

RCSL NEWSLETTER

INTERNATIONAL SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION RESEARCH COMMITTEE ON SOCIOLOGY OF LAW

<http://rcsl.iscte.pt/>

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**FALL
2012**

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PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

As it has been announced in previous RCSL Newsletters, in the course of the year 2012 our Committee has been officially involved, among a number of other activities, in the organization of, and participation in, three remarkable joint international events: the RCSL- LSA joint Congress on "Socio-Legal Conversations Across a Sea of Islands", held in Honolulu, USA on June 5-8; the II ISA World Forum with RCSL Sessions on "The Quest for Justice and the Limits of the Law", held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, on August 1-4; the RCSL 50th Anniversary Celebration Conference, held in Warsaw on October 19-21. Reports about the above mentioned first two events have been already provided and said in previous Newsletters. The report about RCSL Jubilee Celebration is included here. In this respect, let me outline two scanty considerations to stress the highly symbolical and cultural relevance of the celebration of the RCSL Jubilee.

As we all know we are living in a period of extraordinary social and legal epochal changes that compell us to continuously reflect - and from now on even more so - not only on current state-of-the-art of law-policy making, official institutions' performances, legal professions' restructuring, academic education reforms, etc., but also, and increasingly, upon the "rationale" of the historical epistemic foundations of our disciplinary fieldwork and the historical paths that these foundations entailed and still entail.

At the same time, due to the extraordinary development of socio-legal studies and research - particularly in the last fifty years - we are now provided with a quite large number of valuable theoretical insights and empirical sources, the nature and amount of which, however, can hardly be comparable and coherently systematised (due, among other things, to the on-going fragmentation of socio-legal contexts and the deepening of socio-legal complexity) unless a leading cognitive/reflexive guidance is provided.

Given the above, the historical and symbolical importance of the celebration of the RCSL Jubilee at

the University of Warsaw this year cannot be ignored or underestimated, as it offered us, as RCSL members as well as the whole ISA community, an unique and highly remarkable opportunity: to rescue and re-actualize early roots and scientific imprinting of Sociology of Law as still highly useful theoretical and methodological grids for future disciplinary achievements that will certainly stem from the new Socio-Legal Centres and Associations that have been recently set up by new generations of scholars in many countries of the world.

Vittorio Olgiati

SUMMARY

Presidential Address	1
Donations	2
2013 Juan Celaya Grant	2
RCSL Governing Board (2010-2014)	2
RCSL Jubilee Meeting – Warsaw (2012)	2
RCSL Board Meeting – Warsaw (2012)	3
RCSL Statute Revision	3
Podgórecki Prize 2013	4
Onati-IISL new Scientific Director. Welcome Note	5
News from the International Institute for the Sociology of Law	5
RCSL at ISA II World Forum Report	7
2013 RCSL-IEP Congress, Toulouse	7
2014 RCSL at ISA World Congress, Yokohama	9
2015 RCSL-ABRASD Congress, Porto Alegre	9
Formality and Informality	
News From "Gender, Law and Society"	
RCSL Working Group	10
Congress of the Swiss Sociological Association	10
RCSL's Membership Fee Reminder	11
Next Issue of the RCSL Newsletter	11

RCSL GOVERNING BOARD 2010-2014

President:	Vittorio Olgiati
Vice-Presidents:	David Nelken Luigi Cominelli
Secretary:	Germano Schwartz
Elected Members:	Carlos Lista Ulrike Schultz Angela Melville Benoît Bastard Volkmar Gessner (resigned)
Past Presidents:	Anne Boigeol Johannes Feest Vincenzo Ferrari Lawrence Friedman Mavis Maclean Rogélio Perez Perdomo Jean Van Houtte
Coopted Members:	Arvind Agrawal Stefan Larsson Fatima Kastner Madalena Duarte Hakan Hyden Germano Schwartz
Working Groups & Chairs:	
Civil Justice and Dispute Resolution:	Masayuki Murayama.
Comparative Legal Culture:	Marina Kurkchian
Gender:	Alexandrine Guyard-Nedac and Barbara Giovanna Bello.
Human Rights:	Dani Rudnicki
Law and Migrations:	Devanayak Sundaram
Law and Politics:	Maria Angélica Cuéllar Vázquez
Law and Popular Culture:	Guy Osborn
Legal Professions:	Ulrike Schultz
Social and Legal Systems:	Germano Schwartz
Law and Urban Space:	Antonio Azuela de la Cueva
Observers:	Angela Melville (IISL SD) Pierre Guibentif (RCSL Website)
Founding members:	Adam Podgórecki and William M. Evan (in memoriam †)

DONATIONS

The Research Committee is grateful to Don Fleming, Tetty Havinga and Mavis Maclean for their donations to the Treves grant fund.

2013 JUAN CELAYA GRANT

The 2013 winners of the Juan Celaya Grant are Dorothy Estrada Tanck (Human Security and Transnational Social Networks: claiming the rights of undocumented migrant women and girls) and Iagê

Zendron Miola (Notables of law and economics: clashes and consensus between lawyers and economists in the import and practice of antitrust policy in Brazil – 1994/2011).

