

Newsletter of the International Sociological Association Research Committee 15 (Sociology of Health) – January 2023

English version

Greetings from the President of International Sociological Association, RC15 Sociology of Health

Miwako Hosoda, Seisa University, Japan



Happy New Year!

How are you doing as the year 2023 begins? This year is the Year of the Rabbit in Japan. The image of the leaping rabbit is said to symbolize "leaping forward" and "improvement".

The COVID-19 pandemic that began in February 2020 is not quite over worldwide, but social activities are resuming in various parts of the world in new forms appropriate to the situation. As such, the disparity between those who can cope with the changes and those who have difficulty in doing so is becoming more apparent, and social problems are increasing.

The global situation is becoming more militaristic in many areas, and peace is being threatened. Last year (2022), the number of refugees and internally displaced persons exceeded 100 million for the first time. More than 1% of the world's population is dislocated from their homes due to conflict, persecution, and living in harsh conditions that threaten their lives as well as human rights.

While this is the case, the 20th ISA World Congress of Sociology will be held in Melbourne, Australia, from 25 June to 1 July 2023. As of now, it will be conducted in a hybrid format with both face-to-face and online sessions. The theme of the Congress is "Resurgent Authoritarianism: The Sociology of New Entanglements of Religions, Politics, and Economies and Sociology." In today's society, which is in a state of confusion, there is a need for a sociology that can face social problems, analyze them, and give ideas on how to resolve them. In this sense, I believe this conference will be of great significance, and I would like to take this opportunity to express my deepest gratitude to Mike, Nelson, and Farah of the RC15 conference organizing committee.

I sincerely hope that this year, the Year of the Rabbit, will be a breakthrough in overcoming the global pandemic and the unstable international situations, leading to the well-being of people and peace in society.

Best wishes

Miwako Hosoda

Japanese version

世界社会学会 RC15 健康社会学 会長からのご挨拶

細田満和子（日本、星槎大学）

新年おめでとうございます。

2023 年が始まりましたが、いかがお過ごしでしょうか。今年は、日本では兎年にあたります。跳ねるうさぎのイメージから、「飛躍」や「向上」を象徴していると言われてい

ます。2020 年 2 月からの世界的な COVID-19 パンデミックは、なかなか終息していかない状況ですが、その中でも、社会的活動は形を変えながら各地で再開されつつあります。それに伴い、変化に対応できる層と、なかなかそれが難しい層との格差も顕在化し、社会的問題はさらに深まってきています。

世界情勢も各地で軍事的な色彩が濃くなり、平和が脅かされている状況が続いています。昨年（2022 年）には、難民・国内避難民の数は初めて 1 億人を超えました。世界人口の 1%以上の方々が、紛争や迫害で家を追われ、生命や人権を脅かされる過酷な状況の中で生活しています。

このような状況の中ですが、第 20 回 ISA World Congress of Sociology は、2023 年 6 月 25 日から 7 月 1 日にかけて、オーストラリアのメルボルンで開催されます。今のところ対面とオンラインとのハイブリッド形式で行う予定です。大会のテーマは、「復活する権威主義：宗教・政治・経済と社会学との新たな関係」です。文字通り混迷している現代社会において、社会問題に向き合い、それを分析して解消の方向を見出すヒントを与えられるような社会学が求められていると思います。その意味で、この会議の意味はとても大きなものとなると思います。RC15 の大会組織委員会のマイク、ネルソン、ファラには、この場を借りて深く感謝の意を伝えたいと思います。

兎年である今年は、世界的なパンデミックと不安定な国際状況を乗り越えて、人々の幸福と社会の平和につながるような、飛躍的な展開がある事を切に願います。

細田 満和子

Italian version

Saluti dal Presidente dell'International Sociological Association, RC15 Sociology of Health

Miwako Hosoda, Università di Seisa, Giappone

Buon Anno!

Come è cominciato il vostro inizio di 2023? Questo è l'Anno del Coniglio in Giappone. Si dice che l'immagine del coniglio che salta simboleggi il "salto in avanti" e il "miglioramento".

