

ESA MONTHLY BULLETIN – MARCH 2012

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ESA NEWS

Call for Papers – Conference organised by the Critical Political Economy Research Network (CPERN) of the European Sociological Association (ESA) <u>http://criticalpoliticaleconomy.net/ http://www.europeansociology.org/</u>

"The "Critical" in "Critical Political Economy".

Thursday 20 – Friday 21 September 2012

Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona, Spain.

To be 'critical' in one's work is a common rhetorical aspect of political economy research, especially in the post-2007 world. However, what 'critical' refers to, and the implications of being 'critical', are frequently neglected or left unclear. For example, does it entail: the promotion of normative commitments in one's work; the highlighting of previously ignored/neglected topics or aspects of the world; the unravelling of taken-for-granted assumptions in a text; the attempt to take inspiration from different social science disciplines; or the support for particular ontologies, epistemologies and methodologies? Or should we consider broader issues as well, such as: the changing nature and role of Higher Education in contemporary societies; the relationship between academia and wider society; participation in social and political movements, such as Occupy; and attempts to reform government policies in a more progressive direction?

This two-day conference in Barcelona seeks to explore these issues in an open, honest and reflexive manner. We are interested in all of the above plus more, and wish for the conference to cover a wide range of topics. As such, we seek contributions from those with an interest in political economy research, regardless of their disciplinary affiliation and whether they are in academia or not. We also hope to attract a diverse range of participants, from a number of countries and backgrounds. To this end, limited funds will be available for assisting PhD researchers who present a paper – especially those from Central and Eastern Europe – with their travel and accommodation costs.

Introducing the conference will be Mònica Clua-Losada, Visiting Professor in Public and Social Policy in the Department of Political and Social Sciences at Universitat Pompeu Fabra. This will be followed by a plenary address by Professor Vicenç Navarro, Professor in Public Policy at John Hopkins University and Universitat Pompeu Fabra, and the Director of the Social Observatory of Spain.

The conference language will be English, and there is no fee for attending and participating in the conference. However, as a network formally affiliated with the ESA, we encourage those participating in the conference to: (i) join our mailing list through the above URL; and (ii) consider becoming a member of the ESA, through which for a small supplementary fee one can affiliate with CPERN and therefore support its present and future activities.

Abstracts of no more than 250 words should be submitted to <u>cpern@criticalpoliticaleconomy.net</u> by no later than Wednesday 25 April 2012. The applicants will be informed of the selection committee's decision by no later than Wednesday 9 May 2012.

About CPERN

The Critical Political Economy Research Network (CPERN) promotes and facilitates research aimed at understanding recent transformations of capitalism and capitalist societies. The primary focus is on Europe, but CPERN is in no way restricted to just this part of the world. CPERN's purpose is to reassert the centrality of political economy perspectives and to promote critical and emancipatory scholarship. It is a hub for interdisciplinary exchange, straddling principally the disciplines of sociology, politics and economics, but also reaching out to geography, social policy and law.

CALL FOR PAPERS

For the interim conference of the European Sociological Association (ESA) Research Network 8 "Disaster, Conflict and Social Crisis Research Network" (DSCRN), that is organized in collaboration with the Rector's Office, the Sociology of Work Laboratory and the Laboratory for Social-Cultural Digital Documentation of the Aegean University and will be held on the island of Lesvos (Greece), on 13-14 September 2012. Venue for the conference will be the amphitheatre of the Chamber of Commerce of Lesvos in the city of Mytilene (www.lesvoschamber.com). The general theme of the conference is:

THE DEBT CRISIS IN THE EUROZONE (EZ): SOCIAL IMPACTS

During the last 4 years and since the collapse of Lehman Brothers, the Eurozone has been confronted with the greatest economic crisis since the great depression of the 1930s. Especially hit are the member-states of Greece, Ireland, Portugal, Spain and Italy - the so-called "PIGS" states (Portugal, Ireland, Italy, Greece and Spain). There has been a lot of debate as to the causes and the ways of responding to this debt crisis. Some attribute the crisis to expanding global capitalism and the competition for new and cheaper labor markets, while others view it as a problem of modernization, national character, and over-consumption in relation to a country's production capacity.

With regard to the response, the Eurozone member-countries and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) have created a bail-out system for the countries with excessive fiscal imbalances and high public debts. This bailing out was accompanied by a series of austerity measures (e.g. cuts in public and private spending, cuts in salaries, wages and social security income) and large increases of taxes as well by demands for structural reforms in tax, social security, health and occupation systems, labor relations and privatization of public properties. And all these within compressed time frameworks in order to increase the country's solvency. These measures were first implemented in Greece, then Ireland and Portugal who also have used the EZ and IMF bail-out mechanism. Spain and Italy have so far avoided utilization of the bail-out mechanism by taking "proactive" austerity measures themselves.

Two years of experimentation/implementation of the EZ-IMF austerity model in Greece has not solved the debt problems, either because of the wrong prescription or because of delays in implementation of accompanying demands by the member country. Instead, it has led to a vicious cycle of recession, further dependence on the EU and the IMF, and more domestic austerity measures. The austerity measures have had serious social impacts on business closures and unemployment, on the personal lives of millions of citizens whose life-plans were suddenly undermined, on the relations of citizens to the system of government, as well on the relationships among citizens of the "donor" and "recipient" countries and on the relationships of member states to the emergent European Union institutions. Although some structural progress have been made on the management of the economic crisis of member states, the above social impacts are expected to be aggravated, threatening member countries in the periphery with bankruptcy and social unrest and the EU itself with breakup and/or compartmentalization, unless decisive measures are taken to break once and for all the vicious cycle of recession and austerity measures.

