

JULY 2022

Newsletter

ISA Research Committee
on the Sociology of Religion



ISSUE #25

XX ISA World Congress of Sociology



Resurgent Authoritarianism:
*Sociology of New Entanglements of
Religions, Politics, and Economies*

Melbourne, Australia | June 25-July 1, 2023
Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre
www.isa-sociology.org



A MESSAGE FROM RC22 PRESIDENT

By Afe Adogame

Dear friends and colleagues,

The last two years continue to be very challenging since the onslaught of the COVID-19 pandemic and its variants that have visited the world with untold economic hardships, human loss, social disruptions, and unprecedented dislocations. The global pandemic forced us to adjust or change our lives to a “new normal,” in ways we could never have imagined. The pandemic has impacted ISA programs and activities in a myriad of ways.

First, you will recall that the pandemic led to the cancellation of the *Fourth ISA Forum of Sociology*, Porto Alegre, Brazil in August 2020 and its subsequent change to a virtual Forum on February 23-28, 2021. Second, the uncertainty around a lingering pandemic crisis resulted in the postponement of the ISA World Congress of Sociology in Melbourne, Australia by a year, from 2022 to 2023. The delay of the Congress by a year was also to be able to hold it in person and on-site in Melbourne. The World Congress will be in a limited hybrid format, although it will be primarily an on-site event.

While the crisis is far from being fully over, we are grateful to the ISA Executive Committee (EC) for taking a bold step, after a series of consultations, to convene the *XX ISA World Congress of Sociology*, Melbourne, Australia, on June 25 – July 1, 2023.

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Newsletter Highlights

**A Message from our
RC22 President**

“Religious change in a
turbulent world”, the
focus of our World
Congress

**RC22 Call for Papers for
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**New Publications &
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**Conferences on
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Worldwide**

**Communications &
Social Media:
Share with us!**



[...from page 1]

The Congress theme: *Resurgent Authoritarianism: Sociology of New Entanglements of Religions, Politics and Economies* is rather auspicious and timely indeed. It is noteworthy that the main congress theme in 2023 is partly linked with the theme of religion. Also look out to the Presidential Opening Session on *Liberalism, the Other and Religion*, and the Closing Presidential Session: *Building a Just Post-COVID-19 World*.

Alas, the World Congress is upon us, barely one year from today. Our most profound gratitude goes 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 worked tirelessly to prepare 22 session proposals under the conference theme *Religious Change in a Turbulent World*. An open call for individual paper and panel abstracts has been advertised since July 1 on the ISA website and in this latest RC22 newsletter. 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. The fact that over 41 session proposals were submitted for consideration is a testament to the centrality of the RC22 conference theme but also the popular interest and support for RC22 Sociology of Religion programs.

Dear RC22 colleagues and friends, the ball is now in your court!



I enjoin you to submit individual and panel abstracts for consideration. Be reminded that potential participants must submit abstracts online to a selected session of RC22 through a centralized platform from July 1 - September 30, 2022. 24:00 GMT. 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, to enjoy meaningful intellectual encounters and exchanges, as well as social networking that is characteristic of a world congress.

We are also glad that a limited hybrid format is being considered to cater for members who are unable to attend in-person. This also means that your ISA and RC22 membership is renewed and up to date to be eligible to attend in-person and virtually. These continue to be difficult times financially, dwindling economies that would hamper some members' participation at the World Congress, especially from the global South. The ISA EC approved the creation of an ISA Solidarity Fund to boost student membership and to breach inequalities between sociologists in category A countries and those in categories B and C countries. The ISA Solidarity Fund Initiative and RC22 Grants would be added impetus to cushion registration and membership fees for some members.

The unintended impact of the COVID-19 pandemic is manifest in our families, local communities and in our own lives in myriad ways. The pandemic crisis has had deleterious effects on the ISA/RC22 body, members, and programs. It was with deep regret that we read the sad news of the passing of three distinguished senior colleagues and sociologists of religion in rather quick succession. James Beckford, Gary Bouma and Roland Robertson have made significant contributions to the development of the subfield of sociology of religion. Our hearts and prayers are with their family members, loved ones, and those others who are in critical health condition at this time. May their memories be a blessing! The RC22 Presidential Session II "Remembering the Contributions of Departed Scholars Including James Beckford, Gary Bouma & Roland Robertson" is convened in honor of these distinguished sociologists of religion, where several seasoned panellists will appraise their life, works and significant contributions to the subfield of sociology of religion.

