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Schweizerische Gesellschaft für  
Société suisse de **so**ciologie  
Swiss Sociological Association

**Seismo**  
suisse

Dear members of the Swiss Sociological Association,

This first Bulletin presents the activities conducted in the context of the Swiss Sociological Association in 2023. It includes the annual report of the president and the minutes of the general assembly held in Bern in September 2023. It also reports of the activities of the ten research committees, showing the dynamism in the sociological community of Switzerland.

This community will meet for the next Congress of the Swiss Sociological Association "Vulnerable Societies: Risks and Responses", organized in September 2024 in Basel, campus Muttentz, by the colleagues of the School of Social Work at the University of Applied Sciences and Arts Northwestern Switzerland.

Claudine Burton-Jeangros, SSA president, Geneva,  
April 2024

## 1. Scientific Activities

The Swiss Sociological Association provided financial support through the Academies of Human and Social Sciences (SAGW/ASSH) to three scientific meetings in 2023, including: 1) the conference “Negotiating Religious Neutrality in Society”, organized by the research committee Religion and Society, at the University of Bern on May 5 and 6, 2023; 2) the conference “New Work – New Problems? Genderperspektiven zur Transformation von Arbeit”, organized by the Gender Studies committee, that took place in the Hochschule Luzern on September 7 and 8, 2023; 3) a contribution for the organization of the 5<sup>th</sup> Congress of the German-speaking Sociology of Law and Law & Society Associations, September 21–23, 2023, in Innsbruck, co-organized by the Sociology of Law research committee. In addition, SSA provided financial support to the website “Qualitative Methoden an CH-Universitäten und Hochschulen” (in the care of Florian Elliker, University of St. Gallen).

Volume 49 of the Swiss Journal of Sociology has been published with twenty-five articles across three special issues:

- › Vol 49/1: “Anchoring International Organizations in Organizational Sociology”, edited by Fanny Badache & Leah R. Kimber (eleven articles);
- › Vol 49/2: “20 Years of TREE, Transitions from Education to Employment: Exploring Life Courses in Their Making”, edited by Sandra Hupka-Brunner, Ben Jann & Thomas Meyer (eight articles);
- › Vol 49/3: “Digital Academia. Investigating Science and Higher Education in the Digital Age”, edited by Philippe Saner, Luca Tratschin, Christian Leder & Katja Rost (six articles).

SSA Bulletin 162 included the proceedings and reports of the society and the research committees for 2022. Bulletin 163 published in December 2023 entitled

“A PhD in Sociology: Motivations, Expectations and Open questions” was edited by Claudine Burton-Jeangros and Stephanie Steinmetz. It gathers five contributions covering diverse aspects of the journeys of PhD students in sociology affiliated to different universities across Switzerland.

## 2. Cooperation and International Relations

As in past years, SSA has been an active member of the European Sociological Association (ESA, <https://www.europeansociology.org/>) and the International Sociological Association (ISA, <https://www.isa-sociology.org/en>), including some online meetings that brought together national representatives. At the ISA World congress in Melbourne in June 2023, SSA was represented by Christian Suter (University of Neuchâtel, previous board member). In addition, members of the SSA are part of sections of ESA and ISA.

## 3. Public Relations

SSA homepage (<https://www.sgs-sss.ch/de/>) provides important information about disciplinary news, job offers, conferences, as well as activities of the research committees. Four newsletters were distributed to the members in 2023, they are available for download on the homepage at: <https://www.sgs-sss.ch/en/the-association/newsletter/>.

## 4. Administration

The board of the association met four times in 2023, to discuss on-going activities of SSA, including the Swiss Journal of Sociology reform, relations with Seismo, and the organization of the 2024 congress.

A new membership fees structure has been implemented. Besides the difficulty to get all members to pay their fees, this new structure has led to a reduction of membership revenues. At the end of 2023, a campaign

was launched to recruit new members with new flyers and posters distributed in the institutes and departments hosting sociologists across Switzerland. A young researcher's prize was set up, to be awarded for the first time in 2024. This prize is supported by a generous donation from René Levy, previous president of the Society. The SSA general assembly took place at the University of Bern on September 29, 2023. The following issues were covered during the assembly: accounting 2022 and budgets 2023 and 2024, Swiss Journal of Sociology reform, relations with Seismo, Congress 2024, and SSA communication strategy to recruit new members. The SSA board includes nine members, and the office comprises of the president Claudine Burton-Jeangros (University of Geneva), the vice-president Jörg Rössel (University of Zurich), and the treasurer Regula Leemann (University of Applied Science Basel-Muttenz). In 2023, the board members included Patrik Aspers (University of St. Gallen), Philip Balsiger (University of Neuchâtel), Milena Chimienti (University of Ap-

plied Sciences and Arts Western Switzerland) Achim Edelmann (University of Bern), Marlyne Sahakian (University of Geneva), Leen Vandecasteele (University of Lausanne).

Milena Chimienti and Marlyne Sahakian retired from the board at the last assembly and were thanked for their engagement in SSA activities, notably the organization of the 2021 SSA Congress in Geneva. Two new board members were elected: Andreas Hadjar, Professor of Sociology, Social Policy and Social Research at the University of Fribourg, and Emilie Rosenstein, Professor at the University of Applied Sciences and Arts Western Switzerland (HETSL | HES-SO), Faculty of Social Work & Occupational Therapy Department in Lausanne.

