



Research Committee 52 Professional Groups

Newsletter, December 2015

Letter from the President of ISA RC52

Dear members and friends of ISA Research Committee 52 'Sociology of Professional Groups',

ISA RC52 looks back at a very successful year with the Interim Conference this spring in Milan, increased support for PhD students/early career researchers and an expansion of dialogue and membership, and many more activities. We are also expecting an exciting new year with the ISA World Forum in July 2016 in Vienna as the highlight. RC52 is organizing 17 sessions comprising nearly 200 papers. The selection of abstracts is finished and a preliminary programme will be developed next spring; please visit the conference website for further information (at: <http://www.isa-sociology.org/forum-2016>).

I am delighted to announce the RC52 travel support grants for PhD Students for the Vienna Forum which were awarded to Rosanne Oonkens, Quraisha Dawood, Eleanor Johnson and Farai Maunganidze – congratulations! Further grants are available for the Forum registration fee; please see details in this Newsletter.

Let me take the opportunity to express my thanks to all colleagues who contribute in different ways to the achievements of RC52. Special thanks go to the RC52 Board members and session organizers for their support. We can do even better in future with more members, so everybody interested in ISA RC52 is very welcome; please contact RC52 Secretary/Treasurer Jens-Christian Smeby or see the subscription form at the bottom of the Newsletter.

With best wishes
Ellen

Ellen Kuhlmann
ISA RC52 President
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Carta de la Presidente del Comité RC52 de ISA

Estimados miembros y amigos de Comité de Investigación RC52 'Sociología de grupos profesionales' de ISA.

Nuestro comité ISA RC52 mira hacia atrás un año muy exitoso: con la Conferencia Interina de esta primavera en Milán, un mayor apoyo para los estudiantes de doctorado e investigadores iniciales, una expansión del diálogo y las membresías y muchas más actividades. También estamos esperando un nuevo año muy interesante con el Foro Mundial de la ISA en julio de 2016, en Viena, como punto culminante. RC52 organiza 17 sesiones que comprenden cerca de 200 ponencias. La selección de los resúmenes está terminada y un programa preliminar se desarrollará en la próxima primavera boreal / otoño austral; por favor visite el sitio web para más información (en: <http://www.isa-sociology.org/forum-2016>).

Estoy encantada de anunciar que el apoyo de viajes RC52 becas para estudiantes de doctorado para el foro de Viena fuera concedido a Rosanne Oonkens, Quraisha Dawood, Eleanor Johnson y Farai Maunganidze. Enhorabuena! Otras becas están disponibles para la matrícula del Foro; por favor ver detalles en este boletín.

Aprovecho la oportunidad para expresar mi agradecimiento a todos los colegas que contribuyen de diferentes maneras a los logros de RC52. Especial agradecimiento a los miembros de la Junta del RC52 y los organizadores de sesión por su apoyo. Podemos hacerlo incluso mejor en el futuro con más miembros, así que todo el mundo interesado en formar parte del ISA RC52 será bienvenido. Por favor, comuníquense con el Secretario/Tesorero del RC52, Jens-Christian Smeby, o consulte el formulario de suscripción en la parte inferior del boletín.

Con mis mejores deseos

Ellen

*Translated by Javier Pablo Hermo (jphermo@sociales.uba.ar)
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Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina*

Lettre de la Présidente du RC 52 de l'AIS

Chères et chers ami(e)s membres du comité de recherche n°52 sociologie des groupes professionnels de l'AIS

Le RC52 de l'AIS a eu une excellente année, avec le congrès intermédiaire du printemps à Milan, des soutiens accrus pour les doctorant(e)s et jeunes chercheurs, une augmentation des échanges et des adhérents, et bien d'autres activités. Nous attendons une année 2016 stimulante, avec le congrès mondial annuel de l'AIS en juillet à Vienne. 17 sessions du Comité de recherche comprendront près de 200 papiers. La sélection des abstracts a eu lieu, et un programme préliminaire va être présenté au printemps. Vous pouvez trouver des informations complémentaires sur le site de la conférence : <http://www.isa-sociology.org/forum-2016>

Je suis particulièrement heureuse de vous annoncer que le RC52 apportera son soutien pour le voyage à Vienne aux doctorant(e)s suivants : Rosanne Oonkens, Quraisha Dawood, Eleanor Johnson et Farai Maunganidze, que nous félicitons chaleureusement pour leur succès. D'autres aides sont disponibles pour les frais d'inscription. Vous trouverez les informations détaillées dans cette Newsletter.

