

CHILD WELFARE AND SOCIAL SERVICES

ECONOMIC EFFICIENCY IN WELFARE STATES

HEALTH

TRANSNATIONAL PORTABILITY OF WELFARE BENEFITS

INCENTIVES AND INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITY

MIGRATION

GLOBALIZATION AND WORK

POPULAR SUPPORT

WELFARE STATE FUTURES

a programme funded by 15 NORFACE partners and
the European Commission

ABOUT

Welfare states are at a critical turning point. The development of welfare systems was one of the defining characteristics of the 20th century, especially in Europe. However, in times of change, it is important to re-think "the welfare state" with a programme of innovative research designed to ask, and answer, fundamental questions about the design, delivery and experience of welfare in the 21st century.

It is for this reason that NORFACE network has launched a major transnational programme on the topic of Welfare State Futures. This highly topical theme offers an approach from a variety of perspectives and disciplines, enables and encourages multi-disciplinarity and offers a fruitful topic for a European approach, with opportunities for comparison.

FUNDING

The programme is funded by the 16 NORFACE partners and the European commission. The Swedish Research Council for Health, Working Life, and Welfare (Forte) has made an additional contribution to the programme. M€ 19 of funding is allocated to fifteen projects that have started from late 2014 to early 2015. After the inception of the WSF Programme, NORFACE has gained four new partners, such that there are currently 19 members. More information about the NORFACE network and its partners can be found on www.norface.net.

THEMES AND OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAMME

The Welfare State Futures programme has three major objectives:

To advance globally excellent theoretical and methodological disciplinary, inter-disciplinary and comparative research on Welfare State Futures which builds synergetically on a pan-European basis.

To motivate and support excellence and capacity building for research on Welfare State Futures on a cross-national basis throughout the NORFACE countries.

To develop understanding and promote research-based knowledge and insight into Welfare State Futures for issues of societal, practical and policy relevance, with theoretical foundations but worked on jointly with relevant users and experts.

This programme covers five themes of research on Welfare State Futures:

- People and the welfare state
- Inequalities, diversity and welfare states
- Rethinking the economics of the welfare state
- The future politics of the welfare state
- Shifting responsibilities for welfare

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME COORDINATOR

Professor Ellen M. Immergut of the Humboldt University Berlin has been appointed as Scientific Programme Coordinator for the research programme Welfare State Futures.

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4IS

INEQUALITIES, INSURANCE, INCENTIVES AND IMMIGRATION: CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS FOR THE WELFARE STATE

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RESEARCH CLUSTERS

Welfare State Attitudes | Globalization, Welfare States & Inequalities

SUMMARY

This research project examines how recent challenges, such as increased economic uncertainty and ethnic diversity, have affected inequality and support for the welfare state in European countries. It also investigates the work incentives embedded in the existing tax- and benefit systems and how these affect individuals' behaviour, both in the short and in the long run. This information is a crucial input to governments' decisions on how to finance the

efit systems reduce economic vulnerability. Second, we investigate support for redistribution, asking how ethnic diversity affects people's support for the welfare state and, using methods from experimental psychology, examining the determinants of redistributive attitudes for different groups. Third, we investigate the work incentives embedded in the existing tax and benefit systems and how these affect individuals' behaviour, both in the short and in the long run, taking into account issues like the complexity of the tax design. The research will produce academically meritorious publications and highly policy relevant guidance on reforms to the redistributive side of the welfare state. The research will use comparative micro data across European countries and detailed register data from individual countries. The project unites economists, political scientists, sociologists and psychologists with extensive experience advising governments and the EC on policy design.



welfare system and redistribute income while maintaining incentives to work and avoiding poverty traps. The project is divided into three strands. We first measure inequality developments using multidimensional and lifetime perspectives, and assess how different EU tax and ben-

EXCELC

EXPLORING COMPARATIVE EFFECTIVENESS AND EFFICIENCY IN LONG-TERM CARE

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RESEARCH TEAM

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RESEARCH CLUSTER

Health

SUMMARY

To meet societal and economic challenges, health and care welfare regimes will need to become much more focused on the outcomes that matter to people and deliver these programmes effectively and efficiently. Central to this goal is the need to accurately measure outcomes and reflect the value of those outcomes. We propose a



cross-country study to measure outcomes in the field of long-term care (LTC). We will use a care-related outcome tool, ASCOT, to assess the comparative effectiveness and efficiency of non-institutional LTC (e.g. home care) for older adults and their informal carers in Austria, England and Finland.

