

# European Sociologist

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## EUROPEAN SOCIOLOGY: The Next Two Years

As Peter Berger and Thomas Luckmann remarked, institutionalization starts when a group needs to devise formal rules for transferring its structure, positions and accumulated knowledge to new members. The European Sociological Association devised the rules giving it its formal life more than two years ago. But maybe the real threshold of institutionalization has been crossed now, with the completion of the first term of office and the transfer of responsibilities to a new Executive Committee (albeit still partly composed of the old crew). The transfer has run rather smoothly, the procedural difficulties have been solved, and the new Executive has constituted itself. New officers are in place, including a new President (made necessary by the fact that our Statutes wisely restrict the presidential tenure to one term).

You will find elsewhere in this Newsletter a report on the election process and its results. You will also find detailed comments on our two main fields of activity during the past term: the Research Networks and the Essex Conference. In addition, we have set up channels of communication with and among members: this Newsletter and the e-mail discussion lists.

I think that by and large, our activity has been successful. After two years of its life, the ESA is now firmly established as an institutional reality. If you feel that we should do more, I have two answers. The first is to invoke a „salvatory clause“ (as we say in German): we are a new association, operating in an uncharted field, running on a very tight budget, and depending on the willingness of people to give their time and energy. If you know what it takes to organize a big national congress, you can imagine the challenge of doing it on the European level – with its divergence of interests, its diversity of national cultures and languages (an issue whose contentious nature has been amply brought home to those who follow the European-Sociologist e-mail discussion list), and its technical difficulties of communication. You may doubt the wisdom of some decisions having been taken, or the organizational skills that have been applied, but you should not doubt the sincere effort of the colleagues who have volunteered to do these jobs.

My second answer is *Yes, we should and can do more*. We need to increase our membership, and to get more support in the parts of Europe where we are still weak, especially in the Romanic countries. We need to develop some more Research Networks in other important areas of the sociological study of Europe. And we need to make the ESA more effective as the intellectual and professional voice of European sociology.

A key project will be our new journal, *European Societies*. Being part of the membership package, it will commit our Association heavily. The decision to take up this commitment was motivated by the Executive's conviction that European sociology needs and is able to support such a journal. Other journals are too restricted in their substantive focus and/or their methodological approach. The conviction that there is a market for our project is apparently shared by many publishers. Several of them expressed interest, so that we had room for choice and negotiation. There was

As to the latter issues, sociology has much to offer in principle but has been hesitant to address them squarely. In this, it has not been alone. Ten years ago, "Europe" was still a very distant phenomenon for most of the inhabitants of the societies of the European Union, or of the geographical space usually called Europe. A number of studies demonstrated this insignificance; e.g., how difficult it was for Brussels-based journalists to get space and visibility in their home newspapers for articles on

It is on the social structure of the European societies that sociology has contributed most so far, with its studies; e.g., on social classes, work, families,

- in the political economy of Europe (e.g., the unholy alliance of the Maastricht process with efforts at welfare state retrenchment and redistribution toward the top);
- in the changing European boundaries (e.g., mutual perceptions, exchanges, exclusions and migration);
- or in the emerging cultural unification (e.g., through the media and efforts to construct a European identity).

**Martin Kohli**  
ESA President

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## REPORTS FROM THE 3<sup>rd</sup> EUROPEAN CONFERENCE OF SOCIOLOGY

'20<sup>th</sup> Century Europe: Inclusions/Exclusions', the 3<sup>rd</sup> European Conference of Sociology, took place in Britain at the University of Essex, 27-30 August 1997. The following short pieces are impressions of the Conference produced by four sociologists at different stages in their careers, writing from different perspectives. The first, by Bart van Steenberghe, the former General Secretary of the ESA, is an overview of the first three ESA conferences. This is followed by an article by J.P. Roos, a new member of the Executive Committee, writing from the viewpoint of a Research Network coordinator. Then we are given the impressions of Henk Kleijer, a research worker in a non-teaching post and finally the experiences of Janet Stamatel, a graduate student.

### THE THREE ESA CONFERENCES IN PERSPECTIVE

This contribution will deal with a number of questions regarding the three ESA-conferences that have taken place so far: Vienna in 1992; Budapest in 1995; and Essex in 1997. It is meant as food for thought for the preparation of the next conference in Amsterdam 1999.

The most important questions are: how many people participated in these conferences; what is the trend in this respect, are we growing or shrinking; how many abstracts were sent in; where did the delegates come from inside and outside of Europe; was there an even participation from the different regions; why do registered people not show up; how many people attended the plenary sessions?

Concerning the number of participants I found in my files three types of lists:

- in the case of Essex a pre-conference list of registered participants;
- in all three cases a list of participants handed out during the conference (the official list of delegates);
- in the case of Vienna and Budapest a post-conference list, which is probably the most reliable one.

It is also interesting to see how many 'foreigners' participated in our conferences; i.e., people who are not from the host country. In particular when a conference takes place in a big city in a small country (Vienna, Budapest and, in the future, Amsterdam), there is a great number of delegates from the host country, who live nearby, 'come and go' and often are not full time participants. This probably was the case in Hungary and Vienna, but not in the UK.

With regard to the number of abstracts, I

include the papers of the (semi)plenary speakers, although in the case of Budapest they were not in the abstract book.

This leads to the following overview:

In general I see a remarkable stability in the number of participants. At first sight it looks as if there was a strong decline after Budapest, but the number of 990 on the conference list is much too high. That list is probably somewhat comparable with the pre-conference list of Essex. In itself it is noteworthy and somewhat worrying that so many people who intended to come and even registered, in the end did not show up. Is this caused by 'sloppiness', lack of commitment or is it more a matter of lack of finances?

Concerning abstracts, at the last two conferences basically all participants have sent in an abstract in order to be allowed to present their paper, whereas in Vienna the great majority came to listen to and discuss with others and not primarily to give a presentation. We seem to deal here with different types of conferences. Vienna was a typical 'theme-conference' with only invited speakers, whereas the other two were partly 'theme-conferences', partly 'market-conferences', where each participant could present his or her own story. My experience is that this mixture creates problems, since the expectations of the participants on the one hand and of the organizers and conveners on the other are different not to say oppositional.

#### Distribution over regions and countries

In Budapest it was proudly announced that one third of the participants came from the East, by which was meant the countries of the former Soviet bloc plus Yugoslavia. This was an important accomplishment, since the opening of Central/Eastern Europe after 1990 was one of the motives for the foundation of the ESA.

However if we exclude the Hungarians, only 20% came from the East. In Vienna this percentage was even  $\pm 25$ . When the decision was taken to have the 1997 conference in Essex I was worried that the number of participants from that region would drop dramatically. Luckily this has not been the case. In Essex still  $\pm 20\%$  of the participants came from Central/Eastern Europe. I want to mention here explicitly that the Essex organizers have made a great and successful effort to subsidize travel and lodging of the participants from that region.

Concerning the different countries, which ones are in the vanguard and which ones stay behind (and are a reason of concern for the organizers of the next conference), which ones are stable and which ones are fluctuating? The rank order presented below is based on the total number of participants over the last three conferences. I have counted the participants from the great majority of countries, but not all. In the case of Vienna and Budapest there was a nice overview, but in the case of Essex it was necessary to go through the list of participants.

Some comments.

If we look at the 'top countries' there is no doubt that the UK is number one and this country was already high on the list before the Essex conference. Hungary as number 2 is on the decline after the Budapest conference. Germany (3) is very stable, although we might expect some more participants given its size and the density of sociologists there. The Netherlands (4) and the Scandinavian countries (5-8) are doing well and especially Finland (5) should be mentioned here as top scorer. From the Southern European countries only Italy (10) and (given its size) Slovenia (17) are doing reasonably well; the others Spain (19), Greece (20) and Portugal are more

TABLE 1: Number of delegates and abstracts in three ESA conferences:

	Vienna	Budapest	Essex
Pre-conference list	-	-	835
Conference list	631	900	615
Post-conference list	602	671	?
Excluding host country	565	551	474
Number of abstracts	115	645	641

worrying.

An even greater cause for worry is the low position of France (15). In that context it is interesting to note that the request to add another conference language to English exclusively comes from the French. The question could be raised why we should adopt French as a second conference language if only 4% (including the French speaking Belgians and -Swiss) of the participants speak that language as their native tongue. However the counter argument could be that if the ESA would accept that language as the second one, more French speaking sociologists would participate. That may be true, but it also means that some of the other European languages (German, Italian, Hungarian, Finnish or even Dutch) have a more legitimate claim, if the number of participants from those countries is a criterion.

As said before, Central/Eastern Europe is not doing badly, but there are great differences. The more Central European countries: Hungary (2); the Czech Republic/Slovakia (9); the Baltic Republics (12); Poland (13); and Slovenia (17) are doing it better than the more Eastern European ones such as Russia (14) and Romania(22).

Finally a few words about the difference between the number of people on the pre-conference- (835) and on the conference list (615) of the Essex-conference.

It means that almost one quarter of the people who registered did not come. This percentage may be even higher when the final post-conference list will be available, if the trend of Vienna and Budapest is continued.

As is to be expected we find great differences here. Some countries came with approximately the number of delegates they had announced beforehand (the 'disciplined' ones), whereas in other cases the discrepancy was more than 50%. Let me give some examples of both types. The number between brackets is the number on the pre-registration list:

Reasonably 'disciplined' countries were: Belgium 19 (12)!; Germany, 56 (52); Sweden 21 (21); France, 14 (15); Austria, 12 (13); Norway, 18 (21); and the UK !, 141 (163).

On the other side of the continuum we find countries of which only: one quarter (Spain, 7 (28)); one third (Romania, 3(9), the Baltic Republics, 10 (31), and the USA, 9 (29)); or less than half (Russia 15 (35), Greece, 6 (14), the Czech Republic & Slovakia, 7 (15), and Turkey, 14 (29)) finally made it to Essex, (according to the list of participants).

