

RC 10 NEWSLETTER

Participation, Organizational Democracy and Self-Management

ISA – International Sociological Association, Research Committee 10

AIS – Association Internationale de Sociologie, Comité de recherche 10

AIS – Asociación Internacional de Sociología, Comité de Investigación 10

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“Participation, Organizational Democracy and Self-Management” of the International Sociological Association

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RC-10 members have the right to: Participate in Board elections; Propose themselves or others for Board membership; Participate and vote in business meetings of the RC-10; Participate in all other activities of the RC-10; and Receive the RC-10 Newsletter.

Membership fees are €40 for each four-year period. Members from low income, or soft currency countries, as well as students, may pay a reduced fee of €20. The fee for lifetime membership is €120. Membership fee for Ibero-American Subcommittee of RC10 is \$10. RC10 membership fees can be paid 1) in conjunction with the payment of the ISA membership fees using an online form available from the ISA website <https://secured.com/~f3641/formisa.htm>; 2) during registration at one of the RC10 conferences to **Litsa Nicolaou Smokoviti**; 3) by mailing a check or money order and the form at the end of this Newsletter to **Litsa Nicolaou Smokoviti** at the address shown above. The check or money order, in Euros, should be made out to the order of **Litsa Nicolaou Smokoviti – RC10**.

Editor's Note

Dear colleagues,

I am pleased to share with you the Summer Issue of the RC10 Newsletter. Among other highlights, it reports on the RC10 Board meeting that took place at the recent conference co-organized by RC10 in Piraeus, Greece in May 2009. It was wonderful to see many new colleagues join long-term members of RC10 for a highly stimulating and intellectually rewarding discussion and exchange. And there are going to be many more exciting opportunities in the future to collaborate and to share research with colleagues. I want especially to draw your attention to the forthcoming XVII ISA World Congress of Sociology in Gothenburg, Sweden, in July 2010 and to the stream of sessions organized and co-organized by RC10.

As 2010 will be the year of the elections for RC10 Board and for the Board of the Ibero-American Subcommittee of RC10 (IAS-RC10), I encourage you to start considering nominating colleagues or yourself to serve RC10 in the capacity of one of the officers of the Board. It is an essential requirement that all candidates nominated for RC10 or IAS-RC10 Board are members in good standing and have paid the membership fees for both the ISA and RC10. Please review the Minutes of RC10 Board meeting very carefully for detailed information about the requirements that must be met by the nominated candidates.

I will look forward to your feedback and welcome any suggestions and comments about the Newsletter. And please, start sending to me the new materials for the Fall 2009 issue. I hope the Newsletter may be helpful to you and your research in many ways. Happy reading!

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A letter from RC10 President

In my letter from fall 2008 I dealt a bit with the crisis of capitalism we face and some consequences for our work on participation and democracy – in research, politics and fields of practise and praxis.

Today, I think, I am obliged to emphasize this problem. The consequences of this crisis are detrimental for more and more people. And it is more and more clear that this isn't only a problem of banks or the financial system.

In the end of his trilogy 'The Information Age' M. Castells worked with a leitmotif of critical social theory for social analysis – comparable to M. Horkheimer in "Eclipse of Reason" 50 years earlier - when arguing that there is "an extraordinary gap between technological overdevelopment and social underdevelopment". This gap is foundational for the incompetence or inability of many members of the humankind to deal with social problems in a way that could be called enlightened, i.e. in developing structures and institutions promoting a participatory democracy. One solution of Castells was arguing that for survival "we need not only responsible governments, but a responsible, educated society".

One contribution within RC 10 – in cooperation with some other institutions – is our next great event: the international conference "Citizen Participation in social Welfare, Social Policy and Community Involvement: Shaping trends and attitudes of social responsibility" in Athens, May 22-25, 2009 mainly organized by our colleague and friend Prof. em. Litsa Niclaou-Smokoviti (Chair of the Local Organization Committee). I very much hope to meet up with many of you in Athens and I invite you all to consider visiting the cradle of democracy in our world.

The great event in 2010 will be the next world congress of sociology in Gothenburg/Sweden (July 2010). We have started some time ago with preparations and I invite all of you to participate actively. There will be some more concrete information in this newsletter.

Heinz Sünker

Message du Président, ISA-CR10

Dans mon message de l'automne 2008 j'ai abordé la crise du capitalisme à laquelle nous faisons face, ainsi que quelques unes de ses conséquences pour notre travail sur la participation et la démocratie – que ce soit dans la recherche, la politique ou les champs de la pratique et de la praxis.

Aujourd'hui, je me sens obligé mettre ce problème en avant. Les conséquences de cette crise sont nuisibles pour un nombre croissant de personnes. Et il est de plus en plus clair qu'il ne s'agit pas uniquement du problème des banques ou du système financier.

À la fin de sa trilogie sur "*L'ère de l'information*", Manuel Castells a utilisé un leitmotiv de la théorie sociale critique pour l'analyse sociale - comme M. Horkheimer dans « Eclipse de la raison » 50 ans plus tôt - en arguant du fait qu'il y a « un fossé extraordinaire entre le surdéveloppement technologique et le sous-développement social ». Ce fossé est un des fondements de l'incompétence ou l'incapacité de beaucoup de membres de l'humanité à traiter des problèmes sociaux d'une manière qui pourrait être qualifiée d'éclairée, c.-à-d. en développant des structures et des institutions promouvant une démocratie participative. Une des solutions de Castells était de démontrer que pour survivre « nous avons besoin non seulement de gouvernements responsables, mais aussi d'une société responsable et instruite ».

