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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



2011

2012

**ANNUAL
REPORT OF
ACTIVITIES**



**PROGRAMME
OVERVIEW**

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Policy and Research

9 Activities and Overview 2011 / 2012

35 Projects in Detail by Research Pillar

35 Research Pillar “Work, Wealth, Welfare”

51 Research Pillar “Health and Care”

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

76 International Seminars

81 European Centre Publications 2008 – 2012

121 Functional Responsibilities of Staff

125 National Liaison Officials (NLOs)

131 The Board of Directors

35 Research Pillar “Work, Wealth, Welfare”

- 36 EUROMOD: European Tax-Benefit Model
- 37 EUROMOD Update
- 39 European Observatory on the Social Situation
- 41 Analysis of the Regional Situation Eight Years after the Implementation of MIPAA
- 42 Prämien-Anreizmodell zur längeren Erwerbsarbeit / Bonus-Incentive Model for Extending Working Life
- 44 Die weitere Erwerbsbiographie von ungelerten Arbeiter/innen, deren Antrag auf Pension wegen geminderter Arbeitsfähigkeit abgelehnt wurde / Further Employment Biography of Unskilled Workers, Whose Application for Invalidity Pension Was Rejected
- 45 Maßnahmen zur Belebung des Arbeitsmarktes für ältere Arbeitnehmer/innen / Measures for the Activation of the Labour Market for Older Workers
- 46 “Vergleichende Analyse der Teilhabechancen in Europa” / Social Inclusion in Europe
- 47 Wirkungsweisen und Effekte von Geldleistungen und Sachleistungen im Sozialbereich / Outcomes and Effects of Social Monetary Benefits and Benefits in Kind
- 48 Maßnahmen zur Arbeitsmarktintegration von Personen mit Behinderungen / Measures for the Labour Market Integration of Persons with Disabilities
- 49 Workshops “Effektive und faire Anreize für ein längeres Erwerbsleben” sowie “Sicherung der Alterspflege” / (Workshops “Effective and Fair Incentives for a Longer Working Life” and “Sustainable Financing of Old-age Long-term Care”)
- 50 Severance Pay Programmes across the World: History, Rationale, Status, and Reforms. Brown-Bag Luncheon Seminar jointly Organised by the European Centre and the Institute for Advanced Studies, Vienna

51 Research Pillar “Health and Care”

- 52 Quality Management by Result-Oriented Indicators.
Towards Benchmarking in Residential Care for Older People
- 53 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
- 54 INTERLINKS: Final Conference
- 55 Israel-Euro Seminar on Child Abuse
- 56 EuroREACH – A Handbook to Access Health Care Data
for Cross-Country Comparisons of Efficiency and Quality
- 58 Evaluating Care Across Borders (ECAB)
- 60 CARICT – ICT-based Solutions for Caregivers: Assessing Their Impact
on the Sustainability of Long-term Care in an Ageing Europe
- 62 Second Multi-City Study on Quantities and Financing
of Illicit Drug Consumption (QUAF II)
- 64 Alcohol Measures for Public Health Research Alliance (AMPHORA)
- 66 Experiences with Coherent / Integrated Policies for Licit and Illicit Drugs
- 67 Comparing European Alcohol Policies
- 69 Addictions and Lifestyle in Contemporary Europe –
Reframing Addictions Project (ALICE RAP)
- 70 Mobile Sexuality: Towards a New European Strategy in Sex Education
and Prevention of Sexually Transmitted Diseases (SAFESEX)
- 71 Boys and Girls. An Interactive Web-based Series to Promote
Healthy Lifestyles among European Adolescents

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

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

Activities and Overview 2011 / 2012

9

**Completed, Ongoing and Planned
Status as of September 2011**

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 – 2012

Consultancy

Analysis of the Regional Situation Eight Years after the Implementation of MIPAA

(in cooperation with United Nations Population Fund / UNFPA, HelpAge International)
(funded by the United Nations Population Fund / UNFPA)
2010 – 2011

International Seminar

Severance Pay Programmes across the World: History, Rationale, Status, and Reforms

(Brown-Bag Luncheon Seminar jointly Organised by the European Centre
and the Institute for Advanced Studies, Vienna)
Friday 8 April 2011

National Expertise

Prämien-Anreizmodell zur längeren Erwerbsarbeit

(Bonus-Incentive Model for Extending Working Life)
(funded by the Austrian Economic Chamber)
2010 – 2011

National Expertise

**Die weitere Erwerbsbiographie von ungelernten Arbeiter/innen,
deren Antrag auf Pension wegen geminderter Arbeitsfähigkeit abgelehnt wurde**

(Further Employment Biography of Unskilled Workers
Whose Application for Invalidation Pension Was Rejected)
(funded by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection)
2010 – 2011

National Research Project

Maßnahmen zur Belebung des Arbeitsmarktes für ältere Arbeitnehmer/Innen

(Measures for the Activation of the Labour Market for Older Workers)
(funded by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection)
2010 – 2011

National Research Project

“Vergleichende Analyse der Teilhabechancen in Europa” – Social Inclusion in Europe

(funded by the German Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs)
2011

National / International Research Project

Wirkungsweisen und Effekte von Geldleistungen und Sachleistungen im Sozialbereich

(Outcomes and Effects of Social Monetary Benefits and Benefits in Kind)
(funded by the City of Vienna, MA 24)
2011

National Research Project

Maßnahmen zur Arbeitsmarktintegration von Personen mit Behinderungen

(Measures for the Labour Market Integration of Persons with Disabilities)
(funded by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection)
2011 – 2012

National Workshops

“Effektive und faire Anreize für ein längeres Erwerbsleben” sowie “Sicherung der Alterspflege”

(“Effective and Fair Incentives for a Longer Working Life” and
“Sustainable Financing of Old Age Long-term Care”)
(funded by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Finance)
2011

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” have continued 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; accumulation of income; physical as well as pension wealth; impact of income and 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 – enables us to identify and advise on key social welfare policy reforms that are necessary within the wider bloc of European countries, including not just the EU Member States but also Central Asian and Balkan 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 and migrants).
- 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, in particular among older people, 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 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 organise 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 the demographic shift of population ageing that European countries are experiencing.

The European Centre participated in the project “Analysis of the Regional Situation Eight Years after the Implementation of MIPAA” as a regional consultant responsible for gathering information on the status/availability of national data, research, policies and institutional arrangements implemented on ageing in countries of the UNECE region since 2002. The European Centre also prepared a regional report with country case-studies that reviews the progress, identifies the gaps, and provides recommendations.

In the course of the consultancy, the European Centre:

- mapped existing data, research, policies and institutional arrangements implemented on ageing since 2002 in countries of the UNECE region;
- undertook detailed analysis of the following five countries (proposed by UNFPA): Finland, Hungary, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation and Serbia; and
- prepared a report based on the evidence gathered from the countries and on the five detailed country case-studies.

The following three priority areas of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (MIPAA) were covered in this research project:

- 1) *Older persons and development*, which includes such important issues as economic security, social protection, and eradication of poverty.
- 2) *Advancing health and well-being into old age*, which addresses health issues and access to health-care services.
- 3) *Ensuring enabling and supportive environments*, which includes such issues as age-friendly physical environment; human rights; and neglect, abuse and violence.

The review was carried out with the support of regional and national consultants and experts. The results will be compiled into a global report which is expected to be published by UNFPA in 2011.

The project was conducted in cooperation with the United Nations Population Fund / UNFPA, and HelpAge International, and funded by the United Nations Population Fund / UNFPA.

Most notable work in this work area remains the project “Mainstreaming Ageing: Indicators to Monitor Implementation” (MA:IMI). All European Centre researchers continue to provide work in many different forms for this project. The MA:IMI team has also been participating in international meetings and technical workshops, and in organising meetings of experts. The main task remains the construction and recommendation 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 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 2010, the work on indicators has focused on the analysis 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 developed indicators, and collected corresponding data on gender-specific Mainstreaming Ageing indicators, as well as on long-term care indicators.

The book publication “Ageing, Health and Pensions in Europe. An Economic and Social Policy Perspective” was prepared for Palgrave Macmillan. This book presents an engaging overview of the future research challenges for economists and social scientists concerning population ageing, pensions, health and social care in Europe. Various experts discuss how scientific research can provide cutting-edge evidence on income security of the elderly, well-being of the elderly, and labour markets and older workers: three themes dominating the current European economic and social policy debate. By adopting a forward-looking approach, the book discusses the remaining knowledge gaps and research opportunities. It also reviews data needs and other infrastructure requirements and explores the implications for research policy.

An article ‘Population Ageing and Intergenerational Solidarity: Policy Challenges and Societal Responses’ was contributed to the special European Edition of the *Journal of Intergenerational Relationships*, co-edited by Alan Hatton-Yeo and Mariano Sanchez, by Asghar Zaidi and Katrin Gasior, working in collaboration with Robert Manchin of the Gallup Organisation, Europe.

II. 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 2011, 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 the level of poverty across the EU countries, the trends over time and identifying high-poverty risk groups. The special focus this year includes the analysis of active ageing and the socio-economic situation of people

with disabilities. The outcomes are published on a newly established on-line knowledge base (<http://www.socialsituation.eu/>).

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: Theme I, multidimensional well-being of older people; Theme II, income experience in old age, analysing the dynamics of older people’s income; and 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).

A chapter ‘Exclusion from Material Resources: Poverty and Capability Deprivation among Older People in EU Countries’, is also contributed to the forthcoming book *From Exclusion to Inclusion in Old Age: A Global Challenge*, edited by Nora Keating and Thomas Scharf, Policy Press, UK. The focus of this chapter is the exclusion from material resources that older people experience in the EU countries, while picking through the conceptual, measurement and policy issues that help, and sometimes hinder, the realisation of the goal of enhancing social inclusion of older people.

In the ongoing project titled “Vergleichende Analyse der Teilhabechancen in Europa – Social Inclusion in Europe”, financed by the Bundesministerium für Arbeit und Soziales (BMAS), the European Centre team aims to compile a comprehensive study on social inclusion in Europe, which would serve as the fourth edition of the “Armut- und Reichtumsberichterstattung (ARB)” for the Deutsche Bundestag. The report will describe the social inclusion of the population of EU countries in various dimensions, including income, health, housing, education, social participation, and subjective well-being. It will compare the situation of specific social groups, based on gender, age, and for some issues, migrant status. The report will have a strong focus on empirical analysis, but it will also cover the conceptual underpinnings of social inclusion, including the philosophical background, and the measurement issues. The policy implications of the presented evidence will be discussed, including best practices across selected European countries and policy areas, with policy recommendations for Germany.

III. 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.

Completed, ongoing and planned research for Austria includes an analysis of measures for the stimulation of the labour market for elder employees as well as disabled persons, the further biography of unskilled workers whose application for invalidity pension was rejected, all commissioned by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection, as well as an evaluation of a bonus-incentive model for later retirement commissioned by the Austrian Economic Chamber and workshops organized in collaboration with the Austrian Federal Ministry of Finance on “Effective and Fair Incentives for a Longer Working Life”, and on “Sustainable Financing of Old Age Long-term Care”.

IV. 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 the 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.

In a project with the Belgian Federal Social Security Office, i.e. “Comparative Analysis of European Pension Policies and their Impact”, a special focus has been placed on the comparative social situation of Belgium. In particular, it was assessed how poverty among older people in Belgium compares with the rest of EU Member States, and what are the implications of pension reforms on poverty risks for the future generation of older people.

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* (published in 2010). The book, edited by Bernd Marin and Eszter Zólyomi, has explored 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.

A chapter ‘Population Ageing and Financial and Social Sustainability Challenges of Pension Systems in Europe: A Cross-National Perspective’ by Asghar Zaidi is contributed to the book *The Future of Multi-pillar Pensions*, edited by Lans Bovenberg, Casper van Ewijk and Ed Westerhout, forthcoming, Cambridge University Press, UK. This chapter discussed the shape and design of future pension policies, and how they – in response to the current crisis and impending population ageing challenges – will affect the welfare of future pensioners in European countries.

