

# ESA – RS05 Sociology of Knowledge

## EUROPEAN SOCIOLOGIES OF KNOWLEDGE

### Traditions, exchanges, perspectives

**Conference location:** 30<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup>, August 2018, University of Milan-Bicocca, Department of Sociology and Social Research.

#### **Premise**

A great variety of international traditions and a general lack of institutionalization characterize the current status of sociology of knowledge within the European context. A new research stream (RS05) "Sociology of Knowledge" has been established at the European Sociological Association's Conference 2015 in Prague in order to cope with this problem and moving towards the development of a European Network of the Sociology of Knowledge. In this fourth annual meeting of the research stream, the aims are to continue the conversation and consolidation of the network, considering knowledge both as a research object and a social process. Indeed, knowledge has been made a study subject by philosophers, historians, economists, computer scientists, linguists and pedagogists. This plurality of perspectives has stimulated vital exchanges and cross-fertilization between scientific and cultural domains, but with a substantial absence of an acknowledgeable sociology of knowledge in some parts of Europe. To the extent that present society (i.e., individual emergence, personal experience and knowing, social institutions, knowledge-dense productions and exchanges and practices, etc.) can be defined a *knowledge-society*, as a consequence of this inherited situation, we encourage the development of sociological reflections on those topics where it is currently missing. A new and pressing challenge for the sociology of knowledge is to recover theoretical capacity and to gain an acknowledgeable status, not only about subjects as knowledge-and-society relationship, but also for education and professional training of present and future cohorts of sociologists. However, sociology of knowledge is not the same everywhere. A promising path consists therefore in the mutual exchange about traditions, developments in theory and methodology as well as empirical findings.

## **Contents:**

Contributions are expected to look into the past, the present and the future of the vast and relevant scientific dominion of *sociology of knowledge*, either conducting a wide reconnaissance of international traditions, or looking at how different research and theoretical perspectives circulated across national and cultural boundaries within Europe and beyond. In particular, this call for submission is intended as an opportunity of reciprocal confrontation and wide dialogue from different contexts, topics and point of views.

It addresses researches on knowledge as a sociological study object and an endless source of stimuli coming from the frontier outside the discipline, for new theoretical insights and methodological approaches, moving from disciplinary and national boundaries and divisions to a common ground of problems, conceptualizations, perspectives.

## **Organizing team**

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## **Timing**

Please submit your abstract (max. 500 words, including first and last name, current institutional affiliation and email-address) by March 5th, 2018.

## **Relevant dates**

*Call opening: 15<sup>th</sup> January*

*Call closure: 5<sup>th</sup> March*

*Acceptance date: 14<sup>th</sup> May*

*Conference: Milan, 30<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> August*