

# European Sociologist

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Issue Number 11

## Meet me in Helsinki!

### European Sociologists to gather in Finland, 2001

#### Visions & Divisions: Changes to European Sociology

1st Announcement and call for papers ■ The 5th Conference of the European Sociological Association  
August 28 - September 1, 2001, Helsinki, Finland [www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/](http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/)

The European Sociological Association hosts its Fifth Conference on August 28 - September 1, 2001 at the University of Helsinki, Finland. The Conference theme is Visions and Divisions. The following major themes will be explored in the plenaries, research networks and streams:

#### 1. Divisions in Europe and global challenges

- Borders and boundaries within and beyond Europe
- Multilayered citizenship, democracy and human rights
- National and supranational elites
- Divided cities

#### 2. Theoretical di/visions

- Theoretical integration versus pluralism?
- Nation - State - Society
- Trust, uncertainty and risks
- Networks and the embodied subject

#### 3. New and Old Social Divisions

- Ethnicity and nationalism
- Genders
- Class and life-style groups
- Migration
- Age and generation

#### 4. New Technologies and New Visions of Society

- Information technology, work and social relations
- Biotechnologies and human reproduction
- New media and virtual societies

The program is divided into three kinds of sessions: plenaries, research network sessions, and streams. In addition, there will also be the popular "meet the author" sessions.

#### The permanent Research Networks of ESA are:

- Ageing in Europe
- Biographical Perspectives on European Societies
- Disaster and Social Crisis
- Economic Sociology
- Environment & Society
- Gender Relations, the Labour Market and the Welfare State
- Globalization
- Industrial Relations, Labour Market Institutions and Employment
- Mass Media & Communications

- Qualitative Methods
- Regional Network on Southern European Societies
- RENCORE: Methods of Comparative Research on Europe
- Science and Technology Social Movements
- Social Policy
- Social Theory
- Sociology of the Arts
- Sociology of Consumption
- Sociology of Families
- Sociology of Professions
- Youth and Generation

For more information and details of new networks, see the ESA home page! [www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/](http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/)

The preliminary program will be presented in the Second Conference Announcement in September 2000. This information will be also available at the ESA homepage, [www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/](http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/)

Registration and abstracts (maximum 250 words) can be sent to the conference secretariat, preferably by internet: [www.congcreator.com/esa2001/](http://www.congcreator.com/esa2001/) (accessible also via the ESA home page).

or by e-mail: [esa2001@congcreator.com](mailto:esa2001@congcreator.com)

or by regular mail: ESA Conference, CongCreator, P.O.Box 762, FIN 00101, Helsinki, Finland.

Tel: +358-9-4542 190, Fax: +358-9-4542 1930

Abstracts should be sent before the 31st of January 2001. Notification of the acceptance of the abstract will be sent to the participants before the 1st April 2001.

#### About the Host City

Helsinki, the capital of Finland, is a city of half a million inhabitants, well known for its neoclassical, art nouveau and modernist architecture. The city centre with the university is situated on a peninsula surrounded by the sea. With its attractive coastline and beautiful archipelago, as well as its many museums and cultural events, it offers a large choice of tours and excursions. Helsinki is a safe and reliable destination which is easy to reach from all over the world.

The President of the Republic Ms. Tarja Halonen is the High Patron of the conference.



Another slice of life from the Amsterdam Conference: a group of sociologists keenly discussing the insights presented at the session that they have just attended. Or perhaps they are contemplating the delights of Helsinki still to come (see announcement in this issue).

#### Accommodation

A wide range of hotels have been booked, most of which are in the city center and within easy walking distance from the conference venue. Special conference rates will be available. About a quarter of the rooms will be available in student hostels.

#### Leisure Program

The leisure program will include receptions by the University and the City of Helsinki and a Closing Party,

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as well as specially designed tours of Helsinki and its surroundings.

#### Post-conference Tour

A post-conference tour will be arranged to St Petersburg, Russia.

#### ESA

President: Jiri Musil, Czech Republic,  
cei.prague@ecu.cz

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claudine.attias-donfut@cnv.fr

#### Programme Committee

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The contact details of the chair of the Programme Committee are as follows: J.P. Roos Professor of Social Policy, PB18 00014 The University of Helsinki, Finland. Tel +358 9 1917782, Fax +358 9 1917764  
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<http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/staff/jproos/>

#### Reply Slip

To be sent to: ESA Conference, CongCreator,  
P.O.Box 762, FIN 00101. (Please tick)

Yes, I wish to be included on the ESA mailing list  
for the conference: ☐

I intend to register: ☐ submit an abstract: ☐

I am interested in Post Conference Tour to  
St Petersburg: ☐

Ms/Mr/Dr/Prof.

Last name

First Name

Organisation

Mailing Address

Country

Fax (country code, area code & number)

E-mail

# European Sociologist

## continues its fascinating inquiry into the views and attitudes of the new Executive Committee:

David Lane

### 1 What do you think the ESA should be trying to achieve?

With Max Haller, I have been associated with the ESA from its inception. A founding group met quite informally in a restaurant at a conference organised by the Austrian Sociological Association at Graz in 1987. It was called Europe at the Crossroads and had considerable participation from the East. I don't think that anyone then had a 'vision of Europe' but an implicit assumption was that Europe (and not just Western Europe) had many divisions which we should try to understand and maybe influence the direction of change. In many ways, we still are at the crossroads: neo-liberalism politically seems to be hegemonic - at the centre point of the cross roads as it were - but the social market model still has adherents in Europe, especially in the north and it remains unclear which way Russia and other countries in the east will go. The ESA therefore has to maintain a role of providing a forum for all sociologists to meet and to exchange views from their different perspectives.

ESA was founded with two major objectives in mind: first to develop and facilitate networks between European sociologists and second to further research on a comparative European perspective. We should not be trying to duplicate the activities of the national associations. Sociologists now have much greater interest in doing comparative European studies and we ought to be providing a clearing house function to help potential researchers to find congenial intellectual partners. It would be nice to provide some financial support for conferences, research monographs and networks of members, to have a secretariat which could answer questions about sources of finance for grants for research. Some of these activities are already provided in the various offices of the European Union - but it is a bureaucratic nightmare trying to find one's way around the offices. A crucial problem here is finance and our inability to provide to date anything really significant to meet such needs.

The national associations are units which are used by governments as professional bodies - in the UK for instance to establish 'benchmarks' in sociology which will define what sociologists ought to know. With the growing importance of the EU, organisations on a European scale, such as the ESA, might very well become such advisory bodies for European matters. However, we should not be complacent and see the ESA as a kind of sociological equivalent to the European Union, analogous to the national associations to their nation states. Many countries of Europe are likely to be outside the EU for a long time to come. We must also be in a position to act as a forum and a focus for 'the others' - particularly those in the East who, for one reason or another, may find themselves isolated from the hegemonic European countries. There are, and are likely to continue to be, significant differences in political attitudes and policies between different members of the

EU. The objective of the ESA is to be a forum for ALL sociologists and the Association therefore has to put in first place the promotion of sociology irrespective of the ways in which it may be politically embedded in nation states. We cannot, for example, exclude sociologists from countries which may fall foul of NATO.

### 2 Can you name one or two books that are, in your opinion, models of sociology at its best (and, perhaps, briefly explain why)?

I always find these questions impossible to answer. It's like asking who is your favourite composer, writer, or what country's wines are the most palatable. It all depends. It depends on the time of one's life cycle as well as on different dimensions of one's interest. As a student, I was influenced by Marx's Preface to A Critique of Political Economy as well as Kornhauser's The Politics of Mass Society and Lipset's Political Man. These books inspired me to study the roots of revolution in Russia. Concurrently, I had a somewhat eclectic interest in Parsons. His article On the Concept of Political Power, I found quite compelling and it has shaped the ways in which I look at the relationship between economy, polity and society. Another book I found captivating was Mills's The Sociological Imagination; this really converted me to sociology.

As to 'models' of sociology: I was intrigued by Durkheim's Rules of Sociological Method and still find Weber's Protestant Ethic a fine example of a sociological approach. This is one of our first year texts and I find that students who can grasp Weber's reasoning soon begin to think in a sociological way. It is much more difficult to pinpoint more recent books which have had the same impact. Perhaps it is because if you have already a mass of intellectual capital, it is more difficult for the marginal new book to make an equivalent impact. It may also be due to the greater fragmentation of sociology now; we really have 'sociologies' with different and competing paradigms, rather than 'sociology'. But I have found John Higley's essay on the Elite Variable in Democratic Transitions and Breakdown a seminal piece which has stimulated my interest in elites. I'd like to see, however, more work on the links between class and elites and here I have found stimulating Tom Bottomore's book on Elites and Society.

I think the writings I have mentioned share something in common. They focus on significant human problems, suggest explanations, then try to substantiate their argument by as rigorous an analysis as was possible at the time of writing. Moreover, they cultivate that elusive human quality - the sociological imagination.

Max Haller

### 1 What do you think the ESA should be trying to achieve?

It should achieve at least three things: improve

communication and cooperation between European sociologists; increase scientific standards among European sociologists and their reputation within world sociology; and contribute to an improvement of the public image and the political impact of sociology throughout Europe.

**2 How do you personally hope to contribute to achieving these things?**

By participating in the ESA and other European conferences and workshops; by carrying out comparative research, together with sociologists in Europe and the rest of the world; and by publishing on Europe and in European sociological journals.

