

# European Sociologist

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Issue Number 10

## Visions and Divisions Challenges to European Sociology

Hot off the Press: first news about the 5th conference of the European Sociological Association

**This will take place August 28th - September 1st, 2001 on the city campus of the University of Helsinki, Finland.**

The local organising committee is as follows:

**prof. Elina Haavio-Mannila (chair)**  
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**prof. Anne Kovalainen**  
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\* The photographs in this issue were taken at the last ESA conference in Amsterdam.

### New Executive Committee Elected

The 4th conference of European Sociological Association took place in Amsterdam in August 1999 and shortly after that a new ESA Executive Committee was elected. Here are the details:

Report of the voting for the ESA executive board 1999-2001 (from Elina Haavio-Mannila)

The election of the members of the executive committee of European Sociological Association started in the Fourth European Conference for Sociology, August 18-21, 1999 in Amsterdam. The mail voting of six weeks ended on the 30th of September, 1999.

According to the statutes, there should be 15 men and 15 women candidates, of which 16 would be elected to the board.

The geographical distribution and the distribution of the candidates according to their special field in sociology was, as the statutes demand, fairly representative.



The nomination committee, which decided on the list of candidates, was appointed by the council of National Associations at the ESA conference in Essex 1997. It consisted of Imre Kovach, Hungary; Karin Widerberg, Norway; Gabriella Lazaridis, Greece/UK; Eva Cyba, Austria; Martin Kohli, Germany; Daniel Bertaux, France; Franca Bimbi, Italy; Stina Lyon, UK; and Elina Haavio-Mannila, chairperson. The chairperson of the next nomination committee, which was elected in Amsterdam, is Thomas Boje, Umeå University, Sweden.

The votes were counted by Elina Kuusi and myself at the Sociology Department, University of Helsinki. During the Amsterdam conference 127 ballot papers were filled. One of them was rejected because the voter had marked more than 10 votes. Thus 126 valid voting papers were cast in Amsterdam.

During the six weeks' voting time after the conference, that is, before the 1st of October 1999, 83 additional ballot papers were received by mail. Two

were rejected for the above mentioned reason, which means 81 valid ballot papers in due time. After the deadline there still came 13 ballot papers. The total number of ballot papers filled by the members was 223 of which 207 were accepted and used in the calculation of the votes. In the previous election in 1997, the number of accepted ballots was 289, in 1995, 240. The lower voting rate may be due to the relative invisibility of the ballot box, compared to the situation in Essex.

Again the competition for the last places was tough, but even if the late 13 ballots would have been accepted, the composition of the board would have remained the same. The gender structure of the new executive board is the same as in the former board elected in 1997: of the 15 men candidates six were elected, of the 15 woman candidates ten. In the board elected in 1995, there were eight men and eight women.

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	Votes cast in Amsterdam	Votes cast afterwards, before October 1, 1999	Total
<b>Elected board members (16):</b>			
1. Lane, David, UK	56	40	96
2. Haller, Max, Austria	62	32	94
3. Roos, J.P., Finland	54	42	96
4. Novak, Mojca, Slovenia	60	31	91
5. Musil, Jiri, Czech Republic	53	32	85
6. Zdravomyslova, Elena, Russia	48	35	83
7. Björnberg, Ulla, Sweden	38	31	69
8. Lengyel, György, Hungary	43	24	67
9. Bertilsson, Margareta, Denmark	32	30	62
10. Saraceno, Chiara, Italy	34	27	61
11. Soysal, Yasemin, UK	35	27	62
12. Díaz-Martínez, Capitolina, Spain	41	18	59
13. Halas, Elzbieta, Poland	37	24	61
14. Attias-Donfut, Claudine, France	25	29	54
15. Waerness, Kari, Norway	23	31	54
16. Radaev, Vadim, Russia	30	21	51
<b>Not elected:</b>			
17. Kutzar, Dagmar, Estonia	28	22	50
18. Lyon, Stina, UK	29	16	45
19. Meulemann, Heiner, Germany	25	17	42
20. Wohlrab-Sahr, Monika, Germany	26	18	44
21. Brinkgreve, Christien, Netherlands	22	19	41
22. Safilios-Rothchild, Constantina, Greece	25	16	41
23. Traxler, Franz, Austria	28	13	41
24. Schizzerotto, Antonio, Italy	23	15	38
25. Leisering, Lutz, Germany	16	19	35
26. Fischler, Claude, France	15	13	28
27. Lalive d'Epinay, Christian, Switzerland	14	14	28
28. Pérez-Vilarino, José, Spain	18	09	27
29. Tisenkopfs, Talis, Latvia	13	14	27
30. Mitev, Petar-Emil, Bulgaria	04	06	20

Helsinki, November 17, 1999.

On behalf of the nominating committee:

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## The New Officers and Committee Members

**President:** Jiri Musil

**Vice President Programme:** J.P. Roos

**Vice President Publications:** Max Haller

**Vice President Research Networks:**

Yasmin Soysal

**Treasurer:** David Lane

**Secretary General:** Claudine Attias-Donfut

**Programme Committee:** J.P. Roos (chair),

D. Lane, E. Zdravomyslova, Y. Soysal,

U. Björnberg, M. Bertilsson, Mojca Novak.

**Committee of Research Networks:**

Y. Soysal (chair), C. Diaz-Martinez, V. Radaev,

M. Bertilsson, E. Halas, G. Lengyel.

**Communications Committee:**

C. Attias-Donfut (chair),

C. Saraceno, C. Diaz-Martinez, E. Halas,

U. Björnberg, D. Smith (as Editor,

European Sociologist).

**Publications Committee:** M. Haller (chair),

G. Lengyel, J.P. Roos, E. Zdravomyslova,

K. Waerness.

# European Sociologist asked members of the new Executive Committee some questions.

Here are their answers (more in the next issue, we hope):

## Jiri Musil (President)

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

I think that the contemporary European sociology has not as yet sufficiently contributed, in intellectual terms, to a definition of the necessary sociocultural conditions of the newly emerging "Community of European Nations", in Max Haller's terms. We need to have deeper knowledge of the social and cultural mechanisms of integration of societies, based primarily on nation-states, into a new type of supra-national entities. We can bring, however, some undoubtedly new and fresh ideas into the ongoing discourse which is taking place mainly among economists and political scientists.

The first practical step in this direction should be a more intensive communication and exchange of ideas among European sociologists. This is most important in view of the extensive changes going on in Western, Central and Eastern Europe. Europe is presently a laboratory of most important transformations, and the integration of Europe, as well as the nature of the emerging European society, are the most topical questions of our time.

ESA should endeavour to become a significant component of the European civil society on account of its promoting in-depth knowledge of cultural and social forms of the integration processes.

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

I would like to see established, within ESA, a permanent seminar on social and cultural aspects of European integration. Similar seminars could successively be organised by ESA in different European countries with the help of national scientific associations or local universities. Such a discussion, however, could be conducted also in our journal, as a kind of a permanent column. At the next meeting of ESA EC in Prague, I would like to present a concrete proposal of such a project.

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

In my intellectual life, I went through two distinct periods. Before 1989 I was predominantly involved in urban sociology, and I believe that I published a few significant studies on urbanisation processes, some of them comparing urban processes in socialist and capitalist countries (see my book *urbanisation in Socialist Countries*, New York 1980). Turning to the period which started in 1989: to studies which I published after 1989 and which brought some new insights into the processes of integration and disintegration of multi-ethnic states - and which I think I can be proud of - were added the studies trying to explain the dissolution of Czechoslovakia (see the book *The End of Czechoslovakia*, New York, London, Budapest, 1995, CEU Press).

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

My intellectual development was deeply influenced by Max Weber whose *Economy and Society* and the essay *Science as a Vocation* remained for me a source of permanent inspiration. From more recent authors I very much appreciated the books by Ernest Gellner, especially his *Plough, Sword and Book*.

## Margareta Bertilsson

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

Firstly, as there are some voices raised as to why ESA exists in the first place, I assume one real challenge ahead is to "prove" its viability, i.e. by constructing a strong infrastructure among European sociologists, and to make ESA-meetings into exciting sites. Secondly, we know that most national sociologies were created as means of strengthening nation-state formations. At the millennium, when the European landscapes shift in topography with regard to centres and peripheries, the formation of a European sociological association seems an obvious endeavour: sociology on the European level seems far weaker than law, economics and political science. Thirdly, ESA could - and should - prove to be a belt of transmission between sociologists from East and West - this is perhaps our foremost aim.

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

Well, I have just been part of a group launching a European social theory network the occurrence of which seems to generate a wide-spread interest from Russia to Spain, from Finland to Italy. We will attempt to have a first workshop in Copenhagen in the Autumn of 2000.

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

Actually, the doctoral dissertation on the science theory of Charles Sanders Peirce which I wrote more than 20 years ago is probably the text which in hindsight has given me most strength to participate in science discussion. It taught me the value of providing interesting questions as starting points of all science. Not the least it has generated several related papers on, for instance, "abduction" (*Towards a Social Reconstruction of Science Theory*, Charles S Peirce and Beyond, Lund, Doctoral Dissertation, 1978; "The Operation Called Verstehen: Hypothesis as a Case of Abductive Logic" in *Individuality and Social Control*, Essays in Honour of Tamutso Shibusani (ed. K Kwian), Jai Press, Connecticut 1996 (pp 297 - 319). The research project that I concluded a couple of years ago while still in Sweden on the legal profession in the

welfare state helped me understand the "technicalisation" of law, and the "politicisation" of values characteristic of the modern welfare state (Rätten i Förvandling, Jurister mellan Stat och Marknad, ed. M Bertilsson, Stockholm 1995).

I am now conducting similar research in Denmark in focusing on the relation between "knowledge and power": what will happen to the traditional closures of professional powers when lay actors gain increasing knowledge and strategic powers! A recent publication on that same theme (*Social Power - Law*) has just appeared in *Globalisations and Modernities: Scandinavian and Latin American Perspectives* (ed. Göran Therborn), The Swedish Council on Planning and Research (FRN), Stockholm 1999 as "Professional Power in the Global Age: The Case of the Legal Profession". (also available as *Research Reports*, 1999:6) from The Department of Sociology, Copenhagen University.

