KEY ACTION

IMPROVING THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC KNOWLEDGE BASE

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KEY ACTION

IMPROVING THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC KNOWLEDGE BASE

SYNOPSIS OF KEY ACTION PROJECTS
Funded as a result of
The three call for proposals (1999-2002)
The Directorate-General for Research initiates develops and follows the Commission’s political initiatives for the realisation of the European Research Area. It conceives and implements the necessary Community actions, in particular the Framework Programmes in terms of research and technological development. It also contributes to the implementation of the “Lisbon Strategy” regarding employment, competitiveness at international level, the economic reform and the social cohesion within the European Union.

The Directorate "Knowledge-based economy and society" (Directorate K) contributes to the realisation of the European Research Area in the fields of the social sciences, economic, science and technology foresight, and the respective analyses. To this end, it funds research on social sciences and humanities, addressing major societal trends and changes, monitors and encourages science and technology foresight activities, conducts the economic analyses necessary for the work of the Directorate-General, and co-ordinates policy as regards the relevant political, economic, human and social sciences. It prepares the European reports on science and technology indicators, and it contributes to the development and implementation of the Framework Programmes in these fields. It monitors the progress made in the implementation of the Lisbon strategy.

The Unit K4 “Research in the Social Sciences and Humanities” contributes to the establishment of the European research Area in the social sciences and humanities. The Unit is responsible for the implementation of EU level research activities in these fields, in particular the FP5 Key Action “Improving the Socio-economic Knowledge Base” and the FP6 thematic research priority “Citizens and Governance in the Knowledge Based Society”. Significant importance is attached to the dissemination of results and to their contribution to policies, in particular at the EU level.

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http://www.cordis.lu/improving/socio-economic/home.htm, for information on the Key Action “Improving the Socio-economic Knowledge Base” under the 5th Framework Programme.

http://improving-ser.jrc.it/default/, the database of socio-economic projects funded under the 4th and 5th Framework Programme.


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PREFACE

Within the EU’s 5th RTD Framework Programme, the Key Action "Improving the socio-economic knowledge base" was part of the Specific Programme "Improving the Human Potential". The Key Action had broad and ambitious objectives: to improve our understanding of the structural changes taking place in European society, to identify ways of managing these changes and to promote the more active involvement of European citizens in shaping their own futures. A further important aim was to mobilise the research community in the social sciences and humanities at the European level as well as to provide scientific support to policies at various levels, with particular attention to EU policy fields.

There was considerable interest in the Key Action by the research communities in Europe as shown by the number and quality of research proposals submitted to each of the three Calls for Proposals. Based upon evaluations of these proposals by independent experts, those of the highest quality and strategic importance were selected for funding by the European Commission.

This Publication provides a comprehensive overview of the Key Action in terms of the objectives, contents and expected results of the 185 projects, which have been selected for funding within the three Calls for Proposals. These projects involve a EU budgetary contribution of 155 Million EURO.

More than 1600 research teams from 38 countries have been mobilised by these projects since 1999. Although the most important collaborative efforts are undertaken within the EU, the participation of accession countries is already considerable, with 189 teams participating from these countries.

The Key Action’s three Calls for Proposals have covered different but interrelated research themes and topics, all of which were intended to contribute, in various ways, to the objectives outlined above. These themes can be regrouped under a certain number of areas of major policy relevance, each of which are addressed by a significant number of projects, from a variety of perspectives. This publication is organised along this rationale and presents the 185 projects issued from the three calls regrouped under the following themes1:

- **Societal trends and structural changes; quality of life of European Citizens**, 21 projects; total investment of 20 Million Euro; 182 teams.
- **European socio-economic models and challenges** 9 projects; total investment of 9.3 Million Euro; 91 teams.
- **Social cohesion, migration and welfare** 30 projects, 28 Million Euro; 249 teams.
- **Employment, and changes in work** 18 projects; total investment of 17.5 Million Euro; 149 teams
- **Gender, participation and quality of life** 13 projects; total investment of 12.3 Million Euro; 97 teams
- **Dynamics of knowledge, generation and use** 8 projects; total investment of 6.1 Million Euro; 77 teams
- **Education, training and new forms of learning** 14 projects; total investment of 12.9 Million Euro; 105 teams
- **Economic development and dynamics** 22 projects; total investment of 15.3 Million Euro; 134 teams
- **Governance, democracy and citizenship** 28 projects; total investment of 25.5 Million Euro; 233 teams
- **Challenges from European enlargement** 16 project; total investment of 12.8 Million Euro; 116 teams
- **Infrastructures to build the European Research Area** 9 projects; total investment of 15.4 Million Euro; 74 teams.

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1 Many of these projects address more than one theme and they are attributed here to the primary theme, which they address.
Some of the teams involved in these projects have already provided useful insights for policy making. For example, at the EU level, contributions have or are being given to the design of major EU policy initiatives such as: “White Paper on Governance”, “the Social Exclusion Plan”, “Universities and Research” and, the formulation of the Commission Position Paper on “Formal and Informal Work”.

These and other fruitful collaborations are the result of close links, which have been fostered during the last years with some EU services, namely through extensive forms of dialogue initiatives. More than 20 dialogue workshops on themes of policy relevance have been organised since 2000 involving the presentation of scientific results to end users and policy makers.

The series of Dialogue Workshops in 2002 and 2003 included workshops on:

- **Migration and social integration of migrants; 28 January 2003**
- **Social and psychological factors in conflict and its resolution; The Mid-Eastern and European experience; June 2002**
- **The internationalisation of European SME’s: culture, entrepreneurship and competitiveness; June 2002**
- **Education and exclusion, September 2002**
- **Social exclusion, activation and welfare, October 2002**
- **Financial systems, corporate investment in innovation and venture capital, November 2002**
- **Family and welfare, January 2003**

The ambition is to extend the contribution of these projects to the formulation of policies at different levels, including national and regional. For that aim, a policy review exercise was launched aiming at identifying (EU) policy needs which could find some answers from the projects’ results. The policy areas covered are the following:

- **Employment (and unemployment)**
- **Social exclusion (poverty, social stratification) and Social security systems linked with pensions**
- **Social indicators and social sciences infrastructures**
- **Citizenship and identity**
- **Education, Inequalities and Social Exclusion**
- **Enlargement**
- **Family & Welfare**
- **Information Society**
- **Quality of work**
- **European identity and the relationship between European secular state and religious communities**
- **Innovation and research policy**
- **Training**
- **Regional policy**
- **Social, economic and governance aspects of sustainable development**
- **Education**
- **Governance**
- **Science, Society and Governance**
- **Migration**
- **Framework conditions and intra-firm dynamics**
- **Higher Education**
- **Gender equality**
External experts, who are working in close cooperation with the concerned EU services, are reviewing each of these areas and will produce final synthesis reports on each theme.

While the 6th Framework Programme has already started, projects’ results from the 5th are being produced. The linkages between FP5 Key Action and FP6 Priority 7 will lead to the launching of further initiatives. These will bring together projects funded under the 5th and 6th Framework Programme in the same collaborative endeavour, which will certainly contribute to the formulation of better policies at social, economic and political level.

I hope that readers will find the information in this publication both interesting and useful as well as clear evidence of the importance attached by the European Commission to EU level research in the social sciences.

Jean-François Marchipont
Director
**Key Action “Improving The Socio-Economic Knowledge Base”**

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Theme: **Infrastructures**

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European Research on Societal trends and structural changes

- 23 Countries
- 146 Participants
- 14,6 Millions €
- 16 Projects
Theme

Societal trends and structural changes
Network for integrated European population studies

Contract No: HPSE-CT-1999-00005

Thematic Network

EC contribution: 320000 EURO
Starting date: 1 April 2000
Duration: 40 months

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Network for integrated European population studies

Objectives:

The project has three general aims:

• To establish a network of national population institutes in order to promote transnational co-operation in comparative policy-oriented research and policy –impact analysis, with the ultimate aim to promote sustainable population development and integrated population and development policies;
• To examine the policy implications of present knowledge in the three identified themes: gender-relations, family building and patterns of work; ageing, intergenerational solidarity, and age-specific vulnerabilities demographic and cultural specificity and integration of immigrants.
• To develop methodologies for future policy-oriented research.

Brief description of the project:

The project will be implemented through six thematic workshops on key problem areas of concern for researchers, public authorities and NGOs active in the field and three technical meetings. Each thematic workshop will be introduced by several solicited papers and presentations from the participating institutes. The thematic workshops will undertake a retrospective and comparative analysis of demographic trends and policy actions; prospectively examine alternative strategies to improve policies by identifying best practices which are potentially transferable and applicable across Europe; discuss proposed research strategies and instruments which will enable future innovative and transnational comparisons of data and policy impact. Each workshop will have up to 30 participants. The technical meeting will bring together 3 to 5 experts to work out recommendations for research frameworks and instruments for the prospective research. The final output of the project will be a monograph: Critical population issues in Europe: implications for integrated social policies. And expected results (maximum 500 characters)

Expected results:

Identification and comparison of policy implications of the current knowledge and future research orientation; stimulation of co-operation between the national population institutes in Europe and development of joint initiatives.
New Kinds of Families, New Kinds of Social Care: Shaping Multi-dimensional European Policies for Informal and Formal Care

Contract No: HPSE-CT-1999-00010
EC contribution: 1000000 EURO
Starting date: 1 February 2000
Duration: 36 months

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New Kinds of Families, New Kinds of Social Care: Shaping Multi-dimensional European Policies for Informal and Formal Care

Objectives:
- To identify innovative methods for combining family and formal care provision for young children and older people.
- To describe and explain social care arrangements used by four key family types most affected by demographic, economic and labour market changes.
- To identify the challenges to existing welfare arrangements as they are perceived by users, providers, professionals, managers and policy makers from the local to the European level.
- To identify and analyse the most sustainable and flexible arrangements for social care in the context of labour market needs and the competitive challenges faced by European nations.
- To add to existing statistical data on social change and social care in Europe by providing a more qualitative account of social processes.
- To create a sound basis for the further exploitation of the findings through both continuing research and direct inputs into policy design and social care practice.

Brief description of the project:

Social research will be conducted in five national contexts that represent a wide spectrum of religious and cultural traditions and capture a full range of economic and social pressures (Finland, France, Italy, Portugal and the UK). Data will be collected using qualitative interview techniques from selected samples of users of social care, social care providers (state, third sector and for-profit) and policy managers and designers. Social care arrangements will be compared across the five countries.

The first level of research focuses on four key family types which are most at risk from current socio-economic changes in Europe:
- Single parent families.
- Multi-career families.
- Migrant families.
- Multi-generation families.

Samples of selected families of each type in each of the five countries will be studied in order to discover the arrangements, adaptations and innovations they use to provide care for children and older people. The combination of family care with other sources of care and financial support (state and private) will be described and evaluated in the context of current socio-economic pressures. Each family type is the object of a separate workpackage.

The second level of the research delivers the local findings to assembled groups of users, providers, managers, policy makers and experts at the local level. This will allow the findings to be tested and for the research team to construct evidence-based recommendations for policy development and for further research.

In the final phase of the project the consortium will consult an international group of experts from all EU nations in order to analyse the transferability of the case-study findings to other European cultural, economic and institutional contexts. Conclusions will be placed in the context of current challenges to European welfare systems.

Expected results:
- Milestone 1: delivery of report on care arrangements in single parent families in Europe
- Milestone 2: delivery of report on care arrangements in multi-career families in Europe
- Milestone 3: delivery of report on care arrangements in migrant families in Europe
- Milestone 4: delivery of report on care arrangements in multi-generation families in Europe
- Milestone 5: delivery of final project report on family adaptations and social care innovations in Europe
- Milestone 6: dissemination at a special international conference
Improving Policy Responses and Outcomes to Socio-Economic Challenges: changing family structures, policy and practice

**Contract No:** HPSE-CT-1999-00031
**EC contribution:** 1000000 EURO
**Starting date:** 1 March 2000
**Duration:** 36 months

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Improving Policy Responses and Outcomes to Socio-Economic Challenges: changing family structures, policy and practice

Objectives:

The overall aim of the research is to develop a better understanding of the factors contributing to socio-demographic change, the challenges it poses for policy makers, the policy solutions adopted and their impact for family formation, gender and intergenerational relations. Important objectives are to identify the factors motivating policy formation, and to determine how policy influences the decisions taken by individuals in different family situations and at different life stages. The research seeks to investigate these factors by conducting new empirical work in selected EU member states (France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom) and applicant countries (Estonia, Hungary Poland, Malta), representing different socio-economic and political environments. It assesses the extent to which policy solutions to the challenges presented by socio-demographic change are transferable across countries and the potential for EU policy learning and development.

Brief description of the project:

The proposal addresses the research tasks in the first group, with a particular focus on Task 1. The research is based on new empirical work, using comparative analyses to tease out the reasons for family change and to examine its implications for education, training, work and leisure patterns, welfare, gender and intergenerational relations. It identifies the challenges that changing family structures pose for society over time, and examines the rationale behind the policy options applied and their transferability within and between nations and regions across the EU and beyond. The analysis captures the relationship between family change, shifting attitudes towards paid and unpaid work, working patterns and leisure (Task 2). It investigates the ways in which family change impacts on welfare systems and the balance between public and private provision of services, including education and training (Tasks 3-5). The gender dimension is a major theme underpinning all aspects of the research.

In examining the linkages between socio-demographic change and policy cross-nationally, the proposal is innovative in both its objectives and methods. The research confronts quantitative data, collected in large scale European (Eurostat, ECHP, Eurobarometer, EVS) and national surveys, and analysis of media and policy debates, while also initiating dedicated empirical (interview-based) work carried out by multidisciplinary national teams. The research design thus combines macro and micro-level analysis to study the phenomenon of changing family structures in relation to different socio-economic, cultural and political settings. The societal approach makes it possible to identify and explain similarities and differences in the reasons for behaviour, attitudes, policy inputs and outcomes, to establish linkages between policy and socio-demographic change, and to assess the transferability of policy solutions between national contexts and the potential for policy learning at EU level.

Expected results:

- Step 1: Review family change, media and policy debates; conduct and analyse interviews with policy actors; identify and report on policy challenges and responses in different national contexts and cross-nationally.
- Step 2: Conduct survey and interviews with representative families; identify and report on factors determining family decisions; analyse findings cross-nationally.
- Step 3: Conduct comparative analysis of potential for policy transfer; make recommendations to improve efficacy of policy.
Female Employment and Family Formation in National Institutional Contexts

**Contract No:** HPSE-CT-1999-00036  
**EC contribution:** 900000 EURO  
**Starting date:** 1 February 2000  
**Duration:** 36 months

**EC Scientific Officer:** Virginia Vitorino

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Female Employment and Family Formation in National Institutional Contexts

Objectives:

In the general framework of Task 1: Social and Economic Challenges of Changing Family Structures, our main objective is to analyse the relations inside and between the two dynamics, respectively of family formation and female work status. More precisely, we intend to analyse and interpret the coexistence of both similarities and wide differences which appear between European Member Countries concerning the “work/education/family” relations, in coherence with the reference to the first group of research themes; how do general trends of globalisation in the social, demographic and economic spheres do interact with historically developed very different institutional structures? What types of convergence/differentiation are to be expected, what types of policy to be recommended?

Brief description of the project:

Although the subject of female employment has been widely researched, but more often at the national level, there is need for in-depth analysis, comparative in its methods and quantitative in its approach, of Female Employment in National Institutional Contexts.

We will emphasise both differences across countries in the macro-structure, and in the micro development of life course, using both cross-sectional and longitudinal analyses.

Two main theoretical perspectives will be involved to first model and then interpret the nature of cross-national differences and the role of institutions in producing these differences. The approach will aim at finding out to which extent life courses in various countries are converging or are themselves path-dependent.

Modelling female employment and family transitions will be realised by applying a combination of an evolutionary social structural approach with a rational choice perspective at the actor’s level. How do rational actors deal with increasing uncertainty (in a globalising world) and to which extent do they use nation-specific action patterns empirically. A consensus is now emerging among sociologists and economists about the need of integration of structural changes in a rational choice approach, so as to discuss the macro-foundations of micro-economic processes, the role of time and feedbacks between processes in determining future life-courses.

The analysis will combine diverse techniques of multivariate analyses and even history analyses for panel data.

The project will analyse the role of “coherence of institutions” in a given country (in other terms the influence of the aggregation of institutional arrangements) in producing specific patterns of family and female employment transitions. Societal analyses have shown that the efficiency of the development of institutional arrangements in the combination between family and professional involvement depend on the overall institutional context which produces the needed coherence between institutions. It shows that national female employment patterns are strongly dependent on the “social contract” between sexes.

Expected results:

This research is expected to contribute to the increase of scientific knowledge of the relation between female employment and family, and to the development of the European employment strategy in the aspects of employability, adaptability and equal opportunity. It will be proposed to that effect to develop the research in close association with the employment and social policy arm of the European Commission.
Uncertainty and Insecurity in Europe

Contract No: HPSE-CT-1999-00006
EC contribution: 700000 EURO
Starting date: 1 April 2000
Duration: 30 months

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Theme: Societal trends and structural changes
Uncertainty and Insecurity in Europe

Objectives:

This project aims:
- To explore the generation of Uncertainty and Insecurity (U&I) in four different European countries (UK, France, Greece and Hungary) at three levels of social interaction represented by six thematic areas.
- To identify U&I generating mechanisms and to examine the relationship between planning, predictability and vulnerability in the context of a supra-national analysis of the construction of U&I, within the socio-political dynamics of contemporary Europe.
- To provide an organised, horizontal understanding of the effect of U&I on public trust in institutions of political and economic governance.
- To report on the combined effects that U&I have for long term European socio-economic dynamics and supra-national policy design.
- To recommend possible amendments in public and private institutional planning and activity that can contribute to a more stable, certain and trustful public perception of the social, political and economic world.

Brief description of the project:

The total duration of the project will be 30 months, divided into three phases:
- Phase I (6 months): Identification and incorporation of existing relevant empirical and theoretical works, in interaction with pilot empirical research (focus groups and interviews), in order to refine the common repertoire of inquiry and common set of methodological tools.
- Phase II (18 months): Main phase of empirical research including, per country, at least 12 focus groups; at least 20 interviews; and the incorporation of ten questions in a national omnibus survey.
- Phase III (6 months): Writing, submission and dissemination of national and supra-national research findings and recommendations.

This project addresses six major sources of public anxiety among the twelve task areas set by the Key Action:
- Changing family structures (task 1 of the first call of Framework V).
- Changing work patterns (task 2).
- Welfare systems (task 3).
- The financial sector (task 6).
- European integration (task 10).
- Media representations of the political and socio-economic spheres (task 12).

Uncertainty and insecurity (U&I) are investigated here as horizontal dimensions which cut across these six tasks. The project seeks to isolate the U&I component in each task area and to show the combined effects of these components (for example, how public perceptions of mutating work patterns, family structures and pension arrangements come together to shape overall strategies for accepting, rejecting or managing large scale socio-economic changes).

Expected results:

and (maximum)
- Month 5: 1st project meeting.
- Month 6: Synthesis of a complete corpus of relevant research and data.
- Month 6: Completion of refinement of methodological tools.
- Month 13: 2nd project meeting.
- Month 21: 3rd project meeting.
- Month 24: Completion of empirical research.
- Month 25: 4th project meeting Month 27: Completion of national reports.
- Month 30: Completion of supra-national report.

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The Dynamics of Social Change in Europe

Contract No: HPSE-CT-1999-00032
EC contribution: 1100000 EURO
Starting date: 1 February 2000
Duration: 42 months

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The Dynamics of Social Change in Europe

Objectives:

The themes identified as the first three ‘tasks’ of the socio-economic work programme are inter-linked. We need to understand the changing connections between the employment of men and women, and the structure of the families in which they live. The distribution of household income depends on the combination of these two factors, subject to the direct and indirect influences of welfare policies. The resulting pattern of prosperity and deprivation has varied strongly over time, and between countries.

The research had five objectives:
- To undertake detailed studies of the processes of change across Europe in the domains of family structure, employment, household income and living standards.
- To establish the mutual influences of each of these domains on the others.
- To draw conclusions about the roles of social policy at national and Union level, and the prospects for reform.
- To exploit the research opportunities provided by the European Community Household Panel survey, applying the most advanced analytical techniques.
- To encourage wider use of the data among European social scientists, both by example, and by providing direct support services.

Brief description of the project:

The central methodological base for the research is the quantitative analysis of longitudinal data, which follows changes in people’s circumstances from year to year. Looking at a ‘movie’ rather than the usual survey ‘snapshot’ provides the opportunity to study the dynamics of social and economic processes, and the complex interactions between them. For example, we have already shown that young people in ‘southern’ European countries tend to move straight from their parents’ home to marry and start a family of their own; while those in ‘northern’ Europe leave home earlier, but often spend a period as singles or cohabiting before having children. The unique contribution of panel data is that it can show how far the pattern of employment experiences influences the timing of these family formation decisions; or vice versa.

The European Community Household Panel survey has been following the same sample of people in most EU countries every year since 1994. All the members of each household are interviewed, so that the connections between family members can be identified. The survey asks the same questions in every country, and therefore provides directly comparable data. By the end of the research programme it will provide a continuous sequence of six or seven years. The research team is composed of specialists in the analysis of household panel data, and its members are already familiar with the ECHP.

The programme is specified in terms of research packages under three headings: (i) labour market; (ii) family and employment; and (iii) income and quality of life. Many of the issues have been studied in detail in one country, and the methods developed there can now be adapted to analysis across countries. Cross-country comparisons can be of immense potential value:
- To the institutions of the EU, offering a map of variations between member-countries.
- To national policy-makers, showing how far their problems are shared with other countries.
- To social scientists seeking to understand the processes of change in a comparative context.
- To analysts of social policy looking for general conclusions about the influence of government on the lives of individuals.

Expected results:

The proposal is for a broad-ranging programme of work by a well-established international group of economists, sociologists and specialists in social policy. Each of the thirteen substantive work-packages represents a focused study in its own right. The results will be published in academic media, and also disseminated to policy makers and journalists. Technical outputs will be made available to other social scientists, to stimulate further research based on the same data. An overview of the conclusions to be drawn from the programme will be compiled at the end of the period.
Socio-economic Change, Individual Reactions and the Appeal of the Extreme Right

**Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-00058**

**Research Project**
- EC contribution: 899849 EURO
- Starting date: 1 September 2001
- Duration: 36 months

**EC Scientific Officer:** Giulia Amaducci

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Socio-economic Change, Individual Reactions and the Appeal of the Extreme Right

SIREN

Objectives:

The project aims to analyse subjective perceptions of, and individual reactions to, socio-economic change focussing on employment and working conditions in Europe. The aim is to create original knowledge for the debate on flexibility and security in the European social models, and to provide an empirical assessment of the extent to which changes in working life can be said to make people receptive to right-wing extremism and populism and, in particular, to xenophobia, nationalism and racism. The research covers Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy and Switzerland. Based on a deeper understanding of the subjective reactions to socio-economic change the project aims at developing recommendations for fine-tuning policies in the areas of employment, labour market, social security, anti-discrimination, and education.

Brief description of the project:

The project will run through four phases:
1. Literature Review: In each country literature reviews of changes in working life, on right-wing extremism and radical populism and on the interrelations between these two areas are made.
2. Qualitative Research: Analysing individual frames of interpretation and adapting strategies to socio-economic change through in-depth interviews carried out and analysed by national teams. Country reports form the basis for comparative analysis and synthesis.
3. Survey: Conducting a representative survey on subjective perceptions of socio-economic change and receptiveness to right-wing extremism and radical populism on eight countries.
4. Policy recommendations and dissemination: Development of policy recommendations; workshops with policy makers; international conference in cooperation with the European Monitoring Centre for Racism and Xenophobia (EUMC).
5.

Expected results:

The project will bring together two fields of research that have hardly been related up to now: Research on changes in working life, labour market developments and social security on the one hand and, on the other, analyses of political orientations and right-wing extremism and radical populism. The project will result in new insights into prototypical patterns of subjective interpretations of socio-economic change as well as strategies of adapting to these changes. It will create representative findings about individual reactions to socio-economic change for eight European countries. These research findings can lead to a thorough understanding of individual reactions towards socio-economic change as well as adapting strategies – this will enable EC and national policy-making to prepare European citizens for the challenges of and risks in changing societies as well as improve Europe’s social stability and competitiveness.
Changing Family Structure and Social Policy: Childcare Services in Europe and Social Cohesion

TSFEPS

Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-00067
Research Project

EC contribution: 899106 EURO
Starting date: 1 September 2001
Duration: 36 months

EC Scientific Officer: Giulia Amaducci

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Changing Family Structure and Social Policy: Childcare Services in Europe and Social Cohesion

TSFEPS

Objectives:
The project is concerned with the empirical analysis of caring and other services for young children. The overall aim is to examine comparatively in eight European countries how relationships are constructed in three areas: the changing balance between public administration and the market economy; the far-reaching changes occurring in the family structures; and the social and community forces that are inventing or setting up third-sector organizations designed to respond to the new demands on families.

Brief description of the project:
The project used a variety of data collection methods drawn from different fields of research, including sociology, family demography, social policy and policy with an impact on families and young children. It also covered a number of levels of analysis: European, national and subnational, as well as local government provision of services for young children.

In the first stage of the research, a transversal and multidisciplinary macro-social analysis is being undertaken of the genealogy of discourse, practice and contingencies associated with the construction of services for young children at local level. The analysis is concerned with changing practices, roles and functions within families. The research team is examining the development of political and administrative regulations over time, covering within-country variations and social systems of actors (political, administrative, private and third sector, feminist movements and professional associations concerned with young children and childcare provision). Analysis of the interdependence between discourse, practice and contingencies will result in a series of configurations, which could be translated into typologies at EU level according to the criteria we have adopted to define social cohesion.

In order to be comprehensive in terms of qualitative sociological methods, case studies are being carried out to analyse the social construction of policies for young children at local level. This approach is justified by the fact that public policies and services for young children are produced collectively, generally at local level, involving different forms of co-operation between actors. A study of existing scientific discussion is seen as a prerequisite for constructing a common analytical framework. The case studies are based on a two-stage survey at selected sites. The main research method being used is in-depth interviewing of different actors, supported by secondary analysis of the literature at local level, combined with participant observation (meetings with professional, political and administrative actors).

The last stage will focus on recommendations for futures research and dissemination of main results in direction to policy makers.

Expected results:
The aim is to produce a typology of the relationship between childcare services and the private family sphere, represented as an egalitarian space within which parental roles are exercised, and equity is ensured for children’s education. An attempt will be made to develop indicators based on the differential impact of childcare services and social policies, using selected criteria for social cohesion, particularly educational and gender equality, which are currently being inhibited by the differential exercise of parenting roles and the networks of sociability that have been created (outside normative debate on the way that families function). Innovations and local experiments will be analysed from a comparative perspective with a view to assessing the potential for further development and policy learning.

Policy relevance of findings:
Services for young children can be seen as one of the most important areas of interaction between the public and the private family spheres in responding to the changing family structures. The findings from the project should, therefore, help to clarify the role of public policy in promoting equality between parents and in protecting the interests of children. They might be expected to provide a better understanding of the contradictions in social policy objectives and recommendations for improving the impact of services for young children and their effects on families. Study if the different regulations at EU, national and local levels highlights the need for change in public policy.
Families and Transitions in Europe

FATE

Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-00079

Research Project

EC contribution: 920034 EURO
Starting date: 1 October 2001
Duration: 36 months

EC Scientific Officer: Virginia Vitorino

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Theme: Societal trends and structural changes
Families and Transitions in Europe

FATE

Objectives:

The overall aim of the project is to examine the families role in facilitating or constraining active life management in the transition from education to the labour market, across different European models of state support for young people and their families. The research aims to examine how families have adapted to the changing patterns of dependency associated with modern youth, the strategies they adopt and the way in which family resources and dependency influence young people's decisions in the transition to the labour market. In highlighting the way in which family resources (social, cultural, economic) influence young people's decisions across different socio-economic groups and gender, the research will also improve our understanding of the process of social reproduction in a modern European context.

Brief description of project:

In order to achieve these objectives the research will take account of structural, institutional, subjective and cultural dimensions. Structural and institutional factors governing the education to work transition and patterns of dependence are relatively well researched at both national and European levels and will be documented through secondary analyses of existing research. The second stage of the research will involve a preliminary data collection phase and form the basis of a sampling frame for the qualitative component of the research. A survey of young people in the final year of post-compulsory educational courses will be undertaken in nine regions of Europe (UK, Germany, Netherlands, Denmark, Portugal, Italy, Spain, Bulgaria and former East Germany). The questionnaires will collect data on young people's backgrounds and their attitudes to education, work, dependence and family life. The main phase of the research will involve follow-up interviews with young people exploring the strategies they have adopted on leaving education, the types of support provided by their families, and their impact on young people's decisions at a key transitional phase in their lives. These will be followed by separate interviews with one or both parents of each of the young people. A rigorous process of analysis will be undertaken according to a common protocol, initially by the national teams and then developed thematically in a cross-national perspective.

Expected results:

The research will bring together two areas of research and policy (transitions and family), which up to now have not been linked in a systematic way. It will build on existing European models of family, welfare, and the transition from education to work, by enhancing our understanding of the subjective dimensions of youth transitions in the context of social change, increased dependency and family support. Youth transitions in Europe will be reconceptualised within the concept of the public and private, due to the redrawing of the boundaries between family and state within social policy. Recommendations will be made in light of the changing nature of transitions between youth and adulthood for labour market, welfare and family policy.
Changing population of Europe: Uncertain future

UPE

Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-00095
Research Project
EC contribution: 400945 EURO
Starting date: 1 September 2001
Duration: 36 months

EC Scientific Officer: Virginia Vitorino

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Changing population of Europe: Uncertain future

UPE

Objectives:

- to develop and implement stochastic forecasting for both producers and users of population forecasts to more adequately quantifying uncertainty of future demographic trends;
- to produce a stochastic forecast of the population in each country of the EEA, broken down by age and sex, to the horizon 2050 (these forecasts will be computed on the basis of a consistent set of assumptions for each separate country);
- to explore the feasibility to produce internationally consistent stochastic population forecasts, taking into account the correlation structure of forecast errors across countries;
- to carry out a feasibility study aimed to examine whether sub-national stochastic population forecasts for selected EEA countries can be made on the basis of assumptions about the correlation of forecast errors between sub-national regions.

Brief description of the project:

Apart from coordination the project consists of seven work packages. WP2 analyses errors of past forecasts. On the assumption that the future distribution of forecast errors is the same as in the past, errors of past forecasts can be used to calculate the probability of forecast intervals of new forecasts. WP3 analyses model-based estimates of errors. Formal time-series models will be used to derive the covariances of expected forecast errors analytically. WP4 is concerned with elicitation of judgment. In WP2 and WP3, it is assumed that the future will be, in some respects, like the past, due to the extrapolative character of the methods involved. We will develop methods to systematically elicit experts' opinions. WP5 will integrate the findings from WP2-WP4 and assess the parameter values of probability distributions of forecast errors of fertility, mortality, and migration. Next, WP6 will calculate stochastic simulations of the future size and age structure of the population of all EEA countries for the first half of the 21st century. WP7 is a feasibility study aimed to develop a methodology for producing international stochastic population forecasts. This requires the specification of assumptions about the correlation structure of forecast errors across countries. WP8 will explore the feasibility of making sub-national stochastic population forecasts on the basis of assumptions about the correlation of forecast errors between regions.

Expected results:

- Comparative analysis across EEA-countries of the accuracy of old population forecasts;
- A methodology for consistent elicitation of expert knowledge concerning future fertility, mortality and migration, and application of that method;
- Forecasts of the population of all EEA-countries broken down by age and sex, to the horizon 2050;
- Sub-national population forecasts to 2050 for selected EEA-countries, with applications to the elderly;
- The expected accuracy of the respective national and sub-national population forecasts.
European Thematic Network on Indicators of Social Quality

ENIQ

Contract No.: HPSE-CT-2001-50010

Thematic Network

EC contribution: 850000 EURO
Starting date: 36 months

EC Scientific Officer: Fadila Boughanemi

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Duration: 36 months
Starting date:
European Thematic Network on Indicators of Social Quality

ENIQ

Objectives:

The aim of this network is to progress the pioneering work of the European Foundation on Social Quality (EFSQ) by operationalising the concept ‘social quality’ in the Member States. Specifically its scientific aims are to: develop a robust set of indicators for the different dimensions of social quality, create benchmarks of social quality, stimulate national and regional groups of scientists to focus on this topic, and work with Eurostat to create a new database for the primary analysis of social quality. Its policy aims are to respond to the EU’s objective to create a new interrelationship between economic, social and cultural policies. This will be elaborated from the perspective of human subjects as social beings in order to contribute to the discourse of citizenship in the Europe of the near future.

Brief description of the project:

The proposed European thematic network will function as an instrument for communication between experts from all over Europe and the members of their own national networks in order to: (i) analyse recent scientific research in different methodological traditions concerning social indicators; (ii) build on the substantial existing theoretical and practical work of the EFSQ to create an agreed set of indicators of social quality that respects heterogeneity within the Member States (and regions, localities); (iii) conduct a comparative analysis of social quality in the EU using these indicators; (iv) develop benchmarks for social quality based on this comparative analysis. This process of communication within the proposed European and national networks of experts implies: (i) regular meetings of the European network and a continuous email exchange of ideas and methods, (ii) preparation of documentation for meetings, (iii) development of communication methods for collaboration with a complex system of national networks in order to develop international cooperation, (iv) syntheses of national reports and preparation of project reports, (v) communication and dissemination of results at EU level, as well at the level of the Member States, (vi) preparation of data for electronic access by researchers and policy makers, (vii) disseminating the outcomes during an international conference about indicators social quality.

Expected results:

To present, first, an acceptable contribution to a multi-disciplinary perspective with which to develop and to apply the specific indicators of social quality to each Member State, and the presentation of new benchmarks for assessing the impact of structural changes and the consequences for the social quality of daily life of citizens. Second, to present new methods and tools for addressing the existing fragmentation of policy and planning. This will deliver a new conceptual scheme of reference with which to develop the comparability of the state-of-the-art information available to policy makers on policy level on adaptation to structural changes as well as new participation mechanisms to address the recent democratic deficit in Europe.
Réseau thématique sur "Emploi, Chômage et Protection Sociale: cohésion sociale au défi de la mondialisation et des NTIC"

**ECPS**

**Contract N°**: HPSE-CT-2001-50013

**Thematic Network**

**EC contribution**: 420000 EURO  
**Starting date**: 1 September 2001  
**Duration**: 36 months

**EC Scientific Officer**: Fadila Boughanemi

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ECPS

Objectives:

The aim of the project is first to examine what are the consequences of the globalisation process for social cohesion and, in particular, to identify the economic and social costs of changes in employment and social protection policies.

An other objective will be to compare the ability of European and Chinese governments to implement employment and social policies that could favour social cohesion. This comparison will be based on the assumption that, even though the situations of the European Union and China are different, the material and social needs of people are universal.

The objective is thus to examine how the needs of people and the economic and financial interests of firms- specially international ones- can be, in various countries, faced with a common process of globalisation, dealt with through appropriate social policies that could both guarantee economic progress and social cohesion.

Brief description of the project:

The first contribution of the network will be to establish a common analytical framework that will allow to compare the economic and social changes related to:
- the relative size of sectors that create or destroy jobs;
- the nature of these jobs (in terms of qualification, wages, working conditions,…);
- the size and the trends in social protection systems and the changes in social policies (including housing, health, education,…);
- the measures taken to favour employment and jobs search (education, trainingships,…);
- social inequalities and poverty.

Expected results:

Within this common framework, the network will analyse the relationships between employment, unemployment and social cohesion. This analysis will be based on the comparison of national experiences and will allow to point out differences and similarities – within European countries but also between Europe and China - in the definition of employment and social protection policies and in the way these policies are implemented. This comparison will identify the main advantages and disadvantages of the various national policies and the key factors that would allow their possible successful transposition in other countries.
Population Policy Acceptance Study - The Viewpoint of Citizens and Policy Actors Regarding the Management of Population Related Change

**DIALOG**

**Contract n°:** HPSE-CT-2002-00153  
**Research Project**

| EC contribution: 1450498 € | Coordinator: Bundesinstitut fuer Bevoelkerungsforschung  |
| Duration: 36 months | P.O. Box 5528 |
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Population Policy Acceptance Study - The Viewpoint of Citizens and Policy Actors
Regarding the Management of Population Related Change

DIALOG

Objectives:

The overarching objective of the Population Policy Acceptance Study is the analysis based on cross-sectional survey data on European’s practices, attitudes and opinions concerning demographic changes, fertility behaviour, intergenerational exchange of resources and services, and population related policies. The study aims to analyse values and attitudes affecting fertility decisions, perception of advantages and disadvantages of having children, meaning of family and parenthood, preferences and aspirations regarding gender roles, paid labour and family life, aspirations in life, opinions and attitudes towards seniors and population ageing, role of government in providing support to families and the elderly.

Description of the work:

The project will set up the infrastructure to improve methodologies for comparative research in view of data harmonisation, setting up of an international database based on the national Population Policy Acceptance Surveys of the participating countries, and comparative analyses. The Delphi study in conjunction with other information will serve as a tool for making of predictions regarding future policies and identifying innovative solutions. In the DIALOG project ex-ante evaluations of the expected effects of future policies in the field of population ageing and family building process will be analysed. In addition, the Delphi study will include ex-post evaluations of policy measures that have been implemented in the recent past. The desk review of literature and contextual analysis will set stage for the comparative analysis of the interaction between population related policies and demographic processes. It is a tool for qualitative identification of between country similarities and differences and general trends at the European level in view to reveal the relationship between the demographic setting, cultural norms and individual values and expectations towards the state. Analysis of the micro-level data from the European comparative study of attitudes, experiences, preferences and evaluation of policies is implemented through topical work packages which include five broad areas: general family related policies and attitudes; gender roles in partnership, family life and work and opinions about government policies with respect to gender related rights; reconciliation of work and family life as it relates to the combination between employment, housework, child care, and care of elderly; attitudes and experiences about having children and child-friendly policies; attitudes, experiences and expectations regarding intergenerational solidarity, elderly, one’s own old age and population ageing.

Expected results:

At the policy level, a systematic comparative analysis of the acceptance of existing population policy measures and expectations regarding future is expected to provide informed basis for the development of integrated population policies through active participation of citizens in shaping their own family related choices in a more family-friendly environment. Dialog between policy actors, citizens’ associations and individuals is expected to promote democratic decision processes regarding population policy formation and improve governance. Scientific results are expected to bring the broadening of the theoretical knowledge about the impact of population policies on individual behaviour and the interaction between attitudes, expectations and behaviour. The results relate both to empirical concerns and impetus for the verification and construction of theories concerning the inter-relationship between fertility behaviour, within-family transfers of resources and care, gender equity and public policies. In view of the participation of several associated countries the project addresses capacity-building and is expected to be of policy relevance for the ongoing enlargement process.
Pioneers of Europe’s Integration ‘from Below’: Mobility and the Emergence of Europe
Identity Among National and Foreign Citizens in The EU

PIONEUR

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-00128
Research Project
EC contribution: 959852 €
Starting date: 1 January 2003
Duration: 36 months
EC Scientific Officer: Giulia Amaducci

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Pioneers of Europe’s Integration ‘from Below’: Mobility and the Emergence of Europe Identity Among National and Foreign Citizens in The EU

PIONEUR

Objectives:

A rising number of EU policies is based on the assumption that an increase in the mobility of persons between member States will improve productivity, reduce unemployment, make skills more accessible across borders, and speed up the European integration process. However, mobility remains extremely low: currently, only 1.5% of EU citizens live in a country other than their motherland. Moreover, the bulk of them originates from post-war labour and family reunion migration and hence are very different from recent movers, that represent instead our research focus.

The project investigates: 1) the conditions and motives of internal mobility within the EU, 2) the effects of internal mobility on the quality of life and individual prospects of movers, 3) the impact of internal and external (in particular, from accession countries) mobility on attitudes towards EU institutions and European identification.

The overarching research goal is to answer the following question:
- Who are “internal movers” in the EU and what makes them move from one country to another?

Additionally, the project intends to find empirically based answers to the following issues:
- What are the implications of mobility for the quality of life, well-being, social and cultural integration, and subjective expectations of the persons and families involved? Are there significant gender differences in the experience of internal migration within the EU? Are there differences based on the income and status of movers?
- Do people who move really contribute to further European integration, as is frequently assumed in Community statements? Does the experience of internal mobility reshape and widen the sense of political and cultural belonging of Europeans?
- In which regard do internal movers from EU member States differ from external movers from accession countries (i.e., Central and Eastern Europeans) migrating to the European Union? Do the currently diverging status and rights of these external movers affect significantly their identification as Europeans, or their capacity to integrate into host societies?

Description of the work:

In operational terms, we will proceed by distinguishing three sets of EU residents that constitute our objects of analysis: Stayers: EU citizens residing in the member State of which they are citizens; Internal movers: EU citizens residing in a member State different from their own; External movers: non-EU citizens from Central and East European countries residing in a member State. Initially, each of these three sets of individuals will be investigated separately: ‘stayers’ through secondary analysis of existing datasets; ‘internal movers’ through a qualitative ethnographic study and a quantitative survey; ‘external movers’ through qualitative and content analysis of targeted focus groups. Subsequently, we will proceed to inter-group comparative analysis (in particular, between stayers and internal movers, and between internal and external movers). These analyses aim at finding out the impact of differing mobility experiences on European identity and personal well being.

Expected results:

To address the questions of this project is a way to gauge the real incentives and constraints to individuals’ mobility, the impact of mobility on the emergence of the European identity, and its practical consequences on individuals and families from different national societies. Through the quantitative and qualitative study of comparable samples of ‘internal movers’, and by highlighting their specificity vis-à-vis ‘stayers’ on the one hand and ‘external movers’ from non-EU European countries on the other, the project will identify the individual and contextual characteristics necessary as a precondition for internal mobility within the European Union.
Identifying Trends in European Medical Space (Contribution of European Social and Human Sciences)

**ITEMS**

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Theme: Societal trends and structural changes

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Identifying Trends in European Medical Space (Contribution of European Social and Human Sciences)

ITEMS

Objectives:

The network will focus on the issues listed in the proposal abstract and considered as crucial by the main actors in the domain, in order to:

- To map European human and social sciences research centers investigating health and medicine changes, and make the map available to a large public through an evolutive web site
- To contribute to the scientific and methodological conception of comparative European research on the main trends of health and medicine
- To produce recommendations for common educational activities for PhD students and post-doctoral fellows
- To propose forms of organization and modalities of coordination, for prolonging and transforming ITEMS investments into a European multi-disciplinary community, whose main endeavour will be comparative research.

Description of the work:

The work of this network can be understood as a progressive structuring of a European multi-disciplinary community of human and social sciences research and training on the developing trends of health and medicine. At the start of ITEMS, 23 research centers from 10 European countries are involved. Teams are affiliated to different disciplines (sociology, economics, political sciences, anthropology, history, public health, philosophy, ethics, management), and are highly sensitive to national differences in the domain of health and medicine.

The work will be organized through five work packages which will all contribute to this central task, but which will focus on specific elements of it.

- Work Package (WP) 1 will concern the mapping of the community. It will be part of a web site, which will serve as a current research awareness service, and as a channel for disseminating ITEMS activities and objectives to a large public, including policy makers and research managers.
- In WP2, current members of ITEMS will analyse the strenghts and weaknesses of comparative research on the four axes selected by the network. A specific focus will be put on methodological questions, and on the national context of research work.
- WP 3 will involve a major scientific symposium which is intended to give European visibility to ITEMS, and to make it a locus of exchange and circulation of information on the issues raised by the network.
- WP 4 will look at doctoral and post-doctoral training, and formulate propositions for common educational activities at an European level.
- Drawing upon work done throughout WP1 to WP4, WP 5 will focus on organizational aspects, including tools for facilitating interactions between researchers, for managing coordinated research, and for valorizing research results. A final synthetic report will be presented to EC authorities.

Expected results:

- 11 discussion papers on: comparative treatment of issues, perspectives for common doctoral and post-doc educational activities; proceedings and reports on ITEMS scientific symposium; final recommendations.
- A current research awareness web site
- A major symposium which will allow large academic participation
- Two workshops gathering members of the ITEMS network, outside academics and policy experts, for synthesizing the main features of the community
- Final presentation to EC authorities.
**Economic Change, Unequal Life-Chances and Quality of Life**

**CHANGEQUAL**

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<td>Starting date:</td>
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Economic Change, Unequal Life-Chances and Quality of Life

CHANGEQUAL

Objectives:

This project is aimed at establishing a network involving teams of five major research institutions with established track records in comparative European research. The network will focus on the theme of “Economic Change, Unequal Life-chances and Quality of Life”. This project addresses key themes relating to quality of life and the development of infrastructures for comparative research. The need for a major research effort in this area arises from a growing concern that earlier assumptions about the determinants of the quality of life were either incorrect or have become incorrect as a result of social and economic change. The objective of the proposed network is to improve our capacity to conduct European research on economic change, unequal life-chances and quality of life. It will first seek to provide an assessment of the current state of research and, ultimately, a proposed agenda for future research.

Description of the work:

A distinctive aspect of the 'European project' has been the extent to which pursuit of the objectives of economic growth and competitiveness has been accompanied by a corresponding stress on the importance attached to the values of self-realisation and social welfare. Yet there is a paucity of well-grounded research on current differences in the quality of life between countries and an absence of an established research structure for measuring change over time.

The aim of the project is to develop a network that will improve our capacity to conduct comparative interdisciplinary European research. It thus focuses on two interrelated themes dealing with (i) the processes relating to the translation of economic and social resources into economic, social and political participation and other elements of well-being, (ii) methodological problems in comparative research. Members of the network have been centrally involved in the development of European social indicators for use in the post-Lisbon process and we anticipate that the output of the network will contribute to the ongoing process of the development of such indicators.

The proposed network will build on the substantial body of existing work by member institutions by addressing these issues through cross-cutting workshops, seminars, exchanges of staff and the establishment of a web-site.

Expected results:

The proposed network will constitute an important step on the path to developing a European network of excellence with the capacity to conduct comparative research to the highest international standards. It is envisaged that a broadly accessible account of the state of research relating to quality of life and proposals for a future research agenda will be provided by means of an edited volume to be published through an international publisher.
European Research on Development models

23 Countries

91 Participants

9.3 Millions €

9 Projects
Theme

Development models
Innovative firms’ performance, internal/external workforce flexibility and personal/social consequences

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| EC Scientific Officer: Ronan O’Brien |

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<td>Organisation Development and Learning Programme</td>
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55
Innovative firms’ performance, internal/external workforce flexibility and personal/social consequences

Objectives:
The overarching objective of the project is to identify the conditions under which convergence can be achieved between quality of life and business competitiveness through the design and implementation of new forms of work organisation, and to identify means of reproducing these conditions through the actions of public policy makers, social partners and research-based institutions. Specific objectives include:
- Identifying emerging trends in work organisation and their impact on quality of life and competitiveness.
- A thorough review of academic literature in the field throughout Europe.
- Determining roles and conditions for performance measurement in production, including the social dimension.
- Identifying strategic choices in relation to new forms of work organisation, and their implications for social partners and public policy makers.
- Identifying the role of trade unions and other forms of workplace dialogue in supporting ‘high road’ companies.
- Setting up and evaluating ‘learning networks’ between large companies, SMEs, intermediate organisations, social partners, employees, etc.
- Identifying approaches to social dialogue and participation in the design and implementation of change projects.
- Identifying the role of trade unions and other forms of workplace dialogue in supporting ‘high road’ companies.
- Setting up and evaluating ‘learning networks’ between large companies, SMEs, intermediate organisations, social partners, employees, etc.
- Identifying strategic choices in relation to new forms of work organisation, and their implications for social partners and public policy makers.
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Brief description of the project:
The proposed workplan will proceed in three main stages:
1. Existing published material will be reviewed by each of the 14 institutes in order to assess the current status of knowledge on the relationship between new forms of work organisation and the quality of working life. It is intended that research hypotheses and a common methodology will be created from this process.
2. National learning networks will be launched and established through national dialogue conferences, with the help of intermediate bodies in order to facilitate the sustainability of the networks. All partners responsible for animating and facilitating learning networks within the project have considerable experience of working with companies in their own regions/countries. Each of these partners has extensive contacts with companies with an expressed interest in collaborative research and exchange of experience. In most (if not all) cases, existing contacts will facilitate the recruitment of companies into the project learning networks. Across the whole project, the selection of the sample will be managed to ensure representation of service and manufacturing sectors, SMEs and larger firms.
3. Project activity will result in the creation and validation of reports and toolkits.

The project will be managed on behalf of the European Work and Technology Consortium by CERRM (Centre Européen de Ressources sur les Reconversions et les Mutations) and TNTU (The Nottingham Trent University).

Expected results:
By its conclusion the project will:
- Generate multidisciplinary research on new forms of work organisation and their impact on competitiveness and quality of life, involving integrated input from researchers, social partners, practitioners and policy makers.
- Create and utilise sustainable learning networks as an effective mechanism for promoting the development and acquisition of knowledge at local, regional and international levels.
- Draw extensively on action research at the level of the workplace in service and industrial enterprises. Dialogue will be a key research tool to enable the emergence of research outcomes.
- Prepare and disseminate a toolkit comprising brief and accessible issue papers (including case studies, tools and other materials) designed to provide a practical resource for companies, social partners and consultants.
- Use state-of-the-art interactive technologies to ensure dissemination of project outcomes to as wide an audience as possible, in a form that is accessible and easy to comprehend.
Trade, Societies and Sustainable Development - SUSTRA.

SUSTRA

Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-50005

Thematic Network

EC contribution: 433259 EURO
Starting date: 1 September 2001
Duration: 36 months

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Trade, Societies and Sustainable Development - SUSTRA.

SUSTRA

Objectives:

The growing societal demand for better environmental conservation and for more transparency and democracy in economic decision-making, as well as the Seattle failure and the massive anti-globalisation demonstrations have highlighted the urgency for the European Union to make new trade policy proposals based on sustainability objectives, in the World Trade Organization and in other international negotiation fora. The issues associated to trade and sustainable development are fairly recent in the social science domain and raise complex interrelated technical and empirical questions at the economic, social, political and ethical levels. They can be best tackled by a cross-fertilising multidisciplinary team work. The network gathers European economists, sociologists, law specialists and political scientists who will collaborate together with NGOs and European decision-makers. The scientific objective is to assess how social science can contribute (1) to develop a theoretical framework to analyse the interactions between trade rules and non economic objectives; (2) to interpret the needs of the civil society, the motives of collective preferences and the building-up of collective action on trade. Operational objectives are threefold: (1) to develop a European network on sustainable trade which complements existing networks; (2) to promote the dialogue between the research community and practitioners in order to improve the policy decision on trade through better interaction with research; (3) to improve the future research orientations through more adequate identification of research gaps and social demands.

Description of the project:

Two complementary sub-programmes are planned. The first sub-programme focuses on the development of new analytical tools to strengthen the linkage between trade policies and social and environmental considerations (task 1). It includes three major themes: the use of the global public good concept to analyse the interdependencies between economic and sustainability objectives in trade; the procedures for conducting adequate and legitimate sustainability impact assessments; the architecture of the global governance system with specific emphasis on the trade and environmental regimes. The second sub-programme focuses on the acceptability and legitimacy of necessary trade-related reforms at the European level (task 6). It includes two themes: the political acceptability of trade reforms within Europe; and the conditions for the emergence of a unified European opinion on trade and sustainable development.

The work includes:
-5 workshops (on the 5 themes mentioned above) involving all network researchers as well as invited policy-makers, civil society groups, lobbies anbd government officials
-5 policy briefs which will be published as an output of the workshops
-2 electronic forums to launch collective debates on the findings of the sub-programmes
-2 books synthesising the findings, debates and conclusions of the two sub-programmes

Expected results:

One of the key results expected from this network is to provide a better integrated understanding of trade and sustainability issues through (i) the launching of a fertile research collaboration across social science discipline, (ii) a more solid and regular co-operation with decision-makers and stakeholders. This network should also prove a “think-tank” to provide and test for new ideas on these issues.
Improvement of economic policy co-ordination for full employment and social cohesion in Europe

POLICY COORDINATION

Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-50009

Thematic Network

EC contribution: 499128 EURO
Starting date: 1 September 2001
Duration: 36 months

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Improvement of economic policy co-ordination for full employment and social cohesion in Europe

POLICY COORDINATION

Objectives:

To propose improvements of European economic policy co-ordination, which contribute to the achievement of full employment and stronger social cohesion in an enlarged Union.

Three sub-objectives:

1. Clarification and comparative analysis of the historical development, current pattern and problems of economic policy co-ordination on the member state, union, and accession country levels,

2. Elaboration of improved mechanisms for economic policy co-ordination within the "old" EU15 and the enlarged union,

3. Establishment of continuous contacts and dialogue between the the network and the scientific community and a broad spectre of policy-makers and social groups on all levels.

Brief description of the project:

The work will concentrate on three areas of economic policy co-ordination: macroeconomic, social and structural. It will proceed in five steps or workpackages:

1. Comparative analysis of national economic policy and co-ordination regimes in the member states,
2. Analysis and assessment of the current policy co-ordination mechanisms on the EU-level,
3. Identification and assessment of the new problems caused by the enlargement perspective,
4. Elaboration of area-specific proposals for improvement of policy co-ordination in macroeconomic, social and structural policies,
5. Integration of the area specific proposals into one coherent policy co-ordination concept and programme.

The work will mainly consist in the organisation of disciplinary and interdisciplinary discussions, exchange and communication between scientists, policy-makers and civil society groups who are pursuing full employment and strong social cohesion as basis for a genuine European social model as alternative to the neo-liberal policy pattern.

Expected results:

Expected results will be viable concepts for improvements in European policy co-ordination in three crucial areas of European integration, taking into account the special problems of enlargement of the union.
A Framework for Socio-Economic Development in Europe? The Consensual Political Cultures of the Small West European States in Comparative and Historical Perspective

Smallcons

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-00134
Research Project
EC contribution: 1389999 €
Starting date: 1/03/2003
Duration: 36 months
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A Framework for Socio-Economic Development in Europe? The Consensual Political Cultures of the Small West European States in Comparative and Historical Perspective

Smallcons

Objectives:

After demonstrating the link of the projects countries’ socio-economic policies and achievements to their consensual framework the project aims at comparatively and historically to describe and explain the rules of the game patterning these countries’ consensualism, what structural relations - including dominance - it involves, where it originated, how it was institutionalised and by what mechanisms it has been sustained. Another objective is to identify the differences between these countries and between them and other European societies. Special attention will go to Austria and Finland who, after a break in their development paths, established consensualism and effective corporatism only after WWII. The related objective is to explain this process and to look whether similar changes could be possible elsewhere in Europe, including the ‘accession states’. Addressing the learning question and the topic of path continuity and discontinuity is a general objective of the proposal.

Description of the work:

The demonstration of the connection between the proposal countries’ coordinated socio-economic achievements and their consensual political culture and, consecutively, their effective corporatism will be the initial step. Building on a state of the art report, the subsequent analysis of the way this culture works will be qualitatively comparative in a twofold sense: cross-country for variation finding and European (6) for determining its specificity. For tackling the topic of path dependence the research also has to be historical. Two interrelated work package groups result.

First, the packages that, in the context of the development of the past decades investigate the current consensual rules of the game in the proposal countries, the reproduction of consensualism and the dominance dimension. The research will be done by the construction and subsequent refinement of a typology of cultural modes of regulation, the systematic secondary analysis of information widely scattered, predominantly non-comparative, publications deliver, and by interviews with relevant participants of the consensual game (unions, employers, politicians) complemented by survey research among a wider range of actors. The second group of workpackages regards the historical component of the project and is divided into two sub-groups: the older and the newer consensual countries. Of the former we will study, by secondary text analysis and additional archive research, the preconditions of consensualism, its institutionalisation, particularly the role of elites in this process, and the development of its different national varieties. With the other subgroup consisting of Austria and Finland the subject moves from continuity to discontinuity. Here, a historical path into non-consensual direction will be analysed and the break of this development after WWII will have to be explained. The workshop on other European countries complements these two packages and will discuss the conditions of consensualism and ask for the possibilities of its development in these countries by learning and policy-making. The final work packages will address these questions in general terms and in the context of the project as a whole.

Expected results:

The scientific results will be reported in two paper series, a considerable number of comparative articles in refereed international journals, in books, doctoral dissertations and at international conferences. They will also be presented to and discussed with a panel of politicians, policy-makers and other practitioners members of which will be invited to the regular meetings of the consortium. Particular milestones will be the workshop in Brussels on (the limits of) successful socio-economic policy-making; the workshop in Graz about the feasibility of consensualism elsewhere in Europe and the Final Presentation of the research, accompanied by a summary of the Final report, to invited members of the European Commission and the European Parliaments.
The Provision of Basic Services in Liberalised Markets

BASIC

Contract no: HPSE-CT-2002-00138

Research Project

EC contribution: 839939 €
Starting date: 30 months

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The Provision of Basic Services in Liberalised Markets

BASIC

Objectives:

BASIC has four specific objectives:
1. BASIC will develop an operational concept of basic services. This will include a review of how "basic services" and their quality are currently defined in selected countries and regions.
2. BASIC will investigate the current regional and social differences in the access to basic services in Europe and how these are affected through liberalisation.
3. BASIC will analyse the different rules, regulations and policies designed to keep the provision of basic services at a predefined level despite liberalisation. It will also investigate their effectiveness.
4. BASIC will analyse successful models for the provision of basic services and integrate this knowledge into policy relevant recommendations.

Description of the work:

The first part of the BASIC project will lay the conceptual foundations for the project; what are the concepts underlying the notion of "basic services"? How are those services defined in different countries? What role do quality, quantity and prices play in those definitions and how are they measured? How does the political and scientific discourse shape the notion of "basic services" and their perceived benefits in different countries?

With an answer to the main question of the first part – "what are basic services?" –, the second part of the project will set out to answer the subsequent question "what is the state of the actual provision of those basic services in Europe?" More specifically, this part of the project will investigate the regional and social differences of access to basic services in Europe. The research questions include: What are the differences in prices in various European regions and how can they be explained? What is the regional accessibility to certain services? How is the social accessibility of those services in different regions? Are there regional differences in the quality of service? Those empirical questions will be answered through a large number of case studies in several European countries.

The third phase of the BASIC project will be dedicated to an analysis of the rules, regulations and policies designed to keep basic services at a certain level despite liberalisation. The emphasis will be on the following questions: How do the regulatory frameworks differ across countries (including the legal and economic provisions)? What policies are employed? What is the context of decision making and how does it affect the outcomes of the political objectives? How effective are different regulatory frameworks in terms of economic efficiency, achievement of political goals, quantity, quality and prices of services, etc.? These questions will be addressed for the same countries and regions as the ones covered in the second part of the project, in order to be able to use the empirical data for an assessment of the effectiveness of the various regulatory frameworks in different countries.

The fourth part of the project will analyse those regulatory models in depth which in the previous part were found to be particularly effective and distil practical recommendations for policy makers. In order to do so, the chosen models will be analysed not only with regard to their legal properties and their effectiveness but also with regard to their social, geographical and political circumstances. The aim is to provide public administrations and decision makers with an overview of different "successful" regulatory frameworks and their strengths and weaknesses.
Innovation in the Public Sector

PUBLIN

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-00142

Research Project
EC contribution: 1189369 €
Starting date: 1 January 2003
Duration: 36 months
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Innovation in the Public Sector

PUBLIN

Objectives:

- To give a better understanding of public sector innovation and policy learning
- To contribute to the development of the theoretical foundation for studies of innovation in the public sector

The project will also

- stimulate debate and interest in innovation in the public sector
- serve as a foundation for the development of new forms of learning, organisation and co-operation aimed at improving the innovative capabilities of public organisations on the European, national and regional level,
- serve as a foundation for further research on innovation in the public sector, as well as enriching research in fields like public administration, new public management and innovation theory.

