Global Interdependencies – Norbert Elias Conference Brussels 2018
Université Saint-Louis – Bruxelles

Full Programme

Tuesday 4 December

09.30-16.30 Reinventing Elias: International Pre-Conference PhD Workshop
(Registration closed)
Address: 43, boulevard du Jardin botanique – 1000 Bruxelles
Venue: Room P60
Organizers: Stephen Mennell and Robert van Krieken

Wednesday 5 December

09.30-12.30 Reinventing Elias: International Pre-Conference PhD Workshop
(Registration closed)
Venue: Room P60

12.00-13.30 Conference Registration and Lunch
Address: 43, boulevard du Jardin botanique – 1000 Bruxelles
Venues: Ground floor and 2nd floor

13.30-14.00 University Welcome: Pierre Jadoul, Rector of the USL-B, and Bertrand Hamade, Vice-Rector in Charge of International Relations
Venue: Salle des Examens (2nd floor)

14.00-15.00 Welcome and Overview – Elias and Politics: Florence Delmotte (Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique-FNRS, Université Saint-Louis – Bruxelles), Stephen Mennell (University College Dublin, Honorary), Barbara Górmicka (University College Dublin) and Jason Hughes (University of Leicester), Conference Organizers
Venue: Salle des Examens (2nd floor)

15.00 Break

15.30-17.00 Parallel Sessions

Session 1: Violence, Crime, Anger and Fear Chair: Stephen Mennell
Venue: Salle des Examens
Rationalisation Processes and the Organisation of Hunger Strikes in Ireland and West Germany John Connolly, Paddy Dolan and Stephen Vertigans
The West and Salafi-Jihadism: An Examination of the Interdependence of the Emic and Etic Civilising Processes Michael Dunning and Andrew Linklater
How Double Binds Contribute to State Strategies of Tension Matt Clement

Session 2: National Habitus and We-Images Chair: Nico Wilterdink
Venue: Room P60
Generational Figuration, Group Formation and Transformations of We-Images in the Palestinian West Bank since the 1980s Hendrik Hinrichsen
Israel’s National Habitus through Historiographical Generations Alon Helled
State Formation, Minority Language and Stigma Robert Mears

Session 3: New Means of Speaking and Thinking Chair: John Goodwin (tbc)
Venue: Room P61
We, I and You: Relationality, Interiority and Affect in an 1871 Diary and Letters Liz Stanley and Emilia Sereva
A Sociological Approach to the Uses of Personal-Pronouns in Testimonies of Violence Gina Zabludovsky Kuper
Retiring not Retirement - an Eliasian Approach: A PhD Work in Progress Peter Emmerson

Session 4: African State Formation and Integration Conflicts – Norbert Elias’s Ghanaian Papers Chair: John Lever
Venue: Auditoire 5
African State Formation and Integration Conflicts: Norbert Elias’s Ghanaian Papers Dieter Reicher, Behrouz Alikhani, Adrian Jitschin and Arjan Post
Tribe or Village? Conceptual Innovations in Elias’s ‘Ghanian Essays’ Helmut Kuzmics
Norbert Elias on the Relationship between Sociology and Anthropology (1963) Vera Weiler
Towards a Theory of Decivilising Processes – with Notes on the Contrasting Cases of Uganda and Ghanai Artur Bogner
Masks: A Cultural Anthropological Perspective Fred Spier

17.00 Break

17.30-18.30 Plenary Session: ‘Rightists’ and Jihadists’ Reactions to Women’s Emancipation: Reflections on Decivilizing Processes Abram de Swaan
Venue: Salle des Examens
Chair: Marta Bucholc

18.30 Welcome Drink
Venue: Salle des Examens
Thursday 6 December

Address: 119 rue du Marais
Welcome: 1st Floor

9.00-10.30 Plenary Session: Contemporary Elias
Venue: Room 1100
Established and Outsiders: A Long-time Perspective on a Figuration Reinhard Blomert
The Brazilian, Argentinian and Bolivian Political Conjuncture: Presupposes for a Configurational Analysis Ademir Gebara
The Age of Anger and Social Media: Norbert Elias on Technology, Civilization and Ressentiment Robert van Krieken
Chair: Florence Delmotte
10.30 Break

