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1990, lower vocational schools, combining school-based vocational education with workplace-based training, represented the modal education group among youth entering the labor market. In the following years, lower vocational schools came under pressure to adjust. Employer participation in training of vocational students diminished, which led to substitution of firm-based with school-based training. Enrolment also declined, but stabilized in the early 2000s. In other (not only) post-socialist countries, vocational programs faced similar challenges, which raises questions about their viability & performance in a dynamically changing economy. The substitution of firm-based with school-based training observed in Hungary provides a unique opportunity to assess the relative efficacy of both approaches to training for vocational graduates' entry into the labor market. The empirical analysis draws on Hungarian labor force survey data from 1992 to 2006 to track eleven cohorts of young people in the first five years after leaving full-time secondary education. Controlling for observed & unobserved cohort & period changes, we assess whether the substitution of school-based with firm-based training has had an effect on labor market outcomes of lower vocational graduates. We focus on access to employment & quality of employment (socioeconomic status, employment in skilled vs. unskilled jobs) as main outcomes.

2010S01899

Nogués-Pedregal, Antonio M. & Carmona-Zubiri, Daniel (Universitat Miguel Hernández, Elche, Spain, 03202 [tel: ; e-mail: amnogues@umh.es]), **History & Meanings in Tourism Contexts. The Case of a Two World Heritage City.,** *International Sociological Association, Gothenburg, Sweden,*

¶ Tourism can be better understood if approached as one of the names of power. The premise states that the complex set of 'dispositifs' (fr. called 'tourism' transforms territories & produces different chronotopes. Consequently, tourism induces different social & cultural processes and, mostly, it appears to be a strong mediator in the generation of meanings. Our study challenges both the conventional analysis of tourism image-making & the post-structuralist perspectives on discourses production. On the contrary, following Paolo Fabbri's semiotic turn, we approach tourism as a context through which meanings are mediated. To show this we analyse the case of the city of Elche. It is a medium-size town located in the worldwide known tourism destination of Costa Blanca & it is one of the few places holding two UNESCO World Heritage declarations. From the 60's through the 80's Elche was the main shoemaking industry centre in Spain. In the 90's the crisis re-oriented the local policy-making towards tourism as an economic solution & 'culture' as a resource (i.e. cultural heritage). The statistical ethnography shows that tourism, under certain circumstances, becomes a powerful agent in how daily practices achieve their meanings (Max Weber's Sinn) and, as such, ought to be also studied.

2010S01900

Noll, Heinz-Herbert & Weick, Stefan (GESIS - Leibniz-Institute for the Social Sciences, Mannheim, Germany, 68159 [tel: +49-621-1246-241; fax: +49-621-1246-182; e-mail: heinz-herbert.noll@gesis.org]), **Standard of Living and Subjective Perceptions of the Material Life Situation of the Elderly in Germany in Comparison,** *International Sociological Association, Gothenburg, Sweden,*

¶ Based on objective & subjective indicators the analysis focuses on the current state & changes in the standard of living of the elderly as well as their perceptions of the material life situation in Germany. This analysis addresses the current public debate on the material situation of the elderly within the broader context of the sustainability of the pension system as well as issues of intergenerational justice. While some consider the situation of the elderly as privileged a particularly compared to previous generations a others warn against the upcoming of a new poverty among the elderly. The analysis of living standards of the elderly does not only focus on income, but also includes expenditures, wealth & deprivations. A particular focus will be put on poverty in terms of income as well as expenditures. Additionally subjective indicators will be employed to explore how the elderly perceive and assess their material life situation. Our analysis compares the situation of the elderly with two younger age groups (20-54 and 55-64 years). For selected issues the situation in Germany will be compared with other European countries too. This study is based on German & European official micro data sets as well as national and international academic surveys.

