

## Editorial

Europe is in the midst of massive changes, including the transformations in east and central Europe and the increasing integration of the European Union. Sociology has much to contribute to European level debates and developments.

The ESA has an important role to play in organizing the European debate and setting the agenda. The ESA conference in Glasgow discussed a wide range of subjects salient to European sociologists. The Lisbon conference promises to be even more interesting.

European Sociologist is the ESA's mouthpiece, in which announcements and organizational details can be disseminated. It could also be an opinion bulletin or feature journal, in which items of interest to European sociology could be aired.

As the new Editor, let us work together to make it interesting and relevant!

**Shalva Weil** (Editor)

E-Mail: [msshalva@mcc.huji.ac.il](mailto:msshalva@mcc.huji.ac.il)

## Updated Website

The new ESA Executive Committee is committed to new ideas and new organization.

Our new website address is: <http://www.europeansociology.org/>

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## New Executive Committee

At the ESA Glasgow conference (see report on page 6), a new Executive Committee was elected with Claire Wallace as President (see page 8).



Back row: Sokratis Koniordos, Zuzana Kusa, Pekka Sulkinen, Bill Hughes, Norbert Schneider

Middle row: Marju Lauristin, Thomas Eberle, Ursula Apatzsch, Shalva Weil, Elina Oinas, Carlo Ruzza, Monika Kwiecinska

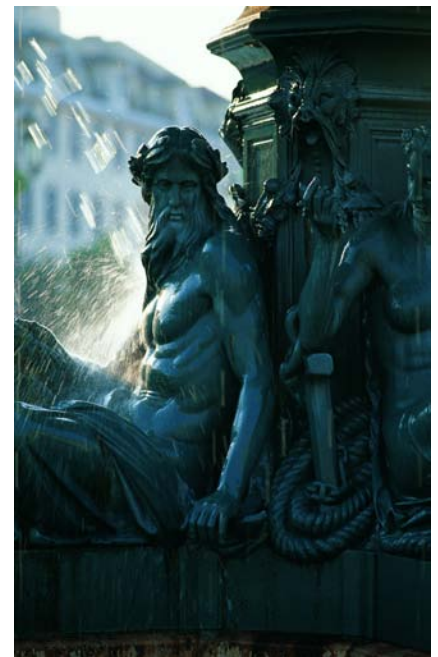
Front row: Consuelo Corradi, Analia Torres, Gisèle Tchinda, Claire Wallace (President)

(Not present at time of photograph: Thomas Boje, Marie-Thérèse Letablier)

## Next ESA Conference

The next ESA conference will take place in the University of Lisbon on Sept. 2nd-5th, 2009.

The conference will be organized by the Instituto Superior de Ciencias do Trabalho e da Empresa (ISCTE) in cooperation with the Instituto de Ciencias Sociais of the University of Lisbon and the Faculdade de Ciencias Sociais e Humanas of the New University of Lisbon.



Fountain in Lisbon, Rossio square

# Message from the President



## Dear ESA members,

this is the first message from your newly-elected president. I would like to thank you all for your support and I will on my part work hard to maintain and improve the work of the European Sociological Association.

The ESA conference at Glasgow was the largest event we have yet staged with over 1,600 delegates attending. This illustrates the vibrancy of sociology in Europe as more and more people come together to present their ideas and participate in discussions within the framework of the European Sociological Association. The next conference will take place in Lisbon on the topic of "European Society or European Societies?" in September 2009. We hope that this will be at least as large and look forward to meeting you there. We will keep you posted about developments as soon as we know more.

This is an important juncture for sociology in Europe. The European Commission together with other agencies is creating a European Research Area. The European Sociological Association has been sending delegates to these discussions and helping to draft documents, together with other professional academic associations. This has taken place mainly through the Initiative for Science in Europe in which ESA participates, but also through negotiations with the European Research Council and the European Science Foundation. ESA is becoming an established partner in these European level bodies, which prefer to negotiate with one organisation rather than a plethora of national associations. In this way we hope to shape the European agenda in such a way that it reflects our interests.

To this end, we rely upon the active participation of our membership, but we have also created a forum for bringing together the National Associations for Sociology in different countries under the umbrella of the "Council for National Associations" chaired by Dagmar Kutsar. In this way we will represent the collective voice of sociology in negotiations about the European Research Area and elsewhere. This

initiative, begun by Giovanna Procacci will continue to have great importance in our work.

The activities of the European Sociological Association depend upon the activities of the Research Networks both at and between conferences. We support these activities financially, but also by offering access to members and potential members. We have received new applications for membership, but at the moment we are in the process of formulating a policy for the Research Networks through a subcommittee chaired by Consuelo Corradi.

Although we had a record number of delegates at the conference, our membership in fact has fallen, due to the way in which membership subscriptions were reorganised and separated from payment of conference fees. In fact this does not generate the expected financial crisis (because non-members pay more for the conference fee and part of this is then recycled back to the Association) but it does reduce our legitimacy in representing the voice of European sociology. Therefore, there we have formed a group to think of ways of boosting membership, we have revamped our website and we are producing posters and leaflets for publicity purposes.

We are also considering ways to improve our newsletter in style and content and to this end Shalva Weil has agreed to give some creative editorial energy to the task.

