

DECEMBER 2022

Newsletter

ISA Research Committee
on the Sociology of Religion



A MESSAGE FROM RC22 PRESIDENT

By Afe Adogame

Dear friends and colleagues,

With the ongoing FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022 (Mondial Qatar 2022) successful holding at this time, it is perhaps safe, though with some cautious optimism, to say alas the world is beginning to witness the start of the beginning of a post-COVID-19 pandemic era. No doubt the global pandemic forced us to alter or change our lives to a “new normal,” in ways we could never have contemplated.

The pandemic impacted on the ISA World Congress of Sociology in Melbourne, Australia resulting in its postponement to 2023. There is a strong indication that the World Congress will now take place primarily as an on-site (in-person) event from June 25 – July 1, 2023, although with a limited hybrid format. The 2023 ISA World Congress theme is Resurgent Authoritarianism: Sociology of New Entanglements of Religions, Politics, and Economies. The main congress theme in 2023 is uniquely exciting for RC22 in that it is partly linked with the theme of religion.

In this vein, I will enjoin participants to also look out and take advantage of the Presidential Opening Session: Liberalism, the Other and Religion, and the Closing Presidential Session: Building a Just Post-COVID-19 World. The RC22 Presidential Session I will host Dr. Henrietta Nyamnjoh (University of Cape Town, South Africa) who will present the keynote lecture, Stoking the Flames of Faith: The Challenge of Keeping Religiosity Activated in COVID and post-COVID 19 times. The RC22 Presidential Session II “Remembering the Contributions of Departed Scholars Including James Beckford, Gary Bouma, and Roland Robertson” will feature seasoned panelists who will appraise and honor the life, works, and significant contributions of some recently deceased colleagues to the subfield of the sociology of religion. May the memories of the departed be a blessing!

Waah! the 2023 World Congress of Sociology is upon us, with barely a couple of months away. Our profound appreciation to the ISA Executive Committee and the Australian Local Organizing Committee who have been working round the clock, and have given their unequivocal commitment to providing the best conditions for a successful Congress in Melbourne.

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ISSUE #26

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A Message from our
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2023

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Communications &
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Share with us!





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We are highly indebted and full of gratitude to the RC22 Program Coordinators: Susan Carland (Australia); Olga Odgers Ortiz (Mexico); Conrad Hackett (USA) and Michael Okyerefo (Ghana) as chairperson. They have bent backward and are working tirelessly to put together robust, interactive academic sessions (22) under the RC22 program theme: Religious Change in a Turbulent World. A number of these sessions, with interesting, wide-ranging themes and global/local/regional topics and focus, have been carefully put together by the Project Coordinators and Session Organizers. This is exciting and we are indeed looking forward to very stimulating intellectual conversations, interactions, and exchanges, interspersed with social networking, that are characteristic of a world congress.



SUSAN CARLAND
Monash University
(AUSTRALIA)



CONRAD HACKETT
Pew Research Center
(USA)



OLGA ODGERS ORTIZ
El Colegio de la
Frontera Norte
(MEXICO)



MICHAEL OKYEREFU
University of Ghana
(GHANA)

Dear RC22 colleagues and friends, what a pleasant delight that five years after the ISA World Congress in Toronto, Canada (2018), we are eagerly and hopefully looking forward to meeting again, in person. We are also glad that a limited hybrid format is being considered to cater to members who are unable to attend in person. This also means that your ISA and RC22 membership status is current to be eligible to attend in-person and virtually. These continue to be difficult times financially, with dwindling economies that would hamper some members' participation at the World Congress, especially from the global South. Please pay attention and take full advantage of some incentives, or if you like palliatives, that the ISA EC and RC 22 Officers/Board have put in place to support in-person participation at the World Congress.

First, the ISA has allocated a **Solidarity Fund to boost student membership** and to breach inequalities between sociologists in category A countries and those in categories B and C countries. Grants will be paid from the ISA Reserve Fund. **The application deadline for the Membership Grant is 10 December 2022.**



Second, ISA & RC22 members in good standing (i.e. who have paid their individual membership fees) and who will participate in the academic program (as presenters, chairs, discussants, and session organizers) are eligible to apply for a **Registration Grant**. There are two funds for Registration Grants, with the objective to boost in-person attendance at the ISA World Congress of Sociology. The ISA Solidarity Fund allocated up to \$2600 for RC22 Registration Grants (grants will be paid from the ISA Reserve Fund). To complement this, the Research Committee on the Sociology of Religion (RC22) officers/board is allocating an RC22 Solidarity Fund up to \$2500 (grants will be paid from the RC22 funds). Please note "Eligible for in-person participants only" and the application deadline is **31 January 2023**.

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Third, the RC 22 is also awarding the **Ivan Varga Prize 2023**. This award has been set in memory of Ivan Varga (1931-2012) and recognizes an outstanding new paper by a scholar who is at most four years beyond the Ph.D. All panelists who have submitted abstracts to the RC22 session of the XX ISA World Congress of Sociology 2023 are eligible to apply. The recipient is expected to present the paper at the World Congress in Melbourne. The prize consists of the registration fee for the ISA World Congress and a sum of 500 USD intended to cover part of the expenses towards attending the World Congress. The application deadline is 20 January 2023.

We are hoping that the ISA Solidarity Fund Initiative (Membership and Registration Grants), the RC 22 Solidarity Grant and Ivan Varga Prize would be added impetus to cushioning registration and membership fees for some members who plan to attend the congress in person. **(Please find full details and application guidelines for the grants in this newsletter).**

Please be reminded that the RC22 welcomes nominations for its 2023-2027 Officers: President, Secretary/Treasurer, and Board Members. For Board membership, vacancies are in the following regions: Africa (2); Asia-Pacific (1); Europe (1); Latin America (1); North America (1). We welcome multiple candidates; the top two vote-getters in each region will serve on the 2023-2027 Board. We need active, dedicated ISA members to run for election to these various offices. Please consider running for one of them. Please also think about people whom you would like to nominate (but get their permission before you send us their names). We need to receive all the nomination materials by April 15, 2023 (Details of the call for nominations are available in the current and last newsletter).

Please look out for more detailed information through our media outlets and save the dates for the XX ISA World Congress of Sociology, Melbourne, Australia (June 25 – July 1, 2023). Please note the respective application deadlines for the grants as late applications will not be accepted. Finally, we are excited and looking forward to your anticipated participation, in person or virtual, at the RC22 programs at the World Congress in Melbourne. Our warm appreciation goes to the RC22 Officers, Board, and Program Coordinators who have continued to work relentlessly during these challenging times in furthering our collective goals and visions. Please do not hesitate to let us know how we can serve you better, and what ideas you have that will help us together move RC22 to even greater academic heights.

Thanks to you all for supporting ISA/RC22 events and programs. Looking forward to seeing you at the XX ISA World Congress and RC22 Programs in Melbourne in June-July 2023!

Collegially,
Afe Adogame, Princeton, NJ. USA.
president@isa-rc22.org

*See you in
Melbourne*



CALLS

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- Registration Grants towards XX #ISAWCS2023 - Page 6
- Varga Prize -Page 7&8
- Call for Board & Officers Nominations - Page 9



REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

REMEMBER

- There are different fees available for ISA Members and Non-Members. ISA Members are scholars who have paid their individual membership fees for the current year.
- All programme participants (paper givers, session organizers, chairs, discussants, etc.) must pay a full registration fee before **March 22, 2023**. For a co-authored paper, at least one co-author must pay the congress registration fee by the deadline.
- Registration fees are the same for in-person and online presentations and cover participation in all types of sessions.
- It will be possible to change from in-person to online presentations (and vice versa) until two weeks before the start of Congress.



XX ISA World Congress of Sociology

Melbourne, Australia
June 25 - July 1, 2023

REGISTER NOW

DEADLINE:
March 22nd, 2023

Notification letters will be sent on December 2nd, 2022

#ISAWCS23
#VisitMelbourne

World Congress of Sociology | TASA | ISA International Sociological Association

www.isa-sociology.org

KEEP YOUR RC22 MEMBERSHIP UP TO DATE!

With your RC membership, the RC22 supports:

- Midterm Conferences
- Varga Prize
- 2023 Grants for #ISAWCS2023 Registration
- Website hosting

The number of sessions we have at the World Congress depends on membership. Your membership guarantee more people can participate!

There are two parts to membership in the ISA: Membership in the ISA as a whole & Membership on the Research Committees. The ISA does a good job of making sure that conference participants join the ISA, paying the rather large 4-year dues that keep the organization going.

It does not, however, make sure that conference attendees join the Research Committees themselves. Nor do we: you can participate in our programs without being an RC-22 member. This increases the number of people who can attend. You need to be a member in order to apply for grants and Varga Prize.

If you are not an RC-22 Member, please join!

If your membership has lapsed, or will lapse at the end of this year, please renew!



Sociology
of Religion

ISA MEMBERSHIP GRANTS FOR STUDENTS

The International Sociological Association (ISA) allocated a Solidarity Fund with the objective to boost student membership and breaching inequalities between sociologists in category A countries and those in categories B and C countries. Grants will be paid from the ISA Reserve Fund. This membership grant's deadline is 10 December 2022, it comes earlier than the deadline of 31 January 2023 for the Registration Grants. The Registration Grants are available to ISA/RC22 members only. Students can apply for both grants but it is not guaranteed to receive both.



The Research Committee on the Sociology of Religion (RC22) is entitled to allocate:

- up to 3 students from category A countries
- up to 5 students from category B and C countries
- You can check your country category [here](#)

In order to apply for this grant, you should:

- Be a current Ph.D. student (proof of enrollment is required).
- Have an active role in one of the RC22 sessions at the XX ISA World Congress of Sociology (presenter, session coordinator, or chair).
- Application letter should include a short bio, current affiliation, the title of the paper you intend to present at the ISA World Congress, and your willingness to attend in person to Melbourne in no more than one page.
- These grants are intended for those who plan to attend the Congress in person.
- Membership grant recipients will be announced on 14 December 2022.



Send an application letter and student proof to ISA RC22 Officers:
Afe Adogame (RC22 President) president@isa-rc22.org;
Mar Griera (RC22 Vice President) vicepres@isa-rc22.org &
Cecilia Delgado-Molina (RC22 Secretary) sectreas@isa-rc22.org



DEADLINE: DECEMBER 10, 2022 | 24:00H GMT



REGISTRATION GRANTS TOWARDS XX ISA WORLD CONGRESS OF SOCIOLOGY 2023

ISA & RC22 members in good standing (i.e. who have paid their individual membership fees) and who will participate in the academic program (as presenters, chairs, discussants, and session organizers) are eligible to apply for a Registration Grant.

There are two funds for Registration Grants, with the objective to boost in-person attendance to the ISA World Congress of Sociology.

Eligible for in-person participants only.

1. The ISA Solidarity Fund allocated up to \$2600 for RC22 Registration Grants. Grants will be paid from the ISA Reserve Fund.
2. The Research Committee on the Sociology of Religion (RC22) allocated a Solidarity Fund up to \$2500. Grants will be paid from the RC22 funds.

Grants will cover:

- 100% of registration fees to all types of members from Category B and C countries, and students from Category A countries.
- 50% of registration fees to life members of Category A countries.
- 30% for regular members of Category A countries.
- You can check your country category [here](#).

In order to apply for these grants, you should:

- Be an ISA & RC22 member in good standing.
- Plan to attend the XX ISA World Congress of Sociology in Melbourne, Australia in person.
- Application letter should include current affiliation (including category country), type of membership (student, regular, or life member), your role(s) at the ISA World Congress, and a statement of your willingness to attend the Congress in person.
- Applications for a grant cannot be submitted to more than one RC/WG/TG.
- Registration grant recipients will be announced on 20 February 2022.



Send an application letter to ISA
RC22 Officers:

- Afe Adogame (RC22 President)
president@isa-rc22.org;
- Mar Griera (RC22 Vice President)
vicepres@isa-rc22.org &
- Cecilia Delgado-Molina (RC22 Secretary)
sectreas@isa-rc22.org



DEADLINE: JANUARY 31, 2023 | 24:00H GMT



Sociology
of Religion

Varga Prize

This award has been set in memory of Ivan Varga (1931-2012) and recognizes an outstanding new paper by a scholar who is at most four years beyond the Ph.D. All panelists who have submitted abstracts to the RC22 session of the XX ISA World Congress of Sociology 2023 are eligible to apply. The recipient is expected to present the paper at the next International Sociological Association (ISA) World Congress in Melbourne.

The prize consists of the registration fee for the ISA World Congress and a sum of \$500 USD intended to cover part of the expenses towards attending the World Congress.

Guidelines

- Candidates need to be a current member of ISA or a current member of ISA Research Committee for the Sociology of Religion (RC22)
- All areas and topics of the sociology of religion are eligible for the Varga Prize.
- Papers should be original and written in any of the three ISA official languages (English, Spanish or French).
- The paper's length should be between 4000-5000 words, including references.
- Authors could choose any bibliographic/citation format, as long as it is scholarly, and the chosen format is kept coherently throughout the text



DEADLINE: JANUARY 20, 2023 | 24:00H GMT



Sociology
of Religion

Varga Prize

Evaluation of Papers

An Evaluation Committee, appointed by the RC22 President will be made up of RC22 Board members plus a few other scholars chosen from RC22 membership.

