ESA MONTHLY BULLETIN – MARCH 2011

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International Conference

6th Annual Conference of the Albanian Institute of Sociology (AIS):

"Education in turbulent times: The Albanian case in European and global context"

Tirana-Albania
21-22 November 2011

Education first;
Qualitative education for sustainable development...

Call for papers

Albanian Institute of Sociology (Albanian Sociological Association), regular and collective member of International Sociological Association (ISA) and European Sociological Association (ESA) invites scholars of sociology and other social sciences to the 6th International Conference, which will take place from 21st to 22nd November 2011 in Tirana-Albania.

Conference themes:
I. Central Theme: "Education in turbulent times: The Albanian case in European and global context"
II. Free topics, according to the Thematic Sections (TS) of AIS which are:

TS 01 - Communication, Culture and Arts
TS 02 - Population and Migration
TS 03 - Sociology of Education
TS 04 - Political Sociology
TS 05 - Collective Behaviour, Social Movements and Social Change
TS 06 - Marriage and Family
TS 07 - Globalization
TS 08 - Sex and Gender
TS 09 - Childhood and Youth
TS 10 - Organizations, Occupations and Work
TS 11 - Sociological Theory
TS 12 - Comparative and Historical Studies
TS 13 - Deviance and Social Control
TS 14 - Sociological Practice
TS 15 - History of Sociology
TS 16 - Human Rights and Collective Goods
TS 17 - Economic Sociology /Economy & Society
TS 18 - Sociology of Religion
TS 19 - Regional and Urban Development
TS 20 - Security and Public Health
TS 21 – Students
   TS 21a – Bachelor
   TS 21b – Master
   TS 21c – PhD Students

Place and time: Tirana-Albania, 21-22 November 2011
Partners: To be decided until 30th of May
Conference languages: English, Albanian or Italian
Publishing: The papers of the conference will be published
  1. In a special issue of the journal "Social Studies" (scientific journal of AIS);
  2. As Proceedings (all papers)
Deadlines:

30th of June: Deadline for abstract submission (by Thematic Sections: ST01 - ST21). Please don't submit more than two abstracts for the entire conference. In case when two abstracts are submitted those must not refer to a single Thematic section.

10th of July: The confirmation of abstract receipt. Those who do not receive confirmation within 10 days should contact the secretary of the conference;

30th of July: Deadline for the decisions of acceptance of the abstracts

31st July – 15th October: Registrations

31st of August: Latest deadline for early registrations

15th of October: Latest deadline for registration

1st of November: Deadline for sending full written papers

5th November: Deadline for sending to the participants the Conference Programme for each Thematic Section/ Group-Sections

21st and 22nd of November: Conference

Abstracts:

Languages: Albanian (or Italian) and English

Abstract title: min. 30, max 300 characters (with spaces)

Length of the abstract: min. 400, max. 2500 characters (with spaces)

Key words: from 4 to 6

Tables, figures and references should not be included in abstracts.

A short CV of the author/authors should be included in abstracts

Conference Fees

AIS with the financial support of its partners could cover only partially conference costs. So a fee of participation is necessary.

The current estimated conference fees are:

I. AIS members, in good standing (as its permanent contributors): free of charge

II. Early registration (up to 31st of August): Half fee, €50

III. Latest registration (1st of September – 15th of October): Full fee €100

Accommodation and other details: to be announced before 20th of October

Thematic issues

Many authors have characterized our epoch as “Epoch of turbulence” (as Alen Greenspan argues in his book “The age of turbulence [(2007), 2011]. The Central Theme of 10th Conference of European Sociological Association, ESA (Geneva – Switzerland, 7-10 September 2011) is “Social relations in turbulent times”. One of the most prominent characteristics of our time is “uncertainty”. The world economic crisis, the social and political movements of various countries etc., are only some of more visible features of our time. The term “risk society” is being articulated more and more...

One of the questions is how the developments of our time affect education. At the same time education is considered as a kind of “universal solution” for social problems and private concerns (in terms of Mills).

Through this conference AIS aims to establish a permanent cooperation between sociologists, social scholars and other stakeholders in the field of Education in Albania, in the Balkan region and wider; the focus of researches and debates will be on issues of education and promoting sustainable development in the field of education.

Why education first?

Because general transformations are affecting the sustainability and quality of education (1) and, simultaneously, are affected by it; (2) in the past two decades major reforms have been undertaken in the educational institution all over the world; (3) education may sometimes lead to undesirable and contradictory results (4), quality education is seen as a “universal cure” to resolve the major problems of our time and to confront future challenges (5) it is recognized as a ‘cure’ for unemployment, ‘tool’ for social cohesion, ‘investment’ in children’s future.
With reference to Albania, two decades of Post-Communist transition represent in itself a “turbulent time”. Drastic transformations are made in the field of education. But quantitative changes have generated significant problems in terms of quality issues.

