ISTR’s Amsterdam Conference

ISTR’s Thirteenth International Conference was held at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam from July 10-13, 2018, with 675 delegates from 58 countries. This year’s conference theme was Democracy and Legitimacy: The Role of the Third Sector in a Globalizing World. As in the past, this conference was preceded by the ISTR PhD Seminar, which hosted 50 PhD students and 12 ISTR faculty for discussion, peer-mentoring, professional development and community building. The program included 124 paper sessions, 44 panels, 34 roundtables and 11 posters. The program and conference abstracts can be found on the ISTR website (users must be signed in to view full papers). To view the full conference report:

Asia Pacific Regional Network Meeting at Amsterdam 2018 International Conference

Date: July 12, 2018

Venue: RM 24 – 24, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

Co-Chairs: Ruth Phillips, The University of Sydney University
           Kin-man Chan, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

1. Asia Pacific Regional Conference 2019

Ruth reported that in the 2017 Regional Conference held at Jakarta, it was agreed by participants of the Asia Pacific Regional Network meeting that the 2019 regional conference should be hosted by Thammasat University and Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok after the offer was made by Dipendra K.C. The proposal was later approved by ISTR board.

The Asia Pacific Network were also in support of this proposal.

Participants of this meeting expressed their views on possible themes for the upcoming Asia Pacific Regional conference, including the following:

i/ The role of place/space in non-profits;

ii/ Changes in regulatory regimes (e.g. contraction of civil society space in China);

iii/ Multiple roles of non-profits scholars (e.g. scholar-activists in China, Hong Kong, Taiwan and others);

iv/ Theory and practice/praxis in non-profits (e.g. service-learning and action research);

v/ Shifting functions of non-profits;

vi/ Digitalization and civil society (e.g. the involvement of CSOs and social media in election/political change such as in the case of Malaysia);

vii/ Social innovations (such as social enterprises and impact investment);

viii/ How to strengthen the nascent non-profit sector in Asia? How to make it stronger and more inclusive in the face of austerity and tremendous population growth in the region?

It was agreed that all of these suggestions would go forward to the organizing Committee for the next Asia Pacific Conference.

2. East Asia Third Sector Researchers Network

Kin-man reported that, based on decisions at the last ISTR international conference A/P network meeting, and with support from the ISTR Board, a communication network among scholars and students in China, Taiwan and Hong Kong was established a few months ago. The ultimate goal was to extend the network to third sector researchers in East Asia, including Japan and Korea. At this stage, however, it is Chinese language country focused and produces a monthly newsletter that is distributed through emails among more than 200 researchers in the region. The newsletter includes information on recent publications, conferences and job opportunities in the field. Abstracts of selected papers in Voluntas, NVSQ, JSC etc. are also translated into Chinese. A Facebook page and a Weibo page were also created to serve the same purpose.

When asked about the relationship between this network and the Asia Pacific Network, Kin-man explained that the East Asia Researchers Network is only for communication purpose with no intention and capacity for organizing any other activities such as conferences. A participant expresses concern on where the server for the communication network is hosted and whether members’ privacy could be protected. Kin-man explained that the network was created by Prof. Xijin Jia in
China, Prof. Min-hsiu Chiang in Taiwan and himself in Hong Kong but the server is hosted and maintained by the Chinese University of Hong Kong instead of any institute in China. The participants were satisfied with this arrangement.

It was also noted that there is no formal support for the A/P Network, unlike the Latin American Network partly due to the massive scale of the Asia Pacific and the difficult of having any fixed organization that represents such a large region. Thus the Network revolves around the conferences and those involved in the conference organization every 2 years.

3. **Involvement of practitioners in conference**

Some participants asked if ISTR would invite more practitioners to join our regional or international conference. Kin-man explained that, unlike CIVICUS, the nature of ISTR is more academic. We should, however, invite more civil society leaders and social entrepreneurs to help scholar-participants to understand the development of the sector in the host country through a plenary session. For example, distinguished CSR practitioners were invited to the 2017 regional conference to illuminate how CSR had contributed to a more sustainable development in Indonesia.

