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Dear members of the Swiss Sociological Association (SSA)

The first bulletin of the year presents a review of the past year. In this bulletin the research committees report on their activities, which they carried out in 2019. You will also find a review of the SSA conference in Neuchâtel, the minutes of the general assembly and the president's report for 2019. This bulletin presents Swiss sociology that is very much alive in 2019 – even if this applies to the research committees to varying degrees.

Currently, everyday life, many social processes, institutions and public life are severely restricted due to the measures taken against the spread of the Corona virus.

In particular, the meetings and workshops so important for scientific exchange are cancelled, postponed or are being held as video conferences.

Nevertheless, I do hope that events planned by the SSA and its research committees can soon take place again. And, for 2021 the SSA Sociology Congress in Geneva will be jointly organized by sociologists from the University of Geneva and sociologists from the Haute Ecole de Travail Social de Genève (HETS GE/HES-SO). I hope that the date and the thematic program can be announced soon.

Rainer Diaz-Bone (University of Lucerne), President

1. Scientific activity: The Swiss Sociological Association (SSA, <https://www.SSA-sss.ch/en/>) has held its biennial sociology congress in 2019. This took place at the University of Neuchâtel under the title "The future of work". The congress was organized by Christian Suter, head of the Institute of Sociology at the University of Neuchâtel, and his team and took place from 10.09.2019 to 12.09.2019. It was attended by 400 participants, the majority of whom were from Switzerland, but overall this large group of participants was very international. During the congress, 16 plenary sessions, 56 workshops and a roundtable with Noortje Marres (University of Warwick), Craig Calhoun (Arizona State University) and Jacinto Cuvi (University of Neuchâtel) took place. Keynotes were given by David Brady (University of California at Riverside) and Dominique Méda (University of Paris Dauphine). (See <https://www.unine.ch/socio/sociocongress2019> for the congress program). In this bulletin you will find a more detailed report from Christian Suter about the congress.

After the congress, the SSA research committees met for their annual meetings. The research committees of the SSA were actively involved in the organization of workshops during the sociology congress in Neuchâtel. The health and medical sociology research committee was involved in the organization of the tri-national congress (Switzerland, Germany, Austria) "Disease and health in the life course", which took place in Winterthur on 27 and 28 August 2019. For further information see the reports of the research committees in this bulletin. In 2019, SSA supported the release of three issues of the Swiss Journal of Sociology, which include in sum 18 articles. (See <https://content.sciendo.com/view/journals/sjs/sjs-overview.xml> for open access). In addition, two bulletins were published in 2019 (which are also open access as pdf). One presents the reports of the president and the research committees. The second bulletin has

the thematic focus "Professional career paths and the labor market for sociologists" (<https://www.SSA-sss.ch/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/SSA-Bulletin-155.pdf>). It contains analyses of the situation of Swiss sociologists on the labor market (one year and five years after graduation from a Swiss university), a contribution on the labor market experiences of graduates of the Geneva Institute of Sociology, and a contribution from the Chair of the German Sociological Association about the situation in Germany.

2. Administration: The administration of the SSA is first a cooperative effort between the president, vice president and treasurer. Until the end of 2019, Ben Jann (University of Bern) has served as both vice-president and treasurer. Since 2020, Christian Suter (University of Neuchâtel) is vice-president and Oliver Nachtwey (University of Basel) is treasurer. Since 2019, the SSA is supported by a secretary, which is carried out by Seismo (Zurich). Administration is also an effort of the SSA board members and its meetings. In 2019 the SSA board supported the organization of the SSA sociology congress at Neuchâtel, approached the reorganization of the journal, improved of the financial situation of SSA and advanced concentration and registration of the SSA archive collection at Seismo in Zurich and at the University of St. Gallen). The general assembly of the SSA was held within the context of the sociology congress at Neuchâtel. (See the minutes in this bulletin). For the research committees, uniform email addresses were established in 2019 (...@ssa-sss.ch), so that the communication can better represent these committees as part of the SSA (see <https://www.sgs-sss.ch/en/research-networks/>).

3. Information on planned activities, initiatives, projects: The SSA has now started planning the next sociology congress, which will be held in Geneva in 2021. The SSA also aims to systematically compile the information

on sociological study programs on the SSA website. Furthermore, the individual research committees are planning further conferences and workshops in 2020.

Rainer Diaz-Bone (University of Lucerne), president

Report of the 2019 congress The Future of Work

Camille Budon, Sabrina Tabares, and Christian Suter (Institute of Sociology, University of Neuchâtel)

The biannual congress of the Swiss Sociological Association (SSA/SSS/SGS) on “The Future of Work” hosted by the Institute of Sociology of the University of Neuchâtel from September 10 to 12 2019 provided a debate on the recent and future transformations in the world of work. Indeed, new technologies, globalization and the development of new managerial practices are profoundly changing the world of work, with concrete social, economic and political repercussions on the workforce and the workplace, as well as on every other form of social organization. About 400 sociologists and researchers met in Neuchâtel to debate these issues, present their work and discuss the current and future transformations of work and the challenges facing workers and companies, as well as society as a whole.