11.00-12.30 Parallel Sessions

Session 1: History and Sociology: Advocating a Reunion Chair: Steven Loyal
Venue: Room 1100
Fire and Fuel in the Human Civilizing Process Johan Goudsblom
National Intellectual Traditions in an Era of ‘Globalization’ Johan Heilbron
Teaching the Civilisation Process to a Multidisciplinary Undergraduate Audience as an Historian Eric Bousmar

Session 2: Decivilizing Populism Chair: Paddy Dolan
Venue: Room 1300
Far-Right Populism and National Character in East Germany: A Case Study about Anti-Immigration Protests in Cottbus Robert Rode
Teenagers under the Knife: Can Social Policy Reverse Decivilising Processes and Civilising Offensives? Matt Clement
Uncertainty and the Rise of Populisms Inken Rommel

Session 3: Utopia and Process Sociology (I) Chair: Andrew Linklater (tbc)
Venue: Room P60
Utopia, Possible Futures and Objective Ethics in Process Sociology Andre Saramago
‘In reality, we are all late barbarians’ (1989) and The Square (2017) Irem Özgören Kinli
Microbiology Meets Process Sociology Ann Vogel

Session 4: Civilisation and Informalisation: Connecting Social and Psychic Processes (I) (Org. Cas Wouters) Chair: Helmut Kuzmics
Venue: Room P61
Introduction: On Functional Democratization and Informalization: Diminishing Contrasts and Increasing Varieties Cas Wouters
Informalisation, Sociological Theory and Social Diagnosis Richard Kilminster
A New Informalising/Reformalising Global Phase in Running: The Cases of Barefoot Running and Obstacle Course Racing (OCR) Raúl Sánchez-García

Session 5: Decentered Views on Civilizing Processes Chair: Stephen Vertigans (tbc)
Venue: Salle des Examens
A Wee Light is Shining in a Bleak World: The Re-Integration of Indigenous Peoples in Societies around the World Aurélie Lacassagne
Thailand’s ‘Civilizing Process’ Patrick Jory
Power and Violence: The Case of Guarani and Kaiowa Indigenous Peoples in Dourados, Mato Grosso do Sul, Brazil Maria Beatriz Roche Ferreira, Veronice Lovato Rossato and Marina Vinha

12.30 Lunch (Venue: Room 1200)

13.30-15.00 Parallel Sessions

Session 1: Education and Figurations (I) Chair: John Connolly
Venue: Room 1100
Processes of Learning, Unlearning and Re-Learning Norman Gabriel
‘Prophets in the Pay of State’: The Informalisation of Pedagogical Discourses between 1880 and 2010 Kobe De Keere and Bram Spruyt

Session 2: Violence and Civility Chair: Johan Heilbron
Venue: Room 1300
Re-inventing the Western Myth? Elias’s Views on Violence, Civility and Rationality Matthieu de Nanteuil
Accomplices, Matchmakers and Facilitators of Crime: The Power of Mafia Relational Networks Maria Vittoria Nardi
Civilization of Violence and Mass Murder Societies: Norbert Elias and the History of Violence Xavier Rousseaux and Quentin Verreycken
Violence Increasing and Informalization Process in Social Conflicts in France Cédric Moreau de Bellaing

Venue: Room P60
Introduction Nina Baur
Spreading Young Non-discrimination Generation: Diversity and Anti-Discrimination Politics from a Process-Sociological Perspective Stefanie Ernst

Uncovering the Figuration through a Process-Oriented Computational Sociological Analysis of 19 editions of Emily Post's Etiquette, 1922-2017 Andreas Voyer, Zachary Kline and Stuart Riepl

Instilling values in people: Comparing Elias with Recent Theoretical and Experimental Advances on Social Influence Kenneth Memerechts and Nohemi Echeverria

Session 4: Civilisation and Informalisation: Connecting Social and Psychic Processes (II) (Org. Cas Wouters) Chair: Gordon Fyse
Venue: Room P61
Informalisation through the Lens: Black & White and the Development of Photography as Art Jonathan Fletcher
Informalisation and Integration Conflicts: The Two-Faced Reception of Migrants in the Netherlands Arjan Post
Informalisation and Brutalisation: Jihadist Violence as a Consequence of Integration and Disintegration Processes Michael Dunning

Stefanie Ernst

Venue: Salle des Examens
The Political Implications of Figurational Sociology Stephen Mennell
The Process-Sociological Concept of Power and its Theoretical-Empirical Implications Behrouz Alikhani
Functional Democratisation and De-democratisation: How to Assess and Explain Trends? Nico Wilterdink

