



Social Indicators Matters No. 16 July 2024



Social
Indicators

NEWSLETTER

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1. Announcement

Announcement of Call for Papers and Travel Grants

for the ISA-RC55 5th ISA Forum of Sociology on

Quality of Life, Inequalities, and Justice in the Anthropocene: Did the Promise of Enlightenment Come True?

Rabat, Morocco, July 6–11, 2025

We announce a call for papers on the topic of “*Quality of Life, Inequalities, and Justice in the Anthropocene: Did the Promise of Enlightenment Come True?*” that invites papers to be presented in one of the 19 RC55 sessions at the ISA Forum of Sociology. Issues that papers may address should be related to the topics of one of the RC55 sessions. The list of the sessions with detailed session descriptions will become available on **August 5, 2024**. The deadline for submitting abstract proposals and travel grant requests is **October 15, 2024**.

RC55 and the World Society Foundation award a limited number of travel grants covering airfare, accommodation, visa, and ISA Forum registration fee (in full or in part) to support ISA-RC55 members who would otherwise find it difficult to attend the ISA Forum. Financial support will be provided for one author per accepted full paper using the most economical travel route. Researchers from the Global South (African, Latin American countries, and Asian countries, International Sociological Association country categories B and C), and doctoral and postdoctoral students, in particular, are encouraged to apply. Applicants must be RC55 members (in good standing) and present their paper on-site in the respective RC55 session at the ISA Forum, as reflected by a listing in the RC55 session program.

The full call for papers and the travel grant submission procedure will be published on **August 5, 2024** or in a few days from that date.

2. Call for papers

“Measuring Socioeconomic Inequalities in a Comparative Perspective”

Coordinators:

Sandra Fachelli (Universidad Pablo de Olavide) sfachelli@upo.es

Christian Suter (Université de Neuchâtel) christian.suter@unine.ch

Joonmo Son (National University of Singapore) socioson@nus.edu.sg

Following the mid-term Conference of the RC55 on Social Indicators with the title “The measurement of socioeconomic inequalities in comparative perspective” to be held in the



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context of the XV Spanish Congress of Sociology, with the motto: #SociologyForTheDigitalSociety, the relevance of a call for papers for the development of a Special Issue on Social Indicators Research is raised. This conference will be held at the Universidad Pablo de Olavide from June 26th to 29th, 2024, in Seville, Spain with the collaboration of the Spanish Federation of Sociology.

The RC55 of the International Sociological Association is pleased to invite authors to submit papers addressing socioeconomic inequalities from a comparative perspective.

Persistent or rising socioeconomic inequalities have become a major concern in many countries in recent years, both in the Global North and the Global South. Contemporary society is going through several consecutive and partly overlapping (financial, economic, ecological, sanitary, social, and political) crises that, together with the impact of current wars and rising geopolitical conflicts, contribute to increasing socioeconomic inequalities. These crises accentuate old inequalities and generate new ones. The digital society, for example, with the evolution of the platform economy, the possibility of teleworking, the rapid advance of Artificial Intelligence, and many other transformations impact on all aspects of social life and provoke new challenges for the social sciences, including the need to reconceptualize, measure, and analyze these new (and old) inequalities. The focus of this call for papers is on conceptualizing, measuring, and analyzing socioeconomic inequalities as multidimensional phenomena, including the construction and analysis of multidimensional composite indicators. Issues that may be addressed include (but are not limited to):

- socioeconomic inequalities and well-being,
- social stratification,
- educational inequalities,
- labor market inequalities,
- gender inequalities,
- digital society inequalities,
- migration inequalities,
- health inequalities,
- climate change inequalities.

Proposals that employ a systematic comparative approach, i.e., the measurement or study of the same phenomenon in different countries or regions, are particularly welcome. Contributions may be of theoretical nature, applied studies, or methodological reflections.

General information:

The call is open to all researchers related to the above-mentioned topics. In particular RC55 members, congress participants and INCASI members are especially encouraged to send their contributions.

Opening call: July 1, 2024

Deadline submission: September, 20, 2024

3. Call for contributions

Call for contributions related to child well-being data and indicators: Oliver Nahkur

All over the world, the idea that people's well-being must be at the center of public policies and social activities in all areas has been increasingly accepted (Layard 2021). Putting well-being at the center of policy requires the availability of necessary data and the use of well-being indicators in defining policy priorities and evaluating policy options (Durand and Exton 2019). In recent years, the development of national frameworks, development plans or studies with a multidimensional well-being focus has accelerated (OECD 2023). Governments of several countries have integrated dashboards of well-being indicators into budget decision-making and national development strategies (Durand and Exton 2019).

However, specifically for children, there are fewer developments in terms of well-being data, indicators and their use in policy. For example, most OECD countries do not have good data on which to base their child well-being policies or a strong data infrastructure to monitor policies (OECD 2021). According to Dirwan and Thevenon (2023), good child well-being data include multidimensional, regular, timely, regional/municipal level, disaggregating (e.g. by child's personal, family and socio-economic characteristics) data, including data for most vulnerable children (e.g. children exposed to violence, in foster care, with disabilities).

