



Dear Reader,

Before we report on our research work, I would like to draw your attention to the European Citizens' Consultations (ECC 2009) on the future of Europe. Taking place before the European Parliament elections in 2009, the consultations will bring together European citizens to take part in a European dialogue about the future of Europe. The consultations invite European citizens to take part in an online debate about: "How can the EU manage our economic and social future within a globalised world?" Register at the [Austrian website](#) or the [international website](#) and make your voice heard.

Annette Hexelschneider

Head of Knowledge and Information Management Support Unit

Projects

Commissioning for Quality

The European Social Network (ESN) is an organisation gathering directors of social work and social care services working at the local level. Member organisations are national or regional associations of directors of social services, individual regions, provinces, counties and cities as well as research, development and regulatory bodies working alongside directors of social services in shaping services for the local community.

Given the increasing complexity for its members in the process of assessing needs, designing and putting in place the right range of services for people and respective contracting for services with independent care providers as the final technical stage of commissioning, ESN is currently focusing much of its work on this topic. ESN has therefore contracted the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research to support these activities with the following aims:

- To explore, how a well-managed market and well-managed contract procedures can contribute to improving the quality of care services, and consequently, the quality of life for service users;
- To draw a picture of how the different existing relationships among actors responsible for planning, managing and delivering social services at the local level are managed in terms of quality assurance and continuous improvement; and
- To support exchange and learning in relation to these issues across ESN as a network and beyond.



As a first step, Kai Leichsenring gave an introductory speech at a special policy & practice seminar on 21 November 2008, in Brussels. Further activities will include an analysis of responses to a questionnaire sent to ESN members and a series of workshops with particularly interested members.

Preliminary results of the initiative will be presented at the annual European Social Services Conference that will take place in Prague from 22-24 June 2009.

Read more about: [special policy & practice seminar](#), [European Social Services Conference 2009](#)

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

Events

Upcoming Events – Prof. Marin in the USA

3-4 February 2009: AARP – UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) Briefing Series to commemorate the 10th Anniversary of the International Year of Older Persons, Bernd Marin on “Reinventing Retirement: Reshaping Health & Financial Security for the EU 27 and Eastern Europe”

AARP and the United Nations (UN) Programme on Ageing jointly organize a series of briefings, in cooperation with the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) from 3 to 4 February 2009. These events will commemorate the 10th anniversary of the International Year of Older Persons. On this occasion, the UN Commission for Social Development will devote several days to discussions on the priority theme of Social Integration, including intergenerational integration.

To inform the discussions of the UN Commission for Social Development and to provide the background to some of the unprecedented major trends in global ageing, AARP will work with UNDESA to convene two luncheon briefings, to bring together government delegates, NGOs, foundations, and academics to discuss the theme of the 2009 UN Commission for Social Development and its relation to older persons. The venue for these meetings will be the Delegates Dining Room at the UN Headquarters in New York.

The 2007 and 2008 briefing series featured eminent experts from international organizations, governments, international civil society organizations, and a variety of academic disciplines to present their perspectives on the latest trends and developments in the field of population ageing. Highly successful, each briefing series has attracted some 300 participants from governments, non-governmental organizations, academia, United Nations staff, and the private sector.

As the theme of the 2009 UN Commission for Social Development is “Social Integration”, the 2009 briefing series will focus on how policy can reduce inequalities, promote access to basic services, education, and health care, and increase the participation and integration of social groups including older persons.



You are cordially invited to attend the
2009 AARP-UN Briefing Series on Global Aging
In Commemoration of the 10th Anniversary of the International Year of Older Persons

Sponsored by
AARP
The United Nations Programme on Ageing

3-4 February 2009
1:00 – 3:00 PM
Delegates Dining Room
United Nations Headquarters
New York, NY
Lunch will be served.

Program Description

AARP, in cooperation with the United Nations Programme on Ageing, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), will organize a series of briefings from 3 to 4 February 2009. *These events will commemorate the 10th anniversary of the International Year of Older Persons.* The AARP-UN Briefing Series will coincide with the UN Commission for Social Development (4-13 February 2009), which will devote its priority theme to Social Integration, including intergenerational integration.

To inform the discussions of the UN Commission for Social Development and to provide the background to the unprecedented major trends in global aging, AARP will work with UNDESA to convene two luncheon briefings to bring together government delegates, NGOs, foundations, and academics. The AARP-UN Briefing Series will also review the accomplishments since the 1999 International Year of Older Persons and discuss the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead to address global aging.