Je tiens à saisir l'occasion qui m'est donnée de remercier tous les collègues qui contribuent de diverses façons aux réalisations du RC52. Merci notamment aux membres du bureau et aux organisateurs de sessions pour leur aide. Nous ferons mieux encore dans le futur, avec davantage de membres, et toutes les personnes intéressées par le RC52 de l'AIS sont bienvenues. Merci de contacter le secrétaire et trésorier du RC, Jens-Christian Smeby, ou de voir le formulaire d'inscription à la fin de la Newsletter.

Très cordialement
Ellen

*Translated by
Florent Champy
Board member of RC52*



Third ISA Forum of Sociology Vienna, Austria (July 10-14, 2016)

The Futures We Want: Global Sociology and the Struggles for a Better World

RC52 will meet at the Third ISA Forum of Sociology in Vienna, Austria, 10-14 July 2016. This Forum is designed as a mid-term meeting of Research Committees (RCs), Working Groups and Thematic Groups. The theme of the ISA Forum in Vienna is *"The Futures We Want: Global Sociology and the Struggles for a Better World"*.

RC52 abstracts selection is now finished. Researchers from all over the world will participate in this event and RC52 will allocate 17 sessions comprising nearly 200 papers. The RC52 sessions include a Board meeting; an invited session with research contributions from Southern Europe and Latin America countries; and three joint sessions hosted by RC52, with RC17 (Sociology of Organizations) and RC15 (Sociology of Health). RC52 participate also as secondary RC in other two joint sessions, with RC30 (Sociology of Work) and RC15 (Sociology of Health).

What's next? Registration must be completed **April 5, 2016** 24:00 GMT and the Final Programme will be available in the end of April.

Registration grants for the World Forum in Vienna

RC52 is pleased to receive again extra money from ISA for offering registration grants for the World Forum. Depending on the registration category of the selected grantees, there are about 3-6 grants available. Below you find the rules for registration grants allocation, copied from the ISA website. Please only apply if you meet the criteria. There is no online form to apply, please send no more than 1 page (strictly, longer applications will not be considered) which should include your full institutional application and job position, and brief information on your role in RC52 and the Forum in Vienna and your overall interest in RC52.

Please send your application for a registration grant to RC52 Programme Coordinator Helena Serra (helena.serra@fcsh.unl.pt) and carefully consider the rules below.

Rules for Registration Grants Allocation

Rules

Each Research Committee (RC), Working Group (WG) and Thematic Group (TG) is responsible for allocating registration grant(s) to person(s) selected by its Board, following the criteria established by the ISA.

Eligibility

1. Registration grants can be allocated to individual ISA members in good standing (i.e. who have paid the individual membership fee at least two years before the month of the ISA conference).
2. Applications for registration grants must be sent by the participants directly to the RC/WG/TG Program Coordinators by **January 31, 2016**.

Applications for a grant can be submitted to only one RC/WG/TG. The ISA Secretariat will advise the RC/WG/TG if someone has applied to, or has been recommended by, more than one group for the grant.

Selection process

1. Each RC/WG/TG will select candidates and allocate the funds available for that group.
2. The Program Coordinator shall decide on allocation in consultation with the RC/WG/TG President and Secretary and the results shall be published at the ISA conference website.

Note:

- 2a. A backup list of potential grant recipients in order of priority shall also be prepared to be used in case someone cancels participation or has been allocated a grant by another RC/WG/TG.
- 2b. It is recommended to avoid repetition of the same persons who have previously received grants.
- 2c. Full amounts of registration grants have to be allocated; grants are not paid in cash but a special code will be given to each participant.
3. A list of selected individuals and registration grant amounts must be sent by the Program Coordinator to the ISA Secretariat (isa@isa-sociology.org) before **March 1, 2016** for verification and posting at the ISA conference website.
4. Registration grants will be handled directly by the ISA Secretariat prior to the early registration deadline of the conference, **April 5, 2016**.

Deadline for sending your application: 31 January 2016 – no extension is possible!

