GLOBAL SOCIOLOGY
Theory and Practice in the 21ˢᵗ Century

The Midterm Conference of ESA Research Network 15 (Global, Transnational & Cosmopolitan Sociology).

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Tampere University

Global, Transnational and
ESA RN15
Cosmopolitan Sociology

University of Cyprus

Coral Beach Hotel & Resort,
Paphos, Cyprus
May 5ᵗʰ-6ᵗʰ, 2022

ESA RN 15 Midterm Meeting 2022

Global Sociology: Theory and practice in the 21st century

5 – 6 May 2022
Coral Bay Hotel, Paphos, Cyprus

Programme and abstracts

Foreword

It is with great anticipation that we write this foreword to this e-abstract book of ESA RN15 Midterm Conference 2022 presentations!

As we started to prepare this event in the Autumn of 2021, we were facing many global challenges. National health agencies reported ever new infection records which led us to rethink about how to organize our daily work and lives. The COP 26 UN Climate Change Conference held last November revealed that the global clime crisis is more severe than we anticipated inviting us to reconsider our environment and modes of action.

The Ukrainian war that started in February involved yet another global challenge – this time related to security, migration, and the economy. Each of these crises have sparked numerous debates, both at national and international levels, as to how we might best tackle these challenges. Although there is no single world government or leader telling us how to organize these debates, many have started simultaneously and have led to surprisingly similar outcomes. Each of these debates have also had a bearing on how we conceive of our environment, what we deem normative and desirable, as well how we understand our various identities. It is difficult to imagine a societal sector that has remained unaffected by the abovementioned crises and their related debates.

These global challenges and more mundane facets of worldwide social formations provide ample opportunities for global sociology to explore new and renewed facets of a challenging social reality. They are central to current sociology's theory and practice. This year's Midterm Conference brings together researchers studying these challenges along with other topics relating to global sociology and its theory and practice in the 21st century.

The main themes of our Midterm Conference include:

- Policies and policymaking in a globalized world,
- The role of climate change and exogenous shocks such as pandemics on the, formation of national and international policies,
- International migration with particular emphasis on Europe,
- Decolonial/postcolonial perspectives,
- Culture, identity, and cosmopolitanism in a changing world,
- Methodological and theoretical developments in global and transnational sociology, as well as glocalization.

Our keynote speakers are esteemed global and transnational scholars: Professor Anna Amelina (BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg, Germany), Professor Victor Roudometof (University of Cyprus), Academy of Finland Research Fellow Mari Toivanen (University of Helsinki, Finland), and Postdoctoral Researcher Mike Zapp (Luxembourg Ministry of Education & University of Luxembourg). Additionally, we have a short-plenary lecture by the acclaimed scholar Professor Emeritus Max Haller (University of Graz, Austria) who offers a timely global sociological perspective on human rights. In each of the thirteen paper sessions, the themes of the conference are explored in greater detail with dedicated presentations. In keeping with the tradition of the meetings and workshops organized by the RN15, the papers presented cut across a range of theoretical and empirical insights and represent a broad geographical swathe of participants and foci.

In addition to its academic content, this Midterm Meeting is in many ways memorable. For the first time in five years, we can convene an in-person meeting. We are also extremely fortunate that we can hold this meeting in the sunny Paphos, that itself has a fascinating international history.

On behalf of the ESA RN15 Board and the Organizing Committee for ESA RN 15 Midterm Conference 2022 – Global Sociology: theory and practice in the 21st century, it gives us great pleasure to thank our highly appreciated participants and contributors, as well as the keynote speakers of our conference. We hope you find the abstract book as fascinating to read as we found it when we compiled it!

On behalf of the organizing committee, I wish you all a wonderful conference!

Marjaana Rautalin
Chair of the Organizing Committee
Tampere University

Programme

Thursday 5 May

9:00-9:15 Opening words by Marjaana Rautalin

9:15-10:15 Keynote: Anna Amelina - *Colonialities, Spatialities, Positionalities: Revisiting Challenges in Studying Transnational Social Relations*

10:15-10:30 Break

10:30-12:00 Parallel sessions I

- Perspectives on the world culture
- Collaboration across borders

12:00-13:15 Lunch

13:15-14:15 Keynote: Mike Zapp - *The Structures of World Society: Geography, Discourse and Networks in Global Health and Global Education, 1900–2020*

14:15-14:30 Break

14:30-16:00 Parallel sessions II

- Politics and power in the world society
- Minorities, citizenship, and people on the move
- Online A: Conflicts and sustainability

16:00-16:15 Break

16:15-17:45 Parallel sessions III

- Policies and policymaking from a transnational perspective
- Traumas, rights, and narratives
- Theoretical and methodological developments

17:45-18:00 Break

18:00-18:30 Semi-plenary: Max Haller - *Human rights - A Western or a universal idea? A sociological perspective*

18:30-19:30 Wine reception

19:30-21:00 Conference dinner

Friday 6 May

9:15-10:15 Keynote: Victor Roudometof - *Global Sociology and Its Discontents*

10:15-10:30 Break

10:30-12:00 Parallel sessions IV

- Art, culture, and consumption
- Migration
- Online B: Global and local entanglements

12:00-13:15 Lunch

13:15-14:15 Keynote: Mari Toivanen - *Digital nomadism: Examining the relationship between mobile subjectivities and the nation-state*

14:15-14:30 Break

14:30-16:00 Parallel sessions V

- Markets, policies, and rights
- Religion and politics in a globalized world

16:00-16:15 Break

16:15-17:15 RN 15 Business meeting

17:15-18:30 Farewell

Keynotes

Anna Amelina

Anna Amelina is a Professor for Intercultural Studies at the University of Cottbus-Senftenberg. Her research areas in the field of sociology are transnational studies, migration and citizenship studies, gender and intersectionality, cross-border social inequalities and European studies. Her recent publications include a number of co-edited special issues such as Theorizing Society Across Borders. Global, Transnational and Postcolonial Perspectives (2021, vol. 69/3) in Current Sociology (with M. Boatca, A. Weiß and G. Bongaerts) as well as Current Conflicts over Migration, Belonging and Membership: Classificatory Struggles Revisited in Journal of Immigrant & Refugee Studies (2021, vol. 19/1, with J. Schäfer and M. Trzeciak). Recent co-edited volumes and monographs include: Boundaries of European Social Citizenship (with Carmel, E., Runfors, A., Scheibelhofer) Routledge (2020); Gender and Migration: Transnational and Intersectional Prospects (with H. Lutz), Routledge (2019); Transnationalizing Inequalities in Europe: Sociocultural Boundaries, Assemblages and Regimes of Intersection, Routledge (2017). She is currently one of the leads of a research centre on "Migration, Conflict and Social Change" (MIKOWA) at the Cottbus University (www.b-tu.de/mikowa).

Victor N. Roudometof

Victor N. Roudometof (PhD Sociology & Cultural Studies, University of Pittsburgh 1996) has held positions with Princeton University, the American College of Thessaloniki, Washington and Lee University, Miami University & the University of Cyprus. He has been an invited speaker and/or Erasmus visiting professor to a dozen universities around the globe. He is also Faculty Fellow with Yale University's *Center for Cultural Sociology* & docent [Professor (adj.)] with the University of Tampere (Finland). He is the author of four monographs and edited or coedited several volumes on Americanization, transnationalism, nationalism & religion as well as several issues of refereed journals. Currently, he is co-editing with Ugo Dessi the Handbook of Culture and Glocalization (Forthcoming, Edward Elgar Press). His work has been translated and published in Greece, France, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia & Bulgaria. His publication record includes over 150 articles, volume chapters, encyclopedia entries, book reviews & review essays. He has served as reviewer for 60+ major social science journals & as external reviewer for evaluations conducted by major research centers as well as for international publishers & for governmental organizations. Currently, he is a member in the editorial boards of the *European Journal of Social Theory* (London: Sage), *Nations and Nationalism* (Wiley/Blackwell) the *Greek Review of Social Research* (Athens, Greece: Greek Center for Social Research) and *Religions* (Basel, Switzerland: MDPI).