15.00 Break

15.30-17.00 Parallel Sessions

Session 1: Migrations and the State Chair: Damien Simonneau
Venue: Room 1100
Refiguring Outsiders: Elastic Multiculturalism in a Temporarily Bordered Australia Catriona Stevens
Fortress Societies. The Mobilisation of Shared Anxieties Alexander Mack
State Power and Asylum Seekers in Ireland Steven Loyal

Session 2: Figurational Views on Defense and Military Power Chair: Amandine Orsini
Venue: Room 1300
Explaining Frexit: Lessons from the Jet Fighter Procurement Policy through a Configurational Approach Samuel B.H. Faure

Configuring Organized Violence in the ‘War on Terror’: A Socio-Political Approach to NATO’s Military Campaign in Afghanistan Julien Pomarède

Session 3: Digitalisation and Civilisation Chair: Hugo Canihac
Venue: Room P60
Digitization and Civilisation: Norbert Elias and the Technological and Organizational Transformations Today Adele Bianco
Communicative Competence of the Personality and Collective Habitus Elena Chankova and Yulya Zubok
The Civilizing Apparatus of the Digital Silk Road. How to Deal with the Infrastructure (for Transfer) of Chinese Digital Culture? Jan Krasni

Session 4: Elias, Gender and #MeToo Chair Barbara Górnicka
Venue: Room P61
Hegemonic Hypermasculinisation in the United States: 1900-2000 Matt McIntosch
Elias and #MeToo: A Look Back at Ancient Rome Florence Delmotte
The Constitution of Street Harassment as a Public Problem. Informalization, Reflexivity and Exclusion Mischa Dekker

Session 5: Established and Outsiders – Renewed Views Chair: Ryan Powell
Venue: Salle des Examens
The Established and the Outsiders and the ‘Missing’ Scottson Thesis: Revisiting the Texts Michael Dunning and Jason Hughes
Halal Meat and Religious Slaughter: From Spatial Concealment to Social Controversy – Breaching the Boundaries of the Permissible? John Lever

17.00 Break

17.30 Recent Books Presentation
Chair: Jason Hughes
Venue: Salle des Examens

19.00 Dinner at the Hôtel Marivaux (on registration)
Venue: 98, boulevard Adolphe Max – 1000 Bruxelles
Friday 7 December

9.00-10.30 Parallel Sessions

Session 1: Terrorism and State Monopoly of Violence Chair: Michael Dunning (tbc)
Venue: Room 1100
From the Distant Crusades to ‘Local’ ‘Islamic Terrorism’ – From the European Civilizing Processes to the Contemporary Western De-civilizing Process? Lars Bo Kaspersen and Norman Gabriel
Decivilizing Security: Troops on the Streets and Counter-Terrorism in Belgium Denis Duez and Chloé Thomas
Informal Combatants and Selfless Criminals: On the Locus of Terrorism in Modern Political Societies Dominique Linhardt

Venue: Room 1300
Pioneer Journalism: The Re-figuration of Journalism’s Organizational Foundations Andreas Hepp
Journalism and its Audience: The Re-figuration of a Relationship and its Influence on News Production Wiebke Loosen
Public Connection: Individuals’ Media Repertoires and the Re-figuration of Publics Uwe Hasebrink

Session 3: Civilized Rebels Facing De-Civilizing Processes Chair: Abram de Swaan
Venue: Room 2200
Civilized Rebels, De-Democratization and the West’s Retreat from Global Power Dennis Smith
May Rights Civilize? Elias, the Grundgesetz and the German (De)Civilizing Process Christophe Majastre
Beyond Nationalist Views of the Rise and Legacy of Fascism: Assessing Norbert Elias’ Contribution to the Analysis of a ‘Breakdown of Civilisation’ Michel-Philippe Robitsaille

Session 4: Elias and Guests (I) Chair: Alexander Mack
Venue: Room P60
To Hunt the ‘BioEconomy’ as Myth: On the Possibility Reading Elias with Sylvia Wynter, and the Question of ‘Bioeconomy’ as Transnational Normative Space and Cognitive Mode of ‘Human’ Provisioning Alexander I. Stingl
The Concept of ‘Nature’ in Eighteenth-Century German Philosophy: Norbert Elias Involvement and Detachment Model Viewed through the Contributions of Gunter Dux Historico-Genetic Theory David Sierra
Collective Action, Driven and Destroyed by Noise Jeroen Bruggeman