Overview on the congress and its participants

The three-day conference included three keynote lectures, 16 semi-plenary sessions (with a total of 48 presentations), 56 workshops (with 208 presentations) and a round table discussion. The conference program, the book of abstracts and further information can be found on the conference website at: <https://www.unine.ch/socio/sociocongress2019>. The congress brought together senior and junior researchers from all the major Swiss universities and researchers and experts from abroad. Nearly two thirds of the congress participants (238 persons) came from Switzerland, 51 from Germany, 40 from France, and 42 from other European countries. Furthermore, 11 participants came from the United States and Canada, 9 from Asia and the Middle East, and 3 came from Africa. Among the participants were professors, post-doctoral fellows, professionals, as well as nearly 90 master and doctoral students. Female and male researchers were equally represented, with 49.5% women and 50.5% men.

The conference started on the morning of September 10, 2019 at the Humanities Faculty of the University of Neuchâtel with welcoming words by Kilian Stoffel, Rector of the University of Neuchâtel, Rainer Diaz-Bone, President of the Swiss Sociological Society and Christian Suter, Director of the Institute of Sociology of the University of Neuchâtel. The first keynote lecture entitled “Welfare Benefits and the Employment of Single Mothers in Europe and the United States” was held by David Brady (University of California at Riverside) and dealt with the effects of European and US welfare benefits on labor market integration and employment of single mothers. The second keynote presentation “Meaning and future of work in Europe,” given by Dominique Méda (Paris Dauphine University), focused on recent debates and possible future changes in the world of work (see below for more details). The day was then followed by two consecutive semi-plenary discussions with five parallel sessions, each comprising three individual presentations. Discussions focused on the following themes: the precariousness of workers, new technologies and the market for digital platforms, gender issues in the workplace, and the future of work in the Global South. The first day ended with a welcome reception at the Café des Amis, which provided an opportunity to the congress participants for informal discussions and debates.

The morning of the second day, September 11, 2019, began in the main building of the University with two consecutive workshop slots of 14 sessions, each including 4–5 individual presentations. Topics discussed included the challenges of digitalization and automation, the politicization of work, social innovation in the workplace, the labor market of sociologists, the transformation of work in health, and the future of the digitally deprived. During the lunch break the General Assembly of the Swiss Sociological Society took place.

In the afternoon, the congress continued at the Humanities Faculty with a keynote presentation by Heike Solga (Berlin Social Science Center) entitled "Vocational Education and Training in a Digital World of Work," dealing with the challenges of the dual education system in Austria, Germany and Switzerland by discussing recent trends and inequalities in school-to-work transitions. The keynote session was concluded with presentation of new publications by various authors and congress participants. Thereafter, a third semi-plenary session was held. The five parallel sessions included 15 individual presentations, where the researchers addressed, among others, the topics of the dynamics between citizenship and work, new research methods of mobile data collection, international professional vocations, and how wealth inequality interferes into the work sphere. At the end of the afternoon, a round table brought together Noortje Marres (University of Warwick) and Craig Calhoun (Arizona State University) discussing on "The Future of Sociology and Sociological Work", moderated by Jacinto Cuví (University of Neuchâtel). The panel discussion focused on the current challenges of sociology as a discipline and explored its capacity to provide answers to contemporary social issues and to develop new analytical tools to build sociological knowledge. The day ended on the heights of the city of Neuchâtel with a social event at the Centre Dürrenmatt. The city of Neuchâtel, which sponsored the reception, welcomed the congress participants with a talk given by Anne-Françoise Loup, city councilor and head of the department of education, health and social welfare. During the reception guided tours of the Dürrenmatt Centre were offered to the congress participants, after which the guests enjoyed a dinner-concert with a spectacular view on the Lake of Neuchâtel. The last day of the congress, September 12, 2019, was held in the main building of the University. Two

consecutive slots of workshops sessions were held, with a total of 28 individual presentations. Discussions focused in particular on professional mobility, artistic or sports professions, unpaid work, mobility at the end of the working life, dynamics of the work-family-balance, and the future of work in world society. At the end of these three days rich in debates and reflections, the 2019 congress of the Swiss Sociological Association ended at noon with the business meetings of several research committees. In what follows, a selection of topics discussed at the congress will get highlighted in some more detail (based on Tabares 2019).

Scenarios for the future of work: the impact of technological change

Sociologist and philosopher Dominique Méda addressed three scenarios for the future of work: 1) since the 1980s the dismantling of labor laws promoted by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) has equipped large corporations to compete in the global arena and has led to the worldwide deterioration of working conditions; 2) the current digital technological revolution radically changes labor relations through its potential to stimulate growth and boost economic productivity, but also raises fear of job losses; 3) an "ecological conversion" of work may present an opportunity to recover from present economic damages and help to recuperate employment and to satisfy work expectations. Méda argued that these scenarios are not mutually exclusive, but demonstrate the intertwined future of work with impacts on welfare in relation to economic competitiveness and the definition of labor in the face of potentially increased technology and a reduced intensity of work.

