Dear Colleagues,
As the person responsible for the 6th ESA Conference program, may I once again extend our invitation to come to Murcia (Spain) in September. September is a very good month to visit Murcia: the torrid months of summer are over, the temperature is around 30ºC and the city shakes off its torpor and comes to life. There are traditional festivals in towns and villages nearby and the magnificent beaches near the city are less crowded and less expensive than in July and August. In recent decades Murcia has become a thriving and interesting economic centre, with an increasingly diverse population that works for an expanding European market. The traditions of the Mediterranean Northern coast are merging again -after centuries apart- with the cultures of the Southern coast, combined with the new influences from Central and Northern Europe. This background provides a unique opportunity for sociologists to explore the process of change in "Old Societies" while looking for a "New Sociology".

Continued on next page...
At the Opening Session we will have the opportunity to hear Saskia Sassen debating the theme of the conference "Old Societies, New Sociology".

In the semi-plenaries, held on the 24th, 25th and 26th of September, prominent sociologists will discuss some of the important transformations happening currently in Europe. From "Growing inequalities" and "Ageing Europe/Reproducing Europe" to "Transformation of Politics and Society in Spain". As moral, ethical and educational values are a hot issue in our 'risk society', in three different semi-plenaries, leading scholars will present contributions to these issues under the title of: "Science, Bioethics and Citizens", "Morality, Values and Boundaries" and "Educating Europe". A panel of well-known social scientists will close the conference discussing "How to Make Sociology Relevant to Society".

As in previous ESA conferences, in Murcia we will have the traditional "Meet the Authors" sessions where we can converse with authors whose books are obligatory reading in their particular fields (see next page for more information!).

The 2003 conference incorporates a PhD Students workshop. ESA is interested in supporting young sociologists researching in European themes facilitating their meeting and helping with their academic development.

The core of the conference, is no doubt, the exciting roster of sessions organized around 25 Research Networks and 15 Research Streams. In the sessions each individual ESA member will have the opportunity to present her or his most recent work and be able to discuss it with colleagues.

Between sessions, the traditional Spanish hospitality will provide along with the coffee breaks, receptions and dinners an extraordinary opportunity to swap information about research in progress, new teaching programs, old colleagues, job opportunities and generally catch up on all the latest happenings.

Social life will start on the evening of the 23rd with a classical music concert offered to the Conference delegates.

On the 24th and 25th our Murcian colleagues, following the ESA tradition, have invited us to Sociological Walking Tours in the city. The Post Conference Tours are an excellent opportunity to become acquainted with the region of Murcia and/ or neighbouring Granada. The trip to Cartagena, Mar Menor and La Unión includes a flamenco concert "cante de las minas" in one of the best places in the country.

In Caravaca de la Cruz (an alternative trip), besides its important heritage and the celebration of its jubilee year, some of the oldest remains of hominids in Europe have recently been discovered. Last, but by no means least, the trip to Granada will be the ideal occasion to get to know or to re-visit one of the most outstanding Spanish cities.

I look forward to welcoming you in Murcia, but in the meantime, you can visit our web page www.um.es/ESA and make your own copies of the full papers on line.

Capitolina Diaz
Program Vice-President

Pictures taken from Murcia Turistica: http://www.carm.es/ctyc/murciaturistica/
Meet the Author

at the The 6th Conference of the European Sociological Association

Meet the Author sessions have been scheduled by LOC for September 25, 2003 Thursday: 16.30 - 18.00 at the Campus de La Merced.

Five parallel sessions will take place; four sessions will include discussions of two books, one session will focus on one book co-authored by several Authors and will be an extensive panel on the shape of sociology in East-Central Europe. The attempt has been made to have discussions at each session coordinated thematically. They focus on crucial problems and dilemmas of social order in late modernity ranging from broad theoretical issues of postindustrial society and civilisation to topical concerns of changing relations and institutions, including the gender issues. European perspective is examined. The craft of sociology will be also observed.

Fifteen renowned Authors, some of them from several countries will meet with eleven Commentators, all of them experts in respective fields and the audience.

All discussions will be held in English but books in other languages (Spanish and French) are also promoted. Meet the Author sessions should give the opportunity to discuss important research outcomes and ideas and they will be the place of face to face encounter with famous scholars.

Session I
Trust and Trauma

commentator: Risto Heiskala


commentator: Robert D. Fine

Session II

Session III

commentator: Göran Ahme

Vicenç Navarro, Bienestar insuficiente, democracia incompleta: sobre lo que no se habla en nuestro país, Barcelona 2002, Anagrama.

commentator: Berta Álvarez-Miranda

Session IV

commentators: Margareta Bertilsson and Marju Lauristin

Session V

commentators: Giovanna Procacci and Constanza Tobio

Claudine Attias-Donfut, Nicole Lapierre, Martine Segalen, Le nouvel esprit de famille, Paris 2002: Odile Jacob

commentators: Karin Wall

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Election of president and of members of the Executive Committee

All members in good standing will vote for president of ESA and for members of the executive committee for the next two year period. This year, for the first time, members will be asked to vote before the conference. All members will be sent a voting card with their name together with the ballot, a neutral envelope and an addressed larger envelope for sending the ballot back to professor em. Elina Haavio Mannila. You will receive a letter with all necessary instructions for voting. There will also be an opportunity to vote at the conference in Murcia. At the Murcia Conference the polls will be open until Wednesday, Sept. 24, 12.00 a.m.

Information

Who can vote?
All those who have paid their dues at the Helsinki Conference, or do so by July 31 will be eligible for voting. Those who pay their dues after July 31 will not be eligible for voting this year; they will only be eligible in 2005. Those who are eligible will receive the voting card and ballot by mail in the first days of August.

