



**ESA '24**

**PORTO**  
**PORTO**

**16<sup>th</sup> CONFERENCE**

**27-30 AUG 2024 PORTO-PORTUGAL**

**TENSION, TRUST  
AND TRANSFORMATION**



**16<sup>th</sup> ESA Conference | 27-30 August 2024 | Porto, Portugal**

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Joana Mesquita

Eduardo Silva

Ricardo Soares

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## Research Networks

### Coordinators

**RN01 – Ageing in Europe**

Coordinators:

Jenni Spännäri, University of Helsinki and University of Eastern Finland, Finland Anna Urbaniak, Krakow University of Economics, Poland

**RN02 – The Sociology of the Arts**

Coordinators:

Christopher Mathieu, University of Lund, Sweden, Dafne Muntanyola-Saura, Autonomous University of Barcelona, Spain

**RN03 – Biographical Perspectives on European Societies**

Coordinators:

Lyudmila Nurse, Oxford XXI, UK, Baiba Bela, University of Latvia, Latvia

**RN04 The Sociology of Children and Childhood**

Coordinators:

Phil Mizen, Aston University, Birmingham, United Kingdom Vicky Johnson, University of the Highlands and Islands, Scotland Aleksandra Zalewska-Królak, University of Warsaw, Poland

**RN05 – Sociology of Consumption**

Coordinators:

Marlyne Sahakian, University of Geneva, Switzerland Mikko Laamanen, Oslo Metropolitan University, Norway Piergiorgio Degli Esposti, University of Bologna, Italy

**RN06 – Critical Political Economy**

Coordinators:

David Bailey, University of Birmingham, UK Yuliya Yurchenko, University of Greenwich, UK

**RN07 – Sociology of Culture**

Coordinators:

Simon Stewart, University of Portsmouth, UK Rita Ribeiro, University of Minho-Braga, Portugal

**RN09 – Economic Sociology**

Coordinators:

Andrea Maurer, University of Trier, Germany Giacomo Bazzani, University of Florence, Italy Sebastian Nessel, Vienna University of Economics and Business, Austria Alberto Veira Ramos, University Carlos III de Madrid, Spain

**RN10 – Sociology of Education**

Coordinators:

Adriana Aubert Simon, University of Barcelona, Spain, Jan-nick Demanet, Ghent University, Belgium

**RN11 Sociology of Emotions**

Coordinators:

Yvonne Albrecht, Humboldt University of Berlin, Germany Nina Margies, Humboldt University of Berlin, Germany Natàlia Cantó Milà, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya, Spain Cécile Vermot, Supbiotech Paris – ICM Rotem Leshem, Tel Aviv University

**RN12 – Environment and Society**

Coordinators:

Audronė Telešienė, Kaunas University of Technology, Lithuania Çiğdem Adem, Ankara Rivers Study Group, Turkey

**RN13 – Sociology of Families and Intimate Lives**

Coordinators:

Jacques-Antoine Gauthier, University of Lausanne, Switzerland  
Katarzyna Suwada, Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń, Poland

**RN14 – Gender relations in the labour market and the welfare state**

Coordinators:

Orly Benjamin, Bar-Ilan University, Israel  
Paula Koskinen Sandberg, Aalto University, Finland

**RN15 – Global, Transnational and Cosmopolitan Sociology**

Coordinators:

Marjaana Rautalin, University of Helsinki, Finland  
Peter Holley, University of Helsinki, Finland

**RN16 – Sociology of Health and Medicine**

Coordinators:

Guido Giarelli, University 'Magna Græcia', Italy  
Sandra Racionero-Plaza, University of Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain

**RN17 – Work, Employment and Industrial Relations**

Coordinators:

Valeria Pulignano, KU Leuven, Belgium  
Guglielmo Meardi, Scuola Normale Superiore, Italy

**RN18 – Sociology of Communications and Media Research**

Coordinators:

Thomas Allmer, Paderborn University, Germany  
Paško Bilić, Institute for Development and International Relations, Croatia  
Tatiana Mazali, Politecnico di Torino, Italy

**RN19 – Sociology of Professions**

Coordinators:

Christiane Schnell, Institute of Social Research at the Goethe-University of Frankfurt, Germany  
Nina Weimann-Sandig, Evangelische Hochschule Dresden, Germany

