

DISASTER, CONFLICT AND SOCIAL CRISIS RESEARCH NETWORK NEWSLETTER



Vol. 15, N°. 53, April 2014 – August 2014

<http://www.dcscrn.org/>

COORDINATOR'S REPORT



Nina Blom Andersen
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Dear Members, Colleagues and Followers of the Disaster, Conflict and Social Crisis Research Network,

I am glad to be able to present to you this 53rd DCSCRN Newsletter.

I send you my greetings here in the beginning of September where I am just about to get ready to go to Crete for our network's 2014 midterm conference, a venue which I am looking very much forward to. The good colleagues at the University of Crete have put together a conference where colleagues are going to listen to two interesting keynote presentations and join seven different sessions of some thirty presentations. These cover a wide range of the research interests that gather us across countries within and outside of Europe. You can learn more about the program that is included in this newsletter on p. 9.

At the same time, ESA has just send us their call for sessions for the 2015 biannual conference in Prague to be held from 25th to 28th August. Planning such a large conference certainly takes time and our initial work with this regard is just about to begin. The custom of DCSCRN is to invite our members and colleagues to come up with suggestions for a number of specific sessions at the conference. We believe that you are the ones who know what is going on and what is urgent to be discussed at the moment within our research areas.

The common title of the 2015 ESA conference is "Differences, inequalities and sociological imagination". Differences between people often lead to inequality and exclusion, though I would encourage you and myself to open our minds towards the possibility of understanding why differences among people concerning disasters, conflicts and social crises not necessarily result in exclusion, inequalities and suppression.

Instead, we might aim at getting an understanding of how differences in some respects can be understood in other ways during times of uncertainty.

Sociological imagination appears to be a crucial issue in a world that, at the moment, seems at times to be facing overwhelming obstacles concerning extremely violent military conflicts, still more severe climate changes and regional recession, just to mention some. The concept of sociological imagination can trigger our understanding on these issues. Is it possible for research and researchers to play a role also in seeing possibilities instead of looking for constraints and providing ways of transforming relations between people and between people and environment to a better direction?

As for each conference, we do of course still invite papers for open sessions. In so doing we want to be able to cover all the research interests that might find the scope of our network of relevance.

See our invitation for joining the call inside the newsletter on its p. 9. Please note that the deadline for sending us a proposal is October 1st. On behalf of the network, I thank you in advance for helping us to build a conference that suits your interests in the research of our network.

Best regards,

Nina Blom Andersen
DCSCRN Coordinator

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EDITOR'S NOTE



Antti Silvast
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Dear Members and Colleagues of the DCSCRN,

Welcome to the August edition of the DCSCRN Newsletter, which covers the period April 2014 – August 2014.

This September brings us plenty of activities within the network including an interim conference at the end of this week, as well as the first call for session proposal for the next ESA conference in Prague (see p. 9). We hope to see many of you during these events and please do not hesitate to suggest ideas and contexts for the network's sessions in Prague next year. We will also do our best to cover these events and their results in the scope of this newsletter and our web site dscrn.org for those that cannot attend.

The issue announces also another outcome from our previous Interim meeting in Mytilene in 2012: the volume *The Debt Crisis in the Eurozone: Social Impacts*, edited by Dr's Nicholas P. Petropoulos and George O. Tsobanoglou, and published by Cambridge Scholars Publishing, gathers together and updates papers presented during the sessions, also advancing concrete policy recommendations in its conclusion. Please find more about the volume on p. 4 in a summary written by Dr. Petropoulos. Our thanks go to both Dr. Petropoulos and Dr. Tsobanoglou for all their efforts in bringing this social science work on a timely issue to its completion.

In addition to these matters, normal contents like published dissertations, your essays, new research works, announcements and new member introductions are contained in this issue, and we thank once again everyone for their active contributions to the newsletter.

I want to end by wishing everyone very productive discussions and pleasant social gatherings during the Interim-14 meeting in Rethymno. While I wish I could have attended like the last Interim in 2012, this time my work has taken me elsewhere. I just started as a post-doctoral research associate in Princeton University, New Jersey, and will share more about this work in a coming newsletter. Meanwhile, all the best in Crete.

Pleasant reading and yours,

Antti Silvast

DCSCRN WEB MANAGER NOTE

Antti Silvast (dscrn.website@gmail.com)

New members

Please join me in welcoming the following new DCSCRN members:

1. **Rajiv Bhatt**, Professor in Department of Economics, Faculty of Social Sciences, Banaras Hindu University, India, has interests in international economics, public economy and demography.
2. **Tony McAleavy**, Senior Lecturer & Course Director – Disaster Management in Centre for Disaster Management & Hazards Research, Coventry University, UK, has interests in disasters, emergency management, communication, interoperability, leadership, metaphor and organizations.
3. **Emmanuel Raju**, Post-Doctoral Fellow in Copenhagen Centre for Disaster Research, Faculty of Law, Denmark, has interests in disaster risk reduction, disaster governance, disaster response and recovery.
4. **Hugh Deeming**, Senior Research Assistant (FP7 emBRACE project) in Northumbria University, UK, has interests in community resilience to natural hazards.
5. **Darwin Horning**, Senior Planner, PhD Candidate in University of British Columbia Okanagan, Canada, has interests in resilience and disaster management, urban/regional climate change planning, social research and water governance.
6. **Jing Pan**, Engineer in JCM International Project Management Institute, Beijing, China, has interests in disaster resilience, facility resilience, social networks in disaster resilience and information modeling for facility resilience.

