



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: Philanthropy, Corporate Social Responsibility, and Social Enterprise

Name of Session Convener(s): Ani Muradyan

University/Organization incl. City: Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University,
Indinapolis, Indiana, USA

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Comments: The discussion of the topic will enable to address philanthropy, social enterprise, and corporate social responsibility in the context of civil society and globalization. Moreover, the international character of the event will enable to draw comparisons and discuss how the concepts fit in different political and socio-cultural environments.

Session Abstract (up to 250 words):

The pressing need for sustainable development globally has created 'hybrid' organizations such as social enterprises, stressed the importance of practicing corporate social responsibility, and increased the role of philanthropy in advocating social change. According to a McKinsey survey, more than 80 percent of business executives believe that businesses should go beyond their primary purpose, and address broader needs of the society. Moreover, according to Beyond Grey Pinstripes 2007-2008 survey, the percentage of business schools worldwide that require at least one course in 'business and society' increased from 34% in 2001 to 63% in 2007.

Concepts such as philanthropy, corporate social responsibility, and social enterprise find their explanations at the crossroads of sociology, economics, psychology, anthropology, history, and political science. Sociology, being one of those, helps to answer questions such as: What is the role of corporate social responsibility, philanthropy, and social entrepreneurship in addressing social issues, and providing sustainable development? Where do those three

overlap and what are the distinguishing characteristics of each? Is corporate social responsibility an obligation or 'generosity'? What are the main factors that stimulate philanthropy? How do factors such as education, ethnicity, religion, age, gender, and income level effect giving behavior on personal level? Is social entrepreneurship an effective method to address social problems?

This list of questions can be rather long and beyond the knowledge and logic of one scholar. We invite you to raise questions, present your studies, and suggest ways to improve the fields of philanthropy, corporate social responsibility, and social enterprise.

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.