



Ageing Societies, New Sociology

Second Call for Papers and Invitation
 to the 6th Conference of the European Sociological Association

For the first time the conference is organized in Southern Europe. It will be an opportunity for new contacts, interesting discussions and an important step for ESA becoming a representative organization of Sociologists from all countries in Europe!

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The 6th Conference of the European Sociological Association

September 23-26, 2003, Murcia

THE REGION OF MURCIA

The Region of Murcia is situated in the South East of the Iberian Peninsula. With a total surface area of 11,314 square kilometres, it represents 2.2% of Spain's landmass. Centrally situated in the Mediterranean basin, it borders the provinces of Alicante to the east, Granada and Almeria to the west, Albacete to the north and the Mediterranean to the south.

The Murcia Region has the characteristics of a subtropical semi arid Mediterranean climate. These climatic conditions give rise to an average annual temperature of between 16° and 19°C with hot summers and mild winters (average temperature of 11°C in December and January). The skies are clear for much of the year (120 to 150 days), and the average number of hours of sunshine is 2,800 hours per year.

The geography is defined by its many contrasts: dry and irrigated land, plains and mountainous areas, coastal and in-land zones, vineyards and plateaux, doubtless the result of its nature as transition zone between the northern plain and the Andalusian range. More than 170 kilometres in length the Murcian coast is sheer and rocky, broken by small beaches and coves containing a wide variety of ecosystems: salt water, wetland, dunes and beaches.

The earliest indications of human presence would appear to date from more than one and a half million years ago. A few flints shaped into tools have been left behind. It is from the Iron Age that remains begin to show a certain level of evolution, indicating development in the areas of agriculture and fishing during the Iberic period and, later, intense commercial activity with the appearance of Phoenicians, Greeks and Carthagians clashing with the native inhabitants. Scipion's conquest in 209 B.C. of the city of New Carthage (Carthago Nova), confirmed the city's role as what was already an important political and economic centre in the Mediterranean.

When Rome conquered this territory, the coastal zone attained the peak of its economic importance, an influence to last for more than 600 years. At this time the area's communications were strengthened, mines opened up and the basis for agricultural development established. Even

then, food produced on land irrigated by the River Tâder (now the River Segura) and the local fish were much appreciated. After a long period of political instability produced by the break up of the Roman Empire, Arab domination began in 713 A.D. when Abdelaziz beat the Hispanic-Visigoth army and Teodomiro in Cartagena. The founding of the city of Murcia by Abderraman II in 825 was also significant. The economic boom in the area is clear from this time onwards as the Arabs were responsible for the exploitation of the Segura River, creating a complex irrigation system of irrigation ditches, dams and water wheels. However, the economic prosperity of the Arabs was affected by internal conflicts, border tensions and political upheavals. The establishment of the Taifa kingdoms is the last event in an area that would soon fall (1243) under the vassalage of Castille and would finally be definitively integrated into the Crown lands with the signing of the Granada Peace Treaty in 1492. From then on, peace was attained in the Murcian territories giving rise to systematic economic and population growth.

Peace brought a phase of rapid growth with all cities in the kingdom flourishing throughout the sixteenth century. A period of prosperity alternating with another of considerable decline is a constant in the history of this region. Thus the eighteenth century was marked by severe droughts causing plagues, epidemics and food shortages. After the difficult period of the War of Succession (1702-1713), there was a new recovery process: the amount of cultivated land rose considerably, areas under irrigation increased, population grew and the effects of progressive commercial expansion began to be noticeable. This moment of economic splendour finds its reflection in a building boom. Of particular note are the completion of the Cathedral of Murcia, begun in 1394 and the construction of the Naval Arsenal in Cartagena.

After this golden Age, the nineteenth century began with a new crisis caused by a period of drought, followed by severe flooding and the Napoleonic Wars. It would not be until mid century that the situation improved when economic activity expanded to include the mining of minerals and the industrialisation process also got underway. In spite of this, the region moved

into the twentieth century in a precarious economic situation with foreign capital as the basis of industry and commerce still confined within the regional frontiers.



With respect to population, the Region experienced a growth of 4.94% between 1991 and 1996, much greater than the national average of around 2.01%. This tendency has remained constant and in the last census, that of January 2001, the Region of Murcia had 1,190,378 inhabitants. Population density is of 105.2 inhabitants per square kilometre, higher than the national average of 81 per square kilometre. More than 50% of the Region's inhabitants are to be found in the three main population centres of Murcia, Cartagena and Lorca.

The Region's economic structure is characterised by an agricultural sector of more significance than the national average and a less diverse economy. Thus agriculture represents 7.85 of the total GNP as opposed to the 1999 national figure of 4.6%. On the other hand, the service sector represents 62.6% in the Region in contrast to the 66.0% all Spain average. The behaviour of the Regional economy has allowed for growth slightly above the national Spanish level.

Today, the Region of Murcia with economic growth figures above the European average, with three universities catering for 40,000 students, with a high level of specialisation in the tourist and leisure industries and special cultural features is well-prepared to face the challenges of the twenty first century.

AGENDA CONFERENCE						
Time	Tuesday 23	Wednesday 24	Thursday 25	Friday 26	Saturday 27	
8.30	Registration and distribution of documentation (Campus de La Merced)					
9		RN & Streams 2 (Campus de La Merced)	RN & Streams 5 (Campus de La Merced)	RN & Streams 7 (Campus de La Merced)	Extra-time for RN & Streams	Guided Tourist Visits to the Murda Region or Granada (optional)
9.30						
10	ESA Committee Meetings (Facultad de Derecho)					
10.30						
11		BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	
11.30		Plenary: "Growing Inequalities" (Campus de La Merced)	Plenary: "Ageing Europe/Reproducing Europe" (Campus de La Merced)	Plenary: "Education Europe" (Campus de La Merced)	Plenary: "Morality, Values and Boundaries" (Campus de La Merced)	Plenary: "Transformation of Politics and Society in Spain" (Campus de La Merced)
12						Extra-time for RN & Streams
12.30						
13						
13.30						
14	RN & Streams 1 (Campus de La Merced)					
14.30		RN & Streams 3 (Campus de La Merced)	RN & Streams 6 (Campus de La Merced)	RN & Streams 8 (Campus de La Merced)		
15						
15.30						
16						
16.30		BREAK	BREAK			
17	Opening Plenary (Auditorium – Congress Centre, Room A)	RN & Streams 4 (Campus de La Merced)	Meet the Authors (Campus de La Merced)			Guided Tourist Visits to the Murda Region or Granada (optional)
17.30						
18						
18.30		BREAK	BREAK			
19	Welcome Cocktail (Auditorium – Congress Centre)	Council of National Associations (Campus de La Merced)	RNs Business Meetings (Campus de La Merced)	ESA General Assembly (Paraninfo, Campus de La Merced)	Closing Plenary: "How to Make Sociology Relevant to Society" (Auditorium – Congress Centre, Room A)	
19.30						
20					Closing Cocktail (Auditorium – Congress Centre)	
20.30						
21						
21.30	Concert at the Teatro Romea	Sociological walking tours	Sociological walking tours			
22						

Streams Coordinators

1. Enlargement of Europe

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Additional information on the 6th ESA Conference on page 11...

Getting rid of humiliation: Lessons from Europe and a way forward

by Dennis Smith

The people of the world are being drawn ever closer together through globalisation. Now our developing global society needs stronger and fairer global governance based on consensus, imposing greater discipline upon national states. In my judgement this is bound to happen eventually.

* It will not happen through one country imposing its will on all the others, at least not in this century. Even the United States is not strong enough and it has shown no inclination to do this.

* It could happen as the result of a third world war, assuming that when the war ended there was anybody left to govern.

* Or it could happen as a result of national governments deciding to cooperate more closely and develop common policies and shared programmes to meet the needs of the global population.

Of the three possibilities, it is most rational to concentrate on the third. One reason is that it will make the second option less likely to occur.

A central objective of global governance should be to make sure that national states and other powerful organisations do not engage in humiliation. A second plank of policy would be to repair the immense damage done by past humiliations, including that caused by European colonialism, multinational corporations and many national states worldwide.

Getting strong and fair global governance is difficult to achieve but not impossible. There has been a wave of institution-building at the global level since 1945. A great deal of the machinery for global governance is in place. Much of it was put there under strong American influence in the late 1940s and 1950s, and embodies some very positive and praiseworthy principles, including those set out in the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights. Our system of global governance can be developed further if the political will is recreated.

Creating the political will entails action at the level of civil society. Eventually, national leaders have to listen to their populations. In general, people want peace and prosperity. They also want to

avoid danger and discomfort. So they listen to 'experts' like economists and weather forecasters. If we start to address these issues directly and clearly, they will also listen to sociologists.

We should pay a great deal of attention to the nature of humiliation within and between societies. The misery and conflict caused by cycles of humiliation and counter-humiliation affect people's lives at least as much as economic cycles and weather patterns. We sociologists should take a lead, along with psychologists and historians and other colleagues, in carrying out research about how damaging conflicts arise within and between national states. We should also investigate and draw lessons from cases where humiliation cycles have been broken and levels of conflict between groups and nations brought down to much lower levels, for example in South Africa under the presidency of Nelson Mandela, and in Europe after 1945.

This work will be most effective if our research is closely linked to a global dialogue among ourselves reaching across the continents of Europe, Asia, Africa and America. Our dialogue should be across national, cultural, ethnic, and religious lines as well as between disciplines. Social scientists and 'knowledge' professionals in general are a strategic group. We should be active within global civil society and make our work on these themes more organised and more prominent.