**3 As a sociologist, which of your publications or research projects are you proudest of, and why?**

First, my project on comparative class structures and mobility in four advanced societies (Austria, Germany, France, United States) carried out in the eighties and published in a book (*Klassenstrukturen und Mobilität in fortgeschrittenen Gesellschaften*, Frankfurt/New York 1989) and in several articles (among others, *American Sociological Review* 50/5, 1985); Second, the project on 'National identity' in the International Social Survey Programme 1995. I proposed the topic and was chair of the drafting group for a survey in two dozen countries; many of them first opposed the project but later found it very interesting; a book on Austria was published in 1996 (*National Identität der Österreich, Böhlau Verlag, Wien*); Third, my new book on 'Soziologische Theorie im systematisch-kritischen Vergleich', comparing systematically the main theoretical paradigms in sociology from a Weberian point of view (it was published in a widely-read academic book series: UTB, Opladen 1999, 699 pages).

**4 Can you name one or two books that are, in your opinion, models of sociology at its best (and, perhaps, briefly explain why)?**

C.W.Mills, *The Sociological Imagination* presents a very convincing model of sociology as a critical and practically relevant science. Erving Goffman, *Stigma* shows the power of 'qualitative' sociological imagination at work; Pierre Bourdieu, *Distinction* shows how sociological theory, concepts and quantitative empirical research can be combined to produce new insights.

Ulla Björnberg

**1 What do you think the ESA should be trying to achieve?**

The ESA should try to promote sociological analysis of social changes in Europe. It should also promote comparative analysis. As a sub-goal I think that it should make research and researchers from former Eastern Europe more visible. I think that we should challenge the EU approach to international cooperation within the social sciences and argue for an approach that is more adapted to the needs that we have in terms of cooperation.

**2 How do you personally hope to contribute to achieving these objectives?**

I think that we set a good example by setting up productive networks. It is also a matter of finance to make our conferences affordable for everybody. I think

that we have to continue to work for the journal and a good forthcoming conference in Helsinki.

**3 As a sociologist, which of your own publications or research projects are you proudest of, and why?**

I like my dissertation "Forms of life in a region", which is an analysis of local processes and social change within a region dominated by textiles and the confection industry. I am proud of this work because it links processes at different spheres and levels in society. It has a holistic approach.

**4 Can you name one or two books that are, in your opinion, models of sociology at its best (and, perhaps, briefly explain why)?**

C Wright Mills, *The Sociological Imagination* because it links social processes with personal experiences. Emile Durkheim, *Suicide* for similar reasons.

Elena Zdravomyslova

**1 What do you think the ESA should be trying to achieve?**

I think the main purpose of the ESA is to promote the community of European sociologists and of all those who are interested in it all over the world. I think also that it is one of the professional faces of the United Europe. It shows that the profession of sociology is international even if a particular sociologist represents his/her own sociological community.

**2 How do you personally hope to contribute to achieving these objectives?**

I am trying to provide a voice for the Russian sociological community in this process. By doing this I argue that Russia belongs to Europe, though many would question this claim. Although I think that Europe here is a metaphor and not just a political entity. In my view it is a metaphor denoting the prospects for democratic cooperation between different collective identities.

**3 As a sociologist, which of your own publications or research projects are you proudest of, and why?**

I think that in Russia my work on the *Paradigms of Social Movements Research* was important (1993) because it was among the first texts that dealt with this

issue in Russian sociology and because it touched upon a more general issue - the applicability of sociological theories to the Russian context. I also would add that my research on gender relations in Russian transformation is important for the cognitive liberation of the post-Soviet personality.

**4 Can you name one or two books that are, in your opinion, models of sociology at its best (and, perhaps, briefly explain why)?**

This is the most difficult question for me. I don't believe in sacred texts. I would name today Goffman's *Asylums* and *Presentations of Self in the Everyday Life*. The reason is that they help to develop sociological imagination and can help people to become sociologists.

Mojca Novak

**1 What do you think the ESA should be trying to achieve?**

The ESA should connect European sociologists from ALL European countries with those who work on European topics elsewhere. The language issue is not a convincing reason for ignoring this goal. Sociologists from the European Eastern and Southern periphery have definitely been excluded for too long from the sociological current. This is far from being a naive expectation that the inclusion of these sociologists can transcend the gap between "core" sociologists and "peripheral" sociologists. But it is the only way to prove that the general theories which are being produced in the West are nothing but the generalization of specific and particular experiences. The object is to get beyond this general - specific trap.

**2 How do you personally hope to contribute to achieving these objectives?**

By keeping on disseminating information among those in the neighbouring countries who are still excluded from the European sociological circle.

**3 As a sociologist, which of your own publications or research projects are you proudest of, and why?**

My first book "Late-coming Pattern Mix; Slovenia at the European Periphery" (in the Slovene language). I showed the logic of Yugoslav modernisation, relating it to modernisation theory and dependency theory by



Members of the ESA Executive Committee photographed during a recent committee meeting held at SISWO in Amsterdam. Left to right: David Lane, Ulla Björnberg, J.P. Roos, Max Haller, Jiri Musil, Dennis Smith (newsletter editor), Margareta Bertilsson, Capitolina Diaz-Martinez, Elzbieta Hala, Vadim Radaev, Yasemin Soysal, and Elena Zdravomyslova.

showing that there was nothing special in the socialist stage of development. Its logic was actually the "late-corner" logic of development. After a few rejections by sociological journal editors, it took me almost ten years to publish the article on this topic in the international arena. Piotr Sztompka was the first editor who found the topic interesting enough to be published in connection with the last ISA World Congress in Montreal. It seems that the Western sociologists keep on hesitating to consider the Eastern Europe within the framework of classical sociological theories. Anyway, these ideas and such framing are far from being welcome not only in my country but in other the former socialist countries as well. Vadim Volkov's Amsterdam Conference address reconfirmed this attitude and theoretical prejudice. (See also my response to question 1).

**4 Can you name one or two books that are, in your opinion, models of sociology at its best (and, perhaps, briefly explain why)?**

Peter Baldwin's "Politics of Social Solidarity" by showing that using long-term comparative perspectives when considering social phenomena helps to discern its real logic and character. This also means I definitely prefer searching for the logic of the development to focusing upon the structural perspective upon social phenomena.

***We hope to continue this series in our next issue.***

# News about the ESA Research Networks

The European Sociologist will be delighted to include reports of the activities being carried out by the ESA Research Networks. If you are coordinating one of the RNs, why not keep us posted. You are invited to send along details of your meetings both at the ESA conferences and in between. The Chair of the Committee of Research Networks is Yasemin Soysal and she writes 'Since the Amsterdam conference, the Executive Committee has endorsed seven new Research Networks, bringing the total number to twenty-one. One network has a provisional status (Education in Europe), and another one is in the making (Society and Sports).'

She adds: 'We expect that, as in the past, the research networks will assume a key role and organise several sessions in the next ESA conference, Helsinki 2001.'

From time to time we will print details of current RNs.

**The ESA Research Networks and Coordinators are as follows:**

Ageing in Europe:  
Jay Ginn (j.ginn@surrey.ac.uk)

Sociology of the Arts:  
Tia DeNora (t.de-nora@exeter.ac.uk)

Biographical Perspectives on European Studies:  
Robert Miller (R.Miller@queens-belfast.ac.uk)  
<http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/staff/jproos/esabio.htm>

Sociology of Consumption:  
Kaj Ilmonen (ilmonen@dodo.jyu.fi)

Disaster and Social Crisis:  
Nicholas Petropoulos (erc@otenet.gr)  
<http://www.anglia.ac.uk/geography/d&scrm>

Economic Sociology:  
Vadim Radaev (7521.g23@g23.relcom.ru)

Environment & Society:  
Jesper Grolin (jg.ioa@cbs.dk)

Families and Intimate Lives:  
Ulla Björnberg (Ulla.Bjornberg@sociology.gu.se)

Gender Relations, the Labour Market and the Welfare State:  
Eva Cyba (eva.cyba@univie.ac.at)

Globalization:  
Bart van Steenbergen  
(B.vanSteenbergen@fsw.ruu.nl)

Industrial Relations, Labour Market Institutions and Employment:  
Franz Traxler  
(traxler@soc.bwl.univie.ac.at)

RENCORE: Methods for Comparative Research on Europe:  
Nigel Gilbert (Gng@soc.surrey.ac.uk)  
Mass Media & Communications:  
Peter Golding (P.Golding@lboro.ac.uk)

Sociology of Professions:  
Lennart Svensson  
(lennart.svensson@sociology.gu.se)

Qualitative Methods:  
Giampietro Gobo (Giampietro.Gobo@unimi.it)

Regional Network on Southern European Societies:  
Gabriella Lazaridis (g.lazaridis@dundee.ac.uk)

Science and Technology:  
Raymund Werle (Werle@mpi-fg-koeln.mpg.de)  
<http://www.mpi-fg-koeln.mpg.de/sstnet>

Social Movements:  
Mario Diani (mario.diani@strath.ac.uk)

Social Policy:  
Alan Walker (A.C.Walker@sheffield.ac.uk)

Social Theory:  
Margareta Bertilsson  
(Margareta.Bertilsson@sociology.ku.dk)

Youth and Generation:  
Jean Charles Lagree (lagree@msh-paris.fr)

RN with Provisional Status:  
Education in Europe:  
Tuula Gordon (Tuula.Gordon@uta.fi)

RN in the making:  
Society and Sports:  
Paul Martin (Martinp@edgehill.ac.uk)

If you are interested in finding out about any of the research networks, please email the coordinator of the particular RNs concerned. They will be pleased to hear from you. Apart from that, check out the ESA web-site where more details are posted. You will find it at this address: <http://www.valt.valt.helsinki.fi/esa>

We have notes and reports from four of our Research Networks and one 'RN in the making' in this issue:

**The Disaster and Social Crisis Research Network: a brief history and a call for members and papers**

During its recent meeting in Prague (28-29 April 2000), the Executive Committee of the ESA granted formal



Participants at the ESA conference in Amsterdam listening expectantly to an announcement from the organisers. Was it, perhaps, the moment when the book prize was announced?

recognition to the "Disaster and Social Crisis Research Network" (D&SCRN).