The principal purpose of this mid-term conference will be to explore the various social impacts of the Eurozone debt crisis. Specifically, papers, power-point presentations and works in progress are invited on the following topics:

- The Political-economy of the EZ Crisis
- The EZ Crisis, Unemployment and Poverty
- The EZ Crisis, Migration/Return Migration and Racism

- The EZ Crisis, Anomie, Mass Violence and Crime
- The EZ Crisis and the Welfare State (Health¹, Education, Housing etc.)
- The EZ Crisis, Businesses and Tourism
- The EZ Crisis and the "Green Economy"
- The EZ Crisis, Social Protest and the Civil Society (e.g. *indignados* movements)
- The EZ Crisis, New Social Structures, New Social Institutions and New Identities in Member States and the European Union

Abstract - Paper Format and Language. The organizers invite theoretically or empirically grounded papers on the above (or related) topics. Special consideration will be given to empirically grounded papers, either comparative or country-based, that focus on the social impacts on the "indebted" countries and their citizens. The language of the abstracts, the papers and the conference will be in English. Abstracts should be about 300 words, and should be accompanied by the name(s) of the author(s), his/her/their affiliation(s) and E-mail(s). Individuals may not participate as senior authors in more than one session. Abstracts should be submitted to Dr. Nicholas Petropoulos, erc@otenet.gr by **30 April 2012**. Upon receipt, they will be sent to members of the scientific committee for review. Participants will be notified regarding acceptance the latest on **15 May 2012**. Those whose abstracts are accepted are urged to submit their completed papers by **31 August 2012** for publication of the proceedings by RN08 and Aegean University.

Conference and Hotel Fees: ESA non-members: 100 Euros for non-students and 50 Euros for students. **ESA members**: 80 Euros for non-students and 40 Euros for students. The fees will cover two lunches, one supper and the conference bag. It is understood that participants will cover their own travel and hotel expenses. The local organizing committee is negotiating with the local hotels for discounts. Generally, hotels rooms fluctuate between 35 and 55 Euros for singles and between 45 and 75 Euros for doubles per night. Paper presenters and conferees are expected to **register by 30 June 2012**. Conferees should arrive in Mytilene on Wednesday, 12 September, as the conference opens at 9AM Thursday.

Tours. The Local Organizing Committee plans to organize one-day or two day tours within the island of Lesvos and across to Turkey (Ayvalik, Troy, Pergamon), for Saturday and Sunday (15 and 16 September). Lesvos, the third biggest island of Greece, has (1) many significant pre-historical and archeological sites from the Miocene period 20 million years ago (e.g. the petrified forest) to more recent historical periods (Greek antiquity, the Hellenistic, the Roman, the Byzantine and the Ottoman periods), (2) a number of mineral water springs (spas) that are accessible to tourists, and beautiful beaches for swimmers. We are in the process of researching alternative packages. More information about specific routes and costs will be sent out in the immediate future.

By the end of March 2012, the Local Organizing Committee plans to create a page within the website <u>www.erc.gr</u> for on-line registration and with information concerning local hotels, tour preferences and methods of payment.

Scientific Committee:

-**Murat Balamir**, Prof. Emeritus, Dept. of City Planning, Middle East Technical University, Coordinator of RN08 (DCSCRN) of the European Sociological Association

-Maureen Fordham, Principal Lecturer in Disaster Management, School of Built & Natural Environment, Northumbria University, United Kingdom, RN08 Advisor

-Nicholas Petropoulos, former Sociology Counselor of Pedagogical Institute, Sociologist, Athens, RN08 Advisor

-George Tzobanoglou, Assoc. Prof. of Sociology, Director of the Sociology of Work Laboratory of Aegean University.

-Anastasia Zissi, Asst. Professor of Sociology, Aegean University.

⁻Sotiris Chtouris, Prof. of Sociology, Director of the Laboratory for Social and Cultural Digital Documentation, Aegean University

¹ Health covers both physical and mental health. With respect to the latter rates of depression and suicides would be of special interest.

Organizing Committee:

-Local Members. Nicholas Petropoulos, RN08 Advisor, Athens, Greece; **George Tzobanoglou**, Assoc. Professor of Sociology, Director of the Sociology of Work Laboratory, Aegean University; and **Andromache Myrogianni**, Director of the Lesvos Chamber of Commerce.

-DSCRN Members: Nina Blom Andersen, Vice-Coordinator of DCSCRN, Asst. Professor, Dept. of Communication, Business and Information Technology, Roskilde University, Roskilde, Denmark; Antti Silvast, Website Manager of DSCRN and Editor of the Network's, Newsletter, Doctoral Candidate, Dept. of Social Research, University of Helsinki, Finland.

Important Deadlines:

Abstract Submission: 30 April 2010 Paper Acceptance: 15 May 2012 Registration: 30 June 2012 Completed papers: 31 August 2012

Relevant Websites:

-European Sociological Association: <u>www.europeansociology.org</u> -Disaster, Conflict and Social Crisis Research Network: <u>www.dscrn.org</u> -Aegean University: <u>www.aegean.gr</u>

> European Sociological Association RN31 Ethnic Relations, Racism and Antisemitism

> > Mid term conference

ECONOMIC CRISIS, RACISM AND ANTISEMITISM IN EUROPE

31 August – 2 September 2012 University of Macedonia (Thessaloniki)

Papers: 20 minutes

Deadline: 30 April 2012

Send an abstract with name and institution to the local committee of the mid-term conference to: Ben Gidley <u>ben.gidley@compas.ox.ac.uk</u> and Achilleas Fotakis <u>afotakis@yahoo.com</u>

The economic downturn has led to a rise in discrimination, racism, antisemitism and xenophobia in Europe, particularly in EU countries such as Italy, Greece, Slovakia and Hungary. But in other European countries too effects of the global crisis are discharged on racialised minorities, such as Roma, Muslims, Jews or immigrants in general. From job losses to increasing poverty, minorities are the principal victims of economic and financial crisis. This differential impact is not surprising. It was predictable that those populations would experience the hardships of the downturn in disproportionate measure. At the same time, in a context of generalised fear and insecurity, these groups are becoming the scapegoats of 'native' frustrations, as internal minorities and migrants are held responsible for troubles, fears and anxieties. This resurgence is reflected electorally (as with the gaining of seats by L.A.O.S. and Golden Dawn in Greece) and on the street (as with the desecration of cemeteries or pogroms against migrants).

