



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

EQUALSOC: A CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE ON SOCIAL RESEARCH IN EUROPE

The EU-funded Network of Excellence EQUALSOC is already running in its fourth year! The network consists of top European institutes studying social inequality and social cohesion. This newsletter informs you on past and future activities of the network. It highlights the various new research projects that have been initiated, some key publications that we published, and announces upcoming events. ★

NEW WEBSITE!

www.equalSOC.org

Over the last year, the new EQUALSOC website has been developed by Casper Kaandorp, Monika Ewa Kaminska and Herman van de Werfhorst (all from AIAS, University of Amsterdam). The main idea behind the project was to build an interactive and user-friendly website that could become a useful tool for EQUALSOC members in organizing and coordinating research activities. Apart from displaying information about partner institutions participating in the EQUALSOC project, Research Groups and Research Teams, publications, etc., the website can be actively used by members who can modify and add new pages, upload publications, send emails. The new website contains EQUALSOC members' accounts, and allows for sending emails, posting information about upcoming events and storing information about past events, advertising vacancies. Members can also upload publications to the website, including EQUALSOC Working Papers. Check www.equalSOC.org ★



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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 AIAS:

Herman van de Werfhorst,
Monika-Ewa Kaminska &
Angelique Lieberton
(Lay-out).

UPCOMING PUBLICATIONS

A TRALEG Research Team has prepared a special issue of the **American Behavioral Scientist journal** on "**Civiness, Equality, and Democracy: A 'Dark Side' of Social Capital?**", with Jan van Deth and Sonja Zmerli as guest editors. The issue is due to be published in early 2009. Below is the list of contents.

- ★ Jan W. van Deth & Sonja Zmerli
Introduction
- ★ Jan W. van Deth
Participation in Voluntary Associations: Dark Shades in a Sunny World?
- ★ Sonja Zmerli
Social Capital and Norms of Citizenship: An Ambiguous Relationship?
- ★ Filippo Barbera & Roberto Albano
Social Capital, Welfare State, and Political Legitimacy
- ★ Gema García Albacete
The Saliency of Political Cleavages and the 'Dark Sides' of Social Capital: Evidence from Spain
- ★ Hajdeja Iglic
Voluntary Associations and Tolerance: An Ambiguous Relationship
- ★ Sigrid Roßteutscher
Social Capital Worldwide: Potential for Democratization or Stabiliser of Authoritarian Rule?
- ★ Monika Ewa Kaminska
Bonding Social Capital in a Post-Communist Region ★



THE OXFORD HANDBOOK OF ECONOMIC INEQUALITY

Wiemer Salverda (AIAS), Brian Nolan (University College Dublin) and Tim Smeeding (University of Wisconsin-Madison) have edited the "Oxford Handbook of Economic Inequality", Oxford University Press, forthcoming in February 2009. The authorship to the book includes various EQUALSOC members and many other leading scholars who shed light on an extensive range of topics related to the issue of economic inequality. Below is the list of contents:

Part 1 Inequality: Overview, Concepts and Measurement

1. Introduction (B. Nolan, W. Salverda & T.M. Smeeding)
2. Inequality: Its justification, nature and domain (J.E. Roemer)
3. The measurement of economic inequality (S. Jenkins & P. van Kerm)

Part 2 The Extent of Inequality

4. Income inequality (A. Brandolini & T.M. Smeeding)
5. Functional distribution and inequality (A. Glyn)
6. Wealth and economic inequality (J.B. Davies)
7. Top incomes (A. Leigh)

Part 3 Earnings Inequality

8. Inequality and earnings distribution (F.D. Blau & L.M. Kahn)
9. Inequality and the labour market: employers (J. Lane)
10. Inequality and the labour market: unions (J. Visser & D. Checchi)
11. Low pay (C. Lucifora & W. Salverda)
12. Gender and economic inequality (M.B. Gregory)

