

NOVEMBER 2025

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 2

# I am not a robot

The newsletter of the WG10 Digital Sociology



David Dueñas Cid (former president) and Richard Miskolci (new president)

## WELCOME LETTER FROM THE NEW PRESIDENT

Dear Colleagues,

The Working Group 10 Digital Sociology of the International Sociological Association (ISA) is already a vibrant and growing community. Its success is evident in its active engagement at forums and congresses, its expanding membership, and the increasing relevance of digital issues within sociology today.

Our journey began even before the group was officially recognized as a thematic group. Many of us were already participating in various Research Committees, organizing sessions on digital sociology, as I myself did during the ISA World Congress of Sociology in Toronto (2018). It was following that congress that David Dueñas Cid brought together scholars from different RCs to form what would soon become WG10, a transition that happened with remarkable speed, at least by ISA standards. Now, we face a new and exciting challenge: the path toward becoming a full Research Committee.

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This is no small task. It demands sustained collective effort and commitment from all members, especially from those serving on the board. As the new president of WG10, I am honored to take on this responsibility and to lead our group toward that goal.

An important goal for the next two years is to expand our group attracting more members from Africa, Latin America, and Asia. I count on all of you to spread information about our WG and make it more visible in these continents as well inviting directly people from them to join us. As a Brazilian scholar, based in the Global South, I will do my best to attract more colleagues from Latin America to our WG.

Our most important objective is to consolidate our working group within the ISA. This means building on what we are already doing so well: fostering a creative and inclusive environment, strengthening our internal connections, and organizing spaces for engagement, including next year's Work in Progress meetings and Midterm Conference. Above all, we must ensure that WG10 presents a compelling and forward-looking program at the 2027 World Congress in Seoul. A strong presence there will help us continue to attract scholars from across the ISA, showcasing our contributions to the discipline and the broader sociological community.

During my tenure as president, I want to emphasize that we are not simply a subfield or a group focused on emerging issues. WG10 is becoming a hub where sociologists from different areas converge to share knowledge and confront the challenges of a digital society. We are not in competition with other thematic groups, working groups, or research committees. Rather, we see ourselves as a collaborative and welcoming space, one that aims to develop robust conceptual, methodological, and theoretical tools that can support the wider sociological enterprise.

Digital sociology emerged in response to a historical and disciplinary need to rethink our tools, to develop theories, concepts, and methods capable of engaging with profound social and infrastructural transformations. It is not just about a new subject matter; it is about a deeper, more comprehensive understanding of contemporary society. As sociologists, we are uniquely equipped to interpret these changes without falling into technological determinism. Where other fields may see technology as an autonomous force, we recognize the reciprocal relationship between society and technology.

We also understand that data alone never tell the full story. They are always embedded in the social contexts that produce them. This critical perspective is essential as we confront ongoing promises of technological solutions to complex societal issues.

I will approach this role with both commitment and enthusiasm, building on the remarkable foundation laid by David Dueñas Cid. Sustaining a large and diverse group while nurturing a shared sense of belonging is not an easy task, but it is essential. In this, I know I can count on all of you, particularly the members of the WG10 board. Each of you brings energy, creativity, and, most importantly, the capacity to help our collective project grow and endure.

Whether as a Working Group or as a future Research Committee, we have the opportunity to deepen our collaboration, strengthen our academic community, and continue developing our conferences, publications, and contributions to our discipline. I look forward to the journey ahead, and to reuniting with many of you at the ISA World Congress of Sociology in Seoul, South Korea, in 2027.

Warm regards,

**Richard Miskolci**

**President, WG10 Digital Sociology**

**International Sociological Association**

**FAREWELL LETTER FROM OUTGOING PRESIDENT**

Dear WG10 friends,

As my term as President has recently finished, I would like to express my sincere gratitude and share how proud I am of what we've accomplished together. From an informal gathering in Toronto at the 2018 World Congress of Sociology to the present, where we have already established a Working Group with very promising future perspectives, many things have occurred. We managed to grow over 200 members, which is probably one of the biggest growths ever seen within ISA. That's amazing! We've come such a long way, and it's all thanks to being in the right place and the right moment, but also to the great energy and collaboration within this community.

Over the past years, we've been present in the two major ISA events (Melbourne 2023 and Rabat 2025), hosted our own Midterm Conference in Warsaw (2024), and held two WIP Workshops (online in 2022, and hybrid in Belgrade 2024). And I'm excited that the third WIP workshop is already underway. We've created spaces to share ideas, build projects, and meet new colleagues (and friends!) across the world.

