

XX ISA World Congress of Sociology



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

Melbourne, Australia | June 25-July 1, 2023
Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre
www.isa-sociology.org



Sessions of National, Regional, Linguistic and Thematic Sociological Associations, collective members of the ISA, will be held at 15:30-17:30 for 5 days, Monday through Friday, June 26-30, 2023.

The Toolkit of Emerging Autocrats. Organized by American Sociological Association

Coordinators: Cecilia Menjívar and Deisy Del Real

How are the emerging autocrats grabbing and maintaining power across the world? Many aspiring autocrats share strategies and tools to undermine democratic processes. These strategies include changing political institutions, rewriting constitutions, silencing opposition, spreading misinformation, and crafting divisions by instigating racism, nativism, and nationalism. Through a global and comparative lens, the session panelists will examine the tools, conditions, and mechanisms that allow strongmen to successfully undermine democratic traditions and constrain civil rights.

Looking Back to Move Forward: European Sociological Legacy Revisited. Organized by European Sociological Association

Coordinators: Maria Carmela Agodi and Teresa Sordé

European sociology has played an undoubtable role in establishing and institutionalizing the discipline in the continent and beyond. In recent decades, relevant analyses have been formulated to critically look back at this legacy and integrate remarkable works that were produced all around the world. While these analyses are crucial and important to dismantle the still prevalent Eurocentrism, it is important to reflect on the many recent contributions that have been crucial to the advancement of the major global societal challenges (i.e., Sustainable Development Goals). In the present panel, critically considering this legacy but looking to the future, speakers will reflect on some of the advancements made within the sociology developed in Europe at the entrance of the XXI century. For instance, sociological theory has been significant with multiple facets, like around the debate about the European Modern project and its reformulation to

overcome the philosophy of the subject and the disenchantment. Proposals of how to reformulate it or reorient have occupied the attention of many sociologists and social scientists. Thus, also connected to sociological theory, outstanding analysis on the role of the rise of populisms in contemporary democracies and their fragility have been complimented with views on the use of mass media and reflections about the European identity, what it encompasses, as well as the sense of belonging in societies that are every time more intercultural and diverse. Europe has become an important venue where thousands of people seek more labour and educational opportunities, thus, some a more secure refuge than their homes. This reality has pushed sociology to develop important analyses in the field of migration and refugee studies. Similarly, very much connected to the deployment of the European Union, the development of the European welfare model has been accompanied by multiple sociological insights looking at its emergence but also the downsides, risks, and crisis. More recently, amidst the crisis of scientific expertise in the public domain, has made contributions of European sociology to Science & Technology Studies even mor relevant, for instance, the lead on social impact assessment of all disciplines and the conceptualization of co-creation processes in research.

Speakers will only cover a limited range of the wide variety of possible themes. Dialogues across oceans and seas has enriched this wealth. Of course, in the globalized world, and as Robert K Merton showed, no sociology is made in an isolated way but in dialogue not only with other sociological traditions but also with disciplines and social movements developed worldwide. These valuable connections will be also discussed.

Recovery, Resilience, and Regeneration beyond Disasters. Organized by the Japan Sociological Society.

Coordinator: Koichi Hasegawa

The tsunami incident and the ensuing Fukushima nuclear accident on March 11th, 2011 (i.e., 3.11) are the largest and the most severe disasters to occur in Japan in the postwar period. These two events created over 20,000 deaths and around 200,000 victims of forced migration (at the peak time) who lost their houses and were forced to move to temporary accommodation. Right after the devastating disasters, many sociologists have been involved in exploring the disasters in detail. These disasters have provided many rich lessons for sociologists as well as the victims themselves, volunteers, and government officials to think about recovery, resilience, and regeneration processes. With these social and historical backgrounds as an earthquake-prone country, Japanese sociology has developed unique and fruitful achievements in studying the social processes of recovery, resilience, and regeneration, mainly at the community level. Based on these studies, the Committee on Sociology of the Science Council of Japan has submitted three policy proposals and a research report to the Japanese Government. Lessons from the disasters will be greatly helpful to design and plan the new way of thinking about disaster-prone or severely devastated areas in developing countries currently facing the risks of tsunamis and earthquakes, and the threat of floods triggered by climate change. Tentative topics in this session which the Japan Sociological Society has proposed are: (1) general outlines of the disasters and changing risk awareness before and after 3.11 based on national questionnaire surveys; (2) recovery processes in a fishing village attacked by the tsunami; (3) regeneration processes in towns affected by the Fukushima nuclear accident; and finally (4) activities and roles of female leaders for resilience and regeneration process at affected communities.

