



Information about Sessions and Abstract Submissions for the 8th ESA-Conference “Conflict, Citizenship and Civil Society”

3rd-6th September 2007, Glasgow / Scotland

The conference hosts will be Glasgow Caledonian University in partnership with the University of Strathclyde located within ten minutes walk of one another in the heart of the city of Glasgow. The ESA Newsletter presents the latest information about the 8th ESA Conference.

Dates of conference:

Delegates will be able to register from 10am to 6pm on Monday 3rd September. The opening plenary will take place at 4pm on the same day in the Glasgow Royal Concert Hall. The conference ends at 5.30pm on Thursday 6th after the closing plenary in the Barony Hall, University of Strathclyde

Number of sessions:

There will be a maximum of 7 paper sessions for each RN/RS. Two of the sessions will be of 2 hours duration and 5 will be of 1.5 hours duration

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Information for ESA members concerning the organization of paper sessions at the Glasgow Conference

Poster sessions:

Abstracts for posters can also be submitted. Posters will be presented between 11am and 4pm on the 4th or 5th of September 2007.

Abstract submission:

The deadline for receipt of abstracts to present in Research Networks and Research Streams is 28th February 2007.

Abstracts will only be accepted through completion of the online submission form, and submission in any other form will be declined.

(The Online Abstract Submission form and Instructions and Guidelines for Online Abstract Submissions are on the **conference website** <http://www.esa8thconference.com>)

The abstract submission form will request basic contact information from those submitting abstracts (and for any co-authors) and it is important that potential presenters give as much information as possible. The submission form will limit the title of the abstract to 200 characters (approximately 30 words) and the length of the abstract to 1500 characters (a maximum of 200 words). The form also requests authors to submit up to 5 key words that are indicative of the content of the proposed presentation. Title, abstract and keywords will have to fit within these limitations. Tables, figures and references should not be included in abstracts. The form will also ask those submitting abstract to choose between oral and poster presentation.

Those who submit abstracts will receive, within two weeks of submission, a standard reply from the conference organizer in Glasgow stating that their abstract has been received. Those who do not receive confirmation within the two week period should contact the conference organizer.

Authors of presentations will be expected to submit their abstract under the most appropriate Research Stream or Research Network. In order to facilitate an appropriate choice of network/stream, the online submission form has a drop down box that will contain the titles of all the networks and streams that will run in Glasgow.

When the submit button on the online abstract submission form is activated abstracts will be submitted simultaneously to the Conference Organiser based in Glasgow the appropriate RN coordinator or RS convener.

The online submission form will require information about authors audio-visual needs. Data-projectors, laptops and other audio-visual aids will be made available throughout the conference for those who have submitted their requirements in advance on the appropriate form. Authors who wish to present using power point will be expected to store their presentations on pen drives or CD's so that they can be loaded onto the in-house computers prior to the commencement of a session.

All presenters (first authors) must register for the conference by 15th July 2007 and the conference organizers reserve the right to exclude authors from the program where a first author has not registered by this date. Presenters will be informed by the conference organizer in Glasgow of the day and time slot allocated for their presentation. Poster presentations will be on the 4th and 5th of September from 11am - 4pm.

Key dates:

28th February 2007

Deadline for receipt of abstracts to present in Research Networks and Research Stream. NB. Abstracts should be submitted using the online Abstract Submission Form available at <http://www.esa8thconference.com>.

15th April 2007

Decisions on acceptance of abstracts by RN coordinators and RS conveners relayed to paper-givers and conference organizer in Glasgow notified of abstracts that have been accepted.

31st May 2007

Earlybird conference registration closes

15th July 2007

Final date for registration by presenters of papers (otherwise paper will be withdrawn from the conference program)

3th - 6th September 2007

ESA Conference in Glasgow

ESA Research Networks & Coordinators

Contact and Addresses

To date, the ESA Executive Committee has approved the following Research Networks.

