



## ESA MONTHLY BULLETIN – APRIL 2016

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- **Opportunities**

- Call for Applications: MAPS, Master in Public Policy and Social Change - European and Global Perspectives, One-year Advanced Master’s Degree of the University of Turin. Course programme: September 2016 - June 2017.
- The most recent job offers are available in the ESA Jobs Bourse:  
<http://www.europeansociology.org/jobs.html>

**Job Announcement**

**ESA Executive Coordinator**

The European Sociological Association (ESA) is seeking to appoint a full-time permanent Executive Coordinator from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2016 based at the ESA Headquarter in Paris.

The European Sociological Association (ESA) is a non-profit organization registered under the French law. ESA aims to facilitate sociological research, teaching and communication on European issues, and to give sociology a voice in European affairs. ESA is an academic Europe-wide association of sociologists made up of over 2000 members.

We are seeking an innovative and dedicated early or mid career sociologist (PhD and/or MA degree) who will work in close collaboration with the President, headquarter staff (Executive administrator, editorial assistant) and the Executive Committee of ESA. The Executive Coordinator will work hand in hand with the Executive Administrator on ongoing operations, such as communications, budget and networking. She or he will mainly be in charge of managing ESA conference operations including our conference software system (abstract submission coordination, session planning etc.), will gradually take over the editorship of the ESA member forum 'European Sociologist', be involved in further ESA journals and develop an expert database for media communication in Paris. The post requires excellent communication and organizational skills. Having experiences on how the discipline operates (conferences, publications, the field of international and national sociologies) will be very helpful. Software skills would be advantageous. The working language of the ESA is English. The position will be introduced, designed and further developed in strong cooperation with ESA representatives and colleagues. Salary according to education and experience.

Please submit your inquiries and application not later than on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2016 (interviews will take place in early June 2016) electronically and in confidence to:  
Prof. Frank Welz, President, European Sociological Association, [esa@europeansociology.org](mailto:esa@europeansociology.org).

## Call for Papers

### 6th midterm Conference of the European Sociological Association's

#### Research Network Sociology of Culture (RN7)

16-18 November 2016, Exeter, United Kingdom

#### *"Emergent Culture"*

The ESA Research Network Sociology of Culture announces its 6th midterm conference, which will take place from 16-18 November 2016 at the University of Exeter, UK.

The European Sociological Association's Research Network on the Sociology of Culture provides a global network for scholars working within Cultural Sociology. Through collaboration in the Network, RN7 aims to develop the sociological understanding of how human meanings, symbols, cultural structures and practices play a defining role in building social lives.

#### **Conference Theme**

The theme of the 6th midterm conference, 'Emergent Culture', focuses on the diverse pathways of how *emergence*, as a theoretical framework and empirical phenomenon, enters into the sociological study of culture. *Emergence* is a key lens that captures core cultural sociological processes of action, meaning and transformation. As such, *emergence* is understood in relation to events and materiality; access, skills and technology; clusters and bundles; history, memories and associated social practices. It is in this sense that the Conference casts a wide intellectual net to catch the numerous ways emergence enters and shapes social relations between people, spaces, symbols and objects. The 6th midterm conference is seeking papers on the following sub-themes, yet is open to others beyond the core theme of 'Emergent Culture'.

1. Post-humanist and socio-technical emergence
2. Spaces and places
3. Memory
4. Aesthetics, symbols and performance
5. Cosmopolitanism and transnationalism
6. Health, wellbeing and everyday life
7. Creativity and cultural capital
8. Social movements and culture wars
9. Experiential, non-representational and sensory methods
10. Migrant cultures
11. Cultural sociology, open format

#### **Conference features**

The conference will feature keynote plenaries and parallel sessions (each session will have 4 papers with total duration of 90 minutes). The language of the conference is English.