Description of the work:

The study will cover innovation in policy-making organisations, regulatory agencies and public enterprises, and will take into consideration the influence cultural traits, politics, management, networks and co-operation, entrepreneurship and evaluations has on innovation. Special attention will be given to the policy learning as a policy phenomenon and how it affects innovation, including the effect policy decisions have on innovation in public services.

The project will use organizational theory, public administration and management theory, and innovation theory as the theoretical framework for analysis.

PUBLIN will produce several national reports covering innovation in the health sector and social services in participating countries. There will also be synthesis reports with thorough analysis of the main findings and reports on innovation in the public sector in general.

The PUBLIN team will arrange two conferences for discussions on the topic and establish a Web site and a quarterly newsletter. Moreover, the researchers will engage policy makers, public administrators and relevant experts in active discussions and learning processes.
Improvement of Sustainability Strategy Elaboration for Economic, Environmental and Social Policy Integration in Europe

Sustainability Strategy

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-50019

<table>
<thead>
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<tr>
<td>EC contribution: 590000 €</td>
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<tr>
<td>Starting date: 1 December 2002</td>
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<td>Duration: 36 months</td>
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Theme: Development models
Imagiove of Sustainability Strategy Elaboration for Economic, Environmental and Social Policy Integration in Europe

Sustainability Strategy

Objectives:

The objective of the Thematic Network is to use the diversity of scientific approaches to the problems of sustainability as a resource for improving the European sustainability strategy, especially its further elaboration and implementation. This requires the creation of a trans-disciplinary network focused on sustainable development, bringing together technical, economic and political science insights, and capable of monitoring the European sustainability strategy, while building a bridge to experts’ and civil society networks committed to European policy co-ordination. The creation of such a thematic network does not only contribute to the achievement of sustainable development in Europe, including the policy co-ordination objectives of dynamic economic development, full employment and stronger social cohesion and of integration of environmental issues into all policies. Its functioning as a more and more continuous discursive space will furthermore strengthen the Governance structure of the enlarged European Union, by making it more accessible to its citizens, and reinforce the basis for a constructive role of the EU in global partnership.

Description of the work:

To achieve the overall objective three sub-objectives will be pursued:

- A first sub-objective is the clarification and comparative analysis of the historical and on-going development of sustainability strategy elaboration on the level of the EU, as well as on the level of the respective member states and candidate countries, considered before the background of global and broader European commitments. The network will be able to rely on the existing efforts of the partners in this direction, inviting key experts, where necessary to ‘complete the picture’. The focus of the debate will be on the making explicit of the underlying implicit models of development. Special respect will be given to the impact and interfaces of the EU sustainability strategy to present EU policy co-ordination mechanisms (economic policy, employment strategy, co-ordination of environmental policies and integration into other policies) and the international role of the Union;

- A second sub-objective is the elaboration of improved procedures and mechanisms for the refinement and implementation of the EU sustainability strategy at European level, and the necessary co-ordination with the national implementation efforts. This will regard likewise the underlying assumptions about coherent development models and paths of development, and the analysis of the methodology and the indicators used for monitoring the strategy. If effective, the strategy will implement the European Union’s global environmental commitments, while at the same time supporting the effective achievement of policy co-ordination objectives in the areas of economic policy, employment strategy, and social policy of the EU, plus the integration of environmental concerns in all EU policies for its present, as well as its future member states,

- A third sub-objective is to establish close and continuous contacts between the network and the international scientific communities of the relevant disciplines, as well as a broad range of policy-makers, environment and development NGO and social movement networks on the European and national level, which will both have an impact on the activity of the network and function as a medium for the dispersal of its work results. The outcome of this broadened dialogue process will be core proposals to a mode of European governance adequate to the EU sustainability strategy, activating citizen participation, as well across present gender barriers, as across emerging barriers between old and new member countries.

Expected results:

The expected benefits will be a better capacity of the EU to realise the sustainability related objectives of the Union as laid down in Art. 2 of the Treaty, which have been emphasised by the Lisbon summit, and concretised to the outlines of a sustainability strategy by the Gothenburg summit. They will constitute the explicit target of the Seville summit discussing the integration of the environmental dimension of into the Lisbon strategy, as outlined by the Barcelona meeting. These project benefits will as well include the stabilisation of a rich understanding of sustainability, including social cohesion and gender equality, as well the stabilising of emerging discursive networks centred on the dimensions of sustainability, by strengthening the relevance of their content and the integration of the diverse but inter-linked objectives they pursue.

Another project result will be a better understanding of how to build the required institutions and co-ordination mechanisms as well as providing better technical tools and procedures, e.g. accompanying the yearly reports on the state of the implementation of the European sustainability strategy which will be the foreseeable outcome of the post-Barcelona procedures of evaluating the implementation of the EU sustainability strategy.
Strategies for Financial Integration with Stronger Social Cohesion and Democratic Control in Europe

FISC

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-50027

**Thematic Network**

EC contribution: 277682 €
Starting date: 36 months
EC Scientific Officer: Ronan O’Brien

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Strategies for Financial Integration with Stronger Social Cohesion and Democratic Control in Europe
FISC

Objectives:

Major changes are taking place in Europe's financial structures - under the impact of monetary union and as a consequence of global forces. These financial changes will have a big impact on European economies and societies. The overall objective of the Network is to provide a theoretical framework, informed by a technical analysis of historical and current policies and practices, to help formulate strategies for financial consolidation in Europe. This consolidation can reinforce and help to further develop the European social models in the context of more sustained and sustainable economic development. Within this overall objective there are three more specific sub-objectives:

- Clarification and analysis of the financial forces presently at work in Europe, in their global context, and a critical examination of actual policy responses at the European and national levels.
- The confrontation of these financial developments with on-going social developments across the European Union and European continent; the identification of contradictions in the two patterns of development; and the formulation of strategic responses that would underpin economic dynamism while promoting and furthering social cohesion.
- To enrich and widen the scientific and political debates on economic and financial change in Europe and to contribute to a more informed, democratic and ultimately effective discussion of economic change and its impact.

Description of the work:

The project runs through three phases:

- The political economy of financial transformation
- Finance and socio-economic change
- Strategies for financial integration with social cohesion

In each phase there will be a thorough critical examination and an open debate around current theories and policies. Two to three workshops and one international conference will be held in each phase and two to three reports written. The study will be inter-disciplinary involving especially economics, industrial relations and political science, in each case with an emphasis on the historical dimension. The two key tasks at each stage are synthesis and critique.

Expected results:

The expected outcome of the project is that policy discussion (among social scientists, policy practitioners and social actors) will be better able:

- to address one of the central imbalances between economic and social developments in the EU
- to understand the complex factors at work in financial and related social changes
- and to develop effective and legitimate strategic responses across Europe as a whole.
Representation and Voice in Small and Medium Enterprises: Monitoring Actors, Labour Organisations and Legal Frameworks

S.M.A.L.L.

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-00152
Research Project
EC contribution: 849431 €
Starting date: 1 November 2002
Duration: 36 months
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Representation and Voice in Small and Medium Enterprises: Monitoring Actors, Labour Organisations and Legal Frameworks

S.M.A.L.L.

Objectives:

Our first objective is to draw a ‘Social Portrait of European SMEs’. This will bring together and synthesise the existing body of research already carried out within the eight partner countries and across the European Union and the candidate countries as a whole. This work will enable us to produce a comprehensive comparative typology of SME employee relations.

Our second objective, carried out through some 80 in-depth case studies, is to better understand the social relations within SMEs and how the trade unions can improve their representation of the majority of the working population who work in them. On the basis of the case studies and the resulting comparative analysis, our third objective is to make specific policy recommendations to the EU to improve the effectiveness of its social measures in this sector, and to the social partners to generalise best practice concerning the wider promotion of the well being of workers and of social dialogue.

Description of the work:

SMALL brings together research teams from seven member and one/two candidate countries in an original and innovatory research programme. The research is organised in three phases. The researchers will first conduct in depth reviews of sources and studies of the socio-economic relations of SMEs in their own countries and at an European level. This phase includes four international meetings between the teams to familiarise them with their different national contexts, and to develop common research vocabulary and standards. The resulting ‘Social Portrait of European SMEs’ will both add to European knowledge and provide an analytical framework for understanding SMEs and deciding on the case studies to be followed in Phase Two. This second phase involves each partner investigating ten SMEs and their social contexts in relation to the development of policies in five broad areas: gender and equal opportunities, occupational health and safety, payment systems, the organisation of work and working hours, and job structures and training opportunities. Phase Two is organised in two halves: the first three themes will be tackled during the first ten months; the last two in the second. A minimum of five different people will be interviewed for each case study, of whom three will be interviewed at least twice, according to the thematic focus. For six months during Phase Two the interview teams will be constructed internationally, with researchers moving between countries to provide broader insights and to help standardise issues and themes. A further four international meetings will take place during Phase Two to coordinate the research and discuss and finalise interim findings. The final phase involves the organisation of an international conference, the dissemination of the project findings and recommendations both at national and European levels and the drafting and preparation of an English-language book.
European Research on Dynamics of knowledge, generation and use

17 Countries
77 Participants
6.1 Millions €
8 Projects
Theme

Dynamics of knowledge generation and use
Ways of Organisational Learning in the Chemical Industry and their Impact on Vocational Education and Training

Contract No: HPSE-CT-1999-00041
EC contribution: 950000 EURO
Starting date: 1 March 2000
Duration: 36 months
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Ways of Organisational Learning in the Chemical Industry and their Impact on Vocational Education and Training

Objectives:
The overall objective for the project is to identify best practice for organisational learning in four large European enterprises in the chemical industry. This is a sector where organisational learning plays an important role due to:
- Research intensive production.
- Global market competition.
- The international inter-relationship of production sites.
The project focuses on education and training as it is a precondition for organisational learning within companies and as education and training is influenced in its forms and its contents by ways of organisational learning.

An empirical investigation will be carried out based on a theoretical framework and utilising both an open research methodology and a participative approach. As it can be assumed that there is not a single and universal ‘recipe’ for best practice a concept of intercultural exchange and integrated dissemination has to be developed which helps to present, discuss and evaluate the results of the empirical investigation. This will include participation by employers and employees, and experts and representatives from research institutions, companies, political organisations and the education and training sector.

Project partners will carry out an empirical investigation in companies in the chemical industry. The investigation will be based on a theoretical framework (developed by the project) in order to differentiate organisational from individual learning and to develop an understanding of the phenomena related to organisational learning within structures that can be used for political, social and educational purposes on an European level. Companies from Belgium, Germany, Italy and UK are willing to participate and will be selected according to criteria which will be derived from the theoretical framework.

The empirical investigation itself will focus on all essential areas of the partner companies, especially including production and laboratory work. The project will identify examples of best practice as well as barriers to organisational learning in the form of case studies in which the prerequisites, actions and conclusions for organisational learning will be made explicit. It is important that in all of these case studies at least three perspectives are inherent:
- The perspective of a learning company.
- The perspective of a learning individual.
- The perspective of the system of vocational education and training.

In particular the relationship between organisational learning and the (formal) system of education and training will be analysed. The project will consider how the prerequisites and gains of organisational learning can be balanced between the company and the individual learner and how the system of education and training might be involved in such a solution. Finding such solutions implies a participatory approach which is based on the development of a concept for intercultural exchange and integrated dissemination including the following steps:
- Dissemination and exchange at the level of the enterprise (between different learning cultures within the company).
- Dissemination and exchange at the level of all partner companies (between different European learning cultures).
- Dissemination and exchange on the basis of an electronic conference inviting discourse and dialogue on case studies for best practice of organisational learning which have been developed by the project.
- Dissemination and exchange through an international conference including experts and representatives from research institutions, companies, political organisations and the education and training sector.

Expected results:
- State of the art report on the theories and practice of organisational learning in European enterprises.
- Questionnaire for the empirical investigation in all partner countries.
- Report: Ways of organisational learning in European companies from the chemical industry.
- Report: A typology of approaches to organisational learning and its interpretation within different learning cultures.
- Conference and final report: Conclusions for organisational learning in the light of European strategies for HRD, VET and economic competitiveness.
Co-ordinating Competencies and Knowledge in the European Automobile System

Contract No: HPSE-CT-1999-00022

Thematic Network

EC contribution: 270000 EURO
Starting date: 1 March 2000
Duration: 30 months

EC Scientific Officer: Nikolaos Kastrinos

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Co-ordinating Competencies and Knowledge in the European Automobile System

Objectives:
The CoCKEAS proposal seeks to analyse the structural changes which are occurring in the European automobile system (EAS). An in-depth empirical study of these changes is a prerequisite for any discussion on the emergence of a specifically European model of production, in which the inter- and intra-firm co-ordination of competencies and knowledge would be based on co-operative relations. Such a model could constitute an alternative mode of organisation for the European auto industry, one in which competitiveness and social cohesion can co-exist.

Combining systematic comparative empirical studies within a coherent theoretical framework (the resource-based capabilities’ view of the firm), the project will promulgate new knowledge, thus helping the actors involved in the auto sector (firms, labour unions, political institutions) to evaluate the real impact of the ongoing structural changes, and to define appropriate strategies.

Brief description of the project:
The work of the network will be geared towards a confrontation of ideas, involving debates on the methodologies for studying the structural changes that are occurring in the EAS. Empirical case studies, carried out in close co-operation with industrial partners, will be used to expand knowledge in this area. The plan of work will be divided into different work packages that are to be organised according to two complementary approaches: a thematic approach, on one hand, and a geographic one, on the other.

The thematic analyses will delve into the changes that are occurring in the organisation of the production of motor vehicles. The main topics will be vertical relationships, and the co-ordination of industrial competencies and knowledge during both the design phase and the production process. The work will focus on the relationships between vehicle manufacturers and first tier suppliers (modules suppliers or system integrators), but inter-firm relationships involving other European automobile system participants will also be analysed (firms specialised in engineering and in design, relations between the system integrator and the second and third tier suppliers, role of finance and recycling companies, etc.).

Another thematic topic will analyse the “non-visible” facet of the auto industry, that is, the intangible (service) activities which are a growing factor in the organisation of the automobile system. This will involve a study of the financial dimension of the automobile system (finance and credit, corporate governance). Moreover, the analysis will include all dimensions of the social use of car – not only the production and sale of new vehicles (covering issues such as distribution, used car market, or recycling).

The study will also have a geographical dimension, involving the spatial characteristics of these structural changes, both inside of Europe (clustering of auto activities, effects of CEEC integration on the location of automotive activities), as well as outside.

Expected results:
Regular publications and meetings will ensure that the scientific results are discussed on a permanent basis. GERPISA will diffuse these results through its monthly newsletter and its website. Studies will be published in collective volumes. The project will consolidate a European socio-economic approach to automotive industrial research - developing intra-European scientific cooperation between academics, and between firms and researchers in social sciences - and it will enhance its worldwide influence.
‘Technological Knowledge and Localized Learning: What Perspectives for a European policy?’

TELL

Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-00051

Research Project

EC contribution: 599967 EURO
Starting date: 24 months

EC Scientific Officer: Nikolaos Kastrinos

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Technological Knowledge and Localized Learning: What Perspectives for a European policy?

TELL

Objectives:

The objectives of the project are to identify:
1) the conditions and the tools for the coordination and governance of the interplay among firms, universities, research organizations and learning agents that leads to generation of new technological knowledge and the introduction of new technologies at large;
2) the conditions to take advantage of the new technologies, once introduced, in terms of endogenous endowment of skills and resources and 3) to generate relevant policy priorities.

Brief description of the project:

The analysis to be undertaken by the project will make it possible to identify:
1) the variety of coordination mechanisms and architectural design of governance procedures across technologies, industries, companies and regions. The governance of innovation can be understood by blending the evidence with a new interpretative context emerging at the crossroad of agency theory with transaction costs analysis and the economics of contracts;
2) the matching conditions between the local endowments and the bias of technologies, both with respect to the generation of new technologies and with respect to the adoption and implementation of existing ones. The methodology focuses the bias of technological innovations in terms of localised, technical, regional and organisational characteristics that reveal effective to incorporate S&T developments into profitable applications in a series of selected case studies in the European context. Such an analysis results in policy implications and recommendations, particularly in the definition of a localised technological knowledge policy. In that respect, the originality of this project is to address the systemic dimension between S&T, Industrial and Competition policies. Special attention is paid to the effects of European integration in terms of distribution of research funds. Finally, the project focuses the implications for economic and research policy of the asymmetric effects of the introduction of new technologies with respect to the endowment of production factors of each European region and the levels of relative prices on the capability to take advantage of the implementation and diffusion of new non-neutral technologies.

Expected results:

The end-user involvement is foreseen through user-oriented interactions at the sector level. The results of the case studies are analysed according to the variety of technologies, regions, institutions and a proper theoretical framework will be elaborated. Policy-making implications will be discussed and assessed in their ability to favour the generation/implementation of TK: a specific emphasis will be put on the interactive character among S&T, industrial and competition policies.
European Network on Human Mobility - ENMOB

**Contract N°**: HPSE-CT-2001-50002

**Thematic Network**

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<th>EC contribution:</th>
<th>410000 EURO</th>
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<tr>
<td>Starting date:</td>
<td>1 September 2001</td>
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<tr>
<td>Duration:</td>
<td>24 months</td>
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Theme: Dynamics of knowledge generation and use

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European Network on Human Mobility - ENMOB

ENMOB

Objectives:
To study human mobility as a mechanism of knowledge distribution including its role in enhancing the
innovative capabilities of firms, regions and nations.
To contribute to the development of S&T indicators related to human mobility.
To develop common concepts and methods in this new field of study.
To study both domestic and international mobility, with a primary focus on highly skilled persons.
To explore and critically evaluate existing databases.
To look for and evaluate new data sources like Electronic CVs on the Internet.
To explore use and accessibility of the new large databases existing and emerging as a consequence
of the digitalisation of information in both public and private institutions.
To disseminate results and recommendations to a well-defined set of audiences.

Brief description of the project:

The starting point for ENMOB is human mobility as a mechanism of knowledge distribution and
diffusion. Its role in enhancing the innovative capabilities of firms, regions and nations will be
explored. Focus will be on highly skilled persons, on science – industry relations, and on issues arising
for public policy. ENMOB will also address international mobility, i.e. the question of brain
drain/circulation, both by exchanging experiences on various sources of data and by discussing the
conceptual and methodological issues involved.

The research topics to be addressed are the following:

Competence profiles: sectoral, regional, and national
Industry-science relationships
International mobility (brain drain/gain/circulation)
Human mobility and regional innovation clusters
Recruitment patterns for fast growing industries
The role of SMEs in employment and competence creation
Research based spin-offs.

The work of ENMOB will be centred on four workshops over a period of two years. There is to main
lines of research, domestic and international. Each line of research has both distinct and common
topics.

Expected results:

The results of ENMOB's work will be a much better knowledge and understanding of existing data in
this field. The working out of common definitions and procedures needed to make human mobility data
comparable. And it its first when mobility can be linked to economic performance that they have a
story to tell.
ENMOB will be active towards those institutions that are important for developing the data and policy
framework for mobility. Eurostat, national statistical offices and other public institutions are target
audiences for the results ENMOB's work.
Policy and Innovation in Low Tech (Pilot) Knowledge Formation, Employment & Growth
Contributions of the "Old Economy" Industries in Europe

PILOT

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-00112
Research Project
EC contribution: 1489865 €
Starting date: 1 December 2002
Duration: 36 months
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Policy and Innovation in Low Tech (Pilot) Knowledge Formation, Employment & Growth
Contributions of the "Old Economy" Industries in Europe

PILOT

Objectives:

The project aims at a deeper understanding of the growing knowledge intensity of the economic and social development in Europe. It is assumed that the process depends not only on industries with frontline technological knowledge but also on so called low-tech industries (LTI). These are not necessarily low-growth industries; many companies and branches within these industries are growing fast, are inter-linked with high-tech and service branches and provide an important basis for growth and employment in the future. The role and importance of these industries in different European nations and for the economic and social prospects of Europe as a whole are analysed. Mapping and analysing learning processes and innovation patterns, the PILOT project tends to identify the deep, complex and systemic knowledge base that contributes to innovation and knowledge creation in low-tech industries and particularly in individual companies. This will also allow to identify systemic interdependencies between low-tech and high-tech sectors in a network perspective.

Description of the work:

The PILOT partners investigate the role of low-tech sectors for innovation and growth in European economies, looking at organisation, policy measures, and growth in specific national and regional innovation systems. National Reference Groups comprising representatives of relevant companies, trade unions, policy makers etc. from the nine participating countries and a European Business and Policy Forum representing the main user categories of the project provide for critical monitoring of the work. Research pursues a double-tracked methodology.

On the one hand, conceptual, taxonomic and data issues are tackled. The currently dominating concepts of "technology and knowledge intensity" and of the "learning process" in firms do not contribute very much to an understanding of LTIs and their relevance for innovation and growth. Hence, it is inevitable to depart both from the high-tech concept and from the industry classification based upon it and to develop a new conceptual framework.

On the other hand, low-tech firms are scrutinised empirically. This is being done by means of a series of company case studies in ten countries across Europe. Emphasis here is placed on their use of technologies, on typical patterns of innovation and of knowledge creation as well as on the importance of (which) formal skills and qualifications. Other issues are the collaborative behaviour of firms in different regions and the quality of employment and qualification structures in LTIs in the future. Furthermore, policy implications for employment, welfare and cohesion are elaborated.

Expected results:

An enhanced conceptual understanding of industrial structures will allow valid assessments of low-tech industries’ contribution to growth, employment and knowledge creation in the economy. Among the more tangible results of the project will be a public website, a newsletter, two European workshops, recommendations for policies to improve the innovative potentials of Europe and a Business Guideline.
City-Regions as Intelligent Territories: Inclusion, Competitiveness and Learning

**CRITICAL**

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<td>1 February 2003</td>
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<td>EC Scientific Officer:</td>
<td>Ronan O’Brien</td>
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City-Regions as Intelligent Territories: Inclusion, Competitiveness and Learning

CRITICAL

Objectives:

To test theories relating to knowledge societies and learning societies through empirical investigation of forms of knowledge and learning within selected cities.
To identify the key roles played by cities in the wider knowledge economies of their regions and identify the types of knowledge resources used by different networks within the city-regions.
To investigate the institutions involved in collective learning processes within the case study cities, and specifically the roles played by tertiary education institutions and other forms of educational provider.
To assess the success of existing strategies to enhance learning and knowledge development within the cities, and identify potential good practices or lessons that could be disseminated more widely.
To develop indicators relating to knowledge, learning processes and institutional engagement that will be helpful to local and regional authorities in developing appropriate intervention strategies.

Description of the work:

The project will consist of three main phases of activity.
An initial phase will consist of preparation and review, and will involve a seminar with representatives from the city case studies, and a series of reviews of literature relating to knowledge and learning, learning city initiatives, and city strategy development.
The second and main phase will involve the four city case studies, each of which will consist of a parallel set of examples of learning processes. These examples will include formal and informal networks of firms, initiatives to encourage learning among the socially excluded, informal learning in community groups, sustainability and cultural networks, and policy development and strategy formulation networks. These investigations will involve interviews and interactions with a wide array of organisations, groups and individuals in each city. In parallel there will be the development and enhancement of methodologies for the investigation and assessment of learning within the cities which will underpin the case studies and feed into the development of indicators and tools.
The third element of the project will be the synthesis and dissemination of results. A major output will be a report covering all of the case studies, conceptual reviews and indicator development, but this will be developed with feedback from the cities in the form of city-level workshops and an international conference, which will be open to other cities, academics and national/EU policymakers. Another output will be a set of indicators that can be applied through a set of tools which will be developed to assist cities in their strategic thinking. Dissemination will also be facilitated through existing contacts with networks and associations of cities and urban development professionals.

Expected results:

After six months we will produce four literature reports which will be synthesised and published after 8 months.
The four city case studies will be completed after 24 months and the results disseminated in the four cities.
During the final six months of the project we will hold an international conference to present the findings, deliver the indicators and tools, and publish the final report.
Innovation, Networks and the Creation of Knowledge

**INEck**

**Contract n°:** HPSE-CT-2002-50022  
**Thematic Network**  
EC contribution: 262211 €  
Starting date: 1 December 2002  
Duration: 24 months  
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Innovation, Networks and the Creation of Knowledge

**iNeck**

**Objectives:**

The main objective is to create a network that will improve our understanding of the nature, role and functioning of networks in the economy. The network will generate state of the art results in network research; serve as a central node in the wider community of researchers on networks; generate synergies and cross-fertilization from the interaction of researchers of different backgrounds using different approaches; generate important policy-relevant results on the nature and role of networks in the economy, helping policy makers improve S&T performance in Europe. Bringing together researchers from different traditions is vital to achieving these goals as only in this way can the results from one tradition inform and contribute to progress in others. Creating knowledge flows among different research communities is an extremely important goal for this project.

**Description of the work:**

The work of the network involves research on the way networks form, function and perform. The researchers use their accumulated expertise to advance the state of the art in four areas: theoretical aspects of network formation and functioning; empirical investigations of existing networks; simulations of networks involving more complex micro-economics; and policy implications of this more fundamental research. The first network meeting is to make initial contact and to set and explain the research agendas of different participants. The second meeting will be to present interim results. This meeting is vital in creating interactions across approaches to engender the cross-fertilization central to our goals. The third meeting will be to present final research results both to members of the network and to invited experts who are not directly participating. Theoretical research involves refining and extending evolutionary game-theoretic models on network formation, examining stability and efficiency of networks that result from agent-level link formation and dissolution. Concurrently, statistical mechanics modelling of agent interactions will lead to results on the fluidity and stability of network structures under simple, general behavioural assumptions. Simulation studies permit investigation of richer microeconomic structures leading to complex dynamic processes - how different architectures emerge and how they perform. Important insights into optimal network architectures for knowledge creation and distribution will result. Empirical research focuses on knowledge networks, exploiting, inter alia, a unique dataset of the population of Italian inventors, using patent citation to trace the knowledge network. This work will inform both the theory and simulation and lead to better microeconomic assumptions for both. Policy research will draw on these findings to find key policy goals and policy actions to achieve them.

**Expected results:**

Each of the three meetings can be considered a milestone.

* Creation of the web site by month 6;  
* publication of working papers by month 15;  
* final publication volume at the end of the project.
Policies for Research and Innovation in the Move Towards the European Research Area (Era)

PRIME

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-50029

Thematic Network

EC contribution: 479975 €
Starting date: 1 October 2002
Duration: 18 months

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Policies for Research and Innovation in the Move Towards the European Research Area (Era)

PRIME

Objectives:

The PRIME thematic network brings together 11 groups from 7 countries. It is interdisciplinary covering economics, sociology, political science, history and management. It will explore the feasibility and conditions of creation of a network of excellence on the shaping of research and innovation policies in the move towards the ERA. Two main directions will be addressed. The first is to define the selected topics on which the future network of excellence should produce interdisciplinary novel, world level research. Four areas central for the establishment of the ERA are targeted: reassessing the rationale for public intervention in the production, access, ownership and trading of knowledge; the framing of policies in a worldwide unique setting of overlapping public authorities; the role and shaping of public sector research; and policy-making processes and frameworks in situations of uncertainty. The second direction aims at the establishment of a lasting knowledge infrastructure in the field and will address four critical aspects, i.e. training, quantitative data handling, a forum for debate and dissemination, and the organisational design of the network of excellence.

Description of the work:

The work will be based on two complementary activities: thematic workshops and function oriented working groups. The work will be managed and integration insured by an “executive board” of 4 coordinators (the overall coordinator and 3 scientific coordinators). Strategic decisions will be taken by the core group made of one member per team.

(i) 4 two-day workshops will explore the thematic issues identified. They will be prepared by workshop organising groups (5 persons). To ensure adequate coverage, the possibility is included of inviting “experts” (outside of the core members) to co-manage workshops. Workshops will be a key element for involving other European teams with research interests on the issue. Each workshop will produce both a “state of the art” and a “research agenda” for the field in the coming years. Within it, it will select the directions the future network of excellence will focus upon, taking into consideration originality, existing competences, relevance for the European situation and the capability of establishing a world leading position. Organising groups will run in parallel while a sequential approach has been adopted so as to favour optimal involvement of participating teams.

(ii) Four working groups will be established addressing the different aspects of the knowledge infrastructure in the field – training, quantitative data handling and forum for debate and dissemination – and for the organisational design of the future network of excellence. They will look at existing practices and consider innovative ones through site visits and audition of relevant experts. Membership will come from member teams. Each working group will be headed by one member in charge of the production of the group report. Duration is considered to be 10 months, including production of the final report. Working groups are to run in parallel.

Expected results:

The TN programme should be finalised at the first core group meeting (expected month 3). Thematic workshop are expected to take place between month 8 and 14. Proceedings and theme reports (state-of-art, research agenda, focus) are expected two months after each workshop. Working groups are expected to last 10 months from the finalisation date and reports available during month 14.
European Research on Employment, and changes in work

25 Countries
149 Participants
18 Projects
17.5 Millions €
Theme

Employment and changes in work
New Understanding of European Work Organisation

Contract No: HPSE-CT-1999-00009

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<td>Duration:</td>
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New Understanding of European Work Organisation

Objectives:
During the 1990s there has been a gradual movement away from on-going employment arrangements toward an increased use of ‘contingent’ employment. This development seems to be similar in most advanced industrial economies. It may be one of the most important changes in work, with lasting effects on the quality of life for European citizens in the future, both in terms conditions for life-long learning and changing attitudes to work.

The purpose of this project is to develop the understanding of the differences in the evolution of contingent employment in various European countries and identify the consequences of that development on individuals, work organization and unions in various industries.

There are four main tasks:
- To describe the use of contingent employment in different sectors of the economy and identify how the use of contingent employment is changing in the longer term.
- To compare the use of contingent employment in various industrial sectors between different countries and its effects on employee relations.
- To assess changes in the role of employment intermediaries in the industries and countries studied.
- To provide labour market information for policy makers at national and European level to assist them in policy formation and the design of more effective legislation.

Brief description of the project:
A conceptual framework will be developed, enabling comparative studies of the development of contingent employment in various countries (Sweden, Netherlands, Spain, UK and US). In order to avoid invalid generalizations, the research will attempt to further deepen understanding of selected organizations’ employment relations and make comparisons with organizations in other countries operating in the same industry. It is evident that solid empirical comparative studies are needed to judge to what extent the increasing use of contingent employment is contributing to a “marketization” of the employment relationship in the various European countries.

The comparative aspects of the project (both in terms of its cross-national and cross-industrial approach) is designed to account for the effects of specific institutional aspects, such as legislation and labour market tradition, on the increased use of contingent employment. Thus, a general overview of the use of contingent employment in each country is needed. In addition, developments in Europe will be compared to those in the United States, where contingent employment has been least regulated and therefore more freely used by employers generally.

Another feature distinguishing the proposed project from previous studies is the project’s focus on the relations and interaction between the main actors of contingent employment (employees, users and intermediaries), rather than on the specific actors themselves, aiming to pinpoint the dynamics of the development of contingent employment.

Fieldwork will above all be conducted through case studies of intermediaries and users of contingent labour in four industrial sectors (health care, food processing, financial services, and information/communication technology) in the five participating countries. In order to facilitate comparisons between countries and industries, collection of data will be conducted according to a common case study protocol.

Expected results:
- By examining the development of contingent employment in several European countries, the project is expected to provide a better understanding of the effects of labour market interventions, the effects of national labour market traditions and the obstacles to and potential for the development of common labour market policies across national borders.
- The findings will provide a more detailed understanding of the causes, direction, sectoral diversity and consequences of the increasing use of contingent employment.
- The results of the study will also lead to a clearer understanding of the potential and inherent dangers of the implementation of flexible workforce strategies, both on the organizational and individual level.
- By comparing how unions approach the development of contingent employment in different countries, the results of the research program are likely to have an impact on the development of common union policies.
Social Convoy and Sustainable Employability: Innovative Strategies of Outplacement/Replacement Counselling

Contract No: HPSE-CT-1999-00025
EC contribution: 1000600 EURO
Starting date: 1 April 2000
Duration: 36 months

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Theme: Employment and changes in work
Social Convoy and Sustainable Employability: Innovative Strategies of Outplacement/Replacement Counselling

Objectives:

The project aims at the analysis of existing company-based approaches of taking over social responsibility for dismissed employees in the context of industrial restructuring. Concepts on the development of sustainable employability on the company level, and on a "social convoy" in occupational transitions are assumed to be conducive to individuals with regard to quality of life resulting in positive repercussions for the organisation. Empirical research on the expectations from side of employees, the process and effects of outplacement/replacement (OP/RP) counselling, its individual and institutional effects will be conducted from different orientations and methodologies, namely psychological, sociological, ergonomical, and philosophical. The results will lead to the formulation of a model for organisational and personal responsibility for occupational transitions based upon integrated OP/RP strategies as part of an EU Employment Policy.

Brief description of the project:

The work in the project is co-ordinated along four workpackages which are terminated in five common workshops and associated with two expert conferences at which the results and contributions from the five countries will be compared and discussed:
- Analysis of the effectiveness of company-based and joint interventions with Human Resources Management, labour administration, external outplacement agencies and social services during layoffs.
- Survey research with:
  - Employees in different types of companies (mergers, privatisation, declining) undergoing downsizing.
  - Successfully re-employed persons (after having experienced outplacement counselling, with special focus on self-employed).
  - Expert interviews with persons responsible for layoff decisions in companies or intervention schemes in the social sector.

Research will be undertaken on the basis of an approach that tries to intervene in an early stage of the unemployment process. It will focus also on the prerequisites of the stimulation of personal initiative which must be considered as an indispensable part of overcoming unemployment.

The project will formulate a new understanding of the balance between social and individual responsibility with regard to occupational transitions due to industrial restructuring. This might turn out to become an innovative answer of the the European Union to changed requirements on the workforce and an increased complexity of the labour market as a consequence of the globalisation process.

Expected results:

- Analysis of expectations regarding individual and organisational responsibility for job transitions into re-/self-employment.
- Analysis of existing company-based outplacement/replacement (OP/RP) –concepts.
- Development of a concept for integrated OP/RP counselling involving different actors.
- Formulation of policy options for the integration of PO/RP in the work legislation of the partner countries.
- The development of a framework which could be pioneering for European Employment Policy.
Households, Work and Flexibility

Contract No: HPSE-CT-1999-00030
EC contribution: 1320000 EURO
Starting date: 1 April 2000
Duration: 36 months

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Households, Work and Flexibility

Objectives:

- To understand the impact of flexibility in terms of time, place and conditions upon households in a comparative study.
- To describe the regulations and policies governing flexible work.
- To analyse the patterns of work and household behaviour in different countries.
- To analyse the impact of flexible work upon household behaviour through a representative sample survey in each country.
- To compare changing work patterns in Eastern and Western Europe.

Brief description of the project:

The research seeks to understand the integration of home and work in the context of the flexibilisation of working practices (i.e. flexibility of time, place and conditions) in different parts of Europe where there have been different traditions of labour market regulation, of employment and of social policy. The countries under consideration are: the UK, the Netherlands, Sweden, Slovenia, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Bulgaria and Romania.

The first main research instrument is a sample survey of households in each country. Each of the 8 partners is responsible for organising and analysing the survey in their country and for investigating how work practices relate to domestic organisation. The research will examine how variations are shaped by national contexts.

The second main research instrument is country reports detailing the institutional context in which the survey takes place using a commonly agreed framework. This includes labour market regulations, social policies and demographic and employment trends.

The third major research instrument is the creation of a multinational data set and the systematic comparison between countries of these different factors. This will be carried out under the guidance and participation of the Austrian co-ordinator. The partners in the consortium were selected because their countries represent different configurations of labour market and welfare policies which may help or hinder flexibilisation and different policy responses to flexibility.

Expected results:

- Report of sample and data base for each country.
- Report of country specific regulations, labour market, social policy and demographic contexts affecting flexibilisation.
- A comparative report of all surveys showing variations between countries.
- A comparative report of the country specific contexts and their impact on 3 above.
- Information will be made publicly available through the web-site, a comparative data base and these reports in addition to country specific dissemination and policy briefings.
Vocational Identity, Flexibility and Mobility - in the European Labour Market

Contract No: HPSE-CT-1999-00042
EC contribution: 997000 EURO
Starting date: 1 April 2000
Duration: 36 months

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Vocational Identity, Flexibility and Mobility - in the European Labour Market

Objectives:

The specific strengths of Europe in global competition are the peculiar work ethics like motivation, good work performance, commitment and quality, which vocational identity can provide. The increasing instability of the formation of vocational identity due to multiple social and economic changes will be investigated in this project, and the influence that vocational education programmes have on the formation of vocational identity will be analysed.

The main objective is to develop and inspire the outline of a European approach towards vocational education, suited to educate the future European workforce in the light of a modern European concept of work that integrates the advantages that vocational identity provides.

Brief description of the project:

In particular the project will:

- Assess the impact of flexibility and mobility on traditional European concepts of work and the development of vocational identity in different European countries.
- Analyse what to expect from European employees in regard to flexibility and mobility in work praxis and on the labour market.
- Analyse what to expect for the formation of vocational identity in a situation of increasing instability due to multiple social and economic changes.

The project will be carried out by 7 institutions based in England, France, Spain, Estonia, Greece, Czech Republic and Germany.

The phenomenon of vocational identity is multi-layered and will be investigated from four different perspectives, historical, economic, socio-cultural and individual psychological:

- The historical context of the formation of vocational identity and vocational education traditions will be developed through literature-based research on each country of comparison. Branches and lines of business have been selected covering both typical traditional and current forms of vocational identity.
- In consideration of the economic aspect of work ethics and vocational identity, employers’ and employees’ perspective of the chosen branches will be investigated as two interrelated perceptions.
- In order to assess different social and psychological aspects of the phenomenon of vocational identity, the method of changing perspectives will also be an important methodological tool.

Expected results:

The project will provide an overview of historical developments and roots of vocational identity in 7 European countries. It aims to develop awareness among actors from business sectors (including human resource management), vocational education and training (VET) practitioners, policy makers and labour market experts of the implications of traditions and current trends of vocational identity for specifically European concept/s of work. It will provide some answers for European labour market requirements and needs that will differ from those of major competitors like Japan or the United States.

The project’s findings and conclusions will be presented to the scientific and broader public through dissemination workshops and a final conference.
Growth and European Labour Markets

Contract No: HPSE-CT-1999-00002
EC contribution: 350000 EURO
Starting date: 1 March 2000
Duration: 24 months

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Growth and European Labour Markets

Objectives:

The objective is to analyse the relationship between growth and employment. The employment intensity of growth will be measured and compared within the EU and with other industrial countries. The influence of labour supply changes will be discussed. A theoretical and empirical analysis of the main determinants of labour demand like, for example labour productivity increases. An "equilibrium" rate of unemployment will be estimated for the EU-countries. This concept will be utilised to discuss policy measures to reduce unemployment as outlined in the EU-white-book on employment, competitiveness and growth or the more recent employment guidelines of the European Commission. The study will in particular focus on the institutional arrangements on the labour market and its relationship to both the employment intensity of growth and the "equilibrium" rate of unemployment. The conclusion will end up with recommendations for an updating of the strategy to reduce unemployment outlined in the EU-white-book on employment, growth and competitiveness.

Brief description of the project:

In the first project phase (Workpackage 1) some first empirical evidence on the employment intensity of growth in Europe will be given. In this context, it will be discussed whether the recommendations of the EU-white-book on employment and growth or the more recent employment guidelines have been successful so far.

During the second project phase, which comprises Workpackages 2 and 3, the development of both labour demand and supply will be analysed. The main determinants of labour demand have to be analysed. With respect to this issue, labour productivity increase might be the most important factor. It is still a puzzle why productivity differs among European countries or why it is lower as compared to the US. This might reflect a diverging development of relative factor prices or a labour-augmenting technical progress. Also, the relative importance of the services sectors will be taken into account. An "equilibrium" rate of unemployment will be estimated for the EU-countries.

Workpackage 4 will discuss and empirically implement such concepts for the EU-countries. Again, a comparison to the US and other industrial countries is intended. It is of particular interest whether the equilibrium unemployment rate has changed over time, and why.

Workpackage 5 will analyse the impact of institutional arrangements on unemployment. This will be done partly by discussing case studies.

The last Workpackage 6 will bring the Expected results of the partial analyses back to synthesis, and policy conclusions. The role of macroeconomic policy measures to increase the employment intensity of growth will be discussed.

Expected results:

The employment intensity of growth will be analysed empirically. The sources of labour productivity growth will be analysed. Concepts of "equilibrium" unemployment rates will be discussed and implemented. Policy measures to reduce unemployment will be delivered from the results and confronted with the recent policies of the EU and its member states.
Can Improving Low-Skilled Consumer Services Jobs Help European Job Growth?

Contract No: HPSE-CT-1999-00021

Thematic Network
EC contribution: 517000 EURO
Starting date: 1 April 2000
Duration: 42 months

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Theme: Employment and changes in work
Can Improving Low-Skilled Consumer Services Jobs Help European Job Growth?

Objectives:
The successful low-wage employment research network LoWER will continue its activities, focusing on the contribution that a possible professionalisation of low-skilled services provided to consumers can make to European job growth and to the quality of life of the low-skilled involved, and how changes in the system of training and education can support this.

The major objective is to stimulate co-operative research on how to further employment growth for the low-skilled while avoiding the pitfalls of in-work poverty. This means using their skills and building the Knowledge Society also for the low skilled.

Five issues will be addressed:
- The neglected role of private consumption (the "missing link") between economic growth and employment in Europe compared to the US, particularly for low-skilled consumer services.
- The ways in which an improved quality of these services as a consequence of the professionalisation of jobs can increase consumer demand for the services and thus enhance employment.
- The potential gains to the low-skilled (who have relatively high levels of literacy in Europe) from the improvement of the job structure in services, in terms of better jobs, employment continuity and perhaps better pay, and also how far such changes positively relate to the quality of life of the low-skilled and integrate (or not) with the (often part-time) paid and unpaid (household) work.
- How the systems of education and training, including on-the-job training and the involvement of employers and trade unions, function in EU countries and how they should be adapted towards these objectives.
- How the enhanced professionalism can match with the industrial organisation of the service industries, and what improvements in this organisation may be needed.

Brief description of the project:
With almost full EU coverage, the experienced network of 20 researchers and one ‘user’, the British Low Pay Unit, together with a number of ‘observers’, intends to produce 4 reports for policy and 4 books for the world of science – 3 complementary books and 1 giving the overview. This will be done with the help of 9 events (seminars and conferences) over a period of 3.5 years.

In each of three fields LoWER will organise both a workshop and a conference to stimulate co-operative research, present and discuss its results and draw in other research:
- The significance of private consumption for European employment growth with particular attention to low-skilled consumer services. This will be done in a comparative framework (US/EU; 1980s/1990s) from complementary angles: input-output analysis, microeconomic study of household expenditure levels and patterns, study of the service industries including retailing.
- The prospects for low-skilled labour from improving the professionalism of these services. This takes into account the relatively high levels of literacy of the low-skilled in various European countries. It particularly studies how improved job structures (plausibly leading to longer-term job attachment and larger jobs) might match with the balancing of paid and unpaid work (often domestic work by women) characterising many low-skilled jobs.
- The changes that would have to be made to the systems of education and training in (a number of) EU countries to enable them to adequately enhance the skills of the least educated workforce and develop the professionalism of the low-skilled jobs. In particular, how life-long learning applies to the low skilled.

For each area the network will produce a report for the policy-making community and a book for the scientific debate.

In addition, the network will link, through two other workshops, to research on the impact of improved quality of services on consumer demand, and to how a drive towards higher levels of professionalism fits with the organisational structure of the industries concerned and the current changes therein on the one hand, and the objectives of the European social partners and the actions already taken by them on the other hand.

Expected results:
Expected results include four books for the scientific debate, one for each of the first three complementary issues:
- Consumption and Growth.
- Prospects for the Low-Skilled.
- Adapting Education.

A concluding book will present a general overview of the results, integrating the complementary outcomes on the five issues addressed. The Network will also produce four reports oriented towards policymakers. A research database will be maintained, with access for researchers outside the network.
# Pay inequalities and Economic Performance

**Contract No:** HPSE-CT-1999-00040  
**EC contribution:** 1090500 EURO  
**Starting date:** 1 April 2000  
**Duration:** 36 months  

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Pay inequalities and Economic Performance

Objectives:
- To evaluate the effects of wage inequalities and organisational change on economic performance and employment; and in more detail.
- To test the effects of wage differentials on both kinds of performance in different kinds of competitive environments.
- To gauge the effects of firms’ personnel management, training and industrial relations on pay inequalities and performance.
- To extend our analysis as far as possible to Japan and the US.
- To contribute to theory and policy by understanding how wage differentials influence both incentives and access to jobs by considering them according to their market and personnel management contexts.
- To achieve these, we need to build a suitable micro-data set, based on the 1995 European Structure of Earnings Survey and data from other sources on performance, hence the unique participation of 8 national statistical offices in our team.

Brief description of the project:
To evaluate whether large wage inequalities contribute to economic and employment performance, we break the question up into 6 main hypotheses concerning the effects of wage differences under different contexts.

We consider three types of market contexts: fully competitive with individual negotiation, decentralised collective bargaining and corporatist bargaining.

We consider also three types of personnel management contexts: firms’ internal performance management systems, training and skill development systems, and their approaches to workplace industrial relations.

We hypothesise that wage differentials play a different role in each of these contexts, and that the best economic performance results when the pattern of wage differentials fits with the context. For example, large wage differentials are likely to undermine team production systems and co-operative workplace relations. Likewise, we hypothesise that access to jobs, and hence employment performance, depends on firms’ personnel policies, the openness of their training systems, and the quality of their workplace relations.

To tackle these questions we need suitable internationally comparable micro-data set on earnings and employment patterns that can be linked with performance data. This is provided by the 1995 European Structure of Earnings Survey which also includes much data on pay systems contracts and types of bargaining coverage. It applied a common set of statistical concepts and definitions across the EU at the data collection stage. From the micro-data we shall link detailed industry cells with data from other sources on performance and labour and training institutions. Access to micro-data involves balancing the needs of researchers and data protection and we have developed a special method to manage access and construct our multi-country data set on an interactive basis. Our Joint Steering Group will be chaired by a senior official of a national statistical office.

Expected results:
- A test of key hypotheses of wage inequalities for European labour market and social policy.
- A significant contribution to the theoretical and policy debate because of the high quality and range of experience of our team of researchers.
- A new method for working on large international micro-data sets.
- A model for close collaboration between researchers and national statistical institutes.
- A conference and major book on our key findings.
A Dynamic Approach to Europe’s Unemployment Problem

DAEUP

**Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-00071**

**Research Project**
- EC contribution: 769944 EURO
- Starting date: 1 September 2001
- Duration: 36 months

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A Dynamic Approach to Europe's Unemployment Problem

DAEUP

Objectives:

This project aims to improve our understanding of unemployment and policies that would act to reduce it. We will study the main factors influencing unemployment at both an aggregate level and at an individual level. We will produce answers to a variety of key research questions surrounding the issue of unemployment in Europe, including the nature of aggregate unemployment dynamics and individual unemployment transitions, the role of labour market institutions, and the lessons from international comparisons. We will focus on the roles of 'flexible' employment forms, labour market frictions, labour market regulation, welfare provision, taxation, active labour market policies, macroeconomic policy, and innovation and the role of new technologies. We aim to make our analysis accessible to and important for policy-makers at national and European level. Thus the project has a scientific objective of enhancing our knowledge of unemployment and a policy objective of contributing to European policy formation.

Description of the Project:

This project adopts a dynamic approach to the analysis of unemployment and applies this to the central policy issue of European unemployment. The work of the project includes both theoretical and empirical analysis, though the emphasis is on the latter. We view it as a major and distinctive strength of this project that we will support our findings using a wide range of empirical techniques and data sources. The project is split into seven separate work-packages, focusing on different aspects of the issues to be studied: aggregate unemployment dynamics, individual unemployment transitions, inactivity, ‘flexible’ employment forms, labour market frictions, institutions and labour market performance, and international comparisons of unemployment dynamics. A key feature of this project is the use of new data sources. The days are gone when analysis of unemployment was conducted solely using short time series on aggregate variables: such data have by now been sucked dry of all information. This project will use many different types of data, including micro (individual) and macro (aggregate) data, longitudinal data, administrative data, matched worker-firm datasets, and local labour market data.

Expected Results:

The main expected results of the project are contributions to scientific knowledge and to policy formation. This includes the following issues: assessing the key factors which affect unemployment and improving our understanding of how it might be reduced; the role of macroeconomic policy, the welfare system and active labour market policies; the part played by labour market institutions; what can be learnt from comparisons with other areas. We will report and explain our findings to a wide range of audiences, including European Union officials, national governments, the policy community, fellow scientists and the press. We will produce scientific papers, a Policy Report and construct a website to help disseminate our work.
Overcoming Marginalisation: Structural Obstacles and Openings to Integration in Strongly Segregated Sectors.

MARGINALISATION

Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-00073
Research Project
EC contribution: 860000 EURO
Starting date: 1 September 2001
Duration: 24 months

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Overcoming Marginalisation: Structural Obstacles and Openings to Integration in Strongly Segregated Sectors.

MARGINALISATION

Objectives:

The overall objective is to identify structural and institutional mechanisms maintaining certain groups of workers (particularly women, ethnic minorities and the long-term unemployed) marginal to segregated labour markets and to investigate the means for their integration. The project seeks to:
- develop transnational categories of analysis and definitions for each country (GB, D, DK, E, I, NL) of, on the one hand, segregated sectors in industry and services and, on the other, groups marginalised;
- pinpoint the nature and mechanisms of entry and exclusion, including education and training, wage relations and employment and working conditions;
- analyse and compare forms of regulation, the roles of institutions and the impact of policies to include marginalised groups;
- describe good practice initiatives, indicate differences and similarities between countries, and draw up recommendations.

Description of the project:

The project will develop a theoretical and methodological framework valid at European level, encompassing:
- definitions and classifications of excluded groups and segregated labour markets in industry and services;
- entry and exclusion mechanisms, including education and training, wage relations and employment and working conditions (whether for ethnic minority groups, women or the long-term unemployed).

At macro level it will include:
- a literature review;
- quantitative analysis of high quality statistical data;
- interviews with relevant organisations (employers, trade unions, government officers, training, EO and employment organisations) to identify gaps, incompatibilities, good practices, the interfaces and gatekeepers between the long-term employed and non-active participants, and the changing role of different institutions and regulations.

Separate working papers on the framework, the current 'state of the art', the statistical analysis, and good practice schemes will be prepared.

At micro level an empirical qualitative analysis of firms and organisations (c. 50) will investigate the means of entry and mechanisms of exclusion, as well as success in achieving integration.

National reports based on the micro and macro level analyses will be discussed at national seminars. The results will then be evaluated and synthesised at European level to discern: differences and similarities between countries; whether Europe-wide processes are to be observed; and the reasons for and results of successful integration as observed in detailed investigations of good practices. Recommendations and strategies will be drawn up, presented to a European seminar and included in the final report, which will be disseminated at European and national levels and published in book form.

Expected results:

The findings will add to existing knowledge on structural mechanisms of integration and exclusion operating in labour markets through its focus on different forms of segregation applying to different social groups. The in-depth qualitative and quantitative research will give policymakers at national and European level the opportunity to adapt policies and programmes relating to, for instance, wages, employment, training and education in such a way as to allow more opportunity for integration.

At a theoretical level, the research is intended to contribute to the debate on welfare systems, industrial governance, mechanisms of exclusion from and integration in the labour market, disparities in wage relations, the significance of skills, the nature of the employment relation, and the structure and determinants of labour market segmentation.
Precarious Employment in Europe: A Comparative Study of Labour Market related Risks in Flexible Economies

ESOPE

Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-00075
Research Project

EC contribution: 529741 EURO
Starting date: 1 September 2001
Duration: 24 months

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Precarious Employment in Europe: A Comparative Study of Labour Market related Risks in Flexible Economies

ESOPE

Objectives:

The ESOPE project aims to contribute to an improved comparative understanding of precarious employment as one of the main facets of social and socio-economic risk and insecurity in contemporary European societies, with a view to both increase knowledge and inform current policy debates on the modernisation of systems of social protection, the activation of employment policies, and the quality of employment in Europe.

Brief description of the project:

The project is divided into three main phases of work: (1) literature review and comparative policy analysis; (2) empirical research through case studies; and (3) drawing of policy implications and dissemination.

The first phase is dedicated to unravelling models of managing labour market related risks. This implies, first of all, comparing the underpinning assumptions and arrangements of national social protection systems, of labour law and collective labour regulations, and of employment policies. It also implies an improved understanding of the interdependencies and interactions between these various regulation and policy spheres. Finally conceptions of labour market related risks underpinning these models are also to be identified through the critical review of existing surveys and studies dealing with precarious employment at the European and national levels.

The second phase is that of empirical research through in-depth case studies. There are two objects of analysis: the first one consists in the study of the scope and forms of precarious employment in contrasted sectors, and the way in which they are affected by sector and company level flexibility/security balances or imbalances; the second one consists in innovative arrangements for the local management of labour market related risks.

The third phase is designed to integrate the results of the two preceding phases and to inform key scientific and policy debates currently taking place in Europe. In particular, the research aims at contributing to the current scientific debate on the notion of social risk, both through a European seminar and through a scientific publication.

Managing social risk is what concerns most policy makers at the European and national levels, as is clear from the current debates on the modernisation of systems of social protection and on the “activation” of employment policies. Policy implications will be derived from the evaluation of how current systems and policies interact between them as well as with the flexibilisation of the economy and affect labour market related risks. Policy recommendations will greatly benefit from the evaluation of local innovative arrangements for the management of social risk and from the estimation of their transfer potential.

Expected results:

The results and findings of both the reviews and the empirical research will inform a policy report focused on effective ways to deal with social and socio-economic risks through policy models and frameworks.

ESOPE thus expects to provide theoretical advance, empirical evidence and policy implications on the issue of precarious employment and social risk distribution and management, comparatively approached at the sector, national and European levels.
Demand patterns and employment growth: Consumption and services in France, Germany, The Netherlands, Spain, The United Kingdom and The United States

DEMPATEM

Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-00089

Research Project

EC contribution: 670049 EURO
Starting date: 1 July 2001
Duration: 26 months

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Demand patterns and employment growth: Consumption and services in France, Germany, The Netherlands, Spain, The United Kingdom and The United States

DEMPATEM

Objectives:

The research aims at establishing the significance of final demand patterns, particularly those of private consumption, for understanding the wide variations in employment rates across EU countries and in comparison to the US. This notably applies to services and women and seems highly relevant to future job growth and the effectiveness of broad economic policy.

Brief description of the project:

1) decomposition analysis of input-output data to establish the significance of patterns of demand, particularly in private consumption, for employment, particularly in services. The aim is to correct for purely statistical differences in the industrial structure of production, e.g. caused by international differences in outsourcing policies of enterprise between manufacturing and services.

2) micro-econometric study, using household expenditure surveys data, of the determinants of levels and patterns of household expenditure to consider the extent to which international differences and changes over time depend on household characteristics such as income level, (female) labour market participation and consumer attitudes. This will enable a split between behavioural and composition effects across the countries.

3) study with the help of microdata on labour force and earnings of the internationally different structures of employment in the service industries, and investigation how these may feed back to household characteristics related to the labour market.

The three results will be integrated both within and across the countries in a cross-national comparison over several decades.

The research will also contribute to the on-going scientific debate on the significance of income and earnings inequality for employment, in which the partners are involved. The linkages between the product market and the labour market are almost virgin territory on which the project hopes to take an important step forward. The approach contrasts with the supply-side orientation of most employment policies and research, esp. focused on the role of institutions like the statutory minimum wage. In the recent past, the partners of the project have made important contributions to this debate themselves and found little negative effect. This motivates the innovative orientation towards the demand side.

The work fits within the activities of the successful LoWER network (HPSE-CT99-00021) that is focusing on the question “Can improving low-skilled consumer-oriented services help European job growth?” and addresses complementary issues such as supply-and-demand interactions in the labour market, quality of life and training. (see www.uva.nl/ais/lower)

Expected results:

The output will be a situation paper, a series of workshop and theme papers and a coherent overview presented in a book for the scientific debate on the one hand and an executive report for policy makers of government, social partners and relevant enterprise at both the European and national level on the other hand.
Care Work in Europe: Current Understandings and Future Directions

CARING

Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-00091

Research Project
EC contribution: 1340000 EURO
Starting date: 1 September 2001
Duration: 39 months

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Care Work in Europe: Current Understandings and Future Directions

CARING

Objectives:

The project is concerned with paid care work with people across the life course and in a wide range of settings. The overall objective is to contribute towards the development of good quality employment in caring services that are responsive to the needs of rapidly changing societies and their citizens. More specific objectives include: mapping the structure of care services and care workforces, and identifying different models of care work; analysing understandings of care work; seeking explanations for national and sectoral differences; examining the causes and consequences of the gendered nature of care work; identifying the conditions necessary for the development of good quality employment; generating informed debate about future directions in care work; and developing innovative methods of cross-national work.

Brief description of the project:

The project starts in September 2001 and runs for 39 months. There are six partners from Denmark, Hungary, Netherlands, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom. Although the main focus is on these countries, where possible the study will refer to and be informed by a wider set of countries including France, Italy and Germany. There are three stages:

Stage One (Mapping and Review) will include reviews of policy, research literature and statistical information, and secondary analysis of the European Labour Force Survey. Particular attention will be paid at this stage to: developing a typology of care work and care services across partner countries; and to an initial analysis of the concepts and understandings that underpin this typology.

Stage Two (Understanding of Caring Work in Theory and Practice) is an empirical phase and will include a number of small-scale, qualitative case studies in selected areas of care work. The focus here is primarily on deepening understandings of care work, assisted in this through comparisons between countries and between different types of care work. These case studies will be complemented by work to develop an innovatory methodology for the cross-national study of care work and other types of practice.

Stage Three (What does the Future hold for Caring Work?) is a prospective phase, which will consist of studies of innovative developments in care work, as well as developing responsive, interactive means of dissemination and cross-national exchange.

Expected results:

- Better understanding of how paid care work is conceptualised and structured, and its relationship to other ‘human services’ (e.g. education, health)
- The documentation of changes in the supply, demand for and use of care services
- The identification of innovative developments, new directions that care work may take and conditions needed for care work to provide good quality employment
- The development of methods for the cross-national study of practice in human services
The Socio-Economic Performance of Social Enterprises in the field of integration by work

PERSE

Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-00092
Research Project
EC contribution: 1140000 EURO
Starting date: 15 September 2001
Duration: 36 months

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The Socio-Economic Performance of Social Enterprises in the field of integration by work

PERSE

Objectives:

In almost all industrialised countries and within the European Union, we are witnessing today a remarkable growth in the "third sector", that is, socio-economic initiatives that belong neither to the traditional private for-profit sector nor to the public sector. Recent analyses have stressed a major impetus in this little-known area of our economies: the increasing numbers of what has been called "social enterprises", which bear witness to the development of a new entrepreneurial spirit throughout Europe focused on social ends. One major sphere of activity where social enterprises are most active is the training and absorption into employment of persons excluded from the labour market. These work integration social enterprises have as a major objective to help poorly qualified unemployed people, who are at risk of permanent exclusion from the labour market, back into work and society in general. The central objective of this project is to measure the socio-economic performance of work integration social enterprises.

