

**LIVES Doctoriales  
13<sup>th</sup> Edition**

**February 15, 2024**

Thursday February 15, 2024

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**8:45-9:00 – Arrival**

**Session 1 – Room M1193** (Reminder: presentation 10 min / 5 min question from the audience)

**9:00 – 9:15.** Abughul Philip. Employment Status and Childcare Practices in Kampala and Nairobi.

**Abstract.** The global parenting landscape has undergone substantial changes, as families' daily routines have been greatly influenced by various historical, social, economic, and demographic evolutions. With increasing urbanization in East Africa as well, the economic labour market has evolved rapidly and plays a crucial role in reshaping gender dynamics and the way childcare is approached. Women are now actively participating in the labour market, seeking employment opportunities, and contributing to family income. With both parents working outside the home, the traditional division of childcare responsibilities has become more fluid. For instance, fathers are now taking on a more active role in raising their children, sharing the responsibilities of nurturing them. This change has led to a more egalitarian approach to parenting, with greater implications for fathers. Moreover, there is a rise in the reliance on paid domestic workers for childcare, considering the absence of extended kin who are constrained by the living conditions in urban settings and increased migration. However, there is limited research on how employment status influences childcare for fathers and mothers in that context, especially across socioeconomic levels.

The main objective of this study is to analyse the extent to which emerging forms of childcare practices are shaped by individuals' employment experiences and status for both men and women in contemporary urban East Africa. To achieve this, data will be drawn from the database of The Remaking of the Family in East Africa (FamilEA) to be collected in 2024. This two-stage stratified individual survey is representative of individuals aged between 18 and 64 years ( $n = 2000$  in Nairobi and  $n = 2000$  in Kampala). It includes data on a wide range of demographic, socioeconomic, and health variables, both at the time of the survey and in the past. Additionally, it includes information on personal networks and household structures. The study will assess various aspects of childcare practices among fathers and mothers of children below 12, including financial responsibilities and division of tasks such as who helps with child feeding, dressing, homework, leisure activities, bringing and picking up from school, care during illness, putting young children to bed, doing laundry, and shopping for foodstuffs. By utilizing logistic regression analysis, the study aims to analyze the association between different employment statuses and childcare practices for fathers and mothers across socioeconomic backgrounds. Furthermore, employment trajectories will be examined by considering the first and current jobs of both parents and different work states such as full-time, part-time. Other factors of change in childcare practices will be examined (level of education, ethnicity, residence during childhood, residence of kin network, and attitudes towards the family). Understanding the relationship between childcare practices in urban East Africa will enhance the effectiveness of existing policies aimed at addressing familial and child-related concerns.

**9:15 – 9:30.** Behr Johanna. Career Trajectories and Professional Socialization of Aspiring Elites in the Swiss Field of Finance.

**Abstract.** This PhD project aims to investigate the career trajectories and the professional socialisation of aspiring elites in the Swiss field of finance. It seeks to understand new developments since the 2010s in the field of finance by examining graduates from finance master programs: How do young professionals enter the field of finance? How do they learn the rules of the game and how do they biographically construct their adherence to the norms and values of finance (what Bourdieu calls the *illusio*)? How do their experiences differ regarding their respective social origins and the resulting dispositions? What insights do their experiences provide about the structures and transformations of the field? Adopting a multidisciplinary approach, this research integrates methodologies and concepts from educational studies and elite sociology.

The thesis comprises three subparts, each addressing a specific temporality: (1) the educational and academic space of finance in Switzerland (universities, training programmes, skills) (2) the social origins, values, and aspirations of graduates of Master programs in Finance, and (3) their early professional careers and trajectories. The study centres around a case study of 20 graduates from two Swiss universities who will be systematically accompanied and interviewed from their graduation through the initial years of their professional careers. In addition, prosopographical data (using LinkedIn) and survey data (Swiss Graduate Survey, EHA) will be analysed to understand their trajectories.

While research in Switzerland has explored the careers of top bankers (Araujo 2018; Araujo, Davoine, and Donzé 2023; Bühlmann, David, and Mach 2012), this study focuses on the social origins, aspirations and biographies of young finance professionals entering the field. Enrolling in a Finance master's program is interpreted as an indicator of their career aspirations in the finance sector – not only one of the highest-paying branches in the economy but also one with wide-reaching societal impact (Bourdieu, Heilbron, and Reynaud 2003). Existing literature underscores the significance of early career experiences in shaping professional socialisation and identity, as they often serve as signals for subsequent career choices (Ellersgaard, Larsen, and Munk 2013; Kipping, Bühlmann, and David 2019). Historically, early career spells at major banks have been identified as such influential signals in the Swiss banking elite (Araujo 2018; Araujo et al. 2023). Whether young professionals' career trajectories differ from the paths that today's established elites took 10 to 20 years ago will be examined.

