



European Sociologist

Newsletter of the European Sociological Association. Summer 2010, Issue 29



EDITOR'S MESSAGE

This is the third issue of EUROPEAN SOCIOLOGIST, the newsletter of the European Sociological Association (ESA), in its new format. I am pleased to state that the newsletter has emerged as a major channel of communication for sociologists in Europe.

In an era of social turbulence and economic uncertainty in Europe, sociologists have even more to contribute, not only to other academics, but also to the general public.

This issue contains details of the forthcoming conference in Geneva in September 2011, information on the ESA's new policy on the Research Networks which represent the backbone of the ESA, a focus on a large national association and how it works, an interesting piece on teaching about Europe in Russian Universities, details of the summer school in Finland, and more. We also present an exclusive interview with a great sociologist of our times: this time the limelight is on S.N. Eisenstadt and his concept of "multiple modernities".

As an e-newsletter, EUROPEAN SOCIOLOGIST is both environmentally friendly and "instant". It is sent out digitally twice to ESA members at an interval of a week in order to enable you to spend time reading its contents and printing out the pages, as you wish.

The newsletter has benefited from feedback from readers in the past. I urge you to comment on this issue so that we can march forward with relevant news for European sociologists. If you have any suggestions or criticisms, please do not hesitate to contact me at: msshalva@mscc.huji.ac.il

EUROPEAN SOCIOLOGIST is available online at: http://www.europeansociology.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=blogcategory&id=17&Itemid=95%0D

Past issues are also available at this link.

Happy Reading!
Shalva Weil

ON CONFERENCES

ESA Conference in Geneva

The European Sociological Association is organizing its next conference in Geneva from 7-10th September, 2011.

[Preliminary details inside this newsletter](#)

World Congress of the International Sociological Association (ISA)

The European Sociological Association is organizing a round-table on "Research in Europe: the State of Art" on Friday, July 16th, 2010 at 8 pm (Location: HANDELS, B23, The School of Business, Economics and Law) in Gothenburg (Sweden). Speakers include ESA President *Anália Torres* (Portugal) and *Goeran Therborn* (Sweden).

Sociological research in Europe is becoming more and more diffused, particularly as a result of the European Union Framework Programs. Theoretical and methodological problems arise from empirical investigations. The real problem is how to combine different approaches, which deal with diverse situations and produce multifaceted indicators.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear ESA Members,

In my first address as President, I want to thank everybody for the strong support received in the last elections. I am very glad to be able to serve on the ESA and I am sure that the task will only be fully achieved with your continuous support for ESA's activities.

Lisboa's Conference constituted a big success. We doubled our membership and had the best attended conference ever (more than 2,500 persons). The feedback received from plenary, semi plenary, research networks, research stream organisers and other committees was tremendously positive: scientific debates were intense and interesting; some sessions had so many attendants that the rooms were too small to accommodate everyone. We are becoming a very lively and vibrant association.

This achievement was only possible due to a joint effort and to the strategies traced by previous presidents and executives as well as the local organising committee. I thank them, and promise to pursue and reinforce these aims. Nevertheless, being only a stronger or bigger association does not satisfy us. We want it to be a scientific reference, a forum for the production of knowledge and debate, recognised by sociologists all over Europe and abroad, as well as by larger audiences.

Last conference's achievements may mean some pressure for our next LOC in Genève. But it may also represent a challenge to exceed what has been done until now and, at the same time, improve what did not go so well in Lisboa.

Serving on the Executive since 2005, I have been witness to improvements in our activities in several directions. On the organizational level, we now have closer links with Research Networks. Consulting, exchanging views, receiving inputs is becoming easier since we established the Research Network Council that had its last meeting at Lisboa's Conference. Deepening these close connections is on our agenda, and will bridge the gap felt by RNs in the past. The RNs are being consulted since the outset of preparations for the conference in Genève and we expect them to participate very actively in the whole process.

Assuring a better functioning of the Council of the National Associations' representatives is also a target, which will allow stronger links with national associations that have, by statute, such a crucial role in ESA's life. A new meeting with the national associations is already scheduled for 28 October 2010, chaired by Roberto Cipriani, our National Associations' Council representative. We hope to ensure active participation and to debate crucial topics for sociology in our societies.

ESA's Journal, *European Societies*, through the impulse of previous editor, Claire Wallace and lately John Scott, is now an established title in sociological scientific community in Europe and abroad, with rising impact and a very high number of downloaded articles'. I invite everybody to participate in John Scott's latest creation – the *European Societies' Discussion Forum* – where selected topics are openly debated. The Editorial Board was recently renewed. We welcome the newcomers and ask them to help the Editor in the difficult task of managing a journal with very large numbers of article proposals. After the great job he has been doing, John Scott finishes his term at the end of 2010. We have now an open call for an Editorial team. Please check the call in this newsletter and in our website and submit your candidacy, if you fulfil the conditions. Talking about the newsletter, I am happy to say that the "revolution" started by Shalva Weil still continues. We are lucky to count on her cooperation.

Our Summer School organized under the title *Academic Writing Workshop for PhD students* will take place in 19–23 July 2010 in Finland. We had a record number of participation proposals, which made the selection a very hard task. It was only possible to approve 10% of the candidates – more than 200 proposals for 20 places!

In addition, I am glad to tell you that we have been nourishing our cooperation with *Initiative for Science* and the *European Research Council*, developed by previous president Giovanna Procacci and afterwards by Claire Wallace. Representing ESA, I participated in a meeting at the end of May 2010 in Barcelona convened by *Initiative for Science* and the *European Research Council*. I was glad to hear from the recently appointed chair of the *European Research Council*, Helga Novotny, a well-known European sociologist, that 20% of the ERC funds are already attributed to social sciences and humanities, which represents a considerable growth. We were asked by Helga to cooperate with ERC, namely concerning ethical issues. Following this demand, the need for ESA to have a Code of Ethics was raised in our last Executive meeting.

To finish, I want to draw your attention to next Conference in Genève, September 2011. The theme *Social Relations in Turbulent Times* will attempt to capture and analyse the difficult moments our societies are living through. We expect conference debates will challenge sociology and sociologists to redefine research agendas in order to answer the questions raised by these turbulent societies. Sociologists, at European and at national levels, should also be able to contribute to the redefinition of public policy agendas and to public discussions.

Yours,
Anália Torres

NATIONAL SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATIONS



THE SPANISH FEDERATION OF SOCIOLOGY (FES)

<http://www.fes-web.org/>

Spanish sociology can be traced back to the second half of nineteenth century. As early as 1898, one of the first European Chairs of sociology was established at the University of Madrid. Nevertheless, until recently, the number of sociologists in Spain was never large, even during the first half of the past century. There was a brilliant school based round the figure of the liberal philosopher Jose Ortega y Gasset (1883-1955) that almost disappeared during the Franco regime (1939-1975), which was always reluctant to accept sociology.

Things started to change at the end of the Franco period with the creation of the first Sociology Faculty in Madrid in 1971. This was followed by many other departments of sociology in Barcelona, Granada, Bilbao and other Universities. The transition to democracy made sociology a fashionable topic and the number of sociologists started to grow continuously (more than 10.000 students presently). Thus, during the seventies, and at the time of political transition to democracy, several regional sociology associations emerged spontaneously all over the country (first in Castile, then in Aragon, Catalonia, Basque Country and other regions), reflecting the highly decentralized nature of Spanish politics and society after Franco. These regional associations later fused in 1981 under the leadership of Professors José Cazorla and Salvador Giner (our two first presidents) in what was labelled for a while the Federation of Sociology Associations of the Spanish State (Federación de Asociaciones de Sociología del Estado Español), and later the Federación Española de Sociología (FES).

