

NEWSLETTER RC 54, The Body in the Social Sciences, June 2019



The Body in the Social Sciences

Dear RC 54 Members,

On behalf of the new RC 54 Board, I welcome you to our membership with a renewed sense of purpose and striving to make the most of our work together around the themes of the Body in the Social Sciences.

As you know, a special election of board membership transpired last November. It is a privilege for me to introduce my fellow board members to RC 54, The Body in the Social Sciences. I am pleased to introduce you to RC 54 Vice-President, Dulce Filgueira, RC 54 Treasurer/Secretary, Monica Mesquita, and Founding RC 54 President, Bianca Maria Pirani. Between now and our next board election at the 2020 ISA World Forum in Porto Alegre, Brazil, our hope is to continue the founding work of RC 54 with a focus on the body and gender, sexuality, and human rights, which we find to be of particular relevance given the times in which we now live.

Our hope in the coming calendar year is to host two conferences sponsored by the RC 54. The first in Rome, will be held on October 4 and 5 at the University of Rome, "Bodies in World Cities: Places of New Social Links". See details here under "Forthcoming Activities": <https://www.isa-sociology.org/en/research-networks/research-committees/rc54-the-body-in-the-social-sciences/>. The deadline for abstract submissions is July 15, 2019.

The second conference is being planned for late in 2019 at NOVA University of Lisbon, with the theme being "Immigration: Oceans and Channels as Metaphors".

The RC 54 board is hoping to soon appoint a newsletter editor, as well as a coordinator for the upcoming ISA World Forum in 2020 in Brazil. Please let any of the RC 54 board members know of your interest in serving in these capacities. We can be reached as follows:

Craig Cook, President: crgcook@gmail.com;

Dulce Filgueira de Almeida, Vice-President: dulce.filgueira@gmail.com;

Monica Mesquita, Treasurer/Secretary: mmbm@fct.unl.pt; and

Bianca Maria Pirani, Board Member, Founding President:

biancamaria.pirani@uniroma1.it

Our aim and best hope is to work collaboratively with each other to create a strong research committee around the body. Please promote our work to your colleagues so that we might grow our membership. Here is a link to the ISA RC 54 web page where you will find pertinent information: <https://www.isa-sociology.org/en/research-networks/research-committees/rc54-the-body-in-the-social-sciences/> We hope to see many of you at our upcoming conferences in Italy, Portugal, and Brazil. The following is an announcement from RC 54 Vice-President, Dulce Filgueira de Almeida regarding our time together in Porto Alegre at the IV ISA World Forum of Sociology:

Next year we will have the ISA 2020 Forum in Porto Alegre / Brazil, exploring the theme "Challenges of 21 Century: Democracy, Environment, Inequalities, Intersectionality". All those aspects present themselves in the 21st century as important problems to be faced by sociologists. In this Forum, Sociology once again assumes its primary mission of dealing with major social problems while, at the same time, recognizes the challenge of identifying solutions.

In the framework of RC 54 "The Body in the Social Science" we have also faced challenges from the composition of a new scientific committee to the administration / management of a working group that is divided between three continents, Asia, Europe and America, often with different time zones and contexts, but always in synchronicity of thoughts and reflections. With this in mind and with its new design, privileging democratic participation, the group that is in the head of RC 54 presents some proposals, such as ally demands of the International Association of Sociology with great international dilemmas that are shown relevant.

Thus, while we invite all the interested and researchers of the theme Body to submit papers to the ISA Forum in Porto Alegre, from July 14 to 18, 2020, we will share some guidelines of the scientific policy of RC. The first is that it will be accepted papers in the three official languages of ISA (English, Spanish and French), particularly in the open sessions of RC 54. The second decision that we consider important is that we will seek, during the discussions at the Forum ISA in Porto Alegre, recompose and expand our scientific committee. And finally we inform that we will have a local Organizing Committee for the ISA Forum in Porto Alegre. In addition to these aspects, but not least, we inform that three thematic sessions have been approved for the ISA Forum in Porto Alegre and that we will have eight open sessions, as well as our traditional RC 54 meeting, during which we will discuss our scientific policy.

Regarding the suggested themes for the open sessions, RC 54 intends to expand dialog spaces and discuss all those themes that are relevant to our studies. We encourage proposals for open sessions that address to the body and humanitarian rights, the intersexuality issues of bodies, the inter, multidisciplinary and transverse perspectives that manifest themselves with, in and through the body, as well as those concerning the body and traditional populations, such as indigenous, quilombolas, riverine, aboriginal and other societies.

Obviously, such themes are set in a complex social, political and environmental scenario in various parts of the world and also in Brazil, which will host the ISA Forum 2020. In that country, great socioeconomic and environmental tragedies add up to thousands of victims and the body is at the same time what is the most affected, while at the same time it is what marks the whole process.

Therefore, nothing more significant and resonant than discussing it in the sense of the celebrated and well-known Maussian proposition, as a Total Social Fact, involving in this scope, biological, psychological, and, in particular, sociocultural elements. If the body is, as we believe and defend in our RC 54, the material and existential basis of culture, it is the link that gives us our condition of humanity. We are all human and we promote ourselves in, with and by our body.