All this makes me feel really happy and proud of what we achieved. It truly took a team effort! Special thanks go to the wonderful bunch of sociologists I was privileged to work with. Esther Brainin, an amazing VP and supporter; Tanja Carstensen who kept our finances in check; Veronica De León Gregorio, who was an essential addition to our Newsletter; Anna Domaradzka, who brought the Midterm Conference to Warsaw and to success; Attila Marton, Regev Nathansohn, Pilar Rodríguez Martínez & Jelica Stefanovic, who dealt wonderfully with the management of our sessions in Melbourne and Rabat; to Matías Valderrama, who built and maintained our website; and to all other board members, for their continuous support and enthusiasm. This has truly been a team effort. I couldn't have wished for a better group to work with. I also want to give a warm welcome to Richard Miskolci, our new President. I'm excited to see what he and the new board will do – there are many great things ahead for WG10!

Thank you all for your trust, your energy, and the unforgettable collaboration.

Looking forward to what comes next!

Warm regards,

**David Duenas-Cid**

**Outgoing President WG10 Digital Sociology**

**International Sociological Association**

## WG10 The report about the Forum in Rabat

### THIS IS SUCCESS! WORKING GROUP'S 10 DIGITAL SOCIOLOGY INAUGURAL PARTICIPATION AT ISA FORUM OF SOCIOLOGY

Highlights from the 5<sup>th</sup> International Sociological Association Forum of Sociology, Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco, July 6-11, 2025

The International Sociological Association's Working Group 10: Digital Sociology (WG10) made a significant and visible contribution during its inaugural participation in the 5th ISA Forum of Sociology. This moment marks an important step in the Group's rapid advancement and consolidates its role in shaping global sociological dialogue on digital transformations.

WG10 first entered the ISA conference arena as a Thematic Group during the 2023 World Congress in Melbourne. Only two years later, it demonstrated strong and coordinated growth. At the 2025 Forum, WG10 presented 22 thematic sessions, 4 hosted joint sessions, 1 Roundtable, and participated in 11 additional joint sessions organized by other RCs, WGs, and TGs. Altogether, the Group contributed to 42 program slots, accounting for 3.41% of the Forum's total sessions.

Beyond program presence, this participation also reflects WG10's demographic and geographic diversification, expansion of collaborative ties, and strengthening of its internal governance culture. The Group held its first digital elections for the 2025–2027 Board, bringing new members into leadership and introducing governance practices to support sustained growth.

#### WG10 Program Coordination and Session Leaders

The program was coordinated by Jelica Stefanović-Štambuk, Pilar Rodríguez Martínez, and David Dueñas-Cid, who curated a balanced academic lineup based on a wide pool of high-quality abstract submissions.

In total, 30 conveners proposed and led thematic and joint sessions.

In alphabetical order:

Ana Vuković, Anabel Quan-Haase, Anna Domaradzka, Attila Márton, Berenika Dyczek, Danaé Leitenberg, David Dueñas-Cid, Elisa Garcia-Mingo, Ester Branin, Ewa Domaradzka, Gabriel Faimau, Hector Puente Bienvenido, Ichiyo Habuchi, Izumi Tsuji, Jacinto Gutiérrez Lorca, Janara Soussa, Jared Wright, Jelica Stefanović-Štambuk, Mary Boatema Setrana, Mateusz Trochymiak, Mikolaj Biesaga, Richard Miskolci, Mireille Manga, Nuria Rodríguez Avila, Paolo Gerbaudo, Pilar Rodríguez Martínez, Rianka Roy, Stefan Lucking, Tanja Carstensen.

Additionally, Berenika Dyczek, Anabel Quan-Haase, and Barbara Neves coordinated and chaired the Roundtable, enabling three parallel thematic discussions around a shared conceptual thread.

This collective effort ensured a coherent digital sociological presence across themes such as digital activism and social movements, online harms, data and platform governance, AI-mediated social relations, ageing and the digital, feminist digital research, and methodological innovation.

## **WG10 The report about the Forum in Rabat**

### **WG10 Community and Leadership Transition**

The Business Meeting in Rabat marked an important transition.

Richard Miskolci was introduced as the new President (2025–2027), while David Dueñas-Cid was warmly acknowledged for his foundational leadership, which guided the Group from its early Thematic Group stage into its current Working Group status. Members emphasized that maintaining a spirit of collegiality, openness, and shared purpose remains crucial to WG10's identity and growth.