Our world has become a minefield of unexploded resentments. This minefield can only be made safe if national states cooperate with each other closely. If we manage to achieve that close cooperation directed at defusing the 'humiliation bomb', then the battle for strong - and fair - global governance is at least half won.

If this does not happen a very unpleasant future awaits us. To see this future in microcosm, look at the Middle East. The cycle of humiliation and revenge holds Israelis and Palestinians in its grip. It is not surprising that the classic work entitled *The Decent Society* was written by an Israeli, Avishai Margalit. His main point is very straightforward: you can only call a society 'decent' if it does not humiliate any of its inhabitants (and, I would add, any of its neighbours). When this is forgotten, the

cost can be very high, not just in lives. You can't move far without having to go through a checkpoint. You distrust every stranger. You get driven into a narrow cultural and intellectual niche and feel under siege.

From the outside, it is difficult to understand why those involved do not sit down and work out a rational compromise. However, many of us who were on the outside are finding ourselves being drawn inside. We are being shown how it feels. How we react will be crucial.

I do not want to analyse September 11th or the 'war on terror' in any detail. Too few of the facts are known and it is very difficult to comment on it without upsetting somebody deeply. It is upsetting not just because there were many deaths involved. It is also because the events of September 11th and the subsequent war on terrorism are part of a sequence of acts of humiliation and counter-humiliation or revenge. All the parties involved regard themselves as victims who are justifiably striking back.

Irrespective of the rights and wrongs, the global humiliation-revenge cycle now getting under way may become very costly. At the moment, we have got a new knowledge-economy coming into being with the information technology revolution. It depends on high levels of uninterrupted connectivity. Manuel Castells has written about this new 'network society.' In the new economy, people can make contact with each other very easily and get hold of the data they need at the flick of a switch. So they form flexible work teams that change shape and personnel depending on the task in hand. This environment breeds the confidence to experiment. Cheap and frequent air travel means work colleagues on different continents can get to know each other personally which builds trust and lets more new ideas flow.

If the new global 'war on terrorism' lasts a long time, it will impose a very heavy tax on the knowledge economy and the network society. People will not want to travel abroad. Surveillance and security will get more intrusive and burdensome. An embattled atmosphere will develop and innovative thinking will be more difficult to sustain. Productivity levels will go down.

Continued on next page...

Some wars have mobilised societies. The British and Russians were both catalysed into intense activity during World War II. National economies can be galvanised by wars that are fought far away from the home territory. But this 'war on terrorism' is more likely to immobilise the new global economy.

Humiliation-revenge cycles can be stopped in their tracks. It is not impossible. Take the case of South Africa at the time Nelson Mandela was released. Everyone knew by that time that the reign of apartheid was over. Many people feared there would be a mass uprising by Black South Africans against White South Africans. Mandela came to an understanding with key white leaders. When he became president he persuaded his followers to turn away from revenge. Instead, they began to get into dialogue with the white community through a programme of seeking truth and reconciliation.

As another example take the case of the European Union since the 1950s. At its heart is a close working relationship between France and Germany. Until 1945 these countries had been locked in a cycle of humiliation and revenge since at least the 1860s. In the four and a half decades since it began the European Union has been an amazing success. It has not just brought Germany and France together. It has also brought together ex-masters and ex-servants like Britain and Ireland within its councils. The EU has found ways in which proud nations like Italy, Spain, Portugal and Greece can receive aid for their poorer regions while still maintaining their dignity intact. It has set standards and made rules which benefit all European citizens. (Of course there is some bending of the rules and a degree of corruption. But when this got out hand the European Parliament was able to manoeuvre the European Commission into a collective resignation. This was an orchestrated self-humbling rather than a forced humiliation.)

The EU's success depends on a cross-national effort involving thousands of active politicians, diplomats, experts and officials. There is no overpoweringly dominant individual acting as a godfather. The EU has not felt the need to glorify some iconic figure. It is a broadly-based movement, not quite a movement of the people (although they have overwhelmingly come to accept it) but certainly a movement of the professionals, in other words, the experts, technocrats, negotiators, researchers, and bureaucrats who make it work.

The essence of the European movement is a deep dislike of violence. Out of this dislike of violence comes a strong desire to cooperate and be highly inventive in finding ways to make cooperation work. It seems



What is the common idea that can accomplish a peaceful leaving together?

to me it would be a good idea to translate this spirit and approach to the global level. The best way to heal and overcome the legacy of humiliation in international relations is to bring people together in the construction of a new identity, a new way of saying 'we' that includes them all and accords them all dignity.

This process has begun in Europe. It is time to start a related process on a global level so that being European, Chinese, American or whatever become different ways of being a global person or a world citizen. I am not glorifying Europe. Its particular historical experience is simply a useful tool for bigger purposes: the strengthening of global governance, the disarming of the national state, and the achievement of peace without humiliation.

It is vital that the threat humiliation and humiliation cycles poses to us all goes onto the global agenda immediately. A key part has to be played by social scientists, in touch with each other across nations and continents. A very important beginning has been made by highly innovative researchers such as Evelin Lindner and Tom Scheff but we must go further still. You may, perhaps, object to this approach. You may say:

'Well, getting stronger and fairer global governance is an attractive idea, especially since we are becoming increasingly interdependent with each other across national borders. But the idea of stronger global governance is going to meet with opposition from two powerful groups. It will not appeal to the military. Their prestige is closely tied to the sovereignty of the national state. And it will not appeal to the transnational corporations. They are enjoying being freer than before from the rule-making and tax-raising powers of national states and they will resist being caught in a new regulatory net at the global level. What is more, the military and business have close links of interest and sentiment with each other in many societies and do not find it difficult to recruit

sympathetic politicians.

My reply is this: Generals, business executives and politicians are no less (and often more) intelligent, aware, experienced and determined than the rest of us. They are also citizens, and most of them have, or hope to have, children and grandchildren. In other words, they have an interest not only in preserving their power and prestige now but also in working for a future that is as stable and secure as possible for those they care about, including themselves.

Social scientists (and other 'knowledge professionals') are deeply involved with this power elite. Through the universities and research institutes we provide it with ideas, information and trained personnel. We have a great deal of influence if we learn how to use it. We should engage in dialogue with the power elite in order to look beyond their (and our) perceived short-term interests to the medium and long term. High on our agenda should be the possible effects of a world in which the dynamics of humiliation are dominant within domestic and international politics.

A rational case about the need for more understanding of the dynamics of humiliation, especially if that case is well made by many thinking people in many countries, stands a chance of being taken seriously by those with power. Especially if the case is made when the danger is just beginning to appear on the horizon but has not yet arrived at the castle gate, so to speak.

Far better to get the job of intellectual persuasion done now. Let us do it before instability and conflict make politicians and generals fear their very existence is being challenged. If that happens, it may be too late to talk about medium and long-term interests. That is the global challenge facing us.

[These ideas are to be elaborated in a paper for presentation to the ESA Social Theory conference in Moscow, September 2002. For a copy of the paper, email d.smith@lboro.ac.uk]

ESA-Publications have a great future

Max Haller

In his "Open letter to the new ESA-Executive" in the last European Sociologist (Number 14, Spring 2002), outgoing vice-president J.P. Roos presented - among other comments - a rather critical view of our publications, the Journal European Societies and the Book Series Studies in European Societies. This was, in my view, a rather unfortunate statement, not mainly because we should not criticize our own earlier decisions and products, or because I was the vice-president responsible for these publications. Rather, the comments seem rather ill-informed about the coming into existence of the publications, and - to give an unduly negative view of the potential of these publications.

First, the decision to have our own Journal was based on a long and serious discussion. Following the example of other associations (e.g. the American, the Scandinavian, the Austrian, the Polish and probably many other Sociological Associations) we wanted to establish our own Journal. Such a Journal has not only a high symbolic value, but provides ESA also with the opportunity to develop its own scientific profile. A Journal which is focussing on Europe, which is rather broad in the coverage of theories, topics and methods, and which systematically tries to get contributions from sociologists all over Europe did not exist before. We have also considered seriously to win the cooperation of one of the few existing sociological Journals with a European focus to become our official Journal.

Unfortunately, none of them was ready to do this. They might regret this some time. Our official ESA Journal has a very high potential in the future, not only because it will set high standards, but also because of the potential high number of subscribers. At present, the leading American Journals have five to ten times higher number of subscribers than most European Journals. This is one among the factors why they rate so high in international citation indexes and the like.

The official ESA Journal can certainly have several thousands of subscribers in a decade or so. If it will continue to publish only high-standard papers - and this will become easier the more papers are coming in - it will occupy the unchallenged first position among European social science Journals. To subsidize the subscription of existing Journals for ESA-members would be a poor alternative to

this, because the quality of those Journals could in no way be influenced by ESA. The problem that East European country members now pay a rather low fee for the Journal can easily be changed in the future by introducing adequate solutions.

Also the problem of paying too much out of ESA-membership fees to the publisher, may become smaller in the future when the membership will increase and new conditions can be negotiated. At present, the financial situation of ESA is quite solid. (What is less satisfying is the transparency of the financial situation; this must be improved a lot in the future).

Similar remarks apply to J.P. Roos' harsh judgement that the book series was a "complete failure." As the publisher - Routledge - has documented the selling of the books was quite successful, in spite of the relatively high prices. (Sold numbers varied between about 300 - for European Societies, ed. By Boje et al., and over 600 issues for The Myth of Generational Conflict by Arber/Attias Donfut). David Lane and I have discussed at length with publisher's representatives Mari Shullaw and Tracy Roberts about the issue of the publication of paperback editions and we became convinced that such editions would not sell well enough.

