Research Committee RC26 Sociotechnics - Sociological Practice
of the International Sociological Association

The Research Committee RC26 Sociotechnics - Sociological Practice (RC26) of the International Sociological Association in collaboration with the office of the member of the European Parliament Green Greek Party, Nikos Chrysogelos and the Kyklades Chamber of Commerce organise a Conference on:

Citizen Participation, Political Culture and the Regional/Local Employment Process:

Mutuality and Community Resilience Issues

to be held in SYROS ISLAND, CYCLADES, GREECE

Organiser: George O. Tsobanoglou,
Sociology of Labour laboratory,
University of the Aegean
Email: g.tsobanoglou@soc.aegean.gr
Theme of Conference
Public policies are nowadays facing issues of participation. During the past few decades the non-profit sector and local civil society organisations, as social economy organisations, have been involved directly into the politics of local and endogenous development. The crisis of representational democracy also gave an impetus to local innovations where combined and even development has become the new autarky issue expressing also the power of place and its people.

Participative democracy has become almost mainstream in public discourses and practices while issues of empowerment are also in place to couple those participative trends.

We are interested in relating participation to a socio-technical process whereby local community cohesion issues emerge as dominant forms impressed by globalisation forces on the one side but also by new knowledge forms, such as info-technology, which require symmetries in the manner of holistic approaches to be founded at local level.

Territoriality becomes important as local labour needs to organise new forms of organisation where info-technology becomes key for bio sciences, including services such as, labour mobility. Tourism, culinary culture and gaming are cases in point. However the key issue remains the social reproduction issues which are needed by the community. A “design for all” principle remains the key to communal sustainability.

We are seeking papers whereby different forms of participation, inclusion/exclusion issues, empowerment, and cooperation define forms of social development at local level.

How do power relationships allow for inclusion and how such partnerships can become more effective tools for local governance?

We welcome papers focused on these kind of issues leading to the overall consideration of the role of social capital and its role on local public (general interest) policy formation.

**Venue:** Chamber of Commerce, City of Syros, Cyclades

**Dates:** 14-15, 21 September 2013

[rc26isa.wordpress.com](http://rc26isa.wordpress.com)
[www.isa-sociology.org](http://www.isa-sociology.org)
The Conference will be followed by the First International Summer School on "Sustainable Working Communities" Sept. 16-20, 2013 at Syros Chamber of Commerce, Hermoupolis, Syros, Kyklades.

The Scientific Committee:
Prof. Akira Kurashima, School of Sociology, Kwansei Gakuin University, Nishinomiya, Japan
Prof. Gloria Pirzio, Political Sociology Department, University of Rome, Rome, Italy
Prof. Arianna Montanari, Political Sociology Department, University of Rome, Rome, Italy
Prof. Flaminia Sacca, Tuscia University, Viterbo, Italy
Prof. Nikita Pokrovsky, Sociology Department, High School of Economics, Moscow, Russia
Prof. George Tsobanoglou, Sociology Department, University of the Aegean, Mytilene, Greece

Abstracts should be sent to G.Tsobanoglou (g.tsobanoglou@soc.aegean.gr) and Penny Papaspyropoulou (pennypapaspyropoulou@gmail.com).
The Scientific Review Committee will report back to all the proposals.

Call for papers

Authors are invited to submit their abstract either to the general session (open) or any specific session. Please submit each abstract only to one session. After abstract evaluation, coordinators will have the chance to transfer papers between sessions where applicable.

Abstracts should not exceed 300 words. Each paper session will have the duration of 1.5 hours. Normally sessions will include 4 papers.

Abstracts can only be submitted via email no later than the 20th of August 2013.
The information requested during abstract submission includes:
1. name(s), affiliation(s) and email of all the author(s);
2. contact details of presenting author (postal address, and telephone in addition to email);
3. title of proposed presentation;
4. up to 4 keywords (optional).
Submitting authors will receive an email of acknowledgement of successful submission receipt. Abstracts will be peer-reviewed and selected for presentation by the relevant Session Organiser. Each author may submit up to two abstracts.

Abstract submission deadline: 20th August 2013

Please note that we are planning to publish the selected papers which will appear on the programme after the conference.
Registration Form

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION IS THE 5th of September 2013

PERSONAL INFORMATION
Title: □ Mr □ Mrs □ Ms
Family name: ___________________________ First name(s): ___________________________
Affiliation: ____________________________________________________________
Address: ________________________________________________________________
City: __________________ Area code: ______ Country: __________________
Tel: ______________________________ Fax: _________________________________
E-mail: ______________________________

Accompanying Person(s):
Family name: __________________________ First name(s): __________________________

Paper Title: ______________________________________________________________

Arrival Time: ____________________________________________________________

The Conference Registration is €100.00 (Students: €50.00) and includes:
Welcome Gala Dinner, the latest publication of ISA RC26, the Conference Programme
and a Conference bag.

METHOD OF PAYMENT
Please indicate the preferred method of payment:
□ Bank Transfer:
  Account Holder Name: Georgios O. Tsompanoglou
  Account number: 33021438
  IBAN number: GR5507301300000000033021438
  SWIFT code (BIC): BCYPGRAA
  Bank details: Bank of Cyprus Public Company Limited
  Branch: 069 – CON FIX, Athens, Greece

In case of bank transfer, please state clearly “ISA Congress” and “Participant name” and
send the bank receipt by e-mail to: g.tsobanoglou@soc.aegean.gr
CONFIRMATION
A letter of confirmation will be sent by e-mail to each participant as soon as the
registration form and payment are received by the conference secretariat.
Receipts will be issued during the conference or upon payment if it is requested.
In case of bank transfer, a confirmation letter will be sent only after the
bank receipt is received by the conference secretariat.

CANCELLATION OF REGISTRATION AND REFUNDS
By 25 August 2013 Full refund minus €50.00 as a handling fee
After 25 August 2013 No refund
The conference secretariat must be notified in writing of cancellation of registration.
The appropriate refunds will be made available after the conference.

ALTERATIONS
Alterations to your registration will not be accepted over the telephone. Please e-mail
any changes to the conference secretariat.

Having signed below I confirm that I have read and I am fully aware of the
cancellation policy stated above.

Date:_____________________________ Signature: _______________
How to get to Syros

By Air
Syros is easily reached by plane or ferry. There are several flights from Athens. The airline company is the Olympic Airlines www.olympicairlines.com. Check out their websites for special prices especially if you book early.

By Sea
During summer there is a frequent daily schedule of ferries leaving from Piraeus and the trip takes between 3-4 hours depending on the ferry. Several companies go to Syros, the most known are Blue Star Ferries και Hellenic Seaways. For more travel information about ferries: www.openseas.gr, www.bluestarferries.gr, www.gaferries.gr, www.hellenicseaways.gr, www.lanesealines.gr and www.nel.gr.

Accommodation
There are plenty hotels and rooms-to-let in Hermoupolis, with variable prices.
Suggested Hotels:

**Hotel Nisaki**
1, E. Papadam street
84100 Hermoupolis, Syros
Tel. +30 22810 88200
e-mail: info@hotelnisaki.gr
http://www.hotelnisaki.gr/

Special discounted prices:
- single room/double bed (with breakfast) €30.00
- double bed/two singles (with breakfast) €50.00
- triple bed/three singles (with breakfast) €60.00

**Hotel Omiros**
43, Omirou street
84100 Hermoupolis, Syros
Tel. +30 22810 84910
e-mail: omirosho@otenet.gr
http://www.hotel-omiros.gr/

Special discounted prices, including breakfast:
- single room €30.00
- double room €45.00

*In order to book a room in the suggested hotels and be charged with the discounted prices, in your reservations you should mention the name of the Conference.*

Public Transportation
Local Public transportation within Hermoupolis is free. Transportation outside of Hermoupolis (KTEL) costs up to €2.00 and you can find the timetables on http://www.syrostoday.gr/KTEL.
Syros

This is the island where Greek tradition and western influence come to a harmonious marriage. Hermoupolis (meaning “the city of Hermes”) is the island’s capital town and has been the first important trade and industrial centre of the country in the 19th century. Evidence of this glorious past can be seen on public buildings (the City Hall, the Customs Office, “Apollo” theatre), on the neoclassical houses and at the beautiful squares. Due to its economic activity, Hermoupolis has been called “Manchester of Greece” and the history of its years of blossom is exhibited in the Industrial Museum.

The Orthodox community has contributed some outstanding religious monuments to the architecture of Hermoupolis such as the churches of Metamorphosis tou Sotiros (Transfiguration of Jesus Christ), St Nicolas the Rich (Ayios Nikolaos Ploussios), Dormition of the Mother of God (Koimissis tis Theotokou).

The medieval quarter of the Roman Catholic community and the fortress - like St George’s cathedral are on St George hill, also named Ano Syros (meaning Upper Syros). Go up the stairs to the top of the hill and through the narrow streets, by the traditional whitewashed houses, the archways and the open spaces with a breathtaking view of the island.

The great number of beautiful beaches will delight the sea and sand lovers: Vari, Foinikas, Yalissas and Kini, as well as Possidonia or Dellagrazia, the beach of a village with many neoclassical mansions with colourful orchards.

Syros is well-known for its gastronomic peculiarities. Halva pie (a pie made of thyme honey and roasted almonds), loukomí (a delight made of water, starch and sugar), “loosa” ham, fennel sausages and the San Mihalis spicy cheese (Protected Designation of Origin) will undoubtedly satisfy even the most demanding taste buds.

Internationally acclaimed festivals are held on Syros, offering a wide range of choices and covering any taste, e.g. The International Cyclades Music Festival, the Classical Music Festival, the Ermoupolia and the Musical May.

Weather in Syros

The climate in Syros is a typical Mediterranean climate with mild winters during which the temperatures rarely drop below 0°C. It is characterised by with rainfalls and dry summers with high temperatures, cooled by the "meltemia", the north wind blowing from the end of July until the middle of August. You can access a seven day weather forecast through www.meteo.gr.
The port of Hermoupolis

Syros