Bernd Marin has completed a new book manuscript: *Welfare in an Idle Society? Reinventing Retirement, Work, Wealth, Health, and Welfare. A Primer on Re-Designing Social Security to Cope with Global Ageing and 21st Century Pension Future.*

V. 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 2011, the European Centre’s researchers continued with the EUROMOD Update project, supported by the European Commission. The aim is to update and upgrade the computer-based research tool, and to extend it to cover the whole enlarged European Union till 2012. The funds are 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. In 2011, the focus of the European Centre’s team is on modeling the policy systems 2007 till 2010 for Austria, based on national SILC data for 2007.

During 2011, an article ‘The European Network for Dynamic Microsimulation (EURODYM) – A Vision and the State of Affairs’ is contributed to the International Journal of Microsimulation by Gijs Dekkers (Federal Planning Bureau, Belgium) and Asghar Zaidi. This paper presents plans to initiate a European network for dynamic microsimulation, one of whose tasks will be to facilitate and stimulate exchange of research ideas and researchers working on dynamic microsimulation. EURODYM aims to serve as a platform for researchers to bid for and generate research funds to enhance the development and use of the dynamic microsimulation models, with a particular focus on research funds available in Europe. The comments and support from the microsimulation community have been received during the European Workshop on Dynamic Microsimulation Modelling in Brussels (2010) and also during the 3rd General Conference of the International Microsimulation Association in Stockholm (2011).

VI. Welfare Society

Our focus here is to evaluate different types of welfare societies and their success in addressing social issues that a country is facing. Emphasis is 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 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.

The project “Outcomes and Effects of Social Monetary Benefits and Benefits in Kind”, contracted by the city of Vienna, will evaluate the effects of the different benefit types based on targets and their degree of realization as well as intended and non-intended outcomes. The study will consist of three main parts: an international literature analysis on theoretical and empirical backgrounds, the development of a comparative framework of the effects of monetary benefits and benefits in kind, and the detailed analysis of benefits in the long-term care sector offered by the City of Vienna.

Bernd Marin has completed a new book manuscript: *Welfare in an Idle Society? Reinventing Retirement, Work, Wealth, Health, and Welfare. A Primer on Re-Designing Social Security to Cope with Global Ageing and 21st Century Pension Future.*

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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 Conference

INTERLINKS. Final Conference

12-14 October 2011, Baden, Austria

International Research Project

CARICT – ICT-based Solutions for Caregivers: Assessing Their Impact on the Sustainability of Long-term Care in an Ageing Europe

(funded by the Institute for Prospective Technology Studies and the Directorate General for Information Society and Media / DG INFSO)
2010 – 2011

International Research Project

Facts and Figures on Active Ageing and Long-term Care

(funded by the French Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs – part of MA:IMI)
2011 – 2012

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

Evaluating Care across Borders / ECAB

(funded by the Commission of the European Communities and co-funded by the EU through the FP7 Cooperation Work Programme: Health – contract number 242058, contract acronym EUCBCC 2010-2013 EUCBCC consortium)
2010 – 2013

*International Workshop***Israel-Euro Seminar on Child Abuse**

(in cooperation with and funded by the Haruv Institute, Israel)
3-8 April 2011

*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 – 2011

*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

*International Research Project***Experiences with Coherent / Integrated Policies for Licit and Illicit Drugs**

(coordinated and funded by the Groupe Pompidou / Council of Europe)
2011

*International Workshop***Comparing European Alcohol Policies**

(coordinated by the European Centre in collaboration with the Region of Tuscany Health Agency)
(subsidised by the European Forum for Responsible Drinking / EFRD)
2011

*International Research Project***Addictions and Lifestyle in Contemporary Europe – Reframing Addictions Project (ALICE RAP)**

(funded by the European Commission, DG Research, EU 7th Framework Programme for Research)
2011 – 2014

*International Research Project***Mobile Sexuality: Towards a New European Strategy in Sex Education and Prevention of Sexually Transmitted Diseases (SAFESEX)**

(coordinated by the Center for Sex og Sundhed / CSS, Denmark)
(funded by the Executive Agency for Health and Consumers / EAHC)
2010 – 2012

*International Research Project***Boys and Girls. An Interactive Web-based Series to Promote Healthy Lifestyles among European Adolescents**

(coordinated by The Netherlands Institute for Health Promotion / NIGZ)
(funded by the Executive Agency for Health and Consumers / EAHC)
2010 – 2012

Research Pillar “Health and Care”

I. Alcohol, Drugs, Addiction

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”. The second multi-city study covers three Nordic and four Eastern/South Eastern European cities and provides insight into drug consumption patterns in areas not thoroughly studied until present. As with 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, too. Moreover, the outcome of the project will provide an important input for the UNODC estimates and publications of trends in worldwide drug consumption.

In the same year work started on another international project, i.e. “Alcohol Measures for Public Health Research Alliance” funded by the European Commission, 7th Framework Programme for Research. The European Centre participates in the largest work package on “Cultural, Social and Demographic Determinants of Alcohol Consumption Change and Alcohol Policy”, together with researchers from 11 other European countries. The research group in this work package investigates reasons for changes in alcohol consumption in European countries during the period 1960 to 2005 and distinguishes between “unplanned” factors, such as e.g. changes in nutrition and family life and “planned” factors, such as e.g. price increases by the government aiming at the reduction of consumption or increases of the BAC level for drivers. The results will be relevant for the formulation of alcohol control measures on EU as well as on national level.

In winter 2009/2010 the European Centre participated in a successful 7th Framework application on “Addictions and Lifestyle in Contemporary Europe – Reframing Addictions Project”. The project started on 1 May 2011 with a first meeting of partners in the same month. It lasts for four years and is commissioned by the 7th Framework Programme of the European Union. The structure of the project consists of 7 working areas each composed of work packages. The European Centre mainly contributes to Working Area 1 “Ownership of Addiction”, i.e. to work packages 1 (“Addiction through Ages”) and 2 (“Stakeholder Analysis”) and it will provide expertise for Working Area 5 “Governance of Addiction”.

In February 2011 the European Centre in collaboration with the Region of Tuscany Health Agency organized a workshop on “Comparing European Alcohol Policies”. The discussion was guided by three subtopics:

- 1) to analyse the advantages, shortcomings and lacks of comparison of European alcohol policies carried out during the last 50 years,
- 2) to work on an improved comparison with country experts, using a range of different and also qualitative methods,
- 3) to work on a typology enlarging the understanding of the diversity of European alcohol policies and of the measures taken.

Participating were 14 researches from 11 countries with experience in alcohol policy research.

In Spring 2011 the European Centre joined the “Integrated Policy Expert Group” of the Groupe Pompidou / European Council on the invitation of the Executive Secretary. The project that the expert group is working on already since the beginning of the year following an initiative of Switzerland, is called “Experiences with Coherent/Integrated Policies for Licit and Illicit Drugs” – a topic of interest for drug policies and therefore taken up by the Groupe Pompidou several years ago. The substances dealt with are alcohol, illicit drugs and tobacco. The main outcome of the project will be a publication of reports on 8 European countries. Continuation of the project and extension to other substances/substance groups is planned.

II. Health Promotion and Prevention

This research area focuses on prevention of evitable diseases. Two ongoing projects aim to inform young people about a healthy lifestyle: “Mobile Sexuality: Towards a New European Strategy in Sex Education and Prevention of Sexually Transmitted Diseases (SAFESEX)” and “Boys and Girls – An Interactive Web-Based Series to Promote Healthy Lifestyles among European Adolescents”. Both projects are funded by the European Commission’s health programme EAHC.

“SafeSEX” is a cooperation between seven European health and education organizations from six countries (Austria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Greece, Italy and Lithuania). Its objective is to promote youth empowerment and to improve sexual education through the implementation of modern teaching techniques and mobile technology. At schools, using the tried and trusted Young-to-Younger teaching method, the project will build independent teacher corps in every partner country. The mobile sex guide for use on mobile phones and other handheld platforms is providing user-friendly sexual/reproductive health information and personal advice by experts.

“Boys and Girls” is an international cooperation of partners from eight European countries (Austria, Denmark, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Poland, Spain, United Kingdom). Boys and Girls aims to develop a web series (series of episodes released on the Internet and/or on mobile devices) that will tackle modern-day health issues in a way that resonates with young Europeans aged 15-18. The project benefits from the expertise of experts as well as from the input of young people who are consulted all over the project period. The web series will reach and sensitize young people to some of today’s most pressing public health concerns including nutrition, alcohol and drug abuse, and sexual health.

III. Long-term Care & Personal Social Services

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

The FP7 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” is now in its final stage, during which its results are being presented to a broader public. In particular, the INTERLINKS Framework for LTC was

presented to National Expert Panels and the European Sounding Board (May 2011, The Hague/Noordwijkerhout, The Netherlands) to validate the results that were made public by means of an interactive website (<http://interlinks.euro.centre.org>). The website also contains all national reports and European overview papers produced by the 15 partners from 13 European countries.

Apart from scientific coordination and management, including the construction and maintenance of the interactive website, the European Centre is mainly involved in the areas of prevention and rehabilitation (Georg Ruppe), quality development and assurance (Kai Leichsenring) as well as governance and financing (Ricardo Rodrigues).

Final results of the project “Quality Management by Result-Oriented Indicators – Towards Benchmarking in Residential Care for Older People” were published. This work was carried out in the context of a project funded by the PROGRESS programme of the European Commission. Colleagues from the Health and Care team (Frédérique Hoffmann, Ricardo Rodrigues) had worked between 2009 and 2010 to construct a framework of result-oriented indicators for care homes, including a conceptual analysis for quality of life and quality of care, to define, measure and assess quality in residential care for older people, based on an exchange of experiences in selected EU Member States (in particular AT, DE, UK, NL). One of the main outputs of this project is a Handbook, which contains a validated list of 94 result-oriented quality indicators. It also contains hints and encouragements on how to use the indicators in practice, in particular on how to apply them with a focus on improving the quality of life of residents and other stakeholders in care homes. The Handbook is thus directed at all relevant stakeholders who live, visit and work in and with care homes: management, staff, residents and their relatives, but also public authorities, inspection agencies and policy-makers. It was presented during the Final Conference that took place in Brussels on 3-4 November 2010, while a Policy Brief on related issues, including results of the Final Conference, was published by June 2011. The Policy Brief ‘Quality Management by Result-Oriented Indicators: Towards Benchmarking in Residential Care for Older People’ was written by Frédérique Hoffmann and Kai Leichsenring as well as contributing project partners. It provides an overview of project results and debates with more than 130 experts from different fields (providers, regulators, policy-making, client organisations, etc.) during the Final Conference.

Since December 2010 the European Centre is the coordinator of the project “CARICT – ICT-Based Solutions for Caregivers: Assessing their Impact on the Sustainability of Long-Term Care in an Ageing Europe”. This study is funded by the Joint Research Centre (JRC) / Institute for Prospective Technological Studies (IPTS) and by the Directorate General for Information Society and Media (DG INFSO) / Unit H3 (ICT for Inclusion). The main goal of CARICT is to investigate the potential impact of information and communication technologies (ICTs) on informal carers of older people living in the community (e.g. relatives and friends) as well as on paid assistants employed by private households. Such ICT-based initiatives might be effective and efficient in supporting these categories of carers, but scientific evidence in this respect is currently lacking in Europe. The CARICT project intends to start filling this gap, by describing the impact of these ICT-based services and developing guidelines for using appropriate impact assessment methodologies (IAMs) in this field.

In particular, the objectives of the study are:

- a) to map the most relevant ICT-based initiatives existing in Europe to support carers of older people living in the community;
- b) to review impact assessment methodologies (IAMs) for home care and make a first attempt to build an IAM for evaluating the multidimensional effects of ICTs in such contexts;
- c) to analyse in-depth 12 good practices in order to present results of positive effects of ICT-based initiatives;
- d) to identify the most relevant policy challenges and options to achieve sustainable ICT solutions to support informal home care in Europe.

