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Société Internationale de Sociologie des Religions
International Society for the Sociology of Religion

Network 21

Réseau

October 2003

Published by: Karel Dobbelaere

28th ISSR Conference in Zagreb July 2005

The **THEME** of the 28th ISSR-Conference will be decided by the COUNCIL at its meeting in February 2004

We invite members to submit proposals (2 pp. maximum) for the theme of the Zagreb conference, to be discussed at this meeting of the Council. Proposals should specify the general theme, its rationale and how it could be divided between 2 plenary sessions

Proposals must reach the President

before Dec. 15th 2003: vincenzo.pace@unipd.it

with a cc to the General Secretary karel.dobbelaere@soc.kuleuven.ac.be

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Letter from the President

First of all, I would like to thank you all for the confidence you have placed in me. I shall endeavour both to continue the excellent job done by the past-Presidents and cope with the crucial problems which face us.

In particular, I believe we should increase our efforts to encourage younger scholars of the sociology of religion to join our association and become more actively involved in it. Secondly, I feel it is essential to open the doors of ISSR/SISR to scholars from those areas of the world where our presence is either still weak (Arab and Muslim countries) or totally lacking (South East Asia and sub-Saharan Africa). The third and final challenge is to continue the close co-operation that has always marked relations among us, enabling us to organise our conferences effectively, develop research projects and exchange ideas on both theory and methodology. We must preserve that style of co-operation, the result of a precious alchemy between science and friendship.

Enzo Pace, President

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Social Compass

If you presented a [paper at the Turin conference](#) you are cordially invited to have your paper considered for publication in the journal Social Compass in 2005.

Please submit your paper, in conformity with the guidelines distributed with the conference registration documents, **no later than 15th December 2003 to:**

Jim Beckford, Dept. of Sociology, University of Warwick
Coventry CV4 7AL, England

Minutes of the General Assembly of the ISSR/SISR

Torino, Wednesday 23rd of July 2003

1) Welcome

Jim Beckford, President of the ISSR, welcomed the 98 members present.

2) Adoption of the Agenda

Jay Demerath proposed that the agenda be accepted; Pal Repstad seconded this proposition. The proposed agenda was accepted unanimously.

3) Minutes of the previous General Assembly (2001)

Jay Demerath proposed that the Minutes of the previous General Assembly that had taken place in Istapan de la Sal (Mexico), Wednesday 22nd of August 2001, be accepted. Pal Repstad seconded this proposition. The minutes of the previous General Assembly were accepted unanimously.

4) Report of the Chairman of the Local Committee

Franco Garelli informed the General Assembly that up to that moment 260 participants were registered¹ in what he called the “Sauna Conference”, alluding to the hot weather. He thanked the members of the University Administration, the Local Committee, the Sponsors and the Organisational Staff for their support and hard work, their names being reported in the Handbook of the 27th Conference, and expressed his satisfaction with the fine cooperation with the ISSR-General Secretariat. A special effort was made to produce a handy Conference-book giving not

¹ The final figure was 299 participants.

only the programme, but also a list of the Parallel Sessions, the abstracts of the papers and the list of the members presenting papers.

Elisabeth Arweck expressed her appreciation for the organisation of the conference and proposed that the Local committee and its Chairman be congratulated for this achievement. The applause of the participants present in the General Assembly expressed their unanimous appreciation and their gratitude to the Local Committee and its Chairman for their excellent work.

5) The President's Report

Jim Beckford expressed not only his warm appreciation for the superb achievements of Franco Garelli and the Local Committee but also his gratitude to the Sponsors of the Conference. He gratefully acknowledged the financial support of the Local Committee for Travel Grants. In his opinion the conference had “a magnificent programme and took place in a superb setting”. He underscored also the courtesy, the friendliness and memorable hospitality that the participants received from the members of the Organizational Staff. The appreciation of the ISSR will be expressed to them in a private party by the chairman of the Local Committee.

He thanked the other members of the Programme Committee (R. Azria, F. Garelli and the General Secretary) for their thorough evaluation of the 19 applications for a *Travel Grant* (travel money and/or accommodation). It was difficult to make the selection. He congratulated the seven applicants who received a travel grant: Hossein Godazgar, José Louis Gonzalez, Inna Naletova, Georgina Szilagyi, Angelica Thumala, Masoumeh Velayati and Victor Yelensky. And he expressed his wish that the ISSR had more money to distribute Travel Grants

The president informed the meeting of three of our members who died in the past two years: Giuseppe Capraro (Italy), Paul Cummergen (Swaziland) and Jeffrey Hadden (USA) and asked for a moment of silence. He also expressed his regret that some longstanding members were unable to attend the conference due to serious illnesses: Honorary President B.R. Wilson, Y. Abe, A. Abela and L. Thomasi. He expressed his hope that they would be able to attend the next conference.

He identified the *major achievements* of the 2002-03 period: the substantial growth in membership; the enhancement of the web Site; the effectiveness of the General Secretariat in Leuven; the thorough analysis of the financial situation of the ISSR by the Treasurer and the implementation of the conclusions taken from it; the cleaning up and adapting of the statutes; and the web site for New Researchers, well run by Véronique Altglas, with more than one hundred members discussing theory and methodology. He also recalled the magnificent work of Roberto Blancarte and his team in organizing the memorable 26th Conference in Istapan de la Sal.

Since he was leaving the office of the presidency at the end of the General Assembly, he wanted to *express his gratitude* to the members of the Council and the Executive Committee for their collegial and efficient cooperation in leading the society. He underscored his deep appreciation to the General Secretary for his “incredible energy, efficiency and dedication” and his wonderful team in Leuven, especially Mrs. Hilde Van Meerbeek, and to the Treasurer for his careful stewardship which assured a sound financial basis for the society. He also expressed his

gratitude very warmly to the members of the Editorial committee and its chairperson L. Voyé who had the responsibility for four years of ensuring the publication of papers of the conferences in *Social Compass* with the secretarial help of Mme Lallemand. He also thanked very cordially A. Bastenier and F. Gendebien, respectively Director and Editor of *Social Compass*, for their support of the ISSR in reserving an annual issue for the ISSR and expressed his hope, as incoming chairman of the Editorial Committee of the ISSR, for a continuing mutual cooperation. His appreciation for her dedication went also to Véronique Altglas for the New Researchers Network. He addressed his gratitude to the anonymous benefactors who expressed in this way their appreciation for the scholarly contributions of the ISSR by giving it financial support. Finally, he expressed his thanks and those of the participants to the interpreters R. Berghe, J. Charlesworth and their Italian colleagues for their professionalism and dedication.

He finally pointed out some *issues that the ISSR will have to confront*: retain its existing membership; expand in regions where the ISSR is not or is only marginally present: Africa, Latin America, South East Asia and the Middle East; and underscored the need to find a stable source of travel funds, since not all Local Committees are able to provide money for travel grants.

In a reaction from the floor, S. Landres pointed out that thanks to the Fulbright Commission and the State Department (USA), seven persons were able to attend the conference and that a thematic session on “Patterns of Religious Pluralism: Comparative Perspectives” could be organised.