The results of a national survey undertaken by IS, in 2010, highlight the following issues: (1) the quality of education not only is considered a “social problem”, but even ranks first in the hierarchy of social problems at the moment; (2) the public concern index in regard to poor level of education, is higher than public concern index for many other social problems; (3) a number of other social issues are perceived to have a direct, or indirect connection with the schools and teachers; (4) referring to public expectations, quality education is also considered as key to solving other social problems such as poverty, etc.; (5) teaching is gradually becoming “an abandoned profession” (only 0.8 percent of 2010 graduates have selected “teaching” as first preference for university studies); (6) education is likely to enter into a cycle with detrimental consequences for the future of Albania and the prospect of its European integration.

The study of these issues is one of the most important tasks of sociology and other social sciences. Albania can also be considered as kind of "laboratory" for studies, in sociology and other social sciences. The Albanian case is significant for the study and treatment of problems faced by other countries of the Balkans, Europe and beyond.

Organizing Committee:

Lekë Sokoli – Albanian Institute of Sociology; “Marin Barleti” University Tirana-Albania
Nora Malaj – Vice-Minister: Ministry of Education and Science; Head of Thematic Section of Education (TS-3), Albanian Institute of Sociology
Ermiioni Cekani – Municipality of Tirana; Thematic Section of Education, Albanian Institute of Sociology
Enis Sulstarova – University of Tirana, Tirana-Albania
Fatbardha Gjini – University “A. Xhuvani”, Elbasan-Albania
Brunilda Zenelaga - University “A. Misiu”, Durrës-Albania
Irena Nikaj - University “F. Noli”, Korçë-Albania
Nevila Koçollari - University “I. Qemali”, Vlorë-Albania
Liljana Reçka - University “E. Çabej”, Gjirokastër-Albania
Ali Pajaziti – South East European University, Tetovo-FYROM
Sunaj Raimi – State University of Tetovo, FYROM
Marina Dalla - University of Athens, Greece
Roland Sejko – AIS Representative, Roma-Italy
Fatmir Terziu – “Victory” College Pristina-Kosovo;
Martin Berishaj – University of Ljubljana-Slovenia
Harilqá Kekezi - AIS Representative, Budapest-Hungary
Klejda Mulaj – University of Exeter, United Kingdom
Anjëza Hoxhallari, AIS Representative, Istanbul-Turkey
Klea Faniko – University of Geneva - Switzerland
Besnik Pula – East Michigan University, Michigan-USA

Secretary of the Conference:
Jonida Lamaj, Secretary of AIS;
E-mail: info@instituti-sociologjise.org; isrrjeti@gmail.com

We’re looking forward to meeting you in Tirana-Albania in November 2011

Albanian Institute of Sociology

Note: This platform is approved by the Academic Board of AIS (decision No. 39, February 24th, 2011)
Call for Abstracts

Conference in University College Cork

The Social Pathologies of Contemporary Civilisation

September 15th & 16th, 2011

The School of Sociology & Philosophy, University College Cork, Ireland, & The Danish Centre for Philosophy and Science Studies, the working group on Psychiatry & Society, Department of Sociology, Social Work and Organization, Aalborg University, Denmark, are organising a conference entitled The Social Pathologies of Contemporary Civilisation. The Conference will be held in University college Cork on september 15th & 16th, 2011. We hoped that you would add our conference information to the website of the European Sociological Association.

This conference focuses the social pathologies of contemporary civilisation, i.e. on the ways in which contemporary malaises, diseases, illnesses and psycho-somatic syndromes are related to cultural pathologies of the social body and disorders of the collective esprit de corps of contemporary society manifest at the level of individual patients’ bodies, and how the social & bodies politic are related to the hegemony of reductive biomedical and individual-psychologistic perspectives. The central research hypothesis guiding the conference is that many contemporary problems of health & well-being are to be understood in the light of radical changes of social structures & institutions, extending to deep crises in our civilisation as a whole. Problems of health and well-being have hitherto been considered in isolation; both in isolation from one another, and in isolation from broader contexts. The human person is an indivisible whole, the functioning of the body as an organism is intrinsically linked to the functioning of its mind, and even its ‘soul’ or ‘spirit’. Health and well-being are not just located at the level of the individual body, the integral human person, or even collective social bodies, but encompass the health of humanity as a whole and our relationship with Nature. Recovery of our individual and collective health & well-being needs to be conceived of with such a holistic context, encompassing the importance of grace, beauty and meaningfulness to human flourishing. A particular focus of the conference is the role of humanities and social sciences, particularly sociology, philosophy and anthropology, in helping to understand the connection between individual & collective experiences of social transformations and of health & well-being.

