



XIX ISA World Congress of Sociology Research Committee on Social Classes and Social Movements – RC47

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Description:

The XIX ISA World Congress of Sociology (Toronto, July 15-21, 2018) will focus on how scholars, public intellectuals, policy makers, journalists and activists from diverse fields can and do contribute to our understanding of power, violence and justice. In this context, the Research Committee on Social Classes and Social Movements (RC47) participates with 21 panels related to several dimensions of these broad topics. Particularly, our main aim is try to analyze the relationship between social movements with comprehensive changes of contemporary societies, including social classes, democracy, information and communication technologies, repression, migration, among others. See our program below and join us, submitting your abstract!

Membership of RC47 is not compulsory but will be taken into account in the abstract selection process. Please join us http://www.isa-sociology.org/memb_i/index.htm

Our aim is to foster a global dialogue among sociologists of social movements. Therefore, all panels should include about half of the speakers from the Global South.

Have a look at the section “How to present a paper” (p. 13) and don’t hesitate to contact the panel coordinators for more information about their panel.

Program Coordinators:

Geoffrey PLEYERS, Belgium/France, geoffrey.pleyers@uclouvain.be

Breno BRINGEL Brazil, brenobringel@gmail.com

Session 1. Claiming and Practicing Democracy in Contemporary Social Movements

(Joint Session with RC48 Social Movements, Collective Actions and Social Change)

Session Organizers:

Ruben DIEZ GARCIA, Carlos III University of Madrid, Spain, ruben.diez@uc3m.es

Antonio ALVAREZ-BENAVIDES, Centre d'Analyse et d'Intervention Sociologique, France, alvarezbenavides@gmail.com

Language: English and Spanish

Democracy is a central issue in contemporary social movements. In different contexts and therefore in different ways, the main claims and demands concern how “democracy” is practiced. The Arab Spring claims just for democracy in countries with dictatorial regimens. The 15M-indignados movements in Spain, a country immersed in corruption and a socioeconomic crisis, claims for a greater and true democracy through more participatory forms. The student protest #YoSoy132 claims for the democratization of the mass media and afterwards changes in the electoral and political system. Gezi Park Movement denounces the authoritarian regime of Erdogan, the lack of public consultation and the violation of democratic rights. Occupy denounces the lack of real democracy in a world of social inequality that disproportionately benefits a minority. The Nuit Debout set out representative democracy as a democracy without choice, in a context of austerity and regression of social rights. There are dozens of examples around the world: Iceland, Hong Kong, Rumania, Brazil, Russia, etc. At the same time, democracy is practiced in these movements and demonstrations as forms of action and organization. There are some examples of different principles and forms of direct, participatory and horizontal democracy: assemblies, camps, decision-making techniques and actions in local public spaces, different techniques of group management, the rejection of overbearing leadership, etc. We welcome papers that explore these two dimensions of democracy in contemporary social movements.

Session 2. Class Analysis in an Emancipatory Sociological Tradition

Session Organizers:

Ali DADGAR, University of Windsor, Canada, dadgar@uwindsor.ca

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

Language: English

Can class politics again be the basis for emancipatory projects? If so, how? This session welcomes papers that contribute to what Erik Olin Wright has outlined as an “emancipatory social science,” elaborating a systematic diagnosis of capitalism, envisioning viable alternatives, and proposing the directions of transformation. Specifically, we are interested in studies that take theories of class into the center of their analyses, attending to the ways in which class is mobilized as a political category, understood as an analytical category, and contrasts with, complements, and constitutes other bases of social movement mobilization. We hope to explore how we might fashion an emancipatory sociology with class at its analytic center, and that is capable of informing and contributing to the criticism of our current economic system and to its reconstruction on a radically egalitarian basis.