Session 1: Elias and Guests (II) Chair: Gina Zabludovsky Kuper
Venue: Room 1100
The Foundations of a Psychogenetic Vision of History before Elias Vera Weiler
The Reception of Norbert Elias’s Work in Brazil – Following Figurational Tracks Juliano de Souza, Vinícius Machado de Oliveira and Deoclecio Rocco Grupi Norbert Elias and Antonio Gramsci: Thinking Political Communities in the Prism of a Realistic and Emancipating Historicism Florence Di Bonaventura

Session 2: Utopia and Process Sociology (II) Chair: Marta Bucholz (tbc)
Venue: Room 1300
Paradoxes of the Modern Concept of Social Justice in its Relation to the ‘Biography’ of the Nation-States Julia Christ
Human Rights between Ruptures and Continuity Ludivine Damay and Florence Delmotte
Thomas Reid’s ‘Civilised Controversy’: Sociology of Utopia in the Scottish Enlightenment Alex Law

Session 3: Sport, Functions and Emotions Chair: Jason Hughes
Venue: Room 2200
Patriot Games: ‘Inland’, Identity and Sport Katie Liston and Joseph Maguire
Figurational Dynamics, Marketing, and Markets: The Development of the Golf Market in Ireland John Cuseck
The Physiology of Emotions of Football Fans Aline Marques Colares-Camurça, Fernando Rosch de Faria and Heloísa Helena Baldy dos Reis

Session 4: Education and Figurations (II) Chair: Norman Gabriel
Venue: Room P60
Failure in Hostile Society: An Approach to University Students Diego Mauricio Barragán Díaz
Social Stratification and the Defunctionalisation of the Family: State, Market and the Contemporary Childhood Process John Flint and Ryan Powell

12.30 Lunch (Room 1200)

13.30-15.00 Parallel Sessions

Session 1: Elias and Guests (III) Chair: Robert van Krieken (tbc)
Venue: Room 1100
‘Process Sociology’ versus ‘Processual Sociology’ Nico Wilterdink
One, Two or Multiple Process Sociologies? Liv Egholm, Norman Gabriel and Lars Bo Kaspersen

10.30 Break
Session 2: Civilizing Emotions Chair: Liz Stanley
Venue: Room 1300
From Human Nature to 'The Human Thing': Bridging the Gap Between Process Sociology and Thucydides on Developing Collective Emotional Identifications in War
Alexandros Koutsoukis
Blushing – Towards a Sociological Explanation
Barbara Górnicka
Recognising Animal Sentience: Being Civilized in the Early 21st century?
Adrianna Kapek-Goodridge and John Lever

Session 3: Accelerating Habitus Shifts in China and Globalizing Long-Term Alternatives (Org. Peter Ludes and Stefan Kramer) Chair: Behrouz Alikhani
Venue: Room 2200
Globalizing Long-Term Alternatives
Peter Ludes
China's Social Credit System and the Narrative of Self-Cultivation
Stefan Kramer
Negotiating Power-Strategies in Inner Mongolia
Merle Schatz

Session 4: Elias and Social Dynamics of his Time (Org. Adrian Jitschin and Marion Keller) Chair: Arjan Post
Venue: Room P60
Elias and Social Dynamics of his Time
Adrian Jitschin and Marion Keller
'Bildung' in the George Circle and in the Early Writings of Norbert Elias
Gunilla Eschenbach
Norbert Elias from Heidelberg to Davos
Adrian Jitschin

15.00 Break

15.30-17.00 Plenary Session: Elias and the European Union
Venue: Room 1100
Figuring Out the Rule of Law in Post-Communist Societies. An Application of Figurational Sociology of Law to the Cases of Hungary and Poland
Marta Bucholc
The Fall of the Habsburg Monarchy and the Crisis of Modern Europe: A Historical-Sociological Comparison
Helmut Kuzmics
Chair: Denis Duez

17.00-17.15 Break

17.15-18.30 Plenary Session: Symbols and World Politics: Towards a Long-Term Perspective on Historical Trends and Contemporary Challenges
Venue: Room 1100
Chair: Aurélie Lacassagne

18.15-18.30 Closing Remarks