

TWENTY-FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
INTERDISCIPLINARY SOCIAL SCIENCES

BRIDGING BOUNDARIES

Collaborative Solutions to Complex Social Issues
in an Interconnected World



UNIVERSITY OF GALWAY
GALWAY, IRELAND

15-17, JULY
2026



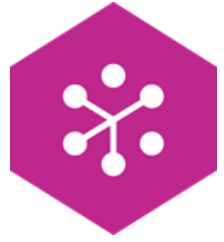
Interdisciplinary Social Sciences

Twenty-First International Conference on Interdisciplinary Social Sciences

<https://thesocialsciences.com/2026-conference>

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Welcome Letter



New Thinking

New Practices

New Societies

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Dear Conference Participants,

On behalf of Common Ground Research Networks, I welcome you to the Twenty-First International Conference on Interdisciplinary Social Sciences.

Founded in 2006, the Interdisciplinary Social Sciences Research Network is brought together by a common interest in disciplinary and interdisciplinary approaches, within and across the various social sciences, and between the social, natural and applied sciences. We seek to build an epistemic community where we can make linkages across disciplinary, geographic, and cultural boundaries. As a Research Network, we are defined by our scope and concerns and motivated to build strategies for action framed by our shared themes and tensions.

This truly international conference brings together a diverse group of scholars, practitioners, and thought leaders from around the world. We are proud to provide a platform for exchanging ideas, and presenting research, addressing some of the pressing issues of our time.

Our conference theme, "Bridging Boundaries: Collaborative Solutions to Complex Social Issues in an Interconnected World," reflects our commitment to exploring new frontiers in research and practice. Over the next few days, In-Person or Online, you will have the opportunity to attend keynotes, panel discussions, and other session types led by our Emerging Scholars. We encourage you to take full advantage of these sessions to gain new insights, expand your professional network, and find inspiration for your own work.

We want to thank our keynote speakers Emilio José Delgado-Algarra, Pat Dolan, Geoff Bates, Nata Duvvury, presenters, and volunteers whose dedication and hard work have made this conference possible. We also thank our host partner University of Galway, for their generous support.

We hope you find this conference to be an intellectually stimulating and rewarding experience. Your active participation is crucial to the success of this event, and we look forward to the lively discussions and valuable connections that will emerge over the next few days.

Warm regards,

Dr. Phillip Kalantzis Cope
Chief Social Scientist
Common Ground Research Networks



Interdisciplinary Social Sciences Research Network

Founded in 2006, the **Interdisciplinary Social Sciences Research Network** is brought together by a common interest in disciplinary and interdisciplinary approaches, within and across the various social sciences, and between the social, natural and applied sciences. As a Research Network, we are defined by our scope and concerns and motivated to build strategies for action framed by our shared themes and tensions.

The Disciplinary Work of the Social Sciences

Each of the sciences of the social is marked by its distinctive disciplinary modes—the thinking practices of Anthropology, Archaeology, Behavioral Sciences, Cognitive Science, Communications, Cultural Studies, Demography, Economics, Education, Geography, Humanities, Law, Management, Media, Politics, Policy Studies, Psychology, Social Welfare, Sociology, to name a some of the principal sciences of the social. The disciplinary variation is so broad that practitioners in some of these areas may not even consider their discipline a ‘science’, whilst in other disciplines there is a general consensus about the scientific character of their endeavor.

Disciplines represent fields of deep and detailed content knowledge, communities of professional practice, forms of discourse (of fine and precise semantic distinction and technicality), areas of work (types of organization or divisions within organizations such as academic departments or research organizations), domains of publication and public communication, sites of common learning, shared experiences of apprenticeship into disciplinary community, methods of reading and analysing the world, ways of thinking or epistemic frames, even ways of acting and types of person.

‘Discipline’ delineates the boundaries of intellectual community, the distinctive practices and methodologies of particular areas of rigorous and concentrated intellectual effort, and the varying frames of reference used to interpret the world.

And what is a science? Some of the studies of the social habitually and comfortably call themselves ‘sciences’, but others do not. The English word ‘science’ derives from the Latin ‘sciens’, or knowing. Return to the expansiveness of this root, and studies of the human could lay equally legitimate claim to that word.

‘Science’ in this broadest of senses implies and intensity of focus and a concentration of intellectual energies greater than that of ordinary, everyday, commonsense or lay ‘knowing’. It is more work and harder work. It relies on the ritualistic rigors and accumulated wisdoms of disciplinary practices.

