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## European Society or European Societies?

9<sup>th</sup> Conference of the European Sociological Association

Lisbon, Portugal

Sept. 2-5, 2009



v. 2009-08-27

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### ESA RN29 Social Theory Conference

Research Network coordinator:  
www.social-theory.eu

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### Programme

#### THURSDAY, 03 SEP

*paper session: single RN session*

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#### 1A European Society or European Societies? (i)

chair: Frank Welz

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|-------|--------------------|--|
| 09:00 | Gesa Lindemann     | Europe as a part of a world society  |
| 09:15 | Barbara Jablonska  | European Society or European Societies? Critical and discursive perspective                  |
| 09:30 | Marek Kucia        | Is there a European society? A sociological analysis of the theories of European integration |
| 09:45 | Ayça Demir Gürdal  | The Europe reflected from looking-glass self and the others                                  |
| 10:00 | Anne Sophie Krossa | One European Society OR Pluralism? A False Antagonism for Contemporary Sociology             |

*paper session: single RN session*

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#### 1B European Society or European Societies? (ii)

chair: Csaba Szaló

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|-------|--|---|
| 09:00 | Svetlana Kirdina                                       | European Society or European Societies: Methodology of Answer           |
| 09:15 | Sabine Frerichs  | The Societal Constitution of Europe: Matching Legal and Social Theories |
| 09:30 | Haldun Gulalp  | The Ottoman Contribution to the Rise of Capitalism and the Modern State |
| 09:45 | Maurice Roche  | Cosmopolitanism and the Sociology of Europe                             |
| 10:00 | Marta Soler Gallart/<br>Esther Oliver/<br>Ramon Flecha | A way out for Europe through the concept of societal community          |

*paper session: single RN session*

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**2A European Sociology: Beyond Methodological Nationalism?**

chair: Filipe Carreira da Silva

- 13:30 Csaba Szaló Methodological nationalism as a tool for interpretation and scientific performance
- 13:45 Elisabeth Simbuerger Selective interpretations of the social in social theory or 'I wished those theorists had looked beyond Britain'
- 14:00 Wiebke Keim Europe seen from outside: current challenges in general sociological theory

*paper session: single RN session*

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**2B European/International Sociology: ›Whose Cosmopolitanism?‹ – Solidarity – Legitimacy**

chair: Anne Sophie Krossa

- 13:30 Gilles Verpraet Cosmopolitanism and social theory: as a contribution to the european sociology
- 13:45 Lurdes Macedo A second modernity: the cosmopolitan vision of Beck
- 14:00 Henning Bech Whose Cosmopolitanism?
- 14:15 Kerstin Jacobsson/Eva Sandstedt Dimensions of a civic consciousness: Mechanisms of social solidarity in contemporary Sweden
- 14:30 Lena Lindgren What is Legitimacy? Does it Matter? What happens when the concept of legitimacy is applied to political realities such as the European Union and the Lisbon Treaty?

*paper session: single RN session*

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**3A Contemporary Social Theory: Sociology of Contemporary Society**

chair: Gilles Verpraet

- 15:30 Kevin McSorley Violence and Social Theory
- 15:45 Cagatay Topal From the disciplinary society to the society of control: Surveillance over immigrants from Turkey in Germany
- 16:00 Mary Vogel Theorizing Discretionary Informality in Law
- 16:15 Michael Beetz Formal organisation and public observation
- 16:30 Filipe Carreira da Silva Plural Modernity: Changing modern institutional forms: disciplines and nation-states

*paper session: single RN session*

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**3B Contemporary Social Theory: From Phenomenology to Systems Theory**

chair: Gallina Tasheva

- 15:30 Jochen Dreher Social Inequality Reconsidered in the Interface of Phenomenology and Sociology of Knowledge
- 15:45 Victor Vakhshayn Is there a frame-analysis after Erving Goffman?
- 16:00 Allan Sutherland Contemporary Social Theory: Aesthetics, Social Value and Social Improvisation
- 16:15 Bart Put Personal Relationships in Luhmann's Theory of Social Systems: A Critical Appraisal
- 16:30 Michael Urban Psyche as the supplement of Luhmann's social systems theory

**17:00 BUSINESS MEETING RN29 SOCIAL THEORY (17:00-18:00)**

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**FRIDAY, 04 SEP**

*paper session: single RN session*

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**4A Contemporary Social Theory: Rational or Praxeological Choices?**

chair: Andreas Langenohl

- 09:00 Miguel Cabrita Actors and decisions: can theories help theorists make 'rational' choices?
- 09:15 Romana Xerez Development and Deployment of Social Network Analysis: a Sociological Overview
- 09:30 Michael Jonas The social site approach versus the approach of discourse/practices-formations?
- 09:45 Simon Susen Notes on Bourdieu's Conception of Social Science: Between Positivist and Hermeneutic Knowledge
- 10:00 Susana Cabaço/Patrícia Calca  
A muddle concept: making sense of social capital operationalizations