The study has four analytical workpackages (WPs) with these goals:

- Establish a valid basis for international comparisons of LTC-outcomes in non-institutional settings, by developing rigorously translated and tested versions of ASCOT.
- Generate country-specific ASCOT utility weights and explore variations in preferences for ASCOT quality of life domains across countries.
- Explore variations in ASCOT quality of life (QoL) within and between countries, providing evidence on QoL-outcomes of services for service users and their carers.
- Explore and compare the relative costs, efficiency and cost-effectiveness of specific LTC services. We will use econometric methods, combining estimates of the effect of services on QoL and service cost.

This study should strengthen the research base and help guide policy-makers and practitioners to make outcomes-focused, economically-sound decisions about LTC. It will also provide useful tools for future evaluations.

One of the applicants will lead each WP, supported by a country lead and team of researchers.

FACSK

FAMILY COMPLEXITY AND SOCIAL WORK. A COMPARITIVE STUDY OF FAMILY-BASED WELFARE WORK IN DIFFERENT WELFARE REGIMES

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RESEARCH TEAM

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RESEARCH CLUSTER

Child & Family Welfare

SUMMARY

In the era of globalisation, family policies and social care services are at the intersection of increasingly diverse family situations and complex welfare state environments. This project contributes to Norface Call themes 1,2, and 5; People, Inequalities/diversity, and Shifting responsibilities,



and will compare policies and family-based social work in different family policy regimes and service areas: child welfare, drug/alcohol abuse, migrating families and disabilities. The purpose is to analyse how social workers across different contexts understand notions of family and how they describe their own practices and outcomes with fam-

ilies. This study uses empirical data from eight countries (Norway, Sweden, England, Ireland, Chile, Mexico, Lithuania and Bulgaria) representing four different family policy regimes (de-familialised, partly de-familialised, familialised and re-familialised). Existing data relevant to family policies from Eurostat, the OECD and other databases will be used. Additional national statistics and documents detailing the organisational structure of services will be collected. Thirty two focus groups (eight countries; four service areas) will be held using semi-structured interviews and case vignettes, engaging researchers from the three university partners of Sweden, Norway and UK, with co-operation partners in the other five countries. The project will add to theoretical analyses of welfare regimes, family policy, professional discretion, and contribute methodologically to cross-national research. End-users from policy-makers to social workers will benefit from new knowledge about different conceptions of the family and how these impact services provided.

FPRWS

FAIRNESS, PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY AND THE WELFARE STATE

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RESEARCH TEAM

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RESEARCH CLUSTERS

Welfare State Attitudes | Globalization, Welfare States & Inequalities

SUMMARY

The aim of the research project “Fairness, personal responsibility and the welfare state” is to analyze how fairness considerations, in particular with respect to personal responsibility, affect the support and effectiveness of welfare policies. The European welfare states are faced with important challenges, in particular related to financial strains on the welfare system, changing migration flows and increasing inequality. Partly as a response to these challenges, there is an increasing focus on personal responsibility. The proposed research project will provide new knowledge about how the welfare states can meet these challenges and how concerns for personal responsibility can be integrated in the design of welfare schemes in a way that is perceived as fair.

The research project has three main parts that all are highly relevant to the call. Part A of the research project studies how people attribute personal responsibility for outcomes and the link between views about personal responsibility and the support for redistributive welfare policies. Part B of the research project studies people’s preferences in situations where it is impossible to implement the welfare policies that are seen as most fair. In Part C of the research project we study what we



refer to as reference-dependent social preferences and examine whether such preferences might shed light on cross-country differences in the support for welfare schemes.

Taken together, the three parts of this research project represent a unique research agenda addressing questions that are of fundamental importance for understanding the challenges faced by the European welfare states.