As of August 2014, the DCSCRN has 268 members of who 40 are paying ESA members. The up-to-date list of all members is available at <http://www.dscrn.org/membership/members>.

Introductions



Darwin Horning

darwin.horning@ubc.ca

Darwin is a Senior Urban – Regional Planner and a Ph.D. Candidate (Sustainability) at the University of British Columbia Okanagan. Throughout his career, Darwin has been involved in community resilience and sustainability planning at a variety of scales. Darwin has worked collaboratively with communities at a multitude of scales, ranging from small rural and First Nations communities in British Columbia through to large international regions including the south East Queensland’s Regional Ecological Sustainable Plan and the Canada-Guyana Low Carbon Community Development Program (2009-2012). Darwin has continued to promote resiliency thinking and planning through both his research activities and professional practise focusing on climate change governance. Darwin’s current research, supported by the work emanating from the Stockholm Resilience Centre and the Resilience Alliance, involves investigating water resource governance during times of scarcity, specifically looking at the social aspects of watershed planning. Darwin is currently involved in building awareness and mainstreaming socioecological knowledge and resiliency thinking through involvement in organizations including: the International Union of Conservation Network – Commission on Ecosystem Management (IUCN-CEM) - Resilience Taskforce; the Planning Institute of British Columbia – Education Committee Member; and, the Crisis Resilience Alliance, University of British Columbia. In the upcoming IUCN - World Parks Congress (2014 & 2016) Darwin along with fellow IUCN-CEM members have been tasked with developing a resilience guide and tools for Protected Area managers. Darwin’s outreach activities include continued research presentation including the Chamba Climate Meet – 2014 (India) where he will be discussing, ‘Social connectivity in a context of rapid environmental change and water scarcity’.

Darwin Horning, MCIP, RPP
Senior Planner, Ph.D. Candidate
University of British Columbia Okanagan

Christine Eriksen (ceriksen@uow.edu.au)

I am a Research Fellow at the University of Wollongong, Australia focusing on social dimensions of disaster resilience. I was selected by the International Social Sci-

ence Council as a *World Social Science Risk Interpretation and Action Fellow* in 2013. My research is collaborative and interdisciplinary, grounded in ethnographic-style fieldwork, and with a key focus on the ways people learn, communicate, and engage with social and environmental uncertainty in everyday life. My current research in southeast Australia and the west-coast of USA, as well as previous work in southern parts of Africa, examines how direct personal experience (or lack thereof), emotions, values (cultural, monetary, spatial, temporal), societal norms, social networks and local environmental knowledge affects wildfire awareness, preparedness, response and recovery. It examines the trade-offs people make between risks and benefits, and contextualises these trade-offs at scales ranging from individual households and community networks to official management agencies.

Jing Pan (jingpan.cm@gmail.com)

Jing Pan is a Building Information Modeling (BIM) engineer in the Joint Construction Management (Beijing) Institute. She consults for several commercial project owners in providing solutions for information automation in facility management, with a focus on facility resilience.

Before joining JCM, she earned her Ph.D. degree in Technology at Purdue University, and worked as an assistant professor at Western Kentucky University in the U.S.

Her long term research plan is to investigate knowledge transfer through information modeling and trust building for community resilience, with a special interests in facility resilience.

Her research interests and ongoing projects are:

- information modeling for facility resilience
- serious game for facility resilience
- social networks in disaster recovery projects
- social media marketing adoption in A/E/C enterprises

Announcements

Susann Ullberg’s doctoral dissertation awarded

Dr. Susann Ullberg, a long-standing member of the DC-SCRN and its coordinating committee, has been awarded a prize for outstanding scientific achievement granted by the University Society at Stockholm University.

The University Society (Högskoleföreningen) awards an annual prize for the most outstanding doctoral dissertations at Stockholm University. Susann defended her dissertation at the Department for Social Anthropology in 2013. She analysed how people in the Argentine city of Santa Fe recall past floods in the area and discussed the role of social memories for urban risk, vulnerability and resilience.

The friends and colleagues in DCSCRN express our warm congratulations to Susann for the award and the recognition of her work!

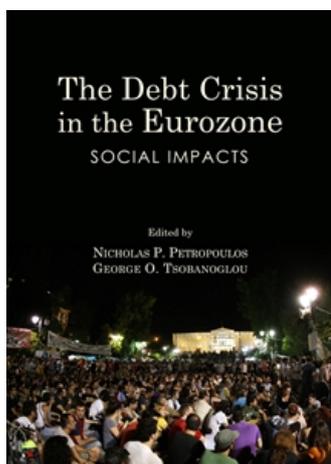
You can access the full dissertation on this page: <http://su.diva-portal.org/smash/record.jsf?pid=diva2:618130>.

