

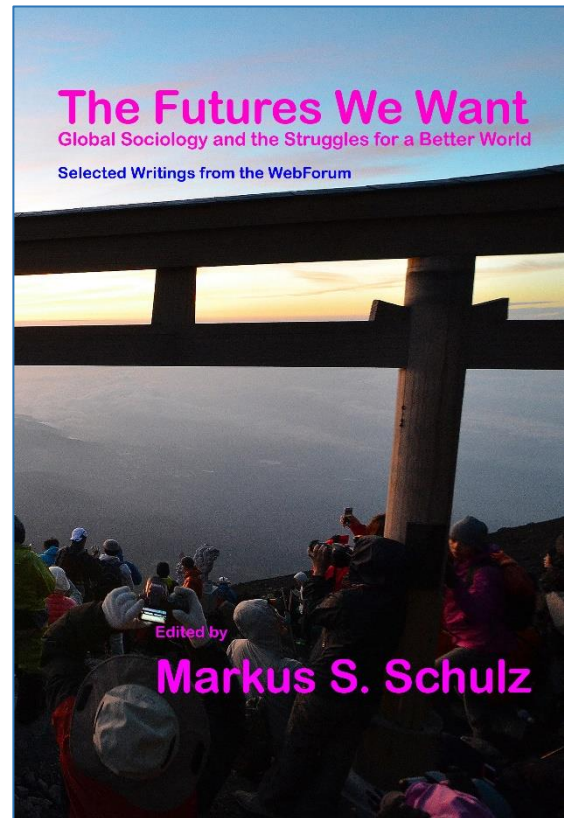


INTERNATIONAL SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION
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The Futures We Want

Global Sociology and the Struggles for a Better World

Protests around the globe have challenged inequality, oppression, and ecological destruction, and have insisted on the possibility of another, better world. Intensifying uncertainties demand innovations in methods and theories. Tomorrow no longer appears as pre-determined by inevitable trends but as a rather contingent outcome of complex, typically multi-scalar dynamics that vary in their intensity of contentiousness. Social actors aspire, desire, envision, expect, fear, imagine, plan, project, reject, sustain, and wage war over futures. How do assumptions about the future influence daily routines and long-term collective lives? How are risks identified, avoided, mitigated, transferred, or shared? What closes and what opens the horizons of social imaginaries? How are different forces positioned to shape futures? How can the making of futures be democratized? What can be learned by comparing struggles in different countries and settings? How do emancipatory movements and everyday practices at the grassroots overcome discipline, exploitation, and misrecognition? What visions for alternative futures are imaginable, desirable, and achievable? What are viable roadmaps for social transformation? – These are some of the central questions explored in this book by scholars from two dozen countries around the world.



Editor Markus S. Schulz is the International Sociological Association's Vice-President for Research and President of the ISA's 2016 Forum of Sociology, in preparation of which he launched the WebForum on "The Futures We Want: Global Sociology and the Struggles for a Better World." This book presents in a convenient format a selection of writings drawn from the WebForum. The contributors are distinguished social scientists from two dozen countries around the world who approach the theme with a rich diversity of perspectives. Complementing theoretical, methodological, topical, and regional expertise, they examine pertinent sociological topics from the tiny worlds of micro situations to the broad macro dynamics affecting the entire planet.

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For more information, see the WebForum: <http://futureswewant.net>

“Edited by Markus S. Schulz, *The Futures We Want: Global Sociology and the Struggles for a Better World* is a challenging and provocative book on forward-looking sociology. From imagining futures, challenging inequalities and coping with climate change to knowledge production, religion, social movements, and war and peace and other topics, authors from two-dozen different countries focus on what sociology can contribute to efforts to create a better world. The book is excellent, filled with creative ideas about constructing a desirable future, as well as a guide to a long overdue sociology of the future.” — **Wendell Bell**, Professor Emeritus, Yale University

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