

Editorial

This 5th newsletter marks the “entrance” into a new year of activity, following the 2nd RECOWE Integration Week, which was held from 10 to 14 June 2008. The 5-day format allowed participants to present their work and to further develop in-depth dialogue with their peers; to prepare their future research activities, in the various “workpackages”; and to attend plenary sessions, which presented new findings in the areas of work and welfare. The Week facilitated not only formal meetings, but also gave ample possibilities for informal dialogue among the participants. Some of the papers that were presented during the RECOWE Week in Oslo are available [here](#).

Following the launch of the [RECOWE Data Center](#) in April this year, the RECOWE [Working Paper Series](#) on Reconciliation between work and welfare, developed by its Publication and Dissemination Centre ([PUDISCwowe](#)) is now being launched. The Series, and other activities of PUDISCwowe, are discussed in this issue in an interview with Daniel Clegg (University of Edinburgh) and Philippe Pochet (OSE and ETUI). Read about how to submit a paper to the working paper series [here](#). The newsletter also contains some news about forthcoming RECOWE activities, European social policy, and new publications in the fields of work and welfare. Please note the [call for proposals](#) in Socio-Economic Sciences and Humanities under FP7.

Daniel Clegg and Denis Bouget

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Publications in the area of work and welfare



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1 – INTERVIEW OF THE MONTH

INTERVIEW – DANIEL CLEGG, UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH AND PHILIPPE POCHET, EUROPEAN TRADE UNION INSTITUTE

by Caroline de La Porte



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Question: What is PUDISCwowe and what are its aims?

DC: PUDISCwowe is – along with the Data Centre (EDACwowe) and the Dialogue Centre (DIACwowe) – devoted to the spreading of excellence throughout and beyond RECWOWE. PUDISCwowe specifically concentrates on disseminating information about network activities and supporting network members and others in the European work and welfare research community in their publication projects and initiatives. To meet these aims, PUDISCwowe is developing and managing a wide range of different instruments, such as newsletters, a working paper series and databases of editorial resources within the network.

Question: How does the PUDISCwowe compare to other publication and dissemination centres in the area of work and welfare and what is its added value?

DC: PUDISCwowe is unusual in managing both academic instruments such as the working paper series and support services such as the files of editorial resources. We aim not only to publish work in our own series, but also to facilitate the production of scholarship in the field of work and welfare more generally.

Unlike many other working paper series in this area, the *Working Papers on the Reconciliation of Work and Welfare in Europe* also aim – like RECWOWE more generally – to span a range of relevant academic disciplines.

Question: What is the aim of the newsletter managed by PUDISCwowe?

DC: Each newsletter profiles the launch of selected RECWOWE actions or partner institutions, as well as providing timely information regarding the news and ongoing activities of the network. In addition, they provide details of new publications in the field of work and welfare and of any relevant policy developments in EU social and employment policy. As well as being circulated electronically, the newspaper is also produced in paper form and distributed at various academic conferences in the area of work and welfare. This gives the highest possible profile to RECWOWE's activities.

PP: Now there are 420 subscribers, which is up from 250 in the first newsletter. The idea is that people should subscribe themselves, rather than having us "add" people to the list, without their active interest. In this way we can conclude that the people who are subscribed to the newsletter are really interested in RECWOWE.

Question: Could you tell me about the rationale for the PUDISCwowe *Working Papers on the Reconciliation of Work and Welfare in Europe*?

DC: For network members, this new series aims to offer an avenue for the review and publication of the work they are doing in RECWOWE, often as a step in its refinement prior to publication in other formats (journal articles, contributions to edited collections).

Many papers and reports that are produced as part of the various RECOWE tasks are enormously useful for the academic community and other interested parties, but they are not always suitable for conventional publication. The [Working Papers on the Reconciliation of Work and Welfare in Europe](#) primarily aim to ensure that they can nonetheless be placed in the public domain in a structured way. We currently have a call for papers from the 'state of the art' period of RECOWE's activities, and are keen to receive as many papers of this type as possible. The deadline has been extended to the **26th of September 2008**.

