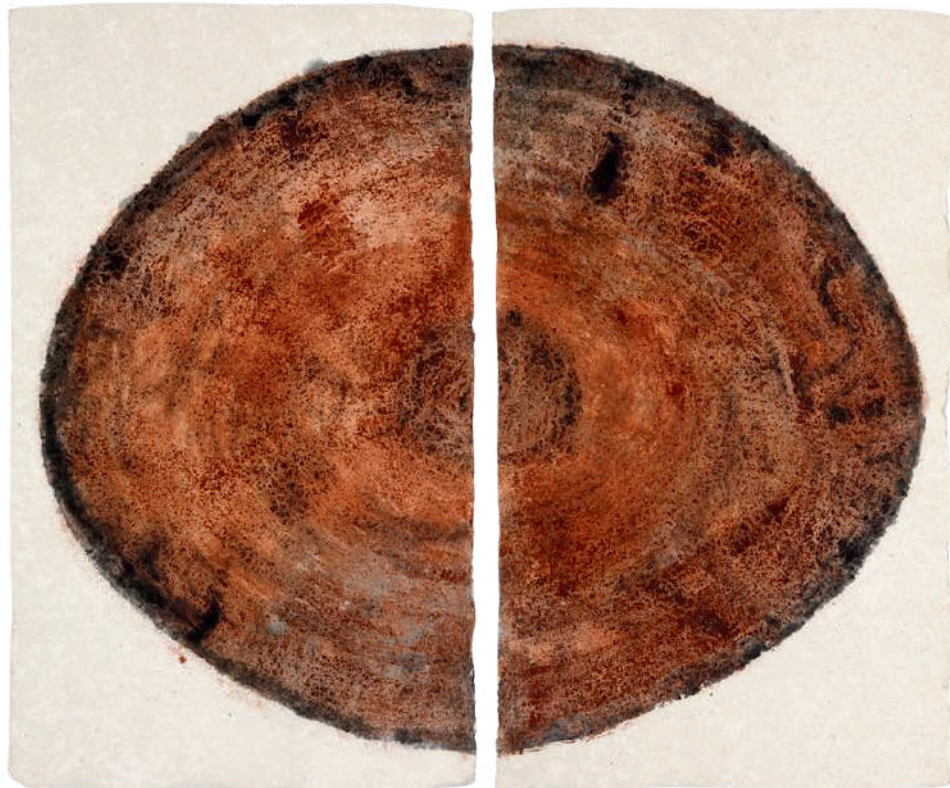


II International Sociological Meeting



Planeta tierra (1993)
Maria Dolores Mulia

Thinking and feeling the future
Between memory and hope

March 5-7, 2026

PROGRAM

II International Sociological Meeting: Thinking and Feeling the Future. Between Memory and Hope.

First Modernity, initiated in the 19th century as a result of the Industrial Revolution and led, at least, until May 1968 with the ideological and lifestyle changes that this social movement generated, enthroned the concept of progress as the decisive factor of social and cultural development. But this term implied an oblivion of the past for the sake of a present projected toward the construction of the future. Thus, change advanced more rapidly than ever, at the cost of the destruction of many traditional values and lifestyles, of raw materials and the planet itself and, above all, of the future itself, deteriorated by the risks and the unpredictable and unexpected consequences of the sweeping, dizzying and not always reflective human action (U. Beck, A. Giddens).

Second Modernity, which goes from the 1973 oil crisis to the present (D. Bell), with its succession of economic, political, social, cultural, ecological, military, religious crises..., although it revisits the past, it does so fragmentarily and as a citation, disconnected from the narrative thread of History. At the same time, the future is overshadowed by uncertainty, a state of mind, a diffuse but unpleasant sensation, which does not allow for a clear light on alternatives or new social and political utopias. Thus, the social memory of which M. Halbwachs spoke and the hope recovered by E. Bloch between 1938 and 1947 were stripped of social meaning, so that the present, without one or the other, became shrunken and concentrated solely on the instant. In this way, just as happens in a digital clock in which seconds succeed each other rapidly, without knowing where they come from and where they are going, national and planetary society has lost its origin and its destiny.

And the fact is that the transformation from the first to the second Modernity has been produced, fundamentally, by two processes: The shift from the order and solidity of social structures toward flow (S. Lash), liquidity (Z. Bauman), acceleration (R. Koselleck), temporal evanescence and dissipative structures, which emerge and disappear without giving them time to mature. The persistence and evolution of an individualism that, first, was of a bourgeois and liberal stamp and, finally, of a neoliberal and consumerist character (U. Beck, E. Beck-Gernsheim, A. Giddens, R. Sennett, Z. Bauman).

After the Second World War and the debacle of Germany, the great loser of the conflict, Adorno, Benjamin and Horkheimer tried to revitalize a totally hopeless and devastated nation and culture seeking to recover, critically, the powerful German culture. Adorno, particularly, managed to reach the intellectual elites of the country and offer them, despite everything, a tone of hope in the future. He did so, then, by critically revisiting the past and intensifying, thus, a demolished present, whose revalued energy was able to think and feel the future (A. Wellmer).

In line with Critical Theory and the Sociology of Emotions, this II International Sociological Encounter. Thinking and feeling the future: from memory to hope aims to analyze, reflect on, and carry out possible prospectives through the significant challenges currently facing contemporary societies worldwide. Among these challenges, the following stand out: global warming (droughts, floods, species extinction, desertification, forest fires, the melting of the poles, rising sea levels...); the persistence and emergence of new armed conflicts (in Africa, Palestine, Ukraine...); the crisis of representative democracies and the creation and consolidation of new and old populisms of an authoritarian nature; the persistence and increase, in certain areas, of social, economic, political, cultural, and digital inequalities; mass population movements and displacements (of an economic, warlike, or ecological nature) with the questioning of national law; the advancement of globalization without the real existence of global governance and citizenship; a new geopolitical configuration and, especially, new economic and military powers (USA, China, India, Russia...) that have broken the balance achieved after WWII; the establishment of an increasingly multicultural world with strong national and nationalist resistance; the uncertain role of the arts and literature in such a rapidly developing world; the expansion of terrorist movements toward international targets; the widening contrast between densely populated and concentrated macro-cities and emptied rural territories; the expansion of social networks that allow for improved communication, but also a clouding of it with the emergence of false rumors, lies, and fake news; cultural and religious wars; the nascent Artificial Intelligence, with its evident possibilities for social improvement, but also with its notable risks...

