

GOTHENBURG SESSIONS

Call for Papers

RC05 Abstract Submission Deadline – October 1, 2009

1. Transnational social imaginaries: racial, ethnic and religious routes and barriers

Convenors: Caroline Knowles, Dep. of Sociology, Goldsmiths College, University of London, c.knowles@gold.ac.uk and Mette Andersson, Dep. of Sociology, University of Bergen, Norway, Mette.Andersson@rokkan.uib.no

This session will build on scholarship on modern social imaginaries and transnationality. We will be concerned with various social and political inscriptions, as well as projects, among migrants, travellers and second generation immigrants. In addition to ethnicity and nationality as central categories for transnational imaginaries, we are concerned with antiracism, music, travelling and religion as alternative spaces of identification, networking and politics.

We welcome papers focussing on various aspects of transnational imaginaries, and especially papers utilising visual sociology.

2. Return Migration in a Time of Crisis

Convenor: Mónica Ibanez-Angulo, Universidad de Burgos, Spain, miban@ubu.es

The current global crisis affects peoples from different social and economic backgrounds; yet, as in most crises, those individuals and social groups who experience inequality and social exclusion by virtue of gender, ethnic and class differences are the most vulnerable in the face of new adversities. In this sense, we can ask how, and to what extent, transnational migrants are more susceptible to these (vis-à-vis the local population).

In this session we would like to deal with issues related to the different social dimensions involved in return migration. We especially invite papers dealing with the following topics (though others on related issues will also be considered):

(i) *Return policies in the contexts of origin and of destination:* Are migrants familiar with these policies? Have they been properly informed? What is the role played by national and supranational institutions, such as the EU, in the 'success' of these policies?

- (ii) *The socio-cultural aspects of return migration*: what are the socio-cultural attitudes towards return migration? Is return understood as a sign of failure or, rather, is it understood as a sign of success? How do social networks influence the decision to return?
- (iii) *The economic dimension*: how do labour conditions in the host society affect the decision to return? How does return migration affect the well-being of family members (by breaking off remittances)? What are the employment perspectives in the country of origin?
- (iv) *Socio-demography of return migration*: how and to what extent do sex, age and marital status have an effect in the decision to return?
- (v) *Specificities of place*: does the integration of the country of origin in the EU affect the decision to return? How, and to what extent, does the current crisis transform the directionality of transnational migratory flows?
- (vi) *Historical perspectives*: what has been the influence of broader social, political and economic transformations in return migration?

3. Public space and issues of social integration

Convenor: Karin Peters, Wageningen University, Netherlands,
Karin.Peters@wur.nl

Giving meaning to multiculturalism and the negotiation of multiple cultural identities occurs in public spaces. ‘Public space is a space of presence, recognition, participation and citizenship (.. the means by which difference is negotiated, affirmed or contested’ (Wood and Gilbert, 2005: 686). It is continuously produced and reproduced through the dynamic interconnections between and among places and social relations (Massey, 1992). Public spaces are for two reasons important for understanding issues of social integration. First, public spaces are sites of representation of a multicultural society. Second, public spaces test the relationships between the members of such a society (Kilian, 1998, in: Wood and Gilbert, 2005).

In recent decades, thinking on public spaces can be divided into two differing views. The first can be characterised as the decline of public space (Sennett, 1974) stemming from privatisation and regulation. The second focuses on the possibilities of public spaces serving a diverse group of people and facilitating the display of identities (Dines and Cattell, 1996; Merrifield, 1996). This apparent paradox is of interest since public spaces are supposed to play a role in processes of integration of ethnic minorities into western societies.

We invite papers relating issues of ethnicity and migration to place and space in terms of attachment, processes of exclusion, belonging, etc. The following topics and issues can be discussed:

- relations between ethnic identity and physical setting
- issues of exclusion/inclusion
- issues of place identity and migration
- issues of place attachment and ethnicity

4. Diaspora? (Im)migration? Transnationalism?

Convenors: Ann Denis, University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Canada – adenis@uottawa.ca, and Ulrike M. Vieten, Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam, The Netherlands – UM.Vieten@fsw.vu.nl

In this session we are interrogating the concepts of diaspora, (im)migration and transnationalism as useful tools for the analysis of the movement of peoples since the end of the Second World War, but especially since around the turn of the millennium. Scholars such as Brah suggest that increasing facility (and complexity) of population movement means that the relatively static concepts of migration/immigration should be replaced by more fluid ones, such as diaspora (or diaspora space) and transnationalism. Concepts of diaspora and transnationalism invite an intersectional analysis, but so too, it can be argued, do those of migration and immigration, since the very nature of these phenomena and how they are experienced (either individually or collectively) is informed by the multiple positionalities of the individuals or groups engaging in them. In addition, notions of (social) mobility and (cross border) migration have to be revisited since, in the 21st century, changing place unfolds in newly classed and legally prescribed social positions of individuals and communities. This session invites theoretical/conceptual and/or empirical analyses which address these issues, and which include intersectionality in the way the analysis is framed.

