

PEWSNews

Newsletter of the ASA Section on Political Economy of the World-System

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LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Manuela Boatcă

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As I write to you the first PEWS News note as Chair of PEWS several months after the beginning of my term, the title of the upcoming ASA meeting in Los Angeles, “Bureaucracies of Displacement“, rings true



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in more ways than one. The theme of displacement accurately reflects the reality into which we have all been pressured since the start of the pandemic - although to very different degrees. Whether this displacement was the move from in-person to online teaching or from on-site conferences to zoom webinars, the administrative and maintenance workload for teachers and researchers has increased exponentially. Across the occupational spectrum, the bureaucracies accounting for this increase have only reinforced existing inequalities at the local, the regional, the national and the global levels. That a world-systems perspective on the shifts occasioned or enhanced by the bureaucracies of displacement is urgently needed and indeed already available on several counts, is evidenced both in the publications on the impact of COVID-19 on different areas of the world-economy in the *Journal of World-Systems Research*, in the roundtables prepared for this year's ASA meeting, and in this current issue of PEWS News that features an essay on the topic.

In the meantime, PEWS council members have been working enthusiastically on the tasks forthcoming for 2022. I am very grateful to Nadia Smiecinska and John Peter Antonacci for taking up the vital task of PEWS News Editors and to Nayla Huq for volunteering as PEWS social media coordinator on top of co-organizing the PEWS roundtables. If you are on Facebook or Twitter, do look for the ASA PEWS announcements, follow the account @ASAPEWS, share/retweet its news and use it to promote your world-systems related work.

The PEWS mini conference on the legacies of Immanuel Wallerstein is currently being planned by an ad-hoc organizing committee chaired by Chris Chase-Dunn. The conference has now been rescheduled for August 4, 2022, one day before the start of the ASA annual meeting, and will most likely take place at the UCLA campus.

Please remember to send (self-)nominations to the Immanuel Wallerstein Memorial Book Award Committee, the Article Award Committee, and for this year's award of the Teaching and Mentoring Committee by March 1. You can check last year's exciting list of awardees and all past section awards here: <http://asapews.org/awards.html>

We still need one more volunteer, however. Our current webmaster, Michaela Curran, is unfortunately stepping down from this position for reasons of self-care. If you can help keep the website updated with announcements and would be able to step in for the remaining time until the ASA meeting, please let me know.

We all hope that this year's ASA meeting will take place in person and on site, but the chosen theme itself contains the possibility of another displacement. The good news, if we are to see the glass half full, is that by now no format is unprecedented and that we have all learned from the experience and adjustments of two virtual meetings in the past years. The other piece of good news - which is not even a matter of perspective - is that this year's program includes a diverse range of sessions - an open session on "Dialogues between Southern and Decolonial approaches and World-System Analysis" organized by the indefatigable Caroline Schöpf, a roundtable session on "The Political Economy of Environmental Impacts" thoughtfully crafted by Julia Schoonover and Nayla Huq, and an invited session on "Defenses and Critiques of Racial Capitalism as an Analytical Tool", convened by Vilna Bashi Treitler and myself. Besides this being an all-female list of conveners, it is also a quite diverse one, which is in itself good news for the PEWS section. The ultimate - and last - piece of good news is that the call for submissions has been itself unbureaucratically displaced to February 16, so there is still time to submit a very last-minute proposal.

The section exists and thrives due to all of your actions, so do cast your vote in the

upcoming elections, get involved, self-nominate, and participate! I am looking forward to working with the vibrant, diverse, and creative community that is the PEWS section.

Manuela Boatcă
PEWS Chair

Confronting COVID- 19 from World- Systems Perspectives

A short essay by PEWS member Jason C. Muller.

Confronting the World- Systemic Basilisk, Daring to Achieve the (Im)Possible by Jason C. Muller (*University of California, Irvine*)

The world-systemic structures of knowledge and accumulation are unstable. The hegemonic era of ‘centrist liberalism’ is over, with [the end](#) of *the end of history* now in sight. The political-economy lurches on an uncertain trajectory, and specters of neo-fascist [barbarism](#) or techno-[feudalism](#) threaten the very possibility of a socially-just world.

