

SECTION OF SOCIOLOGY OF WORK

Title of group: SOCIOLOGY OF WORK AND THE PERSPECTIVES OF ITS DEVELOPMENT IN THE SOCIETIES OF LATE CAPITALISM

Organizers: The Board of the Section; prof. UW r. dr hab. Adam Mrozowski, President SSP PTS, Institute of Sociology, University of Wrocław; dr hab. Ewa Giermanowska, Institute of Applied Social Sciences, University of Warsaw

Type of group: regular

Contact: Adam Mrozowski adam.mrozowski@uwr.edu.pl

Abstract: The sociology of work in the advanced industrial societies belonged to the leading subdisciplines of sociology. In Poland, in the period of real socialism, accelerated industrialisation and changes in social structure, the problems of working conditions and the development of working class, humanisation of work and workers' participation, and the influence of industrialisation on the society belonged to the core problems of sociological thought. It resulted in the development of the Polish textbooks on the sociology of work, sociology of industry and the workplace sociology. It also contributed to the expansion of sociologists to companies and the development of new profession – plant sociologists. After the system change (1989), the Polish sociology of work found itself in the crisis and its presence in the sociological reflection and academic curricula decreased. A similar crisis of sociology of work, among other things in relation to deindustrialisation, the shift from the sociology of work to management studies and the neoliberal changes of universities can be observed in many Western countries. Parallel to these crisis developments, we also observe increasing interests in the problems of work and employment in contemporary capitalist societies. The research on the meaning of work in the periods of economic and cultural changes connected with globalisation, Europeanisation and the expansion of neoliberal forms of capitalist economy gains in importance. It is particularly important in the context of changes in the definition of work and shifting boundaries between formal and informal, secure and insecure, standard and non-standard employment. The efforts undertaken in the recent years by the Sociology of Work Section of the Polish Sociological Association aimed at reviving this “forgotten” subdiscipline and engage sociological milieu in broad debate on the contemporary problems of work and employment. The topic of this thematic group is an in-depth reflection on the development of the sociology of work in Poland and other countries in the last. The main areas of discussion include: the economic, political and social conditions and the developments in the sociology of work, the main goals and areas of the sociological analysis of work and their anchoring in sociological theories, the self-identity of researchers and the roles of sociologists of work, the institutionalisation of the subdiscipline in academic and research centres, and the ways of disseminating knowledge. In the context of the leading theme of 17th Polish Sociological Congress, we encourage all interested to submit paper proposals addressing the problems of subjectivity, identity and social belonging of both sociologists of work themselves and the workers' milieus they study. To which extent the traditional concepts, areas of interests and methodology of sociological research can be maintained and to which extent do they need to be changed due to the transformations of contemporary employment involving precarisation, digitalisation, dematerialisation and deformatisation of work? What are the perspectives for the development of the sociology of work at the national and global levels in 21st century? We invite paper proposals including the reports from the ongoing empirical research on the core areas of interests of the contemporary sociology of work (with a particular focus on its new research fields and methodologies) and theoretical papers dealing with the history of sociological thought.

Key words: sociology of work, inter- and transdisciplinarity, developments in the sociology of work, the roles of sociologists of work

SECTION OF SOCIOLOGY OF LAW

Title of group: SOCIETY AND THE UNEXPECTED: NEW CHALLENGES IN THE STUDY OF ACTION AND CONSEQUENCES

Organizers: Adriana Mica, Research Unit on Action and Consequences – University of Warsaw;
Iwona Zielińska, Institute of Philosophy and Sociology, The Maria Grzegorzewska University

