XVII ISA WORLD CONGRESS OF SOCIOLOGY

SOCIOLOGY ON THE MOVE
LA SOCIOLOGIE EN MOUVEMENT
LA SOCIOLOGÍA EN MARCHA
11-17 JULY, 2010
GOTHENBURG, SWEDEN

RC21 Call for Papers

XVII ISA World Congress of Sociology, Gothenburg, Sweden, July 11-17, 2010.

The call for papers is listed at ISA web page (http://www.isa-sociology.org/congress2010/rc/rc21.htm). It is also listed at https://www.msu.edu/user/fujitak/SessionsGothenburg2010.pdf

Your paper abstract including paper title, short description (within 200 words), and name, affiliation, country and email address as paper author(s) should be sent to session organizers as well as conference coordinators (Fernando Diaz Orueta Fernando.diaz@ua.es and Kuniko Fujita fujitak@msu.edu) by **October 31, 2009**.

Participants are limited to only one paper presentation within RC21 program. Any individual may participate in two sessions. Session organizers can present their papers only outside their own sessions.

RC21 travel grants for Gothenburg will be announced in January 2010.

1. RC21 Plenary: Additional Session on Congress Theme
Global Financial Crisis, Regime Shifts and New Challenges for Urban Theory
Kuniko Fujita (Michigan State University, USA) fujitak@msu.edu
Fernando Diaz Orueta (University of Alicante, SPAIN) Fernando.diaz@ua.es

2. New Challenges for Social and Urban Theory: the 'Credit Crunch' and Beyond
Chris Pickvance (University of Kent, UK) C.G.Pickvance@kent.ac.uk

This is intended as a wide-ranging session. It is particularly provoked by the sub-prime crisis, 'credit crunch' and subsequent recession, and government responses to these, but events between now and summer 2010 may bring to the fore other events, players and issues. The emphasis of this session is not so much on the details of the subprime crisis, or on housing processes as such, but on theories of how capitalist economies work, how states act, the significance of economic and political 'globalization', etc.

My belief is that the 'events' of 2008 challenge prevailing theories about what capitalist states can do, how the international economy works, and how the finance and housing sectors work, and what role cities play on these wider processes.

They will also lead to a restructuring of economic and political systems nationally and internationally so an understanding of what the issues are is particularly critical.

We are living through a rare moment when states are making things up as they go along. This moment provides an opportunity for a new politics based on seizing opportunities which were previously thought to be closed off by ineluctable trends.

Among the issues which merit attention are:

A. the national and international context

- the role of housing in the economy (including the subprime crisis)
- the role of credit institutions in the economy
- the international ramifications of the above (effects on economic globalization, repercussions on the Chinese and Indian economies and on the South, the role of China as creditor to the US, etc)
- government policies (bail-outs, fiscal expansion, infrastructure spending, guarantees to savers, etc)- a reversal of previous dogmas about capitalist state policies? How effective? Does effectiveness on the finance sector and the economy generally matter or is symbolic effect more important? A rehabilitation of Keynesianism? State indebtedness as a new problem.
- the problem of 'regulation' (limits of national regulation, necessity of national regulation, tax havens and the corporate welfare state, what would better regulation look like?, what's wrong with state ownership of banks?)
- demonology: placing blame for the crisis (can bankers be blamed? religious interventions)
- effects on party politics: pull together, or a chance for new directions
- a quiescent public? Individualized responses or collective responses outside party frameworks too?

B. the urban context

- New challenges for local governments/urban managers
    Fiscal policy
    Drawing the line a) between public and private responsibility and b) between charitable/voluntary and private providers of public services
    Households as participants or recipients
- New challenges for households and for grassroots groups

C. environmental effects

Do solutions to the credit crunch support or contradict sustainable policies?

3. "Creative Cities" after the Fall of Finance

Michael Indergaard (St. John's University, USA) indergam@stjohns.edu
Andy Pratt (London School of Economics, UK) a.c.pratt@lse.ac.uk
Tom Hutton (University of British Columbia, CA) thutton@interchange.ubc.ca

This session explores whether global financial crisis is changing prospects and policies for cultural and knowledge ensembles in different urban and national contexts. The crisis of finance and the neoliberal order that supports it, calls into question creative city discourses (Florida, 2002) which presume that market processes can provide a basis for urban innovation and prosperity. Even before the crisis, the sustainability of creative sector development was problematic in settings dominated by booms in finance and real estate (e.g., New York and London). While some creative segments tapped the extension of upscale market niches, consumption spaces and housing, others were displaced or found their development stunted. Given this contradictory relationship, is

the meltdown of finance generating hardships or relief for cultural and knowledge ensembles or perhaps even new opportunities for development? Is support for the creative sector increasing, as public entities perceive new imperatives to diversify the economic base? Is crisis altering how policy makers perceive and value particular segments within cultural production chains? Are cities from outside the neoliberal heartland now supplying policy models? What now should theorists make of the cultural/creative economy? Is it an epiphenomenon of over-inflated finance or is it taking on a more 'basic' position in cities as a fully-fledged advanced producer service?

