

# RC41 NEWSLETTER 1\_2015

Research Committee on Sociology of Population

International Sociological Association

Editor: Walter Bartl

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Article submissions are limited to 1,000 words, will be reviewed by the RC41 officers for possible publication, and may be edited for clarity or space.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CONFERENCES

3<sup>RD</sup> ISA FORUM OF SOCIOLOGY, VIENNA, AUSTRIA, JULY 10-14, 2016

**Call for Abstracts: 14 April 2015 - 30 September 2015 24:00 GMT**

Anyone interested in presenting a paper should submit an abstract on-line to one of our following sessions (alphabetical order).

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

The abstract (300 words) must be submitted in English, French or Spanish.

#### ADDRESSING POPULATION CHANGE THROUGH SOUND POLICY TO BUILD A BETTER FUTURE

**Session Organizer(s)**

Andrzej KULCZYCKI, University of Alabama, USA, [andrzej@uab.edu](mailto:andrzej@uab.edu)

Session in English

We invite papers covering all aspects of population policy and related attempts to manage or modify demographic change. These may involve efforts to accelerate fertility decline or to boost fertility, to improve maternal child health or transitions to adulthood, to reduce mortality and morbidity, to improve the wellbeing of the elderly, secure demographic dividends or alter intergenerational transfers, and to influence migration flows and consequences. Contributions may refer to any geographical setting. Theoretically informed empirical studies and cross-national comparisons, including efforts to learn from successful or flawed policies, as well as to transfer experiences elsewhere, are encouraged.

#### CURRENT CHALLENGES IN POPULATION HEALTH

**Session Organizer(s)**

Elena BASTIDA-GONZALEZ, Florida International University, USA, [ebastida@fiu.edu](mailto:ebastida@fiu.edu)

Session in English

We invite papers covering global health topics, especially, though not limited to the association between structural factors and the health of the population. Suggested topics include:

- work and safety;
- the Ebola epidemic in West Africa;
- morbidity and mortality in migratory groups;
- HIV AIDS in economically disadvantaged groups;
- the wave of anti-immunization in the United States;

- the consequences of war and violence on physical and mental health, specifically among the most vulnerable groups;
- the health status of the economically disadvantaged;
- and the detrimental consequences of truncated health care accessibility.

The above topics are suggested as possible relevant themes; however, all papers that investigate the social and cultural factors underlying disease and physical and mental health status and their overall impact on society are welcome.

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## DEMOGRAPHIC ISSUES IN EAST ASIA

### **Session Organizer(s)**

Dudley POSTON, Texas A&M University, USA, d-poston@tamu.edu

Session in English

The countries of East Asia include China, Taiwan, South Korea, North Korea, Mongolia and Japan; in addition, although Hong Kong and Macau are Special Administrative Regions (SARs) of China, they are nonetheless sometimes considered separately. The six (or eight) countries comprising East Asia have a total population of over 1.6 billion, comprising more than 36 percent of the population of Asia, and more than 22 percent of the population of the world. Their total fertility rates range from 1.1 to 2.9, and their infant mortality rates from 2 to 26. The percentages of population aged 65+ range from 4 to 26 percent. There is significant demographic diversity in the countries of East Asia.

Papers presented at this session may focus on any demographic issues dealing with fertility, mortality, migration, age structure, sex structure, marriage, divorce and cohabitation patterns, and sexuality, for any one of the East Asian countries or for a group of them or for all of them.

Topics of special interest are lowest low fertility and its implications, the consequences of unbalanced sex ratios at birth, marriage patterns with foreign-born spouses, increasing levels of HIV-AIDS, and documented and undocumented emigration from East Asian countries and immigration to East Asian countries.

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## DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS AND CONSEQUENCES OF LABOR MIGRATION

### **Session Organizer(s)**

Gloria Luz M. NELSON, University of the Philippines Los Baños, Philippines, glmnelson2001@yahoo.com.hk

Session in English Spanish

Mobility of people is a phenomenon in the globalization era. Labor migration can be both a solution and a problem to the great demographic divide between the receiving and donor countries. While it is true that migrant labor in the form of remittances have helped close the economic gap between developed and developing regions, there are social costs for the families of labor migrants left behind.

