Geo-Mapping the Global Dissemination of the Social Representations Theory: Geo-cultural Focus

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Objectives

• To present a selection of results showing the global dissemination of the Social Representations Theory, visualized according to a technique designed ad hoc for geo-mapping the development and the dissemination of the theory across the continents (de Rosa, 2014a), over several generations of scientists, and according to geo-cultural focus.

The results are based on "big data" and "meta-data" filed in the SoReCom "A.S. de Rosa" @Library repositories, concerning the geo-cultural localisation of authors’ countries and their institutional affiliations, the year, the type and the language of publication, the journal’s bibliometric indices, etc.

Research tools

The grid for meta-theoretical analysis of literature on Social Representations (de Rosa 1994, last revised version February 2014) is organised in the main areas:

- Theoretical reference to Social Representations constructs monitors whether a publication refers to Social Representations Theory in a very generic way or addresses specific paradigmatic elements of the theory (i.e. the generative, processes, functions, structure, transmission, and transformation of Social Representations) or whether the contribution refers to the theory itself as an object of critical questions (i.e. the origins, processes, functions, structure, transmission, and transformation of Social Representations).

- Theoretical reference to other constructs and theories identifies whether the publication refers to other constructs, concepts and theories related to Social Representations as well as to the focus of the reference: integration, differentiation, comparison, or whether the reference has a comparative focus.

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- Methodological profile of each study by research design, its location, its nature, instruments for data collection, channels used as source of information, techniques for data analysis and characteristics of the selected population (size of sample, variables considered, unit of analysis).

- Paradigmatic reference considers the theoretical assumptions and the methodological research design.

The frequencies distribution of 9301 items specifically related to Social representations and Communication filed in the repositories of the SoReCom "A.S. de Rosa" @Library by the "Resource Type".

The frequencies distribution of 3133 conference presentations related to Social representations and Communication filed in the repositories of the SoReCom "A.S. de Rosa" @Library by "Conference Type".

The frequencies distribution of 2118 books related to Social representations and Communication filed in the repositories of the SoReCom "A.S. de Rosa" @Library by the "Book Publisher's City".

The frequencies distribution of 9301 items specifically related to Social representations and Communication filed in the repositories of the SoReCom "A.S. de Rosa" @Library produced in the different Continents-Countries:

- NORTH AMERICA
- SOUTH AMERICA
- OCEANIA
- SOUTHERN EUROPE
- EUROPEAN/INTERNATIONAL
- EASTERN EUROPE
- CENTRAL ASIA
- NORTHERN ASIA
- SOUTH ASIA
- EASTERN ASIA
- WESTERN ASIA
- AFRICA

The frequencies distribution of 3732 journal articles related to Social representations and Communication filed in the repositories of the SoReCom "A.S. de Rosa" @Library by the top "Journal Indexing".

Conclusions:

The empirical data presented in this contribution confirm the richness of the diversely published opportunities gained by the social representations literature - after 20 years of latency period following the Opera Prima (Moscovici, 1961)- considering diverse types of publications ranging across different decades, and also the first author’s institution’s country, as well as various distribution of conference types, cities of book publishers and bibliometric indexes of the journals.

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