



Sociology Today

Social Transformations in a Globalizing World

Edited by **Arnaud Sales**



Sociology Today

**SAGE STUDIES IN
INTERNATIONAL SOCIOLOGY**

Series Editor (2000–2010)

Julia Evetts, Emeritus Professor of Sociology at Nottingham University,
UK

Series Editor (2010–ongoing)

Sujata Patel, Professor of Sociology at University of Hyderabad, India

Sociology Today

Social Transformations in a Globalizing World

Edited by **Arnaud Sales**

SAGE Studies in International Sociology 60
Sponsored by the International Sociological Association/ISA



Los Angeles | London | New Delhi
Singapore | Washington DC



Los Angeles | London | New Delhi
Singapore | Washington DC

SAGE Publications Ltd
1 Oliver's Yard
55 City Road
London EC1Y 1SP

SAGE Publications Inc.
2455 Teller Road
Thousand Oaks, California 91320

SAGE Publications India Pvt Ltd
B 1/I 1 Mohan Cooperative Industrial Area
Mathura Road
New Delhi 110 044

SAGE Publications Asia-Pacific Pte Ltd
3 Church Street
#10-04 Samsung Hub
Singapore 049483

Editor: Chris Rojek
Editorial assistant: Martine Jonsrud
Production editor: Katherine Haw
Copyeditor: Lotika Singha
Indexer: Judith Lavendar
Marketing manager: Michael Ainsley
Cover design: Wendy Scott
Typeset by: C&M Digitals (P) Ltd, Chennai, India
Printed and bound by: MPG Books Group,
Bodmin, Cornwall



Mixed Sources

Product group from well-managed
forests and other controlled sources
www.fsc.org Cert no. SA-COC-1565
© 1996 Forest Stewardship Council

Editorial Material, Chapters 1 and 2 © Arnaud
Sales 2012

Chapter 3 © Alberto Martinelli 2012

Chapter 4 © Nico Stehr and Bernd Weiler 2012

Chapter 5 © Kay Lawson, Mildred A. Schwartz and
Eva Etzioni-Halevy 2012

Chapter 6 © Pierre Hamel, Henri Lustiger-Thaler and
Louis Maheu 2012

Chapter 7 © Stewart Clegg 2012

Chapter 8 © Diane-Gabrielle Tremblay 2012

Chapter 9 © Carla Lipsig-Mummé and
Edward Webster 2012

Chapter 10 © Julia Evetts 2012

Chapter 11 © Ann Denis 2012

Chapter 12 © Susan A. McDaniel 2012

Chapter 13 © Mattei Dogan 2012

Chapter 14 © Arturo Rodríguez Morató 2012

Chapter 15 © Joseph Maguire 2012

Chapter 16 © Sophie Body-Gendrot, Marisol García
and Enzo Mingione 2012

Chapter 17 © William C. Cockerham and Geoffrey B.
Cockerham 2012

Chapter 18 © Han Entzinger 2012

First published 2012

Apart from any fair dealing for the purposes of
research or private study, or criticism or review, as
permitted under the Copyright, Designs and Patents
Act, 1988, this publication may be reproduced, stored
or transmitted in any form, or by any means, only with
the prior permission in writing of the publishers, or in
the case of reprographic reproduction, in accordance
with the terms of licences issued by the Copyright
Licensing Agency. Enquiries concerning reproduction
outside those terms should be sent to the publishers.

Library of Congress Control Number: 2012931138

British Library Cataloguing in Publication data

A catalogue record for this book is available
from the British Library

ISBN 978-1-84920-469-9

To our Children and Grandchildren

Valérie and Benjamin

Annabelle and Olivia

Antoine and Charlotte

Contents

<i>List of Figures</i>	xvi
<i>List of Tables</i>	xvii
<i>About the Contributors</i>	xviii
<i>Preface</i>	xxix
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	xxxix

PART I INTRODUCTION 1

1 Transformations in the Multiple Domains of a Turbulent World 3

Arnaud Sales

Introduction 3

Social Transformations and Social Fields: The General 3

Approach of the Collection 4

Social fields and research 5

Social fields and theory 6

About Chapter 1 6

Section I – Social Change: Definitions and New Issues 7

Defining Social Change and Social Transformations 7

Social change 7

Social transformation 7

Speed of change 8

Social Structuration and Destructuration Processes 10

Patterns of change 10

‘Mechanisms’ of institutional transformation 12

Spaces of Change: Societal Effects and Globalization Processes 12

A brief return to societal analysis 13

Transnational processes and sociological analysis 15

Section II – Social Transformations: Theory and Substance 18

Understanding the Dynamics of Social Change 18

Constitution theories and social change 18

Understanding the dynamics between societies 19

and a globalizing human society 19

Knowledge, science and technology and social transformations 20

Recomposition of the Political Domain and Challenges to Civil Society	21
Political turbulence: processes and dynamics	22
Globalization and transformation of social movements	23
Transformation of Organizations and Work	24
Organizational restructuring: from bureaucratic to organic forms	24
Transformations of work and their consequences	26
South–North dynamics in redefining organized labor	27
New problematics in the professions: commercialization and internationalization	28
Transformations of Lifeworld and Culture	29
Challenging women’s domination	29
Transformations on intimate frontiers and the role of families in social change	31
Transformations in the religious realm: the question of secularization	32
New cultural and artistic dynamics	33
Sport and cultural stakes in a globalizing world	35
Transformation of Frames and Conditions of Social Existence	37
Dynamics of change in urban systems	37
Disease and healthcare in a globalizing world	38
Migration dynamics	39
References	41
 PART II CONCEPTUAL PERSPECTIVES FOR UNDERSTANDING THE DYNAMICS OF SOCIAL CHANGE	 47
 2 A Reappraisal of Agency–Structure Theories to Understand Social Change	 49
<i>Arnaud Sales</i>	
Introduction	49
Section I – Constitution Theories	51
A Brief Return to Structuralist Perspectives	51
Alain Touraine and the Self-Production of Society	52
Structuration Theory and Agency–Structure Relations	
According to Giddens	53
Margaret Archer’s Morphogenetic Approach	55
The Theory of Social Becoming by Piotr Sztompka	58
Contribution and deficiencies of the social becoming model	61

Section II – The Question of Agents and Actors	63
Agents and Actors	63
Can Organizations be Considered Actors?	65
Section III – Re-examination of the Concept of Structure	69
Individual Structural Matrix: Memory Traces, Habitus and Patterns of Repetitive Micro-Interaction	69
Structural Referents for Practices and Creativity: Works of Civilization, Dynamics of Knowledge, and Specialized Networks	71
Structural Procedural Elements: Institutions and the Ambivalent Question of the Actor–Rules Relationship	74
The Concept of the Active Reticular Structure	78
Definition	78
The active reticular structure of automobilization	80
The active reticular structure of fossil energy	81
Conclusion	84
Discussion Questions	87
Glossary	87
References	90
 3 Global Society and Polyarchic Governance	 95
<i>Alberto Martinelli</i>	
One World System, Multiple Societies	95
How to Conceptualize a World Society?	100
Cosmopolitan Ethics and the Institutions of a Democratic Transnational Civil Society	105
Counter-Forces to Democratic World Society	107
The Erosion of National Sovereignty and the Resilience of Nation States	109
Polyarchic Global Governance	111
Discussion Questions	114
Glossary	114
References	115
 4 Social Transformations and Knowledge	 117
<i>Nico Stehr and Bernd Weiler</i>	
Social Transformations and Knowledge	117
Knowledge in Competition	117
Prophecies of a World Dominated by Science and Technology	121
Knowledge about Knowledge	123
Information and Knowledge	126

Knowledge for Developments	126
Practical Knowledge	128
A World Made of Knowledge	130
Vulnerability and Knowledge	132
Concluding Remarks	133
Discussion Questions	134
Glossary	134
References	137
PART III RECOMPOSITION OF THE POLITICAL DOMAIN AND CHALLENGES TO CIVIL SOCIETY	141
5 Political Sociology Responds to Change	143
<i>Kay Lawson, Mildred A. Schwartz and Eva Etzioni-Halevy</i>	
Introduction	143
Change Prior to 1989	143
The Communications Revolution	143
Race, Ethnicity and Gender	145
Religion	147
Trust in Political Institutions	148
Post-1989 and Continuing Transformations	149
Spread of Democracy	149
Globalization	152
Change Generates Change	154
Political Parties	154
Elites	156
Civil Society (and its Transformations?)	158
Global Political Accountability	160
Conclusion	162
Discussion Questions	163
Glossary	163
References	164
6 Global Social Movements: Politics, Subjectivity and Human Rights	171
<i>Pierre Hamel, Henri Lustiger-Thaler and Louis Maheu</i>	
Introduction	171
Looking at the Literature: Lessons and Shortcomings	172
What Have We Learned Over the Past Forty Years?	172
The Experiential Nature of Collective Action	178
Global Social Transformations: The Justice Motive and Human Rights	179

Human Rights	181
The Equal Right to be Human and Subjectivity	184
Conclusion	187
Discussion Questions	189
Glossary	190
References	192

