THE MEDIATIZED CO-MEDIATIZER: ANTHROPOLOGY IN NIKLAS LUHMANN'S WORLD

Author: Moon, Young Bin
Subjects: Anthropic ; Anthropology ; Codified Co-Codifier ; Evolution ; Extended Media Paradigm ; Philip Hefner ; Homo Medialis ; Information ; Niklas Luhmann ; Meaning ; Media ; Mediatization ; Media Theory ; Posthuman ; Systems Theory ; Theology ; World Multimedia
Summary: This essay explores what it means to be human in an age of infomedia. Appropriating Niklas Luhmann's systems theory/media theory in dialogue with other resources, I propose a post-Luhmannian paradigm of (1) extended media/meaning that conceives the world as world multimedia systems processing variegated meanings, and (2) an embodied, contextualized soft posthumanist anthropology that conceives the human as emergent collective phenomena of distinct meaning making by body-mind-society-technology media couplings. I argue: (1) is distinct with mediatic communication that emerged to cope with contingencies. (2) Evolution is the mediatization/codification of the world that culminated with the outcome of uniquely equipped to process transcendent meanings and to mediatize the world via diverse media—Mediatized Co-Mediator or Codified Co-Codifier. (3) This anthropic universe is possibly the most “meaningful” (full of meaning possibilities) of all possible worlds. (4) Social fragmentation could be an optimization; science-and-religion is an infomedium optimizing religion's manifest and science’ latent observation of divine manifestations.
Identifier: ISSN: 0591-2385 ; E-ISSN: 1467-9744 ; DOI: 10.1111/j.1467-9744.2012.01264.x
Source:

Niklas Luhmann: Contingency, risk, trust and reflection

Author: Holmström, Susanne
Subjects: Niklas Luhmann ; Legitimization ; Reflection ; Reflective Paradigm ; Niklas Luhmann ; Legitimization ; Reflection ; Reflective Paradigm ; Sociology & Social History ; Business
Summary: The hurdle of Niklas Luhmann's extensive theories is their complexity and level of abstraction. These qualities are, however, exactly what constitute their empirical sensitivity to the interrelation between organization and society in today's hyper-complex society. Luhmann never theorized on public relations; yet his theories enable identification of frames for understanding public relations in interrelation to society's overall coordination processes. Contemporary society apparently tries to solve problems activated by the blind reflexivity of modernization by activating reflective forms of coordination. Correspondingly, practice ideals of public relations can be reconstructed as reflection—the specific worldview which facilitates self-insight in relation to the social context.
Language: English
Identifier: ISSN: 0363-8111 ; E-ISSN: 1873-4537 ; DOI: 10.1016/j.pubrev.2007.05.003

1/19
An introduction and interpretation of Niklas Luhmann's theorising from within communication theory as a field

Author: Davis, C
Language: Afrikaans
Identifier: ISSN: 0041-4751
Source: Web of Science

Justification of ethical considerations in health economics - Merging the theories of Niklas Luhmann and Charles Taylor

Author: Sariyar, Murat
Subjects: Health Economics ; Ethics ; System Theory ; Niklas Luhmann ; Charles Taylor ; Public Health
Summary: Dealing with ethics in health economics on socio-philosophical grounds is not yet well established. This paper shows how a liaison between the system theory of Luhmann and the philosophy of Taylor can be used to analyze and justify the incorporation of ethical considerations into health economics. One rationale for the incorporation of ethical consideration into health economics is the deficiencies in capturing all relevant needs of health system participants with common (welfare) economics. A second reason why health economics should account for ethical values is the fact that its decisions are already based on implicit value judgments. The impact of our approach is exemplified by the concept 'quality adjusted life years' (QALYs).
Language: English
Identifier: ISSN: 1446-1242 ; E-ISSN: 1839-3551 ; DOI: 10.5172/hesr.2012.21.3.343
Source:

Niklas Luhmann and the Body: Irritating Social Systems

Author: Halsall, Francis
Subjects: Body ; Niklas Luhmann ; Second-Order Cybernetics ; Social Systems ; Transcendental Philosophy ; Biology
Is Part Of: The New Bioethics, 01 May 2012, Vol.18(1), pp.4-20
Summary: For Niklas Luhmann the body seems to almost disappear in modernity. Modern society, he argues, is a system comprised of a number of operatively closed and functionally distinct sub-systems such as economics, science, law, the mass media and so on. Each system is autonomous and observes the...
Language: English
Identifier: ISSN: 2050-2877 ; E-ISSN: 2050-2885 ; DOI: 10.1179/2050287713Z.0000000001
Source: Taylor & Francis (Taylor & Francis Group)

Liebesdurcheinander: Das Buch der Liebe und Niklas Luhmann

Author: Seeber, Stefan
Subjects: Niklas Luhmann ; Liebe Als Passion ; Sigmund Feyerabend ; Buch Der Liebe ; Magelone ; Aithiopika ; History & Archaeology ; Languages & Literatures
IN ENGLISH: Niklas Luhmann, one of the most important social thinkers at the end of the 20th century, places the evolutionary perspective in the center of his sociological theory. According to Luhmann, evolutionary theory - both biological and social - gets started trying to resolve the paradox of the probability of the improbable. However, Luhmann does not specifically clarify what the paradox involves, what are the ways to solve it, and how the evolution can explain the facts adduced in it. In this article, these flaws are faced up through the systematization of the probabilistic elements that characterize the evolutionary process, taking elements from evolutionary biology and the probability theory. From the four ways of probabilization here described, Luhmann seems to refer indirectly only to three of them. This probabilistic systematization not only allows dealing with the complex social order problem, but also anticipates future investigations of social evolution. // IN SPANISH: Niklas Luhmann, uno de los pensadores de la sociología más importantes de finales del siglo XX, sitúa la perspectiva evolutiva en el centro de su teoría sociológica. Según Luhmann, la tarea principal de la teoría evolutiva - tanto biológica como social- comienza intentando resolver la paradoja de la probabilidad de lo improbable. Sin embargo, Luhmann no aclara específicamente en qué consiste la paradoja, cuáles son las formas de solucionarla, y cómo la evolución puede explicar los hechos aducidos en ella. En este artículo se afrontan estas falencias mediante la sistematización de los elementos probabilísticos que caracterizan a los procesos evolutivos, tomando herramientas de la biología evolutiva y la teoría de probabilidades. De las cuatro vías de probabilización aquí descritas, Luhmann parece referirse indirectamente sólo a tres de ellas. Esta sistematización probabilística no sólo permite abordar el problema del orden social complejo, sino también prever futuras investigaciones de la evolución social.