Mari Toivanen

Mari Toivanen works as Acadaemy Research Fellow at the Swedish School of Social Science, University of Helsinki (2020-2025). She has conducted ethnographic research on migration and mobilities, diaspora, transnationalism, and more recently on location-independent work. Her work has been published e.g. in *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, *Ethnicities, Social Inclusion, Journal of Genocide Research* and *Nordic Journal of Migration Research*, and her open access-monograph on the Kurdish diaspora mobilisation in France was published in 2021 by Helsinki University Press. She has co-edited the volumes *Methodological approaches in Kurdish Studies* (Lexington) and *Undoing Homogeneity in the Nordic Region* (Routledge) and is the co-editor of the book series *Transnationalism and Diaspora* by the Edinburgh University Press. In her current Academy project, she is conducting research on location-independent work and life-style mobilities, particularly focusing on digital nomadism. More information on her project can be found here: www.diginomadproject.com.

Mike Zapp

Mike Zapp is a post-doctoral researcher at the Department of Social Sciences, Université du Luxembourg (UL) and fellow at the Centre de Sociologie des Organisations, Sciences Po Paris. He has recently taken up a new posting at the Luxembourg Ministry of Education. Before joining UL, he worked as a fellow at Johns Hopkins University and Stanford University. His research is interested in institutional and organizational change in global higher education and science, international organizations and global governance. His work has appeared in *Minerva*, *International Sociology*, *Sociology of Education* and the *Comparative Education Review*.

Max Haller

Max Haller, Prof.em. Dr., born 1947 in Sterzing (Italy), studied sociology in Vienna. After scientific work in Vienna and Mannheim, he was professor of sociology at the University of Graz) 1985-2015. He is a member of the Austrian Academy of Science and president of the Viennese Sociological Association. Formerly, he was president of the Austrian Sociological Association and was co-founder and Vice-president of the European Sociological Association and the International Social Survey Programme (ISSP). He was a visiting professor at universities in Germany, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Trento (Italy), Sta. Barbara (CA, USA) and St. Augustine University of Tanzania. His research areas are social stratification. ethnicity and national identity, sociology of science, sociological theory. He published and edited 40 books /readers and about 250 papers in international sociological Journals (including AJS, ASR, Review Francaise de Sociologie, International Sociology). Recent publications: "A global scientific community? Universalism versus national parochialism in patterns of international communication in sociology", International Journal of Sociology 2019, vol.49; *Dual Citizenship and Naturalisation. Global, Comparative and Austrian Perspectives*, Austrian Academy of Sciences Publishing, Wien 2021 (ed. with Rainer Bauböck); *Ethnic Stratification and Socioeconomic Inequality Around the World. The End of Exploitation and Exclusion?* (in cooperation with Anja Eder), Ashgate, Farnham/Surrey (UK), 2015.

Sessions

Perspectives on world culture

Chair: Victor Roudometof

National parliament and the worldwide institutionalization of politics

Pertti Alasuutari, Tampere University

National parliament has become a self-evident worldwide standard regardless of its actual role in decision-making. In this paper I discuss how parliaments have contributed to institutionalizing politics on a global scale, setting the rules for the game that the government, parliamentarians, political parties, and other stakeholders play, and which the general public follows through the media. The current global isomorphism evident in parliamentary politics has been achieved through various mechanisms. Spectacular performances and ritual-like invariant practices observed in national parliaments have been crucial in instituting parliament as a highly respected, even sacred organizational form that provides the vocabulary within which people conceive of politics. As primary components of the international community, legislatures also emulate one another.
Furthermore, fashions in management models circulate amongst parliaments and all types of formal organizations such as business corporations, NGOs, and intergovernmental organizations. Since the rules of the game of parliamentary politics and similar throughout the world, also the strategies used in playing or bending the rules travel globally. The consecrated status of parliament is evident in the fact that autocratic regimes simulate key features of parliamentarism.

Pop-Rock and the Global Transformation of Musicking

Motti Regev, The Open University of Israel

This paper follows and expands on one element of my keynote in 2021. It takes a macro cultural view at the impact of pop-rock music on modes of musicking in the world, following several decades of "pop-rockization". I propose that beyond any history of genres, styles, musical works, scenes and subcultures, a major historical impact of pop-rock on musical culture around the world consists of transforming the very practice of musicking. That is, how the essential activities of engaging with music have been globally transformed. I will outline several key aspects of musicking that have been transformed in most music cultures of the world following several decades of pop-rock presence in them. These aspects include modes of generating musical sounds, modes of distributing musical sound, modes of accessing and receiving musical sounds, social or cultural uses and functions of music, and the very nature of musical sounds. The paper will propose that while the historical and global transformation of these aspects is not exclusive or limited to the world of pop-rock music, this musical culture is nevertheless the major site that propelled it. I will briefly describe, for each aspect, how the cultural world of pop-rock music significantly contributed to its worldwide transformation, leading the way to the current condition where musicking, as a practice, stands as a prominent manifestation of cultural cosmopolitanism.

The crying game: Epistemic governance and emotional work in global parliamentary discourse

Ali Qadir, **Pertti Alasuutari** & **Heba Sigurðardóttir**, Tampere University

Despite much innovative scholarship locating emotions within social research, there is no comprehensive understanding of the role emotions play in social change generally and in institutional settings specifically. Moreover, there is little scholarship on the global aspects of references to or evoking of emotions. In this paper we undertake an empirical analysis of parliamentary debates on new legislation in seven countries over 20 years to probe how emotions are invoked in justifications for social change. We find that emotions are best considered not as uncontrolled natural urges and ruptures in rational communication. Rather, politicians recognize that their audiences are moved by emotions and so work on that emotionality in defined ways that we identify. Moreover, the way agents of change work on emotions can be theoretically integrated with other ways to influence others' conduct, as discussed in the theory of epistemic governance. We show how this contributes to a more thorough-ranging understanding of the means of epistemic governance. Finally, we expect our analysis to show no notable variation across time, policy sector, language, or country, suggesting a worldwide dimension to emotional work in social change. We argue that emotional work does not vary by geographical context but rather by institutionalized setting and show that this opens new directions for studying emotions in global social change.

Collaboration across borders

Chair: Marco Caselli

Faltering Nordic Solidarity? Diverging COVID-19 Strategies and their impact on Cross-border Health Cooperation

Alban Davesne, OsloMet

When the bridge across the Øresund strait between Denmark and Sweden was inaugurated on the 1st of July 2001, it was celebrated as a symbol of Nordic regional integration. Yet for its 20th anniversary, the bridge has come to embody border shutdowns as it remained closed for weeks due to COVID-19 restrictions while Nordic governments struggled to coordinate their pandemic responses. Looking at the health care sector and analysing Nordic integration and cross-border cooperation trajectories since the 1990s, this contribution investigates a paradox of Nordic health policymaking: how could one of the leading European region in the field of cross-border healthcare cooperation have become one of the most inconsistent in terms of health policy coordination once the pandemic hit? This contradiction, the paper argues, is in fact part of a largely overlooked process of fragmentation of Nordic cooperation. While local or bottom-up cooperation initiatives in border regions benefited from both the Europeanization and regionalization of health care provision, the institutional or top-down approach to Nordic health care coordination, historically channelled by the Nordic Council, has been struggling to build on past achievements. As a result, cross-border Nordic cooperation initiatives grows but remains bounded by the territorial and legal framework of national health systems, while national authorities have lost the impetus to engage in Nordic affairs and tend to hold on to what remains their national competencies. This contribution will thus provide insights on the potential effects of the crisis on the interplay between top-down and bottom-up strands of Nordic cooperation.

Rethinking Solidarities Across Borders

Manisha Desai, University of Connecticut

Our current moment is marked not only by the crises of global pandemic and climate change but also, the undermining of modernist certainties of progress and emancipation on the left; the neoliberal hegemonies in the center; and the ascendancy of neo fascist and populist uprisings on the right. Given these dynamics, how might we rethink solidarities across borders, fraught as they are but necessary to meet the global crises? By way of an answer I engage Conway's (2019) three modalities of solidarities: counter-hegemonic, intersectional feminist, and pluriversal to offer two interrelated reflections. One, *Ubuntu* and *Sarva Vishwa Kutumbh* (the whole world is a family) as modalities of solidarities from the Global South even though they may not align with the Eurocentric understanding of the concept and two, the importance of non-colonial languages in our theorizing and praxis. These reflections, I suggest, contribute to reimagining global and transnational sociological theorizing and praxis.

The European Union Social Dimension

Stefania Adriana Bevilacqua, Sapienza

The Europeanisation of social phenomena creates such interdependencies between individual and collective actors that it is no longer possible to reduce to a national territorial delimitation.