PART IV TRANSFORMATION OF ORGANIZATIONS AND WORK 195

7 Transforming Organizations 197

Stewart Clegg

Introduction	197
Contingency Theory	197
Defining a New Organizational Form	200
New Organizational Forms after Bureaucracy	201
Networks	204
Conclusion	208
Discussion Questions	210
Glossary	210
References	210

8 Transformations of Work in a Global Context: Employment Systems, Autonomy and Work–Life Articulation as Main Challenges 213

Diane-Gabrielle Tremblay

Introduction	213
A Multifaceted Approach to Work and Employment	
Transformations	214
Firms' Strategies	215
Choices in Public Policies	216
How is Work Changing?	217
Choices Among Management Models	217
The Paradoxical Issue of 'Autonomy'	219
Job Fragmentation, Boundaryless Careers and Economic Insecurity	220
Work–Family or Work–Life Articulation	222
Conclusion	223
Discussion Questions	225
Glossary	225
References	226

9 Reconnections: Labor Sociologies in a Globalizing Era	230
<i>Carla Lipsig-Mummé and Edward Webster</i>	
Introduction	230
Keywords: The Three Labor Sociologies	231
Deepening and Broadening the Study of Labor Movements	234
Positioning Labor Studies	235
Proposition One: The European World of Labor Studies Has Taken the Particular and Made it Universal	235
Proposition Two: Southern Labor Movements Reveal a Range of Non-European Models for Organization and Action	236
Proposition Three: There is Value in Knowledge Transfer and Cultural Interpenetration between Northern and Southern Labor Movements	237
Proposition Four: The Forms of Labor Internationalism are Varied and Promising	238
Recasting Labor Studies	239
Conclusions and the Questions They Raise	241
Discussion Questions	241
Glossary	241
References	242
10 Returning to Professions	245
<i>Julia Evetts</i>	
Returning to Professions	245
Professions and States: Commercialization, Management and Accountability	248
Internationalizing Processes and Professional Regulation	251
Conclusion	254
Discussion Questions	257
Glossary	257
References	258
PART V TRANSFORMATION OF LEWORLD AND CULTURE	261
11 Challenging Women's Domination and Striving for Equity and the Respect of Difference	263
<i>Ann Denis</i>	
Introduction	263
Social Transformation and Women	264

Feminist Sociological Paradigms and Interpretations	
of Social Change	264
Bringing Women in – Sex Roles and the Quest for Equality	265
Developing a Feminist Approach – Avoiding Patriarchal	
Reproduction	265
Exploring Differences Among Women	267
Towards a Feminist Epistemology: Challenging the Paradigmatic	
Assumptions of Knowledge and Proposing Alternatives	268
Women's Experiences of Social Change: How Much? What Sort?	268
Conclusion	273
Discussion Questions	273
Glossary	274
References	275

12 Family Change and Lifecourse Development: Social Transformations on Intimate Frontiers **279**

Susan A. McDaniel

Introduction	279
Why is Family Now So Sociologically Enticing?	279
Family Changes on Intimate Frontiers	280
Macro-Level Theorizing in Postmodernity	282
Deepening Historicity About Families	284
Systems Approaches	285
Technologies of Interpretation/Understanding	287
Praxis	290
Conclusion	291
Discussion Questions	291
Glossary	292
References	294

13 The Waning of Religious Beliefs in Thirty European Countries: Empirical Evidence **297**

Mattei Dogan

Introduction	297
What is Meant by Decline?	297
Meaning of the Bible	301
Trust–Mistrust of the Church as an Institution	301
Religious and Agnostic Socialization	303
Prayer: How Often, If Ever?	304
Belief in God as an Observable Social Fact	306
Belief in Fundamental Dogmas	310

Interdictions and Disobediences	311
Generational Dynamic of Decline	311
Three Final Remarks	313
Discussion Questions	314
Glossary	314
References	314

14 The Culture Society: A Heuristic for Analyzing Cultural Change in the Global Age **316**

Arturo Rodríguez Morató

Introduction	316
Contemporary Cultural Change and the Arts	317
Culture and Post-Industrial Society: Facts and Theories	318
The Modern Rules of Art Redefined	320
The New Cultural Order	324
The Spatial Dimension: Culture and Globalization	328
Concluding Remarks: The Challenge of Diversity	330
Discussion Questions	333
Glossary	334
References	336

15 Power and Global Sport: Zones of Prestige, Emulation and Resistance **339**

Joseph Maguire

Introduction	339
Globalization: Sport, Power and Established-Outsider Relations	340
Civilizational Encounters and Global Processes	346
Conclusion	351
Discussion Questions	353
Glossary	353
References	354

PART VI TRANSFORMATION OF FRAMES AND CONDITIONS OF SOCIAL EXISTENCE **357**

16 Comparative Social Transformations in Urban Regimes **359**

Sophie Body-Gendrot, Marisol García and Enzo Mingione

Introduction	359
Main Trends of Economic Change and Local Political Responses	361
Employment and Demographic Change	362

Urban Regimes, Mobility and Social Segregation	364
Urban Mobility and Social Segregation	365
Cities in the North American Regime	366
Cities in the European Regime	367
Urban Unrest and Criminality: A Comparison of Two Regulation Systems	370
Governance in the American and European Contexts	373
Discussion Questions	375
Glossary	375
References	378

17 Globalization and the Transformation of Disease and Healthcare 381

William C. Cockerham and Geoffrey B. Cockerham

Introduction	381
Globalization and Threats to Health	383
Modern Risks	383
Pandemics	385
Pandemic influenza	386
Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome	388
Medical Tourism	390
Globalization, Health and Healthcare	391
Discussion Questions	395
Glossary	395
References	396

18 The Dynamics of Migration and Social Transformations 397

Han Entzinger

Introduction	397
Network Migration and Transnational Communities	398
The Persistent Development Gap	403
The Ambiguous Role of the State	407
Conclusion	411
Discussion Questions	414
Glossary	414
References	415

<i>Index</i>	421
--------------	-----

List of Figures

Figure 2.1	The basic morphogenetic/static cycle with its three phases	57
Figure 2.2	Agency and praxis in operation in the theory of social becoming	59
Figure 2.3	Various timespans of social self-transformation	60
Figure 2.4	The growth of the U.S. Highway Trust and the formation of the active reticular structure of automobilization	82
Figure 2.5	The enlargement of the reticular structure of automobilization through the growth of the Highway Users Conference and the Interstate System	83

List of Tables

Table 2.1	Structural components of social life	70
Table 4.1	The knowledge-based economy, 1995/1996	128
Table 7.1	How organization contingencies shape organization structure	199
Table 13.1	Religiousness and religious practice	300
Table 13.2	Prayer: how often, if ever?	305
Table 13.3	Belief in God: gradation of replies	307
Table 13.4	Extreme conception of God	308

About the Contributors

The Editor

Arnaud Sales holds a Doctorat d'État ès Lettres et Sciences Humaines, from Université Paris-Diderot. He is Emeritus Professor of Sociology at the Université de Montréal, Canada. A specialist in economic sociology, his research interests center on the relations between the public and private spheres; economic and administrative elites and knowledge workers; and the role of knowledge in social transformations. His publications include: *La Bourgeoisie industrielle au Québec* (PUM, 1979); *Décideurs et gestionnaires* (Éditeur officiel du Québec, 1985) (with N. Bélanger). He has edited or co-edited the following volumes: *Développement national et économie mondialisée* (Sociologie et Sociétés, 1979); *La recomposition du politique* (PUM/L'Harmattan, 1991) (with L. Maheu); *Québec, fin de siècle* (Sociologie et Sociétés, 1994) (with N. Laurin); *The International Handbook of Sociology* (Sage, 2000) (with S. Quah); *New Directions in the Study of Knowledge, Economy and Society* (SSIS, Current Sociology, Sage, 2001) (with K. Adhikari); *Knowledge, Communication and Creativity* (Sage, 2007) (with M. Fournier). He was Vice-Dean of the Université de Montréal's Faculty of Graduate Studies (1987–1992) and has chaired the Department of Sociology (2000–2007). He is a former Vice-President International of the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics (1995–1998). After chairing the Research Committee 02 on Economy and Society of the International Sociological Association, he was elected Vice-President for Research (1998–2002) of the association and chaired its Research Council. In 2006, he was named Chevalier de l'Ordre des Palmes Académiques of France.

The Contributors

Sophie Body-Gendrot is Emeritus Professor of Political Science and of American Studies at Université Paris-Sorbonne, France, and former Director of the Center for Urban Studies (CEUMA). She is also a researcher at CNRS-CESDIP-Ministry of Justice, and an expert adviser on safety and public spaces for the program Urban Age, at the London School of

Economics. She has been involved with international journals and research groups and is a consultant for the European Commission on criminological and urban issues. Her main fields of interest are urban unrest, ethnic and racial issues, citizen participation and comparative public policy. She has written or co-edited more than fifteen books and over a hundred articles. Her most recent work in English is: *Globalization, Fear and Insecurity. The Challenges for Cities North and South* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2012); *The Handbook of European Criminology* (Routledge, 2012); ‘Uneven Landscapes’ in R. Burdett and D. Sudjic (eds), *Living in the Endless City* (Phaidon, 2011); *Violence in Europe* (Springer, 2008) (with P. Spierenburg); ‘Confronting Fear’, in R. Burdett and D. Sudjic (eds), *The Endless City* (Phaidon, 2008); ‘Violence in French Banlieues: Anything New?’ in L. Cachet, (ed.), *Governance of Security in the Netherlands and Belgium* (Boom Legal Publishers, 2008); *Social Citizenship and Social Capital* (Lexington Press, 2003) (with M. Gittell); *The Social Control of Cities?* (Blackwell, 2000); and *The Urban Moment* (Sage, 1999) (with R. Beauregard). She was President of the European Society of Criminology (ESC). In 2012, she was awarded the French Légion d’Honneur.