Informal moments were also an integral part of the Forum experience. Receptions and shared dinners provided space for exchange, mentorship, and strengthened bonds—consistent with WG10's longstanding tradition that “we are not robots,” and that professional collaboration flourishes alongside conviviality.

### **Looking Forward: Toward Research Committee (RC) Status**

WG10 is now advancing toward the goal of becoming a full Research Committee. The achievements in Rabat demonstrate strong capacity, but continued coordinated effort will be essential.

Preparation has already begun for the XXI ISA World Congress of Sociology (July 4–10, 2027, Gwangju, South Korea). Members are encouraged to contribute proposals and collaborative ideas to ensure an even stronger presence.

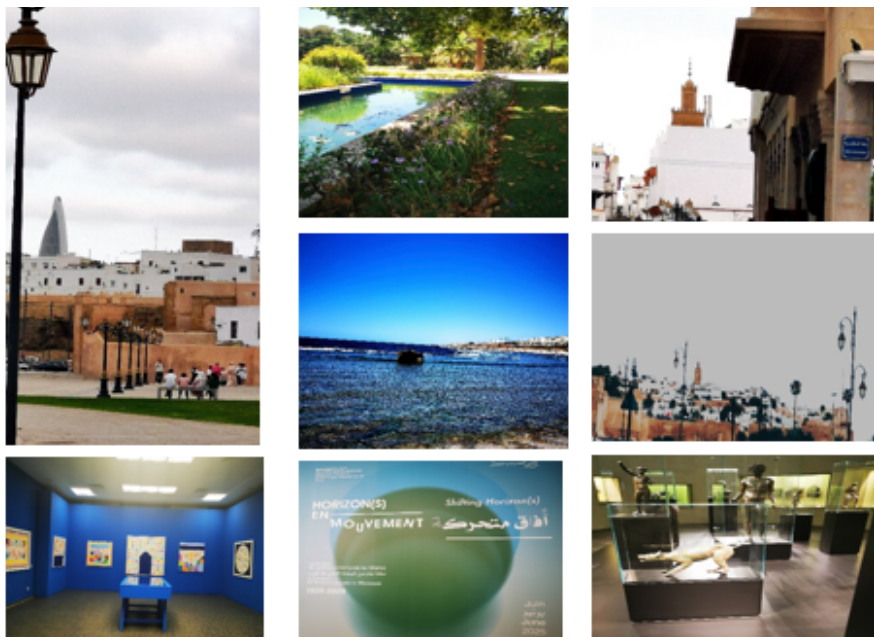
WG10's program coordination for the 2027 Congress will be led by:

Jelica Stefanović-Štambuk (vzorin@gmail.com)

Mayurakshi Chaudhuri (mayurakshi.chaudhuri@flame.edu.in)



## WG10 The report - Photo relation



Key indicators	WG10	5th FORUM	WG10 SHARE
Sessions	42	1,230	3.41%
Thematic	22	<u>980</u>	2.24%
Hosted joint	4	250	1.60%
Hosted+particip	15	250	6.00%
Registered	118	<u>4,842</u>	2.44%
Countries	40	112	35.70%



## Meet Our New Board (2025–2027)



### **RICHARD MISKOLCI (FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF SÃO PAULO, BRAZIL)**

Richard Miskolci is a Full Professor of Sociology at the Federal University of São Paulo (UNIFESP) and a researcher at the National Council for Scientific and Technological Development (CNPq). He is President of the Digital Sociology Working Group of the International Sociological Association (ISA) and Vice-Coordinator of the Graduate Program in Public Health at UNIFESP. From 2014 to 2018, he served as Deputy Coordinator for Sociology at the Brazilian Coordination for the Improvement of Higher Education Personnel (CAPES). He holds a PhD in Sociology from the University of São Paulo (USP, 2001) and was a Visiting Scholar at the Universities of Chicago, Michigan, California, Córdoba (Argentina), and Complutense of Madrid. Miskolci is a member of both the International and the Brazilian Sociological Societies, where he founded and currently coordinates the Research Committee Digital Sociology. He acts as a reviewer for several national and international research agencies and scientific journals worldwide. At UNIFESP, he leads DigiLab – Social Research Laboratory, supervising projects on technology's social, political, and health implications. He edited the first Brazilian compilation on Digital Sociology in 2016 and has published numerous papers and two books in this field.



