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**ANNUAL
REPORT OF
ACTIVITIES**

&

**PROGRAMME
OVERVIEW**



EUROPEAN CENTRE
FOR SOCIAL WELFARE POLICY AND RESEARCH
AFFILIATED TO THE UNITED NATIONS

EUROPÄISCHES ZENTRUM
FÜR WOHLFAHRTSPOLITIK UND SOZIALFORSCHUNG
IN ZUSAMMENARBEIT MIT DEN VEREINigten NATIONEN

CENTRE EUROPÉEN
DE RECHERCHE EN POLITIQUE SOCIALE
AFFILIÉ AUX NATIONS UNIES



2009

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**ANNUAL
REPORT OF
ACTIVITIES**



**PROGRAMME
OVERVIEW**

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Status as of October 2009**

Research Pillar “Work, Wealth, Welfare”

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International Research Project and Network

EUROMOD: European Tax-Benefit Model

(funded by the European Commission,
DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities)
1999 –

International Research Project and Network

EUROMOD Update

(funded by the European Commission,
DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities)
2009 – 2012

International Research Project

European Observatory on the Social Situation

(funded by the European Commission,
DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities)
2005 – 2010

International Research Project

AIM-AP: Accurate Income Measurement for the Assessment of Public Policies

(funded by the European Commission, DG Research, 6th Framework Programme)
2006 – 2009

International Research Project

Study on Child Poverty

(funded by the European Commission,
DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities)
2008 – 2009

International Research Project

Return Migration and its Effects on Skills and Productivity of Migrant Workers

(funded by Austrian Federal Ministry of Economy, Family and Youth / BMWFJ)
2009

International Research Project

Comparative Analysis of European Pension Policies and their Impact

(funded by the Belgian Service Public Fédéral Sécurité Sociale –
Direction Générale Politique Sociale)

2009 – 2010

Publication Project

**Women's Work and Pensions: What is Good, What is Best?
Designing Gender-Sensitive Arrangements**

2008 – 2009

National Research Project

Schwerarbeit und Lebenserwartung

(Heavy Labour and Life Expectancy)

(funded by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection)

2007 – 2009

National Research Project

Österreichischer Familienbericht 2009 / Austrian Family Report 2009

(funded by the Federal Ministry for Health, Family and Youth)

2008 – 2009

National/International Research Project

Analyse und Vergleich der Wohlfahrtssysteme ausgewählter europäischer Großstädte

(Analysis and Comparison of the Welfare Systems of Selected Metropolises)

(funded by the City of Vienna, MA 24)

2009 – 2010

Research Pillar “Work, Wealth, Welfare”

Work, Wealth, Welfare is one of the two pillars within which the research programme of the European Centre has been organised. The research objectives for the pillar “Work, Wealth, Welfare” mentioned below continue to develop further, but the main work areas remain as those of the previous two years.

Overarching Aim

To develop and take forward work in the overlapping research fields of Work (e.g. employment promotion; earnings differentials; social protection for labour market absences; in-work benefits and their usefulness for work incentives); Wealth (including income maintenance; accumulated income; physical as well as pension wealth; impact of wealth on personal welfare, etc.); and Welfare (e.g. design and implementation of social security and welfare programmes and their impact on reduction of poverty and social exclusion; social rights and entitlements). This research programme – undertaken by working closely with national policy-makers and international (research) organisations, and with the help of the commissioned research, internal research as well as conferences and seminars – help us identify and advise on key social welfare policy reforms that are necessary within the wider bloc of European countries.

Specific Objectives

- To improve our understanding of the working of the labour market, and drawing out the implications for future policy developments, so as to achieve a more flexible and better performing labour market, which supports goals such as achieving sustainable economic growth, with additional and better jobs and greater social inclusion of people at the margin of the labour market (in particular for persons with disabilities).
- Identify and explore sources of income and wealth generation within and across countries, and within and across generations, by studying key research issues and policy developments (such as women and pensions; intergenerational transfer of disadvantages; shifts in pension policies and their impact on pension wealth and retirement incomes; risks of poverty and social exclusions across countries and the mainstreaming of ageing and social inclusion policies and their impact).
- Inform future policy developments by understanding the design, implementation and impact of social welfare policies; and by identifying good policy practices across countries (in particular those which had resulted in reducing poverty and social exclusion amongst vulnerable groups of societies); and
- To work out and support the development of the analytical tools that are required in assessing policy developments across different fields of social welfare policy and research (e.g. maintenance and extension of the microsimulation models and other such tools and data sources; and by developing social indicators so as to monitor progress and policies).

We anticipate organising our work programme within various research areas. The broad description of the research areas is set out below.

I. Ageing & Generations

This research area seeks to facilitate a dialogue across generations within a multidisciplinary setting so as to study implications of ageing of societies. The intergenerational and interdisciplinary perspective allows us to better understand and prepare for challenges and opportunities associated with demographic changes that European countries are experiencing. Within this research area, work in understanding linkages across different stages of life has also been envisaged.

Most notable work in this work area remains the project “Mainstreaming Ageing: Indicators to Monitor Implementation” (MA:IMI). All European Centre researchers provided work in many different forms for this project. The MA:IMI team has also been participating in the international meetings and the technical workshops, and in organising meetings of experts. The main task remains the construction and recommending of a list of indicators and providing analytical work that will support the Regional Implementation Strategy (RIS) of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (MIPAA).

In 2008, the European Centre has embarked on the 2nd phase of the work programme within the MA:IMI project. A new Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between UNECE and EC has been signed in March 2009 and is concluded for the period from March 2009 to February 2014, after which the parties will undertake to review the results of the cooperation and decide upon its continuation. During 2009, the work on indicators has focused on the analyses of indicators already generated for the following four domains: Demography, Income and Wealth, Labour Market and Labour Market Participation, and Social Protection and Financial Sustainability. In addition, and more importantly, the 2nd phase of the MA:IMI project has started work towards designing and developing new indicators, collecting data on gender-specific Mainstreaming Ageing indicators, as well as on long-term care indicators. Also, in 2009, the Population Ageing Unit of the UNECE together with the European Centre sent out a data request to all Focal Points on Ageing in the UNECE region. The aim of this exercise is to update existing statistics and fill in the missing data in the European Centre’s MA:IMI database with the help of UNECE’s National Focal Points on Ageing. The European Centre’s MA:IMI team has been responsible for compiling the templates for each UNECE Member State and for providing help and information on various methodological and technical issues.

II. Childhood, Youth & Families

Child poverty has been receiving increasing attention both at the European and national level. In 2007, an EU Task-Force on Child Poverty and Child Well-Being was established. In 2008, child poverty has become a key priority in the National Strategy Reports in 24 Member States, many of them setting quantified targets for its reduction. As contributors to this policy process, in a European Commission-funded project, the Study on Child Poverty,

the European Centre assists the development of more coherent and integrated policies to combat child poverty and social exclusion. In particular, our task includes identifying a reduced set of indicators which best reflects the multi-dimensional nature of child well-being and is adequate for monitoring policies that aim to reduce child poverty and social exclusion and enhance human capital accumulation of upcoming generations.

In addition, the main parts of the “Austrian Family Report 2009” were carried out by a research team coordinated by the European Centre. The contributions to this detailed report on the situation of families cover a wide range of topics, e.g. the features of families today, the reconciliation of family and work and the use of formal child care. This project will be completed by the end of 2009.

Staff Development

Renate Kränzl-Nagl, who joined the Childhood Programme in 1996 and who has been responsible for the research area “Childhood, Youth and Families” for many years, left the European Centre. From 1st September 2008 onwards she started her new job as Professor for Sociology and Social Empirical Research at the Upper Austrian University of Applied Sciences, Faculty for Health and Social Services in her hometown Linz (courses “Social and Public Management” and “Master of Services of General Interest”). She continues to collaborate with the European Centre as a consultant till June 2009 in order to complete some of her ongoing projects. The European Centre has yet to decide upon the future development of this research branch. *Asghar Zaidi* (Director Research) returned to the European Centre after two years of leave of absence at the Social Policy Division, Directorate of Employment, Labour and Social Affairs, OECD, Paris. During his stay at OECD, he promoted collaboration between OECD and the Centre. *Katrin Gasior* joined the European Centre as graphics designer, starting from December 2008.

III. Incomes, Poverty & Social Exclusions

This research area addresses the following analytical questions: How best to improve income measurement for the assessment of public policies; how to improve our understanding of people’s experiences of poverty and social exclusions; what are good policy practices in combating risk of poverty and social exclusions; and what recommendations can be made for policy reforms that will help countries improve incomes and combat poverty and social exclusions.

During 2009, the European Centre continued work within the European Observatory on the Social Situation, which provided insights into many different areas of poverty and social exclusion. The key examples are our work on social exclusion of migrant families and on exploring the level of poverty across the EU countries, the trends over the past decade and identifying high poverty risk groups. The outcomes were published in a special volume entitled “European Inequalities. Social Inclusion and Income Distribution in the European Union” (edited by Terry Ward, Orsolya Lelkes, Holly Sutherland and Istvan G. Tóth), and in addition they will contribute to the Social Situation Report, also published by the Commission on an annual basis.

We finalised work on the international project AIM-AP, financed by the European Commission DG Research, which is a programme of interlinked activities aiming to improve the comparability, scope and applicability of methods for the measurement of income and the analysis of the effects of policies on inequality and poverty. The project includes (1) the distributional effects of non-cash incomes (such as health, education, home production and imputed rents) and the implementation of a more comprehensive income definition; (2) the implications of (and methods to account for) errors in targeting social benefits, tax evasion, and measurement error in income data; and (3) incorporation of the effects of indirect, as well as direct taxes and social benefits in redistribution analysis. By January 2009, the European Centre's researchers completed their work within the project, using the case studies of Austria, Hungary, Italy and Finland.

The European Centre also published a book on "Well-being of Older People in Ageing Societies" (by Asghar Zaidi), that provides insightful analyses of income risks faced by older people.

The book provides new insights in three research themes. Under Theme I, multidimensional well-being of older people, it is demonstrated that with ageing, factors such as ill health and disability become ever more important in determining the personal well-being of older people, and these factors have financial bearings not captured by an analysis of income status alone. In Theme II, income experience in old age, the dynamics of older people's income is analysed, using descriptive statistics as well as econometric models. This approach broadens the conventional snapshot-type analyses and provides insights about income processes underlying the ageing experience. In Theme III, comparative perspective on income dynamics, the work reported in the book evaluates how the relative importance of individual attributes and life-course events differs in determining the income experience of older people who live in different systems of social insurance and old-age social provisions (in Britain and the Netherlands). The evidence presented demonstrates that a careful scrutiny of existing state benefits designed to compensate for the extra "costs of disability" is essential, since their levels fall short of the extra cost estimates obtained in this book. Moreover, these results present a strong case for developing robust disability-adjusted poverty and inequality statistics to present alongside official figures on pensioners' incomes. The empirical work reported also highlights the importance of comparative research on income dynamics during retirement.

IV. Labour Market & Social Policy

This research area focuses on the analysis of the functioning of the labour market, and reviewing of the labour market and other social policies to boost employment and incomes. A particular focus is placed on the understanding of the institutional set-up within which labour market and social policies are implemented.

One project for the European Commission, entitled "Study of the Compilation of the Disability Data from the Administrative Registers of the EU Member States", compiled statistics and analyses of the labour market integration of persons with disability into the formal labour market in member countries of the EU27.

The Centre has also conducted research on the take-up of social assistance in Austria and Finland, exploring the patterns and reasons why people do not actually claim benefits they are entitled to. Working jointly with an international team of researchers within a research project of the European Commission, the ultimate aim is to assess how non-take up affects poverty, income inequality and social policies. In both countries non-take-up rates in terms of eligible households appear to be considerably high and amount to more than 50%. Thus, welfare goals of social assistance are far from being reached and unjustified disparities among eligible clients result.

V. Pensions & Social Security

This research area looks into how pensions and other forms of social security provisions ensure income protection against common social risks such as absences from labour market, divorce, widowhood, and other forms of life-course disruptions. A particular focus is placed on how recent pension reforms in many countries are likely to impact on retirement incomes of future pensioners.

Within the Spanish Government project “Indicators and Comparative Analyses of European Social Protection Systems”, we investigate how European pension reforms have an impact on the balance of risks between individuals, employers and the state in securing an adequate income in retirement. This research adopts a comparative approach, thus it will be able to analyse how a single country fares in comparison to another within a European context.

Completed research for Austria includes an analysis of the relation between heavy labour and life expectancy, commissioned by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection.

In the project with the Belgian Federal Social Security Office, “Comparative Analysis of European Pension Policies and their Impact”, a special focus will be placed on the comparative social situation of Belgium. In particular, it will be assessed how resource-tested and minimum pensions schemes in Belgium fare in comparison to similar schemes in other European countries. What issues are particularly relevant in understanding and analysing gender pension gap in Belgium. How poverty among older people in Belgium compare with the rest of EU member States. How restrictions in early retirement provisions in Belgium compare with the similar pension policy changes in the rest of the EU. Whether coverage of voluntary pension arrangements in Belgium is on the rise and whether such trends in other countries are also observed.

The gender implications of social security reforms and pension policy are investigated in the European Centre’s book publication “Women’s Work and Pensions: What is Good? What is Best? Designing Gender-Sensitive Arrangements” (to be published by the end of 2009).

The book, edited by Bernd Marin and Eszter Zólyomi, has aimed to explore the difficulties women face during their working life and in retirement (i.e. disrupted working history due to caring responsibilities, labour market segregation, gender pay gap, old-age poverty) and

the gender implications of recent social and pension policies. It attempts to provide some answers on how to design or adapt pension systems so as to better accommodate women's needs and achieve "fair" outcomes for all women. The book contains valuable contributions from international pension and social policy experts, and there is also a section on statistical information on a number of different indicators focusing on gender differences.

VI. Tax/Benefit Policy Modelling

Here, we focus on our specific research interest of developing tax-benefit types of models as analytical tools to evaluate ex-ante the impact of policy reforms. The most salient aspect of these so-called microsimulation models is that they analyse the redistributive impact of taxes or benefits on individuals or households, answering questions such as "who are the winners and losers" of a particular policy reform. Emphasis has been placed on working with the international network that has developed EUROMOD, the European tax-benefit microsimulation model.

During 2009, the European Centre's researchers started a new EUROMOD-related project, supported by the European Commission. The grant will be used to update and upgrade the computer-based research tool, and to extend it to cover the whole enlarged European Union over the next three years. The funds will also be used to raise awareness among researchers, international bodies and governments of how EUROMOD can be applied to measure the impact of tax and benefit policies on people's living standards and ultimately tackle inequality and poverty. Building upon the European Centre's experience within the I-CUE project, the Centre's team will be responsible for the enlargement of the model to the New Member States of the EU, and will collaborate closely with the project leader Prof. Holly Sutherland from ISER.

As an outcome of the long-lasting EUROMOD-related activities of the Centre, a book, titled "Tax and Benefit Policies in the Enlarged Europe: Assessing the Impact with Microsimulation Models" was published (edited by Orsolya Lelkes and Holly Sutherland). This book is one of the first systematic collections of studies based on the European tax-benefit microsimulation model, and thus a synthesis of the scientific work of researchers from more than a dozen of countries for over a decade.

The chapter by Sir Anthony Atkinson sets a context for EUROMOD in EU policy-making and provides an insightful assessment of the policy processes. Prof. Holly Sutherland's contribution describes the past, present and future of EUROMOD. The book provides novel analysis on the impact of tax and benefit systems on individuals' incomes and work incentives. Not only actual policies are assessed, but hypothetical scenarios of interest to policy-makers as well, for example the introduction of flat taxes. The special feature of many chapters is that they are based on a comparative tax-benefit microsimulation model, EUROMOD, thus allowing a systematic and consistent comparison of countries. In addition to the 15 "old" Member States of the European Union, the model has been recently enlarged to Estonia, Hungary, Poland and Slovenia, thus allowing a wider range of comparisons. Another part of the chapters presents analysis based on national tax-benefit models

in Cyprus and Lithuania, providing a selection of exemplary and innovative studies, and demonstrating the power of the microsimulation method for policy analysis. The concluding chapter by Herwig Immervoll and Orsolya Lelkes explores future priorities for tax-benefit modelling.

VII. Welfare Society

Our focus is to evaluate different types of welfare societies and their success in addressing social issues that a country is facing. Emphasis will be placed on the analysis of attributes of the European Social Model and how it offers lessons for countries to reform their welfare states.

