



**5th ISA** Council of  
National Associations  
Conference

Social Transformations  
and Sociology:  
**Dispossessions  
and Empowerment**

**November 21-24, 2022**  
Nova Gorica, Slovenia



## Sari Hanafi

ISA President



### **Dear Delegates of the National Associations,**

On behalf of the International Sociological Association (ISA), I would like to welcome you to the 5th ISA Conference of the Council of National Associations organized in Nova Gorica, Slovenia. This is a historical moment as it is an in-person conference that comes after almost three years of online meetings due to the COVID-19 pandemic. More than 50 presenters will debate the timely topic of Social Transformations and Sociology: Disposessions and Empowerment. This theme carries with it a diagnosis of how our late modernity and particularly its post-COVID-19 moment induces different forms of neoliberal and colonial disposessions, anthropocene, capitalocene and ecological crisis but also has brought new opportunities and resources for social movements and marginalized people.

Beyond its theme, this conference is a crucial convivial moment where all delegates meet to discuss challenges that they are facing while organizing their scientific community and connecting sociological research to the wider society. I would like to underline that the national associations alongside the research committees are the two pillars of our association. The ISA is keen on helping all these national associations to be more effective in their mission but also more democratic in their mode of governance.

This conference would not be possible without the amazing energy deployed by Filomin Gutierrez, ISA Vice-President for National Associations and Borut Rončević, Chair of the Local Organizing Committee. My warm thanks to both of them. Finally, I would like to give a warm welcome to all the participants who took the trouble to travel here to make this in-person meeting work, and I hope you can enjoy many National Associations sessions at the XXth ISA World Congress of Sociology next June in Melbourne, Australia.



# Filomin C. Gutierrez

ISA Vice-President for  
National Associations



## Dear delegates to the CNA Conference,

It is with much anticipation and pleasure that I welcome all participants to the 5th ISA Conference of the Council of National Associations.

For many of us, this is the first time after years of pandemic isolation that we can join an international conference once again in the physical company of colleagues from across the globe. The COVID-19 global health crisis has restricted as well as expanded the ways in which we interact and communicate with each other in our academic discussions and business meetings. Thus, I also wholeheartedly welcome not only colleagues who are participating in person but also those who will be joining online to represent their respective national sociological associations and institutions as ISA collective members.

Our conference theme, "Social Transformations and Sociology: Disposessions and Empowerment," challenges us to take stock of the current turning points that confront the global community: the growing polarization of political, economic, and cultural worlds, new iterations of power and structure across levels, and the resulting disposessions that impact everyday life.

I wish that this four-day series of academic sessions, business meetings, and networking activities be an opportunity for all participants to actively engage with each other, learn more about the sociologies that our associations engage in, set up new networks, and strengthen old ones.

My deep appreciation goes to our local organizers and sponsors, the Slovenian Social Science Association, the School of Advanced Social Studies, and the Slovenian National Committee of the UNESCO Management of Social Transformations (MOST) programme for their generosity and hospitality in hosting this conference in Nova Gorica, Slovenia.

I wish us all a successful and productive conference.

# Borut Rončević

Dean of the School of  
Advanced Social Studies



## Dear colleagues and dear friends,

All previous ISA Conferences of the Council of National Associations were hosted in metropolitan areas with populations of well over one million people, in Miami (2005), Taipei (2009 and 2017) and Ankara (2013). In stark contrast, this 5th Conference is held in the small town of Nova Gorica, with a population of 13,000. The town is not without its charm and interesting peculiarities though. Nova Gorica (meaning the New Gorica) was established in 1947, when after the Second World War the Paris Peace Treaty redefined the border between Italy and Yugoslavia, cutting off Gorica (Gorizia, Italy) from its Slovenian hinterland. In the following decades, this border defined its social and architectural development. After entering the European Union, especially its Schengen area, Nova Gorica and Gorica merged in a common cross-border urban zone.

Therefore, it is not surprising that this start-up town warmly welcomed an academic start-up, the School of Advanced Social Studies, with the support of local businesses and the local government. Thanks to this support, we were able to build up – in a small country of big monopolies, including intellectual ones – from a tiny institution with 107 students in 2007 to the second largest institution in the social sciences in the country. We now have over 822 students, 23% of whom are international. We have over 20 active internationally funded research projects. We have invested in physical and soft infrastructure. We have been hosting the national UNESCO MOST (Management of Social Transformations) secretariat. And now, we are proud to host the 5th ISA Council of National Associations Conference.

Welcome to Nova Gorica, and welcome to Slovenia!

# Matej Makarovič

Slovenian National Committee  
of the UNESCO Management of  
Social Transformations (MOST)



## Dear colleagues and dear friends,

It is a great pleasure for the Slovenian National Committee of the Management of Social Transformations (MOST) programme of UNESCO to sponsor the 5th Council of National Associations Conference. ISA and UNESCO proudly share significant parts of their histories. It is worth mentioning that the initiative to establish the ISA can be traced to the Social Science Department of UNESCO in 1948 and the connections between the two organisations have remained significant even after the ISA took its own path.

As a programme within UNESCO, MOST is responsible for promoting social sciences and advocating the application of scientific understanding of social change to national and international policies – aiming towards a more inclusive and sustainable future. It is a convenient coincidence that the word “most” in Slovenian language means “bridge” – as this programme is actually intended to connect the academia with the decision makers and the civil society.

The Slovenian branch of MOST is about to celebrate its first decade this year. Among our activities, we are particularly proud of the series of ten Slovenian Social Science Conferences – Slovenian by location, but highly international by participation. ISA and UNESCO are connected today not only by shared elements in their histories but even more so by shared priorities. This includes our strong commitment to understanding the threats and opportunities of social transformations – their dispossessing and empowering potentials – through theoretically sound and methodologically rigorous research.

I wish you an exciting scientific experience in Nova Gorica and hope for further synergies between us.

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# About the Venue of 5th ISA CNA





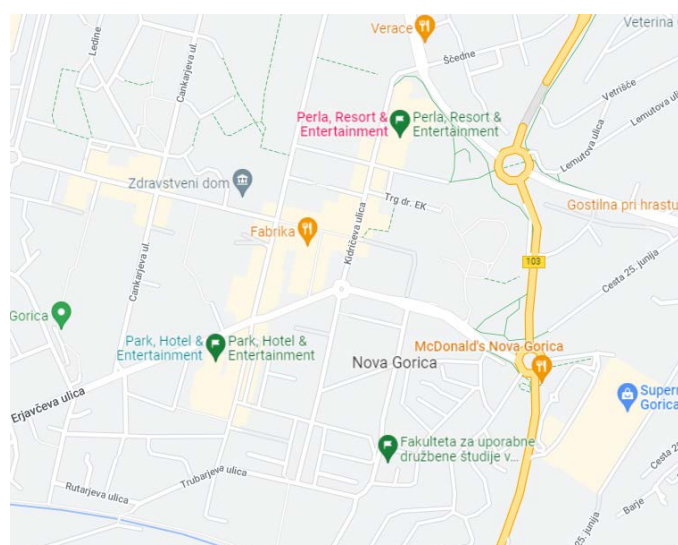
# About the venue of 5th ISA CNA

## Nova Gorica

Nova Gorica is the “youngest Slovenian” town. It is a small town at the border with Italy that has been the heart of the Goriška region for seven decades. Nova Gorica is a planned town, built according to the principles of modernist architecture after 1947, when the Paris Peace Treaty established a new border between Yugoslavia and Italy, leaving nearby Gorizia outside the borders of Yugoslavia and thus cutting off the Soča Valley, the Vipava Valley, the Gorizia Hills and the north western Karst Plateau from their traditional regional urban centre. Since 1948, Nova Gorica has replaced Gorizia as the principal urban centre of the Gorizia region (Goriška).

It is a town with a mild climate, green and blooming all year round, young, lively and friendly to the local people and visitors from all over the world. As a unique example in Europe, the two towns are located at the border with no border crossings and living in greater co-existence on all levels. In 2025 Nova Gorica and Gorizia will be hosting the European Capital of Culture. (Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nova\\_Gorica](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nova_Gorica))

Venues of meetings: FUDŠ, Gregorčičeva 19, 5000 Nova Gorica  
Lunch venue: Hotel Park, Delpinova ulica 5, 5000 Nova Gorica  
Dinner Venue: Hotel Perla, Kidričeva ulica 7, 5000 Nova Gorica







# About the Organisers



# About the organisers

## **International Sociological Association**

The International Sociological Association is a non-profit organization dedicated to scientific purposes in the field of sociology and social sciences. It is an international sociological body, gathering both individuals and national sociological organizations.

## **Fakulteta za uporabne družbene študije v Novi Gorici / School of Advanced Social Studies in Nova Gorica**

The School of Advanced Social Studies is an independent research-oriented higher education institution in the field of social sciences, located in Nova Gorica (Slovenia), on the western border of Slovenia with Italy, and close to both Austria and Croatia.

SASS's strategic vision and thematic focus on high-level applied research in specific areas of EU studies is shaped, first, by the intercultural space in which it is located, secondly, by the transnational character of the region, which has traditionally nurtured strong cross-border linkages and, finally, by the region's successful, smart and inclusive transformation from traditional industrial and rural region to one with high value-added industry and tourism, in which knowledge played the key role.

The activities of SASS are guided by strategic orientations towards interdisciplinary, internationalisation, excellence and applicability in teaching and research. During the short period after its foundation in 2006, SASS has managed to attract and consolidate a highly qualified and ambitious team of mostly younger researchers and university teachers. In terms of measurable scientific achievements, this is currently one of the leading social science institutions in Slovenia. SASS has full accreditation for BA and MA courses as well as for doctoral studies in Sociology.

SASS is providing degree-awarding courses at undergraduate, masters and Ph.D level in social sciences, media studies and in psychosocial studies.

SASS is not only an internationally connected leading national centre for excellent social science education and research, but it is also strongly embedded in local, regional and national environment by conducting high-level basic research and relevant applied research for businesses and public administrations at local and national levels.

# About the organisers

## Slovenian Social Science Conference

The Slovenian Social Science Conference is an annual event with international participation, co-organized by SASS and the Slovenian National Committee of the UNESCO Management of Social Transformations Programme. It has taken place since 2009. Every year the event attracts distinguished international and domestic guests, internationally renowned social scientists and many young researchers at the beginning of their careers. The share of foreign guests is increasing from year to year. Quality papers after the conference are published in scientific monographs as independent chapters or in thematic issues of international scientific journals. By the year 2022 we organized 15 editions of the conference.

## Local organizing committee

**prof. Borut Rončević**, Dean at SASS, Member of ISA Executive Committee

**mag. Jasmina Jakomin**, Head of Project office at SASS

**prof. Matej Makarovič**, full professor at SASS and organizer of Slovenian Social Science Conference

**dr. Tea Golob**, co organizer of the Slovenian Social Science Conference

**dr. Tamara Besednjak Valič**, Vice-dean to scientific and research affairs at SASS

**Aneja Marinič**, Project Office Associate at SASS

**Andreja Rijavec**, PR Associate at SASS





# Program of the Conference



Venue: Fakulteta za uporabne družbene študije, [Gregorčičeva ulica 19, 5000 Nova Gorica](#).

