

Session at the [3rd European Conference on Social Networks \(EUSN\)](#)

at Johannes Gutenberg-University, Mainz, Germany, September 26 to 29, 2017

Call for Papers

The relevance of space, distance and mobility for egocentric networks

Spatial locations of social actors are meaningful in shaping social networks. The geography of actors, spatial distances between them, as well as mobility of actors are opportunities or constraints for egocentric networks. Even though, analysing spatial aspects is not new to social network research, some contemporary debates and thoughts in the social sciences might enhance the repertoire of spatial analysis of social networks. For example, distance might be an irrelevant constraint in network formation due to the rise of modern transport and communication technologies. The mobility of actors extends the feasible set of contacts and partners but restricts the opportunities for more in-depth network ties. Another examples are increasing personal and economical inter-relations due to Europeanization and globalization. Furthermore, there is a turn from place-related to space-related approaches in spatially oriented social sciences in recent years. Steering towards relational concepts of space can and should be fruitful for social network research.

The session aims to discuss theory-driven empirical research on spatial connections in research related to personal or egocentric networks. Theoretical, methodological, and empirical contributions to the study of place, space, distance and mobility an egocentric network perspective are welcome. Presentations should address places as foci for network formation, spatial distance as instances of inclusion and exclusion in social networks, relevance of mobility for social networks, consequences of modern transport and information technologies in shaping and maintaining social networks, border-cutting and transnational ties, and worldwide connections of people or organizations.

Abstract submission:

Please submit your abstract (max. 500 words) via the conference management system CONVE-RIA (<http://www.eusn2017.uni-mainz.de/abstract-submission/>) and indicate the name of the session: "The relevance of space, distance and mobility for egocentric networks". Abstract submission deadline is **March 31**.

Session organizer:

Sören Petermann (Ruhr-Universität Bochum)