### **ESTHER BRAININ (RUPPIN ACADEMIC CENTER, ISRAEL)**

Esther Brainin is Vice President of the ISA WG10 Board (2025–2027) and a scholar with over three decades of experience in digital sociology. Her career began with studies on the facilitating and impeding factors of information technology implementation in large governmental organizations in Israel. Through nine funded projects, she examined barriers professionals and laypeople face when bridging the digital divide at both organizational and individual levels. She developed guidelines and recommendations for digital activities in the public sector and among diverse populations. In parallel with publishing extensively, she created a university curriculum in digital sociology for undergraduate students. Her recent work focuses on closing the digital equity gap through research on platform design justice, exploring how non-commercialized principles of the Internet can reinforce ethical and cultural values in digital spaces. Her current projects address users' agency and digital sovereignty among Indigenous Peoples in Canada.



### **DAVID DUEÑAS-CID (KOZMINSKI UNIVERSITY, POLAND)**

David Dueñas-Cid is an Associate Professor and Director of the Public Sector Data-Driven Technologies (Pub-Tech) Research Center at Kozminski University. A recognized scholar in digital sociology, digital democracy, and governance, he has led several international projects funded by the EU H2020 Programme and the Polish National Science Centre. His research examines trust and distrust in internet voting, public sector innovation, and data-driven governance. From 2021 to 2025, he served as the former President of the ISA Working Group 10 on Digital Sociology, playing a pioneering role in shaping the field and building an international community of scholars. He also acts as General Chair of the E-Vote-ID Conference, Program Chair of the International Conference on Digital Government Research, and Academic Editor of Internet Policy Review. David regularly lectures internationally and advises institutions across Europe, Asia, and the Americas. His current work explores how digital governance and algorithmic decision-making influence democratic trust and institutional legitimacy.



# Meet Our New Board (2025–2027)



## JARED WRIGHT (TED UNIVERSITY, TÜRKİYE)

Jared M. Wright is an Assistant Professor of Sociology at TED University in Ankara, Türkiye. He earned his PhD in Sociology from Purdue University in 2020 and has previously been a member of the Oxford Internet Institute's Summer Doctoral Programme, the ASA WikiEducation Fellowship, and the Purdue Research Foundation Fellowship. His research bridges digital and political sociology with a focus on new media, digital culture, and social movements. He examines data activism, mis/disinformation, and the politics of digital spaces, employing qualitative and computational methods as well as mixed-methods designs. Jared has published in Social Movement Studies, Social Politics, Sociological Forum, and Politics, Groups, and Identities, and has contributed chapters to Routledge and Cambridge University Press volumes. He has organized sessions on digital activism and public sociology at major international conferences. Currently, he serves as Secretary of the ISA WG10 Board of Directors.



## PILAR RODRIGUEZ MARTINEZ (UNIVERSITY OF ALMERÍA, SPAIN)

Pilar Rodríguez Martínez holds a PhD in Sociology from the Complutense University of Madrid (2002) and is a Professor of Sociology at the University of Almería. Since the 1990s, her research has focused on gender and migration, with particular attention to violence against women, values, intersectionality, violent extremism, and hate speech. She has completed fellowships at the Universities of Helsinki, San Marcos, Saratov, Michigan, and Malmö. Her academic output includes over 15 books as author or editor, 36 articles in high-impact journals, and more than 50 book chapters. She serves on the Steering Committee of TG10 Digital Sociology of the ISA and is recognized for her interdisciplinary approach to gender and social values. Her recent work investigates hate speech and violent extremism through intersectional frameworks, bridging sociological and policy perspectives.



## SHAHAR MENDELOVICH (BAR-ILAN UNIVERSITY, ISRAEL)

Shahar Mendelovich is a PhD candidate and teaching assistant in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at Bar-Ilan University. She co-founded the Early Career Researchers Group within the ISA WG10 Digital Sociology Network. Her doctoral research examines technology, family life, and social class, with a focus on parental control technologies and surveillance practices. Her work explores how social class influences digital parenting and adoption of surveillance technologies. Her previous studies on digital nomadism and national identity appeared in *Mobilities* journal. Her broader interests include digital culture, inequality, and leisure, aiming to understand how digital technologies reshape family relations and reflect class dynamics. As WG10 board member, she supports the development of the Early Career Network.



## THOMAS ZENKL (UNIVERSITY OF GRAZ, AUSTRIA)

Thomas Zenkl is a doctoral researcher in Sociology at the University of Graz and holds Master's degrees in Global Studies and Computational Social Systems. He is a member of the interdisciplinary network "HFDT – Human Factor in Digital Transformation." His research focuses on the societal consequences of AI and automated decision-making, especially practices of resistance and refusal arising from the colonisation of everyday life by digital systems. His doctoral thesis, "Resistance in Algorithmic Regimes," examines multi-layered forms of resistance through and against algorithmic systems. He uses ethnomethodology to understand how people navigate algorithmic power and maintain agency. As WG10 Board member, he co-coordinates the Early Career Network and organizes events supporting emerging researchers.