## NOVEMBER 21, 2022 MONDAY (Day 1)

9:00

### PLENARY 1 Opening of the Conference

#### Keynote Address

ROOM:  
**VELIKA PREDVALNICA**  
([Link for online participants](#))

Opening of the conference and welcome remarks

**Sari HANAFI**

ISA President

**Borut RONČEVIČ**

Chair, Local Organizing Committee

School of Advanced Social Studies

**Matej MAKAROVIC**

School of Advanced Social Studies

Chair, UNESCO Management of Social Transformations Programme

**Filomin C. GUTIERREZ**

ISA Vice-President for National Associations

Keynote address

*Toward a Dialogical Sociology*

**Sari HANAFI**, American University of Beirut

ISA President

Session Moderator:

**Tea GOLOB**, School of Advanced Social Studies

10:15

### COFFEE BREAK

10:30

### PLENARY 2 The Transformations of Sociology

ROOM:  
**VELIKA PREDVALNICA**  
([Link for online participants](#))

*Sociology and its Role in Eastern European Transformation: The Past 30 Years*

**Borut RONČEVIČ**, School of Advanced Social Studies

(Slovenian Social Science Association)

(ISA Executive Committee, National Associations Liaison Committee)

*Servants and Makers of a Global Sociology? National Associations in  
ISA over the last 25 Years*

**Tom DWYER**, State University of Campinas

(Brazilian Sociological Society)

Session Moderator:

**Filomin C. GUTIERREZ**, University of the Philippines Diliman

(ISA Vice-President for National Associations)

12:15

**LUNCH BREAK at Hotel Park, Delpinova ulica 5, 5000 Nova Gorica**

**13:30**

**PARALLEL 1A**  
**Society in Dispute, Crisis or Collapse**

**ROOM:**  
**VELIKA PREDAVALNICA**  
([Link for online participants](#))

*From Crises to Social Transformations: The Role of Social Movements as Producers of Meaning*

**Geoffrey PLEYERS**, Catholic University of Louvain  
(ISA Vice-President for Research)

*State-Society Relations in Times of Crisis in Algeria, from the Popular Movement to the Corona Pandemic*

**Mabrouk BOUTAGOUGA**, University of Batna 1  
(Failoun Center for Research in Anthropology and Human and Social Sciences, Algeria)

*The Human Rights-Based Approach (HRBA) in Perspective: Examining the Human Right to Water and Sanitation for the Vulnerable Groups in Uganda*

**Gerald Zihembire AHABWE**, Makerere University  
(Uganda Sociological and Anthropological Association)

*A Multi-Layered Story of the Bureau of African Affairs and South Africa's Liberation Struggle*

**Mosa M. PHADI**, University of the Free State  
(South African Sociological Association)

Session Moderator:

**Olga SALIDO-CORTES**, Complutense University of Madrid  
(Spanish Sociological Federation)

**13:30**

**PARALLEL 1B**  
**Technology, Media, and the Digital Society**

**ROOM:**  
**PREDAVALNICA 1**  
([Link for online participants](#))

*Exclusion and Control in the Discourse of Optimistic Techno-Determinism*  
**Danghelly Giovanna ZÚÑIGA REYES**, University of El Rosario  
(Colombian Association of Sociology)

*Digital Information Literacy Levels in ASEAN Countries*

**Ayu KUSUMASTUTI**, Brawijaya University, Indonesia  
**Astrida Fitri NURYANI**, Brawijaya University, Indonesia

*Digital Divide in Times of Pandemic*

**Mikhail F. CHERNYSH**, Russian Academy of Sciences  
(Russian Sociological Society)

*Digital Revolution, New Totalitarianisms and Emerging Liberties in the Consent Society*

**Paulo PEIXOTO**, University of Coimbra  
(Portuguese Sociological Association)

Session Moderator:

**Chih-Jou Jay CHEN**, Academia Sinica  
(Taiwanese Sociological Association)  
(ISA Executive Committee, National Associations Liaison Committee)

**15:15**

**COFFEE BREAK**



**15:30 - 17:15**

**PARALLEL 2A**  
**Marginalities, Legitimacy,**  
**and Justice**

**ROOM:**  
**VELIKA PREDAVALNICA**  
([Link for online participants](#))

*Solidarities, Cooperation and Collaboration: How do we Balance Heterogeneities of Marginalities on this Path towards Global Sociologies?*

**Bandana PURKAYASTHA**, University of Connecticut  
(ISA Executive Committee, National Associations Liaison Committee)

*Studying Public Opinion in Uzbekistan: National Experience*

**Victoria ALEKSEEVA**, Republican Center for the Study of Public Opinion  
(Association of Sociologists of Uzbekistan)

*Inequalities and Justice in the Balkans*

**Rumiana STOILOVA**, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences  
(Bulgarian Sociological Association)

*Structural Injustices of Transgenders in Pakistan*

**Saira SIDDIQUI**, Government College University Faisalabad  
(Sociological Association of Pakistan)

**Syeda Khizra ASLAM**, Government College University Faisalabad  
(Sociological Association of Pakistan)

Session Moderator:

**Joon HAN**, Yonsei University (Korean Sociological Association)

**15:30 - 17:15**

**PARALLEL 2B**  
**Inequalities and Tensions**  
**in Times of Crisis**

**ROOM:**  
**PREDAVALNICA 1**  
([Link for online participants](#))

*Social Justice in Times of Crisis: The Powerful and the Powerless*

**Blerina HAMZALLARI**, University of Tirana  
(Albanian Sociological Association)

*Identifying the Varying Forms of the Impact of 'Pandemic Times' on Youth in Turkey*

**Nilay ÇABUK KAYA**, Ankara University  
(Turkish Sociological Association)

**Haktan URAL**, Ankara University  
(Turkish Sociological Association)

**Esra CAN-MOLLAER**, Middle East Technical University  
(Turkish Sociological Association)

**Mukaddes UZBAY ÜLGEN**, Ankara University  
(Turkish Sociological Association)

*'Fake News' Communities: An Unintended Consequence of Growing Inequalities*

**Milla MINEVA**, Sofia University  
(Bulgarian Sociological Association)

*Settler Colonialism, Neoliberalism, and the Transformations of the Palestinian Urban Space*

**Abaher EL-SAKKA**, Birzeit University  
(Palestinian Sociological Association)

Session Moderator:

**Shaikh Mohammad KAIS**, University of Rajshahi  
(Bangladesh Sociological Association)

**18:00 - 20:00**

**19:00 - 22:00**

**Walking tour in Nova Gorica/Gorizia, meeting place at Hotel Perla**  
**Kidričeva ulica 7, 5000 Nova Gorica**  
**Dinner for conference participants at Hotel Perla**

## NOVEMBER 22, 2022 TUESDAY (Day 2)

8:30

### PARALLEL 3A Towards an International Sociology?

ROOM:  
VELIKA PREDAVALNICA  
([Link for online participants](#))

*What Makes Sociology International? Insights from Lithuania*

**Diana JANUŠAUSKIENĖ**, Lithuanian Centre for Social Sciences  
(Lithuanian Sociological Association)

*Can Sociologists Talk about a "New" Societal Transformation in Universal Language(s)?*

**Takashi MACHIMURA**, Hitotsubashi University  
(Japan Sociological Society)

*Social Transformations and Sociology in Large Developing Countries:  
From Lack of Knowledge to Empowerment*

**Tom DWYER**, State University of Campinas  
(Brazilian Sociological Society)

**Celi SCALON**, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro  
(Brazilian Sociological Society)

(ISA Executive Committee, National Associations Liaison Committee)

*Threats to Academic Freedom and its Impact on Sociology – the  
Australian Case*

**Alpha POSSAMAI-INESEDY**, Western Sydney University  
(The Australian Sociological Association)

Session Moderator:

**Geoffrey PLEYERS**, Catholic University of Louvain  
(ISA Vice-President for Research)

8:30

### PARALLEL 3B Critiquing Sociology and Knowledge Production

ROOM:  
PREDAVALNICA 1  
([Link for online participants](#))

*Trust in Scholarly Knowledge after the Pandemic, Post-Factual, and  
Decolonizing Turns*

**Elina OINAS**, University of Helsinki  
(The Westermarck Society)

(ISA Executive Committee, National Associations Liaison Committee)

*Time for an Archipelagic Sociology? Opening a New Space for  
Debates*

**Stéphane DUFOIX**, Paris-Nanterre University, and University Institute  
of France  
(French Association of Sociology)

*From the Centrality of the State to the Power of the Margins: Critique of  
a Sociology Frozen in the Past in the Maghreb*

**Khalid MOUNA**, Moulay Ismail University  
(Moroccan Sociology Network)

Session Moderator:

**Saira SIDDIQUI**, Government College University Faisalabad  
(Sociological Association of Pakistan)

10:15

COFFEE BREAK

**10:30**

**PLENARY 3**  
**National Sociologies and**  
**International Communities**

**ROOM:**  
**VELIKA PREDAVALNICA**  
([Link for online participants](#))

*Presentation and Sharing from National Associations*

**Vietnam Sociological Association**  
**Polish Sociological Association**  
**Sociological Association of Ukraine**  
**Moroccan Sociology Network**

Session Moderator:

**Bandana PURKAYASTHA**, *University of Connecticut*  
(ISA Executive Committee, National Associations Liaison Committee)

**12:15**

**LUNCH BREAK at Hotel Park, Delpinova ulica 5, 5000 Nova Gorica**

**13:30**

**PARALLEL 4A**  
**The Construction and**  
**Fragmentation of Society**

**ROOM:**  
**VELIKA PREDAVALNICA**  
([Link for online participants](#))

*A Quantum Theory of Social Fragmentation*

**Gevorg A. POGHOSYAN**  
National Academy of Sciences of Armenia  
(Armenian Sociological Association)

*The (Potential) Role of Sociology in the Digitalisation of Care: Relations and Trust*

**Barbara FERSCH**, *University of Southern Denmark*  
(Danish Sociological Association)

*We Must Change: Tracking the Transformation or Collapse?*

**Branko ANČIĆ**, *Institute for Social Research in Zagreb*  
(Croatian Sociological Association)

*Social Construction of the Covid-19 Pandemic Crisis in India: Understanding Social Transformation through Deconstruction*

**Abha CHAUHAN**, *University of Jammu (Indian Sociological Society)*

Session Moderator:

**Elina OINAS**, *University of Helsinki (The Westermarck Society)*  
(ISA Executive Committee, National Associations Liaison Committee)

**13:30**

**PARALLEL 4B**  
**Generation and Gender**  
**Justice**

**ROOM:**  
**PREDVALNICA 1**  
([Link for online participants](#))

*Generation and Gender as Intersecting Axes of Inequality and Injustice in South Korea*

**Joon HAN**, *Yonsei University (Korean Sociological Association)*

*Gender Difference in the Perception of the COVID-19 Pandemic among Older People*

**Sawako SHIRAHASE**, *The University of Tokyo*  
(ISA Vice-President for Finance and Membership)

*The Gender Equality in Politics in Vietnam: Achievements and Challenges in the New Period*

**Huu Minh NGUYEN**, *Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences*  
(Vietnam Sociological Association)

*Mandatory Retirement of Older Adults: Notes from Iceland*

**Jan Marie FRITZ**, *University of Cincinnati*  
(ISA Executive Committee, National Associations Liaison Committee)

Session Moderator:

**Milla MINEVA**, *Sofia University (Bulgarian Sociological Association)*



**14:00 - 17:00**

**SPECIAL SESSION**  
**Publication Workshop for**  
**Early Career Sociologists**

**ROOM:**  
**PREDAVALNICA 2**

*Publication Workshop for Early Career Sociologists*

**Eloísa MARTÍN**, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro  
(ISA Vice-President for Publications)

**15:15**

**COFFEE BREAK**

**15:30 - 17:15**

**PARALLEL 5A**  
**State Legitimacy, Law, and**  
**Violence**

**ROOM:**  
**VELIKA PREDAVALNICA**  
([Link for online participants](#))

*The Dispute Between the State and Organized Crime for Social Legitimacy in Latin America*

**Roberto BRICEÑO-LEÓN**, Central University of Venezuela  
(Venezuelan Association of Sociology)

*Transformations of Violence: Policing in the Philippine War on Drugs*

**Filomin C. GUTIERREZ**, University of the Philippines Diliman  
(ISA Vice-President for National Associations)

*Empowering Women: The Case of Syrian Laws*

**Firas HAJ YHEIA**, Syrian Center for Media and Freedom of Expression (Syrian Association for the Social Sciences)

Session Moderator:

**Mabrouk BOUTAGOUGA**, University of Batna 1  
(Failoun Center for Research in Anthropology and Human and Social Sciences, Algeria)

**15:30 - 17:15**

**PARALLEL 5B**  
**Sociology in Nation**  
**Building**

**ROOM:**  
**PREDAVALNICA 1**  
([Link for online participants](#))

*The Power of Sociology in Democracy Building and Resistance to Russia's War: Reflections from Ukraine*

**Olga KUTSENKO**, Taras Sevchenko National University of Kyiv  
(Sociological Association of Ukraine)

**Svitlana BABENKO**, Taras Sevchenko National University of Kyiv  
(Sociological Association of Ukraine)

*How to Assess the Situation of Sociological Associations: A Preliminary Outline*

**Olga SALIDO-CORTES**, Complutense University of Madrid  
**Manuel FERNÁNDEZ-ESQUINAS**, Institute for Advanced Social Studies (Spanish Sociological Federation)

*Argentine Sociology at the Crossroads*

**Alejandro BIALAKOWSKY**, University of Buenos Aires  
(Argentine Association of Sociology)

Session Moderator:

**Mounir SAIDANI**, University of Tunis El Manar  
(ISA Executive Committee, National Associations Liaison Committee)

**19:00 - 22:00**

**Dinner for conference participants at Hotel Perla**

## NOVEMBER 23, 2022 WEDNESDAY (Day 3)

9:45

**Networking of Representatives to the  
ISA Council of National Associations**

**Participants will meet in front of Hotel Perla for a day excursion  
to Vipavska dolina and Kras wine regions**

Lunch and dinner will be served at the excursion venues

## NOVEMBER 24, 2022 THURSDAY (Day 4)

8:30

### PARALLEL 6A Conflict, Pluralism, and Democracy

ROOM:  
VELIKA PŘEDAVALNICA  
([Link for online participants](#))

*Why Democracy Fails to Contain Social Conflicts*

**Lev GRINBERG**, Ben Gurion University  
(Israeli Sociology Society)

*Ethnicity, Marginality, and Discrimination: A Study of Santal-Bengali Relationship in Northern Bangladesh*