5. Diasporic identification, gender and family

Convenor: Georgina Tsolidis, University of Ballarat, Australia, g.tsolidis@ballarat.edu.au

This panel concerns identity issues and how these are framed by diaspora. Diasporic identification is understood here in the sense developed by Hall; a process that reflects an interdependency between at least two cultural formations and in so doing, invokes an historical past and, at the same time, evokes new representations of what it is possible to become.

Family, and particularly the role of women, are understood as pivotal to diasporic identification. The micro dynamics of the everyday offer an evocative 'bottom up' means of understanding the tensions implicit in new ways of becoming. Through this framework it is possible to shed light on the lived experiences of racism, dislocation and alienation on the one hand and, on the other, to consider how the complex power relations within the everyday, can mediate a sense of resistance and hope.

The panel will bring together papers that offer insights into the lived experience of diaspora. Framed in relation to the everyday these will explore family, youth issues and schooling as a means of understanding how identification can interpolate cosmopolitanism as a challenge to the 'monogamy of place' (Beck, 2006).

6. Researching ethnicity and ethnicising research.

Convenor: Michal Vašečka, Masaryk University, Brno, Czech Republic,
mvasecka@fss.muni.cz

The panel aims to analyse specific features of current research on ethnicity. Research on ethnicity, identity, inter-ethnic relations and cultural determinants of ethnic interactions is from a methodological point of view specific, and differs between various cultural contexts. At the same time, ethnicity research is insufficient and problematic due to various structural factors. This panel aims to identify factors influencing the quality of research on ethnicity, for example – ethnic and primordial interpretations of nation; the lack of data on ethnicity; the failure to foster specific methods of ethnicity research; the over-representation of quantification of inter-ethnic relations, the lack of focus on phenomenological research in the field of ethnicity; paradigmatic chaos; the lack of research ethics on the part of ethnicity researchers and the failure to interconnect academic research and public policy analysis.

This panel attempts to document these problems by both theoretical inputs and examples of research on ethnicity over the past two decades. It explores the proposition that research on ethnicity should be understood as contextual, multi-paradigmatic, methodologically non-conventional, de-constructivist and ‘sensitive’.

7. Islamophobia since 9/11

Convenor: Scott Poynting, Manchester Metropolitan University, United Kingdom,
S.Poynting@mmu.ac.uk

Since 11th September 2001, Muslim minorities have experienced intensive 'othering' in 'Western' countries, above all in those nations most aggressively prosecuting their 'war on terror'. Certain key ideological elements recur in the formation of the 'Muslim Other' figure – images of violence, barbarism and animality, the contravention of social rules and the exhibition of 'offensive' behaviour. Muslim immigrants are portrayed in this ideology as unwilling or unable to integrate in 'Western' societies, and Muslim-majority societies are represented as inimical to democracy, civilisation, and women's rights. Whole communities of mainly immigrant Muslims have been criminalised in 'Western' countries as 'evil' and a 'fifth column' enemy within by media, politicians, the security services and the criminal justice system. Racial profiling and ethnic targeting by police, security services, immigration officials, airlines and other bodies have discriminated against Muslim communities. Negative media portrayals, together with discriminatory rhetoric, policy and practices at the level of the state have created an enabling environment that emboldens and legitimates public hostility toward Muslims. The level of Islamophobic hate crime peaks each time there is an outburst of such rhetoric.

We invite papers analysing and critiquing such processes, and assessing the political forces in opposition to them.

8. The Need to Understand 'Race' Comparatively, Globally and Locally

Convenor: Millsom S Henry-Waring, University of Melbourne, Australia,
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Although 'race' remains a problematic term for many within the social sciences and elsewhere, it retains a high level of public and political currency, globally and locally. Thus, despite its many flaws, it is difficult to move away from the term altogether. The reasons for this reflect a complex blend of historical, social and political factors which many scholars have attempted to describe and analyse. Further, most discussions about 'race' still focus primarily upon those of us deemed as Other, to the exclusion and invisibility of groups often insidiously defined as the 'norm' - usually meaning white, Anglo-centric peoples. In addition, there are many silences about 'race' from within Black and other marginalised communities. The aim of this session, therefore, is to draw together emerging and critical work from academics, policy analysts and activists interested in disrupting the theory and practice of 'race' by exploring comparatively how 'race' is known/experienced as a reality *by and within* a range of groups.

