

Draft of Initial Group Objectives and Activities

Sociology of Event

International Sociological Association (ISA)

In an increasingly dynamic and unpredictable world, the study of events has become a vital lens through which sociologists can examine transformations in society. Events—whether political uprisings, cultural festivals, economic crises, pandemics, technological breakthroughs, or natural disasters—serve as critical junctures that disrupt routines, reshape social relations, and catalyze change. The sociology of events focuses not only on the occurrences themselves, but also on their meanings, consequences, and the ways in which they are experienced, remembered, and institutionalized.

This emerging field intersects with multiple areas of sociological inquiry, including collective action, memory studies, risk and resilience, media and representation, and temporality. By foregrounding the analytical power of events, sociologists are better equipped to understand how societies are constituted and reconstituted in moments of rupture and reorganization. The proposed thematic group seeks to bring together scholars who are committed to advancing this vibrant and timely field.

I. Objectives

- - Advance Knowledge in the Thematic Area: To foster high-quality research on events by facilitating theoretical and empirical contributions from a global and comparative perspective.
- - Promote International Collaboration: To create a platform for sustained dialogue and cooperation among sociologists and researchers from different regions, institutions, and methodological traditions.
- - Encourage Interdisciplinary Approaches: To bring together scholars working at the intersection of sociology and related disciplines (e.g., political science, economics, anthropology, media studies) to address complex social phenomena.
- - Support Early-Career Scholars and Marginalized Voices: To provide mentoring, visibility, and opportunities for early-career researchers, especially those from underrepresented or Global South institutions.
- - Contribute to ISA Activities and Congresses: To organize panels, sessions, and workshops at ISA World Congresses and Forums that highlight innovative work within the thematic area.
- - Facilitate Dissemination and Dialogue: To disseminate research findings through newsletters, working papers, publications, and potentially a thematic group blog or website.

II. Planned Activities (First 2 Years)

- - Membership Recruitment and Coordination (Months 1–6): Reach out to ISA members interested in the theme. Build a foundational mailing list and create a communication platform (e.g., mailing list, website, or shared forum).
- - Online Seminar Series (Starting Month 4): Host quarterly webinars showcasing current research by members. Invite guest scholars to engage in cross-disciplinary discussions.
- - Session Proposals for Upcoming ISA Events: Submit proposals for paper sessions, roundtables, or joint panels with other TGs for upcoming ISA Congresses.
- - Internal Collaborative Projects: Encourage members to propose joint research projects, special issues, or book proposals related to the theme.
- - Mentoring and Networking Initiatives: Launch a pilot mentoring program connecting senior and early-career scholars. Organize informal “Meet the Scholar” sessions online.
- - Regular Communication and Newsletter (Every 6 months): Share updates, member achievements, calls for papers, and relevant resources with the group.

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