

## Newsletter Issue #18: March 2018

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Greetings from the ISA!

We are very much looking forward to the forthcoming World Congress of Sociology in Toronto next 15-21 July. Our Program Coordinators and Session Organizers have been hard at work building us an excellent program. As you can see from the session list on Page 2, we will have presentations on a wide range of topics from diverse sociological perspectives.

What you can't see from that list, but will see at the conference, is that we have participants from all over the world. Ours is the only truly world association of sociologists of religion.

I heartily thank Program Coordinators Anna Halafoff, Caroline Starkey, and Sam Han for their long and successful work on this program. Thanks also to the many Session Organizers who brought the papers together.

By now, those of you whose papers were accepted will have received notice from the ISA and from your Session Organizers. **It is important that you register for the Congress by 20 March!** If you do not, your name will be dropped from the program. See the link on Page 2.

If you are worried about getting trav-

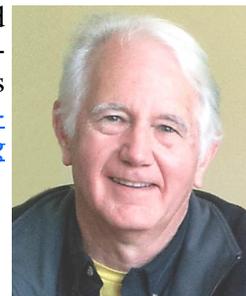
el funding, register anyway. You have until 19 May 19 to cancel and get a refund.

If you need a letter affirming your participation, please write your Session Chair or one of the Program Coordinators. Their email addresses are on the bottom of Page 2.

One final word. Some of you have been invited to present Distributed Papers. These papers are a key part of our Thematic Sessions, and they serve two purposes. First, they give you a chance to present a brief summary of your research to a large audience. Second, they give us a pool of presenters who can step in, if one of the main presenters is absent. If your Deans and Department Chairs do not understand this, please ask us for a letter explaining how important your papers are.

I look forward to seeing you in Toronto.

Jim Spickard  
University of Red-  
lands  
[president@isa-rc22.org](mailto:president@isa-rc22.org)



### Call for Candidates!

Every four years, our Research Committee elects new leadership. We elect a President, a Secretary/Treasurer, and a ten-member Board consisting of two representatives from each of five world regions: Africa, Asia/Pacific, Europe, Latin America, and North American (U.S./Canada). These officers appoint one or more Vice-Presidents. Together, this group manages the Research Committee between World Congresses.

#### **We need people to run for election to these various offices.**

Specifically, we need a new President, Secretary-Treasurer, and at least five Board members. The President and Vice-President are limited to a single term. Board members may be elected to two terms, though their re-election is not automatic. At this point, five of the current Board members have either served two terms or do not wish to run for re-election.

**Please consider running for one of these offices.** Please also think about people whom you would like to nominate (but get their permission before you send us their names). Send nominations — whether of yourself or someone else — to Jim Spickard at [president@isa-rc22.org](mailto:president@isa-rc22.org) AND to Eloísa Martín [sectreas@isa-rc22.org](mailto:sectreas@isa-rc22.org)

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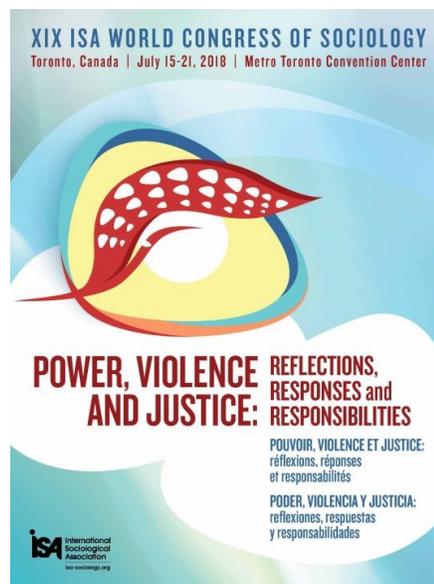
### Moving towards the 2018 World Congress

The 2018 XIX ISA World Congress of Sociology will be held in Toronto on 15-21 July. The RC-22 program theme is **Religion, Power, and Resistance: New Ideas for a Divided World**. The Program contains the following highlights, Sessions and Roundtables:

- Jim Spickard's **Presidential Address**, with discussants Eloisa Martin and Ed Tiryakian
- An **Invited Panel on Religion and Diversity**, featuring Lori Beaman, Peter Beyer, Heather Shipley and Anna Halafoff
- Author-meets-Critics session on Roberto Cipriani's new book **Diffused Religion: Beyond Secularization**, with discussants Per Pettersson, Roberto Motta, Elfriede Wedam, Douglas Ezzy, and Christel Gärtner
- 14 Thematic Sessions on:
  1. Social Theory and Religion;
  2. Religion in the Public Square;
  3. Religion and Secularity;
  4. Religion in the Asian Public Sphere;
  5. Dynamics of Gender, Religion and Intersectionality;
  6. Religion, Gender and Family Violence;
  7. Religion and National Identity;
  8. Religion and Non-Violent Social Movements;
  9. Prejudice, Exclusion and Violence in a Transnational World;
  10. Gender, Feminism, and Islam and the West;
  11. The Case for an Indeterminate Sociological Theory of Religion;
  12. Religious Texts of Diversity Vs Exclusion;
  13. Religion and Migration: Contrasting the First and Second Generations; and
  14. Media and Religious Radicalization: Gatekeeping and the Construction of Extremism.
- 9 Roundtables on:
  1. Nationalism and National Identity;
  2. Religion, Gender and Sexuality;
  3. Youth and Generational Change;
  4. Social Welfare and Governance;
  5. Religion and Social Theory;
  6. Religion in the Public Sphere;
  7. Religion, Violence and Peacebuilding;
  8. Minorities and Belonging; and a
  9. Wild Card Session Roundtable.

Acceptances have already been sent to participants. **To be included in the Final Program all participants must register by March 20. Register at:**

<https://isaconf.confex.com/isaconf/wc2018/registration/call.cgi>



### Remaining Timetable for the World Congress

2018

**20 Mar:**

**Do this now!**

- **Registration deadline for presenters**

14 Apr–30 Apr:

- Session Organizers and Program Coordinators modify sessions based on final registrations.

Early May

- **FINAL PROGRAM AVAILABLE**

### At the Congress: 15-21 July

Sunday 15th:

- Opening Session and Reception

Monday 16th to Saturday 21st:

- RC22 Thematic Sessions & Roundtables

Thursday 19th:

- RC22 Presidential Session, Business Meeting, and Party

Friday 20th:

- ISA Farewell Party

Saturday 21st:

- Invited Session on Religion & Diversity

**If you have any queries please contact the Program Coordinators:**

Anna HALAFOFF, [anna.halafoff@deakin.edu.au](mailto:anna.halafoff@deakin.edu.au),  
Caroline STARKEY, [c.starkey@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:c.starkey@leeds.ac.uk), and  
Sam HAN, [hansam@ntu.edu.sg](mailto:hansam@ntu.edu.sg)

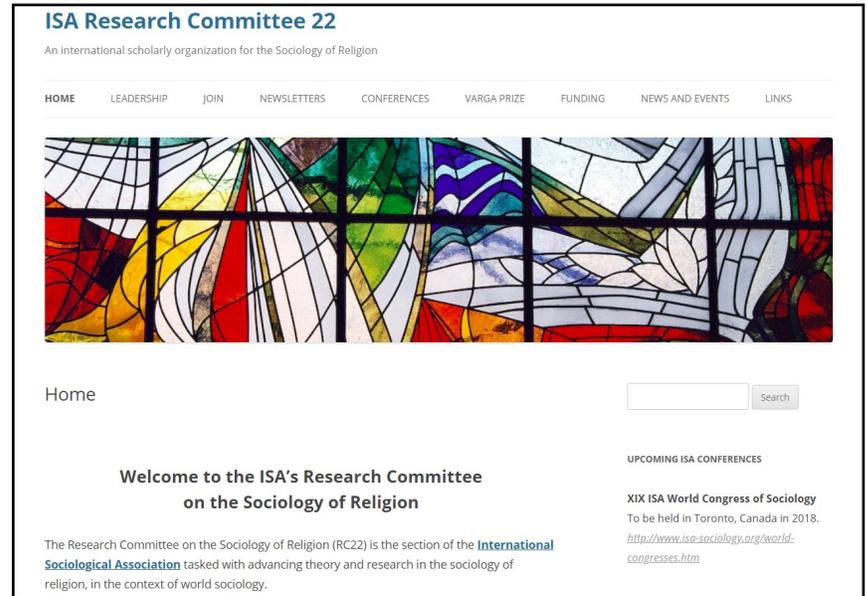
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### Visit the RC-22 Website