The president and treasurer participated to the SAGW General Assembly in Bern in June 2023.

Claudine Burton-Jeangros (University of Geneva),  
President

# Protocol of the 2023 General Assembly

of the Swiss Sociological Association

University of Bern, September 29, 2023 from 16.00 to 17.30

## *Present:*

Patrik Aspers, Philip Balsiger, Claudine Burton-Jeangros, Sandro Cattacin, Benita Combet, Michael Deml, Achim Edelmann, Florian Elliker, Andreas Hadjar, Sandra Hafner, Regula Leemann, Olivier Moeschler, Sébastien Vincent

## *Excused:*

Monica Aceti, Léonie Bisang, Mathilde Bourrier, Milena Chimienti, Thomas Eberle, Ursula Fiechter, Roman Gibel, Kenneth Horvath, René Knüsel, Nicky Le Feuvre, René Levy, Christoph Maeder, Eva Nadai, Jean-Yves Pidoux, Didier Ruedin, Jörg Rössel, Marlyne Sahakian, Nuria Sanchez Mira, Guy Schwegler, Stephanie Steinmetz, Muriel Surdez

## **Agenda**

1. Approval of the agenda
2. Approval of the protocol of the 2022 General Assembly
3. Report of the President
4. Accounting 2022
5. Report of the revisors, discharge of the SSA board
6. Update Budget 2023; Budget 2024
7. Swiss Journal of Sociology
8. Relations between Seismo and SSA
9. Communication strategy
10. Congress 2024
11. Election of the board members and revisors
12. Varia

Notes taken by Michael Deml

**1. The agenda was approved unanimously.**

**2. The protocol of the 2022 General Assembly was accepted.**

**3. Report of the President 2023 (Claudine Burton-Jeangros)**

The board met three times in 2023 and will meet one more time in November. The meetings addressed the on-going activities of SSA, including the Swiss Journal of Sociology reform, relations with Seismo, the communication strategy to recruit new members, points further developed later in the assembly.

The new membership fees structure has been implemented. Besides the difficulty to get all members to pay their fees, the new structure led to a reduction of membership revenues.

SSA provided financial support through the Academies of Human and Social Sciences (SAGW/ASSH) to organize three scientific meetings, organized by the research committees Religion and Society, Gender Studies and Sociology of Law. SSA also provided financial support to the website "Qualitative Methoden an CH-Universitäten und Hochschulen".

Two issues of the Swiss Journal of Sociology have been published so far in 2023, both as special issues Vol 49/1 "Anchoring International Organizations in Sociology of Organizations" and Vol 49/2 "20 years of TREE. Exploring life-courses in their making". Vol 49/3 will be dedicated to Digital Academia. Two newsletters have been distributed and Bulletin 162 reported on the past assembly and activities of the research committees. Bulletin 163, to be published in December 2023, will be entitled "A PhD in Sociology: Motivations, Expectations and Open Questions" edited by Claudine Burton-Jeangros and Stephanie Steinmetz.

### 4. Accounting (Regula Leeman)

RL mentioned several important differences in the finances between 2022 and 2021. A main difference concerned the increased costs of the journal, with significant production costs due to the higher number of tables/graphics/figures. The journal was about 10 000 CHF more expensive in 2022 than in 2021.

In parallel, there have been decreases in revenues from membership fees, despite the time and efforts invested by the board and secretariat (i. e. three reminders and contacting non-paying members) to get members to pay their due. After three reminders, non-paying members were removed from the membership list. Another issue regarding revenue has to do with substantial decreases in 2022 in donations from the institutions related to sociology, either in Universities or Universities of Applied sciences.

M Deml asked for clarification about the use of the "reserves". RL clarified that it was money that has been held for many years. The decision to release in 2022 some funds (7000 CHF) in this category was made after discussion among the board members.

M Deml asked about donations from universities. CBJ explained that there was a sharp decline post Covid-19, besides this revenue is conjunctural depending on institutions budgets. SSA will send letters to institutions related to sociology, either in Universities or Universities of Applied Sciences, in October 2023 for donations for 2024. P Aspers and R Leemann explained that in some cantons, it is considered that taxpayers should not pay for the journal deficit.

### 5. Report of the Revisors and Discharge of the Board

RL explained that the revisors approved the financial report with no difficulties. There were no questions

about this topic. The board was discharged by an unanimous vote.

### 6. Update on 2023 Budget and Budget 2024

Updates were provided on the previously presented 2023 budget, with reduced costs of SJS (from 70 000 to estimated 60 000). For both 2023 and 2024, a deficit is forecasted.

RL explained that with the new membership fees structure it is difficult to anticipate the revenue that will be generated, depending on which category of members will register. Efforts will be put in place to recruit new members in 2024, along the next SSA congress to be held in September. The costs of the journal are high compared to other journals in Switzerland. But the cost reduction in 2023 is a sign of progress, to be further continued.

RL reported that after the presentation of an Award for young scholar at the 2022 General Assembly, René Levy made a generous donation of 10 000 CHF to support this award. This money is set aside in the budget, to be used only for that purpose.

A Hadjar asked about SSA assets and whether there was a minimum amount required for operations. CBJ and RL responded that no rule exists, but the SSA board is eager to reach financial stability after the current transition period (change in membership fees, changes in production of the journal).

The 2024 budget was approved by an unanimous vote.

