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RC 25 Newsletter

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Newsletter Editor 2018-2022
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Letter from the President

Dear RC25 members,

The call for abstracts for the Fourth Forum of Sociology to be held in Porto Alegre, Brazil (14-18 July, 2020) is now open, until the 30th September 2019. Please note that all submissions for this conference have to be made online through ISA confex system (https://isaconf.confex.com/isaconf/forum2020/cfp.cgi). No exception is possible. On behalf of the co-coordinators of RC25 program, I would like to thanks all the members who offered very stimulating session proposals. I am also happy to underline that our partnerships with other RCs continue: joint sessions with RC05, RC30, RC31, RC32, and RC43 belong to the program. When reading it below, you may notice that RC25 will offer 18 sessions instead of the initially announced 16 sessions. ISA granted indeed more sessions to fit a balance among all RC between the membership and the slots available. However, no more sessions will be added later toward the one which need to be doubled following numerous and excellent submissions. I am thankful to the co-coordinators of the program, Keiji Fujiyoshi, Nadya Georgieva-Stankova, and Amado Alarcon, for our exchanges to allocate these sessions to enhance the offer of RC25 to its membership in the context of the ISA Forum of Sociology. One of these sessions is dedicated to be an open session, which enables to welcome contributions which do not fit in the proposal listed in the program. One session, which does not appear in the program yet – yes, the program gathers 19 session -, is kept apart at the moment to support a session that would need to be doubled; this case indeed happened on a regular basis for the past conference. The third session, which is described more in detail below, aims to foster research collaboration among RC25 members, including those who would be unable to attend the conference.

Following the previous newsletter, I cannot resist to remind the opportunity to present your research using the three official languages of ISA: English, French, and Spanish. Especially, for the scholars whose main language is English, presenting in French or Spanish may be a very interesting experience. Several tips toward multilingual presentations are also posted on the Forum website (https://www.isa-sociology.org/en/conferences/forum/porto-alegre-2020/guidelines-for-program-coordinators-and-session-organizers-2020).

While building the call for abstracts for ISA Forum of Sociology, the RC co-organized an interim conference to be held in Warsaw, 26-27 September, 2019. Among all the scholars I am thankful for the first “Language and Society. Research Advances in Social Sciences”, I would like to highlight the huge work of Anna Odrowaz-Coates, who as the Chairholder of the UNESCO Janusz Korczak Chair at The Maria Grzegorzewska University provides the facilities, which decreases the attendance cost for all participants. To avoid spoilers, no more words should be added, except about the program itself. First, wonderful keynotes speakers accepted to participate how they look at language; you may read-meet them below. We warmly thank them. Second, about 40 oral presentations were selected. On behalf of the organization committee, I am grateful to the scientific committee members for having supported the review of all the abstracts. It should be underlined that the previous experience of the “Language at Work” conference (Tarragona, Spain, 2018), under the leadership of Amado Alarcon, was an asset to guide us. You may register, for free, at the following https://www.language-and-society.org/registration-language-and-society-research-advancements-in-social-sciences/.

To enhance the participation of graduated and PhD students to RC25 activities, the first “Language and Society. Research Advances in Social Sciences” will also welcome posters, which will be visible during the whole conference. Among the key elements of the call below, I wish to underline that, as a support to students, Maria Grzegorzewska University will print all the posters selected, including if the student cannot attend the conference, in order to avoid financial limitations to prevent student looking at language to disseminate their work. Please do not hesitate to spread this call among the students who show interest in RC25 related research issues.

A couple of weeks ago, ISA President Sari Hanafi clarified common rules regarding executive board members positions for all the RCs. The bylaws should be modified before the next board elections in accordance to meet the following: “a research committee president can serve maximum 2 terms; second, A. officers (Vice-President, Secretary) can serve no more than three consecutive terms; B. no imposed limit on how many years/terms Board Members can serve but a requirement that each RC/WG/TG establishes a limit itself.” Informally, RC25 limits each position at two terms. To comply with the needed modifications, and to make the rules transparent, the executive board members agreed on the following formulations – I am grateful to Keiji Fujiyoshi our Vice President for his insights:

1. A research committee president can serve maximum 2 terms whether they are consecutive or not.
2. Officers (Vice-president, Secretary) can serve consecutively three terms at a maximum.
3. Any member of the RC25 can take a role of the board member four terms at a maximum.

While the sentences (1) and (2) have to be inserted in the bylaws, the sentence (3) cannot without the approval of the membership, as stated in the bylaws. A vote will be organized to proceed. In the meanwhile, do not hesitate to enter in contact with the executive board for any question/exchange/other about this clarification.

Wishing you a nice reading of this newsletter and looking forward to meeting you at Warsaw and Porto Alegre,

Kind Regards,

Stéphanie Cassilde
Centre d’Études en Habitat Durable (Charleroi, Belgium)
Research Committee 25 Language and Society, International Sociological Association
Dear friends and colleagues of RC25,

1. The ISA Forum of Sociology in Porto Alegre

I hope everything goes well with you. In Japan, we have just begun the 2019 spring semester with a full bloom of cherry blossoms in April. Some of you are in the midst of the semester and the others may be in a short break. The ISA Secretariat has now opened the Call for abstracts for the IV ISA Forum of Sociology held in Porto Alegre, Brazil in July 2020. Thanks to your contribution, RC25 has a great set of regular sessions. Let me express my profound gratitude to your wonderful scholarship. As you may have already known, we have several global difficulties wherever we are. Just focusing on the language, chauvinism, fake news and hatred provoked by them seem prevailing in our society and Japan is no exception. Language appears to be a kind of tool for harming others and cheating the reality. People seem to abandon reasoning reasonably with the help of language. I believe that the research activities of the RC25 will shed light on some of our contemporary difficulties related to language.

I’m looking forward to seeing you in Porto Alegre.


I handed over Maud Mazaniello-Chezol the role of webmaster and she has made a great development of the RC25 website (https://www.language-and-society.org/) for just a few months! What a great contribution to the RC25 community! Just one task still remains in my hand, that of the RC25 Facebook page administrator (https://www.facebook.com/ISARC25). The account of the page is tethered to my personal account and I’m still managing it. I’ve made two or three posts a week. Most of them are the link to the articles which may interest some of the RC25 members. Due to my limitation in language, most posts are in English. I will appreciate it if you let me know interesting webpages written in other languages in the Internet.

Among all posts from April 1, 2018 to March 31, 2019, 32 posts have got ‘reaches’ over 150. Here are top 10. I hope it is any interest of you.