This session welcomes papers on a wide range of topics: from those that deal with the characteristics of labor migration flows and trends in recent years across all the regions (developed and developing) in the world, migration data on the demand and supply of emerging skills, the working-age population, gender distribution

of labor migrants, and other evidence of new and enhanced migration to those that deal with issues such as complementation and substitution between migrant and native workers as well as the social cost of labor migration.

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## DEMOGRAPHY OF SEXUALITY IN A CHANGING SOCIAL AND LEGAL LANDSCAPE

### **Session Organizer(s)**

Amanda BAUMLE, University of Houston, USA, akbaumle@uh.edu

Session in English

Much of the demographic work to date on sexual minorities has focused on outcomes related to sexual health, the labor market, and relationship and child wellbeing. Over the past five years, however, there have been rapid shifts internationally in the social and legal conditions for sexual minorities. In light of these changes, demographers are studying population sexuality in a new climate that demands reevaluation of old findings and consideration of new questions.

In particular, shifting relationship recognition opens doors for research on whether same-sex couples experience similar marital benefits as those that accrue in different-sex relationships. Within the workplace, a renewed focus on income inequality and occupational segregation is warranted to assess the persistence of differences across sexual identity and relationship status. And the addition of sexual identity questions to many health surveys has permitted assessment of health outcomes that extend beyond those related to sexual behavior or sexually transmitted infections.

This proposed regular session would consist of papers that address these and other timely issues in population sexuality from a global perspective. Papers that grapple with the way in which demographic theories and methods must be reevaluated to incorporate the experiences of sexual minorities would be particularly considered.

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## FAMILIES AND HOUSEHOLDS: IMPLICATIONS FOR MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN'S HEALTH

### **Session Organizer(s)**

Favour C. NTOIMO, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria, ntoimof@yahoo.com

Session in English

Although many studies have been conducted on the relationship between family/household and individual family members' health, much remains unexplored on how family and household structure and intra-family relations influence the health of individual members. As the structure and relations in families are changing, the relationship between families/households and individual members' health is also being influenced in different ways.

The session seeks to attract empirical research on single parenting, single-person household, female-supported households, inter-ethnic or inter-racial marriages, polygyny/monogamy, step families, lay and gay family forms, sibling-ship, gender relations in the home, and their relationship with men, women and children's health. Comparative analysis of family forms with respect to members' health is encouraged.

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## FERTILITY OF ETHNIC MINORITIES

### **Session Organizer(s)**

Farhat YUSUF, University of Sydney, Australia, farhat.yusuf@sydney.edu.au

Session in English

Human fertility is known to be related to certain social, cultural, economic, biologic and demographic factors. Some factors such as age at marriage and use of contraception affect fertility directly, while others – mostly social, cultural and economic – affect indirectly (see e.g. Davis and Blake, 1956; Bongaarts, 1978). Ethnicity is one such factor.

There is no single definition of ethnicity. In some populations the ethnic minority status is determined by one's religion and/or cultural background (e.g., the Hui in China or the Tamils in Sri Lanka), while in others first and subsequent generations of overseas-born (e.g., the Asians or Africans in many European countries) are considered as ethnic minorities. Indigenous/native populations in some countries (e.g., Australia, the US and Canada) are also considered as ethnic minorities.

This session invites papers dealing with any aspect of the fertility of ethnic minority groups in developed or developing countries. Both quantitative and qualitative papers based on census, survey or other data sources will be considered.