RC-22 has its own website at [www.isa-rc22.org](http://www.isa-rc22.org). It contains:

- an overview of the Research Committee,
- past and present newsletters,
- notice of ISA and RC conferences,
- funding opportunities,
- and an extensive news and events blog world

Visit us on the web!



### Send us News for Our Blog.

We post calls-for-papers, conference and book announcements, job openings, and many other things of interest to sociologists of religion worldwide.

- Visit [www.isa-rc22.org/news-events](http://www.isa-rc22.org/news-events) to get a sample.
- Then send your events and news to [BlogSubmit@isa-rc22.org](mailto:BlogSubmit@isa-rc22.org). We can't do attachments, so put your text in the body of your email. We'll post it and spread the word.

A weekly digest goes out to over 800 scholars worldwide. If you're not already getting it, go to [the blog page](#) and subscribe:

### Three Ways to Contribute to Our Next Newsletter

#### 1) Tell us about the sociology of religion in your part of the world:

In our September, 2016, newsletter, we heard about the sociology of religion in Latin America. What's happening to religion in your part of the world? What's happening in your country? We'll publish short pieces in future newsletters: 500-750 words. Please send them to [newsletter@isa-rc22.org](mailto:newsletter@isa-rc22.org).

#### 2) Write a think-piece about the sociology of religion

What direction do you think our discipline needs to go? What are the cutting-edge issues? What projects do you find most exciting? We'd like short essays (up to 1250 words) that are scholarly but also provocative. Please send them to [newsletter@isa-rc22.org](mailto:newsletter@isa-rc22.org).

#### 3) Tell us about your books and awards

We'll publish significant news from members as space allows, and will post such news on our blog. Send material to: [newsletter@isa-rc22.org](mailto:newsletter@isa-rc22.org)

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### 2014-2018 RC22 BOARD MEMBERS

#### Officers

<b>President</b>	Jim Spickard, University of Redlands, USA <i>president@isa-rc22.org</i>
<b>Secretary/Treasurer</b>	Eloisa Martin, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil <i>sectreas@isa-rc22.org</i>
<b>Vice-President</b>	Per Pettersson, University of Uppsala, Sweden <i>vicepres@isa-rc22.org</i>

#### Board members

<b>Asia/Australia/Pacific</b>	Yoshihiro Sakurai, Hokkaido University, Japan Seyed Hossein Serajzadeh, Kharazmi University, Iran
<b>Europe</b>	Olga Breskaya, European Humanities University, Lithuania Miroljub Jevtic, University of Belgrade, Serbia
<b>North America</b>	Jualynne Dodson, Michigan State University, USA Ephraim Shapiro, Columbia University, USA
<b>Latin America</b>	Eloisa Martin, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil Hugo José Suarez, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Mexico
<b>Africa</b>	Lovemore Ndlovu, Zimbabwe Michael Okyerefo, University of Ghana, Ghana
<b>Past President</b>	Adam Possamai, University of Western Sydney, Australia

### Why your RC Membership Matters

As you know, there are two parts to membership in the ISA:

1. Membership in the ISA as a whole (\$35-\$225 for 4 years, depending on your country; half that for students)
2. Membership on the Research Committees. (\$10-\$30, depending on your country)

**Joining RC-22 accomplishes two things:**

- First, the number of members we have determines how many sessions we get at the World Congress and at other conferences. **Your RC membership gives more people a chance to participate in these events.**
- Second, we use the money from dues to fund mini-conferences, special events at the main conferences, and the Varga Prize for New Generation Scholars. This helps build our discipline and makes our get-togethers more fun.

***If you are not an RC-22 Member, please join!***  
***If your membership has lapsed, please renew!***