Une des contributions du CR 10 - en coopération avec quelques autres institutions - est notre prochain grand événement : la conférence internationale « Participation des citoyens au bien-être social, à la politique sociale et à la vie de la Communauté : Formation des tendances et des attitudes de la responsabilité sociale » à Athènes, du 22 au 25 mai 2009, organisée principalement par notre collègue et ami Prof. em. Litsa Niclaou-Smokoviti (Présidente du Comité local d'organisation). J'espère vivement rencontrer bon nombre d'entre vous à Athènes et je vous invite tous à envisager de visiter le berceau de la démocratie.

Le grand événement en 2010 sera le prochain Congrès mondial de sociologie à Göteborg en Suède (en juillet 2010). Nous avons commencé à nous y préparer il y a un certain temps et je vous invite tous à y participer activement. Vous trouverez plus d'informations concrètes à ce sujet dans ce bulletin.

Heinz Sünker

(Translator: Dr. Isabel da Costa, RC10 Board Member)

Saludos del presidente del RC-10

En mi carta anterior del Otoño 2008 abordé el tema de la crisis del capitalismo que confrontamos en nuestros días, y algunas de sus implicaciones para nuestro trabajo sobre participación y democracia – en los terrenos de la investigación, la política, la práctica y la praxis. Cada día se hace más evidente que no se trata solamente de un problema bancario ni del sistema financiero.

Al final de su trilogía en "La Era de la Información", Manuel Castells abordó un tema central de la teoría social crítica de análisis social – comparable al tratamiento de Max Horkheimer en el "Eclipse de la Razón" cincuenta años atrás – con el argumento acerca de "la extraordinaria brecha entre el exagerado (superior o acelerado) desarrollo tecnológico y el correspondiente subdesarrollo social". Una brecha que se encuentra en la base misma de la incompetencia o falta de habilidad de muchos congéneres para lidiar con los problemas sociales que agobian a la Humanidad, de alguna manera que uno pudiera calificar de "racional", en el sentido de poder de desarrollar estructuras e

instituciones que promuevan una democracia participativa. Una solución planteada al respecto por Castells está formulada en términos del siguiente argumento: para lograr sobrevivir, necesitamos no solamente de gobiernos responsables, sino también de una sociedad responsable y educada”.

Una contribución al debate acerca de este importante tema radica en nuestro próximo gran evento co-organizado por RC-10 y otras instituciones: me refiero a la próxima conferencia internacional sobre “Participación Ciudadana en el Sistema de Bienestar Social, en las Políticas Sociales y el Involucramiento de la Comunidad: Hacia la Promoción de Tendencias y Actitudes de Responsabilidad Social”, que se llevará a cabo en Atenas del 21-25 Mayo 2009, organizado básicamente por nuestra querida colega y amiga, la Profesora Emérita Litsa Nicolau-Smokoviti, Presidenta del Comité de Organización Local del mismo.

Tengo la esperanza de poder encontrarme con muchos de ustedes en Atenas, en una reunión que nos lleva a la misma ”cuna de la democracia” del mundo (occidental).

El gran evento que nos convoca en (Julio) 2010 está constituido por el próximo Congreso Mundial de Sociología en Gotenburgo/Suecia. Evento para el cual ya hemos iniciado nuestras actividades preparatorias con alguna antelación - y a las cuales están tod@s cordialmente invitadas a participar y contribuir activamente. Se ofrece información más detallada al respecto en este mismo boletín del RC-10.

Heinz Sünker

(Translator: Dr. Azril Bacal, RC10 Board member)

Forthcoming RC10 events

Information about RC10 session at the ESA conference in Lisbon, 2-5 September 2009

A joint session of RC10 in collaboration with Frantz Traxler from the University of Vienna and Research Network Industrial Relations, Labour Market Institutions and Employment has been organized by Francesco Garibaldi and Isabel da Costa at the European Sociological Association Annual Conference that will take place on September 2-5, 2009 in Lisbon. The session is entitled “Worker Participation in Europe and Europeanization of Worker Participation” and will be chaired by Alan Stoleroff.

XVII ISA World Congress of Sociology “Sociology on the Move”, 11-17 July 2010

Gothenburg, July 11-17 2010

A CALL FOR PAPERS for Research Committee on
Participation, Organizational Democracy and Self-Management RC10 (also available
online at <http://www.isa-sociology.org/congress2010/rc/rc10.htm>)

Main Theme

Democracy: the resource of last resort in a crisis

Program Chair

Heinz Suenker, Bergische Universität Wuppertal, Germany, suenker@uni-wuppertal.de

Program Coordinator

Julia Rozanova, Brown University, USA, Julia_Rozanova@brown.edu

Call for Papers

Paper proposals should be sent before **10th November 2009** to the appropriate session organizer, with a copy sent to Program Chair (Heinz Suenker) and Program Coordinator (Julia Rozanova).

Any individual may participate in up to two sessions. Once your presentation is approved by the session chair, you must then submit an abstract of your paper on-line (instructions will be made available in due course). Abstracts are only accepted by the system from those who are already registered for the Congress. The deadline for submission of approved abstracts is May 4, 2010.