Even if the methodological nationalism leads us towards the analysis of an aggregate of different societies, in search of their differences or commonalities to reveal ambiguities or dualities, this paper intends to argue for the existence of a unitary European Social Dimension.

In fact, it has generated models of behaviour of stable social actors within a new perimeter, determining a properly European space, with its own norms, its own legal facts, its own institutions, its own processes and therefore its own social outcomes that deserve to be observed.

In the first part we will define the perimeter of the ESD, distinct from national one, emphasising that it does not cover all areas of social action but only those areas affected by the power to adopt law.

In a second part, we will explain how European integration is affected by the vocation of EU law to penetrate the internal sphere of Member States by operating as invasive phenomenon, *interfering* on social process and social structures.

In conclusion, the paper intends to demonstrate the need to make an effort to move away from traditional categories by trying to relate to a truly European dimension of social action as a space limited and developed by EU law within which interactions give rise to social practices distinct from national spheres.

Looking for allies – Regional Parliaments strategies for engaging in EU affairs

Elisabeth Donat & **Barbara Mataloni**, University of Continuing Education Krems

EUs Regional Parliaments have been empowered through various reforms of the multilevel governance system from the Maastricht treaties onwards. Some regions used these opportunities for attempting to emancipate from their nation states. Our paper aims to analyse informal channels and ways of transnational cooperation among regional MPs using data of a survey in Austria, Germany, Spain, France, Poland and the Czech Republic. We investigate regional MPs contacts and ask for their "networks" at local, regional, national and European level. Data collection took place during 2020 and 2021 when the COVID-19 crisis substantially influenced public and political life. Hence our data set gives also hints on perceived allies and cooperation strategies in times of crisis.

By means of an exploratory analysis we aim to find out which actors and groups of actors are perceived as powerful by regional MPs first. We find strategies like cooperating, by-passing and ring-fencing of regions with their nation states in our data (Jeffrey 2000, Börzel & Bauer 2011). In a second step we ask for drivers and motives among the MPs for engaging in and on EU affairs. While many of our respondents feel obliged to represent citizens at the regional and national level, only a few interpret their mandate in terms of a Regional *and* the European polity. Glocalization or thinking and acting regional and transnational at the same time is still not that common among the respondents.

Politics and power in world society

Chair: Pertti Alasuutari

World Society and National Climate Change Policy Networks: Evidence from Six Countries

Tuomas Ylä-Anttila, University of Helsinki
Keiichi Satoh, Hitotsubashi University
Antti Gronow, University of Helsinki

In this paper, our objective is to (a) examine whether connections to international organizations (IOs) have effects on the climate change policy beliefs of national policy actors and (b) specify the conditions under which such influence, if it exists, tends to be particularly strong. Using an original network survey dataset of policy actors in five countries (Australia, Czech Republic, Finland, Germany, Japan, and Sweden) and methods of social network analysis, we assess the influence of IOs on policy beliefs and various factors that may have an effect on how strong this influence is. We find that IO influence does exist and is affected by the following six factors: (1) the more domestic organizations an IO is connected to, the more influential it is; (2) scientific information exchange connections are more important than collaboration connections; (3) IOs influence beliefs concerning technical policy choices more than they influence fundamental beliefs concerning the nature and causes of climate change; (4) IOs have less influence over beliefs over which there is much disagreement among their domestic recipients; (5) the organizations whose network is small are more influential when their network configuration is of the homophilous structural hole type and (6) the organizations whose network is larger, on the other hand, are particularly influential when their network is of the homophilous cohesion type, (a so-called echo-chamber network). These results suggest that the determinants of IO influence on national policymaking are much more complex than the simple number of connections to organizations involved in national policymaking. The type of IOs, the type of connections, the type of beliefs and the network configurations all play a role in shaping IO influence.

Nationalism, Globalization, and the Pandemic. The Perfect Authoritarian Storm

Despina Lalaki, The New York City College of Technology, City University of New York – CUNY

Globalization is doomed if one looks at the pandemic as a predictor. If trade and technology have made the world into a more connected and interdependent place, world-wide pressing social, economic, and environmental challenges will tear it apart.

Going beyond dire predictions, however, about the future of globalization, the paper will attempt to trace some of the de-globalizing processes and its political effects as these are expressed in narratives designed to boost national unity in face of the new global mysterious disease. The paper will argue that in anticipation of growing unrest due to the global economic crisis and sharpening of class divisions states are investing in nationalism and national mobilization testing in the process the limits of liberal democracy. Racism and xenophobia are employed to distract on the one hand from the growing authoritarianism and the failings of market economy while patriotism and national solidarity are employed to stifle protest and class discontent.

Yet again, starting from the same pandemic narratives and capitalizing on some of its most popular metaphors the paper highlights new opportunities to thrust into relief the cracks of the system and strive for different discourses through renewed struggles for hegemony. The unskilled laborers who turned into "essential workers" – nationals, immigrants, documented or not – the overnight uncontested expansion of the welfare state, the widening wealth gap, and the radicalization of the work force point to the direction of new prospects in opposition to the rising authoritarianism of the neoliberal markets and their aid-governments.

Palestinian sojourner passing in Israel

Liora Sion, University of Copenhagen

This paper defines and analyses the performance of ´sojourner passing´ in the Israeli´- Palestinian context. That is, an abrupt and temporary event limited in space and time in order to gain access to sexual, financial or militarised goals. This act of passing not only occurs from a marked, oppressed group to an unmarked, hegemonic group, but also vice versa. This phenomenon brings together low-class Mizrahim and Arab men and is prevalent in peripheral and mixed towns.

Passing refers to a performative movement out of a marked group into the hegemonic group. The passing person thus becomes an invader of the dominant group in order to exploit the benefits of membership of that group. For the most part, passing is a one-directional phenomenon and there is no conceptualisation or accepted term for the opposite experience – moving from the hegemonic group to the marked group.

While passing is often researched in the American context, the Israeli case may sheds new theoretical lights on this phenomenon. First, in a society with strict ethnic division and bright boundaries, sojourner passing is probably the only possible performance of passing that does not threaten ethnic identities because of its temporality. Second, while the literature focuses on passing as a performative movement out of a marked group into the hegemonic group, in the Israeli context it occurs on both sides of the ethno-national boundary and, in what brings us to the third point, it is predominantly a masculine performance.

Infrastructures of Urban Migrant Citizenship, Slow Emergencies and Covid-19

Lisa Maurer Chodorkoff & **Tatiana Fogelman**, Institute for People and Technology, Roskilde University

Covid-19 pandemic has had widely differential impacts on different populations around the globe, including diverse migrant populations. In Denmark it had been in particular those without an official registration number - albeit not necessarily without a legal basis to reside - that have been most severely impacted. Often precariously housed or homeless, they rely on non-profit organizations and charities to access basic resources or substantiate their latent rights. Drawing on ethnographic research and interviews with such migrant service providers in Copenhagen, conducted in fall 2021, we analyze the impacts of the pandemic on their work. We approach our analysis through a concept of citizenship, understood here as a socio-political relation between the subject and the political community with the shape and extent of rights, resources and recognition at its core, regardless of subject's formal legal status. These informally networked, city-reliant migrant service providers are then a crucial component of an infrastructure of citizenship. Our analysis highlights an uneven

landscape of impacts from 'crisis management' irretrievably derailing long-term programming to a provision of openings - some more tentative than others - to novel practices, tactics and collaborations. Throughout we pay attention especially to these providers' interfacing with the municipality, stressing their complex navigations of formal-informal boundaries in what is otherwise a heavily formalized and state-regulated system of care. Theoretically we draw on the recent work on slow emergencies (Anderson et al 2020; Grove et al 2021) to make sense of these navigations for the (post)pandemic urban migrant citizenship.

Minorities, citizenship, and people on the move

Chair: Tiina Kontinen

National minorities and the challenge of the pandemic: the case of Peruvians in Milan

Marco Caselli, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore

As part of an international study on the impact that Covid has had on the citizens of three different national minorities in as many European cities, this contribution intends to present the first results of a research aimed at investigating the effects of the pandemic on Peruvian citizens residing in Milan. This research was conducted through the analysis of secondary documents and data and the carrying out of semi-structured interviews (with leading exponents of the Peruvian community in Milan, with other privileged witnesses of the reality under investigation, but also with ordinary citizens of Peruvian origin). In particular, the study intends to explore the dynamics that have been developed and the resources deployed by Peruvian citizens to deal with the pandemic and the effect that this same pandemic has had on the projects and relationships of the people studied.