**RN20 – Qualitative Methods**

Coordinators: Ulrike T. Kissmann, University of Kassel, Germany  
Tea Torbenfeldt Bengtsson, VIVE, The Danish Center for Social Science Research, Denmark

**RN21 – Quantitative Methods**

Coordinators:

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**RN22 – Sociology of Risk and Uncertainty**

Coordinators:

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Coordinators:

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**RN24 – Science and Technology**

Coordinators:

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**RN25 – Social Movements**

Coordinators:

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**RN26 – Sociology of Social Policy and Social Welfare**

Coordinators:

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**RN27 – Southern European Societies**

Coordinators:

Teresa Consoli, University of Catania, Italy  
Laura Oso, University of La Coruña, Spain

**RN28 – Society and Sports**

Coordinators:

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Enrico Michelini, TU Dortmund, Germany

**RN29 – Social Theory**

Coordinators:

Mikael Carleheden, University of Copenhagen, Denmark  
Kornelia Hahn, Department of Sociology, University of Salzburg, Austria

**RN30 – Youth and Generation**

Coordinators:

Michela Franceschelli, University College London, UK  
Evelynne Baillergeau, University of Amsterdam, Netherlands and France

**RN31 – Ethnic Relations, Racism and Antisemitism**

Coordinators:

David Seymour, University of London, UK  
Karin Stoegner, University of Passau, Germany

**RN32 – Political Sociology**

Coordinators:

Alberta Giorgi, University of Bergamo, Italy  
Louisa Parks, University of Trento, Italy

**RN33 – Women's and Gender Studies**

Coordinators:

Elisabetta Ruspini, University of Milano-Bicocca, Italy  
Ana Vidu, University of Deusto, Spain  
Elzbieta Czapka, University of Gdansk, Poland  
Lise Widding Isaksen, University of Bergen, Norway

**RN34 – Sociology of Religion**

Coordinators:

Julia Martínez-Ariño, University of Groningen, the Netherlands  
Marta Kolodziejska, University of Warsaw, Poland

**RN35 – Sociology of Migration**

Coordinators:

Margit Fauser, Ruhr University Bochum, Germany  
Ilenya Camozzi, University of Milano-Bicocca, Italy

**RN36 – Sociology of Social Transformations: East and West**

Coordinators:

Matej Makarovič, School of Advanced Social Studies, Slovenia  
Agnieszka Kolasa-Nowak, Institute of Sociology Marie Curie-Skłodowska University, Poland

**RN37 – Urban Sociology**

Coordinators:

Gabriele Manella, University of Bologna, Italy  
Katarzyna Kajdanek, University of Wrocław, Poland, Vice-Coordinator

**RN38 – Space, Society and Rurality**

Coordinators:

Apostolos G. Papadopoulos, Harokopio University, Greece  
Maria Jesus Rivera, Public University of Navarra, Spain

# Research Streams

## Coordinators

### **RS01 – Institutional Ethnography**

Coordinators:

Morena Tartari, Babeş-Bolyai University, Romania  
May-Linda Magnussen, University of Agder, Norway  
Órla M Murray, Durham University, UK

### **RS02 – Sociology of Celebration**

Coordinators:

Ismo Kantola, University of Turku, Department of Social Research/Sociology  
Ozana Cucu-Oancea, Institute of Sociology, Romanian Academy  
Sabina Hadzibulic, Stockholm University, Department of Social Work

### **RS03 – Interpretative Interactionism: sociology of Interactions and Meaning**

Coordinators:

Don Weenink, University of Amsterdam, Netherlands  
Evelyne Baillergeau, EHESS and University of Amsterdam, Netherlands and France  
René Tuma, Technische Universität Berlin, Germany

### **RS04 – Social Sustainability**

Coordinators:

Kathrin Komp-Leukkunen, LUT University, Finland  
Jolanta Perek-Bialas, Jagiellonian University, Poland  
Konrad Turek, Tilburg University, Netherlands

### **RS05 – Active labour market policies: implementation, challenges and innovation**

Coordinators:

Gianluca Scarano, University of Turin, Italy  
Lutz Gschwind, Upp University, Sweden – Department of Government  
Veronika J. Knize Estrada, Institute for Employment Research, Germany – Department Basic Income Support and Activation

### **RS06 – European intimate lives and reproductive choices in the face of planetary crises**

Coordinators:

Anna-Maija Castrén, University of Eastern Finland, Finland  
Lynn Jamieson, University of Edinburgh, UK