Proposed Sessions

Session 1: Participation, democracy and social development

Organizer: Heinz Suenker, Bergische Universität Wuppertal, Germany, suenker@uni-wuppertal.de

As we know the future of mankind is at stake, not only with respect to sustainability but,

too, with respect to democracy. The decline of democracy worldwide, i.e. the rise of oligarchic rule all over the world, requires political answers which are concerned with the development of a real democracy and a real democratic progress. The papers of this session will deal with the different elements of the problem and of the answers.

Session 2: Participation in childhood and youth

Organizer: Heinz Suenker, Bergische Universität Wuppertal, Germany, suenker@uni-wuppertal.de

Democracy is based on the existence of educated citizens. Real education is based on the competences of all members of a society. To accomplish this we need to deal with experiences of participation in the lives of children and youth. Therefore participation is a key component in concepts of politics of childhood and youth. The papers of this session deal with different approaches concerned with participation in childhood and youth.

Session 3: Participative democracy as a way to manage the actual economic and social crisis

Organizer: Francesco Garibaldo, fgaribaldo@gmail.com

The global crisis came out not from the blue but from the role of economic transnational elites. What is evident for social science is that in periods of deep and revolutionary changes, as to the economic dimension, of capitalistic societies, since the first Industrial Revolution, the economic process of change is more and more unfettered of any social, political, administrative and cultural effective regulation; all the dimensions of everyone's life, both private and public, are driven by the demands coming from the economic and financial realm; a divorce between economic institutions and society at large, that is a lack of legitimization and democratic control on their lives by people becomes the rule.

It happened in the 1880s, in the 1920s, in the 1990s and this is the actual situation of our societies; that is the reason why many researchers and also financial and popular magazines are stricken by an historical comparison such as this one:

“It has been a great time to be a capitalist. All around the world, profits have been rising as a percentage of gross domestic product. According to Goldman Sachs, the profit share of US GDP in the first quarter of this year was an all-time high. HSBC says 2005 was the best year for UK profits since records began”. (Financial Times, July 29, July 30 2006). The journalist is aware of the consequences of the situation and he adds: “High profits and the extreme wealth they usually imply can be extremely unpopular (...). It is easy to assume that the liberalizing processes of the past 20 years are irreversible. But such reforms have little bedrock support; they have been effectively imposed on many countries by economic elites.”

The crisis has actually questioned the legitimacy of these elites and a new political trend and a brand new cultural mood are emerging.

The risk is that the governments facing the threads and the challenges of finding a way out of the crisis will simply substituting a non-democratic global governance system with a technocratic and elitist crisis management. This risk is very dangerous because the problem at stake is not simply fixing the system but to redefine it. Such a task cannot realistically achieved without the direct a purposefully awareness of the people affected by the crisis. They hold the ingenuity and the subjective capacity the situation need. To mobilize these subjective resources a specific way should be created, that is a democratic participation. Such a way implies a new definition of the role of the State

and of the civil society, new governance systems at all societal levels and in all places. The session aims at analyzing the theoretical approaches and the practical experiences supporting this perspective.

Session 4: Social and solidarity economy

Organizer: Anup Dash, Utkal University, India, dashanup@hotmail.com

Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE), as an approach to the study and structuring of the economy, represents an alternative to both the Market Economy and the Political Economy variants of the mainstream, orthodox neo-classical economics. Both as an idea and as practice, it has been evolving through a search for answers to the problems created by the hegemonic structure of the market economy. As a result, SSE today presents an extremely rich and complex reality, and refers to an umbrella for a confederation of diverse concepts (e.g., solidarity finance, socially responsible investment, social enterprise, alternative money, peoples' economy, fair trade, microfinance etc.) and a wide range of innovative experiments (cooperatives, self-help groups, local savings groups, time banks, LETS etc.) sprouting up at the margins of the economy that subordinates profits to human ends, reclaims the market for social ends and democratizes the economy. At the heart of these diverse forms of expression is an attempt to create an alternative communitarian response to the growing gaps in meeting citizens' needs created especially by the recent developments in the market economy (globalization of the market) and in the political economy (decline of the welfare State). Thus the contemporary rise and growth of SSE around the world is explained in terms of the "state failure" and the "market failure" theories. As an alternative philosophical system, it challenges the science and craft of neo-classical economics built around the "Rational Choice" paradigm based on the instrumental rationality and the ontological construct of the homo economicus and offers a contrastive explanation of the "human agency" – situated and embedded, multi-dimensional, by the cooperative logic and motivated by an ethical purpose.

This session will focus on the theoretical and empirical analyses of the development of the SSE in a comparative perspective and examine the problems and possibilities of the SSE in making another world possible through building an inclusive, participative, self-managed, democratic, ethical, and sustainable peoples' economy rooted in the values of communitarianism, cohesion, and cooperation.

Session 5: Construction of the common core of participation, organizational democracy and self-management research instrument

Organizer: Vera Vratusa-Zunjic, University of Belgrade, Serbia, vvratusa@sezampro.rs

This session seeks to overcome the present lack of comparable longitudinal data on participation, organizational democracy and self-management by exploring the possibilities of construction of the common core of the relevant research instrument. The papers will critically analyze available research instruments and recommend the content of proposed common core items. Papers are encouraged to address the problems of theoretical, methodological and practical political assumptions involved in item formulations, including but not limited to the issues of operationalization, language barriers, validity, reliability.

