



EUROPEAN SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

**REGIONAL RESEARCH NETWORK ON
“SOUTHERN EUROPEAN SOCIETIES” – RN27**

BIENNIAL REPORT FOR THE TERM 2017-2019

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1. OUTGOING TEAM

Coordination team

Coordinators

Eleni Nina-Pazarzi, Coordinator of the RN27 (University of Piraeus, Greece)

Manuel Fernández-Esquinas, Coordinator of the RN27 (CSIC, Spain)

Co-coordinators

Paola Borgna, Co-coordinator of the RN27 (University of Turin, Italy)

Ana Ferreira, Co-coordinator of the RN27 (Universidade NOVA de Lisboa, Portugal)

Board

Board Members:

Teresa Consoli (University of Catania, Italy)

Sandro Giachi (CSIC, Spain)

Laura Oso (University of La Coruña, Spain)

Apostolos Papadopoulos (Harokopion University, Greece)

Foteini Tzavella (University of Peloponnese, Greece)

Inês Vieira (Universidade NOVA de Lisboa, Faculdade de Ciências Sociais e Humanas, Portugal)

Fiorella Vinci (University Uniecampus, Italy)

Advisory Board:

Luís Baptista (Portugal)

Daniel Bertaux (France)

Roberto Cipriani (Italy)

Consuelo Corradi (Italy)

Ana Romão (Portugal)

Manuel Carlos Silva (Portugal)

Andrea Vargiu (Italy)

2. REPORT OF THE MID-TERM CONFERENCE 2018

SOCIAL STRUCTURES, CULTURE AND INSTITUTIONS IN SOUTHERN EUROPEAN SOCIETIES

CATANIA (ITALY), 4-6 OCTOBER 2018

Dates, venue and infrastructure

The mid-term conference was held in Catania, Italy, between the 4th and the 6th of October 2018.

The venue was the Department of Social and Political Sciences (DSPS) of the University of Catania. DSPS is the only department at UNICT developing research and teaching in the fields of political, historical, social, economic and juridical sciences. DSPS hosts research and study centres covering major topics related to social sciences, ranging from public policies, migration and social services (LaPoss) to political and urban history (ISSICO, IMES), from local development (CEDOC) to history of migration (Cosmica), from EU Politics and Policies (Jean Monnet Centre) to Geography research and study (PROGEO).

The DSPS infrastructures include "Palazzo Pedagoggi", the headquarters of the department, and the "Polo Didattico", where the conference was held. It includes:

- A Conference Room (250 seats)
- 2 meeting rooms (25 seats)
- 2 classrooms (80 seats)
- A patio and corridor for secretarial, coffee breaks and materials.

On the same days, the Department hosted the mid-term conference of Research Network 26 (Sociology of Social Policy and Social Welfare) with Prof. Anneli Anttonen (University of Tampere) as the keynote, and the AIS mid-term Conference 2018.

All details about the collaboration are available on the website

[\(http://www.esarn27catania.info/collaboration/\)](http://www.esarn27catania.info/collaboration/)

Organization and support

The mid-term Conference 2018 was co-organized by the Department of Social and Political Sciences (University of Catania), LaPoss- University Research Centre (University of Catania) and ISVI - Research Institute of Education and Research on Social Development Problems, whose Secretariat was responsible for administrative support for registration, diffusion and web services. The Secretariat of ISVI managed the registration and payments, in addition to the list of participants, documents and certificates.

An **ad hoc website** and a **specific logo** were created for the event.. The goal of the website was to provide all necessary information (about the program, logistics, organization, and others) with real-time updates and the possibility to download the conference material.

The Organizing Committee was in charge of main arrangements and the elaboration of the programme. The Scientific Committee was responsible for the definition of the topic, evaluation and acceptance of abstracts and the overall organization of the final programme.

Members of the International Organizing Committee, the Organizing Committee and the Scientific Committee are listed on:

https://www.europeansociology.org/sites/default/files/public/PDFs/Final_Call_for_papers_ESA_RN27_Mid_term_conference-2018_NewDeadline.pdf

All of the details of the organization and the programme are available at the following website, specifically opened for the mid-term conference: <http://www.esarn27catania.info/>.

