

# COMPASSS NEWSLETTER

Nr.23 (11 of March 2010)

## COMPARative methods for the Advancement of Systematic cross-case analysis and Small-N Studies

<http://www.compasss.org>

### Main items:

1. Prize for fsQCA paper in legal studies
2. Special issue of the journal "Sociological Theory and Methods" on QCA
3. COMPASSS Working Paper (new publications and call for submissions)
4. COMPASSS Best practices page is now available in Japanese
5. Forthcoming QCA and Fuzzy Sets training in 2010
6. International Bibliographical Database (updated)

### --1. Prize for fsQCA paper in legal studies

<http://www.legalscholars.ac.uk/conference/best-paper-prize.cfm>

Congratulations to L. Stirton (University of Manchester) and TT Arvind (York University) who received the best paper award at the Society of Legal Scholars Annual Conference 2009. The paper entitled "Using Fuzzy Set Qualitative Comparative Analysis to explain the reception of the Code Napoléon in Germany" will be published in Legal Studies soon.

### --2. Special issue of the journal "Sociological Theory and Methods" on QCA

The latest issue of the journal "Sociological Theory and Methods" entitled "New Frontier in Qualitative Comparative Analysis" is a special issue on QCA broadly speaking. The articles propose insightful innovations:

- Taisuke Fujita "Developed and Democratic Countries' Policy-making on Dispute Settlement in the GATT/WTO: Exploring Conjunctural and Multiple Causations by Comparing QCA and Regression Analysis"
- Atsushi Ishida "Application Potentialities of the Fuzzy Set Qualitative Comparative Analysis: Reconstruction of the Human Development Index by fsQCA"
- Wendy Olsen and Hisako Nomura "Poverty Reduction: Fuzzy Sets vs. Crisp Sets Compared"
- Airo Hino "Time-Series QCA: Studying Temporal Change through Boolean Analysis"

**--3. COMPASSS Working Paper (new publication and call for paper)**  
<http://www.compass.org/pages/resources/compassswp.html>

Two fsQCA applications have been published lately:

- **Protesting Ethnic Minorities in Europe: A Fuzzy-Set Analysis**  
Victor Cebotari (Maastricht University)  
Available [here](#).
- **Rethinking the New Risk Discussion. Risk Shift in 18 Post-Industrial Economies**  
Seungyoon Sophia Lee (University of Oxford)  
Available [here](#)

The COMPASSS Working Papers aims at publishing state-of-the-art work on comparative configurational methods, with a focus on methodological and theoretical debate, and application of existing comparative techniques in new empirical domains.

Since January 2009 the COMPASSS Working Paper is managed by Maarten Vink (Maastricht University) in cooperation with an editorial committee composed of Gisèle de Meur, Jon Kvist, Charles Ragin, Carsten Schneider, Svend-Erik Skaaning, Barbara Vis and Claudius Wagemann. Each paper sent out for review is reviewed by two members of the editorial board. The review process is aimed at establishing a minimum quality before publication of working papers.

In 2009 we received seven submissions. Six of those papers were sent out for review. One paper was published after minor revisions and two were published after substantial revisions (two in 2009 and one in 2010). Three papers are currently being revised by the authors, in response to comments from the referees. We aim at publishing at least five papers in 2010.

We invite scholars to submit their work for publication as COMPASSS Working Papers. The WP series can be used by scholars both as a way to generate substantive feedback by the reviewers, as well as a way to disperse new ideas and applications via quick online publication. Please direct all questions to [Maarten VINK](#).

**--4. COMPASSS Best Practices page is now available in Japanese**  
<http://park18.wakwak.com/~mdai/qca/resource/bestpractices.html>

Daisuke Mori (University of Tokyo) has translated the COMPASSS Best Practices page (<http://www.compass.org/pages/resources/bestpractices.html>) and made it available on his Website (<http://park18.wakwak.com/~mdai/qca/>)

**--5. Forthcoming QCA and Fuzzy Sets training in 2010**

<http://www.compass.org/pages/announcements/training.html>

- The 5<sup>th</sup> ECPR Summer School in Methods and Techniques (Ljubljana, Slovenia) is offering a full course on “Qualitative Comparative Analysis and Fuzzy Sets: Basics and Advanced Issues in Configurational Comparative Methods”, taught by Airo Hino (Tokyo Metropolitan University) and Carsten Schneider (Central European University), 2-14 August 2010. The course also features a joint session with the course on “Methodologies of Case Studies” taught by Ingo Rohlfing (University of Cologne). **REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN**

<http://www.ecprnet.eu/summerschools/Ljubljana/default.asp>

- Charles Ragin will be offering a two-hour workshop about Qualitative Comparative Analysis and Fuzzy Sets during the American Sociological Association Annual Meeting in Atlanta, Georgia, USA, 14-17 August 2010. Participation is free for all participants of the meeting.

<http://www.asanet.org/meetings/2010Home.cfm>

**--6. International bibliographical database updated**

<http://www.compass.org/pages/resources/international.html>

The bibliographical database has just been updated (as of 10 of March). You are most welcome to notify corrections, missing documents, new entries to be added etc. to [ilona REZSOHAZY](mailto:ilona.rezsöhazi@compass.org). We need your help to keep this database up-to-date.

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On behalf of the whole COMPASSS Steering group (see composition at <http://www.compass.org/pages/who.html>):

Benoît Rihoux, Damien Bol, and Ilona Rezsöhazi, Louvain team