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#### EDITORIAL

Lindy Heinecken  
RC 01 President,  
South Africa  
Lindy@sun.ac.za

Celso Castro  
Acting Executive Secretary,  
Brazil  
Celso.Castro@fgv.br

#### PRESIDENT'S LETTER 1/2021

Dear RC01 membership

More than a year down the line, the Covid-19 pandemic continues to affect our associational life in so many ways, including the functioning of RC01. While we are globally more connected, one experiences an atrophy of the human element of active intellectual engagement, of building personal relations and meeting up with friend's atrophy. Covid-19 effectively halted this with the cancellation of the RC01 Conference in Stellenbosch, South Africa. Likewise, the pandemic is having a major impact on the planning and hosting of the ERGOMAS/RC01 Conference in Estonia in July 2021 and further down the line has resulted in the postponement of the World Congress of Sociology, Melbourne in 2022.

This event has now been postponed to June 25-July 1, 2023 in the hope that an in-person and hybrid format will be possible. Yet amidst this, it is an interesting time in terms of our domain of academic research, focused on armed forces and conflict resolution. The current Covid-19 health emergency has placed human security concerns at the forefront, but as the structural strain caused by the pandemic deepens, the direct link between the security of the individual and the security of the state becomes more apparent. There is no doubt that the 'new' post Covid world (whenever this may be), will be more dangerous than the one before, with huge implications for international security, as well as the international system.

On this point, we are particularly excited about our book project, announced in the November 2020 newsletter. We have three panel sessions planned for the RC01/ERGOMAS conference on COVID-19 Implications for defence and security and civil-military relations. To date we have contributions from 24 countries - Canada, USA, UK, France, Germany, Netherlands, Belgium, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Spain, Portugal, Italy, Finland, Poland, Latvia, Estonia, Lithuania, Slovenia, Israel, UAE, Australia, Brazil and South Africa. More than 32 authors are contributing to the book, which will showcase the work of RC01 members to a global audience. We are pleased to announce that for this project we have received a modest grant from the Mobilizing Insights in



Defence and Security (Minds), Canadian National Defence, to support the research and publication of this timely work. If there is anyone who would still like to contribute to this volume from another country, please contact myself ([Lindy@sun.ac.za](mailto:Lindy@sun.ac.za)), or Christian Leuprecht ([christian.leuprecht@rmc-cmr.ca](mailto:christian.leuprecht@rmc-cmr.ca)).

This project serves as an indication of what international collaboration is and the purpose of RC01. We are only as strong as our membership and if you have not, I urge you to renew your membership to ensure that our association stays alive, relevant and globally representative. With there being an ever-widening knowledge gap on the armed forces within broader society, we have the collective responsibility to serve as knowledge providers, the think-tank to ensure informed decision-making in our area of expertise.

Last, but no means least, I want to use this opportunity to express our appreciation towards our long-standing Secretary/Treasurer Uroš Svete who has served in this capacity since 2008. Due to him taking up a new position and additional work pressure he has stepped down from this role. In the meantime, our Vice-President Celso Castro has taken over this role, until our next elections. We will be having our next board meeting during the ERGOMAS/RC01 Conference in July.

***Lindy Heinecken***  
***President RC01***

## ISA WORLD CONGRESS OF SOCIOLOGY

In the last few months both Celso Castro and myself have attended a sequence of meetings to discuss the way forward on hosting the World Congress. On its meeting held on May 1, 2021 and after extensive debate and inputs from the RCs, the Assembly of Councils of the ISA reached the decision to postpone to XX ISA World Congress of Sociology in Melbourne Australia in July 2022 to June 25-July 1, 2023. Given the current Covid-19 restrictions on travel, cost of flights and ongoing health emergency, it was not considered viable to present the Congress in 2022. Intellectually, the majority felt that the richness of discussion and opportunities for networking would be lost if the Congress was presented fully online in 2022. The decision was overwhelming in favour of a hybrid Congress for 2023 to accommodate those who can attend in person, but to make provision for a hybrid format for those who cannot attend.

Given the postponement of the World Congress, it was also decided to extend the term and mandate of presented elected members serving on the Executive and ISA board. A decision still needs to be taken as to whether this pertains to ISA membership. Other matters discussed was the Congress registration fees, as well as the high costs of ISA Membership. This has been a matter of concern for RC01 and will now serve before the ISA Executive.