The COVID-19 pandemic unearthed and amplified many vicious tendencies of the world-system, including capitalist-inflected vaccine [nationalism](#), xenophobic border-control [hysteria](#), and the [shortcomings](#) of privatized and sclerotic healthcare systems. Hyper-exploitation of the workers of the world continued, with a cynical twist—they were now called ‘essential workers,’ offered ceremonial tribute, but with little substantive benefit. In addition, a January 2022 [Oxfam report](#) shed new light on the brutality of COVID-capitalism, informing us that the wealth of the world’s 10 richest men

doubled since the onset of COVID-19—exacerbating existing inequalities along class, racial, and gendered lines.

With these facts in mind, the situation appears dire. Can a new world-system based on cooperation, solidarity, mutual aid, and ecological restoration be envisioned? In the era of [capitalist realism](#) this task seems *impossible* and *utopian*. Taking a second glance at the situation, it is precisely the opposite.

The world-system has no hope of ‘returning to normal.’ This is precisely why empty promises by centrist-liberal [politicians](#) receive such tepid support, come across as the real day-dreams of utopians.

Alternatively, far right-wing capitalists offer nothing to ameliorate this crisis, and often act to significantly aggravate it. Thus, when given the option of liberal or conservative solutions to COVID-capitalism, *both* are worse. As Slavoj Žižek (2021: 138) points out, “calls for unity and healing divisions are false,” insofar as we think in terms of polite capitalists and brazenly *offensive* capitalists coming together to form ‘bipartisan’ policies to get us ‘back to normal.’ Similarly, Immanuel Wallerstein correctly [observed](#) a decade ago: “There are no compromises. Either we shall have a significantly better world-system...or we shall have one that is at least as bad and, quite possibly, far worse.”

So, what are our options? Anti-systemic radicals demanding a socially-just world are the true pragmatists—pursuing a task which is both possible *and* necessary.

Immanuel Wallerstein often [referred](#) to this pursuit as embodying the “spirit of Porto Alegre.”

We must reject the [‘return to normal’](#) discourse in its entirety. The ‘normal’ way of things prior to COVID were a disaster for the 99%, with endless war, environmental degradation, racialized and gendered oppression, and obscene levels of inequality. So, the task is not to get the world-system ‘back to normal,’ but rather to “engage in the difficult and painful process of constructing a new normality...to invent anew our entire social life” (Žižek 2021: 115).

“A world- systems- analytical agenda can help envision a new and better "normal," by staying aware of ongoing organizing and protests, seeing what (trans)national modes of communication, coordination, and cooperating emerge to address the crisis.”

A world-systems-analytical agenda can help envision a new and better ‘normal,’ by staying aware of ongoing organizing and protests, seeing what (trans)national modes of communication, coordination, and cooperation emerge to address the crisis. It may consider revisiting old texts (e.g., from Amin, Rodney, Wallerstein), while rendering their insights legible to current movements addressing world-scale inequalities. Radical scholars have already begun this task, with one brilliant example being Zophia Edwards’ (2021) *Racism, Capitalism, and the COVID-19 Pandemic*.

Other new [research](#) explores the link between the capitalist imperative for ‘endless growth,’ and the conditions that facilitate the spread of COVID-19 and climate change inaction. *The Journal of World-Systems Research* issues on current trajectories of [populism](#) and [racism](#) can also inform [other work](#) on world-systemic issues

pertaining to COVID-19. Some colleagues and I also recently took up the task of exploring the political, economic, and ideological conditions that structured the US government’s lackluster response to handling the pandemic, while also identifying spaces where new ideologies and practices might spur post-capitalist possibilities (Mueller 2021; Mueller and McCollum 2021; Mueller, McCollum, and Schmidt 2020). There is much work to be done.

A well-known creature of historical myths and legends is that of the *Basilisk*. The Basilisk’s strength was said to be so powerful that a mere glance from the creature could cause immediate death. Much mainstream politicking (and sociology) dutifully avoids confronting the world-systemic Basilisk—the baleful tendencies of a capitalist mode of production. By avoiding discussion, they hope to technocratically manage themselves around the beast, or perhaps harness its capabilities towards their own aspirations.

World-Systems analysts are in a unique position to confront this Basilisk, which has become vulnerable in the era of endless recessions, viruses, and hollow populist promises. The task of theorizing and building a socially-just ‘new normal’ is difficult for many reasons. It is also necessary, and the only possible solution to avoid world-systemic catastrophe. If we cede this ground, there is no telling what the ‘new normal’ might look like.