Chris Tilly from the UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs raised the question: does digital technology have the capacity to positively transform society and to bring

comfort and freedom to everyday life? According to Tilly, informalization and unregulated work can be explained through three perspectives: a dualist perspective regarding the phenomenon as a vestige of pre-capitalist production dynamics; a survivalist perspective that considers work as the consequence of family survival strategies to face insufficient employment and relate desperate actions of workers; and a structuralist perspective in which work is created under capitalist conditions to keep labor costs low. Neoliberalism has brought structuralist and survivalist informalization processes to world society, thereby weakening labor protection via privatization and subcontracting, but advances in information, transportation and communications technologies offer the potential to promote creativity, freedom, and leisure, as well as to equilibrate inequalities by providing equal participation to all members of society. Global North and South experience informalization and precariousness in different ways: while countries from the Global North show more leapfrogging through technological innovation, countries from the Global South show stronger tendencies towards informality and improvisation in technology adoption. While in Global South countries workers move out of agriculture and into internal migration, in the Global North, countries receive workers from poorer countries, while workers move out of the manufacturing sector. This is accompanied by the fissure of established working conditions and the weakening of the social safety net.

Re-shaping gender equality in a digitalized era?

Manuela Tomei from the International Labor Organization (ILO) demonstrated the ambivalence of new economic platforms and new business models with regard to gender equality. Results of a survey on web-based labor platforms carried out in 75 countries show that

crowd workers are relatively young, the majority being aged from 26 to 35, dominantly male and more than 80% are notably from the Global South. While in countries of the Global North, web-based jobs are performed by the low-skilled workforce, in the Global South these jobs are mostly carried out by highly skilled personnel. Tomei also showed that men prefer to work long hours for paid jobs, whereas women are more likely to work shorter hours combined with care at home (for children or elderly relatives). Overall, digital labor platforms are still at an incipient stage and do not provide an adequate environment for gender equality. Digitalization unbalances gender relations in the world of work, disrupts traditional jobs and reflects the work environment outside virtual platforms. The virtual workplace needs regulation with regards to wages, benefits, sufficient work, workers' protection or support for childcare/eldercare.

Labor in the Global South

Participants in the workshop on "The future of work in world society: the role of labor in the Global South" discussed how work and employment as key principles of world society have been transformed by globalization. The deindustrialization of the West and the consolidation of China (and other Asian countries) as the "factory of the world" have caused a rapid process of labor-force displacement and increased outsourcing to locations in the Global South. Southeast Asia has experienced significant changes due to foreign direct investment, research and development as well as technology from the Global North. Although workers in Asia have experienced a real income growth over the period 2006–2017, compared to all world regions according to the ILO, average wages remain insufficient regarding the needs of the region. Wanlin Ren from the University of Bern added to the discussion that the rapid

integration of China into the world economy through trade and investment after its accession to the World Trade Organization in 2001 – as well as the increase of Chinese foreign direct investment around the world – have brought some of the worldwide standards derived from Western practices to China, while the country still struggles with specific national and cultural conditions. According to Kumud Bhansali from the South Asian University, communities of first-generation entrepreneurs in India show that entrepreneurial activity is guided by a new cosmopolitanism, ethics and aesthetics emerging from the market mechanisms of neo-liberalism.

Concluding remarks

The digital era has radically changed labor relations and has transformed society as well. Undoubtedly, multiple benefits have occurred from this phenomenon. Labor flexibility, freedom, mobility, and comfort are some of the positive aspects. However, digitalization has also contributed to increasing income inequality and labor

exploitation. Global North and Global South do not seem to point towards a social equilibrium either, and labor rights continue to be violated around the world. The challenge for the future of work is to create a global consensus for regulating digital platforms, thus ensuring the protection of rights that guarantee decent working conditions.

In conclusion, the 2019 congress of the Swiss Sociological Association provided to its participants the opportunity to engage a vivid debate on an important topic for future sociological research, but also to develop scientific networks nationally and internationally, notably for doctoral and postdoctoral researchers, and to benefit from scientific exchanges with internationally renowned experts.

References

Tabares, Sabrina (2019): “Digitalization and the Future of Work,” TATuP 28(3): 77–78.

Protocol of the general assembly 2019

11. September 2019, from 12.40 to 13.45 (at the SSA congress "The future of work" at University of Neuchâtel).

Members present during the meeting: Rainer Diaz-Bone (*SSA board member, president*), Ben Jann (*SSA board member, vice president/treasurer*), Jörg Rössel (*SSA board member*), Muriel Surdez (*SSA board member*), Christian Suter (*SSA board member*), Peter Farago (*revisor*), Peter Voll (*revisor*), Philip Balsiger, Sandro Cattacin, Milena Chimienti, Franziska Dörig, Florian Elliker, Jacques-Antoine Gauthier, Regula Julia Leemann, Nicky Le Feuvre, Christoph Maeder, Mihaela Nedelcu, David Pichonnaz, Marlyne Sahakian, Sebastian Schief, Leen Vandecasteele, Sébastien Vincent.

Agenda

1. Acceptance of agenda
2. Protocol of last general assembly
3. Report
 - a) President
 - b) Events
4. Accounting 2018 and budget 2020
5. Discharge of SSA board
6. Change of statute
7. Election of SSA board and president
8. Report of *Swiss Journal of Sociology*
9. Report of Seismo Publisher
10. Varia

1. Acceptance of agenda

Unanimously agreed.

2. Minutes of last GA

Unanimously agreed.

3. Report

a) President

Secretary: the management and hosting of the SSA secretariat by the publisher Seismo is now effective in many regards. The SSA board welcomes this news with satisfaction as it is anticipated that a permanent secretariat will limit financial costs and avoid the loss of information due to the change of secretariat related to the turnover of presidency. Also, the production of the newsletter for events is done by Seismo.