The mapping exercise (point “a” above) identified 52 ICT-based initiatives in 12 European countries belonging to five distinctive care regimes models (Anglo-Saxon, Continental, Scandinavian, Mediterranean, and Eastern European ones). Through a literature review, an internet-based search and interviews with key actors of the selected initiatives, evidence has been gathered that shows how some of these initiatives allow informal carers and privately paid assistants to better interact with the dependent older persons they care for, increasing family carers’ quality of life, social inclusion and integration into the labour market as well as the care quality. Using both qualitative and quantitative methods, the analysis found commonalities and differences in the challenges faced and in the success factors when developing ICT-based services for caregivers. This will contribute to better understand their set-up and the actors involved as well as their different features in terms of complexity level, local-national-international coverage and technologies involved.

Furthermore, a first attempt to build an IAM for evaluating the multidimensional effects of ICTs in home care has been made. This will refer to a comprehensive instrument built on the background of a coherent conceptual framework able to take into account the multidimensional impact of these technologies on individuals (micro-level), on social relationships and organisations like local care providers and employers (meso-level), as well as on the overall care and social protection systems (macro-level). Such IAM was built upon seven main dimensions of impact concerning the quality of life of the carer (both informal and formal) and of the care recipient, the quality of care provided, the care efficiency and sustainability, the acceptability of the ICT tools, and the infrastructure and accessibility.

Currently guidelines are being prepared in order to identify how further developments of IAMs in this field can be facilitated, underlining the methodological issues to be solved to properly face such a challenge and the requirements for building adequate assessment tools. Also recommendations for experts and policy-makers will be presented in order to show how IAM can contribute to produce results that can guide policy and practice in the field of long-term care and ICT for inclusion (points “c” and “d”).

The project, which began in December 2010 and will end in December 2011, is based on three meetings: a Kick-Off Meeting, held in Vienna (February 2011); an Expert Validation Workshop, held in Brussels (June 2011), which involved over 30 international experts and practitioners in the fields of informal caregiving, research, and long-term care policies to validate intermediate results of the project; and a Policy Makers’ and Experts’ Validation Workshop, to be held in Brussels (November 2011) to validate the final CARICT outcomes.

The project consortium includes, besides the European Centre, four national partners: the Centre for International Research on Care, Labour and Equalities (CIRCLE) of the University of Leeds, UK; the Italian National Institute of Health and Science on Aging (INRCA); the Institute of Sociology of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences; and the Swedish National Family Care Competence Centre (SNFCCC). Also Carers UK, on behalf of EUROCARERS, participates in the study as international advisor.

The European Centre is a partner for the FP7 research project “Evaluating Care across Borders / ECAB”, which is coordinated by the London School of Economics. The aim of ECAB 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. ECAB 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, the project 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. The project is coordinated by the London School of Economics and Political Science (Health Centre) and 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. The London School of Economics and Political Science / Health Centre acts as the Coordinator.

The European Centre is involved in this project in particular as a co-coordinator of the work on quality management in long-term care, where a mapping exercise is being carried out in a number of European countries, as well as a book chapter is being published together with Prof. Vincent Mor (Alpert Medical School, Brown University). In addition, the European Centre is preparing a case study on cross-border patient movements for dental treatments between Austria and Hungary. In another line of research of the ECAB project a qualitative and quantitative assessment of quality-monitoring mechanisms in the Austrian health care system will be done.

The European Centre and the World Health Organization, Regional Office for Europe (EURO) will jointly work on the preparation of a publication titled “Facts & Figures on Active Ageing and Long-term Care”. This publication is part of MA:IMI (Mainstreaming Ageing: Indicators to Monitor Implementation) and has been financed by the French Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs. It is foreseen that research and drafting of the publication will take place during most of 2011, with the release date of the English version set for March 2012.

By building on the findings and indicators presented in a first edition (i.e. Facts and Figures on Long-Term Care. Europe and North America, European Centre 2009) it aims to:

- 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.

Furthermore, the second edition will seek to broaden the scope of the indicators presenting a more holistic approach to long-term care that is reflected in the title and includes issues such as health, housing, or socio-economic conditions of older people.

The publication will set out to provide a picture of the demographic indicators relevant for long-term care, but also of the health and wellbeing of older people. This includes such information as income and living conditions of older people, wellbeing and social participation, burden of disease, hospital discharges, health inequalities and prevalence of loneliness and depression.

It will provide an overview as detailed as possible of the evolution and current provision of care, either by family members, migrant carers, formal providers of care services at home or in institutions, and related subjects such as care workforce or public policies to support carers.

Finally, available data on public and private expenditure will also be analysed, aiming to present a more coherent picture of the public resources devoted to long-term care.

A number of dissemination events are foreseen and these will involve a close cooperation between the European Centre and the World Health Organization, Regional Office for Europe (EURO), in particular in the context of the:

- WHO World Health Day 2012 on Health and Ageing (7 April 2012).
- European Year 2012 on Active Ageing and Intergenerational Solidarity.

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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

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

Workshop “Long-term Care in Europe – Discussing Trends and Relevant Issues”

22-23 February 2010, Budapest, Hungary

Workshop “The Gender Dimension of Poverty”

8 March 2010, Paris, France

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

27-28 May 2010, Siema, Malta

Third Meeting of the UNECE Working Group on Ageing

22-23 November 2010, 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)

2006 – 2011

Robert Holzmann

Severance Pay Programmes across the World: History, Rationale, Status, and Reforms

8 April 2011

Judit Vall Castello

Business Cycle Effects on Labour Force Transitions for Older People in Spain

1 February 2011

Bernhard Casey

Are We All Confucianists? Similarities and Differences between European and East-Asian Policies for Care of the Frail Older People

23 July 2010

Robert Holzmann

Portability of Pension, Health, and other Social Benefits: Facts, Concepts, Issues

29 June 2010

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

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. The 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, i.e. “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 Indicators Work, etc.

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

The MA:IMI project successfully completed the first phase of the initial work programme (during 2003-2008). Taking forward the work generated during the 1st phase, the 2nd phase of the MA:IMI project started in 2008. Subsequently, a new Memorandum of Understanding between UNECE and the European Centre was signed to initiate this 2nd phase, in March 2009, to be concluded during the period from March 2009 to February 2014, after which the parties will review the outcomes of the cooperation and decide upon its continuation.

This continuation of work under the MA:IMI project has been 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 the “demographic bonus” in many UNECE countries. The European Centre is recognized to be best placed to undertake this work given the work experience gained during the first phase and also due to its expertise in the ageing-related research and policy advice.

The work proposed for the 2nd phase extension of the MA:IMI project is divided into five work packages:

- **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 focuses 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 website. 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 organization of seminars, workshops and international conferences. Each year, the MA:IMI team will help organize a technical workshop to bring international experts together. Additionally, at least two major international conferences will be organized 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 European Centre undertakes these tasks in continuous collaboration with the UNECE Secretariat and with support from Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, France, Hungary, Israel, Spain and Switzerland.

The work proposed is being undertaken during the five-year period 2008-2012 and is coordinated by Eszter Zólyomi. The MA:IMI-II Team is 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 2011 KIMSU:

- Facilitated the EC's national and international activities with book and other publications, databases, websites, dissemination and by maintaining and improving the IT and library support.
- Increased the visibility of the EC website continuously through informative content on interesting EC activities, with regular Newsletter issues, with Policy Briefs and via networking with and in international dissemination channels.
Average number of unique EC website visitors/month in 2006 3,132 ⇒ 8,832 in 2010. A new research communication feature, "State of the (ch)art", will be added in 2011.
- In the Policy Brief series, managed by KIMSU, the European Centre published the 45th issue in July 2011. Policy Briefs are published in English and German. Some issues are available in Spanish as well, courtesy of IMSERSO – Instituto de Mayores y Servicios Sociales.
- Supported the networking of the European Centre and its Board/NLOs with quarterly Newsletters and topical mails. The Newsletter visualizes the NLOs and their work as well as good practices of NLO work.
- Virtual project collaboration is being supported by means of internal project platforms.
- The introduction of the EC Data Policy safeguards the intellectual assets of the European Centre.
- The new library catalogue – to be launched in 2011, too – visualizes the library stock.

Research and Policy Advice

Policy Briefs

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

2006 – ongoing

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

A major EUROMOD development project has been supported by the European Commission DG-EMPL, with the key objective to improve and extend EUROMOD's usefulness as a tool for policy-relevant research and policy monitoring. This will involve

- updating EUROMOD to cover recent policy systems;
- enlarging EUROMOD from 19 countries to cover all 27 Member States;
- upgrading EUROMOD to operate using EU-SILC (European Union Statistics on Income and Living Conditions) data as the input database;
- re-building the "old" EU-15 using the most recent version of EUROMOD software; and
- developing methods and processes that facilitate the efficient updating of EUROMOD in the future.

In doing so the project will encourage the widest use of EUROMOD in research and policy analysis at the national and international levels. The project began in February 2009 and will last for three years. The aim is to upgrade or newly construct in EUROMOD a selection of 9 or 10 countries each year, and to then update them in subsequent year(s).

The work is being carried out by the EUROMOD core developer team, based mainly at ISER, in collaboration with a group of national teams. The European Centre is responsible for establishing contacts and working relationships in the New Member States in order to explore the feasibility of bringing them into EUROMOD. In 2011, the focus of the European Centre's team is on modeling the policy systems 2007 till 2010 for Austria, based on national SILC data for 2007.

A project Steering Group has been established, under the chairmanship of Sir Tony Atkinson.

Project

Deliverables

- Feasibility Study, Bulgaria (tax-benefit systems 2007-2010)
- Feasibility Study, Latvia (tax-benefit systems 2006-2009)
- Feasibility Study, Malta (tax-benefit systems 2007-2010)
- Feasibility Study, Romania (tax-benefit systems 2007-2010)
- Feasibility Study, Slovakia (tax-benefit systems 2006-2009)

External**Project Director** Holly Sutherland, ISER**External Project**

- Collaborators**
- *Bulgaria:* Venelin Boshnakov, University of National and World Economy
Desislava Hristova Dimitrova, National Statistical Institute
Dragomir Kolev Draganov, Ministry of Labour and Social Policy
 - *Latvia:* Alf Vanags, Baltic International Centre for Economic Policy Studies, BICEPS
 - *Malta:* Kevin Vella, Daniel Gravino, Godwin Mifsud, all Ministry of Finance,
Maya Miljanic Brinkworth, Ministry for the Family and Social Solidarity
 - *Romania:* Speranta Pirciog, Eva Militaru, Cristina Radu, Silvia-Florina Popescu,
National Research Institute for Labour and Social Protection (INCSMPS)
 - *Slovakia:* Viktor Novysedlák, Marek Porubsky, Jan Remeta, all Fiscal Policy
Institute, Ministry of Finance, Silvia Gregorcova, Ministry of Labour

Project Directors EC Orsolya Lelkes (international tasks), Michael Fuchs (national tasks)**Project Team EC** Orsolya Lelkes, Michael Fuchs, Katrin Gasior, Frédérique Hoffmann**Financed by** European Commission, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities

4/2005 – 3/2012

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, questions related to poverty, and population groups particularly at risk of exclusion.

The following book, reports and research notes are currently available, or they are work-in-progress, from this network:

- Online knowledge database with continuously updated content:
<http://www.socialsituation.eu>
- Monitoring Report 2009, ECV contributed with chapters 2 and (parts of) chapter 7: 2) Levels and trends of income poverty in the EU; 7) Material deprivation and access to services.
- *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, Executive Summary, ECV contributed with Chapter 2: Who are the poor?
- Monitoring Report 2006, Executive Summary, 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, Executive Summary, 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 07/2011: "Active ageing"
- Research Note 06/2011: "The situation of working-age people with disabilities across the EU"
- Research Note 01/2010: "Detailed analysis of the relative position of migrants"

- Research Note 02/2009: “Quality of housing and the link to income”.
- Research Note 06/2008: “Preparation and analysis of Eurobarometer on social exclusion (Reflection paper)”.
- Research Note 03/2008: “Social inclusion of migrants and their 2nd generation descendants”.
- Research Note 2007: “Child poverty and ethnic minorities”.
- Research Note 2006: “Life course disruptions and their impact on income and living conditions”.

