

Call for Papers at the ISA World Forum, Vienna 2016

RC34, Sociology of Youth

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RC34 welcomes abstracts that address the theme of the conference, as well as the themes of the proposed sessions:

- The Futures We Want, the Pasts Left behind (Presidential Session)
- Austrian Youth in Transition
- The Future Is Not What It Used to be: Young People's Future Visions in Youth Styles and Spaces of Engagement
- Uncertainty and Precarity in Youth Employment: Public Policies, Institutional Mediations and Subjective Strategies.
- Muslim Youth, Contemporary Challenges and Future Prospects
- Youth and Climate Change
- The Localization and Globalization of Youth Cultures: New Styles, Fandoms and Consumption Patterns
- Young Activists, Subjectivity and "the Future They Want" (Joint Session: RC47 host)
- Understanding Youth Activism in Local, National and Transnational Contexts: Innovative Methodological Approaches
- Youth in the Global South: Emerging Theories, Methodologies, Histories and Policies
- Youth and Social Justice in the Global South: Building Alternative Strategies to Entrenched Social Inequalities
- Youth Justice – a Mirror of Social Justice? Young People at the Edge of the Law in Times of Inequality
- Identifying and Interrupting Inequality: The Role of Youth Work
- Creating Safety for Youth in a Gendered World (Joint Session with RC32: RC34 host)
- Gender, Youth, and Migration: Modalities and Trajectories for Development (Joint Session: RC32 host)
- Young Skilled Migrants: Hopes and Struggles in New Global Trends (Joint Session with RC31: RC34 host)
- Young Cybogs: Interrogating Technology's Paradox with, for and By Youth

Detailed Descriptions: Abstracts for each of the proposed sessions are overleaf ...

The Futures We Want, the Pasts Left behind (Presidential Session)

Session Organiser:

Ani WIERENGA, The Dusseldorf Forum Australia

Panellist:

Clarence M. BATAN, University of Santo Tomas, Philippines

ISA RC34 is currently being dramatically, and sadly, reminded that a first, long generational chapter in its history is coming to a close. The Research Committee was formed at a time when there was still an 'Iron Curtain' in Europe, the atrocities of the 'killing fields' in Cambodia had only recently ended, the global 'Cold War' had still not reached its zenith (or nadir, depending on which way you look at it), and Spain was (just) still under the dictatorship of General Franco.

Until last year, all but the first of our Presidents was still with us and many were still active, in one role or another, in our mission and our work. But we lost a former President last year, and the start of this year has been a time of bereavement, with the passing of two more former Presidents and a former editor of our International Bulletin of Youth Research.

All of those departed had contributed, at the start, to the opening up of European borders and the promotion of scholarship in the youth field between East and West. Contacts were then extended to Australia and Asia (China in particular), to the north Americas, and then to Africa and Latin America. By the Millennium, the membership of rc34 spanned all continents, over 50 countries and myriad youth research issues.

The lifetime of RC34 has witnessed the demise of communism, apartheid, dictatorship in Latin America... but it is seen the rise of neo-liberalism, inequality, and the increasing social exclusion of significant populations of young people.

The Presidential session will pay formal tribute to some of our late members who played a significant part in shaping the pasts that we have now left behind (or have we?), but it also invites contributions from current members about how those legacies (and the ideas and writing of those who contributed to them) may play their part in imagining the futures that live onwards in the principles, philosophy and values of rc34 – developing a public sociology and a scholarly world of mutual understanding and support.

Austrian Youth in Transition

Session Organizer:

Natalia WAECHTER, University of Graz, Austria

This session addresses all topics related to the transition from youth to adulthood, focusing on young people in Austria. In Western societies adulthood is still associated with entering the labor market and starting a career, getting married and having a child, and moving out from the parents. Today there is more flexibility about which age span is considered appropriate for major transitions but there is still common sense about when young people are supposed to marry, have their first child, and move out and make their own living. However, what is regarded appropriate depends on other social categories such as gender, social class and ethnicity. “Transitions” seem to become even longer periods in young people’s trajectories due to the increasing amount of years spent in education, increasing difficulties in entering the job market, and structural changes in the labor market which has become segregated into the traditional sector and the growing new precarious sector. Compared to other European countries, Austria is often referred to as good practice model because of low unemployment rates and low “NEET” rates for young people, however, this view neglects other factors such as a segregating educational system which (re)produces social inequalities regarding successful (school-work) transitions. This session also wants to lay emphasis on the interplay of processes leading to the main markers of adulthood: stable work, leaving home, marriage, and parenthood.

