

RC20 Newsletter, December 2024

Dear RC20 Members,

In this newsletter you will find information on ISA Forum in Rabat next July and our RC20 participation in different panels; Publications send by Members together with some useful general information; News about the online Conference to be held in 2026.

Best regards to all,

Marita Carballo
President RC20.

Upcoming Conference in Rabat on July 2025

RC20 is excited to present a diverse line up of panels for the upcoming ISA Forum, featuring a total of 102 papers across 20 sessions. These panels cover a wide range of topics in comparative sociology, reflecting both theoretical advancements and empirical research.

The session "News Tendencies in the Global Work: Comparative Scales of Informality, Precarity, and Unemployment," jointly organized with WG01 and RC30, examines global labor trends, focusing on the rise of informal and precarious work and its implications for economies worldwide. "VET Around the World: Comparing Vocational Education and Training Systems and Outcomes Globally" explores the structures, processes, and societal impacts of vocational education systems in different contexts.

Two sessions on "Cultural Diversity and Migration: Challenges and Opportunities for Societies" investigate migration dynamics, exploring societal challenges such as integration and cultural transformation, as well as opportunities for fostering inclusivity. The panel "Digital Dynamics: Exploring the Impact of Internet Technologies, AI, and Social Media Platforms on Society" delves into the profound social and cultural changes driven by digital technologies and their role in reshaping communication and behavior.

"Religiosity in the World: Trends, Diversity, and Social Impact" addresses the shifting landscape of religious practices and their influence on social cohesion and diversity. Meanwhile, "Political Behavior, Participation, and Culture: Building Social Capital" discusses how political engagement and cultural contexts shape collective action and trust within societies.

Sessions drawing from long-term studies like the World Values Survey and European Values Study provide insights into shifting societal values and trends over time. Other panels examine the resilience of democracies in times of crisis, global attitudes toward climate change, and comparative perspectives on political trust, offering a rich exploration of societal responses to contemporary challenges.

Panels also focus on themes such as poverty and inequality, women's careers in the context of global change, and socio-political dynamics in the Middle East. Historical and methodological approaches in comparative sociology are highlighted, enriching discussions



on the evolution of the discipline. The program concludes with a session dedicated to exploring positionalities and methods in studying social uprisings, adding a reflective dimension to the forum.

Through this array of panels, RC20 reaffirms its commitment to fostering intellectual dialogue and advancing comparative sociology's contributions to understanding the complexities of our globalized world.

The RC20 will allocate registration grants for the 5th ISA Forum in 2025 to a limited number of applicants selected by the Board. As stated at the ISA website (<https://www.isa-sociology.org/en/conferences/forum/rabat-2025/5th-isa-forum-guidelines/rules-for-isa-registration-grants-allocation>), “registration grants can be allocated to individual ISA members in good standing (i.e., those who have paid the individual membership fee) and who are active participants in the conference program”. In order to apply for a registration grant, your abstract must have been accepted by one of the sessions organized by RC20.

The applicants must send an e-mail requesting a registration grant directly to the Program Coordinators Marita Carballo (marita@maritacarballo.com.ar) and Kseniya Kizilova (ksenniya.kizilova@gmail.com) by January 31, 2025 at the latest. The application for a registration grant can be submitted to only one RC/WG/TG. The application needs to include the following information: 1) Name, affiliation, and country of the applicant; 2) Role in the conference (presenter, session organizer, etc.) and title of the accepted abstract; 3) Any other information to be considered.

Hope to see many of you at Morocco,
Marita Carballo and Kseniya Kizilova

Publications sent by RC20 Members

Broadbent, J. (2024). Power and theory: toward a multidimensional explanation of the dynamic political field. *Journal of Political Power*, 1-30.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/2158379X.2024.2408017>

General Information

TRUEDEM Project Hosts Webinar Series on Trust

The TRUEDEM project, implemented with the participation of ISA RC20 members, continues its engaging webinar series on trust in contemporary societies. This initiative provides a platform for leading scholars and practitioners to explore the critical role of trust in democratic governance and societal resilience.