*paper session: single RN session*

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**4B Classical Social Theory: The Classical Canon and Beyond**

chair: Henning Bech

- 09:00 Robert Fine Marx and the Radical Critique of Antisemitism
- 09:15 Tugrul Keskin Sociology of Islam and Muslim Societies in Neoliberal Globalization
- 09:30 Richard Simon Scientific Specialization as Utopian Practice
- 09:45 Stanislaw Burdziej Prospects for a Post-Secular Sociology: Bauman and Habermas in Perspective
- 10:00 Marcin Kilanowski: Toward strengthening democracies and civil society: Freedom as responsibility

*paper session: single RN session*

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**5A Critical Theory: Its Past and its Future**

chair: Charles Turner

- 13:30 Craig Browne On Habermas's Critique of Castoriadis and its Counter-Critique
- 13:45 Anastasia Marinopoulou  
Individuality and the formation of Social Rationality: points of critique in Horkheimer and Habermas
- 14:00 Stefan Fornos Klein On dialectical materialism and critical theory: between social philosophy (Sozialphilosophie) and social research (Sozialforschung)
- 14:15 Mehin Ibragimova Ideological exploitation of critical theory
- 14:30 Susana Nascimento Sociological recoveries of critical theories on technology

*paper session: single RN session*

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**5B The Sociology of Intellectuals and Intellectual Production**

chair: Barbara Misztal

- 13:30 Patrick Baert The Rise of French Existentialism: A Study in the Sociology of Intellectual Movements
- 13:45 Anil Al-Rebholz Civil Society Debate in Turkey: Discursive Struggles among the Intellectuals attempting at the Construction of Neo-liberal Truth Regime?
- 14:00 Jonathan Roberge How to Perform Theatre by Talking About It: Toward a Cultural Pragmatics of Drama Critics
- 14:15 Maarja Lõhmus The Role of the Intellectual and Creative Class in the Public Sphere

**SATURDAY, 05 SEP**

*paper session: single RN session*

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**6A Social Theory and the Study of Culture**

chair: Patrick Baert

- 09:00 Barbara Misztal Sustaining tradition and making a difference: Jane Addams's writing on memory
- 09:15 Charles Turner A Seance with Philip Rieff
- 09:30 Werner Binder Social ontology and cultural sociology. A appraisal and critique of John Searle's social theory
- 09:45 B. Garrick Harden Nihilism and Cultural Cohesion: (Re)considerations of Jean Baudrillard
- 10:00 Nicki Lisa Cole Ethical Capitalism and Its Cultural Logic

*paper session: single RN session*

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**6B Philosophy of Social Science (i): Must Sociology be grounded on Experiences - or Language?**

chair: Gesa Lindemann

- 09:00 Gallina Tasheva Existentialanalytic and Sociology
- 09:15 Julia Hertlein Experience Revisited: Searching for a critical notion of the concept of experience for the social sciences
- 09:30 Andreas Langenohl The 'Case' and the Sociological Imagination: Toward a Critical Reconstruction
- 09:45 Jens Christian Hermansen  
On the use and critique of Wittgenstein in the social sciences
- 10:00 Anna Borisenkova Reflection on the Textual Foundations of Social Science: Narrative as an Explanatory Scheme of a Sociological Knowledge

*paper session: single RN session*

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**7A Philosophy of Social Science (ii): Are there Limits of Social Constructions?**

chair: Kevin McSorley

- 11:00 Antti Gronow Social Constructions - Arbitrary and Biased?
- 11:15 Diogo Cotta/Rita Raposo  
What Does it Mean to Be Socially Constructed? Ian Hacking's Take on a Mistreated Concept
- 11:30 Tamás Meleghy/Heinz-Jürgen Niedenzu  
Are Norms Limited to Human Beings? A necessary debate between sociology and evolutionary biology
- 11:45 Frank Welz The Limits of Systems Theory

*paper session: single RN session*

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**7B Philosophy of Social Science (iii): Unintended Consequences, Emergence and Evolution**

chair: Svetlana Kirdina

- 11:00 Tuukka Kaidesoja How to Theorize Social Emergence?
- 11:15 Diego Rios Emergence and reduction in the social sciences
- 11:30 Torben Hviid Nielsen Unintended Consequences, Old and New: A topology
- 11:45 Victor Franchuk Contemporary organismic sociology (COS): substantive provisions

*paper session: joint session with RN18*

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**JS7**     **The Impact of Mass Media and Network Communication on Contemporary Social Theory**  
 chair: Peter Ludes/Frank Welz

13:30	Roy Panagiotopoulou	Cohesion in the new economic and social conditions, new media, new public space
13:45	Samuel Mateus	Publicness' Public Sciences
14:00	Simone Brink	Detemporalization and Despatialization - The Radical Transformation of Time and Space by New Media in Globalization
14:15	Didem Turkoglu	Facing the Nation: Creation of Internet Citizenship in the "Glocal"
14:30	Peter Ludes	Key Invisibles in Visual Discourses: Beyond Castells' "basic thread of our social structure"

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*paper session: single RN session*

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**8A**     **Challenges: New Developments in Social Theory**  
 chair: Marek Kucia