While the analysis of the distributional impact of tax and cash transfer changes in developed countries has for some decades been the “bread and butter” of microsimulation modelling, microsimulation is now expanding into new frontiers. These include geographic expansion (into African countries and the countries of the former Soviet Union); subject area expansion (embracing such new topics as small area analysis, health care and child care); and breakthroughs in the technology associated with microsimulation (such as in behavioural and labour supply modelling). A new book, “New Frontiers in Microsimulation Modelling” (edited by Asghar Zaidi, Ann Harding and Paul Williamson) contains selected papers from the 1st General Conference of the International Microsimulation Association, hosted by the European Centre Vienna in August 2007. As well as providing a useful introduction to the state of microsimulation internationally today, it contains a wide range of chapters illustrating the new applications and approaches being used across the world. This book, launched during the 2nd General Conference of the International Microsimulation Association in Ottawa (June 2009), is of particular relevance to government policy-makers, social policy planners, economists and those concerned with predicting the impact of public policy change. For those who live in countries that have already developed a sophisticated microsimulation modelling infrastructure, the volume will provide a highly relevant guide to the path-breaking directions being taken at the frontiers of this discipline. For researchers and policy-makers living in countries that have not yet developed microsimulation models, the volume will provide insights into the questions that can be addressed using these types of models.

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International Research Project

ANED – Academic Network on European Disability. “The Implementation of EU Social Inclusion and Social Protection Strategies in European Countries with Reference to Equality for Disabled People”

(Funded by the European Commission, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities)
2008

International Research Project

Long-term Care for Older People in Europe: Facts and Figures

(funded by Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, France, Spain, Switzerland, UN-ECE, European Centre)
2008 – 2009

International Expert Meeting

Monitoring Long-term Care for the Elderly

6-10 September 2009, hosted by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Services, Israel

International Research Project

Social and Long-term Care in European Benchmark Countries

(in cooperation with and funded by the ECSHD World Bank)
2009

International Expert Meeting

**Conference on Health and Dignified Ageing, Swedish Presidency of the EU.
Discussion Paper as Background Note for the Conference**

15-16 September 2009, Stockholm, Sweden
(funded by the Swedish Government)

International Research Project

**Quality Management by Result-oriented Indicators.
Towards Benchmarking in Residential Care for Older People**

(funded by the European Commission, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, PROGRESS Programme)
2008 – 2010

*International Research Project***INTERLINKS. Health Systems and Long-term Care for Older People in Europe – Modelling the INTERfaces and LINKS between Prevention, Rehabilitation, Quality of Services and Informal Care**

(funded by the European Commission, DG Research, EU 7th Framework Programme for Research)
2008 – 2011

*International Research Project***Contracting for Quality**

(in cooperation with the European Social Network / ESN, Brighton UK)
(funded by the ESN with funding from the European Commission, DG Employment / PROGRESS)
2008 – 2010

*International Research Project***Generationenpolitik – Internationale Ansätze und Entwicklungen / Generational Policies – International Approaches and Developments**

(funded by the Swiss Federal Social Insurance Office / Eidgenössisches Bundesamt für Sozialversicherungen)
2008 – 2009

*International Research Project***EuroREACH – A Handbook to Access Health Care Data for Cross-country Comparisons of Efficiency and Quality**

(funded by the Commission of the European Communities, Seventh Framework Programme)
2010 – 2013

*International Research Project***EU Cross-Border Care Collaboration**

(funded by the Commission of the European Communities, Seventh Framework Programme: Health)
2010 – 2013

*International Research Project***Multi-City Study on Quantities and Financing Behaviour of Illicit Drug Consumption**

(funded by the Austrian Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs, in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime / UNODC)
2005 – 2009

*International Research Project***Second Multi-City Study on Quantities and Financing of Illicit Drug Consumption**

(funded by the Austrian Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs, in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime / UNODC)
2009 – 2010

National Research Project
Addicts in the Public Area

(Suchtkranke im öffentlichen Raum)
(funded by Sucht- und Drogenkoordination, Vienna)
2008 – 2009

International Research Project
Senior Drug Dependants and Care Structures – SDD Care

(funded by the European Union, under the programme “Public Health 2003-2008”
of the Executive Agency for the Public Health Programme)
2008 – 2010

International Research Project
Alcohol Measures for Public Health Research Alliance (AMPHORA)

(funded by the European Commission, DG Research, EU 7th Framework Programme for Research)
2009 – 2012

Research Pillar “Health and Care”

I. Alcohol, Drugs, Addiction

In the research area “Alcohol, Drugs, Addiction” two books were published: The “Multi-City Study on Quantities and Financing of Illicit Drug Consumption”, carried out by the European Centre in collaboration with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, was published with Ashgate, the qualitative study on young “alcohol scenes” in public places in Vienna and Lower Austria was published in the European Centre’s Occasional Reports Series. The results of the latter were presented in a workshop hosted by the European Centre: European experts discussed “intoxication” and “intoxicated behaviours” in contemporary European cultures. The discussions were summarized in a Policy Brief.

Two projects that started in 2008 were continued: In cooperation with partners from Germany, Poland and Scotland, the European Centre participates in a project focusing on senior drug dependents and their care and treatment needs. National datasets and datasets of the project partner cities (Frankfurt, Glasgow, Vienna, Warsaw) were re-analysed to estimate the scope of the problem. Senior drug addicts were interviewed to assess their problems, needs and wishes. Furthermore the legal and financial framework of each partner country was investigated with regard to the delivery of care for senior drug dependents. Finally, examples of good practice in caring for senior drug dependents will be identified by interviewing experts in the field. The project is commissioned by the Executive Agency for the Public Health Programme (PHEA).

Commissioned by the “Sucht- und Drogenkoordination Wien”, a one-year project analysed the number, fluctuations and socio-demographic profiles of addicted persons that are dwelling in the public area. Beside quantitative aspects qualitative aspects of the target group were investigated, such as drug consumption patterns, risk behaviours, health, psychosocial and medical resources, reasons for the non-utilization of services and dwelling habits in public areas. The project was recently finalized.

In spring 2009 the follow-up project for the United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime (funded by the Austrian Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs) started: the “Second Multi-City Study on Quantities and Financing of Illicit Drug Consumption”. This second multi-city study will cover 4 Nordic and 4 Eastern/South Eastern European cities and provide insight into drug consumption patterns in areas not thoroughly studied until present. As the results of the first multi-city study, the results of the second one will be relevant for drug policies on local, national and European levels. Moreover, the outcome of the project will provide an important input for the UNODC estimates and publications of trends in worldwide drug consumption.

II. Long-term Care and Personal Social Services

Long-term care has continued to be a major focus of work of the Health and Care Pillar.

Since November 2008, the major new project “INTERLINKS: Health systems and long-term care for older people in Europe – Modelling the INTERfaces and LINKS between prevention, rehabilitation, quality of services and informal care“ was started in cooperation with 16 partners from 14 European countries.

This large-scale project will further strengthen the role of the European Centre as research hub for policy ideas to improve quality and efficiency of care systems in Europe. An informed public (national experts from research and practice, high-level policy makers, EU institutions and European level non-governmental organisations and providers) will be involved in the validation of findings and in the elaboration of model elements by means of National Expert Panels and two international Sounding Board Conferences. It is a specific aim of the project to identify and involve “change agents” in policy and practice – persons who are open for change and able to implement learning and evidence into practice – as much as possible in the gathering of data (evidence-based good practice), in the validation of findings and in the implementation of methods and instruments.

Following an initial meeting of the Scientific Management Team, the Kick-off Meeting was hosted by the European Centre in Vienna. During the first phase of the project, national teams have contributed information from their countries with respect to prevention and rehabilitation, quality assurance and informal care in relation to LTC and the health system. First results were discussed at the second project meeting in Athens (13-15 September 2009). Apart from scientific coordination and management, the European Centre is mainly involved in the areas prevention and rehabilitation (Georg Ruppe), quality development and assurance (Kai Leichsenring) as well as governance and financing (Ricardo Rodrigues).

From 20 to 21 April a joint workshop on social and long-term care was held in Vienna by representatives from the World Bank and the European Centre. In total 22 invited researchers and staff from the World Bank, the European Commission and the European Centre as well as two experts from Latvia and Poland joined this meeting.

During the first day several presentations and country reports on the organization of long-term care for older people in countries of middle and southern-eastern Europe took place. The first presentation “Projecting long-term care needs” (Bartosz Pryzwara, EC) illustrated the Methodological Issues of LTC Country Assessments. Manfred Huber and Ricardo Rodrigues then presented their “Indicators for the LTC sector” based on their forthcoming publication “Long-term care for older people in Europe: Facts and Figures” (Huber et al.).

Several country presentations then followed, where experts from Austria (Kai Leichsenring, European Centre) and Germany (Manfred Huber, European Centre), Latvia (Lolita Vilka, Stradins University), Bulgaria (Sarbani Chakraborty, World Bank office in Sofia), Russia (Anne Bakilana, World Bank), and Poland (Barbara Wiezowska, Warsaw School of Economics) presented an overview of the long-term care systems in these countries.

During the first half of the second day a study tour in Vienna was organized by the European Centre (Georg Ruppe). The international delegation first visited a small living unit for older people suffering from Dementia, run by Caritas Socialis (a private non-profit organization) in the south of Vienna. After that the group received a guided tour in the nursing and old-age home “Haus Leopoldau” (run by Kuratorium Wiener Pensionistenwohnhäuser) and had lunch and open discussions with some regional experts in the field of long-term care, who also attended the guided tour. In the afternoon of the second day the workshop ended with a framework discussion supported by presentations by Sarbani Chakraborty, Johannes Koettl (World Bank) and Maria Hofmarcher (Institute for Advanced Studies Vienna).

The combination of theoretical discourse, impressions from everyday practice in long-term care and lively discussions created all in all a successful two-days workshop.

Ongoing work is undertaken to take stock of available care data and international comparisons in order to establish a system of care indicators for monitoring long-term care policies for older people in Europe. This project is part of the follow up of the MA:IMI project. As main outcome of this work, a publication on “Facts and figures on long-term care for older people: Europe and North America” will come out in Autumn 2009. This publication will cover all aspects relevant to care policy, namely demographic background; changing living arrangements and household patterns; trends in informal care giving; as well as availability, quality and expenditure on professional long-term care services. This publication will be accompanied by a publication on the sources and estimation methods used, which will be a complemented companion to this complex field of international comparisons.

A workshop in 2009 will act as a forum for discussing the further strategy towards a more routine exchange on trends and policies in long-term care for older people at the European Centre. The findings of the publication will be discussed with a broader audience of policy analysts and stakeholders during a conference in Jerusalem (6-10 September 2009). This International Expert Meeting on “Monitoring Long-Term Care for the Elderly” will be held jointly with the Ministry of Social Affairs and Services of the State of Israel.

The aim will be to review policy developments on long-term care in Israel and the other 56 countries in the Region of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE). International and Israeli experts will exchange views on a broad range of themes such as:

- Quality of care
- Challenges facing the care sector workforce and the role played by foreign workers
- Establishing a continuum of care services for the elderly
- Home care vs. institutional care

There will be two days of plenary presentations and discussions in the meeting, with one day of on-site visits of long-term care facilities.

Interim results of the PROGRESS project “Quality management by result-oriented indicators – Towards benchmarking in residential care for older people” will also be described. Since January 2009 colleagues from the Health and Care team are working to construct an

international framework of standards including a conceptual analysis for quality of life and quality of care and a set of result-oriented indicators to define, measure and assess quality in residential care for older people, based on an exchange of experiences with result-oriented indicators in selected Member States.

The objective is to move away from only having “clinical or health-related” indicators and to also focus on indicators of quality of life of residents in the broader sense such as the amount of choice they have in the nursing home, and how much access to the external community they have etc. This work is being carried out in the context of a project funded by the PROGRESS programme of the European Commission. We are currently in the process of applying and validating this framework of standards in two ways: by consensus-building and by applying the framework of standards to an existing quality management system for residential care of older people.

The Health and Care team was awarded two 36-months projects by the Framework Programme 7 of the European Commission. Both projects are due to begin in the first trimester of 2010. The European Centre is the Coordinator for the following project:

- EuroREACH – A Handbook to Access Health Care Data for Cross-country Comparisons of Efficiency and Quality

The objective of EuroREACH is to provide tools to health care researchers to better enable them to access well-organised health care data that allow for comparability at European level. These tools will be made available in the form of a Handbook containing a toolbox of guidance to national and international health information systems, which will be one of the major tangible outcomes of the project. EuroREACH is a coordination action that aims to overcome the compartmentalisation of data collection and analysis of chronic diseases – both on a national and European level – in order to study the questions listed above in a cross-country, comparative perspective. European datasets for comparable health care data so far mainly have relied on strategies to make the best use of data originally produced at the national level. The Austrian Association for Support of Research (FFG) has provided seed money for the European Centre to bring this consortium together.

The European Centre is a partner for the following project:

- EU Cross-Border Care Collaboration. The London School of Economics and Political Science – Health Centre will act as the Coordinator.

The aim of EUCBCC is to facilitate a process whereby Europe’s citizens can make informed choices about whether to seek health care in another Member State and, if they do so, to ensure that the administrative and clinical processes are straightforward and ensure continuity of care. It takes as its starting point the recent draft Directive on Patients’ Rights, augmented by the existing body of research on cross-border care. It then focuses on those areas where the necessary information is incomplete and seeks to fill the gaps. It is equally important to state what it does not do. It does not seek to quantify the scale of movement

because our earlier research reveals this to be a dynamic area where data are often unavailable and rapidly become out of date. EUCBCC firstly examines five aspects of health care delivery where it will be necessary for procedures to be compatible if patients are to be assured that the care they receive is safe, of adequate quality, and capable of providing continuity where some parts of the overall care process are provided in different Member States. These are:

- provisions with regard to the continuing quality of health professionals;
- treatment pathways;
- public reporting of quality;
- content and scope of medical records; and
- medical prescribing.

Secondly, it looks at three areas where there is already cross-border collaboration, to identify practical issues that have arisen and how they have, or have not been addressed. These areas of practice are collaborations between hospitals in border areas, telemedicine, and dentistry. The research on the first set of topics generally takes place on two levels. The first involves a series of pan-European surveys to identify the nature of the phenomenon in, as far as possible, all Member States. The second involves focused studies in key subject areas that capture important issues. The methods used are both quantitative and qualitative and involve contributions from a broad range of disciplines. There is a strong emphasis on dissemination of policy-relevant findings, taking advantage of the strong existing links of the research team with national and European policy-makers.

**Mainstreaming Ageing:
Indicators to Monitor Implementation (MA:IMI / II)
2008 – 2012**

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Expertise, Monitoring, and Evaluation

**Mainstreaming Ageing: Indicators to Monitor Implementation (MA:IMI)
Monitoring the Regional Implementation Strategy (RIS)
for the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (MIPAA)**

(in cooperation with the UN Economic Commission for Europe / UN-ECE)

Phase I: 2003 – 2008 (Follow-up and Monitoring)

Phase II: 2008 – 2012 (Second Review and Appraisal Cycle)

**The 1st Meeting of the Preparatory Committee
for the 2007 UNECE Ministerial Conference on Ageing**

12-13 July 2007, Geneva, Switzerland

**The Meeting of the Bureau of the Preparatory Committee
for the 2007 UNECE Ministerial Conference on Ageing**

8-9 October 2007, Geneva, Switzerland

**A Special Session during European Centre's GAM on the Review and Progress
of the 1st Phase of the MA:IMI Project and Its Continuation into the 2nd Phase**

27 October 2007, Vienna, Austria

The 2007 Ministerial Conference on Ageing: "A Society for All Ages: Challenges and Opportunities"

6-8 November 2007, León, Spain

**Special Side Event on the Progress and Future of the MA:IMI Project
during the 2007 Ministerial Conference on Ageing**

6-8 November 2007, León, Spain

The Forum of Civil Society on Ageing

6-8 November 2007, León, Spain

**Special Session on Pension Issues at the 30th General Conference
of the International Association of Research in Income and Wealth**

24-30 August 2008, Portoroz, Slovenia

Follow-up and Meetings for the Second Review and Appraisal Cycle 2008 – 2012

High-Level Expert and Policy-Makers Conference

Reinventing Retirement: Reshaping Health & Financial Security for the EU 27 and Eastern Europe

(funded by AARP and the Austrian Federal Ministry of Science and Research)

23-24 October 2008, Dürnstein, Austria

First Meeting of the UNECE Working Group on Ageing

1-2 December 2008, Geneva, Switzerland

First Meeting of the Bureau of the UNECE Working Group on Ageing

11-12 May 2009, Bratislava, Slovak Republic

Forthcoming events:

International Expert Meeting – Monitoring Long-Term Care for the Elderly

6-9 September 2009, Jerusalem, Israel

Second Meeting of the UNECE Working Group on Ageing

23-24 November 2009, Geneva, Switzerland

Further Activities

**Support in Preparing the Austrian UNECE Conference Room Paper for
UNECE's 60th Anniversary, Presented at the 62nd Annual Formal Meeting**

**Editing and Dissemination of the Madrid Book “Mainstreaming Ageing:
Indicators to Monitor Sustainable Progress and Policies” (finalising authors’ contributions to the book;
drafting lead chapter ‘Trends and Priorities of Ageing Policies in the UN-European Region’, etc)**

Editing and Dissemination of the Book “Well-being of Older People in Ageing Societies”

Editing and Dissemination of the Book “New Frontiers in Microsimulation Modelling”

Editing and Dissemination of the Book “Women’s Work and Pensions: What is Good, What is Best?”