GIWeS

GLOBALISATION, INSTITUTIONS AND THE WELFARE STATE

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RESEARCH TEAM

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RESEARCH CLUSTER

Globalization, Welfare States & Inequalities

SUMMARY

Focussing on the global changes since 1989, the objective of GIWeS is to produce first class research on how trade, technology and the welfare state interact; on the challenges to national welfare states in an integrated European labour market, and on the political support for reform. The



project is unique in several dimensions: It is comparative, focussing on Austria, Germany, Norway, and the UK, countries that differ in their industry base, skill structure, and welfare institutions. It is relevant, addressing the current crisis, migration and the support for welfare spending. It is

dynamic, drawing on unique longitudinal information that allows us to explore long term impacts of global shocks down to the individual firm and the individual worker. It is innovative, linking – for the first time – administrative longitudinal data covering entire populations across countries allowing us to follow individuals across national borders, investigating their choices in work environments and welfare institutions. It is wide-ranging, capturing how globalization makes competition more dynamic, speeding up innovation, and the process of creative destruction, and how wide-ranging changes may give rise to a new political and economic equilibrium. It is institutional, asking whether the European welfare state survives the transformation, and what will happen to its different incarnations such as the Scandinavian, the German and the British model. It is spot on all five themes of the call, organized around international research groups in London, Linz and Oslo, with additional partners. It is enlightening, adding unique and novel insight into the interplay of the Welfare State and economic prosperity in Europe.

GlobLabWS

GLOBALISATION, LABOUR MARKETS, AND THE WELFARE STATE



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RESEARCH TEAM

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RESEARCH CLUSTER

Globalization, Welfare States & Inequalities

SUMMARY

The project focuses on the interaction between the welfare state (WS), globalisation and labour market institutions in determining a country's aggregate performance.

Current research on these issues tends to suffer from a 'micro/macro dichotomy' that is only too common in economics. On the one hand, the effects of welfare state policies on labour markets have often been studied at a microeconomic level. On the other hand, many studies of the economy-wide labour market effects of globalisation focus on adjustments that occur across industrial sectors.

This project aims to overcome this dichotomy. Evidence suggests that countries' aggregate performance is very much influenced by microeconomic adjustments that occur at the industry level across individual firms and workers. The premise of our research is that only by capturing nuanced interactions between the microeconomic and macroeconomic adjustments that result from globalisation shall we be able to gain a better understanding of the role of welfare state policies in countering the labour market and income inequality effects of globalisation, thus addressing some of today's most pressing policy dilemmas. Specifically, we conjecture that intra-industry adjustments at the micro level, such as market share reallocations resulting in changes in the distribution of firms' productivities and labour market matching processes, are important in shaping the aggregate effects of the interaction between globalisation and welfare states.



Methodologically, the project will consist of both theoretical and empirical work. Theoretical models will help identify the channels through which WS policies affect microeconomic and macroeconomic adjustments to globalisation. Empirical comparative analyses will both assess the theory's testable hypotheses and identify important stylised facts from inter-country comparative analysis.

Our results will advance research on WS futures and shed light on the relative effectiveness of different WS models in countering the labour market and income inequality effects of globalisation and on whether WS policies can contribute to explaining inter-country differences in aggregate labour market outcomes and productivity.

HEALTHDOX

THE PARADOX OF HEALTH STATE FUTURES

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RESEARCH TEAM

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RESEARCH CLUSTERS

Health | Welfare State Attitudes

SUMMARY

Cutting across the five research themes of the NORFACE Welfare State Futures Programme, HEALTHDOX aims to explore future trajectories of European health politics and

to cope with the rising health costs associated with population aging, and to regenerate public support for the welfare state amongst increasingly diverse populations.



policies through an investigation of the impact of recent health reforms on health inequalities, health expenditures, and public attitudes towards both the health system and the welfare state. At its broadest level, the project poses the question of whether there is a paradox of health state futures. Europeanization and globalization processes may be putting National Health Service types of health systems under increasing pressure to converge to the Continental health insurance model. But, paradoxically, National Health Services may be the type of health system best suited both

This project will investigate health policy developments from 1990 to the present in Europe. We focus on Estonia, Germany, Ireland, the Netherlands, Portugal and Sweden, but our comparative policy investigation will include nearly every country of the European Union and Switzerland. The impact of these policy changes will be analysed using quantitative data found in both national and international sources. Our team is comprised of qualitative and quantitative researchers from the fields of Political Science and Sociology, whose combined expertise includes health politics, health policy, demography, migration, comparative and European politics, and the politics and sociology of the welfare state. The comparative and transnational design of the project will allow us to provide insights into health inequalities, the meaning of the welfare state for individuals, and the future politics of the welfare state, as well as to provide health policy-makers with important feedback on their policies.

