2014 was an important year for ISA47. The World Congress of Sociology in Yokohama has been a success for our research committee, for which we are greatly indebted to Professor Dai Nomiya and his dedicated team, and to Antimo Farro, who chaired the ISA47. Over 50 social movement scholars took part in the pre-conference in an insightful and convivial atmosphere.

2015 will become another significant year for our Research Committee. The new board elected in Yokohama has proposed an insightful intellectual perspective and has launched a series of projects to promote international collaborations and a better understanding of social movements worldwide. After various months of preparations, several of these initiatives have now been launched or about to be. The first session of the ISA47 global seminar gathered over 350 participants across 14 universities that broadcasted it. Six additional sessions are on the program this year. We have also set up two publication series. The first is “Open Movements”, an ISA47 article series on the famous progressive website “Open Democracy” will start on January 15th. The second is the ISA47 journal “Social Movements and Change” which counts on a great and international editorial team of young scholars. In the next few months, we will hold a panel at the World Social Forum in Tunis and we organize an international conference on social movements in Central and Eastern Europe in Bucharest, for which a call for paper is currently open. ISA47 has also initiated the Mexican interdisciplinary network of social movement studies, gathering representatives of 17 academic institutions in Mexico City on January the 9th. You will learn about all those initiatives in this newsletter.

In the first section, we present the perspective on social movement studies proposed by the new board. We notably aim at fostering a better integration of contributions from the South of the planet to global sociology, reaching beyond the North American, Western European and Australian contributions that widely dominate the field and sociology in general. In this perspective, we are pleased to present the book edited by Breno Bringel and Mauricio Domingues and resulting partly from an ISA47 initiative. The volume gathers contributions from all continents and show insightful way to connect theoretical and empirical perspectives. Marcelle Dawson, our vice president, will have an important role in fostering more participation from Africa and South Asia in our activities and publications. Likewise, in spite of their major insights for a better understanding of social movements and society far beyond their continent, most of Latin American social scientists remain little visible in global sociology and social movement studies. Our next international conference is dedicated to social movements in Eastern Europe. Following the impetus of the World Congress of Sociology, we hope to keep and strengthen the openings towards East Asia. We will also hold a panel on youth activism in the Arab world at the 2015 World Social Forum in Tunis and are particularly glad that one of the first ISA47 working groups is dedicated to the Arab world. We strongly encourage other similar initiatives by social movements scholars in the Global South. Don’t hesitate to send us your proposals.
The board members share a vision of their role as coordinators of new dynamics and initiatives by ISA47 members to deal with some of the main challenges identified in the perspective on social movement studies. We also invite propose to launch a series of “thematic working groups” that will allow researchers from different continents to share their perspective and launch collective projects on a shared research object. Three groups have recently been set up: “Conservative and racist movements”, “The Arab revolutions” and “Gender in Social Movements”. We hope that many other proposals will surge and that these working groups will impulse the ISA47 dynamism and animate our panels at the next ISA Forum, to be held in July 2016 in Vienna.

The series of ISA47 new communication tools have also opened ways to keep informed and to share information in a decentralized way. It includes our website (www.isarc47.org/), our mailing-list, a Facebook page, the Twitter hashtag #ISA47, our YouTube channel and this newsletter. We ask for your contributions in order to deliver on our commitment to making this newsletter a valuable source of information and resources relevant to the development of an international perspective on the study of social movements and social classes. It is very much the intention of the editors that the content of the newsletter reflects the interests and needs of its readers. The next issue will be published in May. 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.

We count on you to make ISA RC47 a lively and convivial space for global and insightful social movement studies. Feel welcome to join our projects, take an active part in our activities and events and propose new initiatives.

With our best wishes for 2015,

Renata Motta (ISA47 Board Member and Newsletter Editor)
Geoffrey Pleyers (ISA47 President)

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I. ISA 47 ORGANIZATION

This section is dedicated to the news on the organization of the RC47. In this edition, we present our project and the new board for the period 2014-2018. The intellectual project was presented by the new board at the RC 47 General Assembly at the World Congress of Sociology in July 2014. The second part of the document (Publications & meetings) was updated in November 2014.

NEW PERSPECTIVES FOR ISA 47 (2014-2018)

I. Insightful approaches to social movements
Bringing together social scientists from all continents, the ISA Research Committee 47 provides a unique platform to share and develop perspectives on and analyses of current, recent and past social movements around the world, as much the ones that strike mainstream media headlines as those that discreetly transform politics or daily life.

RC47 was founded with the conviction that the study of social movements provides elements for a better understanding of both specific social actors and society as a whole. As Melucci (1996:28) stated, social movements “show glimpses of possible futures, and are, in some respects, the vehicles of realization of these very futures”. Therefore, RC47 has a particular interest in connecting the sociology of social movements with general sociology, developing approaches that avoid the traps of both “professional” sociologists’ hyper-specialization and of movements’ organic intellectuals.

Since its beginning, RC 47 has also paid a particular attention to cultural approaches to social movements and social transformations, developing or referring to concepts such as identity, meanings, emotions, cultural change, lifestyle change, experience, subjectivity, and personal dimensions of activism. Other RC47 members have connected social movement studies and general sociology with approaches based on social classes or transnational networks. The coexistence of these multiple approaches makes RC47 an open and lively arena of exchange. RC47 aims at fostering a vibrant and constructive dialogue among different perspectives from the South and from the North of the planet. A better gender and continental/regional balance at the main panels at the conferences is particularly important.

