

# ESA MONTHLY BULLETIN: JANUARY SPECIAL ISSUE - CONFERENCE IN LISBON

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### **KEY DATES FOR ABSTRACT SUBMISSION**

**26 February 2009:** Deadline of submission for all ESA2009 RN / RS Abstracts.

**26 March 2009:** Notification of acceptance of abstracts by RN/RS coordinators.

**15 June 2009:** Deadline for registration by paper givers (otherwise paper will be withdrawn from the conference programme).

Abstracts will only be accepted through completion of the **online submission form**, and submission in any other form will be declined. Abstracts should be submitted to <http://www.esa9thconference.com/>

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### **Research Network 1: Ageing in Europe**

#### **CALL FOR PAPERS**

#### **The 9th European Sociological Association Conference Lisbon, Portugal September 2-5, 2009**

During the conferences of the European Sociological Association in Helsinki (2001), Murcia (2003), Torun (2005) and Glasgow (2007), the Research Network on Ageing in Europe organised very successful paper sessions and discussions. Increased interest in the topic of ageing resulted in 15 sessions at the Glasgow conference. We would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone who helped to make these sessions such a lively and stimulating experience, and for their presentations and discussions.

At the 9<sup>th</sup> conference of the European Sociological Association in Lisbon (<http://www.esa9thconference.com>), the Ageing in Europe Research Network will again hold paper sessions that focus on empirical, theoretical and conceptual aspects of research on ageing. These sessions will continue on-going discussions, pick up the conference topic ("European Society or European Societies?"), and add some new themes.

Papers should fit into the following thematic areas:

- Ageing and Technology (AAL, ICT)
- Senior Markets, Consumerism and the Demand for Goods and Services
- Ageing Societies and the Welfare State
- Diversity, Inequality and Equity in Ageing Societies
- Active Ageing Between Labour Markets and Retirement
- Formal and Informal Care and Older People
- Health, Mortality and the Experience of Ageing
- Informal Networks and Intergenerational Relations
- Quality of Life in Ageing Societies
- Norms and Values in the Field of Ageing
- Interculturality, Cross-Cultural Comparisons and Ageing
- Images of Ageing and Alternative Approaches
- Biography
- Time Use, Cultural and Social Participation

Papers with a cross-national, comparative focus and papers by researchers earlier in their career are particularly to be welcomed. If you need additional information (e.g., if you are not sure whether your paper fits with the theme of a session), please contact the RN co-ordinators. Individuals should not be the first author (i.e. the presenter) of more than one paper.

We look forward to meeting you in Lisbon!

RN co-ordinators:

Ricca Edmondson  
(National University of Ireland, Galway, [ricca.Edmondson@nuigalway.ie](mailto:ricca.Edmondson@nuigalway.ie))

Harald Künemund  
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## Research Network 2: Sociology of the Arts

### CALL FOR PAPERS

#### The 9th European Sociological Association Conference Lisbon, Portugal September 2-5, 2009

What is art? Why and how does art matter? At one time, the responses to these questions were generally consensual, and based on taken-for-granted assumptions. During the early 1980s, the Sociology of the Arts began to reassess the artistic realm. In focusing on the socially constructed aspects of artistic practices, sociologists formulated new theories and approaches, and as a consequence, the ways the arts are seen have profoundly changed.

In contemporary societies, artistic practice is constantly shaped and reshaped. New forms of artistic expression are often developed. Consequently, many social aspects of the production and diffusion of the arts also change. In fostering these shifts, new forms simultaneously challenge the field of arts and the existing sociological theory and methodology.

The visibility of artistic practices becomes global. Artistic practices are used to express power, to mediate conflicts, to negotiate claims of citizenship, to construct minority identities, to inform gender and ethnicity issues, and to inscribe the public knowledge of the past in the national and international arena. The aesthetic dimensions are becoming key means to articulate power relations. In this context, the role of arts becomes more powerful and salient in many new ways.

The RN of Arts aims to provide the sociological context for understanding the multi-faceted and interwoven social aspects which characterize the artistic world. Topics can include **(but are not limited to)**:

Aesthetics and Sociology, Artists, Arts and Audiences, Arts and Architecture, Arts and Cities, Arts and Community, Artistic Innovations, Arts and Gender, Arts and Globalization, Arts and Heritage, Arts and Minorities, Arts and Urban Planning, Artistic Criticism and Media Publicity, Arts Management, Artistic Markets, Art Museums, Artistic Networks, Arts and Politics, Arts Support, Art Sustainability, Art Theory, Arts and Trauma, Art-War and Peace, Financing the Art World, Graffiti, Local Arts, Methodological Issues in Artistic Research, Arts and Power, Sociology of Dance, Sociology of Film, Sociology of Music, State Support for the Arts, Virtual Arts.

Best Wishes,

Graciela Trajtenberg  
Chair RN Sociology of Arts  
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The ESA Network on the Sociology of the Arts was officially formed in August 1999 at the Amsterdam General Meeting of the European Sociological Association. Its first conference was held in Exeter, 1-3 September, 2000. [For more information on the group, visit this website: http://erasmusmedia.net/esa/](http://erasmusmedia.net/esa/)

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### **Research Network 3: Biographical Perspectives on European Societies**

#### **CALL FOR PAPERS**

**The 9th European Sociological Association Conference  
Lisbon, Portugal  
September 2-5, 2009**

#### **List of Sessions:**

- 1. Social Theory and Social Practice. Towards Theory of European Society based on Qualitative/Biographical Research.**  
Chair: Thea Boldt, University of Goettingen, Germany.
- 2. European Biographies, Art, Performance, and Methodology.**  
Chair: Maggie O'Neill, University of Loughborough, UK.
- 3. Teaching Visual Methods.**  
Chair: Timothy Shortell, Sociology Department, Brooklyn College, New York, USA.
- 4. The Language(s) of Europe: Issues of Meaning and Translation in European Biographical Research.**  
Chair: Robin Humphrey, University of Newcastle, UK
- 5. Generations and Social Memory in Context of European Societies.**  
Chair: Edna Lomsky-Feder, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel & Efrat Ben-Ze'ev, Ruppin Academic Center, Israel
- 6. Methodological Issues in Biographical Research on European Society.**  
Chair: Bogusia Temple, University of Central Lancashire, UK

#### **Sessions' Outlines:**

**1. Social Theory and Social Practice. Towards Theory of European Society based on Qualitative/Biographical Research.**

Chair: Thea Boldt, University of Goettingen, Germany.

The discourse on European Society that has a power to influence social policies in different countries is not based on singular case studies but on research results, which can be generalized in form of social theories. Therefore biographical research that aims to be a part of that discourse and have an impact on broader discussions about European Societies shall not ignore the fact, that its research results without being skilfully generalized will not be considered as representative for understanding wide range of problems European citizens are facing in their everyday life practice. The connection between everyday social practice, biographical research analysis and social theory of European Society/Societies are the subject of that session.

Papers are invited to clarify and exemplify systematic ways of theoretical generalization based on qualitative and biographical research results in particular. Questions for discussion are: how Max Weber's concept of *Ideal type* can be used to generate social typologies on European Society/Societies in biographical research context? What other concepts and traditions can be adapted by working on social theories based on biographical research? What are the main differences between different biographical paradigms on the level of creating social theories?

**2. European Biographies, Art, Performance, and Methodology.**

Chair: Maggie O'Neill, University of Loughborough, UK.

At the recent RN3 conference in Cracow Dec 12-14th 2008 participants explored biographical research through narrativity, performance, photography, digital media and arts practice at the intersections of European biographies, performance and art. Papers are invited that both reinforce and develop the inter-disciplinary work presented in Cracow.

Questions to explore in our session include: What are the epistemological and methodological underpinnings of these inter-disciplinary undertakings? Given the performative turn as well as the turns to art, the senses and visual methodologies in Social Science research what remains distinctive about Social Science research? To what extent does biographical research that uses performative, digital and arts based methods re-invigorate biographical methods and/or help us to better understand broader social, cultural and historical structures and processes [formations]? What can working in the hyphen between biographical research and the performative/arts practice tell us about European Societies?

### **3. Teaching Visual Methods.**

Chair: Timothy Shortell, Sociology Department, Brooklyn College, NY, USA

Papers are invited that elaborate on the sociological pedagogy of the visual, with special attention to how visual and narrative data relate. The main question here is: how do visual methods help us to understand the connection between biography and society? In what ways do visual data and narrative communicate our sense of self, sense of biographical belonging? With globalization, the migration of peoples -- both within European states and globally -- makes it ever more likely that we will live among cultural 'strangers'. As a result, we regularly encounter visual markers of identities different from our own. How do we make sense of our own or others' movement from 'there' to 'here' -- as migrants, or as members of majorities learning to live with minorities? And how do we teach a sociologically oriented spatial semiotics?