For the past four years, the Network has been operating as a Working Group ("Sociology of Disasters"). During the 4th ESA Conference in Amsterdam it organised 4 sessions on mass emergency institutions in Europe, comparative disaster theory, the popular culture of disasters and the role of "difference" (e.g. gender, class, race etc) in disasters. One of these sessions ("the popular culture of disasters") was also accompanied by a poster session. Altogether, 14 social scientists from Europe (12) and the United States (2) participated in these sessions.

During the Amsterdam conference, the "Sociology of Disasters" Working Group also held an organisational meeting where they adopted the name of the Network ("Disaster and Social Crisis Research Network") taking into account various traditions in the field as well as the recommendations of the Executive Committee for more inclusive titles in order to forestall proliferation. At the same meeting, the members constituted a provisional Board and agreed upon the general purposes of the Network and means for their implementation.

Specifically, the purpose of the D&SCRN is to promote the study, research and analysis of "natural", technological and "social" disasters with a view to contributing to the development of disaster-resilient European communities and preventing or mitigating the human, economic, social, cultural and psychological effects of disasters.

The D&SCRN hopes to achieve its scientific and social policy goals through (a) the organisation of sessions during the biannual conferences of ESA (b) the organisation of interim meetings, (c) the organisation of European sessions at other international social science conferences, (d) the publication of an electronic newsletter and (e) the establishment of a webpage.

Thanks to the Geography Department of Anglia Polytechnic University, the Network has established a webpage:

<http://www.anglia.ac.uk/geography/d&scrn>

The Webpage was set up soon after the Amsterdam conference and contains such features as (a) the purposes of the Network (b) a membership bulletin with the members' affiliations and areas of specialisation in crisis and disasters (c) extended summaries of the Amsterdam sessions (d) electronic links with other disaster- and crisis- research organisations and (e) the Network's electronic newsletter.

The first issue of the electronic newsletter features articles on (a) the Network and the newsletter (b) the members' current activities (c) the Yugoslav crisis (d) a human interest story on "direct lines of communication between Greece and Turkey" following last year's "twin earthquakes" (e) reportage on a conference held in the Hague by the Crisis Research Center of the University of Leiden and the Swedish Agency for Civil Emergency Planning and (f) and announcements of relevant forthcoming meetings in Europe (Ukraine, Austria) and the United States (Miami, Florida). The Network plans to publish the newsletter, on a quarterly basis. The next issue will be published in June. Contributions are welcome and should be sent to the coordinator of the Network (erc@otenet.gr) by June 15, 2000.

Later on, and depending upon growth and funding, the D&SCRN shall explore the possibilities of other periodical publications, taking also into consideration

the existing European publications and the need not to saturate the market.

The D&SCRN also plans to organise five sessions during the 5th ESA Conference in Helsinki and has put out a call for papers. Below are the topics of the Sessions and the Organisers with their electronic addresses:

#### 1. Disasters and Social Crises: Visions and Divisions in American and European Approaches

Coordinators: Wolf Dombrowski, Disaster Research Unit, University of Kiel, Germany.

E-mail: wdombro@soziologie.uni-kiel.de

Robert A. Stallings, School of Policy, Planning, and Development, University of Southern California, USA.

E-mail: rstallin@usc.edu

#### 2. Deconstructing Disaster Management: Beyond the Command and Control Model

Coordinator: Maureen Fordham, Anglia Polytechnic University, United Kingdom.

E-mail: m.h.fordham@anglia.ac.uk

#### 3. The Contributions of Sociology to Disaster Research and Vice Versa

Coordinators: E.L. (Henry) Quarantelli, Disaster Research Center, University of Delaware, USA.

E-mail: elqdr@udel.edu

Bruna de Marchi, ISIG Institute of International Sociology of Gorizia.

E-mail: bruna.de-marchi@libero.it

#### 4. Global Accumulation of Capital as a Factor in Social Crises and Complex Disasters

Coordinator: Vera Vratosa, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade, Yugoslavia.

E-mail: vvratusa@f.bg.ac.yu

#### 5. Disaster and Sociocultural Changes: Changes other than those in the organisation of Civil Protection

Coordinator: Nicholas Petropoulos, Emergencies Research Center, Athens, Greece. E-mail: erc@otenet.gr

For more information regarding the sessions, deadlines for submission of abstracts, and participation, colleagues should open up the Network's webpage (See above) and/or come into direct contact with the session coordinators. (See also later in this issue - Ed).

Besides the setting up of the webpage, the publication of the newsletter and the organisation of sessions for the ESA conferences, professional collaboration has already started between Network members in the UK and Greece, in Greece and the US and between Russia and other member countries. Hopefully, these preliminary collaborations will culminate in comparative research projects, interim conferences and Network publications.

At the time of recognition, the D&SCRN had 13 members (lucky for disasterologists since two negatives make a positive!). Our members come from Germany (3), the United States (2), the United Kingdom (2), Russia (1), Greece (1), the Ukraine (1), Yugoslavia (1), Hungary (1) and Finland (1). The Network has a good geographic representation, but we need to increase our numbers and welcome new members who with their studies in disasters and social crises would like to contribute to making our European communities more disaster- and crisis- resilient.

Colleagues who are already regular members of ESA in

good standing and would like to join us may do so by sending an application with their name, their affiliation, their addresses (conventional and electronic), and their interests in disasters and social crises to N. Petropoulos (erc@otenet.gr), the network coordinator and to Maureen Fordham who manages the network's webpage (m.h.fordham@anglia.ac.uk). At this time there are no financial obligations. Those colleagues who are not ESA members and would like to join the D&SCRN network should first become members of ESA (see [www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/member.htm](http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/member.htm) for information concerning ESA membership requirements).

#### The Members of the D&SCRN Board

N. Petropoulos, Coordinator, Greece

W. Dombrowski, Germany

B. Porfiriev, Russia

M. Fordham, UK

R. Vratosa, Yugoslavia

T. Kopomaa, Finland

#### Workshop in the research network "Sociology of professions" at Jesi, Italy 4-6 May 2000

The research network was established at the bi-annual ESA meeting in Amsterdam, August 1999. The meeting in Jesi was hosted by Fondazione Colocci in the new Colocci conference centre at Palazzo Ghislieri. We are most grateful to the foundation and to the organiser professor Vittorio Olgiati, University of Urbino.

The theme for the workshop was "The social scientific reliability of professions. Historical and comparative perspectives". Fourteen papers were presented, and professional areas represented were: law, health, engineering, social work, politics and alternative therapy. The focus was European with certain comparisons with non-European Anglo-saxon countries. The presentations and discussion concerned the relations between: universities and professions; state governments and professions; professions and international governing and global changes; professions and clients and client organisations; professions and markets; professions and classes. One paper was particularly devoted to methodology in comparative studies. The papers will be collected in a publication funded by the foundation above. Studies on the relationship between professions and client organisations turned out to be one possible area for comparative national studies.

Next meeting will be connected to the ESA biannual meeting in Helsinki 28-1 Sept. 2001 and the main theme "Visions and Divisions Challenges to European Sociology"

<http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/helsinki.htm>

Call for papers will be announced in October.

Goteborg and Nottingham, May 2000

Lennart G Svensson (lennart.svensson@sociology.gu.se)

Julia Evetts (Julia.Evetts@nottingham.ac.uk)

#### An important notice for members of the Research Network on Family Sociology

The title of the Network "Family sociology" has been changed: it is now called the Research Network on Families and Intimate Lives.

With the announcement of the forthcoming ESA conference on Visions and Divisions we call for papers for the Network on families and intimate lives relating to the major theme for the conference, focussing on visions and divisions in family lives, as follows:

■ Rich and poor families in Europe, social divisions between families

■ Divisions within families in terms of money, power

- and household resources
- Families with different labour market participations
- Family violence
- Relationships between parents and children across generations
- Relationships between kin across generations
- Family forms in terms of visions and divisions - same sex families, cohabitation, ethnically mixed families, families living apart
- Migrant families
- Family lives after traumatic experiences

**Very important reminder:** *Will those of you who belong to or want to belong to the network on families and intimate lives, please send your name, address and email address to:*

Ulla Björnberg  
Department of Sociology, Göteborg University, Box 720, SE 405 30 Göteborg, Sweden.  
Email: Ulla.Bjornberg@sociology.gu.se

#### **A Call for Expressions of Interest from the Qualitative Methods Research Network**

In recent years social research using qualitative methods has achieved an increasing profile. In the context of such developments, there is a need for a Europe-wide forum in which qualitative researchers can debate methodological issues.

The recently-established ESA Research Network on Qualitative Methods covers a broad range of qualitative methods and methodologies, and aims to:

- Promote rigorous theoretical, technical and ethical standards in qualitative methods
- Connect researchers working in similar areas or sharing similar interests, and encourage dialogue

- Support the development of qualitative researchers, especially those marginalised within their academic communities.

The Network will be promoting these aims through meetings and conferences, and electronic communication. It welcomes new members.

For further information about the Network and its activities, please contact Giampietro Gobo or Rosalind Edwards at the following addresses:

Giampietro Gobo  
Department of Sociology, University of Milan, Via Conservatorio 7, 20122 Milan, Italy.  
E-mail: giampietro.gobo@unimi.it

Rosalind Edwards  
FHSS, South Bank University, 103 Borough Road, London SE1 0AA, UK.  
E-mail: edwardra@sbu.ac.uk

#### **A research network in the making: Society and Sport**

During last year's Amsterdam conference of the ESA a group of sociologists from five different countries met to take the first steps towards the creation of what we hope will become a formal ESA Research Network in 'Society and Sport'. The aims and focus of the proposed Network have been drawn as widely as possible e.g. to cover both competitive & non-competitive sport, professional and amateur sport, sport participation both as spectator and as sports person. As a consequence the prospective network is keen to welcome any sociologist with a research or teaching interest in sport. Initial aims were established as:

1. to encourage comparative research into the Sociology of Sport both within and across European societies;
2. to bring together European sociologists with varying specialisms and specific interests e.g. sport and gender, ethnicity, social class, deviance, the mass media, politics and political economy, identity formation and change.
3. to focus on one aspect of social life in which it could be argued that the concept of Europe has come to life.