We invite abstracts of not more than 300 words related to any of the above themes to be submitted not later than April 29th 2011 to the email address below. All abstracts will be subject to peer-review and should be sent to the conference organisers at tspocc@gmail.com

Please visit the conference Website for more information. http://www.ucc.ie/en/spocc/

Warm Regards

Lorcan Byrne.

Researcher

School of Sociology and Philosophy, UCC.

IRCHSS Scholar.
Call for Papers

International Conference

Work, Organizations and Professions: Conceptual rearrangements and Challenges empirical

Faculty of Arts, University of Porto
7 - 8 July 2011

This International Conference aims to promote a reflection crossing the scientific domains of Work, Organizations and Professions as theoretical frameworks relevant to the analysis of the increasing complexity of today's world, but also to discuss empirical objects that can not be circumscribed to a unique domain. Another reason, institutional in nature, which allows to support this proposal is anchored in the thematic strategy of stimulating the development of the specific Section of the Portuguese Sociological Association "Work, Organizations and Professions", created in 2009.

We invite sociologists and other social scientists who are exercising their activity in various organizational contexts (Central, Regional/Local Administration Regional, private or third sectors) to submit communications.

Thematic panels:

1. Work and Learning
2. Professions, Associations and Social Regulation
3. Networks, Innovation and Organizations

Guidelines for submission of abstracts:
The proposals for abstracts (in Portuguese, Spanish and English) should be sent by April 8, 2011, through the Platform EasyChair (instructions).

The acceptance of proposals will be notified by email by 30 April 2011.

The final program will be presented on 15 May 2011.

Instructions for submission of proposals / abstracts using the platform EasyChair:
• If you do not have an account EasyChair or have problems signing in, https://www.easychair.org/account/signup.cgi?iid=24300
• After creating the account, go to the site http://www.easychair.org/conferences/?conf=ic_wop2011 and log in to submit your abstract.
• Choose "New Submission".
• Fill out the form with details of personal information.
• You can only fill out a form for each author.
• Insert the form title, abstract and other information.
• After completing the form, review all your answers; only then you must press the Send button
• After sending you will receive an email notifying dispatch with some information such as:

Information and contacts
Soon all the information about the meeting will be available in our website: http://www.aps.pt/?area=017
Participation in the meeting shall be registered. You can send your inquiries to the e-mail seccaoTop@gmail.com

Organizing Committee
Luisa Veloso (CIES-ISCTE)
Ana Paula Marques (CICS-UM)
Carlos Manuel Gonçalves (IS/FLUP)
Paula Urze (DCSA/FCTUNL)
José António Almeida (ESCE/IPS)
Call for papers - International Divorce Conference

Dondena Centre for Research on Social Dynamics at Bocconi University, Milan, Italy

27th to the 29th October 2011

Keynote speakers:
Marcy Carlson (Wisconsin)
Matthijs Kalmijn (Tilburg University),
Kathleen Kiernan (York University)
Tim Smeeding (Wisconsin)

The 9th meeting of the European Network on Divorce Research will in 2011 be hosted by the Dondena Centre for Research on Social Dynamics at Bocconi University, Milan, Italy.

The local organizers are Arnstein Aassve (Bocconi) and Frank Furstenberg (Upenn).

The conference takes a broad view to studies on divorce (causes, consequences, theoretical and empirical perspectives), including contributions from Economics, Demography, Sociology, Psychology, Child developments, Anthropology, and historical perspectives. Whereas submissions from any of these fields and topics are welcome, the conference will have a special theme on “Comparative perspectives of divorce” and we encourage submissions related to this theme.

The deadline for submitting papers is 15th May 2011. Please send your submission (extended abstract or paper) to Arnstein.Aassve@unibocconi.it
Announcement and Call for Papers

Symposium: “Paul Felix Lazarsfeld – His Methodological Inspirations and Networking Activities in the Field of Social Research”

Prague, Czech Republic

September 25–27, 2011

110 years have passed since the birth of Paul Felix Lazarsfeld in Vienna (13.2.1901) and 35 years have passed since his death in New York (30.8.1976). P. F. Lazarsfeld was an ‘organizational man’. He founded four research institutes – in Vienna, Newark, Princeton and New York – during the 45 years of his active scientific career. He developed an unprecedented network of social scientists, ranging from the fields of sociology, social and developmental psychology to history, communication science, demography, social anthropology, and philosophy, to mathematics and statistics and the Frankfurt School of criticism, and he established many ties between Europe and America involving Vienna, New York, Paris, Oslo, Palo Alto, Rome, Chicago, Warsaw, Washington, Moscow, Princeton, and even Prague. He and his close fellow-workers inspired two generations of social scientists in the field of Research Methodology. His research, educational, scientific and organizational activities served to unify social research for almost 45 years, from the time of his famous Marienthal study, using both quantitative and qualitative methods, to his UNESCO seminars in the 1970s in Eastern Europe.