### **4. The Language(s) of Europe: Issues of Meaning and Translation in European Biographical Research.**

Chair: Robin Humphrey, University of Newcastle, UK

JP Roos, in an essay on 'Which (or Whose) Language should I use', laments the need to disseminate life story research beyond his native Finland in English, even though the life stories have been told in Finnish or Swedish, and in contexts which 'may be totally misunderstood in other countries'. Does the rich range of European languages aid or hinder the prospects of European integration? And how problematic are the issues inherent in translation for European biographical research?

Roos's essay was on our website:

<http://www.dur.ac.uk/writingacrossboundaries/writingonwriting/jproos/>

### **5. Generations and Social Memory in Context of European Societies.**

Chair: Edna Lomsky-Feder, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel & Efrat Ben-Ze'ev, Ruppin Academic Center, Israel

Sociological literature suggests that a generation is a social category that mediates between personal, group, national and global memory. The relationship between these categories takes on new meanings in the context of Europe in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Despite the sociological importance of a generation, its demarcation is not clear. The concept is characterized by multiple meanings: a generation can be a cohort, it can embody a form of consciousness, it can represent a stage in life and it can incorporate kinship descent transfer. Each of these definitions raises a different set of questions.

Our first set of questions takes us back to Mannheim's discussion of a generational consciousness. Generations are often associated with historical events and as an outcome, their members identify with, and are identified by them (be they local, national, European, global). These events may be considered heroic (such as the foundation of a state or a social movement), or traumatic (such as genocide and exile).

What is the place of these foundational events in individuals' biographies? How does the "proximity" (or distance) to these foundational events affect power relations within generations and between them?

A second set of questions pertains to the transmission of memories from one generation to the other. What are the practices of transmission? What are the arenas and settings for transmission? How does the context, and specifically political developments, feed into processes of transmission? The study of the Holocaust brings to the forefront these questions.

Finally, the third and last set of questions that we would like to address touches on life-stages within a generation. There is a bond between the life cycle and social/political/economic changes. How does the self awareness and the memories of a single generation change through time? For instance, what happens to a generation that evolves within a specific national context and finds itself later in a completely new political setting (such as the states that emerged following the disintegration of the Soviet Bloc)? In addition, and at times complementary, how do aging processes affect the memory and perception of a generation?

#### **6. Methodological Issues in Biographical Research on European Society.**

Chair: Bogusia Temple, University of Central Lancashire, UK

Researchers within Europe use a variety of approaches to their work, each with its strengths and weaknesses. One of the strengths of biographical research is its ability to focus on the individual within society but this presents many challenges when different cultures, languages and borders are involved. This session aims to pull together different sociological approaches to investigating being European and belonging to Europe society in a way that reflects on the benefits of approaches as well as possible pitfalls. The focus is not on the results of such research.

*Questions of interest include:*

- What are the contributions of different approaches in examining European society?
- How can we examine multiple allegiances?
- What is the influence of the researcher's own background on the way research is carried out and analysed?
- What influence do community researchers and bilingual researchers have on the research process and findings?
- What are the ethical implications of particular approaches to working with people from different cultural and language backgrounds?

These questions are a guide to possible topics but suggestions for innovative methodological papers are welcome.

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### **Research Network 4: Sociology of Children and Childhood**

#### **CALL FOR PAPERS**

#### **The 9th European Sociological Association Conference**

**Lisbon, Portugal**

**September 2-5, 2009**

The Research Network aims to bring together scholars engaged in theoretical and empirical work on Children and Childhood across Europe. The Network has organised successful Sociology of Childhood Streams at the last five ESA Conferences (1999-2007). The general theme of the 2009 conference is European Society or European Societies and the various sessions will address commonalities and differences between children growing up in European Societies.

Abstracts (200 words maximum) will only be accepted through completion of the online submission form and this will be available shortly at the conference website at: [www.esa9thconference.com](http://www.esa9thconference.com).

We invite abstracts on the following themes:

1. Children's everyday lives in European Societies
2. Citizenship and Participation
3. Childhood and children's rights
4. Child Work and Economic Activity
5. Sociological perspectives on children's minds
6. What makes a 'good' childhood – children and wellbeing
7. Theoretical and Methodological Issues in Researching Childhood and Children's Lives

8. Open theme

We will also be organising a meeting and social event for the **Sociology of Children and Childhood Research Network** at the conference.

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**Research Network 5: Sociology of Consumption**

**CALL FOR PAPERS**

**The 9th European Sociological Association Conference  
Lisbon, Portugal  
September 2-5, 2009**

Our Research Network invites papers that deal with various aspects of the sociology of consumption. Possible themes include but are not limited to:

- Food and consumption
- Ethical and political consumption
- Spaces of urban and excess consumption
- Consumption inequalities and exclusions
- Sustainable consumption
- Material culture
- Sociology of taste
- Markets of consumption
- Cultural stratification
- Arts participation
- Consumption and the body
- Theories of consumption
- Gender and consumption
- Children's consumer culture

Abstracts will be reviewed by network coordinators according to the following criteria:

- Whether the paper will make an original, understandable, and meaningful contribution to sociology of consumption debates.
- What research or evidence the paper is based on.
- Which existing theories and concepts the paper is in discussion with.

For inquiries please contact: Tally Katz-Gerro [tkatz@soc.haifa.ac.il](mailto:tkatz@soc.haifa.ac.il)

For the research network website please visit: [www.esa-consumption.org](http://www.esa-consumption.org)

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**Research Network 6: Critical Political Economy**

**CALL FOR PAPERS**

**The financial crisis: Responses and implications in Europe**

**The 9th European Sociological Association Conference  
Lisbon, Portugal  
September 2-5, 2009**

Europe is experiencing its most serious financial crisis since the Great Depression. The response of the EU and member states to this crisis has been paradoxical. The crisis has discredited the 'Anglo-American' model of finance-led capitalism and gravely weakened the American imperium.

Yet, the countries of Europe have been unable either individually or collectively to devise a concerted regional solution to the crisis. The result has been rising unemployment, the intensification of intra-

regional disparities, signs of inter-state rivalries and is likely to result in growing poverty. Notwithstanding the deployment of massive resources to failing banks, the EU and member states continue to pursue the main planks of the neoliberal agenda, including labour market reforms, privatisation, and financialisation. This session seeks to address the prospects for a European alternative to U.S.-led neoliberalism. Addressing the theme of this conference, we aim to consider to what extent does the current crisis unite or divide Europe and prospective allies in the world order, and what are its implications for the European project of integration. We invite papers which consider at least one of the following:

- Limits and contradictions of the mode of development currently in crisis, which may enable us to understand the current conjuncture.
- The problem of translating intellectual criticism into policy prescription or alternative strategies
- The political consequences of the crisis, its implication for political strategies pursued in relation to the 'European model' as well as to the regulatory frameworks on national and sub-national levels
- The issue of contemporary social and political mobilization and attendant effects on the 'limits of the possible'.

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## Research Network 7: Sociology of Culture

### CALL FOR PAPERS

#### The 9th European Sociological Association Conference Lisbon, Portugal September 2-5, 2009

The RN Sociology of Culture invites papers from all areas of sociology of culture. In particular, we are interested in papers that focus on one of the following areas:

- 1) European Culture – European Cultures
- 2) Cultural Heritage and National Identities
- 3) Global Issues
- 4) New and Old Individualisms
- 5) Mediation of Cultures
- 6) Culture and Power
- 7) Performing Cultures
- 8) Methodological Innovations
- 9) Reflexivities

#### **1. European Culture – European Cultures**

The topic “European Society – European Societies” invites us to reflect on the question of “cultural unity” as regards the “cultural diversities” in and of Europe. The process of integrating more and more European countries into the European Union was driven above all by economic and political considerations. The more the EU reaches eastwards, the question of cultural identity seems to gain increasing significance: Are the Ukraine, Russia, Georgia or the many countries of the Caucasus “European” countries? And what makes them “European”? Moreover, the issue of integrating Turkey into the EU has stirred a fierce debate: Is a Muslim country compatible with ideas of “Europe”? Would it culturally enrich the EU or threaten it? We invite papers that focus on the cultural and religious diversity of Europe. This diversity is not (only) constituted by national borders but has also become a characteristic of all contemporary Western societies. Cultural and religious conflicts happen nowadays more often within, rather than between, national societies. Of particular interest are studies that focus not only on the phenomenon of diversity but also on relations like conflict, acculturation, assimilation, integration and power.

