



6th Framework Network of Excellence - www.equalsoc.org

EQUALSOC: A CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE ON SOCIAL RESEARCH IN EUROPE



EQUALSOC is a network of European research centres, which fosters cross-national research and training collaboration on the theme of social cohesion. It has started its activities in September 2005 and can register two years of successful research. The third newsletter is now available, informing about past, current and future activities. ★

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND CALLS FOR PAPERS

The following section provides a chronological overview of upcoming meetings and related calls for papers of various research groups and research teams:

Research groups:

The research group EDUC (Education, Social Mobility and Social Cohesion) is organizing a workshop in Dijon from 22 until 24 November 2007. The first two days will be devoted to presentations of the work of the different teams and to sessions for single paper presentations. The third day will be open for team meetings. Papers related to the EDUC theme are invited to be presented. All workshop participants are asked to [register](#) until 15 September. For further information on this workshop, please click [here](#).

As part of the EDUC workshop, the research team 'Evaluation of the ISCED-97 for comparative research' will meet in Dijon on 24 November 2007, to continue the construct validation of ISCED-97 and work on the output. Proposals for presentations are very welcome, particularly by team members who could not attend the last meeting in Mannheim in March 2007. Please confirm attendance and send proposals to Silke.Schneider@nuffield.ox.ac.uk.

Silke Schneider, PhD student at Nuffield College will take over the coordination of the research team from Irena Kogan in late August.

The research group SOCCULT (Cultural and Social Differentiation) will hold a meeting in Dublin from 26 until 27 November 2007. The main part is organized on the basis of a call for papers on the future of social and cultural differentiation in European societies, in particular on generational differences, ethnicity, immigration, cultural and lifestyle differentiation, social exclusion, class position, status order and value systems. Researchers who address these topics are invited to submit an abstract as soon as possible to soccult@ensae.com. For further information, please contact Souria.Djaziri@ensae.fr.

Research teams:

The research team 'Dynamic and Multidimensional Measurement of Exclusion and Measurement of Consumption Expenditure' (INCDIS), coordinated by Chris Whelan, holds a meeting in Dublin from 13 until 14 September 2007. Researchers wishing to contribute or participate in the meeting should get in touch with Chris.Whelan@esri.ie. For practical information, please email Mary.Dowling@esri.ie.

The research team 'Fields of study and European labour markets' (EDUC), coordinated by Herman van de Werfhorst, organizes a meeting in Mannheim from 17 until 18 September 2007. The research team is preparing a special double issue of the International Journal of Comparative Sociology, to appear in the second half of 2008. After a number of workshops, researchers from six partner institutes and a few associate experts are currently completing their comparative papers on issues like the role of educational fields of study with regard to labour market returns, social selection in educational fields, gender segregation, social mobility, and the family-work nexus. The meeting in September is intended to be the final meeting for this special issue. The research

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Colophon

The Equalsoc newsletter is published once every eight months. Future issues will be distributed through e-mail. If you do not wish to receive this newsletter again, please send an e-mail to newsletter@equalsoc.org.

Editorial board Dr Herman van de Werfhorst, AIAS, Laura Dörfler (AIAS) & Angelique Lieberton, AIAS (Lay-out).

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND CALLS FOR PAPERS

team will continue working on the topic of horizontal educational differentials.

The research team 'Atypical employment and welfare regimes' (EMPLOY), coordinated by Paolo Barbieri, organizes a meeting in Trento from 26 until 28 October 2007. The project is intended to analyze the consequences of atypical employment on different aspects of the life course, namely work career, demographic choices and poverty risks, among different European welfare regimes. The purpose of the Trento meeting is to define a common line of analysis after the first year of research. Researchers who wish to join the team or present a paper should contact Paolo Barbieri at paolo.barbieri@soc.unitn.it. For detailed information on the project and participants, [click here](#).

The research team 'The changing quality of part-time work – a cross-country comparison' (EMPLOY), coordinated by Karin Hallden, scheduled a meeting in Oxford for 29 October 2007. Main objective of the research project is to examine whether differences in institutional context within which part-time work developed led to significant differences in the quality of part-time work. Sweden and the UK are the initial countries of comparison, but other countries like the Netherlands will be considered in a more extensive phase of the project. The meeting in Oxford is intended to discuss the empirical analysis on Swedish and UK data, as well as a revision of the article outline. The final paper is planned to be presented at the Equalsoc network conference in Berlin next spring.

