

# NEWSLETTER OF THE RESEARCH COMMITTEE ON CONCEPTUAL AND TERMINOLOGICAL ANALYSIS

International Sociological Association – Research Committee 35

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## COCTA-News

Dear members and friends of COCTA,

first and foremost, it is my pleasure to welcome our new members! On behalf of the board I invite you and all our 'old' members to participate in our activities and make any proposals for conferences or other academic proceedings in the field of conceptual analysis you are interested in.

The focus of this issue of COCTA-News is on the upcoming **XVII ISA World Congress**, taking place in **Gothenburg, Sweden, 11-17 July 2010**. Within the frame of this congress entitled *Sociology on the Move* COCTA hosts its conference on ***Sociological Concepts on the Move***. Our RC conference consists of nine academic sessions featuring 50 papers plus our regular business meeting. We are very excited about our programme and trust you will find it as stimulating as we do.

All paper givers and other participants are reminded that early **registration** ends on **4 May 2010**; this is the **deadline** for **abstract submission**, too. Note that abstracts are only accepted by the system from those who have already completed congress registration. All necessary information is to be found on the congress website (the next page of this newsletter provides more detailed direction): <http://www.isa-sociology.org/congress2010/>

The following pages offer the programme of our Gothenburg meetings. Please **take into account** this note sent to me by the congress organization: "The preliminary session schedule will most likely be the final schedule. If any changes need to be made, we will contact those involved first. Please note that it is each person's responsibility to make sure they are not double booked."

Further, I would like to draw your attention to the **business meeting** which will take place on **Monday, 12 July 2010, 17:45-19:45**. You will find a preliminary agenda below. Please note that we will have our regular board elections and will also plan our future activities at this meeting. If you send me any proposals you would like to make, I will happily add them to the agenda which I will circulate in due course in preparing the meeting. Following the meeting we will have a communal dinner like we did in Barcelona in 2008 – a mighty fine evening, I recall.

In **2009** at the **IIS World Congress** in Yerevan, Armenia, COCTA hosted a brilliant session on "Mechanisms of Globalization: The Making of a World Society" organized by Boris Holzer and Tobias Werron, and you will find their report below.

In closing, as usual, I would like to ask you to spread the word on COCTA and let your colleagues know that everyone interested in our current and future activities is cordially invited to participate. Do not hesitate to present your ideas in case you would like to propose or organize a COCTA conference or session. We are looking forward to be meeting you (again) rather sooner than later!

On behalf of the board,

cordially yours,

David Strecker

## Looking Forward

# General Information

on the

**XVII ISA World Congress in Gothenburg**  
**11-17 July, 2010**

The **congress website** with all information concerning the congress is:

<http://www.isa-sociology.org/congress2010/>

The deadline for early **registration** is **4 May 2010**. For on-line registration go here:

[http://www.isa-sociology.org/congress2010/congress\\_registration.htm](http://www.isa-sociology.org/congress2010/congress_registration.htm)

**Abstracts submission** has to be completed until **4 May 2010** after prior registration:

[http://www.isa-sociology.org/congress2010/abstracts\\_submission.htm](http://www.isa-sociology.org/congress2010/abstracts_submission.htm)

The **general congress timetable** is here:

<http://www.isa-sociology.org/congress2010/timetable.htm>

The **venue** for all **COCTA** sessions in Gothenburg will presumably be: *Handels*, The School of Business, Economics and Law, University of Gothenburg, Vasagatan 1, SE-405 30 Göteborg

see: <http://www.isa-sociology.org/congress2010/venues.htm#handels>

Approx. 20 minutes walking distance from Svenska Mässan (Congress Centre). From the stop *Korsvägen* you take tram number 2 ([see note](#)) (direction *Högsbotorp*) and get off at the stop *Handelshögskolan*. The ride takes 13 minutes and the stop is 50-100 meters from the Handels and Samfak.

When travelling by tram you have to buy a card valid for trams and buses (not valid on the airport buses). Please note that you are not able to buy a ticket from the driver. Instead you need to buy your ticket from newsagents such as Pressbyrån or 7-Eleven. Not all buses and trams have card readers so always remember to bring your receipt.

For a list of **all congress venues** look here:

<http://www.isa-sociology.org/congress2010/venues.htm>

Full **PowerPoint** Equipment is available in all rooms. Presentations should be brought on a USB-stick. Internet access is not available.