## UPCOMING ERGOMAS/RC01 CONFERENCE

**Joint ERGOMAS-RC01 Conference in Tartu, Estonia – 19-23 July 2021**  
*Hosted at the Institute of Social Studies, University of Tartu, Estonia*  
**The conference will be hybrid – with in-person and online participation!**



The theme for this conference will be *Dynamic armed forces in changing societies: Challenges for research in and on the military*. Societal changes have sped up in the last decades, partly due to the acceleration of social time, "information dependency", and mediatization of all aspects of life, including security and defence. These processes, together with a rapidly changing threat landscape, place unprecedented demands on the military. At present, we see for example, how global powers become more confrontational regarding economic, political, and social issues. At the same time, we see the rapid development in technology in terms of artificial intelligence and the use of drones, which is changing the nature of war, as well as the role and functions of armed forces and relations between states. Within states, the rise of populism, increasing authoritarianism, xenophobia and racism are giving rise to new forms of insecurities and risks, often drawing the military into internal security roles. All these aspects in turn affect civil-military relations, defence transformation and military/police relations?

To address these issues, there is the need for high quality research to contextualize the effect these societal forces are having on the role and functions of the military. Accordingly the aim of this 16<sup>th</sup> biennial ERGOMAS conference, together with RC01 in Tartu aims to bring together novel theoretical and methodological issues in the field of military studies. More detailed information about ERGOMAS and the Working Groups can be found at the ERGOMAS website: <http://www.ergomas.ch/> and at the RC01 Website <https://www.isa-sociology.org/en/research-networks/research-committees/rc01-armed-forces-and-conflict-resolution/>

**Important dates:**

Draft program: 15 May 2021

Deadline for early registration: 30 May 2021

Deadline for registration: 15 June 2021

**ISA FORUM OF SOCIOLOGY, PORTO ALEGRE, BRAZIL 14-18 JULY 2021**

The [IV ISA Forum of Sociology](#), originally scheduled to be held in Porto Alegre, Brazil, changed to a virtual event, which took place in 14-18 July with the theme Democracy, Environment, Inequalities and Intersectionality. Attendance was much lower than initially expected. However, RC01 was present in three panels:

- Sociología de los militares en América Latina
- Role & Conditions of Women in Conflict & Post-Conflict Zones
- New Professionalism in Armed and Security Forces / Nuevo profesionalismo en las Fuerzas Armadas y de seguridad, JOINT SESSION WITH RC52

All session recordings of the Forum are available online for all registered participants. Over 800 sessions including more than 3,000 papers by sociologists from 105 countries can be accessed in the Forum Online Program [here](#).

A big word of thanks to the Vice President of RC01, Celso Castro, for organising these sessions. For further information, see: <https://www.isa-sociology.org/en/conferences/forum/porto-alegre-2020>.

## INVITATION TO SUBMIT JOURNAL ARTICLES

An invitation has been received from Dr Connie Buscha, As Managing Editor of *Armed Forces & Society*, for you to submit manuscript submissions on topics at the intersection of the military and society, those which examine policy and theoretical issues that arise as “military and civilian sectors negotiate their shared role in society and on the world stage. As an international peer-reviewed journal, the journal strives to provide an inclusive platform to investigate and discuss issues relevant to all societies and militaries, conventional and unconventional. Please visit the homepage at <https://journals.sagepub.com/home/afs> for more information or contact, Dr. Connie Buscha, at [afsjournal@txstate.edu](mailto:afsjournal@txstate.edu) with any questions or concerns.

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS BY RC01 MEMBERS

### Book:

Kuehn, David and Yagil Levy. 2021. *Mobilizing Force: Linking Security Threats, Militarization, and Civilian Control* (Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner Publishers).

### Chapters:

Kuehn, David and Yagil Levy. 2021. “Theorizing Threats, Militarization and Democratic Civilian Control,” in *Mobilizing Force: Linking Security Threats, Militarization, and Civilian Control*, eds. David Kuehn and Yagil Levy (Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner Publishers), pp. 223-244.