All these analyses will logically take on a rational and serene aspect, but also an emotional and perhaps passionate one, insofar as all these transformations pointing toward a future that is, at the very least, agitated and turbulent, are enveloped in old and new affects and feelings. Of course, there are negative emotions such as fear (H. Bude, J. Delumeau, P. Virilio, Z. Bauman, N. Elias...), so characteristically human and particularly in more advanced and urban societies, and its siblings, anguish and terror; desperation, rage, anger, helplessness; nostalgia and melancholy (R. Bartra); mourning (S. Freud)... Positive emotions also sprout: the joy of still being alive despite everything, the longing for happiness, solidarity, empathy, love (E. Illouz) and, certainly, hope, which, since Hesiod's myth of Pandora, has always been there as a resource available to humanity. Likewise, our memories, life experiences, past experiences, and collective memory are found as available resources, with their values, traditions, celebrations, and rituals that indicate we are not alone, that we are the children and grandchildren of our ancestors' love. They also fought, felt despair, and held hope, and they have left us a world like today's—certainly convulsed, but probably not as bad or as full of tribulations as the one they lived through. Finally, the encounter will reflect on the possibility of today's youth creating an alternative world, so that they may leave as a legacy to their children and grandchildren a society even better than the one they received.

Ultimately, the encounter thinks and feels the future, but taking into account the narrative thread of society which, starting from a critical memory, intensifies a more hopeful and energetic present that actively dreams of a prosperous future (Byung-Chul Han).

Program Summary

Thursday, March 5

Sede Universitaria, C/ San Fernando, 40.

- 09:30 h - Presentation of the meeting.
- 10:00 h - Opening Lecture [*Geoffrey Pleyers*].
- 11:00 h - 2nd Lecture [*João Teixeira Lopes*].
- 12:00 h - Break.
- 12:30 h - I Round Table: The future is already here.
- 14:00 h - Lunch.
- 16:00 h - Researchers' presentations.
- 17:30 h - 3rd Lecture [*Manuel Torres Soriano*].
- 18:30 h - 4th Lecture [*Cristóbal Torres Albero*].
- 19:30 h - Cultural Activity. *Marina Núñez* "Tantos mundos como este".



Friday, March 6

Casa del Mediterráneo.

- 10:00 h - 5th Lecture [*Constanza Tobió*].
- 11:00 h - 6th Lecture [*Marina Subirats*].
- 12:00 h - Break.
- 12:30 h - II Round Table: The future is contingent. Possible alternatives to the present.
- 14:00 h - Lunch.



Sede Universitaria, C/ San Fernando, 40.

- 16:00 h - Researchers' presentations.
- 17:30 h - 7th Lecture [*Gerardo Meil Landwerlin*].
- 18:30 h - 8th Lecture [*Natalia Ribas-Mateos y Eufemia Vicente Rocha*].
- 19:30 h - Cultural Activity. Screening of "Aelita Reina de Marte" by *Joaquín Posac*.
- 22:00 h - Dinner.

Saturday, March 7

Sede Universitaria, Av. Ramón y Cajal, 4.

- 10:00 h - Researchers' presentations.
- 11:30 h - 9th Lecture [*Liu Qi*].
- 12:30 h - Closing Lecture [*Alejandro Portes*].
- 13:30 h - Closing of the Meeting.
- 14:30 h - Closing lunch.



Thursday, March 5

9:30 h - 10:00 h. Presentation of the Meeting. Salón de actos.

10:00 h. - 11:00 h. Salón de actos. OPENING LECTURE. "The renewal of global sociology and the challenges of a world in crisis" by Geoffrey Pleyers, Research Director at the Belgian Research Fund. Professor of Sociology at the Catholic University of Louvain. President of the International Sociological Association (ISA). **Presented by: Juan Llopis Taverner**, Professor of Business Organization and Director of Institutional Relations and Projects at the University of Alicante.

11:00 h. - 12:00 h. Salón de actos. 2nd LECTURE. "Opening the Sociological Imagination in the Empire of Digital Individualism" by João Teixeira Lopes, Professor of Sociology at the Department of Sociology of the Faculty of Arts of the University of Porto (Portugal). **Presented by: Ángel Belzunegui Eraso**. Accredited Professor of Sociology, Rovira i Virgili University, Tarragona.

12:00 h. - 12:30 h. Break.

12:30 h. - 14:00 h. Salón de actos. ROUND TABLE: THE FUTURE IS ALREADY HERE. Coordinates and participates: Felisa-Zhang Jingting, Professor at the Shanghai International Studies University, China. **Participants: José Luis Figuero Aguilar**, Major General and General Chief of the Air Force Historical and Cultural Service. **Andrés Pedreño Muñoz**, Former Rector of the University of Alicante. Former CEO of Universia (Banco de Santander). Co-founder of IT&IS, Torre Juana OST, 1 MillionBot, AlicacTEC, and 1070 Kmhub. **Christian Oltra Algado**, Senior Researcher at the Sociotechnical Research Center of CIEMAT.

14:00 h. - 16:00 h. Lunch.

16:00 h. - 17:30 h. RESEARCHERS' PRESENTATIONS.

17:30 h. - 18:30 h. Salón de actos. 3rd LECTURE. "Geopolitical predictions: how to be wrong in the right way", by Manuel Torres Soriano, Professor of Political Science at the Pablo Olavide University in Seville. Director of the Master's Degree in Political Communication and Electoral Campaign Management. **Presented by: Antonio Luis Vicente Canela**, Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) of the Army, Graduate in Special Operations Unit Command.

18:30 h. - 19:30 h. Salón de actos. 4th LECTURE. "Public Opinion and Demoscopic Logic: A Relationship of Convergence", by Cristóbal Torres Albero, University Professor and Director of the Department of Sociology at the Autonomous University of Madrid. Former President of the CIS. **Presented by: Amalia Barboza**, Professor at the Kunstuniversität Linz, Austria. Director of the Department of Artistic Knowledge Practices.

19:30 h. Salón de actos. CULTURAL ACTIVITY. Marina Núñez "Tantos mundos como este". Lecture in dialogue with **Enric Mira**, Associate Professor of Communication at the University of Alicante.

Friday, March 6:

10:00 h. - 11:00 h. Salón de actos. 5th LECTURE. "Founding Mothers of Sociology: Harriet Martineau, Charlotte Perkins Gilman, and Jane Addams" by Constanza Tobío Soler, Professor of Sociology at the Carlos III University of Madrid. National Sociology Prize 2021. **Presented by: María Jiménez Delgado**, Associate Professor of Sociology. Director of the Department of Sociology I at the University of Alicante.

11:00 h. - 12:00 h. Salón de actos. 6th LECTURE. "The contribution of women to the construction of a future society" by Marina Subirats, Professor of Sociology at the Autonomous University of Barcelona. **Presented by: Diana Jareño Ruiz**, Associate Professor of Sociology at the University of Alicante, Vice-president of the FES (Spanish Federation of Sociology) and President of the AVS (Valencian Association of Sociology).

12:00 h. - 12:30 h. Break.

12:30 h. - 14:00 h. Salón de actos. II ROUND TABLE: THE FUTURE IS CONTINGENT. POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVES TO THE PRESENT. Coordinates and participates: Amalia Barboza, Professor at the Kunstuniversität Linz (Austria). Director of the Department of Artistic Knowledge Practices. Participants: Pablo Francescutti, Associate Professor at the Rey Juan Carlos I University. Author of the book *History of the future: Utopias and dystopias after the pandemic*. **Cristina Monge**, sociologist, political scientist, PhD from the University of Zaragoza and professor of political science at the Complutense University of Madrid.

