

Knowledge for Ageing Society – Contextualising Ageing

Book of Abstracts



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INTERGENERATIONAL SOCIAL NETWORKS IN AN AGING CITY -
CONTINUITY AND INNOVATION 2016-2020, APVV 15- 0184



COMENIUS UNIVERSITY IN BRATISLAVA

Knowledge for Ageing Society – Contextualising Ageing

book of abstracts

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Keynote speakers

Lucie VIDOVIČOVÁ

Klaus ROTHERMUND

Lucie VIDOVIČOVÁ, June 28, 9:00 – 9:50

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The Grandmother: idyllic rurality & idyllic grandmotherhood

This presentation discusses the ways in which a literary character from *The Grandmother: A story of country life in Bohemia*, written in 1855 by Božena Němcová, sometimes compared to Louisa May Alcott's *Little Women* (1868) in American literature, is translated into the contemporary conceptualization of the 'typical' grandmother in popular culture and an archetype in the sociological meaning of the word, and how it serves as a frame of reference for narrative expressions of identity among contemporary Czech grandmothers. The results are based on the analysis of cultural production and qualitative interviews with Czech active agers, who connect the literary character both positively and negatively to changing performance of social roles via everyday practices such as food preparation, care, and appearance. The rurality provides an important contextual and spatial framework of the activities the Grandmother engages in and provides an additional layer of meanings of the ageing experience. The paper includes discussion on existing typologies of grandparental roles and shows how the normativity of the ideal operates within the narrative accounts of today's young-old persons, and what impact it has for understanding of rural ageing.

Acknowledgement:

The presentation is supported by the Czech Scientific Agency Grant No. 16-20873S "Rural Ageing: unanswered question(s) in the environmental gerontology" and is based on the chapter prepared for the volume: Timonen, V. (Ed.) Grandparenting practices around the world. Bristol: Policy Press (2018) co-authored with Lucie Galčanová.

Mgr. **Lucie Vidovičová**, PhD is a sociologist, researcher at the Office for Population Studies at the Faculty of Social Studies, Masaryk University in Brno, Czech Republic. She has a long-term research interest in the sociology of ageing, age discrimination, attitudes towards ageing, active ageing, and age mainstreaming. She has been conducting research for national as well as European bodies and is also involved in research projects of the Research Institute for Labour and Social Affairs in the field of ageing, family and social policy. She works as a consultant on a number of implementation (NGO's) projects such as Ageing in the media and Teaching about ageing, and cooperates with different governmental and NGO bodies in the field of senior advocacy.

Klaus ROTHERMUND, June 27, 14:10 – 15:00

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Getting what you expect? How age-related beliefs shape behaviour and development

When we reflect about old age and ageing, our thoughts are sometimes fraught with negative associations and expectations: No-one wants to be old; “feeling old” is almost synonymous with “feeling bad”. Importantly, these negative aspects of old age may appear to be something that happens to us as an unavoidable implication of our biological nature. In contrast to this popular and common opinion, I will argue that ageing is not a biological necessity but instead is a result of individual and social constructions. By implication, ageing is not a uniform thing but is extremely diverse and variable: It differs hugely between individuals and societies. Even within a single person, ageing typically has many different faces, some of which may be negative, whereas others are clearly positive. From where do these differences in actual ageing originate, and how can they be explained? The core thesis of my talk is that our beliefs and expectations with regard to old age and ageing act like self-fulfilling prophecies that shape our behaviour and development in such a way that our own ageing will tend to confirm our previous beliefs. In my talk, I will present selected results of an ongoing international research project on the topic of “Ageing as Future” in which we repeatedly collected data for individuals of different age groups living in Germany, the US, and Hong Kong across a longitudinal interval of five years. Our findings indicate that views on ageing are complex and multidimensional and vary systematically between and within individuals. Views on ageing shape our personal self-views as we become older and they taint our attitudes toward living in old age. By influencing the motivation to prepare for age-related changes in different life domains, views on ageing have an impact on our behaviour and development. Through these mechanisms, views on ageing eventually result in the occurrence of corresponding life events and influence our life satisfaction accordingly. In closing, I will discuss implications of our findings for promoting “successful ageing” for individuals and societies.

Prof. Dr. **Klaus Rothermund**, 1985 – 1991 studies in Psychology and Philosophy; 1998 PhD in Psychology with a dissertation on “Persistence and re-orientation: Mechanisms of maintaining and dissolving goal-related attentional sets”; 2003 habilitation on “Development, action regulation, and cognitive information processing”. 1992 – 2004 scientific researcher, PostDoc, Assistant Professor and Associate Professor at the University of Trier, Germany; 2003 – 2004 Professor for Developmental Psychology at Saarland University in Saarbrücken, Germany; since 2004 Chair of General Psychology at FSU Jena, Germany.

Research interests:

Ageing research; life-span development; self-regulation; cognitive mechanisms of action control; social cognition; implicit measures of attitudes, motivation, and emotion.

Ines AMARAL
Perla BARTALOŠOVÁ
Alexandra BITUŠÍKOVÁ
Marta BOTÍKOVÁ
Petra CHOVANCOVÁ
Petra EZZEDDINE
Jaroslava HASMANOVÁ MARHÁNKOVÁ
Júlia HOLAŇOVÁ
Vladimír IRA
Loredana IVAN
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Martina SEKULOVÁ
Karel SCHMIEDLER
Katharine SCHULMANN
Pavel ŠUŠKA
Michal UHRIN
Ľubica VOLANSKÁ

Ines AMARAL, June 28, session 2

Universidade do Minho, Centro de Estudos de Comunicação e Sociedade, Instituto Superior Miguel Torga, Portugal, inesamaral@gmail.com

