



RC41 NEWSLETTER 2025_1/2

The RC41 Newsletter is published at least once a year by the board of the Research Committee on Sociology of Population (RC41) of the International Sociological Association (ISA), and sent electronically to all RC41 mailing list members. Please, send contributions to
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Contributions should be no more than 1,000 words long. They will be reviewed by the RC41 board members for possible publication and may be edited for clarity or to fit the available space.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Editorial	3
Reports	4
International Conference on Population and development: Navigating Challenges and Exploring Opportunities, November, 18-20, 2024, Lucknow	4
ReCo Webinar 2: The Sociology-Policy Interface Applied and Clinical Sociology, 30 May 2025, online	6
Knowing Justice in the Anthropocene. 5 th ISA Forum of Sociology, 6-11 July 2025, Rabat, Morocco	7
Highlights from the Research Council meeting held on Saturday, July 12, 2025, at the faculty of Educational Sciences, University Mohammed V, Rabat.....	11
Current Calls: conferences	12
Strengthening Democracies: Social Action, Solidarity, and Sustainable Futures. 17th ESA Conference, 25-28 August 2026, WARSAW.....	12

Save the Date	12
XXI ISA World Congress of Sociology, July 4 – 10, 2027, Gwangju, Korea.....	12
Publications	12
Books.....	12
Journal Articles.....	12
Research Projects	13
Awards.....	14
New Members.....	14
Board 2023-2027	16

EDITORIAL

Dear friends and members of RC41,

The last newsletter was published in September 2024. Looking back on the time since then, three major activities of RC41 members stand out.

First, the "International Conference on Population and Development: Navigating Challenges and Exploring Opportunities," which took place from November 18 – 20, 2024, in Lucknow, India. Professor Vinod Chandra organized the event, which will result in an edited volume containing selected papers from the conference.

Second, RC41 member Professor Mahamuni Thamilarasan organized the Research Council Webinar 2, "The Sociology-Policy Interface." The recording is available online (see the link below).

Third, RC41 organized nine sessions on classic and new topics in the sociology of population at the 5th ISA Forum of Sociology in Rabat, Morocco. These sessions sparked lively debate. This newsletter features reports and photos from the in-person events.

Additionally, this newsletter features news about our members' publications, short bios of some of our new members, and a save-the-date for the World Congress of Sociology in South Korea.

Thank you for continuing to send us information for the newsletter. If you have any last-minute updates, feel free to use our mailing list by sending a message to rc41_members@lists.uni-halle.de.

Walter Bartl

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT: NAVIGATING CHALLENGES AND EXPLORING OPPORTUNITIES, NOVEMBER, 18-20, 2024, LUCKNOW

The 'International Conference on Population and Development: Navigating Challenges and Exploring Opportunities', hosted by Sri Jai Narain Misra Post Graduate College (JNMPG) in Lucknow, took place from November 18 – 20, 2024. Supported by the ICSSR, the IASP, the IHAT, the PSI India, the RC-41 of the International Sociological Association (ISA) and the Indian Sociological Society (ISS), the event brought together over 200 scholars, practitioners and policymakers from India and abroad, including participants from Finland, South Africa, Sri Lanka, France, Austria, the USA and India. The three-day conference aimed to foster scientific discussions and debates on population dynamics and development, particularly examining these issues through the lens of the Global North and Global South. It provided a valuable opportunity for the exchange of ideas, knowledge, and experiences, enabling attendees to address contemporary challenges and explore actionable opportunities in the field of population and development. As a lasting outcome of the conference, Professor Vinod Chandra is editing a book comprising a selection of fifteen papers presented in Lucknow.



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RECO WEBINAR 2: THE SOCIOLOGY-POLICY INTERFACE | APPLIED AND CLINICAL SOCIOLOGY, 30 MAY 2025, ONLINE

The ISA Research Committees, Working Groups and Thematic Groups cover a wide range of sub-disciplines within sociology. The Research Council (ReCo) is the governing body of these topic-specific collectives. There has been a vibrant discussion within the ReCo about the need to benefit from our global membership and offer a space for the cross-fertilisation of ideas from the diverse RCs, WGs and TGs, and to extend this beyond in-person conferences. This is why the ReCo Webinar Series was created.

The series focuses on thematic sessions that start from a common entry point and explore how different sociological approaches engage with the topic, encouraging dialogue between two or more RCs/WGs/TGs. RC41 member Mahamuni Thamilarasan was involved in organising ReCo Webinar 2 on 'The Sociology-Policy Interface'. A recording of the seminar is available online: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oiAY38pmoww>

The seminar recording contains the following talks:

04:07 "Human Rights and Addressing Mandatory Retirement Policies and Practices" Prof. Jan Marie Fritz, Professor, University of Cincinnati; Distinguished Visiting Professor, University of Johannesburg; Visiting Professor, Uppsala Universitet and ISA Executive Committee Member

12:43 "Empowering Whistleblowers: Clinical Sociology and Social Justice in the Workplace" Prof. Tina Uys, University of Johannesburg, South Africa and ISA Executive Committee Member

25:32 "Climate Justice, Environment and Community Resilience" Prof. Emma Porio, Professor of Sociology, Ateneo de Manila University, Philippines

41:29 "Addressing Homelessness" Prof. Yvonne Vissing, Professor, Salem State University, USA.

