



Dear Reader,

Within the framework of the 2012 European Year on Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations, the UNECE, the European Commission DG Employment, Social Protection and Inclusion and the European Centre are undertaking a project called 'Active Ageing Index', see below.

Sincerely yours,

Willem Stamatou
Publications Officer

Projects

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

The INTERLINKS project (Health Systems and Long-term Care for Older People in Europe) has successfully terminated its project period by 31 December 2011.

Its main product remains to be the INTERLINKS Framework for Long-term Care as presented on the interactive website: <http://interlinks.euro.centre.org> (in English, a German version is under construction).

The year 2012 will serve to further disseminate the project results by means of presentations, articles and a final publication with Palgrave MacMillan ("Long-term Care in Europe – Improving Policy and Practice", planned for Summer 2012).

The latest INTERLINKS-related publication can be found at: <http://www.ijic.org/index.php/ijic>

Kai Leichsenring contributed the first paper for the new "Perspectives Section" of the International Journal of Integrated Care: 'Integrated Care for Older People in Europe – Latest Trends and Perceptions' (see also the related 'Editorial: Key Lessons from Integrated Care in Europe', by Jon Glasby, University of Birmingham).



Kai Leichsenring will also present INTERLINKS' results at the 12th International Conference on Integrated Care, Republic of San Marino, 29-30 March 2012.

Read more about: [conference](#)

For further information please contact: [Kai Leichsenring](#)

Measures for the Labour Market Integration of Persons with Disabilities

In the first half of 2012 the European Centre will carry out a project on "Measures for the Labour Market Integration of Persons with Disabilities" funded by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection.

Based on literature analysis and good practice analysis especially for Sweden, Denmark and the Netherlands, the aim is to analyse which measures or bloc of measures seem to be successful in view of a cost/outcome balance and lend themselves for inclusion into the Austrian policy system.

For further information please contact: [Michael Fuchs](#)

Active Ageing Index

Within the framework of the 2012 European Year on Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations, the UNECE, the European Commission DG Employment, Social Protection and Inclusion and the European Centre are undertaking a project called 'Active Ageing Index'.

The aim of this project is to develop and launch an Active Ageing Index that would help to measure national progress in ensuring activity and quality of life of ageing populations in the European Union and other UNECE countries. The index would allow to measure and monitor active ageing outcomes at the country level with a breakdown by gender and (possibly) other socio-economic groups also envisaged.

The index would measure the extent to which older people can realise their full potential in terms of total and healthy life expectancy, participation in the economy, in social and cultural life and in terms of independent living. The project team would also analyse the gap between the actual situation and an ideal state, where the latter would be based on empirical observations of best performing countries.

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



Measures for the Activation of the Labour Market for Older Workers

The European Centre's final report "Maßnahmen zur Belegung des Arbeitsmarktes für ältere ArbeitnehmerInnen" (Measures for the Activation of the Labour Market for Older Workers) was published on the website of the Austrian Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection (BMASK).

The report describes measures implemented to activate older workers in Germany, The Netherlands, Finland and Sweden, and draws lessons from each case for the Austrian situation.

The report was commissioned by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection (BMASK).

Read more about: [report](#), [website](#)

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

The Online Resource of the European Observatory on the Social Situation Offers Up-to-Date Information on Poverty and Inequality

This online resource brings together the results of the research carried out by the "Income Distribution and Living Conditions" network of the Social Situation Observatory. The European Centre team consisting of Katrin Gasior and Orsolya Lelkes was responsible for the section related to the at-risk-of-poverty, which includes poverty trends and the composition of those at risk of poverty, subjective and objective poverty and cumulative disadvantage.

Other sections include comparative analyses of income inequality, material deprivation, the distribution of wealth and non-monetary aspects of well-being across the EU and the factors underlying these. It is based to a large extent on the EU-SILC (Statistics on Income and Living Conditions), specifically on the published microdata, and it extends the periodic studies produced by Eurostat on various issues which can be examined by using the data. It also, however, builds on other data sources, such as the European Labour Force Survey, the Survey on Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe (SHARE), the European Household Budget Survey (EHBS), the Adult Education Survey and PISA (the survey of the academic performance of young people). In addition, it makes use of the EUROMOD microsimulation model of household income to analyse the redistributive effects of the tax-benefit system in different countries.