### 7. Swiss Journal of Sociology (Achim Edelmann)

AE first reminded the decisions made during the 2022 General assembly. A need to reform SJS in terms of visibility, appeal, and efficiency was identified. It was

then decided to keep publishing the journal with Seismo, to move the production of the journal to the Swiss publishing platform SOAP2, to turn prints into opt-in, and to monitor the reform based on five criteria: 1) reduction of costs; 2) improvement of communication and transparency; 3) improvement of workflows and efficiency; 4) ensuring quality and productivity of working relationship (between the editorial board, the journal manager, and the publisher); 5) development of the journal (increase international visibility, strengthen open access, make it a platform for Swiss sociology). A monitoring board was then established including S. Steinmetz (Co-editor), C. Burton-Jeangros (president SSA), A. Edelmann (SSA board).

The monitoring body met to report on the current state of the reform. The process of moving the journal to SOAP2 has been initiated; there is an ongoing coordination between the editorial board and Seismo; author guidelines are being updated; the advisory board is being renewed. As regard the five evaluation criteria

1. Reduce costs: current estimates for 2023 suggest that the target of production under 60 000 CHF will be met; less than 20 members paid an extra 50 CHF fee to get a printed copy of the journal; the contract with de Gruyter/Sciendo will be terminated at the end of 2023; the annual cost for SOAP2 is estimated at about 1000 CHF.
2. Improve communication and transparency (between the board of editors, Seismo, and the SSA board): two meetings were organized (in March and September 2023) and there are ongoing and regular discussions; a constructive atmosphere with a shared vision is being established; documentation about workflow and division of labor is being prepared (to be adjusted after Vol. 50/1 on SOAP2).

3. Improve workflows and efficiency (author – editors – publisher – platform): new associate editor roles are being envisioned with a stronger involvement in reviewing.
4. Quality and productivity of working relationships: a collaborative spirit is behind defining workflow and a division of labor is being processed, with details to be defined with Vol. 50/1.
5. Journal development: as regard international visibility, SOAP2/SJS website is expected to increase visibility, funnel authors, and ease access; as regard to open access, SOAP2 will offer Gold OA with all back-issues online; as regard to SJS as a platform for Swiss sociology, the new editorial board and strategy aims at rejuvenating the SJS appeal.

M Deml asked if there were any efforts to involve university librarians during the transition period with the journal. AE described how there had been discussions with University of Bern Library. However, librarians are not actively involved at the moment.

## **8. Relations between Seismo and SA (Patrik Aspers, member of SSA board and Seismo board)**

PA described the discussions between the SSA board and the Seismo board over the past year. He explained that there had been some resistance towards the idea of the proposition of new members, despite SSA's collaborative approach. PA described that this was an ongoing process and that SSA does not want to damage relationships between SSA and Seismo and that SSA's aim is to further develop Seismo. As of June 2023, there is a new president of the Seismo board: Monika Vetovaglia (FORS, University of Lausanne). It is planned to address the issue of the composition of Seismo board in an additional Seismo General Assembly, in late 2023.

A member asked about the full board composition of Seismo. PA explained it includes six persons, with one person resigning. M Deml asked about the reasons for Seismo's rejections of the SSA propositions. PA said there were misunderstandings of the law, despite previous explanations of the situation (i. e. the stock company law).

S Cattacin, previous president of Seismo board, stated Seismo is especially complicated and stated it is important to keep this in mind. He said that it is risky to change without having the board behind and raised that there are risks in intervening in good functioning firms that have had no previous financial issues. PA explained that this is the reasons SSA is supportive of Seismo.

AE asked to get clarifications on the disagreements. PA reported that things were now clear on the formal side and that SSA is not looking for conflict and has no bad intentions. The task of SSA is to make sure that Seismo works. PA reported appreciation for the work of S Cattacin as president. AE asked for more concrete answers or constructive options. PA emphasized that Seismo board has the responsibility to make it work. While the board has been centered on the production of books, it is important to bring new ideas, younger people with journal publication experience. S Cattacin responded that the board is a cultural instance, it does not need specialists of journals in the board, there is a need for people who are credible in the society, who are not part of the sociological world, but who represent trade unions, administrations, fields outside of academics. Young people can be more useful for intellectual activities, not in board administration. He agreed that Monika Vettovaglia should write a first draft of this logic, to be finalized in a document that everyone agrees upon. He insisted that Seismo is a good publishing house, with professionals knowing what they

have to do. PA explained that it was important to think where we are standing now; he stated SSA was pleased that SJS stayed with Seismo and this was a good step forward, showing SSA support to Seismo.

AE said he could see advantages in having people from other fields in Seismo board and suggested to combine strengths and add different perspectives. He asked whether there were any restrictions on the size of Seismo board. CBJ concluded by stating the relation between Seismo and SSA was in a transition phase with Monika Vettovaglia taking over; she repeated the willingness to get a good relationship between SSA and Seismo and hoped to see fruitful developments in the coming months.

### **9. Communication strategy (Philip Balsiger)**

This communication strategy is motivated by the need to renew the base of members, after the reduction in membership fees that implies to recruit additional members, especially among PhD students. Another reason relates to launching the prize – i. e. an award to a junior scholar for the best article – that will first be attributed at the 2024 congress.