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## HUMAN CAPITAL AND GLOBAL POPULATION DYNAMICS

### **Session Organizer(s)**

Marc LUY, Vienna Institute of Demography, Austria, Marc.Luy@oeaw.ac.at

Session in English

The Vienna Institute of Demography (VID) combines innovative methodological work with empirical analysis in demography with a focus on comparative European population studies. The Institute is embedded in the structure of the Austrian Academy of Sciences and forms one of the three pillars of the Wittgenstein Centre for Demography and Global Human Capital (WIC). The WIC aspires to be a world leader in the advancement of demographic methods and their application to the analysis of human capital and global population dynamics. In assessing the effects of these forces on long-term human well-being, we combine scientific excellence in a multidisciplinary context with relevance to a global audience.

The research of WIC is structured into four broad research themes that together form a coherent and comprehensive research agenda. These four themes focus on human capital formation and depletion, on modelling, and on studying the interactions with the social, economic and natural environment.

The current session will present a selection of the work undertaken at VID, with special reference to the research undertaken within these research themes.

INVITED SESSION NOT OPEN FOR ABSTRACTS SUBMISSION.

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## L'INSTITUT NATIONAL D'ÉTUDES DÉMOGRAPHIQUES (PARIS): ENQUÊTES ET RECHERCHES

### **Session Organizer(s)**

Wilfried RAULT, Ined, France, wilfried.rault@ined.fr

Session in English French

Cette séance est consacrée à la présentation de travaux de l'Institut national d'études démographiques français. Elle est construite autour de grandes enquêtes réalisées ou co-réalisées ces dernières années par l'Institut. Pour chaque présentation, les dispositifs d'enquête originaux et des résultats seront présentés. Cette séance permettra ainsi, à partir de quelques objets de recherche, de mieux comprendre la place de l'institution dans le champ de la recherche française et internationale en sociologie ainsi que l'originalité de sa production d'enquête disponible pour la communauté scientifique. Les présentations seront l'occasion de rendre compte de la diversité des questionnements thématiques et des méthodologies d'enquêtes de l'Ined. Quatre interventions présenteront quatre enquêtes récemment réalisées parmi l'enquête Famille et logements ; l'enquête Violences et rapports de genre ; l'enquête Étude des parcours individuels et conjugaux ; l'Étude longitudinale par Internet pour les sciences sociales ; Fécondité-Contraception-Dysfonctions sexuelles ; Migrations Famille et Vieillesse ; l'enquête sur les conditions de vie des hommes célibataires, sexualité et rôles sexués au défi du déficit féminin en Chine ; l'étude longitudinale française depuis l'enfance, ou le Suivi longitudinal au Mali.

INVITED SESSION NOT OPEN FOR ABSTRACTS SUBMISSION.

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## MAX PLANCK STUDIES IN DEMOGRAPHY

### **Session Organizer(s)**

Vladimir SHKOLNIKOV, Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research, Germany, shkolkov@demogr.mpg.de

Session in English

The modern demographic patterns of the industrialized world are unprecedented and challenging. Mortality decline has gone far beyond expected lower limits. Fertility tends to stabilize at low levels and is characterized by late motherhood and substantial childlessness. These principal and unexpected changes and their consequences are in the very focus of scientists at the Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research.

- The session will present four studies related to features and consequences of the demographic change. It will include a study devoted to components and causes of convergence-divergence of the human lifetime, which goes parallel to continuous increase in the human lifespan.
- Another study will be looking at how expansion of education, dynamic fertility and family patterns and changes in health at older ages influence onset and duration of the working life.
- As normative pressure for childbearing and against childlessness weakens, it is important to see to what extent children contribute to individual well-being. This is addressed by a study on factors that influence the relationship between happiness of parents and their fertility.
- Increase in maternal and paternal ages at birth leads to a concern about health effects to the offspring due to the fertility postponement. Strength of respective health effects and underlying mechanisms are investigated in an analysis of links between parental age and health outcomes in children.

INVITED SESSION NOT OPEN FOR ABSTRACTS SUBMISSION.