Brief description of the project:

A first key objective is to measure the benefits generated by social enterprises for excluded workers (monetary and non monetary benefits including quality and duration of employment) i.e. private benefits on one side and for the community on the other side i.e. collective benefits (as net reduction of public expenditures, contribution to fight against structural unemployment and to enhance social capital, contributions to equity issues on the labour market...). The second objective of this project is to capture and analyses the very specific kind of the resources used by social enterprises, the origin, the nature, (market, state or community) and the specific mix of resources. The third objective is to analyse the evolution of social enterprises over time: do social enterprises have the tendency to get rid of specific features over time (as the involvement of volunteers, the wide partnership...) to behave more like a for profit enterprise or a traditional public organisation? Is the model sustainable or are social enterprises moving towards a more traditional way of management and governance? How do public policies affect this evolution? The project plans to undertake analysis of a sample around 200 work integration social enterprises in 11 EU countries for the two first themes – benefits and resources - and in-depth case studies for the last theme - evolution. The objective of the first year is to take forward the development of the relevant analytical tools. On the basis of an extensive literature review, we will define which are the key factors in order to grasp the socio-economic performance of social enterprises in the field of integration by work. The aim is to develop relevant indicators for each key factor identified to assess the performance of work integration social enterprises. During the second year, partners will conduct survey analysis with work integration social enterprises in their respective countries. After the production of a country analysis, the goal of the last year is the production of a cross-section analysis for each theme (resource, benefits, evolution) and the dissemination of the results.

Expected results:

Researchers wish to cluster the contribution of this research project around four axes:

- The basis and theoretical development of emerging concepts thanks to a multi-disciplinary approach – social enterprise, welfare mix, social capital and institutional isomorphism;
- The cross-contribution between theoretical hypothesis and comprehension of the dynamics of social enterprises: analysis of the organisational form, socio-economic aspects of social enterprises, analysis of the interface between social enterprises and public policies;
- Development of methodological tools, understanding of social capital, measurement of collective and private benefits
- Implications for public policies involving social enterprises
Flexibility and Competitiveness: Labour Market Flexibility, Innovation and Organisational Performance

FLEX.COM

| **Contract N°**: HPSE-CT-2001-00093 |
| **Research Project** |
| **EC contribution**: 420000 EURO |
| **Starting date**: 1 September 2001 |
| **Duration**: 24 months |
| **EC Scientific Officer**: Nikolaos Kastrinos |

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**Theme:** Employment and changes in work
Flexibility and Competitiveness: Labour Market Flexibility, Innovation and Organisational Performance

FLEX.COM

Objectives:

The objective of the research is to identify to what extent labour market flexibilities contribute to long term competitiveness and to socially and economically sustainable development. Flexibility, advantageous as it may be for certain type of firms, it may also well exacerbate social inequalities, phenomena of marginalisation, and social strife. Besides, in previous research it is suggested that the pursuit of numerical flexibility by firms may undermine the possibilities for functional flexibility and thus, although cost-cutting in the short term, it may prove innovation-curtailing in the long run. These side-effects may damage small and in particular small open economies, which are the subject of inquiry. Thus this research will focus on the investigation of the relationship between flexibility, employment and long term growth by putting emphasis also on organisational aspects of economic change.

Brief description of the project:

The project starts with desk research and the preparation of a paper for agreement on a literature survey and basic notions. It will then proceed with the comparison of the evolution of national policies in the Netherlands (which has already incorporated full flexibility with beneficial effects on the reduction of the number of unemployed but not necessarily on the economy as a whole), Ireland, Finland, Greece and Switzerland. The case studies in selected companies will try to demonstrate the different reaction of firms and their short and long term performance, when flexibility increases. The themes that will be investigated in detail are:

- National systems and policies in comparative perspectives
- Success and failure in functional flexibility
- The compatibility or incompatibility of flexibility with the knowledge society and its consequences on innovative patterns.

It will be investigated how the various types of flexibility will ultimately affect the propensity to innovate and through it the production structure and competitiveness in small open economies. In case of a negative correlation flexibility and technology policy risk outweighing each other and in particular for small, emerging open economies do more harm than good.

Expected results:

The conception of operational indicators to measure and compare flexibility in different markets, testing of alternative hypotheses linking labour market flexibility with growth, employment and economic performance in each country and in particular the “endurance of the economy on flexibility”, insight into the relation between type of firms and needs/success/failures of specific flexibility measures, a new approach to flexibility going away from the neoclassical approach and proceeding into the linkage of flexibility with innovation systems and organisational patterns.
Job Creation in Innovative Relational Services the Case of Services to Private Individuals

Job creation in IRS

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<td>EC contribution: 935384 €</td>
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<td>EC Scientific Officer: Angelos Agalianos</td>
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Job Creation in Innovative Relational Services the Case of Services to Private Individuals

Job creation in IRS

Objectives:
The trends which are apparent in our societies (growing life expectancy, equal opportunities for men and women ...) require new services. However there is a shortage in such services. It is pertinent to ask how the different European models meet the growing needs of jobs in this sector. The research team will:
Set up a comparative framework of job creation models including: 1) Definition the concepts 2) Impact of the sector on employment. 3) Impact of the welfare regimes on the models of job creation in IRS 4) Analysis the trade offs quantity/quality, the respective role of for profit, non profit and public sector and the consequences on the quality of services, well being and social cohesion.
Evaluate the possibilities of optimisation of the models and the conditions under which good practices can be exchanged, taking in account the historical and socio-economic backgrounds.
Disseminate the results of the research among policy makers, social partners, actors of the civil society and the research community.

Description of the work:
Phase 1 - Conceptual research framework;
A Elaboration of a body of common theoretical concepts and tools, definition of common concepts and elaboration of a common lexicon, setting up the comparative research framework. One of the strands of improvement pursued will be to identify opportunities and obstacles to the structuring of a European IRS sector.
B Design of a WEB site which will be used as an Intranet between the research teams and as a communication tool with all actors interested by the research.
Phase 2 Quantitative and qualitative analysis of the sector
Statistical approach to the IRS sector; Qualitative approach to employment; Identifying IRS in the regions studied.
Design of interview guidelines for phase 3.
Phase 3 - Field studies
A Selection of the enterprises studied
In order to ensure cross-national comparability, at least 4 studies per region of industrial decline (which require the development of IRS oriented towards social cohesion and labour market integration) and 4 per technologically advanced region (which require above all childcare and care services for the aged) will be carried out.
30 to 40 case studies will allow us to study:
a) relevant initiatives identified in the course of the research b) atypical cases c) networks
C Field studies methodology
In each enterprise we’ll interview the management team, the employees, the users/clients, political and administrative authorities. Each enterprise will be economically and socially audited: statements of accounts, level of wages, role of subsidies, collective agreements, training.
Phase 4 Elaboration of a new typology, final report and recommendations
Quality of employment
Does employment in relational services lead to the reproduction of employment patterns? (Social “inheritance”):
Participation of staff and users/clients in needs assessment, in designing adequate response, and in the management of the enterprises thus created.
Public and private mechanisms for employment promotion
Trade-offs and tensions
Phase 5: Dissemination
Organisation of 2 european seminars and 3 national seminars. Editing a book, a CD ROM and a special issue of the ETUI journal

Expected results:
We’ll produce 2 interim reports, 5 national reports and a final report which will present the new typology of job creation in IRS and the conditions of transferability of relevant practice. It will include a synthesis report and policy papers for the different actors. Thanks to the WEB site we hope to build up a large networking including the actors of the civil society and the research community. The reports will be published (paper and CD ROM). We’ll organise 2 European and 5 national conferences.
Social Dialogue, Employment and Territories. Towards a European Politics of Capabilities

EUROCAP

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-00132
Research Project
EC contribution: 1353784 €
Starting date: 1 December 2002
Duration: 36 months
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Social Dialogue, Employment and Territories. Towards a European Politics of Capabilities

EUROCAP

Objectives:

The overall objective of the research is to make the European social dialogue able to promote - in employment and social policies domains - a politics of capabilities, this being undertaken in conjunction with contemporary European legislation. It addresses the general desire of the Commission and the Council for the social partners to develop collective negotiation and deliberation at different levels (particularly the territorial level). They should participate more actively in the elaboration of European legislation and in the definition and implementation of the European Employment Strategy (EES). Our task in this project is to analyse transformations of work and the means to promote frameworks of security, but based on precise analyses, comparative over space and time and embedded in life and work situations. A great importance will be attached to the creation and diffusion of statistical and analytical frameworks suitable for European social dialogue. Equally, the participation of social actors will help determine pertinent questions and identify empirical areas for investigation.

Description of the work:

The project uses a sample of regions and firms in seven European countries. Empirical, detailed research analyses the operation of a range of business policies and public plans and agencies. These integrate work change, social dialogue and collective responsibility into the organisation of the economy, employment and welfare provision. Do these approaches involve a ‘politics of capabilities’? Do they offer security as employment changes? The research aims to learn from local lessons: to produce more systematic, scientific analysis, reflexive and applicable to European social dialogue and legislation; ultimately to evaluate macro-economic policies and social policies from a capability point of view. Regional and macro-analysis will merge to generate and to propose new statistical categories and indicators for European employment and social policies. The concept of “capabilities”, its theoretical environment and its practical implementation will be developed mainly from the works of Amartya Sen, Nobel Prize winner in economics (1998), but equally from law and moral philosophy.

Six work packages will be undertaken:

(WP1) Literature Review and Seminar
(WP2) From Employability to Capability: Design and Application of Tools
(WP3) Economic Integration, Territories and Capability
(WP4) Security in the Face of Uncertainty
(WP5) Social responsibility and social dialogue
(WP6) Series of Workshops Between Researchers and Social Actors. Policy Implications for the Development of Social Dialogue in Europe

Expected results:

A range of deliverables will be produced from theoretical developments to empirical data sets and studies, as well as reports and workshops. All of these outcomes will aim at offering a new perspective (the politics of capabilities) for future debate about European policy implementation. Hence, the research tries to break with approaches, mostly macroeconomic and financial, that claim for Europe structural reforms oriented toward pure market flexibility; these reforms ultimately understanding social welfare as counterproductive to economic prosperity. Our ambition is to demonstrate that such a capability approach can inspire advances in European employment and social policies and legislation as well as in methodology.

2. As stated in the 2000 Employment Guidelines.
Psychological Contracts Across Employment Situations

PSYCONES

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-00121

Research Project

EC contribution: 1289927 €
Starting date: 1 December 2002
Duration: 30 months

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Objectives:
This project aims to examine how the changing nature of employment relations in general and different forms of employment contract in particular affect the job security, well-being and health of workers in Europe. The broad aim of the project is to explore the relationship between forms of employment contract, the psychological contract and employee health and well-being.

Description of the work:
Thanks to an initial grant from SALTSA, much of the initial conceptual work and an extended pilot study will have been completed. The first step will therefore be to extend the literature review and evidence from across Europe, assess and integrate the results from the pilot study and from previous EU research and prepare a methodology workbook. Data will be collected from six European countries (Sweden, Germany, Belgium, the UK, the Netherlands and Spain) and, for comparison, from Israel. Initial data collection will identify the societal institutional factors that shape employment relations and the psychological contract. The main phase of data collection will consist of questionnaires distributed to workers and interviews with managers and unions. The sample will be drawn from three sectors (service sector, international firms and declining manufacturing industry) and will cover several organizations in each of the seven countries. At least a third of the workers will be on temporary or fixed term contracts. Data will be collected using questionnaires with workers (600 in each country) and interviews with managers and unions and will be analysed at sector, national and pan-European levels. The analysis will examine determinants of the psychological contract and then the link with health and well-being initially at a national level and subsequently at an integrated cross-country and cross-sector level. The final stage will draw out key implications for the social partners and policy-makers and disseminate the findings to a range of audiences at European, international and national levels.

Expected results:
Focusing on both time-bound and open-ended (permanent) contracts will afford opportunities to know more about the meaning and implications for employees working on different arrangements side by side. Issues of relevance are job security, and perceived fairness and justice associated with each employment arrangement. Negative but also positive outcomes will give an empirical base to find out the best way of dealing with contract flexibility. Focus on consequences of contract breach or violation will help to find out the effects on worker well-being and attitudes towards the company (including loyalty and performance), thus showing the "hidden costs" of changing contracts. Based on the results, an input to policy makers about regulations on a European level such as equal treatment of workers on different contracts concerning pay, training as well as health and well-being can be given.
Employment in the Public Sector: A Transnational and European Analysis

EFPE

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-50032

**Thematic Network**
- EC contribution: 336760 €
- Starting date: 36 months

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Employment in the Public Sector: A Transnational and European Analysis

EFPE

Objectives:

- To analyse the different types of public employment in Europe.
- To harmonize the definitions of the categories of casual/unstable employment in the margins of public employment.
- To compare the modes of flexible management of this type of employment.

To note the differential impacts/consequences upon the living conditions of youngsters in European public sectors.

Description of the work:

- A comparison of the structures of European public sectors and their composition following the division core/periphery/margin (harmonization of the categories and quantitative analysis of their respective sizes).
- A complete comparative study of the modes of management linked to the rationales of public managers.

A comparative analysis of the impact of the resort to the margins of the public sector on the living conditions of young employees.

Expected results:

- A comparison of flexible jobs/types of employment in European public sectors, both in quantitative and qualitative terms.
- An explanation of internal consistencies as far as the use of the margins and the types of public employment are concerned, for each country.
- To classify these types of employment following parameters such as the living conditions of employees.
European Research on Social cohesion, migration and welfare

- 25 Countries
- 249 Participants
- 27.9 Millions €
- 30 Projects
Theme

Social cohesion, migration and welfare
**European Network of Economic Policy Research Institutes**

**Contract No:** HPSE-CT-1999-00004

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<th>Thematic Network</th>
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<td><strong>EC contribution</strong></td>
<td><strong>Centre for European Policy Studies</strong></td>
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<td>470000 EURO</td>
<td>Economic Policy</td>
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European Network of Economic Policy Research Institutes

Objectives:
Welfare systems remain a national responsibility even under EMU, but in all member states they face similar challenges deriving from the ageing of the European population, the fiscal constraints under EMU, changing patterns of work and increased fiscal policy competition. Important research in these areas is done in many member countries within institutes that in many cases are the privileged conduit between the academic community and (national) policy makers.

But despite the similarity of the problems and their European dimension research and policy advice from (national) economic policy research institutes starts often from a national point of view and even if it includes a European perspective is diffused only at the national level. In addition, similar studies are being produced in many countries (e.g. ageing and the future of the welfare system, the impact of EMU on labour markets, etc.)

The purpose of the European Network of Economic Policy Research Institutes (ENEPRI) is to change this by bringing together the leading (national) institutes from 7 member countries in order to diffuse existing research, co-ordinate research plans and increase the awareness of the European dimension in national problems. The Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS, located in Brussels) will provide co-ordination and reinforce the EU perspective as it does not have a national identity.

The general theme is welfare, in particular the integration between welfare systems and employment. Some of the specific issues to be addressed are: the impact of ageing; whether the EU can save for its ageing population in the rest of the world; the different roles of private and public pensions; how to evaluate welfare systems (generational accounting); the threat to national welfare systems in an integrating Europe in which tax bases become more mobile.; the links between welfare systems and employment (which determines the financing potential); the consequences of welfare systems for (international) mobility of labour; can one extend the mutual recognition principle to labour markets; etc.

These issues are mainly of a microeconomic nature. But they must be seen in a general equilibrium perspective and the policy conclusions should be quantifiable, especially in terms of the financing of welfare system. As policy makers require tools to evaluate policy options quantitatively a lot of work is going into developing medium to long-run general equilibrium models at the national level (we do not intend to duplicate the existing models used for short-run macroeconomic policy evaluation). The network would be instrumental in providing solid foundations for asymmetries between member countries in labour markets. Moreover, this type of quantitative analysis supported by model, originally used only at the national level, could become a resource at the EU level via this network.

The main tangible outputs of the network (apart from academic publications) would be policy conclusions regarding welfare systems in Europe; e.g. how they can be financed (public versus private, internationally?) and whether there is a case for a EU competence in this area.

A steering committee will accompany the activities of the network, provide critical advice and a first evaluation of research. Papers retained by this committee will become joint publications of all participating institutes.

Expected results:
- Milestones year 1: the organisation of 6 workshops and the publication of 24 ENEPRI working papers.
- Milestones year 2: further 6 workshops (and associated working papers) leading to the preparation of the first topical conference (on welfare systems).

The main tangible outputs of the network (apart from academic publications) would be policy conclusions regarding welfare systems in Europe; e.g. how they can be financed (public versus private, internationally?) and whether there is a case for a EU competence in this area.
Between work and welfare: Improving return to work strategies for long term absent employees

Contract No: HPSE-CT-1999-00011
EC contribution: 420000 EURO
Starting date: 1 March 2000
Duration: 24 months

EC Scientific Officer: Fadila Boughanemi

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Between work and welfare: Improving return to work strategies for long term absent employees

Objectives:

Responses to Long Term Absence (LTA) as a result of illness, injury or impairment have the capacity to “disable” an individual. The process through which this transition occurs is complex and involves the work/welfare axis. It is a process that results in economic and social costs for the State, the employer and the individual. Improving the means by which work and welfare based systems manage the challenge of LTA and “disability” must be a key element of any strategy focused on improving quality of life, increasing economic growth and employment, achieving equal opportunities and promoting social inclusion. RETURN will characterise LTA responses in a number of EU Member States. In particular, the study will:
- Characterise welfare and work based systems and will recommend improvements.
- Explore good practice in early intervention and vocational rehabilitation.
- Document interdependencies between social welfare and work based systems and other relevant systems at a societal, organisational and individual level.

Brief description of the project:

This will be achieved through the following activities:
- Document research to construct a Map of Member State's welfare and work based systems.
- Collation of statistics on the incidence of injuries, illness, impairments and LTA.
- Establish national user groups of organisations of people with disabilities, the social partners, insurers, welfare administrators and service providers to provide a User perspective.
- A survey of expert opinion at a European level about current and planned welfare and work based strategies.
- develop and pilot a company based Audit Tool to evaluate the effectiveness of welfare and work based responses to long term absence at the level of the employing organisation.
- Disseminate results through representative organisations of people with disabilities, professional bodies (e.g. OH personnel, HR managers), social partners, statutory and voluntary providers, insurers, lawyers and social welfare administrators and policy makers.

The study will produce:
- A best practice guide for effective return to work and job retention systems/strategies.
- An easy access guide for ill or injured workers, TU representatives and HR managers.
- An Audit Tool to evaluate company based responses to managing LTA.
- A training programme for professionals.
- recommendations for EU Employment Guidelines, Health and Safety and Equality Regulations and Community Initiative Guidelines

Expected results:

The major milestones of the project will be:
- Month 4: National and regional map(s) of work and welfare based systems to respond to LTA from an individual view.
- Month 12: Report synthesising expert views on gaps, barriers, incentives and good practice in terms of work and welfare based responses to LTA.
- Month 15: Field tested company based audit framework.
Social Exclusion and Social Solidarity: Public Participation and Welfare Reform

**Contract No:** HPSE-CT-1999-00023

- **EC contribution:** 480000 EURO
- **Starting date:** 1 February 2000
- **Duration:** 27 months

**EC Scientific Officer:** Fadila Boughanemi

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**Theme:** Social cohesion, migration and welfare
Objectives:
Welfare systems in the EU and in the Accession Countries attempt to reduce, avoid, or at least ameliorate social exclusion. Yet, welfare systems in the EU and the Accession Countries are currently in the process of fundamental transformation. The changing social, political, and demographic realities of the past decades provide formidable challenges to existing welfare systems. As a result, policymakers are looking for new models and approaches to social protection that can withstand these challenges. Pension systems are the central feature of any welfare protection scheme. For these reasons, pension reform has been on high on the policy agenda of most EU and Accession Countries. Although pension reform experiences in different countries have been quite diverse, they all lack substantive input from stakeholders, in this case the public. The proposed project aims to provide the experience with public involvement in the field of policy reform which is missing in the field of pension and more generally welfare reform. It will test focus groups as a means for more direct participation by the citizenry in the pension reform process.

The PEN-REF project will pursue three main objectives:
- First, to yield comparative information on the pension reforms in different welfare type systems, paying particular attention to the institutional framework of discourse, governance, and implementation and how this is affected by the European process of harmonisation.
- Second, to use focus groups to obtain information on the views of citizens of different backgrounds on the pension reforms.
- Third, to test the feasibility of using focus groups as an integrative process for public participation in the pension reform process as well as for developing them as a participatory forum for providing policy makers with information on the diverse values of the citizenry on pension reforms.

Brief description of the project:
The PEN-REF project will take 27 months to complete. The PEN-REF project will follow two distinct lines of inquiry.
First, the PEN-REF project will collate information on pension reform processes in Europe and the Accession Countries in the form of case studies. These case studies will use a number of methodologies. On the one hand the case studies will rely on textual analysis and interpretation of relevant scientific literature and policy documents. On the other hand, the case studies will also base on expert interviews with the relevant pension reform policy-makers. These case studies will provide the inputs for the focus group discussions.
The PEN-REF projects will run two series of about 4-5 focus group sessions in Austria, France, Germany, Italy, and Poland. The focus groups will aim to both collect information on people’s attitudes towards pension reform and different pension reform options as well as to test focus groups as a tool for deliberative policy-making.
The PEN-REF project will then test the feasibility of producing a ‘citizen’s report’. The qualitative data here will be analysed in a number of ways. First, we will attempt some form of quantification. Second, and most importantly, the data will be hermeneutically interpreted and analysed to investigate the correlation between world-views and preferred pension reform option.
Last, the PEN-REF project will draw conclusions and draft guidelines for systematically and effectively including the public in European pension reform processes. What is more, the PEN-REF consortium will organise two external workshops. Here, the PEN-REF consortium will present and discuss the results of the project with members of the pension reform policy community.
The PEN-REF project will be organised into six distinct work packages. Each work package will provide at least one deliverable. The deliverables, in turn, represent coherent and independent pieces of work.

Expected Results:
- Overview of Pension Reform Processes in the EU and Accession Countries.
- Results of testing focus groups as a means for deliberative policy-making.
- Guidelines for effectively integrating citizens into the pension reform process.
- An in-depth understanding of the socio-political and economic dimensions of pension reform processes in Europe.
- An in-depth understanding of the socio-institutional factors that affect pension reform processes.
- An better understanding of how pension reform issues are construed and constructed within the general public.
- A functioning policy tool for integrating citizens into the pension reform process.
The Housing Dimension of Welfare Reform

**Contract No:** HPSE-CT-1999-00038

**EC contribution:** 700000 EURO

**Starting date:** 1 February 2000

**Duration:** 36 months

**EC Scientific Officer:** Fadila Boughanemi

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The Housing Dimension of Welfare Reform

Objectives:
The more general aims of the project are the development of a methodology for housing policy impact analysis and performance measurements for services which aim at:
- Improving housing conditions of the socially deprived.
- To evaluate how well are current welfare and housing transfers and allowances reinforcing housing security of socially vulnerable individuals and families.
- To propose measures to improve the system by identifying programs with positive outcomes potentially applicable across Europe.

More specifically the objectives are:
- To analyse the impact of welfare transfers and housing related benefits on the quality of life and housing conditions of people living on the borderline of deprivation.
- To test the methodology which will be developed on housing support services in selected European Union countries.
- To develop standards of service delivery in the field of supported accommodation assistance which take into account the needs and the points of view of users.

Brief description of the project:
In order to investigate the relationship between policies and services on the one side, and poverty/housing deprivation on the other, the project will employ the following methods:
- A desk review with the objective of synthesising relevant research, evaluation, and data analysis carried out at the national level (work packages 2 to 4).
- Statistical data analysis of available data sources, for instance of the ECHP (work package 2).
- Case study evaluations of select services (work package 3).
- Follow-up surveys of beneficiaries of housing schemes (work package 3).

On the basis of the results emerging from the application of the above methods to the study material, the proposed project will be developing and, in part, testing:
- Performance indicators for services.
- A quality assurance approach in the form of a manual.
- Best-practice models.
- An overall strategic assessment tool which incorporates all of the above and relates these to the more objective exercise of impact assessment through data analysis.

WP 2 will produce a comparative report on the main trends with regards social exclusion with an emphasis on the risk groups; an overview of the measures operating or planned in EU countries in the field of housing paying attention to the differences between welfare systems; and examine the extent to which the measures implemented address the needs of the risk groups.

For WP 3 performance indicators for services will be developed and tested through case studies of relevant institutions. It will also include follow-up surveys of beneficiaries in order to examine the long-term effect of specific measures in meeting needs as well as for exploring different coping strategies at the individual or group level and how these relate to the success and/or failure of policy measures.

WP 4 will consequently develop a quality assurance approach for services that considers policy demands as well as user needs and coping strategies; develop best-practice models for policies covering the whole decision process: from the formulation part to implementation to monitoring and evaluation and in close relation to the various actors involved at each stage.

WPs 1 and 5 are concerned with Project Management and Co-ordination and Dissemination.

Expected results:
The research is designed as a three-year project involving analyses of existing research, development of an assessment methodology and empirical research applying it. The research will yield a strategic policy analysis at the macro-level to identify the relevant impact groups, and the type and extent of risk faced by these; second, at the level of formulation of policy for charting the measures implemented; third, at the level of services; fourth, at the level of users.
The contribution of social capital in the social economy to local economic development in western Europe

Contract No: HPSE-CT-1999-00016

EC contribution: 850000 EURO
Starting date: 1 March 2000
Duration: 36 months

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The contribution of social capital in the social economy to local economic development in western Europe

Objectives:

The overarching objective is to examine the extent to which social enterprises in the social economy produce and reproduce social capital and thereby facilitate local economic development, social cohesion and inclusion in four European countries (UK, Germany, Spain and Sweden). Detailed objectives include:

- To model the range of ways in which different type of social enterprises in the four countries can produce and reproduce social capital.
- To identify the ways and extent to which social capital produced and reproduced in family and community networks influences the development of social enterprises in the social economy.
- To develop indicators and measures of the social capital produced by social enterprises.
- To develop a new model of local economic profiling which incorporates a concept of social capital and develops measures and indicators of this.
- To develop an augmented model of social auditing which incorporates a concept of social capital and develops measures and indicators of this.

Brief description of the project:

The work will involve three major integrated phases, separated by milestones, incorporating nine workpackages and fourteen deliverables.

The first phase will involve literature and research reviews to establish definitions, indicators and measures of social enterprise, social economy and social capital. (Workpackage 1). Two further Workpackages (2 and 3) will involve partners in developing:

- Appropriate methodologies for local social and economic profiling.
- Social audits.

In each case incorporating indicators and measures developed in Workpackage 1.

The second phase involves fieldwork in two carefully selected localities in each of the four participating states. Firstly, there will be a period of fieldwork to construct local social and economic profiles of each chosen locality (Workpackage 4). Secondly, there will commence a 24 month period of social audit of a chosen social enterprise in each of the selected localities (Workpackage 5). This will enable a longitudinal analysis of the contribution of social enterprise to the accumulation of social capital.

The third phase then follows later in the project with consolidated reports of the socio-economic profiles (Workpackage 6) and the social audits (Workpackage 7), before a final report consolidating the findings of the project (Workpackage 8) and a major conference to launch and present the findings of the project. (Workpackage 9).

Expected results:

Key Milestones located at month 8 with the completion of WP’s 1, 2 and 3. At month 30 with the completion of the fieldwork associated with WP’s 4 and 5. At month 35 with the completion of reports and consolidated reports during the third phase (WP 8).

The major expected results are:

- Development of Baseline indicators and measures of social enterprise, social economy and social capital.
- New methodologies of local socio-economic profiling and social auditing.
- Socio-economic profiles of 8 localities.
- Social audits of 8 social enterprises.
- Final report and conference.
- New models of local economic development which address social inclusion.
Welfare Reform and the Management of Societal Change

WRAMSOC

Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-00078

Research Project
EC contribution: 750016 EURO
Starting date: 1 October 2001
Duration: 36 months

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Welfare Reform and the Management of Societal Change

WRAMSOC

Objectives:

European welfare systems differ markedly, but all face common pressures: economic globalisation, ageing populations, rising costs, changes in the jobs available, in family life and in people's expectations from government. Existing research tells us a great deal about what reforms are needed, in terms of cost containment, the more vigorous promotion of an active labour market and adapting provision to the needs of an ageing population and changing family patterns. We know much less about how to achieve these changes in the context of different national policy-making systems. This project will provide a detailed examination of the range of factors that influence policy direction in a range of European countries. It will provide new understanding of the reforms underway in European welfare states and of the best way to promote reforms that will advance the European project in welfare.

Brief description of the project:

The six national teams participating in the research will analyse policy development during the past fifteen years in relation to pension reform, long-term care, provision for unemployed people, policies for low-paid people, the impact of the EU on national policy and the way in which welfare is financed. The analysis will pay particular attention to the role of the key policy actors (political parties, governments, business and trade unions, the voluntary sector and other agencies as appropriate in different national settings). The researchers will conduct interviews with selected representatives of these groups to investigate recent developments and the probable trajectory of policy during the next ten years. The co-ordinating team will carry out corresponding interviews at the EC level and with Europe-wide organisations. The material will be analysed to assess perceptions of and responses to challenges to the welfare state resulting from societal change in EU member countries and to identify the extent to which the different European welfare systems are successful in formulating policies to meet these challenges. The research will thus support policy-making at a practical level. The work will also make a strong contribution to the scientific understanding of the factors that influence different responses to current pressures in different welfare states and provide new knowledge of the areas in which it is feasible for the EU to give a lead in the modernisation and reform of welfare systems.

Expected Results:

The research will improve our knowledge in three areas:

- The factors affecting the way policy develops (or fails to develop) in different European welfare states and at a European level;
- Trends in convergence or divergence in different aspects of European welfare policy;
- The opportunities open for the EU to give a lead in welfare state modernisation.

It will thus contribute to understanding and enhancing the capacity of one of the major European achievements - the democratic welfare state - to introduce effective reform programmes as it comes under increasing pressure.
The Socio-Economic role of domestic service as a factor of European identity

SERVANT PROJECT

Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-50012

Thematic Network

EC contribution: 345987 EURO
Starting date: 1 September 2001
Duration: 36 months

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The Socio-Economic role of domestic service as a factor of European identity

SERVANT PROJECT

Objectives:

It was long expected that domestic service would disappear, that technological progress would eliminate it. But today, the number of domestic workers is perhaps even increasing, due to a wide range of reasons: current changes in labor organization and supply, including women's increasing presence in the labor market, increasing number of people living alone requiring domestic help. By constituting a European network on domesticity, research in this area will be oriented towards several objectives. Up until now, approaches of existing case studies have varied too much to allow for a comparative study. What are the economic, social and cultural roles of domestic service in various EC countries? So-called “modern slavery” and violation of human rights will also be considered, as well as access to rights for migrant domestic workers. Particular attention will be given to the development of State regulation in this economic sector, which also today is less regulated than others. So the analysis will try to evaluate the effect of measures taken to fight against black work as well (for example chèque emploi in France or ALE in Belgium). Because of the importance of the results for the elaboration of the EU policy, the network will especially care to reach policy makers (some members are already in touch with individuals collaborating to the preparation of the Smet report adopted by the European Parliament at its plenary session of November 16th, 2000 on regulating domestic help in the informal).

Description of the project:

1° Organization of 5 interdisciplinary seminars (one held every 5 months for a 3-day period, with 20 participants at most, network members and other specialists) on previously defined research themes: A. Domestic service and the emergence of a new conception of labor in Europe; B Domestic service and the evolution of the law; C. Servants and changes in mentality; D. Domestic service, a factor of social renewal in Europe; E. Modelization of domestic service.

2° Creation and development of an Internet site for the network. To be included in the site: project description; network architecture; schedule of proposed activities; diffusion of communications; a call for papers for each seminar; diffusion of communications; report of seminars and a summary of communications; a bibliography on domesticity; access to online data banks.

3° Constitution of a bibliography and pan-European data banks, with search possibilities by country, by subject and by author; this bibliography will be supplied by network members as the seminars are held. Standardizing the different data banks provided by members will be necessary in order to integrate them into a single database.

4° Editing of a final publication in both French and English; the provisional title is Domestic service, one factor in the formation of European identity. While the historical dimension (16th-20th centuries) facilitates making regional and national comparisons, individual and collective strategies for European society of the 21st century, confronted by issues such as access and participation in the workforce, division of tasks and familial and domestic responsibilities, also emerge.

Expected results:

1° To shed new light on changes in: precarious labor contracts, welfare state, individual and collective strategies in European society to confront access and participation in the workforce, the sharing of tasks and familial and domestic responsibilities, globalization of the international labor market, feminization of migration to Europe, which constitute so many factors which pass through the indispensable channel of domesticity and its shadow workers.

2° To contribute to a better understanding of the underground and informal economy as well.

3° The results of the “servant network” will be important to get the objectives fixed by the European Parliament as well. The European Union, like Anti-Slavery lobbies, national governments and the United Nations, must adopt policies which help to bring about the end of underground economy but also all forms of slavery.
Insecurities in European Cities. Crime-Related Fears Within the Context of New Anxieties and Community-Based Crime Prevention

**EC Scientific Officer:** Fadila Boughanemi

**Contract N°:** HPSE-CT-2001-00052

**Research Project**

- **EC contribution:** 999988 EURO
- **Starting date:** 1 October 2001
- **Duration:** 32 months

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Insecurities in European Cities. Crime-Related Fears Within the Context of New Anxieties and Community-Based Crime Prevention

INSEC

Objectives:

Feelings and perceptions of insecurity (e.g., fear of crime) as well as security regimes and policies (especially community crime prevention and community policing) will be examined in five major European cities. The guiding research questions will be:

a) how the actual transformation processes in these cities (indicated by globalisation, individualisation, social invalidation, and marginalisation) shape and change the emotional and cognitive attitudes and the behaviour of their inhabitants,
b) how these changes are related to socio-spatial factors,
c) which resources on an individual as well as on the communal level light be actualised and, finally,
d) which policies on an national and on an European level seem to be suitable in order to prevent given and foreseeable insecurities in these and similar European cities.

Brief description of the project:

Modern societies are burdened with, e.g., ethnical fragmentation, social decline, ecological risks, violence and terrorism. Problems of this kind generate feelings of insecurity, with crime-related fears and anxieties among them. Such feelings are specifically shaped by and within urban. It is assumed that the quality of those attitudes and the ways to cope with the underlying problems depend largely on the social and cultural backgrounds of societies and communities. To study these processes, five major European cities were selected for a cross-national comparison. Main scientific objectives are the cities’ problem profiles, the residents’ concern about crime and other social problems affecting their quality of life and their view of the cities’ most pressing security problems.

The research project embraces the cities of Amsterdam, Budapest, Hamburg, Krakow and Vienna. It is conducted by scholars from the University of Hamburg being the co-ordinators and from Universities and Research Institutes from Budapest, Hamburg, Groningen, Krakow, Leiden and Vienna as contractors.

Urban insecurity is studied on three distinct levels of urban structure: on the city level (macro level), on the district level (meso level), and on the level of neighbourhoods (micro level).

Three different methodological approaches pertain to these levels: (a) The establishment of a city problem profile by using official data and by exploiting the experiences of local experts by way of in-depth interviews (macro level). (b) A standardised survey of a representative random sample of residents in two districts of the respective cities by which the – endangered – quality of life of the respondents in its various dimensions, individually and in relation to the community, will be investigated. Specific attention will be given to crime-related fears and anxieties (meso level). (c) Qualitative interviews with selected groups of citizens (in some neighbourhoods within the districts under investigation) will give an even more detailed and precise picture in respect of personal crime and other fear-generating experiences, the respondents’ view of the state and the changes in their community, and how they are affected by the ongoing transformation processes (micro level).

In addition to this a criminal policy analysis – focused on community (fear of) crime prevention and community policing – will be conducted to get additional insights into the security problems not covered by the research steps mentioned above.

Expected results:

The project combines several main points of interest, usually seen independently: the elaboration of insecurities as a structural element of modern societies; the socio-spatial dimension of insecurity problems in major cities; a cross-national comparison of five European cities from East and West to study similar but culturally bound qualities of peoples’ anxieties and fears (we call them ‘cultures of anxieties and fears’), and the development of recommendations for a complex and problem-adequate prevention policy for European cities.
The Contentious Politics of Unemployment in Europe: Political Claim-making, Policy Deliberation, and Exclusion from the Labor Market

UNEMPOL

Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-00053
Research Project
EC contribution: 799916 EURO
Starting date: 1 January 2002
Duration: 36 months

EC Scientific Officer: Fadila Boughanemi

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The Contentious Politics of Unemployment in Europe: Political Claim-making, Policy Deliberation, and Exclusion from the Labor Market

UNEMPOL

Objectives:

This project aims to advance knowledge in labour politics by focusing on the 'contentious politics of unemployment', i.e. the relationship between political institutional approaches to employment policy and political conflicts mobilised by collective actors over unemployment in the public domain. It is designed to study this topic at national, international comparative, and transnational levels. Key objectives: (a) to generate new data for longitudinal and comparative analyses of ideological and policy positions of actors and their relationships; (b) to study the potential for political participation 'from below' by citizens campaigning for the rights of the unemployed and the conditions under which existing organisational networks and policy dialogues transform in a more open civil policy deliberation; (c) to provide knowledge based on rigorous cross-national and EU-level transnational analyses allowing grounded empirical statements about the Europeanization of the field.

Brief description of the project:

As the contested and negotiated character of the employment policy field expresses itself both in the public domain and in the institutional arenas for interest mediation, we look both at political claim-making in the public space and policy deliberation within the polity. The overall design of the research has three main components: (a) mapping the field of political contention, i.e. structures of ideological cleavages and actor relationships, both longitudinally and cross-nationally; (b) examining the nature of the multi-organizational field extending from the core policy domain to the public domain, i.e. networks and channels of political influence between core policy actors and intermediary organizations, on one side, and civil society organizations and social movements representing the unemployed (including the unemployed themselves), on the other; (c) studying the nature of the interaction between EU-level and national policy-making by determining the channels of political influence that exist between European institutions and national policy domains in the field (the multi-level governance of employment policy), and examining to what extent there are new political opportunities for the bottom-up empowerment of citizens’ organizations as a consequence of the emergence of the EU as an actor in the field. A new body of data will be generated which will allow for longitudinal (1990-2002) and comparative (F, D, I, S, CH, UK) analyses of ideological and policy positions of actors and their relationships in the unemployment issue-field. This will be backed up by interviews conducted with key actors in the organizational field (policy actors, employers associations, trade unions, parties, NGOs and social movements) both at the national and transnational levels. Innovative attempts will be made to establish networks and links between the involved actors as part of our dissemination strategy, which is key to the overall success of the project.

Expected results:

The project will provide the first systematic cross-national comparison of the contentious politics of unemployment based on original data. It has a high potential for being a path-breaking academic study in labour politics, social movements and Europe. The findings will feedback understanding to the actors in the field, facilitated through our dissemination strategy which aims to contribute toward a constructive social dialogue.
The Political Economy of Migration in an Integrating Europe

PEMINT

**Contract N°**: HPSE-CT-2001-00059

**Research Project**

EC contribution: 1000000 EURO  
Starting date: 1 September 2001  
Duration: 36 months

**EC Scientific Officer**: Fadila Boughanemi

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The Political Economy of Migration in an Integrating Europe

PEMINT

Objectives:

The PEMINT project's objective is to understand how decision-making processes concerning labour recruitment by national and multi-national firms lead to different outcomes in terms of labour mobility and international migration under the impact of different welfare provisions, fiscal systems, and regulatory frameworks. Despite the enhanced Europeanised resonance that free movement, welfare and fiscal systems have acquired, these systems remain strongly embedded in national political, institutional and social contexts, creating problems of 'incomplete European integration'. The project’s objectives can be organised under four headings: implications for labour recruitment; problems of incomplete European integration; individual agency and unexpected outcomes; the impact of emerging institutions of global governance.

Description of the work:

A major consequence of 'incomplete European integration' is that recruitment decisions taken by employers in an integrating Europe simultaneously consider local/national labour markets, labour markets of other EU member states and labour markets of non-EU countries. Consequently, the PEMINT project proposes to commence from the demand side of labour markets, i.e., organisations and their decision processes concerning the recruitment of goods, services and people. This allows us to find answers to questions unanswered by previous general explanatory frameworks. In particular, the effects of recruitment processes on different migration types: highly qualified as opposed to low skilled, temporary as opposed to permanent migration, legal versus illegal, European as opposed to non-European. We assume a close relation between specific demand contexts conditioned by these problems of incomplete European integration and structures of migration processes. The research will be organised by economic sectors - construction, health care, and information and communication technology (ICT) - in relation to three specified overarching topics: impacts on labour mobility of recruitment processes, welfare contexts (including social security and fiscal systems) and political-institutional effects of Europeanisation. These three thematic umbrellas will guide fieldwork designed to capture such interconnections comparatively, not only in terms of the country involved, but also across sectors, types of organisation and in different social and institutional contexts. The choice of sectors is closely linked to the choice of countries where the chain effects of Europeanisation and the consequences of incomplete integration can be observed. The research will be conducted in five EU member states – D; I; NL; P; UK, which are all highly relevant in terms of the presence of the three sectors and provide us with a laboratory within which we can observe recruitment processes and chain effects.

Expected results:

The project will demonstrate incomplete European integration consequences by showing how recruitment decisions illustrate chain effects connecting EU member states when free movement is 'supranationalised' while welfare and fiscal systems aren't. PEMINT will provide advanced knowledge demonstrating consequences and implications of incomplete European integration and feed into learning processes and strategising about EU employment and social policy development.
The Importance of Housing Systems in Safeguarding Social Cohesion in Europe

SOCOHO

Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-00060

Research Project
EC contribution: 600376 EURO
Starting date: 1 September 2001
Duration: 36 months

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The Importance of Housing Systems in Safeguarding Social Cohesion in Europe

SOCHO

Objectives:
The project is to examine the relationship between the problems of social cohesion and the housing systems exemplified in the following six member states: Austria, France, Spain, Sweden, The Netherlands and the United Kingdom. Four principal questions are posed for each of the states:
d) To what extent do the various housing systems alleviate or aggravate the increasing risks of poverty faced by households?
d) To what extent do they take into account the current transformation of family and demographic structures?
d) To what extent do they alleviate or aggravate the dangers in many urban areas arising from increasing social and ethnic diversity?
d) What housing provision measures could lead to a reduction in the problems resulting from increasing risks of poverty, the transformation of family and demographic structures and increasing social and ethnic inequality?
Research in the individual states will provide high-quality comparable data as a basis for a summary with politically relevant conclusions in an overall European context.

Brief description of the project:
Analysis of the four principal questions and of the resulting problems will be broken down into three phases:

**Phase 1: ‘From draft to detailed concept’**
During this stage the members of the research consortium will:
- draw up a compulsory structural outline for the studies to be conducted in the various states during the second phase
- establish common methodological principles for handling national statistics in order to achieve high-quality comparable data.

**Phase 2: ‘Reports for the individual states’**
During the second phase of the project, consortium partners will draw up a report on their country. Each of these six reports must comply with the methodological principles established in phase 1 of the project and deal with the following points:
- analysis of the current crisis of social cohesion, with special regard to the increasing risks of poverty, the transformation of family and demographic structures and increasing social and ethnic inequality.
- analysis of the development of the housing system: past transformations and present situation
- description of the interconnections between the crisis of social cohesion and the development of the housing system
- preparation of possible strategies aimed at optimising the role of housing systems in overcoming the current crisis of social cohesion
Analyses will deal with the problems on national level and that of an important urban agglomeration.

**Phase 3: ‘Overall report’**
During the last phase of the project, under the guidance of the coordinating institute, a summary report will be drawn up which will cover the following five issues:
- summary of the statistics drawn up for the individual states in the form of international comparative overviews
- comparative interpretation of the situations in the individual states
- Comparative interpretation of the situations in the cities studied
- summary assessment of the problem area dealt with in the project at European level.

Expected results:
The results will provide important input for the social and housing policies of the individual states. They may also contribute to the evolution of the European Social Action Programme, since the optimisation of relations between housing systems and changing socioeconomic structures constitutes an important element in all ‘efforts to build a more inclusive society’.
Social innovation, governance and community building

SINGOCOM

Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-00070
Research Project
EC contribution: 800000 EURO
Starting date: 1 September 2001
Duration: 36 months

EC Scientific Officer: Fadila Boughanemi

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Social innovation, governance and community building

SINGOCOM

Objectives:

To formulate an alternative model for local innovative development (or ALMOLIN). This model will focus particularly on governance dynamics and is based on a multi-dimensional concept of social innovation. Contributions from various social science disciplines and their interpretation of governance dynamics will be integrated (WP 2).

To confront the alternative model of local and regional innovation with practices and initiatives in the local social economy of 9 cities in 6 EU countries (WP3).

Brief description of the project:

The methodology for this research project is based on structured surveys of the literature (WP1), the construction of small-scale databases and detailed interviews with case-study agents, privileged interlocutors and user groups. User groups consist mainly of local authorities, neighbourhood development agencies and urban policy-makers.

The evaluation of existing local development models and models of innovation will be undertaken with reference to the heuristic ALMOLIN model. The model will provide criteria for analysing the initiatives in the cases studied. It is based on a dynamic interaction between innovation in governance dynamics and human needs satisfaction at the level of urban neighbourhoods and cities. It adopts a view of social innovation in local development that focuses on (i) innovation in social relations, and (ii) innovation in the satisfaction of human needs.

Together with the synthesis of the literature on socially innovative development models, this foundation provides the main inputs to the ALMOLIN model (WP2) and underpins the collection of the variables that will constitute the data bank of socially innovative urban development initiatives (WP3.1).

ALMOLIN then provides the structure for the questionnaire for the detailed analysis of 15 case studies. (WP3.2). These case-studies are selected on the basis of criteria that relate to their socially innovative content, especially with respect to local governance dynamics, their orientation towards neighbourhood redevelopment (renaissance) and the role of the EU policy framework.

WP4 focuses on a very particular dimension of the ALMOLIN model, namely governance dynamics in urban innovative projects. This will provide the link between policy proposals on the one hand and the user-groups on the other. These policy proposals will especially concentrate on improving the relationships between civil society, the public and private sector in the neighbourhoods, the streamlining of procedural organisation, the improvement of democratic control mechanisms and the synthesis of the bottom-up view of local social innovation policy.

Expected results:

1. An Alternative Model of Local Innovation (ALMOLIN) that serves as a matrix for the detailed evaluation of 15 social economy initiatives in the case-study cities.
2. Assessment of 15 social economy case with respect to their governance dynamics, organisational structures, and future development trajectories.
3. Recommendations for EU, national, and local social innovation policy at the local level. A social innovation policy is urgently needed to complement existing technological innovation policies.
4. Policy implications and recommendations will be explored. Particular attention will be paid to the role of formal and informal governance dynamics at various politico-institutional levels and their impact on social innovative initiatives at the local level.
Neighbourhood governance-Capacity for Social Integration

NEIGHBOURHOOD GOVERNMENT

Contract No: HPSE-CT-2001-00080

Research Project

EC contribution: 649816 EURO
Starting date: 1 September 2001
Duration: 30 months

EC Scientific Officer: Fadila Boughanemi

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Theme: Social cohesion, migration and welfare
Neighbourhood governance-Capacity for Social Integration

NEIGHBOURHOOD GOVERN

Objectives:

To identify and assess possible new governance structures to combat social exclusion in contemporary Europe. Recognising the interdependencies and the interaction between local residents, social groups, public agencies and local businesses, the project will develop new methods and tools for the effective use of available resources for socio-economic development.

The specific objectives of the research are:
1. To identify the state of the art and the latest academic and theoretical developments on the subject.
2. To identify and describe existing governance structures and mechanisms in neighbourhoods containing substantial numbers of residents at risk of social exclusion.
3. To gain a deeper understanding of how local governance mechanisms and structures are perceived, used and assessed by residents, professionals and other stakeholders in the neighbourhood.
4. Based on local assessments and relevant theory, to identify and compare governance structures and mechanisms in terms of their capacity to affect processes of social exclusion.

Description of the project:

The main purpose of the study is to gain a better understanding of how governance affects social exclusion. The central hypothesis is that the dominant structures of neighbourhood governance are not very well adapted to combat social exclusion and, in some circumstances, may be counter-productive, that is, impede the development of the self-generative capacities present in deprived neighbourhoods. Focusing on the neighbourhood level in the central hypothesis is not accidental. Living in a deprived neighbourhood or area of concentrated poverty is generally seen as one of the main features of social exclusion and a condition that seriously blocks integrating those who live there into ‘mainstream society’. Yet, it is a socio-spatial level, which is not represented, in formal governmental structures, nor very commonly in other formal governance structures. This implies that deprived neighbourhoods are dealt with ‘at a distance’, that the definition of the problems in these neighbourhoods is coloured by outsiders’ views and that there is no eye for the social differences present in the area. This, in turn, means that neither the social divisions and conflicts nor the capacities for change within the neighbourhood are perceived and used.

Expected results:

The core material from the project will consist of reports and a handbook about best practice. The Final report will summarise the findings from the project as well as the conclusions and recommendations about the forms of democratic neighbourhood governance, which can promote social cohesion. The Handbook will provide examples of good and innovative practices documented in the case studies. Academic and policy papers will flow from the work as it progresses.
The normative dimensions of action and order - the economics of an inclusive Europe

NORMEC

Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-00081
Research Project
EC contribution: 462685 EURO
Starting date: 1 October 2001
Duration: 36 months

EC Scientific Officer: Fadila Boughanemi

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The normative dimensions of action and order - the economics of an inclusive Europe

NORMEC

Objectives:

To assess the economic importance of the normative dimensions of action and order and study the relationship between individual motivations and the architecture of the institutional settings, in order to clarify how the public policies can help to foster collective action in the intermediate levels of society, in the frame of a more inclusive European economy and society.

Description of the project:

The research will cover the following dimensions:

A historical analysis of the origins and evolution of the prevailing concepts of action and order in economic science. This includes a survey of the relevant literature on the historical process of the autonomisation of the economic from the social and from the moral;

The gathering of evidence (or the lack of it) on the importance of the normative dimensions of action: Overviewing the empirical evidence previously collected with the methods of experimental economics and producing new empirical evidence through specific laboratory experiments on cooperation and coordination.

A rediscussion (and possible reformulation) of the concepts of agent, action and order in economics, along the following guidelines: the economic agent is not unidimensionally motivated by self-interest; in fact he is a complex agent – his action is also oriented by values and rules embedded in the institutions; the socio-economic order cannot be understood as a simple market equilibrium but instead, as a process resulting from the interaction of these complex agents.

The drawing of system level implications of the theoretical redefinition of the concept of agent, supported by Multi-Agent Simulation: A “complex agent” will be conceptualised which will be “translated” in computational terms (within the evolutionary computation paradigm). The simulation of the interaction of those artificial agents may provide valuable insights on the relation between behaviour and institutional settings.

The drawing of implications in terms of public policies.

Expected results:

At the scientific level: networking European researchers devoted to the role of institutions regarding co-operation and collective action, and to the development of experimental economics and multi-agent simulation. At the policy level: (a) comprehension of the institutional settings that encourage voluntary activity; (b) diminishing pressure on welfare systems by promoting personal social responsibility and collective forms of responding to social needs.
Theme: Social cohesion, migration and welfare

Micro-level analysis of the European Social Agenda: combating poverty and social exclusion through changes in social and fiscal policy

MICRESA

Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-00999

Research Project

EC contribution: 1149981 EURO
Starting date: 1 October 2001
Duration: 36 months

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Duration: 36 months
Starting date: 1 October 2001
EC contribution: 1149981 EURO
Micro-level analysis of the European Social Agenda: combating poverty and social exclusion through changes in social and fiscal policy

MICRESA

Objectives:
One of the key common social objectives within the European Union is the reduction of poverty and social exclusion. This project aims to explore the impacts of social and fiscal policies, and reforms to these policies, on poverty and on the feasibility of meeting a range of possible targets for poverty reduction. It covers all 15 Member States of the European Union.

It is important that social protection systems, as well as their means of finance, respond to changing socio-economic trends and needs of individuals within European societies. Faced with increased risk in the labour market, diversification in the capital market, and the fragmentation of the traditional family, individuals must design fresh strategies to avoid poverty or the risk of social exclusion. Collective policies complement private strategies and the design and evaluation of such policies is a major topic of this project.

Brief description of work:
Using household micro-data and the microsimulation model EUROMOD, this project will explore the impacts of social and fiscal policies, and reforms to existing policies, on poverty. The European Council has undertaken to set targets for Member States to reduce poverty. Part of our purpose is to analyse proposed changes in social and fiscal policies with reference to these targets. In addition, the intention is to experiment with a range of types of policy change, exploring their relative effectiveness across countries and in relation to these and other targets. This will allow Member States to learn from the experience of other countries.

EUROMOD allows an extremely broad range of "what if?" questions to be answered about changes that separately or in combination have an impact on poverty and income inequality. These will cover:
1. Changes in social and fiscal policies of Member States. For example, social policies that are (a) based on universal strategies; (b) targeted on people in vulnerable situations or with higher living costs; (c) targeted on people living on low incomes; (d) conditional on being in employment, or not being in employment; (e) intended to change the incentives faced by individuals for example, to take up employment.
2. Changes in the level of pre-tax and pre-benefit household incomes.
3. Actual social and economic changes that have taken place in the recent past.

The baseline poverty estimates will be reconciled with standard estimates (eg those of Eurostat) and will be tested for sensitivity to a range of assumptions. As well as the impact on household poverty rates (and other poverty indicators) the project will consider the effect of policy changes on individual work incentives and on men and women separately.

Expected Results:
This project will provide new insights and evidence about the impacts of national social and fiscal policies, and reforms to these policies, on income poverty. Further, it will provide evidence on the feasibility of meeting a range of possible targets for poverty reduction. The impact of policy changes on poverty will be put in the context of their revenue cost, their incentive effects and their particular impacts on men and women.
The Creation of new occupational patterns for cultural minorities: The Gypsy Case

WORKALO

Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-00101

Research Project
EC contribution: 650128 EURO
Starting date: 1 October 2001
Duration: 36 months

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The Creation of New Occupational Patterns for Cultural Minorities: The Gypsy case.

WORKALO

Objectives:

The overall goal is to define innovative strategies of economic and social development oriented to social cohesion, in particular, by aiming at the social inclusion of the Gypsy community in European societies. In doing this, we pursue a twofold goal: the advancement of sociological knowledge in general (and on ethnic minorities in particular), and the contribution of a series of policy and socially applicable recommendations. Thus, we aim at achieving a better understanding of the effect that, in spite of the structural transformation of the labor market as a consequence of new technological developments and in spite of the fact that this has created new employment opportunities that fit the experientially learned skills of many Gypsy individuals, certain institutional and societal obstacles have in excluding these people from accessing the labor market on an equal foot. We also intend to include and involve members and social agents of the Gypsy community in the process, and disseminate the recommendations arising from the previous analysis so that they reach the relevant decision-makers.

Brief description of the project:

In the context of the learning society, in which a new European multicultural citizenship is being defined, all minority groups (particularly the Gypsy community, spread all around Europe) must be included on an equal foot. Aiming to do so, we will review the theoretical framework about the aforementioned issues and compare its education, skill accreditation and employment policies by interviews and by reviewing relevant documents. After defining the methodological tools to be used in the fieldwork, we will carry this fieldwork out with members of the Gypsy community (interviews, discussion groups, communicative observation) and its results will be used to analyze both the required skills in today’s jobs and those already acquired by Gypsy people. The results of this analysis will be compared with the societal and institutional framework (racism, inadequate employment, and education policies) and then it will be made a guide’s first draft on this issue. After discussion in an international workshop, the final version of this guide will be released and circulated for dissemination in major specialized journals. Finally, in order to spread the project’s results, there will be pre-dissemination national workshops (to discuss and assess the expected reception of the project’s results and to design the final dissemination plan accordingly) and a final international meeting to agree on the definitive dissemination plan and assess the final results.

Expected results:

The main expected result will be to design a series of measures that help overcome the effect that exclusionary factors have in blocking access to labor market of otherwise highly qualified (through experience) Gypsy individuals. It will became more definite by the reviewing of the theoretical and the policy existing framework, the application of communicative methodology techniques in the fieldwork, the design of a series of applicable recommendations from the analysis and classification of the data collected in our fieldwork and the dissemination of the results.
Employees’ Resources and Social Rights in Europe

RESORE

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-00104

Research Project

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EC contribution: 835000 €</th>
<th>Coordinator:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Starting date: 1 December 2002</td>
<td>CNRS</td>
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<td>Duration: 36 months</td>
<td>Chercheure au GREE/CNRS</td>
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Employees’ Resources and Social Rights in Europe

RESORE

Objectives:

1. The research aims to develop an innovative approach of employment by analysing it through employees’ resources, i.e. wages and social benefits. Employee’s resources are defined by two dimensions: the nature of the resource determined by the financing origin (wage, social benefit, financial returns), and the associated rights related to entitlement conditions and to social funds management. Traditionally set on a national scale, this double definition tends nowadays to be transformed by European integration process and globalisation. The research will analyse changes that have occurred during the nineties, the interactions between national and European level, and the current configuration of employees’ resources, related rights and concerned population in nine European countries.

2. The project also aims to build a European research community by mapping the European research area willing to analyse employment construction through the issue of employees’ resources.

Description of the work:

1. The research will be conducted by analysing quantitative data, documents and interviews in nine countries and on the European level. This work articulates two main parts:
   a) Analysis of the quantitative and institutional context of resources flows:
      - A cross-timing quantitative approach to identify changing structures of resources flows over the last two decades, based on three complementary points of view on employees’ resources using several harmonised databases: European Accounts, households’ income components (ECHP), social security funds (ESSPROS); and labour costs structure (ELCS);
      - A comparative survey of resources definition (nature and related rights) and major transformations in each country;
      - An analysis of the "Europeanisation" of unions as social actors involved in resources management.
   b) Investigation on two crucial fields in resources evolution, pension reforms and activation of labour market policies since the nineties:
      - Assessment of changes in resources flows according to pension regimes and activation forms, and analysis of related rights;
      - Chronology of reforms, actors and discourses analysis;
      - Interpretation of new configurations in employment settings and population involved (especially migrants) with specific regards to links between atypical employment developments and social security systems.

2. Mapping of the European research area in our field of study, in order to further extend the network towards the participation of others disciplines (especially law and political sciences) and to extend the analytical framework to others countries (Eastern and Northern European countries). Dissemination of the research results towards social actors and policy makers.

Expected results:

- Development of an innovative analytical framework on employment and social security issues: theoretical insights and analytical tools elaboration, proposition for new statistical categories dealing with resources and employment, contribution to political reflection at European and national level: biannual workshops to evaluate the research progress and coordinate data and documents collection, analysis and interpretation.

- Overview of the European research area on employees’ resources and social rights.
Formal and Informal Work in Europe. A Comparative Analysis of their Changing Relationship and their Impact on Social Integration

FIWE

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-00126
Research Project
EC contribution: 1059994 €
Starting date: 1 November 2002
Duration: 36 months
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Formal and Informal Work in Europe. A Comparative Analysis of their Changing Relationship and their Impact on Social Integration

FIWE

Objectives:

The objectives are first conceptual, then empirical, and finally political. Such conceptual issues have arisen with the factual changes of work activities that result from the decline of formal work and the rise of informal work. Given the diversity of institutional and cultural contexts of national societies in Europe, a conceptual clarification is decisive for grasping the changes we observe today. Empirically, we want to identify the social consequences of such changes in terms of social cohesion in an emerging European society. This will be done in a first step by statistical analysis. Such results will then be specified through a qualitative analysis. Politically, the question of institutionalising informal work will be addressed and proposals for redirecting the respective policies be made.