These are some of the out-of-the-ordinary knowledge processes that might justify use of the word ‘science’, not only in the social sciences but also in the natural, physical, mathematical and applied sciences:

Science has an experiential basis. This experience may be based direct personal intuition of the already-known, on interests integral to the lifeworld, on the richness of life fully lived. Or it might be experience gained when we move into new and potentially strange terrains, deploying the empirical processes of methodical observation or systematic experimentation.

Science is conceptual. It has a categorical frame of reference based on higher levels of semantic precision and regularity than everyday discourse. On this foundation, it connects concept to concept into schemas. This is how science builds theories which model the world.

Science is analytical. It develops frames of reasoning and explanation: logic, inference, prediction, hypothesis, induction, deduction. And it sees the world through an always cautiously critical eye, interrogating the interests, motives and ethics that may motivate knowledge claims and subjecting epistemic assumptions to an ever-vigilant process of metacognitive reflection.



Science is application-oriented. It can be used to do things in the world. In these endeavors, it may be pragmatic, designing and implementing practical solutions within larger frames of reference and achieving technical and instrumental outcomes. Or it may be transformative—redesigning paradigms, social being and even the conditions of the natural world. What, after all, is the purpose of knowing other than to have an effect on the world, directly or indirectly?

Science can be any or all of these experiential, conceptual, analytical, and applied things. Some disciplines may prioritize one or other of these knowledge processes, and this may be the source of their strength as well as potential weakness. In any event, these are the kinds of things we do in order to know in the out-of-the-ordinary ways worthy of the name ‘science’.

The Interdisciplinary Work of the Social and Other Sciences

This may be for pragmatic reasons, in order to see and do things that can’t be seen or done adequately within the substantive and methodological confines of a discipline. Broader views may prove to be more powerful than narrower ones, and even the more finely grained within-discipline views may prove all-the-more powerful when contextualized broadly. The deeper perspectives of the discipline may need to be balanced with and measured against the broader perspectives of interdisciplinarity.

Interdisciplinary approaches may also be applied for reasons of principle, to disrupt the habitual narrowness or outlook of within-discipline knowledge work, to challenge the ingrained, discipline-bound ways of thinking that produce occlusion as well as insight. If the knowable universe is a unity, discipline is a loss as well as a gain, and interdisciplinarity may in part recover that loss.

Interdisciplinary approaches also thrive at the interface of disciplinary and lay understandings. Here, interdisciplinarity is needed for the practical application of disciplined understandings to the actually existing world. Robust applied knowledge demands an interdisciplinary holism. A broad epistemological engagement is required simply to be able to deal with the complex contingencies of a really-integrated universe.

Ways of Seeing, Ways of Thinking, and Ways of Knowing

In English (but not some other languages), ‘science’ suffers a peculiar semantic narrowing. It seems to apply more comfortably to the natural world, and only by analogy to some of the more systematic and empirically-based of the human sciences. It connotes a sometimes narrow kind of systematicity: the canons of empirical method; an often less-than reflective acceptance of received theoretical categories and paradigms; formal reasoning disengaged from human and natural consequences; technical control without adequate ethical reflection; an elision of means and ends; narrow functionalism, instrumentalism and techno-rationalism; a pragmatism to the neglect broader view of consequences; and conservative risk aversion. These are some of the occupational hazards of activities that name themselves sciences—social, natural or applied. In studying the social setting, however, it’s not good enough just to have a rigorous empirical methodology without a critical eye to alternative interests and paradigmatic frames of reference, and without a view to the human-transformational potentials of knowledge work.

Humanistic methodologies sometimes address the social in a deliberate counterpoint to science, distancing themselves from the perceived narrownesses of scientific method. This move, however, may at times leave science stranded, separated from its social origins and ends. The natural and technological sciences are themselves more subject to contestation around axes of human interest than the narrow understanding of science seems to be able to comprehend. Whether it be bioethics, or climate change, or the debates around Darwinism and Intelligent Design, or the semantics of computer systems, questions of politics and ideology are bound closely to the ostensible evidence. Faux empiricism is less than adequate to the address the more important questions, even in the natural and technological sciences. Science can be found lacking when it is disengaged from the humanistic.



The humanistic, however, has its own occupational hazards: disengaged critique and supercilious inaction without design responsibility; political confrontation without systematic empirical foundation; ideological fractiousness without apparent need for compromise; the agnostic relativism of lived experience and identity-driven voice; voluntarism that leads to a naive lack of pragmatism and failure in application.