The winners of the ISA RC52 PhD travel grants for the World Forum in Vienna 2016

RC52 is delighted to award conference travel grants for PhD students. The grantees were selected by a reviewer panel comprising overall six members of the RC52 Board and programme organisers. Many thanks to everybody who participated in the completion! Many thanks also to the members of the reviewer panel and to Lara Maestriperi, RC52 Board Member and Representative of PhD students/early career researchers.

Congratulations to the winners:

- *Rosanne Oonkens*: Comparing healthcare and care professionals: Performance-based Contracting, Autonomy & Intrinsic Job Satisfaction; The Netherlands
- *Quraisha Dawood*: An Emerging Profession: Investigating the Development of Mechatronics in South Africa, South Africa
- *Eleanor Johnson*: The Spatial Organisation of Work in Residential Homes for Older People, United Kingdom
- *Farai Maunganidze*: Perceptions of Engineering Professionals to New Managerialism and its Implications on Work Organisation, South Africa

We would like to encourage the grantees to announce their PhD publications and/or conference papers via the ISA RC52 blog (see more information in this Newsletter, or contact Lara Maestriperi). It is also possible to make links to full papers and publications (if no copyrighted material) available on the blog.

Rui Santiago Obituary

After a hard, but brave, battle against cancer Rui Santiago has passed away last November. Rui Santiago, a member of ISA RC52, was a highly regarded academic whose work encompassed a broad-ranging background including education, social psychology, and social and political sciences. He was a faculty member and a former dean of the Social, Political and Territorial Sciences of the University of Aveiro, Portugal. Rui was also the coordinator of the Doctoral Programme in Studies in Higher Education (joint degree of the Universities of Aveiro and of Porto) and a former co-founder and coordinator of the European Master in Higher Education (Erasmus Mundus). He was quite generous with the time devoted to others and to the growth of their abilities, especially his PhD students. Many generations of *alumni* will remember him as an enthusiastic scholar and a warm-hearted mentor with a keen interest in the personal and academic development of his students.

Rui was responsible for numerous projects aiming the comparative analysis of higher education policies. He was the Portuguese coordinator of several international research projects, among which: 'Changes in academic profession. A comparative perspective'; 'CAP (Changing Academic Profession)'; 'Transformations in higher education in a post-industrial era: a comparative study'; "Governance and management models of Portuguese polytechnic institutions in the European context' and 'Evaluation, Self-analysis and management of higher education institutions: a comparative study between Portugal and Brasil'.

Over the past 15 years, Rui's work on the professionals and professionalism also became internationally recognised, as is the case of the comparative research developed on the impact of managerialism and New Public Management on three professional groups: academics, doctors and nurses. Together with Teresa Carvalho, he co-edited, in 2015, the book 'Professionalism, Managerialism and Reform in Higher Education and the Health Services: The European Welfare State and Rise of the Knowledge Society. (Palgrave Macmillan)'.

For the brilliant academic and especially for the excellent person he was we grieve the loss of our much respected colleague.

Notices

Opening a dialogue: The professions in world perspective

ISA RC52 is furthering a dialogue about the role of professions and professionalism in different regions of the world. The activities and first results are now presented to the wider ISA readership in ISA's online Magazine 'Global Dialogue':

- Kuhlmann, E., Agartan, T., Bonnini, D., Hermo, J.P., Iarskaia-Smirnova, E., Lengauer, M., Ruggunan, S. and Singh, V.P. (2015) 'The professions in an international perspective: opening the box', *Globale Dialogue*, 5 (3), <http://isa-global-dialogue.net/professions-in-an-international-perspective-opening-the-box/>

Strengthening this dialogue is one of the goals for the next years. We are very pleased that this theme has been accepted for a presentation in the 'common session', a new plenary format at the Vienna Forum 2016.

- Professions, governance and citizenship through the global looking glass (E. Kuhlmann, with support from Agartan, T., Bonnini, D., Correia, T., Hermo, J.P., Iarskaia-Smirnova, E., Lengauer, M., Pavolinie, E., Ruggunan, S. and Singh, V.P)

Further ideas and activities supporting this dialogue and geographical variety of RC52 professions studies are very welcome! Please contact the country/regional experts on the RC52 Executive Board or send me an email.

