

International Sociological Association
RC 20
Comparative Sociology

December 2012 Newsletter

Strasbourg: 20 December, 2012

Dear colleagues,

With the Buenos Aires forum barely behind us, it is already time to start planning for the next World Congress (Yokohama 2014). The ISA requests that we draw up a list of the intended sessions as early as April 2013. That is 16 months before the actual event!

I personally enjoyed the week spent in Buenos Aires. Argentina was a new and original destination for many of us. The forum was relatively well organised, although praise does not extend to the disappointing and expensive receptions that went along with the opening and closing ceremonies. Speaking from experience, things should be better in this respect in Japan (barring earthquakes).

I wish you all good health and mirth in this season of rejoicing, as well as every success in the coming year.

*Jean-Pascal Daloz
RC 20 Chair*

YOKOHAMA 2014 ISA WORLD CONGRESS

CALL FOR SESSIONS

This is what we have received from ISA.

Consequently, any member interested in proposing an attractive session topic should contact me within the next couple of months (jean-pascal.daloz@misha.fr)

Proposals shall be reviewed and validated after consultation with the board,

To: Presidents of the Research Committees, Working and Thematic Groups
cc: Secretaries

Dear Colleagues,

As you may already know, the XVIII ISA World Congress of Sociology will take place in Yokohama, Japan, on July 13-19, 2014. Congress main theme is:
Facing an Unequal World: Challenges for Global Sociology.
Although it seems far away yet, I would like to remind you about the most immediate deadlines.

1. Call for Sessions: January 15, 2013 24:00 GMT

Please let us know the name and contact details of your RC/WG/TG Programme Coordinator as soon as possible but not later than January 15, 2013. Please indicate also a deadline for sessions → proposals submission having in mind that a final list of sessions needs to be received at the ISA Secretariat isa@isa-sociology.org by April 7, 2013 (see below point 3). Those Calls for Sessions for each group will be posted on the ISA Congress website.

For you information, please find attached a table showing a number of sessions (including Business Meeting) allocated to each Research Committee, Working and Thematic Group. Sessions allocation is based on the number of the ISA members in good standing in each group as of October 2012.

2. Proposals for Integrative Sessions: 15 January 2012 24:00 GMT

By 15 January 2013 proposals for Integrative Sessions which involve at least 3 Research Committees (Working and/or Thematic Groups), 3 National Associations or a combination of the two, should be received at the ISA Secretariat isa@isa-sociology.org for selection process. Please consult ISA Congress website for guidelines for applying for integrative sessions <http://www.isa-sociology.org/congress2014/>

3. Call for Papers: April 7, 2013 24:00 GMT

By 7 April 2013 Research Committees, Working and Thematic Groups must submit their final list of sessions and their descriptions as well as contact details of session organisers to the ISA Secretariat at isa@isa-sociology.org for posting on the ISA Congress website as Call for Papers.

Please note that Joint Sessions, sessions organised jointly by two or more RCs, or an RC

combined with a WG, TG on a theme of overlapping interest, must be included in the regular session allocation of one of the participating units. Joint sessions cannot constitute more than 50% of all sessions organised by a RC/WG/TG.

Finally, let me add that an on-line abstract submission will open in early June 2013. A complete set of deadlines and guidelines for Programme Coordinators will be circulated soon.

Best,
Maggie

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Cooptation of a new boardmember

At the last Business meeting held in Buenos Aires on the 2nd of August, 2012, we essentially discussed the new statutes and the future policy of the RC.

Dr Marita Carballo (who co-chaired one of our sessions) was appointed to the board after a unanimous vote. Given the location, it was particularly appropriate that a prominent South-American colleague should accede to the board and contribute to rebalance it both in geographic and gender terms.

Marita Carballo is "Academic Numerary" of the Social and Political Academy of Argentina and President of Voices (Research & Consultancy). Since 2009 to 2012 Marita was President of Kantar Latin America, the branch of consultancy and research of WPP. From 2003 to 2008 she was Global Sector Head of TNS's Political and Social sector -based in London- where she played a key role on large-scale surveys, notably the Standard Eurobarometer, having overall responsibility on the project. She started her career in Argentina, where she was President and CEO of Gallup Argentina from 1979 to 2001. She also served as a professor of Sociology at the Catholic University of Argentina between 1986 and 2002, and as the Head of the Sociology Department between 1989 and 2002. Since 1991 and 2002 Marita was Board Director of Gallup International Association and in 2003 she was voted Honorary Member. She integrated key positions in different organizations, such as tthe Chair of the Liaison Committee at WAPOR, the International Social Science Council Executive Committee (a UNESCO organization), Vice President of Information of the ISSC (2004 to 2006) and was a Member of the Advisory Board for the United Nations Office of Projects & Services (UNOPS) from 2000 to 2002. Marita is also an active

elected member of the Scientific Advisory Committee of the World Values Survey, and a member of WAPOR.

Marita has been awarded several scholarships and awards, such as: Eisenhower Fellow (awarded to Leaders in their specialty) in 1988 in the United States; "Award to the leading Business Women" by the Argentine Senate in its first celebration of Women Day (March 2000).