Stewart Clegg is Professor at the School of Management of University of Technology Sydney (UTS), Australia. He is Research Director of UTS Centre for Management and Organization Studies (CMOS). He holds a small number of visiting professorships at prestigious European universities and research centers. Recent books edited or co-edited by Stewart Clegg include *Managing and Organizations: An Introduction to Theory and Practice* (Sage, 2012, 3rd edn.) (with M. Kornberger and T.S. Pitsis); *Power in Organizations* (Volumes I–IV) (Sage, 2012); *Power in Politics* (Volumes I–IV) (Sage, 2012); *The Virtues Of Leadership: Contemporary Challenge for Global Managers* (Oxford University Press, 2012); *Strategy: Theory & Practice* (Sage, 2012); *SAGE Directions in Organization Studies* (Volumes I–IV) (Sage, 2010); *Managing Modernity: Beyond Bureaucracy* (Oxford University Press, 2011); *Handbook of Power* (Sage, 2009); *Handbook of Macro Organizational Behaviour* (Sage, 2009); *Time in Organizational Research: Approaches and Methods* (Routledge, 2008); and *International Encyclopaedia of Organization Studies* (in four volumes) (Sage, 2008). He has also recently co-authored *A Very Short, Fairly Interesting and Reasonably Cheap Book about Studying Strategy* (Sage, 2008) (with C. Carter and M. Kornberger).

Geoffrey B. Cockerham is Assistant Professor in the Department of History and Political Science at Utah Valley University, USA. He received his Ph.D. in political science from the University of Arizona and his J.D. from

Louisiana State University. He is co-author (with William Cockerham) of *Health and Globalization* (Polity, 2010) and has previously published papers in *Social Science and Medicine*, *International Politics* and *East Asia*.

William C. Cockerham is Distinguished Professor of Sociology and Co-Director of the Center for Social Medicine at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, USA. He also holds secondary appointments in medicine and public health. His Ph.D. is from the University of California at Berkeley. Among his recent publications are a co-authored chapter in *Quantifying Theory: Pierre Bourdieu* (Springer, 2009) and chapters in *The Handbook of the Sociology of Medical Education* (Routledge, 2009) and *The Wiley-Blackwell Companion to Sociology* (Wiley-Blackwell, 2012). Recent books, in addition to *Health and Globalization* (Polity, 2010), include *Medical Sociology*, 12th edn. (Pearson Prentice-Hall, 2012) and the *New Blackwell Companion to Medical Sociology* (Wiley-Blackwell, 2010). He is past President of the Research Committee 15 on Sociology of Health of the International Sociological Association.

Ann Denis is an Emerita Professor of Sociology at Université d'Ottawa, Canada, and has had visiting appointments at the University of the West Indies in Barbados and Trinidad. Her research interests focus on the effects of gender relations, ethnic relations and social class on power relations. Current and recent research examines the effect of state policies on women (and their work) in the Commonwealth Caribbean and among immigrants in Canada, the use of the Internet by minority young people in Barbados and francophone Ontario, and the effects of society-centered educational practices on women studying engineering. Her publications include: *The ISA Handbook in Contemporary Sociology: Conflict, Competition, Cooperation* (Sage, 2009) and *The Shape of Sociology for the 21st Century: Tradition and Renewal* (Sage, 2012) (both co-edited with D. Kalekin-Fishman); *Femmes de carrière. Carrières de femmes* (Presses de l'Université d'Ottawa, 1999) (with C. Coderre and C. Andrew), and numerous articles. Presently the President (2010–2014) of RC05, Research Committee on Racism, Nationalism and Ethnic Relations of the International Sociological Association (ISA), she was the Vice-president, Research (2001–2006) of the ISA and a member of its Executive Committee (2006–2010). She remains an active member of its research committee on women.

Mattei Dogan was Directeur de recherche émérite at the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS) in Paris, France, and Emeritus Professor of Political Science at UCLA. He passed away in October 2010.

He was the author or co-author of thirty-five books and over a hundred articles in academic journals. Among his books are: *The Mandarins of Western Europe* (Halsted Press, 1975); *Pathways to Power* (Westview Press, 1988); *Elites, Crises and the Origins of Regimes* (Rowan & Littlefield, 1998); and *Elite Configurations at the Apex of Power* (Brill, 2003). He is known for his work in the area of political behaviors and electoral studies, specifically women's voting patterns and the sociology of values (nationalism, religion and political legitimacy). His research encompassed France, Germany, Italy, Great Britain and the USA. This helped forge his vocation as a comparative sociologist. He promoted this comparative approach to sociology notably in *How to Compare Nations* (Chatham House, 1990) (with D. Pelassy). His analysis of the fragmentation of disciplines, interdisciplinarity and the hybridization of branches of disciplines in the social sciences is also of particular note; see *Creative Marginality: Innovation at the Intersections of Social Sciences* (Westview Press, 1990) (with R. Pahre). In 2001, he took the initiative of creating a non-profit foundation devoted exclusively to the social sciences. This foundation, which bears his name, offers twenty-one prizes for excellence in academic research and oversees three online anthologies.

Han Entzinger is Professor of Migration and Integration Studies at Erasmus Universiteit Rotterdam, Netherlands, where he was previously Chair of the Sociology Department. He is also Past President of Research Committee 31 on Sociology of Migration of the International Sociological Association. He received his doctorate at Leiden University and previously held a chair in social sciences at Utrecht University, where he was co-founder of the European Research Centre on Migration and Ethnic Relations (ERCOMER). At present he chairs the Board of Directors of the IMISCOE network, in which some twenty-five prominent European research centers in the field of migration and integration work together. His research interests include international migration, multiculturalism, citizenship and social policy. His publications have appeared in twelve different languages. His most recent book in English is *Migration Between States and Markets* (Ashgate, 2004).

Eva Etzioni-Halevy is Professor Emerita at Bar-Ilan University, Israel. She has written or edited fourteen books, including: *The Elite Connection* (Polity Press, 1993) and *Classes and Elites in Democracy and Democratization* (ed.) (Garland Publishing, 1997). She has also written numerous articles in professional journals. She is Fellow of the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia. She has also written several novels published by Plume/Penguin.

Julia Evetts is Emeritus Professor of Sociology in the School of Sociology and Social Policy at the University of Nottingham, UK. For a number of years she has been researching and writing about professions and occupations including women's and men's careers in teaching, banking, and science and engineering in industrial organizations. She has worked on projects to do with the armed forces, journalism, foster care and social work. She is currently working on the increased use of the concept of professionalism as a mechanism of occupational change and social control in work organizations, and the role of the scientific and engineering institutes in the UK.

Marisol García is a Professor of Sociology at the Universidad de Barcelona, Spain. Her scientific work centers on cities, citizenship issues, governance and social innovation. She has been President of the Research Committee 21 on Urban and Regional Research (1998–2002). Among her academic publications are: *La Metaciudad: Barcelona. Transformación de una metropolis* (Anthropos Editors, 2008) (with M. Degen); 'Citizenship Practices and Urban Governance in European Cities', in *Urban Studies* (Sage, 2006); 'Social Policy, Democracy and Citizenship in Southern Europe', in R. Gunther, N. Diamandouros et al. (eds), *Democracy and the State in Southern Europe* (Oxford University Press, 2006) (with N. Karakatsanis); 'Barcelona: Governing Coalitions, Visitors, and the Changing City Center', in L. Hoffman, S. Fainstein and D. Judd (eds), *Cities and Visitors: Regulating People, Markets and City Space* (Blackwell, 2003) (with N. Claver); and *Ciudadanía: Justicia Social, Identidad y Participación* (Siglo XXI, 1999) (with S. Lukes). She is Editor of the special issue on cities and citizenship of the *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research* (1996) and has also published in the *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, 'The Breakdown of the Spanish Urban Growth Model' (2010) and 'The Transformation of the Barcelona Model: An Analysis of Culture, Urban Regeneration and Governance' (2012).