The proposal to attempt to create this Network received strong support both from the ESA Vice President for Research Networks and from the General Assembly of the ESA in August 1999, when the initiative was announced. It is intended that one way in which the Network will develop is by encouraging joint research based upon shared interests.

For example, one initial focus for the work of the proposed Network emerged from an argument advanced during the Amsterdam conference that developments in professional football may be contributing in some ways to the development of a sense of European identity among followers of that sport. A group of four ESA members from three different EU states, intend that, at some point in the near future a collaborative bid will be made for funding in order to engage in the development of this idea followed by comparative fieldwork in EU and candidate EU states.

It is also hoped that the proposed Network may establish itself further by offering a sport-related theme during the next ESA conference in 2001.

If you are interested, contact Paul Martin whose email address is: Martinp@edgehill.ac.uk

## **An invitation from the Polish Sociological Review**

Polish Sociological Review is a quarterly. It continues the tradition of the Polish Sociological Bulletin, the Journal of the Polish Sociological Association, an organisation which maintained its independence from the communist regime. For many years Polish Sociological Review presented the achievements of Polish sociology and acquainted readers abroad with the most interesting examples of theoretical studies and empirical research conducted and discussed in Poland.

The Polish Sociological Review's new Editorial Board hopes to stimulate a greater response to the most important ongoing social, political and cultural phenomena in post-communist Central-Eastern Europe. The Editorial Board would like to encourage sociologists and other social scientists in Central-Eastern Europe, and everybody else who is concerned with the specific problems of this region, to co-operate with the Polish Sociological Review for the sake of more accurate diagnosis and explanation of the social dimension of local and regional systemic transformation.

In particular, the Editorial Board wishes to encourage contributions from authors willing to: present the results

of cross-national and cross-regional research; review the most significant sociological work on Central-Eastern Europe; contribute brief communiqués on the most important events in their regional sociological communities; share documents providing important historical insight into the functioning of sociological institutions in Central-Eastern Europe; and contribute "trend reports" presenting the latest research findings.

The Polish Sociological Review is interested in publishing contributions by foreign (non-Polish) authors writing about issues relating to Poland.

With these principles in mind the Editorial Board encourages you to send in your texts. Every article, review, communiqué, etc. will be submitted to a blind reviewing procedure.

Chief Editor: Joanna Kurczewska (Polish Academy of Sciences)  
Editors: Michał Federowicz (Polish Academy of Sciences)  
Mirosława Grabowska (University of Warsaw)  
Elżbieta Hałas (Catholic University of Lublin)  
Marian Kempny (Polish Academy of Sciences)

Jacek Kurczewski (University of Warsaw)  
Bogdan Mach (Polish Academy of Sciences)  
Anita Miszańska (University of Łódź)  
Jacek Wasilewski (Jagiellonian University, Kraków)  
Hanna Mokrzycka - Assistant Editor

Editorial Advisory Board:  
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# Some notes towards a Sociology of Europe

**Dennis Smith** offers a few personal reflections which are totally unofficial and certainly do not represent the views of the ESA.

What should a 'sociology of Europe' look like? That's not the same question as what does 'European sociology' look like?

The second question is quite easy. There's an emerging agenda for 'European sociology' that looks at themes like the professions, families, social policy, science, the mass media and so on.

This agenda is well represented in the research networks of the ESA and it provides a framework for a lot of vigorous research activity. Some of it is comparative across different European societies but a lot of it is still tied into particular national contexts.

To my mind, this aspect of European sociology seems to be a more or less straight copy of the American model of how the sociology profession should organise its business.

It is not surprising that the American way of doing things takes precedence in our minds.

After all, as an articulate Russian participant at the Amsterdam ESA conference remarked, it may well have been Germany, France and Italy that produced Weber, Durkheim and Pareto - but it took a modest and civilized American (Talcott Parsons) to get them 'speaking to each other'.

I'm paraphrasing what the Russian colleague said but the point is that in the second half of the twentieth century, sociology, like so many other aspects of 'our' culture, has been codified and packaged by American professionals.

It is consequently to be expected that as Europe becomes increasingly conscious of itself as a large and potentially unified market for the services of sociology, we find ourselves turning to the American model. With English as our lingua franca this has become almost inevitable.

But Europe is a very different proposition to the United States. France, Italy and Germany are not the equivalent of Louisiana, New York State and Texas.

That is where the need for a sociology of Europe comes in. By this I mean a study of the distinctive aspects of this continent as an arena of social and political conflict and development.

These peculiarities of the European experience make it a valuable laboratory for investigating issues that impact far much more widely than Europe itself. Here I want to emphasise just one aspect of this experience.

Europe provides useful data for anyone concerned about ways of handling the possibilities and risks of globalisation. At the moment, there is a ferocious race underway between transnational companies to muscle

their way into lucrative corners of the global market.

Some people express fear that the world is getting out of control. It certainly is getting faster and it is clear that no single agency, not even Microsoft or MacDonalds, is in charge.

However, this has happened before, or at least something like it happened on a smaller scale one hundred and fifty years ago, in Europe.

In the 1840s and 1850s an incredible technological invention - the railway engine - burst through the barriers of distance. The railways cut through the landscape, put secluded valleys in touch with one another, and gave servile peasants a way to escape to the big city.

There was one very big loser. That was the class of local aristocrats in their big country houses who had dominated rural village society. They thought that the end of the world had come. The power and the action had moved 'upwards' to the national state and the network of manufacturing cities.

The aristocracy's feeling of despair as it saw the world it believed in and controlled slipping away is how people must now feel who vested their hopes for a better world in the welfare state. They can see their old world being reshaped by digitalisation and computer technology. Power is moving upwards yet again, beyond the national state, to a network of multinational companies and international agencies.

How did the aristocrats react in the mid-nineteenth century? They made sure their interests were well represented at the next highest level - the national state - by joining national parties and other pressure groups. They became part of a national political culture that developed its own rules and understandings. It was a dangerous and threatening process, especially for anyone who believed in democratic values. After all, aristocrats were not natural supporters of citizenship. Some supported fascist programmes. However, with American help, democracy prevailed - or at least, the kind of democracy that serves capitalism well.

In the late twentieth century, national governments began to react in a similarly 'creative' way to the rise of a global trading arena dominated by transnational corporations. In other words, they formed alliances and understandings with each other. National governments are now becoming part of a gradually thickening network of continental and global institutions which is acquiring its own rules.

The EU is the most highly developed example of this process. It is a long way from being a European government. However, somehow it manages to keep all the major players walking in approximate step.

The global challenge facing us now is to find ways of

getting governments and multinationals to agree on rules of good governance for managing the planet - and accept the discipline of those rules themselves. This is where Europe's experience could come in useful.

Over the past two hundred years, the balance of power in Europe between classes, states and ethnic groups has shifted and fluctuated in so many complex ways that a highly pragmatic political culture of adjustment and compromise has grown up. This culture has survived quite prolonged episodes of totalitarian rule in parts of Europe.

In fact, this culture can be traced back at least as far as the seventeenth century when the amount of blood shed for religion was finally seen by secular rulers to be a stupid waste of taxable resources. Religious toleration made sense; it cut down on expensive wars.

This was good preparation for the nineteenth century challenge of getting land-owning aristocrats and urban manufacturers to work together - and the even bigger challenge of letting the working class become citizens and have votes.

With all this experience behind them over the previous centuries, the task of weaving together the French and German political and business elites in the European Coal and Steel Community (1951) and the European Economic Community (1957) was less daunting for Europe's politicians than it might have appeared.

I would argue that the next challenge is to discover how Europe can inject its capacity for compromise and reconciliation into the global arena, bringing rich and poor together in a fruitful dialogue.

There are some huge obstacles to this. One is the practical impossibility of taking any major initiatives against the opposition of the United States, especially in cases where the American government is positively aligned with powerful business interests operating transnationally.

The second obstacle is the massive legacy of resentment against Europe throughout Africa and Asia as a consequence of half a millennium of colonialism.

It is striking that almost all the old imperial capitals of Europe are now gathered into the bosom of the EU, including London, Paris, Brussels, Vienna, Madrid, Berlin and Rome (the oldest imperial capital of them all). Istanbul, head of the old Ottoman Empire, is knocking at the door. Only Moscow, the last European capital to give up its empire, has been left out in the cold.

How can these old 'imperialist' war horses be made into agents of civilised democratic globalisation? That issue, too, should be on the agenda of a Sociology of Europe.



# Noticeboard

## Future Social Science Research: Support, Strategy and Direction

A one day conference on September 14th 2000 Hosted by REGARD at the Institute for Learning and Research Technology, University of Bristol

Will good research ever be at the heart of policy?  
What price peer credibility versus political agendas? How can research help build new information landscapes?  
How will technology transform research?

It is generally agreed that, at the turn of the century, the UK social science community is more healthy and optimistic than it has been for some time. At the same time the development of the Internet and other technologies is allowing unprecedented public access to research - to the researchers and to the results of that research. Technologies are also changing the landscape for researchers - new working methods and tools will influence their work alongside the challenges that closer links with policymakers imply. This conference will identify strategies and support mechanisms to answer these new challenges. The programme will attract anyone who is interested or involved in the production or application of social science research, from the academic, government, voluntary and business sectors.

The conference will be opened by Dr Gordon Marshall, Chief Executive of the ESRC, who will unveil the new, redesigned and enhanced REGARD service.

