



Dear Reader,

Today we present our latest publication, i.e. “Facts and Figures on Long-Term Care. Europe and North America”. This book displays new data on up to 56 countries of the UN-European Region (comprising North America, Europe including Russia, Central Asia and Israel). The research findings are complemented by a variety of graphs. Sample pages can be accessed on our website. More information on this work can be found on page 7 of this issue.

Sincerely yours,

Annette Hexelschneider

Head of Knowledge and Information Management Support Unit

Projects

MA:IMI – Mainstreaming Ageing: Indicators to Monitor Implementation (II) Second Phase of the Work Programme

At the second meeting of the UNECE Working Group on Ageing in Geneva (23-24 November 2009), Eszter Zólyomi and Bernd Marin presented results of the monitoring activities carried out in 2009 under the 2nd phase of the MA:IMI project. This included: results of data collection, preparation of new gender-specific mainstreaming ageing and long-term care indicators as well as new steps to disseminate project findings (renewed monitoring RIS website and new Mainstreaming Ageing Newsletter). A project plan for the year 2010 was also presented.

Read more about: [event](#)

For further information please contact: [Eszter Zólyomi](#), [Bernd Marin](#)



EUROMOD Update Meetings

In December two meetings – one in Bucharest (7 December 2009) and one in Sofia (14 December 2009), will

- present EUROMOD to potential collaborators in Bulgaria and Romania and establish cooperation with teams of researchers,
- explain the goals of the project, present EUROMOD, discuss the specific features of the national tax- and benefit systems as well as the feasibility of tax-benefit microsimulation model constructions.

Read more about: [project](#)

For further information please contact: [Orsolya Lelkes](#)

European Observatory on the Social Situation

Orsolya Lelkes has participated in a meeting with the European Commission and external experts in Brussels (3 November 2009), including Michael Förster from the OECD, Paris and Ken Nelson, Institute for Future Studies, Stockholm.

The aim of the meeting was to discuss the draft of the Annual Report prepared by the network (including the European Centre). The Report includes sections on income inequality, poverty, material deprivation and access to housing, health care and education. The final version will be published on-line in early 2010. The work outline for 2009 has been discussed, too.

Read more about: [project](#)

For further information please contact: [Orsolya Lelkes](#)

Study on Child Poverty

A seminar on “Child Poverty and Child Well-being”, organized by the European Commission in Brussels (26 November 2009), presented and discussed the results of our study on child poverty.

The principal objectives of the study were:

- to identify the main determinants of child poverty and social exclusion in Europe and across Member States;
- to provide an overview on and assess the effectiveness of existing policies on income support and access to the labour market and enabling services for parents;
- to define a reduced set of indicators which best reflect the multi-dimensional nature of child well-being, suitable for monitoring policies aimed at reducing child poverty, enhancing the welfare of children and improving their life chances.

Read more about: [seminar](#), [project](#)

For further information please contact: [Orsolya Lelkes](#)



Generationenpolitik – Internationale Ansätze und Entwicklungen [Generational Policies – International Approaches and Developments]

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

You can find an overview on the findings written by Kai Leichsenring and Kerstin Hämel (Justus-Liebig-Universität Giessen) in a special issue on generational policies of the Swiss Journal for Social Security.

Read more about: journal in [German](#), journal in [French](#)
For further information please contact: [Kai Leichsenring](#)

Events

Past Events

30 October, Lisbon (Portugal): International Workshop on the Socio-Economics of Ageing

The ISEG, Technical University of Lisbon, organized a workshop on Socio-Economics of Ageing, which addressed issues such as Ageing and the Labour Market, Policies Affecting the Elderly or Intergenerational Transfers. Under this last theme, Ricardo Rodrigues presented a paper co-authored with Frédérique Hoffmann entitled “Ageing and Caring Relations within the Family: Intimacy at a Distance?”. Drawing on some of the findings and indicators of the publication [“Facts and Figures on Long-term Care. Europe and North America”](#), the paper looked at several factors that are likely to shape the provision of family care: demography, family composition, living arrangements and public policies (labour market and cash allowances for care).

Read more about: [workshop website](#)
For further information please contact: [Ricardo Rodrigues](#), [Frédérique Hoffmann](#)

5-6 November, Vienna (Austria): 9th Annual Conference on Integrated Care – “Lost in Transition: Meeting the Challenge through Integrated Care”

The international scientific programme of the conference focused on the following sub-topics:

- making effective the co-ordination and continuity of care across the patient pathway;
- making care more personal for the individual;



- supporting self-care amongst users, carers and families;
- evaluating and measuring the cost-effectiveness of integrated and personalized care.

The overall aim of the conference was to bring together researchers, policy-makers and practitioners interested in cooperation and coordination between health and social care and to stimulate an exchange of knowledge, experiences and new ideas on integrated care. Researchers, practitioners and policy-makers presented their current or latest research results and projects.