Suggestions were also given for financial assistance to increase the Verscheure Fund to secure ISSR-Travel Grants

6) Report of the General Secretary

With the help of the President and the Treasurer, the Secretary General thinks he has been able to solve some of the problems confronting the association:

6.1 The *financial situation of the ISSR* imposed drastic measures: on the one hand, reducing the operational costs and, on the other hand, adapting the membership fees to the costs of living to increase the income of the society. Indeed, according to the Treasurer’s report to the Council at the Paris meeting, the Society lost €13,600 between the 25th Conference in Leuven (Belgium) and the 26th conference in Ixtapan de la Sal (Mexico).

6.1.1 Reducing the operational costs

We managed a cost reduction by :

- using e-mail and the Web Site, which was improved with the help of our colleague Jim Spickard and later on Ive Pauwels, for contacts with the membership, which greatly reduced postal costs and allows for more frequent contact (three Networks in stead of two per year) and a frequent reminder to the membership for paying their dues.

- a reduction of secretarial expenses through the integration of the General Secretariat in the secretariat of the Department of Sociology of the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven. The secretaries helped the Secretary General with the formatting of the documents, the printing, the mailing, and the follow up of contacts with the membership, the Who’s Who, and the budget of

the Maecenas (cf. below). When Mrs Van Meerbeeck left the department on her retirement, she agreed to help us as Administrative Secretary of the ISSR, with keeping track of the membership in contact with the Treasurer and preparing, with the departmental secretaries, the documents for the Conference, a task that demands a lot of work.

61.2 *Increasing the income of the Society*

- The membership was asked to vote on an increase in the membership dues. We had lost money in transferring the General Secretariat from Great Britain to Canada as a result of the deflation of the Canadian \$ vis-à-vis the British £ in those years, and the dues were never adjusted to the increase in the cost of living. The proposal to increase all membership dues except those of members coming from countries with non-convertible currency, was accepted by 49 against 13 and 1 abstention, with 63 members voting. This is a legitimate vote according to art. 16 of the Statutes (2 X 21 voting positions in the council + 1 = 43).

- The Vice-President for Human Sciences of the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven was able to motivate a Maecenas or Patron to donate to the Secretary General 10.000 € for each period of two years during his mandate, which represents 20.000 €. This helps to pay for the working costs of the society and to reconstitute its capital.

6.2 *Membership*

The index of the number of members increased to **172** compared to 2001 (index = 100), the index of full members to 180 and the index of members with reduced fees to 166. Compared with the mean number of Full Members -- 182 -- in the period 1995-2001 the index increased to 162.

Type of members	Number in 2001	Number in 2002-2003(*)
Full members	163	294
Members with reduced fees	58	87
Total	221	381

(*) This is the updated count after the 27th conference

6.3 *Changing the statutes.*

The proposal elaborated by the President, the Former President and the Secretary General to modify the statutes of the society by implementing the decisions of the Council and the General Assembly, by making the English and the French versions consistent, by making small cosmetic changes and making changes of content, was accepted by the membership: according to the articles: 53 to 61 yes; 1 to 3 no; and 1 to 9 abstentions (see below). According to Art. 39, requiring a majority of two thirds, which is 42, the changes of the statutes are legitimate. The Statutes of the Society may be found below.

6.4 Results of the elections

Jean-Paul WILLAIME is elected Vice President with **57** out of 63 votes

The following are elected members of the Council

Irena BOROWIK with 55 votes
Jay DEMERATH with 52 votes
Franco GARELLI with 52 votes
Frédéric MOENS with 44 votes
Fabienne RANDAXHE with 48 votes
Pal REPSTAD with 49 votes
Erik SENGENERS with 48 votes
Tadaatsu TAJIMA with 47 votes

Only 63 members of the nearly 300 members (having paid their dues in time for 2002-2003 -- i.e. the 15th of April 2003) voted. This may signify that only 20 % of the Society's members are core members or that 80 % of the membership have total confidence in the Officers of the Society and the candidates for office.

6.5 Lessons taken from two years of functioning as General Secretary

The organization of the 27th Conference was too heavy, involving for example at the same time the Conveners of Thematic Sessions and the General Secretary. The General Secretary has the intention to alleviate this procedure for the 28th Conference. Only the Conveners of Thematic Sessions will have direct contact with the members proposing to present a paper in their session and they will organise their session and the different sub-sessions (with a maximum of 5 papers, but ideally only 4 papers). They will then have to send the General Secretary the structure of their Thematic Session before a certain date set in advance. The General Secretary will only organise the Sessions of Miscellaneous Papers, the Forum of New Researchers, the Affinity Groups and the "Author meets Critics" sessions

As far as the abstracts of the proposed papers are concerned, the General Secretary will ask the authors to strictly follow the typographical rules set. The General Secretary lost too much time in assembling data that were missing (institutional affiliation, e-mail address, etc.) and formatting the abstracts which he received. Some problems were so severe that they exceeded his technical competence.

On the basis of all these data the General Secretary will organise the 28th Conference.

6.6 The General Secretary must add that *some members either cannot read, or, as suggested by the secretaries, have no respect for the work of a secretary.* Indeed, some members sent unformatted documents, not taking into account the rules set, which gave the General Secretary additional work; and some treated the secretaries of the General Secretariat and the General Secretary in a way in which he would not treat a student or a secretary. At certain moments the

General Secretary was ashamed to belong to the academic corps, since certain members behaved in an uncivilized fashion and are very demanding and impolite.

6.7 Thanks

The General Secretary appreciated very much the teamwork with the *President*. They exchanged hundreds of messages consulting each other before taking action, and the General Secretary should report that they always agreed except on one single issue and of course he followed the decision of the President. The General Secretary thanked the President stating that it was a pleasure to have worked once more with him. In a bi-lingual society using English and French as official languages, which are not the General Secretary's mother tongue, he could count on the President and the *Former President*, his wife, to correct his English and French: he thanked them both very cordially.

The *Treasurer* was constantly striving not only to keep the budget in balance but also to save money and, by so doing, to augment the capital of the Society. This has been of great importance in a period when it is very difficult to find patrons to help us to give travel grants to colleagues from countries with non-convertible currency. The General Secretary thanked the treasurer for his financial memoranda, which were always very sound and well argued, they allowed the Council to orient the financial policy of the society. Thanks also for the care he devoted to administering the budget and the accounts.

The General Secretary also thanked the *members of the Executive and the Council* who have so well and very kindly upheld the ISSR-policy and who have given valuable suggestions.

