

6th **ISA** Conference of the  
**Council of National Associations**

# **Building Resilient Sociologies:** Voices, Visions, and Ventures

**Program Book**

17-20 December, 2025  
Pune, India

# 6th **ISA** Conference of the **Council of National Associations**

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

<b>WELCOME MESSAGES</b>	<b>03</b>
<b>VENUE</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>ORGANIZING COMMITTEE</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>CONFERENCE THEME</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>TIMETABLE</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>PARTICIPANTS</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>ABSTRACTS</b>	<b>47</b>

6th **ISA** Conference of the  
**Council of National Associations**

**WELCOME  
MESSAGES**



## Dr. Geoffrey PLEYERS

ISA President; FNRS-UC Louvain, Belgium



Dear Colleagues,

This 6th Conference of National Associations brings together presidents and delegates of National Associations from all continents, alongside the ISA president, vice-presidents, executive secretary and the representatives of the National Associations elected to the ISA Executive Committee.

Across the world, National Associations fulfil crucial roles in sustaining sociology and its connection with society. They build national communities of sociologists, provide opportunities for younger scholars to present their research, create spaces for insightful debates on theory, methods and the analysis of society, connect academic sociology with professional sociologists outside universities, stand at the front line when academic freedom is under threat, and link national communities of sociologists with continental associations and with the ISA.

Gathering in Pune is an opportunity to share our experience, the challenges we face, and the good practices that have allowed us to overcome them. It is also an opportunity to share our analyses, concerns, and reflections on the condition of sociology in our countries, our regions, and across the world.

Sociology has been a remarkably dynamic discipline in the past three decades. It has undergone profound transformations, notably thanks to crucial contributions of sociologists from the Global South and the Global East who have challenged the Eurocentrism that long dominated the field. Critical perspectives coming from feminist, subaltern and decolonial studies have enriched our discipline, bringing new conceptual, methodological, and analytical tools to help us understand a rapidly changing world.

Yet this vitality of sociology coincides with unprecedented global challenges (rising authoritarianism, the concentration of wealth, new wars, climate change and the collapse of nature) as well as new threats. Academic freedom has come under attack on all continents. Reactionary movements and political actors openly dismiss the social sciences. Social media and AI facilitate the rapid spread of fake news and hate speech.

At such a moment, it is essential to reassert the aims and purposes of our discipline and to defend a rigorous, independent, critical, public, and global sociology, as we collectively state in the ISA declaration **"A Time for Sociology."** It is also a time to strengthen our unity and coordinate our actions to build a **"resilient sociology."**

Our colleagues in Palestine and Ukraine, and other countries at war or suffering repressive regimes, show us that sociology is even more crucial for a society and its people in extreme circumstances. We have much to learn from their research and publications. This resilience of sociology in wartime is only possible thanks to immense individual and collective efforts by sociologists who themselves face war, threats and violence. They deserve our full support.

For the ISA, it is especially meaningful to hold one of our major conferences in India. Indian sociology is an intrinsic component of global sociology, and Indian sociologists have profoundly shaped the ISA. TK Oommen, who presided over the ISA from 1990 to 1994, insisted that global

sociology must not be reduced to the Westernisation of sociology. Sujata Patel, former vice president of the ISA, has analysed the mechanisms of Western domination in the production of knowledge. Margaret Abraham, the 18<sup>th</sup> ISA president, was trained as a sociologist in Delhi and then in the USA. She has championed a sociology rooted in the lived experience and knowledge of oppressed actors. Today, the Indian Sociological Society counts among the ISA largest and most active national associations, thanks in part to the commitment and integrity of its current president, Maitrayee Chaudhuri.

It is therefore significant for the ISA to gather the National Association in India. I would like to thank our vice-president of the National Association, Bandana Purkayastha, the program committee of this conference, our host at FLAME University, and particularly the head of the local organizing committee, Prof. Mayurakshi Chaudhuri, for making it possible for us to meet in India and for welcoming us to Pune.

This 6th Conference of National Associations is an opportunity to reaffirm our shared values, deepen our solidarities, and work together to build a resilient sociology, one that remains rigorous, independent, critical, public, and genuinely global.

## **Dr. Bandana PURKAYASTHA**

**ISA Vice President for National  
Associations; Board Of Trustees  
Distinguished Professor, University of  
Connecticut, USA**

Welcome to the 6<sup>th</sup> ISA Council of National Associations conference. Thanks to the indefatigable energy and commitment of our colleagues at the ISA Secretariat, especially our Events Officer, Elena Vlecheva and our Executive Secretary, Cecilia Delgado-Molina, and at FLAME University, Pune, led by Professor Maitrayee Chaudhuri, we are about to meet for this exciting conference. So many of us are buffeted by work and life in general, I hope this time together will be rejuvenating for all of us.

Whenever I think of all the national associations that you lead, and the ISA, I am reminded of a saying by poet, artist, savant Rabindranath Tagore, who lived in Bengal in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. I have shared this analogy on other occasions but it is worth repeating. Reflecting on civilizations, Tagore wrote about hundreds of small and large rivulets and tributaries which smash through or go around rocks and obstacles as they sparkle, dance and rush on their way to join the larger river. This large river looks placid but underneath the surface are the energies contributed by all these sources that bring the energy of so many lands and climes. The river itself moves persistently towards a vast ocean. There it immerses itself, bringing the energies, hopes, and yearnings of all the tributaries that kept it flowing. That is who we are, distinctive in our joys and achievements, frazzled by the obstacles we face, yet we come together, again and again, for a common purpose. In building our sociology collectivity lies our resilience. Our visions, voices, and ventures shape where we have come from and the horizons we aspire to reach. In a different publication, Tagore also said, 'wherever we find a friend, there begins a new life.' I hope each of us is able to renew friendships and find new lives as we connect with people we may not have met before.

Welcome friends!

I am most grateful to ISA's President, Geoffrey Pleyers, Vice Presidents Allison-Marie Loconto, Elina Oinas, and Marta Soler; my colleagues on the National Associations Liaison Committee Ana Revoir (Uruguay), Borut Roncevic (Slovenia), Chih-Jou Chen (Taiwan), Dan Woodman (Australia), Dilek Cindoglu (Turkey), Mabrouk Boutagougga (Algeria), Michael Okeyrefo (Ghana), and S.Kais (Bangladesh); ISA Executive Secretary, Cecilia Delgado-Molina, and ISA Secretariat Team, Elena Vlecheva, Anna Maria Kutatelladze Wagner, and Nataly Moreno; the Local Organizing Committee at FLAME University, especially co-chairs Mayurakshi Chaudhuri and Anup Tripathi; the program committee, Mayurakshi Chaudhuri, Santosh Kumar Kudtarkar, Borut Roncevic, Dan Woodman, Jay Chen; and my family and friends who cheerfully and unfailingly lent a hand at critical moments. You made this program possible.



## Dr. Santosh K. KUDTARKAR

Dean of Undergraduate Education and  
Innovation, FLAME University

*FLAME University Co-Chair, ISA Organizing  
Committee of the 6<sup>th</sup> ISA Council of National  
Associations Conference, 2025*



Dear Friends,

It is our great honor and pleasure to host the 6<sup>th</sup> ISA Council of National Associations Conference at FLAME University, Pune, India.

Pune, popularly known as the Cultural Capital of Maharashtra, offers a vibrant blend of history, education, and contemporary urban life. With a total population of over 5 million in the metropolitan region, Pune enjoys a pleasant climate, rich heritage, and lively platforms for arts and culture. Key attractions include the historic Shaniwar Wada, the serene Aga Khan Palace, and the educational hub of Savitribai Phule Pune University. Nearby hill stations like Lonavala, Khandala, Panchgani, Mahabaleshwar, and Nashik together with its food culture and festivals, offer visitors a well-rounded and memorable experience. Also known as the 'Oxford of the East', the city has evolved into a premier education center in the last half a century, attracting students from across India and internationally.

As pioneers of liberal education in India, at FLAME University, our educational philosophy is rooted in the concept that the real world does not function in isolation, and neither should knowledge. By interconnecting social sciences, humanities, physical sciences, business, design, natural sciences, fine & performing arts, communications management and computational sciences, at FLAME we equip our students for an ever-changing new world. At FLAME, our students interact with various disciplines and are encouraged to address pressing world challenges through different perspectives. Our aim is to help them grow as critical thinkers and lifelong learners, as they lead purposeful lives, rather than just narrow professions. Therefore, we foster an environment that is personalised, participatory, and provides a transformational experience to aid in students' personal and professional journeys.

Welcome to Pune, India! Welcome to FLAME University!

## Dr. Mayurakshi CHAUDHURI

**Area Chair, Sociology, & Head of the  
Department of Social Sciences, FLAME  
University, Pune**

***FLAME University Co-Chair, ISA Organizing  
Committee of the 6<sup>th</sup> ISA Council of National  
Associations Conference, 2025; Chair, ISA-  
CNAC 2025 Local Organizing Committee***



Dear Colleagues,

A very warm welcome to FLAME University and to the  
6<sup>th</sup> ISA Council of National Associations Conference!

On behalf of my colleagues, it is my absolute pleasure to introduce you to the Department of Social Sciences at FLAME University. The Department comprises three major academic areas: Sociology, Public Policy and International Studies, and houses a team of seventeen highly qualified regular faculty members who bring a wealth of expertise to the Department and its academic programs. The Department offers a range of undergraduate programs, including both three-year and four-year undergraduate options, with Major and Minor combinations available in all the three core areas of Sociology, Public Policy and International Studies. The Department houses a Doctoral Program in Sociology, catering to students interested in pursuing advanced studies and research in the fields of gender and family, health, aging, migration and mobility, rural and urban sociology, art and heritage, economic sociology, and technology and society.

The Department's strong curriculum across the three academic area, combined with the expertise of the faculty, provides students with a comprehensive understanding of the social sciences and equips them with the necessary knowledge and skills to excel in their chosen fields. Alumni from the Department have achieved remarkable success in their professional endeavors. They have secured positions in prestigious national and international organizations, and many have pursued further studies, including Master's and PhD programs, at renowned universities in India and abroad. The Department continues to commit to producing well-rounded graduates who are prepared to make significant contributions to academia, policy, and various professional sectors on both the national and international stages.

It is my pleasure to welcome you to FLAME University, and to cordially invite you to interact with our faculty and students. Wishing you a very successful and memorable conference at the 6<sup>th</sup> ISA Council of National Associations Conference at FLAME University, Pune, India!



## Dr. Anup TRIPATHI

**Assistant Professor, Sociology, & Faculty Advisor, The Students' Sociology Club, FLAME University**

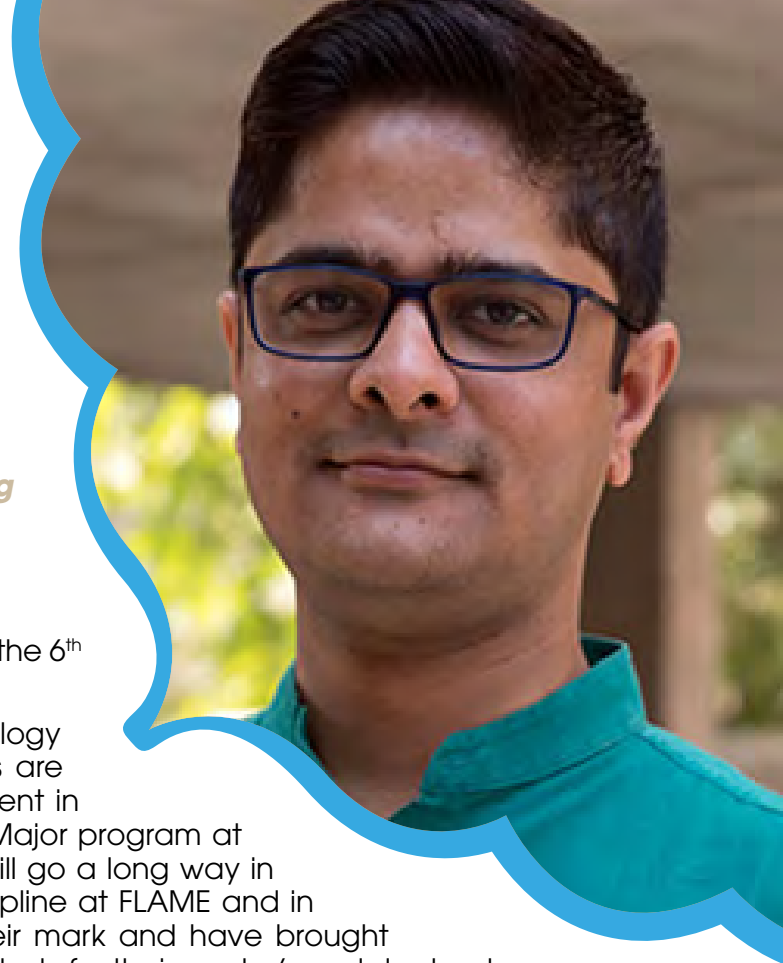
***Co-Chair, ISA-CNAC 2025 Local Organizing Committee***

Dear All,

It is my pleasure to welcome all the delegates to the 6<sup>th</sup> ISA-CNA Conference at FLAME University.