Antti Silvast (dscrn.news@gmail.com)

RESOURCES

Books, articles, reports, and recent studies by DCSCRN members and colleagues. Book prices reflect prices at the time of survey. The DCSCRN cannot guarantee the prices informed. Prices are as stated in US dollars, Euros or UK pounds.

The Debt Crisis in the Eurozone: Social Impacts



Edited by Nicholas P. Petropoulos and George O. Tsobanoglou

Newcastle upon Tyne: Cambridge Scholars Publishing

2014, 541 pages

ISBN-13: 978-1-4438-5630-0

ISBN-10: 1-4438-5630-4

£59.99

The ESA research networks are urged by the ESA to organize interim conferences, on themes relevant to the

purposes of the RN. Our Research Network – “Disasters, Conflict and Social Crisis” (DCSCRN) had been quite active in regard to organizing sessions during the ESA conferences, maintaining a website and publishing an electronic newsletter, but it had never organized an interim conference.

Following the breakout of the economic crisis in the Eurozone, especially in Southern Europe and Ireland (the so-called PIIGS states), and the imposition of austerity and structural reforms by the troika (EU, IMF and ECB) in exchange for bailout, with its extensive impact on the citizens of these societies and its evolution into an “humanitarian crisis” that brought to memory the conditions of the Great Depression, the Network decided to focus on the “social crisis” dimension and organize an interim conference with the following theme: “The Debt Crisis in the Eurozone: Social Impacts”. Greece, the worst and first hit by the crisis, was selected as the venue. The conference took place on the island of Lesbos (Mytilene), 13-14/09/12, and attracted more than 30 academics/researchers from Greece, Spain, Turkey, Germany, UK, USA, New Zealand, Finland, Russia, France and Switzerland, i.e. from the entire spectrum of “debt-“ and “non debt-ridden” countries.

A byproduct of the interim-12 conference were two publications, one by the Cambridge Scholars Publishing (see dust jacket above) that includes selected and updated papers, and a second (The Conference Proceedings) by Gordios Books (Athens) that includes all the submitted papers of the conference. In this brief presentation, I shall concentrate on the CSP volume.

The CSP volume is organized into five parts, following the structure of “causes”, “responses” and “new institutions”, though admittedly some of the chapters could also be included in more than one part, depending upon interpretation. Part I deals with the political-economic and/or the multi-capital dimensions of the debt crisis and consists of five chapters. The authors scrutinize how the European Monetary Union (the Common Currency Union), German “ordoliberalism”, the European Social Fund, and Bourdieuan notions of capital have impacted upon the crisis and/or transformed the nature of distributional conflicts.

Part II consists of four chapters that deal with the macro- and micro-impacts (e.g., national humiliation, poverty, social and institutional trust, traumatic stress) of the debt crisis and focuses on Greece, the EZ country worst hit by the recession. Part III concentrates on the impact of the economic crisis on migration processes, intergroup relations, and migrant minority attitudes. Part IV focuses on the impact of the debt crisis on political processes (e.g., synchronizing identities, political disaffection, social protest, political outcomes), and gives special cover-

age to the *indignados* movements in Spain and Greece. The last part of the volume, Part V, presents some of the alternatives (e.g., social economy, resilience of fiscal structures, digital payment culture) that could constitute an answer to the debt crisis affecting not only Greece but also other debt-ridden countries. As the solutions to the debt crisis confronting Southern European countries are not exhausted in Part V, the editors undertake a synthesis of the previous chapters, and extract a number of policy recommendations that – if adopted – could transform the current financial crisis into a growth-opportunity for the European Union and its member states.

Before ending this brief description, I would like to acknowledge the contributions of the main factors in the production of this volume.

First, the European Sociological Association which contributed to the funding of the Lesvos midterm conference.

Second, the members of the Coordinating Committee of the “Disaster, Conflict and Social Crisis Research Network” – especially the Coordinator, Murat Balamir; the Vice-Coordinator, Nina Blom Andersen; the economic liaison with ESA, Susann Ullberg; and the web manager, Antti Silvast – for their moral, logistical and technical support.

Third, Laura Horn, Coordinator of the ESA Critical Political Economy RN for her assistance in the selection of the keynote speakers.

Fourth, the members of the mixed consultation committee from Aegean University and DCSCRN (Sotiris Chtouris, Murat Balamir, Maureen Fordham, Anastasia Zissi and George Tsobanoglou) for the initial selection of conference papers.

Fifth, the University of the Aegean, and especially the Rector, Prof. Paris Tsartas, for consenting to put the midterm conference under the University aegis, as well as Prof. Sotiris Chtouris, Director of the Laboratory for Sociocultural Digital Documentation, Prof. George Tsobanoglou, the co-editor and Director of the Sociology of Work Laboratory, and the staff of the Special Research Account, for their professional and/or logistical support to the conference.

Sixth, the Lesvos Chamber of Commerce for providing us the conference venue at minimal costs.