To foster a sociology that is properly global is another core feature of RC47. It requires analyzing social movements, society and social transformations both beyond national and regional borders, and from the scale of the individual subject to the planet. The challenge is to avoid both methodological nationalism and methodological globalism by combining global issues with multi-site empirical fieldwork. Young sociologists, including PhD students, have a major role to play in dealing with this challenge, bringing strong empirical contributions and fresh analytical perspectives.

We aim at developing research and analyses beyond borders and to fully include sociologists from all regions of the world. Therefore, we need to pay a special attention to the inclusion of scholars from Asia and from the Global South, and particularly from countries where social sciences have limited resources and access to international meetings and publications. To promote a better integration of sociologists from the Global South and a more global and inclusive dialogue is RC47’s main challenge and could be its main contribution to social movement studies.

II. A democratic, accountable, more decentralized and convivial RC
As social movement scholars, we particularly value internal democracy and the consistency between the values we promote (democracy, horizontality, openness, transparency) and the way we act. More generally, we would like to encourage a more decentralized way of working. RC47 aims at supporting its members’ initiatives whenever these contribute to an international, open and insightful perspective on social movements. The role of the chair and executive board of the RC is to promote and coordinate initiatives by RC47 members, whether they are members of the board or not. In addition to financial support when it is possible, RC47 may provide support by promoting and diffusing initiatives, co-
organizing conferences or contributing to the publication of its results. A concrete example of such support is the fact that RC47 co-organizes conferences, which helps both organizers and participants to get funds and travel grants when applying to their university and to national and international research agencies.

The decentralization dynamic will also result in the creation of RC47 working groups on specific topics (see below). Within the new project we would also like to develop closer working relationships between RC47 and national and regional research committees on social movements. Various national and regional sociological associations have very lively committees on social movements (e.g. ASA, ALAS, French Sociological Association etc.). Encouraging new collaborations with these research committees will allow for a better combination of national and global perspectives on social movements.

RC47’s convivial atmosphere is important not only because it is pleasant, but also because it is a condition of productive collegial relationships, in a space where critical reading of each other’s work leads to constructive criticisms rather than to personal criticisms. It should thus be open to debate, disagreements and critical discussion. The convivial aspect is particularly important for newcomers and PhD students, who may feel isolated at their first ISA conference. Pre-conferences at each ISA forum and congress will allow RC47 members to get to know each other and start informal conversations and new collaborations.

III. Activities

RC47 will use social media to strengthen internal communication and the dissemination of information, for example with #RC47, a social media page and a common affiliation on Academia.edu. A range of media will be used to announce events and publications, but also to share questions (e.g. on social movements in a specific country, missing references on a specific point etc.). The newsletter and mailing list also need a new impetus to make RC 47 a lively exchange and information network. The RC 47 seminar will be live-streamed on a dedicated Youtube channel and will be made available on our website. More broadly, we intend to set up a hub around RC 47, to exchange information, publications, teaching materials etc.

In addition to these classic missions of any RC, we have to find innovative ways to promote collective applications to international research grants among our members. An increasing number of research funding applications requires a network of international researchers. It is particularly the case at the European level, but also in Latin America. RC 47 working groups will provide new ways to connect people who work on similar topics and support their joint application to international research agencies and foundations.

Regular conferences and seminars are an indispensable tool to foster strong and convivial collaborations in an international network. All these events should focus more on the quality of the contributions and discussion than on the number of participants. This objective may notably be reached by assigning a discussant to each panel at conferences and congresses. This will ensure that each participant will receive a couple of good questions and concrete proposals to improve her/his paper.
RC47 President
Geoffrey Pleyers is a FNRS researcher and Professor at the Université Catholique de Louvain, Belgium. He is also a researcher at the CADIS centre and the Collège d’Etudes Mondiales in Paris. He has taught and conducted researchers in New York, Bangalore and in various Latin American universities. His research focuses on altre-globalization, social movements and democracy, environmental movements, critical consumption and youth political commitment in Europe and Latin America. He is the author of “Alter-Globalization: Becoming actors in the global age” (Cambridge, Polity Press, 2011). His publications are available at http://uclouvain.academia.edu/GeoffreyPleyers.

RC 47 Vice-President
Marcelle Dawson is Senior Lecturer at the Department of Sociology, Gender and Social Work at the University of Otago (New Zealand) and Senior Research Associate at the South African Research Chair in Social Change at the University of Johannesburg. In 2008 she completed a doctorate in Politics at the University of Oxford focusing on the mobilisation efforts of the Anti-Privatisation Forum. She will also oversee the production of the newsletter and solicit material for Open Democracy. Marcelle is a member of the South African Sociological Association and of the Sociological Association of Aotearoa New Zealand. She co-edited Popular Politics and Resistance Movements in South Africa (2010) and Contesting Transformation: Popular Resistance in 21st South Africa (2012).

RC 47 Secretary/Treasurer
Paolo Gerbaudo is Lecturer in Digital Culture and Society at King’s College London. He is the author of Tweets and the Streets: Social media and Contemporary Activism (Pluto, 2012) and of a forthcoming book about the movements of the squares, from Tahrir to Taksim, and the rise of the ideology of anarchopopulism (Hurst, 2015). His research focuses on the culture, political logic, and communication practices of social movements and progressive political parties.