By using the adjective 'disciplined' for the first category the suggestion is made that the second category consists of 'undisciplined' people. That is in many cases unfair. The high percentage of not showing up may be caused by sloppiness and lack of commitment as I

suggested earlier (in a number of cases like the Netherlands 40 (73) and maybe the USA and Italy, 40 (23) I am inclined to think that that is the case), however in most other cases I think there was a great willingness to come, but that in the end finances were the main obstacle.

To conclude, I am sorry to say that the enthusiastic words of our president in Essex that this one was the biggest ESA-conference ever, are not confirmed by the facts. On the other hand it is also not true that there was a sizeable decline compared to Vienna or Budapest. All three conferences are of comparable size. It seems that the ESA has a rather stable but not very much growing constituency.

There is one more thing that struck and worried me in Essex; the number of participants present at the plenary sessions was low. At the opening plenary there were not more than 300 people (and that was the highest number of all plenary sessions), whereas I counted more than 500 people in Budapest at that occasion. The closing session in Essex was attended only by some 60 people, whereas I counted some 200 people at the Hungarian Forum on the last morning in Budapest and ± 250 at the closing session with Alain Touraine.

*Bart van Steenberghe  
Utrecht/Amersfoort*

**TABLE 2: Participants distributed over the different countries.**

	Vienna	Budapest	Essex	Total
U.K.	36	94	141	271
Hungary	47	120	16	183
Germany	52	42	56	150
Netherlands	50	44	40	134
Finland	34	50	48	132
Denmark	34	25	22	81
Sweden	38	15	21	74
Norway	27	24	21	72
Czech Republic & Slovakia	42	15	7	64
Italy	28	10	23	61
Austria	36	7	12	55
Baltic Reps.	21	24	10	55
Poland	14	19	18	51
Russia	7	22	15	44
France	15	13	14	42
Turkey	21	4	14	39
Slovenia	17	13	6	36
Belgium	5	10	19	34
Spain	7	7	7	21
Greece	10	5	6	21
Croatia	14	4	3	21
Romania	7	6	3	16
Non-Europe, of which	20	36	28	84
U.S.A.	?	23	9	-
Canada	?	3	6	-

## ESA'97 - FROM A RESEARCH NETWORK'S VIEWPOINT

The Third Conference on European Sociology took place in a rainy and rather cool Colchester (at least compared to the summer heat in northern Europe, but perhaps not so to the catastrophic rainy conditions in Central Europe), in a campus which reminded me of the glorious 60's: The University had been built then, its expansion and development was already behind as one could see from the dilapidated buildings, a maze of dark corridors and horrid architecture. As somebody told me, now only the rabbits are growing freely. Everything else in British higher education is under a lot of constraints.

Whatever one can say about the (in)famous architecture - of the squares and the steps (for instance disabled students and baby carriages did NOT exist in the 60's) - the great advantage of a campus congress is that everything is close and when the labyrinths become a little more comprehensible it is easy to move from one event to another. If somebody is trying to shuttle between different meetings, this is possible; while in some other congresses, once you have chosen one place and find out that it wasn't quite what you wanted, it is impossible to change.

The conference was on the other hand divided into plenaries, semi-plenaries and meet-the-author book presentations, and on the other into thematic group and research network sessions. Of these latter, the first were made to follow the theme of the congress and the second were based largely on the already existing research networks, some of which did not seem to be very active. The plenaries and semi-plenaries were well visited, as were also the literature discussions. About the thematic streams I can say nothing, because I devoted my time exclusively to the research network I helped to organize, and consequently only of one research network. But I tried to follow the plenaries and

contributed to book presentations. The two which I went to were well attended and lively.

As many people noted, the participation to the conference was rather northern centered: the majority of participants came from the UK, northern Europe and the small countries of north-western Europe. The French, Italians, Spanish, were conspicuously and regrettably missing. Eastern Europeans were more numerous, and



Meet the Authors - Ken Plummer & Jeff Weeks

there would certainly have been many more, had not the cost of participation been much too high for them. The big problem is certainly how to attract more South Europeans, and make the congress more affordable for the East and Central Europeans. One possibility would be a closer cooperation with the AISLF, the majority of whose members are South-Europeans. It was pointed out that one difference is academic-cultural: whereas the end of August is a perfect time for us Northern Europeans to meet, it is definitely difficult for southern Europeans who are still on vacation. Perhaps a compromise would be to have every second meeting in July, when the Northern and North Western Europeans are unwilling to participate and every other meeting in August when the southern Europeans are absent.

But now to the contents. The plenaries contained some lively discussions but also some unfortunate absences. The congress started with a first absentee,

Dominique Schnapper whose discussion on nationality would have been interesting to hear. [Professor Schnapper's absence was due to the serious illness of her mother.] The lecture of Karl Ulrich Mayer was perhaps too filled by complex transparencies which the speaker had not really time to comment, especially as the most tantalizing transparency about new European strategies of the life course was only shown for about two seconds. Still, Mayer's distinctions were interesting and developed further the classic distinction to four different European grand alternatives. But as was immediately noted from the audience, east and central Europe was left out completely. This would have given more weight to Mayer's hypothesis H2: that the differences between European regions are very pervasive and the pressures for a unified European life course are very weak indeed. The already long list of differences would have grown much more longer.

Compared to this, the Plenary on citizenship (Sousal-Melucci) was

much less comprehensive. Alberto Melucci started his speech very dramatically on a personal note (dedicating his speech to his recently deceased mother) and emphasized strongly the need to combine personhood and democracy in the development of citizenship. Neither speaker even mentioned the great European divide on citizenship: the principles of blood vs. soil. Yet this principle is still going strong and has not been resolved even inside the European Union.

The last plenary was about Europe in the global and historical context. Maria Mies presented a vast historical perspective claiming that the original pre-patriarchal Europe has been underresearched (and even wondered aloud just why the name 'Europa' had been selected as the name of the continent, its bearer being a young girl who had been abducted and raped) and that the patriarchal Europe was very warlike indeed. Daniel Bertaux discussed the global conspiracy

against the strong state in Europe and proposed a connection between political and social rights. As there is no need to protect the social property, the political rights may also be denied. Bertaux did not want to present this apocalyptic vision as a conclusion but left for us all to think about. It is in any case obvious that politics has changed dramatically in Europe: the scope for democratic decisions has narrowed dramatically. The power over economic life has been practically relinquished. Unfortunately, I could not attend Sylvia Walby's Presidential address, but still I would have liked to know in advance what theme she was going to speak about ('presidential address' is not very informative!).

One feature which met with undivided success was the book presentations in which authors of recently published books were allowed to present their creations and discuss them with a commentator. Both events that I attended (the first in the role of a commentator-interpreter) Robert Castel, and Daniel Bertaux-Paul Thompson were extremely lively and interesting, especially if one was familiar with the books. And when Paul commented that Giddens' 'pure relationship' is a totally unsociological concept, it was interesting to note the very 'anti-Giddensian' reaction in the audience! They were also well attended. In the case of Castel, the occasion was even more important because his book is not translated into English. Which is a pity, because Castel's book is a very good and lucid presentation of the development of the social question from a mainly French perspective. It was quite fascinating to compare the present-day attitude towards reinsertion of the 'desaffiliés' with the draconian policies in 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> century England and France.

'My' Research Network, 'European perspectives on biographical research' held five full sessions and a sixth with one paper and a well-attended business meeting. It might be mentioned that some of the papers were a continuation of a previous seminar on post-communism and biography that had been held in St Petersburg. This was an undivided advantage - discussion was lively.

The sessions followed a uniform pattern of oral presentations of roughly 10 to 12 minutes plus some 10 minutes discussion. Time was very valuable, but, thanks to the flexible periods after the sessions, we managed to adhere to

the timetable relatively well. What was most encouraging, was that the participants discussed eagerly all papers and that the presentations were all really planned to last only 12 minutes (so there were no catastrophic fast reading exercises or forced interruptions, which otherwise are still lamentably common in international congresses). [A report of the activities of this network appears in the Research Network report elsewhere in this newsletter.]

J.P. Roos

## Inclusions/Exclusions Some impressions of the Essex conference

It took a long time before I was sure the conference was really taking place and I was included on the conference list as a delegate. Postmodern e-mails and letters via the ordinary postman didn't result in any reaction. Only my creditcard succeeded. I was expected, but I was not sure about the programme we had organised about education. And it was not until I physically showed up and got the conference map I knew for sure the network 'Education in Europe' was in the program despite the fact the network did not exist officially. In the convenors meeting Professor Kohli stressed this bureaucratic omission.

After the usual formalities - getting the key etc - we went to our guesthouse. The beautiful days at the end of August seemed to soften the concrete construction of the University building complex. After the cuts in expenditure of the Thatcher period, the reconstruction activities were visible and above all audible. Strolling towards the student guesthouses it seemed I found myself in the world of Watership Down [Essex has a large colony of rabbits], nice and easy. . .

Back to reality, the conference started as usual with plenary lectures. However I left them after a quarter of an hour a little bit disappointed. Also, the presidential address could not impress me. Fortunately I choose to attend two semi plenary lectures. John Scott was questioning whether class was really dead or 'just resting' as Monty Python said. He taught me that class situations are crucial for life chances and further that there is a difference between the fact of class and the consciousness of class. In our postmodern world one can speak of the restructuring of class and status

towards life styles. However that does not mean that life styles are not classbound.

Then I slipped away to another semi plenary lecture about Simmel. Glad I did. I consequently learned about the methodology of selective imitation based on the work of the French painter Eugene Delacroix who kept repeating the same themes in his paintings. Just like Simmel. For Simmel, the most unfortunate sociologist - he never got a decent job - it was important to stress continuously his main question about the relationship between individual and society. Nedelmann compared this to the relationship between the frame and the painting - what the frame of a painting had to look like in order to make the painting inside the frame a good piece of art. Some sort of mutual dependence. A perfect metaphor used here by Nedelmann. I did not feel sorry for having chosen these semi-plenaries over others.