### **RS07 – Politics of engagement and new social pragmatism**

Coordinators:

Eeva Luhtakallio, University of Helsinki, Finland  
Veikko Eranti, University of Helsinki, Finland  
Anders Blok, University of Copenhagen, Denmark

### **RS08 – Enacting solidarity and citizenship across social fields and scales**

Coordinators:

Martin Bak Jørgensen, Aalborg University, Denmark  
Sarah Schilliger, Universität Bern, Switzerland  
Helge Schwiertz, University of Hamburg

### **RS09 – Representing society. Sociological cultures of publication**

Coordinators:

Oliver Berli, University of Cologne, Germany  
Patrik Dahl, Cardiff University, United Kingdom  
Laura Behrmann, University Wuppertal, Germany

### **RS10 Producing, Contesting, and Reconfiguring Urban Sustainability**

Coordinators:

Alessandra Landi, Department of Sociology and Business Law, Università di Bologna, Italy  
Emiliano Scanu, Department of Sociology, Université Laval, Canada

### **RS11 – Sociology of Spatial Mobilities**

Coordinators:

Knut Petzold, Zittau/Görlitz University of Applied Sciences, Germany  
Heiko Rüger, Federal Institute for Population Research (BiB), Germany  
Gil Viry, University of Edinburgh, UK

### **RS12 – Linking Ages – Towards a Sociological Theorizing of Age Constructions Across the Life Course**

Coordinators:

Anna Wanka, Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany  
Philip Mizen, Aston University Birmingham, UK  
Michela Franceschelli, University College London, UK

### **RS13 – Emotions and Neoinstitutionalism**

Coordinators:

Helena Flam, Universität Leipzig, Germany  
Nina Margies, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany  
Åsa Wettergren, University of Gothenburg, Sweden

### **RS14 – Experiencing and Representing Precariousness: Emerging Labour Configurations and Worker Agency**

Coordinators:

Annalisa Murgia, University of Milan, Italy  
Renato Miguel do Carmo, ISCTE, Portugal  
Joseph Choonara, University of Leicester, UK

### **RS15 – Armed Forces, Conflict Resolution, and Peace Building**

Coordinators:

Kees Koonings, University of Utrecht, The Netherlands  
Celso Castro, FGV CPDOC, School of Social Sciences, Brazil

### **RS16 – Tensions in the Transformation of Knowledge (Cultures): Exploring Stability and Social Order in the Second Modernity**

Coordinators:

Barbara Grüning, Università di Milano-Bicocca, Italy  
Paul Eisewicht Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster, Germany  
Ajit Singh, Universität Bielefeld, Germany

### **RS17 – Sociological Research in Portugal – Research Stream in Portuguese (abstracts and presentations to be done in Portuguese)**

Organised by the Local Organising Committee

Coordinators:

Fernando Bessa Ribeiro, University of Minho, Portugal  
Helena Machado, University of Minho, Portugal  
Teresa Carvalho, University of Aveiro, Portugal

### **RS18 – Exploring and Consolidating New Research Strategies in the Post-COVID-19 Era**

Coordinators:

Alessandra Decataldo, University of Milano-Bicocca, Italy  
Brunella Fiore, University of Milano-Bicocca, Italy

### **RS19 – Rethinking Dependence: Trust and Social Hierarchies in an Era of Uncertainty**

Coordinators:

Judit Durst, UCL, Hungary

Stefania Toma, Babeş-Bolyai University, Romania  
Gergely Pulay, Centre for Social Sciences, Hungary

### RS20 – Maritime Sociology

Coordinators:

Agnieszka Kołodziej-Durnaś, University of Szczecin, Poland  
Birgit Paukzstat, Nordland Research Institute and Nord University, Norway

Maciej Kowalewski University of Szczecin, Poland

## Tension, Trust and Transformation

What is the value in thousands of social scientists gathering in one location to discuss their work? What value accrues from a large international conference and what is lost without it? Since pandemic restrictions were implemented in the last few years, we have become more familiar with on-line meetings and seminars, with the 15th conference being held online and widely regarded as highly successful. Indeed, it is probable that many forms of work, especially that of academic research, will henceforth use online facilities to a much greater extent than in previous times when the technological capacity may have existed but the psychological mind-set to fully engage with the world of online, work may not have. However, it may also be fair to say that in-person meetings are also now being re-evaluated for their intrinsic value. We always suspected that there was equal value in interactions outside the conference seminar room and now, it is widely accepted that the physicality of a conference cannot be substituted by a screen call i.e. while online work may have resulted in greater efficiencies related to less travel and higher frequency of meetings, it has also inhibited the depth of communication that exists when working in-person with others. During face-to-face conferences, the dynamic within the seminar room, walking around book fairs and the continuation of discussions over coffee, lunch and evening meals are human activities which cannot be substituted.

