**Glossary (list of terms in alphabetical order)**

**Chapter 4**

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| TERM | DEFINITION |
| Aggregation mechanism | Proposition which relates the individual level to collective outcomes. |
| Black Box explanations | Type of explanation in which *Y* is explained by *X*, but the theoretical mechanism linking *X* to *Y* is missing. |
| Complex aggregation | Idea that collective outcomes result from complex interplay between individuals and their social context. |
| Culture | Sociological theme on opinions, norms and corresponding behavior. |
| Ecological explanation | Type of explanation in which both the dependent and independent variable(s) are at the collective level (meso or macro). |
| Framework | See: Perspective. |
| Group | Social category with which people can affiliate. Synonym: Affiliation network. |
| Individual-level effect | Type of propositions which refer to processes at the micro level. |
| Inequality | Sociological theme on social stratification, social mobility and resources. |
| Multilevel framework | A framework which considers the interplay between individuals and their social environment. |
| Opinion | Cognitive beliefs, preferences, attitudes and values. |
| Norm | Rules of the game in society. |
| Paradigm | See: Perspective. |
| Perspective | Certain way of looking at things. Synonym: Framework, Paradigm. |
| Resources | Capital, opportunities and power one can use to realize one’s goals. |
| Simple aggregation | Idea that collective outcomes are no more than the sum of their parts. |
| Social context effect | Influence of social conditions on individual outcomes. |
| Social dynamics | Ecological relationships and collective changes. |
| Social interdependency | Situations in which actions of individuals affect those of yet other individuals. |
| Social mobility | Movement of people from one position to another in the stratification system. |
| Social network | A set of actors and the ties between them. |
| Social relations | Sociological theme on social networks and groups. |
| Social stratification | Unequal distribution of valued goods. |
| Sociological subtheme | Subdimension of a sociological theme. |
| Sociological theme | Complex concept which helps to relate diverse, specific topics to each other in a more abstract way. Three main sociological themes are: culture, social relations  and inequality. |
| Sociological topic | A specific subject matter in sociology. Examples: crime, ethnicity, globalization, gender. |
| Variable sociology | Type of sociology which focuses on causal relationships between variables. |
| Verstehen | Type of explanation in which subjective understanding plays a key role. |
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