Session 6: Organizations on the move: Participation, work culture and quality of work life

Organizer: Siddhamesh L. Hiremath, Gulbarga University, India,

slhiremath@rediffmail.com

The rise of giant corporate structures having transnational operations is assumed to have had significant implications for the nature, extent and levels of participation of members in the process of decision making, setting and realization of goals in work organizations. Further the adoption of ICT in the management and administration of work structures is viewed as having impacted the nature of interaction at work place leading to greater individuation and individualistic as well as more informal work structures. Even the nature of supervision and regulation appear to have become less formal compared to the bureaucratic work structures of yesteryears during the days of dominant technology. Thus, the constraints on participation at macro level appear to have been compensated with greater informality and lesser bureaucracy at micro level on the shop floor. Thus, the contemporary work culture appears to be characterized by less of participation at corporate levels, greater individual autonomy and informality at work place. The prototype blue-collar work culture characterized by strict bureaucratic supervision, participation in and control over corporate decisions through unionism, low levels of autonomy and informality, appears to be on the wane. Reduced levels of corporate participation and greater depth and scope for social participation appear to be interfaced in the contemporary work place culture. The implications of such a work milieu for productivity, performance on the one hand and employee satisfaction and morale on the other could be the issues of sociological relevance and significance to be empirically focused upon and analyzed.

Hence, this session invites papers that theoretically and empirically focus upon and analyze the issues outlined above.

Session 7: Democracy and sustainability. Balancing individualism and collectivism: Interactive design for democracy and sustainable futures.

Joint session of RC10 Participation, Organizational Democracy and Self-Management [host committee], RC36 Alienation Theory and Research, and RC51 Sociocybernetics

Organizers: Janet McIntyre-Mills, Flinders University, Australia, janet.mcintyre@flinders.edu.au, Lauren Langman, Loyola University, USA, llang944@aol.com, and Bernard Scott, Cranfield University, United Kingdom, b.c.e.scott@cranfield.ac.uk

Internationally we face the social, economic and environmental challenge to reduce the size of our carbon footprint. Liberal democracies are increasingly criticized for not: a) Representing the interests of diverse citizens (Scott 1998, Pape 2005, Devji 2005), b) Engaging stakeholders in dialogue (Dryzek 1999, 2000, Borradori, 2004). c) Building a shared sense of identity, whilst enabling individual diversity, capability and freedom to the extent that the diversity, capability and freedom of others is not undermined (Sen 2000; Nussbaum 2006; McIntyre-Mills et al 2006, 2007). d) Addressing complex concerns that span national boundaries which impacts on accountability and socio-environmental risks (Beck 1992, 1998, Borradori 2003, Grugel 1999, Pape 2005, Pierre 2000, Singer 2002, Flannery, 2005). Globalists argue for governance and participatory democracy to span boundaries so as to address human rights and conserve the environment for the future; whereas neo-liberals caution that global checks and balances are needed (see Kjaer 2004, Pierre and Peters 2000). Florini (2003: 83) sums up the challenge for democracy of ensuring accountability and representation across government and non-government organizations and enabling greater linkages at the local, national and international level as follows:

“...when decision making reaches the rarefied level of intergovernmental organizations or even informal multilateral rule making, the threads of democratic accountability can be stretched very thin ... Accountability to the general public is at best indirect, and often... it does not exist at all ...[The] mechanisms we have put in place to deal with large scale collective action problems seem so thoroughly inadequate when matched up against the scale of the problems...”

This session will explore the extent to which we can enable participation to enhance democracy and governance through enhancing participation using e-democracy and e-governance.

Session 8: Aging well and its societal determinants in international perspective

Joint session of RC10 Participation, Organizational Democracy and Self-Management [host committee] and RC11 Sociology of Ageing

Organizers: Julia Rozanova, RC10, Brown University, USA, Julia_Rozanova@brown.edu and Andreas Hoff, Oxford Institute of Aging, UK, andreas.hoff@ageing.ox.ac.uk

Increasing alarm that the graying of the population may raise societal costs of eldercare has drawn attention on factors that keep older persons independent, productive, and healthy in later life, and led to emergence of the aging-well perspective. As numerous studies found positive associations between social participation and various aspects of older adults' physical and mental health, there is an assumption that keeping busy and socially engaged is an easy and inexpensive way to age well, and whether one achieves wellness in later life is up to the individual. This session aims to deconstruct this assumption by considering diverse individual and societal determinants of a person's ability or inability to age in a healthy state. It invites papers that explore factors that may expand or constrain opportunities for aging well for men and women who may differ by race, ethnicity, class, health and disability status, and other characteristics, and who live in different social, cultural, and economic contexts. It also welcomes papers that adopt interdisciplinary approaches or make cross-cultural comparisons.

Session 9: Society on the move(ments)

Joint session of RC10 Participation, Organizational Democracy and Self-Management, RC36 Alienation Theory and Research [host committee] and RC48 Social Movements, Collective Action and Social Change

Organizer: Lauren Langman, Loyola University, USA, llang944@aol.com

Whatever else can be said of the current world, it is one of rapid social transformation. Globalization has transformed time and space such that there are increased ways in which the social movements that are the harbingers of change facilitate those changes. From the economic reversals of 2008 to the waning of US hegemony, there have been a variety of social mobilizations that would change the direction of the society. Some are progressive such as the World Social Forum (not itself a movement but a site for movements) in which its adherents claim a better world is possible. Some are reactionary such as various Messianic cults and movements that agree, a better world is possible—in the next life. This session will attempt to examine some of the social movements of our age that may well lead to a more democratic, progressive world—or perhaps a more dangerous, deadly world.

