

Midterm Conference of ESA RN 36

Top-down and bottom-up dynamics of social transformations: Agencies, Processes, and Trajectories

Università degli Studi Internazionali di Roma - UNINT, Via
Cristoforo Colombo, 200 - 00147 Roma

6-8
November



**RN36 - Sociology of
Transformations:
East and West**



UNINT
Università
degli Studi Internazionali di Roma

Conference Scientific Committee:

Matej Makarovič, Agnieszka Kolasa-Nowak, Romina Gurashi, Harutyun Vermishyan, Veronika Kalmus, Tomáš Kostecký, Piotr Kulas, Zenonas Norkus

Conference Organizing Committee:

Romina Gurashi, Isabella Valentini, Tiziano Censi, Roberta Iannone, Ilaria Iannuzzi, Caterina Petrocchi, Nicholas Pietropaolo, Gianluca Senatore, Melissa Sessa, Francesco Pietroniro

Day 1 – Thursday 6 November

14:00–14:30 · Registration

14:30–14:45 · Opening of the Conference

Fabio Bisogni — President, UNINT University

Mariagrazia Russo — Rector, UNINT University

Alessandro De Nisco — Director, Department of International Humanities and Social Sciences of the UNINT University

Giuseppe Ricotta — Spokesperson of the Scientific Committee of the AIS Section Sociological Theories and Social Transformations.

14:45–15:30 · Keynote speaker – Prof. Peter Wagner, Universitat de Barcelona – Resource regimes and societal self-understandings: a materialist-interpretative approach to social transformations

15:30–17:00 · Structural Transformations

Chair: Romina Gurashi

Tomáš Kostelecký — Spatial inequality, attitudes and voting behaviour: methodological challenges in measuring them. The case of Czechia

Zenonas Norkus — Why Globalism May Be Self-Undermining: Energy Independence as a Paradox of the Hopefully Successful Struggle against Climate Change (Exemplified by the Case Study of Lithuania's Energy Policy)

Cristian Gangaliuc — Global Value Chains Embeddedness to save the day? Understanding the process of embeddedness in the context of new path creation for CEE regions

Kseniia Gromova, Borut Rončević — Development of a Successful Industrial Locality: Social Fields Analysis

Matej Makarovič, Tea Golob — Understanding the Current Transformations: Complementing the Linear Perspective with the Cyclical Ones?

17:00–17:30 · Coffee Break

17:30–19:00 · Geopolitical & Geostrategic Transformations

Chair: Matej Makarovič

Harutyun Vermishyan — Urban Echoes: Narratives of Transformation in Post-Soviet Armenian Small Towns

Triin Vihalemm — Regional transformation between sustainability and security in North-East Estonia

Egge Kulbok-Lattik, Anneli Saro — Bottom-up and top-down dynamics of social transformations: case study of Estonian community houses

Mantas Šikšnianas — Changes in the social field of labour in the Nazi Germany occupied Lithuania

Olga Kutsenko — Resilience and the Rise of a Civic Class: Rethinking Social Transformation in Wartime Ukraine

Day 2 – Friday 7 November

10:30–12:00 · Technological Transformations (Room A)

Chair: Veronika Kalmus

Edmondo Grassi — Algomorphic Societies and the Computational Self: A Sociological Exploration

Justyna Pilarska, Arkadiusz Urbanek — Challenge-Based Learning as a Bottom-Up Catalyst of Epistemic and Institutional Transformation in Higher Education

Maruša Gorišek, Tea Golob, Matej Makarovič — Digital participatory capital as a leverage for planet-centric values and related inclusive identities

Alicja Bobek, Noirin MacNamara, Sara Clavero, Maria Chiara Leva, Bojana Bjegojevic — A 'just' twin transition? Intersectional inequalities in the 'prosumer' sector

Rima Žilinskaitė — Digitally enabled prosumers of science: bottom-up knowledge dissemination

10:30–12:00 · Contested Futures (Room B)

Chair: Melissa Sessa

Gianluca Senatore — The Transition to Sustainability in Europe: A Sociological Approach to Actions Undertaken by Germany and Spain

Emanuela Susca — Artificial Intelligence: great transformations and great fears

Ilaria Iannuzzi — The Game as Agent of Social Transformation

Nicholas Pietropaolo — Empathy and Artificial Intelligence: Structural Limits and Social Implications

Caterina Petrocchi — The conflict between presentism and care: to ensure continuity of the sustainable transition

12:00–12:30 · Coffee Break

12:30–14:00 · Megatrends and Sustainable Futures (Room A)

Chair: Adele Bianco & Massimiliano Ruzzeddu

Massimiliano Ruzzeddu — Representation of time through the history of Europe

Jiri Subrt — What we know and can know about the future: On the evolution of its knowledge from a historical sociology perspective