We think it is very important to expand our membership and activities in parts of Europe where we are underrepresented in regions outside the capital cities. For this reason, I was recently in Kharkiv at the annual meeting of the Sociological Association of Ukraine and we discussed ways in which ESA can contribute to the further development of Ukrainian sociology.

Other activities that we have planned are the annual ESA doctoral summer school, which will take place at the University of Crete between 14th-18th July, 2008. The topic will be "Social Cohesion, Social Difference and the Quality of Life" and is co-funded by the CINEFOGO Network of Excellence. There is a call for applications in this newsletter, but also see our website for further details.

The prize for the Early Career Sociologist was awarded for the first time at the ESA conference this year for the best article published in "European Societies" over the previous 2-year period. The Executive Committee has decided to allocate a second prize to an Early Career Sociologist based upon the best conference paper submitted to the previous year conference. The newly constituted Post-Graduate Committee, Chaired by Elina Oinas will organise the competition.

Finally, I would like to thank Giovanna Procacci, the outgoing President and all the members of the Executive for the work in taking ESA to where it is today. I will endeavour to continue the good work that they were carrying out.

**Claire Wallace**



## The ESA Summer School



ESA Summer school Students

The first ESA Summer School, organized by Giovanna Procacci, was held at the University of Milan (Italy) from July 3rd -9th 2006, and co-sponsored by ESA and the Department of Social and Political Studies of that university.

The summer school was a great success: 330 young researchers (doctoral and post doctoral) applied from all European countries. Among them, 30 participants from several countries were selected, to whom a full grant was offered for participating in the school. For a full week they attended lectures in the mornings from the best specialists in sociology of migrations such as C.Castles(Oxford),

A.Geddes (Sheffield), M.Bonnes (Osnabrück), M.Bagaha( Coimbra), J.Arango (Madrid), H. Entzinger (Rotterdam), D.Diminescu (MSH Paris), P.Patrick Simon (INED Paris), Y.Soyosal (Essex), E.Ostergaard.Nielsen (Barcelona).

In the afternoon workshops, participants presented their own research projects before lecturers and other colleagues of the department. This led to fruitful exchanges among researchers engaged in such field of sociology.

### The ESA Workshop on Conflict, Citizenship and Civil Society, Caledonian University, Glasgow, September 1-3, 2007

This time, the Summer School was built around the theme of the ESA conference: Conflict, Citizenship and Civil Society. The workshop was organised by the post-graduate research committee consisting of Catherine Delcroix (Chair), Tommi Hoikkala, Sokratis Koniordos and Constanza Tobio.

The workshop was a two and a half days workshop meant for MA/PHD students and young scholars / assistants in the social sciences (and

related fields) taking place before ESA Conference in Glasgow(UK).

Out of 150 candidates coming from all Europe, a selection of 33 participants was made by the members of this Committee on the basis of the proximity of their Ph.D topic to the theme of the conference keeping in mind the necessity of diversifying the geographical distribution of the group. The winners -to whom the possibility of free participation in the workshop and the conference was offered- came from Finland, Germany, Spain, Romania, Czech Republic, Poland, Russia, Ukraine, France, Italy, Portugal, Turkey, Lithuania, Belgium, Sweden and United Kingdom.

During the workshop, in the mornings, they attended lectures from well-known specialists: Claire Wallace (UK), Sokratis Koniordos (Gr), Anne-Sophie Lamine (Fr), Tommi Hoikkala (F), Constanza Tobio (SP), Consuelo Corradi. In the afternoon, workshop participants presented their own research project to the discussion before lectures. The six scholars, and Catherine Delcroix, the Ph.D workshop organizer, continuously presented material and commented throughout the workshop.

### Call for applications for 2008

There are 35 places available on the Summer School for doctoral students on the theme of:

*Sociology and the Quality of Life*

Quality of life research has focused mainly on living standards and on satisfaction or happiness, incorporating economic, psychological and medical perspectives. A sociologically informed approach is less well developed although a series of reports by the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions have helped to raise the level of sociological approaches. The Social Quality model proposed by a group of European social scientists includes a more theoretically developed approach to the quality of life by incorporating socio-economic security, social cohesion, social inclusion and social and cultural empowerment as aspects of the

quality of society in general. Additional discussion on the quality of life has included the idea of environmental sustainability. The quality of life debate therefore includes a variety of sociological perspectives and the aim of this workshop is to look at these issues in more detail.

The summer school aims to explore how theory and methods can be combined in the study of societies in Europe in general and the study of quality of life in particular. An additional theme is the combination of different methods in the study of European societies.

#### Participants interested in the following issues can apply:

- \* Environment and the quality of life
- \* Social cohesion
- \* Social inclusion/exclusion
- \* Social integration
- \* Social and cultural empowerment

\* Social policy and the quality of life

University of Crete, Greece, 14-18th July, 2008. **35 places are available. All tuition and accommodation costs paid plus €300 towards travel costs.**

#### Application deadline:

29th February, 2008.

Internationally renowned speakers and tutors, including Professor Claire Wallace and Professor Sokratis Koniordos and others.