Pierre Hamel is Professor of Sociology at the Université de Montréal, Canada, and Editor of the journal *Sociologie et sociétés*. He is also in charge of an interdisciplinary research team working on institutions and social movements created in the 1990s. He is a former Vice-President of the Research Committee 47 on Social Movements and Social Classes of the International Sociological Association. He has written extensively on social movements, urban politics and deliberative democracy. Currently his research focuses on issues of metropolitan governance and public debates. His publications include: *Ville et débat public. Agir en démocratie* (Presses

de l'Université Laval, 2008); *Un modèle québécois? Gouvernance et participation dans la gestion publique* (Presses de l'Université de Montréal, 2006) (with B. Jouve); *Urban Movements in a Globalizing World* (Routledge, 2000) (edited with H. Lustiger-Thaler and M. Mayer); and *Action collective et démocratie locale* (Presses de l'Université de Montréal, 1991). He is currently working with L. Guay on *Cities and Urban Sociology* (to be published by Oxford University Press).

Kay Lawson is Professor Emerita of Political Science at San Francisco State University, USA. She was Visiting Professor at the University of Paris, Sorbonne (1992–2000), and Co-Editor of the *International Political Science Review* (2000–2009). She is General Editor of two series: *Political Parties in Context* (Praeger) and *Perspectives in Comparative Politics* (Palgrave). She is the author of numerous books and articles on political parties including *The Comparative Study of Political Parties* (Palgrave Macmillan, 1976) and editor of many others including: *Political Parties and Linkage* (Yale University Press, 1980), *When Parties Fail* (1988) and *When Parties Prosper* (Princeton University Press, 2007), the last two with P. Merkl. She has recently completed editing *Political Parties and Democracy* (Praeger, 2010), a five-volume set of studies from forty-six nations.

Carla Lipsig-Mummé is Professor of Work and Labour Studies at York University, Canada, and Honorary Professor of Political and Social Inquiry at Monash University, Australia. She is also Founding Director of York's Centre for Research on Work and Society and writes on work, labor and global political economy, climate change and employment, and the renewed marginalization of working youth. A trade union activist, she was a union organizer in the USA, a negotiator in Quebec and now works with trade unions in Australia and Canada. She heads the new five-year 'Work in a Warming World' research program, which explores the impact and implications of climate change for employment and work. Work in a Warming World is funded by the Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada and thirty organizational partners. Its research team includes ten universities in Canada, Australia and New Zealand, as well as trade unions, sectoral skills training councils, private sector umbrella organizations, environmental advocacy groups, professional bodies, and a national round table on the environment and the economy. She is the recipient of the Edward P. Morgan Prize in Labor Economics (USA) and the Neil Reimer Award for Social Justice (Canada) and her work has been published in French and English, in Canada, Australia, Russia, South Africa, the USA, New Zealand and

France. She is a frequent commentator in the international media and was named in *Canadian Who's Who* in 1990.

Henri Lustiger-Thaler is Professor of Cultural Sociology at the School of Social Sciences and Human Services, Ramapo College of New Jersey, USA, and Associate Researcher at Centre d'analyse et d'intervention sociologique (CADIS) of the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris, France. He is the author and editor of six books and many scholarly articles on issues and topics ranging from memory studies to, globalization and human rights studies. He is an associate editor on the online journal *Sociopedia* and former President of the Research Committee 47 on Social Movements and Social Classes of the International Sociological Association. His most recent and select publications are: 'Holocaust Lists and the Memorial Museum' in *Museum and Society* (2009); 'When Empty is Full' in A. Kapoor (ed.); *Memory* (Guggenheim Publications, 2010); 'Memories' in *Sociopedia* (2011); 'Hauntings and Sitings in Germany', in Kirchenblatt-Gimblett, B. and Schandler, J. (eds); *Anne Frank Unbound*, (Indiana University Press, 2012) (with W. Wiedemann) and 'History, Memory and the Orthodox Experience in the Displaced Persons Camps of Occupied Germany', forthcoming in *Holocaust and Genocide Studies* (Oxford Journals forthcoming, 2013).

Joseph Maguire is Professor of Sociology of Sport at Loughborough University, UK. He completed his Ph.D. in Sociology at the University of Leicester and is a past President of the International Sociology of Sport Association and Research Committee 27 on Sociology of Sport of the International Sociology Association. Currently his work focuses on the area of sport and social theory, and sport and globalization. His book publications include: *The Sports Process: Essays in Comparative and Developmental Sociology* (Human Kinetics, 1993) (edited with E. Dunning and R. Pearton); *Sport and Leisure in Social Thought* (Routledge, 1994) (with G. Jarvie); *Global Sport: Identities, Societies and Civilizations* (Polity Press, 1999); *Sport Worlds: A Sociological Perspective* (Human Kinetics, 2002) (with G. Jarvie, L. Mansfield and J. Bradley); *Theory, Sport & Society* (Emerald, 2002) (edited with K. Young); *The Global Sports Arena: Athletic Talent Migration in an Interdependent World* (Frank Cass, 1994 and 2003) (edited with J. Bale); *Power and Global Sport: Zones of Prestige, Emulation and Resistance* (Routledge, 2005); *Japan, Sport and Society: Tradition and Change in a Globalizing World* (Routledge, 2006) (edited with M. Nakayama). His latest work includes: *Reflections on Process Sociology and Sport: 'Walking the Line'* (Routledge, 2012) *Sport Across Asia* (Routledge, 2012) (edited with K. Bromber and B. Krawietz) and *Handbook for the Social Sciences of Sport* (Human Kinetics, in press).

Louis Maheu is Emeritus Professor of the Department of Sociology and former Dean and Vice-Principal for Graduate Studies (1998–2005) at the Université de Montréal, Canada. Founding President (1992–1998) of the Research Committee 47 on Social Movements and Social Classes of the International Sociological Association, he still serves on its Executive Committee. Dr Maheu has been Editor of *Sociologie et sociétés* (1987–1992) and is co-author, author and editor of more than a hundred books and articles on social movements, social classes, scientific organizations and communities, as well as on universities. He co-authored *Le CHUM: une tragédie québécoise* (Boréal, 2010) (with R. Lacroix), and *Classes sociales et mouvements sociaux au Québec et au Canada: essai-synthèse et bibliographie* (Éditions Albert Saint-Martin, 1989) (with D. Descent, M. Robitaille and G. Simard). He is the editor of *Social Movements and Social Classes: The Future of Collective Action* (Sage, 1995); and the co-editor of *Challenging Genetic Determinism; New Perspectives on the Gene in Its Multiple Environments* (Queens University Press, 2010) (with R.A. McDonald); *La gestion écologique des déchets* (Presses de l'Université de Montréal, 1999) (with J.-G. Vaillancourt, M. Séguin and L. Cotnoir); and *La recomposition du politique* (Les Presses de l'Université de Montréal/L'Harmattan, 1991) (with A. Sales). Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, he is a former President of its Social Sciences Academy (2005–2007).

Alberto Martinelli is Emeritus Professor of Sociology and Political Science, Vice-President for scientific activities of the International Social Science Council and former Dean of the Faculty of Social and Political Sciences at the Università degli Studi di Milano (1987–1999), Italy. He was President of the International Sociological Association from 1998 to 2002. He is the author of well-known studies in economic sociology, modernization and development, comparative social and political systems, complex organizations, global governance. He is a member of the Executive Committee of the International Social Sciences Council and was a member of Italy's National Council of Science and Technology for the whole of its duration. His works in English include *Transatlantic Divide. Comparing American and European Society* (Oxford University Press, 2007); *Global Modernization: Rethinking the Project of Modernity* (Sage, 2005); *Recent Social Trends in Italy* (McGill-Queens University Press, 1999) (with A. M. Chiesi and S. Stefanizzi); *International Markets and Global Firms* (Sage, 1991); *Overviews in Economic Sociology* (Sage, 1990) (with N.J. Smelser); and *The New International Economy* (Sage, 1982) (with H.M. Makler and N.J. Smelser). He was Section Editor for Organization and Management Studies of the *New International Encyclopedia of the Social and Behavioral Sciences* (Elsevier, 2002).

Susan A. McDaniel is a Canadian sociologist whose research interests are in ageing, family and social policy. She is the Canada Research Chair (Tier 1) in Global Population and Life Course, founding Director of the Prentice Institute for Global Population and Economy, and the Prentice Research Chair, as well as Professor of Sociology at the University of Lethbridge, Canada. She relocated there in 2009. From 2007–2009 she was Professor of Family Studies and Senior Investigator, Institute for Public and International Affairs, University of Utah. She has been on the faculty at the universities of Alberta and Waterloo, and is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and recipient of many research and teaching awards. She is widely published and a frequent adviser to governments on social policy. Her 2008 book (in four volumes) is *Ageing: Challenges for the 21st Century* (Sage).

Enzo Mingione is Professor of Sociology and President of the Graduate School of International Studies in Social Sciences (SCISS) at the Università degli Studi di Milano-Bicocca, Italy. He is among the founder editors of the *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, President of the Fondazione Bignaschi, Milano (Foundation for the assistance and study of the aged), and a trustee of the Foundation of Urban and Regional Studies (FURS). He is Coordinator of the Ph.D. program in sociology jointly sponsored by the University Institute for Humanistic Studies in Florence (SUM) and the University of Milano-Bicocca and of the Italian Team of the European Research Project on Creative Cities (ACRE). He has been involved with international and Italian scientific journals and research groups and is a consultant to the European Commission on informal economy, transformation of work and the struggle against urban poverty. His main fields of interest are poverty, social exclusion, the informal sector, unemployment, and economic and urban sociology. Among his books published in English: *Social Conflict and the City* (Blackwell, 1981); *Fragmented Societies* (Blackwell, 1991); (ed.), *Urban Poverty and the Underclass* (Blackwell, 1996).

