

XX ISA World Congress of Sociology



Resurgent Authoritarianism:
*Sociology of New Entanglements of
Religions, Politics, and Economies*

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www.isa-sociology.org



Spotlight Sessions

Spotlight Sessions are organised by the Program Committee.

Spotlight Session: Racism and Islamophobia

Racism is the process of producing prejudices, discrimination and inequality on the basis of race, ethnicity and cultural differences. While in the post-Civil Rights era overt racism was widely condemned, how do we conceptualize and measure its more subtle and diffuse present manifestations? This panel will more particularly focus on the rise of Islamophobia. In both European media and academic work, particularly in France, there is sometimes denial of the rampant racism against Muslims, most of whom are integrated into society but refuse to be assimilated into cultural majoritarianism. In the last decade many social scientists in France have been using the word Islamophobia with quotation marks (i.e., “Islamophobia”) – as if they do not believe that it constitutes a dangerous social phenomenon that even deserves a label.

Spotlight Session: War in Ukraine: a Sociological Perspective

The Russian invasion of Ukraine has shocked the world. This is not an isolated war, but it is an exceptional one due to its capacity to escalate into a third World War, possibly a nuclear one. Going beyond its geopolitical impact, panelists will explore the transformations of Russian and Ukrainian societies that have enabled the development of social conditions that led to the war. They will also contemplate the possible implications of this war on the future transformation of both societies. The war also has wider European ramifications and poses questions as diverse as the development of the idea of Europe, the implications of the refugee crisis, the global social impacts of food and energy scarcity, academic freedom to critically assess the war, etc.

Spotlight Session: Whither the Arab-Israel Conflict?

Some read the Arab-Israeli conflict as a continuous settler-colonial project since 1948 that has ended up establishing an apartheid system against the Palestinians, while others

read it as conflicting nationalism between Arabs and Israeli Jews. No matter how this conflict is read, a creeping space-cede process in the Occupied Palestinian territories is obvious at all levels and the Peace Process (known as the Oslo process) did not stop it. Many among Israeli and Palestinian scholars argue that the two-state solution has collapsed with the failure of the Oslo process and that one should aim for one secular state for all its citizens. Panelists are invited to reflect on this topic.