# Sociological Concepts on the Move

COCTA (ISA RC35) Conference  
at the  
XVII ISA World Congress in Gothenburg  
11-17 July, 2010

## Programme Overview

Session 1: Contingency and Directionality  
Monday, 12.07.2010, 15:30-17:30

Session 2: Business Meeting  
Monday, 12.07.2010, 17:45-19:45

Session 3: The Concept, Use and Theory of Networks  
Tuesday, 13.07.2010, 10:45-12:45

Session 4: Lack of Resonance? The Concept of Alienation Revisited  
Tuesday, 13.07.2010, 15:30-17:30

Session 5: Slavery: Institutional Continuity or Conceptual Confusion?  
Wednesday, 14.07.2010, 10:45-12:45

Session 6: Global Sociology: Conditions of Possibility  
Wednesday, 14.07.2010, 15:30-17:30

Session 7: Comparative Social Theory. The Diversity of Experiences with Modernity and Globalization  
Thursday, 15.07.2010, 10:45-12:45

Session 8: Translation and the Problem of (Methodological) Difference  
Thursday, 15.07.2010, 15:30-17:30

Session 9: Concept Formation and Theory Building: Drawing upon Indigenous Intellectual Traditions  
Friday, 16.07.2010, 10:45-12:45

Session 10: Concept Formation in Asian Sociologies  
Friday, 16.07.2010, 15:30-17:30

### Venue (presumably):

Handels, The School of Business, Economics and Law, University of Gothenburg, Vasagatan 1, SE-405 30 Göteborg

see: <http://www.isa-sociology.org/congress2010/venues.htm#handels>

The venue is still subject to change and rooms have not yet been assigned. Please consult the conference website.

Full PowerPoint Equipment is available in all rooms. Presentations should be brought on a USB-stick. Internet access is not available.

**Session 1: Monday, 12.07.2010, 15:30-17:30**

**Contingency and Directionality**

Chair:

Volker H. Schmidt, National University of Singapore, Singapore

Presenters:

Thomas Gutmann, University of Münster, Germany

*Contingency and Directionality in the Evolution of Law*

Wolfgang Knöbl, University of Göttingen, Germany

*Path Dependency and Contingency: Tracing Processes in Macro-Sociology*

Ibrahimova Mahin Eldar gizi, Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences,  
Azerbaijan

*The Concepts of 'Contingency' and 'Directionality' in the Perspective of  
Relational Sociology*

Kari Kantasalmi, University of Helsinki, Finland

*Contingency and Directionality in Educational Change: Considering the Notions  
of Reflexion and Reflexivity*

**Session 2: Monday, 12.07.2010, 17:45-19:45**

**Business Meeting**

Chair:

Volker H. Schmidt, National University of Singapore, Singapore

Preliminary Agenda:

1. Report and accounts by the ISA RC35 board for the period 2006-2010
2. Discussion of report and accounts
3. Discussion on future proceedings
4. Nominations for and discussion of ISA RC35 board for the period 2010-2014
5. Elections
6. Any other business

thereafter: Communal Dinner

To help prepare the meeting, please email any addenda, proposals for future proceedings, nominations etc. either to the acting RC president Volker H. Schmidt ([socvhs@edu.nus.sg](mailto:socvhs@edu.nus.sg)) or the acting RC secretary David Strecker ([David.Strecker@uni-jena.de](mailto:David.Strecker@uni-jena.de)). The agenda will be circulated in due course.

**Session 3: Tuesday, 13.07.2010, 10:45-12:45**

The Concept, Use and Theory of Networks

Chairs:

Jan Fuhse, University of Bielefeld, Germany

Boris Holzer, University of Bielefeld, Germany

Presenters:

Sylvia Keim, University of Rostock, Germany

*Fertility Relevant Social Networks: Studying Ego-Centered Social Networks in Family Research*

Jan Mewes, University of Bremen, Germany

*Combining Focus Theory and Exchange Theory to Understand Group-Specific Network Structures*

Marc Lecoutre, Groupe ESC Clermont, France

Pascal Lièvre, Université d'Auvergne, France

*Questioning the Distinction Between Strong Ties and Weak Ties: The Notion of Potentially Cooperative Weak Tie*