Author: Koyama, Yutaka
Subjects: Niklas Luhmann ; Carl Schmitt ; Civil Liberalism
Summary: This article explains the intellectual context of Niklas Luhmann's sociological theory. Although Luhmann's theory is well known for its highly abstract features, this does not mean that the theory results from his references to the latest general systems theory, which has been the primary focus of previous literature. That said, no social theory is produced in a vacuum. Even if a theorist attempts to construct a general sociological theory to explain every social phenomenon, that theory is necessarily influenced by the theorist's prejudices. Therefore, social theory must be contextualized both to estimate its biases and to limit its scope. This study shows that Luhmann's systems theory is constructed through a struggle with the issues of his day. First, it notes that the question of how to conceptualize modern civil society was widely shared by German intellectuals from the late 1950s to the 1970s and that the question created a certain discourse field. Second, Luhmann's theoretical conception is contextualized in that field of discourse, and the central role of both the concept of functional differentiation and the concern with border maintenance in his theory-building is explained in comparison with the work of contemporary intellectuals. To deepen our analysis, this article reconstructs Schmitt's interpretation and criticism of civil liberalism and describes Luhmann's struggle with it. Finally, by analyzing the of Robert von Mohl, one of
the founders of civil liberalism, this article argues that Luhmann's sociology can be characterized as an attempt to rehabilitate civil liberalism.

- **Identifier**: ISSN: 0918-7545 ; E-ISSN: 1475-6781 ; DOI: 10.1111/ijjs.12081
- **Source**: 


- **Author**: Bachmann, Ulrich
- **Subjects**: Systemtheorie ; Gesellschaft ; Differenzierung ; Evolution ; Niklas Luhmann
- **Publication Information**: De Gruyter Oldenbourg
- **Identifier**: ISSN: 0343-4109 ; E-ISSN: 2196-7024 ; DOI: 10.1515/srsr-2018-0083
- **Source**: Walter de Gruyter GmbH

**Discourse on Legal Psychoactive Substances from the Perspective of the Niklas Luhmann's System Theory**

- **Author**: Skrzypulec, B
- **Is Part Of**: Studia Socjologiczne, 2012, Issue 1, pp.149-175
- **Language**: Polish
- **Identifier**: ISSN: 0039-3371
- **Source**: Web of Science

Desconfianza y legitimación política en Argentina: un abordaje desde la perspectiva procedimental de Niklas Luhmann

- **Author**: Dewey, Matías
- **Subjects**: Política; Derecho; Niklas Luhmann; Argentina; Siglo Xxi;
- **Is Part Of**: Iberoamericana (2001-), 1 June 2010, Vol.10(38), pp.172-179
- **Summary**: La argumentación que sostendré aquí puede resumirse en que, en la sociedad argentina las decisiones vinculantes promulgadas por el sistema político, y que fungen como normas en el sistema de derecho, encuentran una escasa aceptación en orden a transformarse en premisas de comportamiento. En otros términos, intentaré problematizar la cuestión de la debilidad de la fuerza vinculante del derecho en la sociedad argentina....
- **Language**: Spanish
- **Identifier**: ISSN: 15773388
- **Source**: 

Doble contingencia y orden social desde la teoría de sistemas de Niklas Luhmann

- **Author**: Pignuoli Ocampo, Sergio
- **Subjects**: Doble Contingencia ; Orden Social ; Niklas Luhmann ; Teoría De Sistemas Sociales ; Talcott Parsons ; Fenomenología Social ; Romanticismo Alemán ; Emergencia ; Double Contingency ; Social Order ; Niklas Luhmann ; Social Systems Theory ; Talcott Parsons ; Social Phenomenology ; German Romanticism ; Emergence
- **Is Part Of**: Sociológica (México), 2013, Vol.28(78), pp.7-40
Summary: This article reconstructs the concept of double contingency in Niklas Luhmann's social systems theory. Our analysis is organized around three axes. First, we study the connection between the problems of double contingency and of social order, outstanding among which are the critical reception of Talcott Parsons and phenomenology. In the second, we examine the hypothesis of the emergence of social order, where the reception of early German romanticism and the theory of emergence are particularly relevant. In the third, we dialogue with the secondary bibliography, fundamental for situating and contextualizing the reconstruction achieved.