Adopting Bourdieu's field theoretical approach, the study serves as a valuable sociological tool for understanding the biographical construction of the specific *illusio* of young professionals entering the field of finance and the potential changes within different poles in the field (Bourdieu, Wacquant, and Ollion 2014). This research provides insights into the future landscape of Swiss finance, which remains uncertain (Atca Gorgun and Wolfs 2021; Brunetti 2019; Macartney, Wood, and Dubrova 2022).

**9:30 – 9:45. Fernandez Garcia Javier. Conflict, support, and family salience in personal networks: the role of societal values and family policy.**

**Abstract.** What determines familial support has received great attention by sociologists and political scientist in recent years. The prolific welfare regime literature (Esping Andersen, 1990), together with concerns on risk society and welfare state change, and fears of 'atomization' of society (Beck and Beck Gernsheim, 2009); have led scholars to ask whether families constitute a safety net and under what conditions they do. When it comes to family policy, studies have focused on understanding 'horizontal' family dynamics (such as fertility decisions, see Luci Greulich & Thévenon, 2013) or relationships between parents and their children or older parents (Albertini & Radl, 2012). We still lack evidence on how family policies affect relationships in the period of 'emerging adulthood'. This life stage constitutes a crucial transition with great determining weight for the rest of the life course and where families undergo crucial transformations due to the changing social role of the child (Aquilino, 2006).

Additionally, the project aims at tackling key limitations in this research program: 1) the overuse of SHARE and ISSP as databases (Brandt, Haberkern & Szydlik, 2009; Garcia Faroldi, 2015; among others) leads to the overgeneralization of older adulthood familial dynamics, neglecting potentially distinct relations in other life course stages; 2) studies restrict themselves to social support, neglecting conflictual dynamics which are in many times related to the informal support distribution and effort (Widmer, 2016). 3) research relies on operationalizations of social policy as aggregate categories of spending or regimes, which assumes coherence across policy fields, and exhausts the possibility of identifying mechanisms (Kasza, 2002).

To overcome these challenges, on the one hand, I will draw from advances in family policy research that provide better opportunities for theorization of mechanisms (Lohmann & Zagel, 2016; van Winkle, 2020). On the other, I will build on the configurational perspective on families (Widmer, 2016) with the aim of understanding under which contextual influences individuals in a network interact with their family members. This will base my project on two main research questions: 1) How do family policies and norms influence the family orientation of young adults' social networks? 2) How do these factors affect patterns of support and conflict within the family?

Data limitations regarding the lack of harmonized cross national network data will be addressed, with the use of subnational comparisons. In countries where regions hold significant policy autonomy, there is enough variation in social policy configurations to engage with these designs (Donnelly & Farina, 2021). Taking Swiss cantons as entities with significant policy autonomy constitutes a great avenue for comparative research at the sub national level (Armingeon, Bertozzi, & Bonoli, 2004). For family policy, certain programs are the responsibility of cantons (succession taxes, structure and generosity of child allowances), while others are also dependent on communes (childcare, elderly care). This makes possible merging macro policy data with comprehensive network surveys carried out by the CH X project, without losing the comparative approach.

**9:45 – 10:00. Foretay Tais. The permeability of the Swiss educational system to the test of individual pathways: Intersectional perspective on aspirations and ascending educational trajectories.**

**Abstract.** While Switzerland's vocational training system has a relatively good reputation, its permeability raises some interesting issues, particularly regarding the mechanisms of social reproduction. In the aim to revalorise apprenticeships, there are now many possible bridges between different diplomas. This promotion of socio-professional mobility is crystallized by an injunction to autonomy, anchored in a meritocratic belief and the agentivity of individuals, who are supposedly free to make their own career choices. However, when we look more closely at the orientation processes and educational pathways, researches largely demonstrate the significant impact of numerous socio-demographic and contextual variables.

In an attempt to gain a better understanding of the social implications surrounding the permeability of the Swiss system, I plan to write an article-based thesis. The articles will focus on the relationship between individuals and their educational paths and aspirations, with a focus on one institution: the gateway from vocational training to higher education. I am interested in the interdependent relationships between society, its socializing institutions and the individuals they shape, who in turn make up society. To do this, I will be using the dispositionalist approach developed by Bernard Lahire, as well as the life-course approach and the intersectional perspective.

**10:00 – 10:15. Lenko Mariya. Linking Occupations and Couple's Homogamy. Mechanisms and Trajectories.**

**Abstract.** The aim of this research is to i) study the development of work trajectories of couple members, ii) estimate the partner's long-term effect on an individual's labour market outcomes over the life course in different contexts, iii) understand if it varies across different gender-social class subgroups, and iv) estimate to what extent this effect can be attributed to different mechanisms.

In the context where women are playing a larger role in the workforce, contributing to the inequalities between households, gender roles are changing, and people are increasingly selecting partners who share similar socio-economic characteristics, it is relevant to examine different determinants that may impact individuals' occupational outcomes. I propose to study occupational homogamy, or better its evolution over the life course, as one of these mechanisms that could explain the variation of the individual's work trajectory. Literature has explored the connection between family and work, specifically how significant family changes like marriage can impact career success. These outcomes are typically analyzed through the lens of the partner effect or the marriage wage premium (or penalty). Studies have identified two conflicting partner effect mechanisms, leading to varying conclusions. However, research is lacking in terms of comparing different contexts and developing theories able to harmonize previous theoretical considerations and empirical findings.