Yally Avrahampour, London School of Economics, UK

*Managerial Agency: A Relational Account*

Patrik Aspers, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies, Germany

Lothar Krempel, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies, Germany

*From Game to Entertainment: Markets from Networks in the Football Industry*

**Session 4: Tuesday, 13.07.2010, 15:30-17:30**

**Lack of Resonance? The Concept of Alienation Revisited**

Chair:

Hartmut Rosa, University of Jena, Germany

Presenters:

Craig Browne, University of Sydney, Australia

*The Critique of Objectification and the Re-Conceptualisation of Alienation*

Alejandro Bialakowsky, Buenos Aires University, Argentina

*Meaning and Alienation in the Theoretical Perspectives of Jürgen Habermas, Anthony Giddens and Niklas Luhmann*

Herwig Reiter, University of Bremen, Germany

*Towards a Concept of Biographical Alienation*

Vincent Miller, University of Kent, Canterbury, UK

*Beyond the Binaries: The Tenuous Construction of Belonging in City Life*

Hartmut Rosa, University of Jena, Germany

*The Concept of Resonance as Alienation's Other*

**Session 5: Wednesday, 14.07.2010, 10:45-12:45**

**Slavery: Institutional Continuity or Conceptual Confusion?**

Chair:

David Strecker, University of Jena, Germany

Presenters:

Robbie Shilliam, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand

*Forget Freedom?*

Kwame Nimako, National Institute for the Study of Dutch Slavery and its Legacy (NiNsee), Amsterdam, Netherlands

Artwell Cain, National Institute for the Study of Dutch Slavery and its Legacy (NiNsee), Amsterdam, Netherlands

*Conceptual Clarity, Please! On the Uses and Abuses of the Concepts of 'Slave' and 'Trade' in the Study of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade and Slavery*

Aashika Damodar, Survivors Connect, USA

*No 'Pretty Woman': The Politics of the 'Trafficked' Victim*

Manuela Boatca, Catholic University of Eichstätt-Ingolstadt, Germany

*Second Slavery vs. Second Serfdom: Local Labor Regimes of the Global Periphery*

David Strecker, University of Jena, Germany

*Illegitimate, Illegal, Irrational – and Flourishing? The Institution of Slavery*

**Session 6: Wednesday, 14.07.2010, 15:30-17:30**

**Global Sociology: Conditions of Possibility**

Chair:

Misha Petrovic, National University of Singapore, Singapore

Presenters:

Algis Valantiejus, Vilnius University, Lithuania

*Lessons For and From the History of Social Theory: Experiencing the Global-Local Interaction*

Tobias Werron, University of Bielefeld, Germany

*The Methodological Isms of Globalization Theory*

Gurminder K. Bhambra, University of Warwick, UK

*The Possibilities of Global Sociology: Postcolonial, Cosmopolitan, Subaltern?*

Misha Petrovic, National University of Singapore, Singapore

*Global Sociology: Institutional Pre-Conditions*

**Session 7: Thursday, 15.07.2010, 10:45-12:45**

Comparative Social Theory:  
The Diversity of Experiences with Modernity and Globalization

Chair:

Oliver Kozlarek, Universidad Michoacana and Universidad Autónoma  
Metropolitana-Cuajimalpa, Mexico

Presenters:

Jorge Capetillo-Ponce, University of Massachusetts at Boston, USA

*Globalization and its Impact on Traditional Culture in Saint Thomas*

Raewyn Connell, University of Sydney, Australia

*Theorizing (Modernity and Globalization) from the Far South*

Sérgio Costa, Free University of Berlin, Germany

*Interdependent Asymmetries: Analyzing Entangled Inequalities in Latin America*

Oliver Kozlarek, Universidad Michoacana and Universidad Autónoma  
Metropolitana-Cuajimalpa, Mexico

*Octavio Paz: A Postcolonial Experience of Modernity*

**Session 8: Thursday, 15.07.2010, 15:30-17:30**

Translation and the Problem of (Methodological) Difference

Chair:

Gurminder K. Bhambra, University of Warwick, UK

Presenters:

Ipek Demir, University of Leicester, UK

*Spatial and Temporal Untranslatability*

Rolando Vazquez, University of Utrecht, Netherlands

*The Question of Translation, Erasure, and Plurality at the Borders of Modernity/Coloniality*