As suggested by Winant, the age of empire is over; apartheid and Jim Crow have been ended; and a significant consensus exists among scientists (natural and social), and humanists as well, that the concept of race lacks an objective basis. Yet the concept persists, as idea, as practice, as identity, and as social structure. Racism and antisemitism persevere in these same ways, increasing in these hard times. The reassertion of imperial geopolitical patterns, whether tacit or explicit, with embedded racial

dynamics intact, casts Europe and United States in a particularly ambiguous racial role. Jews are still viewed as the hidden directors of the crisis hidden, Roma as barbaric, Muslims as invaders, Blacks and others the essence of bad alterity.

Meanwhile, the changing dynamics in the eastern and southern Mediterranean – the 'Arab spring' – have caused demographic turbulence that will impact on Europe's multicultural settlement, but have also changed the relationship between Europe and its others and reconfigured the way Israel/Palestine features in the European political imaginary. These changes call for us to re-think our analytical categories.

The midterm 2012 Conference in Thessaloniki will target these fields of reflections and research at least at two levels, empirical and theoretical.

We particularly call for papers from participants with a Greek background or a specialization to Modern Greek studies on both contemporary and historical antisemitism, nationalism and racism in Greece (and in Thessaloniki itself), in the context of the re-emergence of right-wing nationalism (including populist and neo-Nazi variants), the 'Aegean border crisis', the intensification of representations of Macedonia as iconic of the Greek nation, and the complex relationship between these and anti-Zionism, hatred against Muslims and pro- and anti-Turkish sentiment.

- Empirical

Racism and antisemitism in a time of crisis

What drives the resurgence of nationalism? How are everyday and institutional racisms restructured in a time of crisis? Has the Arab Spring shifted formations of European anti-Muslim, anti-Arab and anti-Israeli racism? How are new forms of nationalism linked to old and new forms of antisemitism, anti-Zionism and pro-Israeli attitudes? And – as the camps of irregular migrants are burnt down, synagogues are attacked and Roma populations disposed – how does violence figure in these new formations: are we seeing new pogroms for old goals, or old pogroms for new goals?

Europe, its edges and its others

How are Europe and its others viewed from its edge? How have Jews and Muslims been constructed as inside or outside Europe? Has the antisemitism of the age of the nation-state given way to hatred against Muslims of the age of supra-national (or multi-national?) Europe? In Europe's (and the Eurozone's) time of crisis and precariousness, are Jews and Muslims being imagined differently? What new forms of intolerance are being generated at the borders of Europe? How do the machineries intended to secure Europe's borders (such as Frontex and the bilateral agreements with Europe's neighbours, including Gadafi's Libya) relate to these new forms of intolerance? How have changing patterns of Greek-Turkish relations structured these shifts?

- Theoretical

Intersecting racisms

Antisemitism (as with Golden Dawn) sometimes features in the resurgent Euro-nationalisms, but at other times (as with L.A.O.S. or the English Defence League) Euro-nationalists take a pro-Israeli stance. How can we understand this? Specifically, how can we theorise antisemitism in relation to other forms of racism, prejudice and intolerance, including anti-black, anti-Muslim, anti-Tzigani and anti-foreigner racisms? How do attitudes to intra-European migrants (Albanians in Greece, Eastern Roma in Italy or France, A8 economic migrants in the West) relate to attitudes to extra-European migrants? How do attitudes to migrants relate to attitudes to historical minorities, such as Roma in the Balkans or Greeks and Armenians in Turkey?

History and sociology

What new sociological approaches – including Social Practices Theory, Actor Network Theory, critical realism versus social constructionism, and quantitative attitudinal research – are useful in thinking these intersecting racisms at this time of crisis? And what can the sociology of European antisemitism, racism and ethnic relations learn from history as a discipline? What are some of the hidden and buried histories of antisemitism, racism and ethnic relations? What does the history of the Ottoman period tell us about pluralism, tolerance and intolerance? Have Jews fared better under empires or under nations, and what is the relationship between those imperial histories and contemporary antisemitism

CALL FOR PAPERS

ESA Research Network 32 – Political Sociology

The European Sociological Association's Research Network on Political Sociology (RN32) is pleased to announce its second mid-term conference, to be held at the **University of Milan (Italy), 30** November and 1 December, 2012:

Political Participation and Beyond Multi-level dynamics of inclusion/exclusion in times of crisis

Political participation is a founding theme of political sociology. In broadest terms, it refers to all forms and activities through which individuals or collectives express opinions and also exert influence on decisions that are of common concern. While concerned with apathy, abstention and "exit", political sociology has also described and categorized a broad and ever-changing repertoire of citizen (and non citizen) voice, i.e. activism and formal or informal involvement whether individual/collective, manifest/latent, institutionalized/unconventional, direct/mediated, online/offline. In an age of globalization and multilevel (local, national, supranational, global) networking of collective decision-making processes, in which social and political boundaries are being reshaped and new dynamics of social and political inclusion and exclusion are emerging, this scope of political participation is potentially wider and rapidly changing. One may wonder if participation is heightened in times of crisis, which favour more exclusive forms of governance and tend to mobilise new forms of protest, or on the contrary generates *anomie*.

The aim of this conference is to explore the extended scope of political participation in relation to transnational government arrangements and processes. Within this broad theme, all crucial concepts of political sociology are embraced. These include: challenged legitimisation of democratic representative institutions; changing power relationships between citizens and the state; the making of a new political order across the interaction of macro- and micro-level actors; the battle for cultural, social, and institutional change involving networked individuals and organized groups at local, national and global levels.

A number of key contemporary political and social phenomena can therefore be analysed from a political participation perspective:

- Globalizing forms of protest and new forms of political mobilization
- Changing interactions between public opinion, political elites, mainstream media, and social media
- The plebiscitary nature of leader-followers relationships as regards populist parties
- Party primary elections and campaigning
- New patterns of electoral turnout and volatility
- Citizens' deliberations and experiments in participatory democracy
- The emergence of a new political cleavage along the nationalism vs. cosmopolitanism value dimensions
- The ongoing conflict over norms of citizenship

- Processes of agenda-setting and the role of migrants' organizations in key policy areas
- Political dimensions of immigrant integration and the politics of voting rights
- Urban governance and urban conflicts

Proposals can relate to all levels of – local to global – mobilization and participation in the polity. Studies employing a European comparative perspective or EU-wide framework, that address the multilevel dimension of participation, or discuss more recent challenges to citizens' participation and legitimacy in times of financial and economic crisis are particularly welcome.

