

NEWSLETTER OF THE RESEARCH COMMITTEE ON CONCEPTUAL AND TERMINOLOGICAL ANALYSIS

International Sociological Association – Research Committee 35

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COCTA News

Dear members and friends of COCTA,

on behalf of the board, I welcome all new members to our committee! More than a dozen of you have joined after our recent Buenos Aires meetings. And I wish to invite you and everyone in COCTA to participate in our activities and to make any proposals for conferences or other academic proceedings in the field of conceptual analysis you are interested in.

Our twelve sessions at the **Second ISA Forum of Sociology** which took place in **Buenos Aires**, Argentina, 1-4 August 2012 were very well received. In fact, the room we were allocated was too small for a number of sessions, some of which attracted audiences of well over 60 participants. At the next World Congress, I have been told by ISA, room capacities shall more generous. Those conditions notwithstanding, we had lively discussions by participants from many countries which carried on in many instances after the sessions had officially ended. In addition, Buenos Aires saw us continue our tradition of communal dinners. Thanks to Ana Grondona, Pablo de Marinis and Alejandro Bialakowsky for organizing the restaurant!

In Buenos Aires we also conducted our Business Meeting where, following ISA recommendations, we passed our new **RC Statutes**. The vote was unanimous, and the Statutes are included in this newsletter again.

Organization of the **XVIII ISA World Congress** in **Yokohama, Japan, 13-19 July 2014**, is in full swing now. As announced, RC35 is conducting a **Call for Sessions** which you will find below together with the organizational details to be considered. The **deadline** for submitting your proposals is **February 28, 2013**.

This issue also brings you further **Calls** members of our group wish to share with you. Please see below for the details.

Finally, please note that ISA is inviting contributions on RC activities to *Global Dialogue* <http://www.isa-sociology.org/global-dialogue/> as well as to *Social Justice and Democratization Space*: <http://sjdSPACE.sagepub.com/>.

In closing, as usual, I would like to ask you to spread the word on COCTA and let your colleagues know that everyone interested in our current and future activities is cordially invited to participate. Do not hesitate to present your ideas in case you would like to propose or organize a COCTA conference or session. See you soon in Buenos Aires (or, if you cannot make it, hopefully not long after)!

On behalf of the board, your humble scribe,

David Strecker

Call for Sessions
for the **COCTA Interim Conference** at the
XVIII ISA World Congress
“Facing an Unequal World: Challenges for Global Sociology”
Yokohama, Japan, 13-19 July 2014

COCTA invites its members to organize a session at the XVIII ISA World Congress of Sociology. It is the purpose of COCTA to define, explore and discuss key-concepts for understanding and analyzing social life and social developments in the 21st century. As such, it covers a broad and diverse range of issues and interests in sociology, social philosophy and the social sciences. The Research Committee does not seek to pre-define and limit the range of possible concepts under scrutiny, but invites new and innovative suggestions as well. Where suitable, the sessions should be organized around one or two core concepts, such as *(The Concepts of Postcolonialism, Multiculturalism and Globalization Revisited; (The Concept of Time and the Analysis of Globalization; The Rise of Asia and (the Concept of Modernity; Power and Violence as Key-Concepts for Understanding Political Action* etc.

Each session will run for 110 minutes, and we have been allocated 14 slots (incl. our Business Meeting and possible Joint, but not Integrative Sessions). A few slots at the conference are limited to 80 minutes, but we will presumably be able to avoid those for our academic sessions.

If you wish to convene a session, please send your proposal (of approximately 300 words, incl. your name, affiliation, country and email) to David.Strecker@uni-jena.de no later than **February 28, 2013**.

In selecting the sessions and drafting the RC program, the COCTA board will take into account the diverse nature of our committee and the broad range of our members' research interests and will focus on the quality of the proposals as well as a balanced representation of its members.

The selected sessions will be posted on the conference homepage after April 7, 2013 as a call for papers. Abstract must be submitted between June 3 and September 30, 2013 24:00 GMT. Participants must submit abstracts on-line via Confex platform, in English, French or Spanish. Only abstracts submitted on-line will be considered in the selection process.

Duties of Sessions Organizers: Session Organizer must complete selection of abstracts between October 4 and November 24, 2013 24:00 GMT, and provide a final presentation designation (oral, distributed, poster, round table). Session Organizers can move good quality abstracts unsuited for the session to the Program Coordinator's bin for transfer to another session. Note: abstracts transfers should be done as early as possible so that abstracts may be transferred to other sessions. Until November 30, 2013 24:00 GMT Session Organizer must send notification letters to: 1. Authors and co-authors of accepted abstracts; 2. Submitters whose abstract was rejected in this session but has been transferred to Program Coordinator for review and possible consideration in another session; 3. Authors of rejected abstracts. ISA underlines that no extension of deadlines is possible and that Session Organizers are responsible for all correspondence concerning the session. It is the Session Organizer's responsibility to submit accurate details about the session. All changes/updates should be done via on-line system.