#### **2. Cultural Heritage and National Identities**



In contemporary societies, cultural heritage plays a crucial role, especially in relation to national identities. How can we define this notion? We have witnessed a shift from a more “material” notion of cultural heritage (defined as the collection of monuments and cultural artefacts) to a more symbolic one. According to this second definition, cultural heritage would consist of the whole set of cultural practices and artistic artefacts that are relevant in their symbolic meaning for a certain nation. This notion of cultural heritage is much more extended than the first one and can also include rituals and traditions, which are not material in nature. Cultural heritage becomes a collection of symbols, monuments, and traditions that literally can shape the identity of a nation. Moreover, cultural heritage can be viewed as the space and place for articulating social and political conflicts. In the age of globalization, cultural heritage becomes the privileged site where national, but also other collective identities can take shape. In those societies where democracy is at risk, we often see deep political interventions in cultural heritage. In this session, we welcome papers on the relations between cultural heritage and national identities, on the plurality of roles and definitions of cultural heritage in globalized societies, on the sustainability of cultural heritage, on the ways to preserve and change it, and on any other aspects of this topic.

### **3. Global Issues**

Processes of cultural globalization have become a very important topic within sociology and related disciplines over the last decade. Yet it remains the case that the sociology of culture has not yet systematically taken the “global turn,” either in terms of its empirical foci, its methodological approaches or its conceptual dispositions. Papers in this session will investigate the various ways in which the sociology of culture can engage with matters of cultural globalization, investigating both how the sociology of culture can inform thinking about wider globalization issues, and also how the forces and phenomena associated with globalization compel and enable reworkings of established procedures and forms of thought within sociological studies of culture. Overall, papers will demonstrate how globalization and globality are impacting on the means whereby sociologists seek to comprehend what “culture” is, and what cultural forms are taking shape now and in the future.

### **4. New and Old Individualisms**

Although individualism has of course been central to modernity since its very origins (think of the Renaissance, the emergence of modern capitalism, or the Reformation, for instance), a notably expressive type of individualism, rooted in 19<sup>th</sup>-century Romanticism and markedly present in the counterculture of the 1960s, seems to have come to permeate contemporary modernity. According to many intellectual observers, individualism has come to play a major role in the spiritual milieu, in consumer culture, and in the artistic milieu, for instance, while it sits quite uncomfortably with, for instance, science or bureaucracy. We invite papers about whether, how, why, and with what social consequences this type of individualism finds itself more naturally at home in some social contexts rather than others. Of particular interest here are the social conflicts that may or may not emerge from Romantic individualism’s clashes with other types of individualism, modes of collectivism, or strictly procedural institutional logics.

### **5. Mediation of Cultures**

The media and the public sphere are crucial to understanding contemporary societies. As an organizational form the media and mediated communication constitute the polities within which citizens share the same political forums and agendas. In addition, through “audiencing” the same media people are formed into the public or nation of a regional state; they share a great deal of knowledge, mediated experiences, and cultural products such as films, music and television programmes, which all have a bearing on their tastes and mentalities. Thus to understand the cultural forms of contemporary societies cultural sociology needs to study the media, their audiences, and the ways in which the media are part of people’s everyday life.

Recently, the development of information and communication technology has meant that electronic mass media such as radio, television, film and video are amalgamated with interactive media such as telephones and the internet. For instance, using the internet may at times entail ‘audiencing’, when an individual reads, views or hears texts, programs, films or music, but at other times or simultaneously it may mean that he or she is engaged in two-way communication or in gaming. These changes pose new challenges to cultural sociologists studying mediated communication.

### **6. Culture and Power**

The work of Pierre Bourdieu, Stuart Hall, Judith Butler and many other scholars has stressed the links

between culture and the reproduction of class, ethnic (racial), gender and other forms of social domination. Within the field of the sociology of religion, the focus is also shifting from a seemingly neutral view on secularization to mechanisms of governance that implicitly or explicitly reproduce the liberal-secularist world-view that is one of the cornerstones of modernity. From a more institutionally-oriented point of view, the relationship between culture and power has already been discussed for quite some time with regard to the impact of mass media in modern or postmodern societies. Thus one could say that culture is no longer an 'innocent' notion. Rather, the concept refers to an arena that is structured by various sorts of power differences or inequalities, and in which claims to societal legitimacy and recognition clash with each other. The political system and mass media are key actors in this arena, but they are simultaneously marked by different definitions of the notion of culture (e.g., does it include the realm of religion?). Yet clashing points of views and claims to cultural legitimacy or recognition can also be found in nearly every domain of social life and they can play a significant role in daily life interactions, in which they are implemented with more or less power, and also with more or less reflexivity. The notion of cultural power thus opens up to view a vast array of practices in which relations of social domination are either implicitly reproduced or explicitly contested by individual and collective actors.

## **7. Performing Cultures**

In recent years, sociological interest in performance has been revitalized and this interest has resonated with a wide range of other disciplines concerned with the study of culture and society. In the performance paradigm, culture is conceived as the medium in which relations and realities are made manifest. It is seen to provide tools and templates, scripts, rhythms, props, metaphors, exemplars and modalities for action and to work in often quasi-conscious and embodied ways. The focus on performance thus encompasses the aesthetic and tacit features of social action and so connects arts sociologies with the sociological study of culture more broadly. We invite contributions that focus on the empirical study of performances as well as theoretical investigations of performance. Topics may include ethnography of communication, the focus on aesthetics in action, embodied features of performance, material cultural ecologies and performance settings and studies of non-verbal performance or any other innovative issues that enrich the performance paradigm.

## **8. Methodological Innovations**

A very important element of sociological studies of culture is the set of ways in which particular empirical contexts are accessed and data are collected. Indeed, one of the key ways in which the sociology of culture can be differentiated from cultural studies is the nature of sociology's battery of methodological approaches, and the emphasis sociologists typically place on methodological matters in studying specific contexts and phenomena. Consequently, a very important area for debate within the sociology of culture is the degree to which existing methodological approaches can deal effectively with emerging social and cultural conditions. Papers in this session will engage with both critiques of established methodological positions in the field and also novel developments within it. New ways of thinking about methodologically accessing and operationalising cultural matters sociologically will be engaged, with the aim of encouraging reflexive awareness about the strengths and limitations of existing procedures and approaches. "Methodology" is defined widely to encompass both more technical procedures (e.g. innovative statistical methods; new software packages, etc) and also more "philosophical" issues (e.g. what "culture" means within different methodological approaches; how sociology of culture methods relate to broader issues within the philosophy of the social sciences, and so on).

## **9. Reflexivities**

Reflexivity refers to the seamless web of objectivity and subjectivity – the split within consciousness that allows the actor (the self or other social unit) to survey and monitor itself as part of its environment and to adjust its actions accordingly. Corresponding to the interaction of selves and others, it is at once the projection of the actor's subjectivity onto the objective environment, and the introjection of the objective environment into the actor's subjectivity. It creates both a theoretical and a methodological perspective: theoretical, in focusing on the reflexive properties of social process; methodological, in focusing on the reflexive properties of science, including the ways that observation itself affects the object of study and that perceiving subjects tend to remake objects in their own images. Reflexive actors may be groups, organizations, communities, societies, and world-systems, in addition to individuals. In particular, the integration of European states is possible only on the basis of reflexive practice.

Traceable to the parable of lord and servant in the Introduction to Hegel's Phenomenology, and through Simmel to American pragmatism and the "Chicago school," the idea of reflexivity becomes in the work of such leading contemporary European theorists as Pierre Bourdieu, Anthony Giddens, and Ulrich Beck the defining characteristic of modernity (both modern social life and modern science). Reflexivity – representation of the act of representation – is also central to the meaning of modern art. A theoretically and methodologically reflexive sociology of culture is most capable of advancing itself rapidly.

We therefore invite the submission of papers about culture and cultural process that examine reflexivity either theoretically or methodologically.

**Coordinators:**

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**Further members of the programme committee:** David Inglis, Dick Houtman, Hubert Knoblauch, Mark Jacobs, Pertti Alasuutari, Rudi Laermans, Tia de Nora.

Abstracts will be reviewed by peers according to the following criteria:

- Whether the paper will make an original, understandable, and meaningful contribution to sociology of culture debates.
- What research or evidence the paper is based on.
- Which existing theories and concepts the paper is in discussion with.

Please visit the **conference website** <http://www.esa9thconference.com> where information on the 9th ESA conference is available, including further instructions on abstract submission.

