



Dear Reader,

We are grateful and proud for two important opportunities to show our competence in long-term care research – the International Expert Meeting “Monitoring Long-Term Care for the Elderly” in Israel and the Conference of the Swedish Presidency of the EU on “Healthy and Dignified Ageing”. Please find more information in this newsletter issue.

Annette Hexelschneider

Head of Knowledge and Information Management Support Unit

Projects

Analysis and Comparison of the Welfare Systems of Selected Metropolises

From October 2009 till March 2010 the European Centre will be working on a new project called “Analysis and Comparison of the Welfare Systems of Selected Metropolises” [Analyse und Vergleich der Wohlfahrtssysteme ausgewählter Großstädte], tendered and funded by the City of Vienna, MA 24.

The target of the expertise is to compile a substantial empirical analysis of the welfare and health system of the City of Vienna in comparison to five other European metropolises (Brussels, Hamburg, Stockholm, Lisbon, Prague). Both the current status as well as the ability to react to changes and challenges in the future will be investigated. The analysis will be based on significant indicators, which according to the different regional and national context do not represent pure quantitative output indicators only. Rather, socio-economic background factors as well as impact spheres, areas of responsibility, structures, size, expenditure level, income autonomy, etc. of the metropolises will be considered and related to the output. Thereby, both the unique and the common features of the metropolises will be elaborated on.

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



Events

Upcoming Events

12-13 October 2009, Vienna International Centre (VIC), United Nations Office at Vienna (Austria): European Centre General Assembly Meeting 2009

The General Assembly Meeting is the annual meeting of Board members, NLOs, EC staff and observers. The management report by the Executive Director and thematic sessions with transversal papers written by staff members and commented upon by NLOs inform about last year's work performed by the EC. Moreover, they highlight possibilities for further activities.

Read more about: [agenda and abstracts](#)

For further information please contact: [Mercedes Gonzalez-Quijano](#)

27 October 2009, Brussels (Belgium): European Action Day – Informal Care CARERS Project

The aim of the project CARERS is to set up an education and support system specifically geared toward those looking after people dependent on care, providing answers to informal carers' needs in their support work as well as for their own emotional well-being.

The final conference is an opportunity to share the results of CARERS with a wider group of stakeholders and to discuss the future of education and training for both informal and formal carers with decision-makers, public opinion leaders and European specialists in the field of care-giving.

Kai Leichsenring will be one of the keynote speakers and talk about "The Role of Informal Care in European Long-Term Care Systems".

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

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

19 November 2009, St. Pölten (Austria): Symposium "Alter(n) in Bewegung – Gesundheitsförderung im Wandel" [Ageing in Motion – Changing Health Promotion]

At the occasion of this symposium of the Österreichische Plattform für Interdisziplinäre Altersfragen (ÖPIA) [Austrian Platform for Interdisciplinary Research on Ageing] and the Niederösterreichische Gebietskrankenkasse (NÖGKK) [Lower Austrian Regional Health Insurance Fund], Bernd Marin will speak about "Altern und Jungbleiben in Bewegung – statt länger, gesünder leben und kürzer arbeiten" [Ageing and Staying Young in Motion – instead of Longer Living, Healthier Living and Shorter Working"].



Scientific Coordination and moderation by Franz Böhmer (SMZ-Sophienspital Wien, ÖPIA) und Georg Ruppe (European Centre, ÖPIA).

Read more about: [agenda](#)

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

Past Events

4 September 2009, Brussels (Belgium): Barriers to Healthcare Services Faced by Older People with Functional Limitations

This seminar was the third and final one in a series of policy seminars aimed at engaging key stakeholders in a fruitful exchange of strategies and results of the recently published study “Quality in and Equality of Access to Healthcare Services” (HealthQUEST).

Manfred Huber gave a presentation on “Barriers to Healthcare Services for Older People with Functional Limitations”.