Type of group: regular

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Abstract: This panel aims to contribute to the recently revigorated sociological field of unintended and unanticipated outcomes of social actions. It builds on the assumption that the interest in the surprising outcomes has undergone a semantic shift wherein the analysis of the unintended became replaced with a focus on the unexpected. This is an analysis that is more counterfactual, possibilistic, speculative and open to explore the opportunities related to the emergence of counterintuitive outcomes than the “unintended” used to be. This speaks more about surprises, serendipity, unrevealed potential of change, possible scenarios and windows of opportunity than about unanticipated and undesirable outcomes, perverse effects, counterintuitive and ironic twists of purposes. The panel sets as its scope to articulate this shift as well as to reveal the manner in which this has anything to do with other paradigmatic changes taking place in sociology and social sciences in general now. The relevance of the theoretical framework notwithstanding, the organizers also wish to explore the manner in which the unexpected emerges and is coped with in society. To this end, they invite and encourage case studies from a broad range of strategic research fields. The unintended, in general, is a topic linked with public policy developments, game theory models, religion and education studies, organization studies paradoxes, risk theory case studies, figurational sociology long-term processes, functionalist theory illustrations etc. The scope of the panel is to continue this tradition, whilst also pointing to new directions of investigations. The organizers hope the panel will contribute to the conceptual and theoretical enrichment of the studies of action, processes and consequences in sociology, and related social scenes. That it will create an apt platform for revisiting well established assumptions and paradigms, and help opening new research sites.

Key words: unintended, unexpected, consequences, action, interaction, processes, mechanisms

INTER-CENTRE GROUPS – ABSTRACTS

Temat grupy łączonej (stream research): DURABILITY AND LIQUIDITY OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION – CIRCULATION, SETTLEMENT, INTEGRATION OF MIGRANTS

Organizers: dr hab. Katarzyna Andrejuk, Institute of Philosophy and Sociology Polish Academy of Sciences; dr Aleksandra Winiarska, Institute of Applied Social Sciences, University of Warsaw (session I); dr Marcin Gońda Institute of Sociology, University of Lodz; dr Magdalena Lesińska, Center of Migration Research, University of Warsaw (session II)

Typ of session: regular (session I: english speaking group; session II: polish speaking group)

Organizers: Katarzyna Andrejuk kandrejuk@ifispan.waw.pl (session I)
Marcin Gońda marcin.gonda@uni.lodz.pl (session II)

Abstract: International migration is an increasingly important research area that has fundamental importance for the understanding of contemporary societal, demographic, political and cultural challenges. The diversity of forms of migration can be researched with regard to reasons of mobility (political, economic, familial), but also with regard to durability: migration can be long-term or short-term, of a circular or settlement character. On the one hand, technological development and free movement of persons within the European Union facilitate frequent migrations; on the other hand, increased international mobility causes new problems, for example the intensification of transit migrations, lack of stability and sense of safety. The topic of the session is international mobility in the context of the dynamics and durability of migration processes. We invite presentations focused on various aspects of both long-term and short-term migration, which examine the phenomenon from a micro- as well as a macro-sociological perspective. We are also interested in issues of formation, duration and transformation of immigrant communities (diasporas), transnational ties, social interactions among short-term and long-term migrants, strategies of adaptation in new environments. The session may include such topics as:

1. emigration of Poles abroad and immigration to Poland in the context of the temporariness or permanence of stay; relations between the motives of migration and its duration;
2. circular migration, multiple migration (mobility encompassing various countries one after another), return migration (first and subsequent generations); individual strategies of mobility and developing migration „projects”;
3. integration of foreigners – cultural, social and political dimensions of integration (e.g. acquisition of citizenship, political participation); challenges of adaptation from the perspective of migrants and host states; the process of „anchoring”;
4. public policies and practical interventions aimed at circular, multiple and return migration of states’ nationals and – on the other hand – integration of foreigners;
5. new migration challenges in Europe (e.g. Brexit and Poles in the UK; refugee migration) and in the world;
6. transnational practices in the context of both durability and temporariness of migration;

7. public, political and media discourses regarding durability of migration (e.g. incentives to return to countries of origin, repatriation, deportation).
8. validity of theoretical concepts regarding long-term and short-term migration (e.g. „incomplete migration”, „liquid migration”) in the light of most recent empirical research; new conceptualisations and theoretical approaches to the migration process.