Part 4 Dimensions of Inequality

13. Inequality, poverty and exclusion (B. Nolan & I. Marx)
14. Inequality and time use in the household (N. Folbre)
15. Inequality and happiness (B.M.S. van Praag & A. Ferrer-i-Carbonell)
16. Health and economic inequality (A. Leigh, C. Jencks & T.M. Smeeding)

17. Education and inequality (S. Machin)

Part 5 The Dynamics of Inequality

18. Demographic transformation and economic inequality (G. Burtless)
19. Migration, ethnicity and economic inequality (K. Zimmermann & M. Kahanec)
20. Intergenerational income mobility and the role of family background (A. Björklund & M. Jäntti)
21. Intragenerational inequality and intertemporal mobility (R.V. Burkhauser & K.A. Couch)

Part 6 Global Perspectives on Inequality

22. Inequality and economic growth (S. Voitchovsky)
23. Globalisation and inequality (R.B. Freeman)
24. Poverty and Inequality: The Global Context (F.H.G. Ferreira & M. Ravallion)

Part 7 Changing Inequalities

25. Economic inequality and the welfare state (G. Esping-Andersen & J. Myles)
26. The political economy of inequality and redistribution (N. McCarty & J. Pontusson)
27. Prospects for achieving equality in market economies (J.E. Roemer)



CURRENT RESEARCH

The six Research Groups are currently involved in 34 research projects (some of which are based on collaboration between different Research Groups). Below is the list of the running projects (for more details visit www.equalsoc.org).

EDUC

1. Differentiation in Higher Education and its Consequences for Social Inequality
Coordinator: Marita Jacob and David Reimer, MZES
2. Diplomas: expectations and returns
Coordinator: Gerard Boudesseul, CNRS
3. Problems of an Education-Based Meritocracy, Sub-project on primary and secondary effects of social origin on educational attainment in six European nations (previously five European nations)
Coordinator: Michelle Jackson, Nuffield College
4. Evaluating institutional variations of educational systems
Coordinator: Herman van de Werfhorst, AIAS
5. Evaluation of the International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED 1997) for Comparative Research
Coordinator: Silke Schneider, Nuffield College
6. Mechanisms for the effect of education on the labour market
Coordinator: Thijs Bol, AIAS
7. Occupational mobility and social inequality in life course perspective
Coordinator: Antonio Schizzerotto, Trento
8. Shifting Tensions between Vocational and General Education: France and Germany Compared (VOCGENE)

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

More information on Research Groups' profiles, coordinators and participants is available on the EQUALSOC website: www.equalsoc.org



9. Social mobility and educational attainment during the 20th century
Coordinator: Walter Müller, MZES

CURRENT RESEARCH

EMPLOY

10. Atypical employment and welfare regimes
Coordinator: Paolo Barbieri, Trento
11. Exploring the Potential for Sino-European Collaborative Research on employment and labour markets
Coordinator: Duncan Gallie, Nuffield College
12. Gender segregation and stratification in European labour markets
Coordinator: Magnus Nermo, SOFI
13. Job satisfaction and its relation with performance
Coordinator: Min Zou Nuffield College
14. The Changing Quality of Part-time Work: A European Comparison
Coordinator: Karin Halldén, SOFI

FAMNET

15. The effects of marital instability on children's well-being and intergenerational relations
Coordinator: Anna Garriga, University of Pompeu Fabra
16. Tilting the housework triangle: European reflections on gender, the market and the state
Coordinator: Magnus Nermo, SOFI

SOCCULT

17. Inequalities in immigrants' employment paths: longitudinal approach
Coordinators: Emilio Reyneri and Giovanna Fullin, UNIMIB
18. The role of the public sector for integration of immigrants and offspring
Coordinators: Roxane Silberman, CNRS, Anthony Heath, Nuffield College
19. The social and cultural consequences of educational expansion in European countries: macro- and micro-social effects
Coordinator: Philippe Coulangeon, CNRS

TRALEG

20. Institutional Change
Coordinators: Bernhard Ebbinghaus, MZES; Jelle Visser, AIAS; Claus Wendt, MZES
21. Social divisions, party strategy and political choice: Explaining social and political change in cross-national perspective
Coordinators: Geoffrey Evans & Nan Dirk De Graaf, Nuffield College
22. The Demise of Collective Organization in Europe: The Decline in Union Membership and its Consequences
Coordinator: Bernhard Ebbinghaus, MZES; Jelle Visser AIAS ★