RC 47 Board Members
Breno Bringel holds a PhD from the Faculty of Political Science and Sociology at the University Complutense of Madrid (Spain). He is currently Professor of Sociology at the Institute of Social and Political Studies at the Rio de Janeiro State University (IESP-UERJ), Brazil. He is one of the chairs of the Working Group on Social Movements at the Brazilian Sociological Association and editor-in-chief of Datos – Revista de Ciências Sociais. His research interests include Latin American social movements; contemporary internationalism and global movements; social theory and social movement studies.
**Christoph Haug** is a Senior Lecturer in Social Psychology at the Department of Sociology and Work Science of the University of Gothenburg and a Research Fellow at the Gothenburg Centre of Globalization and Development. He is Marie Curie Fellow at the Université de Montréal. He is particularly interested in the organizational dimension of social movements. He has been a member of the RC47 board since 2006 and is also a board member of the RN on Social Movements of ESA. His main task on the RC47 board is to improve the internal communication and organization. For publications see: [http://gu-se.academia.edu/ChristophHaug](http://gu-se.academia.edu/ChristophHaug)

**Eiji Hamanishi** holds a PhD in letters from Kyoto University (Japan). He is Associate Professor, Department of Contemporary Sociological Studies, Notre Dame Seishin University. He has published on social/movements theories and comparative analysis of summit-protests around G8/20 and COP. He is committed to introducing the theories of Alain Touraine to Japan by translating with this team: François Dubet’s Sociologie de l’expérience(1994) and À quoi sert vraiment un sociologue?(2011). His main task on the RC47 is to develop connection with the Japanese and East Asian associations. Publications see: [https://ndsu-jp.academia.edu/EijiHamanishi](https://ndsu-jp.academia.edu/EijiHamanishi)

**Jeff Goodwin** is Professor of Sociology at the New York University. His research interests include social movements, revolutions, and terrorism. He has conducted research in Central America, the Philippines, South Africa, and Ireland as well as in the United States. He earned his BA (1980, Social Studies), MA (1983, Sociology), and PhD (1988, Sociology) at Harvard University.

**Maria da Glória Gohn**, sociologist, PhD in Political Science by University of Sao Paulo/Brazil (1983); Pos/PhD in the New School of University, New York (1996/97), Prof in the University of Campinas (UNICAMP). Researcher of the CNPq- National Council of Research. Former Vice-President of the RC 47 of the International Sociological Association. She researches on social movements, social theories, urban participatory counsels and social mobilization by NGOs. Published 19 books on social movements and social participation of the civil society as: Manifestações de Junho de 2013 no Brasil e Praças dos Indignados no Mundo (Vozes, 214).
Priska Daphi is a research associate at Goethe University Frankfurt. In 2015, she will be a Humboldt Fellow at the European University Institute in Italy. She is founding member of the Institute for Protest and Social Movement Studies in Berlin. Her research focuses on cultural dimensions of social movements – in particular identity and narrative – and social movement (dis-)continuity. Her main task on the RC47 board is to coordinate working groups. For publications see: http://www.uni-frankfurt.de/51285223/Daphi

Renata Motta is Teaching and Research Assistant in Sociology and Postdoctoral Researcher at the Institute for Latin American Studies from the Freie Universität Berlin. Her dissertation is about social disputes over GMOs in Argentina and Brazil. She teaches on social movements and environmental conflicts, and political sociology. Her research is located at the intersection of political sociology, political economy, risk sociology, and media studies. For publications see http://fu-berlin.academia.edu/RenataMotta.

Sergio Tamayo is a Mexican professor at the Department of Sociology, Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana (UAM) at Mexico City. My intention is to promote a National Conference with a strong link to RC47 that will allow researchers and specialists to rethink social movements in Mexico. It would have, among other targets, to make a Mexican Network for Research in Social Movements. For publications see: www.sergiotamayo.wordpress.com

II. ISA47 Publications

In this section, we will 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

To disseminate the publications and projects of each of the members and to provide them with an avenue to publish the outcome of their research in international journals and publishing houses is a major objective of the RC. In addition to journal special issues and collective books, the new board has established the bases for two major publication projects: a public sociology platform on Open Democracy and a new journal.

While publishing in scholarly journals and books is indispensable, as social movement scholars we also aim at contributing to a high quality public debate on major issues. The UK-based website “Open Democracy” has been one of the most successful initiatives in providing a global platform for progressive and quality contributions. The articles they publish are very well distributed, and most of them get reproduced and translated by a wide range of progressive websites. “Open Movements” will start on March 15th 2015. We will publish 10 texts in the first week and then a weekly paper, gathering texts from different continents.
Open Movements: Democracy and social movements in the Global Age

Social movements are key actors in our democracies. This platform aims at providing critical and empirically based outlooks on social movements and new expressions of social and cultural transformations, as much the ones that strike mainstream media headlines as those that discreetly transform daily life and/or politics at the local and global scales.

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. It brings together social scientists from the South and from the North of the planet connected to the International Sociological Association (ISA) Research Committee 47 on Social Classes and Social Movements (RC47).

Editors in charge: Breno Bringel, University of Rio de Janeiro & Geoffrey Pleyers, University of Louvain.
BrenoBringel@iesp.uerj.br, Geoffrey.Pleyers@uclouvain.be

A NEW START TO THE ISA47 JOURNAL: SOCIAL MOVEMENTS AND CHANGE

We will give a new start to the ISA47 journal, with a new title “New Cultural Frontiers” and a new team of dynamic editors, including the two main editors Grégoire Lits and Emanuele Toscano. “Social Movements and Change” will be a major tool to achieve and to promote a sociology of social movements that connects empirical fieldwork with major questions in sociology and social movements studies. Therefore, the editorial board will be mostly composed by post-doctoral researchers, together with some assistant professors and researchers who are close to completing their PhD dissertation.

One of the concerns of Movements and Changes is to address the crisis of general sociological paradigms and structuralist approaches. These concerns have left us with an understanding of society that is appearing to be more and more de-structurated, and in search of new theoretical approaches and questions that can address this fragmentation. Another major challenge is to avoid both methodological nationalism (Beck) and methodological globalism by combining global issues with multi-site empirical fieldwork research. Young sociologists, including PhD students, have a major role to play in dealing with this challenge bringing strong empirical contributions and fresh analytical perspectives. The journal is open to both theoretical and empirical contributions and will publish two thematic issues a year. The first call for paper will be published in February 2015.