La pandemia di COVID-19 cominciata nel febbraio 2020 non è del tutto finita nel mondo, ma le attività sociali stanno riprendendo in varie parti del globo in nuove forme adeguate alla situazione. Pertanto, la disparità tra coloro che possono far fronte ai cambiamenti e coloro che hanno difficoltà a farlo sta diventando più evidente e i problemi sociali sono in aumento.

La situazione globale sta diventando più militarizzata in molte aree e la pace è minacciata. Lo scorso anno (2022), il numero di rifugiati e sfollati interni ha superato per la prima volta i 100 milioni. Più dell'1% della popolazione mondiale è stata allontanata dalle proprie case a causa di conflitti, persecuzioni e condizioni di vita difficili che minacciano le loro vite e i diritti umani.

Mentre questo è il caso, il XX Congresso Mondiale di Sociologia dell'ISA si terrà a Melbourne, Australia, dal 25 giugno al 1 luglio 2023. Per il momento, sarà condotto in un formato ibrido, con sessioni sia in presenza che *online*.

Il tema del Congresso è "L'autoritarismo risorgente: la sociologia dei nuovi intrecci di religioni, politica, economie e sociologia". Nella società odierna, che è in uno stato di confusione, c'è bisogno di una sociologia che affronti i problemi sociali, li analizzi, e offra idee su come risolverli.

In questo senso, credo che questa conferenza sarà di grande significato, e mi piacerebbe cogliere questa opportunità per esprimere la mia più profonda gratitudine a Mike, Nelson, e Farah del comitato organizzativo della conferenza del RC15.

Spero sinceramente che questo anno, l'Anno del Coniglio, possa costituire una svolta nel superare la pandemia globale e le instabili situazioni internazionali, portando al benessere delle persone e alla pace nella società.

I Migliori Auguri,

Miwako Hosoda

Portuguese version

Saudações da Presidente da Associação Internacional de Sociologia, RC15 Sociologia da Saúde

Miwako Hosoda, Universidade de Seisa, Japão

Feliz Ano Novo!

Como você está no início do ano de 2023? Este ano é o Ano do Coelho no Japão. Diz-se que a imagem do coelho saltitante simboliza "salto para a frente" e "melhoria".

A pandemia de COVID-19 iniciada em fevereiro de 2020 ainda não acabou em todo o mundo, mas as atividades sociais estão sendo retomadas em várias partes do mundo em novas formas adequadas à situação. Assim, a disparidade entre os que conseguem lidar com as mudanças e os que têm dificuldade em fazê-lo torna-se mais evidente e os problemas sociais aumentam.

A situação global está se tornando mais militarizada em muitas áreas, e a paz está sendo ameaçada. No ano passado (2022), o número de refugiados e deslocados internos ultrapassou 100 milhões pela primeira vez. Mais de 1% da população mundial foi deslocada de suas casas devido a conflitos, perseguições e vivendo em condições adversas que ameaçam suas vidas e os direitos humanos.

Embora seja esse o caso, o 20º Congresso Mundial de Sociologia da ISA será realizado em Melbourne, Austrália, de 25 de junho a 1º de julho de 2023. A partir de agora, será conduzido em um formato híbrido com encontros presenciais e sessões on-line. O tema do Congresso é "Autoritarismo Ressurgente: A Sociologia dos Novos Emaranhados de Religiões, Políticas e Economias". Na sociedade atual, que vive um estado de confusão, é necessária uma sociologia que possa enfrentar os problemas sociais, analisá-los e dar ideias sobre como resolvê-los. Nesse sentido, acredito que esta conferência será de grande importância e gostaria de aproveitar esta oportunidade para expressar minha profunda gratidão a Mike, Nelson e Farah do comitê organizadores do RC15.

Espero sinceramente que este ano, o Ano do Coelho, seja um avanço na superação da pandemia global e das situações internacionais instáveis, levando ao bem-estar das pessoas e à paz na sociedade.