RCSL JUBILEE MEETING – WARSAW (2012)

Despite several important socio-legal meetings already on 2012 agenda, about 50 scholars, mostly from Europe but not only had gathered in October at University of Warsaw in order to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the establishment of Research Committee of Sociology of Law at ISA. Though none of the original founders – William Evan, Adam Podgórecki and Renato Treves – are alive, they were present as subject of many commemorative speeches and academic papers. Preceded by the official opening speech by acting President of RCSL Vittorio Olgiati, the first session was devoted to the history of the RCSL as recollected in the memory of long standing members of the Committee of various generations – Jean van Houtte, Vincenzo Ferrari, Jacek Kurczewski, Mavis Maclean, Jerzy Kwaśniewski, Stefka Naoumova, Klaus Ziegert, Anne Boigeol and Adam Czarnota. Anne Boigeol has presented RCSL Podgórecki's Prize to two young scholars – Fatima Kastner from Hamburg, Institute for Social Research, was awarded for her work on systems theory and commission on truth and reconciliation, while Stefan Larsson, from Lund University, for his research on law and digital communication. The session was concluded with welcoming speech by Jennifer Platt vice-president of ISA. The commemorative toasts were also made at the evening Gala Dinner in Warsaw Actors' Club.

The next day sessions focused on two of the founding persons – Renato Treves and Adam Podgórecki – and selected topics of their interest. Session dedicated to memory of Treves was titled "Administration of Justice in Liberal Democracy" and included on the one hand the description of Treves' personality and academic work made by his student Valerio Pocar and on the other, the further analysis of issues in administration of justice as encountered today in democratic Italy (Anna Rosa Favretto on judicial ideology of family judges and Fernando Spina on judicialization of politics) and in democratic Poland (Treves' influence on Polish studies on administration of justice in times of democratic reconstruction as described by Stanisław Tyszka and Grażyna Skąpska on her recent study of administration of justice).

Session on Totalitarian Law and Transitory Justice was devoted to memory of Podgórecki and included several papers dealing with the issue so important in his writing. It was started by Susan Karstedt, who dealt with the rule through law as opposed to the rule of law in totalitarian context. Jiří Priban developed his paper referring to Podgórecki's notions of "dirty togetherness" and "totalitarian Grundnorm". Jerzy Kwaśniewski continued the criticism with which Podgórecki met the post-1989 developments in Poland claiming that the totalitarian legacy had not been yet eliminated, while Małgorzata Fuszara presented the fundamental change in the criminal

policy comparing the communist and democratic Poland. Iwona Jakubowska-Branicka referred to the Podgórecki's seminal study of "Prestige of law" published in 1966 and later replications showing complexity of the public opinion trends on the law within totalitarian and democratic context. Finally, Adriana Mica pointed to the use of scandals and communist party moots as the para-legal way of diverting conflict under the communist rule in Rumania.

The evening special session was devoted to the assessment of the project of empirical sociological theory of law as developed by Adam Podgórecki. Paper given on that subject by Jacek Kurczewski was supplement with comments by Mark Cooney, who presented the Donald Black's "pure sociology" perspective on law as the alternative.

The last third day of conference included two special sessions and two open sessions. Edoardo Fittipaldi had presented his new book, *Everyday Legal Ontology. A Psychological and Linguistic Investigation within the Frame of Leon Petrażycki's Theory of Law, 2012* (Edizioni Universitarie di Lettere, Economia, Diritto LED) developing some ideas of Leon Petrażycki's theory of law and legal semiotics and logics. The book had been commented by Polish scholars Krzysztof Motyka and Jan Winczorek and afterwards Fittipaldi was awarded by the Foundation of Institute of Applied Social Sciences, University of Warsaw the distinction Pro Sapientia Cum Virtutis Praescriptis Adequata in recognition for his contribution to developing and disseminating Petrażycki's ideas. Maria Ausillia Simonelli presented the first treatise on sociology of law published in Italian as *Sociologia Giuridica. Contributo* (Torino, Fratelli Bocca, 1907) by Carlo Nardi Greco. This presentation based upon a book by Simmonelli (Alle origini della sociologia del diritto in Italia. L'opera di Carlo Nardi-Greco. 2004. Napoli: La Città del Sole) was commented by Vincenzo Ferrari and Maria Rita Bartolomei.

In the open sessions the topics were as usual multiple and therefore papers difficult to summarize. One important stream was the assessment of the development of sociology of law, either with focus on historical origins or on present issues (Hakan Hyden on pioneers in Nordic sociology of law, Dace Sulmane on Latvia, Germano Schwartz with Dani Rudnick and Renata Almeida da Costa in Brazil, Anuradha Parasar with Meenakshi Sharma in India and Takayuki Ii in Japan). Jan Winczorek, Paola Ronfani with Roberta Bosisio, Stefka Naumova, Anna Krajewska, Pierre Guibentif, Aleksandra Niżyńska, Adriana Mica, Paweł Kociszewski, Stefan Larsson, Flora di Donato with Francesca Scamardella and Adam Czarnota gave papers on legal education, procedural rules, homoparental families, anti-discriminatory regulation, financial crisis and tax avoidance, formality versus informality in house heating readaptation, methodological innovations and digital technology in relation with law and sociology of law.

Selected papers from the conference are to be published in a special volume of *Societas/Communitas*, the bi-annual journal of the Institute of Applied Social Sciences, University of

Warsaw, edited by Jacek Kurczewski and Vittorio Olgiati. The Institute directed by Małgorzata Fuszara had been co-hosting the meeting organized jointly with RC SL ISA and managed by Aneta Gawkowska and Anna Krajewska, members of the RC SL from Warsaw.