Read more about: [presentations](#), [project](#)

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

6-10 September 2009, Jerusalem (Israel): International Expert Meeting “Monitoring Long-Term Care for the Elderly”

Long-term care as a separate social programme and systematic social policy concern is still a relatively young subject. Nevertheless, demographic ageing and associated economic and social changes have all contributed to bring long-term care into the limelight of discussion on social policies and ageing.

In answer to the growing interest in long-term care issues and seeking to fill a glaring gap of information on basic indicators on long-term care, the European Centre and the Israeli Ministry of Social Affairs have organized, in cooperation with JDC-ESHEL, an expert meeting on long-term care.

During this meeting, a draft of the forthcoming publication “Facts and Figures on Long-Term Care – Europe and North America” was first presented and served as the background paper for the ensuing discussion, which brought together experts from both Europe and Israel to debate relevant issues on long-term care. Among the issues debated during the meeting were quality of care, the role of migrant care workers, and home care vs. institutional care. The discussion was supplemented by on-site visits to long-term care services in the Israeli cities of Ashdod and Ashkelon, which provided the participants with an insight into innovative initiatives in the areas of community care.

Read more about: [event](#)

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



9-12 September 2009, Potsdam (Germany): 4th General Conference of the European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR)

Pieter Vanhuysse has acted as Director and Organizer of Panel 218, Section 24 on “Generational Politics from a Comparative Perspective”, together with Achim Goerres, University of Cologne. In addition to the Directors’ presentations, this panel featured presentations by Patrik Marier (Research Professor, Concordia University, Canada), Katrin Prinzen (Cologne University, Germany), Markus Tepe (Oldenburg University, Germany), and Virpi Timonen (Trinity College Dublin, Ireland).

Read more about: [information and all papers](#)

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

15-16 September, Stockholm (Sweden): Swedish Presidency of the EU “Conference on Healthy and Dignified Ageing”

Long-term care is arguably the area of social policy where European Union Member States differ the most as to how care needs of dependent older people are to be addressed. And yet, because of this underlying diversity, Member States could greatly benefit from each other’s experiences.

Building on the expertise of the Health and Care team, as well as on the comparative nature of the research undertaken by the European Centre, Bernd Marin, Kai Leichsenring, Ricardo Rodrigues and Manfred Huber prepared a background paper to the keynote speech provided by Bernd Marin at the “Conference on Healthy and Dignified Ageing” – at the initiative and invitation of the Swedish Minister for Elderly Care and Public Health, Maria Larsson, and with the active participation of Her Majesty Queen Silvia.

Based on the forthcoming publication “Facts and Figures on Long-Term Care – Europe and North America”, the paper explores the diversity and common trends in long-term care in Europe, pointing out to findings such as: while most people are cared for at home, most public resources in Europe are still devoted to institutional care; or to the role that informal care-giving continues to play in the delivery of care. The paper then proceeds to develop key policy challenges such as the need to enhance coordination between health and social care services; to improve access of older people to mainstream health care; the role of choice in publicly provided care; the challenges associated with Alzheimer and other dementias; the workforce issues that revolve around the provision of long-term care, from labour shortages to use of migrant care workers; or the improvement and assurance of quality in care services. The paper also draws on examples and lessons from good practices in EU countries on local and national level.

Read more about: [paper and presentation](#) that accompanied the keynote speech, [conference information](#)

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



18 September, Vienna (Austria): Child Care Provision and Maternal Employment – Lessons from Hungary

The international Seminar with Agota Scharle (Executive Partner of the Budapest Institute for Policy Analysis, Hungary) presented the first results of an analysis of the effect of child care provisions on female labour supply in Europe and a related proposal for changing family policy in Hungary.

If you would like to be invited to further International Seminars please send us a [mail](#).

