



School of Advanced Social Studies

“Book of Abstracts”

15th Slovenian Social Science Conference 2022

“Social Transformations: Inclusion and Exclusion”

Organizing institutions:

- Slovenian National Committee of the UNESCO Management of Social Transformations Programme (MOST)
- School of Advanced Social Studies / Fakulteta za uporabne družbene študije v Novi Gorici
- Slovenian Social Science Association

November 21-24, 2022, Slovenia

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Slovenian National Committee of the UNESCO Management of Social Transformations Program (MOST),
and
School of Advanced Social Studies, Nova Gorica, Slovenia
in cooperation with
Slovenian Social Science Association

15th SLOVENIAN SOCIAL SCIENCE CONFERENCE **“Social Transformations:Inclusion and Exclusion”**

Scope of the Conference

Addressing the issues of sustainable development in the context of technological advancements seems to be more important than ever. The recent outbreak of the coronavirus has enormously underscored some severe weaknesses of the global social system, revealing contested and incongruent processes of modernisation. On the one hand, we can observe global economic flows bounded to the ideology praising continuous growth and atomised consumers, which has devastating impacts on the natural environment and social interactions. On the other, we still face the dominance of national authorities preserving their interests despite challenges whose consequences reach far beyond national borders.

Social and environmental challenges are inextricably intertwined with technological ones. The immense expansion of information, communication and transport technologies has fused the physical, digital and biological worlds, Digitalisation and automatization - based on big data, artificial intelligence, internet of things - have permeated all aspects of society. One can observe exponential technological revolutions, including the rise intelligent processes, integrated reality, new energy matrix, digital governance, bioprogramming and neurogamification – referring to industry and economic development, political actions and governance, cultural encounters or everyday practices of human beings. Technology provides ground-breaking opportunities for development, improve the quality of life, health care, business infrastructure, ease the working conditions, encourage learning and creativity, improve trust towards decision-making institutions, connect people through the means of communication and transport - and encourage synergies between all that listed. However, it also poses severe threats for human society. When it is exploited for purely profit and power-seeking endeavours, it contributes to the existing deterioration of the natural environment and causing ecological disasters. It also deepens the exclusion of population who cannot afford those technologies or lack the skills required to use them, it leads to losing jobs, digital divide, digital illiteracy – and thus providing grounds for exclusivist, narrow-minded thinking among individuals and groups.

There is a mutual dialectical influence between technology and society on which the conference focuses; while digitalisation is causing a great impact on human interactions, cognition, organisations, and institutions – its emergent settings influence back upon the development and implementation of technological innovation within the society

Within the Conference we will deal with these challenges observing them in the interplay among structure, culture and individuals opening a variety of burning issues to be explored. Based on this, our conference shall primarily but not exclusively focus on:

a) Techno-social challenges for sustainable development: in terms of dehumanisation, alienation and anomie, social and political instability, fragmentation and polarisation, excessive manipulation, surveillance and repression, deepening inequality and exclusion, accelerating environmental degradation and pollution.

b) Democratic governance and sustainable steering: in terms of the governance as politics (expression of different interests, political competition and relations between political actors) as well as to the governance as public policy (creation and implementation of different public policies). Governance as a key social actor in providing a proper normative and regulatory settings enabling not only technological but also sustainable dimensions of society to flourish

c) Organisational structures and processes that encourage technological and social innovations: in terms of companies, NGOs, media, academic institutions etc., which have to enable effective responses to excessive individualisation and the technology related risks. There is a challenge of adapting the organisational processes to the current social and economic problems by creating new jobs, personal wealth, and/or contributing to solidarity

d) The impacts that digitalisation on individuals: in terms of its affects on individuals' interactions, cognition, attitudes, values, identities, creativity, productivity. There is also a role of digital literacy, learning and reflexivity for individuals' agency in responsible behaviour, which one should find important.

The Agenda

Monday, 21 November

09:00 – 10:15 Opening of the conference and welcome remarks together with the Council of National Associations Conference / activities from 9:00 – 15:00 are related also to Jean Monnet Module Enhancing European Civic Practices and Sustainability - Sustain4EU

Sari HANAFI; ISA President

Borut RONČEVIĆ; Chair, Local Organizing Committee

Matej MAKAROVIĆ; School of Advanced Social Studies; Chair, UNESCO MOST Programme

Filomin C. GUTIERREZ; ISA Vice-President for National Associations

Keynote Speech: Toward a Dialogical Sociology

Sari HANAFI, American University of Beirut, ISA President

Session moderator: **Tea Golob**

10:15 – 10:30 Coffe Break

11:00 – 12:30 Paper presentations / Students' section Sustain4EU

Moderator: **Tea Golob**

- Iannuzzi, Ilaria: Gamification of societies. New forms of inclusion or exclusion?
- Igor Bahovec: Contemporary socio-cultural crisis and creative potential of the dialogic type of social relationships
- Anu Masso: Understanding Global Data Migration: A Social Transformation Approach
- Ortenca Kotherja Marsela Skilja: The impact of technology on socialization communication skill