Philip presented the flyer that SSA wants to release very soon. It will be distributed as an electronic flyer and a printed version, folded as in A5 format turning into an A3 poster to be posted in institutes and departments. Marlyne has been organizing the work with a graphic designer. The flyer will be prepared in English, French, and German. A QR code linking to the SSA webpage 'becoming a member' will be present on the poster. Printed versions will be sent to directors of sociology institutes and departments across Switzerland. The electronic format will also be sent to them for dissemination among their staff, reaching out to PhD



students. This will require some changes on the website, including presentation of the award for best paper. It will be promoted during the fall, with a deadline for application end of March 2024.

M Deml asked about the SSA social media strategy. PB responded that at the moment the society has no social media presence; it was discussed in the board, regarded as important but requiring resources through the implication of board members, maybe in shifts for certain time intervals, or through a financial incentive given to a student/assistant to do this. The question of which social media platform to use was raised, ex-twitter does not seem a good option, LinkedIn was then mentioned. The strategy should include posts about the activities of the associations; posts about the conference, the prize, research activities, communicate on research projects done by members, when someone is interviewed in the media.

S Vincent was surprised to see no mention of networking with colleagues in the advantages list of the flyer. He said that the flyer should be more focused on action; networking throughout Switzerland; as a platform where you can find the right people/exchange easily.

### **10. 2024 Congress: Vulnerable Risks and Responses, September 9–11, 2024**

Eva Nadai transmitted information to CBJ about the upcoming congress in September 2024, organized by the School of Social Work of the University of Applied Sciences Northwestern Switzerland, campus Muttenz.

The following keynote speakers are confirmed: Bridget Anderson (University of Bristol); Jean-Michel Bonvin (University of Geneva); Dorothea Hilhorst (University of Rotterdam); Armin Nassehi (University of Munich). There will be three sessions with each five to six seminaries and fifty-four workshops, distributed into four

sessions with thirteen to fourteen parallel workshops each. 53 percent of the proposals were submitted in English, 39 percent in German, and 8 percent in French. The call for individual papers will be published at the end of October with a deadline on January 5, 2024. The next SSA general assembly will take place during the Congress.

CBJ is pleased to announce that colleagues at the University of Fribourg are ready to organize the SSA 2026 congress.

### **11. Elections of Board Members and Revisors**

Marlyne Sahakian and Milena Chimienti announced they would not renew their participation to SSA board. CBJ thanked them for the multiple tasks they took on while they were board members, notably the organization of the SSA 2021 Congress at a time when COVID-19 restrictions were still important.

CBJ presented two candidates willing to join the board: Andreas Hadjar, Professor of Sociology, Social Policy and Social Research at the Institute for Social Work, Social Policy and Global Development at the University of Fribourg. He studied sociology and journalism in Germany and Scotland. His research is focused on inequalities in educational attainment, labor market, and other life chances. He is also interested in how education systems, welfare state regimes, and other social characteristics shape inequalities. He uses quantitative methods, with longitudinal and comparative (multi-level) perspectives, but also mixed-method and qualitative designs.

Emilie Rosenstein, Professor at the Haute école de travail social et de la santé à Lausanne, studied sociology at the University of Geneva. Her domains of expertise include: social policies, social and professional integration, disability, vulnerabilities. She published *Les poli-*

*tiques sociales à l'épreuve de la pandémie* with Seismo in 2022. She uses mixed-methods in her research.

Patrik Aspers (St. Gallen), Achim Edelmann (Bern), Regula Leemann (Basel) have been elected until the end of 2024.

Candidates proposed for the period 2024–2025 include: Andreas Hadjar (Fribourg), Emilie Rosenstein (Lausanne) as new members; and for a new 2-year mandate: Philip Balsiger (Neuchâtel); Claudine Burton-Jeangros (Genève); Jörg Rössel (Zürich).

New candidates and renewed members were unanimously approved.

Ben Jann (Bern) and Christoph Maeder (St. Gallen) agreed to act as revisors for an additional year. Their election has been unanimously approved.

### **12. Varia**

None

# Reports from the Research Committees 2023

## **Sociology of Sports / Sociologie des sports / Sportsoziologie**

### **Coordinators**

Markus Lamprecht (L&S Sozialforschung und Beratung, Zurich) markus.lamprecht@lssfb.ch and Monica Aceti (Université de Fribourg) monica.aceti@unifr.ch

### **Activities 2023**

Within the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Swiss Society of Sport Science on February 15–16, 2023, in Bern, the Sociology of Sport Research Committee organized a symposium. Four contributions were discussed under the title “Inequality and Diversity in Sport – Developments and Perspectives” (<https://doi.org/10.36950/2023.2ciss045>).

In the context of the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Swiss Society of Sport Science (SGS) on February 15–16, 2023, in Berne a networking workshop and a round-table discussion took place, in which representatives of the Sociology of Sport Research Committee participated. The topic was how the various research groups and universities can make better use of the existing synergies and how cooperation – also with regard to interdisciplinary research projects – can be promoted between the various specialist societies.

### **Activities planned in 2024**

At the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Swiss Society of Sports Sciences (SGS/4S), ETH Zurich, February 7–8, 2024, the Sociology of Sport Research Committee organized a symposium with invited speakers on current issues in sport organization research.

During the Congress of the Swiss Sociological Association 2024 on September 9–11, 2024, in Basel (Muttentz), a workshop session will be organized by the research network “Sociology of Sport”. Under the heading

“Physical Activity and Sports and Vulnerabilities: Taking or Reducing Risks through Sport Activities” a total of six presentations are planned.