4. Cities and the Housing Boom/Bust: Joint Session with RC43 (Housing)

Manuel Aalbers (University of Amsterdam, THE NETHERLANDS) m.b.aalbers@gmail.com
Ken Gibb (University of Glasgow, UK) k.gibb@socsci.gla.ac.uk

Housing markets are highly dependent on the economic performance of cities. Yet, local housing market boom/bust is shaped not only at the city level, but also at the national and increasingly as the financial crisis of 2007-2009 makes clear at the global level. Local, national and global factors interact to produce housing booms/busts. A housing boom may be seen as a sign of economic vitality of a city, but also implies an affordability crisis for large parts of the urban population. A housing bust may be connected to an economic downturn and may result in redundant housing in one city and only a pause in increasing house prices in another.
Possible topics for this session include, but are not limited to:
The local politics of housing
Examples of housing boom/bust
Analysis of how local, national and global factors interact in shaping housing markets
Local housing effects of the global financial crisis
Booming neighbourhoods in a busting city
Busting neighbourhoods in a booming city
The real estate network as a growth machine

5. Sustainability and Learning Communities, Cities and Regions

Alun Morgan (London South Bank University, UK) morgana@lsbu.ac.uk
Jesus Blas Vicens Vich (University of Barcelona, SPAIN) jvicens@ub.edu

The challenge of achieving sustainability in the twenty-first century will demand, amongst other things, new styles, and even systems, of participatory governance and civic engagement across all spatial scales but particularly at the local scale. This simultaneously demands the development of new structures, practices and styles of governance *coupled with* the fostering of a more engaged and informed populace or 'civic society' which is willing and able to participate fully in appropriate decision making for sustainable development. This is crucially a matter of *education* and *learning* across all spheres, phases and sectors. The broad notion of 'learning communities, cities and regions for sustainable development and global citizenship' can be seen as powerful formulation characterised by concepts, approaches and tools currently emerging at the interface between participatory approaches to local/regional planning and globally aware place-based education. It is, furthermore, a formulation which will involve the

partnership of a range of 'learning stakeholders'. This session seeks to explore the nature and potential of these convergences drawing on theory and practice.

6. The Impact of Im/migration on Urban Culture, Public Arts and Public Space

Jerome Krase (Brooklyn College The City University of New York, USA) JKrase@brooklyn.cuny.edu
Timothy Shortell (Brooklyn College The City University of New York, USA) shortell@brooklyn.cuny.edu,

How have urban culture, public arts and public space changed as a consequence of the influx of new and different groups into cities around the world? Included in these new and different groups is the development of "life style" neighborhoods such as those of Gays and Lesbians as well as those of international migrants. One might also consider how the enrichment of urban cultures will suffer as a consequence of the burgeoning global financial crisis as some groups leave, and others become even more marginalized. For example one can see in New York City an increase in the number of "homeless" Latin American migrants who once flocked to the city to work in disappearing low-paid service jobs. Similar processes of social and economic adjustment are taking place in Chinese cities such as Shenzhen and can be connected to anti-migrant violence in South Africa where migrants had taken over spaces vacated by South African citizens in the most marginal of townships. This session provides opportunity for presentations diverse in both subject and format.

7. A Home in the City: The City and its Homes

Catrine Andersson (Uppsala University, SWEDEN) Catrine.Andersson@ibf.uu.se
Mats Franzen (Uppsala University, SWEDEN) Mats.Franzen@ibf.uu.se
Eva Sandstedt (Uppsala University, SWEDEN) Eva.Sandstedt@ibf.uu.se

We are living in a time witnessing the multiplication of household and family forms. This dynamic process, fueled by the simultaneous changes in gender relations and life course regime, implies changes not only at home, but also in the use of public urban space, perhaps becoming most visible in the transformation of consumption patterns. In parallel to this multiplication, we see the fragmentation of the fordist city, and the emergence of the much more complex post-fordist city. Consequently, the relationship between the home and the city may vary considerably depending on e.g. type of household in terms of size and social composition (age, gender, class, ethnicity etc.), size, type and location of the dwelling, as well as atmosphere and type of city. While we do know a lot about family oriented suburbia, urban gay communities, etc., we are lacking anything like a comprehensive and systematic knowledge about variations in the relationship between the home (the living) and the city. This session ventures into this relationship, welcoming papers working at it from the public side as much as those working at it from the private side, thus trying to bridge the private-public divide in our thinking and explore its implications for our knowledge of the city and the home.