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## POPULATION AGING: OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES AHEAD

### **Session Organizer(s)**

Rajendra PATIL, Shivaji University, India, patilsuk@gmail.com

Session in English

The shift in the distribution of a country's population towards older ages is considered as population aging which arises due to increasing longevity and declining fertility. Between 2000 and 2050, the proportion of the world's population over 60 years will double from about 11% to 22%. The absolute number of people aged 60 years and over is expected to increase from 605 million to 2 billion over the same period. The number of older people who are no longer able to look after themselves in developing countries is forecast to quadruple by 2050. Many developing countries will experience even faster population aging than the currently developed countries in the future. By 2050, nations like China and Brazil will have a greater proportion of older people than the USA.

The aging population contributes to society as a vital social resource but at the same time the issues like implications for work, families, health care, pension and social security systems emerge, which require designing institutional and service policies and programmes for them. The above issues will be discussed in the session comparing the developing and developed countries from the point of view of societal and population transition.

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## POPULATION PROBLEMS IN INDIA: CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS

### **Session Organizer(s)**

Gurusamy SELLAMUTHU, Gandhigram University, India, sellagurusamy@yahoo.co.in

Session in English

The social structure in India perpetuates inequality owing to caste, class, occupation, education and regional disparities. Population policy pursued with the aim of achieving a demographic transition has not resulted in effective population control. The health and welfare measures of governments in India have improved life expectancy and reduced postnatal and infant mortality, but they have not drastically improved the quality of life due to the prevalence of socio-economic problems of poverty, unemployment, child labour, migration, etc. The brain drain, particularly concentrated among the higher echelons and technically educated employment, has reduced the birth rate but the National Increase Rate (NIR) in India continues to remain positive as the result of higher birth rates and larger family size among the marginalized groups and communities in India. The National Health Mission (NHM) launched at the macro level has not brought about the desired results at the micro levels.

Therefore, a demographic transition which focuses on lower fertility and lower mortality is needed to ensure positive demographic developments in India. The following are the suggested areas to focus on population problems in India:

- Population policy and population control
- Family welfare and population quality
- Fertility and marginalized communities
- Tribal population and population dynamics
- Population and socio-economic problems
- National health mission and population control
- Rural-urban and regional disparities
- Population education and optimum population
- Demographic transition and population quality
- Social structure and population problems

INVITED SESSION NOT OPEN FOR ABSTRACTS SUBMISSION.

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## REGIONAL DEMOGRAPHIC DECLINE AND IMMIGRATION

### **Session Organizer(s)**

Walter BARTL, University of Halle-Wittenberg, Germany, [walter.bartl@soziologie.uni-halle.de](mailto:walter.bartl@soziologie.uni-halle.de)

Session in English

While on a national level, demographic change in most developed societies means aging and sometimes declining populations, on a regional level population development is far more heterogeneous and in many areas population decline is much more pronounced. Regional demographic decline is often said to go hand in hand with a peripheralisation of the respective regions.

This seems especially plausible when demographic decline itself is a consequence of economic downturns such as deindustrialization, or if the redistribution of public revenues is institutionally tied to population indicators. Then demographic decline can reinforce economic trends and lead to a “downward spiral”. Recently, under labels such as “de-peripheralisation” or “global countryside”, various (regional) coping strategies have been discussed with respect to regional (demographic) decline. Among the more prominent ones is immigration as a way to come to terms with a declining resident population, as has been observed recently in Spain and in other countries.

But do such examples represent universal models, which can be copied elsewhere? Is it possible to deliberately induce immigration to demographically declining regions? What are necessary conditions for immigration-based coping strategies to be viable? These and related questions are to be discussed in this session.

This session is open to different types of conceptual papers and theoretically grounded empirical studies based on qualitative and/or quantitative methods. Papers with a comparative empirical approach are especially welcome.

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## THE SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC WORLD SYSTEM

### Session Organizer(s)

Ofra ANSON, Ben Gurion University, Israel, ofra@bgu.ac.il

Session in English

The continuing demographic transition has brought fertility and mortality to unprecedented low levels, with accompanying changes in patterns of migration on the one hand, household formation, and family structures on the other. However, behind the globalization of these transitions there are important differences which reflect not only regional histories but also current location in the global world system.

This session will look at these patterns and trends, at the way social and demographic processes intertwine to create and reproduce – but also challenge – existing social and demographic inequalities.