The Future Is Not What It Used to be: Young People's Future Visions in Youth Styles and Spaces of Engagement

Session Organisers:

Ilaria PITTÌ, University of Bologna, Italy

Pam NILAN, University of Newcastle, Australia

Nicola DE LUIGI, University of Bologna, Italy

Alessandro MARTELLI, University of Bologna, Italy

In a time of rapid, world-wide transformation in terms of socio-economic crisis, ecological transition, migration, populism, terrorism and much else, the future is no longer what it used to be for youth.

Being both actors of the present, and inheritors and creators of the future, young people are essential assets in the development of any society. They contribute to defining our world's current and forthcoming features by acting upon their views of possible futures in their daily actions.

Exploring the relationship between visions of the future, youth styles and spaces of engagement, this section aims at giving voice to youth ideas of tomorrow; representing young people's collective efforts to actualise their own views insofar as these entail civic and political participation.

Proposals should ideally address the following questions: How do young people think about future? What are their visions? Have their ideas of future changed compared to previous youth generations? Are youth and adults' visions different? What factors contribute to shaping youth views of tomorrow? How and to what extent are their imagined futures connected to civic and political participation? What do contemporary youth styles and specific spaces of engagement reveal about young people's views of the future? To what extent do different current conditions in countries allow for expression and realisation of their future views? To what extent is the future imagined and actualised in their interaction with adults?

The section invites both theoretical and empirical studies employing sociological approaches and methods. Submissions are encouraged that provide comparative perspectives, and young scholars are particularly welcome.

Uncertainty and Precarity in Youth Employment: Public Policies, Institutional Mediations and Subjective Strategies

Session organisers:

Ada Cora FREYTES FREY, Universidad Nacional Arturo Jauretche, Argentina

Lena NÄRE, University of Helsinki, Finland

Izaskun ARTEGUI ALCAIDE, University of the Basque Country, Spain

Lucia MERINO MALILLOS, Universidad del País Vasco, Spain

Young people around the world are bearing the costs of the global economic crises. Youth are disproportionately affected by un- and underemployment. Transitions from training and education to employment have become more fragmented, and youth are caught in temporary jobs and training with few career opportunities. At the same time, those transitions have become more diversified and individualized. Young people have increasingly become the producers of, and responsible for, their own futures. Under these circumstances, a sense of uncertainty impregnates their lives. We need empirically grounded analyses of the effects of uncertainty, work precarity and unemployment for young people globally. We also need intersectional analysis that is sensitive to how gender, ethnicity, migration status and disability configure in youth unemployment and precarity.

Several questions arise from these developments including, but not limiting, to the following:

- What are the short- and long-term consequences of unemployment and work precarity for young people? Which is the impact of labour uncertainty on their everyday life?
- Which is the relationship between individualization and diversification in youth labour trajectories, on the one hand, and inequality, on the other hand?
- How are structural conditions and conjunctural circumstances at the labour market subjectively processed by young people? Which elements do young people take into account in their decisions regarding employment? Which strategies and creative alternatives do young people develop?

Even in an era of deinstitutionalization: how institutions mediate the youth integration in the labour market? Which effects on youth career paths are observed? How are public policies involved in these processes? How effective are the current policy measures, and can we think of alternatives?

Language: Spanish, English

Muslim Youth, Contemporary Challenges and Future Prospects

Session Organizer:

Ali Akbar TAJMAZINANI, Allameh Tabataba'i University, Tehran, Iran

Muslim youth live in very diverse contexts from Muslim majority societies of the Middle East like Iran and Egypt through religiously and ethnically divergent societies like Malaysia and India to Western societies like France and the UK. Constituting nearly one fourth of the world youth population, Muslim youth are experiencing a crucial era with multiple political, socio-cultural as well as economic challenges in contemporary world at all levels. Muslim communities usually have a very high proportion of youth population and the phenomenon of youth bulge is of considerable implications. Young people are at the forefront of dramatic political developments such as the so-called Arab Spring while being the vanguard of cultural and social change in their respective societies. Muslim youth in Western societies have also come to the attention of politicians, policy makers and most notably the international media given the security threats that have occurred in the past decade. Therefore, this session is aimed to address the main current challenges that are experienced by Muslim youth and future prospects for them and thus welcomes papers dealing inter alia with the following:

1. Diversity in everyday life challenges of Muslim youth
2. Culture and subcultures of Muslim youth and their identity
3. Muslim youth as actors of social and political change
4. Portray and representation of Muslim youth in western media
5. Muslim Youth and their integration/exclusion in non-Muslim societies
6. Youth policies in Muslim societies and policies affecting Muslim youth in other societies

Youth and Climate Change

Session Organiser:

Jeylan MORTIMER, University of Minnesota, United States of America

Climate scientists predict that intensifying planetary warming will cause more frequent severe weather events, droughts and water shortages. These will likely cause massive population migrations and wars over declining resources. Youth are often the most able and willing to migrate, and they become the soldiers in war, voluntarily or not. Such changes may disrupt the passage to adulthood, especially in the global South, as migrant youth experience difficulties in assimilating into new societies. Many youth may find it difficult to see ahead, to envision stable life courses for themselves and future generations. Failure of governments to act may foster a decline in confidence in, and disconnection from, societal institutions.

I am proposing this session to draw attention to the challenges and potentially catastrophic consequences posed by climate change for present and future youth generations and to encourage research on this topic. Illustrative questions to be considered: How have recent severe weather events impacted youth? Are youth becoming aware of the threat of climate change? How is it affecting their outlooks to the future? Are value shifts occurring among young people as it becomes increasingly evident that the planet's capacity to support life is eroding---e.g., values surrounding economic growth, population size, energy conservation, life styles and living arrangements? Are youth becoming attracted to social movements advocating governmental and individual ameliorative action, or are they increasingly acknowledging dystopian futures, assuming a fatalistic stance, and turning inward? To what extent are social movements to address climate change being spearheaded by youth?

The Localization and Globalization of Youth Cultures: New Styles, Fandoms and Consumption Patterns

Session Organisers:

Mikito TERACHI, Ibaraki University, Japan

Dan WOODMAN, University of Melbourne, Australia

Discussant: Izumi TSUJI, Chuo University, Japan

The study of culture is a longstanding focus of the sociology of youth.

Researchers studying young people's creation and appropriation of culture and how this links to structural conditions must address novel questions as social changes impact on new generations emerging around the world. These changes include the blurring of the boundaries between youth and adulthood and new opportunities for cultural forms to interact and move around the world. Youth styles, consumption patterns and fandoms developed in one part of the world more are more easily adopted and uniquely developed in other parts of world, facilitated in particular by digital technologies and growing opportunities to travel. Young people create local cultural worlds drawing on and interacting with global cultural flows, originating not only in the West but increasing in other parts of the world, particularly Asia.

This session invites papers that address emerging youth cultural patterns in particular places and in a global context.

Young Activists, Subjectivity and "the Future They Want"

RC47 Social Classes and Social Movements (host committee)

Joint Session with RC34 Sociology of Youth

Session Organiser:

Carmen LECCARDI University of Milano-Bicocca, Italy

This panel welcomes contributions on how young activists imagine, shape and implement alternative futures. As framed in the third ISA Forum presentation, "Tomorrow no longer appears as pre-determined by inevitable trends but as a rather contingent outcome of complex, typically multi-scalar dynamics that vary in their intensity of contentiousness." Young people aspire, desire, envision, expect, fear, imagine, plan, project, reject, sustain, and wage war over futures. Young activists are major actors of our societies in shaping our possible futures. We notably welcome contributions on how young activists perspective on the future and how these perspective shape their subjectivity and their personality. Young green activists and their visions of a future on a limited planet reveal particularly insightful in that perspective. However, to understand the specific potential of their vision - at the centre of which stand autonomy, self-determination, experimentation and creativity together with a high level of personal responsibility - the widespread representation of the future expressed by contemporary young people has to be considered. For the majority of them, the future is related above all with indeterminateness and uncertainty. Moreover, the imperative of choice is not flanked by their conviction that personal decisions will be effectively able to condition future biographical outcomes as well as collective environment.

Understanding Youth Activism in Local, National and Transnational Contexts: Innovative Methodological Approaches

Session Organiser:

Carles FEIXA, UDL, Spain

Hilary PILKINGTON, University of Manchester, United Kingdom

Marion FERRER, Pompeu Fabra University, Spain

Amidst the call for academics to think big and to routinely cross disciplinary and geographical boundaries, this panel invites critical discussion of what value is added to knowledge from conducting large scale, transnational research into youth activism. The session invites challenges to methodological assumptions that survey research shows the big picture but at the cost of local nuance while qualitative research cannot speak beyond the individual case. It welcomes discussion and examples of the potential for conducting context-sensitive survey research and meta-ethnographic analyses that allow interview and ethnographic data to speak across the local and national contexts in which they are embedded without making false claims to representativeness. It also welcomes contributions that demonstrate the added explanatory value that can be generated from triangulating data of qualitatively different kinds in order to understand contemporary youth experience.

