

Newsletter June 2015

Editorial

Dear colleagues,

We are pleased share with you all the news from our research committee, including the activities of the past six months, and call for participation in the events to come this year. Starting with the former, this edition presents a short report on the activities of ISA members during the World Social Forum in Tunis, in March, and RC47 cooperation in the organization of the 47 Regional Conference "Social movements in Central and Eastern Europe", which took place in Bucharest, last May. We also call attention to the possibility of joining or organizing a Working Group, which can be an excellent way to organize future events for the RC47 as well as conduct joint research projects and publications.

Publications are the topic of the second section of this newsletter. And here we also have very good news. This year witnessed the launching of the project Open Movements, part of the website "Open Democracy", which has been very successful so far. More on that. A second exciting novelty is the launching of the first call for papers from the ISA47 new journal "Social Movements and Change" (SM&C). Philipp Altmann, Deniz Günce Demirhisar and Jacob Mwathi Mati are organizing a special edition on "Social Movements of the Global South – Methodological and Theoretical Considerations". Their aim is to "bring together research on social movements worldwide that break with the Eurocentric bias of social movement theory and try to develop both theories and methodologies apt to understand action, discourse or outcomes of social movements in the Global South". Please circulate widely in your networks and among your students, as there will also be a PhD section.

As in the last newsletter, this edition proudly presents a "publication of the term". This subsection is thought of as a means to give visibility to work developed as a result from an ISA activity. Therefore, the defining criteria for being included in this section is that the publication came out from a panel organized by RC47, a conference, a working group, etc. The idea behind this initiative is to encourage and support collective publications directly connected to ISA47 activities and to promote collective research within the network. This time the distinction goes to the special issue on "Social Media and Protest Identities", published at the journal *Information, Communication and Society.* Paolo Gerbaudo and Emiliano Treré jointly organized a panel last year at the ISA World Congress in Yokohama, from which the participants transformed their papers into the articles of this special edition. The section ends with a number of publications from members of ISA47. The editors would like to clarify that the intent here is to exchange information among us about our work. It is important that before sending us your list of publications you assess whether it is pertinent to the topics of common interest to ISA47 and also that you follow the style guidelines.

In what regards future activities, presented in Section III of the newsletter, we are looking forward to

ISA 47 Newsletter

receive applications to the ISA Forum, which will take place in Vienna, Austria, in July 2016. The call for papers for the RC47 is attached in this newsletter. We encourage you all to submit papers and participate at the ISA Forum, which will be the next general ISA activity before the World Congress in 2018.

The final section informs on the communication tools that have been used by ISA47 to improve and diversify the possibilities of sharing information among the members of the network. These include our website (www.isarc47.org/), our mailing-list, a Facebook page, the Twitter hashtag #ISA47, our YouTube channel and this newsletter.

Finally, we ask for your contributions to make this newsletter a useful means of exchanging information relevant to the development of an international perspective on the study of social movements and social classes. The next issue will be published by the end of the year. So please do not hesitate to pass on information on calls for papers and conferences, funding opportunities, research reports, newly published articles and books, research and training courses, as well as opinion pieces and websites and blogs, which you feel may be of interest to others in the ISA47. In this opportunity, Renata would like to announce that she will no longer edit the next editions due to maternity leave. She thanks you all for your contributions and responses to her calls, helping us to make this newsletter come out filled with interesting content and information.

Warmest wishes,

Renata Motta (ISA47 Board Member and Newsletter Editor)

Geoffrey Pleyers (ISA47 President)

CONTENTS

I. ISA47 Organization	
II. ISA47 Publications	
III. ISA47 Activities, Conferences, Seminars and Call for Papers	•
IV. ISA47 Communication and Social Media	•
Annex Call for Papers	•

I. ISA 47 ORGANIZATION AND RECENT ACTIVITIES

This section is dedicated to the news on the organization and on the recent activities of the RC47. In this edition, we present a short balance of the participation of RC47 at the World Social Forum, at the ISA 47 Regional Conference "Social movements in Central and Eastern Europe", and present the Working Groups.

A SHORT BALANCE OF ISA 47 ACTIVITIES (JANUARY-MAY 2015)

I. Past Events

ISA 47 Panel at the World Social Forum, Tunis, March 2015

Youth activism in social movements in MENA and Mediterranean countries, ISA 47 & Finnish Youth Research Network. Session organizers: Sofia Laine (FYRN & ISA47) & Jose Sanchez (Genind & ISA47)

Report by Sofia Laine, PhD, Finnish Youth Research Network, sofia.laine@youthresearch.fi

On the 25th of March, on the first Forum day after the opening march and declaring my personal politics of protest to journalist, I had the pleasure to open a session on youth activism in social movements in MENA and Mediterranean countries. The session was run collaboratively together with ISA-RC47, the Finnish Youth Research Network and Association Pontes Tunisie. Speakers of the panel came from Tunisia, French and Italy. One of them was the Tunisian blogger and activist Azyz Amami, who was cached after session to an <u>interview</u>. This article is also an evidence of how topics relating to youth issues were on the forefront in this edition of the WSF. Another speaker of the panel, Souhayel Hefdi, a community manager in NGO platform <u>Jamaity</u> ("My NGO" in Arabic), addressed how the majority of Tunisian civil society actors are youth, many of them are politically frustrated and have a high motivation to work in civil society – among other reasons, to gain experience, even to find work in that field. A third speaker was the social graffiti movement Zwewla ("Miserables" in Arabic), which started in Tunisia after revolution and is now a global social movement; they made an impressive input to the session both by showing their social movement in practice (i.e. making graffiti) and explaining with words how their movement speaks for better social justice through their art (see picture of their most known logo).



Photo: Medrar Sallem.

The panel was livestreamed on the ISA47 YouTube channel.

ISA 47 Regional Conference "Social movements in Central and Eastern Europe", University of Bucharest, 11-12 May 2015.

ISA47 held its regional conference "Social Movements in Central and Eastern Europe" on May 11-12 at the University of Bucharest, in Romania. The Research Committee 47 (ISA 47) intended to provide a space to the renewal of social movement studies in Central and Eastern Europe and to encourage scholars to make research on the new forms of social participation in Central and Eastern Europe. 96 scholars from 25 countries took part at the conference, presenting 76 papers in 21 panels, 4 semiplenaries, 2 plenaries and a concluding plenary. In addition, some 40 Romanian researchers and students took part in or assisted to specific panels or plenary.

As stated by the ISA 47 President, Geoffrey Pleyers, in his welcoming address, the contribution of social movement studies in the region are highly valuable both because social movements are important triggers for the consolidation and renewal of democracy in the region and because they constitute important insights for a global sociology. New forms of social participation have emerged and shall be developed in the next period of time, as Ionel N. Sava, professor at the University of Bucharest and local organizer of the conference, explains in his article on Open Movements.

A group of leading scholars supervised these sessions. (Among them professors Jim M Jasper from the City University of New York, Kerstin Jacobsson from Gothenburg University, Sweden, A. Ishkanian from London School of Economics, Tova Benski the ISA 48 President from Tel Aviv, Israel, Carine Clement from Russia. The keynote speakers were the Alain Touraine, James M. Jasper and Michel Wieviorka.) An <u>e-Book</u> is published by the University of Bucharest Publishing House. Many thanks to volunteers Georgiana Popescu, Ana Popa, Cristian Chira, Sergiu Velesniuc and Adelina Nedelcu, to the University of Bucharest and to Ionel N. Sava whose work to organize the conference was unanimously praised.



Conference '2 years after: June 2013 demonstrations in Brazil', Rio de Janeiro, 22 June 2015.

Few people could imagine that 2013 would go down in history as the year of one of the greatest social mobilizations in Brazilian democracy. Two years after the demonstrations that shook the country in June 2013, the Institute of Social and Political Studies at the State University of Rio de Janeiro (IESP-UERJ), in partnership with the ISA RC-47, organized on 22 June a Conference on the origins, the meanings and the impacts of these mass mobilizations.



Picture: Debate on IESP-UERJ terrace on the June 2013 mobilizations in Brazil

The invited speakers presented interpretations that result from empirical research conducted over the last two years in different cities of Brazil. Breno Bringel, ISA RC-47 Board Member opened the conference, which featured the participation of more than 100 people. The conference had the participation of researchers from several parts of Brazil, including the following guests: Angela Alonso, Cristiana Losekann, Francisco Tavares, José Szwako, Ruda Ricci, Marco Antonio Perruso, Marco Aurelio Santana, Alana Moraes and José Maurício Domingues. In this event, the special issue of the journal Brésil(s). Revue de sciences humaines et sociales on 'Mobilisations et démocratie au Brésil' was launched. The full **program** can be accessed <u>here</u> and also <u>in our social media</u>.

The videos of the Conference (in Portuguese) are already available here.

II. Working Groups

ISA47 recently launched working groups to foster international exchanges and collaborations on specific issues, social movements and challenges. A working group is a tool to share research results and questions, promote exchanges and discussions and foster collaborations among social scientists from different countries and continents working on similar movements or with converging approaches. Working groups can be formed on any topic within the scope of work of RC47. If you are interested in joining or creating a working group please contact Geoffrey Pleyers (geoffrey.pleyers@uclouvain.be) and Priska Daphi (daphi@soz.uni-frankfurt.de). Further details on working group requirements can be found on the RC47 website.

