on sociological and cultural aspects of current peacekeeping operations, with particular interest in multinational cooperation. The main goal is to analyze and discuss the socio-cultural context of today’s peacekeeping operations as well as questions related to the peacekeeping operations themselves.

**Organizer:**
Esther Bisig, esther.bisig@vtg.admin.ch
Veterans in Civilian and Military Societies

In this session, we invite papers studying the ongoing adjustment process between veterans and military or society, especially with a focus on how this process affects veterans identities. In this context, the perception of the military should not be confined to the legitimate armed forces of a particular country only, but can also include studies of extra-governmental military organizations.

Organizers:
Olga Nowaczyk, o.nowaczyk@wns.uni.wroc.pl
Rene Moelker, rene_moelker@yahoo.com

The Regimental Spirit

What is a regiment? Is it just a name? No, it is much more than that. It is an institution. What is most important is to understand why soldiers fight. Soldiers fight for their buddies, their colleagues and for their company and unit (‘paltan’) and not for any political ideology. Decades of social science research from giants in the field such as Samuel Stouffer, Samuel Huntington, S.L.A. Marshall, Edward Shils, Morris Janowitz, Roger Little and Charles Moskos support the notion that a soldier’s concern for personal survival in battle is minimized by the strength of the emotional bonds with his comrades.

Organizer:
Leena Parmar, leenaparmar5@gmail.com

Contributing to Peace Support Operations: The Small Countries’ Perspective

In peace support operations (PSO), contributing countries vary significantly regarding their historical background, political interests and influence, economic position, military power, etc. Therefore, some participate with a high number of personnel and strong financial support, while others merely by showing the flag with limited political or economic influence, with modest financial means and deploying small contingents. Equality and equal status of all countries is just a myth, while reality shows that countries with more economic, political, military, etc. means have more influence on the political, strategic and tactical levels or even get the right to decide on important issues in the PSO. Despite that, each and every country gives the PSO legitimacy and presents an important part in
achieving the goals. The first question posed at this point is how the contribution of a single, small or big, country is perceived by other contributing countries in the area of operation. We are interested in the broader political perspective as well as the influence of political, military, economic, etc. powers of the state on the interpersonal relations among servicemen and servicewomen on the tactical level. Another point of interest is the effectiveness of the work as perceived on the tactical level, including the frustrations and lack of motivation due to the disappointment when faced with PSO reality.

Organizers:
Janja Vuga, janja.vuga@fdv.uni-lj.si
Uros Svete, uros.svete@fdv.uni-lj.si

Social Structure, Development and Conflict

This session invites papers that help us understand the overall dynamics of conflict – be they socio-cultural, politico-economic or religious – across the globe in the 21st century.

Organizer:
Amin Pirzada, dr_pirzada@yahoo.com

Public Perception of the Military

The session will address the attitude of mass media and public towards the military and other security related issues, ranging from military profession, trust in the military, international operations and other military missions, strategic culture, terrorism and other security threats, to national and international security structures. The latter need a certain degree of support by the media and the public, and an adequate level of legitimacy in order to perform their duties effectively. The discussion will enable participants to exchange the data pertaining to individual countries, to compare key findings and to check recent public opinion and media trends.

Organizer:
Marjan Malesic, marjan.malesic@fdv.uni-lj.si
The Armed Forces: Heading towards Postinterventionism?

The outcome of military interventions in the past has been quite meager. At the same time, these interventions have been very cost-intensive, both in terms of finances and in terms of military and civilian casualties. This is met with increasing domestic problems in the intervening countries leading to less enthusiasm for future military interventions. This may signal the emergence of an era of postinterventionism, which is not marked by a complete absence of military interventions, but by a trend towards much more selectiveness in military interventions than in the past. This panel invites general theoretical papers on the topic as well as case-studies and comparative approaches.

Organizer:
Gerhard Kuemmel, gerhardkuemmel@bundeswehr.org

1. Publications from RC 01 Members

This anthology is a result of the research activities carried out in the ERGOMAS Working Group Public Opinion, Mass Media and the Military. The book explores the attitudes of the public and the mass media toward international peacekeeping, crisis management and humanitarian operations and missions. Further, it considers several salient issues regarding the question of “casualty tolerance” in contemporary societies, the image and the missions of the armed forces, the public’s perceptions of the relationship between political and military systems, and an explanation for the apparent contradiction between a relatively high level of public confidence in the military on one hand and a relatively high level of indifference expressed by the same public on the other hand. Lastly, the book examines the mass media coverage of wars and explores the role of the media in the political sphere, especially in the question of civilian democratic control of the armed forces. The addressees of the book are researchers, students and practitioners in military affairs in a broad sense.

2. Publications from Research Institutions

Bundeswehr Institute of Social Sciences (SOWI):
Bulmahn, Thomas/Fiebig, Rüdiger/Hilpert, Carolin: Sicherheits- und verteidigungspolitisches Meinungsklima in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland. Ergebnisse der Bevölkerungsbefragung 2010 des Sozialwissenschaftlichen Instituts der Bundeswehr (Forschungsbericht 94). Strausberg: SOWI.

Institut de Recherche Stratégique de l’École Militaire (IRSEM):

Netherlands Defense Academy (NLDA):

3. Other Publications

The Berghof Handbook for Conflict Transformation of the Berghof Foundation is online at:
http://www.berghof-handbook.net/all
1. **Global Dialogue, Volume 2**

*Global Dialogue* is the electronic newsletter and magazine of the ISA. It appears 5 times a year and in 12 languages. It attempts to keep readers up-to-date with events in the ISA with reports from Research Committees and National Associations, reports on conferences and on meetings of the Executive Committee, and by announcing changes in journals, in the organization, and so forth. It is a lively forum for conducting debates within our discipline with views from different corners of the world. But it also offers a sociological lens on current global events, underlining our relevance to public debates. Global Dialogue is made possible by the extraordinary energies and dedication of editorial teams around the world.