A reconstructive view of the social, natural and applied sciences would be holistic, attempting always to avoid the occlusions of narrow methodological approaches. It would also be ambitious, intellectually and practically. In this context, the Social Sciences conference, group of journals, book Imprint, and online media pursue two aspirations, two openings. The first is an intellectual opening, founded on an agenda designed to strengthen the theories, the research methodologies, the epistemologies and the practices of teaching and learning about the social world and the relation of the social to the natural world.

The second opening is pragmatic and inventive. All intellectual work is an act of imagination. At its best, it is ambitious, risky and transformative. If the natural sciences can have human ambitions as big as those of the medical sciences—the fight against MS or cancer or Alzheimer's, for instance—then the social sciences can have ambitions as large as to settle the relation of humans to the natural environment, the material conditions of human equality and the character of the future person.

Social and Community Studies

On disciplinary and interdisciplinary practices in the study of the social.

Living Tensions:

- *Sociology: concepts and practices*
- *Geographical perspectives on spaces and flows*
- *What are the behavioral sciences?*
- *Psychology of the social*
- *Where mind meets world: cognitive science as interdisciplinary practice*
- *Economics as social science*
- *Sociology and history: the dynamics of synchrony and diachrony*
- *Philosophy's place in the social sciences*
- *Social welfare studies as interdisciplinary practice*
- *Health in community*
- *Horizons of interest: agenda setting in the social sciences*
- *Research and knowledge in action: the applied social sciences*
- *Social sciences for the professions*
- *Social sciences for social welfare*
- *Accounting for inequalities: poverty and exclusion*
- *Social breakdown: dysfunction, crime, conflict, violence*
- *Social sciences addressing social crisis points*
- *Technologies in and for the social*
- *Economics, politics and their social effects: investment, ownership, risk, productivity, competition, regulation and deregulation, public accountability, stakeholders, trust, worklife, resource distribution, consumption, wellbeing, living standards*
- *Commonalities, differences and relationships between the social and the natural sciences: research methodologies, professional practices and ethical positions*
- *Research methodologies involving 'human subjects'*
- *The social sciences in the applied sciences and professions: engineering, architecture, planning, computing, tourism, law, health*

Civic and Political Studies

On the processes of governance and nature of citizenship.

Living Tensions:

- *Political science as disciplinary practice*
- *Investigating public policy*
- *Law as a social science*
- *Criminology as social science*
- *Public health*
- *Social sciences in the service of social policy: risks and rewards*
- *Social transformations: structure and agency in social dynamics*
- *Accounting for the dynamics of citizenship, participation and inclusion*
- *Trust, social capital, social cohesion and social welfare*
- *Politics in, and of, the social sciences*
- *Interdisciplinary perspectives on politics, public policy, governance, citizenship and nationality*
- *Security and insecurity, conflict and cohesion, war and peace, terror and anti-terror*
- *The neo-liberal state and its critics*
- *Policy measures: assessing social need and social effectiveness*



Cultural Studies

On disciplinary and interdisciplinary practices in the study of human cultures and cultural interactions.

Living Tensions:

- *Of human lifeways: anthropology in its contexts*
- *Of human lifecourses: family, childhood, youth, parenting and aging*
- *Of human origins: paleontology, primate evolution, physical anthropology*
- *Ethnographic methods*
- *Social meanings: language, linguistics, discourse, text*
- *Cultural studies as a constitutive field*
- *Social science stances: modernism and postmodernism; structuralism and poststructuralism*
- *Where humanities and social sciences meet*
- *Social structure and human culture: the sociological and the anthropological*
- *Interdisciplinary perspectives on human differences*
- *Identities in social science: generational, gender, sexuality, ethnic, diasporic*
- *Perspectives on, and voices of, difference: multiculturalism and feminism*
- *Religion and the human sciences*
- *Health, wellbeing and culture*

Global Studies

On the dynamics of globalization and the transformation of the local.

Living Tensions:

- *Global flows*
- *Global security*
- *Human movement: migration, refugees, undocumented migrants*
- *The dynamics of globalization, diaspora and diversity*
- *Globalized economics: inequalities, development, 'free' and 'fair' trade*
- *Developed and developing worlds*
- *Inequalities in international perspective*
- *Poverty and global justice*
- *Human rights in global perspective*
- *The local and the global*

Environmental Studies

On the connections between human and natural environments.

Living Tensions:

- *The natural and the social: interdisciplinary studies*
- *Human environments*
- *Sustainability as a focus of interdisciplinary study*
- *What are applied sciences?*
- *Health and the environment*
- *People, place and time: human demography*
- *Environmental governance: consumption, waste, economic 'externalities', sustainability, environmental equity*
- *Human interests in the natural sciences: the politics of the environment*

Organizational Studies

On the social dynamics of public, community and privately owned organizations.

