

WoW–Work in the World!

Newsletter of the RC30

#3/ June 2020

Sociology of Work – Sociologie du travail – Sociología del trabajo

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Chères et chers membres du RC30,

Tout d'abord, nous vous espérons en bonne santé, ainsi que vos proches. Nous espérons également que les événements mondiaux liés au Covid-19 (confinement, restriction des activités, transformations des systèmes législatifs, sociaux et économiques, etc.) ne vous affectent pas trop fortement.

Comme vous avez sans doute pu le lire grâce aux courriers adressés par le Président de l'ISA, Sari Hanafi, et le Vice-Président, Geoffrey Pleyers, le comité exécutif de l'ISA a décidé le report du 4^e Forum de l'ISA au 22–27 février 2021. Nous vous joignons à nouveau ce courrier à la fin de cette newsletter, dans lequel toutes les modalités et circonstances de cette décision sont précisées.

Dans ces circonstances si particulières, et dans une démarche de réflexion collective, nous voudrions également vous proposer de nous envoyer des textes courts de diffusion large visant à réfléchir sur les effets de cette crise pandémique sur le travail et l'emploi.

Les mondes du travail sont profondément bouleversés par ces événements, et comme toujours, nos échanges par-delà les frontières sont aujourd'hui une force précieuse à cultiver!

Solidairement,

María Eugenia Longo (Presidente), Delphine Mercier (Vice-Présidente), Flora Bajard (Secrétaire)

Dear members of the RC30,

First of all, we hope you and your loved ones are in good health. We also hope that world events related to Covid-19 (containment, restriction of activities, changes in legislative, social and economic systems, etc.) do not affect you too strongly. As you may have read in the letters from ISA President Sari Hanafi and Vice President Geoffrey Pleyers, the ISA Executive Committee has decided to postpone the 4th ISA Forum until February 22-27, 2021. We are again enclosing this letter at the end of this newsletter, in which all the details and circumstances of this decision are set out.

In these very special circumstances, we would also like to



<https://www.facebook.com/sociologyofwork/>



<https://twitter.com/SociologyW>

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encourage collective reflection and propose you to send us some short texts for wide distribution, aiming at thinking about the effects of this pandemic crisis on work and employment.

The worlds of work have been profoundly shaken by these events, and as always, our exchanges across borders are today a precious force to be cultivated!

Solidarity greetings,

María Eugenia Longo (President), Delphine Mercier (Vice-President), Flora Bajard (Secretary)

Estimados miembros del RC30,

En primer lugar, esperamos que ustedes y sus seres queridos tengan buena salud. También esperamos que los acontecimientos mundiales relacionados con el Covid-19 (confinamiento, restricción de actividades, cambios en los sistemas legislativos, sociales y económicos, etc.) no les afecten demasiado.

Como habrán leído en los mensajes del Presidente de la ISA Sari Hanafi y del Vicepresidente Geoffrey Pleyers, el Comité Ejecutivo de la ISA ha decidido posponer el 4º Foro de la ISA hasta el 22-27 de febrero de 2021. Volvemos a adjuntar estos mensajes al final de este boletín, en la que se exponen todos los detalles y circunstancias de esta decisión.

En estas circunstancias tan especiales, también quisiéramos invitarlos a reflexionar colectivamente y proponerles de enviarnos textos breves para su amplia distribución, con el fin de analizar los efectos de esta crisis pandémica en el trabajo y el empleo. Los mundos del trabajo se han visto profundamente sacudidos por estos acontecimientos, y como siempre, nuestros intercambios a través de las fronteras son hoy en día una fuerza preciosa a cultivar!

Solidariamente,

María Eugenia Longo (Presidente), Delphine Mercier (Vice-Presidente), Flora Bajard (Secretaria)



Covid-19 and the world of work: call for texts!

In these very special circumstances, we think that it is absolutely necessary to understand the choices made in your countries in relation to work and employment in their specificities, to remain aware of these peculiar situations, both within our community of sociologists and even broader. At the same time, we need to avoid the crumbling of analysis and experiences, and that is why it seems a key issue to understand the convergence and common thread between all these situations.

That is why we would like to propose you to write small texts aiming at reflecting on the effects of this pandemic crisis on work, employment, productive systems and employment system. These texts, both short and free in their angle of attack, could then be published separately on the RC30 Facebook page. And if we have enough of them, we could also consider gathering them for publication on a dedicated page of the ISA website.

Format: texts should not exceed 600 words. English, French or Spanish, as official languages in the ISA, will be accepted; we will revise the texts and may require some small corrections before publication. You may join a photograph or figure (graph, newspaper article, screenshot, etc.).