He furthermore underscored that it was a great pleasure to work with the members of the *Local Committee* and the *Organizational Staff* who have done a marvelous job under the leadership of its Chairman, Franco Garelli, whose efficacy combined with a never failing kindness he has witnessed and appreciated. Moreover, Franco Garelli gave us a gift that was necessary for our policy of Travel Grants at a moment when the ISSR's traditional patrons informed us that they were no longer able to contribute towards our policy of travel grants

The General Secretary thanked very cordially *Mrs Van Meerbeeck and Mme Lallemand* whom the participants of the conference had the pleasure of meeting here at the General Secretariat. Not only did they serve them very kindly and efficiently, but they both have, over several years, contributed to the smooth functioning of the Society. Hilde Van Meerbeeck has helped the General Secretary for two years and especially in the preparation of this conference. And Mme Lallemand has been an outstanding help to the Chair of the Editorial Committee.

Finally, he thanked *the members* for having participated in such large numbers in the 28th ISSR - Conference which is turning out to be very successful.

Suggestions from the floor:

- More members would vote if there was more than one candidate for each position
- To augment the possibility of discussions at the Plenary Sessions, would it not be better to reduce the number of speakers to two?
- It is clear that the costs of the General Secretariat were greatly reduced thanks to the institutional support of the university of the General Secretary, which indicates that institutional support for the General Secretariat is an absolute must.
- Communication is restricted to e-mails and the Web Site -- and regular mail if the members do not have e-mail. However, could the communication not be improved by the members of the Council informing the members in their regions about emerging policy issues, and by stimulating regional contacts.
- The President insisted on the need for courtesy by the members in their dealings with the General Secretariat and the Local Committee who invest a lot of time in serving the membership.

7) The Treasurers' Report and the Report of the Auditors

7.1 In his presentation of the accounts, *the treasurer* emphasised the fact that the income side of the accounts are correct up to the conference. Changes may still be expected: late registrations at the conference this week and membership fees for 2002-03 received before the end of this year. However, the expenses are based on effective expenses up to the beginning of the conference and estimations for the latter part of this year. The final results will be presented at the Council meeting early next year.

It seems clear from the accounts that the results would have been negative (see the document supra: total of the debet side and total of the credit side) without the patronship, although much less than the previous years! This is due to the rise in membership and lower operational costs. If we can retain the number of members at the actual level or still improve it, we may be able to achieve a positive balance without the help of a patronship due to the increase of membership fees. This will only be clear in 2005 at the next conference.

If we can assure a positive balance in the future, we will be able to sustain the Verscheure Foundation in order to secure travel grants to colleagues from countries with non-convertible currency. This is a must since our traditional sponsors for that fund have informed us that they were unable to sustain us for this conference, nor in the future. In his presentation of the budget (cf. below), this policy was clearly outlined. Finally, such a result depends also upon the support of the universities of the General Secretary and the Treasurer: indeed there are hidden costs that are not to be seen in the accounts since they did not involve expenses for the ISSR (see report of the General Secretary and the Chair of the Editorial Committee).

C-0203-A-ANALYSE GESTION

nb:

- le tableau ci-dessous, destiné à l'analyse de gestion de la période bisannuelle "02-03", résulte d'une réélaboration des données déjà vérifiées au plan comptable (cf. documents C-02-B et C-03-B) de manière à (a) dégager ce qui incombe effectivement et normalement à la gestion ordinaire de l'exercice "02-03", (b) ré-allouer aux postes-standard les éléments qui doivent l'être, (c) intégrer l'incidence du mécénat et, enfin (d) vu l'état inachevé de l'exercice bisannuel, estimer l'évolution probable des divers postes jusqu'au terme du 31/12/03. Les montants ajustés sont entre [] et les montants estimés sont entre (); leur calcul est détaillé en feuillets annexes.

CRÉDITS	"02"	"03"	"02+03"
C1-CRÉDIT-Intérêts dépôts	1215,07	(2400)	(3615,07)
C2-CRÉDIT-Cotisations + Cotisations à Turin	[23567,77] 0	[7899,24] x	(14/07/03) x
C3-CRÉDIT-Dons	(ignorés aux recettes ordinaires)		
C4-CRÉDIT-Conférence + Enregistrements à Turin	0 0	[12263,20] x	(14/07/03) x
TOTAUX CRÉDITS: hors recettes à Turin	24782,84	[22562,44]	(14/07/03)
47345,28] avec recettes à Turin	0	x	x

DÉBITS	"02"		"03"			"02+03"		TOTGÉN		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	1+4		2+5	3+6
	SISR		Mécénat	Total	SISR	Mécénat	Total	SISR	Mécénat	TOTGÉN
D1-DÉBIT-Conseil	906,42	1978,36	2884,78	0	0	0	906,42	1978,36	2884,78	
D2-DÉBIT-Frais bancaires	39,21	0	39,21	(110)	0	(110)	(149,21)	0	(149,21)	
D3-DÉBIT-Frais cartes bque	248,26	0	248,26	(215)	0	(215)	(463,26)	0	(463,26)	
D4-DÉBIT-Social Compass	[7625,84]	0	7625,84	(12207,66)	0	(12207,66)	(19833,50)	0	(19833,50)	
D5-DÉBIT-Secrétariat		[229]	1601,82	1830,82	(1464,32)	(1278,57)	(2742,89)	(1693,32)	(2880,39)	(4573,71)
D6-DÉBIT-Site web	[436,50]	728,91	1165,41	(1139,53)	0	0	(1139,53)	(1576,03)	728,91	(2304,94)
D7-DÉBIT-Divers	0	0	0	168,88	0	168,88	168,88	0	168,88	
D8-DÉBIT-Conférence	0	0	0	0	(15081)	(4595)*	(19676)	(15081)	(4595)*	(19676)
TOTAUX DÉBITS	9485,23	4309,09	13794,32	(30386,39)	(5873,57)*	(36259,96)	(39871,62)	(10182,66)*		
50054,28)										

* y compris mécénat-2 : 775

SOLDE

SISR : [47345,28] -
(39871,62) = +(7473,66)

POUR INFORMATION

Nombre total de membres : 354 [15/07/03]

Evolution du nombre d'abonnés à Social Compass (= membres à plein tarif) :

95	96	97	98	99	00	01	2002-03	pour comparaison
245	230	225	115	156	135	168	272	"01" + 104 = "01" x 162%
moyenne des 7 années antérieures : 182							[11/07/03]	moy. + 90 = moy. x 150%

7.2 The report of *the auditors* was presented by Elisabeth Arweck:

“The undersigned auditors have verified the accounts for the period 2002-2003, which were prepared by the Treasurer of the Society, Jean Pierre Hiernaux. The general impression is that the accounts are very well organised and our questions regarding the accounts were clearly answered.

During the new Council period, the Treasurer has reorganised the accounts and conscientiously adhered to the system which he had devised. This system allows for easy cross-references and thus permits control of individual items. These can be easily traced if need be, which seems all the more important, considering the Society’s officers do not all work in one location. The auditors do not have any suggestions for improving the accounting system now in place.

The auditors have verified that the declared figures tally with the actual bank statements for the whole accounting period. The auditors have also made sample checks of individual items and found them all correct.

It is the auditor’s view that the Society benefits from secretarial services at very reasonable rates. However, it needs to be taken into account that increased membership figures may imply increased workload and thus increased costs for administration.