SSA-archive: The taskforce for archives has started its work: its first task is to assess what does exist and a decision on what should be gathered has been made. Seismo host a part of the SSA-archive at the moment on what is stored but the aims is to put in place later a systematic storage by an institution specialized in such matter.

b) Events

Rainer Diaz-Bone informs about application grant from ASHS are sent to the applicants. It is the «8. Schweizer Methodenfestival» and the conferences "heterogeneity and inequality", "Visuality, language and knowledge".

4. Accounting 2018 and budget 2020

Accounting 2018

Last time the accounting was done by Catherine Marin. It will be from now on done by Seismo. Peter Voll and Peter Farago have accepted to act as the SSA account auditors until 2020. See file with their confirmation of correctness for accounting in 2018 in the invitation. The assembly and the SSA thank them for their investment. The president presents the state of the finance and highlights that the SSA spends more money than it gets. A discussion is raised on which strategy should be adopted to decrease the deficit either by increasing the registration fee or by decreasing spending? The SSA board decided on reducing the costs for the journal.

Main income of SSA is due to membership fees. The SSA currently counts circa 500 members and 20 institutional members. This number of membership seems to be stable overtime. Some additional costs are anticipated with the relocation of the archive.

Budget planning 2020

Document in the invitation.

Deficit anticipated because of time delay (money received one year later).

The Journal represents the main cost. The SSA board aims to reduce this cost.

5. Discharge of SSA board:

Agreed with unanimity.

6. Changes of the statutes: two proposed changes

Discussion on:

- › To which number should we limit the board?
- › The possibility to have substitute who will attend the meeting without voting

Decisions:

- › To dismiss the idea of an additional board: agreed with one rejection
- › To dismiss the limitation of the number of members in the board (so far limited to 8 members): agreed with five abstentions

7. SSA board 2020–2021

Regula Julia Leemann and Christoph Maeder accepted to proceed the election. The following composition of SSA board for 2020–2021 is agreed by the majority.

In favor: 14

Rejection: 0

Abstention: 1 and members to be elected as SSA member

- › Felix Bühlmann (Lausanne), journal editor
- › Milena Chimienti (Geneva)
- › Rainer Diaz-Bone (Lucerne), president
- › Oliver Nachtwey (Basel), treasurer
- › Jörg Rössel (Zurich)
- › Marlyne Sahakian (Geneva)
- › Muriel Surdez (Fribourg)
- › Christian Suter (Neuchâtel)
- › Leen Vandecasteele (Lausanne)

Thanks to former members. the president thanks Ben Jann, who has contributed as vice-president and treasurer and will end his engagement in the SSA board at the end of 2019.

8. Report of the Swiss Journal of Sociology

Felix Bühlmann will finish his responsibility as main editor of the Journal. The board is grateful to him for the work he has invested. The SSA board will have to elect the new chief editor who will have the task to deal the becoming of the Journal as an entirely E-Journal. More detailed information will be provided in the first SSA-bulletin of 2020.

9. Report of Seismo

Franziska Dörig (director of Seismo publisher) informs the assembly about Seismo state. Seismo was created 30 years ago which was celebrated on Monday 9 Sept. The administrative board has not changed. Sociology is still the main discipline. Religious studies has risen an interest on Seismo after a presentation at University of Lucerne. Two anthologies are in production. Hopefully, Seismo will publish the anthology of the 2019 SSA congress on "The future of work". Open Access is funded so far by SNF but new funding need to be found. Printed version should continue despite open access. Currently Seismo has collaborations with two small editors and such collaboration provide useful support.

10. Varia

No varia.

Neuchâtel, September 2019

Bildungssoziologie / Sociologie de l'éducation/Sociology of Education

Conferences 2019

The Section has not organised a conference in 2019. However, members of the section organized two sessions at the SSA congress in Neuchâtel:

- › Von «rationaler Pädagogik» zu reflexiver Bildungsforschung: sozialwissenschaftliche Perspektiven auf pädagogische Praxis im Kontext aktueller sozialer Ungleichheiten (organizers: Kenneth Horvath and Regula Julia Leemann)
- › L'anticipation du futur du travail dans les institutions éducatives (organizers: Barbara Duc and Kerstin Dümmler)

Other activities 2019

Barbara Duc, Kerstin Dümmler, Héloïse Durler, and Philippe Losego have edited the Special Issue of the Swiss Journal of Sociology (45:3) focusing on "How the World of Work Transforms Educational Institutions?". New labor requirements, such as flexibility, autonomy, life-long learning or digital competence, that emerged out of a global market orientation have entered educational institutions, programs, curricula and practices. At the same time, under a political perspective that views education as an investment in human capital, New Public Management (NPM) reforms found their way into educational systems and profoundly transformed pedagogical work. This special issue sheds light on how the world of work transforms education and the lived experiences of individuals, students or teachers. It brings together eight empirical articles from Switzerland, Germany, France and Québec that deal with issues from compulsory to post-compulsory education.