12:15 – 13:30 Lunch Break

13:30 – 15:00 Paper presentations / Students' section Sustain4EU

Moderator: **Tea Golob**

- Janja Mikulan: Impacts of trauma on radicalization: A Scoping Review
- Fatjona Haka: Responses to self-compassion in a non-clinical sample of Albanian adults: a qualitative approach
- Ortenca Kotherja Marsela Skilja: Bullying, its impact on the psychological aspect of pupils and the importance of social inclusion

15:00 – 15:30 Coffe Break

15:30 – 17:00 Paper presentations

- Mateja Rek: Learning to be smart about using media
- Antoaneta Getova: Did the Bulgarian Students Adapt to the University “from a Distance”: Analysis of the Effects of Online learning during the Third Year of the Pandemic
- Alfya K Jose, Ashraya Maria: Infrastructure of Death: Shifting Spatiality of Cemeteries in Chennai During the Covid-19 Pandemic

The Agenda

Tuesday, 22 November

10:30 – 12:15 Paper presentations

- Igor Jelen, Alessandro Carile: The use of force in geopolitical contexts: recent evolutions in theory and praxis
- Akinyetun Tope Shola, Adedini Sarah Oluwafunmilayo, Alausa Jamiu Abiodun, Ahoton Aihonsu Samuel: Heated environment, armed people? Climate change and armed conflicts in Africa
- Ananda Rao Kuriti: Transnational Capitalism, Global

12:15 – 13:30 Lunch Break

13:30 – 15:15 Paper presentations

- Jovana Zafirovic: The Impact of Job Insecurity on Party Identification in Europe
- Dharendra Kumar Sahoo: Digital Transformation and Financial Inclusion: A Study on Digital Payments in India
- Larissa Titarenko: Colored revolution in Belarus: A contribution to social integration or exclusion?

Wednesday, 23 November

13:30 – 15:15 JM CoE MEDIAPOPOP: Causes of the rise of populism in Europe

Discussants:

- Ladislav Cabada (Metropolitan University Prague)
- Peter Verovšek (University of Sheffield)
- Jure Zovko (University of Zadar)

Moderator: **prof. Matevž Tomšič**

Ortenca Kotherja, Marsela Skilja:

Bullying, its impact on the psychological aspect of pupils and the importance of social inclusion

Abstract

Bullying is defined as an unwanted, intentional and repeated aggressive behaviors between pupils at school. Bullying is characterized by series of negative behaviors that have an impact on the body, feelings, social relationships reputation and social status of the victim. This is a fairly widespread phenomenon and has a significant impact on the psychological aspect of children, affecting their social exclusion. Nowadays, classes are becoming more and more diverse, having students with different socio-demographic data. The learning environment, social habits, aggressive behaviors evaluation or intervention in these behaviors occupy a very important place. Schools that their aim is to encourage the inclusion often encounter these behaviors occupy a very important place. Schools that focus on inclusiveness often encounter the phenomenon of bullying among children and more widely. The main focus of this study is to show the impact of bullying on the psychological aspect of children. Based on various authors and literature, the purpose of the paper is to provide a clear picture of this phenomenon and to identify the importance of social inclusion in reducing this phenomenon and the awareness of the community on this aspect. The study focused on 10th and 12th level in school and the instruments were applied to 100 teenagers but only 71 of them were part of the study. The data of the study showed that bullying has a significant impact on the psychology of teenagers. This is reflected in their behavior becoming more antisocial and exclusionary from society. Strengthening self-defense skills is seen as a component that must be constantly stimulated by the social and family environment. In the study, the recommendations given emphasize the importance of social inclusion that helps alleviate the impact of this problem, which requires the commitment of the schools' multidisciplinary team, classroom management adhering to inclusive activities that aim to avoid the phenomenon of bullying, etc.

Keywords: bully, pupil, social exclusion, social inclusion, school

Larissa Titarenko:

COLORED REVOLUTION in BELARUS: A CONTRIBUTION TO SOCIAL INTEGRATION OR EXCLUSION?

Abstract

Colored revolution took place in Belarus in August 2020. It started as dissatisfaction of people (especially youth and intellectuals) with the result of the Presidential election hold, and continued for several months. The forms of protests were peaceful. However, after the brutal police violence, the protesters actively demanded re-election and continued anti-regime actions. Many were arrested. Still, the protests in several places of Belarus continued for long. The digital media NEXTA has become a symbol and organizational virtual center of protests in 2020. Actually, this media existed since 2015 and distributed a lot of information that was not welcome by the political regime. Primarily NEXTA was connected with the name of blogger S. Putila operated from Warsaw. In 2020 NEXTA and similar telegram and youtube channels tried to coordinate protests, published pictures, instructions for actions, plans, etc. The number of NEXTA subscribers reached 2 million already in August. The authorities tried to block it. As the headquarters of NEXTA were outside Belarus, it was not possible, even after NEXTA was officially declared an extremist organization. Other anti-regime Belarusian media were banned.