On ISA Forum 2025 in Rabat, there is a chance to share new knowledge and experiences about what are the challenges but also opportunities related to child well-being data and indicators. Please see the ISA RC55 session description below and if possible, submit your contribution.

Challenges and Opportunities Related to Child Well-being Data and Indicators

Despite recent progress, major efforts are needed to improve child well-being data and indicators. For example, policymakers need the data to design, implement and monitor

effective child well-being policies. However, most OECD countries do not have good data on which to base their child well-being policies or a strong data infrastructure to monitor these policies. For the first time, children will be considered in OECD's new guidelines on how to measure subjective well-being. This session calls for papers addressing different challenges and opportunities related to child well-being data and indicators. Challenges can be related, but not only, with data collection from children in general, including ethical and data protection issues; development of new child indicators; data collection specifically from more vulnerable children (e.g. children under 7-years-old, in disability, migrant background, not living with biological parent(s)) and development of objective/subjective indicators for these groups; child well-being data fragmentation and difficulties in their use. Opportunities can be related, but not only, with new ways to collect data from and about children; development and use of international, national and/or sub-national cross-sectoral child well-being monitoring systems and indicator sets; the accessibility and usability increase of child well-being data and indicators through data portals, dashboards etc. Theoretical, empirical and also discussion papers are welcome.

References

- Dirwan, G. and O. Thévenon. (2023). Integrated policy making for child well-being: Common approaches and challenges ahead. *OECD Papers on Well-being and Inequalities*, No. 16, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/1a5202af-en>.
- Durand, M., & Exton, C. (2019). Adopting a well-being approach in central government: Policy mechanisms and practical tools. *Global Happiness and Wellbeing Policy Report 2019*, New York: Sustainable Development Solutions Network.
- Layard, R. (2021). Wellbeing as the Goal of Policy. *LSE Public Policy Review*, 2(2), 1-8.
- OECD (2023), *Economic Policy Making to Pursue Economic Welfare: OECD Report for the G7 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors*, May 2023, Japan, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2021), *Measuring What Matters for Child Well-being and Policies*, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/e82fded1-en>.

4. Report from the ISA RC 55 Mid-Term Conference



The RC55 Intermediate Conference on Social Indicators with the title "Measuring socioeconomic inequalities in comparative perspective" was held in the context of the XV Spanish Congress of Sociology, with the motto: #SociologyForTheDigitalSociety.

This conference was held at the Pablo de Olavide University from 26-29 June 2024, in Seville, Spain, with the collaboration of the Spanish Federation of Sociology.

The RC55 of the International Sociological Association (ISA) participated with more than 30 papers at the mid-term conference. The meeting was an interesting space for exchange among the members of RC55 themselves, who participated both in person and online. It also served as a meeting place with the Spanish sociological community. Finally, it was characterized by being a venue for the presentation and welcome of 18 new members of the committee. The academic and social exchange during the conference was an extremely propitious experience for advancing research on social indicators, which is the specialty field of RC55 within the ISA.

ISA RC55 Mid Term Conference en el contexto del XV Congreso Español de Sociología



Program:

ISA RC55-SES01: Social class, gender, disability, vulnerability, and urban segregation

27/06/2024: 9:00 - 10:30

Chair: Christian Suter, University of Neuchâtel

Exploring the Gender Equality Index. A multidimensional and relational analysis of gender equality in the EU.

Ricardo Quintero Carrizosa¹, Sandra Fachelli²

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Construyendo un Índice de Vulnerabilidad Urbana: una propuesta para medir las desigualdades sociales y económicas en la ciudad

Sonia Fernández Álvarez, Rafael Merinero Rodríguez, María Ángeles Huete García
Universidad Pablo de Olavide, España; sonianoeuropa@gmail.com

The Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Activity Space Segregation in Tokyo

Hiroki Takikawa¹, Zeyu Lyu², Chenchen Sun³, Yuya Shibuya⁴, Yuan Liao⁵, Yoshihide Sekimoto⁶

¹University of Tokyo, Japón; ²Tohoku University, Japón; ³University of Tokyo, Japón; ⁴University of Tokyo, Japón; ⁵Chalmers University of Technology/Technical University of Denmark; ⁶University of Tokyo, Japón; berutaki@gmail.com

Developing disability equality indicators in Lithuania and Latvia

Tomasz Kasprzak

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Estratificación, desigualdad y pacto social en el Chile actual. Evaluaciones y preferencias de la población para la política pública

Emmanuelle Barozet¹, Vicente Espinoza², Dante Contreras³, Modesto Gayo⁴, María Luisa Méndez⁵

¹Universidad de Chile, Chile; ²COES, Chile; ³Universidad de Chile, Chile; ⁴Universidad Diego Portales, Chile; ⁵Universidad Católica de Chile, Chile; ebarozet@uchile.cl

Quantifying Bourdieusian capital mobilisation: Uncovering strategies for the reproduction of power as the genesis of social inequality.

Víctor Fabián Climent Peredo

Universidad de Alicante, España; v.climent@ua.es

ISA RC55-SES02: Subjective well-being

27/06/2024: 12:45 - 14:15

Chair: Joonmo Son, National University of Singapore

Happiness is not Mutual: Exploring Differences in the Perception of Well-being with Words-association Network

Zeyu Lyu¹, Aguru Ishibashi², Takaharu Saito³, Zhemeng Xie¹, Sachiko Yasuda⁴, Hiroki Takikawa⁴

¹Tohoku University, Japan; ²Senshu University, Japan; ³Nagoya University of Commerce and Business, Japan; ⁴The University of Tokyo, Japan; lyu.zeyu.e8@tohoku.ac.jp

Well-being During the Pandemic. Comparative Perspectives from the Global North and South

Christian Suter¹, Sandra Fachelli², Jenny Chesters³

¹University of Neuchâtel, Suiza; ²Pablo de Olavide University; ³University of Melbourne; christian.suter@unine.ch

Why gender gap in adolescents' subjective well-being and mental health is growing? Exploration of the role of family relationships in Estonia

Oliver Nahkur, Dagmar Kutsar, Kadri Soo

University of Tartu, Estonia; oliver.nahkur@ut.ee

The Latent Classes of the Volunteer Satisfaction Index and Donation during the Pandemic in Singapore

Joonmo Son¹, Pildoo Sung², Benjamin Tay³

¹National University of Singapore, Singapore; ²Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong; ³National Volunteer & Philanthropy Centre, Singapore; sociooson@nus.edu.sg

ISA RC55-SES03: Knowledge and educational inequalities

27/06/2024: 15:45 - 17:15

Chair: Christian Suter, University of Neuchâtel

Desigualdad de oportunidades en la educación superior en Argentina. Factores de estratificación social y transiciones

Sebastian Lemos^{1,2}, Pablo Dalle^{1,2}

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Educación no formal en Latinoamérica y Caribe: aproximación a su alcance

Manuel Giovine¹, Patricia Mariel Sorribas²

¹Universidad Nacional de Córdoba, Argentina; ²Instituto de Estudios en Comunicación, Expresión y Tecnologías (IECET), CONICET y UNC, Argentina; manuel.giovine@unc.edu.ar

Unequal Mathematics: A Comparative Analysis of School Performance between Latin America and Europe based on PISA 2022



Patricio Solis Gutierrez

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Brief Report on the “UNIQUENESS Principle of the SOCIAL INDICATORS”

Nicolae Bulz

CSCBAS “Acad. David Davidescu”/NERI/ Romanian Academy, España; nbulz@yahoo.com

La relación entre desigualdades sociales y las desigualdades educativas en la Argentina.

Abandono escolar por provincias: el caso de la educación técnica.

Mariana Lucía Sosa

CONICET, Argentina; marianalucs@gmail.com

ISA RC55-SES04: Social mobility

28/06/2024: 9:00 - 10:30

Chair: Sandra Fachelli, Universidad Pablo de Olavide

Multidimensional Socioeconomic Closure: Cross-national Evidence for the Long Shadow of Family Origin

Tony Tam, Junwen Wang

The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong; tony.tam@cuhk.edu.hk

Comparative social mobility between Maldonado and Salto between 2000, 2012 and 2023.

Rafael Rey Fau, Marcelo Boado, Sofía Vanoli

Universidad de la República, Uruguay; rafael.rey@cienciassociales.edu.uy

Intergenerational Educational Mobility and Race: A Positional Approach Comparing Brazil and Mexico.

Carlos Costa Ribeiro

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Effects of intragenerational mobility and education on intergenerational mobility in Andalusia and Catalonia.

Cristian Segura-Carrillo¹, Sandra Fachelli², Pedro López-Roldán¹

¹Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona, España; ²Universidad Pablo de Olavide,

España; crisegurac@gmail.com

Social mobility according to type of industrialization (early or late): outline of an empirical generalization

Ildefonso Marqués Perales¹, Sandra Fachelli², Pedro López-Roldán³

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Barcelona; imarques@us.es

ISA RC55-SES05: Economic, coercive, and digital inequalities

28/06/2024: 12:45 - 14:15

Chair: Christian Suter, University of Neuchâtel

How punitive is public opinion in European countries? Socioeconomic disparities and culture of control

Mercedes Camarero Rioja

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Comparing Global Economic and Coercive/Military Inequalities, 1870-2021: A Gini Index Analysis

Jeffrey Kentor¹, Cheng Wang¹, Rob Clark²

¹Wayne State University, Estados Unidos; ²University of California-Riverside, Estados Unidos; Jeffrey.kentor@wayne.edu

Digital Older Adults. Trends in Health and Digital Connection before and during the Onset of the COVID-19 in Canada, Spain and Romania

Madelin Gómez León^{1,2}

¹Euncet Business School, España; ²Universitat Oberta de Catalunya; mgomez@euncet.com

Isogini: a set of indicators to compare trends and shapes of income inequality: The specificities of Spanish dynamics of inequality in a world perspective

Louis Chauvel

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Comparative Welfare Regimes and Connectivity as a Welfare Indicators.

Pablo Federico Molina Derteano, Victoria Matozo

CONICET, Argentina; pablomd2009@gmail.com

ISA RC55-SES06: Labour market, employment, and occupational inequalities

28/06/2024: 15:45 - 17:15

Chair: Joonmo Son, National University of Singapore

A socio-economic index to measure occupational stratification in Argentina: a comparison of a country-specific scale ARSEI to the international ISEI

Sofia Jaime¹, Harry BG Ganzeboom²

¹University of California Irvine; ²VU University Amsterdam; sofajaime.94@gmail.com

Analysis of socio-occupational inequalities: Comparative Analysis of the Labor of Self-Employed Workers in Chile and Spain

Claudia Andrea Baeza Cabello

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Who wants to work after retirement: Bridge employment in Turkey

Zeynep Başak

Zonguldak Bülent Ecevit University, Turquía; zeynepbsk@gmail.com

Approaches to measuring automation in the Argentinean labour market

Eduardo Chávez Molina, José Rodríguez de la Fuente, Damián Mux

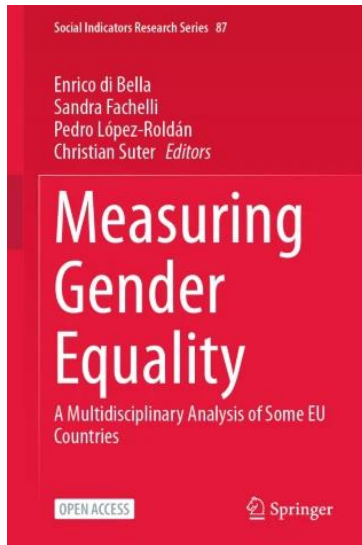
Instituto Gino Germani, Argentina; echavezmolina@gmail.com

Segmentación del empleo. Análisis comparativo entre España y Bolivia

Ricardo Alonzo Fernández Salguero¹, Pedro López-Roldán², Sandra Fachelli³

¹Escuela de Doctorado de la Universidad Pablo de Olavide, de Sevilla; ²Institut d'Estudis del Treball, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona; ³Departament de Sociologia, Universidad Pablo de Olavide; rafersal@alu.upo.es

5. Recent publications



Measuring Gender Equality

Editors: Enrico di Bella, Sandra Fachelli, Pedro López Roldán and Christian Suter

Publisher: Springer 2024

The book and its chapters can be downloaded for free at this link:

<https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-031-41486-2>

Enrico di Bella, Sandra Fachelli, Pedro López Roldán and Christian Suter are pleased to inform that is now freely available to everyone the book “Measuring Gender Equality” edited by them for Springer in the “Social Indicators Research Series”. In this open access book, the editors explicitly address the issue of measuring gender equality. The book introduces readers to basic concepts of gender equality, equity and equal opportunities, then discusses measuring these phenomena, the methods of constructing indicators, and reviews the main indicators that have been proposed at the international level to measure gender equality. It then sets the theoretical discussions against the findings from a Jean Monnet project financed by the European Union to highlight the importance of a regional analysis of gender equality in four main study areas: Italy, Spain, France and Germany. The results make it clear that it is necessary to move from the purely national perspective hitherto used in gender equality analyses to a regional one because differences can be highly pronounced even within the same country. This is a self-contained volume requiring limited statistical expertise for the reader and is aimed at social researchers and policymakers who wish to address gender equality from a quantitative perspective.



***Research Handbook on
Transitions into Adulthood***

Editor: **Jenny Chesters**

Publisher: Edward Elgar 2024

Online link to free chapter:

<https://www.elgaronline.com/edcollbook/book/9781839106972/9781839106972.xml>

Book Launch at the Nordic Youth Research Symposium 12 June 2024 by Dr Julia Cook

This volume provides a cohesive and contemporary account of what youth transitions into adulthood look like in a context in which they are increasingly contested and challenged. It takes place amid the backdrop of the GFC and the more recent pandemic, and takes seriously the impact of economic challenges on the shape of young people's transitions in multiple domains of life, rather than just in relation to areas such as education and employment.

The concept of youth transitions has received criticism from within youth sociology for imagining a linear movement from the markers of youth to the markers of adulthood. As we all know, the process of becoming an adult is increasingly non-linear, precarious and fragmented. This volume produces an account of youth transitions that does not assume linearity, and accounts fully for the geographical specificity of experiences of transitions. Importantly, this volume challenges the tendency to conceptualise transitions from a purely western perspective by, for instance, identifying that the increasingly precarious nature of young people's work witnessed in western contexts has already been realised to a much fuller extent in countries in Africa and South America.

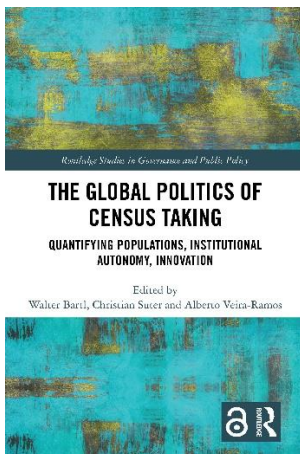
This volume provides a very cohesive account of youth transitions. This can be a particular challenge in edited collections – especially ones as large as this. Each part of this volume contributes to its overall aim of empirically and conceptually analysing and unpacking contemporary global youth transitions.

The volume focuses on 7 thematic areas: youth policies and participation, mobility and belonging, life course and intergenerational relations, gendered transitions, youth precariousness and marginalisation, youth cultures, and health and wellbeing. However, I'd like to speak about some of the cross-cutting themes or aspects of the book. Several

chapters consider how youth transitions are governed. For instance, in their chapters Cuzzocrea, Chesters and Guimaraes and colleagues each consider the youth policy landscape. Another set of chapters considers how do young people navigate and negotiate the difficult context that they find themselves in at present (Raffini; Mainardi and Voli; Theodoridis and Miles). A further theme that came through quite strongly in the volume highlights the significance of aspects of identity that are under-addressed in existing work on transitions (Harris and Idriss; Armila and Sivenius; Cuervo and McPherson; Arancibia and colleagues).

In general, this volume does an excellent job of focusing on gender throughout the chapters. I really enjoyed reading a volume that centred the role of gender, particularly at this point in time, at which gender equality is under attack in many parts of the world. Several chapters focused on the significance of family and intergenerational relationships (Van de Velde; Aaltonen; Wyn and Fu). Contributions from Blatterer, Armano and Gaspini, and Tomohiko focus on the impact of precarity on young people’s ability to imagine liveable futures for themselves.

Ultimately this book is a significant undertaking. It contains 22 chapters from 37 contributors located in 13 countries. It makes a significant contribution to the literature on youth transitions. Perhaps most notably, rather than simply providing an overview of debates – as many handbooks do – it advances a new line of argumentation and a new perspective on youth transitions.



*The Global Politics of Census
Talking*

Authors: Walter. Bartl, Christian
Suter and Alberto Veira-Ramos

Publisher: Routledge 2024

Interview with Walter Bartl

Interviewer: Congratulations on the book! It is a compelling piece that reveals the political complexities behind censuses and updates the operation's technical challenges, identifying the institutional and organizational points of conflict. It also pays attention to the –usually underestimated– politics behind the execution of censuses, the autonomy of the entities in charge, and the scope of methodological innovations. I want to ask your motivations for this endeavor, particularly considering the current global economic and political context. Why is

this book important now and under the current global conditions of the production of censuses? Why would this effort have been different if we had pursued the same effort a few decades ago?

Walter: Thank you for your kind words, Byron. The original motivation came from the impression of an increased relevance of statistical data, for example due to the definition and indicatorization of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). They raised expectations not only about the power of numbers as a tool for transparency but also about the statistical capacity of states. Since the census is one of the most important sources of official data and the ongoing census round (2015-2025) was about to reach its peak, we thought it would be worthwhile collecting current experiences from around the world. Although numbers usually are in high demand for depoliticizing issues, they paradoxically have also become much more controversial. Hence, Desrosière's idea of official statistics providing a common language for public issues seems more relevant than ever but is also more difficult to achieve. This is visible in many chapters of the book such as in the politicization of the citizenship question in the US, described in your chapter, or in the chapter on Nigeria, where census numbers have repeatedly been controversial because they form the base for political power sharing. I think, a few decades ago, official statistics were still met with considerably more trust, and technological changes were probably less revolutionary. Therefore, these two aspects would probably not have been as prominent. At the same time, public sensitivity about the information collection of states and its potential conflict with individual privacy needs dates back to the 1970s. In Germany, there was a census boycott movement in the 1980s because of these concerns. Surprisingly, the transition to a register-based census that is planned for 2031 has raised almost no public discussion so far. Similar in the case of Spain. Is that an effect of Big Tech companies collecting our data 24/7 and us getting accustomed to it? I am suspicious. This public negligence is in stark contrast to the recent discussion about differential privacy around the US census.

Interviewer: When analyzing the potential audiences for the book, I see two groups: academics who understand the census as an object of governance and policymakers who see it as a functional tool of public administration. Are there other audiences for which the book was planned? Was there an intention to create bridges between these audiences? Or is it the case of a more scholarly exercise concentrated on the scientific analysis of these operations?

Walter: Yes, it is basically these two groups that we would like to address. The group of academics is certainly more differentiated than those scholars who do (qualitative) research on the 'politics' of census taking. Another very obvious group are academics who rely on census data for quantitative analyzes. While it is difficult to use data in an instrumental sense and simultaneously question the conditions under which it was produced, the two perspectives are actually needed for valid analyses. I was impressed to learn that you and some of your colleagues have created a bottom up network for increasing the somewhat nerdy knowledge about the production of statistical data in Latin America. My experience is

that people, also other academics, are sometimes puzzled if I mention census taking as an object of enquiry. Too mundane have official statistics become it seems at first glance. However, thinking again most people quickly grasp the reach of data politics in official statistics. In a book launch event at the IASH in Edinburgh, for example, we had a mixed audience of scholars in the humanities and local citizens – formally no experts. I found it fascinating how these seemingly lay people took very little time to get to the crucial points asking very fundamental questions.

Nurturing sensitivity about the official production of data also opens up the perspective of lobbying for better research data or better access to data for research. Creating bridges or dialogue between academics and practitioners was a main intention. I think it is pivotal for both communities to oscillate between apparently technical, detailed issues and basic, more reflective questions. Therefore, the contribution of Walter Radermacher was very welcome, because he has made the endeavor of building bridges between official statistics and the social sciences a personal mission.

Interviewer: In your final chapter, you call for a more explicit transdisciplinary dialogue about censuses and a more systematic exploration of translations required from the beginning of the statistical chain to a possible policy impact. Could you please elaborate on this idea?

Walter: If we take our book as an example, the possibility for dialogue is limited, even though we had fruitful discussions at several conference sessions that preceded our work on the book. At the same time, there are numerous states around the world that lack a sufficient statistical infrastructure to formulate public policies. In most cases, not being counted diminishes ‘statistical citizenship’ (Matthew Hannah). Other states struggle to modernize their statistical infrastructure, making it more efficient and more agile – Germany is not an exception. If these challenges are to be met, cooperation and exchange between academia and statistical offices will have to be more continuous, more intense and possibly institutionalized in a certain form. However, cooperation between research and statistical production will probably require manifold forms of translation, because the genuine logic of each practice is different. Furthermore, if statistical data is to be used in public policy, there are certainly many more translations required. Analyzing these translations and developing a language for describing them and for navigating them could be worthwhile.

Interview with author: Alberto Veira-Ramos

Interviewer: Congratulations on the book! The selection of contributions calls for an extended understanding of country cases and transversal discussions regarding autonomy, ethnonational categories, and technological innovations. How did the three sections of the book come to life? How does this categorization respond to the current contributions on censuses and the politics behind them?

Alberto: The categorization revealed itself after the call for contributions was answered by the authors. Reading the papers sent to us we realized that each piece of work was addressing primarily one (or two) of these three topics. We found quite interesting that without instructing or informing contributors about this categorization in advance, the main topics addressed in the works we received could fall smoothly into one of these three categories. I guess this already serve as a response to the second question. The categorization was not a preconceived idea of us into which we forced contributors to comply, but a reaction to what our contributors were already doing by themselves. Hence, we believe that this categorization responds to what experts are discussing already, when addressing the topic of census implementation. Technological innovations, attempts to reinforce or undermine the autonomy of agencies in charge of implementing the population censuses and the political implications of ethnonational categories within the census questionnaire seemed to be the three primary issues of concern of colleagues doing practical research on the field nowadays.

Interviewer: Your perspective on the evolution of the Spanish census describes vital insights regarding the pre-conditions for adopting censuses based on registers. Now that the book has also offered a panoramic view of cases around the globe and thinking about the pre-conditions that Spain had since the end of the 1990s, what do you consider unique from that experience? I ask this considering the positive experience of Spain with caution: a country could see that experience and create a list of requirements to walk the same path; however, some structural differences could be underestimated. Do you identify some of them?

Alberto: There was a great deal of serendipity in the Spanish case. It was by no means planned in advance. Let me explain.

One of the crucial elements that facilitated the adaptation to a register census was the fact that each Spanish citizen use the same identifier when dealing with any administration, that is, our DNI number (NIE for foreigners). That made much simpler the merging of data from different institutions (municipalities, ministry of education, tax agency, etc.) once the necessary technological devices were developed. The obligation of having a DNI number was established already many years earlier, during the 1950s. The main issue was the passing of laws needed to make the process of interconnecting information legal, that is, in ways that is respectful with the required anonymity (privacy) established by European legislation.

Another very relevant aspect that facilitated the creation of a register-based census in Spain is the fact that Spanish municipal registers were particularly effective at counting accurately the number of immigrants (including those residing irregularly). This was caused by certain features that were already operating well before Spain became a country that received a significant number of immigrants. Strong incentives to register at municipal “padrón” were the accessibility to municipal services like schooling at health care centers. This applied to any individual residing within the administrative boundaries of the municipality, regardless of nationality and legal status in the country. Such a register (padrón) was not dependent on the police, so it could not be used to trace irregular residents. Municipalities had established

these incentives to register inhabitants because their funding from the central government depends on the number of people registered. Hence, the arrival of immigrants was a means to increase their funding.

The idea that census data and municipal register data could be put in contrast to validate each other was a task initiated long before the technological means necessary to create a register-based census database were developed. In the beginning, the idea was to avoid having the same person registered in two different municipalities. The coordination tasks were assigned to the same institution (INE) in charge of implementing the censuses.

Hence, as time and technology developed, the idea of directing the efforts of INE to create a census similar to that of the Scandinavian countries became “too tempting”. The right elements were already put in place before the idea was conceived. According to official documentation, the main arguments in favor of this option is cost reduction and improvement in the quality of the data, which could be updated annually instead of every ten years.

Having said all this, I would conclude that while the Spanish case can be interesting for any country interested on implementing a register-based census, it is likely that most countries will not share certain features that facilitated the accomplishment of this type of census in the Spanish case. Perhaps there are too many particularities and national nuances that make the Spanish case unfit to serve as a universal example.

Interviewer: Your chapter also demonstrates an efficient understanding of censuses; this skill facilitates the application of recommendations, particularly for policymakers and NSOs. This also gives you a privileged position to understand what is missing in the current academic contributions to make them more practical. How can academic studies in censuses improve their content and format to make them more accessible for practitioners?

Alberto: Generally speaking, academic work serves to signal potential shortcomings of census data. For instance, from a historical perspective, academic research has greatly contributed to signaling the underrepresentation of certain populations. Academic work can also help to interpret correctly certain statistics derived from census data. Academics tend not to be as pressured by time as practitioners on elaborating reports. Hence, they can address the nuances of censuses that may be favoring certain results instead of others because of the way data sets are constructed. Finding such elements tends to be time-consuming, and there is no immediate economic reward to it but academic and scientific reputation.

Interview with Christian Suter

Interviewer: Congratulations on the book! It is a valuable and unique piece where scholars and policy practitioners can identify the convergences and divergences of population censuses in the Global North and the Global South. In this regard, and once the project is complete, what are your reflections regarding the current conditions of production of

censuses around the world? Do you see a slow but systematic convergence of methods and challenges, or do you see an increasing divergence between countries? How does the division of global South vs North feed this perspective?

Christian: Many thanks for your comments and these questions. The chapters of the volume demonstrate the considerable diversity among national censuses of the 2020-2022 round. This is not surprising, given the large variety of societal, political, institutional, and historical contexts among countries, not only between countries of the Global North and the Global South, but also within these two groups of countries. Despite increasing international cooperation and standardization efforts (for instance through UNFPA, the United Nations Population Fund, and other international organizations), the divergences might have even have become more pronounced over the past few years. This is partly due to differential impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and of recent methodological innovations. This is evidenced by the transition to register-based censuses in several countries of the Global North (notably in Europe), compared to digital smartphone-based census data collection and the utilization of GIS and digital satellite imagery tools in several countries of the Global South.

Interviewer: Considering the book as an academic endeavor and the enormous difficulty of coordinating a volume that collects experiences from various countries, what lessons would you suggest for scholars interested in analyzing experiences at a global scale?

Christian: It has been quite a long process, from the initial idea to the recently published Open Access book. It thus takes time and you need perseverance and a lot of patience. You also have to be pragmatic. Thus it was important to us that both, countries from the Global North and South are represented in the book. But we were not aiming for complete global coverage.

Our project has also benefited from institutional support: the editors organized at the 2020/2021 Forum of Sociology of the International Sociological Association (ISA) three sessions hosted by the ISA research committees RC41 (Sociology of Population) and RC55 (Social Indicators). This event brought the authors together and provided an opportunity for exchange and fruitful debates. Later in the publication process we also benefited from the financial support from academic institutions (from the Global North) covering the Open Access costs of the volume. But not only institutional support matters: you also need committed scholars, and in particular a main coordinator who “holds the threads together” and keeps the project going – as Walter Bartl has done for us. Without his commitment and his hard work the publication would not have been possible.

Interviewer: Now that the contribution is alive, what are the next steps for this line of research? Let me ask this question explicitly in two publics: scholars from the Global North and the Global South. What could be a reasonable agenda for further investigations, considering the context of their respective realities?

Christian: An important research gap concerns the comparative analysis. Our book consists mainly of individual case studies – with a few notable exceptions like your chapter, Loveman’s, and Capistrano et al. chapters. However, a systematic comparative analysis, both between countries of the Global North and the Global South, as well as within countries of the Global North and the Global South, is still lacking. I’m thinking of focused analyses based on a well-designed comparative approach. This can be a simple two-country comparison, in the tradition of a “most similar” systems design (i.e. with a focus on institutional similarities), or a comprehensive comparison from the perspective of a “most different” systems design (i.e. with a focus on contrasting patterns; see the “classic” study on comparative methodology of Adam Przeworski and Henry Teune, 1970, *The Logic of Comparative Social Inquiry*, New York: Wiley).