Some [calls for papers](#) are also open to scholars who are not members of the network, but are active in research on these issues. We have such a call open at the moment, seeking papers that look at the reconciliation of work and welfare either in cross-national comparative perspective or with reference to the EU level. As mentioned above, we encourage submissions from a range of disciplinary perspectives.

PUDISCwowe is also particularly eager to use the Working Papers to give younger scholars the possibility to have their work-in-progress reviewed and disseminated. All submissions will peer-reviewed according to a fast and light touch process, by specialists in the field both from within and beyond RECOWE. The first papers will be published in the coming weeks, and all publications will be permanently archived on the PUDISCwowe website.

Question: Which other activities are relevant for PUDISCwowe?

DC: PUDISCwowe is also responsible for more targeted dissemination initiatives to enhance the impact of work that has been done in the network. For example, we are managing the promotion of EDACwowe data resources to conveners and directors of relevant undergraduate and postgraduate-level university courses across Europe, so that students can be made aware of and be encouraged to use this fabulous resource that has been developed through RECOWE. In cooperation with DIACwowe, we are also designing a handbook of advice and best practices for enhancing the impact and visibility of research findings in both academic and policy communities.

Question: How does PUDISCwowe support RECOWE members in the planning of their publication activities?

DC: As a more indirect support to the publication initiatives of RECOWE members and other scholars in the research community, PUDISCwowe has also developed files of editorial resources. The rationale for these files is to help scholars in the planning of their publication initiatives by collating information on three kinds of resources:

- RECOWE members with editorial responsibilities (i.e. as book series editors, or on the editorial committee of academic journals);
- Academic journals that regularly publish articles in the field of work and welfare;
- Book series that regularly publish titles in the field of work and welfare.

It is the intention as part of the future activities of PUDISCwowe to develop an instrument that fully integrates the data we have collected on these issues and that can be easily accessed and searched on-line. In the meantime, the files can be individually downloaded as PDF-format documents by following the Editorial resources link on the PUDISCwowe website.

Under the RECOWE editorial expertise link a document listing the name, institution and contact address of RECOWE members along with the title of the journal or book series for which they have some form of editorial responsibility can be accessed.

Following the link Journals leads to four documents, each of which contains information on a number of journals grouped by disciplinary categories: Social Policy, Sociology, Political Science, and Economics. The information provided is of a type that is useful for potential contributors; a short description of the journal, contact information, details of the word length and the language. Via cross-referencing with the editorial responsibilities file, the list also notes if a RECOWE member has any editorial responsibilities on the journal. Where available, it finally gives the academic impact factor scores along with impact factor ranking, grouped by category.

The academic impact factor and journal rankings are explained in a little more detail in a short paper that can also be accessed in the Journals section of the website.

The Book series link leads to documents where useful information about book series – the publisher, language, editor’s contacts, internet address and titles of some previous publications in the respective series, as well as keywords – can be found. Again, the file also notes if a RECOWE member has editorial responsibilities for a series. There are five such documents, grouped according to themes and keywords.

Question: Who are the key people involved in developing PUDISCwowe?

PP: A wide range of people collaborate in PUDISCwowe. They are mainly located at the OSE, the University of Edinburgh and the University of Nantes. At the OSE, Caroline de la Porte collects information and does the Editorial Work. Valérie Cotulelli and Renaud Smoes do the page-setting and ensure that the newsletter is sent to the list of subscribers. Amélie Guisseau at the University of Nantes provides all the news from the RECOWE network.

DC: The PUDISCwowe administrator, [Alexander Goerne](#) is another important person in PUDISCwowe. Based in Edinburgh, he is responsible for the maintenance of the dedicated PUDISCwowe website and for the development of many of the publication support instruments, and assists in the running of the working paper series. RECOWE Members should contact him with any working paper submissions, updates and information about their publications and their editorial responsibilities.

More generally, the work being done in PUDISCwowe is for the benefit of the members

of the work and welfare research community, whose input is precious both in helping to improve the existing instruments and in conceiving new ones that can help the European work and welfare research community to be as integrated and productive as possible. So please explore PUDISCwowe’s activities further at the [website](#), and feedback any comments and suggestions you have.

