



Dear Reader,

In the framework of the European Centre's research on drugs, this month we publish the book "Two Worlds of Drug Consumption in Late Modern Societies" edited by Irmgard Eisenbach-Stangl, Jacek Moskalewicz, and Betsy Thom. You will find more information on the publication in this Newsletter.

Annette Hexelschneider

Head of Knowledge and Information Management Support Unit

Vacancy at the European Centre

The European Centre is currently searching for one or two senior economists/social policy analysts to work on a broad range of health and/or long-term care research topics. Please consult the [vacancy notice](#).

Policy Briefs

Access to Health Care for Migrants, Ethnic Minorities, and Asylum Seekers in Europe

Poverty and social exclusion continue to be serious challenges across the European Union and for health systems in Member States. Migrants, asylum seekers and illegal immigrants are at high risk of poverty and social exclusion and there is evidence that they sometimes do not receive the care that best responds to their needs. Improved access to general health care, including also health promotion and prevention strategies, is therefore essential to minimising disadvantage for migrants. This Policy Brief outlines hurdles of access to health care for migrants and discusses policy implications.

Read more about: [Policy Brief](#)

For further information please contact: [Manfred Huber](#), [Anderson E. Stanciole](#)



Projects

New Project:

Return Migration and its Effects on Skills and Productivity of Migrant Workers

The aim of this project is to investigate the decision of high-skilled migrants to return to their country of origin. The research questions of this project are, among others:

- Do the skills of migrants in Austria differ from other EU countries?
- Does the experience of migration bring benefits upon returning to the home country and under what conditions?
- Which are the motives of high-skilled migrants to return, and is their return “sustainable”?

All these research questions have important policy implications in designing return incentive programmes, managing temporary migration and attracting high-skilled immigrants.

Read more about: [project](#)

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

Events

11-12 May 2009, Bratislava (Slovak Republic):

First Bureau Meeting of the UNECE Working Group on Ageing

Bernd Marin and Eszter Zólyomi attended this meeting, which was held in the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic and hosted by Miroslav Hetteš, General Director of International Relations at the Ministry. Eszter Zólyomi presented the work accomplished on indicators and website monitoring since the last Working Group Meeting (1-2 December 2008, Geneva) and informed members of the Bureau about the European Centre's MA:IMI Work Programme for the year 2009. The Bureau also discussed the agenda of the second meeting of the Working Group, which will take place in Geneva on 23-24 November 2009.

The meeting was attended by Viera Tomanova, Minister of Labour, Social Affairs and Family.

Read more about: [project](#), MonitoringRIS [website](#)

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



20-21 April 2009, Vienna (Austria): Workshop/Study Tour on Social and Long-Term Care (LTC)

Representatives from the World Bank and the European Centre Vienna held this joint workshop on social and long-term care in Vienna. A total of 22 invited researchers and staff from the World Bank, the European Commission and the European Centre as well as two experts from Latvia and Poland, participated in this meeting.

During the first day several presentations and country reports on the organization of long-term care for older people in countries of Central and Southern-Eastern Europe took place. The first presentation on 'Projecting Long-term Care Needs' (Bartosz Pryzwara, European Commission) illustrated the methodological issues of LTC country assessments. Manfred Huber and Ricardo Rodrigues then presented their 'Indicators for the LTC Sector' based on their forthcoming publication "Long-term Care for Older People in Europe: Facts and Figures" (Huber et al.). Several country presentations then followed, in which experts from Austria (Kai Leichsenring, European Centre), Germany (Manfred Huber, European Centre), Latvia (Lolita Vilka, Stradins University), Bulgaria (Sarbani Chakraborty, World Bank Office in Sofia), Russia (Anne Bakilana, World Bank), and Poland (Barbara Wiezcowska, Warsaw School of Economics) presented an overview of the long-term care systems in these countries.

The European Centre (Georg Ruppe) had organized a study tour in Vienna for the first half of the second day. The international delegation first visited a small living unit for older people suffering from dementia, run by the Caritas Socialis (a private non-profit organization) in the south of Vienna. After that, the group received a guided tour in the nursing and old-age home "Haus Leopoldau" (run by the Kuratorium Wiener Pensionistenwohnhäuser) and had lunch and open discussions with some regional experts in the field of long-term care, who also attended the guided tour.

In the afternoon of the second day the workshop ended with a framework discussion supported by presentations by Sarbani Chakraborty, Johannes Koettl (World Bank) and Maria Hofmarcher (Institute for Advanced Studies Vienna). The combination of theoretical discourse, impressions from everyday practice in long-term care, and lively discussions created all in all a successful two-day workshop.

Read more about: [Publication on care indicators for comparative policy analysis](#)

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



Publications

New European Centre Book

**Eisenbach-Stangl, Irmgard/ Moskalewicz, Jacek/ Thom, Betsy (Eds.) (2009)
Two Worlds of Drug Consumption in Late Modern Societies.
Public Policy and Social Welfare Vol. 34 (A Series Edited by Bernd Marin,
European Centre). Aldershot (UK): Ashgate.**

This book reports on the findings of an empirical study on the situation of drug users, their consumption patterns and drug spending for the five most common illegal drugs, i.e. heroin, cocaine, amphetamines, ecstasy and cannabis.

The research is based on a newly created detailed survey instrument that was developed for the United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime (UNODC). A state-of-the-art review from additional sources complements this comparison of the drug situation in six European cities, which represent a wide range of drug problems and public policies. The cities studied are from West to East: London, Amsterdam, Turin, Prague, Vienna and Warsaw.

Read more about: [book](#)

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

TV

Arm gegen Reich – hält der soziale Friede, ORF [Austrian Television], 3 May 2009

In a TV discussion experts, among them Bernd Marin from the European Centre, talked about the conflict between poor and rich people in Europe and focussed on the question: How long will social peace be maintained in Austria?

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

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

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](#)



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