COMPASSS NEWSLETTER
Nr.42 (13 October 2016)
COMPArative Methods for
Systematic cross-caSe analySis

http://www.compasss.org

Main items:
1. QCA training
2. Software – full page redesign and several upgrades
3. Events
4. Publications
5. Working papers
6. Research transparency and QCA: invitation to join a working group discussion

--1. QCA training
See: http://www.compasss.org/training.htm
In chronological order [note some ‘early bird’ deadlines]:

- Birmingham (UK), 1–4 November 2016 (ICCS Seminars), An Introduction to Qualitative Comparative Analysis (QCA) as a Set-Theoretic and Case-Oriented Approach to Comparative Research, Markus B. Siewert
- Oslo (Norway), 9–13 January 2017 (Global School in Empirical Research Methods (GSERM)), Qualitative Comparative Analysis, Carsten Schneider ['early bird' discount until 31 Oct]
- Sao Paulo (Brazil), 30 January - 3 February 2017 (IPSA-USP Summer School), Basics of Set-Theoretic Methods and QCA, Carsten Schneider
- Sao Paulo (Brazil), 6-10 February 2017 (IPSA-USP Summer School), Advanced issues in Set-Theoretic Methods and QCA, Carsten Schneider
- Bamberg (Germany), 6–10 March 2017 (6th ECPR Winter School in Methods and Techniques), Comparative Research Designs, Benoît Rihoux ['early bird' discount until 2 Nov]
- Bamberg (Germany), 6–10 March 2017 (6th ECPR Winter School in Methods and Techniques), Advanced Multi-Method Research, Ingo Rohlfing ['early bird' discount until 2 Nov]
Bamberg (Germany), 6–10 March 2017 (6th ECPR Winter School in Methods and Techniques), Advanced topics in Set-Theoretic Methods and QCA, Carsten Schneider
[‘early bird’ discount until 2 Nov]

--2. Software – full page redesign and several upgrades
See: http://www.compassss.org/software.htm
The ‘software’ page has been fully redesigned. It now covers 16 software options, in 8 different environments. Several software programmes have been upgraded recently. From A to Z:
- QCA/QCAGUI packages for R: versions 2.3 and 2.4 released by Adrian Duşa. The packages now enable simultaneous work with multiple datasets.
- QCAPro package for R: version 1.1-1 released by Alrik Thiem.
- SetMethods package for R: version 2.0, released by Juraj Medzihorsky, Ioana-Elena Oana, Mario Quaranta and Carsten Q. Schneider.
- Tosmana: versions 1.4 and 1.52 released by Lasse Cronqvist. The programme now also includes fsQCA

--3. Events
See: http://www.compassss.org/events.htm
In chronological order:
- Nottingham (UK), 25–30 April 2017 (ECPR Joint Sessions Workshop), workshop on “Configurational Thinking in Political Science: Theory, Methodology, and Empirical Application” [deadline for applications: 1 Dec]
- Lisbon (Portugal), 28–30 June 2017 (Global Innovation and Knowledge Academy (GIKA) 2017 Conference), topic call on “Quantitative and Qualitative Comparative Analysis in business” [deadline for extended abstracts: 30 Nov]

--4. Publications
- Two methodological contributions were recently published in Field Methods: Cooper and Glaesser (2016) on “Qualitative Comparative Analysis, Necessary Conditions, and Limited Diversity: Some Problematic Consequences of Schneider and Wagemann’s Enhanced Standard Analysis” with a reply by Schneider and Wagemann (2016), “Assessing ESA on What It Is Designed For”

--5. Working papers
See: http://www.compassss.org/wpseries.htm
Working paper proposals are most welcome – to be submitted to Claude Rubinson (Managing editor) who ensures a time-efficient reviewing process before publication in the WP series.

Recently published Working paper:


---

6. Research transparency and QCA: invitation to join a working group discussion


[From Carsten Schneider] Within the framework of the ‘Qualitative Transparency Deliberations’ (QTD -- a broadly inclusive process through which a wide range of qualitative communities are thinking through the meaning, costs, benefits, and practicalities of transparency in their research), a specific QTD Working Group on "Algorithmic Analytic Approaches" (which covers QCA) has been formed. Thoughts and contributions are most welcome on the Working Group’s discussion forum. (...) The main thing is to get your input as we think through the meaning and practice of transparency for set-theoretic comparative methods.

On behalf of the whole COMPASSS management team (see composition at: [http://www.compasss.org/people.htm](http://www.compasss.org/people.htm)),

Prof. Benoît Rihoux