We invite presentations in English as well as in Polish

Key words: international migration, emigration from Poland, migration to Poland, settlement of foreigners, circulation of migrants

SESSION I

Title of session: DURABILITY AND LIQUIDITY OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION FROM A SOCIOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE – CIRCULATION, SETTLEMENT, INTEGRATION OF MIGRANTS

Organizers: dr hab. Katarzyna Andrejuk, Institute of Philosophy and Sociology Polish Academy of Sciences; dr Aleksandra Winiarska, Institute of Applied Social Sciences, University of Warsaw

Type of group: regular

Osoba kontaktowa/Contact: Katarzyna Andrejuk kandrejuk@ifispan.waw.pl

Abstract: International migration is an increasingly important area of sociological research that has fundamental importance for the understanding of contemporary societal, demographic, political and cultural challenges. The diversity of forms of migration can be researched with regard to reasons of mobility (political, economic, familial), but also with regard to durability: migration can be long-term or short-term, of a circular or settlement character. On the one hand, technological development and free movement of persons within the European Union facilitate frequent migrations; on the other hand, increased international mobility causes new problems, for example the intensification of transit migrations, lack of stability and sense of safety. The topic of the session is international mobility in the context of the dynamics and durability of migration processes. We invite presentations focused on various aspects of both long-term and short-term migration, which examine the phenomenon from a micro- as well as a macro-sociological perspective. We are also interested in issues of transnational ties, social interactions among short-term and long-term migrants, strategies of adaptation in new environments. The session may include such topics as:

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3. integration of foreigners – cultural, social and political dimensions of integration (e.g. acquisition of citizenship, political participation); challenges of adaptation from the perspective of migrants and host states; the process of „anchoring”; public policies and practical interventions aimed at integration;
4. new migration challenges in Europe (e.g. Brexit and Poles in the UK; refugee migration) and in the world;
5. transnational practices in the context of both durability and temporariness of migration;
6. validity of theoretical concepts regarding long-term and short-term migration (e.g. „incomplete migration”, „liquid migration”) in the light of most recent empirical research; new conceptualisations and theoretical approaches to the migration process.

We invite presentations in English as well as in Polish

Key words: international migration, emigration from Poland, migration to Poland, settlement of foreigners, circulation of migrants

SESSION II

Temat sesji II: MIGRACJE POWROTNE DO POLSKI: TOŻSAMOŚĆ – POLITYKA - DYSKURS

Organizatorzy: dr Marcin Gońda Institute of Sociology, University of Lodz; dr Magdalena Lesińska, Center of Migration Research, University of Warsaw

Charakter grupy: regularna

Osoba kontaktowa: Marcin Gońda marcin.gonda@uni.lodz.pl

Abstrakt: Migracje powrotne stanowią istotny, choć rzadziej dyskutowany wymiar mobilności przestrzennej człowieka. W Polsce, kraju tradycyjnie emigracyjnym, większą uwagę przypisywano dotąd przyczynom i konsekwencjom masowego wychodźstwa niż nielicznym powrotom. W sytuacji kryzysu migracyjnego w Europie z 2015 r. (propozycji relokacji uchodźców), jak i nasilającej się w ostatnich latach imigracji do Polski kwestia powrotów migrantów poakcesyjnych i członków polskiej diaspory (zwłaszcza ze Wschodu) stała się jednak przedmiotem debaty publicznej. Również polskie władze zaczęły deklarować większe wsparcie dla sprowadzania Polaków i osób polskiego pochodzenia do kraju. Pojawiające się postulaty ułatwiania powrotów rodaków do kraju rodzą pytania nie tylko o związane z tym koszty czy procedury administracyjne, ale i o ich dalsze losy po przyjeździe do kraju. Członkowie diaspory często doświadczają bowiem ambiwalencji, co do lokalizacji ich rzeczywistego domu i ojczyzny. Wobec upowszechniających się transnarodowych wzorców zamieszkania owe miejsca mogą być postrzegane jednocześnie jako stałe i płynne, rzeczywiste i wyobrażone, określone przestrzennie i zdeterytorializowane. Ta niejednoznaczność jeszcze bardziej wzmacniana jest po powrocie do kraju pochodzenia, z którym łączą ich emocje, rodzinne przekazy, symbole czy język. Powrót często oznacza konieczność skonfrontowania się z całkowicie odmienną rzeczywistością społeczno-kulturową, która nie przystaje do zapamiętanej ojczyzny lub (w przypadku potomków emigrantów) wyobrażonego jej ideału przekazywanego przez kolejne pokolenia emigrantów, członków diaspory i jej instytucje, agendy samego państwa pochodzenia. Problemy te mogą mieć jednak różny przebieg i nasilenie w zależności od przyczyn wcześniejszego wychodźstwa (dobrowolne migracje zarobkowe a przymusowe przesiedlenia), okresu pobytu poza ojczyzną, kraju pobytu itd. W konsekwencji, w ramach grupy tematycznej będzie nas m.in. interesować prześledzenie:

1. procesów negocjowania tożsamości emigrantów z Polski i ich potomków wobec wyzwań, jakim muszą stawić czoła po powrocie do kraju pochodzenia;
2. wyzwań i strategii integracyjnych ze „starym-nowym” społeczeństwem podejmowanych przez migrantów powrotnych;
3. celów i charakteru praktyk transnarodowych emigrantów i ich potomków w kraju powrotu;
4. obszarów i kierunków wsparcia państwa polskiego dla powrotów Polaków z emigracji;
5. dyskursów publicznych, politycznych i medialnych dotyczących migracji powrotnych.
6. Do wygłoszenia referatów w grupie tematycznej zachęcamy przedstawicieli różnych dyscyplin, perspektyw teoretycznych i metodologicznych. Zapraszamy zwłaszcza osoby gotowe podzielić się wynikami badań empirycznych dotyczących ww. kwestii.

Słowa kluczowe: migracje, migracje powrotne, polska diaspora, tożsamość

Title of group: RIGHT-WING POPULISM AND ITS CHALLENGERS. SOCIAL MOVEMENT PERSPECTIVES ON THE RISE OF POPULISM IN CONTEMPORARY POLAND AND BEYOND

Organizers: dr Elżbieta Korolczuk, School of Culture and Education, Södertörn University; prof. Jan Kubik, Professor of Political Science, Rutgers University, New Brunswick and Professor of Slavonic and East European Studies, University College London

Type of group: regular

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Abstract: The rise of right-wing populism in contemporary world and the effects of this phenomenon have become recurrent themes in public and professional debates. While there are many definitions of what constitutes a populist party or a social movement, most scholars agree that populism is characterized by an affirmation of “the people”, vilification of national and global elites, and the use of affective politics: employing anger, pride and shame in media communication and collective identity building. Political power of populist leaders and parties rests in their ability to mobilize large parts of the population and to shape public discourse by skillfully employing emotions and offering simple solutions to complex societal problems. While there is a lack of agreement as to whether populism is just a part of democratic system or the development highly dangerous for the stability of democracy, it is clear that the current rise of right-wing populism has detrimental effects, which include deepening social polarization, decay of democratic institutions, and brutalization of public debate. Agably, there are also some positive effects, such as including marginalized sections of society, bringing back the conflicting dimension of democracy and mass mobilization of those who oppose right-wing populist forces. This panel aims to discuss the rise of right-wing populism and mobilization of its challengers in contemporary Poland and beyond, from a perspective of the social movement theory. We invite analyses that are based on up-to-date empirical studies and offer new theoretical perspectives on social movements and social activism in contemporary Poland and beyond. We are interested in the rise of both right-wing populism and its challengers on the left and in the political center. The questions we aim to discuss include: How can we explain the emergence and dynamics of populism in specific socio-political context of contemporary Poland and other countries? Who are the actors involved both in right-wing populist movements and those involved in counter-movements? What are their goals and strategies? What are the organizational forms and framing strategies these actors employ? What are the political, social and cultural effects of these mobilizations?

Key words: right-wing/left-wing populism, social movements, crisis of democracy, elites, affective politics

Title of group: THE PERSISTENCE OF OLD AND THE EMERGENCE OF NEW SOCIAL INEQUALITIES IN THE TIMES OF ACCELERATED SOCIAL CHANGE. A SESSION *IN MEMORIAM* JAAP DRONKERS

Organizers: dr Tomasz Drabowicz, Faculty of Economics and Sociology of the University of Lodz; dr hab. Rafał Smoczyński, Institute of Philosophy and Sociology Polish Academy of Sciences