Description of the work:

The research will be organised in six different steps. The first step is a statistical analysis of patterns of formal and informal work using already existing statistical data such as time budget studies and household panels. The second step includes analyses of the cultural and institutional framework of informal work and its interrelation with formal employment in the selected countries (Britain, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Poland, Spain). In a third step, a theoretical framework for the comparative analysis of work – welfare – arrangements is elaborated. The fourth step comprises fieldwork based on qualitative interviews with households. We want to find out the reasons of individuals for taking up formal and informal work, the consequences for their life situation, possible risks and chances with which the individuals are confronted by combining both types of work. This will allow us to answer questions as to whether informal work can be used to increase social integration, whether it provides options for a good life quality, or to what extent it only has the character of a precarious, insufficient substitute for formal and secure employment. Additionally, the role of the institutional and cultural framework for the decision making processes, as well as the chances and risks for the individuals by combining informal and formal work are studied. The fifth step is a cross-national comparison of the country results with the aim to explain cross-national differences in the structuring of informal and formal work and to discuss our empirical results in the light of a New York Society. Moreover, the factors of the societal context will be identified that can explain differences in the role of informal work for gaining social integration. The sixth step consists of transferring research results into political processes. During the whole period, the cooperation in the group, the cross-national analyses and the dissemination of the results will be coordinated.

Expected results:

The comparative statistical mapping of the changing role of informal work in relation to formal work; the mapping of the institutional and cultural context for informal work and the patterns of the formal-informal work relationship in diverse national settings, as well as the dynamics of change; the development of a new conceptual framework of the welfare-work-arrangements for comparative analyses; qualitative evidence on modes of relating formal and informal work in Europe at the household level and the social consequences for different social groups; the role of informal work for social coherence; and policy proposals for redirecting policy orientations in this field.
Private Pensions and Social Inclusion in Europe: A Study of Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Switzerland and the United Kingdom

Private Pensions

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-00151
Research Project
EC contribution: 614314 €
Starting date: 1 January 2003
Duration: 29 months
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Private Pensions and Social Inclusion in Europe: A Study of Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Switzerland and the United Kingdom

Private Pensions

Objectives:
Private pensions are widely regarded to be one appropriate way to address problems of demographic change. While steps have been taken across Europe to support the expansion of the private sector, the knowledge about its social inclusiveness is insufficient. Therefore the aims of the proposed project are:

- To gather and evaluate, using a mix of qualitative and quantitative methodologies, comparative data about the public and private pension sector’s performance regarding “risk biographies”.
- To establish best practice in provision for our ‘risk biographies’ both with regard to private pensions and government regulatory policy in this area
- To identify national and European policy measures that can enhance the effectiveness of private pensions as social policy instruments.
- To identify the circumstances which rule out private sector provision and to suggest public policies for these circumstances.

To test the political feasibility of the suggested policies.

Description of the work:
Month 1-7: Detailed consultation with representatives of pension policy network and insurance industry to check the empirical validity and policy-relevance of seven constructed “risk biographies” and to establish links with potential users of project's results.

In consultation with pension policy network preparation of a report on public provision and public regulation of the private sector regarding the risk biographies; secondary and legal sources will supplement information from policy network. Determination of final typology as common methodological tool.

Month 8-17: Evaluation of the contracts private pension providers offer citizens with risk biographies. The empirical basis will be second and third pillar contracts, supplemented by interviews with representatives of the private pensions industry. The evaluation will enable us to ascertain common characteristics of the second and the third pillar and to identify deficits and best practices regarding inclusion. It will lead to an overall assessment of the private sector's potential to be socially inclusive. We will use the findings to devise policy proposals aimed at improving private pension provision. Where these are unlikely to produce sufficient protection we will check the level of public provision and suggest appropriate reforms.

Month 18-24: Inform policy network of our results and discuss our policy proposals with them. They will receive brief written statements on results and policies. We will then devise consultation schedules, suitable for ascertaining the extent to which the network members are aware of the issues identified in the second phase. In addition, we want to know their opinion on our reform proposals.

Month 25-29: Preparation of the final report and organisation of the final dissemination strategies of our findings, both in consultation with stakeholders: booklets in the six languages, six conferences on national level and a European conference for the pension policy network (month 31).

Expected results:
Month 7: Report containing a typology of risk biographies as the common methodological tool and the regulatory framework for citizens at risk.

17: Field work reports on private pension sector provision for risk biographies.
24: stakeholder opinion reports and catalogue of policy proposals.
28: Booklets for pension policy actors; home-page presentation.
28: Book proposal.
29: Final project report.
31: European conference and national conference for pension policy actors.
Overcoming the Barriers and Seizing the Opportunities for Active Ageing Policies in Europe

ACTIVAGE

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-00102
Research Project
EC contribution: 1139996 €
Starting date: 1 November 2002
Duration: 36 months
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Theme: Social cohesion, migration and welfare
Overcoming the Barriers and Seizing the Opportunities for Active Ageing Policies in Europe

ACTIVAGE

Objectives:

The overall aim of the ActivAge project is to identify and analyse the socio-institutional, economic, political realities facing the implementation of active ageing policies in Europe. This implies the following:
1) Charting and analysing the existing active ageing policy landscape in Europe.
2) Identifying and outlining the barriers to and opportunities for implementing active ageing policies in Europe.
3) Highlighting and exploring means of overcoming barriers and seizing opportunities for active ageing policies in Europe

Description of the work:

The first phase of the ActivAge project outlines national active ageing policies in Europe. The here is to systematically chart existing active ageing policy initiatives and their socio-institutional settings in 10 European countries. The ActivAge consortium will identify policy goals, policy instruments, and institutional mechanisms of current active ageing policy agendas. This phase will also entail mapping the socio-institutional and political contexts in which national active ageing policies are embedded. The expected outcome is a comprehensive overview of active ageing strategies in Europe as well as a map of the socio-institutional and political landscape in which active ageing policies operate.

The second phase project analyses the barriers to and opportunities for implementing active ageing policy agendas in Europe. The ActivAge consortium will prepare case studies assessing recent and ongoing reforms in European labour markets, pension systems and health care sectors in the light of the active ageing policy agenda. Wherever possible, ActivAge will evaluate the implementation of existing active ageing policies. In parallel, the ActivAge project will also monitor selected active ageing initiatives in civil society. For the second phase, the ActivAge consortium expects to produce a series of case studies outlining the institutional, political and socio-economic contingencies facing active ageing policies in Europe.

The third phase explores means of overcoming the barriers to implementing active ageing strategies and seizing the opportunities offered by European institutional landscapes. By using foresight methods, Activage will identify ways of improving policy learning as well as ways of embedding active ageing policy objectives in ongoing reform efforts. The expected outcome is a set of recommendations, based on expert opinion, on how to overcome the barriers and seize the opportunities facing policy makers at national and European levels.

Expected results:

The ActivAge project will provide
- A map of European active ageing policies and their socio-institutional contexts
- A catalogue of socio-institutional, economic and political barriers to and opportunities for implementing active ageing policies
- A set of recommendation of how to overcome these barriers and seize the opportunities for active ageing policies

The milestones of the ActivAge project will be the completion of the research stages and the organizing of two external workshops
The Chances of the Second Generation in Families of Ethnic Entrepreneurs: Intergenerational and Gender Aspects of Quality of Life Processes

EthnoGeneration

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-00105

Research Project

EC contribution: 710000 €
Starting date: 1 December 2002
Duration: 36 months

EC Scientific Officer: Fadila Boughanémi

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The Chances of the Second Generation in Families of Ethnic Entrepreneurs:  
Intergenerational and Gender Aspects of Quality of Life Processes

EthnoGeneration

Objectives:

The objective of this study is to investigate the quality of life of ethnic entrepreneurs and their family members in intergenerational and gender perspectives. We focus on the specific conditions that enable or hold back the young generation in accumulating educational and cultural resources and in developing their own life plans. The study will thus explore the interrelation between the quality of life of ethnic entrepreneurs and the future chances of their children. A main subject of investigation concerns the reproduction of the inequality of chances linked to the work conditions, especially to labour division in families engaged in ethnic business. Our concept of quality of life takes biographical dimensions into account. We aim at developing a biographically and intergenerationally sensitive instrument of analysis of quality of life processes.

Description of the work:

The study explores the quality of life of families in ethnic business, comparing different European countries and their welfare and educational policies aimed at facilitating child rearing. The analysis will focus primarily on northern European countries (UK, France, Denmark, Germany) with a longer immigration and ethnic economy tradition. For a more comprehensive view we include in the comparison a southern European country (Greece), where ethnic businesses comprising more than one generation is a new but growing phenomenon. The study is designed to evaluate our leading hypothesis on the inheritance of inequality through specific ways of involving the labour of family members in the ethnic business. In our sampling strategy, we follow principles of Grounded Theory, such as selecting different kinds of contrasting cases concerning a variety of types of families and of types of work involvement of family members. The aim is to identify coping strategies with regard to specific work demands and in relation to family socialization patterns. Our research will be based on the analysis of statistical and secondary data and on interviews with key informants.

The sample will be drawn from ethnic businesses in the food sector. In each north European country, interviews will be conducted with members of 20 families comprising two generations, with parents and their children between the age of 15 to 22 years, living at home. In each north European country, an average of 60 interviews will be conducted. In the Greek case, interviews with 15 families are planned, that is, approximately 40 interviews with parents and children. We expect a total of 280 interviews. The data will first be analysed on the basis of the national cases and then related in a comparative perspective to the specific scientific expertise of the participating partners. On the basis of the theoretical elaboration of the comparative analyses, recommendations for EU policies will be formulated.

Expected results:

1. Overview on the existing socio-economic knowledge base and statistical data on ethnic family businesses and on the educational success of migrant children. Mapping of competencies
2. New perspectives on the intergenerational transfer of socio-cultural resources and the reproduction of inequality in families engaged in ethnic businesses.
3. Reports on national case analyses.
4. Comparative cross-national analyses and policy recommendations.
5. Local workshops with policy makers and dissemination of the results on a local and national level.
6. Publication in book form with chapters on each national case and the comparative results.
Women, Integration and Prison. An Analysis of the Processes of Socio-Labour Integration of Women in Prison in Europe

MIP

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-00111
Research Project
EC contribution: 998650 €
Starting date: 1 November 2002
Duration: 30 months

EC Scientific Officer: Fadila Boughanémi

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Women, Integration and Prison. An Analysis of the Processes of Socio-Labour Integration of Women in Prison in Europe

MIP

Objectives:

The purpose of this project is mainly focused on the identification and analysis of the effectiveness of the mechanisms of socio-labour integration that affect the women’s prison population in Europe, in order to obtain a series of political proposals and actions to assure and improve the socio-labour insertion of women prisoners. The research investigation will be developed based on a comparative study in 5 Member States of the European Union (Spain, France, Italy, United Kingdom and Germany) and one candidate country to the enlargement (Hungary).

Description of the work:

The project aims at:

- To do a normative analysis about the adaptation of the concepts of “Social integration” (and its relationship with the concept of Social exclusion), “domination”, “vulnerable group” and “social good” to the group that is the object of study (the female prison population in Europe) for the six countries that the research spans.

- To develop a comparative study of the reality of women in European prisons and the efficiency of the social and penitentiary policies to promote their social and labour integration among the six participating countries.

- To identify the key factors: subjective, social and institutional that affects the situation of deprivation of freedom of women; and analyse its interactions and effects in the process of socio-labour integration.

Expected results:

☐ To have an effect on the development of social and penitentiary policies in the areas of local, national and community policies.

☐ To promote the development of penitentiary policies on a European level. At the moment the penitentiary policies are national, but more and more there is a need to work in co-ordination between different countries and to connect these policies with other actions on a communitary level.

☐ To promote co-ordinated political proposals that link various areas of action and territories that have a direct impact on the improvement of the situation of people deprived of freedom. In this sense, for example, to elaborate strategies that link initiatives taken in the prison system on one hand with initiatives of training and employment.

☐ To closely link the whole of the interested parties: penitentiary institutions, justice services, NGOs, bodies of employment and training, private companies, and others, elaborating proposals for their shared collaboration and co-ordination.
Racial and Ethnic Minorities, Immigration and the Role of Trade Unions in Combatting Discrimination and Xenophobia, in Encouraging Participation and in Securing Social Inclusion and Citizenship

RITU

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-00129
Research Project
EC contribution: 749801 €
Starting date: 1 January 2003
Duration: 36 months
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Racial and Ethnic Minorities, Immigration and the Role of Trade Unions in Combatting Discrimination and Xenophobia, in Encouraging Participation and in Securing Social Inclusion and Citizenship

RITU

Objectives:

The principal aim of the RITU project is to examine racial discrimination and xenophobia at work and the processes by which unions succeed or fail in including the voice and interests of racial and ethnic minorities and migrants in their internal and external policies and practices. In the context of a European trend away from collective towards individual representation, the research aims to increase our understanding of the role of unions in achieving social cohesion, explore how unions’ internal processes assist or hinder citizenship and participation, examine the impact of recent EU initiatives on union practices, disseminate best practice and make recommendations to European policy makers concerning the role of the unions in combating social exclusion in this sensitive area.

Description of the work:

The project will run from 1 November 2002 through 31 October 2005. RITU brings together researchers from Belgium, France, Italy, Bulgaria and the UK to study union policy, practices and outcomes in relation to racial discrimination and xenophobia at work. During the first phase, lasting six months, the partners will share their historical and contemporary experiences of immigration and discrimination and of the actions of trade unions, developing a common research language for dealing with different national manifestations of similar problems. During the second phase, each partner will carry out research into discrimination and the trade union response in three of seven possible sectors (the case studies will be chosen according to common criteria), for three periods of eight months each. The focus in Belgium, France and the UK will be on public transport, health and retailing/commerce, while in Italy and Bulgaria other sectors will be selected to ensure a significant presence of minority workers and trade unions. Each of the three sectors will be examined using qualitative methods in case studies and common interview schedules. In the final phase the researchers will integrate the national case studies into a comparative framework and develop recommendations for policy makers.

Expected results:

Through a series of publications, workshops and two major international conferences with practitioners and social partners, this project will increase the understanding of racism and xenophobia at the workplace, identify the extent of practical work against racism, help to generalise ‘best practice’, and identify ways of involving more European citizens in building greater social cohesion. We will make specific recommendations to policy makers at both national and European levels. The project will also develop a ‘European Unions against Racism’ web site dedicated to exchanging information between trade unionists on good practice in resisting racial discrimination and xenophobia in the workplace, and will seek to raise funds to ensure that the web site continues after the end of the project.
Changing City Spaces: New Challenges to Cultural Policy in Europe

Changing City Spaces

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-00133
Research Project
EC contribution: 1190000 €
Starting date: 1 November 2002
Duration: 36 months
EC Scientific Officer: Aris Apollonatos

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Changing City Spaces: New Challenges to Cultural Policy in Europe

Objectives:

To address challenges to European culture in the context of contemporary change (enlargement; East/West Europe relations; imperial legacies; new transnational migrations)
To do so through an analysis of European cities, regarded as spaces of multicultural identity, in the context of global change
To map the internal complexities of selected European cities, drawing attention to the new kinds of social and cultural interaction and encounter now existing within these urban arenas
To track the development of new kinds of networking between cities, taking the city as an innovative focus for capturing social and cultural flows and nexuses across, and beyond, the European space
To understand how people construct a sense of belonging through involvement with particular cultural industries, forms and practices
To explore policy responses relating to issues of urban multiculturalism within European cities, with particular respect to strategies for overcoming social exclusion, xenophobia and racism

Description of the work:

Our project is concerned with contemporary social and cultural developments in Europe, set in motion by and responding to new dynamics of global migration into and across Europe, and with particular reference to migration, xenophobia and multiculturalism. To explore these issues, our research takes as its central focus urban culture and policy in the European space, in order to address broader questions of sociocultural diversity, interaction and citizenship. We propose that an innovative way of addressing contemporary change in Europe is through such a metropolitan perspective. Our research centres on seven cities - London, Paris, Berlin, Rome, Vienna, Ljubljana, Belgrade. It addresses questions of multiculturalism within the urban space, and also the growth of new transnational flows and nexuses between cities. The empirical focus is on culture: new cultural practices, developments in cultural industries, the status of cultural policies.

The data will come from in-depth qualitative research. This will be conducted within the selected cities, but also by tracking inter-urban nexuses across the system of European cities. The work has both 'bottom up' and 'top down' aspects. Thus, we are concerned with how people construct and mobilise their own cultural identities. This will involve consumption and reception studies with migrant groups (individual interviews, focus groups), as well as participant observation at cultural events. Through this we aim to establish what kinds of new identities are being constructed by migrant groups; the nature of contemporary cultural encounter and interaction; the significance of new transnational connections; new dynamics of social integration/social fragmentation. The 'top down' aspect of the work will explore the status of policy practices, with respect to the agenda of cultural inclusion and social integration within our cities, and to possibilities that may be inherent in inter-urban networking across Europe. This will involve in-depth 'expert' interviews (with media/cultural policymakers, executives, practitioners). Here we will be attentive to the correspondence, or lack of it, between cultural practices, industries and policies. Our findings will have relevance for policies that support social inclusion and integration for all people now living in Europe.

Expected results:

Development of an innovative agenda on European cultural dynamics, bringing together usually discrete agendas, and providing insight into new (multi)cultural dynamics in Europe
Collaboration with cultural policymakers, and input into the policy process with respect to issues of inclusion and social integration
New approaches to good practice in cultural policy
Cultural events promoting the findings of the research, bringing together practitioners, policymakers and researchers from diverse contexts
The European Dilemma: Institutional Patterns and Politics of 'Racial' Discrimination

XENOPHOB

| Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-00135 |
| Research Project |
| EC contribution: 1289992 € |
| Starting date: 1 November 2002 |
| Duration: 36 months |
| EC Scientific Officer: Giulia Amaducci |

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The European Dilemma: Institutional Patterns and Politics of 'Racial' Discrimination

XENOPHOB

Objectives:

This project has the following aims:
(1) to gain a deeper understanding of the practice of ‘racial’ discrimination and xenophobia – their diversity and underlying mechanism – in the eight European countries.
(2) to investigate and map out institutionalized discrimination and exclusion in two areas: labor markets and educational system.
(3) to investigate and explain the emergence and success in several European countries of xenophobic nationalist parties (or radical right parties) and their impact on policies in areas of labor market and education.
(4) to provide a comparative perspective – identifying similarities and differences in expressions and forms of xenophobic and racial discrimination across Europe.
(5) to draw from the research results policy implications and strategies.

Description of the work:

We are interested in mapping out patterns and dynamics of xenophobia and racial discrimination in a significant part of Europe. Divers methods are to be used: institutional analysis based on elite interviews, collective of documents and available statistics on institutional areas, focus groups methods, discourse analysis, historical analysis. The aim of the first Workpackage (WP1) is to identify and analyze patterns and mechanisms of institutional discrimination in the sectors of labor market and education. WP2 aims to investigate the experiences of immigrants and minorities through focus groups discussing the two sector areas. The results of focus group discussions, which will be taped, will be selected and organized in relation to the two areas as well as “general experiences.” WP3 will incorporate selected immigrant narratives as well as summaries of common experiences into a report in book form. We aim in WP4 to prepare for each country a “landscape” of ‘racial’ discrimination in the sectors of labor market and education. WP5 investigates, and identifies mechanisms to explain, the new politics of racism and its possible impacts on institutional policies and practices. In the case of WP6 we aim to carry out discourse analyses of selected public statements of politicians and party programs at selected points in time in order to identify the structure of discourses as well as shifts in discourses over time. WP7 aims to put together into a single report the projects results on the politics of racism, the character and shifts of public discourse about ‘racism’, and some of the impact of such politics on institutional policy and practices. WP8 would present the overall project results on institutional racism in Europe, the politics of racism, and the ongoing or potential impact of the latter on institutional policy and practices in Europe. WP9 aims to formulate the policy implications of the research.

Expected results:

The project will have 5 meetings and 4 reports of book size and a policy report. A project workshop is planned (Meeting 4) to take place in Brussels with the participation of outside researches, policymakers, and NGOs. Among its deliverables will be a report on discriminatory landscapes in the eight countries, a report giving voice to the experiences and strategies of immigrants and minorities, a report on racial politics, a final scientific report presenting project results in a comparative perspective, and a report on implications of the research for policy.
Immigrants and Ethnic Minorities in European Cities: Life-Courses and Quality of Life in a World of Limitations

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**EC contribution:** 1189999 €
**Starting date:** 1 October 2002
**Duration:** 36 months

**EC Scientific Officer:** Silvia Durmeier
Objectives:

The aims of this project are to advance knowledge about the critical relationship between socio-economic contexts and life courses of migrants and ethnic minorities in the post-migration-phase and to develop further the methodological instrumentarium of the social sciences. Through a comparison between life trajectories of five groups of migrants in seven European cities, the impact of economic conditions and legal frameworks on the well-being of migrants as well as on their readiness for political action will be clarified. The integration of event history analysis and optimal matching as a tool for sequence analysis will be used to analyse the post migration life courses. Information on the (dis)advantages of the optimal matching tool in relation to migration and integration research will be identified and disseminated among the scientific community. The integration of different decision models into a coherent model will allow for the consideration of micro-, meso- and macro-data.

Description of the work:

Migrants are increasingly acknowledged as socially fragile groups with limited upward mobility. This project will explore how migrants and ethnic minorities cope with the barriers they face in host societies and how their well being and opportunity structure in the post-migration phase is affected by policy measures. Following the multidimensional aspect of social exclusion, we focus on events and status passages in the areas of employment, education, social welfare and political participation. It is assumed that migrants choose certain strategies to improve their personal well-being depending on specific life course events as well as particular socio-economic and political contexts. To study these relationships, five migrant groups and seven European countries were selected for cross-national comparison. The selection was determined by a consideration of the history of ‘guest worker’ groups, post-colonial migration, return migration and increasing islamophobia.

The theoretical approach to the analysis of migrants’ life trajectories integrates social capital theory, segmented labour market theory and Sombart’s micro-macro-approach. The overall design of the sequence analysis has two components: Event history which focuses on the influence of events on life-courses to explain causal connections, and the technique of optimal matching which produces large scale maps of life-courses. The migrants’ life courses will be retraced in 3,900 face-to-face-interviews, aided by a calendar tool. Additionally, survey-aided household-level data, community data and macro-economic information on the labour-market and the legal framework will be compiled. Finally, individual life histories will be linked to the community histories and macro economic indicators to create the basic data used in the analysis. The results of the cross group/city interpretations will be disseminated in national workshops, international conferences and via the web.

Expected results:

The project will provide an extensive database on migrants’ life courses after migration and an analysis of the impact of socio-economic and politico-legal conditions on the well-being and coping strategies of migrants. It will contribute to the expertise necessary to devise immigration-related policies that enhance social cohesion in Europe. The methodological instrumentarium developed in this study will facilitate follow-up research on other minority groups and/or in other countries/cities.
Constructing Understandings of Homeless Populations

CUHP

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-50014

Thematic Network
EC contribution: 497698 €
Starting date: 1 January 2003
Duration: 36 months
EC Scientific Officer: Fadila Boughanémi

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Constructing Understandings of Homeless Populations

CUHP

Objectives:
The network has 4 main Objectives:
1) to describe robust methodologies that can be replicated in other countries at local, NGO or national level, to provide reliable answers to policy questions and improve scientific knowledge (e.g. sampling, measurement of programme outcomes, tracking, comparing homeless populations and the general population, capturing the life of homeless people). It includes the establishment of a common taxonomy of homelessness from street homelessness to hidden homelessness, and a common framework for the time-related element of the definition of homelessness (last night, week, month...).  
2) to share substantive findings from policy orientated research programmes in each partner's states in relation to core features of the European social model.  
3) to discuss theoretical constructions of importance - on social capital, risk factors, gender dimensions, substance use, life histories, survival strategies of homeless people…
4) to prepare a substantive research proposal.

Description of the work:
The thematic network brings together seven teams from Scandinavia, Northern Industrial, Southern and candidate (Eastern) EU states with multidisciplinary expertise in the field of homelessness research.
The work of the network is to be undertaken through 5 workpackages and 1 conference over 36 months, which address Theme Two, Societal and Individual Well-Being, Theme Three re. Citizenship and Part Two, Themes 2,3,4 and Part Three, Themes 2,3. Each workpackage lead partner will invite government agencies (national and local) and NGOs they have worked with ; at each workpackage meeting one day will be open to NGOs and policy makers, and address the issue of the relationship between policy questions, methodological approach, substantive findings and service outcomes. The 5 workpackages are as follows :
WP1 -Methodological Map of existing studies of homeless populations in the EU in relation to policy issues that led to the adoption of particular methodologies.
WP2 - The use of point-in-time surveys to provide demographic information on diverse homeless populations and to provide baseline data for tracking service users. Beginning of the discussion of taxonomy of homeless situations.
WP3 - The use of quantitative and qualitative methods in dynamic surveys of homeless people. Profile of homeless populations in relation to length of time homeless. Panel surveys and service file data surveys. Summary of policy outputs in relation to long term homeless (chronic).
WP4 - Qualitative methods to gain the voice of homeless. Life histories of homeless populations, identifying risk factors among homeless populations including young homeless and policy responses. Integrating qualitative and quantitative data.
WP5 - Using surveys of the general population and administrative data to identify the 'hidden homeless' both nationally and locally. Identifying incidence of homelessness in people's life cycle. Using and designing sensitive questions. Final work on the taxonomy of homelessness. Conference on Social Capital, Risk and Social Exclusion Among Homeless Populations.

Expected results:
1. Month 9 Web-site established for all outputs  
2. Month 9 Mapping Methodologies on web,  
3. Month 15 Mapping Policy Questions in Relation to Diverse Homeless Populations  
5. Month 27 Guide to qualitative data gathering life history information, risk of homelessness among young people.  
6. Month 33, Survey questions paper on web  
7. Month 33 Conference  
8. Month 36, Conference Consolidated papers on web.
Managing Social Risks through Transitional Labour Markets

**TLM.NET**

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<tr>
<th>Contract n°:</th>
<th>HPSE-CT-2002-50017</th>
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<td><strong>EC Scientific Officer</strong>: Andrea Schmölder</td>
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**Theme: Social cohesion, migration and welfare**

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Managing Social Risks through Transitional Labour Markets

TLM.NET

Objectives:

The aim of the network is to contribute to the modernisation of the European social model. We intend to find new combinations of policies that work more effectively than the traditional attribution of policies to specific domains of either working or social life. A new form of social risk management and a more cost-effective use of resources for social policies should contribute to revitalise the European social model. Based on the concept of transitional labour markets we explore options of modernising basic European institutions like unemployment insurance, life-long learning, family and pension systems. Comparative analyses of welfare regimes and social processes at the local, regional, national and European level are evaluated to find innovative solutions to the new social risks that emanate from the transition to the knowledge society as the pool of vulnerable people in society changes.

Description of the work:

The network shall bring together scholars from Europe (East, West, North and South; European Union and beyond) in an opening conference on ‘managing social risks through transitional labour markets’. Major research on basic labour market transitions and transitions into other spheres of social life, like learning, caring, unemployment and retirement shall be compared across the countries to contribute to detailed proposals of the reform of the European social model. Subsequently, in a set of 6 seminars more detailed reform proposals on each transitional labour market, social processes, actors involved and institutional arrangements will be discussed. Preference has been given to a wide representation of countries in the network to test the scope to generalise policy proposals from the work of the network to the European social model. The network brings together scholars from multiple social science disciplines and accompanies their research with easy access to comparable research on labour market transitions from a transitional labour markets perspective in other European countries. A final conference will then confront the results of the network proceedings (book publication, tlm.net homepage and download pool, input from policy makers) with the social partners and government officials at the national and European Union level to delineate some concrete reform proposals emanating from the perspective of transitional labour markets and social science research. The internet based activities of the tlm.net network will stimulate the European debate on the right to work with the ‘regulative idea’ of a potential for an Employment Insurance combining traditional forms of social insurance.

Expected results:

The realisation of the research of the TLM.NET network in many European countries into the (new) social risks and the managing of social risks through transitional labour markets is expected to provide new insights into the debate on social policy and the modernisation of the European social model. The results of the project, including policy analyses and evaluations, will be disseminated through journals, academic and electronic publications and the final seminar of the network project.
Reseau Thematique des Centres Europeens de Recherche en Sciences Humaines sur l'ensemble Euro-Mediterraneen

REMSH

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-50018

Thematic Network
EC contribution: 414850 €
Starting date: 30 months
EC Scientific Officer: Fadila Boughanémi

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REMSH

Objectives:

The southern border takes on new strategic importance for the EU: a strictly economic approach to the Mediterranean basin has proven to be inadequate. Within an apparently stable historic European geopolitical context, a new framework for exchange and “border effects” is emerging. Moreover we need to pay attention to the historical background of confrontations that affect social values within European societies that are becoming increasingly multicultural. Europe is now facing enormous challenges in its relations with the Mediterranean. We must join research efforts to grasp the complexities of this area. Six seminars will address the possibilities of a comparative analysis and the creation of a European research area focusing on this domain of interest.

Description of the work:

Six seminars will be held over a 30 months period. At first they will treat of the problematic frameworks for a comparative analysis and the constitution of the data bases allowing this analysis. Then two other seminars will have to center on phenomena emerging within Euro-Mediterranean regional context; finally two other ones will be devoted to the ways and means, from the point of view of 6th FP, for implementing the construction of the European Research Area (ERA), its programs and its teams. First seminar: the focus is on methodological and epistemological aspects. The aims will be the drawing up of a “state of the Art” and a critical of the assets, dead ends and prospects for research with comparative topics, then to define the methods of a new comparative analysis of contemporary phenomena emerging in the Euro-Mediterranean context. Second seminar: development of benchmark data and constitution of a documentary and bibliographical unit. Third seminar: identification of the major problems to which the European society will be confronted in its relations with the Mediterranean world. This examination will lead to the construction of several scenarii. Fourth seminar: the Mediterranean, between regionalization and globalization. The goal is to identify among the evolutions observed, those characterized by relative or total autonomy of the Mediterranean scale, and those which rather constitute answers to global constraints or influences. The objectives here is to specify relevant scales of analysis. Fifth seminar: prospect and program of European research teams working on the Mediterranean ensemble in order to implement the European Research Area (ERA). Sixth seminar: invitation of research institution from Southern Mediterranean countries in order to define their linkages to our European network (Network of Excellence).

Expected results:

The seminars will substantially enhance knowledge on the Euro-Mediterranean area, will be presented in ways to enable the Commission and other decision-takers to formulate and implement policies that address the key issues of political stability, economic development and peace in the Mediterranean region. The seminars will produce several types of deliverables: academic publications (bilingual), policy-oriented expert reports addressing problems faced by the EU, CD-Roms, and a bilingual specialized website.
Exit From, and Non-Take Up of, Public Services

EXNOTA

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-50025

Thematic Network

EC contribution: 597007 €
Starting date: 1 December 2002
Duration: 30 months

EC Scientific Officer: Andrea Schmölzer

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Exit From, and Non-Take Up of, Public Services

EXNOTA

Objectives:
One of the main characteristics of public policy, common to the different countries of the EU and its associated members is to develop priority targeted action programmes following a logic of individualised needs and differentiated goods and services offered. At the same time, we see, especially in the social policy sphere, a powerful rise in the significant phenomena of provoked and voluntary or wilful rupture with public services: exit and non-take-up. This raises questions regarding the relation between the abandonment of universalism and the adjustment of public services to the needs of citizens. This issue is central to a reflection on the models of development and social welfare in Europe, and with the European policy of eradication of social exclusion. The objective of this project is to accumulate knowledge produced on this issue in six European countries (France, Germany, Netherlands Spain, Greece, Hungary), so as to produce a synthesis of methods and types of analyses and compare them in an analytical fashion. It also aims at presenting tools and methods of analysis and of evaluation used at the local or national levels concerning these phenomena. The information gathered will then be put on-line on a web site and the results and analyses, published.

The Thematic Network has two complementary goals. The first goal is to construct knowledge of the phenomena of exit and non-take-up in Europe that can disseminated. It will firstly present in a synthetic form researches dealing directly or indirectly with these issues. Then, it aims at studying and at presenting follow-through and evaluations tools of these phenomena by administrations or local and national institutions in order to understand how they use these issues to evaluate the effects of political and public services. The second goal is more analytical: from the syntheses done with these different researches and practices, it will compare competing interpretations that aim to explain why the giving up of universalism does not necessarily lead to a better adjustment of public services to social needs.

Description of the work:
The work will be divided in five modules:
The first type of work module (WP1) will consist in accumulating data and knowledge concerning exit and non-take-up in each country, possibly in others as well. This phase will consist in an exhaustive review of researches, in constructing a synthesis, and then presenting their content and contribution.
The second type of work (WP2) consists in comparing the tools and methods of measurements and evaluation of exit and non-take-up that already exist, in a sometimes rather erratic and sometimes more systematic fashion in different European countries. It aims at analysing their creation, their operation and their results and to understand on the technical and political levels their mode of implementation. This work will also be the opportunity to find and present the indicators used by the institutions, their mode of construction, their pertinence and their limits.
The third type of work (WP3) aims at comparing the characteristics (spread, reasons, concerned populations) of the phenomena studied as well as explanations offered for each country. The objective is to see if we are dealing with a ‘universal phenomenon’, characteristic of European society in its relations to public services. This will allow us to deepen our global reflections on the doubts raised on the references to universalism in public policy and action under the effects of the social and cultural fragmentation of European societies.
The goal of the fourth type of work (WP4) is to promote the diffusion of accumulated data and knowledge. It will organise and build a virtual downloadable database so as to put on-line the results of our analyses and syntheses (WP1 and WP3) and present follow-up methods (WP2).
The fifth module (WP5) will analyse the experience of other countries so as to consolidate the database and transform it into an Observatory directly fed by different research centres or expertise groups in Europe and that will respond to interested researchers and practitioners.

Expected results:
The first phase, which will last 30 months, will be implemented by modules WP1 and WP2. They will accumulate data and present the results in a synthetic form. Type of work produced: Synthetic files on researches and follow-through and evaluation methods.
The second phase will be launched after 12 months and will last 18 months. It will consist of data interpretation (WP3). Type of work produced: A synthesis report.
The third phase will be launched on the 18th month and will last one year. Diffusion of analyses, data and knowledge (WP4, WP5). Type of work produced: Downloadable on-line database.
European Research on Quality of life of European Citizens

17 Countries
6.4 Millions €
36 Participants
5 Projects
Theme

Quality of life of European Citizens
The Rationale of Motherhood Choices: Influence of Employment Conditions and of Public Policies

MOCHO

Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-00096

Research Project

EC contribution: 750000 EURO
Starting date: 1 October 2001
Duration: 36 months

EC Scientific Officer: Giulia Amaducci

Coordinator:

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The Rationale of Motherhood Choices: Influence of Employment Conditions and of Public Policies

MOCHO

Objectives:

Women’s attitudes towards motherhood is in the core of all economic and social problems raised by the decline in fertility rates and ageing of European population. The future of the welfare states depends on women's willingness to insure a reproduction function, as far as their choice is to take part in paid employment, are public policies adapted in order to facilitate the combination between employment and motherhood ?. This project aim to study how the motherhood decision is affected by labour market conditions and how public policies can be designed in order to promote parenthood by dual career couples, which is becoming the normal way of life in European Union member states.

Brief description of the project:

In this research, we are interested in the planning problem of young women: What is the right decision concerning motherhood taking into account all the costs induced by this decision?. These costs which can only be measured by panel data analysis or retrospective data and not by consecutive cross section, are of different kinds: direct costs linked with children rearing and childcare, costs associated to changes in employment: loss of earnings due to labour force withdrawals, loss of returns until retirement because of human capital investments not undertaken during a period of home time or loss of earnings due to employers' attitudes or work instability, costs in free time allocation due to the uneven share of homework between partners…. We intend to measure these costs for different patterns of hours and participation during different lengths of labour market spells of women after having had their first child. Public policies act on these costs: the provision of day care facilities, the organisation of the educational system for young children, child allowances, the length of the job guarantee period reduce the net costs of having children. In this project we intend to use direct measures of such costs, introducing these measures directly into the micro panel analyses.

The particular topics to be addressed are:
- The postponement of maternity and the decrease in the number of children in connection with the direct and indirect costs associated: optimal age of maternity considering lifetime earnings consequence by educational level and social policies in European countries comparing the 1990s to the 1980s.
- The participation to the labour market and the earnings of women in the pre-maternity and post-maternity situation. Transitions occurring after maternity : from full time to part time, to inactivity or in different countries and analysing the labour market profiles of mothers in different countries compared with women giving birth in the eighties at significantly lower ages than mothers who gave birth in the nineties.
- Work out the implications on the explanations of ageing maternity and quantify policy variables in order to formulate policy recommendations.

Expected results:

Building of data bases on motherhood, labour market conditions and public policies
Building of indicators, classifications and benchmarks.
Results of the estimation on panel data of the impacts of employment conditions and public policies on motherhood choices in order to achieve a better design of labour market and motherhood policies.
Publication of reports and book, organisation of a large public conference. Introduction of research results in university courses and seminars.
Impact of Changing Social Structures on Stress and Quality of Life: Individual and Social Perspectives

Stress Impact

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-00110

Research Project
EC contribution: 1189822 €
Starting date: 1 December 2002
Duration: 36 months

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Impact of Changing Social Structures on Stress and Quality of Life: Individual and Social Perspectives

Stress Impact

Objectives:

The project will provide an estimate of the incidence and demographics of stress related long term absence in six EU Member States and explore the relationship between professional and institutional approaches to stress in each jurisdiction. The project will also document individual perceptions and experiences with respect to being on long term absence, including perceived threats and risks relating to social trends and structural changes in society. It will provide insight into how decisions with respect to work resumption are being reached, which factors will influence those decisions, and how the threshold of resumption is determined. The impact of stress related long term absence on individual, family and social well being and, alternatively, the influence of family situation and social networks on long term absence will both be explored. In this way the gaps between theory and practice in dealing with people who are on stress related long term absence will be identified, as will good practices in lowering the work resumption threshold.

Description of the work:

The project will consist of several elements:
1. Literature review (state of the art) in the domain of job rehabilitation, stress prevention and intervention, and sickness absence. Including literature in national languages.
2. Review of national policies (including financial and legal aspects), projects and initiatives with respect to sickness absence and stress related long term absenteeism and job rehabilitation.
3. Subsequently three related studies will be undertaken in each of the countries involved in this project: a) survey of Long Term sickness absenteees, b) in-depth interviews with a sub-sample of stress-related LTA’s, focussing on family situation, social infrastructure, future perspectives, and c) professional study, consisting of interviews with professionals working in this field (Occupational Health practitioners, GP, HRM, policy makers).
4. Synthesis of the results of these studies, and a coherent theory of action with respect to job rehabilitation for stress related LTA will be developed. This will include a comparison of European approaches to dealing with stress related LTA. This will form the basis of development of policy and guidelines
5. Network of stakeholders will be developed, through which the results of the study will be disseminated. This network will also be consulted at regular moments throughout the project.
6. Project management to ensure that project objectives will be obtained.

Ten work packages have been defined for this project.

Expected results:

The main tangible results from this project will be several reports. The first report will a conceptual framework, based upon review of international and national literature. This report is expected to be externally available in month 12.
Subsequently there will be several reports on the national studies. These reports will be available for national stakeholders in month 30.
Finally there will be an integrated report on the national studies, with policy recommendations and practical guidelines. This report will be available at the end of the project (month 36).
Gender, Parenthood And The Changing European Workplace: Young Adults Negotiating The Work-Family Boundary

TRANSITIONS

Contract n°: **HPSE-CT-2002-00125**

**Research Project**

- **EC contribution:** 1190000 €
- **Starting date:** 1 January 2003
- **Duration:** 36 months

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Gender, Parenthood And The Changing European Workplace: Young Adults Negotiating The Work-Family Boundary

TRANSITIONS

Objectives:

(1) Map national contexts for understanding the experience of becoming parents and early parenthood in the partner countries.
(2) Develop an understanding of the impact of workplace context and organisational change on your adults who become parents, in the partner countries.
(3) Examine the transition to parenthood (retrospectively and prospectively) in the partner countries.
(4) Develop an understanding of how young adults negotiate parenthood and work-family boundaries, in the partner countries.
(5) Examine positive well-being (including its dimensions and its relationship to different work-family strategies), at the individual, family and organisational levels in the partner countries.
(6) Examine the policy implications of the key foci of the study.
(7) Disseminate to policy makers at European, national and local levels, employers, trade unions and other stakeholders and make recommendations.

Description of the work:

The project has identified four key elements.

- Young adults who are parents or approaching parenthood, and parenthood as a gendered experience;
- Concepts of strategy for managing parenthood and employment and for negotiating the boundaries between work and family life;
- Impact of organisational change in common organisational contexts and diverse European policy contexts, and of the ways in which organisations act strategically with respect to both changing markets and demands, on the conditions under which employees manage their parenting;
- The concept of positive well-being with the reference to individual, family and organisational levels.

The project will carry out this work through three research phases. The first involves the contextual mapping of the national policy and demographic contexts and a state of the art literature review in which all eight countries will participate. The second phase consists of empirical research in which two organisational case studies (one in the public and one in the finance sector) will be undertaken in Bulgaria, Portugal, Norway and the UK; one case study in Slovenia. Partners in The Netherlands and Sweden are undertaking parallel studies which will contribute to the overall analysis. The third phase will involve the seven countries that have undertaken organisational case studies. It will comprise in depth, biographical interview studies with young adults aged about 25-39 who are parents (including some cases of people on or about to go on parental leave) and will draw its sample from the organisational case studies. The three research phases will be accompanied by a parallel dissemination activity, which will establish national and international frameworks for dissemination.

Expected results:

Transitions will generate creative recommendations for policy and practice relating to negotiation of the work-family interface and well-being of workers, families and organisations. This will draw on planned investigations into national and pan European context, organisations in transition, positive well-being and experiences of parents. Outputs will include briefing papers and a public access website.
Societal and Economic Policies to Promote Quality of Life and Well Being: Discrete Preference Identification and Priority Setting in Response to Changes in Labour Market Status

EPICURUS

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-00143

Research Project
EC contribution: 1190000 €
Starting date: 1 November 2002
Duration: 36 months

EC Scientific Officer: Virginia Vitorino

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Theme: Quality of life of European Citizens
Societal and Economic Policies to Promote Quality of Life and Well Being: Discrete Preference Identification and Priority Setting in Response to Changes in Labour Market Status

EPICURUS

Objectives:

The overall objectives are to investigate:

1. The relationship between (i) working patterns (and changes in them), (ii) social norms in the workplace, and (iii) inequalities in socio-economic status; and the quality of life and well being of individuals across different EU countries.
2. The relationship between job satisfaction and the quality of life and well being of individuals across different EU countries, given different social norms.
3. By eliciting their preference priority setting behaviour, how people change their perceptions of their quality of life and well being in response to changes in labour market status and social norms.

Description of the work:

This project will comprise eight work packages. The first will coordinate and support the administrative and financial control of the project. The second will draw together the available literature and data sources in a comprehensive survey of (a) how working patterns, and changes in them, and inequalities in socio-economic status affect the quality of life and well being, and (b) how job satisfaction influences the quality of life and well being of individuals. The third will use a variety of available datasets to assess the relationship between labour market experiences, socio-economic status and job satisfaction and how this impacts the quality of life and well being of individuals. The fourth will design the economic experiments, establish the scenarios and carefully design the content of the questionnaires suitable for the analysis to be conducted in work package 5 and manage the conduct of economic experiments and the collection of new data. The fifth will use a novel application of conjoint/discrete choice modelling and experimental economics methodology on stated preferences on individual stated preferences with respect to the effect of social norms, the work patterns and labour market experiences on job satisfaction and the quality of life and well being in general. The sixth will present evidence about peoples’ perceptions on job satisfaction, well being and quality of life, and their interactions given their labour market experiences, working patterns, personal characteristics and social norms. The seventh work package will bring together the different results and allow evaluation of the impact of socio-economic status and social norms on the quality of life and well-being of individuals. The final work package will communicate project activities and results to the EU, end-users and the public, create and maintain project databases and a public access web site and produce a systematic dissemination plan for all participants.

Expected results:

Major milestones comprise reports on the (i) literature and data on working patterns and socio-economic status on quality of life and their interaction with job satisfaction (9 months); (ii) relationship between work patterns, labour market experiences and job satisfaction and how this impacts the quality of life (24 months); (iii) conjoint/discrete choice/experimental analysis on individual quality of life as affected by labour market experiences and job satisfaction (30 months).
Family Life and Professional Work: Conflict and Synergy

FamWork

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-00147

Research Project
EC contribution: 895552 €
Starting date: 1 December 2002
Duration: 30 months

EC Scientific Officer: Virginia Vitorino

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Family Life and Professional Work: Conflict and Synergy

FamWork

Objectives:

The project will be carried out as a joint endeavor of a consortium of seven European research teams. Based on a coherent conceptual framework, the project addresses descriptive, theoretical and practical (political) goals. In particular, the project should answer basic questions on

- strains that emerge from work-family conflict,
- coping of young families with strains related to work-family conflict,
- consequences of stressful events related to work-family conflict,
- internal and external influences that can be conceived as vulnerable and protective factors.

The theoretical interest focuses on the explanation of the relationship between modalities of work-division and well-being as a function of internal (psychological) and external (socio-material) resources. The practical purpose consists of the development of a set of instruments suitable

- to observe the external resources in order to facilitate the integration of family and professional roles, and
- to assess the relative satisfaction of couples with respect to this issue.

These tools can be applied periodically to assess the given conditions and to compare them with the need of the people concerned.

Description of the work:

The theoretical background of the project focuses on a model of analysis which includes the conditions of effects of work-division in different cultures. Central questions are (a) what are the conditions of different modalities of work-division within and between different cultural areas in Europe, and (b) what are the effects of these different modalities.

The empirical analysis will include different types of information. One type concerns European figures, statistical material and official documents such as EUROSTAT and OECD publications or publications from the European Family Observation. This descriptive and comparative analysis will inform on some basic differences and tendencies in the different European countries with respect to some core questions of the project. It will particularly encompass the various participating countries including also, as far as possible, Switzerland.

Further types of information represent a deeper psychological analysis of those mechanisms that have been described above (e.g., strains, coping, consequences, vulnerable and protective factors concerning the modalities of work-division). The psycho-social investigation is designed to collect information on (a) the actual situation of the subjects, (b) the situation of the last year, and (c) the future perspectives of the subjects. The corresponding instruments will include two sources of information, i.e., questionnaires and systematic self-monitoring. 200 couples with at least one child in the age of up to five years will be recruited in every center to collect the questionnaire data. In addition, 80 couples of each national subsample will be involved in the self-monitoring procedure for one week.

Expected results:

We expect

- an empirically founded information base for the improvement of living conditions of young couples with children in Europe,
- effects on a better utilization of human resources for the European economy,
- the development of an observation instrumentation which can be applied for evaluation purposes,
- a better theoretical understanding of the psychological and cultural processes concerning the interplay of family life and professional work.
European Research on Economic development and dynamics

20 Countries

134 Participants

15.3 Millions €

22 Projects
Theme

Economic development and dynamics
# Privatisation and Financial Market Development

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<tr>
<td>EC contribution: 611100 EURO</td>
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<td>Starting date: 1 March 2000</td>
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<td>Duration: 24 months</td>
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<th>Coordinator:</th>
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Privatisation and Financial Market Development

Objectives:

Governments privatise to achieve several objectives, including the development of financial markets. Our research aims at analysing to what extent privatisation can actually achieve this goal, and what effects it can have on financial markets development and integration and on the stabilisation of financial systems.

Privatisation implies either distribution of vouchers or the sale of firms. To tackle the issue of financial markets development, it is necessary to define objective measures of financial development and establish a methodology to evaluate empirically the impact of sales of privatised firms in this respect. Privatisation increases market capitalisation. The point is whether it increases market liquidity and its efficiency, with significant effects on other listed companies. The definition of a common methodology will itself be a crucial step of the proposed research, and should be developed receiving the more recent achievements of the theoretical literature.

Brief description of the project:

The work consists of 6 "core" workpackages, plus two others of policy conclusions and dissemination of results.

The workpackages are the following.
- Privatisation and domestic financial market development: theory.
- Privatisation and domestic financial market development: evidence.
- Privatisation and financial markets integration: theory.
- Privatisation and financial markets integration: evidence.
- Privatisation and financial sector stabilisation: theory.
- Privatisation and financial sector stabilisation: evidence.

Therefore, theory and empirical analysis will be closely related along three main themes, namely the effect of privatisation on development, integration and stabilisation of financial markets. The sequence goes from the analysis of national markets, to the analysis of the interaction (integration, competition and possibly co-ordination) between financial markets, and finally to the "macro" consequences of the process we analyse.

The empirical parts will consist both of the development of a common methodology and of the parallel analyses of several cases using the same methodology. This will allow us to have highly comparable results and to carry out a complete research both of the main European financial markets and of some particularly significant case studies of transition economies seeking admission to the EU. On the basis of the theoretical developments and the empirical results, we expect to deliver significant policy conclusions, useful in directing privatisation processes, in guiding the integration among financial markets and in assessing the effects of EU admission of certain transition countries.

Expected results:

The first workshop will be held at month 4 to discuss the results of the review of literature. Preliminary results will be presented in workshops at months 10 and 16. A public conference at month 23 will present final results and policy recommendations. Several databases will be built for empirical analysis and to enhance the diffusion of final results a web site will be created. A book containing the proceeds of the final conference will be published at the end of the project.
European mergers and employee’s participation: Industrial economic and anthropological study of Franco-German Cases

Contract No: HPSE-CT-1999-00018
EC contribution: 60650 EURO
Starting date: 1 February 2000
Duration: 12 months

EC Scientific Officer: Peter Fisch

Coordinator:
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European mergers and employee’s participation: Industrial economic and anthropological study of Franco-German Cases

Objectives:

Transnational industry mergers are one of the most significant consequences of the changing relationship of the financial sector to the rest of the economy. This study is based on the stakeholder approach of a firm’s corporate governance. Its objective is to understand how this major structural change in the industry impacts employees participation in the firms. Two questions will be addressed: what is the role of employees’ participation in the final merger’s outcome? Does international mergers experience in Europe allow to identify a model for employees participation in the future European firm? Based on a simultaneous economic and anthropological investigation of a sample of Franco-German cases, the research aims:
- To validate a general framework and methodology that could later be enlarged to more countries.
- To produce a first set of results on national employees participation comparison and the complex issues raised by their integration after the mergers.
- To contribute to the policy debate on the definition of the legal frame for the European company.

Brief description of the project:

The Franco-German industrial mergers constitute the empirical research field of the work. A transnational merger actually challenges traditional employees’ participation models in two ways. First of all, by bringing together within a single structure different national systems for employees’ participation, which provides a unique empirical ground for comparing them. Secondly, every merger poses difficult organisation and restructuring problems; with major social consequences. Employees are clearly a key variable of these strategic decisions. Our central working assumption is that a merger in fact corresponds to the creation of a single firm out of two distinct entities. The shift from two firms to one eventually requires a ‘destructive creation’ process, into which the effective participation of employees is a critical factor for successful implementation.

To conduct this analysis, the work is divided into three successive steps. First, a bibliographic study comparing the European institutional frameworks for employees participation will be carried out, in order to define the relevant methodology for the industrial case studies, and to select the sample of Franco-German mergers. Then, in the four merger cases selected, we will conduct a joint industrial economy and industrial anthropology fieldwork research with in-depth interviews. Two dimensions of the merger will be assessed:
- How the formerly separate institutional patterns of employees’ participation are transformed by the merger of the companies?
- The direct negotiations set up with the employees to efficiently implement the merger.

On this last point, three strategic issues of a merger are considered: production internal reorganisation, industrial and geographic relocation of the firm’s activities, workforce adjustment (volume, flexibility and working time, wages). Finally, the results of the work will be used to initiate and organise a debate between European researchers, enlarged to other countries, and other academic fields (management, sociology, work and business law...). A European and interdisciplinary conference will be held in Paris to disseminate the results and tackle the policy issues associated with employees’ participation in the European company.

Expected results:

- employees participation national models comparison synthesis, selection of the merger cases, methodology and questionnaire definition for the case studies, conference call for papers.
- reports on each case study of the joint industrial economy and industrial anthropology fieldwork research, design of the conference programme.
- final report, articles submission, conference.
European integration, Financial systems and corporate performance

Contract No: HPSE-CT-1999-00039

EC contribution: 778120 EURO
Starting date: 1 March 2000
Duration: 36 months

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European integration, Financial systems and corporate performance

Objectives:

This project is concerned with the interaction between European integration, financial systems and corporate performance. The view that there are important interactions between financial systems and corporate performance leads to a systemic approach to corporate performance. The performance of manufacturing industries must be considered in the context of the overall structure of economies. Differences across countries in the structure of capital markets, industrial organisation aspects of manufacturing sectors and product markets are all closely interlinked. It is therefore impossible to consider significant changes in one independent of the others. In particular, policies which promote the adoption of specific forms of financial intermediation have to take account of the product and industrial organisation context within which they are being contemplated.

With this project we seek to foster research on the fundamental determinants of corporate performance improvement, including the development and diffusion of new technology and investment in plant and equipment. Second, our intention is to encourage economists studying these issues to supplement their theoretical and empirical research methods with direct observation of firm level data. Finally, this project provides a framework for communication among economists interested in financial issues with researchers from other academic disciplines, i.e. innovation studies and industrial economics and policy makers responsible for the regulation of financial institutions and competition policies. We hope that this communication will allow policy to be informed by current research of social scientists, and to allow researchers’ agendas to be influenced by the priorities of the policy process.

Brief description of the project:

The first research task of the project will be to provide a comparative review of how financial systems are regulated and supervised in Europe. It will collect detailed information from central banks and supervisory agencies on the regulatory and supervisory environments in different Member States and then it will identify the features that produce efficient and stable financial systems.

The second research task is a theoretical investigation of the consequences of the European integration on the internal structure of the national banking systems will be carried out. The study will refer to recently developed microeconomic models of the banking sector with a novel evolutionary perspective.

The third research task concentrates on the recent macro-financial developments leading up to EMU and the likely developments in the 1999-2003 period; including the fixing of exchange rates and the emergence of a single pricing system, the convergence of interest rates and the corresponding fiscal stances, the consolidation of the financial system through liberalisation and cross-border acquisitions, and the changes in competition.

The fourth study will analyze the implications of different financial structures for corporate performance at the sectoral level. Although past research suggest that well-functioning banks and stock markets facilitate growth of firms and overall performance, there is little analysis of the links between financial structure and economic performance at the micro and sectoral levels.

The fifth research task will examine to what extent the method of investment financing in the introduction of new process and product technologies might account for the differences in the diffusion of technologies among firms and countries in the European Union.

Finally, the sixth research task will identify recent trends in venture capital in Europe - including those evident in the organisational structure and incentive design of venture capital intermediaries, the extent of managerial discretion they have, and the investment policies they follow - and how these relate to the investment performance of venture capital funds in Europe.

Expected results:

The project output will take two main forms: on the one hand, the research reports which eventually will be published as a series of three books on:
- European Financial Markets and the Corporate Sector.
- Banking and Technological Change.
- Emerging Financial Institutions and Innovation

On the other, a series of working papers will be published with background country case studies and other research findings on banking, investment and corporate innovation in EU Member States in order to stimulate discussion and raise awareness. The workpackages assembled here will contribute to government and EU policy making by enhancing the understanding of various financial market issues and the challenges governments face when attempting to remedy capital market imperfections.
Innovation dans les petites et très petites entreprises et dynamique du développement local

Contract No: HPSE-CT-1999-00024
EC contribution: 834000 EURO
Starting date: 1 February 2000
Duration: 36 months

EC Scientific Officer: Nikolaos Kastrinos

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Innovation dans les petites et très petites entreprises et dynamique du développement local

Objectives:

Expliquer le développement local dans les zones rurales des régions périphériques.

Les PMEs et TPEs agro-alimentaires de ces régions travaillent dans des conditions dramatiquement mauvaises par rapport à celles des régions centrales. La recherche vise à analyser les conditions de la compétitivité de ces entreprises permettant d’améliorer le développement économique de ces régions rurales. Il faut étudier les capacités des PMEs et des TPEs à entretenir des activités innovatrices dans le cadre des interdépendances qui doivent exister entre le changement technologique et l’environnement socio-économique local. Quelle méthodologie employer pour étudier et favoriser les modes d’apprentissage technologique que les SMEs et TPEs agro-alimentaires doivent mettre en œuvre par des interactions avec leurs partenaires industriels, avec les institutions locales et les divers systèmes de gouvernance existant aux niveaux local et régional?

Brief description of the project:

Les progrès de la connaissance sur le développement local viendront de l'utilisation d'un cadre méthodologique innovateur, permettant d'intégrer deux approches générales:
- Celle de l'émergence du développement local comme condition du changement social, qui intègre l'interaction entre dynamiques technologiques et dynamiques territoriales, pour expliquer la place des petites entreprises dans l'action conjointe des facteurs endogènes et exogènes du développement.
- Celle du changement technologique qui, grâce à l'analyse évolutionniste, approfondit les dimensions interactives de l'apprentissage dans les entreprises.

Ce cadre offre la possibilité de définir avec pertinence des données nouvelles sur les structures économiques locales et régionales, et les principaux facteurs de leur évolution dans les zones rurales. L'application de cette méthodologie se fera par la constitution d'un appareillage d'observation des systèmes territoriaux et de leurs petites et moyennes entreprises. L'appareillage mis en place dans sept pays permettra l'observation de territoires représentatifs des zones rurales de l'Union Européenne: 10 systèmes territoriaux dans des régions périphériques, 4 systèmes territoriaux dans deux régions centrales. L'échantillon de PMEs et TPEs sera constitué de 400 entreprises.

Le travail de recherche comportera 7 étapes:
- Définition des composantes du développement local des zones rurales; recueil des données sur les systèmes territoriaux.
- Création d'une base de données sur les comportements des PME's et TPE's alimentaires.
- Construction de modèles de PME's et TPE's innovatrices.
- Caractérisation des apprentissages par interaction des PME's et TPE's.
- Analyse des bases d'analyse stratégique pour le développement local.
- Définition des investissements à promouvoir.
- Synthèse des méthodes et des analyses.