As a member of the editorial group for the book series (together with Thomas Boje, Martin Kohli and Alison Woodward) I can simply not understand the assertion that Routledge refused to publish very good books. There was the problem, in the beginning, of a quite long process of the collection of expert opinions, since both the publisher and our editing group were reviewing the proposals one after the other. Yet, I do not know of any instance where we considered a proposal as very good but it had been rejected by the publisher. In the meantime, this process has been accelerated. (After all, the sometimes too long delay of publication of books has been due much more to the editors themselves than to the publisher).

It is true that at the moment the Journal and the books are quite expensive. Yet, in a period of explosion of publications in many forms, as papers, in electronic format and so on, it will become even more important to establish high-standard series which will be recognized worldwide as first-quality publications. In my view, Routledge has helped us a lot in

establishing such a series, as have the first editors of the Journal, Jutta Allmendinger and Wolfgang Mayerhofer. The same will be true of their successor and present editor Claire Wallace who has an extensive experience as teacher, social researcher, publisher and academic administrator in three different European countries and culture areas (UK, Austria, Czech Republic). We should give our series and their publishers and editors, therefore, a due chance of success and not throw them overboard in a premature way.

The Graduate School of Social Sciences (GSSS) at the University of Bremen

invites applications to its 3-year Ph.D. program in the following three fields:

- International Relations and Political Theory
- Welfare State Transformation
- The Life Course and Social Change

The GSSS is part of an international network of graduate education and is funded by the Volkswagen Foundation. The GSSS will accept 15 Ph.D. fellows, 9 of whom will receive a stipend of € 1000/month for 36 months according to the ranking list. Funding is available for empirical research and travel for all fellows. For those fellows who do not receive a GSSS-stipend, the GSSS will provide assistance in applying for stipends elsewhere.

Foreign students are encouraged to apply. The University of Bremen strives to increase the share of women in the university and hence strongly encourages women to apply. Applicants with disabilities who are equally qualified will be favoured.

Interested students with an excellent undergraduate record and command of English are invited to send their application (see www.gsss.uni-bremen.de for required application materials) by 15 März 2003 to the following address:

University of Bremen
Graduate School of Social Sciences (GSSS)
Prof. Dr. Walter R. Heinz
FVG
Postfach 330440
28334 Bremen
Germany

Books and other Publications

World Poverty - New Policies to defeat an old Enemy

Edited by Peter Townsend, London School of Economics and Political Science and David Gordon, Townsend Centre for International Poverty Research, University of Bristol, UK

"This publication will make a valuable contribution to the integration of human rights values into world poverty reduction strategies." Mary Robinson, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

World poverty offers fresh insights into how to tackle poverty worldwide. With contributions from leading scholars in the field both internationally and in the UK, the book asks whether existing international and national policies are likely to succeed in reducing poverty across the world. It concludes that they are not and that a radically different international strategy is needed. A Manifesto for international action against poverty is presented.

Paperback =£325.00 ISBN 1 86134 395 7; Hardback =£355.00 ISBN 1 86134 396 5 480 pages September 2002

For more information, please visit www.policypress.org.uk

Changing labour markets, welfare policies and citizenship

Edited by Centre for Comparative Welfare State Studies, Department of Economics, Politics and Public Administration, Åalborg University, Denmark

Social marginalisation due to changing labour markets in a global, knowledge-intensive economy poses a major challenge to European welfare states. Changing labour markets, welfare policies and citizenship readdresses the question of how full citizenship may be preserved and developed in the face of enduring labour market pressures. Addressing the problem from a citizenship perspective, this book contributes significantly to the understanding of policy problems and the development of appropriate strategies. It provides important new insights for academics and students in comparative social policy, sociology and political

science. It will also be of great value to policy makers in the field of social and labour market policy.

*Paperback £18.99 (US\$34.50)
ISBN 1 86134 272 1
Hardback £45.00 (US\$81.00)
ISBN 1 86134 273 X
216 x 148 mm 320 pages
January 2002*

Media network book

R. Savarese (ed.)
Comunicazione e Crisi: Media, conflitti e società. Milano: FrancoAngeli. 2002.

A book that has just been published, from the proceedings of the ESA media research network meeting in 2000 in Naples. The contents are in Italian and English.

ISBN: 8846438337

Changing Structures of Inequality - A Comparative Perspective

Edited by Yannick Lemel and Heinz-Herbert Noll
Comparative Charting of Social Change

The international sociological community has engaged recently in a controversial discussion on social inequality. There is a vigorous debate on whether the traditional concepts of social class and social stratification are still useful. Some researchers argue that social classes still offer a key explanation to social inequalities while others challenge the long-standing tradition of class analysis. New approaches have been proposed to describe recent social changes in the stratification system: vanishing middle class, two-thirds societies, cosmographic inequality, and classless society, among others.

Changing Structures of Inequality examines these questions in a new comparative perspective, covering five national societies - Canada, France, Germany, Spain, and the United States. The authors offer a profound analysis of country-specific research traditions in the fields of class analysis and social stratification, revealing important

conceptual differences which have consequences for the diagnoses. They present the results of substantial comparative studies on different aspects of inequality in developed societies - the inequality of income and wealth; educational inequalities; status crystallization; migration and inequality; gender inequality and the structuring effect of social class - highlighting similarities as well as substantial differences between the societies under examination.

The editors offer a nuanced conclusion that puts in perspective the different topics of this contemporary debate. Developed societies are now characterized by more dynamic and pluralistic structures of inequalities, where classes have lost some of their previous importance, but to some extent still have a place.

Contributors include Howard M. Bahr, Mathias Bös, Gary Caldwell, Salustiano del Campo, Theodore Caplow, Louis Chauvel, Michel Forsé, Wolfgang Glatzer, Richard Hauser, Paul W. Kingston, Simon Langlois, Yannick Lemel, Denise Lemieux, Laura Maratou-Alipranti, Marion Mohle, Heinz-Herbert Noll.

*Cloth ISBN 0-7735-2203-4 \$85.00 Special Price: \$68.00
May 2002 6 x 9 440pp*

Introduction to Longitudinal Research

Elisabetta Ruspini
*University of Milano-Bicocca, Italy
Social Research Today - Routledge*

One of the major changes in the social science research landscape in recent years has been the introduction of computerised panel surveys in Europe and the US which make longitudinal data widely available to graduate students for the first time. In Introduction to Longitudinal Research Elisabetta Ruspini provides a concise yet comprehensive introduction to the issues involved in this kind of research.

*Hb: 0-415-26007-8: £65.00
Pb: 0-415-26008-6: £18.99
May 2002: 216x138: 224pp*

To order see the online catalogue:
www.routledge.com
or email: book.orders@routledge.co.uk

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The contribution of dynamic research to the study of women's life courses

Edited by Elisabetta Ruspini

Department of Sociology and Social Research, University of Milano-Bicocca, Italy and Angela Dale, Faculty of Economic and Social Studies, University of Manchester

This study uses longitudinal data to provide new insights into the changing dynamics of women's life courses today. In particular, it explores the potential of longitudinal analysis as a powerful tool for appreciating the gender dimension of social change. The contributors view the data from a policy perspective and use comparative analysis from Britain, Germany, the Netherlands, Sweden and Japan to expand our understanding of women's life courses and systems of inequality.

Hardback £35.00 (US\$63.00)
ISBN 1 86134 332 9
234 x 156mm 312 pages May 2002

Women and the Politics of Military Confrontation Palestinian and Israeli Gendered Narratives of Dislocation

Edited by Nahla Abdo and Ronit Lentin

As the crisis in Israel does not show any signs of abating, this remarkable collection, edited by an Israeli and a Palestinian scholar and with contributions by Palestinian and Israeli women, offers a vivid and harrowing picture of the conflict and of its impact on daily life, especially as it affects women's experiences that differ significantly from those of men.

"A brave and fractured book that bears the marks (and wounds) of conflictual histories and contemporary confrontations in Palestine/Israel." -Lila Abu-Lughod, Columbia University

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Communication with the ESA

Secretariat

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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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Virtual ESA

The ESA maintains a discussion list/bulletin board
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The ESA also maintains pages on the WorldWideWeb:

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Deadline for Contributions
for Issue 16 of the
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March 31, 2003

Report on Research Networks

ESA Board Meeting - Murcia October 11-12 2002

Thora Margareta Bertilsson

Research networks constitute the bone structure of any professional organisation. Indeed, the *raison d'être* of any such organisation is the rapid establishing of a number of active research networks. At the present, ESA has established 23 such research networks. The most recent inclusion into a formal network is (#23) Medical Sociology and Health Policy. At the present, there are two awaiting a formal decision (Society and Sports, Sociology of Sexuality). In order to gain the formal status of a network, a research group must show strength in organising either a research stream or some special sessions with good attendance at an ESA- conference.

At a meeting in Prague in the spring of 2001, a number of us who were then participating as delegates also in the previous ESA-board discussed the link between more fluent research streams and more fixed research network. There were some among us then who were in favour of strengthening the more fluent research streams while playing down the role of more stable research networks.