CURRENT RESEARCH - JOINT PROJECTS

EDUC/SOCCULT

23. Ethnic Educational Inequality in Comparative Perspective
Coordinators: Yaël Brinbaum, CNRS; Anthony Heath, Nuffield College

FAMNET/ INCDIS/ EDUC/ SOCCULT

24. Evaluating the Potential of the EU-SILC 2005 Intergenerational Transmission of Poverty Module Seminar
Coordinators: Walter Mueller, MZES, Chris Whelan, ESRI

FAMNET/ EDUC/ SOCCULT

25. Imported brides, imported grooms: Partner choice among immigrants in Europe
Coordinator: Irena Kogan, MZES

EMPLOY/EDUC

26. The Training Gap in Lifelong Learning
Coordinator: Philip J. O'Connell, ESRI

EMPLOY/ FAMNET/INCDIS/ EDUC

27. Low Pay, Low Skill, and Low Income (LOPSI) Cross-cutting Workshop
Coordinators: Wiemer Salverda, AIAS; Claudio Lucifora; Cattolica Milan

TRALEG/INCDIS

28. Project on Minimum Income Protection Indicators (MIPI)
Coordinators: Jelle Visser, AIAS; Ive Marx, CSB

EMPLOY/FAMNET

29. Reconciliation of elderly care and paid work
Coordinator: Wolfgang Keck, WZB
30. Reconciling Work and Family Life: Comparing Evidence from European Countries using the European Social Survey
Coordinator: Frances McGinnity, ESRI

FAMNET/SOCCULT

31. Social networks: theory, measurement and outcomes
Coordinators: Jeroen Bruggeman, AIAS, Meredith Rolfe, Nuffield College

FAMNET/INCDIS/EDUC

32. The Intergenerational Transmission of Inequality. Analytic Possibilities from Existing Data
Coordinators: Chiara Saraceno, WZB; Teresio Poggio, Trento

INCDIS/SOCCULT

33. Transnationalisation of Reference Groups
Coordinator: Ulrich Kohler, WZB

EMPLOY/FAMNET

34. Varieties of Life Course Patterns: The Role of Institutions in Shaping Labour Market Careers in Europe
Coordinator: Martina Dieckhoff, WZB, Nadia Steiber, Nuffield College ★

2008 EVENTS

TRALEG workshop "Welfare State Institutions and Welfare State Outcomes", Mannheim, 6 - 8 March 2008

The workshop was organized by Joakim Palme (SOFI) and Claus Wendt (MZES) and focused on the increasing external and internal pressures that European welfare states are facing. These challenges are related to the processes of globalisation and demographic change: on the one hand, the dependency on welfare state transfers has increased for certain population groups; on the other hand, the financial scope for social policy intervention has become more limited, thus reopening the political debate on the extent of state responsibility for citizens' welfare. As an answer to this challenge, controversial institutional reforms have been introduced throughout Europe during the last decade.



The question is if and how these reforms have changed national redistributive outcomes across different branches of the welfare state, affecting poverty, inequality, social security and thus the life chances of different population groups. Emerging new inequalities may deeply influence how institutional arrangements are perceived and assessed by the public, this link being crucial for the long-term legitimacy of welfare states. ★



Midterm EQUALSOC Conference Berlin, 11 - 12 April 2008

The EQUALSOC network midterm conference was organized by the Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin für Sozialforschung (WZB). The local responsible person was Ulrich Kohler. The scientific committee comprised Duncan Gallie, Walter Müller, Chiara Saraceno. The two days were very intense due to a busy agenda, with over 200 participants and 78 sessions, as well as Research Groups meetings. The conference also provided EQUALSOC members with an occasion to discuss further research; a number of new projects emerged following the discussions during the event (for the complete list of research projects that are being carried out by EQUALSOC teams see 'Current research'). ★



Social Network Theory and Measurement Conference, 23 - 24 June 2008

The themes of the conference revolved around social networks and social capital, with most participants either focusing on cross-national measurement issues or identifying analytical links between social networks and social capital related outcomes (e.g., income, jobs, health, political behavior.) Papers were arranged thematically according to the themes of the Equalsoc Research Project.