Expected results:

- Création d'une base instrumentale de données.
- Création des modèles de PME's et TPE's, entreprises innovatrices.
- Méthodologie d'analyse de l'apprentissage technologique.
- Conception d'une stratégie intégrée de développement local avec des PME's et TPE's innovatrices.
- Rôle des pouvoirs publics dans le développement de la capacité innovatrice des PME'S et TPE's européennes dans les zones rurales.
- Proposition de création d'un Observatoire pour l'Innovation dans les PME's et TPE's.
- Utilisation des méthodes par les décideurs.
The Future of Europe’s Rural Periphery, the Role of Entrepreneurship in Responding to Employment Problems and Social Marginalization

Contract No: HPSE-CT-1999-00013
EC contribution: 767000 EURO
Starting date: 1 March 2000
Duration: 30 months

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The future of Europe’s Rural Periphery, the Role of Entrepreneurship in Responding to Employment Problems and Social Marginalization

**Objectives:**

The Project has six main objectives:
- To identify the key causes and effects of economic restructuring currently at work in Europe’s rural peripheral areas. More specifically aims to identify the specificities of rural structural transformation and explore the causes of contemporary employment considerations and social marginalisation.
- To explore the consequences that the ‘Globalisation’ processes had and will have upon the development trajectories of rural peripheral areas.
- To identify sources of entrepreneurship and examine their distribution between different gender, as well as age and other social groupings.
- To evaluate the extent to which the existing institutional, social and technological environment encourages and facilitates entrepreneurship.
- To analyse the nature and type of work created through entrepreneurial activity and explore how these new employment opportunities are distributed between gender as well as age and other social groups.
- To assess the appropriateness of existing policy approaches and instruments to identify initiatives which could have wider application in Europe's rural periphery.

**Brief description of the project:**

Seven Universities from six European countries form the consortium. The co-ordinator is the Dept of Economic Sciences, University of Macedonia-Greece, while the other six members are: The Dept of Strategy and Entrepreneurship, University of Luton-UK, the Centre for Enterprise & Economic Development Research, University of Middlesex-UK, the European Research Station for Rural Areas, University of Hohenheim-Germany, the Centre for Information and Communications, Stockholm School of Economics-Sweden, the Institute of Social Sciences, University of Lisbon, -Portugal and the Dept of Entrepreneurship & Industrial Policy, University of Lodz-Poland.

In order to address the complex issues involved in the project clear links between objectives, methodology, WPs and deliverables have been established. Thus, the project has been organised around four thematic WPs (1-4). These are:
- Rurality and peripherality in Europe.
- The impact of globalisation on Rural peripheral areas.
- Entrepreneurship: causes and processes in rural peripheral areas, and the impact of entrepreneurship on Europe's rural periphery.
- The policies adopted towards encouraging entrepreneurship in rural peripheral areas.

The same research approach will be followed for all these four Thematic WPs, which can be divided into three main stages:
- The review of the relevant literature.
- The analysis of the findings of the fieldwork.
- A synthesis of the two previous stages in order to produce Thematic reports.

These four WPs will be complemented by five Action Specific WPs. WP5 will involve the co-ordination of data collection and processing. The methodological instruments proposed include both desk-top research (literature review and the processing of official statistics) and extensive fieldwork investigation.

The remaining Action Specific WPs include Dissemination (WP6-Final report, WP7-Web site and WP8-Book) and Co-ordination (WP9).

The organisational structure of the project has been designed in such a way as to assure the closest co-operation among the members of the consortium.

**Expected results:**

The project’s milestones will be the following:
- a) eight internal reports; b) a comprehensive data base; c)four reports on the project's thematic sections and a final report; d) the edited material for a book publication; e) six workshops and a conference. National and EU experts and officials will be invited to four workshops and the conference. The broad expected results of the project will be the substantial improvement of our understanding of the processes underway in the European countryside and a significant contribution to the formulation of policies regarding these areas.
Labour Market Effects of European Foreign Investments

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<tr>
<td>EC contribution: 794440 EURO</td>
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<tr>
<td>Starting date: 1 March 2000</td>
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<td>Duration: 24 months</td>
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<td>EC Scientific Officer: Nikolaos Kastrinos</td>
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Labour Market Effects of European Foreign Investments

Objectives:
- Develop a comprehensive conceptual framework accounting for the most relevant FDI-labour market links.
- Construct harmonised cross-country firm level panel data sets. This will be the first Europe wide effort to construct a common data set to carry out cross country empirical analysis.
- Analyse empirically aggregate inward and outward FDI flows and study how far international allocation and fragmentation of production affect the demand for skilled and unskilled labour.
- Analyse cross-country the impact of outward FDIs on European countries as home economies, using firm level panel data. In particular, look at: the substitutibility and complementarity between skilled and unskilled employment in foreign affiliates and in parent firms and whether skilled and unskilled employment dynamics is different for investing and non investing firms.
- Analyse cross-country the impact of inward FDIs on European countries as host economies, using firm level panel data. In particular look at: the substitutibility and complementarity between skilled and unskilled employment in foreign owned and in indigenous firms; whether foreign plants generate spillovers to domestic plans; whether there are industry specific and ‘bandwagon’ effects.
- Derive relevant policy implications in a coherent framework.

Brief description of the project:
- Theory:
  Surveys the existing literature and develops a theoretical framework for research. General and partial equilibrium models of FDI will be derived, allowing for the representation of different institutional contexts and the emergence of unemployment.
- Harmonisation of Existing Databases and Carrying out Firm Level Surveys:
  Builds a harmonised cross-country databases on outward and inward FDI combining existing national data banks on multinationals. It also carries out surveys to collect data not available in existing data bases.
- Geography of European FDI and Implications For Labour Demand: Empirical Analysis:
  Examines the sectoral and geographical allocation of FDI flows, on the basis of balance of payment data, and derives implications for the demand of skilled and unskilled workers. It explores empirically the determinants of location decisions by multinationals, and patterns of agglomeration.
- Empirical Analysis of the Impact of Outward FDI on the Labour Market in the Home Country:
  Extends the empirical analysis of outward investments at the firm level on the basis of cross-country panel data which combine information on the parent company and on the subsidiary. It estimates the degree of substitutibility and complementarity between home and foreign employment and it compares employment dynamics of investing and non investing firms. It does so by controlling for firm and location specific factors, including the institutional characteristics of the labour market.
- Empirical Analysis of the Impact of Inward FDI on the Labour Market in the Host Country:
  Provides evidence on the labour market effect of inward FDI. It uses cross-country firm level panel data, in this case of foreign owned companies based in the sample countries. It will test a set of hypothesis on the net employment effect of inward investments and on spillovers to local firms, also controlling for firm and location specific factors, including the institutional characteristics of the labour market.
- Policy Implications:
  Derives a coherent and consistent policy framework and specifies policy prescriptions for the European countries.

Expected results:
Milestones consist of the 4 project workshops and conferences: one kick-off meeting, two intermediate workshops and one final conference. Expected results include the development of a consistent analytical and empirical framework to carry out rigorous policy analysis on the labour market impact of FDI in Europe and the construction of firm-level cross-country panel data bases. Results will be disseminated to end users, through working papers, one or more books, a web page, workshops and one conference including end-users.
National Corporate Cultures and International Competitiveness Strategies - The Challenge of Globalisation for European SMEs

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<th>Contract No: HPSE-CT-1999-00027</th>
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<td>EC contribution: 762000 EURO</td>
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<td>Starting date: 1 March 2000</td>
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National Corporate Cultures and International Competitiveness Strategies - the Challenge of Globalisation for European SMEs

Objectives:

The project intends to show how SMEs in various European regions are reacting to the present push for economic internationalisation; and specifically, how they are restructuring themselves in technological and organisational areas and which management concepts they are using. In this process, specific problems confronting SMEs as well as successful strategies of action (“best practice”) are to be identified. The project is also designed to answer the practical policy issue of where regional, national and European social policy initiatives should be introduced to improve and increase the pace of internationalisation in SMEs.

Brief description of the project:

The starting point for the project is a comprehensive survey of the current literature in this field and an evaluation of appropriate economic statistics. After this has been completed, the first empirical stage of inquiry will be conducted. This will involve interviewing regional economic experts from associations, chambers of industry and commerce, state-run institutions etc. about the level of globalisation in SMEs and the types of problems they typically face.

The second stage of inquiry is concerned with company case studies which are to be carried out in six European regions/countries (Bavaria; Thuringia; Rhône-Alpes; Piedmont; Austria; the Netherlands). In each case study, interviews will be held with several top executive managers and employee representatives and group discussions held with selected employees. Some of the companies are also to be filmed for inclusion in a teaching and demonstration film.

After the data has been evaluated and the research report written, a number of international and national congresses will be held to present the results to academics, to representatives from know-how-transfer organisations, state-run institutions for promoting the economy, associations, consultancies and government as well as to practising business people in SMEs. The congresses held for practising business people will be organised in close cooperation with national know-how-transfer organisations and/or the chambers of industry and commerce.

The research results will also be summarised in a practical handbook which will be published together with the teaching and demonstration film.

Expected results:

Milestones:
- Critical evaluation of economic statistics; carrying out of interviews with regional economic experts.
- Carrying out of 64 company case studies.
- Drafting of the research report.
- Carrying out of conferences to communicate the research results to academics, regional economic experts, politicians and practising business people.
- Drafting of a practical handbook and production of a demonstration film.

Expected results:
Provision of a solid basis of knowledge, upon which:
- European SMEs can develop suitable strategies for internationalisation.
- Measures for promoting the economy at regional, national and European levels can be improved.
Regional Adjustment Strategies to Technological Change in the Context of European Integration

Contract No: HPSE-CT-1999-00035
EC contribution: 783740 EURO
Starting date: 1 March 2000
Duration: 30 months

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Regional Adjustment Strategies to Technological Change in the Context of European Integration

Objectives:

High rates of unemployment in the EU member countries remains a vital policy problem and a problem of enormous personal and community hardship. In many regions, high rates of persistent unemployment are accompanied by low rates of employment creation. As a consequence social alienation and related social pathologies threaten the future of many member states. The accelerating process of EU integration and the accompanying regional differences in employment and development has meant that the community has had to take special note of the spatial consequences of integration. Integration, de-localisation and globalisation threaten to disrupt traditional patterns and processes of work, how work is organised, and the place of specific regions in the emerging new economic geography of Europe. It is essential to better understand the spatial differentiation of employment opportunities and the processes driving regional economic competitiveness.

Brief description of the project:

As integration has proceeded, regions that were once peripheral to European and global economies have now been brought into the centre of rapid technological and economic change. A great deal of research has focused on the motivated forces behind technological change and the spatial diffusion of those changes through the system of European regions.

In this project, however, we are concerned with those geographical environments that are not blessed by technological advantages or new growth industries. Rather our focus is on provincial regions with labour-intensive industries vulnerable to low-wage competition from within and without Europe.

In particular, this proposal will study how local adjustment strategies utilising technological change designed to enhance productivity in labour intensive industries has affected, and will affect in the future, European non-metropolitan regions in terms of their employment potential. Focusing upon four labour intensive industries (automobile parts, clothing and apparel, footwear, and electronics assembly) the project collaborators will study the implementation of technological change in SMEs located in a set of "vulnerable" regions of Europe. Recognising that there are a number of regions that have extremely high rates of unemployment and attendant problems of social alienation, we aim to study regions that may become areas of concentrated unemployment. In doing so, we hope to make a difference to the long-term prospects of those regions, contributing to the debate over the appropriate policy response and its implementation. The impact of globalisation and de-localisation on employment has many facets. By concentrating on labour intensive industries, we hope to show that adjustment strategies have distinctive qualitative and quantitative impacts depending on the particular local institutions (customs, norms, and regulations) that are intended to cope with the pace of economic change.

Expected results:

Our study will emphasise both the qualitative regional impacts of geographic-specific adjustment strategies and the quantitative impacts on patterns of employment and unemployment. Whether adjustment creates greater local inequality or whether it creates new opportunities for those previously unconnected to the global economy are issues of great significance. We will focus both on the role of the public sector and various private institutions and on a variety of scales.
Assessing the Impact of Technological Innovation and Globalisation: the Effects on Growth and Employment

Contract No: HPSE-CT-1999-00043
EC contribution: 789860 EURO
Starting date: 1 March 2000
Duration: 24 months

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Theme: Economic development and dynamics

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Assessing the Impact of Technological Innovation and Globalisation: the Effects on Growth and Employment

Objectives:

The main objective of this project is to assess the impact of technological change and globalisation on economic growth and employment. We aim to investigate the extent to which different forms of globalisation and technological change have affected the overall growth rate, job creation and destruction and sectoral performance, comparing the European experience to that of the US, Japan and other advanced economies. The project will integrate a number of parallel research themes to analyse the nature, patterns and determinants of both technological change and the globalisation of production. An understanding of current European problems of slow growth and persistent unemployment cannot be achieved without adequate analysis of these two processes. Detailed analyses of innovation and globalisation will be combined in a unified framework to assess their direct and indirect effects on economic growth and employment and the policy implications.

Brief description of the project:

This project will combine the following detailed analyses of globalisation and innovation and test their overall impact:
- Slow growth, unemployment and the role of technology and globalisation:
  The performance of Europe and other advanced countries will be reviewed, focussing on the role of technology and Globalisation, and developing the appropriate theoretical and methodological tools for the analysis.
- The impact of technological change:
  The project will identify the effects of innovation on the economic and employment performance of EU countries. The impact of specific innovation patterns will be investigated at the aggregate and sectoral level for most EU countries.
- The impact of globalisation of production:
  The effects of different types of globalisation will be analysed, including: the spread of the activity of MNCs; cross-border mergers & acquisitions; joint ventures; licensing; decentralisation of production and international networking.
- The globalisation of technology
  Analysis of the interaction between globalisation and technological change will identify different forms of globalisation of technology – global exploitation; generation of innovations; and global collaboration – and assess their effects.
- Assessing the overall effects of innovation and globalisation:
  The results of the themes 1-4 will be combined to assess the overall direct and indirect effects. These will be investigated using a macroeconomic growth model to estimate the main impact of technological change and globalisation.
- Policy perspectives:
  The results will show which forms of innovation and globalisation have positive or negative effects on growth and employment. Policy will be developed for innovation, globalisation and employment, at European, national and regional levels.

Expected results:

This project will contribute to new knowledge in three main areas:
- The analysis of innovation and globalisation will lead to a systematic evaluation of their combined effects on growth and Employment performance.
- The analysis will provide new insight into the mechanisms and policies for growth and job creation.
- The research will integrate analysis of innovation, globalisation and economic and employment dynamics which will provide a useful guide to policy makers.
Integration of Macroeconomic and S&T Policies for Growth, Employment and Technology

**Contract No:** HPSE-CT-1999-00014
**EC contribution:** 725470 EURO
**Starting date:** 1 April 2000
**Duration:** 24 months

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**Duration:** 24 months
**Starting date:** 1 April 2000
**EC contribution:** 725470 EURO

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Integration of Macroeconomic and S&T Policies for Growth, Employment and Technology

Objectives:

Policy-making in macroeconomics is to a large extent hermetically sealed off from implications for science and technology, or at best inadequately treated. Our claim is that there are strong interdependencies between technological development and macroeconomic circumstances. The analysis would consider the interaction of these two policy areas according to individual and diverse country experiences. In particular, the aims of the project are:

- To investigate to what extent Macroeconomic and S&T policies in several European countries are mutually compatible, and develop sets of relationships for consideration in any discussion of national and supranational policy-making.
- To assess how Compatibilities and incompatibilities between macroeconomic and S&T policies affect employment, growth and technical change in selected European countries.
- To new policy approaches which should integrate macroeconomic and S&T policy in order to promote structural change.

Brief description of the project:

The project will investigate the impact of macro policy on the ‘supply side’ of S&T investments; the impact of macro policy on the ‘demand side’ of S&T policies, and the linkage of the supply side to the demand side through the impact of macroeconomic stability on uncertainty. The project involves research teams from Western Europe (UK, France and Netherlands), southern Europe (Greece and Spain) and Eastern Europe (Hungary, Poland, Bulgaria). The research is organised around five areas:

- Literature survey and analysis.
- Quantitative analyses of macroeconomic performance and technology. This would analyse the relationships between the aggregate Performance of economies and variables relating to technological performance.
- Macroeconomic performance skills and employment. This will investigate how various groups of the workforce are differentially Affected by the demands of technological change, as well as by shifts in aggregate demand.
- Macroeconomic policies and technology at the national level. This looks at the macroeconomic policies and their effects on technological performance in the context of each of the countries considered. Policy implications would be drawn for harmonisation With the EU, either prior to (for Eastern Europe) or subsequent to (for southern Europe) actual accession.
- Impact of supranational macroeconomic policies on technology and structural change. By taking a ‘top-down’ perspective from the viewpoint of EU supranational policies, in particular macroeconomic policies which are now defined or harmonised at the EU level, we will investigate their impact on S&T across Europe and in individual member states.

Expected results:

The project will improve our understanding of how macro-level policies (national and supranational) are linked to ‘explicit’ S&T policies, and will assess the compatibility or incompatibility between macro-level and S&T policies especially in regard to the accession countries. It will devise recommendations for better integration between the two, especially in the context of a shift towards the ‘knowledge-driven society’. Its final report will be widely circulated to policy makers.
The Emergence of New Industrial Activities: Fusing Services and Manufacture

TENIA

Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-00100

Research Project

EC contribution: 699440 EURO
Starting date: 1 September 2001
Duration: 30 months

EC Scientific Officer: Nikolaos Kastrinos

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The Emergence of New Industrial Activities: Fusing Services and Manufacture

TENIA

Objectives:

This project is about structural change in European industry resulting from rapid innovation. It particularly focuses on change that results from the fusion of interdependent service and manufacturing activities and convergence of previously separated sectors to exploit recently articulated market opportunities. The combination of existing technologies into new hybrid technologies (technology fusion approach) gives birth to new industrial activities - hybrid activities- that are at the interface of knowledge-based services and technology-intensive manufacturing. The project centers on the dynamics of new sectoral systems that encompass hybrid activities.

Brief description of the project:

The main points of this research are as follows:

i) Select and appraise in-depth the evolution of three currently emerging hybrid sectors, namely: electronic commerce, multimedia, business data communications.
ii) Base sector selection on a formal methodology calling for consultation with technology and industry experts.
iii) Create a conceptual framework for analysing the emergence and growth of hybrid sectors.
iv) Search various sources of information (such as the European Patent Office patent application and citation databases, the STEP to RJVs Databank for funded research partnerships, the CATI database of strategic alliances) for quantitative indicators rapprochement between the service and manufacturing activities of interest.
v) Undertake extensive field research to obtain qualitative and quantitative information at the firm level ant to recount specific events of manufacturing-service technology fusion.
v) Examine the driving forces of service-manufacturing technology fusion.

Expected results:

This research purports to add value to the to the current state-of-practice by:

i) Using an imaginative approach to empirically analyze structural change at strategic corners of European industry.

ii) Examining emerging hybrid activities sectors across five EU member countries.

iii)Assembling indicators to build “early warning systems” for emerging hybrid sectors.

iv) Providing valuable policy advice on how to create the socio-economic conditions to nurture such activities.
Economic Growth and Innovation in Multicultural Environments

ENGINE

Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-50007
Thematic Network
EC contribution: 449573 EURO
Starting date: 1 July 2001
Duration: 36 months

EC Scientific Officer: Nikolaos Kastrinos

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Economic Growth and Innovation in Multicultural Environments

**ENGINE**

**Objectives:**
The fundamental objective of this Thematic Network is to provide to European researchers an interdisciplinary forum that studies the complex relationships between economic growth, innovation and cultural diversity. The working idea is that crucial lessons concerning the design of Europe-wide institutions and policies can be drawn from studying the relationships between culture, cultural diversity and economic growth and innovation in culturally diversified cities.

Specifically ENGINE will:
- encourage cross-disciplinary dialogues and exchanges;
- mobilise existing and on-going research on economic growth, innovation and cultural diversity in cities, so as to provide the policy process at European, national, regional and local level with the latest insights and findings;
- identify the frontiers of such research and help animate new research;
- identify research vacuums and design research priorities for the future;
- provide a deeper understanding of the relationships between urban life, cultural diversity and economic growth and innovation.

**Description of the project:**
Six interdisciplinary workshops (WKS) are the driving force of the thematic network.

WKS1: Socio-economic and cultural diversity across and within European cities.
WKS2: Communication across cultures in multicultural cities.
WKS3: Social dynamics and conflicts in multicultural cities.
WKS4: Governance and policies in multicultural cities.
WKS5: Trust and social capital in multicultural cities.
WKS6: Diversity as a source of growth.

The sequencing of workshops starts from the mapping of EU cultural and socio-economic diversity and the analysis of cross-cultural communication, then it analyses in detail the key mechanisms (trust, conflicts, knowledge spillovers) that link diversity with economic growth and innovation. In particular, WKS1 studies where Europe and its cities stand in terms of cultural diversity and how this is reflected in social-economic structures. WKS2 studies the form of communication, with attention to the economic incentives and disincentives to communicate. WKS3 studies the costs of breaking communication down in terms of social exclusion. WKS4 studies the models of representation and governance, and how they can promote communication. WKS5 studies trust and social capital (communication is restored), their interrelationships and how they affect economic growth. WKS6 summarises previous work in terms of effects on economic growth, focusing on knowledge spillovers.

Each workshop is organised and hosted by one of the partners and steered by an interdisciplinary committee comprising representatives from other partners. Policy-makers at local, regional, national and EU level will be involved in the workshops. Each workshop provides the basis for the other deliverables:
- a preliminary survey of relevant literature;
- the workshop papers, collected mainly through call for papers;
- a summary, directed to the scientific community and comprising a research agenda for the future;
- a policy brief, an easy-to-read synthesis of workshop's findings, tailored to the needs of policy-makers.

A web site will be constructed to make available surveys, summaries, workshops papers and policy briefs, together with the call for papers, programmes of the workshops and also any relevant news from the policy world, up-coming meetings and conferences of relevant interest. Two books are expected to be published.

**Expected results:**
The consideration of cultural diversity is a horizontal theme that affects the design of many policies and institutions, either at EU level or at national, regional and local level. A better understanding of the relationships between cultural factors, cultural diversity, economic growth and innovation will support the design of the mechanisms of political representation and will provide scientific basis for policy-making in different areas (including regional policies, education policies, migration policies, social and employment policies). Additional benefits include the building of an interdisciplinary network, cross-benefiting all disciplines and the identification of Europe-specific themes, contributing to the Europeanisation of economic research.
Innovation and Employment in European Firms: Microeconometric Evidence

IEEF

Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-00047
Research Project
EC contribution: 399 679 EURO
Starting date: 1 July 2001
Duration: 36 months
EC Scientific Officer: Nikolaos Kastrinos

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Innovation and Employment in European Firms: Microeconometric Evidence

IEEF

Objectives:

This research project is aimed at the exploration of the impact of innovation on employment at the firm level, using microeconometric techniques. The project will produce empirical evidence on the working of innovation at this level by improving and specialising traditional tools of analysis and by developing new perspectives. The first specific objective is the modelling of the effects which go from the R&D decisions and investments to innovation as the outcome of these investments, and from innovation to productivity. The second specific objective is the development of empirical evidence of the impact of innovation on demand and shares. The third specific objective is the modelling of the costs and price effects of innovation, assessing the impact of the behaviour of the firms' agents on the effects of innovation.

Brief description of the project:

The research will link, firstly, R&D to productivity, using microdata on the propensity to innovate and on the firms' amount of innovation, and then measuring the impact of innovation in a production function (or similar) equation. This study will remove the simultaneity and selectivity biases by controlling for non-R&D-performers and non-innovators and by estimating a semi-structural model allowing for simultaneity. The second line of work will evaluate the relationships between innovation and firms' demand and market shares. One form will be the estimation of generalised Tobit models using microdata on innovative sales coming from the innovation surveys of various countries. Another form will be estimation of reduced forms linking innovation and employment and sales growth (and employment turnover). Finally, we will use a product differentiation modelling of the market, applied with specially detailed data, to obtain some assessment of the "business stealing" and "market enlargement" effects of innovation. The third line of work will consist of the estimation of the effect of innovation on wages and prices and, where enough data are available, a model aimed at the assessment of the innovation effects operating at the firm level with the help of four equations: a production function, a demand relationship, a wage equation and a price-cost margin equation.

Expected Results:

The collected evidence is expected to have the following implications. Firstly, it would improve the understanding of the degree and the process by which innovation contributes to creating employment in established firms. Compensation effects of innovations could be identified and quantified, and the role played by the behaviour of agents with respect to the realisation of the effects of innovation clarified. Secondly, results will bring some first results on the effects of innovation at the industry level. The empirical work focussed on the firm effects is likely to pick-up some of these effects through the specification of the industry environment and its changes. In addition, some of the planned empirical exercises will look directly at the changes affecting the firms by industries. Thirdly, all this can give some indicators useful for thinking of policies at the macro level: the type of firms and firm activities that are most likely to create stable employment, the industries and industry-competitive conditions that are most likely to bring the positive effects of innovations, and the traits of the great structural activity changes that are taking place in European economies. Finally, the use of firm level data sets from several European countries, such as those included in the consortium, has particular advantages.
Employment Prospects in the Knowledge Economy

**EPKE**

**Contract N°**: HPSE-CT-2001-00055

**Research Project**

- **EC contribution**: 769501 EURO
- **Starting date**: 1 September 2001
- **Duration**: 36 months

**EC Scientific Officer**: Nikolaos Kastrinos

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Employment Prospects in the Knowledge Economy

EPKE

Objectives:

The primary objective of this research proposal is to improve understanding of employment generation in Europe in the context of advances in new information technology and to ascertain if these innovations represent a fundamental change in the way the economy operates. The research will be fundamentally concerned with the type of employment created, looking at the skill mix of new jobs and the question of the extent to which the use of new technologies are complementary with skilled labour. Additionally it will consider whether the institutional environment in Europe, in particular product and labour market regulations, hampers the move towards fully embracing the knowledge economy and dampens the employment generating prospects.

Brief description of the project:

The project will begin with a review of existing research in this area followed by a detailed examination of data sources on new economy variables, combining these into new economy indicators at the industry level and will encompass. Using cluster analysis techniques these indicators will be combined into industry-wide measures which provide the primary input into an initial overview of employment prospects in Europe in the context of the knowledge economy. These three components from phase 1 of the project and will be completed in month 18.

The first component of phase two will consider in more detail the demand for skilled labour at the industry level. The project will then consider the contribution of knowledge activities to economic growth and to the impact of the regulatory and institutional environment on the use of new technology. Finally the project will consider evidence from company accounts databases rather than the industry data employed up to this point. This will provide additional information on the ‘between firms’ dimension of the knowledge economy, more detailed information on the mechanisms through which the knowledge economy impacts on organisations at the micro level and evidence on the extent of spillovers from knowledge generating activities. Phase 2 will run from month 19 to month 36.

Expected Results:

The project will provide information on the critical linkages and interdependencies between technology changes, employment and societal change. It will provide a comprehensive study of how the knowledge economy impacts on European employment prospects and will point to areas where Europe is deficient in reaping the full benefits from the new technology. It will yield a better understanding of the skill needs of our changing society and will identify the organisational and institutional barriers that inhibit the full exploitation of new technologies to raise employment and increase skill levels. The project will also generate a new database involving internationally comparable indicators of the new economy.
Sustainable Growth, Employment Creation and Technological Integration in the European Knowledge-Based Economies

SETI

Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-00057

Research Project

EC contribution: 689605 EURO
Starting date: 1 October 2001
Duration: 30 months

EC Scientific Officer: Nikolaos Kastrinos

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Sustainable Growth, Employment Creation and Technological Integration in the European Knowledge-Based Economies

SETI

Objectives:

The aim of this project is to investigate the impact of technological globalisation and the rise of business services on national patterns of specialisation and their impact on growth and employment in Europe. The project will also give particular attention to the development and diffusion of ICT and the process of technological integration in Europe. Here the objective will be the assessment of the response of different knowledge based economies to these new trends.

Brief description of the project:

In this project we adopt a larger perspective focusing on the impact of technological change, globalisation and tertiarisation on the dynamics of the labour market. In particular we aim at investigating the interplay between the rise of ICT, the specialization patterns and the rise of business services in promoting the technological integration of the EU economy and in affecting the demand for skilled and unskilled workers, and the response of different systems of production and organisation to these new trends.

The European Union has launched a new action to establish a strong knowledge based economy as a way to improve competitiveness and employment. An assessment of the relationship between innovation and job creation is therefore appropriate as a base for policy implementation. In order to address these issues we will set-up a framework growth model where the effects of specialisation, and innovation on growth and employment can be formally analysed and empirically tested. The quantitative analysis will be complementary to a qualitative analysis. This will include: the role of internationalisation strategies as a source of innovation diffusion and change in specialisation structures, the role of services in shaping structural transformations and the role of regional integration in technology diffusion, growth performance, and employment. Both the structural model and the qualitative analyses will be used to carry out policy simulations at both national and EU level also taking into account the new initiatives taken at the EU level towards the setting up of a knowledge based economy.

Expected results:

The following steps and results are foreseen: i) the role of services in shaping internationalisation strategies and in leading to structural transformations; ii) empirical analysis of the relationship between specialisation, technological transformation and growth in major EU countries; iii) the role of integration on technology diffusion, growth performance and employment; iv) policy implications and simulations at both national and EU level taking into account the new initiatives taken at the EU level towards the setting up of a knowledge based economy.
Risk Capital and the Financing of European Innovative Firms

RICAFE

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-00140
Research Project
EC contribution: 544738 €
Starting date: 1 November 2002
Duration: 30 months
EC Scientific Officer: Nikolaos Kastrinos

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Risk Capital and the Financing of European Innovative Firms

RICAFE

Objectives:

This project aims at developing a comprehensive report on how the availability of risk capital for innovation contributes to the innovativeness of European firms and to sustained economic growth. We draw our inspiration from the 'Risk Capital: A key to job creation in the European Union' Communication (1998), the Green Paper on Innovation (1994), and the Lisbon’s European Council (March 2000) declaration. We will provide an in-depth empirical and conceptual assessment of the working of the markets for risk capital in Europe which may provide an informed and well-grounded blueprint for the ongoing implementation of effective policies for the creation of innovative, high growth entrepreneurial companies and therefore to increase EU-wide innovative capacity.

Description of the work:

The project can be divided into three main tasks:

1) Analyze in detail the ability of the European financial systems to channel risk capital for innovation to entrepreneurial firms. This entails assessing the structure of the financing of European innovative firms, the determinants of the supply of funds for risk capital across the European countries - especially through venture capital -, the effects of the rapidly changing regulations and structure of European institutional investors and equity markets, and assessing the effectiveness of the newly created stock exchange markets for innovative start-ups.

2) Analyze in detail how risk capital influences the ability of innovative firms to translate scientific and technological advances into successful products. Here we will study with particular attention the link between risk capital and innovation. Thus we will analyze how finance contributes to the innovation strategy of entrepreneurial start-ups, which are the types of firms which most successfully contribute to the generation of knowledge-based innovations. We will then relate our findings to the role of public incentives for venture capital, and to their effectiveness in spurring innovative start-ups. Finally, we will analyze how the contracting characteristics of venture capital affect firms’ ability to protect their intellectual property rights, and therefore their propensity to engage in innovation. This will enable us to understand how the ongoing structural changes in financing and innovation patterns are contributing to the dynamics of technological knowledge across EU regions, and thus to Europe’s innovative capacity in the ‘knowledge based society’, which ultimately determines Europe’s long-run growth potential.

3) Discuss policy implications and suggest new policies, based on the above studies.

Expected results:

We will hold four workshops, where working papers will be presented. We will produce a special report for each of the three themes/objectives of the project, and a final report with the ensuing policy conclusions. These will provide the European Commission with an implementable policy tool (a blueprint) for enhancing employment creation by European innovative high-growth firms. We also plan to involve final users (policy makers and industry officials) in the discussion of special reports.
Economic Change: Micro-Foundations of Organisational and Institutional Changes in Europe

EconChange

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-00146

Research Project
EC contribution: 709948 €
Starting date: 1 November 2002
Duration: 36 months

EC Scientific Officer: Nikolaos Kastrinos

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Economic Change: Micro-Foundations of Organisational and Institutional Changes in Europe

EconChange

Objectives:

The main objective is to study the micro-foundations of economic growth that depend on institutional and organizational factors that have changed with the adoption of new information and communication technologies. Specific objectives are: 1) to use data on innovation projects to assess the division of innovative labour and complementarities; 2) to study the software industry in Europe as a prototypical case of technology based entrepreneurship; 3) to use firm creation and geographical data to assess the main patterns and effects of the adoption of new information technologies on the location of new firms; 4) to use data about financial markets to analyse the role of new financial markets, 5) to study the changing role of intellectual property rights and standards and 6) to discuss the design of appropriate regulatory and political institutions and frameworks.

Description of the work:

The research is organized in eight workpackages with specific tasks:
1) Analysis of the state of the art, discussion of the different approaches that will be used to assess the economic changes implied by new information and communication technologies.
2) The changing organisation of the innovation process. The pharmaceutical industry and other selected industries are used to analyse the division of labour and the existence of complementarities between innovation strategies.
3) Entrepreneurship, clustering and Silicon Valley models. Patterns of entrepreneurship in the software industry for Germany and the UK, as well as underdeveloped regions of Europe and elsewhere.
4) Agglomeration and productivity. Analysis of the patterns of location, agglomeration and productivity changes brought by the adoption of new technologies.
5) Financial institutions. The new European technological stock markets will be analysed, as well as the nature of corporate venturing and sponsored spin-offs.
6) Intellectual property rights and standards. Different features of the institution of intellectual property rights and standards are studied, using both theoretical modelling and empirical analysis.
7) Regulation, de-regulation and political institutions. An analysis is proposed on the changing regulatory environment in the telecommunication and banking industry. Using the European Union as the reference case, coordination, cooperation and agency problems will be analyzed.
8) Integration and single point of view. An effort will be dedicated to draw a single vision of the different approaches used in this project.
At each theme, implications are drawn for European policy.

Expected results:

1st Workshop (2nd Month), outlines of all themes will be discussed and unifying points of view will be drawn when possible;
2nd Workshop (12th Month), work in progress and database construction will be discussed, first contact with users;
3rd Workshop (24th Month), draft working papers, and final feedback from users;
4th Final Conference (36th Month) will discuss final report.
Other expected results: new data sets, non-technical reports with policy recommendations and academic papers.
Changes in Industrial Competitiveness as a Factor of Integration: Identifying Challenges of the Enlarged Single European Market

Competitiveness

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-00148

Research Project

EC contribution: 899952 €
Starting date: 1 January 2003
Duration: 36 months

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Changes in Industrial Competitiveness as a Factor of Integration: Identifying Challenges of the Enlarged Single European Market

Competitiveness

Objectives:

The principal aim of the project is to evaluate the progress of firms in the candidate countries in developing their ability to compete with firms in the EU and the rest of the world economy, to illustrate the differences existing among them in this respect, and to identify the related challenges facing the Single Market and EU policy makers. Further goals of the project include: (1) analysis of how the unevenness in changes in competitiveness across industries affects changes in the industrial structure (specialisation) of the candidate countries, (2) analysis of new problems, especially those of a social nature resulting from changes in the labour market and creating new challenges for the Single Market and EU policy, and (3) analysis of the role of salient factors and relevant actors in the process of changing the competitiveness of the candidate countries’ industries.

Description of the work:

The operational objectives (workpackages) will consist of: (1) Examining changes in the competitiveness of different branches of manufacturing in the economies of the three candidate countries that have been exposed the longest to competition from the EU and that have undergone the deepest reforms, and identifying industries which have improved their competitiveness, and those whose competitiveness has deteriorated; (2) evaluating the impact of the candidate countries’ national policies on competitiveness; (3) examining the impact of the above changes on the structure of manufacturing within each of the three candidate countries; (4) assessing the effects of changes in competitiveness on the labour markets of the candidate countries and of the EU, including identification of labour-shedding and labour-absorbing industries (labour demand) and analysis of the competitiveness of the labour force (labour supply); (5) identifying export specialisations of the candidate countries emerging as a result of the process of change in competitiveness; (6) identifying the actors (both foreign and domestic) responsible for the developments in competitiveness, identifying and describing those actors’ strategies, the factors shaping their strategies, and the roles those actors play in the process of changing competitiveness; (7) examining the relationship among structural changes in manufacturing identified in other workpackages and the trade patterns and economic growth of candidate countries and some member countries, and (8) identifying changes that should be made in various policies of the EU, the member countries and the candidate countries, insofar as they affect competitiveness.

Expected results:

In each of eight workpackages, two publications will be produced, and the project will close with one publication encompassing the results of the entire project, assessing changes in the competitiveness of the candidate countries, showing how changes in competitiveness affect the candidate countries’ development paths and what conflicts they create. Moreover, the project will enhance the basis for cooperation in the European Research Area by improving the research infrastructure.
Competitive Pressure and its Social Consequences in EU Member States and in Associated Countries

**COMPPRESS**

**Contract n°:** HPSE-CT-2002-00149

**Research Project**
- **EC contribution:** 513124 €
- **Starting date:** 1 November 2002
- **Duration:** 36 months

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Competitive Pressure and its Social Consequences in EU Member States and in Associated Countries
COMPPRESS

Objectives:

Competitive pressure plays a multifaceted role in the European economy. It is a pre-requisite for the efficiency of resource allocation and directly affects the well being of individuals, thus challenges the existing social models in Europe.

The main objective of this project proposal is to identify and analyse various economic and social dimensions of competitive pressure arising from the widening and deepening of European economic integration and to draw policy conclusions.

First, the project will aim at understanding the effect of competitive pressure on the performance of corporate sector in catching-up EU member states and in some associated countries. Second, the project will search for clues about the interrelation and interaction between policies and institutions. Third, the project will look for new insights about the social consequences of competitive pressure, its effect on income distribution and social inequality as well as on the public perception of competitive pressure.

Description of the work:

The project involves research teams from Western Europe (France and United Kingdom) and from associated countries (Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania and Slovenia). The research is organised around five areas:

- Economic integration and competitive pressure, emergence of different models in catching-up countries. This would analyse the evolution of the market structure in the corporate sector and the major factors which affect it.
- Cross-border capital movement and competition. This will investigate motivation of FDI, the role of FDI in import penetration, in technology spill-over and its backward and forward linkages.
- Labour market development during catching-up. This will study employment and unemployment, the technology development and the capital-labour substitution in relation with skill supply and demand.
- Income distribution, income and social policy consequences in relation with growing competitive pressure. This will provide an empirical investigation of income distribution, the role of unofficial activities, and the social safety net. Public perception of competitive pressure, and its effect on the evolution of attitudes and norms. This will incorporate the perception of income inequality, and of successful individual and corporate career.
- Development of multidisciplinary approach integrating descriptive model of competitive pressure and social values which would allow to analyze and test various sets of policies and to assess their expected outcomes. This approach will be the testing ground for generating the main policy conclusions and recommendations from the project.

Expected results:

The project will improve our understanding how competitive pressure affects different economic and social groups of a country in the process of catching-up and integration. Accession countries need to face competition in the corporate sector with all the supporting devices and to ensure wide range social protection. Our deeper knowledge will facilitate the assessment of policy-making in accession countries and to draw attention to critical policy issues.
Evolving Governance Structure of the Firm in a Knowledge-Based Economy

E-GOST

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-50026

Thematic Network

EC contribution: 103800 €
Starting date: 1 December 2002
Duration: 24 months

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Evolving Governance Structure of the Firm in a Knowledge-Based Economy

E-GOST

Objectives:

The central objective of this thematic network is to improve the understanding of the nature, role and functioning of the governance structure of firms, and their evolution. This understanding has to be seen in the very specific context of a knowledge based economy. Our aim is to bring together researchers working on different aspects of the firm governance and organisation, and using different tools in order to promote synergies and cross-fertilisation between these different approaches. There are several different traditions of research on the firm organisation and the goal of this thematic network is:
- to generate communication and information flows among them;
- to produce a common and shared knowledge on the evolving governance structures of the firm in contemporary economies.
- to comfort European lead in the field and give it visibility.
- to promote the knowledge acquired and apply it in the policy area.

Description of the work:

The network will associate three partner institutions who will work with outside specialists of the field in order to identify the most qualified contributors to the three proposed workshops, namely:
- "Incentives and Co-ordination in a Knowledge-based Firm".
- "Building Competencies and the Role of Communities"
- "Entrepreneurs, Managers and Stockholders: the Design of relevant Strategies in a Knowledge based Economy".

Each partner will be responsible for the organisation of one of the workshops, with the help of a group of outside experts who have already confirmed their readiness to contribute and advise.

The work plan is designed to allow for collaboration, interaction and exchange. The necessity of constructing such a thematic network at the European level emerges from:
- the need for mapping European competencies in the field
- the accumulation (i.e. the relative maturity) of research using different traditions and disciplines over the last decade or so
- the existence of a virtual collective competence in the field in Europe, which needs to be co-ordinated, and which deserves better visibility
- the need of diffusion of these results from the management and consultant to the policy area.
- the development of raw material for future teaching purposes.

Expected results:

The main expected result is to come up with publications which could be condensed into some kind of reader to be used in various institutions for teaching post-graduate and doctoral students. Furthermore the network should increase the understanding by policy makers and firms of the necessity to align public incentives with private ones in terms of knowledge creation.
Facilitating Regional Learning Processes in a Competitive Environment: Regional Socio-
Economic and Cultural Development in three Accession Countries and three
Member States

RENCOM

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-50030

Thematic Network

EC contribution: 206280 €
Starting date: 1 November 2002
Duration: 24 months

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Facilitating Regional Learning Processes in a Competitive Environment: Regional Socio-Economic and Cultural Development in three Accession Countries and three Member States

RENCOM

Objectives:

(1) To explore the parameters of an effective non-hierarchical multi-level regional learning dynamic which is encompassing in two senses: fostering "support-led" regional growth and contributing to the accession dossiers of the enlargement candidates;
(2) To contribute to the European "structural indicators" discussion as a tool for the European integration process and to highlight its importance in stimulating regional development;
(3) To create a European network on regional systems of socio-economic innovation;
(4) To assure the sustainability of the networking efforts through an interactive website that continues to be operational after the duration of the project.

Description of the work:

In this two-year thematic network project five cumulative Workpackages will be distinguished. In each of the WPs the workload for each of the partners is clearly defined in terms of complementarity and comparability.

WP1 (Month 1-6) will compile the regional structural indicators in two specified regions in each of the six partner countries (three accession countries, three member states). One region will be a dominantly heavy industry based region in a process of transformation or diversification, the second region will be a greenfield service oriented region.

In WP2 (Month 5-12) a framework for effective regional networking within a "facilitating information technology" environment will be designed.

On the basis of WP1 and WP2, and additional data, a SWOT analysis of regional performance and regional learning capacity will be performed in WP3 (Month 9-15).

WP4 (Month 12-18) attempts to map the potentialities of learning networking of the social actors. The activities of WP3 will identify good practices and propose innovative actions to support the dissemination of good practices among social actors.

WP5 (Month 17-24) is devoted to the creation of an interactive website integrating the findings of the previous networking activities in order to create a European learning region discussion platform.

During the two years, three All Partner Workshops will be organised. The project will end with a conference. The co-ordinator will organise and maintain a general accessible project website. Throughout the project other dissemination activities are foreseen.

Expected results:

(1) Contribute to the "structural indicators" benchmarking methodology, leading to dedicated "regional structural indicators".
(2) Create a sustainable open thematic network and electronic discussion platform for the research community and social actors to study and implement regional innovation models.
The Impact of European Integration and Enlargement on Regional Structural Change and Cohesion

EURECO

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-00118
Research Project
EC contribution: 800000 €
Starting date: 1 November 2002
Duration: 36 months

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The Impact of European Integration and Enlargement on Regional Structural Change and Cohesion

EURECO

Objectives:

The overall scientific objective of this project is to identify and explain in a cross-country analysis the impact of European integration and enlargement on regional structural change and cohesion. Our research aims at the following detailed objectives:

a) providing empirical evidence from current EU Member States in a comparative and historical perspective on the effects of economic integration on regional structural change and cohesion;

b) providing empirical evidence from the accession countries about the impact of economic integration with the EU on regional structural change and cohesion in these countries;

c) providing empirical evidence about the role of foreign direct investment in fostering agglomeration of economic activities and regional structural change;

d) deriving in a coherent framework policy implications of predicted spatial economic changes of the EU enlargement for the regional policy at the European, national and regional levels.

Description of the work:

The objectives outlined above will be pursued in five co-ordinated and complementary workpackages. In workpackage 1, the research team will develop a comprehensive theoretical and methodological framework for the research. Relevant existing literature will be reviewed and discussed as well as characteristics of data sets, statistical indicators, hypotheses to be tested and empirical methods to be used. Workpackage 2 will identify and explain structural changes of the inter-regional division of labour in the process of European integration, in particular looking at earlier EU enlargements. The relationship between regional specialisation, per capita income and growth will be investigated. These results will be used as a basis for predictions about the economic and social cohesion in an enlarged Union. Workpackage 3 will investigate the impact of EU accession on regional structural change and cohesion in accession countries over the last decade. In particular, the research team will identify and explain the relationship between specialisation at regional level, geographical concentration of industrial activity and regional per capita income. This historical perspective will be complemented with a forward-looking perspective with which we will predict the type of winning and losing regions in these countries as a result of their economic integration with the EU. Workpackage 4 will analyse the role of foreign direct investment in relocating industrial activity and fostering agglomeration of economic activity and regional structural change. Based on the empirical findings from the previous workpackages, Workpackage 5 will discuss economic challenges and opportunities that EU enlargement will pose for EU policy in particular, but also national and regional policies.

Expected results:

This project will deliver empirical evidence about the impact of European integration and enlargement on regional structural change and cohesion and predict the characteristics of winning and losing regions in both current EU Member States and accession countries. Our research results will provide a basis for the evaluation of the likely overall distributional implications of EU enlargement and of regional policy at European, national and local levels. Although the focus of this research is on the economics of the European integration, the expected results are of interest to a broader community of social scientists and policy makers from the fields of political science, law, sociology, regional science and economic geography.
European Research on Governance, democracy and citizenship

28 Countries

25.5 Millions €

233 Participants

28 Projects
Theme

Governance, democracy and citizenship
Does Implementation Matter? Informal Administration Practices and Shifting Immigrant Strategies in four Member States

**Contract No:** HPSE-CT-1999-00001  
**EC contribution:** 557200 EURO  
**Starting date:** 1 March 2000  
**Duration:** 36 months

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Does Implementation Matter? Informal Administration Practices and Shifting Immigrant Strategies in four Member States

Objectives:

Immigration policy outcomes differ greatly between EU member-states despite convergence at the decision level. Our aim in this study is to highlight some of the mechanisms involved in policy implementation, which may account for the differential degrees of success in achieving the desired goals. More specifically, this project will seek:
- To assess the impact of the organisational culture of public institutions on the implementation of policy measures.
- To investigate the role played by identity processes in the interaction between public officials and immigrants.
- To assess the similarities and differences among the four member-states under examination with regard to the above two elements.
- To study the ways in which immigrants make sense of the institutional environment of the host country and how they adapt their plans and survival strategies to it.
- To suggest how the findings of the research may be taken into account in policy design and implementation.

Brief description of the project:

The first two months of the project will be dedicated to studying policy documents and existing literature on immigration policy in each of the countries under examination. We shall proceed using the case-study method in order to examine the implementation of a specific policy measure, in each country during the last decade.

The type of organisational culture prevailing in each set of institutions will be identified through the analysis of public officials’ interviews and of data from the researchers’ observations on the agency’s work.

The impact of the organisational culture on implementation will be assessed through a comprehensive analysis of various types of data (press, interviews with NGOs, statistics). The role of identity processes in implementation will be investigated through analysis of the interviews with public officials. Attention will be paid to their reference to images of Otherness or Sameness in relation to their work and interaction with immigrants and also to their perception of their home country as a “country of immigration”.

The ways in which immigrants make sense of the institutional environment of the host country and adapt to it will be studied through in-depth interviews with illegal immigrants. The Polish community will be the target population in all four countries in order to enhance comparability. Interviews will provide the immigrants’ account of their “survival strategies”.

The findings of the national case studies will be analysed comparatively. Similarities and differences will be identified using three comparison dimensions: “old” vs. “new” immigration countries; rational-bureaucratic vs. clientelistic-traditional public administration systems; and ethnic vs. civic nations.

Last but not least, we shall organise workshops with the participation of public officials and NGOs so as to provide for a feedback to the institutions involved in the research and also promote communication and networking between researchers and social actors.

Expected results:

- Reports assessing the impact of organisational cultures and identity processes on immigration policy implementation.
- Reports analysing the immigrants’ survival strategies and their making sense of the host country environment.
- Comparative analysis of the above findings and identification of elements relevant for the EU as a whole.
- Workshops promoting networking between producers and users of research and introducing an interactive model for policy design and implementation.
Border Discourse: Changing Identities, Changing Nations, Changing Stories in European Border Communities

**Contract No:** HPSE-CT-1999-00003

- **EC contribution:** 1132000 EURO
- **Starting date:** 1 February 2000
- **Duration:** 36 months

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Border Discourse: Changing Identities, Changing Nations, Changing Stories in European Border Communities

Objectives:

- To identify differences and similarities in the historical conditions in politically sensitive border communities on the European Union’s (South-) Eastern borders.
- To identify how people living in times of political changes construct their identities through the ways they narrate themselves and their experiences.
- To identify the nature of potentially conflictual identities which three-generation families construct as a result of social, political and economic upheavals which happened during their lifetime.
- To examine how people relate to different public policies in these communities, regions or nations, where social cohesion and economic prosperity is the aim of cross-border projects.
- To identify and compare key elements within the linguistic and cultural environment of border communities which encourage perceptions of social cohesion or disunity at regional, national and European levels, including areas of public policies and grass-root activities.
- To identify and advise on effective policies for integration and collaboration at transnational, European level with the aim to support best practice for the creation of a tolerant, socially inclusive and economically vibrant Europe.

Brief description of the project:

Our project will extend to a wider European framework the results of a study funded by the British ESRC into German-German and German-Polish communities conducted during 1999/2000. We shall focus on three-generation families in communities which are straddling the eastern and south-eastern boundaries between the EU and some of its ascendant nations, with very different political systems and official allegiances: communities between Germany/Poland; Germany/ Czech Republic, Austria / Hungary, Austria / Slovenia; Italy / Slovenia, and the previous border between East and West-Germany.

Our research aims to compare how these people perceive and discursively construct their identities in relation and possibly in contrast and opposition to the upheavals in the official spheres of politics in the present and the past; how the changes which radically redefined the nation in which our families were living are constructed in the context of the challenges and opportunities provided by the expanding European Union.

Our research will combine an ethnographic study of the communities with original data from oral narratives which will be triggered in semi-structured interviews by photographs symbolically charged for the communities. These photographs will represent socially recognisable events/locations in the changing socio-political realities of the communities, spanning the different historical periods of our families’ life. Our informants will thus be relating to salient images, which not only signify different historical phases in their communities, but are also symbols of the processes of division, unification and co-operation at regional, national and European level. Through discourse analysis of the data, we will gain insights into the construction of identities of people living in border communities. These findings will be embedded within the wider historical socio-political context to highlight those elements of their identities that would further cooperation and social cohesion between such communities at local, national and in particular at the European level.

A key focus will be on identity formations’ responsiveness to policy developments aimed at cross-border and European integration. The project will thus have direct application to the formulation of the policy seeking to further European integration which is sensitive to people’s world views, a policy that aims to prevent eruptions of nationalism and regional resentments.

Expected results:

Insight into the interconnection between people’s identity construction and the policy at national and European level. The identification of differences and similarities in people’s relationships to public policies in communities, regions and nations where social cohesion and economic prosperity are the declared aims of cross-border and European-wide projects. The creation of a comparative data set for European border communities.
Europeanization, Collective Identities, and Public Discourses

Contract No: HPSE-CT-1999-00034

Thematic Network

EC contribution: 190620 EURO
Starting date: 1 March 2000
Duration: 24 months

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Europeanization, Collective Identities, and Public Discourses

Objectives:

This thematic network brings together research institutions focussing on the three tasks “European Integration and European Identity,” “European Construction and Multi-level Governance,” and “Governance and Media.” Our interdisciplinary network IDNET includes political scientists, sociologists, and social psychologists. We investigate the processes by which Europeanization impacts upon and transforms collective identities relating to the nation-state. We analyze the role of the media and public discourses in these processes by which individuals and social groups negotiate and transform their collective identities.

Brief description of the project:

IDNET investigates four sets of questions:
- What is the impact of Europeanization and the emergence of a European polity on the collective identities of social groups in various countries including the gender dimension? To what extent do the emerging European “dis-course” and increasing transnational communication patterns influence established national identities in different countries?
- What are the micro-mechanisms by which collective identities change? Do European integration and the increasing involvement of social groups and actors in European policy-making at the various levels lead to socialization effects on the collective identities of actors? What is the role of learning, arguing, persuasion, and other legitimation attempts in these processes?
- Which role do the media and public discourses play in these processes of identity formation and identity change? Is there an emerging European public sphere, or do public spheres continue to reside in the nation-states?
- How does the Eastern enlargement of the European Union influence the European, national, and social identities, the inter-European perceptions and discourses as well as the political cultures and the legitimacy bases of the European integration project?

While each of the network members carries out its own theoretical and empirical research in these areas, EU funding will be used for the following activities:
- Joint workshops and conferences.
- Extended visits of scholars to other research institutions in the network.
- Participation of graduate students and junior scholars in IDNET activities including students from Central Eastern Europe.
- Outreach activities for policy-makers and practitioners including the development of a database on identity-related research, “policy memos,” and workshops for decision-makers from the various levels and institutions of EU policy-making (e.g., Commission, European Parliament, national governments including Central Eastern Europe).

Expected results:

We see the following expected benefits and milestones from IDNET activities:
- This is the first attempt on the European level to create an inter-disciplinary network on questions of European identity. Given the rather limited state of the theoretical, methodological, and empirical art in the area, we expect a substantial increase in our knowledge base on collective European identity and European public space.
- We collect the available empirical data and theoretical expertise on the changes of collective identities at the various levels of subjective affiliation (including the gender dimension) resulting from Europeanization and make these data and concepts available to policy-makers and the public in general. We will publish regular “policy memos” on various aspects of our research activities within the policy paper series of the European University Institute (EUI). We will systematically include younger researchers, particularly from the Central Eastern European countries, in our activities which also serve educational purposes.
- Our research activities will help improving the efforts at dealing with the diffuse support for and legitimacy of European policies and decisions and, thus, at tackling the “democratic deficit.” IDNET will also help improving data gathering by the European Commission and other Euro-pan and national institutions on identity-related questions, e.g., in the framework of the Euro-barometer polls.
Governance by Committee: The role of committees in European policy-making and in policy implementation

Contract No: HPSE-CT-1999-00019
EC contribution: 303000 EURO
Starting date: 1 March 2000
Duration: 24 months

EC Scientific Officer: Angela Liberatore

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Governance by Committee: The role of committees in European policy-making and in policy implementation

Objectives:

The objective of this project is to provide an analysis how different committees in the EC policy process fulfill their basic functions as providers of expertise and to what extent they constitute a central aspect of the “democratic legitimacy” of the evolving system of European governance. The focus will be put on committees in the legislative process (Standing Committees of the European Parliament; committees and working parties of the Council) and in the implementation phase (comitology committees). The project aims to shed light on the interlinkages between the Community level the Member State level by means of those committees and show how technological expertise is integrated in the course of this process. Another objective is to contribute to the debate on the “democratic deficit” of the Community system.

Brief description of the project:

Our basic research question is to analyse the extent to which the committee system contributes to making the emerging European system of governance trust- worthy and how it increases its problem-solving capability. The project, composed of four distinct subprojects, will attempt to take a comprehensive approach to the question of the democratic legitimacy of the European system of governance.

- Subproject 1:
  The Standing Committees in the European Parliament, where the main aim will be to: document how EP committees incorporate expert advice; assess the impact of external influence such as national political parties; analyse the effectiveness of the control parliamentary committees exercise on other EU institutions and examine their possibilities of control over the implementation process.
- Subproject 2:
  Committees and working parties in Council, which will concentrate on: analysing the decisions taken in these working groups and negotiation style within these fora.
- Subproject 3:
  Policy implementation and comitology committees, which focuses on answering i.a. the following: The possibility of establishing an effective system of control that limits the implementing powers of the Commission and safeguards the perogatives of the legislators, especially those of the European Parliament.
- Subproject 4:
  The committee system, legitimacy, citizen’s perceptions and acceptance of the EU-system of governance, which will be devoted to the analysis of the Committee system from the perspective of the citizens of the European Union.

Expected results:

In addition to regular progress reports, 4 workshops including 1 in Brussels designed to present mid-term findings to members of Commission and other EU-services, a “state of the art report” on the present body of knowledge and a final Colloquium.

Other deliverables:
- Publication of the results in scientific journals, in a book and on the EIPA-website.
- Results will also be presented in Colloquiums and incorporated in seminars organised by EIPA. The development of a teaching kit is also envisaged.
Achieving Sustainable and Innovative Policies through Participatory Governance in a Multi-Level Context

Contract No: HPSE-CT-1999-00028
EC contribution: 650000 EURO
Starting date: 1 February 2000
Duration: 24 months

EC Scientific Officer: Angela Liberatore

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Achieving Sustainable and Innovative Policies through Participatory Governance in a Multi-Level Context

Objectives:

The overall goal of the project is to identify conditions for the realization of sustainable and innovative development which support a shift towards participatory governance. Within the area of political practice which are analyzed empirically, elements of governance will be identified which enable innovative and sustainable policies to flourish, based on the core values of dialogue, negotiation, active citizenship, partnership, subsidiarity and encouragement of institutional capacity. Based on the findings of the empirical analysis, models of feasible forms of participatory governance and conditions for their realization will be developed.

Brief description of the project:

Three main activities will undertaken within the framework of the project:
- The political and academic debate about democratic governance will be analyzed at a conference with leading academics and policy-makers. The function of the conference for the project is twofold: it will systematically identify common understanding as well as different basic assumptions in the debate; and topics shall be identified which seem not to be addressed in thinking along existing conceptual of theoretical pathways. It is a basic assumption of the project, that problems of democracy are not only problems of theoretical reasoning. These problems have actually to be solved by social practices which develop new forms of governance.
- Empirical case studies will be carried out. The empirical approach demands a close detailed search for different mixtures of governance present at the different territorial levels, in different sectors of society and in different countries. The empirical analysis of research project concentrates on comparative case studies (Germany, Greece and the UK). Case No 1 deals with water supply systems in Frankfurt, Athens and London (including the relevant framework set up by the EU and the mentioned member states). Case No 2 is focused on EMAS, the ecological management scheme of the EU. We will analyse the translation of the EU regulation into national administrative structures and the governance practices as well as in enterprises.
- The empirical findings, based on theoretical debates about democracy today, will help to draw up guidelines on how particular combinations of different forms (or mixes) of governance would have to be re-arranged in order to fulfill the requirements of participatory governance.

Expected results:

The main milestones are:
- Two conferences with participants external to the project (and seven meetings of all partners).
- Three interim reports (about water supply systems, EMAS and the concept for participatory governance).
- Four books (about “Perspectives of Democratic Governance”, water supply systems, EMAS and “Achieving Participatory Governance”).

The combination of the synthesis of the debate about democratic governance and the results of the empirical investigation will offer the chance to detect empirically and theoretically the components of models where (participatory) policy making and (sustainable and innovative) social change are addressed in a comprehensive way. This will permit casting new light on what constitutes participatory governance and how national and local conditions could be improved in order to further strengthening participatory governance. This also implies to identify opportunities for EU intervention to promote these conditions so as to influence and promote participatory forms of governance. This can be seen as a contribution to the identification and development of a European model of governance which is – because it is suitable to sustainable and innovative social change - also important for competitiveness and economic growth as well as for social cohesion and a strengthening of the legitimacy of the political order within the European Union. Findings of the project will be transferred to policymaking by the mentioned conference, by workshops in Brussels with EU officials as well as by advisory/observer boards of the national research teams.
Democratic Participation and Political Communication in Systems of Multi-level Governance

Contract No: HPSE-CT-1999-00029

EC contribution: 1235000 EURO
Starting date: 1 March 2000
Duration: 36 months

EC Scientific Officer: Aris Apollonatos

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Democratic Participation and Political Communication in Systems of Multi-level Governance

Objectives:
Electoral abstention is a major challenge to the legitimacy of contemporary multi-level governance. The overall objectives of the project are to analyse the nature and sources of electoral participation and abstention in systems of multi-level governance and to make policy recommendations designed to deal with the factors identified as sources of abstention. The specific scientific objectives are to identify the relative influence on voter turnout of the following four factors:
- Political institutions and political structure.
- Social exclusion.
- Political mobilisation (political campaigning and media communication).
- Voter facilitation.