General Information

XVIII ISA World Congress “Facing an Unequal World: Challenges for Global Sociology” Yokohama, Japan, 13-19 July 2014

The **congress website** with all information concerning the congress is:

<http://www.isa-sociology.org/congress2014/>

The **general congress timetable** is here:

<http://www.isa-sociology.org/congress2014/timetable.htm>

For information on general **deadlines** see:

<http://www.isa-sociology.org/congress2014/deadlines.htm>

Rules for all presenters Participants may be listed **no more than twice** in the Program. This includes all types of participation – except being listed as Program Coordinator or Session Organizer. Program Coordinators and Session Organizers can organize a maximum of two sessions where their names will be additionally listed in the program. A “participant” is anyone listed as an author, co-author, plenary speaker, roundtable presenter, poster presenter, panelist, critic, discussant, session (co)chair, or any similar substantive role in the program. A participant cannot present and chair in the same session. ISA does not require anyone to be a **member** in order to present a paper, and provides different registration fees for members and non-members. In order to be included in the program the participants (presenters, chairs, discussants, etc.) need to pay **registration** fees by April 1, 2014. If not registered, their names will not appear in the Program Book and in the Abstracts Book. In case of a co-authored paper, in order for a paper to appear in the program, at least one co-author should pay the registration fee by the early registration deadline April 1, 2014; the names of other co-authors will be listed as well. If other co-authors wish to attend the conference they must pay the registration fee.

Applications for **grants** must be made by January 31, 2014 by the participants directly to the RC Programme Coordinator. One can apply for a grant to only one RC/WG/TG. The ISA Secretariat will advise the RC/WG/TG if someone has applied to/been recommended by/ more than one group for the various types of grants. It is recommended to avoid repetition of the same persons who received grants for a previous conference. Grants will be paid by the ISA directly to the selected individuals. Two categories of grants have been established for active participants in the RC/WG/TG programmes. **Registration grants** for individual ISA members in good standing (i.e. who paid the individual membership fee at least two years before the month of the ISA conference), who play an active role in the conference programme either as programme coordinator, session organiser/chair or paper-giver. **Travel/accommodation grants** for individual ISA members in good standing (i.e. who paid the individual membership fee at least two years before the month of the ISA conference) resident in countries listed in economies B or C who play an active role in the conference programme either as programme coordinator, session organiser/chair, panellist, discussant and/or paper-giver. COCTA may allocate \$750 as grants.

ISA RC35 Statutes

Approved at the 2012 Business Meeting

PREAMBULUM

The Committee on Conceptual and Terminological Analysis (COCTA) promotes discussion of and research on conceptual and terminological issues within the social sciences. COCTA developed out of an Open Meeting at the 1970 World Congress of the International Political Science Association (IPSA) and was initiated by Fred Riggs and Giovanni Sartori with the aim of providing a forum for the clarification of basic social science concepts. COCTA was recognized in 1976 as IPSA RC01 (now active as 'Concepts and Methods'), in 1978 as RC35 of the International Sociological Association (ISA), and has at times also been institutionally represented within the International Social Science Council (ISSC) and the American Political Science Association (APSA). Today, as ISA RC35, COCTA continues to provide a lively forum for the discussion of social science concepts. COCTA advances academic exchange in the field of conceptual analysis specifically by participating at ISA congresses, organizing conferences, promoting publications and maintaining a newsletter.

ARTICLE I: OBJECTIVES

The Committee on Conceptual and Terminological Analysis (COCTA) is a Research Committee within the International Sociological Association (ISA) aimed at promoting discussion of and research on conceptual and terminological issues within the social sciences.

ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP

Members shall either be regular members or affiliated members. Regular members shall be individuals or institutions in good standing within the ISA. Affiliated members shall be individuals or institutions interested in the activities of this Research Committee, who are not members of the ISA. All regular and affiliated members of this Research Committee shall be entitled to participate in the discussions about organizational matters at the General Business Meetings which are to be held at least once every four years and to vote as individual members according to the principle "one member, one vote", meaning that one institution also has one vote. All regular and affiliated members shall be entitled to participate in the scientific activities of the Research Committee and to receive its newsletter free of charge. All regular and affiliated members of the committee shall be obliged to uphold the Research Committee's present Statutes and to adhere to the stipulations of the present Statutes, to conscientiously fulfill the tasks entrusted to them by the General Business Meeting or other bodies of the Research Committee, and to pay their fee for the respective period (i.e. 4 years). This fee shall be fixed by the Board of the Research Committee at each General Business Meeting for both individual members and organizations. The respective amounts to be paid shall be specified in the By-Laws to the present Statutes.

