

ISA - International Sociological Association
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4th International Conference of Sociocybernetics
Sociocybernetics - The future of the Social sciences
- Society from Ancient Greece to Cyberspace and Beyond -

Corfu, Greece, June 30-July 5, 2003

Call for Papers

CONFERENCE THEME:

Within the framework of this conference two major objectives are to be dealt with. The first part will concentrate on identifying and specifying the principles of sociocybernetics including their empirical foundations. This will encompass the perspectives of First Order Cybernetics in the tradition of General System Theory, non-Luhmannian Second Order Cybernetics as developed, e.g., by Heinz von Foerster and in the Cognitive Sciences, and the perspective of Luhmann's autopoietic theory of social systems. The papers presented in this part are expected to serve as a basis for ample discussion leading to the specification of the outlines of an introductory text on the question "What is sociocybernetics?" and are expected to be revised as parts of such a text after the conference.

The second part of the conference will turn towards the applications of such principles to the analysis of social history and development, in particular in the multicultural arena of the Mediterranean and Greece, hopefully with a particular look at Corfu. Of special interest are

empirical and applied research and analyses of the interplay of social and cultural aspects in long-term development and the lessons which can be learned for community development in a local context like Corfu under the conditions of globalization, information society, and tourism as an expression of unlimited global mobility. Also welcome in this part, however, are papers showing sociocybernetics applied to other problems and geographical areas.

DATES, Venue, and Accommodation:

The conference will take place from Monday, June 30, to Saturday, July 5, 2003. Participants are expected to arrive on Sunday, June 29. Saturday, July 5th, will be a day of excursion which can be used for travelling, if necessary, by those intending to participate in the ISSS Congress in Crete (July 7-11).

The conference will be held in the Phaliraki Conference Room which belongs to the Municipality of Corfu. Phaliraki is a place in the Old City of Corfu close to the sea behind St. Michel and George Palace. One can reach it passing under the Gate of St. Nicolas in the old Venetian walls of the Old City. From Phaliraki one can enjoy an excellent view to the East, seeing the Ionian Sea and the mountains of the Greek peninsula and of Albania.

Several hotels in different price categories ranging from 90 Euro (Cavalieri) to 45 Euro (Arion) for a single room (including tax and breakfast) can be recommended. They are all in walking distance of the conference site. Special rates for conference participants are still under negotiation and more information will be available soon on our website <<http://www.unizar.es/sociocybernetics/>>.

Cavalieri Hotel: Tel. +30-2-6610-39041; fax: -39336; e-mail: <info@cavalieri-hotel.com>

Arcadion: Tel.: +30-2-6610-37670; fax: -45087

Konstantinoupolis: Tel. +30-2-6610-48716; fax: -48718;

Bella Venezia: Tel. +30-2-6610-46500; fax: -20708; e-mail: <belvenht@hol.gr>

Arion: Tel. +30-2-6610-37950-1; fax -38904

CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION:

Conference fees are for:

- RC51 Non-members 100 \$ US
- RC51 affiliated members (non-ISA): 50 \$ US
- RC51 regular members (ISA): no fees

In special cases (e.g. students) exemptions can be granted upon request.

ABSTRACTS AND THE REVIEW PROCESS:

Abstracts for papers should be 500 to 1000 word *detailed abstracts* for the review process

and the definitive assignment to a particular session. In addition, 250 word *regular abstracts* are needed for publication on our website. All abstracts should be sent to the Chair of the Abstracts Committee, Arne Collen (<acollen@saybrook.edu>), to our Vice-President Vessela Misheva (<Vessela.Misheva@soc.uu.se>), and to our President Bernd R. Hornung (<hornung@med.uni-marburg.de>). The Abstracts Committee will review the detailed abstracts and will decide about acceptance and possibly will suggest improvements and modifications, in particular in order to ensure compliance with the conference theme. Abstracts have to deal with one of the major subjects mentioned above and should fit well with the overall objectives of this conference.

DEADLINES:

March 15, 2003: 500-1000 word *detailed abstracts* and 250 word *regular abstracts*.

Conference of the ISSS:

The International Society for the Systems Sciences (ISSS) (<<http://www.ISSS.org>>) will hold its 47th Annual Conference on “Conscious Evolution of Humanity: Using Systems Thinking To Construct Agoras of The Global Village” from July 7-11, 2003, in Iraklion, Crete, Greece.

The 4th International Conference of Sociocybernetics of RC51 in Corfu, Greece, is planned just before the ISSS Conference, so that participants may travel to Iraklion on July 5 or 6 and participate in both conferences.

All participants in the ISSS conference are most cordially invited to participate and present papers in the RC51 conference. Their papers will be subject to the same review and selection process as those of RC51 members.

In case of presenting papers in both conferences, please send your abstract for the ISSS Conference also to the three persons mentioned above for the RC51 abstracts. On principle it is possible to present the same paper at both conferences, provided the abstract is accepted by the organizers of both.

CONTACTS AND INFORMATION:

For any further questions and information you may consult the RC 51 website at <<http://www.unizar.es/sociocybernetics/>>. This may already answer many of your questions, or you may also directly contact any of the members of the International Organizing Committee.

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZING COMMITTEE:

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Sotiris Michalef, Member of the Municipality Board	