9. Forced displacement and trafficking in persons: the variables of gender, race and ethnicity

Convenors: Natividad Gutierrez Chong, Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico, Mexico, nativid@servidor.unam.mx **and Arun Kumar Acharya, Universidad Autonoma de Nuevo Leon, Monterrey, México,**
acharya_77@yahoo.com

This panel will focus on the nexus between displaced people and trafficking in persons, taking into account the variables of gender, race and ethnicity. Such an exploration and debate of all possible variables involved in trafficking or forcing people to migrate will aim at finding ways of improving the coordination of efforts at the regional, national and global levels against sex trafficking, as well as strengthening gender sensitive approaches in all anti-trafficking efforts.

The primary objectives of this panel are:

- To understand the extent, dimensions, causes and consequences of internal displacement and trafficking bearing in mind ideologies of racism and discrimination.
- To explore the ambiguities of the forced displacement-trafficking nexus.
- To identify the gaps in, and components of, strategies/practices/interventions in the internal displacement and counter-trafficking fields.

10. Racial Discrimination in Europe – ten years on

John Wrench, Centre for Migration and Refugee Studies, NTNU, Norway,
John.WRENCH@fra.europa.eu

The year 2010 marks 10 years since the adoption by the European Council of the Racial Equality Directive (Directive 2000/43/EC), the most important piece of EU legislation combating racial/ethnic discrimination. Thus for the first time, all 27 Member States should have had for several years national laws forbidding direct and indirect discrimination, harassment and victimisation in several areas, including employment, and also should have designated specialised equality bodies tasked to promote and raise awareness of equality legislation, and assist victims of discrimination.

This session invites contributions which can provide an insight into the effects, if any, of the Racial Equality Directive on the awareness of the issue of racial discrimination, on national discourse or on social policies in European countries, specifically in the area of employment and the labour market. During the 1990s it was quite clear that there was a chasm between the countries of the EU in the level of public awareness of, and political responses to, issues of racism and discrimination in the sphere of employment. It may be that the gulf in awareness and practice between countries has now become narrower, and that the Directive and related activities at EU level have had a consciousness-raising effect, resulting in a 'convergence' of attitudes and practices between European countries.

Papers might address questions such as:

- Is there evidence that more victims of employment discrimination are making official complaints?
- Have employers and trade unions developed new policies and changed their practices in response to the Directive?
- Has the Directive encouraged employers in recently acceded countries to adopt diversity management practices, and have trade unions embraced their new powers to support victims of discrimination?
- What has been the character of government action, or inaction?
- Have traditional national cultural, historical and institutional differences between EU countries in their responses to migration and ethnic diversity (assimilationist, guestworker, multiculturalist approaches and so on) maintained an impact on the character of national equality policies in the 2000s?

11. Racism, Nationalism and Globalization: Interethnic Relations in Latin America and the Caribbean

Co-Conveners: Alicia Castellanos (Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana-Iztapalapa, Mexico) alicastell@yahoo.com and Gisela Landázuri (Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana- Xochimilco, Mexico) giselalb@prodigy.net.mx, giselalb@correo.xoc.uam.mx

This session opens up the discussion on old and new forms of racism in the context of neo-liberal globalization towards the diverse groups who are racialized and discriminated against on grounds of their ethnic, racial and national origin. The axes of the analysis involve the policies of national states and the rising social and ethnic exclusion and shall be the basis for a prospective reflection on the necessary change in the conditions that support the continuity and resurgence of racism. The comparison of cases from the specificities of racism in front of a subject becoming increasingly visible in the national and international political scene is undoubtedly a key resource to help develop the discussion.

12. Virtual Ethnicity and the rise of New Ethnicities

Convenor: Vince Marotta, Deakin University, Australia,
vince.marotta@deakin.edu.au

Over the past 20 years the ideas of ethnic identity and ethnic community have been critically assessed in terms of their underlying essentialist and universalistic practices. Globalization and advances in new technologies have led to different forms of ethnic ties emerging which transcend national boundaries. Are these emerging new ethnicities in cyberspace less coercive and more diverse? Do they empower or do they reinforce existing class and gender inequalities? What can they tell us about the politics and representation of ethnicity? Does the existence of virtual ethnicity intensify the process of the de-territorialization of cultures? This session invites both theoretically and empirically informed papers which address these questions, but also invites papers which shed light on the relationship between virtual ethnicity and issues such as transnationalism, diaspora, hybridity, nationalism, gender, sexuality, and race and racism.

