Remarks from the RC09 Co-Chairs, Ulrike Schuerkens and Habibul Khondker

Dear colleagues,

First of all, we wish to thank the outgoing RC 09 Board members for their dedicated work for the benefit of our colleagues from all over the world in Social Transformations and the Sociology of Development. In particular, our thanks go to the outgoing RC 09 secretary, Tamara Heran and the outgoing Newsletter editor, Zophia Edwards. They have done a great job during the past years. Gratefully, Tamara Heran continues as a new board member of the RC 09 Board.

The recent Board elections were organized electronically, for which we thank all those members who had sent us their votes, showing their continued interest in RC 09 activities.

We have got a new team responsible for the RC09 web presence, Almendra Orbegoso and Devparna Roy, and a new Newsletter editor, Ilona Wysmulek who has just prepared her first Newsletter. Congratulations for this excellent information piece that should interest RC 09 members. We welcome Almendra Orbegoso and Devparna Roy for stepping in to improve and manage our RC 09 professional web presence. We invite all our honorable members to visit the RC 09 website and also to join the new RC09 Facebook group and Twitter, where you will find interesting up-to-date information on social transformations and the sociology of development.

We are now looking forward to the forthcoming Fourth ISA Forum of Sociology to be held in Porto Alegre, Brazil, July 14-18, 2020. Geoffrey Pleyers, current ISA Vice-President Research, in collaboration with the ISA Research Coordinating Committee and
What's new in this issue?

- RC09 Board elected
- Register to new Twitter and Facebook account of RC09
- Book review
- New member publications

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the Brazilian Local Organizing Committee, chaired by Hermilio Santos, from Pontifical Catholic University of Rio Grande do Sul will organize the Forum.

We will soon ask you to submit session abstracts into the dedicated ISA Forum space at https://www.isa-sociology.org/en/conferences/forum/porto-alegre-2020. We hope that RC 09 will be able to organize an interesting and varied programme even if Porto Alegre is far away for many of us.

A short word on the troubled times we are living with the protests of yellow vests in Paris that challenge social injustice in France. For the time being, it is difficult to predict the ongoing processes. They seem to be linked to social differences inside the country that no longer express themselves across social classes but across social positions. Pensioners, young couples, young men and women reunite in these forbidden protest actions against difficult ends of months and a high tax burden. Hopefully, social dialogue between these groups of the population and the democratically elected government will restore social justice and peace in the closing days of the year.

Last, but not least, we wish you a quiet end of the year vacation period and send you our best wishes, happiness, peace and success in the New Year 2019.

Best regards,

Ulrike Schuerkens
Habib Khondker
Co-Chairs of RC 09

https://rc09socialtransformations.org

Twitter: @RC09_ISA

Facebook: rc09isa
Peggy Levitt’s *Artifacts and Allegiances* is a timely contribution to the understanding of global politics as refracted through the study of museums. The book seeks to assess how museums are adjusting to new global dynamics that are being shaped by unprecedented rates of migration. The intensification of human mobility has changed urban centres around the world and has resulted in the re-imagining, re-articulation, and re-definition of nation, identity, class and culture.

Migration has played a significant role in the development and post-World War II reconstruction of countries such as Australia, Canada and the U.S. However, the current intensification of migration is largely characterised by people fleeing internal conflicts in their home countries. The domestic conflicts across the Middle East and the acerbic attacks on migrant populations in Europe and the US—which have been heightened by the results of the Brexit referendum and the US elections—demonstrate that cultural institutions such as museums are being confronted by the challenges of how to interpret nationalism and cosmopolitanism. Specifically, Levitt compares how museums at the “different stages in the arc of nation building and world claiming affect museums’ position on the cosmopolitan-nationalism continuum” (10).

It is within this context that Levitt explores the notion of “difference” and the ways in which museums characterise and create difference within a multitude of national imaginaries. Her central framework is that of cosmopolitanism, which she sets in contrast to nationalism. Levitt conducts a comparative study of museums across Asia, Europe, the Middle East, and the United States, and demonstrates how museum curators, directors, and educators are confronted with the socio-cultural issues that have emerged as a result of global and regional events. In using museums in Stockholm, Gothenburg, Copenhagen, Brooklyn, New York, Singapore, and Doha as specific case studies, Levitt ex-
plores how museum professionals address these issues, how they choose to react to the competing forces of local identity and cosmopolitanism and how this is then reflected in the objects and exhibitions in their institutions.