This small symposium follows from the successful WAPOR Thematic Seminar “The Early Days of Survey Research and Their Importance Today”, which was held in Vienna on July 1-3 2010.

It is hard to imagine the historical development of the field of survey research and the methodology of empirical social research, including public opinion research and market research, without invoking the name of Paul Felix Lazarsfeld. We would like to celebrate his mastery of all the scientific fields that he helped advance during his scientific career.

The purpose of this thematic seminar is to help develop an understanding of the many sources of inspiration and ties that helped to develop and unify social science methodology thanks to P. F. Lazarsfeld’s research and organizational activities.

The event is being organized by the Faculty of Social Sciences at Charles University in Prague in cooperation with the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Vienna and WAPOR and it is taking place in Prague in the heart of Europe.

We welcome any papers dealing with our two main topics: 1) the sources of inspiration of P.F. Lazarsfeld and his school of Social Research Methodology, and 2) the fascinating figure’s social or research networking activities anywhere in the world.

Organizing committee:
Hynek Jerabek, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic
Thomas Petersen, WAPOR President, Institut für Demoskopie Allensbach, Germany
Hannes Haas, Fakultät für Sozialwissenschaften, Universität Wien, Austria

Proposals describing the content of the proposed paper should be approximately 1-2 pages in length and should be submitted NO LATER THAN April 1, 2011 to:

Hynek Jerabek
Institute of Sociological Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University
U Krize 8
158 00 Prague 5 - Jinonice
Czech Republic
Tel.: +420 – 2510 80 216   Fax: +420 – 2510 80 310
preferably by email: jerabek@fsv.cuni.cz
Call for Papers
"Religions as Brands". The Marketization of Religion and Spirituality
University of Lausanne, October 13-15, 2011

Deadline for submission of abstracts: **April 30, 2011**

**Theme**
This international conference deals with religious markets and how religions try to market and brand themselves. In the market of religions paradigm, economic and marketing vocabulary are used to analyze the religious domain. Religious organizations are seen as "firms", while the faithful are seen as "consumers" of both this-worldly and otherworldly "religious products". Religions may then be analyzed as "brands" conveying specific brand experiences and images. Religious specialists engage in "branding" their specific group and market their specific offer, aiming for converts, participants, donators and public recognition. However, religions and religious groups may also have to face negative publicity due to scandals, suboptimal performance, lack of integration or religious conflict. Some religious groups may find it a challenge to adapt to modern conditions and to market themselves, while others may try to resist to see their offer as "products".

This conference welcomes papers dealing with the topics listed below. Papers may focus on all kinds of religions, "world religions" just as new religious movements or alternative spiritualities. The conference is an interdisciplinary academic venue between sociology, economics, marketing, and study of religions scholars, open to all, supporters as well as critics of the economic paradigm of religion and spirituality.

**Topics**
- The branding of religions: How do religions / religious institutions brand themselves?
- Positive and negative public images of religions and their effects
- Religion and marketing Communication, media and the promotion of religions
- Effects of religious branding and marketing on conversion and switching
- Religious institutions as suppliers of religion and spirituality
- Religious institutions as competitors on the market of religions
- The influence of state regulation on religious branding and marketing
- Consumer behavior for religion: Beliefs, norms, values, participation and commitment
- Consumer loyalty and switching in the religious market
- Giving and the market of religions: Religious giving, philanthropy, church finances
- Substitutability, complementarity, competition between secular and religious goods
- Religion and spirituality as determinants of consumer behavior
- Social networks and social/spiritual/religious capital

**Keynote Speakers**
Steve Bruce (University of Edinburgh)
Roger Finke (Penn State University)
Laurence R. Iannaccone (Chapman University)
Philippe Simonnot (Observatoire de l'Economie Méditerranéenne)

Organizing Committee
Ghislaine Cestre, (University of Lausanne, HEC)
T.C. Melewar (Zürich University of Applied Sciences)
Jörg Stolz (University of Lausanne, FTSR, Observatoire des Religions)
Jean-Claude Usunier (University of Lausanne, HEC)