Content: we would like you to feel free to shed light on theoretical reflections and/or empirical data, and choose the angle of attack you wish. The relation between the pandemic and the worlds of work could be addressed through some of the consequences of the Covid-19 crisis (social movements and unionism; labor laws; class, gender or race inequalities...), and/or category of population/workers, or a specific dimension (legal, political, economic...). This freedom of tone and short format would be a challenge for the intellectuals we are, but an asset for wide distribution!

Deadline: no specific deadline for submission.

Please send your contributions to: maria-eugenia.longo@ucs.inrs.ca, flora.bajard@gmail.com, delphine.mercier@univ-amu.fr



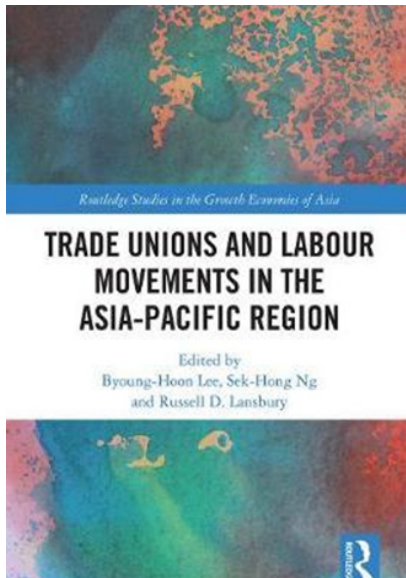
Cyprus Avgorou Ethnographic Museum.

Author : dimitrisvetsikas1969 (pixabay.com)

RC30 member's publication:

Trade Unions and Labour Movements in the Asia-Pacific Region

Edited by Byoung-Hoon Lee, Sek-hong Ng, and Russell Lansbury (London & New York: Routledge)



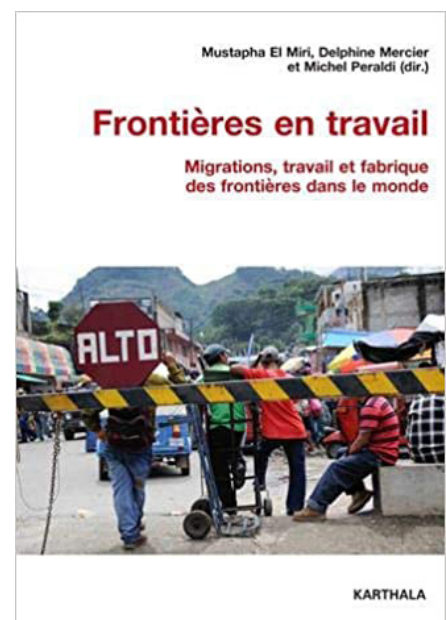
This book delineates varieties of labour unionism and worker representation in thirteen countries of the Asia-Pacific region, in accordance with an analytical framework devised for cross-country comparison. Labour movements in the Asia-Pacific countries have been confronted with diverse challenges, derived from external constraints and internal weakness, which sometimes interact. The structural power of unions has been hampered by external constraints such as the state-dominated labour politics and fragmented and/or informal labour markets. The associational power of unions has been limited by a set of persistent internal weaknesses, including low union density, decentralised bargaining structures and organisational division. Confronted with external constraints and internal weaknesses, labour movements in the Asia-Pacific countries have made various attempts to strengthen union power and expand worker representation under their specific contextual conditions. Major strategic repertoire of labour movement revitalisation in the Asia-Pacific region is comparable with those adopted by European unions. In the

Asia-Pacific countries, unions' partnership is rarely reported in policymaking and corporate governance, while non-union organisations, such as labour advocacy non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and worker centres are very active in representing and organising precarious workers who fall outside the scope of union protection.

Frontières en travail

Edited by Mustapha EL Miri, Delphine Mercier and Michel Peraldi (Karthala)

Cet ouvrage rassemble des travaux qui analysent et décrivent ce qui arrive aujourd'hui aux frontières physiques de ces pays dont la proximité aux centres mondiaux du capitalisme réinvente le statut. De bords oubliés du monde, ces frontières désormais plantées sous les projecteurs des médias sont régulièrement montrées du doigt pour leur caractère crucial par les discours politiques. Mexique-USA, Maroc-Europe, ces lieux frontières sont devenus centraux, par la conjonction d'un double processus à bien des égards paradoxal. Car d'un côté, avec le renforcement d'un ensemble de dispositifs de fermeture et de contrôle du passage et du franchissement, ces frontières se veulent mises en scène d'un processus de dramatisation et de criminalisation des parcours migratoires « subalternes », tandis que d'un autre côté, l'installation de lieux de production fait de la frontière l'un de ces « ateliers » industriels où se réinvente silencieusement une part cachée des cadres économiques et sociaux du capitalisme mondialisé. Confrontation qui se résume en un paradoxe, lorsque la frontière est « zone franche » infranchissable.