Confirmed Keynote Speakers (more plenaries to be announced):

Professor Anna Lisa Tota, University of Roma Tre, Italy

Professor Paul Atkinson, University of Cardiff, United Kingdom

Professor Antonio Strati, University of Trento, Italy

Special PhD Session: Professor Tia DeNora & Professor Emeritus Robert Witkin, University of Exeter, "From Thesis to Book"

ESA features: exploratory business meeting for ESA Memory Studies Research Stream Gala Dinner, Thursday 17 November

#### **Notes for authors**

- Please submit abstracts of approximately 300 words in English with full contact details no later than June 15th, 2016 at the conference website: <http://esa-2016-rn7.weebly.com>

The information requested during abstract submission include: 1) the name(s) of the author(s), the institutional affiliation (both university and department), mailing address and email(s); 2) title of proposed presentation or round-table/workshop; 3) area of presentation; 4) up to 3-5 keywords. Each author cannot submit more than two abstracts.

**Calendar timeline**

- The deadline for abstract submission is June 22, 2016.
- Notification of acceptance by July 7, 2016.
- Registration opening: July 7, 2016.
- Registration deadline for presenting authors: October 1, 2016.

Please note that there will be a conference fee (to cover all catering services and conference rooms), with discounts for all students and ESA members. Proof of status or affiliation should be presented during the online registration process.

**Registration fees:**

	Student	Current ESA Member	Non ESA Member
Early Bird Rate 7 July – 15 August	£95.00	£135.00	£160
Normal Rate 16 August – 1 Oct	£140.00	£180	£200

•£120 for all participants from countries with a low gross national income (categories Band C in [http://www.isa-sociology.org/table\\_c.htm](http://www.isa-sociology.org/table_c.htm))

**Venue Location:**

Exeter is located in Devon, at the South-West coast of England, known as a holiday destination due to its good weather, picturesque coastline and beautiful landscape. The area is also famed for local organic food and award-winning sparkling wines. Devon is the homeland of Agatha Christie, and is conveniently located for exploring other famous spots, such as the Jurassic Coastline, Stonehenge and Cornwall.

The conference will take place at Reed Hall, Streatham Drive, University of Exeter.

<http://www.reedhall.co.uk/blog/an-exeter-meeting-venue-with-a-colourful-past/>

All rooms will have a computer, projector and WiFi.

Exeter St Davids train station is located approximately 2 hours from London Paddington, 3.5 hours from London Waterloo, and 1 hour from Bristol Temple Meads station. Exeter is served by a small airport that accommodates budget airlines. Bristol airport hosts a range of airlines and offers flights to a large number of European destinations.

**Organizing Committee:**

Trever Hagen, University of Exeter, UK

Anna-Mari Almila, University of the Arts London, UK

RN7 Conference Email: [esa.rn7.culture@gmail.com](mailto:esa.rn7.culture@gmail.com)

**Scientific Committee:**

Trever Hagen, University of Exeter, UK

Joost van Loon, Catholic University of Eichstätt-Ingolstadt, Germany,

Mark Jacobs (former chair), George Mason University, USA

Carmen Leccardi, University of Milano-Bicocca, Italy

David Inglis, University of Exeter, UK

Michaela Pfadenhauer, University of Vienna, Austria

Predrag Cveticanin, Faculty of Tourism and Sport TIMS, Serbia

Anna-Mari Almila, University of the Arts London, UK

Dagmara Beitnere-Le Galla, University of Latvia

Siobhan Kattago, University of Tartu, Estonia

## Call for Papers

ESA RN 30 'Youth and Generation' Midterm Conference 2017, in association with ISA RC 34  
'Sociology of Youth'

**'Global Youth Futures: Perspectives and Prospects'**

**15-18 January 2017, in Ericeira (near Lisbon), Portugal**

Global events of the last few years have raised serious concerns about young people's futures. The international financial crisis and the dominant response to it – one of neoliberal austerity - have severely damaged employment prospects, welfare services and living standards for whole populations but particularly for young people. The environment has become an increasingly urgent issue, seriously endangering the health and even the lives of upcoming generations in disparate parts of the globe. Widespread regional armed conflicts are causing massive population displacements and refugee movements. Terrorist atrocities have created alarm and heightened security consciousness all over the world. However, the responses so far to these threats may be characterized as unilateral, nationalistic, neighbor-blaming, intolerant and non-supportive, creating a widespread distrust between citizens and governments and/or within multi-lateral institutions.