Current working groups:

Conservative and Racist movements

Information/ Coordination: Emanuele Toscano, University of Rome, emanuele.toscano@uniroma1.it

Workers' movements, unions, precarious work

Information/coordination: Daniele di Nunzio, Istituto di Ricerche Economiche e Sociali, d.dinunzio@ires.it

II. ISA47 Publications

In this section, we briefly present ISA47 main publications projects, and books and journal special issues resulting from ISA47 activities. We also list the books, book chapters, and journal articles published by ISA47 members between each edition of the newsletter.

Open Movements: The ISA47 platform on www.opendemocracy.net





Open Movements: report of the first months and new website!

Open Movements is a joint initiative of openDemocracy and the Research Committee on Social Classes and Social Movements of the International Sociological Association (ISA RC47), supported by the Institute of Social and Political Studies at the State University of Rio de Janeiro (IESP-UERJ).

Open Movements connects the analysis of social movements with broad social changes, considering the study of social movements as providing elements for a better understanding of both specific social actors and society as a whole. We intend to 'open up' social movements and social movements studies in five ways: connecting social movements with broad social changes; opening a dialogue with and learning from the South; combining the local, national, regional and global scales; learning from and with social movements; opening a space for a public sociology of social movements.

Four months after the launch of the project in March 2015, *Open Movements* has published 21 articles by leading social movements scholars and activists from different parts of the world, combining analyzes of contemporary political events with empirical research on the issues assessed.

"We are interested in receiving articles that fit the scope and aims of openMovements to propose an open and public sociology of social movements as presented in the introductory article reproduced below.

ISA47 members are particularly welcome to submit their text proposals, following the <u>submission</u> <u>guidelines</u>. These texts should be shorter than 2500 words and target an audience of 'informed citizens', avoiding theoretical debates and sociological jargon. Please send your article proposal to <u>openmovements@iesp.uerj.br</u>, <u>brenobringel@iesp.uerj.br</u>, <u>Geoffrey.Pleyers@uclouvain.be</u>

All the articles, listed below, are available in our **new website**: https://www.opendemocracy.net/od-partnerships/openmovements

openMovements: For a global and public sociology of social movements

Breno Bringel & Geoffrey Pleyers, ISA47, Editors of Open Movements

We live in a time of deep reconfigurations of both democracy and social movements. The democratic project is under serious threat in various regions of the world. On the one hand, social movements are repressed, journalists killed, citizens are spied upon by their states and major trade negotiations are conducted by technocrats on which citizens have little impact. On the other, conservative, racist and far right movements are gaining impetus in the West and in the East, jihadism attracts young people from all regions of the world.

This dark panorama is however an incomplete picture. All around the world, insightful social movements and new forms of activism and democratic practices have emerged. They open horizons of possibility and challenge our classic perspectives about what activism, social movements and democracy mean today. Citizens have occupied squares, and invaded the Internet to organize, diffuse their messages and promote an open and free society where knowledge and information are shared. They consider democracy not only a matter of polls or demands addressed to their governments, but a claim for social justice and dignity as much as a personal commitment they intend to implement in their activist and daily life practices.

openMovements aims to provide critical and empirically-based perspectives on these contemporary social movements, both on those which threaten the democratic emancipatory project and those which promote a deeper democracy, movements which gain mainstream media headlines as much as those which discreetly transform daily life and/or politics, whether at the local, national and global level. We publish a weekly article by scholars from every continent. We will also make more topical, direct interventions, but always **with the intention of going beyond mere opinion and seeking rigorous analysis**. Contributions from Latin America, Africa and Asia will receive special attention. We welcome articles drawing on empirical research that connect the analysis of social movements to the reconfiguration and challenges of activism, democracy and society.

openMovements intends to "open up" social movements and social movements studies in five ways:

1. Connecting social movements and society

Social movements are major actors in the production and transformation of society[1]. Social movements influence concrete policies, transform culture, daily life and subjectivities and produce knowledge, shape our society and open new scenarios of the possible. As Alberto Melucci put it, they "show glimpses of possible futures, and are, in some respects, the vehicles of realization of these very futures[2]". Studying social movements and learning from them consequently provides us with insightful tools for understanding society as a whole.

2. Opening a dialogue with and learning from the South

openMovements promotes a global outlook for the understanding of these social transformations by proposing a dialogue between different voices, generations, perspectives and traditions of thought and action. Actors, intellectuals, ideas, experiences and epistemologies from the South[3] provide insights into their own reality, but also the challenges for democracy and possible emancipation paths in the Global North.

3. Combining the local, national, regional and global levels

Fostering a global outlook does not mean dismissing local movements or national struggles. On the contrary, to understand todays' actors and challenges, we need to combine scales of action and levels of analysis, from the local to the global, and from personal subjectivity to globalization[4]. A proper global outlook requires empirical fieldwork in different sites and regions of the world, fully embedded in a

reality that is at the same time local, national, regional and global. Social movements are shaped by contexts and actors in all these distinct arenas, but they also contribute to determining the local, national and global[5]. Localized movements are usually reduced to parochial conflicts, while movements like the Zapatistas uprisings in Mexico have shown that they also have important global meanings to offer. We also need to understand how struggles and cultures of activism resonate beyond national borders and how transnational networks affect both domestic and international politics.

4. Learning from and with social movements

Social movements and activists are producers of social change but also producers of knowledge. *OpenMovements* thus aims at opening a space to learn from and with social movements. Contemporaneous social movements have a strong ability to generate collective learning, both in concrete struggles and in social experimentations that are being set up on all continents.

5. Public sociology

Finally, *openMovements* aims at addressing the academic community by opening a space for public sociologies of social movements. The institutionalization of the subfield of "social movement studies" has led many of its scholars and journals to focus on social movements outcomes on institutional politics and short-term strategy, while professional scholar journals became the only legitimate site for publication, at the expense of a public sociology. In the words of former ISA president and openMovements' author <u>Michael Burawoy</u>, "public sociology endeavors to bring sociology into dialogue with audiences beyond the academy, an open dialogue in which both sides deepen their understanding of public issues".

To avoid the traps of both "professional" sociologists' hyper-specialization and intellectual vanguards, ISA47 and **openMovements** promotes approaches that connect the study of social movements with major democratic challenges and the 'big picture' of social transformations. Social scientists have indeed a specific contribution to deliver in a democratic public space, as openDemocracy's articles daily testify. Scientific rigor and long term empirical fieldwork are needed to understand the features, stakes and challenges of struggles and conflicts beyond the immediate events covered by mainstream newspapers and thanks to a profound knowledge of contexts and actors. It is therefore important to open spaces where scholars who have conducted in-depth research can diffuse their results and perspectives through texts accessible to an audience beyond the wall of the academic world. The articles by leading global sociologists published this week in openMovements are exemplary in this perspective.

- [1] Touraine, A. (1981) The self-production of society, Chicago: Chicago University Press.
- [2] Melucci, A. (1996) Challenging codes, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- [3] Sousa Santos, B. (2014) Epistemologies of the South: Justice Against Epistemicide, Boulder: Paradigms.
- [4] Wieviorka, M. & Calhoun, C. (2013) Manifeste pour les sciences sociales, Socio, vol 1, pp. 3-38.
- [5] Bringel, B. & Domingues, J.M. (Eds.) (2015) Global Modernity and Social Contestation, London/New Delhi: Sage.

Articles published:

<u>openMovements: social movements, global outlooks and public sociologists</u>, Breno Bringel and Geoffrey Pleyers 16 March 2015 (see below)

The Podemos wave, Boaventura de Sousa Santos, 16 March 2015

Never before has it become so clear that we live in societies that are politically democratic but socially fascist. The Podemos wave is a metaphor for every single attempt to find a progressive solution.

Open futures: struggles from below, Markus Shulz, ISA Vice president, 17 March

They do not ask for permission, but they do things. Structural adjustment policies have increased urban slums worldwide; it is time to recognize development innovation from the ground up.

<u>Food democracy South and North: from food sovereignty to transition initiatives</u>, Olivier De Schutter, 17 March

People seek to co-design food systems, to participate in shaping them, to recapture them. We were familiar with the slogan of workplace democracy; we must now open up our eyes to food democracy.

Global terrorism as anti-movement, Michel Wieviorka, 18 March

In an *anti-movement* can be found, in perverted fashion, those demands which a movement could have pursued – the call for justice, equality, dignity, respect and ultimately a brighter future.

War and social movements in the age of globalization, Sidney Tarrow, 18 March

Faced by the threat of irregular warfare by non-state transnational actors, states have increasingly ignored the rules of war that developed for wars between states in the nineteenth century.

Prisons and radicalization in France, Farhad Khosrokhavar, 19 March

To make prisons less of a locus for radicalization, what is needed is more Muslim ministers, less overcrowding, more wardens and more respect for the legitimate claims of Muslims.

Egypt: scattered thoughts on a counter-revolutionary moment, Mona Abaza, 19 March

The euphoric, Bakhtinian, carnivalesque and dramaturgical moment of January 2011, which caught the attention of numerous observers and which lasted for almost four years, seems to have withered away.

Still a chance for another Europe?, Donatella Della Porta, 20 March

On the output side of Europe's political system, we have an abdication of responsibility by representative institutions in the face of citizens' demands. But the Greek elections mark a turning point.

Travelling theory, Michael Burawoyn 21 March

Around social thinkers from the South, who have not made it into the conventional sociological tradition, Connell proposes to build an alternative social science

<u>Defending the global knowledge commons</u>, Jackie Smith, 21 March

Members are encouraged to use creative commons licensing and to join others in a pledge to be open by agreeing to review for and publish in mainly if not solely open access journals.