14:00 h. - 16:00 h. Lunch.

16:00 h. - 17:30 h. RESEARCHERS' PRESENTATIONS.

17:30 h. - 18:30 h. Salón de actos. 7th LECTURE. "Trends of change in family dynamics in Spain and future perspectives", by Gerardo Meil Landwerlin, Professor of Sociology at the Autonomous University of Madrid. La Caixa Prize in Social Sciences, 2009, and Alares Foundation Prize for research on Work-family life balance. **Presented by: Miguel Ángel Mateo Pérez**, Professor of Sociology at the University of Alicante.

18:30 h. - 19:30 h. Salón de actos. 8th LECTURE. "Tools to reflect on the future of African borders in motion: The paradigmatic example of Cape Verde", by Natalia Ribas-Mateos (Senior Researcher at TRANSMENA UAB/Mespolhis Aix-en-Provence) **y Eufémia Vicente Rocha** (Assistant Professor at the University of Cape Verde). **Presented by: Eva María Sotomayor Morales**, Accredited Professor of Sociology, University of Jaén. President of the Committee on Sociology of Emotions of the FES.

19:30 h. Salón de actos. CULTURAL ACTIVITY. Screening of "Aelita Reina de Marte" by Joaquín Posac. Presented by: Kiko Mora, Professor of Communication at the University of Alicante.

22:00 h - Dinner.

Saturday, March 7:

10:00 h. - 11:30 h. RESEARCHERS' PRESENTATIONS.

11:30 h. - 12:30 h. Sala Altamira. 9th LECTURE. "Reinterpreting memory, building the present, waiting for the future: An anthropological study on the Tibetan-Hui group on the border between Yunnan and Tibet, China", by Liu Qi, PhD in Sociology. Professor of Anthropology. Research Professor at Shanghai Academy of Global Governance and Area Studies (SAGGAS), Shanghai International Studies University. Fellow at Chinese Academy of Social Sciences. **Presented by: Felisa-Zhang Jingting**, Professor at the Shanghai International Studies University, China.

12:30 h. - 13:30 h. Sala Altamira. CLOSING LECTURE. "Establishing the Phenomenon, Adumbration and Ideal Types: Reflections on the Work of Robert K. Merton", by Alejandro Portes, Professor at the Universities of Princeton and Miami. Princess of Asturias Award for Social Sciences, 2019. Former President of the American Sociological Association. Member of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. American Sociological Association Distinguished Scholarly Book Award. **Presented by: Raúl Ruiz Callado**, Professor of Sociology, Vice-Rector for Students and Employment at the University of Alicante.

13:30 h. - 14:00 h. Closing of the Meeting.

14:30 h. - Closing lunch at Poniente restaurant (Real Club de Regatas).



Location



Menu



OPENING LECTURE

The renewal of global sociology and the challenges of a world in crisis.

Since the 1970s, the crisis of Sociology has been repeatedly proclaimed. After attending Sociology congresses across different continents, my perception is exactly the opposite: since the beginning of the 21st century, our discipline has experienced one of its most stimulating and creative periods. One of the main sources of this renewal lies in a more open dialogue with critical perspectives (intersectional, decolonial...) and with the epistemologies and contributions of the Global East and South. This renewed global dialogue has challenged false universalisms as well as Eurocentric and androcentric stances in Sociology, and has paved the way for revising its history, its canons, its epistemologies, and its main concepts. The dialogue that was strengthened among sociologists from different continents has built a more global discipline, better equipped to analyze the challenges of our time.



Geoffrey Players

Research Director at the Belgian Research Fund, Professor of Sociology at the Catholic University of Louvain. President of the International Sociological Association (ISA).

2nd LECTURE

Opening the Sociological Imagination in the Empire of Digital Individualism.

This lecture claims the critical and creative potential of the sociological imagination as an epistemological and ethical practice capable of destabilizing the apparent naturalness of the social world. Drawing on the legacy of Critical Theory and the Sociology of Emotions, it proposes that "thinking and feeling the future" demands a methodological challenge to the status quo: a deliberate openness toward the possible. Such openness depends on unveiling the invisible social restrictions that perpetuate inequality and which, in the digital age, operate insidiously through conformist and affectively regulated subjectivities. Today, individuals tend to perceive themselves as psychologically autonomous entities, detached from the structural conditions that shape their lives. However, this illusion of autonomy becomes a subtle form of domination. Algorithmic environments and digital performativity reinforce the desire for recognition and belonging, producing submissive individuals who, unknowingly, reproduce the systems they inhabit. Opening the sociological imagination is, therefore, to reactivate the dual vocation of Sociology: criticism and hope. Criticism, because it exposes the historical and affective mechanisms that normalize inequality and silence resistance; hope, because it sustains the belief in the human capacity to imagine alternative futures. In this sense, sociological thought is not only analytical but also emancipatory: it allows us to feel the contradictions of the present and think about the conditions for transformation.



João Teixeira Lopes

Professor of Sociology at the Department of Sociology of the Faculty of Arts of the University of Porto (Portugal). Institute of Sociology, University of Porto. Founding Member of the Observatory of Cultural Activities. Member of the Assembly of the Republic of Portugal (2002-2006). "Chevalier des Palmes Académiques" Award, 2014, from the French Government. Former President of the Portuguese Association of Sociology.

3rd LECTURE

Geopolitical predictions: how to be wrong in the right way.

In a world obsessed with anticipating what is to come, making mistakes has become a constant and, paradoxically, an opportunity. This presentation proposes a reflection on the art of "being wrong in the right way" in geopolitical prediction: how to transform error into a tool for learning and strategic management. Drawing on the ideas developed in the book *Espejismos del mañana* (Mirages of Tomorrow), it examines why predictions systematically fail and how our cognitive biases, the illusion of control, and an excess of scientific confidence turn forecasting into a factory of mirages. Five principles are proposed to improve our relationship with uncertainty: accepting error as an inevitable condition, recognizing biases, embracing uncertainty, prioritizing trends over isolated events, and not delegating the understanding of the world to artificial intelligence.



Manuel Torres Soriano

Professor of Political Science at the Pablo de Olavide University in Seville and PhD in Sociology and Political Science. A specialist in security and disinformation, he is the author of the book *Espejismos del Mañana: Promesas y fracasos de la predicción política* (2025). Currently, he is a member of the Advisory Council of the Elcano Royal Institute, the Forum against National Security Disinformation Campaigns (Ministry of the Presidency), and has served on the Advisory Board of the European Counter-Terrorism Centre of EUROPOL. His career has been recognized with the Defense Research Award and the Police Merit Medal from the Mossos d'Esquadra.

4th LECTURE

Public Opinion and Demoscopic Logic: A Relationship of Convergence.