**INTRODUCTION | 簡介**

ISTR - International Society for Third-Sector Research and the Centre for Social Innovation Studies in the Chinese University of Hong Kong are now promoting the establishment of East Asia Third-Sector Researchers Network. We hope to help scholars and students exchange information about publications, conferences and job vacancies in third-sector studies through this newsletter. You are welcome to follow us on Facebook ([ISTR-East Asia](https://www.facebook.com/ISTR-EastAsia)) and Weibo (@东亚第三部门研究网络).

**PUBLICATIONS | 最新學術出版**

*Journal of Civil Society. Volume 14, 2018 - Issue 3*

**Selected Abstracts | 精選摘要**

Civil society: Bringing the family back in | 公民社會：讓家庭回歸

Sally Power, Esther Muddiman, Kate Moles & Chris Taylor. Pages: 193-206

**Abstract:** This article explores the complex and contradictory positioning of the family within civil society literature. In some accounts, the family is seen as the cornerstone of civil society. In others, the family is positioned firmly outside – even antithetical to – civil society. This paradox arises from the ways in which civil society is variously defined through a series of binary oppositions – in relation to each of which the family sits uneasily. And while feminist critiques have tried to bring women back into view, they too tend to marginalize the family. In addition, the normative nature of these oppositions has meant that while civil society tends to be seen as the property of the political ‘left’, the family is often associated with the political ‘right’. The article argues that
we need to move beyond oppositional definitions of civil society and assumptions about the family if we are to understand the multiple ways in which the family is implicated as not only the ‘reproducer’ of particular resources and dispositions but as a principal source and focus of civil society engagement and activism.

Abstract: Profits from legal gambling are often channelled to good causes. This system embeds the predicament of whether citizens’ potentially problematic gambling activities should be a source of funding for the public good. In this article, this dilemma is unfolded by the receivers of public grants that stem from gambling revenues. A total of twenty-three representatives of Civil Society Organizations were interviewed as beneficiaries of the Finnish state-owned gambling monopolies. The article illustrates explicit dependencies and hidden ethical dilemmas, suggesting that CSOs may have limited possibilities of making ethically consistent decisions in view of the origin of their funding.

Abstract: The article questions if the participation of civil society actors in foreign policy making would lead to the democratization of foreign policy processes. The analysis is based on the comparison of three foreign policy participatory initiatives – the Civil Society Consultative Council, the Social and Participative Mercosur Programme and the Dialogue and Consultation System – which currently take place in Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay, respectively. The hypothesis to be tested is that participatory institutions modify representation in foreign policy by breaking with the monopoly of the diplomatic bureaucracy in foreign policy making on regional integration. For that, we develop a comprehensive model based on social participation indicators and assess the specifics of each participatory initiative by mobilizing documental sources and conducting face-to-face interviews.
with key actors for each initiative. We ultimately find that the democratic nature is rather correlated with the institutional design adopted by the participatory initiative under scrutiny.

摘要：本文對於公民社會行動者在外交政策制定中的參與是否會帶來外交政策程序的民主化提出質疑。分析基於對三個外交政策參與性倡議的比較——公民社會協商委員會、社會和參與南方共同市場項目以及對話與協商系統（目前分別在阿根廷、巴西和烏拉圭進行），對以下假設進行了檢驗：制度化的公眾參與旨在打破外交官僚系統，在關於區域一體化的外交政策中的壟斷，來改變外交政策中的代表性問題。為此，我們制定了一個基於社會參與指標的綜合性模型，並通過調動文獻資源及與公眾參與計劃推動者進行面對面訪談，來評估每項計劃的實施情況。我們最終發現是否能促進民主與這些公眾參與計劃的制度設計非常相關。