Seventh, the “Krishan and Vicky Joshi Foundation” of Dayton, Ohio, for the funding of the keynote speakers and the registration fees of conferees from debt-ridden Southern European countries (Greece and Spain).

Last, but not least, the staff at Cambridge Scholars Publishing: Carol Koulikourdi, Amanda Millar, Keith

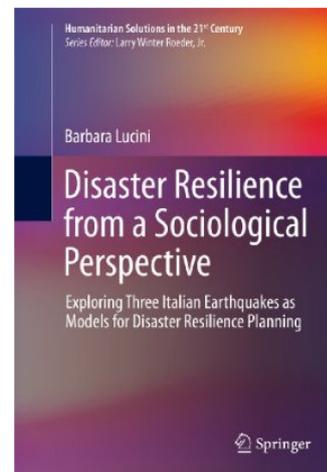
Thaxton, Adam Terry, Sean Howley and Samuel Baker for their guidance and assistance throughout the various stages of the publication process. Above all, thanks to Cambridge Scholars Publishing and its Management who gave us the opportunity to reach wider audiences of social scientists, crisis managers and policy makers.

Colleagues who are interested in acquiring the volume for themselves and/or for their institutional libraries may order it on-line from the following address: <http://www.cambridgescholars.com/the-debt-crisis-in-the-eurozone>

Nicholas P. Petropoulos, Ph.D.
Adviser to DCSCRN
Senior Editor

Nicholas Petropoulos (erc@otenet.gr)

Disaster Resilience from a Sociological Perspective: Exploring Three Italian Earthquakes as Models for Disaster Resilience Planning



By Barbara Lucini

Cham, Switzerland: Springer International Publishing

2014, 251 pages

ISBN: 978-3-319-04737-9 (Print)

ISBN: 978-3-319-04738-6 (Online)

Natural disasters traumatize individuals, disrupt families, and destabilize communities. Surviving these harrowing events calls for courage, tenacity, and resilience. Professional planning requires specific types of knowledge of how people meet and cope with extreme challenges.

Disaster Resilience from a Sociological Perspective examines three major earthquakes occurring in Italy over a fourteen-year period for a well-documented analysis of

populations' responses to and recovery from disaster, the social variables involved, and the participation of public agencies. This timely volume reviews sociological definitions and models of disaster, identifying core features of vulnerability and multiple levels of individual and social resilience. The analysis contrasts the structural and supportive roles of Italy's civil protection and civil defense services in emergency planning and management as examples of what the author terms *professional resilience*. And testimony from earthquake survivors and volunteers gives voice to the social processes characteristic of disaster. Among the areas covered:

- Social context for concepts of disaster, vulnerability, risk, and resilience
- Types of resilience: a multidimensional analysis, focused on a physical, ecological, and ecosystem perspective
- Findings from three earthquakes: loss, hope, and community.
- Two systems of organizational response to emergencies
- Toward a relational approach to disaster resilience planning
- Plus helpful tables, methodological notes, and appendices

For researchers in disaster preparedness, psychology, and sociology, *Disaster Resilience from a Sociological Perspective* raises – and addresses – salient questions about people and communities in crisis, and how studying them can improve preparedness in an uncertain future.

Please learn more about the book and purchase its contents from this link: <http://link.springer.com/book/10.1007%2F978-3-319-04738-6>

About the Author

Barbara Lucini has a PhD in Sociology and Methodology of Social Research, Catholic University of Sacred Heart, Milan.

She is researcher at Itstime – Department of Sociology – Catholic University of Sacred Heart, Milan, Italy.

She is project coordinator of IDRA and IDRA for women (Itstime Disaster Resilience Agency).

She collaborates in training activities with diverse regional and national agencies.

She is involved in various national and international networks.

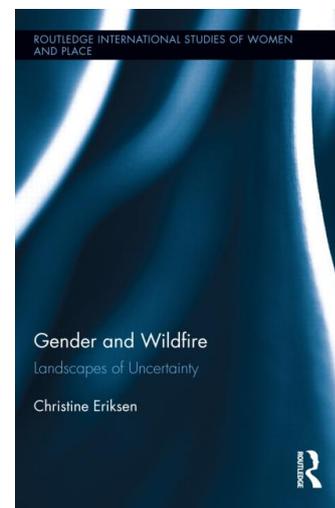
Her research interests are focused on disaster resilience, sociology of disaster, crisis and disaster management (national, international and European levels), civil protection systems, civil defence systems, volunteers' management, risk perception and crisis communication.

She is also interested in environmental and urban sociology, visual studies, disaster anthropology, and methodology of social research.

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Barbara Lucini (barbara.lucini@unicatt.it)

Gender and Wildfire: Landscapes of Uncertainty



By Christine Eriksen

London: Routledge

2014, 186 pages

ISBN: 978-0-415-50270-2

In pursuit of lifestyle change, affordable property, and proximity to nature, people from all walks of life are moving to the wildland-urban interface. Tragic wildfires and a predicted increase in high fire danger weather with climate change have triggered concern for the safety of such amenity-led migrants in wildfire-prone landscapes.

