



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

JUNE 11-14, 2009

[www.iisoc.org/iis2009](http://www.iisoc.org/iis2009)

## REGULAR SESSION INFORMATION

**Title of Session:** The society of new capitalism and the sociological interpretation

**Name of Session Convener(s):** Prof. Carlo Mongardini

**University/Organization incl. City:** Dpt. of Political Studies – Faculty of Political Sciences  
– University of Rome “La Sapienza” – Piazzale Aldo Moro, 5 – 00185 Roma

**E-mail:** [carlo.mongardini@uniroma1.it](mailto:carlo.mongardini@uniroma1.it)

**Comments:** -

### **Session Abstract (up to 250 words):**

The new capitalism with his financial aspect has completely different characteristic from the spirit of capitalism which Weber analysed 100 years ago. Late capitalism, with its hyper-rational and abstract logic of market, has no longer entrepreneurs not heroes. Late capitalism seems to have lost its force of expansion and its creative spirit because of the excess of rationalism and abstraction that spoils its own financial and industrial structures. After Weber’s work, capitalism deserves a new attentive analysis, because it has pacifically invaded all our lives, changing our minds and ways of thinking, lifestyles, values expressed by the culture system. Today a set of question raises on the future of capitalism and the form of society it created. Will capitalism fulfil the dream of a “unique world” or has come to his last ground, as Schumpeter foresaw? Will politics leave its own place to the governance of social and economic powers or will it take back its function of control and limit of the economic interests in order to point to the general interest? State functions’ have only slightly changed or are States destined to leave their place to new institutions?

In particular following points should be taken into consideration:

1. Characters of the new capitalism and his effects on society
2. The historical transition from the bourgeois-regime to the mass-regime

3. The ideological change of the common dominant mentality to one economicistic and utilitarian
4. The emerge of a culture of the present which supports a politics of contingency

### **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.