



Dear Reader,

We welcome our new researchers Ulrike Waginger and Francesco Barbabella who recently started working at the European Centre. We introduce both of them to you at page 7-8 of this Newsletter.

Sincerely yours,

Annette Hexelschneider

Head of Knowledge and Information Management Support Unit

Policy Briefs

Poverty and Social Exclusion of Migrants in the European Union

The Policy Brief – written by Orsolya Lelkes and Eszter Zólyomi – analyses the occurrence of risk-of-poverty and social exclusion among the migrant population, and the trends in poverty rates between 2004 and 2007 based on the EU-SILC survey. The results include various tests of reliability, including the estimation of confidence intervals for the poverty estimates, and the use of alternative definitions of migrants.

Migrants from outside the European Union are occasionally exposed to a multiple times higher risk of poverty than the “indigenous” population. EU and non-EU migrants constitute two rather distinct groups in most countries in terms of their exposure to poverty.

The measurement of trends is hampered by the relatively short time series and the reliability of the data-set (i.e. the low number of observations). There was probably a decline in the risk of poverty in Ireland. In contrast, there was a probable increase in the risk of poverty in Germany, Estonia, and Latvia.

We also explore the measure of social exclusion as defined in the EU2020 Strategy, including an analysis of the overlap between the measures of poverty, deprivation and low work intensity. Migrants are more likely to be socially excluded than the local population. Altogether, however, cumulative disadvantage (being at risk of poverty, suffering from severe material deprivation and living in households with very low work intensity) affects only about 1-2% of the migrant population, a number of 62 thousand EU migrants, and 518 thousand non-EU migrants.

Read more about: [Policy Brief](#)

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



Events

Current Events

February 20 – March 3, Haifa (Israel): International Workshop on Community Services for the Elderly

Frédérique Hoffmann has been invited by the UNECE to present on the role of family carers, on 20 February in Haifa. Her presentation entitled “The Pivotal Role of Family Carers in Long-Term Care: Challenges Ahead”, will occur in the context of Israel’s Agency for International Development Cooperation with the participation of UNECE, which has developed a programme for a capacity-building training workshop in Israel on the topic “Community Services for the Elderly”.

Read more about: [agenda](#)

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

Upcoming Events

14 March, Bratislava (Slovakia): Roundtable Discussion Forum

At the invitation of the European Centre’s NLO for Slovakia, Kvetoslava Repkova, Pieter Vanhuyse will give a lecture on “The Political Economy of Population Aging in the OECD” at a special Roundtable Discussion Forum convened at the Slovak Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family in Bratislava. Kvetoslava Repkova will chair the forum, and Dr Ivan Lesay of the Slovak Academy of Science will be the discussant.

Read more about: [event](#)

For further information please contact: [Pieter Vanhuyse](#)

Past Events

10 February, The Hague (The Netherlands): Meeting on Long-term Care

Ricardo Rodrigues presented on the topic of Efficiency in Long-term Care in a meeting on long-term care jointly organised by the OECD and the Dutch Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport. Drawing on findings from the ongoing research of the European Centre and INTERLINKS, the presentation discussed the impact of governance on efficiency of care services, particularly in relation to the existence of multiple stakeholders, different funding systems, potential for “cost-shunting” and reliance on market mechanisms to deliver care.

Read more about: [presentation](#), [INTERLINKS](#)

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



Presentation on-line: Business Cycle Effects on Labour Force Transitions for Older People in Spain

The presentation by Judit Vall Castello at our International Seminar in February is [on-line](#).

24 January, Vienna (Austria): Forschungskolleg Lebenslauf, Familie und Alter (Research Lectures Life Course, Family and Ageing)

Georg Ruppe was invited by the Institute for Sociology (University of Vienna) to give a lecture at the Forschungskolleg Lebenslauf, Familie und Alter, which is a seminar for doctoral students.