Ageing in Europe

Andreas Motel-Klingebiel, motel@dza.de
[Homepage:](http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/ageing.htm)
<http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/ageing.htm>

Biographical Perspectives on European Societies

Robin Humphrey,
Robin.Humphrey@newcastle.ac.uk
[Homepage:](http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/biog.htm)
<http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/biog.htm>

Critical Political Economy

Jan Drahoukoupil,
jan.drahoukoupil@gmail.com
[Homepage:](http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/polecon.htm)
<http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/polecon.htm>

Disaster and Social Crisis

Philip Buckle, philip.buckle@btinternet.com
[Homepage:](http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/disaster.htm)
<http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/disaster.htm>

Economic Sociology

Rafael Marques, rmarques@iseg.utl.pt,
 Maria Nawojczyk, maria@list.pl,
 Oliver Kessler,
oliver.kessler@uni-bielefeld.de
[Homepage:](http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/ecs.htm)
<http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/ecs.htm>

Environment and Society

Kris van Koppen, contact via
<http://www.esa-esn.org>
[Homepage:](http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/environ.htm)
<http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/environ.htm>

Gender Relations in the Labour Market and the Welfare State

Margareta Kreimer,
Margareta.Kreimer@uni-graz.at,
 Sara Falcão Casaca, sarafc@iseg.utl.pt,
 Vanessa Beck, vanessa.beck@le.ac.uk
[Homepage:](http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/gendlab.htm)
<http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/gendlab.htm>

Globalization

Bart van Steenberg,
B.vanSteenbergen@fss.uu.nl
[Homepage:](http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/global.htm)
<http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/global.htm>

Industrial Relations, Labour Market Institutions and Employment

Franz Traxler, Franz.traxler@univie.ac.at
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Qualitative Methods

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Regional Network on Southern European Societies

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[Homepage:](http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/south.htm)
<http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/south.htm>

RENCORE: Methods for Comparative Research on Europe

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Science and Technology

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Sexuality

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[Homepage:](http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/sexuality.htm)
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Society and Sports

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[Homepage:](http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/sport.htm)
<http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/sport.htm>

Sociology of the Arts

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[Homepage:](http://www.esa-arts.net)
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Sociology of Children and Childhood

Chair: Jo Moran-Ellis,
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Sociology of Communications and Media Research

Peter Golding, P.Golding@lboro.ac.uk
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<http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/commun.htm>

Sociology of Culture

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[Homepage:](http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/culture.htm)
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Sociology of Consumption

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Sociology of Education

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[Homepage:](http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/educa.htm)
<http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/educa.htm>

Sociology of Emotions

Åsa Wettergren, asawett@kau.se
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<http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/emotions.htm>

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Sociology of Families and intimate Lives

Karin Wall, karin.wall@ics.ul.pt
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Sociology of Health and Illness

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Social Movements

Chair: Carlo Ruzza
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 Co-chair: Thomas Oleson
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<http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/movement.htm>

Sociology of Professions

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Sociology of Risk and Uncertainty

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[Homepage:](http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/risk.htm)
<http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/risk.htm>

Sociology of Social Policy

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<http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/policy.htm>

Social Theory

Patrick Baert,
pjnb100@hermes.cam.ac.uk
[Homepage:](http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/theory.htm)
<http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/theory.htm>

Youth and Generation

Carsten Yndigegn, cy@sam.sdu.dk
[Homepage:](http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/youth.htm)
<http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/youth.htm>

On the ESA webpage you can find more information on Research Networks:

* Guidelines for Research Networks
[More info:](http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/networksreportsept05.doc) <http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/networksreportsept05.doc>
 * What Research Networks are for
[More info:](http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/networks3.htm) <http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/networks3.htm>
 * How to establish a Research Network
[More info:](http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/networks3.htm) <http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/networks3.htm>
 * Contact person Research Networks from ESA executive committee
[More info:](http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/networks3.htm) <http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/networks3.htm>

Announcing the new Membership Fee Structure of the ESA

Dear ESA Members,

On behalf of the ESA Executive Committee, I am very happy to announce that in the last ESA EC meeting in Paris (Oct.27-28) we revised the ESA fees as promised by reducing them and redefining their structure.

In fact, the whole structure of fees had to be changed since registration to ESA had become possible also between conferences and was therefore disconnected from the Conference. Further the EC had to establish new rules for the duration of the fees.

Below you find all details about fee rates and other changes. We had to suspend the registration procedures on the ESA website for a few days in order

to modify the registration form. We apologize for any inconvenience this might have caused. Registration is now again available.

I am positive that you will appreciate our effort to reduce our membership fees, undoubtedly an unusual tendency in these days. I also hope that many of you will attend the next conference in Glasgow and that you will renew your membership and be active in your Research Network.

Please, let us know whether you encounter any problem with the new form in the electronic process of renewing your membership.

Giovanna Procacci
ESA President

New ESA Fees (2007-2008)

	Old fees	New fees
Individual		
Regular Member Western countries	170	150
Regular Member Eastern countries	60	50
Students Western countries	60	50
Students Eastern countries	50	40
Institutional		
Institutions (with Journal)	360	300
National Associations (without Journal)	620	200

Membership fees will now last for two calendar years, with a tolerance of two months: this means that from 1st November 2006 membership registration will cover 2007 and 2008. Members registering from November onwards will be in good standing with the Association at the moment of the conference, hence able to register to the conference at the ESA rates.