Letters of ISA President & Vice-President:

Mail of April 6th: «New calendar towards the IV ISA Forum»

Dear members of the ISA and participants to the IV ISA Forum,

As you have been informed recently, the Executive Committee of the ISA decided to postpone the IV ISA Forum of Sociology in Porto Alegre, Brazil, to February 23-27, 2021

We are aware that this postponement may be problematic for many of you. The size and speed of the Covid-19 outbreak gave us no other solution. We will redouble our energy and motivation to use these seven months delay to make this Forum a major and insightful meeting of the global sociological community in extraordinary times.

All the activities that have been prepared for the Forum will be maintained. This includes the regular session as much as the plenaries and the common sessions. We will however provide some flexibility to the RC that would like to adapt their program and, if they decide so, to allow their participants to update the title and abstracts of their contribution to the Forum. The abstract selected for the Forum in July 2020 remain thus valid for the Forum in February 2021.

Together with a new “early registration deadline”, we have set a new calendar that allows some flexibility to RCs that wish to update and re-open some of their panels to new participants to replace the colleagues who will not be able to join us in February and to take into account the questions and challenges raised by the Covid-19 outbreak, its social impact and the world that will come out of it.

- 15 September – 15 October 2020

The authors of abstracts selected for the ISA Forum will be invited to confirm their participation to the Forum before October 15th, 2020. They may update their abstract and title, in consultation with their session organizers or RC program coordinators.

- 15 October 2020 : Final day to confirm participation by authors of the already accepted abstracts.

The abstracts that have not been not confirmed will be automatically removed from the program

- 16 - 25 October 2020 Publication of the calls for new abstracts proposals by the RC/WG/TG
- 26 October – 12 November 2020 Submission of new abstracts proposals via online platform
- 12 November 2020 Deadline for new abstract submissions
- 24 November 2020 Authors are notified about the acceptance or rejection of their abstracts
- 15 December 2020 Presenters final registration deadline (early registration fees apply).

We are aware that postponing the Forum will require additional work for our RC program coordinators, presidents and boards, for the Local Organizing Committee and in particular for its president Hermilio Santos, and for the ISA Secretariat. We would like to thank each of them and ensure them we will be there to support them. On our side, have no doubt that we will use this delay to make this Forum an insightful space, to reinforce the existing panels and projects and to set up new ones, such as the “Sociological Movies section” for which a call will soon be published.

The CoVid outbreak is shaking our world in a way that no one expected and will have deep consequences on our world and the way we see it. The 2021 ISA Forum of Sociology will be a unique opportunity to learning from colleagues from all continents and sharing analyses of the crisis, its social impacts and the world that will emerge out of it with. We look very much forward to seeing all of you.

Sari Hanafi, President of the International Sociological Association

Geoffrey Pleyers, ISA Vice President for Research & President of the IV ISA Forum of Sociology

Mail of May 2nd: ISA webpage «Coronavirus & global sociology» - Contributions by RC/WG/TG

To the RC/WG/TG presidents,

Dear colleagues,

Our lives have been profoundly shaken by the CoVID-19 pandemic. Social scientists have shown that the COVID-19 pandemic is not only a sanitary crisis. It is also a social and political crisis, and should be treated as a moment of rupture that will bring a major change in our lives, our societies and our world.

In order to gather contributions and foster global dialogue among social scientists from all continents, the ISA has set up a webpage dedicated to “Global Sociology and the coronavirus”.

<https://www.isa-sociology.org/en/publications/isa-digital-worlds/global-sociology-and-the-coronavirus>

The aim of this ISA website is to gather critical analyses and perspectives from different standpoints and from all continents, to foster dialogue among the community of sociologists and to point to their contributions in dealing with the challenges raised by the COVID-19 pandemic and the way it paves the way for alternative futures that may come out of it.

You will find the videos of the first two webinars co-organized by the ISA, as well as two introductory texts by our ISA president Sari Hanafi and myself.

We intend to promote NAs and RC/WG/TG initiatives on the coronavirus, its impact on our societies and the world that may come out of it. If your Research Committee has organized a webinar, prepares a journal special issue or has published a series of texts, please send us the link and a short description (2 lines) to me and to Juan Lejarraga, who is in charge of this webpage at the ISA secretariat isa-secretariat@isa-sociology.org. Please note that at this stage, we won't be able to list individual texts, as they are too numerous. We will prioritize international webinars, journal special issues, series of articles, and call for papers.

Keep safe

Geoffrey Pleyers, ISA Vice-President for Research