Scientific Committee
Jean-Pierre Bastian, Université de Strasbourg, France
Steve Bruce, University of Edimburgh, Great Britain
Jeremy Carrette, University of Kent at Canterbury, UK
Mark Chaves, Duke University, USA
Mara Einstein, Queens College/CUNY and NYU, USA
Reto Famos Cla, Fondation Suisse des études, Switzerland
Roger Finke, The Pennsylvania State University, USA
Jean-Paul Flipo, EM Lyon, France
Anthony Gill, University of Washington, Seattle, USA
Steffen Hillebrecht, FH Würzburg-Schweinfurt, Germany
Dan Hungerman, University of Notre Dame, USA
Lawrence Iannaccone, Chapman University, USA
Elif Karaosmanoglu, Istanbul Technical University, Turkey
Ralph Kunz, University of Zürich, Switzerland
Ann Kuzma, Minnesota State University, USA
Raphael Liogier, Observatoire du Religieux, Université d'Aix en Provence, France
Bill Merillees, Griffith University, Australia
Dale Miller, Griffith University, Australia
Wilfried Mödinger, University of Berlin, Germany
Peter Seele, University of Basel, Switzerland
Erik Sengers, Kampen Theological University, The Netherlands
Philippe Simmonot, Oberservatoire des Religions, Université Paris, France
Rodney Stark, Baylor University, USA
Faridah Syed Alwi Sharifah, University of Malaya, Malaysia
David Voas, University of Manchester, Great Britain
Jean-Paul Willaime, Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes, France

Paper Selection/Screening Process
Papers will be selected based on a double-blind review process.
Authors will receive abstract acceptance notice from the Organizing Committee by June 30 2011. Full papers should be submitted by September 15, 2011.

Paper Submission and Review Process
Please send an abstract of no more than 1000 words (no detailed references) by April 30, 2011 to the conference organizer (jusunier@unil.ch). Abstracts should clearly state the purpose, results and conclusions of the work to be described in the final paper. Keywords (3-5) should be enclosed to abstract. Please, provide full names, affiliations and up-to-date contact details (postal address, e-mail, telephone and fax numbers).

- The conference organizers plan to publish a substantial number of accepted papers in an edited volume.
- The editors of Journal of Consumer Culture and Consumption, Markets, and Society encourage submission of papers from the "Religions as Brands" conference.

Language
Abstracts and final papers may be submitted in English, French, or German. Since English is the shared language of the Conference, presenters are expected to make their presentation in English for making cross-language communication easier while retaining some key concepts in the original language for the purpose of highlighting culture and language-specific concepts that are not cross-culturally equivalent.

Submission Format
All abstracts and final papers in Microsoft Word format can be submitted in English, French, or German, checked for correct grammar and spelling. Abstract and manuscript style should follow the guidelines for authors of Consumption, Markets, and Culture (see: http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/journal.asp?issn=1025-3866&linktype=44). They should be e-mailed to enza.pizzolante@unil.ch.

Conference Venue
The conference will take place at the beautiful site of University of Lausanne from Thursday October 13, 2011 at 2PM to Saturday October 15, 2011 at 1PM. Travel and accommodation is to be paid by participants. The conference organization will provide a list of hotels and facilitate booking.

Registration Fee
For regular participants CHF 200 / Euro 140 / USD 190 (CHF 100, Euro 70, USD 95 for PhD students), exclusive of transport and accommodation. This includes coffee breaks, Friday lunch as well as the dinners on Thursday and Friday night.

Information, Contact and Correspondence
For any question related to accommodation in Lausanne, participants should contact enza.pizzolante@unil.ch

Conference Website
www3.unil.ch/wpmu/rab2011
Call for Papers
Second International Conference of Young Urban Researchers
Lisbon, Portugal, 11-14 October 2011
Deadline of abstracts submission: 15 May 2011
Link: http://conferencias.cies.iscte.pt/index.php/icyurb/sicyurb

Dear Colleagues,

Four years after the first meeting, the Second International Conference of Young Urban Researchers (SICYUrb) provides continuity to the experience of interdisciplinary meeting of young urban researchers. Once again, the University Institute of Lisbon (ISCTE-IUL) hosts this event, held in Lisbon from 11 to 14 October 2011.

Second International Conference of Young Urban Researchers (SICYUrb) aims to gather recent researches on urban contexts from many different areas of social sciences, to discuss current theoretical and methodological issues and to promote interdisciplinary and international networking. It is intended that the meeting should be boosted by young researchers who work in urban studies and develop research in the cities - especially those who are studying in post-graduate programs but also those carrying out technical and intervention activities.

The conference is in charge of the Centre for Research and Studies in Sociology (ISCTE-University Institute of Lisbon, CIES-IUL) and co-organized by the Centre for Studies in Sociology, Universidade Nova de Lisboa (CesNova, FCSH-UNL) and the Institute of Sociology – University of Porto (ISFLUP). The organising committee is composed by Graça Índias Cordeiro, Gonçalo Gonçalves, Inês Pereira, João Pedro S. Nunes, Lígia Ferro, Patrícia Pereira and Rita Cachado.