This study has the potential to offer several contributions to the existing literature. By examining occupational homogamy and its evolution over time, it attempts to contribute to a better understanding of the mechanisms operating behind the mutual influences of a couple's careers. Additionally, it may contribute to comparative and life course research by adding empirical evidence on

country differences and attempting to develop valid arguments for explaining heterogeneity in the partner's effect at the country level among different social groups. By adopting a theoretical framework that combines the life course approach with the theories of the welfare state, cumulative advantage or disadvantage, social stratification, and intersection perspective, we can better understand the long-term impact of a partner's work trajectory on an individual's labour market outcomes. This approach allows for the construction of a multidimensional perspective that links family and work.

To answer my research questions, it is necessary to build a dataset with the partner's characteristics and their change over time. There is a new harmonized dataset Comparative Panel File (CPF) which fulfills the necessary requirements for this research. It offers relatively long time intervals of observation of individuals in countries such as Germany, Switzerland, Great Britain, and the United States. The covered period is until 2018 and this dataset integrates individual and household information. Still, the use of other data sources might prove useful to get a more complete vision of European states.

## 10:15 – 10:45 Coffee break

### **Session 2 – Room M1193** (Reminder: presentation 10 min / 5 min question from the audience)

#### **10:45 – 11:00. Sanchez Sienna Rodrigo. Equal opportunity policies in the Swiss compulsory education system.**

**Abstract.** This dissertation focuses on equal opportunity policies in the Swiss compulsory education system. It explores public attitudes and the existence of discrimination. In addition, it also studies whether information provision could potentially promote educational equity. The Swiss compulsory education system is known for its dual-system and decentralized nature. This is a perfect setup for studying how effective different systems are with regard to educational equity.

The first paper will shed light on the attitudes of society towards equal-opportunity policies in compulsory education. I will conduct a survey experiment, aiming to identify policy measures that align with the preferences of the median voter. The contribution is noteworthy, as it will highlight society's, and in particular, parents' perspectives on education policies that could level the playing field for students of diverse backgrounds. The survey experiment will include various education policy attributes, such as tracking systems, class allocation decisions, and teacher support mechanisms, to gauge public preference for different policy packages.

The second paper will explore the existence of discrimination in the Swiss education system, particularly during the critical transition from primary to lower secondary school. This is a critical point for pupils, as early tracking has a significant influence on the long-term educational and career paths of pupils. I will analyze the difference in perceptions and potential biases against students from different socioeconomic and migratory backgrounds, also considering the effect of gender. Through a survey experiment, I will measure the attitudes of the general population, parents, and teachers towards students with different backgrounds, investigating how these perceptions might lead to discriminatory practices in educational settings.

The third paper will focus on how information provision can mitigate inequalities within the compulsory education system. Considering the impact of socioeconomic and migratory background on the educational attainment of pupils, I will evaluate whether providing parents with detailed information about the school system and its long-term effects can level the playing field for their children. This can be through a higher involvement of the parents in the education of their children. The methodology involves a field experiment with a control and treatment group of parents, assessing short- and long-term effects of the information provision.

These papers contribute to a deeper understanding of educational inequalities in a complex education system like the one in Switzerland. It will offer insights into how open the public is to accept various educational policies and whether the system is currently discriminating against students with different backgrounds. In addition to education policy reforms, it explores cost-effective alternatives – such as information provision – that can level the playing field for students. The findings will not only add to the academic discourse but also guide policymaking, assisting in the development of inclusive education systems that enable all students to realize their full potential. This dissertation, thus, seeks to bridge theoretical knowledge and practical policy application, aiming to inform both academic debates and policymaking in the field of education.

#### **11:00 – 11:15. Tenorio Mucha Janeth. Social, health and work-related factors associated to non-communicable diseases among migrants in process of regularization in Geneva, Switzerland.**

**Abstract.** Noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) such as diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, chronic respiratory diseases, or cancer are responsible of 74% of all deaths globally. They are chronic conditions that require uninterrupted access to healthcare and medicines to prevent complications (such as heart attack or stroke) and premature mortality. Socially disadvantaged people are most likely to develop NCDs, suffer complications and die young because they are exposed to risk factors from an early age on and have limited access to healthcare. For instance, migrants living in high-income countries have a higher risk of ischemic heart attack and stroke than the host population, and this risk increases with length of residence. Among migrants, undocumented migrants (people without documentation that proves their identity or their right to enter or stay in the country) are at higher risk for health problems because of their legal status and the effects of socioeconomic disadvantages. However, little is known about their needs and the challenges they face when seeking care for NCDs.