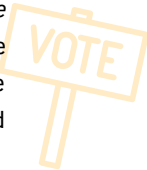


[... continued on page 3]



We are also delighted to welcome Dr. Henrietta Nyamnjoh (University of Cape Town, South Africa) who will be presenting the keynote lecture, *Stoking the Flames of Faith: The Challenge of Keeping Religiosity Activated in COVID and post-COVID 19 times*, at the RC22 Presidential Session I.

One more unanticipated consequence of the pandemic is the prolongation, by one year, of the lifespan of the current RC22 officers and Board as well as the ISA EC. The RC22 Sociology of Religion Statutes (13) stipulates the election procedures for the Board. *"Elections shall be organized by ballot at least one (1) month before the World Congress of Sociology. Not later than nine (9) months before the election date, the Election Committee will send members of the Research Committee 22 a notice of the election, together with a nomination form for the President, the Secretary-Treasurer, and for members of the Board" (13c&d).* With regards to election details, please watch out for the call for nominations in mid-August 2022. In the meantime, my gratitude goes to the current RC22 officers and Board for their continuous dedication, passion, and resilience through this extended period of service to RC22 and ISA at large. We look forward to your unflinching support and participation in the World Congress in Melbourne in 2023.



In this newsletter, you will find the full list of sessions for our RC22 World Congress of Sociology Program, information about other worldwide academic conferences on the sociology of religion, some Calls for Papers, and members' new publications. Please look out for more detailed information through our media outlets.

We are excited and looking forward to receiving your abstract proposals before the deadline and to your anticipated participation, in-person or virtual, in the RC22 programs at the World Congress in Melbourne next year.

Our warm appreciation goes to the Board and Program Coordinators who have continued to work relentlessly with RC22 officers 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

SAVE
THE
DATE

JUNE 25 -
JULY 1,
2023



Utopian Worlds

A sociological-artistic collection of utopian world designs

Utopias are more than just dreams, they show the possible beyond the actual reality, with their roots in everyday life. Objects from everyday life can symbolically refer to these better possible worlds. What people associate with these objects and how they imagine a better world can be read on the back of the pictures. Find out how you can become part of this exhibition with your own utopian idea of the world: <https://utopian-worlds.org/en/exhibition/>

*The possible
beyond
the actual*

A MESSAGE FROM XX ISA WORLD CONGRESS RC22 PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Dear RC 22 Members,

The Programme Committee is delighted to present you with our programme and RC 22 Call for papers for the XX ISA WORLD CONGRESS OF SOCIOLOGY in Melbourne, Australia, June 25 - July 1, 2023. The programme is the fruit of a wide consultation to reflect the research and scholarship of our members across the globe.

The Committee chose the theme "Religious change in a turbulent world" in the spirit of the congress leitmotif as well as to reflect the reality of our times. Religion continues to be relevant to whatever circumstances characterise our world today and which impact those of the individual. From the rise of secularism to the upsurge of religiosity, through conflict and tranquillity, religion is at the core of human life, whether acknowledged or not, offering us rich opportunities to engage in useful conversations during congress.

We look forward to your participation in the congress and invite you to study our call for papers, which serves as the springboard for a most productive and enlightening congress.

Thank you,
Program Committee



SUSAN CARLAND
Monash University
(AUSTRALIA)



CONRAD HACKETT
Pew Research Center
(USA)



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



MICHAEL OKYEREFO
University of Ghana
(GHANA)

FOCUS

Religious change in a turbulent world

Around the world, life has been disrupted by the pandemic. Meanwhile, war, poverty and climate change continue to create suffering for many. Benefits produced by technology and innovation are distributed unequally. In this context, how is the role of religion in society changing around the world? How do we reconcile the spread of various forms of secularism with the entanglement of religion and nationalism? How is religion connected with freedom and conflict? What can we learn from the study of secular people?



JULY 2022

ISSUE #25

RC22 CALL FOR PAPERS

Download the full #CallForPapers for the Research Committee 22 on the Sociology of Religion Program at the International Sociological Association World Congress that will take place in Melbourne, Australia from June 25th to July 1st, 2023 on our web page:



www.isa-rc22.org/callforpapers2023

DEADLINE

Deadline September 30, 24:00 GMT. No extensions.
Notification: December 2, 2022.

MEMBERSHIP & GRANTS

ISA Membership grants will be available for Ph.D. Students whose papers have been accepted in any session. Application procedure will be available after notification letters on December 2, 2022.

ISA members in good standing, active participants in the program, are eligible to apply for a registration grant. Applications should be sent to the RC Program Coordinators by January 31, 2023.



The XX ISA World Congress of Sociology will be in a hybrid format.