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### EPC 2016 MAINZ, GERMANY, AUGUST 31, 2016 TO SEPTEMBER 3, 2016

The European Association for Population Studies (EAPS) invites contributions to the next European Population Conference to be held at Johannes Gutenberg University in Mainz, Germany, 31 August - 3 September 2016 (EPC2016). EPC2016 is a general scientific population conference where the topic “Demographic Change and Policy Implications” will receive special attention. Abstracts/papers can only be submitted at the conference website <http://epc2016.princeton.edu>. Submissions should be made to one of the conference themes, which will be developed into a series of sessions by the Convener of each theme.

**The deadline for submissions is 15 December 2015.** At the EPC2016 only one submission as a first author is allowed. Participants may, however, co-author other papers or posters. Submissions may take the form of an abstract although full papers are preferred. Authors will be informed about acceptance of their submission by early March 2016.

## PEOPLE

### **Emeritus Professor Farhat Yusuf received Order of Australia (AM) awards**

Yusuf received the award for significant service to tertiary education as a specialist demographer, and to professional organisations in Australia and overseas. Farhat Yusuf has been a member of academic staff at Macquarie University since 1970, and an Emeritus Professor of the Faculty of Business and Economics since 2011. He has been an Honorary Professor at the Menzies Centre for Health Policy at the University of Sydney, since 2010, and was Chair of the International Scientific Panel on Business Demography, International Union for the Scientific Study of Population, between 2006 and 2009. He served as Chair of the Research Committee on Sociology of Population at the International Sociological Association between 1999 and 2002, and was National President of the Australian Population Association between 1984 and 1986. Yusuf has been a consultant to a range of organisations including: the World Health Organisation, International Agency for Research on Cancer; the Arab League; the US National Academy of Science, and the United Nations Population Fund.

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS

**Special Collection 15, Demographic Research 32, Living Alone: One-person households in Asia. Guest editors: Wei-Jun Jean Yeung and Adam K.L Cheung. Published 03 June 2015**

This special collection, edited by Wei-Jun Jen Yeung and Adam Ka-Lok Cheung, adds new knowledge about the fastest growing type of household in Asia – one-person households (OPH). The 11 papers in the collection examine OPH in 15 countries in East Asia (China, Japan, and Korea), Southeast Asia (Vietnam, Singapore, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Cambodia, Thailand, and the Philippines) and South Asia (Bangladesh, India, Nepal, and Pakistan). The collected papers analyze the historical trends, the policy implications and impact on individual well-being of OPH. They were first presented at a conference convened by the guest editors at the Asia Research Institute of the National University of Singapore in December 2013. This collection is the first body of literature that systematically investigates one-person households outside of Western societies. The papers use data from censuses and large-scale household surveys, many with longitudinal or comparative analyses. Together, they provide an excellent basis for international comparison and future investigation. They illustrate both similarities to and differences from Western societies. The papers also reveal significant inter- and intra-national heterogeneities among those living alone in Asia. OPH will continue to increase in Asia in the next few decades due to rapid aging, declining marriage and fertility, and increasing divorce and migration. More theoretical and empirical research is needed to understand the complexity of this living arrangement and its impact.

<http://demographic-research.org/special/15/default.htm>

**Journal of Family Issues 35(12) 2014, Special Issue: Marriage in Asia. Guest editors: Wei-Jun Jean Yeung and Gavin Jones.**

This special issue gives readers a taste of the diversity of Asia, by including articles on countries from Turkey in the west to the Philippines in the east, two of Asia's three largest countries—China and Indonesia—and a country in South Asia—Sri Lanka. The articles examine the trends in marriage and explore the possible factors contributing to these trends in different national circumstances. We explore why, although similar forces continue to shape changes in Asian societies, including the institution of marriage, sharp differences in marriage patterns and systems persist throughout the region. Finally, we note limitations in extant literature and speculate about future marriage trends in Asia.

<http://jfi.sagepub.com/content/35/12.toc>

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