Where a museum ultimately locates itself on the cosmopolitan-nationalism continuum depends upon several factors, including the institution’s history, funding, collections, and the skill sets of its professionals (3). Yet, limiting analysis to only these factors obscures the role of the interaction between a museum and the city in which it is located, which is a central focus of Levitt’s work. Combined, these factors shape each museum and the subsequent narratives that they—via the museum’s professionals—wish to transmit to the public. However, Levitt’s work goes beyond these dynamics and suggests that a city’s “cultural armature” as defined by “its social and cultural policies, history and institutions” (3) is critical in defining a museum’s practices. As Levitt notes, a significant part of a city’s armature is its approach to managing diversity, which is reflected in its regulations regarding immigration and socio-economic issues. An additional factor worth noting is that city-wide policies do not always fall in line with national policies. Levitt expertly uses her museum case studies to illustrate the city-national-global interactions while carefully detailing the dynamics of such interactions.

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As Levitt notes, a significant part of a city’s armature is its approach to managing diversity, which is reflected in its regulations regarding immigration and socio-economic issues.

Each of the museums surveyed by Levitt has responded differently to the city’s local history, the dynamics and relationship between migration and globalisation, and their impacts. For instance, the small, relatively culturally homogenous nation of Denmark embraces nationalism and celebrates a shared Danish ethnic heritage. Accordingly, Copenhagen’s museums have utilised the global to emphasise the national with a focus on prehistory. Sweden’s prominence in European history and its socially progressive policies are reflected in the museums of Stockholm and Gothenburg in exhibits that encourage Swedes to be globally-oriented.

Conversely, Levitt’s case studies of museums in Boston and Brooklyn suggest an active effort on the part of artists and museum professionals to engage with and embrace diversity; however, unlike in Denmark, this is a conscious effort to engage with the global in order to highlight internal diversity. More poignantly, American ideals are seen as global: “With so many Americans still holding fast to a vision of the world with the United States at its centre, they cling to the belief that the world still needs to come to America rather than the other way around” (90).

The case studies of Doha and Singapore show how the state uses museums to position itself as an emerging entity on the world stage via mandated operational objectives. The museums in these two cities actively interact with notions of cosmopolitanism that help the state to create and re-create a national narrative, whether about identity or values. In the case of Singapore, museum professionals can reconsider and re-articulate ideas
that have largely been defined by Western contexts and experiences, for example, the idea of “freedom.” Such notions are problematised and an alternative is offered: An Asian version of cosmopolitanism, where the individual’s freedom is shunned in favour of the collective journey in moving towards the global stage. Singaporean museums are thus tasked with the responsibility of educating its citizens and preparing them for this national effort.

Levitt’s book is a timely investigation into how cultural institutions and museum professionals deal and interact with, and articulate problems that are transnational in nature. However, if Levitt’s study has one short-coming, it is that the curatorial practices of museum professionals and their interpretations and understandings of transnational issues such as migration have been relativized. For example, her conclusions about American museums warrant further elaboration: “These museums re-write the American story while stressing how much it is connected to, and connects visitors to, people around the globe” (83).

Despite this critique, Levitt’s work provides a research agenda by bringing together scholarship from sociology, political science, area studies, museum studies, and art history to comprehend how contemporary socio-cultural institutions, once confined to elites, can play a critical role in providing perspective and promoting tolerance in a world where politics and politicians have sought to divide rather than unite. Moreover, her work also provides space for future scholars to investigate how emerging global powers such as China navigate notions of cosmopolitanism vis-à-vis nationalism.

Jennifer. Y.J. Hsu

jenniferhsu@cantab.net

2017-2018 Visiting Fellow, Department of Social Policy, LSE
Non-Resident Senior Fellow
China Policy Institute, University of Nottingham
MEMBER PUBLICATIONS


Systems-based approaches to societal problem-solving entail a capacity to synthesise our knowledge and skills such that we can resolve shared problems. However, the increasing range of knowledge specialisms, scientific and engineering methods, and skill profiles at the population-level challenges solidarity. It is also difficult to identify unifying goals and establish sustainable educational infrastructures that support transdisciplinary teamwork. Drawing upon the collective intelligence of a multidisciplinary group, this paper highlights challenges to integrating content expertise and methodological expertise in team-based efforts to address complex social issues. Challenges identified include the following: stakeholder participation, heterogeneity and conflict, supporting effective group dynamics, defining goals, planning and resourcing, resistance and fears amongst group members, and the absence of effective teamwork methodologies. A systems model developed by the group helped to clarify interdependencies between challenges. We conclude by highlighting the need to develop societal infrastructures supporting our capacity for teamwork into the future.