1. **45 places you can download tens of thousands books, etc**@nothingintherulebook, March 7, 2019, 825 reaches.
2. **Higher Education Scholarship Palestine (HESPAL)@U of Bristol, November 1, 2018, 759 reaches.**
3. **Jamal Khashoggi: What the Arab world needs most is free expression**@WP, October 19, 2018, 504 reaches.
5. **How to Download the Books That Just Entered the Public Domain**@Motherboard, January 5, 2019, 461 reaches.
7. **Brazilian media report that police are entering university classrooms to interrogate professors**@Vox, October 29, 2018, 407 reaches.
9. **New book by Anders Persson, who was also the first recipient of the RC25 Academic Excellence Award in 2012, just published Framing Social Interaction**@Routledge, September 23, 2018, 284 reaches.
10. **People Over 40 Shouldn’t Work More Than 3 Days a Week (with voicee)**@Travel+Leisure, January 2, 2019, 271 reaches.

Best regards,

Keiji Fujiyoshi, RC25 Vice-President
Otemon Gakuin University, Osaka, Japan
Letter from the Secretary of RC25 of ISA

Dear RC25 members,

For this edition of Research Committee 25 "Language and Society" newsletter, I was asked to contribute with a short text on the RC25 membership situation. A quick search on our records shows that today RC25 has over 150 regularly enrolled members, who ensure representation of our research committee in 40 countries and on all continents. RC25 brings together members from 20 countries in Europe, seven countries in Asia, five countries in the Americas, four countries in Africa and two countries in Oceania.

The most represented country in RC25 is Japan, with 15 members, followed by Spain, the United States, Germany, and the United Kingdom. The following countries are represented by just one member: Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Hong Kong, Iran, Israel, Malaysia, Morocco, New Zealand, Philippines, Singapore, Tunisia, and Ukraine. A challenge for the coming years is to balance the membership of different regional locations, ensuring greater representation, especially of members from South America and the Caribbean (the latter region on the Globe is not represented on our committee) and from African countries.

Another challenge ISA is attentively facing now is to increase membership from B and C countries: even though it seems to cross the delimitation of continents, if we look carefully to the colonial history, we can perceive that the socioeconomic situation of these countries is tightly linked to coloniality and neocoloniality. A challenge that adds to this is that of multilingualism: it is a challenge for the International Sociological Association itself, and also for RC25, especially because it is in the center of our language and society interests! Besides this, I firmly believe that our diversity, along with our expertise, puts us in a favorable position to discuss the challenges of multilingualism in ISA, and our presidency and vice-presidency are very attentive to that. Thanks to them!

I am looking forward to seeing you in Warsaw and Porto Alegre.
All the best wishes,

Viviane de Melo Resende
Universidade de Brasília

Letter from the Treasurer

Dear RC25 members,

I’m happy to announce that International Sociological Association (ISA) has awarded to Research Committee 25 (RC25) with ISA Research Committee Grants. This is fruit of accomplishment by RC25 with all their duties embraced by ISA statutes. This Grant will help mainly to maintaining of the RC25 Webpage, production of RC25 plaques linked to RC25 Award for Academic Excellence. Moreover for next conference at 4th ISA Forum at Porto Alegre RC25 has decided to help with hotel accommodation through RC25 Hotel/Stay grants for registered authors from B/C countries as well as for students. Given budget limitations, this RC25 hotel grants will follow a competitive process of allocation. This Hotel/Stay Grant will replace previous RC25 Registration Grants, that in previous conferences have shown to overlapping ISA Registration Grants. To access to this Hotel/Stay RC25 Grants you must to be an accepted presenter, to be registered and attend to the Conference.

Best Wishes

Amado Alarcón
Treasurer Research Committee 25 Language & Society, International Sociological Association
Dear RC25 members,

Following up on the last newsletter and the launch of the new website for our RC25 of ISA as well as for the journal of Language, Discourse & Society, I am happy to share the new features and the upcoming ones to be added or completed.

First thing first, the website is thought to be a communicative tool allowing us to share the news, and the work of our community. Therefore, I invite you to send any recommended publications to be posted online in the dedicated page: https://www.language-and-society.org/literature/. You may fill out the form on the same page so that we can review and post it.

This feature aims at enhancing exposure among the community and beyond. In this vein, I am currently releasing the articles of the past editions of the journal of Language, Discourse & Society in-text online. The articles will therefore gain indexation into search engine. These latters are looking at websites content to index it according to the meta-data when they appear as their algorithms ask for. Updating the way the journal is released online will allow the authors to find their articles easily, namely by appearing on widely used tools such as Google Scholar search results. It is a work in-progress but we already have the latest edition available (Volume 6, Number 2 December 2018) online here: https://www.language-and-society.org/volume-6-number-2-december-2018/

From now on, you will be able to find the articles in-text and in PDF format available for download.

Moving forward with the journal LD&S, we have a new submission tool that is intended to facilitate the review and edition process. In doing so, as an RC25 member, you may have received an email with your access to login to your account as a potential author and reviewer. If not, please fell free to contact me so I can add your contact details, or you may sign in here, by clicking on ‘Create An Account’ at the bottom of the box: https://www.language-and-society.org/peer-reviewers/

I would like to thank Stéphanie Cassilde for her support and patience in the process.

I look forward to receiving your recommendations of literature and any comments.

Best wishes,
Maud Mazaniello-Chézol
Department of Family Medicine, McGill University

Letter for the RC25 Program coordinators for the ISA Fourth Forum of Sociology

Thanks to stimulating session proposals, the RC25 call for abstracts for the ISA Fourth Forum of Sociology welcomes 16 sessions on which you can submit online. The program reminds the key deadline, including in relation to ISA registration grants.

Among the sessions which do not appear in the confex system (notably the business meeting, and the session kept to double a session if needed), there is the “RC25 Membership - Looking at Language” session, which is dedicated to the presentation of how RC25 membership looks at language toward their research. The objective is to foster exchanges to enhance the strength of RC25 network. By February 2020, each member, whatever their attendance to the Forum or not, will be invited to provide brief outlines focusing on RC25 "Language and Society" motto: "Looking at language rather than solely looking through". All these outlines will be presented by a board member. A template may be communicated in December 2019 to facilitate the process.

Stéphanie Cassilde, Centre d’Etudes en Habitat Durable, Keiji Fujiyosh, Otemon Gakuin University, Nadezhda Georgieva-Stankova, Trakia University, Amado Alarcón, Universitat Rovira i Virgili
Letter from the Editor in Chief of Language, Discourse & Society

Language, Discourse & Society is RC25 journal. The June issue will be dedicated to *Symbolic violence in socio-educational contexts*. Language, power and ethnicity and is co-edited by Anna Odrowaz-Coates (The Maria Grzegorzewska University in Warsaw, Poland) and Sribas Goswami (Serampore College in West Bengal, India). This issue will be my last one as Editor in Chief, as the position will be transferred to Natalie Byfield on the 1st July 2019, who I thank for undertaking this role for the RC. We already have vivid exchanges and I am enthusiastic about what she will develop.