**Health and Well-being of Individuals in East Asia: Changes from 2010 through 2021.
Organized by Japan, Korean and Taiwanese National Associations.**

Coordinators Noriko Iwai

The COVID-19 pandemic unexpectedly disrupted the everyday lives of individuals around the world, causing numerous restrictions to social and economic activities. Individual as well as social factors influence health, and the impact of the pandemic varies depending on the social locations of individuals. Using data from the East Asian Social Survey (EASS) health modules in 2010 and 2021, this integrative session explores health status, health behavior, and health beliefs in four East Asian societies, China, Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan. EASS is a biennial social survey project that purports to produce and disseminate academic survey data in East Asia (<https://www.eassda.org/>). The 2010 health module is the most widely used EASS data, with approximately 4000 usages. The 2010 and 2021 modules share the same core questions on health including SF-12. The session begins with the coordinator's overview of the 2021 EASS health module results, including perceptions on COVID-19. Then, the presentation from four societies will follow.

The Restoration of Justice and Human Rights. Organized by Korean Sociological Association.

Coordinator: Dong-Hoon Seol

The history of the Korean peninsula in the 20th century led to the Japanese colonial rule in 1910-1945, and the establishment of the division of the two Koreas since 1948. In South Korea, authoritarian governments that pursued restoration and economic development after the Korean War continued to rule, but finally a democratic regime was established in 1987. Since then, democracy in Korea has achieved considerable success until today. After 2002, major political parties began to elect candidates for public office through a public participation contest similar to the open primary of the United States and improved the political fund law to greatly improve the constitution of political party politics, which is the driving force of democracy. Korea held free and fair elections, and achieved a peaceful regime change several times. Korea successfully solidified democracy along with economic development. However, Korea has new social problems. After democratization, the winner-take-all seat allocation method by single-member constituency system and simple majority system converts the majority of votes cast by voters into resignation and seriously distorts representation. Candidates from each party face extreme confrontations to win even one more vote. Korean society is torn apart ahead of the election, and women and youths remain political minorities after the election. The crisis of political representation is revealed. Even core groups of the society are experiencing the crisis of representation, and the situation of the social minority groups is even worse. Of course, their human rights level has improved compared to the previous authoritarian governments, but the poor citizens, irregular workers, disabled people, sexual minorities, migrant workers, and marriage immigrants reveal the problems of inequality, injustice and unfairness that are prevalent in Korean society. The Anti-Discrimination Act was firstly proposed in the National Assembly in 2007 but has not yet been enacted.

Koreans have built strong democracy and civil society by defending justice and human rights against authoritarianism, but they still have lots of challenges. The tentative topics of the session proposed by the Korean Sociological Association include (1) inequality and justice in Korean society, (2) fragmentation of society, and (3) the role of civil society and the government for social integration.

Intersectional Approaches to Wars, Gender, and Migration in Europe, Middle East, and Beyond. Organized by Turkish Sociological Association.

Coordinators: Dilek Cindoglu and Nilay Cabuk Kaya

In the last two decades, Europe and the Middle East have been experiencing war and significant migratory flows predominantly toward the Middle Eastern and European societies. This panel invites papers dealing with the social, cultural, and political impacts of recent migratory flows to European and Middle Eastern communities from an intersectional perspective, considering all kinds of inequalities, including class, race, ethnicity, and gender. These empirical papers from qualitative and quantitative methodologies are expected to focus on various aspects of migration, including but not limited to the encounters in the labor markets and social, cultural, and political processes. This panel will allow scholars to share their research findings on the topic to enhance their understanding of migration and gender relations from an intersectional perspective.

Pacific Indigenous Sociology

Coordinator: Debra Cabrera

Emphasizing and incorporating local, indigenous approaches can strengthen sociological methodologies and understanding of sociological processes and outcomes. The session will explore sociological issues and methodologies important to indigenous peoples across several Pacific Islands in Micronesia, namely Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Marshall Islands, and Palau, and the Federated States of Micronesia. The session will explore topics such as deviance, indigenous experience in post-secondary education, community development, and family and marriage.