COMPASSS NEWSLETTER
Nr.44 (22 Sept 2017)

COMPArative Methods for

Systematic cross-caSe analySis

http://www.compasss.org

Main items:

1. Events

2. QCA training

3. Publications and bibliographical database

4. Working papers

5. Software updates

6. Varia: selected news

NB practical note on website updates: *Claude Rubinson (website administrator) is located in Houston, and due to disturbances caused by Hurricane Harvey, some website updates are still pending. In this newsletter, a few of the items that have been inserted (in particular in the "Training" and "Events" sections) are not yet posted on the website – in that case we have also indicated the URLs. Thank you for your patience and understanding.*

--1. Events

See: **http://www.compasss.org/events.htm**

In chronological order:

- Louvain-la-Neuve (Belgium), 11 October 2018, Workshop "**Handling complexity in data: crossing ongoing developments of statistical and set-theoretic tools**" [max. 2-3 speaker slots still open as of 22 Sept; some non-speaker seats still available, first come first serve]

- Louvain-la-Neuve (Belgium), 12 October 2018, **QCA empirical applications workshop** [max. 1-2 speaker slots still open as of 22 Sept; some non-speaker seats still available, first come first serve]

- Zurich (Switzerland), 12 December 2018, **International QCA Young Researcher Workshop**

- Zurich (Switzerland), 13-14 December 2018, **5th International QCA Expert Workshop**

- Tallinn (Estonia), 5-7 July 2018, **EGOS Conference Sub-theme 42: Analyzing Causal Complexity: A (Neo-)Configurational Perspective on Organizations** [deadline for submission of short papers: 8 January 2018] – see https://www.egosnet.org/2018_tallinn/general_theme → Theme 42

--2. QCA training

See: **http://www.compasss.org/training.htm**

In chronological order [note some 'early bird' deadlines]:

- Indianapolis, Indiana (USA), 25-29 September 2017, **Configurational Research with Qualitative Comparative Analysis (QCA) and Coincidence Analysis (CNA)**, Michael Baumgartner and Alrik Thiem

- Manchester (UK), 20 October 2017, **Innovations in Integrated Mixed Methods for the Study of Labour Supply and Gender: Doing it Differently with Data!**, Wendy Olsen et.al. – see www.eventbrite.com/e/innovations-in-integrated-mixed-methods-for-the-study-of-labour-supply-and-gender-tickets-38072180918

- Tucson (AZ, USA), 4-6 January 2018, Qualitative Comparative Analysis, Claude Rubinson – see https://sociology.arizona.edu/methods

- Bamberg (Germany), 5-9 March 2018 (7th ECPR Winter School in Methods and Techniques), Advanced Topics in Set-Theoretic Methods and QCA, Carsten Schneider ['early bird' discount until 3 Nov]

- Bamberg (Germany), 5-9 March 2018 (7th ECPR Winter School in Methods and Techniques), Comparative Research Designs *[includes a QCA module]*, Benoît Rihoux ['early bird' discount until 3 Nov]

More training options in the spring/summer of 2018 will be included in the next Newsletter, before the end of 2017.

--3. Publications and bibliographical database

See: **http://www.compasss.org/bibliography.htm**

New: two bibliographies of publications involving configurational comparative methods are now maintained:

- a **WorldCat listing for books** (currently 55 books – including 10 books published in 2016 & 2017)

- a **Zotero database for journal articles** (currently 109 articles added in 2017, in addition to the archive up till 2016: 141 methodological articles + 512 application articles). The integration into one single Zotero database is in progress

Note also the latest issue of *Quality and Quantity*: a special issue devoted to configurational comparative research methodologies – see http://www.compasss.org/index.htm (21 Aug post).

--4. Working papers

See: **http://www.compasss.org/wpseries.htm**

Through the easily searchable Zotero group library: r**ecently published Working papers:**

- Buche, Jonas. "**Europeanization of Legislative-executive Relations at the Micro Level – Under Which Conditions Do Swedish MPs Interact with Ministerial Officials?**" *COMPASSS WP* 2017-87.

- De Block, Debora, Vis, Barbara. "**Addressing the Challenges in Using Qualitative Data in Qualitative Comparative Analysis**" *COMPASSS WP* 2017-88.

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.

--5. Software updates

See: **http://www.compasss.org/software.htm**

Recent updates:

- New software added: EvalC3 (for Excel)
- New software added: LogicOpt (for R)
- Michael Baumgartner and Mathias Ambuhel have released version 2.0 of CNA, which now supports multi-valued and fuzzy sets.

--6. Varia: selected news

See: **http://www.compasss.org/index.htm** (news)

Some selected news items:

- **Major funding obtained** *(info soon on the 'news' page)*: For a project titled "ACCORds: Advancing Configurational Comparative Research Methods", Alrik Thiem has been awarded a Swiss National Science Foundation Professorship, funded with 1.4 million Swiss Francs. This project aims to enhance the functionality of configurational methods such as QCA and CNA, to address broader theoretical and epistemological questions, and to develop corresponding software in order to make all advances publicly available to the scientific community. As part of ACCORds, Alrik Thiem is also welcoming suggestions from applied researchers to collaborate on empirical work in any area. More information can be found on Alrik Thiem's website (http://www.alrik-thiem.net/). We congratulate Alrik on this achievement!
- **Themed journal issue** *(see 21 Aug post on the 'news' page)*: The latest issue of *Quality and Quantity* is a special issue devoted to configurational comparative research methodologies.

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

Prof. Benoît Rihoux