Youth in the Global South: Emerging Theories, Methodologies, Histories and Policies

Session Organiser:

Sharlene SWARTZ, UTC, South Africa

Co-Chair:

Kiran ODHAV, North West University, South Africa

Scholarship from the Global North has long dominated the study of youth. In considering the possible futures youth demand and require, might it not be time to step back from global comparisons across the North-South divide and instead ask what alternative or complementary theories, policies, histories and methodologies Global South scholars can offer to the sociological study of youth? This themed session seeks to question how and whether the theories, methodologies, histories and policies of youth scholarship in the Global North are relevant, applicable and necessary to those in the Global South. It invites papers that ask how or whether approaches to youth scholarship differ between the Global North and the Global South, and is particularly interested in papers that (1) reflect on the *methodologies* in youth scholarship that have emerged from the South and to what effect; (2) analyse existing and introduce new sociological *theories* that address youth futures in the South; (3) address post-colonial *histories* of youth alongside contemporary actions in the South; and (4) interrogate *youth policies* that uniquely address contexts and conditions of Southern youth. The session is focused on elevating, showcasing and encouraging contemporary youth scholarship in the Global South – that includes the BRICS countries (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa). It is open to convergences, divergences, possibilities, speculations, and beginning new debates or fuelling older ones. For example, the possibilities of agency and resistance in adversity; the usefulness of sub-cultures theory in conflict contexts, and social and cultural reproduction in fragile landscapes. Short, innovative, provocative papers marked clearly as *theory*, *methodology*, *histories* or *policy* are invited and should aim to push forward the boundaries of Southern scholarship. There will be brief, invited responses to each paper to stimulate debate and discussion

Youth and Social Justice in the Global South: Building Alternative Strategies to Entrenched Social Inequalities

Session Organiser:

Rosa María CAMARENA-CÓRDOVA, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Mexico

Chairs:

Mariana CHAVES, CONICET-UNLP-UNTREF, Argentina

Hernan CUERVO, The University of Melbourne, Australia

Ana MIRANDA, FLACSO, Argentina

Frank MARCON, UFS - UNIVERSIDADE FEDERAL DE SERGIPE, Brazil

The increasing social disparities, youth labour precariousness and political turmoil makes it timely to reflect about issues of entrenched social inequalities and social justice in youth studies. In this session we invite papers to contribute to the current debate about structural inequality, disadvantage, social justice and youth from a Global South perspective to understand the complexities in patterns of disparity in different regions and for different social groups. We are interested in the lessons that can be learned from different social struggles in different spaces and places in order to create a dialogue that can contribute to the construction of alternative strategies to dominant neoliberal policies that have exacerbated unequal patterns across the globe. We invite established and new researchers to present their findings on studies that can highlight the different ways that sociology of youth can contribute to these debates on inequality, including possible strategies to build a more socially just world.

This session calls for papers that contribute on the following topics: school-to-work transitions; precariousness in youth labour markets; issues of economic and cultural (in)justice, including social class, gender, race and ethnicity, disability, sexualities; social exclusion in urban and rural places; the relationship between youth and the State; youth political participation; youth cultural practices; among other themes from a Global South perspective. As well as contributions of debate on entrenched social inequalities and social justice from a plural perspective that goes beyond the limits established by normative theories, which stigmatized youth and their lifestyles. We welcome papers that look for continuity and/or change in patterns of inequality and disadvantage; that are based on qualitative or quantitative methods; and that identify responses to these patterns by focusing on political, social, economic and cultural forces (e.g. social movements, cultural youth representations, etc.).

Language: Spanish, English

Jóvenes y Justicia Social en el Sur Global: Construyendo Estrategias Alternativas a las Arraigadas Desigualdades Sociales

El incremento de las diferencias sociales, la precariedad laboral de los jóvenes y la agitación política hace oportuna la reflexión sobre las arraigadas desigualdades sociales y la justicia social en los estudios de juventud. En esta sesión invitamos ponencias que contribuyan al debate actual sobre desigualdades estructurales, desventajas, justicia social y juventud desde la perspectiva del Sur Global, para comprender la complejidad de los patrones de desigualdad en distintas regiones y grupos sociales. Nos interesan las lecciones que se pueden aprender de las luchas sociales en diferentes espacios y lugares con el fin de crear un diálogo que pueda contribuir a la construcción de estrategias alternativas a las políticas neoliberales dominantes que han exacerbado los patrones de desigualdad en todo el mundo. Invitamos a investigadores establecidos y nuevos a presentar hallazgos de sus estudios que resalten las diversas formas en que la sociología de la juventud puede contribuir al debate sobre esta desigualdad, incluidas las posibles estrategias para construir un mundo socialmente más justo.