The arguments were: research networks can easily become dormant, as they are started by a group of eager souls, or perhaps because of some special social circumstances, and when these persons or circumstances no longer are present, research networks become, if not dormant, perhaps barriers for further research revitalisation. While there is a grain of truth to this argument, and that ESA must be on guard against such slowing down processes, we must also be open to the equally plausible argument that research networks are necessary constituents in the professional life of a scientific organisation. It would be too demanding on all, including the ESA board (!), if we were to organise new and fresh research streams for every ESA conference. It is very good to be able to rely on some solid contribution from existing research network. And as far as I can say, I think that we have been doing what we could do in order to mobilise the existing research network structure to take active part in the next Murcia-conference.

The problem: dormant and/or engaged networks

I would not say now that there are dormant ESA networks, but I dare say that there is a great variety in the intensity and activity schemes among existing networks. Some networks are very active, not only on the European scheme, but also world-wide in organising activities and taking new initiatives.

In order to check on the level and intensity of RN activity, I borrowed a questionnaire scheme already designed by Yasemin Soysal during her previous term as a Vice President of Research Networks, and

distributed it to all the network co-ordinators around Christmas time last year. There were questions as to the network activities, sessions, papers and participants at the Helsinki Conference in 2001. There were also questions as to planned interim activities, and prospects for the next ESA-conference. The questions were all designed to "measure" network activities.

It took some time before all networks responded: Some responded immediately, and some others had to be reminded over and over again. At our Board Meeting in Paris in March 2002, the raw material from this inquiry was discussed.

I got a response from almost all research networks with some exceptions. The reason for not responding to cumbersome questionnaires may be many and diverse. Some co-ordinators are so busy so that they do not even read their email, or look at such email as equivalent to spam mail! Not responding need not be mirroring that the network is dormant or have ceased to exist.

The information that I received from Helsinki after the conference was that all existing networks had been in operation, at least formally. I do not know the various reasons for not responding, and I believe that only in few instances, if any, are they due to the fact that there are no longer research activities going on. I am suggesting that such research activities may be turning elsewhere, e.g. into organised EU- research.

Looking at the very diverse responses to the questionnaire, one can also note that some co-ordinators take pride in listing the many and diverse activities that their networks organise. Amongst those I like to mention here are especially (RN 2) Sociology of Art and (RN 16) Qualitative Sociology. These two networks are also in close co-operation, which further strengthens their profile. They are also engaged in planning semi-plenaries and inviting speakers for the Murcia-conference

in 2003. Typical for such expanding research networks seems to be that they are growing both with regard to quantity and quality: they organise many sessions with many papers on many diverse issues while at the same time growing in depth and reflection. These are exemplary research networks, and the dream work of any professional organisation.

But there are many other research networks that show an interesting development and expansion. The Sociology of Professions (RN 15) was well represented at the Helsinki-conference, and they have had interesting interim-activities. European professions were - contrary to their American counterparts - part and parcel of central state-administration, and with the EU-organisation, they are now moving far beyond the State.

The question is if they will assume the same features as the more market-oriented American professions, or if a special European style is evolving? Science and Technology (RN 18) also seems to be in an interesting evolution with strong European-wide coverage. The Knowledge Society, European R & D competition with United States and Japan, the "Mode I and Mode 2" organisation of research are among those issues which stimulate intense activity.

Characteristic of these very active networks is that they are run by very energetic co-ordinators who occupy strategic positions in their respective fields with wide communication channels. Some more dormant networks have probably been started by such intense souls at some point in time, but either have these energetic individuals moved elsewhere or else have their spirits been exhausted in the meanwhile.

Continued on next page...

ESA Support Scheme

At the ESA board meeting in Paris in March 2002, it was decided to offer official ESA-support to Research Networks for interim activities. Workshop and seminar activities in between conferences can be supported with a maximum sum of Euro 500, and various communication initiatives, establishing of web-sides and electronic channels, are also supported with Euro 150. What ESA need in order to issue such official support is sufficient documentation, detailed information of the person in charge, and information as to bank account, address, and registration numbers. The group in charge of this support system is the treasurer, Anne Kovalainen, the president, Yasemin Soysal, the General Secretary, Jean Charles Lagrée, and myself. So far, the following RN's have been given official support for interim conferences á Euro 500:

Qualitative Methods (RN 16)
 Science and Technology (RN 18)
 Sociology of Professions (RN 15)
 Sociology of the Arts (RN 2)
 Social Theory (RN 21)
 Media and Communication (RN 14)

At the last board meeting in Murcia it was decided to freeze the issuing of support temporarily. ESA's main source of income is the conference fees received every second year. The Executive Board assumes that the support scheme will be re-issued after the Murcia-conference for interim activities in 2004.

Reflections on the Murcia Conference

Even if I have not been in contact with all co-ordinators as to their planned activities for the Murcia conference for the simple reason that they have not responded to various mails, I assume that all established networks will be actively engaged as to their planning activities and organising sessions. Research networks that do not show any activities at an ESA-conference live a dangerous life of simply being dissolved at their own request!

I did run into heated arguments with some network co-ordinators as a response to local organising committee's request in Murcia to engage Spanish co-co-ordinators for each research network. The aim was simply to increase Spanish and Latin American participation, and allow for non-English papers to be presented. Some co-ordinators expressed very strong views as to the ESA Board exercising non-legitimate control of the inner lives of research networks. Capitolina Diaz Martinez and I solved this inflammatory situation by suggesting that the offering of Spanish advice was to be seen as an extra resource, and not a mandatory control! The good thing following from this heated correspondence earlier in the summer was that research co-ordinators whom I had not

heard anything from previously suddenly came on the scene armed with very strong feelings.

As is clear from the preliminary Murcia programme, there are many research streams on such themes, which in other professional contexts really are assuming solid network-character. Here I am thinking especially of such themes as 'work and organisations', 'emotions', 'ethnicity and nations', 'historical sociology', 'sociology of law', 'sociology of religion', 'political sociology', and 'urban sociology', and there are probably others. A reflection on the existing research networks in relation to the suggested research streams could easily lead itself in the direction that ESA should work harder to establish some of the research streams into real network, and have some of the now existing network assuming the character of streams instead. I am aware that this is a polemical suggestion, and that such a reversal of existing order not could come about unless a voluntary engagements among some existing research networks to co-evolve with now suggested streams or amongst one another.

But I also believe that there is an upper limit as to how many research networks a professional organisation can harbour. It depends of course on the size of the organisation, but we also have to take into consideration that already at the Helsinki Conference in 2001, there were many complaints as to the fact that there were too many parallel sessions, too many events where too few people showed up, too many papers announced that did not materialise, etc.

These problems are classic in the sociology of knowledge literature as in sociology in general. Differentiation and specialisation are means of social and cognitive developments, but there is in the body of science as in the body of organisations an upper limit, where specialisation becomes contra-productive. It is clear that ESA (as any other professional organisation) has to find some balanced principle by means of which one can steer spontaneous and engaged activities into constructive configurations. It is my suggestions that we should be quite restrictive with establishing research networks also in the future for the simple reason that they bind time unduly for coming research generations. On the other hand, it is also my suggestion that we encourage fluent research streams so that ESA can engage in public debates much more strongly than what we do at the present.

Thora Margareta Bertilsson
 Vice President, Research Network (2001 - 2003)

The 6th ESA Conference

(continued from page 3)

PHD Students Wprkshop

There will be a two-day pre-conference workshop for PhD students on the topic "Europeanization Process: A Challenge to Sociology".

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Call for Abstracts

Abstracts Submission

If you are interested in presenting a paper, you should submit an abstract. You can use the form included in this website. Abstracts deadline February 28, 2003.

Authors will be notified whether their abstract has been accepted or rejected by April 30, 2003. The final programme will be published in the Programme Book and on the Internet.

Very important: please note that accepted abstracts will be published in the Programme Book only if the registration fee has been paid by June 15, 2003. Paid registration is a condition of publication.

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A Volume of Abstracts will be distributed at the Conference for the registered conference delegates. Submission of the abstract implies consent to publish it in the abstract volume.

Content of Abstracts

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The title should be in capital letters. State author name(s), institutional affiliations, city, country and e-mail address.

You can make an online submission at:
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Matters of Belief

Health believes as social constructions

A review of ESA health and illness stream sessions by Anna Alanko

Introduction: Constructionist perspective

Most of today's sociological research takes a social constructionist perspective for granted. This tradition, which dates back to Thomas Berger's and Peter Luckman's work published in the sixties, was explicitly used in some in some papers presented in the ESA health and illness seminar-sessions. When put together, social constructionism emerged as following:

According to Sara O'Sullivan people's definitions of health, and accepted ways of producing, maintaining and restoring health are different ways of interpreting the same biological phenomenon. These interpretations are not just diluted versions of biological knowledge but they vary because of social and cultural reasons (O'Sullivan 2001, 1). The variation of these interpretations can lead to different responses and actions, which means variation in professional medical practices as well as lay people's health behaviour.

Simo Mannila emphasised that social constructionist approach does not argue that the issue under focus does not exist, but the aim of a constructionist study is different. The perspective considers e.g. risks real, but is interested in the social and cultural processes mediating them and claims that risks cannot be known in isolation from them. In stead of focusing on the severity of risks or the adequacy of people's reactions, a social constructionist framework leads to an interest of people's reactions as lived experience. (Mannila 2001, 4)

The use of a social constructionist perspective has been said to be useful because by revealing that something taken for granted in a certain culture is a (social/cultural) construction, it is possible to break taboos. Social constructionist perspective in a research means practically that the researched issue is considered to be able to change cross - culturally or historically.

