COMPASSS NEWSLETTER
Nr.26 (20th of June 2011)
COMParative methods for the Advancement of Systematic cross-case analysis and Small-N Studies

http://www.compasss.org

Main items:

1. Call for paper for the 2012 ECPR Joint Sessions, + 2 panels at the 2011 ECPR General Conference
2. Full update of the COMPASSS International bibliographical database
3. Forthcoming ECPR Summer School in Methods and techniques, training on QCA and Fuzzy Set
4. New COMPASSS working papers
5. New piece of advice for QCA users
6. Key recent publications on QCA
7. New version of the TOSMANA software package

--1. Call for paper for the 2012 ECPR Joint Sessions (held in April), + 2 panels at the 2011 ECPR Conference (held in August)
http://www.compasss.org/pages/announcements/conferences.html

Workshop 3: Methodological Advances, Bridges and Limits in the Application of Qualitative Comparative Analysis

The deadline for submitting a paper proposal is the 1st of December 2011. For more details, please visit the ECPR 2012 Joint Sessions' Website.

Also, one should note that two panels of the 2011 ECPR General Conference (held in August) may be of great interest for QCA users:

Section 32 - Panel 296: Analyzing party competition with QCA

And

Section 107 - Panel 131: Mixed Methods

--2. International bibliographical database updated
http://www.compasss.org/pages/resources/international.html

The bibliographical database has just been updated (as of 20 June 2010).
You are most welcome to notify corrections, missing documents, new entries to be added etc. to Ilona REZSOHAZY. We need your help to keep this database up-to-date

--3. Forthcoming QCA and Fuzzy Sets trainings
http://www.compasss.org/pages/announcements/training.html

QCA AND FUZZY SET

The ECPR Summer School in Methods and Techniques organizes a two-week class (5 ECTS) on QCA and Fuzzy Set in August 2011.

For more details, visit the ECPR Summer School in Methods and Techniques' Website.

--4. New COMPASSS Working Papers
http://www.compasss.org/pages/resources/compassswp.html

2 working papers have been recently published:

- Two-level theories in QCA: A discussion of Schneider and Wagemann's Two-step approach
  Tom Mannewitz (Technical University of Chemnitz)

- Analysing the productive and protective dimensions of welfare: Looking beyond the OECD
  John Hudson & Stefan Kuehner (University of York)

--5. New piece of advise for QCA users
http://**www.compasss.org/pages/resources/advice.html**

Compasss makes available an email dialogue between Jerry Mendel, an electrical engineer at the University of Southern California, and Charles Ragin about Fuzzy Set Qualitative Comparative Analysis (fsQCA). The topics include: the meaning of "cases" and the problem of defining negative cases; the mechanics of counterfactual analysis and the distinction between easy and difficult counterfactuals; issues surrounding multiple calibrations of the same source data; coverage and consistency; the number of causal conditions; necessity and sufficiency; membership functions and regression analysis; and many more. The goal of the compilation is to make fsQCA more accessible, especially for people who want to understand the inner workings of fsQCA.

--6. Key recent publications
http://www.compasss.org/pages/announcements/recent.html

The following books making an original use of QCA have been recently published:

The latest book of Tom Delreux entitled "**The EU as International Environmental Negotiator**", has been published by Ashgate.

The latest book of Mattias Larsen entitled "**Vulnerable Daughters in India: Culture, Development, and Changing Contexts**", has been published by Routledge.

The latest book of Braderdine Ardi entitled "**Linguistic Fuzzy Logic Methods in Social Sciences**", has been published by Springer-Verlag.

--7. New version of the TOSMANA Software package
http://www.compasss.org/pages/announcements/recent.html

A new version of Tosmana (version 1.32) has been released recently. Next to a number of bugs fixed, the main novelty is the introduction of a cross-platform package of the software to allow the use of the software on non-windows systems (Linux or Mac).

On behalf of the whole COMPASSS Steering group (see composition at http://www.compasss.org/pages/who.html):
Benoît Rihoux, Damien Bol, and Ilona Rezsöhazy, Louvain team