As a legacy, I am thankful to deliver LD&S with two huge supports for Natalie. First, Anna Odrowaz-Coates, appointed as Vice-Editor, takes care about the indexation of *Language, Discourse & Society*. This issue cannot be ignored to attract scholars to publish in a journal, whatever our dedication to its quality toward its editorial line.

Anna already achieved key steps such as getting LD&S indexed by CEJSH*, in the Road Directory of Open Access Scholarly Resources*, and updates toward ERIH plus. Several applications are in process.

Second, Maud Mazaniello-Chezol as RC25 webmaster created a wonderful submission tool, which may be used both for the journal and for conferences (like the one in Warsaw). This is a huge achievement, which enables an easiest editorial work and focus on other development features for the journal. I would like also to thank all the scholars, who gave feedbacks as reviewers, authors, guest-editors, while the system was created. This helped us to fix elements to ensure them to be, now, robust.

Language, Discourse & Society welcome at any time submissions for its varia section. Do not hesitate, at all, to submit your work. If you want to guest-edit a thematic issue, feel free to contact the editor in chief. The contact address is: journal@language-and-society.org

Looking forward to receiving your articles and your proposals to guest-edit an issue,

Kind Regards,

Stéphanie Cassilde
Centre d’Etudes en Habitat Durable (Charleroi, Belgium)
Research Committee 25 Language and Society, International Sociological Association

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Note from the Newsletter Editor

*Do you know what social pedagogy/social education is?*

Here is a video I prepared for you and I believe that as a scientific discipline it uses language as a central tool of human communication and of building positive social relations. [https://youtu.be/2tAwTv_YDjM](https://youtu.be/2tAwTv_YDjM)

Political, ideological and other social discourses are of central interest to social pedagogues. The upcoming RC25 Conference in Warsaw is a good occasion to share this little video with you. I look forward to hosting you at our University.

Anna Odrowaz-Coates
Newsletter Editor RC25, ISA
UNESCO Janusz Korczak Chair
The Maria Grzegorzewska University in Warsaw

*https://portal.issn.org/resource/ISSN/2239-4192, main page is https://road.issn.org/*
Welcome to ISA RC 25 Mid-term Conference in Warsaw, Poland
"Language and Society. Research Advances in Social Sciences"

You will be welcomed by Project Hosts:

Dr. Stéphanie Cassilde

PRESIDENT OF RC25 of International Sociological Association (ISA); Editor-in-Chief for “Language, Discourse & Society” (published by RC25 of the ISA since 2011); Sociologist, economist and researcher in a publicly funded research institution: Centre d’Etudes en Habitat Durable, Belgium.

Research interests: Categorization processes toward identities; Human preferences and behaviours, looking at language; Construction of skin colour/race in Brazil; housing studies. Expert in mixed methods: from fieldwork to ‘modelization’ and statistical analysis.

The Conference will take place at the Maria Grzegorzewska University
26-27.09.2019 (Thursday-Friday)

Prof. Anna Odrowaz-Coates, PhD

Chairholder of the UNESCO Janusz Korczak CHAIR; Field researcher, Social scientist, Associate Professor at Social Pedagogy Department, Maria Grzegorzewska University in Warsaw. Executive Board member of RC25 (Research Committee ‘Language and Society’) of International Sociological Association (ISA).

Research interests: Socio-educational inequalities (including socio-cultural reproduction and language aspects), social pedagogy, human rights (children’s rights, minority rights, women’s rights, gender issues), critical pedagogy.
Scientific Committee:

- Prof. Amado Alarcón (RC25 and Universitat Rovira i Virgili, Spain)
- Dr. Stéphanie Cassilde (RC25 and Centre d’Etudes en Habitat Durable, Belgium)
- Prof. Keiji Fujiyoshi (RC25 and Otemon Gakuin University, Japan)
- Prof. Melanie Heath (RC32 and McMaster University, Canada)
- Prof. Urszula Markowska-Manista (Potsdam University of Applied Sciences, Germany)
- Maud Mazaniello-Chezol (RC25 and McGill University, Canada)
- Prof. Anna Odrowaz-Coates (RC25 and Maria Grzegorzewska University, Poland)
- Prof. Barbara Pasamonik (Polish Sociological Association)
- Prof. Celine-Marie Pascal (RC25 and American University, USA)
- Prof. Slawomir Ratajski (Polish National Commission for UNESCO)
- Prof. Viviane Melo Resende (RC25 and Universidade de Brasilia, Brazil)
- Prof. Jaroslaw Rola (Vice-Rector at Maria Grzegorzewska University)
- Dr. Tinka Schubert (RC25 and Universitat Rovira i Virgili, Spain)

Organizing Committee:

- Stéphanie Cassilde (Centre d’Etudes en Habitat Durable, Belgium)
- Anna Odrowaz-Coates (UNESCO Janusz Korczak Chair, Poland)
- Mariusz Baranowski (Adam Mickiewicz University, Poland)
- Anna Perkowska-Klejman (Maria Grzegorzewska University, Poland)
- Marta Kulesza (Maria Grzegorzewska University, Poland)
- Marta Kotarba (Maria Grzegorzewska University, Poland)
- Krystyna Heland-Kurzak (Maria Grzegorzewska University, Poland)

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- Polish National Commission for UNESCO
- UNESCO/Janusz Korczak Chair
- Warsaw City Council
- RC32/ISA

- Polish Ministry of Science and Higher Education
Looking forward to assisting to the Opening Keynote

Prof. Celine-Marie Pascale is one of the leading scholars in the field of language and society. Prof. Pascale examines struggles to control meaning that drive, normalize, and contest systemic inequalities. She is the author of 30 articles and is working on her fourth book, The Struggling Class: Dignity, Danger and Hope. CM. Pascale scholarship has been recognized with book awards from the American Sociological Association Section on Race, Gender, and Class as well as from the International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry. Her third book, Social Inequality & The Politics of Representation is an edited collection that has been described as a field-defining collection of international scholarship. She is a professor of sociology at American University in Washington, D.C.