Continual Updating of the Monitoring RIS Website

International Exchange
International Seminars

<http://www.euro.centre.org> (link homepage)
2005 – 2009

Pieter Vanhuysse

**Elderly Bias, New Social Risks, and Spending Priorities:
Investigating Change and Timing in Eight Programs across Four Worlds of Welfare, 1980-2003**

22 July 2009

Achim Goerres

The Political Participation of Older People in Europe: The Greying of Our Democracies

8 October 2008

Markus Tepe

Traveling without Moving? Pension Regime Change in Ageing Welfare States

3 October 2008

Herwig Immervoll

Gender Inequalities and the Allocation of Market Work within Households

3 July 2008

Robert Laslett

**Personal Accounts to Improve Pension Coverage and Adequacy:
The UK's Proposed Pension Reforms and Lessons for other EU Countries**

11 June 2007

John Hills

Pension Reform in the UK: Challenges, choices and progress

2 March 2007

Joshua M. Wiener

Quality Assurance Systems for Long-Term Care: An International Perspective

27 June 2006

Robert Holzmann

Pension Reform in Europe: Need and Options for a More Coordinated Reform Approach

8 June 2006

Mainstreaming Ageing: Indicators to Monitor Implementation (MA:IMI)

First Phase of the MA:IMI Project: Follow-up and Monitoring of MIPAA/ RIS

The European Centre has been mandated to undertake various follow-up activities of the so called “Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing” since 2002. In the first phase, this work was supported by the Austrian Government (through the Ministry of Social Security, Generations and Consumer Protection and the Ministry for Foreign Affairs). The work had been undertaken with a formal collaboration and the assistance of the UNECE, Geneva, and the newly defined Task Force.

In the first review and appraisal cycle of MIPAA and RIS in the period between 2003 and 2007/2008, the European Centre provided technical support and helped to review the implementation of the Plan by the UNECE’s Member States, by a monitoring process based on effective exchange of information, experiences and best practices. European Centre provided keynote speeches and discussions during several specialised sessions of the 2007 UNECE Ministerial Conference on Ageing in León, Spain. This conference was attended by ministers and high-level officials from 45 UNECE Member States and the European Commission, international organizations, non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders. Discussions included progress achieved in the implementation of the Regional Implementation Strategy for the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing adopted at the 2002 Ministerial Conference in Berlin. The Conference also adopted the Ministerial Declaration “A Society for All Ages: Challenges and Opportunities”.

The European Centre’s project “Mainstreaming Ageing: Indicators to Monitor Implementation” was specially staffed for this work programme, and in the course of the project many additional researchers, administrative and technical staff contributed to the work programme. While this programme of work would not have been possible without the generous support of the Austrian host Government as well as that of the Spanish authorities and of UNFPA, the major part of the human resources operating was provided by the European Centre itself, requiring a doubling of the basic endowment offered by the Republic of Austria to the European Centre.

Briefly, the European Centre had undertaken the following tasks during the 1st phase of the MA:IMI project:

- Prepared annual reports and conference room papers for the UNECE Secretariat.
- Promoted exchange of information among experts, policy-makers and civil society by (co-)organizing and participating in various international conferences, workshops, expert and Task Force meetings. For example, the MA:IMI team contributed towards the preparation of the 2007 Ministerial Conference on Ageing: “A Society for All Ages: Challenges and Opportunities” (6-8 November 2007, León, Spain). Also, contributions were made during the 3 day conference, including a special side event, “Progress and Future of the MA:IMI Project”, disseminating information about the work programme of the project.
- Developed a set of agreed-upon “indicators of achievement” (in particular in the areas of demographic changes, income and wealth, labour market and early retirement, sustainable

social security, as well as economic growth, financial and social sustainability); collected and analysed data for these “indicators of achievement” and visualized the findings by charts.

- Created “country profiles” using the indicators of achievement, so as to translate MIPAA and RIS objectives into operational measures and standards by which monitoring of progress in goal achievement can be assessed.
- Organized the dissemination of Mainstreaming Ageing results by the creation and dissemination of a special Website “Monitoring RIS” (<http://www.monitoringris.org>).
- Produced many “Mainstreaming Ageing” and “A Society of All Ages” publications, including 12 book publications, 2 special reports, 6 policy briefs, and dozens of contributions to books and refereed economic and social science professional journals; also disseminated findings through newspapers, journals, magazines, radio, TV and press conferences.
- Created, together with UNECE, several networks where experts, policy-makers and civil society could meet, such as, for instance, the “National Focal points on Ageing”, the “Task Force”, the “NGO Network on Monitoring RIS”, several European Centre External Expert Networks for Mainstreaming Ageing Indicator Work, etc.

In the Memorandum of Understanding with UNECE, signed in January 2004, in Vienna, it was foreseen that this initiative is initially planned within a time frame of five years of operation. During the fourth year of the initial five year period, the UNECE together with all stakeholders, including the Government of the Republic of Austria, will evaluate the status of the initiative and recommend whether it should be renewed, extended or scaled-back, or it should be phased-out.

Our premise for a continuation of the MA:IMI programme is that the 1st phase of the projects has resulted in a very practical support to the national authorities and to UNECE by collecting data on ageing specific indicators and in providing substantive research on salient issues faced by ageing societies in the UNECE region. The book “Mainstreaming Ageing: Indicators to Monitor Sustainable Progress” is just one example of the work generated in the 1st phase of the MA:IMI project. Other books “Well-being of Older People in Ageing Societies” and “New Frontiers in Microsimulation Modelling” have also been produced. The book, “Women’s Work and Pensions: What is Good, What is Best?”, is also currently being completed. Another book, “Long-term care for older people: Facts and Figures”, which is the first outcome of our work on long-term care indicators will also be published soon.

The construction of the Monitoring RIS website is another notable example, as it has resulted in a practical dissemination tool for the UNECE Secretariat as well as for national policymakers. An active participation of European Centre researchers in all MIPAA and RIS-related events in the last five years is another remarkable contribution to the cause of the Regional Implementation Strategy of the UNECE European region and in raising awareness and in developing capacity in member countries. All in all, the MA:IMI project fulfilled its stated objective of providing “information resources to all actors interested in ageing issues and mainstreaming ageing into economic and social policies, from governmental to local authorities, as well as NGOs partners, media and the public at large”.

Second Phase of the MA:IMI Project: Second Review and Appraisal Cycle of MIPAA/RIS

The MA:IMI project has now completed successfully its first, initial and take-off phase of work programme (2003–2008). At the back of all the work generated during the 1st phase, we now embark on the 2nd phase of the MA:IMI project. A new Memorandum of Understanding between UNECE and EC has been signed to initiate this 2nd phase, in March 2009, to be concluded for the period from March 2009 to February 2014, after which the parties will review the outcomes of the cooperation and decide upon its continuation.

We are now soliciting for a financial support from UNECE Member States to continue this work programme in its 2nd phase. This continuation of work under the MA:IMI project is foreseen as essential as it is linked with the second 5-year review and appraisal cycle of MIPAA and RIS (from 2008/09 to 2012). The second phase of the MA:IMI project also carries special significance for the fact that the challenges facing ageing societies are further pronounced with the end of demographic advantages in many UNECE countries. A last window of opportunity to implement the core measures to live up to the goals, objectives and commitments formulated in 2002 will open between 2007 and 2011. The European Centre is best placed to undertake this work given the work experience gained during the first phase and also due to its unique expertise in the ageing-related research and policy advice.

An overview of work planned for the 2nd phase extension of the MA:IMI project is summarised below, further divided into five work packages. Further details about each of these work packages are included later in the proposal.

- **Work Package I:** This work package reports on the work for the collection of data on ageing-related indicators and the analyses based on these indicators. The work focus on the analyses of indicators already generated for four main domains. In addition, and more importantly, the work during the 2nd phase has been designing and developing indicators and collecting corresponding data on gender-specific Mainstreaming Ageing indicators as well as on long-term care indicators.
- **Work Package II:** This work package undertakes further work in updating and improving the Monitoring RIS webpage. The Knowledge and Information Management and Support Unit (KIMSU) of the European Centre will be involved in the webpage development, its bi-monthly update and further dissemination steps to make stakeholders aware of the project knowledge on the website.
- **Work Package III:** This package is geared towards organisation of seminars, workshops and international conferences. Each year, the MA:IMI team will help organise a technical workshop to bring international experts together. Additionally, at least two major international conferences will be organised and hosted by the European Centre to generate and disseminate scientific work for the MA:IMI project.

- **Work Package IV:** The work in this package will put together publications on the basis of research and information generated during the project, essentially for the purpose of dissemination of information to a wider group of policy-makers and practitioners.
- **Work Package V:** This work further focuses on the dissemination of information, in particular using the tool of newsletters. The newsletter alerts will be generated every three months and they will contain a summary of major pieces of ageing-related research as well as a synopsis of policy changes that affect older people of the current and future generations.

The European Centre wishes to undertake these tasks in a continued collaboration with the UNECE Secretariat and with support from as many governments as possible within the UNECE Member States. Already, we have commitments from Austria, Belgium, France, Israel, Spain, and Switzerland as well as the European Commission. Spain, Germany and Austria made their continuous support conditional upon a broadening and “Europeanization” of support.

The work proposed will be undertaken during the five-year period 2008-2012 and it will be staffed by one additional full-time research analyst, Ms. Eszter Zólyomi, who will coordinate the work of the MA:IMI-II project. The MA:IMI-II Team will be supported by the advice and work of its Project Heads: Eszter Zólyomi, Prof. Dr. Bernd Marin (Executive Director) and Dr. Asghar Zaidi (Director Research).

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Knowledge and Information Services for the European Centre. Project and Dissemination Support

The Knowledge and Information Support Unit / KIMSU supports the researchers as well as the Centre's clients by increasing the efficiency in the acquisition, organisation and distribution of the Centre's information and knowledge.

KIMSU aims together with the European Centre researchers to provide quality, in-depth information and knowledge to better serve the international social policy and welfare professional, i.e. policy-makers, researchers, social practitioners, international organisations as well as citizens.

In 2009 KIMSU:

- Facilitated the EC's national and international activities with several book and other publications, databases, websites, dissemination and by maintaining and improving the IT and library support.
- These efforts included, among others, the dissemination of Mainstreaming Ageing results by the creation of a special Website "Monitoring RIS" (<http://www.monitoringris.org>). This work further focuses on the dissemination of information, in particular using newsletter alerts every three months that will contain summaries of major pieces of ageing-related research as well as a synopsis of policy changes that affect older people of the current and future generations.
- Increased the visibility of the EC website through informative contents on interesting EC activities, with regular Newsletter issues, with Policy Briefs and via networking with and in international dissemination channels.
- More than doubled the average number of visitors/month compared to the re-launch year 2006.
- In the Policy Brief series, managed by KIMSU, the European Centre will publish the 30th issue in 2009.
- Supported the networking of the European Centre and its Board/NLO with quarterly special Newsletters and topical mails.

Research and Policy Advice

Policy Briefs

<http://www.euro.centre.org> (link homepage, left column)

2006 –

Research Pillar “Work, Wealth, Welfare”

EUROMOD: European Tax-Benefit Model

1999 – ongoing

Aims

EUROMOD is a multi-country European-wide tax-benefit model. This network, coordinated by the Microsimulation Unit at the University of Essex, includes 18 institutions from 15 EU member countries.

EUROMOD provides estimates of the distributional impact of changes to personal tax and transfer policy on either national or European level. Thus EUROMOD is of value both in assessing the consequences of consolidated social policies and in understanding how different policies in different countries may contribute to common objectives. It is of as much significance in evaluating national policies within a European perspective as in evaluating policies at the level of the European Union.

The European Centre has participated in various EUROMOD-related projects:

- The initial model construction project covered all (pre-2004) 15 Member States of the European Union.
- The MICRESA project (“Micro-level Analysis of the European Social Agenda”) explored the impact of national, social and fiscal policies, and reforms of these policies, on poverty reduction in the original 15 Member States.
- The I-CUE project (Improving the Capacity and Usability of EUROMOD) expanded and enhanced EUROMOD to enable the incorporation of the 10 new Member States. The key results of the project are published in a book titled “Tax and Benefit Policies in the Enlarged Europe: Assessing the Impact with Microsimulation Models”, which is also one of the first systematic collections of studies based on the European tax-benefit microsimulation model, and thus a synthesis of the scientific work of researchers from more than a dozen of countries for over a decade.

Within the new EUROMOD Update project (see below), the Centre’s team will be responsible for the enlargement of the model to the New Member States of the EU.

2/2009 – 1/2012

Aims This is a new EUROMOD-related project that started in February 2009 and is supported by the European Commission. The grant will be used to update and upgrade the computer-based research tool, and to extend it to cover the whole enlarged European Union over the next three years. The funds will also be used to raise awareness among researchers, international bodies and governments of how EUROMOD can be applied to measure the impact of tax and benefit policies on people's living standards and ultimately tackle inequality and poverty. Building upon the European Centre's experience within the I-CUE project, the Centre's team will be responsible for the enlargement of the model to the New Member States of the EU, and will collaborate closely with the project leader Prof. Holly Sutherland from ISER.

More information on EUROMOD-based research can be found on:
<http://www.iser.essex.ac.uk/msu/emod/workingpapers/>

External project collaborators Country Teams for the New Member States

External project director Holly Sutherland, ISER

Project director EC Orsolya Lelkes

Project team EC Orsolya Lelkes, Frédérique Hoffmann, Michael Fuchs, Horacio Levy

Financed by European Commission, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities

EUROMOD – Annual Project Meeting 2009

The annual project meeting, open to all including those due to be active in years 2 and 3, was held at ISER in Essex 25-26 June 2009. One day was devoted to the project and EUROMOD itself (e.g. discussing comparability issues; demonstrating special features of the model, etc) and the second day was a workshop to discuss research based on EUROMOD.

There was a launch party for the book "Tax and Benefit Policies in the Enlarged Europe: Assessing the Impact with Microsimulation Models" (edited by Orsolya Lelkes and Holly Sutherland) on the evening of 25th June in Essex with Sir Anthony Atkinson as a guest. He is also a contributor to the book.

European Observatory on the Social Situation

4/2005 – 3/2010

Aims

The Observatory consists of three multi-disciplinary networks of independent experts established for the European Commission in 2005: Demography, Social Inclusion & Income Distribution, and Health Status & Living Conditions. Its aim is to analyse demographic and social trends and to assist the Commission in its duty to report on the Social Situation.

The European Centre participates in the network of Social Inclusion & Income Distribution (coordinated by Applica), which monitors and reports on trends in income distribution and social inclusion, i.e. the overall inclusiveness of European society. It monitors the situation regarding income and wealth, the impact of tax/benefit systems, the access to services, and questions related to poverty and population groups particularly at risk of exclusion.

The following reports and research notes are currently available from this network:

- “European Inequalities: Social Inclusion and Income Distribution in the European Union” (2009, edited by Terry Ward, Orsolya Lelkes, Holly Sutherland, István György Tóth, ISBN 978-963-7869-40-2. Budapest: TÁRKI Social Research Institute Inc.). This book summarizes four years of research. It gives an overview of the comparative information that is available for the EU Member States on income distribution, poverty and its causes, access to benefits and social services and material deprivation.
- Monitoring Report 2007 (http://www.euro.centre.org/data/1234517102_78104.pdf - 2 MB), Executive Summary: (http://www.euro.centre.org/data/1234517231_22647.pdf)
The ECV contributed with Chapter 2 – Who are the poor?
- Monitoring Report 2006 (http://www.euro.centre.org/data/1234517783_49346.pdf - 2 MB), Executive Summary: (http://www.euro.centre.org/data/1234517978_15664.pdf)
The ECV contributed with Chapters 1, 6 and 7: 1. Income inequality and poverty in the EU: recent developments and trends, 6. Dynamics of poverty in the EU15 (1994-2001), 7. Why are the poor poor? The role of labour market and demographic factors, including health and immigration
- Monitoring Report 2005 (http://www.euro.centre.org/data/1234518213_86870.pdf - 2 MB), Executive Summary: (http://www.euro.centre.org/data/1234518417_58092.pdf)
The ECV contributed with Chapters 1 and 3: 1. Poverty levels of income: cross-country comparisons, trends and demographic factors, and 3. Poverty and the labour market: relationship between low incomes and poverty in the EU
- Research Note 2007, “Child poverty and ethnic minorities” (http://www.euro.centre.org/data/1234518757_81427.pdf)
- Research Note 2006, “Life course disruptions and their impact on income and living conditions” (http://www.euro.centre.org/data/1234519005_82524.pdf)

More information can be found on:
<http://www.socialsituation.eu/WebApp/Home.aspx>
<http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=676&langId=en>
and: <http://www.tarki.hu/en/publications/El/index.html>

**External project
coordinator**

Terry Ward, Applica

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**External project
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- István György Tóth, TARKI
- Manos Matsaganis, Athens University of Economics and Business

Project team EC

Orsolya Lelkes (team leader), Eszter Zólyomi, Michael Fuchs

Financed by

European Commission, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities

AIM-AP: Accurate Income Measurement for the Assessment of Public Policies

2006 – 2009

- Aims**
- This programme of activity improved the comparability, scope and applicability of tools, methods and data for the measurement of income and the analysis of the effects of policies on inequality, poverty and social inclusion. It included three linked projects on:
- The distributional effects of non-cash incomes and the implementation of a more comprehensive income definition.
 - The implications of (and methods to account for) errors in targeting social benefits, tax evasion, and measurement error in income data.
 - Incorporation of the effects of indirect, as well as direct taxes and social benefits in redistribution analysis.