Type of group: regular

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Abstract Jaap Dronkers (1945-2016) was a Dutch sociologist and an international scholar affiliated with universities and research centers in the Netherlands, Italy, Japan, UK, and US. He was honorary doctor at the University of Turku (Finland), a member of the Royal Holland Society of Sciences, and honorary member of the Dutch Sociological Association. He was an active member of the International Sociological Association Research Committee 28 on Social Stratification and Mobility. A great friend of Poland, he helped, supervised, and collaborated with Polish sociologists. Although he himself was a quantitative sociologist, he was a methodological pluralist *par excellence* convinced about the importance of rigorous, empirical qualitative research and the need for combining quantitative and qualitative approaches in the pursuit of sound knowledge about society. In his research, he focused his attention on educational inequalities and their links with broader social inequalities. His research, however, was not limited to one area of studies only. Dronkers moved between diverse topics, publishing on the causes and consequences of unequal educational and occupational attainment, changes in educational opportunities, effect-differences between public and religious schools, the educational and occupational achievement of migrants from different origins and in various countries of destination, the linkages between school and the labor market, the effects of parental divorce on children, cross-national differences in causes of divorce, education of Dutch elites, and European nobility. He was also a public intellectual who wrote opinion pieces and participated in public debates on topics related to his research. The aim of this session is to celebrate Jaap Dronkers's memory by creating the space where researchers could advance sociological state-of-the-art by discussing their empirical work on the subjects which were (close to) his research interests. Biographical contributions discussing Jaap Dronkers's role as scholar, or more precisely as researcher, teacher, and public intellectual are also welcome.

Key words: Jaap Dronkers, comparative research, quantitative methods, empirical sociology, public intellectual

Title of group: SOCIOLOGY OF MASCULINITIES: THEORETICAL AND METHODOLOGICAL IMPLICATIONS

Organizers: dr Katarzyna Wojnicka, University of Gothenburg/German Center of Integration and Migration Research; dr Julia Kubisa, University of Warsaw

Type of group: regular

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Abstract: In 2018 it has been exactly 30 years since the publication of Pierre Bourdieu's *La Domination Masculine*, one of the most significant theoretical contributions to analysis of the social phenomenon of masculinity. Bourdieu introduced the concept of *male habitus* and became one of the European pioneers of critical men and masculinities studies. Furthermore, another pivotal publication, dealing with the same issue is also more than thirty years old, namely *Masculinities* by Raewyn Connell, within which she develops *hegemonic masculinity* theory. A countless number of empirical investigations in the field of sociology of masculinities have been conducted worldwide in the last three decades worldwide and in the last two decades, in Poland and other Central Eastern European countries. Finally, in recent years one has witnessed a large number of scholarly works focused on the theoretical dimension of critical men and masculinities, with significant representation of sociological standpoints, where theories dealing with men and masculinities phenomena are collected, (critically) analyzed, elaborated or/and developed. It is therefore timely to channel more in-depth meta-discussion on the theoretical implication of sociological analyses of masculinities phenomena. This is especially important in the context of Central and Eastern European academia, which is relatively rich in research. This has been proved by, for example, the results of the last men and masculinity oriented group discussion that took place during the Polish Sociological Association congress in Gdansk. In the same time, Central Eastern European academia seems to lack consistent theoretical contribution to the field. Hence, we invite all scholars to join our group, whose main aim is to develop further discussion on the sociological theories of masculinities. When theories are discussed however, new forms and challenges of methodologies linked to men and masculinities studies should be also taken under consideration. Thus we also invite papers on methodological dimensions of sociological analysis of men and masculinities phenomena, such as power relations, positioning of researchers and participants; gender relations, postcolonial approaches, feminist/ "masculist" methodology etc.

Key words: masculinities, gender, identity, theory, methodology

Title of group: SOCIOLOGY AND THE HOLOCAUST

Organizers: dr Dariusz Brzeziński Institute of Philosophy and Sociology Polish Academy of Sciences; dr Jacek Palmer, University of Leeds

Type of group: regular

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Abstract: August 2019 will mark the 30th anniversary of Zygmunt Bauman's monumental book *Modernity and the Holocaust*. The Holocaust, the late sociologist famously argued, was not the polar opposite of modernity or a pathological deviation from modernisation processes. Rather, it was a possibility of modernity, 'born and executed in our modern rational society, at the high stage of our civilization and at the peak of human cultural achievement'. The panel will evaluate the continuing importance of *Modernity and the Holocaust* in the context of the present 'crisis of humanity'. Its primary aim, however, is to tackle the key challenge that Bauman posed specifically to sociologists and the discipline of sociology. 'The Holocaust', Bauman stated, 'has more to say about the state of sociology than sociology in its present shape is able to add to our knowledge of the Holocaust'. Much has changed in the years since these words were uttered, but on the occasion of its 30th anniversary, the panel will consider this statement via a confrontation with the following pressing questions:

1. Have sociologists adequately responded to Bauman's challenge?
2. What can sociology contribute to our understanding of the Holocaust and other genocides?
3. Do the 'modernist' foundations of sociology prevent us from reckoning with mass violence?
4. What are the new interpretations of the Holocaust within sociology?
5. Do the ethical lessons taken by Bauman from the analysis of the Holocaust remain valid this days?
6. How can revisiting *Modernity and the Holocaust* contribute to understanding new and emerging threats to humanity in the 21st century?