Confirmed speakers include:

- **Ms. Jennie Chin Hansen**, President of AARP
- **Ms. Hania Zlotnik**, Director, Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations
- **Mr. Joshua Collett**, Vice President, AARP Office of International Affairs
- **Dr. Alexandre Sidorenko**, Chief, Programme on Ageing, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations
- **Dr. John Beard**, Director of Ageing and Life Course, World Health Organisation
- **Dr. Nana Apt**, Professor and Dean of Academic Affairs, Ashesi University, Ghana
- **Dr. Gunhild Hagestad**, Professor of Sociology, Agder University, Norway
- **Dr. Bernd Marin**, Executive Director, European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research
- **Dr. Thomas Cole**, Director, McGovern Center for Health, Humanities, and the Human Spirit, University of Texas



As Executive Director of the European Centre, historically involved in the Second World Assembly on Ageing, AARP invited Prof. Marin to hear his perspectives on ageing, particularly in emerging economies. This was also done regarding the recent collaboration with AARP for the international conference on “Reinventing Retirement: Reshaping Health & Financial Security for the EU 27 and Eastern Europe” in Dürnstein (Austria) in October 2008.

Read more about: [AARP-UN Briefing Series on Global Ageing, proceedings from the 2008 series](#)
For further information please contact: [Bernd Marin](#)

11 February 2009: Austrian Cultural Forum – New York, N.Y.C. Bernd Marin (European Centre, Vienna) vs. Martin Schain (New York University / NYU) – “The European Welfare State: A Model for the United States ?”

At the invitation of Dr. Andreas Stadler (Director) and Dr. Martin Rauchbauer (Deputy Director), the Austrian Cultural Forum in New York invited Profs. Bernd Marin and Martin Schain to discuss Bernd Marin’s views on “The European Social Model”, in a public debate on *The European Welfare State: A Model for the United States?*

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

17 February 2009: AARP and the Czech Embassy in Washington, D.C. on behalf of the Czech EU-Presidency – Lecture Prof. Bernd Marin on “Ageing in Europe: The Way Forward for the New Member States”

On February 17, Prof. Marin will give a lecture at the invitation of AARP and the Czech Embassy in Washington D.C. on behalf of the Czech EU-Presidency on the topic of “Ageing in Europe: The Way Forward for the New Member States”, at the AARP Board Room, Washington D.C., 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.

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

Past Events

15 December 2008, Brussels (Belgium): First Annual Meeting of the Academic Network of European Disability Experts (ANED)

The European Commission established ANED in 2008 to provide scientific support and advice for its Unit of Disability. During the above meeting, Isilda Shima presented a short summary of the report and key messages from a review of disability mainstreaming in the National Reform Programmes and National Strategic Reports of the Member States. The report, a joint work with Ricardo Rodrigues, is going to be published on the ANED website.



Read more about: [ANED website](#)

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

17 December 2008, Vienna: Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies (wiiw), Seminar in International Economics – The Distributional Implications of Income Tax Evasion in Hungary

Orsolya Lelkes presented a joint paper with Dóra Benedek, Central European University and Ministry of Finance, Hungary.

The shadow economy and associated tax evasion are both quite widespread in Hungary. Even though this can be a priori expected to have significant adverse effects in terms of horizontal and vertical equity, the subject has remained relatively under-researched. The paper compares incomes as reported in tax returns (not accessible for research thus far) with those observed in household budget surveys. It then calculates ratios of income under-reporting by income source and individual characteristics. The resulting “synthetic” distribution of reported income is subsequently fed into the European tax-benefit model EUROMOD, with a view to obtaining preliminary estimates of the size and distribution of income tax evasion. Finally, the paper computes the effects of tax evasion on income inequality and poverty, on income tax system progressiveness and redistribution, as well as in terms of tax receipts.

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

Publications

Working Papers

Whitehouse, Edward/Zaidi, Asghar (2008) Socio-Economic Differences in Mortality: Implications for Pensions Policy, OECD Social Employment and Migration Working Papers, Nr. 71

The analyses included in the report show that there are big socio-economic differences in mortality, especially for men, and they appear to have become bigger over time. The report discusses implications of mortality differentials for five major areas of pension policy: the progressiveness of the pension system, the pension eligibility age, the retirement incentives, future pension expenditures and private pensions. The empirical work shows that the mortality differentials reduce progressiveness in pension systems. Moreover, there is empirical evidence that raising the retirement age is not more unfair to socio-economic groups with a lower life expectancy.