HESTIA

POLICIES AND RESPONSES WITH REGARD TO CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT IN ENGLAND, GERMANY AND THE NETHERLANDS: A COMPARATIVE MULTI-SITE STUDY

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RESEARCH TEAM

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RESEARCH CLUSTER

Child & Family Welfare

SUMMARY

The HESTIA project aims to discover the nature and impact of variations in child protection systems through a comparison of three quite different welfare states (England, Germany, the Netherlands). It includes a comparative analysis of child protection policy and empirical studies of child protection practice. Findings from the policy analysis will underpin the empirical phase, which will compare (i) state responses to child maltreatment notifications and (ii) parent perspectives on professional intervention in different welfare states. We will compare:

- the ways child protection measures are negotiated, legitimized and perceived (by professionals and parents)
- their impact on children (e.g. protection/re-abuse; removal from home)
- the relationship between national policy, thresholds for intervention and social justice
- rhetoric in child protection policy and practice, locating this within the wider child welfare policy framework in each country

The study will also compare wider assumptions about the role of the state in family life, (including those regarding the rights of parents) and the ways different welfare states seek to balance children's rights to protection (un-

der the UNCRC) and parents' rights to family life (under the Human Rights Act). Through this comparative analysis, the HESTIA project will generate new insights into child



protection policy and practice and so have a significant impact on future developments in child welfare in Europe. Relevant Norface themes: Future politics of the welfare state, Inequalities, diversity and the welfare state and People and the welfare state. Prof Grietens will be responsible for overall project management and all other WPs will be co-ordinated a nominated team member.

HiNEWS

HEALTH INEQUALITIES IN EUROPEAN WELFARE STATES

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RESEARCH TEAM

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RESEARCH CLUSTER

Health

RESEARCH FIELDS

The existence of social inequalities in health is well established. The welfare state (social policy, healthcare, public health policy) can play an important role in mediating the effects of the social determinants of health; however, comparative studies have shown that health inequalities are actually amongst the largest in generous and inclusive welfare states. This project will focus on the following question: why do social inequalities in health persist in European welfare states and what can be done to reduce them? Expected outcomes and the impact of this project include the refinement, testing and development of social inequalities in health theory, the identification of policies and interventions with the potential of reducing health inequalities, and a new policy agenda on how health inequalities can be reduced most effectively. The project consists of six interrelated work packages delivered across three project phases. In the first phase, we will provide theoretical elaboration on the pathways whereby welfare states and healthcare systems influence the aetiology and reduction of social inequalities in health. In the second phase, we will explore and test these pathways using morbidity and mortality indicators. We will also use evidence review methods to examine the effects of macro policy interventions in reducing health inequalities. In the third phase, we

will combine the work packages to produce country specific policy toolkits. The project will thus impact on both



the academic and policy spheres. We will use a variety of cutting edge data sources at the micro and macro level and employ state-of-the-art statistical techniques, such as counterfactual policy analyses and multilevel models.

MIFARE

MIGRANTS' WELFARE STATE ATTITUDES

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RESEARCH TEAM

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RESEARCH CLUSTERS

Migration | Welfare State Attitudes

SUMMARY

This research proposal is among the first to focus on migrants' attitudes towards the welfare state. In Europe, the field of research on welfare state attitudes has ignored the perspective of migrants almost completely. Due to



migrants' socialization in different welfare regimes, and their often disadvantaged socio-economic positions, the migrant perspective provides a unique opportunity to test the central theories in the field on the role of self-interest, group-loyalty and of socialization in different welfare regimes. We aim to study migrants' welfare state attitudes,

and to explain differences across migrant groups, as well as differences compared to the overall public opinion in the country of origin and the host country. With this innovative focus we answer questions that cut across the call's themes of "People and the welfare state", "Inequalities and diversity" and "Future politics". We rely on existing cross-national datasets such as the ISSP. However, we also propose a harmonized and unique data collection among migrants in the destination countries Denmark, Germany and the Netherlands. We composed a team with expertise on data collection among migrants, on public opinion research, and expertise on welfare state attitudes in particular. The project offers five young researchers (3 post-docs and 2 PhDs) the opportunity to continue or start their academic career including the opportunity to spend some time in another country involved in the project. The investment in this project will result in two dissertations, five research articles by each of the postdocs and a book compiled by the seniors involved. The unique focus on migrants provides both the academic community and policy makers with insights on new groups in society.