Read more about: [details, presentation](#) (link in left column)

For further information please contact: [Agota Scharle](#)

Publications

Books

**Zaidi, Asghar/ Harding, Ann/ Williamson, Paul (Eds.) (2009)
New Frontiers in Microsimulation Modelling. Public Policy and Social Welfare Vol. 36.
Farnham (UK): Ashgate / European Centre Vienna.**

During the past 15 years microsimulation models have become firmly established as vital tools for analysis of the distributional impact of changes in government programmes. Across Europe, the US, Canada and Australia, microsimulation models are used extensively to assess who are the winners and losers from proposed policy reforms. Encouraged by the ever-increasing complexity of social and economic programmes, microsimulation models have become an essential part of the policy reform process, allowing identification of the magnitude of gains and losses from policy changes in such areas as taxation, social security, pensions and social services.

While the analysis of the distributional impact of tax and cash transfer changes in developed countries has for some decades been the “bread and butter” of microsimulation modelling, microsimulation is now expanding into new frontiers. These include geographic expansion (into African countries and the countries of the former Soviet Union); subject area expansion (embracing such new topics as small area analysis, health care and child care); and breakthroughs in the technology associated with microsimulation (such as in behavioural and labour supply modelling).

This volume contains papers reporting new advancements in microsimulation modeling. As well as providing a useful introduction to the state of microsimulation internationally today, it contains a wide range of chapters illustrating the new applications and approaches being used across the world.

Read more about: [book information and sample chapters](#)

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



Book Contributions

Cerami, Alfio/ Vanhuyse, Pieter (2009) 'Introduction: Social Policy Pathways, Twenty Years after the Fall of the Berlin Wall', Chapter 1, pp. 1-14

Vanhuyse, Pieter (2009) 'Power, Order, and the Politics of Social Policy in Central and Eastern Europe', Chapter 4, pp. 53-70

In: Cerami, Alfio/ Vanhuyse, Pieter (Eds.), *Post-Communist Welfare Pathways: Theorizing Social Policy Transformations in Central and Eastern Europe*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

Read more about: [chapter 1](#), [chapter 4](#), [book](#)

Sabbagh, Clara/ Vanhuyse, Pieter/ Schmidt, Manfred (forthcoming) 'Political and Economic Justice Perceptions in Changing Societies: The Case of Israeli and East German High School Students', in: Jaworski, Jared A. (Ed.), *Advances in Sociology Research, Volume 6*. New York: Nova Science Publishers.

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

Book Review

Marin, B./ Zaidi, A. (Eds.) (2007) *Mainstreaming Ageing. Indicators to Monitor Sustainable Policies. Public Policy and Social Welfare Vol. 32*. Aldershot (UK): Ashgate / European Centre Vienna.

Review by [Bleddyn Davies](#) (London School of Economics and Oxford Institute of Ageing) in *Ageing & Society*, Vol 29, Issue 05, 2009.

The concluding paragraph of the review summarizes: "This book has contributions that many readers will find useful. They highlight the gaps in knowledge required to achieve the United Nations' goals and make useful suggestions. The book illustrates the need to mainstream ageing in policy-making, not that all the consequences will be welcomed. Greater policy mainstreaming requires greater political mainstreaming. The calculus of political weights ends differently from the calculus of ghetto-structured policy. The challenges of managing that are outside of the remit of the book."

Read more about: [review](#), [book](#)

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



Proceedings

23-24 October of last year, AARP, the European Centre, and the Austrian Federal Ministry of Science and Research convened a high-level meeting of European, American, and international experts in Dürnstein, Austria.

The meeting, attended by representatives from 20 countries, examined how the expanded European Union and neighbouring countries are “reinventing retirement”, i.e. reshaping health and financial security as a consequence of rapid population ageing. The meeting, which brought together government officials, academic experts, NGOs and United Nations (UN) representatives, discussed specific aspects of demographic change and debated new ideas on how the USA and European societies are addressing the challenges of our older citizens.

The full conference proceedings are now available on-line. Written by: Michele Hayunga. Edited by: Josh Collett, Jessica Frank, Ed Johns, Bernd Marin, Pieter Vanhuyse.

Read more about: [conference proceedings](#)

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

The proceedings for the 2009 AARP UN “Briefing Series on Global Aging: In Commemoration of the 10th Anniversary of the International Year of Older Persons” are now available on-line.