Key words: sociology; the Holocaust; 'crisis of humanity'; genocide; violence.

Title of group: EDUCATION THROUGH DEMOCRACY - ITS ROLE AND SIGNIFICANCE IN THE CONTEXT OF CHANGES IN CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY

Organizers: Anna Babicka-Wirkus, Pomeranian University in Słupsk; Antoni Tort Bardolet, University of Vic

Type of group: regular

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Abstract: Modern society undergoes numerous transformations on various levels of its functioning. One of those changes is the resurgence of nationalistic and populist tendencies that threaten the survival of democratic societies. We argue that one of the key means of dealing with this issue is focusing on education through democracy. Under the section, we would like to examine the role of school in this context; on the one hand, it is an institution where education takes place, but on the other hand, it is a substitute of society, according to John Dewey. The issues of society are concentrated and condensed in school, as in a lens. It is a place where changes through engaged education focused on respecting the equality of its subjects are possible. Realistic democratization of school life, resulting from education focused on making the ideal of equality and participation a reality, entails consequences for civic life as well. Therefore, it is a relevant issue that needs interdisciplinary reflection, especially from the sociological, pedagogical and cultural point of view.

We would like to invite practitioners and researchers dealing with the issue of school and its place in society to the international section. As part of all deliberations, our reflection will concentrate on answering the following questions: What objectives should guide modern education?, To what extent are we dealing with education through democracy in school environment and to what extent is it education about democracy and its fundamental ideas?, How is the democratization process of modern school carried out?, What role do individual actors of school life (i.e. students, teachers, parents, and non-pedagogical personnel) play in it?, How important is the process of democratization of school reality for fostering citizenship and undertaking actions resulting from civil disobedience? The program includes an interdisciplinary discussion of the above issues with participation of representatives of Polish and foreign scientific institutions.

We invite presentations in English as well as in Polish

Key words: education through democracy, school, citizenship, civil disobedience

Title of group: CROSS-BORDER REGIONS. IN SEARCH FOR SOCIAL COHESION

Organizers: Joanna Frątczak-Müller, University of Zielona Góra; Anna Mielczarek-Żejmo, University of Zielona Góra; Olga Zvyeryeva, V.N. Karazin Kharkiv National University, Ukraine

Type of group: regular

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Abstract: Contemporary challenges contribute to the growing importance of regions in meeting citizens' needs and solving local problems. Living conditions in the borderlands take a special form resulting from being influenced by diverse cultural and political systems and the intensity of intercultural contacts. They also require special ways to manage them (efficiency of the public sphere), launch (potentials) and dealing with them (barriers). This is where the special importance of border regions comes from. In the sense adopted here, regions are construed both as territories determined by familiarity and regional identity and as a constructs formulated by elite. Cross-border regions can be seen as contact zones, or socio-cultural space where cultures meet, clash and grapple with each other, often in contexts of highly asymmetrical relations of power. But in this process they are able to make changes in the cultural sphere by removing social barriers and initiating cross-border contacts with representatives from all of their part. In result trust between neighbors increases and their common interests are implemented. The aim of the session is the search for conditions that contribute to the development of social cohesion in borderlands that requires a certain level of functional equality, enabling communication and collaboration and restraining alienation within decision-making processes. Regional communities (having a balanced living standard) may be more oriented to increase their well-being, with behavior based on trust, good communication and organization skills and social sensitivity. Cross-border regions can be seen as a challenge for reformulate the operation of national structures to ensure representation and political coordination. They overcome the horizontal divisions and conflicts between regional political or administrative bodies or within them for involving partners from all sectors on both sides of the border. Their significance is manifested in decrease the distance and mistrust in the vertical relationships between the two levels of governance: national and supranational. The thematic group welcomes papers focusing on, but not limited to, the following aspects:

1. Relationships between individual (inhabitants, leaders) and collective (institutions and organizations) actors of cross-border regions
2. The scope of cross-border cooperation
3. Factors and barriers of cross-border cooperation
4. Mechanisms of making public decisions regarding the needs and problems of communities living in the borderlands
5. Effects and effectiveness of managing the public sphere in the cross-border regions.