Session 3. Digital Experiences and Narratives of Networked Activism

(Joint Session with RC38 Biography and Society)

Session Organizer:

Tin-yuet TING, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong, tyting@polyu.edu.hk

Language: English

The popularity of social media and mobile technologies bears witness to thriving networked activism among connected individuals in different regions. The advent of information and communication technologies provides accessible multimedia platforms that allow self-joining and self-organized individual activists to create and share alternative discourses in advocating for diverse social agendas. Moreover, digital experiences and narrations as political performance in turn transform individuals' identities and values. They influence the individuals' civic-political activities and awareness both during and after social movements. While networked individuals and their connective efforts have been considered at the forefront of recent movement protests, less has been known about how they construct movement experiences and narratives with social media and mobile technologies, and the impacts of digitally-enabled experiences and narrations on their life histories in the long run. In order to address these issues, this session solicits submissions that analyze how individual activists construct movement experiences with mobile social media; the role of images and videos, likes and tweets, and other forms of representations in digital narrating; how digital experiences and narrating shape the individuals' civic-political agency and biographical outcomes. Contributions are welcome from different methodological approaches and socio-cultural contexts.

Session 4. Social Theory and the Epistemological Assumptions of the Sociology of Social Movements

Session Organizers:

Eiji HAMANISHI, Notre Dame Seishin University, Japan, hamanishi@post.ndsu.ac.jp

Breno BRINGEL, State University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, brenobringel@gmail.com

Language: English

This session seeks to analyze the relationship between social theory and social movements studies, looking also into the epistemological assumptions of the sociology of social movements in order to discuss the matrices of thought that have contributed to configure the so called "social movements theories". If the founders of sociology have discussed movements, protests, struggles, conflicts, mobs, unions, association and revolution, sociology continued to pay attention to social movements when discussing societies and its broad changes. Indeed, many contemporary social theories takes into consideration social movements and some gave them a central role (Parsons, Luhmann, Eisenstadt, Wallerstein, Foucault, Habermas, Touraine, Castells, Melucci, Giddens, Beck, Bauman, Honneth, Urry...). Although this linkage had been weakened through the middle-range-theorization of social movement studies after 1990s and the specialization and subdivision of sociology itself, recently we can note some proposes that tries to reconstruct the linkage between social theories and social movement studies like *Social Theory and Social Movements: Mutual Inspirations* (2014) and *Global Modernity and Social Contestation* (2015). Behind these propositions, there is also an effort to consider contemporary uprisings and movements (like Arab spring, Occupy movements, and globalization of alt-right movements) criticizing "acritically" extensions and receptions of Western-

centered theories into non-Western societies. In view of these questions, this session encourages proposals with renewed views on the relationship between social theory and social movements analysis.

Session 5. Feminist Movements: New Challenges in the 2010s

Session Organizers:

Carmen DIAZ ALBA, ITESO Guadalajara, Mexico, carmen.diaz.alba@gmail.com

Language: English, Spanish, French

A new wave of feminist mobilization is taking place all over the world. The call for a women's global strike on the 8th of March resonated in hundreds of collectives who joined this global action in more than 30 cities. This action took inspiration from the 1975 women's free day in Iceland protested against the invisibilized domestic work. More than 40 years later, the struggle for women's rights continues. Under the slogan "If our work is worthless, produce without us", women joined the global call on the streets and on the net, echoing the hashtags #NosotrasParamos (We stop) and in Latin America #NiUnaMenos to denounce feminicides and violence against women. At the same time, we witness the rise of conservative forces that challenge women's rights, warning about the "dangers" of what they call "gender ideology". Women play a major role in indigenous movements in Latin America, in ecological struggles and in Black Live Matter mobilization in the USA. How are they taking into account intersectional struggles (class, sexual orientation, race and ethnicity)? This panel aims to reflect on the recent evolutions and challenge of the feminist movements at the local, national, regional and global scale. What are the connections between these mobilizations and the long-standing feminist movement? How are they organizing transnationally? How do they organize on the streets and on the web? What new challenges do they face?