The 2009 briefing series focused 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.

Bernd Marin discussed the effects of demographic changes in Europe, please see pages 25-27.

Read more about: [conference proceedings](#)

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

Working Paper

Benedek, Dora/ Lelkes, Orsolya (2009) The Distributional Implications of Income Underreporting in Hungary. MPRA Paper 17308, University Library of Munich.

Abstract:

The paper estimates the distributional implications of income tax evasion in Hungary based on a random sample of administrative tax records of 230 thousand individuals. Gross incomes in the administrative tax records are compared with those in a nationally representative household budget survey, assuming that



tax-evaders are more likely to report their true incomes in an anonymous interview. Our estimates show that the average rate of underreporting is 11%, which conceals large differences between self-employed (who hide the majority of their incomes) and employees. The estimates are likely to be lower bound, due to measurement errors in the income survey. These rates are then used in EUROMOD, a tax-benefit microsimulation model to calculate the fiscal and distributional implications of underreporting, while taking account of all major direct taxes and cash benefits and also their interactions. Tax evasion reduces fiscal revenues from personal income taxes by about 19%. While the occurrence of poverty is not affected, income inequality becomes significantly higher (the Gini coefficient increases by 7%), suggesting that high earners tend to evade proportionately more. Finally, we find that tax evasion largely reduces the progressivity of the tax system.

Read more about: [working paper](#)

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

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](#)

Tempfer, Petra (8th September 2009) Krise: Sprungbrett zum Glück [Crisis: Stepping-stone into Happiness] in Wiener Zeitung, Wien

The article in the “Wiener Zeitung” (in German) looks into the crisis to see not only money but other values – such as happiness – involved. The article cites research of the happiness expert Orsolya Lelkes from the European Centre.

Read more about: [article](#),

Policy Brief [“Happiness Across the Life Cycle: Exploring Age-Specific Preferences”](#) by Orsolya Lelkes

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



News from our National Liaison Officials

Nomination of the new National Liaison Official for the Netherlands

After many years of work in her responsibility as the Dutch NLO of the European Centre, Thea Meinema (MOVISIE – Netherlands Centre for Social Development) will hand over that role to the Deputy Director of SCP (The Netherlands Institute for Social Research), Dr. Rob Bijl.

We are very grateful for Thea Meinema's commitment and welcome Rob Bijl.

Read more about: [SCP](#)

For further information please contact: [Thea Meinema](#), [Rob Bijl](#)

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".

3/2009: 'Disadvantaged Groups in the Labour Market – Employment and Employability',
by Daniela Kešelová

This issue brings empirical findings on the topic of employment, employability and barriers in access to the labour market for particular disadvantaged groups of job-seekers.

4/2009: 'Results of the Field Survey on the Implementation of Collective Labour Relations in the Private Business Sector in Slovakia', by Margita Barošová, Ľudovít Czírka

This issue of the Family and Work bulletin series deals with collective labour relations and employers. The issue informs about the results of a questionnaire-based field survey conducted by the Institute for Labour and Family Research in the private business sector in 2008.

5/2009: 'Pro-Employment Perspective of Informal Carers', by Kvetoslava Repková

In this issue, we deal with the agenda of the pro-employment perspectives of persons caring for dependent family members on an informal basis. We specify the term "informal carer" (caregiver), taking into account the terminology utilised in this area within the European and national settings. We argue in favour of our use of the term pro-employment perspective of informal carers in relation to the term reconciliation of caring and working. We try to conceptualise the agenda of the pro-employment perspectives of informal carers based on the complexity of life spheres, by recognition of the right to pro-employment support as a social and economic right, including the right for adequate conditions for caring. The crucial



part of the issue deals with the mentioned agenda within research analysis. The author mediates some key findings about the agenda from international research projects and continues with the main results from her own research conducted in 2008. Finally, she formulates intentions for further research in 2009 and beyond.

Read more about: issue [3/2009](#), [4/2009](#), [5/2009](#)

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