Jacek Kurczewski
On behalf of Organizing Committee

RC SL BOARD MEETING – WARSAW (2012)

In the course of the RC SL Jubilee Meeting at Warsaw it was conducted the RC SL Board Meeting. Some points were discussed and among them it can be stressed the following ones:

- a) The Podgórecki 2013 Commission nominated during the II ISA World Forum in Buenos Aires, Argentina, was confirmed and will start to work immediately (Robert Van Krieken - Vice-President ISA, Suzana Karstedt, Angélica Cuéllar Vázquez)
- b) RC SL is fully committed with the 2013 RC SL-IEP Joint Meeting in Toulouse (3-6, September, 2013).
- c) Luigi Cominelli is in charge of the revision of the RC SL Statute as required by ISA. Germano Schwartz will help him in this task.
- d) The 25 years anniversary of Oñati will happen in 2014 and RC SL will support the IISJ in everything they need to accomplish an outstanding academic event.
- e) The RC SL 2015 meeting will occur in the city of Canoas, Brazil, being hosted by Centro Universitário Unilasalle.

RC SL STATUTE REVISION

As pointed out earlier, ISA has demanded to RC SL a revision of its Statute. According to the RC SL Board decision, this task is in charge of Prof. Luigi Cominelli, RC SL's Vice-President. Germano Schwartz, current RC SL Secretary, was indicated to help him in order to write a draft that must circulate among RC SL's members before August, 2013. The deadline to end the revision is the 3 of September, 2013. The final decision will be made in the course of the RC SL-IEP Joint Meeting in Toulouse, France, from 3-6, September – 2013.

PODGÓRECKI PRIZE

Call for Nominations: ISA RC SL Podgórecki Prize 2013.

The ISA Research Committee on the Sociology of Law established the Podgórecki Prize in 2004, to honour the memory of Adam Podgórecki, the founding

father of RCSL and a leading figure within the international sociological community.

A jury of RCLS, chosen by the RCSL President, awards the prize annually for outstanding achievements in socio-legal research, in alternate years for either distinguished and outstanding lifetime achievements, or outstanding scholarship of a socio-legal researcher at an earlier stage of his or her career.

The prize for lifetime achievements will be awarded as an honorary prize, symbolised by a commemorative certificate, to honour outstanding and exemplary colleagues who have produced guiding and inspiring work. The prize for emerging socio-legal scholars will be a commemorative certificate and a money prize, to honour and encourage colleagues that have yet to leave a mark on the international level of production of socio-legal research but who have published one or more significant works within no later than 10 year of his or her doctorate.

General information about the prize and the Podgòrecki Prize rules can be found at: http://rctl.iscte.pt/rctl_apodgpr.htm

Call for 2013 nominations

The ISA RCSL Jury Committee for the Podgòrecki Prize calls for nominations for the Senior Prize, which will be awarded in 2013 to a socio-legal scholar for their outstanding lifetime contribution to socio-legal scholarship and research. Previous winners of this prize have been 2011: David Nelken (Italy), 2009: Boaventura de Sousa Santos (Portugal), 2007: Richard Abel (USA) and Vincenzo Ferrari (Italy), 2005: Erhard Blankenburg (The Netherlands).

Nominations require the support of at least two members of the RCSL, and should include the candidate's CV and a brief letter of support from each nominator. It is desirable, but not essential, that nominees are members of RCSL. Previous nominees may be re-nominated in this 2013 round, with updated letters and CVs.

Publications can be in any language. For works in languages other than those familiar to the Prize Committee, the nominations should give some indication of the value of the work and provide selected translations. To consider works in less well-known languages, the Jury Committee can co-opt and consult other RCSL members.

Nominations should be sent to the Chair of the jury, Robert van Krieken:
Robert.van.Krieken@sydney.edu.au to be received by **19 April 2013**. The prize will be awarded at the Annual RCLS meeting in Toulouse 3-6 September.

The 2013 Prize Jury is composed of Prof Robert van Krieken (Chair, Australia), Prof Susanne Karstedt (UK) and Prof Angélica Cuéllar Vázquez (Mexico).

Award of the Podgoreki price.

Anne Boigeol

RCSL has established the Prize in 2005 to honour the memory and life-time scientific achievement of Adam Podgòrecki, (one of the Founders of RCSL and a leading figure within the international sociological community), who is honoured today, at the RCSL Jubilee.

The Prize is awarded annually to socio-legal scholars in recognition of their contributions to the development of the discipline. It is awarded every alternate year, to a distinguished scholar in recognition of his/her outstanding contribution in the field of sociology of law, and to an emerging scholar to reward his/her promising work in the disciplinary fieldwork.

This year, the Podgòrecki Prize has to be awarded to a young socio-legal scholar. The RCSL jubilee is a wonderful opportunity for it as associates the heritage of one of the RCSL founders and the dynamism of young scholars who are developing the field of sociology of law.

The Prize committee was composed of 3 members: Professor Hyden Hakan, from Lund university, Ulrike Schultz, from Fern University, and myself, (Institut des sciences sociales du politique, Ecole normale supérieure de Cachan, (France), acting as chair woman.