The students and faculty members of Sociology Area within the Department of Social Sciences are particularly excited to witness this seminal moment in our institution's history. We are a relatively new Major program at FLAME University and hence an event like this will go a long way in consolidating and nurturing Sociology as a discipline at FLAME and in India. Our students and alumni have made their mark and have brought laurels to the institution. Alumni have gone on to study for their master's and doctoral programs to premier institutions like Columbia University, University of Amsterdam, University of Groningen, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, University of Southern California, University of Kent, University of Sheffield, University of Edinburgh, London School of Economics and Political Science, University of Nottingham, University of Manchester, SOAS University of London, Imperial College London, Pennsylvania State University at Harrisburg, Delhi School of Economics, and Tata Institute of Social Sciences, India. Our alumni have also been working along different career paths in the corporate sector, development sector, policy thinktanks, research organizations, journalism, filmmaking, entrepreneurship, ESG sector etc. Our students and alumni have been actively participating in various national and international conferences and publish in several reputed national and international journals and media outlets. They have also been participating in outreach and extension activities through fieldwork in different Sociology courses as well through voluntary initiatives. Our students have started a Sociology Club at FLAME. We owe a great deal to our students and alumni for the continued success of Sociology discipline and related events at FLAME University.

On this note, I welcome all delegates to this conference and look forward to their meaningful and valuable interactions with faculty and students here.





# 6th **ISA** Conference of the **Council of National Associations**

## **VENUE**

## About Pune

Nestled in the western Indian state of Maharashtra, Pune is a vibrant metropolis that seamlessly blends heritage, learning, and modernity. Known as the “Oxford of the East,” the city hosts some of India’s most prestigious universities, research centers, and innovation hubs, attracting students, scholars, and professionals from around the world. The city’s youthful energy, thriving start-up ecosystem, and strong presence of global corporations make Pune one of India’s fastest-growing urban centers.

Historically, Pune served as the seat of the Maratha Empire and remains a custodian of rich cultural traditions. From classical music and theater to contemporary art and literature, the city offers an immersive cultural tapestry. Landmarks such as the Aga Khan Palace, Shaniwar Wada, and the Pataleshwar Caves reflect Pune’s enduring historical significance.

Surrounded by scenic Western Ghats and Sahyadris and lush landscapes, Pune enjoys a pleasant climate for most of the year and provides quick access to picturesque getaways, including the Western Ghats, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Cosmopolitan and grounded, Pune is known for its welcoming spirit, diverse culinary platters, and lively neighborhoods. For international visitors, the city offers a unique opportunity to experience India’s cultural depth alongside its global outlook.

## About FLAME University

Spread over 70 acres of green expanse, FLAME University stands tall in the heart of Pune.

FLAME University has been established as a state private university via the FLAME University Act 2014 (Maharashtra Act No. 11 of 2015) of the Government of Maharashtra and has been awarded the highest National Assessment and Accreditation Council accreditation of the University Grants Commission: A++. This recognition affirms our commitment to academic excellence, innovative teaching, and holistic student development. FLAME University is recognized by the University Grants Commission (UGC) under Section 2(f), and degrees awarded by the University are recognized under Section 22 of the UGC Act, 1956.

QS I-Gauge has awarded FLAME University an overall Diamond rating and a Platinum rating in Liberal Arts and Humanities, along with Diamond rankings in Academic Development, Diversity and Accessibility, Facilities, Faculty Quality, and Research Parameters. The postgraduate business program offered by FLAME School of Business has been accepted into the CFA University Affiliation Program. Additionally, it has received A\*\* (National) and A\*\* (State) gradings from CRISIL.

FLAME University has reimagined learning by moving beyond traditional classroom boundaries and anchoring education in real-world exposure. Rooted in Indian tradition and pioneering liberal education in the country, FLAME University nurtures thinkers and doers who question the status quo, engage with diverse disciplines, and develop the confidence to chart their own professional paths.





# The FLAME Vision

FLAME University aims to build an aspirational destination for students and faculty, placing learners at the center of knowledge creation to realize their complete academic and personal potential. The University also fosters a collaborative community of passionate educators and promotes research, innovation, entrepreneurship, and meaningful engagement with society, culture, and the environment.

## FLAME Map



### ACADEMICS

1. Vikram Sarabhai Centre for Executive Education
2. APJ Abdul Kalam
3. Vivekananda Library
4. Kalidas Centre for Performing Arts
5. Kabir Recording Studio
6. Chanakya
7. Raman
8. Kasturba
9. Bhaskaracharya
10. J. C. Bose
11. Ramanujan
12. Chandragupta Collaborative Development Centre
13. Aryabhata
14. Tagore
15. Amrita Shergill
16. Sarojini Naidu
17. Raja Ravi Varma Centre for Fine Arts

### SPORTS

18. Arjuna Centre for Sports
  - Basketball Court
  - Badminton Courts
  - Squash Courts
  - Gymnasium
  - Swimming Pool
  - Therapy Room
  - Chess & Carrom
  - Table Tennis
  - Billiards
  - Fitness Studio
  - Conditioning Studio
  - Focus Room
  - Seminar Room
  - Changing Rooms
19. Cricket Ground
20. Football Ground
21. Track & Field
22. Hand Ball
23. Tennis Courts
24. Volleyball Courts

### EATERIES

25. Aahar
26. Rasol
27. Coffee Nation
28. Juice Press
29. Hashtag
30. Blue Tokai Cafe
31. Korebi
32. Darshini Cafe
33. Charlies Cafe
34. Food Truck
35. VKS Dining

### FLORA & FAUNA

36. Butterfly Garden
37. Nakshatra Garden
38. Botanical Garden
39. Flower Valley

### HOUSING

40. North Housing
41. West Housing
42. East Housing

### RECREATIONAL

43. FLAME Plaza
44. FLAME Kund
45. FLAME Lounge

### COMMON AREAS

46. FLAME Entrance
47. Infirmary
48. ATM, Convenient Store

### SHANTINIKETAN

49. Auditorium
50. Dance Studio
51. Conference Room
52. Seminar Room
53. Green Room
54. Team Rooms



6th **ISA** Conference of the  
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**ORGANISING  
COMMITTEE**

# Organizing Committee

## ISA Committee Members

- **Dr. Bandana PURKAYASTHA**  
(ISA Vice-President for National Associations)
- **Dr. Chih-Jou (Jay) CHEN**  
(ISA EC member & former host of the 2nd ISA Conference of CNA)
- **Dr. Borut RONČEVIČ**  
(ISA EC member & former host of the 5th ISA Conference of CNA)
- **Dr. Dan WOODMAN**  
(ISA EC member & former host of the XX World Congress of Sociology)

## ISA Staff

- **Dr. Cecilia DELGADO-MOLINA** (ISA Executive Secretary)
- **Elena VELCHEVA** (ISA Events Officer)
- **Anna-Maria KUTATELADZE WAGNER** (ISA Communications Officer)

## FLAME University Co-Chairs

- **Dr. Santosh K. KUDTARKAR** (Dean of Undergraduate Education and Innovation)
- **Dr. Mayurakshi CHAUDHURI** (Associate Professor & Area Chair, Sociology and Head, Department of Social Sciences)

## FLAME University Local Organising Committee

- **Chair | Prof. Mayurakshi CHAUDHURI**  
(Associate Professor & Area Chair, Sociology and Head, Department of Social Sciences)
- **Co-Chair | Prof. Anup TRIPATHI** (Assistant Professor, Sociology)
- **Member | Prof. Poonam GANDHI** (Associate Professor, Sociology)
- **Member | Prof. Shamsheer SINGH** (Assistant Professor, Sociology)
- **Member | Prof. Divya BALAN** (Assistant Professor, International Studies)
- **Member | Prof. Sanjal SHASTRI** (Assistant Professor, International Studies)
- **Member | Prof. Juhi SIDDHARTH** (Assistant Professor, Public Policy)
- **Member | Prof. Chaitanya RAVI** (Assistant Professor, Public Policy)
- **Member | Ms. Snigdha MANDAL** (Associate Director, HR)
- **Member | Mr. Chandan SHARMA** (Assistant General Manager – Administration)
- **Member | Mr. Ganesh AHER** (Head of Security)
- **Member | Mr. Sameer ALIAWADI** (Senior Residential Counsellor)
- **Member-Secretary | Mr. Deepak D. PULAVARTHI** (Associate Director – Administration)
- **Advisor to Committee | Dr. Virender SHARMA** (Registrar, FLAME University)



## 6th **ISA** Conference of the **Council of National Associations**

# CONFERENCE THEME



## Conference Theme

Sociologists have always used research and analysis to focus on the structures of societies, paying particular attention to the power-laden interactions between groups, individuals, and organizations. As many of the fast-changing political/economic/social, and technological structures alter the global-to-local material and non-material terrains of our existence, it is a good time to collectively reflect on our present and future (and the paths that brought us here).

- How are sociological associations contending with 21st-century challenges?
- How are people and groups struggling to build secure lives that reflect their human dignity?
- Whose important voices and visions are emerging in different parts of the world?
- How are sociologists strengthening and/or reshaping concepts that have, historically, constituted the core of the discipline in their part of the world?
- How are sociologists helping to build resilient relationships with their peers, including across the world, and what is the quality of these intellectual and caring relationships?





# 6th **ISA** Conference of the **Council of National Associations**

## **TIMETABLE**

**Venue:** FLAME School of Liberal Education, FLAME University

## **December 17, 2025 WEDNESDAY (Day 1)**

<b>8:00</b>	<b>Breakfast</b>
<b>9:00</b>  <b>INAUGURATION AND WELCOME SESSION</b>	<p><b>Mayurakshi CHAUDHURI</b> Associate Professor and Area Chair, Sociology and Head, Department of Social Sciences, FLAME University</p> <p><b>Santosh KUDTARKAR</b> Dean of Undergraduate Education and Innovation, FLAME University</p> <p><b>Bandana PURKAYASTHA</b> ISA Vice-President for National Associations</p> <p><b>Geoffrey PLEYERS</b> ISA President; FNRS-UCLouvain, Belgium</p>
<b>10:30</b>	<b>Tea &amp; Coffee Break</b>
<b>11:00</b>  <b>PLENARY SESSION</b>	<p><b><i>Building a Resilient Sociology in Challenging Times</i></b> <b>Geoffrey PLEYERS</b>, ISA President; FNRS-UCLouvain, Belgium</p> <p><b><i>Building Resilient Sociologies: Voices, Visions, and Ventures</i></b> <b>Bandana PURKAYASTHA</b>, ISA Vice-President for National Associations; University of Connecticut, USA</p> <p><b><i>Beyond Western Frameworks</i></b> <b>Maitrayee CHAUDHURI</b>, President of the Indian Sociological Society; Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), India.</p> <p><b><i>Sociological Thinking in the Digital Age</i></b> <b>Mayurakshi CHAUDHURI</b>, FLAME University, India</p>
<b>12:30</b>	<b>Lunch Break</b>

13:30 ISA HISTORY & STRUCTURE	<b><i>History &amp; Structure of the International Sociological Association</i></b> Cecilia DELGADO-MOLINA ISA Executive Secretary
14:00 CNA MEETING	<b><i>Council of National Associations Business Meeting – Part 1</i></b>
15:30	Afternoon Snack & High Tea
16:00 CNA MEETING	<b><i>National Associations Business Meeting – Part 1 (Continued)</i></b>
17:00 ALL DELEGATES	<b><i>Open for Conversations</i></b>
18:30 REGIONAL GROUPS	<b><i>Regional Groups with a Focus on Conversations across Regions</i></b>
20:00	Dinner
21:30 ALL DELEGATES	<b><i>Open for Conversations</i></b>

## December 18, 2025 THURSDAY (Day 2)

8:00

Breakfast

9:00

### WORKSHOP 1

*This session addresses external funding for sociology and sociologists. The presenter has 30 minutes, followed by one question from each discussant; if time permits, additional questions may be taken from the audience.*

#### **Workshop on External Funding**

##### Chair

**Dan Woodman**, ISA Executive Committee Member; University of Melbourne, Australia

##### Presenter

**Borut RONČEVIĆ**, ISA Executive Committee Member; School of Advanced Social Studies, Slovenia

##### Intervention and Discussion Leaders

**Lígia FERRO**, President of the Portuguese Sociological Association; Universidade do Porto, Portugal

**Nomzamo Portia NTOMBELA**, Vice-President of the South African Sociological Association; Rhodes University, South Africa

**Melanie HEATH**, Delegate of the Canadian Sociological Association; McMaster University, Canada

**Shaikh Mohammad KAIS**, ISA Executive Committee Member; University of Rajshahi, Bangladesh

10:30

Tea & Coffee Break

11:00

### WORKSHOP 2

*This presentation introduces ISA publishing in general, including where to direct members and how to get involved. The presenter has 30 minutes, followed by one question from each discussant on publications and review processes; if time permits, additional questions may be taken from the audience.*

#### **Workshop on Publications for National Associations Leaders**

##### Chair

**Borut RONČEVIĆ**, ISA Executive Committee Member; School of Advanced Social Studies, Slovenia

##### Presenter

**Marta SOLER-GALLART**, ISA Vice-President for Publications, Universitat de Barcelona, Spain

##### Discussion Leaders

**Diana JANUŠAUSKIENĖ**, President of the Lithuanian Sociological Association; Lithuanian Social Research Centre for Social Sciences, Lithuania

