

# 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](http://www.isa-sociology.org)



## Australian Thematic Sessions

*Australian Thematic Sessions, organised by the Australian Local Organizing Committee, will be held at 14:00-15:20, on Monday to Thursday, June 26-29, 2023*

### **The Sociology of Refugees, Asylum and Border Control in Australia**

A politics of 'keeping out the boats' has driven Australia's response to people seeking asylum. Australia's draconian approaches to policing the border and to mandatory detention of asylum seekers has provided a template for a rising populist and authoritarian response to refugees across many countries. This session will interrogate Australia's approach, highlighting the role of sociology in understanding the politics of border control and to understanding social movements responding to it.

### **The Social and Political Implications of Climate Change**

Managing the climate emergency is one of the greatest global challenges. Australia is a land of fire, drought, and flood. The impact of these events is being intensified by population growth, poor land management and governance and, particularly, by climate change. To understand and act on the climate emergency demands social science. Sociology is critical to our climate future. This session will showcase the contributions of Australian sociologists to understanding climate change and related disaster events and their implications for social life, including the rise of authoritarian and populist politics and inequality.

### **Indigenous Sociology in Australia and the world**

The continuing impacts of colonialism and authoritarian politics have profound effects on Indigenous people. The social issues impacting on Indigenous people are important topics for sociological research, demanding an Indigenous lens to understand, but Indigenous sociological perspectives are of much broader significance for understand a world in crisis and in which authoritarianism, populism, xenophobia are on the rise. This session will showcase the work done by Indigenous sociologists and using Indigenous perspectives to understand these issues.

### **The Reshaping of Inequality in Australia**

Australia is a wealthy country with an ethos of egalitarianism. It has been transformed by immigration, an asset price boom, global integration, expanded higher education access and by social and identity movements. Yet social inequalities are deeply embedded in Australia and in some cases intensifying. This session will look at the sociology of inequalities in the context of Australia focusing on the intersections of gender and sexualities with other forms of inequality, including how such inequalities are being reproduced and reconfigured in contemporary conditions.