Read more about: [working paper](#)

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



Clark, Andrew E./Lelkes, Orsolya (2009) Let Us Pray: Religious Interactions in Life Satisfaction, Working Paper No. 2009-01. Paris, Paris-Jourdan Sciences Economiques.

We use recent pooled survey data on 90,000 individuals in 26 European countries to examine religious spillover effects on life satisfaction. Own religious behaviour is positively correlated with individual life satisfaction. More unusually, average religiosity in the region also has a positive impact: people are more satisfied in more religious regions. This spillover holds both for those who are religious and for those who are not. The flipside of the coin is that a greater proportion of “atheists” (those who say they do not currently belong to any religious denomination) has negative spillover effects, for the religious and atheists alike. We lastly show that both Protestants and Catholics like to live in regions where their own religion is dominant, while Protestants are also more satisfied when Catholics dominate. The generic positive spillover effect of others’ religion is not explained by social capital, crime, or trust.

Read more about: [working paper](#)

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

Peer-Reviewed Journals

Di Tommaso, Maria Laura/Strom, Steinar/Bettio, Francesca/Shima, Isilda (2009) As bad as it gets: well-being deprivation of sexually exploited trafficked women, to be published in *European Journal of Political Economy*

Trafficking in women has been estimated to generate 12 billion dollars a year, enough to be ranked just after trafficking in weapons and drugs (UNODC 2006). This paper analyses working and living conditions of individuals that have reported to the Anti-Trafficking Unit of the International Organization for Migration for assistance and have been identified as “victims of trafficking” for the purpose of “sexual exploitation”. We use the theoretical framework of the capability approach to conceptualize well-being deprivation and we estimate a MIMIC (Multiple Indicators Multiple Causes) model. The utilized indicators measure abuse, freedom of movement, and access to medical care. This model also allows us to estimate the effects of some covariates including education and work location on this measure of well-being. We conclude that working in secluded spaces worsens well-being conditions of the victims. An important policy implication is that better access to medical care and to contraception for all sex workers, would improve well-being also for trafficked women. Moreover, we also conclude that criminalizing sex work may move all sex workers in more secluded places and this will have a negative impact also on the well-being of sexually exploited trafficked individuals.

For further information please contact: [Isilda Shima](#)



Special Review Articles Section: Advances in the Study of Post-Communist States and Public Administrations

The December 2008 issue of the ISI-listed Czech Sociological Review features a special five-articles Review Article Section edited by Pieter Vanhuysse on “Advances in the Study of Post-Communist States and Public Administrations”, which focuses on the books *Rebuilding Leviathan* by Anna Grzymała-Busse (University of Michigan, USA) and *Runaway State Building* by Conor O’Dwyer (University of Florida, Gainesville, USA). As Pieter argues in his editorial introduction, both books represent advances in the study of post-communist states and public administrations by combining rigorous theory-building with new empirical analyses of the size and effectiveness of the administrative bureaucracy of CEE central governments and their agencies. Both books, albeit in different ways, emphasise the nature of party competition as the single most important factor driving CEE state development.

In addition to Pieter’s contribution and subsequent comments by Grzymała-Busse and O’Dwyer, this Special Review Article Section also features a wide-ranging review essay on re-stating party development in CEE by Sean Hanley from the University College London, UK, and a concluding essay on economies of scale in CEE bureaucracy by Scott Gehlbach from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA. The Special Review Article Section hereby aims to stimulate an engaged and rigorous future debate about the nature and causes of state building in post-communist CEE.

Read more about: [Pieter’s editorial introduction](#) to “Advances in the Study of Post-Communist States and Public Administration”

Book reviews

Lelkes, Orsolya (2009) ‘Review of István György Tóth (ed.): Tárki European Social Report’, *TÁRKI: Budapest, Czech Sociological Review*, 44 (6)

Read more about: [full Reviews Section of the CSR winter 2008 issue](#)

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

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

Pieter’s book on the politics of CEE social policies, *Divide and Pacify*, has been newly reviewed in the last 2008 issue or the upcoming 2009 issue of the following 4 journals:

Acta Politica, *Journal of European Social Policy*, *Journal of Social Policy*, *Slavonic and East European Review*