Session 10. Business Meeting

Session 11: Latin-American participative democracy

Organizers: Jaime Preciado Coronado, Universidad de Guadalajara, Mexico, japreco@hotmail.com, and Isabel da Costa, École normale supérieure de Cachan, France, idadcosta@idhe.ens-cachan.fr

At the beginning of the 21st Century, the map of the Latin-American region appears related to participative democracy with predominant experiences. Twelve of seventeen countries in the region have a national left government, even if they show an open spectrum of political tendencies. Although the democratization processes are analyzed principally at the state-nation level, there are also other local and supranational ways to make participative democracy work. In these case, the social movements appear as protagonists of social and democratic change, and in the meanwhile, the institutional processes are embedded in a polemic between the social left pressures, pushed by the social movements to go deep into the program of justice and equity, and the left government who tries to make compatible the goals of the participative democracy demanded by the movements and the pragmatism imposed by the market.

Session 12: Work futures: Cases and conditions for humane and productive work organizations beyond boredom and burnout

Organizer: Ake Sandberg, Stockholm University, Sweden, ake.sandberg@sociology.su.se

This session invites papers that collect and analyze cases of really ‘good work’, and elaborate on the preconditions for making ‘good work’ possible. The focus is on presenting available good, challenging examples of workplaces, companies, regions or countries that have been able at certain times, under certain societal and market conditions (including the strength and power relations on the labour market), to create jobs that are good, rewarding for the workers in companies that are productive and competitive. The good jobs do not mean only good work environment, but also challenges and learning and individual and collective control, as well as avoiding self-exploitation in teams and self-governed bodies. And it includes the products, the quality and usefulness. As a matter of fact in modern working life, in many jobs, and for many employees, a good job means being able to be productive for a useful product or service, in relation to customers, markets. And also to contribute to environmental sustainability. And also that conditions in other parts of a production network, the weaker parts, units and countries that one outsources to are good for work and environment there. Such positive examples exist, and they should be brought together and linked to an analysis of preconditions, and a database established. In the continued work these examples, scientifically documented, should be researched and presented and communicated in an open and efficient way: work futuribles - humane and productive. This could be an alternative to a trend in management and globalisation discourse emphasizing that “not much can be done”, “there is a strong tendency to homogenization”, and “there is a bottom race” in countries and regions towards low labour and environmental standards. This alternative is badly needed, and sociological research has an important role and responsibility to present alternatives to the dominating discourses presented by business schools in close cooperation with major consultancy firms and corporations.

Papers that consider alternatives to lean production techniques, as well as papers that

consider instances of not giving up in meeting global demands for adapting to dominating ideas, are particularly welcome.

**Call for papers for the 10th International Conference of ICOSA 28-30 June 2010,
Emek Yezreel College, Israel**

The Varied Paths of Communal Life

The International Communal Studies Association (ICSA) is a multidisciplinary organization providing a common framework for scholarly exchange regarding communal life: communes, intentional communities, collective settlements, kibbutz and cooperatives throughout the world. The 10th international ICOSA conference will coincide with the 100th "birthday" of the first kibbutz community Degania and the 25th birthday of ICOSA – both important dates! It will be held in The Emek Yezreel College that is situated in the Yezreel Valley, in the north of Israel, where you can find many of the first kibbutz communities and other communal life styles. It is also close to historical venues like Degania, Nazareth, Tiberias, Haifa and Acre. The organizers of the conference are the Institute for Research of the Kibbutz and the Cooperative Idea from the University of Haifa, and the Emek Yezreel College.

We are planning, as always, to have both an academic track and a practical community track because the meetings and the exchange of ideas between these two groups benefits both.

What will be in the next conference? A few preliminary suggestions have already been sent to us but a decision will be made by the conference committee when we receive all. Any additional ideas are welcome and will be considered. Some of the suggestions for the conference themes are:

- a. Lessons and contribution from the long lived communities such as the Hutterites, the Kibbutzim, the Bruderhofs, the Egalitarian Communities.
- b. Challenges confronting the communal life in the Globalizing world.
- c. The contribution intentional communities can make to peace and the reduction of violence.
- d. Learning of communal experiences in different continents – Latin America, East Asia, Africa.
- e. Architecture as a representation of the development of intentional communities.
- f. Varieties of Ownership and Rental of Housing in Alternative Communities
- g. Relations Between Members and Nonmembers in Mixed Communities
- h. Differences in Compensation for Work in Communal and Cooperative Organizations.
- i. The Role of Individual Capital Accounts and Profit Sharing in Communal, Cooperative, and/or Employee-Owned Organizations.
- j. Differences among Age-Groups and Generations within Communal and Cooperative Organizations.
- k. Changes in Communal and Cooperative Workplaces Over Time -- Developmental Communalism, Inertia, or Renewal?
- l. Lessons from the varied the intentional communities such as co-housing, eco-villages, integral cooperatives.
- m. Gender differences in participation, innovations and changes of communal life

This call for papers is for:

- a. Session organizers – Please send us suggestions for sessions you are ready to organize.

- b. Abstract submission – Please send us your abstracts (up to 250 words) in an attached file. The abstracts will be carefully reviewed by the academic committee of the conference.