Georg P. Mueller (2024) Social clocks as instruments for measuring progress towards sustainable development goals. In: *Environ. Dev. Sustain.*

<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10668-024-04858-1>

Cotter, David A., **Catherine W. Berheide** and Megan A. Carpenter. 2024. "Sustained Strain: Faculty Work Strain Under COVID-19." *Research in Higher Education*.

<https://doi: 10.1007/s11162-024-09809-3>

Abstract:

The COVID-19 pandemic initially placed college and university instruction into an emergency remote mode. The subsequent periods of the pandemic presented new challenges. This paper examines changes in faculty work lives in the immediate aftermath of the onset of the pandemic and reports on results from surveys of faculty at three selective liberal arts colleges in 2020 and again in 2021. Specifically, we investigate faculty experiences with work strain. Drawing on job demands-resources theory, we develop an analytic framework that examines the effects of status resources (gender, race, and tenure), work domain demands and resources (teaching and research resources, student demands, emotional labor demands, and scholarship demands), and home and family demands (caregiving). Our findings suggest that work strain was elevated in both periods and that only tenure among the status resources predicted less strain. We show that the sources of elevated strain shifted from teaching and research demands in the initial phase of the pandemic to emotional labor demands during the first full academic year of it.

Titik Harsanti (2024) ‘Socio-economic Status of Mothers and Stunting Among Their Children of Under-Five Years Age in Urban Areas of DKI Jakarta’ in Braj Raj Kumar Sinha (ed.) *Urban Dynamics, Environment and Health: An International Perspective* (pp. 511-530) Springer

https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-981-99-5744-6_23.

Book Abstract

The comprehensive volume focuses on spatial, temporal, conceptual and empirical approaches to various elements of urban dynamics, environment and urban health. It demonstrates a multidisciplinary account of the significant dimensions of urbanization and urban life. Chapters by leading international experts are presented in sections on urban dynamics, Urban Environmental Issues, Urban Health Problems and Urban Development, Planning and Policies. Each chapter provides a breadth of information on conceptual and empirical studies of urban issues. It enables the readers to understand the interconnections of various vital elements of each urban-related topical issue locally, regionally and globally. Extensive maps, charts, diagrams and tables as cartographic tools facilitate the reader's understanding. It also outlines an action plan for policy program change in both the developed and less developed countries toward sustainable urban development and environment for better health, prosperity and quality of life of the present and future urban population. It is an indispensable reference for students, research scholars of geography and environmental, medical, and social sciences at undergraduate and postgraduate levels.

6. Introductions and Updates

RC55 President, Joonmo Son

Joonmo Son is a researcher on social capital, volunteerism, religion, health, and aging. He was recently appointed co-editor of *Current Sociology*, an official journal of the ISA. The term began in July 2024.

Recent publications include:

Son, Joonmo and Pildoo Sung. Forthcoming. "A Reciprocal Relationship between Formal and Informal Social Engagement and Handgrip Strength of Older Adults in South Korea." *Gerontology*. (<https://doi.org/10.1159/000540344>)

Son, Joonmo. Forthcoming. "Social Capital and Voluntary Associations." in *Handbook of Inequality and Social Capital*, edited by S. McDonald, R. Côté, and J. Shen. Edward Elgar Publishing.

Son, Joonmo. Forthcoming. "Family Ties, Social Resources, and Generalized Trust." in *Handbook of the Family as a Network*, edited by B. Völker, G. Mollenhorst, V. de Bel. Edward Elgar Publishing.

Son, Joonmo, Pildoo Sung, and Benjamin Tay. Forthcoming. "The Latent Classes of the Volunteer Satisfaction Index and Donation during the Pandemic in Singapore." in *Well-being during the Pandemic*, edited by C. Suter, J. Chesters, and S. Fachelli. Springer.



Social Indicators Matters No. 16 July 2024

Son, Joonmo and Pildoo Sung. 2024. "The Relationship among Generalized Trust, Social Networks, and Social Resources across 30 countries." *International Sociology* 39: 375-398. (<https://doi.org/10.1177/02685809241251770>)

Son, Joonmo. 2024. "Religious Service Attendance and Religious and Secular Organizational Engagement in the United Kingdom." *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* 63: 42-61 (<https://doi.org/10.1111/jssr.12878>)

Son, Joonmo and Pildoo Sung. 2023. "The Reciprocal Relationship between Social Engagement and Cognitive Function among Older Adults in South Korea." *Journal of Applied Gerontology* 42: 928-941. (<https://doi.org/10.1177/07334648221148953>)

Son, Joonmo and Pildoo Sung. 2023. "Does a Reciprocal Relationship Exist between Social Engagement and Depression in Later Life?" *Aging & Mental Health* 27: 70-80. (<https://doi.org/10.1080/13607863.2021.2024794>)

7. Reminder

Please consider sending your updates to the Newsletter Editor at any time for inclusion in the next newsletter. For example, when you have a new publication, promotion, call for papers etc.