Regarding the future budget of the Society, the auditors note that the economic situation has drastically improved in the accounting period, which is mainly due to significantly increased membership figures and reduced administrative costs. Despite these improvements, the Society cannot solely rely on income from membership fees in order to ensure its future activities. During the accounting period, the Society has enjoyed the benefits of some patrons, which is expected to continue for a couple of years. If the Society succeeds in increasing its membership even further, other external funding sources could be applied for”.

Signed by Elisabeth Arweck and Ole Riis, Turin 22-7-03.

7.3 From the floor a suggestion was made to explore the possibility of bi-lateral funding of certain sessions of the conference, e.g. Thematic Sessions. The organizers of such sessions should take initiatives.

Jay Demerath moved to accept the report of the Auditors, the Accounts and the Budget, seconded by Tom Gannon. The Report is unanimously accepted with thanks to the Auditors from the President and so are the Accounts and the Budget.

8) Election of the Auditors for 2004-2005

Grace Davie (Great Britain) and Pierre Bréchon (France), nominated by the Council, are unanimously elected. Since it is possible, as happened in the past, that an auditor cannot come to the next conference, Pauline Côté, nominated by the Council, is unanimously elected as reserve.

C-0405-B-BUDGET

nb:

- le tableau ci-dessous, esquisse un **budget** pour la **période bisannuelle "04-05"**, tenant notamment compte de l'analyse de la période bisannuelle antérieure (cf. *C-0203-A-ANALYSE GESTION.doc*);
- ce budget table, pour l'ordinaire, sur un fonctionnement analogue à celui de l'exercice précédent - y compris quant au placement de fonds (dont dépendent les prévisions d'intérêts de dépôts) -, avec hypothèse d'un nombre de membres égal, d'une hausse annuelle de 2,5% de la valeur monétaire des coûts, répercutée à son tour sur les tarifs de participation à la conférence de 2005, et d'une prise en charge directe SISR comparable à celle exposée pour la conférence de Turin.

-	CRÉDITS	"04+05"
	C1-CRÉDIT-Intérêts dépôts	4860
	C2-CRÉDIT-Cotisations	42000
	C3-CRÉDIT-Dons	(ignorés au budget ordinaire)
	C4-CRÉDIT-Conférence	12700

	TOTAUX CRÉDITS:	<u>59560</u>

C1 : [résultat "03" (2400) + 2,5% = 2460 = estimation "05"] + [estimation "05" + 2,5% = 2462] = 4860 pr. arrondi ;

C2 : hypothèse sur 350 membres cotisants : (270 x 136 EUR : 36720) + (60 x 69 EUR = 4140) + (20 x 54 EUR = 1080) = 41940 -> 42000 pr. arrondi

C4 : pré-inscriptions conférence antérieure (12152,35) + 5% = 12760 arrondi à 12700

-	DÉBITS		"04+05"	
		SISR	Mécénat	TOT
	D1-DÉBIT-Conseil	0	3000	3000
	D2-DÉBIT-Frais bancaires	230	0	230
	D3-DÉBIT-Frais cartes bq	500	0	500
	D4-DÉBIT-Social Compass	21000	0	21000
	D5-DÉBIT-Secrétariat		3000	3000
	D6-DÉBIT-Site web	2400	0	2400
	D7-DÉBIT-Divers	200	0	200
	D8-DÉBIT-Conférence		12200	1000
	D9-DÉBIT-Bourses	1500	3000	4500

	TOTAUX DÉBITS:	41030	10000	<u>51030</u>

- **SOLDE SISR : 59560 - 41030 = +18530 ***

* affectation proposée : consolider les dépôts en placement de manière à (a) garantir un fonds de réserve à la Société, (b) sans préjudice de l'amortissement des effets d'érosion monétaire, imputer systématiquement sur les recettes d'intérêts (i) prioritairement la couverture des bourses-"grantees" (D9) et, (ii) l'investissement dans de possibles nouveaux projets.

D1 : (coût total "02" + 2,5 % = 2957 valeur "03") + 2,5% = 3030 valeur "04" -> 3000 pr arrondi

D2 : (frais "03" + 2,5% = frais "04" = 112,75) + (frais "04" + 2,5 % = frais "05" = 115,25) = 228 -> 230 pr arrondi

D4 : référence "03" = 272 abonnés/an pr 350 membres = 272 x £ 22,55 = (£ 6300 / 0,60872) = 10076 EUR /an

-> (référence "03" + 2,5% = 10328 pour "04") + ("04" + 2,5% = 10586 pour "05") = 20914 arrondi à 21000

D5 : (frais totaux "03" + 2,5% = frais totaux "04" = 2811) + (frais totaux "04" + 2,5% = frais totaux "05" = 2881) = 5692 porté à 6000 part mécénat "0203" était 2880,39 ; -> part mécénat "0405" = 3000

D6 : (frais "03" + 2,5% = 1168 = frais "04") + (frais "04" + 2,5 % = 1197 = frais "05") = 2365 -> 2400 pr arrondi

D8 : proposition de disjoindre le budget "grantees" de celui de la conférence (cf. création du poste D9)

total D8 : estimation coût conférence Turin sans bourses (-> 19676 - 4500 = 15176) ni brochure-programme (-> 15176 - 5000 = 10176)

-> valeur "04" = "03" + 2,5% ; -> valeur "05" = "04" + 2,5 % = 10691 arrondi à 10700

+ brochure programme à max. 8 EUR/participant x 300 participants = 2400 porté à 2500

= 10700 + 2500 = 13200

D9 : (estimation "grantees" à Turin + 2,5% = valeur "04") + 2,5% = 4412 valeur "05" -> 4500 pr arrondi

9) Report of the Chair of the Editorial Committee

The Editorial Committee consisted of Pierre Bréchon, Erwann Dianteill, John Fulton, Carlos Carma, Meerten ter Borg and Liliane Voyé, Past President and Chair of the Committee, who reports:

9.1 The papers of the Plenary sessions

This time, the members of the Editorial Committee have received all texts of the Plenary Sessions before the Conference and, during this conference, the authors have already been contacted or will be contacted by a member of the Committee to inform them of the remarks and suggestions resulting from the evaluation of the papers during the meeting of July 21st in Turin. Jim Beckford, the incoming Former President of the ISSR, joined the meeting in his capacity of futur Chair of the Editorial Committee, in charge of publishing the next 4 issues of Social Compass-ISSR, of which 2 will be devoted to the Turin Conference.

Voyé reminded the General Assembly that the papers presented at the the plenary sessions are not automatically published: they are evaluated by the members of the Editorial Committttee who can ask for amendments, explanations, ... and the paper should be changed into that of an article and not simply be the oral version.

9.2 The papers from all other sessions

The second issue of Social Compass/ISSR is reserved for papers presented in all other sessions of the Conference that are submitted to the Editorial Committee for possible publication.