**BERENIKA DYCZEK (UNIVERSITY OF WROCLAW, POLAND)**

Berenika Dyczek holds a PhD in Sociology from the University of Wrocław, where she serves as Assistant Professor at the Institute of Sociology. Her research integrates sociology and computer science, focusing on the societal impact of artificial intelligence. She has authored two monographs and numerous articles in international journals. Her interests include digital sociology, AI-driven social transformations, and interdisciplinary methodologies in social sciences. She has presented her research internationally and contributed to developing digital sociology as a discipline. In 2024, she received the French Government SSHN Scholarship for a research stay at Université Claude Bernard Lyon 1. Currently, she is also a Postdoctoral Researcher at Lincoln University College Malaysia (Hybrid Mode) and serves as WG10 Newsletter and Social Media Editor.



**MAYURAKSHI CHAUDHURI (FLAME UNIVERSITY, INDIA)**

Dr. Mayurakshi Chaudhuri is Associate Professor of Sociology and Digital Humanities and Head of the Department of Social Sciences in the FLAME School of Liberal Education at FLAME University, Pune. She founded the Digital Humanities programs (MSc and PhD) at the Indian Institute of Technology Jodhpur and served on the Board of Studies in Digital Humanities for Savitribai Phule Pune University (2022–2024). She is a global affiliate at the Institute for Intersectionality Research and Policy, Simon Fraser University (Vancouver). Her research interests include technology and society, migration, gender studies, and digital humanities. She has received multiple international fellowships from institutions such as SNSF, DAAD, and GESIS. Her current project, “Producing Ontologies of Relationships from Indian Nuptial Documents (PORINOY),” is funded by the JPN Center of Excellence in Humanities at IIT Indore. She has also led national online courses for India’s Ministry of Education under NPTEL-SWAYAM.



**ATTILA MARTON (COPENHAGEN BUSINESS SCHOOL, DENMARK)**

Attila Márton is an Associate Professor at the Department of Digitalization at Copenhagen Business School. His research centers on digital ecology, including the political ecology of digital ecosystems, digital labour, and AI. He also investigates the sociology of digital knowledge and forgetting. His publications have appeared in leading journals such as *The Information Society*, *Theory & Society*, *Organization Studies*, and *New Media & Society*. He is known for his interdisciplinary approach linking organization studies and sociology to critical digital research. His work examines how digital platforms and AI reshape organizational memory and labour relations in the knowledge economy.



**ELISA GARCIA-MINGO (COMPLUTENSE UNIVERSITY OF MADRID, SPAIN)**

Elisa García-Mingo is Senior Lecturer in the Department of Methods and Theory at the Complutense University of Madrid. Her research focuses on women’s rights, sexual violence, toxic digital cultures, and feminist activism. She is also involved in qualitative and digital social research methods. Elisa leads a project on digital sexual violence funded by the Spanish Research Agency (2022–2026) and is a member of Cibernomasaguas (UCM) and the Centre for Transforming Sexuality and Gender (University of Brighton). Her work addresses topics such as the manosphere, digital violence, and feminist digital activism. She identifies gaps in academic research around online misogyny, legal frameworks, and affective dynamics in digital cultures. Her scholarship bridges sociology, feminism, and digital media studies.

**JELICA STEFANOVIC-STAMBUK (UNIVERSITY OF BELGRADE, SERBIA)**

Jelica Stefanović-Štambuk is a Full Professor of Diplomacy and International Studies at the Faculty of Political Sciences, University of Belgrade, where she earned her BA, MSc, and PhD in Political Science and International Relations. Her research focuses on the societization of diplomacy, digital governance processes, and the application of relational sustainability perspectives to emerging phygital realities. She developed a digital diplomacy mentoring program recognized by the Serbian Development Agency as the best social innovation in 2017. She has delivered invited lectures and organized panels at numerous international conferences, serving as chair, discussant, and reviewer for global academic events. From 1999 to 2002, she was Director of the publishing house *International Politics* and Editor-in-Chief of the *Review of International Politics*. Currently, she serves on editorial boards, reviews for leading journals, and acts as a COST expert. Jelica has published monographs, edited volumes, and numerous peer-reviewed articles, and has led research projects for UNDP and GIZ. Between 2018 and 2022, she advised the Serbian government on green and digital transformation. As a WG10 Board Member (2022–2025), she co-organized the ISA TG10 2nd Work-in-Progress Workshop at the University of Belgrade and co-coordinated the WG10 program for the ISA 5th Forum of Sociology in Rabat, Morocco (2025).