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Mueller, Jason C., John McCollum, and Steven Schmidt. 2020. "COVID-19, the Vanishing Mediator, and Postcapitalist Possibilities." Pp. 181-192 in *Pandemic and the Crisis of Capitalism*, The Editorial Collective of Rethinking Marxism (Eds.).

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PEWS Anti- Oppression Statement

The text of PEWS' new Anti-Oppression Statement, with an Introduction by Samantha Fox

Introduction

As Chair of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee in 2021, I worked with Kristin Plys and Alessandro Morosin to define a statement orienting the PEWS Section's position on anti-oppression work. Our ideas were guided by Immanuel Wallerstein's work on anti-systemic movements and the structural constraints of capitalism as world-system. World-systems scholarship has a strong intellectual tradition that examines the way historical conditions bear on the present and using history to evaluate contemporary political possibilities.

From our conversations, we determined that the PEWS Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee should remain committed to addressing unequal power relations. This began with a name change. As voted on by PEWS members, the committee is now called the Anti-Oppression Committee in honor of the world-systems tradition's commitment to evading the pitfalls of liberal politics and advancing more radical, meaningful political possibilities.

Our first action was to prepare a guiding statement in line with diversity statements being made throughout academia. That statement is printed in this newsletter. This statement was written in the spirit of world-systems research, to encourage everyone to build a more just society from where you are and as part of a community.

Text of the Anti- Oppression Statement

World-Systems analysis originated alongside African liberation movements during the 1960s and 70s. The world-systems perspective aimed to take a historical materialist and dialectical approach to social science history in order to aid national liberation movements in the Global South. World-systems scholars from different parts of the globe analyzed anti-blackness and patriarchy as constitutive of historical capitalism. Given these origins, we as a section must challenge ourselves to be more inclusive, actively anti-racist, and actively anti-sexist. Currently there are resurgent women's movements, black liberation movements and anti-colonial movements which have challenged fundamental global inequalities of power. Yet as a section in 2019, we were far more male, and also more white, than ASA as a whole. As we work towards both intellectual and ascriptive diversity in our section, PEWS can embody the liberatory goals of anti-oppression movements across the world.

As the PEWS Anti-Oppression Committee, we propose a comprehensive approach to diversity and inclusion. Our section strives to foster a grassroots movement to enlarge and diversify PEWS membership and participation, including on conference panels, papers, and invited sessions. We commit to initiating this process at this year's ASA meeting. While the current moment calls loudest for addressing concerns of anti-blackness and anti-indigeneity, we also seek to engage with ALL who are drawn to the world-systems perspective. This includes people from all genders and those who live, work, and struggle for justice in the Global South.

Our actions as PEWS members should actively disrupt any reproduction of hierarchies in our professional networks and in our intellectual frameworks by:

- Promoting anti-oppression requires thoughtful interpersonal actions that acknowledge power inequalities
- Acting responsibly toward others creates a supportive environment
- Focusing on the intellectual merits of others scholarship fosters a horizontal exchange of ideas.
- Being cognizant of power dynamics cultivates a welcoming social space
- Fostering an environment where racism and sexual harassment are not tolerated is our shared responsibility

We recognize the necessary changes for an inclusive section take time and offer this statement as a starting point that charts a way forward. Further elaborating and concretizing these practices, we hope to make PEWS panels, receptions, and the mentoring program welcoming for all. In this

manner, world-systems analysis as practiced through the PEWS section

of the ASA will live up to the values set by its founders in the heat of liberation movements of the mid-20th century. PEWS can once again become a leader among ASA sections in redressing anti-blackness and patriarchy, in service of dismantling global exploitation and oppression.

Graduate Student Features

Two featured biographies of graduate student PEWS members, who are about to enter the job market

Spencer Louis Potiker

*Doctoral Candidate- Global and International Studies,
University of California, Irvine*

Bio

Spencer Louis Potiker holds a M.A. in Sociology from the University of California, Irvine (UCI) and is a doctoral candidate in the Global and International Studies department at UCI. Spencer has published pieces in the topical domains of global border studies, critical logistics studies, global labor studies, and global social movements and social change in journals such as *The Journal of Labor and Society*, *Anarchist Studies*, and *Critical Sociology*. Spencer also was the recipient of the Terrence K. Hopkins Student Paper Award in 2020 for his paper entitled “Obstacles to Insurrection: Militarized Border Crossings Hindering the Rojava Liberation Struggle.” Spencer is currently co-editing a special issue for the *Journal of World-Systems* research entitled “Anti-State and Anti-Systemic:

Exilic Spaces and Societies in Movement in the World-System.” The special issue aims to examine the relationship non-state spaces and anti-state movements have to the modern world-system.