Perhaps, a symbolic end of revolution coincided with the arrest of an organizer and activist of NEXTA, blogger R. Protasevich in May 2021. Since then, pro-regime audience has become much more active than protesters and took the political revenge. Revolution failed. What was its consequence for the population? The pro-regime journalists and politicians argue that this revolution helped “true Belarusians” to unite around President and make the nation stronger. President announced several small political changes to make regime more attractive for common people. The major geopolitical change was the fast and deep rapprochement with Russia: first, this country provided economic support to the regime, second, it helped to cope with the extremely serious consequences of sanctions, third, the military forces of two countries became better coordinated and trained together in 2021-2022. Belarus does not participate in Russian military activities in Ukraine, being a Russian ally. Still, assessment of Ukrainian events together with the disengagement of the former protesters within the country, led to the political exclusion of the dissent. Some left the country, others lost their jobs, the rest kept silence. This is a hidden social bomb that could blow up the country from the inside in the future.

Keywords: colored revolution, Belarus, protests, integration, exclusion

Igor Bahovec:

Contemporary socio-cultural crisis and creative potential of the dialogic type of social relationships

Abstract

We live in a time of many crises, e.g. ecological, economic (e.g. enormous differences between rich and poor, migration), health, but also a crisis of cultural identity. Some argue that there are not many crises but one connected crisis.

When facing the crisis, some authors (including Bauman, Sorokin, Berger, Etzioni, and Pope Francis) showed the potential of dialogue. According to Bauman is »the culture of dialogue capable of healing the wounds» of our multicultural, multi-centered and multi-conflictual world.

The paper consists of three parts. We present some results of empirical research on two examples of social dialogue: the issue of relationships and dialogue between cultures (including reflection on European year of intercultural dialogue), and the issue of (dialogical) mediation (Berger). The second focus is a reflection on the characteristics of the dialogical type of social relationship: requirements and limitations, conditions and opportunities, etc. Reflection is based on a review of the existing literature and the results of our own research. It seems two central aspects of genuine dialogue are: 1) not all dialogue is genuine dialogue; 2) authentic dialogue has two dimensions: an authentic encounter of persons, groups, nations, cultures etc., and creativity.

In the third part, we will develop a reflection on the concrete potential that the dialogical attitude has in finding answers to the pressing questions of the crisis in modern society and culture. Dialogue is not a universal path, as it requires certain preconditions, and groups of people or institutions are not always open to dialogue. However, when people choose to go this way, the creative solutions are surprising.

Keywords: dialogue, culture, time of crises, creativity, types of social relationships

Antoaneta Getova:

Did the Bulgarian Students Adapt to the University “from a Distance”: Analysis of the Effects of Online learning during the Third Year of the Pandemic

Abstract

The analysis is dedicated to the effects of the online learning during the third year of the pandemic in the Bulgarian universities. While in most of them the on-campus learning was partially or fully restored during the second semester of 2021-2022, the online learning was still the predominant approach during the last three years, especially for BA students as the majority of them had more online than on site lectures in their education. The paper analyses the long term effects of the online learning on these students, including their potential adaptation to the digitalized university education and their attitudes towards its future. The main hypothesis of the analysis is that a difference from their lecturers, the students adapted to the online learning, moreover, they would choose it over the traditional approach.

The analysis is based on the results of online survey that is made for the third time among students and lecturers of different Bulgarian universities during the pandemic. Comparison with the results of the previous waves of the survey is also provided in the analysis.

Keywords: online learning, online survey, social transformation, inclusion

Dhirendra Kumar Sahoo:

Digital Transformation and Financial Inclusion: A Study on Digital Payments in India

Abstract

Digitalization and financial inclusion must have a symbiotic relationship. India has witnessed deep internet penetration which created a new norm for a country known as an online transaction. This transformation has enhanced the financial services to reach out to the unreached and excluded rural areas. The widespread adoption of digital technologies is widely viewed as a means of expanding access to banking within the smartphone and other financial services in rural areas.

This paper has examined how digitization promoted financial inclusion and digital transformation in rural India, the accessibility of these payment systems to the rural people, and their ability to use them. It mainly focuses on digital payment systems in India especially United Payment Interface (UPI), and internet banking services. The study addressed how rural people used these payment systems despite the digital divide, infrastructure gaps, affordability, usability, digital literacy, and cyber security. The UPI system has aided India's transition from a cash-based economy to one that is much less dependent on the cash journey toward the digital economy. UPI has enabled customers to transfer funds between various bank accounts in real-time, without disclosing their bank account information to other parties.