It is crucial for youth studies to address and document the way young people manage their lives, demonstrate resilience and overcome adversity in the face of these and other contemporary crises. But it is also essential to assess the ways in which such crises are having an impact on young people's perspectives on the future (what are their expectations, their hopes and their fears?) as well as an impact on their actual prospects (what challenges and opportunities will be presented to them?; how can young people themselves help to shape these?).

The next ESA RN 30 midterm conference, in association with ISA RC 34, will provide space for debate on these pressing global issues and respective youth responses and invites researchers to submit empirical and/or theoretical papers concerning the present and future(s) of young people, their hopes, fears and mobilisation for action. The following themes are indicative:

- Employment, underemployment and unemployment
- Welfare services and youth
- Social and intergenerational inequalities
- Social movements and political action
- Radicalization
- Alternative lifestyles
- Geographical mobility; economic and humanitarian migration
- Knowledge transfer: from theory to practice
- 'Future' citizens or present-day participants in public life
- Young people's educational horizons

Key note speakers:

We will have the pleasure of welcoming Professor Sharlene Swartz from the University of Cape Town, South Africa and Professor João Teixeira Lopes from the University of Porto, Portugal.

### Call for papers deadline

Participants interested in giving a paper are invited to submit a 300-words abstracts to both Valentina Cuzzocrea ([cuzzocrea@unica.it](mailto:cuzzocrea@unica.it)) and Nuno de Almeida Alves ([nalmeidaalves@iscte.pt](mailto:nalmeidaalves@iscte.pt)) by September 15th 2016. The information requested during abstract submission include:

- 1) Name(s), affiliation(s) and email address of all authors;
- 2) Contact details of presenting author (postal address and telephone in addition to email);

- 3) Title of the proposed presentation;
- 4) Abstract text up to 300 words;
- 5) Indication of preferred type of fee (single or double room)
- 6) Information for the invoice

Successful applicants will be notified after the completion of abstract review by the Board of Youth and Generation Research Network. As the conference has a seminar format with longer times assigned to each presentation (25 minutes for presentation and 15 minutes for discussion), a maximum of 45 persons will be accepted as conference participants.

**Location and conference fee:**

The conference venue is located in [Ericeira](#), a coastal village approximately 40 Km North of Lisbon at [Hotel Vila Galé Ericeira](#).

The transport from Lisbon to the conference venue is organised by the local organisers and the cost is included in the conference fee. There will be a bus transport from Lisbon to the conference location and back. The bus will depart from ISCTE-IUL (15 minutes subway ride from the airport) at 5 PM. Please make sure that your flight arrives at Lisbon Airport before 4 PM.

The fee for the conference will depend on the type of accommodation (€250 for a double room or €320 for a single room – eventually with a discount to ESA members and PhD students depending on the funding that may be received by RN30 from ESA. The amount of this discount will be announced in due time) and includes conference fee, accommodation, food and transfers between Lisbon and the conference venue. The fee has to be paid through bank transfer or credit card only after received information on acceptance of abstract. Unavoidable international bank transfer charges have to be paid by the applicant.

**Organisation:**

ESA RN 30 Youth and Generation, in association with ISA RC 34 Sociology of Youth

**Local organiser:**

Centre for Research and Studies in Sociology (CIES-IUL), University Institute of Lisbon (ISCTE-IUL), Av. das Forças Armadas, Ed. ISCTE, 1649-026 Lisbon, Portugal  
<http://cies.iscte.pt/en/>

**Contact:**

Nuno de Almeida Alves, [nalmeidaalves\[at\]iscte.pt](mailto:nalmeidaalves[at]iscte.pt)  
CIES-IUL, ISCTE-IUL, Portugal