Planned activities 2020

The network is organising its biannual conference at the University of Berne in collaboration with the PH Bern on 5 and 6 November 2020 in Bern. The conference is dedicated to the topic "Heterogeneity and Inequality – Differentiation in Education and Consequences for Educational Inequalities". Contributions in the broader field of sociology of education are welcome as well. The submission deadline is 30 March. Detailed information on the conference and the submission guidelines can be found on the conference website: <https://www.soceduc.edu.unibe.ch>.

Mailing list

The research network maintains a mailing list (SwissEduSocMailingList@gmail.com) and sends its members a monthly newsletter that provides information on call for papers, scientific events, publications, and job offers that are relevant to the Sociology of Education. The newsletter is edited by members of the coordination board with the support of Mario Steinberg and Fanny Klafke at the FHNW School of Education (Basel).

Contact

Farinaz Fassa (University of Lausanne)
David Glauser (University of Bern)
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Geschlechterforschung / Etudes genre / Gender Studies

40 years of women and gender research in the DGS.

The Committee on Gender Studies congratulated the Women's and Gender Studies Section of the DGS with a welcome address on the occasion of the annual conference and celebration on 21–22 November 2019 in Berlin. 40 years "full of debates, struggles and successes for the recognition of women's and gender studies" and their tasks, goals and future in this century were debated. The greeting from Switzerland will appear in the next DGS Section 2020 newsletter.

D-A-CH Conference of the three sister sections

As every two years, a joint D-A-CH conference will be held in 2020 by the Women's and Gender Studies Section of the DGS, the Feminist Theory and Gender Studies Section of the ÖGS and the Gender Studies Committee of the SGS: The ÖGS will host the conference in 2020.

Congress of the Swiss Sociological Association 2019

With a call for abstracts: "The Future of Work – Opportunities and Risks for Gender Justice", the Gender Studies Committee participated in the Congress of the Swiss Sociological Association 2019: "The Future of Work" at the University of Neuchâtel, 10–12 September 2019.

Planned Activities 2020

In 2022, the Gender Studies Committee SGS is planning a D-A-CH conference in Switzerland. The identification of topics and initial organizational preparations for this event will begin as early as 2020. We invite sociologists interested in gender studies, both within and outside

the university, to participate in the planning. Regular meetings will also be held in 2020.

New members are welcome!

Contact

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Interpretative Sociologies / Sociologies interprétatives / Interpretative Sozialforschung

As in 2018, the Research Committee "Interpretive Sociologies" pursued its international cooperation to strengthen the ties to qualitative networks in other national contexts. This cooperation took the form of continuing to foster a discussion on the "state and future of qualitative research", initiated at the conference "Unexplored Realities in Qualitative Research" in St. Gallen, Switzerland (in September 2018). In January 2019, the coordinator represented the network at the congress "Innovating the method. What future for social research?", organized by the Section of Methodology of the Italian Association of Sociology (in Milan) by giving a keynote address in which he discussed the various challenges that qualitative methods currently face. In a joint effort with the Research Network 20 "Qualitative Methods" of the European Sociological Association (ESA), the research network organised a special session on the "state and future of qualitative methods" at the ESA conference in Manchester (in August). It consisted of contributions by four renowned panellists: Uwe Flick (Freie Universität Berlin, Germany), Paul Atkinson (Cardiff University, UK), Ulrike T. Kissmann (Universität Kassel, Germany), and Silvia Cataldi (Sapienza University of Rome, Italy). The ensuing discussion amongst the audience – composed of members of various ESA networks – focused particularly on using other senses for

research than the visual and auditory senses and on the increased digitization of contemporary life-worlds. In conjunction to this special session, the widely-regarded semi-plenary with Ruth Wodak (Lancaster University, UK) and Elijah Anderson (Yale University, USA) focused on established traditions and recent developments in the critical traditions in interpretive research. Through fostering this debate on the challenges that qualitative methods currently face, yet also through its cooperation with other ESA research networks, the research committee is now closely involved in fostering the dialogue across different methodological domains, notably also with research networks that specialize in quantitative methods. It furthermore maintains its ties with the Austrian and German colleagues in the field of qualitative social research, being represented at the congress of the DGS section "Sociology of Knowledge" (in Koblenz, Germany) and at sessions organised by the section «Soziologische Methoden und Forschungsdesigns» in the context of the bi-annual congress of the Austrian Sociological Association (in Salzburg, Austria). At this year's congress of the Swiss Sociological Association in Neuchâtel, the research committee organised three sessions that were concerned with an interpretive and practice-based perspective on the congress theme "The Future of Work". The RC Interpretive Sociologies continues to have about 60 members.

Planned Activities 2020

In cooperation with ESA research networks, the research committee supported the organisation of a conference on "Seeing and the Other Senses – Making Sense of the Senses Through Language" from 25–28 August 2020 in Kassel, Germany. Given the uncertainty with regard to how feasible travelling will be in August, only the pre-conference workshops that are presented by the keynote speakers will be offered – in an online format.

From August 25–28 live-stream talks and tutorials will be available.

Coordinator

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Forschungskomitee Kunst- und Kulturosoziologie (Foko-KUKUSO) / Comité de recherche Sociologie des arts et de la culture (CR-SAC) / Research Committee Sociology of Arts and Culture (RC-SAC)

Activities 2019

The Foko-KUKUSO celebrates its 10 years!