Resilience by local 'state capacity'? – understanding local migrant minority policy during the Covid-19 pandemic through the prism of a Stuttgart City Borough

Jörg Dürrschmidt, University of Applied Sciences Ludwigsburg

The paper addresses issues of local integration policy making in the context of the Covid 19 pandemic. It takes its starting point from Fukuyama's assumption that especially in times of crisis the resilience of a society is based on 'state capacity'. In analytic distinction from mere rule of law, 'state capacity' implies the ability to provide a technical and knowledge infrastructure that allows people to keep to the rules. Within the framework of multilevel governance, local government plays a distinct role in maintaining 'state capacity'. As a relatively independent level of governance, it mediates and moderates abstract rules and regulations towards the sociocultural diversity of the municipal population. It is here that an established culture of cooperation and trustworthiness can help to reach out to migrant populations and, in turn, influences if and how minority claims can be articulated.

Following the methodological approach of 'sociological forensics' (Inglis), the paper examines these theoretical claims against the prismatic experience of pandemic crisis management by a Stuttgart city borough. It draws mainly on semi-structured interviews with local state representatives and representatives of the Turkish community in Stuttgart. Where appropriate the argument draws on comparative aspects provided by the sister projects in London and Milan, which are part of a collaborative project on "State Capacity and the Capacity to Aspire: The Corona pandemic as a testing ground of local migrant integration."

Exploring the cultural context of voluntarism: Attitudes and motivations among Generation 1.5 former Soviet Union immigrants versus native-born Israelis

Ester Zychlinski & **Maya Kagan**, Ariel University

Studies suggest that for a brief period following their immigration, the volunteerism patterns of immigrants diverge quite strikingly from those of the local populace due to cultural factors and initial adjustment challenges. At approximately twenty years post-immigration, this disparity diminishes. It typically occurs in countries in which the immigrant group doesn't constitute a critical mass of the population. Yet, the former Soviet Union (FSU) immigration wave into Israel in the-1990s brought a critical mass of immigrants to the country. Despite the fact that volunteering, as part of social citizenship and normative culture, is an important element of acculturation among immigrants, volunteering attitudes and motivations among Generation 1.5 immigrants have not been sufficiently explored. The present study narrows the knowledge gap by comparing volunteering attitudes and motivations among Generation 1.5 immigrants from the former Soviet Union (FSUs) in their second and third decade in Israel to native-born Israelis (NBIs). The sample included 576 participants, 50.2% NBIs and 49.8% FSUs. Generation 1.5 FSU immigrants exhibited less favorable attitudes toward volunteerism than NBIs. FSUs also rated career motivations for volunteerism significantly higher than NBIs, and values significantly lower than NBIs. Significant differences were found between motivations for volunteering among each cohort, separately, as well. In the context of mass immigration, re-socialization regarding volunteering among Generation 1.5 FSUs living 2-3 decades in Israel appears relatively weak, possibly attributable to FSU policy and culture of opposition to independent volunteerism. It`s suggested that policies that consider the preferred motivations of Generation 1.5 may better promote volunteering.

Digital communications, at-distance relationships, social networks and the relationship between migrants and the state: Bangladeshi Muslims in a highly globalised city

John Eade, **Michal Garapich** & **Shamea Mia**, University of Roehampton

This paper draws on data collected for the collaborative project between London, Stuttgart and Milan, "State Capacity and the Capacity to Aspire: The Corona pandemic as a testing ground of local migrant integration." The London team are exploring through semi-structured interviews the narratives of Bangladeshi Muslims living in the borough of Tower Hamlets and uncovering rich transnational networks generated through digital communications that help them cope with the current pandemic. These communications are bound up with the increase of at-distance relationships that are generating new social networks and involve the 'state' through local social actors.

We focus here on (a) the role played by local mosques where officials reflect on how the capacity for emotional expression has been curtailed by the streamlining of funeral practices and (b) how at-distance, virtual communications has affected intergenerational relationships with regard to the state's vaccination programme and Bangladeshi attitudes towards the 'state', more generally. These developments illuminate particular moments within a global crisis and the ways in which migrant populations are, through digital communications, involved in changing local, national, transnational and global networks. Thus, whilst we emphasize how local, place-based culture is shaped within a changing world, we will also reflect on how methodological and theoretical developments within global and transnational sociology can help us to understand the impact of global pandemic on these networks and the changing relationship between migrant populations and nation-state institutions.

Online session A - Conflicts and sustainability

Chair: Peter Holley

Zoom-link: https://tuni.zoom.us/j/64799315909

Migration and Identity in the Risk Society

Isabella Corvino, Perugia University

The migration phenomenon is a constant in human history; a history of power built up on the concept of identity (Castells 2011). This concept shapes the way people build relationships and introduces new interpretations of the recognition process (Habermas, Taylor 1994) leading to practices able to facilitate intercultural dialogue or not (Cesareo, Blangiardo 2009). This work aims at analysing some paradigmatic case to show how a particular migration imaginary is produced by media. The author will analyse how changed the media talk before and during pandemic: the topic of invasion pre pandemic and then the need for migrant workers connected to the risk of their arrival.
Migration invests the logic of contemporary global life showing up as a great risk and when the processes of identity meet the risk society (Beck 1992) during pandemic, the migration topic just slide out from the political priority line determining changes in the integration process. The nexus between identity and media, in which media can channel, multiply and produce a counter-narrative based on an "aesthetic cosmopolitanism" (Cicchelli, Octobre, Riegel 2019) of migration there is the possibility to reshape the concept of community and cosmopolitanism in a changing world. The method will comprehend text analysis and interviews to media experts analysing media as the place in which to explore identity, cosmopolitan imaginary and new forms of risk perception (Corvino 2021); thinking the media arena as a public identity battle space having a particular influence on social relations and integration practices.

Sustainability and Western capitalism in the Pandemic Era

Laura Gherardi, University of Parma

During the last few years, the notion of sustainability faced a major change both in discourses and practices of capitalism in western countries. Considering the Covid-19 pandemic, the focus to sustainability by political élites and social movements, many firms in western countries started a change concerning sustainability practices. I present an analysis of sustainability and sustainable practices in the international economic and managerial literature (over 60 articles published, among others, in The Economist, Harvard Business Review and Il sole 24 Ore) compared to the analysis I carried out ten years ago, in the post-crisis 2008, on the same literature. I show limits and failures concerning sustainability in contemporary capitalism, where ethically oriented funds are continually being created, the terms ecological transition and climate change are on the everyday agenda and companies provide ESG reports.

Among limits and failures concerning sustainability, I emphasize in particular: the failure of sustainability that occurs when it is remitted solely to technological innovations, the lack of shared metrics on sustainability and the denial of international inequalities. This latter theme, linked to sustainability by global movements such as the climate justice movement, is ignored by the largest part of the analyzed literature.

The Centrality of Rights on Subjective Well-Being of Children in Public Care

Andrea Jover Pujol, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

Law 14/2010 of May 27 on rights and opportunities in childhood and adolescence exposes in its preamble "the recognition of the right of all minors to receive the comprehensive care necessary for the development of their personality and well-being in the family and social context". Likewise, according to its article 1, the purpose of this law is to promote the well-being of children and adolescents and the actions of prevention, care, protection and participation to guarantee the exercise of their rights, the assumption of their responsibilities and the scope of its comprehensive development. The public administration, therefore, is responsible for guaranteeing the rights of children who are under the protection system. But what do these children and adolescents think about the fulfillment of these rights? And how does this affect in their subjective well-being?

This is a case study of the EAIA del Vallès Occidental with a sequential mixed methodological design, this article exposes, on the one hand, the centrality of the perception of the guarantee of the rights of children and adolescents that is under the system of protection when evaluating their subjective well-being. On the other hand, it shows that the perceived lack of exercise of these rights appears as a connecting thread in all the interviews carried out. Finally, the consequent need to establish mechanisms to make children's rights within the framework of the child protection system is discussed.