Abstract submission: Both panel proposals and individual paper proposals are encouraged. For panel proposals please submit a short description of the theme of the panel and at least three individual paper abstracts.

Deadline: The deadline for panel and paper proposals is Friday April 30th. Please submit abstracts of max 200 words to: <u>rn32mtc2012@gmail.com</u> The conference committee will notify applicants by May 30^{th.}

Conference venue and organization: The conference will be hosted by the <u>Department of Social</u> <u>and Political Studies</u>, University of Milan (Italy). The Department is located in the centre of Milan. Participants are asked to make their own travel arrangements and book accommodation. We will suggest a list of hotels. Information will be available at: <u>http://www.sociol.unimi.it</u>.

To encourage participation by a broad range of early career researchers and experienced academics, there is no registration fee. To register, please write to <u>rn32mtc2012@gmail.com</u> with the following information: name, position, affiliation with postal address, country, email address and dietary preferences.

Further information: Contact MAURO BARISIONE at rn32mtc2012@gmail.com

The ESA Sociology of Religion Research Network's First Bi-Annual Conference, Transformations of the Sacred in Europe and Beyond, will be Monday 3- Wednesday 5 September, 2012 at the University of Potsdam, Campus Griebnitzsee.

The mid term conference is coordinated by the RN34 Vice Chair, Heidemarie Winkel (Potsdam/Berlin).

Call for Papers

ESA Research Network 34 – Sociology of Religion

Call for papers – Mid-term Conference

University of Potsdam,, Germany

3-5 September 2012

We cordially invite to participate in our Call for Papers! The submission of abstracts and online registration has started! You will find the registration form on: http://www.uni-potsdam.de/esa-religion/abstractsandregistration.html

Plenary Speakers:

Schirin Amir-Moazami, Institute for Islamic Studies, Free University of Berlin Hubert Knoblauch, Institute for Sociology, Technical University of Berlin Gordon Lynch, Religious Studies School of European Culture and Languages, University of Kent Eva-Maria Schrage, Graduate School "Religion and Politics in the Cultures of Pre-modernity and Modernity", University of Münster

Panel: Religions on the Move/Changes in Religious Cultures

Inger Furseth, Director of the Nordic Research Program NOREL, Oslo **Dorota Hall**, Ass. Professor at the Dep. of Religious Studies, Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw **Volkhard Krech**, Director of the Käte Hamburger Kolleg *Dynamics in the History of Religions* and speaker of the Center for Religious Studies (CERES) at the University of Bochum **Siniša Zrinščak**, Department of Social Work, University of Zagreb

Transformations of the Sacred in Europe and Beyond

The thesis of secularization, once sheer uncontested in the social sciences, is increasingly under fire. Secularization is nowadays often deconstructed as an ideology or mere wish dream that is intimately connected to the rationalist ambitions of modern Enlightenment. Such alleged blurring of morality and science, of what 'is' and what 'ought', informing sociological analysis obviously obscures clear sight on recent developments in the Western world.

Countless empirical and theoretical studies convincingly demonstrate that religion is alive and well in Europe and beyond. Particularly after the attacks of 9/11 in 2001, religious identities have become salient in a situation of cultural polarization and religious pluralization. Moreover, we are witnessing a trend towards 'believing without belonging' (Davie, 1994) and – particularly in those European countries that are most secular – a shift from organized religion to 'spiritualities of life' (e.g., Heelas and Woodhead, 2005), paganism and 'popular religion' (Knoblauch, 2009). And although the thesis of secularization has always been highly problematic from a non-European or global perspective, the rapid globalization of Islam and the Evangelical upsurge – especially in Africa, Latin America and East Asia – fly in the face of the long-held expectation that religion is doomed to be a marginal or socially insignificant phenomenon.

Evidently, then, the focus of sociological analysis has shifted over the last decades from religious decline to religious change. More than that: it is theorized that we are living in a "post-secular society" (Habermas, 2005) where religion is re-vitalized, de-privatized and increasingly influences politics, voting behavior, matters of the state and ethical debates in the public domain (e.g., Casanova, 1994). Motivated by such observations, the mid-term conference calls for papers addressing changes in the field of religion and, more in particular, transformations of the sacred in Europe and beyond.

Particularly we welcome studies covering the following topics:

- Studies on how and why conceptions of the sacred, religious beliefs, doctrines, rituals and organizations of **long-standing religious traditions** such as Islam, Christianity, Judaism, Buddhism or Hinduism transform under the influence of processes of globalization, individualization, mediatization as well as changing gender relations.
- Studies dealing with trends of **believing without belonging**, i.e. non-institutionalized beliefs, personal 'bricolage' and privatized conceptions of the sacred outside the Churches, Chapels and Mosques. Encouraged are also studies addressing new, more informal ways of 'belonging', religious communication and collective effervescence, i.e. in loose social networks, discussion groups or virtual communities on the internet.
- Studies covering **popular religion** and **post-traditional spirituality**, i.e., New Age, esotericism, paganism, occultism, discussing for instance an epistemological turn from belief

to experience and emotion; a shifting emphasis from transcendence to immanence; from seriousness to playfulness; or a transition from dualism to monism.

 Studies dealing with implicit religion, i.e. addressing a re-location of the sacred to seemingly secular domains in society such as self-identity, sports, modern science and technology. This avenue of research may also include the place and meaning of the sacred (i.e., religious narratives, symbols and images) in popular media texts – in novels, films, series on television or computer games.

These topics are rough guidelines; papers dealing with religious change and the transformation of the sacred in Europe and beyond other than these outlined above are also very welcome. Furthermore we invite PhD and post-doc candidates to contribute to a *poster session*, including work in progress; the best poster will get a – small, but nice – prize.

For further information, dates & deadlines, please visit: <u>http://www.uni-potsdam.de/esa-</u>religion/index.html

Conference Venue

The University of Potsdam turned 20 this year. More than 20,000 students are enrolled in more than 100 degree programmes, located at three different sites. The mid-term conference will take place at **Griebnitzsee Campus**, which is directly located at the S-Bahn that connects Potsdam City and Berlin.