Founded in 2009 in Geneva by several, mostly young researchers around André Ducret to federate research and scientific debate in our discipline in Switzerland and with the neighbouring countries, the Research committee Sociology of arts and culture (RC-SAC) – also known as Foko-KUKUSO (Forschungskomitee Kunst- und Kulturosoziologie) – celebrated its 10 years of existence in 2019. Today the committee counts more than 40 members in Switzerland, France, Germany, Austria, Great Britain and Japan.

SSA-Congress in Neuchâtel: 3 workshops and 24 papers labelled "Foko-KUKUSO"

In order to properly celebrate this anniversary, there were no less than 3 workshops with 7 sessions and 24 presentations in all labelled "Foko-KUKUSO" held at the SSA-congress 2019 "The Future of Work" at University of Neuchâtel (September 10–12). Based on

the general observation that in post-industrial societies the arts have become a fertile “laboratory” for reflecting upon developments in the labor market in general, the following 3 workshops were organised:

- › Art and Artists: the Future of Work? (Olivier Moeschler, UNIL; Andrea Glauser, UNILU; Michael Gautier, Bern), with 2 sessions (“Gender inequalities in artistic work and careers”, “Artists, globalization and the imperative of mobility”) and presenters from France, Hungary, UK, Austria and Spain;
- › Artistic Work in an Entrepreneurial Regime (Thibaut Menoux and Valérie Rolle, University of Nantes), with 3 sessions and presenters from France, Canada, UK and the USA;
- › Producing Concerts, Working in Live Music (Alexandre Camus, EPFL & Mines ParisTech and Loïc Riom, Mines ParisTech and UNIGE), with 2 sessions and presenters from France, Canada and Switzerland.

By analysing fields as different as classical music and the music industry, independent rap, contemporary art, creative entrepreneurs and cultural industries, cinema, new media producers, cultural policies and cultural education, participatory art projects, artistic craftsmen, theatre, circus and women clowns, the different presentations reflected on the fact that artists and artistic personnel, who very often are compelled to “multiply” themselves and to lead a professional “double life” founded on projects and committed to flexibility and innovation, can serve today as a template for describing the present and future of work.

Finalising a book in Palgrave-Macmillan’s Sociology of the Arts series

An ongoing activity that kept the RC-SAC very busy in 2019 again was the finalisation of the book resulting

from the international conference “Arts and Markets” it organised at the University of St. Gallen at the end of 2016. To assemble, review, and correct the contributions in English of initially around 25 mostly young authors all around the world again turned out to be no small matter. The volume, which finally includes 17 contributions, is now in publisher’s hands, Palgrave-Macmillan (England), and it will be issued in the “Sociology of the Arts” series in the mid-2020.

Renewal of our scientific committee

In 2019, the Foko-KUKUSO has also renewed its scientific committee, at its annual meeting which took place on September 12 at the SSA-congress in Neuchâtel. Andrea Glauser, one of the founding members who was until recently at University of Lucerne, left the committee after having been appointed Professor at the University of Music and Performing Arts in Vienna. The Foko-KUKUSO thanks her very warmly for the enormous and ever so efficient work done in all these years and looks forward to continuing to collaborate with her in the Austrian capital. In parallel, several young researchers have joined the committee, bringing in fresh blood: Miriam Odoni (University of Neuchâtel), Loïc Riom (Mines ParisTech and University of Geneva) and Guy Schwegler (University of Lucerne), who have joined Michael Gautier (Bern), Nuné Nikoghosyan (University of Geneva), Valerie Rolle (University of Nantes) and Olivier Moeschler (University of Lausanne), who was confirmed as president.

Planned activities 2020

An international conference planned in Geneva on “arts and sustainability”

In 2020 the Foko-KUKUSO plans to organise an international conference in connection with the 2019 call for projects of the ASSH for seed money on “Sustainable

Development Goals" (SDGs) in view of the UN Agenda 2030. Entitled "Sustainability through Art", this two-day trans-disciplinary event will aim at discussing the role of art in and towards sustainable changes. The main purpose of the event is to identify, render visible and make interact what is being done in the field of "arts and sustainability", and to bring together academics working on this relatively recent topic, as well as to confront academia with non-academic actors from civil society, the artistic and cultural world and other higher education institutions such as art schools. The conference will be held in Geneva in autumn 2020, around the same time as the 8th World Sustainability Forum. It's the result of a collaboration between the Universities of Geneva (at the forefront Nuné Nikoghosyan with Marlyne Sahakian and her research group), Lucerne and Lausanne.

A panel on music, infrastructure and fragility at an STS-conference

The Foko-KUKUSO will also be associated in 2020 to the organisation of a panel on music, infrastructure and fragility at the conference "Multiple Matters: From neglected things to arts of noticing fragility" held by the Swiss STS-association at University of Lausanne (September 7–9, 2020). Set up among others by Loïc Riom from our scientific committee, this panel will include notably Swiss and French researchers working in the Sociology of the arts' field.

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Migration-Minorités / Migration-Minoritäten / Migration-Minorities

Special Issue

- › Special issue on the Sociology of Migration: past, present, future in the Swiss Journal of Sociology, forthcoming October 2020, edited by Milena Chimienti, Claudio Bolzman, and Didier Ruedin.

