SOCIOPEDIA.ISA

“LIVING SOCIAL SCIENCE”

Sociopedia.ISA is a new concept of knowledge dissemination. It combines the best of two worlds: the opportunities the Internet offers and the scientific quality guaranteed by solid and imaginative editing. While experienced editors make sure that the highest possible quality is offered, the Internet makes it possible to always provide the most recent state of the art. Sociopedia reflects and offers ‘a living social science.’

1. 
Sociopedia.ISA is an online database with entries that are ‘state-of-the-art’ reviews areas in the social sciences. Sociopedia guarantees the users that the entries are the most recent state of the art indeed. Entries are updated on a regular base; moreover each entry has a discussion section annexed to it.

Sociopedia.ISA is an ISA presidential project developed by three founders, Izabela Barlinska, Bert Klandermans and Michel Wieviorka (President).

Sociopedia.ISA is a joint venture of the International Sociological Association and Sage.

The founders are the first editors of Sociopedia.ISA. The editors appoint associate editors and an editorial board consisting of senior and junior experts in the field. The editorial board solicits papers and decides on their acceptance. The editors appoint too a scientific board consisting of renowned social scientists that advise and support them.

Entries are included upon an editorial decision based on peer reviews. They can be submitted by the author or commissioned by the editors. The editors make sure that updates are prepared on a regular base. If an author is not able to provide updates a new author may be solicited.

Each entry has a discussion section. This section is open to the readership. The editors and associate editors decide whether a contribution will be included. They may also invite discussants. Based on the discussion they may ask the author to write an update. They may ask some of the discussants to draft a separate paper.

2. 
A typical Sociopedia-article is of approx. 7.000 words, but as far as the length of articles is concerned, Sociopedia.ISA is quite flexible. It will include: 1. a description of what the article is about; 2. theoretical approaches; 3. review of empirical evidence accumulated, so far; 4. assessment of where we stand and where we are heading; 5. future direction theorizing and research should/might take; 6. annotated references and suggested reading; 7. references; 8. approx. ten key-words.
Articles will be in English. Each article will have a Spanish and French abstract. If authors make a Spanish or French version of the article available, the translation will be posted as well.

3. The ISA will employ its infrastructure of research committees/working groups/thematic groups to commission articles. In principle each research committee or ISA group could suggest one or more entries to be included and members who could write an article.

The ISA office will be responsible for the logistics of commissioning, reviewing, and processing and updating of articles. In 2008 ISA aims at commissioning 50 articles/350.000 words.

4. Sage will host Sociopedia.ISA. It is responsible for the creation and maintenance of Sociopedia on the Internet.

It will make Sociopedia.ISA free accessible to ISA-members, but password protected. Non-members will have access to abstracts but must pay per view (PPV).

Sociopedia.ISA will be a portal to other Sage journals as long as it concerns ‘state of the art’ articles that meet the editors’ criteria.

Sage will ‘advertise and sell’ Sociopedia.ISA. It will eventually build Sociopedia.ISA into the subscription packages and rate to libraries for ISA-publications.

5. ISA holds the copyrights of all contributions.

6. Editorial structure

Founding Editors:
Izabela Barlinska, Bert Klandermans, Michel Wieviorka

Associate editors:
Elisa Reis, Arturo Rodriguez Morato, Devorah Kalekin

Editorial Board:
To be solicited

Scientific Board:
To be solicited

March 2008