

Social relations in turbulent times

7–10 September 2011

University of Geneva

Call for Papers

Research Network 5 'Sociology of Consumption'

Social relations in turbulent times: Creativity or stability in consumption processes?

Present day consumption patterns are pushed and pulled in multiple directions as a consequence of change instigated by a wide array of factors, ranging from the economic downturn to the climate crisis. These changes raise questions regarding the reconfiguration of social processes and conditions of groups of consumers, consumption practices and consumption institutions; the balance between the social dynamics of consumer cultures and the reproduction of social relations; and the reaction of consumers and other stakeholders to possible future scenarios of consumer society.

Our Research Network invites papers that deal with the above and other various aspects of the sociology of consumption. Possible themes include but are not limited to:

- Food and consumption
- Ethical and political consumption
- Spaces of urban and excess consumption
- Consumption inequalities and exclusions
- Sustainable consumption
- Material culture
- Sociology of taste
- Markets of consumption
- Cultural stratification
- Arts participation
- Consumption and the body
- Theories of consumption
- Gender and consumption
- Children and young people's consumer culture
- Structural and institutional conditions of consumption
- Joint session: The RN will also hold a joint session with RN7 'Sociology of Culture' on the theme of cultural consumption. If you wish to be considered for this special joint session, please indicate so in the abstract.

Abstracts will be reviewed by the coordinator and the board of the research network according to the following criteria:

- The abstract should indicate an original and coherent contribution to sociology of consumption debates.
- The abstract should provide clear information about the type of research or empirical evidence the paper is based on.
- The abstract should specify existing theories and concepts the paper is in discussion with.

We invite abstracts of no more than 250 words. The online abstract submission platform will be available at the conference website, 10th January - 25th February. The deadline for notification of acceptance of abstracts is 6th April 2011. Full papers should be submitted by 15th July 2011 (not mandatory, please see conference website).

Please visit the conference website <http://www.esa10thconference.com> where information on the 10th ESA conference is available, including further instructions on abstract submission.

For inquiries please contact RN coordinator: Tally Katz-Gerro tkatz@soc.haifa.ac.il

For the research network website please visit: www.esa-consumption.org