People participating in the support:

- Web page, diffusion and on-site arrangements: ISVI secretariat and Teresa Consoli, Dept. of Social and Political Sciences, University of Catania
- Payments and certificates: ISVI secretariat
- Local infrastructure, material and IT: ISVI secretariat, Dept. of Social and Political Sciences, University of Catania
- Programme coordination and programme editing: Teresa Consoli and ISVI secretariat.
- Academic assistance: Teresa Consoli, Dept. of Social and Political Sciences, University of Catania

Call for papers

The call was issued on the 15th of May 2018 with the title "Social Structures, Culture and Institutions in Southern European Societies". The rationale of the mid-term conference is detailed in the call.

The mid-term conference required abstracts only. Full texts were optional.

The diffusion was made through the newsletters of ESA and ISVI. The call was also sent to the secretariats of the national associations and distributed among their members. The members of the board of the RN27 distributed the call among their institutions and colleagues.

The abstract submission closed on July 25th. A peer review process was organized by members of the Scientific Committee and the Organizing Committee. Two comments from two different persons were provided for each abstract. The registration closed on September the 15th. After this process, 101 papers were accepted.

The call for papers is available at <http://www.esarn27catania.info/call-e-deadlines/>

Fees and events

A small fee was set to cover for basic expenses of the conference. The regular fee was € 80 (€ 45 for students). The fee for members of RN27 was € 60 (€ 35 for students). The fees included printed materials and 4 coffee breaks.

The choice of some gadgets (the bag) and the provision of the coffee break service were determined by ethical

aspects, with the active involvement of associations. As the same reasoning supported the choice of the proposed social activities (as “Walking in San Berillo: the periphery in the center”), consistent with the theme of the research network and sociological knowledge.

The social dinner was held on the evening of October 5th, with over 150 participants.

Programme

The final programme was formed by:

- an Opening Session (Welcome and introduction to the RN27 Mid-term Conference) with Prof. Eleni Nina-Pazarzi (University of Piraeus, RN27 Coordinator), Prof. Teresa Consoli (University of Catania, Executive and Local coordinator of the Mid-term Conference), and Keynote speaker Maurizio Ambrosini (University of Milan);
- 8 thematic sessions (Identities and Lifestyles; Youth, education and work; Gender; Communities and Social Spaces; Welfare; Migration; Socio-economics; Security, culture and perceptions) in 4/5 parallel rows of time slots;
- a Workshop for Publication options for participants– Book series “Southern European Societies” (Edward Elgar Publishers) Journal special issues;
- a PhD Workshop about “Publications and career strategies for PhD students”;
- a Plenary Session (AIS and ESA RN26 and RN27) with the Pro-Rector University of Catania, Director Dept. of Social and Political Sciences (Prof. Giuseppe Vecchio), Regional Order of Social Workers, and ESA Executive and Local Coordinator RN26 and RN27 (Prof.ssa Teresa Consoli);
- a Roundtable about the “Disentangling “The North”. New perspectives from Southern European societies” with Prof. Sue Scott (ESA President), Prof. Enrica Amaturò (AIS President), Prof. Anneli Anttonen (University of Tampere), Prof. Maurizio Ambrosini (University of Milan), Prof. Ingo Bode (RN26 past Coordinator) and Prof. Manuel Fernandez-Esquinas (RN27 Coordinator);
- a RN27 Business Meeting Session;
- a Closing Session.

The programme was edited and distributed widely through similar means. The edited version of the programme, including timetable, sessions and book of abstracts, are available on the website.

Participants

Finally 75 papers were presented. The papers are authored by 135 people.

107 participants registered effectively, in addition to the members of the secretariat and students that helped with the organization.

Budget

The total budget was 13.527 Euros. The expenses covered coffee breaks, photocopies and material, travel expenses and accommodation for the two keynote speakers, webpage and secretariat.

The funding from ESA was 2.360 Euros. The revenue from registration was 6.295 Euros. The University of Catania, the Dept. of Social and Political Sciences and LaPoss provided 3.372 Euros (mainly for coffee breaks and social activities). The Social Workers Order provided 1500 Euros (covering for keynote speakers’ accommodation and travel and for social dinner).

The components of the budget are detailed in the attached document.