The campus is close to the lake Griebnitzsee. It invites to make a beautiful canoe tour or a ride by bicycle, and it is close to the Filmpark Babelsberg, one of the oldest movie production sites in the world. Furthermore, Babelsberg Castle, Sanssousi, the Glienicker Bridge and the Cecilienhof are impressive historical sites awaiting your visit.

Call for conference papers

Vulnerable young people and the system of social care (public policy, professional practice, and young people's trajectories)

Thursday 20th and Friday 21st September 2012, Rennes, France

École des Hautes Études en Santé Publique, University of Rennes 2

The conference 'Vulnerable young people and the system of social care (public policy, professional practice, and young people's trajectories)' will be held on the 20th-21st September 2012 in Rennes. This conference is organised jointly by the École des Hautes Études en Santé Publique [School of Advanced Studies in Public Health] and the University of Rennes 2.

This call for conference papers is the outcome of a research project financed by the French National Research Agency (ANR) entitled: 'JUVENIL: perceptions of and provisions for vulnerable young people within local social and health policies'.

The notion of social vulnerability, defined as an intermediate state between social integration and social disconnection (Castel: 1991, 1995) is now often used to characterise risks associated with social precarity and new forms of poverty which have developed since the 1970s. When the term is applied to young people, however, vulnerability assumes a different significance. "At this stage of their lives young people don't possess most of the attributes - in particular a job, income, a home of their own - which represent the social integration of the adult" (Galland, 1996, p. 183). In present day, the transition to adulthood is structured by uncertainty and social risk (Beck, 1986; Castel, 2003). Young people entering the job market suffer most from the effects of the economic crisis, which translates into high levels of unemployment and insecure jobs (Ranci, 2010). However the initial insecurity now shared by more or less all young people as they embark upon their working lives has completely different outcomes over the course of their passage towards social integration, and certain categories of these young people are indisputably more at risk than others. There is a significant correlation between unemployment rates and levels of education, and the opportunity gap in relation to access to the job market continues to widen between those with educational qualifications and the rest (Walther and Pohl, 2006). Therefore, unless we classify all young people as being 'at risk', we need to be more specific about what precisely might constitute the characteristics of youth vulnerability.

On the other hand, at a time when a general air of uncertainty hangs over the passage to adulthood, young people are developing strategies of adaption which fit within the boundaries of what is possible as delineated by national and local policies, whilst simultaneously contributing to their social integration and to the subjective meaning of their biographical trajectory. Within the context of the conference we aim to interrogate the relationship between the framework constructed by social and health policies aimed at young people, and the ways in which those young people create their own paths though this framework. The conference will therefore focus on the interaction between individual trajectories on the one hand, and, on the other, local contexts of public action and overarching national trends in the elaboration of health and social policies, and policies aimed at young people.

The conference will thus be structured around four thematic axes:

Local and national settings for public action aimed at vulnerable young people

The mechanisms for helping young people in difficulty are fragmented and largely dependent on policies carried out at local level, which means that there are marked inequalities between areas. Moreover, although a significant amount of public opinion is focused on young people, public policy initiatives aimed at them are underdeveloped and often highly segmented between sectors (Loncle,

2010). Research undertaken on youth policies reinforces the view of public action aimed at this group as being segmented, focusing as it does on public action in specific sectors, although work published in English reporting on research carried out in Europe seems richer in this respect (Leccardi and Ruspini, 2006; Bradley and Van Hoof, 2005; Walther et al., 2002; Wallace and Kovatcheva, 1998; Furlong and Cartmel, 1997). This conference aims to transcend the compartmentalisation of research on youth policies by drawing together available knowledge on policies aimed at vulnerable young people (taking a wide view of relevant areas of activity: social, health, housing, education, justice) at both national and local level, and examining their content, values, types of proposed partnership and, in general terms, where they fit in the field.

Professional intervention and provisions proposed for vulnerable young people

In the face of economic crisis, policies for inclusion have abandoned their ambitions for global action; they are now refocused around employment goals, exclusively concentrated on the individual and on constructing individual trajectories, whilst at the same time recognising the structural nature of the difficulties encountered (Cantelli and Genard, 2007). Driven by the short-term logic which focuses only on what is urgent, these policies for inclusion have thus contributed to a division of the at-risk population as well as destabilising the framework of social work (Autès, 2004; Ion and Ravon, 2005). It will be interesting to study how participants frame the problems they have encountered on the ground when faced with situations of increased vulnerability, and the difficulties of maintaining a relationship of support; and how this expression of difficulties confronts the new rationale behind policies for inclusion. This conference thus welcomes contributions which relate to the types of provision which professionals can offer vulnerable youngsters (in terms of support mechanisms, but also their margins for manoeuvre in relation to the sponsoring institution, and the influence of organisational rationales or of local settings...).

Young people's trajectories and forms of vulnerability

Serious consideration of the limits of youth vulnerability, and of how individuals fall into, experience and escape situations of vulnerability, raises several questions. Focusing on the notion of social vulnerability encourages us to reflect upon how we qualify it, and hence on the underlying norms which characterise social integration (well-being, security, independence, etc.) (Goyette et al., 2011). This notion, when applied to young people, also raises questions about the connections between the criteria for social vulnerability and the understanding of how it is experienced, and of young people's trajectories; these are typically characterised by situations of uncertainty and obey a process-based logic (Soulet and Châtel, 2003; Châtel and Roy, 2008; Walther et al., 2002). This leads us to question whether or not there exists a type of vulnerability which is specific to young people and inherent in this stage of life. It also requires us to review the various studies of 'young people in difficulty' 'the precarious situation of the young' or 'young people living rough' in order to identify their points of convergence and divergence. This conference is therefore interested in work focusing on young people's trajectories in relation to different norms of inclusion, in both quantitative and qualitative terms.

How do social and health policies and the use made of support systems construct youth vulnerability?

The interaction between public policies and frameworks on the one hand, and the trajectories of vulnerable young people on the other, remains an area which is largely unexplored:

- What is the impact of public policy on reducing inequality? How does it affect young people's trajectories?
- How do the young people themselves perceive and make use of the support systems available? Public policy frameworks affect youth trajectories and the classifications which operate within public action contribute to identity formation (Goffman, 1968). How do young people react to this as they make use of support mechanisms, at a time of life when identity construction is about seeing oneself through the eyes of others?

