

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

# Engaging with Boudon: Insights for Contemporary Sociological Science

June 27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>, 2024



Maison de la Recherche • 28 rue Serpente, Paris 6<sup>e</sup> → Amphi Molinié (D035)



Almost eleven years after Boudon's passing, **Engaging with Boudon** proposes a new systematic assessment of Boudon's scientific legacy for today social theory and empirical research as well as for teaching sociology.

The symposium brings together scholars from different generations who accepted to engage with Boudon's specific pieces of work in order to assess how the main ideas developed in the chosen pieces are currently at work in contemporary sociological research.

The selected pieces to be commented on cover all main topics and research areas in which Raymond Boudon's landmarks can be reasonably found, including the methodology of generative models and numerical simulations, the sociology of social stratification, the sociology of social change, the sociology of values and beliefs, the theory of action and of rationality, as well as the history of sociological thought.

# Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> June

09:30–09:50

## Introduction

Pierre-Michel MENGER (Collège de France  
and Académie des sciences morales et politiques)

## Foundations and Tools

Session chaired by Pierre DEMEULENAERE (Sorbonne University, Gemass)

10:00–10:25

## Generative Models & Analytical Sociology

Peter HEDSTRÖM (University of Linköping)

10:35–11:00

## Statistics, Mathematics and Computation

Lucas SAGE (European University Institute)

11:10

Break

11:30–11:55

## Structures and Structuralism

François HÉRAN (Collège de France)

12:05–12:30

## Game Theory, Strategic Action and Social Structure

Delia BALDASSARRI (New York University)

13:00

Lunch

## Social Mobility

Session chaired by Gianluca MANZO (Sorbonne University, Gemass)

14:30–14:55

## Inequality of Educational Opportunity

Richard BREEN (Oxford University)

15:05–15:30

## Inequality of Social Opportunity

Gunn E. BIRKELUND (University of Oslo)

15:40

Break

16:00–16:25

**On the Relationship between Inequality of Educational Opportunity and Inequality of Social Opportunity: A Reassessment of the Third Section of "*L'inégalité des chances*" (1973)**

Louis-André VALLET (CNRS, Gemass)

16:35–17:00

## Boudon's Mobility Model.

## Game Theory and Empirical Evidence

Andreas DIEKMANN (ETH, Zürich)

18:00

Cocktail → Campus des Cordeliers, 15 rue de l'École de Médecine Paris 6<sup>e</sup>

# Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June

## Types of Theories

Session chaired by Gérald BRONNER (Sorbonne University, Gemass)

09:30–09:50

### Middle-Range Theorizing

Hartmut ESSER (Mannheim University)

10:05–10:30

### Social Dynamics

Emily ERIKSON (Yale University)

10:40

Break

11:00–11:25

### Types of Sociology

Filippo BARBERA (University of Turin)

11:35–12:00

### Methodological Individualism and Macro-Sociological Research: A Discussion of Boudon's Insights

Nathalie BULLE (CNRS, Gemass)

12:30

Lunch

## Rationality and Values

Session chaired by Michel DUBOIS (CNRS, Gemass)

14:30–14:55

### Coleman's Problem and Boudon's Solution: Rational Choice Theory as a Tool for Sociology

Werner RAUB (Utrecht University)

15:05–15:30

### Macroscopic Changes in the Distribution of Values

Max HALLER (University of Graz)

15:40–16:05

### Rationality, Reasons and Transsubjective Relevance

Pierre DEMEULENAERE (Sorbonne University, Gemass)

16:15

Break

16:30–16:55

### Relativism

Simon LANGLOIS (Université Laval)

17:05–17:30

### Was Raymond Boudon too Optimistic about Rationality and Values?

Gérald BRONNER (Sorbonne University, Gemass)

# Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June

## Sociology and its Classics

Session chaired by Nathalie BULLE (CNRS, Gemass)

09:30–09:50

**Boudon and the Extraterrestrials.  
A Generative Model of the Emergence of a Religion**  
Jörg STOLZ (University of Lausanne)

10:05–10:30

**Teaching Sociology and the History of Sociology**  
Fernando SAN ANTONIO & Francisco J. MIGUEL  
(Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona)

10:40

Break

11:00–11:25

**Boudon on Tocqueville**  
Stephen TURNER (University of South Florida)

11:35–12:00

**The Transnational Circulation of a Scientific Ethos  
for Sociology: lessons from the Raymond Boudon's  
correspondence**  
Michel DUBOIS (CNRS, Gemass)

## Conclusion

12:10–12:30

Gianluca MANZO (Sorbonne University, Gemass)

Registration



## SPEAKERS

Delia **BALDASSARRI** (New York University)  
Filippo **BARBERA** (University of Turin)  
Gunn E. **BIRKELUND** (University of Oslo)  
Richard **BREEN** (Oxford University)  
Gérald **BRONNER** (Sorbonne University, Gemass)  
Nathalie **BULLE** (CNRS, Gemass)  
Pierre **DEMEULENAERE** (Sorbonne University, Gemass)  
Andreas **DIEKMANN** (ETH, Zürich)  
Michel **DUBOIS** (CNRS, Gemass)  
Emily **ERIKSON** (Yale University)  
Hartmut **ESSER** (Mannheim University)  
Max **HALLER** (University of Graz)  
Peter **HEDSTRÖM** (University of Linköping)  
François **HÉRAN** (Collège de France)  
Simon **LANGLOIS** (Université Laval)  
Gianluca **MANZO** (Sorbonne University, Gemass)  
Pierre-Michel **MENGER** (Collège de France  
and Académie des sciences morales et politiques)  
Francisco J. **MIGUEL** (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona)  
Werner **RAUB** (Utrecht University)  
Lucas **SAGE** (European University Institute)  
Fernando **SAN ANTONIO** (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona)  
Jörg **STOLZ** (University of Lausanne)  
Stephen **TURNER** (University of South Florida)  
Louis-André **VALLET** (CNRS, Gemass)

## ORGANISING COMMITTEE

Gérald **BRONNER** (Sorbonne University, Gemass)  
Nathalie **BULLE** (CNRS, Gemass)  
Pierre **DEMEULENAERE** (Sorbonne University, Gemass)  
Michel **DUBOIS** (CNRS, Gemass)  
Alexandra **FRÉNOT** (CNRS, Gemass)  
Gianluca **MANZO** (Sorbonne University, Gemass)  
Georgie **MILARD** (CNRS, Gemass)

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