**Bakhrom MIRKASIMOV**, President of the Association of Sociologists of Uzbekistan; Westminster International University, Uzbekistan

**William BOATENG**, Delegate of the Ghana Sociological and Anthropological Association; University of Cape Coast, Ghana



**12:00**

### **WORKSHOP 3**

*The presenters have 30 minutes and focus on specific aspects of international collaborations, including how research networks were built and key dos and don'ts. The discussants pose one question each after lunch; if time permits, additional questions may be taken from the audience.*

### **Workshop on International Collaborations (Part 1)**

#### Chair

**Elina OINAS**,

ISA Vice-President for Finance and Membership

#### Presenters

**Chih-Jou CHEN**

ISA Executive Committee Member; Academia Sinica, Taiwan

**Nazanin SHAHROKNI**

ISA Executive Committee Member; Simon Fraser University, Canada

**Geoffrey PLEYERS**

ISA President; FNRS-UCLouvain, Belgium

**12:30**

### **Lunch Break**

**13:30**

### **WORKSHOP 3**

### **Workshop on International Collaborations (Part 2)**

#### Intervention and Discussion Leaders

**Ezana Amdework ATSBEHA**, President of Executive Committee of the Ethiopian Society of Sociologists; Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia

**Aylin TOPAL**, General Secretary of the Turkish Social Sciences Association; Middle East Technical University, Turkey

**Uddhab Prasad PYAKUREL**, Delegate of the Sociological Society of Nepal; Kathmandu University, Nepal

**14:30**

### **PANEL 1**

*The panels focus on specific challenges organisations have faced, the strategies they have used, and the unresolved problems that remain. The sessions are designed to highlight resilience, ways to navigate difficult circumstances, and suggestions for collective work.*

### **Panel on Resilience in Turbulent Times (1)**

#### Chair

**Kaja GADOWSKA**, ESA President, Delegate of the Polish Sociological Association; Jagiellonian University, Poland

#### Anchor Papers

**Olga KUTSENKO**, Vice-President of the Sociological Association of Ukraine; Technische Universität Berlin, Germany

**Roberto José Coromoto BRICEÑO LEÓN**, Delegate of the Asociación Venezolana de Sociología; Universidad de Central de Venezuela, Venezuela

#### Intervention and Discussion Leaders

**Esmail KHALILI**, Vice-President of the Iranian Sociological Association; Independent Sociological Researcher

**Suzanne MENHEM**, Delegate of the Lebanese Association of Sociology; Lebanese University, Lebanon

**Abaher EL SAKKA**, President of the Palestinian Sociological and Anthropological Association; Birzeit University, Palestine

**15:30**

### **Afternoon Snack & High Tea**

16:00

PANEL 2

**Panel on Resilience in Turbulent Times (2)**

Chair

**Michael Perry OKYEREF**

ISA Executive Committee Member

Anchor Paper

**Marco Aurélio SILVA DE SANTANA**, President of the Brazilian Sociological Society; Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Intervention and Discussion Leaders

**Bryan Lee D. CELESTE**, Board Member of the Philippine Sociological Society; Central Mindanao University, Philippines

**Ezana Amdework ATSBEHA**, President of Executive Committee of the Ethiopian Society of Sociologists; Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia

**Nomzamo Portia NTOMBELA**, Vice-President of the South African Sociological Association; Rhodes University, South Africa

**Aylin TOPAL**, General Secretary of the Turkish Social Sciences Association; Middle East Technical University, Turkey

17:00

PANEL 3

**Panel on Long Journeys, New Pathways**

Chair

**Chih-Jou CHEN**, ISA Executive Committee Member; Academia Sinica, Taiwan

Speakers

**Takashi OKUMURA**

President of the Japanese Sociological Society (JSS); School of Sociology at Kwansei Gakuin University, Japan

**Maitrayee CHAUDHURI**

President of the Indian Sociological Society; Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), India.

**Kaja GADOWSKA**

Delegate of the Polish Sociological Association; President of the ESA; Institute of Sociology of the Jagiellonian University, Poland

**Joon HAN**

Delegate of the Korean Sociological Association; College of Social Sciences, Yonsei University, Korea

18:00

THEMATIC  
CONVERSATION 1

**Thinking Digitally, Thinking Beyond Academia**

Chair

**Chih-Jou CHEN**, ISA Executive Committee Member; Academia Sinica, Taiwan

Speakers

**Mabrouk BOUTAGOUA**, ISA Executive Committee Member; University of Batna 1, Algeria

**Dan WOODMAN**, ISA Executive Committee Member; University of Melbourne, Australia

19:00

CNA MEETING

**National Associations Business Meeting – Part 1  
(Continued)**

20:00	Dinner
21:30  ALL DELEGATES	<i>Open for Conversations</i>

## December 19, 2025 FRIDAY (Day 3)

8:00	Breakfast
9:00  PANEL 4	<p><b><i>Panel on Building Through Small Numbers (3)</i></b></p> <p><u>Chair</u>  <b>Melanie HEATH</b>, Delegate of the Canadian Sociological Association, McMaster University, Canada</p> <p><u>Brief Presentations</u></p> <p><b>Pille PETERSOO</b>, Vice-President of the Estonian Association of Sociologists; Tallinn University, Estonia  <b>Bakhrom MIRKASIMOV</b>, President of the Association of Sociologists of Uzbekistan; Westminster International University, Uzbekistan  <b>Suzanne MENHEM</b>, Delegate of the Lebanese Association of Sociology; Lebanese University, Lebanon  <b>Ilo TRAJKOVSKI</b>, Delegate of the Association of Sociologists of the Republic of Macedonia; University of St. Cyril and Methodius, North Macedonia  <b>Elina OINAS</b>, ISA Vice-President for Finance and Membership; University of Helsinki, Finland  <b>Titus James TWESIGE</b>, President of the Uganda Sociological and Anthropological Association  <b>Dolgion ALDAR</b>, Delegate of the Independent Research Institute of Mongolia; The Asia Foundation, Cambodia  <b>Uddhab Prasad PYAKUREL</b>, Delegate of the Sociological Society of Nepal; Kathmandu University, Nepal  <b>Tamara Besednjak VALIČ</b>, President of the Slovenian Social Science Association; Science and Technology Centre, Slovenia</p>
10:30	Tea & Coffee Break
11:00  CNA MEETING	<p><b><i>National Associations Business Meeting – Part 2</i></b></p> <p><b><i>Subcommittees’ Reports &amp; Votes</i></b></p>

*This session aims to present the key challenges faced by each Association and the strategies used to maintain sociological networks and public presence. Presenters outline their association's main challenges and the strategies they have adopted, so delegates can learn from one another.*

12:30	Lunch Break
13:30  STUDY TRIP	<i>The Local Context</i>
20:00	Dinner
21:30  ALL DELEGATES	<i>Open for Conversations</i>



## December 20, 2025 SATURDAY (Day 4)

8:00

### Breakfast

9:00

### INAGURATION

#### ***Confluence with Local Indian Sociologists***

##### Welcome Addresses

**Geoffrey PLEYERS**, ISA President; FNRS-UCLouvain, Belgium  
**Bandana PURKAYASTHA**, ISA Vice-President for National Associations;  
University of Connecticut, USA  
**Mayurakshi CHAUDHURI**, FLAME University, India

##### Brief Overview of the World Congress of Sociology 2027

**Joon HAN**, Delegate of the Korean Sociological Association; College of  
Social Sciences, Yonsei University, Korea

09:30

### CONFLUENCE PLENARY

#### **Confluence Plenary**

##### Chair

**Nazanin SHAHROKNI**, ISA Executive Committee Member; Simon  
Fraser University, Canada

##### Speakers

**Sujata PATEL**, Indian Institute of Advanced Study, India  
**Maitrayee CHAUDHURI**, President of the Indian Sociological Society;  
Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), India.  
**Arvinder ANSARI**, Jamia Millia Islamia, India

10:30

### Tea & Coffee Break

11:00

### WORKSHOP 4

#### ***Workshop on Teaching – Pedagogical Innovations***

##### Chairs

**Dan WOODMAN**, ISA Executive Committee Member; University of  
Melbourne, Australia  
**Bryan Lee D. CELESTE**, Board Member of the Philippine Sociological  
Society; Central Mindanao University, Philippines

##### Discussion Leaders

**Mayurakshi CHAUDHURI**  
FLAME University, India  
**Leena PUJARI**  
HSNC University, India

12:30

## Lunch Break

13:30

## WRITING WORKSHOP

### ***Practical Workshop on How to Write for ISA Journals***

#### Chairs

**Michael Perry OKYEREF**O, ISA Executive Committee Member; University of Ghana, Ghana

**Ilo TRAJKOVSKI**, Delegate of the Association of Sociologists of the Republic of Macedonia; University of St. Cyril and Methodius, North Macedonia

#### Workshop Leader

**Marta SOLER-GALLART**, Vice-President for Publications, International Sociological Association (ISA); University of Barcelona, Spain

14:30

## FLAME SCHOLARS SESSION

### ***Rural and Urban Sociology***

#### Chair

**Allison LOCONTO**, ISA Vice-President for Research; INRAE, France

#### FLAME scholars

**Anup TRIPATHI**, FLAME University, India

**Shamsher SINGH**, FLAME University, India

**Rishi JHA**, FLAME University, India

**Neha BAILWAL**, FLAME University, India

15:30

## Afternoon Snack & High Tea

16:00

## PAPER SESSION 1

### ***Global Scholarship (Session 1)***

#### Chair

**Borut RONČEVIĆ**, ISA Executive Committee Member; School of Advanced Social Studies, Faculty of Information Studies, Slovenia

#### Paper Presenters

**Michael Perry OKYEREF**O, ISA Executive Committee Member; University of Ghana, Ghana

**Abdelfattah EZZINE**, National Coordinator of the Moroccan Sociological Instance (MSI)

**Diana JANUŠAUSKIENĖ**, President of the Lithuanian Sociological Association; Lithuanian Social Research Centre for Social Sciences, Lithuania

**Shaikh Mohammad KAIS**, ISA Executive Committee Member; University of Rajshahi, Bangladesh

17:00

## ALL DELEGATES

## ***Open for Conversations***

17:30

**PAPER SESSION 2**

***Global Scholarship (Session 2)***

Chair

**Olga KUTSENKO**, Vice-President of the Sociological Association of Ukraine;  
Technische Universität Berlin, Germany

Paper Presenters

**Ligia FERRO**, President of the Portuguese Sociological Association;  
Universidade do Porto, Portugal

**Huu Minh NGUYEN**, President of the Vietnam Sociological Association;  
Institute of Human, Family and Gender Studies, Vietnam

**Pille PETERSOO**, Vice-President of the Estonian Association of Sociologists;  
Tallinn University, Estonia

**Melanie HEATH**, Delegate of the Canadian Sociological Association;  
McMaster University, Canada

18:30

**PAPER SESSION 3**

***Global Scholarship (Session 3)***

Chair

**Mabrouk BOUTAGOUA**

ISA Executive Committee Member; University of Batna 1, Algeria

Paper Presenters

**Tamara Besednjak VALIČ**, President of the Slovenian Social Science  
Association; Science and Technology Centre, Slovenia and **Borut  
RONČEVIČ**, ISA Executive Committee Member; School of Advanced Social  
Studies, Slovenia

**Mei-Lin PAN**, President of the Taiwanese Sociological Association (TSA);  
National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University and **Chih-Jou CHEN**, ISA  
Executive Committee Member

**Bakhrom MIRKASIMOV**, President of the Association of Sociologists of  
Uzbekistan; Westminster International University in Tashkent, Uzbekistan

19:30

**FAREWELL**

***Thank you and Farewell Message***

**Bandana PURKAYASTHA**

ISA Vice-President for National Associations

20:00

**Dinner**

21:30

**ALL DELEGATES**

***Open for Conversations***



6th **ISA** Conference of the  
**Council of National Associations**

# **PARTICIPANTS**

## Dolgion ALDAR

**Ms. Dolgion Aldar** is a research professional focused on promoting evidence-based policy-making and social cohesion in Asia. Dolgion Aldar serves as the program director for Data and Dialogue for Development at The Asia Foundation in Cambodia, overseeing program management and implementation. She brings over 15 years of experience in governance, social well-being, evaluation, and policy research.

Prior to joining The Asia Foundation, she served as a socioeconomic expert at UNDP Timor-Leste, leading UN-government collaborations on socio-economic policy research and assessments. Dolgion is a former CEO and current advisor of the Independent Research Institute of Mongolia, one of Mongolia's preeminent think tanks that promotes independent research and analysis of governance and social issues in the country.

Dolgion was an Asia Foundation Development Fellow in 2018, and Reagan-Fascell Fellow at the National Endowment for Democracy. She currently serves as a board member of the Research Committee #55 on Social Indicators of the International Sociological Association and a member of the International Social Well-Being Research Consortium. She was previously a board member of the Asia-Pacific Evaluation Association.

Dolgion holds a master's degree in political science from the University of Manchester and bachelor's and master's degrees in sociology from the National University of Mongolia.