Active ageing and social media: an intergenerational approach

Societal narratives arise from shared social constructions that corroborate social discourse about a given subject or object. Social representations endorse the image that society creates about people, objects, and events. The process of construction of social representations is social because it happens in a particular social context and determining composed of ideologies, values and shared social categorisation systems through communication and social interaction; it also produces and translates social relations. The changing nature and transformation of society leads to the construction of shared social representations associated with a collective identity, making the media an element of social connection. A multiplicity of discourses propagated by the media and digital media systematically create and recreate identities about social groups producing social representations anchored to stereotypes. The Internet constitutes a world of mediated social interactions, where communication is decontextualised several times for the distribution to the disaggregated. Practices within the new social tools demonstrate individual based behaviour that occurs in online networks. The new computer-mediated communication platforms and social media are used to create bonds and social capital from decontextualised social representations. The concepts of user-generated content and user-generated media make it possible to maximise the notion of participation on the Internet through the formation of social networks. In the context of this kind of structure, threaded networks and hashtag networks are essential for understanding the development of new practices and, therefore, relationships based on content streaming's, designed by appropriations of social representations. Conversations on social networks and social media platforms enable the analysis of content systems, interactions and social representations based on the perspective of distributed outputs that induces collective consumption. This paper maps social representations of old age through the appropriation of social media tools, analysed from a digital storytelling perspective across images published in Instagram platform using semantic indexing techniques. A dataset of Instagram images drawn through the hashtag #aavoveiotrabalhar, which is connected to an intergenerational active ageing project, will be analysed. The main aims are to identify dominant discourses and to understand if it is possible to generate engagement from the deconstruction of age and gender stereotypes. The results reveal that the dominant discourse present in the 500 analysed posts is related to the ideas of empowerment, stereotype deconstruction and promotion of active ageing. In an age where the notion of ageing is changing, with powerful social and individual impacts, digital discourse is a significant socio communicational factor in social change. Images and representations of old age are social constructions in a constant state of change, related to socioeconomic and political contexts, and the collective digital narratives have the same influence on the self- and hetero- categorisation of the elderly as the offline discourses. This perspective explains how the digital discourse can transform the social representations of old age and participate in the creation of new identities and social relations that compel a change in the concept of ageing held by contemporary societies.

Inês Amaral (PhD in Communication Sciences, by the University of Minho, in 2012) is a Lecturer in the Miguel Torga Institute, serving as Vice-President of the Scientific Council and as scientific coordinator of the Graduation Degree in Multimedia. She teaches in the field of Digital Communication. Inês is a researcher of the Communication and Society Research Centre (University of Minho).

Inês Amaral has developed research on sociability in online social networks, audiences, digital inclusion and active ageing, social networks, participation and social media, media and digital literacy. She is currently a member of three COST Actions: IS1402 – Ageism from a Multi-National, Interdisciplinary Perspective; CA15122 Reducing Old-Age Social Exclusion: Collaborations in Research and Policy; and IS1401ELN Strengthening Europeans' capabilities by establishing the European literacy network. Member of the IAMCR, ECREA, INSNA and SOPCOM, she is co-founder of the Portuguese Association of Training and Distance Learning. Currently, Inês is a researcher of the project Media in Action (funding by the European Commission).

Perla BARTALOŠOVÁ, poster session

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Methods of depicting seniors in scientific literature

In this paper I analyse literature from various disciplines, which characterise seniors. I am looking at the ways older adults in scientific literature are depicted. I identify two streams. One of them is dominated by the ageist, stereotyped depictions of the elderly, and in the other, and the representation of seniors, in which an effort is made for the unstereotyped stylisation of the elderly, when it comes to the forefront of the image of the senior as an individual being with different characteristics. The paper will be presented in the form of a poster.

Dr. **Perla Bartalošová** obtained in 2015 a master's degree in the study programme Slovak Language and Literature by defending the diploma thesis Foreignness/Otherness in the Slovak Language and Cultural Environment. Application to sexual minorities discourse (supervisor: Prof. Oľga Orgoňová, CSc). Since 2015 she has been working in Ľ. Štúr Institute of Linguistics of the Slovak Academy of Sciences, and her doctoral thesis deals with the Language of Seniors in Sociolinguistics (supervisor: Prof. PhDr. Slavomír Ondrejovič, DrSc.). In 2017 she defended her rigorous work on Xenodiscourse on Hungarians, Roma and Hungarian-Roma in Slovakia (consultant: Prof. PhDr. Oľga Orgoňová, CSc.). Her professional interests include: social constructivism, foreignness/otherness and interdisciplinarity.

Alexandra BITUŠÍKOVÁ, June 27, session 2

Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica, Faculty of Arts, Department of Social Studies and Ethnology, Slovakia, alexandra.bitusikova@umb.sk

Smart city strategies and ageing: harmony or conflict?

Smart city is a rather new concept that aspires to use new technologies addressing public issues with the aim to find best solutions for all. People first, not technologies - that is a common rhetoric of numerous smart city strategies. Is that really true? Smart city strategies tend to bring benefits to urban people by improving the quality of their life; protecting the environment and reducing energy uses; strengthening safety, mobility and accessibility; improving the economy; and ensuring the empowerment and engagement of citizens in urban governance at all levels; however, it is all conditioned by using high-technologies. When talking about improving lives of citizens, it means serving all citizens including older people - people who often feel marginalised or even lost in the world of IT technologies. Smart city strategies should aim to achieve age-friendly societies. The paper explores the relationship between the smart city strategies and ageing in Slovakia. Due to lack of good examples in the country it brings inspiring examples from other countries that could be applicable in local conditions.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. **Alexandra Bitusikova**, PhD. is associate professor in ethnology and Vice-Rector for Research at Matej Bel University in Banska Bystrica, Slovakia, and a senior researcher at the Institute of Ethnology, Slovak Academy of Sciences in Bratislava, Slovakia. In 2001-2008 she worked in the European Commission, DG Research, and in the European University Association in Brussels. She was research fellow at Cambridge University, University College London and Boston University (Fulbright). Her research interests include urban studies, cultural heritage, post-socialist transformation in Central Europe, social movements, diversity, identity and gender. She has published a number of scientific papers and books and has participated in many research projects (mainly FP5, FP6, FP7, H2020). Since 2012 she has been a national delegate for social sciences and humanities in FP7 and now in H2020.

Marta BOTÍKOVÁ, June 28, session 2

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How do we speak about age and ageing?