Question: What dissemination plans do you have to make the PUDISC known beyond the RECOWE network?

DC – When working papers are published by PUDISCwowe we will be producing hard copies that can be distributed by network members attending relevant academic conferences in different parts of the world. This will make RECOWE’s activities visible to the widest possible scholarly community. When the series matures, the possibility of integrating it into existing working paper archives will be explored.

The network would like to highlight that there is a permanent **Open Call for Papers** focussed on the cross-national comparative and European-level analysis of tensions between work and welfare. This is open to all scholars who would like to publish research papers that may be too long for conventional publication.

Open call [here](#)

And a call for papers on the ‘State of the Art’ in the analysis of Tensions between Work and Welfare.

Deadline for submission: **27/09/2008**

State of the art call [here](#)

This call is limited to the partner institutions that are members of the RECOWE network.

2 – NEWS FROM THE NETWORK

CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS

- 'The European Social Model in a Global Perspective', Luxembourg, 6-7 March 2009

This conference, organized jointly by [IMPALLA](#) and [ESPAnet](#), aims to facilitate the exchange of research ideas and results on issues that place the European Social Model in a global perspective. The organizing committee invites submissions of relevant **papers from academic, government, and business social scientists for oral presentation**. A discussant will be assigned to each paper.

Jos Berghman (Leuven University, Belgium) will serve as the **programme chair**. The **keynote speakers** are:

- **Bob Deacon**, Globalism and Social Policy Programme (GASPP) and University of Sheffield.
- **Anton Hemerijck**, Scientific Council for Government Policy (WRR) and Erasmus University of Rotterdam.
- **Maria João Rodrigues**, Institute for Strategic and International Studies, Lisbon.

Abstracts and/or full papers in .pdf or .doc format should be submitted electronically using the [on-line submission form](#) by 1 October 2008. The selection of papers will be done by the programme committee. Acceptance decisions will be communicated by 15 October 2008.

The [programme committee](#) encourages the participation of scholars and researchers from developing countries. Junior researchers from these countries as well as PhD students from all countries may **apply for a partial or full waiver** of the conference registration fee. Conditional on the financial support of the conference by the National Research Fund of Luxembourg, all presenters may **apply for a partial reimbursement** of their travelling and accommodation costs after the conference. Deadline for abstracts' submission: **1st October 2008**. For more information, contact [Conference secretariat](#)

CALL FOR PAPERS

- RECOWE 'State of the Art'

The RECOWE Publication and Dissemination Centre (PUDISCwowe) launches a **call for RECOWE 'State of the Art' working papers series** which invites submissions that focus in the **analysis of tensions between work and welfare** of the first period of the network's activities. This is reserved for members of the network. Deadline for submission: **27 September 2008**

State of the art call [here](#). You can find all the information about the call and PUDISCwowe [here](#).

- **Special Issues: Call for Proposals**

The JESP invites proposals for the 2010 Special Issue. Interested parties are requested to send a short proposal (no more than 1000 words) describing the scope of the proposed theme, the papers that it would contain and the timetable.

Proposals should be submitted not later than 31st October 2008. The Editorial Board of the Journal will decide by 30 November 2008 which, if any, of the proposals should be accepted. The material for the Special Issue will be required by 31 July 2009. Proposals should be sent electronically to [Professor G J Room](#) at the University of Bath. Read more about the proposal [here](#).

- **Call for Proposals**

The work programme 2009 for Socio-Economic Sciences and Humanities within the Cooperation programme (FP7) has just been launched and is open for proposals.

Read more [here](#)

All the documents are available [here](#)

- **Call for Papers**

The call for papers for the ASPEN/ETUI conference on 'Activation and Security' (Brno, Czech Republic, 20-21 March 2009), is open until 1st October. Please note that a fifth workshop has been added to the programme. For the call for papers, please visit the conference [website](#).



The Observatoire social européen (OSE) was founded in 1984 to foster a better understanding of the social dimension of Europe. Its main task is to monitor developments in Community policies that may have implications for national social policy. To this end, the Observatoire follows European events carefully and endeavours to interpret and to analyse the emerging challenges and major trends.