The Editorial Committee received very few papers after the 27th Conference in Mexico. Consequently, the second issue of that conference is only made up of 4 articles. Indeed, among them, certain were straightaway rejected since they had already been published (in whatever language) -- Social Compass only accepts original papers; others were rejected because the Editorial Committee considered them as unsatisfactory from a scholarly point of view or because they were simply an elaborated scheme of an oral presentation not in accord with the editorial style of a scholarly journal. The authors of other submitted papers were asked to take into account the demands of the Editorial Committeee: corrections, amendements, precisions, explanations,...Some of these authors did not satisfy the requests of the Editorial Committee and were eliminated in a second round.

The Editorial Committee emphasises the need for numerous papers to be sent in this time and addresses more specifically all conveners of sessions that they should stimulate authors who presented papers in their sessions to submit their papers to the Editorial Committee. Social Compass is a journal with standing that has a wide circulation, especially since it is bilingual.

She reminded the General Assembly that the members of the Editorial Committee evaluate all papers anonymously and evaluate them on the basis of a grid and have to classify all papers. The evaluation of two other colleagues is also taken into account. The latter are chosen on the basis of their competence on the subject treated by the paper, be they member or not of the ISSR.

The Editorial Committee emphasises that the quality of the language in which the paper is written is not taken into consideration in the evaluation. They have to be written in English or

French, the two official languages of the ISSR and SocialCompass, and it is evident that the ISSR has many members for whom these languages are not their mother tongue. They may not be penalised by it. It is the task of the members of the Editorial Committee to edit the papers linguistically; that is the reason why, for each of these two languages, two members of the Editorial Committee have them as their mother tongue. To facilitate this important work of editing, it may be useful for the members of the Committee to have, in addition to the English or French version of the paper, the text written in the mother tongue of the author: certain members of the Editorial Committee read other languages; and the original text may help them to grasp the meaning of certain sentences that were difficult for the author to render accurately in English or French.

9.3 Respecting the editorial rules

It is requested that the authors submitting papers respect the editorial rules that were handed out to you in the conference bag: bio-bibliographical note, abstract in the language of the paper and in the other official language of the ISSR, references in the text and the bibliography, notes, tables.... You can find them also in Social Compass.

Not respecting the rules causes a lot of editorial work, which means a loss of time and money.

To give one example, the publication of the 4 articles from the Mexico conference needed 200 e-mails reminding the authors of the rules and pointing out the missing information! Please read the rules and check if your submission is complete. Thank you.

9.4 Thanks

At the end of her mandate, Liliane Voyé thanked cordially the members of the Editorial Committee for their very professional collaboration and wished Jim Beckford ‘a fair wind’.

The president thanked all members of the Editorial Committee and informed the General Assembly that Meerten ter Borg and Pierre Bréchon are at the end of their mandate and will be replaced by Fabienne Randaxhe and Pal Repstad.

10) The 28th Conference in 2005

Sinisa Zrinscak, representing Croatia, said that it was “a great honour for him to have the opportunity to offer the University of Zagreb, the city of Zagreb and Croatia as a place for the next ISSR conference”. He underlined that he believes that many members of the ISSR are familiar with the fact that Croatia (at the time of the former Yugoslavia) hosted the 11th conference in Opatija in 1971. The decision to have the conference in a communist state (even the most liberal among the communist states) was at that time not only a great challenge but was also an act of giving acknowledgment and support to a small sociological community which from the mid sixties started with scientific and reliable research in the field of the sociology of religion.

“Are we ready now to welcome the ISSR conference?”, he asked himself. He expressed his belief that Croatia is ready although it is still dealing with many war consequences. Croatia

prepares itself to enter the European Community and the sociologists of religion are already full members of the international scientific community.

This conference in Croatia will be important not only for Croatian sociologists of religion but also for sociologists in the post-communist countries, he went on. In these countries there is a continuous effort to stimulate sociological research, which is clear from the international conferences organized in Budapest (ISSR in 1993), Krakow, Budapest and Zagreb (by the International Study of Religion in Easter and Central Europe).

The proposal is to organize the conference in Zagreb in the latter part of July 2005. It will be hosted by the Croatian Sociological Association and the Faculty of Philosophy of the University of Zagreb, with the support of the Croatian Ministry of Science. 100 rooms have already been reserved in the renovated student dormitory of the university and sufficient rooms are available for the participants in hotels. He underlined finally that “he cannot say that the Croatians can do better than the Italian friends, but we will do our best. So, see you in Zagreb in two years”.

There were no questions from the floor. The Council will consider the offer of the Croatians at its meeting in February 2004 and decide on the theme and the dates.

11) Miscellaneous

Some members informed participants about other conferences taking place in the near future and warned against a conflict of dates with the world conference of the IAHR in 2005.

12) The changing of the guard

At the end of the meeting, Jim Beckford installed Enzo Pace as president of the ISSR for the next four years. Enzo Pace thanked the members for the confidence placed in him and pledges to continue the work of the past-Presidents and to cope with some of the crucial problems the ISSR is facing, in particular to encourage young colleagues to join the ISSR, to extend the membership to areas where our presence is still weak and to stimulate the intellectual and friendly exchange and co-operation between the membership.

ISSR OFFICERS and COUNCIL MEMBERS (2003-2005)

The Executive Committee

President	Enzo Pace
Vice President	Jean-Paul Willaime
General Secretary	Karel Dobbelaere
Treasurer	Jean-Pierre Hiernaux

Council members (term of actual mandate)

Honorary President	Bryan Wilson
Past-president (2007)	Jim Beckford
Peter Beyer 2005 (Canada)	
Irena Borowik 2007 (Central and Eastern Europe)	
Jay Demerath 2007 (USA) [last mandate]	
John Fulton 2005 (United Kingdom) [last mandate]	
Franco Garelli 2007 (Italy) [last mandate]	
Carlos Garma 2005 (Mexico)	
Cecilia Mariz 2005 (South America)	
Frédéric Moens 2007 (Belgium)	
Fabienne Randaxe 2007 (France)	
Pal Repstad 2007 (Nordic Countries) [last mandate]	
Erik Sengers 2007 (the Netherlands)	
Tadaatsu Tajima 2007 (Japan)	
Olivier Tschannen 2005 (Switzerland) [last mandate]	
Monika Wohlrab-Sahr 2005 (Germany)	

Ex-officio:

Roberto Blancarte RC 22 ISA (Mexico)
Sinisa Zrinscak Local Committee (Croatia)

Open positions

Spain
South Asia

Editorial Committee (term of actual mandate)

Jim Beckford 2007, chair (United Kingdom)
Erwan Dianteill 2005 (France)
John Fulton 2005 (United Kingdom)
Carlos Garma 2005 (Mexico)
Fabienne Randaxhe 2007 (France)
Pål Repstad 2007 (Norway)

Auditors for the Accounts 2003-2005

Grace Davie (Great Britain)
Pierre Bréchon (France)
Reserve: Pauline Côté (Canada)

VOTING RESULTS (2003)

63 members voted²

Council 2004-05

(see General Secretary's report in the Minutes of the General Assembly)

The increase in membership dues for 2004-05 was accepted

(see General Secretary's report in the Minutes of the General Assembly)

49 YES

13 NO

1 ABSTENTION

² One voting slip arrived two weeks after the deadline.