We had 4 nominations : 4 excellent nominations from different parts of Europe, Spain, Belgium, Germany, Sweden. The committee had the difficult task to find the most outstanding contribution among them. We have considered 3 criteria in the evaluation of the nominees:

- the interest of the topic for the sociology of law.
- the publications.
- the insertion of the nominees in the international community.

After discussions the committee has decided that the Podgorecki Prize would be awarded to two nominees: Fatima Kastner and Stefan Larson. Before presenting them I want to mention the 2 other candidates :

Raquel Taranilla from Barcelona university, is working on a very interesting and innovative topic: legal discourse analysis with the use of linguistic tools. She uses legal language as a social fact alive.

Aude Lejeune is a social scientist dealing with law and has a Phd in social and political sciences. In her dissertation on legal aid policies and practices in Belgium and France, she focuses on the relation between legal mobilisation of law and the institutional context in which lawyers provide legal aid. She works with an interdisciplinary and compared perspective.

The prize was awarded to:

Fatima Kastner. Fatima has had an international education. She has studied law, philosophy and sociology at the university of Frankfurt am Main (Germany), at the London school of Economics and the Collège international de philosophie (Paris). She has a strong interest in theory related to sociology and philosophy of law.

In her PhD, « Semantics of Powerlessness: Systems Theory and Deconstruction. On the primacy of Paradox in Luhmann's System theory and Derrida's Deconstruction with special reference to their autological construction of law », she has performed the extremely demanding task to confront Niklas Luhmann's systems theory with Jacques Derrida's concept of deconstruction. She gives a well-structured, informative and expertly condensed insight into the most complex theoretical systems of two of the leading thinkers of the 20th century, working out the epistemological paradoxes.

She is one of the editors of Niklas Luhmann « Law and Social System » in the English translation by Klaus Ziegert.

She has just finished another big research project: Law and Society in Transition: on the normative integration of world society, which will be her second doctorate (Habilitation). She analyzes the global proliferation of truth and reconciliation commissions and analyzes the trans-national shift from retributive to restorative justice by focusing on some questions as, for instance: why are truth and reconciliation commissions used in highly diverse settings of conflicts with marked ethnical, cultural, social and political difference.

She has written a number of articles in renown journals.

Stefan Larson. Stefan has a double training in law and sociology and a PhD in sociology of law.

He is a researcher with a strong interest in internet law, the question of norms with regard to the digitalisation of society. His PhD is entitled « Metaphors and Norms. Understanding copyright law in a digital society ». He is interested in a very original question: the confrontation of the legal norms on copyright with the social norms strength of unauthorized file sharing. Despite the decrease of unauthorized file-sharing there is always a gap between legal norms and social norms of copyright. It is related to the fact that digitalization of society not only affects norms but also our language and mind. And he studies the way digitalization affects our language and mind through metaphors constructed from underlying conceptions.

This is a very innovative and interesting field for sociology of law. He has written a wide range of articles in high standing journals.

He is strongly involved in different programmes related to internet and digitalization in relation with norms, and sociology of law at Lund university Internet Institute, which works for a multidisciplinary approach on digitalisation.

As stipulated in the RC SL statute, Fatima and Stephan will be members of the Board, with no voting right, for 2 years.

The IISJ welcomes Adam Czarnota as the incoming Scientific Director for 2013-2015

The Scientific Directorship at the IISJ is a two year post, and so I will be returning to the Law School at Flinders University at the end of August 2013. The incoming Scientific Director has been confirmed as Adam Czarnota.

Adam Czarnota is an Associate Professor of Law and Co-Director of the Network for the Interdisciplinary Studies of Law at the University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia, and also a Professor of Law at the University of Bialystok, Poland. He teaches philosophy of law and sociology of law as well as history of legal and political ideas and comparative law. He has been a Fellow of the Royal Flemish Academy of Sciences and Arts, and Collegium Budapest. He has also been a Visiting Fellow and Visiting Professor in Central European University, Catholic University Leuven, Oxford University, University of Edinburgh, and the European University Institute, Florence. He has lectured at universities in Australia, United Kingdom, Belgium, Poland, South Africa and Georgia.

Adam studied law and social sciences at N. Copernicus University, Poland. He received his LLM in 1976 and PhD in law in 1982. Adam has published extensively in Polish and English in fields of sociology of law, legal theory, philosophy of law and history of ideas and political theory. Currently he is working on a book on legal strategies of dealing with the past in post-communist world and on project on law and collective memories.

Adam is already familiar with the activities of the Institute. He has taught previously on our Masters Programme, as well as attended a workshop. In addition, he has a close association with the RC SL. For instance, he has been a member of the Board of the Research Committee on the Sociology of Law and Chair of the Working Group on "Transformation of law in post-communist societies."

NEWS FROM THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR THE SOCIOLOGY OF LAW

Don't miss these important deadlines

Applications for some of our most important activities are due in the next few months, and so we urge you to be aware of our deadlines:

Workshops applications: deadline 11th February 2013

From April until the end of June, the Institute runs a series of innovative workshops focusing on the most significant debates in the contemporary study of law and society. Applications are now to be made online, and will be evaluated on the following criteria:

1. quality of the proposal: what contribution will the workshop make to study of law and society and track record;

2. spread of participation: such as geographical, disciplinary, stage of career, language;

3. originality of the proposed topic. Please check to see if there has been a similar workshop and if so, explain how your proposal will differ;

4. relevance to the Basque country, which could include how it fits with themes identified as being important to the Basque government and/or Basque participants.

