



Call for Papers 5th ISA Forum of Sociology Rabat, Morocco. July 6-11, 2025

Research Committee 14: Sociology of Communication, Knowledge and Culture

Session: Music for the Masses: Politics, Economics and Culture through Musical Experience

Description:

In the era of digitalization, people have produced, distributed and listened to music in almost every place and every moment. It has become the most ubiquitous of artworks, having an impact in all the social fields (Bourdieu dixit). As Jacques Attali expressed, "All music, all organization of sounds is therefore an instrument to create or consolidate a community, a totality; it is a link between power and its subjects and, therefore, an attribute of power, whatever it may be". Digital streaming platforms have democratized music distribution, allowing emergent artists to put their music in people's ears and minds, but at the same time, music has become a powerful medium for spreading political and cultural perspectives, which create and transform social environments. In this context, there are songs that become iconic elements for social movements; some others try to preserve cultural heritage in a repressive situation; or even Taylor Swift can become a political leader in the electoral context of the United States. This session aims to integrate research works where music is a crucial element in social and political processes, aiming to identify world tendencies and orientations on sociology of music.

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