



Call for Papers

RC 19: Research Committee on Poverty, Social Welfare and Social Policy International Sociological Association

SOCIAL EXCLUSION AND THE CHALLENGES OF INCLUSION: SOCIAL POLICIES ADDRESSING INTERSECTING INEQUALITIES

Annual RC19 Conference at the Central European University, Budapest (Hungary) August 22-24, 2013

The RC 19 annual conference brings together international scholars in the field of comparative welfare state and social policy studies, and encompasses a range of disciplines, including sociology, social policy, political science, and policy studies. RC 19 conference sessions are organized to reflect on the specific conference theme and also to discuss the ongoing research projects of RC 19 members.

The Conference Theme

There is growing academic attention and policy interest dedicated to the twin notions of *social exclusion* and *inclusion* and the place of these concepts in broader social policy thinking. The debates around these terms reach out and connect two distinctive academic circles: one that organizes itself around issues of welfare and social policy, and the other which centers on anti-discrimination and human rights agendas. The two communities are connected by a number of intellectual channels and actions in academic and policy thinking. One of the most inspiring of these intersecting grounds of thinking is promoted by the concept of *recognition and redistribution struggles*. Another distinctive bridging avenue is paved by theories of *intersecting inequalities* (most often understood by class, gender, and race/ethnicity but not exclusively) claiming voice in very different disciplines. The conference encourages papers which investigate the main social categories/mechanisms by which inequalities are constituted, legitimized, questioned, and tackled in diverse societies.

Comparative inquiries are invited to cast critical attention to the ways in which social debates and policies name *social groups/grounds* as the most significant subjects or forces of exclusion by explaining hierarchies, sequences, or webs of these forces. It is also encouraged to examine how these debates are embedded in different models of capitalism, state and citizenship regimes, and civil society or political cultures. Inquiries are also solicited that examine the potentials and risks of social policy frames and mechanisms that address the multiple and/or intersecting inequalities and powerlessness. Organizers welcome papers that draw attention to the differences and commonalities of post-cold-war social policy models across continents and polities, with diverging inclinations to embrace critical thinking on multiple and intersecting inequalities, powerlessness, and discrimination.

Beyond this general theme, as in previous RC19 annual conferences, RC 19 members are also encouraged to submit paper proposals presenting their ongoing social policy research.



Abstract Submission

Scholars are invited to submit the abstract of an unpublished paper indicating the leading research question, theoretical approach, research methods, data sources, and analytical significance. Abstracts should be of maximum 500 words. The deadline for submissions is *January 31, 2013*. Preference will be given to paper proposals which make a strong comparative and/or theoretical contribution to the field. The conference format (see below) allows for in-depth discussion of a limited number of papers (45-50 altogether). Authors of accepted papers may be asked to act as discussants. Conference registration and attendance is open to *members of RC19*.

Membership in RC 19 is open to social scientists from all disciplines upon payment of a modest membership fee. If you are not already a member, please contact the RC19 Secretary, *Daniel Beland* (daniel.beland@usask.ca; www.danielbeland.org).

Advanced doctoral students and junior researchers are also encouraged to attend the conference and may choose to submit their abstract to either mentoring sessions (see below under *Conference format*) or regular sessions. At the time of abstract submission, it should be clearly marked whether the material is being submitted to the regular or the mentoring sessions.

Please submit your abstract through the online abstract submission system accessible through the conference website: www.rc19budapest2013.com. You will automatically receive confirmation of your submission and a generated PDF document of what you submitted. If you do not receive such a confirmation please contact rc19@asszisztencia.hu.

Abstracts are evaluated by the Program Committee, and notification of acceptance or rejection will be sent to the authors by *March 15, 2013*. Completed papers must be submitted by *July 15, 2013* to be included in the final conference program.

A small number for travel grants are available to post-graduate students and scholars living in developing countries. Applications for travel grants should be submitted at the same time as paper abstract in a separate email to rc19_budapest_2013@ceu.hu by *January 31, 2013*. Applicants with accepted abstracts will be notified on the availability of travel subsidies by March 15, 2013.

Key dates

Submission of abstracts: January 31, 2013

Acceptance of abstracts: March 15, 2013

Submission of full papers: July 15, 2013

More information

Conference website: www.rc19budapest2013.com

Contact: rc19_budapest_2013@ceu.hu



Conference Format

The conference will be organized according to *Korpi's rules* to foster lively discussions and scholarly exchanges. The rules are named for Walter Korpi, past president of RC19, who instituted a workshop-style meeting format that the membership has found very congenial over the years: a) papers are circulated (and read) in advance; b) at the conference they are introduced by a discussant (rather than the author); c) the author is only given limited time to react to the discussant's presentation so as to leave more room for a general discussion. Thus, accepting a place on the program entails a commitment to complete the paper in time for others to read it and to come prepared to discuss papers. Equally, participants may expect to *serve as discussant for another paper*, and to open the floor with an incisive and fair assessment of its strengths and weaknesses.

Special *mentoring sessions* will also be organized to match advanced doctoral and junior researchers with senior scholars working in related areas. Interests in taking part in these sessions should be indicated together with the submitted paper abstract.