MobileWelfare

EUROPEAN WELFARE SYSTEMS
IN TIMES OF MOBILITY



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RESEARCH TEAM

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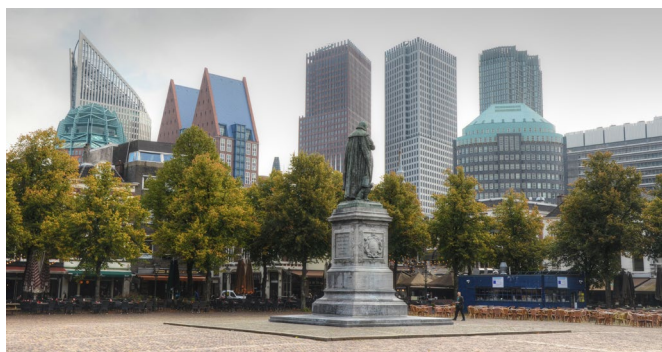
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RESEARCH CLUSTER

Migration

SUMMARY



This project aims to understand the role of welfare systems in destination and origin countries for migration patterns within and towards Europe. Welfare states were developed and associated with the nation state, explaining why provisions remain predominantly linked to nationality and residency. The project moves beyond prior studies on the contested existence of welfare magnets and the presumed threat of (low-skilled) migration to the viability of welfare state benefits. A receiving country bias has caused research to neglect the important role of welfare regimes in origin countries on migration aspirations and decisions. Furthermore, little empirical knowledge of the effects of

transferability of welfare entitlements on mobility in Europe exists. To fill these gaps and understand how growing levels of mobility intersect with existing welfare regimes across Europe, the project addresses three research questions: How and to what extent do welfare systems affect mobility patterns in Europe? To what extent and how do perceptions of access to welfare arrangements in origin and destination countries shape migration decisions? What role does transferability of welfare accounts play in mobility across Europe? The project combines macro and micro perspectives, and applies a mixed-methods approach of innovative analysis of existing statistics and migration data added with new primary data collection via case studies in seven countries. It goes beyond reductionist categorisations of receiving and sending countries by considering all case study countries simultaneously as origins and destinations.

TransJudFare

TRANSNATIONALIZATION AND THE JUDICIALIZATION OF WELFARE

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RESEARCH CLUSTERS

Migration | Globalization, Welfare States & Inequalities

SUMMARY

TransJudFare deals with two challenges for welfare states in the European Union (EU): the transnationalization of citizenship and welfare rights and the judicialization of politics. European case law significantly broadens the eligibility of non-economically active EU nationals to non-contributory welfare services. Yet while these rights and their potential are widely discussed, there has been no systematic study of their actual impact on member states' welfare states, the gap that this project aims to fill. TransJudFare focuses on social assistance measures and study grants and asks how member states respond to European case law at the level of lower courts, the administration, and the legislature. Teams of political scientists and lawyers in four member states will map changes in five western EU member states according to a unified approach, joining forces in the analyses along different dimensions. Austria, Denmark, Germany, the Netherlands and the UK are chosen as they are all targeted by migration flows but differ in important respects such as welfare state type and judicial system. By mapping and explaining reactions to case law, TransJudFare will enrich the political science literature on Europeanization, and law scholars' analyses of the workings of the integrated European court system. It will give a systematic account of the relevance of judicialization

and EU citizenship rights for member states' welfare state reforms. TransJudFare cuts across several core themes



outlined in the Welfare State Futures call, addressing the question of social citizenship, increased heterogeneity among EU member states, the new politics of the welfare state, and potential shifts of welfare responsibility to the European level.

TRANSWEL

MOBILE WELFARE IN A TRANSNATIONAL EUROPE: AN ANALYSIS OF PORTABILITY REGIMES OF SOCIAL SECURITY RIGHTS

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RESEARCH TEAM

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RESEARCH CLUSTER

Migration

SUMMARY

Approaching EU enlargements as transnational events, this collaborative project examines transnational European welfare. It focuses on the portability of social security rights in the enlarged European Union; that is, the rights to health insurance and to unemployment, retirement and family-related benefits. The project involves a comparative analysis, which traces the migrations of regularly and irreg-



ularly employed migrants and their family members and the portability of their social security rights between four pairs of countries: Hungary-Austria, Bulgaria-Germany, Poland-United Kingdom and Estonia-Sweden.

The main outcome will be a typology of transnational portability regimes derived from the comparative analysis of four research objectives for the respective pairs of

countries. First, the project examines legal regulations on the portability of social security rights (WP 1: Document Analysis and Expert Interviews). Second, it analyses a variety of mobile EU citizens' practices of portability, including limitations to portability they may involve (WP 2: Quantitative Survey). Third, the project reconstructs discourses of belonging incorporated into portability regulations to determine how they shape individuals' access to social security (WP 3: Discourse Analysis). Fourth, it provides insights into individuals' inequality experiences resulting from limitations to portability (WP 4: Qualitative In-Depth Interviews). Building on a transnational comparison of the four pairs of countries, the project then reconstructs variations in the portability of social security rights (WP 5: Integrated Analysis of Results and Comparison).

