

# XIX ISA WORLD CONGRESS OF SOCIOLOGY

Toronto, Canada | July 15-21, 2018 | Metro Toronto Convention Center

## CALL FOR PAPERS: Social Movements and Digital Media

The call for abstracts for the upcoming **XIX ISA World Congress of Sociology**, to be held in Toronto (Canada), 15-21 July 2018, is already open! And it will last until **September 30<sup>th</sup>**, 2017.

We would like to bring your attention to two sessions focused on the intersection of **Social Movements and Digital Media**:

### Digital Experiences and Narratives of Networked Activism

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The popularity of social media and mobile technologies bears witness to thriving networked activism among connected individuals in different regions. The advent of information and communication technologies provides accessible multimedia platforms that allow self-joining and self-organized individual activists to create and share alternative discourses in advocating for diverse social agendas. Moreover, digital experiences and narrations as political performance in turn transform individuals' identities and values. They influence the individuals' civic-political activities and awareness both during and after social movements. While networked individuals and their connective efforts have been considered at the forefront of recent movement protests, less has been known about how they construct movement experiences and narratives with social media and mobile technologies, and the impacts of digitally-enabled experiences and narrations on their life histories in the long run. In order to address these issues, this session solicits submissions that analyze how individual activists construct movement experiences with mobile social media; the role of images and videos, likes and tweets, and other forms of representations in digital narrating; how digital experiences and narrating shape the individuals' civic-political agency and biographical outcomes. Contributions are welcome from different methodological approaches and socio-cultural contexts. See: <https://isaconf.confex.com/isaconf/wc2018/webprogrampreliminary/Session9534.html>

### Collective Action in the Digital Age

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With the arrival of Digital Communication Technologies era we are witnessing the enlargement of public sphere, characterized by a transformation of visibility of our private lives and individualisation of where we draw borders of our intimacy. In 60s, the slogan "the personal is political" made fortune as the axis of feminist movement mobilisation. Nowadays, this slogan could be reframed into "the personal is public". As a result, the political positions and thoughts are increasingly often disseminated through this newly created digital layer of public sphere. However, in the cyber space the dissemination capacity is not egalitarian, with the networked structure of online social relations giving relevance to certain agents or internet "stars" who are able to influence or create public discourses, often contributing to the ideological polarisation of our societies. This new scenario overlaps a global tendency of declining electoral participation and erosion of traditional political ideologies. In this context, many social movements have seen an opportunity to renew the repertoire of collective action and activism by embracing the digital and social media tools. This development opens a new field of social movements analysis regarding, amongst others, the transformation of effects and impacts of collective action, the transformation of individual engagement and social movements strategies, the transition of social movement organizations into online structures or the creation of emotions and states of mind through online social media. The session aims at collecting reflections, research results and case studies that can bring some light to this field of analysis.

See: <https://isaconf.confex.com/isaconf/wc2018/webprogrampreliminary/Session10237.html>