

1st RC33 Regional Conference on Social Science Methodology: Asia

organized by

ISA RC33 (Research Committee on Logic & Methodology of the International Sociology Association) on <http://www.rc33.org/> at the

Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan

Call for Papers

Session:

New developments in the use of quantitative organizational data

Social scientists increasingly find that complex social phenomena cannot be accounted for solely through methodological individualism, for some phenomena originate at the “meso” level of businesses, companies, establishments, and administrations rather than at the individual level. Accordingly, a growing number of researchers rely on quantitative data on organizations both from surveys and administrative sources such as tax and social security data. While many lessons gained from individual data over the decades can be readily transferred, organizational data is inherently fraught with additional issues, among which are:

- unique confidentiality concerns such as trade secrets, which differ from the privacy interests of individuals
- a smaller population of potential observational units, leading to the same organization potentially being asked to participate in numerous surveys, thus lowering the response rate
- survey respondents acting as an agent or representative of others in the same organization
- lower availability of administrative data
- multiple organizational levels, i.e. establishments being surveyed but respondents answering for the entire company

We therefore solicit papers covering any methodological or data issue specifically regarding quantitative data on organizations, in particular businesses. Issues of interest include but are not limited to:

- panel recruitment and attrition in organizational surveys
- differences in mode choice and questionnaire design between individual and organizational surveys
- increasing response rates of surveys of organizations
- ensuring privacy and confidentiality of organizational data
- identifying and adequately accounting for different organizational levels
- linking data on organizations from different sources
- preparing and using administrative data on organizations for research use

Please submit an extended abstract (max. 1000 words) explaining the topic of the paper, and which methodological issues will be addressed. All abstracts have to be submitted before **January 31st, 2017** through the upload tool at the conference’s website at <http://survey.sinica.edu.tw/rc33-taipei/>.

You will be informed about the acceptance of paper proposals by February 28th, 2017. For all inquiries concerning the 1st RC33 Regional Conference on Social Science Methodology: Asia please contact Dr. Pei-Shan Liao (psliao@gate.sinica.edu.tw).

Important dates:

Deadline for abstract submission: January 31st, 2017

Notification of acceptance: February 28th, 2017

Open registration: April 15th, 2017

Conference Date: September 11th – 14th, 2017

Conference Website: <http://survey.sinica.edu.tw/rc33-taipei>

Session Convenors:

Judith Czepek (judith.czepek@iab.de), Institute for Employment Research, Germany

Andreas Moczall (andreas.moczall@iab.de), Institute for Employment Research, Germany