# What Does Digital Sociology Mean Today?

## Answers from the WG10 Board

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### *Reflections from the WG10 Board*

As Richard Miskolci, the new President of WG10: Digital Sociology, wrote in his welcome letter:

**"Digital sociology emerged in response to a historical and disciplinary need to rethink our tools, to develop theories, concepts, and methods capable of engaging with profound social and infrastructural transformations."**

With this spirit in mind, we asked several members of the WG10 Board what concept they consider central to understanding connected, networked, and platformed social relations—in other words, what Digital Sociology truly means to them.

## DIGITAL SOCIOLOGY THROUGH FOUR KEY CONCEPTS

### 1. Space — Jared M. Wright

Wright argues that any analysis of digital society must begin with space:

**"Thinking about the space in which activity takes place is central to understanding all social dynamics."**

Drawing on Lefebvre, he notes that space functions as a tool of action and control, shaped by power, production, and governance.

For Wright:

- **Digital space is not separate from physical space.**  
It is an *extension* of it.
- It is a **liminal space** that influences how people perceive, behave, and interact.
- **Data, algorithms, and infrastructures** reproduce inequalities much like other scarce or valuable resources.

Digital sociology, he concludes, cannot ignore the **materiality** of the infrastructures that sustain digital environments.

### 2. Ecology — Attila Márton

Márton situates digital sociology within an *ecology of crises*.

He reminds us that sociology originally emerged as a science of modernity—shaped by industrialization, urbanization, and globalization. But today's social world is defined by:

- dense interdependencies
- overlapping global crises
- what he calls a **polycrisis**:  
*climate crisis meets polarization meets digitalization meets authoritarianism.*

Within this tangle of global disruptions, Márton argues:

- **Digitalization is the fundamental societal transformation** that enables these crises to intersect.
- Digital sociology should treat digitalization as an **ecological phenomenon**, not simply a technological one.
- Such a perspective values **heterogeneity over homogeneity, change over stable actors, limits over fixed boundaries.**



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### 3. Networks & Intersectionality — Mayurakshi Chaudhuri

For Chaudhuri, the core of digital sociology lies in understanding how technologies shape institutions and social positions:

**"Our life and lifestyles are explicitly and implicitly guided by the presence—or absence—of digital technologies."**

She emphasizes that:

- Digital technologies transform institutions such as education, work, intimacy, and family.
- People's positions within digital networks are shaped by **intersecting hierarchies**: gender, class, race, nationality, and other forms of stratification.
- Digital sociology must remain attentive to **digital inequalities, accessibility, and the reproduction of structural power online**.

Her vision calls for **inclusive frameworks** that recognize the complexity of networked social relations.

### 4. Affordances — Esther Brainin

Brainin highlights the subtle interface between human intention and technological design:

**"Affordances are about how our values, attitudes, and contexts shape our interactions with the materiality of digital technology."**

Affordances:

- structure how users interpret and use digital environments
- also apply to **non-human actors**, including algorithms
- reveal how features such as **visibility** and **modifiability** shape social behavior

For Brainin, digital sociology grows richer when it recognizes that **technology, society, and context are co-constitutive**—each shaping the other through ongoing interaction.

## A COLLABORATIVE, OPEN, AND DIVERSE FIELD

As Richard Miskolci writes, WG10 is:

**"not simply a subfield or a group focused on emerging issues, but a collaborative and welcoming space."**

The voices of Wright, Márton, Chaudhuri, and Brainin illustrate that diversity.

Together, they demonstrate that digital sociology is not only about studying technology—it is about understanding **how digital forms weave into the fabric of social life**, reshaping:

- connection
- action
- experience
- identity
- and what it means to be human today.

# WG10: LOOKING AHEAD - GOALS AND PRIORITIES FOR 2025–2027

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As Miskolci wrote, WG10 is “not simply a subfield or a group focused on emerging issues, but a collaborative and welcoming space.” The voices of Wright, Márton, Chaudhuri, and Brainin show exactly that a discipline grounded in dialogue and diversity. Their reflections remind us that Digital Sociology is not just about studying technology and it is about understanding how digital forms weave into the very fabric of social life, shaping what it means to connect, to act, and to be human today.

In the coming years, the group will focus on consolidating its position within the International Sociological Association and advancing toward Research Committee status. Strengthening international visibility and collaboration across research committees remains a key priority, alongside promoting digital sociology as a field that connects, rather than separates, different areas of sociological inquiry.