Arturo Rodríguez Morató is Professor of Sociology of Culture and Director of the Center for the Study of Culture, Politics and Society at the Universidad de Barcelona, Spain. He was Vice-president for Research (2006–2010) of the International Sociological Association and former President of its Research Committee on Sociology of the Arts (1998–2002). In recent years, his work has focused on cultural policy systems, culture and the city, and the theory of cultural change. His publications include: *The Culture Society* (in Spanish) (Ariel, 2007); *A New Place for the Arts in the Twenty-First Century* (monograph issue of *The Journal of Arts, Management, Law and Society*, vol. 32, 2003) (edited with Vera L. Zolberg);

The Professional World of Writers and Translators. A Sociological View (in Spanish) (ACEC, 1997); *Spanish Contemporary Composers. A Sociological Analysis* (in Spanish) (CIS, 1996); *Art, Culture, and Society* (in Spanish) (Bilbao, AESCA, 1992) (edited with I. Domínguez); *The Sociology of Music* (in Spanish) (monograph issue of *Papers*, vol. 29, 1988). He is Associate Editor of *Sociopedia* (Sage).

Mildred A. Schwartz is Professor Emerita of Sociology at the University of Illinois at Chicago and Visiting Scholar in the Department of Sociology at New York University. Her interests in the society and politics of Canada and the USA currently focus on political organizations and parties. She co-edited *The Handbook of Political Sociology* (Cambridge University Press, 2005) (with T. Janoski, R.R. Alford and A.M. Hicks) and published *Party Movements in the United States and Canada: Strategies of Persistence* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2006). In 2009, she co-authored 'Cultural and Institutional Factors Affecting Political Contention over Moral Issues' published in *Comparative Sociology*. She published 'Interactions Between Social Movements and US Political Parties', 2010 in *Party Politics*, and, in 2012, 'Continuity and Change in the Organization of Political Parties' in *Canadian American Public Policy*.

Nico Stehr is Karl Mannheim Professor of Cultural Studies at the Zeppelin University, Friedrichshafen, Germany. His research interests center on the transformation of modern societies into knowledge societies and developments associated with this transformation in different major social institutions of modern society (e.g. science, politics, governance, the economy, inequality and globalization); in addition, his research interests concern the societal consequences of climate change. He is one of the authors of the *Hartwell Paper* on climate policy. Among his recent book publications are: *Biotechnology: Between Commerce and Civil Society* (Transaction Books, 2004); *Knowledge* (with R. Grundmann) (Routledge, 2005); *Moral Markets* (Paradigm Publishers, 2008); *Who Owns Knowledge: Knowledge and the Law* (with B. Weiler) (Transaction Books, 2008); *Knowledge and Democracy* (Transaction Publishers, 2008); *Society* (with R. Grundmann) (Routledge, 2009); *Climate and Society* (with H. von Storch) (World Scientific Publishers, 2010); *Experts: The Knowledge and Power of Expertise* (with R. Grundmann) (Routledge, 2011) and *The Power of Scientific Knowledge*, (with R. Grundmann) (Cambridge University Press, 2012).

Diane-Gabrielle Tremblay is the Canada Research Chair on the Socio-Organizational Challenges of the Knowledge Economy. She is Professor in Economics and Management at the Télé-université (Open distance

university) of the Université du Québec (CUT à Montréal). She is President of the Research Committee 30 on Sociology of Work of the International Sociological Association, coordinator of the Gender, Work and Family Network of the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics, as well as co-chair of the Social Times and Working Times committee of the Association Internationale des Sociologues de Langue Française. She is also President of the Political Economy Association of Québec and editor of its electronic journal *Interventions économiques* (www.telug.uqam.ca/interventionseconomiques). She also has been an invited professor in many universities (Sorbonne, Lille I, Paris I, Lyon III, in France, as well as Hanoi-Vietnam, Louvain-Belgium), and she has published many articles and books on employment.

Edward Webster was the Ela Bhatt Professor of Development and Decent Work at Kassel Universität in Germany and is currently a Professor Emeritus in the Society, Work and Development Institute (SWOP) at the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg. He is the past president of the Research Committee on Labour Movements of the International Sociological Association. He has written widely on the world of work and labor. He has served on the international advisory boards of prominent journals in the field of labor studies, and recently launched a new journal, the *Global Labour Journal*, in collaboration with McMaster University in Canada. His latest book, co-authored, titled *Grounding Globalisation: Labour in the Age of Insecurity* (Blackwell, 2008) (with R. Lambert and A. Bezuidenhout) was chosen as the best scholarly book on labor by the Labour Movements section of the American Sociological Association.

Bernd Weiler graduated from United World College of the Adriatic (Duino/Triest). He studied sociology at the University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Canada, and at the University of Graz, Austria. He obtained his doctorate in sociology in 2004. Bernd Weiler died suddenly on 31 March 2006. At the time of his death, he was a Fellow at the Karl-Mannheim-Chair for Cultural Sciences at Zeppelin Universität, Friedrichshafen, Germany. His research interests centered on the intellectual history of the cultural sciences, the sociology of knowledge and the sociology of migration. His dissertation, 'Die Ordnung des Fortschritts' ('The Order of Progress'), was published in the autumn of 2006 by Transcript Publishers. An English translation will be published by Bardwell Press.

Preface

Contemporary societies are facing transformations, the scale, force and sometimes brutality of which are comparable to those experienced in the passage from agrarian to industrial society, still in progress in several countries today. Humanity has in fact rarely known a world as turbulent and as quickly changing as ours. Never have as many social actors, processes, forces been involved in such a variety of transformational processes in a large number of domains. Sociology and the other social sciences are thus confronted with major challenges in attempting to understand and interpret this disorganized race towards advanced modernity.

Sociology Today: Social Transformations in a Globalizing World presents a theoretical and substantive analysis of the social transformations that occurred at the turn of the twenty-first century in a meaningful and selective collection of essays exploring the transformational dynamics specific to various domains of social life. The goal of this collection is not to cover every single domain ever surveyed in an encyclopedic exposé, but to mirror the diversity and variety of transformations underway in today's societies and transnational spaces, and enhance our understanding of what is happening in our life worlds, work lives and frames of social existence.

The general idea is to use *specialized research* to show the contingent paths taken by social actors to resolve problems – in various fields and at different levels of interrelationships – with which they are confronted in our complex, shifting social world. The contributors to the collection have examined specific dynamics of *social fields* rather than social totalities. The essays reflect not only the contribution of sociological research today but also the diversity of sociological traditions, and how sociology is more than ever in step with one of the founding projects of the discipline: understanding the permanent transformation of social life as triggered by human action.

This book is a collaborative effort on the part of a group of internationally renowned sociologists, all of whom enthusiastically embraced the opportunity to contribute to the collection. Without their input, steadfast cooperation and unwavering patience, this work would not have been possible. I extend my very special thanks to them. It was a true pleasure working with them. One common characteristic among them was that they have

all made a significant contribution to their respective fields of research, while expanding knowledge of their research within the International Sociological Association (ISA). Many of them have in fact assumed various responsibilities within their respective research committees or on the ISA Executive. Most are or have been members of the ISA Research Council or have participated in its academic activities. The diversity of their professional connections in Africa, Australia, Europe and North America further enhances the international scope of the collection. In this sense, the book is a natural fit with the SAGE Series in International Sociology, which 'encourages debates of international significance and charts out future trends of sociological importance'. To ensure the contents of the book are suitable for use as a teaching tool, each chapter includes a glossary along with discussion questions set by the author.

Acknowledgments

This book would not have seen the light of day without the confidence expressed by Julia Evetts, Editor of the SSIS Series (CS Monograph Issues and SSIS Books), and Chris Rojek, Senior Editor for Sociology, Cultural Studies and Sport Studies at SAGE Publications, in the book proposal I submitted in 2008. Julia Evetts has provided unwavering support for the project, which admittedly has taken some time to emerge from limbo. Her encouragement, advice and editorial recommendations were essential at critical moments in the development of this collection. With publishing approval received from Chris Rojek and his committee in the spring of 2009, the process of building the collection was launched and it proceeded on a stable footing. Jai Seaman, Commissioning Editor for Sociology at SAGE tracked the development of the manuscript, while Martine Jonsrud, Editorial Assistant for Sociology was in charge of publishing the book. In 2010, Sujata Patel assumed the responsibilities of Editor of the SSIS Series and has extended her unflinching support. Along with the contributors to this book, I would like to extend our sincere gratitude to the above individuals for their support over the years.

Special thanks are also due to Yan Sénéchal, doctoral student and lecturer at the University of Montreal's Department of Sociology, for his invaluable contribution to this collection. His ever-accurate comments, which emerged from a careful reading of the texts, were immensely helpful. He also formatted the manuscript in keeping with publishing standards and tracked the consistency of the references, biographies, discussion questions, glossaries and keywords.