This research project is nested in "The Parchemins study", an longitudinal prospective study which aimed to measure the impact of regularization on health and well-being of undocumented migrants in the Swiss Canton of Geneva using a mixed-methods approach. The objective of this thesis is to generate information related to the disease process and the satisfaction of healthcare needs for managing NCDs among undocumented migrants in the Parchemins study. To achieve the objective, the following process will be followed:

1) To conduct a scoping review about the social determinants of meeting healthcare needs of undocumented migrants living with NCDs, along their migration journey: from the country of origin to the country(ies) of transit and destination. I will focus on the four

main types of NCDs according to the World Health Organization: cardiovascular disease, cancer, chronic respiratory disease, and diabetes. The scoping review allows to characterize the particular needs of undocumented migrants living with chronic conditions.

2) To identify the existence of chronic disease multimorbidity patterns and describe the risk factors associated with the aggregation of comorbidities among undocumented migrants in the Parchemins study. Multimorbidity may cause disability and mortality, thus evaluating which combination of conditions more frequently occurred, the patterns, and the risk factors associated with them could provide evidence of the burden of NCDs on undocumented migrants.

3) To compare the experiences of accessing healthcare services for NCDs among undocumented migrants and recently regularized migrants in the Parchemins study, using a mixed-methods approach. Understanding and analyzing the factors that hinder or facilitate migrants' timely and continuous access to healthcare for NCDs provides an opportunity to identify areas for improvement to prevent complications and premature death.

This project expects to improve the health and well-being of migrants by understanding the process of developing NCDs and the roadmap for seeking healthcare for disease management.

## 11:15 – 11:30. Magdaraog Kristel. Narratives of Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) during the COVID-19 Pandemic (tentative).

**Abstract.** The mass repatriation of Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) during the COVID-19 pandemic has posed numerous problems and challenges, particularly with regard to the Philippine government's management of the repatriation and reintegration processes, such as a lack of inter-agency coordination among relevant government agencies, a shortage of staff at both overseas and local posts, insufficient data on the number of OFWs in host countries, difficulties in locating undocumented migrants among the repatriated, and delays in issuing evacuation orders. While international organizations and Philippine-based institutions have conducted studies on repatriated OFWs, they have mainly focused on describing the profiles of these individuals. A study by Astilla and Marcos (2020) used qualitative methods to investigate the impact of pandemic on repatriated OFWs. However, the study was limited to a single province in the Philippines, limiting the representation of experiences to the specific circumstances of that province. Therefore, there remains a gap in the literature that this dissertation aims to fill.

The objective of my doctoral project is to examine the experiences of OFWs during the COVID-19 pandemic. To provide a comprehensive understanding and delineate specific research avenues, a scoping review will be undertaken to scrutinize the multifaceted effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on OFWs. Subsequent to this, qualitative research focusing on OFWs within the contextual framework of the COVID-19 pandemic will be conducted. The primary modalities of data collection will encompass individual interviews and focused group discussions (FGDs) involving migrant workers situated both in the Philippines and Geneva. The analysis of data will utilize a life course approach and a gender perspective to unravel the intricate dimensions of the pandemic's impact on OFWs. This study is conceived as an extension of the Parchemins study (<https://cigev.unige.ch/recherches/research-l/health/parchemins>). Furthermore, a secondary analysis of data collected in this study will be conducted.

## 11:30 – 11:45. Bornet Guillaume. Political Orientation and Occupational Orientation; Disaligning Compasses? Evolution of the Links Between Occupational Class and Political Attitudes

**Abstract.** This study project uses data from all 10 rounds of the European Social Survey to investigate the link between occupational group and economic and cultural attitudes in Europe since 2002. These sets of attitudes (opposing liberal vs. redistributive, and progressive vs. traditional values, respectively) describe a person's political placement more precisely than the single left-right continuum (Kitschelt, 1994). This perspective also allows for a more detailed understanding of recent changes in the political landscape – and was actually conceived to better analyse them (e.g. Kitschelt & Rehm, 2019). Despite evidence of potential changes in party alignment – especially regarding the working class (e.g. Oesch, 2008) – cultural and economic attitudes are still markedly related to occupational class (Oesch & Rennwald, 2018). Recent studies have also investigated the evolution of occupational classes' placement in the electoral space over the last decades in Western countries (Hall et al., 2023).

This project focuses on these observed changes with the aim of disentangling the age, period, and cohort components. Because of the cross-sectional nature of the ESS data, we will use a quasi-cohort design, which still enables some discussion of quasi-longitudinal effects. Cultural attitudes are measured with items related to immigration and homosexuality. Economic attitudes are measured using an item related to the government's involvement in reducing income inequalities. For occupational classes, we use Oesch's (2006) class scheme, which differentiates 8 classes based on the ISCO classification and work relationship. We consider 4 cohorts, corresponding to often used social generations: (1) the Silent Generation, (2) Baby Boomers, (3) Generation X, and (4) Millennials.

Across the period we consider, the 8 occupational classes are found to move in a relatively similar pattern: slightly more economically redistributive, and quite more culturally progressive. Relative positions (as compared to the average position for each time point) are thus generally stable.