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Website | http://www.socialsituation.eu/research-notes/ |
| External Project Coordinator | Terry Ward, Applica |
| External Project Collaborators | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holly Sutherland, ISER, UK • István György Tóth, TARKI, Hungary • Manos Matsaganis, Athens University of Economics and Business, Greece • Eva Sierminska, CEPS/INSTEAD, Luxembourg |
| Project Team EC | Orsolya Lelkes (Team Leader), Eszter Zólyomi, Michael Fuchs, Katrin Gasior, Asghar Zaidi |
| Financed by | European Commission, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities |

Analysis of the Regional Situation Eight Years after the Implementation of MIPAA

08/2010 – 01/2011

Aims The European Centre participated in the project “Analysis of the Regional Situation Eight Years after the Implementation of MIPAA” as a regional consultant responsible for gathering information on the status/availability of national data, research, policies and institutional arrangements implemented on ageing in countries of the UNECE region since 2002. The European Centre also prepared a regional report with country case-studies that reviews the progress, identifies the gaps, and provides recommendations.

In the course of the consultancy, the European Centre:

- mapped existing data, research, policies and institutional arrangements implemented on ageing since 2002 in countries of the UNECE region;
- undertook detailed analysis of the following five countries (proposed by UNFPA):
Finland, Hungary, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation and Serbia; and
- prepared a report based on the evidence gathered from the countries and on the five detailed country case-studies.

The following three priority areas of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (MIPAA) were covered in the research:

- 1) *Older persons and development*, which includes such important issues as economic security, social protection, and eradication of poverty.
- 2) *Advancing health and well-being into old age*, which addresses health issues and access to health-care services.
- 3) *Ensuring enabling and supportive environments*, which includes such issues as age-friendly physical environment; human rights; and neglect, abuse and violence.

The review was carried out with the support of regional and national consultants and experts. The results will be compiled into a global report which is expected to be published by UNFPA in 2011.

The project was conducted in cooperation with the United Nations Population Fund /UNFPA, and HelpAge International, and funded by the United Nations Population Fund / UNFPA.

Project Director EC Asghar Zaidi

Project Team EC Asghar Zaidi, Eszter Zólyomi, Frédérique Hoffmann, Alexandre Sidorenko

External Project Collaborators Lidija Kozarcanin, Eppu Mikkonen-Jeanneret, Ronald Wiman

Project Partners United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), HelpAge International

Financed by United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

Prämien-Anreizmodell zur längeren Erwerbsarbeit

(Bonus-Incentive Model for Extending Working Life)

2010 – 2011

Aims The Austrian Economic Chamber has developed an incentive-model for persons who fulfil the conditions for early retirement but do not draw their pension and continue to work. It foresees a payment of in total 50% of the amount of pension entitled to (25% for the employee, 25% for the employer) at maximum till reaching the legal pension age (60 years for women, 65 for men).

Thus, for both parties on the labour market there should be incentives to abide the employment contract. The target of the expertise was to evaluate the extent of dead weight losses (persons who would have continued with their job anyway) and resulting financing issues by taking into account also differences in backflows in social insurance contributions, income tax and ancillary labour costs.

Results The financial outcomes were calculated based on a projected sample for new pensioners with a direct pension in 2009 provided by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection. It included information on the respective numbers of pensioners, on the average pension amount and in addition for those who did not draw the pension at the earliest possible date, the average number of deferred months.

In 2009, in total around 66,000 new old-age pensions were granted, thereof:

- Around 22,000 persons with deferred draw and previous entitlement to early old-age pension (relevant for dead weight losses).
- Around 21,000 persons drawing the early old-age pension at the earliest possible date (relevant for model effects).
- Around 13,000 persons drawing the regular old-age pension with 60 (women) and 65 years (men) at the earliest possible date (not relevant for the model as it stops with 60/65 years).
- Around 10,000 persons with regular old age pension drawn from 61 (women) and 66 (men) onwards remain; for these persons no information was provided by the Ministry. Thus, potential dead weight losses caused by this group could not be considered.

For invalidity pensioners it was assumed (already by the Ministry) that they draw their pension at the earliest possible date.

Following these figures, surprisingly 22,000 or 51% of the 43,000 persons entitled to early old-age pension included in the calculation base drew their pension after the earliest possible date only. The voluntary waiting period of those who postponed at least for one month amounted to almost one year (11.5 months). Thus, the potential dead weight losses caused by the implementation of the model are considerable.

With the initial parameters (premium in sum 50%, additional pension contributions related to the premiums, premiums starting at the first month of further employment) the bonus-incentive-model is not financially sustainable: a take-up rate of more than 50% would be required to compensate the dead weight losses. However, a financing option is secured for example in case of granting the premiums only after the 6th month of further employment (and no additional pension contributions related to the premiums). In this case a take-up rate of less than 20% would suffice to finance the model.

Project Director EC Bernd Marin

Project Team EC Michael Fuchs, Katrin Gasior

Financed by Austrian Economic Chamber (WKÖ)

Die weitere Erwerbsbiographie von ungelerten Arbeiter/innen, deren Antrag auf Pension wegen geminderter Arbeitsfähigkeit abgelehnt wurde

**(Further Employment Biography of Unskilled Workers,
Whose Application for Invalidity Pension Was Rejected)**

2010 – 2011

Aims The research target was to survey the further employment biography of unskilled workers whose application for invalidity pension was rejected. The period of observation was rejections in the year 2004 with a follow-up period till end of 2009/mid 2010. The further biography was analysed according to its nature (employment episodes, unemployment episodes, etc.) and according to socio-demographic characteristics of people concerned, to elaborate certain profiles depending on these characteristics. For this, data on rejected applications (Pension Insurance Association) were linked with data on the further insurance history (Umbrella Organisation of the Austrian Social Insurance Associations).

Results In the observed sample (36,589 persons) for the years following the rejection a small share of employment spells, a high share of unemployment spells, and still the widely “rescue” into being granted a direct pension (invalidity or old age) till the end of the observation period finally can be observed.

Based on the timely predominant qualification per calendar year 2005 till 2009 (in the individual case a discrete number between 0 and 5 years), from the five calendar years on average almost half the time (2.43) was spent in the status of unemployment, followed by slightly more than two years (2.04) in the status of receiving a direct pension. Only half a year (0.51) fell upon employment spells on average. (Remaining: 0.02 years receipt of sickness benefit or rehabilitation spells.) A complementary picture arises from the analysis of the number of calendar days with employment liable to contributions: out of a maximum of 2,062 days between 1.1.2005 and 24.8.2010, in the sample 299 days or less than 15% were allotted to this category on average.

When comparing blue-collar workers with white-collar workers – by controlling for several other independent variables (such as gender, age, citizenship, academic degree, region, etc.) in multivariate analyses – a far-reaching, statistically significant, “betterment” of white-collar workers can be observed: blue-collar workers are more likely to die and if earlier, (after the rejected application in 2004) they are granted a direct pension less often and if later, they feature less calendar years with the predominant qualification employment but more with the predominant qualification unemployment, and accordingly show less employment days liable to contribution than white-collar workers.

Given the empirical results, in sum a comprehensive approach to reform the system of invalidity pension seems to be essential. However, it has to be noted that the observed cohort faced the rejection of the application for invalidity pension in 2004, and substantial reforms were brought on the way since.

Project Director EC Michael Fuchs

Project Team EC Michael Fuchs, Katrin Gasior, Bernd Marin

Financed by Austrian Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection

**Maßnahmen zur Belebung des Arbeitsmarktes
für ältere Arbeitnehmer/innen**
(Measures for the Activation of the Labour Market for Older Workers)

2010 – 2011

Aims Many European labour markets have long been characterised by low employment rates among workers aged 55 and over. In the last decades, active labour market policies, of which activation programmes for elderly workers are a key component, have become an increasingly central part of the labour market strategies of EU and OECD Member States. With a European focus, the project describes measures implemented to activate older workers in Germany, the Netherlands, Finland and Sweden, and draws lessons for the Austrian situation. Specifically, measures in the field of labour markets, pensions and health policies are discussed, with a specific focus on their joint effects as comprehensive policy packages.

Project Director EC Bernd Marin

Project Team EC Bernd Marin, Pieter Vanhuysse, Katrin Gasior, Andrea Schmidt, Ulrike Waginger, Asghar Zaidi, Eszter Zólyomi

Financed by Austrian Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection

“Vergleichende Analyse der Teilhabechancen in Europa” – Social Inclusion in Europe

2011

Aims The research project aims to compile a comprehensive study on social inclusion in Europe, which would serve as the fourth edition of the “Armut- und Reichtumsberichterstattung (ARB)” for the Deutsche Bundestag. The research project is commissioned and financed by the Bundesministerium für Arbeit und Soziales (BMAS), the German Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs.

46

The report will describe the social inclusion of the population of EU countries in various dimensions, including income, health, housing, education, social participation, and subjective well-being. It will compare the situation of specific social groups, based on gender, age, and for some issues, migrant status. The report will have a strong focus on empirical analysis, but it will also cover the conceptual underpinnings of social inclusion, including the philosophical background, and the measurement issues. The policy implications of the presented evidence will be discussed, including best practices across selected European countries and policy areas, with policy recommendations for Germany.

Project Director EC Orsolya Lelkes

Project Team EC Orsolya Lelkes, Katrin Gasior, Pieter Vanhuysse, Ulrike Waginger

Financed by Bundesministerium für Arbeit und Soziales, Germany

**Wirkungsweisen und Effekte von Geldleistungen
und Sachleistungen im Sozialbereich**
(Outcomes and Effects of Social Monetary Benefits and Benefits in Kind)

2011

Aims The project will evaluate the effects of the different benefit types based on targets and their degree of realization as well as intended and non-intended outcomes. The study will comprise of three main parts: an international literature analysis on theoretical and empirical backgrounds, the development of a comparative framework of the effects of monetary benefits and benefits in kind, and the detailed analysis of benefits in the long-term care sector offered by the City of Vienna.

Project Director EC Michael Fuchs

Project Team EC Michael Fuchs, Maria Hofmarcher-Holzhammer, Kai Leichsenring, Bernd Marin, Georg Ruppe, Pieter Vanhuyse

Financed by City of Vienna, MA 24

Maßnahmen zur Arbeitsmarktintegration von Personen mit Behinderungen (Measures for the Labour Market Integration of Persons with Disabilities)

2011 – 2012

Aims Target of the project is to analyse selected blocks of measures on the side of employees, employers and relevant institutions, which could reduce barriers to employment for disabled persons. Especially comprehensive measure packages in European countries with high employment rates of disabled persons (e.g. Sweden, Denmark, United Kingdom, the Netherlands) will be evaluated – also on the possibility of being transferred to Austria.

48

Project Director EC Michael Fuchs, Asghar Zaidi

Project Team EC Bernd Marin, Michael Fuchs, Katrin Gasior, Asghar Zaidi

Financed by Austrian Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection

Workshops “Effektive und faire Anreize für ein längeres Erwerbsleben” sowie “Sicherung der Alterspflege”

**(Workshops “Effective and Fair Incentives for a Longer Working Life”
and “Sustainable Financing of Old-age Long-term Care”)**

- Aims** In collaboration with the Austrian Federal Ministry of Finance, the European Centre organises three half-day discussion rounds on the following topics:
- *“Effective and Fair Incentives for a Longer Working Life”*:
Presentation of sustainable and well targeted measures to increase the average pension age in Austria.
 - *“Sustainable Financing of Old-age Long-term Care”*:
Funding and systemic reorganisation of old-age long-term care in Austria in an international context: presentation of major (financial) challenges in long-term care, structural reform options (incentive systems, interface problems, etc.) and funding options.
- The workshops include discussions with experts of other relevant institutions (Austrian Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection, Institute of Advanced Studies, Austrian Institute of Economic Research, etc.).
- Project Director EC** Bernd Marin
- Project Team EC** Michael Fuchs, Bernd Marin, Maria Hofmarcher-Holzhacker, Ricardo Rodrigues
- Financed by** Austrian Federal Ministry of Finance

Severance Pay Programmes across the World: History, Rationale, Status, and Reforms

**Seminar jointly Organised by the European Centre
and the Institute for Advanced Studies, Vienna**

Date Friday, 8 April 2011, Seminar Room at the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research, Berggasse 17, 1090 Vienna

Contact Bernd Marin or Ulrich Schuh

Speaker Prof. Dr. Robert Holzmann (Consultant to the World Bank)

Highlights The seminar is based on the paper “Severance Pay Programs across the World: History, Rationale, Status, and Reforms” of the World Bank by Robert Holzmann, Yann Pouget, Milan Vodopivec, and Michael Weber.