Waiting for emancipation: the prospects for liberal revolution in Africa, Keith Hart, 26 March

Clearly, trade and finance are not organized, in Africa or the world at large, with a view to liberating a popular movement.

After Tunis. What next for the World Social Forum?, Teivo Teivanen, 24 April

One of the arguments is that as the crisis has hit the North, it is time for South-based activists to travel to teach their northern comrades how to deal with debt crisis and precarity.

BRICS from below: counterpower movements in Brazil, India and South Africa, Patrick Heller, 30 April

While movements in Brazil and South Africa have been fueled by unrealized socio-economic expectations and by explosive growth in India, what they have most in common is the subordination of democracy to money.

A second generation of grassroots movements in central and eastern Europe?, Ionel N. Sava, 11 May What comes next for central and eastern Europe's civil society and social movements? The trend is for new forms of social participation that are community-oriented.

Urban grassroots mobilization in central-east European cities, Kerstin Jacobsson, 19 May

In expecting social movements in the post-socialist countries to follow the same repertoire of action as, for instance, in Western Europe or North America, we risk missing out on important forms of collective action.

Ayotzinapa: the events that shook the Mexican youth, Ilán Bizberg, 26 May

These protests did not oust the government of Peña Nieto, although they demanded the resignation of the president, but they did force the government to react and try to explain what had happened.

<u>Deciding how to decide: the Munduruku Indigenous Group and political participation in Brazil</u>, Cristiana Losekann & Rodrigo Oliveira, 2 June

The struggles of a variety of movements, peoples, communities and organizations have opened new and creative spaces for participation.

Self-determined citizens? A new wave of civic activism in Armenia, Armine Ishkanian, 16 June

'When people on the street approached us and asked, "What NGO are you from?" We replied, "We are not from any NGO. We are citizens of the Republic of Armenia."'

The citizen revolutions in Latin America, François Houtart, 27 June

The countries of the 'citizen revolution' in Latin America are post-neoliberal, but not post-capitalist.

From Gezi park to the transformation of the Turkish political landscape, Buket Turkmen, 1 July

We look forward to your contribution to disseminate this ISA RC-47 new editorial project! Follow our networks:

- Twitter: https://twitter.com/open movements
- Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/groups/ISA47/

//openMovements Submission Guidelines//

In addition to contributions made by invited scholars, researchers and activists, *Open Movements* (*Omove*) is open to submissions as long as they are relevant to our description and current events in which social movements have an active role. Submissions can also dialogue, implicitly or explicitly, with material previously published on the *oMove* page.

Writing guidelines:

Please keep your submission to within 1,500-2,500 words. It is important to keep your sentences concise and clear, avoiding technical or academic jargon, since we have a diverse audience, including scholars, journalists, activists and policy makers. Keep also in mind that our content is aimed at a global readership. It is helpful to provide background information concerning key political events, personalities or places, as our readers may not be familiar with them.

Articles should be submitted in English. For young researchers or scholars in countries where the access to English translation is particularly uneasy, we may accept text in French, Spanish or Portuguese and, when possible, help with the translation. The editors closely evaluate each article. Authors should be

aware that articles that do not fit with open Movements standards, style and purposes are not accepted and that changes are request for almost all our articles.

The Submission and editing process

Please submit your piece to the editors, Breno Bringel (<u>brenobringel@iesp.uerj.br</u>) and Geoffrey Pleyers (<u>Geoffrey.pleyers@uclouvain.be</u>), with copy to our institutional email: <u>openmovements@iesp.uerj.br</u>

We will return to you to confirm that your piece is in accordance to our guidelines and relevant to our content. Depending on the relevance and timing of the piece, we'll return an edited version of the piece with comments, requests and suggestions. This process might be repeated in order to ensure the text is accessible to the broadest audience possible. Once editing is concluded we will schedule publication. We typically publish one or two articles per week, except for a few weeks a year when *oMove* appears daily in special issues.

CALL FOR PAPERS ISA47 JOURNAL: SOCIAL MOVEMENTS AND CHANGE (SM&C)

Call for papers for the first special edition:

Social Movements of the Global South - Methodological and Theoretical Considerations

Editors: Philipp Altmann, Deniz Günce Demirhisar, Jacob Mwathi Mati

It is a common place among social movement researchers that the major part of social movement theory was built on the model of experiences of the Global North and therefore in tendency Eurocentric. While investigation on social movements in the Global South has been increasing in the last few decades, most of those studies stick to the major theories made in the Global North, in some cases, reducing the scope of them. The theoretical and —as a necessary next step- methodological bias does therefore actively harm research in the major part of the world, turning it in the best case into an application of foreign thought. At the same time, there are some social movement theories that actually were developed from the experiences of the Global South, opening new ways to understand the action of social movements both there and in the Global North. Nevertheless, concepts developed from the experience of social movements of the Global South, such as the approach of "cultural politics" of Sonia Álvarez, Evelina Dagnino and Arturo Escobar (1998), or the introduction of the factor distance by Diane Davis (1999), are not sufficiently integrated into social movement studies. Instead, they have been relegated to approaches identified with cultural studies (and not sociology and political studies) or simply ignored.

Moreover, Global South and Global North do not necessarily refer to a rigid dichotomy between geographic areas and historically established power structures. These expressions could be also understood as intermediate conceptual tools in order to investigate what is really global in the recent waves of protest and indignation all over the world, especially since 2011.

Beyond comparisons or correlations, the concept of resonance (Khasnabish 2007; Pleyers and Glasuis 2013) has a great heuristic value for the actual global configuration of social movements. For instance, what motivates a young activist of Gezi Movement while referring to the Zapatistas, Indignados, Occupy Wall Street or Tahrir Square? How do the social actors invent their activism practices by combining the peculiarities of their very local context and the transnational common struggles i.e. against the global finance capitalism as well as ecological destruction? What are the emotions and subjectivities that are transversal to the social movements of our era? To what extent, do the reticular forms of power result in networks of outrage and hope (Castells 2012)?

This thematic edition aims to bring together research on social movements worldwide that break with the Eurocentric bias of social movement theory and try to develop both theories and methodologies apt to understand action, discourse or outcomes of social movements in the Global South. In this attempt could enter the question to what extent the Eurocentric bias has reduced the scope of research on social movements of the Global South and new experiences in the Global North, how this effect did influence prior research and which alternatives have been undertaken. The main focus should be the development of alternative theories and/or methodologies that reflect the experiences of the Global South and the new ones in the Global North in a better way. In order to engage in this academic work from a legitimized and credible standpoint, it is necessary to integrate researchers from all parts of the world that research social movements in the Global South, putting special emphasis on a considerable representation of Africa, Latin America and Asia.

Literature:

Alvarez, Sonia/Dagnino, Evelina/Escobar, Arturo (1998) (eds.): Cultures of Politics/Politics of Cultures. Re-visioning Latin American Social Movements, Boulder: Westview Press.

Castells, Manuel (2012): Networks of Outrage and Hope. Social Movements in the Internet Age, Cambridge: Polity Press

Davis, Diane (1999): The Power of Distance: Re-Theorizing Social Movements in Latin America, Theory and Society 28 (5): 585-638.

Khasnabish, Alex (2007): Insurgent imaginations in Ephemera 7 (4): 505-525

Pleyers, Geoffrey / Glasius, Marlies (2013): La résonance des « mouvements des places » connexions, émotions, valeurs in Socio 1 (2): 59-79.

Deadline for Abstracts (350 words): 15 September 2015

Deadline for Full Papers: 15 November 2015 Publication of the Special Issue: July 2016

Email submissions to gregoire.lits@uclouvain.be (Managing Editor of SM&C) and smc@smcjournal.org Social Movements and Change is a new journal edited by the ISA 47th Research Committee (Social Classes and Social Movements). The intellectual stance of Social Movements and Change can be captured in the themes and issues that have been faced and investigated by the Research Committee 47 of International Sociological Association (ISA). SM&C will focus on socio-cultural and transnational practices, with particular attention paid to the relationship between social actors and society, both at global and local level.

ISA47's publication of the term:

Paolo Gerbaudo & Emiliano Treré (eds.) "Social Media and Protest Identities", Special Issue of Information, Communication and Society

This special issue sets out to explore the changing nature of collective identity in a digital era and to establish what opportunities and threats the new media ecology brings to processes of identity construction in contemporary protest movements. The issue originated from a RC 47 panel at the ISA 2014 Conference in Yokohama involving a number of ISA RC 47 members as Paolo Gerbaudo, Emiliano Treré, and Kevin McDonald. Articles have been published in their online first version of the journal *Information, Communication & Society*. The definitive issue is forthcoming in August 2015.



The contributions to the special issue illuminate the transformations in the process of collective identity brought by the use of social media, including shifts in the content and the grammar of protest identity; in the relationship between personal and collective forms of identification; and in its manifold forms of circulation. The scope of the special issue is highly global in character encompassing movements from different world regions: the 15M/Indignados in Spain, Occupy Wall Street in the United States and the

UK, the 2011 Egyptian revolution, the #YoSoy132 movement in Mexico, the Purple People movement in Italy, and the hacker groups Anonymous and Lulzsec.