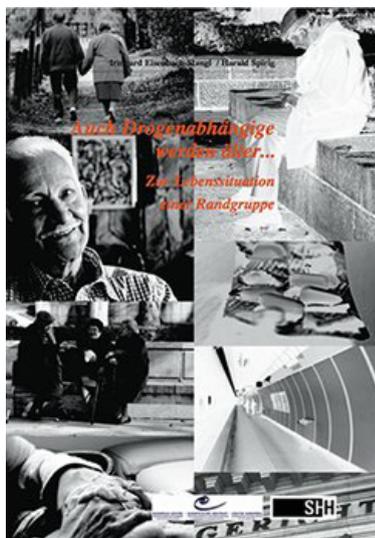
After briefly introducing the structure and work of the European Centre, Georg gave an overview on the FP7 project INTERLINKS and focused on some aspects of long-term care practice in Austria. The presentation with the title “Towards Preventive Long-term Care Pathways for Older People. European Research and the Case of Austria” was followed by a discussion with the audience.

Read more about: [INTERLINKS](#)

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

Publications

Review of European Centre Books



Eisenbach-Stangl, Irmgard / Spirig, Harald (2010) Auch Drogenabhängige werden älter... Zur Lebenssituation einer Randgruppe (Even Drug Addicts Are Ageing... The Life Situation of a Marginalised Group), European Centre and Schweizer Haus Hadersdorf

Review by Prof. Dr. Stephan Quensel (Co-Director of the Institute for Drug Research in Bremen (BISDRO), Co-Editor of the Zeitschrift Monatsschrift für Kriminologie/Monthly Journal for Criminal Sociology) In: socialnet Rezensionen, ISSN 2190-9245

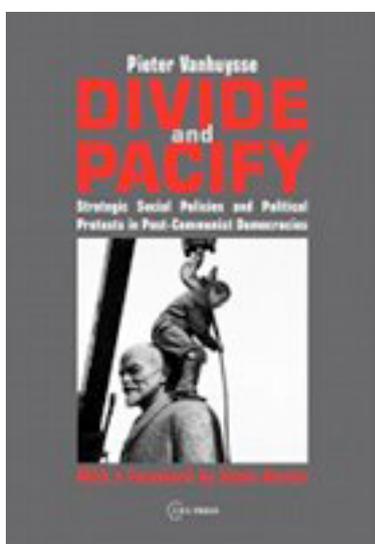
Summary:

“Die Arbeit greift ein auch bei uns relevantes Thema auf, das freilich hinter den Migranten- und Terroristen-Diskussionen gerne vergessen

wird, zumal die davon betroffenen größeren Kommunen ohnehin keinerlei finanziellen Spielräume für die allgemein als richtig und notwendig anerkannten Hilfen für solche Drogensenioren besitzen. Um so bedeutsamer wäre es, sich, ebenso wie in Wien, zusammen zu setzen und zu überlegen, wie man sinnvoller Weise zumindest 'pragmatisch' mit den noch immer herrschenden und weiter geschürten Drogen-Ängsten umgehen könnte, anstatt diese Senioren weiterhin zu 'kriminalisieren und zu marginalisieren'."

Read more about: [review](#), [book details including sample chapter](#)
For further information please contact: [Irmgard Eisenbach-Stangl](#)

Reviews of books written or edited by European Centre Staff



Vanhuyse, Pieter (2006) *Divide and Pacify: Strategic Social Policies and Political Protests in Post-Communist Democracies*. Budapest-New York: Central European University Press

Reviewed by Elena Koroteleva from the University of Aberystwyth, Wales, in the journal *Intelligence & National Security*, Vol. 25, No. 1

Excerpts:

"One of the unambiguous advantages of the book is its clear and rigorous style of narration. Despite a highly complex research agenda... (it) enjoys a swift yet powerfully persuasive logic and language of narration. This is further supported by a straightforward structure observing, in a professional academic manner, a theoretical framework dually immersed in the extensive body of scholarship and detailed analysis of collated evidence ...

