

NEW YEAR PRESIDENTIAL SPEECH 2020

Dear WCSA Friends and Colleagues,

as you may know, after the last WCSA elections held last December, I have been proudly re-elected WCSA President. Yes, proudly. And this brief statement is about being PROUD*. Not my personal one but ours. Proud to be world-class systemic scholars. Political Scientists, Sociologists, Lawyers, Economists, Urbanists, Architects in short: world-class scholars, as no discipline, can be merely and exclusively geographically local and epistemologically isolated. As Piaget and Popper taught us, only a few disciplines have both a meta-epistemology and an internal one with specific methodologies and techniques.

The other disciplines have to borrow from the ones who have them. Borrowing is not a neutral action as it reframes the contents of the borrowing disciplines. Several WCSA world-class scholars are aware of it, starting from our Vice President and Scientific Director, André Folloni, a farsighted pioneer in introducing the complex system approach in the field of law. From our Vice President, Alfredo Spilzinger Lord of Brownsel, who introduced the complex system approach in the Business Administration Sciences. From our Vice President and Editor in Chief of the WCSA Journal, Tyler Adams, who is empowering more and more the link between complex system approach and communication studies strongly originated by Luhmann's works. From Sinan Mihelčič, a new Executive Board Member empowering the complex system approach in urban studies, metropolitan lifestyles, and architecture. To many, too many to be all listed here, great senior and junior scholars working with complex system approach.

In very brief, my statement is twofold:

a) Much more complex system research-based policy modeling in the key situation rooms (OECD, ILO, WIPO, WTO, WHO, EU & more), interfacing the methodological platforms (political and social sciences) and the key content providing disciplines (law,

* I know the noun is pride, nevertheless I preferred to adjective it both as an artistic-creative-poetic license and to skip the semantic ambiguities of the word pride from Jane Austen on.

architecture, urban studies, economics, technology studies) to develop a coevolving higher and higher quality and global impact research-based policy modeling in all aspects of global governance.

b) Much more formal prestige for Complex Systems Research in Political and Social Sciences. We do not have a Nobel Prize and it appears more and more as a science-marketing problem. I do not think fighting for a Nobel Prize in Political and Social Sciences would be worth. It might sound like a complaint of the “Sons of a Lesser God”.

The Inamori Foundation, the prestigious Japanese equivalent, of the Swedish Academy, already provides also the Prize for Social Sciences. Habermas was one of the recipients some years ago and which I am honored to be a Nominor of. The Inamori Foundation–Kyoto Prize, involving the Crown of Japan, should be valued much more by our community at first place and, then, by “the rest of the world”. Political and Social Sciences are third culture disciplines bridging both Hard Science-Humanities and Research-Policy.

Political and Social Sciences own multidimensional epistemological, theoretical, methodological and technical resources and working styles providing precious theoretical and applied knowledge to set the content aspects of global governance studies in a wider and more open to generalizability perspective, which means more scientific, both in theory and practice.

Please feel free to add your comments and proposals to walk this talk together also at our next, 9th WCSA conference whose CfP deadline is February 20th, following the link: <http://www.wcsaglobal.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/9th-WCSA-Conference-Call-for-Papers-.pdf>

Wishing to see you in Ischia at the latest, I send you all my best regards,

Andrea Pitasi, WCSA President

Bologna, January 7th, 2020