



## Biennial Report 2018/2019 of RN21

**Network coordination 2019-2021, elected by unanimous decision at business meeting in Manchester, August 2019**

<b>Coordinators:</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Institution</b>
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<b>Board members with specific functions:</b>		
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Conference Advisor: Jolanta Perek-Bialas	<a href="mailto:jolanta.perek-bialas@uj.edu.pl">jolanta.perek-bialas@uj.edu.pl</a>	Jagiellonian University in Krakow, Poland
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**Network coordination 2017-2019 (elected at business-meeting in Athens)**

**Coordinator: (re-elected at ESA RN 21 business meeting in Athens, 2017)**

Wolfgang Aschauer (Department of Political Science and Sociology, University of Salzburg, Austria (email: [wolfgang.aschauer@sbg.ac.at](mailto:wolfgang.aschauer@sbg.ac.at)).

**Vice coordinator: (re-elected at ESA RN 21 business meeting in Athens, 2017)**

Jolanta Perek-Bialas, Institute of Sociology, Jagiellonian University of Cracow, Poland (email: [jolanta.perek-bialas@uj.edu.pl](mailto:jolanta.perek-bialas@uj.edu.pl))

**Board members with specific functions: (elected at ESA RN21 business meeting in Athens, 2017)**

Georg Müller (Switzerland) – Scientific program advisor  
Iasonas Lamprianou (Cyprus) – Conference Organization  
Henning Best (Germany) – Treasurer  
Tobias Gummer (Germany) – Webmaster

**Further board members: (elected at ESA RN21 business meeting in Athens, 2017)**

Modesto Escobar (Spain)  
Jochen Mayerl (Germany)  
Inna Deviatko (Russia)  
Anna Domaranska (Ukraine)

*Chair (2011-2015):*

Henning Best, GESIS – Leibniz-Institute for the Social Sciences, Germany  
Mail: henning.best at gesis.org

*Vice chair (since 2011-2015):*

Valentina Hlebec, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia  
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*Past chairs:*

Jürgen Hoffmeyer-Zlotnik, GESIS – Leibniz-Institute for the Social Sciences, Germany  
Mail: juergen.hoffmeyer-zlotnik at gesis.org  
Peter Mohler, GESIS – Leibniz-Institute for the Social Sciences, Germany

**1. Activities of the network between 2017 and 2019**

In 2017 a new ESA-website was released, RN21 coordinators and a dedicated webmaster have now rights to update the webpage on their own. The board of RN21 agreed on the following catching phrase to describe the “mission” of RN21 “Quantitative Methods”: *„The focus of RN21 is on the development, critical evaluation, and use of quantitative methods in sociological research. We are committed to offer an analytical perspective on sociology, where our theoretical arguments are strictly evaluated by empirical research.”*

*a) Midterm-conference (see special report for further information)*

One of the main events over the past two years has been the midterm conference with the theme: "Potentials and Limits of Quantitative Research in the Social Sciences", held in Cracow between the 3rd and the 6th October 2018. Thanks to the vice-coordinator and conference organizer Jolanta Perek-Białas it was an excellent conference, where we received

a lot of positive feedback. We had a fantastic venue directly in the city center and we were able to offer three interesting keynote speeches (Markus Strohmaier, Werner Raub, Filomena Maggino) as well as a workshop on social network analysis by Camilo Christancho. Additional offers (such as a free city tour, free lunches and a free conference dinner) created also a nice social atmosphere among the participants. The network wants to thank the ESA committee, GESIS Germany, and particularly the Institute of Sociology of the Jagiellonian University in Cracow, Poland for providing generous support.

***b) Organization of the ESA RN21 sessions at the ESA conference in Manchester***

Concerning the ESA-conference in Manchester, RN21 had more than 40 submissions and finally 27 presentations in seven specific methodological sessions (see the program of our network based on ConfTool in the appendix). Fortunately, we were also able to organize six joint sessions with additionally 21 speakers. So the number of sessions (13) was similar to the ESA conference in Athens 2017 (14). The sessions have been very successful, attracting quite a large audience with always about 30 to 40 attendants.