Who can be elected?
Below we list the nominated candidates for president with short CVs in order that you can think about them and discuss them with your colleagues. It is also possible to express candidate preference by writing in the name (or names) of other ESA members in good standing. However, only 10 candidates can be voted for and only one president.

Responsible for the nomination and for the practical details of election are:
Ulla Björnberg, professor of sociology, Göteborg University, Sweden (chair of the committee)
Chiara Saraceno, professor of sociology, University of Torino, Italy
Max Haller, professor of sociology, University of Linz, Austria
Elina Haavio Mannila, professor em. Of sociology, University of Helsinki, Finland
Martin Kholi, professor of sociology, Free University of Berlin, Germany

The Nomination committee has had wide consultations and asked for proposals for candidates from ESA members in the ESA Newsletter 'European Sociologist' and from the national sociological associations in Europe. Based on these consultations a slate of 30 candidates has been made - 15 candidates of each gender, taking into account region and field of research.

Four persons have been nominated as candidates for the presidency of ESA.

Nominated candidates for President of ESA

Elizabeth Ettrone
Department of Sociology at the University of Plymouth. She holds honorary academics posts in Finland as a Docent in Sociology at Abo Academy University and University of Helsinki and is an honorary fellow at EGenis, Genetics and Society Research Centre, Exeter University.

Research area: sociology of health and illness. Her research interests include: sociology of substance use; gender; bioethics; sociology of the new genetics; occupational health and mental health. She is an active member of BSA, ASA, SSSP, SWS and ISA. Since 1996 she has been involved in a number of European commission funded research projects in genetics, bioethics and reproduction. She has published widely in gender studies and the sociology of health.


Giovanna Procacci
Currently Professor of Sociology at the University of Milan (Faculty of Political Sciences) and member of CNRS-IRESCO (Institut de Recherche sur les Sociétés Contemporaines) in Paris. Former member of the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, N.J. (1986-1987), and fellow at the European University Institute in Fiesole (1995-1996; 1999-2000). Visiting professor at the New School (New York), Paris and Freiburg (Switzerland). Current member of the Executive Committee of ESA (publications). Member of boards of international journals (Citizenship Studies, Lien social et Politiques, European Societies) and sociological book series.

Main fields of research: poverty, social exclusion, citizenship, social rights, social policies and the impact of EU.

Main publications: Gouverner la misère (Seuil 1993; Mulino 1998), Mutamento sociale e identità edited with N.Salamone (Guerrini 2000), La responsabilitë solidaire edited with C.Bec (Syllepse 2003), La scoperta della società with A. Szakolczai (Carocci 2003)

J. P. Roos
Professor of Social Policy at the University of Helsinki.

He has taught and studied in France, Switzerland, USA. He has been member of the board and Vice President of ESA, and president of the ESA research network on biography. He was co-organizer of the ESA Helsinki Congress in 1991.

His main research interests are welfare and well-being, generations, life histories in sociology, comparative research, Bourdieu.


For more information, you can visit his home page: www.jproos.org

Candidates continued on next page...
Serge Paugam
Director of Research in the CNRS and Professor of Sociology at Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales (Paris) where he teaches the sociology of inequalities and social disruptions. He has received the “Médaille de bronze” of the CNRS in 1991. Serge Paugam has published many books and articles on poverty, social exclusion, precariness, unemployment and welfare regimes in Europe. His last book Le salarié de la précarité deals with the relationships between social integration and occupational integration. Director of the sociological series Le lien social (Presses Universitaires de France). Associated Member of the Laboratory of Quantitative Sociology in the French Institute for Statistics and Economic Studies, working on poverty and cumulative disadvantage in a comparative perspective. He is also co-ordinating an international research programme on "Health, Inequalities and Social Disruptions " (SIRS), based on a comparative survey in six cities: Paris, New York, Warsaw, Sao Paulo, Antananarivo, Abidjan. Co-ordinator of comparative research programme "Employment Precarity, Unemployment and Social Exclusion" (EPUSE). Published with Duncan Gallie the report Social Precarity and Social Integration (2002).

He has been invited professor in several universities : Pontificia Universidade Católica of São Paulo, Nuffied College, Oxford, University of Buenos-Aires, Brown University in Providence, USA,University of Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium, University of Fribourg, Switzerland, University Laval, Québec, Canada. He is a member of the executive board of the European Consortium of Sociological Research.


Maurizio Bach
Professor of Sociology at the University of Passau, where he also directs the Institute for Cultural Studies. After his MA in Sociology and Political Science from the University of Hanover, he has received his Ph.D. in Social-Political Sciences from the European University Institute in Florence, and his Habilitation in Sociology from the University of Konstanz. He has also taught at the universities of Heidelberg, Konstanz, and - as a Visiting Professor - Zürich.

Professor Bach has published widely in his main research areas, which range from political sociology to social integration, macrosociology, sociological theory, and historical sociology; his books include a comparative study of political power cultures and institutions in interwar Italy and Germany (Nomos, 1990); an analysis of Europe's "bureaucratization", focusing on administrative elites, experts, and political legitimation in the European Union (Campus, 1999); an edited volume on the Europeanization of national societies (Westdeutscher Verlag, 2000); an interpretation of Vilfredo Pareto's foundation of a sociological theory of action (forthcoming in 2003).

Patrick Baert
Originally from Belgium, I have been teaching at Cambridge University since 1992, where I am currently University Senior Lecturer in Sociology and a Fellow and Director of Studies in Social and Political Sciences at Selwyn College, Cambridge. I published Time, Self and Social Being (Ashgate, 1992) and Social Theory in the 20th Century (Polity, 1998) and edited Time in Contemporary Intellectual Thought (Elsevier, 2000). I am coordinator of the Social Theory Network of the ESA and perform editorial functions for the Journal of Classical Sociology and the European Journal of Social Theory. I have had visiting posts at Universities in Belgium, Canada, Chile, France and Italy.