• How does young people's use of support systems change the ways these systems are structured (Charbonneau, 2010)?

This conference is therefore interested in work which focuses on how youth trajectories are structured by local or national public policy, as well as work on how young people themselves make use of support systems.

This call for papers invites contributions across a wide disciplinary spectrum. It also seeks to promote an international perspective which will facilitate the emergence of a comparative approach, and also welcomes contributions which develop the results of empirical studies. It is aimed at researchers, teachers, professionals and graduate students in social sciences. The conference will be held in French and English.

- Abstracts for proposed contributions should indicate your name, an e-mail address, and the
 institutional affiliation of the author(s). They should not exceed 300 words, including notes and
 references, and must be submitted in Word format by 30 March 2012 at the latest to
 <u>colloque.juvenil@ehesp.fr</u>
- Potential contributors will be notified of the selection committee's decision by the end of May 2012 at the latest. The full text of presentations should not exceed 5000 words, including notes and references, and must be received by 3 September 2012.
- Presentations will be given in French (with supporting documentation in English), or in English (with supporting documentation in French). For those who do not speak French at all, a member of the organising committee will be available to help translate their supporting documentation.
- The conference registration fee is 50€.
- Details of hotels and other accommodation arrangements, plus information on transport, will be sent to participants at the point at which contributions are selected.

Selection committee:

President: Patricia Loncle, researcher and lecturer, EHESP, CRAPE, University de Rennes 1, France. Marc-Henry Soulet, professor, holder of the Chair in Sociology, social politics and social work, University of Fribourg, Switzerland.

Martin Goyette, associate professor, holder of the Canada Research Chair in Evaluating Public Actions Related to Young People and Vulnerable Populations (CRÉVAJ), École nationale d'administration publique, Montreal, Canada.

Isabelle Fréchon, research fellow, CNRS/INED, Printemps, France.

Léa Lima, sociologist and lecturer, CNAM, LISE, CNAM, France.

Emmanuelle Maunaye, lecturer, CRAPE, University of Rennes 1, France.

Philippe Milburn, professor, Printemps, University of Versailles Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines, France.

Organising committee:

President: Olivier David, professor, University of Rennes 2, director of research centre, ESO, France. Valérie Becquet, lecturer, Université de Cergy-Pontoise, France.

Alain Thalineau, professor, CITERES, University of Tours, France.

Sami Zegnani, lecturer, CRAPE, University of Rennes 1, France.

Virginie Muniglia, social science research officer, EHESP, graduate student in sociology, ERIS-CMH, EHESS, France.

Céline Rothé, social science research officer, graduate student in political science, CRAPE, University of Rennes 1, France.

Frédérique Quidu, research officer in statistics, graduate student in management science, EHESP, France

Eric Le Grand, sociologist and consultant, Rennes, France

Olivier Douard, sociologist, LERIS, Montpellier, France

Patricia Loncle, researcher and lecturer, EHESP, CRAPE, University of Rennes 1, France

Call for Conference Papers on The Transition to Adulthood after the Great Recession To be presented on October 25-27, 2012, Bocconi University, Milano

The Research Network on Transitions to Adulthood (http://www.transitions2adulthood.com/) and the Dondena Centre for Research on Social Dynamics at Bocconi University announce a call for papers that contribute to our understanding of how the Great Recession has affected the Transition to Adulthood in industrialized countries. In many countries, family incomes, housing values and other wealth holdings have fallen, unemployment rates have been high, and economic growth has been slow. In many countries, young adults have experienced greater hardships on average than mature and older adults. However, there is substantial heterogeneity in the experience of young adults, as those with affluent parents often have access to resources that can buffer them from negative economic shocks. There is also heterogeneity in the way young adults experience these shocks across countries.

We are interested in papers from a range of disciplines that help us better understand how economic shocks and government policy responses have affected the economic, social and psychological wellbeing of young adults (ages 18-34) and their relationships with their parents. Papers can examine how recessions have affected various markers of the transition to adulthood, including educational attainment; independent living, marriage and cohabitation; economic self-sufficiency; and childbearing. Papers may focus on a single country or may take a comparative perspective; they may use quantitative, qualitative or mixed research methods.

The goal of the conference is to bring together scholars from a variety of disciplines to advance research on the transition to adulthood and to facilitate future collaborations. It is possible that some of the conference papers will be submitted for a special issue of a journal or collected for a conference volume.

How to apply: Please send a 2-3 page extended abstract describing the project, including a description of the theoretical framing, the data and methods, and expected or preliminary findings. Also include CVs for all authors. All submissions will be reviewed by the conference organizers, Frank Furstenberg, Professor of Sociology, University of Pennsylvania, and Chair of the Research Network on Transitions to adulthood, Sheldon Danziger, H. J. Meyer Distinguished University Professor of Public Policy and Director, National Poverty Center, University of Michigan, and Arnstein Aassve, Associate Professor of Demography at Department of Policy Analysis and Public Management and vice director of the Dondena Centre at Bocconi University.

Deadlines: Applications must be submitted in PDF format to Ms. Patricia Miller: pmiller@pop.upenn.edu no later than May 15, 2012. Authors of accepted papers will be notified by June 15, 2012. Conference papers will be due no later than October 1, 2012.

Funding: Limited funding is available to cover travel and lodging expenses. If you do not have other sources of funding, please include in your application a request for funding.

Call for Contributions

"Studia Humanistyczne AGH"

(Contributions to Humanities AGH)

POLISH HISTORY, SOCIETY AND CULTURE - VIEW FROM THE OUTSIDE

The Editorial Board of Studia Humanistyczne AGH warmly welcomes scholarly contributions from all interested in and working in the field of Polish history, society and culture (including literature, history of art and art criticism, international relations, challenges of immigration and emigration) to be published in an upcoming edition of the Journal. Papers from abroad are especially encouraged. The Editors are convinced that a view from the distance will highlight multiple aspects of Polish history, society and culture, essential parallels and influences, neglected so far. All submissions should be directed to: studiahumanistyczne@agh.edu.pl by **15th July 2012.**

"Studia Humanistyczne AGH" is a peer-reviewed journal. All submitted manuscripts are reviewed by two anonymous referees.

