

RC 20 Newsletter, August-December 2023

Dear RC20 Members,

This is my first letter to you and I want to thank you for the opportunity and the mandate you have given me. It is a great honour and a big responsibility to be elected as President of the ISA RC 20 Committee on Comparative Sociology for the next four years. I will work very hard, together with the Board, to advance research and interchange between scholars in our field. I thank David Weakliem and Fumiya Onaka for their help in the transition.

We had our first new Board meeting on November 9th agreed on a common strategy and goals to achieve:

- 1) Growing expansion of RC20 in all parts of the world, increasing membership so that we become a larger and stronger research committee.
- 2) Continue building and improving existing relations and liaison with other RCs at ISA and other organizations, as well as reaching out to new ones. We must strengthen cooperation and exchange with other research committees, international NGOs and universities and contribute to international comparative projects.
- 4) Strengthen communications with our members and with the world. We envision a constantly updated and growing social media presence and newsletters to improve communication with our members and the outside community.
- 5) We will continue with the awards of RC20 for substantial contributions to comparative sociology and encourage participation in conferences, organizing panels and joint projects with other RCs and publishing of articles in the journal Comparative Sociology.
- 6) We plan to organize several webinars on themes of special interest to our members. We plan the first one on March/April 2024 on the topic: Public opinion and democracy. Details and invitations will be sent early next year.

We have a challenging time coming, but working with this very strong Board, and collaborating members, I am sure we can meet our goals and move RC20 to greater heights.

If you have any material for future newsletters, suggestions about the activities of the research committee, or information you would like distributed to the members, please contact me (marita@maritacarbollo.com.ar). Also, if you have a paper dealing with comparative sociology, remember to consider *Comparative Sociology*, of which our Vice-President David Weakliem is the editor; contact him at (david.weakliem@uconn.edu).

In the rest of this newsletter you will find some more information on the 2023 World Congress of Sociology, the next World Forum of Sociology, and some recent publications of our members.

Sincerely,

Marita Carballo

V ISA Forum of Sociology will be held in Rabat, Morocco from July 7-11, 2025

Some recent Publications by RC 20 Members

Khutkyy, Dmytro, and Eduardo Astudillo Laureda. 2023. "Internet Voting for Policy Proposals: Amplifying Open Government in Chile and Colombia." *JeDEM - EJournal of EDemocracy and Open Government* 15(1): 48–72. Retrieved September 15, 2023. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.29379/jedem.v15i1.791>.

Khutkyy, Dmytro, Matveieva, Olga, and Diana Mirza-Grisco. 2023. "Voting in online surveys on open government policies in Moldova and Ukraine." *Internet Policy Review* 12(2). Retrieved June 21, 2023. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.14763/2023.2.1712>.

Khutkyy, Dmytro. 2023. "Citizen Engagement and Open Government Co-creation: The Cases of Brazil and the Dominican Republic." Pp. 199–204. In *Proceedings of the 24th Annual International Conference on Digital Government Research (DGO '23)*. Edited by D. Duenas Cid, N. Sabatini, L. Hagen, H-C. Liao. New York, NY, USA: Association for Computing Machinery. Retrieved July 11, 2023. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1145/3598469.3598491>. URI: <https://hdl.handle.net/10062/91396>.

Capistrano, D., Creighton, M.J. & Işıklı, E. I Guess We are from Very Different Backgrounds: Attitudes Towards Social Justice and Intergenerational Educational Mobility in European Societies. *Soc Indic Res* (2023). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11205-023-03249-9>

Onaka, Fumiya. 2023. "Process-oriented Social Research: An Introduction." *Comparative Sociology* 22(5):635-638. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1163/15691330-12341554>

Nattawat Auraiampai, Dusadee Ayuwat, Aree Jampaklay, and Fumiya Onaka. 2023. "Entrepreneurial Processes of Thai Female Returning Migrants". *Comparative Sociology* 22(5):717-739. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1163/15691330-12341559>

Masoero Héctor, Carballo Marita and others. "¿Cuándo aprenderemos? Propuestas para el futuro de la educación en América Latina".

https://play.google.com/store/books/details/H%C3%A9ctor_Masoero_Cu%C3%A1ndo_aprenderemos?id=HvfbEAAAQBAJ&pli=1

Weakliem, David. 2023. "Elite and Popular Opinion on Illegal Immigration, 1994-2018." Center for Growth and Opportunity Working Paper.

Weakliem, David. 2023. "The Economy, Social Status, and Solidarity." Pp. 233-46 in *The Routledge International Handbook of Economic Sociology*, edited by Milan Zafirovski. London: Routledge.

Other activities: The World Congress of Sociology was held in Melbourne, Australia, from 25 June-1 July 2023. RC 20 held 11 sessions, plus three joint sessions. Thanks to Kseniya Kizilova and Nate Breznau for organizing the sessions. A brief report on one of the sessions "Securitizing the State? the Challenges of Illiberal Democracies and Authoritarian Benevolence" (joint with RC 18, 9, 19, 56, and TG03) is given below. The program and recordings of the sessions can be found online at:

<https://isaconf.confex.com/isaconf/wc2023/>

The session on "Securitizing the State? The Challenges of Illiberal Democracies and Authoritarian Benevolence Committees" at the 2023 XX ISA World Congress of Sociology in Melbourne, Australia was organized by Abu Bakarr Bah, Presidential Research Professor of Sociology at Northern Illinois University and Cyril Obi, Director of the African Peacebuilding Network at the Social Science Research Council in New York. The session was chaired by Temitope Oriola at the University of Alberta. Papers were presented in-person by Abu Bakarr Bah, Piotr Kulas at Uniwersytet Warszawski, and Pedro Camargos at Universidade de São Paulo. The papers examined core challenges to liberal democracy. Bah presented on "USA Ethnic Politics, Illiberal Democracy and Power: The Cases of Sierra Leone and Guinea." Kulas presented on "Poland Authoritarian State or Authoritarian Society? Right-Wing Struggle for Recognition in Poland." Camargos' presentation was on the "'War on Organized Crime' in Brazil Under Temer and Bolsonaro: Neoliberalism, Social Accumulation of Violence and Militarization of Security." There were lively discussions around issues of democratic challenges and decline in Africa, Europe, and Latin America.