Excerpts from *Acta Politica*, 2008, 43(4):

“One of the most challenging and provocative publications that has appeared so far on the transformation of Central and Eastern European (CEE) welfare states... One of the numerous positive aspects of the book is that it provides a re-worked version of Hirschman’s theory of *exit, voice, and loyalty*, which explains how politicians expanded the existing welfare state even in the presence of strong pressures from international institutions (such as the World Bank and the IMF) and budget constraints. ... Of crucial importance ... [is] not only the argument according to which welfare provisions can play a functional *social pacifying role*, but also, and this is the extremely innovative element proposed by Vanhuysse, *dividing functions* which do not necessarily lead to system-instability. a must read.”

Excerpts from *Journal of European Social Policy*, 2009, 19(2):

“In his thought-provoking book, Vanhuysse’s main focus is on the early transition period. ... From the first word to the last, this well-written book is one straight line of thought, which makes it a pleasure to read and easy to capture and remember (and summarise). Additionally, it is very well embedded in the existing literature. Vanhuysse argues persuasively that – in spite of conditions for disruptive protests – the dual transition to capitalism and democracy evolved remarkably peacefully, against expectations. ... drawing mainly on political science, sociology and psychology, Vanhuysse constructs an innovative explanatory framework in which the strategic use of social policy and the role of local social networks are key variables. ... With his empirical analysis Vanhuysse not only confirms his thesis, but also presents an interesting account of how these early social policy choices led to different paths of social policy reforms within East Central Europe.”

Excerpts from *Journal of Social Policy*, 2009, 38(1)

“This book aims to provide an explanation for the acquiescence of populations in east-central Europe in the face of falling living standards and rising unemployment in the early and mid-1990s. A central place in the argument is given to social policy as part of a ‘divide and pacify’ strategy ... These social policies were important support both for the economic transformation and for the institutionalisation of democracy. ... Vanhuysse has directed attention onto an important issue in social policy formation in east-central Europe in the early 1990s. He provides a strong argument that elements of social policy served to reduce the potential for protest.”

Excerpts from *Slavonic and East European Review*, 2009, 87(1).

“PIETER VANHUYSSSE’s thought-provoking study takes as its starting point the question...: why did widespread early predictions that post-communist democracies would be convulsed by Latin American-style waves of social protest prove so wrong? ... *Divide and Pacify* develops a coherent, wide-ranging and persuasive re-interpretation of the politics of post-communist transformation, which smartly integrates work on comparative democratization, social movements, the sociology of unemployment, and the political economy of pension reform. As such, it offers both considerable food for thought and a powerful springboard for future research.”

Read more about: [Divide and Pacify](#)



Vanhuyse, Pieter (2009) Review of Julia Lynch (2006), *Age in the Welfare State: The Origins of Social Spending on Pensioners, Workers, and Children*

Pieter's review of Julia Lynch's groundbreaking social policy book has been published in the first 2009 issue of the *Journal of Social Policy*.

Excerpts from *Journal of Social Policy*, 38(1):

"In this study of the origins of age-related biases in contemporary social policy, Julia Lynch sets out to answer three interrelated questions that have thus far been inadequately explored. First, how do social policies in rich democracies differentially protect different age groups? Second, how does this "elderly/non-elderly" public policy bias vary across the OECD welfare states? Third, how best to explain these variations across time and place? ... The great virtue of *Age in the Welfare State* is that it succeeds in answering all three of its major research questions in a robust, systematic, and thought-provoking way. The book's main concern, public policy age bias, is of ever-growing relevance to sociologists, political scientists and economists as well ... also because such bias is likely to have significant repercussions for variables such as labor market participation, fertility and family planning, voting behavior, and skills and human capital formation."

Pieter Vanhuyse (ed.), *Czech Sociological Review, Winter 2008, Book Reviews*

The Reviews Section of the December 2008 issue of the ISI-listed *Czech Sociological Review*, edited by Pieter Vanhuyse, features a total of 12 contributions by the likes of Zygmunt Bauman and Herbert Gintis, who review exciting new work on sociology, politics, and social policy by Claus Offe, Frances Rosenbluth, Nina Bandelj and others. It also features a special section on "Behavioral Economics for Sociological Purposes", reviewing groundbreaking new work by the likes of Cass Sunstein (who has been appointed as Barack Obama's new Regulations Chief), Richard Thaler, Samuel Bowles, Ernst Fehr, and George Loewenstein.