The conference is organised in eight tracks (see below).

Extended abstracts (maximum 500 words) should be submitted on the conference website until May 15. A short biographical note should also be submitted. Papers can be written in Portuguese, English, Castilian and French. Authors should indicate in which language they intend to present the communication.

Notifications of acceptance will be sent by June 15. Papers should be submitted online before September 15. Additional guidelines for papers will be disclosed soon.

In addition, the organisers of this conference have the greatest interest in receiving proposals for workshop sessions, focusing on practical experiences and research methodologies in the city. These workshops can be organised by an individual person or by a previously established team and workshop sessions should be no longer than one hour and a half.

For further information and abstracts submission go to:
http://conferencias.cies.iscte.pt/index.php/icyurb/sicyurb
Tracks:

T01 – City in movement: Participation, activism and identity
Coordinators: Inês Pereira and Nuno Nunes

T02 – City and Culture in Action: Politics, Practices and Cultural Identities
Coordinators: Lígia Ferro and Otávio Raposo

T03 – Mobility and urban flows: from transnational movements to virtual flows
Coordinators: Rita Cachado and Joana Azevedo

T04 - Making the city work: agency in a changing world
Coordinators: Gonçalo Gonçalves and Bruno Monteiro

T05 – (Re)producing urban fabric
Coordinators: João Pedro Nunes and Pedro Costa

T06 – Building and living the urban space: conflict, inequality and coexistence in the enlarged city
Coordinators: Patrícia Pereira and João Martins

T07 – Space as relation: cities and their multiple territories
Coordinators: Renato do Carmo and Sofia Santos

T08 - From collaborative research to public knowledge
Coordinators: Graça Cordeiro, Pedro Abrantes and Ioana Florea

Important dates and conference fees:

Workshops and abstracts submission: May 15
Notification of acceptance: June 15
Papers submission: September 15

Conference registration:

Until July 31st:
Students - € 50
Non-Students - € 80
After August 1st:
Students - € 70
Non students - € 100
The organising committee

Announcing a new conference:

Health System Reform in Asia

9-12 December 2011, University of Hong Kong

Health System Reform in Asia is a new conference, in association with Social Science & Medicine - the world's most cited social science journal. It is an interdisciplinary conference focusing on the health system reforms Asian countries have adopted, or are considering, during rapid economic, social, demographic and epidemiologic change in the region.

Comparisons of reform experiences within and outside Asia are particularly encouraged. The conference welcomes empirical examinations of health outcomes, social, economic and political analyses as well as theoretical and philosophical contributions on these themes.

The conference is sponsored and hosted by Social Science & Medicine – the world's most cited social science journal.

Topics List

- Governance and regulation
- Financing and payment arrangements
- Service delivery, quality assurance and organization of care
- Knowledge management for policy; policy capacity and policy process
- Monitoring, evaluating and researching the impact of reform
- Health workforce development
- Medical pluralism and mainstreaming of traditional healthcare
- Health access and improvement particularly for vulnerable populations and equity impact
- Aid management and the role of donors in health sector reform
- Consumer and community participation
- Use of Information Communication Technologies (ICTs); innovation and e-health
- Emerging ecological, social and epidemiological challenges (inc. chronic illness)
- Risk reduction and illness prevention

Submit your Abstract by Friday 10th June 2011

We would like to invite you to submit your research to be featured at Health System Reform in Asia 2011. Your enthusiasm and participation will greatly contribute to the scientific quality of the conference. We believe that this conference can be a significant milestone and hope that you are willing to contribute. All submitted abstracts will undergo a full review with accepted abstracts selected for either poster display, oral or sub-plenary presentation. A sub-plenary should have an organizer, and contain a cluster of (approximately 6-8) related abstracts.
Call for Papers

Environmental values and environmental change


The 3/2011 issue of the International Review of Social Research (IRSR) seeks articles for a special issue on environmental sociology. Environmental sociology is a relatively young research area, but it has been gaining increasing importance, as new environmental problems and risks appear throughout the world. Current environmental problems like climate change, ozone depletion, the growing quantity of waste, and urban pollution are increasingly viewed as both environmental and social facts. As a response, new perspectives and theories have been developed, aiming to explain the relationship between human society and environmental systems, the role that various groups within society can play in the mitigation of environmental problems, and the ways in which institutions and individuals develop attitudes and actions towards the environment.

Rooted in the context of these dynamic environmental, societal and disciplinary changes, the present issue of IRSR aims to bring together contributions dealing with the interactions between social life and ecosystems at various scales, ranging from the local to the global.

We are particularly interested in contributions grounded in empirical research (both qualitative and quantitative) which investigate the actual manifestations and longitudinal evolution of environmental values, attitudes, and behaviours of the general public.