Key note address by Celine-Marie Pascale

The Weaponization of Language

The modus operandi of far-right political groups is crafted through strategic and systematic relationships between symbolic and material forms of violence. This presentation considers some of the discursive strategies currently deployed by rising far-right movements around the globe. In particular it examines the weaponization of language— the rapid acceleration of signifying practices that lay the essential cornerstones of material violence. Authoritarian governments weaponize language to expand and consolidate far-right politics by amplifying resentments, targeting scapegoats, and legitimizing injustice. This presentation focuses on four interlocking components of weaponized language: propaganda, disinformation, censorship, and mundane discourse. It concludes by considering the unique intellectual space of sociology at this historical moment. In particular it suggests strategies to address the communicative and social chaos created by right-wing discursive tactics.
Key note speakers in alphabetical order

Prof. Jean-Louis Arcand, PhD, Chair of the Department of International Economics at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva, founding Fellow of the European Union Development Network (EUDN), Senior Fellow at the Fondation pour les études et recherches en développement international (FERDI), and Visiting Professor at the Hanqing Advanced Institute of Economics and Finance at Renmin University of China in Beijing.

Research interests: microeconomics of development, with a current focus on impact evaluations in Africa and the political economy of China.

He consults for the World Bank, the FAO, the UNDP, the WHO, the Gates Foundation and several national governments.

Key note address by Prof. Jean-Louis Arcand

Automated Interpretation of Political and Economic Policy Documents: Machine Learning using Semantic and Syntactic Information

We develop a general understanding of how state agencies' policy announcements are interpreted by taking streams of policy announcements and interpretations, annotating (coding) the interpretations by hand, then using machine learning (ML) and natural language processing (NLP) techniques to develop a model which generates annotations from announcements. Our initial policy announcement case corresponds to monetary policy made by the US Federal Reserve. We use streams of journalistic accounts in ideologically different newspapers (the New York Times and the Wall Street Journal); and annotate the journalistic accounts in terms of attributed motives, conditional predictions, and other ways in which interpreters typically gloss policy announcements. We then use ML techniques to develop and train deep learning models of textual entailment and inference which use syntactic and semantic (both in general and for specific domains) information in the announcement texts to map from announcements to annotations.

The work brings together expert knowledge on political science and economics (particularly domain-specific knowledge about monetary policy) with methodological skills and expertise in computational linguistics; it involves disparate tasks ranging from collecting archival materials through to the development and application of textual annotation schema and the development of computational models of textual entailment.

Erzsébet (Zsazsa) Barát, PhD, Associate Professor, English Department, University of Szeged and Department of Gender Studies, CEU Budapest; Director of TNT, Gender Studies Research Group, University of Szeged.

Research interest: critical studies of discourse with a focus on discoursal articulation of identity, language ideologies, hate speech, social theory of meaning and ideology, the intersection of feminist and queer theory, lavender linguistics.
Key note address by Prof. Erzsébet (Zsazsa) Barát

Reiteration of hate-speech as mundane daily practice in Hungary through the administrative ban on Gender Studies

In my talk I study the relationship between language and power through the analysis of the rhetoric of fear articulated by the Hungarian Government’s right-wing populist discourse in relation to its unprecedented decision to revoke the MA in Gender Studies in October 2018. I will situate the coercive ban at the intersection of multiple strategies of exclusion and show that they are converging around the trope of ‘György Soros’. The act of personification is an act of scapegoating structuring the routine practice of hate speech blaming anything presented as threat to Hungary and the ‘nation’ on ‘Soros’. The politics of fear is to legitimate not only the particular forms of linguistically mediated violence to eliminate ‘him’ and whatever is associated with his figure but the common sense practice of hate-speech itself. I shall point out how they are centred within three main narratives that are pulled together through this trope that functions as an empty signifier – in Laclau’s sense of the term. I shall show that the discreditation of ‘gender’ as a term of mere ideology and not a concept of science turns out to be an effective choice through multiple chains of associations with the targets in the centre of the other scapegoating narratives. In the broader methodological frame, I shall also argue that a critical analysis that aims at exploring the multiplicity of discourses that are integral to practices of meaning requires the deconstruction of the multiple constituent elements rendered into a coherent pattern through an intersectional approach.

Federico Farini, PhD & Angela Scollan

Federico Farini, PhD is Senior Lecturer in Sociology at the University of Northampton where he leads Postgraduate programmes in Public Sociology and the Horizon 2020 Project Child-UP. From 2015 to 2017 he worked as Senior Lecturer in Sociology of Early Childhood at the University of Suffolk. While working as a Lecturer in Education at Middlesex University he was a founding member of the Centre for Educational Research and Scholarship (2014) and the London Equality in Education Research Network (2015). He received a PhD in Sociology of Intercultural Relations from the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, where he worked as a researcher in Sociology. Federico has published numerous books, chapters, articles and edited books in Italian, English and Slovenian language.

Angela Scollan is a Senior Lecturer in Early Childhood Studies and Education Studies at Middlesex University. Previously, she has worked as a Manager and Foundation Degree Coordinator in a Further Education College. In 2010, Angela opened her own training company, ‘Emerald Early Years and Education’, offering bespoke training and CPD to promote high-quality, sustainable, and reflective early years leadership and provision. Since the early 1990s, Angela has worked directly with and for children positioning her practice within a transdisciplinary approach and as a rights-based advocate. Her teaching philosophy, research and writing focus on the child first. Angela has recently completed the EU Erasmus+ project, ‘SHARMED’, observing how facilitation and the use of digital resources encourage shared memories and dialogue in 48 primary and secondary schools in Italy, Germany and England.
Joint key note address by Dr. Federico Farini and Angela Scollan

Children’s rights at the crossroads between diverging discourses. Case Studies from the English debate in and on education

This year marks the thirtieth anniversary of the declaration of the United Nation Convention on the Right of the Child (UNCRC). Such landmarking political act has been hailed as a victory for the children’s rights movement, but also heavily criticized from its early days. The UNCRC is criticized for overemphasizing children’s liberties and self-determination, undermining adults’ rights to protect and educate children; at the same time, from an opposite position, others criticize the UNCRC, and the moral crusades to save ‘the world’s children’, for consolidating disciplinary strategies, based on authoritarian types of knowledge that guide understandings of what is to be a child and what childhood should be like, in line with the Western liberal tradition originated in the eighteenth century. It is suggested that the ongoing sociological, pedagogical and political debate around the nature of children’s rights and intergenerational relationships lends itself as an example of the problematic coexistence of contrasting discourses on childhood and education. These discourses underpin the language of legislation, policy-making, education, healthcare, social services. Diverging concepts of power, rights, justice concerning intergenerational and intercultural relations are expressed on the many languages on childhood. This presentation combines sociological human rights studies with a socio-constructivist interest in the discursive construction of children’s rights. As a case study, the discourse at the intersection between childhood and social class within the English education system will be analysed. Since the 1980s, the hegemonic discourse on the relationship between educational achievement and social class links low socio-economic status to the expectation of children’s deficit in socialisation that must be tackled using pedagogical techniques. The presentation argues that a ‘deficit discourse’ prioritises the educational manufacture of ‘the good citizen of the future’ against the acknowledgement of the lived reality of many children in the present, devaluing their cultural capital, silencing their voices and ultimately undermining their rights to self-determination. On conclusion of the presentation, it is argued that a change in the hegemonic discourse on children from poorer backgrounds transforming them from passive users of educational interventions to active contributors to their own education is possible. The presentation will introduce educational practices in English schools that are based on the concept of ‘enabling environments’ to value children’s uniqueness and voices, providing opportunities and experiences for the child that are responsive to their individual needs whilst acknowledging their status of citizens in the present.