In financial inclusion, India's digital payments ecosystem has witnessed rapid growth over the last eight years, growing in annual volume from only 316 crores in the financial year (FY) 2014-15 to 8,840 crore in FY 2021-22. This growth has been powered by a confluence of technological developments and progressive government policies and regulations. Since the launch of UPI in April 2016, UPI transactions have grown rapidly, reaching a major global milestone of annual transaction value exceeding USD 1 trillion (with 45,6 billion transactions) in the fiscal year 2021-22 and a domestic milestone of monthly transaction value exceeding 10 trillion in May 2022. (with 5.95 billion transactions). This phenomenal development in UPI transactions, with a CAGR of 381% over the past five years, has been the driving force behind India's rapid embrace of digital payments.

The paper has elucidated to what extent digitalization helped in achieving financial inclusion. This study has explored identifying financial inclusion constraints. It also analyzed the various payment methods' suitability to further financial inclusion. It will provide suggestions on methods and steps to be taken for ensuring the wider use and acceptability of the payment systems to achieve better financial inclusion in rural areas.

Keywords: digitalization, financial services, digital payment, financial inclusion, UPI

Iannuzzi Ilaria:

Gamification of societies. New forms of inclusion or exclusion?

Abstract

For a long time, the game has been considered, in the sociological field, an element of marginal character, as if to affirm, more or less explicitly, that dealing with the study of the game is itself a game, believing that this dimension is not able to add anything really significant for sociological theory. There is, instead, a close relationship between society and game, as Simmel already in 1917.

The game is connected to the organization of society (Huizinga, 1964): there is a parallelism between playful structures and social functions.

More and more frequently, in fact, the term gamification spreads and expands, becoming a real social imperative, which progressively affects more and more areas, from education to the economy, to finance – which becomes »creative« and is configured as the »game« of the Stock Exchange – and even at work. On closer inspection, however, – and this is what we propose to do in this paper – the gamification of societies does not seem to represent only a simple fashion, as such transient albeit recurrent, but rather appears as an economic and efficientistic process.

In this paper we aim to highlight processes that employ leisure, fun and recreation by bending the constitutive dimension of meaning of these areas, bringing them back to an economical logic. Consequences, in terms of inclusion, but particularly in terms of exclusion, need to be deeply analyzed.

Keywords: game, gamification, inclusion, exclusion, social transformations

Suchet Kumar, Kiran Gupta:

Global Happiness: A Comparative Analysis of the Happiness Index and Its Effect on Quality of Life

Abstract

There has been a dramatic increase in the number of studies conducted on the topic of happiness and subjective well-being, as well as the number of government initiatives designed to track these concepts. Books published since 2013 have less frequently used the term »GDP« (or something similar) than the term »happiness,« while the latter has been used more frequently than the former. More and more frequently, organizations, academics, and governments are including happiness metrics in their efforts to define progress through the development of a new set of indicators. This is indicative of the increasing availability of data on happiness and the widespread interest in this conception of progress among the general public. The purpose of this paper is to examine how different nations rank on an international happiness index based on their quality of life. This paper uses a 2022 Happiness Index ranking to compare and contrast the 15 countries in the world with the highest and lowest rankings on various parameters, such as GDP and quality of life. In order to get information about the standard of living in these nations, we used keywords to search for relevant data in online databases. Why developed nations of the West score higher on the happiness scale than their Asian counterparts? Is the happiness Index only limited to the high GDP and per capita income of a country? What countries or regions rank the highest in overall happiness and each of the six factors contributing to happiness? How did country ranks or scores change between the 2015 and 2016 as well as the 2016 and 2017 reports? Did any country experience a significant increase or decrease in happiness? The paper goes on to discuss how concepts of equilibrium and harmony can improve methods for measuring and analyzing global happiness. Although the ideas of equilibrium and harmony are commonly associated with the »Eastern« world, this paper argues that they may be valued by people from all cultures.

Keywords: happiness, globalization, developed countries

Akinyetun Tope Shola, Adedini Sarah Oluwafunmilayo, Alausa Jamiu Abiodun, Ahoton Aihonsu Samuel:

Heated environment, armed people? Climate change and armed conflicts in Africa

Abstract

The nuance of insecurity in Africa has attracted enormous scholarship. This is not unconnected with the significant levels of intrastate, communal, identity-based, extremist and state-sponsored conflicts that pervade the region. As one of the most troubled regions in the world, widespread conflicts have proliferated the incidence of insecurity, political instability and civil war in Africa. The upsurge of this anomie has been attributed to various factors including multidimensional poverty, marginalization, inequality, the political elite, identity-superiority contests, religious fundamentalism and a weak state, among others. However, the nature of conflicts in Africa has also been triggered by dynamics including competition for scarce resources, political tension and environmental crisis such as climate change. Climate change poses perhaps the greatest challenge to human existence in contemporary times. It has serious environmental, economic, political and security implications. In addition to stressing access to available resources, it increases the chances of unhealthy competition for resources in a burgeoning population such as those found in Africa. This creates opportunities for new conflicts and renewal of existing conflicts. More so, it has implications for humanitarian crises, migration, displacement and governance. Although the nexus between climate change and an increase in armed conflicts is a rapidly growing field of research, there are, however, disagreements among scholars on causation and correlation. To fill this gap, the attention of policymakers, security experts and intelligentsias must focus on advancing the discussion on the peace and security implications of climate variability in Africa. As a result, this paper adopts a qualitative approach that reviews secondary data to examine how climate change necessitates armed conflict in Africa.

Keywords: climate change, conflict, environmental crisis, insecurity, instability

Janja Mikulan:

Impacts of trauma on radicalization: A Scoping Review

Abstract

In the contribution we present the findings of the scoping review of scientific literature on trauma and radicalization. The paper understands radicalization as a long-lasting process and multidimensional phenomenon shaped by personal, group-level (pull), and systemic (push) factors and their complex relationship. Paper includes the review of articles that explore if and how radicalization is related to trauma. Trauma is explored within the context of both personal and systemic factors for radicalization. Personal or individual factors include individual characteristics that make certain individuals more vulnerable to radicalization than their peers in comparable contexts. These include diagnosable conditions such as certain psychological disorders, mental illness etc., as well as non-diagnosable such as low self-esteem, isolation, loneliness etc. Special attention is also given to systemic or structural roots of trauma that mostly include relative deprivation of certain social group and include phenomenon such as oppression, injustice, marginalization, exclusion, grievances etc.

Since the field remains poorly explored and understood, the scoping review aimed at (Munn et al. 2018): identifying the types of available evidence; clarifying key concepts/ definitions in the literature (radicalization and trauma); examining how research is conducted; identifying key characteristics or factors related to radicalization and trauma; identifying and analysing knowledge gaps.

Keywords: trauma, radicalization, scoping review

Alfiya K Jose, Ashraya Maria:

Infrastructure of Death: Shifting Spatiality of Cemeteries in Chennai During the Covid-19 Pandemic

Abstract

Infrastructure, in conventional conception, often caters to the purpose of sustaining the living body in the city. By infrastructure of death, we refer to the spaces which cater to the needs of the body after death along with the needs of the living. The study explores how the infrastructure of death is constantly structured and re-structured, especially in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic by critically analyzing the changing spatialities of cemeteries in the city of Chennai, India. Envisioned as field spaces, cemeteries embody the liminality or passing through between the categories of public/private and sacred/secular, where intended strategic uses of space contest with the tactical uses of space. Cemetery spaces become a part of the constellation of assembled urban life and for the urban inhabitants, cemeteries are not a 'non-place' or the 'other', rather, a lived realm that opens possibilities for them to engage in everyday activities including leisure. The rise of the Covid-19 pandemic marked a radical shift in the infrastructure of deathscapes. With the massive rise of Covid death cases, the city witnessed a shortage of spaces to accommodate the dead, and to deal with the crisis various alternative measures were adopted like cutting down trees and restricting the public's access to the space. Given this context, this study aims to understand changes in the tactical uses of space affected by the Covid-19 pandemic, which brought to the surface simultaneously the place of death in everyday life as well as the inadequacy of death infrastructures in accommodating the dead. The study employs ethnographic methods of data collection to have a profound understanding of the multiplicity of public uses and the changing spatiality of cemetery spaces in Chennai.

Keywords: deathscapes, infrastructure, spatiality, Covid- 19 pandemic, exclusion

Mateja Rek:

Learning to be smart about using media

Abstract

In the era of rapid technological development, which is permeated with digitization processes, the development of the ability to use and understand digital messages is becoming an important element of people's quality of life. The mass use of digital media brings many challenges in the field of ensuring online safety, health, and the ability to participate in various social and economic activities. In the digital world, people need specific skills and habits of media literacy, that include abilities to access, analyse, and evaluate media in multiple, changable forms and communicate competently within these forms. Year after year we are faced with strongly increased demand and a need of various organisations and individuals for guidance in media education processes, raising digital awareness and competences in protection against the negative consequences and pitfalls of operating in the digital media environment. The aim of this presentation is to consider, how are we, as a society (in framework of our formal education system or civic activities) and individuals (as parents, educators) dealing with increased digital media consumption especially of children and youth, but also other generations, in Slovenia. The author derives the data and their interpretation from her own empirical research into the dimensions of media education and literacy, which were carried out as part of the Infrastructure Program of the Faculty of Media - collection, management and archiving of data on media literacy in the period 2013-2022. The research infrastructure of the program includes data on media habits and literacy of the population and specific vulnerable groups in Slovenia (pre-school and primary school children, high school students 65+, deaf and hard-of-hearing, the blind and visually impaired, people with mental health challenges). The collected data contributes to the analysis of the state of media education and literacy in Slovenia, it also enables comparative positioning of the state of media literacy and its individual dimensions internationally. Repeated survey measurements create a time series of social science data in the field of media literacy. In this way, this data is becoming increasingly useful basis for academia and policymakers in providing quality analyses of social trends and social steering in the area of media education and literacy of the population and specific vulnerable groups.