Living Tensions:

- Management as social science
- Culture in organizations
- Technology and work
- The social dynamics of organizations
- Human resource management
- Workers' rights
- Corporate governance
- Organizational and social sustainability
- Corporate social responsibility
- Knowledge ecologies: embedded knowledge in the organizational setting
- Tacit and explicit knowledge
- Private and public knowledge
- Scenario building and futures forecasting
- Organizational change

Educational Studies

On learning about the social and social learning.

Living Tensions:

- Education as a social science
- The learning sciences as an interdisciplinary endeavor
- Action research: the logistics and ethics of interventionary social science
- Teaching and learning the social studies
- History teaching and learning
- Economics teaching and learning
- Geography teaching and learning
- Technology in learning and learning about technology

Communication

On the representation and communication of human meanings.

Living Tensions:

- Media studies as social science
- Communications as a social science
- Information and communications technologies
- The social web: the internet in its social context
- Human-computer interactions
- Literacies as a social learning experience

Visit: <https://thesocialsciences.com/about/themes>

Marcin Galant

Jagiellonian University, Kraków, Poland



Marcin Galant is assistant professor at the Institute of European Studies at the Jagiellonian University in Krakow, Poland. He has studied and done research at places including: London School of Economics and Political Science, University of Oxford, and University of Cambridge, UK; University of Leuven, Belgium; Peter Pazmany University, Hungary; and University of Osaka, Japan. He holds a PhD in sociology from Jagiellonian University and teaches courses on European welfare state, migration, citizenship and multiculturalism, European civilization, and European cultural identities. His current research focuses on the interrelationship between cultural, economic, social, and political processes in the European Union. He is mainly interested in heterodox interpretations of regional integrations and in eurocritical strands in the current social thought. He is co-author of the books *Migration and Europeanisation and Changing identities and values among Polish pendulum migrants and their Belgian employers* (Krakow: ZW Nomos, 2009), and he is co-editor of the book *Visions and Revisions of Europe* (Gottingen: Gottingen University Press, 2019). He co-coordinated Erasmus Mundus Master of Excellence "Euroculture: Society, Politics and Culture in a Global Context," an accredited interdisciplinary, international master's degree in the field of European Studies offered by a consortium of eight European universities and four non-European universities. He is also a member of the Commission on Threats to Civilisation of the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences in Krakow, Poland.

The **Interdisciplinary Social Sciences Research Network** is grateful for the foundational contributions, ongoing support, and continued service of our Advisory Board.

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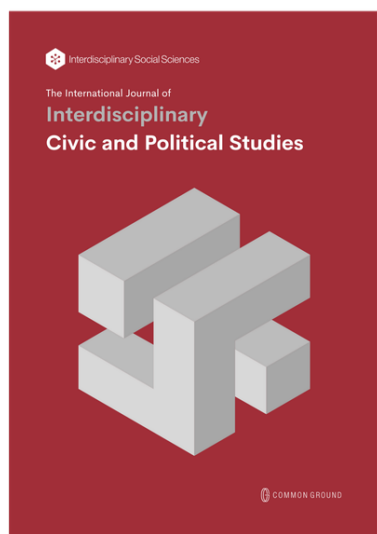
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Interdisciplinary Social Sciences Journal Collection



The International Journal of Interdisciplinary Civic and Political Studies

The International Journal of Interdisciplinary Civic and Political Studies investigates the processes of governance and the nature of citizenship and invites case studies that take the form of presentations of practice, including the documentation of socially-engaged practices and exegeses analyzing the effect of those practices.

Collection Founded: 2006

Serial Founded: 2013 (Volume 7)

ISSN: 2327-0071 (Print) ISSN: 2327-2481 (Online)

LCCN Permalink: <https://lccn.loc.gov/2013201437>

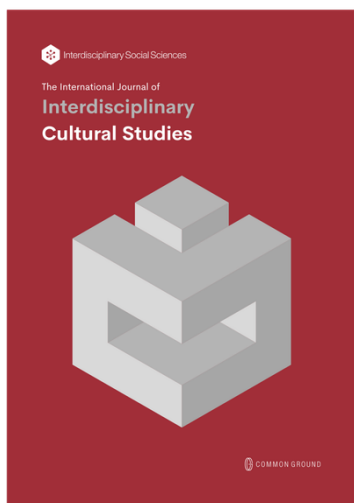
DOI: <http://doi.org/10.18848/2327-0071/CGP>

Past Publication Frequency: Quarterly (2013–2018)