Public opinion is a complex and polysemous notion that possesses a process of historical emergence and a variety of conceptions linked to diverse political-ideological traditions. In short, its evolution has been tied to the very nature of the broader society in which its dynamics unfold. In contemporary advanced societies with democratic regimes, public opinion has become a permanent reference in political decision-making, while demoscopic activity, and the logic it entails, has ended up substantively defining the idea of public opinion in a hegemonic way. After conceptually exploring this entire relationship of convergence, comparative empirical evidence of the Spanish case is shown, based on four surveys available in the CIS database. Finally, the effect that the emergence of Social Media, as opposed to Mass Media, has had on this process of homology is considered.



Cristóbal Torres Albero

University Professor and Director of the Department of Sociology at the Autonomous University of Madrid. Former President of the CIS.

5th LECTURE

Founding Mothers of Sociology: Harriet Martineau, Charlotte Perkins Gilman, and Jane Addams.

From the very beginnings of Sociology, there were female thinkers who investigated social phenomena, participated in public debate, and were heard. However, as the discipline became academically consolidated and the sociological canon was created, their contributions were excluded. Harriet Martineau, Charlotte Perkins Gilman, or Jane Addams, among many others, were left out of the body of social knowledge, thereby impoverishing it. Rescuing their names from oblivion is not only a matter of historical justice but a way to recover what was taken from us and which today displays a surprising modernity. Many of the themes they worked on and the methodologies used by the founding mothers of Sociology remain relevant today and allow for a better understanding of the world of today and tomorrow.



Constanza Tobío

Professor of Sociology at the Carlos III University of Madrid. National Sociology Prize 2021.

6th LECTURE

The contribution of women to the construction of a future society.

The premise of this presentation is as follows: there is an imbalance in today's world between the importance given to the accumulation of wealth and ethical values, especially those that are indispensable for the preservation of life. In the current phase, this is becoming a threat to human survival itself, through the destruction of nature and the new predominance of the law of the fittest. Every technical advance, initially advantageous, ends up generating fear of being applied destructively in the hands of an elite guided solely by profit. In this scenario, women—increasingly active and having achieved certain quotas of power in some parts of the world—constitute an ethical reserve capable of promoting values of solidarity and empathy. This is not due to reasons of individual goodness or wickedness, but because of the specialization promoted by the sexual division of labor. In this regard, women, as the largest group of humanity, are probably the most important collective force existing today to drive a rebalancing that implies a new human project; one based not on the exploitation of resources and people, but on the conservation and defense of life, and on a new way of living where basic needs can be met while simultaneously renouncing current, highly destructive forms of consumption. In this lecture, I will present the possibilities we can glimpse today for this to occur, as well as the existing obstacles, both in terms of the evolution of women themselves and the possibility of them exercising real power.



Marina Subirats

Professor Emeritus of Sociology at the Autonomous University of Barcelona. Former Director of the Women's Institute. Member of the Royal Academy of Belles Lettres of Barcelona. Creu de Sant Jordi Award in 2006, and Gold Medal of Honor of Barcelona in 2023.

7th LECTURE

Trends of change in family dynamics in Spain and future perspectives.

Family life in Spain has undergone a profound change in recent decades, moving from a patriarchal model to more diverse ways of materializing life projects as couples and families. Behind this change lie deep modifications in the legal regulation of family relations, changes in social policies, and in values and attitudes toward family change. Thus, the right to marry has been recognized for same-sex couples, and their number is growing substantially. De facto unions have not only become the usual way to start a life project as a couple, but also an alternative to marriage, although the latter remains quite popular. Divorce or separation has also been normalized as a way out of an unsatisfactory life project as a couple, although its growth rate has slowed down. With the generalization of family planning, the size of new families has been increasingly reduced, with fertility levels far below the replacement rate, even though the use of assisted reproduction methods is becoming less uncommon. The gender-based segregation of family roles is blurring, as the transition from a fusional family model to a more associative model becomes more widespread. All these trends suggest that social control over the process of formation, dynamics, and dissolution of individual family projects has weakened substantially, giving rise to much greater individual freedom in their configuration throughout the life trajectory. Although the forms these individual projects take as couples and families have become more diverse, living as a couple and family in search of life satisfaction has not lost its appeal among the new generations, and nothing suggests it will, even if fertility remains at very low levels.



Gerardo Meil Landwerlin

Professor of Sociology at the Autonomous University of Madrid. La Caixa Prize in Social Sciences, 2009, and Alares Foundation Prize for research on Work-family life balance: Innovation and Essay, 2008.

8th LECTURE

Tools to reflect on the future of African borders in motion: The paradigmatic example of Cape Verde.

This lecture constructs and presents a comprehensive set of conceptual tools for the study of African Borders in Motion (ABM, Palgrave Macmillan publication, 2026), addressing theoretical frameworks and research perspectives on borders and migration in Africa that have evolved since the beginnings of globalization. The tools are analyzed from a critical perspective that transcends simplistic decolonized approaches and automatic forms of cross-border externalization, in order to understand contemporary mobility dynamics and barriers—both old and new—through interdisciplinary collaboration. First, regarding the current state of the art, this lecture analyzes the evolving landscape of border studies, focusing especially on African perspectives and the complexities of migration and mobility. Second, this lecture identifies key emerging themes related to borders and mobility in Africa that require further exploration and understanding. The study of African borders is an ongoing process fueled by both new and established theoretical frameworks, such as the ecological crisis and the socio-economic challenges that drive the forced migration of youth and women in Africa. In this sense, Mbembe's reflections offer, once again, a critical perspective for understanding Africa's role in global dynamics and the complex ethics of restitution. Third, the lecture describes current methodologies employed in the research of African borders, emphasizing a long-term perspective and contextual understanding.

Natalia Ribas-Mateos



Senior researcher at TRANSMENA UAB/Mespolhis Aix-en-Provence, specialist in global borders.

Eufenia Rocha



Assistant Professor at the University of Cape Verde. Fulbright Visiting Scholar Program. School Merit Award, University of Minho.

9th LECTURE

Reinterpreting memory, building the present, waiting for the future: An anthropological study on the Tibetan-Hui group on the border between Yunnan and Tibet, China.

In the town of Shengping, on the border between Yunnan and Tibet in southwest China, lives a small group called the "Tibetan-Hui." Their ancestors are Hui who arrived in the town during the Qing dynasty and, shortly after their arrival, intermarried with local Tibetans. Therefore, this group shares both Tibetan and Hui blood, and their lifestyle can be summarized as "Hui inside, Tibetan outside." Furthermore, they have adapted Islam to the local context. Based on several years of fieldwork, this article describes how this group coordinates its two identities through a process of reinterpreting memory, by which they find a way to live in harmony with the local Tibetan population. Since the 1980s, this group of people has faced the governmental challenge of "defining themselves." Since then, they have been debating between their official ethnic identity and their dual way of life, constructing their present with great effort and wisdom. Fortunately, most have found a way to resolve this problem and have settled into inner peace, which could offer them hope for the future.