In order to understand development-focused non-governmental organizations (NGOs), it is useful to situate them in terms of their role in civil society and, more generally, in relation to the global historical context of social change. The three main elements of this contribution – NGOs, civil society and social change are hard to define, dynamic and contested. NGOs are difficult to define and classify, and the lack of an agreed definitional framework poses ongoing difficulties for understanding and analysis. Two major debates have emerged through the attempts to define NGOs: one around the extent to which NGOs can be said to act on behalf of civil society and the second concerning the relationship between the NGO sector and the state. ‘Civil society’ remains an elusive concept, having gained different meanings and inflections as it emerged and evolved through the nineteenth, twentieth and now twenty-first century.

This article revisits the idea of ‘generations’ of human rights at the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration (UDHR) and 25th anniversary of the Vienna Declaration, in a new ‘post-human’ context. The basic assumptions underpinning human rights are compromised when the subject of rights is re-shaped by the ‘stark utopia’ of market globalisation. Current critiques of liberal human rights coincide with the potential collapse of the ‘floor’ of basic assumptions underpinning human rights universalism. Repeated retrogressions of human rights laws, norms and values make ambitions for a progressive realisation of rights seem unachievable when even basic standards are compromised. A post-human imaginary frames the argument for recovering the principle of humanity. The technology-humanity nexus is explored, going beyond the application of science and technology to human rights to view law and human rights as enabling, human-centred social technologies in themselves. The concept of a zeroth generation of human rights adapts the fictional zeroth Law of Robotics to the predicament of human rights in ‘post-human’ times.

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Dating from the mid-1970s, Islamic banking and finance (IBF) is an ongoing experiment to critique the conventional interest-based financial system and to construct an alternative “Sharia-compliant” industry. This chapter develops an analytic typology to describe how states respond to this project based on (1) whether the state practices industrial policy to promote the IBF industry and/or (2) whether it promotes a legislative and regulative divarication of the dominant financial market to accommodate IBF. This response can and does differ between the IBF wholesale and retail markets, and such government accommodations are more important in retail than wholesale financial markets. This chapter develops this framework to investigate the social forces promoting and inhibiting Islamic finance in Muslim-minority countries in the global North. Specifically, it argues that Islamic finance has expanded in the United Kingdom after the state moved from a position of elementary accommodation to that of a secular incubator. In contrast, only wholesale Islamic finance has flourished in Luxembourg, in part because the state continues a strategy of elementary accommodation. More pointedly, in spite of a more favorable environment than either the United Kingdom or Luxembourg, in the United States IBF has failed to take root because of the government’s position of strategic negligence.

This article suggests that it is advantageous for social scientists to deliberately depart from functionalist theories seeking to explain the expansion of financial instruments and logics across social life. Rather, we identify three causes of financialization from three extant clusters of scholastic activity: an organic political economy that sees finance expanding as a product or by-product of larger state- and imperial-level political struggles, a relational sociology that sees the ways that finance expands by becoming another medium for expressing and constraining social relationships, and a cultural analysis that observes the increasing redefinition of discursive and material practices as financial. Across this larger discussion, we introduce and situate the contributions to this journal's special issue on financialization.

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Highlights:

~ Foresights and futures studies depend on the adequacy of our knowledge of the present and the past.
~ Big data evidence suggests that the English language area was not capitalist between 1800 and 2000.
~ Popular social macro trend statements ought to be regularly scrutinised so as to reduce the risk that inadequate trend assumptions are projected into the future.

As foresights and futures studies depend on the pertinence of our knowledge of the present and the past, this article tests whether the English language area may be adequately described as secularised and capitalist between 1800 and 2000. We are using the Google Ngram Viewer to chart and interpret time series plots of combined frequencies of pertinent keywords in the largest Internet book corpus, the Google Books corpus. The results suggest that the English language area is a secularised, politicised, scientificised, and ultimately also mediatised language area which has never been dominated by the economy. We conclude that the sample period may not be characterised as capitalist if we associate capitalism with any form of over-average importance or even dominance of the economy and suggest that popular social macro trend statements be regularly turned from implicit assumptions into explicit research questions so as to reduce the risk that inadequate trend assumptions are projected into the future.