This paper presents the status of severance pay programmes around the world through their historic development, economic rationale and current reform attempts. While the better part of the paper is devoted to a comprehensive cross-country presentation of existing severance arrangements and their characteristics, this paper goes beyond a mere descriptive approach.

It develops and empirically tests the proposed three main motivations for the existence and effects of severance payments: (i) primitive social benefit, i.e. income protection, (ii) efficiency-enhancing human resource instrument, and (iii) an implicit or explicit job protection instrument.

The paper also reviews the recent reforms in Austria, Chile, Italy and Korea.

Research Pillar “Health and Care”

Quality Management by Result-Oriented Indicators

Towards Benchmarking in Residential Care for Older People

2009 – 2011

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.

Handbook: • *Measuring Progress: Indicators for Care Homes*
in German: • *Verbesserung messen: Ergebnisorientierte Qualitätsindikatoren für Alten- und Pflegeheime*
in Dutch: • *Het meten van vooruitgang: Indicatoren voor verpleeg- en verzorgingshuizen*

Project Director EC Flip Maas

Project Team EC Frédérique Hoffmann, Flip Maas, Ricardo Rodrigues, Andrea Hovenier

Project Coordinator European Centre

Project Partners City University, London, UK; E-Qalin Ltd., Austria; Ministry of Work, Health and Social Affairs (MAGS) of North-Rhine-Westphalia, Germany; University of Dortmund, Germany; Vilans, The Netherlands

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

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 need 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.

Project Director EC Kai Leichsenring

Project Team EC Kai Leichsenring, Ricardo Rodrigues, Georg Ruppe, Flip Maas, Andrea Hovenier

Project Partners Haute École Spécialisée de Suisse occidentale; Syddansk Universitet; Institut de recherche et documentation en économie de la santé; Sosiaali Ja Terveysalan Tutkimus Ja Kehittaemiskeskus; Institut für Soziale Infrastruktur; Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin für Sozialforschung; CMT Prooptiki Consulting Management Training; Universitat de Valencia; Studio Come Srl.; Stichting Vilans; Institut pre výskum práce a rodiny; Institut za varovanje zdravja; Stockholms läns landsting; University of Kent; University of Birmingham

Financed by Commission of the European Communities, Seventh Framework Programme

INTERLINKS: Final Conference

12-14 October 2011, Baden, near Vienna (Austria)

- Aims**
- To present key results of the project “INTERLINKS – Health Systems and Long-Term Care for Older People” to experts and key stakeholders in the area of LTC.
 - To involve these stakeholders in describing, analysing and improving long-term care for older people in European states, regions and municipalities.
 - To network on a European level, to learn from each other and to plan future exchange with the INTERLINKS framework for long-term care.

The programme includes presentations in plenary and interactive sessions (working groups, market-place) as well as reflections on how to further work with the results of the project.

The conference will start on 12 October 2011 with a Welcome Reception (offered by the Convention Bureau Niederösterreich) at 8 p.m. at the conference venue – the Schlosshotel Weikersdorf in Baden near Vienna.

On Thursday, 13 October 2011, the conference will start at 9 a.m. at the conference venue. In the evening, a joint dinner ("Heuriger") will serve to celebrate and network.

On Friday, 14 October 2011, the conference will continue from 9 a.m. and finish with a joint lunch at 1 p.m.

Project Director EC Kai Leichsenring

Project Team EC Kai Leichsenring, Mercedes Gonzalez-Quijano

Israel-Euro Seminar on Child Abuse

3-8 April 2011

Aims

The Haruv Institute was established by the Schusterman Foundation / Israel in 2007, with the mission to enhance the knowledge-base, as well as to develop advanced educational programmes, for professionals and allied care-givers who work with abused and neglected children and their families. The institute is committed to high quality and excellence and endeavours to find solutions to the myriad challenges facing professionals who work with this population.

In the context of its activities, the Institute hosted a group of senior professionals and policy-makers from Europe in order to learn about Israel's unique services for abused and neglected children, in April 2011. Several on-site visits have been undertaken during the week-long programme. The European Centre located and enlisted 10-12 professionals who are directors of child welfare services or policy-makers in this field from throughout Europe to participate in the programme and Frédérique Hoffmann joined them in their visit to Israel.

We focused on conceptualization, research and implementation of tailor-made study programmes for senior professionals involved with helping these children and their families. The professionals came from the full range of government ministries, non-profit organizations and academic institutions in the area of child welfare, health, education, police and internal security and the judiciary system.

Further details can be found at: www.haruv.org.il/eng

Project Director EC Frédérique Hoffmann

Project Partner the Haruv Institute in Israel

Financed by the Haruv Institute

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

3/2010 – 2/2013

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 or older. 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 analyses 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 of 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 which types of data sources and 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 registers and other administrative systems.

Project Director EC Catharina Hjortsberg

Project Team EC Catharina Hjortsberg, Frédérique Hoffmann, Flip Maas, Andrea Hovenier

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)
- Imperial College London (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)

Financed by Commission of the European Communities, Seventh Framework Programme

Evaluating Care Across Borders (ECAB)

3/2010 – 4/2013

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 borders which separate 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 ECAB 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 secure 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. ECAB 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 procedures are provisions with regard to

- the continuous 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.

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Project Coordinator | The London School of Economics and Political Science, Health Centre |
| Project Team EC | Frédérique Hoffmann, Kai Leichsenring, Ricardo Rodrigues, Georg Ruppe, Gabriele Schmied, Andrea Schmidt, Flip Maas, Andrea Hovenier |
| Project Partners | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• London School of Economics and Political Science, Health Centre (UK)• European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies (Belgium / Denmark)• London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (UK)• l'Observatoire Social Européen (Belgium)• Universiteit Maastricht (The Netherlands)• Technische Universität Berlin (Germany)• University of Barcelona (Spain)• Institute of Public Health of the Republic of Slovenia (Slovenia)• PRAXIS Center for Policy Studies (Estonia)• National Institute for Welfare and Health (Finland)• Semmelweis Egyetem (Hungary)• Regione del Veneto (Italy) |
| Funding Scheme | Collaborative Project (small or medium-scale focused research project) |
| Financed by | Commission of the European Communities; this project is co-funded by the EU through the FP7 Cooperation Work Programme: Health (contract number 242058; contract acronym EUCBCC) 2010-2013 EUCBCC consortium |

CARICT – ICT-based Solutions for Caregivers: Assessing Their Impact on the Sustainability of Long-term Care in an Ageing Europe

12/2010 – 12/2011

Aims

The main goal of CARICT is to investigate the potential impact of information and communication technologies (ICTs) on informal carers of older people living in the community (e.g. relatives and friends) as well as on paid assistants employed by private households. Such ICT-based initiatives might be effective and efficient in supporting these categories of carers, but scientific evidence in this respect is currently lacking in Europe. The CARICT project aims at start filling this gap, by describing the impact of these ICT-based services and developing guidelines for using appropriate impact assessment methodologies (IAMs) in this field.

In particular, the objectives of the study are:

- a) to map the most relevant ICT-based initiatives existing in Europe to support carers of older people living in the community;
- b) to review impact assessment methodologies (IAMs) for home care and make a first attempt to build an IAM for evaluating the multidimensional effects of ICTs in such contexts;
- c) to analyse in-depth 12 good practices in order to present results of positive effects of ICT-based initiatives;
- d) to identify the most relevant policy challenges and options to achieve sustainable ICT solutions to support informal home care in Europe.

The mapping exercise (point “a” above) identified 52 ICT-based initiatives in 12 European countries belonging to five distinctive care regimes models (Anglosaxon, Continental, Scandinavian, Mediterranean, and Eastern European ones). Through a literature review, an internet-based search and interviews with key actors of the selected initiatives, evidence has been gathered that shows how some of these initiatives allow informal carers and privately paid assistants to better interact with the dependent older persons they care for, increasing family carers’ quality of life, social inclusion and integration into the labour market as well as the care quality. Using both qualitative and quantitative methods, the analysis found commonalities and differences in the challenges faced and in the success factors when developing ICT-based services for caregivers. This will contribute to better understand their set-up and the actors involved as well as their different features in terms of complexity level, local-national-international coverage and technologies involved.

Furthermore, a first attempt to build an IAM for evaluating the multidimensional effects of ICTs in home care has been made. This will refer to a comprehensive instrument built on the background of a coherent conceptual framework able to take into account the multidimensional impact of these technologies on individuals (micro-level), on social relationships and organisations like local care providers and employers (meso-level), as well as on the overall care and social protection systems (macro-level). Such IAM was built upon seven main

dimensions of impact concerning the quality of life of the carer (both informal and formal) and of the care recipient, the quality of care provided, the care efficiency and sustainability, the acceptability of the ICT tools, and the infrastructure and accessibility.

Currently guidelines are being prepared in order to identify how further developments of IAMs in this field can be facilitated, underlining the methodological issues to be solved to properly face such a challenge and the requirements for building adequate assessment tools. Also recommendations for experts and policy makers will be presented in order to show how IAM can contribute to produce results that can guide policy and practice in the field of long-term care and ICT for inclusion (points “c” and “d”).

The project, which began in December 2010 and will end in December 2011, is based on three meetings: a kick-off meeting, held in Vienna (February 2011); an Expert Validation Workshop, held in Brussels (June 2011), which involved over 30 international experts and practitioners in the fields of informal caregiving, research, and long-term care policies to validate intermediate results of the project; and a Policy Makers’ and Experts’ Validation Workshop, to be held in Brussels (November 2011) to validate the final CARICT outcomes.

The project consortium includes, besides the European Centre, four national partners: the Centre for International Research on Care, Labour and Equalities (CIRCLE) of the University of Leeds; the Italian National Institute of Health and Science on Aging (INRCA); the Institute of Sociology of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences; and the Swedish National Family Care Competence Centre (SNFCCC). Also Carers UK, on behalf of EUROCARERS, participates to the study as international advisor.

- Project Director EC** Giovanni Lamura
- Project Team EC** Giovanni Lamura, Andrea Schmidt, Frédérique Hoffmann, Georg Ruppe, Ricardo Rodrigues, Francesco Barbabella
- Project Partners**
- Gary Fry and Sue Yeandle (CIRCLE, University of Leeds, UK)
 - Carlos Chiatti and Marco Socci (INRCA, Ancona, Italy)
 - Zsuzsa Széman (Institute of Sociology, Hungarian Academy of Sciences)
 - Elizabeth Hanson and Lennart Magnusson (Swedish National Family Care Competence Centre)
 - Madeleine Starr and Imelda Redmond (Carers UK/Eurocarers)
- Financed by**
- a) Institute for Prospective Technology Studies (IPTS)
 - b) Directorate General for Information Society and Media (DG INFSO)

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

6/2009 – 12/2011

Aims

The second multi-city study on behalf of UNODC assessed consumption patterns – especially per capita consumption – and respective expenditures in seven 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 concentrated on Nordic, Eastern and South-Eastern European cities. The project team consists of research teams of seven cities: Belgrade, Bucharest, Copenhagen, Helsinki, Moscow, Sarajevo, and Stockholm

The city research teams were 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 are responsible for the comparison of the data collected on city level and for estimates on their basis.

As with the first multi-city study, research focussed on two groups of drug users – marginalized and socially integrated drug users – and on five main drugs (heroin, cocaine, amphetamines, ecstasy and cannabis). The main instruments used had been 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.

At the beginning of the second multi-city study they had been refined on the basis of research experiences and they extended to cover central research questions more systematically. Refinement and adaption took place at a first working meeting in June 2009 in Vienna. Three more working meetings followed: the second one in Bucharest in November 2010, the third one in Belgrade in September 2010 and the fourth one in Sarajevo in June 2011.

As with 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 were present at the working meetings.