Lottie White, my long-standing translator, skillfully translated the texts that needed to be translated for the project, while paying singular attention to the accuracy required by theoretical texts. I am especially grateful to her.

I also extend special thanks to Valérie Amiraux, Steven Brint, Mona-Josée Gagnon, Nilüfer Gole, Solange Lefebvre, John McCarthy, Anthony M. Orum, Melvin Seeman, Theresa Scheid, and Neil J. Smelser who, as part of an anonymous peer review process, agreed to devote their time to reviewing several papers. In addition, I would like to warmly thank Michael Lester, who carefully read through and commented on most of

the chapters. Everyone of the reviewers has our deepest gratitude for contributing to this labor of scholarship.

At the Center for Corporate Governance of the University of Technology in Sydney, Australia (UTS), I was able to work peacefully on preparing the formal project proposal at the invitation of Thomas Clarke, the Director of the Center. I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to him and his wife Elizabeth Clarke for their welcoming reception in the five months I spent in that magnificent city. In addition to being a warm and friendly city, Sydney boasts an intellectual climate that propelled my work forward on various levels. I would also like to thank Andr  e Demers, Director of the Department of Sociology at the University of Montreal, who arranged appropriate working conditions for me throughout this process.

I am particularly indebted to the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada as well as to the University of Montreal's Faculty of Arts and Sciences and its Dean, Joseph Hubert, for their financial assistance in the preliminary stages of this project.

Finally, I owe a huge debt of gratitude to my wife Dominique Sales for the conversations we have had about this project, for the time she has spent reading through and reviewing my work, and most importantly for the life we share together.

Upon completing this work on social transformations, which proved far more complex than I had first imagined, I would simply like to say how much I have learned in the area of sociological reflection. On the strength of this experience, I know full well that more could be done with such a collection. I can only hope that the opportunity will present itself in future, for the topic is endlessly fascinating.

Arnaud Sales
October 2011

Part I

Introduction

Transformations in the Multiple Domains of a Turbulent World

Arnaud Sales

Introduction

Throughout history, the primary concern of many individuals, groups, communities, organizations and societies has been not to transform their social universe, but far more frequently to try to stop, contain or stabilize change, and maintain social order, often within the framework of relationships of power and domination. Prime examples of this are: the rules associated with kinship structures; the continuing struggles to preserve patriarchy; the role of religious authorities in the integration and protection of a system of values, beliefs and rites; the role of the state in the protection of property, and production- and trade-related conditions; and processes to maintain a political order through civic command and obedience relationships. Hence, many actors, networks and communities have tended to activate the *stabilization* and *reproduction* processes of social forms and practices, and impose through ‘common law’ (Durkheim, 1893, 1933) related requirements on members of the concerned social entities. Anthropology, sociology and political science have assigned considerable importance to the problematics of *stability*,¹ *equilibrium* and *reproduction* in an attempt to understand how social life is organized.

At the origins of sociology, however, the issue of change was paramount. The founding fathers of the discipline in the nineteenth century faced an ever-growing contrast within their societies. On the one hand, they experienced the extreme stability seen in many rural communities with age-old millenary traditions ‘dominated by social and cultural mechanisms of reproduction’ (Touraine, 1984: 14), the types of community that travelogs, and then anthropologists, described in faraway lands. Yet on the other hand, they were confronted by a world that was undergoing profound change, from the political instability in Europe, triggered by the French Revolution, to the technical and socioeconomic upheaval of the Industrial Revolution. They tried to account for this huge disparity through an evolutionary perspective by seeking ‘universal laws’ governing change, along with solutions to the attendant traumas. The social sciences were therefore assigned a far-reaching mission. Today we know more modest ambitions are in order.

The extraordinary scope and diversity of social phenomena cannot be dealt with (as Popper would say) in a singular, 'totalist' manner, and we cannot reduce transformations in the social world to a few universal laws.

We need to recognize (1) that social transformations result from a multitude of individual and collective actions which generate highly diverse processes that redefine social life and what it produces at various levels and in different fields in space and time; and (2) that these transformations far from being independent are often deeply intertwined and lead to other significant changes. A few examples of such transformations point to their complexity and potential impact: the arrival of new generations and migration flows; the redefinition of gender relationships; the rise of social movements; the emergence of innovative or 'deviant' discourses and practices by individual or collective actors; the diffusion of scientific discoveries and technological innovations; the implementation of new public or private policies; the decline of an important institution; economic developments or crises; the failure of political regimes; revolutions; and changes induced by internal or external armed or unarmed conflicts.

Social Transformations and Social Fields: The General Approach of the Collection

This collaborative work presents theoretical and substantive analyses of contemporary social transformations through a meaningful and selective collection of essays exploring the transformational dynamics specific to various domains of social life. The goal is not to cover every single domain of sociological research, but to mirror the diversity and variety of transformations under way in today's societies and transnational spaces and help us understand what is happening in our lifeworlds, work lives and frames of social existence.

Sociologists, who are mindful of the reproduction phenomena to which considerable research efforts were devoted in the 1960s and 1970s, are more inclined today to acknowledge that the social world is in constant movement, in 'intensive and perpetual self-transformation' (Etzioni, 1968: viii), and that this, as we shall see later, applies to all social fields. We are living in a world marked by all manner of fast, continuous social changes that affect the lives of individuals, families, communities, organizations and systems, nation states and international networks, which, owing to their practices or operations, are the sources of these transformations. The radical emergence of what Bauman (2000) called 'liquid modernity', where competing social forms, values, standards, practices and lifestyles are in a constant state of re-composition, fundamentally commits sociology to being a science of change, and hence of movement, time, mobility and complexity (Touraine, 1973; Giddens, 1984; Sztompka, 1993; Urry, 2000, 2003).

Taking this conception of social life being in a state of permanent transformation as their point of departure, the authors in this collection examine the

dynamics of *social fields* rather than social totalities such as specific societies. The general idea is to show on the basis of *specialized research* the contingent paths taken by social actors to resolve problems – in various fields and at different levels of interrelationships – with which they are confronted in this complex, shifting social world. From this perspective, this collection is not meant to provide a unified macrosociological portrait of social transformations even if references to the major transition from industrial society to new types of society are made in a metanarrative fashion: post-industrial society, information society, knowledge society or network society. In fact, a more pressing issue is how to take globalization into consideration, which as we shall see later on, transforms the sociologist's perspective, given that today it is more difficult to confine research to the traditional boundaries of individual societies. Globalization here is interpreted from an evolutionary perspective, as an accelerated transition from the Westphalian world of nation-states (Guéhenno, 1995, 2000) to a globalized human society through the intercontinental extension of interdependent networks whose ties are forged through a multitude of flows (Keohane and Nye, 2000; Held and McGrew, 2004; Sassen, 2007). The chapters in this volume show that if we choose to approach transformations in our social world from the perspective of social fields, the processes associated with globalization represent just one of many dimensions to be considered. We should therefore spend a few moments examining this approach, which reflects the research practices of a large number of sociologists and more generally social scientists.

Social fields and research

Social fields are identified by way of two partially related processes. The first is the process of the *differentiation* of social activities throughout history in autonomous spheres, such as the differentiation of art and religion analyzed by Weber (1978, vol. I). The second process involves the social construction and progressive institutionalization of a relatively large number of research fields under disciplinary specialization. This process has led not only to the significant broadening of the corpus of sociological thematics in recent decades but also to the fragmentation of knowledge (Gulbenkian Commission, 1996; Wallerstein, 1997; Quah and Sales, 2000).

With respect to research practices, we should consider Bourdieu's definition of social fields as 'relatively autonomous social microcosms, i.e. spaces of objective relations that are the site of a logic and a necessity that are *specific and irreducible* to those that regulate other fields. For instance the artistic, religious, and economic fields all follow a specific logic' (Bourdieu with Wacquant, 1992: 97, italics in original). This relational space is metaphorically related not only to a network but also to a game in which relationships of power are established among the 'players' on the basis of the species of capital they use in the struggle to maintain their position. Fields are spaces where change is ongoing and as a result 'it is the field which is primary and

must be the focus of research operations' (Bourdieu with Wacquant, 1992: 107). A social field is associated with modes of grouping, forms of organization and the achievement of goals and functions that generate issues, discussions, debates, modes of regulation, mobilization of resources, conflicts and struggles. Although fields have their specific logic and are relatively autonomous, they are still interrelated and exhibit dialectical relations, which sometimes renders them indissociable in their movements, as can be seen with the private and public fields.

Social fields and theory

As shown in many of the chapters in this volume, sociological work today no longer puts theorists and researchers in stark opposition to one another. Those who are oriented toward macrosociological theory conduct research on specialized topics, whereas those involved in field research focus on testing general theoretical statements or more specifically developing theoretical models directly related to their field. This work generally leads to what Sztompka (2000a) labels 'Explanatory Theory', which provides 'explanations or at least models allowing better organization of dispersed facts and phenomena, interpretation of multiple and varied events and phenomena'. In addition, a specialized field of research today is not necessarily built around perspectives defined within a single theoretical current or a single paradigm. As Susan McDaniel shows in her chapter with regard to transformations within the family, researchers need to call many perspectives into play (in this case, feminist theory, 'late modernity' conceptualizations) or devise more specific analyses to try to open up the field by connecting it to 'other social systems', thereby shedding new, brighter light on the topic and process under study. This collection also shows that specialized research often overcomes disciplinary barriers. Through a process of 'hybridization' (Dogan, 2000) multidisciplinary approaches can prove more productive than the systematic use of a single disciplinary theoretical model, even if testing the theory remains essential.