**Call for Papers**

**Sociotechnical Environments**

**6th STS Italia Conference**

**Dept. of Sociology and Social Research, University of Trento November 24-26, 2016**

The 6th STS Italia Conference will be held in Trento, Italy, November 24 through 26, 2016, by the Italian Society of Science and Technology Studies, in collaboration with the Department of Sociology and Social Research of the University of Trento. As for past editions, the Conference aims at offering the opportunity to discuss empirical and theoretical work addressing diverse aspects of the social study of science, technology and innovation from a variety of disciplines and fields (sociology, anthropology, law, philosophy, design, psychology, semiotics, history, and economics, etc.). The focal theme of this year's conference is Sociotechnical Environments. On the one hand, we are conscious that everyday and professional environments we inhabit are increasingly shaped by science, technology and innovation processes. However, these environments are not mere results of technical solutions and rational choices, but they rather emerge from a collective, dynamic and open-ended process of co-production, involving social arrangements and technoscientific processes, human actors and material artifacts, natural resources and cultural frameworks. At the same time, reflecting on the sociotechnical co-production of our social world brings to the foreground the relationship between technoscientific innovation and natural environment, turning environmental practices, politics and materialities as decisive focal points for the current research in multiple fields and intellectual domains. Under this unifying framework, the conference will be articulated in 25 different thematic sessions, focusing on several different topics, including: environmental issues, biomedical settings, robotics and algorithms, communication and digital media, scientific and professional work, design, urban infrastructures and innovation processes at large.

Abstracts (300 words) should be sent by May 30, 2016 to the email address [conferences@stsitalia.org](mailto:conferences@stsitalia.org)

Go to the conference website:

<http://www.stsitalia.org/conferences/ocs/index.php/STSIC/STE>

Go directly to the list of the 25 thematic sessions:

<http://www.stsitalia.org/conferences/ocs/index.php/STSIC/STE/schedConf/cfp>

Info about deadlines and fellowships:

<http://www.stsitalia.org/conferences/ocs/index.php/STSIC/STE/schedConf/overview>

## Call for papers

### **New Societies, Old Minorities / New Minorities, Old Societies?**

#### **The 4th International Conference of the Romanian Sociological Society (RSS)**

**Sibiu, 29th of September - 1st of October 2016**

Societies and social actors constantly face challenges under the impact of many countervailing forces that act within the economic, demographic, political, educational and social realms. In their search for improving their living, people may adopt alternative life strategies and more flexible arrangements that profoundly affect the architecture and fabric of communities.

Some changes are easily discernible or self-evident: international migration permanently increased the stock of migrants, transforming, in various contexts, both immigrants and residents, into visible minorities. New waves of migrants and specific events where migrants are involved raise major questions about the nature and capacity of the security systems across European societies and their axiological foundations.

An increase in number of elderly members of the population creates, in turn, the perspective of new majorities and minorities forming. This raises important challenges to public social security systems and calls into question their sustainability.

In addition to demographic processes and trends, the global economic and financial turbulence of the last decades give salience to the voices of the particular: old minorities challenge the foundation and legitimacy of states almost across all Europe; at a different level both old EU members and new ones interrogate the status and relevance of the Union, its mechanisms, objectives and future.

Digitalization, teleworking, the accelerating pace of business, part-time contracts and job sharing transformed the rules of the labour markets and triggered fractionalization. The dynamics of the labour market (e.g. the creation of new jobs at the expense of other redundant qualifications, segregation of gender, class and race within local and global labour markets), compounded by the limited capacity of the education systems to level the playing field, impact upon long-term youth unemployment and raise major social and societal challenges.

Eastern European societies concomitantly experienced democratization, with straightforward changes in the state organization and various civil rights, but also in terms of inequality and social structure, to mention only a few areas where changes were almost dramatic. The lesson of democracy was seldom learnt the hard way, starting with the simplistic rule of majority and slowly moving towards being receptive to minorities. More subtle transformations (such as changes in values) produced deep and long-lasting modifications, and also contributed towards the emergence of visible minorities and/or majorities. In addition, "counter silent revolutions" and corruption tended to counterbalance change and, somehow paradoxically, might have actually emphasized the visibility of "minorities".