*Global Dialogue* is currently available in 12 languages: English, French, Spanish, Arabic, Chinese (Simplified), Chinese (Traditional), Hindi, Farsi, Japanese, Portuguese, Russian, and Polish.

Access *Global Dialogue* Volume 2, Issues 1 and 2 at:


Send any queries, submission, suggestions to Michael Burawoy at

**Burawoy@berkeley.edu**

2. **Call for Papers: Contemporary Military Challenges**

*Contemporary Military Challenges* is an interdisciplinary military scientific publication of the Slovenian Armed Forces, which deals with topical issues and phenomena potentially representing a challenge for military and security organizations, governments, policies and societies. Its mission is to develop critical scientific and professional thinking in the Slovenian Armed Forces concerning national and international security and defense, to disseminate military knowledge, and to contribute to the development of military science. The publication is targeted at all academic or professional segments of the public who are interested in contemporary defense and security issues and the contribution of military academic topics to their work or studies.
The Editorial Board of *Contemporary Military Challenges* is composed of distinguished military academics, officers and professors, chaired by the Force Commander of the Slovenian Armed Forces. Its vision is to raise the level of quality and visibility of the publication and thereby contribute to the development of military science in the Republic of Slovenia.

*Contemporary Military Challenges* is indexed in PAIS International and COBISS.SI databases and has been published since 1999. It comes four times a year, once entirely in English. At least one issue is thematic and linked to topical national and international issues.

In 2012, *Contemporary Military Challenges* will focus on the following topics:

- Professionalization of the Slovenian Armed Forces – 10th anniversary (Issue 14/1 – article submission deadline 31 January 2012),
- Slovenian national security system, the role of armed forces, and their future (Issue 14/2 – article submission deadline 29 February 2012),
- The role of the Republic of Slovenia in international structures and its opportunities in the region of South-eastern Europe: special focus on the Balkans (Issue 14/3 – article submission deadline 14 May 2012),
- Contemporary security trends around the world and the influence of the economic growth of some north-eastern hemisphere countries on the existing ratio of armed forces (Issue 14/4 – article submission deadline 10 September 2012).

In addition to the proposed topics, the Editorial Board of *Contemporary Military Challenges* will willingly accept contributions on other topical issues regarding international and national security. *Contemporary Military Challenges* is also available online at:


**Contact:**
Dr. Liliana Brožič (Managing Editor)
Phone: 00386-1-471-2880
Email: liliana.brozic(at)mors.si
1. **ISA on Facebook**

The ISA is now on Facebook as International Sociological Association (ISA) at


The ISA will be updating this page regularly.

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### Membership and Financial Issues

1. **General**

Has your institutional affiliation, your address, your phone or fax number, or your email address changed in the recent past? If so, please send this information to the Executive Secretary in order to update the list of RC 01 members. Or send Uros an email (uros.svete@fdv.uni-lj.si).

Please check whether your RC 01 membership will be running out soon and renew your membership in time. In case you are not sure about your membership status, please contact the Executive Secretary.

2. **How to Become a Member**

(A) If you want to become a member of our Research Committee only, please contact our Executive Secretary (uros.svete@fdv.uni-lj.si).

(B) If you want to become a member of both RC 01 and its mother organization, the International Sociological Association (ISA), please contact the ISA (online membership at: https://secured.com/~f3641/formisa.htm; email: isa@isa-sociology.org; fax: +34-91352-4945) or our Executive Secretary (uros.svete@fdv.uni-lj.si).
3. **Dues**

The dues for a four year period are at least 10,- US $ and at the most 50,- US $. The amount will be left to each colleague’s own estimation. As a guide the following is recommended:

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<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>Students</td>
<td>25,- US $</td>
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<td>Students of third world countries</td>
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<td>Established academics of third world countries</td>
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4. **Methods of Payment**

(A) Pay RC 01 dues to ISA Secretariat in Madrid when ISA dues are paid.

(B) Transfer RC 01 dues to the Executive Secretary to the following bank account:

Svete, Uros (RC 01)
IBAN: SI56 0232 0162 7192 659
SWIFT(BIC): LJBAJS2X

5. **ISA Membership**

ISA membership fees cover a four-year period and include a subscription to either *International Sociology* or *Current Sociology*. Membership fees are divided into three categories, A, B and C, according to the GNP of countries.

**Category A:**
- Regular membership: 255,- US $
- Student rate: 120,- US $

**Category B:**
- Regular membership: 105,- US $
- Student rate: 50,- US $

**Category C:**
- Regular membership: 25,- US $
- Student rate: 15,- US $

You may also become a Supporting Member of the ISA (400,- US $). In addition, there is the category of a Life Member of the ISA if you are aged 60 plus (300 US $). For further information, including a table of countries by categories, see the ISA web page: [http://www.ucm.es/info/isa](http://www.ucm.es/info/isa)
6. **Membership to be Renewed**

ISA and RC 01 membership expired in 2009

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ISA and RC 01 membership expiring in 2011

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President:
Gerhard Kuemmel, Germany

Executive Secretary
Uros Svete, Slovenia

Vice-Presidents
Doo-Seung Hong, Republic of Korea
Bandana Purkayastha, USA
Joseph Soeters, The Netherlands

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Leena Parmar, India
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Tibor Szvircsev Tresch, Switzerland

We hope that you enjoyed reading this issue of RC 01’s newsletter.

Gerhard Kuemmel & Uros Svete

The next newsletter is to come out by the end of February 2012