

RC19 Newsletter – December 2020

Presidential Letter 2020

Dear RC19 Members:

The year that ends was marked by the beginning of a global pandemic that has already claimed nearly 1.5 million lives. The social policy impact of COVID-19 around the world has proved substantial and it will take years to measure its long-term effects on systems of social protection, including health insurance and employment benefits. I am sure that many RC19 members will participate to ongoing debates about COVID-19 and its social policy implications. On a more personal basis, I hope that you and your family are safe and that you are in good mental and physical health, despite the pandemic.

Clearly, the pandemic had a direct and negative impact on RC19 activities planned for 2020. First, the ISA Forum and the more than 15 RC19 sessions planned as part of it were postponed from July 2020 to February 2021. More recently, it was decided that the conference would take a virtual form. I thank Yumi Garcia dos Santos, session organizers, and the paper presenters for their work and patience, and I hope to see many of you online from February 23-27.

As for our Taipei annual conference, it moved partly online and it took place over one full day, during which 35 papers were presented as part of 11 sessions. The event also featured a keynote lecture by Professor Huck-ju Kwon. This unusual annual conference proved successful and we thank the organizers of the Taipei conference, Shih-Jiunn Shi, Peter Jen-Der Lue, Chung-Yang Yeh and Yeun Wen Ku, for their commitment to RC19 and their flexibility in adapting the format of the annual conference because of the global pandemic.

In 2021, our annual conference will take place from August 25-27 at the University of Fribourg in Switzerland. The theme of the conference will be “Drivers and Challenges of Social Policies: Global, Regional, National, and local Perspectives.” The co-organizers are Monica Budowski and Daniel Künzler and the exact format of the conference (in-person, online or mix delivery) will depend on the evolution of the global pandemic and of related travel restriction and vaccination campaigns. Soon a call for papers for the 2021 annual conference should be distributed to members and circulated more broadly online.

Finally, in 2022, RC19 will organize sessions at the 2022 ISA World Congress of Sociology, which will take place in Melbourne, Australia. As usual, RC19 will not organize an annual conference the year of the ISA Congress. However, we will soon seek volunteers to act as program coordinator(s) for the RC19 program at the 2022 ISA Congress. Then, a call for session proposals will take place, followed by a call for papers for each of the approved sessions.

As an organization, RC19 thrives only when members provide feedback about how to improve our activities and our work as an organization. Like in the past, the RC19 Board always welcomes your advice about how to make our organization better and more successful, in the years to come. No organization can survive and thrive without committed board members and members at large, and RC19 have plenty of them.

Thank you again for supporting RC19 and stay safe during the remaining of this global pandemic.

Sincerely yours,

Daniel Béland, President of RC19 and James McGill Professor, McGill University

Vacancies

3 PhD positions in ERC Advanced Grant project WellSIRe, Political and Social Sciences, European University Institute

The Department of Political and Social Sciences at the European University Institute (EUI) in Florence, Italy accepts applications for three doctoral researcher scholarships in the framework of the ERC research project “*Wellbeing Returns on Social Investment Recalibration (WellSIRe)*” led by Prof. Anton Hemerijck. The project investigates the role of social investment policies in 21st century welfare states in post-industrial European societies.

The selected candidates will participate fully in the regular four-year [EUI Doctoral Programme in Political and Social Sciences](#), but will be financed by the ERC project and prepare their dissertation in the framework of the project.

Note: The policy of the EUI is not to offer individual guidance and advice on dissertation proposals. Applicants should not contact potential supervisors but read the information on [research themes](#) and indicate one or more professors who could supervise their dissertation in the application form.

Application deadline: 31 January 2021.

Start of the doctoral programme: 1 September 2021.

Call for applications:

<https://www.eui.eu/ServicesAndAdmin/AcademicService/DoctoralProgramme/GrantInfo/WellSIRe>

Calls for Papers/ Panels

**The 17th Annual Conference of the East Asian Social Policy Research Network &
The 27th Annual Conference of the Foundation for International Studies on Social Security**
***MITIGATING THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL IMPACT OF COVID-19: THE ROLE OF
SOCIAL SECURITY AND SOCIAL WELFARE RESPONSES IN EAST AND WEST***

2-4 July 2021, Lingnan University, Hong Kong

Since the first coronavirus cluster was reported in December 2019, few have managed to avoid the direct impacts of economic lockdowns, travel restrictions, school closures, and other public health measures on their everyday lives. Rather than a ‘great leveller’ or ‘equaliser’, however, it has become increasingly evident that incidence, hospitalisation, and mortality rates due to Covid-19 have varied considerably by individual and regional socio-economic characteristics. In comparison, less is still known about the indirect economic and social losses due to the global pandemic and to what extent they have disproportionately affected different groups of people in Eastern and Western societies.

