

International Sociological Association
Thematic Group on Human Rights and Global Justice (TG03)

Newsletter

TG03 Human Rights and Global Justice

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Editor

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Call for Papers, Articles and Other Invitations

Call for Articles: Special Number e-cadernos: “The Xenophobic Manipulation of Women’s Rights”. e-cadernos, publication of the Centre for Social Studies, University of Coimbra, Portugal

In recent years in Europe, discourses on women’s rights have frequently served as a basis for political agendas aiming to control and exclude certain communities. Is this truly a case of greater awareness about women’s rights and of an institutionalised feminism that clashes with certain cultural and religious practices that are “regressive and incompatible with gender equality”? Or is it rather the case that references to women’s rights are just a mask for attacking certain groups against whom “the centre” defines itself by way of exclusion? And is Europe the exception? Can we find comparable situations in other regions of the world, where women’s rights are instrumentalised for the purpose of rejecting “the Other”? Can we find a line of continuity between present and past practices of exclusion, such as the colonial discourse on “saving women” from barbarous practices?

Female genital cutting, the institutionalization of religious family law, reproductive rights, certain understandings of “proper” gender roles for women and men, or sexual exploitation are at the core of fierce European debates, where the rights of women are often used to target certain cultural and religious groups. The use of various forms of the Muslim veil has emblematically sparked strong reactions from various sectors of the European public sphere. As a consequence, women from certain backgrounds may feel confronted with a tragic choice between their rights as individuals and their cultural and religious allegiances.

The fact that the terms of these debates are often “overculturalized” has a negative impact on the quality of public deliberation:

1. the internal complexity and the multiplicity of functions that cultural practices fulfill for those concerned are hidden;
2. the non-cultural factors (economic, geopolitical, environmental) that affect the lives of women become invisible;
3. under the pretext of defending women rights, imperialist, xenophobic and racist agendas get promoted;
4. the ways in which women exercise agency within their cultures become invisible;
5. the levels of violence against “emancipated” women in the West is left out of the discussion.

This special number of e-cadernos aims to present a careful and rigorous analysis of some of these issues, in view of examining to what extent the tension between individual and cultural/religious rights is real and insuperable, or fabricated for the purpose of protecting certain political interests.

We invite contributions on the culturalization and instrumentalization of women's rights in the public sphere of various countries, as well as papers that tackle the much-debated tension between civil and political rights, on the one hand, and cultural and religious rights, on the other.

We are also interested in papers that examine the institutional dimension of such issues: both critiques of existing institutions and constructive reform proposals are welcome. Though our focus lies with contemporary Europe, we are open to contributions about other epochs and regions where processes of instrumentalizing women and their rights for racist and xenophobic purposes took/are taking place.

We welcome a plurality of theoretical and methodological positions and encourage submissions in sociology and political science, public policy, history, theology, political philosophy, cultural studies, as well as papers by activists and lawyers. Through an interdisciplinary dialogue between different perspectives, we hope to add new insights into the debates.

Articles should be submitted electronically to: e-cadernos@ces.uc.pt

Deadline for submitting articles: 31 August 2012.

Submission Guidelines:

<http://www.ces.uc.pt/e-cadernos/pages/en/norms-of-publication.php>

Invitation to a symposium

Dr. Ulrike M Vieten is organizing a symposium as shown below. Those who are interested, please contact the organizer:

International Iris M. Young Memorial Symposium

INCLUSION AND DEMOCRACY REVISITED

NORMALISATION AND DIFFERENCE IN 21ST CENTURY EUROPE

Thursday 5 July 2012
De Balie, Amsterdam
(Kleine-Gartmanplantsoen 10)

ORGANIZERS:
James C. Kennedy
Halleh Ghorashi
Thomas Spijkerboer
Ulrike M. Vieten
Guno Jones
(Research Group 'Inclusion/Exclusion')