The articles recognize collective identity as a central object of concern for digital activists and conceive social media as platforms in which new identities are forged and channelled. The authors demonstrate that social media has become the key site where protest identities are created, channelled, and contested. Far from having disappeared from the horizon of contemporary activism, collective identity still constitutes a pivotal question for activists and scholars alike; one which is decisive to understand the emergence, persistence, and decline of protest movements, and to discern their meaning and worldview.

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

In search of the 'we' of social media activism: introduction to the special issue on social media and protest identities, Paolo Gerbaudo, Emiliano Treré

ARTICLES

<u>Creating the Collective: Social Media, the Occupy Movement and its Constitution as a Collective Actor</u> Anastasia Kavada

From Social Movements to Cloud Protesting: the evolution of collective identity, Stefania Milan

Reclaiming, proclaiming, and maintaining collective identity in the #YoSoy132 movement in Mexico, Emiliano Treré

<u>Protest avatars as memetic signifiers: political profile pictures and the construction of collective identity on social media in the 2011 protest wave, Paolo Gerbaudo</u>

<u>Multitudinous identities: a qualitative and network analysis of the 15M collective identity</u> Arnau Monterde, Miguel Aguilera, Xabier E. Barandiaran, Antonio Calleja, John Postill

The Rise and Fall of Collective Identity in Networked Movements: Communication Protocols, Facebook, and the Anti-Berlusconi Protest, Lorenzo Coretti, Daniele Pica

From Indymedia to Anonymous: rethinking action, identity and digital communications, Kevin McDonald

FINAL COMMENTARY: <u>Do clouds have politics? Tracing the Meanders of Collective Identity Amid Social Media</u>, Maria Bakardjieva

Publications by ISA47 members

Books by ISA47 members

Abdelrahman, Maha (2015). Egypt's Long Revolution: Protest Movements and Uprisings London: Routledge

This book tells the story of Egypt's 25 January 2011 uprising. It analyses new forms of political mobilisation that arose in response to ever-increasing grievances against authoritarian politics and the machinery of crony capitalism. It argues that pressures from different quarters such as labour and prodemocracy movements during this period culminated in an intensifying culture of protest and activism

that was vital in the lead up to the dramatic overthrow of Mubarak. It, also, argues that the features of these new forms of activism and political mobilisation has contributed to shaping the political process since the downfall of Mubarak.

Agripa, **Alexandre** Faria (2015).Democracia no **Brasil:** concepções е experiências revisitadas depois das Manifestações de Junho de 2013. Florianópolis: Ed. UFSC.

Ce livre rend compte que les principaux changements sociaux et politiques sur le Brésil dès la fin de la dictature militaire en 1985 indiquent les lignes directrices des individus et des groupes sociaux des bases de leur société. Cet argument est utilisé pour expliquer le processus politique démocratique brésilienne avec leurs revendications des rues, en particulier les manifestations qui ont eu lieu en juin de 2013. Sur la base de recherches ethnographiques, j'offe un panorama critique de comment les acteurs sociaux savent définir les contours de la structure de communication de la sphère publique pour discuter des processus démocratiques.

Baumgarten, Britta; Daphi, Priska and Ullrich, Peter (eds.) (2014). Conceptualizing Culture in Social Movement Research. London: Palgrave Macmillan.

Culture has become a prominent concept in social movement research. It is, however, often employed in an unsystematic and limited way. This volume introduces and compares different concepts of culture in social movement research. It assesses advantages and shortcomings of existing concepts and introduces new approaches. The contributions in this volume address three relationships between social movements and culture: culture as a framework for movements, social movements' internal culture, and culture and cultural change as a result of social movement activity. Each contribution elaborates its approach to culture and illustrates it with recent cases of mobilization.

Coburn, Elaine (ed.) (2015). More Will Sing Their Way to Freedom: Indigenous Resistance and Resurgence. Halifax: Fernwood Press.

More Will Sing Their Way to Freedom is about Indigenous resistance and resurgence across lands and waters claimed by Canada. Resistance includes Indigenous survival against centuries of genocidal policies and the on-going dispossession and destruction of Indigenous lands. Resurgence is the reinvention of diverse Indigenous ways of being, knowing and doing. The underlying argument of More Will Sing Their Way to Freedom is that colonial-capitalism is a historical fact but not an inevitability. The authors here describe practices and visions that prefigure a possible world where there is justice for Indigenous peoples and renewed healthy relationships with "all our relations."

Cox, Laurence and Nilsen, Alf Gunvald (2014). We Make Our Own History: Marxism and Social Movements in the Twilight of Neoliberalism. London: Pluto.

"We Make Our Own History" is the first systematic Marxist approach to theorising social movements. Reclaiming Marxism as "movement-relevant theory" born from activist practice, the book grounds the development of movements in situated responses to human needs. It offers a developmental theory of the social movement process ranging from everyday forms of micro-resistance to revolutionary struggles and counterposing popular movements from below to the elite agency of social movements from above, within a long historical perspective. Finally the book explores neoliberalism as a social movement project from above to contemporary struggles from below and analyses the current crisis. The book is available at a discount from the Pluto website using the code "COX".

Cox, Peter (ed.) (2015). Cycling Cultures. Chester: University of Chester Press.

A social movement theory informed study of the diversity of everyday bicycling practices. Contributions from UK, Netherlands and Germany. Historical and contemporary case studies. Introductory chapter considers the relationship between subcultures of practice and the mobilisation of cycle advocacy, considering the potential for an emancipatory movement linked to radical bike politics. Other chapters

consider social inclusion and policy, and lessons learned in the Netherlands through cycling teaching programmes among immigrant women. Also a study of women cycle tourists in Britain 1930-1980 examining the way that respectable activity was coupled with subversion of gender roles.

Delamaza, Gonzalo (2015). Enhancing Democracy. Public policies and citizen participation in Chile. CEDLA Latin America Studies 104. Oxford / New York: Berghahn Books.

Since the end of the Pinochet regime, Chilean public policy has sought to rebuild democratic governance in the country. The book examines the links between the state and civil society in Chile and the ways social policies have sought to ensure social inclusion. New waves of social mobilization and a deep citizen distrust on politics confirm the gap between politics and society under the governance rules of the last twenty years.

Frère, Bruno (dir.) (2015). Le tournant de la théorie critique. Paris: Desclée de Brouwer.

La théorie critique longtemps travaillé à partir d'un seul schème de pensée : les individus reproduisent les structures du capitalisme qui pourtant les aliènent. Ils ne cherchent plus à se rebeller contre un système qui appauvrit pourtant leur vie entière. Les textes rassemblés ici montrent que cette vision n'est plus suffisante car elle s'avère incapable de rendre compte des potentialités émancipatrices. Ce pourquoi ils entendent bien faire prendre un tournant décisif à la théorie critique.

Gürcan, Efe Can and Efe Peker (2015). Challenging Neoliberalism at Turkey's Gezi Park: From Private Discontent to Collective Class Action. New York: Palgrave.

"This provocative critical analysis of a local movement draws globally-relevant conclusions. Theoretically sophisticated, critically engaged, and strategically nuanced, the authors' account of the Gezi Park mobilization is an exemplary reflective account of innovative disruptive politics in face of a distinctive form of neoliberal politics. Multifaceted in its approach, concerned with conjunctural as well as structural factors, it provides new insights into the Gezi Park movement and offers important lessons for resisting and moving beyond neoliberalism." — Bob Jessop, Distinguished Professor and Founding Director of the Institute for Advanced studies, Lancaster University, UK

Jacobsson, Kerstin (ed.) (2015). Urban Grassroots Movements in Central and Eastern Europe. Farnham: Ashgate.

This volume focuses on the recent resurgence of urban grassroots mobilisation in Central and Eastern Europe. It argues that this type of grassroots activism represents a new phase in the development of post-socialist civil societies and that these civil societies have significantly more vitality than is commonly perceived. The case studies reflect the diversity and complexity of post-socialist urban movements, capturing also the extent to which the laboratory of urban politics is richly illustrative of the complex nexus of state-society-market relations within post-socialism. Studying urban activism in Central and Eastern Europe is instructive for urban movements scholars generally, as it forces us to acknowledge the variety of forms that contention can take.

Jacobsson, Kerstin and Steven Saxonberg (eds) (2015). Social Movements in Post-communist Europe and Russia. London: Routledge. (Based on a special issue of East European Politics)

This volume provides a much needed update on the state of civil society in post-communist Europe and Russia more than two decades after the fall of the communist regimes. The chapters offer new perspectives on social movement strategies in post-communist Central-Eastern Europe and Russia, illustrating how social movements develop particular repertoires of action and contention, which are better suited for their specific local contexts in the post-communist setting. The chapters analyse various types of rights-based activism that operate in otherwise prohibitive social and political environments, thereby raising highly contentious issues, such as animal rights, environment and sustainability, human rights, women's rights, and gay rights activism.

Olesen, Thomas (2015). Global Injustice Symbols and Social Movements. New York: Palgrave

The book theorizes how transnational social movements create symbols of injustice in order to foster and sustain the solidarity necessary for their success. Olesen examines our collective moral and political maps, dotted with symbols shaped by political dynamics beyond their local or national origin, and offers the first systematic sociological treatment of this important phenomenon. Using empirical data collected from media archives, official documents, and internet sources, Olesen seeks to answer how global injustice symbols are formed, how they are employed by political actors, and to what ends.

Peace, Timothy (2015). European Social Movements and Muslim Activism: Another World But With Whom? Basingstoke: Palgrave.

