

durable coalition government and a democratising regime. But the reaction from the transnational actors to this settlement could have received further attention in this chapter, given that political stability in Macedonia was a major priority for the EU, the OSCE, and NATO.

An extremely original piece of work in this volume, is Nicole Lindstrom's chapter on transnational agendas on human trafficking in the Balkans. Lindstrom applies a constructivist approach to transnational policy agenda setting in an effort to respond to the question of how and when ideas have a significant effect on policy outcomes. Referring to Peter Hall's earlier work on policy paradigms, Lindstrom qualifies the ways transnational actors package or frame an issue as a means of convincing each other that certain actions constitute a plausible and acceptable policy solution (p. 41). Regarding human trafficking, Lindstrom puts forward four approaches: the migration approach, the law enforcement approach, the human rights approach, and finally the economic approach. She investigates what modes of policy paradigms the transnational actors suggest. This is an original contribution to the existing literature on human trafficking and a laudable effort on the part of the edited volume.

To summarise, *Transnational Actors in Central and East European Transitions* revisits the role of transnational actors in CEE and suggests the new concept of quadruple transitions. It is an important work in reference to international relations approaches to the study of transition and transformation in CEE. The volume is a useful endeavour to update the literature on the topic and hence can be used as a supplementary text for undergraduate and postgraduate modules on East European politics, the politics of EU enlargement, and international actors and institutions.

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Manfred Huber, Ricardo Rodrigues, Frederique Hoffmann, Katrin Gasior and Bernd Marin: *Facts and Figures on Long-Term Care in Europe and North America*

Vienna, 2009: European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research, 140 pp.

Against the background of an ageing population, this volume aims to provide an overview of significant trends in the provision and funding of long-term care. It argues that in 'contrast to policy concern on the organisation and funding of an adequate care provision, the internationally comparative knowledge on basic indicators is currently fragmented and comparable international data sets and concepts are in the early stages'. (p. 18) By combining international and national datasets the report paints a comprehensive picture of significant trends in long-term care needs and services in Europe and North America. The publication is part of the Mainstreaming Ageing: Indicators to Monitor Implementation (MA:IMI) project of the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy in collaboration with the United Nations Economic Commission. It is intended as the first edition, which will be further elaborated and updated every two years.

The report comprises a wide spectrum of themes related to long-term care, which allows an analysis of trends in daily care provision tied to demographic and social changes, as well as the institutional regulations of care policies. It provides reliable comparative national and international sta-

tistical data on significant trends in Europe and North America, which are very useful for international comparative research, as well as for the development and implementation of policies. In addition to the comprehensive national and international database, calculations on significant and interesting interrelationships between variables afford fresh insights into recent trends in the issue. Long-term care is looked at as a gendered world from the perspective of the beneficiaries and the (informal) carers, which is interrelated with further variables in cross-country comparisons, such as age and living situations.

The first chapters describe the demographic situation, the changing living arrangements of older people, and the availability of informal care to give an overview of the significant dimensions of the societal situation and change. The international and national statistical databases show an increase in old-age allocations across the countries compared, albeit with marked differences. Sweden is cited in the text as a country with a high ratio of 80+ citizens; a ratio that has almost doubled since the 1990s. It is argued that competitive tendering open to private providers can be used as a strategy to contain costs. However, research in the interrelationship in Sweden in 2003 found that the municipalities opening up a care market experienced an even higher cost increase than those delivering public services only (SOS 2004). The ageing population, above all the increasing numbers of those aged 80+, is very closely correlated with disability trends and gender across countries. Despite country differences the findings clearly show relatively good health status, even of the elderly, uncertain improvements in old age, severe disability, and the significant impact of gender. The analysis confirms the significance of a gender perspective to explain the current situation and to discuss possible future trends. However, there is empirical evidence that even socio-economic status is related to the

development of disability trends, which is not included in the report (for Germany see Borchert and Rothgang [2008]).

Living arrangements are discussed 'as crucial for systems of long-term care as they indicate whether an older person can potentially receive support at home'. (p. 40) Living arrangements have changed markedly, above all in northern and western European countries and North America, with a clear trend to living alone or living as a couple. In contrast, despite changes in South America, the elderly in Asia and Africa still tend to live with their offspring. Starting with this statement the report provides a wide range of statistical information on changing care arrangements in a cross-country comparison and reveals that gender and age impact the different living situations or preferences of the elderly. The statistical data are complemented by discussions of new types of informal support patterns from offspring who live nearby. The bulk of long-term care is still carried out informally within the family framework. Initially, a statistical overview on informal care provision in Europe affirms this significant role irrespective of the long-term care approach. Further tables, for example, on the gender impact, family status, or age structure of the informal carers, differentiate the statement. The findings also identify the necessity for more differentiated professional care provision; for example, the increasing age of informal carers requires the establishment of support structures adapted to the needs of this age group. Structures of informal care provision are combined with preferences and attitudes, which indicates that, in countries with strong preferences for family care, feelings of over-reliance can often be found. Finally, the employment status of informal carers offers interesting insights into the interdependent impact of long-term care provision on employment. Here, even the role of the socio-economic status of the carers should be taken into account. European compari-

sons show that informal care-giving, above all its degree of intensity, is related to socioeconomic status and based on this to social vulnerabilities (see Costa and Ranci [2010]).