In the session “Growing old – staying mobile. How to organise integrated care for elderly”, Georg Ruppe spoke about “Towards preventive long-term care pathways for older people – INTERLINKS and the case of Austria” and also presented a poster based on related findings and research of the project INTERLINKS.

Read more about: [conference website](#), [abstract of the presentation](#), [INTERLINKS project](#)

For further information please contact: [Georg Ruppe](#)

19 November, London (UK): Office for Disability Issues (ODI) Evidence Day

The Office for Disability Issues in the British Department for Work and Pensions organized the ODI Evidence Day.

The main objectives of this event were to:

- Support the use of evidence in policy making by bringing key evidence directly to policy makers
- Ensure the UK government’s evidence base on disability issues is up to date and comprehensive
- Support the dissemination of disability related research across UK government
- Build relations between academics/researchers and government decision-makers.

Asghar Zaidi presented evidence on extra costs of living for disabled people and implications for poverty profile. The presentation described the motivation in estimating and incorporating costs of disability in the measurement of poverty; it discussed the method adopted to measure costs of living associated with disability; presented a first-hand empirical evidence for EU countries (using the latest 2006 EU-SILC dataset) and conclude (and plea) for the importance of adjustments for costs of disability in all practices of monitoring poverty and inequality.

For further information please contact: [Asghar Zaidi](#)

19 November 2009, St. Pölten (Austria): Symposium “Alter(n) in Bewegung – Gesundheitsförderung im Wandel” [Ageing in Motion – Changing Health Promotion]

The handout with all abstracts as well as the presentations are now available on-line.

Read more about: [handout](#), [presentations](#)

For further information please contact: [Bernd Marin](#), [Georg Ruppe](#)



Upcoming Events

3 December, Bratislava (Slovakia): Workshop on Care Dependence Policy in European Perspective – Selected Issues

In the framework of the INTERLINKS project, the workshop will be organized by the Institute for Labour and Family Research, in cooperation with the European Centre.

The themes are:

- Long-term care as a crucial matter of the European welfare state and the open method of coordination in the field of social inclusion.
- Informal care (primarily home care) as an important matter of the long-term care system and the care sector.
- European monitoring in long-term care issues.
- Cooperation between the Institute for Labour and Family Research and the European Centre in long-term care research.
- Dissemination within the INTERLINKS project.
- Long-term care research: new needs and perspectives.

Frédérique Hoffmann will speak about “Long-term Care for Older People in Europe. Facts and Figures (special focus on Informal Care)”.

Read more about: [programme](#)

For further information please contact: [Frédérique Hoffmann](#)

4 December, Vienna (Austria): Ageing, the Crisis and their Consequences for Fiscal Sustainability in Austria

Public finances and social systems face considerable challenges in the coming decades. Currently prevailing are those arising from the present financial and economic crisis. As a result, public debt levels are expected to soar to new historic levels, as substantial fiscal measures for stimulating the economy and for stabilizing financial markets are in place and since automatic fiscal stabilization leads to lower revenues and higher social expenditures. Moreover, the ageing of populations will exert a significant additional burden on future public budgets as age-related expenditures in Austria as well as in most other EU Member States are expected to increase. These circumstances will be discussed in this workshop organized by the European Centre in collaboration with the Austrian Federal Ministry of Finance.

The European Centre presentation in the Forum will consist of three parts:

- In Part I, we comment on the material included in the Sustainability Report 2009. Here, we highlight the position of Austria in comparison to other European countries, and debate the conclusions drawn



from the sustainability indicators (S1 and S2, for instance) as well as discuss the potential impact of the crisis on the fiscal sustainability of EU countries. Some discussions on methods used in this report will also be provided.

- In Part II, we comment on the 2009 Ageing Report. Here, we focus specifically on Chapter 4 (Long-term Care). We discuss the projected results, the methods used in obtaining these results and raise further questions about our knowledge, or lack of it, in this highly important work area.
- In Part III, we synthesize the discussion and make policy recommendations - especially for Austria – towards how the sustainability gap can be closed off. What other policy concerns emerge in the current economic environment and also in addressing solely the fiscal sustainability concerns. The presentation will cover several policy topics that are of particular concern for Austria, especially in the pension policy.

Read more about: [event](#),
[Registration](#)

For further information please contact: [Asghar Zaidi](#)

8 December, Nicosia (Cyprus): The Demographic Ageing under the Shadow of Economic Crisis: “Employment – Human Resources – Retirement”

The Muhanna Foundation organizes a 16th Regional Conference on the subject “The Demographic Ageing under the Shadow of Economic Crisis: Employment – Human Resources – Retirement”.