Link to: [online resource](#)

Read more about: [European Observatory on the Social Situation](#)

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



European Centre Researchers represented in the Online Resource of the European Observatory on the Social Situation

The SSO online resource also presents the latest Research Notes produced by European Centre researchers – including the Research Note on active ageing by Asghar Zaidi and Eszter Zólyomi and the Research Note on the socio-economic situation of people with disabilities by Asghar Zaidi.

Link to: [online resource](#)

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

Events

Promoting Active Ageing and Intergenerational Solidarity – An Integrated Approach – Challenges for Poland, Warsaw, 7 March, Presidential Palace

This international conference is organized jointly by the Chancellery of the President of Poland and the Polish Ministry of Labour and Social Policy on the occasion of the European Year for Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations (EY 2012). Poland is among the EU countries with a relatively low labour market participation rate and also rather limited social activities among the elderly. The conference will be an opportunity to share the Polish and European perspectives on how to promote a “culture of active ageing” at different levels, within the context of activities of EY 2012. The approximately 250 participants of the conference will include ministers and other policymakers at national or sub-national levels, experts in social policies and evaluation as well as other stakeholders, including social service providers, social partners and civil society organisations.

During the plenary sessions, three main issues will be addressed: (i) the political view on active ageing and solidarity between generations in Poland, (ii) short- and long-term perspectives for the labour market (life course approach), and (iii) challenges for civil society in the ageing population (role of the elderly for the society). Katrin Gasior and Eszter Zólyomi of the European Centre will give a keynote presentation in the plenary session on the active ageing perspectives for the labour market, highlighting the work undertaken for the employment domain within the construction of an active ageing index. Subsequently, they will contribute to and gather useful information from the discussion in the three parallel panels: (1) challenges for the labour market, (2) challenges for the social protection system, and (3) social activity among the elderly. At the end, the summary of the panels will be provided by Czesława Ostrowska, Deputy Minister, National Coordinator of the EY 2012; and the summary of the conference will be given by Irena Wóycicka, Deputy Minister responsible for social issues, Chancellery of the President.

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



Breaking New Ground: Addressing Key Challenges with the Measurement of National Well-Being, London, 12 March

The aim of this seminar is to stimulate informed discussion on key issues to be addressed by the UK's Measuring National Well-being Programme, including how data on well-being can be used to improve public welfare. In July 2012, the UK's Office for National Statistics (ONS) is planning its first annual report of national well-being, including the first annual release of data on self-assessed individual well-being. As a programme, ONS is also keen to ensure that the measurement of national well-being is seen as more than happiness and subjective well-being. The discussion in this seminar will feed into the report and is aimed at the members of the National Statistician's Advisory Forum, the Technical Advisory Group members, senior academics and government analysts.

The goal of the day is to inspire discussion among the large number of experts present and to clarify future directions for some of the key challenges in measuring national well-being, in the UK and in other EU countries. There will be some short presentations to provide food for thought, followed by facilitated discussions in the break-out groups to enable delegates to share their ideas.

Asghar Zaidi, Director Research, will facilitate a discussion group on the theme "Can a capabilities approach effectively encompass and address well-being at the individual and the national level? Why or why not? What other approaches would be better?", linked with his recent work on measuring capability deprivation among older people ([Policy Brief](#), July 2011). This breakout session is also intended to allow more in-depth discussion on: "Is there more to national well-being than the sum of individual well-being". Asghar Zaidi's role would be to facilitate the break-out group on this theme, with a presentation of his work, and then summarise/elaborate on the key ideas from the group at the plenary session.

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

Publications

Newspaper Articles

[Marin, Bernd \(2005-2012\) Various articles in: Der Standard, in: Die Presse, in: Format, in: Kleine Zeitung, in: Salzburger Nachrichten, in: Der Falter, Vienna, Graz, Salzburg, 2012](#)

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



Contact for general newsletter/web site comments, suggestions or questions:

Willem Stamatiou
Publications Officer
European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research
Berggasse 17
A-1090 Vienna (Austria)
Tel: +43-1-319 45 05-27
Fax: +43-1-319 45 05-19
stamatiou@euro.centre.org

Contact for general research questions: ec@euro.centre.org

Contacts for Activities & Products are listed on the website.

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