



Call for Papers

Journal of Sociocybernetics

Thematic Issue on »Complexity of Migration«

The Journal of Sociocybernetics (ISSN 1607-86667) is a peer reviewed, electronical journal published biannually - Spring/Summer and Fall/Winter - by the Research Committee on Sociocybernetics (RC 51) of the International Sociological Association (ISA). One of the next Issues of the JoS will be concerned with the worldwide problem of *migration* respectively with the problem of *governance* of migration.

Governance of Migration is a matter of high complexity. Since some years, the governance of migration is one of the prominent subjects in many countries of the world. Not only in politics but as in science it is emphasized that the governance of migration will be one of the most important tasks of the coming decade. It refers to social, economic, cultural, legal, educational and moral questions which have to be treated on different levels. On a macro level question of demographic trends, of the development of labour market, questions of cultural diversity and cultural change, burden of the national welfare systems, etc. must be regarded. On the micro level social research focus on personal strains of migrants, the impacts of tearing apart families, the consequences of losing an effective social and legal protection, the difficulties of cultural uprooting, inclusive the experience of animosities and racist discriminations. On the other hand there is the hope of migrants to improve their own living conditions, their income and further development or application of own skills.

The high complexity of the subject requires interdisciplinary approaches. Due to its self-conception that Sociocybernetics applies systems thinking and cybernetic principles in sociology and other social sciences in order to analyse social phenomena regarding their complexity and dynamics, it seems to be consequent to accept this challenge.

Governance of migration does not mean only the regulation of migration streams (who is allowed to come in and who isn't, who will get a long-term residence authorization and who won't), but also it has to apply to conditions for living together of autochthonous and immigrated population. That involves questions for access to the labour market, access to education, and generally the possibilities for participation in civil society. Also it affects the possibilities for the emergence of cultural diversity, possible exclusions and racist discriminations.

But also the questions which are related to the new topic »Postmigration« should be in the focus of the journal's issue. The feeling to be extraneous refers to many individuals, which are living partially since a lot of years, in parts for some generations, in one of the immigration countries. They are German or Spanish or Hungarian citizens and have the respective nationality. But they have some attributes which do them stigmatize as a stranger. For a large part of people with a migration background migration itself is not part of their individual experience. But it survives as a biographical element, either as part of the family legend, or by attribution from outside because their appearance, accent, clothing or their names. And often these attributes will initiate other people to suspect the affiliation of migrants to the country. On this problem in last time came up the new discourse around the term »post-migration«.

Regarding the public discussion of the last years, one of the most discussed question is the relation between the prevalence of the (universal) fundamental human rights of the liberal constitutional state and the consideration of (particular) cultural diversities is discussed. The ideal of the liberal republican constitutional state are based on the principle that every citizen of society accept any other as an *equal* regardless of his/her particularities in respect of his/her gender, race, class, descent, religion, language, etc. But this mutual respect can only be realized if the particularities, which after all are relevant attributes of every individual, are respected by everybody else. Exactly at this point ordinarily the clash starts: When do

a certain accentuation of particular cultural habits violate against the general accepted norms of the liberal constituted state, and how deal a pluralistic society with this conflict?

Why should be this subject an adequate topic for the *Journal of Sociocybernetics*? Sociocybernetics rejects any concept for govern social problems based on causal methods or hierarchical subordinations without regarding complexity, receprocity and self-referentiality. Sociocybernetics emphasises the systemic interrelation of all elements within a system, in which a certain problem occurs, and it asks for solutions which are adequate to the reciprocal effects of all relevant factors.

We welcome proposals for contributions

- with reference to theoretical or empirical research,
- of different scientific disciplines
- dealing with one or more of the questions described above and
- focussing the complex interrelationship between different aspects of migration
- inclusive the consideration of feed-back processes of migration and the particular political measures to society in whole

Scholars who intend to publish a paper should send it to the editor Michael Paetau:
(michael.paetau@sociocybernetics.eu) until December 10, 2011.

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