Conferences in 2019:

- › Panel and plenary at the 2019 SSA Conference in Neuchâtel, 10–12 September 2019.
- › 17^{ème} Congrès International l'Association Internationale pour la Recherche Interculturelle (ARIC) organisé à la Haute école de travail social de Genève, HETS/HES-SO Genève, 17–21 June 2019 – aric2019.hes-so.ch
- › Conference on brain waste in the labour market, 26–28 June 2019 in Malmö (IMISCOE)

Forthcoming conferences:

The research network Migration and Minority will be present at the IMISCOE conference in Luxembourg with 4 panels, 30 June to 2 July 2020.

Other activities

Swiss Sub-Saharan Africa Migration (S-SAM)

A network for partnerships between migration researchers in Sub-Saharan Africa and Switzerland (2018 to 2020). <http://www.unine.ch/sfm/home/formation/ssam.html>

Contact

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**Rechtssoziologie und
Rechtswirklichkeitsforschung / Sociologie
du droit / Sociology of law**

The Research Committee Sociology of Law of the Swiss Sociological Association works since 2002. In the year 2019 we reprocessed the results of the Congress «Abschaffung des Rechts?» [Abolition of law?] at the University of Basel, 2018.

Members of the RC taught sociology of law at some universities in Switzerland and abroad.

In the year 2020 the RC will proceed with organizing meetings and facilitating studies.

Contact

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**Religion et Société / Religion und
Gesellschaft / Religion and Society**

Activities 2019

The committee was not able to plan any activity in the past year.

Activities 2020

The committee has no activity planned for 2020.

Contact

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**Sociologie économique /
Wirtschaftssoziologie / Economic Sociology**

After a few years of relative silence, the economic sociology research committee took advantage of the 2019 congress of the sociological association to

relaunch its activities, organizing a plenary session and a workshop.

The plenary session was dedicated to the discussing the workings and consequences of platform capitalism. Entitled Platform Economies: implications for market organization and working conditions, it featured three invited speakers. Ulrich Dolata from the University of Stuttgart spoke about platforms as digital ecosystems and highlighted the processes of privatization, curation, and commodification as core characteristics of the platform economy. The second speaker, Anne Jourdain from the Université Dauphine, Paris, presented work conducted within French a research project on platform capitalism. Her talk focused on the commodification effects of platforms on leisure activities. The third presentation was given by Nicola Cianferoni (UNINE and UNIGE) and Luca Perrig (UNIGE) and focused on work conditions and collective representation by platform workers in Switzerland.

The workshop organized by the research committee was dedicated to discussing the importance, contours and effects of unpaid and voluntary work for the economy and society.

At the end of the congress, a business meeting was held with the goal of revitalizing the research committee and discussing future activities. The dozen or so scholars attending agreed that economic sociology is a significant and thriving research field with a potentially quite numerous community in Switzerland, and that it is important to have an active network that makes this group visible within the Swiss sociological community and beyond. In particular, we agreed that economic sociology should be understood in the small Swiss context quite broadly for the purposes of the research committee, such as to include also adjacent fields such as the sociology of work or industrial relations or social stratification research. Thus, the program statement

of the research committee has been revised to better reflect this diversity.

Furthermore, it was proposed and decided that the research committee would seek to organize an international "mid-term" conference on a broad topic, with the goal of bringing together Swiss economic sociologists and foster the development of a community, for both senior and junior scholars. With this goal, a proposal for a conference with the topic "Markets and Power in the Digital Age" was drafted and submitted for funding by the SAGW/ASSH. The conference is scheduled to be held in February 2021 in Neuchâtel.

A final note on gender equality: we regretted to see a very strong dominance of male scholars at the business meeting, detrimental to the development of a diversified research community. We therefore would like to call for female economic sociologists working in Switzerland to become active in the network. If you wish to do so, please contact the network coordinators.

During the year 2020, we do not plan specific activities, since our focus will be on the organization of the February 2021 conference.

Contact

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Sociology of Health and Medicine / Sociologie de la santé et de la médecine / Gesundheits- und Medizinsoziologie

Activities in 2019

We organised the «Dreiländerkongress» (Switzerland, Germany and Austria) in Winterthur (August 2019). About 90 participants attended the conference which included 18 sessions discussing the topic "The Life

Course Approach to Illness and Health". See below for a short report providing more information about this conference.

We organised three workshop sessions at the Swiss Congress of Sociology (Neuchâtel, September 2019), on the topic "Transformations of work in health". Twelve papers were presented by sociologists coming from Switzerland, France, Italy and Canada.

We regularly distributed information by email to our members (over a hundred members) on scientific meetings (conferences, congresses), call for papers or job opportunities in areas relevant to the sociology of health and medicine.

The homepage content has been updated and an Italian version will be soon available.