The Editors will be pleased to discuss possible articles for consideration. For indications concerning the editorial requirements visit our website www.studiahumanistyczne.agh.edu.pl .

On behalf of the Editorial Board Łukasz Krzyżowski Managing Editor www.studiahumanistyczne.agh.edu.pl

OPPORTUNITIES

Sociological Association of Ukraine Center for Sociology named by Natalia Panina

are pleased to announce the International Competition for

Young Scholar's Prize in Sociology 2012

The aim of the competition is to encourage academic proficiency among younger scholars in sociology and to award the high level of professionalism, honor and dignity in professional and public activities of young sociologists. The winners of the 1st round of the Competition are selected by the Jury through peer-review of competition materials package. The participants' academic papers shortlisted by the Competition Jury will be published in a special volume by December 10, 2012.

The authors of the papers selected by the Jury will be invited to take a part in the 6th International Sociological Readings (conference) devoted to the memory of Natalia Panina *Post-Socialist Societies: The Diversity of Social Changes* (December 10, 2012 Kyiv, Ukraine). During the Readings (conference) there will be conducted the 2d round of the Competition: the papers' presentation and debates.

Three the best young scholars will be announced by the Jury at the 6th International Sociological Readings, **December 10, 2012**, after the 2d round of the Competition.

Three winners will be awarded with the memorable medals as well as of the first winner prize (\$500), the second winner prize (\$400), and the third winner prize (\$300).

Eligible for the Competition are the young scholars **from post-socialist and post-soviet European countries**, who obtained the Master (Specialist) Degree in Sociology or Social Sciences no earlier than in 2002 and no later than September 1st, 2012.

Submissions to the Young Scholars Prize in Sociology should be sent via email (entitled "application to YSS Prize 2012" in the subject line; files are attached) to the Competition Committee panina.fund@gmail.com no later than September 15, 2012, and should include:

- Original single authored scientific paper <u>in English</u> not published before, focused on the one of the topical issues within the frame of the Conference theme: *Post-Socialist Societies: the Diversity of Social Changes*.
- 2) The Letter of Recommendation from a Senior Scholar (scientific advisor) which provides his or her opinion on the research independence of the submitted scientific paper as well as applicant's professional and personal abilities <u>– in English, or in Russian or Ukrainian</u>.
- 3) Applicant's professional resume (CV) in English, or in Russian or Ukrainian.

Requirements to a scientific paper:

- An original paper not published before,
- Written in English,
- Length 30 000 60 000 characters with intervals,
- Format: .doc, .rtf or .pdf, font Times New Roman, 14, pages numbered,
- Abstract up to 500 words, 5-7 keywords,
- References and notes should be placed at the end of the text,
- References are cited in the text in square brackets in style: [the first author, year: page].

Papers not meeting the requirements above may be rejected.

Papers based on the empirical research data should include description of the quality of the empirical sources and to give not only the description of results but also their analytical interpretation.

The results of the 1st round of the competition will be announced **by October 15, 2012 v**ia email. Shortlisted participants of the 1st round of the Competition will be invited to present and discuss the research findings presented in their competition papers at the 6th International Sociological Readings devoted to the memory of Natalia Panina on **December 10, 2012.** Presentations (up to 15 minutes) at the Conference should be done in English. Winners of the Competition will be selected according to the results of presentations and discussion by the Jury. The Closing session of the conference is Ceremony of the Awarding the **Young Scholar's Prize in Sociology 2012.**

For the invited participants of the Conference the Competition Committee will provide the accommodation in Kyiv from December 9th to December 11th, 2012. The Committee does not guarantee reimbursement of the travel expenses; some limited possibilities will be considered additionally on the request.

All questions related to the Competition may be addressed to **Oksana Zhulenyova**, the Secretary of *the Competition Committee*, via e-mail: <u>panina.fund@gmail.com</u>.

CALL FOR WORKSHOP PAPERS AND SUMMER SCHOOL APPLICATIONS (funding available)

Workshop followed by PhD summer school

WHAT CIVIL? WHAT SOCIETY?

hosted by the Centre for Citizenship, Civil Society and Rule of Law (CISRUL) at the University of Aberdeen, Scotland

www.abdn.ac.uk/cisrul

Workshop: Monday 25th - Tuesday 26th June PhD summer school: Wednesday 27th June - Thursday 28th June

At the workshop and the PhD summer school that follows it, we propose to examine the concept of 'civil society' not just in contemporary Europe and North America but historically and in contexts across the world as well as across academic disciplines. We will seek not to define 'civil society' but to identify the consequences - political, legal, social, moral, epistemological - of particular ways in which 'civil' and 'society' have been defined in different times and places. In so doing we will pose five overarching questions:

1. What has been held (in different times and places) to make a society (or part of it) civil as opposed to uncivil (or barbarous)?

2. How has civil society been distinguished as a domain or sphere of society from domains considered non-civil (as opposed to uncivil) such as politics, the military, the ecclesiastical or religious, the economy, and law?

3. When civil society has been used to refer to one part of a broader society, such as recently for the NGO sector, how is the civil part supposed to relate to society as a whole? What or who is included in or excluded from civil society, and on what grounds? For example, do issues considered non-public get excluded from discussion in civil society, and if so, what does that say about the link between concepts of civil society and of the public?

4. What notions of society lie behind notions of civil society? This latter question will push us to reflect on concepts of society, from the medieval and early modern periods to the 19th-century birth of social sciences to contemporary debates about whether society exists or not.

5. Are notions of civil society (and society) defined by law or by some other means, and what is the difference in practice?

Confirmed speakers include Jeffrey Alexander (Sociology, Yale), Maurizio Viroli (Political Theory, Princeton), Philip Oxhorn (Institute for the Study of International Development, McGill) and Ekow Yankah (Cardozo Law School).

For the workshop, we are calling for abstracts of twenty-minute presentations that would respond to our questions and help to open up discussion – over half the workshop time will be devoted to discussion - among scholars from the range of disciplines that will be represented at the workshop.

For the PhD summer school, we are calling for applications from advanced PhD students of any discipline to attend the workshop and participate in the PhD summer school that follows it. Students would make a 10-minute presentation on a related topic at the summer school.

