



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

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www.iisoc.org/iis2009

REGULAR SESSION INFORMATION

Title of Session: Comparative-Historical Sociology Across Global, Regional, and Local Worlds

Name of Session Convener(s): Willfried Spohn and Ewa Morawska

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Comments: -

Session Abstract (up to 250 words):

Promising new directions of sociological reflection that appeared during the last decade, including problems of glocalization, multiple modernities, comparative study of civilizations, and global-scale postcolonialism in the economic, political, and cultural spheres with its local varieties, and the accompanying recognition of the need for multi-level analysis of the examined phenomena call for a new reorientation of comparative-historical sociological research. While retaining the epistemological strengths of their approach, and, in particular, the conceptualization of society and human actors as continuously "becoming," and the recognition of the importance of past societal arrangements for the forms and directions of current developments, comparative-historical sociologists should consider broadening and "complexifying" their projects beyond the customary state-national/transnational analytic units. The proposed session is intended as a launching board for investigations—both theoretical and empirical—of social phenomena which criss-cross global, regional, national, and local boundaries. Contributions from all fields of comparative-historical sociology are invited. The topics may range from analyses of multi-dimensional mechanisms and effects of international migration/immigration (including human rights issues); the emergence, functioning, and transformation of social institutions and movements intersecting different spaces; cultural (also religious) and/or political encounters across global, regional, national,

and local boundaries; economic exchanges in similarly criss-crossing worlds; boundary-crossing memberships and identities, to theoretical and methodological reflections on the challenges of a multi-dimensional world in a comparative-historical sociological perspective.

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.