Contents | 當期目錄

1. Civil society: Bringing the family back in
   公民社會：讓家庭回歸
   Sally Power, Esther Muddiman, Kate Moles & Chris Taylor. Pages: 193-206

2. Compromising the public good? Civil society as beneficiary of gambling revenue
   損害公眾利益？公民社會作為賭博收入的受益者
   Michael Dieter Egerer, Veera Kankainen & Matilda Hellman. Pages: 207-221

3. Does participation generate democratization? Analysis of social participation by institutional means in Argentine, Brazilian and Uruguayan foreign policies
   參與會促進民主嗎？對阿根廷、巴西和烏拉圭外交政策中的制度性社會參與的分析
   Lucas Mesquita & Dawisson Belém Lopes. Pages: 222-240

4. Water privatization, hegemony and civil society: What Motivates Individuals to Protest About Water Privatization?
   水資源私有化，文化霸權和公民社會：是什麼激發人們抗議水資源私有化？
   Conny Roggeband, Cory Fletcher & Anja Heelsum. Pages: 241-256

5. American standards: definition and differentiation through nonprofit regulation
   美國標準：通過非營利組織的規範去定義與區分
   Denis Kennedy. Pages: 257-274

CALL FOR PAPERS | 論文徵集

Social Movements after the Global Crash: Looking Back, Looking Forward

全球危機後的社會運動：回顧，展望

Social Movement Studies Journal Conference | 社會運動研究期刊會議
Deadline for Participation Proposals: October 30 2018 | 提交期限：2018 年 10 月 30 日

June 27-29, 2019, Loughborough University, London Campus | 拉夫堡大学伦敦校区，2019 年 6 月 27-29 日

The Editors of Social Movement Studies invite interested scholars and activists to submit expressions of interest to participate in our first ever conference, which will be held on June 27-29 at Loughborough University London.

Context and Rationale

Following the global financial crash of 2007/2008, states throughout the world have witnessed a wave of collective mobilizations seeking to challenge processes of political and economic disenfranchisement. In authoritarian, semi-authoritarian, and liberal democratic regimes, social movements have variously sought to name and transform dominant practices of democratic enclosure. They have developed new and arresting forms of mass mobilization in transnational waves of protest and national campaigns, from Occupy to anti-austerity movements, student movements, Black Lives Matter, #YoSoy132, Gezi Park and numerous others; they have advocated, developed, and experimented with new forms of democratic participation in micro-level neighbourhood organising and the establishment of alternative economic circuits. In the face of these many mobilizations, institutionalized politics and policies have also undergone a transformation, raising new challenges for social movements. Whistleblowing and leaktivism (e.g. WikiLeaks and the Panama papers) have evidenced the emergence of new techno-political debates and strategies, but have been met with mixed results: increasing criminalization and decreased protection for whistle blowers and stronger legal protections for state surveillance in some contexts, while advancing data privacy rights in others. Movements have also fuelled the rise of hybrid movement parties and innovations in citizen participation, raising new questions about the possibilities and challenges of closer movement and political institutional relations. As mobilizations for greater democracy and rights have increased so have counter-moves to challenge these demands, from movements who mobilize against rights and equality, to greater authoritarianism and curtailment of rights by states. Even in democratic contexts, movements today face a unique set of challenges, not least in having to make the case for previously taken for granted ideals such as democracy and equality.

The journal editors invite participants to engage with any of four thematic blocks which will attempt to address a series of questions that arise in this historical moment of reflection and renewal. The four themes are:

1) **Lessons learned:** What have we, as scholars and activists, learned theoretically, methodologically, empirically, or strategically from this period of mobilization? Have the events of recent years caused us to modify existing theoretical frameworks or paradigms or develop new methodological approaches to the study of social movements? Are there significant empirical shifts in what we are witnessing? Have changes in global and national governance, capital formation, media, technological capacity, public opinion, and identity formation produced new relationships between activism, society, and the state, and new material strategies of struggle, resistance, and democratic enactment? Have new empirical and theoretical developments generated new scholarly and activist debates? In short, what if anything has changed and what have we learned?

