



Social Indicators Matters No. 18 July 2025



Social
Indicators

NEWSLETTER

Number 18 July 2025

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1. Upcoming events

Spanish Sociology Federation Conference June/ July 2026 in Bilbao Spain

ISA World Conference in Gwangju in South Korea in July 2027

2. Call for papers

Call for Comparative Research Program and INCASI2 Project

The Journal Argumentos of the Instituto Gino Germani of the UBA, for the La Comparación en ciencias sociales, [Comparison in social sciences]. Articles in Spanish or English will be accepted.

The comparative perspective has been consolidated in recent decades as one of the most relevant axes in empirical research in social sciences. However, the heterogeneity of the ways in which comparison questions current ways of doing social sciences is significant.

The recovery of the debate between "comparativists" and "non-comparativists" allows us to grasp the complexity of this question: schematically it is possible to find, on the one hand, those who understand comparison as a specific methodological strategy that prescribes a set of procedures and operations in the definition and selection of cases and that stands out for its ability to produce generalizations and, on the other hand, On the other hand, the voices that consider comparison as an exercise inherent to conceptual production and transversal to the development of scientific knowledge and to the different methodological strategies and in this sense, adopt a more flexible approach, in which the specificity of the comparative approach and the borders that separate it from the rest of the approaches become more tenuous.

In this way, it is possible to include from the tradition of studies of "comparative politics" or "comparative political regimes", or comparative approaches to states or regimes of welfare, inequalities, employment and income; to case studies or qualitative strategies based on the "constant comparison method" of the "grounded theory".

This diversity is also expressed in the distinction between synchronic or diachronic views, or in the distance that can be found between designs based on statistical analysis from secondary sources (where national and international organizations have a central place), ethnographic research or other qualitative approaches, and proposals focused on historical analysis. recovered from neo-institutionalism, although not exclusively. At the same time, a discussion arises around problematizing what is considered a "case", to a large extent

problematizing the traditional centrality of "cross-national" studies, which in terms of studies focused on state phenomena have introduced a problematization about the multiplicity of administrative levels, and that from the point of pointing out "methodological nationalism" has tried to open the comparison to subnational or local instances. It is also possible to reconstruct a debate on the terms of international comparison, trying to overcome the centrality of countries with advanced industrial economies (traditionally Europe and the US) in comparison, promoting *south-south* comparison or introducing the concepts of the *global south and north* to enable other forms of comparison.

In this sense, we expect contributions that, without exhausting other possible edges, can address the following axes:

- Epistemological discussions on the status of comparison in social sciences.
- Theoretical-methodological contributions on comparison.
- Systematizations on the state of the art in comparative research in specific fields.
- International comparative studies.
- Comparative analyses on a sub-national or local scale.
- Works on the "classic" axes of comparison in the social sciences, such as studies of inequalities, working conditions, social structure, classes and class mobility, political and electoral systems, welfare models or regimes.
- Works that broaden the view by proposing innovative comparison topics, showing the productivity of the approach to the social sciences.

The deadline for receipt of articles is Sunday, November 9, 2025. The length of the works will be between 7,000 and 9,000 words. More information is available from here:

<https://publicaciones.sociales.uba.ar/index.php/argumentos/index/>

3. Recent publications

Journal articles:

David Bartram

Bartram, David (2025). Comparing migrants' and stayers' happiness: Addressing incomplete information via a bounds analysis. *Migration Studies*, 13(2)
<https://doi.org/10.1093/migration/mnaf015>

Bartram, David (2025). Does inequality undermine life satisfaction? Effective identification of country-level controls for a longitudinal investigation. *European Sociological Review* <https://doi.org/10.1093/esr/jcaf014>

Hans Dietrich

Wojtek Tomaszewski, Hans Dietrich, Golo Henseke, Ning Xiang & Ingrid Schoon (2025): Socio-Economic and Gender Differences in Post-Secondary Pathways in the UK, Germany, and Australia, *Social Inclusion*, 13, S. 1-23. DOI:10.17645/si.9601
<https://www.cogitatiopress.com/socialinclusion/article/view/9601>

Carina Toussaint, Alexander Patzina, Hans Dietrich & Tobias Wolbring (2025): Study programs, public rankings, and college enrollment intentions: Results from a survey experiment on study program content, flexibility and support Sociology of Education (forthcoming).