For the website of the research network **Sociology of Culture** please visit:

[http://www.europeansociology.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=25&Itemid=29](http://www.europeansociology.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=25&Itemid=29)

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**Research Network 8 'DISASTER AND SOCIAL CRISIS'**

**CALL FOR PAPERS**

**The 9th European Sociological Association Conference**

**Lisbon, Portugal**

**September 2-5, 2009**

The purpose of the RN 8 'Disaster and Social Crisis' is to promote the research on disasters and crises aiming at contributing to disaster-resilient European communities.

The D&SCRN Coordinating Committee invites scholars and practitioners in this field to submit **paper/poster/media presentations** for the 9<sup>th</sup> ESA conference in Lisbon on September 2nd-5th, 2009.

We welcome all proposals but particularly such that engage with the conference theme "*European Society or European Societies?*" with key theoretical issues in this field of research and/or with pressing problems in the field of disaster and crisis policies and practices.

*At the ESA 2009 conference we will be organising the following sessions:*

1. *Psycho-social Response in Civil Protection Services*
2. *Legal and Social Issues Related to the Management of Burnt Forest Areas*
3. *New Themes in the Study of Humanitarian Response*
4. *Mass Urban Phenomena in Europe: Riots or Social Protests?*
5. *Maintaining Safety in the Risk Society*
6. *Remembering and Forgetting Disaster*
7. *What difference do international and cross-disciplinary teams make to disaster research practice?*
8. **OPEN SESSION**

9. *The Economic and Social Dimensions of the 2008 Credit Market Crisis (Joint session with RN6 'Critical Political Economy' and RN8 'Economic Sociology')*
10. *Environment, Disasters and Politics (Joint Session with RN12 'Society and Environment')*
11. *Environmental Crisis, Social Vulnerability and Migration (Joint Session with RN12)*
12. *Disasters and Risk – Concepts and Perspectives (Joint session with RN 22 'Sociology of Risk and Uncertainty')*
13. *Science and Technology: their Role in the Generation and Prevention/Mitigation of Crises and Disasters (Joint session with RN 24 'Science and technology')*

The details of each session are published on the D&SCRN web page at <http://dscrn.crc.ensmp.fr/> as well as on the conference web site.

Please note that submission of abstracts shall be made electronically at the conference website: [www.esa9thconference.com](http://www.esa9thconference.com)

Members of the D&SCRN and colleagues from countries within and outside of Europe are all very welcome to participate!

For queries regarding the sessions please contact the respective session organisers listed at the above mentioned web sites or get in touch with the RN Coordinator Susann Ullberg at [susann.ullberg@fhs.se](mailto:susann.ullberg@fhs.se).

For queries regarding the conference, please consult the conference webpage.

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### Research Network 11: Sociology of Emotions

#### CALL FOR PAPERS

The 9th European Sociological Association Conference  
Lisbon, Portugal  
September 2--5, 2009

So far the Emotions Network has focused on emotions in (i) theory, (ii) methodology, (iii) organizations/professions and (iv) civic society/social movements. While we want to retain our interest in these research areas, this time we also wish to expand our thematic scope in order to reflect the variety of current interests pursued by our members.

We therefore ask *also* for abstracts/contributions on emotions and (v) the body, (vi) everyday life and (vii) in accounts/narratives/discourses. Of special interest for this congress are (viii) taboos on expressing emotions and their transgression. Also welcome are abstracts on (ix) gender and emotions, (x) emotions and ethics, (xi) emotions and time, (xii) emotions and collectives (incl. nation & Europe).

**Deadline for abstracts** is 26th of February 2009. Note that abstracts have to be submitted via the conference website (<http://www.esa9thconference.com>) and not sent directly to session organizers or the RN coordinator. Within two weeks after having submitted your abstract you will receive a standard reply from the conference organizers confirming the reception of your abstract.

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### Research Network 16: Sociology of Health & Illness

#### CALL FOR PAPERS

Transformations and Challenges in health and health care across Europe's borders

The 9th European Sociological Association Conference

**Lisbon, Portugal  
September 2-5, 2009**

European health and health care systems are experiencing complex transformations and in some countries, these health care systems have undergone extensive and varied reforms. Some of these reforms have created greater social inequalities and generated controversy among government officials, policy makers, health care workers and citizens. With increasing economic insecurity and the growth of 'disaster capitalism', health is a sought after commodity. A sociological analysis in this area explores the impact of current social changes on European health and healthcare and recent developments in health care policy. This sort of analysis addresses the implications for those living in European countries and offers new approaches to understanding the transformations and challenges in health and health care. The task of the sociologist is to bear witness to these complexities and to document them critically.

Our Research Network invites papers that deal with the following themes and we particularly welcome papers offering a comparative perspective:

- Politics of health care in Europe
- Health and migration in a European context
- Disasters in the context of health and illness in Europe
- Challenges in reproductive health
- Mental health issues in Europe
- Patterning of health and disease in Europe
- Social aspects of death and dying
- Emotions and health
- The body in health and illness
- Inequalities and social divisions in European health: class, race, ethnicity and gender
- Formal health care organisation and delivery of health care in Europe
- Complementary and alternative medicine
- Biomedicine and ethics
- Public and environmental health risks
- Development of new medical technologies in European health care
- Disabilities in the context of health and health care
- Substance abuse and addictions in a European context
- Upsetting the health professional workforce: collaborative care and professional boundaries – joint session with RN19 "Sociology of Professions"

We invite papers addressing these and other issues related to sociology of health and illness. We especially encourage submissions from PhD students.

RN Co-ordinator: Elizabeth Ettore Email: [E.Ettore@liverpool.ac.uk](mailto:E.Ettore@liverpool.ac.uk)

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**Research Network 18: Sociology of Communications and Media Research**

**CALL FOR PAPERS**

**Transformations and Challenges in health and health care across Europe's borders**

**The 9th European Sociological Association Conference  
Lisbon, Portugal  
September 2-5, 2009**

**EUROPEANIZING GLOBALIZATIONS: THE TRANSFORMATION OF (SELF-) IMAGES**

From Lisbon to Moscow, from Athens to Reykjavik, mass and network media attention markets are re-configured. The role of the European Union (EU) in the sector of media but also in the sphere of

culture is constantly gaining importance. The varying sociocultural contexts of European states, the complex relationships deriving from the tensions between traditional public services and the intensified privatization of the majority of services including media constitute some of the major problems of recent policy. Further, the new framework of media operation imposed by the new information and communication technologies and their networking globalization processes raises more questions: Whether the origins of media sources and typical media contents show consistent patterns. Are they driving forces in the transformation of European traditions and visions? Or do they rather contribute to veil or destroy the European ways of life? On this basis, the limits of traditional research in journalism and media communication will be specified under the particular perspective of "Europeanizing Globalizations", with an emphasis on "The Transformation of (Self-) Images of Europe".

The periodical enlargement of the EU member states in particular increases the challenges of integrating them into a common legislative and economic system. This was carried out by the integration of national and local markets but also accompanied by the establishment of new institutions or the homogenization of the functioning of the traditional ones. In this process the mass and network media have re-configured and transformed European self-images. Media and cultural industries become increasingly central in the economies of the member states and consequently they also become a field of contestation and consensus regarding their legislative system of operation. One major particular question arises: does the EU, e.g., have the jurisdiction upon the media or is this a sector of strictly national interest?

This general question contains a more specific one: which are the prerequisites for an integration policy and which are the conflicting perceptions about the directions of that policy? In other words which is the role of the media in the construction of a European identity or various types and balances of European identities and what are the results of the 'Unity in Diversity' or 'One Union many Voices' programs? As the EU communicative space by the enlargement of the Eastern European countries becomes more diverse and more complex, the role of the media in mediating the priorities of a common policy becomes more acute.

The media and cultural policy are influenced by four main factors:

1. the globalization of communication systems,
2. the transnational flow of people and incoming migration,
3. the integration of traditional media markets into a common juridical framework,
4. the global / local trajectories and the citizen associations.

The *Research Network Sociology of Communications and Media Research* welcomes papers emphasizing, e.g., the following topics:

1. Media and European diversity debate: theories and realities
  - a. Construction of a European identity and citizenship
  - b. Pluralism of content
  - c. Mediation of diversity and creativity
  - d. Language barriers and communication
2. EU media policy and the globalization of the communication system
  - a. A European public sphere or diverse public spheres?
  - b. European media (news agencies, networks etc.)
  - c. European Elections
  - d. European or national regulation
  - e. Audiovisual production (domestic or European, digital products, e.g., EU library etc.)
3. Journalism, new media and citizen's participation
  - a. Citizen journalism (user generated content)
  - b. Experiences in social media environments

**Abstracts will only be accepted through completion of the online submission form, and submission in any other form will be declined.** (The Online Abstract Submission form and Instructions and Guidelines for Online Abstract Submissions will be on the conference website <http://www.esa9thconference.com/> )

The deadline for web submission of abstracts (automatically sent to LOC and Research Networks and Research Streams coordinators) is **26th February 2009**.

