What is known in the process of knowing? 
Exploring the global dissemination of the Social Representations Theory in the thematic field of “Politics, Multidimensional identities, intergroup relations, social movements and active minorities”

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Objectives
• The empirical data presented in this contribution address the diversification of the contents of the social representations literature gained worldwide in more than 50 years of its development, by identifying the main thematic areas in which this scientific domain is articulated.
• In particular we focus on the thematic field related to: “Social Representations & Politics: multidimensional identities, intergroup relations, social movements and active minorities”.

Sources
• The bibliographic sources of the empirical data used for our analyses were extracted from a larger number of 10050 bibliographic references listed in the repositories of the SoReCom/K.S. de Rosa@library as of May 13, 2019.
• We take into account “meta-data” – and the “abstracts” – and based on the first part of the grid for the meta-thematic analysis relevant to the “language of publication”, the “Year of publication” – and “data” – useful for detecting most relevant elements concerning the “Thematic Areas” coming from the Abstracts and the Keywords.

Research tools
The grid for meta-theoretical analysis of literature on Social Representations (de Rosa, 1994, last revised version February 2014) is organized in two main parts:
1st Part: Bibliographic Item, that includes – besides the classical information, such as Author(s), Year of publication, Title of publication, Publisher, Journal /Title, Abstract, Keywords etc.
2nd Part: Meta-theoretical analysis, organized into the thematic areas:
• Theoretical reference to Social Representations construct
• Theoretical reference to other constructs and theories
• Thematic analysis
• Methodological profile of each study
• Paradigmatic coherence

The focus of this contribution is on THEMATIC ANALYSIS, detecting using the Abstracts and the Keywords of the sources subject to meta-theoretical analysis.

Data Analysis and Selection of Results
Descending Hierarchical Cluster Analysis (performed by RAMUTEQ software) of extracted from 10050 texts strictly related to Social Representations and Communication filtered in one of the repositories of the SoReCom "K.S. de Rosa"@library

Zipf Diagram (stability of analysis)
In order to have a stable analysis:
• The number of the Forms should be less than 10% of the number after the usualization (k=4, 45, 1994)
• The number of the Forms should be less than 20% of the number after the usualization (k=4, 45, 1994)
• The number of the Forms should be less than 30% of the number after the usualization (k=4, 45, 1994)

The values of the Zipf Diagram (stability of analysis) are the following:
In order to have a stable analysis:
• The number of the Forms should be less than 10% of the number after the usualization (k=4, 45, 1994)
• The number of the Forms should be less than 20% of the number after the usualization (k=4, 45, 1994)
• The number of the Forms should be less than 30% of the number after the usualization (k=4, 45, 1994)

Main Statistics of the Descending Hierarchical Cluster Analysis

Conclusions
The empirical data presented in this contribution – addressing the diversification of the contents gained by the social-representations literature worldwide in more than 50 years of its development – show that one of the main thematic areas in which this scientific domain is articulated is related to:
• "Social Representations & Politics: multidimensional identities, intergroup relations, social movements and active minorities".

This thematic field originates the fifth cluster, that is marked by the presence of four interpretative categorical variables: “Conflict”, “Agents of change”, “Politics, Multidimensional identities, intergroup relations, social movements and active minorities”, “Government”. The main illustrative variables – and the most significant words: defining the semantic space of each category.

Word Cloud Analysis of Cluster 5 “Politics and Minority”

A
B
C
D

European Commission REA – Research Executive Agency
FP7 – People Initial Training Networks
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