We encourage interested scientists to submit theoretical, methodological and empirical contributions.

Key words: cross-border regions, socio-cultural space, cross-border cooperation, social cohesion

Title of group: SERVICE DESIGN AND AGING SOCIETY: ACTIVATION, CO-PRODUCTION AND SOCIAL INCLUSION OF SENIORS

Organizers: dr Grzegorz Gawron, Institute of Sociology, University of Silesia; dr Paulina Rojek-Institute of Philosophy and Sociology, Pedagogical University of Cracow; dr Thomas Watkin, Université de Nîmes

Type of group: regular

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Abstract: Contemporary demographic changes identified mainly with the global aging of societies are frequently one of the most discussed issues in political, cultural and scientific discourse at every organizational level - from local to international. Currently, researchers reject catastrophic visions of the future, replacing them with postulates about the developmental potential of aging generations and the possibilities of its pragmatic use. Emphasizing the multidimensional activity of seniors becomes dominant in the current discourse, creating a broad vision of the role and participation of aging members of society in shaping social reality. As a consequence, the treatment of older people as active, self-sufficient, developing, and fulfilling members of society started to become of gradual importance. It is also reflected in the development and popularity of the concept of *active, successful and positive aging*. They refer to the direct use of the potential of seniors by stimulating their *productivity* and encouraging *co-production* activities. Thus, older people are treated not only as consumers or beneficiaries of certain goods and services, but also as dispatchers and creators of valuable contribution to society. A good example is the field of service design, which is including solutions that support the quality of life and applies to the functionality of users. Its aim is to ensure that a solution will be useful and desirable to the client. This practice emphasizes that the most important in service design is participation and involvement of participants and stakeholders because they have valuable knowledge and opinions, have insights and ideas that are equally valuable for each participant who can contribute to decision making. The methodological approach, therefore, implies commitment and cooperation, which also gives a sense of social integration. The latest trends show that it is a very useful approach in activating community, especially the elderly. Therefore, inspired by the approach used in the service design and the general value of this form of design, we want to show how it is possible to act for social inclusion, activating and provoking co-operation and co-production among seniors.

Key words: aging, senior co-production, public services, design, service design

Title of group: MEMORY AND LABOR: REVISITING POST-SOCIALIST TRANSFORMATION

Organizers: dr Joanna Wawrzyniak, Institute of Sociology University of Warsaw; dr Veronica Pehe, Institute for Contemporary History, Czech Academy of Sciences

Type of group: regularna/regular; grupa otwarta na referaty polsko- i anglojęzyczne

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Abstract: The turbulent period of transformation in Central and Eastern Europe after 1989/1991 has garnered much attention from sociologists as well as scholars of related disciplines. This scholarship was later challenged for implying a prescriptive linear development toward a free market and liberal democracy. More recently, historians have also begun to turn to the 1990s as a time that is decidedly in the past, even if many social and political processes of this decade still affect our present. Yet even with this critical distance, it has been less explored how the economic changes and their profound effects on labor, its organization and everyday practices, have been remembered. It is this particular question that this panel wishes to address, exploring both the myths and metanarratives that have underlined the transformation public discourse, as well as the memory of transformation processes embodied by specific occupational groups. In particular, the panel organizers invite presentations on labor and memory in Poland and in other countries of Central and Eastern Europe. Presentations covering one or more of the following questions and topics are especially welcome: What were the transformation's founding myths and memory politics in relation to labor? What kinds of vernacular memories of socialism and transformation have been articulated by different social and occupational groups taking part in economic transformations (e.g. trade unions members, workers, managers, farmers, private entrepreneurs, unemployed, self-employed, migrant workers)? How have these vernacular memories interacted with both the transformation founding myths and the increasingly critical public perception of the transformation years?

We invite presentations in English as well as in Polish

Key words: vernacular memory; transformation; labor; Central and Eastern Europe