Esta sesión convoca trabajos que desde la perspectiva del Sur Global contribuyan en los siguientes temas: transición escuela-trabajo; precariedad de los mercados laborales juveniles; cuestiones de (in)justicia económica y cultural, incluyendo clase social, género, raza y etnicidad, discapacidad, sexualidades; exclusión social en espacios urbanos y rurales; relación jóvenes-Estado; participación política juvenil; prácticas culturales juveniles; entre otros. Asimismo, contribuciones que debatan las arraigadas desigualdades sociales y la justicia social desde una perspectiva plural que trascienda los límites impuestos por las teorías normativas que estigmatizan la juventud y sus estilos de vida. Son bienvenidos trabajos basados en métodos cualitativos o cuantitativos que aborden la continuidad y/o cambios en los patrones de desigualdad y desventaja, y que identifiquen respuestas a esos patrones desde la perspectiva de las fuerzas políticas, sociales, económicas y culturales (movimientos sociales, representaciones juveniles culturales, etc.).

Youth Justice – a Mirror of Social Justice? Young People at the Edge of the Law in Times of Inequality

Session Organisers:

Andreas KARSTEN, Youth Policy Labs, Germany

Maurice DEVLIN, National University of Ireland, Ireland

Howard WILLIAMSON, University of South Wales, United Kingdom

Format:

Roundtable

With the limelight being cast on the resurgence of protests around the globe, many of them driven by young people, seismic shifts in how young people are treated by justice systems have yet to seek similar attention by policy, research and media. This roundtable invites introductions to and critical discussions of contemporary findings that document and interrogate these shifts in youth justice systems and the politics driving them. The session welcomes discussions and examples of drivers and impacts of these shifts, including the criminalisation of young people, the lowering of the minimum age of criminal responsibility, and the absence or push back of justice frameworks for adolescents.

Researchers will be invited to present their findings in Pecha-Kucha-Format (20 images are shown, each for 20 seconds, and presenters speak alongside the images), and be supported by the session organisers to adjust their presentation to the format successfully. Following these introductions, the session will feature a roundtable, seeking to contextualise the changes in youth justice systems, politics and ideologies and exploring how these relate to discourses on intergenerational inequality, social injustice, and what they imply for the framing of youth policy, youth development and youth research.

Identifying and Interrupting Inequality: The Role of Youth Work

Session Organiser:

Trudi COOPER, Edith Cowan University, Australia

Format:

Open call for papers for presentation or distribution, and posters, with potential journal publication (Youth and Policy).

Presentations to address one of the following themes:

1. Vision: What are the competing visions for youth work in neo-liberal societies? How are the competing visions different in other socio-political systems? Are youth workers catalysts for change or soft-cops, or is this a false dilemma?
2. Explanation: What is the relationship between youth work theory of society and youth work theories for change: explanation; strategy; and action
3. Strategy: What is the evidence that youth work strategies contribute to change? How is strategy related to context? What is the nature of the relationship between personal change and social change in youth work practice? What opportunities are not taken?
4. Future: What is the unrealised potential of youth work in different socio-political contexts?

Criteria for acceptance of presentations:

1. Must connect youth work theory with youth work practice
2. Must relate the discussion to its socio-political context
3. Must examine evidence critically

‘Showcase’ posters/ distributed papers (posters can be presented with or without distributed papers and vice versa) that explain the methods and achievements of individual projects in their socio-political context

Posters/ distributed papers must clearly show

- the project purpose
- strategies
- achievements
- the socio-political context

Aim: to encourage active participation by new and existing members of RC34 at different stages of their careers hence options of presentation, posters and/or distributed papers for brief noting.