Ellen Kuhlmann
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GLOBAL DIALOGUE

Challenging global trends and recent economic crisis has significant implications in society. The specificity of some regions and their countries, as Southern European and South America, opens new possibilities for research in the field of professions and professionalism.

Can we find any similar features between South European and South America countries, considering their mutual cultural and linguistic influence? How Southern

European and South America realities impact in or/and alter concepts and theoretical frameworks of professions, professionalism and professionalization? The impact of global transformations in this particular contexts call for a critical revision of the current theoretical approaches, including material drawn from research country cases, local perspectives and contexts.

In the Third ISA Forum of Sociology, ISA RC52 Programme will have an invited session with research contributions from Southern Europe and Latin America countries. A step forward in Global Dialogue. Please see below the invited speakers and papers.

Challenging times across Southern Europe and Latin America: policies, publics and professions policies, publics and professions:

- Restructuring Public Sector and Social Intervention – the New Ways of Welfare Management Transforming Social Professions. Europe and Latin America in a Comparative Perspective (Susana Penalva, Argentina).
- New Professions in a Global World: Knowledge Economy and Knowledge Workers (Javier Hermo, Argentina)
- Professions in Latin America: An Approach through Gender and Intersectionality, the Case of Domestic and Care Workers (Christian Azais, France)
- The Medical Profession Between New Limits and Values: Lessons from the Portuguese Case (Tiago Correia, Portugal).



African Network

Debby Bonnin, University of Pretoria, South Africa

We are wanting to begin a network of those working in the area of Professions based on the African continent or researching any aspect of the professions in Africa.

The idea is to share experiences and work with the intention of putting together a database of researchers/academics and possibly meeting (physically or virtually) before the RC52 meeting in Vienna. If you are such a researcher please do send your contact details to Debby Bonnin debby.bonnin@up.ac.za . We would particularly encourage post-graduate students researching in this area to get in touch. Please share this message widely to anyone who you think might be interested. We would like to grow our research network as widely as possible.



Developing Applied Perspectives on Professional Groups

Viola Burau, University of Aarhus, Denmark

Ellen Kuhlmann, Karolinska Institutet, Sweden

Public services are no longer limited to welfare states; they have rapidly expanded across the globe and include a range of public and private providers. Services are heavily populated by a wide range of different professional groups, including: classical professions like doctors, lawyers and university professors; public service professions like teachers, social workers and nurses; and emerging global professions like accountants, consultants and bankers. Professions are key to the delivery of public services; they translate political programmes and objectives into concrete services for citizens. In this process, they also define the substance of services and shape the organisation of services by drawing on different forms of expert knowledge. Taken together, this turns professional groups into important switchboards between macro level policies and meso level service provision.

These unique positional and substantive resources also mean that professional groups can make a potentially important contribution to processes of policy reform and organisational change in public services. As vertical boundary spanners, professional groups can adapt policies and organisational innovations to specific (local) contexts and thereby make changes in public services more sustainable. The potential contribution of professional groups is echoed by recent contributions to the literature that draw on the organisation studies of the professions perspective and which highlight the close interplay between professional and organisational projects.

In contrast, more applied studies of public services organisation and change do not fully acknowledge the potentially influential role professional groups can play. Studies tend to be more concerned with individual members of professional groups, and the relative fit between their personal characteristics and attitudes on the one hand and service changes on the other. This often goes hand in hand with a view of organisational change as a linear process of translating best practices into service innovation. The applied perspective thus fails to acknowledge the importance of professions as collective actors in the provision of services for citizens and the benefits of self-regulation and professional ethics.

Aims

To bring together a group of researchers and practitioners with an interest in developing applied perspectives on professional groups and to identify strategies for how professional groups can be used as a resource in processes of innovating public services.

Activities

If you are interested, and if you would like to be informed about and join future activities of this group, please contact Viola Burau (viola@ps.au.dk).

Forthcoming Conferences

European Group for Organizational Studies



Expert Power and Management: The Role of Management and Occupations in Shaping Organizations, Institutions and Societies

Convenors:

Andreas Werr, Stockholm School of Economics, Sweden

andreas.werr@hhs.se

Andrew Sturdy, University of Bristol, UK

andrew.sturdy@bristol.ac.uk

Claudia Gabbioneta, Newcastle University Business School, UK

claudia.gabbioneta@newcastle.ac.uk

Call for papers EGOS 2016, July 7-9 in Naples

This sub-theme, the first of the new EGOS Standing Working Group on "Management, Occupations and Professions", is concerned with power. Expert groups have long been associated with 'knowledge-based authority', but we are concerned with expert power more widely and inclusively – that which is exercised, legitimated and contested by and through expert groups, including managers. This is important not only for our understanding of power and the changing nature of occupations, but in revealing their consequences in terms of how we are governed and the misuse of power.