Liu Qi

Professor of Anthropology and PhD in Sociology. Research Professor at Shanghai Academy of Global Governance and Area Studies (SAGGAS), Shanghai International Studies University. Fellow at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences.

CLOSING LECTURE

Establishing the Phenomenon, Adumbration and Ideal Types: Reflections on the Work of Robert K. Merton.

I discuss here some of the basic concepts that Merton bequeathed to us. The common theme was the defense of scientific research and its products. Merton was aware that scientific innovations, once developed, acquire the characteristic of a public good. And, as such, they can be used profitably, they can be spoiled, or even ignored by claiming they are not 'new'. The latter constitutes the fallacy of adumbration that Merton criticized throughout his career.



Alejandro Portes

Professor at the Universities of Princeton and Miami. Princess of Asturias Award for Social Sciences, 2019. Former President of the American Sociological Association. Member of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America and of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. American Sociological Association Distinguished Scholarly Book Award.

I ROUND TABLE: THE FUTURE IS ALREADY HERE

Coordinator: Felisa-Zhang Jingting, Professor at the Shanghai International Studies University, China.

- **José Luis Figuero Aguilar.** Major General. General Chief of the Air Force Historical and Cultural Service. ***“On the Struggle for Power and Principles: Challenges and Perspectives in Current Geopolitics.”*** The elements I have considered for reflection and around which I hope to articulate my presentation are: the keys to the struggle for power and the geopolitical evolution in the new world order, with an emphasis on recent developments. I intend to reflect on which principles and values will accompany us and must prevail; how geopolitical tension between powers affects the fracture of global governance and normative agreements; and what the expectations are regarding the power struggle between the great powers and which of them will prevail. I am also interested in reflecting on how technology transforms political contestation and power dynamics. Finally, from the point of view of security and defense, I will reflect on whether we can say that the future is already here, or if significant changes await us.
- **Andrés Pedreño Muñoz.** Former Rector of the University of Alicante. Former CEO of Universia (Banco Santander). Co-founder of IT&IS, Torre Juana OST, 1 MillionBot, AlicanTEC, and 1070 Kmhub. Author of the book ***“The Future of AI. Europe Facing the Future of Artificial Intelligence”***. Europe faces a historical crossroads. While the United States and China compete for global technological leadership, the old continent seeks to define its own model: one that combines innovation, rights, and competitiveness. This proposal explores how artificial intelligence will transform the economy, employment, and technological sovereignty, and why Europe cannot limit itself to regulating risks without boosting its capacity for creation and development. From an economic and strategic perspective, it analyzes the structural challenges hindering European innovation—regulatory fragmentation, lack of investment, excess bureaucracy—and the opportunities offered by human-centered, sustainable, and open AI. The future will not be written with algorithms alone, but with policies that incentivize talent, science, and public-private cooperation. Europe can still be a protagonist in the new era of artificial intelligence if it turns its ethical and humanist vision into a force for innovation and global leadership.

I ROUND TABLE: THE FUTURE IS ALREADY HERE

Coordinator: Felisa-Zhang Jingting, Professor at the Shanghai International Studies University, China.

- **Felisa-Zhang Jingting**, Professor at the Shanghai International Studies University, China. *“Art, Technology, and Hope: Imaginaries of the Future in Contemporary China.”* In contemporary China, the future has become a symbolic space where collective hope, technological innovation, and aesthetic sensibility converge. This presentation explores how digital transformations—from artificial intelligence to virtual reality—are shaping new ways of imagining the future, while reconfiguring the relationship between art, body, and emotion. Using a sociological and cultural approach, it analyzes various artistic expressions and visual practices that articulate a dialogue between technological modernity and Chinese spiritual tradition. These practices reveal an “aesthetics of hope,” in which technology ceases to be a mere instrument and becomes a means of affective and symbolic connection between individuals and the community. The proposal argues that, in the era of deep mediatization, artistic creativity in China acts as a form of emotional resistance and as a way to reconstruct the imagination of the future. Thus, technologically mediated art not only reflects the anxiety of the present but also embodies the possibility of a civilization where material progress is accompanied by an ethical and spiritual rebirth.
- **Christian Oltra Algado**. Senior Researcher at CIEMAT. Author of the book *The Future of Population: 25 Questions to Decipher a Changing Planet. “Hopeful Futures: Towards a Synthesis Between Ecomodernism and Degrowth”*. The contemporary debate on sustainability is currently polarized between two seemingly irreconcilable visions: ecomodernism, which relies on technological innovation and the decoupling of economic growth from environmental impact, and degrowth, which proposes reducing material production to live within planetary limits. This false dichotomy paralyzes the collective imagination and hinders the construction of mobilizing alternatives. This presentation proposes overcoming this polarization through the framework of “Existential Hope” and the methodology of prospective worldbuilding. Rather than defending one position against another, we will explore how the most valuable elements of both currents can be integrated into coherent, desirable, and plausible visions of the future: the technological innovation of ecomodernism combined with the values of sufficiency, community, and local democracy of degrowth. In this regard, it is argued that, using foresight tools such as scenario planning and backcasting, it is possible to build concrete scenarios showing how societies in the years 2045-2050 could flourish by balancing technological progress with human well-being, distributive justice, and ecological regeneration. Faced with the uncertainty and “presentism” that characterize our era, this approach responds to the meeting’s call to recover both critical memory and active hope, offering horizons that allow us not to fear the future, but to build it collectively from a rational and emotionally hopeful perspective.

II ROUND TABLE: THE FUTURE IS CONTINGENT. ALTERNATIVES TO THE PRESENT

Coordinator: Amalia Barboza, Professor at the Kunstuniversität Linz (Austria). Head of the Department of Artistic Knowledge Practices.

- **Amalia Barboza**, Professor at the Kunstuniversität Linz, Austria. Head of the Department of Artistic Knowledge Practices. ***“Knowledge of the Body: Towards a Critical Theory and Methodology of Utopias”***. Starting from the tradition of Critical Theory, I see it as necessary today to consider the central role of art and body knowledge in integrating possible, participatory, and inclusive utopias into Sociology. I believe that art can offer us the necessary tools to “think-feel” and create these utopian futures. The first generation of Critical Theory followed the motto of the prohibition of thinking about a utopia (Utopieverbot), so as not to fall into the institutionalization of “bourgeois desires” or utopias situated from an ideological social position, hiding classist desires. Nowadays, we know it is essential to include, in our sociological practice, a reflection on our biographical and social perspective: what was known at the beginning of critical theory as the legacy of the Sociology of Knowledge and the need to consider the “situational rootedness,” Standortgebundenheit (Karl Mannheim), from which one researches. Today we refer to situated knowledge, following the current of the Philosophy of Science (Donna Haraway). The question I want to reflect on is how, through sociological research, we can go beyond diagnosing and predicting, putting into motion possible, participatory utopias that integrate those who do not have a voice. I believe that to give space to those who cannot speak, it is necessary to include the tools of art, which integrate knowledge of the body and open a dialogue with other languages. How can we think of utopias within a radical democracy, and how can sociological research contribute to this plural and dynamic creating, thinking, and feeling of utopias?
- **Cristina Monge**, Sociologist, political scientist, PhD from the University of Zaragoza, and Professor of Political Science at the Complutense University of Madrid. Researcher in ecological transition and democratic quality. Her latest book is *Against Discontent: For an Alliance to Build Desirable Futures* (Paidós Essay Award 2026). ***“Against Discontent: Recovering the Desirable Future”***. The idea of a future associated with multiple collapses reflects malaise and discontent linked to the crises of trust in democracies—both in institutions and in intermediary agents and society itself. The challenges of the future seem impossible to address, carrying the risk of triggering a sort of self-fulfilling prophecy that advances accompanied by the idea of inevitability.