All proposed changes in the Statutes were accepted

(Art. 39: requires a majority of: [63 : 3] X 2 = 42; for English speaking members: [30: 3] X 2 = 20; for French Speaking members: [33 : 3] X 2 = 22)

Articles	Accepted the proposed changes	Do not accept the proposed changes	Abstentions
Art. 2 The headquarters of the Association shall be established <u>at the General Secretariat of the society</u> (cf art.35 a) / Le siège <u>social de l'Association est localisé au siège du Secrétariat Général</u> (cf. art. 35a)	60	1	2
Art. 9 (*) The General Secretary shall examine <u>applications in conformity with Art. 8.</u> Should an application for membership be rejected by the General Secretary, the applicant may appeal to the Council, which shall give a definitive ruling.	28	1	1
Art. 11 La qualité de membre se perd b) suite au non-paiement <u>en temps voulu</u> de la cotisation Membership shall be forfeited b) subsequent to non-payment of <u>dues in time</u>	58	3	2
Art. 15 The General Assembly shall: d) determine the amount <u>and the periodicity of dues</u> L'assemblée générale (AG) : d) fixe le montant <u>et la périodicité</u> de la cotisation	60	0	3
Art; 16 a (*) The quorum of the General Assembly shall be twice the number of the Council plus one (present or represented). Decisions shall be taken by simple majority. Should the quorum be not obtained, the Council may proceed legitimate if, within a period of six weeks, the number of votes received for a decision <u>by postal ballot</u> shall be greater than the number of votes against. In the event of a tie it shall be competent in the Council to decide the issue.	28	0	2
Art. 16 b (**) Chaque membre peut représenter un <u>-- et un seul --</u> autre membre de l'Association non présent. Les procurations se font par écrit et sont reçues par le secrétaire général au début de l'Assemblée Générale. Elles sont enregistrées dans le compte-rendu de l'assemblée générale.	30	1	2

<p>Art. 17</p> <p>a) the Council shall be composed of a President, a Vice-President, a General Secretary, a Treasurer and Council members, all of whom are elected by the members of the Association. <u>In addition, the immediate Past President (who also chairs the Editorial Committee) and any Honorary Presidents shall be members of the Council.</u></p> <p>a) Le Conseil se compose d'un président, d'un vice-président, d'un secrétaire général, d'un trésorier et des membres du Conseil, tous élus par les membres de l'Association. <u>En font en outre partie, le président sortant (qui est aussi président du Comité Éditorial) et les éventuels présidents d'honneur</u></p>	57	3	3
<p>Art. 18</p> <p>b) Les mandats du président, du secrétaire général <u>et du trésorier sont de quatre ans.</u></p> <p>b) The terms of office of the President, the General Secretary <u>and the Treasurer are for four years.</u></p>	61	0	2
<p>Art. 20</p> <p>d) Voting shall be by postal ballot and shall take place before the Conference which marks the end of the relevant period of office, <u>except for the Secretary General and the Treasurer whose mandates expire at the end of the calendar year during which the conference takes place.</u></p> <p>d) Le vote s'effectue par voie postale et a lieu avant la Conférence qui marque la fin du mandat <u>des membres non rééligibles. Cette règle ne vaut pas pour le Secrétaire Général et le Trésorier dont les mandats expirent à la fin de l'année civile au cours de laquelle a eu lieu la Conférence.</u></p>	56	2	5

<p>Art. 23</p> <p>a) Chaque membre du Conseil a le même droit de vote <u>excepté le président sortant et les présidents d'honneur qui n'ont pas droit de vote.</u> Les décisions sont prises à la majorité simple des membres présents ou mandatés. Les décisions sont prises à la majorité simple des membres présents ou mandatés Ces décisions n'ont force d'application que si au moins un tiers des membres du Conseil sont présents ou mandatés.</p> <p>a) All members of the Council shall have an equal vote, <u>except that neither the Past President nor any Honorary Presidents have the right to vote.</u> Decisions shall be made by a simple majority of votes of the members present or represented. Decisions shall be valid if at least a third of the members of the Council shall be present or represented.</p>	58	3	2
<p>Art. 24</p> <p>a) The Council may invite non-members of the Council to its meetings <u>for particular items of business and for the discussion concerning these items only. But</u> such persons shall have no right to vote.</p> <p>a)<u>S'il le juge opportun, le Conseil peut inviter à ses réunions des personnes extérieures à lui, et ce exclusivement pour des matières particulières et pour le temps des débats qui concernent spécifiquement celles-ci. Mais les</u> invités n'ont pas le droit de vote.</p> <p>b) <u>éliminer, le paragraphe b) est repris aux articles 17a) et 23 a)</u></p> <p>b) <u>Delete, incorporated in art 17 a) and art. 23 a)</u></p>	60	1	2
<p>Art. 28: The President may after consulting the members of Council resolve all matters within the competence of the Council.</p> <p>Le président peut régler toute question de la compétence du Conseil par consultation des membres de celui-ci. -</p>	54	3	6

<p>Art. 36: Le trésorier est responsable de la préparation des budgets de la Société, de la présentation des rapports concernant la situation financière et, conjointement avec le secrétaire général, de la gestion quotidienne des ressources. <u>La validité de toute transaction financière de la société est garantie par la signature du trésorier ou par celle du Secrétaire Général.</u></p> <p>The Treasurer shall be responsible for preparing the Society's budget, and in junction with the General Secretary, managing its resources on a day-to-day basis. <u>The signature of either the Treasurer or the General Secretary is sufficient to authorise valid financial transactions on the Society's behalf.</u></p>	57	3	3
<p>Art. 40: When a postal vote is conducted only those ballots <u>postmarked on or before the deadline shall be deemed valid</u></p> <p>Lors des votes par correspondance, seront seuls valides les bulletins de vote <u>portant un cachet postal datant du jour de l'échéance prescrite ou antérieur à celui-ci.</u></p>	59	1	3
<p>Art. 45: Si les bulletins de vote reçus par le secrétaire général dans un délai de six semaines à compter du jour de l'expédition (le cachet de la poste faisant foi) représentent moins des deux tiers des membres, le secrétaire général enverra une seconde notification et demandera aux membres de voter dans un délai de six semaines, le cachet de la poste faisant foi. La dissolution <u>ou son rejet</u> sera prononcée, à la majorité simple des votes émis.</p> <p>Should votes received by the General Secretary within six weeks from the date of dispatch (as shown by the postmark) represent less than two-thirds of the members he or she shall send a further notification and shall request the members to vote again within six weeks. In such a case, the dissolution <u>or its rejection</u> shall be pronounced upon a simple majority of the votes cast</p>	58	0	5

(*) To make the English text of the statutes consistent with the French text; 30 English-speaking members have voted / Adaptation en référence au texte français; 30 anglophones ont voté.

(**) Adaptation en référence au texte anglais; 33 francophones ont voté / To make the French text of the statutes consistent with the English text; 33 French-speaking members have voted.

