The European Sociological Association RN36 – Sociology of Transformations: East and West, and the Institute of Sociology of the Czech Academy of Sciences cordially invite you to submit paper proposals for the Midterm Conference of ESA RN36 “Sociological Knowledge and Social Transformations in Global Crises” September 2-3, 2022, Prague, Czech Republic

Scope and questions of the Conference:
We are living in the times of multiple global crises. The most recent one triggered by the war of the Russian regime against Ukraine has partly overshadowed the other crises in the public discourse but made them no less significant. Although the severity of covid-19 pandemic has decreased, many of its effects are still present. The global environmental crisis is only becoming more severe due to the recent developments. Many of the trends that seemed self-evident after the fall of the Berlin Wall have been stalled or even clearly reversed. Globalisation and democratisation are increasingly challenged by isolation and autocracy. The recently emphasised solidarity between liberal democracies combined with the consolidation of autocracy in Russia and China seem to resemble some aspects of the Cold War – but still in a hugely different world characterised by deep global interdependences and the predominance of digital technologies. This makes the futures of our societies even more difficult to predict – as new uncertainties are emerging with each new development.
How can sociology of social transformations address these challenges? The understanding of broad social, cultural, political and economic contexts as well as their interplays is more crucial than ever. The ability to observe different levels and aspects of social transformations may be a significant advantage of sociological knowledge in this situation: from the social systems and large-scale institutions to the individuals and their life-worlds.

The conference will address how individuals, communities, organisations, institutions, societies and their subsystems, as well as the global social order are changing when confronted with the current global crises and the related local issues:

- How do they deal with the need for environmental, social, economic sustainability?
- What are the responses to the changes brought upon during the global covid-19 pandemic, the effects of the war in Ukraine, such as the refugee crisis, the tense political relations and security threats or the prospects of the economic crisis?
- Are different institutions sufficiently resilient to cope with such challenges and how are they transforming?
- Are individuals becoming more reflexive or are they more prone to polarisation and homogenisation?
- What role is played by the media, the civil society and its intermediary associations?

The contributions dealing with any of these or broadly connected issues are welcome at the conference.

Abstract, language, and submission:
The organizers invite theoretically or empirically grounded papers on the above topics. Special consideration will be given to empirically grounded papers, either comparative or country-based. The language of the abstracts, the papers and the conference will be English. Abstracts should be about 400 words long and should be accompanied by the name(s) of the author(s), his/her/their affiliation(s) and e-mail(s).

The processes of abstract submission and acceptance is managed using the online platform, available in June 2022. See this web page for more info.

To encourage the participation conference works will be held in hybrid format.

Important Deadlines:
- Deadline for submitting paper proposals (max. 400 words) – June 30, 2022
- Notification of paper acceptance – July 15, 2022
- Deadline for registration – July 30, 2022

Conference Fees (for both on site and online participation):
- Regular fee – EUR 45
- Discounted fee for ESA members – EUR 30
- Discounted fee for PhD students – EUR 20
As a sign of our solidarity with the Ukrainian scholars, the board has determined their exemption from payment of the participation fee

*Accommodation and Travel:* Will be covered by the participants.

*Meals:* Will be provided by the organisers.

*Conference venue:*
**Czech Academy of Sciences** / Institute of Sociology - Sociologický ústav AV ČR, v.v.i.
Jilská 1, 11000 Praha 1, Czech Republic

**Prague** is the capital of the Czech Republic. Also known as the “City of a Hundred Spires”, it’s known for its Old Town Square, the Gothic churches, the medieval Astronomical Clock and the Jewish Quarter mentioned by Franz Kafka in his novels. Prague is regarded by many as one of Europe’s most charming and beautiful cities and has become one of the most popular travel destinations in Central Europe. Rare exhibits in dozens of museums and galleries, centuries-old churches, and elegant palace gardens. You can do a lot in one day in Prague.
(Source: https://www.visitczechrepublic.com/en-US/Destinations/Prague)

*Contact:* esa@soc.cas.cz

*Organizing institutions:*
- ESA RN36 “Sociology of transformations: East and West”;
- Institute of Sociology of the Czech Academy of Sciences.

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