

NEWSLETTER OF THE RESEARCH COMMITTEE ON CONCEPTUAL AND TERMINOLOGICAL ANALYSIS

International Sociological Association – Research Committee 35

March 2015

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COCTA News

Dear members and friends of COCTA,

we warmly welcome our new members and hope to meet (again) in person rather sooner than later! Our committee invites all its members and friends to participate in COCTA's activities and to make any proposals for conferences or other academic proceedings in the field of conceptual analysis you are interested in.

The next major opportunity to participate actively will be at the 2016 ISA Forum in Vienna. In addition to inviting your participation in the Vienna Forum, this issue of COCTA-News also reports on our proceedings at last year's ISA World Congress in Yokohama and includes information on some of your recent publications.

The **Third ISA Forum of Sociology** has been scheduled for **July 10-14, 2016** and will be held **Vienna**. We have tentatively been allocated 10 session (down from 12 at the previous Forum in spite of our RC's growth), but final decisions on the number of sessions we may hold as well as regulations concerning sessions conducted in cooperation with other ISA subunits have not yet been made. We are doing our best to secure an adequate amount of sessions and have made a case for being assigned a room which we can use for the whole duration of the Forum

Notwithstanding the current uncertainty, please note that we are having a **Call for Sessions**. The **deadline** for submitting your proposals is **March 15, 2015**. Due to this short notice, please have a close look at the respective procedures below. Note that this is a Call for Sessions, not a Call for Papers. The Calls for Papers for the selected sessions will follow, presumably in April. The board is looking forward to your session proposals and to selecting from these once more an exciting and excellent program furthering our understanding of a diverse array of concepts relevant to making sense of the social world.

Our fourteen sessions at the **XVIII ISA World Congress** which took place in **Yokohama**, Japan, 13-19 July 2014, were again very well received. Facilities were far from ideal, like most RCs we had to hold our sessions in noisy booths and we have requested that ISA makes the availability of adequate rooms an essential criterion for any bid to organize a Congress or Forum. Nonetheless, we had lively discussions and attracted audiences of up to 60+ participants again. The Integrative Session on Postcolonial Thought which we organized in cooperation with RC08 (History of Sociology) & WG02 (Historical and Comparative Sociology) even attracted 150+ and was obviously a congress highlight, not few even calling this the best session they had attended in Yokohama. Of course we also carried on our tradition of communal dinners and everyone who was able to join will surely remember the splendid evening we had at a traditional Japanese restaurant. Sachiko Takita-Ishii deserves our thanks for organizing the feast we had!

At the **business meeting** in Yokohama the RC held its regular **board elections** for the period 2014-2018. The unanimous vote at the well-attended meeting was as follows: David Strecker (President), Elke Wagner (Secretary), Oliver Kozlarek (Vice-President North America), Alejandro Bialakowsky (Vice-President South America), James Merron (Vice-President Africa), Sachiko Takita-Ishii (Vice-President Asia), Craig Browne (Vice-President Australia), and Gurminder K. Bhabra (Vice-President Europe). The new board wishes to thank the outgoing board members: Volker H. Schmidt, long-time President and Secretary, Hartmut

Rosa, long-time Vice-President and Secretary, and Yoshimichi Sato, our previous Vice-President Asia.

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, and for this issue once more your humble scribe,

David Strecker

Call for Sessions
for the **COCTA Interim Conference** at the
Third ISA Forum of Sociology
**“The Futures We Want: Global Sociology and the Struggles for a Better
World”**
Vienna, Austria, 10-14 July 2016

COCTA invites its members to organize a session at the Third ISA Forum 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 in the Analysis of Society; The Rise of Asia and (the Concept of) Modernity; Power and Violence as Key-Concepts for Understanding Political Action* etc.

Sessions will presumably be 90 minutes each. We will be able to hold at least 10 sessions (incl. our Business Meeting) and have informed ISA that we are hoping for further slots. No information on Integrative Sessions, i.e. sessions in cooperation with other ISA units (RCs, WGs, TGs), has so far been circulated, but we encourage you to pursue such cooperation if you have any idea along these lines.

Procedure to submit session proposals

Session proposals must be submitted until Sunday, **15 March 2015, 24:00 (GMT)**

1. to the **online submission system**:

<https://isaconf.confex.com/isaconf/forum2016/cfp.cgi>

(choose RC35 from the RC drop down menu)

and additionally sent by email to:

2. David.Strecker@uni-jena.de **and** wagnere@uni-mainz.de

We very much encourage you to submit proposals. With regard to the deadline, please note that all that is needed to initiate a session submission is to enter the title of the proposed session, your name and your email address.

You can add **session descriptions** (of max. 250 words) at a later time until the end of the deadline. In case that you absolutely cannot finalize your session description until the end of the deadline and need a few days more, send a message to both email addresses immediately. Please also note that session descriptions should be prepared as Calls for Papers because the selected sessions will be posted on the conference homepage after April 7, 2015 as Calls for Papers.

Abstracts of paper proposals to those sessions can then be submitted to the online system presumably April 14 – September 30, 2015; followed by abstracts selection October 5 – November 24, 2015; with notification letters to be sent to authors by November 30, 2015.

