

RELATIONAL TURN IN SOCIOLOGY
Implications for the Study of Society, Culture and Persons

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SPEAKERS



Margaret S. Archer studied at the London School of Economics and subsequently stayed as a post-doc at the Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes, Paris, also working with Pierre Bourdieu. She first developed her ‘morphogenetic approach’ in *Social Origins of Educational Systems* (1979, re-printed 2013). She was Professor of Sociology at the University of Warwick from 1979 until 2010, writing over thirty books, including *The Reflexive Imperative in Late Modernity* (2012), *Making our Way through the World: Human Reflexivity and Social Mobility* (2007), *Structure, Agency and the Internal Conversation* (2003), *Being Human: The Problem of Agency* (2000) and *Realist Social Theory: The Morphogenetic Approach* (1995). In 2011 she became Professor of Social Theory at the Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne and Directrice of its *Centre d’Ontologie Sociale*. She continues to develop her ‘morphogenetic approach’ as the explanatory framework of critical realism’s social ontology. The Centre’s main project is exploring ‘the morphogenic society’ as a possible future for late modernity, in a book series edited for Springer. She was President of the International Sociological Association (1986-90); a Trustee of the Centre for Critical Realism; a founding member of FacSS; the British Nominee for the Balzan Prize, 2013; and a founding member of the Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences, becoming its President in 2014. Her latest publications include *Social Morphogenesis* (ed. 2013), *Late Modernity: Trajectories towards Morphogenic Society* (ed.2013), *Generative Mechanisms Transforming the Social Order* (ed. 2014) and a co-authored book with Pierpaolo Donati *The Relational Subject* (2015), CUP.



Pierpaolo Donati is Professor of Cultural Sociology at the University of Bologna. Past President of the Italian Sociological Association, he is known as the founder of an original “relational sociology” or “relational theory of society”. He has published more than 800 works.



Jan A. Fuhse is currently a Heisenberg Fellow at the Department of Social Sciences at the Humboldt University of Berlin, Germany. He completed his PhD in sociology from Universität Stuttgart in 2007 with a dissertation on the role of social networks for the acculturation and ethnic identification of Italian migrants in Germany. During a post-doc (funded by the Alexander von Humboldt foundation) at Columbia University 2007-2008, he worked with Harrison White and Charles Tilly in the theory of social networks. From 2009 to 2013 he was an assistant professor of political sociology at the University of Bielefeld, completing his habilitation in 2011. Since 2014, he chairs the section for Sociological Network Research in the German Sociological Association. Fuhse's research focuses on communication and meaning in social networks, on social networks in inequality, on interethnic relations, and on political constellations. Recent publications include: "Embedding the Stranger: Ethnic Categories and Cultural Differences in Social Networks" (*Journal of Intercultural Studies*, 2012), "Theorizing Social Networks: Relational Sociology of and around Harrison White" (*International Review of Sociology*, 2015), and "Networks from Communication" (*European Journal of Social Theory*, 2015).



Elzbieta Halas is Full Professor of Humanities and Sociology at the Institute of Sociology, University of Warsaw, Poland. Her fields of interest are: theory of culture and cultural sociology, social symbolism, symbolic politics and cultural memory, symbolic interactions and social relations. Her research is focused on the problems of contemporary cultural transformations. She received a Fulbright Award and was a fellow of the American Council of Learned Societies (USA) and the Institute of Human Sciences (Vienna, Austria). She has served two terms on the Executive Committee of the European Sociological Association (1999–2003). She is the author of many publications in international journals, as well as multiple books, including: *Przez pryzmat kultury. Dylematy badań nad współczesnością* [*Through the Prism of Culture. Dilemmas of Research on Contemporaneity*] (Warszawa 2015: Wydawnictwa Uniwersytetu Warszawskiego); *Towards the World Culture Society: Florian Znaniecki's Culturalism* (Frankfurt am Main 2010: Peter Lang); *Symbole I społeczeństwo* [*Symbols and Society*] (Warszawa 2007: Wydawnictwa Uniwersytetu Warszawskiego) She is the founder and co-editor of the book series *Studies in Sociology: Symbols, Theory and Society* (Peter Lang)



Andrea M. Maccarini is Full Professor of Sociology and coordinator of the Class of Social Sciences at the Galilean School of Higher Studies, University of Padova. He has been chair of the Italian Sociological Association section of Education (2012-2015), and is the Italian representative in the governing board of OECD-Ceri (Centre for educational reform and innovation). He is a collaborator of the Centre for Social Ontology, directed by Margaret S. Archer, and is a board member of IACR (International Association for Critical Realism). He sits in the editorial board of various national and international journals of sociology, and is editor of two book series with Italian publishers. His main scientific interests lie in social theory, cultural change, and the sociology of education, including education policy as well as socialization processes and identity-building. He is the author of numerous books and articles, including: M.S. Archer, A. Maccarini (Eds.), *Engaging with the World. Agency, Institutions, Historical Formations*, Routledge, London and New York, 2013; A. Maccarini, E. Morandi, R. Prandini (Eds.), *Sociological Realism*, Routledge, London and New York, 2011.



