



Dear Reader,

This month, Erna Riemer hands over her position as Head of Administration and Finance to Judith Schreiber, and will retire from work.

Thank you very much for your services, Erna! We wish both of you the very best for the future! More can be found on page 9.

Sincerely yours,

Annette Hexelschneider

Head of Knowledge and Information Management Support Unit

Projects

INTERLINKS – Website & Conference

Launch of the INTERLINKS Website

INTERLINKS has produced an interactive website that has been launched at the Second INTERLINKS Sounding Board Conference in The Hague and Noordwijkerhout (The Netherlands), 17-19 May 2011. Please get involved and sign up: <http://interlinks.euro.centre.org/>

INTERLINKS aims to inspire stakeholders such as professionals, policy-makers, people from administrative agencies, and NGOs representing older people and carers, to think about ways in which they can develop and improve their long-term care approaches.

These stakeholders are also invited to provide feedback and to contribute with their practice examples to further develop the INTERLINKS framework for long-term care.

INTERLINKS Conference

Save the date! The final conference of INTERLINKS will take place 12-14 October 2011 in Baden near Vienna (Austria). Please register between 1 June and 15 July 2011.

Read more about: [conference information & registration](#)

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



Research on the Comparison and Policy Effectiveness Indicators of Coherent Drug Policies

Sponsored by the Groupe Pompidou, this project will deal with the following research questions:

- What are the best structures to achieve coherent drug policies?
- Which types of models could be used to test whether a coherent policy could reach its expected results?

The objective is to set up an ad hoc group to analyse this type of policies in order to make an international comparison of the structures and to establish a list of test indicators to measure the results of effective drug policies. It will also analyse current systems in place in several countries in order to measure the effectiveness of national drug policies.

Read more about: [project](#)

For further information please contact: [Irmgard Eisenbach-Stangl](#)

Social Situation Observatory – Website

A new web knowledge base collects together the results of the research carried out by the Income Distribution and Living Conditions' network of the Social Situation Observatory.

It includes comparative analyses of income inequality, risk of poverty, material deprivation, distribution of wealth and non-monetary aspects of well-being across the EU and factors underlying these. To a large extent it is based on the EU-SILC (Statistics on Income and Living Conditions), specifically on the published micro-data, and it extends the periodic studies produced by Eurostat on various issues, which can be examined by using the data.

It also, however, brings to bear a range of other data sources, which can help to increase understanding of the social situation across the EU and related developments, 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.

The focus is on analysis – which is of relevance for policy-makers – in order to give a more detailed and complete insight into the issues concerned and to provide a firmer basis for the policies implemented to improve the social situation and well-being of people across the EU.



The content is being updated and extended each year to reflect the most recent data available and to include new analysis undertaken by members of the network.

Read more about: [website](#), [the Social Situation Observatory and the European Centre](#)

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

Events

Upcoming Events

6-8 July, Warszawa (Poland): 19th European Social Services Conference

Kai Leichsenring will present the results of the project “Contracting for Quality” at the European Social Services Conference, organised by the European Social Network (ESN) under the heading “Building an Active and Caring Society: Innovation, Participation, Community” (Warsaw, 6-8 July 2011).

The plenary session “Contracting for Quality” will take place on 7 July with participation of AGE and other stakeholders involved in planning, purchasing, delivering and controlling long-term care services for older people.

Read more about: [conference](#), [report “Contracting for Quality”](#)

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

Past Events

6 June, Vienna (Austria): Effektive und faire Anreize für ein längeres Erwerbsleben (Effective and Fair Incentives for a Longer Working Life)

Michael Fuchs and Bernd Marin presented European Centre empirical findings and policy proposals in the workshop of the Austrian Federal Ministry of Finance.

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

1 June, Vienna (Austria): Rethinking Age and Ageing

Sergei Scherbov, Research Group Leader at the Vienna Institute of Demography of the Austrian Academy of Sciences, visited the European Centre and gave a lecture on his research on ageing.

Read more about: [Sergei Scherbov](#)

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



31 May, Vienna (Austria): Visit from Slovenia

We had the pleasure to welcome Davor Dominkus and Martina Trbanc (Board Member and National Liaison Official) from the Slovenian Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs at the European Centre, to discuss future projects.

Read more about: [Slovenian Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs](#)

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

25-27 May, St. Pölten (Austria): Österreichischer Städtetag (Austrian Cities' Congress)

Kai Leichsenring talked about “Langzeitpflege im europäischen Vergleich – Wer ist zuständig und wer trägt die Verantwortung?” (Comparing Long-Term Care in Europe – Who Is Responsible and Who Is Accountable?).

Read more about: [presentation](#) (in German)

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

26 May, Vienna (Austria): Visit of German Delegation of the Evangelisch-Lutherische Kirche Oldenburg

Bernd Marin presented the European Centre and its international research to a delegation of the German Evangelisch-Lutherische Kirche Oldenburg who visited international organisations in Vienna on a study tour on “Globalisierung – Einfluss auf internationale Entwicklungen” (Globalisation – Influence on International Developments).