All three projects were designed to improve the degree of comparability of measurement and analysis across countries. Each project developed methodologies within a cross-national perspective and demonstrated their applicability to a wide range of research questions in diverse scientific fields. The resulting data and method enhancements were made generally accessible and re-useable by implementing them within the EU tax-benefit model EUROMOD, an existing research infrastructure used for policy analysis and evaluation.

- Results**
- A series of project papers, including:
- Mattia Makovec: The distributional impact of public education expenditure in Italy, February 2007
 - Conchita D'Ambrosio, Chiara Gigliarano: Home Production and Fringe Benefits: An Estimation of their Distributional Impact in Italy, April 2008
 - Conchita D'Ambrosio, Chiara Gigliarano: The Distributional Impact of "Imputed Rent" in Italy, September 2007
 - Conchita D'Ambrosio, Chiara Gigliarano: The distributional effects of public health transfers in kind: the Italian case, August 2007
 - Olivier Bargain, Herwig Immervoll, Heikki Viitamäki: Accounting for Measurement Errors: the Nontake-up of Social Assistance in Finland, August 2007
 - Michael Fuchs: Social Assistance – no, thanks? Empirical Analysis of Non-Take-Up in Austria 2003, EUROMOD Working Paper No. EM4/07.
 - Tim Callan, Tim Smeeding, Panos Tsakloglou: Distributional Effects of Public Education Transfers in Seven European Countries, August 2007
 - Dóra Benedek, Orsolya Lelkes: Estimating the incidence of tax evasion in Hungary, December 2008

More information can be found on <http://www.iser.essex.ac.uk/msu/emod/aim-ap/> and on http://www.euro.centre.org/detail.php?xml_id=864.

Project partners /

co-organizers

University of Essex, Centre for Economic Research and Environmental Strategy, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Economic & Social Research Institute, Deutsches Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung Berlin e.V., Universiteit van Tilburg, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Luxembourg Income Study Asbl, National University of Ireland, Galway, Universiteit Antwerpen

**External project
director**

Holly Sutherland, University of Essex

Project team EC

Michael Fuchs, Herwig Immervoll, Orsolya Lelkes, Mattia Makovec

Financed by

European Commission, DG Research, 6th Framework Programme

Study on Child Poverty

12/2008 – 11/2009

Aims The project aims to assist the development of more coherent and integrated policies to combat child poverty and social exclusion in Member States in the context of the European Social Inclusion Strategy. The main aim of the planned Study on Child Poverty is to provide a detailed framework for such a policy mix by

- providing empirical evidence on the main determinants of child poverty and social exclusion in Europe and across the Member States;
- providing an overview and assessing the relative effectiveness of existing policies in Member States to prevent and reduce child poverty and social exclusion in the area of income support, access to the labour market of parents and access to enabling services;
- identifying a reduced set of indicators which best reflect the multi-dimensional nature of child well-being and is adequate for monitoring policies that aim to reduce child poverty and social exclusion and enhance human capital accumulation of upcoming generations; and
- presenting the draft of the study at a seminar.

The study is conceived as a follow-up to the work carried out in 2007 by the Commission and the Member States in the context of the European Strategy for Social Inclusion. The study will use in an intensive way the report prepared by the EU Task Force on Child Poverty and Child Well-Being. The recommendations of the Task Force were formally adopted by all Member States and the Commission in January 2008, and can therefore be used now as an EU *acquis* in this field to further build upon.

External project director

- Terry Ward, Applica
- István György Tóth, TARKI

External project collaborators

András Gábos, TARKI; Holly Sutherland, ISER; Michael Förster, OECD; Hugh Frazer, National University of Ireland; Petra Hoelscher, UNICEF; Eric Marlier, CEPS/INSTEAD

Project team EC

Orsolya Lelkes, Isilda Shima

Financed by

European Commission, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities

Return Migration and its Effects on Skills and Productivity of Migrant Workers

2/2009 – 12/2009

Aims European Union policies concerning migration are moving into the direction of temporary rather than permanent migration, aiming to assist the destination countries to deal with their demand for labour as well as to facilitate the integration of the immigrants in the host country. This research project intends to investigate temporary and permanent migration and labour market performance in the sending and receiving country, especially with regard to high-skilled migrants. In addition, the research aims to tackle the issues of brain gain, brain drain and brain waste and to assess what determines the choice of the destination country and the decision to return of migrants.

The countries taken into account are Bulgaria and Romania, which experience not only large outflows of migrants but also large inflows of return migrants. In order to assess the labour market performance of return migrants in Bulgaria and Romania, we will use the surveys commissioned by the World Bank in 2005. From the perspective of the destination country, in this case Austria, we will use the AMDB (“Arbeitsmarktdatenbank”) of the AMS Austria, which provides data about the demographic and socio-economic characteristics of migrants from Bulgaria and Romania, from 2000 to 2007. The research analyses the performance in the host country and identifies the determinants of an efficient transferability and allocation of human capital in the domestic labour market upon their return.

Results Return migration is characterized by substantial heterogeneity in many aspects. From the perspective of domestic labour markets, return migration is beneficial for the home country. Hence, in order to take best advantage of the human capital of return migrants, home and host countries must adopt policies to ease the entry of return migrants on the labour market. The results of the research will provide new policy implications about migration policy in the EU and how to approach the phenomenon of temporary migration.

Project director Isilda Shima

Financed by Austrian Federal Ministry of Economy, Family and Youth (BMWFJ)

Comparative Analysis of European Pension Policies and their Impact / Belgian EU Presidency 2010

2009 – 2010

Aims To investigate the outcomes of European pension policies and reforms, both in terms of social (adequate pensions) and financial sustainability of pension systems, as well as the complex interaction between various institutional actors. The European Centre team will develop a framework for comparative analysis. The framework will have a dynamic feature showing the direction in which reforms of the last decade or so have generally taken place. This framework will provide the basis for further evaluation of how policy responses to the current financial crisis both in the European and in a global context might affect future allocation of means and alter the balance of risks between individuals, employers and the State in securing retirement incomes.

Throughout the analysis, a special focus will be placed on the comparative situation of Belgium. In particular, it will be assessed how resource-tested and minimum pensions schemes in Belgium fare in comparison to similar schemes in other European countries. What issues are particularly relevant in understanding and analysing gender pension gap in Belgium. How poverty among older people in Belgium compare with the rest of EU member States. How restrictions in early retirement provisions in Belgium compare with the similar pension policy changes in the rest of the EU. Whether coverage of voluntary pension arrangements in Belgium is on the rise and whether such trends in other countries are also observed.

Results A final report with concrete policy suggestions will be prepared in the form of a Policy Brief. A particular focus will be placed on the analysis of low-income pensioners, presenting data on old-age poverty in Belgium and other EU countries. The prevalence of poverty will be compared between men and women, different age groups, various household types and over time. Using OECD data, the brief will summarise the impact of pension reforms on the pension entitlements of individuals with different levels of earnings.

During the Belgian Presidency of the European Union, the European Centre will help organise a high-level international conference to discuss salient issues faced by the pension systems and pensioners. The purpose of the conference will be to bring together international experts on pensions and poverty and debate future pension policy options in the European Union. High policy officials from all Member States of the European Union as well as experts from academia and international organisations (such as OECD and UNECE) will contribute to the proceedings of this two-day conference. The proposed EU Presidency event for Belgium will be a follow-up of the event organised by the European Centre under the Finnish EU Presidency: "Challenges in Combating Pensioner Poverty", 4-5 December 2006, Helsinki.

Project directors Asghar Zaidi / Bernd Marin

Project team EC Eszter Zólyomi, Katrin Gasior, Michael Fuchs, Asghar Zaidi, Bernd Marin

Financed by Service Public Fédéral Sécurité Sociale – Direction Générale Politique Sociale

11/2007 – 06/2009

Aims

The government programmes for the XXIIIrd and XXIVth Austrian legislation periods foresee that reform proposals with regard to the “pension for heavy workers” should be developed. The retirement age of heavy workers presently is 60 instead of the regular 65 years of age and deductions for early retirement are 1.8% instead of the regular 4.2% per year.¹ In this respect, deduction regulations for pensions for heavy workers and invalidity pensions should be designed in a fair manner and also regard an acceptable relation to other forms of pension. In particular, it should be considered whether the life expectancy of heavy workers is significantly lower than that of other workers.

In order to apply the intended reform (establishment of a ministerial working group in autumn 2009), as a first step, the supposed relationship between physical heavy work² and shorter life expectancy – separated by gender – was to be documented and analysed. Hence, the goal of the study commissioned by the Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection on “Heavy Labour and Life Expectancy” was to explore, on the basis of empirical data, whether a more beneficial pension regulation for heavy workers could be legitimized from the point of view of life expectancy.

Results

The European Centre undertook the corresponding analyses in three separate research modules:³ Module 1 included an extended analysis of the relevant international literature and of available (aggregated) empirical data; Module 2 contained a secondary analysis of international panel datasets (Germany: SOEP, United Kingdom: BHPS); whereas Module 3 consisted of a secondary analysis of a sample of Austrian micro-census data that had been interlinked with mortality data.

On the basis of the analyses it may be assumed that the life expectancy of men with physically heavy work⁴ is (as a rule statistically significant) reduced. However, when regarding factors such as education, region, health situation and health behaviour, the criterion of heavy work loses impact with regard to mortality and its effect – when previously statistically significant – becomes insignificant. Among women there is, on the whole, no significant relation between physical heavy work and mortality.

- 1 For women, the pension for heavy workers will be relevant only after 2024, when their regular pension age will be increased stepwise from 60 to 65 years of age.
- 2 In the Austrian legislation defined with a daily calorie consumption of more than 2,000 kcal (men)/ 1,400 kcal (women) in full-time work.
- 3 Further research modules have been conducted by Statistics Austria and the Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection itself.
- 4 In order to classify persons as heavy workers or non-heavy workers, occupational identifications in the empirical data were adjusted to official lists containing occupations fulfilling the calorie consumption conditions.

Hence, we may principally record that mortality can be attributed to conditions of work (physically heavy labour), but is overshadowed by social class-specific and regionally different conditions of life. On balance it follows that life expectancy only provides an indirect justification for more favourable pension conditions of heavy workers. However, the implemented empirical analyses do not allow a clear-cut exploration of the exact cause-effect relation. It can also not be excluded that (at least at the beginning) a selection of healthy persons in the appropriate heavy labour professions takes place.

Project partner	Statistics Austria
Project director EC	Bernd Marin
Project team EC	Michael Fuchs, Anderson Stanciole, Yitzhak Berman, Catherine Keppel
Financed by	Austrian Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection

2008 – 2009

Aims In Austria, detailed reports on the situation of the family are being produced every 10 years (since 1969). The European Centre coordinated a research team to elaborate the main parts of the Austrian Family Report 2009, covering a wide range of topics:

- the impact of social change on families
- discourses about family in politics, the media and research
- features of families today (in the light of recent family and household data at the national and international level)
- familial relationships, with particular reference to generational relationships
- causes and effects of divorce/separation on women, men and children
- the use of time in Austrian families (e.g. taking into account gender differences of time use)
- child care facilities (e.g. accessibility, affordability, quality of early child care services)
- reconciliation of family and work (by taking into account recent developments and trends on the labour market)
- the interrelation between family and school.

The final report will be completed by the end of 2009.

**Partners /
co-organizers**

Martina Beham, Johannes Kepler University Linz, Austria; Johann Bacher, Johannes Kepler University Linz, Austria; Ulrike Zartler, Austria; Liselotte Wilk, Austria; Andreas Lange, German Youth Institute, Munich, Germany; Karin Jurczyk, German Youth Institute, Munich, Germany

**External project
director**

Nikolaus Dimmel, Social Profit Management (ISPM), Austria

Project director EC

Renate Kränzl-Nagl

Project team EC

Renate Kränzl-Nagl, Michael Fuchs, Gabriele Schmied

Financed by

Federal Ministry for Health, Family and Youth, Austria

Analyse und Vergleich der Wohlfahrtssysteme ausgewählter Großstädte

Analysis and Comparison of the Welfare Systems of Selected Metropolises

10/2009 – 03/2010

Aims The target of the expertise is to compile a substantial empirical analysis of the welfare and health system of the City of Vienna in comparison to five other European metropolises (Bern, Brussels, Stockholm, Lisbon, Prague). Both the current status as well as the ability to react to changes and challenges in the future will be investigated. The analysis will be based on significant indicators, which according to the different regional and national context do not represent pure quantitative output indicators only. Rather, socio-economic background factors as well as impact spheres, areas of responsibility, structures, size, expenditure level, income autonomy, etc. of the metropolises will be considered and related to the output. Thereby, both the unique and the common features of the metropolises will be elaborated.

Project director EC Bernd Marin

Project team EC Michael Fuchs, Irmgard Eisenbach-Stangl, Katrin Gasior, Frédérique Hoffmann, Ricardo Rodrigues, Georg Ruppe, Gabriele Schmied, Pieter Vanhuysse, Eszter Zólyomi

Financed by City of Vienna, MA 24

Research Pillar “Health and Care”

The Academic Network of European Disability Experts (ANED)

2008 (project completed)

Aims The Academic Network of European Disability Experts (ANED) has the purpose to establish and maintain a pan-European academic network in the field of disability policy. The network has a focus on research that supports the objectives of European disability policy towards the goal of full participation and equal opportunities for all people with disabilities.

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The priorities for 2008 to achieve these objectives are:

- To establish a management structure for co-ordination of the network across EU/EFTA countries, establishing the network management and bringing together the research expertise.
- To put in place new tools to identify knowledge; exchange examples of good practice in the practical implementation of social inclusion or social protection of people with disabilities among the selected countries; and promote networking within the European research community through the establishment of a collaborative online working environment,
- To provide scientific background and support to the European Commission for policy development.
- To produce thematic reports on the implementation of EU strategies for employment and social protection/inclusion.
- To provide forward-looking recommendations on disability policy, in particular in view of positive changes in the social inclusion/social protection of people with disabilities in selected countries.

The role of the European Centre

The European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research is in charge of a thematic report that will provide an overview of national social inclusion and social protection strategies.

Aims of the report

The purpose of the report is to review national implementation of the Open Method of Coordination (OMC) in social inclusion and social protection, and in particular the National Strategic Reports of Member States from a disability equality perspective, and to provide the European Commission with useful evidence in support of disability policy mainstreaming. National examples and evidence will be provided by ANED's country experts, based on reviews of Member States' National Reform Programmes and other sources. The report will also include recommendations to the European Commission on priorities for future policy and research development.

In order to achieve the objectives we intend to:

- Provide an overview of mainstreaming disability within the Social Inclusion and Social Protection Plans of EUMS focusing on the mainstreaming of disability and measures proposed in the National Action Plans.