The 9th European Sociological Association Conference, Lisboa <http://www.esa9thconference.com/>

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## **Research Network 19: Sociology of Professions**

### **CALL FOR PAPERS**

**Professionalism in the era of complexity:  
New frames for existing and emerging professional projects**

**The 9th European Sociological Association Conference  
Lisbon, Portugal  
September 2-5, 2009**

The tight interweaving of the key modern ideas 'professionalism' and 'the state' is currently unraveled as a result of the globalization of politics and economy. The destabilization of the national frame for professionalism calls into question the old regulatory bargains shaping professional work in Europe. Notable in the European context is how the complex processes of European integration add new transnational dimensions to professional work. The emerging political, legal and economic regulation and governance at the transnational level gradually redraws social, cultural as well as geographical boundaries that reorder professional groups. Different professions encounter the challenges presented by the global age in diverse ways. Professions in business or politics, for instance, are heavily involved in the work of globalizing society and the processes of globalization, which in turn, directly restructures their institutions. In contrast, professions providing services historically perceived as public goods continue to be organized largely in the national frame. Yet, this type of professions is also affected by globalization, as the principles of global neo-liberal market economics are implemented on public management. Similar influences also reshape the terms and conditions of cultural professions, as the logic of commercial service gradually affects all forms of professional work.

The resulting challenges for the sociology of professions are manifold. First, 'top-down' analyses can shed light to how intergovernmental policy processes, the actions of international trade organizations as well as the practices of transnational firms contribute to emerging transnational forms of professional work. A related theme is the emergence of transnational professional associations. Second, 'bottom-up' scholarship holds the potential to examine micro-level social transformations of professional work associated with the international migration flows of professionals and other forces contributing to transnationalization of work. Furthermore, a third possible line of scholarship can study the role of expert knowledge and experts in the creation of new frames and boundaries, as exemplified by the making of 'European society'.

Possible session foci addressing the above-described complex social trends include:

- Professionalism and the reframing of institutions: new ties and old tensions
- The formation of professions revisited: emergent professional groups
- Changing cultures of professional work
- Professionalism and the dynamics of jurisdictional expansions: geographical, contextual and substantive issues
- 'Risk managers' and 'knowledge brokers': professional knowledge in organizations
- Professionalism and consumerism: challenging power regimes?
- Professions on the move: migration and flexibility
- Rethinking social inequalities and professions: gender, ethnicity and class
- Professions in comparative perspective: new and existing concepts
- The professions in international perspective: changes and continuities
- Careers and professional paths

- Changing professional skills and competence
- Upsetting the health professional workforce: collaborative care and professional boundaries – joint session with RN16 "Sociology of Health and Illness"

We invite papers addressing these and other issues related to changes in professionalism and professional groups either in a single country or occupation or in a comparative perspective. We especially encourage submissions from PhD students.

RN 19 coordinators

Sirpa Wrede, Email: [sirpa.wrede@helsinki.fi](mailto:sirpa.wrede@helsinki.fi)

Ellen Kuhlmann, Email: [e.c.kuhlmann@bath.ac.uk](mailto:e.c.kuhlmann@bath.ac.uk)

**Abstracts must be submitted online.** The deadline for submitting an abstract of no more than 350 words is **26th February 2009**. The decision of acceptance of abstracts is **26th March 2009**. Please visit the ESA website <http://www.esa9thconference.com> where information on the 9th ESA Conference is available, including further instructions on abstract submission.

## Research Network 21: RENCORE

### CALL FOR PAPERS

#### The 9th European Sociological Association Conference Lisbon, Portugal September 2-5, 2009

Research Network "RENCORE: Methods for Comparative Research on Europe" is planning four sessions:

- 1<sup>st</sup> session: Standardizing Socio-Demographic Variables for Cross-National Social Surveys
- 2<sup>nd</sup> session: Methods in European Survey Research
- 3<sup>rd</sup> session: Methodological Aspects in Comparative Survey Research
- 4<sup>th</sup> session: Comparative, Cross-National and Cross-Cultural Analysis with Data Sets from Official Statistics

#### **1<sup>st</sup> session: Standardizing Socio-Demographic Variables for Cross National Social Surveys**

organized by: Juergen H.P. Hoffmeyer-Zlotnik, GESIS, Mannheim/GER

##### *Abstract:*

For the measurement of socio-demographic variables it is necessary to know the various underlying concepts, the national structure related to the interesting variables and the usual national system of indicators. With this knowledge, functional equivalence of socio-demographic variables can be reached by harmonizing the measurements.

The session has on the agenda the way from national concepts of variables to international comparable measurements and indicators, the progress in methods for comparative survey data (e.g. ESS) and the methodological aspects of cross national and cross cultural survey research with a main focus on socio-demographic variables.

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> session: Methods in European Survey Research**

organized by: Uwe Warner, CEPS/INSTEAD, Differdange/LUX

##### *Abstract:*

European comparative survey research involves all methodological problems. Although these problems are also found in national survey research, in international survey research additional methodological problems appear due to different cultures.

The second session has on the agenda methodological topics of European comparative survey research like country specific sample designs, scaling, measurement of human and social values, the translation and functional equivalence, and the comparative aspect of these problems.



### **3<sup>rd</sup> session: Methodological Aspects in Comparative Survey Research**

organized by: Juergen H.P. Hoffmeyer-Zlotnik, GESIS, Mannheim/GER

#### *Abstract:*

Themes for the third session are interview cultures and mode effects, particular target population groups (older workers, children, migrants, etc.); surveys on specific topics (health, wealth, intergenerational relations, etc.), with a focus on the methodological problems arising from national data collection and production processes for comparative analyses.

### **4<sup>th</sup> session: Comparative Analysis of European Data from Official Statistics**

organized by: Christof Wolf, GESIS, Mannheim/GER

#### *Abstract:*

This session focuses on data produced by either national statistical offices in Europe or Eurostat, e.g. national censuses, the European Labor Force Survey (EU-LFS) or the European Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC). These data sets offer several advantages for social-structural analysis. Sample sizes are usually very large making the identification of even small subgroups possible and non-response is usually very modest. More and more official data are directly or indirectly influenced by EU-regulations and more and more data of this kind are produced in several if not all countries of the EU. Researchers interested in analyzing the social structure of their societies in comparative perspective should pay more attention to these data sources.

Possible topics of presentation in this session include data availability, strategies for anonymizing official micro data, strategies for harmonizing these data over time or across nations, as well as meta data and documentation standards for these data.

Proposals for the RENCORE sessions at ESA conference should be submitted electronically to:

[juergen.hoffmeyer-zlotnik@gesis.org](mailto:juergen.hoffmeyer-zlotnik@gesis.org)

and to the Local Organising Committee in Lisbon by using the online Abstract Submission Form on

<http://www.esa9thconference.com>

including: title, author's name, author's institution, e-mail-address, an abstract of about 350 words.

The author should indicate to which session they are applying.

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## **Research Network 23: Sexuality**

### **CALL FOR PAPERS**

#### **The 9<sup>th</sup> European Sociological Association Conference**

**Lisbon, Portugal**

**September 2-5, 2009**

Dear friends,

This is the first Call for Papers of the newly reformed **Research Network on Sexuality** for the 9<sup>th</sup> European Sociological Association Conference, Lisbon, Portugal September 2-5, 2009 ([www.esa9thconference.com](http://www.esa9thconference.com)).

There has in the past been a Sexualities Research Network resulting in successful Sexualities streams at previous ESA conferences, most notably at the conference in Murcia (2003) and in Torun (2005). Unfortunately, this was not the case at the conference in Glasgow (2007) where scholars working in this area keenly felt the absence of a Sexualities stream. However, following a successful international conference at the University of Surrey in June 2008 on the theme of gender and sexuality in the workplace attended by over forty delegates from eight different countries, a decision was made to try to reform the ESA Sexualities RN.

Our aim in reforming the RN is to create an academic space at both Conference and at interim events for scholars working in this area to discuss current research in this area, ultimately leading to the development of new international links and research partnerships.