2010S01901

Nomiya, Daishiro & Toscano, Emanuele (Graduate School of Global Studies, Sophia University, Tokyo, Japan, 102-8554 [tel: +81-3-3238-3567; fax: +81-3-3238-3592; e-mail:

d-nomiya@sophia.ac.jp]), **Continuity and Disjunction in the Global Social Movements: Japan and Italy,** *International Sociological Association, Gothenburg, Sweden,*

¶ The aim of the paper is twofold. It seeks to identify the change in the discourse found in global social movements in the first decade of the 21st century; at the same time, it discerns the differences in discourse between European global social movements & Asian counterparts, using as cases global civil actions that took place around the G7/8 summit in 2000 & 2008 (Japan), & 2001 & 2009 (Italy). In Japan, locally-colored anti-military base claims were the major discourse of the 2000 civic engagement. The 2008 summit saw a rather different picture, with a relatively strong presence of global concerns, such as global peace & global environment. In Italy the major discourse in 2001 was wide open on the globalisation issue, mainly focused on environment, economic & financial divides between the North & South, & the European policies on migrants. In 2009 the major discourses were on the national issues linked with the Italian government policies facing global economic crises. In sum, from the turn of the 21st century to the present, discourse of global social movements is found diverse & varied. At the same time, between Italy & Japan, these movements have taken different trajectories.

2010S01902

Noordegraaf, Mirko (Utrecht University, Bijlhouwerstraat 6 3511 ZC Utrecht [tel: 0031 30 2538617; e-mail: m.noordegraaf@uu.nl]), **Risky Business. How Professionals and Professional Occupations Deal With New (Organizational) Issues,** *International Sociological Association, Gothenburg, Sweden,*

¶ Traditionally, organizational studies focus on professionals within organizational structures & how their work is managed. The sociology of professions mainly focuses on professionals & their occupational systems, ignoring organizational structures. This state of affairs is changing. Professionals increasingly work inside organizations, & their work is being "managed" more explicitly. Professionals can no longer escape organizations and management. This awareness, however, does not establish "real" linkages between professional work & organizations. Often, the managerialization of service organizations is accompanied by absent or conflictual linkages between professional work and organizations. Organizations & management tend to be seen as "alien forces", which professionals try to resist. Changes are underway, however. New circumstances stimulate professional occupations & professionals to take "organizing" more seriously. This paper identifies three issues that pervade professional work. (a) Professionals, especially younger ones, develop new work preferences & seek new service opportunities. (b) Professionals face new risks that have to be "managed" in one way or the other. (c) Professionals find themselves in changing situations, which call for new professional repertoires, such as inter-professional cooperation. Next, this paper explores how these organizational issues are (slowly) incorporated in professional practices, & how there are institutionally reflected, e.g. in educational programs. Empirically, the paper focuses on public services such as health care. Finally, this paper discusses implications. It shows how professionals & managers are (slowly) becoming allies.

2010S01903

North, Scott (Graduate School of Human Sciences, Osaka University, Suita-shi, Osaka, Japan 565-0871 [tel: +81 668338844; e-mail: north@hus.osaka-u.ac.jp]), **Leisure Strategies in Japan,** *International Sociological Association, Gothenburg, Sweden,*

¶ This paper analyzes leisure strategies through the ages in Japan. Leisure strategies order the ludic elements of life by making use of the same cultural toolkit of durable symbols, habits, & styles that Japanese use to order other kinds of social action. The habitual imposition of hierarchy means that the most common leisure strategies to emerge in Japan are passive. That is not to say that latitude for individual leisure has not arisen in concert with modernity. But such leisure autonomy as individuals have gained has been constrained by practices that promote moral uses of time, which is generally considered to be a collective rather than an individual resource. Contemporary corporate-based leisure and state-led development of appropriate national leisure are manifestations of this overarching cultural strategy. In addition, it is important to remember that leisure strategies in modern Japan have been an afterthought, a small part of the master narrative of national development. The results of these strategies are the persistence of a pre-modern sense of obligations & a comparatively weak sense of individual leisure entitlement.

2010S01904

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