Scholars in the social sciences are invited to submit paper proposals (not exceeding 300 words) under one of the following panels:

- Cherchez la... classe! The Relevance and Contours of Social Classes in Post-Communism
- Classifying People: From Gender and Age to Zodiac Signs and Personality Types
- Continuities and Discontinuities in 20th Century Southeast European Sociology
- Educated Romania. România educată.
- Electoral and Political Challenges in New Democracies
- Elites as Ruling Minorities
- Exploring Social Relationship Patterns Inside Organizations or Communities from a Social Network Analysis Perspective
- In the Mainstream Social Dynamics: Disentangling Minorities or Prevailing Majorities?
- International Migration Today: The Focus on Transnationalism and Gendered Processes
- Labour Markets, Migration and Minorities in Developed Countries and New Democracies
- Living with(in) Digital Technology
- Methodological Tools



- Minorities Being Majorities; Majorities Being Minorities
- New Families, Old Societies – New Challenges of Migration for Families in their Countries of Origin
- New Societies, New Families! Trends in Family Change
- Politics of the Past, Politics of the Present: Uses and Abuses of Memory in CEE Post-Communist Societies
- Residential Child and Youth Care in a Developing World
- Sociology of the Internet
- Time and Social Policy: Imaging Welfare Futures
- Working after Cancer or Other Chronic Diseases? Benefits and Barriers of Working after a Major Disease
- Youth and Elderly: Relations, Stratification and Values
- General Session

A detailed description of each panel is available at: <http://conf2016.societateasociologilor.ro/call-for-papers/panels/>

We invite interested scholars to submit a paper proposal to one of the aforementioned panels.

Registration is available on the conference platform at the following link:

<http://societateasociologilor.ro/conference/index.php/rss/rss2016/author/submit?requiresAuthor=1>

The conference will be preceded by the Midterm Conference of the European Sociological Association RN36, with the topic “Social Transformations: New Challenges, Practices, and Critique” (September 28th-29th 2016). Both events will be hosted in the premises of the “Lucian Blaga” University of Sibiu.

**Important details:**

**Calendar**

- Deadline for submitting paper proposals: 25.05.2016
- Announcement of accepted papers: 15.06.2016
- Registration deadline: 01.08.2016
- Conference: September 29th – October 1st.
- The 2016 Midterm Conference of the European Sociological Association RN36 will precede the main event (September 28th-29th).

**Official language of the conference:** English.

**Keynote speakers:**

- Christian Welzel, Professor for Political Culture Research, Leuphana Universität Lüneburg
- Eric M. Uslaner, Professor of Government and Politics, University of Maryland
- Merlin Schaeffer, Professor of Demography and Social Inequality, Universität zu Köln
- Ferruccio Biolcati Rinaldi, Associate professor of Sociology, Università degli Studi di Milano

**Venues**

The conference will be hosted by the “Lucian Blaga” University of Sibiu (LBUS).

The city of Sibiu is one of the most important cities in Transylvania, Romania. Transylvania is included by Lonely Planet on the list of “best places in the world to travel in 2016”. Its particular historical legacy made Sibiu a multicultural city. Romanians, Germans, Hungarians and Roma co-exist in a city which turned diversity into a trademark. Sibiu is a city of culture, hosting the third largest performing arts festival in Europe. In 2007 Sibiu was European Capital of Culture. The city’s airport is well connected to major European hubs, such as München and Vienna, as well as to Köln/Bonn, London (Luton), Stuttgart and Dortmund.

Participation fees: 60 EUR

SSR members: 45 EUR (link to become SSR member)

Participation fees for convenors: 30 EUR

ESA RN36 participants: 30 EUR

For more information please visit us at <http://conf2016.societateasociologilor.ro/> or contact us at: [conf2016@societateasociologilor.ro](mailto:conf2016@societateasociologilor.ro)

## Call for Papers

### Euro-Arab Meeting II for Young Researchers in Social Sciences

Manama, Bahrain September 26 - October 02, 2016

The "Knowledge Transfer Project", an initiative by the Bahrain Authority for Culture & Antiquities (BACA), is organizing the second Euro-Arab Meeting for Young Researchers in Social Sciences, in coordination with the International Sociological Association, the European Sociological Association, and Arab Association of Sociology. The event will take place in Manama, Bahrain, from September 26 to October 02, 2016.