El pragmatismo jurídico de Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr. y el Derecho como Sistema Social de Niklas Luhmann: un encuentro histórico

Niklas Luhmann

Author: Fuchs, Stephan
Subjects: Luhmann, Niklas ; History of Sociology ; Sociological Theory ; Systems Theory ; Sociology: History and Theory; History & Present State of Sociology ; Article;
Summary: A memorial essay celebrates the work of German sociologist Niklas Luhmann, who died in 1998. Association with Talcott Parsons & structural functionalism hampered reception of Luhmann's work in the US; however, it is maintained that his later work indicates a significant lessening of Parsonian influence & a move toward a radically constructivist theory of observers. Luhmann's ambitious general theory of society is described, including his focus on communication. He believed dramatic increases in population prevented most communication, leaving society full of structural holes. He maintained that modern society is distinguished by a pluralism of observers, none of which has privileged access to reality, & conflict occurs over who is an observer & what can/cannot be observed from the observer's location in the social structure. It is maintained that Luhmann's large body of work on a variety of systems, eg, science, art, law, politics, & love, represents today's most radical departure from the sociological classics &; although difficult to read, is well worth the effort. J. Lindroth
La escritura cuneiforme en la evolución del derecho. Investigación en torno a los orígenes del derecho occidental desde la teoría de la sociedad de Niklas Luhmann

- **Author:** Carlos Andrés Orozco Arcieri
- **Subjects:** Evolución Social ; Escritura Cuneiforme ; Niklas Luhmann ; Law
- **Is Part Of:** Revista de Derecho, 01 January 2015, Issue 44, pp.178-225
- **Summary:** En este artículo se presentan los primeros resultados de la investigación “Me, Nomos, Ius”, en la que se pretende evidenciar una serie de cuestiones teóricas y metodológicas en torno al estudio del derecho occidental, sus orígenes y su evolución, y se propone una nueva elaboración transdisciplinaria de las categorías utilizadas. El estudio del derecho en Mesopotamia implica una re-conceptualización de la escritura cuneiforme, debido a que ha sido estudiada desde disciplinas que generalmente permanecen aisladas las unas de las otras. En este artículo se propone el análisis de la escritura cuneiforme apoyándonos en la arqueología, la asiriología, la historia, la filología, la antropología, la sociología y, sobre todo, en la teoría de la evolución socio-cultural, desarrollada por Niklas Luhmann en el marco de su teoría de la sociedad.
- **Language:** English
- **Identifier:** ISSN: 0121-8697 ; E-ISSN: 2145-9355
- **Source:** Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)

La paradoja de la probabilidad de lo improbable y el pensamiento evolutivo de Niklas Luhmann

- **Author:** Razeto Barry, Pablo ; Cienfuegos, Javiera
- **Subjects:** Probability Of The Improbable ; Evolution ; Social Order ; Complexity ; Niklas Luhmann ; Probabilidad De Lo Improbable ; Evolución ; Orden Social ; Complejidad ; Niklas Luhmann
- **Is Part Of:** Convergencia: Revista de ciencias sociales, 2011, Issue 57, pp.13-38
- **Summary:** Niklas Luhmann, one of the most important social thinkers at the end of the 20th century, places the evolutionary perspective in the center of his sociological theory. According to Luhmann, evolutionary theory – both biological and social – gets started trying to resolve the paradox of the probability of the improbable. However, Luhmann does not specifically clarify what the paradox involves, what are the ways to solve it, and how the evolution can explain the facts adduced in it. In this article, these flaws are faced up through the systematization of the probabilistic elements that characterize the evolutionary process, taking elements from evolutionary biology and the probability theory. From the four ways of probabilization here described, Luhmann seems to refer indirectly only to three of them. This probabilistic systematization not only allows dealing with the complex social order problem, but also anticipates future investigations of social evolution.; Niklas Luhmann, uno de los pensadores de la sociología más importantes de finales del siglo XX, sitúa la perspectiva evolutiva en el centro de su teoría sociológica. Según Luhmann, la tarea principal de la teoría evolutiva —tanto biológica como social— comienza intentando resolver la paradoja de la probabilidad de lo improbable. Sin embargo, Luhmann no aclara específicamente en qué consiste la paradoja, cuáles son las formas de solucionarla, y cómo la evolución puede explicar los hechos aducidos en ella. En este artículo se afrontan estas falencias mediante la sistematización de los elementos probabilísticos que caracterizan a los procesos evolutivos, tomando herramientas de la biología evolutiva y la teoría de probabilidades. De las cuatro vías de probabilización aquí descritas, Luhmann parece referirse indirectamente sólo a tres de ellas. Esta sistematización probabilística no sólo permite abordar el problema del orden social complejo, sino también prever futuras investigaciones de la evolución social.
- **Language:** Spanish
- **Identifier:** ISSN: 1405-1435
The Ethics of Functional Differentiation: Reclaiming Morality in Niklas Luhmann’s Social Systems Theory

- **Author:** Valentinov, Vladislav
- **Subjects:** Functional differentiation ; Human rights ; Morality ; Niklas Luhmann ; Systems theory
- **Summary:** Niklas Luhmann held a skeptical view of the role of morality in the modern society. The present paper reassesses this skepticism in view of his early work showing the regime of functional differentiation to be supported by fundamental human rights. Building on this argument, the paper advocates a more positive view of morality which is shown to be related to the sustainability of social systems in their encompassing societal and natural environment. This view is warranted by the overarching Luhmannian theme of the precariousness of system–environment relations. If this view is accepted, Luhmann’s work on fundamental human rights can be read as an illustration of moral problems caused by the overexpansion tendencies of the political system. This argument is shown to connect up with the ideas of Buchanan and Rawls, as well as to fit in with the Luhmannian construct of the dilemma of structure and function.
- **Language:** English
- **Identifier:** ISSN: 0167-4544 ; E-ISSN: 1573-0697 ; DOI: 10.1007/s10551-017-3521-7
- **Source:** Fundación Dialnet

La escritura cuneiforme en la evolución del derecho. Investigación en torno a los orígenes del derecho occidental desde la teoría de la sociedad de Niklas Luhmann