Manual Giovine

Jose Garcia and Manual Giovine (2025), Equity and Education: Philosophies and Measurement, *Social Indicators Research*, 178, 707-723 <https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/s11205-025-03572-3.pdf>

Eduardo Molina

Here is the link for the latest publication of the journal, *SOCIEDAD*, of the Faculty of Social Sciences of the University of Buenos Aires. This edition includes articles from several members of the RC55.
<https://publicaciones sociales.uba.ar/index.php/revistasociedad/issue/view/866/showToc>

Santiago Poy

Santiago Poy and Eugenia Dichiera (2025), Micro and macro drivers of working poverty in four Latin-American countries: A comparative study, *International Sociology*.
<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/02685809251351532>

4. Report from the 5th ISA Forum of Sociology in Rabat, Morocco

Knowing Justice in the Anthropocene 6-11 July 2025

During the 5th ISA Forum of Sociology in Rabat, Morocco, there were 17 sessions hosted by the RC55 plus 2 joint sessions hosted by other groups. The World Society Foundation sponsored 15 researchers from Africa, Asia, MENA, Latin America, Europe and the USA by providing travel grants.

RC55 sessions

7 July 9:00 – 10:45 Session # 836 Quality of Life and Well-Being in the Anthropocene: Long Term Trends, Recent Developments, and Future Prospects
 7 July 11:00 – 12:45 Session # 837 Inequality and Well-Being in a Comparative Perspective
 7 July 13:00 – 14:45 Session # 838 Social Indicators for the Study of Public Policies on Socioeconomic Inequalities
 8 July 9:00 – 10:45 Session # 839 Gender Equality Indicators
 8 July 15:00 – 16:45 Session # 840 Rank-Based Approaches to Social Indicators Research
 9 July 11:00 – 12:45 Session # 841 Cultural Differences in Happiness
 9 July 13:00 – 14:45 Session # 842 Change in Working Condition and Labor Inequalities
 9 July 15:00 – 16:45 Session # 843 Improving the Quality of Life with Justice By Looking at Various Problems That Have a Social Impact in the Anthropocene Era in Society Globally
 9 July 19:00 – 20:30 Session # 844 RC55 Business Meeting
 10 July 9:00 – 10:45 Session # 845 Social Inequalities Indicators for Researchers in Training (PhD Students).
 10 July 11:00 – 12:45 Session # 846 Composite Indicators to Compare Social Inequalities Among Countries
 10 July 13:00 – 14:45 Session # 847 Opportunities and Challenges of Measuring Well-Being
 10 July 15:00 – 16:45 Session # 848 New Approaches to Measuring Social Trust
 10 July 19:00 – 20:30 Session # 849 Movilidad Social y Desigualdades Intergeneracionales
 11 July 9:00 – 10:45 Session # 850 Challenges and Opportunities Related to Child Well-Being Data and Indicators I
 11 July 11:00 – 12:45 Session # 851 Challenges and Opportunities Related to Child Well-Being Data and Indicators II

Joint Sessions

7 July 15:00 – 16:45 Session # JS-52 RC42, RC55 Studying Social Cohesion in Comparative Perspective
 8 July 13:00- 14.45 Session # JS-95 RC55, RC30 Metrics for the Future of Work
 11 July 13:00 – 14:45 Session # JS-229 WG11, RC55 Challenges and Opportunities in Measuring Violence

Photos from the sessions and roundtables





RC55 members at the Business meeting on 9 July 2025



Minutes of the RC55 Business Meeting

5th ISA Forum of Sociology in Rabat, Morocco

Date and time: 19:00-20:30, July 9, 2025

Place: FSE007 (Faculty of Education Sciences), Université Mohammed V de Rabat

Participants: 22 people (21 ISA members and 1 affiliated member)

Batsugar Tsedendamba, Christian Suter, Claudia Baeza Cabello, Cristian Segura-Carrillo, David Bartram, Eduardo Chavez Molina, Enrico Di Bella, Indera Pattinasarany, Joonmo Son, Manuel Giovine Giovine, Marc Callens, Masayuki Kanai, Nicolae Bulz, Oliver Nahkur, Pablo Martin Dalle, Pablo Molina Derteano, Pedro Lopez-Roldan, Pilar Cruz Zúñiga, Pildoo Sung, Saloni Biyani, Sandra Fachelli, Vladimir Hlasny

1. Welcome and Opening (Joonmo Son)

- Joonmo requested participants to fill in their names on the participants' list.