The fundamental principle of meaningful comparative analysis of corruption featuring cross-national survey data is that countries are equally represented across time. Yet, since 1989, this principle has been consistently violated. This article examines (a) the extent to which country coverage is uneven in 45 European countries in cross-national survey projects with items on corruption during 1989-2017 and (b) the dynamics of the change of inequalities in country representation. The author examined a total of 89 survey waves of 21 international survey projects, including the Eurobarometer, the European Social Survey, the International Social Survey Program, the World Values Survey, and others. The results show that the differences in representation between European countries are systematic, significant, and rising. The Post-Soviet country group is particularly under-represented both in specialized surveys on corruption and in general surveys with corruption items.


The increasing usage and popularity of cross-national survey data have prompted the research community to rethink and improve the means by which survey quality is ensured and controlled. This chapter discusses one particular and often overlooked aspect of survey quality – the consistency between different sources of documentation containing metadata that define variables and their values in questionnaires and codebooks and between the numerical data records. We concentrate on the processing errors that occur in the final product – publicly accessible cross-national survey data files. The evaluation of current cross-national surveys in terms of processing errors can be used at the stage of ex post survey data harmonization, for evaluating the impact of survey quality on substantive analysis of harmonized data. The typology of processing errors can also be used at the stage of data production to avoid inconsistencies and increase the quality of the released data and its accompanying documentation in the future.


This paper explains the imperial expansion of the Anglo-European states from the eighteenth century to the twentieth century using an original pooled time series database on rates of colonization by the Western powers. We employ a negative binomial regression that tests different theories, from classical internalist theories that emphasize domestic or national-level factors, to more global theories that explain formal imperialism by reference to the wider international context in which states operate. Testing these different theories, we find that states are most likely to engage in formal imperialism when (a) the world-system is at its most economically competitive, (b) when those societies are more militarized, and (c) when they have more power capabilities relative to other states.

Professional events that feature face-to-face interaction of social scientists from across the world are, next to publications and research, important forms of scientific knowledge production and dissemination. Thus, they are vital to the World Science System (WSS). Like other WSS elements, scholarly involvement in international social science events is characterized by unequal cross-national representation. This article focuses in-depth on the International Sociological Association (ISA), a major international social science professional association, to examine inequality in attendance at its flagship conferences. To what extent do countries differ with respect to the number of scholars attending ISA conferences? What factors drive attendance? The authors base their hypotheses on the economic, political and social dimensions that influence country representation. To test these hypotheses the authors use a dataset containing information on 212 countries and their participation in the eight ISA conferences – World Congresses and Forums – held from 1990 to 2012. Results show that a country’s GDP, level of democracy and social science research infrastructure (SSRI) substantially determine their level of representation. SSRI effects are significant above and beyond the effect of GDP and of other controls. Findings also show a meaningful over-time decrease in representation inequality according to countries’ GDP.

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Domestic Resource Mobilization (DRM) remains a challenge for many reasons in the world's poorest countries. Burdened with tax authorities of limited capacity and large informal economies, some governments barely manage to collect sufficient taxes to cover more than a fraction of their annual budgets. While there are sound reasons to help developing countries to help themselves, we argue in this chapter that the real place to begin is by reforming the international corporate tax system. Ongoing efforts to eliminate corporations' capacity to avoid taxation, which are being led by multinational actors such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the G20, and the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), have thus far not aligned with the preferences and demands of African countries. The chapter reviews some of the obstacles to increasing DRM across sub-Saharan Africa and suggests that international cooperation on tax is, in fact, the key to mobilizing the domestic public resources required to achieve the SDGs. The chapter also draws upon African critiques not only to highlight the shortcomings of the current reform process but also to advance an alternative set of proposals.