- **Author:** Orozco Arcieri, Carlos Andrés
- **Subjects:** Evolución Social ; Escritura Cuneiforme ; Niklas Luhmann ; Social Evolution ; Cuneiform Writing ; Niklas Luhmann
- **Is Part Of:** Revista de derecho: División de Ciencias Jurídicas de la Universidad del Norte, 2015, Issue 44, pp.178-225
- **Summary:** In this article we present the first results of the investigation "Me, Nomos, Ius", in which we seek to show a series of theoretical and methodological questions around the study of western law, its origins and its evolution, proposing a new transdisciplinary elaboration of the categories used. The study of Mesopotamian law involves a reconceptualization of the cuneiform writing because it has been studied from disciplines that usually remain isolated from each other. Here we propose the analysis of the cuneiform writing, based on archeology, asiriology, history, philology, anthropology, sociology and, above all, on the theory of socio-cultural evolution developed by Niklas Luhmann in the framework of his theory of society.; En este artículo se presentan los primeros resultados de la investigación "Me, Nomos, Ius", en la que se pretende evidenciar una serie de cuestiones teóricas y metodológicas en torno al estudio del derecho occidental, sus orígenes y su evolución, y se propone una nueva elaboración transdisciplinaria de las categorías utilizadas. El estudio del derecho en Mesopotamia implica una reconceptualización de la escritura cuneiforme, debido a que ha sido estudiada desde disciplinas que generalmente permanecen aisladas las unas de las otras. En este artículo se propone el análisis de la escritura cuneiforme apoyándonos en la arqueología, la asiriología, la historia, la filología, la antropología, la sociología y, sobre todo, en la teoría de la evolución socio-cultural, desarrollada por Niklas Luhmann en el marco de su teoría de la sociedad.
- **Language:** Spanish
- **Identifier:** ISSN: 0121-8697
- **Source:** Fundación Dialnet

From Saussure to sociology and back to linguistics: Niklas Luhmann's reception of signifiant/signifie and langue/parole as the basis for a model of language change
**Author:** Zeige, Le
**Subjects:** Luhmann, Niklas ; Ontology ; Sociology ; Semiotics ; Sign Theory ; Theoretical Linguistics ; Semiotics ; Semiotics;
**Is Part Of:** Semiotica, 2015 Oct, Vol.207, pp.327-368
**Summary:** The article highlights a semiotically relevant aspect of Niklas Luhmann's Theory of Social Systems: its reception of the Saussurean dichotomies signifiant/signifieand langue/parole. Luhmann's position is weighted against the Cours as well as Saussure's original writings, sampling their approaches to form, meaning, the sign's two-sidedness, and the relation of linguistic structure and speech events. Ultimately, the article proposes a social ontology of linguistic abstraction in line with general semiology that explains the motility of language through communication, thereby accounting for variability and optionality. It also indicates as to how the theoretical framework can feed into a model of linguistic description.
**Language:** English
**Identifier:** ISSN: 0037-1998 ; DOI: 10.1515/sem-2015-0067
**Source:** Web of Science

**Niklas Luhmann**

**Author:** Gotthard Bechmann ; Nico Stehr
**Subjects:** Social Sciences (General)
**Is Part Of:** Convergencia, 01 January 2003, Vol.10(32)
**Summary:** An intellectual portrait of Luhmann is drawn primarily from his social theory in his last publication, The Society of Society (1997). According to Luhmann, social differentiation & system formation are basic to modern society; society is a higher-order system than interactions & is determined by the differentiation between system & environment. The most radical feature of Luhmann's theory is his emphasis on distinctions that are constructions, not objective difference. Luhmann's theory is critiqued for its circularity & the implausibility of his postulate that norms & values have been converted into forms of societal communication, but his theory of society is still of value for its linkage of sociology to other sciences. 5 References. Adapted from the source document.
**Language:** English
**Identifier:** ISSN: 1405-1435 ; E-ISSN: 2448-5799
**Source:** Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)

**Autopoietic Systems, Not Corporate Actors: A Sketch of Niklas Luhmann’s Theory of Organisations**

**Author:** Brandhoff, Boris
**Subjects:** communication ; Niklas Luhmann ; organisation ; social system ; systems theory
**Summary:** Niklas Luhmann’s sociological systems theory sees in an organisation neither a group of acting individuals nor a single corporative actor, but instead a social system. For Luhmann, a social system is a closed network of communication processes that recursively engender each other. This article introduces the reader to this particular way of understanding organisations. For this purpose, we will have to look at certain individual issues within Luhmann’s theory. We will start with a few explanatory notes on Luhmann’s theory of communication. Subsequently, key terms from the field of systems theory such as ‘system’, ‘medium/form’, ‘autopoiesis’ and ‘structure’ will be introduced. With the help of these notions, we will be able to clarify what Luhmann understands by a social system in general. For Luhmann,
organisations are social systems of a particular type. In the last two sections, the specific characteristics of organisations as subsystems of the society will be outlined.

- **Language:** English
- **Identifier:** ISSN: 1566-7529 ; E-ISSN: 1741-6205 ; DOI: 10.1017/S1566752909003073
- **Source:** Springer Science & Business Media B.V.