We also encourage papers dealing with case-studies of environmental initiatives such as ecological modernization and standardization, public-private partnerships, projects initiated by NGOs, grassroot struggles, as well as the assessment of the social reception and role of such initiatives in building green citizenship. Studies asking pertinent questions about the role and contribution of sociology in approaching environmental issues, including the role and opportunity of interdisciplinary approaches, are also welcomed.

We kindly ask contributors to send their manuscripts no later than May 15, 2011 electronically in .doc or .docx format to the e-mail address of the issue editors: Laura Nistor and Filip Alexandrescu (environsoc@irsr.eu).

Manuscripts should be written in English and accompanied by an abstract of maximum 150 words and four to six key words. The length of articles varies from 4,000 to 8,000 words. For author guidelines, please check the International Review of Social Research’s site, at www.irsr.eu.

An international, scholarly peer-reviewed journal, International Review of Social Research (www.irsr.eu) carries sociology and social/cultural anthropology research articles. It is published three times a year. The editorial team and office are located at the Department of Sociology and Social Work of University of Bucharest and it is published by the main Romanian social sciences publishers, Polirom. It is both printed and published on-line. International Review of Social Research welcomes articles of all areas of sociology and cultural anthropology. No research topics, methodological strategies or geographical locations are considered irrelevant, as long as articles are both theoretically and empirically grounded. Comparative, ethnographic, critical and space-sensitive approaches are welcomed.
PhD Studentships at the Department of Sociology

University of Aberdeen

UK

The Department of Sociology at the University of Aberdeen invites applications from prospective PhD students for studentships.

Sociology at Aberdeen is a vibrant, flourishing department, with internationally-recognised experts in a broad range of sociological specialisms. The department is located within the School of Social Sciences, which promotes synergies between sociology and anthropology, politics and international relations. The School offers a friendly and supportive scholarly environment which allows PhD students to carry out their researches to the very best of their abilities. The department enjoys international recognition for its research. In the most recent (2008) UK government Research Assessment Exercise, the majority of research submitted by the department of Sociology was recognised as 'world leading' and 'internationally excellent'. For further information on the department, see http://www.abdn.ac.uk/sociology/

We offer excellent research training through our recognised Masters programmes, which equip students with a wide range of research skills, both methodological and theoretical, as pathways to advanced postgraduate study. The acquisition of these skills allow students to progress onto successful PhD studies, as well as into a diverse set of extra-academic careers.

Studentships are available for 1+3 (Masters and PhD) and +3 (PhD only) programmes of study. In both cases, applicants should have a First Class or Upper Second undergraduate degree in sociology or a related subject. For +3 study, applicants should also have a Masters (equivalent to UK level 5) degree in sociology or a related subject, which has equipped them with the research skills necessary for undertaking PhD research.

There are two types of studentships available:

1) ESRC Scottish Doctoral Training Centre studentships

The department is a member of the UK government Economic and Social Research Council's Scottish Doctoral Training Centre for sociology. ESRC studentships are open to UK nationals and EU students who meet certain UK residence requirements (in both cases, fees plus maintenance), plus EU nationals (fees only). Closing date for completed applications: 3rd May 2011

2) University of Aberdeen studentships.

These studentships are open to all qualified students (UK nationals, EU nationals, non-EU nationals). Studentships are offered in particular themed areas: see http://www.abdn.ac.uk/cass/graduate/funding/ for themed areas and closing dates. There is also an open competition for studentships in any area of sociology.

For studentships of all types, applicants must contact both the Head of Department and PG officer to discuss their application well in advance of submission dates. Head of Department is David Inglis: d.inglis@abdn.ac.uk. PG officer contact is Tony Glendinning: a.glendinning@abdn.ac.uk
Job Opportunity
Assistant Professor (Universitair Docent)
At Erasmus University Rotterdam

Erasmus University Rotterdam

The expertise of Erasmus University Rotterdam (EUR) is concentrated in the disciplines economics, Medicine and Health Sciences, Law, Social Sciences, History and Arts, Business Administration, and Philosophy. In addition to the initial degree programmes and scientific research, the University offers specific postgraduate study programmes and courses. Erasmus University has around 25,000 students and some 2,500 staff members.

Erasmus School of History, Culture and Communication (ESHCC)
The Erasmus School of History, Culture and Communication includes the Departments of Art and Culture Studies, Media and Communication, and History at Erasmus University. The ESHCC is home to over 900 students and some 120 staff members.

