



CALL FOR ABSTRACTS/SESSION PROPOSALS

European Sociological Association - Midterm Conference of RN 21- Quantitative Methods 5th – 7th of October 2022, Salamanca, Spain:



Important information:

Abstract/session proposal submission: **deadline June 20th, 2022**
Information about accepted paper abstracts/sessions: **July 8th, 2022**
Full paper submission for Young Researcher Award: **August 31st, 2022**
Conference: **October 5th – 7th, 2022**
Welcome Reception: **October 5th, 2022**
Venue: **University of Salamanca, Spain**

Organizer: **ESA RN 21 Quantitative Methods**
Chair: Jochen Mayerl | Vice-Chair: Kathrin Komp
Local Organizer: Modesto Escobar, University of Salamanca (rn21@usal.es)
Webpage: <https://sociocav.usal.es/blog/RN21>



Quantitative methods help to predict and explain social phenomena. They are used across the social sciences, and they contribute to studying a wide range of sociologically and socio-politically relevant topics, amongst others associated with climate change, mass migration, social inequalities, xenophobia, COVID-19 pandemic, misinformation and ‘fake news’. In line with the conference theme “**Quantitative methods and the COVID-19 pandemic**”, we encourage presentations to reflect methodological challenges, problems, technical as well as statistical advances, and the use of new methods of the big data era in predicting and explaining societal conditions, events, and processes in Europe. In addition, we welcome papers on various topics in the fields of quantitative methods.

The main aim of our mid-term conference is to learn and to exchange ideas on how quantitative methods can contribute to improving our understanding of social changes, particularly in the sphere of effects of this pandemic. The need for an empirical foundation of the analysis of social change relates to several methodological challenges when it comes to quantitative approaches to describe and explain societal change. Consequently, this mid-term conference aims to raise the methodological potentials and challenges of quantitative research of social change.

We welcome **papers** and **sessions** about the following topics, which are of course by no means exhaustive:

COVID-19 and pandemic times:

1. Monitoring of COVID-19 and societal effects through surveys. Data collection: Problems and solutions of longitudinal data collection to analyze social change.
2. Disinformation, (online) social networks, and fake news. Analysing the effect of media use on social change.
3. The impacts of the pandemic on every day’s life. Effects on values and behaviour, mental and physical health, political and social attitudes, etc.

Methodology:

1. Big Data methods: Possibilities and problems of the application of new emerging digital methods to analyze social change.
2. Statistical approaches: Comparison of methodological approaches, pros and cons of different statistical methods for longitudinal data to identify and explain social change (e.g., fixed effects panel regression, latent growth curve models,

multilevel models, cross-lagged models, continuous time models, etc.), social network analysis.

3. Open sessions on various methodological topics.

Applied topics and best paper award:

1. Substantive contributions to the analysis of social change in different fields of sociology (e.g., environmental sociology, ethnocentrism and populism research, population dynamics, measuring migration, quality of life, social indicators, political and social trust, etc.).
2. “Award session”: Best Paper Young Researcher Award (see information below)

Confirmed keynote speakers:

M^a Ángeles Durán de las Heras. Spanish sociologist known for her pioneering research on unpaid work, the social situation of women, their social and work environment, health economics and inequality in the use of time. National Prize in Political Science and Sociology, she was the first woman to achieve a chair in sociology in Spain in 1982. She will talk about the challenge of data sources in times of pandemic.

The rest of the keynote speakers are yet to be confirmed.

Best Paper Young Researcher Award:

We invite young researchers (PhD students and post-docs no longer than 4 years after dissertation) to participate in our **Young Researcher Award Challenge**. The winning paper will be announced during the conference and awarded a **prize of 250 €**. If you want to take part in the challenge:

1. Submit an abstract between May 2nd, 2022 and June 20th, 2022, and explicitly indicate that you want to take part in the Award Challenge
2. Send a full paper (manuscript, under review or published) till 31st August (via email to rn21@usal.es)
3. The candidates will present their work in a special “award session”
4. Submissions will be judged by a committee of RN21 board members
5. Selection criteria are innovation and methodological contribution.
6. In case of co-authorship with a supervisor: the Young Researcher must be the first author, and only the Young Researcher can receive the award.

Conference format

The conference will be off-line unless otherwise stipulated by the health authorities. However, for those unwilling or unable to travel to Salamanca, online sessions can be arranged. So, if you are presenting a paper or interested in the conference, and unable to come to Salamanca on the specific dates, you should contact the local organizers. Further information on this hybrid format will be announced in the due time if necessary.

Conference Fees

- 60 € for junior ESA members (including PhD students)
- 80 € for non-junior ESA members
- 80 € for junior non-members (including PhD students)
- 100 € for non-members
- Fees include welcome reception, coffee breaks, lunches, and guided city-tour.

All further information about the conference (program etc.) will be available on the special web page of this event: sociocav.usal.es/blog/rn21

Instructions for Authors:

Please submit than 20th of June 2022 at the latest.

- For individual presentation: abstract of up to 300 words plus 3-5 keywords
- For session proposals: description of the session (ca. 300 words) plus an abstract with up to 300 words from at least three panelists

Please submit your paper/session proposals to: rn21@usal.es

Participants will be notified regarding the acceptance of their submissions by July 8th, 2022 at the latest.