On the next pages you find the text of the Statutes of the ISSR

Statutes of the ISSR

Name

Art. 1

The name of the Association shall be the International Society for the Sociology of Religion (ISSR). The Association shall be constituted by those who accept the present statutes and who fulfil the conditions stated hereinafter.

Headquarters

Art. 2

The headquarters of the Association shall be established at the General Secretariat of the society (cf art.35a)

Object

Art. 3

The ISSR shall be a scientific Association. Its object shall be to advance sociology and related sciences in the analysis and interpretation of religious and related phenomena.

Art. 4

To fulfil its purposes, the Association shall give priority to the two following objectives:

- a) to promote throughout the world relations between sociologists and, more generally, between specialists of the various disciplines concerned with the object of the Association;
- b) to organize periodical international conferences.

Organs and governing authority

Art. 5

The organs of the Association shall be:

- the General Assembly;
- the Council;
- the Executive Committee;
- the General Secretariat.

Art. 6

The governing authority of the Association shall be constituted by all the members (cf. arts. 7-12) gathered in General Assembly and who shall there be called upon to vote, in person or by proxy. They may also be called to vote in a postal ballot as specified hereinafter (cf. art. 16).

Membership

Art. 7

The Association shall be composed exclusively of individual members.

Art. 8

An applicant for membership shall be eligible if he or she:

- a) is a teacher of sociology or a related science in a university or institute of higher education;
- b) is a member of an institute for sociological or socio-religious research;
- c) has received a university training in sociology or in related sciences;
- d) is capable of making a contribution to the ends of the Association by reason of his or her personal qualities, official position, or scientific work.

Art. 9

The General Secretary shall examine applications in conformity with Art. 8. Should an application for membership be rejected by the General Secretary, the applicant may appeal to the Council, which shall give a definitive ruling.

Art. 10

Joining the Association implies acceptance of the statutes in force for the time being and which are deposited at the registered office.

Art. 11

Membership shall be forfeited:

- a) by resignation in writing to the General Secretary;
- b) subsequent to non-payment of dues in time;
- c) by dismissal pronounced by the Council for a grave reason. A member under notice of dismissal shall have opportunity to defend himself before the Council. A member who has been notified of the withdrawal of membership in writing by the Council shall have the right to appeal to the General Assembly, and shall be deemed to retain his membership until a decision on the appeal shall have been taken.

Art. 12

Those who cease to be in membership shall not exercise any rights respecting the disposal of the assets of the Association.

The General Assembly

Art. 13

During each International Conference a General Assembly of the members of the Association shall be convened.

Art. 14

Non-members registered at the Conference may attend this General Assembly but shall have no right to participate or vote. Nevertheless, it shall be competent in the President, at his discretion, to grant the floor to a non-member.

Art. 15

The General Assembly shall :

- a) elect two auditors;
- b) approve the reports of the Council;
- c) approve the accounts and the budget of the Association;
- d) determine the amount and the periodicity of dues;
- e) discuss proposals from members, which shall be submitted to the General Secretariat before the first meeting of the Council at the Conference.

Art. 16

The voting procedure is as follows:

- a) The quorum of the General Assembly shall be twice the number of the Council plus one (present or represented). Decisions shall be taken by simple majority. Should the quorum be not obtained, the Council may proceed legitimate if, within a period of six weeks, the number of votes received for a decision by postal ballot shall be greater than the number of votes against. In the event of a tie it shall be competent in the Council to decide the issue.
- b) Each member may represent one and only one other member of the Association who is not present. Such proxies shall be in writing and shall be received by the General Secretary at the beginning of the General Assembly. Proxies shall be registered in the minutes of the General Assembly.

The Council

Art. 17

a) The Council shall be composed of a President, a Vice-President, a General Secretary, a Treasurer and Council members, all of whom are elected by the members of the Association. In addition, the immediate Past President (who also chairs the Editorial Committee) and any Honorary Presidents shall be members of the Council.

b) The chairman and the secretary of the local committee for the subsequent Conference, having been designated by the members from the organizing country, shall be ex officio voting members of the Council.

Art. 18

a) The number of members of the Council shall be fixed by the Council itself. It shall take account of the geographic distribution of the members of the Association and of the international situation as regards the objects of the Association.

b) The terms of office of the President, the General Secretary and the Treasurer are for four years

c) The vice-president is the president-elect; at the time at which he assumes office as president, a new vice-president is elected.

d) There shall be an interval of two years between (a) the date on which a President's term of office begins and (b) the date on which the General Secretary's and the Treasurer's terms of office begin.

e) In the event of inability of the President, the General Secretary or the Treasurer to complete their term of office, the Council shall appoint one of its members as an interim official to complete the unexpired term until the next International Conference. If this results in two or more of the President, the General Secretary or the Treasurer being due for election at this Conference the office(s) which would not otherwise have been due for election shall be limited to two years and shall count for the first term as provided for in art. 19.

Art. 19

a) The members of the Council shall be elected for terms of four years. They shall be eligible for consecutive re-election once, excepting that those who are elected President, General Secretary or Treasurer shall be eligible for a total consecutive duration of membership of the Council of not more than three terms.

b) The percentage of those members eligible for consecutive re-election shall not exceed fifty per cent.

Art. 20

a) Vacancies shall be announced by the General Secretary in the bulletin of the Association at least six months before the elections. Candidates shall be members of the Association and shall be nominated in writing by two other members. The candidate shall signify his or her acceptance of nomination.

b) The candidate and his or her sponsors shall belong to the geographic region for which the candidate is proposed.

c) Nominations shall be submitted to the General Secretary who shall compile the list of candidates for election.

d) Voting shall be by postal ballot and shall take place before the Conference which marks the end of the relevant period of office, except for the Secretary General and the Treasurer whose mandates expire at the end of the calendar year during which the conference takes place.

Art. 21

Members shall vote for all vacancies on the Council. Those candidates who receive most votes for each country or region shall be elected (cf. Art. 18a). In the event of a tie, the General Secretary shall draw lots in the presence of two witnesses.

Art. 22

The Council shall meet at each International Conference. The President shall convene an extraordinary meeting of the Council if he or she judge necessary or when at least one third of the members of the Council shall request it and shall submit an agenda.

Art. 23

- a) All members of the Council shall have an equal vote, except that neither the Past President nor any Honorary Presidents have the right to vote. Decisions shall be made by a simple majority of votes of the members present or represented. Decisions shall be valid if at least a third of the members of the Council shall be present or represented.
- b) Proxies shall be given in writing and shall be limited to one per member present. The General Secretary shall receive proxies at the beginning of the meeting and note them in the minutes.
- c) Should a quorum be not obtained, the Council shall conduct voting by mail.
- d) The President shall have a casting vote.

Art. 24

The Council may invite non-members of the Council to its meetings for particular items of business and for the discussion concerning these items only. Such persons shall have no right to vote.