- Identify the gaps in SISP according to the OMC.
- Provide an overview of income, pension and benefits available for people with disabilities, information on general characteristics of these benefits, based on reports of ANED's country experts.
- Provide an overview of health and long-term care, support for people with disabilities, e.g. what care and support options are available, with greater focus on how disabled persons are allowed to participate in the choice and management of their care, policy trends and debates.
- Identify good practices of implementation of social inclusion or social protection policies of people with disabilities among the selected countries.
- Provide conclusions and recommendations arising from the information gathered from the reports of ANED's country experts, including areas in need of further research

More information about the Academic Network of European Disability Experts (ANED) can be found on:

<http://www.disability-europe.net/en/contact?jsEnabled=1>

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Results

The final report on “The implementation of EU social inclusion and social protection strategies in European countries with reference to equality for disabled people” has been completed and made available at:
<http://www.disability-europe.net/content/pdf/ANED%20Task%207%20report%20Social%20Inclusion%20final%202020-05-09.pdf>

External project coordinator

Human European Consultancy and Centre for Disability Studies – Leeds University

Project partners

- Centre for Independent Living (CIL) Sofia
- Danish National Institute of Social Research
- Finland – Finnish Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities
- France – Institut Fédératif de Recherche sur le Handicap
- International Research Unit Disability Studies, Universität zu Köln
- Disability Now – Greece
- Ireland National University of Ireland, Galway
- Italy – Centro Inter universitario di Ricerca per lo Sviluppo Sostenibile, University of Rome “La Sapienza”
- Malta – Kummissjoni Nazzjonali Persuni b’Dizabilità
- Portugal – Departamento de Educação Especial e Reabilitação, Universidade Técnica de Lisboa
- Slovakia – The Institute for Labour and Family Research
- Spain – Instituto Universitario de Integración en la Comunidad, INICO, University of Salamanca
- Sweden – Department of Education, University of Stockholm
- UK – Centre for Disability Studies University of Leeds, University of Leeds

Project team

leader EC Isilda Shima

Project team EC Isilda Shima, Ricardo Rodrigues, Manfred Huber

Long-term Care for Older People in Europe: Facts and Figures

Publication on Care Indicators for Comparative Policy Analysis

2008 – 2009

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Events	<p>The European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research jointly with the Ministry of Social Affairs and Services of the State of Israel organized an International Expert Meeting on “Monitoring Long-Term Care for the Elderly”. The conference took place 6-10 September in Jerusalem, Israel.</p> <p>The agenda of this meeting can be found at: http://www.euro.centre.org/data/1248875113_75177.pdf</p>
Aims	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consolidate a conceptual framework for care indicators in Europe.• Undertake a comprehensive stock-taking of available data from international, European, and national data sources and recent research on international comparisons of long-term care systems.• Provide a comprehensive picture on indicators relevant for long-term care policy analysis, including demographic fundamentals, living conditions and family situation of older people, formal and informal care giving; public and private expenditure; and outcome of care; a focus will be on social services in support of family care-giving, such as care allowances, care leave, respite care, counselling and other social benefits.• Publish the findings in a user-friendly report of “facts and figures” that uses innovative graphic displays.• Document sources and methods on care indicators in methodological papers complementing the main publication.• Contribute to the international discussion on improving the evidence base for policy on long-term care.
Context	<p>This project is part of the continuation from 2008 onward of work under the MA:IMI initiative. It is a follow-up on the care-indicator project component of work on MA:IMI during 2005 to 2007 and 2008 to 2012.</p>
Results	<p>The final publication is planned before the end of 2009; interim results on expenditure and recipients have been published as IARIW Conference Paper.</p> <p>More information can be found on: http://www.iariw.org/papers/2008/huber.pdf</p>
Project director	Manfred Huber
Project team EC	Frédérique Hoffmann, Manfred Huber, Bernd Marin, Ricardo Rodrigues, Katrin Gasior
Project partners	UN-ECE
Financed by	Austria, France, Israel, Spain, Switzerland, UN-ECE, European Commission (DG Employment), European Centre

Social and Long-term Care in European Benchmark Countries

Case Studies and Workshop

2009

Events The Europe and Central Asia – Human Development Sector Unit (ECSHD) at the World Bank and the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research have held a joint workshop on social and long-term care in Vienna, 20-21 of April.

Aims The Europe and Central Asia – Human Development Sector Unit (ECSHD) at the World Bank received an Innovation and Learning Grant to integrate and build knowledge within ECSHD on social and long-term care (SLTC), as it has been involved in a number of projects and analytical and advisory activities in Europe and Central Asia. To this end, the ECSHD has sought to:

- Compile case studies on SLTC services in European benchmark countries, selected by the ECSHD, seeking to provide information on the general demographic and epidemiological information, description of the SLTC sector and analysis of the main successes, challenges, and lessons learned in the country's SLTC sector.
- Hold a workshop, combined with a study tour, which will serve as a forum to exchange existing knowledge among teams, namely on the benchmark countries' SLTC sector, and disseminate new knowledge.

The role of the European Centre

The European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research is in charge of producing country reports on three case studies of SLTC (Austria, Germany, and Latvia, the latter together with the Institute for Rehabilitation of the Stradina University in Riga, Latvia); and organizing a workshop and study tour in Vienna, Austria, where the results of the country studies are to be presented, combined with a site visit to innovative SLTC projects (a small living unit for older people suffering from dementia, run by the Caritas Socialis and a nursing and old-age home "Haus Leopoldau", run by the Kuratorium Wiener Pensionistenwohnhäuser).

Results The European Centre has produced three country reports with in-depth analysis of the SLTC sector in each country.

Project director Manfred Huber

Project team EC Kai Leichsenring, Ricardo Rodrigues, Georg Ruppe, Frédérique Hoffmann, Manfred Huber, Bernd Marin

Project partners

- ECSHD World Bank
- Institute for Rehabilitation of the Stradina University, Riga, Latvia.

Financed by ECSHD World Bank

Conference on Health and Dignified Ageing, Swedish Presidency of the EU

Discussion Paper as Background Note for the Conference

2009

Events Presentation of the discussion paper “Who Cares? Care coordination and cooperation to enhance quality in elderly care in the European Union” at the Conference on Healthy and Dignified Ageing, Stockholm, 15-16 September 2009.

Aims The Swedish Government has commissioned the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research to produce a discussion paper that would serve as background note for the Conference on Healthy and Dignified Ageing, held under the Swedish Presidency of the EU, in Stockholm 15-16 September 2009. The paper should address the following issues:

- Problems that different EU Member States face regarding coordination and cooperation between health and social care sectors in dealing with care for the elderly.
- The importance of focusing on the individual elderly person in order to enhance dignity and quality of care.
- Presentation of examples of findings regarding Alzheimer and other dementias, long-term care workforce, role of choice in publicly-provided care and indicators and comparative analysis.
- Examples of good practices of solutions found by Member States to tackle the above mentioned issues.

Results The European Centre has produced a paper entitled “Who Cares? Care coordination and cooperation to enhance quality in elderly care in the European Union”, which served as a background note for the Conference on Healthy and Dignified Ageing.

Project director Manfred Huber

Project team EC Bernd Marin, Kai Leichsenring, Ricardo Rodrigues, Manfred Huber, Katrin Gasior

Financed by Swedish Government

Quality Management by Result-oriented Indicators. Towards Benchmarking in Residential Care for Older People

12/2008 – 11/2010

Aims

Care homes for older people are confronted with challenges of changing expectations from residents and their families for better quality of care and adequate staffing. In the past, quality standards in residential care have been set by professionals and have largely focused on non-quality of life/care issues such as the qualifications of staff and the structural standards of premises.

In several EU Member States, both regulators and providers have recently put in place better quality management systems and methods to advance the assessment, measurement and continuous improvement of long-term care services, partially following similar approaches.

The objectives of this project are:

- To construct an international framework of standards including a conceptual analysis for quality of life and quality of care and a set of result-oriented indicators to define, measure and assess quality in residential care for older people, based on an exchange of experiences with result-oriented indicators in selected Member States.
- To apply and validate this framework of standards in two ways: by consensus-building and by applying the framework of standards to an existing quality management system for residential care of older people.
- To develop guidelines for key stakeholders (management, staff, residents, relatives and regulators) on how to apply the validated framework of result-oriented quality indicators with a view to benchmarking and quality improvement.
- To produce a Policy Brief about benefits and opportunities of result-oriented governance in Member States' long-term care systems.
- To disseminate results and cater for further application of the end-products.

So far three project meetings have taken place:

- in Vienna (19-20 January),
- in Utrecht, the Netherlands (27-28 April) at the Headquarters of our partner Vilans, and
- in Dortmund, Germany (16-17 July).

In defining the Key Performance Indicators, five domains were identified as being the most relevant for the purpose of the project and under each domain the indicators may cover one or more of different perspectives: residents, staff, management, social environment and "learning organisation".

Below are the five domains selected:

- Quality of care (residents)
- Quality of life (staff/residents)
- Leadership
- Economic Performance
- Context (social, legal, quality system)

Each KPI is presented and described using a common terminology that follows the model presented below:

Definition	Self-explanatory.
Source	Source from which information was retrieved, or the quality management tool/context in which the indicator is used, such as the original guidelines document.
Perspective	Which stakeholder does the indicator focus on? Ultimately the residents should be the beneficiaries of improved quality in nursing homes, but some indicators may address more directly other stakeholders or aspects of quality improvement in the management processes of residential care institutions.
Theme	Which broader issue does the indicator relate to/assess? This refers to the full list of themes of the underlying instrument/framework.
Operationalisation	Practical questions in applying/calculating/setting up the indicator, namely measurement concept.
Use/Purpose	How is this indicator used? Importance of this indicator in the context of quality improvements in nursing homes. Other comments on the national context in which this indicator was set up, if appropriate.

The list of indicators has now been integrated into the Delphi model to be ready for the three Delphi rounds beginning this autumn with pre-selected national experts from the countries involved in the project.

Project director	Manfred Huber
Project team EC	Manfred Huber, Frédérique Hoffmann, Ricardo Rodrigues, Flip Maas
Project partners	City University from the UK; E-Qualin Ltd. from Austria; The Ministry of Work, Health and Social Affairs (MAGS) from North-Rhine-Westphalia in Germany; University of Dortmund from Germany; Vilans from the Netherlands
Financed by	European Commission, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities; PROGRESS programme

INTERLINKS

**Health Systems and Long-term Care for Older People in Europe –
Modelling the INTERfaces and LINKS between Prevention,
Rehabilitation, Quality of Services and Informal Care**

11/2008 – 10/2011

Aims

The rising demand for long-term care calls for policy approaches to long-term care allowing for holistic and inclusive views that integrate the role of different public programmes, sectors of society, and private initiatives. Moreover, there is growing evidence about discrimination of dependent older people with respect to their access to mainstream health care and to prevention and rehabilitation, that needs to be addressed by health and long-term care reforms. The objective of this 3-year project is therefore to construct and validate a general model to describe and analyse long-term care (LTC) systems for older people from a European perspective. The particular aspects of the different emerging national models that currently address long-term care needs in Europe will be used to show how the links to health care services, the quality of LTC services, the incentives for prevention and rehabilitation, and the support for informal carers can be governed and financed to enhance structures, processes and outcomes of LTC systems. Specifically, this project will

- Develop a concept and methodology to describe and analyse long-term care and its links with the health system. This methodology is to facilitate cross-national comparisons and to enable individual Member States to compare their developmental status and to identify future areas for national development.
- Identify a set of practical tools that measure and support progress against evidence-based good practice, and can be used to guide the future in individual Member States.
- Identify acknowledged and established good practice that may help to inform the policy and practice of other Member States, particularly with respect to assessing and monitoring quality of care, promoting prevention and rehabilitation and supporting informal carers as well as addressing respective governance and financing issues.

More information about INTERLINKS can be found on:
http://rp7.ffg.at/health_aktuelles_success0901 and:
http://www.euro.centre.org/data/1240561652_6454.pdf

- Project partners**
- Haute École Spécialisée de Suisse occidentale (CH)
 - Syddansk Universitet (DK)
 - Institut de recherche et documentation en économie de la santé (FR)
 - Sosiaali- Ja Terveysalan Tutkimus Ja Kehittaemiskeskus (FI)
 - Institut für Soziale Infrastruktur (DE)
 - Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin für Sozialforschung (DE)
 - CMT Prooptiki Consulting Management Training (EL)
 - Universitat De Valencia (ES)
 - Studio Come Srl. (IT)
 - Stichting Vilans (NL)
 - Institut pre výskum práce a rodiny (SI)
 - Institut za varovanje zdravja (SK)
 - Stockholms läns landsting (SE)
 - University of Kent (UK)
 - University Of Birmingham (UK)
- Project director** Kai Leichsenring
- Project team EC** Manfred Huber, Kai Leichsenring, Ricardo Rodrigues, Georg Ruppe, Andrea Hovenier
- Financed by** Commission of the European Communities, Seventh Framework Programme

10/2008 – 10/2010

Aims

The social services sector today is, increasingly, a competitive environment in which care providers compete for public contracts or payments by service users. In this changing context, it is a growing challenge for social directors working in local authorities to find new ways of working with service users and providers to improve the quality of services. Quality assurance and quality development have been part of the discourse in the sector for some years: standards of various types have been set or are being developed. However, a dialogue between the different stakeholders, in particular between public purchasers and the different types of providers, has still not been installed.

The research question of this project, which has been commissioned by the European Social Network (ESN) is therefore of specific importance: How can a well-managed market and well-managed contract procedures contribute to improving quality of care services, and therefore, quality of life for service users, within an overall quality model?

The project is carried out in close cooperation with ESN staff and ESN Members (Directors of Social Service Departments) in selected EU Member States (BE, CZ, DE, ES, FR, IT, SE, UK). As a first step, questionnaires were sent to ESN Members to investigate on the different types of relationships among actors responsible for planning, managing and delivering social services at the local level. First results were presented and discussed at an ESN Workshop in Brussels (20-21 November 2008). Following further literature research and individual interviews, interim results were presented at the ESN Conference in Prague (22-24 June 2009). Country profiles have been drafted for each of the selected EU Member States and will be discussed and elaborated during a series of workshops with relevant actors from the different countries between Autumn 2009 and Spring 2010. A final publication with an overview of how the different relationships between purchasers and providers of long-term care services for older people are managed in terms of quality assurance and continuous improvement is envisaged for Summer 2010.

More information about “Contracting for Quality” (initially: “Commissioning for Quality”) can be found on: <http://www.esn-eu.org>
<http://www.esn-eu.org/brussels-nov-2008-cfq/index.htm>
<http://www.esn-eu.org/prague/eng/downloads.html>

Project partners	European Social Network (UK)
Project director	Kai Leichsenring
Project team EC	Kai Leichsenring, Ricardo Rodrigues
Project team ESN	Stephen Barnett, Daniel Molinuevo, John Halloran
Financed by	European Social Network with financial support from the Commission of the European Communities, DG Employment

Generationenpolitik – Internationale Ansätze und Entwicklungen

Generational Policies – International Approaches and Developments

5/2008 – 7/2009

Aims This study aimed at analysing and reflecting different approaches and developments concerning “Generational Policies” and related policy measures in Europe by:

- developing a conceptual framework and a set of indicators based on a review of existing literature and available data related to this topic,
- analysing approaches to and perceptions of generational policies in different European countries based on an international semi-standardised survey and a small number of interviews with experts,
- collecting models of good practice from different European regions with regard to the implementation of policy measures in the field of “generational policies”,
- carrying out an in-depth-analysis in five European countries (Finland, Germany, Spain, The Netherlands, Poland) and a cross-national analysis based on these findings,
- analysing and reflecting the Swiss situation in the light of these results.

The final report was delivered by July 2009 and published (in German, with executive summaries in English and French) by the Swiss Federal Social Insurance Office by September 2009. Furthermore, an article was published in the Swiss Journal “Soziale Sicherheit – CHSS” by October 2009 (French and German).

Project director Kai Leichsenring

Project team EC Kai Leichsenring, Bernd Marin

External collaborators Monika Thenner-Eßkuchen, Austria; Kerstin Hämel, University of Giessen, Germany; Pieter Vanhuyse, University of Haifa, Israel; Beat Fux, University of Zürich, Switzerland

Financed by Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft, Bundesamt für Sozialversicherungen (BSV), Bern, Switzerland

EuroREACH – A Handbook to Access Health Care Data for Cross-country Comparisons of Efficiency and Quality

03/2010 – 02/2013

Aims

The last ten years have witnessed an increased investment in European and international initiatives and projects to improve health data for cross-country research. The major goals have been to help national policy-makers, on the one hand, to better assess the health status of their populations and on the other hand, to monitor how health care systems of their countries perform compared to other countries. There are, however, limits to what can be learnt from comparisons at the aggregate, health care system level of analysis. Disease level analysis has therefore been receiving increased attention (e.g. OECD, 2003). This approach is of particular interest when studying health care for chronic diseases. Indeed a large share of health care resources and public and private expenditure is presently spent on health care services for patients with a chronic illness, the majority of which are usually 50 years old or more. Due to ageing populations and medical-technological progress, European countries have experienced a shift in the burden of disease towards chronic diseases.

The objective of EuroREACH is to provide tools to health care researchers to better enable them to access well-organised health care data that allow for comparability at European level. These tools will be made available in the form of a handbook containing a toolbox of guidance to national and international health information systems, which will be one of the major tangible outcomes of the project.

EuroREACH is a coordination action that aims to overcome the compartmentalisation of data collection and analysis of chronic diseases – both on a national and European level – in order to study the questions listed above in a cross-country, comparative perspective. European datasets for comparable health care data so far mainly have relied on strategies to make the best use of data originally produced at the national level.

The following approaches will be followed in order to link the various datasets of chronic patients who tend to slip “in and out of the health system”:

- Review of the health care information landscape in a selection of EU Member States, which have all approached the data challenges and performance management of health care for chronic care patients in innovative ways. These are represented by partners from six EU countries and Israel. The experience from other EU countries and from non-EU countries that are leading in the field of health information (Canada, US, and Australia) will be gathered with the support of External Expert Panels.
- Review the results of relevant European projects and initiatives to improve the information base for these types of chronic conditions, and of data relevant for studying them.