We do think that separate registration fees for the association and for the conference represent an improvement, allowing ESA to

control the level of its fees according to its needs, and not the needs of the conference organizers. This new policy will already be applied for the Glasgow conference: through our reduction of fees we are able to offer you the Glasgow conference with no rise in cost per delegate compared to Torun, although the conference itself costs more.

Please note that ESA now has a new system of membership registration. First, each member will get an ESA ID-number when renewing his/her membership at

whatever moment of the year through the ESA website. You will be requested to mention your ESA ID-number when registering to the conference on the conference website, as evidence that you are in good stand with ESA membership and can get the ESA rates. Second, on the registration form you will be asked to list your interest/current participation in any of the ESA's RN in order for the ESA EC to know the size of the various RNs.

November 1st, 2006

ESA gets new editor of the ESA Journal *European Societies*

Letter from new chief editor John Scott

It is a great pleasure and a great challenge to take on the editorship of *European Societies*. Now entering its ninth volume, the journal has become established as a major outlet for high quality research on European societies and European social issues. My aim as editor will be to build on its successful past and to continue enlarging its readership.

The journal has published a mixture of general articles and Special Issues, and I plan to continue this mixture. Forthcoming and planned special issues cover the mass media, professions, cultural approaches to Europe, and biographical studies. I hope also to be able to group smaller numbers of articles within particular issues to give a focus on particular themes such as families, poverty, or power. The overall aim will be to present a lively mixture of articles across each annual volume, providing much to meet everyone's particular interests.

Taylor and Francis, the publishers of the journal, have agreed to move immediately to five issues per year in 2007, with the possibility of increasing this to six issues per year in 2008. This strategy reflects the success of the journal in attracting large numbers of high quality articles and the extra space should allow us to publish accepted papers more quickly than before. Any move towards six issues depends on a continued flow of good articles.

I welcome articles on any aspect of European society: studies of social issues in particular European societies, comparative studies, and investigations of European integration. In addition to studies of contemporary Europe, I would like to see more contributions on historical aspects of European societies, so that the journal can be both comparative and historical. I would also like to see more contributions from qualitative research projects to complement our existing strengths in quantitative investigations. Many social issues relate to policy debates within

Europe and I hope to commission or consider thoughtful reflections on policy matters that might contribute to or initiate debates in the spirit of a public sociology. While purely theoretical papers are not normally included in the journal, I am keen to see theoretical discussions of issues relevant to the study of European societies - migration, citizenship, rights, to mention just a few. If a theoretical paper addresses issues that figure, or ought to figure, in discussions of European societies, then they should find a home in the journal.

Existing submissions to the journal are being handled manually, as they have been in the past, but all new submissions will now be through the electronic system of Manuscript Central. This allows automatic acknowledgment of papers and allows online refereeing of papers. This should make the whole process more efficient. Full details will be in forthcoming issues of the journal and on the journal's website: <http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/routledge/14616696.html>

The 'Instructions for Authors' link gives full details. Any informal enquiries can be made to our new Editorial Assistant Agnes Skamballis on eusoc@essex.ac.uk.

European Societies, like any journal, depends on the peer-reviewing of articles. All articles considered for publication are refereed anonymously by at least two and usually three academics. Editorial decisions depend on the views of referees.

These days, academics are very busy and it is sometimes difficult to get referees for papers. I have a good list of referees and



New European Societies editor John Scott

previous contributors to the journal and I will be trying to involve as many ESA members as possible in the refereeing process. I hope that all members will respond positively to my requests for you to review particular papers.

The editorial work of the journal will be based at Essex University, a leading centre for sociological and social science research in Britain (<http://www.essex.ac.uk/sociology/>). The full editorial team consists of myself as Editor, Lynne Pettinger as Book Review Editor, and Agnes Skamballis as Editorial Assistant. We hope to build on the successes achieved by the Vienna team of Claire Wallace, Michael Jonas, and Gertraud Stadler. The journal can, however, only be as successful as the work of its contributors - so do, please, continue to send us your papers for inclusion in the Association's flagship publication.

ESA Prize to young scholars for best article in ESA's journal "European Societies"

From 2007 onwards, the ESA will give a prize (2000 Euros) for the best article published in *European Societies* over the past two years by a social scientist in the early stages of their career. (He or she should not obtain a doctorate for more than five years at the moment of submitting the article.)