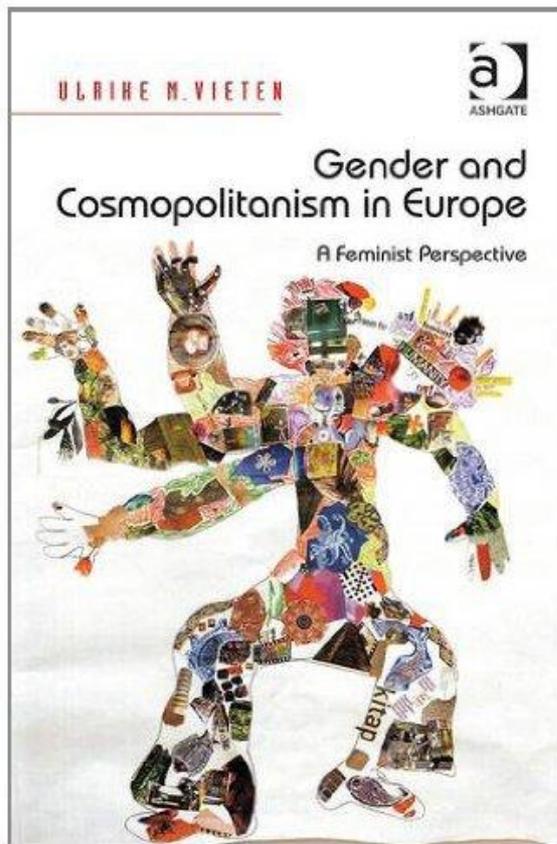
International guest speakers
Alia Al-Saji (McGill University, Canada)
Mariam Martínez-Bascuñán (University of Madrid, Spain)
José Medina (Vanderbilt University, US)

VU UNIVERSITEIT VAN AMSTERDAM
Pre-event registration open until 1 July. Inquiry and reservation: imyoungsymposium2012@gmail.com

Member's Publications and Announcements

Publications

Gender and Cosmopolitanism in Europe: A Feminist Perspective by **Ulrike M Vieten**, Ashgate, 2012.



Gender and Cosmopolitanism in Europe combines a feminist critique of contemporary and prominent approaches to cosmopolitanism with an in-depth analysis of historical cosmopolitanism and the manner in which gendered symbolic boundaries of national political communities in two European countries are drawn. Exploring the work of prominent scholars of new cosmopolitanism in Britain and Germany, including Held, Habermas, Beck and Bhabha, it delivers a timely intervention into current debates on globalisation, Europeanisation and social processes of transformation in and beyond specific national societies.

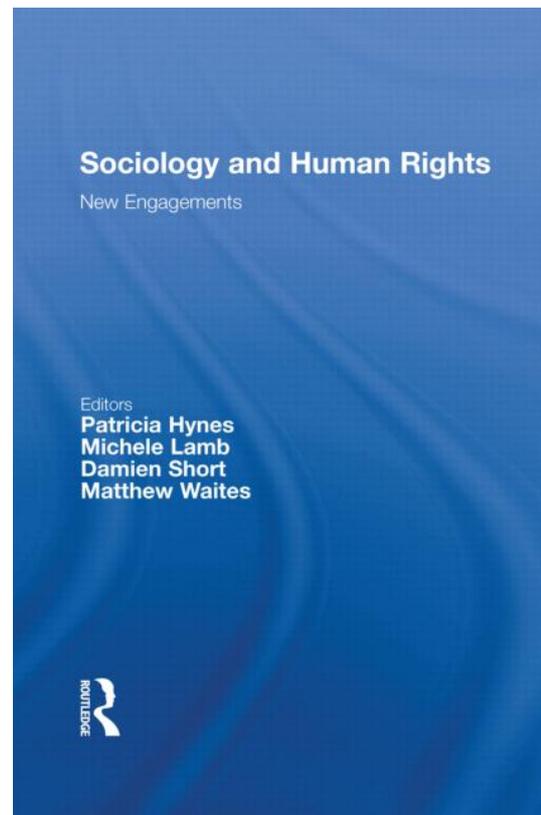
Contents: Introduction: gendered cosmopolitanism: the scope of this book; Who belongs? Who is the Other?; Recognition, social equality and the current EU anti-discrimination policy; Kulturnation and the homogenised notion of community belonging; Jürgen Habermas's and Ulrich Beck's approaches to 'European' cosmopolitanism; Global trade, the

city and commercial cosmopolitanism: David Held's and Homi K. Bhabha's approaches to new cosmopolitanism; About dead-ends, one-way streets and critical crossroads; Transversal conversations on the scope of new cosmopolitanism beyond the Eurocentric framework; Bibliography; Index.