Proposals for organizing sessions and for papers should be sent to

Prof. Michal Palgi, Conference Chair: palgi@yvc.ac.il

Minutes from RC10 Board Meeting, May 23, 2009

4:30 PM – 5:30 PM, Piraeus, Greece

Participants from the Board: Heinz Suenker, Litsa Nicolaou Smokoviti, Francesco Garibaldi, Michal Palgi, Isabel da Costa, Azril Bacal, Georgy Szell, Debi Saini, and Julia Rozanova.

Regrets from the Board: Ake Sandberg, Alain Chouraqui, Rhetta Moran, Siddharamesh L. Hiremath, Walter Frantz, Eun-Jin Lee, Bill Harley, and Vera Vratusa-Zunjic.

Honorary Board Member: George Bakouris, President, Hatzikiriakio Child Care Institution.

Agenda:

Heinz greeted the Board and called for topics to include on the meeting agenda.

Suggested topics were:

- 1) Board members and ISA fees
- 2) Gothenburg World Congress and ESA 2009 conference
- 3) Conference 2011
- 4) Budget
- 5) RC10 website
- 6) Elections of RC10 Board in 2010
- 7) Ibero-American Subcommittee of RC10 board election
- 8) Newsletter
- 9) Miscellaneous

1) Board members and ISA fees

All members of RC10 Board must be paid members in good standing of both the ISA and RC10.

Gyoergy suggested that information is given to the ISA Secretariat regarding the rules of membership fees for RC10 for all RC10 members, including the Board members (such as life-long membership in RC10, who is eligible to pay the reduced fee).

Gyoergy commented that ISA now has the rule that both ISA membership and RC10 membership must be paid to the ISA.

Francesco requested that an email is sent to everyone in RC10 Board about the status of payment of their ISA and RC10 membership fees.

- **Julia will send an email to RC10 Board members with the information regarding the status of their ISA and RC10 membership fee payments.**

Michal proposed that during the RC10 Board elections, candidates nominated for Board membership must present confirmation that they are paid members of both RC10 and ISA in good standing (i.e. they have paid up their membership fees for the current year during which the election is taking place) to be eligible to be elected. Otherwise the results of the election of these candidates will not be considered valid.

Azril pointed out that the same rule will apply for the election of the Board members of Ibero-American Subcommittee of RC10 (i.e. all candidates listed on the voting ballot must be paid members of both RC10 and ISA in good standing). Azril suggested that a message is sent to candidates nominated for election to the IAS-RC10 Board informing them about this regulation.

- **When the preparation for the IAS-RC10 election is underway, Julia will send an email to proposed candidates informing them that they must have paid both their RC10 and ISA membership fee in order to be eligible to be elected.**

2) Gothenburg World Congress and ESA 2009 conference

As the Co-ordinator of RC10 Program at the Gothenburg ISA World Congress (July 11-17, 2010), Julia reported that RC10 members have been very enthusiastic in proposing sessions. The Call for Papers for the RC10 stream at the Gothenburg World Congress includes seven regular sessions, including one session proposed by the Ibero-American stream, three joint sessions co-organized with other research committees, and a business meeting. The complete list of sessions and instructions for submission of abstracts is provided at <http://www.isa-sociology.org/congress2010/rc/rc10.htm>

Gyoergy suggested that a 1-day seminar or sightseeing activity for RC10 members is organized in Gothenburg either immediately before or immediately after the World Congress. Gyoergy suggested that perhaps Ake Sandberg could organize this pre- or post-congress meeting for RC10 members to come together.

Francesco suggested that this could be a site visit/meeting on the topic of trade-unions in Sweden and in Europe.

Azril volunteered to work with Ake in organizing a site visit/meeting on trade unions and other civil society groups and social movements in Sweden.

Gyoergy suggested that Ake would take the lead on organizing a pre- or a post-congress one day activity for RC10 members, with contributions and assistance from Azril Bacal and Volker Telljohann. If needed, extra fees may be charged to participants wishing to register for this one-day activity.

- **Julia to contact Ake to inform him about the request of the RC10 Board that he takes the lead in organizing a one-day pre- or post-conference activity for RC10 members. Julia to ask Ake to contact and to invite input from Azril and Volker.**

Francesco and Isabel reported that a joint session of RC10 in collaboration with Frantz Traxler from the University of Vienna and Research Network Industrial Relations, Labour Market Institutions and Employment has been organized at the European Sociological Association Annual Conference that will take place on September 2-5, 2009 in Lisbon. The session is entitled “Worker Participation in Europe and Europeanization of Worker Participation” and will be chaired by Alan Stoleroff.

- **Julia to include the information about this joint session into the RC10 Newsletter.**

3) Conference 2011

Heinz suggested that a conference of RC10 is organized in 2011 in Paris and that Isabel takes the lead in organizing it.

Isabel confirmed her willingness to be the organizer of this conference, but pointed out that the principal issue is the funding necessary to organize and host a conference.

Gyoergy suggested that it would be necessary to apply for a EU grant early in 2010, not as RC10, but in a creative way that complies with the EU requirements and rules regarding eligibility to apply for grants. Gyoergy suggested that Alain Chouraqui is also part of the grant application team.

The possible date for the conference could be October 2011.

Some suggestions were provided regarding the topic of the conference, to include issues of representative democracy, democratic representation, labour law, worker representativity, and also the problem of organizational democracy in the context of precarious work, and in the 3rd world countries.