The paper on "The Balkan Tragedy, A Universal or a Particular Issue" which recently appeared in *European Societies, Fusion or Fission?* (ed. by Thomas Boje, Bart van Steenberghe and Sylvia Walby), Routledge 1999 seems pertinent in the European context where wars are being fought - whether a concern for sociologists or not! My concerns for the fate of sociology at the turn of the millennium will be available shortly as "An unrestricted social world - and the problem of sociology" in *Sociology at the Turn of the Millennium* (ed. Stefan Svallfors), Umeå University 1999.

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

Max Weber: *The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism* (the study of links, affinities between two seemingly unrelated issues and the concluding focus on unintended consequences) is for me the true model of a sociological study. Yves Dezalay and Bryan Garth: *Dealing in Virtue, International Arbitration and the Transaction of a Transnational Legal Order*, Chicago University Press 1996 (a brave endeavour in studying transnational phenomena from a sociological point of view).

## Chiara Saraceno

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

It should help create the intellectual and relational context in which national sociological traditions enter into dialogue with each other in order to overcome idiosyncratic isolation and peculiarities, therefore building a truly rich, articulated European sociology.

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

Through comparative work and cross-national collaborative research and teaching, through the exploitation of instruments such as Training and Mobility programs for young researchers, as well as by introducing a more explicitly comparative focus in my teaching.

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

From the point of view of the Italian situation in research I think that my works on gender and the family (see *Mutamenti della famiglia e politiche sociali in Italia*, il Mulino 1998, and *Separarsi in Italia*, with M. Barbagli, il Mulino 1998) and on the Italian welfare state and poverty (see *Politiche contro la povertà in Italia*, with N. Negri, il Mulino 1996) are of some value. In a comparative perspective I would mention the project I coordinated under the TSER program on income support policies at the local urban level (ESOPO project - a book is in the making).

## Capitolina Díaz Martínez

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

In my opinion ESA should aim to be the more inclusive network able to connect European sociologists from all fields and perspectives. Sociologists should feel the advantage of the synergies produced by this connective role of our association. ESA should also try to be the place where we can show our work and get as varied a feedback as possible. Finally, ESA should try to be a reflexive space to further the development of a more democratic and social Europe.

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

I intend to collaborate in building a bridge between the Federation of Spanish Sociological Associations and other European sociological associations and individual sociologists. Specifically, one of my objectives will be to increase the presence of South European sociologists in the ESA.

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

The book I feel proudest of is "El presente de su futuro. Modelos de autopercepción y vida de los adolescentes españoles" (The Present of their Future. Patterns of self-perception and life between Spanish Adolescents), Madrid: Siglo XXI, 1996. It is the result of my most ambitious research effort. Its methodology (sociosemantic analysis) and its findings (self-perception patterns) have been the part of my work that have had a more distinct impact (however modest) in the work of other sociologists.

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

There are two classical books which strongly influenced me and that, in my opinion, express at its best the

tradition of sociological thought—the first—, and the attempt to go beyond that tradition, in a quest for a new theoretic outlook, an a novel conceptual framework—the second. The first is Max Weber "Economy and Society". The second is Walter Buckley (ed.) "Modern Systems Research for the Behavioural Scientist".

## Claudine Attias-Donfut

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

I think ESA should be trying to achieve the following:

- To promote exchanges between European sociologists from every country.
- To stimulate comparative research in various fields.
- To assist in the wider distribution of sociological work throughout Europe.
- To be one of the centres for the emergence of a renewal of sociological theory anchored in European cultural traditions.
- On the matter of linguistics, to facilitate inter-communication and at the same time preserve the plurality of European languages in sociology.

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

I personally hope to encourage more French sociologists to participate in ESA activities. I hope to facilitate contact between ESA and French universities, research institutions and sociological associations and, if possible, organise meetings in France. I would like to stimulate other members of the Executive Committee to make the same efforts in their respective countries when these countries are underrepresented among ESA members.

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

I am most satisfied with my theoretical work on generations and the three-generational national survey that I conducted in France. The publications that I would mention are: *Sociologie des Générations* Puf, 1988; *Grands-Parents. La famille à travers les générations*, Odile Jacob, 1998 (with M. Segalen); and in English, 'The Myth of Generational Conflict. The family and state in ageing societies' Routledge, 2000 (with S. Arber eds). I feel that these books are innovative and address the central issues concerning the interaction between family life, history and the State through the dynamics of the generations. The three-generational survey on which my work is grounded is unique because of its operative and pluralistic approach to generations, which allows a concrete analysis at the micro and macro social levels. More generally, this generational approach is able to introduce the dimension of time in the analysis of social phenomena.

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

Out of 100 years of prolific sociological output all over

the world, it is both impossible and painful to name only one or two works. Forced to choose, I would point out 'La division du travail social' by Durkheim.

## Elzbieta Halas

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

I am impressed by the achievements of the President Martin Kohli and the former Executive Committee in their efforts to make a difference in the condition of European sociology. Therefore, I would stress the importance of continuing hitherto activities as well as the dynamization and expansion of this policy. I see the objectives of ESA as a triple structure of purposes in accordance with its name: First, Europe: sharing continental responsibility in the process of integration and contributing to a better understanding of social and cultural dimensions of the process. Second, Sociology: contribution to the vital development of the discipline as the human science by mutual cross-fertilisation of various national traditions in creating sociology; regaining intellectual balance in the exchange of East-European and West-European ideas as well as between European and American sociology. Third Association: improvement and strengthening of organisation through better communication with existing European intellectual and political organisations, interpersonal contacts and research networks.

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

I would imagine my activities as the tuning of information and facilitating its two-way flow. I would inform people about the current ESA activities, briefing them in the quarterly bulletin of the Polish Sociological Association (Informacja bie...), and in this way mobilise the membership on the Polish part. On the other hand I will try to make the activities of the Polish Sociological Association more easily accessible to ESA (mainly the 2000 Meeting) as well as the publications of Polish sociologists. I would like as member of the editorial board to make more widely known the Journal of Polish Sociological Association: "Polish Sociological Review" which is aimed to become concerned with East European issues. I also hope to organise a session at the Helsinki Congress on the politics of symbolisation in Eastern Europe.

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

Even if the virtue of modesty is scorned in affirmative society, self-criticism still persists as the functional prerequisite in making science together. If I were to express appraisal of my works I think my book on symbolic interactionism (1987) - the first one in Polish literature on this topic - is still of value and interest. I have continued and elaborated the interactional point of view in another pioneering book on conversion to new religious movements (1992). I am truly proud of the grant from the Foundation of the Polish Science (1998-2001) to work on symbolisation, collective behaviour and social change. The project is focused on the symbolic dimension of transformation in Poland. I have a very personal attitude and identify with all my works on Florian Znaniecki's theory which have become my biographical adventure, including the discovery of

diaries of his friend Th. Abel (published in Polish; English publication in preparation) and the discovery of unknown papers by Znaniecki On Education and Social Change (Peter Lang Verlag 1998).

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

Erving Goffman, *The Presentation of Self in Everyday Life*, New York 1959 and Florian Znaniecki, *Modern Nationalities*, Urbana, Ill. 1952. Both books were written by sociologists working in tradition of interactionism and pragmatism and belong to the masterpieces of sociological literature. Both authors belong to the Chicago School clan. Both study identities as social constructs, penetrate the key issues of control over meanings respectively on interpersonal and inter-group level.

Both books were innovative. Goffman's in stimulating studies in strategic interactions and symbolic politics. Znaniecki already in early fifties forecast the age of nationalism, pioneered the globalisation theory and put before sociology the task of exploring possibilities for creative leadership and peace.

## J.P.Roos

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

To become a forum for ALL European sociologists, from eastern, western, northern, southern and central Europe and in the major European languages: French, German, Russian, English, and representing all possible theoretical traditions.

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

By developing the research networks, by making the conferences more interesting to southern and eastern European sociologists and by offering a broad variety of different journals (selected from among existing best European journals) to members.

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

My book on "Finnish life" (1987), based on a first collection of life stories, which started a wave of life story collections in Finland, which still continues, unabated. I presented also in my book a generational model, which is in general use in Finland.

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

Norbert Elias: *Über den Prozess der Zivilisation* (II), because it combines small details and enormous theoretical and historical perspectives in a way which every sociologist must envy. Pierre Bourdieu: *La distinction*, because it combines theoretical and empirical, qualitative and quantitative in a very creative, but still strict way. In other words, for me the ideal

sociological research breaks different barriers, refuses classifications, uses all possible approaches to make us understands how the society works.

## György Lengyel

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

The main function of the ESA is to facilitate the exchange of ideas through research networks, conferences and publications. It may help the younger generation and experts from the periphery to introduce themselves, build contacts and equalise their career chances. My hope is that in the long run it also may help to improve the quality of teaching sociology by clarifying the standards of different traditions. I do think that sociology must be a part of the curriculum in the tertiary education. I am not sure that it is the case everywhere and even if it is so the standards might be very different. A book series introducing the national traditions in sociology may help to learn more about each other.

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

First of all I want to write more articles. I also would like to be a devoted educator in sociology. These were and remain our main tasks. Besides of these I continue to participate in the activity of the research networks I am interested in. As an elected member of the executive committee of the ESA I help the work of the colleagues dealing with research networks and publications.

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

Research and writing is an exciting experience, therefore I am always most interested in my last project. Recently it is about the question how do legislatures influence the action potential of economic actors and the formation of classes and elites. I published an article about it, it is available only in Hungarian.

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

When I was a student the "Economy and Society" from Weber and the "Trade and Market in the Early Empires" from Polanyi and the substantivist school had the greatest impact on me. Still they are my favourites, although some works of the late James Coleman, the historian Jurgen Kocka or the economist Janos Kornai also impressed me. Apart from them, I have a short list of contemporary sociologists I read regularly.

# Announcement of Forthcoming Conference

## Symbols, Power and Politics

June 19-21, 2000  
Lublin, Poland

The aim of the conference is to discuss the possibilities and needs of symbolic orientation in sociology, which crosses the boundaries of various approaches and disciplines. Conceptions of symbolism as a social phenomenon and not an autonomous semiotic system will be of interest. If social knowledge is constitutive for the society, the same must be true for collective emotions, temporality and collective memory.