In the 'meet the author' sessions, I met Paul Thompson in the flesh. Long ago have I read his books about oral history. I must admit I like oral history as a method of gathering social data. Thompson is the one who developed a strong tradition in this field. He is very well known as a researcher who along with Bertaux is presenting the tales of ordinary people. The meeting was prepared very well and had a animated discussion about the advantages of oral history as a method in comparison of qualitative research.

What about the streams and the research networks? Well I can be very short. I got lost several times in the building complex and visited by accident the 'Biographical Perspectives on European Societies' in which Bertaux tried to explain to us how he attempts to avoid the problems of the relationship between subject and object by stressing factual events, by looking closely what really happened. The next network I found myself in was on 'Youth and Generations'. There I listened to a sociologist from Portugal doing research about youngsters and their music in a French town. When you want to know something about how youth thinks and feels you have to look to the music they like and use to define their lifeworld. She was not mentioned in the programme. The next presentation was about trades and *Mafiosi*, in which Ken Roberts compared the practices of young traders in Russia with the practice in

third world countries, concerning the same economic activities. The third presentation was about youth and generations. In my opinion the concept of generations has not been elaborated and is difficult to use as a concept that should explain differences between different age groups. How to identify the boundaries between the age groups, defined as generations?

And finally the network 'Education in Europe', the reason why I visited this conference. Three sessions with eleven papers from eight different countries, not bad for a start. The first session started with a contribution from Bosker and Dekkers (The Netherlands) about gender-specific school careers in secondary education, a statistical analysis of gender differences. The results showed that gender differences in education in the Netherlands still exist. I. Jonsson (Sweden) presented a paper about female participation in education in some European countries. She argued that the results have to be considered in relation to the educational level in each country as a whole and to the structure of the educational system. In his paper, J. Lehtonen (Finland) problematized heterosexuality in the school, the existence of the heterosexual gender system in texts used in schools in Finland. The contribution of A. Antikainen was focused on the meaning of education and the learning society in life histories. The data were gathered by means of biographical and thematic interviews. He concluded that social exclusion threatens aged unemployed workers, ethnic minorities, women and young adults. In the second session H. Simola (Finland) studied the relation of citizenship and the examination of behaviour in Finish elementary and comprehensive schools in historical perspective. P. Littlewood presented a paper about schooling, exclusion and self-exclusion. The results of his research appear to validate both Parkin's argument about collectivist and individualist exclusionary strategies and Bourdieu's thesis on exclusion and self-exclusion. In the third session Nicos Gousgounis (Greece) stressed in his paper the meaning of knowledge through various cultural shifts in Greece. he discussed education at the postmodern crossroads by stressing ethics, values, identity formation and alienation. M. Dan and E. Veres analyzed old and new inequalities of the higher education system in Romania and I. Hrubes (Hungary) presented a paper about chances of reformers in Hungarian higher education. Two

papers from Austria and the UK were related to educational topics.

For the next conference we hope the (not-yet-official) network 'Education in Europe' will be one of the official research networks of the ESA. In other words, we hope when the Call for papers for the next conference is sent around 'Education in Europe' will be included in it. We invite colleagues to join us in Amsterdam.

*Henk Kleijer*

Scientific coordinator, SISWO  
Amsterdam

## The Graduate Perspective

I am a graduate student in sociology at the University of Chicago, specializing in social change and social problems in post-communist countries. This was the second ESA meeting that I had attended, and the first in which I had presented a paper. As an American doing research on Europe, the ESA meetings are extremely important to my research. They are the best opportunity for me to discuss my research with academics from the region, since foreign participation at the American Sociological Association meetings is limited. In addition, due to the nature of the organization, comparative work is appreciated and encouraged

within ESA.

Since I had gone to this ESA meeting shortly after the ASA meeting in Toronto, Canada, I found the differences between the two events quite interesting. The ESA was much smaller both in terms of the number of participants and sessions. This meant that there was a greater opportunity to meet the other participants and attend a larger proportion of the sessions. In addition, the concentration of sessions, living quarters, and social activities around the university (as opposed to a convention center in a large metropolis, such as at ASA) facilitated lively discussions and frequent interactions with colleagues.

In my opinion, there was one serious drawback to the conference. The large number of no-shows was very disappointing. Because of the distance and expense involved in an international conference, it is important to have an accurate idea of what to expect. Last minute changes to the program are inevitable, but the organization and its members should be committed to presenting as accurate a program as possible. Despite this, the conference was highly successful and well worth the transatlantic trip.

*Janet Stamatel*



*Coffee & (publishers') Books*



# EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MATTERS

## Report on the Election of the Executive Committee of the ESA for 1997-1999

The election of the members of the executive committee of European Sociological Association started at the general assembly meeting during the Third European Conference for Sociology on the 28<sup>th</sup> of August, 1997 in Essex. The mail voting of six weeks was to end on the 9<sup>th</sup> of October, 1997. The voting time was extended until 25<sup>th</sup> of October because of problems of getting the list of the paid new members from Essex.

The votes were counted by Ulla Peltola and myself at the Sociology Department, University of Helsinki. The number of checked ballot papers distributed in Essex was 192 and 109 ballots came by mail. The number rose from 250 in 1995 to 301 in 1997. Fourteen ballot papers were rejected because of the number of votes exceeded 10 (8) or they came after the Monday morning of 27<sup>th</sup> October (6). The number of accepted ballots was thus 289, and the number of accepted votes given 2,296. In addition to the 30 names suggested by the nomination committee, 16 other persons received altogether 26 votes.

The 15 female candidates received 1,179 votes and the 15 male candidates 1,091 votes. Ten women and six men were elected to the executive committee. The geographical distribution is fairly even. The members of the new committee represent different branches of sociology. As the following total list of votes shows, all 30 candidates on the list got a lot of votes. This shows that all the nominated sociologists had good support from among the members. The competition was so fierce that the last name on the list of the new members of the executive committee only became clear first on the last days of the election.

The following 16 persons were elected to the executive committee:

Alison Woodward, Netherlands 124  
Daniel Bertaux, France 110  
Martin Kohli, Switzerland & Germany 109  
Robert Miller, Northern Ireland 107  
Thomas Boje, Sweden & Denmark 101  
Arnlaug Leira, Norway 97  
JP Roos, Finland 96

Max Haller, Austria 96  
Franca Bimbi, Italy 91  
Eva Cyba, Austria 84  
Ulla Bjornberg, Sweden 83  
Mojca Novak, Slovenia 82  
Elena Zdravomyslova, Russia 75  
Maria Adamik, Hungary 73  
Ute Gerhard, Germany 72  
Marlis Buchmann, Switzerland 72

Ute Gerhard informed the ESA that she cannot take up the position. Thus the next person on the list, Gabriella Lazardis, United Kingdom & Greece with 69 votes, was elected.

The number of votes for those who were not elected was as follows:

Jutta Allmendinger 68  
Stina Lyon 68  
Gyorgy Lenguel 67  
Edmund Mokrzycki 67  
Victoria Semenova 62  
Bernard Kruithof 62  
Margorzata Fusara 59  
Talis Tisenkopfs 53  
Bob Stones 52  
Alan Warde 52  
Jean Lagree 42  
Ilja Srubar 40  
Nicos Gourgounis 37

The next nomination committee consists of: Imre Kovach, Hungary; Karin Widerberg, Norway; Gabriella Lazardis, Greece/UK; Eva Cyba, Austria; Martin Kohli, Germany; Franca Bimbi, Italy; Daniel Bertaux, France; Elina Haavio-Mannila (Chairperson); Finland; Stina Lyon, UK. For the next Executive Committee election it is important that people suggest prospective candidates (whom they in some way guess are also willing to stand as candidates) through the national sociological associations and via the nominating committee members.

On behalf of the nomination committee I thank those members of the ESA who participated in the voting process.

*Elina Haavio-Mannila*  
Chairperson of the Nomination Committee

## Executive Committee Officers

The first meeting of the new ESA Executive Committee took place at SISWO in Amsterdam on 14-15 November 1997. Following the Statutes, one of the first items of business was the election of officers

and the membership of the sub-committees of the Executive. The ESA Officers for 1997-99 are:

- President - Martin Kohli;
- General Secretary - Robert Miller
- Treasure - Thomas Boje;
- Vice President (Research Networks) - Marlis Buchmann;
- Vice President (Conference) - Mojca Novak

Each was elected unanimously.

The full composition of the ESA sub-committees are:

### Research Networks

Marlis Buchmann (Chair), Franca Bimbi, Daniel Bertaux, Gabriella Lazardis, Maria Adamik, Arnlaug Leira;

### Conference Programme

Mojca Novak (Chair), Allison Woodward, Max Haller, Franca Bimbi, Daniel Bertaux, J.P. Roos, Robert Miller, Martin Kohli, Thomas Boje;

### Communications

Robert Miller (Chair), Daniel Bertaux, Franca Bimbi, Ulla Bjornberg.

## COMMUNICATING WITH THE ESA

### Secretariat

The ESA maintains its Secretariat at SISWO, the Dutch social science support organisation. General enquiries, Membership Applications etc all should go to the Secretariat at the following address:

Secretariat ESA  
Bernard Kruithof/Jantine van Gogh  
SISWO  
Plantage Muidersgracht 4  
NL-1018 TV Amsterdam  
The Netherlands  
tel: +31 20 527 0646  
Fax: +31 20 622 9430  
e-mail: kruithof@siswo.uva.nl  
jantine@siswo.uva.nl

### Research Networks

Communication with ESA Research Networks should be directly with their Convenors (names and addresses given separately in this newsletter). Queries about starting a new Research Network or general items about Networks should go to the ESA Secretariat or to the Vice President for Research Networks:



Marlis Buchmann  
University of Zürich  
Department of Sociology  
Rämistrasse 69  
CH-8001  
Zürich, Switzerland  
tel: +41 1 257 2147  
Fax: +41 1 252 1054  
e-mail: buchmann@soziologie.unizh.ch

#### Newsletter

*European Sociologist*, the newsletter of the ESA, accepts all types of material of relevance to sociologist working on or in Europe - articles, 'think pieces', comments or letters to the Editor, announcements of research initiatives, conferences, seminars, newly-published books etc. The newsletter is pleased to take advertisements from publishers, software companies etc (rates available upon request). Material for the newsletter should be sent directly to the Editor::

Robert Miller  
Department of Sociology & Social Policy  
The Queen's University of Belfast

Belfast BT7 1NN  
Northern Ireland  
tel: +44 1232 273715/6  
Fax: +44 1232 320668  
e-mail: r.miller@queens-belfast.ac.uk

#### Virtual ESA

The ESA maintains a discussion list/bulletin board supported by the MAILBASE system at Newcastle University, United Kingdom. To join the discussion list, 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://web.qub.ac.uk/ss/ssp/esa/ESAINTRO.HTM>

In order to facilitate communication between the Executive of the ESA and its members, an e-mail list for the Executive Committee has been

created. ESA members or others who wish to bring items to the direct attention of the Executive Committee are invited to 'post' directly to this list at: esa-exec@mailbase.ac.uk

(Please do not join this list yourself; as it is intended as an internal communication device for the Executive Committee.) The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be 8-9 May 1998.