About Chapter 1

I have divided Chapter 1 into two main sections. The first section briefly discusses a series of general questions related to social change and ways of approaching social change: Why do we need to differentiate between change and transformation? Is the sense of the acceleration of the speed of change something new? What patterns and mechanisms of change are involved in the structuration and destructuration of models, organizations, institutions and social systems? To what extent have globalization processes called into question the societal approach to the study of change? The second section provides an overview of the different chapters and their contribution to our understanding of social transformations at the turn of the twenty-first century.

Section I – Social Change: Definitions and New Issues

Defining Social Change and Social Transformations

Social change

It is surprising that specialized books rarely provide a general definition of social change. Perhaps as Randall and Strasser noted ‘the question as to what social change actually is is perhaps the most difficult one within the scientific study of change’ (1981: 11). However, in this work, *social change* is defined as the modifications, fluctuations, differentiations, evolutions, reconfigurations and revolutions that affect social life in time and space through creative processes generated and shaped by individual and collective, spontaneous or programmed, intentional or unintentional *human action*. Chapter 2 on agency–structure relationships develops the basis for this definition.

Change can be described using various attributes, namely ‘magnitude of change, time span, direction, rate of change, amount of violence involved’ (Randall and Strasser, 1981: 16). The focus can be on determining the origin of change, the often interacting determining factors, the individuals, organizations and networks at work promoting new models of organization and action, the debates arising from change, related power struggles, and finally stabilization in new practices and new social forms.

Social reproduction and social change can be viewed as opposing concepts. But in the de-traditionalized societies in which we live today – where individuals can distance themselves from existing traditions (Martucelli, 2002) – reproduction and functioning are far from being stationary processes. They are often the source of what Streeck calls ‘static changes’ as opposed to ‘dynamic changes’ (2010: 684). But it must be underlined that a proliferation of minor changes can transform movements, organizations and institutions.

Social transformation

It may appear artificial to differentiate change from transformation. Although the term *social change* may be considered generic, the term *social transformation* is viewed here as specific. A transformation is the result of a group of processes – on occasion still under way (because these processes should not be artificially brought to a close) – in a social field, the state of which differs significantly from what it was in the selected reference period. For example, the transformation of the post-Second World War family, which accelerated in the 1970s and 1980s, and is still in process, is the result of a host of micro-, meso- and macrosociological processes that have carved out varied family profiles and ways of intimate life: individual choices, experiences and learning processes; cooperative efforts, negotiations, individual and collective conflicts; scientific discoveries

in birth control and new reproductive technologies; and reconfigured gender relationships, working environments and political decisions.

This definition of the concept of transformation, which still leaves considerable room for analysis, is nonetheless restrictive, because no in-depth sociological research has the capacity to embrace the totality of social life, although with the extensive corpus of existing research, we can continue to offer global interpretations and find significant trends. In the case of substantive research, we are compelled to limit the scope of the topic under study.

The concept of transformation does not necessarily imply brutal, rapid change. The essential thing is the depth of the change over the reference period or timeframe. Examples of profound change include the transformation of gender relationships as of the 1970s, in light of the combined effects of the feminist movement against patriarchal systems, women's access to higher education and the massive entry of women into the workforce (see Chapter 11). Another profound transformation is the shift from a collectivist economy toward a capitalist economy in China as well as in many former Soviet bloc states. This massive transition is a transformation that will definitely have one of the greatest long-term impacts on the economic and political equilibrium in the twenty-first century.

For many segments of the population, transformations are sources of new benefits but for others change triggers anxiety, resentment and trauma (Sztompka, 2000b; Alexander et al., 2004), with these 'past injuries' possibly leading to revolt, new conflict or regeneration:

The reviviscence of past injury is stronger than any desire to forget. The existence of resentment illustrates how artificial breaks between the present and past are, how intermingled past and present are, with the past becoming the present, more present than the present itself. History has borne this out time and time again. (Ferro, 2010: 13)

Speed of change

One may be tempted to say that humanity has rarely known a world as turbulent and fast changing as the world today. We are left with the impression that social life is being transformed at an accelerated pace, an impression that is strengthened by the fact that the changes are happening in every social field and every corner of the world, sometimes with great brutality. What was taken for granted and sometimes viewed as unchanging, what were called the 'traditional institutions' are disintegrating or being transformed under our very eyes while new arrangements are being put in place. This perception of the accelerated pace of social change is, however, not new. In 1963, Wilbert Moore noted '[b]y any crude measurement, the contemporary world appears to be changing more

rapidly than at any time in human history ...' (1963: 2). It is true that during a time when the vast majority of individuals lived in closed, localistic networks with low social density (Collins, 1987), and when the population was illiterate, reproduction was more prevalent than change. With the Industrial Revolution, an increasing number of individuals were integrated into varied cosmopolitan interaction networks (Collins, 1987), which fostered the exchange of ideas, information, knowledge and goods, while the young were exposed – in contrast with a locally oriented traditional education – to 'centralized exo-education (as) an obligatory norm' (Gellner, 1983: 33). This opened up enormous possibilities, with creativity increasing tenfold while 'the magical attitude toward forces in the larger world' dissolved in favor of more forward-looking abstract, relativist ideas (Collins, 1987: 116).

So, in the second half of the nineteenth century and at the turn of the twentieth century, the acceleration of change became apparent, and the perception and explanation of change became a focus for the observers who witnessed the birth of the labor movement; the strengthening of the nation state; revolutions; the institutionalization of compulsory schooling; the development of large corporations based on scientific research; the internationalization of trade tied to the birth of the first modern multinationals and the first massive wave of economic globalization; a significant renewal in pictorial and musical art forms; and in the technical area, telephony, wireless telegraphy, and the emergence of more rapid mechanized modes of transportation, in terms of not only the railways, but also automobiles and aviation which in the long run would transform lifestyles, industry, commerce and military activities. Greater caution is needed in thinking we are experiencing a period during which humanity is being confronted with the most rapid change ever known. However, this sensation of speed, which is so disturbing to Paul Virilio (1997), should not be underestimated.² With globalization, never have so many social actors, processes and forces been involved in the same 'system', in such different transformational processes and in such a large number of fields.

The great paradox is that as social phenomena are transformed, they can remain 'similar to what they were'. Capitalism, for example, has been maintained over time through change (Braudel, 1979). The same applies to many institutions such as the family, or the university, in which *adaptive perenniality* is ensured over the centuries by the emergence of many varieties of each institution in space and time. Beyond properties and events, *substance* in the Kantian sense of the term 'does not remain in the same state and the succession of states is irreversible over time. No state can be durable ... otherwise nothing would happen' (Freund, 1978: 21). We are living in a 'dynamic social field', the characteristics of which are

based on the fact that ‘society should be conceived not as a steady state but as a process; not as a rigid quasi object, but as a continuous, unending stream of events’ (Sztompka, 1993: 9).

Social Structuration and Destructuration Processes

As elegant as Sztompka’s proposition may be, it is essential to recognize the plurality of social fields, and view change not in terms of the singularity but of the multiplicity of often interacting structuration and destructuration processes in time and space. In examining these processes, we need to consider:

- adequate levels of sociological analysis (micro, meso, macro or global (Smelser, 1997)) for such phenomena;
- individual and collective actors and networks who initiated and implemented the processes, frequently in rivalry with others;
- their goals, interests, logic and model for change;
- discourses, debates, conflicts, power struggles, actions and symbolic productions emerging during these processes;
- the formulation of new rules, norms, laws and practices emerging from change;
- the consequences for the other actors and their practices;
- the general patterns and mechanisms of change.

Several of these points are discussed in Chapter 2. We will restrict ourselves for now to considering the patterns and mechanisms of change on the basis of neo-institutionalist formulations, which are adaptable, and can be made operational in many different fields of research.

Patterns of change

Without going so far as to consider the concepts of structuration and institutionalization³ as being completely synonymous, as Barley and Tolbert (1997) maintain in their attempt to reconcile the work by Giddens (1984) with that by neo-institutionalists, we can most certainly maintain that these processes need to be placed in the forefront of social change research. They are complex, contingent processes that involve filtering, adoption or rejection, dissemination and legitimation of the proposed innovations (Sztompka, 1993). Di Maggio defined institutionalization as ‘a product of the political efforts of actors to accomplish their ends ... the success of an institutionalization project and the form that the resulting institutions takes depend on the relative power of the actors who support, oppose, or otherwise strive to influence it’ (1988: 13). Lawrence and Suddaby (2006) identify three processes of institutional work going from *institutional emergence* to *deinstitutionalization*. They therefore differentiate among (1) the creation of institutions, or the initial process of institutionalization; (2) the maintenance of institutions and

reproduction of processes; and (3) the disruption processes that can lead to deinstitutionalization.