Sarah Easterby-Smith, University of Warwick, UK

*Polite Plants: Translating Natural Knowledge in the Late Eighteenth Century*

Robbie Shilliam, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand

*Keskidee Aroha: Translation on the Colonial Stage*

Miriam Tag, University of Bielefeld, Germany

*Lost in Translation? Globalization, World Society, and (De)Constructivist Theories*

**Session 9: Friday, 16.07.2010, 10:45-12:45**

**Concept Formation and Theory Building:  
Drawing Upon Indigenous Intellectual Traditions**

**Chairs:**

Syed Farid Alatas, National University of Singapore, Singapore

Ishwar Modi, India International Institute of Social Sciences, India

**Presenters:**

Jack Barbalet, University of Western Sydney, Australia

*Market Relations as Wu-Wei: Chinese Concepts in Analysis of Modern Capitalism*

Xiaoying Qi, University of Western Sydney, Australia

*Paradoxical Integration: Applications of Chinese Concepts in Sociological Theory*

Rosa Reicher, University of Heidelberg, Germany

*Theorizing Racism and Xenophobia in Asian Sociologies*

V. Sujatha, Jawaharlal Nehru University, India

*The Knower in Sociological Inquiry: A Debate Between a Siddha Philosopher and Sociologist*

**Session 10: Friday, 16.07.2010, 15:30-17:30**

**Concept Formation in Asian Sociologies**

Chair:

Syed Farid Alatas, National University of Singapore, Singapore

Presenters:

Mau-Kuei Chang, Academia Sinica, Taiwan

*Speaking to the Establishment and Indigenizing Sociology: Translating 'Civil Society' and its Relevance to Contentious Politics in Taiwan*

Azhar Ibrahim, National University of Singapore, Singapore

*The Effects of Orientalism in Malay Studies and the Malay Intelligentsias*

Vineeta Sinha, National University of Singapore, Singapore

*The Need to Insert History and Context into Contemporary Invocations of the Concept of 'Secularism'*

Syed Farid Alatas, National University of Singapore, Singapore

*The Study of Muslim Revival: Towards a General Framework*

Yoshimichi Sato, Tohoku University, Japan

*Why Did Asian Sociologists Not Conceive 'Social Capital'? Universalism versus Particularism*

## Looking Back

# Mechanisms of Globalization: The Making of World Society

**COCTA (ISA RC35) Session  
at the  
39th World Congress of the International Institute of Sociology (IIS) in  
Yerevan, Armenia  
11-14 June, 2009**

**Chairs:**

Boris Holzer, University of Lucerne, Switzerland  
Tobias Werron, University of Bielefeld, Germany

**Presenters:**

Raf Vanderstraeten, Ghent University, Belgium

*Technologies of Knowledge*

Rita Sever, Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel

*Complexity and the Evaluation of 'Glocalized' Interventions*

Stephan Stetter, Universität der Bundeswehr, Munich, Germany

*Integrating World Society through Conflicts: A Conceptual Approach*

Boris Holzer, University of Lucerne, Switzerland

Tobias Werron, University of Bielefeld, Germany

*Theorizing Theorization: 'Otherhood' as a Mechanism of Globalization*

On behalf of ISA RC35, Boris Holzer (then University of Lucerne) and Tobias Werron (University of Bielefeld) organized the above session at the 39th IIS World Congress in Yerevan, Armenia. The papers discussed diverse globalizing mechanisms, particularly diffusion, science and conflict. The combination of conceptual and empirical concerns attracted a small but lively audience.

## **Composition of the Board for the Period 2006-2010**

### **President:**

Volker H. Schmidt  
National University of Singapore  
Department of Sociology  
11 Arts Link  
Singapore 117570  
Email: socvhs@edu.nus.sg

### **Vice-President:**

Hartmut Rosa  
University of Jena  
Department of Sociology  
07737 Jena  
Germany  
Email: Hartmut.Rosa@uni-jena.de

### **Secretary and acting Treasurer:**

David Strecker  
University of Jena  
Department of Sociology  
07737 Jena  
Germany  
Email: David.Strecker@uni-jena.de

### **Board Member at large:**

Boris Holzer  
University of Bielefeld  
Department of Sociology  
Post Box 10 01 31  
33501 Bielefeld  
Germany  
Email: boris.holzer@uni-bielefeld.de