Session 6. Future into the Study of Social Movements: Possibilities for Newly Conceived Research Perspectives and Methodological Innovations

Session Organizer:

Daishiro NOMIYA, Chuo University, Japan, dainom@nifty.com

Language: English

Sociologists, as other social scientists, have expanded our knowledge and understanding through new research topics and perspectives, and methodological innovations. Our knowledge of social movements is no exception. Its development and expansion has been brought about by newly conceived research perspectives and development in research methodology. For instance, analyzing visualized materials as forms of movement action, such as photos and film footages, brings us a new analytical horizon that we did not fully explore in the past. Conceptualizing social movement as a product of networking of individuals and organizations has been with us for some time; yet, it was not until the arrival of newly developed computer-assisted techniques that enable us to do network analysis with empirical data that this conceptualization had not fully born fruit. Turning our eyes to the present, what do we have in our hands that would advance our knowledge? While refining current skills and deepening present knowledge are important, we still need to have an idea that will become a seed for an innovation we will be able to ride for the next decades. In this section, we call for innovative ideas - wild thoughts and unceasing dreams - and methods that would advance our research activities into our future study of social movements.

Session 7. Global Youth in the Move: Alteractivism and Post-2011 Social Movements

(Joined session with RC34 Sociology of Youth)

Session Organizers:

Carles FEIXA, University of Lleida, Spain, feixa@geosoc.udl.cat

Geoffrey PLEYERS, FNRS-CriDIS, University of Louvain, Belgium, Geoffrey.Pleyers@uclouvain.be

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Language: English

The year 2011 marks a watershed in the history of social movements. From the Arab Spring to the Chilean Autumn, passing through the Portuguese generation “a rasca”, the indignant Spaniards, the British riots, the protest for housing in Israel, the Colombian Mane, Acampa Sampa in Brazil, and of course Occupy Wall Street, a new global generation occupied the center of the public scene, both in the squares and in social networks. Whether it is a “movement” or a “moment”, these collective processes have their foreword in the alter-globalization mobilization that emerged in Seattle ten years earlier, and its epilogue in later alter-activist mobilization in places such as Hong Kong, Ankara or Paris, with a recent xenophobic and neoconservative drift. The present proposal invites to reflect on research carried out on these spaces and times, not so much on the movements themselves, but on the latent or evident subjectivation processes built around these collective processes, especially those related to the construction and deconstruction of personal or collective youth identities. In particular, we propose to focus on the following aspects: (a) The need to integrate subjectivation and self-construction as a person and as an actor of these young activists; (b) The other visions of the politics of the alter-activists, their scope and their limits; (c) Experiences of young alter-activists in representative politics.

Session 8. How Social Movements Produce Alternative Futures

Session Organizers:

Markus S. SCHULZ, New School for Social Research, USA, markus.s.schulz@gmail.com

Geoffrey PLEYERS, FNRS/University of Louvain & Collège d'Etudes Mondiales, Belgium, geoffrey.pleyers@uclouvain.be

Language: English

This session aims to explore how social movements create alternative futures in different regions of the world. By their struggles, experiences, values, visions, projects, concrete practices, and strategies, social movements contribute to transform society and open it to alternative futures. Social actors produce different societies in their struggles, but also in concrete practices, daily life and spaces of experience. This panel will gather researchers of different world regions so as to identify grassroots innovations and draw lessons from comparisons. Social movements are major actors of our societies and contribute to shaping possible futures. This panel 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.

Session 9. Indigenous Resurgence in Social Movement Theory and Practice

Session Organizers:

Carol Lynne D'ARCANGELIS, Memorial University of Newfoundland, Canada, carollynneda@mun.ca