8. The Upsurge of Urban Waterscapes: Theoretical and Empirical Investigations

Susanne Frank (Dortmus University of Technology, GERMANY) susanne.frank@tu-dortmund.de
Sandra Huning (Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities, GERMANY) huning@bbaw.de

The new role and meaning of "water" in urban restructuring and design is a common feature of countless cities around the globe – be it the redevelopment of quaysides and shipyards for housing and leisure or the transformation of exhausted opencast pits into artificial urban lakes. The material and symbolic production of urban waterscapes is a contradictory and often contested process. While it can foster greater cohesion, very often it generates new forms of political conflicts, especially when competing notions of urban (social and/or environmental) justice come into play. The upsurge of urban waterscapes also points to larger discussions about a general return of "nature" into urban development and planning. The session focuses on urban waterscapes as a key to understand significant new trends in contemporary urban development. It seeks theoretical and empirical investigations which use urban waterscapes as meaningful delineators of changes in urban social and spatial power relations, political regulation and environmental imagination.

9. Industry Clusters and Transnational Networks

Richard Child Hill (Michigan State University, USA) hillrr@msu.edu

Industry clusters have been a focal point of urban economic development policy for some time now. Recently, a new "transnational phase" in industry cluster policy has emerged in which clusters in two or more countries join together in diverse resource sharing and political-economic decision-making. Collaboration among clusters is often initiated and facilitated by quasi-governmental "networking" organizations. Government agencies and nonprofits participate in the project along with business enterprises. Decision-making, divisions of labor and funding are organized across transnational, national, regional and local scales and among multiple institutional arenas. In the process new forms of urban economic governance seem to be emerging. This session welcomes papers that address these kinds of transnational linkages among industry clusters, from the vantage point of participating countries and cross-nationally, and explore their significance for urban politics, policy and development.

10. Cities, Violence and the Challenges of Global Governance

Sophie Body-Gendrot (University of Paris-Sorbonne, FRANCE) bodygend@wanadoo.fr

Despite all their assets and resources, large cities have conflict wired into urban space itself. The reasons are numerous: extreme inequalities, fascination and rejection such cities provoke, the diversity of flux in urban spaces, segregation, instability and loss of bearings. In some cities, delinquency and daily violence define specific urban areas and fuel a sense of danger. In other cities, various forms of racism lead to physical, social and economic exclusion. Cities are also magnets for suicide-bombers. This session focuses on (1) the different challenges and forms such threats present for cities and (2)

on the traditional and innovative resources cities offer at a time when nation-states struggle to fulfill their role as buffers against larger forces. Can cities take the leadership of new forms of governance?

11. The Creative Underclass: Vernacular Culture, Subculture and Urban Renewal

George Morgan (University of Western Sydney, AUSTRALIA)
george.morgan@uws.edu.au
Sharon Zukin (Brooklyn College and CUNY Graduate School, USA)
Zukin@brooklyn.cuny.edu

The word 'creativity' features prominently in the contemporary vocabulary of urban renewal. A city's prospects for regeneration (as Richard Florida tells us) are seen to depend not only on financial investment but on aesthetic and cultural investments too. Many urban planners and policy makers appear now to be convinced that symbolic resources are crucial to attracting professionals/global workers and to kick-starting gentrification. However, recent research shows that increasingly there is a blurring of the lines between high and low culture; that cultural tastes are no longer as class-differentiated as they once were. This is manifested in ways in which street art/ subculture is crossing into the mainstream. Many hip, affluent residents of global cities are today as likely to be involved in activities like hunting down the latest guerrilla creations of street artists like Banksy, or attending grungy alternative performance venues, as they are in patronising mainstream galleries, museums and theatres. The academic literature on gentrification has long recognised the key role played by those Richard Lloyd (in his study of Wicker Park, Chicago) has labeled neo-bohemians. This has influenced progressive planners many of whom expressed ambivalence about wholesale civic redevelopment and a desire to conserve local 'authenticity'. New planning discourses ostensibly seek to encourage both alternative artistic creativity and the vernacular culture of established minority communities. We invite papers from those who have undertaken work into these cultural forms and the ways their practitioners have been affected by transitions in urban/suburban areas. We are particularly interested in papers that explore the social contradictions/ tensions that have arisen through such transitions.