**Shaikh Mohammad KAIS**, University of Rajshahi  
(Bangladesh Sociological Association)

*Pitfalls and Chances of Science Communication. Public Sociology in Germany*

**Birgit BLÄTTEL-MINK**, Goethe University Frankfurt  
(German Society for Sociology)

**Paula-Irene VILLA BRASLAVSKY**, LMU Munich  
(German Society for Sociology)

*Staffing Public Service Positions in Poland: The Development of a New Party Nomenclature System*

**Kaja GADOWSKA**, Jagiellonian University  
(Polish Sociological Association)

Session Moderator:

**Borut RONČEVIČ**, School of Advanced Social Studies  
(Slovenian Social Science Association)  
(ISA Executive Committee, National Associations Liaison Committee)

8:30

### PARALLEL 6B Migration and its Crises

ROOM:  
PŘEDAVALNICA 1  
([Link for online participants](#))

*Creating a 'Hostile Environment': Making Sense of the UK's Evolving Immigration Regime*

**Louise RYAN**, London Metropolitan University  
(British Sociological Association)

*Gradations of Legality: The Impact of Multilayered Immigration Policies and Procedures on the Legalization and Incorporation of Migrants*

**Deisy DEL REAL**, University of Southern California  
(American Sociological Association)

*The Non-Voluntary Non-Migrant Phenomenon: A Study of the Causes and Consequences, with a Special Focus on Iran*

**Abdie KAZEMIPUR**, University of Calgary  
(Canadian Sociological Association)

*The Impact of Multiple Crises in Lebanon on the Decision to Migrate of the Academic Youth*

**Suzanne MENHEM**, Lebanese University  
(Lebanese Association of Sociology)

Session Moderator:

**Takashi MACHIMURA**, Hitotsubashi University  
(Japan Sociological Society)

10:15

COFFEE BREAK



**10:30**

**PARALLEL 7A**  
**Responses to the**  
**COVID-19 Pandemic**

**ROOM:**  
**VELIKA PREDAVALNICA**  
([Link for online participants](#))

*Social Impacts of COVID-19 Pandemic in Taiwan*

**Wan-Chi CHEN**, National Academy for Educational Research, and  
National Taipei University (Taiwanese Sociological Association)

**Chih-Jou Jay CHEN**, Academia Sinica  
(Taiwanese Sociological Association)  
(ISA Executive Committee, National Associations Liaison Committee)

**Ming-Jen LIN**, National Taiwan University  
(Taiwanese Sociological Association)

*The COVID-19 Pandemic Policies of the Philippine Government and its  
Impact on Peace in Mindanao*

**Mario J. AGUJA**, Mindanao State University – General  
Santos City  
(Philippine Sociological Society)

*How do Social Policies Respond to the Revenue Shortfalls during the  
Pandemic?*

**Sorin CACE**, Research Institute for Quality of Life  
(Romanian Sociological Association)

*Power, Knowledge and Society Disposessions and Empowerment in  
Tunisia during the COVID-19 Pandemic*

**Mounir SAIDANI**, University of Tunis El Manar  
(ISA Executive Committee, National Associations Liaison Committee)

Session Moderator:

**Airi-Alina ALLASTE**, Tallinn University  
(Estonian Association of Sociologists)

**10:30**

**PARALLEL 7B**  
**Transformations of Culture**  
**and Consumption**

**ROOM:**  
**PREDAVALNICA 1**  
([Link for online participants](#))

*Food, Nation Building, and Citizenship in a Multicultural Context*

**Eloísa MARTÍN**, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro  
(ISA Vice-President for Publications)

*The Contribution of the Institution of Cinema in the Social  
Transformation of Iranian Society, 1904-2022*

**Hossein Parviz EJALI**, Institute for Management and Planning  
Studies, Tehran  
(Iranian Sociological Association)

*Alternative Food Provision System Initiatives in Turkey in the Aftermath of  
the Pandemic*

**Aylin TOPAL**, Middle East Technical University  
(Turkish Social Science Association)

*Networks from Markets: The Co-construction of Social and Economic  
Ties in a Swedish Alternative Food Network*

**Jonas BÅÅTH**, Lund University  
(Swedish Sociological Association)

Session Moderator:

**Abha CHAUHAN**, University of Jammu  
(Indian Sociological Society)

**12:15**

**LUNCH BREAK - Hotel Park, Delpinova ulica 5, 5000 Nova Gorica**

**13:30 - 17:00**

**PLENARY 4  
Business Meeting of the  
ISA Council of National  
Associations**

**ROOM:**  
**VELIKA PREDAVALNICA**  
([Link for online participants](#))

1. Opening statements and welcome  
**Filomin C. GUTIERREZ**, VP for National Associations
2. ISA in the last four years: events and actions taken  
**Sari HANAFI**, ISA President
3. Report of the VP for National Associations  
**Filomin C. GUTIERREZ**, VP for National Associations
4. ISA Publications: possibilities for the National Associations  
**Eloísa MARTÍN**, VP for Publications
5. National Associations at the XX ISA World Congress of Sociology, Melbourne, 2023
  - a) Integrative and regular sessions  
**Filomin C. GUTIERREZ**, VP for National Associations
  - b) Registration grants, Solidarity Fund Grants  
**Sawako SHIRAHASE**, VP for Finance and Membership
  - c) Agenda items for the 2023 CNA Business Meeting
6. Election of ISA Officers 2023-2027 at the XX ISA World Congress of Sociology, Melbourne, 2023
  - a) Tasks of the Nominating Committee of the Council of National Associations  
**Filomin C. GUTIERREZ**, Chair, CNA Nominating Committee
  - b) Election procedures  
**Chih-Jou CHEN**, Chair of the ISA Statutes Committee
7. Research Committees' collaboration with National Associations  
**Geoffrey PLEYERS**, VP for Research
8. National Associations at the UN  
**Jan Marie FRITZ**, ISA representative to the UN

Open Forum

Closing of the Conference and Concluding Remarks

**19:00 - 22:00**

**Dinner for conference participants at Hotel Perla**



# Book of Abstracts



# Plenary Sessions

## Plenary Session 1: The Transformations of Sociology

### Toward a Dialogical Sociology

**Sari HANAFI**, American University of Beirut  
(ISA President)

While sociology puts emphasis on three epistemological imperatives – descriptive, conceptual and interpretative – this paper is adding a new one: the normative one, following Alain Caillé's suggestion. This is call for mediating science through (political and moral) philosophy in order to account for the expression of the concrete historical situation and a force within it to stimulate change. Taking into account these four epistemological imperatives together, I argue for a dialogical sociology that extends the sociological mission beyond civil society, to the civil sphere as Jeffrey Alexander understands it. This extension of our mission is very important if we are to keep considering ourselves as guardians of this civil sphere and of liberal democratic ideals. Thus, mediating with different noncivil spheres, engaging in dialogue with them, and demanding certain kinds of reforms can be carried out through providing cognitive validity claims and normative argumentation to the public sphere and accounting for value commitments of social actors – and this includes emotions. This means it is not enough to simply support those who have liberal democratic ideals. We also need to listen attentively to those who refuse to embrace, partially or totally, these ideals. This is a way for sociology, while it espouses the comprehensive/classical liberal project, to accommodate (an enhanced and amended version of) Rawls's political liberalism; that is, to work out the pluralism (pluralistic conceptions of the good) in our society with social cohesion (a unified conception of justice) within society.

## Plenary Session 2:

### Sociology and its Role in Eastern European Transformation: The Past 30 Years

**Borut RONČEVIĆ**, School of Advanced Social Studies  
(Slovenian Social Science Association)  
(ISA Executive Committee, National Associations Liaison Committee)

I will present a unique and comprehensive self-reflection on the role of sociology and sociologists in transformations of post-socialist Eastern European societies and provide results of a detailed insight on the status of sociology in Eastern Europe, its institutional development, specifics of national sociological traditions, the often controversial and ambiguous relationship with the political system, and more importantly, state-of-the-art knowledge about the role that sociology as a discipline and sociologists as academics, educators, public intellectuals, experts, politicians, or civil society activists willingly or unwillingly played in the last three decades of transformation processes. Post-socialist transformations were major historical processes and sometimes involved a radical redefinition of economic and political imaginaries. In the past several years a group of authors conducted a series of national case studies to analyse the role of sociology in re-imagining Eastern European societies. Following the Cultural Political Economy approach, we explored the role of sociology in the evolution of post-socialist political-economic discourses. How has sociology contributed to their variation and to the selection of dominant discourses? Has it contributed to their retention through processes of legitimization? In what ways? And what has been the role of sociology in structural, discursive, technological and agential selectivities? Sociologists have performed their role in a variety of ways. Activators are professionally autonomous agents of social transformations. Voyeurs are capable observers without significant societal impact. Fellow travellers are professionally dependent legitimators of dominant discourses. Marginals are on the margins of both their disciplines and societies.

## **Servants and Makers of a Global Sociology? National Associations in ISA over the Last 25 Years**

**Tom DWYER**, State University of Campinas  
(Brazilian Sociological Society)

A quick revision of the role played by National Associations (NAs) as described in Jennifer Platt's history of the first half century of the ISA (1948-97) will occupy the first part of this paper. Platt paid special attention to the 1948-53 period, and suggested a second moment, when Research Committees started playing the core role in ISA and NAs started losing protagonism. The role of NAs in the ISA is subsequently examined for the period 1998-2023. From 2002 a vice-presidency of National Associations was established. This led to a new type of regular ISA conference – the quadrennial Conference of the Council of National Associations (CNA)– which held its first meeting in Miami in 2005. Other international developments were also observed. Interviews conducted by the author complement an extensive analysis of ISA documents. A series of consequences for the development of international sociology and provisional findings will be detailed. UNESCO's agenda and the imperatives of founding an international organization framed ISA's early days, which helps contextualising the relevance of some developments over the last quarter century. Delegates and attendees of the Fifth Conference of the CNA will be invited to share with the author their perceptions of their own NA's relationship with the ISA, and of the changing roles of NAs, the CNA and the ISA itself. We expect the role played by NAs in suggesting different themes and debates from those of Research Committees will be examined. New opportunities and potential conflicts for the ISA and for international sociology may also be identified.



## Parallel Sessions

### **The COVID-19 Pandemic Policies of the Philippine Government and its Impact on Peace in Mindanao**

**Mario J. AGUJA**, Mindanao State University – General Santos City  
(Philippine Sociological Society)

In the light of their failure to prevent violent conflicts and uphold social justice, the policies to fight COVID-19 are calling for a peace lens. This study seeks to understand the COVID-19 policies of the Philippine government and their impact on peace in Mindanao in Southern Philippines in general, and on the ongoing implementation of the Government of the Philippines-Moro Islamic Liberation Front (GPH-MILF) peace agreement in particular. The paper presents a descriptive and qualitative analysis of key informant interviews on the Mindanao peace process and of government documents and other secondary materials, such as news reports. The government's securitized response to COVID-19 did not deter the perpetuation of violence in the different parts of Mindanao, especially in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM). The travel restrictions imposed by the authorities and the failure to designate peace workers as frontliners have impacted ongoing work related to the Normalization Phase of the GPH-MILF Peace Process. In fact, the implementation of these policies further marginalized the communities involved in the peace process. With no vaccines in place, a growing number of infections in Mindanao, various forms of mobility control, and worsening government financial problems, COVID-19 policies are expected to delay the implementation of the GPH-MILF Peace Agreement. But the absence of a peace lens in crafting the COVID-19 policies presented additional detrimental dimensions to the sensitive cause of negotiating peace in Mindanao.

### **The Human Rights-Based Approach (HRBA) in Perspective: Examining the Human Right to Water and Sanitation for the Vulnerable Groups in Uganda**

**Gerald Zihembire AHABWE**, Makerere University  
(Uganda Sociological and Anthropological Association)

This paper examines the effectiveness of the governance framework for fulfilling the Human Right to Water and Sanitation (HRWS) and Leave-No-One-Behind (LNOB) principle for the vulnerable segments of societies in Uganda. The human rights-based approach (HRBA) is a conceptual framework for human development that is normatively based on international human rights standards and operationally directed to promoting and protecting human rights. HRBA is anchored in human rights principles of universality, indivisibility, equality and non-discrimination, participation, and accountability. Goal 6 of the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 70/1 (2015) specifically relates to the realization of the human rights to water and sanitation by calling for the realization by 2030 of universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water, and to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all. Even in the current COVID-19 pandemic, the first line of defence in the prevention strategies has been frequent hand washing with soap. However, the HRWS remains a far-fetched dream for many not-yet-reached segments of society in Uganda. While the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) was introduced in 1948, it took up to 2010 when the UN General Assembly and the Human Rights Council finally recognized HRWS through Resolution 64/292. HRBA still remains a far-fetched dream for many people in the developing economies like Uganda who neither have the means to meet their obligations nor the understanding to claim their rights.