“Spencer’s dissertation analyzes both how trade law and infrastructure investment over the past century has laid the foundation for this change in economic function as well as how the change in the built environment at the border has impacted labor markets, immigration, and labor movements in [the San Diego- Tijuana metropolitan area.]”

Research Interests

Spencer’s dissertation research focuses on the changing economic functions of the San Diego-Tijuana metropolitan area over the past decade. Particularly, Spencer analyzes the change from the twin plant system—in which manufacturing facilities in Tijuana were matched with warehousing and material moving facilities in San Diego—to what he calls a twin warehousing system. In the twin warehousing system, there has been a rapid increase in warehousing and material moving occupations in Tijuana. Spencer’s dissertation analyzes both how trade law and infrastructure investment over the past century has

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laid the foundation for this change in economic function as well as how the change in the built environment at the border has impacted labor markets, immigration, and labor movements in the region. The research varies in methodological approach using both qualitative interviews and field work paired with quantitative data analysis and archival research.

Teaching Philosophy

Spencer is also a committed mentor and instructor. His teaching helps students think through the relationship social structures and ideology have with collective action and individual agency. He pushes students to analyze the interspatial and historic processes that shape social, political, and economic systems as well as how those systems shape the way we live in the world and at times how we resist it. Although he loves teaching inside the classroom, he also knows that sometimes the most impact you can make on students is outside the classroom. He makes himself as approachable as possible with students and always has an open office door while on campus. In his time at UCI as a teaching assistant he has had numerous students take him up on being a resource on campus and has developed great relationships with a handful of students.

February 2022

Brian F. O'Neill

*Doctoral Candidate- Sociology,
University of Illinois at Urbana-
Champaign*

Websites

Personal -

<https://www.brianfoneill.net>

University -

<https://sociology.illinois.edu/directory/profile/bfo2>

Bio

I am a doctoral candidate in the [Department of Sociology at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign](#), and Vivian Lin Thurston Fellow working at the nexus of the sub-fields of environmental sociology and political economy. I will be defending my dissertation, titled *Disciplining Water: Environmental Politics, Justice, and the Return of Infrastructure in May 2022*. Particularly, I am interested in the social dynamics surrounding questions of climate change adaptation strategies, water policy, and the energy transition across the World-system. For example, during my graduate work, I have studied certain “unconventional,” but nonetheless increasingly prevalent transnational industrial practices like seawater desalination and hydraulic fracturing.

Research Interests

I am particularly engaged in the literatures on the Anthropocene, eco-socialism, and the financialization of nature. By problematizing the enduring role of industry in society, my research aims to understand the social and environmental consequences of climate change, infrastructure, and finance on everyday life and their environmental (in)justice implications. My key concern is: what is the nature of the recent, intense private sector interest in “green” infrastructures, what are the social consequences (i.e., how will the financial and ecological costs be distributed?), and what does this mean for a just transition to a sustainable society? In my dissertation, I argue that contrary to the recent worldwide enthusiasm for desalination, this technological climate change adaptation strategy actually creates conflicts among local communities, ultimately favoring a class bias for a luxury commodity — purified ocean water. Rather than creating efficient public- private partnerships through new financial models and contracts, the financing structure for desalination plants creates antagonistic policy coalitions to the detriment of community cohesion and culture. To date I have published original research, as well as theoretical work and public sociology in a variety of venues such as the Journal of

World-systems Research, International Sociology, The Sociological Quarterly, Visual Studies, and The Society Pages.

“I have studied certain “unconventional,” but nonetheless increasingly prevalent transnational industrial practices like seawater desalination and hydraulic fracturing.”