During the prevailing COVID-19 crisis social security has provided protection of individuals and families whose livelihoods have been threatened by unemployment and loss of economic activity. It also ensured systemic security by stabilizing purchasing power and helping businesses to bridge the crisis. Some countries, more than others, were able to rely on existing social security systems. Other countries have strengthened their social security with new or more generous benefits, while others have set up instruments outside social security. What do we know about social security responses in various countries around the world? Which first lessons can be drawn about the effectiveness of various strategies? And what does scientific research learn about the role of social security in guiding societies through the major ongoing social and economic transformations: ageing, climate transitions and digitization?

Against this background, and almost exactly one year after the 2020 the East Asian Social Policy Research Network (EASP) and Foundation for International Studies on Social Security (FISS) conferences had to be cancelled, we are joining together once more to examine the role of ‘social security’ and ‘social welfare’ responses to mitigate against new Covid-19-related economic and social risks. Given the ongoing travel restrictions and global health concerns, we are planning to organise the conference as a hybrid-event combining options for delegates to join keynotes and parallel sessions in a face-to-face *or* real-time online setting.

Besides the immediate crisis impacts and national responses, we particularly welcome theoretical or empirical contributions studying the consequences of Covid-19 for inclusive societies in East and West as well as those developing new approaches to re-imagine the role of private and collective income transfer and social investment programmes amidst the ‘New Normal’ post-Covid-19 environment. We also encourage contributions with a comparative and global perspective, particularly those including both East Asian and Western cases. It is a long tradition of EASP and FISS to invite papers by postgraduate students and early-career researchers as well as established scholars working in the field of social welfare, social security, and social policy analysis.

Confirmed Keynote speakers:

Prof. Janet Gornick, City University New York, United States

Prof. HyeKyung Lee, Yonsei University, South Korea

Prof. David Gordon, University of Bristol, United Kingdom

The conference programme will include a special panel of local experts on ‘*Hong Kong Social Policy at a Crossroads*’ chaired by Prof. Bea Cantillon, University of Antwerp, Belgium. Further details will be provided later.

Depending on the final selection of submitted papers and panels, the conference will comprise the following streams (as well as any other aspects of social policy in an Open Stream):

- 1: Social Policy Responses to the Covid-19 Crisis
- 2: Welfare States & Welfare Regimes
- 3: Social Security & Social Justice
- 4: Governance, Democracy & Participation
- 5: Migration, Social Rights & Citizenship Stratification
- 6: Population & Demographic Change
- 7: Health & Human Well-being
- 8: Economic & Social Inequalities
- 9: Poverty & Social Inclusion
- 10: Education & Vocational Training
- 11: Ageing & Gerontechnology
- 12: Labour Markets & Employment
- 13: Housing & Urbanisation
- 14: Gender Inequality & Work-Family Reconciliation
- 15: Sustainability, Environmental Management & Social Security

Those wishing to present a paper should **submit an abstract** of between 200 and 300 words. Information enclosed with any abstract should include: *stream number, title of paper; author name(s); affiliation(s); and email address of one corresponding author.*

Those wishing to organise a panel should **submit a panel proposal**. Information enclosed with any panel proposal should include: *title of panel; objective of panel (between 200 and 300 words); names and affiliations of all panel organiser(s) and participating members; along with abstracts of three or four papers (between 200 and 300 words each); an e-mail address of one corresponding panel organiser.*

In order to assist the organisers to arrange the best possible conference, all those submitting either a paper abstract or panel proposal are asked to indicate whether their intention is to attend the conference in person or remotely. People will be allowed to change their preference later, but an early indication of the balance between the two forms of attendance will assist the organisers to make appropriate arrangements and set the conference fee.

Submissions for the 17th annual EASP conference should be sent to easp2021hk@gmail.com. Submissions for the FISS 2020 Conference should be sent to fiss2021hk@gmail.com. The deadline for abstracts and panel proposals is **5 March 2020**.

The FISS Best Paper Prize of 300 Euros will be awarded by a selection committee from the FISS Board of Governors and the winning paper will be published in *The Journal of Poverty and Social Justice*. The author(s) will also receive two years free subscription to the journal.

Important dates:

Submission of abstracts and panel proposals: **5 March 2020**

Notification of applicants: **31 March 2020**

Early booking & registration will start from **1 April 2020**

TRANSFORMING CARE CONFERENCE 2021: CALL FOR PAPERS

June 24th-26th, 2021

Ca' Foscari University of Venice - Online Event

The organizing committee of the Transforming care 2021 conference now invites you to submit your abstract to one or more of our Thematic Panels, see attachment with Call for Papers.

Please find more information and submit your abstract here: <http://www.transforming-care.net/conference-2021-venice/presentation/>

Call for Papers is open until January 31th, 2021.

The Transforming Care Conference series focuses on early child education and care, care for adults with disabilities and long-term care for older people. Four main dimensions of transforming care are addressed in the conference through parallel Thematic Panels and Symposia sessions, while a fifth dimension refer to policies and practices during the corona pandemic:

- Changes in the institutional setting of care systems and in care policy
- The impact and dilemmas of social and policy innovation in care services
- Changes in intergenerational care arrangements and informal care
- Transformations affecting care workers and their working conditions
- Care policies and practices during the Corona pandemic: difficulty in crisis management, social and political impacts, prospects for the future.