Alon Helled — The Evolving Middle East: Historical Roots and Future Trajectories

Carolina Facioni — The role of agriculture in re-shaping possible futures

Adele Bianco & Andrea Pitasi — Shaping the Future: Europe's Response to Global Challenges through the Draghi Agenda

12:30–14:00 · Cultural & Ideological Transformations (Room B)

Chair: Piotr Kulas

Kaja Kaźmierska — Biographical metamorphoses - political transformation as an open opportunity structure for the development of new social activities inscribed in the life project

Katarzyna Waniek — Between traditional and fluid biographical orientations. The experience of systemic transformation in Poland

Liena Galeja, Ojars Stepens, Andrejs Sirmais — The Politics of Remembering: Regime Transformations and the Reinvention of Public Monuments in Latvia

Joanna Wygnanska, Aleksandra Drazczyk — New Dimension of Social Change in the Context of Biographical Experiences of the Post-Transformation Process in Poland

Agnieszka Bielewska, Paweł Czajkowski, Leonhard Birnbacher, Anna Buschmeyer, Klara Lüring, Claudia Zerle-Elsässer — Lost in Transformation: Paternal involvement across three generations in Poland and Germany.

14:00–15:30 · Lunch Break

15:30–16:15 · Keynote speaker – Prof. Leke Sokoli, Albanian Institute of Sociology – About the transformation trajectory in Central and Eastern Europe. Is it possible that even small countries be labs of transformations?

16:15–17:00 · Coffee Break

17:00–18:30 · Environmental Transformations (Room A)

Chair: Tomáš Kostecký

Laura Nistor, Gyöngyvér Bálint — A Study of Environmental Concern in Eastern and Western European Countries. Evidence based on the ISSP and EVS Surveys

Martin Durdovic — Sociotechnical challenges to developing a low-carbon energy transition in the capital city of Prague

Elżbieta Nieroba — Cultural Discourses on Climate in Poland: Between Ecological Modernisation and Posthumanist Imaginaries

Jakub Wydra — Transforming Urban Networks: Top-Down and Bottom-Up Climate Adaptation in Polish Cities

Renars Felcis — The emergence of collective arrangements during convergence of crisis: the case of Gauja National Park as bio-region

17:00–18:30 · Bottom-up & Top-down Transformations (Room B)

Chair: Zenonas Norkus

Piotr Kulas — The Authority and Symbolic Capital of the Polish Intelligentsia

Raquel Miño Puigcercós, Judith Jacovkis Halperin, Paula Lozano-Mulet, Kristinn Hegna, Maja Nordtug, Victoria de Leon — Families' imaginaries and practices of resistance towards platformisation and surveillance culture

Veronika Kalmus, Signe Opermann, Oana Benga, Moises Esteban Guitart, Bogumiła Mateja-Jaworska, Ionut Mone, Maja Nordtug, Mariya Stoilova — Understanding media generations in the context of digital transformations: Towards “platformed generations” within and across European families?

Rudina Duraj — Gjitionia: An Evidence of Social Transformations in Arbëresh Communities

19:30 · Social dinner

Day 3 – Saturday 8 November

10:00–11:30 · Education, Knowledge & Transformation

Chair: Harutyun Vermishyan

Juliana Cyfeku, Edlira Xega — Intercultural Virtual Exchange in Higher Education: Fostering Global Competence through Collaborative Learning

Tiziano Censi — The Infrastructural Power of Digital Platforms: The Dialectic Between State and Digital Corporations in Platform Capitalism

Kristýna Pospíšilová, Romana Marková Volejníčková — When healing is not enough: Challenges of educating future doctors in the Czech Republic

Maruša Gorišek, Frane Adam, Niko Šetar — Framing Trust in Science: Methodological Limits and Transformative Potentials

Piotr Binder — Transforming Remote Work in Poland, 2020–2024

11:30–11:50 · Coffee Break

11:50–13:00 · Migration, Inequality & Social Change

Chair: Romina Gurashi

Daniela Grignoli, Mariangela D'Ambrosio, Antonio Leone, Amarjit Singh — From Exploitation to Empowerment: Migrant Integration and Multi-Level Welfare in Italy through Project S.O.L.E.I.L.

Maja Wróblewska — Urgency from Below: Tenants' Struggle for Energy Justice in Warsaw's Social Housing

Aija Zobena — Rethinking strategies: challenges for community-based rural development in post-socialist Europe

Isabella Corvino — Social perception of climate crisis and inequality

Andrejs Sirmais — Criminal Justice as Social Protection? Youth Attitudes, Drug Policy, and the East–West Dynamics of Transformation in Latvia and Beyond

13:00 · Closing of the conference