

Berkeley Social Welfare



SCHOOL of  
PUBLIC POLICY



# International Network for Social Policy Teaching and Research

## Annual Meeting

### *Preliminary Agenda*

June 16–18, 2019  
University of Zageb  
Inter-University Centre  
Dubrovnik, Croatia

**Organizing committee:** *Gojko Bezovan, Douglas J. Besharov, Neil Gilbert, Georg Fischer*

## *Sunday, June 16*

19:30 **Business Dinner**  
Restaurant: TBD

*Sponsored by the Oxford University Press*

Dinner Speaker: Georg Fischer, former director, Analysis, Evaluation, and External Relations, European Commission [ret.]

## *Monday, June 17*

### **Challenges of Welfare Policies in Central and Eastern Europe**

The meeting will explore the policies, trends, and social issues that animate the contemporary policy discourse in and related to Central and Eastern European welfare states. In various stages of development, these welfare states confront a range of challenges in seeking to provide social protection, advance gender and economic equality, balance the demands of work and family life, and promote social investments for the development of human capital.

The opening session is organized around several presentations on recent trends in income, welfare, and inequality. These papers present a landscape assessment of the broad European experience and explore the regional trends in Central and Eastern Europe. They offer a comparative perspective on the economic well-being in these regions and the challenges of formulating social policies that further economic growth and decrease inequality. This perspective affords insights into the different experiences in Western and Southern Europe and Central and Eastern Europe, and their implications for the development of modern welfare states.

The second session focuses on specific social policy challenges encountered in the Central and Eastern European welfare states. With total fertility rates well below the standard 2.1 replacement rate, various efforts are being made to implement social policy initiatives designed to promote childbearing and strengthen the bonds of family life. At the same time, the increasing old age dependency ratio poses serious concerns about meeting the costs of public pensions and social care for the elderly. And new measures for the development of human capital are being promoted as welfare states increasingly shift the focus of financial aid designed to cushion unemployment and alleviate poverty from income maintenance to social investments which call for enhanced early education, skill training, and incentives to join the active labor force. The papers presented in this session analyze the policy alternatives and social forces surrounding these issues.

The conference concludes with a panel presentation that summarizes the contemporary challenges of welfare policies in the CEE regions, examines some of the current research that addresses these issues, and reflects on the emerging role of Eastern and Central European university education in the field of social policy.

9:15–9:30 **Welcome and Introductions**

*Gojko Bezovan*, University of Zagreb

*Douglas Besharov*, University of Maryland

*Neil Gilbert*, University of California, Berkeley

*Georg Fischer*, former director, Analysis, Evaluation, and External Relations, European Commission [ret.]

9:30–10:45 **Trends in Income, Welfare, and Inequality in Europe**

***European Perspective on Current Social Issues*** *Katarina Ivankovic Knežević*, Director for Social Affairs; DG Employment, Social affairs and Inclusion; European Commission (confirmed)

***Income, Wealth, Employment and Beyond: Central and Eastern Europe*** *Istvan Toth*, Táarki Social Research Institute, Budapest and Budapest Corvinus University (confirmed)

10:45–11:00 **Coffee Break**

11:00–12:15 **Welfare and Pension Systems in Central and Eastern Europe**

***Inequality in Income, Wealth and, Consumption in the Western Balkans*** *Zsóka Kóczán*, Research Department, IMF Washington and EBRD London (confirmed)

***Population Aging and Financing Consumption of the Older Generation in the European Union*** *Agnieszka Chlon-Dominczak*, SGH- Warsaw School of Economics (confirmed)

12:15–14:00 Lunch

14:00–15:45 **Policy Challenges for Central and Eastern Europe**

***The Hasty Privatization of Pension Systems in Post-communist Europe*** *Martin Potucek*, Institute of Sociological Studies and Center for Social and Economic Strategies (CESES), Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University (confirmed)

***Reforming Social Assistance: the Challenges of Activation Policy in Post-communist Countries?*** *Pawel Polawski*, Institute of Sociology, University of Warsaw (confirmed)

***Formal Long-term Care in Central and Eastern Europe in the Making: Practices and Challenges*** *Slavina Spasova*, European Social Observatory (OSE) and European Social Policy Network (ESPN) (confirmed)

15:45–16:00 **Coffee Break**

16:00–17:15 **Panel Discussion on Social Policy Challenges, Research and Education in the Field**