This book examines wildfire awareness and preparedness amongst women, men, households, communities and agencies at the interface between city and beyond. It does so through an examination of two regions where wildfires are common and disastrous, and where how to deal with them is a major political issue: southeast Australia and the west coast United States. It follows

women's and men's stories of surviving, fighting, evacuating, living and working with wildfire to reveal the intimate inner workings of wildfire response – and especially the culturally and historically distinct gender relations that underpin wildfire resilience.

Wildfire is revealed as much more than a "natural" hazard – it is far from gender-neutral. Rather, wildfire is an important means through which traditional gender roles and power relations are maintained despite changing social circumstances. Women's and men's subjectivities are shaped by varying senses of inclusion, exclusion, engagement and disengagement with wildfire management. This leads to the reproduction of gender identities with clear ramifications for if, how and to what extent women and men prepare for wildfire.

Christine Eriksen (ceriksen@uow.edu.au)

Eriksen, C. & Hankins, D.L. (2014), "The Retention, Revival, and Subjugation of Indigenous Fire Knowledge through Agency Fire Fighting in Eastern Australia and California", *Society & Natural Resources* 1-16, DOI: 10.1080/08941920.2014.91822

This article explores the potential impact of training and employment with wildfire management agencies on the retention of Indigenous fire knowledge. It focuses on the comparative knowledge and experiences of Indigenous Elders, cultural practitioners, and land stewards in connection with "modern" political constructs of fire in New South Wales and Queensland, Australia, and California in the United States of America. This article emphasises the close link between cross-cultural acceptance, integration of Indigenous and agency fire cultures, and the ways in which knowledge types are shared or withheld. While agency fire fighting provides an opportunity for Indigenous people to connect and care for country, it simultaneously allows for the breaking of traditional rules surrounding what knowledge is shared with whom in the context of Indigenous cultural burning. By highlighting how privilege intersects with ethnicity, class, gender and age, this article demonstrates how greater cross-cultural acceptance could aid ongoing debates on how to coexist with wildfire today.

Christine Eriksen (ceriksen@uow.edu.au)

Orhan, E. (2014) "The Role of Lifeline Losses in Business Continuity in the Case of Adapazari, Turkey", *Environmental Hazards* 13(4): 298-312, DOI: 10.1080/17477891.2014.922914

Despite the fact that one of the main reasons for business discontinuity after the shock of a natural disaster is life-

line outages, individual preparedness and recovery efforts have been given priority. This paper focuses on the significance of lifeline services for business continuity in order to highlight the necessity for collective action to achieve community recovery. Post-disaster research was conducted on a sample of business survivors in the town of Adapazari, which was severely affected by an earthquake in 1999. The study looked into the dependence of businesses on various infrastructure systems and the effects on those businesses of lifeline outages. The findings of the study address the need for community-level actions that are beyond the capability of any individual firm and which will ensure the continuity of business.

Ezgi Orhan (enalbantoglu@pau.edu.tr)

Three-Part Special Issue on "Energy in Society", *Science & Technology Studies* 26(3) 2013, 27(1) 2014 and 27(2) 2014

The society's relation with its energy supplies has timely repercussions for matters of disaster, conflict and social crisis, as has been debated also in this research network and its conference sessions on several occasions over the past years. With this in view, I want to draw your attention to a three-part special issue about "Energy in Society" that was published in consequent issues of the journal *Science & Technology Studies* between 2013 and 2014. Antti Silvast (PhD, University of Helsinki) and Dr's Hannu Hänninen and Sampsa Hyysalo (both affiliated with the Aalto University, School of Business) served as the guest editors.

The fourteen papers published in the three issues advance and discuss a variety of perspectives on current energy issues: energy system transitions among manifold path dependencies, nuclear waste risk management, the history of nuclear technologies, climate change mitigation, techniques for capturing waste carbon dioxide (CCS), the public acceptance and appropriation of wind and solar power technologies, practices of more sustainable everyday energy use, energy innovations on various levels, conceptualizations of national energy security policy, and risk and reliability in complex interconnected electricity infrastructures. An analytic review of *Science & Technology Studies* literature on energy systems and infrastructures draws the themes together and was published as the first issue's guest editorial.

Please go to <http://sciencetechnologystudies.org/> to read the contents of the issues and find more information. The two first energy special issues are now open access, while the third will be opened up to the public this December. Meanwhile, members of the European Association for the Study of Science and Technology (EASST) can already read all of the contents on the web site.

The editors of the issues are happy to answer any further questions. You can contact them at antti.silvast@iki.fi, sampsahyysalo@aalto.fi and hannu.i.hanninen@aalto.fi.