The policy objectives underlying the project are to produce a set of concrete recommendations addressing the increasingly apparent problems of electoral participation in advanced industrial societies. These recommendations will deal with the process of electoral participation at all levels of governance from the supranational through the national to the sub-national and, in particular, will address the challenge of fostering meaningful citizen participation and enhanced system legitimacy at all levels of Europe’s complex system of multi-level governance.

Brief description of the project:
The project employs three complementary methodologies, each developed and implemented at the leading edge of research in the field in question.

The first prong of the research strategy is survey research. This builds on major research in this area on the 1994 European Parliament elections by Blondel, Sinnott and Svensson. A key feature of this aspect of the project is that the support of the European Parliament and of the European Commission has been secured for the insertion of a set of questions in the Eurobarometer of autumn 1999. This will provide essential data for the project.

The second prong of the strategy is aggregate-data analysis. This is a necessary complement to survey based approaches. It poses difficult methodological challenges but two of the partners (Achen and Thomsen) have been in the forefront of recent advances in tackling these challenges and the methodological breakthroughs that have been made in the area of ecological inference will be systematically developed and applied in the course of the project. The aggregate data aspect will also involve extensive cartographical analysis and the application of GIS (Geographical Information Systems) techniques to the analysis of the facilitation of voting.

The third prong of the research strategy focuses on the role of the media as it affects communication between political actors and the citizens, in particular in the context of efforts by the former to mobilise the latter for political participation. The media component of the project will analyse both media use and media content and will lead to the generation of data files at both the individual and aggregate levels that can be used to integrate the study of media and contextual effects into the multivariate analysis of the determinants of participation. Throughout the project, the work will be systematically comparative. The comparative range of the survey and media components of the project extends across all fifteen member states of the European Union. The aggregate data component focuses on six member states of the EU (Denmark, France, Germany, Great Britain, Ireland and Spain) and three states in the United States (California, Michigan and Texas).

Expected results:
The project milestones will be marked by a series of plenary meetings that will focus on the key tasks of theoretical and methodological development, aggregate, individual and contextual data preparation country-specific and comparative analysis and preparation of final reports. The main expected results are a major improvement in our understanding of the problem of abstention and a set of practical recommendations for dealing with it. It is anticipated that the project will also lead to significant methodological advances and will produce a substantial archive and model archival methods that will enhance future research efforts.
On the threshold to urban panopticon? Analysing the employment of closed-circuit television (CCTV) in European cities and assessing its social and political impacts

URBANEYE

Contract No.: HPSE-CT-2001-00094
Research Project
EC contribution: 899966 EURO
Starting date: 1 September 2001
Duration: 34 months

EC Scientific Officer: Fadila Boughanemi

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Theme: Governance, democracy and citizenship
On the threshold to urban panopticon? Analysing the employment of closed-circuit television (CCTV) in European cities and assessing its social and political impacts

URBANEYE

Objectives:

Since more than ten years a rapid proliferation of video surveillance (closed-circuit television - CCTV) in many European cities can be observed. Given the rise of this new technology of social control the objective of the URBANEYE project is to analyse the employment of CCTV in public accessible space. Moreover, the project aims to assess its social and political impacts in order to outline strategies for its regulation.

Brief description of the project:

The project studies the legal framework and the current debate in seven European countries: Austria, Denmark, Germany, Hungary, Norway, Spain and the United Kingdom. In each capital of these countries it maps locations of CCTV and identifies actors and their intentions. Furthermore, it scrutinises the technical structures and management practices of selected systems in six capitals: Berlin, Budapest, Copenhagen, London, Oslo and Vienna. This approach enables the project to analyse social effects in terms of changes in criminal and everyday behaviour. Moreover, the project organises the assessment of the impacts on law enforcement, civil rights and the character of public space by assembling relevant experts in a workshop. Finally, it outlines strategies for the regulation of CCTV with the help of external experts in order to provide the means for policy actors, law enforcement agencies and suppliers to implement both an efficient yet suitable employment, an accountable management and an effective control.

Expected results:

Apart from its objective to advice politics the project will provide a general overview of CCTV in Europe. It shall improve the state of the art by analysing video surveillance in a comparative and interdisciplinary perspective and delivering methods for further research and evaluations. Thus, it hopes to contribute to theories of social control and the transformation of statehood by helping to understand the changing patterns of authority in the age of globalisation.
Representations of Europe and the nation in current and prospective member-states: media, élites and civil society

EURONAT

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<td>EC Scientific Officer:</td>
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Representations of Europe and the nation in current and prospective member-states:
media, élites and civil society

EURONAT

Objectives:

(1) to revise and increase existing knowledge on representations of the nation, Europe and the
European Union in current member states (A, D, EL, I, E, UK) and associated countries (CZ, HU,
PL)
(2) to study the extent to which national loyalty and identification with Europe and/or the EU are
mutually exclusive or compatible and intertwined with one another and to address understandings
of the nation and the EU in relation to citizenship
(3) to highlight similarities and differences between the media, the elite and lay people
understandings and representations of the EU and the nation and study the role of the media and
the elites in creating a discursive universe
(4) to analyse comparatively findings from the different countries concerning the above three and
study similarities and differences among countries along the East-West and North-South axes
(5) to inform media policies on the European integration and Eastern enlargement

Brief description of the project:

- Drafting of state of the art reports
- Drafting of individual country reports concerning the historical development of national identity and
achievement of political independence as well as relations with Europe and the EU
- Collection of party leadership speeches. Content and qualitative discourse analysis of these.
- Survey research on lay people representations of their nation, Europe and the EU. Factor analysis of
survey data.
- Creation of a European database on representations and understandings of the nation and the EU.
- Conduction of qualitative interviews with lay people. Interview scheme built on the basis of the results
of the factor analysis. Transcription and qualitative discourse analysis of the interviews.
- Integrative analysis of the press, elite and lay people studies against the specific historical
sociological background of each country. Drafting of country reports.
- Systematic comparative analysis of the country reports with particular reference to the North-South-
East dimension
- Drafting of policy memos and organisation of workshops with media professionals both locally and in
Brussels. Dissemination of the project results through the workshops and in print or electronic format.
Creation of an e-mailing list and network connections between researchers and media and policy
people.
- Drafting of the final report.

Expected results:

(1) Assessment of commonality and difference in media, elite and lay people representations of the
nation, Europe and the EU in 9 countries
(2) A better understanding of the cultural and identity aspects involved in European unification and
Eastern enlargement
(3) Policy proposals for media strategies that promote citizen understanding of European integration
(4) Dissemination of findings to the media and policy community. Networking between researchers
and media professionals
EU Governance by self co-ordination? Towards a collective "gouvernement économique".

GOVECOR

Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-00045

Research Project
EC contribution: 599715 EURO
Starting date: 1 September 2001
Duration: 30 months

EC Scientific Officer: Angela Liberatore

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EU Governance by self co-ordination? Towards a collective "gouvernement économique".

GOVECOR

Objectives:

The project GOVECOR explores the use of two legal provisions – the EC Treaty Title on Employment policy (articles 125 to 130 ECT) and the articles on Fiscal policy (article 104 ECT) including the Stability and Growth Pact. Taking legal empowerments of the European Union as independent variables, the project therefore analyses (as antecedent variable), the relevant ideas, interests and preferences among the actors concerned leading to the creation of rules (as intervening variables), the effective use of the provisions on the European and the national levels of European multi-level governance, the interaction between governmental and supranational actors as well as the interaction of the latter two with intermediary groups, and the impact of public deliberations, and (as depending variable), how far these provisions engender new forms of deliberative democracy, and lead towards new forms of governance by collective self co-ordination.

Brief description of the project:

The project’s major research puzzle is: How do governmental and non-governmental actors understand, use and adapt the new and/or amended legal empowerments which provide means for interaction, deliberation, problem-solving and decision-making by institutional and intermediary actors and public discourses on vital fields of European public policy, and in how far do these processes contribute to new kinds of legitimacy building in the Union and its citizenry? The major thesis to test is: The legal provisions on the two policy fields will lead to the creation, evolution and perhaps the transformation of new modes of governance leading to some kind of a collective 'gouvernement économique' within the realm of the European Union.

The research Consortium aims at identifying new forms of governance by some kind of a collective ‘gouvernement économique’ in the making. The project is therefore
- Just right to contribute to a better understanding of the deliberation, problem-solving and decision-making processes in the European Union and the unique multi-level construction of an evolving European system of governance by self co-ordination for the actors and the European citizenry,
- to make the interlinking of the Member State levels and the EC/EU level through the various types of procedures and the involved inter-institutional links and networks more transparent,
- to show how and to explain why different kinds of fused or fragmented procedures improve the processes of multi-level and multi-actor governance,
- to provide the current conflicts and debates between the EC/EU institutions as well as between the Member States concerning their roles, functions and strategic positions within the evolving Union with academically founded suggestions,
- to develop an operational differentiation between separate kinds of policy instruments, institutions and actors as incentives and constraints for actors,
- to make the debate on new forms of European governance more objective and to help the institutions of the Union to find adequate tools for the upcoming debate about the design of the Union in the 21st century.

Expected Results:

The project addresses three major target groups: those involved in the two policy areas under consideration, the scientific and intellectual community interested in the development of European integration, and the European Union’s citizens who are affected by the policy outcomes, debates and discourses in the policy fields. The project and its results will be linked to both the debate on the European Commission’s White paper on Governance in the EU and the open dialogue on the future of the Union as launched by the IGC of Nice under the heading of the post-Nice-process. The project team expects to reach between 1.000 – 300.000 people via workshops, conferences as well as printed and virtual documentation.
The Transformation of Political Mobilisation and Communication in European Public Spheres

Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-00046
Research Project
EC contribution: 999733 EURO
Starting date: 1 September 2001
Duration: 36 months

EC Scientific Officer: Angela Liberatore

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The Transformation of Political Mobilisation and Communication in European Public Spheres

EUROPUB.COM

Objectives:

The primary objective is to advance scientific and practical knowledge by providing the first comprehensive, empirically grounded study on the Europeanisation of public spheres, particularly the role of collective mobilisation and the media in the EU policy process. Descriptive aim: to fill knowledge gaps and map emergent tendencies toward a Europeanisation of public spheres. Explanatory: to advance theory and knowledge, combining insights on collective mobilisation and media agenda setting. Prospective: to gauge future developments of public spheres in Europe and how they affect the EU. Prescriptive: to feed back strategic policy recommendations for improving the quality of a European public sphere as a source of accountability and legitimacy and a forum for active European citizenship.

Brief description of the project:

Our leading theoretical idea is that degrees and forms of Europeanisation of public spheres depend on the nature of multi-level governance, on the one hand, and media agenda setting, on the other. This leads to a design with three comparative dimensions. Cross-nationally, it includes Germany, France, the United Kingdom, Italy, Spain, the Netherlands and Switzerland, as well as the EU level. Because of the recent acceleration of EU integration, our main temporal focus is on the most recent period (1999-2002) but we include selected earlier years to capture long-term trends. Since we expect Europeanisation to vary among institutional settings, we compare six policy domains with different mixes of multi-level governance. Along these three dimensions, we combine multiple data types, organised in six data workpackages. First, we analyse multi-level political opportunity structures (WP1). We then conduct an analysis of news media coverage, focusing on political claims by collective actors (ranging from government officials to NGO’s) through public statements or collective mobilisation (WP2). We complement this by an analysis of newspaper editorials to capture the voice of the media (WP3). We then study the internet as a new arena for transnational political communication, analysing sites relating to the EU and its policies, and network links among them (WP4). The results of these four WP’s will be linked to a series of expert interviews, which will provide additional information on collective actors’ communication and mobilisation strategies, and feedback from practitioners on the interpretation of findings. We will interview representatives of the most important collective actors in the areas of study (WP5), as well as actors involved in the news production process (WP6). The variety of the data allows the employment of a wide range of methods, both qualitative and quantitative.

Expected results:

The scientific results will be reported in a working paper series, a series of comparative articles for refereed journals and at least 3 books. The first book will be based on an Expert Conference involving academics and practitioners. Dissemination will be enhanced through workshops with our Board of Advisors, as well as the Final Presentation and accompanying Executive Summary Report, which aim primarily at our user groups of policy-makers, collective actors and media professionals.
Participation and the Dynamics of Social Positioning - The Case of Biotechnology.
Images of Self and Others in Decision-Making Procedures

PARADYS

Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-00050
Research Project
EC contribution: 1248474 EURO
Starting date: 1 June 2001
Duration: 36 months

EC Scientific Officer: Angela Liberatore

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Participation and the Dynamics of Social Positioning - The Case of Biotechnology.
Images of Self and Others in Decision-Making Procedures

PARADYS

Objectives:

The project is to contribute to the analysis and evaluation of European governance practices. Its focus is on administrative procedures and the regulation of citizen participation in decision making processes. Following this general objective, empirical evidence shall be provided towards a theory of communicated citizenship.

According to this theory citizenship is considered as an empirically provable outcome of governance practices, which can be analysed in terms of the dynamics of social positioning taking place between the participants in the course of the administrative procedure. Following these lines, we will investigate how citizenship is constituted, reproduced and modified within the very process of communication taking place under different legal conditions providing for different modes of citizen participation.

We will collect empirical data documenting the wide-spread variety of different legal regulations for citizen participation that comes into view from a European perspective. The methodology for analyzing these data will be conversation analysis, which is well proven for the study of social positioning but has not yet been systematically applied to governance analysis in this field of socio-legal and political science. The project is meant to take a first step towards this interdisciplinary direction.

Brief description of the project:

The field to follow up the objectives outlined above in an exemplary way is modern biotechnology as one of the most prominent social areas in which demands for citizen participation have recently come to be heard. More precisely, we will focus on the legal regulation of deliberate release of genetically modified crops.

The project includes seven European countries (six EU member countries - Germany, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Sweden, UK - and one applicant country: Hungary) in order to cover the differences in the regulation technicalities and different contexts of national debates on biotechnology. According to the interdisciplinary orientation of the project, there will be two research units in each country: a sociological unit concerned with the procedure’s social, especially political and socio-legal context, and a linguistic unit concerned with data collection and empirical analysis. Subsequent to a first exploration of the field, the cases of permitting procedures to be studied in each of the participating countries will be defined, empirically documented and sociolinguistically analysed. This will prepare the comparison and integration of the country-specific results and the interpretation of findings in the light of a theory of communicated citizenship. The central question will be: In which way does the established form of procedure influence the achievement of citizenship as a process of social positioning?

Included in the work plan is a dissemination process which is to be realized as a continuing feedback between observers and participants drawing upon participatory discourse on the one hand and new approaches to data-based promotion of communication skills on the other hand.

Expected results:

A corpus of European data from procedures for citizen participation will be established. Empirically based knowledge will be gained about the European field of actually realized participation in decision-making processes and the relationship between participation procedure and communicated citizenship. On this empirical basis, criteria for the assessment of participation procedures can be developed, and proposals for the improvement of procedures on the national level and for participation policies and the administrative regulation on the European level will be worked out.
Churches and European Integration

CEI

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<td>Duration: 36 months</td>
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Churches and European Integration

CEI

Objectives:

The project studies the churches influence on European integration in the recent past and today. It produces new historical research information which would have a constructive impact on the attitudes of today’s Europeans particularly researchers, teachers, representatives of churches, and political decision makers. The project intends to bring to an end the still continuing Cold War atmosphere within church history research and in churches. In order to succeed in this task, western and eastern concepts of communism and the commitment of church representatives to their own state systems need to be studied. The project also seeks to provide the churches with the prerequisites for returning to an active role in the building of a common Europe. The pioneering work of churches for European integration and its contents are not sufficiently known.

Brief description of the project:

The project is carried out by researchers representing the fields of contemporary church history, history and systematic theology in five European universities. The questions of the churches contemporary role in European integration is analysed and re-evaluated through the methods of these disciplines. The main theme is observed through three viewpoints which, in turn, are studied in seven workpackages.

The work of the project consists of collecting research material and carrying out the research work, organising workshops and meetings, publications, and introducing results for the users. Throughout the whole project, the workpackages are working simultaneously and independently, under the supervision of responsible leaders. The work consists of mapping the present situation, formulating the research hypothesis, collecting and analysing the source material, feedback and, publishing the results both in academic and in social forums. Besides the level of the project, the individual workpackages interact in smaller groups. The project organises five workshops, one in each participating university.

The work and results of the project is evaluated in an international advisory board consisting of three leading experts in the field of history and sociology.

Expected results:

The project aims to produce new knowledge about the churches’ political and social engagements during the Cold War, as well as the theological factors which affected these bonds. The research observes to what extend did the Western churches commit themselves with the capitalism and the Cold War policy led by the United States. Furthermore, the project is mapping policies of the East European churches in the inter-church activities. The role of the churches in the 1960’s and 1970’s peace movement is also included in the research interests of the project.

The participating universities are utilising the results of the project in the education they give by organising public lecture series on the project themes, given by international experts in the field, as well as by producing academic thesis relating to the theme of the project.

The project produces two major reports: one describing the present art of knowledge on its own field, and an other one introducing the results of its own research. Individual researchers are also publishing other studies relating to the theme of the project, and directed to a wider audience. Analysis of this issue would provide today’s decision makers with both positive and negative examples.

The results of the project are introduced to the representatives of the local churches and international ecumenical organisations. The project furthermore aims to encourage general social discussion on the role of the churches in European integration.
A European Public Space Observatory: Assembling Information that Allows the Monitoring of European Democracy

EUROPUB

Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-00069
Research Project
EC contribution: 910000 EURO
Starting date: 1 July 2001
Duration: 36 months

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A European Public Space Observatory: Assembling Information that Allows the Monitoring of European Democracy

EUROPUB

Objectives:

How democratic is Europe? Is it getting worse? Is it getting better? Should we care? Do we care? Is there a European public space? Does Europe provide opportunity structures for citizens and their representatives to discuss, deliberate and evaluate issues of public relevance? The *European Public Space Observatory* project will assemble information that allows the monitoring of European democracy in the 21st century in the context of the emerging institutional constellations and socio-political practices of the European Union and the process of European integration. These are not just academic issues, but also major political concerns at European and Member State level. There are concerns that transfers of power to European institutions produce a characteristically new and worrying form of democratic ‘deficit’. Both the justification of the European project and its viability are at stake. Stated bluntly, we cannot afford to take it for granted that Europe is a ‘good thing’ independently of its actual institutional dynamics. Ongoing reforms of European Union institutions represent an important step forward. They promise to render decision processes at European level both more transparent and more accountable. Yet where does this leave participation and the public?

Brief description of the work:

Outline a concept of the European public space that is in line with both democratic theory and the socio-institutional realities of EU level policy-making.

1) Evaluate to what extent present decision-making structures and practices at European level provide an effective system of political contestation. Four policy studies are planned: citizenship policy; social policy; regional policy and environmental policy. A fifth case study will study the debate on European democratic values and procedures in relation to the question of how to best cope with populism and the extreme right-wing.

2) Examine the extent to which there is, or is tending to emerge, a genuinely European ‘political class’. One aspect of a genuinely public space is that its geographical, sectoral and ideological components are tied together by a range of political actors that have general political involvement and competence.

3) Devise and establish measurable indicators for collecting data and information to monitor developments in the European public space over time. This is expected itself to contribute to the emergence of public space at the European level as monitoring in a broad sense is essential to citizenship.

Expected results:

EUROPUB will have benefits at three distinct levels:

- **Conceptual level**: The EUROPUB project will provide a functioning concept of a European public space that is in line with both the institutional policy realities of the EU and the state-of-the-art thinking in this area.

- **Substantive level**: The EUROPUB project will provide an in-depth analysis of the institutional opportunity structures for contesting policy-making at the European level in selected policy areas, in light of the modes of organisation of political activity in general. **Empirical / Policy-Relevant Level**: The proposed project will devise and test a set of indicators that will monitor the development of a European public space. These indicators will allow the establishment of an observatory for European democracy. This observatory will provide a forum and focus for debate and deliberation on European democracy.
Analysing Public Accountability Procedures in Contemporary European Contexts

PUBACC

Contract No.: HPSE-CT-2001-00076

Research Project

EC contribution: 996720 EURO
Starting date: 15 August 2001
Duration: 30 months

EC Scientific Officer: Aris Apollonatos

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Analysing Public Accountability Procedures in Contemporary European Contexts

PUBACC

Objectives:

The overall objective of this project is to analyse the relevance of public accountability procedures for achieving publicly legitimate and sustainable governance of socially complex issues. The project aims to assess the functional role of public accountability, and particularly the relationship between public accountability procedures, on the one hand, and the legitimacy and effectiveness of policy- and decision-making on the other. Apart from the national level, the project also considers the European transnational level, and as such aims to contribute to contemporary discussions of how to deal with the long-term institutional changes resulting from European integration and enlargement.

Brief description of the project:

The project is made up of four consecutive phases: firstly, initial profiles of public accountability concepts and mechanisms will be drawn up for each of the seven national contexts covered (Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Latvia, Portugal, United Kingdom). In parallel, a common analytical framework will be designed for the subsequent empirical research. Secondly, three case studies will be carried out by each national team, in order to analyse public accountability in specific contemporary contexts – namely, genetically modified food policy, waste management, and transport policy. For this, mostly qualitative social science methods will be used, such as face-to-face interviews and participant observation. Apart from the national settings, the European transnational dimension regarding these issues will be studied. The third phase includes comparative analyses of the case studies and the various national/transnational dimensions. Finally, the fourth phase includes the dissemination of the findings to a wider audience through both national and international seminars.

Expected results:

One of the key results expected to emerge from this project is a better, more integrated understanding of the role of public accountability (procedures) within European contemporary contexts. The national profiles, the three case studies, as well as the cross-country and cross-thematic comparisons – distinct results in themselves – will all help to achieve this. Another key result is the discussions of these findings with various relevant audiences (academics, policy-makers, politicians, civil society actors). This will be achieved through an active dissemination strategy involving national seminars in each of the seven participating countries, one international seminar, a dedicated website, and several (scholarly) publications.
Orientations of Young Men and Women to Citizenship and European Identity

YOUTH AND EUROPEAN IDENTITY

Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-00077

Research Project

EC contribution: 995000 EURO
Starting date: 1 October 2001
Duration: 36 months

EC Scientific Officer: Aris Apollonatos

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Orientations of Young Men and Women to Citizenship and European Identity

YOUTH AND EUROPEAN IDENTITY

Objectives:
To describe the salience and meanings of ‘being European’ for young people from strategically selected parts of Europe in the context of their constructions of their personal identities, such as gender identities, and their constructions of their local, regional, ethnic or national identities

- To describe respondents' ideals and practices of belonging with friends and family, to a locality, neighbourhood or local community, to a region, to a nation, to Europe and to a global community.
- To describe respondents' understandings of citizenship, in particular to explore the extent of emphasis on social obligations and civic participation, entitlements of birth and ethnicity, nation-based or ethnicity-based citizenship, citizenship of inclusion or exclusion, tolerance or chauvinism and racism.
- To document respondents' orientation to migration and trans-national links through their perceptions of their family history, desires for and feelings of competence to achieve international mobility and experience and perceptions of migrants in and out of their region/nation.
- To explore variation by nation and region of residence, by gender, career path and social circumstances.

Brief description of the project:
A multi-site investigation of identity and citizenship among young men and woman in strategically selected nations and regions. The selected sites are in four pairs of nations, or nations and regions, with contrasting histories of cultural alignment for or against European identity and of investments in nation-based and ethnicity-based citizenship:

- Vienna and the Bregnez area of Vorarlberg in Austria;
- Madrid and Bilbao in Spain;
- Chemnitz and Bielefeld, in Germany;
- Bratislava and Prague in the Slovak and Czech Republics;
- Edinburgh, Scotland and Manchester, England in the UK.

In each of these sites, we will identify two groups of young people aged 18-24: a random sample across all social backgrounds and career paths, and a highly educated group who are on a career path which orients them to Europe, such as European Law or studying several European languages. This will allow us to compare ‘ordinary’ young people with those who have particular reasons for being pro-European. In both cases, we will recruit only young people who have grown up in the region/nation and equal numbers of young men and young women.

Following preparatory pilot work, a structured questionnaire will be used to explore the salience and meanings of ‘being European’ and respondents' ideals and practices of citizenship. The questionnaire will begin to explore understandings, experiences and practices involved in constructions of self-in-relation-to-others, social obligation to others, and sense of social inclusion and exclusion that may be the building blocks of racism and tolerance, civic and ethnic citizenship. After analysis of this phase, we will conduct in-depth interviews with sub-samples of young people to further unpack the processes that may be underpinning particular understandings and practices of citizenship and identity construction. This will include further analysis of how personal, familial and locally based understandings, experiences and practices connect to orientations to being ‘European’ and European citizenship.

Expected results:
The research will provide new insight into the orientations of young people to 'being European' and to European citizenship, including better insight into the possible sources of variation between and within nations and regions. Regional and national effects will be explored through comparisons of strategically selected regions and nations. The effects of gender and career path will be mapped through comparison of ‘ordinary’ young men and young women and highly educated young men and young women whose careers orient them to European job markets rather than local job markets. Dissemination will take the form of briefings for policy makers, practitioners and young people at regional, national and European level, including an accessible account of variation in young people's orientations to being European and European identity, between and within nations and regions. Briefings will address specific issues of policy relevance such as variation in young people's receptivity to in-migrants and commitment to mobility within Europe; processes of racism, constructions of civic and ethnic citizenship and citizenship education.
Science, Technology and Governance in Europe

STAGE

Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-50003

Thematic Network
EC contribution: 400000 EURO
Starting date: 15 September 2001
Duration: 36 months

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Theme: Governance, democracy and citizenship
Science, Technology and Governance in Europe

STAGE

Objectives:

Drawing on past European research under FP4, work during the life of the network, and the network’s own empirical and conceptual enquiry, the objectives are to:

1. understand more about the structure, process and boundary characteristics of a representative range of national policy cultures in confronting common issues of science and technology governance;

2. analyse the particular S and T issues, actors and processes which each policy culture highlights in relation to three contrasting technology domains - information and communication technology, GM technology as applied to food and medicines, and environmental management - examining particular brokering institutions and processes which construct issues, rhetorics and repertoires of response, and mediate outcomes;

3. incorporate this learning into a conceptual model which offers a more secure knowledge base to frame wider social participation in S&T governance.

Description of the project:

The STAGE network will run from September 2001- August 2004. Participating countries are Denmark, Finland, Greece, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Sweden and the United Kingdom. We are specifically seeking collaborators from France and Germany but wish to share experience more widely with related research. A website will contribute to this: www.spsg.org/science_society/stage

The work of this network can be understood as a progressive focusing of a heuristic model on the workings of science, technology and innovation systems in Europe, in relation to wider public participation, through bringing together specific empirical enquiries undertaken by the network team with a synthesis of wider research. It will be organised in four phases which will all contribute to this central task, but which will focus on specific elements of it.

Phase 1 will focus on the articulation of the model, and will involve a major conference with other researchers from a range of social science disciplines who are expected to contribute to the task of refining an initial model presented by the network team, and help construct a research awareness service on which will run throughout the study. In phase 2 the team will analyse the response of the policy systems of the participating countries to common issues confronting Europe in the fields of information and communication technologies, genetic technologies, and environmental policy. The issues will be chosen for their ability to highlight the interactions of the science, technology and innovation system with different stakeholders from wider publics, and to relate both to outcomes. It will constitute the ‘top-down’ element of analysis.

The third phase will look at the national policy cultures from a ‘bottom up’ perspective, choosing issues which may be individual to each of the countries involved, but which are emblematic of the way in which each system constructs issues and involves different actors.

A final phase will focus on integration and discussion with academic and practitioner audiences.

Expected results:

The results will help us gain an understanding of how issues, processes of wider public participation and outcomes relate to each other, and are framed by, particular policy systems. As such it will be of use both to the academic community and to those seeking to design and manage wider public participation in setting policy for S&T and managing its outcomes.
European Integration history

EI HISTORY

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Duration: 36 months
Starting date: 1 July 2001
EC contribution: 60000 EURO

Theme: Governance, democracy and citizenship

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European Integration history

EI HISTORY

Objectives:

The European Union Liaison Committee of Historians aims to substantially advance the study of European Integration in order to spread the knowledge of research in the field of History in the European public within the next three years. European identity cannot be gained without the knowledge of the history of European Integration. The adequate ruling of Europe presupposes an understanding of the driving forces of European Integration. The Liaison Committee is an independent union of 12 distinguished historians from 9 member states of the European Union. It aims at coordinating and intensifying the historical research on Europe in the member states, and by an intensive exchange to advance the development of a consciousness of its history among the peoples of the European Union.

Brief description of the project:

In the up-coming period of 2001-2003, it specifically aims at: a) advancing archival research of the 1960’s and 1970’s, which are currently being opened up for research, b) to compose syntheses of the numerous independent studies, which have been produced in the past years, and to disseminate them across language barriers in as many member states as possible, c) to initiate research in those countries which have only recently joined the European Union or are currently preparing for membership. The research is inclusive of bordering disciplines (Political Science, Sociology, the study of Law, Economics, Literary Studies, Philosophy). At the same token, various methodological approaches of the Study of History are being promoted and combined with each other: Diplomatic and Political History, Economic and Social History, the History of Thought and of Mentality.

Expected results:

6 issues of the *Journal of European Integration History*, 18 and more monographs on several aspects of the history of European integration, a colloquium in 2002 with a subsequent colloquium and finally 4 syntheses for the general public providing an understanding of the process of European integration.
Environmental Governance in Europe: The Impact of International Institutions and trade on Policy Convergence

ENVIPOLECON

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<td>Angela Liberatore</td>
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Environmental Governance in Europe: The Impact of International Institutions and trade on Policy Convergence

ENVIPOLCON

Objectives:

While many factors affecting policy convergence in the environmental field have been identified, we still have limited knowledge on their distinctive impact. In view of this constellation, the project concentrates on two major objectives. First, we will analyse the extent to which there is actually a convergence of national environmental policies in Europe over time. Second, we will investigate the specific impact of international institutions and trade on the scope, speed and level of convergence. In addressing these objectives, the project aims to offer insights to policy-makers on how to anticipate the impact and interaction effects of these factors in order to improve environmental policy-making in Europe. In this context, the following sub-goals can be identified:

1. analysis of the extent to which there is a convergence of environmental policies across Europe;
2. assessing the impact of international institutions and trade on the level and speed of policy convergence;
3. analysing the extent to which national environmental policy models are challenged by international competition;
4. analysis of the compatibility of trade liberalisation and sustainable environmental policy;
5. analysing the conditions affecting policy learning and innovation across countries and different levels of governance;
6. investigating the impact of economic and institutional interlinkages on environmental governance in CEE countries; and
7. creation of comparable data and indicators on environmental policy convergence in Europe

Description of the work:

To achieve the above objectives, the project is characterised by a combined research design, including both quantitative data analysis and qualitative case studies. It will be executed in four stages:

In the first stage, the theoretical and methodological framework will be developed. This includes the review of literature on policy convergence as well as the development of a quantitative case study design. In a second stage, the theoretical expectations are tested on the basis of a statistical data analysis, investigating the similarity of 32 different policies for all EU member states and accession countries of Central and Eastern Europe as well as Norway and Switzerland at four points in time (1970, 1980, 1990, 2000). In the statistical analysis, the focus on causal effects of selected independent variables implies that other explanatory factors as well as the precise causal mechanisms which lead to the observed outcome, receive only limited attention.

Expected results:

On the basis of this research design, we expect to obtain the following results:

1. assessment of the degree of environmental policy convergence in Europe;
2. analysis of the impact of international institutions and trade on policy convergence;
3. practical advice (manual) for policy-makers on conditions of diffusion of innovative policies.
The European Union and Border Conflicts: The Impact of Integration and Association

EUBORDERCONF

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-00106

Research Project
EC contribution:  919930 €
Starting date:  1 January 2003
Duration:  36 months

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The European Union and Border Conflicts: The Impact of Integration and Association

EUBORDERCONF

Objectives:

EUBORDERCONF analyses the EU’s influence as a supranational organisation on the transformation of border conflicts through integration and association. Border conflicts are becoming increasingly relevant to the future of governance in the EU as the Union enlarges, making it directly involved in an increasing number of border conflicts. The project closes a gap in the literature by providing a detailed comparison of 5 case studies and developing a theoretical account of the EU’s involvement in border conflicts. EUBORDERCONF will establish the domestic and international conditions under which border conflicts can be effectively managed or resolved through EU membership or association. It will identify the core actors within border regions and the political and societal processes through which the EU can contribute to successful and peaceful border conflict transformations, as well as the interplay between the EU, other intergovernmental and non-governmental organisations in such processes. The project will provide a comprehensive review of hitherto disparate literature on this issue, detailed accounts of five case studies, and the development of a theoretical account of the EU’s influence on border conflicts. It will also help actors to identify early warning signs of the outbreak of violence in a border conflict and find appropriate means to prevent such outbreaks.

Description of the work:

The core of the project work will be the comparative analysis of five cases of border conflict with EU involvement (Northern Ireland, Cyprus, Israel/Palestine, Greece/Turkey, and Europe’s North) and the EU’s policy towards these conflicts. This analysis will take place in three steps: the interviewing of policy-makers in the border conflict region; the analysis of cultural change in the region; and an analysis of the political debates within the region. These mirror the three expected paths of potential EU influence: direct pressures and incentives; instigation and support of cultural change; and legitimisation of particular policies in the region. This study from the perspective of the cases themselves is complemented by a workpackage looking specifically at the policy-making process within the European Union towards border conflicts, through interviews in Brussels and the review of parliamentary debates and policy documents. The comparative framework will be based on an extensive multi-disciplinary literature review and the development of an integral analytical scheme on this basis, which will be applied to all cases. Comparativity will be ensured through a first project conference, case study workshops and continuous progress reports. Feedback from the case studies will be systematically monitored. Users will be integrated into the research process through case study workshops, the establishment of a website and an internet-based discussion list, bi-monthly electronic newsletters and a final project conference. A workpackage towards the end of the project will be used for comparison of the cases on the basis of case study reports to distill commonalities between cases and provide a theoretical account of EU involvement in border conflicts. Dissemination will take place through a variety of traditional and internet-based means of communication, from reports and workshops to electronic mailing lists.

Expected results:

The project will provide an extensive literature review and annotated bibliography of work on border conflicts and EU influence, an analytical frame with which to analyse EU involvement and border conflict transformation, detailed case study reports on the cases analysed within the project, an evaluative report on EU policy-making towards border conflicts, and a theoretical account of the EU’s impact.
Organized Civil Society and European Governance

CIVGOV

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Theme: Governance, democracy and citizenship
Organized Civil Society and European Governance

CIVGOV

Objectives:

The project’s goal is to provide an answer to the question: to what extent do the activities of public-interest associations, activist coalitions, and movement-parties bridge the large gap between the European citizenry and European level policymaking? In particular we have concentrated on three main objectives:

- To examine whether preferences among general publics match policies pushed by European-level advocacy coalitions
- To examine to what extent and why “movement advocacy coalitions” (MACs) and European movement advocacy coalitions (EMACs) are successful.
- To examine whether MACs and EMACs can usefully supplement ordinary European political decision-making.

Description of the work:

This project examines the role of three types of civil society organizations connected to social movements. Referring to them as “movement advocacy coalitions” (MACs) - loosely coordinated networks of social movement organisations and organizations sympathetic to movements - we conceive them as collective agents representing citizens. Social movement-related organisations and their sympathisers can provide useful new ideas to the policy process. They can represent civil society at various levels of governance, and notably at the EU level where a lack of democratic accountability and of a direct referent in civil society can undermine their effectiveness. However, they encounter obstacles to an effective performance. Lack of sensibility to their advocacy may contribute to their neglect. Lack of resources may limit their effectiveness. We focus on their role in policy responses to recent social controversies in environmental, anti-racist and regional policy, where movement organisations have competed for influence with other interests. In particular we will analyse two policy sub-areas for each sector: for environmentalism, the cautious assessment of genetically modified (GM) foods and the regulation of transport; for regionalism, the preservation and promotion of minority languages and cultures and the defence of socio-economic cohesion within the EU; for antiracism, the promotion of antiracist values and the adoption of labour market anti-discriminatory measures. Our main aim will be first to assess the extent to which groups concerned with these policy sectors accurately reflect citizens’ preferences, and second, the way these preferences are acted upon in the policymaking process at the European level.

Expected results:

Our project aims to identify advocacy coalitions in three social movement sectors in Europe and will provide an assessment of the impact of MACs and EMACs on the policy process and an analysis of how they relate to national cultures. We will also examine how the relations between member states and the EU might favour certain policy areas against others and thus certain aspects of civil society over others. The EU-level impact of organized civil society might emphasise the preferences of certain countries over others, and the issues promoted by certain parts of the institutionalised movements over others (e.g., “hard” issues over “soft” issues). In the context of our analysis of movement-related policy areas we will stress the role of ideas in policy making: social movement organisations in general, and EMACs in particular, may fill the public agenda with new concerns and ideas, altering the balance between what is taken for granted and what emerges as a subject of attention in public discourse.
Domestic Structures and European Integration. A Multi-Stage Two-Level Analysis of Constitution Building in the European Union

DOSEI

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-00117

Research Project

EC contribution: 823903 €
Starting date: 1 January 2003
Duration: 36 months

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Domestic Structures and European Integration. A Multi-Stage Two-Level Analysis of Constitution Building in the European Union

DOSEI

Objectives:

This project will study constitution-building in the European Union using a multi-stage two-level-analysis of the Intergovernmental Conference (IGC) to be concluded in 2004. We wish to answer two main questions: How is the process of constitution-building carried out? How can we explain the outcome of this process? Our project will relax assumptions on unitary member-state preferences and one-shot processes of constitution-building. We will examine the preparatory stage of inter-ministerial coordination, the negotiation stage at the IGC, and ratification in member states. We expect that the more non-unitary a member state government is, the more likely is an IGC agreement. However, we expect that when more alternatives for an agreement exist, their successful ratification is more endangered. Using a multi-pronged data gathering strategy, we will test these hypotheses and assess the two-level character of inter-ministerial coordination, IGC negotiations and domestic ratification.

Description of the work:

This project explores constitution-building in the EU using a multi-stage two-level-analysis. We expect inferences between the domestic and European level during all stages because the constitution intends to clarify the competencies between both levels. The constitutional convet will make a proposal to be discussed in the member states, and we will examine how member states form their positions in inter-ministerial coordination. This analysis will indicate the degree of member-state unitariness at the IGC, and we will ask whether the degree of unitariness explains their negotiation performance and outcome capacity. We expect that non-unitariness makes reaching outcomes more likely, but ratification more difficult because neither parties nor citizens support outcomes which diverge from their initial positions.

Even though our topic provides support for the multi-stage two-level character of the process, it is an ambitious empirical concern to measure the preferences of all the actors involved. We attempt to test our hypotheses using multi-pronged data gathering strategy. For the preparatory stage, we will gather data by expert interviews in the member states. For the negotiation stage, we will use an internet survey, and for the ratification stage, we will use Eurobarometer and party manifesto data to estimate party positions and populations’ attitudes. Our envisaged steps are:

- identification of domestic procedures for inter-ministerial coordination and ratification,
- identification of issues discussed at the IGC,
- development of questionnaire for interviews and the internet site,
- expert interviews within member states and with the Commission and the EP,
- internet survey of negotiating actors during/shortly after the IGC,
- use party manifesto and Eurobarometer data to estimate domestic constraints,
- methodological evaluation of the instruments and data,
- examine competing approaches on constitution-building.

Expected results:

Our project provides a multi-stage two-level analysis of constitution-building in the EU. We will establish a database to test integration theories and will thus improve our understanding by providing a more accurate and empirical view on constitution-building. Our comparative approach explores preference formation in all member states in the preparatory and ratification stages. We will show how closely related government and supranational negotiators are to the peoples’ preferences using our two-level analysis.
Political Participation of Young People in Europe - Development of Indicators for Comparative Research in the EU

EUYOUPART

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-00123
Research Project

EC contribution: 1354858 €
Starting date: 30 months
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Political Participation of Young People in Europe - Development of Indicators for Comparative Research in the EU

EUYOUPART

Objectives:

The main objective of this project is to arrive at indicators and dimensions of political participation of young people in Europe to improve the quality of future comparative empirical studies. Based on an analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of previous empirical research in this area including a special focus on comparability, a “model questionnaire” is to be developed. This questionnaire will be put to a test in surveys conducted in eight European countries with young people aged 15 to 25. A thorough analysis of the outcomes will result in an evaluation and an improvement of the questionnaire’s first draft.

The wide spectrum of participating countries (Austria, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Slovakia, United Kingdom) should contribute to the identification of relevant and methodically valid indicators for young people’s involvement in politics. The indicators are expected to be applicable to measure political participation of youth in many European political systems.

A comparison of the political systems of current member- and non-member states of the European Union through secondary data analysis and the collection of institutional data will highlight some of the aspects contributing to differing levels of political participation of young people in Europe.

Description of the work:

The project will cover a period of 28 months. Work steps will include the following:

1. Secondary data analysis and literature review in the field of political participation resulting in a “state of the art” report. This meta-analysis of existing research approaches and results will include a focus on gender aspects, developmental psychology and (implicit) cultural concepts on which existing studies are based.
2. Comparison of the political systems within the participating countries, other EU-members and applicant countries so as to outline opportunities, limitations and conditions for political participation of youth in Europe.
3. Qualitative interviews will be conducted with youth and representatives of youth organizations to provide an insight into youth’s understanding of key concepts related to political participation. Cultural differences in the understanding of these concepts will be explored and analysed.
4. The results of the secondary data analysis and the qualitative research will serve as a basis for the development of comparable indicators for political participation of youth, their political beliefs and their understanding of democracy. These indicators will be evaluated through pre-testing and through surveys carried out in all participating countries.
5. Statistical analysis of the surveys will provide detailed information on reliability, validity and comparability of the identified indicators. Conclusions will be presented on the conditions that impact the differing levels of political participation of young people in Europe.

Expected results:

Key results are expected to contribute to an improvement of the socio-economic knowledge base regarding two pivotal aspects: First, the project will provide data to extensively describe, analyze and compare the extent and levels of political participation of young people in Europe. Second, on a methodological level, EUYOUPART intends to identify valid indicators for political participation in Europe so as to contribute to improving the instruments of comparative research in the field.
Dual Citizenship, Governance and Education: A Challenge to the European Nation-State

**DCE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contract no:</th>
<th>HPSE-CT-2002-00130</th>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>EC contribution:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Starting date:</td>
<td>1 December 2002</td>
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<tr>
<td>Duration:</td>
<td>36 months</td>
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<td><strong>EC Scientific Officer:</strong></td>
<td>Aris Apollonatos</td>
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Dual Citizenship, Governance and Education: A Challenge to the European Nation-State

DCE

Objectives:

The aim of this multidisciplinary project is to clarify, analyse and compare policies and their implementation in the area of citizenship, especially dual citizenship, in Finland, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Israel, Portugal, and the United Kingdom. In each participating country, four methodologically identical studies will be conducted focusing on regulations, prevailing practices and the conceptions and experiences of policy-makers, authorities and individual citizens in relation to dual citizenship. Due to the differences in political and socio-cultural contexts between the countries involved in this research, the national analyses will be made domain-specifically. In practice, this means the cross-tabulations of the conceptions of the different groups of respondent with regards to the prevailing administrative goals. These studies make use of both quantitative and qualitative research methods. As a result, we will provide comparative analysis of the ways in which dual citizenship operates in Europe and a set of recommendations for national and international policy-makers, authorities and educators.

Description of the work:

In the first phase, we clarify the theoretic-conceptual differences and similarities in the consortium and analyse international agreements and national documents upon which the attainment of dual citizenship and the politico-legal status of persons with dual citizenship should be based. In addition to qualitative content analysis, this study includes statistical analysis of residents holding dual (or multiple) citizenship. Further, we will focus on the views of national and European policy-makers and authorities involved in implementing citizenship policies and educational policies. The research data will be gathered through questionnaires and analysed quantitatively. Additional information will be obtained through structured personal interviews and through an international web-based discussion room among policy-makers and authorities. Finally, we will study experiences and expectations of individual citizens, including persons with dual citizenship and persons with a multi-national background holding only one citizenship. By comparing these two groups, we seek to understand how politico-legal citizenship influences socio-cultural aspects of citizenship, such as identity formation and loyalties of the respondents. The research data will be gathered through semi-structured interviews and analysed by qualitative content analysis. All these studies cover future perspective, including socio-political and educational forecasts.

Expected results:

This project will help decision-makers in their task in searching for acceptable national and international norms, as well as a common European approach for dual citizenship. By this means, the project results will improve the ability of policy-makers, authorities and educators to confront the challenges currently caused by the transnational mobility. An international congress on Dual citizenship will be organised and a web-based discussion room and three scientific compilations will be provided for the use of officials.
Citizenship and Democratic Legitimacy in the European Union

CIDEL

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-00144

Research Project

EC contribution: 1600000 €
Starting date: 1 November 2002
Duration: 36 months

EC Scientific Officer: Aris Apollonatos

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Citizenship and Democratic Legitimacy in the European Union

CIDEL

Objectives:

This project develops a set of standards for analysing and assessing political integration with regard to democratic legitimacy. CIDEL spells out and tests three basic options for EU governance with regard to the actual prevalence and viability of each of the options. It clarifies the advantages and disadvantages associated with each option. The objectives of the project are to:

a) specify three different options for forging a citizens’ Europe and assess the legitimacy basis of each of the options, including their attendant notions of citizenship;

b) test the empirical relevance of each of the three options, with emphasis on the third one, and how they relate to each other – over time, across policy fields, levels of governance and in a number of member states;

c) develop a third mode of integration, integration through deliberation, and assess it in relation to the dominant conceptions of integration which are based on functional adaptation and strategic bargaining respectively.

Description of the work:

CIDEL is a theoretically informed empirical research project, which identifies and assesses different developmental paths for EU integration. CIDEL establishes a comprehensive research network, which deals with the question of a citizens’ Europe in a multidisciplinary, multinational, multilevel and comparative (across time, space and issue area) manner. The project includes political scientists, sociologists, political philosophers, lawyers, media researchers, and social information scientists grouped in eight partners from six different countries. It seeks to develop a new theoretical perspective and applies a broad range of methods - including computer-assisted text analysis. A steering committee, which consists of the responsible contact persons from partners 1,2,3, and 5 has the overarching responsibility for project co-ordination and will meet regularly.

The project is organised in eight workpackages. The first (WP0) is designed to co-ordinate research activities and disseminate the results. The following seven address the main objectives with reference to specific aspects of the integration process. WP 1 provides a theoretical approach to the study of EU and post-national integration. WP 2 addresses the question of the emergence of a European public sphere. WP 3 examines how constitution-making is conducted and legitimated. WP 4 analyses how enlargement is justified, and WP 5 focuses on foreign and security policy. WP 6 addresses social and tax policy. The final WP –7 - provides overall conclusions and synthesises the findings. The research teams will meet at workshops and conferences, which will also include policy-makers and representatives of the press and civil society in public venues. CIDEL will disseminate its research findings – throughout the duration of the project – through a dynamic web-page, academic books and articles in journals as well as through other publications.

Expected results:

CIDEL has 18 deliverables. Among the major milestones are the opening conference on post-national democracy (2003) and the end conference synthesising the findings of the project (2005). CIDEL has a further 6 workshops and will publish books on: The EU and post-national democracy, the Europeanisation and the European communicative space, constitution-making, citizenship, enlargement, and tax policy.

ELISE

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-00150

Research Project

EC contribution: €899986
Starting date: 1 October 2002
Duration: 36 months

EC Scientific Officer: Angela Liberatore

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ELISE

Objectives:

To prevent the distortion of the balance carefully crafted by the Finnish Presidency in the Tampere Conclusions, between freedom, security and justice, by developments after the events of the 11th of September 2001. This project goes beyond the current discussion on the impact of anti-terrorist laws in Europe. It aims at developing adequate conceptual tools for a better understanding of security issues in modern European societies, while at the same time providing a framework for policy responses to future crises. Moreover, the project places itself in the perspective of European integration and addresses the critical issue of institutional restructuring and new forms of sharing of power in the area of security. The objectives include:

- Refining the concepts relating to security at the national, European and global levels;
- Development of an analytical framework to evaluate and test policy responses to future security challenges while maintaining civil liberties, human rights and social cohesion.

Description of the work:

Security, liberties, terrorism, citizenship, governance, immigration, asylum, freedom of movement, social cohesion

The research will proceed in two steps. The first is conceptual allowing the identification of key questions to be settled at European level. The second step consists of an interdisciplinary process of policy optimization, taking into account the constraints and opportunities presented by the new social and political context in Europe and the world.

Step 1: Conceptual clarification: A common question central to the research is the extent to which the nation state is no longer the sole guarantor of the security of populations, with particular reference to the phenomena known as terrorism, but also including other forms of cross-border crime.

Step two: Policy Optimalisation: Developing a robust policy and institutional framework for the IGC, requires answers to a number of questions which are part practical and part matters of fundamental political choice.

The project will be based on an interdisciplinary approach, drawing from several disciplines of the social sciences. A sociological perspective is essential for examining the impact of proposed counter terrorism policies on social cohesion, whilst relations with civil liberties and the Charter of Fundamental Rights will be examined both in juridical and political terms. The institutional issues at national and European level need to be tackled in a contextual approach, combining all the above mentioned disciplines. While each discipline admittedly favors different methods, comparability of methodology will be ensured by working out, in the first place, common conceptual tools that will serve as a starting point for bringing out the actual challenges in the field of security and for exploring ways to examine the impact of relevant policies on social cohesion and institutional balance at national and European level. The findings will be disseminated in the form of working papers, conferences and academic publication.

Expected results:

We will propose a framework, to enable public authorities to respond to terrorist action without undermining civil liberties, human rights, and social cohesion by:

- reconceptualizing security issues and addressing the potential conflicts between civil liberties, human rights and security measures
- contributing to the reflection concerning Europe's future and its institutional balance, also in the perspective of the EU's enlargement and the IGC debate.
The Third Sector and the Development of European Public Policy

Contract no: HPSE-CT-2002-50016

Thematic Network

EC contribution: 449631 €
Starting date: 30 months

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The Third Sector and the Development of European Public Policy

TSEP

Objectives:

The primary objective of the network is to chart the emergence of “horizontal” (that is cross cutting) European policy towards the third, voluntary, nonprofit sector understood as a multi-level process involving nations and supranational institutions. Supporting objectives and activities are to:

- scope out the parameters, concepts and processes needed to build a framework for the study of this newly emerging policy field;
- application of that framework to organise an initial, but systematic description of the European dimension of salient individual country level policies, the form of European institutional level policies, and the form of linkages between these levels;
- dissemination of this description in order to raise awareness of the current contributions of and future possibilities for European third sector policy

Description of the work:

The multi-disciplinary thematic network “Third Sector European Policy” (TSEP) would involve 9 country partners, including one Accession country (Czech Republic), one third state (Switzerland) and 7 Member States (France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, UK). The thematic network would involve network activity undertaken at both the level of individual countries and the European institutional level. TSEP would use a networking methodology tailored to the character of each country’s ‘horizontal’ third sector policy community. At national level, the TSEP network would convene meetings involving national policy stakeholders external to the network in 3 partner countries (“hosts”), and the profile would be raised for all countries through network member attendance at relevant national third sector policy fora and events. At the European institutional level, it would involve equivalent policy stakeholders in a network meeting in Brussels.

Expected results:

The most important outputs during the lifetime of the TSEP network would be country Working Paper series; the network meetings, particularly those involving national level policy actors and stakeholders from the European institutions; and a dissemination conference. Also the network would represent a longer term investment on the part of the EU, since it is proposed that the network would provide a launch pad for the development of a full blown RTP project proposal to the EU in 2004/2005.
Theme: Governance, democracy and citizenship

Foreign Policy Governance In Europe-Research Network Modernising, Widening And Deepening Research On A Vital Pillar Of The Eu

FORNET

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-50020

Thematic Network

EC contribution: 381000 €
Starting date: 1 January 2003
Duration: 36 months

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Foreign Policy Governance in Europe-Research Network Modernising, Widening and Deepening Research on a Vital Pillar of The EU

FORNET

Objectives:

The objective of FORNET will be to create a comprehensive network of research on European governance in the field of CFSP, based upon close academic interaction, common methodological approaches and the use of new techniques of virtualisation. Institutions from all member states and a number of candidate countries will take part in this project. Further objectives will be:

- the setting up and development of an academic infrastructure in and around the EU
- improvement of European-wide access to information and exchange of research results
- elaboration of models for virtualisation for sustainable use and durable results
- integration of particularly young researchers from the candidate countries

Description of the work:

The workload of FORNET will be structured and divided into different workpackages dealing with main tasks and objectives of FORNET:

- a ‘CFSP WATCH’ including a listing of the acquis académique, a CFSP report on major developments, and a database including key documents will be created
- efforts aimed at the ‘virtualisation’ of CFSP research including the establishment of a website as a CFSP Web-Forum and of virtual study units will be undertaken
- the elaboration of regular policy papers based upon conferences and workshops on central topics of CFSP is foreseen
- the publication of major output of FORNET in journals and reviews, on the website and through the conferences is a major element of dissemination
- evaluation will be assured by independent reviewers from the beginning of the project intended to constantly improve the functioning and performance of FORNET

Expected results:

- the generation of an efficient, comprehensive and flexible research infrastructure for research on CFSP based upon common methodological tools
- the effective and durable use of virtual elements in CFSP studies
- the establishment of CFSP-related research as a key element of EU integration studies
- a grown public awareness of CFSP as a vital pillar of the EU
- the growing together of research communities on CFSP in the EU and the candidate countries

Democratic Governance

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-50023

Thematic Network

EC contribution: 31 1020 €
Starting date: 1 December 2002
Duration: 16 months

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Theme: Governance, democracy and citizenship

Democratic Governance

Objectives:

The first objective is to show that the contextual efficiency of an adequate governance depends on the reflexive and collective learning constraints that it itself engenders and that compels it to adjust to the cohesion and to the inevitable self-transformation of the contexts. The second objective is to test our hypothesis in the field of Social and Employment Policy and in the field of Biodiversity Protection European and International policies. The third objective is to guarantee a reflexive articulation between the two specific research projects and the research devoted to the general theory of governance. The fourth objective is the establishment of a collective learning process between the European research centers of our network such as to promote the establishment of a permanent, interdisciplinary network on governance.

Description of the work:

In the perspective of the two first objectives, three researches are foreseen:
- “Governance and Collective Learning” (in two “workpackages”),
- “Social Dialogue and Reflexive Governance in Social and Employment Policy” (in four “workpackages”),
- “Governance and Biodiversity : Between Private Property Rights and Citizen Participation” (in three “workpackages”).
- In the perspective of the third objective, a workpackage, entitled “Reflexive Reappropriation of the Governance Network”, is forecast.

In the perspective of the fourth objective, four other activities are foreseen:
- The organisation of a “Reflexive Reappropriation of the Governance Network” (to ensure the coherence of the various researches).
- A mapping (to ensure the conditions for a possible extension of the network in the perspective of the sixth Framework Program).
- A training (the mobility of young researchers between the partners).
- And a database on Website.

Expected results:

The benefits we hope to achieve with this research network are threefold:
- The first benefit is of a scientific nature: it consists in improving our understanding of the conditions required for a reflexive governance based on the idea of collective learning. The second benefit resides in the compilation - both at a general theoretical level and at the level of specific researches – of the resources necessary to the development of a theory of governance capable of meeting the specific demands of the European context.
- The third benefit is more organizational and concerns the promotion of an European network devoted to the theory of governance.
European Research on Education, training and new forms of learning

- 24 Countries
- 12.9 Millions €
- 105 Participants
- 14 Projects
Theme

Education, training and new forms of learning
Education and Training for Governance and Active Citizenship in Europe: Designing Formal, Non-Formal and Informal Lifelong Learning Education Intervention Strategies

**Contract No:** HPSE-CT-1999-00012

- **EC contribution:** 1150000 EURO
- **Starting date:** 1 March 2000
- **Duration:** 30 months

**EC Scientific Officer:** Angelos Agalianos

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Education and Training for Governance and Active Citizenship in Europe: Designing Formal, Non-Formal and Informal Lifelong Learning Education Intervention Strategies

Objectives:
The main objective is to improve educational interventions for tolerant, inclusive and accountable approaches to governance and active citizenship in Europe. Since attitudes, skills and behavioural patterns for citizenship roles are constructed in socio-institutional and cultural processes, answers are sought to such questions as:
- How are practices and concepts of ‘active citizenship’ and ‘governance’ being reshaped by social changes? How are these concepts articulated in policies?
- What connections have been drawn between citizenship in the state domain and in other domains (work and civil society)?
- What is the mutual articulation of ‘effectivity’, ‘responsibility’ and ‘identity’ in the formation of citizens?
- In what ways is ‘citizenship’ gendered? What does this imply for educational strategy?
- What modes of educational intervention have been effective for learning citizenship, and which are likely to prove so in future?

On this basis, innovative educational manuals, exemplar materials, and policy analysis frameworks will be developed to foster good practice. These will contribute to scientific and professional knowledge and debate.

Brief description of the project:
The project applies an innovative theoretical model of citizenship learning, incorporating three primary domains of social life (work, state, civil society), and three dimensions of learning agency (effectivity, responsibility, identity), based on major trends in social theory. A typology of modes of intervention (formal, non-formal, informal) derives from educational theory. The model provides a theoretical basis for comparative analysis of six European countries. Data are derived as follows:
- Review of Literature and Policy:
  Analysis of approaches to and understandings of ‘active citizenship’ and ‘governance’ at the European level and in a cross section of six European countries.
- Learning Life Histories:
  Analysis of how adults have learned ‘citizenship’, based on in-depth interviews with a sample of learners. Their ‘citizenship and governance life histories’ are recorded. The sample is theoretically based, drawn from a learning context within each primary domain (see above) in six countries. Interviewees are drawn equally from men and women, and from two age cohorts (25-40; 55-70), to permit investigation of gender issues, and of the impact of recent social transformations on adults’ constructions of citizenship.
- Focus Groups on Intervention Strategies:
  Focus groups of professionals from the three domains discuss intervention strategies, design effective educational interventions, and develop effective methods and criteria for evaluation of interventions.
- Participative Methods:
  The project uses participative methods. Educators, policy-makers, trainers, agents of change, and other end-users form advisory panels in each country. These function through all phases of the project. Close collaboration with professional organisations and networks of ‘citizenship educators’ is maintained throughout.
- Dissemination:
  The findings are disseminated through manuals, print-based and on-line materials, and training events. Partnership agreements are negotiated with citizenship education networks, ensuring continuing support for citizenship educators and policy-makers, and improving dialogue between researchers and end-users.