Muitas felicidades,

Miwako Hosoda

Note of thanks for translations

Many thanks are again due for the translations in this edition of the Newsletter to Miwako Hosoda, Guido Giarelli and Nelson Barros.

XX ISA WORLD CONGRESS OF SOCIOLOGY, MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA 25 JUNE - 1 JULY 2023 Resurgent Authoritarianism: The Sociology of New Entanglements of Religions, Politics, and Economies



The next ISA World Congress will take place on 25 June-1 July 2023

Overview

In terms of the overarching theme, the global rise of authoritarianism, as well as populism, xenophobia, and racism, makes our task as sociologists more crucial than ever. This dilemma is assisted by the gradual symbolic thickening of public culture through combinations of extreme nationalist and religious fervour underpin the Congress.

What is the best way to analyse global resurgent authoritarianism? In addition to dealing with the scars of the colonial era, a postcolonial approach should be supplemented with another approach; we need to find ways to diagnose and resist this resurgence. This approach should take into account how authoritarianism affects not only our societies, but also our knowledge production. The self-centred and unspoken have become more important than the told and argued. We are concerned not only with the hard authoritarianism that heralds the brutalization of society and politics, but also the soft authoritarianism that often thrives in the shadow of neoliberalism, as the state moves deftly in the open or in secret to devise modes of governance that shore up its power against popular discontent.

A special interest of our Congress is how to disaggregate the Western, but also sociological, assumption of secularism as inherent in modern society and at the same time analytically dissociate the state from religion. While this separation is still a crucial pathway toward democracy and citizenship, the process needs to be problematized. We particularly look forward to discussing the promising avenues of inquiry within sociology and related disciplines about what have been termed 'post-secular societies' and 'multiple secularities'.

Thus the Congress will focus on how sociologists worldwide can (and do) contribute to the understanding of the resurgent authoritarianism and analyse the new entanglements of religions, politics, and economies. It will also focus on how sociologists engage (physically and critically) in the formidable social movements we are witnessing today in different parts of the world and in a renascent civil society.

RC15 Sessions for ISA World Congress

As reported in the last Newsletter, the following RC15 sessions (alongside the RC15 Business Meeting) have been agreed by the Program Coordinators Mike Saks (m.saks@uos.ac.uk), Nelson Barros (nelfel@uol.com.br) and Farah Purwaningrum (fara.arum@gmail.com), together with the five joint sessions with other RCs:

- COVID-19 Pandemic and Global Health Workforce Policies and Governance: Challenges and Issues at the Forefront (with RC52)
- Community Influences on Lifestyles and Health (with RC03)
- Cross-country Comparative Sociological Analyses of Covid-19 patient experiences: Insights from the DIPEX International Collaboration
- Digital Health Futures
- Enhancing the Dialogue between Science and Society: The Challenges of e-Health Care
- Inequalities in Health, Mental Health, and Discrimination
- Inequality in Health Care – Empirical Studies about Health Care Professions
- Knowledge Co-Production, Communities, Social Justice and Human Rights (with RC09)
- Language on Health under COVID-19 Pandemic (with RC25)
- National Health Systems and the State: The Experience of Practitioners and Patients
- Patients Participation and Transformation of Society
- Pharmaceuticalization of Society: Current Debates and Empirical Contributions
- Reproduction in the Current World: Focusing on Prenatal Testing and Abortion
- Social Dimensions of Public Health Activism: Global, National and Local Perspectives
- Sociology of Vaccines
- The Climate Crisis and Young People's Health and Well-Being (with RC34)
- The Entanglements of Religions, Health, and Political Economy in Africa
- The Impact of Covid-19 Pandemic on the Social Construction of Health and Illness for and By Persons with Disabilities: Call for a Sociological Reflexivity
- The Response of Health Professions to Complementary and Alternative Medicine
- Where Next for Sociological Alcohol Research?

