# CALL FOR PAPERS

# Unconventional Data Sources for Population Studies: Opportunities and Challenges

In an increasingly digitalized, mobile, and interconnected world, demographers can resort to unconventional data sources to supplement or provide alternatives to the usual censuses, large-scale surveys, and vital registration data. Several trends contribute to re-shaping the landscape of demographic data, including the growth of cell phone coverage, the expansion of the internet and social networks, the advent of artificial intelligence, the development of crowd-sourced data and the explosion of computational power. These trends offer unique opportunities to study populations in innovative ways, but they also raise new concerns related, for example, to biases and representativeness, informed consent, and data quality. This conference aims to bring together professionals of the discipline to review the promises and pitfalls of unconventional data in population studies. The presentations will cover aspects related to the acquisition of unconventional data, their processing using qualitative and quantitative methods, and the new ethical, conceptual, and methodological challenges they pose.

## We welcome submissions on these themes:

- **Innovative methods for data collection,** such as web-based surveys and mobile phone surveys, crowd-sourced and citizen-generated data, or participatory data collection methods.
- **New developments in sampling methods,** including respondent-driven and network-driven sampling, methods to sample rare and hard-to-find populations.
- **Textual analysis of digitized archives,** allowing the use of records from untapped data sources such as parish registers, court decisions, or the press.
- **Integration of existing data sources with new data through record linkages or the augmentation of survey/census data** with remotely sensed data from satellite images, areal photography, or biomarkers.
- **Digital demographic traces generated through the web or the use of mobile phones,** including data from social media, webpages visits, and Google search queries
- **Critical perspectives on the "data revolution" in demography:** ethical considerations related to informed consent and confidentiality, selectivity of data, changes in the power structures involved (e.g. shifts from national statistical systems to private companies), etc.

**DEMO**

**UCLouvain**

# CALL FOR PAPERS

## Unconventional Data Sources for Population Studies: Opportunities and Challenges

### KEY DATES

Deadline for submissions: **June 1st, 2023**
Acceptance notice: by **August 31st 2023**

### SUBMISSION AND PARTICIPATION

- Submit your paper by email to **quetelet-seminar@uclouvain.be** with a 250-word abstract and an extended abstract in PDF (max 4 pages, graphs not included). The submitting author should list all co-authors and affiliations.
- **On-site conference only,** at Université Catholique de Louvain, Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium
- **Registration fees:** 150€ (regular fee), 20€ (PhD students), 50€ (NGOs & NSOs)
- Presentations preferably in English, or in French with slides in English
- We encourage participants to consider their carbon footprint and join us by train where possible.

### Keynote Speaker

**Prof. Ridhi Kashyap**
Oxford University

### Scientific Committee

**UCLouvain (DEMO) :**
Philippe Bocquier, Kassoum Dianou, Bruno Masquelier, Ashira Menashe-Oren, Denise Musni, Audrey Plavsic, Alice Rees, Bruno Schoumaker, Marina Vergeles

**UNamur (Geography Department) :**
Catherine Linard, Sébastien Dujardin

### Contact

Centre de recherche en démographie
Université catholique de Louvain
1 Place Montesquieu bte L2.08.03
1348-Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgique
Tel. +32 10 472617
quetelet-seminar@uclouvain.be
www.uclouvain.be/demo