The Committee will base its judgment on the paper's scholarly quality, originality, and significance for furthering the sociological study of religion.

The Committee will choose the prize winner plus a runner-up in case the winner is unable to accept the award due to inability to attend the World Congress. The runner-up will also receive a monetary award. The winner and runner-up will be announced by 28 February 2023.

Application Procedure

- Only authors who have already submitted an abstract to RC22 are eligible.
- Send a copy of your abstract and the full finished paper to the ISA RC22 President and Secretary, along with a short version CV with a cover letter describing your research and its significance. The paper and other documents should be sent in PDF format as two separate files.
- Send to: president@isa-rc22.org and sectreas@isa-rc22.org
- If you have any questions or queries, please contact:
vicepres@isa-rc22.org



DEADLINE: JANUARY 20, 2023 | 24:00H GMT

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CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

2023-2027 Officers & Board



The International Sociological Association's Research Committee on the Sociology of Religion (RC22) welcomes nominations for its 2023-2027 Officers:

- President
- Secretary/Treasurer
- 10 Board Members: Two from each of five world regions: Africa, Asia/Pacific, Europe, Latin America, and North America (U.S./Canada).

Together, this group manages the Research Committee between ISA World Congresses. The duties of these various officers can be found in the Statutes on the Research Committee's website: <https://isa-rc22.org/about-isa-rc22/>

Election is for a single four-year term. Board members can serve for two consecutive terms, though their re-election is not automatic. At this point, six of the current Board members have either served two terms or do not wish to run for re-election. Vacancies are in the following regions: *Africa (2); Asia-Pacific (1); Europe (1); Latin America (1); North America (1)*. We welcome multiple candidates; the top two vote-getters in each region will serve on the 2023-2027 Board.

We need active, dedicated ISA members to run for election to these various offices. Please consider running for one of them. Please also think about people whom you would like to nominate (*but get their permission before you send us their names*).

The election will take place prior to the ISA World Congress of Sociology in Melbourne, Australia (June 25 – July 1, 2023). The election will open and be run online between April 25 and May 9, 2023. Results will be officially announced on or about May 14, 2023.

Required materials

- A short bio, relevant to the position (150-200 words)
- A brief statement of candidacy (2-3 lines)
- A recent picture

Please send the text as a Word doc (or similar; not a PDF) and the picture as a jpg or similar (not a PDF or Word doc).

We need to receive all the nomination materials by April 15, 2023.

If you are self-nominating, please send them with your nomination.

If you are nominating someone else, please let them know what is needed so they can prepare.



Send nominations and materials — whether for yourself or for someone else — to BOTH:

Afe Adogame at president@isa-rc22.org
AND Cecilia Delgado-Molina at sectreas@isa-rc22.org





DECEMBER 2022

Newsletter

ISA Research Committee
on the Sociology of Religion

Share with us!



Share with us your Call for Papers, Job Opportunities, Grants Applications, New Publications, and any relevant information for members and the scientific community.

Send us an email to include it in our webpage & our weekly digest:
communications@isa-rc22.org



Tag us on Twitter for RT @isa_rc22



Add our email address to avoid losing our Call for Newsletter and send us your information:
Cecilia Delgado-Molina, ISA RC22
Secretary/Treasurer
sectreas@isa-rc22.org



Visit our website regularly and find new Call for Papers, Job Opportunities, Grants Applications, New Publications, and more relevant information for members and the scientific community.



www.isa-sociology.org
www.isa-rc22.org

ISSUE #26

ISA RC22 Officers

2018-2022
Extended 2023

President

Afe ADOGAME, Princeton
Theological Seminary, USA
president@isa-rc22.org

Vice-President

Mar GRIERA, Universitat Autònoma
de Barcelona
vicepres@isa-rc22.org

Secretary/Treasurer

Cecilia DELGADO-MOLINA,
Universidad Nacional Autónoma de
México (2021-2023)
sectreas@isa-rc22.org

Elections for President,
Secretary/Treasurer, and Board
Members occur in the Spring before
each World Congress.
Next Elections will be held on 2023.

ISA Working Languages

English, French and Spanish are the
recognized languages of the
Association. The administrative
language of the Association shall be
English.