FES is still mainly a federation of regional / national associations covering practically all the 17 Comunidades Autonomas (Regional Governments) of the Spanish State. But in addition to these regional members (members A), academic institutions such as Sociology Departments or Faculties (members B), professional research institutions (members C), active working groups or research committees (members D), and finally, individual members provided that they have a sociology degree, are also included. Thus, directly or indirectly, FES has presently a total membership of about 3.000 sociologists from all over Spain.

FES is mainly an academic institution, oriented towards reaching and research since there is another institution oriented towards sociology as a profession, the Ilustre Colegio de Doctores y Licenciados en Ciencias Políticas y Sociología.

FES has been active for 30 years now. We had our first congress of Spanish sociology in Madrid in 1980 (the so called Zero Congress) and the first formal one in 1981 in Zaragoza, and since then, the congresses have rotated all over Spain. In addition, we organized the XII World Congress in Madrid in 1990, the VI Congress of the European Sociological Association in Alicante in 2004, and the First ISA Forum of Sociology in Barcelona in 2008. Of course the regional / national associations frequently hold their own congresses.

The second main activity of the FES is publishing an academic journal, the Revista Española de Sociología (RES), since 2001. Together with the Revista Española de Investigaciones Sociológicas (REIS) and the Revista Internacional de Sociología (RIS), these are the three most important Spanish sociology reviews. Among the members of the editorial board of the RES are Aaron Cicourel (University of California, Berkeley), Luciano Pellicani (Università Internazionale degli Studi Sociali, Roma), Alejandro Portes (Princeton University) and Michel Wieviorka (Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, París) (You can see earlier issues in <http://www.fes-web.org/publicaciones/res/>).

Next July we will celebrate the Tenth Spanish Sociology Congress in Pamplona (Navarre), just before the San Fermín fiesta and a fortnight before the World Congress in Copenhagen.

The central topic of the Congress will be

Thirty Years of Spanish Social Change; Thirty Years of Spanish sociology

It will deal with how Spanish sociology has transformed society and how society has transformed us.

The FES is a member of the European Sociological Association, the International Sociological Association (whose secretariat is located in Madrid's Sociology Faculty), and active in RESU.

For more information about the history of FES, see a special issue of the Revista Española de Sociología 7, 2007:

<http://www.fes-web.org/publicaciones/res/sumarios/007.php>



Prof. Emilio Lamo de Espinosa, FES President

IN THE LIMELIGHT

FOCUS ON PROF. S.N. EISENSTADT

In this exclusive interview, which took place in Shmuel Noah Eisenstadt's Jerusalem home just a stone's throw away from the residence of another famous octogenarian, President Shimon Peres, "European Sociologist" Editor, Shalva Weil talks to Israel's most renowned sociologist about his life, his theories, and the role of sociology today.

The first part of this two-part interview focuses on issues of modernity, Europe and Israel.

SW: Prof. Eisenstadt, thank you very much for agreeing to the interview.

You've been influenced by many scholars: Talcott Parsons, Edward Shils, Robert Merton, Morris Ginsberg and T.H. Marshall, to name but a few, yet it appears that there are two dominant intellectual giants who influenced you the most: Max Weber, on the one hand, and Martin Buber, your mentor, on the other. Would you agree with this, and if so, do you think that these two scholars represent two parts of your psyche: Shmuel Noah, the universalist parallel to Weber, and Shmuel Noah, the particularist parallel to Buber?

SNE: Yes, it would be fair to say that these two personalities have been the major influences on my work. However, I can't agree with the premise about the differences between them, since Martin Buber was very universalistic. It was from Buber that I got the great encouragement for a universalistic, comparative, view. For instance, literally the first class I had with him in Jerusalem in 1940, we read a Chinese text from Lao-tzu's Tao Te Ching, and it was with him that we studied classical Greek texts like Antigone. I certainly would not say that Buber was a particularist. He was a very broad universalist, with a very strong emphasis on comparative things, and it was in this sense that he was very close, though different, from Max Weber.

Although I knew, of course, about Weber before I met Buber, it was through Buber's influence that I really understood and studied Weber much better. Also, it is important to know that it was through Buber that I was introduced to most modern anthropological theorists of the time like Malinowski, Margaret Mead, and others, and also to the great classicists of German sociology - not only Max Weber but also Georg Simmel and others. So I would agree that Buber and Weber were the two most influential intellectuals in my life, but they did not represent different viewpoints, but were mutually complementary.

SW: Let us turn to one of your earliest books *The Absorption of Immigrants*, which was published in 1954 quite soon after the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948. This book dealt with the integration of immigrants, which you called 'absorption'. Two decades later, you were criticized, often by Israeli scholars, for dictating a paternalistic attitude towards immigrants. Many years after, you coined the phrase 'multiple modernities', a marvelous heuristic tool to overcome the problems of post-modernity. Do you think today that 'multiple modernities' would have been useful then to explain the integration of different people from different backgrounds into the host society?



Professor Shmuel Noah Eisenstadt is a world-renowned sociologist, who is also known as the "father of Israeli sociology", the "sociologist of youth", the "sociologist of empires and civilizations", and a pioneer of the comparative method. He was born in Warsaw in 1923. He received his Ph.D in sociology at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem under Prof. Martin Buber in 1947. The following year, he carried out post-doctoral studies at the London School of Economics. Prof. Eisenstadt is Professor Emeritus of The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and a member of many academies. He has held guest professorships at the Universities of Chicago, Harvard, Zurich, Vienna, Bern, Stanford, Heidelberg, and many other distinguished universities, and been the recipient of honorary doctoral degrees from the Universities of Tel Aviv, Warsaw, Helsinki, Harvard and Duke. He is the recipient of the International Balzan Prize, McIver Award of the American Sociological Association, Israel Prize, Rothschild Prize in Social Sciences, Max Planck Research Award, Amalfi Prize for Sociology and Social Sciences, EMET Prize for Sociology, Holberg International Memorial Prize for scholarly work in social sciences, and more.

Besides the outstanding list of books that he has authored, some in collaboration with the Weberian scholar Wolfgang Schluchter, three books have been written in his honour. The conference "Comparing Modern Civilizations" was organised by the Academy of Sciences and Humanities in Jerusalem and the International Institute of Sociology, and the conference "Empires, Globalization, Hegemony" took place in Budapest on the occasion of his 80th birthday. Prof. Eisenstadt has published countless scientific articles in sociology journals the world over, and edited volumes with colleagues and pupils. In addition, he has authored a few dozen books, and written and edited at least ten books since the beginning of the twenty first century.

S.N.E.: Let me put it this way: there is in Israel, as there is in many other modern societies, a great pluralism of experience of life and in the interpretation of the premises of the society. Not all of them are fully-fledged patterns of multiple modernities but rather continuously changing patterns. So there is no doubt that on the one hand Israel represents one, or maybe a few, illustrations of multiple modernities; but at the same time it is different from the multiple modernities of, say, India, or of Europe, and so on.

SW: You're saying that on the one hand Israel represents a model, or an illustration, of a society with multiple modernities –

SNE: - many pluralistic interpretations –

SW: - pluralistic frameworks to work out different, continuously changing patterns; on the other hand...