Editorial coordination: Grégoire Lits, managing editor, Gregoire.Lits@uclouvain.be; Emanuele Toscano, New Cultural Frontiers founding editor; Geoffrey Pleyers, ISA 47 president

2014-2016 Editorial board: Alexandra Kassir, PhD student, CADIS-EHESS, Lebano & France; Brie Capitaine, Post-doctoral fellow, McGill University, Montreal; Carmen Diaz, PhD student, University of Guadalajara, Mexico; Deniz Günze, PhD student, CADIS-EHESS, France & Turkey; Jacob Mati, Post-doctoral fellow, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa; Philipp Altman, Post-doctoral fellow, Freie Universität Berlin; Renata Motta, Post-doctoral researcher, Freie Universität Berlin; Simone Gomes, PhD student, IESP, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; Yoshi Aoki, PhD student, University of Tokyo.
This book partly results from a seminar co-organized by ISA47. It focuses on the connections between the idea of global modernity to social contestation. In other words, to link a general view of contemporary social processes – which have been in sociology, in particular, theorized by the concept of modernity – with contemporary social movements, conflicts and mobilizations, which aim at social change. Although at different times some authors and debates tried to relate capitalism, labour movement or post-industrial society and the emergence of new social movements, current interpretations that try to relate modernity and the dynamics of social contestation, at a global level, seem insufficient.

The book edited by Breno Bringel & Mauricio Domingues fills this gap bringing together contributions from distinguished scholars working in these two fields of studies (sociological theory and modernity, as well as social movement studies and contentious politics) and in the interaction between both the tensions and possibilities of an integrated understanding of global modernity and social contestation. On the other hand, the chapters presented here develop a badly needed effort to frame sociology as a global dialogue, rather than leaving it within pre-defined national and regional traditions.


"A new generation of truly global sociology, grappling with the contemporary world through the lenses of critique, contestation, and social movements. A significant contribution."
- Göran Therborn, University of Cambridge

"This is a truly global and politically challenging book, bringing together top level researchers and sharply tackling its themes. People from every corner of the planet and from all walks in the social sciences will surely profit from reading it."
- Carolina Mera, University of Buenos Aires

http://www.uk.sagepub.com/books/Book243295/reviews?seriesId=Series337&classification=%22Academic%20Books%22&sortBy=defaultPubDate%20desc&fs=1#tabview=toc

Publications by ISA47 members

Books by ISA47 members
The chapters in this book explore emerging forms of movement and action not only in terms of the industrialized countries of the North Atlantic, but recognizes the importance of globalizing forms of action and culture emerging from other continents and societies. The book not only engages with critical transformations in the nature of collective action, but also makes a significant contribution to the globalizing of sociology.

The book covers events of indignant groups with an emphasis on those which occurred in June 2013 in Brazil. The demonstrations presented local specificities, differences and similarities, influence of networks, proposals for changes that advertise, news and major moments. The first part makes a mapping of the acts in the month June 2013 in Brazil analyzing who protests, the social composition and the profile of the participants, the issue of violence, ideologies, the reaction of the media, of the
society and of the Government. The second part highlights the angle of the territory where they happen, especially the squares in different cities in the world.


Manuel Antonio Garreton dirige la mirada al desarrollo de las ciencias sociales en Chile, principalmente de la sociología; a las transformaciones sociopolíticas de Chile y América Latina, y a la acción colectiva y los movimientos sociales. La idea subyacente remarca la profunda interacción entre estas tres esferas. Por un lado, no es posible concebir el desarrollo de las ciencias sociales fuera del entramado de los cambios ocurridos en la sociedad y del juego de los actores sociales; por otro, los análisis e interpretaciones de las ciencias sociales tienen efectos sobre las dinámicas de tal entramado.


This book is a classroom-friendly overview of the state of knowledge about who protests, why, and how. It also relies on some of Jasper's characteristic themes, including emotions, strategic dilemmas, players and arenas, and the point of view of the protestors themselves.

**James M. Jasper and Jan Willem Duyvendak, eds (2015). Players and Arenas. Amsterdam University Press.** This tight edited volume displays the power of a language of players and arenas as an alternative to exiting cultural and structural traditions. It incorporates the strengths of each.


“Radicalisation” tente d’apporter une vision d’ensemble sur le jihadisme, surtout en Europe, à partir d’une analyse anthropologique de type phénoménologique. L’auteur souligne l’émergence du “héros négatif” et du "petit blanc" ainsi que la place de la prison dans la radicalisation ainsi que le nouveau modèle de radicalisation, introverti et touchant des individus de plus en plus psychologiquement fragiles.

**Book chapters by ISA47 members**


Journal articles by ISA47 members
Motta, R., 2014. Transnational Discursive Opportunities and Social Movement Risk Frames Opposing GMOs. Social Movement Studies, online.

Please send information about your new publications in Harvard style to the ISA47 Mailing list.
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 will be diffused in the next newsletter (May 2015). This Forum will foster the ISA47 thematic working group new dynamic and networking. Program coordinators: Geoffrey Pleyers, Priska Daphi, Paolo Gerbaudo

“Social movements in Central and Eastern Europe”, University of Bucharest, May 11th-13th 2015.

See call for paper below.

ISA 47 panel at the *World Social Forum, Tunis*, March 2015.