How do progressive social movements, traditionally populated by secular left-wing activists, deal with religious pluralism and the novel reality of those who identify as Muslims? Timothy Peace uses the example of the alter-globalisation movement to explain why social movement leaders in Britain and France reacted so differently to the emergence of Muslim activism.

Pleyers, Geoffrey and Sava Ionel (2015). Social Movements in Central and Eastern Europe. Bucharest : Editura Universitatii din Bucuresti & ISA47, 978-606-16-0631-3

This book gathers a selection of the papers presented at the ISA47 conference held at the University of Bucharest on May 11 & 12 2015. It focuses on the renewal of social movements and social movement studies in the region. Available for download <u>here</u>.

Schröder, Christian (2014). Das Weltsozialforum: Eine Institution der Globalisierungskritik zwischen Organisation und Bewegung. Berlin: Transcript.

The World Social Forum An institution for global justice between organization and movement. The World Social Forum (WSF) is the relic of the global justice movements of the turn of the millennium. Even after more than a decade after the first WSF in 2001 in Porto Alegre (Brazil) the events still use to mobilize thousands of activists against a neoliberal world order. With an extensive ethnographic research, Christian Schröder keeps track of the WSF from its origin to the WSF 2013 in Tunisia. The focus is on the question of how the WSF manages to persist for so long without losing its character as a movement.

Traini Christophe (2015). Émotions et expertises. Les modes de coordination des actions collectives, Rennes: Presses Universitaires de Rennes.

À l'encontre de tout réductionnisme, cet ouvrage prend le parti de traiter la mise à l'épreuve des émotions et la formulation d'expertise comme deux modes alternatifs de coordination des actions collectives. À la question des propriétés respectives de ces deux régimes de coordination, s'ajoutent celle de la nature variable de leurs relations, des dispositions propres aux protagonistes qui s'en emparent, ou bien encore des effets équivoques exercés sur les configurations au sein desquelles ils s'insèrent. En pensant ensemble émotions et expertises, cet ouvrage contribue ainsi à renouveler l'étude de multiples objets qui intéressent la sociologie politique.

Wieviorka, Michel (2015). Retour au sens pour en finir avec le déclinisme. Editions Le monde comme il va Robert Laffont.

Universal values need to be reinvented and social scientists are now obliged, paradoxically and at the same time to think globally and to look closely at the individual subjectivity of actors. And between the individual subject and the global world, conflicts and social movements have an important role to play.

Journal Special Issues

Journal of World-Systems Research: States and Social Movements in the Modern World-System

Bringel Breno & Pleyers Geoffrey (2015). 'Mobilisations et démocratie au Brésil'. Brésil(s). Revue de sciences humaines et sociales. Vol.7. http://bresils.revues.org/1413

Cortesero Régis, Marlière Éric eds. (2015). Les émeutes de 2005, dix ans après. Special issue of the journal Agora débats / jeunesses n°70.

Journal articles by ISA47 members

Altmann, Philipp (2015). "Studying Discourse Innovations: The Case of the Indigenous Movement in Ecuador", Historical Social Research 40 (3), 161-184, DOI: 10.12759/hsr.40.2015.3.161-184

Ambareva, H. (2015). "How hacker ethics staged a coup in the heart of neoliberal capitalism". (Original title in Bulgarian: Как хакерската етика подготви преврат в сърцето на неолибералния капитализъм) In: Philosophical Alternative 2/2015.

Bringel Breno & Pleyers Geoffrey (2015). "Les mobilisations de 2013 au Brésil: vers une reconfiguration de la contestation", Brésil(s). Sciences humaines et sociales Vol. 7, pp. 7-18. http://bresils.revues.org/1417

Cox, Laurence (2015). "Challenging toxic hegemony: repression and resistance in Rossport and the Niger Delta", Social Justice, 41 (1-2), 227 – 245.

Engels, Bettina (2015). "Different means of protest, same causes: popular struggles in Burkina Faso", Review of African Political Economy, 42(143): 92-106.

Engels, Bettina (2015). "Social movement struggles against the high cost of living in Burkina Faso", Canadian Journal of Development Studies/Revue canadienne d'études du développement, 36(1): 107-21.

Esparza, Louis E. (2015). "Rights for All: Response to Blau", Sociological Forum, 30(3).

Esparza, Louis E. and Rhiannan Price. (2015). "Convergence repertoires: anti-capitalist protest at the 2010 Vancouver Winter Olympics", Contemporary Justice Review, 18(1), 22-41.

D'Orsi L. (2015). "Gezi Park: costruire spazi straordinari", Antropologia Museale, n° 34/36: 83-87.

D'Orsi L. (2015). "Trauma and the Politics of Memory of the Uruguayan Dictatorship", Latin American Perspectives, May 2015 42: 162-179

Gerbaudo, Paolo and Treré, Emiliano (2015). In search of the 'we' of social media activism: introduction to the special issue on social media and protest identities, Information, Communication & Society.

Gürcan, Efe Can (2015). "The Nonprofit-Corporate Complex", Monthly Review, 66 (10), 37-54.

Jacobsson, K. & A. Sörbom (2015). "After a Cycle of Contention: Post-Gothenburg Strategies of Left-Libertarian Activists in Sweden", Social Movement Studies.

Manski, Ben (2015). "The Democratic Turn of the Century: Learning from the U.S. Democracy Movement" Socialism and Democracy, 29 (1), 2-16.

McDonald, Kevin (2015). "From Indymedia to Anonymous: rethinking action and identity in digital cultures", Information, Communication & Society.

Ozen, Hayriye (2015). "Latent Dynamics of Movement Formation: The Kurdish Case in Turkey (1940s to 1960s)", Current Sociology, 63 (1), 57-74.

Piotrowski, Grzegorz (2015). Book review of Green Activism in Post-Socialist Europe and the former Soviet Union by Adam Fagan and Jo Carmin (eds.), Routledge 2011 in: Social Movement Studies, published online http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/14742837.2015.1005591

Piotrowski, Grzegorz with Dominika V. Polańska (2015). "The transformative power of cooperation between social movements" in CITY: analysis of urban trends, culture, theory, policy, action, vol. 19 (2-3) pp. 274-296,

Pleyers Geoffrey (2015). "Los movimientos sociales reinventan la democracia", Metapolítica, n°89, pp. 50-55.

Poma, Alice and Tommaso Gravante (2015), 'Analyzing resistances from below. A proposal of analysis based on three struggles against dams in Spain and Mexico', Capitalism, Nature, Socialism, 26 (1), 59-76.

Poma, Alice; Tommaso Gravante and Marco Baudone (2015), 'Más allá de la indignación. Una propuesta de análisis desde abajo del movimiento de los indignados', Espiral. Estudios sobre Estado y Sociedad, 22 (63), 9-45.

Poma, Alice (2014), 'Con amore, rabbia e dignità. Un'analisi delle lotte per la difesa del territorio dal basso', Prisma. Economia - Società - Lavoro, 5 (3), 120-135.

Rea, Carlos; Ceballos, Angélica y Villaseñor, Bertha. (2015). "Equilibrio sustentable y resistencia social en la cuenca del río San Pedro en Nayarit", en Desacatos, Revista de Antropología Social, no. 47, eneroabril, México, Ciesas, pp. 116-131.

Rossi, Federico M. (2015), "The Second Wave of Incorporation in Latin America: A Conceptualization of the Quest for Inclusion Applied to Argentina", Latin American Politics and Society, 57 (1), 1-28. Rossi, Federico M. (2015). "Building Factories Without Bosses: The Movement of Worker-Managed Factories in Argentina", Social Movement Studies, 14 (1), 98-107. Sebastián, Mauro and Rossi, Federico M. (2015), 'The Movement of Popular and Neighborhood Assemblies in the City of Buenos Aires, 2002-2011', Latin American Perspectives, 42 (2), 107-24.

Treré, E. (2015). "Reclaiming, proclaiming, and maintaining collective identity in the #YoSoy132 movement in Mexico: an examination of digital frontstage and backstage activism through social media and instant messaging platforms", Information, Communication & Society, DOI: 10.1080/1369118X.2015.1043744. http://goo.gl/8SfJkn

Treré, E. and Barassi, V. (2015). "Net-authoritarianism? How web ideologies reinforce political hierarchies in the Italian 5 Star Movement", Journal of Italian Cinema & Media Studies 3: 3, pp. 287–304, http://goo.gl/mrH3AQ

Book chapters by ISA47 members

Cox, Peter (2015). 'Towards a better understanding of bicycles as transport', in C. Kopper, & M. Moraglio (eds). The Organization of Transport: A History of Users, Industry, and Public Policy. London: Routledge, pp.49-67.

Dawson, M. C. 2015. 'Social Contestation and Substantive Citizenship: Popular Mobilization in South Africa's Modern State.' In B. Bringel & J. M. Domingues (Eds). Global Modernity and Social Contestation. London: Sage.

Dawson, M. C. & Sinwell, L. 2015. 'Ethical and Political Challenges of Participatory Action Research in the Academy: Reflections on Social Movements and Knowledge Production in South Africa.' In K. Gillan & J. Pickerill (Eds). Research Ethics and Social Movements: Scholarship, Activism and Knowledge Production. London: Routledge.

D'Orsi L., 2015. Crossing Boundaries and Reinventing Futures: An Ethnography of Practices of Dissent in Gezi Park in G. Koç – H. Aksu (eds.) Another brick in the wall: Gezi Resistance and its aftermath, Vienna, Wiener Verlag für Sozialforschung.