There will also be a prize for the runner-up (1000 Euros). These prizes ought to be an

added incentive for young researchers to publish in the journal.

The jury is to be made up of the four members of the ESA EC Committee for post-graduate research: Catherine Delcroix, Tommi Hoikkala, Sokratis Koniorodos, Constanza Tobio and in addition Patrick Baert, Carlo Ruzza, Claire Wallace and John Scott.

They will select the two best papers of the young sociologist, who have written in *European Societies* in 2006 or 2007.

The two prizes will be awarded at the Opening ceremony at the ESA conference in Glasgow in September 2007.

Conferences and Call for Papers

Conflict, Citizenship and Civil Society

Student Workshop / Course
Glasgow Caledonian University,
Glasgow (UK),
September 1st-3rd, 2007

This will be a two and a half days workshop meant for MA / PhD students and young scholars / assistants in the social sciences (and related fields) taking place before the ESA-conference in Glasgow (UK).

Course Directors:

- * Catherine Delcroix (University of Strasbourg)
- * Tommi Hoikkala (University of Helsinki)
- * Sokratis Koniordos (University of Crete)
- * Constanza Tobio (University of Madrid Carlos III)

Course Description:

Europe is experiencing extensive transformations that explode periodically into deep conflict. Conflicts associated with migration, generation, gender, precarious labour, urban tensions, cultural and religious intolerance are spliced by inequality, discrimination, poverty and exclusion, thus complicating notions of belonging and citizenship. As politics are increasingly focused on conflict and its resolution, debates about civil society have come to the fore and classic concepts born during the Scottish Enlightenment have been revitalized.

During this course a number of these most pressing problems and challenges that European societies are facing will be presented and analyzed by a number of renowned scholars from all over Europe.

What answers does sociology have when dealing with these problems? To what

extent should sociology renew itself in the light of these processes of transnationalization?

The course is also meant as an introduction to the general theme of the Glasgow ESA Conference, which is Conflict, Citizenship and Civil Society. Participants in the course are expected to also attend the whole conference (no registration fee will be asked from them). It thus will function as a bridge between University- and Conference life.

General Information:

1. Costs:

- The course is for free
- Lodging is free for participants during both the course and the ESA conference (i.e. from Thursday night August 30 - September 6 included)
- Concerning costs for travel: Participants are requested to find out first whether their home university is prepared to refund their travel costs. If requested a letter of invitation can be provided for by the organizers.

The ESA has a (small) travel fund, which is primarily (though not exclusively) meant for students from so-called low currency countries (mainly the former communist countries and Turkey).

Students can apply for a refund from this fund (see application form) up to a maximum of 300 Euros (left at the appreciation of the steering committee) based upon receipts of bus/train/plane tickets. Since the ESA fund is limited, it is expected that the applicants look for the least expensive way to travel.

2. The maximum number of attendants in this course is 30. A selection will be made on the basis of the information given in the application form.

3. Students have to present their research / PhD project for this course. The topic should be related to the overall theme of the course, i.e. the topic should have a European dimension.

4. Presence during all sessions and active participation during the discussions are expected. Fluency in English is a requirement for participation in the course.

5. Participants will receive a Certificate of attendance. Students have to negotiate with their home university whether this certificate gives them any credit points.

Application:

See application form below. A CV, a description of the research project and a letter of recommendation written by the academic supervisor, are required.

The **deadline** for submission of the application form to SW coordinator C. Delcroix is February 28th 2007.

Please send the application-form to:

Contact Person:

Catherine Delcroix
Coordinator of the Student Workshop

Surface mail:

ESA Secretary, 59-61 Rue Pouchet,
75017 Paris, Cedex 17, France.

Or E-mail: cadelcroix@wanadoo.fr

Very Important: For any e-mail message, applicants are requested to fill the line 'Subject' with the two following words: "ESA Workshop"

Tel: + 33-1- 40 25 12 63, Monday afternoon, Wednesday and Thursday.

Glasgow-Student Workshop Application Form

Name.....
First name.....
Nationality.....M / F

Date of Birth:

Day.....Month.....Year.....

University:

Name.....
Place.....
Country.....

Home address:

.....
.....
.....
City.....
Zip code.....
Country.....

Phone:

Areacode.....
Number.....
E-mail.....

Studies:

Field of Study.....
Year of Study.....
BA (Yes / No) || MA (Yes / No) || PhD (Yes / No)
(Encircle right answer)

Experience:

What is the title of your PHD project?
.....
.....
.....
Earlier experiences with international courses and/or seminars?
.....
.....
.....

