



Futures  
Research

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**Futures Research Newsletter**

No. 53, May 2024

V ISA Forum in Rabat, Morocco (July 6-11, 2025)

Membership

Best Graduate Student Paper Award Competition

Lifetime Achievement Award

Website

Social Media

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## Letter from the ISA-RC07 President

Dear Colleagues:

I'm writing to update you on plans for our next activities and to invite participation, including proposals for the midterm conference next year in Rabat.

**V Forum of Sociology, Rabat, Morocco, 6-11 July 2025:** ISA is offering again a Forum for Research Committees to hold a joint mid-term conference and has selected the bid from Rabat, Morocco. It will be the first time that such a major ISA event will be held in Northern Africa. In addition, currency exchange rates and offers to use university facilities seem to make it less expensive than many other locations. RC07 is planning a series of sessions on "Futures of the Anthropocene". This theme is meant to emphasize a forward-orientation and to resonate with the Forum's general motto of "Knowing Justice in the Anthropocene." All RC07 members are cordially invited to submit proposals for sessions on this theme or on any other future-related topic. Details on the format of proposals are listed below.

It is a particular pleasure that RC07 is reviving the **Best Graduate Student Paper Award Competition** and the **Lifetime Achievement Award**, which were both established in 2012.

**Publication projects:** Many thanks go to the many authors and reviewers of papers from the Melbourne congress that are earmarked for publication.

**Website:** It is also a pleasure to note that RC07 is online again with its own website. This new site can be found at: <https://www.isarc07.org>. More content shall be added as the site is being developed. Please join the effort.

**Newsletter :**The Board is taking turns in preparing upcoming newsletters and has still room to include items such as short thought-pieces on a current topic, notes on new publications and upcoming activities as well as conference and session reports, which you may send to the dedicated email: [isarc07news@gmail.com](mailto:isarc07news@gmail.com)

**Other Activities?** Although participation in the quadrennial World Congress and a mid-term symposium are typically our major activities, please do feel welcome to think of additional possibilities, such as sessions in the context of national or regional association meetings. Your suggestions and initiatives are most welcome!

Last but not least, thanks to all! I'll look forward to our next activities.

Best regards,  
Markus S. Schulz, ISA-RC07



## **Futures of the Anthropocene**

Rabat, Morocco

6-11 July 2025

### **V ISA Forum in Rabat, Morocco**

**6-11 July 2025**

The ISA Research Committee on Futures Research (RC07) welcomes proposals for sessions related to future-oriented social research. Proposals that engage the theme of “Futures of the Anthropocene” are particularly encouraged.

A session will last 90 minutes. The standard format consists of the presentation of five papers followed by discussion. Other formats can be suggested too.

Sessions may be held in any of the ISA’s three official languages English, French, or Spanish. To promote exchange across linguistic divides, session organizers are encouraged to find creative solutions for including presentations in more than one language, such as full sequential translation by a volunteer; translation on Power Point slides; or live projection of typed summary translations.

**Session** proposals submittable: 2 May to 1 July 2024 via

<https://isaconf.confex.com/isaconf/forum2025/cfs.cgi>

**Paper** abstracts submittable: 5 August to 15 October 2024

The Call for Papers will become available by 5 August 2024.

Relevant organizational information and instructions can be found on the ISA website at:

<https://www.isa-sociology.org/en/conferences/forum/rabat-2025/visaforumguidelines>

**RC07 Program Coordinators:**

Jan Nederveen Pieterse and Markus S. Schulz, ✉ [isarc07@gmail.com](mailto:isarc07@gmail.com)

## **2025 Competition for Best Graduate Student Paper Award**

The International Sociological Association Research Committee on Futures Research (ISARC07) is pleased to announce for the third time a competition for the award honoring the best graduate student paper related to sociological futures research. The winner/s will present her/his/their paper in one of RC07's scheduled sessions at the V ISA Forum of Sociology in Rabat, Morocco, 7-11 July 2025 and their name(s) will be published in the Newsletter. The award consists of a certificate with a citation and a monetary reward in the amount of US\$1200, which can be used toward expenses for attending the Forum.