Mid-term business meeting: issues discussed

To present the new book series “Southern European Societies” by Edward Elgar Publishers.

To support the publication of another coordinated call for papers between three journals: RES, Sociologia On Line and AIS Journal, the official journals of the sociology associations of Spain, Portugal and Italy. To add also the journal of the Greek Sociological Association.

To increase the number of ESA/RN27 members.

To present a Semi-plenary together with RN34 on Sociology of Religion on “Negotiation, boundary-making and social relationships in migration processes: cultural, ethic and religious challenges in Southern European Societies” to Manchester ESA conference in 2019.

To outline the main topics of presentations of the latest mid-term conferences in order to establish the main tracks of upcoming events.

Section prepared by: ISVI secretariat and Teresa Consoli, member of the board of the RN27 and coordinator of the Organizing Committee of the 2018 Mid-term conference.

3. REPORT OF THE MANCHESTER CONFERENCE 2019

MANCHESTER (UK), 20-23 AUGUST 2019

Organization and support

Proposals were evaluated by the coordinators with the assistance of the coordination team, the members of the board of the RN27 and members of the advisory board. Each proposal was reviewed by at least two members.

Sessions were chaired by RN27 board members and other research network members.

In addition, the RN has participated in the organization of two joint sessions and one special plenary, and collaborated in the arrangements of one midday special session.

Call for papers

In addition to the general call for papers of the ESA conference, a specific and more detailed call for papers was designed and distributed (see RN27 website).

The diffusion was made through the newsletters of ESA, ISA, and the national associations of southern European countries. RN27 board members distributed the call among their institutions and colleagues.

Programme

The final programme included 7 sessions on the following topics:

- The Impact of the Crisis in Southern European Societies
- Migration and Refugee Flows
- Mobility, Work and Education in Europe
- Work and Education
- Social Inequalities and Social Welfare
- Educational Policies in Southern Europe
- Social aspects of Southern European Societies

A total of 29 presentations were discussed, with a participation of 76 researchers (see the section of the RN 27 in the Book of Abstracts of the ESA conference)

Other activities

Joint Sessions

JS_RN20_RN27: "Decolonizing social research: practices and reflections on the democratization of social research" (Joint session with RN20 Qualitative Methods) (Joint Coordinator: Andrea Vargiu)
JS_RN27_RS15: "Inequalities in the process of European Integration" (Joint session with RS15 Sociology of Law)(Joint coordinator: Eleni Nina-Pazarzi)

Special Plenary

SP14 | Negotiation, Boundary-Making and Social Relationships in Migration Processes: Cultural, Ethnic and Religious Challenges in Southern European Societies

Organizers: Laura Oso, Roberta Ricucci. Keynote speaker: Mauricio Ambrosini

Organized jointly by the RN27 Southern European Societies and the RN30 Sociology of Religion (see Manchester Conference Book of Abstract, page 30).

Midday Special

MD12 | Disrupting Disciplinary Boundaries.

Organizer and chair: Apostolos Papadopoulos. Keynote speakers: Manuel Fernández Esquinas and David Inglis (see Manchester Conference Book of Abstract, page 41).

Conference Agenda

https://www.conftool.pro/esa2019/index.php?page=browseSessions&form_tracks=31

Book of abstract (see pages 595-605)

https://www.europeansociology.org/sites/default/files/public/Coordinator/ESA_2019_Manchester_Abstract_Book.pdf

Business meeting

The BM was dedicated to discuss the results of the previous action plan, review the main issues of the RN27 and organize the elections for the next term. During the discussion of the previous action plan, the following issues were highlighted:

- The action plan was developed in most of the planned activities, with the exception of specific diffusion tools for the network (brochure, web site and newsletter).
- The members agreed on the need to strengthen the following issues: to design more carefully the communication activities, encourage membership, and distinguish more clearly the activities for PhD students.
- The members also discussed the convenience to design a realistic action plan with specific roles and activities distributed among members of the coordination team and board.

The election was based on the presentation of candidates and discussion of future activities. Only one group of members presented a joint proposal to form a coordination team and to develop an action plan. The activities, profile of candidates and distribution of functions were discussed and voted. After checking membership of the attendants to the business meeting, the candidate coordination team and board were elected by acclamation (number of members present: 28).

