

# Europe and Beyond: Boundaries, Barriers and Belonging



Abstract Book

14th ESA Conference  
**Manchester**

20th -23rd August 2019





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# Europe and Beyond: Boundaries, Barriers and Belonging

In encouraging presenters and other conference participants to think Beyond Europe we wish to consider contemporary developments, processes, practices and subjectivities not only through the lens of Europe and European sociology, but also as central to the development of sociology, or sociologies, for the present and the future. We cannot and should not ignore the factors which are re-shaping Europe from within, such as the effects of globalisation, nationalism, populism and migration and, of course, 'Brexit'. However, it is also crucial that we continue to look towards the possibilities of a global sociology which also takes account of the local without being parochial. Boundaries and boundary making spans the sociological spectrum, from how we create and reinforce the markers of distance and difference in social interaction, through the ways in which communities and groups are divided from each other by ethnicity, class, gender, sexual orientation and other dimensions of inequality. Boundaries are underlined through the extreme divisions of our living conditions: homelessness, ghettos and gated communities. Divisions are being reinforced between citizens and non-citizens as well as between Europe and the rest of the world. Social, symbolic and material boundaries affect us all.

We will also explore the Barriers which reinforce these boundaries: barriers to movement, whether for asylum, migration, work or education; barriers to reflection and understanding; barriers to better living conditions; barriers to cooperation and empathy; barriers created through politics and policy – intended and unintended.

Belonging is an increasingly contested idea, reinforced as nationality through populism and the far right, disrupted by war, violence, racism and other forms of rejection. It is also created and re-created in communities of necessity and choice and through intimacies, transformations of the self, and our understandings of home. New types of belonging are emerging through virtual networks and communities which challenge both traditional and sociological thinking.

The 14th ESA conference will offer opportunities to engage not only with the content of sociological research and theorising, but also with the ways in which our discipline has been and is being shaped, both in and beyond Europe. Where are the boundaries of the discipline? How can we address barriers to its development both inside and outside of academia? What does it mean to belong to the community of sociologists?

We are sure that the conference will give a wide range of sociologists, other academics, practitioners and fellow travellers, an excellent opportunity to present and engage with research and scholarship and also to explore the potential influence of sociology in the public sphere. The conference theme calls for thinking in new ways about persistent inequalities, for challenging dominant discourses and for taking a fresh look at abstract concepts in order to better understand how sociology can contribute, both in theory and practice, to the unmaking and rethinking of 'boundaries' and 'barriers' and to understanding 'belonging'.

## Types of Sessions

While Research Network and Research Stream sessions cover the immense variety of sociological inquiry, Plenary, Semi-Plenary and Midday sessions offer the opportunity to engage in core debates.

Plenaries (P) address the main conference theme.

Semi-Plenaries (SPs) discuss the main conference theme from the viewpoint of different fields of research. They promote discussion between speakers, next to that with participants. SPs are based on proposals made by the ESA Research Networks. This time, four of them were open for abstract submission.

Midday (MD) sessions cover topics which are relevant for sociology as a discipline and/or for the day-to-day work of sociologists.

Research Network (RN) sessions feature research papers submitted in response to the Call for Papers. The majority of sessions is organised by ESA's 37 Research Networks.

RNs are open to all ESA members. Note that many RNs organise Joint Sessions (JS).

Research Stream (RS) sessions are made by sociologists from several European countries who come together to organise sessions on specific sociological topics. RSs are self-organised bodies with a loose structure which is determined by the researchers who join the stream. While some RSs are regularly organising sessions at ESA conferences, other RSs offer ad hoc sessions around spur-of-the-moment topics.

Session codes:

Regular sessions are sorted by the number of Research Network (RN01 to RN37), Joint Session (JS\_RN01\_RN13 to JS\_RN35\_RN37) and Research Stream (RS01 to RS20).