While we strongly advise and encourage everyone to come to Melbourne and enjoy in-person participation in the Congress, some online presentations will also be possible.

- You must select your preference (online or in-person) when submitting your paper proposal.
- Poster Sessions will have an in-person format only.
- All sessions, including virtual presentations, will be held in Melbourne Time Zone.
- Registration fees are the same in any format (online or in-person).



See you in Melbourne

Submit your paper proposal



- Select session. In this call, only the RC22 hosted and co-hosted sessions appear, but you can find all the sessions of the congress [here](#).
- Submit abstract from July 1st till September 30, 2022, 24:00 GMT.
- Apply through the Confex Site [here](#).
- Only abstracts submitted online will be considered in the selection process.
- Sessions can be in any of the ISA official languages (English, French or Spanish). Please refer to each session's indicated language.



XX ISA WORLD CONGRESS RC22 SESSIONS

JUNE 25 - JULY 1, 2023

MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA

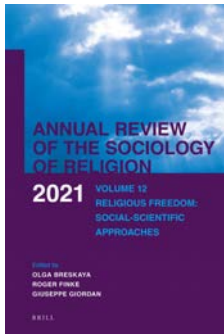
- [African Perspectives on Secularisation in the Context of Covid-19 and Beyond](#)
- [Decolonising Studies of Religions in Oceania: South-South Flows of Diverse Worldviews across the Indian and Pacific Oceans](#)
- [Demographic Change, Economic Outcomes and Religious Belief](#)
- [Measuring Religiosity in East Asia](#)
- [Megachurches and Religious Change in African Societies: Rising Authoritarianism, Emerging Family Systems, and the Politics of Presence](#)
- [Nonreligion: Meaning, Practice, and Consequences across the Life Course](#)
- [Poster Session: Qualitative Studies in Religion](#)
- [Poster Session: Quantitative Studies of Religion: Primarily Quantitative Research \(mixed-method welcome\) on the Role of Religion in Society](#)
- [Religion As an Instrument of Rooting for the Liquid Identity of Migrants](#)
- [Religion Research in North America](#)
- [Religion and Health. Intersections and \(Dis\)Agreements in Contemporary Societies.](#)
- [Religion and Science](#)
- [Religion and Wellbeing in Asia in Times of Crisis](#)
- [Religion in Oceania](#)
- [Religious Actors, Social Movements and Politics](#)
- [Religious Change in Europe](#)
- [Religious Change in the Middle East and North Africa](#)
- [Spirituality, Wellbeing and Risks](#)



Click on each session to go to the abstract on the ISA website



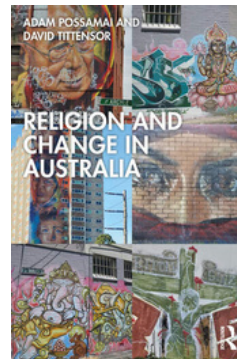
NEW PUBLICATIONS



Religious Freedom: Social – Scientific Approaches
Olga Breskaya, Roger Finke
and Giuseppe Giordan
Annual Review of the
Sociology of Religion, Volume
12, Brill 2021.

This volume offers original research on religious freedom from around the globe. Individual chapters address the issues related to defining and understanding the concept of religious freedom and incorporate sociological thinking into interdisciplinary analysis of this topic. By interpreting legal cases, analyzing cross-national data, interviewing policy-makers, and reviewing policy-papers concerning religious freedom, the authors highlight the necessity of sociology engaging with other disciplines in this type of research. By applying theories of religious pluralism, secularity, secularization, judicialization of religion, “lived religion”, total institutions, and others, this volume contributes theoretical perspectives, sociological concepts and empirical analyses that highlight the development of religious freedom as an area of study in the social sciences.

Further information: <https://brill.com/view/title/60683>



**Religion and Change in
Australia**
By Adam Possamai &
David Tittensor
Routledge 2022

This timely book offers a panoramic overview of the enduring significance of religion in modern Australian society. Applying sociological perspectives and contemporary theories of religion in society, it challenges conventional assumptions around the extent of secularisation in Australia and instead argues that religious institutions, groups, and individuals have proved remarkably adaptable to social change and continue to play a major role in Australian life. In doing so, it explores how religion intersects with a wide range of other contemporary issues, including politics, race, migration, gender, and new media.

Religion and Change in Australia employs a range of social theories to challenge this secularist view and argues that Australia is a post-secular society and analyses these developments to offer new perspectives on religion and its continued relevance within Australian society. This book is therefore a vital resource for students, academics, and general readers seeking to understand contemporary debates surrounding religion and secularisation in Australia.