### **Eligibility**

Eligible are graduate student-authored papers accepted for inclusion into RC07's program at the V ISA Forum of Sociology in Rabat. The author(s) must be registered for a graduate degree at a degree granting institution at the time the paper is submitted. Employment as academic staff or junior faculty is no reason for exclusion. Candidates must hold an undergraduate degree (B.A. or equivalent) but cannot yet hold a Ph.D. (or equivalent) at the time the paper is submitted. Not eligible are papers that were co-authored with a faculty advisor or someone holding a Ph.D. (or its equivalent), that have been published already, or that have been accepted for publication more than three years prior to submission. Papers must be submitted in English or with an accompanying English translation. The maximum length for the paper is 8,000 words, including bibliography, plus an abstract of not more than 500 words. Winners must be member of both the ISA and RC07 at the time of receiving the award.

**Deadline to submit full paper: 15 December 2024**

### **How to submit**

Applications must be emailed to [isarc07GraduateStudentAward@gmail.com](mailto:isarc07GraduateStudentAward@gmail.com) with a copy to [isarc07repository@gmail.com](mailto:isarc07repository@gmail.com) and the words "Graduate Student Award 2025" in the subject line and the paper and cover letter as separate attached files. The paper must follow scholarly standards, including proper referencing and documentation of sources. It should be typed double-spaced in 12 point font on numbered pages in a standard size (such as A4 or US letter of around 21cm × 29cm) with 3 cm margins. Notes and the bibliography

should appear at the end. The paper may be formatted in one of these three formats: Adobe PDF (\*.pdf), Rich Text File (\*.rtf), or Word document (\*.doc). The front page should bear the paper's title, brief abstract, and up to five keywords, but not the author(s) name or affiliation.

The cover letter must include author(s) names, full contact information (for the period until July 2025), paper title, and a brief curriculum vitae indicating which institutions were attended in what years and what degrees were obtained or are in progress. The names of degrees must be indicated in the original language; English translation or explanation of equivalency may be added.

Candidates normally residing in the Economic South (= ISA's category B/C countries) are encouraged to provide further details on their residency status and periods spent abroad so as to be considered for further special mentioning or travel subsidies.

Submissions not conforming to these rules run risk of rejection. The jury reserves the right to request further particulars.

## **Selection**

The papers will be evaluated by an international jury of distinguished scholars. The primary criteria for selection are originality of ideas, social relevance, conceptual rigor, analytical perceptiveness, and clarity of style.

In accordance with RC07's Award Rules, the jury can decide to split the award, extend special recognition for the best paper from the Economic South (ISA's category B/C countries), make honorary mentions of runners-up, or to not give an award at all. The winner(s) will be notified in or around early April 2025.

## **Call for Nominations:**

### **Distinguished Contribution to Futures Research Award**

RC07 members are invited to make nominations for the Distinguished Contribution to Futures Research Award. This award was established in 2012 to recognize a living scholar who has made a significant contribution to future-oriented sociology. The award is intended to recognize achievements in futures research regarding one of three categories: (a) a career-long contribution spanning over at least two decades, (b) a publication of outstanding scholarly excellence, originality, and relevance, or (c) long-term distinguished service to RC07. The winner of the award will be most highly esteemed by future-oriented sociologists throughout the world.

**How to Nominate:** Nominations should be accompanied by a curriculum vitae, list of publications, and brief justification of why the nominee would deserve the award. Nominations must be made in English or with an accompanying English translation. Nominations must be submitted electronically to [isarc07@gmail.com](mailto:isarc07@gmail.com) with a copy to [isarc07repository@gmail.com](mailto:isarc07repository@gmail.com) and the words “Distinguished Contribution to Futures Research” in the subject line.