Project Director EC Irmgard Eisenbach-Stangl

Project Team EC Ricardo Rodrigues, Andrea Hovenier (organisation)

Project Partners

- Svetlana Vucetic-Arsic (Special Hospital for Addictions, Belgrade)
- Andrei Botescu and Paula Frusinoiu (National Antidrug Agency, Bucharest)
- Torsten Kolind (Centre for Alcohol and Drug Research, Copenhagen)
- Jussi Perälä and Tuukka Tammi (A-Clinic Foundation, Helsinki)
- Konstantin Vyshinsky (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime / UNODC, Moscow) and Eugenia Koshkina (National Research Centre on Addictions, Moscow)
- Darko Datzler (Faculty of Crime Justice Sciences, University of Sarajevo)
- Börje Olsson and Filip Roumeliotis (Centre for Social Research on Alcohol and Drugs – SoRAD, Stockholm)
- Angela Me and Kamran Niaz (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime / UNODC, Research and Analysis Section, Vienna International Centre)
- Claudia Costa-Storti accompanies the study as observer (European Monitoring Centre on Drugs and Drug Addiction / EMCDDA, Lisboa)

Financed by Austrian Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs

Alcohol Measures for Public Health Research Alliance (AMPHORA)

2009 – 2012

Aims To add 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, “Investigating the cultural, social and demographic determinants of alcohol consumption changes and alcohol policy”. Researchers from 12 European countries participate in the workpackage and they agreed to collect predefined quantitative and qualitative data in three areas from 1960 to 2005:

- 1) data on alcohol consumption and alcohol related problems,
- 2) data on alcohol policy – so-called planned determinants – and
- 3) data on unplanned determinants, i.e. factors that are supposed to change consumption patterns but that did not come into effect intentionally for this purpose.

The data will be used for country reports as well as for cross-country comparisons identifying the weight of selected determinants and of determinant clusters for national consumption changes and changes in alcohol-related harm.

External

Project Directors Peter Anderson, Antonio Gual,
Hospital Clinico i Provincial de Barcelona (HCPB), Spain

Project Partners

- 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
- Stockholms Universitet (SU), Sweden
- Swiss Institute for the Prevention of Alcoholism and Other Drugs (SIPA), Switzerland
- University of York (UoY), United Kingdom
- University of Maastricht (UniMass), The Netherlands
- Liverpool John Moores University (LJMU), United Kingdom
- Stichting Alcoholpreventie (National Foundation for Alcohol Prevention) (STAP), The Netherlands
- Generalitat de Catalunya (GENCAT), Spain
- King's College London (KCL), United Kingdom
- Istituto Superiore di Sanità, Rome (ISS), Italy
- Agenzia Regionale di Sanità della Toscana (ARS), Italy

- National Research and Development Centre for Welfare and Health (STAKES), Finland
- Anton Proksch Institut (API), Austria
- Anderson, Consultant in Public Health (PANCYPH), Spain
- Institute of Psychiatry and Neurology (IPiN), Poland
- Azienda Sanitaria Locale della Citta Milano (ASL MILANO), Italy
- Eclectica snc di Amici Silvia Ines, Beccaria Franca & C. (ECLECTICA), Italy
- Nordic Council for Alcohol and Drug Research (NAD), Finland
- Asociación, Instituto y Red Europea para el Estudio de Factores de Riesgo en la Infancia y Adolescencia (IREFREA), Spain
- Inštitut za raziskave in razvoj UTRIP (Institute for Research and Development UTRIP), Slovenia
- University of Bergen (UiB), Norway
- Trimbos-instituut (TRIMBOS), The Netherlands
- University of Twente (UT), The Netherlands
- Institut National de la Santé et de la Recherche Médicale (INSERM), France
- Budapesti Corvinus Egyetem (Corvinus University of Budapest) (BCE), Hungary
- Norwegian Institute for Alcohol and Drug Research (SIRUS), Norway
- Alcohol and Health Research Unit, University of the West of England (UWE), United Kingdom
- State Agency for Prevention of Alcohol-Related Problems (PARPA), Poland

Project Director EC Irmgard Eisenbach-Stangl

Project Team EC Gabriele Schmied, Andrea Hovenier (organisation)

Financed by Commission of the European Communities

Experiences with Coherent / Integrated Policies for Licit and Illicit Drugs

2011

Aims In Spring 2011 the European Centre joined the “Integrated Policy Expert Group” of the Groupe Pompidou / European Council on the invitation of the Executive Secretary. The project that the expert group is working on already since the beginning of the year followed an initiative of Switzerland. Its goal is to explore to what extent national policies on alcohol, illicit drugs and tobacco are coherent and/or integrated, e.g. to what extent all of them are guided by the aim to reduce risks and to what extent all policies make use of the same measures such as low-threshold medical care. Since the topic is of interest for human rights as well as for local, national, transnational and international drug policies, it was already taken up by the Groupe Pompidou some years ago as can be seen from several publications. Continuation of the project and extension to other substances/substance groups is planned.

The expert group met three times for one day. A fourth and last meeting is planned for autumn 2011. The meetings serve to (1) discuss the country reports on national policies on licit and illicit substances compiled by the members of the expert group and (2) to develop common guidelines allowing some comparative conclusions. The guidelines were finished at the third meeting when the European Centre joined in. The country studies should be finalised by the fourth working meeting and will be published by the European Council. The European Centre is responsible for the report on Austrian policies with regard to alcohol, illicit drugs and tobacco.

External Project

Coordinator Richard Muscat, permanent correspondent for Malta,
Chair of the National Commission on Drugs

Project Director EC Irmgard Eisenbach-Stangl

- Project Partners**
- Brice de Ruyver (Institute for International Research on Criminal Policy, University of Gent, Belgium)
 - Brigid Pike (Alcohol and Drug Research Unit, Health Research Board, Ireland)
 - Cas Berendregt, and Dike van de Meen (Addiction Research Institute, Rotterdam, The Netherlands)
 - Astrid Skretting and Torbjorn Brekke (Norwegian Institute for Alcohol and Drug Research, Oslo)
 - Maria Fatima Trigueiros (Instituto da Droga e da Toxicodependencia, Lisbon, Portugal)
 - Astrid Wüthrich, Federal Office of Public Health, Berne, Switzerland)

Financed by Groupe Pompidou, European Council

Comparing European Alcohol Policies

Workshop of the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research
in collaboration with the Region of Tuscany Health Agency

2-4 February 2011, Vienna, Austria

Aims

Alcohol consumption in European countries varies along many dimensions and is influenced by numerous factors of diverse quality as well as by changes in the composition of the drinking population, by changes in the cultural and social meaning of alcoholic beverages and by interventions in alcohol consumption, production and retail. Only few of the determinants were intentionally meant as measures aiming at consumption and harm changes. They are mostly taken by producers and retailers of alcohol beverages or by the national state and in the latter case are called *alcohol policies* by the scientific community.

The workshop, in which 14 researchers from 11 European countries participated, discussed selected alcohol policy measures including taxation, limits in availability, restrictions in drinking when driving, prevention and treatment programmes. It thematised their impact on alcohol consumption, expected as well as unexpected changes, the huge differences among European countries and their operationalisation.

The main aim of the workshop was the discussion of a comparison of alcohol policies among European countries, guided by three subtasks:

- 1) to analyse the advantages, shortcomings and lacks of comparisons of European alcohol policies carried out during the last 50 years,
- 2) to work on an improved comparison with country experts, using a range of different and also qualitative methods,
- 3) to work on a typology enlarging the understanding of the diversity of European alcohol policies and of the measures taken.

The outcomes of the workshop will be published in two Policy Briefs of the European Centre and in at least one special volume of a peer-reviewed journal.

- Project Directors** • Irmgard Eisenbach-Stangl, European Centre
• Allaman Allamanin, Region of Tuscany Health Agency
- Project Team EC** Catharina Hjortsberg, Kai Leichsenring, Gabriele Schmied, Andrea Hovenier
- Project Partners** • Beatrice Annaheim, Gerhard Gmel (Addiction Info Switzerland, Lausanne)
• Zsuzsanna Elekes (Corvinus University of Budapest, Institute of Sociology and Social Policy)
• Kimmo Herttua (Finnish Institute of Occupational Health and University of Helsinki, Department of Social Research)
• Ronald Knibbe (University of Maastricht)
• Charlie Lloyd (The University of York, Department of Health Sciences)
• Stephan Quensel (Institute for Drug Research / BISDRO, University of Bremen)
• Grazyna Swiatkiewicz (Institute for Psychiatry and Neurology, Warsaw)
• Frank Zobel (European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Research, Policy, Prevention and Content Coordination, Lisbon)
- Funded by** European Forum for Responsible Drinking (EFRD)

Addictions and Lifestyle in Contemporary Europe – Reframing Addictions Project (ALICE RAP)

2011 – 2014

Aims ALICE RAP is a four-year Europe-wide project of a large number of researchers and research institutions from 25 European countries, which endeavour to analyse the place and challenges of addictions and lifestyles to the cohesion, organization and functioning of contemporary European society. The scope of addictions is substances and gambling. The work will be organised in seven Working Areas each split into work packages.

The project started on 1 May 2011 with a first meeting of partners in the same month. The main aim of the first meeting was to integrate the numerous topics and researches, and to start discussion and work in the working areas and work packages.

The European Centre is mostly involved in Working Area 1 “Ownership of Addiction” and will contribute to its work package 1 “Addiction through Ages” and work package 2 “Stakeholder Analysis”. And it will also contribute to Working Area 5 “Governance of Addiction”, work package 13 “Governance View”.

External Project

Author and

Project Director

Peter Anderson, Newcastle University

External Project

Coordinator

Antoni Gual, Fundació Clínic per a la Recerca Biomèdica, Barcelona

Project Director EC

Irmgard Eisenbach-Stangl

Financed by

European Commission, DG Research, EU 7th Framework Programme for Research

Mobile Sexuality: Towards a New European Strategy in Sex Education and Prevention of Sexually Transmitted Diseases (SAFESEX)

6/2010 – 5/2012

- Aims** Youth empowerment and improved sexual education through the implementation of modern teaching techniques and mobile technology. Incorporating these methods of work, SAFESEX aims to achieve:
- Sexual and reproductive health education:* using the highly acclaimed “young-to-younger” teaching method, the project will build independent teacher corps in every partner country.
 - Education/information via new media platforms:* The mobile sex guide, for use on mobile phones and other hand-held platforms. The guide is a user-friendly sexual/reproductive health encyclopedia, available via the mobile phone.
 - Research and evaluation:* Gathering data on best practices in sexual and reproductive health education and information dissemination, and on the young target group’s behaviour via questionnaires, with the aim of improving health and capabilities in these areas.

External

Project Director Nathalie Cunin, Center for Sex og Sundhed (CSS) (Denmark)

- Project Partners**
- Center for Sex og Sundhed (CSS) (Denmark)
 - Associazione Nazionale Lotta AIDS (ANLAIDS) (Italy)
 - Agenzia per lo Sviluppo Empolese Valdelsa (Empolese Valdelsa Development Agency) (ASEV) (Italy)
 - Ceska Spolecnost AIDS pomoc (CSAIDSp) (Czech Republic)
 - Hellenic Regional Development Center (HRDC) (Greece)
 - Seimos Planavimo ir Seksualines Sveitakos Asociacija (FPSHA) (Lithuania)

Project Director EC Gabriele Schmied

Project Team EC Gabriele Schmied, Andrea Hovenier, Andrea Schmidt, Katrin Gasior, Catharina Hjortsberg

Financed by Executive Agency for Health and Consumers (EAHC)

Boys and Girls. An Interactive Web-based Series to Promote Healthy Lifestyles among European Adolescents

9/2010 – 8/2012

Aims “Boys and Girls” is a project that aims to develop a web series that will tackle modern-day health issues in a way that resonates with young Europeans aged 15-18.

A web series is a series of episodes released on the Internet and/or on mobile devices like mobile phones, I-pods, laptops, notebooks (“content on the move”), and is part of the growing medium of interactive television (content that is accessible on the Internet and often promoted through social networking sites). The popularity of this form of series is significantly on the rise with young people from all backgrounds across Europe as it combines the allure of television programmes with the interactivity of the Internet, allowing for a completely new form of entertainment.