Sociology and Human Rights: New Engagements, edited by **Patricia Hynes, Michele Lamb, Damien Short and Matthew Waites**, Routledge, 2011 (now in paperback).

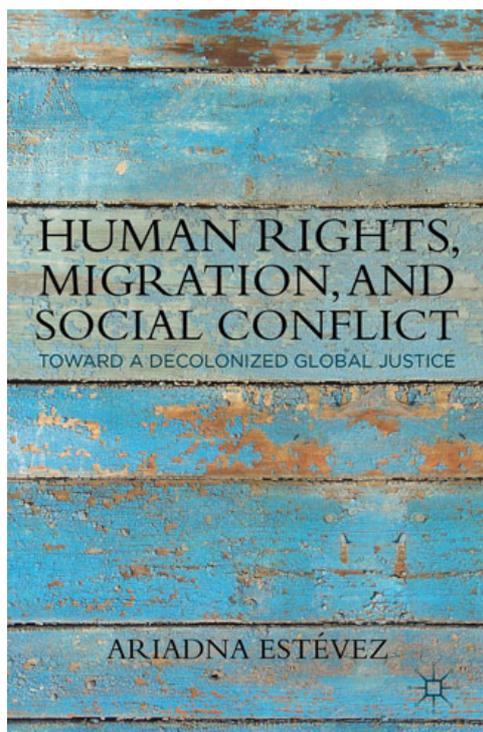
Sociology and Human Rights: New Engagements is the first collection to focus on the contribution sociological approaches can make to analysis of human rights. Taking forward the sociology of human rights which emerged from the 1990s, it presents innovative analyses of global human rights struggles by new and established authors. The collection includes a range of new work addressing issues such as genocide in relation to indigenous peoples, rights-based approaches in development work, trafficking of children, and children's rights in relation to political struggles for the decriminalisation of same-sex sexual activity in India. It examines contexts ranging from Rwanda and South Korea to Northern Ireland and the city of Barcelona.

Contents: 1. Sociology and Human Rights: Confrontations, Evasions and New Engagements 2. Cultural Genocide and Indigenous Peoples: A Sociological Approach 3. Who's Human? Developing Sociological Understandings of the Rights of Women Raped in Conflict 4. Sociology and Human Rights: What have they got to say about Care and Dignity? 5. Contestations over Rights: From establishment to implementation of the National Basic Livelihood Security System in South Korea 6. Human rights and cities: the Barcelona Office for Non-Discrimination and its work for migrants 7. From 'rights-based' to 'rights-framed' approaches: A social constructionist view of human rights practice 8. Reconstructing Rwanda: Balancing Human Rights and the Promotion of National Reconciliation 9. Global Points of 'Vulnerability': Understanding Processes of the Trafficking of Children and Young People into, within and out of the UK 10. Human Rights, Sexual Orientation and the Generation of Childhoods: Analysing the Partial Decriminalization of 'Unnatural Offences' in India 11. Loyalty and Human Rights: Liminality and Social Action in a Divided Society



Human Rights, Migration, and Social Conflict: Toward a Decolonized Global Justice
by Ariadna Estévez,
Palgrave and Macmillan, 2012.

Social conflict involving migrants, which includes terrorism, migrant trafficking and kidnappings, and riots and the occupation of public places, is a direct result of the systematic refusal of receiving countries to recognize that migrants have universal human rights. Analysis of this causal relationship indicates that certain elements of migration policy in Europe and North America—such as the securitization of border controls and development cooperation policies, the use of foreigner internment camps as part of a tougher asylum policy, the criminalization of irregular migration, and social exclusion resulting from widespread discrimination—lead to violent social



exclusion resulting from widespread discrimination—lead to violent social conflict. These violent conflicts of potentially global impact could be prevented were countries that receive migrants to adopt a system of justice—a decolonized global justice—that recognizes the human rights of migrants.