This new CSR issue also prominently highlights the European Centre's work. It features a review by the Centre's Orsolya Lelkes on the TÁRKI European Social Report 2008, edited by István György Tóth, as well as a review by Sharon Shiovitz-Ezra from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem of one of the Centre's publications, i.e. *Integrating Health and Social Care Services for Older Persons: Evidence from Nine European Countries*, edited by Jenny Billings and Kai Leichsenring.

Excerpts from Shiovitz-Ezra's CSR review of Billings and Leichsenring (2005):

"... the findings presented in this book are highly important, as they usefully reflect various aspects of integrated care for older persons in the nine European countries from different viewpoints. ... A major strong point of this book is that it goes behind the research realm to the practical level. ... *Integrating Health and Social Care Services for Older Persons* addresses important contemporary issues that are most relevant to the quality of the services which older individuals receive when they become chronically ill and in need of long-term care. The editors did a good job in structuring the book, with a well-organized introduction, methodology presentation, and summary chapters. The seven other chapters have also a



clear structure that enables a quick grasp of the issues raised. In addition to academic readers, professionals such as social workers, nurses, therapists and doctors who provide health and social care services for older persons can highly benefit from the theoretical, empirical and practical insights this book provides in its comprehensive treatment of health and care services.”

Excerpts from Orsolya Lelkes’s CSR review of Toth (2008):

“This European Social Report ... has a special focus on comparing the EU’s New Member States (NMS), which joined in 2004, and the EU15, focusing, particularly, the situation of Hungary. ... The Report is “social”, as it provides concise evidence on the social situation, including the demographic, labour market, income and housing situation of households. It is “European”, as it is largely based on a comparative dataset for 24 European Union Member States, the “Community Statistics on Income and Living Conditions” (EU-SILC), and thus the weighted dataset represents almost 190 million European households. ... This report provides a rich array of evidence on rather vast subject areas. ... One might think of this volume as a crash course on social reality in Europe. According to the intentions of the editors, this is the first issue of a new series to come, so it is well worth keeping an eye on the forthcoming issues as well.”

In addition, Pieter has already commissioned in-depth reviews of two further books in the Centre’s “Public Policy and Social Welfare” series: Asghar Zaidi’s (2008) *Well-being of Older People in Ageing Societies*, and Bernd Marin and Asghar Zaidi’s (2007) *Mainstreaming Ageing: Indicators To Monitor Sustainable Policies*. These reviews will be forthcoming in the CSR’s next issue.

Read more about: [full Reviews Section of the CSR winter 2008 issue](#),
[book “Integrating Health and Social Care Services for Older Persons”](#),
[book “Well-being of Older People in Ageing Societies”](#),
[book “Mainstreaming Ageing: Indicators To Monitor Sustainable Policies”](#)

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

Journals

Huber, Manfred/Rodrigues, Ricardo (2008) ‘Long-term Care for Older People in Europe: A Slim Silver Lining for the Age d’Or’, *AARP Winter Journal* 2009, pp. 78- 82

Read more about: [AARP Winter Journal 2009](#)

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

Newspaper Articles

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

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



Personnel Matters

Georg Ruppe

On January 15th, Georg Ruppe joined the European Centre as a researcher in the Health and Care team, which he will complement with a medical and medical-anthropological perspective. Georg will be working mainly on the INTERLINKS project, focusing among other things on prevention and rehabilitation in long-term care as well as on the national adaptation and dissemination of research results.

Georg is a Medical Doctor (University of Vienna/ Austria), with a specialization as a general practitioner. He also received a postgraduate Masters degree in “Medical Anthropology” from the University of Amsterdam/The Netherlands in 2006. Before joining the European Centre, he worked for two years as a researcher and coordinator of an interdisciplinary platform on “Ageing and Health” at the Danube-University Krems and as scientific collaborator in the “Department for Palliative Care and Organizational Ethics” in Vienna (Faculty for Interdisciplinary Studies – IFF/ University of Klagenfurt).

His research interests are interdependencies between the socio-cultural context and the organization of health care services, the bio-psycho-social model of ill health, the relationship between medical intervention and life quality in old age and questions concerning the efficiency of comprehensive and multi-disciplinary health and preventative care models.

Georg speaks German (mother tongue), English and Spanish.

Read more about: [Georg Ruppe](#)

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



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