Keywords: media, media education, media literacy, digitalisation, social transformations

Fatjona Haka:

Responses to self compassion in a non-clinical sample of Albanian adults: a qualitative approach

Abstract

Self compassion is an unexplored construct in Albania, however given its widely known benefits the author has made an initial attempt to explore adults' responses towards this construct. The aim of this research was to learn how is the idea of compassion towards one's self understood in the general population.

The researcher used semi structured interviews conducted with 25 to 57 year old people who were mostly employees, but also college students. They were analyzed using the interpretative phenomenological analysis principles. Participants were also presented with different narratives and asked how they would respond in case they were confronted with the narratives presented in those scenarios.

The following themes were identified: »being self compassionate«, »self compassion and related constructions« and »inner barriers to self compassion« »relational self compassion« »culture and self compassion«.

Keywords: self - compassion; qualitative research; wellbeing

Jovana Zafirovic:

The Impact of Job Insecurity on Party Identification in Europe

Abstract

In modern capitalist societies, one dimension of paid work has become especially important - job insecurity and its unequal distribution is a new source of social inequalities (Balz, 2020). The crisis of capitalism has brought multidimensional consequences that are gaining global proportions, all contributing to the growing culture of fear (Castels et al., 2012). In addition, transformations in the sphere of work do not affect all workers equally - thus further polarizing the labor market (OECD, 2019). Consequently, economic concerns affect people's political preferences (Marx, 2014; Wroe, 2014). There is limited evidence in the literature of potential political consequences of individuals' perceived job insecurities, especially of longitudinal nature. Additionally, the literature mostly focuses on objective variables. Thus, we are interested in whether job insecurity draws people to parties on the extremes of the political spectrum. Our study relies on the relative deprivation theory which suggests that the perception of job insecurity can trigger feelings of deprivation resulting in a higher risk of developing anti-foreign sentiments and affinities to extremist right-wing parties (Geishecker & Siedler, 2012). We examine whether job insecurity impacts individuals' party identification by using indicators of both objective and subjective insecurity. Thus, we conduct multilevel models on European Social Survey data from 2004 and 2010 thereby providing a direct comparison between the period before the crisis and a period in which most countries have emerged from the recession. Consistent with the deprivation theory, we find strong evidence that subjective job insecurity fosters more affinity for far right-wing parties compared to objective insecurity and that this effect is stronger after the crisis.

Keywords: job insecurity, party identification, right-wing, Europe

Ortenca Kotherja, Marsela Skilja:

The impact of technology on socialization communication skills

Abstract

Bullying is defined as an unwanted, intentional and repeated aggressive behaviors between pupils at school. Bullying is characterized by series of negative behaviors that have an impact on the body, feelings, social relationships reputation and social status of the victim. This is a fairly widespread phenomenon and has a significant impact on the psychological aspect of children, affecting their social exclusion. Nowadays, classes are becoming more and more diverse, having students with different socio-demographic data. The learning environment, social habits, aggressive behaviors evaluation or intervention in these behaviors occupy a very important place. Schools that their aim is to encourage the inclusion often encounter these behaviors occupy a very important place. Schools that focus on inclusiveness often encounter the phenomenon of bullying among children and more widely. The main focus of this study is to show the impact of bullying on the psychological aspect of children. Based on various authors and literature, the purpose of the paper is to provide a clear picture of this phenomenon and to identify the importance of social inclusion in reducing this phenomenon and the awareness of the community on this aspect. The study focused on 10th and 12th level in school and the instruments were applied to 100 teenagers but only 71 of them were part of the study. The data of the study showed that bullying has a significant impact on the psychology of teenagers. This is reflected in their behavior becoming more antisocial and exclusionary from society. Strengthening self-defense skills is seen as a component that must be constantly stimulated by the social and family environment. In the study, the recommendations given emphasize the importance of social inclusion that helps alleviate the impact of this problem, which requires the commitment of the schools multidisciplinary team, classroom management adhering to inclusive activities that aim to avoid the phenomenon of bullying, etc.