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

This panel will focus on the nature, causes and recent drift of such movements from the young activists’ perspectives. The year 2011 witnessed the emergence of new types of social movements, transnational in scope but especially intense in the Mediterranean area, one of which precipitating factors has been the leading role of the new generations and the urban middle classes. The year began with Tunisian revolution, continued with massive social movements in other Arab-Mediterranean countries but also on the opposite shore of the Mediterranean, for example the 15-M in Spain. Young actors in larger and smaller social movements are not a homogeneous group. Their strategies, actions, concepts of social change and democracy vary considerably, to the point where some of their discourses and tactics may appear contradictory. Throughout Mediterranean it’s possible to recognize self-organized direct democracy outside formal institutions, expert activism and mobilisers of protest democracy. Young actors in social movements aim to construct and create new autonomous spaces and places which permit actors to live according to their own principles, to knit different social relations and to express their subjectivity.

*The panel will be livestreamed on the ISA47 YouTube channel.*

“Global Capitalism and Democratic Struggles in Brazil”, January 30th 2015, 9:15-18:00.
An International Research Seminar at the University of Helsinki, with the ISA 47.

Coordination: *Teivo Teivainen*, Professor at the University of Helsinki, teivo.teivainen@helsinki.fi


This international research seminar brings together postgraduate students, researchers and professors to discuss the democratic possibilities in Brazil. We will focus both on the global political economy context and on some of the concrete experiences in the struggles for democratization

Since the Workers’ Party’s victory in the presidential election in 2002, Brazil has become an increasingly important actor in world politics. For the Brazilian social movements aiming for democratic transformations, the past years have had mixed results. New possibilities have been opened, but at the same time there have been many disappointments. In 2013, the country experienced a massive wave of protest mobilizations, amid widespread accusations of corruption. Yet, in 2014 president Dilma Rousseff was reelected with critical support from many of the most important social movement of the country.

The event forms part of the ongoing Advanced Research Seminar on Global Capitalism, organized at the University of Helsinki by the Department of Political and Economic Studies and Helsinki Collegium for Advanced Studies. It is also an event of the ISA47.
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.

ISA 47 Global Seminar: “Social movements in the global age”

The ISA 47 seminar provides the opportunity to learn about social movements in different regions of the world and to discuss theoretical and analytical approaches to the sociology of social movements by insightful scholars based in different continents. All the sessions will be live-streamed on the ISA-RC 47 YouTube channel (https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCr-0i1P6GSQEs9KGFGawg) and live-streamed at various universities (please contact us if you want to join us and distribute it at your university).

The sessions will be held in English, Spanish or French (the 3 ISA languages), with a translation whenever possible. This year, 4 sessions will be organized in partnership with the “Collège d’Études Mondiales”, in Paris. The other 5 sessions will be held in Mexico, Tunis (during the World Social Forum), Bogota, Bucharest and St-Petersburg. Coordination & contact: Geoffrey.Pleyers@uclouvain.be.

1. Ayotzinapa : Movimientos sociales frente a la violencia en México (in Spanish)

The first session of the seminar was attended by 230 participants in Paris and broadcasted live in 10 universities, including the New York University, the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Universidad de Nayarit (Mexico), Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Universidad de Chile, Universidad de Valparaíso, Universidad Complutense Madrid, UNED Madrid, Université Catholique de Louvain & University of Notre Dame Seishin University (Japan). The session is available on ISA47 YouTube channel. Speakers at the NYU included Markuz Schulz (Vice-President of the ISA), Oswaldo Zavala (CUNY) & Juan Pinon (NYU).

2. Social movements and global modernity”.
From the study of social movements to a better understanding of global challenges.
Breno Bringel, IESP Rio de Janeiro & ISA-RC 47
Geoffrey Pleyers, U.C.Louvain, Collège d’Etudes Mondiales & ISA-RC 47
30 janvier 2015, 16h-19h, Collège d’Etudes Mondiales, 190 Avenue de France, Paris, salle B.

3. Four years after the revolutions. Social movements in the Arab world
Farhad Khosrokhavar, CADIS-EHESS Paris, José Sanchez Garcia, Universidad Lleida, Spain.
13 February 2015, 15h-18h, Salle 2, EHESS, 105 Bd Raspail.

4. “Social movements make history”, Laurence Cox, National University of Ireland
6 March 2015 : 15h-18h, Salle 640, , Collège d’Etudes Mondiales, Paris
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7. Social movements in Central and Eastern Europe 12 May 2015, University of Bucharest, during the ISA47 conference.

8. Protest, repression and democracy in Russia 8 June 2015, Live from St Petersburg


Collaborative research: Working groups

ISA47 launches a new dynamic to foster international exchanges and collaborations on specific issues, social movements and challenges

Working groups coordination: Priska Daphi & Geoffrey Pleyers

In line with the new board’s plan to decentralize ISA47, we call for our members to submit proposals for thematic working groups. ISA47 working groups aim at bringing together social movement scholars from different continents and different disciplinary perspectives around a shared research issue. Working groups are platforms of scholarly exchange about a specific category of movements or an aspect of social movement research.

Purpose and advantage of the working group:

Working groups can be formed on any topic within the scope of work of ISA47 (see ISA47 statutes and ISA47 intellectual perspective [http://www.isarc47.org/a-perspective-for-2014-2018/]). Working groups are platforms to share research results and questions, promote exchanges and discussions and foster collaborations among social scientists from different countries and continents who work on similar movements or with converging approaches.

Working groups allow ISA47 members to develop their activities autonomously. The Research Committee ISA47 will support these activities in various ways (see below). Activities may include online meetings and seminars, organizing local and regional workshops, chairing panels at ISA conferences, sharing bibliographical databases, as well as diffusing information about activities and publications by local, national or international research networks.

WG will play an important role in building the RC47 program for the ISA Forum of Sociology and WG coordinators will be included in the RC 47 extended board. WGs are welcome to contribute to the RC47 newsletter, website and social media.