WG10 aims to foster a vibrant global network, expanding its membership and outreach across Latin America, Asia, and Africa. The group will continue to organize initiatives that encourage academic exchange and mentorship, including the 3rd Work-in-Progress Workshop, already scheduled for March 18–19, 2026 (online), which will provide a platform for early-career researchers to present and refine their work. The Midterm Conference, planned for mid-2026, will focus on collaborations among established scholars and emerging interdisciplinary projects.

A strong emphasis will be placed on facilitating publications, enhancing communication through newsletters and social media, and increasing the presence of digital sociology in global academic debates. The group also plans to develop partnerships with regional sociological associations to build bridges between disciplines, contexts, and generations of researchers.

Overall, WG10 seeks to strengthen digital sociology as a space of innovation, dialogue, and inclusivity, one that reflects the complexity of the digital society while shaping its sociological understanding.



ISA WG10 DIGITAL SOCIOLOGY

# 3RD WORK-IN-PROGRESS WORKSHOP

MARCH 18 &amp; 19, 2026, ONLINE



Are you an **Early-Stage Researcher (PhD Student, Postdoc)** seeking feedback on your paper in Digital Sociology and comments on how to enhance it?

## Aims and Scope

The Digital Sociology Working Group (WG10) of the International Sociological Association (ISA) is organizing this third workshop for work-in-progress papers. Participation is open to early-career Digital Sociology researchers (PhD students and postdoctoral researchers) and will be held **online on March 18 and 19, 2026**. You will get feedback on your paper and discuss it with experts and peers.

We invite papers on topics surrounding the field of Digital Sociology, such as (for example, but not limited to) sociological analysis of big data, algorithms, artificial intelligence (AI), datafication, digital transformations, inequalities, digital divides, socio-material perspectives on ICT, digital activism, digitization of well-being, platforms, etc.

## Benefits for Participants

The workshop seeks to provide a supportive environment for advice, evaluation, and intellectual encouragement to enhance your work-in-progress paper toward its publication. It offers an opportunity to discuss draft papers and ideas with internationally renowned experts and evaluate strategies for its further development/publication.

## Important Dates

- Extended Abstracts (500-750 words): **January 1st, 2026**
- Notifications of acceptance: **January 9th, 2026**
- Advanced draft submission (4,000-8,000 words): **February 23rd, 2026**

## Submit your paper **HERE**

**Organizing Committee:** Sérgio Barbosa (University of Geneva), Samuel Cabbuag (University of the Philippines Diliman; Hong Kong Baptist University), Shahar Mendelovich (Bar-Ilan University), Rima Žilinskaitė (Vilnius University), Thomas Zenkl (University of Graz)

[digital.sociology.ec@gmail.com](mailto:digital.sociology.ec@gmail.com) | Participation is **FREE** | [Join](#) our community!



# RECOMMENDED READING: EXPLORING DIGITAL SOCIOLOGY BEYOND ACADEMIA

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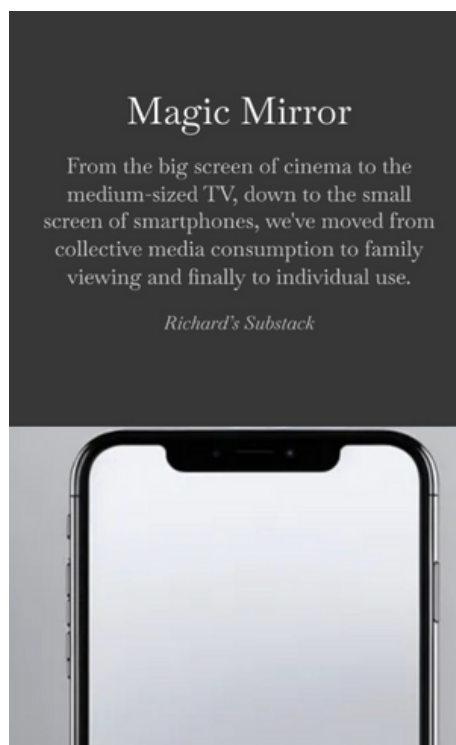
For readers interested in accessible reflections on contemporary digital society, we recommend Richard Miskolci's Substack, a space where complex sociological ideas meet clear and engaging writing.

His essays explore how algorithms, data, and digital infrastructures reshape social life, from everyday interactions to global power structures.

📖 Latest essay: "Magic Mirror" is a compelling exploration of how digital interfaces transform self-perception, intimacy, and social power in an algorithmic age.