Arts and Culture Studies
The Department of Arts and Culture Studies is a vibrant, internationally oriented department within the ESHCC. In addition to a Dutch-language bachelor’s programme in Culture Studies and a master’s programme in Arts and Culture Studies, the Department offers an international master's in Cultural Economics and Cultural Entrepreneurship and a Research master’s in the Sociology of Culture, Media and the Arts. The Department is closely linked to the Erasmus Research Centre for Media, Communication and Culture (ERMeCC), which serves as the main base for researchers in the sociology of media, culture and the arts at Erasmus.

The Department of Arts and Culture Studies has a vacancy for an:
Assistant Professor (Universitair Docent) (f/m, 1.0 fte)
in the Sociology of the Arts and Culture

Job description
The successful candidate is expected to:

Research
• carry out internationally oriented, empirical research that is publishable in established international refereed journals;
• contribute actively to the development of the Department’s research in the sociology of the arts and culture;
• expand the Department’s national and international research connections;
• contribute to the generation of additional research funding from national and international funding agencies and other organizations;
• participate actively in the Erasmus Research Centre for Media, Communication and Culture (ERMeCC), a KNAW recognized Dutch research school, and relevant international scientific associations and networks.

Teaching
• make a substantial contribution to the development of the programme’s introductory and specialisation courses in sociology of the arts and culture;
• teach one or more of the core courses in quantitative and/or qualitative research methods.
Service
• contribute to the management tasks of the Department;
• take an active part in relevant national and international academic networks and organizations;
• develop and maintain close contacts with relevant organizations and professionals in the arts and cultural industries.

Requirements
The successful candidate considers it a challenge and a privilege to contribute to the programmes of the department of Arts and Culture Studies at Erasmus University.

She or he has:
• a PhD in one of the social sciences, preferably in the sociology of the arts and culture;
• ample experience with social-scientific research methods;
• expert knowledge in the sociology of the arts and culture, with connections with the field of media and communication;
• a strong research track record, including publications in international refereed journals;
• the potential to generate research funds from national and international funding agencies and to supervise junior researchers and PhD students;
• prior teaching experience with the proven ability to inspire students from undergraduate to postgraduate levels, apparent from positive assessments by students and peers. Candidates who don’t possess a formal teaching qualification, are expected to acquire it within two years (according to the standards of the so-called Basis Qualifications for Teaching (BKO));
• the ability and willingness to teach a wide range of topics and to develop new courses;
• strong communication and organizational skills and the ability to work closely together with others in a team environment;
• proficiency in spoken and written English. Non-English speakers have to meet the C1-standards of the Common European Framework (CEF). International applicants are expected to acquire the Dutch language within two years.

Conditions of employment
Employment starts in September 2011 at the latest. Contracts will be running for a fixed term of two years with a possible extension. Depending on their track-record and performance, candidates may be invited to enter Erasmus University’s tenure track programme, which offers them the possibility to qualify for a tenured position as Associate Professor (UHD).

The conditions of employment correspond with the CAO Nederlandse Universiteiten (CAO NU). Salary is subject to training and experience and corresponds to Scale 12 CAO NU, with a maximum of €4,970,- gross per month on a 38 hour per week contract.
In accordance with the CAO NU a placement in a starting grade (Scale 11; minimum €3,195,-) is possible for the maximum duration of two years.

The EUR has attractive employment conditions, which include a holiday allowance of 8.0%, an end-of-year bonus of 8.3% and 41 annual vacation days in case of a full workweek.

Additional information
Additional information about the vacancies can be obtained from:
prof. dr. Ton Bevers or prof. dr. Susanne Janssen
E-mail: bevers@eshcc.eur.nl or s.janssen@eshcc.eur.nl
Phone: +31 (0) 10 4082445 or +31 (0) 10 4082443

Or additional information can be obtained through one of the following links:
About the Erasmus University Rotterdam
About the Erasmus School of History, Culture and Communication
About the Faculty’s Educational Programmes in Arts and Culture
About the Erasmus Research Centre in Media, Communication and Culture
To apply, please send your application letter with your resume, publication list, a description of courses taught, (copies of) two key publications, (copies of) teaching assessments and the names and contact details of two referees before April 2, 2011 by e-mail to vacancies@eshcc.eur.nl. Please mention “Assistant Professor Sociology of Arts and Culture Studies”.

An assessment can be part of the selection procedure.

Working at the Erasmus University Rotterdam

Working at the Erasmus University Rotterdam means working in a professional environment, where development is encouraged through an active career and mobility policy. The Erasmus University Rotterdam highly appreciates flexibility: we have a 38-hour workweek, flexible working hours, possibilities to work part-time and maternal/paternal leave. Moreover, the University has a company childcare scheme, possibilities to participate in a terms of employment option model, company savings program and life insurance schemes and favourable collective insurance schemes. Employees can also make use of facilities such as sports facilities and library.