

CALL FOR PAPERS

IIAS - 2018

7th International Symposium

on

SOCIODIAGNOSTICS & SOCIOMAPPING

Organized and Jointly Chaired

by

Prof. MUDr. Radvan Bahbouh, Ph.D., QED Group, Prague, Czech Republic

Prof. George E. Lasker, IIAS, Canada

Formal and working Papers are invited for presentation at the 7th Special Focus Symposium on **Sociodiagnostics and Sociomapping** that will be part of the 38th Annual Meeting of the International Institute for Advanced Studies (IIAS) and the 29th International Conference on Systems Research, Informatics and Cybernetics, to be jointly held **August 30- July 3, 2018** in the MLG-Building in Baden-Baden, Germany (located in Hardstrasse 2 in Baden-Baden). The submissions should deal with (but are not limited to) one or more of the following areas:

- **Concepts, Models and Methodology for Diagnostics of Social Systems**
- **Diagnostics of Social, Political, Cultural, Economic & Business Systems**
- **Mapping and Representation of Social Systems**
- **Diagnostics of Communication in Social, Economic and Business Systems**
- **Diagnostics of Management in Economic and Business Systems**
- **Application of Computer Simulation to Sociodiagnostics**
- **Deterministic, Probabilistic, Possibilistic & Plausibilistic Approaches to Sociodiagnostics**
- **Graphical Procedures in Sociodiagnostics**
- **Sociodiagnostic Assessment with Incomplete, Fragmentary or Uncertain Data**
- **Use of Virtual Tools in Sociodiagnostics**
- **Sociodiagnostics and Socioprognostics**
- **Contextual Diagnostics in Social, Political, Economic & Business Systems**
- **Software Development for Sociodiagnostics and Sociomapping**

Of a particular interest would be papers that deal with the uses of diagnostic feedback information in the control and management of social systems and communications.

The Paper Submission Guidelines, the Copyright Transfer Form and the Conference Registration Form are available at the Home page of the IIAS at: <http://www.iias.edu>

Paper Proposals/Abstracts should be submitted as soon as possible but not later than **March 30, 2018**. All submitted papers will be refereed. Those selected will be scheduled for presentation and published

in Conference Proceedings. Notification of Acceptance will be sent to authors shortly after receiving their Abstracts. The full papers, not to exceed 6 single-spaced typed pages should be submitted electronically as MS Word Attachments by **May 5th, 2018** to Prof. Lasker at: **lasker@uwindsor.ca**

If necessary, hard copies should be sent to:

**Prof. George E. Lasker, Conference Chairman,
c/o IIAS, P.O. Box 3010,
Tecumseh, Ontario N8N 2M3,
Canada**

Our Symposium on Sociodiagnostics and Sociomapping has been continuous since Year 2012, and all the personally delivered papers up to 2017 have been peer-reviewed and published in the book, entitled ***Sociodiagnostics and Sociomapping (Volume I ~ Volume V)***, jointly edited by Prof. George E. Lasker and Prof. Radvan Bahbouh.

This year it will be 38 years that the Sociodiagnostic and Sociomapping methodology was first introduced at the IIAS International Congress on Systems Research and Cybernetics held December 12 – 16, 1980 in Acapulco, Mexico. At this Congress it was illustrated how Computer-Aided Sociodiagnostics and Sociomapping can be used to visualize, detect, identify and quantitatively measure a wide variety of relevant psychological, social and sociopolitical attributes, qualities, aspects and characteristics of various social groups, organizations, societies, countries, human institutions and diverse political systems. It was also shown how this methodology can be used to systematically compare, analyze and graphically represent the behavior of various social groups and their members, the quality of their interactions and communication, the quality of their relationships; compatibility, harmony and cohesion of partners within their groups; and many other attributes. We have also used this methodology to measure the magnitude and the extent of happiness, contentment, and the quality of human life of individuals, social groups and society. We have introduced a quantitative measure of happiness, denoted as an Indicator of Felicity/Happiness I.F. or I.H. to calculate the Quality of Human Life Quotient/Indicator or Gross National Happiness Indicator, which we have recommended to various national governments to use in conjunction with commonly used GDP/GNP Gross Domestic Product or Gross National Product Indicator that measures total assets of goods and services that a nation produces within a predetermined period of time. The purpose of this recommendation was to motivate and encourage governments to rely on a “non-materialistic” indicator for designing, developing and shaping their policies that would generate suitable human conditions and ecologically, morally, aesthetically, politically and an economically sound social environment in which people would feel happy, joyful and content.

Since 1992, the IIAS in collaboration with UNESCO under the Program ‘How to Replace a Culture of War and Violence by the Culture of Peace and Cooperation’ has developed new hybrid versions of Sociodiagnostic and Sociomapping Methodology that have been used for designing strategies for peaceful resolution of conflicts, disputes and wars.

At present, we have refocused our efforts on the use of hybrid versions of Sociodiagnostic and Sociomapping Methodology for the analysis of human development in a rapidly changing

world. In particular, we have been using these hybrid versions to determine the optimal conditions and factors needed to attain and sustain happiness, contentment, wellbeing, life satisfaction and improved Quality of Human Life.

This year it will also be 25 years since the first Sociomapping analysis was conducted during the experimental flight by *Stresscenter*, the shared workplace of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic and the Inspectorate of Air force and Ground Troops. Since then, Sociomapping was successfully used with many different teams and various organizations and institutions to diagnose and subsequently conduct an intervention in order to improve their communication. Nevertheless, it is imperative to constantly keep exploring the method's possibilities and limitations. Besides the reliability, dependability and validity of the individual phases of the Sociomapping analysis, one should also pay attention to the effects of its usage, both from a theoretical standpoint and the perspective of its practical applications as well as case studies. All this needs to be evaluated within the broader context of the Sociodiagnosics framework.

Sociodiagnosics may be broadly viewed as a methodology that can help us detect, identify, recognize and evaluate the invisible dynamics, health status and (hidden) behavior of various social groups, organizations, systems, cultures, societies and their constituents. It enables us to gain a deeper insight into the quality of their relationships, their communication, and their interactions, as well as into many other important aspects of their functioning and their lives.

Sociomapping can be understood as a visualization method that is applied to display complex data and data relations. The accuracy of the Sociomapping method and visualizations is a matter of interest that is an important part of the research field. Another perspective and added value of Sociomapping is looking at relations among different groups, teams or social networks – mainly to evaluate the communication among different individuals. This is one of the applications of Sociomapping. Before the method is used in everyday practice, the reliability and stability of the scales has to be known and further examined. Last but not least the intervention effectiveness of working with different people on their communication behaviors by defining individual or team action plans is to be studied.

The Conference participants are warmly welcome to address all of these different aspects of the above outlined Sociodiagnostic and Sociomapping methodology in this Symposium.

If you are interested in presenting a paper at our **6th International Symposium**, please contact **Prof. George Lasker and Prof. Radvan Bahbouh** as soon as possible by E-mail. Also, please send by E-mail attachment an **Abstract** of approximately 200 English words to **Prof. George E. Lasker and Prof. Radvan Bahbouh**, respectively, no later than **March 30th**, 2018. Notification of Acceptance will be sent to you by April 9th, 2018.

Prof. George E. Lasker; Conference Chairman, **InterSymp 2018**

Founding President of IIAS

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