Levy, Yagil. 2020. Military and Religion, in *Handbook of Military Sciences*, ed. Anders McD Sookermany (Berlin: Springer), [https://link.springer.com/referenceworkentry/10.1007/978-3-030-02866-4\\_32-1](https://link.springer.com/referenceworkentry/10.1007/978-3-030-02866-4_32-1).

Levy, Yagil. 2021. “Israel: Remilitarized Threats and Military Contrarianism”, in *Mobilizing Force: Linking Security Threats, Militarization, and Civilian Control*, eds. David Kuehn and Yagil Levy (Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner Publishers), pp. 17-36.

Resteigne, Delphine. Les armées et les *constabulary missions* sur le territoire national : étude du cas belge. In Muxel, A., Jankowski B., Thura M, (eds), *La Sociologie militaire. Héritages et nouvelles perspectives*, Brussels : Peter lang, pp. 361-382, 2021.

Resteigne, Delphine and Manigart, Philippe. “*The Different Soldiers: A Look at Diversity and Inclusion in Military Organizations*”. In: Heeren-Bogers J., Moelker R., Kleinreesink E., Van der Meulen J., Soeters J., Beeres R. (eds) *The Yin-Yang Military*. Springer, Cham, 2021.

### Articles:

Acosta, Laura. (2021). Victimhood dissociation and conflict resolution: evidence from the Colombian peace plebiscite. *Theory & Society*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11186-020-09423-z>

Jenne, N. (2020). Civilianizing the armed forces? Peacekeeping, a traditional mission for the military. *Defence Studies*, 20(2), 105–122. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14702436.2020.1726741>



Jenne, N., & Ulloa, F. (2021). Female Peacekeepers: UNSC Resolution 1325 and the Persistence of Gender Stereotypes in the Chilean Armed Forces. *International Peacekeeping*, 28(1), 134–159.  
<https://doi.org/10.1080/13533312.2020.1827951>

Levy, Yagil. 2020. "Who Controls the Israeli Policing Army?, *Israel Studies Review* 35 (2): 58-76.

Levy, Yagil. 2020 .What is the social responsibility of social scientists to influence national security affairs ? *Armed Forces & Society* .[.doi.org/10.1177/0095327X20917183](https://doi.org/10.1177/0095327X20917183).

Levy, Yagil. 2020. "Theorizing the Domestic Legitimacy of Using Force," *International Politics*.  
doi:10.1057/s41311-020-00210-2.

### RC 29 Newsletter

Our colleagues from RC 29 (Deviance and Social Control) sent us their latest newsletter, that may be of interest to members of RC01: <https://www.isa-sociology.org/frontend/web/uploads/files/rc29newsletter-february2021.pdf>

### CURRENT RC01 OFFICERS

#### President:

Lindy Heineken, South Africa ([lindy@sun.ac.za](mailto:lindy@sun.ac.za))

#### Executive Secretary

Celso Castro, Brazil ([celso.castro@fgv.br](mailto:celso.castro@fgv.br))

#### Vice-Presidents

Helena Carreiras (Portugal) ([helena.carreiras@iscte.pt](mailto:helena.carreiras@iscte.pt))

Celso Castro, Brazil ([celso.castro@fgv.br](mailto:celso.castro@fgv.br))

Tibor Szvircsev Tresch (Switzerland) ([Tibor.Szvircsev@vtg.admin.ch](mailto:Tibor.Szvircsev@vtg.admin.ch))

#### Board members

Eyal Ben-Ari, Israel ([eyal1953@gmail.com](mailto:eyal1953@gmail.com))

Irina Goldenberg, Canada ([irina.goldenberg@forces.gc.ca](mailto:irina.goldenberg@forces.gc.ca))

Rene Moelker, The Netherlands ([rene\\_moelker@yahoo.com](mailto:rene_moelker@yahoo.com))

Kathryn Marie Fisher, United States ([kathryn.fisher@gc.ndu.edu](mailto:kathryn.fisher@gc.ndu.edu))

Delphine Resteigne, Belgium ([delphine.resteigne@mil.be](mailto:delphine.resteigne@mil.be))

Fabiana Santa Rosa Pierre, Chile ([fabianapierre@gmail.com](mailto:fabianapierre@gmail.com))

Oleh Ivanov, Ukraine ([dr.zanuda@gmail.com](mailto:dr.zanuda@gmail.com))

We hope that you enjoyed reading this issue of RC 01's newsletter.