Policies and policymaking from a transnational perspective

Chair: Niko Pyrhönen

Protest movements and social policies: the Yellow Vests case

Gwenaëlle Bauvois, University of Helsinki

In recent years, we have witnessed many protest movements: anti-immigration, anti-vaxx but also against social inequalities at large. As Caruna (2021) puts it, this latter category of protesters "want more social policies". Ortiz et al. (2022) have shown that nearly 80% of all protests worldwide between 2006 and 2020 demand that governments take more responsibility in implementing various policies: economic, environmental and first and foremost social policies.

One of the most significant examples of movements demanding more social policies is the Yellow Vests (YV) movement. The fuel tax increase initially led the protests, however the YV grew into a much broader movement. Protesters demanded more "politiques sociales", not only in France but also globally, as the movement spread all over the world. According to French sociologist François Dubet, over the past 30 years, social policies have increasingly been fragmented to the point of completely shattering any sense of solidarity. From this perspective, the YV movement exemplifies perfectly how citizens take on the streets to demand more meaningful social policies on the global scale.

This talk will discuss how the YV protesters - in France and globally - articulated their demands for more social policies in the context of a protest movement based on social justice; and how they 'performed' the real or perceived societal 'crisis' (Moffitt, 2015) that these policies should address.

In the intersection of national politics and global trends: Restricting civic space in Tanzania

Tiina Kontinen, University of Jyväskylä
Ajali M. Nguyahambi, University of Dodoma

In their article 'Contentions over World Culture: The rise of legal restrictions on foreign funding to NGOs', Bromley et al. (2020) reflect whether the increasing constraints for civil society organizations (CSOs) and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) across the globe indicate emerging global backlash towards the world society and NGOs as its main carriers. Consequently, it becomes interesting to explore the ways in which the mechanism and justifications for restricting civil society organizations are not only related to domestic dynamics revolved around regimes and their discontents but also shaped by the globally circulating slogans and arguments such as NGOs being 'foreign agents'. Drawing on development studies literatures on changing civic space and varieties of African democracies, this paper examines the types of constraints and their justifications used to restrict civil society organizations in Tanzania during 2015-2020. The paper focuses the regime of President John Magufuli, who received international reputation based on his nationalism and authoritarianism. Based on analysis of the restrictive legal and discursive measures taken to restrict civil society, and interviews on the experiences of the prevalent national NGOs conducted in 2021-2022, we show how restrictions are shaped by both, the Tanzanian democratic culture characterized by hegemony of the ruling party, and by the globally circulating slogans such as 'Tanzania first' used to diminish what is called 'Western ideas' such as human rights.

International organizations and the global proliferation of conditional cash transfers

Lauri Heimo, Tampere University

Scholars working from a constructionist perspective in international relations, sociology and political science have drawn attention to global governance through knowledge production, dissemination and usage and paid increasing attention to the role international organizations play in the production of internationally adhered norms and more specific scripts or models for national policymaking. Drawing from this scholarship the aim of this paper is to explore international organizations' role in the proliferation of a global policy model known as 'conditional cash transfer'. The results presented and the arguments made are based on the central findings of my PhD dissertation titled Discursive Construction of Conditional Cash Transfers: Analysis of a Global Policy Model. I highlight the active role of the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank in the proliferation of conditional cash transfers by showing how these organisations constructed the CCT policy model and facilitated its global proliferation.

Impact of the economic differences between international students' countries of study and countries of origin on their stay rate

Filip Němeček, University of Oxford

This paper examines the impact of the economic differences between international university students' countries of study and countries of origin on their stay rate. Theoretically, the paper draws on the neoclassical conceptualisations of migration and innovatively applies them to student mobility, which constitutes a major form of international migration to and within Europe. It analyses a quantitative dataset of 12,610 observations based on the data of over 1.2 million non-EU university students who graduated from universities in 26 EU member states in the years 2013-2017. The paper utilises multiple linear regression analysis to explain the differences in stay rate using variation in numerous economic and sociocultural characteristics of students' countries of origin and countries of study. The data used and the quantitative methodology of analysis complement previous literature in the field, which is primarily qualitative and centred around location-specific case studies. The findings show that economic differences between origin and destination countries have a major impact on stay rate. The models explain up to three-fifths of the variation in stay rate and show that it is particularly the economic conditions in the countries of study that influence it. They also show that the stay rate is higher in countries that are more economically advantaged, such as those with a higher GDP growth, although there are also several instances where the opposite effect is found. This puzzle is explained by discussing how the economic differences between countries of study also affect which students will study there in the first place.

Traumatic experiences, rights, and narratives

Chair: Victor Roudometof

The 1974 Turkish invasion of Cyprus as contested cultural trauma: narratives and counter-narratives of remembrance and forgetting

Eleftherios Piperi, University of Cyprus

For almost half-century, the island of Cyprus has been forcefully divided by the Turkish military invasion of 1974. In this paper, we analyze the events of 1974 through the lenses of cultural trauma theory (Alexander, 2013). In particular, we focus on the manner in which the politics of mutual distrust and inter-ethnic conflict are manifested through the deployment of the Greek-Cypriot and Turkish-Cypriot post-1974 ethnocentric narratives, as well as the employment of symbols as visible markers of these narratives. Greek Cypriots have perceived the events of 1974, which solidified the division and occupation of the island, as cultural trauma. In contrast, the Turkish Cypriots regard the unlawful intervention of Turkey as a liberation act empowered by the social unrest and insecurity caused by the supporting rhetoric for union with Greece and the isolation and fear of their living isolated in ethnic enclaves during the 1964-1974 period. Our analysis emphasizes the creation of two disparate narratives in both ethnic communities, reforming memory through institutional representations, homogenizing their communities respectively and justifying their own community's sense of fairness. The events of "1974", either as a contested cultural trauma or as a historical inevitability, have been engraved in the collective memory of both ethnic communities, imbuing the collective consciousness with symbolic representations visible in nearly all aspects of social life. Particular examples will be presented and analyzed in the paper. The symbolization of "1974" and the adaption of its memory to the aforementioned narratives has actively affected the political and public discourse, especially the legal and diplomatic arenas. The perpetually unsolved Cyprus Issue engulfs the politics of symbolization drawing out reference from both narratives strengthening the memory of "1974".

The Missing Arch

Haimo Schulz Meinen, University of Hannover

18 years after that the European Union expanded into the extreme southeastern end of the Mediterranean in Cyprus east of Cairo, east of the Suez Canal, 20.000 drowned migrants in this sea later, there is still no Arch, no Statue of Liberty, no Ellis Island, no raised hand as an adequate symbol of the EU that could be seen from the sea. Do the 12 million slaves, imprisoned and abducted from african countries, the hundreds of millions of forced labourers in the colonies, do all the oppression and impacts of Europe to the rest of the world not count? „Black lives matter" has provoked the removal of some statues of former slave owners and the establishment of a slavery abolition monument in Richmond (USA), but why stays the monument in Nantes (F) even for the french EU-presidency in the first half of 2022 the only big one in the EU? Why is the EU immigration policy still blocked? Why is there still no legal ferry for the distance to Syria which is less than the distance Paris - London? This contribution, before criticizing the responsibles and suggesting a solution, investigates the oppositions and failures of activists that have led to a still absent largely visible sign of a postcolonial matured Europe on the coast of Cyprus.

Theoretical and methodological developments

Chair: Valtteri Vähä-Savo & Eetu Vento

Reflexivity, Habitus and Post-reflective Choices: Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual People in Cyprus

Andria Christofidou & **Ierodiakonou Christiana**, University of Cyprus

Habitus and reflexivity have been traditionally discussed as opposite ends, with the former being associated with the unconscious and the latter with conscious deliberation. Reflecting on Brooks and Wee's (2008) assertion that the concepts "create a conceptual conundrum since it is not clear how the former can (ever) give rise to the latter, or how the two can co-exist" (p.506), we argue for the possibility of reflexivity being conceptualised as a disposition of the habitus. For this presentation, we draw on qualitative data collected through interviews and life-course calendars with lesbian, gay and bisexual (LGB) people who were raised in the widely heteronormative, traditional and conservative context of Cyprus. While analysing their experiences, perceptions, practices and (post-reflexive) actions, we offer a novel conceptualisation of reflexivity and habitus as strongly interlinked and upholding a complicated relationship. We argue that the many ways that LGB people are Othered in this context, cultivate reflexivity as a disposition of their habitus. Conditioned to self-reflect, they become aware of their difference and shape their practices in ways which will reward them in different fields. Yet, the analysis of their post-reflective practices reveals how reflexivity becomes habitual, and further, how their habitus, which makes them reflexive in the first place, at the same time restricts their post-reflective practices and possible actions. This analysis contributes to debates on reflexivity and habitus and recent efforts to synthesise the two concepts (Adams, 2006; Sweetman, 2003).