Teaching Philosophy:

During my time as a graduate student, I have been the instructor of record for courses in Sociological Research Methods, Introduction to Sociology, Global Inequalities and Social Change, and Political Sociology, as well as having advised a number of students through Advanced Independent Study courses. I have received several teaching awards including the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Impact Award and Outstanding Instructor Award. My overarching goal is to engage students through teaching and mentoring practices to make students think, not only as individuals, but as a part of broader communities of action. Therefore, I utilize C. Wright Mills’ sociological maneuver, asking students to identify personal troubles and to connect these to the broader context of social structural issues. I emphasize student- teacher and peer- relationships via assignments, group and individual projects, and consistent feedback. Many students have responded well to my pedagogy, and I

feel lucky to have written letters of recommendation and spoken with employers on behalf of my students who have gone on to enter a variety of fields, such as software engineering, environmental regulation, and business. Several of my students have also gone on to attend graduate school in Sociology, Feminist Studies, Molecular Biology, Law, and Medicine.

New PEWS Social Media Coordinator

Nayla Huq, PEWS' new Social Media Coordinator, introduces herself to the section



I am a third-year PhD student in Sociology at Stony Brook University. My research interests intersect social movements, economic development, and environmental degradation in South and Southeast Asia. I focus on Indonesia, which, as a semi-peripheral post-colonial society, is a natural resource rich nation that has relied on environmentally destructive extractive industries to develop its economy, both under dictatorships and democracy, and has a rich history of environmental activism. I was awarded the US State Department's Critical Language Scholarship (CLS) for Indonesia for Summer 2021 to learn Indonesian, and am now at the intermediate level despite starting as an absolute beginner. I am also serving as a CLS Alumni Ambassador to promote this scholarship.

My master's degree in Sociology is from the California State University, Northridge. My thesis, *Parent Revolution: A Case Study on "Astroturfing" for School Choice*, examines the work of the Los Angeles-

based, Gates, Broad, and Walton-Foundation funded, neoliberal education reform organization, Parent Revolution, in its efforts to advance a pro-privatization reform agenda at public schools. English was my major at UCLA, which developed my critical, Feminist perspective through Post-Modern and Post-Colonial literatures, leading me to Sociology.

I have the honor to serve as the PEWS Social Media Coordinator and co-organizer of Roundtables for the PEWS Section at the 2022 ASA Annual Meeting. I feel that because social media provides us with the tools to develop networks globally, it behooves us scholars of World-Systems and globalization to use these tools to strengthen and broaden our networks. Using social media, we can engage with interested parties, inside and outside of our fields, academic and non-academic, to bolster, challenge, and further develop the Political Economic and World-Systems perspectives in an ever-changing world. New scholars look to "academic" Twitter to keep abreast of goings-on in academia and their fields, connecting, learning, and even commiserating. We can "meet them where they are", and engage them in dialog with the Political Economy and World-Systems perspectives. Lively discussions have been sparking about gender, race, social justice, climate change, and any number of issues. Let's make World-Systems one of the perspectives informing these conversations

Member Spotlights and News

Announcements

Hiroko Inoue would like to announce that **the Institute for Research on World-Systems (IROWS) at the University of California-Riverside is being reinvented and will add some new research directions to the kinds of scholarship that have been done since its founding in 2020.** Chris Chase-Dunn retired from the University of California-Riverside (UCR) in July 2021 but is now in the status of Professor of the Graduate Division at UCR and will continue his involvement in research and governance of IROWS as well as other initiatives at UCR. Rob Clark is the new Director of IROWS.

The new directions at IROWS include:

- studying the relationships between intrapolity and between-polity inequalities in contemporary, historical and evolutionary frameworks;
- studying cycles of structural globalization (increasing and decreasing connectedness) to compare earlier periods of deglobalization with the current phase; and
- simulation modeling of world-system evolution
- interactions among financialization, inequalities and the evolution of global governance, including the

- rise and fall of hegemons
- a reexamination of possible changes in the effects of national dependence on foreign investment since 1950.

The IROWS Settlements and Politics Research Working Group (SetPol) will continue (see

<https://irows.ucr.edu/research/citemp/citemp.html>).