More detailed analyses of how this unpacks in terms of age, period, and cohort effects are still yet to be run fully. Preliminary analyses suggest, however, that age effects could be present, and that age may interact with cohort. Older age tends to associate with more economically redistributive attitudes when comparing similarly aged persons from either side of a generational transition<sup>1</sup>. Results are more mixed regarding cultural attitudes.

Cohort effects also seem to vary: the younger generation tends to associate with more economically redistributive attitudes when comparing similarly aged persons from consecutive generations. For cultural attitudes, only the transition between Generation X and Millennials seems to associate with a significant difference in cultural attitudes (the latter being more progressive).

Further investigation into these preliminary results is still necessary to better make sense of the mechanisms that lie behind them.

<sup>1</sup> Between the Silent Generation and Baby Boomers, between Baby Boomers and Generation X, or between Generation X and Millennials

**11:45 – 12:00. Petrini Sonia. Essays on equality of opportunity**

**Abstract.** Equality of opportunity is widely acknowledged as a fundamental principle of justice. However, its exact definition remains a subject of debate, and current methods for measuring it are found lacking. This thesis aims to address these concerns by introducing both theoretical and methodological innovations. First, it distinguishes between a 'liberal' and a 'radical' definition of equality of opportunity. The former recognises as fair the inequalities arising from different natural talents, while the latter includes genetic endowments in the category of morally arbitrary factors, such as social origin, gender, or ethnicity, that should not form the basis for justifiable inequality under either definition. Second, it takes into account two levels at which inequalities arise, namely between families, and within them. In fact, our approach complements the traditional sibling similarity measure, quantifying the first dimension, with individual level factors explaining inequalities within families. For both aspects, some critical elements are taken into account. From a theoretical perspective, the assumption that effort constitutes a just base for inequalities because individuals have control over it is challenged. Concerning methodology, the estimation of liberal inequality of opportunity is refined by accounting for polygenic scores as a measure of the equitable transmission of genetic endowments from parents to offspring.

**12:00 – 13:30 Lunch**

**Session 3 – Room M1193** (Reminder: presentation 10 min / 5 min question from the audience)

**13:30 – 13:45. Moles Benjamin. Lone parenthood back and forth. A multidomain and multidirectional life-course perspective.**

**Abstract.** Although lone parenthood is becoming an increasingly common family form it remains an unexpected, unintended, and one of the most critical life course transitions. A major concern in the literature about these families is their non-normative character and the negative outcomes associated with them. From a statistical standpoint, lone parents are still a minority family form in Western societies and have to confront institutional settings and social norms based on the normative "(married) couple living together with a child" family configuration. Compared to them, lone parents have lower-skilled and lower-paid jobs, greater difficulties conciliating work with care and personal life, report poorer health, and are more likely to be at risk of poverty. Lone parents' children have also more negative educational, cognitive, and emotional outcomes. Most scholars have considered lone parenthood as a static condition in time and have therefore studied their living conditions and experiences from a cross-sectional and quantitative approach, providing a limited explanation of how vulnerabilities are produced, how they evolve, and how lone parents cope with them over time. However, from the life-course theoretical paradigm, this research aims to study lone parenthood dynamically, exploring how adaptations to different life domains may produce or prevent lone parents' vulnerability with a particular interest in its multilevel and multidirectional character. Drawing on 10-year empirical data from the qualitative panel, "The multiple paths of lone parenthood" (2012-2022), carried out in French-speaking Switzerland, this dissertation will benefit from its prospective and retrospective research design to the longitudinal analysis of change and continuity to capture the different subjective meanings and temporalities of lone parents' accounts.

**13:45 – 14:00. Wang Wen. The role of the residential environment on biological ageing in the UK**

**Abstract.** As life expectancy increases, the burden of disease and disability continues to escalate in ageing societies, necessitating a proactive approach to identifying disease risk. While chronological age conventionally serves as the yardstick for measuring ageing, it fails to encapsulate the intricate and diverse trajectories of age-related decline experienced by individuals across various organ systems. Biological ageing thus gained prominence as a more nuanced marker for disease risk and mortality. Current research on ageing predominantly focuses on the elderly population, neglecting that age-related changes to physiological processes may commence in early adulthood. The WHO Social Determinants of Health framework shows that structural inequalities will influence health through intermediary determinants, including material, behavioural, and psychosocial factors. People's socioeconomic position (SEP) can indicate structural inequalities, which influence the ageing process. Wealth as a crucial measure of SEP is particularly salient to older people as it captures the life-course accumulation of assets, and one of the different measures of SEP, area levels of deprivation, may be more suitable for whole-adulthood people. Limited attention has been given to residential environments and multiple organ systems ageing measurements, but less to the entire age range of adults. Exposures to poor living environments may increase people's stress levels, and biological changes may occur if the body is exposed to chronic stress, resulting in dysregulation of the multiple bodily systems, which may increase biological ageing speed. Identifying the biological ageing process and its social determinants throughout the entire adult lifespan can delay or avoid the onset of age-related diseases and substantially enhance health outcomes in later life.