How do we speak about age and ageing? According to Franz Boas, language plays a crucial role in culture and thus should be studied by ethnologists. This idea, coming from one of the founding fathers of the American cultural anthropology, inspired me to re-read and listen to the speech of everyday talks to find out how ageing is reflected by my respondents in their biographical narrations. My research partners were mostly older people, who reflected their age and compared their own situation with their parents' and grandparents' ageing. Their speech reflects the cultural and historical context. I am looking for stable and changing phenomena within this context. An overview of phrases, words and idioms, which were collected in various linguistic collections, could be a starting point of the comparison, even though it is clear that the historical context in which those were used have changed. I intend to analyse a few properly documented examples of everyday talk – as presented in biographical narrations, as well as in other ethnographic research material collected since the turn of the century in Slovak towns and villages. Using the interpretative method I am going to challenge an assumption, that linguistic representation of ageing changes through time drawing/allowing/connecting more activities for ageing people than it used to be one or two generations before. Another assumption concerns parts of speech (kinship terms, calling/addressing relatives, others?) which preserve conservative historically older layers of speech. Some of the themes as well as social surroundings (and may be other facts?) create a connection with historically older ways of speaking about age and ageing and I would like to argue why and where is this situation rooted? My assumption is that speaking about relations and activities within family life are probably more conservative than other ties, connected with broader social life of ageing people.

The presentation is supported by the VEGA Grant 1/0225/17 From Family Ecotype to Sociotype in Regional Perspective.

Prof. PhDr. **Marta Botiková**, CSc. Full Professor at the Department of Ethnology and Museology, Faculty of Arts, Comenius University, Bratislava, Slovak Republic. Studied ethnography/ethnology (B.A.1978, M.A./PhDr. 1980, PhD/CSc. 1986) in Bratislava. She worked at the Institute for Social Development and Labour (1986), at the Department for Slovaks Abroad (1986-1988) and at the Biographical Institute of the Slovak National Library (1989). She has been working at the Faculty of Arts of the UK since 1990, both teaching and serving in academic positions, as a Vice-Dean (1994-1995) and a Head of the Department of Ethnology (2003 - 2015). In 1995/96, and 2011 Fulbright visiting scholar in the U.S.A. In her teaching and research, she deals with issues of family and gender, ethnic issues and migrations. She is the author, co-author and editor of monographs, studies and popularizing ethnological works, member of scientific boards and committees.

Petra CHOVANCOVÁ, June 28, session 4

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Ageing in gender-oriented research in Liptov villages

The paper, which I would like to present at the Knowledge for Ageing Society - Contextualising Ageing Conference is based on the assembled oral history interviews in the northern Slovak region of Liptov. The interviews were conducted with female narrators between the ages of 60 and 90. Major objectives of the research were to document the customs, attitudes, views and way of life of the women in the chosen area. I did not concentrate only on the subject of the interviews (what is remembered), but also on the way they spoke about their history (how it is remembered). In these terms I would like to speak about their biographical experience with changing (was it really changing?) everyday life routine, their status and possibilities according to their position in the (local) society. One of the significant features of the research was the age of my narrators and their gender. In this paper I would like to look closer at these two characteristics – age and gender. How were these categories significant for the research participants and if or how were they significant for the research project as well.

Mgr. **Petra Chovancová**, Ph.D works as assistant for education and research at the Department of Cultural studies at the Faculty of Arts at Comenius University in Bratislava. She gained her PhD study from the Department of cultural theory at the Faculty of Arts at Charles University in Prague. Her subjects in humanities and research field are oral history, social and cultural anthropology, history of Slovak cultural identity, cultural geography and gender studies.

Petra EZZEDDINE, June 27, session 3

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"Women in Between": Ageing in Migration

The paper is based on the analysis of migration policies (the migration apparatus) and biographical interviews with women with refugee experience from the former Yugoslavia, aged 50+, who have already been living in the Czech Republic for more than twenty years. The research covers a long time period of life in migration, which has allowed us to show that the refugee experience of women is not linear but cyclical, gaining new significances at various stages of women's lives, in various social contexts and transnational environments. I will focus on ageing and entrance into retirement age, when the women find themselves under a double pressure: they are trying to safeguard their own position in the workplace and at the same time to meet the normative gender commitments (traditionally expected from women in the country of origin) regarding transnational care of seniors. I will argue here, that national social policies do not reckon with the mobility of citizens and their transnational lives (including care practises) and social rights. What we see here, instead, is the territorialisation of social rights, which puts elderly women with refugee experience in a vulnerable social situation "here" and "there".

Petra Ezzeddine, PhD, is a social anthropologist and an assistant professor at the Department of Anthropology and Gender Studies, Faculty of Humanities, Charles University in Prague. Her research focuses on migration, transnational care practices and transnational motherhood, globalization of care for children and seniors, women migrant domestic workers and ageing and migration. She held a visiting research fellowship at Hebrew University in Israel and has had other scholarships such as the Erste Fellowship for Social Scientists (Vienna) and Sasakawa Scholarship for Young Leaders (Goethe University in Frankfurt am Main). She is a Research fellow in the scientific programme Global Conflicts and Local Interactions- Strategy AV21 (Czech Academy of Science). She has published in domestic and international journals, and in her applied research activities she has worked for several non-governmental organizations and international organizations that work with migrants. She is a member of the editorial board of the scientific journal *Gender@Research*.

Jaroslava HASMANOVÁ MARHÁNKOVÁ, June 27, session 4

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Intimate relationships formed in later life – negotiating "pure relationship"

This paper focuses on older generations and partnership unions formed in later stages of life-biography. We use a mixed-method design that combines analysis of surveys organized under the Generations and Gender Programme and data from in-depth interviews. In the quantitative part of the analysis, we use logistic and multinomial logistic regression to model singlehood, type of union among the partnered, and intentions to change the partnership arrangement. The analysis reveals that establishing new intimate relationships after the age of 50 is a relatively rare experience. The elderly people are less prone to intend to change their partnership arrangement whatever it is and no matter when it was formed and report lower inclination towards institutionalization of partnership union. Partnerships formed after the age of 50 are specific and differ from the early ones formed by members of the same age group and also from the relationships of the young respondents. The second part of the paper used the analysis of 10 in-depth interviews with people aged 60 and older who have established new intimate relationships after the age of 50 to understand this specific dynamic of later life partnership formation. The analysis explores how participants relate to their new partnership with respect to their previous biography. A strong emphasis on individualism and the philosophy of self-fulfilment was identified in the narratives of later life intimate relationships. Older age as a phase of life opens up a specific opportunity to experience relationships without some of the external demands that may have significantly influenced the partnership biography in previous phases of life (such as working and parental responsibilities). Relationships in later life and older people in general have been largely ignored in the study of changing patterns of intimacy in current western society. Our paper, however, points out that the principles of what Anthony Giddens calls "confluent love" strongly resonates in the narratives of re-partnering in older age.

