



**РАНХиГС**  
РОССИЙСКАЯ АКАДЕМИЯ НАРОДНОГО ХОЗЯЙСТВА  
И ГОСУДАРСТВЕННОЙ СЛУЖБЫ  
ПРИ ПРЕЗИДЕНТЕ РОССИЙСКОЙ ФЕДЕРАЦИИ

## Professor Albert Ogien Gave Three Lectures on Methods in Analytical Retrospective

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Distinguished sociologist, director of the research center CNRS, and director of the Institute of Marcel Mauss in the EHESS, Professor Albert Ogien, presented three lectures on methods in analytical retrospective. In the first lecture, “Society and individuals” on theoretical principles, Professor Ogien emphasized the importance of Émile Durkheim, a social

psychologist and philosopher, who formally established the field of sociology, and Vilfredo Pareto, who defined morphological and analytical sociology; in addition he mentioned Georg Simmelon’s work with social network analysis and Talcott Parson, who developed a general theory for the study of society called action theory.

The second lecture covered action and knowledge. An important point is that Knowing does not depend on the individual, but is social, adjusted to a situation and under the immediate control of partners in interaction. Knowledge is intricately intermingled with action. It ceases to be conceived exclusively of rational deliberation or a repository of prescriptions and data kept in stock in memory. Albert Ogien also described Garfinkel’s practices of normalization and Goffman’s theory of frames.



The third lecture was about the Sociological Analysis of Politics and Democracy. He noted that any society is a composite entity, structurally divided and constantly experiencing multiple tensions (between social classes, peer groups, ethnic affiliations, generations, traditions, religions, residential areas, regional disparities, language, etc.).

Albert Ogien provided a definition of civil disobedience. He noted that acts of civil disobedience recently have served two main political causes: to enhance the rights of alien

residents (assisting illegals, opposing arrests and expulsions, refusing to denounce, etc.); and to extend the political and social rights of citizens.

The main question of his research work is: What is a gathering? The common features of gatherings are: they emanate from crowds of outraged citizens; there is no theoretical slogan: no specific reference to class struggle, or to the overthrow of imperialism or capitalism; the only demand is for democracy. They reject any quest for power, as is clearly demonstrated by the fact that they claim no leader, no agenda, and no strategy. They are often called for or promoted through modern means of communication, such as Facebook, Twitter, or personal websites. In conclusion, Professor Albert Ogien underlined the main categories of democracy, which help to improve society.