.....
Previous courses taken (either at the home university or abroad) which are related to the theme of the course?
.....
.....

.....
International Experiences (in general, like excursions, exchange visits)?
.....
.....

.....
Name of supervisor who will send a letter of recommendation:
.....
.....

(Include in the application a letter of recommendation by the supervisor (if the application form is sent by e-mail, the recommendation letter can be sent by e-mail or by surface mail))

Migration and People Movement in Europe: Threat or Benefit?

Fifth International Workshop of the Network "Strategic Elites and EU Enlargement"

Vienna, September 28th-29th, 2007

General aim of the conference:

Migration is one of the most acute problems of European countries. The creation of the Common Market and of the Schengen-area of unrestricted internal travel has created an enormous pull for people to seek employment in the richer parts of Europe. The outside frontiers of the Schengen area were fortified in order to control the flow of immigrants and refugees. Media reports about thousands of would be immigrant deaths, have contributed to an image of the EU as a "fortress." Europe itself is becoming the oldest continent in demographic terms. Decreasing marriage and birth rates, and decreasing life expectancy in the east, will make Europe a continent decreasing in population without substantial immigration.

Immigration in Europe, however, is opposed by parties and groups fearing that foreign infiltration threatens their well-being as well as national and local cultures. Patterns of migration have also changed their forms and directions within Europe.

The main trend of migration from south to central and north Europe has been replaced by east-west migration. Flows of migration have been much stronger than

projected by the EU-Commission which tries to appease the public alarm. These and other issues, concerning the many social, cultural and political aspects of migration and migration policy in Europe will be discussed in the Fifth Workshop of a series on "Strategic Elites and EU Enlargement," sponsored by the British Academy.

Proposals of papers are invited for the following topics:

I. *Changes in the patterns and causes of migration in Europe*

- * 1. Patterns of migration into and out of Europe
- * 2. Patterns of commuting at critical borderlines
- * 3. Migration and changes in the class structures of the sending and receiving countries
- * 4. Socioeconomic causes and consequences of migration: Employment and unemployment, income distribution and social exclusion

II. *Social, cultural and political aspects of migration*

- * 5. Free labor mobility: Positive and problematic implications of a basic value of the EU
- * 6. National citizens interests versus universal human rights of migration and asylum
- * 7. Perceptions, attitudes and fears of the populations related to migration
- * 8. Second Class citizens? Problems of the integration of immigrants
- * 9. Political problems, conflicts and solutions concerning causes and consequences of migration.

Selection of Papers:

We invite researchers working in this field, including young researchers and doctoral-level students. The workshop will be limited to about 20 to 25 presentations. (Additional participants may bring "contributed papers" to the workshop). A publication of the best contributions is planned; only presented papers at an advanced stage of elaboration can be considered.

The Paper Select Committee includes Max Haller (Karl Franzens University of Graz, Austria), David Lane (Cambridge University, UK), Gyorgy Lengyel (Corvinus University of Budapest, Hungary).

Abstract Submission:

Those who wish to participate should submit directly, but not later than March 31, 2007, to Max Haller (address see below):

- (1) An abstract (400 words)
- (2) A short biographical information, indicating institutional affiliation and position, and present areas of research and publications related to the topic of the conference (400 words)

Contributors will be notified about the acceptance of their proposal by mid-May, 2007.

Costs/Financial Support:

Those who are accepted as paper-givers will be provided accommodation (two nights), lunches and refreshments during the breaks, and a conference dinner on Friday. Contingent contribution towards travel expenses is dependent on further fund rising.

Organizer:

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E-Mail: max.haller@uni-graz.at

Thematic Session (STS) for ISSR, July 2007

Convergence and conflict -

Religious and secular commitment in pluralistic European societies

The themes of the next ISSR Conference, "Secularity and Religious Vitality" (Leipzig, July 23rd-27th) and the next ESA-Conference, "Conflict, Citizenship and Civil Society" (Glasgow, September 3rd-7th), should be an opportunity for enriching encounters between sociologists of religion and general sociologists.

The secularisation of European societies has not followed the same itinerary or led to the same situation in every country. Religions have participated to different degrees in the process of national construction, both in their relation to the political sphere and in the part they play in the public sphere. However, beyond this diversity, a deep-seated drift towards individualism has drawn the European countries into new cultural and religious diversity. Our hypothesis is that this situation comprises the general secular framework within which new religious

vitality has been emerging for the past thirty years or so. The political sphere is also confronted with a new form of pluralism. The collapse of secular forms of messianism and the construction of new global collectives - such as the European Union - have led to the fragmentation of national frameworks. Politics consequently tend to become more "administrative" or "technocratic" - one might say "disenchanted".