Jaroslava Hasmanová Marhánková, Ph.D. is an assistant professor of Sociology at the University of West Bohemia (Czech Republic). Her long-term research interest focuses on the sociology of ageing and gender. In her latest projects she focused on the topic of grandparenting in the Czech society and on the concepts of active ageing and different life-styles of Czech seniors with a particular focus on the intersection of gender and age. She published monographs *Activity as a Project: The Discourse of Active Ageing and Its Reflections in the Lives of Czech Seniors* (2013) and *Grandparenting in Current Czech Society* (forthcoming 2018). Her current research project funded by the Czech Science Foundation focuses on the intimate relationships in later life. She is also collaborating in the international project Ageing as Future as the coordinator for the Czech Republic.

Júlia HOLAŇOVÁ, poster session

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Old age with assistance: Ethnological Aspects of Institutional Care

The aim of the topic is to find out the influence of the institution on the surviving of old age. My goals are (1.) to find out how the institution (retirements homes) creates space and environment for their clients and (2.) find out how space and environment are perceived by the clients themselves, while the space includes the physical level and environment includes the mental level. Therefore, I focus on the representation and reflection of the actors. An important part of the work consists of participative research methods - transect walk/walking interview, diary (narratives), camera work and creating maps. The output of this work is to contribute to the discussion about institutional care for the oldest generation, also to create a visual output (film, photo) that would bring the subject closer to the wider public.

Júlia Holaňová obtained her bachelor's and master's degree at Comenius University in Bratislava. From 2017 she is a PhD student at the Institute of Ethnology of the Slovak Academy of Sciences. Within the PhD programme, she cooperates on VEGA Project 2/0050/16, 2016-2019 Application of Innovative Approaches in Ethnology / Social Anthropology in Slovakia and Project APVV-15-0184, 2016-2020 Intergenerational Social Networks in Ageing Cities, Continuity and Innovation

Loredana IVAN, June 27, session 1

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Older Audiences and Digital Media in Romania

The present study is part of a longitudinal survey on the way older people are using traditional and new media in six different countries. We summarised the findings from the first wave from Romania. A Computer Assisted Telephone Interview technique has been used to collect the data. The sample is representative for the online population of people 60 years old and above living in Romania. The results show that TV is the most important media channel for this age group, followed by radio. Also, we can talk about a specialization of media use for older people, with television and the television set playing a central role, followed by radio (and radio set), whereas newspapers and magazines are accessed both online and offline. One important incentive for older people to go online and try different mediated communication options, is to share their life routine with family and friends. While Internet becomes a communication medium used all over the place, older people preferred using it in their own private homes. The study also indicates the important role of mediated communication in the interpersonal communication mechanisms of older people. Keywords: 60+ Internet users; Romania; CATI survey; Internet; mobile communication; media consumption; digital media versus traditional media.

Loredana Ivan is associate professor at The National University of Political Studies and Public Administration (SNSPA), Communication Department, Bucharest, Romania. She is teaching topics related to Interpersonal Communication and Interpersonal Communication Mediated by Technologies. She is part of the Ageing Communication Technologies project (<http://actproject.ca/>) based in Canada and co-applicant of the ACT project research grant. She is also part of the COST ACTION IS1402 Ageism - a multi-national, interdisciplinary perspective. Loredana Ivan was a Marie Curie scholar (2003-2004) at the University of Groningen, Interuniversity Center for Methodology (ICS) and visiting researcher at Humboldt University in Berlin, Department of Social and Organizational Psychology (2012-2013). She is the author of *Cele mai importante 20 de secunde* (The most important 20 seconds, 2009) and co-editor of two other books in the nonverbal communication area.

Andrzej KLIMCZUK, June 28, session 3

Warsaw School of Economics, Warsaw, Poland, klimczukandrzej@gmail.com

Engagement of Older People in Co-Production of Public Policies and Services

This paper will focus on examining selected ideas related to the creative ageing movement and policy. It will introduce the best practices from the international and national levels related to the co-production and social investment policies. The central thesis of the proposed paper is that the roots of the creative ageing movement and policy are derived mainly from the countries characterised by Anglo-Saxon capitalism and the liberal model of the welfare state. Selected examples of initiatives from the United States, the United Kingdom, the Republic of Ireland, and Australia will be described. The paper will also provide the main findings from a comparison of these practices with cases from the states of the European Union (EU) and the Asia-Pacific region. The first part of the paper will focus on the dilemmas of combining various socioeconomic systems to generate benefits and positive outcomes for ageing populations. Thus, joining strengths of the silver economy, the creative economy, and the social and solidarity economy in fostering seniors' activity and creativity will be underlined. The second part of the paper will elaborate on the common points of a life course perspective on social investment policies and the recent achievements in the policy design cycle of ageing policies. The paper will show that these public policies increasingly include collaborative innovation (e.g., co-production) with relevant stakeholders such as ageing interest groups and movements. Moreover, selected points from debates about management stages and the inputs, outputs, outcomes, and impact of the ageing policy will be presented. Selected examples of older citizens' empowerment will cover ageing services and healthcare programmes; arts, education, and community building programmes; and creativity and innovation programmes (e.g., senior entrepreneurship programmes, age-friendly cities and communities, and volunteer schemes). The summary will include recommendations for entities of socioeconomic policy at the EU and national levels and suggestions for future-oriented research directions.