The neo-institutionalist schools see institutions as systems of rules, norms, laws and customs in a situation of equilibrium that ensures stability. This equilibrium runs the risk of being disrupted over time, and institutional change occurs when the equilibrium is disrupted. Neo-institutionalists differentiate three processes⁴ or patterns of institutional change (Campbell, 2004) to which researchers attribute varying levels of importance depending on whether they favor equilibrium or change situated in the historical process (Thelen, 1999).

- *Evolutionary change*: is mostly incremental, continuous and affects only a few dimensions of the institution. A simple example in the context of universities would be the process of adapting course content, revising programs, or creating new programs under the combined effect of renewing knowledge through research, the hiring of new professors, recognizing the importance of multidisciplinary work, professionalization and internationalization pressures, and the desire to increase the student body to access greater financial resources.
- *Punctuated evolution*: is marked by punctuations, i.e. more radical transformations, which do not prevent adaptive changes from occurring to the institutions in the interim, changes that may well be practically imperceptible but continue to occur gradually leading to more in-depth change. It should be noted that incremental change is not the only process that counts. Radical transformations are often based on latent conflict, resentment, abuse, defections, disputes, strikes, crushed revolts, or economic failure, which also apply to the following pattern of punctuated equilibrium.
- *Punctuated equilibrium*:⁵ is a discontinuous process marked by periods of stability between periods of radical transformation, revolutionary-type breaks affecting many dimensions of an institution, an institutional arrangement, or a regime, while leading to a new precarious equilibrium. An example of such a process would be the *destruction of the institutional equilibrium* established around Keynesian arrangements in favor of a new neoliberal institutional order. Keynesian arrangements supported by forms of state regulation were gradually called into question in the 1970s from a theoretical or discursive standpoint. They were unraveled in the 1980s by neoliberal policies of privatization, deregulation and liberalization – central to globalization – with the objective of ‘market reconstruction’ and industrial restructuring. Within the new institutional framework, the market had its regulatory function ‘restored’ (see Campbell, 2004; Sales and Beschorner, 2006). The financial crisis of 2008 challenged this model and led to the current elusive search for new forms of public or private regulation. The goal, however, is not to question the neo-liberal institutional order, given the considerable resistance from the active and powerful network that structured the order.

From a methodological perspective, Campbell (2004) maintains that an analysis of change must identify: (1) the central elements of the institution

subject to change; (2) the timeframe; and (3) the change mechanisms that point to cause and effect relationships. Finally, consideration must be given to interactions between the various institutional orders within a society, which are a significant source of change (Thelen, 1999).

'Mechanisms' of institutional transformation

Many 'mechanisms' are involved in institutional transformations. Two concepts, *diffusion* and *path dependency*, are frequently used by institutionalists. *Diffusion* refers to the gradual process of adopting formal and informal rules, or practices considered to be efficient or compulsory by actors as regards individual or organizational behaviors that lead to relative isomorphisms of organizational populations (Di Maggio and Powell, 1983; Campbell, 2004). It is, for instance, important for a company following the example of pioneering firms to adopt an 'ethical code of conduct', and, most importantly today, to set up an entity in charge of ensuring compliance with rules and standards of corporate social responsibility throughout the company.

Path dependency deals more with the relative *stability* of institutions than the process of change. Borrowed from the analyses of technological paths (David, 1985, in relation to the QWERTY keyboard) according to which once the prevalence of a technology has become firmly established, the path, regardless of the quality of competitive technologies, 'becomes "locked in" as all the relevant actors adjust their strategies to accommodate the prevailing pattern' (Thelen, 1999: 385). What this means in terms of social change is that an institution once established will endure regardless of any adjustments and will have a constraining effect on the options available to actors wishing to make changes. Such actors will encounter considerable resistance as soon as they attempt to alter the core of the system, which is considered set and difficult to change, placing their credibility, and in certain critical political and cultural situations, even their lives at stake. Decisions must account for the limits imposed by the complex institutional mechanisms on desired transformations; or people must be prepared to fight. This question will be discussed in Chapter 2, where I will show the extent to which the forms of path dependency are tied in with the action of the vast networks called *active reticular structures*. I will now look at the impact of globalization on sociological research and change analysis, an important issue for this collection.

Spaces of Change: Societal Effects and Globalization Processes

As a discipline, sociology and several other social sciences have suffered since their inception from what Taylor describes as 'embedded statism' (1996, 2000), which has marginalized alternative spatial conceptualizations

of the social world, and have neglected to give serious attention to ‘trans-state phenomena’ (Gulbenkian Commission, 1996: 80–84 and 83.). Beyond the varieties of meanings it has been assigned by theorists, society, generally circumscribed to a nation state, has long been implicitly not only the social context of research but also its predominant macrosociological unit of observation (Touraine, 1981, 1992; Wallerstein, 1986, 1991; Taylor, 1996, 2000; Urry, 2000, 2010). Two primary processes have, however, disrupted the traditional work of sociologists and compelled them to question the idea of society: (1) ‘contemporary *hypermodernization* which appears to destroy all unifying myths that try to bring together individualistic culture, constantly changing economic activities’ (Touraine, 1992: 58) and a state whose sovereignty and national coherence have been eroded; and (2) the current phase of *globalization*, marked by the massive convergence of varying phenomena. These processes have helped open the way to a ‘sociology without society’ (Touraine, 1981, 1992); a ‘post-societal sociology’ (Urry, 2000) which calls into question ‘artificial’ conceptualizations of societies⁶ and instead focuses on extending the social beyond its traditional boundaries to include agents of change, cross-border networks and movements, flows, mobilities (Urry, 2000, 2010), the interweaving of sociocultural phenomena across borders (Hannerz, 1990; Sassen, 1996, 1999; Badie and Smouts, 1999; Tomlinson, 1999; Urry, 2000) and the need to establish a level of analysis that is no longer only macrosociological, hence societal, but also *global* (Smelser, 1997). However, as citizens, we still live within nation states, even if many of them have surrendered part of their sovereignty to larger regional groupings, or are themselves undergoing profound changes that alter the ‘closed’ model of privileged advanced societies. Moreover, if we theoretically speak of a globalizing human society, it is one that is still largely ‘under construction’. These changes create considerable tension between the ever-present societal processes, which contribute to national identities, and the trans-state and transnational networks, encounters and processes which intertwine as part of the globalization process, and change our vision of social life. These changes clearly have an impact on the study of social transformations.

A brief return to societal analysis

Comparative analysis acknowledges societal differences; however, its aim is largely the ‘conceptual homogenization of a heterogeneous field’ (Riggs, 1994: 72). Researchers study a phenomenon by observing it in different countries and testing hypotheses to ‘verify or falsify whether generalizations hold across the cases to which they apply’ (Sartori, 1994: 15). The idea is that, on the one hand, and probably above all, the comparative method permits generalizations, bringing to light what is similar across societies. On the other hand, it identifies what is different, such as unique national

characteristics or even instances of anomaly, the deviant, the exceptional cases (Dogan and Kazangacil, 1994) – American Exceptionalism, Japanese Uniqueness – to borrow Lipset's terms (1993). Some research has even sought to identify what reinforces differences between nation states.

The move, then, is towards *societal analysis* that seeks to identify patterns related to *societal effects*, and, paradoxically, tries 'to compare the incomparable' (Maurice and Sorge, 2000: 14). The societal approach searches for structural and relational interdependence subsets in which actors, and spheres of activity called 'spaces', are seen in their relationships to the wider society, which confers on them *national coherence*. Jean-Michel Berthelot summarized this approach well:

It postulates that from the infinite diversity of concrete social connections that characterizes historical societies, a particular form of generality emerges (for that society), that is like any other, the product of a historical process of construction that has the ability, at any given moment, to pass by diffusion into a network of relationships and forms that are subordinate to it and constructed in dialectical interdependence with it. This form, the contours of which are both variable and identifiable on each occasion, would be what is called a *society*. The societal approach is characterized by this view of society as a sort of structure that is both shaped and shaping, giving meaning and coherence to the phenomena that lie within its context of action. (2000: 97)

Take, for example, the work by *socioeconomists* who highlight as part of international comparisons national specificity of interdependencies among the education system, hierarchies and relationships of authority, labor relations systems and their impact on firms and forms of national capitalism in general. In contrast with neoclassical economic theory and its universalism and atomized, undersocialized conception of human action, these studies stress that there is no single institutional arrangement that is best suited to organizing modern societies (Maurice et al., 1986; Hollingsworth and Boyer, 1997; Morgan et al., 2010). They point to a filiation with Polanyi, as well as Weber from the notion of historical and structural embeddedness in the social context, a notion revived by Granovetter (1985). The conceptualization of institutions under 'path-dependent development' places the formation of institutions in a different historical and geographic space. In this sense, the path-dependency mechanisms specific to national spaces engender *societal effects*.⁷ Institutional arrangements conceived as modes of societal organization are strongly connected with the ebb and flow of the public and private, as witnessed throughout the twentieth century, and they are primarily based on political choices.

One may well ask whether the intensification of globalization and hypermodernization are in the process of reducing the specificity of