

Call for Papers

Enhancing Reproducibility in Empirical Sociological Research

Ad-hoc Group at the 42nd Congress of the German Sociological Association "Transitions", September 22–26, 2025, at the University of Duisburg-Essen

Statistical models have long been a cornerstone of quantitative sociological research, playing a crucial role in shaping our understanding of social phenomena. These models are widely used in a variety of fields, and the insights they generate not only influence future academic work, but also inform policy decisions and social interventions. Given the relevance that these results may have, it is of great importance to ensure their trustworthiness. While much attention has been paid to the replicability of research findings — that is, whether the same effects can be observed with new data — the reproducibility of results has often been overlooked. Reproducibility refers to whether another researcher, using the same data and methods, can reach the same conclusions. Although it is commonly assumed that published results are reproducible, recent studies have shown that this assumption is not always true. Non-reproducible results undermine the credibility of scientific research and weaken public trust in science. For this session, we invite empirical studies that address the reproducibility of statistical analyses in sociological research. We also welcome theoretical papers that explore ways to improve reproducibility or provide explanations for why researchers' actions may lead to non-reproducible results.

Topics of interest include (but are not limited to):

- Empirical assessments of the reproducibility of published statistical analyses,
- Methodological innovations aimed at improving reproducibility,
- Case studies highlighting challenges or successes in reproducing statistical results,
- Explanations of why non-reproducible results occur and how they can be mitigated.

We encourage submissions from a wide range of perspectives, including quantitative sociology, methodology, data science, and philosophy of science. Papers that offer practical solutions or new frameworks for improving reproducibility are especially welcome.

Please submit your abstract (maximum one page) by April 30, 2025

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