Janet CONWAY, Brock University, Canada, jconway@brocku.ca

Language: Spanish, French and English

Indigenous resurgence and decolonial resistance have been on the rise in recent decades. In North America, Indigenous organizing (on- and offline) against resource extraction and for environmental justice, including Idle No More and the No DAPL (Dakota Access Pipeline) campaign, has garnered unprecedented public attention. In Canada, Indigenous women's efforts to raise awareness of missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls and Two Spirit individuals have led to a national public inquiry. Moreover, these local and regional social movements have found global purchase and must be understood as part of a global Indigenous movement to secure Indigenous peoples' collective rights, best reflected in the passage of the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Exceeding the logic of conventional social movement theory, decolonial Indigenous activism in settler colonial contexts raises broader questions about modalities and temporalities of social movements—providing alternative conceptualizations of not only solidarity and coalition building, but also of governance and political formations. This panel invites papers in English, French or Spanish that take up the phenomenon of Indigenous resistance and related matters (and any combination thereof). We ask what difference a deeper understanding of Indigenous anti-colonial and decolonial activism would make for social movement studies and praxis. What counterhegemonic historicities, temporalities, geographies and epistemologies/ontologies emerge? How could non-Indigenous actors, whether individually or collectively, better interface with such movements? We welcome comparative papers that consider settings beyond the North American settler colonial context, particularly ones that engage with Indigenous or tribal movements in the Global South.

Session 10. Jihadist and Extreme-Right Movements Today: Violence, Embodied Subjectivities and Imaginaries

Session Organizer:

Kevin MCDONALD, Middlesex University London, United Kingdom, k.mcdonald@mdx.ac.uk

Language: French and English

The past decade has seen an expansion of violent jihadist and extreme-right movements, with significant convergence between them evident in the primacy of personal experience over organizational structure and in the importance of social media. One sociological approach to this development has focused on mapping the network structures associated with these movements. In contrast, this panel will explore their experiential dimensions, from the heightened experience of selfhood associated with the role of strangeness and mystery evident in their engagement with conspiracy theory, their embrace of Hollywood imaginaries and their debt to world religions. Both these movements have a significant experiential debt towards racism, with its imaginary of purity and contamination. Embodied humour plays an important role in these movements, as a practice of both integration and exclusion. Both constellations of movements have significant pathways linked to criminal violence. Today these movements confront sociology with major theoretical and methodological challenges. Theoretically, most sociological approaches consider violence an instrument, not an experience, and it is important that the tension between these two approaches

become more creative. Violent actors increasingly generate cultural products seeking to communicate the sense of their violence (from tweets to videos), and the panel will consider theoretical and methodological issues that researchers confront in attempting to analyse these. Today's violent movements confront sociology with the challenge of theoretical and methodological renewal, and this panel calls for papers that seek to respond to this by linking theoretical questions with empirical data.

Session 11. Labour Organizations and Social Movements: Cross-Movement Networks **Joint session with RC44**

Session Organizers:

Daniele DI NUNZIO, Fondazione Di Vittorio, Italy, d.dinunzio@fdv.cgil.it

Sabrina ZAJAK, Ruhr-University Bochum, Germany, sabrina.zajak@rub.de

Language: English

Alliances, cooperation, joint mobilization between trade unions and social movements are essential to cope with the power of global capital, neoliberal hegemony and right wing radicalization around the globe. Economic activities, organized by flexible workflows with a powerful financial system at international level, are increasingly out of the democratic spaces of action. The development model is more and more driven by the market and people feel that they cannot govern the economic forces. We are in front of a crisis of industrial relations, of social dialogue and, at general level, of democracy. Unemployment, precariousness, fragmentation, insecurity, new forms of exploitation and commodification are key challenges in the world of work. Social life is characterized by a rise in inequalities and a reduction in social protections, with tensions towards racism, xenophobia and nationalism as quick answers to the weakness of the nation-states. Social movements and labour organizations condemn this situation demanding real democracy, social justice, dignity at work and universal rights. There are several experiences of synergies but also many difficulties to build wide collective actions to cope with the power of the global market at one side and the rising of nationalism on the other. This session discuss the following questions: What are innovative strategies and limits of cross-movement networks to cope with these challenges at local and international level? How labour can strengthen the networks with other social movements? What are the relations between labour and human rights, working and social life, labour and other social movements?