Antti Silvast (antti.silvast@iki.fi)

WRITER'S CORNER

Notes on Distant Future Disasters, Deep Time and Nuclear Waste During the Anthropocene



By **Vincent F. Ialenti** (<https://cornell.academia.edu/VincentIalenti>)

What sort of legal and scientific tools do high-level radioactive waste repository projects deploy in response to spent fuel's multi-millennial timescales of hazard? What happens to these tools when they get caught up in technocratic projects that extend law's regulatory ambit hundreds of thousands of years into the future? How do nuclear waste disposal projects reckon distant future disasters, worlds, and ecosystems? How might social scientific scrutiny of such projects aid present-day societies in situating decision-making in wider spans of intergenerational planning and responsibility? How might this help societies situate themselves in deep, geological, planetary horizons of time?

Questions like these motivated my case study 'Adjudicating Deep Time: Revisiting the United States' High-Level Nuclear Waste Repository Project at Yucca Mountain', published in August 2014 in *Science & Technology Studies*, the official journal of the European Association for the Study of Science and Technology (EASST), in its 3rd Special Issue on "Energy in Society" (see newsletter p. 7). This article juxtaposes social scientific commentaries on the United States' now-defunct Yucca Mountain nuclear waste repository project with selected perspectives from STS and Anthropology to revisit the United States' nuclear waste disposal regime

from what I hope will be received as a fresh interdisciplinary angle. Specifically, it examines how two core figures of Euro-American legal reasoning – (a) the bounded legal person and (b) legal adjudication's familiar relation of roles between 'rules', 'facts', and 'judgment' – were stretched across the Yucca Mountain repository construction licensing procedure's million-year regulatory horizons. The article concludes with reflections on how scholars in the social sciences and humanities might more imaginatively come to grips with the 'deep' geological timescales typical of nuclear waste disposal projects during an era of extraction, climate change, and environmental destruction.

Participants in DCSCRN's August 2013 'Disaster Risk Techniques: Practices of Use, Critiques and Reinventions' session at the European Sociological Association meeting in Torino, Italy provided me with feedback that was vital in developing this case study. In light of this, I write in DCSCRN's newsletter today to both announce this project's completion and to articulate some new questions that this project has left me pondering. My intention is for these questions to be addressed more thoroughly as I develop my current project: a long-term ethnographic study of experts working on Finland's Olkiluoto nuclear waste repository project's [Safety Case](#) and construction licensing endeavors. For more about my current anthropological study, click [here](#). For now, however, some speculative thoughts:

It is now commonly suggested that we have entered the 'Anthropocene' – a new geologic epoch ushered in by our species' own transformations of Earth's climate, erosion patterns, extinctions, atmosphere, and rock record. Such conditions challenge us as social scientists to imagine and devise new ways of living, reasoning, making societal decisions, and envisaging our relationships with our planetary environment. In order to do so, we must – as anthropologist [Richard Irvine has recently suggested](#) – 'be open to deep time' and 'new ways of exploring the interrelationships between human and geological temporalities'. Perhaps, then, one way of doing this would be to take closer social scientific looks at the tools, techniques, and technologies tapped in notably long-sighted technoscientific or technocratic projects unfolding in many contexts across the globe today (e.g. nuclear waste disposal, carbon sequestration, climate change mitigation programs etc). How are such devices being 'retooled' when brought to bear on markedly long-term spans of time? How do their users imagine the (far) future? How is the distant future made intelligible, legible, or discernible in contexts of decision-making and policy? What, in such contexts, do experts' senses, images, or understandings of potential distant future disasters look like? How can these senses, images, or under-

standings inform the ambitions of Disaster Studies and *vice versa*? Questions like these, I suggest, become especially pertinent in what some call the Anthropocene. To this end, I invite DCSCRN members to ponder alongside me: is it time for social scientists to attune more to speculative distant future catastrophes? What sort of analytical returns could extending our own horizons far into the future reap in a historical moment increasingly called the Anthropocene?

Vincent F. Ialenti is a PhD Candidate in Cornell University's Department of Anthropology.

Image: <http://www.yuccamountain.org/photo.htm>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Call for Session Proposals: 12th Conference of the European Sociological Association, Prague, 25-28 August 2015



The DCSCRN Coordinating Committee (CC) invites all members of the network and all colleagues to submit proposals for specific sessions to be held during the 2015 ESA conference that will be organized in Prague from 25 to 28 August. The ideas that you send us will enrich the program and ensure the quality of the sessions of our research network. We invite you to send us not only suggestions concerning our RN08 sessions, but also for joint sessions with other research networks.

A number of questions may be considered relevant for both the European and global contexts in the RN8 sessions and touch on the general ESA conference theme 'Differences, inequalities and sociological imagination':

- How is sociological imagination unfolded within the disaster, conflict and social crisis research?
- How are well known inequalities reinforced and how are new forms of inequality produced during crises and disastrous events?
- How can differences such as gender, social class, age and ethnic background be conceptualized in our research field?

- What kind of theoretical and methodological issues within the disaster, conflict and social crisis research are important to discuss in 2015?

We welcome proposals from people who have research, teaching and/or practical experience with the topics of the network but particularly those that engage with the conference theme and with key theoretical methodological and research issues in the field of disasters, social conflicts, social crises and crisis policies or practices.

The CC will consider all proposals in order to provide out members and other participants at the ESA conference with a rich and diverse program. Members and colleagues from countries within and outside of Europe are invited to participate and send their proposals. Please note that we expect proposers to convene and chair the session proposed.

