

September 2022 Meeting of the Research Council Towards the XX World Congress of Sociology

Dear colleagues,

Our next Research Council meeting will take place on Saturday September 24th, a week ahead of the deadline to collect abstract proposals for the 2023 XX World Congress of Sociology. We will have the opportunity to share some good practices to diffuse our calls and prepare for the selection/session organization process that opens on October 1st for the Program Coordinators.

It will also be the opportunity for the council to welcome and get to know Cecilia Delgado, who temporarily works as ISA temporary social media manager and is our future executive secretary.

You will find below the schedule and agenda of this meeting, as well as the link to attend it.

On page 4 and 5, I reproduce an important letter sent by Sari Hanafi, our ISA president on June 28th. It was sent to the RC/WG/TG Program coordinators who were in charge of diffusing it to the session organizers. In this letter, Sari explains why this Congress will mostly be an on-site meeting, with a limited number of online contributions. All these decisions have been taken by the congress Program Committee and the ISA Executive Committee, in coordination with the Local Organizing Committee chaired by Dan Woodman.

And if you need some additional arguments to convince your RC/G/TG members to join us in Melbourne, have a look at the short video by Dan that is available on Twitter and YouTube

<https://youtu.be/OAYFVroKiso>

Looking forward to seeing you (virtually) on Saturday!

Geoffrey
ISA-Vice President for Research

September 2022 Meeting of the Research Council

Saturday the 24th of September, from 11am to 1pm UTC/GMT.

- RC/WG/TG presidents, VP or program coordinators are welcome to attend the meeting and take an active part in it.
- If you receive this e-mail through the mailing-list "ISA-Research Council", **there is no need to register to attend this Research Council meeting.**

Link to the Zoom meeting

<https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Finraefr.zoom.us%2Fj%2F9195502791&data=05%7C01%7CGeoffrey.Pleyers%40uclouvain.be%7C360890ba40bd4283ddb808da9666c835%7C7ab090d4fa2e4ecfbc7c4127b4d582ec%7C0%7C0%7C637987665434368258%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6IklhaWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Tvunu%2F%2F1BG38%2F1OqpbQSgbmgrPu0mhQ2D%2FYZfJNGpxE%3D&reserved=0>

Meeting agenda

Time are provided in UTC/GMT

11h-11h30: World Congress: Calls for abstract and session organizing

With the call for abstracts closing on September 30th, we are all mobilize to diffusing our RC/WG/TG sessions calls. We will have the opportunity to share some good practices to diffuse the calls and prepare for the selection/session organization process that opens on October 1st for the Program Coordinators.

Sari Hanafi, our ISA president, will be the president of this XX World Congress of Sociology. He will attend the Research Council meeting to reply to your questions.

11h30-11h50: Practical issues concerning the 2023 World Congress

- Possibility for RC/WG/TG to organize "pre-conferences",
- Housing
- ISA free registration grants
- A greener congress

11h50-12h20: Meet our new Social Media Manager and future Executive Secretary, Cecilia Delgado

This Research Council meeting will be the opportunity to introduce you to **Cecilia Delgado**, who has recently started to work as ISA Social Media Manage. She will become the new ISA Executive Secretary, after the 2023 World Congress.

During this Research Council meeting, Cecilia will expose the guidelines of the social media communication strategy she intends to develop with and for the RC/WG/TG. In September 2022, her work focuses on promoting the calls for abstracts for the 2023 congress.

12h20-12h30: ISA & its RC/WG/TG at the UN, Jan Fritz, member of the ISA Executive Committee

12h30-12h40: Task Force on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI), Debra Davidson (RC24)

12h40-12h50: Perspectives on the 2025 ISA Forum of Sociology

12h50-13h: Short balance of the 2022 ISA Executive Committee meeting and of the 2022 ISA PhD Lab.

Letter by Sari Hanafi, ISA President, 28 June 2022.

Dear Colleagues,

ISA Executive Committee decided to delay the XX World Congress of Sociology for a year to be able to hold it in person and on site in Melbourne, June 25-July 1, 2023. Five years after our last in-person meeting in Toronto (2018), we will be eager to meet each other again and enjoy the meaningful exchanges that take place in a world congress and that we missed so much in the online meetings of the past two years.

Considering our colleagues' possible reluctance to travel for various reasons, we decided that the XX ISA World Congress of Sociology will be in a limited hybrid format. It should be emphasized, however, that the 2023 Congress will be primarily an on-site event and our commitment is to provide the best conditions for a successful meeting in Melbourne. The conditions presented in 2020 by the Australian Local Organizing Committee when the Executive Committee took the decision to hold an on-site Congress in 2023 haven't changed. The ISA must ensure at least 3,000 on-site participants to receive the substantial venue cost subsidy, and must provide the required software and hardware for a hybrid format conference, which are very expensive.

In this perspective, we want to encourage as many participants as possible to join us in person in Melbourne. Therefore, we propose the below rules:

Oral sessions (regular and joint sessions of RC/WG/TG, Integrative Sessions)

- Oral sessions may include virtual presentations but must include 80% in-person presentations to qualify for a hybrid format. Otherwise, they will be virtual sessions. The session format will be decided after the early registration deadline (March 22, 2023).
- Chair/co-chairs of the sessions as well as Program Coordinator must be present in-person on-site.
- To foster a lively exchange we also encourage Program Coordinators to invite discussants who will be present on-site in Melbourne.

The below listed sessions will have in-person format only, but will be available by webinar:

- Roundtable Sessions (concurrent running roundtable presentations in one room)
- Poster Sessions
- Ad Hoc sessions
- Sessions of National and Regional Associations
- Professional Development Sessions

For the Author Meets Critics sessions, authors should be in-person.

In response to various points raised by members, let me also clarify that:

- Registration fees are the same for in-person and online presentations and cover participation in all types of sessions.
- Abstracts' submitters must specify a preferred format of presentation in an oral session: on-site or virtual. It is therefore important to specify to all potential presenters that 80% of them are expected to come to Melbourne.
- It will be possible to change from in-person to online presentation (and vice versa) two weeks before the start of Congress. Last-minute changes in the form of presentations are inevitable and will not affect the previously assigned session format.
- The online program platform permits uploading papers as well as pre-recorded presentations.

Finally, I would like to remind you that to boost the number of participants, ISA Executive Committee has approved an increase of registration grants for RC/WG/TG. For more details, see Guidelines for Program Coordinators and Session Organizers <https://www.isasociology.org/en/conferences/world-congress/melbourne-2023/guidelines-for-programcoordinators-and-session-organizers-2023>.

Thank you for your cooperation in evaluating sessions' proposals. In a few days we are starting the abstracts submission period, July 1 - September 30, 2022.

Best regards,

Sari Hanafi
ISA President