Welcome to RC 54!

We are waiting for you in Porto Alegre in 2020!

Bem vindas todas e todos ao RC 54!

Esperamos por vocês em 2020 em Porto Alegre!

NEWSLETTER RC 54 APRIL 2019

(Portuguese version)

No próximo ano teremos em Porto Alegre/Brasil, o Forum ISA 2020, cujo tema é “Challenges of 21 Century: Democracy, Environment, Inequalities, Intersectionality”. Todos esses aspectos se apresentam no século XXI como grandes problemas a serem enfrentados por nós sociólogos. Ao que se apresenta neste Forum sob esta temática, a Sociologia mais uma vez retoma para si sua missão precípua de tratar de grandes problemas sociais, de forma transcultural e transdisciplinar, ao tempo em que assume como desafio apontar alternativas para uma vivência equitativa e justa.

No âmbito do RC 54 “The Body in the Social Science” também temos enfrentado desafios, desde a composição de um novo comitê científico, até a administração/gestão de um grupo de trabalho que se divide entre 3 continentes, América do Norte e Ásia, Europa e América do Sul, com muitas vezes fusos horários e tempos diferentes, porém sempre em sincronicidade de pensamentos e reflexões. Com isso em mente, e com seu redesenho, privilegiando a participação democrática, o grupo que se encontra à frente do RC 54 apresenta algumas proposições, cuja finalidade é se aliar às demandas da Associação Internacional de Sociologia e dos problemas globais que se mostram como relevantes em sintomas locais.

Desse modo, ao tempo em que convidamos todas e todos interessados, pesquisadores ou não, no tema Corpo para submeterem trabalhos para o Forum ISA em Porto Alegre, de 14 a 18 de julho de 2020, compartilharemos algumas diretrizes da política científica do RC. A primeira é que serão aceitos para

apresentação trabalhos nos três idiomas oficiais da ISA (inglês, espanhol e francês), particularmente nas sessões abertas do RC 54. A segunda decisão que nos parece importante é que buscaremos, durante as discussões no Forum ISA em Porto Alegre, recompor e ampliar o nosso comitê científico com os membros do RC54; e, finalmente, informamos que teremos um Comitê Organizador Local para o Fórum ISA em Porto Alegre. Além desses aspectos, mas não menos importante, informamos que foram aprovadas 3 Sessões Temáticas para o Forum ISA em Porto Alegre e que teremos 8 Sessões Abertas, além do tradicional encontro do RC 54, momento em que discutiremos nossa política científica.

No que diz respeito às temáticas sugeridas para as sessões abertas, o RC 54 pretende ampliar espaços dialógicos e discutir todas aquelas que se apresentam como pertinentes aos nossos estudos. Deste modo, encorajamos propostas para sessões abertas que abordem desde o corpo e os direitos humanitários, as questões das intersexualidades dos corpos, as interfaces do corpo com o meio ambiente, as perspectivas inter, multidisciplinares e transversais que se manifestam com, no e pelo corpo, bem como aquelas que dizem respeito ao corpo e às populações tradicionais, como sociedades indígenas, quilombolas, ribeirinhas, aborígenes, entre outras. Todas questões que são foco de nossa atenção e preocupação atual.

Obviamente que tais temas cadentes estão dispostos em um cenário social, político e ambiental complexo em várias partes do mundo e também no Brasil, que sediará o Forum ISA 2020. Neste país, grandes tragédias socioeconômicas e ambientais se somam a milhares de vítimas e o corpo é, simultaneamente, o que é mais afetado, ao tempo que também é o que afeta em todo esse processo.

Portanto, nada mais significativo e ressonante do que discuti-lo no sentido da célebre e tão conhecida proposição Maussiana, como um Fato Social Total, envolvendo nesse escopo, os elementos biológicos, psicológicos e, notadamente, socioculturais. Se o corpo é, como acreditamos e defendemos em nosso RC 54, a base material e existencial da cultura, ele é o elo, portanto, aquilo que nos dá a nossa condição de humanidade. Somos todos humanos e nos realizamos no, com e pelo nosso corpo.

Bem vindas todas e todos ao RC 54!
Esperamos por vocês em 2020 em Porto Alegre!

In case you missed it, here is the latest call for abstracts from the ISA regarding the ISA World Forum in Porto Alegre:



IV ISA Forum of Sociology

Challenges of the 21st Century: Democracy, Environment, Inequalities,
Intersectionality
Porto Alegre, Brazil
July 14-18, 2020

We are pleased to announce that the submission of abstracts to over 1000 sessions organized by the Research Committees, Working and Thematic Groups opened on April 25, 2019.

If you are interested in presenting a paper, please submit an abstract on-line before **September 30, 2019 24:00 GMT**

<https://www.isa-sociology.org/en/conferences/forum/porto-alegre-2020>

Kind regards,
International Sociological Association
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Please pass along any comments, suggestions, or questions to me or any of the RC 54 Board Members. Feel free to forward this on to any of your interested colleagues.

Best Regards,

Craig Cook, Ph.D.
President, RC 54, The Body in the Social Sciences
International Sociological Association