The meeting can accommodate up to 20 young Arab and European researchers (and elsewhere, eventually) with ongoing higher education research projects (Ph.D. or Master's) and want to have their research discussed in a public forum to further develop them. A number of reputed Arab and non-Arab researchers, experts in framing scientific research, will participate in the meeting.

#### Conditions & Procedures:

- Candidate age must not exceed 33 years.
- Candidate must submit the application before **June 15, 2015**. Application must include a request to participate, a summary between 250-300 words, as well as his/her CV with the level of education, name of the scientific institute, and the research supervisor. The application must also contain all contact details (postal address, email, phone, fax, etc.) to facilitate correspondence. A supporting letter may also be attached from the research supervisor.
- The "Knowledge Transfer Project" must receive a report about the research project (minimum of 15 printed pages) before July 10, 2016. The report must clearly detail the main elements of the research project: topic, plan, problem, approach used and the relevant conceptual device, etc.
- Applications will be reviewed by a scientific committee, after which candidates will be notified whether or not their application was accepted, before July 31, 2016.

Note: The "Knowledge Transfer Project" will cover the costs of accommodation (full board, welcoming and transport in Bahrain) of the candidates selected to participate in the meeting. The participants will cover their travel costs.

Tahar Labib  
Director of the "Knowledge Transfer Project"

For correspondence, please contact;  
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Fax: (+973) 17910466

## Call for Abstracts

### The 3rd International Conference ESPAnet-Poland

University of Warsaw

September 22-24, 2016, Warsaw (Poland)

#### **Stream: "1. Social and Technological Innovation in Ageing Policies in the European Union"**

Stream convenors:

Andrzej Klimczuk (Warsaw School of Economics, Poland)

Łukasz Tomczyk, Ph.D (Pedagogical University of Cracow, Poland)

Language: English

#### **Stream description:**

In recent years, more and more emphasis is placed on the search for innovative responses to the challenges of ageing populations. Increasingly, the legitimacy of creating local solutions, products, and services is emphasized to meet the social needs of older adults as well as for the maintenance of intergenerational solidarity.

The aim of the session is to discuss the programming, promotion, and implementation of innovative policies, programs, and projects related to ageing. In particular, we draw attention to the search for best practices, testing of innovative models, and dilemmas in the fields of management, financing, implementing and maintaining the sustainability of these new programs.

The session welcomes papers that will provide both theoretical and empirical findings. Selected topics that we would like to underline include, but are not limited to:

- Social innovations based on diversity of ageing policy concepts (such as healthy ageing, active ageing, creative ageing, and ageing in place).
- Preventive approaches in ageing policies as well as older-person centered and integrated care.
- An integrated public policies for older adults and intergenerational programs for delivering social and care services.
- Governance and ageing policies, including multilevel and multisectoral approaches to age-friendly cities and communities.
- Strategies for scaling social innovations for ageing societies.
- Digital social innovation, ICT solutions, social and service robotics, smart solutions, gerontechnology, and welfare technology for independent living for older adults.

Papers presented in the thematic session will have a chance to be published in the planned volumes of the "Czech-Polish-Slovak Studies in Andragogy and Social Gerontology" series (<https://gerontolodzy.wordpress.com>).

#### **Each abstract should contain:**

- Contact details (name and surname, institutional affiliation, e-mail address);
- Information on the selected stream;
- Title of the proposed paper;
- Abstract: 200-250 words.

**Please, send the abstract only at [ESPANET2016@UW.EDU.PL](mailto:ESPANET2016@UW.EDU.PL), deadline: May 15<sup>th</sup> 2016.**

## Call for Papers

Department of Sociology University of Zurich and the Centre for Empirical Cultural Studies of South-East Europe announce a call for papers for the international conference

### “POST-SOCIALISM: HYBRIDITY, CONTINUITY AND CHANGE”

June 25th and 26th, 2016, Novi Sad, Serbia

The conference is organized as part of the project “Life-Strategies and Survival Strategies of Households and Individuals in South-East European Societies in the Times of Crisis”, carried out within the framework of the SCOPES program of the Swiss National Science Foundation.