2) **Intended and unintended outcomes:** What are the most significant consequences and outcomes of this global wave of protests? How has collective mobilization shaped and responded to these outcomes; and how have collective actions and collective actors themselves been transformed (and transformed themselves) by these consequences? In Europe, for example, we’ve witnessed the dismantling of the welfare state as a result of post-crisis austerity politics, an increase in legal repression, the rise of the right in some countries and the emergence of hybrid parties and municipal movements that integrate elements of the movements in the squares and try to innovate institutional politics from within. In Taiwan, we’ve seen the emergence of a powerful hacker community
that has influenced national politics and generated new forms of citizen engagement and government oversight. What are the most significant outcomes we can point to and do they provoke us to change our theoretical models?

3) **Techno politics and techno resistance:** In the post crisis/post global wave scenario we are seeing the global extension of digitally enabled democratic imaginaries as well as rapid developments in media and digital media practices and scholarship. Participants in this thematic block are invited to propose and engage with key questions around these developments, including such themes as collective identity formation, leaktivism, whistleblowing, data justice, hacker ethics, digitally enabled activist practices, new forms and new uses of media in social movement related politics and communication.

4) **Activist strategies:** How are activist communities addressing the intended and unintended outcomes of the last decade of protest? What are the new lines of debate within activist communities? How are activists confronting and strategizing in the face of such issues as the dismantling of the welfare state, the rise of the Right, the curtailment of legal freedoms, the rise of new hybrid parties etc.? What new challenges have arisen for social movements and how are they addressing them?

**How to Apply**

Submit a proposal to SMSCONF2019@gmail.com specifying clearly which of the four thematic blocks you would like to engage with (see the template below). Specify the key questions that your research or activist practice addresses. Provide a short paragraph (no more than 500 words) outlining your vision of the key question(s) you want to engage with in the thematic block, and specifying your past, current and future research in the area (with some short references to your publications/projects). Please indicate in the subject line and body of the email which of the four thematic blocks you would like to engage with as a core participant. (We hope all participants will engage actively in many sessions, but each participant will only be a core participant at one session).

Subject header: Thematic Block Title  
Body of email:  
1) Thematic Block Title  
2) Key questions/vision  
3) Past/current/future research  
4) Support References to your work  
Do you have experience with facilitation and moderation? If yes, would you be willing to help with moderation and facilitation during the conference? If so, please indicate this in your email as well.

**Deadline for participation proposals is October 30, 2018. We intend to respond with decisions in early December.**

**Selection Process**

Participants will be selected on the basis of relevance, fit with other proposals to ensure meaningful discussion, and experience in the area by a group of editors. We encourage scholars of all career stages, including early career researchers and doctoral students to apply. Once we receive all the proposals we will organize participants into sessions organized around one of the four thematic blocks. Selected participants will be asked to prepare notes and a very short presentation to kickstart each of the sessions, in which other attendees to the conference can also participate once the core discussion is fully underway.

**We would like some help:**
We are looking for someone with the skill set (IT and Methods) to help us with the closing plenary session in which we will try to map out the main takeaways from the conference in real time in a way that is visible to all and can produce some infographics to share. If you have this skill set and would like to participate in this capacity, please get in touch by writing to SMSCONF2019@gmail.com with subject line “Closing plenary SMS Conference 2019”.