### **Studying Public Opinion in Uzbekistan: National Experience**

**Victoria ALEKSEEVA**, Republican Centre for the Study of Public Opinion  
(Association of Sociologists of Uzbekistan)

This paper will present the vision of one of Uzbekistan's leading and major centres on the prospects for studying public opinion and the impact of these studies on the dynamics of social development and decision-making at various levels of management. At the present stage of development of the state and society, sociological research surveys aimed at identifying the public opinion of citizens regarding the ongoing transformations and changes and

their assessment of the decisions made by the country's leadership are of particular relevance. Never before public opinion has been of such decisive importance and an effective force as in New Uzbekistan. Numerous facts confirm that today the public opinion on certain issues significantly affects state policy, legislative processes, the activities of political parties, the dynamics of election campaigns, and the adoption of important government decisions.

## **We Must Change: Tracking the Transformation or Collapse?**

**Branko ANČIĆ**, Institute for Social Research in Zagreb  
(Croatian Sociological Association)

Consumption of energy and materials has increased exponentially across the globe since the Industrial Revolution, resulting in environmental degradation and increased risk of moving our planet outside a safe operating sustainable space (Stefan et al., 2015). A new paradigm in science is needed, founded on epistemology that enriches and deepens the understanding of the Earth System by closing the loop between natural and social sciences (Donges et al., 2017) in order to understand the socio-economic and socio-cultural forces that are related to the bio-physical foundations. Tracking environmental and social sustainability indicators is crucial in order for humanity to plan socio-economic transformation by simultaneously reducing environmental impacts and improving well-being. Therefore the aim of this paper is to improve the understanding of "the social context" in which environmental degradation occurs through the combining of various indicators in the web of societal-biophysical analysis. This study creates a framework for defining the safe operating space for humanity in Croatia by setting globally just biophysical and social thresholds, largely following Raworth's Doughnut model (Raworth, 2017). This research also considers public perceptions regarding sustainability and how indicators change over time to understand the barriers to achieving sustainability targets. Empirically, we connect different aspects of the material flow, comparative developmental attainments and prevalent social attitudes. In a new empirical synthesis we employ survey data on representative national samples over the past 5 years and set it against the comparatively advantageous biophysical funds and flows.

## **Networks from Markets: The Co-construction of Social and Economic Ties in a Swedish Alternative Food Network**

**Jonas BÅÅTH**, Lund University  
(Swedish Sociological Association)

The current global-capitalist food system suffers numerous and serious challenges in terms of, e.g., environmental degradation and food and fertiliser shortages due to Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Simultaneously, following urbanisation, rural societies experience increased difficulties to sustain local livelihoods and attain societal inclusion. Studies of Alternative Food Networks (AFN) suggest that such networks foster ties that bridge the rural-urban divide while supplying food in a more sustainable manner. However, AFN scholars debate whether markets are a threat or (partial) solution for organising a better food system. Drawing on qualitative materials from Swedish REKO-rings, a direct-to-customer market arrangement for local, small-scale and (often) organic foods, the paper examines how such markets foster new, (potentially) sustainable rural-urban ties. The analysis relies on economic-sociological theories of relational work and circuits of commerce. The (preliminary) findings show that rural-urban ties fostered through REKO-rings centre on trust, primarily customers' trust in the qualities of the foods offered and their production processes. Any ties beyond ensuring the food's trustworthiness appear to be absent for the suppliers (i.e., farmers) and uncalled for by the customers. However, the fostered ties do challenge the rural-urban divide and current food system, however foremost in economic terms. Markets in AFN thus seem to offer the ability to produce (potentially) sustainable economic ties, yet being unable to foster, e.g., civic ties. More generally, market ties seem to be limited to those meaningful for navigating economic exchange, implying the necessity of non-market institutions for fostering civic relations among and between urban and rural populations.

## **Argentine Sociology at the Crossroads**

**Alejandro BIALAKOWSKY**, University of Buenos Aires  
(Argentine Association of Sociology)

Argentine sociology today faces an epochal crossroads, mentioned in the call of this meeting, with new forms of authoritarianism and conflict, the digitalization in social relations, and the “normalization” of everyday life after the COVID-19 pandemic. This is where the complex and dense interweavings of Argentine sociology come into play, that is, its multiple articulations between theoretical and empirical research, essayistic elaborations, interventions for social transformation (e.g., through public policies or social movements), its institutional conditions and scope, and its peripheral positioning in and from the Latin American South. These interweavings have not only had to adapt to the tone of the times, but have also positioned themselves at the crossroads to critically question their strengths and weaknesses. In this paper, these questions are addressed in two directions, both of which have to do with the history of Argentine sociology and its present. On the one hand, it is necessary to reflect on the complex and heterogeneous simultaneity between sociological elaborations from different latitudes, which implies unequal relations of production and circulation of knowledge between different regions, nations, institutions, etc., as well as their different “rhythms”, “durations”, “desynchronizations” and “asynchronies”. On the other hand, it is urgent to delve into the practical ways of dividing and qualifying the social and natural world, that is to say, the reclassifying processes, among which the aforementioned relations between South and North stand out today. Thus, the back-and-forth processes that unfold from sociological reclassifications, which seek to transform social reclassifications in general, are key.

## **Pitfalls and Chances of Science Communication. Public Sociology in German**

**Birgit BLÄTTEL-MINK**, Goethe University Frankfurt  
(German Society for Sociology)

**Paula-Irene VILLA BRASLAVSKY**, LMU Munich  
(German Society for Sociology)

The increasing economization of academia has resulted in what has been labeled by sociologists in the field as “academic capitalism” (Jessop 2018, Kaupinnen 2015, Münch 2014). Within this dynamic, also marked by intensified mobility and dramatic changes brought by massive digitalization, sociology is faced with a paradoxical social situation, both globally and in specific ways regionally/nationally: On the one hand, there is an immense public and policy-driven need for scientific knowledge – especially, but not reduced to the COVID pandemic crisis – including that generated by social sciences. On the other hand, science is increasingly delegitimized and ridiculed by populist politics. How does (German) sociology navigate this highly complex and dynamic constellation? Is “public sociology” (Burawoy et al.) a sound path? Or, on the contrary, does public intervention feed dubious populist logics? Speaking from the German perspective and as a National Association which tries to tackle these questions, our contribution will offer some empirical examples and sociological thoughts on the tricky issue of “(social) science communication in turbulent times”.

## **State-Society Relations in Times of Crisis in Algeria, from the Popular Movement to the Corona Pandemic**

**Mabrouk BOUTAGOUGA**, University of Batna 1

(Failoun Center for Research in Anthropology and Human and Social Sciences, Algeria)

Under the blows of the COVID-19 pandemic since 2020, and then under the shock of the Russian-Ukrainian war, many societies – especially in poor countries – which used to live according to somewhat steady social and cultural foundations, have transformed into disintegrated and imbalanced societies, suddenly turning into risk societies in which all guarantees of a stable and secure life have suddenly disappeared. This situation has resulted in an attempt by individuals and society to devise new ways to deal with this unfamiliar reality, leading to the emergence of new value behaviours, attitudes, representations and practices that did not exist before the onset of the crisis. In Algeria, the situation was worsened by the previous drop in oil prices in 2017 and the popular movement to over-

throw the former regime in 2019. All of these crises have clearly affected the relationship between the state and society, with society suffering since after the independence from the total control of the state. This presentation aims at assessing the extent of the negative repercussions resulting from these crises affecting the balance between the state and society and how people are struggling to make their society a better place by using several strategies to defend their rights to a better life for themselves and their children.

## **The Dispute Between the State and Organized Crime for Social Legitimacy in Latin America**

**Roberto BRICEÑO-LEÓN**, Central University of Venezuela  
(Venezuelan Association of Sociology)

Latin America is the most violent region in the world in terms of homicides and interpersonal violence, with countries that have had a mortality rate from criminal violence that has become higher than that in war situations. This rise in homicides due to crime that has been experienced since the 1990s has changed in its composition, from being a violence carried out by youth gangs to becoming the action of powerful organized crime organizations. This transformation has taken place to guarantee the gangs greater control of the territory and a higher profit in the illegal income that they control and plunder: drug trafficking, illegal mining, human trafficking and extortion for the sale of private protection. This increase in business capacity has allowed organized crime not only to compete with the state for the monopoly of violence, but also to dispute the social legitimacy of dominance over those territories, dominance not only based on the use of force, but also in the growing acceptance of the population, due to the superior offer and delivery of social and security services offered by the large, organized crime gangs. With the analysis of cases from Venezuela, Brazil, Colombia and Mexico, the singularities of the establishment of the state in Latin America and the limitations of sociological theory to interpret these new political and criminal realities are discussed.

## **Identifying the Varying Forms of the Impact of 'Pandemic Times' on Youth in Turkey**

**Nilay CABUK KAYA**, Ankara University  
(Turkish Sociological Association)

**Haktan URAL**, Ankara University  
(Turkish Sociological Association)

**Esra CAN-MOLLAER**, Middle East Technical University  
(Turkish Sociological Association)

**Mukaddes UZBAY ÜLGEN**, Ankara University  
(Turkish Sociological Association)

This study aims at understanding the COVID-19 pandemic's social impact on youth in Turkey, by paying a particular attention to the gendered and classed consequences. Drawing on a quantitative research conducted with 1,040 young people across Turkey between the ages of 18 and 30, we measure how and to what extent physical distance and restrictions on daily life have influenced individuals' practices and relations. Such a research provided us an analytical insight into the social impact of pandemic in two ways. First, we analyse and identify the main patterns and factorial characteristics of the social impact concerning the caring responsibilities, leisure activities, social relations and personal well-being. Second, we examine in what ways these patterns are informed by socio-cultural and socio-economic characteristics. Therefore, our study sheds light on the vectors of pandemic generating varying forms of influence over young people's social life in Turkey. From that vantage point, our study engages with and contributes to the sociological debates over the fissures and tensions of the 'pandemic times'.

## How do Social Policies Respond to the Revenue Shortfalls during the Pandemic?

**Sorin CACE**, Research Institute for Quality of Life

(Romanian Sociological Association)

Collective welfare is achieved through direct mechanisms arising from the operation of the market (primary distribution bound to the allocation of resources and incomes) as well as redistributive mechanisms (transfers). Primary income directly obtained through market mechanisms characterize, at a first level, collective welfare. The weight of the employees' remuneration in the GDP is a key indicator of the distribution between labour and capital. At the European Union level, Romania has the third highest level of inequality in terms of the repartition between the two factors, labour and capital. It is only surpassed by Greece and Ireland. In Romania, the costs of response policies to address the 2009-10 recession have been overwhelmingly supported by a decrease in labour's remuneration. The lockdown and social and physical distancing brought by the pandemic having narrowed down economic and social activities, resulted in a decrease of the population's incomes. The most vulnerable categories of the population are: those who have lost their jobs (about a quarter of a million were made redundant); those made technically unemployed (the contracts of over a million employees were suspended); those who have informal occupations, the underemployed or people engaged in subsistence agriculture (whose precise number remains unknown); and people who have recently returned from abroad and whose income is inexistent (whose precise number is also unknown). Lacking the alternatives that are only addressed to people engaged in the formal labour market (such as technical unemployment), the social risk is dangerously high for the last two categories.

## Social Construction of the Covid-19 Pandemic Crisis in India: Understanding Social Transformation through Deconstruction

**Abha CHAUHAN**, University of Jammu

(Indian Sociological Society)

The COVID-19 pandemic crisis in India leading to unprecedented social transformation was socially constructed and sustained by the images of scores of people walking to their homes in the most difficult circumstances during the lockdown in 2020. These were mainly poor, daily wagers, and included pregnant women, old people, and small children with little help from the government and administration. But as all disasters reflect a lack of humanity and the prevalence of insensitivity, they also evoke the human capacity for remarkable acts of altruism and creativity. This duality was displayed during the COVID-19 pandemic crisis when on the one hand, many individuals and organizations came forward and offered food, shelter, clothes, and money to the migrants on the streets, and on the other, paramedics or health workers who went to collect samples or take dead bodies from their closed ones were attacked. Many people declared 'positive' and quarantined in their homes were stigmatized leading to unintended, and unpleasant, consequences. There were cases of religious disharmony and racist remarks, as well as a political blame game. This paper seeks to understand the complexity of the phenomenon through the framework of social construction (of the COVID-19 pandemic crisis) and deconstruction (of the process of social transformation), through content analysis of the actual cases reported in media as well as during personal communications and interactions with the sufferers and victims. It will focus on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on their employment, property, health, and education, among others.