Read it here: <https://richardmiskolci.substack.com/p/magic-mirror>

More essays and updates are available here:  
<https://richardmiskolci.substack.com/>



# THE ECOLOGY OF IDEAS PODCAST

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■ New Initiative by Attila Márton  
Exploring ecological thinking for the 21st century

🎧 The Ecology of Ideas is a new podcast created by digital ecologist Attila Márton.

It examines how today's ecological crisis is rooted not only in environmental degradation, but also in a crisis of thought, in the assumptions, cognitive habits, and conceptual models that shape how we understand the world.

🧠 Each episode features conversations with leading thinkers, offering reflections on how we need to rethink our philosophies and frameworks to build an ecological style of reasoning fit for contemporary challenges.

🌍 The podcast bridges ecology, digital society, philosophy, and systems thinking, making it a valuable resource for scholars interested in critical and interdisciplinary perspectives.

🔗 Listen here:  
<https://linktr.ee/ecologyofideas>



## MEMBER ACHIEVEMENTS

Thomas Zenkl received the RC07 “Best Graduate Student Paper Award” at the ISA Meeting in Rabat for his article:  
Zenkl, T. (2025). The taming of sociodigital anticipations: AI in the digital welfare state. *Frontiers in Sociology*, 10, 1556675.

<https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fsoc.2025.1556675/full>

The paper explores how artificial intelligence reshapes the logic of governance and anticipatory control within digital welfare systems - a timely contribution to debates on the intersection of technology, policy, and social justice.

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Duenas Cid, D., Estévez, E., Janowski, T., & Musiatowicz-Podbiła, G. (2025). Is Digital Government Strengthening or Weakening Society? Exploratory Study. In Proceedings of the 26th Annual International Conference on Digital Government Research (dg.o 2025). Pontifical Catholic University of Rio Grande do Sul, Porto Alegre, Brazil.

Grassi, E. (2025). The Silent Revolution of Algoagents: Relational Reconfigurations and Emerging Paradigms. *Sicurezza e Scienze Sociali Journal*, 2(2025), 69–79. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.17297462>

Grassi, E., & Coppola, M. (2025). End of Life in the Digital Age: Navigating New Spaces for Grieving and Ethical Dilemmas. *Sociologia Italiana AIS Journal*, 28, 233–246. <https://doi.org/10.82031/2281-2652-202528-12>

Márton, A. (2025). A Digital Future of Resilience: What Can We Learn from Ecological Thinking? In I. da Costa & M. S. Schulz (Eds.), *Digital Futures between Domination and Participation* (forthcoming).

Márton, A., & Ens, N. (2025). In *Contamination: Disturbance Ecology and Organization Studies*. *Organization Studies* (forthcoming).

Charlton, T., Hukal, P., & Márton, A. (2025). Becoming a Gig Worker: An Exploratory Life Course Study of Inbound Career Trajectories in the UK Gig Economy. *Work Organisation, Labour & Globalisation* (forthcoming).

Ens, N., & Márton, A. (2024). “Sure, I Saw Sales, but It Consumed Me”: From Resilience to Erosion in the Digital Hustle Economy. *New Media & Society*, 26(1), 71–90.

Waardenburg, L., & Márton, A. (2024). It Takes a Village: The Ecology of Explaining AI. In M. Stelmaszak Rosa, I. Constantiou, & M. Joshi (Eds.), *The Handbook on AI and Decision Making* (pp. 214–225). London: Edward Elgar.

Miskolci, R., & Balieiro, F. (2023). The Moralization of Politics in Brazil. *International Sociology*, 38(4), 480–496. <https://doi.org/10.1177/02685809231180879>

Miskolci, R. (2021). *Batalhas Morais: Política Identitária na Esfera Pública Técnico-Mediatizada*. Belo Horizonte: Autêntica Editora. ISBN 978-65-5928-022-3.

Miskolci, R. (2017). *Desejos Digitais: Uma Análise Sociológica da Busca por Parceiros Online*. Belo Horizonte: Autêntica Editora. ISBN 978-85-5130-259-0.

Romanov, B., Duenas Cid, D., & Leets, P. (2025). State versus Technology: What drives trust in and usage of internet voting, institutional or technological trust? *Government Information Quarterly*, 42, 102068. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.giq.2024.102068>

Ronzhyn, A., Cardenal, A. S., & Batlle Rubio, A. (2022). Defining Affordances in Social Media Research: A Literature Review. *New Media & Society*, 25(11), 3165–3188. <https://doi.org/10.1177/14614448221135187>

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