Urszula Markowska-Manista, PhD, Field Researcher, Assistant Professor at the University of Warsaw, Faculty of Education and Program Director of MA Childhood Studies and Children's Rights, University of Applied Sciences in Potsdam, member of Childhood and Youth Studies Research Group, Moray House School of Education, University of Edinburgh. She researches, publishes and teaches extensively on topics related to Childhood Studies through postcolonial perspective, participatory approaches to research, Children's Rights and Education in pre-dysfunctional contexts and culturally diversified environments.
Key note address by Dr. Urszula Markowska-Manista

Indigenous human children's rights in research discourses of the Global South and Global North.
The right to be properly researched

In my lecture I would like to outline the challenges and dilemmas connected with conducting research on children with/out children in their spaces and places of living. I will refer to research that should be ethical, non-discriminatory, based on the principles of social justice, non-hierarchical relations and non-adultist (Liebel 2017). I will refer to indigenous methodologies and the concept of ethical symmetry in the context of a critical approach to place (ethics of the place and relations in research) in childhood and children’s rights studies through postcolonial perspective. Drawing particular attention to the right to be properly researched as proposed by J.Ennew and her co-researchers, I will outline the principles of participatory research, oriented towards children and their safety through a long-term perspective that considers threats and limitations of children’s participatory involvement in the research process. I will also address ethical dilemmas in research whose methodological approaches and concepts were designed in a different, foreign socio-cultural context and can thus interfere in the life and functioning of communities in which the studies are conducted, including a negative impact on children’s social situation in the future (Markowska-Manista 2018). The presentation fits into the field of postcolonial and children’s rights studies drawing on the output of both of these thematic areas as well as interdisciplinary approaches to ethical research. The lecture is based on my field research in the Global South and Global North as well as desk research in the area of interdisciplinary childhood and children’s rights studies.

Kamalini Mukherjee, PhD, Sociology at School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. Independent Researcher, working in areas of alternative gender & sexuality, counterculture, subaltern perspectives & governmentality.

Research interests: exclusion, identity, psychosocial development, and queer theories.

Key note address by Dr. Kamalini Mukherjee

Exploring the subversive Indian: Sexual dissidence and the “Queer” in Indian popular culture

I will engage with language, discourse and the cultural tropes existing around the notions of gender, sex, sexuality and its alternatives within the Indian context, specifically to locate and explore the “subversive” expressions. The influences and interpretations will be based in a broader doctoral research, wherein personal narratives of “queer” individuals provide the qualitative basis for the projected discourse. The principal objective is to explore the conceptual space the “queer” identity locates itself in, and thereby the cultural outlets of its expression. The context of the entire engagement is positioned in a reexamination of the Indian cultural scope today, as a methodological approach to study the “queer” category in a postcolonial dialog.
Chinyere Lilian Okam, PhD, is a full-time Lecturer at the Department of Theatre, Film and Carnival Studies. Faculty of Arts and Humanities, University of Calabar, Cross River State, Nigeria.

Editor, Ndunode: Calabar Journal of the Humanities. An active member of the Society of Nigerian Theatre Artists (SONTA) and ASSITEJ-Nigeria.

Research interest: Participatory and Development Communication, Critical Pedagogy, and liberative discourses on women and children. Recently developed interest in social pedagogy as a complementary field to her main methodology which is using theatre in the area of development.

Key note address by Dr. Chinyere Lilian Okam

Methodological Conversation: Theatre for Development in discourse in the of Gender and Children’s Equality Rights

The marginalization of African woman by patriarchal structures dates back ages. More recently abuse of children and women has been on the increase in Nigeria. Victims have become what Frantz Fanon would have called the “Wretched of The Earth”. They seem helpless because of the complexity of the issues when insiders in families become involved in the denial and abuse syndrome. In Nigeria NGOs, CBOs and Government Agencies like the National Orientation Agencies (NOA) have joined efforts with the UN to tackle the issues of gender based marginalization and children's rights, though the result have not yet blown fully. This presentation implores the concept of Methodological Conversation in addressing gender and child’s rights issues. Methodological Conversation in research is a symbiotic approach which combines Social Science and Humanities approaches in information gathering, analysis and development of action strategies. Together they address conservatively and liberally the many issues affecting women and children through the instrumentality of Theatre for Development. Theatre for Development is an embodiment of this methodology, which reinforces the symbiotic action to produce further enlightenment, ‘conscientization’ and action for change involving all gatekeepers, oppressed and oppressors. Central to this approach is the agency of language and discourse which serves to underscore the binary of power and marginality on the one hand, and the interrogation of the binary in order to mediate social transformation for equity, on the other. Drawing upon case studies, this paper illustrates the significance of Theatre for Development in the unpacking and interrogations of socio-cultural assumptions that perpetuate the marginalization and abuse of women and children in Nigeria. It concludes that the mediation of Theatre for Development finds some of its finest expressions in language and discourse, as illustrated in the discussed cases.

Viviane Resende, PhD, Professor at the Linguistics Department of the University of Brasília, Co-Director of the Advanced Multidisciplinary Studies Centre, Coordinator of the Language and Society Studies Centre.

Research interest: critical discourse studies, discourse theory, media representation of homelessness, hate speech.
Key note address by Prof. Viviane de Melo Resende

Metaphors in the representation of public policies aimed at the homeless population in online journalism – the case of Folha de S. Paulo

In this conference I present results of a project that, in the context of critical discourse studies (van Dijk, 2009, Fairclough, 2010, Vieira and Resende, 2016) and the interdiscursive analysis of public policies (Resende, 2018, Fischer, 2016), focused on representations in online journalism regarding public policies aimed at the homeless population. The research project "Representation of public policies for the homeless population as territory management: spatial metaphors in Folha de S. Paulo" (CAPES 88881.172032 / 2018-01) was developed at the Pompeu Fabra University, Spain, throughout 2018. Considering the main newspaper of the city of São Paulo, in its digital platform, we have compiled a comprehensive corpus of news about homelessness published in a period of three years. The choice to specifically address data from Folha de S. Paulo is justified because it is the city with the largest homeless population in Brazil. Also because our previous study has shown that this is the vehicle, among those studied, that publishes more news related to territorial issues, which we are our focus of interest to investigate via the discursive category of metaphor (Charteris-Black, 2004). The paper responds specifically to the objective of investigating, in a corpus of 105 texts on public policies directed to the homeless population analyzed through a QDA software, the patterns of metaphorical representation of public policies addressed to the homeless population in these journalistic texts.