Residence grants: 11th February 2013

The IISJ hosts a magnificent socio-legal library and documentation centre. The collection is the best in the world, and many scholars travel to Oñati to use this multidisciplinary and multilingual collection.

Residence grants are available for scholars who wish to use our Residence in order to study in the library. These grants are especially useful for PhD students who are in the writing up stage of their dissertation.

Masters Programme: 19th February 2013

We are pleased to announce the teaching programme for our International Masters in Sociology of Law. There are many reasons why students should be attracted to study at the Institute. To name just a few:

- Our International Masters in the Sociology of Law is recognised as one of the **most comprehensive** programme of its kind.
- **Well-established international reputation.** The programme is in its 23rd year, and previous graduates are now among the leading scholars and practitioners in sociology of law.
- **You will be taught by leading international experts who travel specially to Oñati for the programme.** The delivery of the programme is unique. Whereas other programmes are taught by in-house academic staff, our programme is taught by leading researchers in sociology of law from around the world.

For further reasons, including a youtube video made by our graduates from 2011-2012, as well as the full teaching programme please go to our website.

It is also possible to attend single courses offered within the programme, for example, Theories and Approaches to the Sociology of Law; Quantitative Socio-legal Research Methods; Qualitative Socio-legal Research Methods.

Student grants: applications due 19th February 2013

The IISJ is committed to supporting researchers starting out on their careers in socio-legal studies. To date, we have had students from 55 different countries study at the Institute, and we encourage applications from students with backgrounds in law, sociology, anthropology, economics, political science, cultural studies, geography, policy, journalism, history, etc.

We are also committed to helping students who would not necessarily have the economic means to study at the Institute. To this end, we provide a limited number of student grants.

Plea for donations

We have recently sent out a plea for donations to support our student grants. We would like to thank every person who responded to our plea, and strongly encourage anyone else who wishes to make a contribution. Donations go directly to support students rather than to other activities run by the Institute, and this year students from India, Ghana, Argentina, Columbia, Nigeria and Liberia were able to study at the Institute due to the kindness of the international socio-legal community. We would particularly like to thank the Oñati Townhall for their donation of a student grant. Thank you!

Further donations can be made online at:

<http://www.iisj.net/iisj/de/donations.asp?cod=5274&nombre=5274&prt=1>

New website for PhD students

IISL about to add a new section to its website for students wishing to apply for a PhD. The site will attempt to answer questions concerning:

- Why to do a PhD?
- How to choose a PhD programme?
- How do PhDs differ in different countries?
- How to find a supervisor?
- What types of scholarships are available?
- Where to find PhD funding?
- How to write a PhD application?

Please encourage your graduates to use our site:

<http://www.iisj.net/iisj/dm/how-to-apply-for-a-phd-7432.asp?nombre=7432&hoja=0&sesion=1347>

Our latest publications

Oñati Socio-Legal Series, Vol. 2, No. 5 (2012), Critical Thinking Inside Law Schools. Edited by Raquel Medina (Universidad Complutense de Madrid) and Ulrike Schultz (FernUniversität in Hagen).

Judy Fudge, Shae McCrystal and Kamala Sankaran (edtrs.): *Challenging the Legal Boundaries of Work Regulation*. Hart Publishing, Oñati International Series in Law and Society, 2012, 340 pp. ISBN: 9781849462792.

Challenging the Legal Boundaries of Work Regulation focuses on paid work that blurs traditional legal boundaries and the challenge this poses to traditional forms of labour regulation, this collection of original case studies illustrates the wide range of different forms of regulation designed to provide decent work. The original case studies cover a diversity of workers from across developed and developing countries, the formal and informal economies and public and private work spaces.

Chiba Grant

We are delighted to announce that **Sergio Latorre**, post-doctorate researcher at Cornell University has been awarded the Chiba Grant to support research into non-western perspectives on law. Sergio will study the problem of formal access to land and his study is entitled: Estudio retrospectivo al título de propiedad de la tierra en la época colonial: La tecnología del papel sellado como mecanismo de consolidación de la propiedad formal.

International congress on gender violence

From 10 to 12th July, the IISJ will host an international congress on gender violence. The congress will examine the main conceptual frameworks for thinking about gender violence. We invite participants to consider how useful the concept of gender violence is for tackling violence against women. We also particularly encourage papers that will examine the intersections of gender violence with other determinants of inequalities, such as race/ethnicity, sexuality, masculinities, disability etc. Papers are invited from researchers working in the area of gender violence, as well as policy makers, practitioners and activists. We feel that this interdisciplinary may help to produce new conceptualisations of gender violence.

The call for papers will be announced soon!

Follow us

The Institute now has an active facebook and twitter presence. Please follow us in order to receive the most up-to-date news about the activities of the Institute, and also news about recent publications, upcoming conferences, research activities, grants and scholarships.



<http://www.facebook.com/IISJOnati>



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<http://www.iisj.es>

RCSL at ISA II World Forum Report

The second ISA World Forum was held at the city of Buenos Aires, Argentina, from the 1st to the 4th of August, 2012. During the meeting 775 sessions were presented by 55 Research Committees (RCs). Furthermore, activities such as Work groups with paper presentations took place at the gathering. During the sessions a Business Meeting was held, in which several strategical actions have been decided. Between then, budget approval and a discussion over the RCSL Meeting role in Toulouse, 2013.