In particular, we will focus on how those deploying management discourses and practices and their employers (e.g. professional service firms) are exercising a key role in developing and challenging institutions such as those in business, government, education and health. We will also encourage debate on the active role of management elites and their professional projects in globalization, seeking to explore how they have contributed to the construction or undermining of global and regional economic 'orders', including the development of transnational firms and governance structures.

The following (non-exhaustive) list of questions provides indications of the focus:

- Who are the main actors, groups or firms involved in spreading management discourses and practices to new domains such as non-profit organizations, professional organizations as well as new geographical contexts (e.g. developing countries)? Does this vary with historical, sectoral or geographical context?

- What are the mechanisms through which such diffusion occurs within organizations and what roles do experts play in any processes of translation?
- What is the nature and characteristics of the management elite that drive the popularity of management discourses and practices to new domains (sectors, occupations, geographies)?
- How do management elites and their organizations (e.g. professional organizations, professional service firms) strengthen and expand their power in different domains and geographical contexts?
- What forms of resistance or challenge to the power of management discourses and practices are evident in what contexts? Who are the key agents and what competing forms of organizing and discourse are evident?
- How are expert groups portrayed and exposed through corporate scandals and wider public debates on management?
- What are the consequences of elites' use of management and management ideas, for organizations, societies and inequality?
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We encourage contributions from a variety of theoretical perspectives and disciplines concerned with power, politics, elite theory and occupations/professions and especially welcome efforts to bridge often disconnected fields of research such as on the professions, occupations and the proliferation of management ideas.

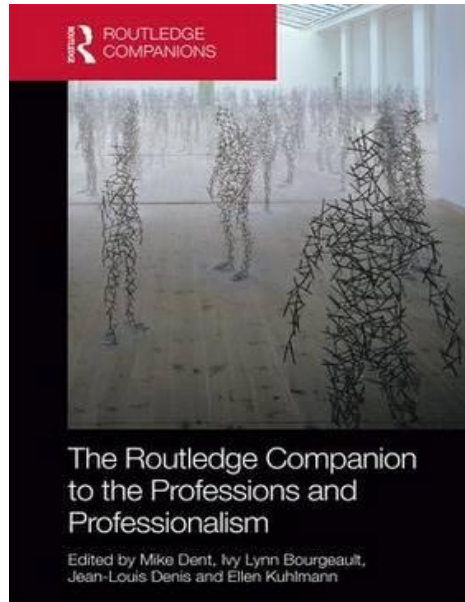
For details and submission format, please visit the EGOS website: http://egosnet.org/2016_naples/general_theme

SHORT PAPER SUBMISSION DEADLINE IS JANUARY 11, 2016, 23:59:59 CEST

Recent and Forthcoming Publications

The first comprehensive overview of contemporary debate and research in the field of professions will be available in May 2016.

Dent, M., Bourgeault, I., Denis, J.-L. and Kuhlmann, E. (eds.) (2016: forthcoming) *The Routledge companion to the professions and professionalism*, London: Routledge



Klenk, T. and Pavolini, E. (eds.) *Restructuring welfare governance: marketization, managerialism, and welfare state professionalism*, Bingley: Emerald, with several contributions from ISA RC52 members.

Kuhlmann, E., Batenburg, R. and Dussault, G. (eds.) (2015) 'Health workforce governance in Europe, Special Issue, *Health Policy*, 119 (12), 1515-1653;

<http://www.healthpolicyjrn.com/issue/S0168-8510%2815%29X0012-1>

This Special Issue comprises 17 articles related to contemporary developments in the health professions. FREE ACCESS until 29 January 2016 for the following articles:

Guest Editorial. Health workforce governance in Europe: Where are we going?

