

## **European comparative research on ageing – challenges and opportunities**

### **– CALL FOR PAPERS –**

Spring/Summer conference 2006, Vechta/Bremen, Germany, June 22-24

#### **Outline**

Current research needs in social gerontology call for a multilevel perspective on individual and societal ageing as well as for an interdisciplinary and international integration of data and conceptual approaches. Comparative perspectives and cross-national collaboration are crucial for modern ageing research. Although most European countries face similar challenges in the ongoing process of population ageing, different socio-economic and institutional contexts as well as different national and disciplinary research traditions make distinguished comparative analyses difficult. For that reason the Section on Ageing and Society of the German Sociological Association dedicates this year's Spring/Summer conference to the potentials and pit-falls as well as key themes of international comparative ageing research in Europe with representatives from major European survey studies and additionally invites conceptual as well as empirical contributions from other sources. In order to expand and share concepts, methods, data, and analyses we invite to the conference "*European comparative research on ageing – challenges and opportunities*". It is our aim to create a meeting ground for major ageing studies in the region, and to stimulate comparative analyses and cross-study collaboration. The meeting will also serve as an arena for new partnerships and projects, including international and interdisciplinary networking in preparation for 7th framework program.

Plenary sessions will offer presentations by invited key-note speakers and a concluding 'what next?' section. Paper sessions are open for free submissions, allowing up to 20 minutes for each presentation and 10 minutes for discussion. Papers are invited on

- (1) quality of life, health in old age, technology (or other micro issues)
- (2) generations, organisations, networks, civil society (or other meso issues)
- (3) diversity, participation, exclusion, ageing policies (or other macro issues).

Empirical as well as conceptual papers are welcome, and in particular comparative and multilevel perspectives. Participants are also invited to address gender and minority issues as well as differential ageing and life course perspectives.

The conference will be jointly organised by the Section "Ageing and Society" of the German Sociological Association, the University of Vechta, and the German Centre of Gerontology (DZA). The conference will take place at the University of Vechta, the only University in Germany with a primary education (BA/MA) in Gerontology.

Abstracts should be sent to **abstracts@sektion-altern.de**. The deadline for receipt of abstracts is **14<sup>th</sup> April, 2006**.

Abstracts must include:

- Name(s) of the author(s)
- Affiliation(s) of the author(s)
- Contact details of presenting author  
(postal address, telephone, fax and email address)
- Thematic area of the proposed presentation
- Title of proposed presentation
- Abstract of a maximum of 200 words

This Call for Papers is also published on the section's website:

<http://www.sektion-altern.de>

More information concerning the conference will be available on the same website. If you have any questions regarding this call for papers and the conference do not hesitate to contact the conference organisers by phone or email.

Organisers:

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