Andrzej Klimczuk, is an Independent Researcher and Social Policy Consultant at the Collegium of Socio-Economics at Warsaw School of Economics, Poland. His research focuses on gerontology, labour economics, public management, and social policy. He has more than 150 publications including 66 chapters in books and 23 chapters in 11 encyclopaedias. He has published academic articles in both Polish and English in sociology and economics journals, and his most recent publications include *Social Capital of Old People on the Example of Bialystok Residents* (in Polish), *Experts and Cultural Narcissism*, *Ageing in the Social Space* (co-authored with Ł. Tomczyk), *Economic Foundations for Creative Ageing Policy* (the two-volume set), and *Generations, Intergenerational Relationships, Generational Policy* (co-edited with K. Lüscher and M. Sanchez).

Jiehua LU, June 28, session 3

Peking University, Department of Sociology, Peking, China, lujiehua@pku.edu.cn

A Study on the Changing Trend of the Major Health Indicators of the Elderly in Mainland China: 1998-2014

Along with the extending average life expectancy and the declining fertility rate in the past decades, mainland China has experienced a very rapid process of population ageing. Therefore, this study uses Chinese Longitudinal Healthy Longevity Survey (CLHLS) data to measure and estimate the changing process of some key health indicators of the elderly in mainland China. By exploring seven waves of data including some principal indicators about the elderly health, such as Activities of Daily Living (ADL), Self-Rated-Health (SRH), Mental Health (Mental), Cognitive Level (MMSE) and Frailty Index (FI), this study highlights the dynamic change of major health indicators of Chinese elderly between 1998-2014. Firstly, some findings show that average health indicators in earlier years have no significant difference between the later ones. Further analysis about health indicators showed that age and cohort are two main interference factors to estimate the changing trend of health status of the elderly because of selectivity. After controlling these two factors, we can gauge deterioration in health index when the elderly are growing older. In addition, the health levels of people in similar cohorts decrease with age. Objective and comprehensive indicators in younger cohorts deteriorate slower than older elderly cohort. However, this trend shows the opposite when it comes to subjective health indicators.

Jiehua Lu, Ph. D, is a professor of the Department of Sociology, Peking University, and also deputy director of the Center for Healthy Ageing and Development Studies, Peking University. His research areas include gerontology, economics of population, and interaction between population and environment. Dr. Lu has been the principal investigator for more than ten key projects and has published more than 70 academic papers, including “Desired living arrangements of the elderly: the case of Beijing, Shanghai, Tianjin, and Chongqing”, “Rapid population ageing in Mainland China: Challenges and Solutions”, “Determinants affecting longevity at county level in China”, etc.

Juraj MAJO, Marcela KÁČEROVÁ, poster session

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How we in Slovakia are ageing into faith – some intergenerational changes of religious affiliation

This paper focuses on the changing religious affiliation values in Slovakia in older ages. General trends of growing religious affiliation due to religious socialisation was confirmed; according to ISSP census, the majority of the 60+ is the generation with the highest proportion of declared religious affiliation in the population. We discussed the issues of religious socialization and intergenerational transmission, because in Slovakia 74 % of “no religious affiliation” are so since their childhood. This indicates quite a high intensity of conversion and dropouts in Slovakia during the life-cycle.

Religiosity levels are analysed using more specific data on religious faith from ISSP among the oldest generation. The faith is not composition of dogmatic religious views but is also formed by alternative religious views – such as belief in horoscopes, fortune tellers and so on.

The most interesting generation in this transformation are the baby-boomers. They are the ones who entered the secularizing process most intensely; especially, if we compare the previous generations. We can see the “ruptures” of the proportion of no affiliation /affiliated in both countries in these age groups (40-49 in 2001 and 50-59 in 2011). The process of changing religiosity among this generation is not unique, as we try to provide several examples from the U.S., United Kingdom, and Netherlands.

The poster is supported by the APVV Grant 15-0184 - Intergenerational social networks in an aging city - continuity and innovation.

Juraj Majo, PhD. is an assistant professor at the Department of Human Geography and Demography at the Comenius University in Bratislava. His scientific and teaching activities are aimed at cultural geography, geography and demography of ethnic and religious groups, thematic cartography. He has authored and co-authored several monographs, historical atlases and papers.

Mgr. Marcela Káčerová, PhD. works as assistant professor at the Department of Human Geography and Demography Faculty of Natural Sciences of Comenius University in Bratislava. In 2009, she received her PhD degree. She was co-worker in several scientific projects and co-authored several maps in "Population Atlas of Slovakia". She focusses on the study of demographic processes and structures with special emphasis on population ageing.

Brigitte MÖLLER, poster session

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Translating difference as culture? Care for elderly Turkish migrants in Vienna and Amsterdam

The human population is ageing rapidly on a global scale. In the coming years, immigrants to Europe are expected to constitute a larger part of the ageing population. Since the 1960s, Austria and the Netherlands have been recruiting guest-workers from Turkey to rebuild the countries after the war. Consequently, in Vienna and Amsterdam, people of Turkish origin are one of the largest non-EU immigrant groups. My PhD-project aims to focus its research on these so-called 'first-generation' Turkish migrants in Vienna and Amsterdam who are now approaching the 'old age'. Heterogeneity amongst care-receivers is still rarely noticed by health-care domains. There is a deficit of research on elderly migrants, while its significance is growing. A migration background can play a distinctive role in elderly care experiences and efficacy. This might consist of important subtle notions – an implicit comprehension of culture and a variety of perceptions about 'old age' – which my project tries to unravel through ethnographic research and by embedding a comparison of two demographic locations as a heuristic tool. Care practices do not exist merely because of institutional regulations but are actively (re)created on a daily basis. The interpretative focus of ethnographic research contributes in an innovative way to the inquiry of a 'translation' of 'cultural differences' (e.g. language, religion, country of origin, aspects of gender, etc.) in the universalistic approaches of care policies, with which health facilities tend to work. I will try to understand processes of meaning-making in relation to diversity in care. I aim to do this by looking at whether or not and how 'cultural differences' are negotiated and (re)produced by both care-givers and care-receivers in encounters of need assessment, matching clients with service providers, and in the actual delivery of care. Furthermore, I study the impacts of these processes on the elderly migrants. My project does not presuppose the existence of an absolute 'culture'. It rather asks how culture is understood by different actors as a meaningful category, implemented through care practices and thereby (re)produced. The research will offer the possibility to generate new knowledge about the ageing process, but also to gain theoretical insights into social organizations at the intersection of care and migration. Studying care enables an investigation into the dynamic linkages between practices of care and their structural and ideological context. The project is situated within the framework provided by the recent anthropological research that aims to critically analyse how notions of culture emerge within social life, how they are used and what effect this has.