Contents: Human Rights and Conflict in Modern Migration: A Structural Relationship
Human Rights in the Securitization of Cooperation for Development and of Borders, and the Toughening of Asylum Policy
Human Rights in the Criminalization of Migration and the Marginalization Resulting From Social Discrimination
Conflict and Human Rights: the Consequences of Denying Human Rights
Against Citizenship: Intertextuality and the Human Rights to Mobility
Decolonized Global Justice and the Rights to Mobility: Taking the Human Rights of Migrants Seriously
Conclusion: Is Decolonized Global Justice Viable for Preventing Conflicts Related to the Denial of Human Rights to Immigrants?

Announcement

Manisha Desai, Associate Professor of Sociology and Women's Studies in the University of Connecticut, has been elected to the American Sociological Association Human Rights Council and Collective Behavior and Social Movements Council.

Dr Michele Lamb at the University of Roehampton has recently received a grant of just under one million euros under the EU Tempus Scheme to work with a consortium of fifteen Universities in the EU Western Balkans to develop human rights curriculum at under-graduate and post-graduate levels.

Sociology of Rights Study Group at the British Sociological Association (BSA) now has more than 150 members worldwide. The Call for Paper for the next BSA Annual Conference will be issued soon. The Law, Crime and Rights stream has now been renamed as the Rights, Violence and Crime Stream, and calls for contributions from people working in the fields of Sociology of Rights, Violence Against Women, Violence and the State, and Crime.

A Special Issue of the journal 'Sociology' will be published in October 2012 on the Sociology of Human Rights. The edition contains twelve papers addressing both theory and empirical work on a variety of international human rights from a sociological perspective. The issue received 83 submissions, more than any other special issue in the history of 'Sociology'.

Jobs

Human Rights Project Officer, Institute of Commonwealth Studies, UK

Reference Number	048/12
Department	School of Advanced Study
Salary	£31,383 - £38,073
Contract Type	Fixed-Term Contract
Full/Part Time	Full Time
Closing Date	3 July 2012

The Role

The Human Rights Consortium of the School of Advanced Study, University of London, is looking for a suitably experienced individual to facilitate and support a prestigious programme of projects at the Human Rights Consortium.

Requirements

To succeed in this role, you will have relevant knowledge and understanding of human rights research, fundraising and/or practice. Experience of successfully applying for external funding will be vital, and the successful candidate will need to co-ordinate academic or human rights practitioner events and edit academic works or policy documents; experience of this would be a significant advantage.

Excellent literacy and verbal communication skills are essential as you will be expected to communicate credibly with internationally-renowned practitioners and academic figures in the human rights field. You will demonstrate a positive and collaborative approach and will have experience of working across organisational boundaries. Ability to manage own workload and prioritise conflicting demands to meet deadlines is paramount.

About The Department

The main aim of the Human Rights Consortium will be to facilitate, promote and disseminate academic and policy work on Human Rights. It will hold conferences and seminars, host visiting fellows and coordinate the publication of high quality work in the field. The Consortium will establish a network of Human Rights researchers, policy-makers and practitioners across the UK and internationally, with a view to collaborating on a range of activities.

Further Information

The closing date for receipt of completed applications is Tuesday, 3 July 2012.

Interviews are scheduled to take place on Thursday, 12 July 2012.

The University offers membership to the Universities' Superannuation Scheme (USS). Pursuing equal opportunities and excellence in education.

For additional information about the role(s), please visit <http://www.london.ac.uk/2562.html>

TG03 Details

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Visit the TG03 web site:
<http://www.isa-sociology.org/tg03.htm>

MEMBERSHIP dues are USD 20 (USD 10 Discount) for a four-year period: to join, visit the ISA web site:
<https://secured.com/~f3641/formisa.htm>

Submit Your Announcements

Please send me news about your publications, job opportunities, forthcoming conferences, and other events you would like to share, Eunna Lee-Gong: eunna.leegong@gmail.com