***Moderator:** Gojko Bežovan, University of Zagreb, Faculty of Law, Department of Social Policy*

***Panelists:***

Scholars from Bosnia, Croatia, the Czech Republic, and Poland

19:00 **Business Dinner**

Restaurant: TBD

Dinner Speaker: TBD

*Tuesday, June 18*

## **Business Meeting**

- 9:15-9:30 **Welcome and Review of Agenda**  
*Douglas Besharov*, University of Maryland  
*Neil Gilbert*, University of California, Berkeley
- 9:30 - 9:45 **Rossi Award (Non-US version)**  
Plans for the institutionalization of a non-US version of the Rossi Award for Contributions to the Theory or Practice of Program Evaluation
- 9:45 - 10:30 **EU Proposal: Overarching/Organizational issues**  
Identity of formal institutional participants  
Identity of a primary applicant organization that submits the application on behalf of the Network  
Dissemination and exploitation strategy  
Membership roles
- 10:30 - 10:45 **Coffee Break**
- 10:45 - 12:15 **Types and design of "activities" by "substantive topic"**  
The monitoring and evaluation of EU structural funds ("block grants" in the US)  
Family policy (Neil/Bergit) and child welfare (Neil/Marit)  
Demographics and fertility  
Pensions and retirement (Martin?)  
Program evaluation, process and impact (Doug)  
Immigration and refugees (Sagrario?)  
Labor force issues, including workforce development (Christoph?)  
Infrastructure planning, financing, and procurement (Doug)
- Course on Policy Analysis and Evaluation
- 12:15 - 14:00 **Lunch**
- 14:00 - 15:30 **Global Handbook Series (OUP)**  
(Neil Gilbert, University of California, Berkeley)
- Status Report on Approved Handbooks***  
*Public Administration for Social Policy: Promising Practices and Emerging Challenges*  
Karen Baehler, American University, ed. (approved in 2017)  
*Social Program Design and Implementation Evaluation*

Anu Rangarajan, Mathematica Policy Research; and Diane Paulsell, Mathematica Policy Research; eds. (approved in 2017)

*Family Policy: A Life-Course Perspective*

Neil Gilbert, University of California, Berkeley; Emiko Ochiai, Kyoto University; Birgit Pfau-Effinger, University of Hamburg; and Douglas Besharov, University of Maryland; eds. (approved in 2018)

*Child Protection Systems*

Jill Berrick, University of California, Berkeley; Neil Gilbert, University of California, Berkeley; and Marit Skivenes, University of Bergen; eds. (approved in 2018)

***Handbook: To be Reviewed***

*International Handbook of Education: A Policy Research Approach*

Paola Mattei, University of Milan; Xavier Dumay, University of Louvain; and Antonina Santalova, University of Oxford; eds. (submitted at end of April, approval to be discussed)

15:30-15:45 **Coffee Break**

15:45-16:15 **International Policy Exchange Series (OUP)**

(Douglas Besharov, University of Maryland)

***Status Report on Approved Policy Exchanges***

*US Income Trends* (working title)

Diana Furchtgott-Roth, Manhattan Institute; and Daniel DiMartino, University of Indiana, eds.

***Policy Exchanges: To be Reviewed***

*European Income Trends* (working title)

Georg Fischer, European Commission (ret.); and Robert Strauss, European Commission, eds.

*Asian Income Trends* (working title)

Meng Ke, Tsinghua University, ed.

*The World Politics of Social Investment: The Welfare State in the Knowledge Economy*

Julian Garritzmann, University of Zurich; Silja Hausermann, University of Zurich; and Bruno Palier, Sciences Po.

(proposal has been sent out for reviews; possibility that it may become a handbook.)

*The Future Adequacy of Pension Systems in Advanced Economies*

Gijsbrecht Dekkers, Federal Planning Bureau of Belgium and KU Leuven; Amilcar Moreira, University of Lisbon; and Karel Van den Bosch, Federal

Planning Bureau of Belgium and University of Antwerp, eds.

*Comparing Different Varieties of the Public/Private Sector Mix in the Delivery of Healthcare Services and Their Impacts on Social Equity and Quality of Care*

Howard A. Palley, University of Maryland, ed.

16:15 - 17:15 **Conferences/Policy Seminars**

*(Academic/research activities in which more than two members participate or the Network is identified as a cosponsor)*

(Neil Gilbert, University of California, Berkeley)

***European Center for Research, Policies, and Action for Minors and Migration and the International Journal of Child Welfare Policy (Melilla, April 2019)***

Network members Sagrario Segado Sánchez-Cabezudo and Marit Skivenes established the European Center for Research, Policies, and Action for Minors and Migration in December 2017. In April 2019, they held the fourth annual seminar on frontiers, research, policy, and actions for minors in Melilla, Europe, and Spain, with plans to publish papers from the conference either as a monograph or as a special volume of a journal.

In addition, Sagrario Segado Sánchez-Cabezudo and Neil Gilbert are still in the process of launching a new journal titled *The International Journal of Child Welfare Services*. It is proposed that INSP members serve as the international editorial advisory board.