The research team 'Welfare state institutions and welfare state outcomes' (TRALEG), coordinated by Claus Wendt, holds a meeting in Mannheim from 7 until 9 March 2008. The workshop is mainly organized on the basis of a call for papers on the following themes:

- ★ Welfare state institutions and their effects on equality of opportunity and benefit level

- ★ The perception and assessment of welfare state institutions.

Papers are invited that address these topics from different perspectives. Abstracts, no longer than 500 words, need to be submitted until 31 October 2007 to claus.wendt@mzes.uni-mannheim.de.

Cross cutting meetings

Joint LoWER - EQUALSOC special conference on ECONOMIC INEQUALITY

From 23 until 29 September 2007, a special conference between the research networks LoWER (European Low-Wage Employment Research Network) and EQUALSOC will be organized in Seville, Spain. The conference is centered on the topic of economic inequality and involves presentation and discussion of the chapters of the "Handbook of Income Inequality", to be edited by Wiemer Salverda and Brian Nolan. For further information on this event, please contact W.Salverda@uva.nl.

Berlin Network Conference

From 11 until 12 April 2008, the EQUALSOC mid-term conference will be held in Berlin. This conference is organized mainly on the basis of a call for papers on various topics related to the research groups and specific projects. Deadline for submitting an abstract, by uploading it on the EQUALSOC website, is the end of November. For further information on this conference, please [click here](#). ★

RESEARCH IN THE SPOTLIGHT

The research team "Civicness, Equality and Democracy" (TRALEG), coordinated by Sonja Zmerli, provides a special contribution about their ongoing research in this newsletter.

Participants: Robert Albano (University of Turin), Filippo Barbera (University of Turin), Jan van Deth (University of Mannheim), Gema Garcia Albacete (Autonomous University of Madrid), Hajdeja Iglic (University of Ljubljana), Monika Ewa Kaminska (AIAS Amsterdam), Sigrid Roßteutscher (Johann Wolfgang Goethe University Frankfurt), Sonja Zmerli (University of Technology Darmstadt)

In recent years, the concept of social capital has gained a tremendous amount of attention in social sciences. This development can mainly be attributed to a number of positive individual and societal effects, which are assumed to be exerted by the existence of social capital. However, latest research revealed that social capital itself could also imply the development of anti- and non-democratic orientations as

well as the persistence of social inequality. To address precisely these less benign aspects of social capital is the main research focus of the "Civicness, Equality, and Democracy: A 'dark side' of social capital?" team. Having constituted itself at the first meeting of the TRALEG research group in January 2006, the team, now consisting of eight researchers from 5 different countries, met in Mannheim in June 2006, in Ljubljana in December 2006, and in Turin in June 2007 to discuss and present research questions and, in the course of the co-operation, empirical results. The scope of the team ranges from the specific relationship between social capital and political involvement to its relationships with norms of citizenship, legitimacy and the capacity of economic innovation on the local level. In the near future, the research team is planning to publish its findings in a special issue of an international journal. Negotiations with potential journal editors are already underway. ★

SUMMERSCHOOL

Summerschool

The second EQUALSOC summer school on “Changes in the institutional arrangement of EU societies - their effects on inequality and social cohesion” was held from 2 until 7 July 2007 in Levico, a small village near Trento in Italy.

The summer school was organized in six specific sessions on topics linked to social cohesion and structural inequalities within European societies.

Each session had main speakers. Walter Müller and Herman van de Werfhorst, as first session’s speakers, analysed educational inequalities. Emilio Reyneri discussed labour market changes and intergenerational solidarity. Chris Whelan investigated EU countries governance’s effects on welfare systems. Giuseppe Sciortino explored migrant’s integration; Jacqueline O’Reilly examined gender inequalities. And finally, Mario Diani as last session’s speaker looked at the effects of cultural and ethnic cleavages on social cohesion.

Thirteen PhD students, coming both from EQUALSOC and non-EQUALSOC institutions, participated in the summer school. Morning sessions were devoted to lectures on broad institutional changes in the fields of education, labour markets, governance, immigration, family and work, and culture and ethnicities.

During the afternoon sessions, students presented their papers under the supervision of several experts and obtained helpful feedback on their works.