2. Activities Report

2a. Finances/Current balance (Masayuki Kanai)

- Current balance is 2,341 USD (as of June 30, 2025).
- 146 USD increased from the Melbourne Congress in 2023.
- Affiliation fees from affiliated members are stored in the RC55 PayPal account.

2b. Newsletter (Jenny Chesters (Joonmo Son presented))

- The ISA requests RCs to publish newsletters twice a year. This serves as a measure of RC vitality and is essential for receiving grants and other benefits from the ISA secretariat.

2c. Conferences and Publications (Christian Suter)

- RC55 – WSF pre-conference, 23-24 June 2023, Melbourne.
Suter, C., Chesters, J., & Fachelli, S. (2025). *Well-being During the Pandemic: Comparative Perspectives from the Global North and South*. Springer Nature.
- Intermediate Conference of the RC55 on Social Indicators, 26-29 June 2024, Seville, Spain.
Fachelli, S., Suter, C., & Son, J. (2025). Measuring Socioeconomic Inequalities in a Comparative Perspective. Special Issue in *Social Indicators Research*.
- RC55 Travel Grants Program for the 5th ISA Forum of Sociology, 6-11 July 2025, Rabat, Morocco. Sponsored by the World Society Foundation.

3. Media & Communication (Dolgion Aldar (Joonmo Son presented))

- The ISA secretariat granted RC55 an institutional address (isa-rc55@isa-sociology.org). This address appears on RC55's website and social media accounts and is only used for inquiries from the general public.
- RC55's mailing list (rc55.socindicators@gmail.com) is available for communicating with RC55 active members.
- Enrico suggested creating a new RC55 account on LinkedIn because LinkedIn is more recognized than BlueSky, especially in professional networks. The existing BlueSky account remains. The meeting approved this proposal.

4. Membership (Masayuki Kanai)

- Current membership stands at 120 people (104 ISA members and 16 affiliated members).
- 34 ISA members and 15 affiliated members have increased since the 2023 Melbourne Congress.
- The ISA membership count is crucial for resource allocation from the ISA, including activity grants and session assignments at the Forums and the World Congresses.
- Individuals aged 70 and above can become ISA life members, whose membership is lifelong and no longer requires paying dues. ISA life members can apply to become RC55 life members upon request. Those interested in transitioning should contact the RC55 Secretary-Treasurer.

5. Future Activities (Joonmo Son)

- Program Coordinator of XXI World Congress of Sociology in Gwangju, South Korea, 2027. Sandra Fachelli and Enrico Di Bella volunteered to be Co-Program Coordinators.
- Mid-term conference in 2026 and Pre-conferences in 2027.
- Holding a joint conference with Korea University in Seoul before the ISA World Congress in Gwangju in 2027 (July 4-10) has been approved.
- Whether to host an RC55 mid-term conference as part of the Spanish Sociology Federation in June or July 2026 in Bilbao, Spain, remains under consideration.

6. Closing of the Meeting (Joonmo Son)

- Joonmo announced the place and time of the RC55 reception.
- Enrico announced that he will distribute a questionnaire about the Ph.D. support program, possibly in September.

RC55 Reception on 9 July 2025



Contribution from Professor PhD Nicolae Bulz

*Neanderthals–Cro Magnons Relations.
'ANTHROPOCENE WISDOM'–Re-elicited.*

In Search for the 4th Dimension: CONSCIENCE-TOWARDS-CONSCIOUSNESS

The main lines of ideas, concepts/constructs of this study are [some of these lines are related to the information/knowledge contained into an accepted paper addressed to the near staged 5th ISA FORUM of Sociology, Rabat, Marocco, July 6-11, 2025]:

*1

Re-opened analysis on the causes of the *modern/contemporary state of "war-peace-war" / our quasi-worldwide realm* - on the contextual reality of a high technological (e-)World.