## Lígia FERRO

**Lígia Ferro** is Assistant Professor in the Sociology Department of the Faculty of Arts at the University of Porto. She completed her degree in Sociology at the same university, receiving the Eng. António de Almeida / UP Award in 2004, and earned a European Ph.D. from ISCTE-IUL in 2011. She has been a visiting scholar at several universities in Europe, the United States, and Brazil. Her research, funded by institutions such as FCT, the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, FLAD, the European Commission, and the High Commission for Migrations, combines ethnographic and mixed-methods approaches. She has conducted fieldwork in cities including Porto, Lisbon, Barcelona, Paris, New York, Boston, and Rio de Janeiro, focusing on cultural practices, arts education, migration, socio-professional integration, and action research in urban contexts. Lígia Ferro served as President of the European Sociological Association (2021–2024) and previously coordinated ESA's Research Network 37 – Urban Sociology. She is also a board member of the European Network of Observatories in the Fields of Arts and Cultural Education (UNESCO) and editor of the ENO Yearbooks (Springer). She supervises Master's and Ph.D. students and is the author and editor of various publications, including *Moving Cities: Contested Views on Urban Life* (Springer, 2018). She is currently the President of the Portuguese Sociological Association.



## Neha BAILWAL

**Prof. Neha Bailwal** is an Assistant Professor of Economics at FLAME university. She received her Ph.D in Economics from Indian Institute of Technology Delhi. After completing her Ph.D, she served as a postdoctoral fellow at the Faculty of Business and Economics, University of Göttingen, Germany, for a year. In her post-Ph.D. work experience, she also undertook short-term roles as a visiting scientist at the Economics and Planning Unit, Indian Statistical Institute Delhi, and as a visiting researcher at the Chair of Political Economy & Development at the University of Zurich, Switzerland. Neha's research work broadly focuses on development issues in rural India, with a specific focus on education and caste discrimination. In some of her recent work, she investigates the issue of caste discrimination in school provision and its impact on educational outcome gaps across social groups in rural India.



## William BOATENG

**Dr. William Boateng** is an Associate Professor of Sociology with research interests in Sociology of Health, Knowledge Management, Development, and Penology. He is a Faculty member of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, University of Cape Coast, Cape Coast, Ghana. He is a former Head of the Department having served two terms in that capacity. He also served as the Head of Distance Education Programmes at the same University. He has about three decades of experience as a lecturer and researcher of Sociology in Ghana and Canada, having taught at the Department of Sociology, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada for five years. As a lecturer and researcher, he has trained over twenty PhD holders and over twenty-five MPhil. holders. Furthermore, he has about fifty peer reviewed publications in credible journals. He has undertaken many research projects geared towards the development of our society. He has presented keynote speeches and papers at local and international conferences. Since 2023, he has been the Convenor of the Ghana Sociological and Anthropological Association (GSAA). As a Convenor, he has been leading the Association to contribute to national development discourse



## Mabrouk BOUTAGOUGA

**Dr. Mabrouk Boutagouga** is a Professor of Anthropology and Sociology at Batna 1 University, and a leading figure in advancing anthropological research in the Arab region. He serves as the General Supervisor of the *Faailoon Center for Research in Anthropology and Social Sciences*, and has been Editor-in-Chief of the *Arab Journal of Contemporary Anthropological Studies* since 2015. In 2010, he founded *Aranthropos*, one of the earliest digital platforms dedicated to Arab anthropology.

He is actively involved in international scientific bodies, including the Executive Committee of the International Sociological Association (Madrid) (2023-2027), and the Board of Trustees of the Arab Council for the Social Sciences (Beirut) (2021-2025). He also heads the Anthropology Unit within the International Network for the Study of





Arab Societies, and is a co-founder and advisory board member of the Arab Network for Science Journalism. Additionally, he is a member of IUAES (Tokyo) and SIEF (Oslo), and serves as a reviewer for several peer-reviewed journals in the Arab world.

Deeply engaged in the digital knowledge movement, he contributes as a Wikipedia/Wikimania editor and WordPress developer. He is a certified instructor in research data management and conducts workshops on digital tools for researchers. He received a postdoctoral fellowship from ACSS (2018–2019) for his project on equestrian heritage in Algeria.

## Roberto BRICEÑO-LEÓN

**Roberto BRICEÑO-LEÓN** is Professor of Sociology at the Central University of Venezuela. Life member of the National Academy of Economic Sciences and the Latin American Academy of Sciences. He is director of the LACSO Research Institute and the Venezuelan Observatory on Violence. He has been a professor at Sorbonne-Nouvelle University, Paris III, France; the National Autonomous University of Mexico; and the Federal Universities of Ceará and Bahia, Brazil. He was a fellow at the Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington, DC, and at Saint Antony's College, University of Oxford, England. He was president of the Venezuelan Sociology Association, a member of the Executive Committee of the International Sociological Association (1994-2002), and Global Coordinator of the International Forum for Social Sciences and Health (1998-2003). He has worked on research projects in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. He has published more than 200 articles and 28 books: *La Casa Enferma. Sociología de la Enfermedad de Chagas* (1990); *Venezuela: Clases Sociales e Individuos* (1992); *Applying Health Social Sciences* (2001); *Doenças Endêmicas: abordagens sociais, culturais e comportamentais* (2002); *Sociología de la Violencia en América Latina* (2008); *La Modernidad Mestiza* (2018); *Tanatopolítica en Venezuela* (2022); *Gobernanza Criminal y Estado* (2023); *Gramática Social de la Violencia* (2023).



## Bryan Lee D. CELESTE

**Dr Bryan Lee D. Celeste** is a faculty member in the Department of Behavioural Sciences at Central Mindanao University (CMU), Musuan, Maramag, Bukidnon. He teaches Sociology, Gender and Society, Rural Life, and Indigenous Communities. His research interests include Indigenous peoples, cultural performances, ethnography, and environmental sociology. He holds a PhD in Sociology and Anthropology from the University of Newcastle, NSW, Australia. He earned his AB and MA in Sociology from Silliman University, Dumaguete City, in 2007 and 2016. He works as the Coordinator of the Biodiversity Extension and Public Awareness Unit at the Centre for Biodiversity Research and Extension in Mindanao (CEBREM), Philippines. He is currently a Board Member of the Philippine Sociological Society and an Associate Member of the National Research Council of the Philippines' Sociological Sciences Division. He is also a member of the International Sociological Association- RC05 (Race, Ethnicity and Indigeneity), the Australian Anthropological Society (2021–2023), and Ugnayang Pang-Agham Tao, Inc. (2020-2021).





## Maitrayee CHAUDHURI

**Maitrayee Chaudhuri** retired as Professor of Sociology from Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi. Her research interests have been on the making of the public discourse in modern India with a focus on nationalism, colonialism, neoliberalism, populism and feminism in India. She was a DAAD Visiting Professor at Albert Ludwig University, Freiburg in Germany (2003), a Visiting Fellow at Harvard University (1995-1996) as well as at the University of Massachusetts (1995-1996) and ICCR Visiting India Chair, McGill University and ISID (2015). Her published works include *The Practice of Sociology* (2003), *Feminism in India* (2005), *Sociology in India: Intellectual and Institutional Practices* (2010), *Refashioning India: Gender, Media and a Transformed Public Discourse* (2017) and *Doing Theory: Locations, Hierarchies and Disjunctions* (2018). She is one of the co-founders of *Doing Sociology* – a digital resource dedicated to the cause of public Sociology. She has been the President of the Indian Sociological Society (2024-2025)



## Mayurakshi CHAUDHURI

**Dr. Mayurakshi Chaudhuri** is Associate Professor of Sociology and Digital Humanities, Area Chair of Sociology and the Head of the Department of Social Sciences in the FLAME School of Liberal Education at FLAME University, Pune. Dr. Chaudhuri is a Board Member (2025-2027) of the research-network WG10 Digital Sociology of the International Sociological Association, and one of the global affiliates at the Institute for Intersectionality Research and Policy, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, Canada. She is the Founding Faculty of Digital Humanities programs (M.Sc. and Ph.D) at Indian Institute of Technology Jodhpur, and has served as a member of the Board of Studies in Digital Humanities for Savitribai Phule Pune University, India, from 2022-2024. Dr. Chaudhuri's research areas include Technology and Society, Migrations and Mobilities, Gender Studies, Historical Sociology, Digital Humanities, and Qualitative Research Methods. Dr. Chaudhuri is the recipient of international and national fellowships including an Indo-Swiss Grant, a GESIS-EUROLAB Fellowship from the Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences (GESIS, Germany), a German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) Fellowship, and the Government of India National Merit Scholarship. Her current funded project is titled "Producing Ontologies of Relationships from Indian Nuptial documents longitudinally (PORINOY): A Case Study of Bengali/Bangla Wedding Invitations", funded by the JPN Center of Excellence in Humanities at IIT Indore. Dr. Chaudhuri has completed multiple online teaching projects as part of the Government of India's Ministry of Education projects of NPTEL- SWAYAM: (1) *Gender & Society* (2018), (2) *Images, Imaginations and Cultures* (2023), and (3) *Technology and Society* (2025). Her recent research projects focus on emerging areas of technology and mobility. An interdisciplinary scholar with academic training in Sociology, Cultural Anthropology, and Geography, she enjoys advising undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral projects that are located at the intersections of society, culture, and technology.



## Chih-Jou Jay CHEN

**Chih-Jou Jay Chen** is the director and professor at the Institute of Sociology at Academia Sinica in Taiwan. He also holds joint appointments as a professor at National Tsing-Hua University and National Taiwan University. He is a member of the Executive Committee of the International Sociological Association. He previously served as president of the Taiwanese Sociological Association from 2018 to 2019; director of the Center for Contemporary China at National Tsing-Hua University from 2007 to 2012; and visiting scholar at the Harvard-Yenching Institute during the 2014–15 academic year. He has received several awards for his contributions to scholarship, including the 2021 Outstanding Research Award from Taiwan's Ministry of Science and Technology and the 2022 Outstanding Scholar Award from the Foundation for the Advancement of Outstanding Scholarship. His research focuses on popular protests and changing state-society relations in China, and China's growing impacts on Taiwanese society.



## Abdelfattah EZZINE

**Prof. Abdelfattah Ezzine** is a sociologist specialising in development studies, with strong interests in methodology, human rights, citizenship, leisure, and mediation. His work addresses urban-rural dynamics, migration, vulnerable social groups, exclusion, precariousness, violence, and radicalisation. A member of IURS since 1988, he has led numerous research programmes on youth, citizenship, and migration, resulting in several publications. He is affiliated with Master's programmes on education and integration of children and young people in difficulty, social change and human development, and media and migration. He currently serves as National Coordinator of the Moroccan Sociology Network (RMS), which brings together all university teachers of sociology and anthropology in Morocco and has organised the National Day of Sociology since 2017. Prof. Ezzine has held expert and visiting positions, including as an advisor in the Sultanate of Oman (2002–2006) and at the National School of Architecture in Morocco, where he managed UNICEF's pilot project "Child and Youth Friendly Communes." He has taught and supervised at various higher education institutions and served as consultant for UN agencies (UNFPA, UNICEF, UNESCO, CEA), IOM, ISESCO, and LAS. An active civil society figure, he is President of Mediation Area (EsMed) and Coordinator of the Moroccan and African Migration Development Networks (RMTMD and RAMD), having accompanied the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) from 2009 to 2018. He has published widely in Arabic, French, and English, with translations into Spanish.



## Kaja GADOWSKA

**Kaja Gadowska, Ph.D.**, professor of sociology at the Jagiellonian University, Krakow, Poland; visiting scholar at, among others, Heidelberg University, Saint Petersburg State University, Charles University in Prague, Tamkang University in Taiwan, Tel Aviv University, the University of Jordan, International University of Rabat, and Imam Khomeini International University in Iran. President of the European Sociological Association (2024–2026), Vice President of the European Sociological Association and Head of its Policy Committee (2019–2021, 2021–2023). Member



of the Polish Sociological Association (PSA) Board of Directors and PSA representative to the International Sociological Association (2018–2021, 2021–2024, 2024–2027). Her research interests focus on the public sphere and relations between politics, economics, and public administration in post-communist countries. Principal investigator for several grant projects, she has also (co) authored or (co)edited numerous publications, including *Legal Change in Post-Communist States: Progress, Reversions, Explanations* (co-edited with P. Solomon, Jr.), Ibidem Verlag 2020, *A Sociological Agora: Master Lectures from Poland* (editor), WUJ 2021, *Rethinking the Social. Sociology of Crisis Experience in Central and Eastern Europe* (co-edited with A. Giza), Brill 2025.

## Joon HAN

**Joon Han** received his B.A. and M.A. in Sociology from Seoul National University and earned his Ph.D. in Sociology from Stanford University. He is a Professor in the Department of Sociology at Yonsei University and served as President of the Korean Sociological Association in 2022. He has published numerous articles in *European Sociological Review*, *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, and *Management Science* as well as in Korean academic journals. His research and teaching focus on organizational sociology, the sociology of art, and quality of life.



