Call for papers, 11th International Conference of Sociocybernetics

2- 6 of July, Algarve University, Faro, Portugal

Complexity and Social Action: Interaction and Multiple Systems

Recent events throughout the globe have put into perspective the need for new theory settings, new approaches and new insights into the current social dynamics that many consider on a verge of rupture. Financial crises, social uprisings, forced governmental collapses, and increasing inequalities within several spheres of the social world are some of the events that necessarily put collective and individual social action into new perspectives.

It is no longer possible to think of social phenomena in a disconnected way, since their foundations and limits are not clear. The understanding of social action and interaction, as cause and consequence of social phenomenon, depends on the capacity to consider and analyze all possibilities in action systems, their diversity and relations integrating micro, macro and meso perspectives. It is therefore, imperative for the sociocybernetic approach to address such a challenge.

The study of the interaction between multiple systems can be a useful and sound new way of thinking, especially if it follows a transdisciplinary approach. From the variety of subjects relevant in this respect, the next RC51 2012 Conference in Faro, will emphasize the following:

1. Decision Making and Action: Decision making is a highly complex embodied process resulting from the concerted action of a diverse set of interconnected systems that allow for the development of social action under the uncertainty that the future holds. Under this theme, we intend to explore the complexity of the intra-systemic and inter-systemic pathways framing decision-making and subsequent social action.

2. Violence: Violence is an interconnected system, socially and culturally produced and reproduced, and therefore embedded in individuals, institutions and states. The production of violence is a phenomenon with deep interconnections between the social, cultural, biological, emotional and symbolic systems. The discussion between the articulation of the individual system (composed of responses/actions/reactions/interactions), and the social and cultural system which provide the actor with the symbolic, and many times, unconscious tolls of actions and interactions, is crucial to advance the production of knowledge in this area.

3. Social Movements: The new social movements, now emerging in many countries, with different levels of economic development, combine a variety of new dimensions that exceed previously sociologically knowledge. The sociological analysis of these movements' actions requires, primarily, an intersystem approach of the complexity of all

its dimensions, and secondly, two other dimensions of the social actors' selves: the relationship between themselves and the relationship that each social actor wants to have with old and new groups, organizations and institutions.

Papers are welcomed which address these issues. Beyond that other papers addressing conceptual and theoretical issues in sociocybernetics or reporting relevant empirical findings are also welcomed.

ABSTRACTS AND REVIEW PROCESS

Length of Abstract: 500 to 600 words

All abstracts must be sent to the Chair of the Local Organizing Committee, Manuel Lisboa (m.lisboa@fcsh.unl.pt), and Dalila Cerejo (dalilacerejo@fcsh.unl.pt) as well as to the Head of the Abstracts Committee, Chaime Marcuello (chaime@posta.unizar.es).The review process is double blind and the feedback to the authors may include suggestions for improvements and modifications.

Accepted abstracts will published in an abstracts booklet.

DEADLINES

15th of January 2012: 500-600 word abstracts
1 March: Notification of acceptance
15 May 2011: Definitive registration
1 June 2011: Submission of full papers

CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

Conference fees:
- RC51 Non-members EURO 100
- RC51 affiliated members (non-ISA): EURO 50
- RC51 regular members in good standing (ISA and RC51): No fee
In special cases (e.g., students) exemptions can be granted upon request.

CONFERENCE LANGUAGE

The official language of the Conference will be English.

CONTACTS AND INFORMATION

For information updates please consult the RC 51 website at (http://www.unizar.es/sociocybernetics/). For specific questions you may also directly contact the Chairman of the Local Organizing Committee, Manuel Lisboa (e-mail: m.lisboa@fcsh.unl.pt; telephone: +351217958453).

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VENUE AND ACCOMMODATION

The conference will be held at Universidade do Algarve in Faro:
http://www.ualg.pt/index.php?lang=en

There are several accommodation options in Faro and also at the Universidade of the Algarve Campus. More details of hotels and accommodation prices will be provided at the RC51 website (http://sociocybernetics.unizar.es) on 1st of December 2011.

Faro, Portugal, is a lovely beach area with a local airport right in the city of Faro. See more at: http://www.turismodoalgarve.pt/home.html .