15:30	Massimiliano Ruzzeddu	Complexity Theories in the XXI Century
15:45	David Toews	The End of Good Form: From Sociability to Creative Sociality, and the Consequences of this Transformation for Social Science
16:00	Philippe Boudes	Is there a limit to social theory effectiveness? Environment as a possible way of reshaping sociology
16:15	Maria Gornostaeva	Social action in the context of creativity

<b>timetable</b>	(cf. <a href="#">Second Announcement</a> of the ESA 2009 conference, p. 5)		
	Thursday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sept.	Friday, 4 <sup>th</sup> Sept.	Saturday, 5 <sup>th</sup> Sept.
09:00-10:30	1 <sup>st</sup> RN sessions (A+B)	4 <sup>th</sup> RN sessions (A+B)	6 <sup>th</sup> RN sessions (A+B)
11:00-12:30	_____	_____	7 <sup>th</sup> RN sessions (A+B)
13:30-15:00	2 <sup>nd</sup> RN sessions (A+B)	5 <sup>th</sup> RN sessions (A+B)	8 <sup>th</sup> RN session
15:30-17:00	3 <sup>rd</sup> RN sessions (A+B)	_____	9 <sup>th</sup> RN session



### CALL FOR PAPERS

European transformations necessarily have an impact on their sociological and public interpretations. Consequently, the conference theme “**European Society or European Societies?**” invites social theory to explore the theoretical underpinnings of the debate.

Our Research Network, focusing on the self-reflexive dimension of sociology, encourages submissions addressing the following themes that also continue the ongoing discussions of the RN:

#### *Contemporary Society - and its Sociology*

1. European Society or European Societies?
2. European Sociology or European Sociologies?

#### *Theory*

3. Contemporary Social Theory
4. Classical Social Theory

### Abstract submission

The deadline for **web submission of abstracts** is 26th February 2009 (automatically available to the Conference organizers and the specific RN coordinator).

Abstracts of max. **350 words** will only be accepted through completion of the online submission form (available from <http://www.esa9thconference.com>) and submission in any other form will be declined by the Lisbon conference organizers:

“Authors will be expected to submit their abstract under the most appropriate Research Network (or Stream). In order to facilitate an appropriate choice of network/stream, the online submission form will have a drop down box that will contain the titles of all the networks and streams that will run in Lisbon. First authors will only be able to submit a maximum of two different abstracts to the conference. Each abstract should be submitted to only one RN or RS.”

- Lessons learned: For promoting debate the allocated time per presentation will be increased (**22 min.** incl. discussion). We will further prepare session chairs for a real role of moderator.
- Although ESA encourages *thematic* sessions, abstract submitters will only mark their preferred Research Network (but not a specific session theme, and later on the coordinators have to organize the plan of sessions).

### Accommodation, registration, etc.

For **all information** please visit the Lisbon ESA2009 conference website: <http://www.esa9thconference.com/>

#### *Philosophy of Social Science*

5. The Past and Future of Critical Theory
6. New Philosophies of Social Science

#### *Challenges*

7. Beyond Methodological Nationalism?
8. New Developments in Social Theory

#### *Further Proposals*

9. Social Theory and the Study of Culture
10. The Sociology of Intellectuals and Intellectual Production
11. The Impact of Mass Media and Network Communication on Contemporary Social Theory  
(*joint session with RN18 Sociology of Communications and Media Research:*

As especially Manuel Castells highlighted in his theory of mobile network societies, information and communication technologies are major driving forces for re-configuring all kinds of social interactions, institutions and basic conceptions of space, time, or identity. Therefore, we suggest that the impact of mass media and network communication on Contemporary Social Theory deserves special attention.)

### Deadlines

- |                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| <b>8 March 2009</b>  | Web <b>abstract submission</b> (cf. on the left) ( <i>extended by ESA</i> )  |
| 26 March 2009        | Notification of acceptance of abstracts by RN coordinator  |
| 15 May 2009          | Earlybird conference registration closes   |
| 15 June 2009         | Final date for registration by paper givers (otherwise paper will be withdrawn from the conference programme)  |
| 15 July 2008         | Deadline for sending full written papers to RN and Lisbon conference organizers. Full papers which are not submitted until this date [submission is not required] will not be considered for publication on the conference CD. |
| <b>2-5 Sept 2009</b> | <b>ESA Conference</b> in Lisbon.   |

### Further information & RN ESA updates

ESA Social Theory RN  
ESA

[www.social-theory.eu](http://www.social-theory.eu)  
[www.europeansociology.org](http://www.europeansociology.org)

We are looking forward to see participants of **previous meetings** but welcome warmly **new colleagues** too. Regarding the theory dimension, the RN is promoting the cognitive identity of sociology; institutionally, it is offering spaces for debate and communication as well as a platform for research collaboration. – If you would like to be on our RN mailing list, send a note to this effect to the RN29 coordinator ([frank.welz@uibk.ac.at](mailto:frank.welz@uibk.ac.at)). All further inquiries are welcomed too!

Frank Welz, ESA Social Theory RN  
Coordinator, Innsbruck/Austria