NEWSLETTERS IN THE SECTOR | 優質期刊推介

Conference, fellowship, publication information from International Sociological Association Newsletter. | 國際社會學協會簡報：會議、獎學金、出版消息

ISA has just published its latest issue (issue 165, September 2018) at:


JOB VACANCY | 最新職位空缺

Professor of the Practice of Global Development

Frederick S. Pardee School of Global Studies, Boston University

Application Closing Date: 15 November 2018 | 申請期限：2018年11月15日

Starting Date: 01 July 2019 | 開始時間：2019年7月1日

The Pardee School of Global Studies at Boston University invites applications for appointment as Professor of the Practice of Global Development, non-tenure track. The successful candidate will be a distinguished practitioner who has worked at high levels in a major international organization, development agency, or non-governmental organization. We are particularly interested in candidates whose work has focused on core issues facing developing countries, including poverty, inclusive development, environmental degradation, climate resilience, infrastructure, and resource dependence, the Sustainable Development Goals, or who have expertise in NGO management, development finance, project management and/or development policymaking. We welcome regional expertise in any part of the world. The professor of the practice will teach courses in his/her areas of expertise, and will also advise and mentor students pursuing professional careers in global affairs. Prior teaching experience and a record of publication and research is not required but will be considered a plus.

Please submit 1) a letter of application describing your professional experience, and 2) curriculum vitae. Questions about the position or school may be directed to Ms. Elaine Bidianos at elaineb@bu.edu. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis, beginning November 15, 2018, but applications will be accepted until the job is filled. The expected starting date for employment is July 1, 2019. The Pardee School of Global Studies offers B.A. and M.A. degrees and is committed to multidisciplinary, policy-relevant research and teaching.

We are an equal opportunity employer and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability status, protected veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by law. We are a VEVRAA Federal Contractor.

Application Materials Required:
Submit the following items online at this website to complete your application:

- Cover Letter
- Curriculum Vitae
- List of References (optional)
- Writing Sample(s) (optional)

And anything else requested in the position description.

Further Info:

https://academicjobsonline.org/ajo/BU/Pardee/GDPPOP
Elaine Bidianos <elaineb@bu.edu>
617-353-9282

Denmark | 丹麥

Aarhus University, Department of Political Science
- Postdoc / Assistant Professor Position with Focus on the Psychology of Administrative Burden
- Research Assistant with Strong Quantitative Skills
- Postdoc Position with a Focus on the Social Dynamics of Science

Aalborg University, Faculty of Social Sciences, Department of Sociology and Social Work
- Assistant Professor in Sociology

Aalborg University, Faculty of Social Sciences, Department of Political Science
- Post Doc in the Integration of Refugees on the Labour Market

Finland | 芬蘭

University of Helsinki, Institute of Urban and Regional Studies
- Postdoctoral researcher in Urban Economics/Economic Geography

University of Jyväskylä, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
- 1-15 Doctoral Students at Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

University of Helsinki, Helsinki Institute of Urban and Regional Studies
- Postdoctoral Researcher in Urban Population Dynamics

Hong Kong | 香港

The University of Hong Kong
- Tenure-Track Assistant Professor in Global China and/or Migration

University of Hong Kong, Department of Social Work and Social Administration
- Post-doctoral Fellow in Elderly Mental Health

Ireland | 愛爾蘭

University of Limerick
- Vice President Academic Affairs & Student Engagement

Netherlands | 荷蘭

University of Groningen, Faculty of Behavioral and Social Sciences
- PhD Young Refugee Pupils in Education: Language Acquisition and Well-Being
Utrecht University, Faculty of Law, Economics and Governance

Two Postdoctoral Researchers at the Centre for Global Challenges

Sweden | 瑞典

Lund University, Faculty of Social Sciences, School of Social Sciences

Research Assistants for Civil Society Studies and Civil Society Elites

United Kingdom | 英國

Middlesex University, Department of Mental Health and Social Work

Research Assistant in Mental Health & Social Work x 3
University of Kent, School of Social Policy, Sociology and Social Research (SSPSSR)

Athena SWAN Post-Doctoral Research Associate in the School of Social Policy, Sociology and Social Research (SSPSSR)
University of Warwick, Department of Sociology

Research Assistant in Sociology

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