## Social Impacts of COVID-19 Pandemic in Taiwan

**Wan-Chi CHEN**, National Academy for Educational Research, and National Taipei University

(Taiwanese Sociological Association)

**Chih-Jou Jay CHEN**, Academia Sinica

(Taiwanese Sociological Association)

(ISA Executive Committee, National Associations Liaison Committee)

**Ming-Jen LIN**, National Taiwan University

(Taiwanese Sociological Association)



This study aims at understanding the COVID-19 pandemic's social impact on youth in Turkey, by paying a particular attention to the gendered and classed consequences. Drawing on a quantitative research conducted with 1,040 young people across Turkey between the ages of 18 and 30, we measure how and to what extent physical distance and restrictions on daily life have influenced individuals' practices and relations. Such a research provided us an analytical insight into the social impact of pandemic in two ways. First, we analyse and identify the main patterns and factorial characteristics of the social impact concerning the caring responsibilities, leisure activities, social relations and personal well-being. Second, we examine in what ways these patterns are informed by socio-cultural and socio-economic characteristics. Therefore, our study sheds light on the vectors of pandemic generating varying forms of influence over young people's social life in Turkey. From that vantage point, our study engages with and contributes to the sociological debates over the fissures and tensions of the 'pandemic times'.

## **Digital Divide in Times of Pandemic**

**Mikhail F. CHERNYSH**, Russian Academy of Sciences  
(Russian Sociological Society)

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a dramatic and possibly long-term effect on modern societies. It gave a boost to the already existing inequalities, widening the gap between the haves and the have-nots. Assistance provided by the states did not suffice to bridge the divide between the groups with an economic advantage and the rest of the population. The main problem lays in the access to social goods, including access to education and medical assistance. In times of pandemic the privileged groups found themselves in a better position to use digital means of access to important services, while the poorer strata came to be ostracized by their lack of competence and inability to use digital services provided on a commercial basis. In the Russian society about one third of the population experienced problems in accessing services through the Internet. The negative effects of inequality became salient as the digital forms of education took priority over hitherto face-to-face teaching practices. An adequate digital delivery required a good Internet connection, strong family assistance and an early ability to sustain autonomy, all requirements that many students in underprivileged families lacked.

## **Gradations of Legality: The Impact of Multilayered Immigration Policies and Procedures on the Legalization and Incorporation of Migrants**

**Deisy DEL REAL**, University of Southern California  
(American Sociological Association)

Six million Venezuelans have fled their country of origin, constituting the second largest forcefully displaced population worldwide. Over 80% migrate to other South American countries, where they face diverging legalization opportunities that significantly impact their livelihoods. This paper examines how diverging immigration policies – treaties, laws, and executive administrative action – impact immigrants' legalization processes. Existing frameworks under-emphasize the immigrant legalization process or focus on "in-between" legal statuses without examining the multilayered legal structure. Thus, the paper introduces the concept of "gradations of legality" to capture how immigrant legalization processes are impacted by multilayered and embedded interactions between the state's immigration regimes, available legal status categories, migrants' transitions through the stages of the application procedures, and migrants' agency. Drawing on 100 longitudinal in-depth interviews, the study compares the legalization process of Venezuelan migrants residing in the contrasting immigration regimes of Argentina and Chile. Argentina gives Venezuelan migrants access to the Mercosur Residency Agreement (MRA), a treaty that makes legal status a substantive right and has receptive immigration law and administrative actions. In contrast, Chile does not give Venezuelan migrants access to the MRA and has restrictive immigration law and administrative actions. Findings show that most Venezuelans in Chile have experienced disruptive legalization transitions that have derailed their economic and institutional incorporation. By contrast, disruptive transitions are less prevalent and unsettling to the incorporation of Venezuelan migrants in Argentina's more receptive immigration regime. Broadly, the "gradations of legality" framework shows that different organizational levels interact and have compounding, unequal effects on immigrants' legalization and livelihoods.

## **Time for an Archipelagic Sociology? Opening a New Space for Debates**

**Stéphane DUFOIX**, Paris-Nanterre University, and University Institute of France

(French Association of Sociology)

In the last four decades or so, the international debate about the epistemological constitution of sociology has been gradually rising to the fore with more and more articles, books, and debates, arguing about the universalism of the discipline, its potential indigenization, or its transformation through the turn to decoloniality and pluriversalism. The main particularity of these discussions is that they precisely did not build into debates. Some of them, like the reactions to Akinsola A. Akiwowo's 1986 paper in *International Sociology* about Yoruba sociology, have entailed numerous stands, just as Martin Albrow's or Margaret Archer's statements about "Sociology for one world" in 1987 and 1990. Since then, Connell (2007), Bhambra (2014), Go (2016), Mignolo and Walsh (2018), Meghji (2021) – to cite but a few – have proposed a number of solutions and ways out of the ongoing Eurocentrism. Most of the time they have either proposed a deep and strong denunciation of Western hegemony while offering some examples of Southern theories or legitimacy, or they have confined themselves in suggesting the necessity of "connected sociologies" without really describing what they would look like and how these plural sociologies would actually make sense. After recalling some of these attempts, the communication will try and present a new pattern for the future of world sociology, that of a world social science archipelago in constant tension – just as the social sciences are – between universalism and particularism.

## **Social Transformations and Sociology in Large Developing Countries: From Lack of Knowledge to Empowerment**

**Tom DWYER**, State University of Campinas

(Brazilian Sociological Society)

**Celi SCALON**, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro

(Brazilian Sociological Society)

(ISA Executive Committee, National Associations Liaison Committee)

Invited to a conference in Beijing in 2010, the presidents of the sociological associations of Brazil, Russia and India considered that they had no knowledge of one another and that sociological understandings of relations to the other could be constructed in three dimensions. Sociology in the BRIC(S) seeks to produce an understanding of what happens, for example, when similar (and dissimilar) processes associated with development occur in two or more countries. The aim is to produce comparative understanding. Two handbooks have been published, on the sociology of youth in BRICS countries, and on social stratification. Important findings for sociological theory will be highlighted. The sociology of the making of the BRICS: as development processes speed up and economic and cultural globalization spreads, interactions increase between citizens and institutions of many countries, with the resulting social problems and conflicts. Sociological research on these conflicts reveals the impacts of intercultural misunderstanding and power relations. Communication and dialogue are a challenge for a BRICS sociology project and also for the ISA. It is necessary to establish an advanced-level forum to examine philosophical traditions, key terms, definitions, methodologies and their impacts upon scientific dialogue. Huntington's clash of civilizations threatens! Today's world appears to have become incomprehensible due to fast technological, economic, geopolitical, paradigmatic and environmental changes. Sociologists in large developing countries are seeking to overcome past disempowerment through searching for dialogue and knowledge about each other's societies, thereby producing mutual understanding of societies and social relations, hence making a contribution to world peace.

## **The Contribution of the Institution of Cinema in the Social Transformation of Iranian Society, 1904-2022**

**Hossein Parviz EJLALI**, Institute for Management and Planning Studies, Tehran

(Iranian Sociological Association)

Iran has experienced vast and deep social transformations since the beginning of the twentieth century. The institution of cinema has been accompanied by this process of transformation from the outset. The first public place for showing films was opened in Tehran in 1904. This paper aims to show the two-way relationship between the institution of cinema, including film making, film screening, movie-theatre ownership, films, and film audience, and stages of Iranian society's transformation. An account of modern history of the country indicates that in different stages of development of Iranian society in the last 125 years, the institution of cinema played different and specific contributions. The paper puts forward a list of these contributions and describes the specific socio-political conditions as well as outcomes related to cinema in society. These are as follows:

1. A window to the outside world, specifically Western developed countries and Russia (before the late 1920s)
2. A vehicle for national pride (1933-37)
3. A sign of being modern, i.e. following modern Western lifestyles (1930s)
4. An instrument for competing political propaganda (1941-46)
5. A means for equality in cultural consumption (1956-1979)
6. A cover-up for increasing social inequality and calming down dissatisfaction of the lower classes (1960s)
7. A means of displaying political dissatisfaction and cultural anomie (1970s)
8. An instrument of "West and infidels to propagate vice, immorality and sinfulness" (1965-1979)
9. A means for propagating Islam (1980)
10. A healthy entertainment under the moral and ideological codes of the government (since 1980)
11. A means for displaying social problems

## **Settler Colonialism, Neoliberalism, and the Transformations of the Palestinian Urban Space**

**Abaher EL-SAKKA**, Birzeit University  
(Palestinian Sociological Association)

Two major factors have been leading to a dramatic shrinkage of the Palestinian landscape: the Israeli settler colonial practices of appropriation and confiscation, and the Palestinian 'national' policies. These two factors contribute to the creation of new urban centres and peripheries, such as the infamous private sector initiative of Rawabi city, inspired by the settler colonial architecture of settlements, and the private sector initiatives of new suburban areas such as Al-Rihan and Reef. The emergence of such suburbs and the gaps they generate between neighbourhoods are leading to growing class, cultural and spatial transformations and to the rise of new social categories through semi-gentrification processes. Such transformations are taking place within the framework of the growing hegemonic economic culture of neoliberalism adopted by the Palestinian Authority to meet the criteria of the World Bank. This process of neoliberal transformations is rearticulating the Palestinian urban space and imposing topographic changes against a background of space blockage, gated communities, and surveillance techniques. This forceful reforming of the Palestinian urban space due to a global market-driven dictation is gradually leading to urbicide and severe class marginalization of the vast majority of the Palestinian society occupied in 1967.

## **How to Assess the Situation of Sociological Associations? A Preliminary Outline**

**Manuel FERNÁNDEZ-ESQUINAS**, Institute for Advanced Social Studies  
(Spanish Federation of Sociology)

This paper presents a brief assessment of the conditions of national sociology associations (NSA) to fulfil different roles in complex regimes of knowledge production. I use some tools accumulated by the sociology of science. Firstly, the paper is framed in the approach that understands the social arrangements in science systems through its outcomes, and takes into account the combination of symbolic and social structural elements that contribute to such outcomes. Secondly, it reviews briefly the 'internal' roles of NSA, namely: 1) promotion of knowledge production, 2) reproduction of a scientific field, 3) allocation of scientific capital, and 4) community building. Thirdly, it focuses on the 'external' roles: 1) interest representation and lobby, 2) policy advice, 3) social support for the discipline, and 4) public communication of science. Finally, the paper considers the interrelationship of both roles. In particular, how the making of the discipline shapes the capacities to promote knowledge utilization, interact with interest groups and strengthen the public image of sociology. I will use the experience of the Spanish Federation of Sociology to highlight the main challenges and key issues of combining both 'functions'.

## **The (Potential) Role of Sociology in the Digitalisation of Care: Relations and Trust**

**Barbara FERSCH**, University of Southern Denmark  
(Danish Sociological Association)

The COVID-19 pandemic has turned the tables for digitalisation in many areas of life, among them also care services, eliminating overnight face-to-face encounters in favour of online variants. In Denmark, following a digital-by-default strategy in public and welfare service provision since many years, digital solutions such as apps have been enthusiastically embraced and added to the provision of all kinds of health and social care services. One hope connected to them is their expected potential to reduce cost-intensive care work. Newer research insights also emphasize the potential of strengthening well-being and even empowering users and care professionals through the inclusion of digital technologies to care processes (e.g., Schneider-Kamp and Fersch, 2021). Important for the latter appear to be aspects like user involvement in development and implementation as well as trustful relations between carers and citizens. Here there might be a potential role for sociologists, in investigating and identifying important contextual and relational aspects and in proposing solutions that strengthen care relations and have a positive impact on the lives of vulnerable citizens.

## **Mandatory Retirement of Older Adults: Notes from Iceland**

**Jan Marie FRITZ**, University of Cincinnati  
(ISA Executive Committee, National Associations Liaison Committee)

This presentation focuses on mandatory retirement, a rather hidden and unaddressed social justice issue. Mandatory retirement – sometimes referred to as forced, enforced, statutory or compulsory retirement – is the age at which persons who hold certain jobs or offices are required by business, custom or law to leave their work. While countries frequently discuss increasing concern about care for “the elderly,” many of these same countries have mandatory retirement rules for older adults. People often seem surprised that older adults can be seen as less valued in some societies and do not connect this, at least in part, to whether there is an imposed “normative” structure of mandatory retirement. There does not seem to be recognition that mandatory retirement is a discriminatory act. While some information is provided about mandatory retirement in a few countries, the focus is on Iceland, a progressive country recognized as number one in the world for gender equality and pensions, but also a country with a mandatory retirement policy. The presentation focuses on the following topics: social justice and human rights; ageism and the history of mandatory retirement; the case of Iceland; and a few stories of those who have experienced forced retirement. The presentation concludes with suggested actions.