**Round table sponsored by
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II ROUND TABLE: THE FUTURE IS CONTINGENT. ALTERNATIVES TO THE PRESENT

Coordinator: Amalia Barboza, Professor at the Kunstuniversität Linz (Austria). Head of the Department of Artistic Knowledge Practices.

- **Pablo Francescutti.** Associate Professor at Rey Juan Carlos I University. Author of the book *History of the Future: Utopias and Dystopias After the Pandemic. "Spain 2050 and Multipolar Futures"*. The year 2026 marks the fifth anniversary of the presentation of Spain 2050 by the National Foresight and Strategy Agency. The objective of this proposal is to compare the scenarios outlined in said forecast with the visions of the future observable at the international level. First, we will analyze Spain 2050 and its proposal for a desirable future characterized by sustainability, social progress, peace, and economic growth within the framework of the European Union. The report is framed within a multipolar juncture defined by the relative decline of the United States and the rise of China and India, among other powers. We start from the premise that the two major visions of the future that were dominant until recently—neoliberal progress and climate change futures—have lost influence, and their place is being taken by ideas of the future confined to the spatiotemporal limits of the nation-state. Trumpism provides one such example. The slogan Make America Great Again aims to recover lost greatness through nationalism, militarism, protectionism, and the values of family, motherhood, religion, and masculinity. While retaining the confidence in the market from neoliberal progress, it embraces climate denialism and reaffirms patriarchal ideology. Eastern futures are also of great relevance. Chinese five-year plans project the image of a great power with geopolitical, economic, and scientific-technological leadership under the tutelage of a strong State imbued with traditional values (Confucianism). In parallel, its science fiction reflects on the pros and cons of modernization or dramatizes the future greatness of the homeland (technology is always the determining variable). India, for its part, mixes science fiction and local culture (Brahmanic mythology) in "Indofuturism." Its nationalist narratives legitimize the Hindu religion while excluding Muslim culture. Russia deserves a separate mention. The communist perspectives of Soviet science fiction and five-year plans have been replaced by an official discourse armed with a "retrotopia" of national reaffirmation, sustained by the glorification of Tsarist and Soviet milestones, the defense of a strong State, and the extractivist perspective of the Arctic as a "new frontier" to be colonized. From civil society, these are opposed by dystopian narratives that oscillate between self-absorption or national disintegration, the primarization of the economy, and political oppression. These nationalist, retrotopical, developmentalist, and authoritarian modalities inspire other countries in the Global South (Indonesia, Turkey, Arabia). Designed for domestic consumption, they lack the ecumenical ambition of neoliberal and climate futures. In Latin America, official discourses insist on the recovery of supposed "golden ages," while surveys record negative expectations centered on the degradation of urban life and social polarization. Moving out of its ghetto, Latin American science fiction combines high technology with indigenous cultural themes in its speculations (see the sub-genre of techno-shamanism).

Thematic Tables - Research Presentations

Thursday, March 5 (16:00h - 17:30 h).

TABLE 1 - Precarious Futures: Keys to an Uncertain Present. *Moderator: Mariano Agustín González Chouciño (Dpto. of Sociology I, University of Alicante).*
Aula 2 (Sede Universitaria, C/ San Fernando, 40).

- **Ana Martínez.** *Beyond the stigma: University youth's perception of the Squatter Social Movement (Movimiento Social Okupa).*
- **Rosalía López.** *Feeling precarity: The heuristic capacity of emotions in the life trajectories of migrant women employed as domestic workers.*
- **Mercedes Molina.** *Elderly caregivers of sons and daughters with physical disabilities: A double challenge for social participation?*
- **Ludivine Homo.** *From technical efficiency to social innovation: The sociologist's role in the design of post-COVID-19 digital transformation plans.*
- **Manuel López-Funes.** *Between uncertainty and hope: Imagining the future in Spanish society.*

Table 2 - Disputed Identities: Keys from the Present to Understand the Future. *Moderator: Marta Monllor Jiménez (Dpto. of Sociology I, University of Alicante).* **Salón de Actos** (Sede Universitaria, C/ San Fernando, 40).

- **Llunaida Hadi Soussi.** *The loss of the sense of belonging: Political disaffiliation as a sociology of emotions in times of uncertainty.*
- **Adrián Ivorra Alemañy.** *Education as a key pillar in the global society.*
- **Mónika Sylwia Salej.** *Idiota: The actor of the future in microsociological research and driver of reflexivity.*
- **Marta Monllor-Jiménez, María Jiménez-Delgado y Diana Jareño-Ruiz.** *Youth romance and academic trajectories of secondary school students in a multicultural context: The weight of family religion.*

Thematic Tables - Research Presentations

Thursday, March 5 (16:00h - 17:30 h).

MESA 3 - Miscellany I: Subjectivities, Resilience, and Human Organizations. Moderator: *Javier Ortega Fernández (Dpto. of Sociology I, University of Alicante).* **Aula 3** (Sede Universitaria, C/ San Fernando, 40).

- **Iván González Gil y Riku Tokashiki.** *Resilience on the margins: Urban peripheries in the face of the DANA (Extreme Rainfall Events).*
- **Javier Ortega Fernández y Gabriel López-Martínez.** *Between creation and subsistence: Artistic subjectivities and informality in tourist contexts.*
- **Wissam Yatim, Carlos Jesús Fernández Rodríguez y Joan Carles Bernad i García.** *(Dis)orientation as a feeling: A psychopolitical approach.*
- **Raquel Gil-Monllor.** *Emotional trajectories and early dropout in women's basketball: Towards a sociology of gender and affectivity.*
- **Verónica Fajardo Bernabeu y Wissam Yatim.** *GRATEFUL ORGANIZATIONS: The double-edged sword of gratitude, gender, and engagement from a perspective of positive organizational psychology.*



Thematic Tables - Research Presentations

Friday, March 6 (16:00h - 17:30 h).