Egypt’s Revolution was dubbed as a failure in 2013, when a military coup, backed by mass uprisings, brought the military to power and ended the presidency of the country’s first democratically elected leader, merely a year after his ascension to power. Commentators have since described the current military regime as a force of counter-revolution (Selim 2015) or an instance of Caesarianism, insofar as the military has ‘forge[d] alliances in order to restore the equilibrium and ensure the survival of its own apparatus’ (De Smet 2016, 97). It has not only halted the reforms demanded during and initiated following the 2011 protests but also, ironically, continued the same discordant policies that catalyzed the revolution in the first place. In this paper, we argue that the military economy is reproduced in post-revolutionary Egypt through a strategic wedding of seemingly contradictory state types, to create a hybrid we call ‘statist neoliberalism’. Our purpose in this paper is to explain how and why the Egyptian military continues to pursue seemingly contradictory economic and social policies.
Glocal religions involve the blending or fusion of global religious expression with local particularity. This fusion can take a variety of forms and can be expressed in different cultural milieus and historical eras. This volume’s goal is to explore different facets of glocal religion. Contributions come from diverse disciplines and discuss varied topics ranging from ethnographies of glocal religions to historical applications of the notion of glocalization to archaeology.

Contributors:

Victor Roudometof (University of Cyprus)  
Glocal Religions: An Introduction

Sabita Manian and Brad Bullock (Lynchburg College, VA, USA)  
Sensing Hinduism: Lucian-Indian Funeral “Feast” as Glocalized Ritual

Ugo Dessi (University of Leipzig, Germany)  
Japanese Buddhism, Relativization, and Glocalization

Tatiana Tiayne-Qadir (University of Turku, Finland)  
Glocal Religion and Feeling at Home: Ethnography of Artistry in Finnish Orthodox Liturgy

Manéli Farahmand (University of Lausanne, Switzerland)  
Glocalization and Transnationalization in (neo)-Mayanization Processes: Ethnographic Case

Barbara Watson Andaya (University of Hawaii, USA)  
Glocalization and the Marketing of Christianity in Early Modern Southeast Asia

David C. D. van Alten (Utrecht University, The Netherlands)  
Glocalization and Religious Communication in the Roman Empire: Two Case Studies to Reconsider the Local and the Global in Religious Material Culture

Steele Brand (The King’s College, New York, USA)  
“This Is Our Jerusalem”: Early American Evangelical Localizations of the Hebraic Republic

Myung-Sahm Suh (The University of Chicago, Chicago, USA)  
Glocalization of “Christian Social Responsibility”: The Contested Legacy of the Lausanne Movement among Neo-Evangelicals in South Korea

Marco Guglielmi (University of Padua, Padova, Italy)  
Globalization and Orthodox Christianity: A Glocal Perspective

Guest Editors:
Aaron Z. Pitluck, Illinois State University
Fabio Mattioli, University of Melbourne
Daniel Souleles, Copenhagen Business School

https://anthrosource.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/23304847/2018/5/2

Contributors:

Aaron Z. Pitluck, Fabio Mattioli, Daniel Souleles
Introduction: Finance beyond function: Three causal explanations for financialization

Paul Langley
Frontier financialization: Urban infrastructure in the United Kingdom

Lena Rethel
Capital market development in Southeast Asia: From speculative crisis to spectacles of financialization

Simone Polillo
Market efficiency as a revolution in data analysis

Joanne P. Baron
Making money in Mesoamerica: Currency production and procurement in the Classic Maya financial system

Allison Truitt
Nationalizing gold: The Vietnamese SJC gold bar and the Indian Gold Coin

Smitha Radhakrishnan
Of loans and livelihoods: Gendered “social work” in urban India

Sibel Kusimba
“It is easy for women to ask!”: Gender and digital finance in Kenya

Ana Flavia Badue Florbela Ribeiro
Gendered redistribution and family debt: The ambiguities of a cash transfer program in Brazil

Andrew L. Ofstehage
Financialization of work, value, and social organization among transnational soy farmers in the Brazilian Cerrado
ManaGlobal (2019-2022)
By Ulrike Schuerkens · Coordinator at University Rennes 2 (France)
https://managlobal.hypotheses.org/
ManaGlobal is an innovative research project funded by the European Union (RISE) that seeks to explore with evidence the type of management approaches that are practiced in selected African and Arab countries. ManaGlobal will explain how companies, subsidiaries, and enterprises become profitable and grow in emerging countries in order to highlight the gap between globalized norms and standards of management and the ordinary ways of locally doing business.