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

25-26 May, Belgrade (Serbia): The Belgrade Lectures Series in Political Economy

At the invitation of Professor Mihail Arandarenko, our National Liaison Official from Serbia, and Mr Michael Ehrke, Head of the Ebert Stiftung, Office for Serbia, Pieter Vanhuysse held the first series of two Belgrade Lectures in Political Economy at Belgrade University around the common theme of “The Comparative Politics of Social Welfare Policies in Postcommunist Democracies”.

The Belgrade Lectures Series in Political Economy is a joint initiative of the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung and the Foundation for the Advancement of Economics (FREN).



The next Belgrade Lecture Series will be held by Branko Milanovic (World Bank), in July 2011.

Read more about: [event](#), [invitation “Strategic Social Policies in Central European Democracies”](#), [invitation “Political Economy of Population Ageing in the OECD”](#)

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

20 May, London (UK): Experts’ Seminar on Ageing and Long-Term Care Needs, London School of Economics

Ricardo Rodrigues was one of the panelists of the Round Table discussion “What Next in LTC? Meeting Increasing Demand in a Time of Fiscal Constraints”.

His intervention highlighted how governance of long-term care and links with other social policy areas (e.g. housing for older people) are likely to affect public expenditure on long-term care, namely by impacting on incentives and behaviour of stakeholders.

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

12 May, Vöcklabruck (Austria): Franziskanisches Frühjahrssymposium (Franciscan Spring Symposium)

Kai Leichsenring presented an overview of INTERLINKS results on “Finanzierung, Strukturen, Organisation und Qualität der Langzeitpflege im europäischen Vergleich” (Funding, Structures, Organisation and Quality of Long-Term Care in Europe)

Read more about: [presentation](#) (in German)

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

10 May, Vienna (Austria): Ageing Societies – Mature People. Gesundes Altern als Chance? (Healthy Ageing as Chance?)

At the symposium of the Austrian Academy of Sciences Bernd Marin participated in the panel discussion on “Wie kann unsere Gesellschaft die Potenziale älterer Menschen besser nutzen?” (How Can Our Society Better Use the Potential of Older People?).

Read more about: [event](#)

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



6 May, Vicenza (Italy): Conference “Oltre l’Isee: politiche tariffarie e familiari a confronto” (Beyond the “Indicator of the Equivalent Economic Situation”: Family Policies and Tariff Strategies in Comparison)

Kai Leichsenring presented comparative data and theoretical considerations on family policy in Europe. The conference was organised by the Department of Family and Peace of the Municipality of Vicenza.

Read more about: [presentation](#) (in Italian)

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

5-8 April, Amsterdam (The Netherlands): International Forum on Quality and Safety in Healthcare

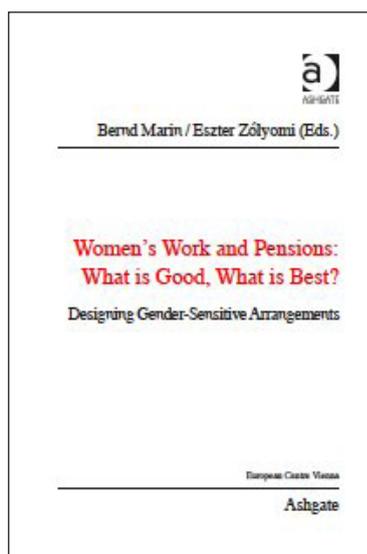
Kai Leichsenring presented results from the INTERLINKS project under the title “The Present and Future of Quality Management in Long-Term Care for Older People in Europe”, together with Henk Nies (Vilans, Centre of Expertise for Long-Term Care, The Netherlands).

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

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

Publications

Book Review



Marin, Bernd / Zólyomi, Eszter (Eds.) (2010) Women's Work and Pensions: What is Good, What is Best? Designing Gender-Sensitive Arrangements. Public Policy and Social Welfare Vol. 37. Farnham (UK): Ashgate / European Centre Vienna.

Reviewed by Haya Stier from Tel Aviv University in the International Journal of Social Welfare, Vol. 20, Issue 2, 2011, pp. 222-223. *Excerpt:*

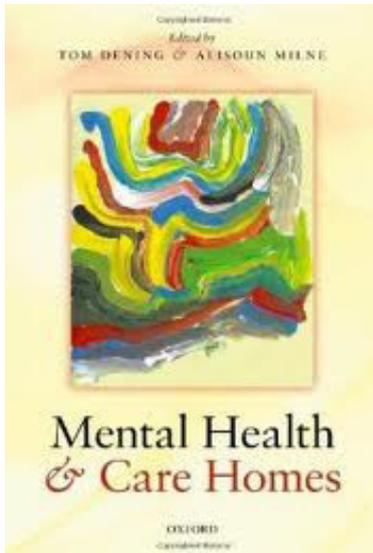
“... Women's Work and Pensions is a fine collection of studies, which together give an interesting and revealing account of pension arrangements and their possible implications on women's lives. As such, the book serves as a valuable resource for those interested in gender inequalities and how they evolve over a life time.”