A typical example of using a constructionist perspective is the work done by Keith Taylor, who has compared the discourses and practices of oncologists in three different countries. Considering the topic of Taylor's study it becomes more and more obvious that social constructionist perspective (though Taylor himself is not explicitly admitting to be a constructionist) is not about not believing or not taking seriously what people say or being nasty. Taylor, who himself has been diagnosed to have cancer, would surely have given up an interesting field of study - the variation of methods used by oncologists - had there been such a thing as "the objectively and scientifically proved best cancer treatment". However, there was not. After feeling unnerved and confused for some time, he ended up doing a cross-cultural study on the variation of discourses and practices in the field of oncology. In his view, these variations were inexplicable in any other terms than believes.

Not all presentators were explicit about having a constructionist perspective. However, in this paper I will discuss my main topic - health believes - in the light of social constructionism.

Defining health and illness

In many of the presented papers it was shown that definitions of health and illness vary. This variation is not only historical or cross - cultural, but it also depends on the respondent's position within a social system, e.g. occupation (Taylor), ethnicity (Chau and Yu) or age/generation (O'Sullivan, Kangas). This issue is important as people's believes of health affect both their ways of taking care of themselves (i.e. health behaviour and risk - taking) and their relation and trust to the medical practitioners and the health-care institution.

Obviously, in Taylors study the doctors had a medical view on their health believes, but they also sometimes agreed that other types of knowledge is relevant as well. For example they did not always think that keeping the

patient alive is their key priority and nearly all of them considered emotional support to be a part of treating cancer. Ruby Chau and Sam Yu on their turn found an interesting mixture of Chinese and Western health concepts in the thinking of ethnic Chinese that live in Great Britain. The Chinese seemed to trust more in Chinese medicine when maintaining health, but most of them would turn to western medical professionals in case of an acute and serious disease.

Another mixture of health conceptions deriving from different cultural backgrounds is likely to be found in the future study by Päivi Hokka et al. In their preliminary study they have researched adolescents social attitudes in Helsinki, Moscow and Tallinn, to compare the effects of economic transition to them and the study will later concentrate on environmental and environmental health attitudes. It will be interesting to see, how the concepts on how the environment affects health differ in Finland and these former socialist countries, where the economic and political discussion on environmental issues is probably very different.

However, the surrounding culture affects not only individuals attitudes towards medical knowledge, but also the very definition of normality and being healthy. In the study of Hannele Palosuo, there emerged a Cross - cultural difference in the meaning of "normal health". Among the Finnish respondents the most common word chosen to evaluate one's own health was "good" whereas the Russian respondents tended to tick the middle category, "normal" (the finding was supported in Ludmila Yasnaya's study). Although the evaluations might reflect differences in "the real" health, as Finnish people in general are healthier than Russians, it was pointed out that attention needs to be paid on cultural meanings of the words used in questionnaires.

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Another example of showing how the definitions of normality vary, came up in the presentation of Susanna Nouko - Juvonen, where it was shown that defining "mental retardation" is by no means self-evident. The definition seems to be affected by the wider socio-economical environment and working circumstances and the need of services for this group tends to vary according to the availability of such services.

The generational differences of health understandings that emerged can be interpreted to be a result of own experiencing in the study of O'Sullivan and changes in meanings and discourse in the study of Ilka Kangas. The older respondents in O'Sullivan's study seemed to think being healthy is a situation where a person is able to carry on everyday duties ("minimal standard"), whereas in O'Sullivan's interpretation the younger generation had "internalised the discourse of health promotion". This led to a belief that health was a matter of dieting and going to the gym, and an ideal that could never be reached ("maximal standard"). Ilka Kangas found a difference between generations in interpreting depression. In her studies the respondents born in the forties and sixties tended to blame their difficult life-course for their depression, whereas the younger respondents born in the seventies often blamed themselves and the overall society for their illness.

Another generation-related difference in beliefs about good health behaviour was discussed by Torsten Winter, whose presentation considered alcohol abstinence among the teenagers. It is widely accepted that alcohol is bad for health, especially for teenagers. According to the teenagers themselves, it might not necessarily be so. Winter found out that the teenagers who drink alcohol considered their social life better than the abstainers. Although drinking probably would not be considered healthy even among the teenagers themselves, drinking as a social institution can be healthy considering the psychosocial side of health. To resolve the controversy, it was planned to do research among abstinent teenagers who have a good social life.

Factors affecting medicine and medical professionals

The developments of medicine on the scientific side also affect both the medical professionals' views and lay people. The recent developments of the medical field were discussed in differing contexts in the stream: the link between the emergence of e.g. Viagra and new anti-depressants and the growing predominance of patients needing these medicines was discussed inspired by the presentations of Ilka Kangas and Ian Shaw. Also the link between the development of effective infertility treatment and the following conception that every woman willing to have a child has the right to receive treatment if the pregnancy does not succeed without was discussed after the presentation of Reija Klemetti.

An issue which can not be left without attention in this context is medical business. It is useful to keep in mind that companies producing Prozac and Viagra, as well as private infertility clinics are for-profit organisations. Considering this, it becomes clear that the possibility of economical profit influences definitions of health and illness and considerations of whether medical treatment is needed. Susanna Nouko - Juvonen's conclusion that the services (for the mentally retarded) are used more when they are available, might be adjusted to treatments prescribed more when they are good business.

On the other hand, the relation of health and illness definitions and business was also obvious in the study completed by Ruby Chau and Sam Yu. Also in this study, the researchers found out that commercialisation affected people's health-seeking behaviour. The commercialisation of Chinese medicine sometimes led to the ethnic Chinese people living in the UK to turn to western medicine offered by the public sector as they could not afford going to Chinese medicine practitioners that operate in the private sector. This caused problems for them as the health concepts they used (e.g. "body wind") were not understood by the western professionals. However, the Chinese seemed to long for Chinese medicine mainly in the case of maintaining health and were likely to turn to western medicine in case of serious

and acute illness.

The use of medicine is also dependent on its users. Besides the study of Taylor, the role of the doctors was also discussed in the presentation of Allsop et al. Both these pointed out that the position of the doctor in the society or their conceptions are by no means meaningless. The study of Allsop concentrated in finding out who the doctors really are in the society, but they did not pay attention to how their position really influences their work practices. Also in all the presented papers very little attention was paid to the relation between the patient and the doctor.

Defining psyche, soma and happiness

Western medicine is divided into a field treating the psyche, i.e. mental and the soma, i.e. physical side of the human being. This division is by no means very clear, and it has often been argued that this division leaves out the social side of life. This critique emerged also in the presentations of Ilka Kangas and Ian Shaw whose papers concerned minor mental health patients. It was argued that social circumstances, e.g. demands in working-life (Kangas) or lack of social contacts (Shaw) affect people's vulnerability to depression. Another social aspect of the illness was pointed out to be the historically malleable definition of happiness. People's views of happiness affect the way a normal state of mind is defined and this definition has an effect also on concepts like depression and anxiety. Therefore it could be useful to pay attention to the circumstances where people live and also to people's concepts of happiness rather than just diagnosing minor mental disorders.

Besides the psychologisation of social circumstances, another psychologised issue was pointed out by Larissa Remennick. Her paper was about the vicious circle that begins when heart diseases start to be considered a male problem and women complaining about symptoms of heart disease get diagnosed for psychic problems and receive tranquillisers for help.

Continued on next page...

The circle continues by the misdiagnosis and wrong treatment wasting time in treatment and in the end make the survival rate of female heart disease patients dramatically worse than mens´.

However, in my view medical practitioners are not the only professionals that can be blamed for psychologisation: in the otherwise interesting studies of Leeni Hansson and Sakari Karvonen, the concept of psychosomatic symptoms seems to be used without enough carefulness. In these studies symptoms like abdominal pain, lower back pain and headache were used as indicators of the respondents psychosocial well - being. However, all these symptoms are treated on the somatic side of the healthcare institution, and the treatment is sometimes working. It is true that by claiming a mental state to be a result on a physiological factor, lots of harm can be caused, but also claiming physical pain to be just psychosomatic leads to a risk of not being able to notice a curable disease.

Another indirect way of finding out adolescents psychological well - being was reported by Bettina Piko who has researched adolescents status believes. Piko claims the status believes to be related to one´s (psychosocial) health, but is a little more careful in her equalisation, by just claiming the believes are related to (psychosocial) health. However, it is clear that the results found in Sakari Karvonen´s study are important. The result that the school children experience more symptoms now than some years before is a sign of diminishing overall health, whether the origin of the symptoms is mental of physical.

Sex, gender and their representations

The relationship between sex or gender (especially female) and health was the topic of the first stream session. When paying attention to believes, the two most interesting issues brought up were the (already mentioned) psychologisation of women´s heart diseases (Remennick) and the concept of "geography of fear" discussed by Kaisa Kauppinen. In my interpretation, both these were issues of fear linked to the conceptions of femininity. In the case of heart diseases, the fear of losing the femininity was strong enough to hinder the patient and the medical professional from interpreting heart disease symptoms as something less feminine than anxiety. Another situation where the conceptions do not quite match with the experienced reality emerged as it was found out by Kauppinen that violence on the streets was much more alive in womens´ imagination than in reality.