Discursive symbolism, symbolic objects or vehicles and symbolic actions would be analysed. The focus would be on functioning of symbolism in the public sphere and its both conservative and transformative power, including the politics of symbolisation.

### Proposed thematic sessions:

#### I. Symbolic Dimension of Society in Theoretical Perspectives

#### II. Power of Discursive Symbolism

#### III. Politics of Symbolic Actions

#### IV. Symbolic Objects in Social Time and Space

### Deadlines:

- **January 30** - confirmation of participation
- **February 15** - titles of proposed papers
- **March 30** - abstracts of papers (half a page - in English)
- **May 15** - sending of full text of papers

For further details, contact Elzbieta Halas  
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## 'How was it for you?' Reflections on Amsterdam

**European Sociologist** asked two participants in the Amsterdam conference to let us have their thoughts about the event. Here they are. One is from Svetlana G. Kirdina of the Institute of Economics and Industrial Engineering, Russian Academy of Sciences, Siberian Branch, Novosibirsk, Russia. The other is from Teresa Whitaker who is a doctoral researcher at University College, Dublin.

### East meets West...

I live and work in the geographical centre of Russia, in the city of Novosibirsk that is 3500 km to the east of Moscow. It was my first time taking part in an ESA conference. In my view, Europe is a highly successful and prospering community, but, however, one that is a little anxious and baffled. This anxiety shows through in the name of the conference and was presented in many papers which I heard. It is largely due to globalisation.

First, Europe is worried on account of the expansion of transoceanic culture and the inflow of consumption items that are alien to European traditions, the invasion of masses of goods from America, and the advance of American-English which is a native language only for the British. But today Europe is not self-sufficient without these goods, as was shown by the analysis of export-import flows presented at the conference analysis.

Second, European states are anxious about the need to solve problems stemming from their colonial past. For example, problems are caused by the flow of population from the former colonies. European countries are already dependent on this inflow of population because these newcomers carry out the majority of unskilled jobs rather than native-born Europeans. Europeans have accepted this population as part of the community and have had to cope with many social problems, including unemployment and drug dependency.

Finally, more and more tricky questions are being addressed to contemporary Europe - the founder of democratic traditions in world civilisation - by sociologists. How many women are in the authority structures of European countries, for instance, in the Netherlands, which has hosted the ESA conference? Why do only white Europeans participate in the conference while many non-whites and non-Europeans may be found on the streets of European cities?

European countries have in practice to unite to make decisions about general problems in spite of the ambitions of each European state to preserve its own national and state identity. In this situation, institutional exchanges between European community and the Russian State can be highly useful. Today our country is developing successfully the institutions of market economy and federalism. We take models and examples of them from the countries of the West. In turn, Russia can also offer its own institutional forms of redistributive economy and centralised state that it has been perfecting for centuries and which have helped us to concentrate available resources and move step by step closer to the centres of world technological civilisation.

A reasonable combination of "eastern" and "western" institutions provides, as the recent experience of Japan and Singapore shows, the possibility of progress in terms of political and social stability. So I consider Russia should be part of Europe not only for geographical or economic reasons. As never before, Europe and Russia are beginning to realise their unity and the need to help

each other in solving the problems caused globalisation. In the community of sociologists we also can see the increased attention paid by European states to the experience and ideas of Russia and vice versa. Russian speech is heard more often than previously, in conference halls. Really, in the first years after the disintegration of the USSR and the Warsaw Pact most scientists from the Baltic countries and former socialist states, though they knew Russian, spoke only English with Russian colleagues. Today they often speak Russian with us. It is sign, I hope, that our former neighbours from socialist camp are in agreement that there is no need to build a new "Berlin wall" between us. From now on, the challenge of understanding each other is more interesting for sociologists than following or resisting our national governments.

I do believe that on the eve of third millennium we have more and more free and mutual scientific exchange in Europe. In my view, the 4th conference of European Sociological Association has served as a considerable and significant argument in its favour.

**Svetlana G. Kirdina**  
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...and

### "Winnie the Pooh" came too

Older sociologists can rest assured that sociology is in good hands as we approach the third millennium. All who attended the 4th European Sociological Conference in Amsterdam had their sociological imaginations nurtured and stimulated. There were new beginnings, new ideas and insights. Among the new beginnings was the start of Sociology of Sport network. The importance of sport in today's society cannot be underestimated; it may well be the very agent, which will contribute to social cohesion and integration in our new Europe.

I found the papers on Norbert Elias and figurational studies particularly interesting. Liam O'Dowd presented a stimulating and topical paper on Borders and Border Change, which argues that sociology has failed to problematise borders. There is a tendency to normalise state borders because of the affiliation of sociology with long established liberal democratic states. He wondered if we all have collective amnesia about the formation of borders, wars make states and states make wars, state borders have an arbitrary nature.

New methodological ideas were presented by Kusminder Chahal and Corinne Wattam from the University of Central Lancashire, who not only brought the entire research team to the conference but also four participants of the research whose ages ranged between thirteen and sixteen years of age. Their research challenges adult discourse and adult centrism and the

use of children as sources of data. Traditional research methods do not work with children. They are carrying out unfunded research, which is looking at the needs of young people in Lancaster. They asked their participants to design the research instrument, based on their own personal experiences and to execute it. The young people's roles changed to that of co-researchers, emphasising the interdependent nature of research. The adolescents gave a short presentation of the advantages and disadvantages of using this method. The advantages included being perceived as non-threatening and having empathy with the respondents. The disadvantage was the danger of not being taken seriously. Kusminder talked about the incredible difficulty of gaining access to the conference and finding funds to bring the research team to Amsterdam. It was refreshing to see young people express themselves in their own language and to see colourful symbols of youth. "Winnie the Pooh" in a vivid yellow sat boldly and unashamedly in the front row accompanied by a 13 year old co-researcher.

My impression of the conference was that it was very big but well organised. Because all the papers sounded so interesting the hardest part was trying to decide what papers to go to. Parallel papers sound like a good idea, but the reality was that there were more people than the elevators could carry, as a result a lot of people ended up arriving late, causing noise and disruption. One person quipped "the lift has arrived", when a group of people arrived five minutes late. This was quite distracting not only for speakers but even more so for the audience.

It is interesting to note that the conference started with an all-male panel and ended with an all-female one. Is this just another indication that women are always last or is it a question of age before beauty?

**Teresa Whitaker**  
**University College Dublin**



# Report on ESA Research Networks: 1997-1999, by Marlis Buchmann - Vice President Research Networks

(presented to the ESA General Assembly in Amsterdam on 19th August 1999)

Research Networks are the backbone of the ESA. The intellectual life and the organisational infrastructure is largely dependent on the successful work of the Research Networks. They provide a forum of continuous discussion and collaboration for members from different countries and sociological traditions. They assume a key role in preparing the program of the biannual ESA Conference and in organising regular meetings between the conferences.

The Executive Committee has so far endorsed twelve Research Networks and one Regional Network. They are listed below in alphabetical order:

- **Biographical Perspectives on European Societies**
- **Economic Sociology**
- **Family Sociology**
- **Gender Relations, the Labour Market and the Welfare State**
- **Globalisation**
- **Industrial Relations, Labour Market Institutions and Employment**
- **RENCORE: Methods for Comparative Research on Europe**
- **Social Movements**
- **Social Policy**
- **Sociology of Consumption**
- **Sociology of Mass Media & Communications**
- **Youth and Generation**
- **Regional Network on Southern European Societies**

The names and addresses of the Coordinators were given in the last ESA Newsletter.

Between 1997 and 1999 several initiatives have been taken to establish new Research Networks: Two formal applications have been submitted to the Executive Committee: (1) Research Network and (2) Research Network Sociology of Professions. At the Executive Committee meeting to be held at the beginning of the conference in Amsterdam, the committee will vote on the approval of these two formal applications.

Two other groups have been granted the provisional status of a Research Network: (1) Research Network Sociology of Education and (2) Research Network Sociology of Disasters. This status includes the right to organise sessions at the bi-annual conference. Both groups have made use of this right and have successfully organised several sessions. The outcome of these endeavors together with a future formal

application to the new Executive Committee will determine the future status of these two provisional Research Networks. Several other Research Networks are in the making. Some groups are close to submitting a formal application to the Executive Committee while others are still in the process of recruiting members and setting up a program, in order to fulfill the requirements set by the ESA Statutes. The proposals pertain to the following areas of interest: Qualitative Methodology; (2) Sociology of Ageing; (3) Social Theory; (4) Sociology of Culture; (5) Science and Technology.

The past two years have been a period of successful consolidation of the Research Networks. Most networks have created their own infrastructure, including e-mail discussion lists. They have engaged in activities that document the continuous discussion and collaboration in the respective areas of interest. Several Research Networks have held meetings between the biannual conferences, thus giving proof of their active intellectual life.

The Executive Committee encourages proposals for additional Research Networks as there are still substantive areas within sociology for which there are no Research Networks to date. The Committee hopes that the Amsterdam Conference will result in the submission of formal applications regarding Research Networks that are in the making, as well as in new proposals for additional Research Networks.

(At its first meeting, the new Executive Committee formally approved Research networks in Social Theory, Science and Technology and Qualitative Methodology - Ed).

## Report from the Social Theory Research Network

Social theory is, by definition, an enterprise aiming at the formulation of conceptual networks enabling the analysis of era. It does this in developing concepts of orientation and outlining what can be called "conditional ontologies" giving social research conceptual background and methodological tools. As such an enterprise social theory is (1) a distinct field in itself and a form of dialogue with (2) empirical social research of actual societies on the one hand and with (3) civic discourse on the other.

This was the focus of the most prominent classics of sociology such as Durkheim, Simmel, Weber and Marx, and it is because their work contributes to this task in a way providing fruitful insight even today that they are still considered classics. During the period between World War 1 and 11, the work of these European thinkers was taken up by Americans and then provided back to Europeans in an American framework after World War 11. This was an important contribution but the reverse side of the Parsonian influence was, however, that it removed the European traditions from their original interests and context of emergence. With the new flourishing period of European social theory this is no

more the case. Yet it is important that in addition to international contexts such as the ISA Social Theory Research Committee and national contexts such as Social Theory networks and research committees of the national sociological associations a context where European traditions can face and mutually enrich one another emerges. This is one reason to establish a Research Network in Social Theory for the ESA. Another and equally important reason are the substantial changes European societies are going through at this time. The need for social theory which is informed of these changes is twofold. Firstly, it is important for the development of social theory that it can face these changes and elaborate its concepts accordingly. Secondly, it is important for empirical social research of these changes that a body of social theory exists which is capable of pointing out important research problems and providing methodological tools for their study. To make certain that such social theory will emerge a European research network is needed.

The seeds of the network already exist. "European Journal for Social Theory" was founded in 1998. In the 4th ESA Congress in Amsterdam 1999 Stream 1 11. 1 "Social Theory: Thinking Europe" was organised with 4 sessions and 15 accepted papers, and there have been similar sessions in previous ESA Congresses as well. In Amsterdam, a preliminary business meeting was held. Participants at the meeting expressed the need for a Social Theory Research Network and outlined future plans. The most urgent of these circulate around annual meetings, co-operation in publishing and maintaining the network. It was decided that the network will organise a congress on the theme "European Social Theory in the Turn of Millennium" in Copenhagen during Fall 2000. First a board for the network will be elected and a draft of rules discussed in a business meeting held during the conference.

The tasks of the new board will include organising 4-8 thematic sessions on actual themes in social theory for the 5th ESA Congress in Helsinki in 2001, establishing the network on the widest possible bases in collaboration with the ISA RC16 on Social Theory, organising the edition, print and circulation of a membership information bulletin, and arranging economical resources for all this following the scheme that the network should be able to organise at least one European social theory conference per year and publish a membership bulletin at least biannually.

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## Report from Research Network on 'Biographical Perspectives on European Societies (Eurobio)'

The Research Network had a full programme at the Amsterdam conference. Twenty-three papers were presented during five sessions and a sixth session was devoted to a 'Fritz Schütze workshop' presented by Gerhard Riemann. Thanks in no small part to the preliminary suggestions of JP Roos concerning the etiquette of efficient paper presentation, all sessions went extremely well. Abstracts, along with the full text from many papers, can be accessed through the RN's web site at:

[www.valt.helsinki.fi/staff/jproos/esabio.htm](http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/staff/jproos/esabio.htm)

[This web site also carries up-to-date announcements and lists the names, addresses and e-mails of the RN's members.]

After five years, JP Roos has stepped down from the post of Chair. There can be no doubt that the RN owes its success in no small measure to JP's excellent stewardship during its formative years. We owe him a great debt of thanks for all his hard work and good humour.

At its business meeting, Robert Miller was elected new Chair and Elena Zdravomyslova was re-elected Vice-chair. Their contact addresses are:

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Suggestions for Research Network activities, including ideas for the 5th European Conference of Sociology in Helsinki in 2001 should be sent to Robert and Elena.

The other members of the new board are: Aili Aarela; Vladimir Andrie; Daniel Bertaux; Pierluca Birindelli; Elina Haavio-Mannila; Robin Humphrey; Stina Lyon; Melanie Mauther; Ann Nilsen; Brian Roberts; Gerhard Riemann; J.P. Roos; Armelle Testenoire; Talis Tisenkopfs. The RN currently has 128 members.

## Report from Provisional Research Network on Sociology of Disasters

The 4th European Conference of Sociology provided the opportunity for the first meeting of a new provisional research network within the ESA bringing together sociologists and others with a specific interest in Disasters. Four sessions brought together participants from both within and beyond Europe; indeed it was good to welcome colleagues from the USA where the Sociology of Disasters has a longer legacy and within which the International Sociological Association's Disasters Research Committee has its roots.

One of the most exciting aspects of Disaster Sociology is its pragmatic orientation and the active orientation of many of its proponents to link research with the practice and policy of disaster management. This was reflected in the first session on **Mass Emergency Institutions and Services in European Countries**.

Boris Pofiriev - teaching professor at the Institute for Systems Analysis in Moscow and advisor to the Russian government - discussed the system of integrated emergency management in Russia. This has been spurred on in part by a series of major disasters and the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991 which brought about a new, civil defence paradigm. Vera Vratusa's presentation on the bombing of Belgrade highlighted the increasing inclusion of complex emergencies within the category of disaster studies while Timo Kopomaa - an urban researcher from Finland - discussed issues in safety and strategies for defending urban populations. Disaster studies and management can clearly benefit from a multidisciplinary approach which includes the contribution of urban planners, anthropologists, political scientists, geographers and others and it was encouraging to have all of these disciplines represented at Amsterdam.

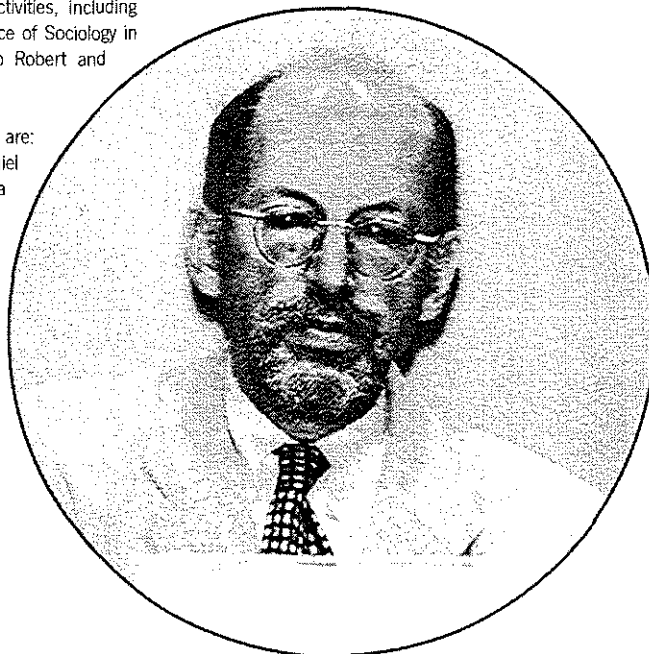
**Disaster Theory** formed the focus for the second session. Bob Stallings discussed the implications of a Weberian approach for disaster research and the value of applying the traditional typology of social action and model of political economy to disaster studies. Yuriy Sayenko then discussed the social consequences of the Chernobyl Disaster and

called for a new conception of social policy which would increase the social participation of victims. Indeed, this philosophy of community-based and participative approaches is a theme running throughout disaster management ranging from the work of NGOs responding to natural disasters in developing countries to organisations such as the US Federal Emergency Management Association in building disaster-resistant communities.

Sociologists have much to contribute to disaster managers in explaining the complex nature of communities and the **differential vulnerability and impacts of disaster**. This topic formed the focus of another session with presentations by Maureen Fordham, Klaus Hartmann and Pal Tamas on topics including the significance of race, class and gender in flood experiences. In the aftermath of disaster communities participate in various systems and rituals of disaster interpretation. One way of making sense of the disaster experience and locating it within the community's social history is through memorials and services. Anne Eyre presented on this within a session focussing on **popular culture in disasters**. Hanna Schmuck presented an anthropological study highlighting religious interpretations of the floods in Bangladesh while Rus Dynes illustrated the development of modern rational thought in analyses of the eighteenth century Lisbon earthquake. Poster presentations and film material (the latter by Olivera Puric) enhanced this session. Please visit the website:

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

**Dr Anne Eyre**  
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# The Language Debate: two contributions from the past and present editors of *European Sociologist*

Robert Miller looks at the use of language within the ESA. Dennis Smith raises some wider questions. Both are expressing their personal views and their views do not necessarily reflect those of the ESA.

## The Use of Language within the ESA by Robert Miller

**'Disclaimer'** : I was a member of the original Steering Committee and the first two Executive Committees of the European Sociological Association and was ESA General Secretary for two years until the end of the Amsterdam conference. What I say here are my personal views and recollections and do not necessarily reflect the views of the ESA, past or present. -RLM

**History** The role of English and its relationship to the other major European languages within the ESA has been uneasy since the very beginning of the Association. The possibility of the creation of a pan-European association of sociologists sustained the work of the ad hoc group that organised what we now call the 1st European Conference of Sociology which took place in Vienna in 1992. At that conference, the Steering Committee formed that would create the European Sociological Association. Almost all of the activities of the first conference were conducted in English and the first informal discussions about the formation of the ESA were in English.

Once the decision had been made to attempt the formation of the ESA, the first task of the Steering Committee had to be to write the Statutes of the Association. The writing of the ESA Statutes defined the basic parameters of the current ESA 'non-policy' toward language use. As far as language goes, one can note two things about the Statutes: There is no mention of language in the Statutes; The official Statutes of the ESA are only in English.

During the writing of the Statutes, there was considerable debate about the role of English in relation to other European languages. The possibility of having a number of languages designated as official ESA languages was considered seriously. In the end, the final decision was that no language or languages would be designated as official languages of the ESA. The reason was that to declare some languages as 'official' would privilege them over the rest of the 'unofficial' languages. After English, which other languages should be chosen? If German and/or French, what about Spanish? If Spanish, why not Italian or Russian? etc. etc. This reasoning was not just a rhetorical argument to justify the least demanding practice - it was genuine attempt to be inclusive of any European language that any potential member of the ESA might want to use.

At the same time, even though only a few of its members had English as their first language, the working language of the Steering Committee was the one tongue they had in common - English. The Statutes were written in the common language, English. Because people did not feel they had the ability to produce completely unambiguous translations of the Statutes into other languages and the ESA had zero financial resources for professional translation, there was no attempt to produce a multi-lingual set of Statutes. So, by the time the Statutes were completed - months before the process of having the existence of the ESA confirmed by the national European

sociological associations - the pattern of language use within the ESA already had been established: no official languages; English as the working language for pragmatic reasons; allowing the cost of multilingual activities to limit the official operations of the ESA to English only.

**Current situation** In the years since then, even though the ESA has grown and established itself, the situation of language within the ESA has not changed. The ESA Executive and its parts operate in English even though only a couple of its members have English as a first language; up until now the newsletter has appeared in English only (though as former editor, I must say that if we had received material in another language, we would have printed it.); the working language of the European Conferences of Sociology has remained English (though people can present in another language if they choose). The Amsterdam Conference organisers stipulated that each paper proposal had to have an English language abstract. This was for pragmatic reasons - the organisers only felt confident that the session convenors who had the tasks of selecting and scheduling papers would know one language for sure - English.

One must note, however, that the requirement for an English language abstract could have been balanced by the translation of abstracts into at least one other European language; the ESA e-mail lists in theory can have announcements in any language (though the reproduction of non-English characters can cause problems). In reality, almost all e-mail announcements and discussion is in English. Over half (52%) of the subscribers to *European Sociologist*, the main ESA list, are from English-speaking countries (United Kingdom, USA, Ireland, Canada, Australia & New Zealand). The next largest 'blocs' are the German language countries (12%) and the Nordic countries (11%). The largest non-northern European country is Italy with 4% of subscribers.

The ESA web pages are in English. I have proposed that the web pages could be translated into other languages, but no volunteers have come forward. (Toni Casasempere, the person who has done an excellent job setting up the ESA web site, is Spanish, but he does not feel his English is good enough to take on the task of producing a Spanish version.) The breakdown of visitors to the web pages is more international, but with a northern European slant. 24% of viewers of the web pages come from English language sites, followed by 20% from 'Nordic' sites and 18% from German language sites. Spanish visitors make up just under 3% and those from France and Italy are at 2%.

There was a lively debate about the 'problem' of language within the ESA during the late winter and spring of 1997, but not that much came of it. No volunteers to translate web pages or newsletters for example. The ESA publishing programme provides somewhat of a mixed message about languages: European Societies, the ESA journal, is located in Munich with an Associate Editor for Articles that is

German. Its Editor in Chief is a Dane located in Sweden. The journal sees part of its mission as publishing important European sociological work that has appeared in a language other than English and to that effect has a set of book review editors for the major European language blocs. It does, however, require that articles are submitted in English and, unlike several other journals that target an international readership, the journal does not have a policy of providing abstracts in languages other than English. (At the same time, the ESA did include money for editorial help for improving the English of articles submitted by non-English first language authors in the start-up costings which were negotiated with the publisher).

The ESA book series also seems to assume that books will be in English. But again, the ESA included money for editorial help for improving the English of non-English first language authors in the start-up costings which were negotiated with the publisher. Finally, one should note that a breakdown of attendance at the most recent European Conference of Sociology in Amsterdam shows that participation came disproportionately from the northwest of the continent. Based upon a rapid count of registered participants taken on the penultimate day of the conference, 53% came from northwestern Europe with the United Kingdom contributing the largest number from any single country. 'Germanophone' countries contributed 16% of registered participants, double that of 8% from a 'Latin' bloc of France, Italy, Spain and Portugal combined. The balance of eastern and southeastern Europe made up 15%. (There were also small numbers from outside Europe or those who did not fit into any of the above categories.) This reflects a number of things, such as the location of conference and those who have the resources to be able to attend and/or pay the registration fee, but a contributing factor probably is that people from the northwest of Europe are on average the most proficient in their English. The breakdown of the origins of participants takes on added significance when one notes that conference registration can be said to drive the national pattern of ESA membership. Most ESA members renew or take out their membership only when they decide to attend the European Conference. The next (2001) European Conference of Sociology will take place in Helsinki, so the northern (if not the western) skew of ESA membership is likely to persist in at least the short term.

So, there are signs of a circular process, with the adversely affected who would be most likely to protest against a language policy that favours English remaining outside the ESA. The activities of the South Europe Regional Network in the ESA has been crucial in minimising this weakness in the Association's membership profile, but on its own that has not been enough to redress the imbalance. Past Executive Committees have been aware of the problem, for instance seeking applications for a European Conference of Sociology that will take place at a southern European venue.

The ESA, however, is an organisation with limited resources that force it to set priorities. Two major

priorities, servicing the ESA Research Network and organising the semi-annual European Conferences of Sociology which are crucial for the organisation's survival, take up much of the Executive's collective energy. There is probably enough energy and committed Executive members left over after these central demands have been met for one other significant accomplishment during the tenure of any single Executive. (For example, the previous Executives managed to bring the ESA's publication programme to fruition.) Unless there is sustained pressure from the rank and file for movement on the issue of language, it is likely to remain only that - one of a number of competing priorities and will only come to be seen as crucial if, or when, the halting recruitment of southern European members ceases to match their slow leakage and the European Sociological Association discovers that it has regressed into a northern European organisation.

Robert Miller is Director of the Centre for Social Research in the School of Sociology and Social Policy at the Queen's University of Belfast in Northern Ireland.

## English is Becoming the New Global Lingua Franca But Be Warned: Speaking English Can Make You Deaf

by Dennis Smith

Erasmus is a great European cultural hero. Albrecht Dürer's famous woodcut of the great humanist scholar sitting at his writing desk, lips frozen in an enigmatic smile, is pinned up on academic office walls all over the continent. However, the example of Erasmus provides a warning to those of us whose first language is English, especially those who speak no other language apart from English. For the past half century we have been favoured by the dominant position of the United States which has forced the rest of the world to learn the tongue we acquired in the cradle. English has become 'a kind of Latin', the language that everyone knows.

Latin was, of course, the favoured language of Erasmus (c 1469-1536). He despised the 'modern' vernacular languages of the continent through which he incessantly travelled. Erasmus once praised the Parisian scholar, Robert Gaguin, for writing a history of the French in Latin. Erasmus did not read Italian or German. However, this carried a heavy cost. Erasmus was denied access to the words of either Machiavelli or Luther, both near-contemporaries. This was a pity because their ideas were part of a fundamental reshaping of the European order during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Erasmus drew thick curtains across the window through which he could have glimpsed the future.

A similar fate awaits English speakers who do not take the trouble to cross the boundaries of monolingualism. Latin was on the way out as a lingua franca in the early modern period whereas English is in the course of establishing itself in this role. However, the main point is that both cases show that the monolingual mind set produces a sort of deafness. Monolingualism, the temptingly easy road for native English speakers, is a wall that both imprisons and excludes just as effectively as do jails and border controls. It seems certain that many of the big ideas shaping the global order in the next two centuries will be thought out in languages other than English. They are probably already finding

expression in a number of cultures and languages, many of them non-European as well as non-English. Many of those involved in those debates will find mutual contact eased by the fact that they have already received a basic training in cross-cultural communication. This training is provided by the discipline of having to learn English as a second language. Disastrously, this discipline is denied to native English speakers who can get by with just one tongue.

Let me put this analysis in a broader context. In my view, the main challenge for sociologists (and other professional groups) for some time to come will be to make sense of, and help shape, the culture and institutions of global modernity. This is not a task solely reserved for Westerners, however dominant the transatlantic countries seem to be in the social sciences and, more generally, in the knowledge-based industries. In fact, the knowledge and understanding required to 'make the world work' in the twenty-first and twenty-second centuries must be found throughout the globe.

During the initial postwar period the United States had unrivalled power and authority in world affairs. Now the drift of things is towards a more pluralistic global order or, as some insist, disorder. Europe and the countries of the Pacific region, including China, have asserted themselves. Others are following. In a century's time the world will probably still be capitalist but it is less likely that sociologists and others will be describing it as American or even Western capitalism. Despite the euphoria of 1989, the current form of capitalism is facing long-term difficulties. There is a well-known contradiction between the desire to maintain the viability of civilised human life on the planet and the desire of an increasing number of human beings to acquire that standard of living (a desire expressed in the polling booths and on the streets). In a pluralistic world competitive pressures are intense.

The enjoyment of the 'haves' is spoiled by seeing the 'have nots' with their begging bowls. So the rich keep their fingers crossed and wait for technological solutions to appear that will provide enough to go around without spoiling anybody's party. In the meantime they build walls to protect their own privileged existence. Cross-border controls keep the world's poor 'outside'; prison-building programmes keep local troublemakers 'inside'.

It cannot be assumed that these technological solutions will appear quickly or even in the near future. Another approach is needed. We need to re-examine our understanding of what a civilised human life is, and how it may be achieved for the majority. That debate needs to draw upon the wisdom and experience of all cultures. This means facing up to the basic challenge of linguistic differences.

At the start of the new millennium English is well on the way to becoming the lingua franca of a global elite. On the face of it, this solves the problem of global communication. Are we not heading for a world in which everyone will be able to speak to everyone else? However, there are two difficulties with this thesis. The first is that language is thoroughly wrapped up with identity. When we speak we declare who we are. It is true that learning English as a second language brings practical benefits in terms of economic opportunities. However, there is a psychic cost in using the language of another country, especially if that country has played the role of conqueror in the past.

English is likely to remain for a long time to come the preferred language of the emerging global elite in

transnational commerce, international politics and related areas. However, and this is the second difficulty, national and regional languages such as Arabic, Spanish, Chinese and Hindi are certainly not disappearing. On the contrary, ethnic and nationalist politics will ensure that the use of languages other than English continues to grow, not least among educated and ambitious people who either do not belong to the global elite or play an intermediary role between the global and national arenas.

However, because so many people are learning English as a second language, anyone whose first language is English has been given a glorious free ride over the past few decades. It was not always that way. As Immanuel Wallerstein, president of the International Sociological Association, pointed out in one of his recent series of open letters to ISA members, the domination of English as the preferred language of international communication is a relatively recent historical phenomenon. During the century brought to an end by World War II the social sciences were dominated by five countries - Great Britain, France, Germany, Italy and the United States - and four languages: English, French, German and Italian. How much communication there was between scholars in the different national traditions is a question for the historians but what communication there was depended to a great extent on scholars being able to speak not just one but two, three or more languages.

The outcome of World War II changed the situation radically. The status of German and Italian declined. French-speakers have had to fight hard to maintain the international presence of their language. The English language was bolstered by the power and prestige of everything American. It has penetrated into almost all corners of the globe as the preferred second language. However, native English-speaking free-riders in the 'Anglo-Saxon' world may have a heavy price to pay in the future.

My conclusion is that sociologists who are native English speakers need to be aware of the danger of being cut off from the possibility of either understanding or influencing the cultural tendencies that are shaping global modernity. Ways have to be found of breaking out of the monolingual prison. Native English speakers need more language awareness, also more translators and interpreters able to give them better access than they already have to cultures other than their own. The object should be not to patronise or idealise other cultures but to get involved in the debates going on within and, hopefully, between them. They should do this soon while they still have some chance of making an influential contribution to movements of thought that are already creating the cultural materials from which a global order will have to be constructed. This seems a worthy task for the new millennium.

To summarise: learning and speaking English is a necessary and valuable activity. The English language performs a valuable service as a lingua franca. However, let those native English speakers who allow themselves to lapse into monolingualism be aware that that are cutting themselves off from access to thoughts and feelings that may be shaping the future. Sociologists, at least, should be concerned about this.

(There is a lively debate on democracy, language and related themes in a new book edited by Dennis Smith and Sue Wright entitled **Whose Europe? The Turn Towards Democracy**, Blackwell 1999).

# Report on European Societies and the ESA Book Series

## by Thomas P. Boje of the ESA Publication Committee

(presented to ESA General Assembly on 19th August 1999)

### The journal European Societies

European Societies started in 1999. In Spring 1998 the ESA agreed with Routledge on the conditions for publishing the journal and signed a contract for 10 years.

European Societies is published by Routledge/Taylor & Francis Ltd. beginning in 1999 with three issues and from 2000 with four issues. European Societies is the official journal of the European Sociological Association and all members will receive the journal as part of their membership. In 1999 European Societies costs 40 US-dollars for individual members paying the standard rate for membership (strong currency countries) and 25 US-dollars for individual members paying the reduced rate of membership (weak currency countries).

Already before publishing the second issue of European Societies the journal has established itself as one of the larger European journals in sociology with about 800 subscribers divided as follows: Institutional subscribers 40, individual subscribers, 68 ESA members, 700

European Societies will publish works by leading sociologists and is devoted to research on the sociology of contemporary Europe. It is the aim of the ESA to develop the journal as an international platform for the sociological discourse on European developments and the journal want to cover social theory and analysis on three levels: the European level itself, comparative research on Europe, and Europe in an international perspective. European Societies will emphasise publication of research on Europe rather than research by Europeans and welcomes articles by European as well as non-European sociologists reflecting recent and significant changes in Europe. Furthermore the ESA hope that European Societies might be a forum for the academic debate on an interdisciplinary level among the economists, political scientists and social policy analysts on the development in Europe.

### Contents of European Societies Vol 1, 1999

The first issue of European Societies was published in April 1999. This issue includes five articles and six book reviews. The articles in the first issue are:

**National models for making and legitimating elites: A comparative analysis of the 200 top executives in France, Germany and Great Britain** by Michel Bauer and Benedicte Bertin-Mouro

**Models of the family, women's role and social policy: A new perspective from Preference Theory** by Catherine Hakim

**The European Union and equal opportunity policies** by Sylvia Walby

**Private and public transfers between generations: Linking the family and the State** by Martin Kohli

**Ethnicity, multiculturalism and the problem of culture** by Alexandra Alund

The first issue was sent to all members of the European Sociological Association who have paid their membership fee and the subscription price for the journal for 1999. Furthermore, members of ESA who paid their membership fee for 1999 - but not the subscription price for the journal - have also received the first issue but with a strong appeal to pay the subscription price for 1999 - 80 NFL for Western Europeans and 50 NFL for Central and Eastern Europeans. Those members who do not pay this extra fee for the journal will not receive the following issues of European Societies but of course remain ordinary members of the ESA.

The second issue of European Societies includes four articles and 15 book reviews. This issue will be published in early August 1999. The articles in the second issue are

**Political trust and attitudes towards redistribution: A comparison of Sweden and Norway** by Stefan Svallfors

**Unemployment, the household and social networks in the European Union** by Duncan Gallie

**Gender politics in the European Union: The return of the public** by Ulrike Liebert

**Unemployment, employment and poverty** by Anita Haataja

The final issue of European Societies Vol. 1 is ready for printing and will include four articles and 12 book reviews. The articles in the third issue are:

**How Penal Common Sense Comes to Europeans; Notes on the Transatlantic Diffusion of the Neoliberal Doxa** by Loic Wacquant

**"Death is not the same always and everywhere" Sociocultural Aspects of 'Brain Death and the Legislation of Organ Transplantation: the Case of Germany** by Werner Schneider

**Economic Standard of Living: A Longitudinal Analysis of the Economic Standard Among Swedes 1919 - 1995** by Björn Halleröd

**Managing Money in British and Swedish Households** by Christine Roman and Carolyn Vogler

The number of papers submitted for publication in European Societies is rapidly growing and several good papers are available for the coming issues of the journal. However, I strongly encourage European sociologists to submit papers for publication in European Societies. We need a strong and influential European journal in sociology debating all the burning issues of economic, social, political, and cultural development in Europe. Papers submitted for publication in European Societies must be sent to:

European Societies  
Jutta Allmendinger  
Institut für Soziologie,  
Konradstr. 6 D - 80 801 Munich, Germany

### Reviewing Articles

The Editor (Articles) is responsible for the reviewing process and the journal is establishing a pool of sociologists for this purpose. Included in this pool are members of the editorial group who will be used as reviewers when appropriate - i.e. when the subject of the submitted articles is related to their academic field. Communication with reviewers is handled by the editor (articles).



## Book Reviewing

An important element in the sociological debate on the economic, social, politics and cultural development in Europe is the reviewing of books published by European sociologists. *European Societies* is written in English but wants to include all regions of Europe. One way to do this will be through reviewing books from the different European regions published in other languages than English. *European Societies* has succeeded in building up of a network of regional book review editors each responsible for a specific region. Among the duties of the Book Review Editors we also want to include submission of review articles through which it might be possible present the many different subjects in European sociology and the different regions of Europe.

The regional book review editors are:

- Andreas Balog, Vienna, Austria
- Jacques Coenen-Huther, Geneva, Switzerland
- Ana Guillen, Oviedo, Spain
- Mihaly Nylas, Budapest, Hungary
- John Scott, Essex, UK
- Antonio Schizzerotto, Milan, Italy
- Stefan Svallfors, Umea, Sweden

The editorial group of *European Societies* Members of the Editorial Group are elected by the ESA Executive Committee. This group includes the following:

- Thomas P. Boje (Chair), Umea University, Sweden
- Andreas Balog, University of Vienna, Austria
- Franca Bimbi, University of Padova, Italy
- Ulla Björnberg, University of Gothenburg, Sweden
- Eva Cyba, University of Vienna, Austria
- Zsuzsa Ferge, Budapest, Hungary
- Jacqueline Heinen, CNRS, Paris, France
- Jean Kellerhals, University of Geneva, Switzerland
- Majca Novak, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia
- Elena Zdravowskaya, European University, St. Petersburg, Russia

The Editorial Group has an overseeing function in relation to the editors, advising editors (articles) in compiling individual issues of the journal and acting as reviewers when appropriate.

Thomas P. Boje chairs the ESA Publication Committee as well as the Editorial Group.

## The ESA Book Series: Studies in European Societies

The ESA Book Series is published in cooperation with Routledge and Taylor & Francis Ltd. The aim of the ESA Book Series and guidelines for sending in proposals for publication were described in detail in the Winter 1999 issue of *European Sociologist*. The editors of the ESA Book Series are (in alphabetical order):

- Thomas P. Boje, Umea University, Umea, Sweden
- Max Haller, Karl-Franzens University, Graz, Austria
- Martin Kohli, Free University, Berlin, Germany
- Alison E. Woodward, Free University of Brussels (VUB), Brussels, Belgium

If you have ideas or proposals for publications please contact one of the Book Series editors.

The first three books from the ESA Book Series were published in Spring 1999. These books are the following:

### European Societies: Fusion or Fission?

Edited by Thomas P. Boje, Bart van Steenberghe and Sylvia Walby

### The Myth of Generational Conflict: The Family and State in Ageing Societies

Edited by Sara Arber and Claudine Attias-Donfut

### The End of the Welfare State? Responses to State Retrenchment

Edited by Stefan Svallfors and Peter Taylor-Gooby

All three books we offered to members of the ESA at half price.



## Some New Books by ESA Members

### Eva Flicker (1998): *Liebe und Sexualität als soziale Konstruktion*

Spielfilmmotiv aus Hollywood  
DUV-Deutscher Universitätsverlag, Wiesbaden  
ISBN 3-8244-4271-X. DM 48,-

for further information contact:

Dr. Eva Flicker

Institut für Soziologie/Institute of Sociology  
Universitätsstraße 7/ 2. Stock

A- 1010 Wien/ Vienna, AUSTRIA

Tel: +43-1-4277/48232

Fax: +43-1-4277/9482

email: Eva.flicker@univie.ac.at

### Waltraud Ernst and Bernard Harris (eds): *Race, Science and Medicine, c.1700-1960*

Published by Routledge, June 1999, Routledge  
Studies in the Social History of Medicine  
Hb: 0-415-18152-6. £55.00

### Dennis Smith, Zygmunt Bauman: *Prophet of Postmodernity*

Cambridge: Polity Press, 1999. 250 pages  
ISBN 0-7456-1899-5

### Patrick Ziltener (1999): *Strukturwandel der europäischen Integration*

Die Europäische Union und die  
Veränderung von Staatlichkeit  
Verlag Westfälisches Dampfboot, Münster  
ISBN 3-89691-455-3. 272 p. DM 48,-

### Herrmann, Peter (Ed.): *Challenges For A Global Welfare System*

(European Social Organisational Science  
Consultancy) Commack, New York: Nova  
Science  
Publishers, Inc., 1999. 205 pages  
ISBN 1-56072-632-6. \$59

### Herrmann, Peter: *European Integration between institution building and social process. Contributions to a theory of modernisation and NGOs in the context of the development of the EU*

Commack, New York: Nova Science  
Publishers, Inc., 1999. 159 pages  
ISBN 1-56072-607-5. \$59

## Workshop

On September 24-25, 1999 an international workshop was organised with the title of "New economic actors, institutions and attitudes in Central and Eastern Europe" in Budapest in the framework of the Hungarian Sociological Association's conference on the experiences of the '90s. The aim of the workshop was to highlight some of the newly emerging topics of economic sociology challenged by the transformation.

Akos Rona-Tas (San Diego) reinterpreted the concepts of risk, uncertainty and trust in this framework.

Endre Sik (Budapest) analysed the findings of some research on a local labor market. (His paper is available in the last English issue of the Hungarian Sociological Review.)

Vadim Radaev (Moscow) dealt with attitudes toward market building. Silvano Bolcic (Beograd) summed up research findings concerning the spread of entrepreneurship in Serbia.

Krzysztof Jasiecki (Warsaw) dealt with the institutional reasons for the weakness of business associations during the transformation.

Mladen Lazic (Beograd) and Balazs Vedres (Budapest) analysed the changing structure of economic elites and the constellation of economic power.

David Lane (Cambridge) used the term "chaotic capitalism" to describe the Russian economic system.

Krzysztof Zagorski (Warsaw) analysed the trends and social explanations relating to expectations concerning living conditions.

Alexander Stoyanov (Sofia) presented some methodological tools and substantive findings relating to the monitoring of corruption. A volume of workshop proceedings is planned to collect the papers.

Gyorgy Lengyel  
Budapest Univ. of Economic Sciences  
Dept. of Sociology  
e-mail: [orgy.lengyel@soc.bke.hu](mailto:orgy.lengyel@soc.bke.hu)



## Newsletter Update

**Dr. Peter Hermann writes:** We have just updated the newsletter European Interests, which is produced by the Fachhochschule (University of Applied Sciences) Nordostniedersachsen, Lüneburg, Fachbereich Sozialwesen (Department of Social Studies/Social Work) and ESOSC, the European Social, Organisational and Science Consultancy. We are especially pleased to have a contribution from:

**Dr. Bernd Schulte** on the NGOs and social service providers, making it available to a wide readership. You might also find some other information which you're interested in. Access is via the ESOSC homepage:

<http://homepages.iol.ie/~herrmann>  
or

<http://www.sozialarbeit.de/europa/newslett/Sept99ausgabe.htm>

For more details contact:

**Dr. Peter Hermann**  
The Jasnaja Poljana  
Clonmoyle  
Aghabullogue  
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Eire

**Tel: +353 (0)21.7334833**  
**Mobile: +353(0)872303335;**  
**Fax: ++353(0)21.7334826**  
**<http://homepages.iol.ie/~herrmann>**

## New Editor for European Sociologist

With this issue European Sociologist gets a new editor. The post is being taken up by Dennis Smith who is Professor of Sociology at the Department of Social Sciences at Loughborough University, UK. European Sociologist sent its reporter to interview the new editor.

### European Sociologist: Why have you decided to take on this job?

**Dennis Smith:** Well, I liked the people involved with the ESA and the newsletter and I thought it would be a good way to work more closely with them. I think Bob Miller has done an excellent job as editor of European Sociologist over the past few years and I shall try to be a worthy successor. Apart from that, I am interested in how Europe develops, especially in how Europe contributes to the dialogues between the North and the South, and between the West and the East.

### ES: What do you think is see the role of the newsletter?

**DS:** I hope it can help to get people involved in interesting and creative communication with each other. I think the newsletter can do something towards encouraging three kinds of communication: from the ESA executive to the membership; from the membership to the executive; and between sociologists from different parts of Europe. For example, I'm happy to get short, lively pieces from all over Europe (say, 500 words or so) giving a sociological perspective on major issues.

### ES: How do people submit material?

**DS:** It's simple. Do it by email. My email address is [d.smith@lboro.ac.uk](mailto:d.smith@lboro.ac.uk).

### ES: What are your own interests as a sociologist?

**DS:** What fascinates me is the part intellectuals, including social scientists, can play in making European society, and - beyond Europe - the newly emerging global society a more democratic, humane and civilized place. The project I'm most excited about at the moment is on the part played by humiliation as a social process and an emotional state in all kinds of social relationships. I am working on this with Evelin Lindner, a cross-cultural social psychologist who is currently based at Oslo University. It seems clear that humiliation is a profoundly important phenomenon that affects a whole range of relationships: men and women, parents and children, class and ethnic relations, post-colonialism, and, not least, the global North/South and East/West dialogues.

**ES: Thank you for talking to us. Best of luck with the editing.**

# Noticeboard

## A message from Nigel Gilbert\*

### Editor of the Journal of Artificial Societies and Social Simulation

(<http://www.soc.surrey.ac.uk/JASSS/JASSS.html>)

**Nigel writes:** I am pleased to announce the publication of the first double issue of the Journal of Artificial Societies and Social Simulation on October 31st. This is volume 2, issues 3 and 4. The new issue features a set of four peer-reviewed papers on Computer Simulation in Anthropology edited by guest editor Dwight W. Read and three regular peer-reviewed papers, as well as a description of the new MAML modelling language in the Forum section and four book reviews.

JASSS is now completing its second year of publication. Over 1,500 readers around the world will be receiving this message, having registered on the JASSS site to obtain notification of new issues.

The server that hosts JASSS recorded 17,695 'hits' on the JASSS pages in April, and noted that on average 3,000 pages are downloaded every week. In short, JASSS is much more widely read than most academic journals published on paper.

All JASSS refereed articles are carefully reviewed by at least three scholars working in the field, most but not all selected from the journal's distinguished Editorial Board.

JASSS is free and depends on the collective, unpaid efforts of its contributors, referees, and editors. As Editor, I am always pleased to receive submissions and aim to reply with an editorial decision within eight weeks. Because JASSS is not constrained by a set number of pages per volume, accepted articles can always be included in the next issue, ensuring speedy publication. The electronic medium also allows us to publish color illustrations, links to program code and even animations (e.g. see the paper by Edmonds in this issue).

Dwight Read's is the first of our themed issues created by a guest editor. I would be glad to receive suggestions for further themes, and volunteers to act as guest editors.

Here are the contents of this double issue (see also <http://www.soc.surrey.ac.uk/JASSS/2/3/contents.html>)

## Issue 3: Computer Simulation in Anthropology

Guest editor: Dwight W. Read

### Refereed Articles:

Anne Di Piazza and Erik Pearthree  
The spread of the 'Lapita people': a demographic simulation  
(<http://www.soc.surrey.ac.uk/JASSS/2/3/4.html>)

Douglas R. White,  
Controlled Simulation of Marriage Systems  
(<http://www.soc.surrey.ac.uk/JASSS/2/3/5.html>)

Cathy Small  
Finding an Invisible History: A Computer Simulation Experiment (in Virtual Polynesia)  
(<http://www.soc.surrey.ac.uk/JASSS/2/3/5.html>)

Jürgen Klüver and Jörn Schmidt  
Topology, Metric and Dynamics of Social Systems  
(<http://www.soc.surrey.ac.uk/JASSS/2/3/7.html>)

## Issue 4

### Refereed articles:

John Kemp  
Spontaneous Change, Unpredictability and Consumption Externalities  
(<http://www.soc.surrey.ac.uk/JASSS/2/3/2.html>)

Bruce Edmonds  
Gossip, Sexual Recombination and the El Farol bar: modelling the emergence of heterogeneity  
(<http://www.soc.surrey.ac.uk/JASSS/2/3/2.html>)

Peter Tucker and Duncan Smith  
Simulating Household Waste Management Behaviour  
(<http://www.soc.surrey.ac.uk/JASSS/2/3/3.html>)

### Forum:

László Gulyás, Tamás Kozsik and John B. Corliss  
The Multi-Agent Modelling Language and the Model Design Interface  
(<http://www.soc.surrey.ac.uk/JASSS/2/3/8.html>)

Wolfgang Kruschke  
Surviving electronically: Socionics simulates social processes (translated and reprinted from the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung)

### Book Reviews:

Chaos, Complexity, and Sociology: Myths, Models, and Theories  
edited by Raymond A. Eve, Sara Horsfall and Mary E. Lee, reviewed by Alan Dean

Barriers and Bounds to Rationality: Essays on Economic Complexity and Dynamics in Interactive Systems  
by Peter S. Albin, Edited by Duncan K. Foley, reviewed by Roger A. McCain

Multi-Agent Rationality: Proceedings of the 8th European Workshop on Modelling Autonomous Agents in a Multi-Agent World, MAAMAW'97  
edited by Magnus Boman and Walter Van de Velde, reviewed by Armin Roehrl

Agent Technology: Foundations, Applications and Markets  
edited by Nicholas R. Jennings and Michael J. Wooldridge, reviewed by Jaime Simão Sichman

Thought Contagion: How Belief Spreads through Society  
A response by Aaron Lynch to a review by Paul Marsden

\*Prof Nigel Gilbert PhD, FEng  
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**Paul Ell writes:** A new electronic discussion list has been established under mailbase. The list, history-

digitisation, is concerned with the digitisation, whether as an image or a fully machine-readable document, of historical material. Particular emphasis will be placed on the application of Optical Character Recognition technology to 'difficult' material. The list may also be of value to those with a more general interest in the potential of OCR technology. Increasingly there are efforts to add content to the World Wide Web. The UK government, through the New Opportunities Fund, has recently announced a £50,000,000 initiative to create digital resources. Much of this material will be of a historical nature. This poses unique problems - the material may be of poor quality and hence difficult to capture, in may be rare and fragile. This list aims to bring together experts in the field of digitising historical material and academics who have projects in mind. To join history-digitisation go to:  
<http://www.mailbase.ac.uk/lists/history-digitisation/>.

Alternatively, send an e-mail to:  
[mailbase@mailbase.ac.uk](mailto:mailbase@mailbase.ac.uk).