Eva Bartloušius
Professor of sociology, Research fellow at the Social Science Center of Berlin, actually acting professor for General Sociology at the University of Leipzig.

Main areas in research: Theories of social inequalities, sociology of poverty, sociology of food and agriculture.

Actual research studies: International cultural comparing study about body, health and diet in six nations, Risk communication in the field of food and agriculture in the EU, Consequences of evaluation programmes in research institutions.

Memberships: Committee for evaluation of the Wissenschaftsrat (Scientific Council), Board of the German Science Foundation on Agriculture, Co-editor of the ?Zeitschrift für Agrargeschichte und -Soziologie (Journal of Agrarian History and Sociology).


Candidates continued on next page...
Bernadette Bawin-Legros
After receiving a master's degree in the United States, she got her PHD at the University of Liège in Belgium where she has been professor of sociology. She has specialized in the sociology of the family but has also worked on social exclusion and women's studies. She has served on many doctoral committees not only in Belgium but also in Canada; in Switzerland and also in Sénégal. A past consultant in Unesco she is now vice-president for scientific activities at the International Council of Social Sciences in Paris. She served 8 years on the executive committee of the International Sociological Association.

She has published several books: Familles, mariage, divorce (1988), Sociologie de la Famille (1996), Familles mode d'emploi (1999), and has co-edited of two books on the values of the Belgians. She has also published more than 65 articles in professional journals and was the editor in 2002 of a special issue of Current Sociology.

She has taught as guest professor at the University of Quebec, Paris I, Toulouse, Geneva, Montreal and Hanoï. As a citizen she is involved in the European center "Child Focus" which deals with missing children.

Louis Chauvel
Sociologist, Maître de conférences des Universités at the Institut d’Études Politiques de Paris (Sciences-Po), I teach European comparisons, general sociology, advanced methodology, social stratification.

My research field is at the intersection of social classes and of generational dynamics: I show how Welfare regimes dynamics in Europe and America involve strong social and generational inequalities. My main results pertaining to the impact of the 1970' economic breakdown on newer generations are published in Le destin des generations. Structure sociale et cohortes are published in Le destin des generations.

Eva Cyba
Lecturer at the University of Vienna and the University of Economics in Vienna.

Major Fields: Theory and Research of Social Inequalities, Women’s Studies and Gender Relations, Survey and Attitudes Research

Co-editor of the Austrian Journal of Sociology (ÖZS); since 1995 Coordinator of the ESA Research Network "Gender Relations in the Labor Market and the Welfare State"; Editor of the ESA Newsletter.


Catherine Delcroix
Teaches sociology at the Université de Versailles Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines (UVSQ), and is affiliated to the Research Centre PRINTEMPS (PROfessions, INstitutions, TEMPoralités) of the CNRS and UVSQ.

Her research focuses on migration, inter-ethnic and gender relations, family and life course sociology, urban poverty and social policy.


Juan Diez-Nicolás

Professional memberships: Member of several large international research projects (WVS, ISSP); member of several Academies of Science and governmental advisory groups; university Dean and Rector; Vice-minister for regional planning (1979-81); president of the Spanish Federation of Sociology (1995-98) and vice-president of ISA; author of 25 books and 214 articles in professional Journals.

Selected books: Sociologia: Entre el Fucionalismo y la Dialectica (1972); Los Espanoles y la Opinion Publica (1976); Politicas de Poblacion (1985); La Realidad Social de Espana (annual publication since 1990/91; Identidad Nacional y Cultura de Defensa (1999); La Voz de los Inmigrantes (2001).

Ina F. Deviatko
Chair in Analysis of Social Institutions, Higher School of Economics (State University), Moscow; Leading Researcher for the Institute of Sociology, Russian Academy of Science (part-time).

Main Research Interests: sociological theory, methodology and methods, philosophy of social sciences.


Michael F.Chernysh
1. Affiliation: Institute of Sociology, Russian Academy of Sciences,
2. Status: Leading Researcher, PhD.
3. Area of research: social structure, class theory, methodology of sociological research,
5. Country / City: Russia / Moscow


Candidates continued on next page...
Elizabeth Ettorre  
Department of Sociology at the University of Plymouth. She holds honorary academics posts in Finland as a Docent in Sociology at Abo Academy University and University of Helsinki and is an honorary fellow at EGenis, Genetics and Society Research Centre, Exeter University. Research area: sociology of health and illness.

Her research interests include: sociology of substance use; gender; bioethics; sociology of the new genetics; occupational health and mental health.

She is an active member of BSA, ASA, SSSP, SWS and ISA. Since 1996 she has been involved in a number of European commission funded research projects in genetics, bioethics and reproduction.

She has published widely in gender studies and the sociology of health.


Tuula Gordon  
Fellow of the Helsinki Collegium for Advanced Studies, University of Helsinki, Finland (PhD, University of London) (honorary posts as docent in universities of Helsinki, Tampere and Joensuu in Finland), Chair of the Sociology of Education research network in ESA.


Theres Jacobs  
Director of CBGS - Centrum voor Bevolkings- en Gezinstituut, Brussels, Belgium; formerly professor at the University of Antwerpen; research area: sociology of the family, politics of the family, demography.

Carsten Stroby Jensen  
Associate Professor at the Department of Sociology, University of Copenhagen.

His main fields of research are: youth, generation, Europe, globalisation, the issue of collective identity, sociological theory.