By-Laws

Membership Fee

The membership fees are fixed as follows: US-\$10 for a period of four years irrespective of type of membership.

ARTICLE II: GOVERNING BODIES

The Research Committee is governed by a Steering Board consisting of a President, a Secretary, and at least three other Board members. The Secretary shall serve as the Research Committee's Treasurer, unless this role has been specifically assigned to another Board member at elections. The Steering Board is elected for a term of four years, and its members are re-eligible. The President shall not serve more than three consecutive terms. If vacancies arise in the period between elections, the President may fill them by appointment in accordance with the ISA Statutes. In case of the death, incapacitation, resignation, or other inability of the incumbent to carry out the responsibilities of the office of the President, the Research Committee's Secretary or one of the other Board members, identified by the Board, will assume the responsibilities of the President of the Board. Each member of the Board must at all times be a member in good standing of the ISA in accordance with the ISA Statutes, and a member in good standing of the Research Committee on Conceptual and Terminological Analysis. Each member of the Steering Board has one vote. The Board may establish ad hoc committees for administering specific functions.

ARTICLE III: ELECTORAL PROCEDURES

The Steering Board of the Research Committee on Conceptual and Terminological Analysis is elected according to the following procedures: All regular and affiliated members of this Research Committee have the right to nominate candidates for its Board. Nominated candidates shall be regular members of the Research Committee. Regular members may nominate themselves. Nominated candidates shall confirm their preparedness to accept the respective position on the Board in case they are elected and to remain a regular member in good standing for the duration of their mandate. Nominations and the respective confirmations of preparedness shall be collected by an Elections Officer. The Research Committee's Secretary shall serve as Elections Officer, unless this role has been specifically assigned otherwise. Elections are held either at General Business Meetings or by mail or email, as determined by the Board. The Secretary shall inform all members of the Research Committee about the next election at least twenty weeks before the election day.

In case of elections held at a General Business Meeting, all members of the Research Committee are entitled to request a list of the nominated candidates at any time up to ten weeks before the elections from the Elections Officer. The Elections Officer shall send a list of all the candidates nominated and prepared to accept a position on the Board if elected to all members of the Research Committee at least one week before the General Business Meeting. Further candidates may be nominated at the General Business Meeting. The size of the Board to be elected for the next term of four years as well as the function and designation of the offices to be filled in addition to the President and the Secretary are determined by the General Business Meeting prior to the election.

In case of elections held by mail or email, the Elections Officer shall send a list of all potential nominees for the next elections (all regular members of the Research

Committee) to all the members of the Committee at least twenty weeks before the election day. The Elections Officer shall prepare a ballot listing all nominated candidates along with the respective positions on the Board. The ballot shall be sent to all regular and affiliated members of the Research Committee by mail or email at least ten weeks before the election day. Regular and affiliated members shall send their ballot by mail or email to the Elections Officer.

ARTICLE IV: RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS OF THE GOVERNING BODIES

The Board shall provide a newsletter or equivalent to the membership at least twice annually. The Board shall take responsibility for the organization of the Research Committee's sessions at ISA World Congresses and for organizing at least one mid-term conference. The President designates the Research Committee's Delegate and Alternate to the Research Council. The Secretary shall organize the General Business Meetings and the meetings of the Board in co-operation with the President, assist the President in organizing the work of the Board and in observing the fulfillment of its decisions, serve as Newsletter Editor in case no other Board member has been entrusted with this duty, oversee the collection of the membership fees and other incomes, prepare the financial report to the Board to be accepted by the General Business Meeting, and realize the financial relations between the Research Committee on Conceptual and Terminological Analysis and the ISA. The Treasurer must be discharged of his/her financial responsibilities by the General Business Meeting.

ARTICLE V: FINAL REGULATIONS

Proposal for amendments to the Statutes or By-Laws may be made by any member of the Board, or by any five members in good standing of the Research Committee on Conceptual and Terminological Analysis. Amendments may be voted on either at General Business Meetings or by mail or email.

