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## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Much of the information you will be able to read in this issue and a good part of my words will refer to our work at the recent 5th ISA Forum of Sociology 2025 held from July 6 to 11 at Mohammed V University, Rabat (Morocco).

I am acting as the spokesperson for the Board of our Committee 14 to express my gratitude for all the help and the many comments of appreciation and congratulations on the quantity and quality of the sessions of our RC14 on the Sociology of Communication, Knowledge and Culture.

As you know, we were present at **28 sessions**. Our committee participated in sessions every single day of the Forum. We held sessions in ISA's **three official languages** (English, French, and Spanish). We held traditional **oral paper sessions and poster sessions**. We also held **joint sessions** with RC 37 (**Sociology of Arts**), RC 18 (**Political Sociology**), RC 17 (**Sociology of Organizations**), RC 24 (**Environment and Society**), and RC 07 (**Futures Research**). I think this necessarily brief overview of our work provides some insight into the number of enriching encounters we have had these past few days.

It would take too long to name each of the people involved in organizing each session. In any case, I must express **special gratitude to our Vice President, Christiana Constantopoulou** (Panteion University, Greece), for her work coordinating all the sessions. We owe her a large part of the success.

On Tuesday, July 8, 2025, we were able to hold **an in-person working meeting of the RC14 Board** in Rabat. Almost all members were able to attend: Christiana Constantopoulou (Greece), Laurence Larochelle (France), Omar Cerrillo (Mexico), Oksana Lychkovska-Nebot (Ukraine), and myself as president. The meeting focused on assessing the activities carried out and discussing and agreeing on the lines of work for the next two years, as presented a few days later at the Business Meeting.

On Thursday, July 10, 2025, at 3:00 p.m., we held our **Business Meeting**. It was an opportunity to exchange **experiences and assessments on the activities of the past two years (academic conferences, publications, session preparation, etc.)**. Many colleagues have been involved in the work of these past two years. I think it's only fair to **highlight the excellent work of our secretary, treasurer, and Online Communication Manager, Laurence Larochelle**. Her excellent work and generous dedication have been key to our committee's success. I specifically stated this at our meeting, and all attendees shared our sincere thanks to Laurence.

Regarding **the work we have ahead for the next two years**, I will highlight some points from what was discussed in Rabat.

On the one hand, we agreed to invite interested members to continue the path of quality international publications.

We have also approved holding our **RC14 midterm conference in Paris, France, on March 12 and 13, 2026**. This will be a collaboration with RC 37 (Sociology of the Arts) and Committee 38 (Political Socio-Anthropology: Media and Cultures) of the International Association of French-Speaking Sociologists (AISLF). **The deadline for submitting paper proposals is October 1, 2025**. Detailed information is available in this issue. I do thank Laurence Laroche, for leading the event.

Other international research meetings will be supported by our RC 14. I highlight the meeting to be organized by Prof. Omar Cerrillo in the last days of **October 2026 in Mexico**.

Finally, I want to share with you that we have approved a few **brief online meetings to share research of interest**. I've thought about calling them something like "**30 minutes for communication**". We are planning **six online sessions for the next academic year**. We want them to be short (long online sessions are tiring): 20 minutes of presentation and 10 minutes of questions. Presenters may share supplementary written material if they wish. The session will be introduced by a discussant.

The sessions will be held on some of the last Mondays of the month. We will have sessions in ISA's three official languages. We will begin with a session in Spanish on September 25, 2025. In January and February 2026, we will have sessions in French, and in March and April 2026, sessions in English. Anyone who would like to share their research or have proposals can write to me.

We also must start looking toward South Korea. **XXI World Congress of Sociology will be held in Gwangju (July 4-10, 2027)**. Basic information is available at <https://www.isa-sociology.org/en/conferences/world-congress/gwangju-2027>

As you know, at RC14 we have a wonderful team, with enthusiastic people who are dedicated to launching initiatives, and I can't thank you enough for your work and commitment.

José A. Ruiz San Román

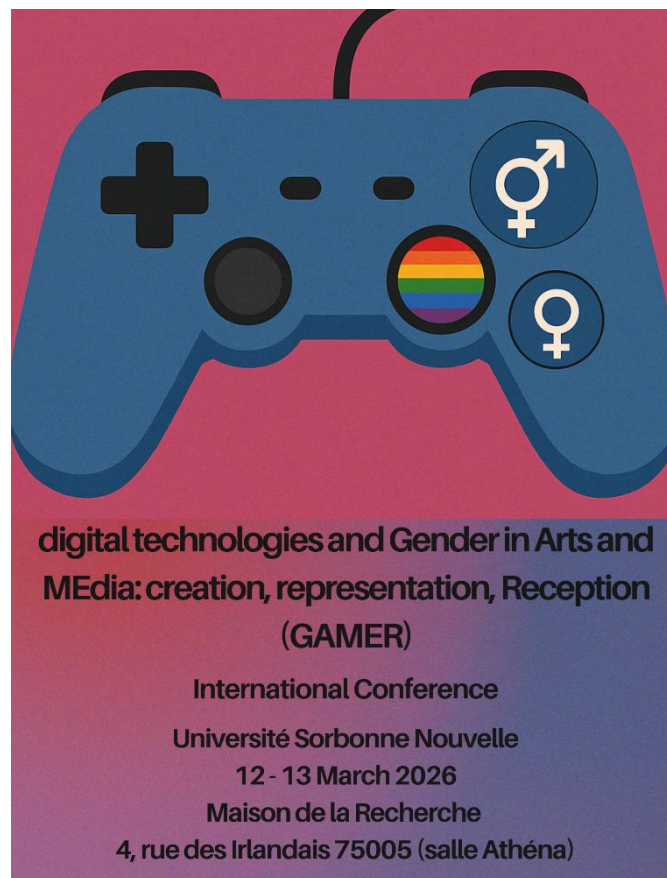
Presidente RC14 (2023-2027)