Aleksander Manterys is Professor of Sociology in the Institute of Political Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences. His main areas of interest are sociological theory and microsociology. He is the author of multiple books and papers, including *Multiplicity of Realities in Social Theories* (Warsaw 1997; in Polish), *Classical Idea of Definition of the Situation* (Warsaw 2000; in Polish), *Social Situations* (Cracow, 2008; in Polish), the co-editor (with Janusz Mucha) of *New Perspectives of Sociological Theory* (Cracow, 2009; in Polish) and the editor of Polish editions of works of Herbert Blumer, Talcott Parsons, Alfred Schütz and Jonathan H. Turner. He is currently working on the book *Impression Managers: The Cooley's Paradigm*.



Radosław Sojak – PhD and habilitation, Assistant Professor at the Institute of Sociology at the Nicolaus Copernicus University (NCU) in Toruń, Poland. Junior Fulbright Research Scholar at the University of Virginia, Charlottesville (1999). Grantee of Ministry of Science and Higher Education and British Commonwealth Office (Plater/Nuffield Collage at Oxford 1998) and Foundation for Polish Science (twice – 2000 and 2003). Author and co-author of five monographs: *The Anthropological Paradox: Sociology of Knowledge as a Perspective In Sociological Theory* (2004); *The Lost Reality: On the Social Construction of the Unknown* (2005 with Daniel Wicenty); *The Promise Fulfilled: The Preliminary Theory of 'Research Styles' – the Case of The Sociology of Knowledge* (2014); *Aristocrats and Craftsmen: A Synergy of Research Styles* (2015 with Łukasz Afeltowicz) and *Citizens Platform's State: A Closing Report* (2015 with Andrzej Zybertowicz and Maciej Gurtowski). Main fields of interest include: social theory, sociology of science and knowledge, post-communist transformation (role of violence and behind the scenes aspects of social processes), public discourse analysis.



Tomasz Zarycki is Associate Professor and Director of the Robert B. Zajonc Institute for Social Studies at the University of Warsaw, Poland. He holds a “habilitation” degree in sociology from the Institute for Philosophy and Sociology of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Warsaw. His research focuses on sociology of politics, sociology of culture, sociology of knowledge, critical sociology and discourse analysis with a particular focus on Polish and Eastern European societies. His latest book is *Ideologies of Eastness in Central and Eastern Europe* (Routledge, 2014).

DISCUSSANTS



Marta Bucholc is a Professor of Sociology at the Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität Bonn. She obtained her habilitation (2014) and her PhD (2006) in sociology at the University of Warsaw. She graduated in sociology (2000), philosophy (2003) and law (2004) at the University of Warsaw. Her research focus is history of social theory, sociology of law and sociology of knowledge. Currently, she is working on a new interpretation of Max Weber’s writings about the Polish cause. Her recent books include *A Global Community of Self-Defense* (2015), *Samotność długodystansowca. Na obrzeżach socjologii Norberta Eliasa* (2013), and *Konserwatywna utopia kapitalizmu* (2012). She has translated several books into Polish, including [The Sociological Imagination](#) by Charles Wright Mills, *Purity and Danger* by Mary Douglas and *Le Temps de Tribus* by Michel Maffesoli.




Markieta Domecka is a sociologist specializing in biographical research, pragmatism and critical realism. She holds a PhD from the Catholic University of Leuven, where she wrote a thesis on post-socialist transformation viewed as both a top-down and a bottom-up process. She has participated in various FP7 research projects on European identities, migration, integration and the impact of economic crisis on young people’s life courses, conducted at the Queen’s University Belfast, the University of Surrey and the University of Naples ‘Federico II’. She has published on reflexivity, intersectionality, critical realism and biographical methods.