A Corpus Linguistic Approach to the Study of World Culture

Eetu Vento, Tampere University

This paper investigates the ways in which various corpus linguistic methods can be utilized to analyze large scale social change. These methods enable the investigator to analyze large swathes of data at the same time retaining the ability to zoom in on specific cases, debates and points in time in order to assess their importance to the general linguistic trends. By using the global ebbs and flows of human rights discourse as an example case, I show how corpus-based approach provides an important level of analysis between the micro-level analysis of discourse used in specific documents or political debates, and macro-level statistical analysis examining the appearance of human rights language in large collections documents, for example in national constitutions or newspaper articles. This kind of meso-level analysis helps us to understand the processes through which human rights became central to the contemporary world culture and the various challenges these rights are now facing around the world. Consequently, I argue that such corpus-based approach is a useful tool for analyzing how and why certain values and viewpoints become popular at a given time while others fail to do so.

Glocalization of medical professional knowledge and practice: A quasi-experimental transnational research design

Anja Weiß et al., University of Duisburg-Essen

Global Studies are often characterized by a holistic approach or an "*integral* notion of the global" (Roudometof 2015: 780), where the local appears to be at the receiving end of global processes. Proponents of glocalization and transnationalization, on the other hand, argue that local forms universalize (Robertson 1992) and that the agency of pluri-local actors and the specifics of situations matter. It is hard to reconcile these approaches as locally embedded research is demanding in terms of time and language skills, which makes it hard to observe more than one or few cases.

The paper explains a quasi-experimental transnational research design that can complement ethnographic and country comparative research. In a study on medical professional knowledge we prompted physicians to treat an actor simulating a globally prevalent disease, heart failure. 71 physicians were video-observed practicing in a realistic setting in Beijing (PRChina), Würzburg (Germany), Ankara (Turkey) and Groningen (Netherlands).

We first present preliminary results on similarities: physicians do not only follow globalizing treatment guidelines, but also similar patterns of greeting and of doctor-patient-interaction. We argue that similarities that are observed despite of contrasts in the sample are a strong argument for global convergence. We then go on to present and discuss some differences between persons and between sites. The research design and sampling do not enable causal explanations for observed differences, but comparison can be used to explore potential explanations. In conclusion, we reflect whether our intervention precludes or enables observation of cultural difference and relations of hegemony.

Assessing Sexuality, Gender and Faith in Asylum Interviews: The Three Chambers of "Inner Truth" Evaluation

Valtteri Vähä-Savo, Tampere University
Venla Koivuluhta, Tampere University
Johanna Hiitola, University of Oulu

The paper looks at how the sexual orientation, gender identity and religious conversion of asylum seekers are assessed in the asylum process in Finland. The dataset concerns two types of cases: 1) the evaluation of whether an asylum seeker claiming to have converted from one religion to another has truly changed their beliefs, 2) the assessment of an asylum seeker's sexual orientation or gender identity in claims based on persecution due to these factors. We analyze the expert authority, technologies of evaluation and testimonial practices involved in public officials' evaluation processes. The focus is on how the "inner truth" of individuals is rendered an object of scrutiny by public officials. We look at the questionnaires, forms and documents that the evaluators use to render the convictions and emotions of individuals into observable and knowable objects. We also analyze the interaction between the evaluators and asylum seekers during the asylum interviews. In addition, the study looks at how the expertise of the evaluators is debated in the national public sphere. Theoretically the study brings together three emerging strands of sociological scholarship that have not previously been in dialogue with each other: epistemic governance, sociology of valuation and evaluation, and epistemic injustice and vulnerability. These frameworks offer tools for analyzing the connections between the three chambers of "inner truth" evaluations: the national public sphere, the institution, and the evaluation room.

Art, culture and consumption

Chair: Motti Regev

Coffee or Tea, Sir? Trying to Drink Tea in Contemporary Finland

Jiachen Ye, University of Helsinki

Tea is both one of the world's most popular drinks and a remarkable plant. The constellation of social practices and cultural beliefs surrounding the plant and the drink can be called "tea culture". The world's first tea culture was the Chinese one, which began circa 1500 years ago. Over the last millennium and a half, it has grown markedly in scope and sophistication, and has become an important facet of Chinese cuisine, culture, and self-identity. As it spread more widely, initially across Eurasia, and then the wider world, distinctive tea cultures appeared in multiple different places, encompassing many millions of people. My research tries to examine the glocalization of tea culture in Europe, with Finland as a case study. Finnish tea culture is fascinating in various ways: it is situated historically between Russia and the West, it is more complex and diverse than it may at first seem, and it is thriving today in new and unexpected ways, while also facing challenges. Rooted in sociology, with 3-year ethnographic investigation, as well as a distinctive methodological aspect of intervening in this field through organising public events about the original one, Chinese tea and its rituals, the research tries to find out how tea has been spread to Finland and how does it "work" locally in an especially coffee- (and alcohol-) dominated taste environment, what are the rituals surrounding tea, in an European cultural context, what does the drinking of tea "achieve" for people, including health and well-being.

Transcultural Sociology of the Arts – a Decolonial Approach

Lisa Gaupp, University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna

Defensive attitudes regarding what is "one's own" and unconscious biases along dividing lines of gender, 'race', class or sexuality seem to rule not only individual behavior but also the curricula and contents of university education itself as well as artistic practices and organizations. Deconstructing such othering processes and established political and educational concepts is at the core of a recently evolving transcultural perspective that answers to the call for decolonizing the university (Bhambra 2018; Mbembe 2016). This paper addresses some of the continuing biases and assumptions underlying sociological training as well as cultural practices and explores possibilities to avoid these by learning from transcultural studies.

In order to do so, some examples as to how the quest to decolonize is standardized, negotiated and challenged in interdisciplinary academic narratives will be unraveled. For instance, the "transcultural turn" and a related "decolonial turn" are also found in is found in the field of music, i.e. in (ethno)musicology (Sardo 2018) and in the sociology of the arts, involving seeing music practices as border-crossings (Peres da Silva and Hondros 2019; Kim and Riva 2014) and calling for greater visibility for underrepresented musical communities (Beyer and Burkhalter 2012). These different academic narratives will be brought together with further approaches from the field of sociology and

cultural studies that follow comparable transcultural perspectives. The paper will hence discuss how, by applying a transcultural perspective to sociological research and teaching as well as in practice, it is indeed possible to avoid the biases underlying education and curating processes and thus decolonize cultural practices and their sociological study.

Cultural Democracy and Identity Discourses

Johan Kolsteeg, Rijksuniversiteit Groningen

Recently the debate on the inclusivity of the cultural sector has been enriched by an approach from the perspective of cultural democracy. While having a complex genealogy, the term is here considered to refer to the totality of a cultural system (production and consumption of culture, and surrounding cultural policies) built on an understanding of people's sense making practices in culture. It encompasses canonical, state funded art but also acknowledges the value of cultural experiences and meaning making processes outside the canonic offer. An cultural democratic policy aware of the cultural experience of people can be achieved, among other things, by creating awareness of mechanisms of othering in cultural policy discourses. This paper takes a discourse-analytical perspective in the context of the Netherlands. It shows how one discussion, on the protection of cultural heritage, can take two opposite directions simultaneously: one in which the role of cultural heritage is to stimulate a debate on diversity, and one on the protection of folkloristic culture. These directions have opposite characteristics respectively acknowledging diversity and depolarisation, and diversity-skeptic polarisation. The border between the two is relatively thin and shows how cultural democracy discourses can be directed towards traditionalism, identity politics and media-cracy, going beyond the cultural policy realm but paradoxically providing cultural democracy with a litmus test. The paper investigates the said case study in the Netherlands and considers options for action.

East Asia Comes to Durham: Bubble Tea Places and Inter-Cultural Spaces

Xinwei Zhang, University of Helsinki

Bubble tea is today a worldwide phenomenon. In line with other British countries, especially London and Manchester, bubble tea has gone from having practically no presence in Durham, a saint-historical university city in Northeast England, to becoming an increasingly common and noticeable form of beverage consumption in Durham a concise time.