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.

Duties of Sessions Organizers: Session Organizer must complete selection of abstracts between October 5 and November 24, 2015 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, 2015 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

Third ISA Forum of Sociology
“The Futures We Want: Global Sociology and the Struggles for a Better
World”
Vienna, Austria, 10-14 July 2016

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

<http://www.isa-sociology.org/forum-2016/>

The **general timetable** is here:

<http://www.isa-sociology.org/forum-2016/timetable.htm>

For information on general **deadlines** see:

<http://www.isa-sociology.org/forum-2016/deadlines-and-rules-for-presenters.htm>

Rules for all presenters:

Limited appearance in the Program: Participants may be listed **no more than twice** in the Program. This includes all types of activities requiring physical presence: chair or co-chair, author or co-author (oral or poster presentation, distributed paper), roundtable presenter, panelist, critic, discussant. In addition, participants may be listed in the Program up to two more times as Program Coordinators and/or Session Organizers. RC/WG/TGs can further limit the number of appearances within their own sessions. A participant cannot present and chair in the same session.

Registration payment: In order to be included in the program the participants (presenters, chairs, discussants, etc.) must pay registration fees by **April 5, 2016**. If not registered, their names will not appear in the Program Book and in the Abstracts Book. For co-authored paper, in order for a paper to appear in the program, at least one co-author must pay the registration fee by the early registration deadline April 5, 2016; 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 financial support deadline: 31 January, 2016 24:00 GMT. Program Coordinator receives applications for ISA grants submitted by the participants till January 31, 2016.

Members' Announcements

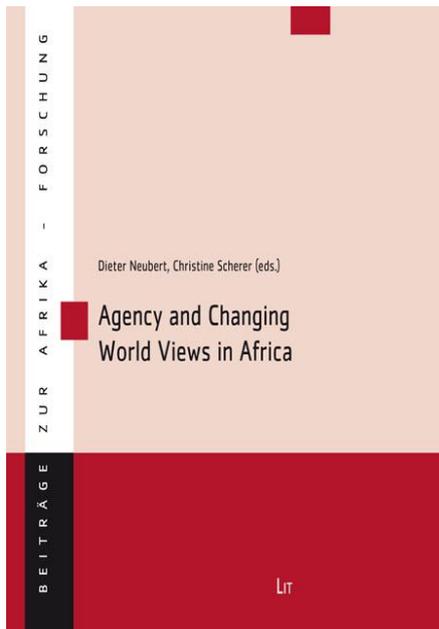
Publication Announcements:

Kozlarek, Oliver. *Modernidad como conciencia del mundo*, Mexiko: Siglo XXI 2014.

Kozlarek, Oliver (ed.): *Multiple Experiences of Modernity*, Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht 2014.



Neubert, Dieter/Scherer, Christine (eds.): Agency and Changing World Views in Africa, Berlin et al.: LIT 2014.



Current debates on the transnational impact of world views (interpretive frameworks) often refer to the concepts of 'globalisation' or 'travelling models' with an emphasis on domination or on a process of translation. This volume highlights situations where different world views are confronted with each other and the question how the actors mediate between the two. The conceptual chapters foster a critical view on the normative implications of agency itself as well as they reflect on the claim of interpretive hegemony of human rights, concepts of law, democracy, or neoliberalism. In addition, we present contributions that examine the confrontation of world views in particular cases. They are discussed on distinct empirical grounds such as law, e.g. islamic law, children's rights, law and development, political ideology and analyse the role of transcendental powers.

Contributors are: W. van Beek, P. Chabal, H. Dorsch, D. Goetze, S. Howell, N. Oberauer, E. Macamo & D. Neubert, H. Sippel & U. Wanitzek.

Conference Announcement:

James Merron and Luregn Lenggenhager convene a panel on “Warfare, Nature and Technology – the militarization of conservation in Africa” at the 2015 European Conference for African Studies in Paris, July 8-10 2015

Contestations over the use of military techniques for the protection of flora and fauna in Africa have intensified dramatically over the last few years. This is particularly evident within and around the newly proclaimed transfrontier nature conservation areas in southern and eastern Africa, a point that follows from a detailed history of entanglements between military intelligence and nature conservation. In the name of protecting charismatic animals, such as rhinos and elephants, militarised law enforcement units are patrolling and controlling large border areas, using high-tech weapons and reconnaissance technology to track down poachers. This war on poaching is not only conducted through open fights, but is increasingly producing detailed knowledge of the area using technologies of modern warfare, such as satellites and unmanned drones. The language used to legitimize these efforts bares a resemblance to other strategic issues that are articulated and imagined through ‘the war against climate change’ and the ‘war against alien species’. This panel aims at drawing attention to the importance of military technology and practices in protecting nature and wildlife. Through this we are looking for new forms of contestations and resistance emerging within these increasingly violent practices of environmental management.

<http://www.ecas2015.fr/warfare-nature-and-technology-the-militarization-of-conservation-in-africa/>

Composition of the Board for the Period 2014-2018

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