In each society, secular and religious actors alike must rethink the issue of pluralism. The fluctuating line between what is dependent upon the public regulation of norms and individual choice enables all actors of society to participate in public debates. Does the intervention of religious actors in the political - or even scientific - field entail redefining politics in terms of values? Is pluralism - along with its fellow feature, individualism - the main

area of conflict within religious groups themselves? How does their acceptance or refusal of pluralism transform their identity and their relationship with the other religious or secular actors? Where does religious specificity fit in and how is it constantly re-elaborated? Does the influence of radical religious groups lead to a process of partial "de-secularisation" or even "re-enchantment" of the world? Do the latter force citizens into new forms of partnership?

Situations of conflict or convergence between religious and secular protagonists can be put forward for analysis, within European societies in the first instance. But examples of non-European societies can also provide useful comparisons.

Martine COHEN

Groupe Sociétés, Religions, Laïcités
(GSRL, CNRS-EPHE, France)

Conference Reports

Advances in Qualitative Research Practice

Report on the ESA Qualitative Methods Research Network's 3rd Midterm Conference

Cardiff University, Wales UK, September 4-6, 2006

The 3rd midterm conference was held in Cardiff, Wales, a wonderful location with nearly perfect weather, excellent and convenient accommodations, and warm people. Some of us learned the history of Cardiff, several of us learned a few Welsh terms (e.g., welcome, automatic door, bus lane) and even more of us learned about fine Welsh beer.

We especially thank our local hosts, Paul Atkinson and Cardiff University for arranging the many the social and dining events and for obtaining additional funding. We want, also, to thank Bethan Charles for her remarkable administrative, fiscal, and social skills.

On Monday, September 4th, RN President, Shalva Weil greeted our group noting special thanks to the key board members who arranged the scientific program: David Silverman, Christoph Maeder and Anne Ryen (RC VP). She then set an academic tone with a thoughtful discussion of the place of qualitative methods in sociology.

The first plenary was from Cardiff University's Sara Delamont who offered

spirited "Arguments against Auto-Ethnography."

We then divided into workshop sessions - a practice we followed on Tuesday and Wednesday. Over the three days we had workshop sessions on:

- * Multi-methods / social problems
- * Researching the internet
- * Conversational analysis / transcriptions / language
- * Research ethics / interviews (2 sessions)
- * Ethnography / writing, (2 sessions) and
- * The quality of qualitative research (2 sessions)

David Silverman met our expectations of fine work and enchanting titles, with "Innumerable inscrutable habits: Remarks on eyeing the unremarkable."

He found the remarkable in the mundane and the mundane in the remarkable...but his presentation was never mundane.

Tuesday ended with a formal and extraordinary dinner at Aberdare Hall.

Wednesday's first plenary was a bravura

presentation by Paul Atkinson, "Rescuing Ethnography."

He illustrated (enacted?) the excitement of everyday urban life, and then drawing from that presentation and his own work on opera, discussed the importance of hard work in obtaining observations and presenting them to readers.

Clive Seale's plenary, "Computer-assisted qualitative analysis: The potential of a keyword approach" was an exceptional presentation on the strengths and limitations of software-enabled keyword analysis of 4 datasets. Seale's framing of the findings and actual presentation of the data illustrated the power of the technique to enhance our understanding and to generate additional hypotheses.

Anne Ryen gave generous thanks to all the participants, a warm invitation to our next gathering in Glasgow, and discussed options for the next midterm conference.

Notes submitted by Ross Koppel, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

ESA Summer School on "Immigration in Europe"

University of Milan (Italy), Dept. of Social & Political Studies, July 3rd-9th, 2006

The First ESA Summer School was held at the University of Milan (Italy), last July 3rd-9th 2006, co-sponsored by ESA and the Department of Social and Political Studies of that University. Its subject was "Immigration in Europe".

The Summer School has been organised by a LOC composed by the ESA President, Prof. Maurizio Ambrosini (Sociology of migrations at the University of Milan) and Dr. Giovanni Semi acting as secretary. The ESA Committee on post-doctoral research has been involved in the selection of candidates.

The Summer School has been undoubtedly a great success: 330 young researchers (doctoral and post-doctoral) applied from all European countries. Among them, 30 participants from several countries have been selected to whom a full grant was offered for participating into the school. For a full week they have attended lectures in the mornings; invited lecturers included some of the best

specialists in Sociology of Migrations, such as S. Castles (Oxford), A. Geddes (Sheffield), M. Bommes (Osnabrück), M. Baganha (Coimbra), J. Arango (Madrid), H. Entzinger (Rotterdam), D. Diminescu (MSH, Paris), P. Simon (INED, Paris), Y. Soysal (Essex), E. Ostergaard-Nielsen (Barcelona).