The conference will examine the effects of these challenges from various angles:

- It will examine the developments of the economic crisis in conjunction with the effect of unemployment.
- It will examine the demographic challenges and employment policies in the EU and Cyprus,
- It will examine the retirement policies for encouraging and prolonging working life and the effect of the labour cost increase on the competitiveness of the economy and on employment.
- Lastly, it focuses on presenting the experiences of internationally recognized companies and trade unions at a corporate level. The companies will present good practices they adopted which constitute examples of corporate social responsibility for the management of ageing and the development of programmes for improving the ability and encouraging workers to remain in employment.

Asghar Zaidi will speak about “Demographic Developments in the EU and Other Countries – Economic Implications of Population Ageing”.

Read more about: [agenda](#)

For further information please contact: [Asghar Zaidi](#)



Publications

Books

Huber, M., Rodrigues, R., Hoffmann, F., Gasior, K., Marin, B. (2009) Facts and Figures on Long-Term Care. Europe and North America. Vienna (Austria): European Centre

This book displays new data on up to 56 countries of the UN-European Region (comprising North America, Europe including Russia, Central Asia and Israel).

Even before the current financial crisis, there was a growing concern over the fiscal and social sustainability of long-term care for dependent older people. Yet despite these concerns, little is known about basic indicators on this subject. The present publication, “Facts and Figures on Long-term Care – Europe and North America” seeks to bridge that gap of information by bringing together information from international and national sources to present comparable indicators on long-term care.

The indicators presented in this publication cover several issues directly related to long-term care for dependent older people. It covers the demographic, health and living arrangements background information as well as the provision of informal care, and stretches from beneficiaries of formal long-term care services (both in institutions and in their homes, by sex and age groups) to public and private expenditure on long-term care.

Besides the figures on basic indicators, qualitative data is also presented and the facts of policy options discussed, e.g. on the interaction between employment policies and cash benefits.

Among the findings presented in this publication are:

- the predominance of women as informal carers, regardless of “care regimes”;
- the fact that institutional care only covers but a minority of older people, while most beneficiaries of care services remain in their own homes;
- the trade-offs in benefit generosity in care and attendance allowances;
- the possible links at a cross-country level between living arrangements, availability of informal care and institutionalisation;
- or how public expenditure is divided between home and institutional care.

The present publication aims to be the first edition of a series of biannual publications to contain updated and upgraded information on long-term care.

Till the end of 2009 the book may be ordered at the price of 12.00 Euro.

Read more about: [book details with sample pages](#)

For further information please contact: [Ricardo Rodrigues](#), [Frédérique Hoffmann](#)



Radio & TV

14 August 2009: “Pensionen – sind die Systeme noch sicher?” [Pensions – Are The Systems Still Secure?]

Bernd Marin spoke about this topic in the Saldo Summer Talks on Österreich I. You can listen to the discussion [here](#).

28 October 2009: “Pensionistenparadies Österreich” [Austria – “A Pensioners’ Paradise”]

Bernd Marin took part in an ATV “Am Punkt” [To the point] discussion on this topic, together with Austrian politicians and journalists. You can watch the video [here](#).

Newspaper Articles

[Marin, Bernd \(2005-2009\) Various articles in Der Standard, in Die Presse, in Format, in Kleine Zeitung, in Salzburger Nachrichten, Vienna, Graz, Salzburg, 2009](#)

For further information please contact: [Bernd Marin](#)

Personnel Matters

New Director Health and Care

The Director of the Health and Care Pillar, Manfred Huber, left the European Centre after four years of successful work here to take up a position at the WHO Europe in Denmark.

Manfred Huber built up the pillar with expertise in

- Alcohol, Drugs, Addiction
- Health and Disability Policy
- Health Economics & Indicators
- Health Promotion and Prevention
- Long-term Care & Personal Social Services

Many important and interesting projects have been directed by him. Among others

- [The Situation of Social and Health Services of General Interest in the European Union](#)



- [Quality in and Equality of Access to Healthcare Services: HealthQUEST](#)
- [Facts & Figures on Long-Term Care. Europe and North America](#)

We wish him the very best for his new career stage and thank him for the years of productive and pleasant cooperation.

From December 1st Catharina Hjortsberg from Sweden has been appointed the new Director Health and Care. Catharina Hjortsberg was Research Director, Health economics practice, at the Swedish Institute for Health Economics.

She is an experienced project manager with a broad register of experiences in respect to health economic analysis and research. She also has experience from policy/strategic support and analysis. Catharina Hjortsberg has been working more than ten years at a health economics research institute, aiming to contribute to well-founded decision-making in the health-care sector by providing health-economic assessments and policy analyses for public discussion.

Hjortsberg's portfolio of experiences is partly obtained from long term work in the Swedish health care sector and partly from international work and work in developing countries. Projects and publications include studies of the equality, financial analyses, cost analysis, and economic evaluations. Hjortsberg's experience also includes surveys among the public e.g. regarding preferences in access to health care. She also has extensive experience of econometric modelling and statistical methods in economics.

We welcome her and will inform you more about her plans in the December issue of our Newsletter.

For further information please contact: [Catharina Hjortsberg](#)



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