### **New publication**

The results of the latest Club survey have been published: Bürgi, R., Lamprecht, M., Gebert, A. & Stamm, H. P. (2023): Sportvereine in der Schweiz 2022. Entwicklungen, Herausforderungen und Perspektiven. Ittigen b. Bern: Swiss Olympic (download for free at [www.sportobs.ch](http://www.sportobs.ch); [https://www.sportobs.ch/inhalte/Vereinsstudie\\_2023/Vereinsstudie\\_2022\\_DE\\_Web.pdf](https://www.sportobs.ch/inhalte/Vereinsstudie_2023/Vereinsstudie_2022_DE_Web.pdf))  
Lamprecht, M., Bürgi, R. & Stamm H. (2022): Sport Schweiz light 2022: Die Folgen der Covid-19-Pandemie für das Sportverhalten der Schweizer Bevölkerung. Forschungsbericht. Magglingen: Bundesamt für Sport BASPO.

### **Contact**

sports@sgs-sss.ch

## **Migration–Minorities / Migration-Minorités / Migration-Minoritäten**

### **Coordinators**

Milena Chimienti and Didier Ruedin

### **Website**

<https://www.sgs-sss.ch/forschungskomitees/migration-minderheiten/>

### **Conferences in 2023**

- › 20<sup>th</sup> IMISCOE Annual Conference, Migration and Inequalities. In search of answers and solutions, July 3–6, 2023, Warsaw & online. Organization of panels on discrimination and racism

- › Seminar series Intermigra Lab Geneva, Migration, mobility, racialization and intersectionality (HETS Geneva, Geneva Graduate Institute, University of Geneva) <https://www.hesge.ch/hets/recherche/labos-observatoires/laboratoire-intermigra>
- › Workshop on the political representation of immigrants, Neuchâtel, December 1, 2023.

### Forthcoming conferences:

- › SGS Kongress 2024, September 9–11, 2024, Muttenz. Plenary and two workshops (one in collaboration with FG Gesundheits- und Medizinsoziologie)

### Contact:

Email: [migration@sgs-sss.ch](mailto:migration@sgs-sss.ch)

Google group: [migration-and-minorities@googlegroups.com](https://groups.google.com/join/migration-and-minorities)

## **Sociology of Arts and Culture (RC-SAC) / Sociologie des arts et de la culture (CR- SAC) / Kunst- und Kultursoziologie (Foko- KUKUSO)**

### Scientific committee and co-coordination

Olivier Moeschler (University of Lausanne) – President

Carole Christe (University of Lausanne)

Nuné Nikoghosyan (University of Geneva)

Loïc Riom (University of Lausanne)

Valérie Rolle (University of Nantes)

Guy Schwegler (University of Lucerne)

### Activities 2023

Last year, the RC-SAC Research Committee Sociology of Arts and Culture – better known as Foko-KUKUSO in its German acronym – was involved in the organization of a seminar on cultural participation in Lausanne and

published a position paper in the wake of the national consultation of the federal Cultural Message. Moreover, the committee prepared its contribution to the SSA Congress 2024. During the year, the co-coordination of the Foko-KUKUSO was reinforced by the integration of a new scientific committee member, Carole Christe (University of Lausanne), whom we warmly welcome.

1. Our research committee was involved in the organization of a conference on digital cultural participation: **“Participation culturelle numérique ? Promesses et innovations à l’aube du Web 3.0”** (Musée de la main, Lausanne, June 2, 2023). This one-day conference aimed at questioning the promises of Web 3.0 and the various artefacts that accompany it (metaverses, augmented reality, blockchains), which lead to rethinking the complex links between digital technologies and cultural participation in regards to both audiences and production. It was organized by committee member Loïc Riom in collaboration with Olivier Glassey and Olivier Moeschler (University of Lausanne) and supported by the SAGW-ASSH in the context of its series of events around cultural participation, as well as the University of Lausanne, the Musée de la main UNIL-CHUV, and STS-CH – Swiss Association for the Studies of Science, Technology and Society:
  - › After an introduction by Loïc Riom (University of Lausanne), the speakers of the morning sessions were Laurence Allard (Sorbonne Nouvelle-IRCAV and University of Lille) and Jean-Paul Fourmentraux (EHESS / Aix-Marseille), followed by a discussion with Maria Sokhn (ARC HES-SO), Alice Aterianus-Owanga (University of Neuchâtel), Phillipe Sormani (University of Lausanne), Olivier Moeschler (University of Lausanne) moderated by Nathalie Dietschy (University of Lausanne).