- **Isabel, Gyoergy and Alain to develop the way to apply for EU funding and any other funding, and to work on developing the topic for the conference.**
- **Gyoergy and Volker Telljohann to give support regarding information on the developing of the topic of the conference, possibly to involve the European Trade Union Institute.**
- **Azril to send some information to Francesco on labour network.**

4) Budget

Litsa reported that she will write to the ISA Secretariat to obtain information and to get the money for RC10 membership fees that has been paid directly to the ISA transferred to RC10 account.

Michal pointed out that procedures regarding travel grants need to be developed.

Gyoergy suggested that the budget subcommittee of RC10 (Litsa, Michal, and Francesco) develops rules and criteria regarding travel grant decisions, and writes a half-a page proposal that is circulated to the Board for consideration.

- **Litsa, Michal and Francesco to draft a short proposal (half a page long or thereabouts) that outlines the rules and regulations governing travel grant applications (e.g. who is eligible, deadline for applications), and the criteria for making decisions regarding travel grant applications, and to send this proposal to Julia.**
- **Julia to circulate the proposal to the Board for their consideration and approval.**
- **After the Board decides on the proposal regarding travel grant applications rules, Julia to include these rules into the Newsletter.**
- **If these become available, Julia to include into the Newsletter the information about opportunity of ISA travel grants for the Gothenburg World Congress (so far no information about ISA travel grants is on the ISA website)**

Gyoergy suggested that 60% of next year's RC10 budget (i.e. of the monies that Litsa will collect) may be allocated to travel grants.

Isabel suggested that when RC10 members pay their RC10 membership dues to the ISA Secretariat, they need to inform Litsa about their payment.

5) RC10 website

It is important to update RC10 website. Michal originally developed it, and put together a structure for it. This has been an in-kind contribution from Michal (many kind thanks to her for this work). Now there is a great need to keep RC10 website regularly updated, and a person who would be able and willing to do it is sought.

- **For the next elections of RC10 Board, it is desirable to have a nomination from a candidate who could be the webmaster and whose task would be to regularly update RC10 website.**

6) Elections of RC10 Board in 2010

Heinz reminded that all candidates nominated for RC10 Board must be members in good standing of both RC10 and the ISA (i.e. who have paid the fees for both RC10 and ISA).

Some brainstorming and discussion occurred regarding whether any members of the current Board may be willing to be nominated to continue their service to RC10 in the next Board, and how to extend the range of nominations.

Heinz and Gyoergy pointed out that the next Board is completely autonomous to decide about the positions of the officers.

- **Julia to include the call for nominations and self-nominations of candidates for RC10 Board elections into the Newsletter, and to highlight that these candidates must be members of both RC10 and ISA in good standing.**

7) Ibero-American Subcommittee of RC10 board election

As decided at the RC10 Board meeting in Barcelona in September 2008, Isabel da Costa, Jaime Preciado, Azril Bacal, Patricia Arenas, and Richard Harris are the organizational committee that need to prepare the rules for election of the Board of Ibero-American Subcommittee of RC10.

- **The same rules that apply to RC10 Board elections will apply to elections of the Board of Ibero-American Subcommittee of RC10. This means that candidates nominated for the Board of IAS-RC10 must be members in good standing of both RC10 and of ISA.**
- **All members who can vote in election of the Board of Ibero-American Subcommittee of RC10 are: members in good standing of both RC10 and ISA who come from Spanish or Portuguese speaking country.**
- **Membership fee for IAS-RC10 is 10\$.**
- **Four positions are to be filled for the Board of IAS-RC10: President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary. The President of IAS-RC10 Board is usually a co-opted member of RC10 Board.**
- **Julia to include the call for nominations for candidates for the IAS-RC10 Board into the Newsletter, highlighting that these candidates must be members of both RC10 and ISA in good standing.**

8) Newsletter

Julia reported that the next issue of RC10 Newsletter will be released as soon as possible.

9) Miscellaneous

- **Michal will resend information about the call for papers to the conference in Israel to Julia for inclusion into the Newsletter.**

On behalf of RC10 Heinz thanked all the Board members for their work.

Meeting adjourned.

Elections of RC10 Board and IAS-RC10 Board in 2010 – call for nominations

RC10 accepts nominations and self-nominations for positions of RC10 Officers who will form RC10 Board for the period 2010-2014. The election will take place during the RC10 Board and Business meeting at the XVII ISA World Congress in Gothenburg.

To be eligible for nomination, a candidate must confirm that s/he is a member in good standing and have paid the membership fees for both the ISA and RC10 up to the year during which the election will take place i.e. 2010.

The following is an excerpt from RC10 Statutes that pertains to RC10 Board election (see also www.yvc.ac.il/rc10):

“The Board of the Committee is formed by the President, the Vice-President, the Secretary, the Treasurer and a maximum of 5 members, all elected by the Committee, and by associate members. The term of office is 4 years. The elected members of the Board may be reelected successively only once, with the exception of the members of the Executive Board who may be reelected for a third term. The associate members are former Presidents of the Committee and the Chairmen of the Research Groups.

At its first meeting the Board nominates the President, the Vice-President, the Secretary, and the Treasurer. The board is entrusted with the direction of all the activities of the Committee, unless regulated by the By-Laws of the Statutes of ISA. The Board nominates the representative and one alternate to the Research Council of the ISA. In case of equal votes within the Board, the president will have the deciding vote.

A report on the funds of the committee must be made every second year and sent to the members. In the year of the election, the Board collects proposals of using funds and makes public the criteria for accepting them.