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	<p><i>European Policy Studies</i>, Leuven University Press, pp. 191-214.</p> <p>Mrozowicki, A., Turk, J. D. & Domecka, M. (2013) 'Introduction: the need for realist biography in European policy studies, In: eds. Mrozowicki, A. & Turk, J. D. <i>Realist Biography and European Policy: An Innovative Approach to European Policy Studies</i>, Leuven University Press, pp. 13-42.</p>
	<p>Michał Łuczewski is Deputy Director of the Centre for the Thought of John Paul II (Warsaw), Assistant Professor (Institute of Sociology, University of Warsaw) and visiting scholar at the Centre for Social Studies (Warsaw), Columbia University (NY, Fulbright) and the Institute for Human Sciences (Vienna). He is an author of the award-winning work "Eternal Nation. Pole and Catholic in the Village of Żmiąca" (2012); in Polish, as well as most recently "Solidarity step by step" (2015).</p>
	<p>Mirosława Marody is a Professor of Sociology and Social Psychology in the Institute of Sociology at the University of Warsaw and the Head of the Centre for Political Studies in the Institute for Social Studies. She has participated in three editions of the European Values Study (1990, 1999, 2008) analyzing changes in religious values. Her recent works focus on transformation processes in contemporary society. She has published many books, including <i>Co nam zostało z tych lat... Społeczeństwo polskie na progu zmiany systemowej</i> [What's Left of All Those Years... Polish Society at the Threshold of Systemic Change] (1991), <i>Przemiany więzi społecznych</i> [Transformations of Social Bonds] (2004) and quite recently <i>Jednostka po nowoczesności. Perspektywa socjologiczna</i> [Individual after Modernity. Sociological perspective] (2014).</p>
	<p>Tomasz Maślanka is a sociologist and philosopher, Assistant Professor at the Institute of Sociology of the University of Warsaw. His research interests include: sociology and philosophy of culture, contemporary sociological theory, hermeneutical theory of culture, cultural history of Europe, history and theory of counterculture and European social movements. He has recently published and co-edited the following books: <i>Rationality and Communication. Philosophical Foundations of Social Theory of Jürgen Habermas</i> (2011), <i>Between Routine and Reflexivity. Cultural Practices and Strategies of Everyday Life</i> (2013), <i>The Cultures of Contestation. The Legacy of the Counterculture and the New Protest Movements</i> (2015).</p>
	<p>Adam Mrozowicki, PhD in Social Sciences (Catholic University of Leuven, 2009) and habilitation, sociologist, currently employed at the Institute of Sociology, University of Wrocław. His main academic interests include comparative employment relations, sociology of work, methodology of qualitative research and critical realist theory. Author of <i>Coping with social change. Life strategies of workers in Poland's new capitalism</i> (Leuven University Press, 2011), co-editor (with Jeffrey D. Turk) <i>Realist Biography and European Policy: an Innovative Approach to European Policy Studies</i> (Leuven University Press, 2013) and</p>

	<p>scientific editor of the Polish translation of Margaret Archer's book, <i>Being Human. The Problem of Agency</i>. He applied the critical realist approach to explore the role of workers' ethos, reflexivity and resources in the process of coping with social change as well as, more recently, trade union renewal practices in Poland, Romania, Estonia and Slovenia and life strategies of young precarious workers in Poland. He published, among others, in "Studia socjologiczne", "Przegląd socjologiczny", "Przegląd Socjologii Jakościowej", "Work, Employment and Society", "British Journal of Industrial Relations", "European Journal of Industrial Relations". The vice-president of the Wrocław Branch of the Polish Sociological Association and vice-president of the Research Committee 44 "Labour Movements" of the International Sociological Association.</p>
	<p>Piotr Pawliszak is Associate Professor at the Chair of Sociological Theory, Institute of Philosophy, Sociology and Journalism, at the University of Gdansk and a member of Academic Consortium of Discourse Analysis Workshops. He has published <i>Organization of Conversion of the Focolari Movement</i> (2003) and numerous articles on dynamics of symbolic conflicts in the public sphere and discursive construction of ecological problems. His work focuses on cultural sociology, linkages between culture and politics, especially politics of nature, and combines narrative analysis with discourse analysis.</p>
	<p>Tadeusz Szawiel – PhD, Institute of Sociology, University of Warsaw. His area of interest includes theories of democracy and civil society, transformation of values, ideological cleavages, and the philosophical foundation of social sciences. His publications on philosophy and social sciences are: „Phronesis ... nie można zapomnieć” [Phronesis... it cannot be forgotten], <i>Przegląd Filozoficzny – Nowa Seria</i> no. 2 1999 „Odpowiedzialność a przyszłość” [Responsibility and the Future], <i>Etyka</i> no. 34, 2001; „Arystotelesowska phronesis a badania społeczne” [Aristotle's Phronesis and Social Research], <i>Przegląd filozoficzno-literacki</i>, vol. 2-3 (20) 2008; „Sociates: Arete and Democracy”, <i>Civitas. Studies in the Philosophy of Politics</i>, 11 Special Issue, 2009; <i>Obecność filozofii a nauki społeczne</i> [Presence of Philosophy and Social Sciences], <i>Stan Rzeczy</i> no. 1 2011; „Nietzsche jako krytyk pamięci: pamięć jako życie i pamięć jako nauka” [Nietzsche as a Critic of Memory: Memory as Life and Memory as Science], in: <i>Kultura jako pamięć. Posttradycyjne znaczenie przeszłości</i>, Elżbieta Hałas (ed.), Kraków: Zakład Wydawniczy NOMOS, p. 127-141.</p>