- › In the afternoon, the speakers were Sidonie Naulin (Sciences Po Grenoble) and Jean-Samuel Beauscart (Telecom Paris), followed by a final discussion with Sidonie Naulin (Sciences Po Grenoble), Marc Perrenoud (University of Lausanne), Guillaume Helleu (HEAD HES-SO), and Claire Balleys (University of Geneva), moderated by Samuel Coavoux (ENSAE Paris).
2. In the wake of the **national consultation on the Culture Message** for the years 2025–2028 set up by the Federal Office of Culture (FOC), the committee wrote a position paper. Since the federal law on cultural promotion came into force in 2012, the federal authorities have been issuing a “message” outlining their cultural policy priorities and the planned measures and budget for the four to five coming years. Interested parties and groups are invited to express their views as part of a national consultation on the draft. In its extensive position paper on the Culture Message 2025–2028, the Foko-KUKUSO (Loïc Riom and Olivier Moeschler, University of Lausanne) notes, in a nutshell, that the Culture Message 2025–2028, while continuing the themes championed since the first Message in 2012, marks a change. The often precarious economic situation of cultural players that were revealed, or rather reminded and exacerbated, by the Covid-19 pandemic, as well as the increased trend towards digitization of cultural consumption – only partly linked to the pandemic, but reinforced by it – have contributed to this. The resulting thematic fields of action seem to move in the right direction: 1) Culture as a World of Work, with the guiding principle of appropriate remuneration and improved conditions of the working environment, 2) Updating the System of

Cultural Promotion, targeting the entire process of creating added value, and 3) Culture and Digital Transformation, with particular focus on digital and hybrid formats. Also of interest are the fields of 4) Culture as Living Memory and 5) Governance in Culture, which strengthen the axes already present in previous Messages, as well as 6) Culture and Sustainable Development, which introduces the more current topic of sustainability in relation to the long-standing concerns of cultural participation and social integration. Last but not least, the introduction of “cultural monitoring” can only be supported by our Committee, from the point of view of research and knowledge in the arts and culture.

Among the more critical points raised in our position paper is that of cultural participation. There is a risk that this fundamental aspect, present in the Messages from the outset, may take a back seat by becoming a sub-aspect of sustainability. Continuing on the subject of cultural participation, the Message somewhat sidelines the topic of amateurs in favor of the challenges of professionalization. On the subject of sustainability, the section devoted to it, while to be welcomed, seemed underdeveloped in terms of the measures proposed. Another striking element was the contrast in tone when it comes to the digitization of the worlds of culture, between the rather substantial observations and the discreet measures announced – an omission that seems all the more regrettable given that many countries are in the process of taking action on these issues. One can also regret the lack of interest in new forms of participation, including digital ones. The challenge would be to be able to support the Web 3.0 cultural practices of tomorrow, and to open up

an in-depth debate on the creation of value in the models supported by the new platforms and their contribution to the ecosystems in which they operate. There still seems to be a lack of measures at national level to strengthen these initiatives and improve the framework conditions – with the notable exception of the audio-visual sector, where the new “lex Netflix” will bring significant resources and opportunities. Similarly, the relative absence of the role of cultural intermediaries in the Message is striking, as the field Updating the System of Cultural Promotion precisely aimed to take an interest in the entire process of creating added value, and therefore potentially in the entire network of players involved.

The Culture Message 2025–2028 is currently in revision at the FOC and shall be validated by the Parliament in the course of 2024.

### Planned Activities 2024

The Foko-KUKUSO plans to organize several sessions at the 2024 SSA Congress on “Vulnerable Societies: Risks and Responses” in September in Muttenz near Basel. A call for papers was issued at the end of 2023 on “Vulnerability in Arts and Culture: Risks and Responses” and the sessions are currently being set up by the committee.

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## Religion and Society / Religion et Société / Religion und Gesellschaft

### Coordinator

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### Activities 2023

The research committee organized an international workshop titled “Negotiating Religious Neutrality in Society”. The workshop took place on May 5–6, 2023, at the University of Bern and was spearheaded by two members of the research committee, Ansgar Jödicke and Andrea Rota.

At the end of the year, Andrea Rota resigned from his position as coordinator of the research committee due to a new appointment at the University of Oslo.

### Activities 2024

The committee has no activity planned for 2024.

## **Sociology of Education/Sociologie de l'éducation/Bildungssoziologie**

### **Coordinating board (2022–23)**

Kerstin Duemmler (Swiss Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training, Renens)

David Glauser (University of Bern)

Gaële Goastellec (University of Lausanne)

Irene Kriesi (Swiss Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training, Zollikofen)

Mario Steinberg (Zurich University of Teacher Education)

### **Conferences**

The last section conference was organized by Regula Julia Leemann (University of Teacher Education, FHNW, Chair for Sociology of Education), together with Elena Makarova (University of Basel, Institute for Educational Sciences). It was held in June 2022 on the topic "Educational Institutions in Switzerland and their Paradoxical Contribution to Social Cohesion and Disintegration" at the University of Basel. Conference program.

As proceeding of the conference fourteen contribution on "Das Paradox von sozialer Integration und Ausschluss im Schweizer Bildungswesen. Beiträge der Soziologie", edited by Regula Julia Leemann and Elena Makarova was published as Swiss Academies Reports, Volume 18(1). The contributions are available open access. Download link.

### **Planned Activities 2024:**

#### **Workshops at the SSA Conference**

Members of our network plan to organize two workshops at the SSA conference in Muttenz in September 2024. Philippe Saner (University of Lucerne) together with Len Ole Schäfer (FernUniversität Hagen, Germany) will hold a Workshop Session on "Investigating Resilience and Vulnerability in Schools and

Universities in Times of Crises and Transformation". The workshop of David Glauser (University of Bern) and Irene Kriesi (Swiss Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training) focuses on "Vulnerable Groups in Education in Times of Crisis. Impact of COVID-19 on Academic Achievement, Educational Outcomes and Labour Market Entry".