## Melanie HEATH

**Melanie Heath** is Associate Dean of Graduate Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, and Professor of Sociology at McMaster University. Her research focuses on the politics of family, sexuality, and gender. She is author of *Forbidden Intimacies: Polygamies at the Limits of Western Tolerance* (Stanford University Press, 2023, winner of the 2024 ASA Sexualities Book of Distinction Award), *One Marriage Under God: The Campaign to Promote Marriage in America* (New York University Press, 2012), co-author of *The How To of Qualitative Research*, second edition (with Janice Aurini and Stephanie Howells, Sage, 2022), co-editor of *Theory Reimagined: Voices of Sociologists from around the World* (with Rianka Roy, Anjana Narayan, and Bandana Purkayastha, Frontpage, 2025), and co-editor of *Global Feminist Autoethnographies During COVID-19: Displacements and Disruptions* (with Akosua Darkwah, Josephine Beoku-Betts, Bandana Purkayastha, Routledge, 2022). She was president of ISA RC32: Women, Gender, and Society from 2018-2023.



## Diana JANUŠAUSKIENĖ

**Dr. Diana Janušauskienė** is Head of the Department of Social Change Research and Head of the Doctoral Commission at the Institute of Sociology, Lithuanian Centre for Social Sciences in Vilnius, Lithuania. She is currently serving her second term as President of the Lithuanian Sociological Association. Her research focuses on the quality of democracy, minorities, human security, research methodology, and the history of sociology. Her most recent research project examines the development of sociology in Lithuania.



## Rishi JHA

**Prof. Rishi Jha** is Assistant Professor – Public Policy at FLAME University. He holds a Doctorate Degree in Social Work from Lund University, Sweden. He also has a Master’s Degree in Philosophy and a Master’s Degree in Arts from Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai. He has completed Bachelor’s Degree in Agriculture from Indian Council of Agricultural Research, Delhi. He completed pre-doctoral studies and Masters of Arts in Social Work (Community Organisation and Development Practice) from Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture from Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, and MAU, Maharashtra. His doctoral dissertation is titled “Unsettled City”. It explores the urban political economy of dispossession, transforming governance, and people’s struggles for housing within redeveloping Mumbai. Shortlisted for Lund University’s prestigious Oscar (II) Award in 2024, it reflects his profound research contributions. His areas of interests are urban studies, public and social policy, inequality and governance, neoliberal state, politics and social change, employing qualitative methods. He is currently writing a monograph titled “Rehousing the City” with an international publisher. He has over three years of professional experience in development governance, consultancy, and research. He served as a Young Professional in the World Bank-supported and Bihar government-coordinated poverty alleviation mission in Bihar. He has collaborated with civil society organisations in rural and urban India, and partnered in research with the University of Chicago, University of East London, Western Sydney University, Mahanirban Calcutta Research Group, and Tata Institute of Social Sciences.



## Shaikh Mohammad KAIS

**Shaikh Mohammad Kais** is Professor of Sociology at the University of Rajshahi in Bangladesh. He conducted his doctoral research on climate change resilience at Nanyang Technological University in Singapore. His areas of research and interest include food culture, community resilience, climate politics, aquaculture, human-animal relationships, and the development of sociology in the global South. By now, he has published several research articles in peer-reviewed journals on Durkheimian analysis of contemporary American society, global food regimes, hybrid sociology, climate change, shrimp farming, community resilience, ecological modernization, disaster management, death events, and ethnic issues. Being a member of the International Sociological Association (ISA) since 2009, he has already represented the Bangladesh Sociological Association (BSA) in a number of meetings of the ISA. Currently, he is a member of the executive committee of the ISA.





## Esmaeil KHALILI

**Esmaeil Khalili** was born in 1961 in the historic city of Shiraz. As a teenager, he developed a strong interest in both the arts and sciences, a dual orientation that eventually led him toward sociology shortly before entering university. The far-reaching transformations that followed the 1979 revolution made sociology not merely an academic curiosity but a necessity for him, as he sought to understand the social crises unfolding around him.

He began his academic journey in sociology at Shiraz University and continued his studies at Allameh Tabatabaei University and later at the Institute of Social, Cultural and Civilizational Studies (ISCS), where he currently serves as a faculty member. Since 1986, he has been engaged in sustained research on global and local problematics, increasingly through the perspective of the sociology of knowledge and science.

At the core of his intellectual orientation lies a commitment to “peace” as a fundamental value. His recent work focuses on scientific communities, particularly scientific associations, while his long-term research program explores the possibility of alternative scientific paradigms and the cultural and epistemological conditions required for their development.



## Olga KUTSENKO

**Olga Kutsenko** is a Professor and Doctor of Sciences (Sociology), currently a Senior Research Fellow at the Institute of Sociology of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine and, for over a decade, Vice-President of the Sociological Association of Ukraine. Since March 2022, following Russia’s full-scale invasion, she has continued her academic work while temporarily based in Berlin. She has been affiliated with the Technical University of Berlin first as an Einstein Research Professor (2023–2025) and now as a Philipp Schwartz Initiative Research Fellow of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. Her research focuses on wartime societal transformation: structural change, civic resilience, war-generated inequalities, and new forms of civic activism and deliberation. Trained in political economy, social philosophy, and sociology, she earned her Dr. Habil. in Sociology from V. Karazin Kharkiv National University. She founded the Political Sociology Chair at Kharkiv University (2005) and later headed the Department of Social Structure and Social Relations at Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv, before assuming a leading research position at the NASU Institute of Sociology in 2025. She is an Associate Editor of *Innovation: The European Journal of Social Science Research* (Q1) and co-editor of its 2025 special issue *Resilience, Resistance, Responsibility*. Her recent publications include works on war framing, democratic resilience, and the transformation of Ukrainian society under conditions of existential threat.



## Allison Marie LOCONTO

**Allison Marie Loconto (MA, PhD, HDR)** is a Research Professor of Sociology at the French National Institute for Research on Agriculture, Food and Environment (INRAE) and the Interdisciplinary Laboratory for Science, Innovation and Society (LISIS) at Gustave Eiffel University. Prof. Dr. Loconto is Vice President for Research for the International Sociological Association (ISA), a member of the Accademie de l'Agriculture of France, an elected member of the Multi-stakeholder Advisory Committee of the Sustainable Food Systems Programme of the One Planet Network (UN Environment), an ex-Board Member of Commerce Equitable France (CEF), and a nominated member (by the Ministries of Finance and Agriculture) of the French National Committee for Organic Agriculture (CNAB). Previously, she was a Science, Technology and Society Fellow at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, a Visiting Scientist at the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and a Fulbright Fellow in Tanzania. Prof. Dr. Loconto is the author of 43 peer reviewed journal articles, 36 peer reviewed book chapters, 8 books (as author or editor) and 32 expert reports. She has edited 8 special issues of international peer reviewed journals and is the Chief Editor of the *International Journal of the Sociology of Agriculture and Food* (IJSAF), an Associate Editor of the *Journal of Rural Studies*, and Associate Editor of *Science as Culture* and an editorial board member of *Agriculture and Human Values*. Prof. Dr. Loconto focuses on the governance of transitions to sustainable food systems, specifically on the metrics, models, standards and systems of certification that are part of emerging institutional innovations.



## Suzanne MENHEM

**Suzanne Menhem** is Professor and Researcher at the Lebanese University, Institute of Social Sciences, and an independent consultant with extensive experience across various sectors, including Social Sciences, Anthropology, Demography, and Migration. Chair of the Demography Lab at Research Center, Lebanese University, Institute of Social Sciences (CRSS). Renowned for her leadership in field survey management and implementation, with a proven track record in overseeing complex research projects. She has successfully managed numerous field surveys and has organized and actively participated in various research projects, conferences, workshops, and training programs. Dr. Menhem's career is marked by significant contributions to international initiatives. She has led extensive surveys and interviews within these projects, offering critical insights into global social issues. Her methodological expertise spans both qualitative methods (interviews, ethnographic field research) and quantitative approaches (survey design, implementation, and statistical analysis), as evidenced by her contributions to publications and research projects. Dr. Menhem's research interests span migration, gender equality, and socioeconomic development, with a strong emphasis on human rights-based research. Fluent in Arabic, English, and French, Dr. Menhem is well-equipped to navigate international research settings and collaborate across diverse linguistic and cultural contexts. Dr. Menhem is also a member of the International Sociological Association (ISA) and the Lebanese Sociological Association.



## Bakhrom MIRKASIMOV

**Bakhrom Mirkasimov** has been appointed Deputy Rector on Research and Innovation of Westminster International University in Tashkent (WIUT) from April 2024. He is the President of the Association of Sociologists of Uzbekistan since 2021. He is the Managing Editor of the international peer-reviewed open-access journal - Silk Road: A Journal of Eurasian Development ([www.silkroadjournal.online](http://www.silkroadjournal.online)), published by the University of Westminster Press. Previously, he visited CERGE-EI, Duke University, Leibniz University Hannover, Lund University, Istanbul Medipol University and Leibniz Institute of Agricultural Development in Transition Economies (IAMO) as a Research Scholar, worked at the German Institute for Economic Research (DIW Berlin) and served as a consultant to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, Asian Development Bank, World Bank, United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Population Fund, International Labour Organization and International Food Policy Research Institute. He has studied economics at Humboldt University Berlin, Vanderbilt University, Boise State University and published in academic journals like the Journal of Comparative Economics, Economics of Transition and Demography.



## Huu Minh NGUYEN

**Dr. Huu Minh NGUYEN** is a Professor of Sociology and has been the President of Vietnam Sociological Association since 2017 (2017-2022 and 2022-2027 term). He received his Ph.D in Sociology in 1998 from the University of Washington, Seattle, USA. He was the Director of the Institute for Family and Gender Studies (2005-2017) and the Vice-Director of the Institute of Sociology (1999-2005) in Vietnam. He has been a PI or Co-PI of many international and national research projects and given lectures for graduate program in Sociology and Social Work in Graduate Academy of Social Sciences (Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences); Ho Chi Minh National Academy of Politics; University of Social Sciences and Humanities at Ho Chi Minh city; etc. His publications include many books, articles in Vietnamese and monographs, book chapters, articles in English on marriage studies; family relations studies; gender studies; urban population in Vietnam. Some of his publications are: *Migration and urbanization in Vietnam: Patterns, trends and differentials*; *Gender equality in Vietnam: Analysis of survey data*; *Vietnamese marriage patterns in the Red River Delta: Tradition and change*; *Marriage in contemporary Vietnamese society*; *Gender equality in the ethnic minority areas in Vietnam*.



## Nomzamo P. NTOMBELA

**Dr. Nomzamo Ntombela** was a Lisa Maskell/PANGEA and a Center for the Study of the Afterlives of Violence and the Reparative Quest doctoral fellow. She currently serves on the executive of the South African Sociological Association as Vice President.

Her PhD research concerned itself with the intellectual role(s) of women in exile during the anti-apartheid struggle and focuses on their engagement with 'liberation' both as a conceptual and tangible phenomena. It focused on the intellectual contributions of women to debates amongst uMkhonto weSizwe and the Pan African Congress in exile bases on the continent and in the diaspora. She advanced the argument that women combatants made significant political and intellectual contributions, whilst in exile, that made the Southern African liberation project credible across the diaspora.

Contextually, her broad research interests are in: gender, sexualities, biographies, social theory, Black feminist theory, political sociology, social movements, decoloniality and African spirituality. Given her interdisciplinary training, she is also interested and engages in creative research methodologies and welcomes collaborations with students/activists and colleagues who are engaged in the above.



## Elina OINAS

**Elina Oinas** is ISA Vice President of Membership and Finance of the International Sociological Association 2023-2027. Elina has been professor in Sociology at the Swedish School of Social Science at the University of Helsinki since 2015. She has also worked in Global Development Studies and Gender Studies departments. She has been visiting scholar in Addis Ababa, Cambridge, Witwatersrand, Berkeley, Western Cape; and as staff member in University of Turku, Åbo Akademi, and the Nordic Africa Institute in Uppsala. Her long-term research interests are gender, the body, health, feminist science studies, global sociology, development and critical studies of the Nordic welfare state.



## Takashi OKUMURA

**Takashi Okumura** is Professor in the School of Sociology at Kwansei Gakuin University. He graduated from the Faculty of Letters at the University of Tokyo in 1984, completed the master's and doctoral programs at the Graduate School of Sociology at the University of Tokyo, and received his Ph.D. in 2003. He served as an assistant professor at the University of Tokyo, an associate professor at Chiba University, a visiting fellow at the University of Leicester, and a professor at Rikkyo University before assuming his current position in 2017. He was appointed President of the Japan Sociological Society in November 2025.

His research interests are sociological theory, sociology of communication, and sociology of culture. His publications include *Coexistence with Others: Sociology of Communication* (1998, Nihon Hyoronsha, 2024, Chikuma Shobo), *Norbert Elias: Enquiries into Violence* (2001, Keiso Shobo),





*Anti-communication* (2009, Kobundo), *A History of Sociology I: Exploring the Enigmas of Society* (2014, Yuhikaku), *Keiichi Sakuta vs. Munesuke Mita* (editor, Kobundo, 2016), *The Politics of Mercy: Who Forgives Whom in Mozart's Operas* (Iwanami Shoten, 2022), *A History of Sociology II: For the Imagination to Others* (2023, Yuhikaku), and *Sociology of Social Consciousness in Postwar Japan: Exploring Its Sociological Imagination* (editor, Yuhikaku, 2023).