Brigitte Möller received her BA degree and MA degree in (medical) anthropology from the University of Amsterdam. She is now a PhD candidate at the department of Social and Cultural Anthropology of the University of Vienna. Her project includes the topics of ageing, health care and migration within Vienna and Amsterdam. She will particularly focus on the care for elderly Turkish migrants. The aim of her research is to look at if and how 'differences' are translated/interpreted/negotiated as culture in health care settings by both care-givers and care-receivers. She hopes to gain insights in the social organization at the intersection of care and migration.

Slavomír ONDOŠ, Alena ROCHOVSKÁ, poster session

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Searching for key topics in the memories of seniors with Alzheimer's disease

An increasing share of the retired population in the ageing process of developed populations affects all age categories and social segments. Society adapts to the situation through the necessary changes in social areas, and the growing importance of social care and associated services. The quality of life in older age is influenced by a number of factors, including the quality of social networks. Decreased frequency, intensity and diversity of interpersonal interactions lead to social exclusion. Loneliness is, according to research, the most serious concern in the senior generation. It is potentially responsible for pathological phenomena associated with higher age, and manifests itself in both psychic and physical conditions. People are withdrawn from participation in economic activities and everyday life of the family. It is a factor that goes beyond the understanding of an individual with a certain biological predisposition, family history or lifestyle. This paper investigates the trajectory towards the senior age in people suffering from Alzheimer's disease. We focus on their memories and their interpretation, reflection of time and place in stories of changing relationships. We provide an overview of literature between the social and medical aspects of ageing and the changing meaning of gradually lost memories. The findings are verified on a qualitative probe of five patients diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease.

The poster is supported by the APVV Grant 15-0184 - Intergenerational social networks in an aging city - continuity and innovation.

Slavomír Ondoš is a researcher at the Faculty of Natural Sciences, Comenius University in Bratislava. He is involved in processes creating structural and dynamic phenomena in society based on human interaction networks, both in physical and virtual space. He is interested in technological and social innovation, creation, sharing and application of knowledge. He studied human geography at Comenius University in Bratislava.

Alena Rochovská is a scientific researcher at Comenius University in Bratislava, Department of Human Geography and Demography. Previously she worked as a Research Fellow at Queen Mary, University of London on the ESRC-funded project on 'Social Exclusion, Spaces of Household Economic Practice and Post-Socialism'. She has published widely on the feminisation of poverty, feminist geography, and the geographies of social inequality in Slovakia.

Zuzana SEKERÁKOVÁ - BÚRIKOVÁ, June 28, session 1

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Choosing the right age group?: Intersectional analysis of demand for paid domestic workers in Slovakia

Drawing upon interviews with paid carers and their employers undertaken in Bratislava and Banská Bystrica between the years 2013 -2015, this article focuses on employment of paid domestic workers (nannies, babysitters, and cleaners) in Slovakia. This research focuses on the situation, which is globally unusual: unlike in Slovakia, where paid domestic workers are local women paid domestic work is generally undertaken mostly by migrant women or women coded as ethnically other. In general, employment of paid domestic work operates on the base of ethnic hierarchies: women belonging to particular ethnic groups are seen as more or less suitable domestic workers. Analysing demand for nannies, babysitters and cleaners in Slovakia, this article argues that employers of local paid domestic workers do not use ethnicity but age as connoting particular qualities considered as necessary for undertaking paid care or housework. In particular, specific age groups are seen as more or less suitable for doing particular type of paid domestic work (e.g. cleaning, daily care for an infant, babysitting). After describing in detail how employers categorise paid domestic workers according to their age, I will reveal that in decisions whom to employ the age does not operate as an isolated individual category. Rather, it operates in intersection with other categories such as gender and can be understood only when we adopt an intersectional perspective.

Zuzana Sekeráková Búriková, PhD, teaches social anthropology at the Department of Sociology, Faculty of Social Sciences, Masaryk University (Brno, Czech Republic). Together with Daniel Miller she published the book *Au pair* (Polity 2010) on experience of Slovak au pairs and their host families in London. Her second book *Doing Cleaning and Childcare: Paid domestic work in Slovakia* was published by Muni Press in 2017.

Martina SEKULOVÁ, June 27, session 3

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Institutional impacts of care migration directed towards long-term care: examples from Romania and Slovakia

Europe's population is ageing. In fact, the share of people aged 65 or over in EU28 – 19.2% of an estimated 510.3 million in the beginning of 2016 – has increased in the last decade by 2.4 percentage points (Eurostat, 2017). This is one of the causes of an increased need for care work in the EU. In many rich European countries this need is being covered through the care work provided by workers from poorer EU countries. Receiving countries' conditions, such as the nature of paid domestic work (Parrenas, 2000; Hochschild, 2000) or regulatory contexts (Anderson, 2000; Williams, 2011) have already been widely examined. An initial screening of the relevant literature shows that the sending countries' conditions have been covered to a lesser extent. The presentation we propose draws from our current research undertaken in the context of the project "REMINDER: Role of European Mobility and Its Impacts in Narratives, Debates and EU Reforms". The presentation we propose aims to contribute to the scholarship on care migration effects on the countries of origin. Particular attention will be given to European circular mobile caregivers working in elder home care in European countries and to the impacts this care workers' mobility has on sending countries. The consequences care migration has on the institutional systems, in the area of healthcare and education in particular, will be at the centre of the enquiry. We will look into different patterns of mobility taking the examples of Slovakia and Romania. These countries, rich resources of care workers, represent two different sets of regulatory contexts and employment arrangements with other countries. The analysed data originate from the research conducted by the International Centre for Migration Policy Development in the autumn of 2017, in Slovakia and Romania respectively. The main research methods employed consist of expert interviews with key stakeholders in each of these countries, as well as semi-structured interviews with caregivers and their family members.

