

Preliminary Panels Overview GoPar 2022

Theme: Dialogues on knowledge democracy and action research

Convened by the Knowledge Democracy Group, members of ARNA, CARN, SPARC and ICPHR

Prominent members of four action research networks (ARNA, CARN, SPARC & ICPHR – but open to all!) have partnered to organize a dual-session internet gathering to encourage critical conversations on knowledge democracy. We invite action researchers to examine the knowledge status of action research and to take a close look at the prospects for convergences among ways of knowing and pathways for action to create a better world. A starting point for this process is to look deeply at the practice of dialogic and dialectic interactions.

The conveners* see a need to deepen the global conversations about knowledge democracy, its value, potential to create a world that is more just and has a greater chance of sustainability. We believe now is an important time to justify our interest and preoccupation with knowledge and ways of knowing to people who are more concretely engaged with climate questions and political agendas, that are more immediate. We therefore are providing this invitation to collaborate in seeking a fuller understanding of knowledge democracy, research, science and democracy that can serve a movement to support, recognize, and respect broader forms of knowledge in society.

Panel participants:

Ruth Balogh, Practitioner of action research & participatory evaluation in a wide variety of health settings nationally & locally in England Wales & Scotland (Universities of London, Newcastle, Cumbria)

Lonnie Rowell, Dr. Lonnie Rowell has been an educator for 50+ years. He is a retired professor at the University of San Diego, where he directed the Counseling Program and the School Counseling emphasis. Dr. Rowell is a co-founder of the Action Research Network of the Americas (ARNA).

Jane Springett, Professor Emerita, University of Alberta, Canada

Co-founder in 2009 of the International Collaboration for Participatory Health Research which now has 400 members across the Globe.

Olav Eikeland, Educated as a philosopher, with a PhD in Ancient Greek Philosophy (1993), best known as CEO at the Work Research Institute (WRI) in Oslo, Norway, and later at "OsloMet - Oslo Metropolitan University" as a professor of education and work-life research also a parttime guest professor at the department of learning and philosophy, Aalborg University, DK.

Erik Lindhult, Senior lecturer in innovation, design and entrepreneurship at Mälardalen University with a longstanding interest, more than 30 years, in participatory, action and interactive research.

Theme: Indigeneity, Advocacy, Human Rights - rethinking Social Contract

Discourse on Indigenous Peoples have often built upon collective identity, treaty promises, land rights, sovereign peoplehood and human rights. This Panel based on the GoPar conference theme ***Participation and Equity*** will focus on **Indigeneity, Advocacy, Human Rights - rethinking Social Contract**.

The panellists will bring in their critical observations on the said theme based on their own areas of work/specialisation and experiences to further deliberate if colonisation/decolonisation has impacted this Social Contract and in what way. Accordingly discussants will try to look at security and development issues (based on GoPar conference):

Herein, the panel looks at **Indigeneity, Advocacy and Human Rights** as matters of concern to rethink how the Social Contract in the current circumstances exist and what is the way forward.

Panel participants:

Machun Kamei, lector, UP Gandhi College, Mumbai

Dr. **Jelle J P Wouters**, Associate Professor, Royal University of Bhutan, Department of Social Science. Studies Anthropology, Democracy, and Governance: Has written extensively on **NE India** and can also bring in some perspective from **Bhutan**.

One Representative from **Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact** (AIPP) based in Thailand: can bring in AIPP perspective.

Alana Golmei, a humanitarian, activist, lawyer and founder of Pann Nu Foundation (non-profit organization, founded to engage with vulnerable women, create a platform to empower them). She is also the founding member of Burma Center Delhi and General secretary of the North East Support Centre & Helpline, Delhi. She can bring in perspectives from **India and Myanmar**.

Katarina Parfa Koskinen, Doctoral student. For the Sapmi/Sami perspective, Scandinavian countries.

Theme: Being Deaf- development of identity among first generation Deaf young adults

Representation of self is the way of describing the identity and it is based on how one's family experience becomes internalised as a part of one's identity formation. Identity is often demonstrated in the choices we all make concerning how we choose to live our lives, who we choose to socialise with, and our general way of being. Discussion will be based on following points: Significance of Deaf Identity for Well-Being. National Education Policy 2020 and standardization of ISL in India. Language of instruction is one key aspect in the education of young Deaf, but attitudes and expectations toward linguistic and theoretical skills and achievements should be given some consideration. Change in approach from unilaterally trying to teach Deaf children to speak their parents' language to teaching the parents their children's language. Is Bicultural identity possible? Integrating ISL (Indian Sign Language) and Deaf Culture into school curriculum. Suggestions/ framework for providing full natural access to language

Panel participants

Dr Gayatri Ahuja, Faculty in Department of Education at AYJNISHD, Mumbai, India

Dr Suni Mathew, Director AYJNISHD, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Department of Empowerment of the Persons with Disabilities, Government of India.

Mrs. Lata Shashikant Nayak, Director of Rotary Sanskardham Academy, Mumbai, India

Mr Rajesh Ketkar, Director in Indian Sign Language Films (ISLFILMS), India. Has creative teaching skills in SignHub (E- learning online) and The new information and networking center.

Mr. Sunil Sahasrabudhe, ISL (Indian Sign Language) Consultant / Expert, India. Experience in teaching deaf children and young deaf adults, ISL trainers (deaf) and interpreters (hearing)

**Indian and Swedish Sign Language Interpreter and will be provided*