Heiner Meulemann  
Professor of sociology at the University of Cologne (Germany).

Teaching: General Sociology, Comparative Sociology, Methodology.

Recent publications and research projects: Social and cultural change, Life histories, Medical sociology.

Member of the German Team of the European Social Survey (ESS) and the board of the German ALLBUS survey. 1992-2002 Member of the board of the German Sociological Association (DGS).

Manuela Olagnero  
Associate professor of Sociology at the Faculty of Political Sciences of Turin. Member of the Italian Sociology Association.

Current research interests include Longitudinal Analysis and “Age and Life Course Research”. Applications are related to the dynamics of poverty, stressful life events, family and housing careers in urban contexts, and evaluation of social outcomes of welfare policies.

Selected recent publications include 

Carsten Stroby Jensen is former President of the Danish Sociological Association and former board member of the Scandinavian Sociological Association.

He has published in journals like Journal of Common Market Studies, European Journal of Industrial Relations, Industrial Relations Journal and similar. He has been a member of the editorial board of Acta Sociologica. His teaching areas are in areas as social stratification, political sociology, industrial relations and EuropeanUnion.

Dagmar Kutsar  
- Head of Unit of Family and Welfare Studies, University of Tartu (Estonia), 1991  
- Professor of Social Policy, University of Tartu, 2001  
- Previously Associate Professor of Empirical Sociology, 1995-2001

Current research interests: Family, childhood and welfare research and policies, including poverty and social exclusion/inclusion, childhood relative deprivation and poverty, changing family structures and family decision-making; social indicators and social reporting, covering problems of international comparability and the development of a national social monitoring system in Estonia.

Jean-Charles Lagréé  
CNRS Research Fellow (IRESCO, Institut de Recherche sur les Sociétés Contemporaines). Director of the Unité de Liaison Internationale en Sciences Sociales (ULISS) , Has been research Fellow of the LSE (London School of Economics and Political Sciences ) from 1993 to 1997.


His main fields of research are: youth, generation, Europe, globalisation, the issue of collective identity, sociological theory.


Candidates continued on next page...
Wim van Oorschot
Professor of Sociology at Tilburg University (The Netherlands).

His main research interest concerns the comparative analysis of welfare state dynamics from a cultural perspective. He has published on welfare solidarity, the legitimacy of welfare, on old age and disability pension provision, on benefit take-up, activation and flexibility policies.


Ilona Ostner
Dr. phil., is by training a labour market sociologist (University of Munich) who researched the structure of and relationship between paid and unpaid work in capitalist societies (1974-1983).

She moved into the analysis of social policy and its impact on gendered labour market and family careers, also in a comparative perspective. From 1989-1994 she was Professor of Sociology and Gender Studies at the University of Bremen and the Bremen Centre of Social Policy Research. Since 1994 she has been Professor of Comparative Social Policy at the Georg-August-University of Goettingen and since 1997 Head of the postgraduate programme ‘The Future of the European Social Model’ funded by the German Science Foundation (DFG). She has been co-editor of several journals, e.g. the ‘Zeitschrift fuer Soziologie’ (Journal of Sociology).


Giovanna Procacci
Currently Professor of Sociology at the University of Milan (Faculty of Political Sciences) and member of CNRS-IRESO (Institut de Recherche sur les Sociétés Contemporaines) in Paris.


Main fields of research: poverty, social exclusion, citizenship, social rights, social policies and the impact of EU. Main publications: Gouverner la misère (Seuil 1993; Mulino 1998), Mutamento sociale e identità edited with N.Salamone (Guerrini 2000), La responsabilité solidaire edited with G.Bec (Syllepse 2003), La scoperta della società con A. Szakolczai (Carocci 2003)

Ladislav Rabusic
Professor of sociology at the School of Social Studies, Masaryk University in Brno, Czech Republic. His research interests focus mainly on population studies, social problems, and sociology of values. So far he has published about 65 papers, two Czech monographs (Where have all the children gone fertile in sociological perspective; and Ageing Czech society), edited one book (Seniors in Czech society) and contributed several chapters to various books published both abroad and in Czechia. He is major Czech representative of European Values Study enterprise and a member of its steering committee. Except ESA, he is also a member of the European Association for Population studies (EAPS) and the International Union for Scientific Study of Population(IUSSP).

Elianne Riska
Elianne Riska is von Willebrand-Fahlbeck Professor of Sociology and Statistics at Åbo Akademi University, Åbo, Finland since 1985. Her areas of research are health sociology and sociology of professions. Her most recent books are Gender, Work and Medicine (Sage 1993), Gendered Moods (Routledge 1995), Medical Careers and Feminist Agendas: American, Scandinavian, and Russian Women Physicians (Alinde de Gruyter 2001), and Masculinity and Men’s Health: Coronary Heart Disease in Medical and Public Discourse (Rowman & Littlefield, forthcoming).

Lennart G Svensson
Professor at the Department of Sociology, Gotenburg University (Sweden).

Co-ordinator for the research network Sociology of professions in the European Sociological Association, and member of the executive committee for research committee 52 in the International Sociological Association.

The main research areas are the sociology of education, occupations, professions and the sociology of work including: studies on professional competence at work and studies on professional conditions and internationalisation and occupational status.

Talis Tisenkops
Professor of sociology at University of Latvia.

Research areas include public policy analysis, democratic accountability, citizen participation, collective action, partnerships and community development, regional and rural development.


Candidates continued on next page...
Constanza Tobío
Profesora Titular of Sociology at Universidad Carlos III de Madrid and Vice-Dean in charge of the Sociology degree.

Her main areas of research are urban sociology and the family-employment relationship. She has worked on space and gender, lone parent families and women’s strategies to combine employment and motherhood in Spain. She has done a broad research financed by the Spanish Ministry of Social Affairs on lone parent families in Spain whose main results have been published in the book Las Familias Monoparentales en España (with Juan Antonio Fernández Cordón) and in several national and international journals. She is currently engaged in research on Spanish women’s strategies to cope with family responsibilities and paid work both from a qualitative and quantitative perspective, based on which she has published several articles in European Societies, Cahiers du Genre and Revista Española de Investigaciones Sociológicas, among other journals. She is currently a member of the RTN European Research Network "Grandparenthood and inter-generational relationships in aging European populations".

John Vincke
Ph.D., Chairperson Department of Sociology, Ghent University Belgium


Research Area: Risk and prevention studies, sexuality.


Marek Ziolkowski
Professor of Sociology, Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznan, Poland and Institute of Political Studies, Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw

Areas of interest: Sociological Theory, Sociology of Knowledge, Social Structure and Social Consciousness, Political Sociology; Member of the Editorial Boards of three Polish sociological journals;


Secretariat
The Secretariat has moved and the ESA maintains its secretariat at IRESCO in Paris. General inquiries, Membership Applications etc. all should go to the Secretariat at the following address

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

Margareta Bertilsson
e-mail: Margareta.Bertilsson@sociology.ku.dk

Publication series
ESA Vice-president Dennis Smith (d.smith@loboro.ac.uk)


Communication with the ESA

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 or research initiatives, conferences, seminars, newly-published books etc. Material should be sent directly to the Editor:

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Council on National Association:
Ulla Björnberg (Ulla.Bjornberg@sociology.gu.se)

Virtual ESA
The ESA maintains a discussion list/bulletin board EUROPEAN-SOCIOLOGIST@JISCMAIL.AC.UK

The ESA also maintains pages on the WorldWideWeb:
www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/preview

Responsible for the e-mail list and web site: Risto Heiskala
Webmaster: R. Bekkers
In these times of 'globalisation' cities are being powerfully shaped by their relationships with socio-technical networks and infrastructures. These organise, and mediate, the distribution of people, goods, services, information, wastes, capital, and energy between multiple scales within and between urban regions. The contemporary urban process, and contemporary social power, thus, more than ever, involve complex 'cyborg' liaisons and multiple, distancediated connections. These straddle many scales and link bodies, places, and institutions continuously with more or less distant elsewhereys. By making possible a myriad of mobilities such infrastructures remake the spaces and times of urban life in the process.

On the one hand, the everyday life and ideology of the modern city is dependent on the seamless and continuous functioning, together, of a vast array of functioning technical systems (although, for vast numbers of urbanites in the global South, the reality is often of little connectivity and worse reliability). On the other hand, large swathes of contemporary corporate, state, and military power centres on the construction, maintenance, legitimation and protection of vast arrays of extended technological systems. Strung out across the world, and configured carefully to support the 'glocal' geographies of power and connectivity of contemporary capitalism, these network spaces - fibre optic networks, airport and airline spaces, Just-in-Time logistics systems, E-commerce and transactional flows, transnational energy systems, and so on - are critical strategic supports to neoliberal globalisation. Linking up, and mediating, key spaces and divisions of labour reliably, quickly and seamlessly, the physical, energy, water and informational infrastructures that sustain contemporary capitalism are perhaps the most critical strategic supports of contemporary global capitalism.

A widening range of iconic infrastructure collapses serve as opportunities to learn about the cultural, political, social and material dimensions of the importance of infrastructural connection in contemporary urban, and geopolitical, life. Since the early 1990s, to name but a few, iconic collapses and failures have included the Montreal ice storm, the Auckland power blackout, the gas attack on the Tokyo underground, the Sydney drought, the California energy crisis, the Chicago heat wave, the failure of Hong Kong airport's freight system, the September 11th attacks, and the 'Lovebug' virus. The infrastructural devastation of countless urban wars also needs to be considered here.

As seamless and 24 hour flows and connections become ever-more critical for capitalist urbanism, however, so massive political, discursive and material resources are being devoted to try and reduce the supposed vulnerabilities that these systems exhibit to collapse, malfunctioning, or attack. This is especially so when the September 11th and Anthrax attacks, in particular, demonstrated that mobility systems, themselves, can be appropriated as 'terrorist' weapons. 'Resilience', and 'critical infrastructure protection', are ubiquitous buzz words in these times of politically constructed moral panic, continuous states of emergency, and the ongoing Bush-led 'war on terror'. Huge resources and efforts are now being devoted by States, infrastructure corporations, the military, urban infrastructure agencies, and corporate capital to reducing the supposed vulnerability of telecommunications, transport, logistics, transaction, electricity, and utilities systems to technical failure, sabotage, natural disasters or the failures caused by the reduced built in back-up that often comes with liberalised markets. The glaring fragility, and low reliability, of many computer-mediated communications and infrastructure systems is a particular focus of concern here. Examples include government programmes to protect critical infrastructure, commercial services for network back up, and military (and terrorist groups') interest in the disrupting of adversaries' infrastructure networks. Civil defence programmes designed to increase cities' resilience to attack and targeting, and so on, are also reaching unprecedented levels.

As Tim Luke has observed, networked connections and collapses also form a critical focus of cultural politics. Narratives and discourses of failed flow and connection stalk many underground and dystopian scenes and genres of culture. Contemporary urban culture is full of accounts which reveal a fascination with such moments of what he calls 'decyborgisation'. This is because they reveal, however fleetingly, the utter reliance of modern urban life on distanciated flow and interaction. The cultural narratives and representations that surround the failure and collapse of networked infrastructures are a key aspect of their social importance.

Conference Aim and Objective

The core aim of this conference is to explore the ways in which reactions to, and experiences of, the collapse of technical and networked infrastructures within and between cities are constructed, experienced, imagined, represented, and contested. We seek in particular to explore these themes under conditions of growing infrastructural stress, re-regulation, globalisation, increasing concerns with failure, the changing geopolitical situation surrounding the 'war on terror', and the strong fascination for infrastructural collapse within contemporary culture. By bringing together researchers representing a range of disciplines, including geography, history, sociology, critical theory, development studies, political economy, geopolitics, surveillance and defence studies, the objective is to stimulate interdisciplinary discussion and collaboration that examines the meaning of connectivity and collapse in contemporary urban life, politics, governance, and culture.

Seminar Themes

(1) Conceptualising 'Cyborg' Urbanisation: How can urban, social and critical theory conceptualise the socio-technologies of connection, resilience, mobility, and collapse in contemporary cities

(2) Urban Vulnerability and Network Failures: Constructions and Experiences of Emergencies, Crises and Collapse How do different disciplines construct concepts of urban vulnerability and network failure? How does network stress and failure operate materially and how is it represented politically and culturally? Why, how and where do technical networks collapse? What can be learnt about the discursive, economic or material role of technical connections in a globalised context by studying what happens when connections fail?

Continued on next page...
How does the governance of cities, spaces and networked infrastructure intersect in various contexts to address (and exploit?) perceptions of stress and risk? How are such politics shaped by broader political economies of globalisation, mobility, flow and re-regulation? How are corporate and popular fears of, and vulnerabilities to, the failure of connectivity addressed in such processes of governance?

(3) Networked Collapses as States of Emergency:
What can be learnt from in-depth case studies of instances of network failures or collapse? What happens when the normalisation of flow, mobility and connection breaks down? What social, economic, and cultural coping mechanisms and innovations are developed to deal with the collapse? How do political and governance coalitions at various scales, in states, cities and network spaces, respond to failure? What are the longer term political, economic or cultural consequences of network failure? How are crises and collapse in infrastructures, and wider processes of “de-cyborgisation”, represented in contemporary culture?

(4) Networked Collapse, Security, and Organised Violence:
How do various state and non-state militaries and target and destroy adversaries’ infrastructure networks? In what ways are national, homeland and urban ‘security’ strategies, and critical infrastructure protection policies, being reforged to address, or exploit, fears of networked collapse? What political economic transitions do such strategies support? What discursive, and linguistic constructions do such political strategies rely on? Beyond the hype what is the real scope of ‘cyberwar’? What strategies and techniques are used? How effective, or widespread, is such ‘network-based’ warfare? How does it relate to the current geopolitical position (dominated by a single ‘hyperpower’ pursuing a ‘war on terror’ without apparent end to further its geopolitical interests in the Middle East and Central Asia)?

Abstract Submission
Please submit a 250 words abstract to Steve Graham s.d.n.graham@ncl.ac.uk and Simon Marvin S.Marvin@salford.ac.uk before September 1st 2003.

Papers will be required for pre-circulation before the seminar that will be hosted in central Manchester, United Kingdom in April 2004.
Roma and Asylum in Britain: Global Issues, Local Concerns

University of Newcastle upon Tyne, September 3rd 2003

"People should connect the influx of Romani asylum seekers with the failure of the states concerned to eliminate inequality. If countries eliminated violence and discrimination, people wouldn't be asking for asylum." (Lord Avebury, The Guardian, 27.2.03)

"Roma are consistently bottom of the pile. Unless their situation improves, these states should not be accepted into the EU. The human rights record of the EU is at stake." (Mr. Peter Mercer, Roma Rights and Access to Justice, The Guardian, 27.2.03)

As both Lord Avebury and Mr. Mercer have recently noted, these are very worrying times for Europe's twelve million plus Roma population. With recent changes in asylum and immigration legislation, people originating from European Union accession countries (such as Hungary, Poland, the Czech Republic and Slovakia) who are seeking asylum in Britain can now be deported without appeal. In the eyes of existing European Union member states and the law, the ten countries set to join the EU in May 2004 are now judged to be 'safe' and their respect for social justice and human rights beyond reproach. However, organisations such as the European Roma Rights Centre have grave doubts regarding how serious many of the Central and Eastern European governments take the issue of anti-Roma racist violence and the prejudice and discrimination their Romani minorities endure on an almost daily basis.

The central purpose of this one-day conference in Newcastle upon Tyne is to examine the 'global issues and local concerns' of Roma who have had to leave their home countries and enter Britain to claim asylum. In the morning session, key papers by recognised experts in the field will address such 'global' topics as the reasons and patterns of recent European Roma migration as well as the legal and human rights issues at stake. After a buffet lunch, the afternoon session will involve a number of 'hands-on' workshops that will critically examine some of the 'local' concerns regarding how Roma in Britain (and the North East in particular) are provided for in terms of key services - such as education, housing, health and the law. This will be a real opportunity to tease out the issues of trying to implement 'joined-up' policies in the general area of asylum and immigration, as well as an opportunity to network with people working in the field.

The conference is likely to appeal to a number of different audiences, in particular academics, post-graduate students, policy-makers, local authority and central government agencies and council departments, voluntary sector organisations and, not least, Roma/Gypsy/Traveller civil rights groups.

The conference will take place at:
The Fenwick Room, Castle Leazes Halls of Residence - Spital Tongues, Newcastle upon Tyne NE2 4NY

For further information contact:
Tel: 0191 222 8362/8368
http://www.ncl.ac.uk/confereceteam/
http://www.ncl.ac.uk/geps/

Europe in Global World - blending differences

Interdisciplinary youth conference September 13th and 15th 2003

It gives us great pleasure to inform you of a new educational and scientific project undertaken jointly by the Centre for Social and Economic Research in Warsaw and the Institute of Economics at the University of Lodz.

We wish to emphasise that the Conference is only the first undertaking of a greater project, which we called OPEN MINDS. The OPEN MINDS project strives to integrate various circles of young scientists from Europe as well as other countries, through supporting research activities, which concentrate on various social and economic aspects of the European Union and on current problems that the contemporary economy is faced with. We will popularise our undertaking in the media (the Internet, radio, TV, press) we are currently negotiating an agreement for the medial patronage by the Polityka weekly and by the III Programme of the Polish Radio.

Several important persons, who have gained world-wide recognition of both the business world as well as the scientific community, will participate in the Conference. To name but a few: B. Blaszczyk, A. Fornalczuk, M. Gora, T. Markowski, J. Szlachta, J.F. Jimeno, E. Fox, Z. Bauman.

We estimate that the Conference will be attended by around 150 participants, mainly by nationals from the European Union and the candidate countries.

The Delegation of the European Commission in Poland and the Office of the Committee for European Integration have agreed to hold patronage over the Conference.

For further information see: http://www.openminds.edu.pl

The SEVENTH Conference of the European Sociological Association
Torun, Poland 2005

The Executive Committee of the ESA at the meeting held in Paris, March 28-29, 2003 has accepted the bid submitted by the Institute of Sociology of the Nicholas Copernicus University at Torun, Poland to host the 7th Conference of the European Sociological Association in late summer 2005. The next conference of ESA taking place in Central Europe should attract no less participants than the recent conferences in Helsinki and in Murcia. The program of this important event in the activities of the ESA will be worked out by the newly elected ESA President, the ESA Executive Committee and the Torun team under the lead of Director of the Institute of Sociology Andrzej Zybertowicz. The discussion of social changes in Europe, where a larger and closer Union takes shape and new visions and projects are even more demanded, will gain vigour when joined by sociologists from various parts of the continent.

The Nicholas Copernicus University is one of the highest ranking among universities in Poland and the biggest one in the northern part of the country. Torun is a picturesque city on the banks of the Vistula river, with a magnificent Old Town including the house of the famous astronomer.

Torun is easily accessible by train or bus. The nearest airports are in Gdansk, Poznan and Warsaw.

More information about the Nicholas Copernicus University and about the Institute of Sociology:
www.uni.torun.pl and www.soc.uni.torun.pl

Further details about the 7th Conference of ESA will follow in the next issue of the Newsletter in Autumn 2003.
Info on 7th ESA Conf. by Elzbieta Halas
Biographical Research in Eastern Europe: Altered Lives and Broken Biographies
Edited by Robin Humphrey, University of Newcastle, UK, Robert Miller, Queen’s University, Belfast and Elena Zdravomyslova, European University and Centre for Independent Social Research, Russia

The transition from socialism experienced by the countries of Eastern and Central Europe during the last decade has been recognised as a profound historical watershed. It is only now, however, that the meanings and dimensions of ‘post-socialism’ are becoming apparent. The use of the ‘biographical perspective’ in research provides a unique avenue for studying these changes. Biographical Research in Eastern Europe is the only edited volume that brings the work of many of the most advanced and active biographical researchers working on Eastern Europe together in one volume.

The book is organized into four parts. The Potential of Biographical Research explores the methodological issues. Arguments for the appropriateness of the biographical approach as a humanistic perspective are put forward and emphasis is laid on its fruitfulness for research into everyday lives and for the study of identity construction with particular reference to transition. Communists, Informers and Dissidents deals with the structural features of Soviet regimes. In particular, it focuses on the problematic divisions between public and private spheres of life. The Impact of Social Change demonstrates the value of the biographical approach as an instrument for the study of social and cultural change. Exile, Migration and Ethnicity centres on the problem of constructing and maintaining ethnic identities under repression; a context that can be seen as disturbing life-trajectories and framing the life story. Covering a wide range of ‘post-socialist’ countries, the chapters are unified by a common research perspective and an informative introduction that identifies common themes across the selections.


Contact: Ashgate Publishing Direct Sales, Bookpoint Limited, 130 Milton Park, Abingdon, Oxon, OX14 4SB, UK

ephemera: critical dialogues on organization

Rannevig Dahl
Shifting boundaries and negotiations on knowledge: Interprofessional conflicts between nurses and nursing assistants in Norway

Hildegard Theobald
Care for the elderly: Welfare system, professionalisation and the question of inequality

Barmarick Publications:
http://www.barmarick.co.uk

C. £15.00

Care arrangements of Dual-career families in Europe, particularly in Finland, France, Italy, Portugal and the UK

Teppo Kröger
Department of Social Policy and Social Work - University of Tampere, Finland

This comparative qualitative report is based on 124 original interviews with families where both partners are working in positions or occupations that require plenty of time and commitment. At the same time, these families are caring for children or older family members or both.

The report is freely available at:
http://www.uta.fi/latokset/sospol/soccare/together with national reports from each of the five countries.

The report was produced for the European Commission as a part of the SOCCARE Project. The SOCCARE Project is a comparative research project funded by FP5, Socio-Economic Key Action. It studies the strategies of European families to combine informal and formal care with participation in paid employment. Main partners of the project are Jorma Sipilä (Tampere), Claude Martin (Rennes), Rossana Trifiletti (Florence), Karin Wall (Lisbon) and John Baldock (Kent)

In addition to the dual-career family reports, national reports of the next phase of the project are already available at the same address. This phase focuses on care arrangements of migrant families. As well, the site offers earlier reports on childcare arrangements of lone parent families and a review of comparative social care research.

Continued on next page...
Three Social Science Disciplines in Central and Eastern Europe - Handbook on Economics, Political Science and Sociology (1989-2001)
Edited by Max Kaase, Vera Sparschuh and Agnieszka Wenninger (co-editor)
Collegium Budapest and Social Science Information Centre (IZ), Bonn/ Berlin

Thirty country reports on development and current state of three social disciplines - economics, political science and sociology - in ten Central and Eastern European EU accession countries are uniformly structured and enable an insight into historical foundations, methodical and thematic orientations as well as a quick overview over the most important actors/institutions and funding institutions in respective country/discipline.

Bibliographical appendices (including original titles and English translations) present the most important literature. The registers and the CD-ROM enclosed in the book allow for a targeted access to persons/institutions. Well founded analyses by East European experts provide highly up-to-date orientation knowledge on social sciences in Eastern Europe to both scientists and students. Different development paths of social sciences in Central and Eastern European countries can also be viewed from a comparative perspective.

You can comfortably order the book directly via the Internet at: http://www.gesis.org/Bestellen/IZ/index.htm?order/dokumentationen.htm or send us an e-mail (wenninger@berlin.iz-soz.de).


At the Margins of the Welfare State Social Assistance and the Alleviation of Poverty in Germany, Sweden and the United Kingdom
Christina Behrendt
Publisher: Ashgate
Series: Studies in Cash & Care

The persistence of poverty in advanced welfare states casts doubt on the fundamental operating procedures of income distribution and redistribution. What are the reasons for this apparent failure of the welfare state alleviating poverty?

Why are some countries more effective than others in this respect and what can explain these variations in effectiveness? Addressing one of the major puzzles in comparative welfare state research, this unique volume adopts a fresh perspective to examine why there is income poverty in highly developed welfare states. Focusing on the basic safety net of the welfare state, it offers a systematic and innovative analysis of the effectiveness of minimum income schemes in a comparative study across three highly developed welfare states: Germany, Sweden and the United Kingdom. Blending insights from a combination of institutional information and quantitative data from income surveys, the author evaluates the causal mechanisms for the persistence of income poverty in highly developed welfare states and derives conclusions for political reforms.

258 pages, Hardcover

Studies in Sociology: Symbols, Theory and Society
In the European publishing house Peter Lang Verlag a new book series has been started. It consists of books in English, authored and co-authored by sociologists convinced about the relevance of research on the social context of creation and use of symbolism in the constitution of society. Common symbolization enables coordinated actions, temporal continuity, collective memory, tradition and history. Politics of remembering and forgetting different aspects of collective historical experience conducted by means of social symbolism is a paramount form of social struggle in the field of culture. Escalated attention has been paid to symbolic boundaries in public life, to the politics of identity and difference, to the conservative, transformative and liberating power of symbols. Systems of social relations and systems of meanings are closely interlinked. Perception of symbolism as a social phenomenon and not an autonomous semiotic system is of pivotal interest. Symbolic interactionism provides such a perspective, but the readiness to trespass on the boundaries of various orientations and disciplines of knowledge by social scientists dealing with these problems is desirable.

The title of this series is “Studies in Sociology: Symbols, Theory and Society” and it will present both theoretical and empirical research on social symbolism.


Authors interested in publication within the series should contact the series editor: Elzbieta Halas Tulipanowa 68 / 20-827 Lublin/ Poland halas@kul.lublin.pl h t t p : / / w w w . k u l . l u b l i n . p l / h a l a s /

Recent publications by Elzbieta Halas
- Symbols, Power and Politics, Frankfurt am Main 2002, Peter Lang Verlag
- Europa: zblizenia, kontrowersje, perspektywy, Lublin 2002, Towarzystwo Naukowe Katolickiego Uniwersytetu Lubelskiego

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- Europa: zblizenia, kontrowersje, perspektywy, Lublin 2002, Towarzystwo Naukowe Katolickiego Uniwersytetu Lubelskiego
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    lagree@msh-paris.fr

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  Martinp@edgehill.ac.uk

- Sociology of Sexuality Research Network
  John Vincke
  John.Vincke@rug.ac.be

Deadline for Contributions for Issue 17 of the European Sociologist is November 31, 2003
## Registration Form for the 6th ESA Conference

Male/Female: __ Surname: ____________________________ First name: ____________________

Address: _____________________________________ City:_______________ Postal Code: _____

E-mail:_________________________________ Country:___________________________________

Phone Nr (country code, area code, phone number): ______________ Fax Nr: ______________

Accompanying person: _____________________________________________________________

### REGISTRATION (A)

<table>
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<th>Category</th>
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<th>Fee Before September, 10th 2003</th>
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<td>Delegate member Euro/person</td>
<td>€350,00</td>
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**NOTE:** The registration fee includes ESA membership for 2004-2005 and a subscription to the journal European Societies. Registrations will only be confirmed after payment has been received.

To qualify for student you must be
- under 35
- send us a copy of a valid student card or
- provide an official letter from your institution confirming evidence of student status

### POST-CONFERENCE TOURS (B)

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<td>Caravaca de la Cruz</td>
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Price per person. Top date to register, July 31st, 2003. 25 people is the minimum to enable the tours.

### ACCOMMODATION FORM (C)

Check-in date: _______________________________

Check-out date: _______________________________

N° of nights: _________________________________

Type of room: ________________________________

**Cancellations:**
- Until 8th August, 2003, 50% refund.
- After 8th September, 2003, no refund.

Cancellations must be sent in written to the Conference Secretariat. Reimbursements will be made once the conference has finished.

### PAYMENT (D)

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