Keynote speakers will include:  
**Professor Roger Jowell**  
Director, National Centre for Social Research

**Dr. Helen Roberts**  
Head of Research and Development, Barnado's

For further information please visit our Web site at:  
**www.regard.ac.uk/conference/**  
E-mail: [regard-conf@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:regard-conf@bristol.ac.uk)  
Tel: +44 (0) 117 928 7194

Alison Pirker, Information officer  
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E-mail: [alison.parker@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:alison.parker@bristol.ac.uk)

## European Seminars 2000 - Industrial Relations Workshop

Sokratis M. Koniordos writes: We are organising a workshop on Industrial Relations and European Integration for graduate and doctoral students interested in European Integration. Particularly, but not exclusively, students preparing theses in Industrial Relations, Sociology, European Studies. The aim is to explore and analyse various attempts to regulate European labour markets and look into processes of participation,

collective bargaining and social dialogue in a European context. Overall, to approach the Europeanisation process of labour relations and unions. The workshop will take place in the University of Crete, Rethymno, Crete - September (11-16) 2000. You may access the provisional program in the following address:  
**www.soc.uoc.gr**

Apply to Sokratis M. Koniordos (Dr)

Guest Participants:

Professor Richard Hyman  
Industrial Relations Research Unit,  
University of Warwick, Coventry, United Kingdom.

Dr Ton Korver  
Research Unit on Human Resources, Tilburg University,  
The Netherlands.

Dr Olivier Merieux  
CERAT-FNSP, Institut d'Etudes Politiques,  
University of Grenoble, France.

Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Streeck,  
Director, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies,  
Cologne, Germany.

Prof. Dr. Franz Traxler, Institute of Sociology,  
Centre for Business Administration, University of Vienna,  
Vienna, Austria.

Dr Alessia Vatta, Institute of Sociology,  
University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria.

Professor Stephen J. Wood, Research Chair,  
Institute of Work Psychology, University of Sheffield,  
United Kingdom.

Working Language: English

Fees: There is no admission or participation fee

Accommodation: Accommodation and breakfast will be provided to a select number of students on merit and on a first come basis.

Apply to: Jean Monnet Chair  
Department of Sociology, School of Social Sciences,  
Gallos Campus, University of Crete,  
Rethymno 4100, Greece.  
Tel: +30 831 77465 and +30 831 77484  
Fax: +30 831 77467  
E-mail: [skoni@social.soc.uoc.gr](mailto:skoni@social.soc.uoc.gr)

Academic Co-ordinators:

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E-mail [moschonas@social.soc.uoc.gr](mailto:moschonas@social.soc.uoc.gr)

Dr Sokratis M. Koniordos  
KEKMOKOP, Panteion University, Athens.  
E-mail: [skoni@social.soc.uoc.gr](mailto:skoni@social.soc.uoc.gr)

## Call for Research Grants at IRISS-C/I: "Access to Large scale Facilities"

3rd TRISS-C/I call for US researchers (funded by the US National Science Foundation)

7th IRISS-C/I call for researchers from the EU and Associated States (funded by the EC, DG XII, TMR).

**1. Deadline:** The deadline for submission of research proposals to the present call for applications is 30 June, 2000.

**2. Period of Stay at CEPS/INSTEAD:** Preferably between 1 August 2000 and 31 October 2000 (up to 3 weeks per individual or joint research project).

**3. Topics:** Proposals should deal with comparative socioeconomic European research based on the international micro-databases available at CEPS/INSTEAD:

- the Luxembourg Income Study (LIS),
- the Luxembourg Employment Study (LES),
- the Household Panel Comparability Project and Database (PACO), and
- the European Community Household Panel Study (ECHP user database).

IRISS-C/I promotes problem-oriented socioeconomic analyses based on international micro-data. It aims at bringing together individual researchers from different countries and disciplines in an informed socioeconomic research environment. Preference will be given to projects focusing on static and dynamic analyses based on cross-sectional or longitudinal data, and contributing to the advancement of comparability.

IRISS-C/I offers opportunities to work in the following fields: poverty and inequality, panel/survey methodology, income dynamics, persistent and new poverty, education and training, continued education, labour markets, unemployment, segmentation of labour markets, new forms of work, - child well-being/poverty, child care, impact of ageing populations, intergenerational relations, effects of family policies, social protection and redistributive policies, family structures and change, family and household budgets, geographical and social mobility, gender, ethnic and social inequality, regional development and structural change.

**4. Who may apply?** This call is particularly directed at US researchers, whose access to the large scale facility is funded by the US National Science Foundation. *Limited TMR-funding is also available for nationals of an EU member state or an Associated State (currently Iceland, Israel, Liechtenstein, Norway) and conducting research in a research team working inside the member states of the EU or associated states.*

IRISS-C/I particularly encourages US-EC research team proposals that involve joint stays at CEPS/INSTEAD. Prospective applicants from the US may contact Prof. Tim Smeeding ([tmsmeed@maxwell.syr.edu](mailto:tmsmeed@maxwell.syr.edu)). Researchers who are nationals of a member state of the EU or an associated state may contact Georges Heinrich



(georges.heinrich@ci.educ.lu). Only researchers and researchers doing non proprietary research (who are entitled to publish the results of their work in the open literature) may apply. Level of research: preferably doctoral candidates or beyond (no limitation concerning applicant's age). Researchers from other countries may also participate in the activities, being understood that they will have to be funded by other sources.

**5. What do the research grants offer to candidates?** Technical and scientific assistance; free access to databases available at CEPS/INSTEAD (LIS, LES, PACO/ECHP, and - at the national level - the Luxembourg Household Panel; use of individual PCs with Internet access/personal e-mail; training on the use of the Center's databases, if necessary; exchange with experienced CEPS/INSTEAD researchers and research partners working on similar themes and projects; free use of the IRISS-C/I facility with administrative support (secretarial assistance, photocopying, communication); reimbursement of travel from and to home country; daily allowances and overnight stay in the Center's apartments. Free access to JSTOR Journals via WWW.

**6. Review and Selection Procedures:** Each proposal is reviewed by 3-4 members of the User Selection Panel (see composition of the EU- and the US-Selection Panel). Evaluation criteria: scientific and technical quality of the project (scientific/technical interest, originality, methodological approach, feasibility, cohesion/structure/clarity), comparative and/or longitudinal approach, appropriateness to study the project at CEPS/INSTEAD, projected publication or other product, added value for European socioeconomic research.

**7. Feedback to applicants:** Applicants are informed about the result of the evaluation within 4-6 weeks after the deadline. If Panel members reject a proposal, they will indicate why and possibly make suggestions for a revised proposal.

**8. Seminars:** While at IRISS, each researcher should prepare to present a seminar on their work. This may take place at the end of the stay (final product, progress report) or at the beginning (a discussion of proposed work) or at the beginning (a discussion of proposed work) or both.

**9. Reports:** At the end of their visit, IRISS-C/I users are asked to provide a report on the work they have done at the Center, preferably in the form of one or more research papers. Papers to be published as a result of the visit should acknowledge that the work was supported by the EU - Training and Mobility of Researchers Program or by the US National Science Foundation. A copy of each paper should be sent to IRISS-C/I for inclusion in the Center's working papers series.

**10. Technical note:** Candidates may apply by e-mail, fax or ordinary mail. The application form may be copied directly from our IRISS-C/I homepage to the PC and returned via e-mail, confirmed by signed fax or original mail. E-mail applications should use a file attached in Word 6.0 or 7.0. Applicants may also print out the pdf-version of the application form directly from the homepage or ask for a paper version under an address indicated below.

**11. Contacts for further information:**

*Applicants from the United States apply to:*

Kati Foley,

Luxembourg Income Study, 426 Eggers Hall, Syracuse

University, Syracuse, NY 13244-1020.

Tel: 315-443-4526

Fax: 315-443-1081

E-mail: lisa@maxwell.syr.edu

or

Prof. Tim Smeeding

Director, Center for Policy Research, 426 Eggers Hall

Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY 13244-1020

Tel: 315-443-9042

Fax: 315-443-1081

E-mail: tmsmeed@maxwell.syr.edu

*Applicants from the EU and Associated States apply to:*

Georges Heinrich

IRISS-C/I Coordinator, IRISS at CEPS/INSTEAD,

Rue Emile Mark 44, B.P. 48, L-4501 Differdange

Tel: (00352) 58 58 55-512

Fax: (00352) 58 58 88

E-mail: georges.heinrich@ci.educ.lu

Nigel Gilbert writes: The second issue of the 3rd volume of the Journal of Artificial Societies and Social Simulation was published on Friday, March 31st.

This new issue includes two peer reviewed papers, "Modelling social systems as complex: Towards a social simulation meta-model" and "Simulating Common Pool Resource Management Experiments with Adaptive Agents Employing Alternate Communication Routines". The former paper proposes a meta-model drawing on both complex system insights and the theory of autopoiesis to assist in the design of agents for social simulation. The latter paper describes the development of a series of intelligent agent simulations to examine the effects of different institutional configurations and individual behavioral characteristics on group level performance in a 'Tragedy of the Commons' dilemma. The issue also includes a special Forum section that looks backwards to review significant research that has continuing value for today's work. One paper revisits Robert Axelrod's classic, The Evolution of Cooperation, and the other examines Georg Simmel's work at the beginning of the twentieth century on Fashion, relating his insights to simulation models.

The next issue of JASSS is due to be published at the end of June. Because JASSS is distributed over the World Web Wide and all editorial operations use the internet, we can achieved much faster turn-round from first submission to acceptance than most conventional paper journal. JASSS now has over 1,700 'registered readers'. The number of people who access the journal can be seen from the statistics at <http://www.soc.surrey.ec.uk/JASSS/stats/statistics.html>

Contents of Volume 3, Issue 2

Refereed Articles:

Chris Goldspink - Modelling social systems as complex:

Towards a social simulation meta-model

Peter J. Deadman, Edella Schlager and Randy Gimblett

- Simulating Common Pool Resource Management Experiments with Adaptive Agents Employing Alternate Communication Routines

Review Forum:

Robert Hoffmann - Twenty Years on: The Evolution of Cooperation Revisited

Sergio Benvenuto - Fashion: Georg Simmel

For further details contact the editor, Prof Nigel Gilbert,

PhD, FEng, Department of Sociology, University of Surrey, Guildford GU2 5XH, UK.

