



European  
Sociological  
Association

## Call for Papers



Abstract submission deadline  
1<sup>st</sup> February 2019

14<sup>th</sup> Conference  
of the  
European Sociological Association

Manchester, United Kingdom

[www.europeansociology.org](http://www.europeansociology.org)

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## RS16 - Sociology of Spatial Mobilities

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In recent decades, more complex forms of spatial mobility have developed, such as multi-residential living, studying abroad, intensive travelling or daily long-distance commuting. Important social changes, such as the deregulation of the labour market, increased divorce rate, globalisation or the development of new mobile technologies, have made the study of spatial mobilities increasingly crucial for a more comprehensive understanding of many sociological issues in contemporary European societies and beyond. Spatial mobility is in many respects linked with central sociological concepts. For instance, it is often regarded as a basic prerequisite for social participation and upward social mobility. However, access to spatial mobility and what may be referred to as “mobility capital” are unequally distributed, resulting in different “barriers to movement” among diverse social groups, in particular across gender, ethnic or class lines. There is also the question of the role spatial mobility plays for social integration and whether it leads to the emergence of “new types of belonging”. The Research Stream aims to bring together researchers from different sociological fields with spatial mobility as common research subject. It aims to explore how spatial (im)mobilities can be conceptualised from sociological perspectives and how to integrate these mobility-based concepts into existing sociological traditions.

Possible session themes include but are not limited to:

- Theories, concepts and (qualitative & quantitative) methods of studying spatial (im)mobilities
- Spatial (im)mobilities and decision making (not) to move
- Practices of spatial (im)mobilities and organisation of everyday life
- Spatial (im)mobilities over the life course and interrelations with various life domains (e.g. work, family and leisure)
- Spatial (im)mobilities, social mobility and social inequalities
- Spatial (im)mobilities in urban and rural contexts
- Connecting different scales and forms of spatial (im)mobilities
- Meanings and ideologies connected with spatial (im)mobilities.