How will the RC47 support the WG?

• We will help to build a global network on your topic and networking to insightful researchers worldwide with the wide international networks of ISA47 that counts hundreds of sociologists and social scientists from all continents.
• We provide contacts with journals and publishing houses, notably those connected with the ISA.
• ISA47 website provides a page dedicated to each WG on the
• Diffusion of your publications, events, and calls for paper
January 2015

- WG events may be broadcast on the ISA 47 YouTube channel
- We will provide one or two panels to the members of each (active) WG at the ISA Forum in Vienna. This aims at fostering the dynamic exchange of each WG. and forthcoming publications of each WG.
- We will support WGs to publish a Socipedia article on their topic, collective book and journal special issue as an ISA 47 working group and promote those publications on our website and on the newsletter.
- A limited amount of founding will be made available to significant WG events and initiatives, following ISA47 possibilities.

Process and requirements to create a working group
To create an ISA47 Working Group (WG), we ask for a one-page written proposal to be submitted to Priska Daphi and Geoffrey Pleyers, who are in charge of the coordination of and assistance to the WG.

- The proposal must include a 1 page program, detailing contents and goals of the working group as well as a list of proposed activities. Each working group should at least plan one activity (workshop, conference, publications, journal special issue, website... ) per year – preferably including a panel at ISA Forum 2016. The program of the WG will be made public and circulated among ISA47 members.
- A WG proposal needs to be supported by at least three researchers from different countries (country of residence, not country of birth) and if possible from different continents. Mention their names, status, affiliation, and email addresses.
- The WG must submit a yearly report on the WG activities and membership to the ISA 47 WG coordinator, and to the ISA47 president and vice-president(s). More regular reports and information about activities are very welcome.
- One or two of the members must act as the coordinator of the WG, taking the responsibility to briefly report to ISA47 board. WG coordinators are ex-officio members of the ISA-RC47 “extended board”. WG coordinators must be members in good standing of ISA47 (not necessarily the ISA, but membership of the ISA is encouraged).

Proposed working groups:
The working groups are informal structure. Each group will discuss its internal organization. Current coordinators are only mentioned for informative reason. A full description of each working group will be available on the ISA47 website. Contact the coordinator to join a working group. Please contact Priska Daphi & Geoffrey Pleyers if you want to propose a new working group.

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

Arab revolutions
Information/ Coordination: Jose Sanchez Garcia, University of Lleida, sanchezgarciagjose@gmail.com

Gender & Social Movements (to be confirmed)
Information/ Coordination: Amana Matos, State University of Rio de Janeiro, amanamattos@gmail.com

Collaborations with national networks on social movement studies

ISA47 took part in the foundation of a Mexican Interdisciplinary Network on Social Movement Studies
Following an invitation by Sergio Tamayo & Geoffrey Pleyers as ISA47 board members, some 45 researchers from 17 Mexican universities and academic institutions from the capital city and 8 Mexican states gathered on January the 9th 2015 to start the Mexican Interdisciplinary Network on Social Movement Studies. Three working groups have been set up with the mission to prepare the first national congress on social movement studies in 2016, to promote and organize a decentralized network and to foster communication among social movement students in Mexico. A scholar journal dedicated to social movements in Mexico should also be initiated.
**ISA 47 Newsletter**

**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 April 15, 2015 events and news to be published on the next Newsletter (Summer 2015). Please contact renata.motta@fu-berlin.de

**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

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

**Academia.edu**
Please add “ISA47” among your affiliations and among your interests on your Academia.edu profile. To inform all the members about your new articles and papers and Stay informed about ISA47 members’ latest publications and call for papers.

**Joining ISA47**
- 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
Aims and scope
The 2015 Conference on Social movements in Central and Eastern Europe is organized by the University of Bucharest and the ISA Research Committee 47 “Social classes and social movements”. The conference will provide a platform to share and develop perspectives on, and analyses of, current and recent social movements and protests in Central and Eastern Europe – including the ones that attain mainstream media headlines as well as those that discreetly transform politics or daily life.

25 years ago, citizens successfully mobilised for freedom and democracy in Central and Eastern Europe and social movements played a key role in dismantling the iron curtain and in establishing democratic regimes in these countries. A quarter century later, both the context and social movements look very different. Most CEE countries have turned to market economies and political democracy and many have joined the European Union. Institutional democracy is well grounded in Central and Eastern Europe but low participation rates in elections suggests a sort of discontent with liberal democracy. Currently, with the exception of the 2011-2012 protests in Russia, the “EuroMaidan revolution” in Ukraine and recent Hungarian protests, Eastern European social movements have not made global news headlines and are rarely considered by worldwide social movement scholars.

A closer look at protests and civil society in the region provides another panorama. On one side, mobilizations oriented towards deep social transformation have echoed global movements (e.g. the Occupy movement in Bulgaria). On the other, social movements are focused on the environment, cultural change, daily life, alternatives within local contexts or citizens’ participation. Moreover, these social movements combine online and offline forms of participation, all major issues in democratic societies.

Protest, activism and a more active citizenship have often emerged from concerns in daily life. Some citizens have taken over the streets and occupied city squares or rural areas to oppose policies or infrastructure projects, often combining concrete claims with more general preoccupation for a more democratic society and a more transparent and less corrupt political arena. More recently, initiatives for critical consumption have emerged, connecting consumption choices with the support of local farmers as well as environmental, health and political concerns. Similarly, rural movements have found new impetus in various countries.