#### 4<sup>th</sup> European Conference of Sociology

Queries should go to the Conference Programme Organizer:  
Mojca Novak  
Social Protection Institute of the Republic of Slovenia  
Rimska 8  
SI-1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia  
Tel: +386 61 121 27 801  
Fax: +386 61 121 27 806  
e-mail: mojca.novak@guest.arnes.si

## 4<sup>th</sup> EUROPEAN CONFERENCE OF SOCIOLOGY, AMSTERDAM, AUGUST 1999 PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT

The venue for the 4<sup>th</sup> European Conference of Sociology has been set. The Conference will take place at the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam on 18-21 August 1999. The title of the Conference will be '*Will Europe Work?*'

The Conference Programme committee has begun its work. The major decisions about the overall organisation of the Conference will be made at a meeting of the ESA Executive Committee in early May 1998. The Programme Committee currently is seeking suggestions or offers about any aspect of the organization of the Conference. These may include:

- suggestions for Plenary and Semi-Plenary speakers;
- proposals for the titles of topic-based working group sessions.
- the names of Convenors for these sessions;
- suggestions or offers for workshops on research or other academic skills;
- suggestions for additional activities such as the popular 'Meet the Author' sessions at the last ESA conference.

The Programme Committee is open to any offers or suggestions about the organization of the Conference. Additionally, if you or a group wish to play an active part in any aspect of the 4<sup>th</sup> European Conference of Sociology, now is the time to contact the Programme Committee:

4<sup>th</sup> European Conference of Sociology - Conference Programme  
Mojca Novak  
Social Protection Institute of the Republic of Slovenia  
Rimska 8  
SI-1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia  
Tel: +386 61 121 27 801  
Fax: +386 61 121 27 806  
e-mail: mojca.novak@guest.arnes.si

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## THE ESA JOURNAL AND BOOK SERIES

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Negotiations between Routledge and the ESA have now come to a conclusion and an agreement has been made to publish a new sociological journal and book series.

### **European Societies - the official journal of the ESA**

There have been many significant changes recently in Europe. In particular we have seen the breaking down of the wall between East and West, with the development of more marketized and democratic societies in the East. In the West, though considerable disagreement remains about the impact of economic and legal integration on societies, we have seen the development of increased political and economic integration through the European Union. In all of Europe there are major transformations in social relations around gender, ethnicity and class, both independent of and related to these changes.

*European Societies*, linked to the European Sociological Association and its aims and objectives, will be a high quality academic journal of research on Europe. The journal will publish research on Europe, rather than solely research by Europeans. Europe is intended to be broadly defined, including all regions of the continent - north, south, east, west and central. Work at a European level as well as at a cross-Continental level which is comparative will be particularly welcome. The journal intends to reach into the whole of Europe and not be confined to issues of concern to a limited number of countries. The place

of Europe in an international context is another issue of interest. While a focus will be on addressing contemporary issues, articles may do this via historical sociology, sociological theory and methodology where relevant. As well as adopting a cross-Continental perspective, another main focus of the journal will social theory in across Europe.

Volume 1, No. 1 of *European Societies* will be published in April 1999. The ESA encourages all European sociologists to send in articles for review and publication in the journal. Articles should go both to the Managing Editor and to the Associate Editor for articles. In addition, books for review, any other material for publication, advertisements, general correspondence etc. should go to the Managing Editor:

Gabriella Lazaridis,  
Managing Editor, *European Societies*,  
Department of Political Science and  
Social Policy  
University of Dundee  
Dundee DD1 4HN  
Scotland  
Tel: +44 1382 344 205  
Fax: +44 1382 344 675  
e-mail: g.lazaridis@dundee.ac.uk

Jutta Allmendinger  
Associate Editor (Articles), *European Societies*  
University of Munich  
Institute for Sociology  
Konradstrasse 6  
D - 80801 München  
Germany

Tel: + 49 89 2180-3028  
Fax: + 49 89 2180 2922  
e-mail: allmen@lrz.uni-muenchen.de

### **The ESA Book Series**

The ESA invites proposals for either co-authored books, themed collections or monographs from individual ESA members, the Convenors of working sessions at the ESA Conferences, or ESA Research Network co-ordinators. The ESA hopes to generate about four to five books a year. Proposals for publications in the ESA Book Series must include:

- an introduction describing the theme of the book (7-8 pages);
- an evaluation of the potential audience of the book;
- short abstracts of all contributions/chapters;
- C.V. for the authors or editors (1/2 page);
- short C.V. for all contributors.

Proposals for publications in the ESA Book Series can be sent to:

Thomas P. Boje  
Department of Sociology  
Umeå University  
S - 90654 Umeå  
Sweden  
Tel: + 46 90 786 59 84  
Fax: + 46 90 786 66 94  
E-mail: thomas.boje@soc.umu.se

Decision about acceptance for publication will be made following the advice of referees by the editors of the ESA Book Series together with the publisher - Routledge.

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### **4<sup>th</sup> International Conference on ALTERNATIVE FUTURES AND POPULAR PROTEST Manchester Metropolitan University, Manchester, England 15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> April 1998**

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In 1995, 1996, and 1997 Manchester Metropolitan University hosted three successful international conferences on 'Alternative Futures and Popular Protest'. A fourth conference will be held on 15-17 April 1998. The aim of the Conference is to explore the dynamics of popular movements, along with the ideas which animate their leaders and supporters and which contribute to shaping their fate.

#### **Call for Paper**

We invite offers of papers from sociologists, political scientists, historians and others, addressing the conference themes and their theorization. Papers should address such matters as:

- contemporary historical social movements and popular protests;
- social movement theory;
- utopias and experiments;
- ideologies of collective action etc.

Those giving papers are asked to supply them in advance, for inclusion in a volume of *Proceedings*, which will be available from the conference opening. If interested in offering a paper you should contact either of the conference convenors with a brief abstract: Colin Barker, Department of Sociology or Mike Tyldesley, Department of Politics and

Philosophy. Both may be reached at: Manchester Metropolitan University  
Geoffrey Manton Building  
Rosamond Street West  
Manchester M15 6LL

Tel: Barker, +44 161 247 3439  
Tel: M. Tyldesley, +44 161 247 3460  
email: c.barker@mmu.ac.uk. OR  
m.tyldesley@mmu.ac.uk  
Fax: +44 161 247.6321  
Final date for receipt of agreed papers: 9 March 1998. The conference convenors will approach publishers to explore the possibility of publishing a selection of the conference papers.

# ESA RESEARCH NETWORKS

## NEW RESEARCH NETWORKS

At its November 1997 meeting in Amsterdam, the Executive Committee formally approved the applications of three new Research Networks:

### Globalization

The first meeting of this network took place at the 3<sup>rd</sup> European Conference of Sociology. Its Coordinator is:  
Bart van Steenberg  
Department of General Social Sciences  
University of Utrecht  
P.O. Box 80.140  
3308 TC Utrecht  
The Netherlands  
Tel: +31 30 253 5472/253 5526  
Fax: +31 30 253 4733  
e-mail: B.vanSteenbergen@fsw.ruu.nl

### Social Movements

This network was initiated at the Essex Conference. Its Coordinators are:  
Dieter Rucht  
Department of Sociology  
Darwin College  
University of Kent  
Canterbury, Kent CT2 7NY  
United Kingdom

Mario Dani  
Department of Government  
University of Strathclyde  
16 Richmond Street  
Glasgow G1 1XQ  
United Kingdom  
e-mail: diani@strath.ac.uk

Paul Statham  
Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin (WGB)  
Reichpietschufer 50  
D-10785 Berlin  
Fax: +49 30 25 49 16 84

### Social Policy

An inaugural meeting of this research network was held at the ESA's 3<sup>rd</sup> Conference, August 28 1997. Although comparative social policy research is well developed in Europe there is no regular forum for such researchers to meet and exchange ideas. This network aims to fill that gap and to provide an inter-disciplinary area for the discussion and development of research on all aspects of social policy and social welfare in Europe. This includes both comparative research within Europe and that focusing on the supra-national

and global roles of the EU. It encompasses both theoretical and practice-oriented research. Rather than focusing narrowly on public institutions or social problems, the network favours a broad interdisciplinary definition of social policy which focuses on the rationales behind the development and reproduction of social institutions and groups that influence the distribution of resources, status and power in society and hence individual and social welfare. Our research agenda includes the analysis of such 'policies', public and private, in Europe, and their impact on individual and social welfare as well as the nature of human well-being and democratic citizenship.

### Aims of the Network

- to provide a European level forum for the development, discussion and dissemination of research on social policy and social welfare;
- to facilitate comparative social policy research, for example, by creating a data base of European researchers in the field;
- to provide a point of reference for social policy researchers in different academic disciplines and to link with the relevant national professional associations;
- to ensure an institutional context for the operation of workshops at future ESA conferences and for organizing research meetings and conferences between European conferences.

