

COMPASSS NEWSLETTER

Nr.41 (27 April 2016)

COMPARative Methods for
Systematic cross-case analysis

<http://www.compass.org>

Main items:

1. Changes in COMPASSS' organization
2. QCA training
3. Software – updates & upgrades
4. Events
5. Publications

--1. Changes in COMPASSS' organization

See: <http://www.compass.org/people.htm>

Following a business meeting held in Zürich in late 2015, and following various consultations, it has been decided that COMPASSS will engage in a formalization process, the main steps of which are to be completed by late 2016. A first step has been to renew and expand the COMPASSS Management Team (now with 5 persons) and Advisory Board (now with 55 persons). These two bodies will be involved in the management of the next steps, and in effect the current Management Team (co-ordinated by Benoît Rihoux and Claude Rubinson) will steer the process.

Alrik Thiem has left the Management Team, and has accepted the invitation to remain on the Advisory Board. The Management Team thanks Alrik, on behalf of the whole community, for his years of voluntary hard work for COMPASSS. He has improved the website considerably and has helped to turn it into an invaluable resource for the QCA community. The management of the website has now been taken over by Claude Rubinson.

--2. QCA training

See: <http://www.compass.org/training.htm>

In chronological order (for 2016 only; some training options in 2017 are also already mentioned on the 'training' page):

- St Gallen (Switzerland), 6-10 June 2016 (GSERM Global School in Empirical Research Methods): **Qualitative Comparative Analysis**, Charles C. Ragin
- St Gallen (Switzerland), 6-10 June 2016 (GSERM Global School in Empirical Research Methods): **Necessary Condition Analysis (NCA): Theory and Practice**, Jan Dul
- Berne (Switzerland), 6-10 June 2016: **Introduction to Qualitative Comparative Analysis (QCA)**, Eva Thomann
- Mexico City (Mexico), 6-17 June 2016 (IPSA-FLASCO Summer School in Social Science Research Methods): **Comparative Research Design and Configurational Comparative Methods**, Dirk Berg-Schlosser
- Rotterdam (Netherlands), 16-17 June 2016 (Erasmus Graduate School): **Qualitative Comparative Analysis**, John Downey and James Stanyer (deadline for enrolment 16 May)
- Rotterdam (Netherlands), 20-21 June 2016 (ERIM Summer School): **Necessary Condition Analysis (NCA): Theory and Practice**, Jan Dul
- Poznań (Poland), 23 July 2016 (IPSA World Congress - Research Methods Short Courses): **Set-Theoretic Methods for the Social Sciences: A Primer for Qualitative Comparative Analysis (QCA) and Fuzzy Sets**, Carsten Schneider
- Budapest (Hungary), 1-12 August 2016 (ECPR Summer School in Methods and Techniques), **Set-Theoretic Methods: Qualitative Comparative Analysis and Related Approaches**, Patrick A. Mello and Carsten Schneider [course SB104] (deadline for registration 30 June)
- Budapest (Hungary), 1-12 August 2016 (ECPR Summer School in Methods and Techniques), **Case Study Research: Method and Practice**, Ingo Rohlfing [course SB102] (deadline for registration 30 June)
- Konstanz (Germany), 26-30 September 2016, **Configurational Research with QCA and CNA**, Michael Baumgartner and Alrik Thiem

--3. Software – updates and upgrades

See: <http://www.compass.org/software.htm>

- The 'software' page has been further fine-tuned and updated in various sections.
- New software version: QC Apro 1.1-0 has been released (4 April 2016). In addition to new functionality, the package introduces a glossary for configurational comparative methods.

--4. Events

See: <http://www.compass.org/events.htm>

In chronological order:

- Valencia (Spain), 6-7 July 2016 (1st International Conference on Advanced Research Methods and Analytics - CARMA), full track on **Qualitative and Comparative Methods**, with a core emphasis on QCA – NB poster submission still open (deadline 17 May)
- Naples (Italy), 7-9 July 2016 (32nd EGOS Colloquium), Sub-Theme 30 "**The re-emergence of the Configurational Perspective in Organization Studies**"
- Poznań (Poland), 23-28 July 2016 (24th IPSA World Congress of Political Science), panel on **Set-Theoretical Approaches and the Study of Inequality**

--5. Publications

See: <http://www.compass.org/books.htm>, <http://www.compass.org/bibdata.htm> & <http://www.compass.org/index.htm>

- The bibliographical database has been further enriched/updated.
- The May 2016 issue of *Comparative Political Studies* is a special issue devoted to "**Debating Set Theoretic Comparative Methods**" and includes articles by Jack Paine; Alrik Thiem, Michael Baumgartner, and Damien Bol; Gerardo Munck; and Carsten Schneider.
- New book (QCA methodology) by Adrian Dusa: **Elemente de analiza comparativă** (Editura Universitatii din Bucuresti 2014)
- New book (QCA empirical application) by Annika Kropf: **Oil Export Economies. New Comparative Perspectives on the Arab Gulf States** (Gerlach Press 2016)
- New book (QCA empirical application) by Daniel Lambach, Eva Johais and Markus Bayer: **Warum Staaten zusammenbrechen: Eine vergleichende Untersuchung der Ursachen von Staatskollaps** (Springer VS 2016)

On behalf of the whole COMPASSS management team (see composition at: <http://www.compass.org/people.htm>),

Prof. Benoît Rihoux