In so doing, it has gradually become a reference point and a repository of information for trade union organisations, NGOs, researchers and policy-makers, but also for civil servants, journalists and students wanting to obtain specific, critical information concerning the EU's social dimension and the European policies which have an impact on the social issues. The Observatoire has developed into a forum for dialogue and exchange of viewpoints, which is very open to the outside world. It attempts to act as an interface between the public authorities, the university world, the trade union movement and social groups, by putting forward critical views while duly respecting academic research criteria. To consolidate this approach a [scientific Advisory Board](#) is closely associated to the research of the Observatoire. This scientific Advisory Board will be opened to new members.

The Observatoire brings together researchers educated in different university disciplines (political science, social science, economics, public and international affairs, law, journalism, etc.). This multi-disciplinary approach is central to better unravelling the complex problems posed by the European venture. It helps to take into account the complexity of the European reality and its social dimension.

Thus, having devoted particular attention over the past ten years to the social consequences of monetary union, the Observatoire is now focusing more closely on the social challenges for social security, and on the impact of new forms of governance such as the open method of co-ordination and its practical impact on the European process, above all as regards indicators.

From 2001, the Observatoire social is publishing for the European Trade Union Institute (ETUI), the yearly "Social Developments in the European Union". The OSE team has also been doing the Digest on European social policy for the Journal of European Social Policy since 1993. And the academic profile of the OSE has increased over the years, with a range of academic journal publications and joint collaborations with various universities (University of Wisconsin-Madison) on subjects such as the Open Method of Coordination where the OSE team was among the first to have done notable publications in that field. The Observatoire social européen devotes particular attention to the industrial changes and their impact on social dialogue, on the labour market and on the quality and quantity of jobs in Europe. Issues like gender, the management of the diversity in societies or the improvement of skills in a changing world are important dimensions of the research of the Observatoire social européen.

Many of the OSE's publications are downloadable. Please consult the [publications page](#) for more info information. Sustainable development and the impact of European policies on climate change on social issues will be a focus in the coming years, as well as social dialogue in companies, especially linked with corporate social responsibility (CSR) and public policies on CSR.

– Temporary agency and working time directives

Two important Directives in the area of labour law were adopted during the summer of 2008 – on working time and temporary agency work – after considerable controversy. The Council's common position on the draft working time directive establishes minimum requirements for the organisation of working time, in particular daily and weekly rest periods, maximum weekly working time, annual leave and certain aspects of night work, shift work and working patterns. Some issues that have derived from case-law have been clarified, notably with regard to on-call time, where a distinction is drawn between inactive on-call time, requiring only the presence of the worker in the workplace, and active on-call time that is considered working time, in accordance with the jurisprudence of the Court of Justice. The standard limit to working time is still 48 hours per week, including any overtime and active on-call time. As a response to widespread use of the opt-out clause in the 2003 directive, the 2008 amendment to the directive, opting-out is qualified as a "derogation" and when opting out is chosen then there are specific requirements which the employer must prescribe to, including the provision of a period of compensatory rest to the worker. Some Member States were critical of the fact that the opt-out provided for the possibility for a worker to work 60 hours a week (averaged over a period of three months) unless this differs from a collective agreement or an agreement between social partners.

Download Council position [here](#).

After six years of deadlock, a draft directive on temporary agency workers was adopted. For the first time in the history of EU social partner agreements, the social partners agreed upon the principle of equal treatment for temporary agency workers from day one. The [joint Eurociett-UNI-Europa declaration](#) ("Social partners issue joint declaration on draft EU directive for temporary agency workers", 3 July 2008) included some derogations (such as a qualifying period), to be agreed amongst national representative social partners. In the draft directive, which has been agreed in the Council, there is a clause which allows Member

States to provide social partners with the option of upholding or concluding collective agreements which establish working and employment conditions that may differ from the principle of equal treatment. But there is also an article which sets out to prevent the misuse of these possibilities in successive short-term assignments. Whether or not the directive is robust enough to effectively protect agency workers remains to be seen. But first, the Council Common Positions of both directives will be sent to the European Parliament for a second opinion, as foreseen by the co-decision procedure.