### **Planned Activities 2025:**

#### **Section Conference**

The network is organizing its biannual conference at the University of Fribourg on June 12–13, 2025, in Fribourg together with the Section of Sociology of Education of the German Sociological Association (main organizers: Andreas Hadjar, University of Fribourg, Switzerland; Oliver Winkler, Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg, Germany, and Carmen Zurbriggen, University of Fribourg, Switzerland). The conference is dedicated to the topic "Embracing Diversity: Inclusion in Education and Society". Diversity is a contemporary issue in education and educational research that is looked at from manifold perspectives. While some perceive define increasing diversity as a challenge to the education system and to society, others emphasize the merits of diversity and demand not only to act more sensitively towards diversity but also to embrace it. Inclusion presents an approach to respond to diversity – not only in education. The conference will bring together latest social science research and its key findings on diversity in terms of horizontal and vertical differences in societies. Detailed information will be provided on the section website soon.

#### **Website & Mailing List**

The research network is continuously updating the section website (<https://education.sgs-sss.ch>). We provide our members with a monthly newsletter

containing information on calls for papers, scientific events, publications, job offers, methods schools and data releases relevant to the Sociology of Education. Persons with an interest in receiving the newsletter or in publishing information write to [education@sgs-sss.ch](mailto:education@sgs-sss.ch). The newsletter is edited by members of the coordination board with the support of Fanny Klaffke at the FHNW School of Education (Basel). In addition, you can follow our section on X (former Twitter) (@soceduc; <https://twitter.com/soceduc>).

### **Interpretive Sociologies / Sociologies interprétatives / Interpretative Sozial- forschung**

#### **Coordinator**

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#### **Activities 2023**

The activities of the research committee (RC) "Interpretive Sociologies" focused on supporting a forum on visual and mixed methods that was held at the Sapienza University in Rome in September 2023: "Inhabiting Uncertainty. A Forum on Qualitative, Quantitative and Visual Methods". The conference was designed as a platform for PhD students and postdoctoral researchers to present their projects and to discuss issues related to interpretive epistemologies and methodologies as well as mixed-methods designs with expert researchers. Over fifty contributors participated from September 14–15, 2023. The RC is in regular contact with the newly initiated German network of Qualitative Methods Cen-

ters with the aim of fostering education in the domain of interpretive and qualitative methodologies.

#### **Activities 2024**

The RC is furthermore involved in the planning of a range of conferences and workshops in 2024. As in the past, the RC is committed to maintaining its ties to the European qualitative research community, particularly through its engagement at the ESA. It contributes to a research stream on "Tension, Trust and Transformation" as well as a joint session on "Far Right-wing Populism in Current Democracies" at the European Sociological (ESA) conference in Porto in 2024. The RC is again involved in the planning of the 10<sup>th</sup> Swiss Methods Festival in St. Gallen (scheduled to take place from September 4–5). It also organizes a workshop in the upcoming bi-annual conference of the Swiss Sociological Association, providing the opportunity to discuss "Qualitative Research on Vulnerabilities and Vulnerability Discourses".

### **Economic Sociology / Sociologie économique / Wirtschaftssoziologie**

#### **Coordinators**

Philip Balsiger (Université de Neuchâtel)

Léna Pellandini-Simányi (Università de la Svizzera italiana)

#### **Activities 2023**

The Economic Sociology Research Committee has kept up the habit of organizing mid-term conferences/workshops in the years without a SSA congress. The interim conferences are co-organized with sociology research teams at various universities and focused on topics related to their research. In 2023, the mid-term workshop took place at UNIL and was co-organized



with Felix Bühlmann from the University of Lausanne. The goal was to strengthen the links between the economic sociology network and the group at UNIL working on the sociology of elites, including financial elites.

On March 30–31, 2023, the workshop discussed the theme “The Transformation of Banking from a Sociological Perspective: Digital and Sustainability Challenges”. It featured two keynote speakers: Adam Hayes (Hebrew University of Jerusalem), with a talk titled “Fintech and the Promise (and Perils) of Rationality”, and Mareike Beck (King’s College London), who talked about “The Managerial Contradictions of Extraverted Financialisation: The Case of Deutsche Bank”. In four workshop sessions, more than fifteen scholars from Switzerland and abroad presented their papers.

The Research Committee also started to edit a special issue of the Swiss Journal of Sociology on the same topic. An open call for papers was launched in October 2023, inviting also the participants of the workshop to submit their papers. A first selection of abstracts was done at the beginning of 2024, and the special issue is scheduled to be published in the fall of 2025.

### Activities 2024

For 2024, the research network will be present at the Congress of the Swiss Sociological Association, in Muttenz, on September 9–11. In line with the general theme of the conference (“Vulnerable Societies: Risks and Responses”), we will organize a workshop on “New Vulnerabilities of Market Exclusion and Inclusion”, for which five papers have been selected. At the conference, we will also organize a “Business Meeting” of the research network to discuss our future activities. The meeting will be followed by an informal gathering and drinks. We hope to see you at this occasion, whether you are already a member of the network or interested in joining us.

Anyone who is interested in the activities of the Economic Sociology Research Committee is invited to get in contact with us. For this, feel free to send an email to one of the coordinators: philip.basiger@unine.ch or pella@usi.ch

### **Sociology of Law / Sociologie du droit / Rechtssoziologie und Rechtswirklichkeitsforschung** Coordinator

Josef Estermann, Rahel Zschokke, FK Rsoz, Zentralstrasse 30, 6003 Luzern

### Activities 2023

Track “Societal Security”, at “Access to Law – Accessible Rights?” Fifth Congress of the German-speaking Sociology of Law Association, September, 21–23 2023, Leopold-Franzens-University Innsbruck, together with VICESSE, Vienna.