All participants found the program very interesting and enjoyed a pleasant stay in Levico. ★



PUBLICATIONS

Policy papers

One of the main aims of the EQUALSOC network of excellence is to link social research with social and public policy in Europe. Therefore, EQUALSOC has created a special portal on its website, designed for policy makers and people interested in the exchange of scientific knowledge and social policy. The first policy papers are now online. Nadia Steiber (Nuffield College) published a paper titled “The Linkages between Work and Family: State of Knowledge and Policy Implications”, for full text [click here](#). Paolo Barbieri’s work (University of Milan-Bicocca) deals with “Atypical employment and welfare regimes”, for full text [click here](#). ★

New publication

The research team “Ethnic Educational Inequality in a comparative perspective” (EDUC), coordinated by Yael Brinbaum and Anthony Heath, released a special edition on ethnic inequalities in educational attainment in the journal “Ethnicity”, Volume 7 (3), September 2007. The countries being covered are Britain, the US, Germany, Norway, Belgium, the Netherlands and France. ★

Research Groups

EMPLOY	Employment and the Labour Market
INCDIS	Income Distribution, Consumption, and Income Mobility
EDUC	Education, Social Mobility and Social Cohesion
FAMNET	Family and Social Networks
SOCCULT	Social and Cultural Differentiation
TRALEG	Trust, Associations and Legitimacy



PARTNERS

AIAS-SCHOLAR, AMSTERDAM



AIAS is an interdisciplinary expert centre for research and teaching on industrial relations, organisation of work, wage formation, labour market



inequalities and social policy. AIAS maintains databases on trade union membership, collective bargaining and labour market

institutions, and collective agreements. SCHOLAR is a research group of the Faculty of Economics. It studies the efficiency of the transition from education and the labour market, its consequences for economic development, and the equity aspects of the transition process. Key researchers include Jelle Visser, Herman van de Werfhorst, wiemer Salverda, Henriëtte Maassen-Van den Brink, Bernhard van Praag, Bernhard Kittel and Kea Tijdens.

CENTRE FOR SOCIAL POLICY (CSB), ANTWERP



Since its establishment in 1972 the Centre's principal objective has been to study the adequacy of social policies. Its research is mainly based on large-scale socio-economic surveys of households in Belgium and

Flanders. The Centre seeks to link developments in the distribution of welfare and poverty to broader socio-demographic and economic trends, and to explain the actual and possible role government policies can play in this regard. For this purpose a micro-simulation model (MISIM) was developed at the Centre. Key researchers include Bea Cantillon, Lieve de Lathouwer, Joris Ghysels, Ive Marx, Karel van den Bosch, and Gerline Verbist.

CNRS, PARIS



The CNRS (National Scientific Research Centre/ Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique) is a state-funded scientific organization under the authority of the French Ministry of Education and Research. Key researchers include Alain Chenu, Michel Forsé, Marie

Duru Bellat, Olivier Galland, and Yannick Lemel, Tomas Piketty, Serge Paugam, Roxane Silberman, and Louis-André Vallet.

ESRI, DUBLIN



The Economic and Social Research Institute is Ireland's leading centre for applied research in the social sciences. The ESRI is an independent, not-for-profit organisation, founded in 1960, with the mission of bringing the latest thinking in economics and the social sciences to the actual and

potential problems of Irish society. Organisational goals of the ESRI are academic excellence, objectivity, relevance to policy, and widespread dissemination of results. The ESRI is funded by commissioned research projects, a grant-in-aid from the Irish government, membership subscriptions, sponsorship from the corporate sector and sales of publications. Key researchers include: Christopher Whelan, Brian Nolan, Philip O'Connell, Richard Layte, Helen Russell, Emer Smyth, and Tony Fahey.

MZES, MANNHEIM



The Mannheim Centre for European Social Research is an interdisciplinary research institute of the University of Mannheim. It is Germany's largest university based social science research centre and is among Europe's leading centres for the comparative study of the development and integration of the European societies and the European political systems. It is affiliated to the faculty of social sciences (University of Mannheim), which ranks at the top (place 1) in the field of sociology and political science in Germany according to several national and international rankings. Key researchers include Josef Brüderl, Jan van Deth, Hartmund Esser, Markus Gangl, Franz Kraus, Walter Müller, and Heinz-Herbert Noll.

NUFFIELD COLLEGE, OXFORD



Nuffield is the specialist social science college of the University of Oxford, founded in 1937. It has particular strengths in Economics, Politics and Sociology. The College has a strong tradition of quantitative social science, making extensive use of large-scale data sets (both cross-sectional and longitudinal). Key researchers include Sir Tony Atkinson, Richard Breen, Geoffrey Evans, Duncan Gallie, John H. Goldthorpe and Anthony Heath.