Masson, Dominique (2015). 'Institutionalization, state funding and advocacy in the Quebec women's movement', in H. Ramos and K. Rodgers (eds). Protest and Politics: The Promise of Social Movement Societies. Vancouver: UBC Press. pp. 79-97.

Pleyers Geoffrey (2015) "Alter-Europe: Progressive activists and Europe", in: M. Kaldor and S. Selchow (eds.) Subterranean politics in Europe. London: Palgrave. pp. 210-232.

Rea, Carlos. 2015. "Democratizar la democracia en Nayarit (México). La posible emergencia de una contrahegemonía regional", en Teresa Cunha and Boaventura De Sousa Santos (eds.), International Colloquium Epistemologies of the South: South-South, South-North and North-South Global Learnings – Proceedings, Coimbra, Centro de Estudos Sociais.

Rossi, Federico M. and della Porta, Donatella (2015), 'Mobilizing for Democracy: Social Movements in Democratization Processes', in Bert Klandermans and Cornelis van Stralen (eds.), Movements in Times of Democratic Transition. Temple: Temple University Press.

Zamponi, Lorenzo and Daphi, Priska (2014). 'Breaks and continuities in and between cycles of protest. Memories and legacies of the global justice movement in the context of anti-austerity mobilisations'. In Donatella della Porta & Alice Mattoni (eds.), Spreading Protests. Social Movements in Times of Crisis. Essex: ECPR-Press, pp. 193-226.

III. ISA 47 ACTIVITIES, CONFERENCES, SEMINARS, AND CALL FOR PAPERS

Forthcoming ISA47 conferences and panels:

ISA47 will take part in the ISA Forum in Vienna, July 2016

The call for papers is attached below.

Program coordinators: Geoffrey Pleyers, Priska Daphi, Paolo Gerbaudo

ISA47 supports its members' initiative to organize **international or regional conferences and workshops**, whether on specific topics, or as regional/continental encounters on social movement studies. While the

RC 47 potential financial contribution is limited, its support may help conference organizers and participants in their applications for funding to organize the conference or to travel to the conference location as well as in diffusing and promoting the calls for papers and the conference program.

IV. ISA47: Communication and social media

Next newsletter

Please send information about your new books, your call for papers and international event on our mailing list. If you send it to our newsletter editor, it may also be published in the next newsletter. We encourage you to send us before November 15, 2015 events and news to be published on the next Newsletter. Please contact geoffrey.pleyers@uclouvain.be.

Mailing-list: Join ISA47 mailing list!

Contact: geoffrey.pleyers@uclouvain.be or haug@gu.se

ISA47 Facebook group

https://www.facebook.com/groups/ISA47/

ISA47 YouTube channel

ISA47 global seminar and major events are broadcasted life on our YouTube Channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCr-0ie11P6GSQEs9KGFGawg

Open Movements new website

https://www.opendemocracy.net/od-partnerships/openmovements

Twitter "#ISA47"

Follow us, announce your events, share your opinions, analyses and information about social movements and social movement studies with the hashtag "#ISA47"

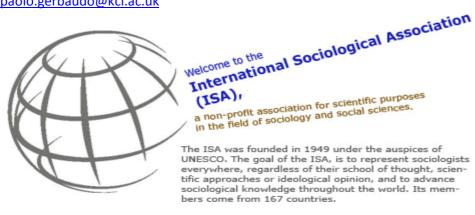
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Are you considering joining us?

If you are a member of the ISA, join ISA47 on http://www.isa-sociology.org/memb_i/index.htm
If you are not affiliated to the ISA and want to join ISA47, please contact our treasurer Paolo Gerbaudo: paolo.gerbaudo@kcl.ac.uk



Call for papers and panels

3rd ISA Forum of Sociology

July, 10-14 2016, Vienna Austria ISA-RC 47"Social classes and social movements"

Abstract proposals should be sent to the panel coordinators and submitted before September 30th 2015 on the ISA Forum website (http://www.isa-sociology.org/forum-2016)

Joint Sessions

Opening session of RC 47 & RC 48: Contemporary Social Movements Session Organizer(s):

Tova BENSKI, President of RC 48, tovabenski@gmail.com

Geoffrey PLEYERS, President of RC 47, Université de Louvain, Geoffrey.Pleyers@uclouvain.be Benjamín TEJERINA, Universidad del País Vasco, Spain, b.tejerina@ehu.eus

Breno BRINGEL, Rio de Janeiro State University, Brazil, brenobringel@iesp.uerj.br

We live in a time of deep reconfigurations of democracy, social movements and activism. Five years after the start of a major global movements' wave in 2011, the panorama for social movements and democracy in the 2010s is a contrasting one. How do new trends in social movements study help us to grasp this fast evolving situation and the changing forms and meanings of both social movements and democracy?

The decade started with a spread of emancipatory movements and democratic openings. After a phase of intense mobilizations, some of these activists have developed democratic and emancipatory practices in their daily life, while others experiment a partial shift to the institutional politics arena. By the mid-2010s, the panorama for social movements and democracy looks however far more contrasting. The democratic project has however come under serious threat. Social movements are repressed, journalists are killed, and citizens are spied by their states. Even in democratic regions, citizens seem to have little impact on major economic and political decisions. At the same time, conservative, racist and far-right movements are gaining impetus in the West and in the East, jihadism attracts thousands of young people from different regions of the world.

What have been the impacts, the challenges and the limits of emancipatory and conservative movements in the 2010s? How do the new trends in social movement studies help us to grasp these transformations and the challenges faced by social movements and democracy?

Democracy in the Squares: Global Resistance Movements and Women

Joint session RC47 / RC48 [host committee]

Session Organizer(s)

Nilufer GOLE, École des hautes études en sciences sociales (EHESS), nilufer.gole@ehess.fr Buket TURKMEN, Galatasaray University, Turkey, elizemestan@gmail.com

A new wave of protest movements has emerged everywhere in the world, ranging from the Middle East, to the European cities, as well as Brazil and Ukraine. These movements follow transnational dynamics, while the domain of politics remain at the national scale. Citizens of the world elaborate new democratic imaginaries. A new public culture of contestation appears with art becoming its intrinsic dimension. These movements that we want to examine contribute to the enactment of forms of citizenship in the public square redefining the political subject. Especially female activists' struggles in the global resistance movements reveal the emergence of new subjectivities through the act of resistance.

While sociologists believe in the existence of a rupture between these newly emerging struggles and the

heritage of the past social struggles, there are also remarkable continuities. The rupture women activists in the Tahrir Square created with patriarchy can only be understood with reference to Egyptian feminism. While Kurdish, Turkish, nationalist, leftist and Islamist female activists developed a sense of sisterhood during the Gezi movement in Istanbul, this sisterhood has been developing since the 1990s, along with the evolution of Turkey's feminisms. Women in resistance movements experience a dual suffering and have to challenge both the authoritarian/neoliberal regimes and the patriarchy that pervaded the movement along with the society. We will try to understand the new subjectivities constructed by female activists of these global resistance movements as a mixed consequence of the experience of resistance and the feminist heritage.

Silos or Synergies? Can Labor Build Effective Alliances with Other Global Social Movements? Joint session RC47 & RC44 Labor Movements [host committee]

Session Organizer(s)

Peter B. EVANS, University of California-Berkeley, USA, pevans@berkeley.edu
Daniele DI NUNZIO, Associazione Bruno Trentin/IRES/ISF, Italy, d.dinunzio@ires.it
On the defensive in the face of an increasingly aggressive global capital, labor needs allies. Operating in a "silo" – that is within carefully defined organizational and strategic boundaries that insulate worker organizations from other sorts of mobilization – is a formula for defeat. Alliances with communities and movements for democracy have always been crucial to labor's success at the local and national levels. Alliances with other transnational social movements at the global have been more sporadic, usually limited to specific campaigns.

Where are the most promising opportunities for building cross-issue synergies that enhance labor's political clout along with that of other social movements? What are the obstacles to building synergistic relationships? Few would question the contributions of movements for human rights to the quest for expanding workers rights. There is already a rich literature looking at labor's relationships with movements prioritizing gender issues and with environmental movements. But much work needs to be done before we understand why sometimes silo approaches prevail and what conditions create possibilities for synergies. What are the complementarities between labors' organizational and ideological strengths and those of other movements? What are the strategic contradictions that make synergies elusive?

This session seeks to bring together both work based on the analysis of specific successes and failures at building cross-movement alliances and work that seeks to offer a general analytical understanding of the foundations of synergies and silos.

The Sociology of Social Movements as a General Sociology. Around Alain Touraine

Joint session RC47 & RC48 [host committee]

Session Organizer(s)

Benjamín TEJERINA, Universidad del País Vasco, Spain, b.tejerina@ehu.eus Kevin MCDONALD, Middlesex Univesity, United Kingdom, k.mcdonald@mdx.ac.uk Tova BENSKI, President of RC 48, tovabenski@gmail.com

Geoffrey PLEYERS, President of RC 47, Université de Louvain, Geoffrey.Pleyers@uclouvain.be Alain Touraine has underlined the importance of considering the sociology of social movements not as a specialized subfield but as an essential part of general sociology. This session will gather contributions that have developed this perspective in different ways and studying a range of social movements on different continents.