## 5<sup>TH</sup> ISA FORUM OF SOCIOLOGY

- ❖ The 5th ISA Forum of Sociology took place in Rabat, Morocco, from 6 to 11 July 2025, bringing together **4,842 participants** from **112 countries**.
- ❖ RC14 organized **29 sessions** in collaboration with several other ISA Research Committees (RC37, RC18, RC17, RC24, RC07, RC54, and WG08), as well as with other sociological associations, including the International Association of French-Speaking Sociologists (AISLF).



FORTHCOMING RC14-ISA CONFERENCE IN PARIS



The **Institute of Communication and Media** at Sorbonne Nouvelle, in collaboration with the Departments of **Cinema and Audiovisual Studies** and **Cultural Mediation** at Sorbonne Nouvelle, the **IRMÉCCEN** research laboratory, **Research Committees 14** (Sociology of Communication, Knowledge, and Culture) and **37** (Sociology of the Arts) of the **International Sociological Association (ISA)**, as well as **Research Committee 38** (Political Socio-Anthropology: Media and Cultures) of the **International Association of French-Speaking Sociologists (AISLF)**, are pleased to jointly host an international bilingual conference (French and English) entitled “*digital technologies and Gender in Arts and MEdia: creation, representation, Reception*” (GAMER).

The conference will be held in Paris on **12–13 March 2026**.

Communication proposals must be submitted in English or French by **1 October 2025**.

Read the full call for papers and submission guidelines [here](#)!

## CALL FOR ONLINE SESSIONS

Following the success of RC14 webinars, RC14 is launching a call for online sessions. These sessions aim to bring together RC14 members and share insights from various research areas related to RC14's interests.

Each session will be brief, consisting of a **20-minute presentation followed by a 10-minute Q&A**.

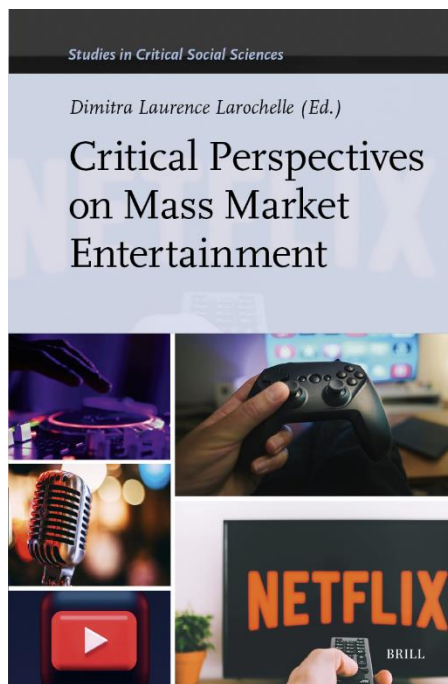
Every session will include an organizer, a presenter, and an introduction by a discussant.

Sessions will be held on selected Mondays at the end of the month and may be conducted in **English, French, or Spanish**.

If you wish to organize a session, please send your proposal, including a brief presentation of the presenter and the discussant, to the following address: [isa-rc14@isa-sociology.org](mailto:isa-rc14@isa-sociology.org)



## RC14'S LATEST PUBLICATION



The latest publication from RC14 is a book edited by Dimitra Laurence Larochelle, entitled ***Critical Perspectives on Mass Market Entertainment***, and published by Brill.

This book offers critical insights into contemporary mass-market entertainment across various geographical and cultural contexts, blending theoretical reflections with empirical case studies. It examines cultural phenomena and objects from both Western and non-Western perspectives, analyzing representations, production, and consumption practices. By highlighting the interplay of identities, power dynamics, and digital transformations, this work deepens your understanding of entertainment as both a cultural phenomenon and an ideological

apparatus. It emphasizes the need for ongoing critical engagement with mass-market entertainment in our rapidly changing world.

For more information, please click [here](#)!

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If you want to share any information with RC14 members please contact

Dimitra Laurence Larochelle at [isa-rc14@isa-sociology.org](mailto:isa-rc14@isa-sociology.org)

If it is not already done...

Like us on Facebook: RC14-ISA

Thank you!!!

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Secretary/Treasurer, RC 14 – ISA  
Member of the board, RC 37 - ISA*