Current Publication Frequency: Biannually

Indexing

- Political Science (ProQuest)
- Management (Cabell's)
- Psychology (Cabell's)
- Political Science Complete (EBSCO)
- Scopus (Elsevier)
- Ulrich's Periodicals Directory



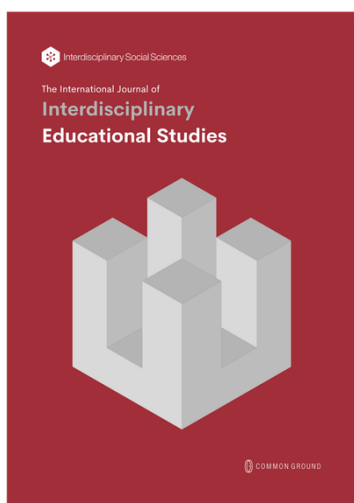
The International Journal of Interdisciplinary Cultural Studies

The International Journal of Interdisciplinary Cultural Studies explores and exemplifies disciplinary and interdisciplinary practices in the study of human cultures and cultural interactions.

Collection Founded: 2006
Serial Founded: 2013 (Volume 7)
ISSN: 2327-008X (Print)
ISSN: 2327-2554 (Online)
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DOI: <http://doi.org/10.18848/2327-008X/CGP>
Past Publication Frequency: Quarterly (2013–2018)
Current Publication Frequency: Biannually

Indexing

- Political Science (ProQuest)
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- Scopus (Elsevier)
- Ulrich's Periodicals Directory



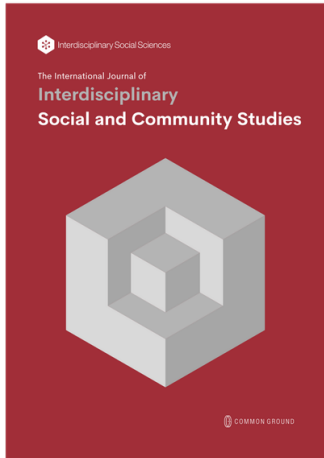
The International Journal of Interdisciplinary Educational Studies

The International Journal of Interdisciplinary Educational Studies explores the processes of learning about the social and social learning.

Collection Founded: 2006
Serial Founded: 2013 (Volume 7)
ISSN: 2327-011X (Print)
ISSN: 2327-2570 (Online)
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DOI: <http://doi.org/10.18848/2327-011X/CGP>
Past Publication Frequency: Quarterly (2013–2018)
Current Publication Frequency: Biannually

Indexing

- Educational Journals (ProQuest)
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The International Journal of Interdisciplinary Social and Community Studies

The International Journal of Interdisciplinary Social and Community Studies presents studies of society that exemplify the disciplinary and interdisciplinary practices of the social sciences.

Collection Founded: 2006

Serial Founded: 2013 (Volume 7)

ISSN: 2324-7576 (Print)

ISSN: 2324-7584 (Online)

LCCN Permalink: <https://lccn.loc.gov/2012203437>

DOI: <http://doi.org/10.18848/2324-7576/CGP>

Past Publication Frequency: Quarterly (2013–2018)

Current Publication Frequency: Biannually

Indexing

- Sociological Abstracts (ProQuest)
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Past Events

- 2006 - University of the Aegean, Rhodes, Greece
- 2007 - University of Granada, Granada, Spain
- 2008 - Monash University Centre, Prato, Tuscany, Italy
- 2009 - University of Athens, Athens, Greece
- 2010 - University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK
- 2011 - University of New Orleans, New Orleans, USA
- 2012 - Universidad Abat Oliba CEU in Barcelona, Spain
- 2013 - Charles University's Faculty of Social Sciences in Prague, Czech Republic
- 2014 - University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada
- 2015 - University of Split, Split, Croatia
- 2016 - Imperial College London, London, UK
- 2017 - International Conference Center, Hiroshima, Japan
- 2018 - University of Granada, Granada, Spain
- 2019 - Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana Unidad Xochimilco, Mexico City, Mexico
- 2020 - National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Athens, Greece (Virtual)
- 2021 - Oxford Brookes University, Oxford, UK (Virtual)
- 2022 - National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Athens, Greece
- 2023 - Oxford Brookes University, Oxford, UK
- 2024 - Jagiellonian University, Kraków, Poland
- 2025 - University of Málaga, Málaga, Spain



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OF GALWAY



JAGIELLONIAN
UNIVERSITY
IN KRAKÓW



UNIVERSITY OF
PATRAS
ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΠΑΤΡΩΝ
Department of Educational Sciences
& Early Childhood Education
Laboratory of Sociology & Education