We are delighted to say that our proposal to reform the network was accepted by the ESA Executive Committee, and that we will be able to hold paper sessions at the conference on issues that relate to

the empirical, theoretical and conceptual aspects of sexuality and bearing in mind the overall conference theme, sexualities in Europe and European societies.

Below are some suggestions for thematic areas; however this is not an exhaustive list so please feel free to send a proposal not directly linked directly to these themes.

- Sexual citizenship and collective action
- Sexuality and the media
- Sexuality and political parties
- Regulating sexualities
- Sexualities across the life course
- Conceptualizing and theorizing sexualities
- Sexualities and intimate lives
- Sexuality and the work place
- Sexualities and intersectionality
- Teaching sexualities
- Sexuality and health
- Sexualities and globalization
- Sexualities and space/place
- Transgender identities and lives

Also if there is enough interest we could have streams that examine sexualities in specific regions of Europe.

If you would like to present a paper at the conference but are not sure if it fits the above thematic areas, or you have suggestions for another thematic area please contact the RN co-ordinators. Likewise if you require additional information before submitting an abstract please do get in touch.

Details of abstract submission can be found on the website. Please note that abstract submissions can only be accepted via the online submission form. Please read the submission guidelines before filling in the form at [www.esa9thconference.com](http://www.esa9thconference.com).

**Co-ordinators**

**Lead co-ordinator:**

Ann Cronin  
University of Surrey  
Email: [a.cronin@surrey.ac.uk](mailto:a.cronin@surrey.ac.uk)

**Supporting co-ordinator**

Andrew King  
Kingston University  
Email: [a.king@kingston.ac.uk](mailto:a.king@kingston.ac.uk)

Please circulate this Call for Papers.

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**Research Network 24: Sociology of Science and Technology Network (SSTNET)**

**CALL FOR PAPERS**

**Differentiation of Science and Technology Space in Europe**

**The 9th European Sociological Association Conference  
Lisbon, Portugal  
September 2-5, 2009**

During the past decade the European Union (EU) and European countries have made considerable investments into developing data and research infrastructures. Unifying programmes such as European Research Area (ERA) and the Enabling Grids for E-sciencE (*EGEE*) project are examples

of such ventures. Their goals have been to facilitate the movement of labour, the exchange of information, data and other resources across borders and organizations, optimise national research programmes within the international context and develop new links between partners. From a sociological and STS-informed perspective such changes in S&T space provide fruitful ground for the analysis of the implications that they are bringing about to European research systems and the impact that it has on networks of collaboration and knowledge creation. Are we witnessing a homogenization of research infrastructures or the development of national solutions that fit into a broader framework?

The Sociology of Science and Technology Network (SSTNET) would like to invite papers to its sessions which touch upon this and any of the following themes:

- Comparative perspectives on research systems
- European and national research politics
- Knowledge flows and networks in Europe
- Research workforce in European research systems
- New members states and research infrastructures
- Resource sharing in networks and infrastructures
- Historical context of research systems
- Development of research infrastructures
- Intellectual property within research systems
- Biomedical research systems in Europe
- Dynamics in the uptake of research infrastructures
- Creativity and Innovation Promoting Leadership in Science and Technology

Papers that address these and other topics related to the sociology of science and technology are invited for submission. Submissions from PhD students are strongly encouraged.

In addition to regular SSTNET sessions, we are also offering two joint sessions:

1. Joint session with RN14 (Gender Relation in the Labour Market and the Welfare State), where the issues concerning the relation between gender, science and technology will be debated. Therefore, the abstracts dealing with gender relations in academia, scientific and technological labour markets are very welcome.

2. Joint session with RN8 (Disaster and Social Crisis) entitled "Science and Technology: their Role in the Generation and Prevention/Mitigation of Crisis and Disasters". A special Call for Contributions will be distributed by both networks. For further information please visit the conference website.

Abstracts should be submitted through the ESA submission portal to RN14, RN8 or RN24. Please indicate in your abstract that it is being submitted to a special joint session. Abstracts should be no longer than 350 words and submitted no later than 26.2.2009.

Organisers of SSTNET sessions are:

Aaro Tupasela, SSTNET chair

E-mail: [aaro.tupasela@helsinki.fi](mailto:aaro.tupasela@helsinki.fi)

Katarina Prpić, SSTNET co-chair

E-mail: [katarina@idi.hr](mailto:katarina@idi.hr)

Luísa Oliveira,

E-mail: [luisa.oliveira@iscte.pt](mailto:luisa.oliveira@iscte.pt)

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Harald Rohracher

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## Research Network 25: Social Movements

### CALL FOR PAPERS

#### The 9th European Sociological Association Conference Lisbon, Portugal September 2-5, 2009

The purpose of the social movement research network's sessions at the ESA conference in Lisbon 2009 is to contribute to the on-going reflection on social movement theory and present up-to-date empirical research on mobilisation in various contexts.

The 2007 conference in Glasgow and the 2008 Mid-term Conference of the research network in Trento demonstrated that research on social movements is experiencing a very intense period of debate. We very much hope to build on this momentum at the Lisbon conference.

The sessions aim at deepening our understanding of all aspects of social movement theory and analysis. However, we especially encourage papers on the following topics: social movement outcomes; social movement failure; the role of the media and new technologies in mobilisation; right wing activism; religious activism; the role of emotions in activism; non-Western activism; transnational mobilization and cross-national diffusion; protest innovation; and the potential of social movements for democratic renewal at local, national and global levels.

The deadline for submissions is 26 February 2009. All submissions must be made through [www.esa9thconference.com](http://www.esa9thconference.com).

We look forward to receiving your submissions and, hopefully, to meet in you in Lisbon 2009.

Best regards,

Emanuela Bozzini ([emanuela.bozzini@soc.unitn.it](mailto:emanuela.bozzini@soc.unitn.it))

Thomas Olesen ([tho@ps.au.dk](mailto:tho@ps.au.dk))

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### **Research Network 26: Sociology of Social Policy**

#### **CALL FOR PAPERS**

**The 9th European Sociological Association Conference  
Lisbon, Portugal  
September 2-5, 2009**

This network aims to stimulate sociological scholarship and research on all aspects of social policy in Europe. The network favours a broad understanding of social policy that focuses on the institutions of welfare, as well as the underlying ideologies that shape policy development and welfare delivery that in turn influence the distribution of resources, status and power. We encourage analysis both within and across nation-states and we place particular emphasis on the application of contemporary sociological theories to the study of social policy. For the 9<sup>th</sup> ESA Conference we welcome papers that engage and apply sociological theory to any area of social policy and hope to build on previous themes on the body, emotion, social capital and risk. In keeping with the conference theme we are particularly interested to explore the welfare and policy implications of change within and across European societies, for example, understanding the social problems of increasingly mobile and diverse European communities; whether social problems should be addressed at the regional, national or European levels; and how the enduring issues of class, gender, ethnicity and place shape social problems and their policy responses.

Justin Waring  
Convener of RN26  
University of Nottingham, UK

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### **Research Network 27 – Regional Network on Southern European Societies**

#### **CALL FOR PAPERS**

**The 9th European Sociological Association Conference  
Lisbon, Portugal  
September 2-5, 2009**

The Research Network on Southern European Societies has been recently re-launched, through the proposal submitted to ESA by a group of sociologists from France, Greece, Italy, Portugal and Spain, who have been working together as members of their respective national associations. The promotion of exchange programmes between sociologists interested in sharing theoretical and empirical research concerning southern European issues will be an essential part of the network activities.

For the 9<sup>a</sup> ESA Conference, in Lisbon, the RN proposes to explore links between the southern European societies, considering different research topics bearing in mind the general topic on *European Society or European Societies?* Cross-national comparisons are therefore especially welcome. In bringing together research experience along with perspectives concerning social trends and socio-politics operating in the southern European regions, we also hope to develop a critical view about the different ways research is been conducted.

We are inviting papers submission in the following thematic sessions:

Organizer: Consuelo Corradi ([corradic@tin.it](mailto:corradic@tin.it))

- **Varieties of Collective Violence: Motivations, Actors and Outcomes //** Formas de la violencia colectiva: motivaciones, actores y resultados // Les formes de la violence collective: motivations, acteurs et résultats.

Is violence a tool or a social force per se ? How does one engage in violence : is it a rational action or is it mainly the result of overwhelming emotions that take individuals beyond their will ? What are the social, cultural or economic conditions under which violence is most likely to appear ? And what are the results: does it attain a number of proposed goals, or is it mainly a destruction of objects, or, worse, human beings ?

Papers focusing on empirical data and case-studies are especially welcome.