ManaGlobal will show how hybrid and innovative forms of private companies’ government can be shaped by the mobility of people, capital, goods and knowledge. ManaGlobal will also demonstrate the fact that local business practices (traditions, social networks, so called «poor» governance, and «insufficient» managerial skills) are not only obstacles to development, but may become opportunities. The aim of ManaGlobal is to contribute to research on management through the development of a pioneering collaborative and networking team of African, Arab and European scholars and practitioners including business leaders, managers and institutional decision-makers.

ManaGlobal will focus on achieving the following tasks:
1. To conduct collaborative empirical research by applying similar research approaches in all participating countries involving experienced and early career researchers from all the partner institutions.
2. To exchange knowledge and skills on conducting cross-cultural research and on how business is conducted and organizations are locally and globally managed. A key element of this collaborative project is capacity building through research placements, workshops, seminars, conferences and fieldwork.
3. To establish the background, the education and the career of business leaders and managers of industrial and commercial enterprises of selected countries.
4. To collect ethnographic data and produce business related and organization-based case studies from which it will be possible to develop a theoretical framework on how business is conducted and organizations are managed in African and Arab countries.
5. To propose a cutting edge theoretical framework that is empirically evidenced on business and management practices in African and Arab countries.

This project receives funding (1.5 million euros) from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Framework Programme, Marie Skłodowska-Curie Action – Research and Innovation Staff Exchange (RISE) under EU Grant agreement 823744. The preparation of the project was supported by a grant from the Agence Nationale de la Recherche (2016) (ANR-16-MRS3-0009) and a grant from the Brittany region « Boost Europe » (2017).
Violence and Land Dispossession in Central America and Mexico
By Jasmin Hristov ·
http://blogs.ubc.ca/jasminhristov/

Dr. Jasmin Hristov was awarded the Insight Development Grant ($70,776) by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) in July 2018 for the project Violence and Land Dispossession in Central America and Mexico where she is the principal investigator.

The central research objective of this project is to discover the nature, prevalence and core patterns in the relationship between land dispossession and paramilitary and/or state violence in Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador, and Mexico. Through semi-structured interviews, focus groups, review of academic and non-academic literature as well as analysis of primary documents, the project aims to capture the various alignments of state and non-state armed actors in processes of resource appropriation, dispossession as well as repression and disarticulation of movements of resistance.

So far 100 interviews and several focus groups have been carried out in Honduras and Mexico. For this project Dr. Hristov is leading an international team consisting of three collaborators, three research assistants and a documentary filmmaker. In addition to scholarly contributions, the intended outcomes of the project include: 1) informing policy-makers, governments and the private sector in Canada and the countries under investigation; and 2) proposing policies and possible kinds of economic linkages with these countries that can contribute to reducing violence. Dr. Hristov is also directing the production of a documentary based on testimonies collected during fieldwork.

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PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR
Dr. Jasmin Hristov, UBC Okanagan

COLLABORATORS
Dina Meza, Honduras
Claudia Barrientos, Guatemala
Karina Guardado, El Salvador

DOCUMENTARY FILMMAKER
Benjamin Cornejo

RESEARCH ASSISTANTS
Paula Jimenez Argumosa, University of Toronto
Robert MacDonald, UBC Okanagan
Carlos Ogaz, CIESAS, Mexico

Source of illustration: http://blogs.ubc.ca/
Photo by: Plataforma Agraria
Kazimierz M. Słomczyński inducted into Academia Europea

Professor Kazimierz M. Słomczyński, director of the Cross-National Studies: Interdisciplinary Research and Training Program (CONSIRT), a joint program of Ohio State's College of Arts and Sciences and the Social Sciences Division of the Polish Academy of Sciences, has been inducted as a member of the Academia Europaea (known also as Academy of Europe, AE). This is an organization of eminent scholars whose aim is to promote transdisciplinary research and advice governments and international organizations in scientific matters. Słomczyński’s interests include comparative research on social inequality, and methodology of survey-data gathering and analysis.

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Jasmin Hristov awarded the Partnership Engage Grant

Dr. Jasmin Hristov was also awarded the Partnership Engage Grant ($24,995) by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) for a partnership she has developed with the Honduran NGO Association for Democracy and Human Rights in Honduras, that will integrate academic and community research expertise to systematically document the prevalence and impacts of human rights violations in Honduras through the creation of a Human Rights Monitor.