## Michael Perry OKYEREFU

**Michael Okyerefo** is a Professor of Sociology, Department of Sociology, University of Ghana, specializing in the Sociology of Culture and Sociology of Religion. He is keenly interested in global sociology with emphasis on (auto)biographical analysis as an object for sociological enquiry; migration; Ghana's new churches and their transnational links; African Social Thought and conceptual categories; and critical studies on the African university. He has published in these areas and is the recipient of awards and grants, including a Visiting Fellowship on Religion and Public Culture at the University of Cambridge and the Carnegie African Diaspora Fellowship Programme (CADFP). He was Visiting Professor at the University of Ottawa, is currently a Visiting Professor at Nelson Mandela University, and an Executive Committee Member of the International Sociological Association.



## Mei-Lin PAN

**Mei-Lin Pan** is a Professor in the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences at National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University and the 35th President of the Taiwanese Sociological Association. She received her PhD in Sociology from Duke University. Her research follows two major trajectories. The first examines economic and development sociology through global production and value chain perspectives, analyzing how industrial organization and network restructuring shape social outcomes. During the COVID-19 pandemic, she coauthored influential studies on Taiwan's rapid reorganization of PPE and mask-machine production networks, contributing to broader understandings of crisis response and industrial coordination. The second focuses on transnational migration, refugee studies, and stateless populations, with long-term fieldwork among Tibetan exile communities in India, Nepal, and Taiwan. Pan's work documents refugee economies, displacement, and the political ambiguities of legal status. In addition to her journal publications, she has coedited several scholarly volumes on ethnic studies, sociotechnical change, and cross-disciplinary research in contemporary Taiwan.



## Pille PETERSOO

**Pille Petersoo, PhD** is a Sociology Lecturer at Tallinn University and Vice-President of the Estonian Association of Sociologists. She studied sociology at the University of Tartu, Estonia, before moving to Edinburgh, Scotland, for her postgraduate studies. There, she completed an MSc in Nationalism Studies and a PhD in Sociology, followed by two postdoctoral positions—one at the University of Edinburgh and another at the University of Stirling. During this period, she was part of a major research programme funded by The Leverhulme Trust on Constitutional Change and National Identity (1999–2005). After returning to Estonia in 2006, she worked as a senior researcher at Tallinn University. She later took a 12-year sabbatical to focus on raising her young family and developing her work in food writing. Pille returned to academia in September 2021 as a sociology lecturer and is currently in her fifth year under a teaching-heavy contract. Her research interests include national identities, nationalism, the sociology of food, and the sociology of reading and literature.



## Geoffrey PLEYERS

**Geoffrey Pleyers** is an FNRS Research Director and Professor of Sociology at the Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium. He is the current President of the International Sociological Association. His research focuses on global studies, social movements, youth, sociology of religion and Latin America. He is the author of four books including “Alter-Globalization. Becoming Actors in the Global Age” (Polity, 2011) and “El cambio nunca es lineal” (“Change is never linear”, in Spanish, CLACSO, 2024). Recent articles in English include “For a global sociology of social movements. Beyond methodological globalism and extractivism” (Globalizations, 2024), “Social Movements as Triggers of Transgenerational Transmission of Trauma and Memory in Chile”, “The Chilean awakening in a global decade of social movements” and “The pandemic is a battlefield. Social movements and solidarity during the COVID-19 lockdown” (Journal of Civil Society, 2020); and a series of texts on the renewal of global sociology published in Global Dialogue.



## Bandana PURKAYASTHA

**Bandana Purkayastha** is the Vice President for National Associations in the International Sociological Association. She is a Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor of Sociology at the University of Connecticut. Passionate about moving away from Euro-America-centric sociological frameworks, her prolific scholarship on migration, human rights, knowledge hierarchies, and intersectionality bridges knowledge from many parts of the world. Her research appears in over 100 publications, including in translation. She has worked with organizations such as WHO and IOM (UN) on topics related to migrants. She has been awarded many awards at her university, in the state, and by disciplinary associations including American Sociological Association’s Jessie Bernard award, “which recognizes significant contributions to improving the lives of women ” as well as Sociologists for Women in Society’s prestigious Feminist Mentoring award. She served in many professional leadership positions, and is currently the Associate Dean for Social Sciences.



## Uddhab PYAKUREL

**Uddhab Pyakurel**, the Dean of School of Art, teaches Political Sociology at Kathmandu University Nepal. He, who was Director of Global Engagement Division of the Office of Vice Chancellor from 2021 to 2024, completed his Master in Political Science and Sociology from Tribhuvan University, joined Delhi School of Economics (University of Delhi) to pursue M. Phil, and earned Ph.D. from Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. Being an adjunct Fellow at School of Social Sciences and Psychology, Western Sydney University of Australia, he engages in academic journal articles and book chapters on poverty, people's participation, social inclusion/exclusion, conflict, identity, democracy, election, Nepal's foreign relations and other socio-political issues of Nepal and Asia. Maoist Movement in Nepal: A Sociological Perspective (New Delhi: Adroit Publishers, 2007); Dalit Representation in National Politics of Nepal (Kathmandu: NNDSWO 2012); State of Conflict and Democratic Movement in Nepal (New Delhi: Vij Books, 2013); Nepal-India Open Border: Problems and Prospects (New Delhi: Vij Books, 2016); Reproduction of Inequality and Social Exclusion: A Study of Dalits in a Caste Society, Nepal (Singapore: Springer Nature 2021); Challenging Authoritarian Capitalism: The Transformative Power of the World Social Forum (Abingdon & New York: Routledge, 2023 ), etc. are single authored and co-authored books for his credit.



## Borut RONČEVIĆ

**Borut Rončević**, PhD is a Professor of Sociology at the Faculty of Information Studies in Novo mesto and a senior researcher at the Rudolfovo – Science and Technology Centre of Novo mesto. His work integrates cultural political economy, regional development, and socio-cultural dynamics with a focus on innovations, circular economy and East European transformations. Recently he started exploring the role of sociologies in societal transformations, which resulted in the edited volume Sociology and post-socialist transformations in Eastern Europe: A Cultural Political Economy approach. (Springer, 2024). An experienced academic leader, he is a former Dean, the founding Director of a public research institute, Director General for Higher Education and Science at the Slovenian Ministry of Education. He was a visiting scholar at academic institutions in Germany, United Kingdom, Ireland, Denmark, Norway, Russia, Croatia, and the United States. He has held several academic awards and scholarships, including the prestigious Marie Curie fellowship (at Aalborg University, Denmark), Fulbright Fellowship (Troy University, United States) and Jean Monnet Chair. He has consulted policy-makers at local, national and international levels and has so far secured more than 15 mio EUR in funding for higher education and research.



## Marco Aurélio SANTANA

**Marco Aurélio Santana** is a full professor in the Department of Sociology at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ). He is president of the Brazilian Sociological Society (SBS) (2025-27). He holds a degree in Social Sciences from the UFRJ. He was a visiting PhD student at the University of Manchester (1995-1996), completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales (EHESS), Paris (2005-2006), and was a visiting scholar at the University of California at Berkeley. He was director of the Institute of Philosophy and Social Sciences (IFCS) at UFRJ (2011-2017). He chaired the Advanced Studies Committee for Revealed Memories at the National Archives. His research focuses on the sociology of work, sociology of social movements and labour movements.



## Nazanin SHAHROKNI

**Nazanin Shahrokni** is a sociologist and an Associate Professor in the School for International Studies at Simon Fraser University in Vancouver, Canada. Her scholarly work sits at the intersection of the global politics of gender, feminist geography, and ethnographies of the state in Iran, the Middle East, and beyond. She is the author of the award-winning book, *Women in Place: The Politics of Gender Segregation in Iran* (University of California Press, 2020). She co-edited the 2024 special issue "Gender and Public Space" for *Gender & Development*, and has contributed to edited academic volumes published by Edinburgh University Press, Routledge, and I.B. Tauris, as well as to several public-facing venues, including *Jadaliyya*, *Truthout*, *Middle East Report*, and *Global Dialogue*. Her 2024 article in the *Humanity Journal*, "Depleted Households: Domesticating Economic Sanctions," received Honorable Mention for the Arlene Kaplan Dans Paper Award from the Society for the Study of Social Problems. Shahrokni currently serves on the Executive Committee of the International Sociological Association, where she chairs the Statute Committee.



## Shamsher SINGH

**Dr. Shamsher Singh** received Junior and Senior Research Fellowship for doctoral research at the Sociological Research Unit of the Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata and Economic Analysis Unit, Bangalore Centre. He was awarded doctorate from the Department of Sociology, University of Calcutta. His doctoral research was a sociological study of access of rural households to housing and basic amenities across five states in India using the concept of social exclusion. He has attended one semester of M.Phil. in Sociology course work at the Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi. Dr. Singh has been involved in carrying out socio-economic village studies since one and half decade and has experience of participating in more than twenty such studies across different agro-ecological regions in India. Other than being involved in collecting and processing primary data he has contributed in preparing several manuals like household survey training manual for investigators, manual for organizing village studies, data entry, and manual for calculating household incomes. He has presented his work at national and international academic forums. Before joining FLAME, he worked with the Centre for Management in Agriculture (CMA), Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad as Post-Doctoral Fellow and at the Indian Statistical Institute, Bangalore Centre as Visiting Scientist.





## Marta SOLER-GALLART

**Marta SOLER-GALLART** is a doctor by Harvard University, Full Professor and Chair of the Department of Sociology at the University of Barcelona. She has served as President of the European Sociological Association (2019-2021) and is currently Vice-President for Publications of the International Sociological Association. She has been at the Governing Board of the European Alliance for Social Sciences and Humanities and was the first researcher from the Social Sciences at the ORCID Board of Directors. Her research targets inequalities and the ways to overcome these, with a focus on gender. She has been in the leading teams of diverse projects from the Framework Programme of the European Commission, including the H2020 SOLIDUS on solidarity and the current Horizon Europe project REVERS-ED on reversing educational inequalities. She is the author of more than 30 papers in top journals internationally with over 6000 citations, and her contributions on the social impact of research at EU level have been published in Springer's book "Achieving Social Impact. Sociology in the public sphere".



## Aylin TOPAL

**Prof. Aylin Topal** is currently the General Secretary of Turkish Social Sciences Association. She is a faculty member of the Department of Political Science and Public Administration at Middle East Technical University. She is also the Chair of the Latin and North American Studies Program at the same university. She holds a PhD from the New School for Social Research in New York. Previously, she was a Visiting Scholar at Oxford University, Area Studies Latin American Centre (Hillary and Trinity 2020); Harvard University, Sociology Department (Spring 2015) and Pittsburgh University, Department European Union Center of Excellence and European Studies Center (Summer 2015). Her research interest includes rural and regional development and agrarian change. Her major publications include two single-authored monographs, (one on State Re-structuring and Regional Development in Mexico, the other one on Methodology and Methods in Development Studies), one co-authored book (on the Impact of European Green Deal on Turkish Agriculture), and two edited books on Neoliberalism in Latin America and State-Society Relations in Turkey. Her articles were published in high ranking SSCI journals such as *Journal of Urban Affairs*, *Critical Sociology*, *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, *Climate and Development*, *Women's Studies International Forum*.



## Ilo TRAJKOVSKI

**Prof. PhD Ilo Trajkovski** has been a full professor at the Institute of Sociology at the Faculty of Philosophy in Skopje since December 2005. As a visiting professor and researcher, he has done study visits to sociological institutions in the United States of America (Arizona State University in Tempe and the New School for Social Research in New York), the United Kingdom (London School of Economics and Political Science), Bulgaria (St. Clement of Ohrid University), Poland (Jagiellonian University), and France (Université de Strasbourg). Professor Trajkovski, elaborates his ideas by publishing books and articles in the fields of Sociology of





Politics and Political Systems, Sociology of Citizenship and Human Rights, and Contemporary Sociological Theory. As a columnist he implements his sociological concepts in the analysis of various contemporary social and political issues. Moreover, professor Trajkovski, throughout his career, has led and participated in several national and international scientific research projects ("Civic Associations in Macedonia," Head, OSI-Macedonia; "Knowledge and Opinion about the Low among Citizens of Serbia and Macedonia", National Project coordinator, IRSS; "Education for civic society – action project," CCE, USA;" Stocktaking Research on Education for Democratic Citizenship and Managing of Diversity in SEE ", National consultant. Council of Europe;" Group interests and civil society in two cities in Macedonia and Bulgaria ", Comparative research, HESP); European values study and others).

## Anup TRIPATHI

**Anup Tripathi** is working as Assistant Professor, Sociology at FLAME University, Pune, India. He has obtained his PhD and Master's degrees from Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai. His interest areas are Urban Studies and Housing. He has published articles in several publications on themes such as homelessness, walkability in Indian cities, housing as care infrastructures, the portrayal of labour in media etc. He currently teaches Urban Sociology, Sociological Theory, Indian Society and Culture and Urban Studies. He likes reading and travelling. He is an avid follower of Indian politics, cricket and cinema.