Both these issues are linked to a too strict representation of femininity and female

body and a general want to try to make the reality match with the representation rather than vice versa. In the case of Remennick´s study, the problem is simpler: women would be better of if the concept of femininity was not as narrow, i.e. be able to receive adequate treatment. "The geography of fear", which means avoiding certain areas in the fear of violence, also contains a belief that the feminine sexuality is extremely vulnerable. Kauppinen pointed out that even though women are more careful than men when moving, men get attacked more, and that the risk of home violence is bigger than the risk of getting attacked in public. However, the representation of an unknown rapist emerging from the dark in the middle of the night is so feared that in the hope of avoiding these encounters, the large scale avoiding of places is obviously considered worth it.

In this case once again, it seems like the wrong side of the problem is treated. I want to highlight that I am not against the view that sexual violence is probably the most traumatising thing that can happen to a person - not depending on which sex the person is representing. However, in my opinion the spreading of the belief that a person whose body is feminine is in a danger all the time could be replaced by a claim that people not depending what kind of body they have, have a right to move where they move, without losing the right to integrity.

In many of the studies where the respondents were from countries shifting from socialism to market -economy, the gender concepts seemed to harm the female population in a different manner. In the studies of Leeni Hansson, Virge-Ines Laidmäe, Ludmila Shilova and Ludmila Yasnaya the assumption that during the ongoing economic changes, women have to try to both take care of the traditional female tasks, assimilate to the new economical situation and try to take care of the whole family´s health on the cost of their own. It emerged that in the present situation the female role included too many responsibilities to be taken care of.

This phenomenon might be familiar in Finland as well. Even though Mauno Joukamaa did not suggest this conclusion himself, his data could be interpreted to reflect the same phenomenon. In his study, psychological distress was much more common among working women than working men. It can be asked whether this could tell about the female population having too much to do in their double - shift? If it is so, the simplest solution to the problem in both "western" and former socialist countries could be negotiating the female role again, in a manner which pays attention to both the overall situation in the

society and economy and the womens´ physical and mental health.

Discussion: the issue of trust

As already mentioned, using a constructionist framework can be useful for breaking taboos. In the papers which I have discussed, there certainly seems to be certain taboos which could be broken: a belief in the potential of medicine to cure everything and believes of sex - differences in situations where the differences are not relevant, for example. However, doing health research often aims at improving health and well being, and it is nonquestionable that western biomedicine is profitable for people in many ways. Is it really worth it to criticise the sometimes narrow conceptions that are in the background when the result still saves lives?

If it was officially admitted that doctors, too, are human beings acting within a culture and getting influences from it rather than operating only based on "pure" science, the discussion between the patients, doctors and other health professionals would become more open. However, a probably negative implication of this should be discussed. A postmodern way of thinking as everything as relative might create distrust. And probably the last thing a seriously ill patient receiving sometimes harsh treatment wants is to think: "What if this does not help?".

In the Finnish media there has been lots of references to studies on the effect of patients trust on the efficacy of medical treatment. It has been claimed that placebos work nearly as often as "real" medicine on some occasions and also that the succes of alternative medicine is partly due to the fact that both the professional and the patient of alternative medicine often believe harder on the treatment than is the case in biomedicine provided by the public sector in a health center.

Though, when discussing trust, it is clear that researching lay peoples´ health believes as (In Ludmila Daraus words) "Nobody knows where the shoe pinches except the one wearing it". Scrutinising peoples health believes can help developing health services, as it is possible to find out people´s preferences and acceptances. Furthermore, listening to peoples´ health believes is also a matter of democracy. Democracy, which is often an unquestionalised value in itself, is promoted by letting also the non-professionals speak for themselves. This issue is probably most evident when speaking about depression, as in the paper of Ilka Kangas lay peoples´ accounts on depression contained also political views on the social circumstances affecting depression.

Continued on next page...

However, doing health research also touches trust in another relationship: the relationship between the professionals and the social scientist. It was mentioned in both the studies of Ian Shaw and Keith Taylor that the doctors were suspicious about taking part to the study and in the presentation of Christina Kerby - Kessinger that doctors do not want to co-operate in sustainable health center planning. In my view, the intentions of social scientists doing health research could be explained more. Would the medical professionals be more aware that the aim of health research is often to improve health, they could probably be more co-operative, which is unlikely to happen if it looks like the main motivation for the reforms that social scientist might suggest is to questionalise the social position of doctors.

References:

The following presentations held in the ESA health and illness session:

Allsop, Judith, Kauppinen, Kaisa, et. al: The Attitudes of Russian doctors to work and profession in the context of change.

Chau, Ruby C.M., Yu, Sam W.K.: Pragmatism, globalism and culturalism. Health pluralism of Chinese people in

Britain.

Dartau, Ludmila: Computer socio - medical dialogue with outpatients.

Hansson, Leeni: Employment security of the 1990s. Individual well being and family outcomes.

Hokka, Päivi, Palosuo, Hannele, Zhuraleva, Irina, Pärna, K: Social attitudes among adolescents in Helsinki, Moscow and Tallinn.

Joukamaa, Mauno, Joukamaa, Matti, Järvelin, Marjo-Riitta: Socio-economic situation, depression and anxiety in young adult women.

Kangas, Ilka: shifting meanings of depression in late modernity

Karvonen, Sakari, Vikat, Anders, Rimpelä, Markku: Rule and Divide. The role of school context in the decline of young people's perceived health.

Kauppinen, Kaisa: Violence towards women in St. Petersburg.

Kerby- Kessinger, Christina D., Rajaram, Shireen, Jameton, Andrew: Quality health care and green medicine.

Klemetti, Reija, Gissler, Mika, Hemminki, Elina: Regional and socio-economic differences in assisted reproduction in Finland in 1996 - 1998.

Laidmäe, Virve -Ines: Socio-economic changes and health status of Estonian population.

Mannila, Simo: Concern for health in the everyday life of Russian middle class families.

O'Sullivan, Sara, Stakelum, Anne: Lay understandings of health. A qualitative study.

Nouko- Juvonen, Susanna: The use of inpatient services and residential services for people with intellectual disabilities - the influence of the supply and need of services.

Palosuo, Hannele: How good is "normal" health?

Piko, Bettina: Inequalities in health, social support and health risk behaviours among Hungarian adolescents.

Remennick, Larissa: The institutional and psychosocial reasons for the higher mortality of Israeli women after coronary bypass surgery: another case of gender- bias. Shaw, Ian: Managing difficult patients. Exploring GPs interpretations of and responses to "revolving door" patients.

Shilova, Ludmila: Transformation of female model of self-preserving behaviour under the conditions of market economy.

Taylor, Keith: The The profession of oncology. Cross - national variations in medical discourse and practice in Britain, the United States and the Netherlands.

Winter, Torsten, Palosuo, Hannele, Zhuraleva, Irina: Alcohol abstinence in adolescence in Helsinki and Moscow.

Yasnaya, Ludmila: The position and roles of women in contemporary Russian society and health - related behaviour: Continuity and change.

Announcing Organizations

About The Centre for Local Democracy (CLD) at UWE

CLD is concerned with the ways in which citizens and communities experience, understand, and engage with issues of power and the processes of decision-making which shape their lives and localities.

The multi-disciplinary Centre brings together a wide range of academics from across the UWE, whose work is linked to aspects of local democracy. Designed to enable the University's researchers in related fields to pool ideas and expertise, the Centre is also active in contributing to current policy debates.

Major changes in public provision, local political development and rising public expectations about service quality and local accountability, have enhanced the need for research in this sphere. More than ever, citizens seek assurance that the agencies and authorities shaping their daily lives are meeting their needs efficiently and democratically. The scope of the Centre is consequently wide. The development of local democratic institutions, improvements in relationships between public service providers and users, and the evolution of

better ways of organising and delivering welfare, require liaison with representatives not just from local and central government, but also from the health service, care organisations, education authorities, private companies and voluntary bodies, among many others.

CLDs values reflect a commitment to:

- Localities - place-based identities (neighbourhood, town, city etc) matter, particularly at a time when they are threatened by global economic forces
- Inclusiveness - all groups in society should have a voice and attention needs to be given to those who have been socially excluded
- Accountability - the decision-making processes which shape people's lives and localities should be more open and decision-makers should be answerable for their actions
- Influence - activities of the Centre should contribute to public policy and local action as well as enhance academic understanding
- Social result - the Centre aims to benefit communities
- Effectiveness - the Centre recognises the importance of good management in delivering high quality services and high quality government.

The key questions CLD debates and inquires into include:

- How do citizens and communities experience, understand and engage with issues of power in their localities?
- How can the processes of decision-making which shape localities be improved in ways which support democratic principles?

Through research and consultancy, conferences, seminars and publications, the Centre aims to guide both policy-making and practical activity to improve the ways in which citizens take action in their local communities.

CLD Executive

- Chris Miller (Chair of CLD), Faculty of Health and Social Care
- Mike Broussine, Bristol Business School
- Dave Garnett, Faculty of the Built Environment
- Paul Hoggett, Faculty of Economics and Social Science
- John Lee, Faculty of Education
- Morris Williams, Faculty of Computer Studies and Mathematics

Conferences and Call for Papers

Whither Europe? Borders, boundaries, frontiers in a changing world

Göteborg University, 16-17 January 2003

Since the end of the Cold War the situation in Europe may be described as a state of flux characterised by contradictory processes. The process of political and economic integration is partially followed by social and

political disintegration. Old political borders are losing their traditional importance, which opens up for the creation of new communities as well as the disruption within old. The enlargement of the European Union

will cross old frontiers, but also result in a new internal European borderline between insiders and outsiders. To what extent this new line of demarcation will be excluding to its character remains to be seen.