- Review ways and best practice on how to make use of international frameworks, classifications, and European-level data systems. This includes coordinating and further developing strategies on how to link data from European data collections to metadata information including qualitative structural indicators. This will enable these data to be understood in their national context, such as by linking back to national sources that allow for a more detailed breakdown and by providing information on the context of national organisations of health care systems. A special consultation with leading experts on international comparisons will deal with the crucial question of how to link data analysis to a system of institutional indicators, which has been recommended as indispensable for cross-country comparisons (Häkkinen and Jourmard, 2007).
- The results of these coordination activities will be brought together in the form of a systematic synthesis of the findings on data domains needed, types of questions to be answered with these, types of linkages needed, including recommendations on how to make data accessible (based on best practice gathered from country examples and from European initiatives and projects). These will be brought together in a “Handbook to access health care data for cross-country comparisons of efficiency and quality” (hereafter Handbook). The latter, which addresses the health data situation both in individual countries and on a European level, will be tested in a generic way by drafting pilot guides to accessing data for two to three pilot countries, following the blueprint and structure of the Handbook.
- The work sketched out above will be based on a methodological framework that will systematically address the question about what types of data sources, data linkages (including surveys) can be envisaged, and how these relate to a well-defined set of research questions of comparative performance measurement with a focus on questions of efficiency and quality.

Although the focus will be on health care for chronically ill patients, many of the findings and recommendations, as well as the generic guidance that the Handbook will provide, will also be relevant and apply to other health services research and public health research more broadly. Indeed the latter face similar data challenges and frequently use the same main data sources, such as patient registries and other administrative systems.

Project partners	CEPS/INSTEAD (Luxemburg), Institut de Recherche et Documentation en Economie de la Santé (France), London School of Economics and Political Science, Health and Social Care (UK), Maccabi Institute for Health Services Research (Israel), National Institute for Welfare and Health (Finland), Department of Health Care Management, Technical University Berlin (Germany), University of Tartu – Department of Public Health (Estonia)
Project coordinator	Catharina Hjortsberg
Project team EC	Catharina Hjortsberg, Frédérique Hoffmann, Ricardo Rodrigues, Georg Ruppe, Andrea Hovenier
Financed by	Commission of the European Communities, Seventh Framework Programme

03/2010 – 04/2013

Aims

To identify and analyse arrangements of cooperation between actors located in different EU countries that aim to transfer patients, providers, products, services, funding or knowledge across the border which separates them. Current gaps in documentation of already existing cross-border collaboration activities as regards geographical coverage, availability and quality of data need to be addressed. On this basis a systematic in-depth analysis of the potential impact of cross-border collaboration on the wider healthcare system should be undertaken. Primary data collected in this project should close existing gaps and the findings of this research should enable national and European decision-makers to correctly assess the scale of existing cross-border care cooperation and its potential implications for the national healthcare system.

The aim of EUCBCC is to facilitate a process whereby Europe's citizens can make informed choices about whether to seek health care in another Member State and, if they so choose, to ensure that the administrative and clinical processes are straightforward and ensure continuity of care. It takes as its starting point the recent draft Directive on Patients' Rights, augmented by the existing body of research on cross-border care. It then focuses on those areas where the necessary information is incomplete and seeks to fill the gaps. It is equally important to state what it does not do. It does not seek to quantify the scale of movement because our earlier research reveals this to be a dynamic area where data are often unavailable and rapidly become out of date. EUCBCC firstly examines five aspects of health care delivery where it will be necessary for procedures to be compatible if patients are to be assured that the care they receive is safe, of adequate quality, and capable of providing continuity where some parts of the overall care process are provided in different Member States. These are: provisions with regard to

- the continuing quality of health professionals,
- treatment pathways,
- public reporting of quality,
- content and scope of medical records, and
- medical prescribing.

Secondly, it looks at three areas where there is already cross-border collaboration, to identify practical issues that have arisen and how they have, or have not been addressed. These areas of practice are collaborations between hospitals in border areas, telemedicine, and dentistry. The research on the first set of topics generally takes place on two levels. The first involves a series of pan-European surveys to identify the nature of the phenomenon in, as far as possible, all Member States. The second involves focused studies in key subject areas that capture important issues. The methods used are both quantitative and

qualitative and involve contributions from a broad range of disciplines. There is a strong emphasis on dissemination of policy-relevant findings, taking advantage of the strong existing links of the research team with national and European policy-makers.

Funding scheme	Collaborative Project (small or medium-scale focused research project)
Project partners	The London School of Economics and Political Science – Health Centre (UK), the European Observatory on Health Systems & Policies (Belgium/Denmark), the London School of Hygiene and Tropical medicine (UK), l'Observatoire Social Européen (Belgium), Universiteit Maastricht (the Netherlands), the Technische Universität Berlin (Germany), the University of Barcelona (Spain), the Institute of Public health of The Republic of Slovenia (Slovenia), the PRAXIS Center for Policy Studies (Estonia), the National Institute for Welfare and Health (Finland), the Semmelweis Egyetem (Hungary), the Regione del Veneto (Italy)
Project Coordinator	The London School of Economics and Political Science – Health Centre
Project team EC	Catharina Hjortsberg, Frédérique Hoffmann, Kai Leichsenring, Ricardo Rodrigues, Georg Ruppe, Gabriele Schmied, Andrea Hovenier
Financed by	Commission of the European Communities, Seventh Framework Programme: Health

Senior Drug Dependents and Care Structures – SDDCare

01/2008 – 06/2010

Aims

At present there is a growing population of senior drug dependents (35 years and older) in all European countries. Most elderly drug dependents are poly-drug users with a preference for opiates which they often inject. As far as known, most of them have mental health problems, a significant proportion has dual diagnoses, and many suffer from chronic infectious diseases. So far, there has been virtually no action at European level and only a few actions at national level that focus on senior drug dependents and their care and treatment needs. This project concentrates on them as a special risk group who live at the margins of society.

The specific objectives of the project are to

1. create a knowledge base regarding senior drug dependents by different age groups and gender as well as on their care and treatment needs,
2. develop practical implementation tools in the form of guidelines which can assist in the delivery of effective care in community and residential settings, which take account of gender mainstreaming principles, and
3. disseminate the project results.

To achieve the objectives, it is planned to

- re-analyse national datasets (Germany, Austria, Poland and Scotland) and datasets of the project partner cities (Frankfurt, Vienna, Kraków, Glasgow) as a basis to estimate the scope of the problem and to assess the living and health care problems of male and female drug dependents at the age of 35+,
- identify examples of good practice in caring for senior drug dependents in the partner countries by interviewing experts in the field (in single interviews and focus group interviews), further literature research in European countries and to publish the results on the project website,
- interview senior drug dependents and to explore the perspective of the target group on preferred living and caring arrangements in old age,
- analyse the legal and financial framework of each partner country regarding the delivery of community-based and residential care for senior drug dependents,
- summarize the results in guidelines for community-based and residential care services for senior drug dependents in Germany, Austria, Poland and Scotland as well as draw up a guideline framework for European countries in general.

External project

- coordinator** • Irmgard Vogt, Institute of Addiction Research, University of Applied Sciences, Frankfurt/ Main, Germany

External project

- collaborators** • Birgit Wichelmann-Werth, Verein Arbeits- und Erziehungshilfe, Frankfurt/ Main, Germany,
 • Karin Stiehr, Institut für Soziale Infrastruktur, Frankfurt/ Main, Germany
 • Harald Spirig, Schweizer Haus Hadersdorf, Vienna, Austria
 • Jacek Moskalewicz, Institute of Psychiatry and Neurology, Warsaw, Poland
 • David Liddell, Scottish Drugs Forum (Research), Edinburgh, Scotland

- Project partners** • DG SANCO C4/ PHEA, Luxembourg
 • European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction, Lisbon, Portugal
 • ECDC, Stockholm, Sweden
 • Fachverband Drogen- und Rauschmittel, Hannover, Germany
 • Ministry of Health, Berlin, Germany
 • Behörde für Soziales, Familie, Gesundheit und Verbraucherschutz, Department of Drugs and Addiction, Hamburg, Germany
 • Österreichischer Verein für Drogenfachleute, Vienna, Austria
 • Ministry of Health, Family and Youth, Vienna, Austria

Project team

leader EC Irmgard Eisenbach-Stangl

Project team EC Christine Reidl, Gabriele Schmied, Andrea Hovenier (organisation)

Financed by European Union, under the programme "Public Health 2003 – 2008"

8/2008 – 8/2009

Aims Not much is known about addicts dwelling in the public area. It is to be supposed that a considerable share of these persons is suffering from manifold problems and that a certain – unknown – number is not reached by care offers. The present study is in particular interested in addicts dwelling in the public area that are not reached by care offers. Among others, it will deal with the following questions: What is the meaning of the public area for drug users? What are their reasons for staying at certain places at particular times? How many of them are without care? How do those without care live and what are their problems and needs? What should be done to also reach them with care offers? How could these be organized?

- The specific objectives of the study are to
1. enable assumptions about the number and the socio-demographic profile of addicted persons without care that are dwelling in the public area as well as about their fluctuations (seasonal, weekly and daily fluctuations, movements between city quarters, etc.).
 2. provide information on the needs of addicted persons without care as well as on their drug consumption patterns, their risk behaviour, their health, their psychosocial and medical supply and on the reasons for their non-utilization of services and for their dwelling in the public area. The focus here is on qualitative research.

Project coordinator Irmgard Eisenbach-Stangl

Project team EC Christine Reidl, Gabriele Schmied, Andrea Hovenier

Financed by Sucht- und Drogenkoordination Wien

Alcohol Measures for Public Health Research Alliance (AMPHORA)

2009 – 2012

Aims To add to European knowledge across a wide range of public health alcohol policy measures, and to disseminate this knowledge to those engaged in making policy. By enhancing cooperation among researchers and advancing research in Europe, AMPHORA will provide new scientific evidence for the best public health measures to reduce the harm done by alcohol. The European Centre is involved in Workpackage 3, i.e. “Investigating the cultural, social and demographic determinants of alcohol consumption changes and alcohol policy”.

External project

coordinator • Peter Anderson, Antonio Gual, Hospital Clinico i Provincial de Barcelona (HCPB), Spain

External project

collaborators

- Anton Proksch Institut (API), Austria
- National Research and Development Centre for Welfare and Health (STAKES), Finland
- Nordic Council for Alcohol and Drug Research (NAD), Finland
- Institut National de la Santé et de la Recherche Médicale (INSERM), France
- Centre for Applied Psychology, Social and Environmental Research (ZEUS), Germany
- Central Institute of Mental Health (CIMH), Germany
- Technische Universität Dresden (TUD), Germany
- Chemisches und Veterinäruntersuchungsamt Karlsruhe (CVUAKA), Germany
- Budapesti Corvinus Egyetem (Corvinus University of Budapest) (BCE), Hungary
- Istituto Superiore di Sanità, Rome (ISS), Italy
- Agenzia Regionale di Sanità della Toscana (ARS), Italy
- Azienda Sanitaria Locale della Citta Milano (ASL MILANO), Italy
- Eclectica snc di Amici Silvia Ines, Beccaria Franca & C. (ECLECTICA), Italy
- Trimbos-instituut (TRIMBOS), Netherlands
- Universiteit Twente (UT), Netherlands
- University of Maastricht (UniMass), Netherlands
- Stichting Alcoholpreventie (National Foundation for Alcohol Prevention) (STAP), Netherlands
- University of Bergen (UiB), Norway
- Norwegian Institute for Alcohol and Drug Research (SIRUS), Norway
- Institute of Psychiatry and Neurology (IPiN), Poland
- State agency for prevention of alcohol related problems (PARPA), Poland
- Asociación, Instituto y Red Europea para el Estudio de Factores de Riesgo en la Inštitut za raziskave in razvoj UTRIP (Institute for Research and Development UTRIP), Slovenia
- Anderson, Consultant in Public Health (PANCPH), Spain
- Infancia y Adolescencia (IREFREA), Spain
- Generalitat de Catalunya (GENCAT), Spain
- Stockholms Universitet (SU), Sweden

- Swiss Institute for the Prevention of Alcoholism and other Drugs (SIPA), Switzerland
- The University of York (UoY), United Kingdom
- Liverpool John Moores University (LJMU), United Kingdom
- King's College London (KCL), United Kingdom
- Alcohol & Health Research Unit, University of the West of England (UWE), United Kingdom

Project team**leader EC** Irmgard Eisenbach-Stangl**Project team EC** Gabriele Schmied, Andrea Hovenier (organisation)**Financed by** Commission of the European Communities

Second Multi-City Study on Quantities and Financing Behaviour of Illicit Drug Consumption (QUAF II)

3/2009 – 2/2010

Aims

The second multi-city study will assess drug consumption patterns – especially per capita consumption – and drug expenditures in additional cities of the UN-European Region. The first multi-city study on quantities and financing behaviour of illicit drug consumption (QUAF I) covered Western and Central European cities. QUAF II will concentrate on Nordic, Eastern and South Eastern European cities. Until now research teams of four cities joined the study: Helsinki, Moscow, Bucharest and Belgrade, research teams of 2 to 4 more European cities will follow during the next months. The city research teams will be responsible for detailed city reports on the drug situation in their cities, besides other things on the basis of interviews with key informants, and for 200 face-to-face interviews with drug users. Researchers at the EC will work on the comparison of the data collected on city level.

As with the first multi-city study, research will focus on two main groups of drug users (marginalized and socially integrated drug users) and on five main drugs (heroin, cocaine, amphetamines, ecstasy and cannabis). The main instruments developed in the course of the first multi-city study – the questionnaire for drug users, guidelines for interviews with key informants and the guidelines for the city reports – have been refined on the basis of the research experiences and they have been extended to cover central research questions more systematically. The instruments have been discussed in a first working meeting, taking place in June 2009 in Vienna, that proved to be very successful. The second working meeting will take place at the end of November this year in Bucharest.

As the first multi-city study, also the second one is carried out in collaboration with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and representatives of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction are present at the working meetings.

Project coordinator Irmgard Eisenbach-Stangl

Project team EC Ricardo Rodrigues, Andrea Hovenier (organisation)

External project

- collaborators**
- Svetlana Vucetic-Arsic, Special Hospital for Addictions, Belgrade, Serbia
 - Andrei Botescu and Paula Frusinoiu, National Antidrug Agency, Romanian National Focal Point, Bucharest, Romania
 - Jussi Perälä and Pekka Hakkarainen, National Institute for Health and Welfare, Department: Alcohol, Drug and Addiction, Helsinki, Finland

- Konstantin Vyshinsky, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), Regional Office for Russia and Belarus
- Prof. Eugenia Koshkina, Moscow, Russia
- Thomas Pietschmann, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), Research and Analysis Section, Vienna International Centre
- Claudia Costa-Storti, European Monitoring Centre on Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA), Lisbon

Financed by

Austrian Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs, Vienna

**Special Activity “Mainstreaming Ageing:
Indicators to Monitor Implementation” (MA:IMI)**

MA:IMI – Mainstreaming Ageing: Indicators to Monitor Implementation (II)

Second Phase of the Work Programme

2008 – 2012

Project significance The second phase of the MA:IMI project carries special significance since the challenges facing ageing societies are further pronounced with the end of demographic advantages in many UNECE countries. A last window of opportunity to implement the core measures to live up to the goals, objectives and commitments formulated in 2002 will open between 2007 and 2011.

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Project's work programme

The European Centre has embarked on the 2nd phase of the work programme within the MA:IMI project. An overview of work planned for the 2nd phase extension of the MA:IMI project is described below, further divided into five work packages:

- Work package 1 reports on the work towards the collection of data on ageing-related indicators and the analyses based on these indicators.
- Work package 2 is about the further work to be undertaken on the Monitoring RIS webpage.
- Work package 3 is geared towards organisation of seminars, workshops and international conferences.
- Work package 4 will be generating publications on the research undertaken during the project.
- Work package 5 will generate information dissemination, e.g. publication of newsletters.

The work on indicators will focus on the analyses and updating of indicators already generated for the following four domains: Demography, Income and Wealth, Labour Market and Labour Market Participation, and Social Protection and Financial Sustainability. In addition, and more importantly, the 2nd phase of the MA:IMI project will design and develop indicators, collecting corresponding data on gender-specific indicators, as well as on long-term care indicators.

Furthermore, the Knowledge and Information Management and Support Unit (KIMSU) of the European Centre is also involved in webpage development and in generating newsletter alerts. The MA:IMI team will help organise technical workshops to bring international experts together. Additionally, international conferences and seminars will be organised and hosted by the European Centre to generate and disseminate scientific work for the MA:IMI project. The newsletter alerts will be generated regularly and they will contain summaries of major pieces of ageing-related research as well as synopses of policy changes that affect older people of the present and future.