Congress Report – "The Life Course Approach to Illness and Health" – Three-Country Congress in Sociology of Health and Medicine 2019

Our research committee organised the three-country congress in sociology of health and medicine, which took place on August 27 and 28, 2019 at the ZHAW, Health Department in Winterthur and was surprisingly well attended. The (mainly German-speaking) congress has been taking place every two years for the past 15 years and is based on the rotation principle of the section of sociology of medicine and health of the German Sociological Association (DGS), the section of sociology of health and medicine of the Austrian Sociological Association (ÖGS) and our research committee. The German Society for Medical Sociology (DGMS) has also been part of the organizational team since 2016. The 2019 congress was devoted to the life course approach to illness and health, and topically tied in with the National Centre of Competence in Research (NCCR) "LIVES – Overcoming Vulnerability: Life Course Perspectives" of the Swiss National Science Foundation. In his

opening lecture Nico Dragano (University of Düsseldorf), started with Russel Freedman's "Children of the Great Depression" and discussed the interplay between education or socio-economic status and health over the course of life. In 18 sessions, the course of illnesses and health was discussed with regards to the life course as a whole, but also with regard to individual stages of development and biographical transitions. Further, the influences of institutional regulations and changes in society as a whole were discussed. There were a conspicuously large number of contributions on the subject areas "work / job / company" and "social construction / pathologization / psychiatry" as well as "(older) age" and 'end of life' (several papers from NRP 67).

The panel discussion on the topic of "chronic illness" with a focus on health-care policy was moderated by Ursula Streckeisen (Bern). The discussion focused on questions of integrated care including associated tariff models, care in the fourth age and at the end of life, but also the power to define the benefits of treatment. Besides the sociologists Johann Behrens (Halle Wittenberg / Berlin), Oliver Radinger (Vienna), the social epidemiologist Christoph Junker (BFS, Neuchâtel), the two politicians Jörg Kündig (Gossau ZH) and Erika Ziltener (Zurich) participated.

The plenary talks on the second day had the main focus on "childhood, life course and health". They were aimed both at participants in the three-country congress and at those at the Swiss Public Health Conference 2019, which was dedicated to the topic "Child and Adolescent Public Health". Julia Dratva (Winterthur), Claudine Burton-Jeangros (Genève) and Cecilie Svanes (Center for International Health, Bergen) spoke.

Simone Grandy (ÖGS), Peter Kriwy (DGS), Julie Page (SGS) and Nico Vonneilich (DGMS) took part in the final discussion moderated by Andreas Bänziger (Zurich). With a view to future work, the four representatives of

the societies discussed whether the medical and health sociology should give more space to the theoretical discussion and intra-sociological arguments, whether criticism should be given greater weight, but also whether a salutogenetic perspective deserves more attention. The next three-country congress in sociology of health and medicine will take place on 4/5 March 2021 in Munich.

Planned activities for 2020

We will organise a one-day conference to mark the 40th anniversary of our "Sociology of Health and Medicine" research committee (Lausanne, October 2020).

Contact

Michael Gemperle (Zurich University of Applied Sciences, ZHAW, Winterthur)

Raphaël Hammer (Haute Ecole de Santé Vaud, HESAV) health@sgs-sss.ch

Soziale Probleme / Problèmes sociaux / Social Problems

Meetings / Conventions 2019

In the context of the congress of the Swiss Sociological Association on "The Future of Work", which took place in Neuchâtel from 10 to 12 September 2019, the research committee social problems held a workshop on "Social policies in the face of transforming labor regimes". The contributors came from both French and German-speaking Switzerland as well as from abroad and are conducting research at both university and university of applied sciences level.

Planned Activities 2020

The research committee will organize a workshop for young researchers in Fribourg in September 2020 for

exchange and networking. The aim of the workshop is to bring together young researchers from the German and French-speaking parts of Switzerland who deal with social problems, social policy, social insurance, institutions, discourses (etc.). How are socio-political target groups problematized? How are social problems generally constructed? Which discourses are central to this? What are the theoretical and methodological approaches? This networking meeting offers young researchers a platform to contribute and reflect on their ideas, projects, approaches (etc.). The meeting will take place once or twice a year, alternately in German and French-speaking Switzerland.

Other

In autumn 2019, the co-ordination was transformed into a board of directors consisting of the following five people: Martina Koch (FHNW), Eva Nada (FHNW), Yann Bochsler (FHNW), Emilie Rosenstein (UniGe) and Peter Streckeisen (ZHAW).

Contact

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Sportsoziologie / Sociologie des sports / Sociology of Sports

Activity 2019

SGS-Session at The congress of the Swiss Sociological Association SSA: Sport, Physical Activity and Health: What kind of Futures? Organisation of two workshops. 10–12 September 2019 at the University of Neuchâtel

Planned Activities 2020

12. congress of the « société suisse des sciences du sport » (4S), 6/7 February 2020 in Basel. Session about « Verläufe im Kinder- und Jugendsport – ein Symposium des Forschungskomitees Sportsoziologie » with three speakers: Klostermann C. (Professur Bewegungsförderung und Sportdidaktik im Kindesalter, Pädagogische Hochschule FHNW), Lamprecht M., (Schweizer Sportobservatorium c/o Lamprecht und Stamm Sozialforschung und Beratung) Nagel S. (Institut für Sportwissenschaft, Universität Bern)

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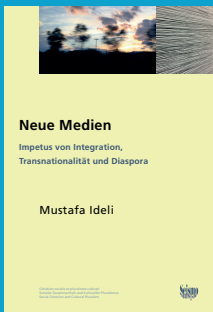


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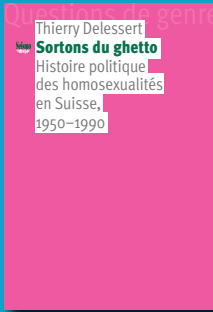


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