1. **Theory:** how do networks affect substantive outcomes
2. **Measuring** social networks and network-based social capital
3. **Cross-national** research and measurement of social networks ★

2008 SUMMER SCHOOL

Summer School, Trento, 1-6 September 2008

The Equalsoc and ECSR joint Summer School was held in Trento at the Conference Centre Panorama on behalf of the University of Trento. It was devoted to an analysis of how globalisation processes and recent changes in labour market regulation have affected the shape of social disparities among social groups and the relative weights of class, gender and generation in determining individuals' life chances. About thirty Ph.D. students and young researchers were hosted.

The Summer School was intended to offer to EU Ph.D. students theoretically informed and empirically based analyses on the current features of social inequality in the contemporary EU, as well as some key interpretations of its trends. As in the past tradition of the Summer Schools, there were also lectures on the most advanced statistical techniques used by social scientists to study these inequalities. The Summer School was also an opportunity to discuss PhD students' and young researchers' projects and papers ★



2008 PUBLICATIONS

Special issue of the International Journal of Comparative Sociology

An EDUC Research Team has published a special issue of the International Journal of Comparative Sociology, on "**Educational Fields of Study in European Labour Markets**". Guest editor is Herman van de Werfhorst. The issue includes the following articles:

- ★ Herman G. van de Werfhorst
Educational Fields of Study and European Labor Markets: Introduction to a Special Issue
- ★ David Reimer, Clemens Noelke, and Aleksander Kucel
Labor Market Effects of Field of Study in Comparative Perspective: An Analysis of 22 European Countries
- ★ Emer Smyth and Stephanie Steinmetz
Field of Study and Gender Segregation in European Labour Markets
- ★ Johannes Giesecke and Steffen Schindler
Field of Study and Flexible Work: A Comparison between Germany and the UK
- ★ Luis Ortiz and Aleksander Kucel
Do Fields of Study Matter for Over-education? The Cases of Spain and Germany
- ★ Merike Darmody, Emer Smyth, and Martin Unger
Field of Study and Students' Workload in Higher Education: Ireland and Austria in Comparative Perspective
- ★ Marie Duru-Bellat, Annick Kieffer, and David Reimer
Patterns of Social Inequalities in Access to Higher Education in France and Germany
- ★ Michelle Jackson, Ruud Luijkx, Reinhard Pollak, Louis-André Vallet and Herman G. van de Werfhorst
Educational Fields of Study and the Intergenerational Mobility Process in Comparative Perspective ★



EQUALSOC WORKING PAPERS

The new EQUALSOC website hosts EQUALSOC Working Papers series. The first three Working Papers are already available on-line. To download the full text go to www.equalsoc.org/177

Barone, C., Van de Werfhorst, H.G. (2008), Education, Cognitive Skills and Earnings in Comparative Perspective.

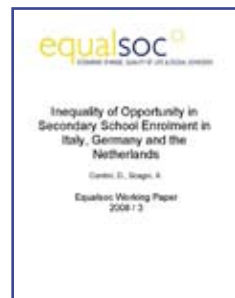
This paper investigates to what extent education is rewarded on the labour market because of the cognitive skills it indicates, using IALS data for the United States, the United Kingdom, Germany and the Netherlands. By empirically distinguishing between general cognitive ability and work-specific cognitive ability, we show that the cognitive component of schooling is larger than anticipated by Bowles and Gintis (2000; 2002). Instead of around 20 percent of the education effect being cognitive, our results indicate that between 23 and 53 percent of the education effect is cognitive, depending on the country and operationalization of cognitive skills. Moreover, it was shown that the relative importance of general versus work-specific cognitive abilities varies systematically between countries, with a larger fraction of the schooling effect being captured by the work-specific component in Germany and the Netherlands than in the US and the UK. This is explained by the different role of schooling between countries. Importantly, controlling for allocative processes related to the industry, organization and occupation of employment was particularly relevant in Germany, which supports the notion that this country is most credentialized.