The study emerges as well-researched and skilfully crafted to accommodate the author's own theoretical assumptions. As a result, the book offers a cogent and substantiated account of events yielding a plausible explanation of how and why some countries effectively managed to avoid political discontent in undertaking painful and humanly costly economic and political reforms. The author succeeds in making his argument powerfully convincing and relevant to the area beyond the cases studied. For example, his theory sheds light on some seemingly contradictory social policies undertaken by governments in Russia and Belarus in particular. ...

The book excels in delivering a novel and indeed persuasive analytical framework that complements existing explanations ... (it is) a must to peruse for students across a broad field of social sciences and ... by all accounts, an appealing and illuminating read."

Read more about: [book](#)
For further information please contact: [Pieter Vanhuyse](#)



Peer Reviewed Journal Articles

Ricardo Rodrigues, Andrea E. Schmidt (2010) Expenditures for Long-Term Care: At the Crossroads Between Family and State, In: GeroPsych: The Journal of Gerontopsychology and Geriatric Psychiatry, Volume 23, Issue 4, December 2010, Pages 183-193, ISSN 1662-9647

This paper concerns itself with public expenditures for long-term care (LTC) and seeks to make sense of the differences among European countries, using the concept of de-familialization under the welfare regime framework. For this we rely on a comparative analysis of data on public expenditures for 22 countries in Europe and on private expenditures for a smaller set of countries, supplemented by other indicators. Rather than simply mirroring dissimilarities in the aging process of the respective population, differences in public expenditures seem to reflect the degree to which care is still a strong family obligation in some countries. This is visible also in the way welfare states support care through cash or services, and potentially different public/private mixes of financing.

Keywords: long-term care; welfare state; financing; comparative analysis

Read more about: [article](#)

For further information please contact: [Ricardo Rodrigues, Andrea Schmidt](#)

Gamliel-Yehoshua, Haya & Vanhuyse, Pieter (2010), The Pro-Elderly Bias of Social Policies in Israel: A Historical-Institutional Account. In: Social Policy & Administration, Vol. 44, No. 6., pp 708-726 (5-year impact factor: 1.148).

Pieter Vanhuyse's article with Haya Gamliel-Yehoshua from the University of Haifa was published in a special regional issue of the journal Social Policy & Administration, which is devoted to "Welfare States in the Middle East".

The article provides a first-ever empirical estimation of the evolving age orientation of social policies in Israel over time. A brand new OECD member state, Israel is demographically a relatively young society when compared to most other OECD member states. Yet, it has nevertheless aged significantly since gaining independence in 1948. It develops a historical-institutional narrative to theoretically account for the development of policy efforts towards different age groups since 1948. Empirically, it estimates an Elderly/Non-Elderly Spending Ratio for four points in time: 1975, 1985, 1995, and 2005. Vanhuyse and Gamliel-Yehoshua argue that in its first five decades, the Israeli welfare state uniquely combined a broadly universalistic and citizenship-based outlook with a number of significant particularistic spending biases towards specific-interest subgroups. Notable among the latter were the Orthodox Jews, whose parties assumed disproportionate political power in Israel's proportional representation electoral system thanks to their near-continuous pivotal presence in successive coalition cabinets in recent decades. But from the second half of the 1990s onwards, a period in which neo-liberal and retrenchment discourses belatedly became hegemonic, the pro-elderly policy bias of the Israeli welfare state has strongly increased, almost doubling



between 1995 and 2005. Both in terms of elderly/non-elderly spending share value and institutionally, this put Israel in the neighbourhood of France and Germany on the OECD map. These findings support Julia Lynch's (2001, 2006) thesis for 21 other OECD countries, which posits that a shift from a universal to a more particularistic institutional model of welfare will result in a higher pro-elderly bias of social spending.

Keywords: Generational Conflict, Population Aging, Age-Bias, Child Allowances, Pensions, Israeli Welfare Regime

Read more about: [paper](#), [Social Policy & Administration special issue](#)

For further information please contact: [Pieter Vanhuysse](#)

Journal Articles

Gasior, Katrin, Zaidi, Asghar (2010) Individuelle Erfahrung des Alterns stark von Behinderung beeinflusst (Individual Experiences of Ageing are Strongly Influenced by Disability). In: ISI 45, Informationsdienst Soziale Indikatoren (Social Indicators Information Service), by the Social Indicators Research Centre at Gesis (GESIS -Leibniz-Institute for the Social Sciences).

