

Symposium on “The Demography of Europe”

8–9th November 2007, Rostock, Germany

Over the past decades Europe has witnessed fundamental changes of its population dynamics and population structure. Fertility has fallen below replacement level in almost all European countries, while childbearing behavior and family formation have become more diverse across Europe. Life expectancy has risen in Western Europe for both females and males, but has been declining for men in some Eastern European countries. Immigration from non-European countries has increased substantially, as has mobility between European states. These changes pose major challenges to population studies, as conventional theoretical assumptions regarding demographic behavior and demographic development seem unfit to provide convincing explanations of the recent demographic changes in Europe.

This symposium brings together researchers from different disciplinary, theoretical, and methodological backgrounds to take account of the current status of demography and population dynamics in Europe and to discuss new approaches to investigate and explain the demographic changes of Europe. The symposium is dedicated to Professor Jan M. Hoem, who retires as a Director of the Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research in 2007. To celebrate his career as a demographer, especially in the area of statistical demography and fertility and family studies, the symposium brings together the most distinguished researchers in the field to present and discuss key research advances in demographic development in contemporary Europe.

Organisers:

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**In Honour of Professor Jan M. Hoem, Director of the Max Planck
Institute for Demographic Research, 1999–2007**

Programme

Thursday, 8th November

9:00 – 9:15 *Welcome*
Organising Committee
TBA, Max Planck Society

I Session: Introduction

9:15 – 9:45 *A (First Part of) Life Dedicated to Demography*
Francesco Billari, University of Bocconi

II Session: Society

Chair: Michaela Kreyenfeld, Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research

9:45 – 10:45 *The EU in a Global Perspective and the Concomitant Demographic
Challenges*
Ron Lesthaeghe, University of Michigan

10:45 – 11:15 Coffee break

III Session: Family

Chair: Heike Trappe, University of Rostock

11:15 – 12:15 *Family Policies and the Demography of Europe*
Gerda Neyer, Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research

12:15 – 12:30 *Some Reflections on Society and Family*
Tomas Frejka, USA

12:30 – 14:00 Lunch

IV Session: Transition to Adulthood

Chair: Nadja Milewski, Institut National D'Études Démographiques

14:00 – 15:00 *De-Standardisation or Changing Patterns? Transition to Adulthood from a Demographic Perspective*

Johannes Huinink, University of Bremen

15:00 – 15:30 Coffee break

V Fertility

Chair: Alexia Prskawetz, Vienna Institute for Demography

15:30 – 16:30 *Is Very Low Fertility Inevitable in Europe?*

Tomáš Sobotka, Vienna Institute for Demography

16:30 – 17:00 Coffee break

VI Session: Panel Discussion

Chair: Gerda Neyer, Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research

17:00 – 18:30 *Challenges for European Family and Fertility Research: Overexposed and Underexposed Areas of Investigation*

Laura Bernardi, Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research

Paul Boyle, University of St. Andrews

Christoph Bühler, Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research

Karl Ulrich Mayer, Yale University

Peter McDonald, Australian National University

19:00 – 22:00 Dinner

Friday, 9th November

VII Session: Ageing, Survival and Longevity

Chair: Graziella Caselli, University of Rome *La Sapienza*

9:30 – 10:30 *Europe, the Oldest Continent*

James W. Vaupel, Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee break

VIII Session: Mortality

Chair: Vladimir Shkolnikov, Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research

11:00 – 12:00 *Inequalities in Life Expectancy Between and Within European Countries*

Jacques Vallin, Institut National D'Études Démographiques

12:00 – 13:00 Lunch

IX Session: Migration

Chair: Hill Kulu, Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research

13:00 – 14:00 *What Can We Learn from the Mexico to the U.S. Migration?*

David Lindstrom, Brown University

14:00 – 14:30 Coffee break

X Session: Methodology and Methods

Chair: Gunnar Andersson, Stockholm University

14:30 – 15:30 *Advances in Life History Events Analysis in Epidemiology and Fertility Studies*

Niels Keiding, University of Copenhagen

15:30 – 16:00 Coffee break

XI Session: Demographic Research

Chair: Tapani Valkonen, University of Helsinki

16:00 – 17:00 *The Policy of Publishing Demographic Research*
Nico Keilman, University of Oslo

17:00 – 17:15 *Concluding Remarks*
Joshua R. Goldstein, Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research