Creating Safety for Youth in a Gendered World

RC34 Sociology of Youth (host committee)

Joint Session with RC32 Women in Society

Session Organisers:

Darcie VANDEGRIFT, Trinity University, Canada

Anna-Britt COE, Umeå University, Sweden

Safe public spaces are intricately linked to social divides created by multiple hierarchies. The social division of gender is a central one: young women typically report feeling greater levels of fear and unsafety in public spaces even when they are more likely to be exposed to gendered violence in private spaces. This joint session explores the broad concept of youth safety from gendered violence in public spaces from institutional, interactional, and activist perspectives. In response to sexual assault on U.S. college campuses and the streets of India, to on-line torment of feminist bloggers and to the kidnapping of school girls in Nigeria, feminists and youth studies researchers must contribute to theory and practice around creating safety for youth. This session integrates youth studies perspectives with gender/intersectional approaches to safe public spaces. The session will examine both theoretical interventions, such as decoupling perceptions of dangerousness and vulnerability from male/female bodies, as well as advocacy and policy interventions that seek to create strategies to promote safety among for young people.

Gender, Youth, and Migration: Modalities and Trajectories for Development

RC32 Women in Society (host committee)
Joint Session with RC34 Sociology of Youth

Session Organisers:

Glenda BONIFACIO, University of Lethbridge, Canada

Mark Anthony ABENIR, University of Santo Tomas, Manila, Philippines

Lena NÄRE, University of Helsinki, Finland

Young people under 35 years old are considered the most mobile population around the world. Inspired by their peers and families, they leave their home communities to seek better opportunities for enhancing their education, work, and other reasons. But migration is gendered, and such gendered flows depend on particular histories of countries of origin. For example, the Philippines has significantly higher female youth migration in the care and health service industries worldwide. With a continued oversupply of educated labour in many occupations that cannot be absorbed by its own national economy; displayed resentments in governance seen as oppressive and exploitative; democratization of opportunities ushered in by social media and technology; easing of entry requirements in selected regions—are but a few avenues to entice youth mobility. However, youth migration opens contested discourse in development paradigms. With the youth away in hordes, what happens to their own communities? What is the implication of youth migration to local and national development? Who gains, who benefits? In what ways do female/male/LGBTQ youth migration are affected by the intersections of local/national/global forces? This joint session with RC34 examines the modalities and trajectories of diverse youth migration (female, male, LGBTQ) in the context of development and ascertain what the future holds in a globalizing world.

Young Skilled Migrants: Hopes and Struggles in New Global Trends

RC34 Sociology of Youth (host committee)
Joint Session with RC31 Sociology of Migration

Session Organisers:

Milos DEBNAR, Doshisha University, Japan

Minori MATSUTANI: Kyoto University, Japan

Young people in many societies have to choose their lifestyles among uncertainties and complexity brought by social processes such as globalization or individualization. One of the options in these conditions became migration, yet a one that is increasingly harder to explain within existing categories and concepts. Some recent studies focused on such young migrants who are often from highly developed regions and of middle-class origin, in possession of different forms of capital of which some is transferable through their migration, and their migration decisions or directions are often in discord with predictions of mainstream theories.

This distinguishes them from both apexes of traditional migration subjects, i.e. low- and high-skilled migrants, and position them between the pictures of discriminated, marginalized migrants and privileged, transnational elites. It is this ambiguous position of young skilled migrants that we want to focus on in this session. More particularly, we welcome papers that address both the privileges stemming from their national, racial or ethnic origin, possession and transferability of human, cultural or social capitals, or gender, and at the same time disadvantages and problems these individuals have to face as migrants and young adults in terms of family, career building, limits on capital transferability, legal constraints such as visas, or strategies of their employers, and thus depict the complex situation in which the young skilled migrants are placed to survive. We welcome papers addressing different forms, regions and flows of skilled migration based on empirical research or aiming theoretical developments in this field.

Young Cybogs: Interrogating Technology's Paradox with, for and By Youth

Session Organiser:

Kate TILLECZEK, University of Prince Edward Island, Canada

Young people have been uniquely misappropriated by modern forms of digital technology and capitalism such that youth are sold to/out in new and insidious ways. Unlike the work of many current commentators who insist on complacency and/or hysteria, this session seeks to provide critical sociological analyses *with, for* and *by* youth in which young people illustrate the workings of their digital lives and interrogate their own gains and losses from these embedded online positions. This session invites papers that address youth, digital technology and youth-machine mediated relationships and that explore the place of youth within the modern technological project. Theoretical or qualitative papers that embed scholarship in youth digital media and/or social media practices and perspectives are particularly encouraged. Papers that interrogate new forms of reproduction and resistance to the ubiquitous character of digital media are also encouraged. In speaking and listening closely to youth, these papers interrogate the range of paradoxical influences of digital technology on young lives. In addition, we seek papers arising from visual/digital field work and/or participation of young people in the research, writing, scholarship and/or presentation of research at this conference.