KNOWING JUSTICE IN THE ANTHROPOCENE. 5TH ISA FORUM OF SOCIOLOGY, 6-11 JULY 2025, RABAT, MOROCCO



Part of the opening ceremony of the 5th ISA Forum of Sociology. © Walter Bartl

RC41 organized nine sessions on various topics in the sociology of populations, including fertility, violence and mortality, migration, and population indicators. RC41 also organized an integrative session, "Scientific Knowledge and Social Practice: High Expectations, Tensions, and Compromises," related to the conference's overall theme.



Presenters and participants of the session “Population Indicators as Instruments of Development.” © Walter Bartl

A selection of papers from the sessions on population indicators will be published as a special issue, "Counting Ourselves," in the journal Public Humanities. The guest editors are Walter Bartl, Manuela Picq, and Byron Villacís.



Presenters and participants of the session “Migration and Residential Mobility.” © Favour Ntoimo



Presenters and participants of the session on “Mortality and Violence.” © Favour Ntoimo

The integrative session in Rabat laid the groundwork for an open call for a special issue entitled "Research to Practice? Expectations, Tensions, and Compromises in Science-Practice Knowledge Relations," which will be published as a Current Sociology Monograph. The guest editors are Walter Bartl, Robert Aust, and Melike Janßen.



Panelists and organizers of the Integrative Session “Scientific knowledge and social practice – high expectations, tensions and compromises.” © Walter Bartl

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE RESEARCH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON SATURDAY, JULY 12, 2025, AT THE FACULTY OF EDUCATIONAL SCIENCES, UNIVERSITY MOHAMMED V, RABAT

Favour Ntoimo represented RC41 in the ISA Research Council meeting in Rabat. These are the highlights from the meeting:

- There is a call for an editor of the International Sociological Review, one of the ISA's publications.
- Submission of articles from Africa and Latin America is specifically solicited for Current Sociology and International Sociology.
- To enhance communication with RC members, encourage members of RCs to utilize the ISA member portal.
- The vote to change the title of the ISA document from "Aims and Requirements for Research Committees" to "Aims and Recommendations for Research Committees" has been postponed.

CURRENT CALLS: CONFERENCES

STRENGTHENING DEMOCRACIES: SOCIAL ACTION, SOLIDARITY, AND SUSTAINABLE FUTURES. 17TH ESA CONFERENCE, 25-28 AUGUST 2026, WARSAW

Abstract submission deadline 30 January 2026.

<https://www.europeansociology.org/conference/2026/event/4ad13b2b-4554-48ee-a273-e68d7002aab9>

SAVE THE DATE

XXI ISA WORLD CONGRESS OF SOCIOLOGY, JULY 4 – 10, 2027, GWANGJU, KOREA

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

Veira-Ramos, Alberto; Ivashchenko-Stadnik, Kateryna; Liubyva, Tetiana (Eds.) (2026): Ukrainian Society During Wartime: Grassroots Resilience as a Mechanism for Social Transformation. Cham: Palgrave Macmillan.

JOURNAL ARTICLES

Bagirova, Anna; Blednova, Natalia; Neshataev, Aleksandr (2024): The right of Russian fathers to parental leave: is a transformation of an established system necessary? In *The International journal of sociology and social policy* 44 (1/2), pp. 267–285. DOI: 10.1108/IJSSP-08-2023-0190.

Bartl, Walter; Lutz, Philipp (2025): Comparing Refugee Dispersal Policies. Varieties of Responsibility-Sharing in Europe. In *Governance*, e70072. DOI: 10.1111/gove.70072.

Jasso, Guillermina (2023): Poverty, redistribution, and the middle class: redistribution via probability distributions vs. redistribution via the linear income tax system. In *Frontiers in Sociology* 8, p. 1334925. DOI: 10.3389/fsoc.2023.1334925.

Jasso, Guillermina (2025): Advancing knowledge in the spirit of Fararo: Generativity and unification. In *The Journal of Mathematical Sociology* 49 (4), pp. 211–246. DOI: 10.1080/0022250X.2024.2423944.

Jasso, Guillermina (2025): Certainty, unity, tolerance (Invited comment on Redstone). In *Theory and Society* 54 (1), pp. 29–33. DOI: 10.1007/s11186-025-09594-7.

Rediger, Philipp; Maue, Christiane; Bartl, Walter (2025): Wissenstransferkompetenz ausbilden [Training knowledge transfer competence]. In *die hochschullehre* 11 (50), pp. 660–674. DOI: 10.3278/HSL2550W.

Shubat, Oksana; Bagirova, Anna; Latushkin, Victor; Setiaev, Andrey (2025): Fertility dynamics differentiated by birth order in Russian regions. In *Regional Statistics* 15 (1), pp. 36–57. DOI: 10.15196/RS150103.