POLITICAL ECONOMY OF THE
WORLD-SYSTEM
INTERUNIVERSITY CONSORTIUM
(PEWS-IC)
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Additionally, **IROWS is also joining in the effort to organize a Political Economy of the World-System Interuniversity Consortium that will facilitate collaborative research among research nodes and individual scholars.**

The link to the proposal of the "Political Economy of the World-System Interuniversity Consortium (PEWS-IC)" is:

<https://irows.ucr.edu/pews-ic16.pdf>

During Fall 2021, **Professor Valentine M. Moghadam was the John W. Kluge Chair, Countries and Cultures of the South, Library of Congress.** This was a residential fellowship for work on *Varieties of Feminism in the Middle East and North Africa*. Between May and September, she took part in three China Radio International panel discussions on Afghanistan and the U.S. retreat.

Spencer Louis Potiker would like to announce that they will be an editor on a **Forthcoming Special Issue in JWSR** – “Anti-State and Anti-Systemic: Exilic Spaces and Societies in Movement in the World-System.” *Forthcoming 2022.*

AMERICAN SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING 2022- 'BUREAUCRACIES OF DISPLACEMENT’



"The 2022 ASA Program Committee invites sociologists to consider the role of the state in creating and amplifying inequalities and inequities that crisis makes so visible, and to provide a lens to examine long-term effects.

The state—with its attendant institutions and everyday bureaucratic practices—actively pushes out certain groups, marginalizing, excluding, and containing them, and involving in these processes a wide array of non-state actors.

Displacement refers to a lens through which to examine social, legal, economic, political, physical, geographic, intellectual, and similar dislocations and exclusions.

Bureaucracies center state actions (past and present) that produce and reproduce exclusions, expulsions, and marginalizations, as well as state inactions (such as disavowal, deregulation, neglect, and abandonment). This angle permits a focus on the manifestations of state power in everyday life and is a lens can generate concrete evaluations of existing structures."

PEWS at ASA 2022



Below, please find details for the upcoming PEWS Sessions and Roundtable at the American Sociological Association's upcoming meeting.

Please visit

<https://www.asanet.org/annual-meeting/2022-annual-meeting/papers> for information on submitting your papers/extended abstracts.

1.) Session Title:

Dialogues between Southern and Decolonial approaches and World System Analysis

Organizer:

Caroline Schoepf (Hong Kong Baptist University). Caroline.schoepf@gmail.com

Session call:

Decolonial approaches were originally created as a response to what was perceived as a lack of attention to race, knowledge, or other non-economic aspects in Dependency Theory and World System Analysis. However, despite this, Dependency Theory and World System Analysis have continued to focus more on economic issues, whereas Decolonial, Postcolonial, Anti-colonial and other Southern approaches have placed their focus more towards issues of race, culture, knowledge- production, or similar non-economic issues. While some fruitful work has tried to bridge this gap, these two broad schools of thought could still benefit much from work that attempts to set them into dialogue with one another, in order to holistically account for all the power relations that structure our world. This session invites papers that endeavorsuch a dialogue, in a wider sense.

Session type: Open call (non-invited.)

2.) Session Title:

Defenses and Critiques of Racial Capitalism as an Analytical Tool

Organizers:

Vilna Bashi Treitler
(Northwestern University),
vilna.bashi@northwestern.edu

Manuela Boatcă (University of Freiburg),
manuela.boatca@soziologie.uni-freiburg.de

Session call:

“Racial capitalism” has been in use for some time but is gaining influence in sociology. We gather as a panel to examine what purchase is gained or lost from linking together racism and capitalism. How are theory and empiricism improved by embracing/rejecting racial capitalism as an analytical tool? When the concepts of racism and capitalism are conjoined, do we gain an improved understanding of applied sociological spaces like crises in health and environment? Is racism different under capitalism than outside of it? Can we imagine capitalism without racism, and if so, what would that look like?

Session type: invited session.

3.) Session title:

The Political Economy of Environmental Impacts

Organizers:

Julia Schoonover (University of Buffalo),
jjschoon@buffalo.edu
Nayla Huq (Stony Brook University),
nayla.huq@stonybrook.edu

Session call:

The Political Economy and World Systems Section invites papers for discussion at ASA roundtables on the topic of The Political Economy of Environmental/Ecological Impact. Since the last ASA annual meeting, the world has seen devastating hurricanes, tornadoes in atypical zones, massive wildfires, an oil spill, popular culture adopting phrases like "climate migrant" and "climate nomad", and climate scientists giving the dire warning to turn away from fossil fuel consumption. Scientists from various fields have shown the clear link between economic activity and environmental/ecological impact, and the ensuing environmental/ecological consequences on the economy. Sociologists are increasingly examining these links. How are Sociologists, specifically those taking Political Economy and/or World Systems approaches, now contributing to this knowledge? Though Climate Change has gained much more traction of late, environmental/ecological impact stemming from economic activity has a long history. We invite papers from scholars who address the link between economic activity and environmental/ ecological impact from a political economy and/or World Systems perspective.

Session type: roundtable session

New Publications from our Membership

New Articles

Antonacci, John Peter. 2021. "Periodizing the Capitalocene as Polemocene: Militarized Ecologies of Accumulation in the Long Sixteenth Century." *Journal of World-Systems Research*. 27(2): 439- 467.

Bugra, Ayşe, Refet Gürkaynak, Çağlar Keyder, **Ravi Arvind Palat**, and Sevket Pamuk. 2020. "New Perspectives on Turkey Roundtable on the COVID- 19 Pandemic: Prospects for the International Political Economic Order in the Post-Pandemic World." *New Perspectives on Turkey*. 63: 138- 167.

Gill, Timothy M. 2021. "The Civilizing Mission Persists: Racism and Justification for US Intervention into Socialist Venezuela." *Du Bois Review: Social Science Research on Race*, online first: 1-20.

Kanahele-Mossman, Huihui and **Marina Karides**. "Papakū Makawalu and Grounded Theory: A Combined and Collective Analytical Process for Hawai'i Land Stewardship" *AlterNatives: An International Journal of Indigenous Peoples*. 17:4.

Karshenas, Massoud and **Valentine M. Moghadam**. 2021. "Female Labour Force Participation and Women's Employment: Puzzles, Problems, and Research", *The Routledge Handbook of Middle East Economics*, editor Hassan Hakimian. London: Routledge.

Moghadam, V. M. 2021. "Covid-19 and Female Labor in the MENA Region." *Middle East Institute*, 8 (June).
<https://www.mei.edu/publications/covid-19-and-female-labor-mena-region>. Also translated into Persian by feminist website,
<https://bidarzani.com/43085> .

Moghadam, V. M. 2021. "Transnational Feminist Networks and Contemporary Crises." *E-International Relations* (April 6).
<https://www.e-ir.info/2021/04/06/transnational-feminist-networks-and-contemporary-crises/>

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Nathalie Rita and **Marina Karides.** "I have an accent, so people know I'm not from here": A Racial and Ethnic Analysis of International STEM Faculty in Hawai'i" *Ethnic and Racial Studies* DOI: 10.1080/01419870.2021.1981965

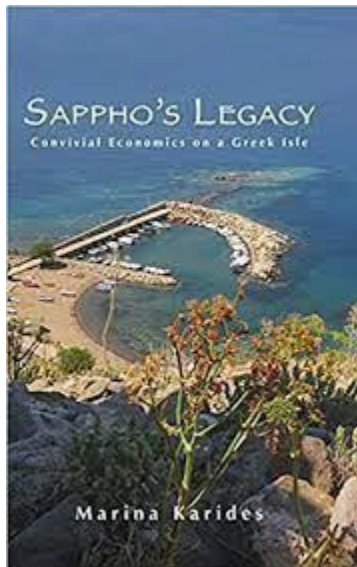
Shakiba, Sahar, Omid Ghaderzadeh, and **Valentine M. Moghadam.** 2021. "Women in Iranian Kurdistan: Patriarchy and the Quest for Empowerment" *Gender & Society*, vol. 35, no. 5 (Fall).

Zhang, Lu. 2021. "A 'Race to the Bottom' or Variegated Work Regimes? Industrial Relocation, The Changing Migrant Labor Regime, and Worker Agency in China's Electronics Industry." *Review of International Political Economy*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09692290.2021.2010789>

Zhang, Lu. 2021. "Contextualizing Precarious Work: Labor Dispatch, Boundary-Drawing, and the Politics of Labor Regulation in Post-Socialist China." *Labor History*, 62(5-6): 556-574. <https://doi.org/10.1080/0023656X.2021.1983529>

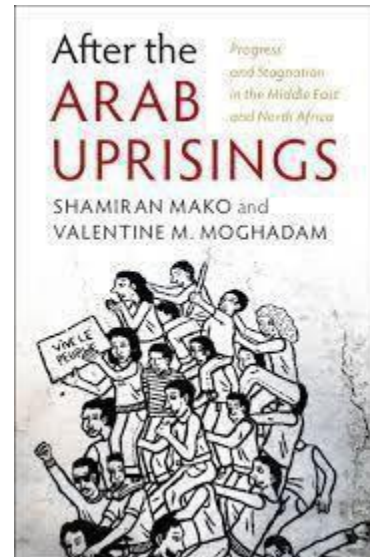
New Books

Karides, Marina. 2022. *Sappho's Legacy: Convivial Economics on a Greek Isle*. Albany, NY. SUNY Press.



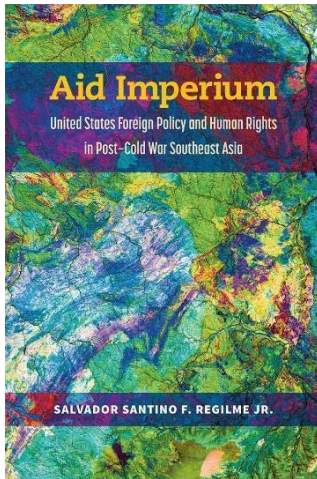
Imaginatively interweaving literatures across a variety of subjects, *Sappho's Legacy* identifies the crucial role that islands and Greek economic culture play in teaching about capitalism's failures and alternatives. Marina Karides delivers a historical and ethnographic account of food cooperatives and microenterprises on the Greek island of Lesbos following the 2008 financial crisis to reveal the success stories of grassroots, traditional, and community-centered economics organized by people marginalized on the basis of gender, sexuality, and ethnicity. Karides offers hope to others who are working against the tide of neoliberalism and heteropatriarchy to develop alternative or convivial economic practices that serve communities by providing a trail of rhythms from ancient times to the present that showcase Greece's historical resistance.

Shamiran Mako and Valentine M. Moghadam. 2021. *After the Arab Uprisings: Progress and Stagnation in the Middle East and North Africa*. Cambridge University Press. (Softcover Release in January)



Why were some, but not all the Arab mass social protests of 2011 accompanied by relatively quick and nonviolent outcomes in the direction of regime change, democracy, and social transformation? Why was a democratic transition limited to Tunisia, and why did region-wide democratization not occur? *After the Arab Uprisings* offers an explanatory framework to answer these central questions, based on four key themes: state and regime type, civil society, gender relations and women's mobilizations, and external influence. Applying these to seven cases – Tunisia, Egypt, Morocco, Bahrain, Libya, Syria, and Yemen – Mako and Moghadam highlight the salience of domestic and external factors and forces, uniquely presenting women's legal status, social positions, and organizational capacity, along with the presence or absence of external intervention, as key elements in explaining the divergent outcomes of the Arab Spring uprisings and extending the analysis to the present day.

Salvador Santino F. Regilme Jr. 2021.
Aid Imperium: United States Foreign Policy
and Human Rights in Post-Cold War
Southeast Asia. University of Michigan
Press.



Does foreign aid promote human rights? As the world's largest aid donor, the United States has provided foreign assistance to more than 200 countries. Deploying global numerical data on US foreign aid and comparative historical analysis of America's post-Cold War foreign policies in Southeast Asia, *Aid Imperium* provides the most comprehensive explanation that links US strategic assistance to physical integrity rights outcomes in recipient countries, particularly in ways that previous quantitative studies have systematically ignored. The book innovatively highlights the active political agency of Global South states and actors as they negotiate and chart their political trajectories with the United States as the core state of the international system. Drawing from theoretical insights in the humanities and the social sciences as well as a wide range of empirical documents, *Aid Imperium* is the first multidisciplinary study to explain how US foreign policy affects state repression and physical integrity rights outcomes in Southeast Asia and the rest of the Global South.

JWSR Update

New issue of *The Journal of World- Systems Research* out now. Vol. 27 No. 2 (Summer/ Autumn 2021), including a **Symposium on Nandita Sharma's (2020) book *Home Rule: National Sovereignty and the Separation of Natives and Migrants*.**

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The editors of PEWS News would like to thank the PEWS membership for contributing to this issue. Please remember to follow us on Twitter (@ASAPEWS) and to email upcoming announcements to Nadia and John at nsmiecinska@ucdavis.edu and jantona2@binghamton.edu.