UPWEB

UNDERSTANDING THE PRACTICE AND DEVELOPING THE CONCEPT OF WELFARE BRICOLAGE

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RESEARCH TEAM

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RESEARCH CLUSTER

Migration

SUMMARY

This project will reconceptualise welfare theory through responding to the question of how all residents living in superdiverse neighbourhoods access healthcare. Such a focus is pertinent given increasing population complexity, heterogeneity and pace of change under globalisation, and the subsequent need to rethink welfare design, alongside issues of engagement, approachability and effectiveness. Using innovative techniques including street-mapping, community research and a mobile phone “app” alongside a neighbourhood survey, we explore the multiple approaches that residents living in superdiverse neighbourhoods use to meet their health needs, encompassing the perspectives of service users and providers. We will generate new theoretical and practical insights through the development of models of welfare bricolage: the practice by which individuals combine formal, informal and virtual health services across public, private and third sectors in an attempt to meet need. We use a comparative/sequential approach to interrogate local welfare states across eight deprived and upwardly mobile superdiverse neighbourhoods in four different national welfare states (UK, Portugal, Germany and Sweden) each with different welfare, health and migration regimes. By focussing on key features of superdiverse neighbourhoods where residents are differentiated according to



faith, income (including socio-economic status), age, gender and legal status, we bring new insights with societal, practical and policy relevance. The study will illuminate inequalities and diversity in respect of individuals’ relationship with healthcare, different modes of provision, and responsibilities for welfare allocation.

WelfSOC

WELFARE STATE FUTURES: OUR CHILDREN'S EUROPE

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RESEARCH TEAM

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RESEARCH CLUSTER

Welfare State Attitudes

SUMMARY



How European welfare states will develop is hard to predict. People's current aspirations, ideas and assumptions will be important drivers of change and persistence and of the extent to which conflict and solidarity surround change. This project uses innovative methods (deliberative democratic forums, a qualitative cross-national focus group survey) to develop understanding of people's aspirations for the Europe their children will inhabit. The interactive and discursive methods proposed deal directly with people's ideas, but are rarely used in comparative welfare studies. The project is essentially forward-looking. It will contribute to theoretical work on the main cleavages and solidarities driving social policy in different Euro-

pean welfare states and to more practical consideration of the parameters of acceptable policy change. It will supply new findings relevant to the politics and sociology of welfare and provide data for reanalysis and as a base-line in future studies. The team have led major cross-national projects and will press home findings in national and EU-level policy debate.

The applicant will co-ordinate the work with partners and an Advisory Board in three stages:

- European-level literature review (co-ordination team); national reviews of attitudes to welfare and welfare politics (all partners)
- Data gathering: Deliberative Forums and Focus Group studies (all partners);
- Analysis, dissemination and engagement of research users (co-co-ordinating team/national partners)

Co-ordination will be facilitated by setting clear objectives at each stage and will be pursued through conferences to assess progress, plan work, integrate findings and agree publication, dissemination and engagement strategies. be facilitated by setting clear objectives at each stage and will be pursued through conferences to assess progress, plan work, integrate findings and agree publication, dissemination and engagement strategies.

NORFACE PARTNERS

NORFACE is a collaborative partnership of national research funding agencies from 19 European countries in the area of social and behavioural sciences:

Austrian Science Fund (FWF)
Czech Academy of Sciences (CAS)
Danish Social Science Research Council (DSSRC)
Estonian Research Council (ETAG)
The Academy of Finland (AKA)
L'Agence Nationale de la Recherche, France
Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG)
The Icelandic Centre for Research (RANNÍS)
The Irish Research Council (IRC)
Research Council of Lithuania (RCL)
Luxembourg National Research Fund (FNR)
Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO) Social Sciences
The Research Council of Norway (RCN)
The National Science Centre (Narodowe Centrum Nauki, NCN), Poland
Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT), Portugal
Slovenian Research Agency (SRA)
The Swedish Research Council (VR)
Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF)
The Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), UK

The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) of Canada is associate partner and participates in several NORFACE programmes.

MINECO (Spain), FWO (Belgium-Flanders) and NordForsk act as observers.