### Planned activities

- appointment of national correspondents to link with the relevant academic disciplines and disseminate information about the network (so far there are volunteers from Denmark, the Czech Republic, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Norway, Poland, Spain, Sweden and the UK);
- creation of a comprehensive data base of European social policy researchers;
- creation of a Web site and an e-mail discussion list (see below);
- organization of sessions at national conferences;
- publication of regular information via the *Journal of European Social*

*Policy* and national subject newsletters.

### Social policy e-mail discussion list

This list has been set up by the network to facilitate interchange on issues of social policy in Europe, including the European Union. It is open to social scientists, including sociologists, lawyers, political scientists, economists, public administration, public policy and social policy specialists and psychologists and others with an interest in policy and policy-making in Europe.

Members may wish to use it to:

- raise issues for discussion;
- seek information from colleagues on social policy developments;
- announce conferences and meetings;
- give notice of publications and research findings;
- request data or advice;
- inform colleagues about new and on-going research projects;
- seek research contacts and partners.

To join, send an email to [mailbase@mailbase.ac.uk](mailto:mailbase@mailbase.ac.uk) with an empty subject line, containing the message:

JOIN EUROPEAN-SOCIAL-POLICY  
firstname lastname

Example: JOIN EUROPEAN-SOCIAL-POLICY Peter Taylor-Gooby

Coordinator:  
Alan Walker  
Department of Sociological Studies  
University of Sheffield  
Sheffield S10 2TU  
United Kingdom  
Tel: +44 114 276-8555  
Fax: +44 114 276-8125  
e-mail: [alan.walker@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:alan.walker@sheffield.ac.uk)

## RESEARCH NETWORK REPORTS

### Biographical Perspectives on European Societies

The network held five full sessions and a sixth with one paper and a well-attended business meeting. Some of the papers were continuations from the previous seminar on post-communism and biography that had been held in St

Petersburg. A book based upon papers presented at the St Peterburg and Essex meetings, *Altered Lives and Broken Biographies: Biographical research in eastern Europe*, edited by Robin Humphrey and Elena Zdravomyslova, has been put forward for the ESA Book Series.

The business session during the final session elected a new set board of directors of the network and discussed venues for its next meeting.

Coordinator:  
J.P. Ross  
Department of Social Policy  
University of Helsinki  
P.O. Box 25  
SF-00014 Helsinki  
Finland  
Fax: +358 0 1917019  
e-mail: j.p.roos@helsinki.fi

### Sociology of Consumption

The research network will hold a working session at the University of Milano, Italy, 16-17. September 1998. The aims of the conference are to draw attention to:

- both ritual and routine activities in consumption;
- consumption and the reproduction of social order (of the gender system, age religion, race and class);
- emotional involvement and consumption;
- power and consumption;
- development and progress of consumption sociology

We are expecting especially theoretical papers on routine, ritual and emotional aspects of consumption, but also theoretically informed empirical papers on these and named questions. If we succeed in that, we could possibly prepare a book on these topics.

Abstracts should reach the Sociological Department of Jyväskylä University before 30. March 1997. They should have the following form:

- full title
  - full name of author(s) plus institution(s) and country(s),
  - 350 words, no more than one page.
- Full papers should reach the same address before 31 July 1998.

Coordinator:  
Kaj Ilmonen  
Department of Sociology  
University of Jyväskylä  
PO Box. 35, 40351 Jyväskylä  
Finland  
Tel: +358 09 146 2969 or 050-529 2882 (movable, leave message)  
e-mail: Ilmonen@dodo.jyu.fi

### Economic Sociology

The network was established at the Budapest Conference of the ESA in 1995. The aim of the network is to inform European economic sociologists about national traditions, current research, and teaching experiences in the field. A local workshop was organized in Budapest in April 1997 on 'Changing Elites and Changing Rules of the Game' and two sessions were held at the Essex Conference. Three co-Chairpersons were elected at the Essex Conference:  
Soren Jagd  
Roskilde University  
Department of Social Sciences  
P.O. Box 260  
00 Roskilde, Denmark  
e-mail: jagd@ruc.dk

Vadim Radaev  
Russian Academy of Sciences  
Institute of Economics  
Naklimovski Prospekt, 32  
Moscow 117 218 Russia  
e-mail: vadim@Radaev.msk.ru

Zoltan Szanto  
Budapest University of Economic Sciences  
1093 Budapest  
Fovam ter 8  
Hungary  
e-mail: szoc\_szanto@pegasus.bke.hu

The first Portuguese Congress on Economic Sociology will take place 4-6 March 1998 at the SOCIUS Center of Economic and Organizational Sociology, Tecal University, Lisbon. Further information is available at: <http://www.iseg.utl.pt/socius/Congresso.htm>

### Environment & Society

The paper Convenors for the Research Network's sessions at the Essex Conference were: Adrienne Heritier (European University Institute, Florence, Italy) and Maarten Mentzel (SEPA, Delft University of Technology, the Netherlands). Seven papers were offered at the Conference and various other researchers participated in the discussions. In addition, a combined session took place with the stream 'Globalization, Technologies, Environments & Futures'. Plans for the future were discussed at the Network's business meeting.

Research Network 'Environment & Society' will continue to be coordinated by Maarten Mentzel, who will also prepare sessions for the 4<sup>th</sup> ESA conference in 1999 in Amsterdam.

Maarten Mentzel  
School of Systems Engineering, Policy Analysis and Management  
Delft University of Technology  
P.O. Box 5015, Jaffalaan 5  
NL-2600 GA Delft  
The Netherlands  
Tel: +31 15 278-8458  
Fax: +31 15 278-4811  
e-mail: mentzel@sepa.tudelft.nl

### Family Sociology

Le Réseau de sociologie de la famille de l'ESA a été institué lors du Congrès de Budapest. Une trentaine de participants ont manifesté alors le désir de participer à ce Réseau. La liste en a été envoyée au Secrétariat ESA. Les activités du Réseau ont consisté surtout dans l'organisation des Sessions du Congrès de Budapest et du Congrès de Essex, soit 2 fois 5 sessions. Nous n'avons pas eu le temps d'avoir des activités intermédiaires. Les personnes actuellement impliquées dans la gestion du réseau sont, par ordre alphabétique: C. Attias-Donfut; J. Kellerhals; M. Segalen. Il est envisagé de faire une rencontre intermédiaire sur le thème des 'Relatins Intergénérationnelles dans les Familles' en 1998/99.

Coordinator:  
Jean Kellerhals  
Department of Sociology  
University of Geneva  
102 Boulevard Carl Vogt  
CH-1211 Geneva 4  
Switzerland  
Fax: +41 22 781 4100  
e-mail: kelals@ibm.unige.ch

### Gender Relations, and the Labour Market and the Welfare State

Coordinators:  
Eva Cyba  
Institute for Advanced Studies  
Stumpergasse 56  
A-1060 Wien  
Austria  
Tel: +43 1 713 8174  
Fax: +43 1 597 0635  
e-mail: cyba@ihssv.wsr.ac.at

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Department of Sociology  
Umeå University  
S - 90654 Umeå  
Sweden  
Tel: + 46 90 786 59 84  
Fax: + 46 90 786 66 94  
E-mail: thomas.boje@soc.umu.se

### **Industrial Relations, Labour Market Institutions and Employment**

A variety of disciplines and perspectives refer to the labour market and to employment. This research network links these subjects with industrial relations, especially with regard to two main issues:

First, industrial relations can be understood as institutions which govern the labour market and employment. While standard economics tends to regard the labour market as a mechanism of pure arm's-length exchange relations, the key assumption of sociology is that the labour market and employment are embedded in social structures; and industrial relations represent a particularly important institutional element of the social structure. In this context, the research network will concentrate on 'labour-market embeddedness', its variations across countries and its changes over time. This includes the question of the effect which industrial relations has on labour market performance and employment structures.

Second, changes in the labour market and employment in turn exert pressures for adjustment on industrial relations institutions. The globalization of markets, European integration and the accompanying changes in both the labour market and employment pose a serious threat to established industrial relations institutions. The way in which distinct institutions cope with this challenge is another question addressed by this research network.

The more general problems behind the two main issues are whether and how industrial relations - which are still nation-centred - can stand in an economies which have increasingly become both globalized and European. In line with this, special emphasis will be placed on a cross-national perspective.

The network currently includes 27 participants from seventeen countries. Up to now activities have been confined to the exchange of information between participants, dissemination of information about the network and the network sessions at the 1997 ESA conference. It is planned to organize a workshop in 1998 and to intensify communication among participants. Details about these issues were discussed at the network's business meeting at the Essex conference.

Coordinator:  
Franz Traxler  
University of Vienna  
Bruennerstrasse 72  
A-1210 Vienna  
Tel: +43 1 29 128 541  
Fax: +43 1 29 128 544  
e-mail: traxler@soc.bwl.univie.ac.at

### **Sociology of Mass Media & Communications**

The network met at the Colchester conference, where four sessions were held, including a business meeting. The programme was abbreviated due to the unfortunate inability of several paper-givers, especially from eastern Europe, to attend. Nonetheless the sessions were well attended and productive. Nine papers were given by members from seven countries. The network now has about fifty members; a complete list is being submitted to the Executive Committee separately.

At the business meeting the following decisions were agreed.

1. Officers were elected as follows:
  - Chair: Peter Golding (Loughborough, UK)
  - Vice-Chair: Peter Ludes (Siegen, Germany)
  - Newsletter editors: Rossella Savarese (Italy) and George Schuette (Germany)
2. It was decided not to seek to collect dues from members at this stage, although it was suggested that the ESA could be asked whether financial support for networks would be available from the Association's funding (it was later clarified that this was not yet possible).
3. It was decided to organise a newsletter for members, to be distributed electronically.
4. It was agreed to hold a meeting during 1998, date to be finalised. The University of Siegen would act as hosts and provide secretariat support. The focus would be on new technologies, especially multi-media, and their social significance, and also on assessing the distinctive contribution of sociology to media research as an inter-disciplinary field.

