



EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR
SOCIAL WELFARE POLICY
AND RESEARCH

50/*years*

The future of social welfare policy and research

Ceremonial Act – Agenda

Venue:

Ministry of Social Affairs, Health, Care
and Consumer Protection
Stubenring 1
1010 Vienna

Date:

25 September 2024

supported by:

 Federal Ministry
Republic of Austria
Social Affairs, Health, Care
and Consumer Protection



EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR SOCIAL WELFARE POLICY AND RESEARCH

Wednesday, 25 September 2024

15.30	Registration	Accompanied by the Diknu Schneeberger Trio
16.00	Opening and welcome	Ghada Fathi Waly , Director General, United Nations Office at Vienna (UNOV), video message Johannes Rauch , Federal Minister for Social Affairs, Health, Care and Consumer Protection, Austria
16.15	50 years of building bridges in European social policy and research	Interview with Kai Leichsenring , Executive Director, European Centre and Anette Scoppetta , Deputy Director, European Centre
17.00	50 years of European cooperation in social policy – context and contributions	Georg Fischer , Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies (wiiw), Austria, former Director for Social Affairs in DG EMPL
17.30	Social policy research and policymaking – a fruitful relationship?	Anna Zhamakochyan , Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, Armenia Ewa Chylek , Ministry of Family, Labour and Social Policy, Poland Sabina Littmann-Wernli and Thomas Vollmer , Federal Social Insurance Office, Switzerland Tony Malmborg , Ministry of Health and Social Affairs, Sweden Manuel Veguín García , IMSERSO, Spain Matthias Reiter-Pázmándy , Austrian Federal Ministry for Education, Science and Research
18.15	Dinner buffet	Accompanied by the Diknu Schneeberger Trio

Moderation: **Sonja Kato**, Vienna

Music: **Diknu Schneeberger Trio**



EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR
SOCIAL WELFARE POLICY
AND RESEARCH

50/*years*

The future of social welfare policy and research

Invitational Conference – Agenda

Venue:

United Nations Offices at Vienna (UNOV)
Vienna International Centre
Wagramer Strasse 5
1220 Vienna

Date:

26 and 27 September 2024

supported by:

-  Federal Ministry
Republic of Austria
Social Affairs, Health, Care
and Consumer Protection
-  Federal Ministry
Republic of Austria
Education, Science
and Research



Background

In 1974, the United Nations and the Federal Government of Austria agreed to establish the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research (European Centre) in Vienna. The 50th anniversary in 2024 marks an important milestone in a global context that calls for highlighting the need for sound social welfare systems based on sound social policy research.

The aim of this invitational conference is therefore to present and revisit the European Centre's activities based on a long-lasting partnership with various ministries in the countries represented in the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE). A key focus will be on the bridge building function of the European Centre between research and policy making, between the excluded and the included, between partners in the welfare mix; and between the EU and (potential) EU candidate countries (Western Balkans and Eastern Partnership).

We shall highlight the European Centre's contribution in building an evidence base for the improvement of policy delivery in the areas of health and care, social inclusion and protection as well as employment and labour mobility. We aim at raising awareness for social welfare in Europe, its recent history, its achievements, its challenges for the future and for ways and means to further improve social welfare policies and practices – in line with the United Nations' 2030 Agenda and the European Pillar of Social Rights.

This event shall also serve to honour the host country and all other countries and institutions that continue to promote the role and position of the European Centre.

The programme of the conference will serve to review major trends, achievements and shortcomings in social welfare in Europe over the past 50 years, to analyse the current situation regarding opportunities for bridging the gaps within and between societies, and to review the situation in selected member states by addressing issues at stake:

- What is the role of social policy in ongoing transformations and which kind of research is needed to promote social justice and security?
- What are the blind spots in the relationship between research and policymaking in the area of social policy, and how can related tensions be overcome?
- How can national interests be overcome in favour of international collaboration promoting sustainable and thriving societies?



Day 1: Thursday, 26 September 2024

9.00	Registration and welcome	
10.00	CR1 (2nd Floor) Opening	Angela Me , Acting Chair, United Nations Office at Vienna (UNOV) Johannes Rauch , Federal Minister of Social Affairs, Health, Care and Consumer Protection, Austria (video message) Martin Polaschek , Federal Minister of Education, Science and Research, Austria (video message) Klaus Famira , Ambassador, Head of Department, Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs, Austria
10.45	Social policies under pressure	Slavina Spasova , Université Libre de Bruxelles, Director of the European Social Observatory (OSE), Belgium Michael Förster , SciencesPo, former Head of Inequalities, OECD, France
11.30	Break	
12.00	Social science and social policies and the triple transformation	Chair: Anette Scoppetta , European Centre Mihail Arandarenko , University of Belgrade, Serbia Meike Bukowski , Paris Lodron University Salzburg, Austria Vesna Dzuteska-Bisheva , UNDP Eurasia/Istanbul Hub, Türkiye Kristoffer Lundberg , Swedish Ministry of Health and Social Affairs and Member of the EU Social Protection Committee Lisa Warth , UNECE, Standing Working Group on Ageing, Switzerland
13.00	Lunch at UNOV restaurant	



EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR SOCIAL WELFARE POLICY AND RESEARCH

14.30

Parallel sessions

CR2 (2nd floor)

Parallel Session 1:

The future of research and policy in employment and labour mobility

Chair:

Sonila Danaj, Team Lead 'Employment and Labour Mobility', European Centre

Presentation of the Discussion Paper:

Elif Naz Kayran and **Leonard Geyer**, European Centre

Comments:

Michael Blauburger, Paris Lodron University Salzburg, Austria
Tadas Leončikas, Eurofound, Dublin, Ireland

CR1 (2nd Floor)

Parallel Session 2:

The future of research and policy in long-term care

Chair:

Kai Leichsenring, Team Lead 'Health and Care', European Centre

Presentation of the Discussion Paper:

Selma Kadi, **Niki Kalavrezou** and **Mirjam Pot**, European Centre

Comments:

Emma Dowling, University of Vienna, Austria
Henk Nies, University of Amsterdam, Netherlands

CR6 (7th floor)

Parallel Session 3:

The future of research and policy in social protection and inclusion

Chair:

Magdi BIRTHA, Team Lead 'Social Protection and Inclusion', European Centre

Presentation of the Discussion Paper:

Eszter Zólyomi, European Centre

Comments:

Karin Heitzmann, Vienna University of Economics and Business, Austria

15.45 Break



EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR SOCIAL WELFARE POLICY AND RESEARCH

16.15

Parallel sessions: Panel Discussions

CR2 (2nd floor)

Parallel Session 1:
The future of research and policy
in employment and labour
mobility

Chair:

Sonila Danaj, European Centre

Marta Kahancova, Central European Labour Studies Institute
(CELSI), Slovakia

Thore Hansen, Directorate of Labour and Welfare, Norway

Jan Drahokoupil, European Labour Authority, Slovakia

Anna Daimler, Vida/Austrian Trade Union in the transport and
service industries

Natasha Ghulam, Austrian Chamber of Commerce (WKO)

CR1 (2nd Floor)

Parallel Session 2:
The future of research and policy
in long-term care

Chair:

Cees Goos, European Centre

Niamh Lennox-Chhugani, International Foundation for
Integrated Care (IFIC), Belgium

Stefania Ilinca, WHO Europe, Denmark

Giovanni Lamura, National Institute of Health and Science on
Ageing, Italy

Mateja Nagode, Ministry of a Solidarity-Based Future, Slovenia

Stecy Yghemonos, Eurocarers, Belgium

CR6 (7th floor)

Parallel Session 3:
The future of research and policy
in social protection and inclusion

Chair:

Magdi Birta, European Centre

Oleg Barcari, Ministry of Labour and Social Protection,
Moldova

Jadranka Kaludjerovic, Institute for Strategic Studies and
Prognosis, Montenegro

Irene Bertana, European Association of Service Providers for
Persons with Disabilities (EASPD), Belgium

Michael Herrmann, UNFPA, Türkiye

Michael Fuchs, European Centre

18.15

Transfer from UNOV by bus (organised by the European Centre)
Meeting point: Wagramer Straße 5, 1220 Vienna

19.00

Dinner at Heurigen-Restaurant s'Pfiff, 1190 Vienna, Rathstraße 4



Day 2: Friday, 27 September 2024

Chair: **Anette Scoppetta**, European Centre

CR1 (2nd Floor)

9.30

Policy and research panel: Challenges and learnings for future social welfare policy and research

Learnings from Day 1

Sonila Danaj, Employment and Labour Mobility

Kai Leichsenring, Health and Care

Magdi Birtha, Social Protection and Inclusion

Comments:

Žarko Šunderić, Center for Social Policy, Serbia

Andreas Motel-Klingebiel, Linköping University, Sweden

Adelina Comas, LSE and Global Observatory of Long-Term Care (GOLTC), UK

10.30

Break

Chair: **Alexandre Sidorenko**, European Centre

11.00

Policy and research panel: Perspectives for the way forward

Frederico Guanais, OECD, France

Anna Zhamakochyan, Deputy Minister of Labor and Social Affairs, Armenia

Ana Carla Pereira, European Commission, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, Belgium

Kai Leichsenring, European Centre

12.30

Closing

12.45

Lunch at UNOV restaurant