<http://authors.elsevier.com/a/1SB41cP6mnEda>

Kuhlmann E, Larsen C. Why we need multi-level health workforce governance: case studies from nursing and medicine in Germany, *Health Policy*, 2015, 119(12), 1636-1644; <http://authors.elsevier.com/a/1SB41cP6mnES~>

Saks, M. (2015) 'Inequalities, marginality and the professions', *Current Sociology Review* 63(6): 850-68.

& PROFESSIONS PROFESSIONALISM

The latest issue Vol 5, No 3 (2015) is out now:

Song-ee Ahn, Sanna Rimpiläinen, Annette Theodorsson, Tara Fenwick & Madeleine Abrandt Dahlgren: *Learning in Technology-Enhanced Medical Simulation: Locations and Knowings*

Cecilia Franzén: *Balancing Costs and Patients' Health: Dental Students' Perception of Economics in Dentistry*

Sofie Ilsvard & Marie Østergaard Møller: *General Practitioners' Discretion of Preventive Needs*

Giovanna Vicarelli & Elena Spina: *Professionalization and Professionalism: the Case of Italian Dentistry*

Katja Vähäsantanen & Anneli Eteläpelto: *Professional Agency, Identity, and Emotions While Leaving One's Work Organization*

Call for papers

The Journal invites research-based empirical, theoretical or synoptic articles focusing on traditional professions as well as other knowledge based occupational groups approached from any perspective or discipline for subsequent issues. Only original articles in English are accepted for publication. The review process of manuscripts will be done by two or more referees whose field of expertise is pertinent to the subject area.

For further information, registration with the journal, downloading and submission of articles access: www.professionsandprofessionalism.com

Jens-Christian Smeby, Editor
E-mail: Jens-Christian.Smeby@hioa.no

ISA RC52 Blog

The ISA RC52 blog researchcommittee52.wordpress.com has been available online for the past two years and provides a space where all those interested in professions can participate and put a step forward in the debate about professions.

PhD students and early career researchers are especially invited to participate, but the blog is open to everybody who is interested in the sociology of professions. It welcomes notices (max 1000 words) about professions in Europe and in the world, in which RC52 members and non-members can present their recent work in the field of sociology of professions and/or exchange of research findings. There are three main sections:

- **Conferences:** write about your national and international forthcoming conferences on professions
- **Publications:** present your recent books about relevant topics for RC52.
- **Debates:** introduce your research, discuss 'hot spots' in the area of professions and professionalism, propose a new debate, or search for research project collaborators.

Everybody interested in participating the blog, please send a brief summary of your idea (max 150 words) to Lara Maestripieri (l.maestripieri@gmail.com), member of the ISA RC52 Executive Board and Representative of PhD students and early career researchers.

researchcommittee52.wordpress.com



Membership

We strongly encourage you to rejoin RC52 and ISA when your membership is due for renewal. Do also inform your colleagues about RC52 and ask them to join RC52 so that we can increase the strength of the group. To join the ISA please visit the ISA website and register online. The regular affiliation fees for RC52 specifically are an additional USD 40 for a 4 year period:

<https://secured.com/~f3641/formisa.htm>

Individual ISA membership is open to scholars and professionals of sociological teaching, research or practice. At present there are some 4,300 members from over 150 countries.

Benefits:

- Subscription to ISA journals *Current Sociology* and *International Sociology*.
- The Directory of Members.
- Reception of isagram, an electronic newsletter containing announcements of the forthcoming conferences, calls for papers and manuscripts, prizes and competitions.
- Access to e-bulletin, ISA on-line publication.
- Access to the Sage Full-Text Collection which includes 31 journals with more than 12,500 articles.
- 35% discount on Sage Publications books.
- Special subscription rates to journals offered by various publishers.
- A reduction in registration fees at the ISA World Congress and the ISA World Forum of Sociology.

All members may participate in the meetings of the ISA and its Research Committees, and the Working and Thematic Groups upon paying an affiliation fee.

To apply for membership, submit an

- electronic membership or renewal form
- membership form in pdf format
- or write to ISA at isa@isa-sociology.org

Change of Address

If you change your email or postal address, please do not forget to contact us by email.

Updated details should be sent to the ISA secretariat, email: isa@isa-sociology.org with a copy to ISA RC52 Treasurer/Secretary Jens-Christian Smeby, email: Jens-Christian.Smeby@hioa.no.

