

**2026 Executive Committee Meeting
UCLouvain, Belgium, 23-27 February 2026****Academic Conference
“Global Sociology in Challenging Times”**

Inscription souhaitée : [Formulaire](#)

Panel 1: Insights from Latin America

Monday 23 February | 14:00–17:00 Leclercq 51

(Cours ouvert / Open course: Graduate students, Professors and researchers)

• **Mécontentement politique en Amérique latine : polarisation, leaders outsiders et montée de l'extrême droite (en français)**

Gabriel Kessler, CONICET & Universidad Nacional de La Plata, Argentina.

• **Social movements, authoritarianism and new political grammars**

Breno Bringel, State University of Rio de Janeiro (IESP-UERJ), Brazil.

Panel 2: A Reflexive Global Sociology

Conférence Jacques Leclercq

Wednesday 25 February | 13:30–16:15 | Doyens 21

Part 1: 13:30-14:45

• **Dealing with epistemic dissonance in global sociology.**

Elina Oinas, University of Helsinki, Finland.

• **Contestations regarding professional ethics versus nationalist interests.**

Dilek Cindoglu, Yaşar University, Türkiye.

• **Intersectionality in the 21st century.**

Bandana Purkayastha, University of Connecticut, USA.

Part 2: 15:00-16:15

• **The ‘African’ university’s innovative self-renewal.**

Michael Perry Okyerefo, University of Ghana, Ghana.

• **Capitalism from cultural and postcolonial perspectives.**

Aaron Pitluck, Illinois State University, USA.

• **Geopolitics and globalisation.**

Joy Y. Zhang, University of Kent, UK.

Jeudi 26 février, 14:30-16:00

« Comment rédiger un article pour une revue académique internationale en sciences sociales ? »

Avec Gabriel Kessler, éditeur de International Sociology

Atelier réservé aux professeurs, chercheurs et doctorants ESPO, Iacchos ou ISPOLE.

! A confirmer ! Cette séance dépendra du nombre d’inscriptions.

Inscription obligatoire, avant le 18 février : [ICI](#)

Thursday 26 February | 16:30–18:00 | Parallel sessions

Panel 3: Sociology of Generations

- **Black heiresses: Biographical narratives of three generations of Black women in slave-based economies in Brazil.**

Hermilio Santos, Pontifícia Universidade do Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil.

- **Generational change and intergenerational connections.**

Dan Woodman, University of Melbourne, Australia.

- **Human rights, digitalisation and sociological commitment.**

Ana Rivoir, Universidad de la República, Uruguay.

Chair & comments: Laura Merla, UCLouvain.

Panel 4: Engagement and the Impacts of Sociology

Salle du CriDIS, Doyens b334

- **The agency of sociologies in societal transformations.**

Borut Rončević, Faculty of Information Studies in Novo Mesto, Slovenia.

- **Values and engagement in sociology: revisiting Max Weber.**

Marta Soler-Gallart, University of Barcelona, Spain.

- **Addressing mandatory retirement of older adults.**

Jan Marie Fritz, University of Cincinnati, USA.

Chair & comments: Bernard Fusulier, Chair of the Council of Sociologists, UCLouvain

Friday 27 February, 9:30 – 13:00

Panel 5: Sociology and the Ecological Transition | 09:30–10:40

- **Sweet sustainability? Zero-deforestation regulation, food standards and other challenges for chocolate lovers.**

Allison Marie Loconto, INRAE & Gustave Eiffel University, France.

- **The role of cynicism in social responses to the climate emergency.**

Debra J. Davidson, University of Alberta, Canada.

Chair & comments: Françoise Bartiaux, UCLouvain (tbc).

Panel 6: Social Actors and Social Change | 11:00-13:00

- **Political discontent in Latin America: polarization, outsider leaders and the rise of the far right.**

Gabriel Kessler, CONICET & Universidad Nacional de La Plata, Argentina.

- **Bangla Spring: The 2024 July Revolution as a prototype of nonviolent social movement.**

Shaikh Mohammad Kais, University of Rajshahi, Bangladesh.

- **Speaking truth to power: Situational justice and whistleblowing.**

Tina Uys, University of Johannesburg, South Africa.

- **Generalized self-efficacy and volunteerism in Singapore.**

Joonmo Son, National University of Singapore.

- **Conclusion : Global Sociology in Challenging Times**

Geoffrey Pleyers, President of the ISA, FNRS/UCLouvain

Chair & comments: Olivier Servais, UCLouvain.