Paper presenters are encouraged to write in English, French or Spanish.

Organizers: Birgit Blättel-Mink ([b.blaettel-mink@soz.uni-frankfurt.de](mailto:b.blaettel-mink@soz.uni-frankfurt.de)) and António Moniz (<mailto:abm@fct.unl.pt>)

- **Regional Innovation Systems in Southern Europe and Sustainability.** Papers should deal with regional innovation systems in Southern Europe and their involvement with strategies towards sustainable development, i.e. their commitment to sustainability. Main questions:
  - Is there any relation between innovation and sustainability on a regional level?
  - What institutional factors play a role concerning the implementation of sustainable innovations?
  - Who are the prime movers of such processes: economy, society, state?
  - Can we identify sustainable innovation networks on a regional level?
  - What facets of sustainable development are more crucial: economic, ecological, social (e.g. Corporate Social Responsibility)?
  - What is specific for Southern Europe compared to other European countries?

Organizer: Roberto Cipriani

- **Religion and Churches in Europe //** Religions et églises en Europe.

The scenario of European society is changing rapidly, particularly in the field of religion and Churches. Culture is of vital importance to the presence of religion and Churches in the single nations. The religions and Churches which have crossed Europe have exerted a certain degree of political power, thus influencing the economy and other related spheres of life.

A common datum affects religions and Churches in Europe today: a visible reduction of religious practice. Changes are also evident in other religions of non-European origin but present in almost all of Europe. The different religions and Churches operating in Europe manifest a variety of behaviours towards religious pluralism. The difference between religions of Western and Eastern Europe depends mainly on issues of national identity related to religious adherence. The territorial map of Religious Europe is not characterized only by the presence of this or that religious culture but also and above all by the existence of large numbers of minorities: Orthodox Christians or Protestants in Catholic countries, Catholics and Orthodox Christians in Protestant countries, Jews and Muslims in the majority of European countries.

Organizer: Claude Martin

- **Welfare State in Southern Europe // L'Etat-providence en Europe du Sud**

Discussion about different Welfare state typologies was a central issue during the nineties. At that period, southern countries were considered by some authors as a specific "family of nations" with enough specificities to be distinguished from the conservative Bismarkian type. The reforms implemented since the beginning of the nineties all over Europe made this discussion secondary compared to the question of changes and convergence. In this session, we propose to come back on these hypothetical specificities.

- . Do Southern European Welfare states have enough in common to be distinguished from the rest of Europe?
- . What are these common elements: culture, familialism, politics, demographical factors, gender inequality, generational inequality, territorial inequality, ideologies, clientelism, populism, etc.?
- . What about the position of France in this discussion? Is it possible to consider France as a southern European Welfare state and why?

Empirical papers comparing southern European countries with the rest of Europe and/or southern European countries between themselves are welcomed in this session.

Organizer: Laura Maratou-Alipranti ([lalipranti@ekke.gr](mailto:lalipranti@ekke.gr))

- **Female migration in Southern Europe: Recent Developments and perspectives**

Women occupy an important place in European immigration flows. They are involved in different ways as "dependent" (family members) as "independent" economic migrant (independent migration, family reunification, trafficking etc). The purpose of this session is to analyse and evaluate immigration model in European countries from a gender perspective, to examine recent developments regarding women migrants, their position in the labour market and their living conditions. Which characteristic of female immigration are more common? What can they expect from the ongoing European harmonisation? What is their position in the local labour market?

Papers are welcome on the following themes:

- A. Gender and international/transnational immigration patterns
- B. Gender and diverse paths of employment
- C. Gender, globalization and labour market
- D. Transnational migration and family bonds
- E. Gender, immigration law and policies

Organizer: Dan Ferrand-Bechmann

- **Associations and Voluntary Sector in Southern Europe // Associations et le volontariat en Europe du Sud.**

The role of non governmental associations, voluntary sector, volunteers and citizens participation are increasing a lot all around south Europe. Beside family, public policies and private ones, the voluntary sector is providing a strong support within the communities. Facing the economical crisis, it acts as a subsidiary and complementary support to answer social needs. The models vary but they appear as a particular and specific model in South Europe because of the maintaining of family and community solidarity. This session will be opened to debates and analysis of this particular model to be compared to those of North Europe. Who are the beneficiaries? who are the actors? what are the links between government bodies and voluntary sector? what is the impact of hundred thousands or one million of associations in a democratic societies? why citizens are involved in those type of organizations more than in political parties or trade unions?....

Organizers: Luis Baptista, Marina Subirats and Andrea Vargiu

- **Latin Languages, Cultural Proximities and Cultural Domination//Langue latines, proximités culturelles et domination cultural// Línguas Latinas, proximidades culturais e dominação cultural// Línguas Latinas, proximidades culturais e dominação cultural.**

We are aiming to discuss the place of Latin language among the sociologists community(ies) and to consider the impact of language features regarding the dissemination of sociological research outputs.

Paper presenters are encouraged to write in English, French, Portuguese or Spanish.

Organizer: Manuel Carlos Silva

- **Patronage, Political Parties and State: Old and New Configurations //Patronage, partis politiques et Etat: vieilles et nouvelles configurations// Patronazgo, partidos políticos y Estado: viejas y nuevas configuraciones// Patrocinato, partidos políticos e Estado: velhas e novas configurações.**

Paper presenters are encouraged to write in English, French, Portuguese or Spanish.

Organizer: Louis Chauvel

- **Social (des)integration of the young in Europe // (Des)intégration sociale de la jeunesse en Europe.**

The 2008-2009 Athens riots, the French 2005 civil unrest (and its middle class aftermath: the 2006 anti-First Employment Contract mobilisation), are the most visible signs of difficulties, but more profound and durable problems exist in these countries. The Spanish 'mileuristas' problem (young university-educated thirty-something earning less than 1000 euros), and its Italian counterpart demonstrate that the difficulties are more general in Europe, even if the solidarity of families plays a role as a shock absorber. Anyway the problem remains, longer and longer. These facts raises many

questions: Is there a specificity of Latin or Southern societies in terms of problems of socialization of the young, in the workplace, in trade-union, in politics? Where are the real contrasts with Nordic, English- or German-speaking Europe? Which is the role of Latin/Southern families: durable help or temporary painkiller? Which are the consequences of these difficulties: temporary bleach for the young or durable scar for new social generations?

Paper presenters are encouraged to write in English, French, Portuguese or Spanish.

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## **Research Network 29 – Social Theory**

### **CALL FOR PAPERS**

#### **The 9th European Sociological Association Conference Lisbon, Portugal September 2-5, 2009**

European transformations necessarily have an impact on their sociological and public interpretations. Consequently, the conference theme “European Society or European Societies?” invites social theory to explore the theoretical underpinnings of the debate.

Our Research Network, focusing on the self-reflexive dimension of sociology, encourages submissions addressing the following themes that also continue the ongoing discussions of the RN:

#### *Contemporary Society - and its Sociology*

1. European Society or European Societies?
2. European Sociology or European Sociologies?

#### *Theory*

3. Contemporary Social Theory
4. Classical Social Theory

#### *Philosophy of Social Science*

5. The Past and Future of Critical Theory
6. New Philosophies of Social Science

#### *Challenges*

7. Beyond Methodological Nationalism?
8. New Developments in Social Theory

#### **Further Information**

a) ESA RN Social Theory webpage: <http://www.social-theory.eu> (further information)

b) ESA2009 Conference webpage: <http://www.esa9thconference.com/> (e.g. abstract submission, accommodation, fees, registration, venue, etc.)

We are looking forward to see participants of previous meetings but warmly welcome new colleagues too.

Frank Welz, Social Theory RN coordinator ([frank.welz@uibk.ac.at](mailto:frank.welz@uibk.ac.at))  
Innsbruck University, Austria

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## **Research Network 30: Youth and Generation**

### **CALL FOR PAPERS**

#### **The 9th European Sociological Association Conference**



**Lisbon, Portugal**  
**September 2-5, 2009**

The youth research network 'Youth & Generation' within European Sociological Association invites your contribution to the next bi-annual conference, which will take place in Lisbon from 2nd - 5th September 2009.

The general theme for the 9<sup>th</sup> ESA conference will be '*European Society or European Societies?*' It is hoped that presenters have this in mind when they are preparing their contributions, but papers can as usual be delivered within any field of youth research. The bi-annual conference offers an opportunity for all youth researchers to present their research.

For more information about the ESA conference, visit: <http://www.esa9thconference.com/>.