In case of amendments to be voted on at General Business Meetings, such a proposal must be received by the Board at least twenty weeks before the day of the General Business Meeting at the next ISA World Congress. The proposal will be circulated among all members of the Research Committee, together with an explanation of its rationale, at least ten weeks before the day of the General Business Meeting at the next ISA World Congress. The Board will be entitled to propose amendments, to be circulated at least ten weeks before the day of the General Business Meeting at the next ISA World Congress. The proposed amendments will be put to the consideration of the General Business Meeting, and adopted if approved by a three-quarters majority of the attendant Research Committee members.

In case of amendments to be voted on by mail or email, such a proposal must be received by the Board at least one year before the vote. The proposal will be circulated among all Research Committee members, together with an explanation of its rationale, at least six months before the vote. The Board will be entitled to propose amendments, to be circulated at least two months before the vote. The proposed amendments are adopted if approved by a two-thirds majority of all Research Committee members in good standing.

COCTA member **Gurminder Bhambra** brings attention to this **Call for Papers**:

Race, Migration, Citizenship: Postcolonial and Decolonial Perspectives

4-5 July 2013, Birmingham, UK

Against the backdrop of decolonisation, a global economic boom was accompanied by tightened border controls, ever more punitive asylum regimes and limited access to citizenship. Immigration from former colonies to former metropolises has been limited in the postcolonial period as racialised discourses have set the West in opposition to an alien 'rest'. Now, in this 'age of austerity', the strength of the old powers is weakening as other parts of the world, the so called 'BRICs', grow in strength. Yet the old racial hierarchies appear stubbornly resonant within Europe and the white settler colonies, and other hierarchies, for example around caste, are increasingly coming to the fore in other countries. Foregrounding postcolonial and decolonial perspectives, this conference will provide a forum in which to discuss the context for emerging patterns of exclusion, for asking what the conditions for political equality might be, and for posing the question "what has 'race' got to do with migration and citizenship?" among many others.

Keynote Speakers: Eduardo Bonilla-Silva, Inderpal Grewal, Walter D. Mignolo

Abstracts of no more than 200 words are welcomed from across the social sciences and humanities. There will be 7 streams at the conference, listed below. Please identify clearly which stream you would like to be included in when submitting an abstract.

Streams:

1. Race, Racism, and Prejudice
2. Racial and Colonial Institutional Orders
3. Modernity/Coloniality and Global (In)justice
4. Asylum after Empire
5. Cosmopolitan Citizens and Multicultural Societies: The New Crisis of Europe
6. Europe and Africa. Citizenship and the Legacies of Colonialism
7. Diaspora, Colonialism & Postcolonialism

Further details about the streams can be found here:
<http://rmconference.wordpress.com/streams/>

Send your abstracts to rrmc2013@live.co.uk
Deadline for abstracts: 14th December 2012

COCTA president **Volker Schmidt** has been asked to circulate this **Call for Papers** among our group:

Inequality and Integration in Times of Crisis

Congress of the Swiss Sociological Association

June 26 – 28, 2013 at the University of Bern

Since Karl Marx first described the enormous social inequalities and their potential for social change at the beginning of industrialization in the 19th century, the origins, extent, and consequences of social inequality, as well the level of inequality which a society is willing to tolerate, have been major themes in sociology. Our discipline has taken on the theme of inequality in multiple areas ranging from research on unequal educational and labor market opportunities, unequal income distributions, gender and health inequality, and inequality in life expectancy, to mention only a few. There are innumerable national and international conferences devoted to these themes. Do we need yet another one? Is inequality still a problem in our society?

The answer to this question is undoubtedly yes. In particular, the economic crisis at the start of the 21st century underlines the fact that the theme of inequality has not lost its relevance. Above all, the European debt crisis inclines us to suspect that social inequality is growing. In comparison with economic boom times, almost all the European countries feel the pressure of stabilizing their economies and cutting back on public expenditures. This will also impact redistributive policies to reduce inequality and bring about new challenges for integration policies addressing the emerging disparities. At the same time as inequalities within European societies are exacerbated, disparities between states are also rising, which will likely have adverse effects on European unification, not to mention creating new challenges for Switzerland as well.

The European debt crisis came at a point in time when global environmental and demographic problems worsened simultaneously – the aging of industrialized countries and population explosion in developing countries. The inequality effects of climate change and the unequal distribution of population growth will lead to an increase in migration and elevate the immigration pressure on the European Union and Switzerland. For this reason, Switzerland, as well as the other European countries, grapple with questions of managing migration and integration.