Martina Sekulová is a researcher with a background in anthropology and expertise in migration, gender and human rights. She cooperates with diverse national and international institutions such as the International Centre for Migration Policy Development, Migration Policy Group and others. She is author and co-author of several studies and publications.

Karel SCHMIEDLER, June 27, session 2

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Social inclusion of the elderly and the positive role of their mobility and transport

Demographic trends indicate a marked rise in the number of elderly people in the urban population and there is a high correlation between their age and disability. The share of elderly people in the total population is expected to rise from 21% in 2000 to around 31% by the year 2020 and to around 34% by the year 2050. Disabled people represent around 13% of the nation. Problems of social exclusion in connection to ageism arise. Due to demographic changes older and disabled people represent a significant and permanent growing part of the Czech population. There has been a progressive increase over the past decade in the social awareness of the requirements for older and disabled people throughout the Czech Republic and other parts of Central Europe. This progression has moved from making provision for older and disabled people on a welfare-oriented basis, towards increasingly equal access to all facilities as a matter of human rights. Improving access to any form of travel will provide additional social, as well as economic benefits at personal, governmental and commercial levels. Czech policy regarding the elderly aims at maintaining their active life and mobility. This is a central element of their integration in society. Senior citizens want to enjoy a good life with many activities like travel, tourism and mobility and want to stay autonomous and independent as far as possible. Without the possibility to maintain mobility, senior citizens cannot lead an independent life, with many other problems, such as isolation and health problems as a consequence. Various initiatives recognise the needs of elderly people. With changing attitudes and conditions the desire to travel for social activities, medical care and leisure represents a potential major new source of ideas for travel providers, urban planners, car, IVIS and ADAS designers and producers. We have used a procedure to recommend that helps understand existing problems of senior citizens. Many needs only become transparent if appropriate methods of research are used. In the case of our projects, a combination of qualitative, quantitative and heuristic methods was chosen. Relevant questions were discussed and elaborated together with the target groups. The results of the project work were critically reviewed by scientists, representatives of senior citizens' organisations, as well as by decision makers and practitioners of various disciplines at workshops, conferences and mobility planning in the Czech Republic and other European countries.

Associated professor **Karel Schmeidler**, PhD. is Senior Researcher and member of academic staff of the Institute of Forensic Engineering at Brno University of Technology and Institute of Technology and Business – VŠTE in České Budějovice. He is former Head of the Urban and Transport Sociology Dpt. at CDV - Transport Research Centre and Professor for Urban sociology, Urban Design and Planning at the Faculty of Architecture, Technical University Brno, Czech Republic. He acted as the Czech National Representative in AESOP (Association of European Schools of Planning), in European ICTCT and in bilateral AKTION commission. Dr. Schmeidler has more than 30 years' experience in urban and transport research and related design and planning fields. He has worked on several national and international research projects involving urban sociology, architectural design, urban planning, integrated land use and transport planning research, including the EC Framework projects SIZE, ASI, CONSENSUS, TRAINER, ADVISORS, dozens COST Action projects, Central European University Fellowships (Soros Foundation Projects) and HUMANIST Centre of Excellence and many important national CZ projects funded by the Czech Grant Agency and some Czech ministries (e.g. Ministry of Education, Ministry of Transport, Ministry of Local Development and Environment) and universities (mainly Brno, Praha, Ostrava etc.). He has dozens of publications in professional magazines encompassing sociology of housing, architecture, urban design, urban sociology, planning and transport fields, and has authored or contributed to several books.

Katharine SCHULMANN, June 28, session 3

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A conceptual framework outlining a rights-based approach to long-term care and support for older people

Countries across Europe are confronting the social, economic and political challenges of an ageing population. One of the most pressing among them is to ensure that long-term care systems are sustainable, responsive and aligned to the preferences and support needs of older people. Crucially, the rights of users must be protected and the structure, organization and operation of long-term care systems must be conducive to the fulfilment of human rights for all older individuals. As the first step towards this goal, we propose a conceptual framework for a human rights-based approach to care and support services, which attempts to detail what the fulfilment of universal human rights entails when applied to the particular case of older people with care and support needs. **Methods:** The conceptual framework was informed by a literature review of academic and grey sources and was validated and elaborated through an expert workshop. The workshop convened 9 experts from several European countries with different professional backgrounds (including human rights law, social policy, and sociology) and institutional affiliations (including advocacy organisations, service providers, and academia). Based on the discussions during the workshop and the input generated by the experts, the authors reviewed a limited number of additional grey sources, primarily human rights instruments and the supplementary texts pertaining to them (e.g. general comments by the committees of various UN conventions). **Findings:** Grounded in the structure-process-outcome model of care quality evaluation, the framework is organised according to three key domains: 1) Desired outcomes: fulfilment of rights; 2) Enabling processes: monitoring and enforcement; and 3) Structural conditions: legal recognition. These three domains correspond with three areas across which the implementation of fundamental rights can be measured: results (outcome indicators); effort (process indicators); and commitment (structural indicators). Within the 'desired outcomes' domain, the authors detail the substantive rights of older people with care and support needs by applying universal or more general rights to the specific case of older people. **Discussion:** In reflecting both human rights standards and the growing scholarship on this issue, our conceptual framework provides a critical synthesis of the discourse surrounding a rights-based approach to care and support for older people. What is more, it provides a basic structure on which to develop more refined instruments to assess and monitor the extent to which states are upholding the rights of older people who come into contact with the long-term care system.

Katharine Schulmann holds an MSc degree in Global Health and Anthropology from the University of Edinburgh. Since 2013, Katharine has worked as researcher and policy analyst with the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research in Vienna, Austria. During her time with the European Centre she has worked on numerous projects in the areas of ageing and long-term care, including the FP7 funded study Mobilising the Potential for Active Ageing in Europe (MoPAct), as well as a study to develop a conceptual framework for community care for people with dementia in Europe. Most recently, her work has focused on the application of a human rights-based approach to long-term care and support for older persons.