[Session papers will be considered for publication in the Journal of Intercultural Studies (<http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/titles/07256868.asp>)]

JOINT SESSIONS

13. Nationalism, Alienation and the Middle East.

[Joint session RC05 – RC36: allocated as an RC05 session]

Convenors: Lauren Langman, Loyola University, Llang944@aol.com and Nira Yuval Davis, University of East London, UK, n.yuval-davis@uel.ac.uk.

The conflict between Israel, Palestine and Arab States has festered, erupted in violence, receded and erupted again. There are a myriad of reasons and factors involved, competing nationalisms, nationalisms competing with fundamentalisms, and competing fundamentalisms. The integral nationalisms of the region were the products of European nationalism and imperialisms. The domination, alienation and powerlessness of Holocaust survivors confronting colonized peoples has resulted in various toxic nationalism. How can we understand this history, the current realities and prospects for the future? This session will explore these questions.

14. New Theories of Ethnicity in Migration and Post-Migration Situations

Convenors: Marco Martiniello (FNRS and University of Liège, Belgium, m.martiniello@ulg.ac.be, President of RC 31) and Peter Ratcliffe (University of Warwick, UK, Peter.Ratcliffe@warwick.ac.uk, President of RC05),

[Joint Session RC31-RC05: allocated as an RC31 session.]

This session will examine the most recent attempts to advance theories of ethnicity in migration and post-migration situations throughout the world. Do the changes in migration patterns cause changes in ethnicity formation? Conversely, do the dynamics of ethnicity cause new forms of migration? Members of both Research Committees interested in theory development in the area of ethnicity and migration would ideally discuss these difficult questions.

15. Confronting the Politics of Racialized Sexualities: On Regulating Minority Gender Relations and Sexualities

[Joint Session of RC 32 (Women in Society) and RC 05(Racism, Nationalism and Ethnic Relations): allocated as an RC32 session.]

Convenors: Sirma Bilge, Université de Montréal, Canada, sirma.bilge@umontreal.ca and Paul Scheibelhofer, Central European University, Hungary, scheibelhofer_paul@phd.ceu.hu

Questions of gender and sexualities are essential to understand politics of race and nation at different levels of analysis, whether the local, the national, or the global. Drawing on what David Goldberg called the ‘liberal paradox’, i.e. how the commitment of modernity to idealized principles of liberty and equality goes hand in hand with a multiplication of racialized identities and the sets of exclusions they prompt and rationalize, enable and sustain (Goldberg 1993), the proposed session will tackle the ways in which ethnocultural exclusion and racialization processes in western liberal democracies currently operate through the problematization of minority/migrant gender relations and sexualities. We are particularly interested in the current mobilizations of women’s rights and gay rights to construe the ‘civilized’ space of western freedoms and their ‘enemies’. Besides the critique of these exclusionary discourses and practices, we welcome contributions engaging with questions of resistance/emancipation and counter-hegemonic practices, and providing frameworks for developing knowledge that lessen domination.

Identified thematic areas for papers include but not limited to:

- Articulations of sexuality and nationalism: recent developments and historical legacies
- The ‘war on terror’ and ‘progressive’ politics of sexuality
- Regulatory controls over migrant gender norms, sexualities and bodies
- Discourses on sexual freedoms/gender equality and (cultural) racism
- Minority/Migrant challenges to regulatory practices and hegemonic discourses
- Representing and regulating minority/migrant masculinities and femininities
- The class politics of racializing sexualities
- Regulating controversial practices (hijab, arranged marriage, polygamy, ‘honour’ crimes, excision, etc.)
- [Discourses on] ‘Human trafficking’ and the control of mobility
- [Discourses on] ‘urban riots’; the ‘war on drugs’, the ‘war on gangs’
- Conjunctions of racism and technologies of sex

16. Femininities, Masculinities and Inter-Ethnic Intersections, Contestations and Competition in Post-Colonial Plantation Societies

[Joint Session of RC 05 (Racism, Nationalism and Ethnic Relations) and RC 32 (Women in Society) – allocated as a RC05 session.]