OXFORD
BROOKES
UNIVERSITY



UNIVERSIDAD
DE GRANADA



Casa abierta al tiempo
UNIVERSIDAD AUTÓNOMA
METROPOLITANA
Unidad Xochimilco

Emilio José Delgado-Algarra

Professor, University of Huelva, COIDESO Research Center, Spain



"Ciudadanía crítica y compromiso socioambiental: claves educativas entre lo local y lo global" (In Spanish)

Professor of Social Sciences Didactics at the University of Huelva (Spain), in the Faculty of Education, Psychology, and Sports Sciences. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Primary Education Teacher and in Psychopedagogy, along with several Master's degrees in educational research and teaching. He earned a PhD in Research on Teaching and Learning of Social Sciences from the University of Huelva and a PhD in Education from the University of Almería. He has participated in numerous educational innovation and research projects at regional, national, and European levels, serving as principal researcher in several teaching innovation projects.

He is a member of the COIDESO Research Center (Contemporary Thought and Innovation for Social Development) [2017 to present], where he previously served as Deputy Director [2020–2022] and Director [2022–2024]. He is also the Director of the East Asia Academic and Cultural Center at the University of Huelva [2017 to present], and a researcher in the DESYM Research Center (Initial Teacher Education and Professional Development) [2010 to present].

He has organized and participated in numerous conferences, symposia, and academic events, and has contributed as an author, editor, and/or reviewer for high-impact journals, books, and book chapters. His main research interests include citizenship education, democratic memory, and the use of technologies in social sciences didactics.

16 July - 2:00 PM (Ireland Time)

Pat Dolan

Emeritus Professor, University of Galway, Ireland



"Social Empathy the Secret Sauce for Effective Multidisciplinary Working and Human Flourishing!"

Dr Pat Dolan is Emeritus Professor UNESCO. He was former Academic Director of the UNESCO Child and Family Research Centre and founding Director of the Institute for Lifecourse and Society at the University of Galway. Prof Dolan has completed an extensive body of research on children youth and family issues including longitudinal research on adolescents and has over 100 peer reviewed academic publications. His research interests include Civic Engagement, Empathy, Family Support, Youth as Researchers initiatives, and Resilience and Social Support theory. Prof. Dolan has extensive practice and policy experience, both nationally and internationally.

15 July - 9:30 AM (Ireland Time)

Geoff Bates

Lecturer, Public Health Policy, Institute for Policy Research, University of Bath, UK



"Humility, Positivity, Adaptability and Resilience: Lessons from a Multisectoral Collaboration and a Systems Approach to Tackle a Societal Challenge"

Dr Geoff Bates is a Lecturer in Public Health Policy at the Institute for Policy Research, University of Bath (UK). Geoff's research focuses on how to improve public health and reduce inequalities through tackling the wider determinants of health, such as the social, political and economic factors that shape the conditions we live in. He is interested in the effective use of different types of evidence to influence preventative policymaking, and in how to collaborate effectively across sectors and disciplines for impact in complex policy areas. Geoff currently works on projects seeking to embed health evidence into areas of upstream decision-making that shape urban environments, and supporting government organisations to understand and tackle the negative impacts of businesses on health.

16 July - 9:00 AM (Ireland Time)



Nata Duvvury

Professor, Gender and Women's Studies and Director, Centre for Global Women's Studies, School of Political Science and Sociology, University of Galway, Ireland



"Violence Against Women: A Multi-Headed Hydra"

Prof Nata Duvvury is a development expert with research interests in gender, labour markets and welfare state, gendered impacts of globalization, economic costs of gender based violence, civil society and global governance, and social mobilization. She has done extensive work on violence against women, and in particular establishing the economic and social consequences of violence for women, families, communities and society at large. She is actively involved in the Anti-Racism Committee in the Office of the VPEDI at University of Galway and recently completed research titled Intersectional Discrimination Index: Understanding Student Experience of Intersectional Discrimination at the University of Galway.

17 July - 9:00 AM (Ireland Time)

Each year a small number of Emerging Scholar Awards are given to outstanding early-career scholars or graduate students. Here are our 2026 Emerging Scholar Award Winners.