After setting the scene, the volume addresses the question of whether publicly supported home care is coping with an ageing society in the countries compared. At first glance, international comparative statistics answer the question affirmatively: the share of older people receiving formal home care services has remained the same (or even increased) since the 1990s. Even with different home care approaches in place the percentage of older people is similar, and a similar balance is observed between home-based care and institutional care. For example, direct public provision of care services in the Nordic countries, in-kind services based on social insurance regulations in Israel, a mix of care packages and support to carers in UK, and a cash allowance system in Austria may achieve the goal.

To be cared for at home is the first preference of the elderly in Europe, although the role of the family is also emphasised in southern European countries, and a balance between family care provision, professional care services, or a personal carer can be found in western European and the Nordic countries. The detailed analysis of public support focuses on the diversity of arrangements of cash for care allowances, the regulation thereof, its role in care provision, quantitative significance, its impact on the labour market supply of informal carers, and the emergence of migrant carers. The report provides a very interesting and informative overview of this recent trend on long-term care support. By contrast, professional service provision, its organisation, regulation, or quantitative significance is omitted. Finally, the gender dimension of home care provision is statistically scrutinised. The findings indicate that the higher life expectancy of women and the higher prevalence of dementia and se-

vere activity limitation are behind the higher take-up rates of home-based care benefits for women. The gendered living situation, on the other hand, in particular living alone in old age, impacts on the take up rates of institutional care. The detailed analysis of residential care use showed this significant and interrelated impact of gender, age, and the living situation on the use of this type of services.

The final chapter focuses on the public and private funding of long-term care and provides some fresh, interesting insights. At the beginning, spending levels for long-term care are compared and reveal that different approaches, such as the emphasis on in-kind services or cash payments, may result in expenses reaching the same level. Interestingly, even the age structure of a society is not decisive for the level of spending. The spending levels are dependent on the generosity of public benefits related to the mix of public and private funding. Based on this, very inspiring cross-country comparisons on the impact of the age structure, generosity, type of benefit and regulations were calculated. Comparative statistics tend to reveal a trade-off between the generosity of payments and the number of individuals who benefit and the beneficiaries' distribution on dependency levels. There is a visible trend in the mix of public and private funding of care provision that is related to the significance of residential care for public and private funding. In contrast, unpaid informal care provision within home care is pointed out as a significant cost factor, which is not visible in the studies on the mix of private and public funding.

Besides a comprehensive international comparative database which can be used in research or policy planning, the data analysis and the explanation deliver fresh insights into the complex area of long-term care. This concerns in particular the detailed analysis of cash payment systems and their outcomes and the gender perspective and its combination with age, liv-

ing-situation, disability, etc. However, some dimensions of long-term care have been neglected in this volume and should be added in the next edition. This is a detailed analysis of professional care services, the situation of the professional carers, and the impact of socio-economic inequality. Moreover, a short introduction to the main home care approaches presented in the appendix would facilitate a better understanding of the role of cash allowances in the context of further public support structures and provide an overview of them.

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Hynek Jeřábek and Petr Soukup (eds.):
Advanced Lazarsfeldian Methodology
Prague, 2008: Karolinum Press, Charles University, 248 pp.

This book introduces the methodological innovations of one of the best empirical sociologists of the 20th century – Paul Lazarsfeld. It consists of two parts and nine chapters. The first part describes Lazarsfeld's theoretical concepts, the methodological innovations that are based on them, and the advanced statistical techniques that are frequently used in contemporary social data analysis such as multilevel modelling and latent class analysis. The second part

of the book presents selected empirical applications based on Lazarsfeld's methodology. Some of the chapters introduce readers to unorthodox uses of Lazarsfeld's methodology. The empirical data used in this part of the book originated in Lazarsfeld's own research or in studies on the contemporary Czech population.

In Chapter 1, Hynek Jeřábek describes the logic of Lazarsfeld's methodology and the importance of the methodology importance for contemporary social science research and data analysis. Readers are acquainted with each methodological innovation made by Lazarsfeld and how this helped empirical sociological research to become a part of sociology as an academic discipline. Latent structure analysis, which is highlighted here as his most important methodological innovation, was elaborated into latent class analysis in the 1980s. Readers are also introduced to Lazarsfeld's analysis of contingency tables, developed as a log-linear analysis in the 1970s. The chapter then goes on to explain contextual analysis (the building block of hierarchical linear models), followed by panel analysis, focus interviews and focus groups, and the combination of quantitative and qualitative approaches that Lazarsfeld advocated.

The subsequent chapters select different methodological innovations and describe them in full. In Chapter 2, Michal Osuský writes about social network analysis and presents an empirical analysis of students at the Faculty of Arts of Charles University in Prague. The analysis reveals how roles and positions in a social network among small groups of students can be identified when data on simple question 'Who do you know?' are available. Since, in some respects, these findings are similar to Jacob Moreno's sociometric studies in the 1950s, the difference between this type of analysis and sociometric analysis ought to have been discussed by the author. The chapter also lacks a general discussion of social network analysis and a theoretical