– The Renewed Social Agenda: legislation and numerous other initiatives

Legislative initiatives were also adopted in the framework of the Renewed Social Agenda, which contains 19 initiatives in the areas of employment and social affairs, education and youth, health, information society and economic affairs. The Communication on the renewed Social Agenda has emphasized three interrelated goals: the first aims to create more and better jobs and to facilitate mobility; the second aims to facilitate access to good quality education, social protection, health care and services for all; the third aims to enhance interregional and intergenerational solidarity. In the area of employment and social affairs, the renewed social agenda included two important proposals for directives. The first aims to complete the existing EU legislation to combat discrimination and the second aims to improve the functioning of European Works Councils. The anti-discrimination Directive endeavours to implement the principle of equal treatment between persons irrespective of religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation. The second directive aims to improve the transposition of the directive on European Works Councils (EWC), according to which European Works Councils should be established for companies that have at least 150 employees in two or more member states and a total of at least 1000 employees. The 2008 draft directive aims to promote cross-border dialogue and strengthen the position of the European Works Council compared to the national level works councils.

Download the Renewed Social Agenda [here](#).

4 – PUBLICATIONS

NETWORK MEMBERS' PUBLICATIONS IN THE AREA OF WORK AND WELFARE



Culture and Welfare State; Values and Social Policy in Comparative Perspective

van Oorschot, Opielka, M. and Pfau-Effinger, B. (eds.), Edward Elgar, Cheltenham 2008, 336 pages

This book provides comparative studies in the interplay between cultural factors and welfare policies. Starting with an analysis of the historical and cultural foundations of Western European welfare states, reflected in the competing ideologies of liberalism, conservatism and socialism, the book goes on to compare the Western European welfare model to those in North America, Asia and Central and Eastern Europe. Comprehensive and engaging, this volume examines not only the relationships between cultural change and welfare restructuring, taking empirical evidence from policy reforms in contemporary Europe, but also the popular legitimacy of welfare, focusing particularly on the underlying values, beliefs and attitudes of people in European countries. The book has one part on the cultural foundations of the welfare state. A second part is on "worlds" of Welfare culture, which moves beyond the occidento-centrism of many contributions. A third part focuses on the relationship between cultural changes and welfare reforms being undertaken. Finally, the fourth and final part analyses popular welfare values and beliefs.

To order the book [...](#)

OTHER PUBLICATIONS IN THE AREA OF WORK AND WELFARE



Jobs with Equality,
Kenworthy, L. (ed.), Oxford University Press, Oxford, 2008, 384 pages

Economic and social shifts have led to rising income inequality in the world's affluent countries. Redistribution can help, but government revenues are threatened by globalization and population ageing.

A way out of this impasse is for countries to increase their employment rate; this enlarges the tax base, allowing tax revenues to rise without an increase in tax rates. The question is: can egalitarian institutions and policies be coupled with employment growth? This highly readable book provides a comprehensive and systematic assessment of the experiences of rich nations since the late 1970s. It examines the impact on employment of six key policies and institutions: wage levels at the lower end of the labour market, employment protection regulations, government benefit generosity, taxes, skills and women-friendly policies.

The analysis includes twenty countries, with a focus on Australia, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Kenworthy concludes that there is some indication of tradeoffs, but that they tend to be small in magnitude.

The author concludes that there is no parsimonious set of policies and institutions that have been key to good or bad employment performance, but instead that there are multiple routes to employment success. His analysis gives reason for optimism about the prospects for a high-employment, high-equality society.

To order the book [...](#)

- **Guest editor Valeria Fargion, "Social Policy in a globalizing world. A North-South Dialogue", special issue of the *Italian Journal of Social Policy*, January-March 2008, No.1**

Valeria Fargion has put together a fantastic issue on the north-south dialogue in social policy. Fargion herself presents an introduction on the social dimension of globalization. The special issue begins with some contributions comparing welfare reforms in Europe. Secondly, there are a series of contributions about welfare scenarios around the globe. Thirdly, the issue addresses migration and social policy. The last section presents various theoretical approaches to culture and social citizenship. The special issue is concluded with an article on the role of International actors in the development of social policy globally.

To access this issue on-line, [click here](#)