***Rigorous Impact Evaluation in Europe (Torino, May 20-22)***

This conference honored Alberto Martini and was cosponsored by *Evaluation Review*, the Collegio Carlo Alberto, the University of Maryland, and the Network. The conference included keynote talks by prominent researchers and policy-makers, including Daniele Bondonio, Università del Piemonte Orientale; Senator Laura Bottici, Italian Senate; Eric Hanushek, Stanford University; Alberto Martini, Università del Piemonte Orientale; Rebecca Maynard, University of Pennsylvania; Stefano Scarpetta, Organisation for Economic Co-Operation and Development; and Jeffrey Smith, University of Wisconsin.

In addition, twenty-six papers were presented in ten panels on the following topics: cross-national generalizability in impact evaluation, economic growth/development, employment protection and contracts, elementary/primary education, issues and approaches to conducting rigorous impact evaluation, refugee and migrant policies, secondary and post-secondary education, systematic reviews, welfare policies and employment, and workforce development. In total, about fifty people attended the conference.

Some of the papers from the conference have been submitted for publication in a special issue of *Evaluation Review* and are currently being peer reviewed.

***UNED “International Seminar on Social Policies” (Malaga, April 2019)***

Under the leadership of Antonio Lopez, the “V International Seminar on Social Policies” was held at the University of Malaga, Spain, April 8-11, 2019. The focus of this year’s seminar was the challenges faced by social services in the face of digital transformation.

***Helping Low-Skilled Americans Find Work: Using Comparative Effectiveness Performance Monitoring to Strengthen the Capacity of Public Employment Agencies (Austrian Embassy, Washington, D.C., November 2018)***

In the US, the University of Maryland is working with the Upjohn Institute for Employment Research on a project that seeks to develop, test, and disseminate an enhanced approach to performance monitoring that (1) better assesses program functioning, (2) provides the tools to learn from high- and low-performers, and (3) encourages the adoption of the most promising practices. We received funding for the project in February 2018 and we are now applying the approach we have developed to a few states who have volunteered to participate.

As part of this project, in November 2018, the University of Maryland co-sponsored (with the Upjohn Institute and the Austrian Embassy) a half-day consultation at the Austrian Embassy to introduce US policy makers to the Austrian and broader European system of benchmarking public workforce and job training services. About fifty people attended the meeting, including the Austrian ambassador to the United States, the top echelon of the evaluation team at the Department of Labor (including the Chief Evaluation Officer and the director of the Division of Research and Evaluation), the senior Austrian civil servant for workforce and labor issues, the director of the Austrian Public Employment Service, senior congressional staff from the Senate Finance Committee and House Ways and Means (majority and minority), representatives from the Domestic Policy Council, and the senior academics and practitioners in the field of workforce development evaluation and performance measurement in the United States and Austria. (A brief summary of the event can be found at <https://www.austria.org/the-latest/2018/11/14/public-workforce-event>.)

As a result of this meeting, UMD has started discussions with the Austrian Public Employment Service about holding additional meetings in Europe on both process and impact evaluations in workforce development and also comparative effectiveness.

On the Austrian side, researchers at WIFO are conducting a parallel project in Austria, with the possibility of expanding the project to other countries in Europe. Following the November meeting, the Austrian government decided to fund the project.



***Charles University/University of California, Berkeley***

Charles University sent one scholar (Ondrej Kopečný) for three years to conduct research at the University of California, Berkeley's School of Social Welfare as a Fulbright scholar. The scholar is sponsored by Neil Gilbert based on Martin Potucek's recommendation.

***Hebrew University/University of California, Berkeley***

Hebrew University sent a visiting scholar (Talia Schwartz-Tayri) to conduct research at the University of California, Berkeley. The scholar was sponsored by Neil Gilbert based on John Gal's recommendation.

***Center for International Social Security Studies (China)/University of California, Berkeley***

The Center for International Social Security Studies sent a visiting doctoral student (Xiaoli Zhang) to conduct research at the University of California, Berkeley. He was sponsored by Neil Gilbert based on Professor Zheng's recommendation.

***Chinese Academy of Social Sciences/University of Maryland***

The Chinese Academy of Social Sciences has proposed sending a researcher, Dr. Zhang Yinghua, to the US for three months in the summer of 2019. While at the University of Maryland, Dr. Zhang would study Medicaid and the social care system in context of the US social welfare culture.

***University of Tübingen/University of California, Berkeley and University of Maryland***

The University of Tübingen has proposed sending a junior researcher to the US for one year beginning in the spring of 2020, splitting his/her time at the University of California, Berkeley and the University of Maryland. The researcher would focus on US welfare policy, specifically Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), and their respective residence requirements as well as the effects of the 1999 US Supreme Court ruling in *Saenz v. Roe* on caseloads and budgets in California.