#### CONFERENCE THEME

A quarter of a century after the downfall of the socialist regimes in Eastern Europe, we are in a better position to observe the complex mixtures that the post-socialist societies are made of. If, at a time of euphoria over the fall of the Berlin Wall, the dominant neoliberal approach to “transition” disregarded specific social, cultural and historical factors which shaped these societies, it is precisely these factors that interest us. Following David Stark (1992, 1998) we believe that in post-socialist transformations “the introduction of new elements takes place most typically in combination with adaptations, re-arrangements, permutations and reconfigurations of already existing institutional forms”, and thus that “transformative processes taking place in contemporary East-Central Europe, resemble less architectural design, than bricolage, construction by using whatever comes to hand”. It is precisely the analyses of, so to speak, “socialist” and “capitalist” elements in post-socialist societies, and especially the hybrid forms which were the result of the attempt at a “Second Great Transformation” that represent the basic theme of our conference.

#### The main conference topics include:

1. The hybrid nature of post-socialist societies (ranging from the hybrid nature of their social structure to the hybrid nature of the cultural practices within them);
2. The different paths of post-socialist transformation in Central, East and South-East Europe;
3. Survival strategies of households and individuals in post-socialist societies;
4. The role of informal practices (institutions, structures) in the functioning of post-socialist societies and especially the difference in relation to their role in the socialist period;
5. Culture, lifestyles and daily consumption in post-socialist societies;
6. Social inequality, class struggles, symbolic and social conflict in post-socialist societies.

In our discussion, we would like to include the representatives from various disciplines, so sociologists, anthropologists, philosophers, historians, political scientists, economists, theoreticians who are working in the field cultural studies are all invited to take part in our conference, as are all others who deal with these topics from a scientific standpoint.

The conference keynote speakers include: Alan Warde (University of Manchester), Alena Ledeneva (UCL School of Slavonic and East European Studies), Eric Gordy (UCL School of Slavonic and East European Studies), Geoff Pugh (Centre for Applied Business Research, Staffordshire University) and Vesna Vuk Godina (Center for the Study of Post-Socialist Societies, University of Maribor).

The members of the Conference Scientific Committee are: Jörg Rössel (Department of Sociology, University of Zurich), Predrag Cvetičanin (Faculty of Arts, University of Niš), Inga Tomić-Koludrović (Institute of Social Sciences Ivo Pilar, Split Regional Office), Miran Lavrič (Department of Sociology, University of Maribor) and Ismet Kumalić (Economic Institute Sarajevo).

#### APPLYING AND OTHER INFORMATION CONCERNING THE CONFERENCE

We would ask all those interested in taking part to send an abstract no longer than 300 words to the e-mail address of the organizers ([cesk2010@gmail.com](mailto:cesk2010@gmail.com)) with “conference” in the subject line. Abstracts should include key words, names, contact details and short biographies of all authors.

The working language of the conference will be English.

The deadline for abstract submission is May 31, 2016. Authors will be notified of acceptance by June 7, 2016. Participants should prepare a 15 to 20 minute presentation, and while the submission of completed papers is welcome, it is not obligatory. The conference will be held at the premises of the Faculty of Sports and Tourism, TIMS, Educons University, Radnička 30a, 21000 Novi Sad, Serbia.

There is no conference fee. Conference participants will need to arrange travel and accommodation, while the organizers will provide refreshments during of the conference.

Please feel free to circulate this call to anyone you think might be interested.

For any additional information, please send an e-mail to the organizers.

Contacts: Centre for Empirical Cultural Studies of South-East Europe ([cesk2010@gmail.com](mailto:cesk2010@gmail.com))

## Call for papers

### “Reforming the public private pension mix: Industrial relations, trade unions and occupational pensions”

#### Workshop in Oslo

June 16-17, 2016

Demographic changes and pressure on public finances have led European countries to reform and restructure their public pension systems. Occupational pension schemes have gained ground and are significantly reshaped. It has been argued that this is leaving welfare systems for the elderly “more privatized, partly funded, more delayed and less sufficient” (Ebbinghaus 2012:183).