More information can be found on the MA:IMI website:
http://www.euro.centre.org/detail.php?xml_id=1415

Heads of the project

at EC Eszter Zólyomi, Bernd Marin and Asghar Zaidi

Project team EC Michael Fuchs, Katrin Gasior, Annette Hexelschneider, Frédérique Hoffmann, Manfred Huber, Kai Leichsenring, Ricardo Rodrigues, Georg Ruppe

Partners /

Co-Organizers UN-ECE

Financed by

Austria, Belgium, France, Israel, Spain, Switzerland, UN-ECE, European Commission as well as the European Centre

International Seminars

Pieter Vanhuyse “Elderly Bias, New Social Risks, and Spending Priorities: Investigating Change and Timing in 7 Programs across Four Worlds of Welfare, 1980-2005”, Wednesday 22 July 2009, 15:00, Seminar Room at the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research, Berggasse 17, 1090 Vienna

Speaker Pieter Vanhuyse (University of Haifa)

**Highlights of
the Seminar**

Over the past few decades, all affluent democracies have been coping with two major new societal trends: population aging, and new social risks (NSR) resulting from de-industrialization. How have these trends affected welfare state spending towards elderly cohorts and new social risk groups? We investigated 20 OECD democracies between 1980 and 2005 with respect to eight separate welfare programs (old-age pensions, incapacity benefits, survivor benefits, health spending, family spending, unemployment benefits, active labor market programs, and education spending) and two composite indicators of relative welfare state bias: ENSR (elderly/non-elderly spending ratio) and NSRR (new/old social risks spending ratio). While population aging mainly drives up pension spending, contemporaneous levels of NSR fail to systematically affect either NSRR or individual program spending. But the timing of the advent of NSR “on the ground” does play a crucial role, with “NSR latecomers” recording lower NSRR values as they spend significantly less on programs such as education and family allowances. In addition, even after controlling for population aging and NSR, institutional differences as captured by welfare regime type continue to matter crucially in accounting for social spending patterns.

More information about Pieter Vanhuyse can be found on <http://www.edu.haifa.ac.il/personal/pvanhuyse/index.htm>

Agota Scharle

“Child Care Provision and Maternal Employment – Lessons from Hungary”,
Friday, 18 September 2009, Seminar Room at the European Centre
for Social Welfare Policy and Research, Berggasse 17, 1090 Vienna

Speaker

Ágota Scharle, Executive Partner of the Budapest Institute for Policy Analysis,
Budapest, Hungary

**Highlights of
the Seminar**

The talk presented the first results of an analysis of the effect of child care provisions on female labour supply in Europe and a related proposal for changing family policy in Hungary. The focus is on whether supplying day care services as opposed to cash transfers may significantly increase the labour supply of mothers of small children. The first part is a cross-country multivariate analysis of mothers' labour supply and family provisions in selected EU Member States, where labour supply indicators are calculated from micro-level data. Results confirm earlier estimates: all the main effects are as expected and a hypothetical shift of spending on day care services (and away from cash transfers) would significantly increase maternal labour supply. As expected, the effect of a shift varies with mother's education and is particularly large for New Member States. The second part of the talk considers the possibilities and constraints of introducing such a shift in family policy, using the example of Hungary. One of the main challenges facing the Hungarian government is to bridge the financing gap between formal child care and flat rate cash transfers to mothers who stay at home, another are conservative attitudes related to gender roles.

More information can be found on
<http://www.budapestinstitute.eu/index.php?page=84&lang=en&action=SHOW&id=2>

International Seminars 2006 – 2009

Agota Scharle

Child Care Provision and Maternal Employment – Lessons from Hungary
18 September 2009

Pieter Vanhuyse

Elderly Bias, New Social Risks, and Spending Priorities: Investigating Change and Timing in Eight Programs across Four Worlds of Welfare, 1980-2003
22 July 2009

Achim Goerres

**The Political Participation of Older People in Europe:
The Greying of Our Democracies**
8 October 2008

Markus Tepe

Traveling without Moving? Pension Regime Change in Ageing Welfare States
3 October 2008

Michael Förster

**Increasing Employment among People with Disability:
New Ways of Addressing Partial Work Capacity in OECD Countries**
7 July 2008

Herwig Immervoll

Gender Inequalities and the Allocation of Market Work within Households
3 July 2008

Mona Sandbæk

The Implementation of Children's Rights; Challenges for Future Work.
8 May 2008

Pieter Vanhuyse

**Are Mature Welfare States on the Path to the Politics of Gerontocracy?
Evidence from 18 OECD Democracies, 1980-2002**
8 May 2008

Andrew Clark

Happiness, Habits and High Rank: Comparisons in Economic and Social Life
25 January 2008

Pieter Vanhuyse

**Divide and Pacify – Strategic Social Policies and
Political Protests in Post-Communist Democracies**
30 November 2007

Robert Laslett

**Personal Accounts to Improve Pension Coverage and Adequacy:
The UK's Proposed Pension Reforms and Lessons for other EU Countries**
11 June 2007

Johanna Mierendorff

'Western Childhood' and the Welfare State
23 May 2007

Herwig Immervoll

Can Parents Afford to Work?
20 April 2007

John Hills

Pension Reform in the UK: Challenges, Choices and Progress
2 March 2007

Tania Burchardt

Modelling the Capability to be Free of Time and Income Poverty
26 January 2007

Joshua M. Wiener

Quality Assurance Systems for Long-Term Care: An International Perspective
27 June 2006

Robert Holzmann

**Pension Reform in Europe: Need and Options
for a More Coordinated Reform Approach**
8 June 2006

European Centre Publications 2008 – 2010

Publications Officer: Willem Stamatou
Graphics & Design: Barbara Waldschütz
Internet: <http://www.euro.centre.org>

Book Series “Public Policy and Social Welfare”

(Ashgate, Farnham UK)
English

Started in 1990, it contains monographs and collected volumes focusing on outcomes of the Centre's research projects or expert meetings. Studies published in the series are mostly cross-national and comparative, interdisciplinary, and empirical, with both a theoretical and a policy orientation.

Buchreihe “Wohlfahrtspolitik und Sozialforschung”

(Campus Verlag, Frankfurt / New York)
German

Started in 1993 for German publications or translations of important books into German. It covers welfare policy and links it to both political and social theory as well as to social research.

Other Book Publications

Various Publishers and Languages

Several books or special reports produced by European Centre researchers and collaborating scholars have been, and continue to be, published outside the above series, with a variety of established publishing houses.

Occasional Reports Series

English / French / German

This recently established series is an outlet for the results of European Centre projects that have high relevance for ongoing policy discussions and therefore need speedy publication possibilities. Occasional Reports support decision-making processes and policy formulation and inform a wider public about empirical findings in areas under current media discussion.

Policy Briefs

English / French / German / Spanish

Policy Briefs are a publication series that provides a synthesis of issues of research and policy advice on which the European Centre researchers have been working. All Policy Briefs are accessible on the website of the European Centre, <http://www.euro.centre.org>

Other Publications by EC Researchers including Published Articles, Chapters in Books, Working Papers, Articles under Review, Unpublished Reports, i.e. “Grey Literature”, etc.

English / German / Various Languages

Programme Catalogue / Annual Report of Activities

English

Published in Autumn, it comprises approximately 200 pages, and provides very detailed information about the European Centre's programme activities and publications.

EUROSOCIAL Reports Series (1974-2003)

English / French / German

This series exists since 1974. A report consists of 60 to 200 pages and may be a conference synthesis, a state-of-the-art document, may summarize the most significant of the contributions presented at an expert meeting, or be a national or regional report resulting from a particular project.

Journal für Sozialforschung (1989-1996)

German

Beginning with the year 1989, the European Centre started to publish the "Journal für Sozialforschung", until 1992 in cooperation with Campus Verlag. The "Journal" was issued quarterly and was one of the widely read and reputed social science journals in German-speaking countries, regions and communities throughout Europe. It was the only social science journal in Europe that continuously reported on international public opinion poll data in politics, economy and society, by multicoloured pictorial statistics (pictograms). The *Journal für Sozialforschung* was closed down in 1996.

Women's Work and Pensions: What is Good, What is Best?

Designing Gender-Sensitive Arrangements

Bernd Marin / Eszter Zólyomi (Eds.)

Ashgate, forthcoming 2009

The book aims to explore the difficulties women face during their working life and in retirement (i.e. disrupted working history due to caring responsibilities, labour market segregation, gender pay gap, old-age poverty) and the gender implications of recent social and pension policies.

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It attempts to provide some answers on how to design or adapt pension systems so as to better accommodate women's needs and achieve "fair" outcomes for all women. The book contains valuable contributions from international pension and social policy experts, and there is also a section on statistical information of a number of different indicators focusing on gender differences.

1. How do childcare and family credits affect women's retirement benefits and employment situation?
2. How do different pension systems affect women's employment opportunities, and their motivation to enter employment?
3. How to design more women-friendly pension systems?
4. Why are women more at risk(s) when retiring?

Bernd Marin is Executive Director of the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research, Vienna. *Eszter Zólyomi* is Researcher at the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research, Vienna, and Coordinator of the MA:IMI / II project.

New Frontiers in Microsimulation Modelling

Asgar Zaidi / Ann Harding / Paul Williamson (Eds.)

Ashgate, 2009

During the past 15 years microsimulation models have become firmly established as vital tools for analysis of the distributional impact of changes in government programmes. Across Europe, the US, Canada and Australia, microsimulation models are used extensively to assess who are the winners and losers from proposed policy reforms. Encouraged by the ever-increasing complexity of social and economic programmes, microsimulation models have become an essential part of the policy reform process, allowing identification of the magnitude of gains and losses from policy changes in such areas as taxation, social security, pensions and social services.

While the analysis of the distributional impact of tax and cash transfer changes in developed countries has for some decades been the “bread and butter” of microsimulation modelling, microsimulation is now expanding into new frontiers. These include geographic expansion (into African countries and the countries of the former Soviet Union); subject area expansion (embracing such new topics as small area analysis, health care and child care); and breakthroughs in the technology associated with microsimulation (such as in behavioural and labour supply modelling).

This volume contains selected papers from the 1st General Conference of the International Microsimulation Association, hosted by the European Centre Vienna in August 2007. As well as providing a useful introduction to the state of microsimulation internationally today, it contains a wide range of chapters illustrating the new applications and approaches being used across the world.

This book will be of relevance to government policy-makers, social policy planners, economists and those concerned with predicting the impact of public policy change. For those who live in countries that have already developed a sophisticated microsimulation modelling infrastructure, the volume will provide a highly relevant guide to the path-breaking directions being taken at the frontiers of this discipline. For researchers and policy-makers living in countries that have not yet developed microsimulation models, the volume will provide insights into the questions that can be addressed using these types of models.

Asgar Zaidi is Director Research at the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research in Vienna. *Ann Harding* is Professor of Applied Economics and Social Policy and Director of the National Centre for Social and Economic Modelling (NATSEM) at the University of Canberra, Australia. *Paul Williamson* is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Geography at the University of Liverpool in the UK.

Tax and Benefit Policies in the Enlarged Europe: Assessing the Impact with Microsimulation Models

Orsolya Lelkes / Holly Sutherland (Eds.)

Ashgate, 2009

This book is based on selected papers from the final conference of a European Commission financed project on “Improving the Capacity and Usability of EUROMOD (I-CUE)”, and is one of the first systematic collections of studies based on the European tax-benefit microsimulation model, and thus a synthesis of the scientific work of a large international group of researchers for over a decade. It is the first to focus on the New Member States.

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The first chapter by Sir Anthony Atkinson sets a context for EUROMOD in EU policy-making and provides an insightful assessment of the policy processes. Prof. Holly Sutherland's contribution describes the past, present and future of EUROMOD. The book provides novel analysis on the impact of tax and benefit systems on individuals' incomes and work incentives. Not only actual policies are assessed, but hypothetical scenarios of interest to policy-makers as well, for example the introduction of flat taxes. The special feature of many chapters is that they are based on a comparative tax-benefit microsimulation model, EUROMOD, thus allowing a systematic and consistent comparison of countries. In addition to the 15 “old” Member States of the European Union, the model has been recently enlarged to Estonia, Hungary, Poland and Slovenia, thus allowing a wider range of comparisons. Another part of the chapters presents analysis based on national tax-benefit models in Cyprus and Lithuania, providing a selection of exemplary and innovative studies, and demonstrating the power of the microsimulation method for policy analysis. The concluding chapter by Herwig Immervoll and Orsolya Lelkes explores future priorities for tax-benefit modelling.

The central premise of the book is that more evidence is needed for an optimal policy decision, and it provides a powerful presentation on how complex information on the interaction of specific tax and cash benefit policy instruments can be presented in a concise and comprehensible way.

Orsolya Lelkes is Research Fellow and Economic Policy Analyst at the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research, Vienna. *Holly Sutherland* is Research Professor in the Institute for Social and Economic Research (ISER) at the University of Essex, UK, and co-ordinator of EUROMOD projects.

Two Worlds of Drug Consumption in Late Modern Societies

Irmgard Eisenbach-Stangl / Jacek Moskalewicz / Betsy Thom (Eds.)

Ashgate, 2009

This book reports on the findings of an empirical study on the situation of drug users, their consumption patterns and drug spending for the five most common illegal drugs, i.e. heroin, cocaine, amphetamines, ecstasy and cannabis.

The research is based on a newly created detailed survey instrument that was developed for the United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime (UNODC). A state-of-the-art review from additional sources complements this comparison of the drug situation in six European cities, which represent a wide range of drug problems and public policies. The cities studied are from West to East: London, Amsterdam, Turin, Prague, Vienna and Warsaw.

Per capita consumption and prices were assessed by face-to-face interviews with 100 frequent consumers of heroin, cocaine and amphetamines per city (so-called “marginalized drug users”) and 100 occasional consumers of cannabis, ecstasy, amphetamines and cocaine (so-called “socially integrated drug users”), including questions on the range of drugs and the drug combinations consumed, on the mode of consumption and on expenditures.

In order to select “typical” interview partners and to judge their responses, “thick city reports” on the respective local drug situation were compiled, beside epidemiological and other scientific studies based on expert interviews with up to 20 drug policy actors.

The final report includes the six “thick city reports” and five comparative chapters on the following topics: (1) social background of the two groups of drug consumers, (2) consumption patterns of socially integrated drug users, (3) consumption patterns of marginalized drug users, (4) consumption patterns of substituted and non-substituted drug consumers, (5) quantities, costs and sources of the drugs consumed.

Irmgard Eisenbach-Stangl (sociologist), European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research, Vienna, Austria. *Jacek Moskalewicz* (sociologist), Institute of Psychiatry and Neurology, Warsaw, Poland. *Betsy Thom* (sociologist), Institute of Social and Health Research, School of Health and Social Sciences, Middlesex University, London, United Kingdom.

Activity, Incomes and Social Welfare

A Comparison across Four New EU Member States

Manuela Sofia Stanculescu / Tine Stanovnik (Eds.)

Ashgate, 2009

The book's main aim is to describe and quantify the large socioeconomic changes which have occurred in four new Member States of the European Union (Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania and Slovenia), since the early 1990s. Within the broad frame of socioeconomic change, a number of topics were explored in greater detail: changes in activity, occupational status and educational attainment, household income sources and income inequality, and risk of income poverty.

The analysis was based on household budget surveys, and complemented with other statistical sources, so that a coherent analysis and interpretation is offered. For example, the impact of large changes in social policy, such as changes in entitlements and amounts disbursed for child benefits and unemployment benefits is assessed at the household level. Similarly, changes in income inequality are analysed by income sources, documenting the important role of social benefits in decreasing overall income inequality. Risk of income poverty is analysed with particular emphasis on potentially vulnerable population sub-groups.

The value of this research lies not only in its "blend" of aggregate statistical data (published by national statistical offices) and micro-data (i.e. data from household budget surveys), but also in its methodological coherency. The country chapters are based on common methodological guidelines, with only very minor deviations; the methodological guidelines and technical issues (related to survey data) are thoroughly explained in the Technical Annex.

Manuela Sofia Stanculescu is Research Fellow at the Institute for the Study of the Quality of Life, Romanian Academy, and Associate Professor at the Faculty of Sociology and Social Work, University of Bucharest. *Tine Stanovnik* is Professor at the Faculty of Economics, University of Ljubljana, and Senior Research Fellow at the Institute for Economic Research in Ljubljana.

Well-being of Older People in Ageing Societies

Asgar Zaidi

Ashgate, 2008

Great strides towards rising human longevity in recent times pose new challenges for policy-makers worldwide. Facing unprecedented rises in public social expenditures and needing to mitigate the moral hazard of poverty in old age, policy-makers require a holistic understanding of determinants of personal resources of older people. To this end, this book provides new insights by reporting research in three themes.

- In Theme I, Multidimensional well-being of older people, it is demonstrated that with ageing, factors such as ill health and disability become ever more important in determining the personal well-being of older people, and these factors have financial implications not captured by an analysis of income status alone.
- In Theme II, Income experience in old age, the dynamics of older people's income have been analysed, using descriptive statistics as well as econometric models. This approach broadens the conventional snapshot-type analyses and provides insights about income processes underlying the ageing experience.
- In Theme III, Comparative perspective on income dynamics, the work reported in the book evaluates how the relative importance of individual attributes and lifecourse events differ in determining the income experience of older people who live in different systems of social insurance and old-age social provisions in Britain and the Netherlands.

The results demonstrate that a careful scrutiny of existing state benefits designed to compensate for the extra "costs of disability" is essential, since their levels fall short of the extra cost estimates obtained in this book. Moreover, these results present a strong case for developing robust disability-adjusted poverty and inequality statistics to present alongside official figures on pensioners' incomes.