Coordinator:  
Professor Peter Golding  
Head of Department,  
Department of Social Sciences  
Loughborough University  
LE11 3TU  
United Kingdom  
Tel: +44 1509 223390

Fax: +44 1509 223944  
E-mail: P.Golding@lboro.ac.uk

### **RENCORE: Methods for Comparative Research on Europe**

Coordinator:  
Nigel Gilbert  
Department of Sociology  
University of Surrey  
Guildford GU2 5XH  
United Kingdom  
Tel: +44 1483 259173  
Fax: +44 1483 306290  
e-mail: gng@soc.surrey.ac.uk

### **Youth and Generation**

The research network held six working sessions at the Essex Conference with, on average, eighteen participants at a session. The network has approximately sixty enrolled members.

An e-mail discussion list has been created. To join, send to: mailbase@mailbase.ac.uk the following message:  
join esa-youth yourfirstname  
yourlastname

Coordinator:  
Jean-Charles Legree  
GRASS-ULISS  
59-61 rue Pouchet  
75849 Paris cedex 17  
France  
Tel: +33 1 40 25 12 16  
Fax: +33 1 40 25 12 12  
e-mail: Lagree@msh-Paris.fr

### **RESEARCH NETWORK COORDINATOR**

The ESA invites applications from groups interested in forming new Research Networks. Queries about starting a new Network, or enquiries about existing Networks or their activities should go to the ESA Vice-President for Research Networks:

Marlis Buchmann  
Department of Sociology  
University of Zürich  
Rämistrasse 69  
CH-8001 Zürich  
Switzerland  
Tel: +41 1 257-2147  
Fax: +41 1 252-1054  
e-mail: buchmann@soziologie.unizh.ch  
-OR-  
ETH Zürich  
Universitätsstrasse 13  
CH-8092 Zürich  
Tel: +41 1 632-5557  
Fax: +41 1 632-1054

## New Books from ESA Members

Pamela Abbott and Claire Wallace, *An Introduction to Sociology: Feminist Perspectives*, Routledge, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, 1996

Colin Barker & Paul Kennedy (eds.), *To Make Another World: Studies in Protest & Collective Action* [A selection from the 1995 conference 'Alternative Futures and Popular Protest'], Avebury, 1996, ISBN 1.85972.326.8. Copies of the 1997 *Proceedings* (two vols., stg£25. the set) may be obtained from: Lynne Fentem, Faculty of Humanities and Social Science, Geoffrey Manton Building, Rosamond Street West, Manchester M15 6LL, U.K. e-mail: L.FENTEM@mmu.ac.uk

Daniel Bertaux, *Les récits de vie dans la perspective ethnosociologique*, Paris: Nathan, 1997, 128pp. 50 French Francs (about 8 US dollars).

Daniel Bertaux and Paul Thompson (eds.), *Pathways to social Class. A qualitative approach to social mobility*. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1997, 334pp. Hardcover.

Björnberg, Ulla and Sass, Jürgen (eds.), *Families with small children in Eastern and Western Europe*. Ashgate, 1997. £35.

Dieter Boegenhold, *Das Dienstleistungsjahrhundert. Kontinuitäten und Diskontinuitäten in Wirtschaft und Gesellschaft*, Stuttgart: Enke Verlag, 1996.

Dieter Boegenhold (ed.), *Moderne Amerikanische Soziologie*, Stuttgart: Enke Verlag, 1998.

Dieter Boegenhold and Dorothea Schmidt (eds.), *Neue Gruenderzeiten? Die Wiederentdeckung kleiner Unternehmen in Theorie und Praxis*, Berlin: Fakultas Verlag, 1998.

Anne Byrne and Madeleine Leonard (eds.), *Women and Irish Society: A Sociological Reader*, Beyond the Pale Publications, PO Box 337 Belfast BT9 7BT, Fax: +44(0) 1232 301299. Internet site: <http://www.unite.net/customers/btp/> ISBN 1-900960-03-6 xvii+574pp. Price £16.96 sterling

Centre for Urban and Community Research, *Final Evaluation of Deptford City Challenge Partnership*, London: Centre for Urban and Community Research (CUCR), Goldsmiths College, 1996. 90pp. Order from CUCR (Angela Kerkhoff, +44 (0)171 919-7390. £15 + 1.50 postage.

Chris Corrin (ed.), *'Women in a Violent World: Feminist Analyses and Responses Across Europe*, Edinburgh University Press, 1996. pbk. 0 7486 0804 4 £14.95. Order from EUP, 22 George Square, Edinburgh, EH8 9LF payable to Marson Book Services

A.Furlong and F.Cartmel *Young People and Social Change: Individualization and risk in late modernity*, Buckingham: Open University Press, 1997. £13.99

Johan Goudsblom and Stephen Mennell (eds.), *The Norbert Elias Reader: A biographical selection*. Oxford: Blackwell, 1998 [actual publication mid-November 1997]. xii + 295 pp. £50 hardback, £16.99 paperback (\$59.95/\$29.95 in USA and Canada) ISBN: 0-631-19308-1 (hb) 0-631-19309-X (pb). Inspection copies can be ordered from: UK: [inspection@marston.co.uk](mailto:inspection@marston.co.uk) USA: [books@blackwellpub.com](mailto:books@blackwellpub.com)

Peter Herrman, *Social Policy in the European Union (Sozialpolitik in der Europäischen Union)*, Rheinfelden, Berlin: Schäuble, 1997. Order by FAX from the publisher: +49.(0)7623.40472 *Cultures of Participation and the Development of the European Union. Viewing the Meaning of Nongovernmental Organisations in some EU-member states (Partizipationskulturen und die Entwicklung der Europäischen Union. Ein Blick auf die Bedeutung von Nichtregierungs Organisationen in einigen EU-Mitgliedstaaten)*; Rheinfelden, Berlin: Schäuble Verlag, forthcoming.

Ronit Lentin (ed), *Gender and Catastrophe*. London: Zed Books, 1997. Price £14.95 stg pb £39.95 stg hb

Robert Moore, *Positive Action in Action: Equal opportunities and declining opportunities on Merseyside*,

Ashgate and Danish Centre for Migration and Ethnic Studies, *Research in Ethnic Relations series*. 129 pp., 20 tables and figures, 7 plates and maps. ISBN 1 84014 108 5.

Jacqueline O'Reilly and Colette Fagan (eds.), *Part-Time Prospects An international comparison*. Hb: 0-415-15669-6: stg£47.50 Pb: 0-415-15670-X: stg£15.99

Isabella Paoletti, *Being an older woman. A study in the social production of identity*. January 1998. 104pp. Orders in Europe should be directed to: The Eurospan Group, e-mail: [orders@eurospan.co.uk](mailto:orders@eurospan.co.uk)

Hans D. Pruijt *Design and Technology*, Routledge Advances in Management and Business Studies 4. Routledge, 1997. Price: US\$70.00; UK£45.00. ISBN/ISSN: 0-415-15869-9

Theo Retician. *Nation and Commemoration: Creating National Identities in Tuva and Buryatia; Nation and Commemoration: Creating National Identities in Yakutia and Chuckchia; Nation and Commemoration: Creating National Identities in Venezuela and Brazil; Nation and Commemoration: Creating National Identities in Romania and Moldavia; Nation and Commemoration: Creating National Identities in the Netherlands and Belgium*

Lyn Spillman, *Nation and Commemoration: Creating National Identities in the United States and Australia*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1997. 264pp.

Sheila Shaver, *Universality and Selectivity in Income Support, An Assessment of the Issues*, Asgate, October 1997. 170pp. Price £35 (hardback). ISBN 1 84014 137 9). Available from Ashgate Publishing Ltd, Gower House, Croft Road, Aldershot, Hampshire, GU11 3HR, England.

Tony Spybey (ed.), *Britain in Europe: An introduction to sociology*, London: Routledge, July 1997. Paperback 0-415-11717-8 : £14.99, Hardback 0-415-11716-X : £50.00

Sue Heath, *Preparation for Life? Vocationalism and the Equal Opportunities Challenge*, Aldershot: Ashgate, 1997. ISBN 1 85972 647 X. Orders from: ashgate@cityscape.co.uk Price: 37.50 (hardback only)

David Rose and Karen O'Reilly (eds.), *Constructing Classes: Towards a New Social Classification for the UK*, ESRC Research Centre on Micro-social Change University of Essex

David Rose, *ESRC Review of OPCS Social Classifications Phase 1 Report, Thinking about social classifications; Recommendations to ONS on 2001 Census*. ix+195pp plus diskette. PB only. ISBN 0 86226 254 2.

Publication November 1997 jointly by ESRC and ONS. Available from: Janice Webb, ESRC Research Centre on Micro-social Change, University of Essex, Wivenhoe Park, Colchester,

Essex CO4 3SQ. Cheques should be made payable in £Sterling and drawn through a UK bank.

Andrew Yip, *Gay Male Christian Couples: Life Stories*. Westport, CT and London: Praeger, 1997. 176pp. 0-275-95730-6; hardback £39.95. Available from: Praeger Publishers, 3 Henrietta Street, London WC2E 8LU. Fax: +44 (0)171-3790609

## CONFERENCE REPORT: NON-MILITARY ASPECTS OF SECURITY IN SOUTHERN EUROPE: Migration, Employment and Labour Market

The conference "Non-military Aspects of Security in Southern Europe: Migration, Employment and Labour Market" took place on Santorini Island on 19-21 September 1997 as part of the work of the ESA's Regional Network on Southern European Societies, launched just two years ago. It was coorganised by the Institute of International Economic Relations and Regional Network on Southern European Societies of the ESA. The Organising Committee was comprised of: Prof. Russell King, Department of European Studies, University of Sussex; Dr. Gabriella Lazaridis, Chairperson of Regional Network on Southern European Countries (ESA), University of Dundee; and Dr. Charalambos Tsardanidis, Director of the Institute of International Economic Relations in Athens. It was supported in its efforts to organise the conference by a number of institutions, namely: the NATO Office for Information and Press; the Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs; the General Secretariat for Greeks Abroad; the Ministry of the Aegean; the Greek Ministry of Culture; the Manpower Employment Organisation (OAED); and the Hellenic Tourism Organisation (EOT). The result of this support was very evident: the conference venue was a picturesque Greek island giving an opportunity for aesthetic experiences which just added to the intellectual benefits of the conference.