Prof. Darrick Smith, PhD, Educational Leadership at the University of San Francisco, Co-Director of the School of Education’s new Transformative School Leadership (TSL) program.
Research interest: culturally responsive discipline practices; critical pedagogy; transformative school leadership, social justice schooling.

Key note address by Prof. Darrick Smith

A Discourse of the Quasi-Safe in American Schools

“School Safety” is a key phrase in an ongoing, popular discourse in the United States that has gained popularity and monetary momentum since the Columbine High School shootings of 1999. As media coverage of school shootings have continued over the last two decades, parents, educators, politicians and scholars have joined policy and philanthropic organizations to shift resources toward the prevention of bullying and the improvement of school safety and security measures. This talk will articulate the ways in which, despite an increased industry-wide focus on examining approaches to school discipline and safety, the realities of in-school violence and racially disproportionate outcomes persist and often go under-addressed in discourses involving both policy and practice. Such a dynamic challenges the meaning of “safety” in schools and relegates the discourse as quasi-safe as marginalized populations and their most pressing issues are rendered invisible and neglected.
Key note address by Prof. Kathleen Tacelosky

Education and Language in an Age of Globalization

Education in an age of globalization means considering the linguistic realities associated with migration. When parents go (back) to their countries of origin (return migration), their children are often faced with the challenge of adapting to school in a language they used solely in the domain of home. For example, children of Polish parents who have spent years in Ukraine must adapt to academic endeavors in Polish. Such a transition can put a strain on children, who, will most likely, encounter difficulties, as well as on schools, which are often unprepared to accommodate linguistic and other needs.

Full list of Key note addresses, conference presentations, distributed papers and posters will be published on the Conference Website

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Session Chairs


Research interest: collective identities in the age of multiculturalism and globalization, gender perspective in migration processes, European Islam: multiculturalism, integration, and culture conflicts.
Prof. Danuta Uryga, Chair of Educational Policy at the Maria Grzegorzewska University, Head of doctoral studies (Faculty of Educational Studies), editorial member of the quarterly “Social Pedagogy”.

Research interest: parental (educational, socio-political) grass-root activity, community school, school democracy (school councils).

Mariusz Baranowski, PhD, Assistant Professor, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan. Chairman of the Sociological Committee of the Poznan Society of Friends of Arts and Sciences (est. 1857), and member of Committee on Education Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences. Chief Editor - Society Register.

Research interests: politicized discourses, control and social exclusion mechanisms, welfare state, social inequalities, social consequences of information and communication technologies, social welfare and quality of life, class dimension of social relations.

Marta Kotarba, PhD, graduated from the Faculty of Education of the Warsaw University (Poland), pedagogue, academic teacher and psychotherapist in private practice.

Research interest: development of plurilingual competence in children, supporting spontaneous use of a foreign language during the classes organized in kindergarten and school, the role of boundary experience in own development, early childhood traumas and their impact on adult life.

Anna Perkowska-Klejman, PhD, Social Pedagogy Department, Maria Grzegorzewska University. Field researcher, lecturer, experienced school councillor. Scientific Secretary for Social Pedagogy quarterly journal. Research interests: reflexive judgement, reflexivity in higher education, critical thinking, schools and educational systems, social factors in education.
Basia Vucic, BSc (Hons), BEd, MA Int.Dev.  
PhD researcher at the Institute of Education, UCL (London);  
Board member of the International Korczak Association  
Research Interests:  
Janusz Korczak; Philosophy of Education; Child Rights & Childhood Studies; Early Childhood  
Political Theory (Democracy & Citizenship); International Development

Aleksandra Gajda, PhD,  
Educator, creativity trainer and quantitative and qualitative researcher. Currently she conducts research on equality education, stereotypical gender roles in education, the phenomenon of stereotype threat in an educational setting and factors that can reduce it.

Tinka Schubert earned her PhD in Sociology with the first dissertation to tackle gender violence prevention in Spanish universities, focusing specifically on the communicative acts between members from the university community to distinguish those acts of communication that enhance or prevent violence. As Juan de la Cierva Postdoctoral research fellow, she collaborated in competitive research projects such as "Linguistic competences in the digital age: The improvement of productivity and labor employability" coordinated by Amado Alarcón. Tinka Schubert has participated as active member at conferences such as the ISA, ESA and CIMIE presenting papers, organizing sessions and chairing the Gender section. She is Editor of the International and Multidisciplinary Journal of Social Sciences.

There will be representatives of 40 countries from 5 continents at our conference
If you are a Doctoral Candidate/ PhD student and would like to join us please see the following Call for Posters
CALL for Posters

*Language and Society. Research Advances in Social Sciences* International Conference of RC25 ISA

We accept posters from PhD students/Doctoral candidates for the Poster Session. Please send your poster (in good resolution) as a PDF file by the 30th June 2019 to: acoates@aps.edu.pl

Email should be entitled - POSTER SESSION -

The poster should reflect the theme of the Conference, it should be easy to read. The aim, methods and results should be clear and concise. Photographs and other graphics incorporated into your poster are welcome (copy rights violations are forbidden).

If the poster is accepted for presentation it will be printed in A3 format and displayed during the conference. There will be a poster session during the conference where you will be able to present your poster in person.

Acceptance of the poster will be confirmed within 2 weeks of submission by email.
Fourth Forum of Sociology, International Sociological Association  
July 14-18 2020 Porto Alegre, Brazil  
CALL FOR ABSTRACTS  
Research Committee 25 Language & Society

The Fourth Forum of Sociology will take place 14-18 July 2020 in Porto Alegre (Brazil). In line with the general Congress theme, “Challenges of the 21st Century: Democracy, Environment, Inequalities, Intersectionality”, the RC 25 theme is “Looking at Language to Shed Light on Challenges”.

Abstract submission

Research Committee 25 will be organizing 18 sessions during the Fourth ISA Forum in Porto Alegre (including the business meeting, a networking session, and Joint Sessions). To take part in the RC25 program, you must submit an abstract (300 words) through the ISA Online system. An overview of all RC25 sessions can be found on the ISA website. The deadline for abstracts submission is 30 September, 2019; no abstract can be accepted by any session organizer or program coordinators after that date.