Through doing online questionnaires and interviews to memberships of Durham bubble tea society and bubble tea entrepreneurs in Durham, this paper discusses the influence of the British immigration policy and the economic developing strategy of the northeast British region on the Asian young immigrants in Durham.

At the same time, this paper explores why bubble tea, as Asian food and symbolic, can be one of the most popular society themes in Durham University, one of the most famous-ancient British universities located in developing Northeast England, attracting global young students to join in the society.

Migration

Chair: Gwenaëlle Bauvois

Resonant Encounters and Structural Stories: Understanding Migrant Trajectories

Tatiana Fogelman, Roskilde University

Recent explicit examinations of temporalities of migrant's journeys have profoundly questioned once firmly imagined temporal linearity of migrant movement. Especially research with irregular and precarious migrants has highlighted different rhythms and cadences of often 'staggered' mobility and migrants' complex negotiations of waiting and stuck-ness. Researchers of privileged migration have also been asked to pay attention to the temporal openness and eventfulness of migration. This paper offers a conceptual framework through which to make sense of this eventfulness, especially in relation to such migrants' decisions and trajectories. I draw here on (post)migration urban studies, broader social theory and urban mobilities studies respectively to bring together the concepts of encounter, resonance and structural stories, highlighting in particular the temporal aspects of this framework. If encounters seem temporally singular, as well as subject-centered, resonance is much more temporally complex. Empirically, I analyze ethnographic research and interviews conducted with migrants who have moved, some several times, within the eventually more firmly established and thickly textured transnational field between Denmark and Israel; some four decades while others ten years ago. I highlight how over time the types of resonant encounters - with peoples, experiences, objects and ideas, including beyond Zionism – have diversified and how they work to effectuate people's mobility, or lack of it. Overall, the paper traces a shift in the kinds of structural stories people draw on in their narratives about transnational mobility, highlighting a growing importance of stories focused on subject-relevant quality of life relative to those focused on the collective trajectories.

Does Inequality Migrate? The Development of Income Inequality in Germany

Oleg Badunenko & **Maria Popova**, Brunel University London

This article investigates the relationship between migration and economic inequality in Germany using the representative Socio-Economic Longitudinal data from 1985- 2015. The analysis builds on Bourdieu's theory of capital to challenge the view that migrants increase economic disparities. More precisely, it argues that negative migration- related narratives in the public discourse stem from symbolic capital devaluation and the practice of symbolic violence against migrants, discrediting their prestige and respectable reputation within society. This study adds to the extensive debate about the role of migrants, their occupational and educational attainments. The empirical evidence suggests that immigrants are not predominantly occupied in low-wage employment. The educational levels of migrants converge over time with those of natives. Finally, while income inequality has been rising in all federal states in Germany for the last 30 years, migration does not have a significant impact on economic inequality dynamics. Our results add value to further sociological, political and economic debate addressing the recognition and prestige of immigrants as complete members of society.

International migration in Southern Europe: Local social reality and transnational dimensions

Kostas Rontos & **Maria-Eleni Syrmali**, University of the Aegean

Migration movements occurred very early in human societies and it is a key factor in shaping contemporary global world as they consist a complex demographic and socioeconomic phenomenon with enormous consequences for origin and destination areas. The current study analyzes the recent massive inflows from Middle East, Asia and North Africa concerning millions of people who attempt to be channelled in Europe through specific gateways in Southern-European areas including Greece. Under the prism of these trends and in the direction of social integration of the aforementioned populations, a series of factors are considered crucial and should be explored based on scientific criteria. The current research is expected to provide a comprehensive analysis of the institutional bottlenecks and structural rigidities concerning the elimination of disparities founded on different cultural schemes. Critical issues pertaining to migrants' integration under economically disadvantaged and insular conditions in local communities are also discussed grounded on methodological and theoretical developments in the field. Current research will contribute to the agenda setting regarding interventions with the aim to reduce the risk of social exclusion and isolation. Expected research output will further assist specific regions to cope with the foregoing challenges in addition to the wide applicability of suggested strategies at local, national, European and international level.

Online session B - Global and local entanglements

Chair: Lauri Heimo

Conceptualizing the link between global policy adoption and world culture: The case of global out-of-home childcare

Olga Ulybina, Tampere University

The focus of this paper is the link between the modern world culture and national public policy commitments. We explore this link through the case of deinstitutionalization of out-of-home childcare, i.e. the policy of moving children from institutional residential care (aka orphanages) to family-based and family-like care. The paper makes two contributions - an empirical contribution to the study of global social policy, and a theoretical contribution to the world society research, and conceptualizing the link between culture and policy.

We map the global spread of childcare deinstitutionalization, by using our newly collected worldwide dataset of national policy commitments, based on reports by state parties of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Over half of world countries make clear de-institutionalization statements, with 85% of countries making at least partial de-institutionalization statements. At the same time, the data reveal major cross-national variation in the interpretation of de-institutionalization.

We turn to world society theory to conceptualize the relationship between the modern world culture and policy commitments. We find that this relationship does not fit the traditional concepts of world culture adoption, resistance and de-coupling. Our data call for investigation of selective engagement with individual aspects of modern world culture. The case of childcare de-institutionalization highlights the need for a more nuanced analysis of world culture, which would treat policies as manifestations of multiple, possibly independent cultural features, and thereby expand the current notion of world cultural heterogeneity.

Walking the Tightrope between Domestic Pressures and Global Action: Turkish Trade Unions and Labor Internationalism

Irem Yildirim, McGill University

Many scholars examine the effects of market capitalism on labor organizations by proposing international solidarity as an essential strategy for union renewal in the global era. Turkey's major trade union confederations are affiliated with international labor organizations regardless of their political and ideological orientations. Still, such connections have not created a substantial and consistent impact to safeguard basic labor standards and union rights in Turkey. Turkish unions have so far failed to pursue effective international coordination of action and solidarity to protect their interests in the age of neoliberalism. I claim that Turkish unions have been unable to actively and adequately participate in global labor organizing due to their conceptions of trade unionism primarily as a nation-state-based phenomenon. First, Turkish labor laws have defined trade unions mainly as national associations whose priority should be the protection of national interests, thus strictly limiting their global links. Such a legal legacy of industrial relations has hindered Turkish unions from gaining extensive experience with labor internationalism and cultivating long-term awareness of global concerns. Second, their domestic problems – state repression and intense political polarization – have made several Turkish unions develop an instrumental approach to labor

internationalism as they have mostly used their global connections only when needed to resolve domestic issues rather than engaging in global action for the sake of international solidarity. While much of the empirical evidence for my project is based on in-depth interviews with union officials in Turkey, I also carry out archival work on union documents and legal resources.

Redefining international cooperation to development as cosmo-ethic practice dealing with the syndemic condition. Insights from a fieldwork

Augusto Gamuzza, University of Catania

The global instable-equilibrium, engulfed by the pandemic phase, re-defines the social space for solidarity being emphatic primarily with who is perceived as much as similar to us not representing any form of threat. Despite this, as highlighted by the European Economic and Social Committee (2020) volunteers and the civil society organizations - all over the European Union - did not stop during COVID-19; the multifaceted world of organizations reacted to this uncertain period with the re-orientation of strategies and activities to overcome the crisis. All these actions were translated into daily practices by a very huge variety of subjects that embody the concept of cosmopolitan solidarity towards the vulnerable parts of the global social community.

The present work aims to deepen the cosmopolitan solidarity practices phenomenology during COVID-19 pandemic observing how this unexpected social condition impacts biographies and personal life trajectories of volunteers for development in Africa drawing data from a qualitative case study conducted with the volunteers of a NGO based in Italy working in Africa, South America and the Middle East. The interpretive model proposed in this work moves from the cosmopolitan socialization proposal [Cicchelli 2018] implementing a research path that connects the cosmo-ethic practices with social identity of the subject. Do these individuals recognize and emphasize the otherness as a value, surrounding the relevance of a cosmopolitan solidarity spirit toward global issues? The qualitative analysis focus its attention on deepening the cosmo-ethic experiences of the subjects shedding a light on the reshaping process of the identity conflicting elements determined by the biographical trajectories.