12. Neighbourhoods, Social Mixing and Mobilities in Urban and Suburban Areas

Paul Watt (University of London, UK) p.watt@bbk.ac.uk
Peer Smets (VU University, THE NETHERLANDS) PGSM.Smets@fsw.vu.nl

The 'neighbourhood' remains a basic building block of urban sociology despite the fact that it is a highly contested concept, not least as a result of global capital flows and labour mobilities that render any notion of residential spatial fixity problematic. Recently, Mike Savage (2005) has attempted to reclaim the neighbourhood as a relevant object for urban sociology via the concept of 'elective belonging' which captures the stasis within flux that is the contemporary urban condition. Elective belonging means that people come to adopt neighbourhoods as a matter of choice rather than of tradition and longevity. Social capital theory also emphasises the role of neighbourhoods in generating those bridging and bonding relations that facilitate social inclusion and

combat exclusion in deprived multi-ethnic, lower-class areas. Although social capital theory and elective belonging provide potentially useful ways to think about how residential space is socially constituted, they also beg important questions regarding how social mixing occurs in contemporary neighbourhoods that are subject to global flows of people and economic capital. Residential neighourhoods can also be vital markers in Bourdieuvian games of social distinction, recognition and power that mark out contemporary urban and suburban landscapes. Propinquity does not ipso facto lead to communal bonds as the ongoing debate over gentrification and social mixing demonstrates; many middle-class gentrifiers are concerned *not* to mix with the ethnic and working-class 'others' that surround them. Also, as Western societies become increasingly suburban, there is a profound gap in thinking about and researching suburban neighbourhoods. Ethnic diversity, for example, is no longer simply an urban condition since many suburban neighbourhoods are marked by increased social complexity. Although we know something about suburbanites living in gated communities, the latter remain atypical, physically spectacular places. Hence the need to engage with the more prosaic but typical non-gated suburban neighbourhood experience. Therefore this session is interested in receiving theoretical and empirical papers on contemporary urban and suburban neighbourhoods with the following themes:

- Theorising neighbourhoods
- Social mixing and social avoidance in neighbourhoods
- Mobility and stasis in neighbourhoods
- Community formation in the neighbourhood
- Social capital formation in the neighbourhood
- Class, ethnic and gender relations in neighbourhoods
- Neighbourhood as an emancipation vehicle for lower social classes
- Gated and non-gated neighbourhoods

13. Who Belongs Here? The Janus Face of Belonging
Jan Willem Duyvendak (University of Amsterdam, THE NETHERLANDS)
W.G.J.Duyvendak@uva.nl

Recent years have witnessed a resurgent interest in the study of home and place across the social sciences. In the context of globalization, 'belonging' and 'feeling at home' have become central topics in many political and public debates. On the basis of these debates, we can only draw one conclusion: in a mobile world, the question 'who belongs where?' is increasingly disputed. This is the most visibly present in debates on changing neighbourhoods: due to the influx of 'others', native-born inhabitants claim to have lost their 'home'. At the same time, many observers seem to agree upon the increasing importance of the local as a safe haven in an otherwise uninhabitable world. However, how realistic is the hope that 'home' can indeed provide a sense of belonging? This workshop welcomes papers dealing with the multi-scalar phenomena of 'belonging' and 'home feelings' (or the lack of these feelings).

14. Everyday Cosmopolitanisms in Globalizing Cities
K.C. Ho (National University of Singapore, SINGAPORE) sochokc@nus.edu.sg

In what ways can a cosmopolitan outlook be developed and sustained in everyday urban life? This is by no means an easy question to answer. Challenges to cosmopolitanism – increasing diversity, growing inequality, declining social capital, ethnic-based violence – are many in a globalized world. In an urbanized environment characterized by socio-economic differences, opportunities for interaction, do not, in itself, guarantee positive understanding that leads to an open attitude towards others if interaction brings with it greater suspicion and conflict. Even positive encounters which are sporadic may not have the intended effect of fostering cosmopolitan orientations. Another path of inquiry concerns inter-group relations between citizens of a country and intergroup relations between citizens and migrants. Nation building, national identity, multicultural policy platforms built by the state have worked to foster cooperative relations in a multi-ethnic society. But do good domestic inter-group attitudes and behavior necessarily transfer to migrants?

