

## Call for Papers – ESA RS1 – After Weber: Making Alternative Ethical Rationalities 'Knowable'



With his relentless work in defining the patterns of sociological analysis, both in conceptual and methodological terms, Weber has been one of the authors who has contributed the most to the objectivity of sociological knowledge, especially with regard to alternatives to positivism in social sciences. The aim of this RS is to bring together empirical or theoretical proposals, of different sensitivities and backgrounds, which reflect on alternative ethical rationalities (ecological, cosmopolitan, etc.), their significance, and the way their meaning can be accessed.

**Abstract submission:** until 15th February 2021

By emphasizing an actor's multiple perspectives, the distinction between fact and value, as well as between behaviour and action, Weber has helped to establish the field of comprehensive sociology on solid foundations. Indeed, the Weberian concept of *verstehen*, recognizing social actors as knowing subjects, seeks to explore their motivations, as well as their morals embodied in social practices. However, Weber never ceased to worry about the hegemony of the ongoing rationalization processes, especially with what he called the «disenchantment of the world», where social action guided by values and the coherence of meaning was increasingly losing its centrality. Actually, for Weber, the extrication of the individual resides precisely on values as references to the

methodical ordering of ways of life, in the sense that values were constituted as a reservoir of ethical alternatives to counter the hegemony of instrumental rationality. Weber's work can be seen from this perspective as an attempt to understand how different cultures might generate knowledge and reconstruct the social world from their ethical practices.

#### **ABSTRACT SUBMISSION INFORMATION:**

- Abstracts should not exceed 250 words.
- Submission is through the ConfTool: <https://www.conftool.pro/esa2021/>  
(opens by the end of 2020)

## **15th Conference of the European Sociological Association**

Barcelona, Spain / 31 August- 3 September 2021

**CALL FOR PAPERS**  
**Deadline: 15 February, 2021**

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