Acceptance, registration, membership and grants

Notification of abstract acceptance will be sent to authors by 2 December, 2019. To be included in the program, the participants (presenters, chairs, discussants, etc.) must pay the ISA Forum registration fees by March 19, 2020. Presenters who fail to register will be automatically deleted from the Program Book and from the Abstracts Book. For co-authored paper, in order for a paper to appear in the program, at least one co-author should pay the registration fee by the early registration deadline March 19, 2020; the names of other co-authors will be listed as well. If other co-authors wish to attend the conference they must pay the registration fee. Please, note that a limited number of ISA registration grants will be available after abstracts acceptance.

RC25 requires that at least one presenter per accepted paper is member of both ISA and RC25. The number of sessions the RC is able to offer to the Language and Society community is indeed based on our membership.

LIST OF SESSIONS WITHIN THE RC25 PROGRAM

Social Epistemologies for Social Justice  
Organizer: Celine-Marie Pascale, American University, Unites States of America, pascale@american.edu

The Language That Surrounds Us  
Organizer: Mark Seilhamer, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore, mfseilhamer@gmail.com

Language and Inequality in an Age of Globalization  
Organizer: Kathleen Tacelosky, Lebanon Valley College, Unites States of America, tacelosk@lvc.edu

Languages for Multiplied Democracies  
Organizer: Gatitu Kiguru, Kenyatta University, Kenya, gttkiguru@gmail.com & Phyllis Mwangi, Kenyatta University, Kenya, pwmwangi514@gmail.com
Power Relations and (in)Equalities in Data Production in Language Oriented Research
Organizer: Johan Lindwall, University of Gothenburg, Sweden, johan.lindwall@socwork.gu.se & Frida Petersson, University of Gothenburg, Sweden, frida.petersson@socwork.gu.se

Languages and Quantitative Methods
Organizer: Guillermina Jasso, New York University, Unites States of America, gj1@nyu.edu

Linguistic Diversity and Social Stratification
Organizer: Cecilio Lapresta-Rey, Universidad de Lleida, Spain, clapresta@geosoc.udl.cat, Amado Alarcon Alarcon, University of Texas at El Paso / University Rovira i Virgili, Unites States of America / Spain, amado.alarcon@urv.cat

Linguistic Integration of the Descendants of Migrants
Organizer: Cecilio Lapresta-Rey, Universidad de Lleida, Spain, Amado Alarcon Alarcon, University of Texas at El Paso / University Rovira i Virgili, Unites States of America / Spain, amado.alarcon@urv.cat & Sara Amin, The University of the South Pacific, Fiji, saranuzhat.amin@gmail.com

Literacies. Sociological Approaches
Organizer: Amado Alarcon Alarcon, University of Texas at El Paso / University Rovira i Virgili, Unites States of America / Spain, amado.alarcon@urv.cat

The Language of Health and Healthcare Toward Democratizing Insights
Organizer: Maud Mazaniello-Chezol, McGill University, Canada, mau.mazaniello-chezol@mail.mcgill.ca & Peter Nugus, McGill University, Canada, peter.nugus@mcgill.ca

Framing Hate: Media, Politics, and the Legitimization of Hate Speech
Organizer: Trinidad Valle, Fordham University, Unites States of America, valle@fordham.edu

Language and Society Open Session
Keiji FUJIYOSHI, Otemon Gakuin University, Japan, fioshi524@hotmail.com

RC25 joint sessions

Discourses on Poverty, Homelessness, and Housing: Categorization in Policy, Media, Academy, Popular Culture and Beyond
RC25 Language and Society (host committee) / RC43 Housing and Built Environment
Organizers: Viviane de Melo Resende, Universidade de Brasilia, Brazil, resende.v.melo@gmail.com & Janet Smith, University of Illinois, United States of America, janets@uic.edu

The Use of Language in Media, Disruptions in Hegemonic Meanings, and the Resistance to Gender Violence
RC25 Language and Society (host committee) / RC32 Women in Society
Organizer: Natalie Byfield, St. John's University, Unites States of America, byfieldn@stjohns.edu & Tinka Schubert, Universitat Rovira i Virgili, Spain, tinkaschubert@gmail.com

Categorizing ‘Races’ and ‘Ethnicities’? Actors, Interests, Codifications, and Implications
RC25 Language and Society (host committee) / RC05 Racism, Nationalism, Indigeneity and Ethnicity
Organizers: Stephanie CASSILDE, Centre d’Etudes en Habitat Durable, Belgium, stephanie.cassilde@cehd.be & Helma LUTZ, Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany, lutz@soz.uni-frankfurt.de

Work and Languages
RC25 Language and Society (host committee) / RC30 Sociology of Work
Organizers: Stephanie CASSILDE, Centre d’Etudes en Habitat Durable, Belgium, stephanie.cassilde@cehd.be & Adeline GILSON, University of Tours, France, adeline.gilson@univ-tours.fr

We are looking forward to meeting you in Porto Alegre!
RC25 Program Coordinators

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Amado Alarcón, Universitat Rovira i Virgili, Spain amado.alarcon@urv.cat

For more information about the IV Forum of Sociology, please visit: https://www.isa-sociology.org/en/conferences/forum/porto-alegre-2020

RC 25 Awards

2018 Awards

Award for Academic Excellence

Award winners: Howard Davis, Graham Day, Marta Eichsteller & Sally Baker

For the article:
“Language and autobiographical narratives: Motivation, capital and transnational imaginations”

Award Committee:

- Christian Karner, The University of Nottingham, the UK
- Everlyn Kisembe, Moi University, Kenya
- Eduardo Faingold, The University of Tulsa, USA

Chair: Cecilio Lapresta-Rey, University of Lleida, Spain
Language & Society Distinguished Career Award

Award winner: Professor Florian Coulmas

Committee:

- Nancy Hornberger, University of Pennsylvania, USA
- Roland Terborg, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Mexico
- Natalie Byfield, St. John’s University, USA

Chair:

- Cecilio Lapresta-Rey, University of Lleida, Spain
Award for Academic Excellence

Established by Research Committee on Language and Society of the International Sociological Association in April 2018 it gathers the awards created in June 2011 (the Award for Academic Excellence, dedicated to scholars having a PhD, and the Graduate Student Award). Next Award will be granted at RC25 reception every two years at the ISA World Congress of Sociology and at the Interim Conferences. For more information: https://www.isa-sociology.org/en/research-networks/research-committees/rc25-language-and-society/rc25-award-for-academic-excellence

Language & Society Distinguished Career Award

Established in April 2018.