Session 12. Neoliberalization, Precarity and Social Movements in the BRICS Countries: Towards New Perspectives

Session Organizers:

Alf NILSEN, University of Agder, Norway, alfgunvald@gmail.com

Karl VON HOLDT, SWOP, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa, karl@yeoville.org.za

Language: English

The onset of the twenty-first century has witnessed substantial shifts in the vectors of economic and political power that structure the workings of the world-system. It is above all the rise of the BRICS countries – Brazil, Russia, China, India, and South Africa – that have called into question the future of western dominance in world markets and geopolitics. Mainstream narratives of the economic and political ascent of these emerging powers tend to highlight the potential that this process holds for poverty reduction and progress towards higher levels of human development. However, the neoliberal developmental trajectories of the BRICS countries are shot through with socioeconomic fault lines that relegate large numbers of people to the margins of current growth processes, where life is characterized by precarity. And these fault lines give rise to new forms of popular resistance that range from highly localized single-issue protests to sustained social movements oriented towards structural transformation. This panel will bring together international scholars whose work seeks to develop new critical perspectives on neoliberalization, precarity and social movements in the BRICS countries. Focusing how neoliberalization and precarity generate distinct forms of mobilization and conversely how social movements shape neoliberalization and precarity, the contributions will push towards a critical conceptualization of the political economy of development in the BRICS countries that unearths the economic, social, and political contradictions that tend to disappear from view in mainstream narratives.

Session 14. Repression Against Activists, Human Rights NGOs, Journalists and Scholars

Session Organizer:

Simin FADAEI, University of Sheffield, United Kingdom, s.fadaee@sheffield.ac.uk

Language: English

Activists, human rights NGOs, journalists and social scientists, and particularly social movement scholars, are increasingly forced to silence, banned from work and activism, put in jail and at times are assassinated. RC47 has decided to take on a more active role against different forms of repression posed on activists, scholars and academics as a response to recent repressive developments within authoritarian regimes of the global South as well as the so called democracies of the global North. The panel welcomes the followings:

- analyses of policies and processes of repression of activists and journalists by authoritarian regimes in different regions of the world;
- analyses of popular resistance, social movements and human rights NGOs which document and denounce repression and resist authoritarian regimes;
- testimonies by scholars and scholar-activists who have suffered repression and are under threat.

This panel is part of the *RC47 Initiative against repression of academics* and has three main aims. Firstly, it diffuses information about repression and threats on social scientists and social movement scholars and issues statements to denounce repression and reclaim justice. Secondly, it promotes research which enables us to provide a better understanding of the local, national and international

forces and mechanisms that have produced a world in which social scientists, journalists and activists have become targets of repression. Finally, it aims at contributing to a more active, efficient and visible mobilization of the academic community.

Session 15. Social Movement Studies and Far Radical Right: Theoretical and Empirical Enquiries

Session Organizer:

Emanuele TOSCANO, University Guglielmo Marconi, Italy, emanuele.toscano@uniroma1.it
Angela PAIVA, PUC-Rio, Brazil, apaiva@puc-rio.br

Language: French and English

Session description:

In many parts the world, especially in those areas more exposed to processes of economic, social and geopolitical crisis, we're observing an affirmation of far right formations that are acquiring consensus and participation, building their collective actions by calling into question the universalistic principles of the fundamental rights invoking dimensions of cultural, religious and security nature. These formations can also be different from one another: some are openly violent and racist, some others more interested to the cultural dimension of collective action. They are also connected in international networks, using technologies as a tool for political propaganda. The study of these movements also presents difficulties connected to the access to the research field, since qualitative inquiry techniques need a direct connection with actors that are the object of the study. Even if there's a large literature about radical and populist right parties, the study of far right movements from a social movements' studies perspective, keen on understanding individual meaning of the participation to collective action is still pretty small. In the past decades the attention of social movement studies was concentrated upon movements that affirmed universalistic and emancipation principles while nowadays it is even more necessary to focus the attention on those movements characterized by racist, xenophobic and intolerant discourses. Which analytical categories can be used to explain collective action and the meaning of individual participation? Which challenges come from the field study of these movements?

We encourage papers presenting innovative theoretical perspective, as well as empirical and comparative researches.

Session 16. Social Movements Studies in a Polarized World: Critical Balances

Session Organizer:

Geoffrey PLEYERS, FNRS/University of Louvain & Collège d'Etudes Mondiales, Belgium,
geoffrey.pleyers@uclouvain.be

Language: English

Five years after the start of a global wave of movements that have erupted dozens of countries on all continents, 2016 will be remember as the year of Brexit, the election of Donald Trump and the 'No' to the referendum for peace in Colombia. Have social movements stopped to produce and transform their society, as Touraine stated in the 1970s? The current panorama rather pleas for better taking into account both progressive and conservative movements, the latter having been overlooked by social movement research in the last decades. This panel will be a space to reflect on the way our

world has been transformed both by right-wing popular movements, violent waves of repression against activists and the back of authoritarian regimes with popular support; and by progressive movements, resistances or alternative practices rooted in local and daily life. It will gather panelists from different continents, with a special focus on movements that have to face authoritarian governments.

Session 17. Social Movements and Conflicts over Migration and Asylum

Session Organizer:

Priska DAPHI, Goethe University Frankfurt am Main, Germany, p.daphi@gmx.de

Language: English

In the last years, migration has become an increasingly contentious issue in different regions of the world. In Europe, for example, the growing number of refugees has sparked off intense debates about asylum and triggered various collective actions ranging from protests against the presence of refugees to grassroots actions and initiatives by and in solidarity with refugees. Also elsewhere the issue of migration currently sparks off intense controversies – ranging from the resistance to Donald Trump’s anti-immigration policies to struggles around migration within Latin America, the Middle East or Africa. This panel explores current mobilizations in the context of conflicts over migration and asylum worldwide. Addressed questions include among others: How do current movements around migration differ from earlier phases of mobilization? Which alliances are established both inside and outside of the movements? How successful are these movements in influencing public discourse and policy decisions?

Session 18. Social Movements and Popular Resistances Against Violence

Session Organizer:

Mario CONSTANTINO, Universidad de Veracruz, Mexico, marioconsta@gmail.com

Language: Spanish and English

Throughout the second decade of the 21st century, we have witnessed the rise of security based social organization models where the *impronta* of violence can clearly be perceived. This panel will focus on popular resistances, community organizing and social movements against violence, whether state violence and repression, gender violence, or violence by gangs and organized crime. The possibilities for collective actions are scarce in such circumstances. In the last few years, we have however witnessed a wide variety of mobilizations, ranging from proper social movements for peace with justice and dignity to forms of popular resistances in daily life, community organizing and online activism. This call for contributions is an invitation to reflect upon processes of structuring resistance and collective action in the face of security and violence scenes. We particularly welcome contributions on the following actors and challenges: (a) The importance of the processes of subjectivation and the revindication of that which fails in structuring resistance actions; (b) The way local community organize to resist violence; (c) The experiences dimension (implication, self-construction and learning processes) of the processes of construction of collective action in the face of violence; (d) The probable relationship between claims, resistance and the social connectivity potential which resistance movements bear in face of violence.

Session 19. Social Movements and Resistances Against the Neocolonial and Neoliberal University

Session Organizer:

Marcelle DAWSON, University of Otago, New Zealand, marcelle.dawson@otago.ac.nz

Shruti TAMBE, Savitribai Phule Pune University, India, shruti.tambe@gmail.com

Language: English

Teachers' and students' movements are among the most lively and most significant of the last decades in all regions of the world. The twin legacies of colonialism and neoliberal globalisation, as they have played out on university campuses around the world, have sparked significant student protests and fierce debate about the role of the university in the twenty-first century and its potential – as an agent of socialisation – to bring about social change. As it stands, the neocolonial, neoliberal university serves merely to entrench existing inequalities. Debates and struggles that have centred either on decolonising or decommodifying education, although valuable in their own right, have tended to overlook the closely intertwined nature of race and class oppression that continues to contradict the idea of the university as a public good and detract from its role as the critic and conscience of society. This panel welcomes novel insights into movements and resistance against the neocolonial, neoliberal university that challenge the boundaries of anti-racist and anti-capitalist praxis.

