

»SOCIAL THEORY AND THE SOCIOLOGICAL DISCIPLINE(S)«



Social Theory Conference (RN29) European Sociological Association September 11-13, 2008 Innsbruck, Tyrol, Austria

Call for papers

One cost of sociology's growth and its institutional success are fragmentation and specialization. However, the continual splicing off into new themes and subfields, and frequent cutting off from traditional links with the classical founders, discipline-wide issues, and subfield-transcending questions are often criticized at ESA and ISA meetings. It ultimately contradicts sociology's self-understanding in two important ways: first, its widespread post-Kuhnian philosophical foundation and, second, its public role in society.

Consequently, it is increasingly important to remind ourselves what the identity of sociology is and look for unifying links that inspire the breadth of sociological studies, namely, for social theory: How does social theory keep sociology and social sciences together? And, in particular, how does it do that in practice?

Abstract submission

Please submit your proposal (max. 250 words) by email to: ESA Social Theory Research Network (RN29)
% Frank Welz (coordinator), Innsbruck University,
frank.welz@uibk.ac.at

Innsbruck

Tyrol has always been a popular destination for tourists - and social theorists, from 2008 on. The capital city, Innsbruck, with its 130,000 inhabitants is surrounded by a picturesque panorama of mountain peaks, several of which can be reached by cable cars offering a superb view of the city and the surrounding mountains. The region gives abun-

Accommodation, travel and social program

Please visit the conference website, see below. - The conference will begin on 11th September, 6 pm, and end on 13th September, 6 pm.

Further information and updates (e.g. keynote speakers)

On the conference: www.welz.eu/esa
On RN29: via weblink, s. above.
On ESA: www.europeansociology.org
For all further questions please contact us by email or phone.

The heterogeneity of the national streams of sociology stems not only from differences in the studied social structures but also from the infusion of varying theoretical traditions. Moreover, even the diversity among thematic fields and sub-disciplines within national communities of sociologists can be considered from a similar perspective. Social theory's unity and diversification among these sociological or social scientific (sub)disciplines, its state-of-the-art, and new developments are thematic interests of the conference.

We invite papers that will analyze social theory at work, e.g. how (and which) social theories operate in one of the sociological sub-disciplines or in sociology in general. Case studies of theory's impact, application, or neglect in the thematic fields and in the national streams of sociology will also be welcomed.

Deadlines

Abstract submission	15 th May 2008
Notification of authors	25 th May 2008
Conference registration	30 th June 2008 (by email)

dant leisure opportunities all year round. In summer mountain-climbing, hiking (15 000 km trails), mountain-biking (4000 km), rafting, canyoning and paragliding, in winter downhill and cross-country skiing, ice-skating, snowboarding and even bobsleighing on the Olympic run.

Webcam: <http://www.golden-roof.com/>

Conference fees

The conference fees of 50 Euro (west; 30 Euro other) will include conference materials, a rack railway/cableway ticket and the welcome reception.

Conference venue

Innsbruck School of Political Science & Sociology
Innsbruck University, SoWi-Campus
Universitätsstrasse 15
A-6020 Innsbruck, Austria <phone +43 512 5077305>

+ We are looking forward to see participants of previous meetings but welcome warmly new colleagues too. - If you would like to be on a distribution list for email notices, send a note to this effect to the RN29 coordinator, see above. +