Purpose

The purpose of this award is to recognize career excellence in the field of language and society. Next Award will be granted at RC25 reception every four years at the ISA World Congress of Sociology. To find out more: https://www.isa-sociology.org/en/research-networks/research-committees/rc25-language-and-society/rc25-language-and-society-distinguished-career-award
Recent publications by RC25 Members:

Chantraine, Olivier « Socio sémiotique de terrain et organisation : pour une théorie performative de l’écriture au travail », Actes Sémiotiques [En ligne], 122, 2019, consulté le 02/02/2019, URL : https://www.unilim.fr/actes-semiotiques/6270

Hein, James Everett & Vidhi Chaudhri (2018) Delegitimizing the enemy: framing, tactical innovation, and blunders in the battle for the Arctic, Social Movement Studies, DOI: 10.1080/14742837.2018.1555750
The link will take you to a free e-print of the paper: https://www.tandfonline.com/eprint/rPCYYccR6wMPmfJ4KqZh/full


https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ssresearch.2018.10.013


Title: Gender, Neoliberalism and Distinction through Linguistic Capital: Taiwanese Narratives of Struggle and Strategy

Author: Mark Fifer Seilhamer
Publisher: Multilingual Matters 2019

This book presents the narratives of four Taiwanese young women, all proficient in English, set against the background of the dynamics of multilingualism in Taiwan. It chronicles their strategies and struggles when utilizing cultural goods - in this case their linguistic resources - to differentiate themselves within Taiwanese society. The study provides a uniquely bottom-up perspective by focusing intently on just four focal participants, in order to gain an in-depth understanding of how the intersection of socioeconomic status, age and gender shape their identities, experiences and practices. The book highlights the impact of neoliberalism on the women’s attempts at distinction and is a timely contribution to debates on multilingualism and issues of gender and socioeconomic status.

Title: Theories and linguistic rights, minority and migrant languages

Authors: Laura Gabriela García Landa, Roland Terborg, Jhon Evaristo Flórez Osorio, Virna Velázquez
Publisher: Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México 2018
When we talk about politics and language planning (LP), many people react with strangeness. Some linguists even react with scepticism and imagine an imposition from above (top down); that is, from political actors in power. In many instances it is about people that imagine the rule is the desire of those who have plenty of time to think about linguistic changes that are not needed for our daily lives nor for our wellbeing. Such people are also thinking about planning the corpus; specially the “correct grammar” or the “authentic vocabulary”. They cannot imagine how important the impact of LP can be for our wellbeing. Regarding that, our intention is to make a highlight in the importance of LP.

Link for an open access copy:

CALLS FOR PAPERS

CALL 1

ESSACHESS – Journal for Communication Studies is excited to announce the launch of the Call for Papers for its December 2019 issue on:

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Guest editor: Magali DO NASCIMENTO CUNHA, Full Professor, Brazilian Society on Interdisciplinary Studies on Communication/INTERCOM, Communication and Religion Research Group, Media, Religion and Culture/MIRE Study Group, BRAZIL (magali.ncunha@gmail.com)

ESSACHESS, peer-reviewed and published two times per year is covered in Scopus Elsevier, ERJIH, ProQuest CSA, EBSCO Publishing, Ulrich’s, Gale, J-Gate, Index Copernicus, CEEOL, DOAJ, SSRN, DRJI, SSOAR, GESIS, Genamics, HCERES.

Important Deadlines
– April 2, 2019: submission of the proposal in the form of an abstract of maximum 2 pages. The proposal must include a list of recent references and 5 keywords;
– April 22, 2019: acceptance of the proposal;
– July 15, 2019: full paper submission;
– October 15, 2019: full paper acceptance.

Full papers should be between 6,000-8,000 words in length. Papers can be submitted in English or French. The abstracts should be in English and French (150-200 words) followed by 5 keywords. Please provide the full names, affiliations, and e-mail addresses of all authors, indicating the contact author. Papers, and any queries, should be sent to: essachess@gmail.com

Authors of the accepted papers will be notified by e-mail. The journal will be published in December 2019.

Mihaela Tudor
Executive Editor-in-Chief
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CALL 2

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CALL 4

CALL FOR SESSION PARTICIPANTS:
@ THE CREAM CONFERENCE IN POTS DAM - MARCH 2019 - [CHILDREN'S RIGHTS EUROPEAN ACADEMIC NETWORK]

"Reflexive Parenthood
Reflections on Nature and Culture"

Introduction

Early childhood is of paramount importance for a child's development and later success in life, yet parents often do not have the knowledge and support to be the best parents for their children at this critical stage. Tired, exhausted and confused, anxious about their changing roles and changing obligations, parents may miss out on the positive aspects of parenthood and at the same time unknowingly affect their children in a negative way. Every developmental stage brings new challenges and questions for parents that often remain unanswered or inadequately addressed by pseudo-experts and heresy. This is an area for social pedagogues, social workers, psychologists, medical professionals and social politicians to explore and clarify. It is still a highly unexplored area of social sciences in Poland, more associated with medicine and nursing. The effects of natural and cultural pressures give us an interesting opportunity to reflect on the roots of traditions and praxis of childcare and parental practices observed in different cultures, in different parts of the world and in different epochs.

The theme

The session theme will focus on children's rights to use CR pedagogical lenses in order to explore how nature and culture affect our ideals of childcare, children's wellbeing and children's upbringing. The proposed theme for team work oriented towards reflexive parenthood would bring children's rights and human rights to the front of the discussion, promote wellbeing through awareness and advocate further research in this area.

We hope for contributions from across social sciences and humanities, based on empirical explorations and theoretical conceptualizations connecting parental roles, parental styles, positioning in the family and children's rights. These may include (depending on participants' choices): early childhood communication, diverse practices in sharing parental responsibilities, different approaches to children's agency and freedom of choice, family as a negotiated space mediated by culture, children's position in family and society, life chances and wellbeing, critical approaches to children's rights perspectives, early intervention, anti-vaccination movements, Korczak's pedagogy and beyond, alternatives to schooling, alternative nurseries and kindergartens (Froebel, Montessori etc.), matters related to age and maturity (i.e. penal systems, marital age, obligatory schooling), topics may include the paradoxes of faith, FGM, blood transfusions, circumcision, issues related to third gender and intersex children....

3. If you are interested to join this session on 25th March 2020 in Potsdam (Germany), please contact the session organizer: Prof. Anna Odrowaz-Coates, acoates@aps.edu.pl

References

Odrowaz-Coates, A. (2015). "Is gender neutrality a post-human phenomenon? The concept of 'gender neutral' in

DO NOT FORGET¹:

XX ISA World Congress of Sociology

Resurgent Authoritarianism: Sociology of New Entanglements of Religions, Politics, and Economies

Melbourne, Australia

July 24-30, 2022

¹ Photo source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Melbourne_City_Centre#/media/File:CBD_Melbourne.jpg