Expected results:
There are six consecutive workpackages. WP 1 establishes common timetables and methods, audits citizenship education networks, and forms Advisory Panels. WPs 2 and 3 deliver the major empirical research; each concludes with a policy workshop. WP 4 comprises scientific interpretation and policy community consultation; it concludes with a policy conference. WP 5 develops robust systems of continuing support (including on-line) for citizenship educators, audits citizenship education networks, seeks end-user responses to project findings; it concludes with a policy workshop.
The Education of the Gypsy Childhood in Europe

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Contract No: HPSE-CT-1999-00033</th>
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<tr>
<td>EC contribution: 650000 EURO</td>
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<td>Starting date: 1 March 2000</td>
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<td>Duration: 36 months</td>
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<td>EC Scientific Officer: Andrea Schmolzer</td>
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The Education of the Gypsy Childhood in Europe

Objectives:

General Objective:
To carry out a study of the educational situation of Gypsy children in three Union countries: France, Spain and Italy. We hope that our work will contribute to the establishment of the bases for new and more suitable educational policies for the next decade and especially in the prevention of discrimination and exclusion of the Gypsy children.

Specific Objectives:
- Comparative study of Gypsy groups. A sociological study (macro analysis).
- Socioeducational relationships at the schooling system.

Brief description of the project:

We propose a framework of three countries: France, Italy and Spain. Our work team regularly uses the multidisciplinary methodology in research. We foresee working jointly with sociologists, psychologists, and anthropologists as well as other supporting professionals: social workers, monitors and teachers, etc.

Ethnographical fieldwork: Researchers would stay a minimum of 12 months in all the cities proposed, living with the Gypsy group and in permanent contact with the school centres.

Sociological fieldwork: Emphasis will be given to prospection over nomad communities and temporary workers difficult to contact with since they are constantly moving from one place to another and in particular the location of Gypsy children not attending school or attending it in an intermittent way.

Survey Work: We pretend to develop the following research steps:
- Preliminary survey (pilot) and a questionnaire testing.
- Design of a sampling scale model.
- Field work application and development.
- Data recording.
- Statistic tabulation with data and multiple variant analysis.
- Elaboration of a result report.

Expected results:
- To get sociological and ethnographical information on the Gypsy children groups and their cultural and educational contexts.
- Reports of national and European ambits containing wide and accurate information of the Gypsy childhood educational situation, will allow the administrations of the European Union to guide their policies.
Changes in regulation modes and social production of inequalities in education systems: a European comparison.

REGULEDUCNETWORK

Contract No.: HPSE-CT-2001-00086

Research Project

EC contribution: 1099930 EURO
Starting date: 1 October 2001
Duration: 36 months

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Changes in regulation modes and social production of inequalities in education systems: a European comparison.

REGULEDUCNETWORK

Objectives:

Our research pursues two major aims:
To compare the evolution of public regulation modes for 5 national secondary education systems (GB, B, F, H & P) and to check whether these regulation modes converge, Europe-wide, around the growing importance of "local" levels:
- schools and/or new public local entities play a more important role;
- post-bureaucratic regulation modes of these new local entities occur (e.g. competition between schools or management by results).
To analyse the processes producing school inequalities within "comparable" local areas. To understand how the adaptation of regulation modes within each national system influences the way in which local actors perceive, analyse and manage (or not) hierarchy between schools and/or inequality of opportunity between pupils of different social and cultural origins.

Brief description of the project:

This research work covers three levels:
- Macro level (school system): to describe how regulation modes evolve in each national context, in terms of institutional guidelines issued by each State. We will first create a typology of regulation modes and will then try to show how, within very different school systems, there are national peculiarities and that these systems have been converging over the past 20 years.
- Meso level: to compare how these regulation modes have been implemented and what their effects are at the level of relevant areas of interdependence within national contexts and on intermediate regulation between micro and macro institutions. We will first study local areas covering interdependent and interacting neighbouring schools from two entry points: Competition and hierarchisation relationships, observed through statistics; Positioning strategies adopted by each school in relationship to the others, the intermediate regulation institutions (territorial public authorities or mediation bodies) or interface actors whose role is to help regulate local trends (within or among schools) will also be analysed.
- Micro level (schools): to analyse how actors behave within schools of a local area. How do directors’ decisions and teachers’ practices and ethics towards equity and equality issues evolve in the changing environment with adapted regulation modes?

Expected results:

During the first year, we will centre our research on macro-analysis, studying statistics, institutions and existing literature. The two other years will allow us to study the meso and micro levels in parallel. This research will help diagnose effects of new regulation modes in terms of hierarchisation between schools and inequalities within schools. It will highlight local processes producing social inequality and ways of reacting to them.
Children in communication about migration

CHICAM

Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-00048

Research Project
EC contribution: 1149848 EURO
Starting date: 1 November 2001
Duration: 36 months

EC Scientific Officer: Angelos Agalianos

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Children in communication about migration

CHICAM

Objectives:

1. To analyse how new media and communications technologies are changing social relations within migrant communities, paying particular attention to the position of children, and their relations with the family, peer group, community and school.
2. To identify how these technologies can be used to promote inclusion, both social and institutional, by building bridges between migrant/refugee children and members of the host societies.
3. By enabling such children to communicate with each other across national boundaries, to identify the potential of these media as means of intercultural communication, and to investigate how this potential can be more effectively exploited by educational and cultural organisations.
4. Through the use of these technologies, to raise the voice of migrant and refugee children in decision-making at local, national and European Community level in relation to policies that directly affect their social and economic well-being.

Brief description of the project:

CHICAM focuses on the social and cultural worlds of refugee and migrant children in six European countries; and is mainly concerned with first generation refugees or migrants, for whom the experience of re-location is relatively recent. The project aims to explore and develop the potential uses of media and communication technologies as means of empowering these children and enabling them to realise their potential. The main empirical focus involves studying groups of migrant/refugee children, aged 10-14, who are using new communications media in order to communicate with each other across national boundaries. In each participating country, researchers will collaborate with media artists and youth/community workers working directly with such children. Using the internet, we will establish a communications network to facilitate the sharing of children’s media productions, and generate ongoing dialogues between them. We will investigate how these children represent and express their experiences of migration into the different host countries, and how their use of new media might enable their perspectives to inform the development of European educational and cultural policies. In the process, we will seek to identify how particular experiences of reception, educational practice, family re-unification and community involvement may more effectively promote social inclusion and economic and cultural integration.

Expected Results:

CHICAM is conceived as a form of ‘action research’. It will generate a range of original data that will provide new insights into the experiences and perspectives of migrant and refugee children; and it will also provide innovative, evidence-based models of educational and cultural practice involving new media of communication.

CHICAM is a three-year project, which will run from November 2001 to October 2004. A dedicated website will open around May 2002: this will include digests of the project reports as they appear, and samples of the children’s media productions.
Learning in Partnership: Responding to the Restructuring of the European Steel and Metal Industry

**LEARNPARTNER**

**Contract N°**: HPSE-CT-2001-00049

**Research Project**
- EC contribution: 1196743 EURO
- Starting date: 1 September 2001
- Duration: 36 months

**EC Scientific Officer**: Nikolaos Kastrinos

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Learning in Partnership: Responding to the Restructuring of the European Steel and Metal Industry

LEARNPARTNER

Objectives:

The overarching aims of the project are to evaluate the role new lifelong learning strategies can play as a response to processes of restructuring in the European steel and metal sector, and to assess the potential of partnership-based approaches for furthering the learning agenda.

Brief description of the project:

1. LEARNPARTNER will map the contours of restructuring within the European steel and metal sector, and will examine the linkages between the trends of restructuring, technological change, the emergence of new human resource management practices and learning requirements, practices and opportunities.
2. LEARNPARTNER will explore the learning realities of steel and metal workers in an environment of change. Action research strategies will be utilised to contribute to the development of positive learning environments that enhance workers’ motivations to learn. A biographical study will also be conducted to understand the learning experiences of, and learning implications for, displaced workers.
3. LEARNPARTNER will identify the barriers and impediments to potential partnership approaches to learning. Best practice partnership approaches will be elucidated in terms of the management of change, equality of access, employability, and equal opportunities.
4. LEARNPARTNER will address the complex concern of developing a European learning agenda and response. Different national approaches, policies and legacies to learning and vocational education and training will be mapped and subsequently scrutinised through industry case studies to aid understanding of the potential for a meaningful set of European frameworks and provisions for learning and training.
5. LEARNPARTNER will contribute to the promotion of a European social dialogue with regard to new learning strategies through a set of policy recommendations for the furtherance of learning partnerships and the effective management of structural change across Europe.
6. LEARNPARTNER will construct a set of comparative, theoretical and practical frameworks concerning partnership approaches and trade union strategies towards lifelong learning.

Expected Results:

The project will focus on the steel and metal sectors, but the methodological approach, implications of the research and comparative frameworks developed will be transferable to other sectors of the European economy and will provide a set of policy pronouncements and benchmarks ‘for building a European knowledge society’. At an empirical level, the research will include detailed workplace case studies and an innovative ‘biographical’ study of the learning experiences of displaced steel and metal workers. At a concrete level, the project will develop European Skills Charters for the steel and metal industries. These Charters will detail ‘best practice’ and will be highly transferable to other European industries.
The role of language in mobilisation processes of ethnic and immigrant minorities

LANGMOB

Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-00056

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The role of language in mobilisation processes of ethnic and immigrant minorities

LANGMOB

Objectives:

The project intends to analyse language minorities policies throughout the European Union. Policies directed towards regional ethnic minorities and immigrant ethnic minorities will be compared. The institutional framework of language teaching in both minority cases will be explored and the discourses about language policies within the minority communities concerned will be highlighted and internationally compared.

On the basis of the research results the project group will recommend strategies on how to respond to cultural diversity in Europe and to trigger social cohesion.

Brief description of the project:

The project is dealing with future minority language policies in the European Union. The central hypothesis is that language preservation and language teaching depends on intervention from outside the sphere of language preservation, training and development. Language policies are embedded in the social and political environment. These political aspects are studied with regard to regional, ethnic and migrant minority languages, furthermore with regard to problems of minority language teaching, preservation and development, in Italy, Germany, France, Spain and the United Kingdom and on the European level.

Until now, minority language policies in Europe have been reduced to the minority language issues itself, which is contradictory to the central hypothesis of the project, which is arguing that these language developments are part of a whole set of factors, in which the language plays only a sectoral role. These contexts will be investigated: the minority language policies, the discourses and policies of minorities and of state agencies, and the institutional frameworks involved.

Expected results:

1) This research will be a first overview about the contexts of minority language preservation, teaching and development.
2) These contexts will be described on three levels, at the level of organisation, state discourses, state organisations and minority activities.
3) It will be a first comparison between regional minority language developments and migrant minority language debates.
4) It will deliver basic information about minority language policies in Europe.
Students as "Journeymen" between communities of Higher Education and Work

JOURNEY MEN

Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-00068

Research Project
EC contribution: 761670 EURO
Starting date: 1 September 2001
Duration: 36 months

EC Scientific Officer: A.Agalianos

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Students as "Journeymen" between communities of Higher Education and Work

JOURNEYMEN

Objectives:

The over-arching question in the project is: How do students and novices in the workplace construe their university studies and their professional identity – and the relationship between them? The research perspective rests on the assumption that there is a mutual interplay between individuals and the collectives that shapes, reproduces, or reshapes the discourse of the different communities. To accomplish such a description, the following three empirical questions have to be answered. 1. What discourses can be discerned in education and working life as significant for the students and the novices in their construction of studies? 2. Which structural/material/cultural conditions contribute to those discourses? 3. What strategies do students and novices apply in order to cope with knowledge formation – learning in studies and work?

Brief description of the project:

The project comprises a number of discernible, but highly interrelated work packages. WP 1 is designed to allow for cross-sectional study of how students construe their part taking in higher education. WP 2 is designed to provide a description of the relation between higher education and working life in a longitudinal perspective. This work package will investigate into how senior students conceive of their professional role. The same students will also be interviewed after their first year in working life. WP 3 is designed as a "second" and "third" level interpretation of the data. Initially, the interviews will be interpreted so that the individual perspectives on learning and work are reconstructed and categorised. The "second level" interpretation will make use of the aggregated data from national samples, supplemented with additional material. The overall goal is to disclose how the conceptions presented by the interviewees interrelate to broader institutional and cultural factors at the location of the research. The "third level" interpretation will involve broader cultural factors that contribute to different national traditions, European trends in education and employment, and changing demands that result from the global socio-economic trends. WP 4 comprises the comparative aspects of the project and makes up the final theoretical and empirical analyses of the work. The challenge is to establish the aspects and dimensions along which the most fruitful comparisons between the four countries may be accomplished.

Expected results:

Analyses are conducted at three levels 1. Descriptive analyses on the national level 2. comparative analyses where all results are analysed across the four countries. The third level of analysis will comprise of meta-analyses, looking at cross national and cross cultural differences from a critical discourse perspective. The comparison between the four countries can also contribute new knowledge about possibilities and hindrances for increased work force mobility between the European countries.
Youth Policy and Participation. The role of participation and informal learning in the transition of young people to the labour market. A comparative analysis in 10 European regions.

YOYO

Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-00072

Research Project
EC contribution: 949717 EURO
Starting date: 15 July 2001
Duration: 36 months

EC Scientific Officer: Angelos Agalianos

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Youth Policy and Participation. The role of participation and informal learning in the transition of young people to the labour market. A comparative analysis in 10 European regions.

YOYO

Objectives:

The main objective of the project is to improve the knowledge of the prerequisites for citizenship, focusing upon young people’s active participation in their transition to the labour market. It is assumed that citizenship, both at the national and European level, requires the ability to actively influence one’s own biography and everyday life. In contrast to highly motivated young people with often higher qualifications, those with low qualifications run the risk to embark in training schemes, where they often loose their motivation: These schemes often neglect individual aspirations and informal skills. This is the starting point of the project which aims to assess the potential of local youth policies to increase young people’s ability and motivation to active participation. In this behalf, the importance of recognizing informal learning strengthening the role of local youth policies within national transition systems will be analysed.

Brief description of the project:

The project highlights prerequisites of young people’s citizenship. It analyses the motivation to actively shape transitions to work and to take part in lifelong learning. It contributes to an integration of participatory youth policies and transition policies. It analyses the role local youth policies could play in such changed transition policies.

The project consists of a series of case studies conducted in 10 European regions (Romania, Denmark, East and West Germany, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, United Kingdom). These will be organized in two steps:

Step 1: 
- Exploratory interviews will be conducted with two groups of young people assessing their own criteria for participation and the prerequisites of motivation and informal learning:
  - young people with risk biographies, i.e. low levels of qualification and problems of motivation who have begun one of the measures identified for the case studies (see step2);
  - young people with choice biographies, i.e. higher levels of qualification combined with informal skills leading to high motivation and individually shaped trajectories.

Step 2: In each region 3 cases of good practice will be examined through document analysis, expert interviews, video documentation (by young people) and follow-up interviews with young people after participation in the respective measures. Cases will be selected according to regional and economic indicators and target groups (e.g. gender and ethnicity). Comparative analyses will be conducted on the national case study reports.

Expected Results:

Case studies and their cross-national comparison will result in a typology of good practice, providing knowledge on effects of different types of local youth policy addressing transitions to work and insights in prerequisites for active participation. Criteria will be developed for application, transfer and contextualisation.

On the scientific level the project provides an assessment of the potentials of the concepts citizenship, participation and lifelong learning which have been sharply criticised regarding their largely rhetorical and ideological functions in the context of social inequality. These concepts are revalidated by analysing their prerequisites and comparing ‘good practices’ that show an awareness of these contradictions and provide individuals opportunities for active participation.

On the political level, the project’s results can help to design a potent local, national as well as European youth policy with regard to transitions to work. To such policy the project’s results can contribute by:

- revalidating the local level of youth and transition policies where a better fit can be made between the needs of young people, the resources of labour offices and of local enterprises;
- combating de-motivation of young people by a youth political framework for educational and training systems, committed to the principles of participation and lifelong learning;
- analysing the potentials of young people that are successful in an informal way as models of local youth policy for support to empower disengaged young people with low qualifications.
Participation in Continuing Vocational Education and Training (VET): a need for a sustainable employability

PARTICIPA

Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-00074
Research Project
EC contribution: 550000 EURO
Starting date: 30 months
Duration: 30 months

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Participation in Continuing Vocational Education and Training (VET): a need for a sustainable employability

OBJECTIVES:

The project aims to identify, analyse and understand the factors related to the participation of technical workers from industrial SMEs in continuing vocational education and training (CVET) activities in the EU, including an understanding of how these factors influence the workers’ decision to participate in such activities. Technical workers are defined as the workers who perform technical and technological tasks in the different industrial sectors. It is assumed that the technical function performed by those workers gives them a fundamental role in their company’s functioning structure. A relevant industrial sector will be chosen for each participant region. In addition, the project will study the attitudes of technical workers towards their participation in CVET, with special reference to ICTs. The study intends to contribute to the establishment of European policies and strategies that promote and increase the participation of technical workers in their own professional development. It is expected to contribute to the promotion of equal access to continuing vocational training to all workers (and those who are out of the labour market) throughout their working life, as a relevant pathway for a sustainable development of the European society.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT:

The study will use a cross sectional survey approach complemented by a set of case studies. In the survey phase, data will be collected from a random sample. The development of the data-collection instrument will be based on a modified version of the social participation model known by ISSTAL (Smith, 1980) and adapted to the European reality. The instrument will be piloted in the 6 European regions where the study will be conducted. The content, convergent and discriminant validity of the instrument will be assessed. The sample will be selected through a stratified multi-stage sampling method. Data for the case studies will be collected through semi-structured interviews and non-participant observation in each participant European region (Alentejo and Centro in PT, Extremadura in ES, Bremen in DE, Roma in IT, Patras in GR, Coventry in the UK). Relationships between the different predictive factors and the criterion variable (participation) will be assessed with multiple regression and discriminant analysis. Relationships among the independent variables will be also analysed mainly through multidimensional scaling strategies and multiple correspondence analysis. Content analysis will be used to analyse qualitative data collected through interviews. Although comparisons will be made among the six participant regions, this study will be conducted under the collaborative research approach.

EXPECTED RESULTS:

Analysing and understanding the nature of the factors and the relationships associated to the participation of technical workers in CVT activities constitute important basis to formulate adequate and effective development policies and strategies for the different socio-professional groups. In addition, understanding the participation phenomenon (that is how certain factors influence adult participation in continuing training) facilitates the definition of effective CVT programmes directed to the needs and sensibilities of technical workers. It is expected that the project results will lead to recommendations related to the design and implementation of policies for continuing VET activities and Human Resource Development.
Legal Framework of New Governance and Modern Policy in Education throughout Europe

NGMPE

Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-50001

Thematic Network

EC contribution: 180000 EURO
Starting date: 1 July 2001
Duration: 36 months

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Legal Framework of New Governance and Modern Policy in Education throughout Europe

NGMPE

Objectives:

The network's research activities will be specifically based on the following overall topics: Quality, safety, responsibility and liability in the world of education. They influence both education policy and the standardisation that is enacted in that regard. These topics can be examined from different angles. For this, education law with its interdisciplinary nature is in a very good position. The principle objective of the network in education law is to create an overall legal framework for specific problems facing the world of education. It includes both the study of decision-making techniques and the study of the manner in which legal rules are applied. On the basis of comparative analyses of internal education law, comparisons will be made between the various systems of education law in the Member States in order to obtain an overview of the best legal instruments adapted to the needs of the modern world of education. At the same time, a good deal of attention will be given to the European dimension of education law, both at the European and national levels. In this regard, the exchange of expertise between various universities and other European research centres from the Member States is necessary.

Brief description of the project:

The network should lead to the development of an overall framework and the charting of the legal and policy tools which the Member States have in order to deal with problems inherent to a changing world of education at all levels. The aim is to compare the various national education systems from a legal perspective and to thereby examine which methods are the most and best used.

Expected results:

The result of the activities of the network should be that greater clarity and transparency is created in the matter of the legal status of pupils/students and teaching staff on the one hand and the various governments within Europe, in the event they suffer damages through the faults or deeds of others, that the safety coupled with the quality of education can be guaranteed and that the responsibilities can be indicated at all levels. The core responsibilities of the European policy and of the national governments will be clearly charted.

The results will be incorporated in a handbook titled “A legal framework for a new administration and a modern policy in Education in Europe”. Furthermore, the information will also be distributed via the Internet. A databank will be drawn up from useful education-related jurisprudence and education-related legal doctrines coupled with the comparative study to be conducted. This databank will have to develop into a legal tool for judges, lawyers and policymakers as well as for the administrative staff of universities and schools and for all those who are involved with the quality of education on a daily basis.

In order to be able to regularly assess and adjust the research, the network co-ordinator will organise workshops and seminars focused on certain topics of the project.
Towards the European Society - Challenges for Education and Training Policies Arising from the European Integration and Enlargement

EURONE&T

Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-50008

Thematic Network

EC contribution: 649960 EURO
Starting date: 1 September 2001
Duration: 32 months

EC Scientific Officer: Angelos Agalianos

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Towards the European Society - Challenges for Education and Training Policies
Arising from the European Integration and Enlargement

EURONE&T

Objectives:
The Thematic Network EURONE&T focuses on the consequences of the social, political and economic integration of the European societies, including the integration of the accession countries, on learning related policies in Europe. It reflects on the repercussions of the Internationalisation and Europeanisation of E&T on European policies and transnational research in this policy domain. As the relation between education and training environments and the process of integration is a twofold one, EURONE&T both investigates the impact of the different cultures, concepts and approaches in education and training on the EU integration, and the impact of EU integration and enlargement on the different national education and training environments.

Brief description of the project:

Three major policy and research issues constitute the thematic domains of the proposed network:

Thematic domain 1 – modus vivendi:
Under the modus vivendi the network will focus its activities on the ambiguity of European policies between internationalised economic challenges, the progressing Europeanisation of economies and policies through a joint currency and joint regulations on one hand and the national competencies for E&T policies rooted in the traditions of the different European societies.

Thematic domain 2 – modus transitorius:
Under the modus transitorius the network activities will reflect on the specific challenges and dilemmas of accession countries adapting their E&T policies to the measures of the EU which at the same time are in a period of transition from opposing of E&T traditions.

Thematic domain 3 – modus operandi:
Under the modus operandi the network will focus on conclusions to establish a European community of E&T professionals needed to bother master the challenges of EU-integration and enlargement. Under this modus both transnational research methods and policy approaches to facilitate innovation of the EU E&T systems will be developed.

Expected results:
The Thematic Network links a whole of 20 project partners, external experts and policy makers from different European countries. Project activities include the mapping and evaluation of documents and publications in the realm of learning related policies, as well as a series of single-domain and cross-domain workshops. Results will be made accessible to a larger public by dissemination workshops, a project website, scientific and other publications.
Higher Education Reform Network: A collaborative partnership to explore, disseminate and advise on the university of tomorrow - in relation to societal change and lifelong learning needs and in the context of European enlargement

HERN

Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-50011

Thematic Network

EC contribution: 600000 EURO
Starting date: Duration: 36 months

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Higher Education Reform Network: A collaborative partnership to explore, disseminate and advise on the university of tomorrow - in relation to societal change and lifelong learning needs and in the context of European enlargement

HERN

Objectives:

The proposal will explore how tomorrow’s university can respond to societal changes and lifelong learning needs in the context of EU enlargement. The Bologna Conference (1999) emphasised the central role of HE in developing European culture and promoting employability. Two OECD reports (1993, 1996) stress the lack of knowledge about higher education to feed into policy and the need for research networks to establish an international knowledge base. HERN will accommodate these needs by providing innovative policy analyses, new specialist networks, educational manuals and analytical frameworks to foster good practice and contribute to scientific and professional knowledge and debate. It will ask questions such as:

- What are the perceived roles of tomorrow’s university in a world of change?
- What are the governance challenges for difference nation institutions in managing change?
- What is the role of HE in developing an inclusive and socially responsible workforce of the future?
- How can a modern HE system develop quality teaching and learning strategies which are appropriate and accessible for the needs of tomorrow’s knowledge society?

Description of the project:

The proposal applies an innovative model for policy formulation around the theme of HE reform by incorporating four theoretical domains of analysis (change, society, governance, teaching and learning). These form thematic strands for seminars and interactive website discussions to explore strategies for action (inclusion, regional role, employability) through current EU concepts (of citizenship, EU integration, lifelong learning and technology). The model provides a theoretical basis for comparative, participatory analysis of research and development project from 11 European countries. Data are derived from documentary and historical research, focus groups, interviews and surveys case study and action research.

HERN membership involves key players, with extensive networking and policy advisory links, from Central and Eastern European and Western European countries.

The proposal will organise:
- a series of thematic termly seminars and interactive website to create cross fertilisation of ideas and develop new research collaborations;
- state of the art electronic communication systems including website, e-mail base and CD ROM;
- production of background papers to support the development of policy, and practitioner handbooks; wide dissemination through an extensive range of networks and organisations;
- collation of new data and contribution to scientific professional knowledge and debates.

The seminars and website will enable a wide range of participants to:

- analyse past and present social trends and structural challenges influencing HE in each country;
- identify values, underlying evolving strategic and decision making processes;
- examine the extent to which HE in each country perceives its social responsibility towards Europe;
- identify the perceived and actual relationship between HE and prospects for lifelong learning and employment; disseminate future recommendations to the wider world and policy makers.

Dissemination will be through print based and on-line materials and conference events. Partnership agreements are negotiated with relevant policy organisations and HE networks, ensuring continuing support from HE managers and improving dialogue between researchers and end-users.

Expected results:

Establishment of website and audit of existing relevant networks, projects and common timetabling methods. Delivery of new research pilot collaborations. A focus on providing thematic termly seminars and follow-up electronic discussions. To conclude with:
- policy reports and dissemination of academic discussions via affiliated organisation conferences;
- CD ROM of key policy issues and preparations for a collaborative book publication.

Production of a guide for practitioners.
Education and Wage Inequality in Europe

EDWIN

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-00108

Research Project

EC contribution: 1169979 €
Starting date: 1 November 2002
Duration: 30 months

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Education and Wage Inequality in Europe

EDWIN

Objectives:

The dominant view leading European governments and EU policies is that educational expansion is an important policy tool when trying to reverse or slow down the rise in inequality observed in a growing number of European countries. At the same time, emerging evidence reveals that aggregate wage inequality is due not only to differences between educational groups but arises from differences within these groups as well.

The overarching objective of the project is to undertake in-depth analysis of the interplay between educational expansion and wage inequality in Europe over the past few decades, up to the new millennium. The novelty of the project is that it analyses the underlying patterns and trends in both between-groups and within-groups wage inequality and looks for major policy-relevant explanations for the obtained findings. All the analysis is undertaken with respect to three crucial dimensions: educational level, age and gender. This new knowledge will improve policy-makers’ understanding of the link between educational expansion and wage inequality and its main consequences, and will identify the economic and social policy options to tackle and manage the ongoing changes.

Description of the work:

The stated objectives will be obtained through the following work stages: (1) Comprehensive literature review on education and wage inequality that sets out the current state-of-the-art with respect to scientific results, policy implications and knowledge gaps. (2) In-depth analysis of the structure and change in European wage inequality in order to provide a broad-based European-wide picture of the static and dynamic nature of overall wage inequality and its between and within dimensions. (3) Analysis to further enhance the understanding of the education-wage link between cohorts and its evolution over time within and between the European countries, with special reference to intergenerational effects arising from the expansion in higher education. (4) Analysis to further enhance the understanding of the education-wage link within cohorts and its evolution over time within and between the European countries, with special reference to intragenerational effects arising from the expansion in higher education. (5) Analysis that draws together this multitude of results produced by means of several alternative but highly complementary approaches and methodologies in an attempt to evaluate the relative importance of the between and within dimensions for overall wage inequality. (6) Analysis of a number of possible policy-relevant explanations for the observed patterns and trends. Among the explanations to be investigated are: labour market institutions and flexibility arrangements; educational, skill and institutional quality differences; over-education and job competition; gender differences; and experience and training.

These issues will be investigated by use of different but complementary methodologies (descriptive and statistical techniques) and cross-country comparable data (ECHP and national data sets).

Expected results:

Each workpackage will produce national and cross-country comparative reports, which add value both to the research and the political arena. A final report, which will be focussed to derive the practical implications for economic and social policy. Main results from the project will be disseminated at two user-oriented seminars.

The project will improve the understanding of the extent to which economic growth and dynamism may be combined with social progress and limited levels of inequality. It has an historical and prospective dimension on inequality. The cohort dimension will help to identify and evaluate options to address European challenges of ageing, falling birth rates and the increasing trend in inequality. It will help to develop indicators for assessing patterns and trends in European wage inequality and Calibrate progress in the dimensions.
Higher Education Institutions' Responses to Europeanisation, Internationalisation and Globalisation. Developing International Activities in a Multi-Level Policy Context

HEIGLO

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-00113

Research Project
EC contribution: 949629 €
Starting date: 1 November 2002
Duration: 24 months
EC Scientific Officer: Angelos Agalianos

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Higher Education Institutions’ Responses to Europeanisation, Internationalisation and Globalisation. Developing International Activities in a Multi-Level Policy Context

HEIGLO

Objectives:

1) To develop a theoretical understanding of the forces of Europeanisation, internationalisation and globalisation relevant for higher education institutions.
2) Analyse in selected European countries (a) the policy views and rationales for Europeanisation, internationalisation and globalisation; (b) the actual policies and regulatory frameworks and means aimed at shaping the international role of higher education institutions; and (c) the extent to which they foster or impede the development and management of internationalisation activities in higher education institutions.
3) Analyse (a) the perceptions of higher education institutions of the challenges of Europeanisation, internationalisation and globalisation; (b) their actual internationalisation policies and activities; and (c) the extent to which the organisational settings foster or impede internationalisation.
4) Compare the findings from the national studies.
5) Formulate on the basis of the above recommendations.

Description of the work:

The work is divided into five work packages. The first package (month 1 to 5) includes the elaboration of the framework for describing and analysing recent changes in national and European higher education policies; the elaboration of the theoretical framework regarding the internationalisation process of higher education institutions and systems; and the state of the art synthesis of the main findings, methodologies and currents of thought on the main issue of the project. The second package (month 2-7) focuses on the actual analysis of the national and European higher education policies, including policies in support of internationalisation in higher education. The third package (month 8 and 9) aims at comparing recent changes in national policies for higher education, including internationalisation policies, with emphasis on the relations of state and higher education institutions and the ‘steering’ models employed. The fourth package (month 10 to 19) focuses on the analysis – by means of case studies (5 per participating country, consisting of document analysis, interviews, etc.) – of higher education institutions’ internationalisation policies and activities and the underlying views and perceptions, actual policies and the organisational settings in which they are implemented. In this analysis the development of organisational internationalisation profiles, based on the scope and content of internationalisation activities of the organisations involved, plays an important role. The fifth work package (month 20 to 24) relates to the comparative analysis – across organisations and across systems – of the factors of influence on internationalisation activities of higher education organisations. This package also identifies and clarifies the policy and institutional means for an improved management of the internationalisation process of higher education institutions.

Expected results:

The milestones and expected results of the first work package are an elaborated theoretical framework to underpin the overall research project and a presentation of the state of the art with regard to the project theme. The second package yields a number of national and European updates reports and analyses of recent changes and developments in higher education (including internationalisation). The third package brings forth a comparative analysis of the changes and developments. The fourth packages results in 7 national reports based on 5 organisational case studies. The fifth package results in a European comparative study on the institutional dynamics of higher education internationalisation.
European Research on EU enlargement

27 Countries

116 Participants

12.8 Millions €

13 Projects
Theme

EU enlargement
Values Systems of the Citizens and Socio-Economic Conditions - Challenges from Democritisation for the EU-Enlargement

DEMOCRATIC VALUES

**Contract N°**: HPSE-CT-2001-00062

**Research Project**

- EC contribution: 965592 EURO
- Starting date: 1 September 2001
- Duration: 36 months

**EC Scientific Officer**: Aris Apollonatos

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**Theme**: EU enlargement
Values Systems of the Citizens and Socio-Economic Conditions - Challenges from Democritisation for the EU-Enlargement

DEMOCRATIC VALUES

Objectives:

Facts and figures about democratisation in post-communist Europe - Comparison of pattern of social, cultural and political preferences in Central, Eastern and Southern Europe - Typology of value systems - Interaction of political attitudes, economic hardship and social decline - Different positions of accession countries towards the European Union - Cultural difficulties of EU-Enlargement - Implications of individual coping strategies on collective behaviour - SPSS-readable datafile for further comparative research, EU-documentation centres and data-documentation centres in all accompanied nations - Interim results, final reports, detailed reports adjusted to the needs of local and regional governance - Presentation of policy options papers - Internet and email discussion list - Publication of nation reports - Publication of comparative analyses of selected topics - Political advice papers and modules.

Brief description of the Project:

Discussion of the different positions within the consortium in order to outline the research topic in workshops - Analyses of the comparable data-set conducted in Central and Eastern European countries (average 11,500 interviews) - Opinion polls in Greece, Spain and Germany (West) - Matching of a comparable data-set including all countries survived - Every partner analyse the national part of the survey, according to the research design, designated by project consortium - Linear analyses of the national surveys; will be published in a volume: national reports - Presentation to the public and discussion with colleagues, politicians and interested public - Sophisticated multivariate analyses of the data (including loglinear models and linear structural equation models) - Symposium to prepare the final report; results will be published in an edited conference volume - Second topic related volume: comparative results - Analyses of political cultures of Central and Eastern European countries - The project aims at the implications of individual coping strategies on collective behaviour and regards citizenship as a key challenge for the integration in wider Europe - Distribution of information modules; the modules, additional detailed reports, the publications and policy option papers will be put at the disposal of politicians of all levels of governance and the European Union - Public distribution via internet, email discussion lists and internet download papers according to specific topics of interest.

Expected Results:

Negative socio-economic conditions cause anti-democratic resentments - Implication of political culture on EU-enlargement: from post-communist accession countries derive difficulties - New comparable data-set for all-Europe - Up to date information about the socio-cultural bases of the post-communist accession states in Eastern Europe - Comprehensive form for political and public advice - Representative cross-section of transition countries.
Regional Labour Market Adjustment in the Accession Candidate Countries

ACCESSLAB

Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-00063

Research Project
EC contribution: 685000 EURO
Starting date: 1 July 2001
Duration: 36 months

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Regional Labour Market Adjustment in the Accession Candidate Countries

ACCESSLAB

Objectives:

The primary objectives of this project are to provide an analysis of regional labour market adjustment in candidate countries and to enable European policy makers to evaluate the regional labour market consequences of the accession process in these countries. Also it will analyse the consequences of potential emigration for regional labour markets in sending countries and distributive aspects of integration of the candidate countries. To this end it will:

1. Provide a set of “stylised facts” on the adjustment of candidate countries regional labour markets to different shocks and compare these to EU member states’ labour market dynamics.

2. Analyse the different adjustment mechanisms of selected transition countries’ labour markets in detail, with a particular emphasis on the problems of different labour market groups.

3. Investigate the specific experience of regions lying on borders to infer implications for the regional labour market impact of EU for the new member countries.

Brief description of the project:

The project takes a broad and comparative view on labour market adjustments. It examines this topic from both a macroeconomic and microeconomic perspective. Furthermore, it considers different adjustment mechanisms in depth. These are labour supply, firm level and migration adjustment. It compares results to those of the European Union and draws on a) the experiences in transition countries in the last decade, b) the experience of German integration and c) the experiences of border regions to gain insights on the likely regional labour market effects of accession.

The project will first measure the reaction of regional aggregates such as wages, unemployment, employment and participation to labour demand and supply shocks in the accession countries. It compares these findings to EU regions. Then it analyses the macro-economic causes and consequences of migration processes in candidate countries are analysed and compared EU countries. The effects of emigration of high skilled workers on sending region are estimated.

In a further step a micro-economic perspective is adopted to analyse the labour supply decision, educational choices and firm level wage and employment adjustments in great detail for different demographic groups and types of enterprises.

Finally, border regions will be used as a “natural experiment” to analyse the wage and employment consequences of integration and make inferences about the regional labour market impacts of accession.

Expected Results:

The project will provide theory-based empirical results, on a region little analysed with the methodologies proposed, and confronted by a very specific situation. It will yield new results on labour market dynamics, firm level adjustment, migration motives and individual labour market supply decisions in candidate countries.
EU-enlargement: The impact of East-West migration on growth and enlargement

FLOWENLA

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EU-enlargement: The impact of East-West migration on growth and enlargement

FLOWENLA

Objectives:

The central objective of this work is to analyse the *impact of migration on growth and employment* in the context of *EU enlargement*. An *integrated* approach is pursued by analysing all three dimensions along which integration of productive structures between the Central and Eastern European economies and the EU countries proceeds: *labour, capital and goods flows*. This enables us to take into account the substitutability and complementarity of factor and goods flows. It also adopts an explicitly dynamic perspective in that it attempts to show that integration can impact upon both short- and long-term economic growth and employment. A comprehensive *theoretical framework* will be developed to understand the growth and employment consequences of international migration, when accompanied by the liberalisation of trade and capital flows. The *empirical* sections on migration, capital and trade flows will deliver the inputs for the simulations of alternative policy measures using the theoretical model, and will provide insights in themselves.

Description of the project:

*Harmonisation of existing databases on skilled migration and EU-countries’ FDI activities in Eastern Europe*: builds a harmonised cross-country database combining existing official national and international statistics and labour force surveys to enable the analysis of skill-differences in international migration; builds a harmonised cross-country database containing aggregate and firm-level FDI activities in EU candidate countries, possibly augmented by own surveys where necessary.

*Theory*: survey the existing literature and develop a comprehensive ‘new trade - new growth’ theoretical framework to analyse the impact of migration on growth and employment, when accompanied by the liberalisation of trade and capital flows.

*Empirical analysis of EU-CEEC migration*: Drawing on the empirical regularities observed among non-CEECs in the case of previous enlargements and on the existing available data for the CEECs themselves, the effect of skilled-differentiated East-West migration potential will be estimated and the effects of skilled migration on growth and employment assessed.

*Empirical analysis of EU-CEEC capital flows*: The impact of FDI and the delocalisation of production on growth and employment will be studied by distinguishing between vertical and horizontal international production activities.

*Empirical analysis of EU-CEEC trade*: The specialisation pattern observed in EU-CEEC trade will be analysed on a highly disaggregate level and the upgrading performance of CEEC firms will be quantitatively assessed and explained.

*Policy implications*: The empirical sections will provide the inputs for the simulation of policy measures in the general framework developed. Specific policy prescriptions at the European and national level will be derived.

Expected results:

Expected results include the development of consistent and empirically well-informed theoretical framework within which rigorous policy analysis on the effect of migration on growth and employment can be carried out.
EU Integration and the Prospects for Catch-Up Development in ceecs - The Determinants of the Productivity Gap

**PRODUCTIVITY GAP**

**Contract N°**: HPSE-CT-2001-00065

**Research Project**

- **EC contribution**: 949970 EURO
- **Starting date**: 1 September 2001
- **Duration**: 36 months

**EC Scientific Officer**: Peter Fisch

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EU Integration and the Prospects for Catch-Up Development in ceeecs - The Determinants of the Productivity Gap

PRODUCTIVITY GAP

Accession countries today exhibit significantly lower levels of economic development in comparison to the average of contemporary EU member states. Most regions of the newly accessing states will therefore qualify as recipients of EU Structural and Cohesion Funds. Already today, some pre-accession assistance is being granted.

The Agenda of EU Enlargement is biased towards institutional integration and legal convergence. Little effort in research has so far been invested on a comparative picture of particular conditions of economic catch-up development in individual countries of Central East Europe (CEECs). It is not at all clear that integration per se will result in a swift process of income convergence. The East German example, featuring divergence of income levels since 1997 may serve as a case in point, despite significant financial transfers from West Germany and the EU.

Objectives:
The overarching objective of the project is the generation of a unique knowledge base on the various determinants of lower levels of economic development in accession candidates. Determinants assessed comprise of three groups: patterns of domestic and international specialisation at the macro-level, technological sophistication of production at a meso-level, and firm-specific determinants at the micro-level of individual enterprises.

This newly generated body of comparative knowledge will be compiled with a view on an effective management of the accession process: accession policy, negotiations, pre-accession assistance and strategies as well as EU financial and technical assistance to the candidate countries have to be assessed in terms of their potentials to assist the catch up of levels of productivity, and hence income. The project aims to inform policy makers on the respective effectiveness of targeted economic policy intervention and assistance to and within newly acceding EU member states.

Description of the project:
Knowledge on the particular conditions, main deficiencies in CEECs as well as the effects of intensifying integration with the EU to be expected in the near future is still scarce and lacks comparability. Such knowledge however is indispensable for targeting economic policy to their most efficient use.

The research project will assess the weight and role played by the of determinants of the productivity gap between selected accession countries and the EU. Countries of analysis will be in geographical order Estonia, Poland, the Czech and Slovak Republics, Hungary and Slovenia.

The method of construction and integration of new sets of data and indicators of comparative nature at the wider European level comprises of field studies, including questionnaires, a matched pair panel and structured interviews, quantitative empirical analysis and literature assessment. Interpretation and analysis of data is assisted by the usual empirical and econometric methods, including partial equilibrium models, data envelopment analysis, regression models and average and variance analysis.

Expected results:
The unique sets of data to be generated in this project will enable us not only to understand much better the relevant factors which generate and which may reduce productivity gaps between individual CEECs and the EU, but also the restricting factors for a complete closure of the gap. This will allow us to develop new approaches to enlargement policies that will take into account the need to address the individual sources of productivity gap next to the institutional integration per se.
Economic and Political Re-integration in an Enlarged EU: Implications for Regional Stability

EPRIEE

Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-00066
Research Project

EC contribution: 649583 EURO
Starting date: 1 July 2001
Duration: 36 months

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Theme: EU enlargement
Economic and Political Re-integration in an Enlarged EU: Implications for Regional Stability

EPRIEE

Objectives:

To analyse the stability and viability of an enlarged EU, taking into account the diversity of the accession states in terms of their size, heritage from the communist era, comparative advantages and optimal trade orientations. To consider the impact of the next accession on non-accession states, such as South East Europe (SEE), through trade diversion and changes in FDI and labour migration. To examine the desirability of alternative accession strategies, the role of accession negotiations as a means to cement reform, and consider the desirability of integration within SEE as a step towards integration into the EU. Account will be taken of the impact upon current EU members, and consideration will be given to the reforms required for the EU to avoid instability or paralysis within the more heterogenous EU. The costs of bloc instability, fragmentation and paralysis will also be considered.

Brief description of the project:

The work consists of 7 complementary modules. 1. Computable general equilibrium analysis of Central and Eastern European Countries (CEEC) transition accession and the accession impact upon the non-accession neighbours and the EU bloc. 2. The impact of the accession on EU institutions, decision making and bargaining. 3. Building a data base. 4. Data analysis to calibrate the models, measure integration and test hypotheses. 5. Case studies of Estonia and Poland. The impact of accession on a small country, and the relationship with Russia. The consequences of Polish accession on sensitive sectors, and the cost of meeting EU standards. 6. Case studies of the wider implications of accession. The likely changes in labour migration and capital flows to the EU, CEEC and SEE following accession. 7. Synthesis and policy conclusions - building a stable bloc. How can the gains from integration be shared to maintain stability and avoid paralysis as the EU becomes more heterogenous. How can accession be used to promote reform. The role for variable geometry for avoiding paralysis in the wider EU. The lessons from the failure of the CMEA.

Expected Results:

An appreciation of the lessons from the failed integration and collapse of the CMEA, in particular the causes and costs of paralysis and collapse. An indication of the impact of accession on the CEEC, SEE and EU. An evaluation of different integration schemes. Proposals for institutional reform to avoid paralysis in a more heterogenous EU.
Organising for EU Enlargement: A Challenge for the Member States and the Candidate States

ORGANISING FOR ENLARGEMENT

Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-00083
Research Project

EC contribution: 780000 EURO
Starting date: 1 October 2001
Duration: 34 months

EC Scientific Officer: Peter Fisch

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Organising for EU Enlargement: A Challenge for the Member States and the Candidate States

ORGANISING FOR ENLARGEMENT

Objectives:

The aim of this research project is to deepen understanding of processes of Europeanisation in 3 member states and 3 candidate countries. The research project encompasses the following 5 objectives:

1. to conduct theoretically informed comparative research on the management of EU public policy making in six states;
2. to undertake empirical research on the adaptation of structures and processes of public policy making to Europeanisation;
3. to produce comparative research on the adaptation of national core-executives to EU governance;
4. to complement this with two case studies on multileveled governance;
5. to shed light on the capacity of small states to adjust and adapt to the increasing demands of the EU on their systems of public policy making and therefore to identify the barriers to effective, efficient and accountable management of EU business.

Brief description of the Project:

The six countries that form the basis of the comparative study are Ireland, Finland, Greece, Estonia, Slovenia, and Hungary. Two key approaches—historical institutionalism and rational choice institutionalisation are used in a complementary manner to analyse different facets of Europeanisation. The project is divided into two phases. Phase one, entitled macro-management, explores changes in structures and processes at the level of the core-executive. The focus is on the over-arching ministries, co-ordination and strategic control structures and informal processes. Phase two, entitled multileveled governance, analyses policy making and implementation in two policy fields—regional policy and environmental regulation at the EU, national and regional levels. The focus here is on the interaction of different levels of governance and the capacity to make and implement EU policy.

Expected Results:

The project will provide a rich data base on the adaptation of small states (member states and candidate countries) to EU public policy making. The dual focus on candidate countries and previous ‘new comers’ ensures that the project will generate data on adaptation over time, both before and after membership. It will provide insights into the manner in which diverse state traditions, institutions, political and administrative cultures influence national adaptation to EU governance. It will deepen existing knowledge of multileveled governance and the Union’s complex governance regimes in different policy areas and at different levels. It will provide an understanding of how national projects of modernisation are bound up with the dynamic of the EU and will thus fill an important gap in our understanding of integration. The work produced by this project will have relevance to the stakeholders in EU policy making at EU level and throughout the member states and candidate countries.
The Eastward Enlargement of the Euro-zone

**EZONEPPLUS**

**Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-00084**

**Research Project**
- **EC contribution:** 1049711 EURO
- **Starting date:** 1 July 2001
- **Duration:** 36 months

**EC Scientific Officer: Peter Fisch**

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The Eastward Enlargement of the Euro-zone

EZONEPLUS

Objectives:

Eastward enlargement is one of the hot topics in European economics. The accession of central and eastern European countries (CEEC) into the European Union (EU) will be followed by an extension of the eurozone to this region. The research project, Ezoneplus, analyses economic and political implications and consequences of this specific feature of enlargement. Thus, it identifies expected benefits as well as adaptation costs and potential risks. It then develops policy strategies suited to harvest beneficiary and minimise adverse effects.

Brief description of the project:

Research is structured along three stages. First, an enlarged eurozone will reshape markets. Hence, the project examines in depth capital and labour markets, trade and financial flows, as well as exchange-rate questions. On a second stage, policy analyses are included with special regard to fiscal and monetary policies and the social dimension. Both parts start with a pooling and creation of theoretical contributions. After a consensus is build upon the appropriate approaches, these stages are complemented by empirical research in the form of regional studies that comprise the most relevant areas, respectively. Finally, Ezoneplus provides policy advice and develops strategies to cope with the challenge of an eastward enlargement of the eurozone. Based on the findings of the previous stages it identifies means to reduce adaptation costs in the CEEC and the EU. Besides, it helps to recognise and handle external risks.

Moreover, research focuses on the political economy aspects, i.e., that costs and benefits may be perceived differently by policy-makers compared to any overall perspective. Although we believe that the present value of expected benefits exceeds potential costs, this view might not be shared necessarily by politicians who, for instance, might prefer a rather short-term stance.

Ezoneplus is undertaken by an international research consortium that includes institutions from Portugal, Finland, Slovenia, Italy, Estonia, and Poland. Co-ordinator is the Jean Monnet Centre in Berlin. The creation of a research network even beyond this group as well as intense dissemination activities are an integral part of this project.

Expected results:

Ezoneplus identifies chances and benefits as well as risks and costs of the eastward enlargement of the eurozone. The magnitude of these depend crucially on the behaviour of relevant policy-makers. Hence, the project provides the necessary advice and strategies to maximise the net value of European Monetary Union for the CEEC and the EU. Moreover, as politicians will deviate from pursuing overall welfare gains, Ezoneplus contributes to the formation of a profound public opinion and initialises general scrutiny.

Further information can be obtained at www.ezoneplus.org.
EU Enlargement and Multi-level Governance in European Regional and Environment Policies: Patterns of Learning, Adaptation and Europeanization Among Cohesion Countries (Greece, Ireland, Portugal) and Lessons for New Members (Hungary, Poland)

ADAPT

Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-00097
Research Project

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EU Enlargement and Multi-level Governance in European Regional and Environment Policies: Patterns of Learning, Adaptation and Europeanization Among Cohesion Countries (Greece, Ireland, Portugal) and Lessons for New Members (Hungary, Poland)

ADAPT

Objectives:

The research project focuses on facilitating the adaptation process of EU prospective new member states (Poland, Hungary) to the multi-level system of governance in the regional and environment policy areas, by conceptualising learning, institutional and policy adaptation within the EU system of governance in the selected policy areas and by drawing lessons from the experience of previous enlargement waves –Cohesion –countries (Ireland, Portugal, Greece). This is to be achieved: first, by evaluating the impact of Europeanization of the governance structures of the three unitary member states of the EU in the selected policy areas; and second, by utilising this research outcome in identifying the reforms that Poland and Hungary should undertake to facilitate the adjustment of their public policy structures to the new-EU environment.

In an era of rapid transformation of the governance structures across Europe, the overall goal of the research project, based on the synthesis of the theoretical debate on multi-level governance, the conceptual framework and the findings of the comparative empirical research is twofold: first, to identify a new governance paradigm in public policy, which will combine the capacity for institutional and policy learning, sustainable policy change and innovation with the promotion of the socio-economic cohesion through the process of collective competitiveness; and second, to model the adjustment process of Poland and Hungary in public policy in general and in regional and environment policies in particular.

Description of the project:

The project comprises three main components: the theoretical, the empirical and the conceptual. The summing up of the academic debate and previous research on multi-level governance in the EU will take place at a workshop with externals, in which the important dimensions of this debate will be discussed by leading academics and policy makers. The conference will systematically identify common understandings and different approaches in the debate and raise topics not sufficiently addressed within the existing conceptual paths.

The empirical part corresponds to the necessity for in-depth investigation of the transformation of governance structures in public policy across Europe. It concentrates on comparative case studies involving Cohesion (Greece, Ireland, and Portugal) and CEE (Hungary, Poland) countries and is based on the creation and analysis of socio-economic database, and on Social Network Analysis for mapping the governance structures. Case study No1 focuses on the policy-making structures in regional policy. Case study No2 (environment policy) outcome of the empirical research will contribute to the formulation of country specific recommendations for policy and institutional adaptation of Poland and Hungary to the EU policy-making environment.

Expected results:

Finally, the theoretical debate and the findings of the empirical research will help us to draw up guidelines on a new governance paradigm, which will facilitate institutional and policy learning and adaptation to the EU multi-level public policy-making structures.
Industrial districts’ re-location processes: identifying policies in the perspective of EU enlargement

WEST-EAST-ID

Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-00098

Research Project

EC contribution: 1080000 EURO
Starting date: 1 September 2001
Duration: 36 months

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Industrial districts’ re-location processes: identifying policies in the perspective of EU enlargement

WEST-EAST-ID

Objectives:
The overall strategic objective is to supply - macro, meso and micro - policy options to support the process of EU enlargement by benchmarking the Western countries experience of Industrial Districts (IDs). The project will investigate if, and under which conditions, the existence in Eastern areas of a core of companies coming from Western IDs can represent a "pivotal nucleus" for the development of Eastern IDs. The main research questions are the following:

- What are the implications of IDs recent re-location process for the existing policies at EU, national, and regional levels?
- How the different models of Western IDs tend to re-locate/subcontract in Eastern countries? What local conditions lead to the choice of re-location/subcontracting? Which are the structural, social, learning, and integration factors supporting the presence of Western IDs in Eastern regions?
- Which is the socio-economic impact of Western IDs re-location/subcontracting in Eastern regions?
- Which are the policy options suitable for supporting IDs re-location processes and the integration of Eastern SMEs into the EU’s entrepreneurial fabric?
- How to build up a suitable context for the development, adjustment and integration of Eastern IDs in the EU?

Description of the project:
The specific research fields can be grouped in the following two:

(a) evolutionary patterns of IDs, strategies supporting their re-location process and the implications for their "learning dimension";
(b) replicability of the different ID models in accession Eastern European countries in order to accelerate the integration process.

The proposed approach is multidisciplinary and evolutionary. It is multidisciplinary to the extent that it takes into account social and economic factors of explanation; it is evolutionary to the extent that IDs are considered as evolving forms of organisations whose patterns of development are both synchronically and diachronically examined.

An initial phase of scouting will produce the state-of-the art review on the ID’s evolutionary patterns and the existing policies supporting their formation.

Evolutionary patterns of Western IDs will be researched through 7 selected case studies of IDs (in Germany, in Italy, and in the United Kingdom) undertaking re-location processes.

Replicability in Eastern countries of the IDs evolutionary patterns will be researched through 7 case studies to be selected in Czech Republic, Poland, Romania, Slovenia, Hungary. The analysis will be focused on structural, social, learning, and integration factors supporting the replicability of IDs in Eastern European regions.

The project will then individuate, analyse and assess the most suitable policy options and tools for: (i) developing, adapting and integrating the local production systems of Eastern European regions to the EU; (ii) supporting the internationalisation of Western IDs to Eastern European regions.

Expected results:
The project will:
- Produce a State of the Art Review on the evolutionary patterns of IDs.
- Analyse the re-location processes through 14 case studies involving IDs and regions in Western (D, IT, UK) and Eastern (CZ, PL, RO, SI) Europe.
- Design macro (European), meso (national), and micro (regional/local) policy options and tools for (a) supporting, adapting and integrating Eastern local production systems to the EU; and (b) supporting the internationalisation of Western IDs.
- Assess and validate the designed policy options and tools through European focus groups and workshops.
Theme: EU enlargement

SPECIAL

Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-50004

Thematic Network

EC contribution: 859938 EURO
Starting date: 1 July 2001
Duration: 36 months

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**SPECIAL**

**Objectives:**

- Contributing to science by building a gateway providing access to data and information and by carrying out complementary research on social protection reforms (in particular Pensions, Health Care and Unemployment Benefits) in Member States of the European Union and the Accession States
- Contributing to socio-economic development by disseminating data, information and research on the process of accession and integration with respect to social policy issues on a pan-European scale
- Contributing to the EU decision making process by providing consultancy and research to decision-makers in the field of social policy both in the EU Member States and the Accession Countries
- To establish the foundations for a continuous forum for researchers from all Member States and Accession States and a knowledge base on the areas under focus
- To quantify and qualify the potential impact of the enlargement on the free movement of labour with a particular attention to social protection

**Brief description of the project:**

Our Thematic Network starts with and on the basis of a systematic collection of data and relevant information in three major domains: 1) The state of the art in Pension, Health care and Employment systems in all Member States (MS) and AC (Accession States) 2) The experiences of former accession waves and 3) The regulatory framework and future outlook of the EU social policy including the acquis communautaire.

These three pillars form the foundation and starting point of our network. After this initial research we will further look at the status regarding the implementation of the acquis communautaire and the preparation of future membership and to include monitoring information on the status of social protection reform in the Accession Countries. In a last phase, using the information gathered, we will try to forecast future developments in the three areas of importance that have a major impact on policy making and work out a strategic impact analysis.

Central in our network design is the attention for the information exchange, the transfer of know-how, the dissemination strategy, the exploitation of the results, networking and partnership. We have provided for various mechanisms and tools in order to realise these project outcomes: thematic seminars, workshops and conferences; web site; study visits, publications of articles and books, CD ROM... This information exchange is important as research will continuously be based on and elaborate further the results of previous activities undertaken within this project. Networking and partnership should have as result that by the end of the three years project’s lead time, a network of researchers and experts is established with participation of all Member States and Accession Countries.

**Expected results:**

- The establishment of a multi-country and multidisciplinary network of experts on the research themes with the potential for a continuous growth
- A general increase of interest and attention for the subjects under focus from the stakeholders at European and national levels and from the general public
- Materialisation of the research carried out with attention to the history of enlargement and the state of art regarding Pension, Health Care and Employment and the reform process in the Accession Countries, Policy decisions or developments in EU Member States in relation to the anticipated expansion of free movement of Labour to the Accession Countries and the forecasting of patterns of labour migration and its consequences for social policy and the future outlook
- Answer to the question to what extent a “Europeanisation” leads to a further convergence of the different social protection systems in the EU-Member States and the Accession States?
### Cultural Patterns of the European Enlargement Process

**CULTPAT**

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Cultural Patterns of the European Enlargement Process

CULTPAT

Objectives:
To reconstruct the cultural patterns influencing the political representation of the EU enlargement process - on a local/regional, national and European level - and the mutual images of the actors involved, through a comparative analysis of selected applicant countries and EU members, and with a focus on Central Europe. To introduce a problem consciousness for the importance and the use of cultural patterns in the process of enlargement as a frame of political orientation and negotiation for political, institutional and cultural actors in the field. To disseminate such problem consciousness among a broader European expert public by means of a project-concomitant Internet forum and problem-oriented dissemination workshops in several European regions. To contribute to a better knowledge of the identity constructions represented in the political debate on the enlargement process, especially with regard to the referenda on EU-membership scheduled in the applicant countries.

Description of the work:
The multi-dimensional analysis is based on a trans-disciplinary methodological approach - combining analytical skills of contemporary anthropology, political science and history - to the ongoing redefinition of regional, national and European identity concepts in the enlargement process. Using that methodological approach, and given the scientific background of the research teams and their (cooperation-related) experiences in similar fields, the references that policy making and political discourse make to various cultural backgrounds may be followed, thus allowing for a description of the construction of underlying cultural patterns. The comparative study focuses on the period after the changes of the European political landscape in the wake of „1989/90“, particularly on the Central European region, closely affected by these political changes: country studies include EU-members, applicant countries in different stages of negotiation and one associated country as well as European institutions, and are completed by cross-country problem oriented case-studies (around the notions of territory and memory). The aims of the project are to reconstruct the influence of conflicting and competing cultural patterns framing the enlargement process as points of reference in political discourse and policy making on a local/regional, national and European level; to identify problematic fields of political debate perceived as a danger arising through or in this process, as well as concomitant perceptions at the level of these references as an orientation for various political actors. Leading questions of the project therefore follow cultural factors in the formation of identities of the New Europe on a local/regional, national and European level.

Expected results:
An addition to the already existing research on the development of political opinions and value systems influencing the enlargement process through an extension of the analysis of the process of shaping these opinions. An extension of the knowledge base regarding the cultural and mentality dimensions of the process of European enlargement, as well as regarding those discourse shaping political themes that indicate conflicting policy options, through the analysis of the cultural framework.
Functional Borders Sustainable Security: Integrating the Balkans in the European Union

IBEU

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-00131

Research Project

EC contribution: 799959 €
Starting date: 1 December 2002
Duration: 24 months

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Functional Borders Sustainable Security: Integrating the Balkans in the European Union

IBEU

Objectives:

The principal objective of this project is to:

- Reveal and describe the changing nature of borders and security in the Balkans. This involves understanding aspects of economic and social interaction within and among post-communist Balkan societies on which there is currently little knowledge.

In addition, this project aims to:

- Test hypotheses on the nature of concepts and practices, such as networks of trusted social relations, informal economic transactions, trade flows, and migration patterns; and,
- Suggest which public policies may be (re)formulated, and what routes policy (re)formulation should take in view of the new knowledge that may be acquired involving the real institutional and spatial context in which Balkan economies and societies evolve.