Social Movements and the Future They Want

Joint session of RC07 Futures Research [host committee] and RC47 Social Classes and Social Movements Session Organizer(s)

Markus S. Shulz, ISA Vice-president, markus.s.schulz@gmail.com

Geoffrey PLEYERS, Université catholique de Louvain, Belgium, Geoffrey.Pleyers@uclouvain.be Social movement scholars can make a significant contribution to the third Forum of the ISA entitled "The Futures we Want: Global Sociology and the Struggles for a Better World". Social movements are major actors of our societies and contribute to shaping possible futures.

This session welcomes both concrete analysis and theoretical contributions on how progressive or conservative social movements imagine, shape and implement alternative futures. We notably welcome contributions on how social actors and social movements imagine and contribute to shape alternative lifestyles, policies and sociability in the global age, increasingly shaped by both global interdependency and the finitude of the planet.

Young Activists, Subjectivity and "the Future They Want"

Joint session RC34 Sociology of Youth and RC47 [host committee]

Session Organizer

Carmen LECCARDI, University of Milano-Bicocca, Italy, carmen.leccardi@unimib.it This session welcomes contributions on how young activists imagine, shape and implement alternative futures. As framed in the third ISA Forum presentation, "Tomorrow no longer appears as predetermined by inevitable trends but as a rather contingent outcome of complex, typically multi-scalar dynamics that vary in their intensity of contentiousness." Young people aspire, desire, envision, expect, fear, imagine, plan, project, reject, sustain, and wage war over futures. Young activists are major actors of our societies in shaping our possible futures.

We notably welcome contributions on young activists' perspectives on the future and how these perspectives shape their subjectivity and their personality. Young green activists and their visions of a future on a limited planet prove particularly insightful in that perspective.

However, to understand the specific potential of their vision – at the centre of which stand autonomy, self-determination, experimentation and creativity together with a high level of personal responsibility – the widespread representation of the future expressed by contemporary young people has to be considered. For the majority of them, the future is related above all with indeterminateness and uncertainty. Moreover, the imperative of choice is not flanked by their conviction that personal decisions will be effectively able to condition future biographical outcomes as well as collective environment.

ISA47 Sessions in alphabetical order Cultural Signification: Making Sense of Action in Social Movements Session Organizers:

Dai NOMIYA, Chuo University, Japan, dainom@tamacc.chuo-u.ac.jp, James JASPER, City University of New York, JJasper@gc.cuny.edu, Antimo Farro, University of Rome, Italy, antimoluigi.farro@uniroma1.it, Benjamin TEJERINA, Universidad del País Vasco, Spain, b.tejerina@ehu.eus

For many years, researchers have found that social movements contain cultural and psychological elements that guide actions in one way or another, leading eventually to movement mobilization. Cultural attributes, such as interpretation, emotion, collective identity, and frame, as they give meanings and signification to the action, work in participants' engagement in the action.

While long recognized as indispensable for mobilization, these cultural components have also been regarded as the elements difficult to grasp; they are difficult to detect, observe, conceptualize, and generalize. We have come a long way to find frame and collective identity to work in a concrete movement setting. But we have to stop and think what else we have acquired as our common cultural languages. We know that emotions are important. But we are not sure if we have developed and conceptualized enough to bring emotion in our thought frame as a sound analytical concept. We are not sure further if these cultural languages can easily travel across researchers residing different continents, East and West and North and South. We may also have different methods and methodologies to detect and observe cultural components of action.

This proposed session aims at bringing together our cultural findings in social movement research. Proposing a new concept, new ways of doing research aiming at digging out cultural materials, rearranging current conceptualization, displaying a region/location-specific research method, etc, should help understand where we are, and which direction(s) we should move on from here.

Environmental Movements in the Age of Climate Change Session Organizer(s)

Christopher ROOTES, University of Kent, United Kingdom, c.a.rootes@kent.ac.uk Environmental movements and protest appeared to be natural bed-fellows as activists struggled to mobilise an environmentally uneducated populace and to challenge the priorities of governments and parties more concerned about economic development than environmental protection. That changed as governments began to acknowledge environmental problems and, recognising the expertise of environmental NGOs, began to see NGOs as partners rather than adversaries. That relationship was consolidated as climate change rose on political agendas, as governments saw NGOs as potential mobilisers of citizens toward sustainable alternatives to the carbon-intensive economy. This created opportunities for NGOs, but, demanding more of them than they can deliver, it has created dilemmas about their identity and future action. Their dilemmas differ according to the dispositions of governments, from the EU, where governments have mostly accepted the need for action on climate change, to countries where governments have resisted action (e.g. Australia, USA, Canada). This panel will compare experiences at local, regional, national and transnational levels, to illuminate the variety of scenarios and responses of environmental movements and NGOs, and to consider the future of environmentalism in light of these developments. We shall be particularly interested in the development of new forms of environmental activism at local as well as international levels, and the emergence of activism on climate justice, including networks of NGOs, activists and experts in and around climate summits. Papers on transnational movements or multi-sited research in an international/global perspective will be especially welcome.

Far Right Movements and Social Research

Session Organizer(s)

Emanuele TOSCANO, University Guglielmo Marconi, Italy, emanuele.toscano@uniroma1.it

Chikako MORI, Hitotsubashi University, Japan, c.mori@r.hit-u.ac.jp

The rise and spread of far right, populist and nationalist movements in Europe and elsewhere in the world opened a new framework of interest for social movement studies. The study of far right is mainly addressed by political science, focusing on parties and electoral trends. Very few researches are instead leaded from the point of view of social movement studies. One explanation can be linked with the methodological issues: social movements researchers usually use qualitative techniques, such us participant observation, in-depth interviews and sociological interventions to study social movements, often creating a relation with activists based on mutual respect and common perspectives. But how can this possible with activists whose discourses are often racist oriented, or whose initiatives are violent and disrespectful?

Which methodological obstacles arise for research oriented towards analysing protest participation in far right movements? And how do we overcome them?

The panel welcomes empirical and theoretical contributions that deal with reflection on methodology in the study of movements – such as racist, populist of far right organisations - with whose discourses and practises is difficult to empathise.

Regular Session

From Indymedia to #Occupywallstreet and Anti-Austerity Protests in Europe: Three Generations of Digital Activism Logics

Session Organizer(s)

Tod WOLFSON, Rutgers University, USA, wolfsont@gmail.com Emiliano TRERÉ, Autonomous University of Queretaro, Mexico, etrere@gmail.com Peter FUNKE, University of South Florida, USA, pnfunke@usf.edu

Paolo GERBAUDO, King's College London, United Kingdom, paolo.gerbaudo@kcl.ac.uk Across the last few decades the logic of activism, and of digital activism in particular, have changed dramatically. We have experienced what could be regarded as three waves of protests from the early 1990s to the present. Each of these waves is connected both by the transformations in global capitalism and the rise of the digital age, while still displaying differences or rather developments in movement-based organizing. Together however, we can conceive these three waves as part of one broader epoch of contention. Those particular waves of contention are: Global Social Justice, Occupy/Arab Spring, Syriza/Podemos.

In this panel, we propose to look at the logics of these waves of protest (or generations of digital activism) in order to explore their similarities and differences. The goal of the panel discussion would be to mine history assuming a diachronic perspective, but more concretely to understand the strengths and weaknesses of this epoch of contention as we watch the current wave of struggle unfold. Some of the questions that will be tackled in the panel are: how have capitalist transformations informed the emergence of the current epoch of contention and how has the activists relation to communication technologies evolved and shaped the logics of protests and mobilizations? Can we conceive of an underlying meta-logics of movement politics informing the waves of protests and how are they best conceptualized, similar as well as differently enacted? What has been the evolution of the role of alternative media in an oversaturated media environment where corporate social media are increasingly dominating the digital activism scenario? What are the challenges that social movements and their communication face when they crystallize into political parties? What lessons have we learned from the analysis of this epoch of contention and what are the future horizons of digital activism and protest?

ICTs in the Media Ecology of Protest Movements: Infrastructures, Discourses and Practices for Social Change.

Session Organizer(s): Alice MATTONI, European University Institute, Italy, alice.mattoni@eui.eu Ionel SAVA, University of Bucharest, Romania, insava@sas.unibuc.ro
Studies on ICTs and social movements flourished in the past few years, also due to the relevant role that

social media platforms and mobile communication devices had in the 2011 protest wave. Literature on the topic, however, frequently considers ICTs independently from the context in which they are embedded resulting in a myopic look at the role of digital media in mobilizations. This flaw might be overcome through an analysis that takes into consideration the media ecology of ICTs. Starting from this assumption, the panel seeks papers that investigate ICTs in relation to: the material infrastructures that sustain ICTs used during protests, from corporate media clouds services to activist managed hardware and software; the discourses and imageries related to ICTs, including values and beliefs that activists and other political actors attach to ICTs used during protests; the (media) practices that include the use of ICTs during protests, also in combination with other media technologies and means of communication, like the live-streaming of face-to-face assemblies or the coordinated collective use of Twitter accounts. The panel welcome papers that explore the role of ICTs in recent mobilizations through qualitative, quantitative, and mixed-methods approaches. We are particularly interested in papers that considers protests in Southern, Central and Eastern Europe, also in a comparative perspective with protests that occurred in other parts of the world.

