



The 39th World
Congress of the
International Institute
of Sociology
Yerevan, Armenia

JUNE 11-14, 2009

www.iisoc.org/iis2009

REGULAR SESSION INFORMATION

Title of Session: Political Mobilisation of Immigrant and Minority Groups in Western Europe

Name of Session Convener(s): Michal Bodemann

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Comments: -

Session Abstract (up to 250 words):

Antonio Gramsci argues that organic crises in society, such as Black or immigrant political resistance, erupt not simply in the class struggle but also in industrial and economic life and in debates about sexual, moral, and intellectual questions in relation to political representation. Drawing on this argument, this panel aims to critically discuss the mobilization of immigrant and minority groups in various areas of social and political life in Western Europe. We would like to bring together scholars who will discuss the political representation and agency of immigrants and minorities. Focusing on political mobilization, we would like to uncover the processes that immigrants and minorities become political actors. As an extension of this, we will discuss on how political, legal and social structures of Western societies are being transformed by minorities and immigrants.

The following questions will be the focus of this panel: What are the social implications of legal and political processes that concern immigrant and minority communities? In turn, how do immigrant communities and minorities react to the legal decisions and social policies that affect minorities and immigrants? What are the common strategies that immigrants and minorities take on in order to deal with ethnic, religious and racial discrimination in Western Europe? Our explorations of these questions highlight changing political, social and legal

discourses around religion, ethnicity and gender in Western Europe. We especially welcome studies with first-hand research data and comparative cases.

General information

During each afternoon of the congress, there will be room for a large number of parallel regular sessions. Each session is 90 minutes long and consists of an oral presentation of 4 to 6 papers. Session conveners are expected to administer and chair their session at the 2009 IIS World Congress.

Starting in mid-December, calls for papers to participate in approved sessions will be posted on the website. Interested participants will contact the session convener (you) directly with an abstract no later than February 28, 2009. The session convener should take in all submissions and select the best 4 to 6 papers to be presented and forward this information, including e-mail addresses of accepted authors, to the IIS Secretariat no later than March 15, 2009.