SOFI, STOCKHOLM



The Swedish Institute for Social Research (SOFI) conducts research on questions related to living conditions, welfare, social inequality, social policy and labour market policy. SOFI has six Professorships in economics, sociology and social policy, 15 post-doctoral researchers, around 30 doctoral students, and a support staff of five persons. Research at SOFI is organised within three research divisions: labour economics, level of living and social policy. Key researchers include Anders Björklund, Robert Erikson, Jan O. Jonsson, Walter Korpi, Michael Tählin and Sten-Åke Stenberg.

UNIMIB, UNIVERSITA DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO, MILAN



Unimib has been established in 1998, simultaneously to the birth of the second state university of Milan, that is to say the University of Milano Bicocca. Currently 44 official scholars belong to it, of which 17 are full Professors, 12 associate Professors, and 15 researchers. The common commitment of scholars working at UNIMIB is to carry out theoretically informed empirical studies, using advanced quantitative and qualitative social research techniques. Key researchers include Antonio Schizzerotto, Paolo Barbieri, Maurizio Pisati, and Emilio Reyneri.

UNIVERSITY OF PAMPEU FABRE, BARCELONA



The UPF is a public Catalan university, founded in 1990. The UPF's economics department is ranked among the top in Europe and the Political and Social Science depart

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The UPF is a public Catalan university, founded in 1990. The UPF's economics department is ranked among the top in Europe and the Political and Social Science department is ranked among the best in Southern Europe. Within the political and social sciences department, main research fields include public policies and regulation, comparative social policy and welfare states, research on social inequalities and poverty, demography and the family, labour markets and employment. Key researchers include Gösta Esping-Andersen, Maria José González, Javier Polavieja, Sebastian Sarasa and Ernesto Villanueva.

UNIVERSITY OF TARTU



Faculty of Social Sciences of the University of Tartu was founded in 1992. The faculty includes the following departments: Journalism and Social Communication, Political Sciences, Public Administration, Psychology, Semiotics, Sociology and Social Policy. Key researchers include Raul Eamets, Dagmar Kutsar, Anu Laas, Kaia Philips, Kadi Roosma, and Avo Trumm..

UNIVERSITY OF TORINO



The Department of Social Sciences, one of the largest in Italy, includes sociologists belonging to four faculties in the University of Turin: Political Sciences, Education, Literature and Philosophy, Economics. The Department organizes a Ph. D. program on comparative social research. Key researchers include Chiara Saraceno, Nicola Negri, Carmen Belloni, Manuela Olagnero, Nicoletta Bosco, Manuela Naldini, and Filippo Barbera.

UNIVERSITY OF TRENTO



The Department of Sociology and Social Research of the University of Trento has carried out cutting-edge research often relying upon innovative techniques of field research such as panel studies, content analysis and, more recently, network analysis. The Department has successfully attracted both national and international funds in 23 highly competitive application processes. Key researchers include Ivano Bison, Antonio Cobalti, Mario Diani, and Giuseppe Sciortino.

WZB, BERLIN



The Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin für Sozialforschung (Social Science Research Center, Berlin) is structured into four research areas which are composed of a total of eight research units and seven working groups, with around 140 social scientists. The participation of the WZB in the EQUALSOC-Network is implemented on behalf of the research unit "Inequality and Social Integration". Key researchers include Jens Alber, Jan Delhey, and Ulrich Kohler. ★

UPCOMING EVENTS / ACTIVITIES

- 13-14 Sep 07 Meeting of research team 'Dynamic and Multidimensional Measurement of Exclusion and Measurement of Consumption Expenditure' (INCDIS)
- 17-18 Sep 07 Meeting of research team 'Fields of study and European labour markets' (EDUC)
- 23-29 Sep 07 Joint LOWER - EQUALSOC special conference
- 26-28 Oct 07 Meeting of research team 'Atypical employment and welfare regimes' (EMPLOY)
- 29 Oct 07 Meeting of research team 'The changing quality of part-time work – a cross-country comparison' (EMPLOY)
- 22-24 Nov 07 Meeting of the EDUC research group
- 24 Nov 07 Meeting of research team 'Evaluation of the ISCED-97 for comparative research' (EDUC)
- 26-27 Nov 07 Meeting of the SOCCULT research group
- 7-9 Mar 08 Meeting of research team 'Welfare state institutions and welfare state outcomes' (TRALEG)
- 11-12 Apr 08 Berlin Network Conference

Partners