Genesis of the New Social Movements in the Global South Session Organizer(s)

Simin FADAEE, Humboldt University of Berlin, Germany, simin.fadaee@hu-berlin.de Breno BRINGEL, Universidade Estado do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, brenobringel@iesp.uerj.br
The panel will be shaped around the so-called new social movements of the global South. The paradigm which emerged as a response to the 'rights based' and 'quality-of-life' movements (e.g. feminism, LGBT rights, environment, human rights, etc.) in Europe and North America after the 1960s assumed that there is a clear distinction between these 'identity' movements and the old organized 'labor' movements. Although many Southern societies have witnessed the emergence of rights based and quality-of-life movements, scholarship lacks systematic analysis of these movements in non-western context. The panel aims at addressing this gap by focusing on the historical origins, participants and the relation of these movements to earlier struggles.

Moving Refugees? Mobilisation and Outcomes of Refugee Movements, Solidarity Groups, and Anti-Asylum Activities

Session Organizer(s)

Ilker ATAC, ING Bank Turkey, Turkey, ilker.atac@univie.ac.at

Sieglinde ROSENBERGER, University of Vienna, Austria, sieglinde.rosenberger@univie.ac.at
The past ten years have witnessed an upsurge of mobilizations and protest activities by asylum seekers, irregular migrants and migrant rights solidarity activists and groups. With forms of collective public action they demand advocacy for human rights, a fair asylum process and access to labor markets. Furthermore, they demonstrate resistance to pending deportations. In contrast to these pro-migrant movements, we have noticed also a rise of counter-movements that take action against asylum seekers and their accommodations, mostly on a local level.

First, the panel focuses on organizational aspects, framing strategies and identities of these protest movements. Which practices, discursive alliances and mobilization strategies do they use? What are the similarities and differences among these movements? In which ways do pro-refugee and anti-refugee movements relate to each other?

Second, the panel will deal with internal effects and social and political outcomes of these movements. These movements produce cultural effects, through their framing strategies they aim to change perceptions in the society; they produce individual/biographical effects, protests against the deportation of failed asylum seekers results in some cases to legalization. However, asylum seekers may also run the risk of being deported. Reactions of governments and other state institutions may also result in repression, co-optation, and prevention.

This panel addresses refugee, solidarity and anti-asylum movements and focuses on both their different forms of mobilizations and their social, political and movement-related outcomes. Comparative papers

with regard to movements, countries and political levels as well as single case studies are also welcome.

Popular Dissent in Sub-Saharan Africa

Session Organizer: Marcelle DAWSON, University of Otago, New Zealand,

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The nature of popular resistance in sub-Saharan Africa has much in common with the waves of protest that have swept across the globe in recent years. Consequently, scholarship on protest in Africa – while it certainly must take into account the diversity on the continent – has much to offer the field of social movement studies. This session aims to attract a range of important voices that will examine the history, character and trajectory of grassroots struggles in sub-Saharan Africa but, at the same time, highlight the ways in which popular dissent in this region is connected to global patterns of protest. In particular, this session welcomes contributions that address, but are not limited to, the following issues:

- Working class struggle in sub-Saharan Africa
- Leadership and the role of key political thinkers in past and present sub-Saharan contexts.
- 'Dynamics of contention' in sub-Saharan Africa both within and outside of the context of organized social movements.
- The intersection between community and labour movements in sub-Saharan Africa.
- Theoretical implications for social movement studies that draw on African cases.

Preference will be given to contributions that contextualize African struggles within the global picture of popular resistance.

Social Movements As Sites of Social Development Session Organizer(s)

John KRINSKY, City College New York, USA, jkrinsky.ccny@gmail.com

Social movements are a crucible in which activists collectively generate which new forms of social organization as they attempt to make new subjects, worlds and histories in the context of—and in response to—the old; they may equally be moments of stymied progress where few advances are made on critical questions facing movements and the social groups they represent. Whereas recent scholarship on social movements has emphasized their microfoundations, conceived as strategic interactions and choice-points, it has tended to play down the more macro-level, longer-lasting features of capitalist societies (including their historical encoding of class, race, gender, and nationality) and the often-contradictory nature of these features. In favor of analytic formalism, social movement studies have largely abandoned systematic social criticism. This formalist turn also tends to play down the extent to which movements are a site of collective learning. Reticence about social critique leads analysts to abjure judgments about whether and how collective action leads toward or away from social development. Emerging Marxist scholarship on social movements has attempted to join the focus on on-the-ground interaction typical of formalist theories with the analyses of the larger, structured dynamics of capitalism and class; and as a body of work grounded in a theory of the "self-emancipation of the working class" (variously defined), its central concern is movement development towards more encompassing modes of social action an social identities. This panel welcomes papers that focus on efforts to weave together theories of strategy and learning and larger-scale historical and social contradictions.

Social Movements in Latin America: Contributing to a North-South Dialogue Session Organizer(s)

Renata MOTTA, Free University Berlin, Germany, renata.motta@fu-berlin.de Pablo LAPEGNA, University of Georgia, USA, pablo.lapegna@gmail.com Ilan BIZBERG, El Colegio de México, Mexico, ilan@colmex.mx Session in Spanish and English

Social movements from the global South are usually investigated by applying theories developed by and for the global North. But what happens when theories travel across diverse social contexts? Can theories

and concepts developed in the global North fully capture the complexities of social movements and societies that have followed different historical trajectories? For instance, nationalism, "populism," and socialism, or key institutions like the state or labor unions cannot be assumed to have universal importance and meaning. To what degree theories and practices from the global South inform social movements and studies developed in the global North? How do situated cultures and meaning-making practices require a re-elaboration of social movement theories and concepts?

We would welcome papers that establish a dialogue between theories and movements from the global South and the global North, with a special focus on Latin America. Papers may contribute to this collective enterprise in various ways, for instance, looking at (1) the social and organizational basis of activism and collective identities; (2) how different cultural and historical contexts require new ways of thinking about contentious repertoires, "frames" and the mobilization of resources; (3) the links between social movements, governments, and institutional politics (e.g. the relevance of "patronage politics" in Latin America); and (4) the convergences, influences, and tensions between the global North and global South (e.g. the influence of the Bolivian process of social change in the actions and ideas of Podemos in Spain).

Social Movements in the Arab World

Session Organizer(s):

Maha ABDELRAHMAN, University of Cambridge, Egypt, mma49@cam.ac.uk The approaching fifth anniversary of the Arab Uprisings which started in Tunisia and spread like wild fire across many countries of the region is a sober reminder of the challenges faced by social movements. The demand for 'Bread, Freedom and Social Justice' was able to mobilise millions of people who came out to the streets to protest against a political and economic order based on policies of dispossession and exclusion. This order has long sustained its hegemony through means of political repression and inflated security apparatuses at the national level. A wide range of movements created new types of activism and mobilisation strategies from workers to students to small farmers, slum residents, professionals, the unemployed and the retired. They crossed regional, gender, class and often ideological divides. The panel aims to explore the trajectories of these movements and how they have unfolded in the aftermath of their peak in 2011. It also hopes to locate them within a comparative perspective with social movements with similar features and histories across the world. We especially welcome papers that explore how these movements have evolved, disappeared, were coopted/ integrated into the political process or completely repressed after 2011. We also encourage papers which examine mainstream theoretical tools in studying social movements in light of the experience of these movements. Comparative research which examines social movements in the Arab region with similar movements in other parts of the world including countries of both the global North and South are also highly welcomed.

Social Movements, Sociology and Climate Change

Session Organizer(s): Jackie SMITH, Pittsburg University, USA, jgsmith@pitt.edu
Esin ILERI, École Hautes Études Sciences Sociales, France, esinileri@gmail.com
The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has stated that we need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to near zero by 2050 to avoid more devastating climate change scenarios than are already underway. As government negotiations continue to fail to generate meaningful action in this regard, social movements have been developing concrete projects to enact practices that move in the direction of a low-carbon society.

This panel welcomes contributions on two main axes. • Analyses and case studies about grassroots social movements who promote worldviews, behaviors and policies more compatible with the reality and constraints of the limited nature of the planet and about how these studies provide us with empirical data for grasping some features of the global age and its consequences on life, democracy and society. How do they imagine, implement and contribute to shape alternative futures, starting in daily life and personal experience or contesting actual policies.

• Can our work as sociologists and with social movements help us find ways to achieve a seemingly impossible goal of radical social transformation? What lessons can be learned from these movements? What movements are or should be happening among academic professionals to both reduce our own carbon footprint while also helping advance the movements responding to the climate crisis?

What's Left of 2011? Continuities and Outcomes of the 2011 Protests Session Organizer(s)

Lorenzo ZAMPONI, European University Institute, Italy, lorenzo.zamponi@eui.eu Priska DAPHI, Goethe University Frankfurt am Main, Germany, p.daphi@gmx.de

Though large protests often surprise observers, they hardly start from scratch. Mostly, they are rooted in previous mobilisations. And often they produce outcomes that in turn will influence future mobilisation. The panel explores continuities and outcomes of social movements in the context of the wave of protests for social justice starting in 2011 – including the Arab Spring, the European antiausterity mobilisations and the Occupy movement. This perspective allows looking at protests not as isolated events, but as part of a historical trajectory, considering both antecedents and legacies. How did previous mobilisations affect this wave of protest? How did the 2011 wave of protests influence more recent mobilisations? What are the consequences of the 2011 protests for politics more generally? This panel hence will focus on movement continuities and outcomes, before and after the 2011 protests. On the one hand, we are interested in the contents of continuities and the role organisations, submerged networks, abeyance structures, free spaces and other actors and mechanisms play in ensuring this continuity. On the other hand, we aim to shed light on outcomes both with respect to policy-making and political representation as well as the effects on activists' life-courses and movements' internal organization.