The series will be compelling, emotional and relevant and will focus on real-life health issues, specifically on:

- nutrition and healthy lifestyles;
- sex education;
- addiction prevention.

Interest will be drummed up in advance and during the series via the Internet and social networking sites such as YouTube, Facebook, Twitter and MySpace. The intention is for the series to get a significant following over the period as the series evolves and story lines and plots thicken.

External Project

Coordinator The Netherlands Institute for Health Promotion / NIGZ

Project Partners

- Animation Studios (Italy)
- Business Solutions Europa (Italy)
- EDEX Centro de Recursos Comunitarios (Italy)
- Medical University of Silesi – SUM (Poland)
- Poznan University of Medical Sciences – PUMS (Poland)
- Katholische Hochschule Nordrhein-Westfalen / KatHO (Germany)
- Center for Sex og Sundhed / CSS (Denmark)

Project Director EC Gabriele Schmied

Financed by Executive Agency for Health and Consumers / EAHC

**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.

74

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 I** reports on the work towards the collection of data on ageing-related indicators and the analyses based on these indicators.
- **Work Package II** is about the further work to be undertaken on the Monitoring RIS webpage.
- **Work Package III** is geared towards organisation of seminars, workshops and international conferences.
- **Work Package IV** will be generating publications on the research undertaken during the project.
- **Work Package V** will generate information dissemination, e.g. publication of newsletters.

The work on indicators will focus on the analysis and updating of indicators already generated for the following four domains: *Demography, Income and Wealth; Labour Market and Labour Market Participation; 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 together international experts. 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.

Project Directors EC Eszter Zólyomi, Bernd Marin, Asghar Zaidi

Project Team EC Michael Fuchs, Katrin Gasior, Annette Hexelschneider, Frédérique Hoffmann, Kai Leichsenring, Orsolya Lelkes, Ricardo Rodrigues, Andrea Schmidt, Pieter Vanhuysse

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

Lucy Burns

“Drug Use by Older Australians”,
Monday 9 May 2011, 11:00, Seminar Room at the European Centre
for Social Welfare Policy and Research, Berggasse 17, 1090 Vienna,
in cooperation with ÖPIA, Austrian Interdisciplinary Platform on Ageing

Speaker

Lucy Burns, Senior Lecturer, National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre,
University of New South Wales, Sydney 2052, Australia

Highlights of the Seminar

Childbirth rates soared following the end of the Second World War and the “baby boomer” generation was born. This generation experienced great advances in technology and culture and an enhanced political awareness leading to the rise of the hippy culture and alternative lifestyles. Part of the alternative lifestyle was an increasing experimentation with the use of mind-altering substances; alcohol, cannabis, LSD and heroin in particular.

Ongoing advances in medical science have meant that the baby boomer generation in many affluent countries is living longer than preceding cohorts. In 2011 we are therefore seeing a high number of people with substance use disorders who are now 60 and older. Given the issues that come with ageing, together with those that occur as a result of chronic drug use, this group has and will continue to have a substantial impact on public health in Australia.

This presentation

- 1) described the characteristics of older Australians who use substances, focussing on two particularly vulnerable groups; people who inject drugs and those who are homeless, and
- 2) outlined the treatment needs and approaches for these groups.

Judit Vall Castello “Business Cycle Effects on Labour Force Transitions for Older People in Spain”, Tuesday, 1 February 2011, 16:00, Seminar Room at the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research, Berggasse 17, 1090 Vienna

Speaker Judit Vall Castello, Robert Solow Postdoctoral Fellow at the Centre for Research in Economics and Health, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona (Spain)

Highlights of the Seminar

Keeping older workers actively involved in the labour market has become an increasingly important concern for individuals and policy-makers in the context of ageing societies in the developed world. This presentation discusses how variations in the business cycle – i.e. the growth and employability performance of different economic sectors and regions in Spain – influence the timing and type of the exit route out of the labour force, considering e.g. unemployment, disability and inactivity.

Data used refer to observed exits from employment for people aged 45-59 years in the context of the Spanish labour market between 1981 and 2006. It is found that both business cycle conditions and a number of special schemes included in the unemployment and disability legislation affect the exit timing and also the choice of the route out of the labour market.

The presentation was based on a paper by Judit Vall Castello and Sergi Jiménez.

More information about Judit Vall Castello can be found on <http://juditvallcastello.files.wordpress.com/2010/08/cvfallcastellojuditjuly2010.pdf>

International Seminars 2006 – 2011

Lucy Burns

Drug Use by Older Australians

9 May 2011

Judit Vall Castello

**Business Cycle Effects on Labour Force Transitions
for Older People in Spain**

1 February 2011

Bernard Casey

**Are We All Confucianists? Similarities and Differences between
European and East-Asian Policies for Care of the Frail Older People**

23 July 2010

Robert Holzmann

**Portability of Pension, Health, and other Social Benefits:
Facts, Concepts, Issues**

29 June 2010

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 – 2012

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

Book Series “Public Policy and Social Welfare”

(Ashgate, Farnham UK)
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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”

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English

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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. This series has been discontinued in 2003.

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.

Poverty among Older People and Pensions Policy in the EU

Asghar Zaidi

Ashgate, forthcoming January 2012

This book is based on author's research work under the European Commission project in their Community Action Programme to Combat Social Exclusions. It describes the situation with respect to poverty of older people across the 25 Member States of the European Union.

84

In Part I, we discuss how we ought to measure the risk of poverty for older people. We review the European datasets that are currently available and point to their weaknesses and strengths. For the income-based measures of risk of poverty, we will report that as many as 13 million older people are at risk of poverty in EU25 (in the year around 2003), amounting to as many as one-in-six elderly living in private households. With the exception of Cyprus, all countries with high poverty risk come from the former EU15 bloc of countries. The 10 new Member States are largely countries with the lowest risk of poverty among older people. As for the concentration of the elderly poor, about three out of four elderly who are at risk of being poor live in five large countries of EU15: Spain, the United Kingdom, France, Germany and Italy. In the majority of countries, the cohort aged 75+ in the early 2000s has a much higher poverty rate than younger cohorts of the elderly.

In Part II, we provide a detailed and systematic description of what pension reforms have recently been implemented. The analyses identify specific parameters of a pensions policy reform and then assess how they are likely to impact the income situation and poverty risks of future generations of older people. We will report that while in 1995, nearly all the Member States of the EU had an earnings-related DB PAYG scheme as the main centrepiece of their pension system, by 2005 majority of the Member States had shifted towards other pension models, notably personal accounts or NDC schemes. Moreover, all countries had, or considered, changes to various different parameters in their state pension schemes during this time. In most cases, the reforms were mainly driven by fiscal sustainability concerns and the impact of these reforms on income adequacy and pensioner poverty do not appear to have been given significant consideration. In particular, the effects of systematic shifts in pension policy on particular groups, such as women and lower income earners, have not been assessed in great depth. This book offers a contribution in that direction.

Asghar Zaidi is Director Research at the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research in Vienna.

Rescaling Social Policies: Towards Multilevel Governance in Europe

Yuri Kazepov (Ed.)

Ashgate, 2010

“Rescaling Social Policies: Towards Multilevel Governance in Europe” was an international research project that aimed at disentangling the complex relations between changes taking place in the territorial organisation of social policies and the increasing number of actors involved in policy design, management and delivery.

The book presents results of this 3-year project focusing on the relations between the vertical rescaling and the horizontal governance arrangements emerging from change processes since the 1990s. It provides the analytical tools to understand these changes by outlining the different scenarios in Finland, France, Italy, Norway, Poland, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland.

The empirical results consider three areas of study: a) social assistance; b) activation policies on the labour market; c) care for older people. The book is not organised around national chapters dealing with these policies from the national point of view, but transversally taking into consideration how, within each policy area, the analytical dimensions of the processes at stake are addressed in the different countries comparatively. It provides:

- A unique general overview on the implicit and explicit changes taking place in the vertical and horizontal dimensions of social policies in eight European countries.
- Empirical evidence for the comparison of key changes in three social policy areas in eight European countries, modelling trends and possible outcomes.
- Better understanding of the meaning of rescaling and multilevel governance from the point of view of social policies in the different countries and their implications.
- Pros and cons of decentralisation processes in Europe, considering their potential impact framed by existing differences and timing.
- Lessons to learn, problems and solutions to be identified concerning the processes of territorial reorganisation of social policies and regulation and coordination issues of a multitude of actors.

Yuri Kazepov is Professor of Comparative Social Policies at the University of Urbino (Italy), Faculty of Sociology, Institute of Sociology.

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

Designing Gender-Sensitive Arrangements

Bernd Marin / Eszter Zólyomi (Eds.)

Ashgate, 2010

The book aims at exploring difficulties women face in working life and retirement – and what could be done to achieve more gender equality and fairness for women and men alike.

It starts out with simple, radical queries: How different are fe/male life courses, and why? And what is good, bad, best for women under these or probable future circumstances? It leads to complex, subtle, often ambiguous, and sometimes quite surprising policy conclusions.

Based on the empirical evidence at hand and using tools of economics and social science, it addresses design choices in public policies. They arise from converging but continuously different lives and risks of women and men, in gainful work and unpaid household labour.

It gives an overview on trends in population ageing and pension reforms around the Millenium – and the gender impact of demographic and socio-economic changes and main policy measures.

Distinguishing between equality of opportunity, gender equality/-equity/-neutrality/-specificity, the book opts for gender sensitivity: using gender-neutral devices (like unisex life tables, equal retirement eligibility age, childcare credits, minimum income schemes) to compensate women to the extent of gender-specific work and career patterns and living conditions.

In short: How not to be “gender-blind” to gendered contexts and outcomes, while maintaining general principles of individual and actuarial fairness, contributivity and gender-neutral social justice. Neither discriminating against male workers, nor locking women into traditional subordinate positions by ambivalent protection schemes of benevolent welfare paternalism.

This book also shows that women's life courses have become more masculinized than men's feminized, at the overall disadvantage of women as losers of incomplete modernization. Under these transitory conditions, women today are less women than men are men – and women are more different among themselves (in education, qualification, income, class and family status) than they are different from men.

As a consequence, what is good for most still lower skilled women today may be bad for the great majority of more qualified women tomorrow, or for professional women today. The book carefully investigates the diversity of gender impact for different occupations or time horizons used.

Leading pension experts, predominantly women, from East and West, North and South of Europe analyse the basic challenges through single and comparative country studies. The editors provide facts and figures on women's lives, work and pensions and draw theoretical lessons and practical policy conclusions from the studies and gendered statistical indicators.

Bernd Marin is Executive Director, *Eszter Zólyomi* Researcher and Coordinator of the MA:IMI / II Project at the UN-affiliated European Centre in Vienna.

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.

88

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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Welfare in an Idle Society?

Reinventing Retirement, Work, Wealth, Health, and Welfare

Bernd Marin

forthcoming 2011 / 2012

Welfare in an Idle Society?

**Reinventing Retirement, Work,
Wealth, Health, and Welfare**

**A Primer on Re-Designing Social Security
to Cope with Global Ageing and
21st Century Pension Future:
Austria as a Case in Point**

Bernd Marin

Ageing Populations in Post-Industrial Democracies: Comparative Studies of Policies and Politics

Pieter Vanhuysse / Achim Goerres (Eds.)

Routledge / ECPR Studies in European Political Science, *forthcoming 2011*

Most advanced democracies are currently experiencing accelerated population ageing. This fundamentally changes not just their demographic composition: it also can be expected to have far-reaching social, political and public policy consequences. This book brings together an array of comparative empirical analyses dealing with generational politics and public policies. It examines changing electoral policy demands due to demographic ageing and shifting lifestyles. It presents a theoretically unified, case study approach.

Contributors to *Ageing Populations in Post-Industrial Democracies* include: Stefan Svallfors (Umea University, Sweden), Sean Hanley (University College London, UK), Andrej Kokkonen (Gothenburg University, Sweden), Jennifer Sciubba (Rhodes College, USA), Martin Hering (McMaster University, Canada), Juan Fernandez (Max Planck Institute, Cologne), Robert H. Hudson (Boston University, USA)

Pieter Vanhuysse is Senior Researcher and Policy Analyst at the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research in Vienna; *Achim Goerres* is Assistant Professor of Research Methods at the University of Cologne (Germany).