Art. 25

It shall be competent in the Council to make all decisions regarding the activity of the Association except those reserved to the General Assembly. In particular, the Council shall:

- a) supervise the general policy of the Association;
- b) supervise the management of the funds of the Association;
- c) determine the place, date, theme and sub-themes and structures of future conferences of the Association.

Art. 26

- a) It shall be competent in the Council to represent and commit the Association in all matters that are not reserved to the General Assembly.
- b) It shall be competent in the Council in this respect to perform all acts concerning movable or immovable property; to buy and sell; to borrow and lend; and to conduct all commercial and banking operations, i.e. the Council shall be competent in the broadest sense and in any circumstances validly to commit the Association.

Art. 27

The Council may delegate any of its powers to members of the Council or to others.

Art. 28

The President may after consulting the members of Council resolve all matters within the competence of the Council.

Art. 29

The Association shall be validly represented in law by the President or any other person designated for this purpose by the Council.

The Executive Committee

Art. 30

The Executive Committee shall be composed of the President, the Vice-President, the General Secretary and the Treasurer. For the preparation of the International Conferences the Executive Committee shall be joined by the Chairperson of the local committee of the next Conference.

Art. 31

The Executive Committee shall supervise the development and the execution of scientific policy of the Association.

Art. 32

The Executive Committee shall be responsible for the preparation of the International Conference and shall take all measures appropriate to attain this end.

Art. 33

The Executive Committee shall prepare reports for the Council and for the General-Assembly.

President

Art. 34

a) The President shall take the chair at the General Assembly, the Council and the Executive Committee.

b) It is competent in the President to represent the Association to third parties.

Vice-president

Art. 34A

- a) The vice-president succeeds to the presidency.
- b) If needed, he or she deputizes for the president.

The General Secretariat

Art. 35

- a) The General Secretariat shall constitute the registered office of the Association.
- b) Under the direction of the General Secretary, the General Secretariat shall provide for the day-to-day management of the Association in conformity with the directives of the Council.

Art. 36

The Treasurer shall be responsible for preparing the Society's budget, reporting on its financial situation, and in conjunction with the General Secretary, managing its resources on a day-to-day basis. The signature of either the Treasurer or the General Secretary is sufficient to authorise valid financial transactions on the Society's behalf.

Amendment of Statutes

Art. 37

- a) A proposal to amend the Statutes shall be submitted in writing by not less than ten members to the General Secretary.
- b) To be placed on the agenda of the General Assembly, amendments shall be submitted to the General Secretary at least six weeks before the start of the subsequent Conference.

Art. 38

The Council may by unanimous decision submit an amendment to the Statutes to the members for postal vote without waiting for the next International Conference.

Art. 39

A proposal to amend the Statutes shall be accepted in accordance with the procedure described in art. 16, except that a majority of two-thirds of the members present or represented shall be required.

Voting Procedure and Publication of the Decisions

Art. 40

When a postal vote is conducted only those ballots Postmarked on or before the deadline shall be deemed valid.

Art. 41

All decisions (elections, amendments of Statutes, resolutions of the General Assembly and of the Council) shall be published in the bulletin of the Association.

Resources

Art. 42

The resources of the Association shall be constituted by the dues of the membership, receipts for services rendered, grants, gifts and legacies.

Art. 43

The members of the Association shall be liable only to the amount of their dues.

Dissolution of the Association

Art. 44

A resolution to dissolve the Association shall be submitted to the members together with the comments of the Council and shall be subject to ballot.

Art. 45

Should votes received by the General Secretary within six weeks from the date of dispatch (as shown by the postmark) represent less than two-thirds of the members he or she shall send a further notification and shall request the members to vote again within six weeks. In such a case, the dissolution or its rejection shall be pronounced upon a simple majority of the votes cast.

Art. 46

The Council, or in the absence thereof, the President, shall designate the liquidator of the Association. The assets shall be donated to another international organization with similar objectives.

Latest revisions of the present statutes were approved by postal ballot on the 10th of June 2003, Louvain, Belgium

CONFERENCES and ANNUAL MEETINGS

AFSR Colloque: Les ONG confessionnelles. Action internationale et mutations religieuses, 3 - 4 février 2004, 59 rue Pouchet, Paris, F-75017, France. Renseignements et inscriptions: afsr@iresco.fr.

American Sociological Association: Annual Meeting, San Francisco, August 2004. **Section 34: Sociology of Religion** will organize 3 sessions (Religion and Family, Religion and Immigration, and Religion Race and Ethnicity) and Round tables on August 16. Section Chair: R.Stephen Warner, University of Illinois at Chicago, 1007 W. Harrison Street, Chicago, IL 60607-7140, USA; Tel.: +1-312-996-0990 < rswarner@uic.edu. For up-to-date information: [www.asanet.org/section 34/index.html](http://www.asanet.org/section%2034/index.html)

Association for the Sociology of Religion: San-Francisco meeting, 13-15 August 2004. The theme: "The causes and consequences of contemporary moralities". Program Chair; Fenggang Yang, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Purdue University, Stone Hall, 700 W State Street, West Lafayette, IN 47907-2059; e-mail: ASR2004@soc.purdue.edu. Deadlines: January 15, 2004: Session proposals; February 15, 2004: paper proposals (abstracts 150 words maximum). Submission by email are encouraged; please include email address on all correspondence. See ASR web site: www.sociologyofreligion.com

British Sociological Association (BSA): Sociology of Religion Study Group will hold its 2004 Annual Conference in Bristol from Monday 29 March – Thursday 1 April. The theme: "A Sociology of Spirituality". Contributors from outside the UK would be very welcome. The local organizer is Dr Kieran Flanagan (Kieran.Flanagan@bristol.ac.uk). For details, see <http://www.socrel.org.uk/>.

Network for the Study of Implicit Religion: Inter-Disciplinary Week-end Implicit Religion: Denton Hall, Ilkley 7-9 May 2004. Co-ordinator: Dr. E. I. Bailey, email: eibailey@csircs.freeserve.co.uk

Religious Research Association: Annual Meeting 2004 in Marriott Country Club Plaza, Kansas City, Missouri, USA. October 22-24: "Linking Social Action and Religious Research". Send proposals to: John P. Bartkowski, Department of Sociology, Anthropology, & Social Work, P.O. Box C, Mississippi State University, Mississippi State, MS 39762, USA. E-mail: Bartkowski@soc.msstate.edu. Include email address on all proposals. Deadlines: January 16, 2004: Session proposals (title and description); March 15, 2004: Paper proposals (title and abstract); September 30 2004: Complete paper due to discussant (if session has discussant).

Society for the Scientific Study of Religion: Annual Meeting 2004 in Marriott Country Club Plaza, Kansas City, Missouri, USA. October 22-24: "Overcoming Boundaries in the *Scientific Study of Religion*". Send proposals to: William H. Swatos Jr, Program Chair, 3529 Wiltshire Drive, Holiday, FL 34691-1239, USA. Email: swatos@microd.com. Include email address on all correspondence. Deadlines: January 15, 2004 Session proposals; March 15, 2004 Paper Proposals with a concise abstract. Web site: www.sssrweb.org.