Markets, policies, and rights

Chair: Marjaana Rautalin

The social embeddedness of the emergence and internationalization of the wind energy market in Greece

Margarita Komninou, **Nicos Souliotis**, **Gerasimos Karoulas** & **Alex Afouxenidis,** National Center for Social Research (EKKE), Greece

Since 1999, the contribution of wind energy to electricity production in Greece is increasing steadily (currently representing 22.8% of the national electricity production, ELETAEN 2021). The Greek wind energy market is particularly internationalized with around 50% of the market being controlled by foreign companies (ELETAEN 2021), while regulations and subsidies depend largely upon EU policies. The growth of the wind energy and other renewable energy sources in Greece is part of a wider, European and global, process of energy transition.

This paper examines from a sociological perspective the emergence and internationalization of the wind energy market in Greece, by combining a "processual" approach (Abbott 2016) with the concept of "embeddedness" (Polanyi 2001). The first section of the paper presents the emergence of the wind energy market in Greece: the creation of the first experimental plants in the 1980s, the liberation and re-regulation of the electricity market under the EU influence in the 1990s-2000s and the expansion and internationalization of the wind energy market in the 2000s-2010s. The second section examines the social embeddedness of the wind energy market, analyzing a biographical dataset of the board members of the largest Greek and foreign companies operating in Greece. The analysis illustrates the connections of corporate executives with the world of science (universities, research centers) as well as environmental organizations. The paper is part of an ongoing project funded by the Hellenic Foundation for Research and Innovation (SOCINVEST, HFRI-FM17-3211).

The socio-political dimensions of FDI in Greece: the investment of Chinese Cosco in Piraeus Port

Gerasimos Karoulas, **Nicos Souliotis**, **Margarita Komninou** & **Alex Afouxenidis,** National Center for Social Research (EKKE) & University of Crete

Policy-making on Foreign Direct Investments (FDI) involves bargaining between national (government and stakeholders) and international actors (international organizations and multinational corporations). The paper provides a sociological account of COSCO's investment in Piraeus port, Greece. COSCO, a state-owned Chinese corporation, acquired in 2008 the control of one pier and, in 2016 and 2021, purchased 67% of shares of the Piraeus Port Authority SA (OLP).

COSCO's investment in Piraeus port is both a global and local process. It is part of the Chinese "New Silk Road" strategy and repositions Piraeus port in the global networks of transportations and trade. Therefore, it is involved in the geopolitical and economic tensions between the Chinese government, the EU and the US. At the same time, COSCO's investment transforms the city of Piraeus. Hence, domestic actors such as local administration, civil society and trade unions are directly affected by the new ownership regime.

Adopting a "processual" approach (Abbott, 2016), the paper focuses on the social characteristics and relations between key social, political and economic actors. It examines the turning points of the investment process, emphasizing how global and local actors take part in alliances and conflicts around issues such as competition, environmental protection, labour relations and citizens' everyday life in the city of Piraeus. The empirical material of the paper comprises qualitative in-depth interviews with representatives of local authorities, employers and employees organizations, local movements, members of civil society organizations, as well as, politicians and representatives of investors. The paper is part of an ongoing project funded by the Hellenic Foundation for Research and Innovation (SOCINVEST, HFRI-FM17-3211).

Platform economy: the global (informal) phenomenon. Insights from a multi-sited research between Southern Europe and Latin America

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According to a wide literature, on-demand platforms can be conceived as technological and economic infrastructures (Plantin, 2016; Sabeel Rahman & Thelen, 2019), i.e. technical systems based on a stacked configuration of the labour process governed by informational asymmetries, and economic organizations of intermediation preying on a reserve army of workers and on their misclassification as independent contractors (Antunes, 2018). Focusing on infrastructures means recognizing the relational nature of these sociotechnical objects (Larkin, 2013), their replicability and use in different contexts and institutional settings. On-demand platforms are result of long processes of destandardisation of Western labour markets, and, more globally, of a process of informalization of the economy (Breman, 2005). Based on a multi-site ethnographic fieldwork between Italy and Argentina, the research shows how platforms replicate the same dynamics in very different institutional contexts. Thus, the *baroqueness* (Echeverria, 1998; Gago, 2014) of digital platforms can be an important lesson to understand not only the platform logic in a global perspective, but also to understand the novelty of capitalist accumulation processes. What we see with platforms, is the emerging relevance of economic spheres historically outside the accumulation processes, but that today are at the heart of digital capitalism: through their digital intermediation platform companies can foster the financialization of the informal urban activities and of the popular sectors. Anything but a formalisation process, platform also reproduces – and subsumes - the characteristics and labour conditions of informality, i.e., offering intermittent, unprotected, and insecure jobs to a mass of disposable workers, as the empirical cases highlight.

Religion and politics in a globalized world

Chair: Victor Roudometof

Whispers of Coloniality: an in-depth dive into the discourse around the Grand Helsinki Mosque

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The Oasis Complex or, more popularly, the Grand Helsinki Mosque was a proposal initiated in 2013 by some Islamic foundations in Finland to build the first purpose-built mosque in Finland for non-Tatar and migrant Muslim populaces. Bahrain pledged its initial funding and agreed to coordinate its funding from donors all over the world. The possibility of Saudi funding of the project triggered intense debates on it amidst various segments of the Finnish society. It invited protests, dedicated hashtags and televised (and otherwise) political debates. The Helsinki city government also saw it as a potential security issue and requested various reports from security think-tanks and organizations. Finally, in 2017, the project reached its apparent demise after a) the city council for the environment decided not to recommend a land allocation for it, and b) the organizers themselves pulled out after the aforementioned rejection. This paper analyzes the media discourse on the project to tease out narratives and assumptions of coloniality embedded in the conversations of various stakeholders. It employ's Said's work on orientalism as basis to show how colonial engagements continue to remain relevant even today. It also highlights how even Finland, with its non-colonializing past, still seems to rely on forms of governance that ensure a monopolizing of power in the hands of selected populaces against the proverbial and literal 'others'.

Mediatized religious populism: Circulation and remediation in fast messaging platforms

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In recent years, the world news has followed a growing global trend that connects the success of populist politics with religious supporters and institutions. While there is no shared definition of populism among scholars of religion or media, most agree that one of the driving forces behind today's populist movements is defending 'the people' against 'the elites' in society (Reineman et al., 2018). More recently, the focus on mediatization of the political has led to conceptualizations of the political sphere as a stage on which immediacy, intimacy, and closeness generate new populist scripts - the style through which established and aspiring politicians can present themselves as outsiders of the political systems they hail from (Moffitt 2016).

Given that the importance of religion to recent populist movements has been well recognized, there are still only few empirical studies on the phenomenon (Yilmaz and Morieson 2021). There is even less research that would study the intersection of media, religion and populism (Martikainen and Sakki 2021). In this paper, we set out to narrow this gap in research by focusing on the operationalization of populism as a distinct political style that makes use of mediatized spaces and religious influences and references. We are particularly interested in the circulation and remediation processes of the contents.

Empirically, we analyse the discussions and contents shared on the fast messaging app Telegram during the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic, comprising of a total 180000 messages posted in eight Finnish groups that are affiliated to conspiratory mobilizations (such as QAnon), evangelicalism, esoterism and radical right. As our interest is in the circulation and remediation, our analysis focuses on the shared links and the network of religious contexts in the data, visualized with IssueCrawler and Gephi software. Given the large size of our collected data, we will make use of quantitative methods from computational social science and natural language processing in addition to qualitative approaches. We aim to identify circulating themes and features characteristic of mediatized religious populism, particularly the esoteric and eschatological components that tend to be de-emphasized in the journalistic media. This allows us to bring empirical insight to the intertwined characteristics of populist style and religious contents on social media platforms prior to their emergence in the mainstream space. Based on the results of the analysis, we assess the extent to which the scripts on fast messaging apps contribute to a shared embodied symbolic space capable of attracting attention and affect, but also of mobilising the masses.

Religion and Political behavior in Cyprus

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A great variety of theories and numerous writings exist, supporting that religion has lost its influence and dominant position in contemporary Europe society. Evidence is often cited in declining levels of church attendance. Question remains for Orthodox Cyprus whether should also be qualified as secularized society in terms of religious beliefs. The purpose of the study is to investigate the degree to which Orthodox Cypriot are secular, focusing not only on religious practices, but also on beliefs. Due to the long-standing involvement of the Church in the public sphere, the aim is to see whether it still manages to influence the electoral and political behavior of the Greek Orthodox Cypriot. To investigate previous statement, data from the recent World Values Study surveys are used concerning patterns of variation in religious beliefs and practices. These are correlated with variables related to political behavior.