TABLE 4 - The Politics of the Future and the Future of Politics: Power, Memory, and Change. Moderator: Francisco Javier Jiménez Loaisa (Dpto. of Sociology I, University of Alicante). **Aula 2** (Sede Universitaria, C/ San Fernando, 40).

- **Alejandro Osorio.** *Does the democratic political culture of the most privileged have limits? The political preferences of economic elites in Spain and South America.*
- **Karla Henríquez.** *Social movements and the transmission of collective memory in Chile.*
- **Daniela Pomarico.** *Nostalgia, the last utopia of our time (La nostalgia, ultima utopia del nostro tempo).*
- **Danny Piciucchi.** *Nostalgism: A modern retrotopia.*
- **Estrella Tobarra Rodrigo y Enric Bas.** *Resilience to change: Prospective sociology of lifestyle and cultural habits for social cohesion.*

MESA 5 - Miscellany II: Myths, Memory, and Pain. Moderator: Ruth Álvarez Terol (Dpto. of Sociology I, University of Alicante). **Aula 3** (Sede Universitaria, C/ San Fernando, 40).

- **Josu Bingen Fernández Alcalde.** *The masculinity crisis: Myth or reality.*
- **Josu Bingen Fernández Alcalde.** *Communication: Reason as a slave to desire.*
- **Valerio Zanardi.** *Memory and Forgetting in narratives about non-monogamies.*
- **Natàlia Cantó-Milà y Swen Seebach.** *Past futures: Nostalgia, resentment, and mourning.*
- **Ruth Álvarez Terol.** *The Digital Footprint of Pain: Digital Memory and the Difficulty of Finding Closure.*

Thematic Tables - Research Presentations

Friday, March 6 (16:00h - 17:30 h).

TABLE 6 - Multiple Corporealities. Moderator: Pablo de Gracia Soriano (Dpto. of Sociology I, University of Alicante). **Aula 6** (Sede Universitaria, C/ San Fernando, 40).

- **Celia Vara.** *Kinesthesia as agency and method: Somatic work, iteration, and the social construction of the body.*
- **Diana García.** *Informal body politics in nightlife: Moral economy and strategies against sexual harassment.*
- **Hugo Alberto Ladino.** *Instrumental performance as a physical-emotional practice: An approach to the bodily narratives and affective memories of young band members in Caldas, Colombia.*
- **Susana Rodríguez.** *Ableism and emotion in audiovisual media: Attitudes and feelings towards people with disabilities in fictional films and series.*



Thematic Tables - Research Presentations

Saturday, March 7 (10:00h - 11:30 h).

TABLE 7 - Miscellany III: Science, Technology, and Emotions. *Moderator: Pablo Martínez Rico (Dpto. of Sociology I, University of Alicante).* **Aula 5** (Sede Universitaria, Av. Ramón y Cajal, 4).

- **Rubia Carla Formighieri y Giolo Suely Ruiz.** *Between fear and meaning: The relationship with nature as symbolic mediation in contexts of crisis.*
- **Rodrigo Barros Gewehr.** *Medicine as belief: Reflections on the relationship between science and faith in Times of pandemic.*
- **Alejandro Parodi González.** *Between ethos and algorithm: Sociology of forensic oratory in the age of AI.*
- **Alena Glajchova.** *Between duty and devotion: Nurses' emotional spillover, vulnerability and resilience while caring for a dying loved one.*
- **Pablo Martínez.** *Use of digital social networks by young people in Alicante: An amalgam of emotions and feelings.*

TABLE 8 - The Artistic and Mediatic Construction of Social Reality. *Moderator: Xavier Mas i Sempere (Dpto. of Sociology I, University of Alicante).* **Aula Emilio Varela** (Sede Universitaria, Av. Ramón y Cajal, 4).

- **Josu Bingen Fernández Alcalde.** *Film Broadcasts on RTVE Play: Content Analysis of Conflict and Gender Representation.*
- **Josu Bingen Fernández Alcalde.** *Television Networks: Houses of Cops and Robbers.*
- **Carles Francesc Baeza.** *Coppola's Megalopolis: The (Hopeless) Architect. A perspective from the sociology of emotions and architecture.*
- **Xavier Mas i Sempere.** *The auditorium of the future: The symphony subscription ten years later.*
- **James Rodas Serna y Llunaida Hadi Soussi.** *The identity of minuscule lives: A sociology of emotions of teaching staff in times of uncertainty.*

Thematic Tables - Research Presentations

Saturday, March 7 (10:00h - 11:30 h).

TABLE 9 - Population Futures: Family, Love, and Care. Moderator: *Adrián Ivorra Alemañy (Dpto. of Sociology I, University of Alicante).* **Aula 6** (Sede Universitaria, Av. Ramón y Cajal, 4).

- **Barbara Rostecka.** *Acts of maternal love in times of social anger and the principle of human relationship.*
- **David Antón Torres y Élide Mira Galindo.** *Children in Spain: A reproductive gap between desire and reality.*
- **Jesús Jurado-Serrano, Raúl Ruiz-Callado y María Elenea Fabregat-Cabrera.** *Structural persistence and social change: Emotional dynamics in conflict management over domestic work in dual-income couples.*
- **Silvana Bitencourt.** *Care for living: A study on the care of Brazilian and Spanish women.*
- **Victoria Cubedo Pinazo.** *Trends in affective relationships in late modernity: The impact of therapeutic culture on romantic relationships.*



ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Direction:

- **Juan Antonio Roche Cárcel**, Professor of Sociology at the University of Alicante.

Coordination:

- **General Coordination.** *Javier Ortega Fernández*, Professor of Sociology at the University of Alicante.
- **Logistics team.** *Pablo Martínez Rico and Ruth Álvarez Terol*, Predoctoral researchers at the University of Alicante.
- **Registration and Web.** *Pablo de Gracia Soriano*, Professor of Sociology at the University of Alicante.
- **Program and evaluations.** *Francisco Javier Jiménez Loaisa*, Professor of Sociology at the University of Alicante.
- **Dissemination.** *Mariano Agustín González Chouciño*, Professor of Sociology at the University of Alicante.
- **Venues and Encounter.** *Marta Monllor Jiménez*, Professor of Sociology at the University of Alicante.
- **Cultural activities.** *Víctor Fabián Climent Peredo y Xavier Mas*, Professors of Sociology at the University of Alicante.