Die Lebenserwartung der EuropäerInnen steigt stetig an. Eine zu beobachtende Konsequenz daraus ist ein höherer Anteil älterer Menschen in europäischen Gesellschaften. Da die Erwerbsjahre nicht proportional zur Lebenserwartung ansteigen, verbringen ältere Menschen heute einen größeren Abschnitt ihres Lebens in der sogenannten Dritten Lebensphase, dem Ruhestand. Aus einer gesundheitlich und finanziell guten Lage heraus, schaffen es viele ältere Menschen diese gewonnene Lebenszeit für neue soziale und auch wirtschaftliche Erfahrungen zu nutzen. Gleichzeitig muss jedoch hervorgehoben werden, dass ältere Menschen keinesfalls eine homogene Gesellschaftsgruppe sind, sondern sich durch ihre gesundheitliche, soziale und auch finanzielle Verfassung voneinander unterscheiden. Eine weitreichende individuelle Erfahrung des Alterns ist der Eintritt einer Behinderung, die vielfach mit deutlichen gesundheitlichen Einschränkungen verbunden ist und "Active Ageing" zu einem bloßen Schlagwort macht.

Read more about: [article](#)

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

Newspaper Articles

[Marin, Bernd \(2005-2010\) Various articles in: Der Standard, in: Die Presse, in: Format, in: Kleine Zeitung, in: Salzburger Nachrichten, in: Der Falter, Vienna, Graz, Salzburg, 2011](#)

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



Personnel Matters

Ulrike Waginger



Ulrike Waginger joined the European Centre in February 2011 and will support both pillars of the Centre in her fields of expertise. She is currently contributing to three research projects focusing on measures to stimulate the labour market for elder employees and on social inclusion in Europe, among others.

Before joining the European Centre, Ulrike was a research fellow at King's College London, where she performed comparative policy reviews (focusing in particular on family and retirement policies) as well as quantitative analyses of the relationship between early retirement and health and well-being using SHARE data. In 2010, she was awarded the Theodor Körner prize from the Austrian Chamber of Labour to support the continuation of the latter research project.

Ulrike holds an MD (medical doctorate) from the University of Vienna and continued her trainings in sociology and gerontology at King's College London (MSc in Global Ageing). She has several years of work experience in bio-medical and sociological research related to ageing at the University of Vienna, University of Geneva and King's College London. Her research focus includes health and well-being of older persons, in particular of early retirees, health promotion of older employees and related retirement policies.

Ulrike is actively involved in non-governmental organisation work related to older persons by representing the NGO INPEA (International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse) to the United Nations. She serves as the vice-chair of the NGO Committee on Ageing at the United Nations in Vienna, where she also contributes to the current efforts to promote a convention on the rights of older persons.

Read more about: [Ulrike Waginger](#)

For further information please contact: [Ulrike Waginger](#)



Francesco Barbabella



Francesco Barbabella joined the European Centre in January as visiting doctoral student from the Italian National Institute of Health and Science on Aging (INRCA).

He is interested in Health Promotion and Health Communication fields, as well as in the impact of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) on health services. For these reasons, his research activity focuses on the CARICT project, which deals with the implementation of caregiver support services through ICTs.

Francesco obtained an MA in Communication Science from the University of Macerata (Italy) in 2008 and currently he is attending the third year of a doctoral course in Theory of Communication from the same university. In particular, the aim of his doctoral research project is to apply a semiotic framework in an educational intervention for family caregivers of Alzheimer's disease patients. Since 2009 he works at INRCA, being involved in several European projects concerning socio-economic effects of the ageing process. Furthermore, he is a journalist and he has experience in marketing research and knowledge management.

Read more about: [Francesco Barbabella](#)

For further information please contact: [Francesco Barbabella](#)



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