### Planned Activities 2024

Research and sessions “Law, Justice and International Taxation Rules”.

### Contact

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### **Sociology of Health and Medicine / Sociologie de la santé et de la médecine / Gesundheits- und Medizinsoziologie** Coordinators

Andreas Bänziger (ZHAW & docyard GmbH, Zürich), Maria Caiata Zufferey (SUPSI), Valeska Cappel (University of Luzern), Stéphane Cullati (University of Fribourg), Jérôme Debons (UniSanté), Josef Estermann (University

of Zurich), Michael Gemperle (ZHAW), Raphaël Hammer (HESAV, HES-SO), Damian Hedinger (Ostschweizer Fachhochschule), Ursula Meidert (ZHAW), Marilène Vuille (University of Lausanne)

### Website

<https://www.sgs-sss.ch/en/research-networks/health-and-medicine-sociology/>

Anyone who is interested in the activities of the research committee "Sociology of Health and Medicine" (RC-SHM) is invited to join our mailing list. Feel free to send us an e-mail (see below).

### Activities in 2023

- › The RC-SHM, together with the Health and Medical Sociology Sections of the Austrian and the German and Austrian Sociological Societies, was involved in the organization of the biennial three-country congress entitled „Versorgungskrise(n) im Gesundheitssystem – Formen, Ursachen, Auswirkungen“ (“Care Crisis/Crises in the Health System? – Forms, Causes, Effects”) as part of the Sociology Congress of the Austrian Sociological Association “Critical Times” (Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration, July 3–5, 2023).
- › The RC-SHM was involved in the organization of the study day “Les enjeux de l'accès aux lieux de soins dans les enquêtes en sciences sociales” held at the University of Geneva (May 5, 2023).
- › The RC-SHM took part in the international survey from the European Group for the Sociology of Health and Medicine (ESHMS) on health and medical sociology in Europe.
- › We regularly distributed information by e-mail to

our members (over one hundred members) on scientific meetings (conferences, congresses), call for papers or job opportunities in areas relevant to the sociology of health and medicine.

### Activities planned for 2024

- › The RC-SHM has launched a call for papers at the 2024 Swiss Sociological Association national congress and is involved in the organization of several workshop sessions, such as “Recent Advances from Health and Medical Sociology”, “Accessing Healthcare Institutions: What is at Stake during Negotiations to Conduct Fieldwork”, “All Equal in Health care? Conditions, Manifestations, and Consequences of Different Treatment”, “Patient Vulnerability in the Digital Age”, and “What about the Vulnerability of Researchers?”.

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(French/English)

### Urban Sociology / Sociologie urbaine / Stadtsoziologie

#### Coordinators of the Committee

Luca Pattaroni (EPFL) & Maxime Felder (University of Amsterdam and EPFL)

### Activities in 2023

#### New research project:

A new research project on Swiss cities has received funding from the SNSF and will bring together urban scholars from various universities.

Hanna Hilbrandt and Ifigeneia Dimitrakou (UZH), David Kaufmann (ETH), Hugues Jeannerat (UniNe), Vincent Kaufmann, Luca Pattaroni, and Maxime Felder (EPFL) will work to understand how Swiss cities respond to socio-ecological crises and negotiate the trade-offs between environmental goals and questions of social justice. Find out more about the research: <https://responsible.city/>

### Activities planned for 2024

#### Business meeting:

The network will hold a business meeting during the SSA conference, on September 11 during lunch-time.

We will organize a zoom on request for those who are not in Basel.

#### Conference workshop:

The Urban Sociology network will organize a workshop at the 2024 SSA congress in Basel/Muttenz. The workshop is on 'Urban Hospitality: How do Cities Accommodate Vulnerable Migrants?' It will feature work on municipal ID cards by Sarah Schilliger (UNIBE) and David Kaufmann (ETHZ); on welcome groups for asylum seekers by Nerea Viana Alzola (UNIGE); on emergency shelters by Swetha Rao Dhananka Elisabeth Gutjahr Frédérique Leresche (HES-SO Fribourg); and on housing rights and family reunification by Victor Santos (Graduate Institute) and Luca Pattaroni (EPFL).

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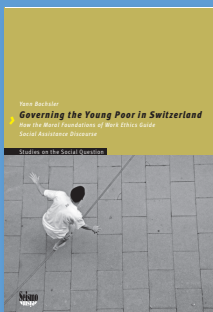


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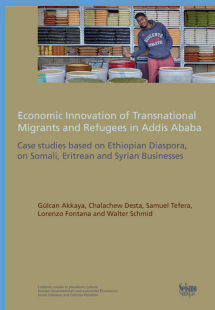


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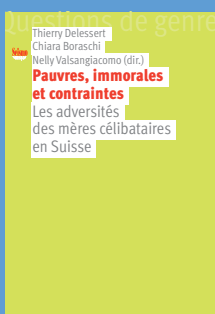


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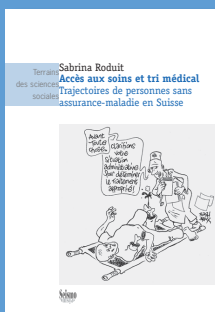


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