The conference drew a considerable

number of scholars from the Mediterranean region, and from outside. Altogether there were 50 participants from 11 countries which made the conference a notable regional event. It was opened with word of welcome on behalf of the organising committee from Dr. Charalambos, and with a speech by the Chairperson of the Network, Gabriella Lazaridis, who presented the socio-economic background of present day migration flows into the Mediterranean, and basic practical and research problems related to the phenomenon.

Twenty-eight papers were presented under the following themes:

- Migration as a Security Issue for the Southern European Countries;
- the Migration Policy of the EU: Towards a Fortress Europe?; Policies on Immigration; Migration and the Labour Market;
- Gender and Migration;
- Illegal Migration; Social Exclusion and Marginalisation;
- Refugees and Forced Migration.

As a result, the wide range of topics approached included: migration and national and regional security; migration and policy implications for the region and the EU; European migration policy; new immigration movements in the region; the impact of migration on the labour market; the feminisation of migrant labour; and the problem of citizenship rights for refugees and illegal migrants.

Some of the papers had a strong theoretical bias, while others were more empirical which fostered, at some points, fierce discussion. Among the topics which particularly livened up debates were: the problem of security, its various dimensions and the very meaning of the term; the problem of policy implications for the countries of the region and related issues of social exclusion, citizenship and the freedom of movement; and also the methodology of migration studies, in particular research on clandestine migration. For scholars involved in different subjects that exchange of views gave an excellent opportunity for one to become aware of the complexity and importance of the matters discussed.

On the whole, the conference proved to be a fruitful scientific event. I believe other participants share my opinion that the conference will promote further investigation in the field of migration, and will render us sensitive to the multidimensionality of the phenomenon that each of us tackle from our own specific angles. Of no less importance is the fact that it also helped to bring together many scholars involved in studies on migration flows in the Mediterranean.

*Krystyna Romaniszyn  
Jagiellonian University  
Kraków, Poland*

## The European Integration online Papers

About half a year ago, the first interdisciplinary, peer reviewed publication on the WorldWideWeb in the field of European integration went online. Visit it at the following URL: <http://eiop.or.at/eiop>

The working paper series is intended to be a multi/interdisciplinary journal. So far only a few papers analyse the subject from a sociologist's point of view. However, I would like to invite the members of the ESA to have a look at the site and to consider the *EioP* as

a way of disseminating your research results.

Michael NENTWICH  
Austrian Academy of Sciences



# GRASS - IRESCO - ULISS

## Unité de Liaison Internationale en Sciences Sociales

ULISS (Unité de Liaison Internationale en Sciences Sociales) is an International Link Office in the GRASS, (Groupe de recherche et d'Analyse du Social et des Sociabilités), one of the Research Centres which is part of the IRESCO (Institut d'Etudes et de Recherches sur les Sociétés Contemporaines), in Paris. The GRASS is a CNRS research unit associated with the University of Paris VIII.

ULISS aims at institutionalising co-operation, collaboration and exchange between European research centres and academic bodies. This institutional linkage will be made with organisations and bodies having an uncontested reputation in the field of expertise of the GRASS: Youth, Family policy, Social Exclusion and Social Policy

On these grounds the main objective of the ULISS programme is to initiate and sustain within GRASS, the presence of foreign researchers or students, who will take part on an individual or institutional basis, in the research programme and academic seminars developed by the research centre host. It aims at introducing a durable international presence within a French CNRS research team, in order to promote the daily interaction of researchers, teachers and students with various backgrounds and then to invite colleagues, to take into account the European dimension in their own work.

The main target of ULISS is to provide a platform where French researchers and foreign guests will learn to work together and get the measure of their differences, not only linguistic, theoretical or methodological but also in terms of professional culture. Such a daily collaboration on the basis of scientific research and scientific activities which involves researchers from various backgrounds and cultures, is undoubtedly a more secure and efficient means of developing sustainable cooperation, than the usual international symposiums and seminars.

Inviting foreign researchers to stay in GRASS, providing training or opportunities for the development of young researchers are for us the main means for spinning a web and building

up a network of individual and institutional partnerships.

### Details of implementation.

The ULISS project is a platform allowing GRASS to invite foreign researchers, teachers and PhD students to stay with the research team and take part in research activities.

### Geographical / Cultural area

This programme will focus on Europe - including Eastern Europe. This implies comparative research between European individual countries as well as investigations into the Europeanisation process. However, this project cannot be confined to this single geographic area, for two reasons: Firstly, the globalisation process is on the move, at the economic level, obviously, but also at the cultural level. The European countries may be regarded as a world region in interaction and interconnection with what is called the 'world system'. Therefore, when Europe is our focus and our main field of interest, it would be a mistake to deprive ourselves of any opportunity to set up comparisons and/or collaboration with other world regions.

Secondly, in such a project, one should avoid reproducing the mistakes of ethnocentrism at the European level. A great deal of European phenomena can be understood only from an external perspective; numerous processes become clear only through the « change of scenery » which was desired by Georges Balandier as a necessary and fruitful tool of investigation. Therefore, Europe is at the heart of this project. But collaboration will be sought and contacts established with other continents or regions; for example, the Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences, the University of Seoul in Korea and University of Mauritius.

### Disciplines

Sociological research on the process of European Construction, convergence/divergence of lifestyles, family systems, systems of education, welfare and social protection, values and orientations, etc are greatly in deficit, compared with research in economy, law and political science. Globalisation as well as Europeanisation cannot be understood

only from an economic or political perspective. The processes are dependant on social and cultural factors which have to be looked into in order to obtain a complete understanding of the present changes in Western societies. The ULISS project is therefore, resolutely *interdisciplinary*. But, it will be limited to a few disciplines whose perspectives can be mixed into a common project without too many difficulties. These are: sociology; anthropology; ethnology; social policy sciences; contemporary history and socio- economy.

### Institutional network.

Six institutions have been contacted across Europe and are part of the project already:

- France - GRASS (CNRS-Paris);
- Finland and Estonia - University of Helsinki;
- Italy - Department of Sociology, University of Milano;
- Portugal - University of Lisboa, ISCTE;
- United Kingdom - University of Glasgow and the Social Statistics Research Unit, City University of London.

### Operating ULISS

As already mentioned, the ULISS project aims at ensuring on a daily basis permanent contact between European researchers who share the same interests and are working in the same field of research. ULISS will provide an office and working facilities in order to ensure these contacts and encourage effective collaboration. When the main objective is to learn to work together and overcome cultural, theoretical and professional differences with a mutual respect, the best route to achieve this objective is to develop collaborative undertaking or at least to work and be involved in common empirical investigations. Therefore, the following topics are given to indicate some collaborative research already undertaken or in progress:

### Youth and Europe

- Convergence and divergence of the patterns of transition towards adulthood
- Youth socialisation to Europe
- European youth identity

#### *Family policy*

- Social reproduction and modes of filiation
- New family patterns
- Circulation of children

#### *Social exclusion, Social Policy*

- Labor markets and exclusion
- Security and the welfare state
- Poverty

#### *Contact for ULISS:*

Jean Charles LAGREE  
GRASS-IRESO Groupe de  
Recherche et d'Analyse du Social et de  
la Sociabilité  
59-61 rue Pouchet  
75849 Paris cedex 17  
Tel: +33 -0- 1 40 25 12 16  
Fax: +33 -0- 1 40 25 12 12  
e-mail: GRASS@IRESO.FR  
LAGREE@MSH-PARIS.FR

### **RESEARCH OPPORTUNITY IN COMPARATIVE AND LONGITUDINAL ANALYSIS**

The European Centre for Analysis in the Social Sciences (ECASS) offers you the opportunity to spend extended periods at the University of Essex carrying out research, attending training courses and summer schools, and taking advantages of the facilities and resources available in the social science departments and centres of the University.

ECASS is a large scale facility funded under the Training and Mobility of Researchers programme of the European Union. ECASS carries out and facilitates the empirical study of social and economic change by integrating longitudinal and cross-national European datasets, providing the support services required for their analyses, and acting as the host for major substantive research programmes. ECASS offers access to the facilities and resources of six well-established social science units at the University of Essex, together with the support services required to fully exploit these resources.

In addition to the large collection of over 5,000 significant social indicator datasets held by the national Data Archive, ECASS offers unrivaled and in some cases unique access possibilities to a large collection of national household panel studies (the British, German, Hungarian, Swedish, Belgian among others), to a dataset of comparable social and economic variables created from these panels (the PACO dataset), to the

International Time Budget Dataset comprising more than 40 surveys from 20 countries and, in collaborative projects with ECASS members, to the new European Community Household Panel Study.

For more information on the research possibilities at ECASS, consult the home pages of ECASS on the World Wide Web or contact the ECASS office. Applications for the coming year can be made at any time. Grants cover travel, accommodation and subsistence. There are also special bursaries to attend the Essex Summer School.

For more information, contact:

Marcia Taylor  
ECASS  
University of Essex  
Colchester, Essex CO4 3SQ  
Tel: +44 1206 873087  
Fax: +44 1206 872403  
e-mail: ecass@essex.ac.uk  
WWW:  
<http://www.irc.essex.ac.uk/ecass/>

## **Gendering the Millennium Conference, University of Dundee, Scotland, 11 - 13 September 1998**

This conference will provide a forum for the debate on gender transformation in the late modern world. The context of the discussion will be social, cultural and economic changes in family structures, sexualities and divisions of labour. We are seeking to understand the dynamic and often contradictory changes in the balance of gender power in both local and global contexts and in richer and poorer countries in the post-colonial era.