In the afternoons' workshops, participants have presented their own research project to the discussion before lecturers and other colleagues of the Dept. The results have been intense work and fruitful exchanges among young researchers engaged in such field of Sociology.

With this first Summer School, ESA has started a new series of events organised to the intention of young sociologists, a series intended to replace in years between two Conferences the Student Workshop which has become an institutional moment of ESA biannual Conference.

The ESA Summer School will be organized



every second year on a sociological subject of interest for Europe. In this way, ESA confirms and broadens its commitment in the formation of young researchers in Sociology in Europe.

Report by Giovanna Procacci

ESA Summer School on "Immigration in Europe" - Continued

Out of the students' perspectives



As one of the 35 PhD students who participated in the ESA summer school, I had great expectations from the course. I thought it significant that migration was chosen as the theme of the first summer school, as it is exactly the current population movements that are challenging the foundational ideas of sociology: nation-state, citizenship and ethnicity.

In effect, the one-week course proved to be a true plunge into migration theories and research. The summer school was organised into lectures in the mornings and students' presentations in the afternoons.

The lecturers were well chosen to offer a broad look to the current state of migration research. The themes tackled varied from general theories on migration to ethnic economies and labour markets, from migrant political activism to questions on citizenship and integration.

What came up from the interventions was the usefulness of sociological meta-theories for migration research but also the need to go beyond a nationalist framework when analysing population movements and cross-border activities.

What I missed from the lectures was a more systematic and critical reflection on the relationships between migration studies, sociology and policymaking as well as an intervention concerning methodological issues in migration research.

As it turned out from the students' presentations, there seemed to be some confusion over the differences between quantitative and qualitative methods.

For instance, some qualitative researchers tried to quantify their data or use quantitative terms such as sample and variables in order to give their analysis a more scientific tone. I was also surprised by the lack of criticism towards survey methods, when their limits are quite known (e.g. the demand of total self-reflexivity from the respondents and of uniform understanding of the questions).

These limitations are especially evident when studying people from different cultural backgrounds. In general, I felt that we did not have enough time for discussion and comments (seven presentations in an afternoon were too much) and so I suggest that next time students are divided in

smaller groups, papers circulated beforehand and discussants chosen amongst the students.

Finally, I found it very important that the summer school was organised on grant-basis allowing students regardless of their institutional positions to participate. I wish this crucial democratic principle will continue in what hopefully will become a new ESA tradition.

*Lena Näre
Department of Sociology,
University of Helsinki*

Read another student's report on next page...

**How to draw
the attention of the
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**Place a commercial in the
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ESA Summer School on "Immigration in Europe" - Continued

Out of the students' perspectives

Intriguing diversity and lacking scientific consensus

With much enthusiasm I participated in the ESA summer school "Immigration in Europe". I fully adopted the aim of ESA organizers to get to know and learn from fellow (junior) researcher working in the field of immigration sociology.

The list of participants of the ESA summer school was ordered by country of origin. Next to a selection of participants on scientific endeavors, cultural diversity was probably considered as an important ingredient for a successful summer school experience as well. Since we, the culturally diverse junior researchers, were all selected for the summer school, all slept at Campus Certosa, all tried to find our way in the Italian coffee maze, and were all hoping that Italy would win the world cup, we soon

found shared experiences and common interests to build new friendships on. Which we did.

Unfortunately, the common grounds for fruitful scientific discussions were not always present. Sociology is the study of societies in which knowledge is accumulated and research questions with scientific and societal relevance are answered by empirically and systematically testing hypotheses derived from theoretical frameworks. For me (or maybe better: with me), a scientific discussion is therefore impossible if someone states that they do not have (and not need) research questions, theories, or hypotheses.

Ethnographic fieldwork cannot be justified alone by stating that you happen to speak the languages of the ethnic groups of your interest. A research method cannot be

justified alone by stating that you are familiar with this method. Empirical data, research methods, and discussions of key concepts in immigration sociology should serve the testing of relevant hypotheses. Immigration sociology is not different from other branches of sociology in this respect.

I did get to know fellow PhD students in the field of immigration sociology and I did learn much about the cultural and scientific diversity among the upcoming immigration sociologists. The ESA summer school was therefore a success. However, it could have been a more valuable scientific experience if more attention had been paid to a common scientific consensus (however small) among all participants.