Session 20. Social Movements in the Age of Trump

Session Organizer:

Simin FADAEE, University of Sheffield, United Kingdom, s.fadaee@sheffield.ac.uk

Language: English

Donald Trump's entry into the presidential campaign and his unexpected victory has triggered mobilizations across the United States, United Kingdom, Mexico and worldwide. While some of these mobilizations have emerged as distinct protest movements organizing around anti-Trump slogans, the more established social movements such as the women's rights movement, environmental movement, migrants' rights movement and Black Lives Matter have responded to the Trump administration in different ways. This session explores the extent anti-Trump sentiments is changing the trajectory of social mobilizations around the world in terms of shaping new alliances and repertoire of action as well as the ways it is impacting different movements internally. Moreover, it explores the intersections of the global with the local and the South with the North, with special attention on how particular tendencies are instigated among the activists and movements and how these may have created a dialectical interplay between different forces and actors. Finally, it discusses the implications of these transformations for emancipatory struggles and progressive politics.

Session 21. The Critical Search for Theoretical Relevance in Social Movement Studies, Considered Internationally

Session Organizers:

Ben MANSKI, University of California, Santa Barbara, USA, brmanski@gmail.com

Maria MARTINEZ, University of the Basque Country, Spain, maria_m_g@hotmail.com

Language: English

Years of paradigmatic confrontation among social movement scholars in different regions of the globe have thus far produced limited results. Most recent progress in the field has come incrementally and often instrumentally in studies that isolate particular issues in social movement studies (e.g. leadership, community, emotions, identity formation) or that apply well-accepted analytical tools to the study of new cases or contexts. Thus, despite increasing interdisciplinary engagement with feminist, critical race, postcolonial, critical realist, ecological, anarchist, Marxist, and other critical theories, social movement research in much of the world, particularly North America and Western Europe, has continued to exhibit a positivist tendency to apply tools and concepts absent critical engagement with social movement ontologies. In this session we open a space to address possibilities and limitations in searching for a renewal of social movement theory. We invite proposals that address one or more questions: What limits have you identified in the application of social movement concepts and tools to a specific context or case and how did you respond to those limitations practically and theoretically? How can critical theories contribute to social movement theory renewal? How have you attempted to reconcile your local or regional theoretical tradition with the use of theories and concepts from the hegemonic traditions in social movement studies? To what extent should scholars normalize questions of activist knowledge, movement intellectualism, and movement relevance in the field of social movement studies? How should social movement ontologies generally inform the study of social movements?

How to present a paper?

Anyone interested in presenting a paper should submit an abstract on-line [here](#) until **September 30, 2017**. Only abstracts submitted on-line will be considered in the selection process.

Please follow the below listed steps:

1. **Select RC47** among the Research Committees available;
2. **Choose the session** in which you wish the abstract to be included.
3. **Please read carefully the session description**
4. **Click to submit an abstract**
5. **Follow the 5 steps to submit an abstract**
6. **Send an e-mail to the panel coordinators with your abstract proposal**

Please note that:

1. One cannot submit more than two abstracts.
2. The abstract cannot contain more than 300 words and must be submitted in English, French or Spanish.
3. All changes/updates should be done via on-line system by September 30, 2017
4. Submitters will be informed by November 30, 2017, whether their papers have been accepted for presentation.
5. A final presentation designation (oral presentation, distributed paper, poster, or round table presentation) will be indicated.

Additional information:

<http://www.isa-sociology.org/en/conferences/world-congress/toronto-2018/call-for-abstracts/>

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ISA47 Website: <http://www.isarc47.org>

ISA47 initiative against repression of academics. Contact Simin Fadaee: s.fadaee@sheffield.ac.uk

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Open Movements: For a global and public sociology of social movements

Open Movements is ISA47 web-journal and platform and our joint project with Open Democracy.

Over 130 articles have been published since 2015 on ongoing or recent social movements and global or local challenges by scholars and activists from all continents.

New contributions are welcome! Articles should be around 2500 words, without theoretical discussion, comprehensive for an international academic and non-academic audience.

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