Inequalities – as problematic they may be – are also in some sense an opportunity. They increase the diversity of society and can bring about new ideas, innovation, and growth. Our desire and ability for social integration depends, above all, on the ultimate balance between these advantages and disadvantages. Within the framework of the various foci of the research committees, the conference will concentrate on the opportunities as well as the risks associated with these social changes.

Call for Organizers

If you would like to organize a plenary session, please submit the title of the plenary as well as the designated contributions (including titles, abstracts, and the names of the contributors) to the organizing committee by January 15, 2013 (by e-mail to sgskongress2013@soz.unibe.ch). A plenary session usually includes three contributions. If you would like to organize a workshop (parallel session), please submit the theme proposal and call for papers for the workshop to the organizing committee by November 30, 2012 (by e-mail to sgs-kongress2013@soz.unibe.ch). After the organizing committee accepts the proposal, the call for papers will be published. The organizers of the workshop are responsible for collecting the submissions and selecting the contributions to be included in the workshop. The final program of the workshop (including titles, abstracts, and the names of the contributors) has to be submitted to the organizing committee by March 15, 2013 (by e-mail to sgskongress2013@soz.unibe.ch).

Further information about the conference can be found on our homepage:

www.sgs-kongress2013.unibe.ch

COCTA member **Rodolfo Sarsfield** brings attention to this **M.A. Call for Applications** from the Universidad Autónoma de Querétaro, Mexico, that may be of interest especially among undergraduate students in Latin America.

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS



MCS Maestría en
Ciencias Sociales

(M.A in Social Sciences)

2013-2015

Universidad Autónoma de Querétaro, Querétaro, México

The program has the objective of training graduate students who devote themselves to the study of political, social, cultural and territorial phenomena, and who be able to participate in the design and management of public policies and legislation.

The M.A. in Social Sciences (*Maestría en Ciencias Sociales, MCS*) is a two year program with three fields of specialization:

- Political Studies
- Regional Studies
- Sociocultural Studies

Minimum requirements for eligibility:

- B.A. in a social discipline.
- GPA of 80 or more (out of 100) or the equivalent
- All applicants are required to present a research proposal that is properly linked to the research fields of the Social and Political Science Department (list available online)
- All courses are taught in Spanish, so all applicants must have enough proficiency in the language to be able to understand, communicate and write fluently (language skills certification is preferred, although it is not required)

A completed M.A. application should contain the following documents digitized and uploaded to the program's online registration platform:

- The admission form must be completed online
- Birth certificate
- An officially issued identification card or other similar document
- A recent photograph (requirements are available on the online registration platform)
- A doctor's certificate of good health
- Curriculum Vitae or Résumé
- Bachelor degree certificate
- A writing sample (thesis, article, school paper)
- Letter of Intent
- Two recommendation letters (format available on the online registration platform)
- A research proposal that is properly linked to the research fields of the Social and Political Science Department

Online registration platform:

http://fcps.uaq.mx/posgrados/maestria_ciencias_sociales

ADMISSION PROCESS:

The admission process is composed of three different stages; each of them must be passed in order to be eligible for the next (there will be options available for international applicants):

- First stage: Social studies knowledge examination
- Second stage: Interview with the Academic Committee
- Third stage: Introductory course

At the conclusion of the three stages a ruling is issued on the final candidates. The Academic Committee's decision is irrevocable. All foreign applicants must have their immigration permits (FM3) ready by the time the course starts (If admitted, the University will give you a letter to prove you were accepted to the program as a full-time student).

ADMISSION PROCESS:	
Call for applications	October 15 th , 2012
Reception of documents	November 5 th , 2012, to February 1 st , 2013
Social studies knowledge examination	February 8 th , 2013
Examination results publication	March 1 st , 2013
Interviews	March 4 th to 8 th , 2013
Interview results publication	March 18 th , 2013
Introductory course	April 8 th to May 31 st , 2013
Final results	June 17 th , 2013
Academic term start date	August 12 th , 2013

Fees:

The introductory course has a non-refundable fee of \$3,000.00 MXN. Given that the MCS is part of the National Register of Postgraduate Studies of Excellence (PNPC, according to its initials in Spanish) of CONACYT, the enrolled students will have the right to apply for a scholarship and will be required to commit full-time to their postgraduate studies.

Contact information:

Universidad Autónoma de Querétaro
Coordinación de la Maestría en Ciencias Sociales
Facultad de Ciencias Políticas y Sociales
Investigación y Posgrado Building, Second Floor
Cerro de las Campanas s/n C.P. 76010
Santiago de Querétaro, Qro. México
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Composition of the Board for the Period 2010-2014

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