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Our sincere congratulations!
Workshop Report
“International Development: Charity or Solidarity?”
by Lydia Kelly

Overview
In Ireland, the role of development NGOs is rarely interrogated. There is a shared discourse across the government, NGO and academic sectors which may not be seen to encourage critical enquiry and places emphasis on the ‘dependence’ of those in the ‘South’. The aim of this event was to interrogate the role of this discourse, particularly the predominance of the charity model, has in creating a power imbalance that we might wish to question from a social justice or solidarity perspective. The event was convened by the co-chairs of the DSA Ireland Civil Society Study Group in collaboration with the Centre for Global Education in Belfast and held in Liberty Hall on 19th October 2018. A brief summary of the proceedings follows.

Session 1: Panel on Engaging Civil Society in the Global South

Su-Ming Khoo, as chair, opened the discussion by welcoming the participants, and asserted the aim of the session was to add value to academic research for practice application.

David Joyce re-emphasized the importance of the role of Trade Unions in achieving sustainable development and made the case for integrating the concept of ‘decent work’ into development discussions. The SDGs were identified as a way for a broad Civil Society coalition of community and international development, environment organizations and Trade Unions to come together to hold government to account in light of increased oppression and pressure on civil society spaces around the world.

Tina Wallace addressed the recent crises in the NGO sector. By outlining both causes and responses, it was revealed that the problems are not new and NGOs actions seem more concerned with protecting their reputation than addressing problems and getting justice for victims. Challenges of power imbalances, gender and race are exacerbated by upward accountability, and are felt to be too big to face by NGOs, but it is essential they are addressed if NGOs are to be anything more than government subcontractors.

Ronaldo Munck presented the case of Latin America as a way to think critically about NGOs and Civil Society. The view of NGOs in Latin America during the 1990s was as agents of imperialism, and so were critiqued. This case exemplifies how NGOs need to critique neoliberalism and patterns of global inequality to be agents of change, and also how NGOs view of Civil Society is not the only one.

Session 2: Engaging Civil Society in the Global North

The afternoon session, facilitated by Stella Murray, opened the debate to the room. The language of charity versus solidarity was explored, as well as the impact of this language on understandings of, and engagement with development issues by the public. The question of causes, effects and current solutions were then discussed, and shown to be complex and interconnected, defying attempts to create easy or clearly defined boundaries between them. Ultimately the value of justice is what distinguishes between charity as a way of doing, and solidarity as a way of being, and demonstrates the need for a space for critical questioning and development education, which needs to be both practical and political.

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A workshop/ think in organised by Development Studies Association of Ireland Civil Society Study Group and the Centre for Global Education, Belfast

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https://www.dsaireland.org/node/305
Conference Report
“Politics and Inequality across Nations and Time: Theoretical and Empirical Approaches”
by Joshua K. Dubrow

Joshua K. Dubrow organized the conference, “Politics and Inequality across Nations and Time: Theoretical and Empirical Approaches,” held at the Institute of Philosophy and Sociology, Polish Academy of Sciences (IFiS PAN), December 12 - 14, 2018 in Warsaw, Poland. The event is part of the research project, “Political Voice and Economic Inequality across Nations and Time,” funded by National Science Centre, Poland (2016/23/B/HS6/03916) that is designed to construct theories and measures of political voice and to explore how voice relates to economic inequality in cross-national and over-time perspectives. The conference brought together young and established scholars of the social sciences from the U.S., Latin America, and Europe. Presentations were on substantive and methodological issues related to political voice and economic inequality. Additional funding for the event comes from the Polish Academy of Sciences (PAN), with organizational support from IFiS PAN, and CONSIRT - Cross-National Studies: Interdisciplinary Research and Training Program at The Ohio State University and PAN.

For more information please see: https://politicalinequality.org/

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Upcoming Workshop
WOW 6 Ostrom Workshop “Governance: Past, Present, and Future”
June 19–22, 2019, in Bloomington, Indiana

“From governing metropolitan areas to governing the commons and beyond, scholars and students at or influenced by the Ostrom Workshop have been interested in governance. This interest in governance has been pursued and advanced from many disciplinary perspectives, and it has been applied to a multitude of topics, problems, and situations—including domains such as cyberspace and challenges such as climate change, of which only a few were even dimly aware when the Ostrom Workshop was founded.

As we gather in Bloomington in June 2019 for WOW6, please join us in the discussion of this theme—Governance: Past, Present, and Future. It will be an opportunity for all of us to see and enjoy the vast range of topics and approaches relating to that theme, and how the study of governance has evolved and continues to evolve across our worldwide community of colleagues. We aim to assemble a program that will incorporate diverse theoretical, methodological, and empirical inquiries.”