Jochem Tolsma,
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Fifth Norbert Elias Prize



Norbert Elias

The fifth Norbert Elias Prize will be awarded in 2007. The Prize consists in a sum of €1,000 and it will be awarded to a significant first major book published between 1st January 2005 and 31st December 2006.

In previous years, the Prize has been reserved for European authors. On this occasion, the Board of the Elias Foundation has decided to open the prize to authors from other continents.

The Prize is awarded 'in commemoration of the sociologist Norbert Elias (1897-1990), whose writings, at once theoretical and

empirical, boldly crossed disciplinary boundaries in the social sciences to develop a long-term perspective on the patterns of interdependence which human beings weave together'. This does not mean, however, that the prize-winning book will necessarily be directly inspired by Elias's own work.

Previous winners of the Elias Prize have been:

* 1999 David Lepoutre, *Coeur de banlieue: Codes, rites et langages* (Paris: Odile Jacob, 1997)

* 2001 Wilbert van Vree, *Meetings, Manners and Civilisation* (London: University of Leicester Press, 1999)

* 2003 Nikola Tietze, *Islamische Identitäten: Formen muslimischer*

Religiosität junger Männer in Deutschland und Frankreich (Hamburg: Hamburger Edition, 2001)

* 2005 Jason Hughes, *Learning to Smoke: Tobacco Use in the West* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2003)

For the 2007 prize, the jury will consist of three previous winners of the prize, under the chairmanship of Wilbert van Vree, with Stephen Mennell representing the Board of the Elias Foundation.

Nominations for the prize should be sent by 31st March 2007 to:

Saskia Visser,
Secretary to the Norbert Elias Foundation,
J.J. Viottastraat 13, 1071 JM Amsterdam,
The Netherlands

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The ESA-Executive Committee

President:

represents ESA and chairs the executive
Giovanna Procacci

Treasurer:

presents budget and financial report, takes financial decisions
Lennart Svensson

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responsible for records, general overview of secretariat, relations to members
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Vicepresident for Research Networks:

Tuula Gordon

Vicepresident for publications:

Patrick Baert

Vicepresident for conference programme:

Sara Arber

Webmaster:

Rene Bekkers

Secretary:

helps the executive, updates members list, cooperates with LOC secretariat
Gisele Tchinda
Rosanna Sartori (currently on maternity leave)

Committees (members and attributions)

Finance Committee:

Membership fees, conference fees, other financial matters

Chair: Treasurer
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Committee for RNs:

All relations and communications with RNs

Chair: Tuula Gordon
Sara Arber
Sokratis Koniordos
Valerji Mansurov

Committee for publications:

Journal (with ES editorial board), book-series, relations with publisher

Chair: Patrick Baert
Constanza Tobio
Carlo Ruzza
Analia Torres

Committee for Conference programme:

Relations between the executive and the Glasgow LOC

Chair: Sara Arber
Pamela Abbott
Tommi Hoikkala
Valerji Mansurov

Committee for communications:

Website, newsletter, follow-up of conference preparation steps (with the committee for Conference programme)

Chair: Dagmar Kutsar
Rene Bekkers
Catherine Delcroix
Elianne Riska (editor of the newsletter, with Andreas Berger)

Committee for post-graduate research:

Student workshop, summer school, ESA prize

Chair: Catherine Delcroix
Tommi Hoikkala
Sokratis Koniordos
Constanza Tobio

Committee for external relations:

Relations with national associations, ERC, ISA, other bodies

Chair: Carlo Ruzza
Daniel Bertaux
Dagmar Kutsar
Elianne Riska

The Council of National Associations has nominated in Torun as chair of the Council and of the Nomination Committee Daniel Bertaux.

Become a member of the ESA

In order to make it possible to join the European Sociological Association even between the ESA-conferences and to provide an easier way for the registration, a new internet payment system has been set up.

The registration page website can be found at the following address:

<http://esa.iresco.fr/inscription/registration.htm>

Next Research Network Council Meeting

There will be a RN Council meeting at the ESA conference in Glasgow in September 2007.

This is a new event for the association and it responds to the interest in such an activity by the the Research Networks.

The ESA - Executive Committee - Contact Info

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<http://www.europeansociology.org>

<http://www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa>

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Newsletter:

European Sociologist, the Newsletter of the ESA accepts all types of material of relevance to sociologist working on or in Europe - articles, 'think pieces', comments or letters to the Editor, announcements or research initiatives, conferences, seminars, newly-published books etc.

Material should be sent directly to the editor.

Editor of the Newsletter:

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