

Qualitative Methods and Research Technologies

ESA RN 20 Qualitative Methods Conference
September 2016, Cracow, Poland



As technology becomes more advanced and pervasive, we must question its influence on our society, on our interactions and on our research methods and data. The omnipresent digitalization and a significant advancement of data analysis software both contribute to *technologising* the research process. The meaning of *technology* within the field of qualitative research has another dimension - it can be seen as a way of standardizing and formalizing the methodology itself.

Therefore technologies require debate on opportunities, threats, practices, merits, disadvantages, solutions, and a diverse array of methodological, epistemological, and ontological approaches that qualitative social researchers confront (or should confront) when conducting research. Perhaps even in research methods, we can say “man makes the tools and the tools make the man.”

TOPICS INCLUDE (but are not limited to):

- Analytical procedures as *research technologies*
- Paper-and-pencil instruments for qualitative researchers
- Discovering new kinds of qualitative data
- Ethnography in a technological era
- Digital and sensory methodology
- The digitalization of qualitative research process
- Emergent technologies and hi-tech research equipment
- Social media and online data collection
- Netnography, Internet-based and hypermedia methods
- Mobile and geospatial research technologies
- The use of qualitative data analysis software (CAQDAS)
- Visual analysis and social iconography
- Conversational Analysis and Discourse Analysis
- Storytelling and narratives through technology
- Video and photo elicited interviews, participatory video
- Developing Grounded Theory with technological support
- Contemplative inquiry and research technologies
- Embodiment and digital communication
- Research in psychotherapy - qualitative technologies
- Digital repositories and qualitative data archiving
- Methodological challenges posed by technologies
- Ethical dilemmas in the digital world
- Exploring technological knowledge
- and other issues related to qualitative methods, epistemological considerations, and research praxis

Visit our website, register and submit your abstract

We invite novice and experienced researchers to participate in and contribute to the forthcoming Conference. Authors are invited to submit their abstracts either to a specific session or to the open sessions. Submission until 20th April. See other requirements and deadlines:

www.esa-cracow.pl

The Conference is organized by:

- European Sociological Association - Research Network 20
- Lodz University
- Jagiellonian University

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- Swiss Academy of Humanities and Social Sciences
- Swiss Sociological Association
- Polish Academy of Sciences