**Keynote Speakers** include: Haleh Afshar; Bea Campbell; Bob Connell; Joy Kwesiga; Sylvia Walby; Jeff Weeks.

There will be four major streams but other contributions and suggestions are welcomed. Streams and themes within them are:  
*Representation, Discourses and Ideologies*  
(convened by Halla Beloff and Jane Goldman)

- Degendering/Regendering of cultural discourses
- The sexualised body

- The fluidity of gender representation  
*Power and Conflict*  
(convened by Brigid Fowler and Lyn Tett)
- Violence - private, public and state
- Patriarchy in crisis?
- Gender and the rise of fundamentalism
- Feminist politics

#### *Materialities: Divisions of labour and resources*

(convened by Gabriella Lazaridis, John MacInnes, Margaret Reid, Fiona Wilson & Anne Witz)

- The mediation of gender inequalities: issues of class and race
- Gendered work and gendered time
- Gender and the global economy
- Gender and health

#### *Legitimising and Querying Sexualities*

(convened by Stevi Jackson and Lynn Jamieson)

- Essentialism, social constructionism and agency in sexual identities
- Power and pleasure
- Challenging heterosexuality and subverting gender

Across all of these themes we will be concerned with: continuities and change; generational shifts; the link between the personal and the political.

Abstracts for Papers are invited. These should be between 300 and 500 words and are to be submitted by 31 January 1998. Successful applicants will be informed by 30 March 1998.

#### **Conference Costs**

*Conference fees* £25 per day or £60 for 3 days (2pm Friday to 2pm Sunday)

*Accommodation* (24 hour rate which includes 3 meals, tea and coffee)

- Standard single room £38.50
- En suite single room £51
- Standard twin room £60
- En suite double room £72

*Conference Package* (all conference fees, 2 nights accommodation, meals, tea and coffee)

- Standard single room £135
- En suite single room £160
- Standard twin room £118 (per person)

- En suite double room £260 (for two)

Closing Date for reserving accommodation is 31 July 1998

Please address submissions of outlines for papers, applications for registration and requests for other information to:

Gerda Siann/Johanne Phillips  
Institute for Education and Lifelong Learning  
University of Dundee  
Dundee DD1 4HN, UK  
Tel: +44 (0)1382 345033  
Fax: +44 (0)1382 221057  
e-mail: g.siann@dundee.ac.uk

**6<sup>th</sup> Conference of the  
International Society for the  
Study of European Ideas  
(ISSEI)**

**'Twentieth Century  
European Narratives:  
Tradition & Innovation'  
16<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> August, 1998. Haifa,  
Israel**

*You are cordially invited to participate  
in the following workshops at the 6<sup>th</sup>  
Conference of the International  
Society for the Study of European  
Ideas (ISSEI).*

**Discovering Cultural Diversity**

Up until the 1950s, many European countries were considered by scholars to be culturally homogenic. Due to a number of factors, including mass immigration of guest workers, refugees and asylum seekers, as well as the emerging (until then suppressed by the 'all-national dominant cultures') ethnic/regional consciousness at home, the situation changed dramatically. This process of emerging cultural diversity in countries where homogeneity was considered to be a 'normal' situation has been very painful for both the old (mostly established, regional) and new (mostly immigrant) minorities but also for the dominant groups.

The workshop will focus on these painful cultural and mental transformations, seen both from the "top" and from the "bottom". All scholars who study minority/majority relations or cultural homogeneity/heterogeneity, in Europe or elsewhere, are invited to submit one-page abstracts of their papers to:

Janusz Mucha  
Department of Sociology  
Nicholas Copernicus University  
87-100 Torun, Poland  
Tel: +48 56 276-40 (office)  
Fax: +48 56 247-65  
e-mail: jmuch@cc.uni.torun.pl

**Intercultural Comparisons of  
Democracy**

To what extent do established and young democracies show democratic features and how do they develop? These are the main questions to be discussed within the workshop, 'Intercultural Comparisons of Democracy'. With the help of certain indicators and principles, comparative research of democracy evaluates the quality of democratic systems of different political cultures and

civilisations in a comparative perspective. Those indicators and principles, can they claim a universal validity? Or are the comparative standards themselves based on theoretical conditions, whose validity even varies within western culture itself? How have young democracies developed in recent history (e.g., in Eastern Europe, Southern Europe, Latin America, South Africa, and Asia)? Basic theoretical considerations as well as descriptive methodology, and empirical analysis could be features of possible answers to the various questions of intercultural comparisons of democracies within the workshop.

Those interested in giving a presentation are asked to send an Abstract to:

Susanne and Gert Pickel  
Europa-Universität Viadrina  
Lehrstuhl für Vergleichende  
Kultursoziologie  
Fakultät Kulturwissenschaften  
Postfach 776  
D-15207 Frankfurt/Oder  
Germany  
Tel.: +49 335-5534-922  
Fax: +49 335-5534-923  
email: pickel@euv-frankfurt-o.de

Further information concerning the ISSEI Conference can be obtained from the organisers in Haifa:

Prof. Ezra Talmor  
Conference Chair  
University of Haifa  
Dept. Of Philosophy  
Mount Carmel  
31905 Haifa Israel  
Tel: +972 3-9386445  
Fax: +972 3-9024402  
email: talmor@post.tau.ac.il

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**CALL FOR PAPERS  
Marriage, Morality and  
Emotions - Updating  
Edward Westermarck  
Helsinki, Finland, November  
19-22, 1998.**

**An International Symposium  
organized by The Westermarck  
Society**

The work of the anthropologist, sociologist and philosopher Edward Westermarck (1862-1939) has received renewed attention among researchers of sex, the family, morality and social emotions. This symposium provides a forum for papers that further the analysis of these and other Westermarckian themes. Particularly welcome are papers that attempt to

update any of Westermarck's central analyses. Papers that deal with the historical context of Westermarck's work are invited as well. In the spirit of Westermarck, the symposium is multidisciplinary. Papers that touch upon two or more of the disciplines of sociology, anthropology, philosophy, psychology and biology are encouraged.

Plenary speakers include: Arthur P. Wolf, Stanford University; Frans de Waal, Emory University; Frank Salter, Human Ethology, Max Planck Gesellschaft, Andechs; Maurice Bloch, London School of Economics, jointly with Dan Sperber, CNRS, Paris.

Submitted papers are expected to deal with, for instance:

- moral emotions;
- the family, sex and gender;
- psychological and biological aspects of social phenomena.

The number of papers will be limited to about 30. Submissions will be accepted based on quality and relevance to the symposium. Deadline for abstracts is April 15, 1998. Acceptance announcements will be sent by May 30.

The symposium will have two parts. Thursday through Friday noon, public keynote lectures will be held at the historical Assembly House of the Estates (Säätytalo) in the center of Helsinki. Friday afternoon through Sunday noon, submitted papers will be presented and discussed at the Vuoranta Conference Center, 12 kilometers from downtown.

The conference fee is expected to be about FIM 500. A discounted hotel rate for a single room and breakfast in Helsinki for Nov 18-20 is available for FIM 350 per night. A single room, meals (excluding conference dinners), and sauna at the Conference center total to about FIM 1,100 (for the period of Nov 20-22). [Currently, one US dollar is about FIM 5.20.]

Send inquiries to:  
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**bsa**

British Sociological Association Annual Conference  
6-9 April 1998 at the University of Edinburgh

# Making sense of the body: theory, research and practice

## **The Body in Sociology**

Despite a notable growth in the development of sociological debates on bodies, sociology as a discipline continues to find its study problematic. The body is central to understanding social action and this conference aims to promote reflection on this topic. We are keen to bring together scholars and work from all areas of the discipline in order to invite theoretical debate, and the development and exchange of empirical work.

## **A Participative Approach**

So as to enhance the level and nature of participation from BSA members, we have adopted what we term a participative approach to the conference organisation. We have actively sought the input of study groups as well as other interested groups and individuals in co-ordinating streams and round table discussions. This participation will continue through the production of the published conference volumes.

## **Plenary Speakers, Roundtables, and much, much more....**

Plenary speakers will include: Bob Connell, University of Sydney, Dorothy Smith, Professor of Sociology at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, and the BSA President, David Morgan, will be giving the Presidential Address.

The conference will be organised around a wide range of themes including: the body & the labour process; legal bodies – the state & citizenship; locating the body – place, space & time; the body & mind – beliefs, practices & religion; the body in science, technology & medicine; researching the body – methodological debates; the body & power – regulation & resistance; the body in disability studies; race, ethnicity & the body; cultural representations of the body; bodies at leisure & in sport; the body in health & illness; sexuality & gendered bodies; the body in sociological theory; and there will be an open stream where papers not on the central theme can be presented.

Other activities co-ordinated at the conference are round tables where key issues can be discussed and debated; professional development workshops; study group meetings; women's caucus; postgraduate student workshops; publishers' reception, and of course the Annual General Meeting of the BSA, and assorted entertainments. We welcome other suggestions.

The BSAs WWW page will provide updated information on these developments:  
**<http://dspace.dial.pipex.com/britsoc/>**

Booking forms will be sent to all BSA members but are also available from: 1998 BSA Conference, BSA, Unit 3F/G, Mountjoy Research Centre, Stockton Road, Durham, DH1 3UR, and must be returned by 6 March 1998 (speaker booking deadline: 27 February 1998).

The conference organising team:

Kathryn Backett-Milburn, University of Edinburgh  
Sarah Cunningham-Burley, University of Edinburgh  
Linda McKie, University of Aberdeen  
Nick Watson, University of Edinburgh

# APPLICATION FORM

SEND THIS FORM TO:

EUROPEAN SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

Jantine van Gogh

SISWO

Plantage Muidergracht 4

NL-1018 TV Amsterdam

The Netherlands

## Individual Membership

☐ 2 years / US\$ 70 or Dfl. 130,-

### Student Discount

☐ 2 years / US\$ 15 or Dfl. 30,-

For members from countries with non-convertible currencies (Central and Eastern Europe incl. Turkey)

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### Student Discount

☐ 2 years / US\$ 3 or Dfl. 10,-

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Signature .....

☐ enclosing a Eurocheque or money order payable to ESA. No personal cheques (except Euro) can be accepted.

☐ transfer through (name of bank) .....  
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payable to ESA and clearly stating the name of the person(s) involved.

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