#### Sponsored by:

the European Sociological Association  
<http://www.europeansociology.org/>  
 and the CINEFOGO network of Excellence  
<http://www.cinefogo.org>

Please contact Lloyd Dodd at the University of Aberdeen if you are interested:

**E-Mail:** [Dodd.L@abdn.ac.uk](mailto:Dodd.L@abdn.ac.uk)

# ESA Research Networks & Coordinators

## Names and Contact details

Research Networks are the backbone of the ESA, both in terms of scientific activities and recruitment of members. During the last Executive meeting of the ESA, the new Committee for Research Networks was nominated as follows: Consuelo Corradi (Italy) (Chair); Thomas Boye (Denmark), Thomas Eberle (Switzerland), and Shalva Weil (Israel). This committee will be in charge throughout 2007-09. RN coordinators and others are encouraged to contact the Chair of the committee at: [corradic@tin.it](mailto:corradic@tin.it) in order to suggest changes and improvements.

Below a list of the Research Networks approved by the ESA with the names and email addresses of their coordinators.

RN	RN-Name	Contact Person(s) and E-Mail
1	Ageing in Europe	Andreas Motel-Klingebiel, <a href="mailto:motel@dza.de">motel@dza.de</a>
2	Sociology of the Arts	Graciela Trajtenberg, <a href="mailto:gtraj@mta.ac.il">gtraj@mta.ac.il</a>
3	Biographical Perspectives on European Societies	Thea Boldt, <a href="mailto:TheaBoldt123@aol.com">TheaBoldt123@aol.com</a>
4	Sociology of Children and Childhood	Jo Moran-Ellis, <a href="mailto:J.Moran-Ellis@surrey.ac.uk">J.Moran-Ellis@surrey.ac.uk</a>
5	Sociology of Consumption	Bente Halkier, <a href="mailto:bha@ruc.dk">bha@ruc.dk</a>
6	Critical Political Economy	Jan Drahokoupil, <a href="mailto:jan.drahokoupil@gmail.com">jan.drahokoupil@gmail.com</a>
7	Sociology of Culture	Thomas Eberle, <a href="mailto:thomas.eberle@unisg.ch">thomas.eberle@unisg.ch</a>
8	Disaster and Social Crisis	Susann Ullberg, <a href="mailto:Susann.Ullberg@fhs.se">Susann.Ullberg@fhs.se</a>
9	Economic Sociology	Rafael Marques, <a href="mailto:rmarques@iseg.utl.pt">rmarques@iseg.utl.pt</a> , Maria Nawojczyk, <a href="mailto:maria@list.pl">maria@list.pl</a> , Oliver Kessler, <a href="mailto:oliver.kessler@uni-bielefeld.de">oliver.kessler@uni-bielefeld.de</a>
10	Sociology of Education	Mart-Jan de Jong, <a href="mailto:m.dejong@roac.nl">m.dejong@roac.nl</a>
11	Sociology of emotions	Helena Flam, <a href="mailto:flam@sozio.uni-leipzig.de">flam@sozio.uni-leipzig.de</a>
12	Environment and Society	Kris van Koppen, contact via <a href="http://www.esa-esn.org">http://www.esa-esn.org</a>
13	Sociology of families and intimate lives	Eric Widmer, <a href="mailto:eric.widmer@socio.unige.ch">eric.widmer@socio.unige.ch</a>
14	Gender Relations in the Labour Market and the Welfare State	Margareta Kreimer, <a href="mailto:Margareta.Kreimer@uni-graz.at">Margareta.Kreimer@uni-graz.at</a> , Sara Falcão Casaca, <a href="mailto:sara@iseg.utl.pt">sara@iseg.utl.pt</a> , Vanessa Beck, <a href="mailto:vanessa.beck@le.ac.uk">vanessa.beck@le.ac.uk</a>
15	Globalization	Bart van Steenberg, <a href="mailto:B.vanSteenbergen@fss.uu.nl">B.vanSteenbergen@fss.uu.nl</a>
16	Sociology of Health and Illness	Elizabeth Ettorre, <a href="mailto:E.Ettorre@plymouth.ac.uk">E.Ettorre@plymouth.ac.uk</a>
17	Industrial Relations, Labour Market Institutions and Employment	Franz Traxler, <a href="mailto:Franz.traxler@univie.ac.at">Franz.traxler@univie.ac.at</a>
18	Sociology of Communications and Media Research	Peter Golding, <a href="mailto:P.Golding@lboro.ac.uk">P.Golding@lboro.ac.uk</a>
19	Sociology of Professions	Ellen Kuhlmann, <a href="mailto:e.c.kuhlmann@bath.ac.uk">e.c.kuhlmann@bath.ac.uk</a>
20	Qualitative Methods	Ann Ryen, <a href="mailto:anne.ryen@uia.no">anne.ryen@uia.no</a>
21	RENCORE: Methods for Comparative Research on Europe	Nigel Gilbert, <a href="mailto:gng@soc.surrey.ac.uk">gng@soc.surrey.ac.uk</a> Peter Mohler, <a href="mailto:Mohler@ZUMA-Mannheim.de">Mohler@ZUMA-Mannheim.de</a>
22	Sociology of Risk and Uncertainty	Jens Zinn, <a href="mailto:J.Zinn@kent.ac.uk">J.Zinn@kent.ac.uk</a>
23	Sexuality	John Vincke, <a href="mailto:john.vincke@rug.ac.be">john.vincke@rug.ac.be</a>
24	Science and Technology	Aaro Tupasela, <a href="mailto:aaro.tupasela@helsinki.fi">aaro.tupasela@helsinki.fi</a>
25	Social Movements	Co-chair: Emanuela Bozzini <a href="mailto:emanuela.bozzini@soc.unitn.it">emanuela.bozzini@soc.unitn.it</a> Thomas Olesen <a href="mailto:tho@ps.au.dk">tho@ps.au.dk</a>
26	Sociology of Social Policy	Angharad Beckett, <a href="mailto:A.E.Beckett@leeds.ac.uk">A.E.Beckett@leeds.ac.uk</a> Justin Waring, <a href="mailto:justin.waring@nottingham.ac.uk">justin.waring@nottingham.ac.uk</a>
27	Regional Network on Southern European Societies	Sokratis Koniordos, <a href="mailto:skoni@social.soc.uoc.gr">skoni@social.soc.uoc.gr</a>
28	Society and Sports	Ørnulf Seippel, <a href="mailto:ornulf.seippel@socialresearch.no">ornulf.seippel@socialresearch.no</a>
29	Social Theory	Frank Welz, <a href="mailto:frank.welz@uibk.ac.at">frank.welz@uibk.ac.at</a>
30	Youth and Generation	Carsten Yndigegn, <a href="mailto:cy@sam.sdu.dk">cy@sam.sdu.dk</a>