Perhaps the most important policy implication arising from this book is the extent to which people are exposed to income mobility risks in their retirement. While individuals and governments already safeguard against such hazards, this empirical research shows that these measures will need to be strengthened in light of the increasingly longer time spent in the post-retirement phase of life and in view of greater reliance by retirees on diverse and potentially volatile sources of income. Moreover, the evidence of high inequality amongst pensioners needs to be considered alongside the fact that older people observed considerable income mobility and that income mobility is less frequent for those observed in low incomes.

The empirical work reported also highlights the importance of cross-national research on income dynamics during retirement. The results provide important pointers towards how the different social security systems affect the income risks associated with various attributes and life-course transitions experienced by older people. A move towards the Dutch retirement income system in which entitlements to the basic state pension are not linked to the labour market association and means-testing is avoided will improve the relative status of the elderly and will reduce financial insecurity allied with income mobility during retirement.

Asgar Zaidi is Director Research at the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research, Vienna.

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European Inequalities

Social Inclusion and Income Distribution in the European Union

Terry Ward / Orsolya Lelkes / Holly Sutherland / Istvan G. Tóth (Eds.)

TÁRKI, 2009

This book summarizes four years of research on social inclusion and income distribution across the European Union carried out in the framework of the European Observatory on the Social Situation and Demography, which has been established by the Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities of the European Commission. It gives an overview of the comparative information that is available for the EU Member States on income distribution, poverty and its causes, access to benefits and social services and material deprivation. It also offers a good insight into the potential of European surveys and notably the EU Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC), the main survey used for the analysis presented in this publication.

Authors of the book analysed various issues relating to income distribution and poverty, including the effect on inequalities of aspects other than income, such as benefits in kind, or social services more generally, or the need to cover essential costs like housing. It also examined non-monetary indicators of exclusion, such as material deprivation.

Orsolya Lelkes is Research Fellow and Economic Policy Analyst at the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research, Vienna.

Other Book Publications 2009 – 2010

Ward, T., Lelkes, O., Sutherland, H., Tóth, I.G. (Eds.) (2009)

European Inequalities

Social Inclusion and Income Distribution in the European Union

Budapest: TÁRKI

Facts and Figures on Long-Term Care. Europe and North America

Manfred Huber, Ricardo Rodrigues,
Frederique Hoffmann, Katrin Gasior, Bernd Marin

2009

The book displays new data on the countries of the UN-European region searching for answers to queries and puzzles such as ...

What health and social services belong to the broad array of long-term care for the elderly ? Where to draw lines between institutional / residential and home care, formal and informal care, public and privately financed care ? Will demographic ageing further accelerate – and to what an extent does living longer imply living healthier ? How many gains in life ahead at retirement age and during the decades of third age are actually observed and to be expected in the future ? Are there limits in shifting the oldest-old threshold – and correspondingly the increased dependency risks – upwards ? How conclusive or inconclusive is the evidence regarding improvements in old-age severe disability ? What are the typical living arrangements of older people, and how do they differ across the 56 countries of the UN-European region, across regions and cultures, and between women and men ? Where is old or oldest-old age to what extent a women's world ? What are the social implications of living alone, in couples, with children or others and where do we find which prevalent patterns ? How much (preferred, expected, [in]voluntary) mobility is there in later life ? Who provides care for dependent older people within the family and what are the features and challenges of informal carers ? How do adult children and dependent parents look at care arrangements, who shares which burdens, and how can work and family duties be balanced ? What are people's preferences and is formal home care coping well with an ageing society ? What are the differences between cash for care and attendance allowances, care leaves etc. and who are the main beneficiaries ? How do the roles and faces of institutional care change ? Who are their main beneficiaries of residential care and why does it everywhere cost most while serving a very small share of the needy elderly only ? What public / private mixes are to be found in long-term care spending ? How much are countries spending on long-term care and where is the money going to ? What do closer looks at country differences in expenditure levels, spending patterns and forms of generosity disclose ? What trade-offs are there between significantly different forms of generosity – and which ones are fiscally or socially sustainable ? What public policy strategies are used to keep expenditures under control ? What if...all countries would have different, more advanced age structures (e.g. EU-15) or spending patterns ?

Manfred Huber was Director Health and Care (now with WHO), *Ricardo Rodrigues* and *Frederique Hoffmann* are Researchers and *Katrin Gasior* is Graphics Designer at the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research in Vienna. *Bernd Marin* is Executive Director of the European Centre in Vienna.

Jugendliche Alkoholszenen. Konsumkontexte, Trinkmotive, Prävention

**Irmgard Eisenbach-Stangl, Alexander Bernardis,
Kurt Fellöcker, Judith Haberhauer-Stidl, Gabriele Schmied**

2008

Der Alkoholkonsum von Jugendlichen wird in der Öffentlichkeit seit geraumer Zeit heftig und kontrovers diskutiert. Dabei wird einerseits von der Annahme ausgegangen, dass die Trinkgewohnheiten junger Menschen exzessiver geworden sind, andererseits werden die veränderten Getränkepräferenzen und Konsumkontexte von Jugendlichen angesprochen. Anhand epidemiologischer Ergebnisse kann ein einheitlicher Anstieg jugendlichen Rauschtrinkens in europäischen Ländern allerdings nicht nachgewiesen werden, doch finden sich zahlreiche Hinweise, dass junge Männer und Frauen zunehmend nicht traditionelle Getränke an öffentlichen Orten konsumieren.

Die veränderten Trinkgewohnheiten junger Menschen werden in der vorliegenden Studie mit qualitativen Methoden in einem großstädtischen Raum – in Wien – und im kleinstädtischen und ländlichen Bereich – in Niederösterreich – untersucht. Im Zentrum der Untersuchung steht der gemeinsame Alkoholkonsum von Jugendlichen, der Konsum in Gruppen und Gruppierungen, die hier als „jugendliche Alkoholszenen“ bezeichnet werden. Die Studie konzentriert sich auf das Trinken in „öffentlichen“ Kontexten, wie in „halböffentlichen“ (also etwa in Lokalen, wie auch bei Veranstaltungen), doch wird auch auf den Alkoholkonsum in privaten Kontexten eingegangen.

Um einen ersten Überblick zu gewinnen, wurden zuerst Erwachsene, die beruflich mit (trinkenden) Jugendlichen zu tun haben, befragt – SozialarbeiterInnen, Angehörige der Sicherheitsexekutive, Lokal- und GeschäftsbesitzerInnen. In einem zweiten Erhebungsschritt wurden ausgewählte jugendliche Alkoholszenen beobachtet, im dritten und vierten Teil der Studie kamen die Jugendlichen in Gruppen- und Einzelgesprächen selbst zu Wort. Der größte Teil der Feldarbeit wurde von Studenten und Studentinnen der Sozialarbeit in Wien und St. Pölten durchgeführt.

Auf der Grundlage der vielfältigen Ergebnisse der Feldarbeit wurde eine Typologie jugendlicher Alkoholszenen entwickelt. Unauffällige Szenen wurden mit auffälligen verglichen und die Charakteristika der letzteren herausgearbeitet. Die Ergebnisse zeigen deutlich, dass sich Konsumkontexte und Trinkmotive nach sozialer Schicht und nach Geschlecht unterscheiden. Auf die Folgen des Konsums – wie schwere Rauschzustände und aggressive Handlungen – wird ebenso eingegangen wie auf den (zusätzlichen) Gebrauch illegaler Substanzen.

Nach der Sichtung der Präventionsprojekte, die in den letzten Jahren durchgeführt wurden, wurden Vorschläge für die Prävention entwickelt. So wäre es außerordentlich wichtig, die Interventionen den Zielgruppen und den mit ihnen verbundenen sozialen Milieus noch weitergehend anzupassen. Des weiteren wäre auf die Nachhaltigkeit der präventiven Maßnahmen zu achten, nicht zuletzt durch die bessere Koordination der einzelnen Initiativen und vor allem durch die Formulierung einheitlicher und nachvollziehbarer alkoholpräventiver Ziele.

Irmgard Eisenbach-Stangl, Senior Social Scientist am Europäischen Zentrum für Wohlfahrtspolitik und Sozialforschung, Wien. *Alexander Bernardis*, Geschäftsführender Obmann des Vereins Jugend und Lebenswelt, Lehrbeauftragter an der FH St. Pölten – Studiengang Soziale Arbeit. *Kurt Fellöcker*, Professor an der FH St. Pölten – Studiengang Soziale Arbeit. *Judith Haberhauer-Stidl*, Dozentin an der FH Campus Wien, Studiengang Sozialarbeit (im städtischen Raum). *Gabriele Schmied*, Researcher am Europäischen Zentrum für Wohlfahrtspolitik und Sozialforschung, Wien.

Männliche Jugendliche: Sexualität und Aufklärung

Gesundheitsförderung und Prävention im Bereich sexueller und reproduktiver Gesundheit für Burschen unterschiedlicher sozialer und kultureller Herkunft

Gabriele Schmied, Christine Reidl

2008

In der Adoleszenz formt sich die sexuelle Identität und es finden wichtige Weichenstellungen für Einstellungen und Werte bezüglich Sexualität und Partnerschaft statt. Außerschulische sexualpädagogische Aufklärungsangebote können einen wertvollen Beitrag leisten, um junge Menschen in dieser Lebensphase zu unterstützen.

In den letzten Jahren hat sich die Erkenntnis durchgesetzt, dass eine gendersensible Sexualpädagogik mit spezifischen Strategien für beide Geschlechter sinnvoll ist. Während weibliche Jugendliche bereits gut durch Informationskampagnen, -materialien und Beratungsangebote angesprochen werden können, sind männliche Jugendliche schwerer zu erreichen. Sie suchen seltener Beratungsstellen auf und sind an schriftlichen Informationsmaterialien weniger interessiert als Mädchen. Diese Studie zeigt auf, von welchen Aufklärungsangeboten vor allem männliche Jugendliche profitieren und wie Sexualpädagogik in der außerschulischen Jugendarbeit optimal auf die Bedürfnisse dieser Zielgruppe zugeschnitten werden kann.

Die Studie wurde im Zeitraum 2006/07 durchgeführt. Einen Überblick zur aktuellen sexualpädagogischen Praxis der Jugend- bzw. Burschenarbeit bieten eine Literaturstudie und ExpertInnenbefragungen in den Bundesländern Wien, Steiermark und Tirol. Der Bericht analysiert ferner eine Auswahl an nationalen und internationalen Beispielen „guter Praxis“ zum Thema Sexuaufklärung und Prävention im Bereich der sexuellen und reproduktiven Gesundheit.

Die Sichtweise der Burschen wurde durch Interviews mit heterosexuellen Jugendlichen (49 Interviews) verschiedenen Alters und mit unterschiedlichen sozialen und kulturellen Hintergründen erhoben. Etwa die Hälfte der Befragten hat einen Migrationshintergrund. Ergänzend wurden drei Fokusgruppen mit insgesamt 19 Mädchen durchgeführt. Die Ergebnisse zeigen, welche Einstellungen zu Geschlechterrollen, Sexualität und Partnerschaft die jungen Menschen haben, welche Informationsquellen sie nutzen und wie sie diese bewerten. Soziale bzw. Bildungsschichten und kulturelle Prägungen spielen dabei eine wesentliche Rolle.

Auf der Grundlage dieser Ergebnisse wurden Richtlinien ausgearbeitet, die konkrete Anhaltspunkte für die sexualpädagogische Burschenarbeit liefern. Es werden dabei gesellschaftlich-institutionelle Rahmenbedingungen ebenso thematisiert wie methodisch-konzeptionelle Umsetzungsanforderungen. Um männliche Jugendliche bei der Entwicklung einer verantwortungsvollen und partnerschaftlichen Sexualität zu unterstützen, sie vor sexuell übertragbaren Krankheiten und ungewollter Vaterschaft zu schützen bzw. sie mit diesbezüglichen außerschulischen Angeboten überhaupt zu erreichen, bedarf es Initiativen auf vielen Ebenen. Die Investition in die Aus- und Weiterbildung von haupt- und ehrenamtlichen JugendarbeiterInnen ist hier ebenso wichtig wie die Entwicklung von Aufklärungsangeboten, die auf Multikulturalität und den Umgang mit daraus resultierenden widersprüchlichen Normen eingehen.

Gabriele Schmied und Christine Reidl sind Researcher im Bereich "Health and Care" am Europäischen Zentrum für Wohlfahrtspolitik und Sozialforschung, Wien.

Wiener Drogenpolitik 1970 bis 2005. Außen- und Innenansichten

Irmgard Eisenbach-Stangl, Arno Pilgram, Christine Reidl

2008

Die Studie untersucht die Entwicklung der regionalen Drogenpolitik von Wien im Zeitraum von 1970 bis 2005. Die Untersuchung setzt zu der Zeit ein, als man auch in Österreich begann, auf die grundlegenden Veränderungen des Drogenkonsums zu reagieren, die in industrialisierten Ländern in den 1960er Jahren stattgefunden hatten: Die DrogenkonsumentInnen waren jünger, gebildeter und gesellschaftskritischer geworden und Cannabis war zur meistgebrauchten illegalen Substanz avanciert. Wie in anderen Ländern, so wurde auch in Österreich das strafrechtlich- „repressive“ drogenpolitische Instrumentarium durch „integrative“ Maßnahmen aus den Bereichen Gesundheit, Sozialhilfe und Bildung ergänzt, die auf regionaler Ebene ausgebaut wurden.

Die Studie betrachtet die Entwicklung der Wiener Drogenpolitik über einen Zeitraum von rund 35 Jahren aus verschiedenen Blickwinkeln: Aus einer wissenschaftlichen Beobachterperspektive und aus der subjektiven Perspektive zweier Gruppen von Betroffenen. Die „Innenansichten“ sind auch als – qualitative – Form der Evaluation der drogenpolitischen Aktivitäten der Gemeinde zu lesen.

Für die „Außenansicht“ wurde die Ausdifferenzierung des kommunalen drogenpolitischen Apparates auf der Grundlage von Berichten und Statistiken untersucht. Auf derselben Grundlage wurde der nationale Rahmen erkundet, insbesondere die Drogengesetzgebung und die Aktivitäten der Drogenexekutive, beide zentrale Bereiche der nationalen Drogenpolitik, die in die lokale hineinwirken und sie begrenzen.

Bei den Betroffenen handelt es sich zum einen um Professionelle, die in der Beobachtungsperiode mit der Umsetzung von regionaler und nationaler Drogenpolitik in Wien befasst waren – um drogenpolitische „AkteurInnen“ –, zum anderen um DrogenkonsumentInnen und Angehörige von DrogenkonsumentInnen – um drogenpolitische „AdressatInnen“. Insgesamt wurden über 90 Betroffene interviewt und die Interviews inhaltsanalytisch ausgewertet.

Irmgard Eisenbach-Stangl, Senior Social Scientist am Europäischen Zentrum für Wohlfahrts- politik und Sozialforschung, Programme Area „Alcohol, Drugs, Addiction“, davor Senior Researcher am Ludwig Boltzmann-Institut für Suchtforschung, Wien

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Christine Reidl, Researcher am Europäischen Zentrum für Wohlfahrts- politik und Sozialforschung, vorher Researcher am Ludwig Boltzmann-Institut für Suchtforschung und am Institut für Rechts- und Kriminalsoziologie, Wien

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Access to Health Care for Migrants, Ethnic Minorities, and Asylum Seekers in Europe
by *Anderson E. Stanciole, Manfred Huber*

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Poverty and social exclusion continue to be serious challenges across the European Union and for health systems in Member States. Migrants, asylum seekers and illegal immigrants are at high risk of poverty and social exclusion and there is evidence that they sometimes do not receive the care that best responds to their needs. Improved access to general health care, including also health promotion and prevention strategies, is therefore essential to minimising disadvantage for migrants. This Policy Brief outlines hurdles of access to health care for migrants and discusses policy implications.

The results presented are part of a research project on "Quality in and Equality of Access to Health Care Services" (HealthQUEST) that was financed by the European Commission, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities. This study analysed barriers of access to mainstream health care services for people at risk of social exclusion as well as policies in Member States to mitigate these barriers. The study had a focus on three groups at risk: people with mental disorders, migrants, and older people with functional limitations. Eight countries were studied in depth: Finland, Germany, Greece, the Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Spain and the United Kingdom.

Migration and health in Europe

With a substantial and increasing share of foreign-born population, the European Union faces many challenges on how to achieve better social integration and basic human rights for refugees, asylum seekers and illegal (undocumented) immigrants. Within the broader issue of advancing access to services in general, enhanced access to health care services plays a significant role in improving the situation of migrants.

To a large extent, there are significant differences between countries and migrant groups, creating the need for tailored policy responses that take into account the specific barriers to access to health care in each case.

Policy Briefs are a publication series which provides a synthesis of issues of research and policy advice on which the European Centre researchers have been working.

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Michael Fuchs

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Manfred Huber, Anderson E. Stanciole

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Functional Responsibilities of Staff

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(as of October 2009)**

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