Further information: <https://www.routledge.com/Religion-and-Change-in-Australia/Possamai-Tittensor/p/book/9781032186030>

Call for Papers: International Conference Religion Between Governance and Freedoms

Papers are invited for this international conference at the University of Padova on September 22-23, 2022.

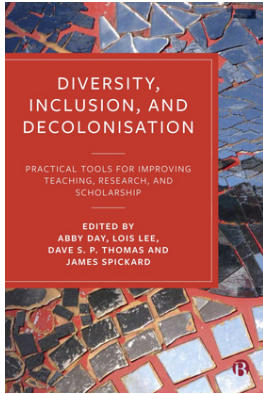
While modern societies advance human rights and equal citizenship promises by various legal and social mechanisms, they nevertheless face basic challenges regarding how these promises are to be defended, especially when ethnic, religious or class differences are factored into the picture. The promise of religious freedom has become a burgeoning social issue, which requires a better understanding of how different theoretical outlooks see and interpret the current situation.

We invite participants to contribute theoretical perspectives, social science concepts and empirical analyses that highlight the development of religious freedom as an area of study in the social sciences. Abstracts (400 words) should be sent to Olga Breskaya (olga.breskaya@unipd.it)

Abstracts: July 10, 2022



NEW PUBLICATIONS



Diversity, Inclusion, and Decolonization: Practical Tools for Improving Teaching, Research, and Scholarship

Edited by Abby Day, Lois Lee, Dave S.P. Thomas, and James Spickard

Bristol University Press 2022

Despite progress, the Western higher education system is still largely dominated by scholars from the privileged classes of the Global North. This book presents examples of efforts to diversify points of view, include previously excluded people, and decolonise curricula. What has worked? What hasn't? What further visions do we need? How can we bring about a more democratic and just academic life for all? Written by scholars from different disciplines, countries, and backgrounds, this book offers an internationally relevant, practical guide to 'doing diversity in the social sciences and humanities and decolonising higher education as a whole.

Further information:

<https://bristoluniversitypress.co.uk/diversity-inclusion-and-decolonisation>



Colección Reconfiguración de las identidades religiosas en México. *Análisis de la Encuesta Nacional sobre Creencias y Prácticas Religiosas (4 tomos).*

CIESAS, COLEF 2022

Editado por Renée de la Torre, Cristina Gutiérrez Zúñiga y Alberto Hernández

I "Creencias, valores y prácticas religiosas", II "Diversidad religiosa", III "Geografía de las creencias" y IV "Demografías religiosas".

México vive una recomposición religiosa que tiene como principal característica un incremento en su diversidad de religiones conformada por católicos, evangélicos, bíblicos y sin religión. La recomposición incluye las reconfiguraciones de las formas de creer, valorar y practicar que cada vez responden más a modalidades transversales, múltiples, fluidas y dinámicas. Esta obra colectiva da cuenta de esta transformación a partir del análisis de la Encuesta Nacional sobre Creencias y Prácticas Religiosas, Encreer, 2016 realizado por 40 investigadores de distintas instituciones mexicanas de investigación y educación superiores, especialistas en distintas áreas temáticas y geográficas y miembros de la Red de Investigadores del Fenómeno Religioso en México (RiFREM).

Más información: www.librosciesas.com/tienda/ y www.libreria.colef.mx

Call for Papers: The Fantasy–Reality Continuum: Science, Religion, Politics, Culture - The Norbert Elias Foundation

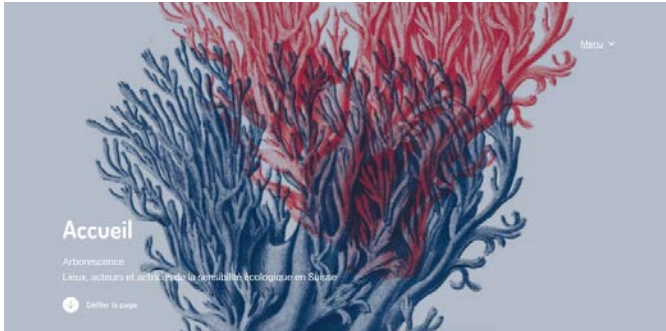
Papers are invited for this international conference at the University of Warsaw on 8–10 December 2022.

Under the auspices of the Norbert Elias Foundation, the steering group for the conference consists of Marta Bucholc (University of Warsaw), Valerie Dahl (Universität Münster), Marta Gospodarczyk (University of Warsaw), Jason Hughes (University of Leicester), Katie Liston (Ulster University), Stephen Mennell (University College Dublin). The conference will be face-to-face (on-site) in Warsaw with some sessions online.

