



Futures
Research

RC07 Futures Research
Newsletter No. 44

1. Message of the Chair

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

As I write my last message as chair of RC 07, let me take the opportunity to say thanks to all of you for your valuable contribution that make our Research Committee so interesting, so diversified and open into exploring new ways to inquire about the future of society. In times so marked by somber signs, even if there is the danger of falling into despair, let us keep in mind that it is crucial to look for the counter tendencies in the horizon. Sociology and social sciences in general are privileged spaces to think ahead. Reflecting and looking critically at past and at their present our founding fathers contributed to anticipate the future in positive or negative terms both inspiring new queries, new paths to investigate. I say this not to argue for a determined linear sociological route. We are all plenty aware of the diversity and multifurcations of our field. Let this recognition reinforce our openness to the future and help us to contribute in our capacity to a more just world.

Let me also take the opportunity to give a common welcome to our new members. In the recent months I have had the chance to communicate with them individually, to salute them and to say that we, the RC 07 community, look forward to their active engagement in our Committee. I renew my words and look forward to meeting you at the ISA World Congress in Toronto.

Elisa Reis

2. The XIX World Congress

As we prepare to attend XIX World Congress of Sociology it is unlikely that you have not yet seen the exciting program that ISA has put forth. The ISA President Margaret Abraham has shared with us on various opportunities her reflections on the relevance of the Congress's theme, "**Power, Violence and Justice Reflections, Responses and Responsibilities**". The richness of the program, the enthusiasm of the ISA team and of our Canadian hosts, the exciting environment of Toronto, the expectation that more than five thousand people will gather there, everything anticipates that we will experience a fantastic event.

The lively Program of RC 07 for Congress fits really well in exciting panorama above mentioned (look for the detailed program on the ISA site). Let us thank Andre Salata, our Program Coordinator, for his dedication to the work and to all of you who organized

sessions and those who will take place in them. Let us also take the opportunity to thank Radhamany Sooryamoorthy who is responsible for distributing our Newsletters and has been so cooperative whenever requested.

3. Business Meeting and Elections for the Board of RC07

Please, mark the date and time of our business meeting in Toronto. It will take place on Thursday the 19th of July from 17:30 to 19:20. Please, don't miss it, your participation is crucial to the work of our Research Committee. Furthermore, a new Board will be elected on the occasion and we need all of you there. Those who think of running, please inform us as soon as possible. For that you can write to the chair, Elisa Reis: epreis@alternex.com.br or epreis1@gmail.com

4. Best Paper Award

Please, those of you acting as session chair and chair discussants, don't forget that we count on you to refer to us the best paper by young scholars (up to 40 years) to compete for the Young Scholar's Prize.

5. Planning for the Next Forum of Sociology

The fourth ISA Forum of Sociology will take place at the Pontifical Catholic University of Rio Grande do Sul in Porto Alegre, Brazil, in July 2020. Like our Canadian hosts, the enthusiasm of the Brazilian sociological committee augurs very well for another great meeting.

6. Other News and Announcements

We thought you will be interested in the forthcoming publication of the **International Panel on Social Progress, Rethinking society for the 21st Century**. The Panel comprises the work of almost 300 hundred scholars who looked at the past, particularly the last 50 years, pointing to what has improved, critical unmet challenges, setbacks, risks and dangers confronting society's future. Involving the work of social scientists from North and South, the Report of the Panel will be released by Oxford University Press in three volumes this July. Take a look at www.ipsp.org to find detailed information on the Panel, its composition, possible developments, etc.

You may also be interested to hear about the Fourth World Social Science Forum that will take place this September from the 25th to the 28th in Fukuoka. Organized by the International Social Council and Kyushu University, plus the active involvement of the Japanese social science community and with the support of the Science Council of Japan and of the Japan Science and Technology Agency. The theme of Forum is **"Security and equality for Sustainable Futures"**. For detailed information visit: www.wssf2018.org

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The International Sociological Association Research Committee 07 Futures Research (ISARC07) was founded in 1971 and is dedicated to the promotion of future-oriented social research. A newsletter with details of ISARC07's activities is published about twice a year.