Keywords: bully, pupil, social exclusion, social inclusion, school

Ortenca Kotherja, Marsela Skilja:

The impact of technology on socialization communication skills

Abstract

Socialization has a great importance in the appearance of children in many aspects of life. This process that interacts them effect in many actors of life. Socialization is conceptualized as a programming process with the goal of several tasks within a complex system. It includes the totality of processes through which the individual is constructed by the global and local society in which they lives. Family, school, peers, media, public opinion and more play an important role in the socialization of the children and directly affects their education. In the modern world, digital media play an important role during the life every day both in communication between individuals and their socialization involving every age group. In the modern world, digital media play an important role in everyday life both in communication between individuals and their socialization involving every age. In this digital environment, children are active participants and the way they communicate and create relationships directly affects their socialization process. The purpose of the study is to understand the social relationships that are created between the development of communication skills and socialization in children about the use of technology. In this study for data collection were used qualitative methods by applying 10 interviews the parents of children 3-6 years. The result of the data show that digital socialization is a feature of a new form of socialization in modern life. The way that is used by each group has a great importance in the development of the child and their society that these effects the development of skills communication and aspects of socialization. Some of the recommendations that are given in this study focus in the importance to conduct more studies in the importance of digital socialism and its impact on socialization and wider.

Keywords: communication, skills socialization, digital socialization, technology, gender identity

Prof. Damien Brennan, Dr. Maureen D'Eath:

The social contract for care provision: Care giving and the relationship between the nation state, the family and the individual, during an era of social transformation

Abstract

This paper explores the social contract for care provision within the contemporary post-institutional context. Specifically, this paper considers the relationship between the individual, the family, and the nation state with regard to responsibility for care provision during an era when societies transition from institutional based care provision to community-based care provision.

The wide scale and prolonged use of institutions of confinement was a common societal response to socially constructed care needs during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, for example for people with mental health challenges and people with an intellectual disability. This societal impulse to institutionalise was dehumanising, abusive and wrong, and the ending of this era of confinement is most welcome. While families were integral to the admission / committal process, long term institutional based care removed the family unit as the central entity for the provision of care.

Over the past fifty years a social policy reorientation towards de-congregation and de-institutionalization has occurred, which has shifted care giving away from large built environments and towards community settings. This drive towards community care is a common feature of most European nation states, North America, Australia and New Zealand. While there is variation and diversity across nation states, social policies for community care have broadly repositioned the family unit as central to the long-term provision of care for family members.

Such social policy prioritisation of care within the community has occurred during a time when family units have also undergone significant transformation. Wide scale societal changes, such as increased gender equality; control of fertility; increased participation of women within the formal labour market; labour mobility and emigration, coupled with macro-economic factors such as decreased affordability of living spaces, have re-cast the makeup and social function of family units. This has impacted on the capacity of family units to provide care during an era when social policy is emphasizing the increased role of the family as an assumed milieu for long term care provision.

While care giving is an exceptionally intimate act and social process, the social contract for care encapsulates the relationship between the nation state, the family and the individual who requires care. With specific reference to the post-institutional policy era, this paper explores the growing uncertainty regarding this social contract for care, specifically what are the expectations, roles and care giving responsibilities of the family unit during a time of social transformation.

Keywords: social contract, care provision

Igor Jelen, Alessandro Carile:

The use of force in geopolitical contexts: recent evolutions in theory and praxis

Abstract

The use of force in relations between states and other players on the world stage: theory, practice and developments in political geography. Based on the experiences of the twentieth century (world wars, genocides, ideological-totalitarian degenerations, de-colonization processes), the geopolitical thought of late modernity, starting from the 1960s, essentially develops in a »critical« sense. Then it assumes, among its favorite themes, the discussion on the essence of power (whether or not it is intrinsically »bad«), of the state and of politics (if they inevitably have to rely on the use of force); then it starts the development of a method targeted to regulation and prevention of conflicts, based on a process of deconstruction of alleged »false« ideas of power, to prevent the effects of escalation that have led the whole of humanity to the risk of destruction and self-destruction. These needs are translated operationally into the search for the so-called »insider« factors, that is, those that, in a certain scenario, beyond an immanent and self-evident »casus belli«, cause effects of permanent and out of control conflict, to the point of making war an element that justifies itself (an end, rather than a means). Effects that confuse any causal chain, which make it difficult to identify links and motivations, and therefore the search for a solution, and with it the pacification of crisis scenarios (which in fact tend to perpetuate themselves in areas of “endemic” conflictuality. All this proceeding on the basis of a neo-Enlightenment (possibly neo-liberal) assumption, which almost deterministically assumes the affirmation of an open society, refractory to violence, and the assimilation of »evil« to the mechanisms of democratization, to open market and capitalist prosperity (albeit socially tempered by Keynesian regulatory interventions). All this in a context of multilateral policy development, the establishment of international organizations, and the consolidation of a trans-national geo-economic apparatus, of civil society as an »answer to war«, with the aim of progressively limiting, up to cancel the same occasions of conflict; and this to the point that an idea of war as something obsolete spreads (perhaps in an illusory way). Such “geopolitical machine” succeed in settlement of “historical” conflicts (essentially inherited by consolidated democracies in the centuries of their formation). In the meanwhile, the residual supporters of some armed conflict conceal the very causes of the conflict (hybrid, low intensity, as »humanitarian« intervention, etc.), almost in an attempt to elaborate new forms of justification. The latest events, however, and recent developments (out of control migratory flows, pandemics, international crises), seem to contradict this trend, re-proposing themes and tensions that geographic-political theory seemed to have abandoned for some time. A fact made even more evident by the current invasion of Ukraine, which leaves you dismayed, like aggression to troglodytic times, when the invasion did not need to have a justification; it seems to cause deliberate violence and destruction on a large scale, so much so as to question the entire “critical” paradigm. Putin 24.february discourse deliberately denies the right of Ukraine to survive as national human community. Evolutions that make it necessary to rethink the practices of limitation and regulation, of the intervention and prevention devices of war, and of the same method of study of the scenarios (e.g. counter-insurance procedures between sovereign states, standards of humanitarian protection, functioning of organizations responsible for limiting the proliferation of WMD, establishment of bands of respect, demilitarization corridors, a regime of reciprocal inspections); perhaps a return to models that, just until few months ago, were considered outdated.