SNE: On the other hand, it develops its own distinctive patterns, which are different from the multiple modernities of India, of Europe... One has to be very careful about how one uses this term. It's a very nice expression, a very useful term, but it has to be used very carefully, not to become just a mundane category.

SW: If you had invented this expression earlier, and developed the idea earlier, would thus have overcome the criticism that people had of your original book?

SNE: I agree that in my original book I did pay attention, but certainly did not take into account sufficiently, the traditions of different groups. I emphasized it, but certainly not enough. Also, I did not study enough—some of my younger colleagues did later on how these traditions were continuously being reconstructed in Israel, just as they are being reconstructed the world over. If you look at Europe today and the situation of the Muslims within these societies, you see that they do not constitute traditional societies, but rather modern frameworks in the various traditional components continuously being reconstructed.

SW: This model of multiple modernities rings true for many immigrants, for example those integrated into Europe. But when we have immigrants in Israel who hail from a rural setting in Ethiopia, and do not come from a civilization which was exactly an Axial Age Civilization, to use your phrase (and that of Karl Jaspers) and didn't show manifestations of "moderna" in the sense that we know it; does the multiple modernity model fit those realities?

SNE: It does. The Ethiopian Jews, and others, are now working in a modern society in a modern framework and they accept some of the basic premises thereof such as legitimate, open political activism, the possibility of political participation (*they even have one Member of Parliament-S.W.*), political criticism, and challenging official authority in legitimate way. So, in many ways they already accept many of the premises of modernity, but interpret them in different ways. But they are modern.

SW: Aren't these patterns, like political activism and challenging authorities continuations of previous, traditional patterns?

SNE: Well, such patterns are partially a continuation of old ones, but it is also a continual reconstruction thereof. Let us take the Moroccan Jews Mimouna as an example. On the eighth day of the Passover festival, the Moroccan and North African Jews celebrate the Mimouna in Israel. In North Africa, Mimouna entailed the cooperation of local Muslims who sold the Jews wheat, and invited them to picnic on their land. From the mid-1960s, Moroccan Jews in Israel began celebrating the Mimouna as family picnics in mass gatherings with as many as 150,000 attending. Mimouna is now an official holiday in the Israeli calendar. This festival is one they knew from Morocco, but it's also obviously something new; since it did not exist in this way in the past, and it's not just a continuation.

SW: Therefore, from your perspective, it's not an "invention of tradition" as Eric Hobsbawm put it, but a reconstruction of a new modernity.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS :

Political Systems of Empires, Transaction Publishers, 1992

Power, Trust and Meaning: Essays in Sociological Theory and Analysis, University of Chicago Press, 1995

Japanese Civilization: A Comparative View, University of Chicago Press, 1996

Paradoxes of Democracy: Fragility, Continuity and Change, John Hopkins University Press, 1999

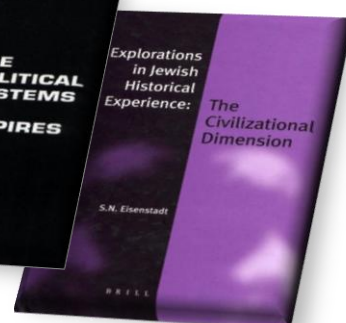
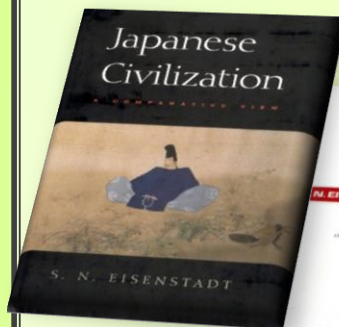
Fundamentalism, Sectarianism and Revolution: The Jacobin Dimension of Modernity, Cambridge University Press, 2000

Weiterswist Valbrück Wiss – Die Vielfalt der Moderne, Heidelberg: Max-Weber Vorlesungen, 2000

Comparative Civilizations and Multiple Modernities, Leiden: Brill Academic Publishers, 2003

Explorations in Jewish Historical Experience: The Civilizational Dimension. Brill: Leiden/Boston. 2004

S.N. Eisenstadt, Johann P. Arnason and Bjorn Wittrock (eds.), *Axial Civilizations and World History*, Koninklijke Brill NV, Leiden, The Netherlands, 2005



SNE: It isn't a continuation of a traditional pattern. It's a reconstitution of new modern patterns which reconstructs many traditional components. This is one of the most fascinating facets of modern society, indeed in principle of any society.

SW: In contrast to other people, you've written that fundamentalism is essentially a modern phenomenon. This strikes me as a very contemporary thing to write. In a situation in which you write, elsewhere, that "solidarity and trust are the ingredients for those prone to adjust to social change", can you comment on the integration of Muslims, particularly in Europe?

SNE: The problem with solidarity and trust is that you cannot have continuous social relations without them, but at the same time they can be very limiting. They can limit the extent and the scope, of your relations. There is tension between the particularist elements of trust and solidarity, and the possibility of its extension. This is one of the great challenges today of Muslims in Europe and in many other places, indeed all over the world. Sometimes it's successful, sometimes it fails. But it's always full of tension. Any extension, any attempt at extending solidarity and trust, starting with the family and fanning outwards, is full of tension. I am thinking of the theories developed by the great psycho-analyst John Bowlby (1907-1990) who wrote a book on Attachment about the crucial role of maternal attachment, but also another book on the psychological effects of separation, anxiety and loss of the original attachment. The tension between concrete attachments is a given pattern of life and relations and the necessity of going beyond the continual components of social life.

SW: I am concerned about in-group solidarity, and trust of the out-group, or relations with its members; in other words, what about the tension between the immigrants and the host society?

SNE: The problematique is: can you build new patterns of solidarity?

For instance, the very interesting controversy in the States championed by an important conservative scholar, shows through a structural and cultural analysis how mixed neighborhoods destroy trust. However, there is a response to him, saying: "Yes, for some time they may destroy trust, but they may also slowly extend the range of trust, so as to continuously build it up". One of the interesting examples from Israel in the 1950's was the problem of settlement of different ethnic groups in the newly established State in the Lachish area. Here we said: "If you make mixed agricultural settlements, if every moshav is mixed, it will destroy itself. If you make each moshav relatively homogenous, but make the moshav's district heterogeneous, you will create trust".

SW: This relates, on a higher level, to the fact that modernization doesn't necessarily lead to homogeneity. So, aren't we therefore witnessing the fragmentation of Europe today?

SNE: We are witnessing a transformation of Europe, which includes a fragmentation of the old, and attempts at establishing new networks. These are new modes. Some of these are successful; others are failures.

SW: What do you think of the concept of "hybridity" in this context? Is it useful?

SNE: Yes and no. On the one hand, it's a useful concept. But it's not a new concept. Hybridity means multiplicity of contents, but it does not tell you about the constitutional borders, or boundaries. Hybridity does not in itself create firm boundaries. It may, it may not. In Israel, the ultra-Orthodox are very hybrid. Some use the internet and watch television, others don't. Some are dressed quite 'modern'. But this doesn't tell you if they are open or liberal in their constitutional boundaries.

SW: You yourself have a wider view: of empires, of civilizations

SNE: Nevertheless, boundaries are constantly changing and being reconstituted. There can be no social formations without borders and the concept of hybridity doesn't account for this. Boundaries are very important. They change, they are continually reconstituted. I have not yet seen any social formation without boundaries. Maybe they will appear one day...