Deadline: **September 30, 2024**

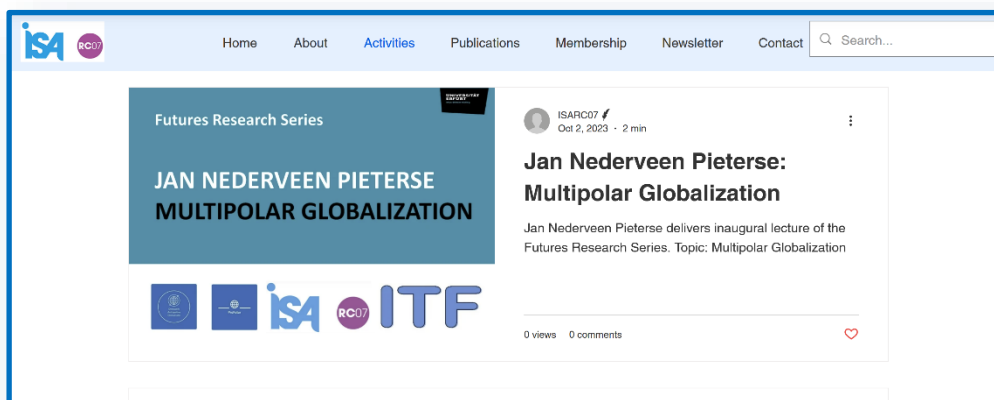
**Eligibility:** Any living sociologist or social scientist, whether or not she or he is a member of RC07 and/or of the ISA, is eligible. Currently serving members of the RC07 Board or Distinguished Contribution Award Subcommittee are not eligible to receive the award. A condition of acceptance of the award is that the winner delivers a presentation in an event sponsored by RC07 or, in case of travel inability, contributes a written paper for a publication sponsored by RC07.

**Selection Process:** All nominations will be reviewed by an international jury of distinguished scholars. In accordance with the Award Rules, the jury can decide to split the award or to not make an award at all during this term. The selection process will be completed in time for winners to make travel arrangements for the V ISA Forum of Sociology, 7-11 July 2025 in Rabat, Morocco.

### **Recognition**

The award is non-remunerated and consists of a certificate with honorary citation and lifetime RC07 membership benefits. Winners will be asked to deliver a presentation in an RC07-sponsored event and their names will be reported to the ISA Executive Committee and announced in the RC07 newsletter.

New ISA RC07 Website:  
<https://www.isarc07.org>



## **Become a New Member of RC07 - Renew your Membership Today!**

Stay informed. Participate in RC07 events and activities to enhance your career and profession. Network with colleagues around the world. The regular dues for membership in the ISA Research Committee Futures Research (ISA-RC07) are only US\$20.00 for an entire four-year period, which is discounted for members in countries with softer currencies and for students (US\$10.00). There is also a membership category available for voluntary supporters (US\$40).

For more details and for registering directly via the ISA secure website:

<https://www.isa-sociology.org/en/membership/individual-membership/>.



**Social Media: RC07 is now on Mastodon**

**Follow @isarc07 on mastodon.social**

**Visit <https://mastodon.social/@isarc07>**

Critical scholars do not favor the support of oligarchically controlled, for-profit platforms. Albeit still small, an increasingly popular platform is mastodon.social.

Mastodon.social is part of the decentralized social network powered by Mastodon. Its a 'federated' network, not just a new 'twitter'. The original server is operated by the Mastodon gGmbH, a non-profit organization chartered and registered in Germany. For background information, see for example: <https://joinmastodon.org/>.



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## NEWSLETTER

RC07 newsletter aims to be a means of communication among the members of RC07 as well as other scholars interested in futures research. It is published non-periodically according to the needs of our scientific community. In addition to announcements of events organized by our RC, or related to our research concerns, we include news from our members, reports of activities, information on new publications, ongoing projects and works in progress as well as short thought pieces on pressing issues and current debates in our field.

Please contribute to our newsletter and help making it an effective tool for interaction. Send your comments and any news item for the next newsletter to [isarc07news@gmail.com](mailto:isarc07news@gmail.com).



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