## **Staffing Public Service Positions in Poland: The Development of a New Party Nomenclature System**

**Kaja GADOWSKA**, Jagiellonian University  
(Polish Sociological Association)

This paper examines the practices for filling public sector positions in Poland since the systemic transformation of 1989, especially since the Law and Justice party took power in 2015. Under Soviet Bloc real socialism, the system for filling key positions in the administration, economy, culture and other state realms had depended upon communist party recommendations. This system, known as nomenclature, resulted in an anti-meritocratic and extralegal monopolization of the public sector. Ultimately, public servants were members of a compact and discrete coterie defending its own select interests. Yet a cornerstone for a democracy is the principle of meritocratic criteria in employment. However, in Poland after 1989, despite formal guarantees of access to public service employment on equal terms, the staffing of administrative positions in practice has hinged on political decisions made by successive ruling parties. Personnel changes affected nearly all levels and areas of the state structure: government administration, national agencies, publicly-held companies, mass media outlets, the police and military, prosecutors and justices, etc. Indeed, the turnover of personnel went significantly deeper, rooted in the aggressive “good change” ideology which has undercut a quarter century of work on constructing a state of law. Legal norms are not respect-

ed and replaced by informal rules serving party interests. Political clientelism has eroded public institutions and undermined the very foundations of liberal democracy. Based on analyses of source materials, press content, and in-depth interviews, this paper argues that, after over 30 years of professed democracy, the patterns of a pre-1989 nomenclature system have been restored.

## **Why Democracy Fails to Contain Social Conflicts**

**Lev GRINBERG**, Ben Gurion University  
(Israeli Sociology Society)

Democratic institutions are designed to peacefully contain social conflicts within the borders of the state by agreed rules of the game which facilitate recognition, representation, negotiation and compromises. It will be argued here that this functional definition of democracy fails to comprehend power relations and political dynamics in the origins of democratic regimes, and their potential of deterioration into violent clashes within the borders of the state. This theoretical paper is based on my investigations of Israeli politics, and its failure to contain social conflicts, despite the existence of democratic rules. The contradictions of the Israeli case are salient; however, I will argue that the tensions between the pretended functional peaceful image of democracy and the violent dynamics are built in elements of democratic regimes. These internal contradictions exist from the beginnings of democracy in the US, England and France, when a powerful group expands its territorial domains and imposes its rule on weaker groups, establishing nation-states. Democracies are imagined, by definition, because we imagine the nation, who are “we, the people”, violently imposing the borders of the state and the boundaries of the nation on all the dominated individuals and social groups. Democratization might deteriorate into violence mainly when “the people” is culturally divided (Mann, 2005), however, imbalance of power between political actors might also lead to violent use of authoritarian oppressive power, while maintaining formal rules of the game. External interventions of powerful actors, as colonial and imperial powers, might also interfere in internal relations. This paper will analyse the obstacles to peaceful democratic solutions for social conflicts within the nation-state.

## **Transformations of Violence: Policing in the Philippine War on Drugs**

**Filomin C. GUTIERREZ**, University of the Philippines Diliman  
(ISA Vice-President for National Associations)

The presentation analyses the narratives of police officers involved in the anti-drug campaign of former Philippine president Rodrigo Duterte in the Philippines, where the spate of violence in the arrests and killings generated condemnation from local and international human rights groups. The study aims to capture the subjectivities of police officers on the use of violence against the overarching approach to law enforcement and public security from the state leadership, the human rights discourse, and the organizational culture of the PNP. It critically the narratives of 36 police officers in relation to the implementation of the anti-illegal drugs campaign in combination with a review of PNP documents such as official directives, programs, training manuals, and issuances, among others. It proposes that while the state leadership of political regimes commands and controls the agenda and the deployment of force or violence, police officers negotiate their actions and the meanings associated to them based on many factors on the ground. Police subjectivities on violence, human rights, and the rule of law reveal potential directions for innovation and reforms.

## **Empowering Women: The Case of Syrian Laws**

**Firas HAJ YHEIA**, Syrian Centre for Media and Freedom of Expression  
(Syrian Association for the Social Sciences)

The prominent role of women in the well-being of the family cannot be denied, but due to the lack of gender equality, in most third world countries they are not recognized for their great role in the development of society. This paper will seek to understand the current situation and to analyse different attempts to change this situation in legal instances. The Syrian war has negatively affected the lives of women, adding to their burdens, and in many cases



carrying them beyond their capacities, but it also opened new spaces for them to be involved and succeed, but without having legal equality with men in many rights. This discrimination against women in Syria is not the result of society and its customs only but has been entrenched by legal texts in the Syrian constitution and the various Syrian laws. This paper will discuss the empowerment of women in the legal field in Syria by presenting the current Syrian legal texts and explaining their deficiencies and articles bearing a discriminatory nature. Women are prevented from realizing their right to be equal with men, starting with their right to take leadership positions and political participation, to hold public office, as well as their right to vote, to work, and to social and health security.

## **Social Justice in Times of Crisis: The Powerful and the Powerless**

**Blerina HAMZALLARI**, University of Tirana  
(Albanian Sociological Association)

The history of human society is full of milestones, i.e. events that have determined the course of its development. The 21st century seems to be challenging. Global society is still reeling from the fear, sadness and restrictions dictated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Every day brings a new confrontation: new wars, new battles, such as the war in Ukraine, climate challenges, energy crises, hunger crises, health crises, biological weapons, etc. All of these produce manifold serious social crises, which cross every border and quickly become a matter of concern for all. These crises are proving to be a real threat for one of the greatest efforts of the twentieth century, which was social justice. In times of crisis, social justice agendas are transformed and the boundaries of social injustice deepen. The basic question of this paper is: How do the current trends of social crisis affect social justice and how does the crisis contribute to deepening the gap between the powerful and the powerless in Albanian society? This article was conceived as a critical and reflexive article on the Albanian society in the face of the global crises of the 21st century. Albanian society in the eyes of a foreign visitor can come in all possible shiny shades and colours. But what are the effects of the current crises in aspects of social justice such as human rights, equity, participation, or the access to resources? How does power affect the way social crises are dealt with?

## **Generation and Gender as Intersecting Axes of Inequality and Injustice in South Korea**

**Joon HAN**, Yonsei University  
(Korean Sociological Association)

South Korea has achieved democratic transition and consolidation as well as rapid economic growth during the last half century. However, economic and political achievement in South Korea came at a social cost. Generation and gender are two major axes of inequality and injustice in the country. While the baby boom between 1950s and 1970s produced a demographic dividend, providing favourable conditions for economic growth, the rapid decline in fertility since the 1980s resulted in inter-generational disparity between boomers and millennials. Although patriarchy based on traditional Confucian values has been functional in maintaining social order during the latter half of the twentieth century, its demise in the twenty-first century intensified social cleavage and conflict across the generations and gender. Evidences of generational and gender inequality and injustice are presented and intersection between generation and gender is analysed and discussed.

## **What Makes Sociology International? Insights from Lithuania**

**Diana JANUŠAUSKIENĖ**, Lithuanian Centre for Social Sciences  
(Lithuanian Sociological Association)

The COVID-19 pandemic has challenged the mode of production, distribution and consumption of sociological knowledge. A general turn towards online practices has both negative and positive sides. On the one hand, it creates isolation, disrupts regular activities and strengthens global inequalities, yet, on the other hand, it enhances internationalisation of sociology due to new online possibilities. Taking into consideration the impact of the pandemic, this paper investigates the internationalisation of sociology as a result of various types of social change: globalisation, political regime change, national science policy change, etc. In addition, the paper looks at the advantages and disadvantages of the internationalisation of sociology in a small country. The analysis is based on a case study of Lithuania.

## **Ethnicity, Marginality, and Discrimination: A Study of Santal-Bengali Relationship in Northern Bangladesh**

**Shaikh Mohammad KAIS**, University of Rajshahi  
(Bangladesh Sociological Association)

That a mounting sense of frustration and insecurity is prevalent in the minority ethnic communities in Bangladesh is now widely acknowledged. The nation-state of Bangladesh problematizes ethnic issues through particular discourses and practices, which try to establish the dominant Bengali visions and silence the voice of the minorities. Similarly, the Constitution of Bangladesh, declaring all people living in the country as Bangalees, categorically ignores the ethnic plurality of its inhabitants and the rights of non-Bengali tribal people. Consequently, the prejudiced Bengalis dare to harass and discriminate minority communities, which lead to material and cultural or symbolic dispossession in those groups. Thus, they are increasingly marginalized in the social milieu. This paper studies how the Santal people, an ethnic minority group, are denied access to basic human rights of equality and justice in Bangladesh. Since everyday life is an inter-subjective world where people make sense of themselves and others through perceptions and interactions in social life, this research investigates how the Santal people suffer from dispossession and marginalization through their daily experience of discriminatory behaviour of the dominant Bengalis. For this study, field-level data were collected from two Santal settlements in northern Bangladesh. This research finds that the Santal people are victims of blatant discriminations such as land grabbing as well as more subtle discriminations such as avoidance, verbal abuse, and social segregation. This study thus unfolds the challenges of cultural pluralism in Bangladesh.

## **The Non-Voluntary Non-Migrant Phenomenon: A Study of the Causes and Consequences, with a Special Focus on Iran**

**Abdie KAZEMIPUR**, University of Calgary  
(Canadian Sociological Association)

Research interest in international migration has risen over the past decade, but the existing scholarship suffers from a conceptual bias towards the 'act' of migration (the objective dimension) and away from the 'desire' for migration (the subjective dimension). Drawing on, and extending, Carling's Aspiration/Ability model, I argue that a two-dimensional model that incorporates both the objective and the subjective dimensions adds significant explanatory power to the existing scholarship. Doing so creates, instead of the conventional migrant/non-migrant categories, four target populations for future research: 1) 'voluntary migrants' (VM), as those with a desire and ability to migrate (e.g., skilled-worker economic immigrants); 2) 'non-voluntary migrants' (NVM), as those without any desire, but forced, to migrate (e.g., forcefully relocated refugees); 3) 'voluntary non-migrants' (VNM), or those in the countries of origin that have not migrated and have no desire to do so (e.g., mainstream populations); and 4) 'non-voluntary non-migrants' (NVNM), as those in the countries of origin with a desire, but without the ability, to migrate. This expanded categorization allows for the introduction of several new concepts: a) ratio of NVNMs to VMs, as an indicator of the overall migration landscape in a country; b) 'social remittances', as the path of influence of VMs on NVNMs; c) 'culture of migration', as the path of influence of NVNMs on VNMs. The use of these concepts combines the understanding of the experiences of the four segments of population into one integrated conceptual model. I use Iran as a case study for applying the suggested model.

## Digital Information Literacy Levels in ASEAN countries

**Ayu KUSUMASTUTI**, Brawijaya University, Indonesia

**Astrida Fitri NURYANI**, Brawijaya University, Indonesia

The presence of internet has influenced enormously how society adapts, particularly how people have the capacity to search, generate and synthesize digital content, what is known as digital information literacy. ASEAN 2025 policy produces a region that leads in the digital economy due to the society's participation in the digital sphere such as the emerging of smart cities and the digitalization of products and services (Keaney, 2015). This research aims at examining the digital information literacy level in ASEAN that shows the implementation of ASEAN digitalization policy. To this end, quantitative descriptive methods were used by collecting secondary data from The Inclusive Internet Index 2018 prepared by the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) in collaboration with Facebook, which can be downloaded at <https://theinclusiveinternet.eiu.com/>. From the analysis, it can be seen that the digital information literacy level in ASEAN is high, with four out of eight countries with a score or value of 88, 83, 80 and 74 respectively. With scores of 67 and 63, two countries have a moderate level, while the other two countries have a low level, with scores of 58 and 54. People with a high level of digital information literacy have an easy access to the internet and are responsive in creating virtual information. Furthermore, society has a capacity to criticize the information on digital platforms.

## Power of Sociology in Democracy Building and Resistance to Russia's War: Reflections from Ukraine

**Olga KUTSENKO**, Taras Sevchenko National University of Kyiv

(Sociological Association of Ukraine)

**Svitlana BABENKO**, Taras Sevchenko National University of Kyiv

(Sociological Association of Ukraine)

Russia's war in Ukraine since 2014, and its full-scale invasion on February 24, 2022 brutally changed the life and pathway of Ukrainian society, and also put forward new challenges to sociology and its power both in wartime and in the prospect of post-war restoration period. We apply the concept of 'power of sociology' to reflect the influence of sociology, as a science and a policy enforcement practice, for understanding what is or not real and true, what works, for whom and under what circumstances. Does sociology help society to see the "truth" in the streams of multiple practices, contradictory information and public manipulations, and how does it do it in Ukraine? Does sociology help to better understand the opportunities for and barriers to nation-building, democracy development, and resistance against Russia's aggression? The following threefold conceptual framework is used: a) knowledge production (what is investigated; who is being investigated; how is it investigated: methodology validity, data reliability, professional ethics); b) knowledge dissemination (who is the knowledge for, and how is it spread; publicity and interaction with media); c) relations with public authority and civil society (independence vs. dependence of knowledge production; mutual interest and social responsibility vs. serving of political/corporate interests). The analysis is grounded on: 1) in-depth interviews with prominent Ukrainian sociologists who have influenced the development of academic and public sociology in Ukraine (2016-18); 2) published narratives of sociological self-reflections (1993-2022); 3) secondary analysis of a special study conducted within the Sociological Association of Ukraine in the 2000s.

