

# XVII ISA WORLD CONGRESS OF SOCIOLOGY

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



## ISA-RC21

Dear Colleagues,

XVII ISA World Congress of Sociology will be held in Gothenburg, Sweden, July 11-17, 2010. The theme is “Sociology on the Move” (See more on <http://www.isa-sociology.org/congress2010/>).

The first decade of the 21<sup>st</sup> century has brought challenges, old and new: global financial crises, unprecedented climate change, increasingly volatile and conflict-ridden international borders, growing North/South inequality, emerging digital and youth culture, and more. These challenges stimulate our research and compel us to define new objects of research, devise new approaches, and re-evaluate existing theories. The current global financial crisis that originated in the American mortgage meltdown, for example, gives us an opportunity to re-examine existing theories. The crisis bears on so many things: the meaning of globalization, the shift from free market ideology to more state regulation in the global economy, and multi-polarization in the international order. But the most significant implication for us is that the urban impact of the crisis greatly varies, depending on local institutions, culture and history. Yet we have a tendency to universalize theory that draws from only one nation or a few cities’ experiences. Despite the international scope of RC21 members, we haven’t exploited the benefits of our heterogeneity. We haven’t learned enough from one another, highlighting and abstracting many local differences and incorporating them into an urban theory.

We solicit session proposals that bring out local differences and attempt to make urban theory by defining new objects of research, devising new conceptual approaches, and transcending existing urban explanations, in the challenging environment of the early 21<sup>st</sup> century.

The topics may cover:

Global warming and the sustainable city;  
Urban justice and sustainability;  
The city and the state;  
North/South differences in the urban world;

Global financial crises and urban experiences;  
The global financial crisis and urban housing markets;  
Urban culture, public arts and public space;  
Violence and conflicts;  
Gender and power;  
Changing urban regimes and governances;  
Poverty, inequality and citizenship;  
Integration and segregation;  
International cluster to cluster linkages; and  
Innovation, cultural economy, and the creative city

ISA has allocated 16 sessions to RC21. Each session consists of 90 minutes in which 4 or 5 papers can be presented. (All other papers should be listed as delivered papers at the end of each session so that the delivered papers can be presented in case some presenters don't show up.) Since we have a limited number of sessions, we may not be able to accept all your proposals and may combine two or three proposals into one. Should you be interested in organizing a session, your session proposal including session title, short description (within 150 words), and your name, affiliation and email address as an organizer should be sent to:

Gothenburg conference coordinators: Fernando Diaz Orueta [Fernando.diaz@ua.es](mailto:Fernando.diaz@ua.es) and Kuniko Fujita [fujitak@msu.edu](mailto:fujitak@msu.edu) by December 31, 2008.

We encourage you to become an ISA member or renew your membership on this occasion. We have currently 361 members of which 174 are ISA members. If our ISA members fall below 100 by April 15, 2009, ISA will reduce the current 16 sessions. The allocation of sessions depends upon the number of ISA-RC21 memberships. It is, therefore, vitally important that you become an ISA member or renew your membership. ISA membership can be made or renewed at [http://www.isa-sociology.org/memb\\_i/index.htm](http://www.isa-sociology.org/memb_i/index.htm).

We very much appreciate your continued support for RC21.

Best wishes,

Kuniko Fujita  
President ISA-RC21

Fernando Diaz Orueta  
Secretary ISA-RC21