Keywords: geopolitics, collateral effects, conflicts, critical theory

Dr. Ananda Rao Kuriti:

Transnational Capitalism, Global System and Inequality among Nation States in case of India: A Theoretical Analysis

Abstract

Capitalism has always been a world system; it was never simply national or regional. It expanded from the onset, ultimately engulfing the entire world, and depending throughout its existence on a web of worldwide trade relations. Up to the 1980s, at least since the Second World War and in some cases since the beginning of the twentieth century, there had been a general narrowing of differences in the income available to individuals and families. Income-related inequalities, notably in the ownership of capital and other assets, in access to a variety of services and benefits, and in the personal security that money can buy, are growing. The popular contention that the rich get richer and the poor get poorer appears to be largely based on fact, particularly within the present global context. There is also greater inequality in the distribution of opportunities for remunerated employment, with worsening unemployment and underemployment in various parts of the world including India affecting a disproportionate number of people at the lower end of the socio-economic scale. A transnational capitalist class has emerged in this era as the agent of global capitalism. The new transnational phase entails a shift from a world economy to a global economy. Even, there were significant periods of de-globalization in the late nineteenth century and in the first half of the twentieth century. The globalization of the production process breaks down and functionally integrates what were previously national circuits into new global circuits of accumulation. The world-system perspective contends that the circuits of capital have been organized as an axial division of labour linking the core with the non-core at least since the emergence of the Europe-cantered world system 500 years ago. Robinson (2008) argued that globalization has gone to a new higher level of integration in the recent period, but he does not see that there were earlier waves of integration that were separated by troughs of de-globalization. In this backdrop, this paper will examine how transnational capitalism effecting to the developing countries in case of India by their regulatory system and what are the ways to resolute such issues in democratic way for good governance. The methodological background of this research is based on secondary sources collected from both national and international reports, research papers and paper clippings. Application of Robinson's global system theory has been examined in analyzing the reasons for the rise and fall of states, income, inequality, social unrest and imperialism in various levels.

Keywords: capitalism, war, global economy, world system

Anu Masso:

Understanding Global Data Migration: A Social Transformation Approach

Abstract

The increasing global data migration has emerged as one of the most significant social changes since having the power to restructure all aspects of human life, from culture to social relations interrelations with structural transitions in technological infrastructure, politics, and economy.

Machine learning models are increasingly used to tackle urgent human and social challenges, including health care, immigration, and transport. These models are developed with data collected within a particular society, typically Western societies, but often applied in other societies. Data transfers have great potential benefits and can lead to significant social transformations or risks and harms. We do not have any understanding of when the data transfer from one society to another leads to potential benefits or when it leads to negative consequences. There is an urgent need for a framework that will allow to explain and potentially predict the applicability of the data models in different societies and recommend a framework for performing the data transfer in a way as to minimise the potential to fail.

This presentation addresses these urgent developments, relying on a social transformation framework developed and applied to examine the rapid change processes in (post-communist) transformation societies such as Estonia and strives to map, examine, and understand the social transformations related to global data migration. The presentation illustrates the puzzles of data migration as a social transformation using examples from diverse fields, including health care (the Ubenwa mobile phone application, developed in Canada, based on Mexican babies' cry data, applied in Nigeria to prevent birth asphyxia), forced migration (matching algorithm for relocating refugees in the US, Switzerland, Turkey, and Estonia), digital identity services (Estonian e-residency case), or most recent Ukrainian cultural heritage data rescue initiative (SUCHO).

Keywords: data migration, data transfer, open data, data protection, social change, social transformation, agency



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