Contini, D., Scagni, A. (2008), Inequality of Opportunity in Secondary School Enrolment in Italy, Germany and the Netherlands.

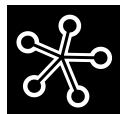
The aim of this work is to evaluate the overall effect of social origins on secondary school track enrolment in Italy, Germany and Netherlands, allowing for consistent cross country comparisons. PISA 2003 is employed. Track choices are assumed to depend on student's ability and social origins; since proficiency before tracking is not observed, ability is not kept under control. Nonetheless, the unconditional social background effect is the quantity of main substantive interest because it represents the total effect of social origins on school choices. Yet, since regression coefficients in logit models are biased even with independent unobserved heterogeneity, comparison across countries are difficult; the average sample derivative of the response probability is employed instead and it is showed to be a valid alternative measure of the total social origins effect. The following issue is also addressed: social origins inequality in secondary school choices may be affected by access restrictions policies, at work in some countries, where enrolment into the more prestigious tracks is subject to binding school recommendations or ability tests. First, we propose a simple theoretical model and we derive that the policy is expected to lower the effect of social origins conditional on ability, although the impact on the total effect can either decrease or increase. Second, by exploiting the institutional differences across German Länder with respect to enrolment policies, we carry out a preliminary empirical analysis within Germany. The main empirical findings are: (i) the total effect of social origins on track choice is weaker in the Netherlands and stronger in Germany, with Italy in between; (ii) within Germany, access restriction seem to weaken the parental background effect.

Contini, D., Scagni, A., Riehl, A. (2008), Primary and Secondary Effects in Educational Attainment in Italy.

The aim of this paper is to provide an assessment of the relative contribution of primary and secondary effects in secondary school choices in Italy. Since prospective longitudinal data on schooling careers are not available for Italy, the analysis is based on the cross-sectional survey Percorsi di studio e di lavoro dei diplomati (ISTAT, 2004), which collects detailed information on individuals educational histories up to three years after the secondary school degree. A major issue to deal with is self-selection, as only secondary school graduates are interviewed. By employing the survey data together with administrative and census information, we derive estimates of the relevant distributions, correcting for selection bias. As lower secondary school final marks are assigned on a 4-level scale (satisfactory, good, very good, excellent), a semi-parametric version of the standard approach is adopted. The empirical evidence is that secondary effects account for a larger proportion of the social origin differential than primary effects; by comparing our estimates with those reported in the recent literature, we derive that the relative contribution of primary effects is substantially weaker in Italy than in the other countries. ★



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.



CENTRE FOR SOCIAL POLICY (CSB), ANTWERP

The Centre's principal objective is 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 the Centre has developed a micro-simulation model (MISIM).



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.



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, 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.



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.



NUFFIELD COLLEGE, OXFORD

Nuffield is the specialist social science college of the University of Oxford. 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).



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. Research at SOFI is organised within three research divisions: labour economics, level of living and social policy.



UNIMIB, UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO, MILAN

The common commitment of scholars working at UNIMIB is to carry out theoretically informed empirical studies, using advanced quantitative and qualitative social research techniques.



UNIVERSITY OF POMPEU FABRA, BARCELONA

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.



UNIVERSITY OF TARTU

The Faculty of Social Sciences includes the depts. of Journalism & Social Communication; Political Sciences; Public Administration; Psychology; Semiotics; Sociology and Social Policy. Currently there are two major streams of research in the Dept. of Sociology and Social Policy that could be brought under the common denominator of life-course studies and welfare and social policy studies. The direction of life-course studies also includes studies into social stratification. The direction of welfare and social policy studies has been built up on the basis of family and welfare studies.



UNIVERSITY OF TORINO

The Department of Social Sciences, one of the largest in Italy, includes sociologists belonging to four faculties in the University of Torino: Political Sciences; Education; Literature and Philosophy; and Economics. The Department organizes a Ph.D. programme on comparative social research.