Numbers after the underline character indicate in which timeslot the session took place:

- \_01 Wednesday 21 Aug 2019 11:00-12:30
- \_02 Wednesday 21 Aug 2019 14:00-15:30
- \_03 Wednesday 21 Aug 2019 16:00-17:30
- \_04 Wednesday 21 Aug 2019 18:00-19:30
- \_05 Thursday 22 Aug 2019 11:00-12:30
- \_06 Thursday 22 Aug 2019 14:00-15:30
- \_07 Thursday 22 Aug 2019 16:00-17:30
- \_08 Thursday 22 Aug 2019 18:00-19:30
- \_09 Friday 23 Aug 2019 11:00-12:30
- \_10 Friday 23 Aug 2019 14:00-15:30

## Potentials and Limits of Administrative Data to Adjust Internet Panel Surveys

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Over the last years the use of internet panels to collect survey data has been expanding around the world (ESOMAR 2017). However, this new method is affected by two main issues: undercoverage and non-response. Undercoverage occurs when part of the target population does not have access to the internet while non-response error refers to the lack of response from a sample unit. These errors can affect the representativeness of the sample and bias the survey estimates. The administrative data collected from open sources can be used to compute survey adjustments that, if related to the likelihood of response and the survey target variable, can reduce the bias of the survey estimates. This paper examines the potential of aggregate administrative data to adjust the survey data collected from an internet panel in Spain. To address this research question, I use statistical simulations and data from an internet panel. The statistical simulations are useful to assess the potential of the aggregate data compared to individual data to adjust surveys. Then, two surveys from an internet panel based in Spain are used to implement adjustments using the aggregate administrative data. The estimates from these surveys are compared to a major face-to-face study in order to assess the effect of the weights on the survey bias. The administrative aggregate data have been collected from the Spanish government data repositories as long as the data were available at the municipality level or lower.

## Doing research on/ and with youth in the era of the General Data Protection Regulation

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'Youth hold the future' is an often-cited phrase. Organizations such as the UN time and again state that it is important to listen to youth and for youth to be involved in decisions affecting their lives. However, youth are not often provided a platform in which they can speak or be listened to. One way to give youth a voice is through research, yet most research on youth continues to be based on adult assessments, be they teachers, caregivers, health professionals or parents. Additionally, in migration research, migrant youth are often seen as a vulnerable group needing protection, a stance that takes away from youth's own agency. Finally, the newly instated General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the way it is being interpreted by governments and institutions, makes it hard to collect data on youth. Using the experience of the Mobility Trajectories of Young Lives (MO-TRAYL) project, this paper

discusses the challenges that formal ethical procedures present for youth centred methodologies in the era of the GDPR: from strict interpretations of the GDPR to protective gatekeepers, from institutional barriers to ethical guidelines and parental consent. Finally, it discusses ways in which we can use a more youth centric and inclusive approach to study youth mobility.

## RN21\_08 | The Emergence of new data sources - Critical reflection

### Assessing Wearable Sensor Data For Small Group Research. A

### Benchmarking And Validation Study

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Wearable sensors are providing exciting new research opportunities for social scientists. The scholarly community has invested considerable effort to assess the validity and reliability of gathered data over the recent years (Kayhan et al., 2018; Parker et al., 2018). The grand majority of these initial studies has relied on laboratory experiments or field studies with single groups. At the same time, contributions are spread out across different strands of the social-, behavioral- and computer science literature. Findings, therefore, are scattered, and mostly limited to one specific group or field situation without means to assess the influence of wider contextual conditions on sensor based data and insights based on them. This paper addresses the problem by analyzing and comparing wearable sensor data of ten, relatively small Research and Development (R&D) teams in the context of the H2020 GEDII project (2015-2018). Inter-group variance of sensor measures are explored in the light of complementary data collected, including socio-demographics of team members, gender stereotype, personality traits, and three round-robin ratings regarding advice seeking, friendship and psychological safety. By examining how important sensor measures vary between comparable teams, a more fine-tuned picture regarding the context-sensitive nature of supposedly "objective" sensor measures starts to appear. Our research contributes to the important task of validating sociometric, sensor-based data as new, quantitative measurement tool for social scientists; a methodological proposal for research design, data pre-processing and analysis is included. Kayhan et al. (2018). How honest are the signals? A protocol for validating wearable sensors. *Behavior Research Methods*, 1-27. doi:10.3758/s13428-017-1005-4. Parker, et al (2018). Using Sociometers to Advance Small Group Research. *Sociological Methods & Research*, doi:10.1177/0049124118769091.