The sessions of the RCSL were coordinated by Prof. Reza Banakar, University of Westminster, United Kingdom. Between their ten sessions and Business meeting, the session on Comparative Legal Culture - Marina Kurkchiyan, had 6 papers presented. Law and migration - Susana Novick, 2 papers; Law and politics - Angelica Cuellar Vazquez, 2 papers; Legal professions Part 1 and Part 2 - Hilary Sommerland, 9 papers; Urban problems - Antonio Azuela, 3 papers; Social systems and legal systems: transnormative reflexivity in a multidimensional society - Vitorio Olgiati, 3 papers; The quest for justice and the limits of law, a panel session with the presentation of papers by Prof. Hakan Hyden, Reza Banakar, Dani Rudnicki and Germano Schwartz. And finally, the sessions of the WBG sociology of human rights. Part 1 and 2, coordinated by Prof. Dani Rudnicki, with 5 papers presented making a total of 36 papers presented at the RC 12 sessions.

2013 RCSL- IEP Sciences Politiques - REDS Joint International Congress TOULOUSE, FRANCE Sociology of Law and Political Action 3-6 Sept 2013

The official website of the congress has been opened last October (<http://2013rcslcongress.sciencespo-toulouse.fr/welcome>). It includes the preliminary programme and introduces to the workshops scheduled. Interested people are invited to consult the calls for papers of these workshops (available on the site), and to send their paper proposals until February 1st 2013, using the electronic form placed on the site. The Organizing Committee will meet in March 2013 to decide on the complete final programme.

Outline of the Preliminary Program

Plenary Sessions:

Tuesday, September 3rd, 2013:
Opening Address by Bruno Latour.

Wednesday, September 4th:
“The Uses of the Law in the New Forms of Collective Mobilizations”,

with Jacques Commaille, Liora Israël, Boaventura de Sousa Santos, Moussa Abou Ramada, Zhang Yi.

Thursday, September 5th, 2013:

“**Politics of Science - Politics of Law**”, with Pierre Guibentif, Antonio Casimiro Ferreira, Susan Silbey, Martin Shapiro

Friday, September 6th, 2013: Concluding Session with Wanda Capeller, Philippe Raimbault, Arvind Agrawal, Vincenzo Ferrari, Jacques Commaille, Jean-Michel Eymeri-Douzans.

Closing Address by Jean Tirole

Workshops organized by RC SL Working Groups:

- Civil Justice and Dispute Resolution
- Comparative Legal Cultures: “The Perception of Law and Faith in the Political System”
- Law and Migration: “Law, Cultural Politics and Immigration: French case study”
- Human Rights: “Sociology of Human Rights”
- Law and Politics: “Legal reforms: seeking new practices, in the face of lagging inertia”
- Social and Legal System: “Hidden Structures of the Law and the Role of the Politics”
- Gender and Law: “Gender renewal(s)?”
- Comparative Studies of Legal Professions: Subgroups “Family, policy and the Law”, “Judicial Cultures”, “Legal Education”, “Women/Gender in the Legal Profession”, “Management in/and Justice”

Other Workshops:

- “Between the Social and the Judicial: Tension, Absorption or Cooperation?”
- “Comparative Law as Communication”
- “Contemporary Issues in Legal Education”
- “Discriminations in the Heart of New Dynamics of Social Issue and Law?”
- “Environment and the Law: Popular Struggles, Popular Epidemiology and other Forms of Resistance ‘From Below’ in Worldwide Areas at Risk”
- “How To Do A Rule And What To Do With It? Bureaucrats Between the Fabrication and Usages of Legal Rules”
- “Innovations politiques de gouvernance territoriale et démocratie locale”
- “Interculturality and Multiculturalism”
- “Judicialization and the Public Regulation of Religion”
- “Justice Inside or Outside the State ? Justice Devices, Forms and Levels of Government”
- “L’enfance, entre droits et politique”
- “La ‘Soft Law’ dans la construction de l’Union Européenne”
- “Law and the Social Construction of Uncertainty”
- “Legal Rules, Social Rules”
- “Main Changes of Police Organizations”

- “Making the EU Non-Discrimination Law and Policy Work: Theories, (Best/Worst) Practices and Ways Forward”
- “Mediation or Mediations : its Rationales, Issues, Appraisals”
- “Networking the Rule of Law: Influence of Legal and Judicial Standards in the West and the East”
- “Non-compliance to the Rules and Disobedience Towards the Law”
- “Policy Intelligence In the Public Realm, Policy Intelligence as a New Public Policy Instrument”
- “Political Subversions and Contestations of the Trial ‘Form’”
- “Rule of Law and Political Action Facing Environmental Conflicts”
- “Social Services’ Law Policy Interplay: European and Italian Rules”
- “Spaces of Justice and Courthouse Architecture: A Matter of Political Action?”
- “The Administration of Rights”
- “The Use of New Legal Instruments by Regional Organizations”
- “Transitional Justice and Political Peace Settlement”
- “What Kind of Legal Education Today?”

For more details on these workshops and on the congress, see:

<http://2013rcslcongress.sciencespo-toulouse.fr/>

Don’t forget: Paper proposals have to be uploaded on this site **until February 1st 2013**.