Further information and applications forms are available at <u>www.abdn.ac.uk/cisrul</u> The deadline is Friday 13th April.

CISRUL is also offering PhD studentships to start in September 2012 - details on the website.

Trevor Stack, Director

Centre for Citizenship, Civil Society and Rule of Law (CISRUL) Programme Coordinator, Department of Hispanic Studies University of Aberdeen <u>http://www.abdn.ac.uk/spanish/staff/details.php?id=t.stack</u> <u>http://www.abdn.ac.uk/cisrul</u>

International Summer School "Intergenerational relationships in a globalized world"

Co-organized by

Doctoral School in Sociology & Doctoral School in Political Science (Univ. Turin) Graduate School in Social and Political Sciences (Univ. Milan) Collegio Carlo Alberto, Moncalieri (Turin)

Venue: Collegio Carlo Alberto, Moncalieri (Turin) Date: 23-27 July 2012

This summer school focuses on the theoretical and empirical complexities brought about by the introduction of the perspective of migration and geographic mobility in the analysis of intergenerational relations in ageing societies. It integrates the rich scholarship on the impact of demographic ageing on generational roles and intergenerational exchanges with

that on migrations, considered from the triple perspective of the receiving and sending countries, and that of the migrants themselves as members of intergenerational networks.

The International Summer School is devoted to PhD students and junior researchers.

The organization of the Summer School is centred around two daily sessions: a lecture on the state of the art of a given topic by a scholar of international standing followed by a general discussion; a second session, chaired by the same scholar, where participants present and discuss their papers related to the topic. This is an opportunity for participants to receive suggestions for their on-going research or PhD completion.

The International Summer School lasts five days. Applications should be addressed to Dr. Cornelia Lawson (<u>iss.dss@unito.it</u>) **by May 31st** Participants are asked to present a paper and will be selected according to:

1. the quality of their paper abstract (up to 500 words);

2. a short summary of their on-going research or PhD project (no more than 2-3 pages),

3. a brief CV (one page).

Notice of acceptance will be given by June 20th. Up to 25 participants will be admitted. The workshop fee is €180, which covers access to the workshop, coffee-breaks and lunches, and accommodation in Turin.

Invited speakers:

Claudine Attias Donfut (Centre Edgar Morin (CNRS-EHESS), France)

Intergenerational relationships and belonging among African migrants in France, the UK and South Africa

<u>Gunhild O. Hagestad (Agder University College & NOVA, Norway)</u> Changing intergenerational structures: a comparative perspective

<u>Helma Lutz (Johann Wolfgang Goethe-University, Frankfurt, Germany)</u> The Janus-face of the care-drain phenomenon

<u>Chiara Saraceno (Collegio Carlo Alberto, Italy)</u> Patterns of intergenerational exchanges and support in European welfare states

<u>Nicola Yeates (Open University, UK)</u> Globalising care economies and migrant workers: explorations in global care chains

Organizing Committee: Luisa Leonini (Univ. Milan), Chiara Saraceno (WZB & Collegio Carlo Alberto), Carmen Belloni (Univ. Turin), Tiziana Nazio (Univ. Turin & Collegio Carlo Alberto)

http://dott-sociologia.campusnet.unito.it/do/home.pl/View?doc=iss_2012.html http://www.graduateschool.unimi.it/carlo_alberto_ss_2012.html

Secretariat Graduate School in Social and Political Sciences via Pace 10 20122 Milano www.graduateschool.unimi.it

We invite you to attend the workshop on 'Innovating Governance in the Construction of the European Research area'. This workshop is jointly sponsored by UACES and ARENA – Centre for European Studies and will take place in Oslo, Norway on 8 June 2012.

Workshop aim: to enable the creation of a pan-European collaborative research network

Where: Johan P Olsen room, ARENA, University of Oslo, Norway

When: 10:00-16:30, Friday, 8 June 2012

Short description: The aim of this workshop is to enable the creation of a pan-European collaborative research network by bringing together scholars at all career stages and policy-makers working on the construction of a Single Market of Knowledge. The EU Commission launched the European Research Area in January 2000 and is scheduled to present in June 2012 a 'Framework on the European Research Area' that will pave the way for its completion by 2014.

Whilst high on the EU political and policy agenda, the creation of the European Research Area is one of the most under-studied phenomena in European integration. What is the European Research Area and what is its governance structure? How has it evolved and what is the relationship between this 'area formation' and others (e.g. the European Higher Education Area)? What are the pressing issues (e.g. legitimacy, effectiveness, or democratic accountability) concerning these developments? Are the theories and approaches we have for investigating European integration adequate to capture and account for its evolution? These are some issues we will invite participants to explore.

Structure: highly interactive sessions that will set a research agenda on the ERA

Participants: scholars at all career stages and policy-makers working on the European Research Area or related issues. To facilitate constructive interaction, we are limiting the total number of participants to 15.

Funding support: we will cover accommodation for some participants coming from outside of Norway. Should you wish to be considered for accommodation support, please send the following to Meng-Hsuan Chou (ARENA) and Lorna Ryan (City University London, UK) at <u>ERA.CRN@gmail.com</u> by 2 April 2012 (17:00 GMT):

(1) A statement (up to 250 words) describing how you will contribute to the aims of the workshop and why you should be given accommodation support

- (2) Your name and contact details
- (3) Current institutional affiliation and position
- (4) Full postal address
- (5) Email address

Participants who are student members of UACES will be eligible to apply for the UACES Travel Assistance Fund (<u>http://www.uaces.org/students/travel/</u>). We are most grateful for the generous support from UACES.

Expression of interest: should you wish to participate in this workshop without any support, please contact Meng-Hsuan Chou (ARENA) and Lorna Ryan (City University London, UK) at <u>ERA.CRN@gmail.com</u> with the following information by 2 April 2012 (17:00 GMT):

(1) A statement (up to 250 words) describing how you will contribute to the workshop aims

- (2) Your name and contact details
- (3) Current institutional affiliation and position
- (4) Full postal address
- (5) Email address

Notification: all applicants will be notified by mid-April. Should applications exceed this limit, we will give preference to researchers working on the European Research Area.