“The call for papers is now open! We invite papers that will explore, advance, and reflect upon the study of governance. Please submit a paper title and abstract (max 300 words) by January 25, 2019.”

Source: Workshop website https://wow.indiana.edu/
Prepared by: Almendra Orbegoso Hidalgo
Upcoming event
Fourth ISA Forum of Sociology
Porto Alegre, Brazil, July 14-18, 2020

ISA Forum of Sociology is designed as a mid-
term meeting of Research Committees, Working
Groups and Thematic Groups combined with the
Business Meeting of the ISA Research Council.
The forthcoming Fourth ISA Forum of Sociology
will be organized by Geoffrey Pleyers, current ISA
Vice-President Research, in collaboration with the
ISA Research Coordinating Committee and the
Brazilian Local Organizing Committee, chaired by
Hermilio Santos, Pontifical Catholic University of
Rio Grande do Sul.

Duties and Deadlines for Program Coordinators and Session Organizers in 2019

January 15, 2019 24:00 GMT
Announcing Program Coordinators: RC/WG/TG provide name and contact details of Program Coordinator to the ISA Secretariat isa@sociology.org

February 4 – 15 March 2019 24:00 GMT
Call for Sessions
RC/WG/TG session proposer must submit ses-
sion’s description on-line via Confex platform.

Invited session organizer (RC/WG/TG, President-
tial, Plenary, LOC sessions, etc.) must submit se-
sion’s description on-line via Confex platform.

March 16 – 8 April 2019 24:00 GMT
Final list of Sessions: RC/WG/TG Program Coordinator must finalize a list of sessions. Se-
sions format, titles, descriptions and the language
in which they will be held (English, French or
Spanish), as well as contact details of session or-
ganizers (name, affiliation, country, e-mail) will be
available on the ISA conference platform run by
Confex.

April 25 – 30 September 2019 24:00 GMT
Abstracts submission: Participants and organizers
of invited sessions must submit abstracts on-line via Confex platform. Abstracts must be submitted
in English, French or Spanish. Only abstracts sub-
mitted on-line will be considered in the selection
process.

October 7 – 25 November 2019 24:00 GMT
Abstracts selection and re-locations

December 2, 2019 24:00 GMT
Notification letters: Confex sends notification
letters to: Authors and co-authors of accepted ab-
stracts Authors of rejected abstracts

Source: https://www.isa-sociology.org
New RC09 Board Members · 2019-2022

The RC09 Executive Board 2018-2022 has been elected!
We congratulate Habibul Khondker and Ulrike Schuerkens who continue to be the RC09 Co-Chairs! Rc09 also has a new Secretary/Treasurer Brian Dill and a larger team of website and newsletter editors – Ilona Wysmulek, Almendra Orbegoso, and Devpana N. Roy – honored and excited to serve the RC09 community of scholars! The newly elected board members are Samuel Cohn, Joshua Kjerulf Dubrow, Tamara Heran Cubillos, Hasan Mahmud, Dieter Neubert and Victor Roudometof. Our sincere congratulations to new Board Members and looking forward to a fruitful and exciting 4-year period filled with new activities!

Co-Chairs:
Ulrike M.M. Schuerkens, University Rennes 2, France, uschuerkens@gmail.com
Habibul H. Khondker, Zayed University, UAE habibul.khondker@zu.ac.ae

Secretary/Treasurer:
Brian Dill, University of Illinois, USA isarc09@gmail.com

Newsletter and Website Editors:
Ilona Wysmulek, Polish Academy of Sciences, Poland
Devpana N. Roy, Nazareth College, USA
Almendra Orbegoso, Pontificia Universidad Católica, Peru rc09editors@gmail.com

Board Members:
Samuel Cohn, Texas A&M University, USA
Joshua Kjerulf Dubrow, Polish Academy of Sciences, Poland
Tamara Heran Cubillos, Duoc UC Professional Institute, Chile
Hasan Mahmud, Northwestern University in Qatar, Qatar
Dieter Neubert, University Bayreuth, Germany
Victor Roudometof, University of Cyprus, Cyprus

Our sincere congratulations to new Board Members and looking forward to a fruitful and exciting 4-year period filled with new activities!