The Limits of Planning: Niklas Luhmann's Systems Theory and the Analysis of Planning and Planning Ambitions

- **Author:** Van Assche, Kristof ; Verschraegen, Gert
- **Subjects:** Communication ; Niklas Luhmann ; Participatory Planning ; Social Systems Theory ; Steering ; Sociology & Social History
- **Is Part Of:** Planning Theory, November 2008, Vol.7(3), pp.263-283
- **Summary:** In this article, we argue that Niklas Luhmann has a lot to offer present-day planning theory. Until now, planning theory has been engaged with Luhmann's work only minimally. Convinced of its potential, we want to show how Luhmann's systems theory offers fresh insight into both limits and possibilities of planning in contemporary society. We argue that Luhmann's understanding of society as functionally differentiated into self-referentially closed subsystems (politics, economy, law, science, etc.) creates space for a complex and subtle analysis of planning practice. In particular, we look at the role of planning within an autopoietic account of society, and its ability to steer other social subsystems. Planning is seen as the form of steering aiming to coordinate processes of spatial organization, therefore an activity dealing with steering problems. We illustrate key concepts of the systems theory in brief analyses of planning situations and interpret these situations using the systems theoretical framework. The analyses center around the questions of planning's steering capacity and the role of the planner, thus creating linkages with mainstream discussions in planning theory. [Reprinted by permission of Sage Publications Ltd., copyright 2008.]
- **Language:** English
- **Identifier:** ISSN: 1473-0952 ; E-ISSN: 1741-3052 ; DOI: 10.1177/1473095208094824
- **Source:** Sage Publications

Niklas Luhmann

- **Author:** Carlota Solé ; Josep Pont
- **Subjects:** Sociology & Social History
- **Is Part Of:** Papers, 01 January 1999, Vol.57, pp.145-147
- **Language:** Catalan
- **Identifier:** ISSN: 0210-2862 ; E-ISSN: 2013-9004 ; DOI: 10.5565/rev/papers.1971
- **Source:** Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)

Autopoietic Systems, Not Corporate Actors: A Sketch of Niklas Luhmann's Theory of Organisations

- **Author:** Brandhoff, Boris
- **Subjects:** Communication; Niklas Luhmann; Organisation; Social System; Systems Theory
- **Summary:** Abstract Niklas Luhmann's sociological systems theory sees in an organisation neither a group of acting individuals nor a single corporative actor, but instead a social system. For Luhmann, a social system is a closed network of communication processes that recursively engender each other. This article introduces the reader to this particular way of understanding organisations. For this purpose, we will have to look at certain individual issues within Luhmann's theory. We will start with a few explanatory notes on
Luhmann’s theory of communication. Subsequently, key terms from the field of systems theory such as ‘system’, ‘medium/form’, ‘autopoiesis’ and ‘structure’ will be introduced. With the help of these notions, we will be able to clarify what Luhmann understands by a social system in general. For Luhmann, organisations are social systems of a particular type. In the last two sections, the specific characteristics of organisations as subsystems of the society will be outlined.

- **Identifier:** ISSN: 1566-7529; E-ISSN: 1741-6205; DOI: 10.1017/S1566752909003073
- **Source:**

**Niklas Luhmann’s Theory of the Mass Media**

- **Author:** Bechmann, Gotthard; Stehr, Nico
- **Subjects:** Social Theory; Media; Mass Communication; Modern Society; Systems Theory; Luhmann, Niklas; Sociology;
- **Is Part Of:** Society, 2011, Vol.48(2), pp.142-147
- **Summary:** In this paper, we critically examine and contextualize Niklas Luhmann’s analysis of the modern mass media. Aside from features of the political economy of the day, the motor that nourishes and sustains the alleged trajectory of modern societies toward ”mass societies“ is, in the eyes of many observers, the growing significance of the media, increasingly accessible and within the reach of virtually all of the public, a view shared by the Frankfurt School and Luhmann’s systems theory.
- **Language:** English
- **Identifier:** ISSN: 0147-2011; E-ISSN: 1936-4725; DOI: 10.1007/s12115-010-9410-7
- **Source:**

**NIKLAS LUHMANN: A Sociological Transformation of Political Legitimacy?**

- **Author:** Thornhill, Chris
- **Subjects:** Differentiation and Convergence; Enlightenment; Metaphysics; Niklas Luhmann; Normative Theory; Political Legitimacy; Systems Theory; Sociology & Social History
- **Is Part Of:** Distinktion: Journal of Social Theory, 01 January 2006, Vol.7(2), pp.33-53
- **Summary:** This article argues, first, that the works of Niklas Luhmann have not yet been fully assimilated into political theory, and that political theory which wishes to remain adequate to the conceptual evolution of the contemporary social sciences...
- **Language:** English
- **Identifier:** ISSN: 1600-910X; E-ISSN: 2159-9149; DOI: 10.1080/1600910X.2006.9672928
- **Source:** Taylor & Francis (Taylor & Francis Group)

**Self-referent and autopoietic systems: key-concepts for the understanding of the Niklas Luhmann’s theory**

- **Author:** Léo Peixoto Rodrigues
- **Subjects:** Self-Reference; Autopoiesis; Systems; Niklas Luhmann; Social Sciences (General)
- **Is Part Of:** Pensamento Plural, 01 December 2008, Vol.2(3), pp.105-120
- **Language:** English
- **Identifier:** ISSN: 1982-2707; E-ISSN: 2238-4642
- **Source:** Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)

**Niklas Luhmann’s system theory: A critical analysis**
A better world through law? The implications of the theories of Niklas Luhmann for green economics

Author: Adrienne Barnett
Subjects: green economics; law; social systems; Niklas Luhmann; autopoietic theory; social change; justice.
Publication Information: Inderscience Publishers
Summary: This paper considers the implications of the theories of Niklas Luhmann for attempts at achieving social change through law. According to Luhmann, modern society consists of all that can be communicated and understood as having meaning. Such communications are structured according to functionally differentiated subsystems such as law, politics, science, economics and education. Luhmann applies the biological term, 'autopoiesis', to explain how social systems produce and reproduce themselves by the interaction of their own elements and in so doing, participate in society's construction of reality. Each system distinguishes itself from its environment through binary codes and then reconstitutes phenomena entering its environment by applying its own internal binary code (such as legal/illegal in the case of law). This normative closure means that direct or simple exchanges or communications between social systems, or between individuals and social systems, are impossible. We therefore need to abandon notions of 'steering' social systems in predetermined ways and bringing about social change directly through legal norms. Progressive change may occur but this will depend more on how events entering each social system are reconstituted by those systems, rather than on the motivation and planning of social campaigners. Luhmann offers a way of describing society that seeks to engage with, rather than avoid, the increasing complexity and contingency of modern society, and which enables us to see that whether law achieves 'justice' depends on the viewpoint from which law (or any other social system) is being observed.
Language: English
Identifier: ISSN: 1744-9928 ; E-ISSN: 1744-9936 ; DOI: 10.1504/IJGE.2008.022445
Source:

Luhmann, the non-trivial machine and the neocybernetic regime of truth.(sociologist Niklas Luhmann)(Essay)
The Democratic Rule of Law State presents new demands on how to justify judicial decisions. Judicial decisions have become essential parts to the implementation of constitutional rights. Two responses to these new requirements can be found under Jürgen Habermas’ and Niklas Luhmann’s theories. According to Habermas, we understand that Law currently has been conceived as an open system of principles, and any positivist or literalist proposals for Law application are unsustainable. Based on Luhmann, one can understand that judicial decision has always been characterized by a creative act of paradox deployment which, due to this peculiarity, requires more sophisticated levels of justification.

**Summary:**

This article re-conceptualises the ‘constitutive outside’ through Roberto Esposito’s theory of immunity to detach it from Laclau and Mouffe’s political antagonism. It identifies Esposito’s thought as an innovative epistemological perspective to dissolve post-ontological political theories of community from the intertwinement with a foundational self/other dialectic. Esposito shows how a community can sustain its relations through introversive immunisation against a primarily undefined outside. But it is argued that his theory of immunity slips back to a vitalist depth ontology which ultimately de-politicises the construction of the communal outside. This article draws on Niklas Luhmann’s immunity theory to resituate immunisation in the political production of social connectivity. Following Luhmann, politics relies on immunisation through contradictions to reproduce its functional role as a decision-making institution, but is at the same time constantly exposed to potential rupture...

**Summary:**

Niklas Luhmann, Carl Schmitt and the Modern Form of the Political

**Summary:**

Niklas Luhmann, Carl Schmitt and the Modern Form of the Political
Summary: Niklas Luhmann elaborated his account of the political system in a complex, though often implicit, debate with Carl Schmitt. Underlying his systems-theoretical model of politics, and of the legitimacy of politics, is the anti-Schmittian view that modern society's communications about itself are neither coordinated by, nor embodied in, a political centre, and that politics is always an unemphatic aspect of these communications. However, this article proposes an immanent critique of Luhmann's analysis of the political system, and it argues that his theory uses highly selective and puristic techniques to support its limitation of society's politics. If interpreted critically, in fact, Luhmann's political sociology illuminates the specific politicality and political emphasis of certain communications, it underlines the distinction of politics from other systems of social communication, and it calls for a re-insistence on the political as a primary category of social analysis. [Reprinted by permission of Sage Publications Ltd., copyright 2007.]

Language: English

Identifier: ISSN: 1368-4310 ; DOI: 10.1177/1368431007075966

Source: Sage Journals (Sage Publications); SAGE HSS (Sage Publications); SAGE Sociology (Sage Publications); SAGE Journals (Sage Publications)

Niklas Luhmann's systems theoretical redescription of the inclusion/exclusion debate

Author: Braeckman, Antoon

Subjects: Evolution ; Function Systems ; Inclusion/Exclusion ; Niklas Luhmann ; Networks ; Organizations ; Social Sciences (General) ; Sociology & Social History ; Philosophy


Summary: Relying on Niklas Luhmann's systems theoretical redescription of modern society, this article aims at questioning the basic theoretical notions of the ongoing inclusion/exclusion debate. The most remarkable aspect of Luhmann's reassessment of the inclusion/exclusion relationship within functionally differentiated societies is that individuals are basically situated within the exclusion domain of society, & thus cannot but partially be included within society's function systems & organizations. This reassessment not only allows Luhmann to raise fundamental questions with respect to the implicit norm of full inclusion which still dominates the debate on inclusion & exclusion, but it also directs his attention to the different inclusion/exclusion conditions within function systems, organizations & interaction systems. Eventually Luhmann's position comes down to the idea that exclusion rather than inclusion is the rule, &, moreover, that inclusions differ from one another. The article closes off with a critical evaluation of Luhmann's redescription of the inclusion/exclusion debate. It is argued that systems theory might suffer from empirical deficiency, as it seems to have difficulties to detect & to depict the actual mechanisms of social exclusion without resorting to theories that are more geared to empirical reality & that are of help in observing it. References. [Reprinted by permission of Sage Publications Ltd., copyright 2006.]

Language: English

Identifier: ISSN: 0191-4537 ; E-ISSN: 1461-734X ; DOI: 10.1177/0191453706059846

Source: Sage Journals (Sage Publications); SAGE HSS (Sage Publications); SAGE Journals (Sage Publications)

Bruno Latour and Niklas Luhmann as organization theorists

Author: Czarniawska, Barbara

Subjects: Latour ; Luhmann ; Actor-Network Theory ; Autopoiesis ; Latour ; Luhmann ; Actor-Network Theory ; Autopoiesis ; Business


Summary: Bruno Latour and Niklas Luhmann are two authors who, not being management and organization scholars, have had a significant impact on MOS studies. Their works are even more
appreciated in time, yet their influence has not crossed the Atlantic. The texts of the two authors, and the predecessor they evoke, demarcate a truly European development of management and organization theory.