Proposals for sessions should not exceed 250 words and should be submitted no later than **October 1st** to the DCSCRN coordinator, ninablom@ruc.dk, and vice coordinator, antti.silvast@iki.fi. If you have any queries, please contact Nina Blom Andersen and Antti Silvast at the same e-mail addresses.

Find out more information about the conference on these web sites: <http://esa12thconference.eu/> and <http://www.europeansociology.org/conferences.html>.

Deadline 1 October 2014

Final Programme: DCSCRN Interim Conference 2014, Disasters, Conflicts and Social Crises: Causes, Impacts and Responses, Rethymno, Greece, 18-19 September 2014

This year's interim conference of the European Sociological Association (ESA) Research Network 08 "Disaster, Conflict and Social Crisis Research Network" (DCSCRN), entitled «Disasters, Conflicts and Social Crises: Causes, Impacts and Responses», is organized in collaboration with the Department of Sociology of the University of Crete, and will be held on the island of Crete (Greece), prefecture of Rethymno on 18-19 September 2014.

Here, we publish the event's final programme including the names of all thematic sessions and presentations. Please read the full abstracts on our home page, <http://www.dcscrn.org/interim-14/abstracts>. Find more general information about the conference such as keynotes, venue and traveling on this page, <http://www.dcscrn.org/interim-14/>.

The DCSCRN looks forward to hear your presentations and welcomes you to the sessions in Rethymno!

Thursday, 18 September 2014

8:30 – 9:30 Registration, Lecture Hall D6, Gallos Campus, University of Crete

9:30 – 9:45 Welcome Opening – Brief addresses by University and Network Representatives

9:45 – 10:30 Keynote Presentation

Alia GANA: Title of presentation: «Water crisis, conflicts and institutional responses in post-revolutionary Tunisia»

10:30 – 12:10 Session 1: Theoretical and political issues surrounding risk, security policies and disasters

Chair: Eugenia Petropoulou, University of Crete, Greece.

- Public Perception of Surveillance-Oriented Security Technologies in Europe: A Cross-Cultural Comparative Analysis, Elvira Santiago, IPP-CSIC (Spain), Sara Degli Esposti, The Open University (UK), Vincenzo Pavone IPP-CSIC (Spain).
- Personification of the Pandemic Threat 2009 in Norwegian and Danish Media 2009, Nina Blom Andersen, Roskilde University Denmark.
- Disasters as Pretext for Social Control: The Case of L'aquila (Italy), Gian Maria Valent, University of Padua, Italy.
- Disasters: Risk, Health and Social Movements, Aikaterini A. Aspradaki & Maria Kousis, University of Crete, Greece.

12:00 – 12:30 Coffee break

12:30 – 14:00 Session 2: Environmental hazards, conflicts and social movements

Chair: Stella Zambarloukou, University of Crete, Greece.

- Terminal Crisis and Social Collapse: An Evaluation of the Combination of Possible Triggers (Peak Oil, Global Warming, Wrong Policy Responses), Pedro A. García Bilbao, Universidad Rey Juan Carlos (Madrid).
- Agricultural Intensification: Greenhouse Farming and Environmental Degradation in Greece, Eugenia Petropoulou, University of Crete, Greece.
- Local Environmental Protest and Policies on Waste Disposal Facilities in Greece, the Case of Crete (1998-2010), Angelos Loukakis, University of Crete, Greece.

- Livelihoods vs. Conservation: Lessons Learned from the Shiretoko World Natural Heritage Area, Eirini Ioanna Vlachopoulou, University of the Aegean, Mitsutaku Makino, Fisheries Research Agency, Japan, Hiroyuki Matsuda, Yokohama National University.

14:00 – 15:00 Lunch

15:00 – 16:45 Session 3: Risk assessment, risk management and social responses

Chair: Nina Blom Andersen, Roskilde University Denmark.

- Paradoxes in Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change Adaptation, Philip Buckle, Risk and Development Advisors.
- Spatial Planning as a Non-technical Tool in Flood Risk Governance Strategies. Evolution Of Flood Risk Governance In Poland, Lewandowski Jakub, Matczak Piotr, Institute for Agricultural and Forest Environment, Poland.
- Mapping Stakeholders in Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation with a View to Decision Making and Implementation in the Midst Of the Current Crisis in Greece, M.Dandoulaki, National School of Public Administration and Local Government, Greece, E.Karymbalis, Harokopio University of Athens, Greece, K.Valkanou, Harokopio University of Athens, Greece.
- Comparative Risk Management Analysis at Community Level Using Agent Based Models, Aristeia Alexiou, University of Aegean, Greece.

16:45 – 18.30 Session 4: Disasters: proactive and reactive policies

Chair: Nina Blom Andersen, University of Denmark.