We do not limit the range of topics and issues that can be addressed in the network's work group sessions during the conference. We expect papers within a broad range of topics. We welcome single presentations as well as coordinated proposals for whole sessions.

The procedure for the September 2009 conference is similar to that of the 8<sup>th</sup> conference in Glasgow. To submit an abstract, you must use the form on the official website: <http://www.esa9thconference.com/>. The organisers will then forward the abstracts to the network. Do not send abstracts directly to the co-ordinator or the members of the board.

**Abstracts will only be accepted through completion of the online submission form, and submission in any other form will be declined.**

The submission form will request basic contact information from those submitting abstracts (and for any co-authors) and it is important that potential presenters give as much information as possible. The submission form will limit the title of the abstract to 200 characters (approximately 30 words) and the length of the abstract to a maximum of 350 words. The form also requests authors to submit up to 5 key words that are indicative of the content of the proposed presentation. Title, abstract and keywords will have to fit within these limitations. Tables, figures and references should not be included in abstracts. Abstracts should be written in English.

Those who submit abstracts will receive, within two weeks of submission, a standard reply from the Conference Organiser in Lisbon stating that their abstract has been received. Those who do not receive confirmation within the two week period should contact the Conference Organiser.

All abstracts will be evaluated by the board of the network. When evaluating the proposals, special consideration will be given to papers that bring innovative dimensions into the research field. Only papers specifically addressing youth issues will be accepted.

Presentations will be grouped by topic due to title and content of the abstract and the submitted keywords. The following list of keywords is tentative, and others can be suggested: age, alcohol and drug use, biography, citizenship, consumerism, crime, delinquency, education, embodiment and sexuality, ethnicity, European identity, family patterns, gender, generation, globalization, identity, information technology, Internet, labour market, life planning, life-course, life-style, marginalisation, media, methodology, migration, minority youth, mobility, multiculturalism, participation, political movements, poverty, risk society, social capital, social movements, social exclusion, spatial identities, subcultures, theory, transitions (specify), unemployment, values, violence, vulnerable and threatened youth, working life, youth policy.

We expect many abstracts will be submitted and accepted, it will therefore be necessary to run two parallel sessions. We also expect to use all available session slots in the programme. The session programme will be finalised by the 15<sup>th</sup> of June. Sessions will be organised to allow approximately half an hour for each paper, including discussion.

This call is distributed through the ESA-YOUTH mailing list, and it has been sent to all who made submissions to the network's sessions at previous conferences. You can expand the network. Please feel free to forward this mail to your colleagues.

Kind regards!

Serdar M. Degirmencioglu - Ladislav Machacek - Raili Nugin  
Gary Pollock - Tracy Shildrick - Vesa Puuronen  
Carsten Yndigegn (Coordinator)

<http://www.youthandgeneration.org>

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### **Research Network 32: Political Sociology**

#### **CALL FOR PAPERS**

#### **The 9th European Sociological Association Conference Lisbon, Portugal September 2-5, 2009**

The purpose of the political sociology research network of ESA is to contribute to the on-going reflection on the scope, main themes and theories of political sociology in Europe, and to discuss up-to-date empirical research. For the ESA conference in Lisbon 2009 the network invites paper submissions on the following set of topics:

Citizenship and Governance (particularly European citizenship, comparative studies of citizenship, and related issues of gender, migration and poverty).

For the Lisbon Conference: As citizenship tests and civics courses are spreading in European nation-states, non-European migrants seem to be the ones asked to be "good citizens" and to uphold national "values." Nationals in the meantime are increasingly called upon to react as "consumers", "inhabitants", "parents" as they are targeted by public policies and social movements rather than as political citizens. Notwithstanding, empirical developments below and beyond the nation-state suggest that a reconfiguration of citizenship as an institution and a set of practices. These include the devolution of social citizenship and local participatory forms of democracy, the mobility of European citizens and the situation of "transnational villagers" living across two nation-states. How do these changes alter feelings of belonging and identification with particular levels of governance? The section calls for papers that address these developments as well as their normative implications. Comparative studies across time and place are most welcome. (Virginie Guiraudon will chair this panel)

Political Attitudes (class, voting behaviour, comparative research on European welfare states and political values).

For the Lisbon Conference we are particularly interested in empirical and theoretical studies of populism in Europe (Carlo Ruzza and Jens Rydgren will chair this section).

Political Communication (comparative studies of the transformation of the public sphere and media in Europe are examined). This might include comparisons of media systems and communication cultures, single case studies on the Europeanising trends of political communication in terms of contents and strategies or more theory driven work on the changing relationships between public sphere, political order and democracy.

For the Lisbon Conference we are particularly interested in assessments of public communications by international organisations such as the EU and the impact of new publics (e.g. as constituted through the New Media) (Hans Joerg Trezn will chair this panel).

Governance Structures and Political Institutions (political institutions at different levels of governance, their interactions and their modes of operation in specific public policy domains. Policy networks. Theories of the policy process. Political elites and elite structures.

For the Lisbon Conference we are particularly interested in empirical and theoretical studies of political networks (Jens Rydgren will chair this panel)

Forms of Political Participation (forms of participation and their change. Political parties, public interest associations, party systems and their change. Party families such as parties of the extreme right and related issues of racism and xenophobia.

For the Lisbon conference we particularly invite submissions on the political role of civil society organizations and their impact on decision making. We also welcome submissions on how civil society organizations relate to issues of accountability, internal democracy, transparency and relations between different territorial levels) (Carlo Ruzza will chair this panel).

We look forward to receiving your submissions and, hopefully, to meet in you in Lisbon in 2009.

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### **Research Network 33: Women's and Gender Studies**

#### **CALL FOR PAPERS**

**The 9th European Sociological Association Conference  
Lisbon, Portugal  
September 2-5, 2009**

RN 33 promotes international research into social inequalities and the regimes of power that shape gender relations as well as symbolic constructions and representations of masculinity and femininity in the past and at present. Research should further address the ruptures and non-synchronic developments in social reality, especially among European societies and within Europe as a whole with its nested and gendered concept of citizenship. While gender equality is a general aim of European policies, women are still empirically disadvantaged on a large scale. Moreover, differences in representation and social inequalities among women in European societies are new important issues of social research.

The RN invites abstracts on issues concerning the contradictions and paradoxes of the existing gender order in Europe, e.g., the social crisis of human reproduction, the consequences of the care drain, and the shifting gender and power relations in transnational migration processes.

**ESA Summer School 2009, Lisbon, 28.8.-1.9. 2009**

**European Society or European Societies?**

The aim of the Summer School is to gather PhD students from all over Europe to consider whether we can look at Europe as an increasingly cohesive entity or whether divisions of nation, class, ethnicity, region, gender, and so on continue to be more salient. Traditionally, the nation state has been explicitly or implicitly the unit of analysis in European sociology. But is the nation state the most appropriate unit through which to explore European society or should we be trying to find other perspectives? This raises the issue of whether there is convergence or divergence between regions in the European area. A particular focus of the Summer School will be upon the role of sociology in helping to understand the European area and how sociologists from different countries and different traditions can work together to meet this challenge. We will focus specifically upon four areas: religion, culture and diversity; gender; migration; family; and European welfare states. The Summer School is hosted by the Universidad de Nova de Lisboa and the ESA.

To apply, please submit an electronic application consisting of one document including

1. a short cover letter indicating your background and why you wish to participate in the Summer School (max. 200 words), with a name and e-mail of a supervisor who supports your application
2. a short curriculum vitae
3. a maximum five page research plan describing your PhD research

The application, in one document attachment (in WORD format), will be submitted to the ESA secretariat by February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2009 to the address [esasslisbon@gmail.com](mailto:esasslisbon@gmail.com)

The attachment should be named as your surname only, and the e-mail should have the subject heading "Summer School Application".

25 students will be selected. All applicants will be informed about the outcome through e-mail by April 15th 2009.

All selected participants will receive a 300 Euro scholarship for travel to Lisbon, the ESA Conference registration fee, a student membership of ESA 2009-2010 and accommodation 28.8.-1.9. 2009 in shared student rooms provided by the Universidad de Nova de Lisboa. Students are expected to participate in the ESA Conference after the Summer School (note that accommodation after the September 1<sup>st</sup> is not included).

For enquiries, please e-mail

Chair of the ESA post-graduate committee Elina Oinas [elina.oinas\(at\)nai.uu.se](mailto:elina.oinas(at)nai.uu.se)

or

ESA secretariat, Gisele Tchinda

[gisele.tchinda-esa\(at\)pouchet.cnrs.fr](mailto:gisele.tchinda-esa(at)pouchet.cnrs.fr)