Abstract submission

The process of abstract submission ended via the Confex platform on 30 September 2022 and participants were informed by the ISA of the outcome of their abstract submission early in December 2022. Very pleasingly, over 250 abstracts were submitted to RC15 sessions and 225 were accepted in total.

Hybridization at the ISA World Congress

As you are probably aware, the World Congress of Sociology 2023 will be in a hybrid form, however it is important to note that:

- Oral sessions may in some cases be a mix of in-person and virtual presenters, based on the presenters' preference
- Roundtable Sessions (concurrent running roundtable presentations in one room) will have in-person format only
- The ISA is very keen that as many participants as possible attend the conference in person and has set bounding rules about the extent of hybridization.

Registration grants for ISA members

Funds allocated to each Research Committee for registration grants have been increased. How to apply: An e-mail requesting a registration grant must be sent by the participants directly to the RC15 Program Coordinators by **31 January 2023**. Applications for a grant cannot be submitted to more than one RC/WG/TG. All ISA members in good standing, who are active participants in the program, are eligible to apply for a registration grant with relevant evidence of ISA and RC15 membership and abstract acceptance for Melbourne. Only abstracts accepted for oral presentations are eligible for this grant – unfortunately distributed papers are not eligible.

The RC15 Programme Coordinators by **31 January 2023** will also be considering applications for awarding registration grants to early career researchers – funding has been received for up to 3 students from category A countries or up to 5 students from category B and C countries. Applicants must be under 40 years of age. For early career researchers, please send the following to the RC15 Program Coordinators with your application:

- Proof of age (copy of passport or driver's license)
- Proof of ISA and RC15 membership
- The ISA Melbourne conference abstract acceptance email.

Payment of registration fees

All program participants (paper givers, session organizers, chairs, and discussants, etc) must pay the registration fee before **22 March 2023**. For further information about the Congress and its timescales, please see the ISA website.

CONFERENCES

THE ASIA PACIFIC SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE 2022



The Asia Pacific Sociological Association (ASPA) Conference was held in collaboration with Chulalongkorn University in Thailand on a two-day simultaneous conference hybrid mode – both online and onsite – on 28-29 October 2022 on the theme of 'Reimagining Development Futures in the Age of the Anthropocene and the Climate Crisis' in the Jumpot-Pantip Conference Room, Prajadhipok Building and Social Innovation Hub.

As Professor Emma Porio, President of APSA, describes, at the proceedings, keynote speakers delivered their speeches – namely, Dr. Armida Salsia Alisjahbana, Executive Secretary of the United Nations for Asia and the Pacific, Dr. Cynthai Maung, Founder of the Mae Tao Clinic and a Magsaysay Awardee for Community Leadership, Honorable Ma. Antonia Yulo Loyzaga, Secretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources in the Philippines, and Dr. Bhichit Rattakul, a former BMA Governor and Secretary General of the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center.

The conference had two days of plenary sessions. The first session focused on “Uneven Development, inequality, Climate Vulnerability, and Poverty – Current and Future Trajectories”, and “Voices of Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups: Key Messages and Statements from the 17-18 October Voice Forum”. On the second day, the BMA and Asia Pacific Climate Crisis, regional collaboration agenda and directions, and “Setting the Scene – Connecting Professor Mushakoji Kinhide's Legacy: Developing Futures, Climate Crisis, and Ecological Peace in the Anthropocene” were also discussed. Parallel sessions of accepted papers were also held alongside the plenary at the conference. The conference was successfully attended by scholars, educators and government officials.

BOOK SERIES

SOCIOLOGY OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS: FUTURE INTERNATIONAL DIRECTIONS

This series co-edited by Mike Saks and Mike Dent centres on the production of high quality, original work in the sociology of health professions with an innovative focus on the future directions of such professions. It covers a wide range of health professional areas, and interrelated health fields such as social care, medicine, nursing and allied health.