While reforms of public pension programs tend to share many features (e.g. retirement age, indexation, transfer of risk to individuals) there are many differences in the importance and governance of the occupational pension sector across countries. Occupational pensions in Europe can be provided voluntarily by employers, they can be made statutory or they can occur as a result of limited or more extensive collective agreements. Hence, reforming the new public/private interplay in pension provision highlights policy processes that involve specifically the social partners. A plausible hypothesis is that the altered role of the state opens up a space for other actors, but that the configurations of actors and the interests they promote will vary from one country to another (Trampusch 2007, 2009). Moreover, analysing pensions offers an interesting insight into the development of industrial relations in Europe.

In this workshop we are interested in exploring the ongoing transformations of national pension systems, with a particular focus at the changing role of occupational pensions, and the role that trade unions and collective bargaining have taken in this transformation process. We suggest three possible inroads to these issues:

- Analyses of the changing public-private mix of pensions, paying special attention to the role and design of both voluntary and contractual occupational pensions. Hence variation in pension coverage as well as differences between defined benefit and defined contributions as well as hybrid schemes will be relevant to map.
- The outcomes of the shifting pension mix: Analyses of how differences in pension levels (replacement rates) are related to the presence of collective decisions, for example collective agreements.
- Analyses of the political processes underlying the new public-private mixtures in pension provision. What is the role of collective bargaining, and how do bargaining processes and political processes interact?

We invite both single country studies and comparative work.

The workshop is planned as a two-day event. The aim is to bring together scholars working on these issues from around Europe with the purpose of developing articles for a planned special issue in the journal *Transfer* in 2018

We are able to fund travel and accommodation for accepted participants.

Please send abstracts to Jon M. Hippe, Fafo, Norway ([jmh@fafo.no](mailto:jmh@fafo.no)) or Anne Skevik Grødem ([a.s.grodem@isf.no](mailto:a.s.grodem@isf.no)) no later than May 6<sup>th</sup>. You are also welcome to contact Jon Hippe if you have any queries about the workshop.

## Call for Papers

### ESSSI 2016

**The VIIth Conference of the European Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction**  
**Integrating Interactionist Traditions: Building Theoretical, Methodological, and Disciplinary**  
**Bridges in the Study of Everyday Life**  
**July 4th-8th, 2016, Topola, Bulgaria**

**Deadline for abstracts: 25th of May 2016.**

The aim of the Conference is to bring together prominent scholars with rich and diverse backgrounds in the field of social psychology and symbolic interactionism from a number of disciplines, countries, and continents. It seeks to expand upon the organizational experiences and successful practices established through the previous conferences that the EU SSSI has hosted in Pisa (2010), Kassel (2011), Rotterdam (2012), Uppsala (2013), Aalborg (2014), and Salford (2015), with the support of the SSSI.

As with previous EU SSSI conferences, our ambition is to facilitate knowledge transfer and encourage the exchange of research experience between European and North American scholarly traditions as well as between sociology and other social sciences. A special feature of this Conference is that it is the first conference on symbolic interaction in Eastern Europe, where scholars have worked within interactionist traditions, particularly during the last twenty years, in order to tackle specific and urgent social problems. We also hope that the Conference venue will help integrate a broader range of European traditions than our previous conferences in Southern, Northern, and Western Europe.

The Conference host is the Institute for Population and Human Studies, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, which has strong socio-psychological and interactionist traditions as the heir of the Institute of Psychology.

Topola Skies Resort on the seacoast north of Varna was selected as the Conference venue in order to draw upon Bulgaria's experience in organizing scientific conferences for over 50 years on the Black Sea. The venue has facilities suitable for both larger and smaller meetings and gatherings, and an effort will be made to avoid parallel sessions. Topola Skies makes it very convenient for Conference participants to be accompanied by family members, and the location provides good opportunities for exploring the rich history and culture of the Black Sea region and elsewhere in the country as well.

Full information on the event can be found in the attached file and on <http://www.esssi2016.bg/>

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1656364524614349/>

Contact us on: [conference2016@iphs.eu](mailto:conference2016@iphs.eu)

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