

Message From the President

Dear RC46 Members,

Highlights Rabat, Morocco

What a pleasure it was to see so many of you in Rabat at the V ISA Forum of Sociology. RC46 (Research Committee 46: Clinical Sociology) hosted 18 energising sessions filled with thought-provoking papers and lively debate that showcased the global impact of Clinical Sociology. Topics ranged from decolonising research and gendered burnout to mental-health inclusion, planetary and environmental health, youth well-being and whistleblowing. Presenters showed how combining theory with practice tackles real-world challenges and advances social justice. A recurring theme was the power of Clinical Sociology to promote equity, resilience and community engagement. Sessions explored the Anthropocene, structural barriers to inclusion, post-socialist transformations in Europe and environmental justice highlighting interdisciplinary collaboration and practical interventions that make a difference.

With Thanks

Our gratitude to session organisers, chairs, discussants and reviewers whose work made the programme a success.

Celebrating Excellence

Professor Jan Marie Fritz received the Lifetime Achievement Award for pioneering scholarship, visionary leadership, and the mentorship of generations of Clinical Sociologists.

Dr Harry Perlstadt was awarded the 2025 Publication Award for *Assessing Social Science Research Ethics and Integrity: Case Studies and Essays* (Springer, 2023), a landmark contribution on research ethics and IRBs.

Dr Uglješa Radulović was given the Outstanding Early-Career Award for innovative research on whistleblowing and psychosocial support that blends theory and practice.

Membership Matters

RC46 now has 141 members. If your ISA or RC46 membership expires at the end of 2025, please renew for 2026–2029. Membership numbers determine the sessions we can host and the grants we can access, so every member counts. (Renewal link) <https://clinical-sociology.org/membership/>

Publish with us

Don't forget to submit your work to the Clinical Sociology Review. We welcome empirical articles, historical overviews, methodological notes, and practice-based pieces. (Author guidelines and submission link) <https://journals.uj.ac.za/index.php/csr/about/submissions>

Next Newsletter

Our next issue is planned for November 2025. Please send news, publications, awards, new positions, or conferences of interest to Prof Johanna Zulueta (Secretary) at isa-rc46@isa-sociology.org Include complete references. Deadline: 15 November 2025.

We look forward to staying connected and continuing our work together.

Sincerely,
Tina Uys
Chair, RC46: Clinical Sociology
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News From Clinical Sociologists Around the World

News from France

By Agnès Vandeveldé-Rougale

Two important gatherings for clinical sociologists recently took place in France : On 16 and 17 June 2025, a symposium organised by the LCSP (Université Paris Cité) and the RISC (International Network of Clinical Sociology) on “Richness of clinical sociology” gathered participants both on-site, in Paris, and online. They were students, academics, independent researchers, professionals intervening in organizations, coming from France as well as abroad, with communications in French, Spanish and Portuguese. Some communications, references and photographs are shared on the RISC’s website :

<https://www.sociologie-clinique.org/france/colloque-international-richeesse-la-sociologie-clinique-paris-juin-2025/>

During the conference "Environment(s) and Inequalities" organized by the French Association of Sociology from July 8 to 11, 2025 at the Université Toulouse Jean Jaurès

(<https://afs-socio.fr/informations-generales-toulouse-2025/>), the research committee « Clinical sociology » (RT16) hosted several sessions, some of them together with other research committees, thus providing the opportunity for epistemological discussions on various objects. The program can be seen on : <https://rt16.hypotheses.org/congres-afs-toulouse-2025-le-programme-definitif>

As part of recent news, we also would like to announce the publication of a book in French by our colleague from Uruguay, Ana Maria Araujo

(https://www.syllepse.net/les-chemins-de-l-exil-_r_74_i_1122.html), the thesis defense of Martine Lacaille in April

(<https://www.sociologie-clinique.org/france/recherches-doctorales/>), as well as

the participation of clinical sociologists and psychosociologists to an online seminar organised by the CIRFIP

(<https://www.sociologie-clinique.org/france/les-rencontres-du-cirfip-cycle-des-conferences-2025-avec-des-membres-du-risc/>) with a replay on : <https://cirfip.org/les-conferences/>

Recent publications from RC 46 Members

Mieko Yamada

Yamada, Mieko. (2025). "Community-Engaged Research in Teaching Research Methods." *Clinical Sociology Review*, 20(1): 156-174.
<https://journals.uj.ac.za/index.php/csr/article/view/3194>

Abstract:

This article presents a community-engaged project integrated into a research methods course. The goal of the course was to engage students in research on a transitional housing program for homeless veterans and develop their understanding of veteran homelessness. While students learned the basic concepts, theoretical paradigms, and methods of qualitative research from assigned readings, class lectures, and discussions, they engaged in research activities such as data collection, analysis, and dissemination in real world settings. Toward the end of the semester, the students in the course shared their research findings and recommendations for further improvement with the program stakeholders. The research outcomes were utilized to support the program development. During the research process, both student researchers and community partners gained benefits by building mutual trust and creating positive relationships. The students who completed the community-engaged project demonstrated greater knowledge of veteran homelessness and suggested ways to help them integrate back into society.

Emma Porio and Johanna Zulueta

Porio, E. E., Zulueta, J., & Pascual, T. B. (2025). Gender, social capital, and well-being in disaster-prone communities in the Philippines. *Journal of Asian Sociology*, 54(2), 191–214. <https://doi.org/10.21588/dns.2025.54.2.005>

Abstract:

This paper examines how gender, socioeconomic status (SES), and environmental vulnerability of places of residence structure the social capital/trust networks (SC/TN) and well-being of men and women in disaster-prone communities across Metro Manila, Philippines. This study argues that the social vulnerability (i.e., low SES) of both men and women shapes their social well-being. However, this relationship is mediated by their SC/ TNs within and between communities, as well as by the environmental location and characteristics of their homes and livelihood spaces. These networks, in turn, play a crucial role in enhancing individual well-being and strengthening adaptive capacities, thereby contributing to overall community resilience. Employing a mixed-methods approach, which includes quantitative and qualitative data sets from the Coastal Cities at Risk in the Philippines (CCARPH) survey & focused group discussions conducted in 2024, this study revealed that women, especially women-headed households living in informal settlements, experience disproportionately high climate-related risks, including flood damages and losses, compared to other groups. Despite these challenges, women show a strong ability to build and maintain social networks that provide critical access to resources and support before, during, and after flooding disasters. The study concludes that the integration of both informal and formal community resilience initiatives can be more effective when supported by locally driven climate adaptation policies and programs that acknowledge converging pathways to community resilience.

Tina Uys and Ugljesa Radulovic

Uys, T. & Radulovic, U. 2025. "Truth to Power: A Historical Overview of Whistleblowing in South Africa". *South African Review of Sociology*. (online) <https://doi.org/10.1080/21528586.2025.2493730>

Abstract:

This article explores the experiences of several South African whistleblowers, highlighting the personal challenges faced when acting in the public interest to expose significant public issues. The narratives presented reveal the extensive prevalence of organisational misconduct across South Africa, spanning local, provincial, and national levels of government, as well as the private sector. The historical scope of this study begins with disclosures made in the decade preceding the enactment of the South African Protected Disclosures Act (PDA), moves through cases following its implementation, and concludes with recent incidents of "state capture," where business figures exploit their close relationships with the state for personal gain. Through these accounts, the article provides a historical overview of whistleblowing in South Africa, illustrating the ongoing struggle against corruption and the complex interplay between public duty and personal risk.

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Access here: <https://journals.uj.ac.za/index.php/csr/issue/view/333>

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Highlights from the 5th ISA Forum of Sociology in Rabat, Morocco

A Journey to ISA Forum 2025: Sharing Resilience from the Global South

Joshua Vidal

Coastal Cities At Risk in the Philippines Researcher

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Participating as a first timer in the International Sociological Association (ISA) Forum 2025 in Rabat, Morocco has been both a humbling and inspiring journey. Presenting our paper, *“Navigating Resilience: Confronting Climate-Induced Localized and*

Regional Shocks and Human Insecurities in Cities of the Global South” under RC46 Clinical Sociology, provided not only an academic platform but also a meaningful space for dialogue with scholars, practitioners, and communities who share the same passion for resilience and social transformation. This experience reminded me that research is not only about producing knowledge but also about grounding scholarship in lived realities—from the urban struggles of vulnerable communities to the broader global discourse on sustainability and equity. Listening to diverse perspectives in Rabat challenged me to reflect more deeply on the intersections of climate change, social justice, and human insecurities in the Global South, reaffirming the urgency of interdisciplinary and collaborative approaches.