This study aims to assess the association between the residential environment and adults' biological ageing process using data from Understanding Society. Firstly, this study will compare the multiple organ systems ageing measurements for adults with different socio-demographic characteristics, and then use Pearson and Spearman correlations to see their association with physical and cognitive functioning measures, as well as use latent growth curve modelling to track how the measures of biological ageing are associated with a subsequent decline in health-related quality of life. Secondly, this study will examine the association between area-level SEP measurements and multiple organ systems ageing measurements using two-level random-intercept regression models. Thirdly, this study will explore whether individual physical housing environments have potential mediating



effects and to what extent the individual housing environment mediates associations between area deprivation and biological ageing using structural equation modelling.

In this study, area deprivation indexes can be seen as multidimensional area-level structural determinants through material mediation pathways (individual physical housing environments) influencing biological ageing for all age-span adults in the UK. This study can help identify residential inequalities in resources across small geographic areas, which has significant implications for breaking the cycles of poverty and reducing the cost and resources required for ageing and disease-related interventions to minimize health inequalities.

## 14:00 – 14:15. Lachkovska Vasilena. Origin-Based Discrimination: Tracing Transferable Biases across Life Domains and Generations

**Abstract.** This PhD project, entitled "Origin-Based Discrimination: Tracing Transferable Biases across Life Domains and Generations," aims to explore the intricate dynamics surrounding discrimination rooted in individuals' perceived origins. Focusing on key life domains such as employment, childcare, and housing, the study seeks to unravel the transferability of biases across generations.

The research commences with an in-depth exploration of the multifaceted ways in which individuals' origins serve as sources of discrimination. An extensive analysis will be conducted to understand how perceived origins influence individuals' experiences in critical aspects of life, including job seeking, childcare, and housing.

The initial segment of the project concentrates on examining biases prevalent in childcare settings, employment opportunities, and housing based on individuals' perceived origins. By unraveling the manifestation of discrimination in these pivotal life domains, the study aims to discern whether patterns of biases persist across various aspects of life.

The core of the PhD project involves presenting empirical analyses of how discriminatory attitudes rooted in origin evolve over time. By focusing on the transferability of negative attitudes between generations, this phase aims to uncover whether origin-based biases held by parents are transmitted to their children and how these attitudes may transform into active discriminatory behaviors.

Exploring the dynamics of in-group and out-group perceptions related to origin-based discrimination, the project delves into how biases contribute to the formation of social hierarchies. This investigation aims to unravel the complex interplay between perceived origins, identity, and societal structures, influencing discriminatory behaviors.

Motivated by a quest for a nuanced understanding of how discrimination based on origin permeates various life domains and its potential transferability across generations, this project holds the promise of offering valuable insights for policymakers, educators, and individuals working towards dismantling discriminatory structures and fostering a more inclusive society.

In conclusion, "Origin-Based Discrimination: Tracing Transferable Biases across Life Domains and Generations" aspires to contribute nuanced understandings that can inform strategies aimed at dismantling discriminatory structures and promoting inclusivity in society.

## 14:15 – 14:30. Spasic Magdalena. Post-separation physical custody arrangements and child well-being in Switzerland.

**Abstract.** Child physical custody arrangements after separation or divorce result in either lone or shared custody. In the literature, lone physical custody (LPC) is usually defined as an arrangement where children spend most of their time with one parent and less than 30% of their time with the other parent. Shared physical custody (SPC) refers to the situation where children spend between 30% and 70% of their time with one parent and the rest with the other. Research has shown that usually children in SPC arrangements fare more positively than children in LPC in different dimensions of well-being: psychological, physical, social and cognitive/educational. The aim of my thesis is firstly to shed light on the situation of those arrangements in Switzerland where virtually no research has been undertaken on the topic so far and then to identify the challenges linked to custody arrangements as well as the characteristics, determinants and dynamics of physical custody. It will provide further information on child well-being by identifying the circumstances of different custody arrangements and what the risk and resilience factors associated with child well-being are through the lens of parental, child and household characteristics. A nationally representative panel will enable to collect data from N = 2100 families including n = 800 SPC families, n = 800 LPC families and n = 500 non separated families used as a control group. The study sample will include separated or divorced families in which the separation or divorce happened less than three years prior to the data collection and only families with children aged 0-14, by surveying one parent. This quantitative longitudinal online survey will be launched in Summer 2024 and comprises three yearly waves of data collection, enabling me to evaluate custody dynamics with retrospective data.

## 14:30 – 14:45. Sampaio Greve Milena. Empowerment of marginalized youth. Career counseling in group setting to prevent long-term NEET status.