The 2021 conference will have the overall theme of: Time in Care: The Temporality of Care Policy and Practices. In addition to the Thematic Panels, which are open for abstract submission, we have Symposia where identified speakers will present state-of-the-art of a particular and topical theme and research. Our esteemed keynote speakers will be addressing the conference theme of changing priorities from each their research perspective:

- Professor Margarita Estevez-Abe, Maxwell School, Syracuse University, US: LTC System and Pandemic Preparedness: Lessons from the COVID19
- Professor Peter Moss, UCL Institute of Education, University College London: Time for a change – rethinking time in education and care policy and practice

Due to the current pandemic, the Conference will be held online. The online format will allow us to contribute to the containment of the pandemic and to environmental sustainability, and to lower participation fees. Alongside keynotes and paper presentations and discussions, there will be opportunities for networking and sociability.

For questions or information about the conference: tcc2021@unive.it

Calls for participation

You are invited to participate in a research project directed by Professor Amélie Quesnel-Vallée, Department of Sociology & Department of Epidemiology, Biostatistics and Occupational Health, McGill University, and whose teams includes Professor Béland as a co-researcher. The research is funded by the Quebec Ministries of Health & Social Services, of Work, Employment and Social Solidarity, and of Finance, and aims to identify the redistributive policies effective at limiting inequalities with the most potential for being implemented in Quebec.

We would like you to share your expertise through a brief survey, which requires approximately 10 minutes to complete. For each of the nine fields of government intervention that you have expertise in (family, education, income and employment security, fight against poverty and social exclusion, housing / territory development, health and social services, taxes), we ask that you identify the country in each of Esping-Andersen's three main Welfare State types (+ an additional group of OECD countries that were not originally part of the typology) that is a best performer in redistribution and limiting inequalities. We would also appreciate that you point us towards specific policies or programs that meet this criteria within these countries, as well as empirical studies motivating this ranking and assessment.

You can access the survey here, before January 11, 2021:

https://mcgillcsdc.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_exkWL10hZjjBEgd

As an expert in your field, your contribution in this survey will provide a solid and informed foundation for developing the evidence base to support decision-making in Quebec in the pursuit of a more effective redistribution of wealth and health.

If you have any questions about the research or the implications of your participation, please contact principal investigator Dr. Amélie Quesnel-Vallée at amelie.quesnelvallee@mcgill.ca.

Thank you in advance for your participation in this study!

Recent Publications

Béland, D., Lecours, A., Paquet, M. and Tombe, T. (2020), A Critical Juncture in Fiscal Federalism? Canada's Response to COVID-19, *Canadian Journal of Political Science*, 53(2): 239-243.

Béland D. and Marier, P. (2020), COVID-19 and Long-Term Care Policy for Older People in Canada, *Journal of Aging & Social Policy*, 32(4-5): 358-364

Dorlach, Tim (2020), "The Causes of Welfare State Expansion in Democratic Middle-Income Countries: A Literature Review", *Social Policy & Administration*, <https://doi.org/10.1111/spol.12658>.

Hassel, Anke, Palier, Bruno, *Growth and Welfare in Advanced Capitalist Economies, How Have Growth Regimes Evolved?* Oxford University Press
<https://global.oup.com/academic/product/growth-and-welfare-in-advanced-capitalist-economies-9780198866176?cc=fr&lang=en&>

Koehler, Gabriele, Kühner, Stefan, Neff, Daniel. Social Policy Development and Its Obstacles: An Analysis of the South Asian Welfare Geography During and After the 'Social Turn'. Contribution to the Handbook of Development Policy, H. Zafarullah and A. S. Huque (Eds.) Edward Elgar Publishers. Forthcoming 2021

Knotz C, Fossati F, Scalise G, Hooijer G. The roles of employers and trade unions in immigration and welfare state policymaking. Special Issue, *Journal of European Social Policy*, <https://doi.org/10.1177/0958928720960592>

Nébié, G., C. Emeka-Anuna, F. Fofana N'Zu, and E. Delamonica, editors, (2020), *Child Poverty and Social Protection in Central and Western Africa*, Stuttgart: Ibidem Press.

Rocco, P., Béland, D. and Waddan, A. (2020) Stuck in Neutral? Federalism, Policy Instruments, and Counter-Cyclical Responses to COVID-19 in the United States, *Policy and Society*, 39(3): 458-477.

Steiner, J., Prieler, V., Leiblfinger, M., and Benazha, A. (2020), Truly legal!? Legal framing and legality narratives in live-in care in Austria, Germany and Switzerland. In: Katona, N. and Meleg, A. (eds.), *Towards a scarcity of care? Tensions and contradictions in transnational elderly care systems in central and eastern Europe*. Budapest: Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, 69–91. Open Access: <http://library.fes.de/pdf-files/bueros/budapest/16945.pdf>

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