It is oriented towards final year/postgraduate students, academic lecturers and researchers, practitioners and policy makers. Its general aims are:

- To inform/stimulate debate about the sociology of health professions
- To influence policy development and practice in the fields concerned
- To make a significant contribution to thinking in the sociology of health
- To produce original national/international work of recognised high quality.

Proposals for future books in the series are both welcomed and invited. These should be submitted in the first instance to the series co-editors Mike Saks (m.saks@uos.ac.uk) and Mike Dent (Mike.Dent@staffs.ac.uk). Please feel free to contact them initially to explore ideas and discuss the format of any submissions.

Currently published books in the series include:

- J. M. Chamberlain, M. Dent and M. Saks (eds) (2018) *Professional Health Regulation in the Public Interest: International Perspectives*.
- M. Saks (ed) (2020) *Support Workers and the Health Professions in International Perspective: The Invisible Providers of Health Care*.
- S. Nancarrow and A. Borthwick (2021) *The Allied Health Professions: A Sociological Perspective*.
- J-L. Denis, S. Germain, C. Régis and G. Veronesi (2022) *Medical Doctors in Health Reform: A Comparative Study of England and Canada*.

NEW BOOKS: CURRENT AND PROSPECTIVE

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICES OF WESTERN EUROPE: CHALLENGES, REFORMS AND FUTURE PERSPECTIVES

Guido Giarelli and Mike Saks have just submitted the manuscript for their co-edited book to Routledge on the ***National Health Services of Western Europe: Challenges, Reforms and Future Perspectives***. Please look out for this book in the summer of 2023 when it should be published. This edited book, with a range of top-drawer expert international contributors, provides an analysis of the evolution of the national health services (NHSs) of Western Europe. Centred on a neo-Weberian and neo-institutionalist perspective, it defines and illustrates their changing features by drawing on such systems in selected countries from the British, Scandinavian and Mediterranean macro-regions. These are analysed historically and contemporaneously in face of the various challenges they have faced – from cost containment to governance – in the first part of the book. The second part of the book compares the NHSs concerned by focusing on the changing role of the four main actors involved in their evolution and sustainability – the state, the medical profession, patients and the public, and the medical industrial complex. Following a summary of the key overarching themes in the Conclusion, proposals are made about the future direction and sustainability of the NHSs of Western Europe. As such, the book makes a novel contribution to the literature, at a time when health services globally have been under great pressure in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic. It should appeal to a wide range of academics and higher-level students, as well as health professionals and policy makers alike.

RESPONSIBLE LEADERSHIP: ESSENTIAL TO THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Meanwhile **Mike Saks** has just published his new edited book with Routledge in partnership with the United Nations on ***Responsible Leadership: Essential to the Achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals***. This book was launched at the UN headquarters at Le Palais des Nations in Geneva last month and is available in paperback, hardback and e-book format. It also includes a chapter by our RC15 President, Miwako Hosoda, on global health – as well as a number of other health-related contributions.

If anyone is interested in coming to the London launch at The Pavillion, University of Westminster, 115 New Cavendish Street, London W1W 6UW at 5pm on Friday 20 January 2023, please contact me first by return (m.saks@uos.ac.uk) to register and enable catering details to be updated as necessary – and I shall be happy to provide further details. For more information about the *Responsible Leadership* book please see the flyer overleaf and the following website: <https://www.routledge.com/Responsible-Leadership-Essential-to-the-Achievement-of-the-UN-Sustainable/Saks/p/book/9780367653781>



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THE MYTH OF THE WRONG BODY



The most popular narrative in this Polity Press book about transsexuality suggests that some people are born in the wrong body – that their bodies do not correspond to their inner experience and that their bodies should therefore be transformed. But in the view of the sociologist and trans activist **Miquel Missé** in **The Myth of the Wrong Body**, this narrative is a harmful myth. It is rooted in a medical paradigm that typically leads to medical intervention – to the use of hormones and surgical operations. By proposing a particular solution (modifying one's body), doctors and psychiatrists make it difficult for trans people to overcome malaise about their body in other ways and prevent them from recognizing the burden of social norms. Drawing on his own personal experience, Missé makes the case for a different way of thinking about trans embodiment which focuses on gender identity. The trajectory that leads people to become trans is shaped by the rigidity of gender norms, where the only two models available to individuals are the masculine man and the feminine woman. But these are not the only possible choices, and by critically interrogating the rigidity of gender norms, Missé opens up a different way of thinking about being trans, beyond the essentialism of the medical paradigm.