Further information: <https://ws.uw.edu.pl/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/CfP-Warsaw-December-2022-May-5-2022.pdf>



NEW PUBLICATIONS

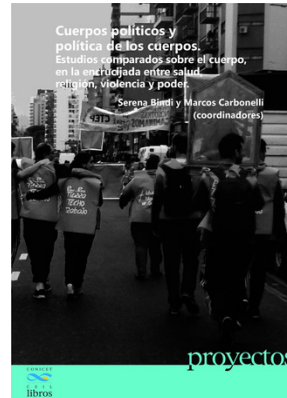


Website Arborescence

<https://wp.unil.ch/arborescence/>

Dans le contexte actuel de croissantes sensibilité et mobilisation envers les enjeux environnementaux, le projet « Arborescence », financé par l'instrument Agora du FNS, vise à rendre accessibles à un public large les résultats de la recherche « Vers une spiritualisation de l'écologie ? Analyse sociologique des nouvelles médiations des enjeux écologiques en Suisse » (2017-2021).

Le projet est porté par la professeure Irene Becci et Alexandre Grandjean (Institut de sciences sociales des religions – FTSR) qui collaborent avec deux médiateur-trice-s scientifiques. Matthieu Jaccard organise le programme d'activités, et Julie Henoch réalise les podcasts.



Cuerpos políticos y política de los cuerpos. Estudios comparados sobre el cuerpo, en la entrecruzada entre salud, religión, violencia y poder.

Coordinado por Serena Bindi y Marcos Carbonelli.

CEIL CONICET 2022

Desde hace cuarenta años, el cuerpo ha dado lugar a una sorprendente cantidad de investigaciones en ciencias sociales. Se trata de un cuerpo entendido como sujeto y objeto, portador de significado y soporte material, individual y social. Ya sea como texto, como símbolo o como habitus, el cuerpo ha demostrado ser un terreno fértil desde el que antropólogos y sociólogos han refutado modelos e ideologías abstractas y universalizantes y han reflexionado sobre las operaciones del poder, los sistemas de opresión y las posibilidades de acción y de cambio político. Los artículos reunidos en este libro se inscriben en una perspectiva de “la corporeidad de la política”: la materialidad de las relaciones de poder y su carácter eminentemente físico.

Esta producción colectiva está organizada en tres grandes secciones: política, salud y religión. Se trata de grandes campos temáticos; puntos de anclaje desde los cuales sugerimos leer y dialogar con las apuestas teóricas, los hallazgos y las conclusiones de cada una de las contribuciones.

Disponible para descarga (Open Access):

<http://www.ceil-conicet.gov.ar/?p=13211>

Call for Papers Conference on “Belonging and Mobility”

9-21 April 2023, Amsterdam/Online.

Netherlands Institute for Advanced Study (NIAS) invites researchers, artists, writers, and journalists to participate in its 2nd international conference in the domain ‘Studies of Belonging’. The conference will be structured around five spheres: The Body Politic, Belonging as/at Work, Dwelling / Home-ing (Re)making Public Space, and Ecologies of Belonging.

Further information: <https://nias.knaw.nl/conference/>

NIAS 

Belonging
& Mobility
2023



JULY 2022

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CONFERENCES ON THE SOCIOLOGY OF RELIGION WORLDWIDE



BIANNUAL CONFERENCE EUROPEAN SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION RN34 - SOCIOLOGY OF RELIGION

July 13-15, 2022

Groningen, Netherlands (online)

*Religion in an unstable world: Challenges,
transformations and future prospects*

www.esareligion.org



ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE SOCIOLOGY OF RELIGION

August 6-8, 2022

Los Angeles, California

*Religion, Repression, and the Search for
Justice*

Registration Open

www.sociologyofreligion.com



XX JORNADAS SOBRE ALTERNATIVAS RELIGIOSAS NA AMÉRICA LATINA

August 09-13, 2022

Rio de Janeiro, Brasil

*Religiões na América Latina: Horizontes e
Novos Desafios*

www.acsrn.org



SISR / ISSR Société Internationale de Sociologie des Religions
International Society for the Sociology of Religion

37TH BIENNIAL CONFERENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE SOCIOLOGY OF RELIGION

July 4 - 7, 2023

Taipei, Taiwan

*Religions in dialogue: Transformations,
Diversity, and Materiality*

Call for Sessions Open

Call for ISSR Award Open

www.sisr-issr.org



JULY 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: Alan Nixon, University of Western Sydney
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 #25

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.

XX ISA World Congress of Sociology



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