Formality and Informality from Decoupling to Entanglement Workshop on the Formal and the Informal in Law, Institutions and Economy

**Polish Sociological Association & University of
Warsaw
Warsaw, 13-14 May 2013**

Polish Sociological Association in cooperation with University of Warsaw invites scholars to join in a discussion about formality and informality.

Call for Papers

The interest in the formal and the informal spans across many sociological disciplines. In organization sociology, it has been a staple topic since the dawn of the field, reflected in such themes as the limits of bureaucracy, formal/informal leadership or formal/informal information flows. In sociology of law, the issue of informal working of legal institutions has also been a core problem, contributing to the very institutionalization of sociological studies of law, as opposed to lawyers’ inquiries in its formal nature. Similarly, economic sociology has long been interested in investigating the exchange processes in informal economies, and the subtle relationships they

have with the official ones. The Workshop intends to bring together these diverse interests and discourses and by doing so, to facilitate the confrontation of their theoretical assumptions and the empirical outcomes they produce. It should not escape notice that many recent contributions to that theme, particularly in organization sociology and institutionalism, have broken with depicting informal institutions as mere epiphenomena of formal structures to explore the dynamics of the formal and the informal as self-contained realms. In this perspective, the interest is focused on the manner in which informal practices support, confront and oppose the formal sphere of conflicting logic. One impulse for such reorientation has been the interest in the formal in the studies of diffusion and institutional isomorphism, as well as decoupled and loosely coupled systems. Interestingly, this shift parallels earlier developments in sociology and anthropology of law, stressing the impossibility of purely formal, zweck-rational legal institutions and underlining the immanence of legal pluralism. In all said fields, the research topics converge, comprising such phenomena as: formal and informal constraints, rules and regulations, processes of formalization and de-formalization, informal exchanges in formal systems, formal and informal organizations in markets, ethnic economy and entrepreneurship and, lately, formalization of informal practices and transnational governance. In line with these developments, the Workshop welcomes papers dealing with such topics as:

- Interactions of the formal and the informal in institutions and legal systems;
- Emergence, development and dissolution of formal organizations in the informal contexts;
- Formal management of informal pressures and informal incapacitation of formal norms and restraints;
- The role of social capital in formal social systems;
- Informal economy and the relation it bears to formal economy.

The Organizing Committee hopes the Workshop will contribute to the conceptual and theoretical enrichment of the studies of the informal and the formal, create an apt platform for revisiting well established assumptions and paradigms, and help opening new research sites for empirical investigation. Selected papers will be invited for publication in a themed volume.

For more details and contact information see website:

<http://www.pts.org.pl/strona/en/187/formality-and-informality>

2014 RCSL AT ISA WORLD CONGRESS (YOKOHAMA)

The International Sociological Association officially announced that the XVIII ISA World Congress will be held in Yokohama, Japan, from 13th to 19th July 2014. The RCSL as a whole is particularly pleased about this choice not only because of the relevance of Japanese sociological scholarship within the worldwide community, but also because of the long lasting, strict and fruitful, collaboration between the RCSL and the Japanese Socio-legal Association, currently chaired by our colleague Masayuki Murayama. We hope to be able to honour together the legacy of a pioneer of sociology of law such as Masaji Chiba and further develop our common endeavours.

Professor Takayuki Ii will be the RCSL Sessions General Coordinator with the help of the Professor Kota Fukuy who will act as RCSL Sessions Local Coordinator.

Takayuki Ii is Associate Professor in the Faculty of Humanities, Hirosaki University, Japan. He teaches sociology of law. He obtained his Ph.D (Law) from Waseda University, Japan. His research interests are in the legal professions, quasi-legal professions, citizen's access to legal service, lay participation in justice, and other law and society issues. He has published papers in Japanese and English, and has presented his research findings in local and international conferences. His English paper includes "Young Migrants from Big Cities: Measures for Dealing with the Shortage of Legal Services in Japan", in *27 Zeitschrift für Japanisches Recht (Journal of Japanese Law)* (2009) and "Japanese Way of Judicial Appointment and Its Impact on Judicial Review", *5(2) National Taiwan University Law Review* (2010).

The deadline for RCSL sessions is March, 1, 2013, and the applications should be sent to the program Coordinators whose e-mails are on the link below:

<http://www.isasociology.org/congress2014/rc/rc.php?n=RC12>

For further informations visit the Congress website:

<http://www.isa-sociology.org/congress2014/>

2015 RCSL – ABRASD (5-8, May)

Joint Conference CANOAS, BRAZIL

Centro Universitário Unilasalle

Citizenship and Social Control in the Age of Cross-Borders' Governance

During 2012 the Board of RCSL experienced, based on a decision taken during the meeting in Warsaw, using an online system for making decisions. The first attempt was to question what is the best date for the meeting in Canoas (Brazil, 2015). The date chosen was the 5-8 May 2015.

Therefore, the idea to organize a RC SL Congress in Canoas, Brasil, in 2015 has been envisaged during First National Congress of the newly created ABRASD - Associação Brasileira De Pesquisadores em Sociologia do Direito – held at the Universidade Federal Fluminense in Niteroi (Rio de Janerio) in November 16-17, 2010. The idea is now turning into a real option, given the fruitful contacts and the common visions already established between the two associations.

Now the University that will host the meeting is defined. It will be the Centro Universitário Unilasalle, in Canoas, province of Rio Grande do Sul, Brasil. Further information will be found both on the ABRASD website (www.abrasd.com.br) and the Unilasalle page (www.unilasalle.edu.br).

REPORT ABOUT 3RD ABRASD CONGRESS CURITIBA – UFPR

The 3rd ABRASD Congress was held in the city of Curitiba, in the state of Paraná, Brazil, at UFPR (Universidade Federal do Paraná). It was a complete success. With over 555 registered and 167 presented papers – surpassing the numbers of 2012, the event promoted several activities, including workshops, working groups, cultural events and dialogues related to multiple themes on sociology of law. It has been decided, at the event, that the next meeting will take place in September, 2013, in the city of Recife, state of Pernambuco, Brazil, at the UFPE (Universidade Federal de Pernambuco). A new board of directors has been elected. The new president is Marcelo Mello (UFF), the first vice president is Artur Stamford (UFPE) and the second, Germano Schwartz (Unilasalle/FSG).

NEWS FROM “Gender, Law and Society” RC SL Working Group

Since October 2012 the Gender and Law Working Group’s Chair is shared by two junior scholars, Alexandrine Guyard-Nedelec (University of Cergy-Pontoise, France) and Barbara Giovanna Bello (University Statale of Milano, Italy). On behalf of the RC SL, they wish to thank the former Chair, Prof. Rosemary Hunter, for her dedication and passionate work for eight years, during which the activities of the Working Group flourished. While the new chairwomen plan to continue the activities in line with the approach adopted until now, which focuses on the gendered nature of law and the legal construction of gender, they also aim at broadening the scholarly agenda and scientific programme of the Working Group, which is now called “Gender, Law and Society”. Taking as a starting point the laws in their contexts, the Working Group aims at providing space for reflections on

issues such as the gender consequences of law in a global world, the intersections between gender and other grounds defining identity, as well as other new or updated approaches to gender coming into being (e.g. transnationalism, super-diversity, etc.). More specifically, among the questions of the working group are those concerning how gender is implicated in globalization processes, how migration processes are gendered and what gendered effects result from these processes; how gender interplays with other grounds in shaping the experience of women belonging to different kinds of minorities (ethnic and religious minorities, LGBTs, disabled women, migrant groups, etc.); how women and men shape their relations in today’s fluid societies. Additionally, the Working Group aims at promoting a debate to move towards an enlarged notion of gender, which embraces different gender identities arising from gender reassignment as the preamble of the Recast Directive 2006/54 suggests.

The WG’s first activity scheduled for 2013 is the workshop “Gender renewal(s)?” at the International Congress “Sociologie du Droit et Action Politique”, jointly organized by the ISA/RC SL 2013 and SciencePo Toulouse, - which will take place in Toulouse on September 3-6, 2013. Expressions of interest and registration in the “Gender, Law and Society” are welcome at the following email address: genderwg@gmail.com

Congress of the Swiss Sociological Association Inequality and Integration in Times of Crisis June 26 – 28, 2013, University of Bern

Since Karl Marx first described the enormous social inequalities and their potential for social change at the beginning of industrialization in the 19th century, the origins, extent, and consequences of social inequality, as well the level of inequality which a society is willing to tolerate, have been major themes in sociology. The SSA Congress will take on the theme of inequality in multiple areas ranging from research on unequal educational and labor market opportunities, unequal income distributions, gender and health inequality, and inequality in life expectancy, to mention only a few.

In particular, the economic crisis at the start of the 21st century underlines the fact that the theme of inequality has not lost its relevance. Above all, the European debt crisis inclines us to suspect that social inequality is growing. At the same time as inequalities within European societies are exacerbated, disparities between states are also rising, which will likely have adverse effects on European unification, not to mention creating new challenges for Switzerland as well. The inequality effects of economic and demographic changes will lead to an increase in migration and elevate the immigration pressure on the European Union and Switzerland. For this reason, Switzerland, as well as the other European countries,

grapple with questions of managing migration and integration.

Inequalities – as problematic they may be – are also in some sense an opportunity. They increase the diversity of society and can bring about new ideas, innovation, and growth. Our desire and ability for social integration depends, above all, on the ultimate balance between these advantages and disadvantages. Within the framework of the various foci, the conference will concentrate on the opportunities as well as the risks associated with these social changes.

Further information about the congress, the presentations and the submission of contributions can be found on the congress website:

www.sgs-kongress2013.unibe.ch

RCSL'S MEMBERSHIP FEE REMINDER

The RCSL's members which have their membership expiring in 2012 and 2013 can renew it fulfilling the form on the following link below and send it to Manttoni Kortabarria Medina (manttoni@iisj.es):

http://rcsl.iscte.pt/rcsl_joinForm_2012.pdf

NEXT ISSUE OF THE RCSL NEWSLETTER

The next issue of the RCSL newsletter will be published in May 2013. You are welcome to submit any material that is related to socio-legal research and which might be of interest for our members. The next issue will include short items (400-500 words), information about conferences, seminars and workshops, brief presentations of collaborative research projects, debates on issues related to teaching, information about courses, recent or forthcoming publications, notices on research funds, prizes and awards. The deadline to submit an item is April 15, 2013.

Please write to:

vittorio.olgiati@unimc.it, and

germano.schwartz@globo.com

Former issues of the RCSL Newsletter are available on the RCSL Website:

http://rcsl.iscte.pt/rcsl_nl.htm