Convenors: Rhoda Reddock, University of the West Indies, Trinidad and Tobago, rreddock@cgds.uwi.tt and Ann Denis, University of Ottawa, Canada, adenis@uottawa.ca

While a great deal of recent emphasis has been placed on the situation of new migrants to metropolitan centres, there are continuing stories of the impacts of older migrations – forced and assisted, which occurred in earlier phases of capitalist colonial expansion. This panel will explore the situation in specifically post-colonial multi-ethnic plantation societies which trace their population diversity to the labour demands of an expanding trade in plantation products especially through British

colonial and capitalist expansion. Countries such as Fiji, Guyana, Sri Lanka, South Africa, Malaysia, Singapore and the entire Caribbean share this history and legacy of British colonialism, forced labour systems, large-scale labour transportation and immigration, multi-ethnicity and the plantation. Contestations over ethnicity, identity and citizenship characterise many of these societies and some have been the site of ongoing or recent violent conflict. How are these societies located in the emerging scholarship on intersectionality and post-coloniality, and what new insights can gender analysis bring to our understanding of the history, current context and future of these societies? As feminists how can we learn from each other in addressing this problematic yet exciting legacy?

17. Migration, Leisure and Community Cohesion

[Joint Session of RC13 (Leisure) with RC05: (Racism, Nationalism and Ethnic Relations) and RC31 (Sociology of Migration) – allocated as an RC13 session.]

Convenors: Ishwar Modi, iiiss2005modi@yahoo.co.in (RC13), Peter Ratcliffe, University of Warwick, UK, Peter.Ratcliffe@warwick.ac.uk (RC05), and Marco Martiniello, FNRS and University of Liège, Belgium, m.martiniello@ulg.ac.be (RC31).

Large scale migrations taking place due to various social, geo-political and economic reasons are causing problems of lack of community and social cohesion and ethnic harmony. Migrants often face jealousy, resentment, and competition from local people. Cultures and customs of migrants are often seen with suspicion arising from inherently insular motives. Can leisure become a bridge between the communities - local and migrant? Can expressions of leisure become a platform for ethnic harmony, community cohesion and understanding?

18. Roundtable on ‘the role of transnational public intellectuals’

[Joint session between RC05 (Racism, Nationalism and Ethnic Relations) and RC38 (Biography and Society)]

Convenors: Helma Lutz, University of Frankfurt, Germany, Lutz@soz.uni-frankfurt.de (RC05) and Kathy Davis (RC 38)

The role of transnational public intellectuals is currently a ‘hot issue’ in sociology. Michael Burawoy, who is known for his work on global ethnographies (and is now a member of the ISA Board) will be formally invited to join the debate. We also invite researchers from RC 05 (for example, looking at the impact of their own work on public discourse) and RC 38 (on the role they see for biographical research in various public and political debates) to join the roundtable.

19. Roundtable. What is the point of our work? A critical reflection on the current state of the discipline

**Organizer: Peter Ratcliffe, University of Warwick, UK,
peter.ratcliffe@warwick.ac.uk**

ADDITIONAL SESSIONS

20. RC05 Additional sessions 1: RC05 Business Meeting

Continuing as : RC05 Reception

IMPORTANT DEADLINES *

October 1, 2009 – EXTENDED TO NOVEMBER 1, EXCEPT FOR SESSIONS THAT ALREADY FULLY SUBSCRIBED – CHECK WITH SESSION ORGANIZER TO ASCERTAIN IF THAT’S THE CASE

- RC05 deadline for submitting your paper abstracts. Abstracts should be approximately 250 words.
- Please be sure to provide the full name, affiliation, phone, fax, and email address for all authors.
- Please submit your paper abstract by email directly to the session organizer(s) with a cc of your submission to the Programme Coordinator: Peter Ratcliffe, Peter.Ratcliffe@warwick.ac.uk.

December 1, 2009

Session organisers submit full details of their session (author names, affiliation, email, paper title and abstracts) to Programme Coordinator.

January 31, 2010

Programme Coordinators to submit the details of the session programme (authors’ name, affiliation, e-mail, and paper title) to ISA.

ISA: May 1, 2010

Pre-registration deadline for all programme participants (presenters, convenors, discussants, etc.). Otherwise their names will not appear in the Programme Book and abstracts of their papers will not be published.

May 1, 2010

Deadline for on-line submission of abstracts of accepted papers to the *Cambridge Sociological Abstracts* website. Abstracts are only accepted by the system from those who are already registered for the Congress.

* Note: For Joint Sessions with another RC (on their session slot), please check with the session co-organizers as the earlier submission deadline may apply.