## Titus James TWESIGE

**Titus James TWESIGE** attained a Bachelor of Arts in Social Sciences majoring in Sociology (3:1:1) and Master of Arts in Sociology with bias in health and medical systems (Medical Anthropology) both from Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda. He also attained a Master of Business Administration (MBA)- Management from the Uganda Management Institute (Kampala, Uganda). Titus is currently completing a Master of Science in Public Health (MscPH) at Victoria University-Kampala-Uganda. Titus has supplementary post graduate and vocational training in Facilitating Organizational Learning and Development (FOLD), Project Planning and Management (PPM), Results-based Monitoring and evaluation (RBM&E), Virtual leadership, Financial Management and Accounting for non-financial Managers as well as Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs). Titus has over 20 years working experience applying sociological knowledge and approaches in developing and managing donor-funded public health and social development programs holding operational, tactical and strategic management positions especially with Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) and Local Governments in Uganda as well as in the eastern Africa region. Specifically, he served as a Program Officer with the Uganda Network of AIDS Service Organisations (UNASO), a Team Leader with Eastern Africa Network of AIDS Service Organisations (EANNASO-Arusha, Tanzania), Program Implementation Specialist and later Country Director with Alliance of Mayors Initiative on Health and HIV in Africa (AMICAALL Uganda Chapter). Titus has been at the center of advocacy efforts for human rights, gender inequality, social vulnerability, universal access to health in Uganda, Africa and globally while he served on various coordination, policy, planning and governance platforms and boards. He served as a Lead Communications Focal Person for the



Developing Countries NGO Delegation to the board of The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Geneva-Switzerland), engaged and represented Civil Society issues on Regional Economic Commissions such as East African Community (IOC), Indian Ocean Commission (IOC), South African Development Cooperation (SADC) and Inter-Governmental Agency for Drought and Development (IGADD). He also represented Civil Society Constituencies on national policy platforms in Uganda including the National Multi-Stakeholder Partnership Committee, thematic working committees at Uganda AIDS Commission, the Non-Communicable Diseases Technical Working Group at the Ministry of Health-Uganda as well as on the Uganda/Global Fund Country Coordination Mechanism (CCM) board. Titus has served on the governance board of Uganda Network of AIDS Service Organisations (UNASO) and Alliance of Mayors Initiative on Health and HIV (AMICAALL Uganda Chapter). He is currently the President of the Uganda Sociological and Anthropological Association (USAA).

## Tamara Besednjak VALIČ

**Tamara Besednjak Valič** is a senior scientific associate at the Rudolfovo - Science and Technology Centre Novo mesto and associate professor of sociology at the Faculty of Information Studies and School of Advanced Social Studies in Nova Gorica.

She is particularly interested in topics of steering of social systems, including but not limited to innovation ecosystems. She additionally focuses on the role of the intersectoral collaboration within such ecosystems. Apart from that, research interests include social narratives and their role in social systems' steering. In 2024 she co-edited (with B. Rončević) a volume on Sociology and Post-Socialist Transformation in Eastern Europe: A Cultural Political Economy Approach, published by Springer. She co-authored one chapter to the volume.



## Dan WOODMAN

**Dan Woodman** is the TR Ashworth Professor in Sociology at the University of Melbourne. He is immediate past President of Council for the Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences in Australia, was a two-term President of The Australian Sociological Association and is currently a member of the Executive Committee of the International Sociological Association. He is co-Chief Investigator on the Life Patterns project, one of the largest and longest running studies of young lives, tracking three generations of young Australians from the end of secondary school into adulthood. He is also co-Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Youth Studies* and has written widely on young people's lives and the sociology of generations. Dan is also a publicly engaged social scientist, including through his current role as the 'resident sociologist' on the Australian Broadcasting Corporation's Life Matters program, through writing newspaper articles in The Australian, Sydney Morning Herald, the Guardian, and The Conversation, and featuring as a commentator in articles in The Atlantic, New Scientist, The Times, and El Pais, among others.



6th **ISA** Conference of the  
**Council of National Associations**

# **ABSTRACTS**

## Olga KUTSENKO

Vice-President of the Sociological Association of Ukraine; Technische Universität Berlin, Germany

### **Sociology Under Fire: Rethinking the Role of National Sociology in Times of War**

**Key words:** war and society, epistemic challenges, disciplinary transformations, public engagement, knowledge in crisis, Ukrainian sociology

**Abstract:** How can sociology sustain critical inquiry and public relevance under conditions of war? This presentation reflects on the transformation of Ukrainian sociology amidst the ongoing Russian invasion. It interrogates how the war has challenged the epistemological foundations, normative orientations, and institutional frameworks of the discipline. The paper addresses key questions raised by the CNA Conference: What does it mean to "do sociology" under existential threat? How can national sociologies preserve autonomy while engaging with global structures of knowledge and solidarity? In the Ukrainian case, the war has triggered a shift toward more reflexive, context-sensitive, and civically engaged forms of knowledge production. At the same time, it has intensified debates over disciplinary decolonization, researcher positionality, and the responsibility of sociology in shaping post-war reconstruction. The Ukrainian experience invites a broader conversation about the functions and limits of national sociologies in times of systemic violence, geopolitical asymmetry, and democratic uncertainty.

## Roberto José Coromoto BRICEÑO LEÓN

Delegate of the Asociación Venezolana de Sociología; Universidad de Central de Venezuela, Venezuela

### **The Resilience of the Moral Economy of the Poor in Latin America**

**Abstract:** This paper analyzes the diverse responses that low-income populations in Latin America have had to situations of economic inequality, legal restrictions, or political repression, and how they demonstrate a form of resilience based on a moral economy that endorses the illegal or illegitimate actions of residents.

It is a moral economy that does not promote class struggle, confrontation, or simple resistance, but rather the search for solutions appropriate to the context of adversity they have experienced. In doing so, they have created an alternative and autonomous normative system.

This paper analyzes five social processes: 1) The occupation of urban lands and the construction of favela-type housing and developments; 2) the mechanisms of informal trade, forms of self-employment or informal employment, and the emergence of informal entrepreneurs. 3) Solidarity loans between equals and the dynamics of asymmetric loans between unequals. 4) The cultural dynamics, including popular "fake" loans; and 5) Organizations of covert political resistance to dictatorships and "imposture" as a form of resistance.



*This resilience based on moral economy is founded on a type of consequentialist deontology and allows for the emergence of a different normative framework and social grammar that understands the pursuit of utility maximization not as individual monetary benefit but as the maximization of social well-being. This moral construction offers advantages, but also carries the risk, as has happened, that it can be co-opted by criminal mafias who use it for their private benefit.*

## **Marco Aurélio SILVA DE SANTANA**

President of the Brazilian Sociological Society; Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

### **Sociology under Authoritarianism: An Analysis of the Brazilian Experience**

**Keywords:** Brazilian sociology – Authoritarianism – Democracy – Education policies – Teaching of sociology

**Abstract:** This article analyzes the impact of authoritarian regimes on the trajectory of Sociology in Brazil, focusing on four specific contexts: the Estado Novo (1937–1945), the military dictatorship (1964–1985), and, more recently, the administrations of Michel Temer (2016–2018) and Jair Bolsonaro (2019–2022). The paper discusses the effects of authoritarian practices such as censorship, political repression, criminalization, and the removal of the discipline from the high school curriculum. It also examines the resistance carried out during the years of authoritarian rule, the process of (re)democratization, and the contemporary challenges faced by the discipline. As will be shown, although authoritarianism has inflicted significant harm on the trajectory of Sociology, the discipline has resisted and reaffirmed itself as an essential tool for social analysis and critique, for the construction of citizenship, and for the strengthening of democracy.

## **Kaja GADOWSKA**

Delegate of the Polish Sociological Association; Institute of Sociology of the Jagiellonian University, Poland

### **Academic Freedom and Democratic Futures: Knowledge, Power, and Resilience Across Regions**

**Abstract:** Across the world, democratic institutions and knowledge systems are undergoing profound and uneven transformations. From Central and Eastern Europe to the United States, South Asia, Latin America, and Africa diverse forms of democratic erosion—both abrupt and incremental—are reshaping the contexts in which knowledge is produced, circulated, and contested. Legal and regulatory reforms presented as modernization or national protection increasingly serve to centralize authority, restrict dissent, and delimit public debate. These developments unfold in an era of accelerating technological, geopolitical, and social change, intensifying institutional fragility and polarization across regions.

Academic freedom stands at the core of these dynamics. It is both an early indicator of democratic decline and a central arena in which struggles over authority, expertise, and legitimacy take new forms. Universities and scholars confront political oversight,

ideological intervention, funding dependency, and the broader delegitimization of expertise. Yet at the same time, sociologists around the world are forging pathways of resilience: cultivating transnational collaborations, building inclusive intellectual networks, and strengthening the public role of the discipline.

Drawing on comparative sociological perspectives and recent global data, this presentation examines how contemporary power relations shape academic freedom and how the defense of knowledge is inseparable from the defense of democratic futures. It argues that building resilient sociologies requires shared responsibility, global scholarly solidarity, and renewed commitments to protecting the institutional and epistemic conditions that make critical inquiry possible.

The presentation also highlights the importance of learning from the strategies that scholarly organisations have developed to navigate these challenges. Sociological associations, universities, and research networks have responded to pressures on academic freedom through monitoring mechanisms, public interventions, institutional safeguards, and new forms of cross-border cooperation. Sharing these experiences enables organisations to identify effective practices, avoid structural blind spots, and build forms of collective resilience that no single institution can achieve alone. Strengthening cooperation and mutual learning is therefore essential not only for protecting academic freedom today, but for shaping democratic futures in which knowledge can continue to flourish.

## Pille PETERSOO

Vice-President of the Estonian Association of Sociologists; Tallinn University, Estonia

### **Small country, big ideas, or what brought us here, will not take us forward**

**Abstract:** “What brought us here, will not take us forward” stated our former President Ilves in his Estonian Independence Day speech in February 2014. At the time, he was referring to both a historic shift in **technology** that is reshaping our society, as well as to Russia’s attack in Crimea, Ukraine.

In my paper, I will focus (mainly) on the first aspect, the impact of technology on our society and social science research. As a small country, Estonia has had to find ways to succeed, survive and be resilient in the global society. In the same year that Manuel Castells wrote his influential “The Rise of the Network Society” (1996), describing the shift from an industrial society to an informational society, Estonia launched an ambitious state-funded Tiigrihüpe (Tiger Leap) project that propelled our country into **the digital age**. That was before mobile phones with Wi-Fi and GPS, before smartphones with touchscreens, before the introduction of the GPT architecture and ChatGPT. This year, our current president Karis used the Independence Day speech to announce the next step - an imminent launch of TI-hüpe (AI-leap) in **Estonian education system**.

How are Estonian sociologists responding to those leaps? By acknowledging that the onslaught/arrival of AI and/or emerging technologies will have a big impact on our society, on sociological research in general, but also **social research ethics** in particular (see Masso et al 2025).

## Bakhrom MIRKASIMOV

President of the Association of Sociologists of Uzbekistan; Westminster International University in Tashkent, Uzbekistan

### **Analyzing the trend of research in Sociology across publications in English and Russian: A view from Central Asian countries.**

**Abstract:** The use of systematic literature review in sociology has been increasing over the past decades. We use the systematic literature review analysis to draw a map and the trend of the sociological research development in the Central Asian region after gaining independence in 1991. We analyze and summarize scholarly research articles in two languages for this region: Russian and English. The focus of this article is to explore complete, evidence-based information on the status of the sociology field in five Central Asian countries, discipline indicators, and the level of integration with the global sociological agenda. In conclusion, we provide suggestions for future research of Sociology in Central Asia, potential directions for development, and limitations.

## Abdelfattah EZZINE

National Coordinator of the Moroccan Sociological Instance (MSI), Espace Médiation (EsMed)

### **Title: Multilingual/Polyglot Sociology**

**Abstract:** This presentation aims to advocate not only for a public and democratic sociology as described by the late Michel Burawoy (17th President of the ISA) and others, but also addresses issues of language used by sociologists who wish to embrace this perspective at a time in our universal history when the power of knowledge is called upon to take its rightful place within the global sociological body instead of continuing to promote the knowledge of power.

Our presentation will focus on the following themes:

- Why is it “A time for Sociology”?
- Promoting a perception of sociology shared by the global sociological community
- Recognizing enriching and non-conflictual diversity

## Diana JANUŠAUSKIENĖ

President of the Lithuanian Sociological Association; Lithuanian Social Research Centre for Social Sciences, Lithuania

### **Rethinking Linguistic Dependency in Global Sociology**

**Key words:** linguistic dependency, Lithuania, global sociology.

**Abstract:** This paper analysis linguistic dependency in sociology in the context of the growing dominance of English. It examines how sociologies in smaller non-English-speaking countries face structural disadvantages that extend beyond the conventional Global North–Global South divide. The paper argues that this binary framework is insufficient, as inequalities and dependencies are also reproduced within European

sociology itself. Challenges include gatekeeping practices, unequal access to resources and opportunities, reliance on English-language publication venues, and pressures to align with standardized research agendas. Empirically, the study draws on a case study of Lithuania. Methodologically, it combines a synthesis of existing research on academic dependency, and documentary analysis. By highlighting the specific vulnerabilities of smaller sociologies, this paper seeks to advance debates on the politics of knowledge production and to call for a more nuanced framework for analysing inequalities in global sociology.