The COVID-19 pandemic, while acutely felt the world over, was but another driver of inequality, which added to increasing geo-political tensions across the world. Societal challenges were manifold before the pandemic and are not likely to disappear. Arguably, the ways in which societies across the world have dealt with COVID-19 and other challenges has been in some ways correlated with regionally specific longer range socio-cultural traditions. No country has been immune to the tensions of societal limitations on working and family life, not least in the form of travel restrictions. Similarly, there is manifest variability in the trust that people have in scientists and policy makers responsible for dealing with COVID-19. Sociological work is fundamental for dealing with societal challenges, and sociological conferences are the engines driving the ideas which can address these challenges.

The title of the theme for the 16th conference: “Tension, Trust and Transformation”, seeks to capture the experiences of recent times, crises and global challenges, such as the Covid-19 pandemic, climate change debates and activism, inequalities and violence, persisting levels of populism and the politics of instability. At the same time, it raises sociological concerns about perennial and new problems to assert the potential for sociological work to have a transformative societal impact in different social spheres.

What do the social sciences have to offer a world going through a persistent pandemic, increasing concern about the acceleration of climate change, a noticeable retreat from democracy and a crisis due to war in Europe?

We know that the heterogeneity of sociology in terms of both theory and methods is at the core of its strength. Given any aspect of society, there are likely to be a wide range of perspectives, each of which have established literatures,

case studies, endemic findings, and critiques of other perspectives. Theoretical frameworks span micro social relations to macro analyses of institutional structures. Methodologies help us to understand phenomena in terms of the actor's understandings and their lived context, through to statistical representations and models, making space for subjectivist as well as more objectivist scientific approaches. This multiplicity of possibilities means that sociology has always, well before the push for multidisciplinary, had the potential to throw light upon causes and consequences of inequalities in a variety of ways unhindered by a narrower approach. Debate and disagreement, discussion and discourse, hypotheses and evidence are at the heart of the discipline, and the 16th ESA conference will be the prime forum to showcase our work, argue for different positions, hone methodologies and arguments against opposing perspectives, as well as to joint networking.

## Tension

Societies are riddled with tensions. Forms of nationalism are in the ascendancy where borders are being strengthened, cultural differences are being used to promote political ends, and forms of authoritarianism are taking hold. The consequences of political, cultural, historical and economic tensions are felt in harsh terms when conflict between nations escalates. There are, nonetheless, some familiar tensions in terms of the persistent inequalities of class, gender, ethnicity, intersectionality, as well as political and economic tension between rich and poor countries, and in many cases also between different areas of the same country. To these, we can add more recent tensions related to sexualities, gender, transgender, gender-based violence, climate change and the expansion of digital society such as the ways in which social media is used to leverage anger and negativity.

## Trust

Trust in institutions and key individuals such as scientists and politicians can be seen as being closely associated with stable and robust systems. The trajectories of trust in government, media, science, business and criminal justice ebb and flow but the rising tide of populism, the growing presence of movements founded on conspiracy theories, and the increasing difficulty with which democratic societies face the process of governing, suggest that there is a crisis of trust. A paradox for sociology is that it must remain at the critical edge of discourse to identify institutional and systemic failures and yet it must also be involved in finding solutions to wicked problems through in-depth analysis of the individual's practices and understandings, and thereby contribute to the building and maintenance of trust.

## Transformation

For those engaged with funded research and evaluations of research and publications, the need to demonstrate impact has been a growing requirement over the years. For some this has been a distraction from undertaking pure research but for many it has been a welcome exercise in refocusing research to maximise its transformational potential. The theoretical and methodological diversity of sociology and

its importance to all cognate social science disciplines renders it productive at many levels from campaigning activists to policy makers, from ethnographic to (inter)national studies, incorporating subjective and objective perspectives, and through exploratory and explanatory frameworks. The desire to make a difference, to have an impact, to transform society for the better is widespread among sociological projects.

