



**International Workshop  
Snapshots of Change:  
Assessing Social Transformations in Qualitative Research**

Call for Participation: Poster Sessions

23–24.10.2015

URPP Asia and Europe – University of Zurich

The study of “change” is a central research topic in social science. While this topic has been an inherent concern of the literature on modernization or globalization for instance, it has become all the more visible, today, in contexts in which collective claims for social and political change fill the news as it was the case during the recent uprisings in the Arab World and the crisis in Europe. Consequently, plenty of theoretical works have offered general frameworks for change, while historical, sociological and anthropological researches have been attempting the same on a more restricted scale. To name these processes of transformation, notions such as development, transition and rupture but also reconfiguration, continuity and fluidity have gained much prominence. However, how can we concretely assess social change when we conduct qualitative research, which is based on case studies, and has a limited time-frame as a scope of inquiry? This question concerns especially researchers who use ethnographic methods of investigation and who are consequently bound to analyse instant pictures of the studied societies while relying mainly on testimonies or on secondary literature to grasp possible transformations.

The URPP Asia and Europe (University of Zurich) with the financial support of the [UZH-Graduate Campus](#) is organising a workshop gathering international scholars and UZH researchers. It will include a poster session for early stage researchers from the University of Zurich. Using posters to talk about current research projects, this session will attempt to address key methodological issues through an interdisciplinary dialogue. Using concrete empirical examples, we would like participants to design a poster with reference to their research projects, looking at the available means to overcome obstacles encountered when studying change through qualitative research.

The poster session will be preceded by two preparatory working sessions (on September 29<sup>th</sup> and October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015) during which participants will be taught to design their posters with the use of the programme Scribus, thereby enabling them to go through the process of learning to design a poster with expert guidance, learning what makes a good poster through key presentations and finally, designing their own poster. During the workshop, participants will have the opportunity to present their posters and discuss their research with the invited experts. If booked as a module, these poster sessions can enable doctoral students to obtain 1 ECT (ie. credit point).

To ensure your participation at both the workshop and the preparation sessions, we encourage you to send in the title of your research project with a brief project description and university affiliation before July 3, 2015 to [thiruni.kelegama@geo.uzh.ch](mailto:thiruni.kelegama@geo.uzh.ch)



Organisation Committee:

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