Tel: +44 1483 259173, Fax: +44 1483 259551

Michael Macpherson writes: During 1998 and 1999 the Council of Europe's Congress of Local and Regional Authorities organised a series of meetings on Local and Regional Information Society.

A rapporteur's memorandum of these meetings, and a recommendation of the Congress may be found in the world wide web. From the memorandum "More than six hundred local and regional representatives and experts from twenty-four European countries took part in the three Seminars on "Local and Regional Information Society", held in Helsinki, Finland (21-23 January 1998), Miercurea Ciuc, Romania (8-9 October 1998) and Hradec Kralove, Czech Republic (15-16 March 1999).

Council of Europe reports etc. are available in both French and English. For the Recommendation, see [http://www.coe.fr/cplre/textad/rec/1999/rec54\(99\).htm](http://www.coe.fr/cplre/textad/rec/1999/rec54(99).htm) For the Memorandum, see [http://www.coe.fr/cplre/session6/reports/cg\(6\)3e.htm](http://www.coe.fr/cplre/session6/reports/cg(6)3e.htm) See also for Council of Europe/the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of Europe <http://www.coe.fr/cplre/>

I was a speaker at two of these meetings (in Romania and Czech Republic) and am pleased to see that there is a report, and that it's available on-line. It would be good to discuss some of the issues raised in the Council's memorandum and recommendation on Local and Regional Information Society. One virtual place to do that is Democracy@cy Forum, hosted by John Gotze and myself at <http://www.democracyforum.net/democracy>

Dr. Michael Macpherson

PSMRA/Integral Studies, Berlin FRG

Tel.: +49 30 262 3768

E-mail: mjm@berlin.snafu.de

Integral Studies:

<http://www.snafu.de/~mjm/index.html>

Machteld Nijsten writes about **European Integration Current Contents**, a collaborative project of the EUI and Harvard Law School Libraries

<http://www.law.harvard.edu/programs/jeanMonnet/TOC/index.html>

European Integration Current Contents provides access to the Tables of Contents of journals relevant to European Integration research. This current awareness service, updated on a biweekly basis, covers 101 journals received by the European University Institute and Harvard Law School Libraries. This project started in the Spring of 1999 as the Harvard Jean Monnet Tables of Contents Service, including European Integration journals in the areas of law and human rights and has now been extended, since the cooperation began with the EUI Library, to the areas of economics, history and political and social sciences. For most journals the coverage goes back to the beginning of 1998. There is also the possibility to browse the journals or search the database by author or keywords. The

# Noticeboard *continued...*

journals included have been selected by the two libraries on the basis of their academic quality and of their focus on European Integration and human rights. A serious effort has been made to include non-English language journals in order to reflect the cultural diversity within Europe. For further details contact:  
Machteld Nijsten, Law Librarian, European University Institute, Florence, Italy  
Tel: +39.055.4685259, Fax: +39.055.4685283  
E-mail: nijsten@iue.it

**Emerging Irish Identities:**  
Proceedings of Seminar, held in Trinity College Dublin, November 27 1999  
(Editor: Ronit Lentin)

## Contents:

Opening remarks  
Philip Watt, Director, National Consultative Committee on Racism and Interculturalism

Patrick Guerin, National Federation of Campaigns against Racism

Introduction - Racialising the other, racialising the 'us':  
Emerging Irish identities as processes of racialisation -  
Ronit Lentin

Green, white and black: Race and Irish identity -  
Fintan O'Toole

The Green Tiger and the Orange Sloth: the north of Ireland and new formations of Irishness -  
Robbie McVeigh

Identity, criticism and decadent strata -  
Andrew R. Finlay

What about the lads? Emigrants, immigrants, ethnics and transnationals in late 1990s diaspora -  
Mairtin Mac an Ghaill

Queer Circuits: the construction of lesbian and gay identities through Emigration -  
Eithne Luibhéid

Travellers: culture and identity - Martin Collins

When Irish eyes are frowning - Rabia al Najjair

Panel discussion: Beyond identity politics - Irish identity formation and anti-racism -  
Paul Cullen, Thomas McCann, Deepa Mann Kler, Katrina Goldstone, Fardus Sultan-Prnjavorac

To obtain Emerging Irish Identities, please send £7 with your name and address to Lysa Haughey, Department of Sociology, Trinity College, Dublin 2. (please make cheques payable to Ethnic and Racial Studies).

Dr Ronit Lentin  
Course coordinator, MPhil in Ethnic and Racial Studies,  
Dept of Sociology, University of Dublin, Trinity College,  
Dublin 2, Ireland.  
Tel: 353 1 6082766, Fax: 353 1 6771300  
E-mail: rlintin@tcd.ie

Linda Grant of the Department of Sociology, University of Georgia, and Josephine Beoku-Betts of the Women's Studies Center, Florida Atlantic University, wish to announce that we are the new book review editors for the journal *Gender & Society*.

We are interested in expanding coverage of international and comparative gender issues in sociology, along with topics of more general and national sociological interest. We are looking for sociologists working on women and gender issues who would like to be on the list of book reviewers that we are compiling.

If you are interested, please e-mail either of us a short bio. with your academic background, areas of research interests, and regional focus. Be sure also to include your institutional address, telephone number, and e-mail. Send this information to:

Josephine Beoku-Betts  
Women's Studies Center, Florida Atlantic University,  
777 Glades Road, Boca Raton, FL 33431  
E-mail: gensoc@fau.edu  
or  
Linda Grant  
Department of Sociology, Baldwin Hall, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602  
E-mail: gensoc@arches.uga.edu

An additional item received as we were going to press: Proposed sessions of the

## **Disaster and Social Crisis Research Network** or the 5th European Sociological Association conference

The 5th European Sociological Association Conference, "Visions and Divisions: Challenges to European Sociology", will be held in Helsinki, August 28th - September 1st 2001.

The newly recognized by the ESA, "Disaster and Social Crisis Research Network," plans to organise five regular sessions during the Conference (See Below). Sociologists and other Social Scientists who are interested in making a presentation in one of these sessions should submit an abstract of not more than 250 words, no later than January 31, 2001, to the respective session coordinators.

Details regarding the conditions for publishing the abstract in the Conference Abstracts, the deadlines for submission of the papers and the terms of presentation will be provided to the prospective participants at a later date by the Session coordinators.

N. Petropoulos  
D&SCRN Coordinator

### **1. Disasters and Social Crises: Visions and Divisions in American and European Approaches**

This session will focus on theories in European disaster and social crisis studies. Among the questions to be addressed are: How theoretical is contemporary European disaster and social crisis research?, how

atheoretical? Are the theoretical approaches of European sociologists different from those of their American counterparts? How theoretically homogeneous are European disaster studies?, that is, are there national differences in theoretical orientation? Is there skewing in theory use as a result of differing events and differing threats in different European countries? Are there East-West European differences?, North-South differences? To what extent do document studies reflect recent trends in sociological theory?, to what extent are they grounded in the "classics"? Are different theories being used to explain disasters versus other types of crises? Are European sociologists more concerned with special theories of disaster or with theories of social life that also incorporate disasters?

Coordinators: Wolf Dombrowski

Disaster Research Unit, University of Kiel, Germany.  
E-mail: wdombro@soziologie.uni-kiel.de

Robert A. Stallings  
School of Policy, Planning, and Development, University  
of Southern California, USA.  
E-mail: rstallin@usc.edu

## **2. Deconstructing Disaster Management: Beyond the Command and Control Model**

This session will address the role and efficacy of the dominant model of disaster management known as 'command and control'. Secondly it will explore alternatives, such as the emergent human resources model. Papers will examine the following questions: Is the highly centralised, militaristic command and control model, widely used around the world, the most effective or appropriate? How successful is it in meeting the needs of highly culturally diverse urban communities? Is it sensitive to the needs of different social groups such as women, ethnic minorities, disabled persons, children, the elderly? Is it more appropriate at some stages of the disaster process than others? What is the actual and potential role of emergent groups in disasters and disaster planning and to what extent is their inclusion compatible with the command and control model? What alternative models exist? What examples are there of alternative models in practice (as opposed to purely theoretical models)?

Coordinator: Maureen Fordham, Anglia Polytechnic  
University, United Kingdom.  
E-mail: m.h.fordham@anglia.ac.uk

## **3. The Contributions of Sociology to Disaster Research and Vice Versa**

Sociological theories and models have contributed to

disaster research. Ideas from collective behavior, complex organisations and symbolic interactionism have been used. But since this was last systematically documented 15 years ago, updated versions will be obtained. This session will also identify sociological theories, models, bodies of empirical research and major hypotheses not yet systematically applied in disaster studies. Finally, special attention will be paid to how and where disaster research has and/or could feedback into sociology.

Coordinators: E.L. (Henry) Quarantelli, Disaster  
Research Center, University of Delaware, USA. E-mail:  
elqdr@udel.edu

Bruna de Marchi, ISIG Institute of International  
Sociology of Gorizia.  
E-mail: bruna.de-marchi@libero.it

## **4. Global Accumulation of Capital as a Factor in Social Crises and Complex Disasters**

Session proposes to examine the extent to which the antagonistic process of profit-seeking within the global capitalist economy can be considered the causal factor in social crises and complex disasters, involving deprivation of people and destruction of their lives, as well as of their natural, social, technical and cultural environment. Recent experiences in Iraq and Yugoslavia repose the question to what extent the competition of transnational corporations to gain unimpeded access to cheap raw materials, labor force and/or markets has contributed to the emergence and exacerbation of social crises and complex disasters with all their attendant onsequences, including among other things pollution of air, ground and water, falls in production and rises in unemployment, increased death rates and illnesses of all kinds, and repression of social movements which are protesting the disastrous policies of transnational

capitalist institutions.

Coordinator: Vera Vratusa, Faculty of Philosophy,  
University of Belgrade, Yugoslavia.  
E-mail: vvratusa@f.bg.ac.yu

## **5. Disaster and Sociocultural Changes: Changes other than those in the organisation of Civil Protection**

Social Science disasterologists usually restrict their research and analysis to an assessment of the responses of organisations, communities and citizens with a view toward improving the effectiveness of response in future disasters. In this context, they usually investigate those aspects of social organisation which relate to civil protection. Few studies have concentrated on the impact of disasters on other aspects of social organisation. These few exceptions have dealt mainly with the impact of disasters on intra-group solidarity and deviance-processes which are short-term reactions with no implications for more permanent and extensive socio-cultural changes. This session invites theoretical, conceptual or empirical papers on the impact of 'natural' and/or 'technological' disasters on other than civil defense institutions. The papers may take a macrosociological systemic approach (i.e. assess the impact on the entire social system) or an institutional approach (i.e. analyze the impact on specific social institutions such as the familial, the educational, the legal-political, the economic, and the religious).

Coordinator: Nicholas Petropoulos  
Emergencies Research Center, Athens, Greece.  
E-mail: erc@otenet.gr

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# Sociology in Spain

## Some New Trends: A personal view from Capitolina Díaz-Martínez

The development of sociology in Spain, both as an academic subject and as a professional activity, has been strongly influenced by the uneven political circumstances of the country along this century. Spanish sociology had a relatively early start - the first chair of sociology was endowed in 1898, but its development was not easy, and came to an abrupt halt as a consequence of the civil war. During the forties and fifties, the tenets of catholic traditionalism shaped the official intellectual outlook, and sociology became a highly suspicious discipline in the eyes of the political establishment.

During the sixties, Franco's regime somewhat softened its mechanisms of control, and the country went through a process of rapid economic and social modernization. In this more propitious setting, sociology began to increase its meagre presence in academic institutions, and a few sociologists started to do some solid empirical work, which would develop into the first comprehensive surveys of Spanish society.

The seventies were the decisive years in the process of institutionalization of Spanish sociology. The transition to democracy coincided with the creation, in Madrid, of the first Faculty of Sociology (1973), which offered for the first time a specific university degree in this discipline. By the late seventies, Spanish sociology had gained a firm foothold in academic life, and started to set up professional organisations such as the FASEE (later renamed as the FES, Spanish Federation of Sociology).

The eighties were a period of growth for the discipline: sociology departments were created, and degrees in this subject began to be offered by an increasing number of universities. At the same time, sociologists diversified their fields of research, and this led to a wider development of the discipline. This development, however, has used Spanish as its natural and almost exclusive means of expression, and this fact has limited its impact on other cultural areas. For this reason I would like to introduce here some of our sociologists and their most relevant work. I will concentrate in two of the fields that I personally find of special interest. These are: Sociological Theory and Sociology of Gender.

### Sociological Theory

Sociological theory is a field that can show a noteworthy tradition of research. The main problems faced by Spanish sociological theory over the last years have been related to methodological and epistemological issues (Jesús Ibáñez, "El regreso del sujeto"), the discussion of the phenomenon of reflexivity in modern societies (Emilio Lamo de Espinosa, "La sociedad reflexiva"), and the analysis of particular sociological categories, such as time (Ramón Ramos, "Cronos dividido").

Jesús Ibáñez (1928-1992) focused his work on the analysis of the mechanisms that underlie the creation, diffusion and use of social meanings. Drawing on a variety of theoretical sources, from Marxism to Second Order Cybernetics, Ibáñez shows how the social construction of meaning is a dynamic process, enacted

by individual subjects linked and constrained by interaction. A process that can only be captured, as it occurs' by adequate methodological tools such as the use of discussion groups and discourse analysis. These tools would be capable of revealing the structuring role played by the struggle between the alternative interpretations of reality assumed by individuals and groups that usually possess different levels of power. The influence of Ibáñez has been remarkable, specially in the field of qualitative research methodology.

Emilio Lamo de Espinosa has studied the cognitive structure of modern societies, centred on the phenomenon of science, as opposed to that of traditional societies, built on the pervasive reality of culture. Science, in general, is a decisive factor in the evolution of contemporary societies; but social science plays a specific role in this regard. Social science, and sociology in particular, enters into a reflexive relation with its cognitive object - society itself. Sociology changes the object that it describes - as the evolution of this object changes the contents of sociology -, due to the fact that sociology is inevitably included in this object. It is included "a priori" - before sociological knowledge has taken shape - because any putative sociologist is part and parcel of a social milieu -, but also "a posteriori" - once this knowledge spreads across society.

Ramón Ramos, besides his work on the social distribution of time according to gender, has developed an interesting line of research on social paradoxes, which he applies to the analysis of situations and processes typical of the late modernity. Carlos Moya is another interesting sociologist that centres his analysis on the deep changes defining this transitional era, whereas Enrique Gil Calvo, one of the most prolific authors, performs a continuous and stylish chronicle of the rapidly evolving Spanish society.

The influence of theorists such as Bourdieu, Giddens and Castells is quite conspicuous among Spanish sociologists. But perhaps the contemporary author who has attracted the most dedicated following is Luhmann, who is important to a number of sociologists (José María García Blanco, Joseba Berriain, José Almaraz) working along theoretical lines greatly influenced by his work.

### Sociology of Gender

Gender studies started very early in Spanish Sociology, right at the end of the last century with books such as Adolfo Posada's *Feminism* and several writings by Emilia Pardo Bazán among the most important contributions. But sociology and gender studies were rudely interrupted by the Civil War (1936-39) and they were almost non-existent until the eighties. Sociologists involved in feminist movements (very often sharing their feminist militancy with an anti-dictatorial belligerence) were the first researchers and authors in the field of Sociology of Gender. Two sociologists deserve special mention concerning this initial period: Judith Astelarra who in 1979 started the first course at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, and M<sup>a</sup> Ángeles Durán, who in 1982 organised a Seminar on Women Studies at the

Universidad Autónoma de Madrid. The Instituto de la Mujer (Women's Institute) was set up in 1982 and benefited from the presence of feminist sociologists in its top positions. The Institute was endowed with resources for research in women's issues and has been the main support for most of the Spanish sociological research on gender.

The most productive fields in the Spanish Sociology of Gender - or Sociology of Women - are those related to family, work, education and politics, in that order. Between 1975 and 1991, the Spanish Women's Institute registered 224 intellectual works in the Sociology of Gender referring to the family (including books, papers, PhD theses and video-tapes). The subject Gender and Work has had 154 contributions, Gender and Education 108, and Gender and Politics 101. The total number of contributions in Sociology having women as their central issue has been 1.251 in the period referred to. Among those contributions are 43 PhD thesis and 189 shorter dissertations.

Family issues have been studied from a gender perspective since the revival of sociological research in the later years of the dictatorship. Inés Alberdi is one of the best known figures in that field. Angeles Valero, Gerardo Meil and Julio Iglesias are important contributors as well. The focus of these investigations centres around women's role in the new types of families and households that are displacing the more traditional forms of family in Spain.

Another area of the Sociology of Gender that is getting increasing attention is that of Gender and Work (paid and non-paid work). The contributions from Teresa Torns, Cristina Borderías, and Pilar Carrasqué, among others, have been a stimulating source of inspiration for academics as well as for unionist and welfare agencies looking for equality in the labour market. This issue of the link between women and work is very often related to other area quite innovative and germinal in Spanish sociological research: the different use of time of women and men. The work of M<sup>a</sup> Ángeles Durán, Ramón Ramos, M<sup>a</sup> Jesús Izquierdo, the Colectivo IOE, and CIREs is not only relevant in itself, it has also served as a background for later research on gender inequality. The different uses of time is also becoming a subject in economic research (Cristina Borderías; Cristina Carrasco, M.A. Durán), and in the sociology of the family through the work of some of the above-mentioned authors.

Marina Subirats has been one of the pioneers in Sociology of Education and Gender. Her distinction between "mixed school" and "coeducation" is an obligatory reference. In a mixed school girls and boys are together but they are faced with a traditional androcentric curriculum, whereas in a coeducation system, the curriculum (both explicit and hidden) is revised and designed from a gender perspective. Many other aspects of gender and education have been studied from a sociological perspective in recent years. Among the many successful examples of research in this area we can mention: ethnographic work on schools (Marina

Subirats, Amparo Tomé, Cristina Brullet); content analysis of text books (Nuria Garreta, Pilar Careaga, Maribel García); girls and Vocational Education (Carme Alemany and Capitolina Díaz); women in the University (Amparo Almarcha, M<sup>a</sup> Antonia García de León, Pilar Ballarín); women and Science and Technology (Rosa de la Viesca, Carmen Alemany), etc.

As has been said, Women and Politics has been another important field of research for sociologists, both from a traditional view of politics, which would refer to the women's participation in political parties, and from a perspective that would focus on the politics of everyday life (Judith Astelarra, Mayte Gallego, Celia Valiente).

The limits of this paper do not allow me to make justice to all the colleagues researching and publishing interesting sociological work in the two fields so briefly described. I apologize for many unintentional omissions.

## International Workshop

Call for papers: International workshop **Social Theory and the Work of Cornelius Castoriadis**

Crete, Greece, September 28-30, 2000

The Department of Sociology at the University of Crete is organizing an international workshop on Social Theory and the Work of Cornelius Castoriadis. The emphasis will be on the late work of Castoriadis on the social and the psyche.

Speakers will include A. Wellmer, V. Descombes, J. Whitebook, J. Aronson, P. Wagner.

To present a paper please send an abstract to:  
**Kanakis Leledakis**  
Department of Sociology, University of Crete,  
Rethimno, 74100 Crete, Greece.  
E-mail: leledakis@social.soc.uoc.gr

## Some New Books by ESA Members

Peter Lang Verlag has just published a book: **Elzbieta Halas (ed.), Florian Znaniecki's Sociological Theory and the challenges of 21st Century (Frankfurt am Main, 2000)**. Contributors: Richard Grathoff, Pierpaolo Donati, Gary Alan Fine, Zygmunt Bauman, Janusz Gockowski, Elzbieta Halas, Marek Ziolkowski, Horst J. Helle, Leszek Korporowicz, Helena Znaniecka Lopata, Jan Turowski, Joanna Kurczewska, Zygmunt Dulczewski, Luigi Tomasi, Gabriele Cappai, Jerzy J. Smolicz, Margaret J. Secombe.

The volume includes texts by sociologists from the USA, Great Britain, Germany, Italy, Australia and Poland, all of whom deemed Florian Znaniecki's ideas worth discussing in the context of the condition of contemporary sociology and society at the turning point of this era. Znaniecki (1882-1958), an eminent Polish and American sociologist and philosopher of culture, conducted research into the possibility of developing social solidarity on a global scale. Znaniecki pioneered new ideas in the field of the sociology of the nation and in the theory of the global society. The main issue for Znaniecki was the possibility of creating intercultural communication leading to a peaceful order. All texts present creative development of his ideas. They bring into focus theoretical and practical challenges offered both to the departing and to the new generation entering life now, at the dawn of the twenty-first century.

Another book published by Peter Lang Verlag is **Florian Znaniecki, Education and Social Change, edited and introduced by Elzbieta Halas, Frankfurt am Main 1998**.

This book sheds a new light on Florian Znaniecki's most original programme for the sociology of education. The volume contains newly discovered reports from research carried out under the auspices of Columbia University in the thirties, focused on educating people to participate in democratic social order and cultural innovation. Preparation for cooperative interactions with leaders lies at the core of the analysis. Included are several texts published in English which clearly expound Znaniecki's analysis of social processes in education. The key idea of transforming educational systems in the direction of self-education still proves relevant.

**Made in the GDR: The changing geographies of women in the post-socialist rural society of Mecklenburg-Westpomerania** by Bettina van Hoven-Iganski  
State University of Groningen, The Netherlands.

This book, based on a doctoral thesis, explores women's experiences in rural areas under state socialism in the GDR and in the New Germany since 1989. A key concern is to evaluate how dominant patriarchal power structures have impacted upon women's everyday lives under socialism and capitalism. Three main themes are: the changes in social dynamics in rural villages,

## New Books continued...

impact of economic rationalisations on women, and the nature and extent of women's participation in new political structures. The study upon which this book is based is located within feminist geographical thinking and draws on data collated through various research methods including correspondence, focus group interviews, key informant interviews. The thesis employs a modified grounded theory approach. Data were processed and analysed using the computer-assisted analysis programme NUDIST Version 4.0.

Contents: Introduction/Positioning the thesis/Research planned and practiced: Methodological considerations/Comrades in the countryside. The development and structure of the agricultural co-operative (LPG), and women's placement within the LPG/ The 'Wende'/'It is as though the soul is torn apart'- Women and unemployment/Rural women's perception and experience of local democracy/conclusion: Power structures and women's 'counterspaces' in rural East Germany.

Further information from: c.postmac&frw.rug.nl (State University of Groningen, NL) or via Fax: +31-(0)50-363 3901

**Social transformations and new well-being cultures D. Secondulfo (ed.)**

The book is about the modifications of cultures and practices relating to well-being within the social transformation from modern to post-modern culture, starting from the changes in social values and analyzing the new features of several areas of social action such as: complementary medicine, self-help, and mass-media; and closing with reflections upon the role of formation agencies in this context of transformation.

Contents: The new well-being cultures - P. Donati; Value change and well-being culture - M. Ferrari Occhionero; Towards a sociology of body - P. De Nardis; New well-being cultures and complementary medicine - D. Secondulfo; Self-help networks, towards a self-caring society - P. Di Nicola; Mass media and well-being services - G. Gili; Autonomy and dependence in well-being cultures and in social services - S. Stanzani; The children as new social subject: childhood and new well-being cultures - D. Grignoli and A. Saporiti; AIDS: health and, risk behaviour in Molise - F. Ferrucci; From economic well-being to social well-being: the role of formation - G. Giorio. (no publisher given - Ed)

**S.N.Eisenstadt, Paradoxes of Democracy. Fragility, Continuity and Change, The Woodrow Wilson Center Press, Washington and the Johns Hopkins Press, 1999**

**S.N.Eisenstadt, Fundamentalism, Sectarianism and Revolutions, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2000**

**ECSR: European Consortium for Sociological Research**  
Sociology Department and Nuffield College University of Oxford

## Oxford 2000

### ECSR Graduate School *September 6th – 12th*

The ECSR Graduate School is a graduate-level training programme primarily for PhD students working in various fields of sociological research. Topic: **The study of Social Inequality: Theory and Research**

#### Lecturers:

- **Dr John H Goldthorpe**  
Integrating theory and research in the study of social stratification
- **Dr Geoffrey Evans**  
Reconstructing the theory of social cleavages and political partisanship: social class, ethnicity and party support in the new democracies of East-Central Europe
- **Prof. Chris Whelan**  
Social exclusion: theory, research and public policy
- **Prof. Annemette Sorensen**  
Gender inequalities: theory, research and public policy
- **Prof. Peter Hedstrom**  
The analytical approach to sociological theory: explaining Organisational growth and collective action

### ECSR Workshops *September 13th – 14th*

The ECSR Workshops provide a forum for young researchers to present their work and facilitate co-operation among them. Groups on the following topics are chaired by:

- **Dr. Thomas Bahle and Prof. Anne Gauthier**  
Family Policy in Europe
- **Dr. Sonja Drobni\_ and Dr. Karin Kurz**  
Interdependencies in the Life Course and Social Inequality
- **Dr. Bernhard Ebbinghaus and Prof. Jelle Visser**  
Education, Labour Market and Labour Organisations
- **Prof. Duncan Gallie and Prof. Chris Whelan**  
Labour Market Precarity, Poverty and Social Exclusion
- **Prof. Chiara Saraceno**  
Gender Inequalities
- **Prof. Karl-Ulrich Mayer, Dr. Francesco Billari, Dr. Henriette Engelhardt, and Dr. Emmanuelle Tulle-Winton**  
Macro Social Change, Welfare State Adaptation and Life Course Outcomes
- **Prof. Bernd Wegener and Dr Stefan Liebig**  
Comparative Social Justice Research
- **Prof. Anthony Heath, Prof. Nan Dirk de Graaf, Dr Paul Nieuwbeerta**  
Comparative Political Sociology
- **Prof. Hartmut Esser and Dr Frank Kalter**  
Migration and Interethnic Relations

#### Plenary Lectures:

- **Prof. Susan McRae**  
Polarisation in families lifestyles and life chances
- **Prof. Anthony Heath**  
Social and Political Cleavages: Integrating Theory and Research

For further information please refer to our web page:  
<http://www.sociology.ox.ac.uk/ecsr.html>

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If you have access to internet (as everybody has, at least via the Internet Cafes) the easiest way to keep up with what happens in the ESA between the Newsletters is to go to the ESA homepage in the address: **[www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/](http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/)**

The homepage is easily navigable and you will find all relevant informations on the Helsinki congress, executive, research networks, contact addresses, publications. You can also join the ESA/pay your

membership fee via the homepage. The ESA homepage is situated at the University of Helsinki, but it is maintained by two volunteers, Antoni Casasempere Torres (Spain) and Rene Bekker (Belgium). You may also join the European sociologist-list via the Homepage.

*So, if you have not yet done so, check the ESA Home Page!!*

**[www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/](http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/)**



# Getting in touch with the ESA

*The ESA Secretariat is at SISWO, the Dutch social science support organisation. General enquiries go to the following address:*

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Bernard Kruithof  
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The Netherlands

Tel: +31 20 527 0646  
Fax: +31 20 622 9430  
E-mail: [esa@siswo.uva.nl](mailto:esa@siswo.uva.nl)

## Research Networks

Enquiries about ESA research Networks should be directed to the ESA secretariat or to the Chair of the Committee of Research Networks:

Yasemin Soysal  
Department of Sociology  
University of Essex  
Colchester, UK

E-mail: [soysal@essex.ac.uk](mailto:soysal@essex.ac.uk)

## Virtual ESA

The ESA maintains a discussion list/bulletin board supported by the MAILBASE system at Newcastle University, UK. To join the discussion group, send the following commands to:

[mailbase@mailbase.ac.uk](mailto:mailbase@mailbase.ac.uk)  
join european-sociologist  
yourfirstname yourlastname  
send user-guide

The ESA also maintains pages on the WorldWideWeb. Their entry-level address is:  
<http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa>

In order to facilitate communication between the Executive of the ESA and its members, an email list for the Executive Committee has been created. ESA members or others wishing to bring items to the attention of the Executive Committee are invited to 'post' directly to this list at:  
[esa-exec@mailbase.ac.uk](mailto:esa-exec@mailbase.ac.uk)

The editor of European Sociologist, the Newsletter of the ESA, is Dennis Smith. We consider a wide variety of material for inclusion including short articles, reflective pieces, comments, letters to the editor, notices about books published by ESA members and (space permitting) forthcoming conferences, etc. Send your material by email to Dennis Smith. His email address is as follows: [d.smith@lboro.ac.uk](mailto:d.smith@lboro.ac.uk)

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