Recent webinars have tackled compelling topics such as the stability of political trust over time, the relationship between trust and democracy, and how educational biases influence trust and populist attitudes. These sessions have sparked vibrant discussions and offered valuable insights into the dynamics of trust in various contexts. Recordings of past events are available for viewing on the TRUEDEM website (<https://www.truedem.eu/events>).

The next webinar, titled "*A Scandal Effect: Local Scandals and Political Trust*," will take place on **December 10, 2024**. This session will delve into how local political scandals shape public trust in institutions and political actors. It promises to be a thought-provoking discussion, featuring insights from leading experts in the field.

We encourage RC20 members to join us for this upcoming webinar and to revisit recordings of previous sessions. For more details and registration information, please visit the TRUEDEM events page (<https://www.truedem.eu/events>). Stay connected with the TRUEDEM project by following their social media channels (<https://www.truedem.eu/social>) and subscribing to their newsletter for updates on future events and publications.

Call for Papers: WAPOR 78th Annual Conference 2025

The World Association for Public Opinion Research (WAPOR) is excited to invite submissions for its 78th Annual Conference, which will be held from May 12–15, 2025, at the St. Louis Union Station in St. Louis, Missouri, USA. This event, organized in conjunction with the 80th Annual Conference of the American Association for Public Opinion Research (AAPOR), promises a rich exchange of ideas among researchers, practitioners, and policymakers in the field of public opinion and survey research.

The conference theme, "*The Evolving Landscape of Election Polls: Challenges, Biases, and Innovations in a Polarized World*," underscores the critical importance of public opinion research in addressing contemporary challenges. Participants will explore diverse topics such as methodological innovations, the influence of digital media on public opinion, and the role of public opinion in shaping policy-making.

Submissions are welcome for research papers, poster presentations, and pre-organized panels. Abstracts, limited to 500 words, must be submitted in English through the WAPOR submission portal (<https://www.wapor.org/submissions>). The deadline for submissions is December 20, 2024, and authors are encouraged to submit early due to limited space.

This conference marks a milestone, as it is the first time since 2019 that WAPOR and AAPOR are co-locating their annual meetings. This collaboration will provide attendees with access to a wide range of sessions, workshops, and networking opportunities, fostering professional development and connections within the public opinion research community.

For detailed submission guidelines, registration information, and updates on the conference program, please visit the WAPOR conference page (<https://www.wapor.org/events/annual-conference/current-conference/>). We look forward to receiving your submissions and welcoming you to St. Louis for this dynamic and intellectually stimulating conference.

RC20&RC33&RC56 Joint Online Regional Conference 2026 – 24-28 August, 2026

Report: Fumiya Onaka

Following a RC20&RC33 joint regional conference in 2022, RC20 (Comparative Sociology) and RC33 (Logic and Methodology in Sociology) will hold a joint online regional conference with RC56 (Historical Sociology) in 2026 to enhance the capabilities of comparative perspectives. This time, it will be hosted by Khon Kaen University, Thailand, and Japan Women's University, Japan.



Title: The 2nd RC20 Regional Conference on Comparative Sociology & The 1st RC56 Regional Conference on Historical Sociology & The 5th RC33 Regional Conference on Social Science Methodology: Asia

Format: Only-online conference

Host: Khon Kaen University (Thailand) & Japan Women's University (Japan)

Timeline and process (tentative):

Call for session proposals: 16 March 2025

Close of session proposals submission: 1 August 2025

Acceptance of session proposals: 12 September 2025

Call for papers open (abstract submission): 28 September 2025

Close of paper submission: 31 December 2025.

Submissions accepted and program prepared: 12 March 2026

Registration opened: 9 April 2026

Conference: 24-28 August 2026

Fee: Free

The local organizing committee:

Dusadee Ayuwat (Prof. Dr. Khon Kaen University)

Keeratiporn Jutaviriya (Assist. Prof. Dr. Khon Kaen University)

Rukchanok Chumnanmak (Assist. Prof. Dr. Khon Kaen University)

Fumiya Onaka (Prof. Dr., Japan Women's University)

Dear Colleagues we look forward to an exciting year ahead together.

Wishing you and your loved ones a joyful holiday season and a happy New Year.

Marita Carballo