SW: At the age of 86, I want you to look back, and let me know how you view the trends over the past decades, both in sociology and in the world; I want to ask if the world has acted rationally, according to you, since the Second World War?

SNE: Sociology has become very diversified and certainly very strong to the world, , it lacks stronger impact with respect to different modern rational activities, not just one rationality.

These rationalities are very often competing; not everything that I don't like is irrational.

SW: And when it comes to morality, are there still competing moralities, or is there one absolute morality?

SNE: Let me put it this way: there is a tension between putting emphasis on seemingly one over-arching universal morality, on the one hand, and different interpretations of such a universal morality. So Muslims will tell you, they have a universal morality; but it is different from Christian morality, be it secular morality, or whatever. There is more and more dialogue between moralities, but there is no one over-arching morality.

SW: And what is the role of the sociologist in all this?

SNE: To make sense of it all, to analyze, to understand, to present an analysis so that it can enrich the public discussion. Sociology will not solve the problem, but it can enrich the discussion.

The second part of this interview will appear in the next issue of "European Sociologist" and will concentrate on empires, civilizations and globalization.

ESA CONFERENCE IN GENEVA

SEPTEMBER 2011

The 10th conference of the ESA will take place in Geneva, the international centre of Europe, in September 2011. The international mission in Geneva was confirmed after the First World War, when it was chosen as the headquarters of the League of Nations, the predecessor of the United Nations. Today, several other international organizations have made Geneva their headquarters, including the International Labour Organization (ILO), the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), the World Health Organization (WHO), The European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN) and the World Council of Churches.

Geneva's lakefront with beautiful flowerbeds, swans and ducks, and elegant residences is famous. The Jet d'eau spouts a column of lake

water as high as 450 feet in the air; on a clear day you can see the Mont-Blanc. Crossing the Mont-Blanc bridge, is the Jardin anglais with the flower clock, a reflection of Geneva's preoccupation with watch-making, and the National Monument which commemorates Geneva joining the rest of Switzerland in 1815. There are over 40 museums in Geneva.

The ESA conference sessions will be held in the University of Geneva, one of the oldest universities in Europe. Established in 1559 by Jean Calvin, the University of Geneva has continued to grow; it is the second largest university in Switzerland and is a public institution of the Republic and Canton of Geneva. It pursues three missions: teaching, research, and service to the wider community.



One of the most famous social scientists at the University of Geneva was Jean Piaget (1896-1980), who was Professor of sociology between 1939-1951, Professor of Experimental Psychology between 1940-1971 and Emeritus Professor of the University of Geneva between 1971-1980.

The theme of the 10th ESA conference is **Social Relations in Turbulent Times**.

In the wake of the 'credit crunch', the worst financial crisis in modern history, the economic system has been shaken to its core. An insecure future faces the next generation as it strives to cope with the complexities of an ageing population in an era when economic growth will be constrained by both unprecedented fiscal deficits and moral pressures of environmental activism. The tremors can be felt on political landscapes across the continent as new configuration and alliances are born and established practices crumble.

In this unusual context, social relations are marked by uncertainty and pessimism. Fears are stoked by pervasive references to "external" threats posed by immigration and internal dangers associated with high rates of unemployment and degradation of public services and morals. How we face up to the challenges posed by the turbulence and unpredictability of our times is the key dilemma facing contemporary social analysts. The ESA invites scholars to convene in Geneva to debate the pressing questions of the day.



RESEARCH NETWORKS: NEW POLICY

By Thomas S. Eberle - Chair RN Committee



Thomas S. Eberle Chair RN Committee

Within ESA there exist *two organizational worlds*: On the one hand, the world of the Executive Committee that is composed of the President and 15 members from 12 different European countries, as well as the president of the National Associations Council and the Editor of the *European Sociologist*; it is organized in eight committees and assisted by the ESA Secretary. On the other hand, there is the world of 33 Research Networks that are organized around a thematic area and operate on their own. It is not easy to link the interests of the Executive Committee (henceforth ExeC) and those of the RNs and to tie them closely together.

The *RNs are the backbone of ESA* and the ExeC is therefore determined to cultivate this relationship. An important step forward was the establishment of the RN Council in 2008 that meets with the ExeC face-to-face at each ESA Conference to discuss all kinds of issues. Other steps were the improvement of communication with the coordinators during the year and the increase of financial support for midterm conferences. A further step is the refinement of organizational structures and procedures, which is in the making. After a consultation with the RN Coordinators starting in autumn 2008, the ExeC has taken a number of decisions in May 2009 and discussed them again with the Coordinators at the RN Council Meeting in Lisbon in September 2009.

A crucial structural change is that we will *introduce formal membership to RNs* starting in 2010. This measure will create transparency about how many ESA members are in each RN. It is not fair that a RN which has only a few ESA members gets the same financial support for a midterm conference and the same amount of space at an ESA conference as a RN that has several hundred members who pay fees. This will not prevent RNs from using large mailing lists and from including non-ESA-members at their conferences. However, from now on, the RNs will have an incentive to have ESA members in good standing. To keep the status of an ESA-RN, a research network must have a minimum of 25 ESA members. A membership in a RN will cost 10 Euros for two years. The full amount of membership fees goes directly to the RNs and is transferred together with the midterm conference funding (to reduce transfer costs). The amount is small enough that ESA members can become members of more than one network.

We also invite the RNs to *rethink their formal structure*. The guidelines of 2004 said that no coordinator should stay more than 2-4 years in office. Many RNs however failed to rejuvenate and suddenly their activities decreased significantly. We therefore suggest that each RN creates a board with members from many different countries, who represent the link to the sociologists in their country. A number of RNs elect a chair and a vice-chair. The chair serves two years and the vice-chair serves as the next chair. This gives the RN activities some continuity, keeps the experience on board and ensures a turnover. The board should be continuously bolstered by younger sociologists who can become future chairs.

A new initiative is that we attempt to *systematically integrate the RNs in the process of planning the next ESA Conference 2011 in Geneva*. This time the RNs will not only organize their sessions based on a call for papers of their own, but the topics of the semi-plenaries will also be dedicated to the thematic areas of the RNs. All the coordinators have been invited to write a brief outline about the conference theme **Social relations in turbulent times** from their perspective, which topics they suggest and which semi-plenary speakers they propose. Of course, the programme committee will not be able to take up all the suggestions from 33 RNs, but it will consider the proposals very seriously and evaluate them carefully.

The fact that the 9th ESA Conference in Lisbon was highly profitable allowed the ExeC to *grant the highest funding to RNs in the ESA's history*: 21 midterm conferences have been planned (some have already taken place), some with 30-50 participants, and others with several hundreds, and all of them were supported by a grant of 1,500 Euros. The calls for papers to these conferences were published in the electronic ESA bulletin and also on the ESA website. In the process of handling funding applications, we detected that communication can become much easier and more efficient when using forms with specific questions. We have devised some templates now that will make future funding applications and reports much easier to handle, for RNs as well as for the RN Committee. The guidelines for RNs that are published on the web were also updated.

Since the Lisbon conference, RN26 was successfully revamped with the enlarged name *Sociology of Social Policy and Social Welfare*, RN28 *Sociology of Sports* is being revamped too, and RN17 *Industrial Relations* was successfully continued after the untimely death of its coordinator ([see Obituary in this Newsletter](#)). Let me close with a warm thank-you to all the colleagues who are investing time and energy into RN activities – we wish you inspiring events, stimulating intellectual debates, great encounters and much fun!

RESEARCH NETWORKS: HOW DO THEY WORK?

*In the third article in this series, **European Sociologist** takes an inside look at Research Network no.7 on the Sociology of Culture to discover how it functions.*

RN7 on Sociology of Culture was founded in September 2005 at the 7th-ESA Conference in Torun (Poland). The main aim of the network is to provide a forum for discussion and exchange for sociologists of culture who are either based in Europe or whose research is devoted to one or more aspects of "culture in Europe". In addition, the network may also act as a European forum for the exchange of teaching experiences in the field of sociology of culture. Last but not least, the network wants to be an intellectual space in which the different trends that nowadays re-articulate Europe's cultural identity can be discussed from a sociological point of view. See:

http://www.europeansociology.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=25&Itemid=29

Since the inception of the RN, all conferences organized were a great success. The first Midterm Conference was held in Ghent in November 2006 and it had more than 150 participants from many countries. In 2008 the Midterm Conference was organized in Venice jointly with the ESA RN on Sociology of the Arts: there were more than 350 applications, of which 220 were accepted for presentation. In Lisbon at the 9th Conference of the ESA, the RN organized 24 sessions with 110 presentations, and in addition two of our board members (Mark Jacobs and Anna Lisa Tota) organized a Research Stream on "Memory, Culture, and Public Discourse" with eight sessions and 48 presentations.

In addition, the RN, in cooperation with the research networks Sociology of Arts and Qualitative Methods, organized its first doctoral school "Arguing with evidence in studying culture & the arts" in the form of a student miniconference, which took place just before the 9th ESA Conference in Lisbon. This project was very important for the RN and it will be continued in the future, as it represents an intellectual space for the young generations of European sociologists, who have the possibility to meet, and to exchange new ideas and professional and intellectual opportunities.

As of 1st August 2009, the RN publishes a Newsletter "Cultural Processes" edited by Mark D. Jacobs. See: http://www.europeansociology.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=208&Itemid=167

The second issue will be published after the Midterm Conference and it will focus on some themes raised there.

The next Midterm Conference "Culture and the Making of Worlds" will be held at the Bocconi University in Milan (October 7-9, 2010). The conference aims to explore the role of culture as a medium for building "worlds." Cultures will be analyzed in terms of their capacity to help shape the pasts and futures of contemporary societies. The conference will be characterized by an emphasis on interdisciplinary, to include contributions from economics, political and management science, anthropology, and cultural studies, as well as sociology *per se*. The keynote speakers will be Diane Crane (University of Pennsylvania, USA), Barbara Czarniawska (University of Gothenburg, Sweden), Vijayendra Rao (Development Research Group at World Bank), and Andreas Reckwitz Europa-Universität Viadrina in Frankfurt/Oder. The conference will be attended by scholars from all over Europe and the United States. We have already received more than 270 abstracts. The conference will be comprised of about 50 sessions, related to three main themes:

- 1)How culture matters, related to the *active nature* of cultures and their capacity to become an important resource for conflict resolution, and to shape the public knowledge of the past and the public expectations for the future.
- 2)How the culture system changes, related to the important transformations we are witnessing in contemporary societies,, which affect the ways in which cultural artefacts can be produced and can acquire their own meanings and values.
- 3)Culture , space and time, related to the articulation of the space and the time, typical of contemporary society and to the comparison among different conceptions of time and space in different cultures.

During the conference there will be a special panel dedicated to the memory of Richard Peterson and to the importance of his work, that has deeply affected both American and European sociology of culture. The chair of the panel will be Vera Zolberg and the panellists: Mark Jacobs, Tia DeNora, Rudi Laermans, and Koen van Eijck. Moreover, as the Midterm Conference will be held in Italy, the Research Network on Sociology of Culture has worked jointly with the Italian Sociological Association. The result is that the Research Committee "Processi e Istituzioni Culturali" of the Italian Sociological Association will organize three sessions on sociability, media and visual cultures. In order to further develop the relation with Russian sociologists, the Moscow School of Social and Economic Sciences will organize a special session on Russian sociology of culture. In addition, in order to continue the project of the Doctoral School two members of our board (Mark Jacobs and Dick Houtman) will organize "Culture at the frontier", a special session for PhD. students. For any other information on the conference, please visit the website <http://www.esaculturebocconi2010.org>



Anna Lisa Tota
Chair of the ESA RN on Sociology of Culture

9th Conference of ESA – Lisbon, Portugal, September 2009

Helena Carreiras, Chair of the Local Organizing Committee, Lisboa

The 9th Conference of the European Sociological Association was held in Lisboa between 2 and 5 of September 2009. The topic of the Conference was “European Society or European Societies?” raising the central issue of whether there is convergence or divergence between regions in the European area. A particular focus of the Conference was on role of sociology in helping to understand the European area and how sociologists from different countries and different tradition can work together to meet this challenge.



The Conference was locally organized by a consortium including three Portuguese university and research institutions – the Department of Sociology of ISCTE-Lisboa University Institute (the leading institution of the consortium), the Human and Social Sciences School of the New University of Lisboa (FCSH-UNL), the Institute of Social Sciences of the University of Lisboa (ICS-UL) – and the Portuguese Sociological Association (APS).

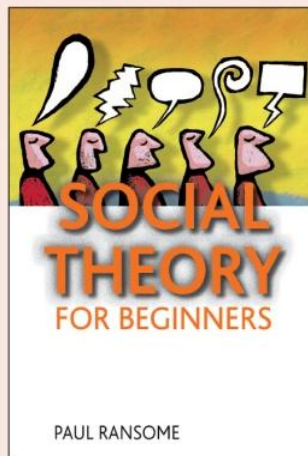
Overcoming the most optimistic prognosis by the organizers, the conference turned out to be the biggest ever in ESA records. It brought together 2,470 participants from over 50 countries, which presented and discussed their work in four plenary sessions, 10 semi-plenary sessions, and 564 work sessions, organized by 31 Research Networks and 17 Research

Streams. Besides, various other meetings were organized around *Meet the author* and *Ad hoc sessions*, organizational meetings and exhibition areas.

The conference dinner counted on the presence of more than 900 participants in the gardens of the EDP Electricity Museum, a remarkable environment for the closing of a memorable and successful conference.

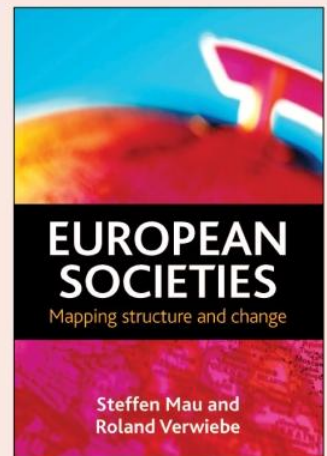


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ESA SUMMER SCHOOLS FOR PHD STUDENTS



By Elina Oinas

ESA wishes to bring together Sociology PhD students from all corners of Europe to summer schools each year. Every second year, the summer school is held prior to the ESA conference; this was also the case in Lisbon 2009. The summer school affords not only an opportunity to hold intensive learning and discussions for two days in a classroom, but also an opportunity to conduct extended networking with fellow students and teachers for the duration of the entire conference.



In Lisbon, the morning sessions with lectures by professors Luis Baptista, Claire Wallace, Sokratis Koniordos, Pekka Sulkunen, Ursula Apatzsch and Elina Oinas were followed by workshops. The discussions on students' projects were engaging and inspiring, thorough and critical, yet encouraging and supportive. More often than not, the heated debates were continued into the warm summer nights of the streets of Barrio Alto.

From the organizer's point of view the real difficulty was the limited number of participants who could be accepted and the enormous number of high quality applications. This was the case in Lisbon, and even more so for the 2010 summer school that is organized in Finland in July around the theme of academic journal writing. It is of course wonderful to witness the high quality of exciting PhD work conducted all over Europe, but also regrettable that a large number of promising applications, judging by quality alone, could well have been included, but are by necessity rejected. An interesting feature among the applicants is their backgrounds: European PhD students are extremely mobile, and more often than not have a career in several universities and countries. ESA decisions are based on criteria that take into account a balance between the quality of plan submitted by the candidate, the qualifications of the candidate, the plan's relevance to sociology, a good thematic composition within the summer school, as well as a geographical and gender diversity.

The popularity of the summer schools demonstrates that there may not be enough summer schools offered after all, and that national associations and research networks may wish to offer even more PhD training, especially on the subject of publishing academic works. Other PhD workshops were organized prior to the Lisbon conference by various Research Networks, and will hopefully organize some more summer schools prior to the next ESA conference in Geneva. (Co-coordinators, consider this and contact the conference organizers well in advance!) The ESA summer school in Geneva will be announced soon on the ESA website – all old and new applicants are welcome to apply!

Comments by Lisbon participants:

"ESA's very well-organized summer school has succeeded in bringing together young sociologists willing to share ideas and support each other. The informal communication between ESA conference participants in the beautiful surroundings of Lisbon facilitated the integration of the summer school participants into a broader network of European scholars." Nikolay Zakharov



(c) Marja Peltonen

"What I most liked at the Summer workshop was the very nice mix of papers, that allowed us to hear more about our specific research interests, but also created the space for learning about new things and perspectives on European societies." Laura Morosanu "ESA Summer School: one of the most generous academic exchanges, a great opportunity to meet extraordinary people and be exposed to new and exciting research; in short, an experience no young sociologist should miss." Cristian Norocel

"The ESA Summer School is definitely the best amongst those (few) I have attended so far. First of all it is a great opportunity to meet colleagues from all around Europe, many of them doing very similar things to what you do. Didactic is organized in order to promote knowledge exchange, and a very constructive environment of mutual support and critique. 2 very intense and challenging days, I have to say, in the magic scenery of Lisbon, which contributed make of this experience something I would suggest to every postgrad sociologist." Alessandro Zagato



PUBLICATIONS



ESA book series on Studies in European Societies

The whole of Europe is going through major transformations in terms of gender, race and class. In the former Eastern Europe, societies are adapting to post-communist regimes and economies and facing the implications of war in the Balkans. In the West, the increased integration of the European Union impacts on every aspect of legal, economic and political life. The book series published by Routledge with the European Sociological Association provides a forum for sociological analysis of these developments.

Just published in April 2010 is:



Marie-Thérèse Letablier
Chair of the ESA publication committee

Internationalisation of Social Sciences in Central and Eastern Europe

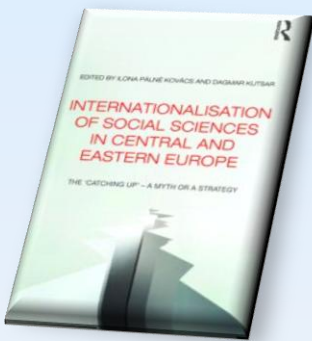
Edited by [Ilona Pálné Kovács](#), Director for the Transdanubian Research Institute of the Centre for Regional Studies and Professor at the University of Pecs, Department of Political Science and [Dagmar Kutsar](#), Associate Professor of Social Policy, and Head of the Unit of Family and Welfare Studies at the University of Tartu.

This volume explores the way in which social sciences, in comparison with other sciences in Europe, have been divided by the political orders of West and East. As part of the field of science policies in Europe, the book contributes to the creation of a new understanding of the European academic landscape of

social sciences with particular focus on CEE countries. In its investigation of the emergence of social sciences in Central and Eastern Europe following the collapse of the totalitarian systems, this book discusses how the internationalization of the social sciences and the convergence between Western and Eastern social scientific life is hindered by factors including funding, academic contacts, and curriculum development. The issues addressed within the text serve to prompt the realization that coherence in European social sciences can be reached only if new academic traditions and cultures are developed, and science policies harmonized.

Contents

1. Introduction: Why this book? *Dagmar Kutsar and Ilona Pálné Kovács* **Part One: Insights into European science policies framework** 2. International research collaboration in Europe - strategy and role of the European Science Foundation, *John Marks and Balázs Kiss* 3. The inclusiveness of the European Research Area in the field of Social Sciences and Humanities and the ways and means by which this could be better achieved, *Dimitri Corpakis* **Part Two: State of the art of Social Science and international cooperation in CEE countries** 4. The problematique of structures - Social Sciences and CEE in flux, *Iris Virtasalo and Jouni Jarvinen* 5. The involvement of Central and Eastern European data archives and data providers in forming a pan-European research infrastructure for Social Sciences, *Brigitte Hausstein* 6. Social Sciences in Central and Eastern Europe - institutional landscapes, *Agnieszka Wenninger* 7. Collaboration of the Social Science researchers of CEE countries in European research programmes during the period 1994-2006, *Ulle Must* 8. Inequalities in Eastern and Central European Research Area. Challenges of regional decentralization, *Gyula Horvath* **Part Three: Country case studies** 9. Czech science policy in Social Sciences and Humanities: towards transformation and catching-up, *Adolf Filacek* 10. Paving Romania's way towards the European Research Area, *Dalina Dumitrescu* 11. In isolation parochial standards persist: the case of the social sciences in Bulgaria, *Galin Gornev* 12. An evaluation system of the Science and international orientation of Social Scientists: the case of Slovenia, *Anton Kramberger and Franc Mali* 13. Conclusions: Internationalisation of CEE Social Sciences - is the catching up a myth or reality?



Muslims in 21st Century Europe: Structural and Cultural Perspectives

Edited by [Anna Triandafyllidou](#), Assistant Professor at the Democritus University of Thrace in Greece, Senior Research Fellow at ELLAMEP in Athens, and Professor at the College of Europe in Bruges.

This book explores the interaction between native majorities and Muslim minorities in various European countries with a view to highlighting different paths of integration of immigrant and native Muslims. Starting with a critical overview of the institutionalisation of Islam in Europe and a discussion on the nature of Muslimophobia as a social phenomenon, this book shows how socio-economic, institutional and political parameters set the frame for Muslim integration in Europe. Britain, France, Germany, the Netherlands, and Sweden are selected as case studies among the 'old' migration hosts. Italy, Spain and Greece are included to highlight the issues arising and the policies adopted in southern Europe to accommodate Muslim claims and needs. The book highlights the internal diversity of both minority and majority populations, and analyses critically the political and institutional responses to the presence of Muslims.

Contents

Muslims and Multiculturalism in 21st century Europe, *Anna Triandafyllidou and Daniel Faas* 2. Islamophobia qua Racial Discrimination: Muslimophobia, *Burak Erdenir* 3. Public Policies towards Muslims and the Institutionalization of 'Moderate Islam' in Europe: some critical reflections, *Sara Silvestri* 4. Muslims in Germany: From Guest Workers to Citizens? *Daniel Faas* 5. Britain: Contemporary developments in cases of Muslim-state engagement, *Tariq Modood and Nasar Meer* 6. From Empire to Republic, the French Muslim Dilemma, *Valérie Amirault* 7. Islam in the Netherlands, Dutch Islam, *Thijl Sunier* 8. Sweden: Cooperation and Conflict, *Jonas Otterbeck* 9. Muslims in Italy: models of integration and new citizenship, *Maurizia Russo Spina* 10. Muslims in Spain: Blurring past and present Moors, *Ricard Zapata-Barrero and Nynke de Witte* 11. Greece: The Challenge of Native and Immigrant Muslim Populations

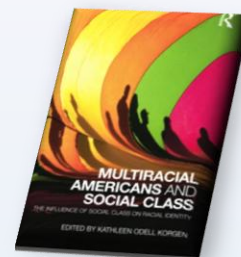




BOOK OF THE MONTH FOR MAY 2010

Multiracial Americans and Social Class: The Influence of Social Class on Racial Identity

Edited by [Kathleen Odell Korgen](#), Professor of Sociology at William Paterson University, Wayne, NJ.



As the racial hierarchy shifts and inequality between Americans widens, it is important to understand the impact of social class on the rapidly growing multiracial population. *Multiracial Americans and Social Class* is the first book on multiracial Americans to do so and fills a noticeable void in a growing market. In this book, noted scholars examine the impact of social class on the racial identity of multiracial Americans, in highly readable essays, from a range of sociological perspectives. In doing so, they answer the following questions: Who is multiracial? How does class influence racial identity? How does social class status vary among multiracial populations? Do you need to be middle class in order to be an "honorary white"? What is the relationship between social class, culture, and race? How does the influence of social class compare across multiracial backgrounds? What are multiracial Americans' explanations for racial inequality in the United States? *Multiracial Americans and Social Class* is a key text for undergraduate and postgraduate students, researchers, and academics in the fields of sociology, race and ethnic studies, social stratification, race relations, and cultural studies.

Contents

Part 1: Who are Multiracial Americans? 1. Multiracial Americans and Social Class, *Kathleen Odell Korgen* 2. In-Between Racial Status, Mobility and Promise of Assimilation: Irish, Italians Yesterday, Latinos and Asians Today, *Charles Gallagher* 3. 'What's Class Got to Do with It?': Images and Discourses on Race and Class in Interracial Relationships, *Erica Chito Childs* 4. Social Class: Racial/Ethnic Identity, and the Psychology of Choice, *Peony Fhagen-Smith* 5. Stability and Change in Racial Identities of Multiracial Adolescents, *Ruth Burke and Grace Kao* **Part 2: Culture, Class, Racial Identity, and Blame** 6. Country Clubs and Hip-Hop Thugs: Examining the Role of Social Class and Culture in Shaping Racial Identity, *Nikki Khanna* 7. Language, Power, and the Performance of Race and Class, *Benjamin Bailey* 8. Black and White Movies: Crash between Class and Biracial Identity Portrayals of Black/White Biracial Individuals in Movies, *Alicia Edison and George Yancey* 9. 'Who is Really to Blame?' Biracial Perspectives on Inequality in America, *Monique E. Marsh* **Part 3: Social Class, Demographic, and Cultural Characteristics** 10. 'Multiracial Asian Americans', *C. N. Le* 11. A Group in Flux: Multiracial American Indians and the Social Construction of Race, *Carolyn Liebler* 12. Socioeconomic Status and Hispanic Identification in Part-Hispanic Multiracial Adolescents, *Maria L. Castilla and Melissa R. Herman* **Part 4: Social Class, Racial Identities, and Racial Hierarchies** 13. Social Class and Multiracial Groups: What Can We Learn from Large Surveys? *Mary E. Campbell* 14. The One-Drop Rule through a Multiracial Lens: Examining the Roles of Race and Class in Racial Classification of Children of Partially Black Parents, *Jenifer Bratter* 15. It's Not That Simple: Multiraciality, Models, and Social Hierarchy, *Ingrid Dineen-Wimberly and Paul Spickard*.

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EUROPEAN STUDIES CURRICULA IN RUSSIAN UNIVERSITIES: EUROPEAN INFLUENCE OR NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT?

In the last two decades, provoked in part by the collapse of the Soviet Union, the educational system of Russia is in the process of reform. For Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) these reforms mean the starting point for a serious discussion, including the development of innovative comparable curricula.

European Studies is a highly underdeveloped discipline in Russian HEIs. As a new discipline, the European Studies curricula are usually developed within different home disciplines – international relations, political science, economics, history, sociology, law, and so on, and are still in search of an appropriate interdisciplinary mix.

Given the intensifying cooperation of Russian HEIs with European universities, and Russia's interaction with the EU, the development of the European Studies curricula in Russia has become a priority task, which is naturally influenced by the European experience. While there do exist several reflexive contributions researching European Studies in Europe, the majority of them deal with more methodological, epistemological, and ontological, and not with practical issues of curriculum development.

The research project *European Studies curricula in Russian universities: European influence or national development?* is an effort to assess the character of external social, political and educational influences, and various strategies used in the process of European studies programmes in Russian HEIs by using the case-studies method, examining the formal curricula and conducting in-depth interviews with programme leaders and staff. Based on theories of sociological institutionalism and classical functionalist theories of education, the current research understands education curriculum as a social phenomenon, which is shaped both on a national and international level and reflects social ideals, norms, values, imperatives and principles.^[1]

The main research question is to understand whether European Studies in Russia are being shaped by European tradition, practices and imperatives, both educational and political, or whether they present a result of a national education development and ideology. The research asks whether European Studies curricula in Russian HEIs are grounded on Russia's educational and the wider social and political context, how the relationships between Russia and the EU are reflected in the curricula, and whether Russia as a country is understood and positioned as a research object of European Studies.

This one-year (September 2009 – September 2010) project is supported by [the Curriculum Research Fellowships programme of the Central European University's Curriculum Resource Center](#) in Budapest.

This article was prepared by Ekaterina Gorbunova, Research Fellow at the Institute of Social Sciences of the University of Lisbon (ICS-UL), Senior Researcher at the Institute for Social Development Studies of the Higher School of Economics, Moscow, and Vera Pakhomova, graduate of the Higher School of Economics, Moscow.

For more information, contact:

katya.gorbunova@gmail.com



[1] See: Durkheim, E. (1956) *Education and Sociology*. Glencoe, Ill.: Free Press; McNeely, C. (1995) "Prescribing National Education Policies: The Role of International Organizations", *Comparative Education Review*, 39, 4:483-507; Fiala, R. (2007) "Educational Ideology and the School Curriculum". In *School Knowledge in Comparative and Historical Perspective*, CERC Studies in Comparative Education, 18. Netherlands: Springer, pp. 15-34; Mundy, K. (2008) "Global Governance, Educational Change", *Comparative Education*, 43, 3: 339-357.



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Obituary Professor Franz Traxler



Professor Franz Traxler, who died on 22nd January 2010, was a valued and important contributor to the European Sociological Association. He helped to organise the Second European Sociological Association Conference in Budapest in 1995 and convened panels in all the other conferences.

Franz Traxler founded the Department of Industrial Sociology at the University of Vienna and set up the topic of industrial relations in Austria. At the University of Vienna he led a significant research team, who will help to continue his work.

He was recognised internationally as a leader in this field, with many original papers and publications to his name. This role was recognised in the fact that he was asked to act as consultant in range of international organisations including the OECD, the International Labour Organisation, the European Commission and the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions.

Franz Traxler was the Austrian Principal Investigator in many international research programmes in comparative economic and industrial sociology, including the International Research Programme 'The Organisation of Business Interest' under the European leadership of Professor Wolfgang Streeck in the 1980's. He was an excellent team leader, who led and motivated others to achieve outstanding research outcomes and path-breaking scholarly publications of the highest international standard.

In addition to his academic vocation Franz Traxler loved sport, especially football. He was a lifelong supporter and patiently enduring fan of 'FC Rapid Vienna', following the ups and downs of 'his' club in national and international competitions with unwavering loyalty.

He will be missed by all of us at ESA and by his colleagues in Austria and internationally. However, he will leave behind him an indelible impact on both Austrian and European sociology.

Claire Wallace, Past President of the ESA

Socio-Legal Studies *from* Hart Publishing

Transnational Administrative Rule-Making

Performance, Legal Effects, and Legitimacy

Olaf Dilling, Martin Herberg, and Gerd Winter

In an age of globalisation, many regulatory problems lie beyond the reach of the nation state. Solutions have to be found which extend beyond territorial borders. The present volume shows how transnational administrative governance leads to a paradox: while it performs well in many areas, providing solutions that are not achievable by state and international law, its informality profoundly lacks legitimacy in a strict sense. This book explores, from a socio-legal perspective, a broad range of legitimisation mechanisms of different types and quality and shows that there can be a fit between certain forms of legitimisation and specific governance constellations.

Olaf Dilling is research associate at the Collaborative Research Center 'Transformations of the State' at Bremen University. **Martin Herberg** is senior research fellow at the Collaborative Research Center 'Transformations of the State', Bremen University.

Gerd Winter is Professor of Public Law and the Sociology of Law at the University of Bremen Department of Law.

Oct 2010 278pp Hbk 9781841132228 £60 / €78



Governing Independence and Expertise

The Business of Housing Associations

Morag McDermont

This book tells the story of the not-for-profit housing sector in England, focusing on its representative body, the National Housing Federation. The story tells of how the Federation and associations influenced their own space of governing through deploying discourses of independence and expertise; how being governed, and governing, become, at times, one and the same. Through the story of the Federation, the book examines the role of non-governmental actors in mechanisms of governing, engaging contemporary debates about public services and the nature of the 'social' - the limits of the role of the not-for-profit sector; the impact of private funders; and the disappearance of the notion of 'public'.

Morag McDermont is a Senior Lecturer in Law at the University of Bristol.

Apr 2010 202pp Pbk 9781841139890 £30 / €39



Religion, Race, Rights

Landmarks in the History of Modern Anglo-American Law

Eve Darian-Smith

'...a passionate, wide-ranging analysis of the complex, historically-vexed relations among religion, race, and rights over the past four plus centuries.' John Comaroff, University of Chicago.

This book highlights the interconnections between three framing concepts in the development of modern western law: religion, race, and rights. Drawing upon landmark legal decisions and historical events, the book emphasises that justice is not blind because our concept of justice changes over time and is linked to economic power, social values, and moral sensibilities that are neither universal nor apolitical. Highlighting the historical interconnections between religion, race and rights aids our understanding of contemporary socio-legal issues.

Eve Darian-Smith is Professor of Global & International Studies at the University of California Santa Barbara, USA.

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Human Rights at Work

Perspectives on Law and Regulation

Edited by Colin Fenwick and Tonia Novitz

Pressures associated with globalisation of markets, exacerbated by the 'credit crunch', have placed pressure on many nation states to make their labour markets more 'flexible'. In so doing, many states have sought to reduce labour standards and to diminish the influence of trade unions as the advocates of such standards. One response to this development, both nationally and internationally, has been to emphasise that workers' rights are fundamental human rights. This collection of essays examines whether this is an appropriate or effective strategy.

Colin Fenwick is an Associate Professor, and a member of the Centre for Employment and Labour Relations Law, at Melbourne Law School.

Tonia Novitz is Professor of Labour Law at the University of Bristol.

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CALL FOR EDITORIAL TEAM: EUROPEAN SOCIETIES

European Societies is the journal of the European Sociological Association (ESA) and is published by Routledge. The journal is in its 12th year and currently publishes five issues per year in English. Details about the journal are available at the following website: <http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/routledge/14616696.html>

Position: Editor-in-Chief

European Societies is seeking to appoint a competent and committed Editor to replace the outgoing Editor. The Editor-in-Chief will lead the editorial team. The interested person should be a highly respected sociology scholar with significant publications in monographs and international journals. The Editor's work is voluntary and it does not carry remuneration. The position is for a four-year period term commencing in January 2011.

Position: Assistant Editor

European Societies is seeking to appoint a competent and dedicated *Assistant Editor* work closely with the Editor. The position is for a four-year period term commencing in January 2011. Key qualities sought for the positions of Editor and Assistant Editor: an established record of scholarship in the field of sociology; managerial skills to oversee the editorial cycle and meet deadlines.

Major responsibilities of the future Editor and Assistant Editor of *European Societies* include:

- managing the peer review of manuscripts,
- soliciting high-quality manuscripts from potential authors, and (with the help of the editorial board members) assisting these authors in seeing their manuscripts to publication,
- deciding which manuscripts to publish,
- selecting a sufficient pool of competent reviewers to reach conclusions and make decisions on manuscripts in a timely fashion,
- providing a clear vision for the direction of the Journal,
- collaborating with Editorial Board members, the ESA President, and the publishers.

Position: Book Reviews Editor

European Societies is seeking to appoint a competent, committed and dedicated *Book Reviews Editor* to replace the outgoing editor. This editor will be responsible for gathering reviews on books of interest within the broad area of sociology in Europe. Editor's duties will be soliciting reviews, offering editorial feedback to authors, and helping to format reviews. Duties also include maintaining contact with publishers to receive new titles, and ensuring that review authors receive copies of reviewed texts. The position is for a four-year period term commencing in January 2011.

Applicants for all position are kindly asked to submit the following:

A Vision Statement: Set forth your goals and plans for the content of the Journal.

This may include an assessment of the current strengths, weaknesses, or gaps that you plan to address and how you will operationalize your plan; up to two pages please.

- Background Information: The name, affiliation, and other relevant information about the potential Editor, Assistant Editor and Book Reviews Editor.
- Please describe the qualifications that support your inclusion. Of particular importance are evidence to show the ability and experience of the Editor to provide sound judgment and guidance to potential authors.
- Please also provide a clear description of the structure of the editorial office and responsibilities, as you envision them at this point.
- Please include a CV for each proposed position.

Interested aspirants should email to Sokratis Koniordos,

Chair of the Editorial Board by the **end of September 2010 at the latest** at: skoni@social.soc.uoc.gr

Applicants will be reviewed by the Search Committee immediately after the deadline submission date. The final selection will be taken by the journal's Editorial Board and the Executive Committee of the ESA. Please note that all members of the Editorial team are expected to be members of the European Sociological Association



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.

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, reports and more.

We work directly from electronic media, so please send material in a Word file via e-mail.

The newsletter charges for commercial advertisements only. The current fees are:

• 120 EUR for a quarter page

If you have material, an advertisement or an article or feature you would

like to submit, please send it to the Editor, Dr. Shalva Weil at mssshalva@mscc.huji.ac.il

ESA SECRETARIAT

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