Michal UHRIN, June 28, session 1

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Why do we live “so long”? Childrearing, alloparental care, grandparents and menopause

In my presentation I will speak about grandmothers and menopause, grandfathers, cooperative breeding and alloparental care. I will apply the theoretical framework of evolutionary anthropology and evolutionary biology. Despite the growing interest in the evolution of menopause across various disciplines (e.g. Hawkes, O’Connell, Blurton-Jones 1989; Hawkes et al. 1998), it still represents a bit of a mystery. It is a life-history trait almost unique to humans. We are one of the few species in which females live for a relatively long time after the end of their reproductive period. The answer to the evolution of menopause may be connected with the “grandmother hypothesis”. According to many authors throughout most of human history, childrearing was cooperative, with mothers, fathers, grandparents, and other family members cooperating to feed and care for children (e.g. Blurton Jones et al. 2005; Hrdy, 2005, 2009; Knight, Power, 2005; Knight 2008; Kramer, 2005; O’Connell et al 1999; Opie, Power 2005; Volland et al. 2005). We do not find a cooperative system of childrearing and reproduction to such an extent as in humans in our closest relatives (chimpanzees, gorillas and orangutans). Late-life low fertility and menopause may have evolved because of our cooperative system of reproduction. According to the grandmother hypothesis, older women benefit more from investing in existing children and grandchildren than continuing to produce children of their own. For this reason, as Ewbank (2016) pointed out, anthropologist and demographers need to incorporate indirect fitness, which is achieved not through one’s own reproduction but through that of one’s genetic relatives, into their works (Ewbank, 2016; Sear et al. 2016). In contemporary western societies [in Henrich’s et. al. 2010 terms WEIRD (western, educated, industrialised, rich and democratic) people and societies] families and kin networks often tend to break down. Broadly speaking, the main reasons are industrialization and migration (travel for work and education). As Sear and colleagues note (Sear et al. 2016), this break down has made it harder to spread the costs of childrearing across extended kin, and thus lead to the concentrating of the costs of reproduction on the parents, which may have in turn prompted a shift towards smaller families (Sear et al. 2016:6). The data analysed in the paper were collected through the qualitative methods of ethnographic interview and participant observation. The research sample consists of seventy people. Field research was carried out from June 2017 to November 2017 in a village in western Slovakia. The goals of my presentation are as follows: 1) Presenting the abovementioned evolutionary theories; 2) Illustrating their applicability in ethnographic research. The preliminary data analysis suggests that despite industrialization (and processes that are associated with it) and migration the close and extended kin (mainly maternal kin and grandparents) play an important role in childrearing and childcare.

Michal Uhrin completed his Master’s Degree in ethnology and cultural anthropology in 2016 at the Department of Ethnology and Museology, Comenius University in Bratislava, Slovakia and is currently a PhD student at the same department. In his diploma work he explored preferences of young people in selection of a long-term partner, which he explained from an evolutionary perspective. He continues this line of research in his doctoral study focussing on kinship and cooperation in rural environment. He is interested in evolutionary anthropology, anthropology of kinship and cognitive anthropology..

Lubica VOLANSKÁ, June 27, session 1

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"We are getting old whilst always doing something..." Retirement as free time?

We live in a time of discussions about potential threats posed to humanity by artificial intelligence or the robotisation of society (Clifford, 2017; Walker, 2017) in connection with the possible loss of jobs or certain professions. On the other side, there are discussions about voluntarily giving up the free weekends in the countries of the global North (Onstad 2017), or, on the other hand, extending the weekend by one day (Štalmach Kušnírová 2018). Consequently, the importance of dealing with the relationship between work and retirement, the prolongation of the time of retirement or, in general, intergenerational relationships in society is becoming particularly relevant.

The paper focuses on the phenomenon of leisure time in retirement, as these two phrases are often perceived as equivalents in public discourse in European space. Research shows, however, that in reality, the life of people in retirement is filled with various activities that usually do not have to be classified as leisure activities. In line with Peter Laslett's concept of third age as an age of fulfilment (1989), the concept of active or successful ageing and the concept of busy ethics of David Ekerdt (1986), the paper deals with the way how people obtain different roles when they do not have to, but they still do. The choices or decisions about retirement are undoubtedly influenced by the discussion of the right to leisure, the increasing value of leisure time and the re-evaluation of the value of work in personal and social life (Blaikie 1999), on the one hand, and some pressure to continue to be beneficial to society and active on the other.

The author concentrates on how the sketched discussion is reflected by a group of people who, especially in the European environment, are becoming due to the demographic development more and more numerous - the oldest generation in society. The oldest generation is confronted with two different attitudes at the opposite end of the value spectrum. The empirical basis for the study is qualitative research based on ethnographic interviews with pre-retirement and retired people in nowadays Slovakia, with a specific theme on preparing for retirement and living in retirement, as well as the results of several focus groups with this group of people.

The presentation is supported by the VEGA Grant 1/0225/17 From Family Ecotype to Sociotype in Regional Perspective.

Mgr. **Lubica Voľanská**, PhD is a research fellow at the Institute of Ethnology of Slovak Academy of Sciences in Bratislava. She studied ethnology and history at Comenius University in Bratislava, the University of Regensburg and Vienna University. She holds a doctoral degree from the Institute of Ethnology of the Slovak Academy and Comenius University in Bratislava. In a long term perspective, she is dealing with the ethnological research of kinship and family, old age, intergenerational relations, (auto) biographical research and historical anthropology. She focuses mainly on the connection between the "big" history and the lives of individuals in the context of the social structures they are a part of. Her latest book "V hlave tridsať, v krížoch sto". Starnutie v autobiografiách v Bratislave a Viedni ("Young minds, old bodies." Ageing in autobiographies from Bratislava and Vienna) (2016) focuses on the old age and ageing in autobiographical texts in both cities. Please, find more information about the project participation and the list of publications on <http://www.uet.sav.sk/?q=en/lubica-volanska-herzanova-mgr-phd>.