The number of presentations (48) in Manchester was slightly lower than in Athens (55). But nevertheless, ESA RN21 was successful in increasing its membership over the last years. Due to the database of ESA we have now 74 members as compared to 67 in 2017 and 51 in 2015.

***c) Website of our RN***

The new website of ESA was relaunched 2017 and we regularly use the new platform for communicating our initiatives. We have installed a webmaster (Tobias Gummer) in 2017. Concerning the new period Tobias is now responsible for social media coordination and Iasonas Lamprianou will take care of our website (see first page).

***d) Publications related to RN sessions and/or midterm meetings***

The RN21-vice-coordinator Jolanta Perek-Białas, who is also editor in chief of the ASK Journal (<https://askresearchandmethods.org/>), regularly motivates our participants to submit articles to ASK. In the 2019 issue of the journal there will be published papers based on contributions from the last midterm conference in Cracow.

***e) Action to be taken to improve participation of PhD students and early career researchers***

We are committed to attract young researchers at the early stage of their career. This is achieved by very low conference fees for PhD students, especially at our midterm-conferences, and various offers especially designed for them, like methodological trainings at mid-term-conferences. During the next mid-term conference in 2020 we plan new activities to attract young talents e.g. by establishing a best-paper award for young scholars.

***f) Action to be taken to expand membership, especially from countries with weak overall ESA-membership***

It is of utmost importance for us to promote our network in all European countries. We face quite a strong competition with other international networks which are dealing with quantitative methods in sociology, especially the European Survey Research Association, ESRA as well as the ISA RC33 networks on logic and methodology. We already established cooperation with the World Value Research Association Group and with people active in the field of social indicator research to extend the scope of our network. During the next years we plan to establish collaboration with the main proponents of the main survey instruments in comparative research in Europe. We plan to motivate scholars who are involved in the European Values Study (EVS), European Quality of Life Study (EQLS) and especially in the European Social Survey (ESS) to become active members in our network.

***g) Collaboration within ESA with other RNs***

Besides our cooperation with other research associations we already established close contact to RN01 (Sociology of Ageing) and RN12 (Environmental Sociology), where we already organized Joint Sessions at the last ESA conference 2017 in Athens. At the Manchester conference the Joint Session with RN12 had not enough submissions, but we could organize again two Joint Sessions together with RN1. We also succeeded in increasing our cooperation with other RNs dealing mainly with various methods and we even built bridges to the network of qualitative methodology (RN20). This is visible in our joint initiative with RN20 and RN09: “Crossing Methodological Boundaries: Quantitative and Qualitative Methods in Economic Sociology”. Finally, we also managed to organize in Manchester a successful Joint

Session with RN31 (Ethnic relations, racism and antisemitism) on “the measurement of antisemitism” (Please see the program of our joint sessions in the attachment).

***h) Further important activities undertaken by your RN and future plans***

The newly elected RN chairs continue their work to increase the number of members of our network, to enhance the visibility of the research network, and to nurture particularly young researchers. We try on the one hand to provide a platform for quantitative methodologists but we also intend to broaden our network to some applied topics which are particularly relevant for Europe (e.g. social indicators research, measuring social inequality, value research, anti-immigrant attitudes, analytical sociology). To reach these goals, we aim to increase our cooperation with major survey organizations during the next two years. Our mission for the next years is to be as inclusive as possible and to attract especially methodologists from more peripheral parts of Europe. Further steps are to develop our internet and social media presence and to develop attractive platforms for publications, which will enhance the quality of our work and constitute an important added value for our network members. We are currently exploring options to develop the conference presentations into a publication. Last but not least, we are preparing our next mid-term conference, which will probably take place in Lucerne (Switzerland) in October 2020.

# Appendix

## Overview of sessions and presentations at the ESA conference in Manchester:

### Sessions:

<b>Date: Wednesday, 21/Aug/2019</b>	
11:00am - 12:30pm GM.326	<b>RN21_01: Potentials and boundaries of analytical techniques</b> Session Chair: <b>Modesto Escobar</b> , Universidad de Salamanca
2:00pm - 3:30pm GM.326	<b>RN21_02: Comparing Survey Modes</b> Session Chair: <b>Benjamin Baisch</b> , University of Salzburg
4:00pm - 5:30pm GM.326	<b>RN21_03: The subjectivities of societal exclusion and belonging</b> Session Chair: <b>Iasonas Lamprianou</b> , University of Cyprus
6:00pm - 7:30pm GM.326	<b>RN21_04: Current challenges of survey research</b> Session Chair: <b>Tobias Gummer</b> , GESIS Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences
<b>Date: Thursday, 22/Aug/2019</b>	
6:00pm - 7:30pm GM.326	<b>RN21_08: The Emergence of new data sources - Critical reflection</b> Session Chair: <b>Jochen Mayerl</b> , Chemnitz University of Technology
7:30pm - 8:30pm GM.326	<b>RN21_BM: RN21 Business Meeting</b> Session Chair: <b>Wolfgang Aschauer</b> , University of Salzburg Session Chair: <b>Jolanta Perek-Bialas</b> , Jagiellonian University, Cracow and Warsaw School of Economics
<b>Date: Friday, 23/Aug/2019</b>	
11:00am - 12:30pm GM.326	<b>RN21_09: New Directions in the cross-national measurement of quality of life</b> Session Chair: <b>Wolfgang Aschauer</b> , University of Salzburg
2:00pm - 3:30pm GM.326	<b>RN21_10: Measuring social inequality in Europe</b> Session Chair: <b>Georg P. Mueller</b> , Univ. of Fribourg

### Presentations

#### RN21\_01: Potentials and boundaries of analytical techniques

*Time:* Wednesday, 21/Aug/2019: 11:00am - 12:30pm · *Location:* GM.326  
*Session Chair:* Modesto Escobar, Universidad de Salamanca

#### **A Phantom Menace: Random Data, Model Specification and Causal Inference in Qualitative Comparative Analysis**

**Alrik Thiem, Lusine Mkrtchyan**  
University of Lucerne, Switzerland

#### **Quantitative Grounded Theory – A Neglected Tool?**

**Peter Kevern, Edward Tolhurst**  
School of Health Studies, Staffordshire University, United Kingdom

#### **Interactive Graphs for Lineal and Logistic Regressions Networks**

**Modesto Escobar**  
University of Salamanca, Spain

#### **Measuring the Permeability of Class-Boundaries: An Information Theoretic Approach**

**Georg P. Mueller**  
Univ. of Fribourg, Switzerland

## **RN21\_02: Comparing Survey Modes**

*Time:* Wednesday, 21/Aug/2019: 2:00pm - 3:30pm · *Location:* GM.326  
*Session Chair:* Benjamin Baisch, University of Salzburg

### **Online, Face-to-Face Or Mixed-Mode? Findings From A Methodological Experiment For The Generations And Gender Survey**

**Almut Schumann<sup>1</sup>, Detlev Lück<sup>1</sup>, Robert Naderi<sup>1</sup>, Martin Bujard<sup>1</sup>, Susana Cabaço<sup>2</sup>, Tom Emery<sup>2</sup>, Vera Toepoel<sup>3</sup>, Peter Lugtig<sup>3</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Federal Institute of Population Reserach (BiB), Germany; <sup>2</sup>Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute (NIDI), Netherlands; <sup>3</sup>Utrecht University, Netherlands

### **Measurement of Student's Competencies: Effects of Group Testing and Individual Testing**

**Uta Landrock, Sabine Zinn, Timo Gnamb**

LIfBi - Leibniz Institute for Educational Trajectories, Germany

### **The Quality Of ICT Skills Indicators - Comparing Self- With Direct-Assessment**

**Maja Rynko<sup>1</sup>, Marta Palczyńska<sup>2</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>SGH Warsaw School of Economics, Poland; <sup>2</sup>Institute for Structural Research, Poland

### **Experimental Evidence On The Effect Of Using Rating Scales With Numeric Instead Of Semantic Labels**

**Tobias Gummer, Tanja Kunz**

GESIS Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences, Germany

## **RN21\_03: The subjectivities of societal exclusion and belonging**

*Time:* Wednesday, 21/Aug/2019: 4:00pm - 5:30pm · *Location:* GM.326  
*Session Chair:* Iasonas Lamprianou, University of Cyprus

### **Europe - A Community Of Shared Values? The Empirical Construction Of European Values Spaces Using Multiple Correspondence Analysis**

**Yannik Peters**

University of Bonn, Germany

### **European, National and Regional Identities in the UK: An Examination Using Data from a VAA for the 2017 UK General Election**

**Vasilis Manavopoulos, Vasiliki Triga**

Cyprus University of Technology, Cyprus

### **Carrying The Shackles Beyond The Walls: The Long-Lasting Effects Of Prisons On Recidivism**

**Ana Morales-Gómez**

The University of Manchester, United Kingdom

## **RN21\_04: Current challenges of survey research**

*Time:* Wednesday, 21/Aug/2019: 6:00pm - 7:30pm · *Location:* GM.326  
*Session Chair:* Tobias Gummer, GESIS Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences

### **Doing research on/ and with youth in the era of the General Data Protection Regulation**

**Valentina Mazzucato, Karlijn Haagsman**  
Maastricht University, Netherlands, The

### **Mixing Pretest Methods of Structured Questionnaires**

**Marco Palmieri, Fabrizio Martire, Maria Concetta Pitrone**  
Sapienza, University of Rome, Italy

### **Potentials and Limits of Administrative Data to Adjust Internet Panel Surveys**

**Pablo Cabrera-Álvarez**  
University of Salamanca, Spain

### **Offering Versus Omitting An MC And/Or A DK-O: The Consequences Linked To The Respondents' Approach To The Topic**

**Daniela Wetzelhütter**  
University of Applied Sciences Upper Austria, Austria

## **RN21\_08: The Emergence of new data sources - Critical reflection**

*Time:* Thursday, 22/Aug/2019: 6:00pm - 7:30pm · *Location:* GM.326  
*Session Chair:* Jochen Mayerl, Chemnitz University of Technology

### **New Data, New Statistics: From Reproducibility Crisis Toward New Requirements To Data Analysis, Presentation And Interpretation**

**Inna Deviatko<sup>1,2</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Higher School of Economics, Russian Federation; <sup>2</sup>Institute of Sociology FCTAS RAS, Moscow, Russian Federation

### **Assessing Wearable Sensor Data For Small Group Research. A Benchmarking And Validation Study.**

**Jörg Müller<sup>1</sup>, Julio Meneses<sup>1</sup>, Anne Laure Humbert<sup>2</sup>, Elisabeth Anna Guenther<sup>3</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Universitat Oberta de Catalunya, Spain; <sup>2</sup>Oxford Brookes, UK; <sup>3</sup>Universität Klagenfurt, Austria

### **Feasibility Test Of GPS-paradata Employment For Fieldwork Monitoring**

**Daniil Lebedev<sup>1,2</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>National Research University "Higher School of Economics"; <sup>2</sup>Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration

### **The Applicability of Big Data for Studying Human Socio-Spatial Interactions and Integration: A Systematic Literature Review**

**Kerli Müürisepp, Olle Järv**  
University of Helsinki, Finland



## **RN21\_09: New Directions in the cross-national measurement of quality of life**

*Time:* Friday, 23/Aug/2019: 11:00am - 12:30pm · *Location:* GM.326  
*Session Chair:* Wolfgang Aschauer, University of Salzburg

### **Comparing The Measurement Of Subjective Health Related Quality Of Life Between Migrant And Native Populations**

**Jochen Mayerl<sup>1</sup>, Manuel Michael Holz<sup>2</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Chemnitz University of Technology, Germany; <sup>2</sup>Chemnitz University of Technology, Germany

### **Operationalization of Sen's Capability Approach to Quality of Life Assessment within Eurostat Recent Recommendations: Case of Poland**

**Jan Zwierzchowski, Tomasz Panek**

Warsaw School of Economics, Poland

### **Well-Being Global Index: Assays of multivariate statistical approaches**

**Maria do Carmo Botelho<sup>1</sup>, Rosário Mauritti<sup>1</sup>, Nuno Nunes<sup>1</sup>, Daniela Craveiro<sup>2,3</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>CIES-IUL, ISCTE-IUL, Portugal; <sup>2</sup>CIS-IUL, ISCTE-IUL, Portugal; <sup>3</sup>SOCIUS-UL, Universidade de Lisboa, Portugal

## **RN21\_10: Measuring social inequality in Europe**

*Time:* Friday, 23/Aug/2019: 2:00pm - 3:30pm · *Location:* GM.326  
*Session Chair:* Georg P. Mueller, Univ. of Fribourg

### **Child Deprivation In Europe. Study On Family And Context Factors**

**Paola Ciceri, Mario Lucchini**

University of Milano Bicocca Department of Sociology and Social Research Italy

### **The Effects Of Occupational Mismatches On The Employment Biographies And Income**

**Kevin Alan Franz Ruf<sup>1,2</sup>, Andreas Damelang<sup>1</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Friedrich-Alexander Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg, Germany; <sup>2</sup>Institute for Employment Research, Germany

### **Does Automation Technology Increase Social Inequality? – Robot Installations and the Individual Unemployment Risk in Germany**

**Michael Otto, Andreas Damelang**

Friedrich-Alexander University Erlangen-Nürnberg, Germany

# Conference Agenda Joint Sessions with RN21

## Date: Friday, 23/Aug/2019

- 11:00am** JS\_RN01\_RN21\_09: Addressing Older People in Survey Research: Potentials and Limitations  
- Location: [BS.3.17](#)  
**12:30pm** Chair: **Jolanta Perek-Biatas**, Jagiellonian University, Cracow and Warsaw School of Economics
- 2:00pm** JS\_RN01\_RN21\_10: Using Methods of Quantitative Analysis in Ageing Research  
- Location: [BS.3.17](#)  
**3:30pm** Chair: **Jolanta Perek-Biatas**, Jagiellonian University, Cracow and Warsaw School of Economics

## Date: Friday, 23/Aug/2019

- 2:00pm** JS\_RN09\_RN20\_RN21\_10: Crossing Methodological Boundaries: Quantitative and Qualitative Methods in Economic Sociology  
- Location: [GM.333](#)  
**3:30pm** Chair: **Wolfgang Aschauer**, University of Salzburg  
Chair: **Sebastian Koos**, University of Konstanz

## Date: Friday, 23/Aug/2019

- 2:00pm** JS\_RN13\_RN21\_10: Introducing (Under-Utilised) Surveys for European Family Research  
- Location: [GM.339](#)  
**3:30pm** Chair: **Detlev Lück**, Federal Institute for Population Research (BiB)

## Date: Wednesday, 21/Aug/2019

- 4:00pm** JS\_RN21\_RN31\_03: The Challenge of Measuring Antisemitism  
- Location: [BS.4.06B](#)  
**5:30pm** Chair: **Wolfgang Aschauer**, University of Salzburg  
Chair: **Karin Stoegner**, University of Vienna