CALL FOR PAPERS

SPECIAL ISSUE ON HEALTH WORKFORCE CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS

Calls for submissions are being made for a Special Issue entitled “Health Workforce Challenges and Solutions: A Focus on Population Needs” for the *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*.

This follows a successful Special Issue on the future health workforce and is the next part of the health workforce collection in the journal. The link to the special issue is as follows: https://www.mdpi.com/journal/ijerph/special_issues/Future_Health_Workforce_2

The following are the key issues to be addressed in the Special Issue:

- Health workforce planning and policy solutions to address population needs;
- How we sensitize the health profession to the growing needs of the public;
- Trade-offs between technology and health workforce;
- Population-centric health workforce solutions that also focus on patient safety and quality of care;
- Regulatory frameworks and scope of practice;
- New methodologies and solutions in health workforce planning;
- Application of health workforce design solutions to education systems.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch with guest editors of the Special Issue Farah Purwaningrum (fara.arum@gmail.com), Madhan Balasubramanian (madhan.balasubramanian@flinders.edu.au) or Peivand Bastanni (p.bastani@uq.edu.au) for any queries or interesting article ideas or content. Submissions from early career researchers in the global south would be appreciated. The deadline for manuscript submissions is 31 January 2023.

JOURNAL SUBMISSIONS

JOURNAL OF PROFESSIONS AND ORGANIZATION

Mike Saks is pleased to announce that, in addition to his other journal roles, he has just become Associate Editor of the now well-established *Journal of Professions and Organization* (Oxford University Press) with an impact factor of 4.9. Submissions of articles on health and other professions to the journal are warmly welcomed. Please contact Mike Saks (m.saks@uos.ac.uk) if you would like to discuss potential submissions.

NEW JOURNAL PAPERS

Please note the following new papers of interest to members of RC15 published last year:

Adams, T. (2022) ‘Drivers of regulatory reform in Canadian health professions: Institutional isomorphism in a shifting social context’, *Journal of Professions and Organization* 9(3). Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1093/jpo/joac018>

Brydges, M., Dunn, J., Agarwal, G. and Tavares, W. (2022) 'At odds: How intraprofessional conflict and stratification has stalled the Ontario paramedic professionalization project', *Journal of Professions and Organization* 9(3). Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1093/jpo/joac016>

Calnan, M., Zinn, J. O, and Douglass, T. (2022) 'Editorial: The sociology of vaccines', *F1000Research*, August. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.12688/f1000research.124587.1>

Mharapara, T., Clemons, J., Greenslade-Yeats, J., Ewertowska, T., Staniland, N. and Ravenswood, K. (2022) 'Toward a contextualized understanding of wellbeing in the midwifery profession: An integrative review', *Journal of Professions and Organization* 9(3). Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1093/jpo/joac017>

Zagrodney, K., Deber, R., Saks, M. and Laporte, A. (2022) 'The disadvantaged home care personal support worker: Differences in job characteristics, unionization, pensions, participation, and wages by care sector in Canada', *Journal of Applied Gerontology*. Online First. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1177/07334648221146260>

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ITEMS FOR NEXT ISSUE

If you have any items relevant to RC15 – from conference reports/announcements to publications – for inclusion in the next Newsletter, please send them by **1 July 2023** at the latest to Mike Saks. Email: m.saks@uos.ac.uk

MEMBERSHIP

The membership dues for RC15 are 60 USD (20 USD reduction) for four-years of membership. The ISA membership registration form is available at: <https://www.isa-sociology.org/en/login>

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