- A Critical Evaluation of Disaster Definition in Turkey's Disaster Management System Following the June 2013 Uprising in Turkey, Ali Tolga Özden, Department of Architecture, Isparta, Turkey.
- Reading Urban Vulnerabilities through Urban Planning History: An Earthquake-Prone City Case from Turkey, Ezgi Orhan, Pamukkale University, Turkey.
- 'The State Can't Do Everything Any More'. The Emergence of A Discourse on Resilience and the Enhancement of Public-private Partnership in the French Civil Defense Field, Léo Bourcart, PACTE / Sciences PO Grenoble, France.

- Public Library Disaster Practices: Building Cross-sector Relationships and Partnerships, Christine Hagar, San Jose State University, CA, USA.

20:30 – Dinner for the conferees at a local restaurant

Friday, 19 September, 2014

9:30 – 10:15 Keynote Presentation

Nikos MOUZELIS: Title of presentation: «The Crisis of Social-Democracy: Death or Revival? »

10:15 – 12:00 Session 5: The political impact of the Eurozone Crisis

Chair: Yota Papageorgiou, University of Crete, Greece.

- The Eurozone Crisis and Its Impacts: A Discursive Actor-Attribution Perspective, Jochen Roose, Moritz Sommer, Maria Kousis, Franziska Scholl, Marina Papadakis, Kostas Kanellopoulos, Dimitris Papanikolopoulos Freie Universität Berlin, University of Crete.
- Protest Campaigns and the Impacts of the Eurozone Crisis on Southern European Regions, Maria Kousis, University of Crete.
- Is There a Light at the End of the Tunnel? Crisis' Effects on Greek Social Citizenship and Quality of Government, Christos Kanellopoulos, Sotiria Liakaki, University of Athens, Greece.
- The “Golden Dawn” Party of Greece: Beyond the Eurozone Debt Crisis, Nikos P. Petropoulos, formerly of the Pedagogical Institute of Greece.
- The Impact of the Rise of Golden Dawn in Greece As a Result of the Socio-Economic Crisis, Louiza Zina, University of the Aegean, Greece.

12:00 – 12:15 Coffee break

12:15 – 14:00 Session 6: Social consequences of the economic crisis: poverty, unemployment and gender relations.

Chair: Dionyssi Balourdos, National Centre for Social Research, Greece.

- Greek Women and the Economic Crisis, Yota Papageorgiou, University of Crete, Greece.
- Is the Shrinkage of Labour Cost a Substantive Step of Facing the Economic Crisis in Greece and in the EU? Nikos Sarris, National Centre for Social Research, Greece.

- Unemployment and Work Precariousness in Times of Crisis, Christina Karakioulafis, Univeristy of Crete, Greece.
- The Economic Crisis Impact in Immigration: Case Study on Employed and Unemployed Muslim Immigrants in Athens, Tramountanis Angelo, National Centre for Social Research (EKKE), Greece.
- Crisis and the Risk of Poverty at Local Level: Athens ‘New Poverty’ Paradigm, Maria Petraki, University of Athens, Greece.

14:00 – 15:00 Lunch

15:00 – 16:30 Session 7: Migration and Demographic Impacts

Chair: Nikos Petropoulos, formerly of the Pedagogical Institute of Greece.

- Exploring Recession’s Impacts on the so-called “Southern European Model of Migration”, Stefania Kalogeraki, University of Crete, Greece.
- Human Disasters in the Middle of Economic Crisis: The Case of the Non-regular Migration Into Greece, Joanna Tsiganou, National Centre for Social Research – (EKKE), Athens, Greece.
- Economic Recession and Fertility in Greece, Dionyssi Balourdos, Director of Research, National Centre for Social Research – (EKKE), Athens, Greece.
- Morbidity Mortality and Financial Stress, Pierrakos George, TEI-Athens, Greece.

THE DCSCRN ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER

This is the periodic electronic newsletter of the Disaster, Conflict and Social Crisis Research Network (DCSCRN). The purpose of the DCSCRN is to promote the study, research and analysis of “natural”, “technological” and “social” disasters with a view to contributing to the development of disaster resilient European communities, and preventing or mitigating the human, economic, social, cultural and psychological effects of crises and disasters.

The DCSCRN Electronic Newsletter is published three times a year (April, August, December). The previously published newsletters are downloadable at the network’s webpage: <http://www.dcscrn.org>.

Announcements of conferences, book, film, and CD-ROM reviews, reportage on conferences, disaster diaries, brief articles on best or worst practices in disaster prevention and recovery, commentaries on disasters and crises, human interest stories relevant to disasters, etc. should be sent electronically to the editor, Antti Silvast (dscrn.news@gmail.com) no later than the first of the month of publication. Contributions to the newsletter should preferably be written in a concise format (½-1 page long maximum) in order to make reading comprehensive albeit focused. Ideas should be referenced (Author, year), but there is no need for a complete reference list.

Relevant contributions from the field of disaster, conflict and crisis research, as well as from applied disaster, conflict and crisis management practice, are most welcome!

All “signed” texts express the opinions of the authors and not necessarily those of the coordinators, the editor or of the DCSCRN.

Nina Blom Andersen, DCSCRN Coordinator

Antti Silvast, DCSCRN Vice Coordinator and E-Newsletter Editor