Description of the work:

The proposed study assumes that the modern European concept of dynamic and inclusionary borders, which has led to sustainable security within Europe, is opposed in the Balkans with a traditional approach of borders and nation states that lays emphasis on the territorial defence of borders and ethnic exclusion. Inspired by the theme of the changing nature of borders and security, our main hypothesis is that a policy that focuses on the narrow concept of security and borders is no longer essential, or indeed desirable, for state building in the region. In its place, the notion of ‘functional borders’ aiming at the spread of civil society, the rule of law and regional cooperation across borders and among countries will be put forward. This argument has direct implications for the sustainability of security and the prevention of conflicts in the Balkans. The study will investigate the argument of ‘functional borders’ by looking at four policy areas of a cross-border nature:

- **Civil Society and Social Capital** through the assessment of the nature of ‘positive’ and ‘negative’ social capital and of related civil society programmes;
- **Informal Sector** through the examination of the informal economy, fiscal transparency and trans-border trade and privatisation;
- **Regional Cooperation** concentrating on trade, banking and infrastructure; and
- **Migration** seen as an engine of growth and development and/or a problems-transmitting mechanism.

Expected results:

Through an inter-disciplinary approach (from the fields of political science, international relations, economics, sociology and history) to the above mentioned cross-border themes, the proposed study aims to:

- Better understand the political economy of the region;
- Recommend policies that are related to the above more dynamic and inclusionary approach to borders for the region. It will thus address an academic and policy-making debate on issues related to European Union’s enlargement and conflict prevention in its ‘near abroad’;
- And lastly, through the structured use of empirical data, compile solid conceptual and analytical reports on the four different policy areas that will be integrated into a comprehensive study in the final stage.
Lines of Exclusion as Arenas of Co-Operation: Reconfiguring the External Boundaries of Europe - Policies, Practices, Perceptions

EXLINEA

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-00141

Research Project

EC contribution: 1280812 €
Starting date: 1 January 2003
Duration: 36 months

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Lines of Exclusion as Arenas of Co-Operation: Reconfiguring the External Boundaries of Europe - Policies, Practices, Perceptions

EXLINEA

Objectives:

The basic aim of this project, EXLINEA “Lines of Exclusion as Arenas of Co-operation: Reconfiguring the External Boundaries of Europe – Policies, Practices, Perceptions”, is to examine capacities for “region-building” (that is, the development of co-operative structures, governance practices and conflict-minimising dialogue) across national borders in Central and Eastern European border areas in anticipation of EU enlargement. Geographically speaking, the case studies will focus on subareas and/or groups of cities where cross-border co-operation is spatially concentrated and where cross-border interaction is an important everyday issue.

Description of the work:

Research activities involve the synthesis of data compiled on case studies of regional transboundary co-operation in Central and Eastern Europe. This will involve elaborating typologies of border region interaction based on reconstructing events since 1989/1990, as well as an analysis of the processes underlying the regionalisation projects in each of the regions under scrutiny. The case studies under scrutiny here are Finnish-Russian, Estonian-Russian, Polish-Ukrainian, Hungarian-Romanian-Ukrainian, Romanian-Moldavian and Greek-Bulgarian border regions. In addition, background reports will be compiled for cross-border co-operation in the German-Polish and Austrian-Hungarian border regions.

Expected results:

The results aimed for by the project consortium include the following:

1. Identification of economic, structural, environmental issues and aspects of socio-economic and political asymmetry that characterise regional situations and are seen as necessitating collective action.

2. The identification of how local and supralocal (EU and national) contexts coalesce in structuring the conditions for cross/border action

3. Characterisations of patterns of transboundary interaction for the case study regions

4. Characterisations of formal and informal co-operation modes in terms of governance

5. Characterisations of supranational/national/local attitudes toward the border in terms of its perceived relevance for regional development and conflict management

6. In terms of policy-oriented conclusions, to indicate prospects for cross-border governance based on the evidence collected

7. In terms of academic research, to test project hypotheses regarding cross-border regionalisation, particularly its significance as an inclusive form of governance.

The overall results of EXLINEA should thus help improve understanding of the interrelatedness of various factors in conditioning transboundary co-operation as well as provide context-sensitive insights into possible regional development and governance strategies for regions on the EU’s external borders.
European Research on Gender, participation and quality of life

28 Countries
97 Participants
13 Projects
12.3 Millions €
Theme

Gender, participation and quality of life
The Social Problem and Societal Problematisation of Men and Masculinities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contract No: HPSE-CT-1999-00008</th>
<th>Coordinator:</th>
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The Social Problem and Societal Problematisation of Men and Masculinities

Objectives:

Based largely on EU social priorities (Social Action Programme 1998-2000) the projects aims to:
- Analyse and understand more fully across the EU and its potential new members the differential associations of men’s practices with a variety of social problems including: home and work; exclusion; violence; and health.
- Formulate provisional strategies to address some of those problems in terms of national and EU responses on equal opportunities and other policy areas.
- Identify areas for further ongoing enquiry to develop such strategies.
- Given possible EU enlargement, anticipate some of the national and transnational social problems relating to the impact of men’s practices upon social cohesion and inclusion in existing and new members of the Union.
- Consequent upon (I) and (iv) above, gain a more adequate understanding of contemporary and changing representations of men, and negotiations around such representations in governmental and other official, media and research contexts.

Brief description of the project:

The research will review:
- Relevant academic and analytical literature within each country. There is a large amount of existing material but this is scattered within a wide variety of different traditions and disciplinary locations.
- Each country’s statistical sources in relation to home and work, exclusion, violence, health.
- Governmental and quasi-governmental legal and policy statements explicitly addressing men.
- Two (non-contiguous) weeks’ national press output to examine explicit and implicit analysis on men and masculinities and their problematisation. On the basis of this research activity, a series of deliverables across the period of the project will be produced, each designed for specific and varying “audiences”: network partners; European Commission; policy, practice, academic, public users. As the momentum of the project increases, the emphasis upon the latter range of users also intensifies.

The deliverables can be summarised as follows:
- Interim reports at the end of each workpackage stage to all networked partners and Framework V Commission service.
- Four network seminars spanning the duration of the project, forming its strategic “spine”: reviewing progress and ongoing future activity.;
- Two interface workshops geared to the specific user “audiences” above: (a) one in the latter half of the data collection/analysis process to gauge responses to progress and inform future activity; (b) the other after final analysis to provide initial dissemination strategies, network database and documentation centre for use by academic, policy and practice communities.
- Each interface workshop will consist of the network partners and several representatives of each of those communities drawn from a variety of the European countries.
- After final data analysis, a series of dissemination strategies primarily targeted at the different, but overlapping, user audiences (see below for these).

Expected results:

Outcome: facilitating positive change within user audiences (policy, practice, academic, public) concerning problematic areas of men’s practices. Milestones within the dissemination strategies contributing to this process include:
- European database on men’s practices; associated European Documentation Centre.
- Interface strategies for above user; audiences European Conference on the Social Problem of Men.
- Publications culminating in two edited books-policy/practice;theoretical considerations.
Gender and Qualification. Transcending gendered features of key qualifications for improving options for career choice and enhancing human resource potential

**Contract No:** HPSE-CT-1999-00020

- **EC contribution:** 450000 EURO
- **Starting date:** 1 February 2000
- **Duration:** 26 months

**EC Scientific Officer:** Virginia Vitorino

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Gender and Qualification. Transcending gendered features of key qualifications for improving options for career choice and enhancing human resource potential

Objectives:
- To establish a comparative framework on the impact of gender segregation on the respective VET/CVT systems.
- To draw up recommendations for policy makers and VET/CVT practitioners.
- To analyse how VET practices in the respective countries contribute to gendered career patterns, with special regard to key qualifications.
- To assess the extent to which gendered features of key qualifications impede the modernisation of work patterns and labour market.
- To assess the extent to which key qualifications can be considered as gender specific.
- To define conditions of the development of key qualifications in order to enhance abilities of both sexes to cope with occupational change.
- To increase employability by the development of key qualifications of a less gendered kind.

Brief description of the project:

Based on a comparative European perspective the project will employ the methodology of “mutual learning. This means that the partners will learn from another country’s good practice, by using the understanding of the underlying principles in order to embed them in the respective national conditions. In this way, the European dimension is combined with the principle of subsidiarity.

To ensure a common knowledge base, firstly a secondary analysis of national research into the reasons determining the emergence of a gendered division of labour and particularly its representation in the respective systems of VET, CVT and school/VET to work transition will be carried through.

Empirical research will then be carried out with respect to the national VET/CVT systems and practices and the respective cultural patterns of gender segregation, aiming at the objectives mentioned above. The empirical work will be based on comparative statistical data and the evaluation of job descriptions and job analysis with respect to gendered key qualifications.

The main methodology will consist of semi-structured interviews, based on the detailed objectives, comprising employers, employees, CVT and VET trainers and teachers and trainers. The work will determine: the attribution of gender specific key qualifications through VET/CVT systems, personnel managers and employee’s self images - conditions for reproduction of gendered key qualifications and for their development beyond gender segregation - differences in strategies for coping with occupational change according to gender and application of key qualification qualifications - recommendations for transcending gender segregation in European VET/CVT systems.

Expected results:
- Establishment of gender specific clusters of key qualifications in a European perspective.
- Contribution of the respective current VET/CVT systems to their reproduction.
- Methods of transcending those gendered features for improving options for career choice and enhancing.
- Human resource potential.
- Recommendations for improving European VET/CVT systems with regard to these aims.
Genre et gestion locale du changement dans sept pays de l'Union Européenne

**Contract No:** HPSE-CT-1999-00015

- **EC contribution:** 870000 EURO
- **Starting date:** 1 February 2000
- **Duration:** 36 months

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Theme: Gender, participation and quality of life
Genre et gestion locale du changement dans sept pays de l'Union Européenne

Objectives:

This research project is interested in the processes of change in practice. It aims to show the current variety of policies in the seven countries covered in relation to local management and gender relations. Specific social and urban policies such as the responsibility for dependents, questions of urbanism, security etc. will be more particularly examined. Taking into account right/left divisions (which often match the rich/poor dimension) for the municipalities considered, the goal will be to bring out women's role in the changes linked to geographical development as well as the innovations contributing to equality-promoting mechanisms. One aim is to encourage exchanges between local participants so that unknown practices can be a reference point in other countries and give rise to transfers.

Brief description of the project:

The first workpackage (months 1 to 12) will consist of accumulating information on the research subject and defining the framework of the study. A document will be produced covering several points (a bibliography, collection of information indispensable for the comparisons, synthesis of preliminary exploratory interviews). It will prepare the work for the second stage: formulating hypotheses and outlining the shape of the study by defining the criteria for the choice of the ten or so cities and the people to interview (a hundred).

The second workpackage (months 13 to 30) will be centred on the study itself, making, transcribing and analysing the in-depth interviews. These latter will seek to evaluate whether or not the policies implemented will bring changes in local and urban government, whether they encourage women to become politically involved and what are the interactions between elected bodies, local associations and other levels of decision-making (inter-authority, EU).

The third workpackage (months 31 to 36) will be a transversal analysis of the elements brought together during this study, aiming to bring out the scope of the changes in local policies as well as the commitment of elected representatives to taking the gender dimension into account in their governmental practice.

The different stages of the work will be marked by six seminars open to academics and representatives of local authorities wishing to participate. They will take place in the different countries in turn in order to involve the maximum number of people interested.

The first and second workpackages will produce intermediate reports, the third will close with the production of the final report.

Expected results:

- Final report distributed to academic, institutional and NGO collaborators.
- Distribution of the bibliography by Internet.
- Publication of articles on the results of the research in national and international specialised journals.
- Establishment of a data bank of innovative practices and publication on this basis of a "Guide for future mayors".
- Organisation of a public conference for a broad audience.
The challenge of mainstreaming for trade unions in Europe: How can Trade Unions foster gender equality in the workplace and in daily life

MSU

Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-00061

Research Project

EC contribution: 601048 EURO
Starting date: 1 September 2001
Duration: 36 months

EC Scientific Officer: Andrea Schmolzer

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The challenge of mainstreaming for trade unions in Europe: How can Trade Unions foster gender equality in the workplace and in daily life

MSU

Objectives:
In a context of major transformations of economic and social structures, the massive participation of women in the employment market has been one of the major challenges of the last few decades. In varying degrees in all European countries, this participation has been accompanied by a reinforcement of disparity between men and women, and also between different social categories (including women). However, on a European level, the Trade Union movement has been very slow to take all of these phenomena into consideration, if it has done so at all. The aim of this research, in France and other European countries (Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Italy and the Netherlands), is to develop an analysis of the concept of "gender mainstreaming" (the integration of equality in all actions and policies and by all the players involved) applied in the Trade Union field. Concretely, our objectives are:
- to develop the concept of mainstreaming within Trade Union structures to promote a real policy of equality for women in the workplace and in daily life (professional equality, a better balance between professional life and personal life - including family life - for all (men and women)).
- to encourage the participation of women in executive bodies within the Union.
- to encourage the development of equality throughout the entire collective negotiation process, in all topics of negotiation, particularly on the questions of pay and working time / and non-working time and employment, on a national level in each branch as well as in each company.
- to use and develop European comparison (Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Italy and the Netherlands) to find out the restraints and operating levers of "Trade Union mainstreaming" and to draw up concrete propositions with regard to national and European authorities.

Brief description of the project:
Based on an assessment of existing works on the various project elements, the first stage consists of drawing up a report on these questions on the level of each European partner country. This will be done in accordance with a common programme (social and economic context, transformation of the employment market and the development of women's activities, transformation of family structures, the changes in industrial relations and the cultural environment). In a second stage, the study will be devoted to an enquiry into Trade Union central organisations, more precisely into certain federations, concerning the position of women and equality. This core element of the study will be both quantitative and qualitative: a questionnaire survey of national Trade Union centre leaderships, an analysis of major Trade Union texts, about fifty semi-directive interviews of Trade Union activists and officers from different unions and a seminar bringing together researchers and Unionists. Finally, the research will have a useful complement in the analysis of the negotiation process and the highlighting of company agreements. The project's activities concern:
- monitoring the experiments carried out in these areas to identify 'good practices' concerning the introduction, development and support for the logic of mainstreaming on a national level, most particularly in relation to Trade Unionism,
- observing the mechanisms that allow the development of such practices (for example, the introduction of criteria of parity in Trade Union executive bodies, the clear declaration of an objective of equality during negotiations, specific actions...)
- analysing the restraints affecting the development of this topic (the preservation of Trade Unionism based on a male dominated industrial model, the weak mobilisation of women...).

Expected results:
The expected results concern the promotion of gender equality, into the Trade Unions strategies, with external expected effects on the labour market and in all the society. More concretely, we propose:
- the creation of tools of reflection, indicators, and actions targeting the Trade Union movement with the aim of developing this concept,
- the mobilisation and the promotion of equality with the Trade Unions in the perspective of mainstreaming, in order to reverse the processes of reasoning usually developed in this field, through national meetings, a European conference with all the players involved (Trade Unions, researchers, national and European public decision-makers), and finally, the publication of the results in a book.
Towards a new organization of men’s lives - emerging forms of work and opportunities for gender equality.

WORK CHANGES GENDER

Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-00085

Research Project
EC contribution: 849983 EURO
Starting date: 1 September 2001
Duration: 36 months

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Towards a new organization of men’s lives - emerging forms of work and opportunities for gender equality.

WORK CHANGES GENDER

Objectives:

The aim of this research is to improve our understanding of the structural changes that take place in European society, especially the new forms of work and their impact on gender equality. The study shall describe the differentiated effect that new forms of work may have on the genders and define the best collective and organisational strategies for dealing with this change. The research will pay special attention to the importance that discontinuity plays today in labour markets, whether in terms of temporary work contracts or part-time jobs. It will try to determine the “best” ways of individually coping for men, for gender equality and quality of life.

Brief description of the project:

An interdisciplinary team of different European regions - Norway, Spain, Austria, Israel, Bulgaria and Germany - will run the research.

With a first step the team will determine the influence of new forms of work on gender differentiation. It will check the impact of gender differences in the labour force participation rates, the distribution on the different forms of work and unemployment rates. In a second step the research-team will clarify the institutional and organisational context of men’s changes from two main angles. By shifting the focus to institutions and organisations, it will identify new institutional patterns that may have positive effects both on the equal status of the genders and on working life. These institutional patterns will include new and viable forms of work organisation and new labour market adaptations. The aim is to determine factors playing a central role in defining ‘what changes men’ and to describe their features.

A third step contains a review of the various ways in which men cope with the growing frequency of discontinuous courses of employment. Connections between organisational/ institutional structural conditions, individual background variables and self-concepts shall be identified, particularly describe the framework for self-concepts leading to contentedness in the change.

Expected results:

The research team starts with the hypothesis, that improving gender equality, the quality of life and the contentedness of individuals during such a transition will foster economic and social cohesion. Comparing practices of different individuals, organisations and across nations, the team will suggest to transmit some advanced conditions of new constructive forms of handling work, home and reproduction choices and new self-concepts of men.

The present changes in working condition may suggest that particularly men are developing a new culture in dealing with work and private life. There will be transitions in co-habitation and marriage, changes, that seem to be welcome in the terms of gender relationship. On the other hand the developments cause, that hegemonic men concentrate even more on the job, and that the gender division home/ job get institutionalised again. As well contradictory will be the effect of changing in working life on the individuals. New masculinities will get more common, but the masculinity of successful businessmen and managers still will concentrate in the hegemonic positions of our cultures.

For the national and European social- and labour market politics it is important to realise the potentialities in combining the steering of the labour market and a policy that foster a better quality of life for men and women in a changing world. The research team will spread according policy recommendations and perspectives in conferences, consultations and literature and internet.
Gender Relationships in Europe at the turn of the Millennium: Women as Subjects in Migration and Marriage.

GRINE

Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-00087
Research Project
EC contribution: 619970 EURO
Starting date: 1 October 2001
Duration: 30 months

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Gender Relationships in Europe at the turn of the Millenium: Women as Subjects in Migration and Marriage.

GRINE

Objectives:

With regard to the fields of enquiry of marriage and migration:
1. To formulate some theoretical insights on the specificity of gender relations in Europe.
2. To advance hypotheses about new contemporary forms of women's subjectivity from the study of women as agents of change in their own lives and environment.
3. To critically examine the conceptualisation of strategic action.
4. To explore gender in the historical construction of the idea of Europe through an analysis of the activities of the group “Femmes pour l’Europe”.
5. To investigate the place of women in the process of migration.
6. To study the impact of relationships to women in host countries upon the process of migration and the forms of women’s intersubjectivity in this process.
7. To explore the existence of a narrative tradition (and its possible transmission) from political migrants.
8. To analyse the strategic use of legal systems/cultures in Europe by individual men and women, and how legal cultures react; to highlight the changing relations between gender and cultural and legal norms in Europe today.

Brief description of the project:

This study will consider how women are becoming subjects of their lives in two crucial fields of action and relationship, i.e. East-West migration and marriage, therefore including the study of women-men relationships. The research aims at understanding recent and undergoing changes in women’s life strategies, their worldviews and their imaginaries (subjectivity) as well as in relationships between women (intersubjectivity) in a European context. The approach combines theoretical, historical and juridical disciplinary competences in gender studies. Great relevance will be given to oral testimonies as a way of evidencing present and developing forms of subjectivity, and as a way to explore the elaboration of individual and collective strategies. The partners are chosen in such a way as to represent the North, South, East and West of Europe.

The work will include the study of theoretical problems, the analysis of legal problems and the interviewing of some 80 women in various parts of Europe. The first stages will include the elaboration of the model of a sample of interviewees and of a questionnaire: these tasks will be performed in close connection with the two other disciplinary approaches, paying particular attention to the theoretical and juridical implications of the concrete problems posed to and by women in the fields of migration and marriage. Qualitative methods will be used for the collection of oral sources (open or life story approach) and for their interpretation (textual analysis, comparison between oral and other sources, analysis of recurrent themes).

Expected results:

To produce an oral archive of women's memories of their experience of the interaction between Eastern and Western Europe. To conceptualise subjectivity and inter-subjectivity as forms of European women's culture. To develop proposals for the legislator and for cultural operators at various levels. Website; books and essays.
Employment and Women’s Studies: The Impact of Women’s Studies Training on Women’s Employment in Europe

EWSI

Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-00082

Research Project

EC contribution: 1199977 EURO
Starting date: 1 October 2001
Duration: 24 months

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Employment and Women’s Studies: The Impact of Women’s Studies Training on Women’s Employment in Europe

EWSI

Objectives:

Large numbers of women in Europe undertake Women’s Studies training but we have no systematic data on the impact of that training on their subsequent employment and quality of life. The project therefore seeks to analyse how Women’s Studies training affects women’s opportunities and interventions in the labour market. Since Women’s Studies training differs greatly between countries, a further objective is to examine how these differences relate to individual women's subsequent employment achievements, including changes in the balance between family and work, and changing and managing relationships within the family. As women's employment opportunities vary greatly between partner countries we need to understand what women, once trained, do given the structuring of their employment opportunities. Finally, we intend to analyse the impact Women’s Studies training has on the changes women seek to generate in the workplace, and how it impacts on women's professional and other duties are undertaken in the workplace.

Brief description of the project:

The project involved eleven partners from nine countries (France, UK, Germany, Spain, Italy, Slovenia, Hungary, Finland and the Netherlands). It is divided into four phases: 1) the collection of background data by country on women's employment and the degree of institutionalization of both Women's Studies training and equal opportunities legislation; 2) the collection of quantitative and qualitative data from past and present Women's studies students through questionnaires and interviews; 3) the analysis of those data; 4) their dissemination through various publications and workshops.

Expected results:

The results of the empirical data collection will
- improve our understanding of how high quality employment for women can be generated in Europe;
- help to explain wide variations in rates of women's employment in Europe;
- produce policy recommendations on women's education and employment;
- explore some of the areas of the service sector in which there is good potential for employment creation for women;
- analyse the relationship between Women’s Studies training and women’s professionalisation as a consequence of that training;
- analyse how Women’s Studies training contributes to innovation in employment;
- analyse how Women’s Studies training contributes to job creation, combatting under-achievement, and unemployment reduction.
From Welfare to Knowfare. A European Approach to Employment and Gender Mainstreaming in the Knowledge Based Society

WELLKNOW

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-00119</th>
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<td><strong>Research Project</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>EC contribution: 610000 €</td>
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<td>Starting date: 1 December 2002</td>
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<td>Duration: 36 months</td>
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<td><strong>EC Scientific Officer</strong>: Angelos Agalianos</td>
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From Welfare to Knowfare. A European Approach to Employment and Gender Mainstreaming in the Knowledge Based Society

WELLKNOW

Objectives:

The main objective of the project is to provide comparative and multidisciplinary analyses of the transition towards the KBS from employment and gender perspectives. The project will seek answers to the question whether knowfare policies that promote investment in individuals and social cohesion reflect the main characteristics of divergent welfare models (e.g. Continental and Nordic) or impose a convergence around a European approach towards the KBS. The empirical results of the project will be used to outline a European approach that promotes employment and social cohesion, especially, gender equality. Moreover, indicators, ranks and benchmarks will be developed that capture policy goals of the EES and the progress towards the KBS from a gender perspective. Finally, the project will provide insights into and policy options of how to facilitate transition towards a competitive KBS with more and better jobs as well as greater gender equality.

Description of the work:

Wellknow is a three year project involving 8 European partners and 7 European countries or Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Hungry, Iceland, the Netherlands and Spain. A comparison will be made between the Nordic states and the Continental states. Hence, small continental countries have been selected to match the small Nordic countries and Spain has been included to represent the large continental countries. The work will be co-ordinated by the Icelandic representative and divided into 6 workpackages. Workpackage 1 will produce an overview of debates about the KBS and provide workpackages 2 and 3 with a framework to evaluate employment policies and employment performances in view of the main employment and gender challenges of the KBS. Workpackage 2 and workpackage 3 form the empirical part of the project. The focus of workpackage 2 will be on how employment policies at the national level address the employment and gender challenges of the KBS and on changes to the public-private divisions of responsibilities and rights. In workpackage 3, new sets of indicators will be developed for measuring, ranking and benchmarking the progress of the EU and associate countries towards the KBS. The comparative analysis in workpackage 4 will be based on the previous workpackages and evaluate the extent to which the move towards the KBS is multifaceted or involving intra-Nordic differences and intra-Continental differences. Moreover, European approach to employment and gender mainstreaming in the KBS will be outlined that acknowledges differences across countries/country groups at the same time as it facilitates employment and social cohesion. Workpackage 5 will identify good practices and policy options as concerns employment and gender mainstreaming in the KBS. In the final workpackage, the results of the project will be disseminated at both the EU and the national levels.

Expected results:

The project will contribute to our comparative understanding of the transition towards the KBS from employment and gender perspectives. Information about how the EES needs to tackle the employment and gender challenges of the KBS will be provided. Finally, the project will contribute to the harmonisation process of the European statistics and policy making by evaluating and assessing indicators and best practices.
Creating Cultures of Success for Women Engineers

WomEng

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-00109

Research Project

EC contribution: 979382 €
Starting date: 1 November 2002
Duration: 36 months

EC Scientific Officer: Silvia Durmeier

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Creating Cultures of Success for Women Engineers

WomEng

Objectives:

To identify key stages for intervention towards gender-mainstreaming equality in engineering studies and careers. To identify internal and external factors that may lead to gendered differences in expectations, experiences, needs and demands, associated with developing engineering careers. To understand factors influencing success or non-persistence in completing the degree and developing an engineering career. To identify how gendered institutional cultures and structures in higher education and the professional sphere affect engineering careers from a gendered perspective. To provide overall methodological tool-box for cross-cultural studies in gender and engineering. To present an exploitation plan for the project results, and to disseminate as widely as possible the theoretical framework, practical tools and policy recommendations.

Description of the work:

After analysing existing data and state of the art, WP1 "Methodology" proposes to define an overall methodological framework, with appropriate quantitative and qualitative methodology, and to provide a tool-box for cross-cultural studies in gender and engineering. WP2 "Key stages for a choice" aims at understanding the internal and external influences on women choices towards engineering: Why, when and how do young women decide to choose or not to choose engineering careers, with a special focus on factors as continuous professional development, life/work balance, parenthood and family responsibilities, mobility and glass ceiling in career development. The key stages for intervention and a set of recommendations are to be identified. A survey will be carried out after the first year, accompanied by in depth interviews. WP3 "Success and Non-Persistence" aims at identifying internal and external factors that may lead to gendered differences in expectations, experiences, needs and demands, associated with developing engineering careers. Furthermore, factors that influence success or non-persistence in completing the degree and developing an engineering career are to be investigated. Through appropriate quantitative and qualitative methods, a deeper theoretical understanding of the mechanisms leading to success or non-persistence and a set of recommendations to enhance success and persistence of women engineers are the expected results of this work package. WP 4 "Organisational Culture and Change" aims at identifying gendered institutional cultures and structures in higher education and the professional sphere, second to identify how this affects the developing engineering career from a gendered point of view, and third to identify how gendered institutional cultures can be changed. Dissemination strategy and dissemination to target relevant groups is an integral part of this project as WP5 "Dissemination and Exploitation".

Expected results:

Methodological tool-box for crosscultural comparisons of issues in gender and engineering. Reports, website and database: on internal and external influences on women choices towards engineering, on internal and external factors leading to success or non-persistence, and on the genderedness of institutions of higher education and professional spheres and how that affects women career development. A set of executive policy recommendations to enhance success and persistence of women engineers.

Theme: Gender, participation and quality of life
Gender-Sensitive and Women-Friendly Public Policies: a Comparative Analysis and Assessment of their Progress and Impact

EQUAPOL

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-00136

Research Project
EC contribution: 698400 €
Starting date: 1 November 2002
Duration: 28 months

EC Scientific Officer: Virginia Vitorino

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Gender-Sensitive and Women-Friendly Public Policies: a Comparative Analysis and Assessment of their Progress and Impact

EQUAPOL

Objectives:

The aims of the research are: to identify and assess how the integration of a gender dimension in public policy formulation and design is proceeding across the community, in particular in policy fields that are priorities within the European social Policy Agenda and in the context of enlargement; to identify and assess to what extent and how the integration of gender serves to improve the impact of these policies on the relative wellbeing of women and men and the reduction of gender inequalities; and to identify and understand how the integration of gender acts to alter policy making itself.

Two important objectives of the research are to identify how EU and national policies intersect and cross-influence and to catalogue and compare examples of good practice of “women-friendly” policies and policy-making approaches. Dissemination of the results of research, to support EU policy development in the fields addressed, is thus a further priority of the project.

The research covers two policy fields and eight European countries. The policy fields are: income distribution, in particular tax and welfare policies; education, in particular skills and qualifications in the knowledge society. The eight countries to be covered by the research are: Belgium, Spain, France, Greece, Ireland, Sweden, United Kingdom, and Lithuania. Some examples of policies from other EU and international countries will also be identified and studied for their value as examples of “leading practice”.

Description of the work:

The main hypothesis to be tested by the research is that the integration for gender produces better public policy, which has positive impacts on the nature of the policy process, the wellbeing of women and men and on reduced inequalities in society. Both the process of policy making and the impact of policies will be studied.

The core of the research project will be an active investigation of the policy process through a case study approach, involving analysis of the content of policy (policy documents) and the processes of policy formulation and implementation (interviews with policy-makers, observation, etc.).

The contributions of the research are conceptual, empirical and comparative. Conceptually, the research will identify and define more precisely the different approaches to gender-sensitive policy within Europe. Empirically, the research will provide new data and fill a large information gap on the integration of gender in key policy fields. Both obstacles as well as factors, which facilitate the integration of gender, will be identified, as well as examples of good practice. Policy makers and academics are envisaged as users of this information. A comparative approach will be used to identify “national approaches” to gender-sensitive policy as well as similarities and differences across countries. These will be compared with EU policy on gender mainstreaming.

Expected results:

The main results are: a detailed analysis of the integration of gender into key policy fields in eight national settings; an overview of gender policy approaches across the countries studied, placed in the context of EU and international policies and strategies on gender mainstreaming; and raised levels of awareness and knowledge amongst key actors at European and national levels of the benefits and implications of gender in public policy, including examples of good practice.
Enlargement, Gender and Governance: The Civic and Political Participation and Representation of Women in EU Candidate Countries

EGG

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-00115
Research Project
EC contribution: 1199549 €
Starting date: 1 December 2002
Duration: 36 months
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Enlargement, Gender and Governance: The Civic and Political Participation and Representation of Women in EU Candidate Countries

EGG

Objectives:
This project will analyse the extent to which participation procedures in representative institutions and other organisations enable women’s involvement in political decision-making and governance in EU candidate countries. It will map and assess the contribution of women’s political and civic organisations to governance in Central and Eastern European countries (CEECs) as they evolve in terms of democratic practice and European integration.

Description of the work:
Utilising the insights of law, political science, political theory, sociology, and social anthropology, an experienced team of researchers will study all ten applicant CEECs, focusing on three key research questions to facilitate a comparative analysis:

(1) To what extent have democratisation and preparation for EU accession influenced women’s civic and political participation in candidate countries?
(2) To what extent are women’s civic associations embedded in the equality policy framework in candidate countries?
(3) Are there specific strategies that could be adopted to enhance women’s contribution to governance?

By examining how the history of communist rule has affected women’s current political position, the project will provide recommendations to underpin effective future policy-making. Qualitative and quantitative results will be compiled into separate country reports and an over-arching comparative report, including policy recommendations, will be prepared for the Commission and candidate country governments.
Policy Frames and Implementation Problems: The Case of Gender Mainstreaming

MAGEEQ

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-00127
Research Project
EC contribution: 949693 €
Starting date: 1 January 2003
Duration: 36 months
EC Scientific Officer: Giulia Amaducci

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Policy Frames and Implementation Problems: The Case of Gender Mainstreaming

MAGEEQ

Objectives:

Studies on Gender Mainstreaming implementation in the European Union show that its revolutionary potential is endangered by distortions due to shifts in gender equality concepts connected to national differences. In view of Enlargement & the Charter of Fundamental Rights, they warn against a focus on employment or technocratic instruments, and are concerned about the lack of attention to inequalities in Eastern Europe. MAGEEQ will

- develop a conceptual framework to analyse similarities and differences in gender equality policy frames
- construct a method to assess inconsistencies in these frames and
- contribute to managing these inconsistencies.

Description of the work:

MAGEEQ will focus on citizenship and other structural inequalities in the Member States and Eastern Europe, monitor and evaluate gender mainstreaming policies, and enhance the quality of EU policy-making.

The research project will consist of an innovative qualitative frame analysis, constructing a conceptual framework of the various dimensions of framing gender inequality as a policy problem at EU and national levels. Comparative analysis of gender equality policy frames will be executed for the EU, and for two Northern countries (Netherlands and Austria), two Southern countries (Greece and Spain), and two Eastern countries (Slovenia and Hungary). The comparative analysis will be based on country studies and an EU study, which will be conducted as a first step. The country studies and the EU study will outline dimensions of gender equality policy frames as connected to citizenship issues that have been selected based on an analysis of their salience in politics and policy making at EU and national level. The comparative analysis will incorporate an analysis of inconsistencies in gender equality policy frames, where the EU frame will be the reference point, and a method to assess these inconsistencies will be validated. As a last integral part of the research project, debates will be organised at national and international level, including a wide range of positions on gender equality, not only to channel results to a wider audience, but also to use the results of the debates to (theoretically) saturate the construction of the conceptual framework. The research team has an excellent scientific performance record, not only as academics, but also in the field of policy analysis, and is well connected to civil society. The results of the project will be widely disseminated. The research team intends to continue to work together in the future, and expand its scope further towards the East, in view of future Accession rounds.

Expected results:

MAGEEQ will deliver:

- a set of country studies and an EU study
- a method for assessment of inconsistencies between national and EU levels
- a conceptual framework on various dimensions of gender equality policy frames, validated in a comparative analysis and in international and national debates

MAGEEQ will contribute to

- policy theory and methodology
- gender studies
- the study of the politics of policy implementation, focusing on recently re-acknowledged elements.
Network on European Women’s Rights

NEWR

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-50015

Thematic Network

EC contribution: 799957 €
Starting date: 1 October 2002
Duration: 36 months

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Network on European Women’s Rights

NEWR

Objectives:

The objective of the Network on European Women’s Rights (NEWR) project is to set up a thematic network on the topic of women’s rights as human rights which will bring together expertise across disciplines and across the countries of Eastern and Western Europe in a dialogue mechanism. Experts will be drawn from academic circles, policy circles and other interested groups (for example, NGOs and lobbying groups) to address pan-European issues in women’s rights in an evaluative and comparative manner in order to highlight key policy issues in the context of EU enlargement, to suggest areas for future research and to establish potential research groupings. NEWR is also aimed at creating a permanent and ongoing network database which will be an example of excellence. The network will serve as a continuing resource for future research on women’s rights and as a collective source of expertise for policy-makers across Europe to draw upon for years to come. It will analyse the current status and function of women’s rights across the EU, focusing upon the four themes of the network as well as produce specific deliverables and develop innovative methods of dissemination to ensure broad recognition and continuing development of the network.

Description of the work:

The network will be built by inviting experts to workshops on four central themes in the area of women’s rights. Based on evidence in recent academic publications and reporting in the media, burning issues in the four themes will be identified, bringing together experts on these themes in an ongoing dialogue mechanism.

To this purpose, the lead UK partner will hold a launch workshop and the ten associate partners, working in country pairs, will hold two series of four workshops. The first series of workshop - one in each theme, hosted by the first partner in the country pair - are multidisciplinary, attended by academics (from fields such as ethics, law, public policy, philosophy, political science and theology) and non-academics (e.g. government and NGO employees) from as many countries as possible. Workshop participants will present reports detailing the ‘burning issues’ in their country. For the second series of workshops - hosted by the second country in the pair - participants will be drawn from as many various backgrounds and nationalities as possible. Workshop participants will present topic papers on the issues that were identified at the first workshop of the theme as the most important pan-European issues for future research and policy-making.

Following the workshops, the nine associate partners, again working in country pairs, will collaborate in producing partner reports on their theme. The lead partner will then draw together all the expertise and information gathered through the development of the network and will seek additional guidance from key target audiences in order to produce a programme of further study, which will contain comments on policy implications and propose groups for further research which will be undertaken under Framework Six. Finally, the lead partner will then hold a final conference of 200-plus delegates that will serve to disseminate the work and its accomplishments in order to expand it further in readiness for further growth and future research.

Expected results:

The objective of NEWR project is to elaborate an active network by creating a database, website and helpdesk. Following the workshops, a number of deliverables will be produced amongst which, country reports and topic papers collected by partners and the partner reports from country pairs. The lead partner will finally elaborate a Programme of further study and organise a final conference. By then, the network database, the website and the on-line discussion group will be completed.
European Research on Infrastructures

18 Countries

74 Participants

15.4 Millions €

9 Projects
Theme

Instrastructures
CHER: consortium of Household Panels for European Socio-Economic Research

Contract No: HPSE-CT-1999-00037
EC contribution: 1100000 EURO
Starting date: 1 February 2000
Duration: 36 months

EC Scientific Officer: Andrea Schmolzer

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CHER: consortium of Household Panels for European Socio-Economic Research

Objectives:

Comparative research on economic and social phenomena at the European level is one of the most urgent needs for understanding the various national economies and societies and for their integration into a common Europe. The first prerequisite for high quality cross-national research is the existence and availability of high quality micro-databases offering comparable data for the different countries under study. Thorough analyses dealing with economic or social PROCESSES and the underlying DYNAMICS definitely require longitudinal data from socio-economic household panel studies with information both at the level of the individual and the household. Careful interpretation of results from cross-national research using micro-data requires also the analyses of macroeconomic/social information and institutional data.

Brief description of the project:

The main work of the consortium will be to create the comparative micro database of CHER, which will contain comparable variables transformed according to a common plan and will be built by using standardized international classifications where available. Information in these files will be available:
- For households and individuals on the micro level.
- For single years.
- As longitudinal information.

All of them will be linked to macro and institutional data. The comparative database will contain harmonized and consistent variables and identical data structures for each country included: 14 EU countries, Poland, Hungary, Canada and USA. The data are stored as system files for the statistical packages SPSS, SAS and Stata. They will contain identical variable names, labels, values and data structures. Each country file will be adequately anonymized and can therefore be rated as a scientific use file. On the basis of dissemination rules agreed upon between the Consortium and the data owners, the database will be made available on a CD-ROM and will be distributed to the scientific community, under appropriate rules for confidentiality and data protection. The present consortium has defined the following tasks:
- Develop and (re)define rules for standardization.
- Building-up and/or enhancing/reconverting comparable panel databases.
- Create documentation and user guide for the created database.
- Collect and prepare key information from macro-, meso- and institutional data.
- Improve information on and access to original country panel data.
- Enhance the ECHP for scientific use.
- Enhance the data processing techniques for using panel data.
- Set-up an Internet information system about household panel studies.
- Run exemplary panel analyses on labour market dynamics.

Expected results:

The comparative database of CHER and its complementary modules will be used to facilitate comparative cross-national and longitudinal research in Europe and to study processes and dynamics of policy issues related to family structures, educational aspects, labour force participation, income distribution, poverty, problems of the elderly etc. It will improve our understanding of social and economic change, and its implications for the individual, and for social institutions and policy-making.
European Social Survey - Development and First Round

ESSIE

**Contract N°**: HPSE-CT-2001-00088

**Research Project**
- **EC contribution**: 1402281 EURO
- **Starting date**: 1 June 2001
- **Duration**: 24 months

**EC Scientific Officer**: Virginia Vitorino

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European Social Survey - Development and First Round

ESSIE

Objectives:

The ESS is to be a new, academically-driven general social survey designed to chart and explain the interaction between Europe’s changing institutions, its political and economic structures, and the attitudes, beliefs and behaviour patterns of its diverse populations. The survey, which is to be carried out in at least 16 nations, will employ the most rigorous methods of sampling, questionnaire design, translation and fieldwork, drawing on the best examples of similar studies at a national level in Europe and US. The project also aims to activate research networks across Europe and to stimulate the participation of young researchers in the substance and methodology of rigorous comparative research. The project will be jointly funded by the European Commission’s 5th Framework Programme, the European Science Foundation and the respective National Science Foundations or other national funding agencies.

Brief description of the Project:

Intended to be a time series, but funded so far for only one round, the questionnaire for each round will consist of two elements: a core module of socio-demographic and substantive indicators (around 120 items); and two rotating modules of around 60 items each. Each rotating module will cover a single academic and/or policy concern within Europe and will be drafted by a team to be appointed following a call for proposals published in the OJEC (ref. 95206-2001). Fieldwork will start in all participating countries in the autumn of 2002 leading to the release of a fully documented multinational dataset by the middle of 2003.

The idea of an ESS was conceived initially by the European Science Foundation, which funded its initial development stages. The project will be directed by a Central Co-ordinating Team (CCT) led by the National Centre for Social Research in the UK (Roger Jowell), and comprising NSD Norway (Bjorn Henrichsen), SCP Netherlands (Ineke Stoop), University of Amsterdam (Willem Saris), University of Leuven (Jaak Billiet), and ZUMA Germany (Peter Mohler). This team is responsible for design, content, methodology, co-ordination and time-tabling of the study. Each partner institution will be responsible for different tasks, all aimed at making the survey truly comparable across all participating nations. The management structure of the project is designed to ensure clear chains of responsibility with a strong emphasis on transparency and efficiency. A Scientific Advisory Board, chaired by Prof. Max Kaase of the International University, Bremen, and representing all participating national funding agencies, as well as a Methods Committee will ensure constructive criticism and technical vigilance at every stage of the project.

Expected Results:

A fully-documented multinational dataset, together with appropriate technical material will be distributed widely, via state-of-the-art web-based technology, to academic and policy communities throughout Europe and beyond. It will provide the EU not only with well-founded data about value shifts throughout Europe, but also with a robust methodology for cross-national surveys within the European Union – an important tool for future policy formulation and evaluation.
A Comparative Study of Operating Hours, Working Time and Employment in France, Germany, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain and The United Kingdom

EUCOWE

Contract N°: HPSE-CT-2001-00090

Research Project
EC contribution: 1382236 EURO
Starting date: 1 October 2001
Duration: 36 months

EC Scientific Officer: Ronan O’Brien

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A Comparative Study of Operating Hours, Working Time and Employment in France, Germany, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain and The United Kingdom 

EUCOWE

Objectives:

The overarching objective of the project is the collection and analysis of comparative and representative data on the relationship between operating hours and working time management and their consequences for employment in the abovementioned countries. Operating hours and working time management are crucial for economic competitiveness and organisational performance and closely linked to job security and creation and thus social welfare as well. This management of operating and working times affects social cohesion directly - via decoupling of operating and working times. However salient these issues are today in the European Union and with steeper competition in a global economy, there is a great lack of information. The standardized enterprise survey will collect data for all sectors of the economy and all firm sizes and be designed to serve as a prototype in order to have the option of building a knowledge base to include all EU countries in future research. Up to the present there are no data available to ascertain the linkage between operating hours, working time and employment.

Brief description of the project:

Further the project aims to:
- attain conceptual clarity and methodical soundness, i.e. to understand what is meant by capital operating hours, direct service times and opening hours. This explanatory-theoretical work has to precede any empirical analysis and may lead either to a homogenous concept of operating hours or to a concept, which is differentiated by sectors (industry, private services, public service sector).
- analyse the flexibility management of firms in relation to the social soundness of working times, the fluctuations in production and the demand for occupational training and further qualification.
- Investigate the supply of the population with services.
- scrutinize the flexibility conflict (That means that on the one hand firms tend to lengthen and vary their operating hours and reduce the leisure times of the employees. On the other hand employees aspire to lengthen their leisure times or to enlarge their working time sovereignty.).
- examine if the operating and working time management of the firms is combined with the demand for life long learning, which exists for both the firms (to save their competitiveness) and the employees (to save their employability).
- analyse the employment politics of the small and middle enterprises.
- investigate the specific type of markets, on which the firms compete (national, European or global).

Expected Results:

Firstly we will conduct a critical review of the linkage between operating hours, working times and employment. This critical review will include a state-of-the-art-report, a report of the research activities and a report of the main currents of thought in the abovementioned field. Secondly we will analyse the collected data of the postal firm survey in each country under investigation on the linkage between operating hours, working times and employment. Thirdly we will release a final report, which contains representative, comparable and reliable data and results on the linkage between operating hours, working times and employment.
European Social Survey, Round 2 - Monitoring Attitude Change in Europe

MACE

Contract no: HPSE-CT-2002-00116

Research Project

EC contribution: 1780000 €
Starting date: 1 March 2003
Duration: 27 months

EC Scientific Officer: Virginia Vitorino

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European Social Survey, Round 2 - Monitoring Attitude Change in Europe

MACE

Objectives:
We seek to continue the work already started in ESS Round 1, which is enthusiastically supported intellectually and financially by national funding sources within 20 European countries to date. The twin objectives of the project are, first, to create and sustain a conceptually well-anchored European time series, along the lines of several existing national time series, that will monitor and help interpret changes in public attitudes and values across time and place. But the achievement of this aim depends critically on fulfilling the second objective, which is to carry out the project according to exemplary methodological standards, unusual in cross-national attitude surveys. The European-wide infrastructure that has already been painstakingly created to attain these objectives now needs further support for a second Round if it is to reap the anticipated dividends from the investment already made at both a national and a European level.

Description of the work:
The overall co-ordination of the project is carried out from the National Centre for Social Research in London, where the PI (Roger Jowell) and a small team is based. They work closely with five other co-investigators and their teams within research institutions in four other countries. This Central Coordinating Team is responsible for the design and implementation of all stages of the work, co-ordinating its implementation in all 24 participating nations, and for all finances and deliverables. Each of the co-investigators’ institutions is responsible for certain tasks that are designed to make the survey equally rigorous across nations. Thus one work package will ensure that each national probability sample is appropriately designed and implemented. Another will ensure the equivalence of the words and phrases in the questionnaire. A third will attempt to minimise and correct for obstacles to reliable and valid measures. Further work packages will concentrate on overall data quality, the consistency of subcontracted work in participating countries, archiving and dissemination, and a web-based analysis training package. A network of distinguished advisory groups with specialist skills and knowledge will help to ensure that these goals are achieved, among them two Questionnaire Design Teams - selected via a Europe-wide competition – who will help to formulate the rotating modules of questions. The whole project will be open to constructive criticism and technical vigilance at every stage and will be managed both with clear chains of responsibility and a high degree of transparency. Whereas Round 1 of the European Social Survey built the infrastructure and demonstrated that its goals could be achieved, the aim of Round 2 is to help convert this ambitious new project into a lasting European time series.

Expected results:
The project will generate a series of design protocols (such as sampling schemata, questionnaires, coding frames, reliability and validity measures, translation guidelines, collection of event data, field specifications, model contracts, etc), all of which are pre-requisites of a rigorous multi-national European social survey. Second, it will create a well-documented dataset that will be immediately accessible and of value to substantive and methodological research alike. Third, it will generate numerous technical and substantive reports, articles and papers, all designed to improve the measurement and understanding of changing attitudes and values throughout Europe.
Metadata Management and Production System for Empirical Socio-Economic Research

MetaDater

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-00122

Research Project

EC contribution: 1284957 €
Starting date: 1 January 2003
Duration: 36 months

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Metadata Management and Production System for Empirical Socio-Economic Research

MetaDater

Objectives:
Overarching objectives of the MetaDater project are:
- To develop standards for the description of large scale comparative surveys over space and time and
- to provide tools for metadata creation and management for such surveys.
In order to achieve these objectives, the MetaDater project has to
- develop a comprehensive data model for comparative surveys and
- develop tools for metadata management in survey research.

The resulting standards and the tools will be applied to test technical harmonization and integration of survey data held by data providers in the participating countries. By making the standards and tools available to academic and commercial research and through publishing the standards, the MetaDater project will
- contribute to best practice in survey data resource sharing and data distribution and
- facilitate next generation processing and analysis of huge amounts of data in order to increase empirical evidence and knowledge about European and global socio-economic developments.

Empirical Social Research in modern democracies produces a growing database. While comparative surveys were the exception a few two decades ago and involved only a very small number of countries, they tend to expand in number and coverage with the European integration and with globalization. This increase is only manageable with data and metadata management instruments that make the preparation of data files for access and further analysis more efficient. So far, there exists no comprehensive system that integrates the functionalities required for metadata standardization, storage and output into the workflow.

Survey data, which are in the focus of this Metadata Management and Production System proposal, can only be analyzed properly if the knowledge of and about the data is maintained permanently and available to the end-users. The description of the content, the diversity of question formulations and translation problems as well as the context of individual data sets and of data collections are at the core of what metadata means in this project. This includes the comprehensive technical and methodological description of the collected survey data, that are necessary to gain empirical evidence through further statistical analysis.

New technological developments – Internet, the Web, XML, new documentation standards and complex data production – breed new expectations as to the rapidity and facility of data access. In Social Research data providers so far respond to these expectations in developing front-ends of a new type, integrating resource finding and data exploration. For these instruments to work, highly standardized and rich metadata are needed. Appropriate instruments should result from collective efforts rather than from individual initiatives to achieve standards and interoperability. The MetaDater project will benefit from the diversity of data holdings and different kinds of expertise of the project partners. It will also facilitate the creation of well documented databases that can be delivered via emerging data service portals.

Since consortium partners also participate in the development of international metadata standards, compatibility with the current metadata standard of the DDI will be assured. DDI represents all study and variable related metadata as well as workflow and quality management aspects. Since the DDI still lacks the adequate description of time series survey data and international comparative studies the metadata model of this project will have to be more elaborate.

The metadata model to be developed in this project will be the framework for different applications for managing, preserving, standardizing and exporting metadata. Its feasibility will be exemplified and tested by two prototype implementations, the data provider application and the primary data producer application.
Multilingual Access to Data Infrastructures of the European Research Area

MADIERA

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-00139

Research Project
EC contribution: 1291377 €
Starting date: 1 December 2002
Duration: 36 months

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Multilingual Access to Data Infrastructures of the European Research Area

MADIERA

Objectives:

1. The development of an integrated and effective distributed social science portal to facilitate access to a range of data archives and disparate resources.
2. The employment of a multi-lingual thesaurus to break the language barriers to the discovery of key resources.
3. The development of specific add-ons to existing virtual data library technologies.
4. An extensive programme to add content, both at the data/information and knowledge levels.
5. Extensive training of data providers and users to encourage the continues growth of the infrastructure.
6. The gradual integration of the emerging national infrastructures of the candidate countries into the European Research Area.

Description of the work:

There are four major work packages designed to deliver the objectives stated above.

1. Technical development, designed to exploit existing leading edge technologies and enhance their functionality for the specific demands of the infrastructure. This will include the creation of a geographical interface, modules to handle classification metadata and multi-lingual searching and the ability for users to add their knowledge.

2. Metadata is the key to effective interoperability and the semantic web. Advances in metadata standards will be archived by working closely with the international bodies to which the partners are very closely affiliated. These include extensions to the types of data described and the classification of resource centres to aid intelligent searching.

3. Multi-lingual searching and retrieval will be achieved by the careful integration of a specific social science thesaurus and tools to add new language versions. Multi-lingual searches will be possible via the standard interface and encourage the use of comparative data.

4. Content will be added by archives initially, via special tools and workshops. Exemplars of special hyperlinked knowledge products will be created and tools to allow researchers to do the same will be promoted. Later a wider network of content providers will be encouraged.

These main activities will be supported by specific work on user analysis and usability testing and extensive dissemination and exploitation activities.

Expected results:

Fully functional beta-version of the MADIERA infrastructure - M12
- V1.0 of the MADIERA infrastructure (stabilised and ready for external use) - M18
- Extended Multilingual thesauri - M24
- Version V1.1 of the MADIERA infrastructure (including revisions coming out of usability tests) - M36
- By the end of the project a fully operational Web-based infrastructure will be in place populated with a variety of data and resources from a selection of providers.
Europanel User Network

EPUNet

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-50021

Thematic Network
EC contribution: 1084934 €
Starting date: 1 December 2002
Duration: 36 months
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The European Community Household Panel is a hugely important source of data. It is the first large scale data-set regularly available for all EU Member States on such issues as family structure, employment and income – all issues of primary relevance to social policies at national and EU levels. The panel element – interviews with the same sample every year for eight years – provides a unique insight into the dynamics of social change.

Although we and other teams have been making good use of the EuroPanel, we are concerned that its potential value is not being realised. Many analysts may be daunted by initial set-up costs and technical complexities. Current analysts are unfamiliar with each others’ activities. The proposed network is designed to counter both of these problems.

Training and other facilities will be made available at a wide range of sites, not just at the partner institutes. Activities will be developed under three themes:

Services to encourage new users: These activities aim to encourage the maximum use of the ECHP data by independent analysts. We will make the expertise of experienced users available to new users, in four ways: 1) a basic user guide; 2) a data transcription service; 3) training in data access and panel analysis; 4) small-user access sites.

Technical links between analysts: The next set of activities aims to develop links between researchers analysing the ECHP. They will provide technical assistance, to both new and existing users, through an information exchange. Existing users will be asked to report their experiences to a central point, which will then provide answers to subsequent enquiries. The services will include: 1) a register of data queries and solutions; 2) a file of derived variables; and 3) an e-mail hotline.

Mutual awareness of substantive analysis: These activities are also aimed at developing links between researchers, this time at the level of research results: 1) an annual research conference; 2) a web-site; and 3) a newsletter.

We are strongly motivated to implement this network by our own need for closer contact with other academics from many disciplines who are using the EuroPanel. We expect to stimulate an increase in the use of the data; an improvement in efficiency through the exchange of technical information; and a major growth in the quality of outputs as we learn to build on each others results. While the proposal is directly aimed at the development of infrastructures, the substantive results likely to emerge across the ERA will also contribute conclusions highly relevant to societal and individual well-being.

The Network will be set up immediately, using our existing consortium as a springboard. There will be a period of intense activity during the first year while data-bases are set up, web-sites designed and so on. We expect members’ demand for the network’s services and facilities to continue over a three year period. Highlights of the programme, especially from the point of view of policy makers and other ‘end-users’, will include the dissemination of research results on the internet and an annual EuroPanel conference.
Web-Based Data Collection. Online Knowledge Base and Co-Operation Platform on the Methodology of Web Surveys and other Types of Web-Based Data Collection

WebSM Site

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-50031

Thematic Network

EC contribution: 359848 €
Starting date: 01 January 2003
Duration: 36 months

EC Scientific Officer: Peter Fisch

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Objectives:

The thematic network is dealing with a Web portal on Web survey methodology. In this way users (universities, statistical offices, governments, private, public research institutes) will get a free access to a range of services promoting development of the methodology of Web surveys and increased usage of Web survey data. The main objectives of the thematic network are:

- Making European research on Web surveys globally visible.
- Accelerating European research on Web surveys by offering an effective research infrastructure.
- Promoting co-operation among European researchers dealing with Web surveys.
- Promoting EU-based products and services related to Web surveys.
- Integrating European experience on Web surveys.
- Disseminating the knowledge in a publicly available and user-friendly manner.

Description of the work:

The thematic network will implement a Web-site portal dedicated to Web surveys. This type of data collection is increasingly important and will become a major tool for survey data collection in near future. However, today, due to newness and lack of research, the quality of Web surveys is often questionable. The objectives of the project are to increase knowledge, disseminate solutions, collect experiences, offer guidelines on methodology, establish forums, establish database of experts from EU public and private sectors, and offer platform for establishing contacts among researchers. The network will extend the work of two research groups (FSS-UL and ZUMA). Thematic network will include scientists from broader range of social science fields from different countries. This will contribute to higher quality of the joint portal serving to global research community, as well as business sector and official statisticians. In addition, it will offer reference to the quality of information included in the portal, what will contribute to the higher quality of work of survey methodologists. It will also offer a basis for encouraging further international research using Web surveys or developing Web survey methodology.

The objectives will be fulfilled through the following services offered by the portal:

- Latest news on the happenings in the field of Web survey research;
- Information on literature and online access to literature on Web survey methodology;
- Keyword search through databases of software packages, research agencies, larger Web survey projects and experts dealing with Web surveys, including information on their quality;
- Moderated online forum for international discussion on Web survey research;
- Search service for preparing further joint research projects that would use Web survey data or develop Web survey methodology.

Expected results:

Result of this thematic network will be a Web portal dedicated to Web surveys. The portal will contribute to higher quality of Web survey data, to integration and stimulation of EU efforts with Web surveys, and to increase of co-operative research among European social scientists using Web surveys.
European Cultural Heritage Online

ECHO

Contract n°: HPSE-CT-2002-00137

Research Project
EC contribution: 1589682 €
Starting date: 1 December 2002
Duration: 18 months
EC Scientific Officer: Peter Fisch

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The European Cultural Heritage Online

ECHO

Objectives:

The ECHO project has three objectives:

1. assessment of the present situation in bringing cultural heritage online,
2. the exploration of a novel IT-based cooperative research infrastructure (the AGORA),
3. a paradigmatic proof of the new potentials for research offered by this AGORA.

The assessment of the present situation is used for a comparative analysis of the existing approaches in order to better understand the causes for the present fragmentation. The AGORA model combines scholarly and IT-based networks with an organizational and managerial structure that guarantees optimal collaboration and sharing of tools and data among researchers in the broad field of the humanities. ECHO will establish a small-scale AGORA that comprises all the facets of a full-fledged AGORA that may result from it in the future. The paradigmatic case studies are intended to demonstrate the innovative potential for research offered by the AGORA.

Description of the work:

Seven workpackages have been defined for ECHO. WP0 is devoted to project management. All other workpackages relate to specific aspects of the AGORA. The policy report of WP1 deals with the state of the art in bringing cultural heritage online, especially addressing the causes of the present fragmentation in technological, organizational, and scientific respects, as well as common core needs. As one element of the response to this assessment, WP2 provides advanced web technology for the humanities by creative combinations of existing software and integrate these software components into a common infrastructure. In WP3 five case studies (spanning a broad range of the humanities) are performed in close collaboration with WP2 in order to demonstrate the benefits of an interactive integration of research and technology development. The first aims at making scholarly metadata such as dictionaries available online, while four further case studies will make key sources accessible, one of them focusing on the creation of a digital framework for collecting and collaboratively processing sources documenting the non-European components of European culture. Based on the overview and the case studies, already existing networks will be strengthened and extended to an AGORA, which is the main task of WP4. WP4 will also identify the (technological) needs of this AGORA. WP5 is dedicated to investigate optimal structures for managing the envisaged larger AGORA. A comparative study will be made of existing managerial structures in large scientific and cultural heritage organizations. On the basis of the ECHO management evaluation and collaborating committees that will concentrate on individual aspects of the network, a progressive small scale AGORA structure will start at project mid-term. In addition, WP6 is dedicated to the dissemination of the AGORA idea to scholars in humanities and the larger public.

Expected results:

- Policy report on the present status of the European cultural heritage on Internet, and on the accessibility of electronic sources and tools for the humanities
- Prototype of hypermedia forms for cultural heritage; Demonstrator covering the integration of the network infrastructure
- Integration of hypermedia primary sources and scholarly metadata from 5 case studies into an open accessible network; data base samples of language dictionaries, seminal Roman architecture, history of science, European sign languages, non-European components of European cultural heritage
- Network extension to complementary institutions working in the field of humanities
- Evaluation of the small scale AGORA concept to initiate cross domain research in humanities; Proposition of a full-fledged AGORA structure
- Exploitation by other scholarly institutions in humanities and dissemination to a larger public
### E-mail of Scientific Officers

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