Incoming team for the term 2019-2021:

Coordination team

- Coordinators:
Manuel Fernández-Esquinas (CSIC, Spain)
Teresa Consoli (University of Catania, Italy)
- Co-coordinators:
Julie Jarty (University of Toulouse, France)
Inês Vieira (CICS.NOVA, Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Portugal)

Board

- Ilenia Picardi (University of Naples, Italy)
- Paola Borgna (University of Turin, Italy)
- Pierre Blavier (Paris School of Economics, France)
- Matilde Massó (University of La Coruña, Spain),
- Laura Oso (University of La Coruña, Spain),
- Apostolos Papadopoulos (Harokopion University, Greece)
- Fiorella Vinci (University Uniecampus, Italy)
- Sokratis Koniordos (University of Peloponese, Greece)
- Olga Salido (Complutense University of Madrid, Spain)
- Maria da Saudade Baltazar (CICS.NOVA, University of Évora, Portugal)

Advisory Board

- Luís Baptista (Portugal)
- Daniel Bertaux (France)
- Roberto Cipriani (Italy)
- Consuelo Corradi (Italy)
- Eleni Nina-Pazarzi (Greece)
- Ana Romão (Portugal)
- Manuel Carlos Silva (Portugal)
- Andrea Vargiu (Italy)
- Fiorella Vinci (University Uniecampus, Italy)

Section prepared by: Manuel Fernández-Esquinas and Eleni Nina- Pazarzi (outgoing coordinators of the RN27 for the term 2017-2019).

4. RESULTS

An important part of the activities of the RN27 are oriented towards providing publications opportunities for participants in both mid-term and ESA conferences. These activities are based on agreements with journals and a book series arranged with an international publisher (see below).

Journal special issues

During this term several journal issues have been published. Some of them are the result of projects started in previous terms:

-Joint call for papers arranged with the journals of the sociology associations of Spain, Portugal and Italy: RES (Revista Española de Sociología), Sociologia On Line (the journal of the APS), and Sociologia Italiana (the AIS Journal of Sociology).

The calls for papers were published and distributed in the newsletters of ESA, ISA and the participating national associations. A copy of the three calls for papers together is available at:

<http://www.isa-sociology.org/uploads/imgen/527-cfp-joint-call-fes-aps-ias.pdf>

The results are published in the following special issues:

-<https://sociologiaitaliana.egeaonline.it/it/21/archivio-rivista/rivista/3435505>

-<https://recyt.fecyt.es/index.php/res/issue/view/3724>

-<https://revista.aps.pt/pt/revista-no-17/>

-As a result of the Catania Conference 2018, a call for paper was arranged with the journal Politiche Sociali.

The results will be available soon at: <https://www.mulino.it/riviste/issn/2284-2098>

Book series “Southern European Societies”, published by Edward Elgar

The RN27 in collaboration with the RESU (the Network of Sociology Associations of Southern European Countries) have arranged a book series with Edward Elgar. The goal of the series is to provide comparative research and essays on specific social issues of countries of the South of Europe and other countries of the Mediterranean area.

The series is owned and published independently by Edward Elgar. Members of the RN27 and the RESU collaborate with the publisher in the editorial team. The brochure is available on RN27 website:

https://www.europeansociology.org/sites/default/files/public/PDFs/Series_flyer_Southern_EU_Societies_0.pdf

The first book of the series was published in 2019 on the topic “**Children's Lives in Southern Europe Contemporary Challenges and Risks**”

<https://www.e-elgar.com/shop/children-s-lives-in-southern-europe>

At the moment, there are 3 book projects accepted and 2 book projects under evaluation.

The book series “Southern European Societies” are open to all participants of mid-term conferences and ESA conferences who want to use the opportunities provided by the conferences to assemble a viable book project.

Each book proposal is evaluated independently based on the relevance of the topic, quality of the proposal and comparative interest. The final decision of the viability of each book proposal is made by Edward Elgar, with the assistance of the editors.

The proposals should be submitted according to the following instructions:

<https://www.e-elgar.com/publish-with-us>

The Editors and Country Co-editors of the series are available for queries and assessment of the viability of book projects.