As a normative civil system, Europe pretends to move its frontiers towards east and south, a process that takes place in a framework of globalisation. As a peace project, the European Union has put an end to interstate wars between the Member States. However, intrastate conflicts and social and political violence has not disappeared in Europe, and could also within Member States even be on the increase.

A conference with the above-mentioned theme will address the contemporary and future Europe in discussions regarding the implications of new regional identities due to the changes raised in this brief introduction.

The conference will be held at the School of Economics and Commercial Law at Göteborg University 16-17 January 2003. The first day of the conference will offer plenary talks and panel discussions, while the second day will be dominated by a variety of workshops.

The conference is organised by:

Jean Monnet European Centre of Excellence at Göteborg University Centre for European Research at Göteborg University (CERGU)

The organising Committee is:

Professor Per Cramér, Jean Monnet Chairholder, Department of Law, Professor Rutger Lindahl, Jean Monnet Chairholder, Department of Political Science Professor Ulla Björnberg, Department of Sociology, Professor Björn Hettne, Department of Peace and Development Research, Associate Professor Per Månson,

Department of Sociology Associate Professor Mats Andrén, Department of History of Ideas and Theory of Science

CALL FOR PAPERS

We welcome paper proposal in anthropology, business, economics, government, law, modern history, politics, sociology, and other fields that investigate relevant aspects. So far three workshops are proposed:

Human rights

This workshop will address issues on human rights connected to 1. Minorities and citizenship rights. New kinds of borders is likely to sharpen and complicate minority tensions. 2. Refugees and migrants. How are living conditions and asylum status granted to different kinds of migrants and refugees? 3. Family ties across borders problems regarding marriage, care of dependant relatives (old parents and children) 4. Trafficking and prostitution, women and children - questions concerning human rights in the treatment of the persons concerned within the country to which they have been brought and also in the country to which they are sent when discovered. We welcome papers dealing with the mentioned and other aspects of human rights.

Migration, citizenship and identity

The second workshop deals with the wide range of topics that has to do with migration, citizenship and identity in relation to changing frontiers and new borders in post communist Europe. In Eastern Europe the independence has brought statelessness for parts of the populations. In Western Europe the migration of the last decades has in a number of ways questioned the established cultural boundaries and thus has become a key factor for recent discussions political as well as within the social and human sciences on citizenship and identity. The coming membership in the Union for Central European states presents new aspects on the theme. The workshop welcomes papers on historical and up to date aspects of the theme.

The development of a new European Security architecture

Since the early 1990's we find a diffuse European political landscape in which there exist neither a classical balance of power structure nor a functioning effective all-European peace order based on mutual trust. Furthermore, the agenda of Security Policy has been given a somewhat new character where the risks for interstate conflicts to a large extent has been substituted for less concrete threats such

as imploding state structures, ethnically motivated strives within states, terrorism, environmental catastrophes etc. The structures for Security Policy co-operation that were established during the Cold War have successively been reformed and developed with the objective to answer up to these new threat perceptions as well as to further a process whereby the idea of balance of power in Europe is transcended. The objective of the workshop is to address questions relating to the construction of a new European security architecture beyond the classical logic of balance of power.

The deadline for papers is Friday, November 1, 2002. Send or email the paper to:

Mats Andrén
Associate Professor
CERGU
Box 711
SE-405 30 Göteborg
SWEDEN
idema@hum.gu.se

ESA Media Research Network Meeting

Bremen, 24th-26th January 2003

Second Call for Papers

I am delighted to let you know that we are extending the deadlines to give everyone possible an opportunity to book places for this important Network meeting. All are welcome at the meeting to take place in advance of the main ESA Conference next year. Please see details below or the ESA web page for further details.

Due to the generosity of our hosts we will be meeting at the International University of Bremen, In Germany, on January 24th-26th 2003. Our theme will be 'The Media and Communications in the Emerging European Knowledge Society'. Of course none of these terms is without its sociological dimensions, and none is beyond dispute. So we hope this theme, reflecting some of the concerns of the EU Sixth Framework, will resonate both theoretically and empirically with many.

It is the intention to publish a selection of papers, and to allow maximum opportunity for discussion at the meeting. For both reasons therefore we will need draft papers in advance, which will then be circulated to participants. We will then construct a programme and advise contributors accordingly, with papers required by November 30th 2002.

Continued on next page...

Our hosts have very kindly committed themselves to providing accommodation and subsistence locally. Thus the only costs required of participants is travel. We will in addition have a small number of travel grants available, mainly intended for younger scholars or participants with no means of institutional support. If you intend to participate and will need this additional financial support, please advise me of all details. We cannot, of course, promise to meet all demands, but must recognise the very generous contribution of IUB to this event. Formal Calls for Papers will circulate to other networks, but we wish, naturally, to give priority to ESA members and especially members of our network.

It would help in if we can get some sense of the likely attendance. Therefore we urge you to submit abstracts as soon as possible, and in any case to indicate your likelihood of attendance. Naturally, you do not have to submit a paper to attend. The Network remain as follows:

Peter Golding (Loughborough, UK) - Chair
Peter Ludes (Siegen presently, soon Bremen) - Vice Chair
Rossella Savarese (Naples) - Secretary.

We look forward to hearing from you, and of course would be very happy to hear of any other developments you think may be of interest to the ESA Media Network.

Peter Golding /Liz Sutton
Centre for Research in Social Policy
Loughborough University
Loughborough
Leics - LE11 3TU

Direct line: 01509 223679
Main office: 01509 223618

Religiosity in the Secularized World

12th annual conference of the Arbeitsgemeinschaft Objektive Hermeneutik e.V.

Frankfurt am Main / Germany, 21 to 23 March 2003

In contemporary sociology of religion, there is a vivid controversy about the thesis of secularization. While there seems to be agreement about the existence of a "functional differentiation" or an autonomization of spheres of conduct in the course of the universal process of rationalization or modernization, the thesis of an irresistible secularization has for some time been contested: One group of scholars interprets contemporary religious

phenomena as expressions of a continued secularization, others consider these phenomena proof of the irrelevance of this thesis. Considering the increased pressure on individuals in modern societies to find unique answers for questions concerning their conduct of life, the individual's conduct has been an important issue in this debate.

This conference will provide a platform for these issues with respect to the following questions: If there is such a thing as a process of secularization, is this process restricted to the state, the society, and its institutions-or does this process not also extend to the individual's life conduct? It is impossible to separate the thesis of secularization and questions relating to the development of the major world religions. Considering the process of rationalization as described by Max Weber and others following him, is it possible to locate different religions on different levels within the process of secularization? How does one grasp the emergence of, for example, Islamic fundamentalism which seems to be a reaction to the confrontation with "Western culture"? Numerous questions also arise with respect to the development of law. Finally, the thesis of secularization bears implications for the relationship between state and religion.

We invite sociologists as well as scholars in other fields who are working on issues of secularization and modern religiosity to participate in this conference. Conference languages will be German (with English translation) as well as English. For information about the Arbeitsgemeinschaft objektive Hermeneutik e.V. see: www.objektivehermeneutik.de

Deadline for the submission of manuscripts or abstracts is October 31, 2002.

Conference Organizers:

Manuel Franzmann, Christel Gärtner, Nicole Köck und Andreas Müller-Tucholski

Please direct questions to Christel Gaertner, ch.gaertner@soz.uni-frankfurt.de

For further information see:

<http://www.rz.uni-frankfurt.de/~hermeneu/index2.htm>

Sociology and Social Policy Annual conference of the British Association of Slavonic and East European Studies (BASEES)

University Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge, 29-31 March 2003

Panel proposals or paper abstracts (100-200 words) are invited in any area of sociology and social policy as they pertain to the countries of the former Soviet Union and Central and Eastern Europe.

Last year's conference featured approximately twenty papers in sociology and social policy presented by staff and graduate students from institutions in the UK and abroad. The conference as a whole saw around 300 presentations on literature, art, culture, history, economics, politics and linguistics in Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union.

Contact:

Panel proposals or abstracts for papers should be sent, with full contact details, by 15 October 2002 to Svetlana Stephenson at s.stephenson@unl.ac.uk

or at the following address:

Dr. Svetlana Stephenson
School of Social Sciences
University of North London
Ladbroke House 62-66
Highbury grove
London N5 2AD
Tel.: 0207 607 2789 (ext. 5030)
Fax : 0207 753 5763

The BASEES web-site is: <http://www.basees.org.uk>

The British Sociological Association Annual Conference 2003

Social Futures: Desire, Excess and Waste

*University of York
Friday 11th April to Sunday 13th April*

Plenary Speakers
George Ritzer
Beverly Skeggs

Further details available from:

Email: Conference2003@britsoc.org.uk

and the BSA website:

<http://www.britsoc.org.uk/events/annual2003.htm>

Innovation in Europe: Dynamics, Institutions and Values

International Conference

Roskilde University, Denmark, 8th -9th
May, 2003

Conference presentation:

With the ambition "to become the most competitive and dynamic knowledge-based economy in the world", the European Union has recently engaged in a series of policy initiatives towards fostering innovation and technological development. This is taking place at a time when some fundamental social dynamics related to the innovation process are in a process of rapid transformation, like for example, new regimes for knowledge production and appropriation, changing social values on science, the emerging information society, rapid development of private risk capital markets/industry. These parallel transformations, of policy and of social dynamics, are having a direct impact on the contemporary patterns of European innovation.

The driving idea of this conference is to analyse the dynamics, institutions, and values that characterize the innovation process and technological development in Europe, with special focus on the EU. The conference is particularly interested on papers that have a perspective on European/EU dynamics, multiple-country/comparative studies, or exceptionally national experiences that have a European relevance, in the following topics:

Conference topics

1. Systems of innovation, institutions and values in Europe
2. Knowledge dynamics and co-operation
3. Intellectual property rights
4. Private financing and public-private partnership for innovation
5. Risk society and the governance of science
6. Innovation for competitiveness and cohesion
7. Information society

Submission deadlines and information:

Extended abstracts of 1-2 pages should be submitted no later than December 1st, 2002 to Kenny Larsen at: kennyl@ruc.dk

Further information can be found at the conference website:

<http://www.segera.ruc.dk/>

The abstracts will be selected on the basis of their scientific excellence and relevance for the Conference, by a panel of experts made of the SEGERA-project partners. The decision will be communicated in

January 2003.

Registration to the conference will start on January 15th, 2003.

Final paper submission is March 1st, 2003.

The conference has the possibility of providing financial support for travel and accommodation to a maximum of 5 researchers submitting a paper. Special account will be given to young researchers from the EU, and to Eastern European participants. Please, contact Kenny Larsen for further information about procedures.

The conference will also admit a limited number of participants without paper, most notably policy-makers and experts in the fields. Please, find more information at the conference website.

Contact:

Kenny Larsen
Roskilde University
Universitetsvej 1
P.O. Box 260
DK-4000 Roskilde
E-mail: Kennyl@ruc.dk

Leadership, Voice and Accountability - Global and local perspectives

An International Conference organised by the Centre for Local Democracy

*University of the West of England, Bristol
8th to 10th September 2003*

Leadership, Voice and Accountability are the three themes for this third conference organised by the Centre for Local Democracy at UWE. This event will be an opportunity inquire into, and develop our understanding about, the ways in which citizens, users, communities and organisational members experience, understand, and engage with issues of power and the processes of decision-making that shape their own and other people's lives and localities. The conference will attract a wide range of people community activists, representatives of local and voluntary sector organisations, local politicians, senior public service managers and practitioners, policy makers, and academics.

The conference provides an opportunity to examine local, national and global perspectives on how people pursue and engage with local democracy in their communities, organisations and countries.

Alongside UK, European and North American perspectives, it is hoped that the conference will include developments in the theory and practice of local democracy from the developing world.

The event will enable participants to develop theoretical perspectives and reflect upon our practical experiences of extending democracy and participation of citizens, users, local organisations and organisational members. It will provide the opportunity to consider our day-to-day struggles with issues of leadership, with finding our voice or enabling others to do so, and with the challenges of democratic accountability.

Preliminary information about the University of the West of England (UWE), the Centre for Local Democracy (CLD) and about Bristol, may be found on the following web sites:

UWE:

www.uwe.ac.uk

Bristol:

www.visitbristol.co.uk

www.bristol-city.gov.uk/index.html

Conference-web-site

www.uwe.ac.uk/hsc/cld

The Nature of the Conference

The key purpose is to bring people together with their experience and ideas to explore leadership, voice and accountability. The conference structure will act as container for wide-ranging but focused explorations. It is also intended that it will provide opportunities to explore the lived reality of these themes in the here-and-now experience that the conference offers and to reflect, network and exchange ideas with other participants.

Papers and Workshop Proposals

We now invite you to submit your ideas for a paper or workshop that you would like to offer the conference. We welcome research-based papers, reflective accounts of practice, and theoretical contributions on the themes of Leadership, Voice and Accountability. We will also welcome ideas for poster or workshop events that will enable participants to explore the themes in a participatory format. You may be involved in a range of practice settings including for example a concern with managing and organising, with the promotion of citizen action, with the service/user interface, or with researching.

As a guide only, we would be interested in receiving proposals which examine the following issues and questions:

Continued on next page...

- Forms of organisation which provide effective leadership
- Organising for accountability and transparency
- Developing accountable leadership
- Leadership which encourages citizen participation
- Capacity-building in and between organisations, and in communities
- Developing effective policy frameworks
- How citizens may voice their concerns effectively
- Local action in a global context
- Developing sustainable and accountable local organisations
- Effective networking between organisations and communities
- How users may influence organisations leaders
- How users voices may or may not be heard by agencies
- How user bodies may represent users needs authentically
- Methods of inquiring into leadership
- How research subjects voices may be accessed
- Accountable, ethical and transparent research methods

We would especially welcome proposals that examine theory and practice

concerning local democracy originating in the developing world to provide global perspectives to the themes of leadership, voice and accountability.

Developing and submitting Proposals

Proposal length - Maximum 500 words

Means of submission - We are happy to receive proposals by post, but, if possible, we would prefer simultaneous e-mail submissions to the conference co-ordinators:

Michael.Broussine@uwe.ac.uk
Christopher.Miller@uwe.ac.uk
Richard.Kimberlee@uwe.ac.uk

Address for sending by post

Jan Green
Administrator

Centre for Local Democracy
University of the West of England
Faculty of Health and Social Care

Glenside Campus
Blackberry Hill

Stapleton
Bristol
United Kingdom
BS16 1DD

Latest date for submission - Friday 13th December 2002

Participation in preliminary seminars

We intend to start the process of dialogue and learning before the conference. The Centre for Local Democracy (CLD) will organise three preliminary seminars on each of the conference themes. These seminars will provide a good opportunity to share and develop initial thoughts prior to the conference itself. These will take place on

- Monday 17 February 2003 - on leadership
- Wednesday 9 April 2003 - on voice
- Friday 13 June 2003 - on accountability

Please indicate in your submission whether you would be interested in attending one of these preliminary seminars.

Conference Co-ordination

Mike Broussine: + 44 (0)117-3443471;
Michael.Broussine@uwe.ac.uk

Chris Miller: + 44 (0)117- 3448758;
Christopher.Miller@uwe.ac.uk

Richard Kimberlee: +44 (0)117-3448460;
Richard.Kimberlee@uwe.ac.uk

European Societies

Please send us papers for consideration in "European Societies". As the official journal of the European Sociological Association, "European Societies" has a large readership.

Both empirical and more theoretical papers are sought and the themes can be relatively broad ranging. For example, we receive many papers which involve comparisons of different European societies. However, other papers are discussions about the idea of Europe itself or about developments at a European level. Papers could also have a more methodological approach: how do we study European societies? Alternatively, they might look at Europe in comparison with other parts of the world.

To speed up response, you can send your contributions electronically to:
europeansocieties@ihs.ac.at

The Editorial Committee of European Societies, the journal of the European Sociological Association has decided to have a new section in the journal, focusing on methods. The title of the section will be 'Researching Cross-Nationally'.

We want to solicit articles that explore some aspect of cross-national research methodology, relating to Europe, broadly defined.

These can either be shorter Research Notes of around 4-5,000 words in length or fully developed (not exceeding 8000 words in length). Please send suitable articles, bearing in mind the Notes for Contributors that can be found at the back of the journal issues.

Dr Judith Glover

School of Business and Social Sciences
University of Surrey Roehampton

80 Roehampton Lane
London SW15 5SL
UK

Tel +44(0)20 8392 3477

Fax +44(0)20 8392 3518

Email j.glover@roehampton.ac.uk

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)

Delegate member Euro/person

- Before May, 31st 2003 350,00 €
 Before September, 10th 2003 410,00 €
 During the Conference 490,00 €

Student member Euro/person

- Before May, 31st 2003 160,00 €
 Before September, 10th 2003 200,00 €
 During the Conference 250,00 €

Delegate member of Central and Eastern Europe and Latin America Euro/person

- Before May, 31st 2003 160,00 €
 Before September, 10th 2003 200,00 €
 During the Conference 250,00 €

Student member of Central and Eastern Europe and Latin America Euro/person

- Before May, 31st 2003 120,00 €
 Before September, 10th 2003 135,00 €
 During the Conference 190,00 €

Non - member Euro/person

- Before May, 31st 2003 390,00 €
 Before September, 10th 2003 420,00 €
 During the Conference 490,00 €

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)

- Granada 470,00 €
 Cartagena, Mar Menor, La Unión 174,00 €
 Caravaca de la Cruz 40,06 €

Price per person. Top date to register, July 31st, 2003. 25 people is the minimum to enable the tours.

ACCOMMODATION FORM (C)

Top date to guarantee accommodation July 31st, 2003. Price per room and night, breakfast and VAT included. Once we have received your accommodation request, you will receive the invoice shortly, as well as receipt of registration. Reservation will not be guaranteed until payment is received and confirmed by the Conference Secretariat. In case no room was available at the hotel requested, the Conference Secretariat will provide another hotel. For the list of hotels see: http://www.um.es/ESA/inscripcion_ingles.htm

Check-in date: _____

Hotel Selection:

Check-out date: _____

1st Option: _____

Nº of nights: _____

2nd Option: _____

Type of room: _____

3rd Option: _____

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)

- Bank transfer free from cost to Viajes CajaMurcia
 Savings bank: Caja Murcia
 Account Nr.: 2043 0133 75 0200003744
 Swift Code: CECAESMM 043
 PLEASE REMEMBER to indicate: ESA/Surname, First name
 Your bank: _____
 Bank transfer date: _____
- Bank Cheque to Viajes CajaMurcia (we will not take responsibility for any lost document)
- Credit Card; I authorise to charge in my credit card the total amount indicated
- Visa American Express Master Card Diners Club
 Card holder: _____ Card number: _____ Expiring date: _____

You may also fill and submit this form via Internet at: http://www.um.es/ESA/inscripcion_ingles.htm