



**Dear Reader,**

On March 11, the European Centre had the honour to welcome the Swedish Minister for Elderly Care and Public Health, Maria Larsson, here in Vienna. The meeting of [Maria Larsson](#) with the management and researchers of the European Centre addressed, among other topics, the preparation of health care and ageing events for the upcoming Swedish EU presidency.

**Annette Hexelschneider**

Head of Knowledge and Information Management Support Unit

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## Projects

### Quality in and Equality of Access to Healthcare Services

The final version of the study “Quality in and Equality of Access to Healthcare Services” has now been published by the European Commission, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunity.

Read more about: [study](#)

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

### Research Notes are published on-line

The “Research Notes” are produced for the European Commission, by the Social Inclusion and Income Distribution network of the European Observatory on the Social Situation and Demography.

#### **“Social inclusion of migrants and their 2nd generation descendants” by Orsolya Lelkes, Eszter Zolyomi**

The topic of this research note is, first, to consider alternative ways of defining the migrant population in the EU and to estimate the size of these groups. Secondly, it is to examine the characteristics and situation of those identified in terms of their household circumstances, education levels, employment status and income levels and to compare these with those of the non-migrant majority population in order to assess in how far they are disadvantaged as a group. The focus throughout is on people of working age who are key to the income and standards of living of migrants’ families.



### **“Preparation and analysis of Eurobarometer on social exclusion” (Reflection Paper) by Orsolya Lelkes, Eszter Zolyomi**

The paper provides an overview of the Special Eurobarometer surveys and reports on poverty and exclusion, followed by a presentation of main findings of recent surveys.

### **“Child poverty and ethnic minorities” by Orsolya Lelkes with András Gábos, Lucinda Platt, Mayya Hristova and Terry Ward**

This paper is divided into two parts. The first is concerned with policies for addressing child poverty and reviews the studies carried out on this. The second part examines the incidence of child poverty among ethnic minorities on the basis of data from the EU-SILC. The data concerned are not directly on ethnic origin, since questions on this are not included in the survey, but relate to nationality and country of birth, which at least may be indicative of the position of ethnic minorities across the EU.

Read more about: [Research Notes](#)

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

## **Involvements**

### **London School of Economics and Political Sciences**

Asghar Zaidi has been honoured to become a Visiting Senior Fellow by the Centre for Analysis of Social Exclusion (CASE) of the London School of Economics and Political Sciences for a period of three years till 2012.

Read more about: [Centre for Analysis of Social Exclusion](#)

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

### **Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation**

Manfred Huber was invited to the Advisory Panel for “International Resources for Health” of the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME) based in Seattle, Washington/USA and visited the IHME on March 16-18. At this occasion he also presented work of the European Centre on long-term care policy at a Seminar on Global Health of the Washington University.



The vision of IHME is to make available to the world high-quality information on population health, its determinants, and the performance of health systems in a global context, such as by tracking international resources for health. IHME is directed by Christopher J.L. Murray and has received funding from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Read more about: [IHME](#)

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

## Events

### Past Events

#### **26-28 March, Perugia (Italy): The 11th Bank of Italy Workshop on Public Finance: “Pension Reform, Fiscal Policy and Economic Performance”**

Asghar Zaidi spoke about older people’s income and poverty in this workshop covering analysis for 30 OECD countries.

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

### Upcoming Events

#### **22 April 2009, Brussels (Belgium): Access Barriers to Healthcare among People with Mental Disorders**

This is the first of three Policy Seminars to disseminate key findings of the European study “Quality in and Equality of Access to Healthcare Services”, to be held in Brussels. The European Centre cooperated on this study with the European Health Management Association in Brussels, which organises these events.

The Seminar will feature the topic of access to mainstream health care of people with mental health problems, based on a contribution by Christian Wahlbeck from THL, Finland (formerly STAKES). The Seminar will be a forum to discuss implications of the study findings with the authors of the study and European-level stakeholders and policy-makers.

Read more about: [European Health Management Association, project](#)

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



## Publications

### Working Papers

#### **Narazani, E./ Shima, I. (2009) 'Labour Incentive Reforms in Pre-Retirement Age in Austria', EUROMOD Working Paper EMI/09**

Abstract:

In view of the political debate on the future sustainability of the pension system in Austria and given the low participation of older workers in the labour market, in this paper we try to shed light on employment and retirement behaviour while a combination of reduction in pension benefits along with income support is provided. We find out that reforms characterized by moderately generous income support while working along with lower pension entitlement in early retirement, yield higher social welfare compared to the current system. The labour supply response signals an increase under the proposed reforms among middle-income males in the age category 55-60, whereas these reforms seem to be ineffective for women. These findings emphasize the importance of introducing pension reforms complemented with tax-benefit policies such that the former remove the disincentives to retire earlier and the later enhance the employment of workers in pre-retirement age.

Read more about: [working paper](#)

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

### 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](#)



## News from our National Liaison Officials

### Publication of the Slovak National Liaison Official Institute

The Institute for Labour and Family Research of our Slovak National Liaison Official Kvetoslava Repková has published a new issue of its Bulletin “Family and Work”.

I/2009: Možnosti využitia a zberu etnických dát v sociálno-právnej ochrane a kuratele detí [Possibilities of Utilization and Collection of Ethnic Data in Social-Legal Protection and Guardianship of Children] by Milan Fico.

The Bulletin is based on recommendations of the UN Committee for the Rights of the Children, which suggests removing all drawbacks connected with the collection of ethnic data of children of national minorities. According to the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family, the situation of Gypsy children placed in foster families shows certain problems as ethnicity can be understood as a handicap. Knowing the total number of the Gypsy minority children, reveals disparities in various types of foster families or in the regions where measures of social-legal protection are carried out, and it can further a better targeting of social policies. The article points to the legal constraints of the collection of ethnic data and the theoretical background of the notions “ethnicity” and “nationality”. Various methods related to the collection of ethnic data and selected problems concerning the registration of statistical data of this type, are used to reveal the risks that this can bring.

Read more about: [issue I/2009](#)

For further information please contact: [Kvetoslava Repková](#)

## Support

### Le Grand Bal de Diversité

We would like to point out – especially for our Austrian readers – the upcoming Diversity Ball in Vienna, 18. April 2009. The Ball connects people of diverse origin and religion, people with and without disabilities, women and men, heterosexual and homosexual, old and young. A truly “equal opportunity”.

Read more about: [event](#)



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

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