UNIVERSITY OF TRENTO

The Department of Sociology and Social Research of the University of Trento carries 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.



WZB, BERLIN

The Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin für Sozialforschung (Social Science Research Centre, 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 by the research unit 'Inequality and Social Integration'. ★

ANNOUNCEMENTS

18 FEBRUARY 2009 - POLICY CONFERENCE, BRUSSELS

On 18 February 2009 EQUALSOC organizes a policy conference in Brussels, jointly with the European Commission's Directorate General for Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities & Directorate General Research. The theme of the conference will be '**Economic change, inequality and social inclusion in Europe**'.

The conference will investigate the relationship between growth, economic inequality and social inclusion within Europe.

- ★ What do we know about the recent evolution of economic and social inequalities in Europe?
- ★ Under which conditions can growth and economic inequalities stimulate each other?
- ★ What can we learn from the relationship between knowledge-economics, globalisation and inequalities of earnings in the member states?
- ★ In which way are inequalities of earnings and relative poverty detrimental to social inclusion?
- ★ Can reorganisation go together with a strong employment commitment?
- ★ Can we speak about Europeanisation of inequality?
- ★ Can practical lessons be drawn from the research in order to refine the Social Indicators that support the Open Method of Coordination?

If you desire more information, go to www.equalsoc.org/193 or contact Ninke Mussche (ninke.mussche@ua.ac.be).

The conference is free for EQUALSOC members. Travel and accommodation costs (for maximum 2 nights) are reimbursed to EQUALSOC members.

Registration for this conference is necessary, the **deadline** for registration is **31 January 2009**.

To register, go to www.equalsoc.org/194. Due to limited seating, the first come first serve rule will apply. ★

CALL FOR PAPERS

INTERDISCIPLINARY WORKSHOP: LOW PAY, LOW SKILL, AND LOW INCOME (LOPSI)

Workshop Themes

The EQUALSOC Network of Excellence and CRELI, at the Università Cattolica (Milan), are jointly organising the Workshop "Lopsi" It elaborates on the experience of the European Low-wage Employment Research network LoWER.

The objective of the Workshop is to contribute a better understanding of the functioning of labour markets at the lower end of the wage distribution (i.e. low-wage employment), bringing together different disciplines: economics, sociology, political science; and different angles: employment, education, households, family formation, and incomes. The Workshop aspires to look beyond the aggregates or averages of the low paid as a whole into the distribution below the low-pay threshold and its dynamics. Also, taking stock of perspectives beyond low pay, e.g. scrutinising if the middle of the earnings distribution is emptying out – as discussed with significant concern in the public debate in many European countries -, and what implications that may have for job careers out of low pay as well as for the prospects of human capital investment more generally. Various topics within this wide ambit are suggested below.

The Workshop intends to bring together researchers, policy makers, and others interested in the theme. The call is aimed at current research from European countries as well as the US and intends to enable presentations and discussions of recent results in the related fields. We welcome submission of full draft papers on the wide range of issues indicated below or other topics relevant to the angles on low pay that are mentioned above. A selected number of papers will be published in a special issue of a Journal (still to be defined). Contributors to the programme will be invited to submit their papers for publication. ★

CALL FOR PAPERS

LOPSI WORKSHOP

June 26 – 27, 2009

Università Cattolica, Milan

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

- ★ David Autor (MIT)
- ★ Janet C. Gornick (City University of New York)
- ★ Gosta Esping-Andersen (Universitat Pompeu Fabra) TBC

DEADLINE CALL FOR PAPERS

Submissions in PDF should be sent to Wiemer Salverda (W.Salverda@uva.nl) and Claudio Lucifora (claudio.lucifora@unicatt.it) by **28th February 2009**. Notification about acceptance will be given by the 30th of March 2009. Full papers should be sent before 30th of May 2009

For more information about the topics of the workshop go to:

www.equalsoc.org/185 or www.unicatt.it/LOPSI (soon)