The candidates for the Board will be suggested by all members of the Committee. Each member may propose up to 10 candidates for the Board. The Board will list the candidates and send the list to the individual members for voting. Each individual member shall vote for maximum 10 candidates. The Board must also make sure that the candidates agree and that they are members in good standing of the International Sociological Association. Elected are the 10 candidates with the highest number of votes. In case for a tie for the 10th seat a draw is made by the nominating committee. Those candidates not elected are alternates. Their place is determined according to the number of votes received. Election must be completed every fourth year. The election of officers will be conducted in a manner maximizing membership voting.

Mailed ballots will be sent to the entire membership by the Executive Secretary at the beginning of the year of the World Congress.

Newly elected officers will be announced through the ISA bulletin, the RC newsletter and at the meetings of the RC.

The executive board of the RC will form or designate a nominating committee for the next slate of officers.

The President, as chief executive of RC 10, will preside at the meetings of the Committee and its Board.

The President will be responsible for seeing that the session of RC 10 at the ISA meetings are organized. The President will initiate and carry out policies in conformity with RC 10's purpose as specified by the Board and the membership.

The Secretary is responsible for communicating RC 10 activities and plans to the members twice a year through the newsletter. These include the time and place, as well as organizers of seminars and workshops and of ISA sessions, sponsored by RC 10.

The secretary shall announce to the membership the time and place of the general meetings. A general meeting of members shall be held in conjunction with the ISA meeting. Announcement of the general meeting will be made to the members at least three months in advance, together with a tentative agenda of business.

The treasurer shall prepare a membership list to be used for election purposes. The Vice-President will assist the President in carrying out the functions listed above. He or she may also be assigned special duties by the president.”

RC10 accepts nominations and self-nominations for Board members of Ibero-American Subcommittee of RC10 (IAS-RC10). Four positions are to be filled for the Board of IAS-RC10: President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary. The President of IAS-RC10 Board is usually a co-opted member of RC10 Board.

To be eligible for nomination to the Board of IAS-RC10, a candidate must come from Spanish or Portuguese speaking country and must confirm that s/he is a member in good standing and have paid the membership fees for both the ISA and IAS-RC10 up to the year during which the election will take place i.e. 2010.

All members who can vote in election of the Board of Ibero-American Subcommittee of RC10 are: members in good standing of both IAS-RC10 and ISA who come from Spanish or Portuguese speaking country.

Nominations for the Board of RC10 and for the Board of IAS-RC10 may be forwarded to Heinz Suenker at suenker@uni-wuppertal.de and Julia Rozanova at Julia_Rozanova@brown.edu

Communication from RC10 members

ANNOUNCEMENT OF RC10 INTERNET FORUM ORGANIZED BY DR. VERA VRATUSA-ZUNJIC

You are invited to explore and contribute to RC10 Internet forum (<http://rc10internetforum.wikispaces.com/>) organized by Dr. Vera Vratusa-Zunjic.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEW RESEARCH PROJECT FROM DR. WALTER FRANTZ

The organization cooperative as a path of resistance to social exclusion. Limits and possibilities

Research Project: abstract

Nowadays, social exclusion comes up through very different ways. Its subject and source are multiple and complex, being related to each other when manifested. The construction of the right instruments and the definition of real ways to fight against social exclusion keep challenging us as the main questions about that, in our present society. Particularly, in peripheral societies (Brazil). The instrument to step in should be built by the people's critical understanding regarding what is proposed. It's an opinion from the understanding that the co-operative organization can be a way to combat social exclusion. Historically, cooperatives came up as a reaction to the threats of social exclusion, aiming to defend and to value working, among the process of production and distribution of wealth. In view of the contemporary difficulties and challenges, the cooperative nature, as a social power, can turn into the center of the population's economy, especially regarding the local development? The cooperative nature can develop into a place of communication about the production and distribution practice, from which new ways of economy, new social and human relations and a new political culture can be built? It's through the cooperative nature that we can increasingly look for the construction of a plural economy: not only based on the capital interests, but also based on the necessities and interests of mankind. However, is it still possible to relate co-operative activities and ways to fight against social exclusion, at the current social-economic scenario?

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION & RENEWAL FORM RC 10

PERIOD 2009 - 2012

International Sociological Association
Research Committee 10: "Participation, Organizational Democracy, and Self-Management"

Family Name: _____ First Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ Country: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

- I am applying herewith to become a *new* member of RC 10
- I wish to *renew* my membership in RC 10

Payment (Please tick only *one* of the two)

- I am paying RC 10 fee directly to RC 10 (below) and ISA fee to the ISA
- I am paying both fees via the ISA

Place and Date:

Signature:

- I am paying €40 for 2009-2012.
- As a member from a non-OECD country, I am paying the reduced fee of €20 for 2009-2012.
- I am paying €120 for lifetime membership.
- I am already a life member, but I am contributing __€20 __€40 to help meet the current expenses of RC 10.
- I am applying to be exempted from paying the fee for 2009-2012 because I am unable to pay as explained in the note attached.

MODE OF PAYMENT TO RC 10

- I am sending a postal order.
 - I am enclosing a check in Euros.
-

Send application form (and cheque) to RC10 treasurer:

Litsa Nicolaou-Smokoviti

43, Marathonodromou Ave., Psychiko, 15452 Athens, GREECE

Email: lnicola@otenet.gr; Tel. +30 210 6713902; Fax: +30 210 6719697