Put the following text in the BODY of the message:  
join history-digitisation <FIRSTNAME> <LASTNAME>

Dr Paul S. Ell  
Director  
The Centre for Data Digitisation and Analysis  
School of Sociology and Social Policy  
The Queen's University of Belfast  
Belfast, BT7 1NN  
Tel: +44 (0)28 90273408  
Fax: +44 (0)28 90320668  
e-mail: [p.ell@qub.ac.uk](mailto:p.ell@qub.ac.uk)  
<http://www.qub.ac.uk/cdda/>

The Association for Survey Computing is pleased to announce the availability of the Proceedings of, and Powerpoint (tm) presentations given to its recent (September 22-24) conference, 'ASC 99. Leading Survey and Statistical Computing into the New Millennium'. Powerpoint slides, where available, may be browsed and downloaded from the ASC's web pages. The Proceedings are in bound, hard copy only (x + 542 pages) and are available from the ASC. For full details, please visit: <http://www.asc.org.uk/Evnets/Sept99>

For further details contact:  
Randy Banks (Chair)  
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Institute for Social and Economic Research (ISER)  
University of Essex,  
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Tel: +44 (0)1206 873067  
Fax: +44 (0)1206 873151  
e-mail: [chair@asc.org.uk](mailto:chair@asc.org.uk)  
<http://www.asc.org.uk>

The Journal of Mundane Behavior, hosted by the Sociology Department and The School of Humanities and Social Sciences at California State University, Fullerton, is a new on-line, inter- and cross-disciplinary journal Devoted to developing the study of the "unmarked" — the mundane aspects of Everyday life. Taking as its premise that the study of the marked has been well developed, JMB wants to turn those methodological and theoretical tools to those aspects of our lives that do not get scrutinized by normal studies of

## Noticeboard continued...

the world. As such, we are issuing our inaugural call for papers. Because our journal is explicitly inter- and cross-disciplinary and, we hope, accessible to the public, we ask that authors refrain from discipline-specific jargon and work to develop an analysis readily understandable to scholars from other fields and interested readers outside the academy.

A list of suggestions as far as topics go, as well as complete submission guidelines, are available on the JMB web site at <http://www.mundanebehavior.org>. If there are any questions regarding papers already under development or on other issues, please contact one of the Managing Editors, Scott Schaffer ([sschaffer@fullerton.edu](mailto:sschaffer@fullerton.edu)), or Myron Orleans ([morleans@fullerton.edu](mailto:morleans@fullerton.edu)). Or write to the editors at:

Department of Sociology  
H-730M  
California State University  
Fullerton, PO Box 6846  
Fullerton, CA  
92834-6846, USA

### Consumer Culture Research Site

<http://homepages.gold.ac.uk/slater/consumer/>

**Don Slater writes:** I have relocated, redesigned and - at long last - updated the Consumer Culture website. In particular, the bibliography has several hundred more entries. As before, the site also contains some course outlines and a page for links, contacts, conferences, calls for papers, etc.

It is now part of an expanded website called 'New Cultures and Economies' which includes two other research nodes: Market Societies and Sociologies of the Internet (not yet uploaded), each comprising bibliographies and links.

I welcome any comments, corrections and suggestions on these sites. I'd like to treat this site as an open, public resource, as far as my own resources allow: if there are additional facilities that people think would be useful, let me know. I would particularly welcome notices of conferences, calls for papers and similar news for the research community.

Don Slater  
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<http://homepages.gold.ac.uk/slater>

### Internet Hub for Social Science, Business and Law

<http://www.sosig.ac.uk/>

We are pleased to announce that as of August 1999 SOSIG (Social Science Information Gateway), the world's number one place to find social science information on the Internet will be expanding its service. SOSIG provides

a browsable and searchable catalogue of thousands of high quality Internet resources of relevance to anyone doing teaching, research or studying in the area. Every record in the catalogue has been created by a specialist and SOSIG also runs its own "Harvester" - a search engine with brains! The new service draws on the expertise of a number of additional specialist organisations within the social sciences to help build its database of resources. The new partners are:

- Biz/ed - the Business and Economics specialists
- British Library for Political and Economic Science, London School of Economics
- Centre for Social and Anthropological Computing, University of Kent at Canterbury
- CTI Centre for Psychology, University of York
- Department of Sociology, University of Surrey
- Institute for Advanced Legal Studies, University of London
- National Institute for Social Work

In addition to the expanded catalogue of Internet resources SOSIG will benefit from the leading edge research being undertaken at the Institute for Learning and Research Technology, University of Bristol, where the service is based. This will include the use of personal user profiles to provide news of conferences and courses in the social sciences as well as an area for researchers to post CVs and find potential research opportunities and partnerships.

SOSIG is funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) and the Joint Information Systems Committee (JISC) as part of the UK Resource Discovery Network (RDN).

#### Contact Details

For more information about SOSIG and our new services contact:

Debra Hiom  
SOSIG  
Institute for Learning and Research Technology  
University of Bristol  
8-10 Berkeley Square, Bristol, BS8 1HH  
Tel: +44 (0)117 928 7117  
Fax: +44 (0)117 928 7112  
e-mail: [d.hiom@bris.ac.uk](mailto:d.hiom@bris.ac.uk)  
<http://www.sosig.ac.uk/>

### New Publications from MOST

#### Ethnological Monitoring:

The publications of the Monitoring of Ethnicity, Conflicts and Cohesion Project, provide a detailed analysis of the ethnic situation in the Newly Independent States and various regions of the Russian Federation. They are based upon data collected from the standardized model of early warning indicators for ethnic conflict. Two of them are now available in English: the Republic of Kalmykia and the Republic of Tuva. More information on the Ethnological Monitoring Publications and on the project can be found at:

<http://www.unesco.org/most/monitor.htm>

### New MOST Discussion Papers

#### ■ Science, Economics and Democracy: Selected Issues

by Dominique Foray and Ali Kazancigil

This document develops and articulates issues of relevance to Forum II "Science in Society: Towards a New Contract" of the World Conference on Science, held in Budapest, Hungary, 26 June-1 July 1999.

#### ■ Scientific Diasporas: A New Approach to the Brain Drain

by Jean-Baptiste Meyer and Mercy Brown

This paper concentrates on the issue of skills migration and the importance of this type of migration, both for host (highly industrialized) and the home (developing) countries.

#### ■ Socio-economic Transformations and the Drug Scene in India

by Gabriel Britto and Molly Charles

The authors provide an overview of the evolution of drug trade and drug use in India since the pre-colonial period from a socio-economic perspective.

#### ■ Amérique Latine : Les discours techniques et savants de la ville dans la politique urbaine

by H. Rivière d'Arc, J. Bitoun,  
M. S. Martins Bresciani, H. Caride,  
D. Hiernaux, A. Novick, S. Jatahy Pesavento

This paper contains a selection of papers presented during the Second International Seminar of the MOST City Words Project.

### New MOST Policy Paper

#### ■ Nouvelles configurations villes-campagnes

by Ricardo Abramovay and Ignacy Sachs

Prepared for the Habitat II Conference which was held in Istanbul in 1996, this text analyses the potential rural zones could represent in the world-wide struggle against poverty.

MOST Discussion and Policy Papers can be found at:  
<http://www.unesco.org/discuss.htm>.

More information on MOST Publications can be found at: <http://www.unesco.org/document.htm>.

Please visit the MOST Clearing House regularly at: <http://www.unesco.org/most>.

An overview of previous announcements can be found at: <http://www.unesco.org/most/mailbox.htm>

#### UNESCO MOST Clearing House

1 rue Miollis, 75732 Paris Cedex 15, FRANCE  
Tel: +33 1 45683850  
Fax: +33 1 45685724  
e-mail: [p.deguchteneire@unesco.org](mailto:p.deguchteneire@unesco.org)



## 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:**

**Secretariat ESA  
Bernard Kruithof  
Plantage Muidergracht 4  
NL-1018 Amsterdam  
The Netherlands**

**Tel: +31 20 527 0646  
Fax: +31 20 622 9430  
e-mail: 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:

**Yasmin Soysal  
Department of Sociology  
University of Essex  
Colchester, UK  
e-mail: 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  
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**

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**

## Membership Form

Starting in 1999, membership of the ESA will be more complete than ever: all members of the ESA receive not only the **European Sociologist Newsletter**, but also our new journal **European Societies**, published by Routledge. The first issue already appeared in April 1999, comprising articles by leading European Sociologists. Of course, members of the ESA pay less than other subscribers!

To make our fees as low as possible, membership is for two years.

Come and join the ESA, or simply renew your membership now (including a subscription to **European Societies**).

### Membership for 1999 & 2000

#### Standard Membership

☐ 2 years ■ US\$ 150 or Dfl. 300,- or Euro 135

#### Student Discount (copy of valid ID required)

☐ 2 years ■ US\$ 55 or Dfl. 110,- or Euro 50

#### Institutions

☐ 2 years ■ US\$ 570 or Dfl. 1140,- or Euro 510

### For members from countries in Central and Eastern Europe, and from Turkey:

#### Standard Membership

☐ 2 years ■ US\$ 55 or Dfl. 110,- or Euro 50

#### Student Discount (copy of valid ID required)

☐ 2 years ■ US\$ 45 or Dfl. 90,- or Euro 40

#### Institutions

☐ 2 years ■ US\$ 340 or Dfl. 680,- or Euro 305

### Personal Details

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Position/Title \_\_\_\_\_  
Institution \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
Country \_\_\_\_\_  
Tel: \_\_\_\_\_  
Fax: \_\_\_\_\_  
e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

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Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Expiry Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Cardholder (Fill in Only when it is different from the previous mailing address) \_\_\_\_\_

■ **Transfer through** (name of bank) \_\_\_\_\_

to:

**ING Bank  
SWIFT CODE ING B NL 2A  
Herengracht 580  
1000 AW Amsterdam  
The Netherlands**

Account Number: **66.15.27.298**

payable to:

**ESA  
Plantage Muidergracht 4  
Amsterdam**

and clearly stating the name of the person(s) involved:

■ **Enclosing a Eurocheque.** No personal cheques (other than Euro) can be accepted.

■ **Cash**, enclosed in an envelope with a letter in which you clearly indicate your name and address. Specially for small membership fee amounts from members from countries with non-convertible currencies.

\*If you send us cheques or cash money in an envelope, please make sure that it is invisible from the outside.

Please return this completed form to:

**Jantine van Gough  
European Sociological Association  
c/o SISWO  
Plantage Muidergracht 4  
NL 1018 TV Amsterdam  
The Netherlands**