Ageing Populations in Post-Industrial Democracies website at Routledge:
<http://www.routledge.com/books/details/9780415603829/>

Ageing, Health and Pensions in Europe **An Economic and Social Policy Perspective**

Lans Bovenberg / Arthur van Soest / Asghar Zaidi (Eds.)

Palgrave Macmillan, 2010

This book aims to improve our understanding of the key relationships between demographics, welfare regimes, pension provision, public health, employment, income security, and well-being in a cross-national framework from a broad economic perspective, accounting for insights from other social sciences. It intends to stimulate scientific research that will add cutting-edge scientific evidence on the core topics within the European economic and social policy debate.

Moreover, the chapters set out a research agenda that exploits the diversity of European pension and health systems to study causal links between institutional arrangements, individual decision-making, labour force transitions, financial security and general well-being of the elderly, and health outcomes. A key feature is to integrate economic, psychological, sociological and epidemiological approaches to individual decision-making related to health and pensions, and the implications of this for financial and labour markets, financial institutions, and public policy.

The research topics covered are organised in three broad themes:

(1) *Income Security of the Elderly*: This theme includes topics related to defined-benefit and defined-contribution type pension systems, intergenerational risk sharing, individual decisions on pensions and other retirement savings, consumption patterns before and during retirement, decisions to annuitize or not, and financial knowledge. The insights about the economic well-being are drawn

using the disciplines of micro-economics, finance, psychology, and public policy. The role of health is also emphasised, mainly through the financial risks of health shocks and health and work-related disability insurance.

(2) Well-being of the Elderly: This theme extends beyond the economic well-being, covering wider measures of well-being, as defined by family contacts and other social networks, inter- and intra-generational transfers, time use and satisfaction with daily activities, social exclusion, physical and mental health (and health behaviour and prevention), availability of formal and informal long-term care, and other aspects of the health and social care system.

(3) Labour Markets and Older Workers: This theme focuses on the concern of European policy makers to raise the labour-force participation of older workers, which is an important requirement to achieve the fiscal sustainability of pension and health insurance systems. The labour force participation of older workers is a core issue in micro-economic research, but the role of health, psychological and social factors has also been studied. The role of human capital, individual decision making towards labour supply as well as that of labour demand factors is also discussed at length.

By adopting a forward-looking approach, the book discusses the remaining knowledge gaps and research opportunities. It also reviews data needs and other infrastructure requirements and explores the implications for research policy.

Lans Bovenberg is Professor of Economics at Tilburg University, The Netherlands. *Arthur van Soest* is Professor of Econometrics at Tilburg University, The Netherlands. *Asghar Zaidi* is Director Research at the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research, Vienna.

**Städte-Portraits Wien, Brüssel, Hamburg, Lissabon, Prag, Stockholm:
Analyse und Vergleich der Wohlfahrtssysteme ausgewählter europäischer
Großstädte unter besonderer Berücksichtigung der aktuellen sozialen und
ökonomischen Herausforderungen**

Stadt Wien: Wiener Sozialpolitische Schriften, Vol. 1, 315 pp.

Michael Fuchs, Pieter Vanhuyse, Gabriele Schmied et al.

Wien, 2010

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

Developing a simple model of the city policy process in order to compare the policy environment (city challenges), policy efforts (city inputs) and policy performance (city outputs) in terms of social and health policy and quality of living for six European metropolises, the study finds that Brussels and especially Vienna perform very well given the constraints they face, while Prague and even more so Lisbon perform less well.

Michael Fuchs, Pieter Vanhuyse and Gabriele Schmied are Researchers at the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research, Vienna.

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.

Post-Communist Welfare Pathways: Theorizing Social Policy Transformations in Central and Eastern Europe

Alfio Cerami / Pieter Vanhuyse (Eds.)

Palgrave Macmillan, 2009

This book was published to coincide with the twentieth anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall. It adopts a novel theoretical approach to study the systemic transformations of nine different CEE welfare states after 1989; an approach which acknowledges the merits of path-dependency and neo-institutionalist explanations, but goes beyond simple historical or institution-centred descriptions. The book discusses not only the specific social security culture of CEE countries, but also new and competing social policy ideas and discourses, as well as those endogenous and exogenous factors that are able to influence post-communist social policy reform processes.

Contributors to Post-Communist Welfare Pathways include: Claus Offe (Hertie School of Governance, Berlin), Robert Kaufman (Rutgers University, USA), Stephan Haggard (University of California at San Diego, USA), Tomasz Inglot (Minnesota State University, USA), Mitchell Orenstein (Johns Hopkins University, USA).

Alfio Cerami is Researcher at the Centre d'Etudes Européennes des Sciences-Po, Paris (France), *Pieter Vanhuyse* is Senior Researcher and Policy Analyst at the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research in Vienna.

Post-Communist Welfare Pathways website at Palgrave Macmillan:
<http://www.palgrave.com/products/title.aspx?PID=356457>

Marin, Bernd (*forthcoming* 2011 / 2012)

Welfare in an Idle Society?

Reinventing Retirement, Work, Wealth, Health, and Welfare

Eisenbach-Stangl, Irmgard/Reidl, Christine/Schmied, Gabriele (*forthcoming* 2011)

Notquartier und Spritzentausch – Die Wiener Drogenszene im Gespräch

Wien: LIT Verlag

Leichsenring, Kai/Barnett, Stephen/Rodrigues, Ricardo (2011)

Contracting for Quality

Brighton: European Social Network/ESN

Vanhuysse, P./Goerres, A. (Eds.) (*forthcoming* 2011)

Ageing Populations in Post-Industrial Democracies: Comparative Studies of Policies and Politics

Abingdon: Routledge

Bovenberg, L./van Soest, A./Zaidi, A. (Eds.) (2010)

Ageing, Health and Pensions in Europe

An Economic and Social Policy Perspective

Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan

Europäisches Zentrum für Wohlfahrtspolitik und Sozialforschung (Fuchs, M./Vanhuysse, P./Schmied, G.) (2010)

Städteporträts. Wien, Brüssel, Hamburg, Lissabon, Prag, Stockholm

Analyse und Vergleich der Wohlfahrtssysteme ausgewählter europäischer Großstädte unter besonderer Berücksichtigung der aktuellen sozialen und ökonomischen Herausforderungen

Wien: Magistratsabteilung 24, Gesundheits- und Sozialplanung

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

European Inequalities

Social Inclusion and Income Distribution in the European Union

Budapest: TÁRKI

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Dublin: Eurocarers

Auch Drogenabhängige werden älter...

Zur Lebenssituation einer Randgruppe

Irmgard Eisenbach-Stangl, Harald Spirig

2010

Mit dem Ausbau der Drogenhilfe und der Einführung von schadensmindernden Angeboten wurden die Lebensbedingungen und Überlebenschancen von drogenabhängigen Frauen und Männern verbessert. Die Zahl älterer Drogenabhängiger ist folgerichtig in vielen europäischen Ländern gestiegen. Gestiegen ist jedoch auch die Zahl hilfsbedürftiger „Drogensenioren“, was zur Frage ihrer angemessenen Versorgung führt.

98

Das europäische Forschungsprojekt „Senior Drug Dependents and Care Structures“, das aus Mitteln der Europäischen Union gefördert wurde, hat sich zum Ziel gesetzt das Wissen über die Lebenssituation von älteren drogenabhängigen Frauen und Männern zu verbessern und Grundlagen für ihre Versorgung im Alter auszuarbeiten. Es wurde zwischen 2008 und 2010 in vier Ländern durchgeführt: in Deutschland, Österreich, Polen und Schottland. Beim österreichischen Projekt kooperierten das „Europäische Zentrum für Wohlfahrtspolitik und Sozialforschung“ und das „Schweizer Haus Hadersdorf“.

Das Projekt besteht aus fünf lose verbundenen Teilstudien: (1) Einer Sekundäranalyse von Datensätzen auf nationaler Ebene wie auf der Ebene ausgewählter Städte – in Österreich Wien – um u.a. Aussagen über die Größe und Entwicklung der Zielgruppe zu ermöglichen; (2) Interviews mit älteren Drogenabhängigen, um der subjektiven Sicht Raum zu geben und das Verständnis der Bedürfnisse und Probleme der Zielgruppe zu erweitern; (3) Experteninterviews, um die derzeitige und geplante Versorgung von Drogensenioren zu erfassen und gegebenenfalls „best practices“ zu beschreiben; (4) Analyse der gesetzlichen und finanziellen Rahmenbedingungen für die Versorgung der Zielgruppe; (5) Zusammenführung der Ergebnisse in nationalen Richtlinien für die optimalen Versorgungsstrukturen älterer drogenabhängiger Männer und Frauen.

Die vorliegende Publikation enthält die Berichte über die österreichischen Teilprojekte. Sie versteht sich als Beitrag zur Verbesserung der Lebenssituation älterer Drogenabhängiger und zur Erweiterung ihrer Möglichkeiten in Würde zu altern.

Irmgard Eisenbach-Stangl, Senior Social Scientist am Europäischen Zentrum für Wohlfahrtspolitik und Sozialforschung, Wien. *Harald Spirig*, Soziologe, Geschäftsführer des „Schweizer Haus Hadersdorf“ (Therapieeinrichtung für Drogenabhängige).

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

**Manfred Huber, Ricardo Rodrigues,
Frédérique 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 *Frédérique 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.

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- Vol. 7: *Eisenbach-Stangl, I., Spirig, H. (2010)*
Auch Drogenabhängige werden älter...
Zur Lebenssituation einer Randgruppe
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Konsumkontexte, Trinkmotive, Prävention**
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Social Well-being of Disabled Older Persons
An Evidence of Unequal Ageing in Europe
by Katrin Gasior and Asghar Zaidi

Katrin Gasior is Researcher and Asghar Zaidi Director Research at the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research, Vienna.

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Keywords: General Welfare, Non-Labour Market Discrimination, Disability, Social and Economic Stratification

Policy Briefs are a publication series providing a synthesis of topics of research and policy advice on which European Centre researchers have been working recently.

1. Introduction

One of the most apparent consequences of an ever-rising life expectancy observed in the European countries is that older persons now constitute a higher-than-ever fraction of European societies. Years gained in life are not matched equally by longer working lives and older people are enjoying a longer phase of life post retirement. The longevity gains offer the opportunity for new social and economic experiences for older people and many go on to enjoy their retirement in good economic and health conditions.

One other rather obvious phenomenon is that older people are far from being a homogenous group, and they differ *inter alia* with respect to social, economic and health status. Moreover, advances in medicine and rehabilitation methods have made the expectation of living to late life fairly reasonable, even for persons with a significant disability. Despite this, disability can be viewed as one of the most important factors determining the individual experience of ageing. For instance, many older people are restricted in their aspirations towards active ageing, due mainly to limitations linked with their ill-health and physical frailty.

Important research questions are therefore: What are the perceptions, feelings and experiences of the disabled older persons? Are these persons also enjoying and benefiting from a longer phase of old-age life? How to best capture these unequal experiences of ageing of older people? Whether institutional differences across European countries play a role in mitigating the perverse effects of disability during old age? This Brief examines this phenomenon of unequal ageing of older people in European countries by looking into how disability alone has an influence on the well-being of disabled older persons, covering several different domains of social well-being.

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'Comparing European Alcohol Policies: What to Compare?'

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'Auch Drogenabhängige werden älter'

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Director and organizer of a special five-day session at the ECPR Joint Sessions of the European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR) in Lisbon, Portugal, 14-19 April 2009 (with Achim Goerres, University of Cologne)

Vanhuyse, Pieter (2009)

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Chair of Panel at the International Conference on "1989-2009: Taking Stock of East-West EU Unification", the Konrad Adenauer Conference Centre and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, June 2009

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Convenor of Panel 218, Section 24 at the ECPR 4th General Conference, Potsdam, Germany, September 2009 (with Achim Goerres, University of Cologne)

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127

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132

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