She is a renowned person in the Political and Social arena and in the academic sector worldwide. She has published several books and many articles in newspapers and journals such as Political Science and Politics ('Does Latin America Exist?' with Ronald Inglehart, Political Science and Politics). Her most recent books are "Cultural Values at the Turn of the Millennium (2005)" and "Public opinion in a Globalized world" as editor in 2007.

Call for papers **Sociological Schools of thought and Comparative Analysis**

Further to the project proposed in the previous newsletter (June 2012), it is hereby confirmed that a RC 20 symposium will be held in Strasbourg on the above-mentioned topic. It will take place in early 2014 and we shall be applying to ISA for funding. As a reminder, the intention is to discuss comparative analysis in sociology and the positions taken by different schools of thought on the question. In this perspective, members of the RC who would be interested in contributing to the event, and notably in preparing a paper synthesising the point of view of a particular tradition, should send an abstract to the organiser (jean-pascal.daloz@misha.fr) by the 1st of June 2013.

Forthcoming publications by RC 20 members

The Collected Works of Norbert Elias in English near completion

Stephen Mennell

'Norbert Elias is among the most important (and least appreciated) social thinkers of the twentieth century. His theory of modernity was prescient, insightful, and vindicated by discoveries he could not have dreamed of. Historians, sociologists, economists, psychologists, and neuroscientists can all profit by reading his eminently readable writings. The publication of this new and accessible edition of Elias's works is an important event in intellectual life.' – STEVEN PINKER, Harvard College Professor of Psychology, Harvard University, and author of *The Better Angels of Our Nature: A New History of Violence and Humanity*.

'Norbert Elias's work and inspiration become increasingly important each year; the Collected Edition a quarry filled with treasures. Any historian interested in long-term processes must necessarily grapple with the work of this great twentieth-century sociologist, who fused sociology and history into one encompassing vision.' – BRUCE MAZLISH, Professor of History Emeritus, MIT

'Norbert Elias was one of the most original minds in the human and social sciences in the twentieth century. The publication of his collected works is an extremely important contribution to the contemporary intellectual and academic scene.' – the late S. N. EISENSTADT, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Norbert Elias (1897–90) has been a major inspiration for research in comparative sociology. Most sociologists will know his *magnum opus*, *On the Process of Civilisation* (previously published under the title *The Civilizing Process*), and historians hold *The Court Society* in particularly high regard. But, by the end of his life, he had published far more: a total of 15 books and well over a hundred essays. His works (some originally written in English and some in German) extend the theory of civilising processes in major contributions to the historical understanding of the growth of knowledge and the sciences, of sport and leisure, of art and literature, and of the whole long-term development of human society. Elias was a sociological imperialist, who preferred to call himself a 'human scientist'!

The great German publishing house of Suhrkamp completed the publication of Elias's *Gesammelte Schriften* in 2007, and in the early 2000s the Norbert Elias Foundation, Amsterdam, entered into agreement with the leading Irish academic publishers, UCD Press, to bring out a corresponding English edition of the collected works in 18 volumes, as follows:

- 1 *Early Writings*
- 2 *The Court Society*
- 3 *On the Process of Civilisation*
- 4 *The Established and the Outsiders*
- 5 *What is Sociology?*
- 6 *The Loneliness of the Dying and Humana Conditio*
- 7 *Quest for Excitement: Sport and Leisure in the Civilising 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*

All but three volumes have been published already, and *Studies on the Germans* and the *Interviews* will appear in 2013. The final volume, containing the consolidated index and two hitherto unpublished essays, on Freud and on Lévy-Bruhl, will be published in spring 2014.

The volumes contain many writings not until now available in English: one book – *Humana Conditio* (especially relevant to International Relations) – and about a third of the essays. Even the essays that had previously been published in English were widely scattered, many of them not at all easy to obtain, so the three volumes of essays are especially important.

Under the patronage of the historian Sir Keith Thomas, a past president of the British Academy, and with the help of an editorial advisory board consisting of Richard Kilminster (chair), Eric Dunning, Johan Heilbron and Robert van Krieken, I myself have been acting as General Editor. The handsome hardback volumes have been produced – *sub specie aeternitatis* – to the highest scholarly standards. Translations have been revised to achieve as great a measure of consistency as possible between volumes, texts checked against original typescripts, quotations verified, bibliographical references completed, cross-references to other volumes inserted, and explanatory notes added where necessary.

The volumes are available at a permanent discount of 20 per cent if they are ordered directly from the publisher's website: www.ucdpress.ie.

For further details, contact the publishers:

UCD Press
Newman House
86 St Stephen's Green
Dublin 2, IRELAND

Email: ucdpress@ucd.ie

Tel. +353 1 477 9813

Masamichi Sasaki, Jack Goldstone, Ekkart Zimmermann, and Stephen Sanderson (eds.) *Concise Encyclopedia of Comparative Sociology*. Leiden, Netherland and Boston, U.S.A.: Brill (April 2013).

Daniel Chernilo, *The Natural Law Foundations of Modern Social Theory : A quest for Universalism*, Cambridge: C.U.P., January 2013.

http://www.cambridge.org/gb/knowledge/isbn/item6964671/?site_locale=en_GB

Mahmoud Dhaouadi, *Cultural Sociology within Innovative Treatise: Islamic Insights on Human Symbols*, University Press of America, 2013.