## Can Sociologists Talk about a "New" Societal Transformation in Universal Language(s)?

**Takashi MACHIMURA**, Hitotsubashi University

(Japan Sociological Society)

Language is still a problem. When the first wave of COVID-19 was storming globally, people around the world once had the impression that they could sympathize without words. However, it soon became apparent that a language was needed to express the transition or transformation to a "new" society. Under the growing dominance of English, doing sociology in "another language" becomes a common experience for non-native English sociologists. How

to keep balance between native language(s) and English? How to fill the gap between the local vernacular world and the English-speaking world? And, more particularly, how to enrich the vocabulary of “the social” in the local world? In a more globalized world after COVID-19, the desire for localization appears as one of the major challenges to conventional narrative. Is it possible to imagine language(s) for inclusive transformation? Or will languages make a more exclusive and fragile world? The paper investigates these questions by using data from a questionnaire survey conducted in 2014 at the ISA World Congress of Sociology in Yokohama.

## **Food, Nation Building, and Citizenship in a Multicultural Context**

**Eloísa MARTÍN**, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro  
(ISA Vice-President for Publications)

Created in 1971, the United Arab Emirates is undergoing an intensive process of nation-building. Emirati citizens comprise around 10% of the country’s population, while the remaining 90% make up a multicultural group with people from 200 countries. Even if preserving their own traditions, religion and values, citizens are necessarily intertwined by numerous ties of all kinds – commercial, work, study, services, neighbourhood, etc. – in a multicultural society. Regarding the food scenario, visitors, residents and locals can easily find national cuisines from all over the world. However, Emirati restaurants are not among them. The few restaurants labelled as “Emirati” are oriented towards tourism, and are barely visited by locals. Mostly, Emirati food is prepared and eaten at home (or, possibly, ordered to catering services for bigger gatherings). Therefore, and as the locals say, “real” Emirati food is only available at home, but not in the public space. Based on ethnographic accounts and in-depth interviews, this paper argues that it is possible to understand both the definition of the Emirati Nation and the specificity of Emirati citizenship (in terms of access to rights, subjectivity and social interaction) by observing the foodscape in the United Arab Emirates.

## **The Impact of Multiple Crises in Lebanon on the Decision to Migrate of the Academic Youth**

**Suzanne MENHEM**, Lebanese University  
(Lebanese Association of Sociology)

Lebanon is experiencing very acute financial hardship due the economic recession following the uprising of October 2019, the dollar crisis, COVID-19, the huge Beirut explosion of August 4, 2020 and its resulting humanitarian crisis, topped by the intractable political crisis which is paralyzing the urgent reforms required by the international community. The Lebanese population is estimated in 2020 at 4,842,000 according to the Central Statistics Administration. More than 55% is now trapped in poverty and struggling for bare necessities (ESCWA, 2020). As a result of those unprecedented crises in its history, the country is once again haunted by the ghost of migration. This article aims at studying the impact of the multiple crises (economic and financial, social, political and health) which have hit Lebanon on the potential decision to migrate of young university students aged between 18 and 29. However, swaying between apprehension, uncertainty, stress, demotivation, lack of work opportunities, lack of security and the hope for a better future, they find themselves lost and see migration as the only solution left. To what extent do the multiple crises in Lebanon affect the future of academic youth? To shed light on this social time bomb, we will conduct a research adopting a quantitative approach based on a survey of a snowball sample of Lebanese youth aged between 18 and 29 enrolled in private universities and in the Lebanese University in undergraduate, graduate and PhD programs for the academic year 2020-2021. The results show that this potential migration is much more complex than it seems.

## **‘Fake News’ Communities: An Unintended Consequence of Growing Inequalities**

**Milla MINEVA**, Sofia University  
(Bulgarian Sociological Association)

I would like to develop an argument that increasing social inequalities within contemporary societies and perceptions of (in)justice, especially in the Balkan countries, construct – as an unintended consequence – ‘fake news’ communities. Our lives have been shattered by the COVID-19 pandemic and more recently by the outrageous war in Ukraine. Both unexpected events have acted as magnifying glasses to show the fragmentation of our societies, the collapse of common public understandings and maps of meanings, as well as the effectiveness of ‘fake news’ in a liquefying rationality. Bulgaria has proved to be a striking example of the efficiency of fake news, with its anti-vax communities, lowest rates of vaccination in Europe, and highest number of people supporting the Russian aggression or positioning themselves as neutral. To understand these public perceptions I argue, on the basis of discourse analyses, that in ‘fake news’ communities we can see people gathered together by their shared mistrust towards public institutions. These are citizens who perceive social reality as unjust and experience a decrease in their social status or fear of downgrading, thus longing for a radical change, a new social reality. The perceptions of these ‘fake news communities’ have been effectively employed by radical political parties for their own interests. The last point here is how to tackle the problem of fake news. Checking the reliability of the sources or teaching media literacy will not be enough if fake news are community narratives, while proposing new public policies towards inclusive societies would be more effective.

## **From the Centrality of the State to the Power of the Margins: Critique of a Sociology Frozen in the Past in the Maghreb**

**Khalid MOUNA**, Moulay Ismail University  
(Moroccan Sociology Network)

The question of dualism in the Maghrebian context has been based on the centrality of the state, and its relationship to its margins. Most of the analyses were built on functional, structural or semi-structural contradictions, such as: official Islam/popular Islam, honour/Baraka, sacred/profane, etc., where the city represented modernity and the rural world one of tradition and conservatism. As for the explanatory approach, it created a relationship based on a duality between the sheikh/master and the murid/disciple. Among these structural contradictions of anthropological analyses, other oppositions emerged, such as: Beldi-modern/Rumi-old, local/external, urban/horizontal, authentic local/local contingency, etc. The COVID-19 pandemic did not reveal the limits of a dualist approach, but it did call into question the centralisation of the state thanks to the sociological (Weberian) approach. From a conception of the margins as actors of political and social dynamics, this paper attempts on the one hand to clarify both the limits of an approach centred on the power of the state, and on the other hand to make sense of the various protest movements in the Maghreb that have emerged from the margins. The aim is to show how states have tried to take advantage of the pandemic to reinforce their centrality, which is threatened by the mobilising force of the margins.

## **Sociological Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic in Hungary**

**Beáta NAGY**, Corvinus University of Budapest  
(Hungarian Sociological Association)

In recent times, several health, economic and political crises have profoundly disrupted social relations and required a rapid response from the sociological profession in general and sociologists in particular. The social impact of COVID-19 has been maybe of the most significant importance over the last two and a half years, radically changing the lives of all members of society without exception. In this presentation, we will attempt to review the professional responses to the pandemic situation in Hungary. We will look at the most salient issues, the forums in which the research findings have been published, and how the Hungarian public has resonated with them. Our results show that the need for a rapid professional response and working in ad hoc and diverse groups has increased. The topics connected to the social impacts of COVID-19, e.g. gender inequality at home, changing fertility decisions, or worsening mental health issues, became popular from the beginning of the pandemic. Later, however, the anti-vaccination attitude gained rising importance.



## **The Gender Equality in Politics in Vietnam: Achievements and Challenges in the New Period**

**Huu Minh NGUYEN**, Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences  
(Vietnam Sociological Association)

The Vietnam Law on Gender Equality (2006) has created an important legal framework to achieve the goal of gender equality in all areas of social and family life, including politics. Subsequently, in 2007 the Vietnamese Communist Party Politburo issued Resolution No. 11 to clarify the viewpoint on the work of female officials during the period of industrialization and modernization of the country and a number of specific targets on female officials. Over the past ten years, there have been many implementation activities aimed at increasing the number and quality of female officials participating in leadership and management. Thanks to this, the participation of women in the political life of Vietnam has achieved many good results. The percentage of women members in the Party's Politburo and Central Committee has increased in the last three terms, and the percentage of women in the National Assembly has begun to increase. However, compared to the targets set in Resolution No. 11, almost none of the targets on gender equality in politics has been achieved. In some areas, the percentage of female leaders and managers has increased but it has not been stable. This paper points out some basic causes of the above limitations: awareness of the role of women; the implementation of policies for female officials; and personnel planning, preparation, training, and employment of female officials. Based on this analysis, the paper proposes a number of solutions to increase women's participation in politics in the new period.

## **Trust in Scholarly Knowledge after the Pandemic, Post-Factual, and Decolonizing Turns**

**Elina OINAS**, University of Helsinki  
(The Westermarck Society)  
(ISA Executive Committee, National Associations Liaison Committee)

The COVID-19 pandemic reshaped the ways societies were seen to ideally function, making sociological questions about trust and authority relevant in new ways. In this paper the trustworthiness and authority claims of social science knowledge are in focus. During the pandemic, taken-for-granted notions of individual freedoms and collective responsibility were challenged by arguments about epidemiological facts. These, however, are only taking shape, and changing, as this virus became gradually known to scientists, yet, the societal aspects of governance came also to the fore, especially in vaccine uptake. Sociology has a long tradition in understanding how science-based policy and public trust co-exist, but sociology also needs to revisit its tools in the new situation. Do we need new ways of public engagement around knowledge, reliability and authority? The sociological debates over positivism, truth, knowledge/power and politics of knowledge production already gained urgency – and a need to revise some more sceptical accounts especially in qualitative sociology regarding reason and evidence – due to the popularity of post-factual authoritarian regimes across the world. Simultaneously, the student movements demanding decolonizing presented powerful challenges to universalizing yet biased tendencies in social sciences. How to bring these debates together? When the trustworthiness of scholars and decision makers alike is contested, what arguments are used by social scientists, to regain trust? The empirical case presented here is a study of a negotiation between global development policy makers and academics in Finland.

## **Digital Revolution, New Totalitarianisms and Emerging Liberties in the Consent Society**

**Paulo PEIXOTO**, University of Coimbra  
(Portuguese Sociological Association)

The new technologies are, in contemporary societies, particularly for the younger generations, a factor of empowerment. But they are also, globally, a source of social exclusion and a paradoxical source of dispossession. In the consent society, the right to use brings with it the requirement of consent, insofar as the financial cost inherent to use has been progressively replaced by the surrender of explicit consent. Not consenting almost always means not

being able to use. This requirement converts the desired and socially valued “power to share” into the unavoidable duty to share. The need for protection of fundamental rights in the so-called knowledge society has led citizens to increasingly accept practices of conscious and free consent. Since in the Internet, in the social media, and in the cookie’s society consent becomes mandatory, we are witnessing a growing banalisation of the act of consenting. The more one is called upon to consent, the less each of us cares about what we consent to. We consent more and more lightly and uncritically. The point is that, in this recklessness, the price one pays for what one consents to becomes apparently irrelevant in the face of the power and freedom to use “without paying”.

Rights are easily converted and transacted in a market where power and ease of use of technological devices are exchanged for the granting of almost any private right. Ironically, in the consent society, privacy policies have become the main instrument of privacy usurpation.

## **A Multi-Layered Story of the Bureau of African Affairs and South Africa's Liberation Struggle**

**Mosa M. PHADI**, University of the Free State  
(South African Sociological Association)

The article seeks to expand scholarship on the relationship between the Bureau of African Affairs (BAA) and the South African liberation struggle, showing that the Bureau provided more than just military and financial resources. It will highlight how the Bureau took an interest in a much wider spectrum of issues. While the article will add to the current literature and explore the Pan Africanist Congress/African National Congress relationship with the Bureau, it will move beyond a narrow framing which situates the BAA as merely a source of financial aid to these liberation movements. It will demonstrate that the Bureau also provided an ideological and administrative support to some of the parties. Secondly, it will give an in-depth account of the information the Bureau collected on South African organisations and individuals. These archives are an ‘imperfect witness to the past’ of South African liberation history that has hardly been explored.

## **From Crises to Social Transformations: The Role of Social Movements as Producers of Meaning**

**Geoffrey PLEYERS**, Catholic University of Louvain  
(ISA Vice-President for Research)

In many parts of the world, the past 15 years have been experienced and analysed as a succession of crises. The financial crisis, the environmental crisis and the COVID-19 pandemic have shaken our world. While citizens, political leaders and sociologists frame them as a source of profound social transformations, reality invariably falls far from these expectations. This contribution argues that crises do not call for a particular social change or specific economic policy. The latter depends on the ability of social actors to highlight the questions spawned by the historical situation and impose their interpretation of the crisis and its underlying vision of society, and economic rationality may set the ground for new policies in economic, social and democratic matters. Social movements play a significant role in providing alternative meanings and interpretations to a crisis, both on the progressive and reactionary sides. This contribution will illustrate this argument by analysing how social movements have transformed the way we see the COVID-19 pandemic. The second part will then outline some cultural, social and political impacts of these interpretations of the pandemic. The third part argues that these actors also raise challenges to global sociology as different paradigms inherited from social movements have found increasing importance in our discipline during the pandemic.