Mohammad Mohi Uddin

University of Alabama,
United States



Kerri McBee-Black

University of Missouri,
United States



Suzan Shan

University of Sharjah,
United Arab Emirates



Faria Nourin Ansaree

University of Alabama,
United States



Andrea Melgar Castillo

Centro Internacional de
Estudios Políticos y Sociales,
Panama



Aloa Alota

Western University,
Canada



Bethany Parker

University of Tennessee,
United States



Androniki Papathanasi

University of Edinburgh,
Scotland



Rosa Morey Rodríguez

University of Granada,
Spain





María Camacho-García

Universidad de Cádiz,
Spain



Natasha Harris

Marymount University,
United States



Mahdi Naeim

University of Mohaghegh ardabili,
Iran



Nozipho Nkosikhona Simelane

Sefako Makgatho Health
Sciences University,
South Africa



Yassi Sanandaji

Western University,
Canada



Himasha Dilshani Perera

University of Auckland,
New Zealand



Judit Pérez Mejía

University of Cádiz,
Spain



Syed Azman Syed Ismail

Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia,
Malaysia



Kenta Hirayama

Universidad Autónoma de Madrid,
Spain





Pedro Ortega-Rodríguez

University of Granada,
Spain





Online Welcome and Training Session

Join other delegates for a pre-conference welcome reception and training session. This special event will walk you through the CGScholar Event Mircosite so you have a rich online experience by learning how to comment and participate online. It will also teach delegates how to update their profile and Presenter Pages in order to add digital media: video, sound, other files. This will be held "live" via Zoom.

15 July 2026 - 16:00 PM (Ireland Time Zone) / 10:00AM (Central Standard Time USA)

Online Talking Circle

Talking Circles are a distinctive feature of our in-person conference, and this year we are also taking them online. Talking Circles offer an opportunity to meet other delegates face-to-face, and engage in extended discussion about the issues and concerns they feel are of utmost importance to that segment of the Research Network. Participation is open, encouraged, and supported.

17 July 2026 - 16:00 PM (Ireland Time Zone) / 10:00AM (Central Standard Time USA)

In-Person: Pre-Conference Walking Tour

Join other delegates for a walking tour of Galway. You will experience how walkable Galway is, with some highlights of the downtown and the great views.

Date: Tuesday 14th July 2026

-Group 1 Time: 2 PM (Fully booked)

-Group 2 Time: 5 PM

Meeting point: Eyre Square (at the entrance of The Hardiman Hotel)

Cost: USD \$20



In-Person Conference Dinner

From the restaurant: "Kirby's offers a relaxed dining experience in modern surroundings. Savour the best of local produce cooked with a modern twist. Assured of a warm and friendly welcome and value for money, Kirby's is the ideal venue for a night out with friends or when celebrating that special occasion."

Options will be subject to some seasonal changes.

Starter

Goat's Cheese Brioche, Toasted Pistachios, Peach & Prosecco Purée, Beetroot Relish, Goat's Cheese Bon Bon, Hot Honey Drizzle

Mains

- Meat: Roast Breast of Chicken, Nduja, Buffalo Mozzarella & Baby Spinach, Stuffing, Gnocchi, Pesto Cream Sauce, Roast Aubergine Purée
- Vegetarian: Sweet Potato, Cauliflower & Edamame Tikka Kale, Coconut Cream, Wild Rice, Onion Bhaji, Mango Chutney (VE) (V) (GF)
- Fish Risotto: Pan-fried Salmon with Smoked Haddock, Pea & Leek Risotto, Garlic Courgette, Saffron & Cucumber Dressing (GF)

Dessert

- Cheesecake of the Day

Wine and soft drinks are included.

Date: Thursday, 16th July 2026

Time: 6 PM (18:00)

Location: Kirby's Restaurant

The Swan, Cross Street Lower, Galway, Ireland

Cost: USD \$80



Common Ground Research Networks



Founded in 1984, Common Ground is committed to building new kinds of knowledge communities, innovative in their media, and forward-thinking in their messages. Heritage knowledge systems are characterized by vertical separations--of discipline, professional association, institution, and country. Common Ground Research Networks takes some of the pivotal challenges of our time and curates research networks that cut horizontally across legacy knowledge structures. Sustainability, diversity, learning, the future of humanities, the nature of interdisciplinarity, the place of the arts in society, technology's connections with knowledge--these are deeply important questions of our time that require interdisciplinary thinking, global conversations, and cross-institutional intellectual collaborations.

Common Ground Research Networks are meeting places for people, ideas, and dialogue. However, the strength of ideas does not come from finding common denominators. Rather, the power and resilience of these ideas is that they are presented and tested in a shared space where differences can meet and safely connect--differences of perspective, experience, knowledge base, methodology, geographical or cultural origins, and institutional affiliation. These are the kinds of vigorous and sympathetic academic milieus in which the most productive deliberations about the future can be held. We strive to create places of intellectual interaction and imagination that our future deserves.