- **Language:** English
- **Identifier:** ISSN: 0263-2373 ; E-ISSN: 1873-5681 ; DOI: 10.1016/j.emj.2017.02.005
- **Source:**

**The Complexity–Sustainability Trade–Off in Niklas Luhmann's Social Systems Theory**

- **Author:** Valentinov, Vladislav
- **Subjects:** Luhmann ; Autopoiesis ; Sustainability ; Complexity
- **Summary:** This paper explores the way the idea of sustainability is linked to categories traditionally examined by the general systems theory—the categories of system, environment, and complexity. Toward this end, the paper builds upon the social systems theory of Niklas Luhmann to explain the nature of the trade–off between complexity and sustainability. Exemplified by Luhmann's theory of ecological communication, the trade–off emerges because the growing systemic complexity entails the increasing risk that systems develop insensitivity to those environmental conditions on which they critically depend. The key implication of the trade–off is that it may be rational for social systems to withdraw their internal complexity to maintain their sustainability in a given environment. Copyright © 2012 John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.
- **Identifier:** ISSN: 1092-7026 ; E-ISSN: 1099-1743 ; DOI: 10.1002/sres.2146
- **Source:**

**On Niklas Luhmann's Concept of Social Emergence**

- **Author:** Lohse, S
- **Language:** German
- **Identifier:** ISSN: 0340-1804
- **Source:** Web of Science

**Economy as a Social System: Niklas Luhmann's Contribution and its Significance for Economics**

- **Author:** Boldyrev, Ivan
- **Subjects:** Luhmann, Niklas ; Studies ; Ontology ; Sociology ; System Theory ; Economics ; Heuristic ; Experiment/Theoretical Treatment ; Management Science/Operations Research ; Economic Conditions & Forecasts
- **Summary:** Niklas Luhmann's (1927-1998) ambitious research project was aimed not only at describing society as a global social system, but it also analyzed various subsystems (including an economic one). The article assesses Luhmann's vision of the economy, summarized mainly in his Wirtschaft der Gesellschaft,...
- **Language:** English
- **Identifier:** ISSN: 00029246 ; E-ISSN: 15367150 ; DOI: 10.1111/ajes.12013
- **Source:**

**NIKLAS LUHMANN: COMMUNICATION ISSUES WITHIN FRAMEWORK OF FUNCTIONALLY DIFFERENTIATED SOCIETY**

Subjects: Social Systems -- Research; Sociological Jurisprudence -- Research; Autopoiesis -- Research
Summary: Keywords: Luhmann, autopoiesis, social systems, self-reference Abstract Between 1984 and his death in 1998, German sociologist Niklas Luhmann developed a comprehensive theory of what he called autopoietic or self-referential systems. He worked out this approach both at the level of a social system as a whole and at the level of various social subsystems, such as state, economy, science, religion, education, art, family, and the concern of the present article-law. My particular topics in this critical introduction to Luhmann's theory are (a) its relation to more standard legal theory, (b) foundational or self-referential problems in law, and (c) the problem of law's relation to other social spheres, especially politics and the economy.
Language: English
Identifier: ISSN: 1550-3585
Source: Cengage Learning, Inc.

The legacy of Niklas Luhmann

Author: Bechmann, Gotthard; Stehr, Nico
Subjects: Luhmann, Niklas; Autopoiesis; Theoretical Problems; Sociological Theory; Modern Society; Systems Theory; Communication; Social Systems; Sociology: History and Theory; Theories, Ideas, & Systems; Article;
Summary: Summarizes the extensive contributions of Niklas Luhmann (1927-1999) to social theory, highlighting his systems perspective on modern society. His notions of the role of sociology in social theory & research are reviewed, & the genealogy of his systems approach is chronicled. Three major premises of Luhmann's theory are focal: (1) society does not consist of people, but people belong to the environment of society, (2) society is an autopoietic system consisting only of communication, & (3) society can only be properly understood from a world systems perspective. Critiques of Luhmann's theory as cynical & antihumanist are addressed, & some semantic difficulties in understanding it are identified. Luhmann's ideas on the relationship between theory & subject are reviewed, & implications for sociological inquiry are discussed. K. Hyatt Stewart
Language: English
Identifier: ISSN: 01472011; E-ISSN: 19364725; DOI: 10.1007/BF02717531
Source: 

Emergence à la Systems Theory: Epistemological Totalausschluss or Ontological Novelty?

Author: Wan, Poe Yu-Ze
Subjects: Niklas Luhmann; Mario Bunge; Emergence; Ontology; Epistemology; Reflexivity; Reductionism; Social Sciences (General); Philosophy


Summary: In this article, I examine Luhmann's, Bunge's and others' views on emergence, and argue that Luhmann's epistemological construal of emergence in terms of Totalausschluss (total exclusion) is both ontologically flawed and detrimental to an appropriate understanding of the distinctive features of social emergence. By contrast, Bunge's rational emergentism, his CESM model, and Wimsatt's characterization of emergence as nonaggregativity provide a useful framework to investigate emergence. While researchers in the field of social theory and sociology tend to regard Luhmann as the sole representative of systems theory, the latter has been characterized by its diversity, and the writings of such systems theorists as Mario Bunge deserve more (critical) attention from social researchers than they receive at present. Finally, this article suggests that the perennial debate over methodological individualism and holism in social science may make real progress if such ambiguous terms as reduction and reductionism are elucidated before they are employed. [Reprinted by permission of Sage Publications Inc., copyright holder.]