## Research Network Mid-Term Conferences

Research Networks are encouraged to organise mid-term conferences between ESA conferences. The following are details of the mid-terms that will be organised by RNs so far:

**1. Research Networks on the Sociology of Arts and Sociology of Culture (RN 2+7)** will organize a joint mid-term conference in Venice, Italy, 5-8 November. The programme committee is constituted and the conference theme and the call for papers will be published soon.

Please consult our website:

<http://www.europeansociology.org>, Research Networks, RN7 Sociology of Culture.

**2. Research Network on the Sociology of Consumption (RN5)** mid-term will be held in Hotel Vuoranta, Helsinki, Finland 27-30 August. Hotel Vuoranta (<http://www.sodexho.fi/vuoranta>) We invite empirical as well as theoretical papers concerning all areas of consumption. We look forward to see participants of previous meetings but welcome warmly also new colleagues.

Abstracts and Registration. Abstracts of 300 words must be submitted to Varpu Rantala by, E-Mail: [varpu.rantala@helsinki.fi](mailto:varpu.rantala@helsinki.fi).

Further information:

<http://www.esa-consumption.org>

**3. Research Network on Critical Political Economy (RN6)** is organising a mid-term on 'European Political Economy and Society in the World'. It will be held at Oxford Brookes University on the turn of August and September 2008. We eschew a sui generis conception of 'Europe' and the European Union in favour of a perspective that views Europe and the EU against the broader context of transnational developments of the capitalist world-

economy. We particularly invite paper-proposals on the theme of how world economic order dynamics (such as neo-liberal governance concepts and finance-led capital accumulation) impact on the enlarged EU, its varieties of capitalism and state-civil society complexes in transition.

Further details will be available at <http://criticalpoliticaleconomy.blogspot.com/>

**4. Research Network on Economic Sociology (RN 9)** will hold a mid-term conference in Krakow, Poland 2-4 July.

The title of the conference: Economy in society. Actors, relations, institutions.

And the main issues are as follow:

\* Economies in transition: reliable patterns, imitation, local adaptation, cultural embeddedness.

\* Multiplicity of markets: commodification of life, new markets in old societies.

\* Economic behavior: households, micro-enterprises, local and global influences.

\* Contemporary politics: states, European Union, global corporations.

Information is provided on [http://www.wnss.agh.edu.pl/esa\\_esrn\\_conference/](http://www.wnss.agh.edu.pl/esa_esrn_conference/) (active from 15th January 2008).

**5. Research Network on Sociology of Professions (RN19)**

The 5th interim meeting will be hosted by Viola Burau, University of Aarhus, Denmark, from 5-7 June 2008. Under the theme "Transforming professional boundaries: a new professionalism in the making?" we invite abstracts from all areas of the study of professional groups.

Abstracts of no more than 250 words must be submitted to Viola Burau (E-Mail: [viola@ps.au.dk](mailto:viola@ps.au.dk)) and Ellen Kuhlmann (E-Mail: [e.c.kuhlmann@bath.ac.uk](mailto:e.c.kuhlmann@bath.ac.uk)); deadline for sending your abstract is 15 January

2008.

Further information and the Call for Papers:

<http://www.europeansociology.org/>

**6. Research Network on Qualitative Methods (RN20).**

We hereby call your attention to the Call for papers to the mid-term conference "Teaching Qualitative Methods". The conference will take place at Lodz University, Polen, September 15-17, 2008.

Confirmed keynote speakers:

Anssi Peräkylä and Johanna Ruusuvaara ; Andrzej Piotrowski; Brian Roberts

Abstracts:

max 300 words + name(s), e-mail address(es), affiliation, and three keywords to be e-mailed to both Krzysztof Konecki ([krzysztof.konecki@gmail.com](mailto:krzysztof.konecki@gmail.com)) and Anne Ryen ([Anne.Ryen@uia.no](mailto:Anne.Ryen@uia.no))

Deadline: March 15, 2008

Conference web-page:

<http://www.soc.org.edu.pl/Conference2008/welcome.php>

**Announcement: Disaster and Social Crisis Research Network (RN 8)**

The purpose of the Disaster & Social Crisis Research Network (DSCRN) is to promote the study, research and analysis of crises and disasters (be they "natural", "technological" or "social") aiming at contributing to the development of disaster-resilient European communities and mitigating the social, cultural, economic and psychological effects of disasters.

The DSCRN is currently updating and changing host for its web page. Welcome to visit us from December 15th at <http://dscrn.cindy.ensmp.fr>. For further information please contact [susann.ullberg@fhs.se](mailto:susann.ullberg@fhs.se).

**Place a Commercial**  
Advertisement in the ESA-Newsletter  
**And draw the attention of the whole European sociological community!**  
See last page for details

# Report on the 8th ESA Conference, Glasgow: Conflict, Citizenship and Civil Society

by **Bill Hughes**

The 2007 conference attracted 1646 delegates from over 51 countries and was a joint venture by Glasgow Caledonian University and the University of Strathclyde. The conference was the largest in the history of the ESA and feedback from delegates was overwhelmingly positive.



The proximity between the conference location and Glasgow city centre allowed delegates to move effortlessly between the dual identities of sociologist and tourist. The Glasgow Conference Bureau informed the Conference Organisers that the local economy benefited from the event to the tune of £1.8 million. One can conclude that the citizens of Glasgow were pleased with the contribution of the conference to the civic coffers and all this in a context where there was no sign, whatsoever, of any conflict. Indeed, even the notorious Scottish weather was kindly disposed to the delegates and the umbrellas that attendees were advised to bring with them remained, for the most part, out of sight.

The opening plenary - delivered by Donatella Della Porta - was held in the impressive auditorium of Glasgow Royal Concert Hall on the Monday 3rd September and the closing plenary - delivered by Margaret Archer and Nicos Mouzelis - took place three days later in the splendour of the Barony Hall which forms part of the campus of the University of Strathclyde. Sandwiched between these keynote presentations was a very busy academic programme that involved 27 Research Networks and 20 Research

Streams. The two Research Networks that attracted the most papers were Ageing in Europe and Youth and Generation. Clearly, the life course in the context of 'conflict, citizenship and civil society' is a subject that is animating sociologists in contemporary Europe.

For those who argue that class has declined as the central variable in sociological analysis, the evidence from this conference suggests that it has found its nemesis. Does the rise of the discourse of age and generation mean that European Society is in the grip of a new, dominant social division or has the death of social class been greatly exaggerated by an intelligentsia that has been seduced by the greedy materialism of neo-liberal hegemony. Other Networks that were strongly represented and produced large and varied programmes involving parallel streams were: Sociology of Families and Intimate Lives; Environment and Society; Sociology of Risk and Uncertainty; Sociology of Health and Illness and Sociology of Professions. Unsurprisingly perhaps - given its contemporary significance and its easy affinity with the themes of conflict, citizenship and civil society - migration was an issue that had a powerful impact on the programme content of many Research Networks and Streams. Likewise, 'public sociology', the place of sociology in civil society and the relationship between social science and society, that thorny issue of disciplinary reflexivity and relevance that has been around for quite a few years, continues to generate a debate that can get pretty heated at times. One can either see this is

a continuation of the sociological imagination's capacity to naval gaze or as a serious attempt to escape from it.

My own conference 'highlights' come from my involvement with a small group of disability scholars whose warmth and wit helped to mitigate the angst of organising the event but more objective soundings suggest that



David Silverman, with his semi-plenary address, *Putting Society Together: What Qualitative Research can and cannot say about identities and social institutions* and Geoffrey Alexander discussing his latest book *The Civil Sphere*, stole the show. David managed to inspire despite subject matter that is not ready made for such a purpose and Geoffrey, in asking the question, 'how do individuals live together in the real world' drew delegates back into an enduring and classical sociological issue that reminded us all that the questions set us by the 'greats' of the Scottish Enlightenment are far from resolved. In coming to Scotland, you could argue that European Sociology was 'coming home' or maybe it is only a Scot that would make such an argument! However, regardless of ones position on the intellectual origins of sociology, Glasgow has had its day and personally - like many other European sociologists - I am looking forward to the 9th ESA conference in 2009 in the guaranteed sunshine of Lisbon, Portugal.

## Journals

### Qualitative Sociology Review

is an open-access, international journal, a joint project of social scientists from all over the world who are interested in understanding human actions, social processes, meanings and definitions. QSR journal publishes empirical, theoretical and methodological articles applicable to all fields and specializations within sociology. Every submitted paper is blind reviewed and quality-controlled by two reviewers. The Editorial Staff and Consulting Editors strive to operate at a high level of scientific quality. Therefore, the journal is indexed and abstracted in evaluating databases and directories. All sociologists who make use of an interpretative paradigm and a qualitative research methodology are welcome to submit their articles and support this initiative.

See: <http://www.qualitativesociologyreview.org>

### Comparative Sociology

is a quarterly international scholarly journal published by Brill of Leiden, Netherlands dedicated to advancing comparative sociological analyses of societies and cultures, institutions and organizations, groups and collectivities, networks and interactions. Two issues every year are devoted to "special topics," and three topics currently open for submissions are: Democracy and Professions; Rule of Law and Rechtstaat; and Typologies of Democracy and non-Democracy. Consult the Brill Website for descriptions of each topic <http://www.brill.nl/cosa>. Editor-in-Chief is David Sciulli, Professor of Sociology, Texas A&M University, and Columbia University Ph.D. General submissions as well as those dedicated to these topics are welcome electronically by e-mail insert at [compsoc@tamu.edu](mailto:compsoc@tamu.edu).



# Conferences and Call for Papers

## Social Movements Conference: Alternative Futures And Popular Protest

Manchester Metropolitan University,  
17th and 19th March, 2008

The aim is to explore the dynamics of popular movements, along with the ideas which animate their activists and supporters and which contribute to shaping their fate. Reflecting the inherent cross-disciplinary nature of the issues, previous participants (from over 40 countries) have come from such specialisms as sociology, politics, cultural studies, social psychology, economics, history and geography.

Contact: Colin Barker, [c.barker@mmu.ac.uk](mailto:c.barker@mmu.ac.uk); Mike Tyldesley, [m.tyldesley@mmu.ac.uk](mailto:m.tyldesley@mmu.ac.uk)  
Final date for receipt of abstracts: Monday 4th February 2008

## Sociology and Interdisciplinarity: Central and South East European Perspectives

Zadar (Croatia),  
8th-10th May, 2008

Organized by: Croatian Sociological Association (HSD); Endorsed by: International Sociological Association (ISA); Local Organizer: Department of Sociology, University of Zadar

The purpose of this workshop is to discuss the state of interdisciplinarity in sociology in the region, prospects for its development and its implications on the current disciplinary status of sociology.

The workshop will also address the influence of social, political, cultural and economic conditions in Central and South Eastern Europe on its development. While the focus of the workshop is regional, papers and panels dealing with the topic in a more general or geographically diverse context are also welcome.

Deadline for submitting proposals: February 1, 2008  
Contact: Ivana Lucica 3, 10000 Zagreb, tel: 01/4922 925, fax: 01/4810 263, E-Mail: [hsd@fzgj.hr](mailto:hsd@fzgj.hr), web: <http://www.hsd.hr/>  
Proposals should be sent to: SASA BOZIC ([sbozic@unizd.hr](mailto:sbozic@unizd.hr))

## Sociology and Law. The 150th Anniversary of Emile Durkheim (1858-1917)

South-West University "Neofit Rilski",  
66 Ivan Mihailov Str., 2700 Blagoevgrad, Bulgaria,  
29th-31st May, 2008

The key topic of this event should be the discussion about the academic heritage of Emile Durkheim. The conference should deal with topical problems and appeals in the sphere of relations between sociology and law, which contemporary united Europe has to face.

Please, send a letter, including your name, institutional affiliation, e-mail address, the title of the paper, and a

one-page summary to the following contact addresses:

Department of Sociology, South-West University "Neofit Rilski", Ivan Mihailov 66, 2700 Blagoevgrad, Bulgaria.  
E-mail: [serafimova@abv.bg](mailto:serafimova@abv.bg) until 1 February 2008.

## 3rd European Conference on Family Science: Variety of the European Family

University of Vienna, Austria,  
12th. - 14th June, 2008

During the Congress relevant topics of Family Science will be discussed in a interdisciplinary way (Images of Family, Gender Roles in the Family, Globalisation and Challenges for the Family, Development and Dynamics of the Family in Europe).

Informationen, Program and Registration:  
<http://www.familyscience.eu>

Contact: Olaf Kapella (Austrian Institute for Family Studies, University of Vienna)  
E-Mail: [olaf.kapella@oif.ac.at](mailto:olaf.kapella@oif.ac.at)  
Web: [www.oif.ac.at](http://www.oif.ac.at)

## 12th European Symposium on Suicide and Suicidal Behaviour - Working Together to Prevent Suicide: Research, Policy and Practice.

**Inequality Beyond Globalization: Economic Changes and the Dynamics of Inequality**  
University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland, Midterm Conference of the International Sociological Association's Research Committee on Economy and Society,  
June 26th-28th, 2008

In sociological research on inequality, globalization has been a central focus for over a decade now. Nevertheless, globalization's effects on intra-national, international, and interregional social inequality remain highly contested. Researchers will have the opportunity to discuss the current state of the debates and to contrast them with recent research on the distributional effects of economic change in general. The conference is intended to both create an open forum for current economic sociology and condense the findings of this discipline.

Conference registration: Before April 15th, 2008 (for more information, see the conference website at <http://www2.unine.ch/INEquality08>).

## Sociological approaches of labour and creative work

Budapest,  
June 26th-30th, 2008.

The ESA RN Sociology of Culture is organizing a regular session on Sociological approaches of labour and creative work within the framework of the next IIS Conference in Expressions, such as 'creative economy' or 'immaterial labour' suggest that cultural labour or

creative work is no longer the monopoly of the arts. Paper proposals can be sent until 15th January 2008 to the convener of the session: [rudi.laermans@soc.kuleuven.be](mailto:rudi.laermans@soc.kuleuven.be). For more information on the IIS Conference, see <http://www.iisoc.org/iis2008>.

## Working Together to Prevent Suicide: Research, Policy and Practice

Glasgow, Scotland  
27th-30th August, 2008

Organised jointly by Universities of Stirling and Edinburgh in partnership with the Suicide Information Research and Evidence Network (SIREN) and supported by the Scottish Executive and NHS Health Scotland

The symposium aims at promoting cutting edge research, to stimulate new thinking in all aspects of suicidology, to share our insights and expertise and to enhance collaboration between science, policy and practice.

Abstract submission deadline - 3rd March 2008  
E-Mail: [organising@esssb12.org](mailto:organising@esssb12.org) for all queries  
Websites: <http://www.esssb12.org> and <http://www.hamptonmedical.com>

## ISA RC33, 7th International Conference on Social Science Methodology

Naples,  
1st-5th September, 2008

The ESA RN Qualitative Methodology is organizing a regular session on Re-discovering Grounded Theory. Forty years of the research practice within the framework of the next IIS Conference

The session will be on grounded theory methodology (GTM). The papers should concentrate on practical aspects of constructing grounded theory and doing research in the convention of GT, and also on teaching and using constructed GTM. The session would also concentrate on some qualitative and quantitative aspects of the methodology.

Deadline for the abstracts is February 17, 2008. Please send the abstract to [krzysztof.konecki@gmail.com](mailto:krzysztof.konecki@gmail.com)  
Further information: <http://www.rc332008.unina.it/>

## Power: Forms, Dynamics and Consequences

University of Tampere, 22nd-24th September, 2008

What is power and who has power today? Has power escaped from nation-states to international organizations and the global market?

Keynote speakers include Mitchell Dean, Mark Haugaard, Tuula Juvonen, Lois McNay, Leslie Pal, Pekka Sulkunen

To send a session proposal and to get more information about the conference, please visit our web pages at <http://www.uta.fi/Power2008/>

## ESA Graduate Students

### ESA Prize

The post-graduate research committee consisting of Catherine Delcroix (Chair), Tommi Hoikkala, Sokratis Koniordos and Constanza Tobio was responsible for administering a graduate prize of 2000 Euros for the best article published in *European Societies* over the past two years by a social scientist in the early stages of his/her career (he or she should not obtain a doctorate for more than five years at the moment of submitting the article). The jury was made up of the four members of the Committee and P.Baert, Carlo Ruzza, C.Wallace and J.Scott.

Monique Kremer received the prize for her article: "Consumers in change: the Dutch personal budget and its impact on market, professionals and the family", *European Societies*, 2006, vol8 n°3, p 385. This article

was selected because of the originality and the interest of its topic. It questions the consequences of the Dutch Welfare's reform which aims at making the Dutch user responsible for his/her health care expenses. He/she can choose to use social security money to hire either a health care worker or a member of his/her family (most of the time female). Using the findings of her research Monique Kremer shows the perverse effects of such a reform: the female family member's occupational careers get slowed down, as is the health care worker's own careers. The focus of this paper is thus on the tension between market and households in giving care. Its style is fluid and the references are well chosen.

This prize should be an invitation for young researchers to publish in *European Societies* in the future.

### PhD-students' workshop on "Ageing Societies and the Welfare State"

At the end of 2008, the RN (1) on Ageing in Europe will host its first PhD-students' workshop in co-operation with the Network for European Social Policy Analysis (ESPAnet). It will take place at the VU University, Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

A range of connections between ageing societies and the welfare state will be discussed. One focus of debate will be the influence of the ageing of societies on the welfare state; on the other hand, we shall also focus on the influence of welfare states on the ageing of societies. Theoretical as well as empirical issues will be featured.

Further information will be posted on the homepage of the research network: <http://www.ageing-in-europe.de>

**Obituary. In Memoriam Kaj Ilmonen (1944-2007): Finnish Pioneer of the Sociology of Consumption\***

Professor Kaj Ilmonen, who died at the age of 62, was one of the founding members of the European network of sociology of consumption. He also acted as the first co-ordinator of the ESA research network of sociology of consumption 1995-2000.

Born in Helsinki, Kaj Ilmonen attended school in Tampere - an industrial town about 200 kilometres north of Helsinki, which is also known as 'Manchester of Finland' due to its industrial history - and then studied at the University of Tampere. He obtained his MA (1970) and his PhD (1984) there. From his student years in the late 1960s - in those days Tampere University had the reputation of being a "red university" - Kaj held onto his leftist orientation throughout his later life. After completing his M.A., he moved to Helsinki and started working as a researcher in the Central Union of Consumer Co-operation, an ideological centre of consumer co-operatives, which was close to the labour movement in Finland. For a while Kaj was also a research fellow at the Academy of Finland writing his doctoral theses. He then published a critical book on advertising *Mainonta ja yhteiskunta* [Advertising and society, 1975], which was perhaps his most Marxist-oriented book.

In his dissertation (1984), which came out in English two years later entitled *The Enigma of Membership: A Sociological Study of Membership in a Finnish Consumer Co-operative* (1986), he studied the tension

between the business - profit-making - principles of management in consumer co-operatives and the ideological - non-profit - affiliation of the members of the cooperatives. Later - in the study: *The End of Cooperative Movement? Sociological Essays on Cooperative Affiliation and Morality* (1992) - he showed how this tension led to problems and finally the collapse of labour-oriented consumer co-operatives in Finland.

From 1988-1994, Kaj worked at the Labour Institute for Economic Research, where he continued research on the themes of organizations and consumption.

One could say that Kaj Ilmonen was first of all a sociologist of organizations and then a sociologist of consumption. Consumer Co-operatives were an interesting intersection where organization and consumption met. Retrospectively, it is amazing how consistent Kaj's research career was starting with the consumer-critical pamphlet *Kulutukseen ken voi* [Consume if you can] he edited in 1973 to his very last book *Johan on markkinat: Kulutuksen sosiologista tarkastelua* [Oh! what a market: Sociological study of consumption], which came out in January this year (2007).

Kaj taught at the University of Tampere for a couple years in the early 1990s before he became professor of sociology at the University of Jyväskylä in Central Finland. There he developed major research projects, among others, on social movements, social capital and trust. He never, however, gave up his old favourite subject, the sociology of consumption, which he pioneered in Finland as a serious and independent subject. He saw consumption as essential and central to the structure of everyday life; consumption research cannot be compensated by a simple capitalism-critique of consumption. Fighting for the legitimization of this subject he published a pioneer work on consumption in

Finland: *Tavaroiden taikamaailma: Sosiologinen avaus kulutukseen* [The magic world of goods: A sociological move towards consumption, 1993]. It became a very popular textbook used in all Finnish Universities. Kaj Ilmonen was a prolific writer who published several books in Finnish, in English as well as in Swedish. He acted as President of the Westermarck Society (Finnish Sociological Association) in the late 1990s.

Kaj Ilmonen participated in many international scientific conferences. He had an important role in creating sociological networks of consumption research both in Scandinavia and Europe in the late 1980s. Soon after the establishment of ESA, a group of sociologist of consumption mostly from the Nordic countries and the UK, Kaj among others, had the idea of the ESA network and became its co-ordinator.

For about three years, between periods of intensive cancer treatment, Kaj continued working at the University, teaching and taking part in conferences. In 2005, Kaj presented his paper in the network in Torun, Poland. He also finished his last book, *Johan on markkinat: Kulutuksen sosiologista tarkastelua* [Oh what a market: Sociological study of consumption], a large book of more than 400 pages, which came out last January, less than two months before his death.

Those of us who knew Kaj Ilmonen have many warm memories of discussions with him. He was an intelligent colleague, and a charming and warm person whose company we enjoyed at the ESA conferences, and elsewhere.

\*This obituary is based on the speech given in the session of the sociology of consumption network, at the 8th ESA Conference, in Glasgow, 4 September 2007.

Keijo Rahkonen / University of Helsinki

## The ESA - Executive Committee - Contact Info

At the committee's first executive meeting in Paris in October 2007, the following positions were allocated:

**President:** Claire Wallace

**Vice-President:** Thomas Eberle

**Treasurer:** Monika Kwiecinska

**General Secretary:** Marie-Thérèse Letablier

**Committee for publications: journal (with ES editorial board), book-series, relations with publisher**

**Vice-President:** Sokratis Koniordos

Carlo Ruzza

Analia Torres

Ursula Apitzsch

**Committee for Conference programme: relations between the executive and the Glasgow LOC**

**Vice-President:** Analia Torres

Bill Hughes

Monika Kwiecinska

Marju Lauristin

**Committee for communications:**

**Chair:** Shalva Weil

Shalva Weil (editor of the newsletter)

Claire Wallace and Thomas Eberle (website)

**Committee for post-graduate research: student workshop, summer school, ES prize**

**Chair:** Elina Oinas

Sokratis Koniordos

Ursula Apitzsch

Pekka Sulkunen

**Committee for external relations: relations with national associations, ERC, ISE, ISA, other bodies**

**Chair:** Carlo Ruzza

Pekka Sulkunen

Norbert Schneider

Bill Hughes

Giovanna Procacci

Dagmar Kutsar

**Committee for Membership: fee structure, public relations, relations with National Associations**

**Chair:** Claire Wallace

Monika Kwiecinska

Zuzana Kusa

Thomas Boje

The Council of National Associations nominated in Glasgow Dagmar Kutsar as chair of the Council and of the Nomination Committee.

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Office hours: Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9.30am to 17.30pm.

### Submitting material for the Newsletter

*European Sociologist* is the newsletter of the European Sociological Association, which aims at disseminating information to the widest possible audience. Material appearing in other newsletters or the publications of national associations, university departments may be duplicated in the Newsletter.

If you have material which you would like to see included, or an article or feature you would like to submit, please send it to the Editor, Dr. Shalva Weil at [msshvalva@mssc.huji.ac.il](mailto:msshvalva@mssc.huji.ac.il).

*European Sociologist* is not a journal and hence does not publish academic articles, but all other types of material of relevance to sociologists working on or in Europe will be considered: articles, opinion pieces, features, comments, letters to the Editor, announcements of research initiatives, conferences or seminars.

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