**Abstract.** In an international context marked by a highly competitive and insecure labor market, marginalized and underprivileged youth are particularly exposed to the risk of exclusion from decent working conditions and secured employment (ILO, 2020; Massoudi et al., 2019). The statistical indicator NEET, representing youth that are not in employment, education, or training, indicates substantial average rates of young people (up to 13%) remote from the educational system and the labor market worldwide. Given the critical (individual and societal) consequences of long-term NEET status, scholars and practitioners advocate for the elaboration and implementation of prevention measures. In this field, career counseling group interventions may represent a potent strategy to empower underprivileged youth and contribute to social justice. Indeed, the existing literature shows the benefits of such interventions, which by mobilizing participants' critical reflection on social structures and self-comprehension, contribute to their agentivity and active career planning for the future. Although the benefits of these interventions are well established for general populations of youth, their effects with specific vulnerable populations are yet understudied. Based on a theoretical model of the school-to-work transition (Masdonati et al., 2022), building on theory-driven practices (PWC; Blustein et al., 2019) and on practitioners' expertise, this research project aims to develop a career counseling group intervention, tailored for

youth in NEET status and aiming to develop their critical consciousness and social support. To do so, a participant action research design (Kagan et al., 2017) will be implemented in two countries, Switzerland and Brazil, with contrasting socioeconomic constraints and education systems. This research, requiring the participation of 20 practitioners (10 in each country) and 16 (8 in each country) young people enrolled in supportive measures, will be structured in 4 phases aiming at (1) the conception, (2) the implementation, (3) the assessment, and (4) the dissemination of the analysis. For Phase 1, aiming to identify challenges and the strategies applied by practitioners in their work with youth in supportive measures, and to co-construct a career counseling group intervention protocol with the practitioners, two focus groups (one in each country) will be conducted having the participation of 20 practitioners. In Phase 2, the aim is to implement the group intervention elaborated in Phase 1. For that, two processes of career counseling in group will be conducted by two participants of Phase 1 with two groups (one in each country) of 8 young people. Phase 3 consists in assessing participants' perceptions about the implementation of the intervention, though two focus groups (one in each country). Finally, Phase 4 consists in disseminating the analysis with the community of participants and partners (young people, associations involved and practitioners that participated in Phase 1 and 2) through an oral presentation in each country. Phases 1, 2 and 3 will be audio recorded, transcribed, and analyzed using qualitative analysis: Thematic analyses (Braun & Clarke, 2006) for data of Phase 1 and 3, and Innovative Moments Coding System (Gonçalves et al., 2011) for Phase 2.

## 14:45 – 15:15 Coffee break

### **Session 4 – Room M1193** (Reminder: presentation 10 min / 5 min question from the audience)

#### **15:15 – 15:30. Semaani Claire. "The Interrelationships Between Maternal, Paternal and Child's Mental Health Over Time".**

**Abstract.** Mental health problems are identified as being part of the leading health-related problems among young individuals. In fact, the wellbeing of young people does not improve and seems to even decline across the years. To address this problem, it is crucial not to overlook the influence of family interrelationships. Parents indeed play an important role in children's wellbeing and the influence also goes in the other direction. However, literature about the interrelationships between parents' and child's mental health is scarce and mostly focuses on mothers and their children. Moreover, most studies are based on cross-sectional data that do not allow to measure mental health interrelationships accurately and assess their directionality. On top of that, even though longitudinal data interrogating all members of the same household exist in Switzerland, this topic has not been explored yet. Gaining a better understanding of the interrelations between parents' and children's mental health would be beneficial for policy development, prevention and to better treat mental health problems themselves.

Following a life course perspective, the goal of this thesis is to contribute to research on parents' and children's wellbeing and to answer the following questions: What are the interrelationships in mental health of co-residing mothers, fathers and their children? If interrelations exist, what can we say about the directionality of such influences? Secondly, what are the differences, if any, across population subgroups (gender, place of origin and socio-economic conditions) and across family structures (children living with two parents, single parents and stepparents)? Finally, what is the role of welfare policies on family mental health?

To do so, longitudinal data from the Swiss Household Panel will be mobilized. To take family diversity into account, co-residence will be the focus (and not only biological parents). To answer the last research question, a comparison with the UK Household Longitudinal Study (UKHLS) data is planned.

#### **15:30 – 15:45. Reichert Maximilian. The gendered nature of care and work behaviours in European societies.**

**Abstract.** The main interest of this paper lies in the gendered nature of care and work behaviours in European societies. The birth of a child has a gendered and classed impact on the working trajectories of individual parents. Childcare strategies are the combined childcare/work behaviours of parents in the first years of the child's life. They reflect how much time fathers and mothers spend on work each month, and whether and to what extent the child is in childcare. The core aim of this study is to describe typical childcare strategies of parents in different countries and social strata.