## International Teaching

(Douglas Besharov, University of Maryland)

### *OECD/UMD on “Program Evaluation and Applied Policy Analysis” (Paris, Summer 2019)*

In summer 2018, Douglas Besharov and Douglas Call taught a two-week course in Paris titled “Understanding and Synthesizing Evidence-Based Research.” Other guest faculty were Neil Gilbert, University of California, Berkeley; David Myers, American Institutes of Research; Anu Rangarajan, Mathematica Policy Research; Stefano Scarpetta, OECD; David Seidenfeld, American Institutes of Research; and Howard White, Campbell Collaboration.

Course instruction took place in Paris from June 3–June 14, meeting for about three-and-a-half hours every day.

Prior to the start of the course, we enlisted “clients” to submit proposals of research reviews on topics of the clients’ choosing. Clients included five offices at the OECD, the Agence Francaise de Developpement, UNESCO, the Institut National d’Etudes Démographiques, and the Institut de Recherche pour le Développement. Students were matched to clients before traveling to Paris and met with their clients in-person during the two weeks they were in Paris.

Students used their afternoons to meet with clients and prepare assignments. On the final day in Paris, students presented detailed research plans to their clients. The students’ final assignments (research reviews) were due at the end of August, about two-and-a-half months after leaving Paris.

Successful students received three master’s level credits from UMD. (Tuition was approximately \$3,700, not including transportation to Paris .)

In general, we found that this was a successful model. All of the clients were enthusiastic about working with the students and every student was able to meet with their clients at least once while in Paris, many for multiple times either in person or by Skype. However, one student/client pairing proved to be unsuccessful, mainly because the student wanted to expand the project and extend the due date.

For the summer 2019 course, we changed the title of the course to “Program Evaluation and Applied Policy Analysis” in an effort to broaden the appeal of the course. (Fourteen students have enrolled in the course, up from eight in 2018.) In addition, we are working closely with Stefano Scarpetta of the OECD and anticipate that most, if not all, of the student projects will be with OECD clients.

## **Additional programming**

19:00

**Dinner (optional)**

**Restaurant:** TBD

*Note:* This dinner will be an optional and informal get-together. Please note that attendees are responsible for paying for their own meals and drinks.

# Appendix A

## Oxford International Policy Exchange Series: Past and Approved Volumes

### *Policy Exchanges: Past Volumes*

(in chronological order)

*United in Diversity? Comparing Social Models in Europe and America*

Jens Alber and Neil Gilbert, eds. (2010)

*Child Protection Services: International Trends and Orientations*

Neil Gilbert, Nigel Parton, and Marit Skivenes, eds. (2011)

*The Korean State and Social Policy: How South Korea Lifted Itself from Poverty and Dictatorship to Affluence and Democracy*

Stein Ringen, Huck-je Kwon, Ilcheong Yi, Taekyoon Kim, and Jooha Lee, eds. (2011)

*Counting the Poor: New Thinking About European Poverty Measures and Lessons for the United States*

Douglas J. Besharov and Kenneth A. Couch, eds., (2012)

*The Age of Dualization: The Changing Face of Inequality in Deindustrializing Societies*

Patrick Emmenegger, Silja Hausermann, Bruno Palier, and Martin Seelib-Kaiser, eds. (2012)

*Chinese Social Policy in a Time of Transition*

Douglas J. Besharov and Karen Baehler, eds. (2013)

*Social Policy and Citizenship: The Changing Landscape*

Adalbert Evers and Anne-Marie Guillemard, eds. (2013)

*Reconciling Work and Poverty Reduction: How Successful are European Welfare States?*

Bea Cantillon and Frank Vandenbroucke, eds. (2014)

*Activation or Workfare? Governance and the Neo-Liberal Convergence*

Ivar Lodemel and Amilcar Moreira, eds. (2014)

*University Adaptation in Difficult Economic Times*

Paola Mattei, ed. (2014)

*Child Welfare Systems and Migrant Children*

Marit Skivenes, Ravinder Barn, Katrin Kriz, and Tarja Poso, eds. (2014)

*A World in Motion: Trends in Migration and Migration Policy*

Douglas J. Besharov and Mark H. Lopez, eds. (2015)

*Child Welfare Removals by the State: A Cross-Country Analysis of Decision-Making Systems*

Kenneth Burns, Tarja Psvs, and Marit Skivenes, eds. (2016)

*Caring for a Living: Migrant Women, Aging Citizens, and Italian Families*

Francesca Degiuli, ed. (2016)

*Improving Public Services: International Experiences in Using Evaluation Tools to Measure Program Performance*

Douglas J. Besharov, Karen Baehler, and Jacob A. Klerman, eds. (2017)

*Welfare, Work, and Poverty: Social Assistance in China*  
Qin Gao, ed. (2017)

***Policy Exchanges: Approved and Pending***

*Labor Activation in Times of High (and Low) Unemployment: Encouraging Work While Preserving the Social Safety-Net*

Douglas Besharov and Douglas Call, University of Maryland, eds. (approved in 2014)