Read more about: [book](#)

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



Book Contribution



Rodrigues, Ricardo / Hoffmann, Frédérique (2011) 'Long-Term Care: An International Perspective', in: Dening, Tom / Milne, Alisoun (eds.), Mental Health and Care Homes. Oxford University Press, September 2011 (forthcoming)

Excerpt:

The care home sector is large, with over 400 000 residents in the UK and a similar number employed within the homes. It is therefore an area of considerable economic importance. Care home residents are often very old, and many have multiple physical and mental health needs, meaning that their care poses particular challenges. They are also a distinctly and profoundly marginalised group who are often invisible in the wider debates on quality of care including those about care homes.

Mental Health and Care Homes is a coherent and evidence-based text exploring these issues. Bringing together both clinical and research perspectives it will help those working in the care home sector to deliver high quality care and support to both residents and staff. This important, yet neglected, area is thoroughly reviewed by a range of experts including residents, family carers, staff, researchers, and clinicians.

Read more about: [book](#)

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

Peer Reviewed Publication



Sabbagh, Clara / Vanhuyse, Pieter (2010) 'Intergenerational Justice Perceptions and the Role of Welfare Regimes: A Comparative Analysis of University Students', Administration & Society, Vol. 42, No. 6, pp. 638-667 (5-year impact factor: 1.268)

This article studies perceptions of intergenerational justice among over two thousand undergraduate university students from eight democracies spanning four different models, or 'worlds', of welfare. Together with Clara Sabbagh (University of Haifa), Pieter Vanhuyse examines two different, though interrelated, aspects of intergenerational justice: (1) whether, and how, different welfare regimes structure young people's perceptions of the justness of public resources transfers from young to elderly age-groups and (2) the perceived relative contributions and



rewards of various age-groups. Thus we inquire about both the perceived support in principle and about the perceived justness of actual outcomes of resource transfers between age-groups.

Sabbagh and Vanhuyse find that support of transfers from the young to the old is higher in social-democratic and conservative welfare regimes than in liberal and radical regimes. Support of resource transfers also correlates positively with a 'welfare-statist' ideological frame (the endorsement of egalitarian redistribution and broad state responsibility for welfare provision and the attribution of social inequality to external causes), and negatively with a 'market-based' frame (individualism, a work ethic, and internal attribution). Regarding actual outcomes, the following ordering of age-groups obtained regarding perceived contributions to society: Adults > youth > elderly. Regarding perceived rewards from society, the ranking was: Adults > elderly >= youth.

When comparing 'net intergenerational justice' – rewards relative to contributions – a systematic pattern is evident. Students in all welfare models generally perceive the elderly age group to be least under-rewarded by society, and the young to be most strongly under-rewarded, but most starkly so in the conservative regime – France.

More than other countries in our sample, the latter regime is simultaneously characterized by heavy tax burdens on labour, high levels of labour market exclusion or precarious employment for younger age cohorts, relatively low spending on education and active labour market programmes, and generous earnings-related public pensions. Consistent with recent claims on the looming legitimacy crisis of ageing welfare states, the implicit post-World War II 'welfare contract' between generations thus appears to be challenged by young citizens, at least by the relatively advantaged and well-informed university students studied here. What is more, it appears to be challenged in ways that can be made sense of when looking at the actual intergenerational (in)justice content of prevailing social policies.

Keywords: Generational politics, young citizens, justice attitudes, welfare states, institutional analysis, political sociology

Read more about: [article](#)

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

TV

Mehr Urlaub für alle – können wir uns das leisten? (More Holidays for Everyone – Can We Afford This?), 8 June 2011, ATV

Bernd Marin took part in a TV-discussion "Am Punkt" (To the Point) on the fact that the Gewerkschaft der Privatangestellten (Union of Privately Employed Persons) demands an increase of the currently five holiday weeks in Austria by one additional week.

8th June 2011, ATV.

Read more about: [video](#) (see below Recent Radio & TV), [charts of the discussion](#)

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



“Parasiten” (“Parasites”), 9 June 2011

The TV channel dada-dada.tv discussed the concept of “parasites” in different spheres of life – from bacteriology, microbiology, ethology, parasitology to society. Bernd Marin was invited as an expert and most sharply criticized the use of such concepts on social issues and in human society.
9th June 2011.

Read more about: dada-dada.tv

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

Newspaper Articles

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

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

Personnel Matters

Handover Head of Administration and Finance

After 15 years of services for the European Centre, Erna Riemer has announced her decision to retire. Judith Schreiber, working in the Financial Department of the European Centre for many years, will succeed her as Head of Administration and Finance starting the 1st of July. Judith has obtained a degree in Business Education at the Vienna University of Economics and Business.

Read more about: [Erna Riemer](#), [Judith Schreiber](#)

For further information please contact: [Erna Riemer](#), [Judith Schreiber](#)



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