## **A Quantum Theory of Social Fragmentation**

**Gevorg A. POGHOSYAN**, National Academy of Sciences of Armenia  
(Armenian Sociological Association)

The COVID-19 pandemic that overtook us at the beginning of the 2020 created specific conditions for social life in the world. The measures of protection against mass infection also required the observance of a social distance. Actually, not only economic, but also social lockdown took place. A few months after the start of the pandemic, the social disintegration and social fragmentation have reached exceptional historical magnitude. Not only education, medical care, trade, administration, but also purely human, family and kinship contacts were transferred to remote format. Sociological polls had to be converted from face-to-face to phone or Internet on-line surveys. Different types of interpersonal contacts, especially prominent for people of Southern countries like Armenia, were minimized. Such a sharp destruction of the usual way of life led to the developing of various forms of depression, stress, as well as some forms of social insubordination and protest movements. Existing social theories, which more or less explained the previous model of society, have become inadequate for explaining the new social realities in the conditions of social atomization. Thus sociologists today are faced today with the challenge of developing a new, "quantum social theory", capable of reflecting the new realities of this fragmented society. Such a quantum social theory will have to move away from the usual concept of cause-and-effect relationships to develop a new concept of social causation based on a "principle of uncertainty" of social interaction.

## **Threats to Academic Freedom and its Impact on Sociology – the Australian Case**

**Alpha POSSAMAI-INESEDY**, Western Sydney University  
(The Australian Sociological Association)

2020 has been marked by catastrophes that have accentuated rapid societal changes where the consequences of structural inequalities are heightened. At the time that social science disciplines are needed to make sense of these changes, the autonomy of universities, where many sociologists are positioned, is being threatened. The values of institutional autonomy, freedom of speech and academic freedom legitimate the purpose of the university and speak to its role within social and political spheres, in other words, they are the legitimating concepts of what a university is. The entire enterprise is reliant on these values, and it is the argument of this contribution that academic freedom and its sister values of freedom of speech and institutional autonomy are being threatened by a politicisation of the concepts themselves. The paper will detail the current status of academic freedom and freedom of speech within Australia with reference to a recent inquiry into freedom of speech within universities in Australia and two further Senate reviews into these areas. It is argued, that the two Senate reviews were based on a narrative that simultaneously argued the values of academic freedom and freedom of speech are at risk and that academics and universities are the risk. It is the argument of this submission that this politicisation has resulted in a call for increased governmental regulatory constraints which in turn has the capacity to undermine academic freedom and the ability of the University to fulfil its function, which ultimately is to provide social 'goods' to society.

## **Solidarities, Cooperation and Collaboration: How do we Balance Heterogeneities of Marginalities on this Path towards Global Sociologies?**

**Bandana PURKAYASTHA**, University of Connecticut  
(ISA Executive Committee, National Associations Liaison Committee)

The efforts to decolonize sociologies, paying heed to past and contemporary colonialisms, and paying heed to a variety of marginal voices is gaining grounds in sociology. This is a welcome direction within ISA's quest for creating global sociologies. In this paper I want to reflect on some of the challenges of dismantling hierarchies across many different types of marginalities. For instance, how do we understand, engage with, and attend to the conditions of groups marginalized in different countries? While many structures continue to create and foster global-level marginalities – for instance between Global North and South – we are also trying to listen to people marginalized within countries. In this paper I will highlight the challenges of balancing the objectives of creating more spaces for

cooperation and collaboration with research tools developed through systems of colonization. I will argue that we need to consider spatial, temporal, and virtual positionings along with local social positioning to keep simultaneous, multi-level marginalities and privileges in our sights. I will also argue that paying attention to situated contexts, as scholars have earlier argued, remains critically important to retain a sense of historical and contemporary structures. Using examples from histories of movements and the work being done on the pandemic now, I will point to some ways in which cooperation and collaboration is happening now, and the critical issues we will have to continue to challenge.

## **Creating a 'Hostile Environment' – Making Sense of the UK's Evolving Immigration Regime**

**Louise RYAN**, London Metropolitan University  
(British Sociological Association)

On 14th June 2022, the first scheduled flight was due to leave Britain taking asylum seekers to Rwanda as part of a multi-million pound 'off-shoring' agreement. However, the chartered flight was grounded by successful legal challenges in the British and European courts. Nevertheless, the British Home Secretary was unrelenting and claimed the policy would be a successful deterrent in the UK's campaign of creating a hostile environment for 'illegal' migration. The majority of those migrants arriving in the UK in 2022 have been from Afghanistan. In this paper, using the example of Afghans, and drawing on my recent research with colleagues, I will explore how the British government has navigated the particular 'crisis' posed by the collapse of the Afghan government in August 2021, the subsequent evacuations from Kabul airport and arrival in the UK of thousands of refugees. The British government evacuated approximately 17,000 people from Afghanistan between April and September 2021. While the government extols its commitment to supporting Afghans, the new Nationality and Borders Act will further reduce the pathway to refugee status for Afghans arriving on British shores in small boats. Using the narratives of our Afghan participants, as well as insights from key stakeholders, I will analyse the flaws in the Home Office response to these new arrivals. The paper suggests that the policy of hostile environment has left the Home Office ill-prepared to respond to sudden but recurring refugee events such as occurred in Syria in 2015, Afghanistan in 2021 and again in Ukraine in 2022.

## **Power, Knowledge and Society Disposessions and Empowerment in Tunisia during the COVID-19 Pandemic**

**Mounir SAIDANI**, University of Tunis El Manar  
(ISA Executive Committee, National Associations Liaison Committee)

Considering the governance of COVID-19 pandemic, what is worth exploring, from a sociological point of view, is the way(s) in which societies react and how social dynamics are generated while addressing the pandemic. One question to be answered is to which extent resisting COVID-19 is planned on an integrating and comprehensive societal way. At the crossroads of citizens' demands and the fight against the contagion in swamping healthcare, medical scientific-based measures mobilised are both sanitary and social. A full societal engagement in fighting the pandemic requires all citizens to have economic resources, political participation, and anti-pandemic knowledge. Disposessions vs empowerment are at the heart of the issue. The states' priorities might be to lead resisting strategies. This is particularly relevant in Tunisia, which has witnessed months of lingering political post-electoral crisis (2019 legislative and presidential elections). Mobilising a long-standing centralised Tunisian governance of matters is increasingly in contrast with an invigorated willingness to establishing from-below participatory local democracy. From a below-and-inside standpoint, the gathered data will provide insights into how 'national solidarity' is built and how it re-structures society begetting losers as well as winners on the economic, sanitary and political levels.

## **Gender Difference in the Perception of the COVID-19 Pandemic among Older People**

**Sawako SHIRAHASE**, The University of Tokyo  
(ISA Vice-President for Finance and Membership)

While it has been recognized that the COVID-19 pandemic leads to more serious social divide, gender and generational gaps need special attention. Gender issues should be one of the most serious cleavages enhancing social inequality under the COVID-19 pandemic. Women tend to perceive higher risks than men (Lewis and Duch 2021). A significant increase in psychological distress during the COVID-19 pandemic can be seen among those with low-income families in Japan (Kikuchi et al. 2020). A significant increase in young women's psychological distress between December 2019 and July 2020 was confirmed (Fujihara and Tabuchi 2022). These studies have paid attention to those who are relatively young, but we do not know enough about how old people perceive the COVID-19 pandemic. In this study, we focus on people who are in their sixties and over to examine their reaction to the social risk of COVID-19. We also see how class-related characteristics such as class origin and educational attainments are associated with their risk behaviour. The data which we analyse in this study is the sixth wave of a panel survey on old people in Japan (JPSPL) in 2020. The respondents whom we analyse are 1,665 men and women aged 60 and over. Our tentative conclusion is that the degree of change in psychological distress measured by Kessler 6 score (K6 score) is not different between men and women aged 60 and over, while the overall stress is higher among women than among men. I will discuss its implication more in my presentation.

## **Structural Injustices of Transgenders in Pakistan**

**Saira SIDDIQUI**, Government College University Faisalabad  
(Sociological Association of Pakistan)

**Syeda Khizra ASLAM**, Government College University Faisalabad  
(Sociological Association of Pakistan)

It is a question of perception and cultural identities that the people with the look and behaviour of the opposite gender, called transgenders are taken as a premonition for their families who then free themselves of their own child and hand him over to a group of transgenders usually from poor socio-economic conditions, making him vulnerable to an unhealthy life rife with malpractices and abuse. This paper centres its arguments on the histories of social exclusion, harassment and oppression of the transgender people and the need for justice and rights for them. Although the rights of transgenders are protected in the Constitution of Pakistan (1971), transgender people have actually been little cared of, in terms of their health care and social security, and have rather been subjected to physical violence. Culturally they are segregated from the mainstream of society and cannot attend the religious, cultural and other miscellaneous functions. Behavioural issues are faced in courts, hospitals and in educational institutions. The life of transgenders is actually marked with the stigma of being transgender. Since the creation of Pakistan in 1947 they have not been a part of population data, as a result of which national identity card and passport were denied to them throughout. Only very recently the government of Pakistan on the orders of the Supreme Court has issued identity cards for them. This oppressed segment of the society has virtually become untouchables. The restoration of their dignity, humanness and erasure of injustices in the structure of our cultural practices looms large.

## **Inequalities and Justice in the Balkans**

**Rumiana STOILOVA**, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences  
(Bulgarian Sociological Association)

In the last two years the world has been experiencing a state of exception, due to COVID-19 and the following war in Ukraine. We all realised the connectedness of our societies, but also the internal fragility of our daily practices. Living in a state of exception has magnified social problems, recently neglected by public policies. The pandemic and the war in Ukraine contributed to the rise of social inequalities, already significant before, in the Balkans. This presentation is focused on social inequalities and perceptions of justice in five Balkan countries (Bulgaria, Slovenia, Croatia, Montenegro and Serbia). The aim is to compare the stratified normative beliefs of the diverse income groups on distributive justice and to investigate individual and macro-level factors for fairness assessments of the received wages. Pre-pandemic and pre-war results show that assessments of the real received income as fair are low in the Balkan countries. The strongest factors for assessing one's income as unfairly low are the level of education and gender. Fewer women than men assess their incomes as fair when controlling for education. Higher assess-

ments of unjust income are made by people who have not reached tertiary education. Among the macro-factors the Gini coefficient increases the assessment of income as unfairly low. The conclusion is that macro differences between Balkan countries are decreasing, but the importance of inequalities based on individual factors and social positions is growing. Growing inequalities and low fairness beliefs are a challenge for taking political decisions supported by different social strata and produce divided societies.

## **Alternative Food Provision System Initiatives in Turkey in the Aftermath of the Pandemic**

**Aylin TOPAL**, Middle East Technical University  
(Turkish Social Science Association)

Since the Gezi Resistance in 2013 there has been a growing number of civil initiatives organized around food, climate and ecology axes. The Gezi spirit has continued to unfold at the neighbourhood level in Istanbul through public park forums and solidarity networks, and eventually found its partial embodiment in the form of consumers' cooperatives established in the following years. The COVID-19 pandemic accelerated these quests for alternative food provision systems in the context of a megacity. Consequently, a second wave of consumer cooperatives were established in several municipalities of Istanbul. These cooperatives preferred to call themselves "procumers" aiming to connect both consumers and producers with short supply chains. Such solidaristic food networks would provide viable alternatives in the face of the climate crisis and approaching food catastrophe.

## **Exclusion and Control in the Discourse of Optimistic Techno-Determinism**

**Danghelly Giovanna ZÚÑIGA REYES**, University of El Rosario  
(Colombian Association of Sociology)

The proposals of the OECD and the Inter-American Development Bank link Third World countries in general to narratives that bear the use of technology as the primary contributor to overcoming problems socially. That accentuates excluding discursive practices because the most vulnerable or low-skilled population does not manage to appropriate technology more comprehensively. Thus, knowledge about the use of technologies becomes the power that allows for processes of naturalization of control through the promotion of self-regulation, the management of their risks, trust in information capture systems, and the expansion of certainty as practices of subjects in smart cities. That allows an extension of micro powers, no longer under absolute state control but unlimited corporatization to the extent that user information goes both to the government of the city and the large corporations that capture the information. This paper aims to make an exploratory analysis of the link between the technical-economic discourse of neoliberalism in the city and the optimistic techno-determinist discourse on the use of technology in three Third World cities in the process of their consolidation as smart cities. It identifies how the Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) are established as central in this governmental exercise downwards, taking it to the sphere of the subjects themselves, their habits and tastes expressed through the capture of information of their activity through ICT. Such information becomes a raw material to be exploited by the private or public companies.





# List of Participants

# List of Participants

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