We also hope that this conference will advance theories of social movements by highlighting the micro-level mechanisms that drive recruitment, mobilization, decision-making, the construction of friends and foes, and other dimensions of strategies and meanings, in order to develop a more dynamic and contingent view of political processes. We hope to observe a variety of players engaging one another in various arenas (Jasper, 2014), as well as gathering analytical and empirical elements to bridge the gaps between micro and macro perspectives on social movements and social change.

Following ISA, RC47’s mission to develop a sociology of social movements as a general sociology and the combination of fieldwork data with analytical perspective on social movements and major social challenges, this conference particularly welcomes contributions that show how the study of social movements contributes to a better understanding of both specific social actors and society as a whole. ISA47 aims at promoting teaching and research on social movement studies, as well as networking among social movement scholars both in Rumania and among the Central and Eastern European region. We insist on promoting research agenda, approaches and perspectives rooted in fieldwork in Rumanian and CEE and taking into account local, national and regional challenges faced by social scientists scholars and citizens of that region. Social scientists are called to identify the movements that will eventually shape the future of Central and Eastern Europe and of Europe as a whole. The conference will pay attention to both progressive and conservative movements, as the latter tend to
become particularly vibrant and powerful in some CEE countries and raise some important challenges to democracy. Contributions may also underline commonalities and differences among movements and mobilizations in different CEE countries, in a specific sub-region and/or with their counterparts in Western Europe or the rest of the world. A specific panel will be dedicated to analytical overviews of civil society or social movements in a particular country, a set of countries or CEE as a whole. Finally, we also welcome panel paper proposals on theoretical contributions, notably on cultural approaches of social movements and personal subjectivity; the outcomes of social movements (both political outcomes and cultural change) as well as theoretical contributions with original insights on social movement studies, Central and Eastern Europe studies or general sociology.

The thematic sessions will be organized around 5 axes.

**Axis 1: Democracy and Europe**

*What future for European democracy?* Social movements, notably those arising in Central and Eastern Europe, have a fundamental role to play in coping with this challenge and finding ways to deepen democracy, to “democratize democracy”. This challenge includes: welfare reform discontent, disappointment with liberal democracy and the free market, low participation rates, but also young people who protest on the street claiming a deeper, more accountable and more participatory democracy, notably in Hungary, Romania and in Russia.

*Stances towards the EU* among citizens and activists in Central and Eastern Europe. Some movements and campaigns directly target European institutions, such as the ACTA campaign in which Polish activists had a clear impact on EU trade policies. Others target domestic governments that are inefficient and corrupt. The issue of corruption is particularly salient in CEE countries as different protest sites have recently proved.

*Movements of the squares in C&EE.* While protests in Moscow, Kiev or nearby Istanbul were echoed in international media, most city square occupations in the region were ignored, in spite of the fact that they featured large and passionate crowds in some cities and countries (such as Bulgaria and Hungary). We welcome contributions with analyses of these movements, including their main claims, internal organization, use of social media as well as papers focused on the outcomes and further development of city square movements. In Western cities many activists have joined four sectors of movements: local movements, resistance and solidarity groups; critical consumption initiatives or solidarity economy; expert activists’ networks and anti-austerity protests. To what extent are the city movements in Central and Eastern Europe similar to those in Western Europe? What is different when thinking about the environment, anti-fracking, anti-corruption and grassroots movements in CEE?

**Social movements and social media.** The massive use of social media in politics and social movement represents a considerable change. We particularly welcome empirical contributions with nuanced analysis that bridges the online/offline divide.

**Social movements and mainstream media.** Mainstream media continue to play a major role in democratic societies. How do they cover social movements? When do they become the targets of social movements? As the Internet expands in Central and Eastern Europe, what role is there for Facebook in social activism and mobilization?

**Axis 2: Conservative, populist, far right and racist movements**

*Populist and nationalist movements.* Among the trends that are European and democracy oriented, there are collective actions that represent a fundamental shift of preferences. The Conference tries to evaluate the influence of radical movements that contest the achievements of liberal democracy and promote extreme attitudes towards immigrants and ethnic or sexual minorities. Parties such as the Golden Dawn in Greece, Ataka in Bulgaria and Jobbik in Hungary have won between 10% and 25% of the vote in various elections. In several cases, over the last few years the so-called Nationalist Autonomists have adopted anti-capitalist and anti-imperialist stands mixed with xenophobic, homophobic and racist rhetoric. These groups often are also becoming the base for newly emerging political and also seem to be influencing popular culture (via patriotic rap music or murals).

*Religious movements.* Some Central and Eastern European countries have experienced an increased religious participation after the fall of communist regimes. The conditions to translate religion into politics have increased in countries such as Russia and Hungary. The Conference encourages social scientists to evaluate the extent to which religious participation could turn into social or political activism.
Axis 3: A renewal of green movements

**Green as a lifestyle, Green as resistance.** As in other regions of the world, many CEE countries are experiencing a revival of green movements that take shape in a wide array of concrete actions, protests and practices in daily life. Green movements include resistance and protests against infrastructure projects or extractivist industries; critical consumption, the questioning of mass consumption, local food, and campaigns to change consumer habits; rural movements; NGOs strategies to bring environmental concerns to the national policy agenda or international negotiations. In countries such as Poland and Romania, antifracking movements suggest a mobilization of the middle class which is a novel development. In Romania, the “Uniti Salvam” movement has attracted considerable attention as it has mobilized people for various protests. However, what is the future of green movements in Central and Eastern Europe today?

**INGOs and the grassroots.** Transnational organizations such as the Greenpeace will, in due course, enlarge their social base in Central and Eastern Europe. Indeed, national branches are already operating in most CEE countries. Other European-based movements or forums are looking for local branches and it is therefore relevant to examine the impact transnationalization has in CEE countries. More broadly, we will analyze how NGOs and local or national movements in Central and Eastern Europe address the challenges of the global age, shaped by the increasingly salient finitude of the planet and its resources. And conversely, we explore whether the experiences of development or post-development perspectives in other areas of the world (South East Asia, South America) are relevant for Central and Eastern Europe?

