



*Dear Reader,*

We are very pleased to send you the redesigned Newsletter of the European Centre.

We hope the Newsletter will attract your attention. Please do not hesitate to forward it to any other organisation and person whom you think may be interested in issues related to our research focus.

Sincerely yours,

Annette Hexelschneider

Head of Knowledge and Information Management Support Unit

## INVOLVEMENTS

### **2006 Carl Bertelsmann Prize: Active Ageing in Economy and Society**

Our Executive Director Bernd Marin is member of the working committee that supervised the research and guided the selection process for the prize. The committee nominates the winner and the board of trustees of the Bertelsmann Stiftung will act as Jury for the Prize.

An international conference will highlight the prize ceremony in September.

“With the 2006 Carl Bertelsmann Prize, the Bertelsmann Stiftung aims to accelerate the paradigm shift needed in Germany and invigorate society’s shift toward a more value-generating engagement and activity of older people in business and society.”

[Project description](#)



## Projects

### Poverty of Elderly People

At the request of the European Commission, Asghar Zaidi, European Centre Research Director, participated in the meeting of the Social Protection Committee (SPC) and presented the findings of the two reports of the “Elderly Poverty” project. The SPC has the objective of enhancement of cooperation in the field of social protection across the 25 Member States and is represented by a group of high-level policy officials from all countries. The SPC Members took great interest in the European Centre’s work on analyzing the possible impact of recent pension reforms on retirement incomes and poverty of future generations of older populations. The country representatives also committed to sending written comments on the two reports.

Project Directors: Asghar Zaidi, Bernd Marin

Project Team EC: Michael Fuchs, Orsolya Lelkes, Barbara Lipszyc, Mattia Makovec

[Read more about the project.](#)

## Events

### 13 July 2006 – Vienna: Expert Workshop

Michael Fuchs participated in an expert workshop on the reconciliation of work and family life organised by the Association of Austrian Industries (IV), the Austrian Chamber of Commerce (WKÖ), the Chamber of Labour Vienna (AK Wien) and the Austrian Trade Union Association (ÖGB). The targets of the workshop were to sensitise policy-makers to measures for the improvement of the reconciliation of work and family life and – based on topical scientific studies – to stimulate an open discussion of implementation possibilities in the field of child-care facilities. The studies

- analyzed the interdependencies of female employment rates and birth rates in an international comparison (Institute for Advanced Studies),
- described the status quo and demand for child-care places in Austria (European Centre),
- as well as presented financing models for formal child-care (Austrian Institute for Family Research).



## 28/29 September 2006 – Vienna: Workshop

In the upcoming workshop “Aktuelle Entwicklungen in der Arbeit mit suchtgefährdeten Jugendlichen” (Current Developments in the Work with Youth at Risk of Becoming Addicted) Irmgard Eisenbach-Stangl from the European Centre will speak about “Jugendliche Alkohol- und Drogenszenen: Ein Indikator für soziale Desintegration” (Juvenile Alcohol- and Drug Scenes: An Indicator of Social Disintegration).

[Agenda \(in German\)](#)

## 4/5 December 2006 – Helsinki: Conference under Finnish EU Presidency

The conference “Challenges in Combating Pensioner Poverty: What Alternative Options for a Policy Direction in the EU” will be organised jointly by the European Centre, the European Commission (DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities) and three large Finnish institutes: National Research and Development Centre for Welfare and Health (STAKES); The Social Insurance Institution of Finland (KELA); The Finnish Centre for Pensions (ETK). The event will be attended by high-level policy officials from all member countries of the European Union, as well as by high-level representatives of the European Commission, OECD, World Bank, poverty and pension experts from academia, and older people’s lobbying groups (such as AGE). The aim of the conference is to identify good policy practices that contribute to the lowering of poverty risk amongst pensioners. Asghar Zaidi is the lead person in organising the conference, with support from Marjaliisa Kauppinen of STAKES and Olivier Bontout of the Commission.

## Publications

### Working Paper:

Lelkes, Orsolya (2006) “Social Exclusion in Central-Eastern Europe. Concept, Measurement and Policy Interventions”, European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research, Vienna; STEP Portugal, International Labour Office, Geneva

### [Publication](#)

OECD Working Paper by our Research Affiliate Herwig Immervoll et al.:

Dang, Thai-Thao; Immervoll, Herwig; Mantovani, Daniela; Orsini, Kristian; Sutherland, Holly (2006) “An Age Perspective on Economic Well-Being and Social Protection in Nine OECD Countries”, OECD Social, Employment and Migration Working Papers, Directorate for Employment, Labour and Social Affairs

### [Publication](#)



## Newspaper Articles:

[Marin, Bernd \(2006\) Various articles in Der Standard, Vienna, 2006](#)

Contact for general newsletter/website comments, suggestions or questions:

Annette Hexelschneider  
Head of Knowledge and Information Management Support Unit  
European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research  
Berggasse 17  
A-1090 Vienna (Austria)  
Tel: +43-1-319 45 05-23  
Fax: +43-1-319 45 05-19  
[hexelschneider@euro.centre.org](mailto:hexelschneider@euro.centre.org)

Contact for general research questions: [ec@euro.centre.org](mailto:ec@euro.centre.org)

Contacts for Activities & Products are listed on the website.

Please feel welcome to forward the newsletter to others.

If you wish to reproduce any information please contact [hexelschneider@euro.centre.org](mailto:hexelschneider@euro.centre.org)

If you wish to unsubscribe please answer this mail with "Unsubscribe" in the subject line.

Every reasonable effort has been made to ensure that the information provided is accurate. The European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research does not warrant its accuracy and disclaims any liability to any third party anywhere in the world for any injury, damage, direct or indirect loss, consequential or economic loss or any other loss suffered as a result of the use or reliance upon the information contained in the newsletter and our web pages to the maximum extent permitted by law.

The newsletter contains links to external sites over which the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research has no control and accepts no responsibility, as long as the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research has no information about the illegality of the information. Should you have information about such content on pages where we link to please immediately send a mail to [ec@euro.centre.org](mailto:ec@euro.centre.org).