I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to Coastal Cities at Risk in the Philippines—Ateneo de Manila University, the Department of Science in Basic Education—Unida Christian Colleges, and the Electronic Paper for Science and

Technology-Publication Office for their unwavering support in this research journey. Your trust and encouragement mean so much. My heartfelt appreciation goes to the General Santos City field community and my dedicated research team, especially Chrystal Estoquia, for their efforts in conducting the fieldwork that gave this research its depth and soul. And of course, to Dr. Emma Porio, my mentor and guiding light, I owe so much for making this presentation possible and for continuously inspiring me to bridge research and action.

The ISA Forum has left me with renewed purpose: to continue advancing research that uplifts communities, strengthens resilience, and amplifies voices often left unheard. Truly, this experience in Morocco has been a milestone not only in my academic career but also in my personal journey as an educator, researcher, and advocate for resilience in the Global South.



RC46 Panel presentation



Other News and Announcements

Small Grant Program (shared by Jan Fritz)

The Johns Hopkins University [Center on Global Poverty](#) invites applications for small grants (\$1000-\$5000) to support qualitative research to solve global poverty, such as historical, ethnographic, or interview-based analysis of development projects or development trajectories, in-depth examination of successful practices emerging from grassroots communities, organizational analysis of municipal reforms, etc. We particularly value projects that adopt a [problem-solving approach](#), and that seek to move beyond description and critique.

We welcome applications from:

- Graduate students anywhere in the world (including from the U.S.)
- Scholars of any rank based in developing countries

Applications should take only 15 minutes, and can be submitted here: https://jh.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0im01uQsFBwkSI6

The deadline is October 31, and we hope to announce results in December.

Times Higher Education article (shared by Jan Fritz)

Don't repeat UK mistakes, Australian universities told

Avoid 'faux' competition and do not deny reality, analysts warn, as UK-style funding crunch looms

Published on: August 19, 2025

By: John Ross

Australian universities have been urged to avoid the mistakes of their UK cousins and abandon unnecessary competition, as they lose the option to grow their way out of financial strife.

In research prepared for the *Australian Financial Review* Higher Education Summit, consultants from the Nous Group have highlighted similarities with the UK – **plunging international enrolments, deteriorating domestic participation and a looming decline in the school leaver population** – as a “cautionary tale” for Australia.

Julie Mercer, head of Nous' UK office, said Australian universities needed to “fix the roof while the sun is shining” rather than allowing crisis to build. She said the higher education sector had become accustomed to “perfect storms on the horizon” that “never quite hit the shore”.

But the current circumstances are different, Mercer told *Times Higher Education*, because “there are so many...storm cells brewing. It's about being prepared [and] making sure that you learn from your cousins across the pond, and recognise that the time to prepare for the challenges ahead is now.”

Nous said that the proportion of UK 18-year-olds applying for university fell by more than two percentage points between 2022 and 2025, marking a more sustained decline than the temporary slump that followed the 2012 imposition of £9,000 tuition fees, while the population of 18 year-olds is projected to fall from

841,000 in 2030 to 718,000 in 2041.

Meanwhile, the UK government's efforts to reduce foreign student numbers "is working". Overseas student arrivals fell by 72,000 between 2022 and 2024, while the number of accompanying dependants plummeted by 84 per cent.

Mercer said UK universities' strategy for coping with their rising costs – steadily increasing their enrolments – was no longer viable. "The music stops; your income starts to drop but your costs are still rising.

"The pain...we're seeing in the UK sector at the moment is [a] sort of emergency stop and shift, trying to redeliver on a very different cost base than historically they've been able to do."

Australian universities must renew their "scenario planning" before they reach the same point, she said. "Don't assume...the plan you've got in place will deliver. If it doesn't, what levers can [you] pull?"

Australian-based Nous principal Zac Ashkanasy said universities needed to "think more deeply about their academic mission" and question historical "assumptions" about "what they decide to teach and...research".

They also needed to stop "faux competition" with each other in activities where collaboration was a more economical way of "serving the nation's interests", from sharing "back-of-house" services to forging joint civic engagement plans.

"Ninety per cent of employers say that students don't have the right employability skills," Ashkanasy said. "Why has...the Australian university sector [not] got together to have collective industry agreements so that they can...share resources and [take] joint accountability for improved student employability outcomes? Why [do] they all [have] their own agreements with each individual industry organisation? It seems a missed opportunity and an inadequate use of resources."

Nous said Australian universities must "reimagine institutional models for a no-growth era" and avoid UK-style "optimism bias" in their strategic planning. It

cited UK university projections that their tuition income would rise by more than £5 billion over the four years to 2027-28. "Universities are denying the reality that's right in their face," Ashkanasy said.

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