The panel invites papers which ponder over issues of transnationalism and its relationship to cosmopolitanism, the tensions between official policy pronouncements (e.g. multiculturalism) and everyday realities, and the mechanisms which facilitate everyday interactions (clubs, organizations, amenities, etc) between migrants (students, workers, etc) and local communities as well as the challenges and tensions embedded in such everyday encounters. We encourage submissions using qualitative and quantitative methods as well as analysis at the micro-level and macro-level. We also hope to eventually have a broad spectrum of papers in order to develop a comparative understanding of the processes at work in different cities around the world.

15. Social Inequalities in Contemporary Metropolises
Eduardo Marques (University of Sao Paulo/ CEM/Cebrap, BRAZIL) ecmarq@uol.com.br
Susanne Urban (Linköping University, SWEDEN) susanne.urban@isv.liu.se

Social inequalities are central features of metropolises since the rise of modernity. Throughout the 20th century, welfare and Keynesian economic policies reduced social inequalities in many developed countries. Recently, however, economic restructuring, labor market deregulation and some retrenchment of the welfare state drove inequalities to a rise, although this varied substantially by cities and countries. In newly industrializing countries, differently, social inequalities not only persisted, but grew with economic modernization, mainly because of its exclusionary character. Even in those countries, however, the recent scenario is more complex, since old inequalities superpose with new forms produced by recent economic transformations. As a result, the situation of urban inequalities in the world is nowadays more heterogeneous than previously, and in different countries the intensity, the scope and even the meaning of inequalities vary significantly. The aim of this session is to discuss these distinct configurations comparatively, contributing to shed light to the dynamics and mechanisms that produce (and reproduce) the phenomenon.

16. Contentious Cities: Diversity, Injustice and the Building of a Fair Urban Environment

Luca Pattaroni (Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, SWITZERLAND)
luca.pattaroni@epfl.ch
Tommaso Vitale (Università degli Studi di Milano Bicocca, ITALY)
tommaso.vitale@unimib.it

Globalizing cities are confronted with increasing flows of people (migrations), information and goods, leading to growing complexity and heterogeneity (rhythms, convictions, lifestyles, cultures, feelings, interests). This heterogeneity clashes with opposing trends of homogenisation related, for example, to the circulation of architectural models, the extension of neo-liberal policies and gentrifying processes. As a result, contemporary cities are places of territorial and social conflicts playing a central role in their development. Those conflicts are processes where various scales, actors, objects and discourses interact and clash resulting in reproduction or transformation of urban order. Thus, behind urban conflicts lies the more fundamental question of how differences are integrated or excluded, that is how a (more or less) common world is built out of diversity or else how inequalities arise and are experienced leading to feelings of injustice and exclusion. The study of urban conflicts is at the crossroad of many major debates of contemporary (urban) sociology, such as the one concerning the transformation of social movements and public policies, the evolution of inequalities, emerging feelings of injustice and exclusion, the links between distributive justice and recognition. In this perspective, this session welcomes innovative and dynamic approaches to urban conflicts. Studies mixing different data collection methods to grasp contentious dynamic in a comparative/historical way are particularly encouraged.

17. Urbanizing Societies and Leisure: Joint Session with RC13 (Leisure)

Ishwar Modi (India International Institute of Social Sciences, INDIA)
iiiss2005modi@yahoo.co.in
Ranvinder Singh Sandhu (University Amritsar, INDIA) ranvindersandhu@gmail.com
Kulwinder Kaur (Jamia Millia Islamia University, INDIA) kulwinder10@gmail.com

Urban centers are growing in an unwieldy fashion all over the world leading to innumerable infrastructural and civic problems. Problems of both private and public spaces are becoming acute leading to various kinds of deprivations as also alienation. The anonymity of city life causes loneliness and isolation leading to unforeseen mental stresses - these include factors like long commuting hours, impersonal social relationships, loss of identity, etc. Under the circumstances, leisure spaces and opportunities are also shrinking in spite of the realization that leisure can redeem the trauma faced by growing urban population. Such a situation also poses the questions of social justice in the broader perspective of sustainability. How leisure should be utilized and public spaces used to enhance the quality of urban life for all section of the people is a moot question.

18. Local Manifestations of Global Surveillance (Joint Session with RC23)
Torin Monahan and David Lyon (Vanderbilt University, USA)
torin.monahan@vanderbilt.edu
Murli M. Sinha (Rochester Institute of Technology, USA) msinha@rochester.rr.com

This session will explore cultural and regional differences in what might be considered to be global surveillance practices. Particular attention will be given to the development of public-private partnerships and the ongoing privatization of surveillance and security.

19. RC21 Business Meeting