Organizan:

- **EMOCS** (Research Group on the Sociology of Emotions, Bodies, and Sensibilities), University of Alicante.
- **Department of Sociology I, University of Alicante.**
- **Jorge Padilla Blanco Foundation.**
- **INNOVE Social Consultancy.**

HONORARY COMMITTEE

- **Han Joas.** Professor of Sociology. Member of the Committee on Social Thought at the University of Chicago since 2000. From 2002 to 2011, he was the director of the Max-Weber-Kolleg for cultural and social studies at the University of Erfurt, and since 2011, he has been a Permanent Fellow at the Freiburg Institute for Advanced Studies (FRIAS), School of History, at the University of Freiburg. From 2006 to 2010, he served as Vice-President of the International Sociological Association. Honorary Doctor of Uppsala University. Among his awards, the Bielefeld Science Prize (2010), the Hans-Kilian-Award (2013), and the Max Planck Research Award (2015) stand out.
- **Arjun Appadurai.** Professor at New York University and the University of Chicago. He is a member of New York University's Media, Culture, and Communication department in the Steinhardt School. Member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

EVALUATION PANEL

- **Marta Herrero.** Head of Creative Industries Management and Lecturer in Creative Industries at the University of York. Director of the Centre for Digital Innovation in Philanthropy and Fundraising (CDIPF). Program Leader for the MA Management in the Creative and Cultural Industries at the School of Arts and Creative Technologies.
- **Pedro Lisdero.** Sociologist specializing in bodies and emotions, researcher at CIECS (Center for Research and Studies on Culture and Society). He is part of CCT Córdoba (CONICET) and CONICET.
- **Paola Andrea Cano Molina.** Professor at the Pontifical Xavierian University Cali. Specialist in Sociology of Culture and the Arts.
- **Pedro Robertt.** Sociologist (University of the Republic, Uruguay), Associate Professor at the Federal University of Pelotas. Researcher on productive restructuring, labor flexibility, the working class, and social reflexivity, with an ethnographic focus.
- **Edwin Catacora.** Professor of Sociology at the National University of the Altiplano, Puno, Peru.

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

- **Jorge Padilla Blanco.** President of Compass Lexecon EMEA. President of the Jorge Padilla Blanco Foundation.
- **Andrés Pedreño Muñoz.** Former Rector of the University of Alicante. Former CEO of Universia (Banco Santander). Co-founder of IT&IS, Torre Juana OST, 1 MillionBot, AlicanTEC, and 1070 Kmhub.
- **Raul Ruiz Callado.** Professor of Sociology. Vice-Rector for Students and Employment, University of Alicante.
- **Francisco Javier Vidal Olivares.** Professor of History and Economic Institutions. Director of the University Research Institute for Social Studies of Latin America, University of Alicante.
- **Adrián Scribano.** Researcher at CONICET and the Gino Germani Institute of the University of Buenos Aires, Argentina. President of the ISA (International Sociological Association) Sociology of Emotions Research Committee. President of REDISS.
- **Eva María Sotmayor Morales.** President of the FES (Spanish Federation of Sociology) Sociology of Emotions Committee. Accredited Professor at the University of Jaén.
- **Dafne Muntanyola.** Professor of Sociology at the Autonomous University of Barcelona. President of the ESA (European Sociological Association) Sociology of Culture Research Network.
- **Cecile Vermot.** President of the ESA (European Sociological Association) Sociology of Emotions Research Network.
- **Diana Jareño Ruiz.** Associate Professor of Sociology, University of Alicante. President of the Valencian Association of Sociology. Vice-president of the FES.
- **Daniel La Parra Casado.** Professor of Sociology at the University of Alicante.
- **Antonio Aledo.** Professor of Sociology at the University of Alicante.
- **Joaquim Rius Ulldemolins.** Professor of Sociology of Culture, University of Valencia. President of the FES Sociology of Culture and the Arts Committee.
- **Manuel Desantes Real.** Professor of Private International Law at the University of Alicante. Former Vice-President of the European Patent Office.

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

- **Alberto Martín Pérez.** Associate Professor of Sociology at the University of Barcelona. President of the FES Sociology of Emotions Committee.
- **Jorge Olcina.** Professor of Regional Geographical Analysis at the University of Alicante.
- **María Jiménez Delgado.** Associate Professor of Sociology. Director of the Department of Sociology I, University of Alicante.
- **Enric Mira.** Associate Professor of Communication, University of Alicante.
- **Kiko Mora.** Associate Professor of Communication, University of Alicante.
- **Celso Sánchez Capdequí.** Associate Professor of Sociology at the Public University of Navarre.
- **Antonio Alaminos Chica.** Professor of Sociology at the University of Alicante and former director of the CIS.
- **Josetxo Beriain Raquin.** Professor of Sociology at the Public University of Navarre and Faculty Fellow at the Yale Center for Cultural Sociology.
- **Jingting Felisa Zhang.** Professor at the Shanghai International Studies University, China.
- **Miguel Ángel Mateo Pérez.** Professor of Social Work and Social Services, University of Alicante.



CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

Marina Núñez. “Tantos mundos como este” (As many worlds as this one)

Description: The artistic project *Tantos mundos como este* by Marina Núñez is an invitation to reflect on the decisive influence of human beings on the future of the planet's ecosystems. Far from placing us as external observers, it recognizes us as an active part of the networks of dependency, care, and interrelation that sustain life. Within this framework—which is simultaneously poetic and ethical—*Tantos mundos como este* poses the urgency of a collective transformation based on co-responsibility, empathy, and interdependence as the only way to face the challenges of the Anthropocene.

Date and Time: Thursday, 05/03/2026, at 19:30 h.

Location: Salón de actos. Sede San Fernando (c/ San Fernando, 44).

Coordinator: Enric Mira, Associate Professor of Communication at the University of Alicante.

Funding: Vice-Rectorate for Culture, Sports, and University Extension of the University of Alicante.



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Screening of “Aelita Reina de Marte” (Aelita, Queen of Mars)

Description: Screening of “*Aelita, Queen of Mars*” (a 1924 Russian silent science fiction film with Spanish subtitles). Musicologist and DJ Joaquín Posac proposes an audiovisual experience where the Soviet sci-fi classic *Aelita* (1924) dialogues with a live electronic music DJ set. The session reinterprets the film's futuristic and political imagery through the creation of a live soundtrack, generating an immersive space between cinematic heritage and electronic club culture.

Date and Time: Friday, 06/03/2026, at 19:30 h.

Location: Salón de actos. Sede San Fernando (c/ San Fernando, 44).

Coordinator: Kiko Mora, Associate Professor of Communication at the University of Alicante.

USEFUL INFORMATION

Useful Telephone Numbers

- **National Police (Alicante):** 091 / 965 14 88 88.
- **General Emergencies:** 112.
- **Fire Department:** 112 / 965 98 22 22 .
- **Local Police:** 965 10 72 00.
- **Civil Guard (Guardia Civil):** 062 / 96 592 11 00.
- **Civil Protection:** 965 92 89 25 / 965 92 25 76.
- **Radio Taxi Alicante:** 965 25 25 11.
- **Airport Taxi:** 965 42 77 77.
- **Tourist Office:** 965 177 201 / 965 125 633 / 965 266 106.
- **Train Station (ADIF/AVE):** 912 320 320.
- **Poniente Restaurant:** 965 12 31 30.
- **Sede Universitaria San Fernando:** 965 90 98 90.
- **Sede Universitaria Av. Ramón y Cajal:** 965 14 53 33.
- **Casa Mediterráneo:** 965 98 64 64.

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