On a country level, we especially expect three factors to shape childcare strategies of parents. First, the degree to which the parental leave and childcare policy mix allows for individual autonomy of gendered family expectations, especially those of the mother. To this end, we draw from literature examining European welfare states in terms of their implicit policy aims regarding the division of labour and care work (Saraceno 2011; Ciccio and Bleijenbergh 2014). Second, the degree to which the care burden might be distributed in a wider network of informal support. To this end, we draw from literature on predominant family structures and common practices of informal support provision by e.g., grandparents, as measured through the strengths of familial ties (Hank 2007; Reher 1998; Mönkediek and Bras 2014). Third, and finally, we assume that childcare strategies are shaped by the extent to which family conventions are gender egalitarian, in other words, by the prevalence of gender egalitarian attitudes (Knight and Brinton 2017). On the household and individual level, we expect three factors to shape work-childcare trajectories. First, the composition of the household (that is, whether for example grandparents live with the young couple) (Lewis, Campbell, and Huerta 2008). Second, the gender of the parent (Goldin 2014). Third, the socio economic status of the parents (Van Lancker 2023).

This descriptive analysis aims to compare childcare strategies both between and within countries. The analysis will involve imputing/estimating data on yearly childcare usage using the longitudinal EU-SILC dataset (based on data available in the cross-sectional version of the survey). Additionally, the monthly working hours of parents already present in the longitudinal version will be considered. This estimation of micro-level data on households' childcare usage over time will then be used in a sequence analysis to describe parents' work hours in relation to their childcare use. After clustering these sequences, the resulting macro-level typology of childcare-career behaviour for the entire survey will be determined. This typology will help identify differences in childcare strategies between countries by describing the relative contribution of each country to each individual cluster. By combining these typologies with socioeconomic variables in the EU-SILC, it will be possible to estimate the association of certain



## **15:45 – 16:00. Rohrer Niels. Video game consumption and life course: How to analyse gamer practice?**

**Abstract.** Video gaming is a very popular leisure activity among the world's population (Király et al. 2022; Shoshani, Braverman, et Meiorow 2021; Cabeza-Ramírez et al. 2022). This interest for the medium translates, in the scientific field, by an increase in the motivation of researchers to investigate the reasons why people play these kinds of games. However, a lot of the theories developed focus on the online multiplayer games (Reer et Krämer 2019), which create some doubt on their efficiency in explaining video game consumption over other kinds of games. Additionally, the way consumption is measured for video games is in total opposition to what is favoured when we talk about substances (Hauw et Mohamed 2015; Leggat et al. 2022; Barrense-Dias et al. 2016; Plessz et al. 2016), food (van den Berg et al. 2022; Plessz et al. 2016), or the consumption of general goods (Kuoppamäki, Wilska, et Taipale 2017; Baker et Chan 2020; Benmoyal-Bouzaglo et Moschis 2009). Indeed, the tendency for these domains are to measure and explain the consumption by the life course methodology. However, this doesn't seem to be the case for video games.

My thesis tries to understand how the consumption of video games changes during the life course. However, such an objective is faced with difficulties involving the difficulty to measure efficiently the type and level of consumption of games. Indeed, since video games play is not always a salient activity in an individual life, it is very difficult for someone to say exactly how much time he/she spend playing games. By example, researchers have found that women had a tendency to under-evaluate their weekly game time while the men have a tendency to over evaluate it (Paaßen, Morgenroth, et Stratemeyer 2017; Ćwil et Howe 2020). Additionally, the more we try to dig in the past consumptions, the more retrospection can be subject to memory mistakes (Morselli et al. 2016) because the more events and condition there are, and the more difficult it is to being accurate (Morselli et Berchtold 2023).

In this presentation, I will show how I have planned to overcome these problems with the use of gamer categories usable to explain and understand the change of video games consumption during life by reducing uncertainty, my current results on the development of such categories and the advantages, and disadvantages, of using such an approach.

## **16:00 – 16:15. Rostekova Adriana. The impact of critical life events and context effects on the maintenance of cognitive functioning across the lifespan: protective and risk factors.**

**Abstract.** The insights emerging from lifespan research indicate that individual differences affect the maintenance of cognitive functioning (Stern et al., 2017). Certain critical life events (e.g. bereavement or divorce) can trigger impairments in cognitive maintenance but can also help build resilience, acting as protective factors (Atalay & Staneva, 2020, Brown et al., 2021). Furthermore, certain life contexts, such as one's socioeconomic status (Yang et al., 2016) may also influence cognitive functioning and the rate of its decline. The present research project will therefore investigate these contextual effects on the sustenance of optimal cognitive functioning, with a focus on the identification of these potential protective and risk factors.

Commencing with an analysis of secondary data provided by the Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe (SHARE), the longitudinal nature of the data will allow us to monitor the lifestyle choices and changes in individuals' life contexts across the individual waves and their effects on the speed and extent of the potential cognitive impairment. The first study within this project which is already under way focuses on the context of pet ownership and its potential influence on the speed of cognitive decline. After identification of certain life contexts which act as potential risk or protective factors, there is also a potential to employ experimental research methods to investigate how laboratory-specific contexts influence performance in cognitive tests.

The research findings will therefore elucidate the complex mechanisms through which specific life contexts and critical life events exert influence cognitive functioning across the lifespan. The research also holds potential to inform development of interventions aimed at mitigating negative outcomes in cognitive functioning, via promoting specific beneficial life context or, conversely, creating targeted intervention for people experiencing life contexts which make them more vulnerable to cognitive decline.