Axis 4: New and old challenges

**Youth:** Youth are not “citizens of tomorrow in formation”, they are major actors of our democracy. In CEE, young people who protest today have grown up after the fall of the iron curtain, in market oriented and democratic societies. What are the main features, commonalities and challenges of this post-1989 generation? Many young activists get involved through more subjective, personal and cultural forms of activism. What are their cultures of activism? How do they connect daily life with politics?

**Inheritance of the 1989 revolutions:** What happened to the actors of the 1989 revolutions? How have these actors shaped today’s societies and civil society? How do they connect with emerging movements and how do the later relate with them, both as concrete actors and as an emancipation project?

**Trade unions and workers movements:** How do workers movements and struggle develop in CEE? Are workers’ movements still central actors of CEE civil societies? What are the roles and significance of trade unions and workers movements in CEE democracies? How do different generations of workers collaborate in trade unions? How do they deal with challenges such as precarious nature of work? How do they connect with other movements? What are their contributions to the European Trade Union Confederation and the European project?

**Urban movements:** This includes: alternative experiments, revolts in the suburbs, intersectionalities, relations between housing and infrastructure in urban areas versus depopulation and demobilization in the rural regions. Do large cities in CEE experience suburban movements? To what extent is development an issue in East Central Europe? If the transformation of urban space is accelerating, what role then for the rural regions?

Organization

The practical organization of the conference is oriented by three main aims:

- to foster scholarly exchange between researchers from Romania, Central and Eastern Europe and the rest of the world. (leading scholars as keynote speakers; leading social movement scholars from a wide range of CEE countries, including Romania, Poland, Russia, Estonia, Armenia, Greece, Ukraine, R. of Moldova, Hungary, Czech Rep., Slovakia, Slovenia, Croatia, Serbia, Bulgaria, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Albania, Macedonia, Turkey);
- to ensure high quality contributions, panels and discussions (strict selection of papers, based on quality; publication of selected papers; a discussant assigned to every panel; RC 47 support for the publication of journal special issues and books);
- a supportive atmosphere and material conditions that favour insightful exchanges (affordable housing will be provided, convivial lunches and dinners).

In addition, the ISA-RC 47 will support the international diffusion of the conference and its outcomes, notably through the recording and life-streaming of various sessions as well as the publication of selected papers.
Papers and panels submission

**Deadline for panel and abstract proposals: February 15st, 2015**

We welcome both full panel (4 speakers and a discussant) and individual paper proposals. Paper proposals are limited to 1,000 words, with a 5-10 line author(s) bio-note.

A panel proposal should include a short description of the scope of the panel (2 paragraphs), 4 papers proposals (1,000 words each) and the bio notes of the author(s). It should also mention the proposed name of the discussant. The organizing committee may suggest a discussant if needed.

Proposals should be sent to Ionel N. Sava, Geoffrey Pleyers and the ISA RC 47, with the subject line “ISA47 Bucharest” insava@sas.unibuc.ro, Geoffrey.Pleyers@uclouvain.be, rc47.isa@gmail.com

The scientific committee will inform participants of selected proposals by the 25th of February 2015. Papers should be sent by April 25th and will be published early May as an e-book available for the Conference.

Selected papers and panels will be submitted for publication in collective volumes (Amsterdam University Press and SAGE Current Sociology Monographs) and in journal special issues.

Each session will consist of 4 paper presentations (15 minutes each), a discussant (15 minutes) and 2 additional papers that may be briefly presented to the audience or serve as a replacement for a missing speaker.

The official language of the conference is English. Two sessions for local scholars, PhD candidates and graduate students shall be organized in Romanian. A session may also be organized in French.

The best papers will be selected for publication in journal special issues and a book on social movements in Central and Eastern Europe.

**International Organizing committee**

Geoffrey Pleyers, FNRS-University of Louvain, President of ISA-RC 47

Ionel N. Sava, University of Bucharest, Romania

**Local organizing committee**

Adrian Dusa, University of Bucharest

Ionut Horeanu, A.I. Cuza University of Iasi

Mihaela Lambru, University of Bucharest

Camil Parvu, University of Bucharest

Dan Chiribuca, University Babes-Bolyai, Cluj-Napoca

Cretan Remus, Western University Timisoara

Dan Jurcan, IRES Romania

Horatiu Rusu, Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu

**Scientific committee**

*Allaste Airi-Alina*, Tallinn University

*Tova Benski*, Colman Rishon Lezicon, Israel, president of ISA-RC48

*Paul Blokker*, University of Trento

*Paolo Gerbaudo*, Kings College London, ISA 47

*Armine Ishkanian*, London School of Economics

*Kerstin Jacobsson*, University of Gothenburg

*James M. Jasper*, City University of New York, ISA 47

*Lukasz Jurczyszyn*, Collegium Civitas, Warsaw

*Carine Klement*, State University St Petersburg

*Ioan Panzaru*, University of Bucharest

*Camil Parvu*, University of Bucharest

*Grzegorz Piotrowski*, Södertörn University

*Geoffrey Pleyers*, FNRS-University of Louvain, ISA 47

*Ionel N Sava*, University of Bucharest

*Buket Turkmen*, University of Galatasaray

*Maria Voinea*, University of Bucharest

*Rafal Pankowski*, Collegium Civitas, Warsaw

*Micel Wieviorka*, Maisons des Sciences de l’Homme, Former president of the ISA.