The 16th ESA Conference will be a place to tackle tensions and trust and to discuss alternatives for social transformation.

## Types of sessions

While Research Network and Research Stream sessions cover the immense variety of sociological inquiry, Plenary, Semi-Plenary and Midday sessions offer the opportunity to engage in core debates. All session formats will include time for open discussion.

- **Plenaries (P)** address the main conference theme. They take place in the evenings (Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday).
- **Semi-Plenaries (SPs)** discuss the main conference theme from the viewpoint of different fields of research. They promote discussion between speakers, next to that with participants. SPs are based on proposals made by the ESA Research Networks.
- **Midday (MD)** sessions cover topics which are relevant for sociology as a discipline and/or for the day-to-day work of sociologists. They are offered at lunchtime (on Wednesday and Friday).
- **Research Network (RN)** sessions feature research papers submitted in response to the Call for Papers. The majority of sessions is organised by ESA's 37 Research Networks. RNs are open to all ESA members. All RNs hold a business meeting at the conference (this time on Thursday, August 29, at 13:00, after Time Slot 5. New members are cordially invited to join one or several RNs of their choice. Note that many RNs organise **Joint Sessions (JS)**.
- **Research Stream (RS)** sessions are made by sociologists from several European countries who come together to organize sessions on specific sociological topics. RSs are self-organised bodies with a loose structure which is determined by the researchers who join the stream. While some RSs are regularly organizing sessions at ESA conferences, other RSs offer ad hoc sessions around spur-of-the-moment topics.

of coming generations. Therefore, it is equally interesting to explore whether environmental and climate attitudes differ between young people in rural and urban areas. It is hypothesized that for the youth, climate and environmentally related issues are more important than for older individuals, as evidenced by movements like Fridays for Future.

Data from the Austrian Social Survey (SSÖ) 2021 is utilized to address these questions. In the last survey, there was a focus on questions regarding the environment and climate. The selection of questions comprises attitudes towards causes of climate change, measures to protect the climate and environment, willingness to change behavior, and environmental activism. Where question comparability permits, earlier surveys are also considered for a temporal comparison.

## “Climate Change Awareness: The Case of Medical Doctors in Artvin”

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Climate change refers to the long-term and continuous change in climatic conditions. The social impacts of this process are reflections of the climate crisis. The social impacts of climate change should be analyzed and evaluated in various aspects. One of the most important consequences of climate change/crisis is that all aspects of society are affected. In this respect, being aware of the change and transformation created by climate change in our daily lives is an important starting point for the future of the world in this process. The first step in examining the interaction of climate change and society is to determine awareness. Turkey is seriously affected by climate change due to its geographical location. However, does the society have a climate awareness to the extent of this impact? This question is of equal importance with the question of why the sociology of climate change is important.

One of the direct and indirect risks of climate change is its impact on human health. In this respect, doctors' awareness of climate change becomes very important. Doctors who are aware of climate change play a pioneering role in raising public health awareness as well as taking precautions by informing their patients about the risks in this regard. This study aims to measure the awareness of the doctors working in Artvin on the effects of climate change on daily life, as well as their awareness on the damage caused by climate change on health and its social impact. The results of this quantitative study conducted with doctors working in Artvin center and various districts will reveal the status of climate change awareness among doctors in Turkey.

## Assessing Portuguese Healthcare Professionals' Perspectives on Climate Change-Related Health Policies and National Health Service Readiness: A Qualitative Study

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In alignment with the urgent sociological imperative to address the multidimensional crises stemming from climate change (CC), biodiversity loss, and socio-political tensions, this abstract delves into the critical realm of healthcare preparedness facing escalating climate impacts. With the increasing impacts of CC on health, understanding how health professionals, especially physicians, are informed and prepared to deal with these challenges has become imperative. This study explores Portuguese healthcare professionals' perspectives on climate change-related health policies and the National Health Service's (SNS) readiness to tackle climate impacts. A qualitative methodology was applied, and thirteen interviews were conducted with physicians from various medical specialties in Portugal, aged between 28 and 73, using a semi-structured interview script. This work contributed to confirming that the CC health policies in Portugal are still very incipient and require more proactive measures, interconnected across various dimensions, particularly concerning healthcare professionals. The main result of this research highlights the need for more consistent communication and more precise guidelines for dealing with the impacts of climate change on public health.