Villacis, Byron (2026): The Structure of the Anti-Corruption Field. In Marco Garrido, Marina Zaloznaya, Nicholas Hoover Wilson (Eds.): *A Comparative Historical Sociology of Corruption*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 231–251.

RESEARCH PROJECTS

Research overview:

The research team of **Ural Federal University** (Russian Federation), led by Professor **Anna Bagirova**, is implementing a project to study a new phenomenon for Russia – the participation of business in solving demographic problems. The project "Corporate Citizenship as an institution supporting Russian Pro-natalist Politics: resources and mechanisms for development, transformation and scaling of practices, assessment and forecast of potential effects" was supported by the Russian Science Foundation for the period from 2024 to 2026 (grant No. 24-18-00854, <https://rscf.ru/project/24-18-00854> [in Russian]).

Key activities:

In 2024, the research group (1) conducted a theoretical analysis of the aspects of attracting businesses to address issues of state demographic policy, (2) developed a conceptual model and research methodology for various categories of people interested in corporate demographic indicators, (3) conducted a survey of the working population of reproductive age and full-time students of the penultimate and final courses, (4) collected and analyzed the data reflected in the essays prepared by students on topics related to work and family, as well as data from the official pages of the state administration bodies of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation – members of the Ural, Siberian and North-Western Federal Districts. In 2025, the research team (5) conducted a qualitative and quantitative analysis of the data obtained as part of the 2024 research, (6) conducted a series of interviews with representatives of employers, employees and authorities, (7) conducted a survey of representatives of employers' and employees' associations.

Project publications:

Bagirova, A. P.; Kolchinskaya, V. Yu.; Sokolova, E. Yu.; Abilova, M. G. (2025): New Opportunities for Involving Universities in the Demographic Agenda: a Regional Case. In *Vysshee Obrazovanie v Rossii [Higher Education in Russia]* 34 (4), pp. 80–100. DOI: 10.31992/0869-3617-2025-34-4-80-100.

Bagirova, Anna (2025): Корпоративная гражданственность в демографической сфере как новая тема исследований в современной России [Corporate citizenship in the demographic sphere as a new research topic in modern Russia]. In *Narodonaseleni [Population]* 28 (1), pp. 27–39. DOI: 10.24412/1561-7785-2025-1-27-39.

Shubat, Oksana; Latushkin, Victor (2025): Influence of Employers on Employees' Family Decisions: Perspective of Employees of Russian Companies. In *Journal of Population and Social Studies* 34, pp. 315–632.

AWARDS

Guillermina Jasso won the 2025 ISJR Lifetime Achievement Award given biennially by the International Society for Justice Research (ISJR) "to honor distinguished lifetime contributions to the scientific study of justice and for efforts to advance justice as a field of study." Jasso is the first sociologist to win the award. In July 2025 she delivered the Award Lecture at the ISJR biennial conference in Seattle, Washington. The title of the award lecture was "From Foundations of Justice Analysis to Current and Future Challenges."

NEW MEMBERS

Shinichi Aizawa is a professor of the sociology of education at Sophia University in Tokyo, Japan. His research bridges the fields of sociology of education, social stratification, and historical sociology, focusing on postwar and contemporary Japan. Professor Aizawa has led several national research projects on the transformation of upper secondary education and the historical formation of inequality and welfare systems. Recently, he has focused on how demographic decline and regional population change are reshaping upper secondary education in Japan, particularly regarding the public–private mix and patterns of school choice.

His research interests include the sociology of education, social stratification, and historical sociology. He studies how demographic decline, population aging, and regional disparities affect education systems, inequality, and public–private relations in Japan. He is also

interested in the long-term dynamics of poverty and welfare regimes based on reconstructed historical survey data. Methodologically, he uses quantitative historical analysis, regional panel data, and multilevel modelling to examine institutional change over time. He joined RC41 to engage more deeply with sociological approaches to education systems under conditions of rapid demographic change.

Representative publications:

Aizawa, Shinichi. (2021). National vigor and international silence: The background and development of Japanese sociology of education. *International Sociology*, 36(2), 206–218. <https://doi.org/10.1177/02685809211005352>

Aizawa, Shinichi., Kagawa, M., & Rappleye, J. (Eds.). (2019). *High School for All in East Asia: Comparing Experiences*. London: Routledge.

Aizawa, Shinichi., Watanabe, D., Ishijima, K., & Sato, K. (Eds.). (2024). 戦後日本の貧困と社会保障 — 社会調査データの復元からみる家族 [Poverty and Social Security in Postwar Japan: Households Viewed through the Reconstruction of Social Survey Data]. Tokyo: University of Tokyo Press.

Anna Bagirova currently works at the School of Public Administration and Entrepreneurship, Department of Sociology and Technologies of Public Administration, Ural Federal University. Anna does research in parental leave systems, effectiveness of state family support programmes, factors of birthrates, trends of modern Russian parenting (see also her project presented in this newsletter).

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