MEMBERS OF THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS



Common Ground Research Networks is not-for-profit corporation registered in the State of Illinois, USA, organized and operated pursuant to the General Not For Profit Corporation Act of 1986, 805 ILCS 105/101.01, et seq., (the "Act") or the corresponding section of any future Act.

www.cgnetworks.org



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The Common Ground Media Lab is the research and technology arm of Common Ground Research Networks. Common Ground Research Networks has been researching knowledge ecologies and building scholarly communication technologies since 1984.

Since 2009, we have had the fortune of being based in the University of Illinois Research Park while building our latest platform – CGScholar. This is a suite of apps based on the theoretical work of world-renowned scholars from the College of Education and Department of Computer Science at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. CGScholar has been built with the support of funding from the US Department of Education, Illinois Ventures, and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

The CGScholar platform is being used today by knowledge workers as diverse as: faculty in universities to deliver e-learning experiences; innovative schools wishing to challenge the ways learning and assessment have traditionally worked; and government and non-government organizations connecting local knowledge and experience to wider policy objectives and measurable outcomes. Each of these use cases illustrates the differing of knowledge that CGScholar serves while also opening spaces for new and emerging voices in the world of scholarly communication.

We aim to synthesize these use cases to build a platform that can become a trusted marketplace for knowledge work, one that rigorously democratizes the process of knowledge-making, rewards participants, and offers a secure basis for the sustainable creation and distribution of digital knowledge artifacts.

Our premise has been that media platforms—pre-digital and now also digital—have often not been designed to structure and facilitate a rigorous, democratic, and a sustainable knowledge economy. The Common Ground Media Lab seeks to leverage our own platform – CGScholar – to explore alternatives based on extended dialogue, reflexive feedback, and formal knowledge ontologies. We are developing AI-informed measures of knowledge artifacts, knowledge actors, and digital knowledge communities. We aim to build a trusted marketplace for knowledge work, that rewards participants and sustains knowledge production.

With 27,000 published works and 200,000 users, we have come a long way since our first web app twenty years ago. But we still only see this as the beginning.

As a not-for-profit, we are fundamentally guided by mission: to support the building of better societies and informed citizenries through rigorous and inclusive social knowledge practices, offering in-person and online scholarly communication spaces

Supporters & Partners

As they say, “it takes a village.” We are thankful for the generous support of:



And to our Research Network members!

www.cgnetworks.org/medialab



United Nations
Climate Change

**CLIMATE
NEUTRAL NOW**

Climate change is one of the most pressing problems facing our world today. It is in the interests of everyone that we engage in systemic change that averts climate catastrophe. At Common Ground Research Networks, we are committed to playing our part as an agent of transformation, promoting awareness, and making every attempt to lead by example. Our Climate Change: Impacts and Responses Research Network has been a forum for sharing critical findings and engaging scientific, theoretical, and practical issues that are raised by the realities of climate change. We've been a part of global policy debates as official observers at COP26 in Glasgow. And we are signatories of the United Nations Sustainability Publishers Compact and the United Nations Climate Neutral Now Initiative.

Measuring

In 2022 we start the process of tracking and measuring emissions for all aspects of what we do. The aim is to build a comprehensive picture of our baselines to identify areas where emissions can be reduced and construct a long-term plan of action based on the GHG Emissions Calculation Tool and standard established by the United Nations Climate Neutral Now Initiative.

Reducing

At the same time, we are not waiting to act. Here are some of the "low hanging fruit" initiatives we are moving on immediately: all conference programs from print to electronic-only; removing single-use cups and offering reusable bottles at all our conferences; working closely with all vendors, suppliers, and distributors on how we can work together to reduce waste; offering robust online options as a pathway to minimize travel. And this is only a small sample of what we'll be doing in the short term.

Contributing

As we work towards establishing and setting net-zero targets by 2050, as enshrined in the Paris Agreement and United Nations Climate Neutral Now Initiative, and to make further inroads in mitigating our impacts today, we are participating in the United Nations Carbon Offset program. As we see climate change as having broad social, economic, and political consequences, we are investing in the following projects.

- Fiji Nadarivatu Hydropower Project
- DelAgua Public Health Program in Eastern Africa
- Jangi Wind Farm in Gujarat

Long Term Goals

We're committing to long-term science-based net-zero targets for our operations – and we believe we can do this much sooner than 2050. We'll be reporting annually via The Climate Neutral Now reporting mechanism to transparently communicate how we are meeting our commitments to climate action.

www.cgnetworks.org/about/climate-pledge