

The social change in the 21st Century: Youth – Family -Economy – Migration

Online Inter-committee conference of the Polish Sociological Association 5-6 November 2020

We invite you to submit abstracts to the online conference on social change: **The social change in the 21st Century: Youth – Family -Economy – Migration.** The conference will combine research carried out in four departments of the Polish Sociological Association: Sociology of Youth and Education Committee, Sociology of Migration Committee, Economic Sociology Committee, Sociology of Family Committee. We invite both papers presenting advanced research as well as essays and emerging contributions to research on society in a time of pandemic. The authors of papers accepted for the conference will also be invited to post-conference publications.

## Aims

The envisaged conference will focus on the issues of social change in the 21st century. The very concept of social change, which has been the subject of scientific reflections for a long time (cf. Anthony Giddens, Margaret Archer, Piotr Sztompka et al.), provides the opportunity to present both critical theoretical reflections and the results of the latest empirical research in sociology particularly related to: youth, family, economy and migration. So far, social change has been analysed in Poland mainly in the context of political, social, cultural and economic transformation of the 1990., as well as Poland's accession to the European Union and globalization. Undergoing processes of social change, although very important, require in-depth, specific reflections. The aim of the conference is to give proper importance to the analysis of new social phenomena and related challenges. We are also interested in research into the crisis caused by the pandemic, which rapidly reorganized social life in many fields. We strive to look for a common denominator for various challenges and changes experienced by a society during the pandemic and accompanying - perhaps longer than the pandemic itself - the socioeconomic crisis.

During the event, we will combine reflections on various areas of social life in which the scope and significance of the impact of social change can be spotted. Thematic areas on which we focus are: social life of young people; migration processes; economy; family. The conference will cover current social issues related to pandemics and crisis, also in a comparative and international contexts. The conference is an event promoting various trends within Polish sociology, but we are also open to interdisciplinary themes and approaches, showing the creative combination of different conceptual, methodological and research approaches. We invite papers presenting the results of quantitative research, qualitative research, mixed-method, as well as institutional, political and legal analyses.

- 1. Sociology of Youth and Education. What challenges and social phenomena are of particular importance in the lives of youth and young adults? How do new media affect lifestyle, ways of spending time, constructing relationships, and work? How do young people find themselves in the contemporary labour market? What is the significance of internal and international migrations in the lives of young people? How do young people today transit to adulthood? How are the transitions from education to the labour market going? How do young people construct their budgets? What is the meaning of geographical mobility in the lives of young people?
- 2. Sociology of Migration. The use of the concept of social change will allow us to show more nuanced dimensions and aspects of the situation of migrants, i.e. approaches not limited to narrow approaches to integration. How do individuals change under the influence of the societies in which they live, but also as a result of the mobility process itself? What transformations do receiving and sending countries undergo? How do they build their migration, integration and diaspora policies? What is the significance of migration in the processes of change and social changeability? How do immigrants adapt during the pandemic? How does the pandemic and the associated crisis shape migration processes, how do they affect return migration?
- 3. **Economic sociology.** Are there any specific mechanisms and patterns of resource management within categories such as, for example, migrant households, single households, multigenerational households? How are financial strategies shaped in the context of economic security of households and meeting the educational aspirations of the young generation? What alternatives are emerging for the market: new bonds, connections and resistance points? What role do mobility, networking and intergenerational transfers play in this? How do different types of households in Poland organize their financial life in times of pandemic and "new normality"? What are the differences between generations in the context of life chances, labour market and social security? What is entrepreneurship and work like during the fourth industrial revolution? What changes and challenges are facing this form of gainful activity?
- 4. Sociology of the Family. How do globalization and Europeanization processes affect a modern family in Poland? How do traditional families experience social change, and how do non-heteronormative families? How do transformations of social roles of gender affect modern families? What is reflected in the family as changes in social concepts of gender roles and generational relations? How do processes in the economy and the labour market affect reproductive decisions and family practices? How do Polish families change in the situation of open borders and migration opportunities? What is the impact of socio-cultural changes on marital relations and family ties? How does pandemic and social/ physical distance affect family life?

## **Key information**

The deadline for submitting abstracts (up to 500 words), which should include: the aim of the paper, the main research question and assumption, methodology, preliminary findings: by September 10, 2020 E-mail for submissions: zmianaspoleczna.konferencja@gmail.com

Deadline for notifications of the abstract status: by the 25<sup>th</sup> of September 2020

Announcement of the conference program: the 30<sup>th</sup> of September 2020

Venue: Online

## Conference fee: 100 PLN

**Organising Committee**: Associate Professor Katarzyna Andrejuk (IPS PAS), Associate Professor Izabela Grabowska (SWPS University), Associate Professor Marta Olcoń-Kubicka (IPS PAS), Associate Professor Iwona Taranowicz (University of Wrocław).