**2

An 'in ovo' *positive Knowledge Transfer: Neanderthals <=> Cro Magnons (spiritual and physical) intersections (and interbreeding-traces into our genome)* happened on a 'short' Paleolithic term within the European and Asian areal.

***3

Advancing (correlating and concordant) on the *contemporary fragmentation of our Humankind's future*, and the still possible steps to a '*worldwide coherence and cohesivity*' in turn to a *bi-polar/multi-polar conflictual (more than a 'fair' competitive) centennial advance (mostly into our technological upspring, and very probable Cosmic next-stages)*.

****4

Ancestral *PEACEFUL Neanderthals <=> Cro Magnons (spiritual and physical) fair(-possible-)intersections. At least there are not 'wars'-evidence.*
Why was it possible within Millenia back, and is not equivalently possible 'now'?

There is a 'quasi-ignored' Neanderthals' surprising up-spring/contribution/maybe deep 'primal' philosophic resonance to the HUMAN and COSMIC IDEALITIES, 'para'(?)-MODELLING, and (hypothetical-)REALITIES:

REMARK 1:

Let imply a cognitive-and-action track:

- from the 'Systems Theory, Praxis, Logic' towards Inter/Trans/Co-disciplinary approaches on the 'Science/Technology // Culture/Arts // Religion/Philosophy /// Society' NETWORK OF NETWORKS;
- in search of a Key Point of the above-entitled NETWORK OF NETWORKS:
Could it be 'GENEROSITY-CREATIVITY-SOLIDARITY'?

- Could this NETWORK OF NETWORKS be/advance/hosting ['to BE' X 'to HAVE' elicited] two new professions: PEACE ENTREPRENEUR and PROGRESS ENTREPRENEUR towards OUR HUMANKIND's RE-HUMANIZATION?

(Quasi-)AXIOM 1: There is a 'WAR-PEACE-WAR' worldwide stance.

A 'single'-reference on the 1st World War tragedy:

Estimated casualties (military/civilian deaths, injuries from about 37 to 40 million.

(Quasi-)AXIOM 2: There are gaps (a probabilistic, fuzzy and subtle set) within our KNOWLEDGE SOCIETY and within the modern and contemporary 'first stage applicative sciences':

[i.e. a personal responsible (quasi-)axiomatic affirmation]

- Society–Sociology;
- Economy–Economics;
- Polity –Politology;
- Sociology-Economics–Politology;
- Society-Economy–Policy.

Maybe there are some (quasi-)axiomatic SOCIETAL SOLUTIONS [Science//Culture//Religion/Philosophy///Society]:

- ❖ (Real and realistic) INTERDISCIPLINARITY;
- ❖ (Idealistic-but-assumed-realistic) TRANS/CO/CROSS-DISCIPLINARITY.
- ❖ OPENNESS to INTERCULTURALITY; RELIGIONS' OPENNESS towards ECUMENISM; and the POLITY and PHILOSOPHY'S OPENNESS towards *humankind's perennial* possible honest/harmonic 'DIALOGUE and NEGOTIATIONS' between all the 'conflictual/competitive worldwide entities'.

(Quasi-)AXIOM 3: It is still possible a transit/evolution from our KNOWLEDGE SOCIETY to a CONSCIOUSNESS SOCIETY – (mainly) by a simple (but not 'simplistic') recovery/adaptation (so, not-quite-'re-structuration') of the contemporary aspects of the 'first stage' applicative sciences.

(Quasi-)AXIOM 4: Keyword: PEACEFULL COEXISTENCE OF OUR DIVERSE HUMANKIND.

(Quasi-)AXIOM 5: There is a NECESSARY-and-SUFFICIENT inquiry into the PALEOLITHIC and NEOLITHIC quasi-explicative 'traces'–archeological/linguistic changes/genetically–'re-contenting' into the (Quasi-)AXIOM 1.

5. Reminder

December 2025 Newsletter

Please consider sending your updates to the Newsletter Editor at any time for inclusion in the next newsletter. For example, when you have a new publication, promotion, call for papers etc.