## Shaikh Mohammad KAIS

ISA Executive Committee Member; University of Rajshahi, Bangladesh

### **Gendered Emotions: Empty Nest Syndrome among Bangladeshi Women**

Authors: Saroat Hasan Safa, Shaikh Mohammad Kais

**Keywords:** Resilience, Parental emotion, Empty nest, Midlife crisis, Bangladesh.

**Abstract:** Globally, empty nest syndrome (ENS) is becoming more common among the elderly. When children leave the house for school, employment, marriage, or other reasons, the adult life cycle enters the "empty nest" phase. The term "empty nest syndrome" refers to a cluster of feelings that some parents, especially mothers, go through when their kids need to leave the nest, such as loneliness, grief, guilt, anger, resentment, impatience, frustration, and a lack of purpose – all indicating their weak resilience. Mental health conditions including anxiety and depression could result from this midlife crisis. 16 women in Bangladesh participated in a qualitative study that used in-depth telephone interviews and observation to examine the problems of ENS. According to the findings of this study, individuals with empty nests endure mental anxiety and loneliness in addition to a variety of other psychological and physical hardships. Often, they receive only scant assistance from others. At times, they need to consult doctors and take medicine. In order to deal with empty nest syndrome, Bangladeshi mothers engage in a variety of activities including gardening, rearing cattle, participating in religious activities, sewing, physical exercise, watching T.V, etc.

## Lígia FERRO

President of the Portuguese Sociological Association; Universidade do Porto, Portugal

### **Building Sociology in Portugal: Challenges for public sociology**

**Abstract:** Although sociology was banned during the dictatorship in Portugal (1926-1974), it is not possible to prevent people from thinking and desiring to transform the societies for the better. Since the Carnation Revolution in 1974, sociology has flourished in Portugal to the extent that the country is now home to renowned centres of excellence at an international level. The participation of the scientific community at the International Sociological Association and the European Sociological Association is remarkable (including in positions of leadership such as the presidency and the organisation of international conferences). The Portugal Sociological Association has always been the platform for the exchange between academic and non-academic sociologists at the national and



international levels. It has been supporting networks and projects developed by a very vibrant community deeply implicated with practices of dialogue between sociology and non-academic audiences, in the line of Michael Burawoy's proposal, what led him to say that Portuguese sociology opened to discussions on public sociology from an early stage (Burawoy, 2021). However, the country has been facing many challenges, such as the economic crisis, the austerity policies, the hyper-specialisation of social sciences and recently the crisis of trust, the growing of hate speeches and the intensification of extreme-right wing movements questioning the welfare state model and democracy. In this paper, the strategies of publicly engaging Sociology in a moment of polycrisis will be put into discussion, looking for relevant international and global dialogues.

## Huu Minh NGUYEN

President of the Vietnam Sociological Association; Institute of Human, Family and Gender Studies, Vietnam

### **Main contributions of Vietnamese Sociology to the cause of national development over 40 years of Doi Moi era (Renovation era)**

**Key words:** Vietnamese sociology; Doi Moi era; Population in Vietnam; Family in Vietnam; Gender equality in Vietnam

**Abstract:** Since its emergence as an official institution in 1977 after Vietnam's unification with the establishment of the Institute of Sociology under the Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences, Vietnamese sociology has been constantly developing. Many sociological research and training facilities have been established in localities in Vietnam and have grown steadily. Up to now, thousands of people have been systematically trained in sociology and are working at economic, social, research and training facilities in Vietnam. Over the past 40 years of the Doi Moi (Renovation, since 1986), Vietnamese sociologists have made significant contributions to the development of Vietnam in terms of providing arguments for policy development, directly participating in policy drafting committees, training and disseminating sociological knowledge to the public. This presentation highlights some of the outstanding contributions of Vietnamese sociologists over the past 40 years of Doi Moi in the fields of population; urban and rural development; social structure and social stratification; family and gender equality. These contributions help to strengthen the position of sociology in promoting social development in Vietnam.

## Melanie HEATH

Delegate of the Canadian Sociological Association; McMaster University, Canada

### **The Challenge of Networking in Transnational Research: Studying Canada, France, and the United States**

**Keywords:** transnational, intersectional feminist methods, racialization and voice in qualitative research

**Abstract:** In the past decade, I have conducted transnational research that culminated in my book, *Forbidden Intimacies* (Stanford University Press, 2023), analyzing how regulating polygamy constituted a racial project based on national identities and transnational movement of laws and ideas across borders in the three countries. This

research presented challenges, specifically in thinking about my own situatedness as a white woman committed to intersectional feminist principles. In North America, I studied polygamy among fundamentalist Mormons who are predominantly white, making it relatively easy to make connections. However, in France and Mayotte—a French overseas department in the Indian Ocean—I faced challenges in studying racialized and vulnerable populations. I was committed to disrupting the stigmatizing ways that families of color in France have been racialized as “polygamous,” whether they actually are. How would I make connections and networks that would not further stigmatize these populations? This question will animate my presentation to build on the theme of building resilient sociologies.

**Tamara Besednjak VALIČ,**

President of the Slovenian Social Science Association; Science and Technology Centre , Slovenia

and

**Borut RONČEVIČ,**

ISA Executive Committee Member; Science and Technology Centre , Slovenia

## **Macroregional Diversity of Sociological Engagement: Clustering Eastern European Sociologies in Post-Socialist Transformations**

**Keywords:** macroregional clustering, sociological engagement, Cultural Political Economy, Post-socialist transformations

**Abstract:** This paper explores the macroregional clustering of sociological engagement in South-Eastern Europe within the broader context of post-socialist transformations. Drawing on the conceptual framework of Cultural Political Economy (CPE), the study examines how national sociological communities have variably influenced societal imaginaries through mechanisms of discursive variation, selection, retention, and reinforcement. The analysis identifies four ideal types of sociological agency: activators, voyeurs, fellow travellers, and marginals, whose distribution across South-Eastern Europe reflects both structural constraints and agential selectivities. Furthermore, four phases of transformation: Initial, Reflexive, Redirective, and Crisis Renewal are identified. The paper draws from 19 national case studies and investigates whether countries of Eastern Europe (SEE) exhibit shared characteristics in terms of sociological institutional development, political engagement, and epistemic positioning. Preliminary comparative analysis suggests that Eastern European countries tend to cluster around the Fellow Traveller and Voyer types, with sociological communities often positioned close to political power but lacking transformative agency. Further empirical insights reveal a complex landscape of sociological development shaped by historical legacies, institutional autonomy, funding regimes, and political contexts. While some countries (e.g., Slovenia, Romania, Serbia) exhibit strong intellectual traditions and public engagement, others (e.g., Albania, Moldova, Bosnia) demonstrate fragmented or marginal roles for sociology, often reliant on international donors or constrained by ethnopolitical divisions. Based on this, the macroregion shows a tendency toward prolonged Redirective phases, marked by institutional adaptation without deep epistemic renewal. These findings offer a basis for further theorisation of macroregional patterns in disciplinary evolution and provide insights into the strategic positioning of sociology in societies with strong socialist legacies.

**Mei-Lin PAN,**

President of the Taiwanese Sociological Association (TSA); National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University

and

**Chih-Jou (Jay) CHEN,**

ISA Executive Committee Member; Academia Sinica, Taiwan

## **‘Made in Taiwan’ amid Market Failure: State-Society Coordination in the COVID-19 Pandemic**

**Keywords:** SMEs, decentralized networks, cross-industry innovation, resilience, state-society relations

**Abstract:** This paper examines Taiwan’s response to the Covid-19 pandemic through the lens of state-society coordination. While global market failure created severe shortages of personal protective equipment (PPE), Taiwan mobilized its decentralized networks of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to establish a fully localized mask production chain within three months. Rather than relying solely on top-down state intervention, the process was characterized by horizontal coordination between government agencies, industry associations, research institutes, and civil society actors. Two dynamics stand out: first, the rapid scaling of mask production through collective mobilization across state and industrial networks; and second, cross-industry innovation facilitated by public institutions that enabled inexperienced firms to enter new production fields. These mechanisms illustrate how crisis governance in Taiwan was not only technical but also relational, rooted in institutional trust, social solidarity, and networked cooperation. The case highlights broader sociological questions of resilience, collective action, and governance under global disruption.

**Anup TRIPATHI**

FLAME University, India

## **Homelessness as Active Housing: Migrants Claiming Spaces and Identity in the City**

**Keywords:** Active housing; Migrant workers; Urban space; Citizenship; Mobile ethnography

**Abstract:** Homelessness, often perceived as a static condition of deprivation, is reconceptualized in this study as a dynamic process of “active housing” among migrant workers in Mumbai. Challenging normative binaries of housing and homelessness, this research employs an ethnographic approach to explore how informal dwellers negotiate urban space, identity, and citizenship through precarious living arrangements. Drawing on mobile ethnography, the research traces the spatially dispersed lives of homeless migrants, capturing their lived experiences through unstructured interviews, life histories, and immersive engagement across multiple sites. The focus is on their material practices, social networks, and navigations of urban marginality.

Key findings reveal that homelessness is a “learned” condition shaped by systemic inequities, yet migrants reconfigure it into “active housing” through familial and communal ties. The study further conceptualizes “active housing” as a form of dissent against neoliberal urbanism, where migrants’ improvisations expose gaps in welfare systems and demand

recognition of informal dwellings as legitimate housing. By situating homelessness within broader struggles for urban inclusion, this work contributes to debates on informality, citizenship, and spatial justice in urban contexts. It calls for reimagining housing not as a commodity but as a dynamic social process, where even the most marginalized actors shape the city's fabric.

**Shamsher SINGH**

FLAME University, India

## **Residential Segregation and Quality of Living in Rural India: A Village Study Perspective**

**Keywords:** Rural India, Residential segregation, Caste, Housing, Rural development

**Abstract:** Social power and inequality reflect through graded socio-economic hierarchies in a society. Based on the notions of 'purity' and 'pollution' of the Hindu caste system, in rural India, residential segregation of populations belonging to different castes has been a mechanism to maintain the caste hegemony and dominance of the landed upper castes. Exclusion of the Dalits, Other Backward Classes which predominantly engage in laboring and menial jobs from the residential areas habited by the upper castes results not only in discrimination but also in poor living conditions for the former. Drawing from a longitudinal study (2006 and 2023) of a multi-caste village in the state of Uttar Pradesh (western), the impact of residential segregation on living conditions of different caste groups has been studied.

The research examines how caste, religion, economic status, and access to land play out in settlement patterns, neighborhood composition, shedding light on the enduring legacy of historical hierarchies and discrimination in rural India. Using household level data, it has been shown that caste-based inequalities in access to homestead land, housing quality, sanitation, electricity, and drinking water continue to be significant having a range of schemes and programs targeted at improving the same. Further, the study investigates the social dynamics of segregation, including social cohesion, inter-group relations, and the sense of belonging (or absence) among the villagers.

**Rishi JHA**

FLAME University, India

## **Politics of Urban Life: Speaking from Megapolis' Margins**

**Keywords:** City, resettlement, biopolitics, necropolitics, political economy, bureaucracy, subjectivity

**Abstract:** Cities promise planetary futures. One such future is shaped by state-mediated and market-led urban redevelopment. These redevelopments often entail large-scale resettlement of evicted populations. Such efforts are rationalised as inclusive city-(re) making in the national interest and as a globalising endeavour, as well as biopolitical (life-fostering) projects for the resettled and rehabilitated. Yet, these efforts are inherently contested. In this presentation, I focus on one city-scale, project-led resettlement in an environmentally hazardous zone officially deemed "unfit for human habitation" by India's apex environmental body. I ask how such overtly biopolitical technologies reconstitute the meaning of urban life, death, and in-betweenness at the city's margins.



*Drawing from extensive ethnographic fieldwork (2019–ongoing), including over 100 interviews, observations, and document analysis, I demonstrate two arguments: first, urban resettlement constitutes a variegated domain of life-allowing and life-disallowing (or necropolitical) practices that operate across the political-economic paradigm of the state and its bureaucracy. Second, resettlement policies and politics generate differential citizenship practices that urban populations mobilise to reconstitute life-affirming efforts, even as they are forced to live in an environmentally hazardous zone. Overall, this presentation recentres life and living conditions as a broad paradigm within planetary urbanism in global southern cities.*

**Neha BAILWAL**

FLAME University, India

## **Understanding Education Inequality across Social Groups in Rural India**

**Key words:** *Rural India; Caste disparities; Educational outcome, Marginalised communities; Village dominance*

**Abstract:** *In this paper, I focus on understanding why despite best attempts and promising policy reforms, there exists a persistence gap in educational outcomes across social groups in rural India. Using both quantitative and qualitative methods, I aim to highlight some of the key structural and supply-side factors contributing to shortfalls in education, particularly for children from marginalised communities. First, I examine the extent of caste-based disparities in the provision and quality of public schools in Indian villages and their impact on educational outcomes. Using census data, we find a systematic disadvantage for socially and economically backward castes in both the availability and quality of public schools. Villages with a higher SC/ST population are less likely to have public schools, and when schools are present, their quality is lower compared to villages dominated by non-SC/ST populations. These findings are contextualized using qualitative insights from field survey in rural Uttar Pradesh. Secondly, I investigate the role of neighbourhood in shaping educational outcomes. We find that SC children living in villages dominated by upper castes are less likely to achieve high scores in reading and arithmetic compared to similarly situated children in villages dominated by their own caste. By highlighting these challenges, this paper aims to suggest interventions that can promote greater educational equity in rural India.*



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