Language: English

Identifier: ISSN: 0048-3931; E-ISSN: 1552-7441; DOI: 10.1177/0048393109350751

Source:

Niklas Luhmann and Posthuman Modernity

Author: Adam Lovasz
Subjects: Autopoiesis; Constructivism; Posthumanism; Self-Organization; Sociology
Is Part Of: Проблеми на постмодерността
Summary: In the Introduction to his magnum opus, Die Gesellschaft der Gesellschaft, Niklas Luhmann makes the following programmatic statement: „The inquiries that follow venture this transition to a radically antihumanistic, radically anti-regional, and radically constructivist concept of society.” In my essay, I seek to unpack the ramifications of this move from an anthropocentric social paradigm to one that decenters the role of human beings in society and social theory. I propose that, in line with Luhmann’s intentions, we read his theory of society as a radically posthumanist venture. Two interpretations of Luhmann’s work stand out in particular, for both have advanced readings that seek to flesh out this dimension, namely those of Hans-Georg Moeller and Cary Wolfe. Through Moeller and Wolfe’s posthumanist commentaries on Luhmann, I also attempt to highlight what exactly we should understand under the term „posthumanism” and what a posthuman social thought might look like. Following...

Language: English

Identifier: E-ISSN: 1314-3700
Source: Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)

El léxico sociopolítico en Niklas Luhmann

Author: Jiménez Vivas, Pedro
Subjects: Léxico Sociopolítico; Teoría De Sistemas; Sociedad Moderna; Latencia; Epistemología Social
Summary: Este artículo busca mostrar la importancia de un léxico sociopolítico desde la teoría de sistemas desarrollada por Niklas Luhmann, así como su relevancia actual en el campo del desarrollo teórico. La principal idea que se expone en este estudio es en relación con una epistemología conceptual que pueda incorporar diversos tipos de resultados y soluciones, reflejados en diferentes fenómenos de la sociedad moderna. Los conceptos analizados son diez, los cuales tienen una esencial relación con los fenómenos de la política y otras manifestaciones de la vida social. Finalmente, este artículo puede ser
tomado como una introducción al estudio de la teoría de sistemas y su relación con diferentes escenarios políticos.

- **Language:** Spanish
- **Identifier:** ISSN: 0188-7742
- **Source:** Fundación Dialnet

**Niklas Luhmann's Systems Theory and War**

- **Author:** Holzinger, M
- **Subjects:** War ; Luhmann, Niklas ; Modernity ; Systems Theory ; Comparative Analysis ; Modernization ; Studies in Violence ; Studies in Violence ; Experimental/Theoretical Social Trends Culture Western Europe International ; Article;
- **Is Part Of:** Zeitschrift Fur Soziologie, 2014 Dec, Vol.43(6), pp.458-475
- **Summary:** This article deals with several current proposals to apply Niklas Luhmann's theory of social systems to the sociology of war. In a recent contribution to this journal (ZfS 6/2013) Barbara Kuchler suggested that many features of modern wars can be understood along the lines of Luhmann's understanding of functional differentiation. According to modernization theory, the differentiation of societies is at the core of the sociological conception of the rise of modernity, and the concept of functional differentiation is a widely accepted element in the theory of world society. My argumentation points in the opposite direction: I maintain that a comparative analysis of wars leads to a critical revision and new interpretation of the role of war in the emergence of modernity. In a critical discussion of Kuchler's contribution, the limits of systems theory as well as noteworthy challenges for historical-sociological research on war in the modern age are identified. Adapted from the source document.
- **Language:** German
- **Identifier:** ISSN: 0340-1804
- **Source:** Web of Science

**Implications of Self-Reference: Niklas Luhmann’s Autopoiesis and Organization Theory**

- **Author:** Hernes, Tor ; Bakken, Tore
- **Subjects:** Organization Theory ; Autopoiesis ; Systems Theory ; Luhmann ; Social Sciences (General) ; Sociology & Social History ; Business
- **Is Part Of:** Organization Studies, November 2003, Vol.24(9), pp.1511-1535
- **Summary:** This article reviews the potential of Niklas Luhmann's autopoiesis as a contribution to organization theory. We consider organization theory to consist of three epistemological foundations, which we label equilibrium-based theory, process-based theory & recursivity-based theory. We review critically Luhmann's autopoietic theory in relation to each of these three foundations. We suggest that whereas it deviates radically from equilibrium-based theory & deviates significantly from process-based theory, it holds potential in its complementarity with Giddens's structuration theory in providing a promising basis for recursivity-based organization theory. 91 References. [Reprinted by permission of Sage Publications Ltd., copyright 2003.]
- **Language:** English
- **Identifier:** ISSN: 0170-8406 ; E-ISSN: 1741-3044 ; DOI: 10.1177/0170840603249007
- **Source:**

**The paradox of the theory: interpreting Niklas Luhmann**

- **Author:** Moeller, Hg
RESUMO O artigo discute o papel do paradoxo na teoria social de Niklas Luhmann a partir de uma perspectiva hermenêutica "autológica": uma tentativa de interpretação "ortodoxa" da teoria de Luhmann, incluindo sua teoria do paradoxo, descobrirá que esta teoria não se presta a uma interpretação ortodoxa. Assim, mesmo que o paradoxo da teoria de Luhmann só possa ser compreendido por meio de uma interpretação ortodoxa, os fundamentos mesmos de tal abordagem hermenêutica ortodoxa são desconstruídos por seus próprios resultados. Com base em uma visada sobre esse paradoxo hermenêutico, o papel fundamental do paradoxo na teoria de Luhmann pode ser apreciado. Para Luhmann, a autoconstrução da sociedade como um sistema complexo de funções de comunicação baseia-se na Paradoxieentfaltung - o desenvolvimento de paradoxos -, que, por sua vez, se fundamenta no "paradoxo fundamental da observação" (die Grundparadoxie des Beobachtens). Assim, a construção social não opera por meio da eliminação de paradoxos, mas por meio do uso deles.

Language: Portuguese
Identifier: ISSN: 0103-2070 ; DOI: 10.1590/0103-2070201528
Source: